

FilamentID reveals the composition and function of metabolic enzyme polymers during gametogenesis

Authors

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1 **SUMMARY**

2 Gamete formation and subsequent offspring development often involve extended phases of suspended
3 cellular development or even dormancy. How cells adapt to recover and resume growth remains poorly
4 understood. Here, we visualized budding yeast cells undergoing meiosis by cryo-electron tomography
5 (cryoET) and discovered elaborate filamentous assemblies decorating the nucleus, cytoplasm, and
6 mitochondria. To determine filament composition, we developed a “Filament IDentification”
7 (FilamentID) workflow that combines multiscale cryoET/cryo-electron microscopy (cryoEM) analyses
8 of gently lysed cells. FilamentID identified the mitochondrial filaments as the conserved aldehyde
9 dehydrogenase Ald4^{ALDH2} and the nucleoplasmic/cytoplasmic filaments being composed of acetyl-CoA
10 synthetase Acs1^{ACSS2}. The near-native high-resolution structures revealed the mechanism underlying
11 polymerization and enabled us to perturb filament formation. Acs1 polymerization facilitates the
12 recovery of chronologically aged spores, and more generally, the cell cycle re-entry of starved cells.
13 FilamentID is broadly applicable to characterize filaments of unknown identity in diverse cellular
14 contexts.
15

16 **HIGHLIGHTS**

- 17 • FilamentID: a multiscale imaging workflow to characterize cellular filaments of unknown
18 composition
- 19 • The conserved aldehyde dehydrogenase Ald4^{ALDH2} polymerizes into filament arrays within meiotic
20 mitochondria
- 21 • The conserved acetyl-CoA synthetase Acs1^{ACSS2} forms filament arrays in the nucleus and the
22 cytoplasm
- 23 • Metabolites mediate Acs1 polymerization to store Acs1 in an inactive state in gametes and starved
24 cells
- 25 • Acs1 filament formation is required for efficient return to growth from starvation stress
- 26

27 INTRODUCTION

28 Most organisms live in rapidly changing environments and frequently experience adverse conditions for
29 growth and reproduction. In microorganisms, one common response to environmental stress is the
30 reversible entry into a dormant state, in which cells reduce their metabolic activity and arrest
31 proliferation. Dormancy can also involve the execution of specialized developmental programs that
32 result in differentiated cell types, such as spores, which can withstand nutrient scarcity, non-optimal
33 temperatures, or desiccation. The formation of dormant cells typically relies on extensive remodeling of
34 the cellular architecture, including, amongst others, changes in cell size, cell envelope structure, or
35 cytoplasmic density and composition^{1,2}. These ultrastructural adaptations are thought to enable cells to
36 enter, maintain, and recover from dormancy, but their underlying molecular mechanisms remain poorly
37 understood.

38 A hallmark feature of cellular dormancy is a decrease in metabolic activity¹. In addition to the
39 downregulation of enzyme function through the modulation of gene expression, an emerging concept
40 posits that metabolic activity can be spatiotemporally controlled by enzyme self-assembly into
41 filamentous polymers or agglomerates. Subcellular compartmentalization of metabolic enzymes
42 mediated by self-association has been observed in different domains of life and has often been associated
43 with cellular starvation³⁻⁹. In the budding yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, genome-wide fluorescence
44 light microscopy screens have revealed a surprisingly high number of enzymes that form punctate or
45 rod-shaped structures in response to the metabolic state of the cell¹⁰⁻¹³. Notable examples include the
46 cytidine triphosphate synthase CTP^{14,15}, the glutamine synthetase Gln1¹⁶, the translation initiation factor
47 eIF2B¹⁷, or the glucokinase Glk1¹⁸. In all four cases, filament formation has been proposed to play
48 important roles in the regulation of enzyme activity and, as such, to be of relevance for cell physiology.
49 Even though biochemical reconstitution approaches coupled with structural studies have begun to shed
50 light on the mechanistic basis of filament organization, it remains challenging to ascertain filament
51 structural organization in the cellular context. Moreover, whether filament formation occurs and plays
52 specialized roles in other biological contexts, for example when cells enter prolonged periods of
53 developmental arrest or dormancy after gametogenesis, remains to be determined.

54 In many sexually reproducing organisms, including budding yeast, cells enter gametogenesis as a natural
55 response to nutrient deprivation, resulting in the production of highly differentiated spores¹⁹. The
56 principal features of meiosis are evolutionarily conserved and include a single round of DNA replication,
57 followed by two consecutive nuclear divisions, termed meiosis I and meiosis II²⁰. At the completion of
58 meiosis, a haploid DNA complement, cytoplasmic content, and organelles are inherited by four arising
59 gametes, which are protected by a thick spore wall. The resistant spores remain viable in a dormant state,
60 preserving the potential to resume growth after encountering favorable environments¹⁹. How spores

61 preserve all essential cellular components required for the resumption of growth over potentially very
62 long periods of time remains unclear.

63 Here, we have used cryo-electron tomography (cryoET) imaging to study budding yeast cells throughout
64 gametogenesis, since it allows the visualization of mesoscale assemblies in their cellular context in a
65 near-native state^{21,22}. We discovered distinct types of previously uncharacterized filament assemblies in
66 different cellular compartments. Since the identification of such structures by cryoET remains
67 exceptionally challenging, we developed a workflow to image gently lysed cells by employing a
68 combination of cryoET and single-particle cryo-electron microscopy (cryoEM), which we have termed
69 FilamentID. By enabling us to obtain high-resolution structures in near-native conditions, FilamentID
70 allowed the unambiguous identification of two distinct types of polymerized metabolic enzymes.
71 Targeted mutations and downstream functional experiments suggest that metabolic enzyme
72 polymerization is induced during starvation and required for efficient gamete awakening after prolonged
73 dormancy.

74

75 RESULTS

76 Filament assemblies form in mitochondria, nucleus, and cytoplasm of yeast cells undergoing 77 gametogenesis

78 We set out to visualize ultrastructural adaptations of cells undergoing gametogenesis upon nutrient
79 starvation. To this end, we synchronized diploid *S. cerevisiae* cells at G0/G1 through gradual starvation
80 and induced meiosis by transferring the cultures into sporulation medium (SPM) lacking a nitrogen
81 source, as previously described (Figure S1A)^{23,24}. Fluorescence activated cell sorting (FACS analysis)
82 of DNA content showed that most cells were in G0/G1 prior to transfer to SPM and efficiently underwent
83 DNA replication between two and four hours after induction of meiosis (Figure S1B). For imaging in a
84 near-native state, meiotic cells were plunge-frozen on EM grids, thinned by cryo-focused ion beam
85 (cryoFIB) milling, and imaged by cryoET²⁵. To reduce cell-to-cell variability that could arise from
86 asynchronous meiotic progression, in an initial step we used prophase I-arrested cultures (*ndt80Δ*)²⁶
87 that were collected eight hours after induction of meiosis.

88 We observed various filamentous assemblies in different sub-cellular compartments (Figure 1A-C). One
89 type of filament was frequently observed in mitochondria, hereafter referred to as “mitochondrial
90 filament.” In longitudinal views, these filaments appeared straight and were often bundled together.
91 Cross-sections in the representative cryo-tomogram revealed that the filament bundles were ordered in
92 arrays of ~40 individual filaments. A second type of filament was found in the nucleus and in the
93 cytoplasm, hereafter referred to as “nucleocytoplasmic” filament. These nucleocytoplasmic filaments
94 were also arranged in filament bundles, however, the organization appeared more heterogeneous and
95 complex, with some filaments branching away from the bundles. Cross-sections of individual
96 nucleocytoplasmic filaments showed a triangular architecture.

97 Quantification of the two filament types revealed that mitochondrial filaments were present in ~28% of
98 the imaged mitochondria (n = 23/81), and nucleocytoplasmic filaments in ~7% of the tomograms
99 containing nuclear volume (n = 2/29) and ~4% of the tomograms containing cytoplasmic volume (n =
100 3/76) (Figure 1D). Importantly, no filaments were observed in mitotically dividing cells grown in rich
101 medium, indicating that meiosis, or the process of starvation-induced gametogenesis, may drive the
102 formation of such structures.

103 FilamentID: a workflow to identify cellular filaments of unknown molecular composition

104 Conventional approaches to identify filaments seen *in cellulo* would be either A) the generation of high-
105 resolution sub-tomogram averages, or B) the purification of the filaments followed by downstream
106 single-particle cryoEM analyses. For the identification of filaments, both approaches are very
107 challenging, since the abundance of the filaments is relatively low and their identities are unknown. We

108 therefore developed a “Filament IDentification” (FilamentID) workflow that is applicable to low-
109 abundance targets (problematic for approach “A”) and that circumvents the need for purification of the
110 complex of interest (required for approach “B”). One critical aspect of the workflow entails the
111 preparation of the sample such that it can be imaged without the need for cryo-sample thinning. Towards
112 this goal, we adapted a chromosome surface spreading protocol^{27,28} to gently lyse and “spread” either
113 isolated organelles or entire cells onto EM grids. Since cell envelope and organelle integrity become
114 partially disrupted, the cellular contents are diluted, making intracellular complexes directly accessible
115 for a combination of cryoET and single-particle cryoEM imaging.

116 The workflow features two variations for the identification of filaments in mitochondria or
117 nucleoplasm/cytoplasm, respectively (Figure 2). Step 1: Cells are spheroplasted by digesting the cell
118 wall with Zymolyase. For the identification of mitochondrial filaments, mitochondria are then purified
119 and spread onto EM grids by hypo-osmotic swelling. For the identification of nucleocytoplasmic
120 filaments, entire spheroplasts are spread onto an EM grid by hypo-osmotic swelling and the addition of
121 a mild detergent. Step 2: Grids are vitrified by plunge-freezing. Step 3: Samples are subjected to data
122 collection. Each sample is imaged by recording tilt-series for cryoET, as well as 2D projection images
123 for targeted single-particle cryoEM. Step 4: CryoET data is used to generate low-resolution sub-
124 tomogram averages to assess filament symmetry. The single-particle data are used to generate high-
125 resolution maps by helical reconstruction, based on the symmetry information determined by cryoET.
126 Step 5: Integrating the cryoEM data with structure prediction, structure databases, and proteomic
127 analyses allows for the unambiguous identification of the filament components. Step 6: Structural
128 findings are validated by genetically interfering with filament polymerization. The resulting point
129 mutants can be used in functional assays to reveal the role of filament formation. We note that the
130 imaging of entire spread spheroplasts would also be fully compatible with the identification of
131 mitochondrial filaments. However, the mitochondrial purification step is useful in order to reduce the
132 workload in steps 3-5.

133 **The conserved mitochondrial aldehyde dehydrogenase Ald4 polymerizes into filaments**

134 We first applied FilamentID to characterize the mitochondrial filaments. To determine whether we could
135 preserve the filament arrays after organelle purification, we imaged isolated mitochondria by cryoET.
136 We observed the characteristic mitochondrial double membrane, cristae decorated with F₀F₁-ATP
137 synthase, as well as individual filaments and ordered filament arrays (Figure 3A and S2). Sub-tomogram
138 averaging of the filaments revealed a repetitive two-fold symmetric architecture that matches the *in*
139 *cellulo* observations (Figure 1A-C and 3B).

140 Next, we collected single-particle cryoEM data of spread mitochondria. Due to the heterogeneous
141 distribution of the filaments on the grid, we employed a targeted single-particle cryoEM data collection
142 strategy, where we extensively screened grid squares at low magnification, followed by high-

143 magnification data collection (Figure 3C). As detailed below, due to the repetitive architecture of the
144 filaments, a small dataset of several hundred micrographs was sufficient for filament identification. For
145 helical reconstruction, we used the symmetry information obtained from sub-tomogram averaging as a
146 starting point to interpret the helical parameters of the filament in real space (Figure 2). We determined
147 an initial filamentous structure at 6.8 Å resolution (Figure S3A). As the resolution was not sufficient to
148 trace the C α -backbone, we employed structural dockings of AlphaFold-predicted mitochondrial proteins
149 ^{29,30}. To identify potential candidates, we have used mass spectrometry (MS) analysis in a parallel study
150 to characterize the meiotic proteome ³¹, which revealed that various mitochondrial matrix/inner
151 membrane components ³² are upregulated at the onset gametogenesis (Figure S4A). Out of 30 candidate
152 proteins, we identified the metabolic enzyme aldehyde dehydrogenase 4 (Ald4) as the most likely
153 filament component (Figure S4B). Based on the knowledge that aldehyde dehydrogenases form
154 tetramers ³³, we further performed 2D classification and found that the repeating subunits polymerize in
155 two distinct modes, helical and non-helical (Figure S3B). Therefore, we then treated the central part of
156 the helical segments as individual particles and determined the Ald4 tetramer at a final resolution of 3.8
157 Å (Figure S3C-D). Ald4 tetramers can stack together to form a helical filament architecture (rise = 83
158 Å, twist = ~180°), which fitted our map from sub-tomogram averaging (Figure S4C). Moreover, Ald4
159 tetramers could also assemble in a head-to-head and tail-to-tail fashion (non-helical mode) (Figure 3D
160 and S3B-C).

161 To validate the presence of Ald4 in the filaments, we first analyzed the reconstructed map and found
162 that it was incompatible with other Ald isoforms present in yeast (Figure S3E, S4D & Table S1). In
163 addition, we generated an *ALD4* deletion mutant (*ald4Δ*), isolated mitochondria from meiotic cells, and
164 imaged them using cryoET. In *ald4Δ* strains, we did not observe any filaments in mitochondria (n =
165 0/77), whereas ~14% of the mitochondria from wild-type cells contained filaments (n = 10/71) (Figure
166 S4E).

167 To understand how Ald4 assembles into filaments, we exploited the tetramer stacking interfaces and
168 identified eight residues that potentially mediate filament polymerization (Figure 3E). We mutated these
169 eight residues and tested if strains expressing the interface mutations (*ald4^{int}*) could form filaments in
170 isolated mitochondria. Notably, we did not detect any filaments in the *ald4^{int}* mitochondria (n = 0/28),
171 whereas ~15% of the mitochondria from the *ALD4^{WT}* control strain contained filaments (n = 5/33)
172 (Figure 3F). Western blotting showed that the expression levels of GFP-tagged *ALD4^{WT}* and the *ald4^{int}*
173 mutant were comparable (Figure 3G), suggesting that the interface mutations prevent filament assembly
174 without affecting the general stability of the protein.

175 In summary, our workflow unambiguously identified the mitochondrial filament arrays as
176 homopolymers of Ald4, and we report the first high-resolution structure of a eukaryotic polymerized
177 aldehyde dehydrogenase enzyme. Our filament identification is consistent with a previous report of
178 elongated inclusion bodies observed by conventional EM, which co-localized with Ald4 antibodies in

179 immuno-gold staining³⁴. An accompanying paper³¹ presents a characterization of the role of Ald4
180 polymerization during yeast gametogenesis.

181 **The conserved acetyl-CoA synthetase Acs1 forms filament assemblies in the nucleus and the** 182 **cytoplasm**

183 We then applied FilamentID to characterize the nucleocytoplasmic filament assemblies (Figure 1 A-C).
184 To this end, we spread entire meiotic yeast cells directly on EM grids and plunge-froze them (Figure 2).
185 Spread spheroplasts appeared as disc-shaped densities, with ~4 μm diameter in low magnification
186 images (Figure S5A). Cryo-tomograms of spreads revealed not only a variety of different filament types,
187 but also other well-preserved molecular superstructures, such as spindle pole bodies connected via
188 microtubules (Figure S5A-B). Interestingly, the nucleocytoplasmic filaments were seen both as
189 individual filaments and organized as complex bundles (Figure 4A). In some of the tomograms we also
190 observed potential (dis-) assembly intermediates, where small filaments appear to converge into a large
191 filament bundle (Figure S5C). Sub-tomogram averaging of individual filaments revealed a triple-helical
192 complex with 5.5 nm ladder-like repeats (Figure 4B). The triangular shape of the averaged volume, as
193 well as the overall bundle organization resembled our initial observations *in cellulo* (Figure 1A-C).

194 To complement the cryoET data, we applied targeted single-particle cryoEM data collection (Figure
195 4C), followed by helical reconstruction (Figure S6A-B). This allowed us to obtain a filament structure
196 at ~3.5 \AA resolution (Figure S6C-D), which was sufficient to directly trace the C α -backbone of one
197 subunit. The backbone model was manually built and was then subjected to the Dali server³⁵, which
198 revealed the metabolic enzyme acetyl-coenzyme A synthetase 1 (Acs1) as a strong candidate.

199 To validate that the filament consists of Acs1 and not Acs2, a second isoform present in yeast, we
200 compared their sequences and analyzed densities of characteristic residues in our atomic model (Figure
201 S6E, Figure S7A & Table S1). In addition, we generated an *ACS1* deletion mutant (*acs1 Δ*) and
202 performed cryoET on the spread spheroplasts of meiotic cells. We did not observe any
203 nucleocytoplasmic filament bundles in spreads from *acs1 Δ* spheroplasts ($n = 0/80$), while ~32% of the
204 wild-type spheroplasts contained filament bundles ($n = 20/63$) (Figure S7B).

205 The filament architecture consists of layers of Acs1 trimers, which are related to consecutive layers
206 through a helical operation (rise = 53.61 \AA , twist = 13.03 $^\circ$), resulting in a filament with 13 nm diameter
207 (Figure 4D). Structural docking showed that Acs1 filaments had the same arrangements as seen in the
208 sub-tomogram average (Figure S7C), whereas the filament arrangement is different from the packing of
209 yeast Acs1 in the previously resolved crystal structure (PDB entry: 1RY2) (Figure S7D)³⁶.

210 In summary, we report here the first high-resolution structure of Acs1 homopolymers in a natively
211 polymerized state. These filaments form elaborate bundles in the nucleoplasm and cytoplasm of meiotic
212 yeast cells. Notably, nucleocytoplasmic filament bundles have previously been observed by others in

213 meiotic yeast cells³⁷ and were proposed to be actin-based/associated³⁸. Using our novel FilamentID
214 approach, we characterized filament structure at higher resolution, which enabled the unambiguous
215 identification of the filament building blocks.

216 **Metabolites mediate Acs1 filament assembly to inhibit acetyl-CoA production**

217 Next, we set out to elucidate the functional relevance of Acs1 polymer formation. The first step towards
218 this goal was to determine the enzymatic state of filamentous Acs1. The metabolic reaction catalyzed
219 by Acs1 consists of two steps (Figure 5A). In the first step, Acs1 produces acetyl-AMP and diphosphate
220 from acetate and ATP. In the second step, the acetyl-AMP intermediate reacts with CoA to generate
221 acetyl-CoA³⁹. During the enzymatic reaction, the large N-terminal domain (NTD) mediates the binding
222 of ATP substrate, whereas the small C-terminal domain (CTD) undergoes a large conformational change
223 to catalyze the second step of the reaction^{36,40} (Figure 5B).

224 We found that Acs1 subunits in filaments have a conformation that is similar to the crystal structure of
225 the binary complex with AMP (PDB entry: 1RY2) (R.M.S.D. 1.30 Å, Figure S8A), which represents
226 the structure of the first step of the enzymatic reaction³⁶. The acetyl-AMP intermediate could be
227 observed in the active site of the NTD and is located close to the catalytic residue K675 (Figure 5B and
228 S8B)⁴¹. Moreover, no acetyl-CoA product of the second step of the reaction was found in our
229 reconstructed map. In order to carry out the second step of the reaction, the Acs1 CTD has to undergo a
230 conformational change, which would result in a severe clash with the adjacent trimer layer shown by a
231 structural superposition with the bacterial ACS representing the open conformation of the second step
232 of the reaction (PDB entry: 1PG3; Figure 5C)⁴⁰. Therefore, we propose that Acs1 in filaments catalyzed
233 the formation of acetyl-AMP. However, once in its filamentous form, Acs1 is sterically hindered by an
234 adjacent Acs1 trimer layer to produce the final product, acetyl-CoA.

235 To determine if the formation of acetyl-AMP is required for filament assembly, we mutated the key
236 residue K675 in the catalytic site and monitored the presence of filament bundles in spread spheroplasts
237 with cryoET. We did not observe any filament bundles in spreads from *acs1^{K675A}* spheroplasts (n = 0/31),
238 while ~80% of the control strain (*ACSI^{WT}*) contained filament bundles (n = 24/30) (Figure 5E). Western
239 blotting using antibodies raised against Acs1 showed comparable protein expression (Figure 5F).
240 Moreover, we complemented this analysis by monitoring the cellular distribution of GFP-tagged Acs1.
241 We observed fluorescent rods and foci in the *ACSI^{WT}-GFP* strain but did not detect such structures in
242 the *acs1^{K675A}-GFP* mutant (Figure 5G). These data suggest that the catalytic activity of Acs1, in
243 particular the formation of the acetyl-AMP intermediate, is required for filament bundle formation.

244 Interestingly, we detected three additional densities at the interface between Acs1 trimer layers. These
245 extra densities likely correspond to metabolites, possibly ADP nucleotides (Figure 5D). Each putative
246 nucleotide binds to the surface of α helices in the Acs1 NTDs (Figure S8C). The putative nucleotides

247 are likely further stabilized via the α helix from the consecutive Acs1 NTD, which directly contacts the
248 positively charged residue R264 (Figure 5D). Additional interactions between two consecutive Acs1
249 trimer layers, especially salt bridges, are likely to contribute further to filament stability (Figure S8D).
250 To explore the role of the putative nucleotide in Acs1 filament assembly, we blocked the corresponding
251 binding site by mutating R264 to the bulky residue tryptophan. Strikingly, we no longer detected
252 elaborate filament bundles in spreads of meiotic *acs1*^{R264W} spheroplasts (n = 0/30), even though the
253 expression level of Acs1^{R264W} was comparable to Acs1^{WT} (Figure 5E-F). Additionally, most meiotic cells
254 of *acs1*^{R264W}-GFP mutants contained only diffuse fluorescent signal (Figure 5G).

255 Overall, our structural and mutant analyses indicate that Acs1 polymerization is mediated by two
256 metabolites, acetyl-AMP bound in the catalytic pocket and a putative nucleotide bound at the filament
257 layer interface.

258 **The catalytic activity of Acs1 is required for sporulation and germination, whereas filament** 259 **formation is required for germination after prolonged dormancy**

260 Since *S. cerevisiae* harbors two acetyl-CoA synthetase isoforms, we wanted to understand under which
261 specific conditions Acs1 and its polymerization become critical. In an accompanying study, we
262 monitored global protein dynamics throughout meiosis using quantitative mass spectrometry and
263 observed that Acs1 expression is strongly upregulated at the onset of meiosis, when compared to
264 mitotically dividing cells (Figure 6A)³¹. Acs2, on the other hand, is highly expressed in mitotically
265 dividing cells, but downregulated during meiosis. Western blotting confirmed that the Acs1 level
266 increased in response to pre-meiotic starvation and increased even further approximately four hours after
267 induction of meiosis (Figure 6B).

268 In order to follow the formation of large Acs1 assemblies throughout the meiotic cell division program,
269 we monitored Acs1-GFP by fluorescent light microscopy. Meiotic cells, as well as spores, exhibited
270 fluorescent Acs1-GFP foci or rod-shaped signals (Figure 6C, S9). The number and intensity of Acs1-
271 GFP foci and rods appeared to increase throughout the meiotic program. Correlated light and electron
272 microscopy showed that Acs1-GFP foci indeed colocalized with polymerized Acs1-GFP, even though
273 filament length and filament bundling pattern seemed to be affected by the tag (Figure S10A-C).

274 Based on the presence of Acs1-GFP foci in meiotic cells as well as in spores, we then probed the role of
275 Acs1 in gametogenesis. We quantified sporulation efficiency in wild-type and different *acs1* mutant
276 strains upon gradual starvation (proliferating cells were starved in YPA before switching to SPM) or
277 acute starvation (proliferating cells were transferred from YPD directly into SPM). No significant
278 differences between the strains tested were observed upon gradual starvation (Figure 6D and S11). In
279 contrast, upon acute starvation, *acs1Δ* cells failed to sporulate (Figure 6E). This was also the case for

280 the catalytic point mutant *acsI*^{K675A}. Interestingly, the filament interface mutant *acsI*^{R264W} sporulated
281 with comparable efficiency to the wild-type control *ACSI*^{WT}.

282 The experiments above indicate that the catalytic activity of Acs1 is required for efficient gametogenesis,
283 while filament formation is dispensable. However, they do not exclude that filament formation might be
284 required for spore viability, especially after prolonged periods of dormancy. We therefore used live cell
285 imaging to monitor spore germination and return to growth of spores of different ages. Gradual
286 starvation was used to induce sporulation and spores were kept in sporulation medium up to eight weeks
287 before inducing germination by switching to medium containing 2% glucose (Figure 6F). One day after
288 spore formation, most spores from all genotypes germinated within the 9 h of live cell imaging (Figure
289 6G). However, we noticed a delay in cell cycle re-entry for the *acsI*^{K675A} and *acsI*Δ mutants, when
290 compared to the *ACSI*^{WT} control. Interestingly, the *acsI*^{R264W} spores germinated slightly faster than
291 *ACSI*^{WT}, indicating that filament formation might delay the germination of newly generated spores.
292 When spores were kept in sporulation medium for longer periods of time, we noticed a strong reduction
293 in the number of spores from *acsI*^{K675A} and *acsI*Δ mutants strains that were able to germinate (Figure
294 6G). Remarkably, the filament interface mutant strain (*acsI*^{R264W}) also showed a steeper increase of time
295 required for re-entry into mitotic proliferation, when compared to the *ACSI*^{WT} control. Moreover, after
296 prolonged times of dormancy, a large proportion of *acsI*^{R264W} spores completely failed to germinate,
297 whereas the vast majority of *ACSI*^{WT} spores re-entered proliferation efficiently (Figure 6G).

298 These data suggest that the polymerization of Acs1 into filaments is not required for the formation of
299 spores upon starvation. Moreover, filament formation, which inhibits catalytic function, may delay cell
300 cycle re-entry after short periods of starvation. However, failure to form Acs1 filaments results in
301 impaired return to growth after prolonged periods or dormancy. As such, it is likely that the inheritance
302 of meiotically-assembled Acs1 filaments plays a fundamental role in preparing spores for –
303 unpredictably – extended periods of dormancy.

304 **Acs1 polymerization is a general response to starvation and required for efficient recovery**

305 While monitoring the subcellular localization of Acs1-GFP, we noted that starved pre-meiotic cells
306 already contained Acs1-GFP foci (Figure 6C), suggesting that filament formation may occur as part of
307 a general response to the metabolic state, rather than being a meiosis-specific event. This would be
308 consistent with previous work showing that various GFP-tagged metabolic enzymes, including Acs1,
309 formed fluorescent foci upon nutrient depletion^{10,12}. To test this hypothesis, we cultured haploid cells,
310 which cannot undergo meiosis, for 24 hours in YPA medium (containing acetate, a non-fermentable
311 carbon source, instead of glucose). CryoET imaging of spread spheroplasts revealed prominent Acs1
312 filament bundles as well as single Ald4 filaments that resembled those observed during meiosis (Figure
313 7A).

314 Having established that Acs1 filament formation also occurs when vegetative cells are starved in
315 medium containing acetate, we tested whether Acs1 played a role in return to growth after starvation,
316 independently from the meiotic cell division program. We cultured haploid cells for different periods of
317 time in medium with glucose (YPD medium) or in medium with acetate (YPA medium). The cells were
318 then transferred onto YPD and return to growth was monitored. As expected, after YPD starvation, wild-
319 type and Acs1 mutants recovered with similar efficiencies (Figure 7B), likely due to the functional
320 compensation by Acs2, which is upregulated in such conditions⁴². In contrast, after five days of YPA
321 starvation, significant defects in recovery were observed for the Acs1 catalytically deficient mutant
322 (*acs1^{K675A}*) as well as for the subunit interface mutant (*acs1^{R264W}*). Altogether, these data support a model
323 in which Acs1 filament formation is generally required for the ability of cells to return to proliferation
324 after prolonged periods of starvation.

325

326 **DISCUSSION**

327 Our multimodal cryoEM imaging approach on spread samples, termed FilamentID, revealed the
328 structural organization of two novel types of filament assemblies composed of Ald4 and Acs1. Both
329 metabolic enzymes are conserved across all domains of life. Acs homologs play a critical role in carbon
330 metabolism and are also involved in the regulation of histone acetylation, which directly impacts
331 chromatin structure and gene expression^{43,44}. Ald homologs metabolize reactive aldehydes, and, as such,
332 have important roles in detoxification and cell homeostasis⁴⁵. Reflecting the functions in these central
333 cellular processes, human Acs and Ald homologs are associated with disease. ACSS2 is highly
334 expressed in cancer cells under conditions of metabolic stress⁴⁶, whereas reduced function of the
335 mitochondrial ALDH2 has been linked to cancer predisposition, cardiovascular disease and, in 8% of
336 the world population, alcohol intolerance⁴⁷. From this perspective, it will be exciting to investigate
337 whether polymer formation is an evolutionarily conserved aspect of Ald and Acs function, and whether
338 polymerization may become altered in the context of disease. In the following paragraphs, we discuss
339 the impact of our study on the understanding of Acs1 biology and metabolic enzyme filaments in
340 general, as well as the methodological advances.

341 **Context-specific enzyme polymerization: Acs1 subunit interfaces may sense the metabolic state of** 342 **cells**

343 Acetyl-CoA synthases and aldehyde dehydrogenases are protein families whose individual isoforms can
344 be differentially regulated in terms of abundance and subcellular localization. Yeast Acs1 and Ald4
345 share a tight transcriptional repression by glucose^{48,49}. Consistent with this notion, both proteins
346 accumulate in starved pre-meiotic G0/G1 cells and throughout meiosis (Figure 6A)³¹. Furthermore,
347 among several other metabolic enzymes, Acs1 and Ald4 were previously shown to accumulate as
348 distinct foci in starved yeast cells, when tagged with GFP¹⁰. The mechanistic underpinnings of this
349 behavior are currently unknown for most such enzymes. It has been proposed that low nutrient levels
350 lead to cytoplasmic acidification and reduction in cell volume, eventually triggering widespread protein
351 clustering, which leads to the transition of the cytoplasm from a fluid into a solid-like state^{16,50,51}. Acs1
352 and Ald4 may therefore constitute isoforms of their respective enzyme families that have evolved the
353 ability to polymerize in response to nutrient scarcity.

354 An elegant example of how a metabolic state can be sensed to trigger filament formation has been
355 proposed for yeast CTP synthase. CTP synthase contains a histidine residue at the subunit interface that
356 becomes protonated at low pH, leading to an increased affinity for the neighboring subunits¹⁵.
357 Consistent with the idea that subunit interfaces can sense nutrient levels, our high-resolution structure
358 of natively assembled Acs1 filaments revealed a metabolite, possibly ADP, at the interface of
359 consecutive protomers (Figure 5D). Mutating the binding site at the interface abolished filament bundle

360 formation (Figure 5E, 5G). It is therefore tempting to speculate that sensing of the metabolic state of the
361 cell via ADP levels, which transiently increase during meiosis⁵², may constitute a trigger for Acs1 to
362 polymerize. This underlines the critical role of subunit interfaces in the response to changes in nutrient
363 availability to tune oligomerization states. Besides this proposed mechanism, it is likely that other
364 regulatory layers play a role, including increased Acs1 expression levels and phosphorylation during
365 meiosis³¹. These aspects should be considered in future approaches aimed at reconstituting Acs1
366 filament formation *in vitro*.

367 **Acs1 polymerization is required for the recovery of chronologically aged dormant cells**

368 We propose a model, in which the essential catalytic function of Acs1, Acetyl-CoA synthesis, is carried
369 out at the onset of meiosis, when ATP production to support the vast biosynthetic needs of sporulation
370 is high⁵³, being shortly after followed by enzyme self-inhibition (Figure 7C). The upregulation of Acs1
371 under nutrient limiting conditions is accompanied by the polymerization of trimers into filaments, which
372 inactivates the enzyme. Should the inhibition of Acs1 be important for meiosis itself, one would expect
373 that sporulation or spore viability becomes compromised in mutants that specifically fail to form
374 filaments. We found that such a mutant (*acs1^{R264W}*) showed normal levels of sporulation (Figure 6E).
375 Remarkably, however, *acs1^{R264W}* failed to re-enter the cell cycle after prolonged periods of starvation-
376 induced dormancy (Figure 6G). Therefore, polymer formation appears to sustain the viability of dormant
377 spores that become chronologically old(er). More generally, Acs1 filaments also form in starved haploid
378 cells that cannot undergo meiosis and the ability of Acs1 to polymerize is critical for return to growth
379 after prolonged periods of starvation (Figure 7B).

380 How does Acs1 polymerization prime dormant/starved cells for efficient return to proliferation? We
381 envision several possible mechanisms: 1) The inactivation of Acs1 in polymers plays a role in lowering
382 acetyl-CoA levels as cells prepare to enter dormancy. This could, for example, ensure that histone
383 acetylation, which is a driver of chromatin openness and gene expression⁵⁴, remains low. 2) On the
384 other hand, Acs1 depolymerization after prolonged periods of starvation/dormancy, allows for the swift
385 generation of acetyl-CoA by the stored enzyme upon encountering favorable conditions. This provides
386 a two-fold advantage, namely no need for de novo Acs1/Acs2 synthesis, and, since Acs1 filaments are
387 acetyl-AMP-bound, acetyl-CoA can be produced without expending additional cellular ATP. 3) The
388 catalytic inactivation of Acs1, an abundant ATP-consuming enzyme, could help to preserve ATP levels
389 that are needed for minimal metabolism and for the re-entry into a metabolically active state. 4) Storage
390 of Acs1 via the formation of filament bundles could protect from autophagic degradation, which is a
391 highly active process during meiosis⁵⁵. 5) Acs1 polymerization is part of a general cellular response to
392 solidify the cytoplasm. Such a transition was shown to increase mechanical stability and has been
393 proposed to protect from environmental stress^{50,51}.

394 An important remaining question is the molecular basis and relevance of Acs1 (and Ald4) to form
395 filaments that are organized in higher-order bundles and arrays (Figure 1A-C). These mesoscale
396 assemblies are likely established through lateral contacts of individual filaments. This idea is supported
397 by the observation that C-terminally GFP-tagged Acs1 formed only short filaments that co-localize in
398 unordered aggregates (Figure S10). The GFP-tag emanating from the filament surface likely disrupts
399 bundle formation and long-range polymerization. These findings underline the importance of integrating
400 cryoET imaging of untagged wild-type cells for a comprehensive understanding of metabolic enzyme
401 filaments across scales. Overall, our study will serve as a framework to understand how the
402 polymerization of metabolic enzymes and the formation of higher-order bundles may prime cells for
403 efficient recovery from dormancy.

404 **The FilamentID workflow can be adapted to various types of filaments**

405 Besides the possibility of analyzing the *in situ* structure of identified filament assemblies, cryoET is a
406 powerful method to discover new cellular ultrastructures in a range of cellular states, organisms, and
407 tissues^{21,22}. The *de novo* identification of such structures *in cellulo*, however, is extremely challenging,
408 as it requires the determination of reconstructions by sub-tomogram averaging at a resolution of typically
409 $<4 \text{ \AA}$ to unambiguously identify unique amino acid sequences. Recent successful examples were enabled
410 by the combination of 1) highly abundant target complexes (e.g. ribosomes) and 2) particularly thin
411 samples for imaging, for instance skinny bacteria^{56,57} or cryoFIB-thinned cells^{58,59}. An alternative
412 approach to sub-tomogram averaging is to determine high-resolution structures via single-particle
413 cryoEM, however, this is typically done on purified complexes. Integrated with advanced computational
414 analyses, *de novo* identification is also feasible with rather heterogeneous samples⁶⁰⁻⁶². Any purification,
415 however, can lead to disassembly of the structure of interest.

416 The FilamentID workflow (Figure 2) combines complementary imaging modalities on gently lysed
417 cells/organelles and has three major advantages over the above conventional approaches: 1) FilamentID
418 needs no prior sample knowledge; 2) FilamentID can be applied to targets of rather low abundance and
419 heterogeneity at the superstructural level; and 3) FilamentID sample preparation does not require time-
420 consuming cryoFIB milling or purification optimizations. Limitations of the technique are that 1) the
421 targeted single-particle cryoEM data collection needs to be guided to areas of interest (target complexes
422 need to be visible at low magnification); and 2) membrane integrity and cellular context is lost due to
423 the spreading.

424 In the present study, FilamentID could unambiguously pinpoint the composition of two different types
425 of filamentous assemblies. We note, however, that we detected other types of filaments in cryo-
426 tomograms of spread yeast cells (Figure S5B). In the future, the workflow could be adapted to study
427 various culturing conditions, distinct developmental programs, different cell types, and diverse
428 organisms.

429 **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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431 for instrument access and support. The Matos Lab was supported by ETH (31 17-2), SNSF (176108),
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433 NOMIS Foundation.

434 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

435 J.H. performed the sample preparations for cryoEM/cryoET with the help of F.W.; J.H. and J.X.
436 performed cryoET data collection and analysis; J.H. and J.X. collected cryoEM data; J.X. reconstructed
437 the cryoEM maps and determined the structures; R.W. provided MS data and analysis; J.H., R.W., L.I.
438 D.V. and A.H. generated yeast strains. R.W. and A.H. performed western blotting experiments; J.H. and
439 R.W. performed sporulation efficiency assays; L.I. performed immuno-florescence imaging. J.H.
440 performed correlative cryoLM and cryoET imaging; J.H. did starvation recovery assays; D.V. performed
441 germination assays and analyzed the data with J.H.; J.M. and M.P. conceived and supervised the project;
442 J.H., J.X., J.M. and M.P. wrote the manuscript with input from all authors.

443 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

444 The authors declare no competing interests.

445 **DATA AND MATERIAL AVAILABILITY**

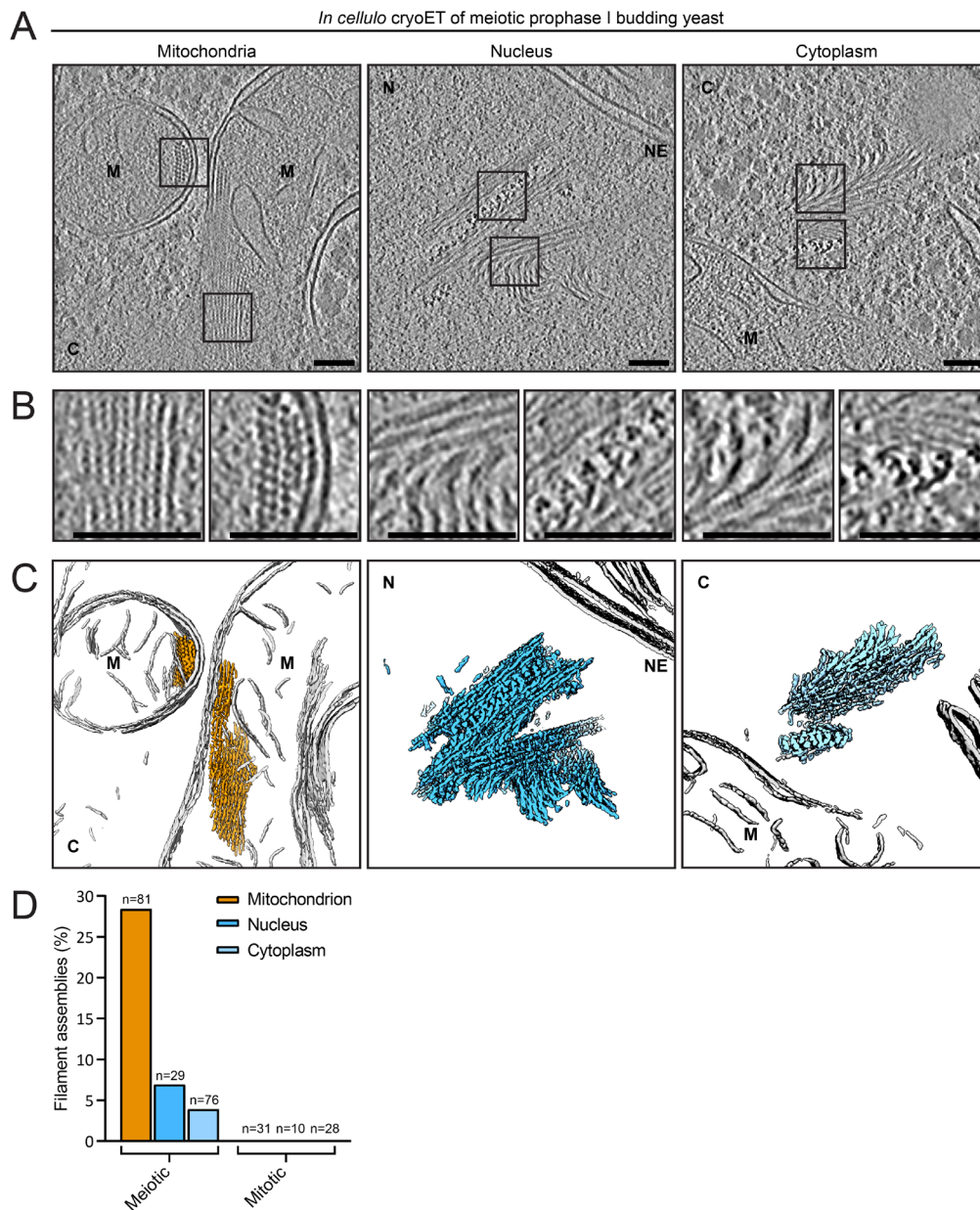
446 The EMDB entries for the cryo-EM density maps of the Acs1 and Ald4 filaments reported in this paper
447 are EMD-XXXXX (Ald4) and EMD-XXXXX (Acs1). The PDB entries for the corresponding atomic
448 models reported in this paper are XXXX (Ald4) and XXXX (Acs1).

449 The EMDB entries for the tomograms showing Ald4 or Acs1 filament bundles are EMD-XXXXX (Ald4
450 filaments in mitochondria; meiotic *in cellulo*), EMD-XXXXX (Acs1 filaments in the nucleus; meiotic *in*
451 *cellulo*), EMD-XXXXX (Acs1 filaments in the cytoplasm; meiotic *in cellulo*), EMD-XXXXX (Ald4
452 filaments in purified mitochondria from meiotic cells), (Acs1 filaments in spread spheroplasts from
453 meiotic cells), and EMD-XXXXX (Acs1 and Ald4 filaments in spread spheroplasts from starved cells).

454

455

456 **FIGURES**



457

458 **Figure 1. Filament assemblies form in the mitochondria, nucleus, and cytoplasm of meiotic yeast**
 459 **cells.** See also Figure S1.

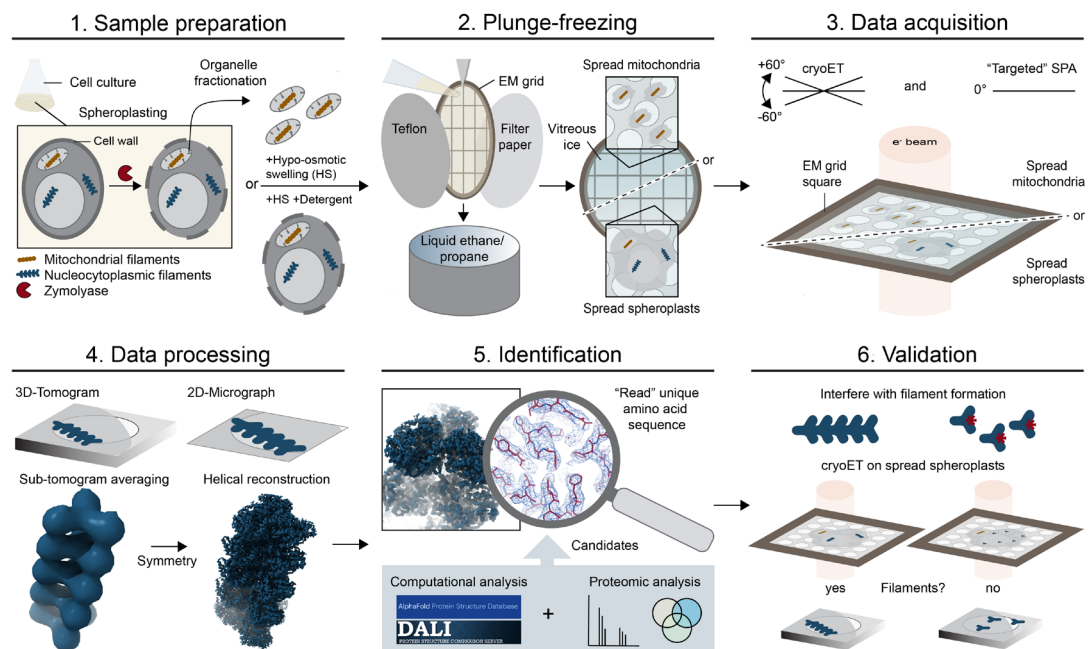
460 (A) Slices through cryo-tomograms of FIB-milled meiotic prophase I budding yeast cells with filament
 461 assemblies in the mitochondria, in the nucleus, and in the cytoplasm. Shown are projections of 9.14 nm
 462 (mitochondria) and 8.68 nm (nucleus and cytoplasm) thick slices. Cells were collected from a *ndt80Δ*
 463 strain arrested in prophase I, 8 h post induction of meiosis. M: mitochondrion, C: cytoplasm N: nucleus,
 464 NE: nuclear envelope. Scale bars: 100 nm.

465 **(B)** Magnified views of cryo-tomograms shown in **(A)**. Note that the top views of single filaments
466 display a round shape for mitochondrial filaments, whereas the nuclear and cytoplasmic filaments have
467 a triangular shape. Scale bars: 100 nm.

468 **(C)** Segmentation models of cryo-tomograms in **(A)** showing filament arrays and bundles.
469 Mitochondrial filaments (orange), nuclear filaments (blue), and cytoplasmic filaments (light blue) are
470 highlighted. Organelle membranes are colored in gray.

471 **(D)** Filament assemblies in the different cellular compartments are observed in meiotic but not in
472 mitotically dividing cells. Meiotic mitochondria (n = 81), nuclei (n = 29), and cytoplasm (n = 76) and
473 mitotic mitochondria (n = 31), nuclei (n = 10), and cytoplasm (n = 28) were analyzed. The fraction (%)
474 of mitochondria, nuclei, and cytoplasm containing the main types of filaments described in **(A-C)** is
475 indicated for each cellular context. Numbers for analyzed compartments (n) represent cumulated results
476 from at least two independent experiments.

477

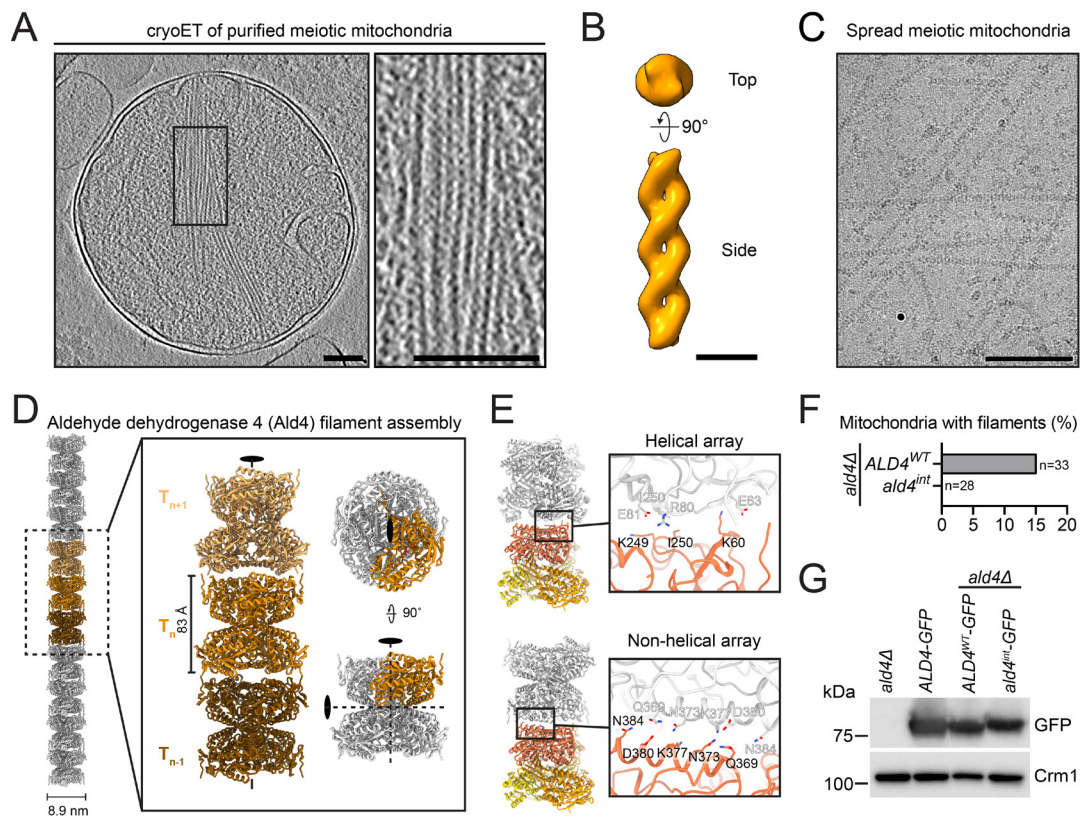


478

479 **Figure 2. FilamentID: a workflow to identify cellular filaments of unknown molecular**
 480 **composition.** See also Figure S2/S5.

481 Schematic workflow to identify the composition of Filament assemblies (FilamentID) observed *in*
 482 *cellulo*. Key steps (1-6): (1) Sample preparation: cells are spheroplasted by digesting the cell wall with
 483 Zymolyase. Depending on the subcellular localization of the filaments, either mitochondria are purified
 484 and spread onto EM grids, or entire cell spheroplasts are spread onto EM grids by hypo-osmotic swelling
 485 and the addition of detergent. (2) Plunge-freezing: samples are vitrified by plunge-freezing. (3) Each
 486 sample is imaged by recording tilt series for cryoET, as well as 2D projection images for single-particle
 487 cryoEM. (4) Data processing: the cryoET data are used to generate sub-tomogram averages to determine
 488 filament symmetry. Subsequently, single-particle data are used to generate high-resolution maps by
 489 helical reconstruction, based on the initial symmetry information determined by cryoET. (5)
 490 Identification: information from computational analysis is used to identify the filament component(s).
 491 Depending on the level of resolution obtained, complementary information from proteomics can be used
 492 to narrow down candidates. (6) Validation: candidate gene(s) are deleted and cryoET is used to verify
 493 the impact on filament structure. In addition, the structural information obtained is used to guide the
 494 perturbation of filament formation by the introduction of specific point mutations. Note: it also would
 495 have been possible to identify the mitochondrial filaments without the mitochondrial purification in step
 496 1; however, the mitochondrial purification step significantly simplifies steps 3-6. For simplicity, in steps
 497 4-6 only the nucleocytoplasmic filament is shown.

498



499

500 **Figure 3. The conserved mitochondrial aldehyde dehydrogenase Ald4 polymerizes into filaments.**

501 See also Figure S2-S4.

502 (A) Slice through a cryo-tomogram of purified mitochondria. Note that straight filament arrays can cross
 503 the entire width of the mitochondrion as depicted. Magnified view of the boxed area is shown on the
 504 right. Cells were collected from a *ndt80*Δ strain arrested in prophase I, 6 h post induction of meiosis.
 505 Shown are projections of 5.5 nm thick slices. Scale bars: 100 nm.

506 (B) Sub-tomogram averaging of filaments from purified meiotic mitochondria shown in (A) reveals a
 507 two-fold symmetry. Shown are top and side views. Scale bar: 10 nm.

508 (C) Purified mitochondria in (A) were spread and imaged by cryoEM. A representative micrograph with
 509 individual filaments observed in spread meiotic mitochondria is shown. Scale bar: 100 nm.

510 (D) Structural model of Ald4 in a filamentous form. Left: stacked array of one Ald4 filament, in which
 511 three consecutive Ald4 tetramers are colored in different shades of orange. Right: magnified view of the
 512 central three Ald4 tetramers on the left. The top and side views of the ribbon diagram of the central Ald4
 513 tetramer are shown on the right, where a single Ald4 subunit is colored orange. The two-fold axis of
 514 Ald4 is represented by an ellipse.

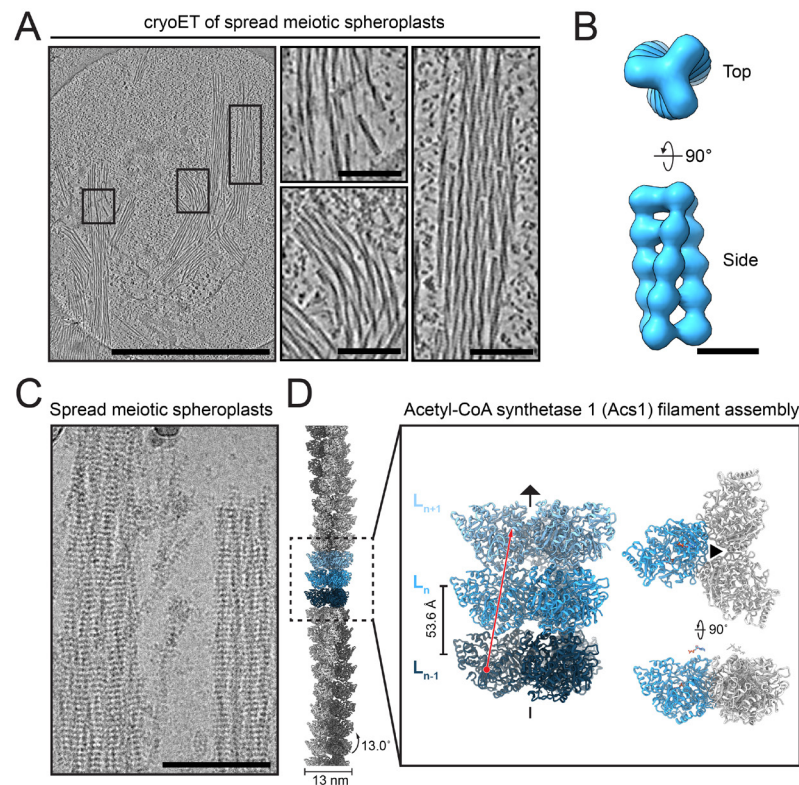
515 (E) Ribbon diagrams showing the putative interfaces between two consecutive Ald4 tetramers in helical
 516 (top) and non-helical (bottom) arrays. The subunits of one Ald4 tetramer are colored in different shades

517 of orange, while the other Ald4 tetramer is colored white. The detailed interface contacts are shown on
518 the right, where the side chains of putative residues mediating contacts are labeled and shown in stick
519 diagrams.

520 (F) The Ald4 interface shown in (E) is needed for filament formation. Purified mitochondria from
521 meiotic cultures (6 h after induction of meiosis) of the indicated genotypes were analyzed by cryoET as
522 described in more detail in Figure S4E. Shown are percentages of mitochondria containing filaments
523 and the total number of mitochondria (n) analyzed for each genotype are indicated.

524 (G) Ald4 interface mutations do not affect protein stability. Western blot analysis from haploid cell
525 cultures collected after 24 h in YPA media. Ald4-GFP expression levels were probed with anti-GFP
526 antibodies and compared in strains with the indicated genotypes. Crm1 was used as protein
527 normalization control.

528



529

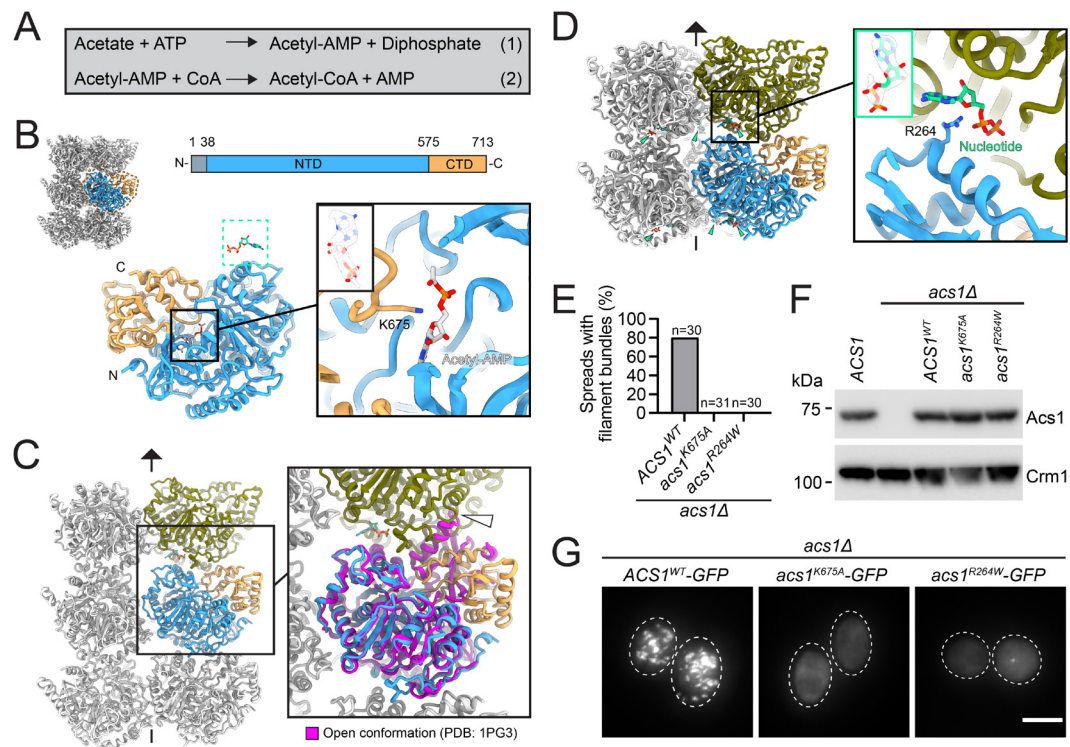
530 **Figure 4. The conserved acetyl-CoA synthetase Acs1 forms filament assemblies in the nucleus and**
531 **the cytoplasm. See also Figure S5-S7.**

532 (A) Slice through a cryo-tomogram of spread meiotic yeast spheroplasts enable a detailed view of the
533 nucleocytoplasmic filaments assemblies observed in Figure 1A. Magnified views of the boxed areas
534 highlight single filaments as well as straight and bent bundles. Cells were collected from a *ndt80Δ* strain
535 arrested in prophase I, 8 h post induction of meiosis. Shown are projections of 9.14 nm thick slices.
536 Scale bars: 1 μm and 100 nm for magnified views.

537 (B) Sub-tomogram averaging of filaments from yeast spheroplasts shown in (A) reveals a three-fold
538 symmetry with a ladder-like repeat. Shown are top and side views. Scale bar: 10 nm.

539 (C) Representative cryoEM micrograph of filament bundles from spread meiotic yeast spheroplasts as
540 shown in (A). Scale bar: 100 nm.

541 (D) Structural model of Acs1 in its filamentous form. Left: Helical array of triple-helical Acs1 filament.
542 A single helical strand is highlighted in dark gray and three consecutive layers are colored in different
543 shades of blue. Right: Magnified view of the central three layers on the left. The single helical strand is
544 marked with a red arrowhead. The side and top view of the ribbon diagram of the central Acs1 trimer
545 are shown on the right, where a single Acs1 subunit is colored in blue. The three-fold axis of the Acs1
546 trimer is represented by a triangle.



547

548 **Figure 5. Metabolites mediate Acs1 filament assembly to inhibit acetyl-CoA production.** See also
 549 Figure S8.

550 (A) Acs1 uses acetate and ATP to produce acetyl-CoA in a two-step reaction. In the first step, an acetyl-
 551 AMP intermediate is formed, and diphosphate is released. In a second step, acetyl-AMP reacts with CoA
 552 to produce acetyl-CoA with the release of AMP³⁹.

553 (B) Ribbon and stick diagrams showing two types of metabolites bound to Acs1 in the filament. Top
 554 left: the helical array of three Acs1 layers, where one subunit is colored and highlighted with a dashed
 555 line. Top right: Scheme showing the overall Acs1 domain organization, where the N-terminal large
 556 domain (NTD) and the C-terminal small domain (CTD) are colored blue and orange respectively. The
 557 flexible N-terminal part, which is not resolved in the structure, is colored grey. Bottom-left: the structural
 558 model of one Acs1 subunit with two metabolites bound (acetyl-AMP: gray; nucleotide (potentially
 559 ADP): green). The position of the nucleotide is highlighted with a green dashed box and the details are
 560 shown in panel (D). Bottom-right: Magnified view showing the contacts between acetyl-AMP and Acs1.
 561 The side chain of the residue in the catalytic center (K675) is shown in stick diagram, while the
 562 corresponding densities around acetyl-AMP are transparent.

563 (C) Ribbon diagrams illustrating the predicted structural clashes that prevent the second step in acetyl-
 564 CoA synthesis when Acs1 is in a filamentous form. Left: helical assembly of three Acs1 trimer layers,
 565 where one Acs1 subunit is color-coded as in (B) and one subunit from the adjacent trimer layer is colored
 566 olive. Right: structural superposition of one Acs1 subunit with CoA-bound bacterial ACS (PDB entry:

567 1PG3)⁴⁰. Note the severe steric clashes (highlighted with white arrowhead) between the bacterial
568 homolog (magenta) and the Acs1 molecules in the adjacent filament layer (olive).

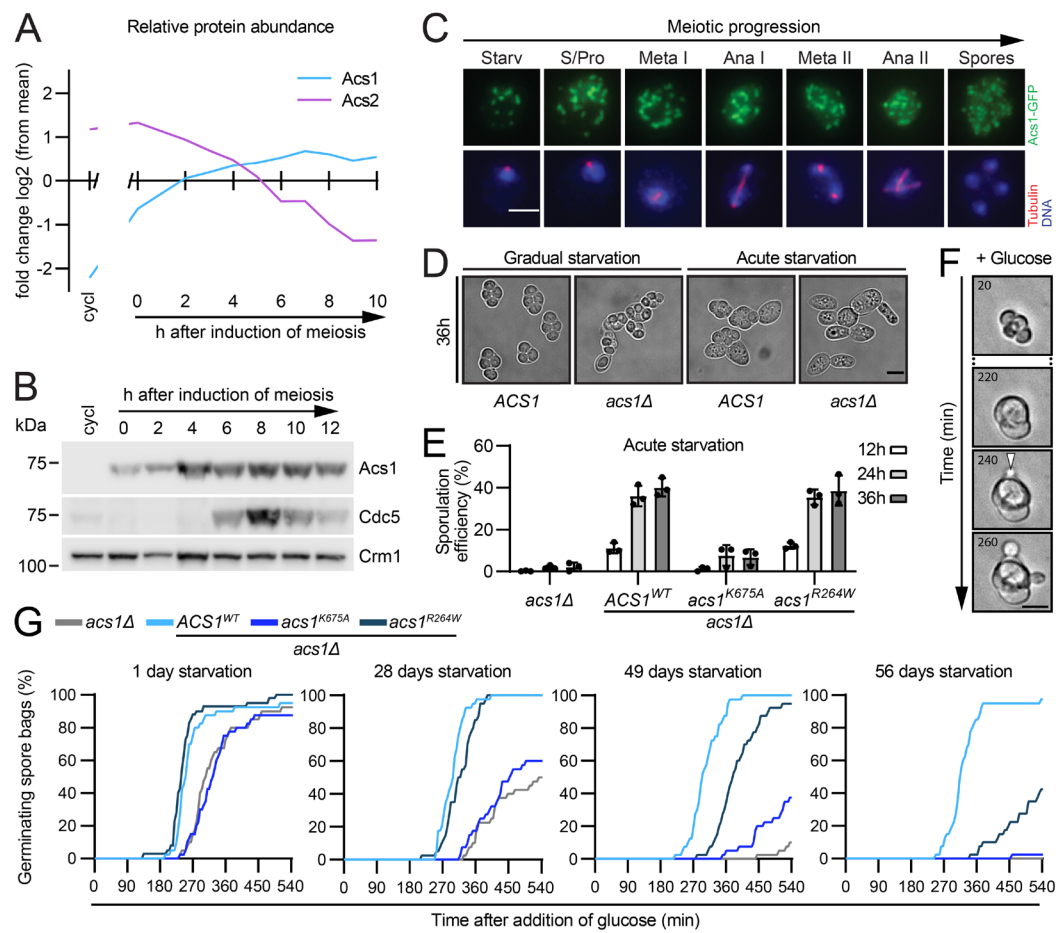
569 **(D)** Ribbon and stick diagrams showing the metabolic nucleotide (potentially ADP) bridging two Acs1
570 adjacent layers. Left: the structure of Acs1 subunits from two adjacent layers. The color code of two
571 subunits matches panel **(C)**. Right: Magnified view showing the contacts between the nucleotide (green)
572 and Acs1 subunits. The side chain of the residue binding to the nucleotide (R264) is shown in stick
573 diagrams. The corresponding densities around the nucleotide are shown in transparent.

574 **(E)** No filament bundles are detected in point mutation strains of the residues shown in **(B)** and **(D)**.
575 Spread meiotic yeast spheroplasts (6 h after induction of meiosis) for the indicated genotypes were
576 analyzed by cryoEM as described in more detail in Figure S7D. Shown are percentages of spreads
577 containing Acs1 filament bundles in EM images and the total number of spreads (n) analyzed for each
578 genotype are indicated.

579 **(F)** Acs1 point mutations do not affect protein stability. Western blot analysis from meiotic cell cultures
580 collected 6 h after induction of meiosis. Acs1 expression levels were probed with an anti-Acs1 antibody
581 and compared in strains with the indicated genotypes. Crm1 was used as protein normalization control.

582 **(G)** Fluorescent rods and foci formation is disrupted in *ACS1* point mutation strains C-terminally tagged
583 with GFP. Shown are representative maximum intensity projections of the Acs1-GFP signal expressed
584 from the endogenous promotor for the indicated genotypes. Cells were collected 6 h after induction of
585 meiosis. Cell walls are indicated with a dashed white line. Scale bar: 5 μm .

586



587

588 **Figure 6. The catalytic activity of Acs1 is required for sporulation and germination, whereas**
 589 **filament formation is required for germination after prolonged dormancy.** See also Figure S9-S11.

590 **(A)** Dynamic changes in the relative expression of Acs1 and Acs2 monitored by quantitative proteomics,
 591 extracted from ³¹. Samples from cycling mitotic cultures (cycl; in YPD medium), and samples collected
 592 at the indicated time points after induction of meiosis from G0/G1 have been analyzed. The plotted
 593 values represent the log₂ fold change in each sample compared to the average peptide/protein expression
 594 from all samples.

595 **(B)** Acs1 is highly expressed throughout meiosis. Western blot analysis of Acs1 in exponentially
 596 growing cycling cultures (cycl; in YPD medium), and at the indicated time points after induction of
 597 meiosis, in SPM medium. Cdc5 expression was used as a marker of meiotic progression whereas Crm1
 598 serves as protein normalization control.

599 **(C)** Acs1-GFP forms foci and rods throughout gametogenesis. Acs1-GFP expressed from the
 600 endogenous promoter was analyzed by immunofluorescence using anti-GFP antibodies. Spindle
 601 morphology and DNA were visualized using anti- α -tubulin antibodies and DAPI respectively. The
 602 experiment shown is representative for two independent experiments. Scale bar: 3 μ m.

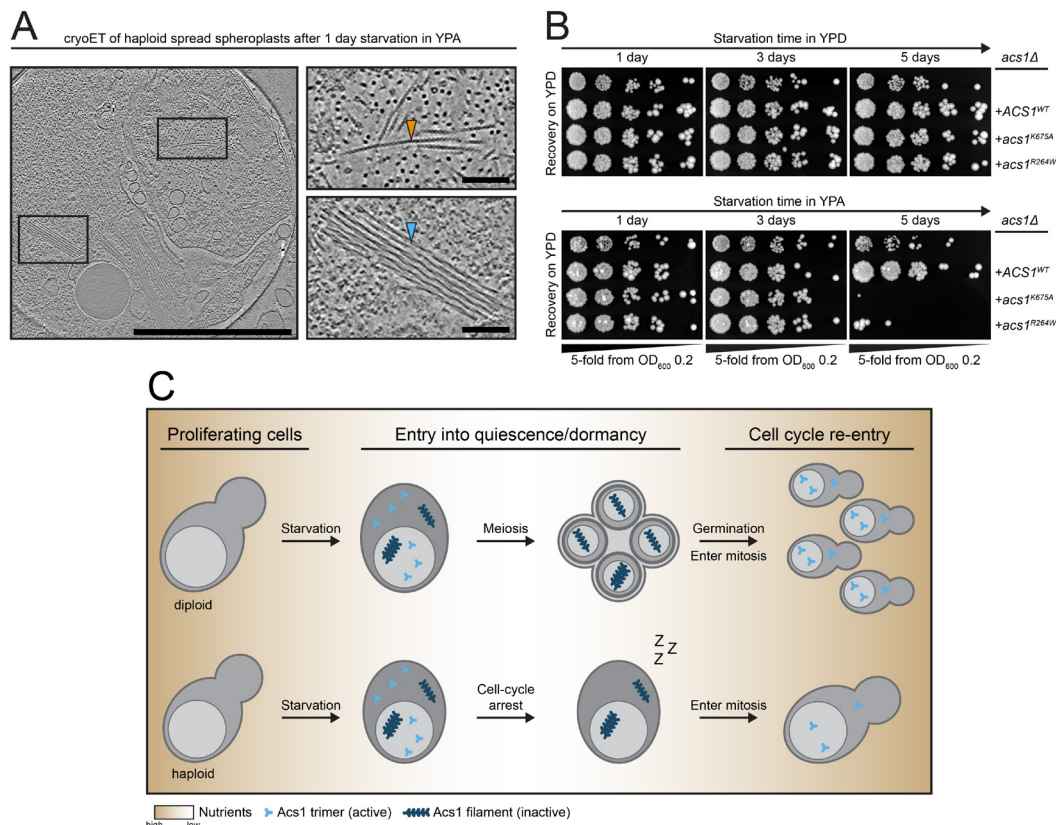
603 **(D)** *Acs1* is needed for efficient sporulation after acute starvation. Yeast strains with the indicated
604 genotypes were induced to enter meiosis by transfer from YPD to SPM (acute starvation), or by transfer
605 from YPD to YPA to SPM (gradual starvation). Shown are representative images of the sporulation
606 efficiency 36 h after transfer to SPM medium. Note that in acutely starved cell cultures of an *acs1Δ*
607 strain no ascospore formation was observed. Quantification of the sporulation efficiency is shown in
608 Figure S11. Scale bar: 5 μ m.

609 **(E)** The catalytic activity of *Acs1* is needed for efficient sporulation, whereas filament formation is
610 dispensable. Yeast strains with the indicated genotypes were induced to sporulate as in **(D)** under acute
611 starvation conditions. The efficiency of ascospore formation was quantified by assessing the
612 morphology of 200 cells from three independent experiments after 12, 24, and 36 h in SPM. Ascospore
613 formation was considered successful if at least two spores were enclosed by a spore wall. Plotted values
614 show the mean \pm SD.

615 **(F)** Live cell imaging of ascospore germination. Strains shown in **(G)** were induced to sporulate under
616 gradual starvation conditions, as described in **(D)**. Mature spores were then induced to germinate by
617 exchanging the sporulation medium (SPM) to glucose-rich medium (SC + 2% Glucose). Light
618 microscopy DIC images were collected every 5 min to follow the initial bud formation, which was
619 considered as the initial point of re-entry into the cell cycle. Example images depict the key
620 morphological changes that occur after transfer of the spores to glucose-rich medium, with bud
621 formation marked by the white arrowhead. Scale bar: 5 μ m.

622 **(G)** *Acs1* filament formation is needed after prolonged dormancy. Ascospore germination was analyzed
623 as described in **(F)** for strains with the indicated genotypes, after cells were cultured for 1, 28, 49, and
624 56 days in SPM medium. 40 ascospores per genotype and condition were imaged for cell cycle re-entry.
625 Live cell imaging was performed for a total duration of 540 min (9 h) after glucose addition.

626



627

628 **Figure 7. Acs1 polymerization is a general response to starvation and required for efficient**
 629 **recovery.**

630 (A) Acs1 and Ald4 form filaments also upon starvation independently from meiosis. Haploid yeast cells,
 631 which are unable to enter meiosis, were starved for 1 day in YPA, spread onto EM grids, and processed
 632 for cryoET. Shown is a 9.02 nm thick slice through a cryo-tomogram with magnified views on the right.
 633 Orange arrowhead points to single Ald4 filament whereas the blue arrowhead points to an Acs1 filament
 634 bundle. Scale bars: 1 μ m and 100 nm for magnified views.

635 (B) Acs1 filaments are needed for efficient recovery after starvation. Shown is a cell spotting assay for
 636 the indicated genotypes. Cells were incubated for 1, 3, or 5 days in YPD or YPA medium before fivefold
 637 serial dilutions were spotted on YPD plates. Note that after five days in YPA medium, deletion strains
 638 complemented with *acs1*^{K675A} and *acs1*^{R264W} almost completely failed to recover. The experiment shown
 639 is representative for two independent experiments.

640 (C) Model of Acs1 filament function. Starvation triggers entry into quiescence/dormancy via meiosis.
 641 In the process, Acs1 expression is upregulated to promote acetyl-CoA production, which is required for
 642 meiosis. Shortly after meiotic entry, Acs1 polymerizes and forms filament bundles that are inherited by
 643 spores. In the filamentous form, Acs1 is inactive and acetyl-AMP-bound, unable to carry out the second
 644 step in acetyl-CoA synthesis. After long periods of dormancy, the stored Acs1 is required for return to

645 proliferation. A similar mechanism operates in haploid cells to enable the return to growth from
646 prolonged periods of starvation.

647

648 STAR METHODS

649 Experimental model and subject details

650 All strains used in this study are SK1 derivatives and the detailed genotypes are described in Table S2.
651 The following alleles have been described previously: *ndt80Δ*, *Zip1-(700)-GFP*^{63,64}. Gene deletions
652 were introduced by PCR-based amplification of cassettes from the yeast knock-out collection⁶⁵.
653 Synthetic *ALD4*^{WT} or *ald4*^{int} (Lys60Glu, Lys249Glu, Ile250Ala, Gln369Ala, Asn373Ala, Lys377Ala,
654 Asp380Ala, Asn384Ala) constructs including 500 base pairs (bp) upstream of ATG and 500 bp
655 downstream of the terminator were cloned into the plasmid Yiplac128 (pML764) using HindIII and
656 EcoRI restriction sites. The resulting plasmids (pML767 and pML776) were used to reconstitute an
657 *ald4Δ* strain by the integration of the respective linearized vector variant into the promoter region of
658 *ALD4* using SmaI. In all strains carrying *ACSI* variants, a synthetic *ACSI*^{WT}-*6xHIS*-*6xFLAG* gene
659 sequence construct including 301 bp upstream of ATG and 81 bp downstream of the terminator was
660 cloned into the plasmid pYIplac211 (pML533) using HindIII and EcoRI restriction sites. Plasmids
661 carrying *acsI*^{K675A} (pML624) or *acsI*^{R264W} (pML619) were generated by site-directed mutagenesis of
662 pYIplac211-*ACSI*-*6xHIS*-*6xFLAG* (pML606). Reconstitution of *acs1Δ* strains with *ACSI*^{WT} or with the
663 *acsI* point mutants were performed by integration of the respective linearized vector variants into the
664 promoter region of *ACSI* using Bsu36I. For C-terminal PCR-based tagging of chromosomal genes or
665 tag exchange with yeast enhanced GFP (referred to in the text as GFP) cassette was amplified from a
666 plasmid (pML100, Gift from Wolfgang Zachariae) with 50 bp overhangs homologous to 50 bp up- and
667 downstream of the STOP codon⁶⁶. To remove C-terminal tags, a cassette from pML702 with 50 bp
668 overhangs at the C-terminus including the STOP codon was used. DNA cassettes were transformed into
669 SK1 yeast strains using standard protocols.

670 Method details

671 Generation of diploid strains and meiotic time courses

672 Meiotic time courses were performed as previously described^{23,24}. In brief, haploid cells with opposite
673 mating types were mated on YPD [1% (w/v) yeast extract, 2% (w/v) peptone, 2% (w/v) dextrose].
674 Diploid cell colonies were then selected on YPG [1% (w/v) yeast extract, 2% (w/v) peptone, 2% (v/v)
675 glycerol] plates for 48 h at 30 °C. Several colonies were picked and expanded on YPD plates for two
676 times 24 h at 30 °C to form a lawn covering the whole plate. Afterwards, cells were inoculated in pre-
677 sporulation medium [YPA, 1% (w/v) yeast extract, 2% (w/v) peptone, 2% (w/v) potassium acetate] at
678 OD₆₀₀ ~0.3 and grown for 15 h at 25 °C or for 11 h at 30 °C, washed once in sporulation medium [SPM,
679 2% (w/v) potassium acetate] and inoculated at OD₆₀₀ ~3.5 into SPM. This time was defined as t = 0 h

680 for all meiotic time courses. Cells were then sporulated at 30 °C and samples were taken at specific time
681 points post transfer to SPM.

682 **Sporulation efficiency**

683 To assess sporulation efficiency, cells were inoculated in YPA to OD₆₀₀ ~0.3 and grown for 15 h at 25
684 °C, washed once in SPM, and inoculated into SPM to OD₆₀₀ ~3.5. For the acute starvation procedure,
685 cells were directly inoculated into SPM after expansion on YPD plates. An aliquot of cell suspension
686 was collected after 12 h, 24 h, and 36 h in SPM and stored at -20 °C prior to light microscopy imaging.
687 Samples were imaged with standard light microscopy systems. Areas with ascospores and cells were
688 randomly picked, and Z-stacks were recorded in the Brightfield channel. Ascospores and cells were
689 manually scored using Fiji ⁶⁷. 100-200 ascospores or cells were counted in three independent
690 experiments. Ascospore formation was considered successful if the ascus contained at least two spores
691 enclosed by a separate spore wall. Data analysis was performed in Excel (Microsoft) and Prism (version
692 9.2.0 for Windows; GraphPad) software.

693 **Yeast spore germination imaging**

694 Sporulation cultures generated as described above were incubated for up to 56 days at 30 °C in SPM
695 medium supplemented with Ampicillin (50 µg/ml). Every three days, fresh Ampicillin was added. For
696 life cell imaging, samples were adjusted to an OD₆₀₀ ~1.7 in conditioned SPM before they were put in
697 Concanavalin A (in 1M MnCl₂, 1x PBS) coated imaging chambers [Nunc™ Lab-Tek™ II Chambered
698 Coverglass, 8 Well, 1.5 Borosilicate Glass (LifeTech Cat 155409)]. After 3 min of incubation at RT,
699 chambers were washed with conditioned SPM before synthetic medium [SC, 0.17% (w/v) yeast nitrogen
700 base w/o ammonium sulphate and amino acids, 0.5% (w/v) ammonium sulphate, 1.1% casamino acids,
701 0.0055% (w/v) for adenine, tyrosine, uracil, tryptophane and leucin in H₂O] w/o glucose was added.
702 Right before imaging, SC w/o glucose was exchanged with SC containing 2% (w/v) glucose. Live-cell
703 imaging was performed on a DeltaVision Ultra Epifluorescence Microscope equipped with an Olympus
704 UPlanXApo 40x/0.95 Corr objective, a sCMOS camera (pco.edge 4.2) and a full environmental chamber
705 at 30 °C. 8 µm z-stacks in the DIC channel were collected every 5 min for a total duration of 9 h on pre-
706 selected regions. Additionally, a UV blocking filter was applied.

707 Movies were analysed with Fiji imaging software. Single ascospores containing at least three visible
708 spores enclosed by a separate spore wall were tracked over the entire movie. The time of initial cell
709 cycle re-entry was defined as the appearance of the first budding spore of an ascus. 40 ascospores per
710 genotype were inspected for each time point. Germination curves were generated in Excel (Microsoft)
711 and Prism (version 9.2.0 for Windows; GraphPad) software.

712 **Yeast spot assays**

713 Haploid yeast cells were cultured in liquid YPD over night at 30 °C. In the morning, cells were diluted
714 and inoculated at OD₆₀₀ ~0.1 in YPD or OD₆₀₀ ~0.2 in YPA medium supplemented with Ampicillin (50
715 µg/ml) and incubated at 30 °C. Every three days, cell cultures were supplemented with fresh Ampicillin.
716 For the starvation recovery spot assay, cells were harvested for each time point, washed once in H₂O
717 and spotted on YPD plates as 5-fold serial dilutions starting from OD₆₀₀ = 0.2. YPD plates were
718 incubated for 48 h at 30 °C before they were imaged with a ChemiDoc Imaging System (BioRad).

719 **Protein analyses by western blotting**

720 Samples were processed as described previously (Matos et al., 2008). In short, cell pellets were
721 disrupted in 10% TCA using glass beads on a FastPrep-24 (MP Biomedicals) running two cycles of 40
722 s (6.5 m/s). The protein precipitates were resuspended in 2X NuPAGE sample buffer and neutralized
723 with 1M TrisBase at a 2:1 ratio (v/v), boiled at 95°C for 10 min and cleared by centrifugation for another
724 10 min. The relative protein concentration was assessed using the Bio-Rad protein assay. Protein
725 samples were separated on NuPAGE 3-8% Tris-Acetate gels (Invitrogen) and transferred onto
726 Amersham Hybond 0.45 µm PVDF membranes. For immunoblotting the following antibodies were
727 used: mouse anti-GFP (1:2000, 11814460001 Roche), mouse anti-Cdc5 (1:2500, clone 4F10 MM-0192-
728 1-100 MédiMabs), rabbit anti-Acs1 (1:5000, this publication), rabbit anti-Crm1 (1:5000, Onischenko E.
729 et al., 2009). The following secondary HRP conjugated antibodies were used: 1:5000 goat anti-mouse
730 immunoglobulin (P0447 Agilent) and 1:5000 swine anti-rabbit immunoglobulin (P0399 Agilent).

731 **FACS analysis of DNA content**

732 Cellular DNA content was determined as described previously⁶⁸. 1 ml of meiotic cell culture was fixed
733 in 70% (v/v) ice cold EtOH before cells were washed in 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5 and resuspended in
734 500 µl 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5. RNA was digested o/n or for at least 4 h at 37 °C by adding 2 µl RNase
735 (100 mg/mL) (Roche). Cells were washed in FACS buffer (200 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 211 mM NaCl,
736 78 mM MgCl₂), resuspended in 500 µl FACS buffer containing 50 µg/ml propidium iodide and briefly
737 sonicated. An aliquot of 40-60 µl was diluted in 1 ml of 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5. Propidium iodide-
738 stained DNA content was measured on a flow cytometer (FACSCalibur or LSRFortessa, Becton
739 Dickinson). The cytometer data was analyzed using FlowJo software (Becton Dickinson).

740 **Fluorescence light microscopy**

741 Immunofluorescence stainings were performed as previously described^{69,70}. The following primary
742 antibodies were used: rabbit anti-GFP (1:600, a gift from Wolfgang Zachariae), rat anti- α -tubulin (1:600,
743 Biorad MCA78G). Secondary antibodies coupled to Alexa 555 and Alexa 488 were used for detection
744 (1:300, Invitrogen). DNA was stained with 4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole (DAPI). Images were

745 acquired on a Zeiss Axio Imager M2 equipped with a 63x 1.4 Oil DIC M27 objective and a
746 CoolSnapHQ2 camera under the control of ZEN blue 3.3. Image analysis was performed using Fiji.
747 For direct fluorescent microscopy without prior staining, ~8 OD₆₀₀ units were harvested, concentrated,
748 and fixed in 100 µl 4% PFA solution for 20 min at RT without shaking. Samples were then washed in
749 1x PBS and resuspended for imaging. Images were acquired on a Zeiss Axio Imager M2 equipped with
750 a 63x 1.4 Oil DIC M27 objective and a CoolSnapHQ2 camera under the control of ZEN blue 3.3, or on
751 a Leica Thunder Imager 3D cell culture microscope equipped with a HC PL APO 100x/1.44 Oil CORR
752 CS objective and a sCMOS camera (Leica DFC9000 GTC) under the control of LAS X (v 3.7.6)
753 software. Images acquired at the Leica microscope were processed with large volume computational
754 clearing (LVCC).

755 **Isolation of mitochondria and spreading on EM grids**

756 Crude mitochondrial fractions were isolated at a small scale as described previously^{32,71}. Briefly, ~350
757 OD₆₀₀ units were harvested, washed in water, and treated with 10 mM DTT in 100 mM Tris-SO₄ pH 9.4
758 for 20 min at 30°C. After washing in zymolyase buffer (1.2 M sorbitol, 20 mM KP₁ pH 7.4), cells were
759 resuspended in 1.5 ml zymolyase buffer containing 10 mg 20T zymolyase (Seikagaku Biobusiness) and
760 incubated for 30 min at 30 °C. Spheroplasts were washed in zymolyase buffer and homogenized in
761 homogenization buffer [0.6 M sorbitol, 10 mM Tris/HCl pH 7.4, 1 mM ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid
762 (EDTA), 2 mM phenylmethylsulfonyl fluoride (PMSF), 0.2% (w/v) bovine serum albumin] by passing
763 the cell suspension 20 times through a 0.8 × 22 mm cannula. Cell debris and nuclei were removed by
764 centrifuging the suspension at 1,000 × g and crude mitochondria were isolated by centrifuging the
765 supernatant at 12,000 × g for 15 min. The mitochondrial pellet was resuspended in SEM buffer (250
766 mM sucrose, 1 mM EDTA, 10 mM MOPS/KOH pH 7.2) and the protein concentration was estimated
767 against an Albumin standard by the Bradford method. Aliquots were snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen and
768 stored at -80°C or directly used to apply on EM grids for plunge-freezing. For single-particle EM data
769 acquisition, purified mitochondria were splashed by hypo-osmotic swelling. Samples were spun down
770 at 20,000 × g for 10 min and pellets were resuspended in 10 mM MOPS pH 7.2. After 10 min on ice,
771 the mitochondria suspension was plunge-frozen on EM grids.

772 **Preparation of spread yeast spheroplasts on EM grids**

773 The preparation of spread yeast spheroplasts on EM grids was adapted from chromosome surface spread
774 protocols^{27,28}. Briefly, ~3 OD₆₀₀ units of cell culture were harvested, spun down for 2 min at 800 ×g,
775 resuspended in 200 µl of 1.2 M sorbitol in SPM and placed on ice. Cells were spheroplasted by adding
776 2 µl of 1 M DTT (30 °C, 15 min), followed by 5 µl 100T Zymolyase (1 mg/ml) (Seikagaku Biobusiness)
777 (30 °C, 15-30 min). From 8 min onwards, cells were regularly checked under the microscope to assess
778 the level of spheroplasting by mixing 1 µl of spheroplast suspension with 5 µl water on a glass slide.

779 Spheroplasted cells appear dark, whereas non-spheroplasted cells have a bright halo. When most of the
780 cell population is spheroplasted, 1 ml of ice-cold STOP solution (0.1 M MES, 1mM EDTA, 0.5 mM
781 MgCl₂, pH 6.4) was added. Spheroplasts were spun down at 800 × g for 2 min at 4 °C and carefully
782 resuspended in 100-200 µl ice cold STOP solution. 10 µl of spheroplast suspension was then mixed with
783 40 µl of 1% (v/v) Lipsol or 1% (v/v) NP-40 detergent immediately before adding them onto EM grids
784 for plunge-freezing.

785 **Plunge-freezing**

786 Meiotic yeast cells were cultured and plunge-frozen as described previously²⁵ with minor modifications.
787 Meiotic yeast cells were harvested and diluted to an OD₆₀₀ of 1-3 in SPM. Vegetatively growing cells in
788 YPD were harvested at an OD₆₀₀ of ~0.8 and concentrated in SPM to OD₆₀₀ of 1-3 by spinning for 2 min
789 at 650 × g. Yeast cells were kept on ice until they were plunge-frozen with a Vitrobot Mark IV (Thermo
790 Fisher Scientific)⁷². 4 µl of cell suspension was applied onto the negatively glow-discharged EM grids
791 (R2/2 Cu 200 mesh, specially treated, Quantifoil). Using a Teflon sheet on one side, grids were back-
792 blotted either once for 5-6 s or twice for 3-5 s at 4 °C, 95% humidity, before plunging into the liquid
793 ethane-propane mixture [37% (v/v) ethane]⁷³. Intact and splashed mitochondria were prepared as
794 described above. Samples were mixed with 10 nm BSA-coated colloidal gold particles
795 (Cytodiagnosics) in a ratio of 5:1 and then 3 µl of sample was applied onto negatively glow-discharged
796 EM grids (R2/2 or R2/1 Cu 200 mesh, specially treated, Quantifoil). Grids were back-blotted for 4-5 sec
797 at 4 °C, 95% humidity and were plunge-frozen. Spread yeast spheroplasts were prepared as described
798 above. The spheroplast Lipsol mixture was mixed with gold particles in a 10:1 ratio and then 3 µl of
799 sample was applied onto the negatively glow-discharged EM grids (R2/1 Cu 200 mesh, specially treated,
800 Quantifoil). Grids were back-blotted for 4-5 sec at 4 °C, 95% humidity and were plunge-frozen.

801 **Cryo-focused ion beam milling**

802 Due to the thickness of frozen-hydrated yeast cells, plunge-frozen cells were cryo-focused ion beam
803 (FIB) milled with a Crossbeam 550 FIB-SEM instrument (Carl Zeiss Microscopy) before cryoET
804 imaging as described previously²⁵. The FIB-SEM instrument was equipped with an SE2 detector (Carl
805 Zeiss Microscopy), an in-lens secondary electron detector (Carl Zeiss Microscopy), a copper band-
806 cooled mechanical cryo-stage (Carl Zeiss Microscopy), and an integrated VCT500 vacuum transfer
807 system (Leica Microsystems). In brief, plunge-frozen EM grids were clipped into FIB milling Autogrids
808 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and mounted onto a pre-tilted cryo-FIB Autogrid holder (Medeiros et al.,
809 2018) (Leica Microsystems) using a VCM loading station (Leica Microsystems). Using the VCT500
810 shuttle, the Autogrid holder was transferred to an ACE600 (Leica Microsystems) to cryo-sputter-coat
811 the sample with a 4 nm thick layer of tungsten. Afterwards, the samples were loaded into the Crossbeam
812 550 using the VCT500 vacuum transfer system. Inside the FIB-SEM, grids were additionally coated

813 with organoplatinum. Targets were selected with the SEM and automated sequential FIB milling was
814 set up. A pattern with four currents was used (rough milling: 700 pA, 300 pA, and 100 pA; polishing:
815 50 pA) for milling, targeting for a ~300 nm thick lamella. After milling, the Autogrid holder was
816 transferred back to the VCM loading station with the VCT500 shuttle and grids were unloaded and
817 stored in liquid nitrogen until cryoET imaging.

818 **CryoLM**

819 Plunge-frozen EM grids were imaged with a Zeiss LSM900 equipped with Airyscan2 detector and a
820 Linkam CMS196V3 cryo-stage in a de-humidified room. EM grid overviews were collected with a
821 5x/0.2 DIC C Epiplan-Apochromat objective to localize the regions of interest. Afterwards, z-stacks
822 were collected with a 100x/0.75 DIC LD EC Epiplan-Neofluar (WD = 4 mm) objective. Confocal
823 imaging tracks were used to visualize Acs1-GFP signal as well as the EM grid with transmitted and
824 reflective light. Confocal imaging stacks were deconvolved with Zeiss LSM Plus processing and
825 maximum intensity projections were generated in ZEN Blue (Carl Zeiss Microscopy, v.3.5) software.

826 CryoLM data was then used to correlate targets for cryoET data collection in x-y dimensions (described
827 below) ⁷⁴. For that, cryo-LM images were imported into SerialEM ⁷⁵ and aligned to the corresponding
828 EM overviews based on prominent landmarks. To visualize correlated cryoLM and cryoEM images after
829 data collection, low-magnification EM overviews were low-pass filtered using ‘mtfilter’ and converted
830 to tiff files using ‘mrc2tif’ in IMOD package ⁷⁶. These images together with the cryoLM data were
831 imported in ZEN Connect (within ZEN Blue, Carl Zeiss Microscopy, v.3.5) for correlation with the
832 Point Alignment Wizard.

833 **CryoET data collection, reconstruction, and segmentation**

834 CryoET datasets were collected on Titan Krios transmission electron microscopes (TEM) (Thermo
835 Fisher Scientific) operating at 300 kV and equipped with Quantum LS filter and K2 Summit direct
836 electron detectors (Gatan) (Krios1), equipped with Quantum LS filter and K3 direct electron detectors
837 (Gatan) (Krios2), and BioContinuum imaging filter and K3 direct electron detectors (Gatan) (Krios3).
838 Low magnification overviews were recorded for navigation and targets were selected for the subsequent
839 tilt series collection using SerialEM ⁷⁵.

840 For lamellae, tilt series collections were performed using a bidirectional scheme with an angular range
841 between $\pm 70^\circ$ to $\pm 50^\circ$, depending on the pre-tilted geometry of lamella, with 2° increment at a defocus
842 of -8 μm . The pixel sizes in different datasets were 4.34 \AA (Krios1) or 4.51 \AA (Krios3) or 4.57 \AA (Krios2)
843 at the specimen levels. The accumulated dose per tilt series is $\sim 120 \text{ e}^-/\text{\AA}^2$. For purified mitochondria, tilt
844 series collections were performed using a dose-symmetric scheme with an angular range between $+60^\circ$
845 to -60° with 2° increment at a defocus of -8 μm . The pixel size was 2.75 \AA (Krios1) or 2.68 \AA (Krios3)

846 at the specimen level and the total dose per tilt series is $\sim 160 \text{ e}^-/\text{\AA}^2$. For spread yeast spheroplasts, the
847 same collection scheme was used as for purified mitochondria and the pixel sizes at the specimen level
848 were the same as for the lamella. The total dose per tilt series is $\sim 130 \text{ e}^-/\text{\AA}^2$.

849 Frames were aligned using ‘alignframes’ and tomograms were reconstructed using the IMOD package
850 ⁷⁶. Tomograms shown in the figures were binned at the level of 4 and the contrasts were improved using
851 the deconvolution filter ‘tom_deconv’ ⁷⁷.

852 AI-based segmentations were generated in Dragonfly software (Object Research Systems, v. 2022.2) as
853 described previously ⁷⁸. Briefly, filtered tomograms were loaded into Dragonfly and further processed
854 by histogram equalization, Gaussian and Unsharp filtering. Afterwards, a U-Net (with 2.5D input of 5
855 slices) was trained to recognize background voxels, filaments, and membranes within the tomograms.
856 All AI-segmentations were manually cleaned up in Dragonfly, exported as binary tiff files and converted
857 to mrc files using ‘tif2mrc’ in IMOD. Segmentations were visualized in UCSF ChimeraX ⁷⁹.

858 **Sub-tomogram averaging**

859 Sub-tomogram averaging of filaments from different datasets was performed in Dynamo software ⁸⁰.
860 The individual filaments were manually picked from reconstructed tomograms at a binning factor of 4
861 using the ‘filamentWithTorsion’ model in Dynamo. The different filaments were segmented with the
862 corresponding inter-segment distance (8.8 nm for Ald4 dataset, 5.5 nm for Acs1 dataset) before particle
863 cropping. The cropped sub-volumes from each dataset (Ald4 filaments in the isolated mitochondria: 564
864 particles from 3 tomograms; Acs1 filaments in the spread yeast spheroplasts: 452 particles from 3
865 tomograms) were assigned random azimuth orientations using ‘dynamp_table_randomize_azimuth’ and
866 were firstly subjected to the averaging without imposing symmetry. The symmetry information of
867 individual filaments was then deduced from the asymmetric reconstruction and was applied in the
868 downstream averaging analyses. All particles were subjected to one round of coarse alignment with
869 rough angular search steps, and the particles were then split into half-datasets based on the odd-and-
870 even order with ‘dteo’ package in Dynamo. Each half-dataset was subjected to fine alignment with
871 precise angular search steps against the same reference. The Acs1 dataset was analyzed using fine
872 alignment at the binning factor of 2, while the Ald4 dataset was analyzed at the binning factor of 4. The
873 final averaged volumes from individual half-datasets were used to estimate the resolution based on the
874 Fourier shell correlation (FSC) ⁸¹ using ‘reliion_postprocess’ ⁸². The final resolution of averaged maps
875 of Ald4 filaments from intact mitochondria was 44 Å, whereas the resolution of Acs1 filaments from
876 spread yeast spheroplasts was 18.3 Å.

877 **CryoEM single-particle data collection**

878 CryoEM data collection parameters are summarized in Table S1. CryoEM datasets of Ald4 filaments
879 from spread yeast mitochondria were collected at a nominal magnification of $81,000\times$ (an effective
880 pixel size of 0.55 \AA at super-resolution) using the SerialEM program on Krios2. Low magnification
881 overviews were recorded for navigation purposes to target filaments and the data was collected as movie
882 stack in super-resolution mode, with the 2.5 s total exposure time at a defocus value from -1.2 to -2.8
883 μm . Each stack contains 50 frames, and the accumulated electron dose was $\sim 60\text{ e}^-/\text{\AA}^2$. The frames of the
884 stack were aligned and applied with dose weighting at the binning factor of 2 using ‘MotionCor2’⁸³ (an
885 effective pixel size of 1.1 \AA). The CTF parameters of micrographs were estimated using ‘Gctf’⁸⁴. A
886 total of 531 micrographs in two batches were collected for image processing.

887 CryoEM datasets of Acs1 filaments from spread yeast spheroplasts were collected at a nominal
888 magnification of $130,000\times$ (an effective pixel size of 0.535 \AA at super-resolution) using the SerialEM
889 program on Krios1. The data collection strategy was performed same as above. The data was collected
890 as movie stack in super-resolution mode, with the 8 s total exposure time. Each stack contains 32 frames
891 and the accumulated electron dose was $\sim 60\text{ e}^-/\text{\AA}^2$. The motion correction and CTF parameter estimation
892 were performed the same as above (an effective pixel size of 1.07 \AA). A total of 1,084 micrographs were
893 collected for image processing.

894 **CryoEM image processing, identification of Ald4, and structural modeling**

895 To determine the structure of the filament observed in the mitochondria, 132 micrographs in the first
896 batch of dataset were used to generate an initial model (Figure S3A). Briefly, the filaments were
897 manually picked using Relion 3.0⁸⁵ and 22,365 segments were extracted with an inter-box distance of
898 42 \AA . One round of 2D classification at the binning factor of 4 was performed to remove bad particles,
899 and the particles in good classes were then subjected to 3D refinement without imposing helical
900 parameter but with 2-fold symmetry that was deduced from the sub-tomogram averaged volume. The
901 initial helical parameters were interpreted from the reconstructed map using ‘relion_helix_toolbox’⁸⁶
902 and were then applied and locally refined in the following helical reconstruction⁸⁶. The bad particles
903 were further removed by one round of 2D classification without sampling after helical reconstruction
904 and the following 2D classification. A total of 11,863 particles were used to reconstruct $\sim 6.8\text{ \AA}$
905 resolution of filament structure at the binning factor of 2, which was imposed a 2-fold symmetry and
906 helical parameters (twist = 96.2° , rise = 42.2 \AA).

907 To identify the components in the filament assembly, the molecular weight of the sought-after protein
908 was firstly estimated to be $\sim 30\text{-}70\text{ kDa}$ based on the volume size of one filament subunit. To shortlist
909 potential candidates, we cross-compared mass spectrometry (MS) data of mitochondrial matrix/inner
910 membrane proteins³² and MS data covering protein expression profiles in meiosis³¹ (Table S3).

911 Providing this list to structural docking of AlphaFold^{29,30} predicted candidate protein structures showed
912 that the Ald4 protein fits the map.

913 To further verify the protein identity, we continued image processing using 531 micrographs collected
914 in two batches. Since Ald4 homolog protein was reported to form a tetramer in solution and crystal
915 structure (Aldh2, PDB entry: 1NZZ)³³, there were still two symmetry possibilities for the filament
916 assembly: proteins form a dimer (C2 symmetry) or tetramer (D2 symmetry) and then assemble into the
917 filament. The different symmetry possibilities would request different inter-box distance for filament
918 segmentations.

919 To investigate this, we first assumed C2 symmetry and segmented the filaments with an inter-box
920 distance of 42.2 Å. The extracted segments were subjected to 2 rounds of 2D classifications at the
921 binning factor of 4 and 2, and the particles in good classes were used for helical reconstruction at the
922 binning factor of 1, where the helical parameters (twist = 96.2°, rise = 42.2 Å) were applied and
923 optimized during refinement. A final 4.2 Å resolution filament structure was determined, however, the
924 densities around the secondary structure (e.g., α helices) were unreasonable, suggesting that a wrong
925 symmetry was applied. Thus, we switched to D2 symmetry in the following image processing. The
926 filaments were segmented with an inter-box distance of 84.4 Å and were extracted with a larger box size
927 (320 pixels). The particles were subjected to a round of 2D classification at the binning factor of 4 and
928 the particles in good classes were used for the helical reconstruction at the binning factor of 1. A filament
929 structure with 6.6 Å resolution was determined, assuming C2 and helical symmetry (twist = 96.2°, rise
930 = 84.6 Å). Moreover, 2D classification analysis revealed that tetramers adopt two different types of
931 stacking for the filament assembly: helical and non-helical (Figure S3B). To further improve the
932 resolution, the central tetramer in each segment was centered and re-extracted using a smaller box size
933 (200 pixels) (Figure S3A). The particles with smaller box sizes were then subjected to 3D refinement
934 followed by local 3D classification. The particles in good 3D classes were combined and were subjected
935 to the next round of 3D refinement imposed C2 and local symmetry (D2). One round of CTF parameter
936 optimization and particle polishing were further applied to improve the map quality. A final resolution
937 of 3.8 Å structure was determined from 29,307 particles assuming C2 and local symmetry (together in
938 D2 symmetry). The map quality was further improved using ‘deepEMhancer’⁸⁷. The local resolution
939 was estimated using Relion (Figure S3C).

940 The structure was manually refined in COOT⁸⁸, the models were further refined in real-space using
941 iterative refinements of RosettaCM⁸⁹ and ‘phenix.real_space_refine’⁹⁰. The refined model was
942 evaluated using ‘phenix.molprobity’⁹⁰ and the model vs. map FSC was calculated using
943 ‘phenix.mtrifage’⁹⁰ (Figure S3D-E). In the final atomic model of an Ald4 filament subunit, 24 residues
944 of the N-terminus were missing due to invisible densities. The bound NAD molecule was included in
945 the final model (Table S1).

946 The surface contact sites between Ald4 tetramers were firstly analyzed by PDBePISA ['Protein
947 interfaces, surfaces and assemblies' service PISA at the European Bioinformatics Institute.
948 (http://www.ebi.ac.uk/pdbe/prot_int/pistart.html), ⁹¹] and were then manually checked in COOT.

949 **CryoEM image processing, identification of Acs1, and structural modeling**

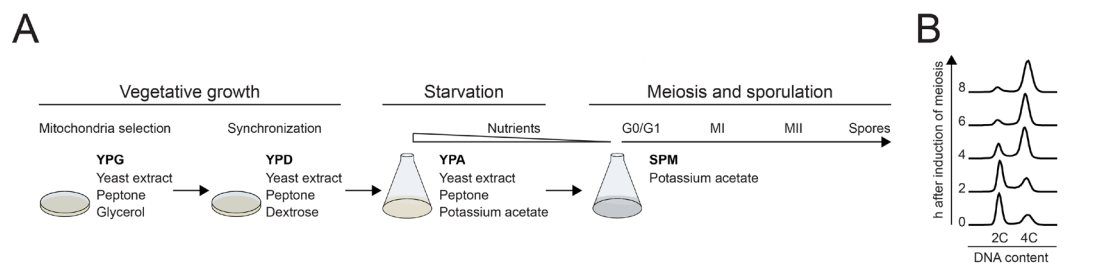
950 To generate the initial filament model and estimate the helical parameters, micrographs of 0° tilt in the
951 datasets of spread yeast spheroplasts were used for the processing (Figure S6A). The filaments were
952 picked manually with the start-end coordinate pairs using Relion 3.0. The filaments were segmented
953 with an inter-box distance of 60 Å and were then subjected to 2 rounds of 2D classifications. The
954 particles in the good classes were selected for 3D auto-refinement using helical reconstruction without
955 imposing helical symmetry but with 3-fold symmetry that was deduced from sub-tomogram averaged
956 volume. The helical parameters were estimated from the initial reconstruction in real space using
957 'relion_helix_toolbox' and were optimized for the second round of 3D auto-refinement at the binning
958 factor of 4. The refined helical parameters were: twist = 13.58°, rise = 54.62 Å.

959 To determine the high-resolution filament structure, 1,084 micrographs were collected as mentioned
960 above and used for the imaging processing. The filaments were manually picked and 108,349 segments
961 were extracted with an inter-box distance of 55 Å. Bad particles were removed through 2 rounds of 2D
962 classifications at the binning factors of 4 and 2 (Figure S6B). The particles in good classes were then
963 applied to the helical reconstruction at the binning factor of 2, where the helical parameters from the
964 reconstruction of 0° tilt were applied and locally refined in the follow-up processing steps. One round
965 of 2D classification without sampling was performed after helical reconstruction to remove the mis-
966 aligned particles. The remaining particles were subjected to the 3D helical reconstruction at the binning
967 factor of 1 and a subsequent round of 2D and 3D classifications without sampling. The particles from
968 good classes were then subjected to another round of 3D classification and only one 3D class (class IV
969 in Figure S6B) was used for the helical reconstruction. One round of CTF parameters optimization and
970 particle polishing were further performed to improve the map quality. The final 3.5 Å resolution filament
971 structure was determined from 17,169 particles imposing 3-fold symmetry and helical parameters (twist
972 = 13.03°, rise = 53.61 Å) (Figure S6B). The map quality was further improved using 'deepEMhancer'.
973 The local resolution was estimated using Relion (Figure S6C).

974 To identify the components in the filament assembly, the C α backbone of one filament subunit was
975 manually traced in COOT and was then subjected to DALI search
976 (<http://ekhidna2.biocenter.helsinki.fi/dali/>) ³⁵, which revealed the Acs1 protein as a potential candidate.
977 The crystal structure of Acs1 protein (PDB entry: 1RY2) ³⁶ was then docked into the map and manually
978 refined using COOT and then subjected to the same refinements and structural validation as mentioned
979 above for Ald4 (Figure S6D-E). In the final atomic model of Acs1 filament subunit, 37 residues in the

980 N-terminus were missing due to invisible densities. The intermediary product acetyl-AMP was included
981 in the final model (Table S1).
982

983 SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURES



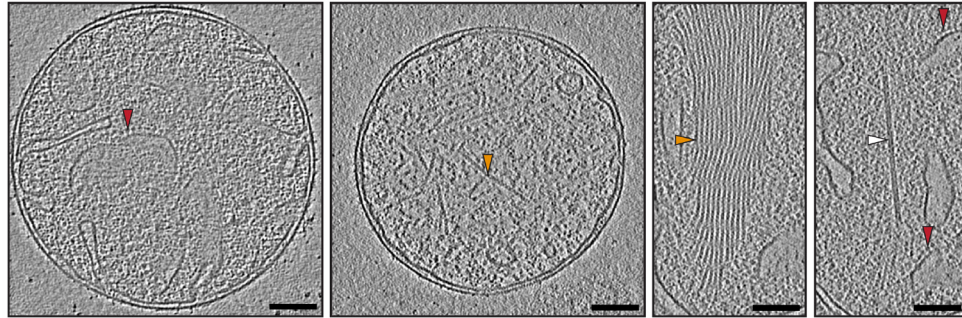
984

985 **Figure S1. Meiotic time course.**

986 (A) Schematic representation of the experimental setup to perform a meiotic time course. Vegetatively
987 growing diploid *S. cerevisiae* cells were plated for single colonies on YPG plates to select for strong
988 respiratory growth. Single colonies were then expanded before they were starved in YPA medium
989 containing the non-fermentable carbon source potassium acetate. Arrested cells at G0/G1 were
990 transferred to sporulation medium (SPM) lacking the nitrogen source in order to induce the meiotic cell
991 division program (Pre-meiotic G0/G1, first meiotic division MI; second meiotic division MII, and spore
992 formation).

993 (B) FACS analysis of the DNA content to monitor meiotic progression. DNA content of meiotic cell
994 cultures was analyzed by FACS at regular time intervals after the induction of meiosis (transfer of cells
995 to SPM). Note that most of the cells duplicated their genomes after ~4 h in SPM. Shown is a
996 representative time course.

997

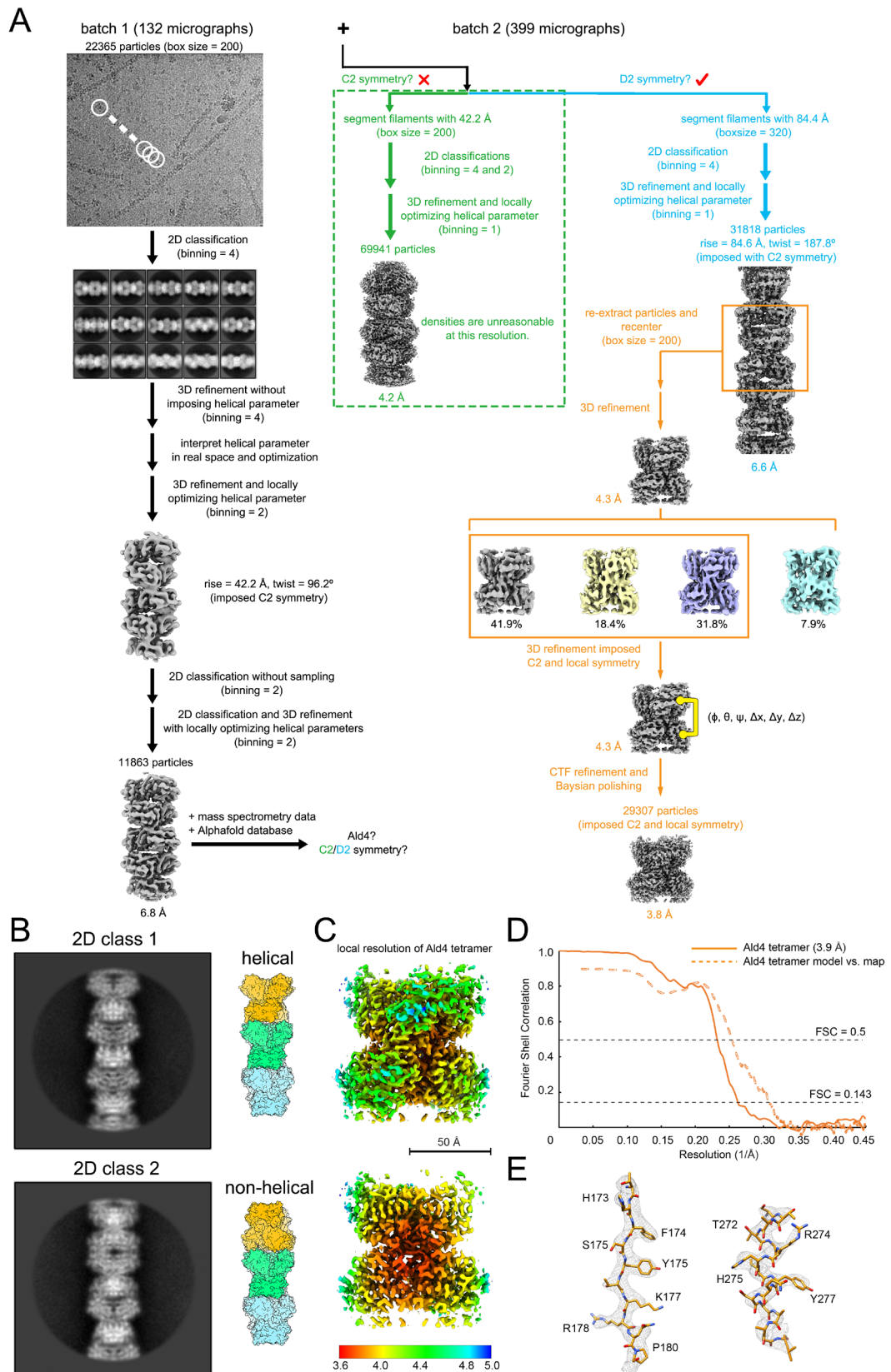


998

999 **Figure S2. CryoET of purified meiotic mitochondria.**

1000 Visualization of the ultrastructure of purified mitochondria. Shown are example slices through cryo-
1001 tomograms of purified mitochondria from meiotic cell cultures collected between 6-8 h after induction
1002 of meiosis. Red arrowheads point to putative F₀F₁-ATP synthases on cristae. Orange arrowheads show
1003 single filaments and arrays as seen in Figure 3A, whereas the white arrowhead points to a different type
1004 of filament within purified mitochondria. Shown are projections of 5.5 nm thick slices. Scale bars: 100
1005 nm.

1006



1007

1008 **Figure S3. Flowchart of processing cryoEM data for Ald4 filaments.**

1009 **(A)** Flowchart for the cryoEM reconstruction of the Ald4 filament. See METHODS and Supplementary
1010 Table S1 for details.

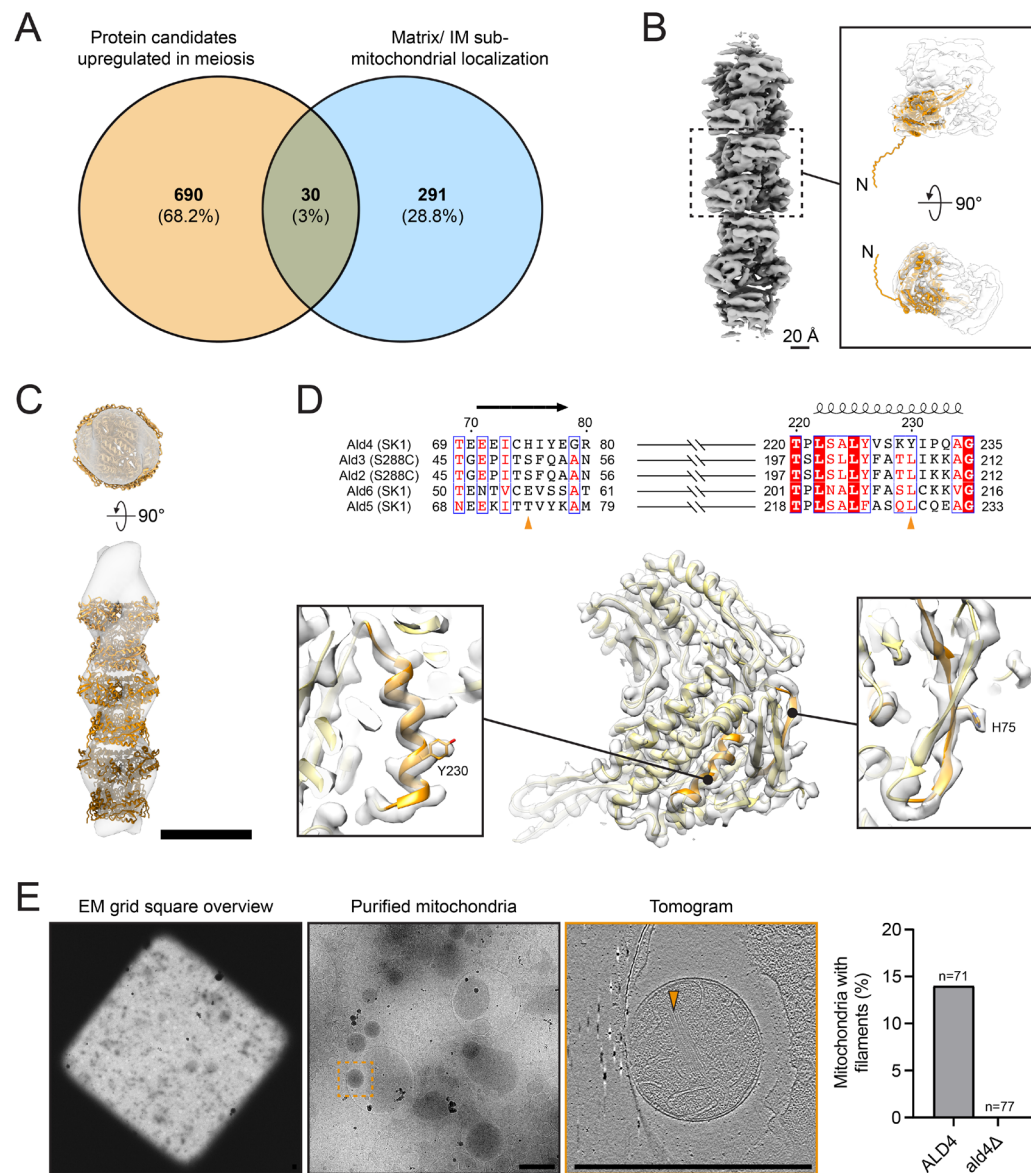
1011 **(B)** Representative 2D classes and the corresponding schematics showing that Ald4 tetramers follow
1012 two different stacking manners for the filament assembly: helical (top) and non-helical (bottom).
1013 Individual tetramers are colored in orange, green, and blue respectively.

1014 **(C)** Local resolution (indicated by colors in Å) maps of the Ald4 tetramer. Scale bar: 50 Å.

1015 **(D)** Plots showing the gold standard FSC curve of the cryoEM reconstruction of the Ald4 tetramer
1016 (orange) and the corresponding model vs. map FSC curve (dashed orange).

1017 **(E)** Stick and density mesh diagrams showing representative density maps of the Ald4 tetramer. Stick
1018 models and density meshes are colored orange and gray respectively.

1019



1020

1021 **Figure S4. Validation of Ald4 protein identity.**

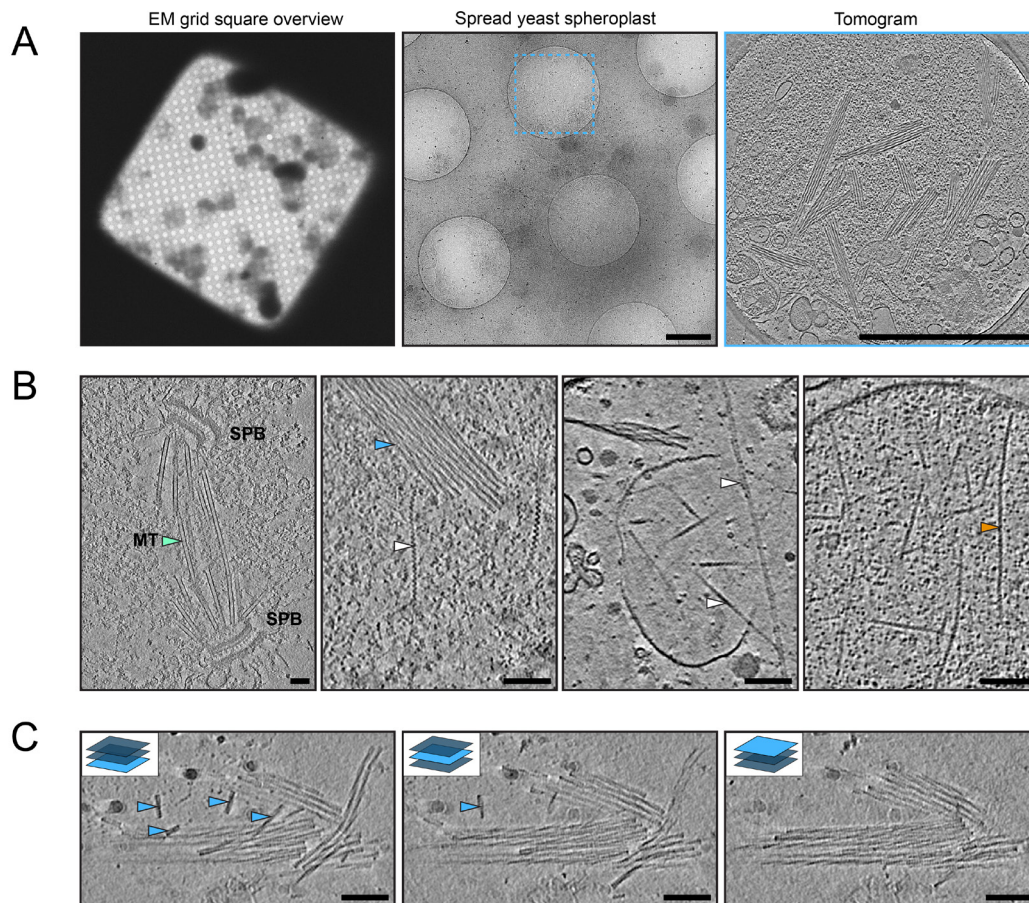
1022 (A) Comparing data obtained from two independent mass spectrometry analyses yields 30 candidate
 1023 proteins forming the mitochondrial filaments. Shown is a Venn diagram with proteins upregulated in
 1024 meiosis³¹ colored orange together with high confidence mitochondria proteins, which localize to the
 1025 mitochondrial matrix or inner membrane (IM) colored blue³². Percentage of total input is indicated in
 1026 each bin.

1027 (B) Ribbon and shadowed surface diagrams showing that Ald4 is a potential candidate from (A) forming
 1028 the mitochondrial filaments. Left: the helical reconstructed map of the mitochondrial filament. One
 1029 helical repeat is highlighted with a dashed black box. Right: docking of the predicted Ald4
 1030 structure from AlphaFold^{29,30} (orange) into one subunit of one helical repeat.

1031 **(C)** Docking of the high-resolution structure of three Ald4 tetramers with the sub-tomogram averaged
1032 volume of Ald4 filaments from splashed mitochondria. Three layers of Ald4 tetramers are shown as
1033 ribbons and are colored in different shades of orange as in Figure 4D, while the averaged volume (also
1034 shown in Figure 3B) is transparent and colored gray. Scale bar: 10 nm.

1035 **(D)** Reconstructed map unambiguously identifies Ald4 as the only filament component. Top: sequence
1036 alignments of different Ald isoforms (Ald4-6 from SK1 strain, Ald2-3 from S288C strain). Identical
1037 residues are shown in white on a red background, while similar residues are shown in red. The blue
1038 boxes indicate the conserved positions. The secondary structure of Ald4 is shown above the
1039 corresponding sequences. The image is made using Esript⁹². Two distinguishing residues of Ald4 (H75
1040 and Y230) are highlighted by orange arrowheads and are shown in the bottom panel. Bottom: ribbon
1041 and shadowed surface diagrams showing the fitting of the Ald4 model with the reconstructed map. The
1042 density map is colored gray and is shown transparent, while the overall model is colored yellow. The
1043 aligned parts shown on the top panel are colored orange, while zoom-ins show the densities of two
1044 distinguishing residues (H75 and Y230).

1045 **(E)** Mitochondrial filament arrays consist of Ald4. Left to right: to check for the presence of filaments,
1046 purified mitochondria from meiotic cell cultures are picked in the EM grid square overview followed by
1047 cryoET imaging. The corresponding 5.5 nm thick slice of the cryo-tomogram shows an example
1048 mitochondrion containing filaments. Scale bars: 1 μ m. Right: shown are percentages of meiotic
1049 mitochondria (6 h after induction of meiosis) containing filaments and the total number of mitochondria
1050 (n) analyzed for each genotype are indicated.



1051

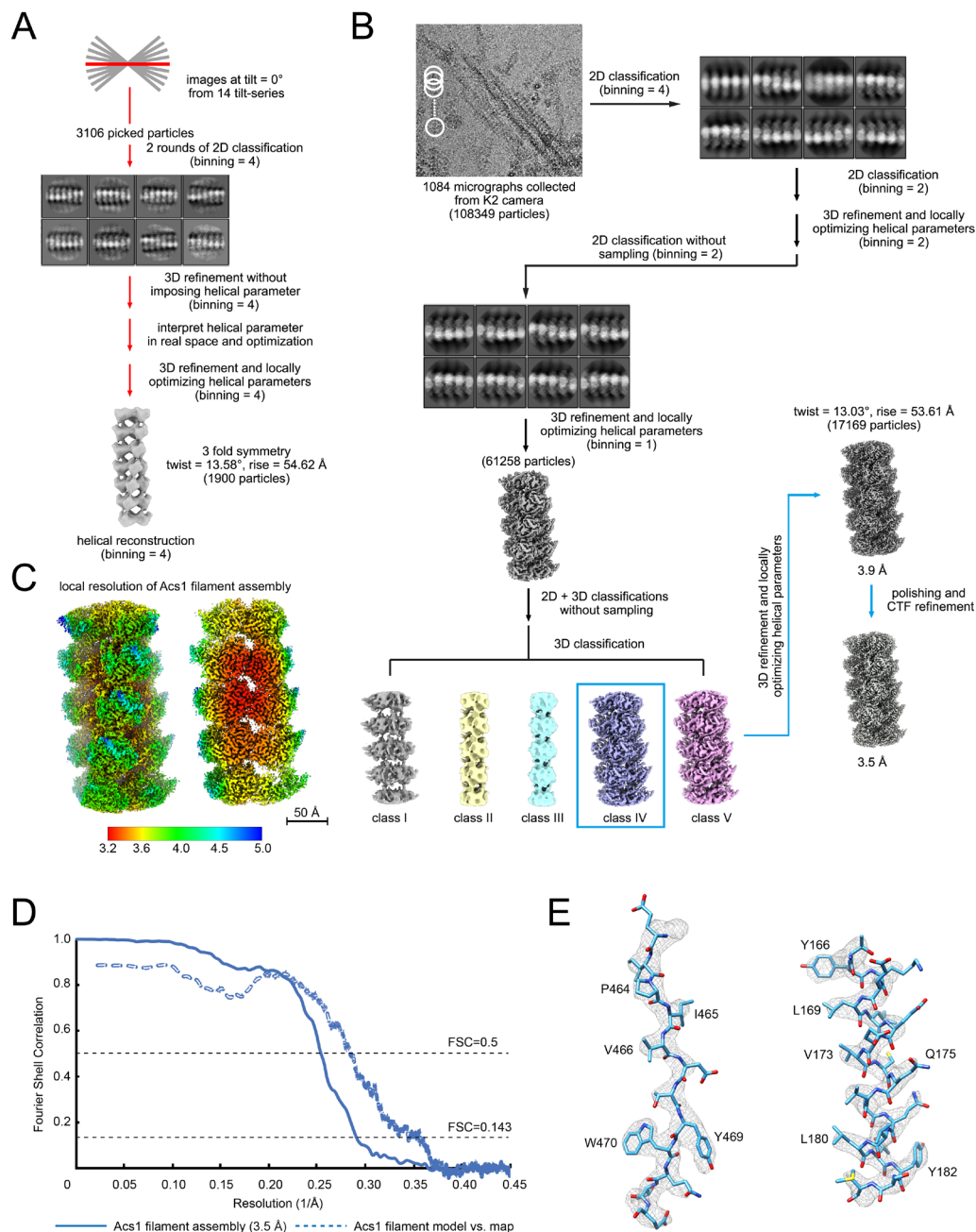
1052 **Figure S5. CryoET on spread spheroplasts.**

1053 **(A)** Spread yeast spheroplasts allow for direct cryoET imaging. Left: overview of an example EM grid
1054 square with spheroplasts. Middle: cryoEM micrograph of an example spread spheroplast from a *ndt80Δ*
1055 strain arrested in prophase I, 8 h post induction of meiosis. Right: slice through the cryo-tomogram
1056 collected on parts of the spread indicated by the blue box. Note that straight filament assemblies in
1057 different directions can be observed as shown in Figure 4A. Shown is a projection of 9.14 nm thick
1058 slices. Scale bars: 1 μm .

1059 **(B)** Spread yeast spheroplasts enable the visualization of various macromolecular assemblies. Shown
1060 are example slices through cryo-tomograms of spreads from meiotic cell cultures. Green arrowhead
1061 points to microtubules (MT) branching from spindle pole bodies (SPB). Blue arrowhead shows filament
1062 bundles, orange arrowhead shows single filaments in spread mitochondria, white arrowheads point to
1063 other types of filaments. Shown are projections of either 8.68 nm or 9.14 nm thick slices. Scale bars:
1064 100 nm.

1065 **(C)** Slice through cryo-tomogram of potential filament bundle (dis-)assembly intermediates. Note that
1066 short single filaments point towards a bundle containing multiple long filaments. Short filaments are

1067 highlighted with blue arrowheads. Shown are projections of 9.14 nm thick slices at different z-heights
1068 of the tomogram, which are 7.31 nm apart. Scale bar: 100 nm.
1069



1070

1071 **Figure S6. Flowchart of processing cryoEM data for Acs1 filaments.**

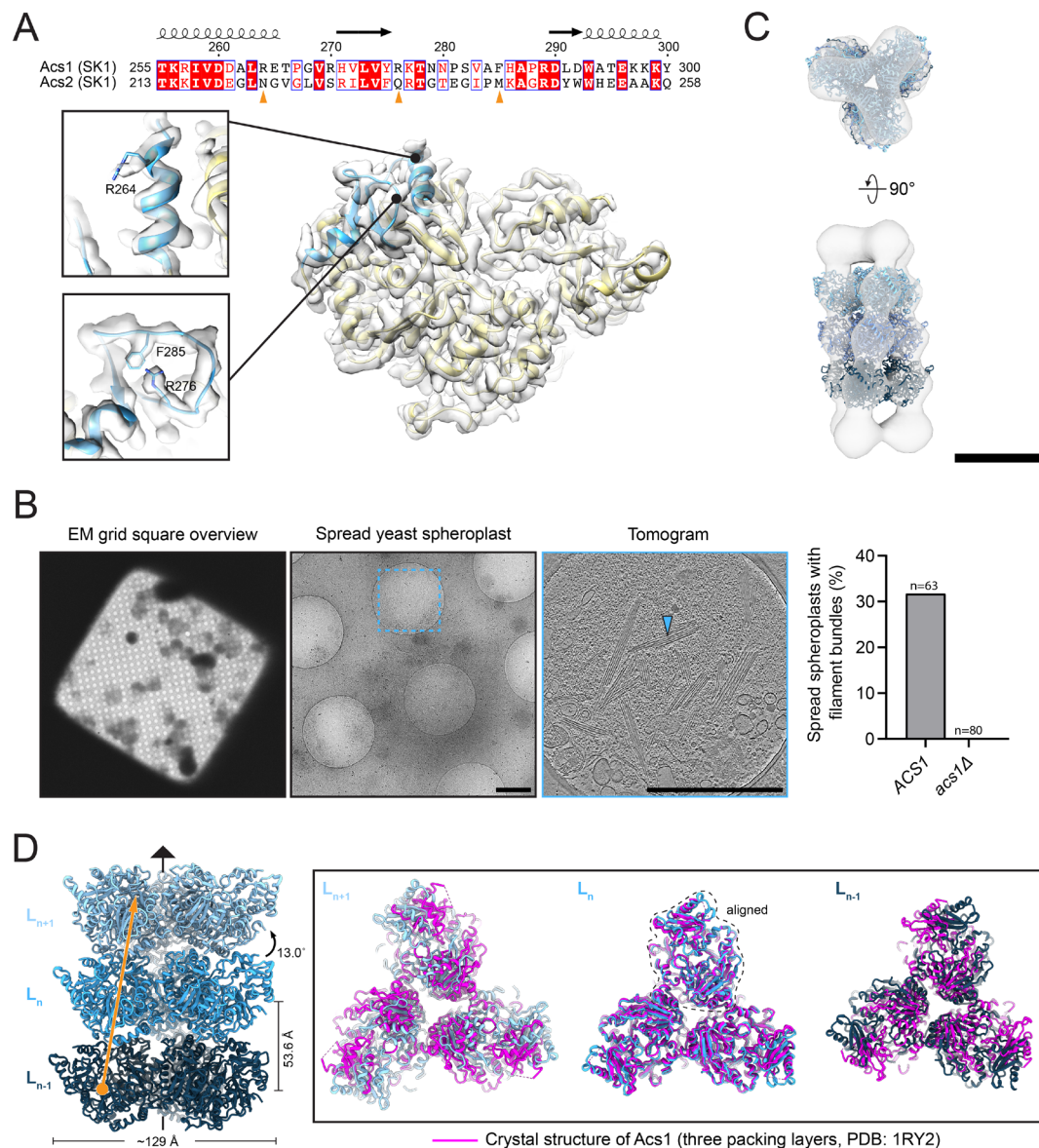
1072 **(A)** Flowchart to generate the initial filament model and to determine the initial helical parameters using
1073 individual images (tilt = 0°) from different tilt series. See METHODS for details.

1074 **(B)** Flowchart for the cryoEM reconstruction of Acs1 filament. See METHODS and Supplementary
1075 Table S1 for details.

1076 **(C)** Local resolution (indicated by colors in Å) maps of the Acs1 filament structure. Scale bar: 50 Å.

1077 **(D)** Plots showing the gold standard Fourier Shell Correlation (FSC) curve of the cryoEM reconstruction
1078 of Acs1 filament (blue) and the corresponding model vs. map FSC curve (dashed blue).

1079 **(E)** Stick and density mesh diagrams showing the representative density maps of the Acs1 filament
1080 structure. Stick models and density meshes are colored blue and gray respectively.
1081



1082

1083 **Figure S7. Validation of Acs1 protein identity.**

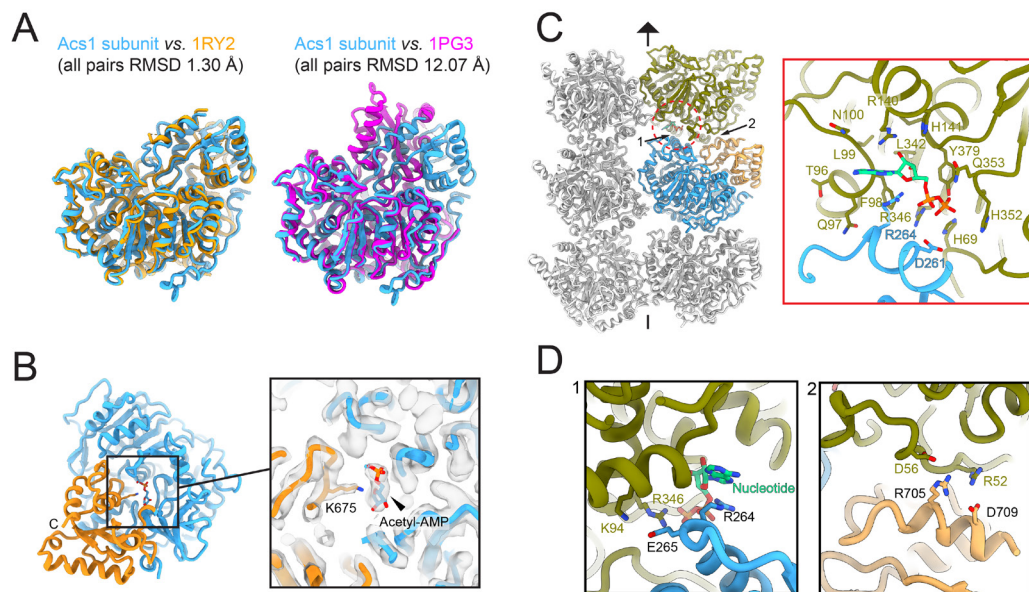
1084 (A) Reconstructed map unambiguously identifies the Acs1 trimer as the only filament component. Top:
 1085 sequence alignments of Acs1 and its isoform Acs2 from the SK1 strain. The identical residues, similar
 1086 residues, and the conserved positions are shown in the same style as in Figure S4D. The secondary
 1087 structure of Acs1 is shown above the corresponding sequences. Three distinguishing residues of Acs1
 1088 (R264, R276, and F285) are highlighted by orange arrowheads and are shown on the bottom panel.
 1089 Bottom: ribbon and shadowed surface diagrams showing the fitting of Acs1 model with the
 1090 reconstructed map. The density map is colored gray and is shown in transparent, while the overall model
 1091 is colored yellow. The aligned parts shown on the top panel are colored blue, while zoom-ins show the
 1092 densities of three distinguishing residues (R264, R276, and F285).

1093 **(B)** Filament bundles consist of Acs1. Left to right: to check for the presence of filament bundles, spread
1094 spheroplasts are picked in the EM grid square overview. Afterwards, cryoEM micrographs or
1095 tomograms, if needed, are collected to assess whether filament bundles are present (highlighted with a
1096 blue arrowhead). Scale bars: 1 μm . Shown are the same images as in Figure S5A. Right: shown are
1097 percentages of meiotic spread spheroplasts (6 h after induction of meiosis) containing filament bundles
1098 and the total number of spreads (n) analyzed for each genotype are indicated.

1099 **(C)** Docking of the high-resolution structure of Acs1 filament fits the sub-tomogram averaged volume
1100 of Acs1 filaments from spread yeast spheroplasts as shown in Figure 4B. Three layers of Acs1 trimers
1101 are shown in ribbon and colored in different shades of blue as in Figure 4D, while the averaged volume
1102 is transparent and colored gray. Scale bar: 10 nm.

1103 **(D)** Structural superimposition of Acs1 in the filament assembly and the crystal packing (PDB entry:
1104 1RY2)³⁶. Left: Ribbon diagrams showing three layers of Acs1 trimers, which are colored in different
1105 shades of blue as in Figure 4D. The helical parameters (twist = 13.0°, rise = 53.6 Å) are labeled and a
1106 single strand is marked with an orange arrowhead. The 3-fold axis is represented by a triangle. Right:
1107 Magnified top view of three individual consecutive layers in the Acs1 filament aligned with the crystal
1108 packing of yeast Acs1 based on the structural superimposition of the central layer (L_n). Note that the
1109 central layer is nicely aligned, while the neighboring layers (L_{n+1} , L_{n-1}) mismatch due to the helical twist
1110 in the Acs1 filament.

1111



1112

1113 **Figure S8. Acs1 subunits bind to two metabolites to form the filament.**

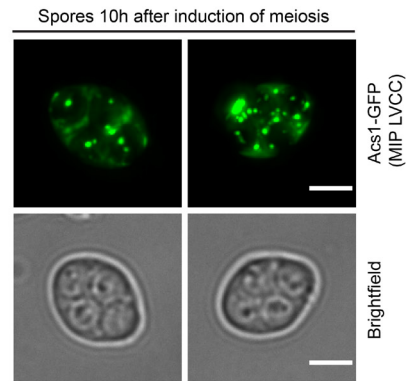
1114 (A) Ribbon diagrams showing that the Acs1 subunit in the filament conformation fits the state that
1115 accomplishes the first step of the enzymatic reaction. Structural superpositions show the structural
1116 difference between Acs1 subunit from the filament conformation (blue) with the yeast Acs1 binary
1117 complex (PDB entry: 1RY2³⁶, orange, left) representing the first step of the enzymatic reaction,
1118 compared to the bacterial ACS homolog ternary complex (PDB entry: 1PG3⁴⁰, magenta, right)
1119 representing the second step of the enzymatic reaction.

1120 (B) Ribbon and stick diagrams showing that the acetyl-AMP intermediate interacts with the catalytic
1121 residue K675 of Acs1. The Acs1 structure is shown ribbon style and is color-coded as in Figure 5C,
1122 whereas the acetyl-AMP intermediate is shown in stick style. The C-terminus of Acs1 is labeled. Zoom-
1123 in on the catalytic site is shown on the right, highlighting the contact between the catalytic key residue
1124 K675 and the acetyl-AMP intermediate. The density of Acs1 subunit is colored gray and is shown in
1125 transparent, while the side chain of K675 is shown in stick style.

1126 (C) Ribbon and stick diagrams showing the metabolic nucleotide (potentially ADP) bound to two
1127 consecutive Acs1 trimer layers. Three Acs1 trimer layers are color-coded as in Figure 5C and the 3-fold
1128 axis is represented by a triangle. The binding site of the metabolic nucleotide is highlighted with a red
1129 dashed circle and the zoom-in is shown to the right. The metabolic nucleotide and the side chains of the
1130 contacting residues are labeled and are shown in stick style. Two interfaces between adjacent Acs1
1131 subunits are marked (1 and 2) and the details are shown in panel (D).

1132 (D) Ribbon and stick diagrams showing that salt bridge pairs contribute to the Acs1 filament assembly.
1133 Zoom-ins show the corresponding interfaces highlighted in panel (C). The metabolic nucleotide

1134 (potentially ADP) and the side chains of residues participating in salt bridge pairs are labeled and are
1135 shown in stick style.
1136

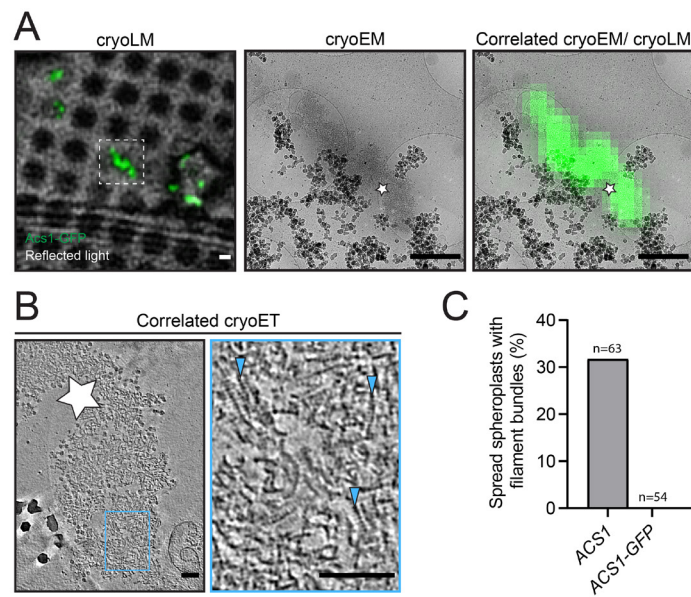


1137

1138 **Figure S9. Acs1 C-terminally tagged with GFP forms foci in ascospores.**

1139 Cells expressing Acs1-GFP from the endogenous promotor were sporulated and imaged by fluorescent
1140 light microscopy. Shown are two representative images of maximum intensity z-projections (MIP) after
1141 large volume computational clearing (LVCC) and the corresponding Brightfield image of the
1142 ascospores. Scale bar: 3 μ m.

1143



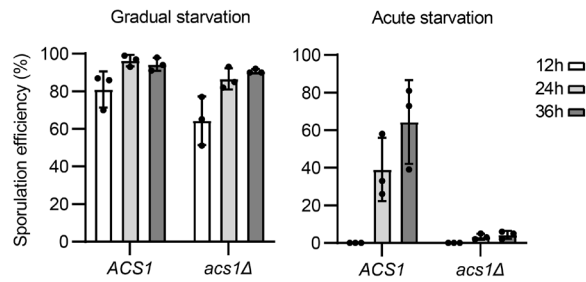
1144

1145 **Figure S10. *Acs1* C-terminally tagged with GFP forms short single filament aggregates but not**
1146 **elaborate bundles.**

1147 **(A)** Correlation of *Acs1*-GFP signal in cryo-confocal light microscopy (cryoLM) with cryoEM. Left:
1148 cryoLM of a *Acs1*-GFP rod from a meiotic spread yeast spheroplast (6 h after induction of meiosis) on
1149 an EM grid. Shown is an overlay of maximum intensity projections of *Acs1*-GFP and reflected light of
1150 the EM grid. Middle: the corresponding low resolution EM overview of the area highlighted in the left
1151 image. Right: Overlay of the EM overview image with the corresponding *Acs1*-GFP signal from
1152 cryoLM. Scale bars: 1 μ m. White star indicates where cryoET imaging was performed for panel **(B)**.

1153 **(B)** *Acs1*-GFP forms short ladder-like filament aggregates. Slices through the cryo-tomogram of the
1154 corresponding area indicated by white stars in **(A)**. Note that short ladder-like filaments, visible in the
1155 magnified view (blue box), form an aggregate, which colocalizes with the *Acs1*-GFP fluorescent signal
1156 in **(A)**. Single filaments are highlighted with blue arrowheads in the magnified view. Shown are
1157 projections of 9.15 nm thick slices. Scale bars: 100 nm.

1158 **(C)** No filament bundles are visible in *Acs1*-GFP spreads. Spread meiotic yeast spheroplasts (6 h after
1159 induction of meiosis) for the indicated genotypes were analyzed by cryoEM as described in more detail
1160 in Figure S7B. Shown are percentages of spreads containing *Acs1* filament bundles in EM images and
1161 the total number of spreads (n) analyzed for each genotype are indicated. Note that the experiment was
1162 performed together with the strains in Figure S7B. Therefore, the wild-type *ACS1* strain was re-used
1163 in this figure.



1164

1165 **Figure S11. Acs1 is needed for efficient sporulation after acute starvation.**

1166 Acs1 is needed for efficient sporulation after acute starvation. Yeast strains with the indicated genotypes
1167 were induced to enter meiosis by transfer from YPD to SPM (acute starvation), or by transfer from YPD
1168 to YPA to SPM (gradual starvation). The efficiency of ascospore formation was quantified by assessing
1169 the morphology of 100 cells from three independent experiments after 12, 24 and 36 h in SPM.
1170 Ascospore formation was considered successful if at least two spores were enclosed by a spore wall.
1171 Plotted values show the mean \pm SD.

1172

1173

1174

1175 SUPPLEMENTARY TABLES

1176 **Table S1: cryoEM data statistical analysis**

	Acs1 filament	Ald4 tetramer
Data collection and processing		
Nominal magnification	130,000	81,000
Voltage (kV)	300	
Electron exposure (e ⁻ /Å)	~60	
Defocus range (μm)	1.2 - 2.8	
Pixel size (Å/pixel)	1.07 (binning = 1)	1.10 (binning =1)
Symmetry imposed	C3 + helical (twist = 13.03°, rise = 53.61 Å)	D2
Final particles (No.)	17,169	29,307
Map resolution (Å)	3.5	3.8
FSC threshold	0.143	
Refinement		
Map sharpening B factor (Å ²)	-83	-131
Model composition	(three layers)	
Atoms	48177 (Hydrogens: 135)	15416 (Hydrogens: 0)
Protein residues	6084	1980
Chains	18	4
Ligands with number	6R9: 9	NAP: 4
R.M.S deviations		
Bond length (Å)	0.022	0.019
Bond angles (°)	1.73	1.769
Validation		
MolProbity score	1.50	1.27
Clashscore	7.19	5.14
Rotamer outlier (%)	0	0
Ramachandran plot		
Favored (%)	97.48	98.58
Allowed (%)	2.52	1.42
Outlier (%)	0	0
Masked CC	0.77	0.77

1177

1178

1179 **Table S2: Strain list**

Strain	Genotype*	Figure
YML9796 YML15193	<i>ndt80Δ::HIS3</i>	1A-D, 3A-E, S2, S3A-E, S4B-D,
YML9797 YML15194	<i>ndt80::HIS3 ZIP1::GFP(700)-HphMX4</i>	1A-D, 4A-B, 4D, 5B-D, S1B, S5B-C, S6A-E, S7A, S7C-D, S8A-D
YML12473	<i>ATP1-GFP::HIS3 ndt80Δ::HIS3</i>	1A-C
YML15200	<i>ald4Δ::ALD4^{WT}::LEU2::NATMX4</i>	3F
YML15201	<i>ald4Δ::ald4^{int}::LEU2::NATMX4</i>	3F
YML14301	** <i>MATalpha ald4Δ::NATMX4</i>	3G
YML14249	** <i>MATa ALD4-yeGFP::KITRP1</i>	3G
YML14486	** <i>MATa ald4Δ::ALD4^{WT}-yeGFP::LEU2::TRP1::NATMX4</i>	3G
YML14717	** <i>MATalpha ald4Δ::ald4^{int}-GFP::LEU2::TRP1::NATMX4</i>	3G
YML10828	<i>ZIP1-GFP(700)::HphMX4</i>	4C-D, 5B-D, S6A-E, S7A, S7C-D, S8A-D
YML10774 YML12475 YML12476 YML12477	'Wild-type'	5F, 6C-D, S2, S4E, S5B, S7B, S9C, S11
YML12505 YML15195 YML15196	<i>acs1Δ::KanMX</i>	5F, 6D-E, 6G, S7B, S11
YML14830 YML15203	<i>acs1Δ::ACSI^{WT}::KITRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	5E-F, 6E
YML14832 YML15202	<i>acs1Δ::acs1^{R264W}::KITRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	5E-F, 6E
YML14833 YML15204	<i>acs1Δ::acs1^{K675A}::KITRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	5E-F, 6E
YML12463 YML12507	<i>acs1Δ::ACSI^{WT}-GFP::TRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	5G, 6C, S10C
YML12511	<i>acs1Δ::acs1^{K675A}-GFP::TRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	5G
YML12471 YML12509	<i>acs1Δ::acs1^{R264W}-GFP::TRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	5G
YML5909	'Wild-type'	6A-B
YML15066	<i>acs1Δ::ACSI^{WT}::KITRP1</i>	6G
YML15067	<i>acs1Δ::acs1^{R264W}::KITRP1</i>	6G
YML15069	<i>acs1Δ::acs1^{K675A}::KITRP1</i>	6G
YML4069	** <i>MATa</i>	7A
YML15199	** <i>MATalpha acs1Δ::KanMX</i>	7B
YML14653	** <i>MATalpha acs1Δ::ACSI^{WT}::KITRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	7B
YML14612	** <i>MATalpha acs1Δ::acs1^{K675A}::KITRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	7B
YML14510	** <i>MATalpha acs1Δ::acs1^{R264W}::KITRP1::URA3::KanMX</i>	7B
YML15198	<i>ald4Δ::KANMX4</i>	S4E
YML5095	<i>zip1Δ::KANMX4 ndt80Δ::HIS3</i>	S5A, S7B
YML15197	<i>ACSI-yeGFP::KITRP1</i>	S9, S10A-B

1180 * Unless indicated, all strains are diploid SK1 derivatives (*MATa/ MATalpha ho::LYS2 ura3 leu2::hisG*
1181 *trp1::hisG his3::hisG* or *ho::hisG leu2 ura3*) and homozygous for the genotype depicted in the table.

1182 ** haploid SK1 derivatives (*MATa* or *MATalpha ho::LYS2 ura3 leu2::hisG trp1::hisG his3::hisG* or
1183 *ho::hisG leu2 ura3*)

1184

1185 **Table S3: Protein candidates for mitochondrial filaments**

1186 See separate Excel file

1187

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