

1 Enzyme characterisation and kinetic modelling of the pentose
2 phosphate pathway in yeast

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4 **Abstract**

5 We present the quantification and kinetic characterisation of the enzymes of the pentose
6 phosphate pathway in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. The data are combined into a mathematical
7 model that describes the dynamics of this system and allows us to predict changes in metabo-
8 lite concentrations and fluxes in response to perturbations. We use the model to study the
9 response of yeast to a glucose pulse. We then combine the model with an existing glycolysis
10 model to study the effect of oxidative stress on carbohydrate metabolism. The combina-
11 tion of these two models was made possible by the standardised enzyme kinetic experiments
12 carried out in both studies. This work demonstrates the feasibility of constructing larger
13 network-scale models by merging smaller pathway-scale models.

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14 Introduction

15 The pentose phosphate pathway (PPP) is a central and widely conserved metabolic pathway of car-
16 bohydrate metabolism which, in eukaryotic cells, is located in the cytoplasm (see Figure 1). This
17 pathway serves two major functions: production of precursors for biosynthesis of macromolecules
18 and production of reducing equivalents in the form of NADPH. Accordingly, these two roles are re-
19 flected in the two major phases of the PPP: in the “oxidative phase”, glucose 6-phosphate (G6P) is
20 converted into ribulose 5-phosphate (Ru5P) through the sequential action of glucose-6-phosphate
21 dehydrogenase and 6-phosphogluconate dehydrogenase, with lactonase catalysing the hydrolysis
22 of its 6-phosphogluconolactone (G6L) product. The “non-oxidative phase” carries out the isomeri-
23 sation of Ru5P to ribose 5-phosphate (R5P), the epimerisation of Ru5P to xylulose 5-phosphate
24 (X5P) and, through the actions of transketolase and transaldolase, a series of carbon skeleton
25 transfers that can interconvert pentose phosphate into fructose 6-phosphate (F6P) and glyceralde-
26 hyde 3-phosphate (GAP) – both glycolytic intermediates – and erythrose 4-phosphate (E4P). The
27 net effect of the non-oxidative phase is to produce an equilibrium between the pentoses needed for
28 biosynthesis of macromolecules and the hexoses needed for energy management, allowing the two
29 pools of sugars easily to interconvert. The oxidative branch is considered to be largely irreversible
30 under normal cellular conditions, whilst the non-oxidative branch is reversible [Saggerson, 2009].
31 The PPP is not a simple linear pathway (see Figure 2) since several carbon atoms are recycled
32 back into glycolysis. Furthermore, the enzyme transketolase catalyses two different reactions in the
33 pathway, resulting in the substrates of these reactions being competitive inhibitors of one another.
34 Thus the dynamic response of this network is hard to predict by intuition and a computational
35 model is required for a deeper understanding.

36 The PPP has three main products: reduced equivalents in the form of NADPH, produced in
37 the oxidative phase, needed in biosynthetic pathways and for maintenance of the oxidative level
38 of cells; R5P, for the biosynthesis of all nucleic acids; and E4P, for biosynthesis of the three
39 aromatic amino acids. Different physiological states require operation of this biochemical network
40 in different modes: in actively growing cells, such as during culture growth in reactors, the pathway
41 must produce a sufficient amount of all three products, since all are required in the construction
42 of new cells. Under stress conditions growth slows and the only product in considerable demand
43 is NADPH.

44 Oxidative stress causes damage to all living organisms. A number of defence and repair mechanisms
45 have evolved that are conserved from unicellular to multicellular organisms. Cells typically respond
46 with post-translational modification of a number of proteins, affecting both their localisation
47 and functionality [Godon et al., 1998, Ishii et al., 2007]. In particular, oxidative stress in yeast
48 leads to repression of glycolysis and induction of the PPP; this is crucial for maintaining the
49 NADPH/NADP⁺ ratio, which provides the redox power for antioxidant systems [Ralser et al.,
50 2007].

51 Since the seminal work of [Glock & McLean, 1953], the pentose phosphate pathway has been
52 subjected to a number of quantitative studies, including in yeast [Bruinenberg et al., 1983]. Math-
53 ematical models of the pathway have been created in yeast [Vaseghi et al., 1999, Ralser et al., 2007],
54 trypanosome [Kerkhoven et al., 2013], rat [Haut et al., 1974, Sabate et al., 1995] and human [Joshi
55 & Palsson, 1989, Mulquiney & Kuchel, 1999]. However, such studies have over-simplified, or indeed
56 completely neglected, the non-oxidative branch of the pathway.

57 In this study, we aim to understand the rerouting of flux through the different modes of the
58 PPP following in response to different cues. To that end, we kinetically quantify and characterise
59 various enzymes in the pathway, combine these properties into a non-linear mathematical model
60 that describes the dynamic behaviour of this system, and compare the model’s predictions to
61 experimental observations of transient metabolite concentrations following a glucose pulse. We go
62 on to examine the response of a combined glycolysis:PPP model to oxidative stress, and compare
63 this to measured metabolite levels.

64 Materials and Methods

65 Kinetics

66 To determine the kinetic parameters of individual enzymatic reactions of the pentose phosphate
67 pathway, isoenzymes were purified as described previously [Malys et al., 2011]. Spectrophotomet-
68 ric assays were then performed for most of the isoenzymes, following a similar strategy to [Messiha
69 et al., 2011, Smallbone et al., 2013]. Enzymes were assayed spectrophotometrically through de-
70 tection of NADPH or NADH, by using coupling reactions where needed, with the exception of
71 ribulose-5-phosphate-3-epimerase (RPE1) and ribose-5-phosphate ketol isomerase (RKI1) which
72 were assayed using circular dichroism (CD, [Kochetov et al., 1978]). Spectrophotometric assays
73 were coupled with enzyme(s) in which NADH or NADPH is a substrate or product so that its
74 consumption or formation could be followed spectrophotometrically at 340 nm, using an extinc-
75 tion coefficient of $6.62 \text{ mM}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$. This is unless the reaction of a particular enzyme consumes
76 or produces NADH or NADPH, in which case no coupling enzymes were needed.

77 Absorbance measurements were carried out with a BMG Labtech NOVostar plate reader (Offen-
78 burg, Germany) in 384-well format plates in a $60 \mu\text{l}$ reaction volume. All assays were performed
79 in a standardised reaction buffer (100 mM MES, pH 6.5, 100 mM KCl, and 5 mM free magnesium
80 in the form of MgCl_2) at 30°C and were automated so that all reagents in the reaction buffer (in-
81 cluding any coupling enzymes) are in $45 \mu\text{l}$, the enzyme (to be assayed) in $5 \mu\text{l}$ and the substrate in
82 $10 \mu\text{l}$ volumes as described in [Messiha et al., 2011]. For each individual enzyme, both the forward
83 and the reverse reactions were assayed whenever possible.

84 Assays for each enzyme were either developed or modified from previously published methodology
85 to be compatible with the conditions of the assay reactions (e.g. pH compatibility or unavailability
86 of commercial substrates). The assay conditions used for each enzyme were as follows:

87 **6-phosphogluconate dehydrogenase** GND1 and GND2 were assayed in the reaction buffer
88 in the forward reaction by direct measurement of the production of NADPH as in [He et al., 2007].
89 The kinetic parameters for each isoenzyme were determined by varying the concentration of each
90 substrate (6-phosphogluconate and NADP) at fixed saturated concentration of the other.

91 **6-phosphogluconolactonase** SOL3 and SOL4 were assayed in the reaction buffer exactly ac-
92 cording to [Schofield & Sols, 1976].

93 **Transaldolase** TAL1 and NQM1 were assayed in the reaction buffer in the forward and reverse
94 directions according to [Tsolas & Joris, 1964, Wood, 1972]. Since sedoheptulose 7-phosphate
95 was not available commercially, we obtained its barium salt synthesised by Chemos GmbH, and
96 converted it to the sodium salt just prior to assay, according to [Charmantray et al., 2009].

97 **Transketolase** TKL1 and TKL2 were assayed for both of their participatory reactions in the
98 reaction buffer in the forward and reverse directions according to [Datta & Racker, 1961, Kochetov,
99 1982]. The kinetic parameters were determined by varying the concentration of each substrate at
100 a fixed saturated concentration of the other for the forward and reverse reactions.

101 **Glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase** ZWF1 was assayed in the reaction buffer in the forward
102 reaction by direct measurement of the production of NADPH according to [Gould & Goheer, 1976].

103 **Ribose-5-phosphate ketol-isomerase** RKI1 was assayed for the forward and reverse reac-
104 tion by CD measurements [Kochetov et al., 1978]. The assay was developed based on the fact
105 that ribulose-5-phosphate has a maximum absorbance at 278 nm, with a measured coefficient of
106 $-2.88 \text{ m}^\circ\text{mM}^{-1}\text{mm}^{-1}$, and ribose-5-phosphate has an absorbance at 278 nm with a measured coef-
107 ficient of $-0.131 \text{ m}^\circ\text{mM}^{-1}\text{mm}^{-1}$. The data were collected in $400 \mu\text{l}$ in a 1 mm path length cuvette.
108 In both directions, the change in CD angle θ at 278 nm was used to calculate the rate of reaction.

109 **D-ribulose-5-phosphate 3-epimerase** RPE1 was assayed for the forward and reverse reaction
110 by CD measurements. The assay was developed and modified from [Karmali et al., 1983]. Ribulose-
111 5-phosphate and xylulose-5-phosphate have an absorbance at 278 nm with a measured coefficients
112 of $-2.88 \text{ m}^\circ\text{mM}^{-1}\text{mm}^{-1}$ and $+0.846 \text{ m}^\circ\text{mM}^{-1}\text{mm}^{-1}$, respectively. The change of CD θ at 278 nm
113 was again followed to infer the rate of reaction in both directions.

114 All measurements are based on at least duplicate determination of the reaction rates at each
115 substrate concentration. For each isoenzyme, the initial rates at various substrate concentrations
116 were determined and the data obtained were analysed by the KineticsWizard [Swainston et al.,
117 2010] and COPASI [Hoops et al., 2006] and fitted to Michaelis-Menten type kinetics (see Table 1).
118 Whilst most of the assay methodologies performed here were reported previously, the CD measure-
119 ments for ribose-5-phosphate ketol-isomerase and D-ribulose-5-phosphate 3-epimerase were newly
120 developed for this study.

121 Proteomics

122 We attempted to measure the absolute quantities of all isoenzymes in this pathway through the
123 QConCAT technology [Benyon et al., 2005]. Total cell protein was extracted from turbidostat
124 yeast cultures as described earlier [Carroll et al., 2011]. Data analyses were performed using the
125 PrideWizard software [Swainston et al., 2011] (see Table 2). Concentrations were then calculated
126 from copy number using a typical cytoplasmic volume of 5 fl [Smallbone et al., 2013].

127 Model construction

128 From a modelling perspective, the enzyme kinetic constants and protein concentrations represent
129 the parameters of the system, while the metabolite concentrations (Table 3) represent the vari-
130 ables. Combining the protein concentration data with those for the enzyme kinetic parameters
131 allows a mathematical model to be produced for this system (Table 4) in ordinary differential
132 equation format. Simple Michaelis-Menten kinetics are used for enzymatic reactions. The reac-
133 tions consuming NADPH, E4P and R5P (sinks) are represented with mass-action kinetics (all
134 set to an arbitrary rate constant of $k = 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$). Initial concentrations of metabolites are set to
135 the values we measured experimentally. The model considers, in the first instance, the PPP in
136 isolation. Thus we consider three boundary metabolites to be fixed: F6P, G6P and GAP.

137 To consider oxidative stress, however, we expanded the model to combine it with our recently
138 published model of glycolysis (that includes trehalose and glycerol metabolism) [Smallbone et al.,
139 2013], where the enzymatic parameters were determined in the same conditions as described
140 here. This combined glycolysis:PPP model contains 34 reactions, and allows calculation of the
141 concentration of 32 metabolites (variables). Importantly, it allows us to compare the joint response
142 of both pathways to environmental perturbations.

143 Simulations and analyses were performed in the software COPASI [Hoops et al., 2006]. The models
144 described here are available in SBML format [Hucka et al., 2003] from the BioModels database [Li
145 et al., 2010] with identifiers BIOMD0000000502 (PPP in isolation) and BIOMD0000000503 (com-
146 bined glycolysis:PPP); the models are also available from JWS online [Olivier & Snoep, 2004] at
147 <http://jjj.mib.ac.uk/database/messiha/> where they can be inspected interactively.

148 Results

149 Experimental

150 Kinetic data were obtained for all PPP isoenzymes, with the exception of SOL3 and SOL4 which
151 showed no activity after purification (see Table 1). Any missing kinetic parameters were taken
152 from previous models [Vaseghi et al., 1999, Ralser et al., 2007], or given initial estimates using
153 typical values ($k_{cat} = 10 \text{ s}^{-1}$, $K_m = 0.1 \text{ mM}$, [Bar-Even et al., 2011, Smallbone & Mendes, 2013]).

154 Only four of the isoenzymes (Gnd1, Sol3, Tal1 and Tkl1) were detected using the QConCAT pro-
155 teomic approach. In the case of Gnd1/Gnd2 and Tal1/Nqm1, only the most abundant isoenzyme
156 was detected in each case, and it is likely that the expression level the less abundant isoenzyme was
157 not necessarily zero but at least it was below the detection limit. The remaining three undetected
158 enzymes (Rki1, Rpe1 and Zwf1) were found in a previous study ([Ghaemmaghani et al., 2003],
159 detailed in Table 2). Moreover, these are soluble cytoplasmic proteins, so we can assume they
160 were likely present in the extracted protein preparations (rather than sequestered to membranes,
161 and subsequently lost as insoluble material). There are two possible explanations for the fail-
162 ure to detect these proteins: poor or incomplete proteolysis (trypsin miscleavage) or unexpected
163 post-translational modifications, either naturally occurring or inadvertently introduced during the
164 experimental protocol.

165 There is a discrepancy between the TAP-tagged published data [Ghaemmaghani et al., 2003]
166 and the QconCAT quantifications described here, with our study reporting twenty-fold higher
167 values. We have observed higher values for QconCAT quantifications in a previous study on
168 glycolytic enzymes [Carroll et al., 2011], compared to TAP-tagged values. In the same study we
169 also compared the values obtained by QconCAT with other approaches; indeed the QconCAT
170 method gave the highest values of all methods compared.

171 We note that the TAP-tagged values were obtained for haploid cells, whereas the current study
172 uses diploid cells. We estimate the total cellular protein to be approximately 6 pg for diploid cells
173 (though some studies give a higher value of 8 pg/cell [Sherman, 2002]), and 3–4 pg for haploid cells.
174 This alone does not therefore account for the discrepancy; by this rationale one might expect the
175 QconCAT values to be simply double. However, in our previous study [Carroll et al., 2011] we also
176 raised the possibility of ‘range compression’, where abundant proteins are underestimated, due to
177 limited linear range with TAP-tagged methodologies, and other approaches. It is also possible
178 that different yeast strains, growth conditions, extraction methods and analytical workflows result
179 in very different values, making convergence of data far from trivial.

180 Given these discrepancies, using the data from [Ghaemmaghani et al., 2003] directly to fill in any
181 missing measurements would not be appropriate. Rather, in cases where one of two isoenzymes
182 was not quantified (Gnd2, Nqm1), the same ratio was maintained as as in [Ghaemmaghani et al.,
183 2003] (i.e. we use the same proportions of the two isoenzymes). For the remaining three undetected
184 enzymes (Rki1, Rpe1, Zwf1) the value reported in that study was multiplied by twenty to provide
185 an initial estimate.

186 Glucose pulse

187 In an earlier study [Vaseghi et al., 1999], changes in G6P concentration following a glucose pulse
188 were found to follow the empirical function

$$\text{G6P} = 0.9 + \frac{44.1 t}{48.0 + t + 0.45 t^2},$$

189 where t represents time in seconds.

190 We used this function as an input representing a glucose pulse, and compared the model's predicted
191 changes in NADPH and P6G concentration with the experimental observations of [Vaseghi et al.,
192 1999] (see Figure 3).

193 Whilst the present model contains many parameters that were measured under standardised condi-
194 tions, a few parameters were not possible to determine experimentally and were therefore obtained
195 from the literature. We thus employed the fitting strategy set out in [Smallbone et al., 2013]. The
196 relative contribution of each parameter value to the quality of fit to time-course data was ranked
197 using sensitivity analysis. If we were unable to closely match the data varying only the most
198 important parameter, we tried using two parameters, and continued until the cycle was complete
199 and a satisfactory fit was obtained. Parameters maintained their initial value where possible. Five
200 parameters were varied in this way (see Table 5) to provide the match seen in Figure 3. Of these
201 five, three were initial guesses, one (ZWF:Kg6l) was measured under other conditions, and only
202 one ([Gnd1]) had been measured by us, but nonetheless fitted to the data.

203 Oxidative stress

204 One of the proteins that responds to oxidative stress is the glycolytic enzyme glyceraldehyde-3-
205 phosphate dehydrogenase (TDH). In response to high oxidant levels this enzyme is inactivated
206 and accumulates in the nucleus of the cell in several organisms and cell types [Chuang et al.,
207 2005, Shenton & Grant, 2003]. Thus, we simulate *in silico* oxidative stress through reduction of
208 TDH activity in the combined glycolysis:PPP model to 25% of its wild-type value, following the
209 approach of [Ralser et al., 2007]. Cells also respond to the presence of oxidative agents through
210 slower growth, which we translate in our model as reducing the requirement for E4P and R5P (the
211 biomass precursors); we thus reduce the rate of consumption of these by two orders of magnitude
212 from their reference values. The defence against the oxidant agent requires reductive power which
213 is ultimately supplied by NADPH (e.g. through glutathione); we thus also increase the rate of
214 NADPH consumption by two orders of magnitude. We may then compare predicted changes in
215 metabolite concentrations to those measured in response to H₂O₂ treatment [Ralser et al., 2007],
216 a typical oxidative stress agent [Godon et al., 1998].

217 The results of these simulations are presented in Table 6. They show that seven of the eight
218 qualitative changes in metabolite concentrations are correctly predicted by the model. A difference
219 between the experimental data and the predictions was only observed for the metabolite glycerol
220 3-phosphate (G3P), where the simulation predicts a small increase, but experimentally we observe
221 a small decrease.

222 As the qualitative predictions reasonably matched the experimental data set, we moved on to
223 calculate the influence of oxidative stress on carbon flux. Experimental measurements show that,
224 in aerobic growth conditions on glucose minimal medium, PPP activity accounts for approximately
225 10% of the total consumption of glucose [Blank et al., 2005]. This is reasonably consistent with
226 our simulations' prediction that the ratio of fluxes into PPP (via ZWF) and into glycolysis (via
227 PGI) is 1:18, or 6%. Under oxidative stress conditions, our simulations predict that the ratio of
228 fluxes into PPP and into glycolysis increases two-fold, corroborating the hypothesis that oxidative
229 stress leads to a redirection of the carbohydrate flux [Ralser et al., 2007].

230 Control analysis

231 Metabolic control analysis (MCA) is a biochemical formalism, defining how variables, such as
232 fluxes and concentrations, depend on network parameters. It stems from the work of [Kacser &
233 Burns, 1973] and, independently, [Heinrich & Rapoport, 1974]. In Table 7 (a), we present the flux
234 control coefficients for the (fitted) PPP model. These are measures of how a relative change in
235 enzyme activity leads to a change in steady state flux through the system. For example, from
236 the third row of the table, we predict that a 1% increase in GND levels would lead to a 0.153%
237 decrease in RPE flux.

238 The table shows us that control of flux into the pathway (via ZWF) is dominated by ZWF, SOL,
239 GND and NADPH oxidase (the latter representing all processes that oxidise NADPH). Returning
240 to Figure 1, we see that these correspond to the first three steps of the pathway plus NADPH
241 recycling – the oxidative phase. The table also shows the overall control of each step of the
242 pathway, taken in COPASI [Hoops et al., 2006] to be the norm of the control coefficients. We see
243 that little control is exerted by the RPE and TKL (R5P:S7P) steps. The three sinks have high
244 overall control, and as such we would expect fluxes through the pathway to be highly dependent
245 on growth rate and stress levels.

246 In the oxidative stress simulation the control distribution changes, as presented in Table 7 (b). The
247 main observation from these data is that the control of the pathway input flux by the NADPH
248 oxidase is now much lower – this is somewhat expected since the rate of this step increased $100\times$
249 and thus became less limiting. Less intuitive is the reduction of overall control of the network by
250 RKI (the reaction that produces ribose 5-phosphate, which is then used for nucleic acid biosyn-
251 thesis). However this result implies that, under oxidative stress, the PPP is essentially insensitive
252 to the “pull” from ribose use for nucleic acid synthesis, which agrees with the observation that
253 growth is arrested under these conditions.

254 Discussion

255 The pentose phosphate pathway, depicted in Figure 1, is a central pathway in yeast and in most
256 organisms and serves two main functions: maintenance of the NADPH:NADP⁺ ratio, and pro-
257 duction of several precursors for biosynthesis of macromolecules. These two roles of the pathway
258 are mirrored in its structure and it consists of two semi-independent parts; the oxidative branch
259 reduces NADP⁺, whilst the non-oxidative branch creates R5P, a precursor for nucleic acid biosyn-
260 thesis, or E4P, a precursor for aromatic amino acids and some vitamins. The PPP is intimately
261 connected with glycolysis as it diverts some of its flux away from energy production. Furthermore,
262 the two pathways have three metabolites in common: G6P, F6P and GAP.

263 In order to describe a biological system such as PPP quantitatively, the kinetic properties of
264 all its components need to be established in conditions close to the physiological [van Eunen et
265 al., 2010, Messiha et al., 2011]. Where possible, they should represent a system in steady state,
266 where all measurements, even if carried out at different times, are performed under identical
267 conditions. Following the methodology previously applied to glycolysis [Smallbone et al., 2013],
268 robust and standardised enzyme kinetics and quantitative proteomics measurements were applied
269 to the enzymes of the pentose phosphate pathway in the *S. cerevisiae* strain YDL227C. The
270 resulting data are integrated in a kinetic model of the pathway. This is in contrast to previous
271 studies [Vaseghi et al., 1999, Ralser et al., 2007], where kinetic parameters were taken from various
272 literature sources and different organisms:

273 “The kinetic constants were determined using enzymes from five different species (hu-
274 man, cow, rabbit, yeast, *E. coli*) in different laboratories over a period of more than
275 three decades. Consequently, it cannot be expected that the simulations coincide quan-
276 titatively with the measured metabolite concentrations.” [Ralser et al., 2007]

277 We may have more confidence in our model, whose parameters were determined under standardised
278 conditions. We thus use the model to study the response of the pentose phosphate pathway to a
279 glucose pulse (Figure 3). We go on to use model to study the combined response of glycolysis and
280 PPP to oxidative stress, and find that a considerable amount of flux is rerouted through the PPP.

281 Our modelling approach also reveals a discrepancy between the observed change in G3P levels
282 following stress cannot be predicted by current understanding of glycolysis and PPP; following
283 the “cycle of knowledge” [Kell, 2006], it is of interest to direct future focus towards glycerol
284 metabolism in order to improve the accuracy of this model.

285 It is important to highlight that we were not able here to quantify the concentration of all enzymes
286 in the pathway, thus having to rely on crude estimates. The physiological conditions under which
287 the cells were measured by [Ghaemmaghami et al., 2003] were very different than those used here,
288 which could result in inaccurate estimates for the concentration of several enzymes. However the
289 fact that we have measured k_{cat} values for those enzymes will allow easy correction of the model
290 if accurate enzyme concentrations are determined later. Indeed, these data will allow to account
291 for changes in enzyme concentrations resulting from a longer term response of the cells, through
292 protein degradation or increased protein synthesis rate due to changes at the level of transcription
293 and translation.

294 The combined PPP and glycolysis model demonstrates the value of standardised enzyme kinetic
295 measurements – models thus parameterised can be combined to expand their scope, eventually
296 forming large-scale models of metabolism [Snoep, 2005, Snoep et al., 2006, Smallbone & Mendes,
297 2013]. Indeed the combined glycolysis:PPP model could be expanded to consider enzyme con-
298 centrations as variables (through accounting for their synthesis and degradation, reflecting gene
299 expression and signalling) which would improve its utility in predicting a broader array of condi-
300 tions. Such an expansion of models to cover wider areas of metabolism and cellular biochemistry
301 will lead to *digital organisms*, as shown in a recent proof of principle for the simple bacterium
302 *Mycoplasma genitalium* [Karr et al., 2012].

303 The “bottom-up” strategy used here is to combine compatible kinetic models (PPP and glycolysis),
304 expanding them towards a larger metabolic model. An alternative (“top-down”) strategy is to
305 start with a large structural yeast network [Herrgård et al., 2008, Dobson et al., 2010, Heavner
306 et al., 2012, Heavner et al., 2013, Aung et al., 2013], then add estimated kinetic parameters and,
307 through successive rounds of improvement, incorporate measured parameters [Smallbone et al.,
308 2010, Smallbone & Mendes, 2013, Stanford et al., 2013], in an automated manner where possible
309 [Li et al., 2010, Büchel et al., 2013]. Can these two strategies be combined into a more robust and
310 scalable approach?

311 In summary, we present here a model of the yeast pentose phosphate pathway that we believe is
312 the most realistic so far, including experimentally determined kinetic parameters for its enzymes
313 and physiological enzyme concentrations. A more complex model resulting from the combination
314 of this PPP model with a previous glycolytic model [Smallbone et al., 2013] was possible due to
315 the standardised way in which the kinetic parameters were measured. This opens up the prospect
316 of expanding models to eventually cover the entire metabolism of a cell in a way that makes them
317 compatible with a further improvement, by including the effects of changes in gene expression.

318 **Acknowledgements**

319 PM thanks Ana M Martins for early discussions about the PPP.

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Figure 1: Pictorial representation of the pentose phosphate pathway in Systems Biology Graphical Notation format (SBGN, [Le Novère et al., 2009]), where a circle represents a simple chemical, a rounded rectangle represents a macromolecule, the empty set symbol represents a sink, and a box represents a process.

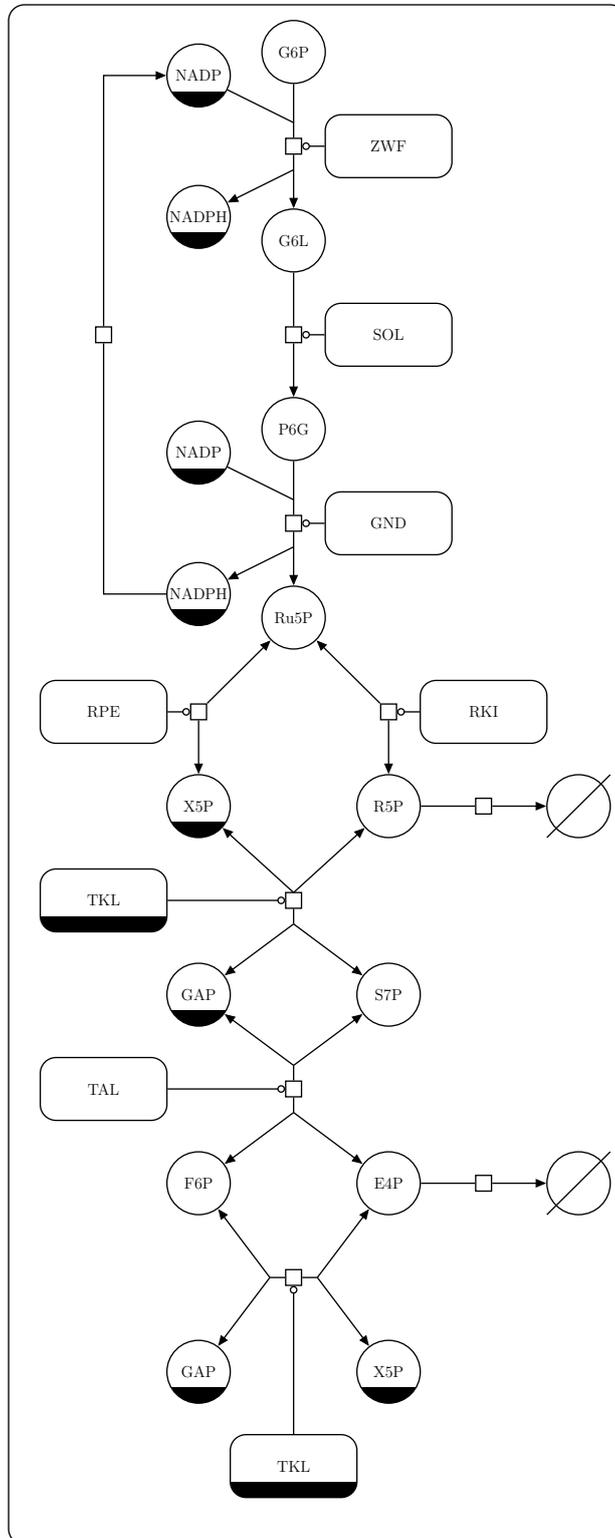


Figure 3: A pulse in G6P is applied to the model and a comparison is made between the predicted (lines) and experimentally-determined (circles) concentrations of NADPH and P6G. The system is first run to steady state before application of the pulse.

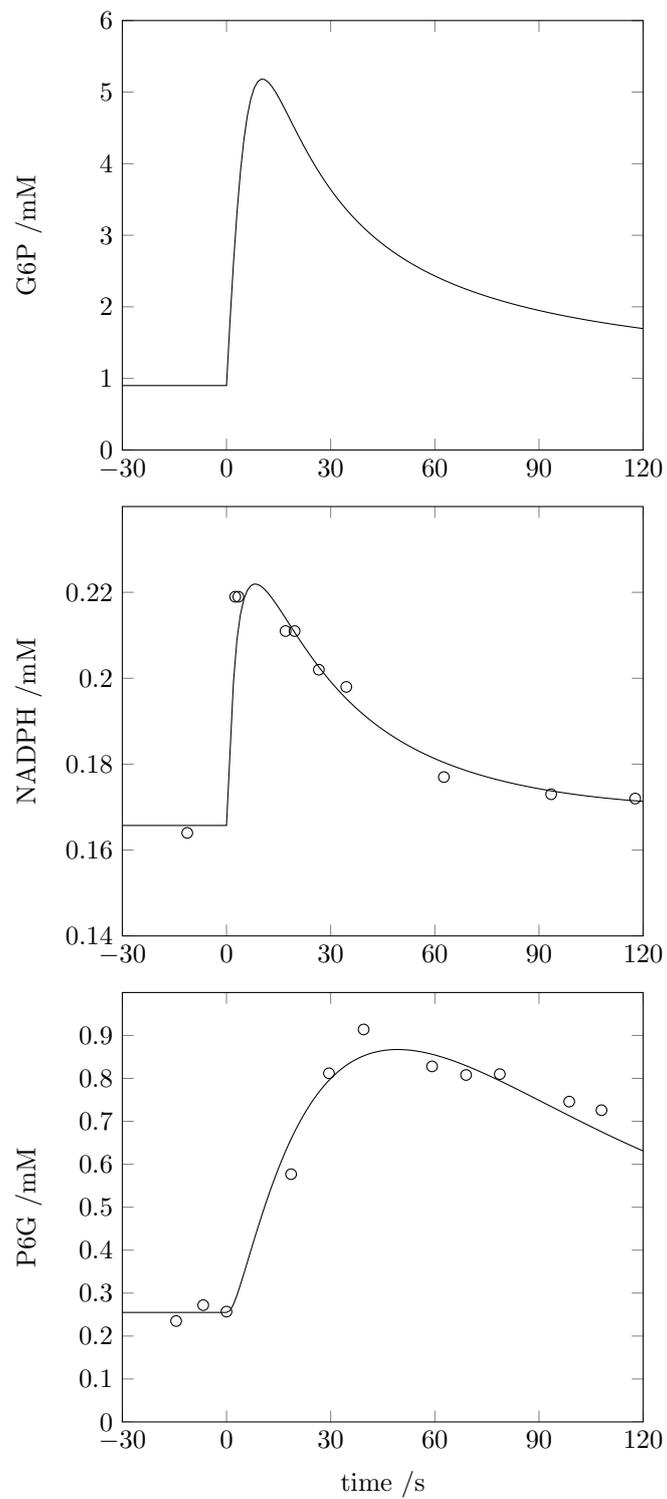


Table 1: Enzyme kinetic parameters used in the model. Standard errors are given where the parameters were measured in this study.

reaction	isoenzyme	parameter	value	units	SEM / reference
GND	Gnd1	kcat	28.0	s ⁻¹	±1.8%
GND	Gnd1	Kp6g	0.062	mM	±7.7%
GND	Gnd1	Knadp	0.094	mM	±14%
GND	Gnd1	Kru5p	0.1	mM	–
GND	Gnd1	Knadph	0.055	mM	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
GND	Gnd2	kcat	27.3	s ⁻¹	±2.5%
GND	Gnd2	Kp6g	0.115	mM	±12%
GND	Gnd2	Knadp	0.094	mM	±8.9%
GND	Gnd2	Kru5p	0.1	mM	–
GND	Gnd2	Knadph	0.055	mM	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
RKI	Rki1	kcat	335	s ⁻¹	±9.5%
RKI	Rki1	Kru5p	2.47	mM	±53%
RKI	Rki1	Kr5p	5.70	mM	±19%
RKI		Keq	4.0	1	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
RPE	Rpe1	kcat	4020	s ⁻¹	±0.097%
RPE	Rpe1	Kr5up	5.97	mM	±0.50%
RPE	Rpe1	Kx5p	7.70	mM	±0.30%
RPE		Keq	1.4	1	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
SOL	Sol3	kcat	10	s ⁻¹	–
SOL	Sol3	Kg6l	0.8	mM	[Ralsler et al., 2007]
SOL	Sol3	Kp6g	0.1	mM	–
TAL	Tal1	kcat	0.694	s ⁻¹	±2.8%
TAL	Tal1	Kgap	0.272	mM	±12%
TAL	Tal1	Ks7p	0.786	mM	±9.7%
TAL	Tal1	Kf6p	1.44	mM	±15%
TAL	Tal1	Ke4p	0.362	mM	±15%
TAL	Nqm1	kcat	0.694	s ⁻¹	–
TAL	Nqm1	Kgap	0.272	mM	–
TAL	Nqm1	Ks7p	0.786	mM	–
TAL	Nqm1	Kf6p	1.04	mM	±25%
TAL	Nqm1	Ke4p	0.305	mM	±8.0%
TAL		Keq	1.05	1	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
TKL	Tkl1	kcat (E4P:F6P)	47.1	s ⁻¹	±2.9%
TKL	Tkl1	kcat (R5P:S7P)	40.5	s ⁻¹	±2.9%
TKL	Tkl1	Kx5p	0.67	mM	±13%
TKL	Tkl1	Ke4p	0.946	mM	±8.7%
TKL	Tkl1	Kr5p	0.235	mM	±13%
TKL	Tkl1	Kgap	0.1	mM	[Ralsler et al., 2007]
TKL	Tkl1	Kf6p	1.1	mM	[Ralsler et al., 2007]
TKL	Tkl1	Ks7p	0.15	mM	[Ralsler et al., 2007]
TKL		Keq (E4P:F6P)	10.0	1	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
TKL		Keq (R5P:S7P)	1.2	1	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]

ZWF	Zwf1	kcat	189	s ⁻¹	±1.2%
ZWF	Zwf1	Kg6p	0.042	mM	±5.0%
ZWF	Zwf1	Knadp	0.045	mM	±6.3%
ZWF	Zwf1	Kg6l	0.1	mM	–
ZWF	Zwf1	Knadph	0.017	mM	[Ralsler et al., 2007]
NADPH oxidase		k	1	s ⁻¹	–
E4P sink		k	1	s ⁻¹	–
R5P sink		k	1	s ⁻¹	–

Table 2: Protein levels used in the model. Standard errors are given where measured in this study.

reaction	isoenzyme	UniProt	#/cell	SEM	[Ghaemmaghami et al., 2003]	mM
GND	Gnd1	P38720	1,010,000	±21%	101,000	0.335
GND	Gnd2	P53319			556	0.003
RKI	Rki1	Q12189			5,680	0.05
RPE	Rpe1	P46969			3,310	0.03
SOL	Sol3	P38858	89,000	±27%	3,420	0.0296
TAL	Tal1	P15019	434,000	±10%	53,000	0.144
TAL	Nqm1	P53228			1,920	0.02
TKL	Tkl1	P23254	1,370,000	±36%	40,300	0.455
ZWF	Zwf1	P11412			15,000	0.1

Table 3: Initial metabolite concentrations used in the model, and a comparison to their steady state levels. G6P, F6P and GAP are boundary metabolites. Note that NADP and NADPH form a conserved moiety with (experimentally-determined) constant total concentration 0.33 mM.

metabolite	ChEBI id	concentration (mM)		reference
		initial	steady state	
E4P	16897	0.029	0.0130	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
G6L	57955	0.1	2.25	–
NADP	58349	0.17	0.166	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
NADPH	57783	0.16	0.164	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
P6G	58759	0.25	0.255	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
R5P	18189	0.118	0.0940	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
Ru5P	58121	0.033	0.0379	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
S7P	57483	0.082	0.0902	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
X5P	57737	0.041	0.0539	[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
G6P	16897	0.9		[Vaseghi et al., 1999]
F6P	57579	0.325		[Smallbone et al., 2013]
GAP	58027	0.067		[Smallbone et al., 2013]

Table 4: Kinetic rate laws for the reaction velocities used in the model.

enzyme	E.C.	reaction	rate law
GND	1.1.1.44	$P6G + NADP \longrightarrow Ru5P + NADPH$	$\frac{Gnd\ kcat}{Kp6g\ Knadp} \frac{P6G\ NADP}{(1 + P6G/Kp6g + Ru5P/Kru5p)(1 + NADP/Knadp + NADPH/Knadph)}$
RKI	5.3.1.6	$Ru5P \longleftrightarrow R5P$	$\frac{Rki1\ kcat}{Kru5p} \frac{Ru5P - R5P/Keq}{1 + Ru5P/Kru5p + R5P/Kr5p}$
RPE	5.1.3.1	$Ru5P \longleftrightarrow X5P$	$\frac{Rpe1\ kcat}{Kru5p} \frac{Ru5P - X5P/Keq}{1 + Ru5P/Kru5p + X5P/Kx5p}$
SOL	3.1.1.31	$G6L \longrightarrow P6G$	$\frac{Sol3\ kcat}{Kg6l} \frac{G6L}{1 + G6L/Kg6l + P6G/Kp6g}$
TAL	2.2.1.2	$GAP + S7P \longleftrightarrow F6P + E4P$	$\frac{Tal\ kcat}{Kgap\ Ks7p} \frac{GAP\ S7P - F6P\ E4P/Keq}{(1 + GAP/Kgap + F6P/Kf6p)(1 + S7P/Ks7p + E4P/Ke4p)}$
TKL (E4P:F6P)	2.2.1.1	$X5P + E4P \longleftrightarrow GAP + F6P$	$\frac{Tkl1\ kcat}{Kx5p\ Ke4p} \frac{X5P\ E4P - GAP\ F6P/Keq}{(1 + X5P/Kx5p + GAP/Kgap)(1 + E4P/Ke4p + F6P/Kf6p + R5P/Kr5p + S7P/Ks7p)}$
TKL (R5P:S7P)	2.2.1.1	$X5P + R5P \longleftrightarrow GAP + S7P$	$\frac{Tkl1\ kcat}{Kx5p\ Kr5p} \frac{X5P\ R5P - GAP\ S7P/Keq}{(1 + X5P/Kx5p + GAP/Kgap)(1 + E4P/Ke4p + F6P/Kf6p + R5P/Kr5p + S7P/Ks7p)}$
ZWF	1.1.1.49	$G6P + NADP \longrightarrow G6L + NADPH$	$\frac{Zwf1\ kcat}{Kg6p\ Knadp} \frac{G6P\ NADP}{(1 + G6P/Kg6p + G6L/Kg6l)(1 + NADP/Knadp + NADPH/Knadph)}$
NADPH oxidase		$NADPH \longrightarrow NADP$	$k \cdot NADPH$
E4P sink		$E4P \longrightarrow$	$k \cdot E4P$
R5P sink		$R5P \longrightarrow$	$k \cdot R5P$

Table 5: Parameter changes in the fitted version of the model.

reaction	parameter	initial	fitted
GND	[Gnd1]	0.335	0.013
SOL	kcat	10	4.3
SOL	Kp6g	0.1	0.5
ZWF	[Zwf1]	0.1	0.02
ZWF	Kg6l	0.1	0.01

Table 6: Change in experimentally-determined metabolite concentrations with and without oxidative stress and the predictions from the combined glycolysis:PPP model. Changes are presented as $\log_{10} ([\text{stressed}]/[\text{reference}])$.

metabolite	ChEBI id	<i>in vivo</i> change	<i>in silico</i> change
DHAP	16108	0.172	0.158
F6P+G6P	47877	0.183	0.238
G3P	15978	-0.073	0.096
GAP	29052	0.176	0.173
P6G	58759	0.699	0.603
R5P	18189	0.295	1.919
Ru5P+X5P	24976	0.908	1.723
S7P	57483	1.405	3.429

Table 7: Flux control coefficients in the PPP model in (a) the reference state and (b) following oxidative stress. The rows represent the fluxes under control, and the columns represent the controlling reactions. The overall control values are defined by the L_2 -norm of the column values.

	GND	RKI	RPE	SOL	TAL	TKL (E4P:F6P)	TKL (R5P:S7P)	ZWF	NADPH oxidase	E4P sink	R5P sink	
(a)	GND	0.156	0.004	0.000	0.333	0.000	-0.001	0.000	0.128	0.374	0.000	0.005
	RKI	0.118	0.034	0.001	0.251	-0.006	0.084	0.000	0.096	0.283	0.028	0.111
	RPE	-0.153	0.251	0.010	-0.327	-0.050	0.682	-0.001	-0.125	-0.367	0.227	0.853
	SOL	0.156	0.004	0.000	0.333	0.000	-0.001	0.000	0.128	0.374	0.000	0.005
	TAL	0.772	-1.076	-0.045	1.645	0.849	-0.585	0.011	0.631	1.848	1.432	-4.483
	TKL E4P:F6P	-0.106	0.183	0.008	-0.226	-0.004	0.618	-0.001	-0.087	-0.254	0.288	0.580
	TKL R5P:S7P	0.772	-1.076	-0.045	1.645	0.849	-0.585	0.011	0.631	1.848	1.432	-4.483
	ZWF	0.156	0.004	0.000	0.333	0.000	-0.001	0.000	0.128	0.374	0.000	0.005
	NADPH oxidase	0.156	0.004	0.000	0.333	0.000	-0.001	0.000	0.128	0.374	0.000	0.005
	E4P sink	-0.063	0.122	0.005	-0.135	0.038	0.559	0.000	-0.052	-0.151	0.344	0.334
	R5P sink	0.114	0.042	0.002	0.242	-0.012	0.088	0.000	0.093	0.272	0.018	0.141
	overall	1.163	1.559	0.065	2.481	1.203	1.364	0.016	0.952	2.788	2.087	6.434
(b)	GND	0.103	0.001	0.000	0.638	0.055	0.006	0.000	0.131	0.003	-0.005	0.067
	RKI	0.159	0.001	0.000	0.984	-0.359	-0.066	0.004	0.202	0.005	0.055	0.016
	RPE	-0.044	0.001	0.000	-0.271	1.145	0.198	-0.012	-0.056	-0.001	-0.161	0.202
	SOL	0.103	0.001	0.000	0.638	0.055	0.006	0.000	0.131	0.003	-0.005	0.067
	TAL	0.009	0.000	0.000	0.055	0.934	0.013	0.002	0.011	0.000	0.017	-0.041
	TKL E4P:F6P	-0.141	0.003	0.000	-0.875	1.535	0.540	-0.038	-0.180	-0.004	-0.492	0.653
	TKL R5P:S7P	0.009	0.000	0.000	0.055	0.934	0.013	0.002	0.011	0.000	0.017	-0.041
	ZWF	0.103	0.001	0.000	0.638	0.055	0.006	0.000	0.131	0.003	-0.005	0.067
	NADPH oxidase	0.103	0.001	0.000	0.638	0.055	0.006	0.000	0.131	0.003	-0.005	0.067
	E4P sink	0.185	-0.005	0.001	1.144	0.231	-0.605	0.049	0.235	0.005	0.613	-0.852
	R5P sink	0.208	0.002	0.000	1.288	-0.784	-0.092	0.005	0.265	0.006	0.067	0.034
	overall	0.409	0.007	0.001	2.531	2.494	0.843	0.064	0.521	0.012	0.807	1.103

Figure 4: Saturation curves for the assays performed in this study. The original data are available from <http://dbkgroup.org:8080/mcisb-web/MeMo-RK/>

