

1 **Modification of the *TRX2* gene dose in *Saccharomyces***
2 ***cerevisiae* affects Hexokinase 2 gene regulation during wine**
3 **yeast biomass production**

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21 **Abstract**

22 In the industrial yeast biomass production process, cells undergo an oxidative and other
23 stresses which worsens the quality of the produced biomass. The overexpression of the
24 thioredoxin codifying gene *TRX2* in a wine *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strain increases
25 resistance to oxidative stress and industrial biomass production yield. We observed that
26 variations in the *TRX2* gene dose in wine yeast strains are relevant to determine the
27 fermentative capacity throughout the industrial biomass production process. So we
28 studied the molecular changes using a transcriptomic approach under these conditions.
29 The results provide an overview of the different metabolic pathways affected during
30 industrial biomass production by *TRX2* gene manipulation. The oxidative stress-related
31 genes, like those related with the glutathione metabolism, presented outstanding
32 variations. The data also allowed us to propose new thioredoxin targets in *S. cerevisiae*,
33 such as Hexokinase 2, with relevance for industrial fermentation performance.

34

35

36 *Keywords:* Wine yeast propagation, *TRX2* gene, Oxidative stress, Omics, Hexokinase 2.

37

38 **Introduction**

39 In the yeast biomass production process, growth conditions are optimized to obtain
40 maximum yields. However, yeast cells are affected by oxidative and other stresses
41 which worsen the quality of the produced biomass (Pérez-Torrado et al. 2005). The
42 relevance of the *TRX2* gene during industrial yeast biomass propagation has been
43 recently demonstrated by the construction of an overexpressing strain (*TTRX2*) which
44 increases biomass yield and fermentative capacity, and improves the oenological
45 properties of the final product by improving the oxidative stress response (Gómez-
46 Pastor et al. 2010a; Pérez-Torrado et al. 2009). The *TRX2* gene codifies for one of the
47 two cytoplasmic thioredoxins in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, which is a small protein (11
48 kDa) with thiol-disulphide oxidoreductase activity (Holmgren 1989). *TRX2* was one of
49 the first gene targets of the main oxidative stress transcription factor Yap1p to be
50 identified, and it is among the most highly induced genes to respond to oxidative stress
51 (Kuge and Jones 1994).

52 Thioredoxins are involved in protein protection against oxidative and reductive stress
53 (Trotter and Grant 2002). They are also responsible for the negative regulation of Yap1p
54 (Izawa et al. 1999), which is one of the eight members of the Yap-bZIP family of
55 transcription factors, the major regulon in the oxidative stress response (Fernandes et al.
56 1997; Rodrigues-Pousada et al. 2004). Furthermore, they participate in the catalytic
57 cycle of Orp1p (*GPX3*), which is itself a positive regulator of Yap1p activity (Dealunay
58 et al. 2002; Mason et al. 2006). Yap1p rapidly localizes in the nucleus after H₂O₂
59 treatment (Kuge et al. 1997; Mason et al. 2006). Once inside the nucleus, Yap1p can
60 also cooperate with other transcriptional factors, like Skn7p, to regulate the
61 transcriptional activation of several oxidative stress response genes (He et al. 2009). In

62 addition, thioredoxins are also involved in the regulation of other transcription factors
63 like Msn2p and Msn4p (Boisnard et al. 2009), which control most of the genes involved
64 in the stress response (Martínez-Pastor et al. 1996).

65 During yeast growth, the presence of at least one thioredoxin is important to maintain
66 redox homeostasis. However, *TRX2* is more specialized than *TRX1* in protection against
67 ROS as the single mutant *trx2Δ* is more sensitive to H₂O₂ (Kuge and Jones 1994), and
68 Trx2p is thought to be the physiological reducing agent for Yap1p (Kuge and Jones
69 1994). However, mechanisms alternative to nuclear localization have been described for
70 Yap1p-dependent activation of several genes (Demasi et al. 2006; Inoue et al. 1999).

71 Other functions of thioredoxins depend on their oxidoreductase activity. They act as
72 hydrogen donors for thioredoxin peroxidases and 3'-phosphoadenosine 5'-
73 phosphosulfate reductase (PAPS), which is a key enzyme in the sulphate metabolism
74 (Muller 1991). Besides, yeasts lacking thioredoxins cannot withstand the high dNTP
75 synthesis rate required for efficient DNA replication, as shown by the prolonged S
76 phase and the shortened G1 interval. These results provide in vivo evidence for
77 thioredoxin as a physiologically relevant electron donor for ribonucleotide reductase
78 during DNA precursor synthesis (Koc et al. 2006). Approximately 80 proteins
79 associated with thioredoxins have been identified in *Escherichia coli* and plants, thus
80 supporting the involvement of thioredoxins in at least 26 cellular processes (Kumar et
81 al. 2004; Montrichard et al. 2009). Other studies have demonstrated that, in plants,
82 thioredoxins directly interact with glycolytic proteins like enolase, pyruvate
83 decarboxylase, glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase, and fructose
84 bisphosphatase, by controlling their enzymatic activity by redox regulation
85 (Montrichard et al. 2009; Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010c). In mammal cells, it has been

86 recently described that the expression of a thioredoxin-interacting protein (Txnip)
87 correlates well with the glycolytic flux, which is regulated by oxidative phosphorylation
88 status (Yu et al. 2010).

89 In this work, we studied the cellular changes and abilities produced by variations in the
90 *TRX2* gene dose in wine yeast strains growing under industrial conditions. We used a
91 transcriptomic profile analysis approach in order to understand the improved
92 fermentative capacity previously observed for a *TRX2* gene overexpressing strain. The
93 data also contribute to highlight the transcriptional regulation of wine yeasts oxidative
94 stress related-genes under industrial conditions and allow us to propose new putative
95 thioredoxin targets in *S. cerevisiae*, such as hexokinase 2, with direct implications for
96 fermentative capacity performance.

97 **Materials and methods**

98 Yeast strains, plasmids and cultivation conditions

99 We used the *S. cerevisiae* strain T73 (CECT 1894) isolated from Alicante (Spain) musts
100 (Querol et al. 1992) that has been commercialized by Lallemand Inc. (Montreal,
101 Canada). This strain has been widely used in several studies and has proven to be a
102 good wine yeast model. This strain was genetically modified previously to T73ura3
103 (Puig et al. 1998) to construct other strains because of the absence of auxotrophies in
104 wine natural yeasts. These strains are also aneuploids, and have a chromosome number
105 that is not a multiple of the haploid number, and they require several transformation
106 rounds for deletion gene construction.

107 The YEp-TRX2 plasmid was obtained by subcloning a 0.7 kb *EcoRI* fragment
108 containing the yeast *TRX2* gene and promoter into the episomal yeast plasmid Yep352

109 carrying the selectable marker *URA3*. The *TTRX2* strain (Pérez-Torrado et al. 2009) is a
110 *T_{73ura3}* strain transformed with the YEp-*TRX2* plasmid following the lithium acetate
111 procedure (Gietz et al. 1995).

112 Strain *trx2⁻* was obtained by the sequential deletion of the two copies of the *TRX2* gene
113 in strain *T_{73ura3}*. Disruption was carried out by homologous recombination at both ends
114 of the *TRX2* open reading frame of an integration cassette carrying a *kanR* marker gene
115 flanked by *loxP* sites. Excision of the marker is inducible by the expression of Cre
116 recombinase introduced into the same strain (Güldener et al. 1996) to allow repeated
117 disruptions. Integration of the cassette at the *TRX2* locus and further excision of the
118 *kanR* marker were confirmed by PCR analysis. The absence of any *TRX2* gene product
119 was confirmed by northern and western blot analysis. Uracil prototrophy was restored
120 by introducing a 1.1-kb *HindIII* linear fragment containing the *URA3* gene.

121 Industrial production conditions

122 Biomass propagation experiments were carried out as previously described (Gómez-
123 Pastor et al. 2010a, b; Pérez-Torrado et al. 2005; Pérez-Torrado et al. 2009). Molasses
124 medium used for biomass propagation was diluted to a final sucrose concentration of 60
125 g L⁻¹ and was supplemented with 7.5 g L⁻¹ of (NH₄)₂SO₄, 3.5 g L⁻¹ of KH₂PO₄, 0.75 g L⁻¹
126 of MgSO₄·7H₂O, 10 ml L⁻¹ of vitamin solution (50 mg L⁻¹ of D-biotin, 1 g L⁻¹ of
127 calcium pantothenate, and 1 g L⁻¹ of thiamine hydrochloride), and 1 mL L⁻¹ of antifoam
128 204 (Sigma, St. Louis, Mo.). Biomass propagation experiments were designed with two
129 growth stages (batch and fed-batch) in a bioreactor BIOFLO III (NBS, New Jersey,
130 USA), and technical parameters (agitation, pH and fed rate) were established as
131 previously described (Pérez-Torrado et al. 2005). The bioreactor containing 2 liters of
132 sterilized molasses medium at pH 4.5 was inoculated to an initial optical density of 0.05

133 (OD₆₀₀ = 0.05) from overnight YPD (1% yeast extract, 2% peptone, 2% glucose)
134 precultures incubated at 30°C with shaking (250 rpm) for 12 h. During the batch phase,
135 cells fermented the sucrose present in molasses to ethanol. When sucrose was exhausted
136 (12-18 h), the cell metabolism shifted to respiration of the previously produced ethanol,
137 until approximately 40 h of the process. During this phase, pH was allowed to freely
138 vary between 4 and 5. When the ethanol finished, the fed-batch phase started by
139 continuously feeding the reactor with the molasses medium at the desired flow rate to
140 avoid a fermentative metabolism. During the fed-batch phase, the reactor pH was
141 maintained at 4.5 by the automatic addition of 42.5% H₃PO₃ or 1 M NaOH. Dissolved
142 oxygen was maintained above 20% by a PID automatic control system. Three
143 independent production experiments were carried out for each strain.

144

145 Total RNA preparation and cDNA synthesis

146 Total yeast RNA was obtained from yeast cells (50 mg) by the hot phenol method
147 (Kohrer and Domdey 1991). cDNA synthesis and labeling reactions were carried out
148 under the same conditions previously described for control strain T₇₃ (Gómez-Pastor et
149 al. 2010b).

150

151 Microarray hybridization and analysis

152 We used *S. cerevisiae* microarray slides from the Microarray Center of University
153 Health Network (Toronto, Canada), comprising 6240 yeast ORFs. The microarrays
154 hybridization conditions were identical to those previously described (Gómez-Pastor et
155 al. 2010b). The obtained data were analyzed using the GenePix Pro 6.1 software
156 package (Axon Instruments, California, USA).

157 Data were ratio-based normalized and processed using Acuity 4.0 (Axon Instruments).
158 A 5% False Discovery Rate and Bonferroni correction were used to select the
159 statistically significant data. Only the log₂ ratios showing a variation greater than a 1.5-
160 fold in comparison to the previous T₇₃ data (Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010b) were
161 considered. A functional group analysis was done using the Gostat and GO term finder
162 (SGD database; <http://www.yeastgenome.org>) online applications. The presented data
163 correspond to the averages of three biological replicates for strain TTRX2 and of two
164 biological replicates for strain *trx2Δ*. The microarray data [E-TABM-1143] are
165 available in the EMBL database (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/arrayexpress/>).

166 Northern blot analysis

167 Total RNA was obtained by resuspending cells in 0.5 mL LETS buffer (200 mM LiCl,
168 20 mM EDTA, 20 mM Tris-HCl (pH 8.0), 0.4% SDS), 0.5 mL of phenol and 0.5 mL of
169 glass beads (acid-washed, 0.4-mm diameter) and cells were broken in FastPrep (Mp
170 Bio) 3 x 30 sec at 4°C. Equal amounts of RNA (20 µg) were separated in 1% (w/v)
171 agarose gels containing formaldehyde (2.5% v/v), and were transferred to a nylon
172 membrane. The DNA probes were obtained and labeled by using the specific
173 oligonucleotides indicated in Table 1 and the non radioactive PCR digoxigenin probe
174 synthesis kit (Roche Diagnostics GmbH, Mannheim, Germany). Membrane pre-
175 hybridizations and hybridizations were also performed with Digoxigenin Easy Hyb
176 solution from Roche (Roche Diagnostics GmbH). After stringency washes, blots were
177 subjected to immunological detection using an anti-digoxigenin antibody conjugated to
178 alkaline phosphatase (Roche Diagnostics), followed by CDP-Star detection (Roche
179 Diagnostics). Images were captured with the Las-1000 Plus imaging system (Fuji,
180 Kyoto, Japan).

181 Western blot analysis

182 Cell extracts were separated in 10% SDS-polyacrylamide gels and transferred to
183 polyvinylidene difluoride membranes. A rabbit polyclonal antibody against hexokinase
184 2 (Randez-Gil et al. 1998) and a mouse antibody against actin (MP Biomedicals, Clone
185 C4, Ohio, USA) were used at the 1/3500 and 1/500 dilutions, respectively. Peroxidase-
186 conjugated secondary antibodies (GE Healthcare, New Jersey, USA) were used for
187 detection purposes according to the manufacture's recommendations. Image acquisition
188 was performed with a ChemiDoc CCD camera (Bio-Rad, California, USA).

189 Hexokinase activity assay

190 Hexokinase activity was assayed in crude extracts as described in the Worthington
191 Enzyme Manual (<http://www.worthington-biochem.com/HK/assay.html>). The assay is
192 based on reduction of NAD^+ through a coupled reaction with glucose-6-phosphate
193 dehydrogenase and is determined spectrophotometrically by measuring the increase in
194 absorbance at 340 nm. Each reaction mix contained the following: 0.05 M Tris-HCl
195 buffer (pH 8.0) containing 13.3 mM MgCl_2 , 0.67 M glucose, 16.5 mM adenosine
196 5'triphosphate, and 6.8 mM NAD^+ . All the reagents were dissolved in
197 Tris· MgCl_2 buffer. Protein content was determined by the Lowry method (Lowry et al.
198 1951). One unit of enzyme activity (U) was defined as the amount of enzyme catalyzing
199 the production of 1 μmol of NADH per minute and enzymatic activity was expressed as
200 mU (mg of total protein)⁻¹.

201 Measurement of fermentative capacity

202 To determine fermentative capacity, the biomass collected at 0 h, 18 h and 80 h was
203 dehydrated under air flux in an oven at 30°C until approximately 8% relative humidity.

204 10^7 cells/mL were inoculated in YPGF medium (1% yeast extract, 2% peptone, 10%
205 glucose, 10% fructose) and incubated with shaking at 30°C and 65 rpm. The exact
206 number of cells was determined by recounting in a Neubauer camera. CO₂ production
207 was measured every 20 min over a 300-min period with a Chittick instrument
208 (American Association of Cereal Chemists, 12-10, Minnesota, USA) and fermentative
209 capacity was expressed in mL CO₂ (10⁷ cells)⁻¹ min⁻¹.

210 **Results**

211 Fermentative capacity properties are enhanced in *TTRX2* mutant during the whole
212 process

213 Fermentative capacity is considered one of the most important properties of the
214 produced yeast biomass as it is mainly used to ferment high sugar content media. This
215 parameter can also be used as an indicator of the yeast biomass physiology and
216 glycolytic flux as it is evaluated as the amount of CO₂ produced by fermentation. Fig. 1
217 shows the fermentative capacity evaluated for all the strains at 0 h, 18 h and 80 h of
218 growth. It is interesting to observe that the T73 control strain displayed an approximate
219 50% decrease in fermentative capacity at 80 h compared to initial industrial propagation
220 steps, which can be directly correlated with the high oxidative stress response noted
221 throughout the biomass production process (Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010a, b). The
222 thioredoxin-deficient mutant also displayed a similar behaviour to the control strain,
223 although the fermentative capacity detriment was higher (61.2%) than for the control
224 strain. In contrast, the *TTRX2* strain maintained its fermentative properties throughout
225 the process and displayed only a 17% decrease at the end of the process. These results
226 may be associated with the differential expression profile observed for specific
227 glycolytic genes, like *HXX2*, in the *TRX2* gene modified strains.

228 Transcriptional profile of strain TTRX2 during the biomass propagation process

229 To study the global gene expression changes due to *TRX2* gene dose variation, we
230 performed bench-top trials of the industrial biomass propagation process to compare
231 wild-type T73 to strains TTRX2 and *trx2*Δ. The global gene expression experiments
232 were done with three representative samples taken at 14 h (early-batch phase), 18 h
233 (late-batch) and 80 h (late-fed batch) under the identical fermentation conditions and
234 sampling stages to those previously reported by Gómez-Pastor et al., (2010b). mRNA
235 was obtained from each sample and microarray hybridizations were performed using
236 three biological replicates for each time point. Significantly expressed genes were
237 obtained after microarray scanning and data normalization. Expression changes for a
238 selected set of genes were confirmed by northern blot analysis as shown in Fig. 2, where
239 a quantitative comparison of microarray and northern analysis data is also included. As
240 can be seen, expression profiles are identical and the highest quantitative differences are
241 20%. Gene functional category analyses were performed among the differentially
242 expressed genes for the TTRX2 strain compared to control strain T₇₃ by using the
243 GOstat online tools (<http://gostat.wehi.edu.au/>).

244 Table 2 shows the expression ratios for the up-regulated genes corresponding to the
245 averaged log₂ signal intensity among the different microarrays. In comparison to control
246 strain T₇₃, a total of 36 ORFs were differentially expressed during the biomass
247 propagation process. Nine ORFs were up-regulated at 14 h of growth, 14 ORFs at 18 h
248 and 18 ORFs at 80 h. The fact that the highest number of up-regulated genes appeared
249 in the fed-batch phase suggests the importance of *TRX2* during respiratory metabolism.
250 Although several genes were up-regulated as a result of *TRX2* gene overexpression

251 throughout the propagation process, no significant functional categories were found
252 among the up-regulated genes.

253 As expected, the greatest induction was observed for *URA3* and *TRX2*, both the genes
254 present in the episomal plasmid carrying *TRX2*. Whereas *URA3* was up-regulated
255 throughout the process, the *TRX2* gene was up-regulated only during the 14-18 h growth
256 period and it showed no differences with the control strain at the end of the propagation
257 process. An explanation for this is that the *TRX2* gene was cloned into the Yep352
258 plasmid under the control of its own promoter. These results indicate that only the gene
259 dose, and not the expression pattern, of *TRX2* was modified in the TTRX2 strain as a
260 result of gene overexpression as it displayed a similar expression profile to that
261 previously observed for control strain T₇₃ (Pérez-Torrado et al. 2009).

262 Among the overall up-regulated genes, we noted *YAP3* which encodes a Yap1p-related
263 transcription factor. It presented a similar expression pattern to the *TRX2* gene, and was
264 up-regulated between 14 h and 18 h of growth. We also observed the induction of
265 *HXK2* and *PDC6* during the metabolic transition. *HXK2* codifies hexokinase isoenzyme
266 2, which catalyzes the phosphorylation of glucose in the cytosol and it is the
267 predominant hexokinase during growth on glucose, whereas *PDC6* codifies a minor
268 isoform of pyruvate decarboxylase involved in alcoholic fermentation, and its
269 transcription is glucose- and ethanol-dependent. The up-regulation of them both might
270 explain the high fermentative capacity observed for the TTRX2 strain (Gómez-Pastor et
271 al. 2010a).

272 Table 3 offers the ratios for the down-regulated genes during the propagation process. A
273 total of 45 ORFs were differentially expressed in comparison to control strain T₇₃.
274 These genes were grouped into four statistically significant functional categories:

275 oxidoreductase activity ($p < 6.02E-11$), stress response ($p < 5.01E-4$), carbohydrates
276 metabolism ($p < 2.10E-3$) and the protein catabolic process ($p < 7.60E-3$), where most
277 were specifically down-regulated at 80 h of growth.

278 In the oxidoreductase activity group, some Yap1p-dependent genes were down-
279 regulated (*PRX1*, *GTT1* and *GRX2*), and a more specialized functional subcategory
280 corresponding to glutathione peroxidase activity was seen ($p < 1.09E-3$), which includes
281 *GTT1*, *GPX1*, *GLO2*, *GRX2* and *GPX3*, all of which are involved in not only ROS
282 detoxification through glutathione, but also in membrane protection from oxidative
283 damage (Avery and Avery 2001). Among the genes grouped in this category, the
284 presence of the *GPX3* gene is highlighted, which codifies a glutathione peroxidase
285 (GPx)-like protein that fulfils the sensor function for Yap1p activation by H_2O_2
286 exposure (Delaunay et al. 2002).

287 Another representative functional category was the stress response-related genes
288 ($p < 5.01E-4$), which were highly down-regulated at 80 h. Among these genes, there are
289 some important stress-responsive heat shock genes (*HSP33*, *HSP70* and *HSP12*), which
290 encode the proteins primarily involved in protein folding and membrane protection.

291 In the final fed-batch stage, we also observed the down-regulation of several genes
292 related to carbohydrates metabolism (*TPII*, *GPM2* and *HXT5*), as well as transcription
293 factors *HAP2* and *TYE7*, which activate the expression of the respiratory- and
294 glycolytic-related genes, respectively. Furthermore, many of the genes encoding
295 proteins of unknown functions were significantly repressed in the *TTRX2* strain
296 (Supplementary material).

297 Transcriptional profile for the *trx2Δ* strain during the biomass propagation process

298 A total of 41 ORFs were up-regulated in the mutant lacking the two copies of the *TRX2*
299 gene. Seventy-five percent of total over-represented genes were expressed during the
300 metabolic transition at 18 h of growth (Table 4). All the up-regulated genes were
301 grouped into five functional categories: Ribosomal subunit ($p < 1.39E-5$), DNA
302 metabolic process ($p < 1.45E-4$), Intracellular transport ($p < 1.95E-4$), Stress response
303 ($p < 5.23E-3$) and Sulphur metabolism ($p < 8.10E-3$) (Table 4).

304 A strong down-regulation of the cytoplasmic ribosomal proteins codified by the RPLs
305 and RPSs genes has been described during the metabolic transition and the diauxic shift,
306 indicating repression of protein synthesis to reprogram the gene expression profile for
307 adaptation to new environmental conditions (Ashe et al. 2000; DeRisi et al. 1997;
308 Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010b). However in the *trx2Δ* strain, we observed an up-regulation
309 of several genes encoding ribosomal proteins for both the 60S and 40S ribosomal
310 subunits. Those genes involved in DNA metabolic processes were also up-regulated; for
311 instance, *CLB6* encoding a B-type cyclin involved in DNA replication during the S-
312 phase (Schwob et al. 1993). In addition, some of the genes involved in the stress
313 response by DNA damage were up-regulated at different growth times, such as the
314 *HEX3* gene at 14 h and *RFX1* at 80 h.

315 Among those genes grouped in the stress response functional category, we found *YBP1*,
316 which codifies a positive regulator of Yap1p and acts in the same pathway as Gpx3p
317 (Veal et al. 2003). Although its specific role is not understood, it is clear that the
318 interaction of this protein with Yap1p is required for Yap1p oxidation by Gpx3p.

319 The genes related to the traffic between the endoplasmic reticulum and the Golgi
320 apparatus (*SSSI*, *TRS20*, *RET2*, *VRG4* and *SUR2*), and those encoding proteins for
321 sulphur metabolism (*SPE2*, *JLP1*, *SAM1*, *YNL092W* and *YDR140W*), were also up-

322 regulated, although sulphur was not seen to be limited in molasses (Shima et al. 2005).
323 Regulation of them all seems to be affected by the absence of the *TRX2* gene in the
324 batch phase.

325 Similarly to the up-regulated genes, the greatest difference observed in the expression
326 pattern of the down-regulated genes compared to the control strain occurred during the
327 metabolic transition at 18 h of growth (Table 5). We observed how 38 of the 53 total
328 down-regulated genes localized at 18 h. The genes were grouped into four functional
329 categories: Polyubiquitination process ($p < 2.09E-9$), Hexose transport ($p < 1.07E-5$),
330 Stress response ($p < 1.94E-4$) and Carbohydrates metabolism ($p < 3.45E-3$).

331 The fact that a large number of the genes encoding proteins with polyubiquitination
332 functions were down-regulated correlates with the up-regulation of the protein
333 biosynthesis-related genes observed at 18 h of growth (Table 5). In addition, the
334 expression of some polyubiquitination genes has been reported to be essential for
335 resistance to high temperatures, starvation and other stress types (Finley et al. 1987).
336 Hence, the down-regulation of polyubiquitination genes could be understood as an
337 attenuated stress response.

338 Unexpectedly, the genes activated by several stresses were down-regulated at 18 h of
339 the process. Some were involved in the glutathione metabolism (*GLO1*, *GLO2*, *GSH2*
340 and *GTT1*), although no differences in total GSH were observed in the *trx2Δ* mutant
341 compared to the control strain (data not shown). The most down-regulated genes in
342 *trx2Δ* were *FDH1* and *FDH2*, two NAD⁽⁺⁾-dependent formate dehydrogenases which
343 are related to glutathione-dependent formaldehyde oxidation.

344 Regarding the genes related to glycolysis, the *HXK2* gene was down-regulated in *trx2Δ*
345 during the metabolic transition at 18 h, whose expression profile was the opposite to
346 that in the *TTRX2* strain. In addition, the hexose transport-related genes also displayed a
347 specific repression during the metabolic transition in the absence of thioredoxin, even
348 for the high-affinity glucose transporters (*HXT2* and *HXT4*), unlike the observed
349 behaviour displayed by control strain T₇₃ (Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010b).

350 Hexokinase 2 gene expression, protein level and protein activity are regulated by
351 thioredoxin 2

352 One of the most interesting gene expression changes observed in the transcriptomic
353 analysis was *HXK2*, which displayed an opposite gene expression profile among the
354 *TRX2* gene-modified strains. As already shown in Fig. 2A, we checked the *HXK2* gene
355 expression by northern blot analysis in the three T₇₃, *trx2Δ* and *TTRX2* strains at 0 h
356 and 18 hours of growth in the biomass propagation medium. The obtained results
357 corroborated the microarrays data as the expression level of gene *HXK2* increased in the
358 *TTRX2* strain and *trx2Δ* showed a reduced expression level when compared to the
359 control strain.

360 To analyze whether alterations in *HXK2* gene expression are associated with an
361 increased amount of protein, we performed a western blot analysis against Hxk2p at 0 h
362 and 18 of growth (Fig. 3A). As expected, Hxk2p is detected at the 0 h time point,
363 corresponding to cells from the YPD stationary preculture where no transcriptional
364 induction of *HXK2* gene occurs due to glucose exhaustion (Herrero et al. 1995), but the
365 level of protein is still detectable. All the strains increased the Hxk2p level between 0 h
366 and 18 h growth. However, the *TTRX2* strain presented higher levels of Hxk2p than the
367 control strain at both time points. Similar results were obtained for the hexokinase

368 activity assay (Fig. 3B) where the *TTRX2* gene displayed a significantly increased
369 enzyme activity at 18 h of growth. Conversely, the *trx2Δ* strain exhibited a slight
370 reduction in the Hxk2p amount and reduced enzyme activity.

371 **Discussion**

372 We have studied the effect of the *TRX2* gene dose on wine yeasts under industrial
373 conditions using a transcriptomic approach to understand the improved phenotype
374 previously described for the *TRX2* gene-overexpressing strain (Pérez-Torrado et al.
375 2009; Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010a). The compared analysis using both *TRX2* gene-
376 modified strains, one overexpressing and other lacking the *TRX2* gene, also provided
377 new insights into the relationship between thioredoxins, the main transcriptional factors
378 involved in the oxidative stress response (Yap1p and Msn2/4p), and glycolytic flux
379 regulation.

380 It has been recently reported that oxidative stress plays a critical role during the yeast
381 biomass propagation process, and that it is at its highest during the metabolic transition
382 at 18 h of growth (Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010a, b; Pérez-Torrado et al. 2009). At this
383 stage, several oxidative-stress related genes are up-regulated in the T₇₃ wine yeast strain.
384 An important up-regulated gene in *TTRX2* is *YAP3*, which encodes one of the eight
385 members of the Yap-bZIP family (Fernandes et al. 1997). For laboratory yeast strains, it
386 has been observed that *YAP3* is down-regulated by hydrogen peroxide and heat shock
387 treatments (Cohen et al. 2002), although it is slightly up-regulated in the presence of
388 menadione (Gasch et al. 2000). Despite the genomic microarray analysis data available
389 for multiple forms of environmental insults and cellular stresses, very little is known
390 about the Yap3p molecular function (Rodrigues-Pousada et al. 2004). Our results
391 indicate that *YAP3* gene expression may be controlled by a high *TRX2* gene dose and

392 that it may play an important role in industrial wine yeasts in response to endogenous
393 oxidative stress.

394 The *TRX2* overexpressing strain shows several relevant down-regulated antioxidant
395 genes (*PRX1*, *GTT1*, *GLO2*, *GPX1*, *GPX3* and *GRX2*), some of which are directly
396 regulated by Yap1p (Izawa et al. 1999). The down-regulation of several general stress
397 response genes in the *TTRX2* strain at the end of the process, such as heat shock
398 proteins (*HSP33*, *SBA1* and *HSP12*) and those genes related to multistress response
399 (*DDR2*), nutrient starvation (*TOR1*) and osmotic stress (*SIP18*), also indicate that these
400 cells are less affected by not only oxidative stress (Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010a), but also
401 other stressing conditions. Some of the down-regulated genes, like *HSP12*, *GPM2*,
402 *PRX1* and *GRX2*, are also directly controlled by Msn2/4p (Hasan et al. 2002; Praekelt
403 and Meacock 1990), which evidences the interaction between Trx2p and these major
404 general stress transcription factors, just as Boissnard and colleagues (2009) previously
405 reported for laboratory yeast strains.

406 In contrast, deletion of the *TRX2* gene also lowers the expression of several stress
407 response genes (*TIR2*, *GRE2*, *GLO1*, *ALD3* and *GCN4*) during the metabolic transition
408 at 18 h (Table 5), when a high expression is expected. However, we also found that the
409 *YBP1* gene is up-regulated (Table 4), which positively regulates Yap1p activity (Veal et
410 al. 2003), and that many genes involved in the glutathione metabolism (*GRE1*, *GRE2*,
411 *GLO1*, *GLO2*, *GSH2* and *GTT1*) and formaldehyde oxidation (*FDH1* and *FDH2*) are
412 down-regulated. These data evidence the relationship between thioredoxins and
413 glutathione and the NADH metabolism, and suggest alternative pathways for oxidative
414 stress response regulation which are not directly related with Yap1p.

415 For laboratory yeast strains, it has been described that *TRX1* and *TRX2* are required for
416 the reduction and activation of important enzymes like PAPS, a key enzyme in sulphate
417 metabolism, and ribonucleotide reductase, which is essential for dNTP synthesis during
418 DNA replication (Koc et al. 2006; Muller 1991). In relation with these results, lack of
419 *TRX2* in wine yeasts leads to the increased expression at 80 h of several of the genes
420 involved in the sulphur metabolism (*SPE2*, *JLP1*, *SAM1*, *YNL092W* and *YDR140W*),
421 even when no sulphate limitation occurs during the process (Shima et al. 2005). These
422 results correlate with the requirement of thioredoxins for PAPS reduction and activation
423 (Muller 1991). In addition, lack of the *TRX2* gene in industrial yeast strains may also
424 induce DNA damage in the S phase since some of the genes involved in DNA
425 replication in the S phase (*CLB6*) and in the DNA damage stress response (*HEX3* and
426 *RFX1*) are up-regulated (Table 4).

427 Alteration of the *TRX2* gene levels in wine yeasts also has an impact on the expression
428 levels of the genes related to the carbohydrates metabolism. It has been previously
429 described in plants that thioredoxins interact with glycolytic enzymes, such as enolase,
430 pyruvate decarboxylase, glyceraldehyde 3-phosphate dehydrogenase, fructose
431 bisphosphatase, by controlling their enzymatic activity by redox regulation
432 (Montrichard et al. 2009; Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010c). One interesting result of this
433 study is the different expression pattern observed for the *HXK2* gene when comparing
434 *TTRX2* (3.1 fold increase) and *trx2Δ* (2-fold decrease). These results suggest a putative
435 role of Trx2p in *HXK2* gene transcriptional regulation, which may have an important
436 function in sugar consumption and biomass production in these strains under industrial
437 conditions. Indeed, *TRX2* overexpression not only increases *HXK2* mRNA levels, but
438 also Hxk2p protein amount and enzyme activity. On the other hand, the down-

439 regulation of *HXK2* in *trx2Δ* can explain the down-regulation observed for HXT genes
440 since the *HXK2* gene is required for the full induction of the *HXT* expression (Özcan
441 and Johnston 1999).

442 The glucose phosphorylating enzyme hexokinase 2 (Hxk2) plays a pivotal regulatory
443 role in glucose-sensing and repression pathways by controlling the glycolytic flux
444 (Randez-Gil et al. 1998; de la Cera et al. 2002; Ahuatzzi et al. 2004). Hxk2p also
445 regulates the expression of *HXK1* and *GLK1*, and controls its own expression
446 (Rodriguez et al. 2001). However, it has been also described that when Hxk2p is not
447 present, hexokinase 1 (Hxk1) can also maintain glucose repression (Rose et al. 1991; De
448 Winde et al. 1996).

449 There is some evidence to connect glycolytic flux reconfiguration with oxidative stress
450 response (Ralser et al. 2007; Grant, 2008). Under oxidative stress conditions, organisms
451 can redirect their metabolic flux from glycolysis to the pentose phosphate pathway
452 (PPP) which provides the reducing power (NADPH) for the main cellular redox system
453 (Grant, 2008). This phenomenon might explain the fermentative capacity detriment
454 observed in control strain T73 as a result of rerouting the glycolytic flux under oxidative
455 stress conditions. Thus, the improved oxidative stress resistance observed in the *TTRX2*
456 strain (Gómez-Pastor et al. 2010a) might well prevent the drop in NADPH levels during
457 oxidative stress, thus avoiding not only a rerouting to the PPP, but also an increase in
458 glycolytic flux and fermentative capacity, as we propose in the model depicted in Fig. 4.
459 In agreement with these results, it has been recently described in mammal cells that a
460 thioredoxin-interacting protein (Txnip) expression correlates well with glycolytic flux,
461 which is regulated by oxidative phosphorylation status (Yu et al. 2010).

462 The analysis of the transcriptomic data from the *TRX2* gene-modified strains provides
463 an overview of the different metabolic pathways that are affected as a result of *TRX2*
464 gene level manipulation, where the oxidative stress- and carbohydrates-related genes
465 alter the most. This study contributes to a better understanding of oxidative stress
466 response regulation during a complex industrial process which may differ from the
467 information established for laboratory yeast strains (Fig. 4). The results obtained also
468 allow us to not only establish a relationship between fermentative capacity and
469 oxidative stress response, but to also propose *HXK2* as a new target of thioredoxins in
470 yeast.

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477

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604

605 **Figure legends**

606 **Fig. 1.** Fermentative capacity of the dried biomass from strains T73, *trx2Δ* and *TTRX2*
607 collected at 0 h (A), 18 h (B) and 80 h (C) of growth. Fermentative capacity was

608 expressed as mL of CO₂ produced per 10⁷ cells and it was measured for 6h in YPGF
609 medium. Loss of fermentative capacity (D) was expressed as the percentage of values
610 between 0-18h and 80 h.

611 **Fig. 2.** Confirmation of expression changes for selected genes. **A)** The northern blot
612 analysis of several genes detected in the microarray studies in strains T73, *trx2Δ* and
613 *TTRX2* at 0 h and 18 h of growth under industrial conditions. **B)** Comparison of
614 quantitative transcriptional changes detected by microarrays and northern analysis.

615 **Fig. 3.** Hexokinase 2 expression and activity are dependent of the *TRX2* gene dose. **A)**
616 The Western blot analysis of Hxk2p and actin as the protein loading control, in strains
617 T73, *trx2Δ* and *TTRX2* at 0 h and 18 h of growth under industrial conditions. **B)**
618 Hexokinase activity was assayed under industrial conditions in a molasses medium and
619 normalized by using the total amount of protein. * p-value < 0.05.

620 **Fig. 4.** Model of the Trx2p interaction between the main oxidative stress transcription
621 factors, the glycolytic flux through Hxk2p regulation and fermentative capacity.

622

Table 1. Genes and primers used for the amplification of DNA probes

| Probe | Primer | Sequence (5' - 3') | Length (bp) |
|-------------|---------------|------------------------|-------------|
| <i>GSH2</i> | <i>GSH2-1</i> | CAAGATATGGCCCAACCTG | 300 |
| | <i>GSH2-2</i> | AGGATCGTACTTGTGTTGCC | |
| <i>GTT1</i> | <i>GTT1-1</i> | GATGCTAACTCCGTGCTC | 530 |
| | <i>GTT1-2</i> | GCTCAACTCCCATCAACC | |
| <i>TRX2</i> | <i>TRX2-1</i> | AAATCCGCTTCTGAATAC | 300 |
| | <i>TRX2-2</i> | CTATACGTTGGAAGCAATAG | |
| <i>GLO1</i> | <i>GLO1-1</i> | GAACACTTCGGTATGAAG | 400 |
| | <i>GLO1-2</i> | GGTATTCCTGACCCTCTC | |
| <i>ALD3</i> | <i>ALD3-1</i> | CCACTCATCTTAAATCCGCC | 1060 |
| | <i>ALD3-1</i> | CTTACAAGATACTATGCGGG | |
| <i>ATG7</i> | <i>ATG7-1</i> | GAAGAACAAGCCACCACATG | 330 |
| | <i>ATG7-2</i> | CACAGTAAGTGGTTGGCATG | |
| <i>HXK2</i> | <i>HXK2-1</i> | GGTGGTAACATTCCAATGATTC | 398 |
| | <i>HXK2-2</i> | CAACATTGGAACAACATCGTG | |

Table 2: Expression profile of the up-regulated genes in TTRX2 strain during biomass propagation process in comparison to T₇₃ mRNA values previously published by Gómez-Pastor et al. (2010b).

| Gene name | Time(h) | | | Gene description | Molecular function |
|----------------|---------|-----|-----|--------------------------------------|---|
| | 14 | 18 | 80 | | |
| <i>URA3</i> | Red | Red | Red | Orotidine-5'-phosphate decarboxylase | Biosynthesis of pyrimidines |
| <i>TRX2</i> | Red | Red | Red | Thioredoxin II | Oxidoreductase activity |
| <i>YGR251W</i> | Red | Red | Red | Uncharacterized protein | Maturation of 18S rRNA |
| <i>STP22</i> | Red | Red | Red | Component of the ESCRT-I complex | Ubiquitin-dependent sorting of proteins |
| <i>HUL5</i> | Red | Red | Red | Ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme (E4) | Transport of misfolded proteins |
| <i>CTR3</i> | Red | Red | Red | Copper uptake transporter | Copper ion import |
| <i>BUD19</i> | Red | Red | Red | BUD site selection | Unknown function |
| <i>IKI3</i> | Red | Red | Red | Subunit of Elongator complex | Modification of nucleosides in tRNA |
| <i>HXK2</i> | Red | Red | Red | Hexokinase isoenzyme 2 | Glycolysis |
| <i>YAP3</i> | Red | Red | Red | Basic (bZIP) transcription factor | Related to oxidative stress reponse |
| <i>NAM2</i> | Red | Red | Red | Mitochondrial leucyl-tRNA synthase | Splicing of mitochondrial I introns |
| <i>NCA3</i> | Red | Red | Red | Nuclear Control of ATPase | Regulates expression of ATP synthase |
| <i>OLE1</i> | Red | Red | Red | Delta(9) fatty acid desaturase | Monounsaturated fatty acid synthesis |
| <i>MET8</i> | Red | Red | Red | Ferrochelatase | Sulfate assimilation |
| <i>POL2</i> | Red | Red | Red | Subunit of DNA polymerase (II) ε | Involved in DNA repair |
| <i>ARP1</i> | Red | Red | Red | Actin-related protein | Spindle orientation |
| <i>CDC37</i> | Red | Red | Red | Essential Hsp90p co-chaperone | Stabilizes protein kinase nascent chains |
| <i>SHE4</i> | Red | Red | Red | Swi5p-dependent HO Expression | Polarization of the actin cytoskeleton |
| <i>RHC18</i> | Red | Red | Red | Mms21-Smc5-Smc6 complex | DNA repair |
| <i>YBR028C</i> | Red | Red | Red | Putative protein kinase | Unknown function |
| <i>ILV5</i> | Red | Red | Red | Acetohydroxyacid reductoisomerase | Branched-chain amino acid biosynthesis |
| <i>RRP14</i> | Red | Red | Red | Part of 66S pre-ribosomal particles | Ribosomal RNA Processing |
| <i>PRY2</i> | Red | Red | Red | Pathogen Related in Yeast | Unknown function |
| <i>UTH1</i> | Red | Red | Red | Mitochondrial outer membrane prot. | Involved in the oxidative stress response |
| <i>BOP3</i> | Red | Red | Red | Potential Cdc28p substrate | Confers resistance to methylmercury |
| <i>YGR250C</i> | Red | Red | Red | Putative RNA binding protein | Localizes to stress granules |
| <i>YOL098C</i> | Red | Red | Red | Putative metalloprotease | Unknown function |
| <i>ILV6</i> | Red | Red | Red | Subunit of acetolactate synthase | Branched-chain amino acid biosynthesis |
| <i>PIM1</i> | Red | Red | Red | ATP-dependent Lon protease | Degradation of misfolded proteins |
| <i>CBP1</i> | Red | Red | Red | Cytochrome B mRNA Processing | Stabilization of 5'-untranslated mRNAs |
| <i>SWC1</i> | Red | Red | Red | Component of the SWR1 complex | Unknown function |
| <i>PDC6</i> | Red | Red | Red | Pyruvate decarboxylase | Alcoholic fermentation |
| <i>LAP4</i> | Red | Red | Red | Leucine AminoPeptidase | Cytosol to vacuole targeting pathway |
| <i>SRB4</i> | Red | Red | Red | Suppressor of RNA polymerase B | Essential for transcriptional regulation |
| <i>MSB2</i> | Red | Red | Red | Multicopy Suppressor of Budding | Sensor in the ShoIp mediated pathway |
| <i>UTP9</i> | Red | Red | Red | Nucleolar protein | processing of pre-18S rRNA |

626



627

Table 3: Expression profile of the down-regulated genes in *TTRX2* strain during biomass propagation process in comparison to *T*₇₃ mRNA values previously published by Gómez-Pastor et al. (2010b).

| Gene name | Time (h) | | | Gene description | Molecular function |
|---------------|----------|----|----|--|---|
| | 14 | 18 | 80 | | |
| | | | | | <u>Oxidoreductase activity (p<6.02E-11)</u> |
| <i>GPX1</i> | | | | Glutathione peroxidase I | Phospholipid hydroperoxides protection |
| <i>GPX3</i> | | | | Glutathione peroxidase III | Phospholipid hydroperoxides protection |
| <i>PRX1</i> | | | | Mitochondrial peroxiredoxin | Reduction of hydroperoxides |
| <i>GLO2</i> | | | | Cytoplasmic glyoxalase II | Hydrolysis of S-D-lactoylglutathione |
| <i>GTT1</i> | | | | Glutathione transferase I | Glutathione S-transferase |
| <i>ERO1</i> | | | | Thiol oxidase | Oxidative protein folding |
| <i>SFA1</i> | | | | Glutathione-dependent formaldehyde DH | Formaldehyde detoxification |
| <i>ALD4</i> | | | | Mitochondrial Aldehyde DH | Conversion of acetaldehyde to acetate |
| <i>BDH1</i> | | | | NAD-dependent butanediol DH | Use of 2,3-butanediol as a carbon source |
| <i>GPD1</i> | | | | NAD-dependent glycerol-3-P DH | Glycerol synthesis |
| <i>AYR1</i> | | | | NADPH-dependent DHA reductase | Phosphatidic acid biosynthesis |
| <i>FOX2</i> | | | | Fatty acid oxidation enzyme | Fatty acid beta-oxidation pathway |
| <i>MDH3</i> | | | | Peroxisomal malate DH III | Glyoxylate cycle |
| <i>FDH1</i> | | | | NAD(+)-dependent formate DH I | Protection from exogenous formate |
| <i>FDH2</i> | | | | NAD(+)-dependent formate DH II | Protection from exogenous formate |
| <i>FDH2-B</i> | | | | NAD(+)-dependent formate DH II | Protection from exogenous formate |
| <i>MXR1</i> | | | | Methionine-S-sulfoxide reductase | Iron sulphur cluster protection |
| <i>ETR1</i> | | | | 2-enoyl thioester reductase | Fatty acid synthesis |
| <i>GCY1</i> | | | | Putative NADP(+) coupled glycerol DH | Glycerol catabolism |
| <i>GRX2</i> | | | | Cytoplasmic glutaredoxin II | Maintenance of redox state of proteins |
| <i>ZTA1</i> | | | | NADPH-dependent quinone reductase | Detoxify alcohols and related compounds |
| <i>MPD1</i> | | | | Protein disulfide isomerase | Inhibits the chaperone activity of Cne1p |
| | | | | | <u>Stress response (p<5.01E-4)</u> |
| <i>HSP33</i> | | | | Possible chaperone and cysteine protease | Protein folding |
| <i>RVS161</i> | | | | Amphiphysin-like lipid raft protein | Regulates actin polarization |
| <i>SBA1</i> | | | | Co-chaperone Hsp70 | Regulates Hsp90 family chaperones |
| <i>PEP4</i> | | | | Vacuolar aspartyl protease | Protein turnover after oxidative damage |
| <i>DDR2</i> | | | | DNA Damage Responsive protein | Multistress response protein |
| <i>TOR1</i> | | | | PIK-related protein kinase | Controls growth in response to nutrients |
| <i>SSY1</i> | | | | Sulfonylurea Sensitive on YPD protein | Expression of amino acid permease genes |
| <i>RNY1</i> | | | | Vacuolar RNase of the T(2) family | Promotes apoptosis |
| <i>SIP18</i> | | | | Phospholipid-binding protein | Induced by osmotic stress |
| <i>LSP1</i> | | | | Primary component of eisosomes | Stimulates phosphorylation |
| <i>HSP12</i> | | | | Heat shock protein | Protects membranes from stress |
| | | | | | <u>Carbohydrates metabolism (p<2.1E-3)</u> |
| <i>GPM2</i> | | | | Glycerate PhosphoMutase | Glycolysis |
| <i>TPI1</i> | | | | Triose phosphate isomerase | Glycolysis |
| <i>AMS1</i> | | | | Vacuolar alpha mannosidase | Involved in oligosaccharide degradation |
| <i>GIP2</i> | | | | Regulatory subunit of the protein Glc7p | Glycogen metabolism |
| <i>GLC8</i> | | | | Regulatory subunit of Glc7p | Glycogen metabolism |
| <i>HAP2</i> | | | | Heme Activator Protein | Transcription of respiratory genes |
| <i>TYE7</i> | | | | Serine-rich protein | Binds E-boxes of glycolytic genes |
| <i>HXT5</i> | | | | Hexose transporter V | Hexose transport |
| | | | | | <u>Protein catabolic process (p<7.6E-3)</u> |
| <i>CDC34</i> | | | | Ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme (E2) | Regulates cell cycle progression |
| <i>PAI3</i> | | | | Proteinase A (Pep4p) inhibitor | Osmotic genes induction |
| <i>SCL1</i> | | | | Alpha 1 subunit of the 20S proteasome | Degradation of ubiquitinated substrates |
| <i>RPN8</i> | | | | Regulatory subunit of the 26S proteasome | Protein degradation |

1:1 >1.5 >2 >3 >4



Table 4: Expression profile of the up-regulated genes in *trx2Δ* strain during biomass propagation process in comparison to T₇₃ mRNA values previously published by Gómez-Pastor et al. (2010b).

| Gene name | Time (h) | Gene description | Molecular function |
|--|----------|---------------------------------------|--|
| | 14 18 80 | | |
| <u>Intracellular transport (p<1.95E-4)</u> | | | |
| <i>CTR3</i> | | Copper uptake transporter | Copper ion import |
| <i>DIC1</i> | | Dicarboxylic acid transporter | dicarboxylic acid transport |
| <i>DTR1</i> | | Amine/polyamine transporter | Multidrug transporter activity |
| <i>SFC1</i> | | Succinate-fumarate antiporter | Succinate-fumarate transport |
| <i>SEO1</i> | | Putative permease of allantoin | Confers resistance to ethionine sulfoxide |
| <i>SSS1</i> | | Subunit of the Sec61p complex | Protein secretion through the RE |
| <i>TRS20</i> | | Transport protein particle (TRAPP) | ER to Golgi transport |
| <i>RET2</i> | | COPI vesicle coat | ER to Golgi transport |
| <i>VRG4</i> | | Golgi GDP-mannose transporter | Lipid glycosylation |
| <i>SUR2</i> | | Fatty acid elongase | Post-Golgi transport |
| <u>Sulphur metabolism (p<8.10E-3)</u> | | | |
| <i>YNL092W</i> | | Methyltransferase | Biological process unknown |
| <i>YDR140W</i> | | Methyltransferase | Methylates translation release factor Sup45p |
| <i>SPE2</i> | | S-adenosylmethionine decarboxylase | Biosynthesis of spermidine and spermine |
| <i>JLP1</i> | | Sulfonate dioxygenase | Involved in sulfonate catabolism |
| <i>SAM1</i> | | S-adenosylmethionine synthetase | Methionine metabolism |
| <u>Stress response (p<5.23E-3)</u> | | | |
| <i>HEX3</i> | | SUMO-targeted ubiquitin ligase | Response to DNA damage |
| <i>YBP1</i> | | Yap1p Binding Protein | Activation of the Transcription Factor Yap1 |
| <i>PFD1</i> | | Chaperone | Protein folding |
| <i>PET100</i> | | Chaperone | Assembly of cytochrome c oxidase |
| <i>RDS3</i> | | Regulator of drug sensitivity | Involved in pre-mRNA splicing |
| <i>TRR1</i> | | Thioredoxin reductase | Protects cells against oxidative stress |
| <i>RFX1</i> | | Transcriptional repressor | Response to DNA damage |
| <i>SVS1</i> | | Suppressor of Vanadate Sensitivity | Response to stress |
| <u>DNA metabolic process (p<1.45E-4)</u> | | | |
| <i>DPB4</i> | | Subunit of DNA polymerase (II) ε | Involved in DNA replication |
| <i>HTB1</i> | | Histone H2B | Required for chromatin assembly |
| <i>RPC10</i> | | DNA-directed RNA polymerase | Transcription from Pol II promoter |
| <i>TAF12</i> | | Part of TFIID and SAGA complexes | Chromatin modification |
| <i>CCR4</i> | | CCR4-NOT transcriptional complex | Regulation of gene expression |
| <i>SPT4</i> | | Suppressor of Ty | Regulation of transcription |
| <i>CLB6</i> | | B-type cyclin | Involved in DNA replication during S phase |
| <u>Ribosomal subunit (p<1.39E-5)</u> | | | |
| <i>RPS16A</i> | | Cytosolic small ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>RPS18</i> | | Cytosolic small ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>RPS20</i> | | Cytosolic small ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>RPS25A</i> | | Cytosolic small ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>RPS28A</i> | | Cytosolic small ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>RPL2A</i> | | Cytosolic large ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>RPL27A</i> | | Cytosolic large ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>RPL34A</i> | | Cytosolic large ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>MRPS8</i> | | Mitochondrial small ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>MRPL1</i> | | Mitochondrial large ribosomal subunit | Aerobic respiration and Protein biosynthesis |
| <i>MRPL36</i> | | Mitochondrial large ribosomal subunit | Protein biosynthesis |

1:1 >1.5 >2 >4



Table 5: Expression profile of the down-regulated genes in *trx2Δ* strain during biomass propagation in comparison to T₇₃ mRNA values published by Gómez-Pastor et al. (2010b)

| Gene name | Time (h) | | | Gene description | Molecular function |
|---|----------|----|----|--|--|
| | 14 | 18 | 80 | | |
| <u>Polyubiquitination process (p<2.09E-9)</u> | | | | | |
| <i>UBS1</i> | | | | Ubiquitin-conjugating suppressor | Positive regulator of Cdc34p activity |
| <i>UBP9</i> | | | | Ubiquitin hydrolase | Cleaves ubiquitin-protein fusions |
| <i>UFO1</i> | | | | E3 ubiquitin ligase complex | Ho endonuclease degradation |
| <i>YLR224W</i> | | | | F-box protein of SCF ubiquitin ligase | Ubiquitin-dependent protein catabolism |
| <i>PIB1</i> | | | | RING-type ubiquitin ligase | Ubiquitin-dependent protein catabolism |
| <i>SCL1</i> | | | | α1 subunit of the 20S proteasome | Degradation of ubiquitinated substrates |
| <i>CDC23</i> | | | | Ubiquitin-protein ligase | Degradation of anaphase inhibitors |
| <i>ATG7</i> | | | | Ubiquitin-activating enzyme | Autophagosome formation |
| <i>RPT3</i> | | | | 19S regulatory particle of the 26S | Degradation of ubiquitinated substrates |
| <i>ASI3</i> | | | | Putative E3 ubiquitin ligase | Control of gene expression |
| <i>RPT1</i> | | | | 19S regulatory particle of the 26S | Degradation of ubiquitinated substrates |
| <i>DEF1</i> | | | | RNAPII degradation factor | Ubiquitination and proteolysis of RNAPII |
| <i>ATE1</i> | | | | Arginyl-tRNA-protein transferase | ubiquitin-dependent protein catabolism |
| <i>MET30</i> | | | | F-box protein | Methionine biosynthesis |
| <i>RPN5</i> | | | | Subunit of the 26S proteasome lid | Degradation of ubiquitinated substrates |
| <i>UBP15</i> | | | | Ubiquitin-specific Protease | Ubiquitin precursor processing |
| <u>Hexose transport (p<1.07E-5)</u> | | | | | |
| <i>HXT1</i> | | | | Hexose transporter | Low-affinity glucose transporter |
| <i>HXT2</i> | | | | Hexose transporter | High-affinity glucose transporter |
| <i>HXT3</i> | | | | Hexose transporter | Low affinity glucose transporter |
| <i>HXT4</i> | | | | Hexose transporter | High-affinity glucose transporter |
| <i>HXT9</i> | | | | Putative hexose transporter | Hexose transport |
| <i>HXT10</i> | | | | Putative hexose transporter | Hexose transport |
| <i>HXT11</i> | | | | Putative hexose transporter | Pleiotropic drug resistance |
| <i>HXT12</i> | | | | Possible pseudogene in strain S288C | Hexose transport |
| <i>HXT15</i> | | | | Hexose transporter | Hexose transport |
| <i>GAL2</i> | | | | Galactose permease | Transport of glucose and galactose |
| <u>Stress response (p<1.94E-4)</u> | | | | | |
| <i>TRX2</i> | | | | Thioredoxin II | Oxidoreductase activity |
| <i>FDH1</i> | | | | Formate dehydrogenase I | NADH regeneration |
| <i>FDH2</i> | | | | Formate dehydrogenase II | NADH regeneration |
| <i>TIR1</i> | | | | Cell wall mannoprotein | Nucleocytoplasmic transport |
| <i>TIR2</i> | | | | Putative cell wall mannoprotein | Response to stress |
| <i>HOR7</i> | | | | HyperOsmolarity-Responsive | Response to osmotic stress |
| <i>WHI2</i> | | | | Phosphatase activator | Regulation of growth |
| <i>GRE1</i> | | | | Hydrophilin I | Response to stress |
| <i>GRE2</i> | | | | NADPH-methylglyoxal reductase | Response to stress |
| <i>GLO1</i> | | | | Monomeric glyoxalase I | Glutathione metabolism |
| <i>GLO2</i> | | | | Cytoplasmic glyoxalase II | Glutathione metabolism |
| <i>GSH2</i> | | | | Glutathione synthetase II | Biosynthesis of glutathione |
| <i>GTT1</i> | | | | Glutathione transferase | Glutathione metabolism |
| <i>ZRC1</i> | | | | Vacuolar membrane zinc transporter | Resistance to zinc shock |
| <i>GCN4</i> | | | | Basic (bZIP) transcriptional activator | Response to amino acid starvation |
| <i>ALD3</i> | | | | Cytoplasmic aldehyde dehydrogenase | Response to stress |
| <i>BNI1</i> | | | | Cytoskeletal regulatory protein | Response to osmotic stress |
| <u>Carbohydrates Metabolism (p<3.45E-3)</u> | | | | | |
| <i>HXK2</i> | | | | Hexokinase isoenzyme 2 | Glycolysis |
| <i>PGK1</i> | | | | 3-phosphoglycerate kinase | Glycolysis |
| <i>ERR1</i> | | | | phosphopyruvate hydratase | Glycolysis |
| <i>TYE7</i> | | | | Transcription factor | Positive regulation of glycolysis |

630

631

