# Alternative sulphur metabolism in the fungal pathogen *Candida* parapsilosis

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Supplementary Figure 1. Features of the mutant collection in C. parapsilosis. The figure depicts the workflow for the generation of the CRISPR-Cas9 edited mutants and the features of the complete collection, including the deletion strains generated in<sup>1</sup>. (A) For the generation of CRISPR-Cas9 edited strains, guides were designed to drive Cas9 cleavage at the beginning of the coding region of each desired gene (YFG, Your Favourite Gene) (e.g. YFG1). Details on guide design are provided in the Methods section. (B) The Repair Templates (RTs) were designed to introduce a premature stop codon and a unique barcode following Homology Directed Repair (HDR) with the target locus on the genome. HAs = Homology Arms (HAs). (C) A library of plasmids targeting the genes of interest was generated by cloning the short dsDNA guides (e.g. gYFG1, gYFG2) into the pCP-tRNA empty plasmid, which harbours CAS9, the Autonomously Replicating Sequence, and a nourseothricin marker cassette (NAT) <sup>2</sup>. (D) The simultaneous transformation of the pCP-tRNA (e.g. pCP-tRNA1) targeting a gene (e.g. YFG1) and the corresponding RT (e.g. RT1) resulted in the insertion of a premature stop codon (red asterisk) in both alleles by HDR, thus generating an edited strain (e.g. Ed yfg1). A primer annealing on the barcode was used to confirm the modification in PCR. (E) Two independent lineages (A and B) were obtained for most of the strains. The mutant collection was condensed using a Singer Instruments ROTOR HDA in a 1536 format onto a YPD plate (source plate). Each mutation was represented in two technical replicates (R1 and R2) and two biological replicates (A and B). The source plate was then replicated onto the phenotyping plates.

## **Supplementary Note 1**

Phenotypic effects of disruptions: baseline growth in YPD, SD + AS, SC + AAs The phenotypic screen used three different base media: i) YPD media supplemented with different chemical stressors; ii) Synthetic Defined (SD) media supplemented with ammonium sulphate (AS) or alternative nitrogen sources; and iii) Synthetic Complete (SC) media supplemented with all amino acids (AAs) or lacking specific amino acid classes/adenine/histidine.

We first measured the baseline growth of the *C. parapsilosis* disruptions by assessing the colony size on solid media. We tested the growth of the mutant strains on i) YPD media (without any chemical stressors); ii) SD media supplemented with AS, the preferred nitrogen source, and iii) SC media supplemented with all the AAs (Supplementary Data 2) in comparison to relevant control strains, *C. parapsilosis* CLIB214 and *C. parapsilosis* CPRI<sup>1</sup>. Because the colony sizes of *C. parapsilosis* CLIB214 and CPRI were similar within each of the three conditions tested, we defined Growth<sub>(CTRL)</sub> as the mean of the normalized observations for both strains, and the Growth Ratio for each mutant strain in the library as (normalized size of mutant colony/Growth(CTRL)) (Supplementary Data 2 and Methods). For most strains the Growth Ratio was close to 1, meaning that the mutation introduced did not result in a baseline growth defect (Supplementary Figure 2). However, 21 strains showed a growth defect (Growth Ratio <= 0.5) in at least one media (Supplementary Figure 2).

Mutant strains disrupted in *SFP1* (*CPAR2\_807380*), *GRR1* (*CPAR2\_100650*), *RSA1* (*CPAR2\_102070*) and *FIP1* (*CPAR2\_100690*) showed a severe growth defect on the three media tested (Growth Ratio 0-0.2, Supplementary Figure 2). Loss of function of the master transcriptional regulator Sfp1 and the component of the SCF ubiquitin-ligase complex Ggr1 required for cell cycle progression are associated with a dramatic decrease in cell size in *C. albicans*<sup>3,4</sup>. In *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* loss of function of Rsa1 is associated with decreased cell size and abnormal cell cycle progression<sup>5</sup>.

Deleting the transcriptional repressor *TUP1* (*CPAR2\_109520*) also affected growth (Growth Rate 0.3-0.4), and a similar effect was observed for the *Ed ssk2* (*CPAR2\_403060*), *Ed sak1* (*CPAR2\_401830*), and *Ed pho23* (*CPAR2\_407350*)

mutants (Supplementary Figure 2). In *C. albicans*, mutating the Ssk2 kinase determines defects in colony morphology, *in vivo* proliferation<sup>4</sup>, and growth on different media<sup>6</sup>, while deleting *SAK1* does not result in reduced growth, but it has effects on colony morphology<sup>7</sup>. In *S. cerevisiae*, deletion of *PHO23* results in decreased vegetative growth rate<sup>8</sup>.

Disruption of SAH1 (CPAR2\_101020), responsible for the conversion of S-adenosyl homocysteine to homocysteine in the methyl cycle, only marginally affected growth on YPD, but its effect was more evident on YNB and SC (Growth Rate < 0.2). However, SAH1 is essential in both *C. albicans* and *S. cerevisiae*<sup>9,10</sup>, raising the possibility that a truncated version of the protein, partially maintaining gene function, may be produced in the *C. parapsilosis* edited strain.

Targeting Vacuolar Protein Sorting (VPS) proteins 15 and 34 (encoded by *CPAR2\_602810* and *CPAR2\_206880*, respectively) also resulted in a growth defect. In *C. albicans*, loss of Vps34 function results in a plethora of phenotypes, including a decreased rate of vegetative growth<sup>11-13</sup>. Our library included two independent *C. parapsilosis* Vps34 mutants: a deletion mutant generated by Holland et al. <sup>1</sup>, and a CRISPR-Cas9 edited strain. Notably, the phenotype was consistent in both. A decreased growth rate was also observed for the *Ed swi4* and *Aswi4* mutants (*CPAR2\_109060*), similarly to what reported for *C. albicans*<sup>4</sup>.

Several mutations affected growth specifically on only one of the media. Deleting the GATA transcriptional activator *GLN3* (*CPAR2\_101010*), required for utilization of nonpreferred nitrogen sources in *C. parapsilosis*, abolished the ability to grow on SD (YNB with ammonium sulfate)<sup>14</sup> (Supplementary Figure 2). Similarly, deleting *GCN4* (*CPAR2\_806570*), encoding the major activator of the General Amino Acid Control (GAAC) supra-pathway in response to starvation for any amino acid, resulted in a growth defect on SD and SC media<sup>14</sup>. Loss of function of *ACE2* (*CPAR2\_204370*), *NRG1* (*CPAR2\_300790*), and *BNA2* (*CPAR2\_100040*) specifically affected growth on SC in our experiment.



Supplementary Figure 2. Growth of the mutant library on solid control media. The panels depict the distribution of the Growth Rate values of the mutant strains when grown at 30°C on YPD, SD, and SC media for 24h (YPD) of 48h (SD, SC). For each strain, the Growth Ratio was calculated as (normalized size of colony/Growth(CTRL), where Growth(CTRL) = mean of normalized growth of CLIB214 and CPRI) (see Methods). The genes are labelled based on their characterized orthologs in Candida albicans. Mutants that showed a Growth Ratio in the 0-0.5 range in at least one condition are highlighted in orange. Strains that met this criterion but showed either different behaviour between the two lineages (Ed ace2 and Ed jjj1 on YPD; Δndt80 on YPD and SC; Δvps34 on SC) or pinning inaccuracy (Δrbf1 on SC) in specific conditions are indicated with the name label but coloured in grey. Ed mac1 showed a growth defect only on YPD (Growth Rate 0.34); this strain might have a slight delay in growth that is more evident at 24h than at 48h. The strain CPL2H1 used as parental strain in the generation of deletion mutants is auxotrophic for histidine and leucine, and consequently cannot growth on SD. Similarly, both Ed kis1 and Ed rha1 lack a functional copy of MET10 and are therefore cysteine/methionine auxotrophs<sup>15</sup>; this phenotype is not related to the mutations introduced into KIS1 and RHA1.

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Kesponse to antitungal drugs				
Caspofungin	PRK1, CLA4, RFX1,			
Fluconazole	VPS34, 100630, GZF3, UPC2, ZCF29, ZCF31, PRK1, ISW2, ZCF38, RTG3, APD1			
Ketoconazole	VPS34, SWI4, MAC1, 100660 <sup>a</sup> , 802280, UPC2, ZCF1, SLN1			
Response to heavy metals				
Copper	VPS34, PRK1, TUP1, TPK2, MNL1, PHO23, RTG3, CUP2, SSN3			
Cadmium	VPS34, YAF9, CUP9, MAC1, TUP1, CAP1, MKK2, PBS2, PHO23, RFX1,			
EDTA	MAC1, CSR1			
Response to osmotic (Os), oxidative (Ox), cell wall (CW) stress				
NaCl (Os)	100910, KIS1, RNY11, PBS2, 100920, SAK1, APD1			
LiCl (Os)	SAH1, PBS2, PHO23,			
Sorbitol (Os)	PBS2, 100920			
H <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (Ox)	VPS34, SWI4, MAC1, SKN7, CAP1, PBS2,			
Caffeine (CW)	VPS34, RAD53			
	Use of alternative nitrogen sources			
Alanine	VPS15, RBF1			
Allantoin	VPS15, PPR1, SAH1, RBF1			
Arginine	SEF1, VPS15, CAR1, 212760, BNA2, RBF1, HAC1,			
Cysteine	VPS34, SFP1, TUP1, SAH1, PFK1, PHO23, GRR1, SAK1, SSK2, SSN3, RAD53			
GABA	UGA3, VPS15, SAH1, BNA2, RBF1, HAC1			
Glutamate	VPS15, FGR15, SAH1, RBF1, HAC1			
Glutamine	VPS15, SAH1, RBF1, HAC1			
Glycine	VPS15, RBF1			
Isoleucine	ARO80, VPS34			
Histidine	SKN7, RFX1, VPS34, SSN3, RAD53			
L-ornithine	CLA4, GZF3, SFP1, PRK1, PUT3, VPS34			
Tryptophan	GAT1, ARO80, CZF1, SAH1,			
Leucine	GAT1, ARO80, VPS15, PHO23, VPS34			
Lysine	VPS34, PRK1, SAH1, TPK2, GRR1, BNA2, RFX1, STP4, RTG3, RFX2, SUC1, 105230, SSK2, SSN3, RAD53			
Methionine	GAT1. GCN4.			
Proline	ARG83, FGR15, PUT3, BNA2,			
Serine	BNA2			
Threonine	GAT1, ARO80, GCN4, CUP2, GCN2			
Valine	AR080, GCN4, FGR15,			
Urea	NTO1, FGR3, SAH1, SSK2			
Aspartate	GRR1, RTG3, VPS34			
Amino acid biosynthesis				
Histidine	GCN4. GLN3			
Trp/Phe/Tvr	BNA2, RAD53			
Asn/Thr/Met/Cvs/Asp	SAH1, BNA2, CUP2			
Met/Cys/Ser/Gly	SFP1, TUP1, SAK1, RFX1, RAD53			
Leu/Val/Ile	SFP1, RAD53			
Ala	BNA2, RAD53			
Lys/Arg/Pro/Gln/Glu	GCN4, ACE2, CUP2, RFX2, RAD53			
Uracil	BNA2, SSK2, RAD53			
Adenine	SFP1, SSK2, RAD53			

# Supplementary Table 1. *C. parapsilosis* CLIB214 genes involved in different cellular processes based on phenotypic screening.

See also Supplementary Data 2-3, Supplementary Figures 3-4. <sup>a.</sup> *C. parapsilosis* genes lacking the functional name are indicated with the six digits ID that follows the "*CPAR2*\_" prefix: for example, *100630* stands for *CPAR2\_100630* 



Supplementary Figure 3. Utilization of alternative nitrogen sources by the *C. parapsilosis* **mutant collection**. The ability of the mutant collection to utilize different nitrogen sources was tested (Supplementary Data 3). In order to detect growth defects compared to the control condition (YNB + ammonium sulphate), Z scores values were calculated (see Methods) and depicted in the heat-map as described in Fig 1. White crossed boxes indicate a pinning mistake.

### **Supplementary Note 2**

#### Phenotypic effects of disruptions on biosynthesis of amino acids

We evaluated the ability of the mutant collection to synthesize L-amino acids used in protein synthesis by measuring growth in the absence of specific amino acids (Supplementary Figure 4, Supplementary Data 3). The general nitrogen regulator Gcn4 is required for synthesis of several amino acids, including histidine and glutamate, whereas deletion of GLN3 completely abolished growth in the absence of histidine (Supplementary Figure 4, Supplementary Data 3)<sup>14,16</sup>. Disruption of SFP1 (CPAR2 807380) affected biosynthesis of adenine, leucine, valine, isoleucine, and amino acids from the serine family (Supplementary Figure 4). In C. albicans, Sfp1 is a regulator of biofilm formation<sup>17</sup> and stress response<sup>18,19</sup>, and the S. cerevisiae homolog has a role in nitrogen metabolism<sup>20</sup>. Deleting the transcription factors *RFX1* (CPAR2 204990) or RFX2 (CPAR2 401290) resulted in a growth defect in the absence of the serine and glutamate amino acid families, respectively (Supplementary Figure 4). In C. albicans Rfx2 is involved in DNA damage response, morphogenesis, and virulence<sup>21</sup>. In addition, deleting CUP2 (CPAR2\_201510) - a transcription factor that in *C. albicans* is required for resistance to copper<sup>22</sup> – reduced growth when amino acids from the aspartate and glutamate families were not provided (Supplementary Figure 4).



Supplementary Figure 4. Genes involved in amino acids biosynthesis in C. parapsilosis. The mutant library was replicated on SC plates lacking amino acids, uracil or adenine (Supplementary Data 3). Plates were photographed, and Z score values were calculated to determine growth defects compared to the control condition (SC supplemented with amino acids). Only mutant strains that showed a defect in at least one condition are included in the heatmap. The strain CPL2H1 used as parental strain in the generation of deletion mutants is auxotrophic for histidine and leucine, and consequently cannot growth in their absence. Both Ed kis1 and Ed rha1 lack a functional copy of MET10 and are therefore cysteine/methionine auxotrophs<sup>15</sup>; this phenotype is not related to the mutations introduced into KIS1 and RHA1. The color-coding is the same as in Fig 1.



Supplementary Figure 5. Phylogeny of the Met4 and Met28 paralogs in budding yeasts. Protein sequences retrieved from YGOB<sup>23</sup>, CGOB<sup>24</sup> or the indicated accession numbers were aligned using Muscle (as opposed to ClustalO) implemented in Seaview<sup>25</sup>. Trees were inferred using PhyML restricted to conserved regions selected using Gblocks. WGD = Whole Genome Duplication; KLE = *Kluyveromyces/Lachancea/Eremothecium*.

### **Supplementary Note 3**

**Volcano plots as described in Fig. 4.** We report here in the Supplementary the same plots presented in Fig 4, but in a size that allows the labelling of sulphur-related genes. The genes included in the rectangular label have characterized orthologs in *S. cerevisiae*. The genes that do not are labelled in a smaller size and by the number of their *C. parapsilosis* ID (e.g. 702100 is gene *CPAR2\_702100*).







Supplementary Figure 6. *met28*⊿

# Supplementary Table 2. Upregulated genes of *C. parapsilosis* CLIB214 upon Cys/Met starvation and their expression in the *met4* and *met28* single and double deletion mutants.

Category	CLIB214	met4∆	met28∆	me4∆/ met28∆
TFs & regulatory proteins	MET4 (7.1)ª, MET32 (1.6), MET30 (1.1), STP1 (1)	MET30 (1.6)	MET4 (4.2), MET32 (1.4), MET30 (1.8), STP1 (1.7)	
Sulphate assimilation	MET3 (4.5), MET15 (4.4), ECM17 (4.2), MET10 (4), MET14 (3.9), MET16 (1.9), MET2 (1.4)	MET3 (6.3), MET15 (5), ECM17 (5), MET10 (5.1), MET14 (5.9), MET16 (3), MET2 (2)	MET3 (1.7), MET15 (3.1), ECM17 (1.1),	
Met Metabolism	SAM2 (1), MET1 (3), MET13 (1.7)	SAM2 (1.5), MET1 (5), MET13 (2.4)	SAM2 (-1.2)	
Cys Metabolism	CYS3 (1.3), STR3 (1.2), GCS1 <sup>b</sup> (1), GST2 (2.9)	STR3 (2.6), GCS1 (2)	CYS3 (2.1), GCS1 (1), GST2 (2.7)	
Sulphate transp.	SUL2 (6)	SUL2 (4.2)	SUL2 (4)	
Sulphur compound transp.	SOA1 (5.1), SEO1 (4.6), 702970° (6), 200220 (3.3), 203280 (2)	SEO1 (4.6), 702970 (1.4)	SOA1 (2.5), SEO1 (3.6), 702970 (3.5), 200220 (1.6), 203280 (2.1)	
AA & oligopeptide transp.	AGP3 (4.6), MUP1 (3.7), OPT7 (6.3), 807890 (4.7), PTR2 (4.4), 301130 (3), ALP1 (2.7), GAP4 (1.5)	AGP3 (3.9), MUP1 (3.9), OPT7 (5.2), 807890 (1.6), ALP1 (2.8)	AGP3 (3.4), MUP1 (2.7), OPT7 (3), PTR2 (2.6), 301130 (2.5), ALP1 (2.7), GAP4 (3.1)	
Other transp.	SNQ2 (1.5), 108880 (1.8), 802720 (3.8), 108340 (2.7), YMC2 (2.7), MDR1B (1.8), 300590 (1.5)	SNQ2 (1.7), YMC2 (5), MDR1B (2.8)	SNQ2 (1), YMC2 (1). MDR1B (5.7), 108880 (2.5), 300590 (1.8)	SNQ2 (1.2), MDR1B (1.9), 300590 (1.4)
2-oxoglutarate-dep. dioxygenases	JLP1 (9), 806900 (9), 702100 (6.2), 407220 (4.8), 104530 (4.6), 404910 (4.5),	JLP1 (4.5), 104530 (3.3),	JLP1 (8.2), 806900 (8.7), 702100 (5.3), 407220 (3.7), 104530 (3), 404910 (8.6)	
FMNH <sub>2</sub> -dep. monooxygenases	104940 (8), 807180 (3.3), 407210 (3), 302950 (2)		104940 (5.8), 807180 (3.6), 407210 (2.7), 302950 (1.9)	
Arylsulfatases	103090 (4.8), 105540 (3.8)		103090 (1.7), 105540 (3.9)	
Oxidative stress response	FTR1 (1.1), ROX1 (1), PRX1 (4.7), 210110 (5.8), 405440 (4), 601950 (2.5), FET3 (1.7)	ROX1 (1.5), PRX1 (4.7), 601950 (4.1), FET3 (-2.7)	FTR1 (3.2), ROX1 (2.3), PRX1 (1.1), 405440 (3.5), FET3 (2.2)	
Sugar transp.	HGT8 (2.3), HXT5 (1.8)			
OAS pathway	203640 (1.4), 300800 (1.1)	203640 (4), 300800 (2.1)		
Sporulation related genes	SMA2 (5.1), SPO11 (4.6), SPO75 (1.1)	SMA2 (4.4), SPO11 (7.1), SPO75 (4)	SMA2 (2.9)	
SAP/adhesin-like	302640 (2.3), 805340 (2), 801790 (2)	805340 (4.1), 801790 (2.4)		
others	DUR4 (4), 807040 (3.7), ARO9 (2.1), TPO3 (1.3), FDH1 (1.8), BNA3 (1.4), 503870 (1.6), 500140 (1.4), PGA23 (1.3), CHA1 (1.2), 212190 (1.1)	807040 (5.2), TPO3 (2.2), BNA3 (1.4), 503870 (2.3), 500140 (6), PGA23 (2.6), CHA1 (2),	ARO9 (1.4), DUR4 (4.7), TPO3 (3.4), CHA1 (3.4), 212190 (1.6)	CHA1 (1.8),
Unknown function	210700 (3.6), 102480 (2.5), 101750 (2.1), 203580 (2), 201160 (2), 704060 (1.9), 809010 (1.7), 502110 (1.6), 210410 (1.5), 203090 (1.5), 103320 (1.2), 400960 (1.1), 703250 (1.1), 805910 (1)	203580 (1.7), 201160 (1.8), 809010 (2.5), 203090 (2.7)	210700 (2.4), 101750 (1.5), 203580 (2.5), 201160 (3.4), 210410 (1.2), 203090 (3.4), 103320 (1.7), 703250 (2.2), 805910 (1.8)	703250 (1.3)

Genes related to sulphur are highlighted in red in CLIB214. For the complete list of differentially regulated genes and the exact P values: Supplementary Data 4. The Wald Test was used as implemented in the DESeq2 package for statistical analysis. An implementation of the Benjamini-Hochberg false discovery rate (FDR) multiple test correction was applied in DESeq2. The genes *CPAR2\_402890*, *CPAR2\_404910*, and *CPAR2\_402070* were not included in the *met4* column because one of the conditions in the data set had zero reads (Supplementary Data 4).

<sup>a</sup> numbers in brackets indicate the Log<sub>2</sub>FC in expression (SC -Cys/Met versus SC + AA) versus; only genes with adjusted p-value <0.05 are shown.

<sup>b.</sup> GCS1 had a logFC = 0.98, so it was included.

<sup>c</sup> C. parapsilosis genes lacking the functional name are indicated with the six digits ID that follows the "CPAR2\_" prefix: for example, 702970 stands for CPAR2\_702970



**Supplementary Figure 7. Loss of genes regulated by both Met4 and Met28 does not result in Met auxotrophy.** Three genes whose transcription is regulated equally by Met4 and Met28 (see Fig 5) were disrupted by insertion of a premature stop codon or deleted (*SUL2, SEO1, AGP3*). Although *CPAR2\_203280* is regulated by Met4 (Fig 5), it was included because this gene and *SEO1* are 88% identical. All strains could grow in the absence of Cys or Met. *C. parapsilosis* CLIB214 was included as control. Source data are provided as a Source Data file.

Supplementary Table 3. Binding motifs recognized by Met32 and Cbf1 in the promoters of						
sulphur-related genes induced under Cys/Met starvation.						
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Gene	Met32 motifs	Cbf1 motifs
CPAR2_200220	-198, -447, -650, -839	
CPAR2_203280	-883	-795
SOA1	+571, -626, -683	
MET32	+160, +271, -373, -871	
CPAR2_806900	-546, -706, +819	
CPAR2_702100	+456, +731, -859	
CPAR2_407220	-817, -881	
CPAR2_404910	+91, +579, +656, +774, +933, -969	
CPAR2_104940	-458, +820	+191
CPAR2 807180	+297, -383, +864	
CPAR2_407210	+891	
 CPAR2_302950	-795, -896	
CPAR2_103090	+881	
 CPAR2 105540	+857	
CYS3	-218, +266, -727, -832	-51, +702
GST2	-875	
PTR2	-245, -856	
CPAR2_301130	+331, -462, -515,	
GAP4	+751, -933	
MET14		+850
MET16		
MET10		-174, +190, -862
MET2	-804	+581
MET13		-563
SAM2	-90, +761	
MET1		
STR3		-778
CPAR2_203640		
CPAR2_300800		+852
CPAR2_807890	-223, -614, -896	
SUL2	-143, -582,	
SEO1	-721, -866	+538
CPAR2_702970	-655, -748	
AGP3		
MET30	+148, -280, -617, -960	+358, +936
MUP1	-149, +545, -748,	-326,
JLP1	+461, +731	
CPAR2_104530	+902	
MET3	-480	+795
ECM17		+188, -677
MET15	-829	+762
GCS1	-899	+177
OPT7	+509, +616	+796
ALP1	+809	-343
MET4	+274, +670, -828	+531

1 Kb upstream of the ATG was considered. Position 0 = - 1000 bp upstream of ATG; position 1000 = - 1 bp upstream of ATG. "+" = coding strand; "-" = reverse strand. The sites were detected using the MEME-suite (MEME and MAST)<sup>26</sup>.

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