

1 **Title:** Gene regulatory network plasticity predates a switch in function of a  
2 conserved transcription regulator

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## ABSTRACT

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The rewiring of gene regulatory networks can generate phenotypic novelty. It remains an open question, however, how the large number of connections needed to form a novel network arise over evolutionary time. Here we address this question using the network controlled by the fungal transcription regulator Ndt80. This conserved protein has undergone a dramatic switch in function—from an ancestral role regulating sporulation to a derived role regulating biofilm formation. This switch in function corresponded to a large-scale rewiring of the genes regulated by Ndt80. However, we demonstrate that the Ndt80-target gene connections were undergoing extensive rewiring prior to the switch in Ndt80’s regulatory function. We propose that extensive drift in the Ndt80 regulon allowed for the exploration of alternative network structures without a loss of ancestral function, thereby facilitating the formation of a network with a new function.

## INTRODUCTION

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The emergence of novel traits has long fascinated evolutionary biologists, with many intriguing examples observed across the tree of life (Pigliucci, 2012; Rieppel, 2001; Shubin, Tabin, & Carroll, 2009; G. P. Wagner & Lynch, 2010). Although the rewiring of gene regulatory networks over evolutionary time is recognized as a key source of variation responsible for the modification of complex phenotypes (Carroll, 2005; Davidson & Erwin, 2006; Hao Li & Johnson, 2010; Wray, 2007), we still lack an understanding of how new, large gene regulatory networks controlling novel phenotypes arise over evolutionary time. Typically, gene regulatory networks are composed of “master” transcription regulators and many downstream “target” genes, whose expression is controlled by these regulators in response to environmental or developmental signals. It has been proposed that new gene regulatory networks arise from a combination of *de novo* genes as well as conserved genes that have undergone changes in regulation (G. P. Wagner & Lynch, 2010). Yet it remains unclear how a large number of genes (whether old or new) can be brought together to form a new network.

To address these questions, we examined the evolutionary history of Ndt80, a sequence-specific DNA-binding protein that is deeply conserved across a large group of fungal species encompassing approximately 300 million years of diversity. In most of these species, Ndt80 controls meiosis and sporulation, the coupled processes that form a portion of the fungal sexual cycle (Chu & Herskowitz, 1998; Xu, Ajimura, Padmore, Klein, & Kleckner, 1995). However, in the narrow lineage leading to the human fungal pathogen species *Candida albicans*, Ndt80 acquired a new role as a master regulator of the gene regulatory network that controls the formation of biofilms, multicellular communities of surface-associated cells (Figure 1A) (Nobile

56 et al., 2012). This newly evolved trait enables *C. albicans* to persist on mucosal surfaces and on  
57 implanted medical devices (Bonhomme & D'enfert, 2013; Kojic & Darouiche, 2004; Nobile et  
58 al., 2012) and is responsible for many of the disease-causing properties of *C. albicans* (Nobile &  
59 Johnson, 2015). The entire biofilm gene regulatory network in *C. albicans* is complex—Ndt80  
60 alone controls the expression of hundreds of genes involved in biofilm formation— but it  
61 appears to have evolved relatively recently (Nobile et al., 2012). In this paper, we infer that  
62 approximately 20 to 100 million years ago (Taylor & Berbee, 2006), Ndt80's role changed from  
63 regulating sporulation and meiosis (its ancestral role) to regulating biofilm formation. We  
64 rigorously exclude a model in which the Ndt80 network remained relatively static until a sudden  
65 change occurred in the *Candida* clade when Ndt80's overall function changed from sporulation  
66 to biofilm formation. Instead, we found that the Ndt80 regulon was continuously undergoing  
67 significant rewiring in all lineages examined, even in those where the overall function of Ndt80  
68 remained unchanged. Indeed, at the resolution of our experiments, the extent of Ndt80 rewiring  
69 was approximately the same whether its function had changed or not.

70 We propose that the inherent flexibility of the Ndt80 regulon facilitated the exploration of  
71 new regulatory networks, allowing it to reach positions in “network space” that allowed for the  
72 evolution of a novel phenotype. This idea is analogous to examples of protein evolution in  
73 which mutational space can be sampled by drift without compromising the ancestral function of  
74 the protein. Such neutral excursions can then be exploited if they provide, as a by-product, a  
75 new function, for example weak catalysis of an alternative reaction by an enzyme (Aharoni et al.,  
76 2004; Bridgham, Carroll, & Thornton, 2006; Coyle, Flores, & Lim, 2013; Khersonsky & Tawfik,  
77 2010; A. Wagner, 2005b; 2005a). Our work provides an empirical, case study of an analogous

78 exploitation of regulatory network plasticity in the evolution of novel transcription regulator  
79 function.

80 It has been well established that transcription regulator-target gene interactions change  
81 over evolutionary timescales. For example, the regulators controlling the ribosomal genes and  
82 the **a**-specific genes in fungi have changed over several hundred million years of evolution  
83 (Baker, Booth, Sorrells, & Johnson, 2012; Ihmels et al., 2005; Lavoie et al., 2010; Tanay, Regev,  
84 & Shamir, 2005; Tsong, Tuch, Li, & Johnson, 2006) (Sorrells, Booth, Tuch, & Johnson, 2015).  
85 Likewise, transcription regulators (such as Mcm1 and Ste12) have been shown to undergo  
86 extensive rewiring of their regulatory targets over similar timescales (Borneman et al., 2007;  
87 Tuch, Galgoczy, Hernday, Li, & Johnson, 2008). Such rewiring is not restricted to fungi; for  
88 example enhancers in *Drosophila* have been shown to undergo rapid changes in the nature and  
89 arrangement of their *cis*-regulatory sequences (Frankel, Wang, & Stern, 2012; Gompel,  
90 Prud'homme, Wittkopp, Kassner, & Carroll, 2005; Ludwig, Bergman, Patel, & Kreitman, 2000;  
91 Swanson, Schwimmer, & Barolo, 2011). This high degree of network plasticity seems to be a  
92 general feature of many regulatory networks. Based on the case study of Ndt80, we propose that  
93 this plasticity can be captured to produce new, complex regulatory networks.

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## RESULTS

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### **Ndt80 target genes differ markedly between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans***

98 As described above, the transcription factor Ndt80 is required for sporulation and meiosis  
99 in *S. cerevisiae* and biofilm formation in *C. albicans* (Figure 1A). In principle, the difference in  
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101 phenotype could be due to a difference in the identity of the genes regulated by Ndt80 between  
102 these species; alternatively, Ndt80 could regulate the same gene set in both species and the  
103 difference in phenotype could be due to something else, for example, Ndt80 target genes  
104 acquiring new enzymatic functions or Ndt80 itself being regulated differently in the two species.

105         To distinguish between these models, we identified the genes directly regulated by Ndt80  
106 in both *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* using chromatin immunoprecipitation of epitope-tagged  
107 Ndt80 followed by high throughput sequencing (ChIP-Seq). To minimize the effect of species-  
108 specific differences in the levels of Ndt80 expression (and to capture as much of the network as  
109 possible) the promoters of Ndt80 in both species were replaced with high-expression constitutive  
110 promoters (Materials and Methods). It has been well established that, even using proper  
111 controls, chromatin immunoprecipitation produces false positives in addition to valid instances  
112 of binding (Fan & Struhl, 2009; Teytelman, Thurtle, Rine, & Van Oudenaarden, 2013). To  
113 eliminate spurious signals and identify bona fide instances of Ndt80 binding, we employed four  
114 different criteria of increasing stringency (Figure 1C). First, we simply identified genes with  
115 significant peaks of ChIP enrichment in their intergenic regions; this is our least stringent  
116 criteria. Second, we filtered this set to include only those ChIP enrichment peaks that contained  
117 an Ndt80 *cis*-regulatory motif in the intergenic region (this motif is discussed in more detail  
118 below). Third, of those ChIP peaks that contained an Ndt80 motif, we further refined the set of  
119 Ndt80 targets by requiring that the motif also be present in the orthologous intergenic region of  
120 two very closely related species, as this greatly increases the likelihood that the Ndt80 binding  
121 site was maintained by selection. (For *S. cerevisiae*, we used *Saccharomyces mikatae* and  
122 *Saccharomyces kudriavzevii*, for *C. albicans* we used *Candida tropicalis* and *Candida*  
123 *dubliniensis* (Byrne & Wolfe, 2005; Lohse et al., 2013)). Lastly, we used gene expression data

124 to restrict Ndt80 targets to ChIP peaks with an Ndt80 motif where the gene also exhibited a  
125 significant change in mRNA expression when Ndt80 was deleted (Chu et al., 1998; Nobile et al.,  
126 2012).

127 Each of the four criteria were used to identify and compare the genes regulated by Ndt80  
128 between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*. While the number of genes identified as Ndt80 targets  
129 differs depending on the criteria used, all four methods produce the same overall conclusion:  
130 Ndt80 regulates many genes in each species, with very little overlap between them (Figure 1D).  
131 By all methods, fewer than 13% of the targets of Ndt80 in these two species are shared; with the  
132 most stringent criteria this drops to 3.4% (Figure 1D). To ensure that constitutive overexpression  
133 of Ndt80 was not responsible for this large difference in Ndt80 targets, we also performed ChIP-  
134 Seq on Ndt80 in both species under the control of the endogenous promoter. While many fewer  
135 regions are bound than with constitutive Ndt80 expression, we similarly find very little overlap  
136 in the Ndt80 targets in *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* (less than 12%, Figure 1—figure supplement  
137 1). We note that experimental noise is not sufficient to explain the difference in targets, as the  
138 differences we observe between biological replicates accounts for only a small fraction of the  
139 difference observed between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* (Figure 1—figure supplement 4).

140 These results all lead to the conclusion that Ndt80 regulates distinct sets of genes in *S.*  
141 *cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*. Most of these genes have 1:1 orthologs in both species, although  
142 there are also a smaller number of species-specific genes. If we exclude the species-specific  
143 genes from our analysis we still find relatively little overlap in Ndt80 targets (4-21% targets  
144 shared, depending on target identification criteria used, Figure 1—figure supplement 2), showing  
145 that gene gains and losses alone cannot account for the change in Ndt80 targets between *S.*  
146 *cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*. Despite the significant differences in Ndt80 targets, however, the

147 *cis*-regulatory sequence bound by Ndt80 in both species is highly conserved ((Jolly, Chin,  
148 Herskowitz, & Li, 2005; Nobile et al., 2012), Figure 1B). This observation indicates that the  
149 Ndt80 regulon has been significantly rewired between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* without a  
150 change in the DNA-binding specificity of Ndt80.

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### 152 **Divergence in Ndt80 targets not a result of Ndt80 gene duplication**

153 While the *NDT80* genes in *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* discussed above are  
154 homologous, *C. albicans* has an additional paralog of Ndt80, resulting from a gene duplication  
155 (Figure 2A, (Sellam et al., 2010)). The Ndt80 homolog whose targets we identified above will  
156 be referred to as Ndt80B, while the additional paralog will be referred to as Ndt80A (Figure 2—  
157 figure supplement 1). While Ndt80B has been shown to be required for biofilm formation in *C.*  
158 *albicans* (Nobile et al., 2012), the regulatory function of Ndt80A is unknown (deletion of  
159 Ndt80A has no effect on biofilm formation (Figure 4H, (Nobile et al., 2012)) or any other  
160 phenotype tested). To test the possibility that the difference in targets between Ndt80 in *S.*  
161 *cerevisiae* and Ndt80B in *C. albicans* is simply a consequence of this gene duplication, we  
162 identified the regulatory targets of Ndt80A in *C. albicans* by ChIP-Seq under control of the same  
163 constitutive promoter used for Ndt80B. We found that the targets regulated by Ndt80A represent  
164 a small subset of the targets of Ndt80B (9-11%, Figure 1—figure supplement 3); that is, Ndt80A  
165 binds to many fewer genomic regions, but all of these regions are also bound by Ndt80B. If we  
166 compare the targets of Ndt80 in *S. cerevisiae* to the targets of Ndt80A in *C. albicans*, we find  
167 that less than 4% of the overall targets are shared, regardless of target identification criteria  
168 (Figure 1—figure supplement 3), demonstrating that Ndt80A's targets are no more similar to the  
169 targets of Ndt80 in *S. cerevisiae* than that of Ndt80B. These experiments demonstrate that both

170 of the Ndt80 paralogs in *C. albicans* have undergone significant rewiring since *S. cerevisiae* and  
171 *C. albicans* diverged, indicating that the Ndt80 gene duplication was not directly responsible for  
172 the divergence in targets between these two species.

173

174 **Ndt80 target genes also differ between *S. cerevisiae*, *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, *S. stipitis*, and *C.***  
175 ***albicans***

176 To reconstruct a timeline of the evolution of the Ndt80 gene regulatory network, we  
177 conducted ChIP-Seq experiments in three additional species that branch from the common  
178 ancestor of *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* at highly informative points: *Kluyveromyces lactis*,  
179 *Pichia pastoris*, and *Scheffersomyces stipitis* (Figure 2A). In each case, we used the strategy of  
180 expressing Ndt80 under the control of a strong constitutive promoter to minimize expression  
181 differences between species. In *C. albicans* and *S. stipitis*, targets were identified for the two  
182 Ndt80 paralogs separately, and found to be highly overlapping (Figure 1—figure supplement 3,  
183 Supplementary File 1). Thus, the union of Ndt80 paralog targets were taken to represent all  
184 Ndt80 targets in that species.

185 We first investigated whether the regulatory targets of Ndt80 in each of these species  
186 more closely resemble the targets in *S. cerevisiae* or the targets in *C. albicans*. Ndt80 targets  
187 were identified in all species based on the criteria of ChIP enrichment plus Ndt80 motif presence  
188 (Figure 1C), and compared to the targets of Ndt80 in *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*. Counter to  
189 our initial expectation, we found that a very large number of Ndt80 targets in each species are  
190 not targets of Ndt80 in either *S. cerevisiae* or *C. albicans* (50% of all targets in *K. lactis*, 70% in  
191 *P. pastoris*, and 48% in *S. stipitis*, Figure 2B). Thus, the Ndt80 regulons in these three species  
192 do not closely resemble those of either *S. cerevisiae* or *C. albicans*; instead, each have acquired a

193 distinctive set of Ndt80 target genes. If we repeat this analysis using alternative criteria for  
194 identifying Ndt80 targets (Figure 1C), this conclusion still holds (Figure 2—figure supplement  
195 2), indicating that it is robust to the stringency of Ndt80 target identification.

196 Consistent with the idea that Ndt80 has acquired a unique set of targets in each species,  
197 only ten genes are targets of Ndt80 in all five species tested (Figure 2C). While this is more than  
198 expected strictly by chance considering the number of regions bound in each species ( $p < 10^{-5}$ ,  
199 Figure 2—figure supplement 3), this number pales in comparison to the 3,261 genes that are  
200 Ndt80 targets in just one of the five species (Figure 2D). Even if we consider only genes with  
201 1:1 orthologs across all five species, there are more targets bound in only one species (1,041)  
202 than bound in two or more species (772) (Figure 2D). In short, the Ndt80 regulon differs  
203 extensively between each of the five species tested.

204

### 205 **Ndt80 binding differences are largely determined by the gain and loss of *cis*-regulatory** 206 **sites**

207 Because the Ndt80-target gene connections differ significantly between species, we  
208 considered whether these differences were due primarily to changes in the Ndt80 protein itself,  
209 or to changes in the distribution of its *cis*-regulatory motif across the different genomes.

210 Although the *cis*-regulatory sequence recognized by Ndt80 is conserved across these species  
211 (Figure 2—figure supplement 4), changes in the Ndt80 protein itself that alter, for example,  
212 protein-protein interactions with other transcription regulators, could account for many of the  
213 differences between species. The sequence of the Ndt80 protein does differ considerably across  
214 the species tested, with only 55% similarity in the DNA-binding domain between *S. cerevisiae*

215 and *C. albicans* (Sellam et al., 2010), and 35% similarity in the proteins overall (Figure 2—  
216 figure supplement 1).

217 To test whether these changes in protein sequence were primarily responsible for the  
218 observed differences in Ndt80 target genes between species, we expressed the *P. pastoris* *NDT80*  
219 gene in *S. cerevisiae* under the control of the same constitutive promoter used for ChIP-Seq of  
220 the endogenous *S. cerevisiae* *NDT80*, and carried out ChIP-Seq on the *P. pastoris* *NDT80*  
221 (Figure 3A). If we compare Ndt80 ChIP enrichment genome-wide in this experiment to Ndt80  
222 enrichment for the native Ndt80 in each species, we find a much stronger correlation between  
223 genomic binding of the heterologous *P. pastoris* Ndt80 and the native *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80  
224 (Figure 3B) than between the heterologous *P. pastoris* Ndt80 and the native *P. pastoris* Ndt80  
225 (Figure 3C). Similarly, we find more shared target genes between the different Ndt80 proteins  
226 expressed in *S. cerevisiae* (75 genes, Figure 3—figure supplement 1) than between the same *P.*  
227 *pastoris* Ndt80 protein expressed in different species (4 genes, Figure 3—figure supplement 1).  
228 These results demonstrate that changes in the Ndt80 protein sequence across species have had  
229 only a minor effect on the Ndt80-target gene connections; instead, the connections are  
230 predominantly determined by the distribution of *cis*-regulatory sequences across the different  
231 genomes.

232 Although it seems likely that gains and losses of Ndt80 *cis*-regulatory sequences are  
233 largely responsible, we cannot formally exclude the contributions of changes in *cis*-regulatory  
234 sequences for other (thus far, unidentified) proteins that might help recruit Ndt80 to DNA.  
235 These observations on the key role of *cis*-regulatory change do not mean that changes in the  
236 protein are unimportant; indeed, the heterologous *P. pastoris* Ndt80 does not complement the  
237 sporulation defect observed in an *ndt80* deletion in *S. cerevisiae* (data not shown), nor does it

238 occupy all the genome positions characteristic of the *S. cerevisiae* protein. Our results do show,  
239 however, that the heterologous *P. pastoris* protein does occupy a substantial fraction of the *S.*  
240 *cerevisiae*-specific positions along the genome. This observation strongly supports the  
241 conclusion that the majority of the differences in the Ndt80 regulons across species are due to  
242 gains and losses of *cis*-regulatory sequences.

243

#### 244 **Ndt80 is required for sporulation in *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *C. lusitaniae***

245 To determine whether the rewiring of the Ndt80 gene regulatory network corresponds to  
246 the changes in the overall function of Ndt80, we determined the phenotype of an *ndt80* deletion  
247 mutant in three species that branch between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*: *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*,  
248 and *C. lusitaniae* (Figure 2A). We first tested whether this deletion had an effect on sporulation  
249 and found, in *K. lactis* and *P. pastoris*, that the *ndt80* deletion mutant is completely deficient in  
250 its ability to sporulate (Figure 4A and B). *C. lusitaniae*, like *C. albicans*, has two paralogs of  
251 Ndt80. Deletion of one paralog (Ndt80A) results in a complete deficiency in sporulation, while  
252 deletion of the other paralog (Ndt80B) results in a significant reduction in sporulation efficiency  
253 (Figure 4C). In contrast to these four species, *C. albicans* has never been observed to undergo  
254 sporulation and meiosis, relying instead on an alternate parasexual cycle (Bennett & Johnson,  
255 2003; Butler et al., 2009). Given that Ndt80 is required for sporulation in *S. cerevisiae* (Chu &  
256 Herskowitz, 1998; Xu et al., 1995), *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *C. lusitaniae*, and given the  
257 phylogenetic relationship between these species (Figure 2A), the most parsimonious model is  
258 that, in the ancestor of these species, Ndt80 regulated sporulation.

259 We next investigated the requirement for Ndt80 in biofilm formation in these species. In  
260 *C. albicans*, biofilms consist of thick structures of different cell types (yeast-form and hyphae)

261 that can form both *in vitro* and *in vivo* (Andes et al., 2004)). Deletion of *NDT80B* in *C. albicans*  
262 causes a severe defect in surface adherence and biofilm formation (Figure 4H). In contrast, in *S.*  
263 *cerevisiae*, *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *C. lusitaniae*, the *ndt80* mutants and wild-type are  
264 comparable in their ability to adhere to a solid surface (Figure 4D - G). It is worth noting that *S.*  
265 *cerevisiae*, *K. lactis* and *P. pastoris* form only a thin layer of yeast-form cells on the solid surface  
266 rather than the type of thick, multicellular biofilms characteristic of those formed in *C. albicans*  
267 while *C. lusitaniae* forms a biofilm somewhat thinner than that of *C. albicans*. These results  
268 highlight the specialized type of biofilm produced by *C. albicans* and the pivotal role played by  
269 Ndt80 in its evolution.

270         Taken together, these results indicate that Ndt80 regulated sporulation in the shared  
271 ancestor of *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*, and that it gained a role in biofilm formation along the  
272 *C. albicans* lineage, after it branched off from *C. lusitaniae* (Figure 2A). We believe this  
273 scenario is more likely than that of the next most parsimonious model, which holds that Ndt80  
274 regulated both sporulation and biofilm formation in the shared ancestor, as this would require at  
275 least three independent losses of biofilm regulation. Given that Ndt80 regulates hundreds of  
276 genes in each species, a single gain of Ndt80 function seem more plausible than three  
277 independent losses.

278         Combining this phenotypic data with the Ndt80 target identification previously discussed,  
279 we can begin to pinpoint the importance of individual genes in the overall switch in Ndt80  
280 function. Only ten genes are targets of Ndt80 in all five species tested (*S. cerevisiae*, *K. lactis*, *P.*  
281 *pastoris*, *S. stipitis*, and *C. albicans*) (Figure 2C). This suggests that a very limited set of genes  
282 may have been repurposed from sporulation to biofilm formation. Notably, five of these genes  
283 (*CLN2*, *CLG1*, *GLN1*, *GDH2*, *RPS7a*) are strongly up-regulated in biofilm formation (Fox et al.,

284 2015). If we examine the ten shared genes based on their known functions in *S. cerevisiae*, three  
285 are involved in cell cycle regulation (*CLG1*, *CLN2*, *YOX1*), four are metabolic enzymes (*GDH2*,  
286 *GLN1*, *RKII*, *SGAI*), two are proteins associated with the ribosome (*RPS7a*, *TMA10*), and one is  
287 involved in regulation of cell wall biosynthesis (*USV1*) (Figure 2C). The protein Usv1 is  
288 particularly intriguing, as its ortholog in *C. albicans*, Bcr1, is one of the other master regulators  
289 of biofilm formation (Nobile et al., 2012; Nobile & Mitchell, 2005). This observation suggests  
290 that two of the master regulators of biofilm formation, Ndt80 and Bcr1, may have had an  
291 ancestral regulatory relationship that was co-opted in the evolution of the biofilm regulatory  
292 network. In summary, while there are small vestiges of the sporulation network present in the *C.*  
293 *albicans* biofilm network, the great majority of connections are new.

294

### 295 **The transcription network that controls meiosis and sporulation changes extensively**

296 Because the targets of Ndt80 appear to have rewired significantly during the switch from  
297 sporulation regulation to biofilm regulation, we tested whether Ndt80 targets are more similar  
298 among species with a conserved Ndt80 phenotype than among species with a diverged Ndt80  
299 phenotype. If so, this would suggest that the dramatic rewiring of targets was associated with the  
300 switch in Ndt80 regulatory function. We focused on the four species for which we know both  
301 the Ndt80 phenotype and the binding targets: *S. cerevisiae*, *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *C.*  
302 *albicans*. For every two-species pair, we compared the Ndt80 targets, considering only genes  
303 with 1:1 orthologs for both species. We find relatively little overlap in Ndt80 targets for any of  
304 these comparisons (9-14%), but more importantly, we do not find a correlation between target  
305 overlap and conservation of overall Ndt80 function (Figure 5A). For example, a larger fraction  
306 of targets (14%) are shared between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* than between *S. cerevisiae* and

307 *P. pastoris* (9.2%). If we take into account the different divergence times for each of these two-  
308 species comparisons (normalizing to the divergence time between *S. cerevisiae* and *K. lactis*), we  
309 still find that conservation of overall Ndt80 function does not correlate with increased  
310 conservation of Ndt80 targets (Figure 5B). This pattern also holds if we use more stringent  
311 criteria to identify Ndt80 targets in each species (Figure 5—figure supplement 1). Overall, these  
312 results show that the targets of Ndt80 change extensively, even while Ndt80's conserved role in  
313 regulating sporulation is maintained. While we cannot entirely rule out the possibility that Ndt80  
314 has another, unknown regulatory function in one or more of these species that accounts for the  
315 significant difference in Ndt80 targets, we know that *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 is produced specifically  
316 during sporulation (Chu & Herskowitz, 1998). Similarly, by performing transcription profiling  
317 we find that in *K. lactis* and *P. pastoris*, Ndt80 is not expressed in mitotic cells (Supplementary  
318 File 1), consistent with the idea that Ndt80 is primarily needed during sporulation and is unlikely  
319 to have additional regulatory roles.

320         The rewiring of Ndt80 targets across species in which Ndt80 is known to regulate  
321 sporulation indicates that only a small number of Ndt80 targets must be maintained in order for  
322 the sporulation network to be functional. Although there are several possible explanations for  
323 how Ndt80 could have maintained a role in sporulation despite the near complete turnover of its  
324 target genes, we tested perhaps the most intriguing hypothesis: the genes required for sporulation  
325 and meiosis are themselves changing across species. To test this hypothesis, we measured global  
326 gene expression during sporulation and mitotic growth in *K. lactis* and *P. pastoris* (Materials and  
327 Methods). We compared the genes up-regulated during sporulation in these species to those  
328 upregulated during sporulation in *S. cerevisiae* (Chu et al., 1998) and found extensive differences  
329 in the genes activated during sporulation across these species (Figure 6A). Only 25 genes show

330 sporulation-activation across *S. cerevisiae*, *K. lactis*, and *P. pastoris*, while 577 genes are  
331 activated uniquely in only one of the three species. Of the 65 genes known to be required for  
332 sporulation in *S. cerevisiae* that also exhibit sporulation-specific activation, only 9 are activated  
333 during sporulation in both *K. lactis* and *P. pastoris*, with 21 of these genes missing altogether  
334 from the genomes of one or both of these species (Figure 6—figure supplement 2). We also  
335 measured global gene expression in an *ndt80* deletion mutant in both *K. lactis* and *P. pastoris*  
336 under sporulation conditions, and found that the genes whose expression depends on Ndt80  
337 during sporulation also differ significantly across species, with only seven genes showing Ndt80-  
338 dependent expression in all three species (Figure 6B, Figure 6—figure supplement 1). We  
339 conclude that there are significant differences in sporulation-specific gene expression among *S.*  
340 *cerevisiae*, *K. lactis*, and *P. pastoris*, and that this contributes significantly to the large  
341 differences observed in Ndt80 targets across species.

342

## 343 DISCUSSION

344

345 Using experiments performed in six different extant yeast species, we have deduced that  
346 the transcription regulator Ndt80 underwent extensive rewiring of its regulatory connections  
347 before it became incorporated into a newly evolving regulatory network. This incorporation,  
348 which occurred on the lineage leading to *C. albicans*, resulted in an overall switch in Ndt80's  
349 function from an ancestral role in regulating sporulation and meiosis to a derived role in  
350 regulating biofilm formation. We have shown that this switch in function was not accompanied  
351 by a change in the DNA-binding specificity of Ndt80 (Figure 1B, Figure 2—figure supplement  
352 4); rather, a change in the distribution of the conserved Ndt80 *cis*-regulatory sequence across

353 hundreds of genes in the genome largely accounts for the different functions of Ndt80 in *S.*  
354 *cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*.

355         A priori, we considered two likely explanations for the change in Ndt80 function. First,  
356 we hypothesized that a duplication of Ndt80 in the *C. albicans* clade could have allowed the  
357 ancestral function (sporulation) to be conserved in one paralog while the other acquired a new  
358 function (biofilm regulation). However, the similarity in function of Ndt80 paralogs in *C.*  
359 *lusitaniae* (Figure 4C and F) as well as the similarity in targets of Ndt80 paralogs in *C. albicans*  
360 (Figure 1—figure supplement 3) rule out this model. A second plausible model held that a  
361 sudden change in Ndt80-target gene connections occurred along the *C. albicans* lineage, perhaps  
362 triggered by the loss of meiosis in this clade, relaxing constraints on Ndt80 target gene  
363 connections and allowing old connections to rapidly break and new connections to rapidly form.  
364 However, we also ruled out this model by showing that similarly high rates of Ndt80 rewiring  
365 occurred in all phylogenetic branches examined, even those where the function of Ndt80 remains  
366 conserved in sporulation (Figure 5A and B). Rather than a sudden shift in regulation, our results  
367 indicate continuous flexibility in the regulon of Ndt80, allowing it to sample many  
368 configurations even while retaining its ancestral function. In support of this idea, we showed  
369 that genes up-regulated during sporulation (by Ndt80 and other regulators of sporulation) vary  
370 considerably across different species (Figure 6), indicating that many different network  
371 configurations can support sporulation. Consistent with this idea, it has previously been noted  
372 that several key genes required for meiosis and sporulation in *S. cerevisiae* (*IME1*, *ZIP2*, *SPO13*)  
373 are missing from the genomes of species such as *C. lusitaniae* that are known to undergo meiosis  
374 and sporulation (Bennett & Johnson, 2003; Sherwood & Bennett, 2009). These observations,  
375 taken together, indicate that there is no “universal” solution to meiosis and sporulation in terms

376 of both the genes required for this process and the regulatory network itself. Instead, many  
377 different networks can apparently orchestrate this ancient process.

378         This work illustrates how a transcription regulator with hundreds of ancestral connections  
379 can nonetheless completely shift its cellular function. We propose that the continuous  
380 exploration of regulatory connections available to Ndt80—while still maintaining its role in  
381 sporulation—facilitated it reaching a network configuration that supported a new role in biofilm  
382 regulation. Computational models had previously led to this view, namely that gene regulatory  
383 networks are inherently flexible, allowing for the exploration of many configurations that  
384 maintain an overall function (Barve & Wagner, 2013; A. Wagner, 2005b). This exploration  
385 allows networks to sample many points in “network space”, some of which may be only a few  
386 changes away from generating a novel output. We believe that Ndt80 represents a tangible  
387 example of this idea: we propose that it is only through the inherent flexibility of the Ndt80  
388 connections that the network—while still maintaining sporulation and meiosis—could reach a  
389 position where the initial transition to regulating biofilm formation would be a simple one.

390         Although other transcription regulators may be subject to stronger evolutionary  
391 constraints than Ndt80, there is ample evidence that many transcription networks, like that of  
392 Ndt80, can drift through new configurations while preserving their transcriptional output (Baker  
393 et al., 2012; Hare, Peterson, Iyer, Meier, & Eisen, 2008; Lavoie et al., 2010; Swanson et al.,  
394 2011; Tanay et al., 2005; Tsong et al., 2006; Villar et al., 2015). Although the overall rate of  
395 network rewiring has not been extensively documented, it seems likely that the rewiring of the  
396 Ndt80 regulon is not unusually rapid when compared to at least some other fungal regulators  
397 (Borneman et al., 2007; Tuch et al., 2008). While much regulatory rewiring likely occurs  
398 through drift with no obvious shift in phenotype, we propose that continuous rewiring also

399 predisposes regulators to a shift in function. Such extreme, inherent flexibility in gene regulatory  
400 networks, such as that exhibited by Ndt80, seems likely to be a general model to explain how  
401 complex regulatory networks can evolve to produce novel phenotypes.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

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### Media

All strains were grown in YPD at 30°C unless otherwise noted. For galactose induction, strains were grown in SRaffinose + 1.7% galactose. For sporulation, *S. cerevisiae* strains were grown in liquid YPA (2% peptone, 2% potassium acetate, 1% yeast extract) and incubated at room temperature for 20-30 hours. For *K. lactis*, saturated liquid cultures in YPD were spotted onto SPO plates (1% potassium acetate, 2% agar + amino acids) and incubated at room temperature for 3 days. For *P. pastoris*, cells growing on YPD plates were patched onto 0.5% sodium acetate, 1% potassium chloride, 1% glucose, 2% agar plates and incubated at room temperature for 3 days. For *C. lusitaniae*, cells growing on YPD plates were patched onto PDA plates (0.37% potato dextrose + 1.45% agar) and incubated at room temperature for 4 days. To quantify sporulation efficiency, three technical replicates (the same strain, grown up and plated on sporulation media independently) were performed and 200 cells were counted for each sample by DIC microscopy. In addition, a biological replicate (an independently-generated deletion strain) was assayed to confirm the phenotype of the first biological replicate. Nuclear staining using DAPI (*K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*) and Hoecsht (*C. lusitaniae*) was used to verify spore formation in each experiment.

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### Strain construction

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Strains used in this study are listed in Supplementary File 2A and primers used for strain construction are listed in Supplementary File 2B. Gene disruption cassettes for Ndt80 deletions were constructed by fusion PCR. For *K. lactis*, two cassettes were constructed, one with a *URA3*

425 marker, one with a KanMX marker, each with 700 bp homology flanking the markers on either  
426 side. These constructs were transformed, sequentially, into a wild-type diploid strain. For *P.*  
427 *pastoris* and *C. lusitaniae*, a split marker approach was used and two constructs were generated  
428 for each gene disruption. For *P. pastoris*, a Hygromycin resistance marker and 700 bp flanking  
429 homology were used, and the split markers were transformed into two haploid strains of  
430 complementary mating types. These strains were then mated to form a diploid *ndt80* deletion  
431 (ploidy was verified by FACS). For *C. lusitaniae*, a NAT resistance marker was used along with  
432 1 kb of flanking homology. The split markers were transformed into a wild-type  $\alpha$ -cell, that was  
433 then mated with a wild-type **a**-cell, sporulated, and *ndt80* deletion **a**-cells were picked and  
434 verified by PCR. These were then mated with the *ndt80* deletion  $\alpha$ -cell to generate a diploid  
435 *ndt80* deletion strain.

436  
437 Tagged strains for ChIP were generated using a 13x C-terminal Myc tag (Longtine et al., 1998)  
438 inserted into the genome at the C terminus of the endogenous Ndt80 protein sequence. For *S.*  
439 *cerevisiae*, long primers were used to amplify the Myc tag fused to a KAN marker from pFA6a-  
440 13Myc-kanMX6 (Longtine et al., 1998) and this construct was integrated into a wild-type W303  
441 strain. For *K. lactis*, split marker constructs were generated with 700 bp flanking homology  
442 fused to the Myc-KAN cassette and transformed into a wild-type diploid strain. For *P. pastoris*,  
443 split marker constructs were generated with 700 bp flanking homology fused to the Myc-NAT  
444 construct amplified from pADH34 (Hernday, Noble, Mitrovich, & Johnson, 2010). In *S. stipitis*,  
445 homologous recombination was found to be very inefficient, and thus constructs were randomly  
446 integrated into the genome. Constructs containing a NAT marker upstream of an *E. gossypii*  
447 Tef1 promoter upstream of *S. stipitis* Ndt80 fused to a 13x C-terminal Myc tag with a Sat1

448 terminator were generated by PCR for both Ndt80A and Ndt80B and transformed into a wild-  
449 type strain. Two independent isolates were generated for each paralog and tested independently  
450 by ChIP-Seq to verify that the location of integration did not affect Ndt80 function or genomic  
451 binding. To test binding of *P. pastoris* Ndt80 in *S. cerevisiae*, fusion PCR was used to generate a  
452 construct with a Hygromycin resistance marker fused to the Gal1 promoter from *S. cerevisiae*  
453 upstream of *P. pastoris* Ndt80 fused to a 13x C-terminal Myc tag with a Sat1 terminator. This  
454 was fused to homology to *URA3* and integrated in an *S. cerevisiae* wild-type at the *URA3* locus.  
455 All Myc-tagged Ndt80 strains were tested for their ability to sporulate to ensure the tag did not  
456 interfere with endogenous Ndt80 function.

457 To generate strains with highly expressed Ndt80, different constitutive promoters were used, and  
458 constructs generated by fusion PCR to integrate these upstream of Ndt80. In *S. cerevisiae*, pGal1  
459 from *S. cerevisiae* was used; in *K. lactis* pGal1 from *K. lactis* was used; in *P. pastoris* and *S.*  
460 *stipitis* pTef1 from *E. gossypii* was used; in *C. albicans* pTDH3 from *C. albicans* was used. In  
461 all cases, RT-qPCR was performed on the resulting strains as well as a wild-type strain to ensure  
462 that the constitutive promoters were indeed driving high Ndt80 expression.

463 *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* were transformed using standard lithium acetate protocols.

464 Electroporation protocols were used for *K. lactis* (Booth, Tuch, & Johnson, 2010), *P. pastoris*  
465 (Cregg et al., 2009), and *S. stipitis*. The protocol for *S. stipitis* was adapted from (Cregg et al.,  
466 2009), with cells harvested at an OD of 1.3-1.5.

467

#### 468 **Genome sequences, gene annotations, and orthology mapping**

469 Genome sequences and gene annotations for *S. mikatae*, *S. kudriavzevii*, *K. lactis*, *E. gossypii*,  
470 and *E. cymbalariae* were downloaded from the Yeast Gene Order Browser (YGOB) (Byrne &

471 Wolfe, 2005). Genome sequences and gene annotations for *S. cerevisiae*, *C. lusitaniae*, *S.*  
472 *stipitis*, *C. dubliniensis*, *C. tropicalis*, and *C. albicans* were downloaded from the Candida Gene  
473 Order Browser (CJOB) (Maguire et al., 2013). The genome sequence of *P. pastoris* strain  
474 CB7435 (Küberl et al., 2011) was downloaded from NCBI (accession number: PRJEA62483),  
475 and gene annotations were generated using the Yeast Genome Annotation Pipeline (Proux-Wéra,  
476 Armisen, Byrne, & Wolfe, 2012). Gene annotations for YJOB, CJOB, and YGAP also include  
477 synteny-based orthology mapping, which was used to compare genes across species.

478

### 479 **Chromatin immunoprecipitation and high throughput sequencing**

480 For all ChIP experiments with endogenous or pTef1 promoters driving Ndt80 expression,  
481 samples were isolated from log-phase cultures grown in YPD and chromatin  
482 immunoprecipitation was performed as previously described (Hernday et al., 2010) using an anti-  
483 Myc monoclonal antibody (RRID: AB\_2536303). Libraries were prepared using NEBNext  
484 Multiplex Kit for Illumina as previously described (Sorrells et al., 2015) and sequenced on an  
485 Illumina HiSeq 4000. For the mid-sporulation ChIP in *S. cerevisiae*, cells were induced to  
486 sporulate as previously described (Chu & Herskowitz, 1998; Hepworth, Friesen, & Segall,  
487 1998), and samples were isolated after 16 hours in sporulation media. For ChIP of strains with  
488 pGal1 driving Ndt80 expression, strains were grown overnight in SRaffinose, diluted back and  
489 grown until log-phase in SRaffinose, then grown in SRaffinose + 1.7% galactose for 5 hours.

490

491 For each ChIP-Seq experiment, a control experiment was performed using a matched strain  
492 missing the C-terminal Myc tag. Two biological replicates (independently grown single-colonies

493 of the same strain) were performed for both the tagged strain and the control untagged strain to  
494 identify regions bound by Ndt80 for that strain and condition.

495

#### 496 **RNA sequencing in *P. pastoris* design and analysis**

497 RNA expression was measured in *P. pastoris* using RNA-Seq. Samples were isolated from log-  
498 phase cultures in YPD or from mid-sporulation cultures after 30 hours. Total RNA was isolated  
499 using the Ambion RiboPure kit, and mRNA was isolated using the Oligotex mRNA Mini kit.

500 Purified mRNA was then concentrated using the Zymo RNA Clean and Concentrator kit.

501 Sequencing libraries were prepared using the NEBNext Ultra Directional RNA Library Prep Kit  
502 and sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq 4000. Three technical replicates (independently-grown  
503 single colonies of the same strain) were performed for each strain.

504

505 Reads were aligned to the genome using TopHat (Trapnell, Pachter, & Salzberg, 2009).

506 Transcripts were then assembled, abundance was estimated, and differential expression was  
507 detected using Cufflinks (Trapnell et al., 2012).

508

#### 509 **Full genome expression microarray in *K. lactis***

510 Custom-designed *K. lactis* microarrays were used to measure differential expression of genes in  
511 sporulation vs. mitotic growth and in an *ndt80* deletion vs. wild-type in sporulation media as  
512 previously described (Booth et al., 2010). Samples were isolated from log-phase cultures in  
513 YPD or from mid-sporulation cultures after 21 hours. Two technical replicates (independently-  
514 grown single colonies of the same strain) of each experiment were performed and the average of  
515 these replicates was taken.

516

517 **Comparing gene expression across *S. cerevisiae*, *K. lactis*, and *P. pastoris***

518 To identify genes up-regulated in sporulation (Figure 6—figure supplement 1), different  
519 thresholds were used to compare gene expression in a wild-type strain grown in YPD to a wild-  
520 type strain grown in sporulation media. For *S. cerevisiae*, this threshold was a 2.5-fold  
521 expression increase in sporulation vs. mitotic growth, in a published dataset (Chu et al., 1998).  
522 For *K. lactis*, the threshold was a 1.5-fold expression increase in sporulation vs. mitotic growth  
523 in expression microarrays (described in detail above). For *P. pastoris*, the threshold was a  
524 statistically significant increase in sporulation vs. mitotic growth, as determined by analysis  
525 using Cuffdiff (Trapnell et al., 2012).

526

527 Similarly, to identify genes exhibiting Ndt80-specific expression in sporulation (Figure 6—  
528 figure supplement 1), expression was compared between a wild-type strain grown in sporulation  
529 media and an *ndt80* deletion strain grown in sporulation media. Different thresholds were  
530 applied to identify genes showing Ndt80-dependent expression: at least 2-fold expression  
531 increase in WT vs. *ndt80* mutant for *S. cerevisiae*, at least 1.5-fold expression increase in WT  
532 vs. *ndt80* mutant for *K. lactis*, and a statistically significant increase (Trapnell et al., 2012) in *P.*  
533 *pastoris*.

534

535 **Biofilm experiments**

536 Biofilms were grown and imaged by confocal scanning laser microscopy (CSLM) similar to  
537 previously described (Mancera, Porman, Cuomo, Bennett, & Johnson, 2015). In brief, silicon  
538 squares were pre-incubated overnight in bovine serum at 30°C, washed with phosphate-buffered

539 saline (PBS), and then submerged in Spider media containing 1% glucose instead of mannitol.  
540 Then cells from a culture grown overnight in YEPD at 30°C were added to the silicone squares  
541 upon reaching an OD<sub>600</sub> of 0.5. The squares were incubated for 90 minutes at 30°C shaking at  
542 200 rpm for cell adherence. After adherence the squares were washed with PBS and transferred  
543 to fresh Spider 1% glucose and incubated for 48 hours at 30°C shaking at 200 rpm. For CSLM,  
544 the biofilms grown on the silicon squares were stained with concanavalin A Alexa Fluor 594  
545 conjugate (50 µg/ml) and visualized using a Nikon Eclipse C1si upright spectral imaging  
546 confocal microscope and a 40x/0.80W Nikon objective.

547

#### 548 **Identifying regions of Ndt80 binding**

549 Sequencing reads were aligned to the genome using Bowtie (Langmead, Trapnell, Pop, &  
550 Salzberg, 2009). Alignments were converted for visualization using SAMtools (Heng Li et al.,  
551 2009). Peaks and fold enrichment values were generated using MACS2 (Zhang et al., 2008)  
552 with peak shift sizes generated using SPP (Kharchenko, Tolstorukov, & Park, 2008). Peaks were  
553 assigned to genes if any portion of the peak overlapped with the intergenic region upstream of  
554 that gene using MochiView (Homann & Johnson, 2010). For the heterologous *P. pastoris* Ndt80  
555 in *S. cerevisiae* ChIP, fold enrichment values were mapped to genes by taking the maximum fold  
556 enrichment value for each intergenic region and mapping that to neighboring genes, also using  
557 MochiView.

558

559 Two technical replicates were performed for each ChIP-Seq experiment. Genes with Ndt80  
560 peaks were identified for each replicate, and only genes with peaks in both replicates were  
561 considered as bona fide targets. For fold enrichment per gene calculations, the average of the

562 maximum fold enrichment per intergenic region in each replicate was taken as the fold  
563 enrichment for neighboring genes.

564

565 Ndt80 targets were identified using several different criteria (Figure 1C). For Criteria 1, a gene  
566 was considered to be bound by Ndt80 if a peak was present in the intergenic upstream of that  
567 gene. For Criteria 2, a gene was considered to be bound by Ndt80 if a peak was present in  
568 upstream intergenic region and a consensus motif (CACAAA) was also present in that intergenic  
569 region (we did not require the motif to overlap the peak location). For Criteria 3, a gene was  
570 considered to be bound by Ndt80 if a peak was present in the upstream intergenic region, and a  
571 consensus motif was present in the intergenic of that species as well as intergenic regions  
572 upstream of orthologous genes in two closely related species. For *S. cerevisiae*, *S. mikatae* and  
573 *S. kudriavzevii* were used in this analysis; for *K. lactis*, *E. gossypii* and *E. cymbalariae* were  
574 used; and for *C. albicans*, *C. tropicalis* and *C. dubliniensis* were used (Figure 2—figure  
575 supplement 1). For Criteria 4, a gene was considered to be bound by Ndt80 is a peak was present  
576 in the upstream intergenic region, a consensus motif was also present in the upstream intergenic  
577 region, and the gene exhibited Ndt80-dependent expression. In *S. cerevisiae*, this was defined as  
578 at least a two-fold change in expression in an *ndt80* deletion strain (up or down) compared with a  
579 wild-type strain during middle-meiosis (Chu et al., 1998). In *K. lactis*, this was defined as at  
580 least a 1.5-fold change in expression in the average of two replicates of an *ndt80* deletion  
581 compared to wild-type, as measured by expression array. In *P. pastoris*, this was defined as a  
582 statistically significant change in expression, as measured by Cufflinks (Trapnell et al., 2012)  
583 between three replicates of an *ndt80* deletion strain and three replicates of a wild-type strain. In

584 *C. albicans*, this was defined as at least a 1.5-fold change in expression between an *ndt80*  
585 deletion and wild-type (Nobile et al., 2012).

586

### 587 **DNA *cis*-regulatory sequence motif discovery and enrichment**

588 Ndt80 motifs were generated *de novo* for each ChIP-Seq experiment using DREME (Bailey,  
589 2011). The union of peak locations in two technical replicates for each experiment were  
590 submitted to DREME, with a random set of genomic sequences of the same length as a negative  
591 control. The motif most closely matching the known Ndt80 binding site from *S. cerevisiae* (Jolly  
592 et al., 2005) and *C. albicans* (Nobile et al., 2012) was recorded along with the accompanying e-  
593 value (Figure 2—figure supplement 4).

594

595 A consensus Ndt80 motif across all species was generated using the union of replicate peak  
596 locations for all experiments performed with highly-expressed Ndt80. For *C. albicans* and *S.*  
597 *stipitis*, the intersection of replicate peaks was taken for each Ndt80 paralog, and then the union  
598 of paralog peak locations were taken to represent Ndt80 binding in that species. Peak locations  
599 for all five species tested were submitted to DREME, using a shuffled set of the same sequences  
600 as a negative control. The resulting motif (Figure 2—figure supplement 4) was trimmed by one  
601 base pair to give the high-confidence “consensus motif” using for identifying high-confidence  
602 Ndt80 binding: CACAAA.

603

604 To determine enrichment of the consensus motif in binding locations for each ChIP-Seq  
605 experiment, compared to a random genomic background, a Fisher’s one-tailed exact test was  
606 performed. The number of motifs in the peak locations for an experiment was compared to the

607 number of motifs in a set of randomly generated genomic sequences of the same length to  
608 generate a p-value representing enrichment (Figure 2—figure supplement 4).

609

### 610 **Phylogenetic tree building**

611 A phylogenetic tree of relevant species was constructed as previously described (Lohse et al.,  
612 2013). Protein sequences for 73 orthologs present in a single copy in all species were  
613 concatenated and aligned using MUSCLE (Edgar, 2004) and a tree was constructed using  
614 PHYML (Guindon et al., 2010). Two outgroup species, *N. crassa* and *A. nidulans* were used in  
615 the building of the tree to improve root placement, but were omitted from the tree image (Figure  
616 2A) for simplicity.

617

618 A phylogenetic tree of Ndt80 protein sequences (Figure 2—figure supplement 1) was similarly  
619 constructed by aligning all Ndt80 protein sequences using MUSCLE (Edgar, 2004) and using  
620 PHYML to build a tree (Guindon et al., 2010). Similarity matrix of protein sequences (Figure  
621 2—figure supplement 1) was generated by MUSCLE.

622

### 623 **Estimating sequence conservation between species**

624 To determine overall sequence conservation between two species (Figure 6B, Figure 5—figure  
625 supplement 1), branch lengths from the phylogenetic species tree were used (Figure 2A). The  
626 additive branch lengths separating two species from the most recent common ancestor were  
627 calculated for each two-species comparison, and then this was normalized to the value for *S.*  
628 *cerevisiae* and *K. lactis* (arbitrarily set to 1). This number was then multiplied by the fraction of

629 Ndt80 targets conserved for any given two-species comparison to get a divergence time-  
630 corrected value.

631

### 632 **Simulation of overlap in Ndt80 ChIP-Seq targets across all species**

633 In order to determine whether the 10 genes shown to be Ndt80 targets in all five species  
634 represented more than expected by chance (based on the number of targets in each species), we  
635 performed 100,000 simulations. In each simulation, genes were randomly selected from the pool  
636 of 3,171 genes with orthologs in all five species, to represent the Ndt80 targets in all five species.  
637 For *S. cerevisiae*, 424 genes were selected, for *K. lactis* 269, for *P. pastoris* 300, for *S. stipitis*  
638 958, and for *C. albicans* 989, as these are the number of mappable targets of Ndt80 in each  
639 species according to Criteria 2 (Figure 1C). For 100,000 simulations, the median number of  
640 genes found in all five sets was zero, and the maximum was five. Ten or more genes were not  
641 found in any round of the simulation (p-value < 0.00001).

642

### 643 **Data deposition**

644 ChIP-Seq and RNA-Seq data has been deposited to the NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO)  
645 repository under accession numbers GSE90660 (*S. cerevisiae* mitotic ChIP-Seq), GSE90661 (*S.*  
646 *cerevisiae* meiotic ChIP-Seq), GSE90662 (*K. lactis* ChIP-Seq), GSE90663 (*P. pastoris* ChIP-  
647 Seq), GSE90664 (*S. stipitis* ChIP-Seq), GSE90665 (*C. albicans* ChIP-Seq), and GSE92766  
648 (RNA-Seq).

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652

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660

## **COMPETING INTERESTS**

661

The authors declare that no competing interests exist.

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## FIGURE CAPTIONS

871

872 **Figure 1: Ndt80 target genes differ between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*.**

873 (A) Diagram of sporulation in *S. cerevisiae* and biofilm formation in *C. albicans*. Scale bars

874 represent 5  $\mu\text{m}$ . (B) The *cis*-regulatory motif most highly enriched at locations of Ndt80 ChIP

875 binding in *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*. Motifs were generated independently for each species.

876 The *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 motif determined *de novo* in this study closely matches that determined

877 previously for Ndt80 (Chu & Herskowitz, 1998; Jolly et al., 2005; Nobile et al., 2012). (C)

878 Diagram of the four criteria used to identify Ndt80 regulatory targets. Criteria 1: significant

879 ChIP-Seq enrichment in the intergenic region upstream of a gene relative to untagged control

880 experiments. Criteria 2: ChIP-Seq enrichment and the presence of an Ndt80 motif in the

881 intergenic region. Criteria 3: ChIP-Seq enrichment with the Ndt80 motif present in the

882 intergenic region and also in orthologous intergenic regions of two very closely related species,

883 suggesting the motif has been maintained by selection. Criteria 4: ChIP-Seq enrichment with the

884 Ndt80 motif present in the intergenic region and Ndt80-dependent expression of the nearby gene,

885 indicating that expression of the gene is under Ndt80 control. (D) Overlap in targets of *S.*

886 *cerevisiae* Ndt80 (red) and *C. albicans* Ndt80B (blue), using the four different criteria from (C)

887 to identify targets, when Ndt80 is highly expressed in each species (Materials and Methods).

888 Venn diagrams are roughly area-proportional (Hulsen, de Vlieg, & Alkema, 2008). Overlap in

889 targets of *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 and *C. albicans* Ndt80 when each is endogenously expressed is

890 shown in Figure 1—figure supplement 1. Overlap in targets considering only 1:1 orthologs

891 between the species is shown in Figure 1—figure supplement 2. Overlap of *C. albicans* Ndt80

892 paralogs with each other and with *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 shown in Figure 1—figure supplement 3.

893 **Figure 2: Ndt80 target genes differ across species descending from the *S. cerevisiae* - *C.***  
894 ***albicans* common ancestor.**

895 (A) Phylogenetic tree of the species investigated, inferred from protein sequences of 73 highly  
896 conserved genes (Lohse et al., 2013) with the scale representing the number of substitutions per  
897 site. The likely position of the *NDT80* gene duplication is indicated with a green circle. Ndt80  
898 protein tree shown in Figure 2—figure supplement 1. (B-D) Ndt80 targets identified by Criteria  
899 2 (Figure 1C). (B) The proportion of Ndt80 targets in *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *S. stipitis* that  
900 are shared with the Ndt80 targets in *S. cerevisiae*, *C. albicans*, or both. The proportion of targets  
901 shared, using all four different criteria for identifying targets (Figure 1C) shown in Figure 2—  
902 figure supplement 2. (C) Histogram of all Ndt80 targets in the five species tested (*S. cerevisiae*,  
903 *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, *S. stipitis*, and *C. albicans*) according to the number of species in which  
904 that gene is a target. All target genes (black) and those with 1:1 orthologs across all five species  
905 (dashed) are shown. The overlap in Ndt80 targets in all five species was simulated, assuming the  
906 target genes are randomly selected, and is shown in Figure 2—figure supplement 3. (D) List of  
907 genes bound by Ndt80 in all five species tested with functional annotations (color-coded) from *S.*  
908 *cerevisiae*, as described in the text (SGD, (Cherry et al., 2012) ). For (B –D), the union of  
909 Ndt80A and Ndt80B bound genes were used for *S. stipitis* and *C. albicans*. The *cis*-regulatory  
910 site bound by Ndt80 in each species shown in Figure 2—figure supplement 4.

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917 **Figure 3: *P. pastoris* Ndt80 binds to regions bound by *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 when expressed**  
918 **in *S. cerevisiae*.**

919 (A) Diagram of strains used to generate data in (B) and (C): (1) tagged native Ndt80 in *S.*  
920 *cerevisiae*, (2) tagged native Ndt80 in *P. pastoris*, and (3) tagged heterologous *P. pastoris* Ndt80  
921 expressed in *S. cerevisiae*. (B and C) Comparisons of the maximum ChIP-Seq fold enrichment  
922 for the intergenic regions of all genes with 1:1 orthologs in *S. cerevisiae* and *P. pastoris*, with  
923 Spearman's rank correlation coefficient shown (p-value =  $7.2 \times 10^{-117}$  for (B),  $1.02 \times 10^{-296}$  for (C)).  
924 Numbers in axis labels correspond to simplified diagrams in (A). (B) *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 vs. *P.*  
925 *pastoris* Ndt80 expressed in *S. cerevisiae*. (C) *P. pastoris* Ndt80 expressed in *P. pastoris* vs. *P.*  
926 *pastoris* Ndt80 expressed in *S. cerevisiae*. A comparison of Ndt80 targets identified in each  
927 experiment using Criteria 1 shown in Figure 3—figure supplement 1.

928  
929 **Figure 4: Ndt80 is required for sporulation, but is dispensable for biofilm formation, in *K.***  
930 ***lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *C. lusitaniae*.**

931 (A-C) Light microscope images of genetically matched wild-type and *ndt80* deletion strains  
932 (Stars indicate diploid cells that have undergone sporulation) and quantification of the percent of  
933 cells exhibiting spores, as measured by microscopy (200 cells counted for each strain). (D-H)  
934 Confocal scanning laser microscopy images of biofilm formation for genetically matched wild-  
935 type and *ndt80* deletion strains. Top view of biofilm shown above side view for each, with scale  
936 bars representing 25  $\mu\text{m}$ .

937  
938 **Figure 5: The targets of Ndt80 differ among species even with a conserved Ndt80**  
939 **phenotype.**

940 (A) Percent of all Ndt80-bound genes (identified using Criteria 2) shared between any two  
941 species tested; for this analysis, only 1:1 orthologs in each two-species comparison were  
942 considered. (B) Percent of all Ndt80-bound genes shared between any two species, normalized  
943 to the genome-wide substitutions per site (*S. cerevisiae* – *K. lactis* set to 1). Species comparisons  
944 between two species with a conserved Ndt80 phenotype shown with black outline for (A) and  
945 (B). Percent overlap and normalized percent overlap for targets identified using all four criteria  
946 (Figure 1C) shown in Figure 5—figure supplement 1. (C) Cladogram of species for which  
947 Ndt80 phenotype and target genes have been identified, with simplified cartoons representing  
948 Ndt80 ChIP-Seq targets in each species. The grey circle in the center represents Ndt80, while  
949 the smaller circles represent genes present in all four species, with each small circle representing  
950 ~100 genes. The arrows indicate that Ndt80 binds to those genes in that species.

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953 **Figure 6: Genes induced during sporulation differ significantly across *S. cerevisiae*, *K.*  
954 *lactis*, and *P. pastoris*.**

955 (A) Gene expression in meiotic growth compared to mitotic growth. Genes with significant  
956 upregulation in meiosis in at least one species shown. (B) Gene expression in a wild-type strain  
957 compared with an *ndt80*  $\Delta/\Delta$  strain for all three species. Genes with significant upregulation in  
958 wild-type in at least one species shown. For (A) and (B), each line represents a single gene with  
959 the color of the line representing the ratio of expression in the two conditions. Numbers below  
960 represent the number of genes shared in all three species (left), in two species (middle), or in just  
961 one species (right). Data for *S. cerevisiae* from (Chu et al., 1998), data for *K. lactis* and *P.*  
962 *pastoris* generated in this study. A comparison of the 25 shared sporulation genes (A) and the 7  
963 shared Ndt80-dependent genes (B) shown in Figure 6—figure supplement 1.

## SUPPLEMENTAL FIGURE CAPTIONS

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966 **Figure 1—figure supplement 1: Ndt80 targets in *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* when Ndt80 is**  
967 **endogenously expressed.**

968 Ndt80 targets identified for *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 (red) and *C. albicans* Ndt80B (blue), using four  
969 different criteria to identify targets (Figure 1C). Ndt80 expression in each species is driven by  
970 the native promoter (*S. cerevisiae* ChIP performed during sporulation, *C. albicans* ChIP  
971 performed during mitotic growth). As the sizes of the regulons are dramatically different  
972 between the species, the percent of targets shared is shown for each species individually. The  
973 black numbers above the venn diagrams represent the number of overlapping targets.

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976 **Figure 1—figure supplement 2: Ndt80 targets in *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* considering**  
977 **only 1:1 orthologs between species.**

978 Ndt80 targets identified for *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 (red) and *C. albicans* Ndt80B (blue), using four  
979 different criteria to identify targets (Figure 1C). Ndt80 expression in each species is driven by a  
980 high expression promoter, and ChIP experiments were performed as in Figure 1. Only genes  
981 with 1:1 orthologs between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* are shown.

982

983 **Figure 1—figure supplement 3: Ndt80 targets for paralogs Ndt80A and Ndt80B in *C.***  
984 ***albicans*.**

985 (A) Ndt80 targets identified for Ndt80A (light blue) and Ndt80B (dark blue) in *C. albicans* using  
986 four different criteria (Figure 1C). (B) Targets of Ndt80A in *C. albicans* compared to the targets  
987 of Ndt80 in *S. cerevisiae*.

988 **Figure 1—figure supplement 4: Fraction of Ndt80 targets shared between biological**  
989 **replicates and between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans***

990 Fraction of Ndt80 ChIP-Seq targets shared between two biological replicates of *S. cerevisiae*  
991 (red), two biological replicates of *C. albicans* (blue), and between the intersections of the  
992 replicates for each species (dashed), using four different criteria (Figure 1C). Ndt80 expression  
993 in each species is driven by a high expression promoter, and ChIP experiments were performed  
994 as in Figure 1. Only genes with 1:1 orthologs between *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans* are shown.

995

996 **Figure 2—figure supplement 1: Similarity of Ndt80 protein sequences across many yeast**  
997 **species.**

998 (A) Phylogenetic tree of Ndt80 proteins in diverse ascomycetes, built using MUSCLE (Edgar,  
999 2004) and PHYML (Guindon et al., 2010). Scale bar indicates substitutions per site. (B) List of  
1000 genes used in the phylogenetic tree, and in the manuscript. (C) Similarity matrix of Ndt80  
1001 proteins for species discussed in this work, calculated using MUSCLE.

1002

1003 **Figure 2—figure supplement 2: Ndt80 targets in *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *S. stipitis***  
1004 **categorized according to overlap with *S. cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*.**

1005 The proportion of Ndt80 targets in *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *S. stipitis* shared with Ndt80 in *S.*  
1006 *cerevisiae* and *C. albicans*. Different criteria for Ndt80 target identification (Figure 1C) were  
1007 used to identify targets in *K. lactis*, *P. pastoris*, and *S. stipitis*, where possible. Criteria 3 could  
1008 not be used for *P. pastoris* and *S. stipitis*, as it requires two closely related species with mapped  
1009 orthologs, while Criteria 4 could not be used for *S. stipitis* as expression profiling was not  
1010 performed in this species.

1011 **Figure 2—figure supplement 3: Histogram of simulated overlap in Ndt80 targets across**  
1012 **five species.**

1013 Number of shared Ndt80 targets shown for 100,000 simulations of ChIP experiments. Genes  
1014 were randomly selected from the set of genes with orthologs in all five species (3,171 in total) to  
1015 make target sets for each species corresponding to the number of actual ChIP targets we  
1016 observed (using Criteria 2 from Figure 1C; 424 for *S. cerevisiae*, 269 for *K. lactis*, 300 for *P.*  
1017 *pastoris*, 958 for *S. stipitis*, and 989 for *C. albicans*). Histogram shows the number of genes  
1018 found as targets in all five species in 100,000 simulations, with the number of runs shown above  
1019 each bar; five genes was the maximum overlap found.

1020

1021 **Figure 2—figure supplement 4: Ndt80 cis-regulatory motif in ChIP-Seq experiments.**

1022 (A) *De novo* motifs were generated for Ndt80 for each ChIP-Seq experiment performed, using  
1023 DREME (Bailey, 2011), with the union of replicate peak locations compared to a random set of  
1024 genomic sequences of the same lengths, for each species. The e-values generated by DREME  
1025 represent the enrichment p-value multiplied by the number of candidate motifs tested. Shown  
1026 are the motifs most closely resembling the known Ndt80 binding motif in *S. cerevisiae* and *C.*  
1027 *albicans* (Jolly et al., 2005) (Nobile et al., 2012). (B) A composite motif for all species was  
1028 generated, using peak locations for Ndt80 ChIP-Seq in all five species tested. For species with  
1029 two Ndt80 paralogs, the intersection of replicates was taken and the union of the paralogs was  
1030 taken to represent all binding locations and submitted to DREME. These sequences were  
1031 scrambled as a background for the analysis. From this analysis, a “consensus motif” sequence  
1032 was inferred to use for later analyses. (C) Enrichment of the consensus motif (CACAAA) for  
1033 each ChIP-Seq experiment. Motifs were counted in the peak locations compared to a random set

1034 of genomic sequences, for each species, and a p-value was generated using a Fisher's one-tailed  
1035 exact test.

1036

1037 **Figure 3—figure supplement 1: Heterologous *P. pastoris* Ndt80 targets compared to native**  
1038 ***P. pastoris* and *S. cerevisiae* Ndt80 targets.**

1039 (A and B) Ndt80 targets, defined by ChIP-Seq enrichment alone (Criteria 1), for *P. pastoris*  
1040 Ndt80 when expressed in *S. cerevisiae*, compared to targets of Ndt80 in *S. cerevisiae* (A) and *P.*  
1041 *pastoris* (B) when expressed endogenously. Genes that are Ndt80 targets in both *S. cerevisiae*  
1042 and *P. pastoris* have been omitted from this analysis.

1043

1044 **Figure 5—figure supplement 1: Percent overlap in Ndt80 targets across different species.**

1045 (A-D) Percent of all Ndt80-bound genes shared between any two species tested (left column) and  
1046 the percent shared normalized to the genome-wide substitutions per site between species (right  
1047 column) (*S. cerevisiae* – *K. lactis* set to 1). Targets identified using Criteria 1 (A), Criteria 2 (B),  
1048 Criteria 3 (C), or Criteria 4 (D) (Figure 1C). For this analysis, only 1:1 orthologs in each two-  
1049 species comparison were considered. Species comparisons between two species with a  
1050 conserved Ndt80 phenotype shown with black outline.

1051

1052 **Figure 6—figure supplement 1: Comparing sporulation-induced genes and Ndt80-**  
1053 **dependent genes across *S. cerevisiae*, *K. lactis*, and *P. pastoris*.**

1054 Venn diagram comparison of shared sporulation genes (upregulated in all three species, Figure  
1055 6A with shared Ndt80-dependent genes (downregulated in *ndt80* deletion in all three species,

1056 Figure 6B), with corresponding gene names from *S. cerevisiae* listed. Only genes with 1:1:1  
1057 orthologs in all three species were considered in this analysis.

1058

1059 **Figure 6—figure supplement 2: Comparing patterns of meiotic expression for genes**  
1060 **required for sporulation in *S. cerevisiae***

1061 Table shows the 65 genes required for sporulation in *S. cerevisiae* (SGD, (Cherry et al., 2012))  
1062 that exhibit meiotic upregulation in *S. cerevisiae* ((Chu et al., 1998), Materials and Methods),  
1063 along with meiotic expression data from *K. lactis* and *P. pastoris*. Yellow indicates the gene is  
1064 present and up-regulated in meiotic vs. mitotic growth in that species (Materials and Methods),  
1065 white indicates the gene is present but not significantly up-regulated, and grey indicates that an  
1066 ortholog of the gene cannot be found in that species.

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1079 **Supplementary File 1: Excel spreadsheet containing processed data for all ChIP-Seq, RNA-**  
1080 **Seq, and expression array experiments performed.**

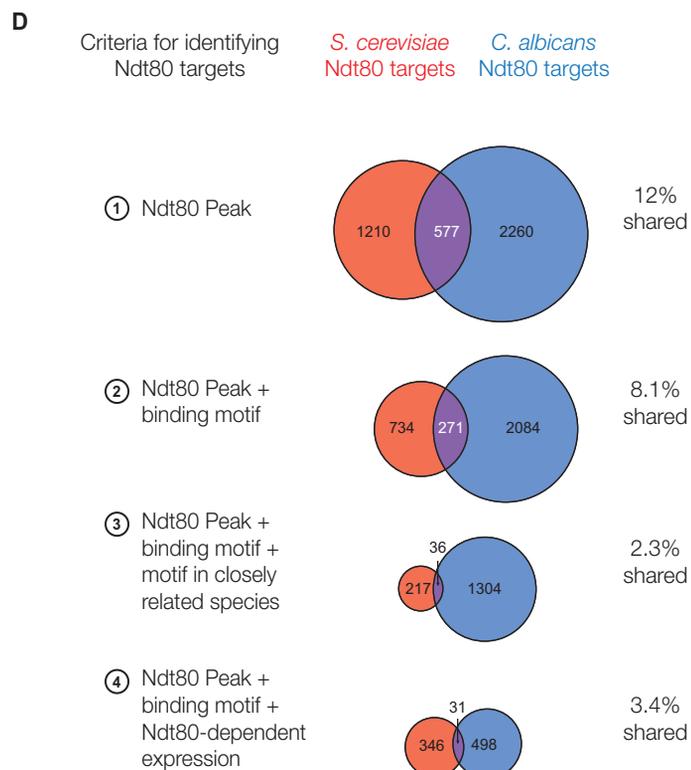
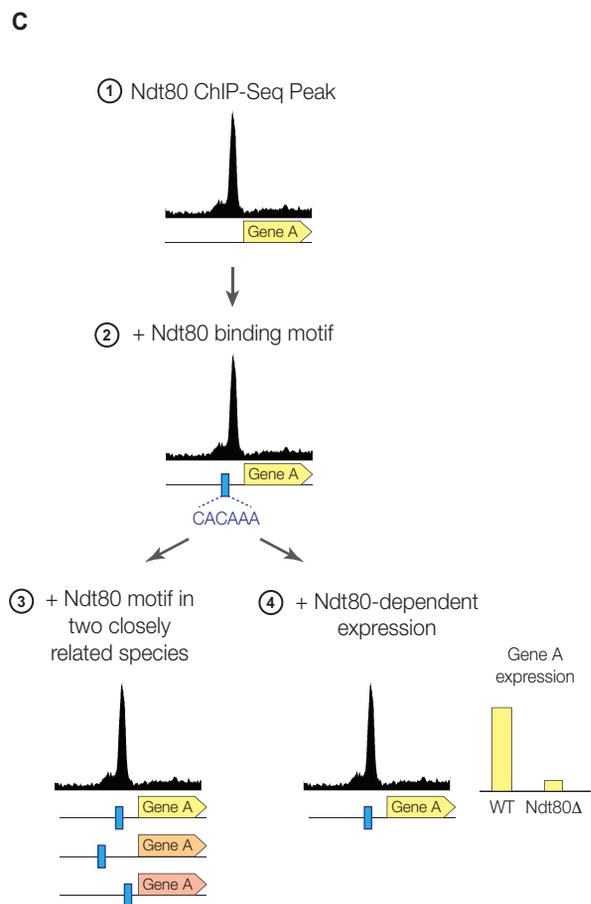
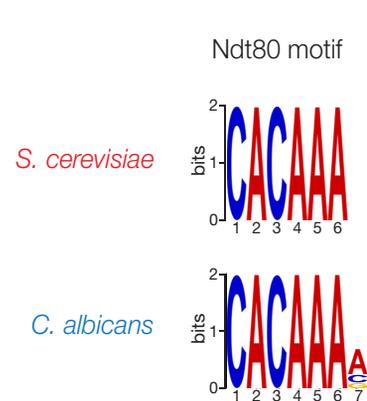
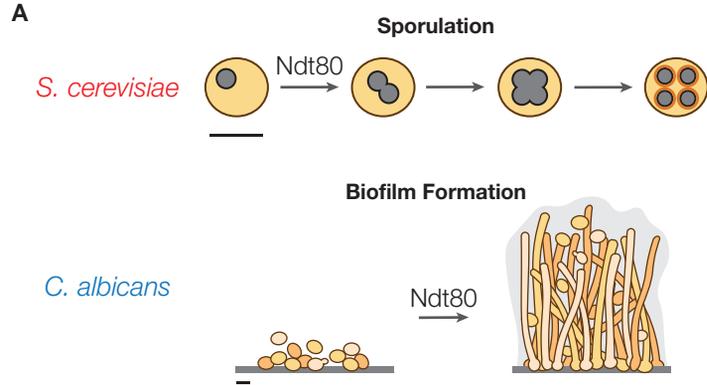
1081 Rows correspond to groups of orthologous genes. Columns show results of all genomic  
1082 experiments discussed here, colors correspond to experiments in different species. Cell value of  
1083 “N/A” indicates no orthologous gene for that orthogroup in that species.

1084

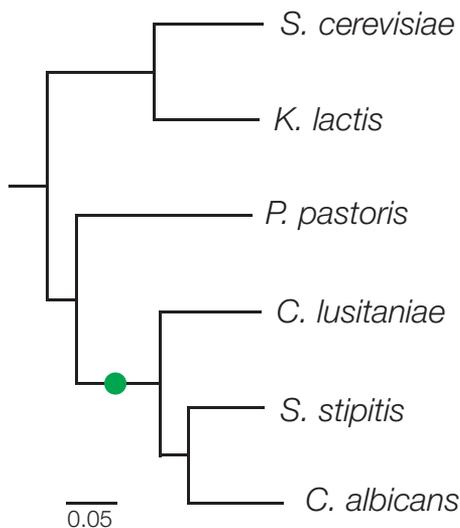
1085 **Supplementary File 2: Excel spreadsheet containing strains and primers used in this study.**

1086 (A) Strains used in this study. (B) Primers used in this study.

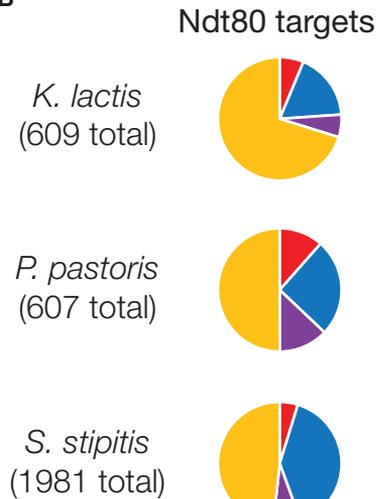
1087



A



B

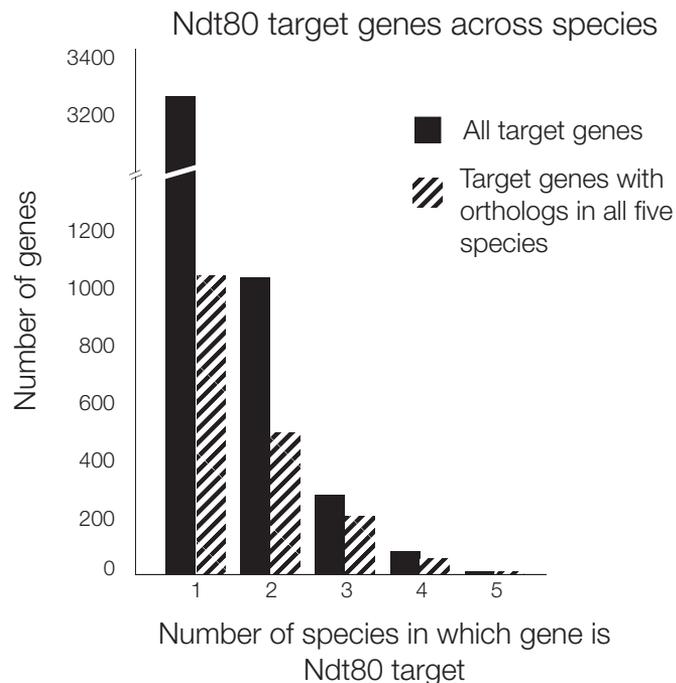


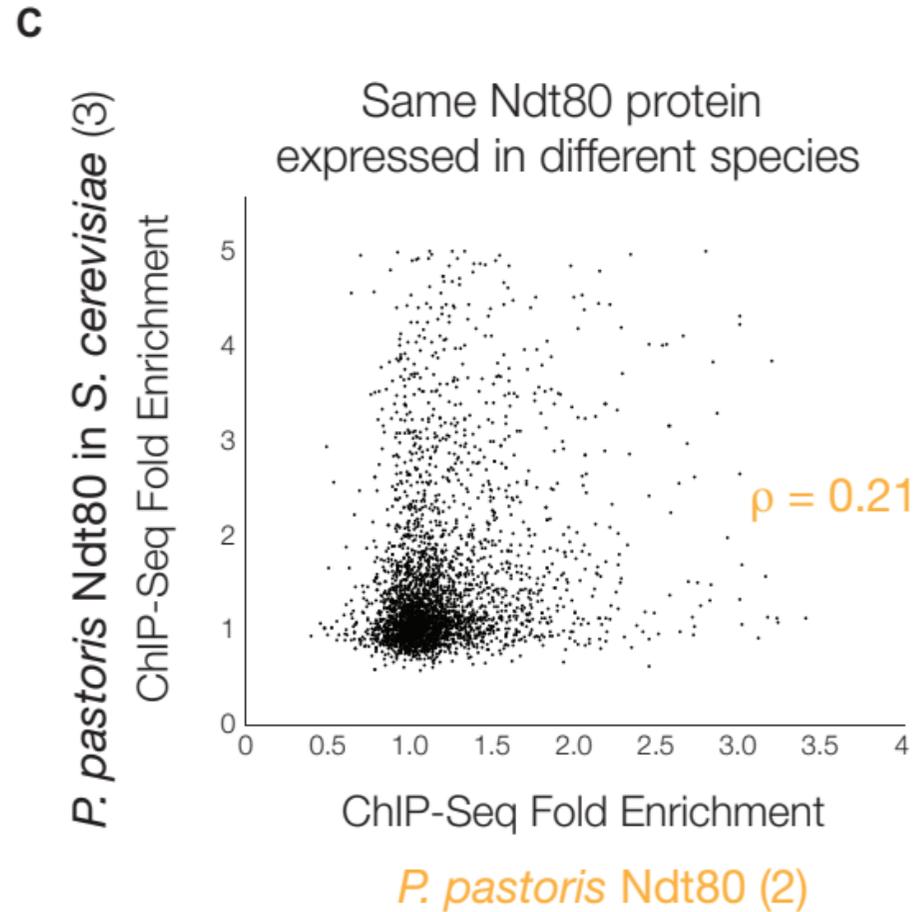
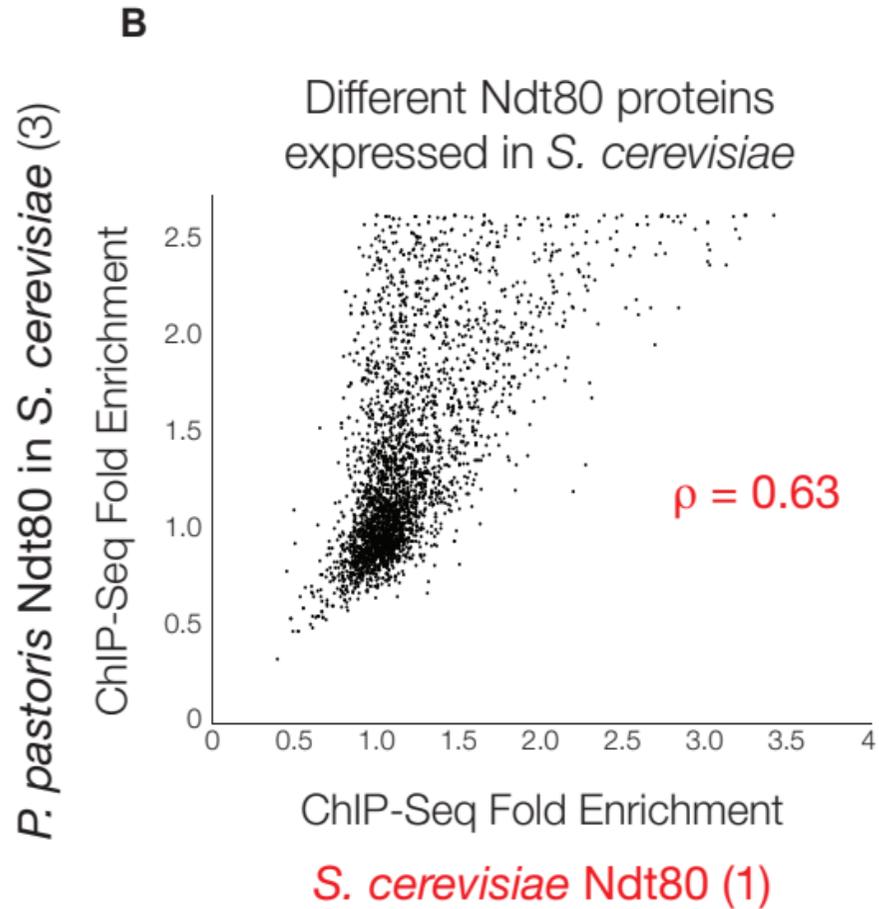
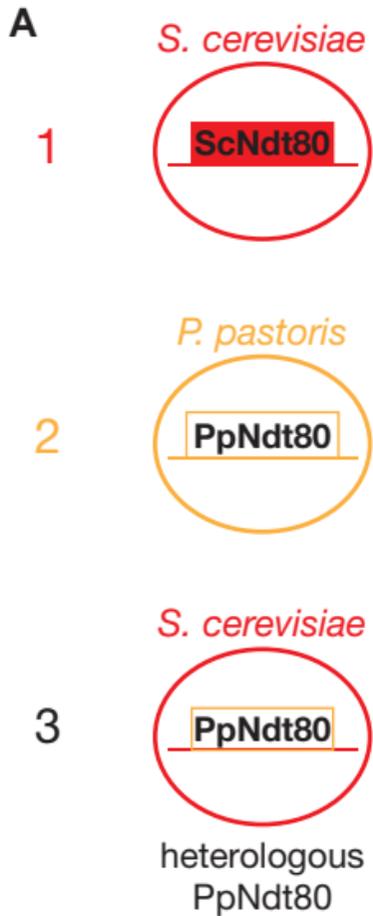
C

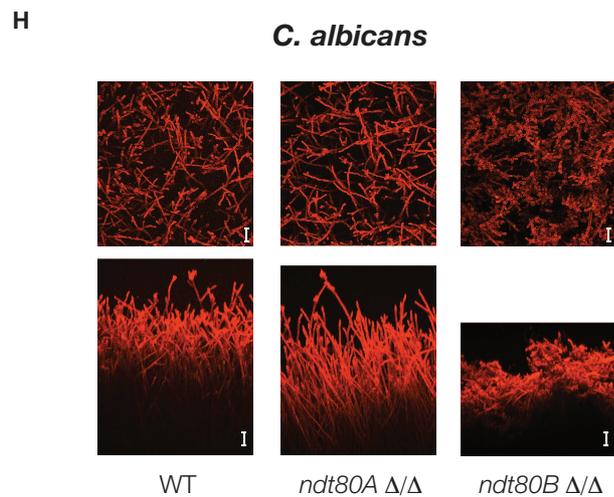
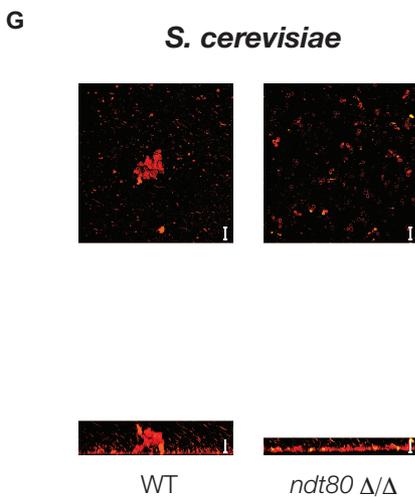
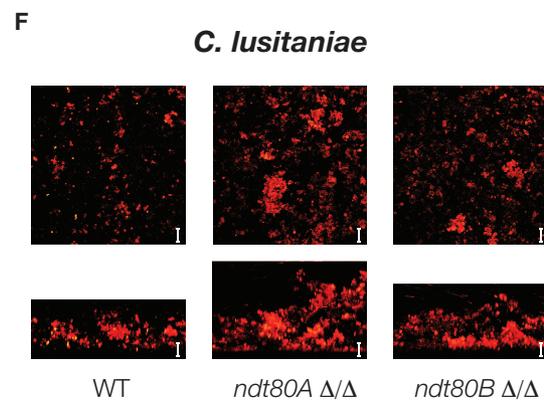
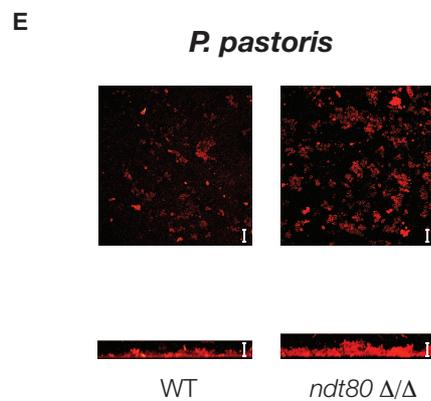
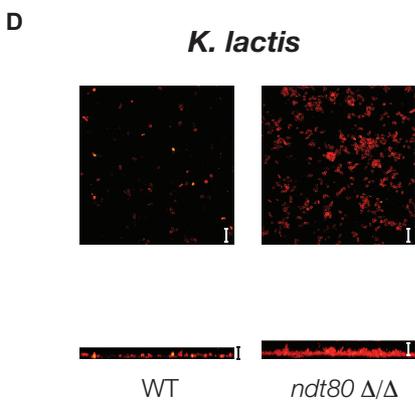
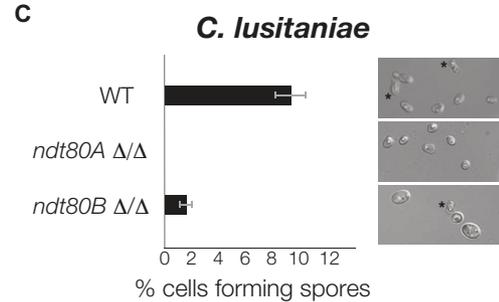
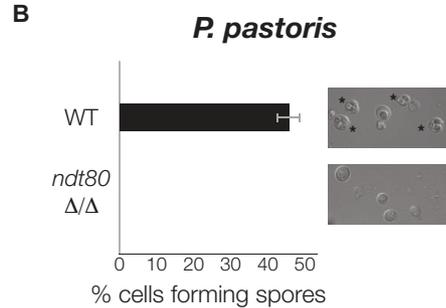
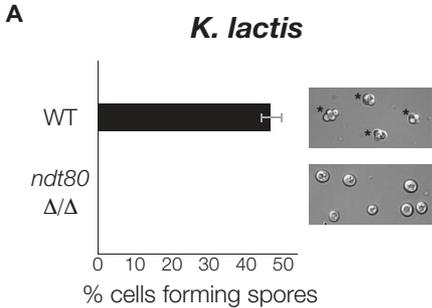
### Conserved Ndt80 Target Genes

Gene	Function in <i>S. cerevisiae</i>
<i>Cln2</i>	G1 cyclin involved in regulation of the cell cycle
<i>Clg1</i>	Cyclin-like protein
<i>Yox1</i>	Transcriptional repressor; binds promoters of cell cycle-regulated genes
<i>Rki</i>	Ribose-5-phosphate ketol-isomerase
<i>Gln1</i>	Glutamine synthetase
<i>Sga1</i>	Intracellular sporulation-specific glucoamylase
<i>Gdh2</i>	NAD(+)-dependent glutamate dehydrogenase
<i>Rps7a</i>	Protein component of the small ribosomal subunit
<i>Tma10</i>	Protein of unknown function that associates with ribosomes
<i>Usv1</i>	Putative transcription factor; affects regulation of genes involved in cell wall biosynthesis

D

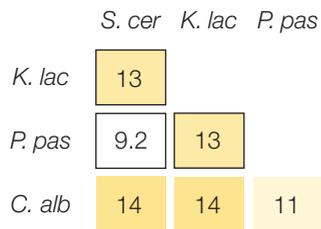




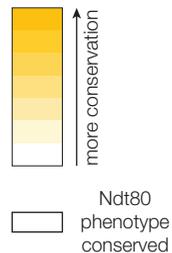
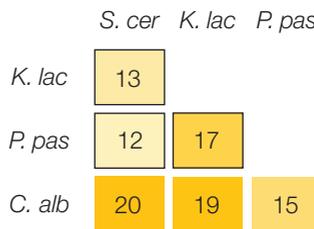


**A**

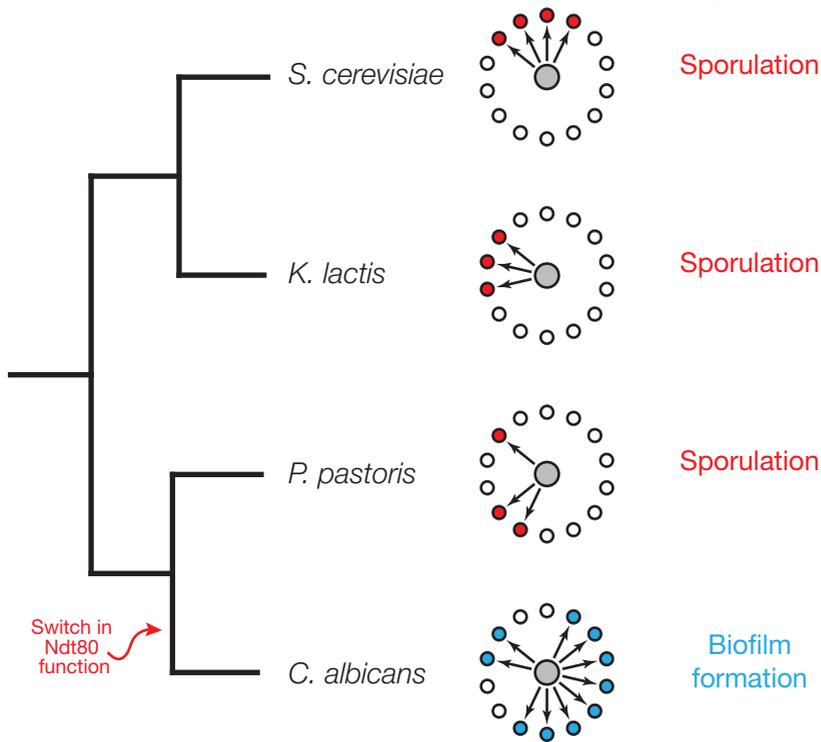
Percent of all Ndt80 targets shared between any two species

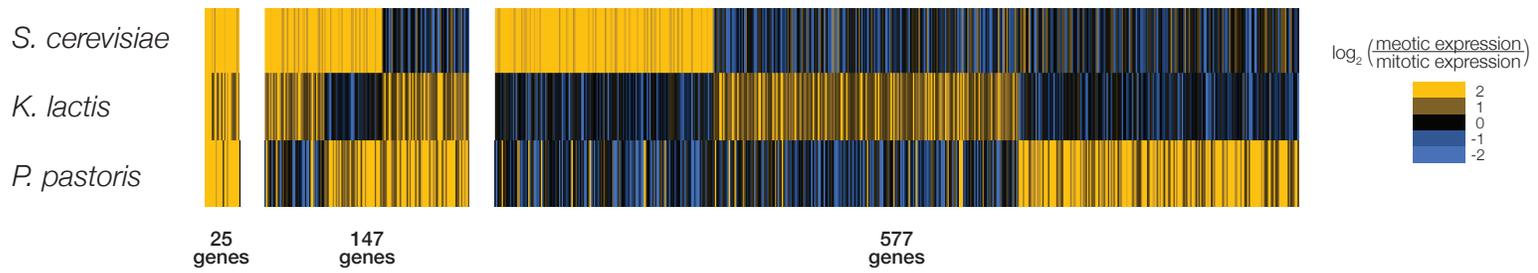
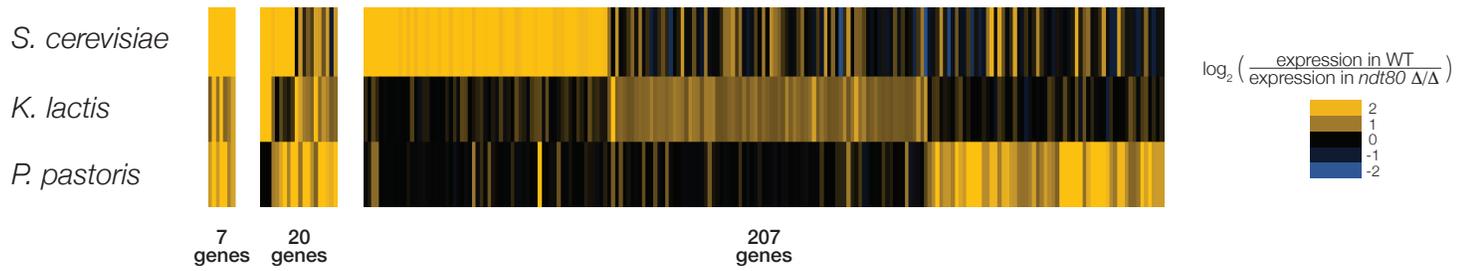
**B**

Conservation in Ndt80 targets/  
Overall species conservation

**C**

Process regulated by Ndt80



**A****Gene expression in meiotic vs. mitotic growth****B****Gene expression in WT vs. *ndt80*  $\Delta/\Delta$  cells mid-sporulation**

Criteria for identifying  
Ndt80 targets

*S. cerevisiae*  
Ndt80 targets

*C. albicans*  
Ndt80 targets

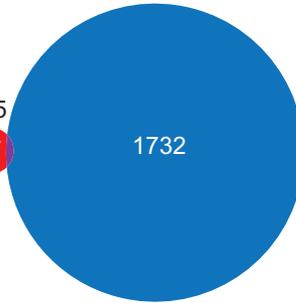
% *S. cerevisiae*  
Ndt80 targets  
shared

% *C. albicans*  
Ndt80 targets  
shared

①

Ndt80 Peak

5  
37



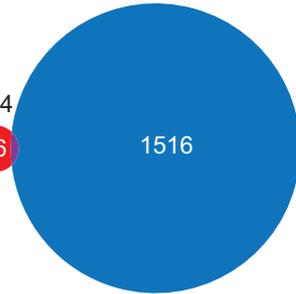
12%

3.6%

②

Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif

4  
36



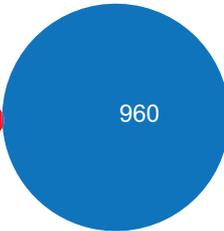
10%

0.26%

③

Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif +  
motif in closely  
related species

1  
19



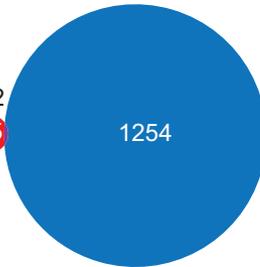
5.0%

0.10%

④

Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif +  
Ndt80-dependent  
expression

2  
25



7.4%

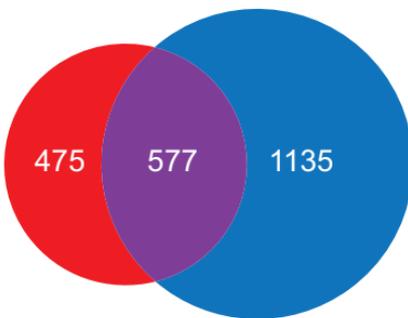
0.16%

Criteria for identifying  
Ndt80 targets

*S. cerevisiae*  
Ndt80 targets

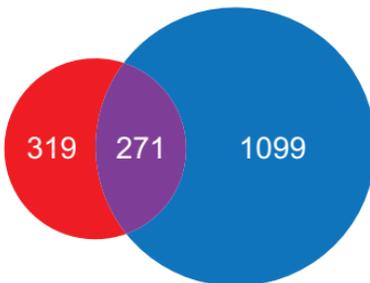
*C. albicans*  
Ndt80 targets

① Ndt80 Peak



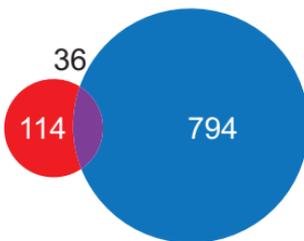
21%  
shared

② Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif



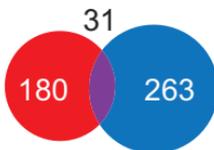
14%  
shared

③ Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif +  
motif in closely  
related species



3.7%  
shared

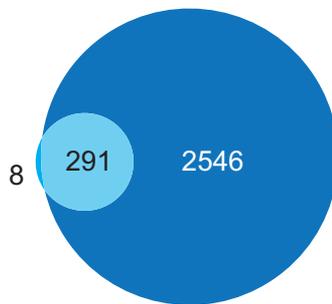
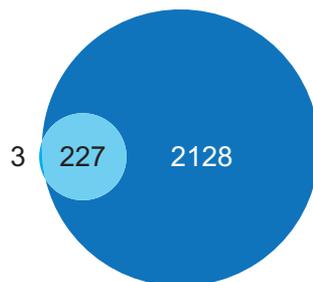
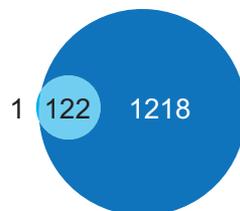
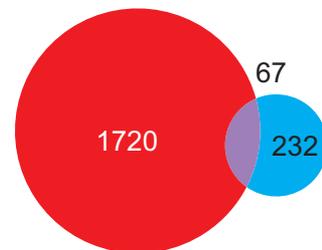
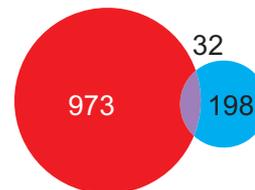
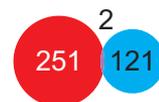
④ Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif +  
Ndt80-dependent  
expression

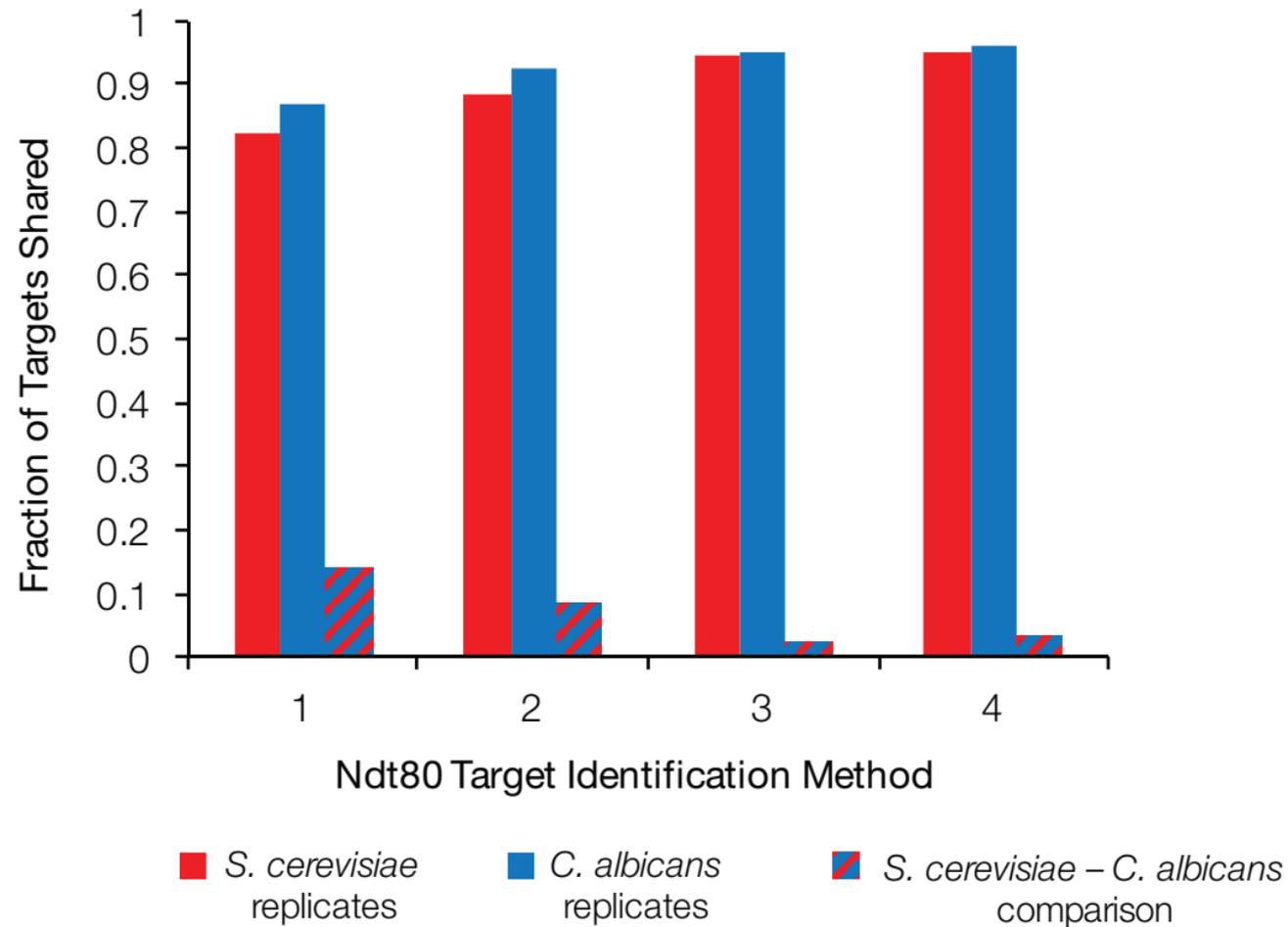


6.1%  
shared

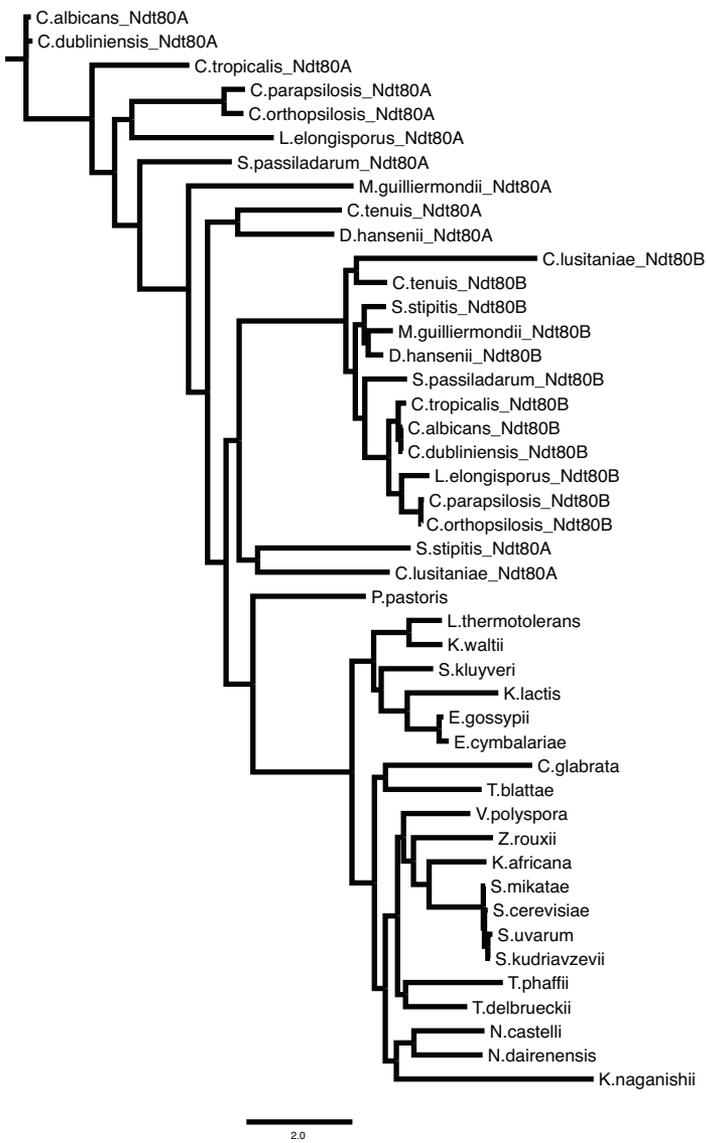
**A**Criteria for identifying  
Ndt80 targets*C. albicans*  
Ndt80A targets*C. albicans*  
Ndt80B targets

① Ndt80 Peak

② Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif③ Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif +  
motif in closely  
related species④ Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif +  
Ndt80-dependent  
expression**B***S. cerevisiae*  
Ndt80 targets*C. albicans*  
Ndt80A targets3.2%  
shared2.6%  
shared0.53%  
shared0.69%  
shared



A



B

Species	Ndt80	Ndt80A	Ndt80B
<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	YHR124W	N/A	N/A
<i>K. lactis</i>	KLLA0F24420g	N/A	N/A
<i>V. polyspora</i>	Kpol_1048.8	N/A	N/A
<i>T. phaffii</i>	TPHA0I01370	N/A	N/A
<i>T. blattae</i>	TBLA0D00350	N/A	N/A
<i>N. dairenensis</i>	NDAI0B04400	N/A	N/A
<i>N. castelli</i>	NCAS0B07070	N/A	N/A
<i>K. naganishii</i>	KNAG0H03590	N/A	N/A
<i>K. africana</i>	KAFROF00660	N/A	N/A
<i>C. glabrata</i>	CAGL0L13090g	N/A	N/A
<i>S. uvarum</i>	Suva_15.321	N/A	N/A
<i>S. kudriavzevii</i>	Skud_8.185	N/A	N/A
<i>S. mikatae</i>	Smik_8.202	N/A	N/A
<i>Z. rouxii</i>	ZYROOG06160g	N/A	N/A
<i>T. delbrueckii</i>	TDELOB04970	N/A	N/A
<i>E. gossypii</i>	AGR347W	N/A	N/A
<i>E. cymbalariae</i>	Ecym_8187	N/A	N/A
<i>S. kluyveri</i>	SAKLOE11330g	N/A	N/A
<i>L. thermotolerans</i>	KLTH0B05544g	N/A	N/A
<i>K. waltii</i>	Kwal_33.14699	N/A	N/A
<i>C. albicans</i>	N/A	orf19.513	orf19.2119
<i>C. dubliniensis</i>	N/A	CD36_29580	CD36_15120
<i>C. tropicalis</i>	N/A	CTRG_00389	CTRG_01097
<i>C. parapsilosis</i>	N/A	CPAR2_202090	CPAR2_213640
<i>C. orthopsilosis</i>	N/A	CORTOD02140	CORT0A12970
<i>L. elongisporus</i>	N/A	LELG_03337	LELG_01178
<i>D. hansenii</i>	N/A	DEHA2F21230g	DEHA2A07282g
<i>S. stipitis</i>	N/A	PICST_21174	PICST_81430
<i>C. tenuis</i>	N/A	CANTEDRAFT_111455	CANTEDRAFT_116020
<i>S. passiladarum</i>	N/A	SPAPADRAFT_134277	SPAPADRAFT_60902
<i>M. guilliermondii</i>	N/A	PGUG_00339	PGUG_02096
<i>C. lusitaniae</i>	N/A	CLUG_05634	CLUG_00404

C

	<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	<i>K. lactis</i>	<i>P. pastoris</i>	<i>C. lusitaniae</i> Ndt80A	<i>S. stipitis</i> Ndt80A	<i>C. albicans</i> Ndt80A	<i>C. lusitaniae</i> Ndt80B	<i>S. stipitis</i> Ndt80B	<i>C. albicans</i> Ndt80B
<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	100								
<i>K. lactis</i>	32.83	100							
<i>P. pastoris</i>	25.91	28.7	100						
<i>C. lusitaniae</i> Ndt80A	23.71	24.19	24.92	100					
<i>S. stipitis</i> Ndt80A	37.8	38.59	46.89	45.45	100				
<i>C. albicans</i> Ndt80A	24.06	25.5	30.4	25.11	42.98	100			
<i>C. lusitaniae</i> Ndt80B	33.66	31.8	33.13	38.75	38.59	32.65	100		
<i>S. stipitis</i> Ndt80B	34.66	34.39	38.4	41.14	41.46	37.67	36.78	100	
<i>C. albicans</i> Ndt80B	35.05	32.29	35.09	40.46	39.84	35.08	38.66	54.15	100

①

Ndt80 Peak

②

Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif

③

Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif +  
motif in closely  
related species

④

Ndt80 Peak +  
binding motif +  
motif in closely  
related species +  
Ndt80-dependent  
expression*K. lactis*

979 total



609 total



119 total



16 total

*P. pastoris*

1165 total



607 total

(N/A)



57 total

*S. stipitis*

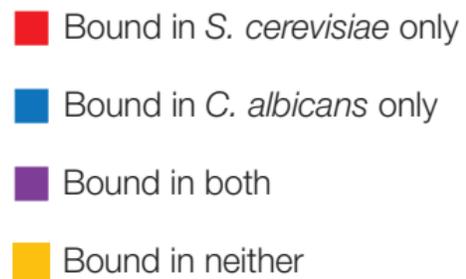
2736 total



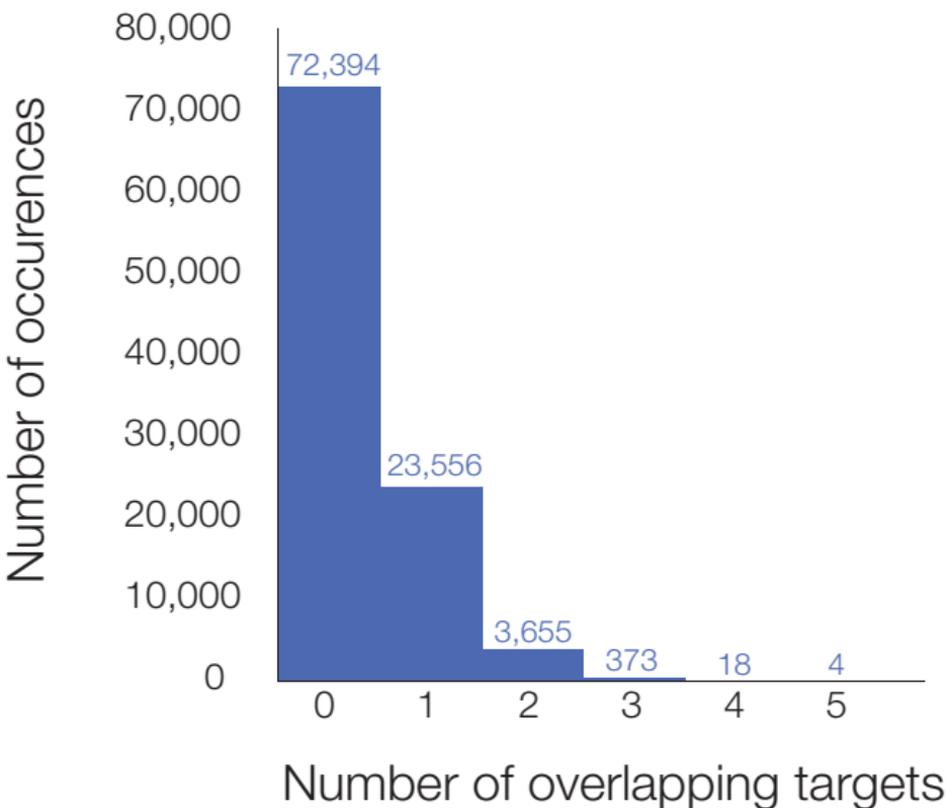
1981 total

(N/A)

(N/A)

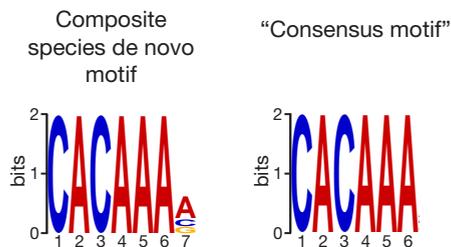


# Ndt80 target gene overlap in simulated ChIP experiments



Species	Tagged protein	Tagged protein promoter	De novo motif	e-value
<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	Ndt80	pGal1		1.5E-257
<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	Ndt80	Endogenous		2.7E-047
<i>K. lactis</i>	Ndt80	pGal1		1.8E-010
<i>P. pastoris</i>	Ndt80	pTef1		1.3E-009
<i>S. stipitis</i>	Ndt80A	pTef1		1.1E-002
<i>S. stipitis</i>	Ndt80B	pTef1		2.5E-084
<i>C. albicans</i>	Ndt80A	pTDH3		6.6E-003
<i>C. albicans</i>	Ndt80B	pTDH3		1.5E-257
<i>C. albicans</i>	Ndt80B	Endogenous		2.9E-166

B



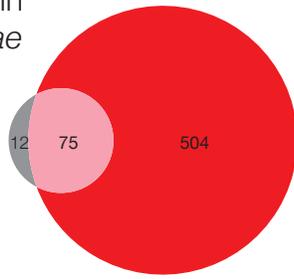
C

Species	Tagged protein	Tagged protein promoter	Total peaks	Peaks with consensus motif	Enrichment p-value
<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	Ndt80	pGal1	2767	1097	3.16E-124
<i>S. cerevisiae</i>	Ndt80	Endogenous	596	214	2.97E-20
<i>K. lactis</i>	Ndt80	pGal1	1036	246	1.22E-08
<i>P. pastoris</i>	Ndt80	pTef1	1242	274	3.27E-10
<i>S. stipitis</i>	Ndt80A	pTef1	772	131	1.89E-04
<i>S. stipitis</i>	Ndt80B	pTef1	3355	882	5.92E-53
<i>C. albicans</i>	Ndt80A	pTDH3	1461	277	6.46E-01
<i>C. albicans</i>	Ndt80B	pTDH3	4473	1858	1.58E-163
<i>C. albicans</i>	Ndt80B	Endogenous	2728	1155	4.86E-76

**A**

*P. pastoris* Ndt80  
expressed in  
*S. cerevisiae*

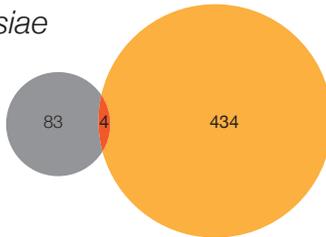
*S. cerevisiae* Ndt80  
expressed in  
*S. cerevisiae*

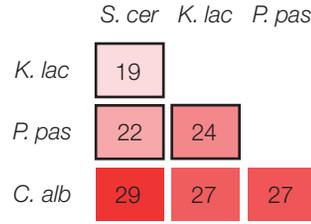
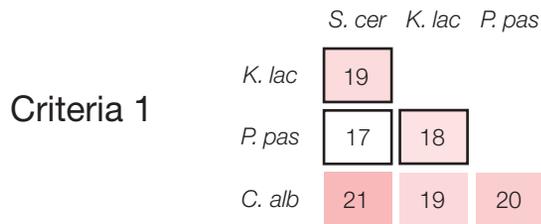
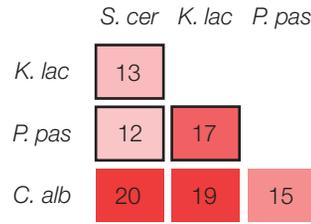
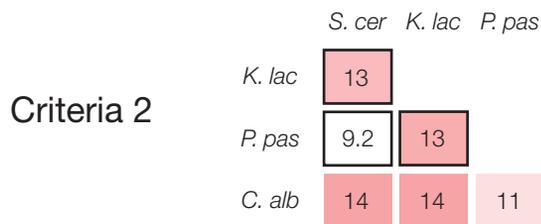
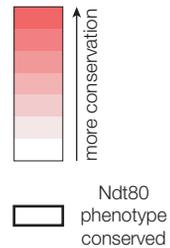
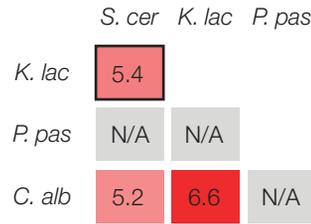
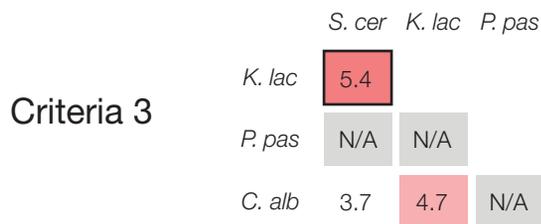
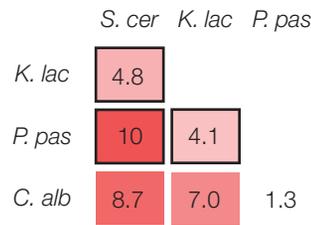
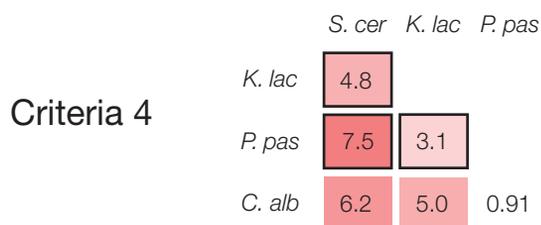


**B**

*P. pastoris* Ndt80  
expressed in  
*S. cerevisiae*

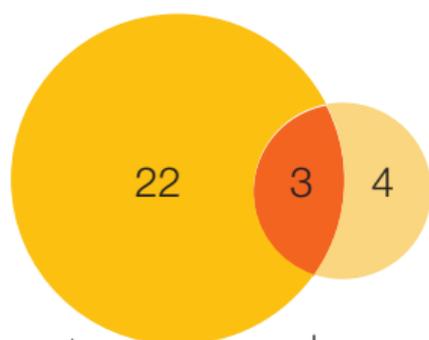
*P. pastoris* Ndt80  
expressed in  
*P. pastoris*



**A**Percent of all Ndt80 targets shared  
between any two speciesConservation in Ndt80 targets/  
Overall species conservation**B****C****D**

Shared sporulation  
genes

Shared Ndt80-  
dependent genes



ATG4  
CAT2  
DIT2  
DPH1  
ERF2  
FKS3  
IME2  
INO1  
MUM2  
MUM3  
NUS1  
PFS1  
RIM4  
RRT8  
SGA1  
SIP4  
SMC3  
SMK1  
SPS22  
YAT2  
YGL138C  
YOR338W

GAS2  
HYM1  
MIP6

CDC5  
CDC10  
CDC3  
SSP1

Gene	<i>K. lactis</i>	<i>P. pastoris</i>
ATG8		
MUM2		
SPO73		
AMA1		
RIM4		
SMC3		
IME2		
CDC16		
ATG4		
IME4		
SET1		
NDT80		
SPO75		
IRC19		
ATP10		
SSP2		
RTC6		
SPO1		
CDC10		
CDC14		
VAM7		
SSP1		
SMA2		
CDC5		
ATG3		
BUB3		
SWM1		
HOP2		
ATG1		
MND1		
SAE3		
SPO77		
OSW1		
CDC20		
SPO74		
YPT7		
CNM67		
PKH2		
CBC2		
HRP25		
GIP1		
ALG7		
SPO71		
ARG82		
PEP7		
BIM1		
YPT1		
SAE2		
BUD32		
CDC23		
SWI3		
SPO14		
PDS5		
SEC14		
STO1		
MET22		
VPS30		
PLC1		
YGR226C		
EMI2		
SPO20		
YMR158W-B		
SPO21		
MPC54		
SSO1		

- Gene upregulated in meiotic vs. mitotic growth
- Gene not upregulated in meiotic vs. mitotic growth
- Gene not present in species