

Identifying proteins and metabolic pathways associated to the neuroprotective response mediated by tibolone in astrocytes under an induced inflammatory model

Presented by:

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in partial fulfillment of requirements for the degree of

Master in Bioinformatics

Advisors: **Janneth Gonzalez PhD.** and **Andrés Pinzón PhD.**
Bioinformatics and Computational Systems Biology Lab



Universidad Nacional de Colombia
Engineering Faculty - Department of Systems and Industrial Engineering
Bogotá, Colombia

Objectives:

To identify proteins and metabolic pathways involved in the neuroprotective effects of tibolone in human astrocytes based in metabolic scenarios comparation we set:

- ▶ Build a tissue specific computational model of astrocytes metabolism using gene expression data integration.
- ▶ Evaluate the effects caused by the increase of free fatty acids and tibolone presence in astrocytes metabolism.
- ▶ Determine metabolic pathways and relevant functional products in response to steroid tibolone through systems biology approximations.
- ▶ Evaluate the importance of proteins and metabolic pathways previously identified on the dynamics of the metabolic model.

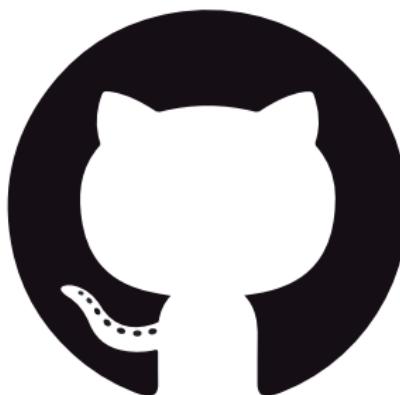
Reproducibility

ALL **ANALYSIS** WERE
PERFORMED USING



VERSION: **3.3.1**

ALL **CODE, DATA, DOCUMENTS AND
SLIDES** ARE AVAILABLE AT:



GITHUB: **[dosorio/masterThesis](#)**

FBA: **SYBIL** (Gelius-Dietrich, G. et al., 2013)

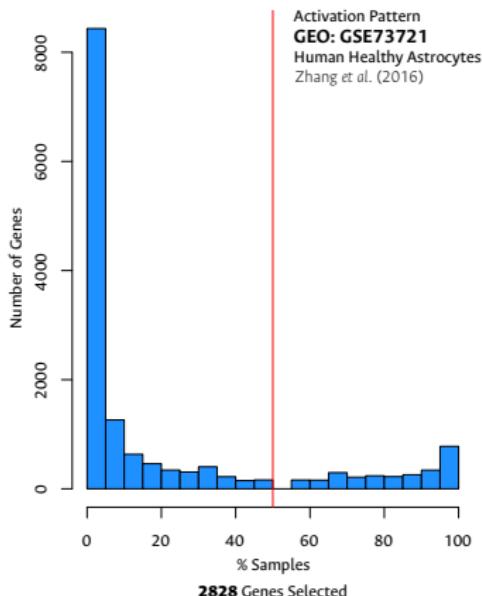
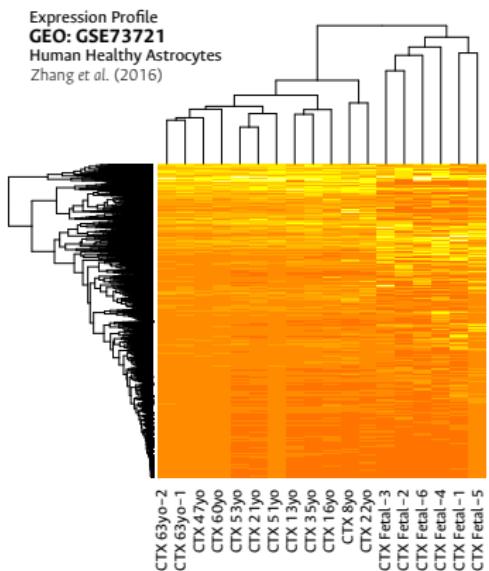
LP SOLVER: **GLPK 4.6**

LICENSE: **GNU GPL3**

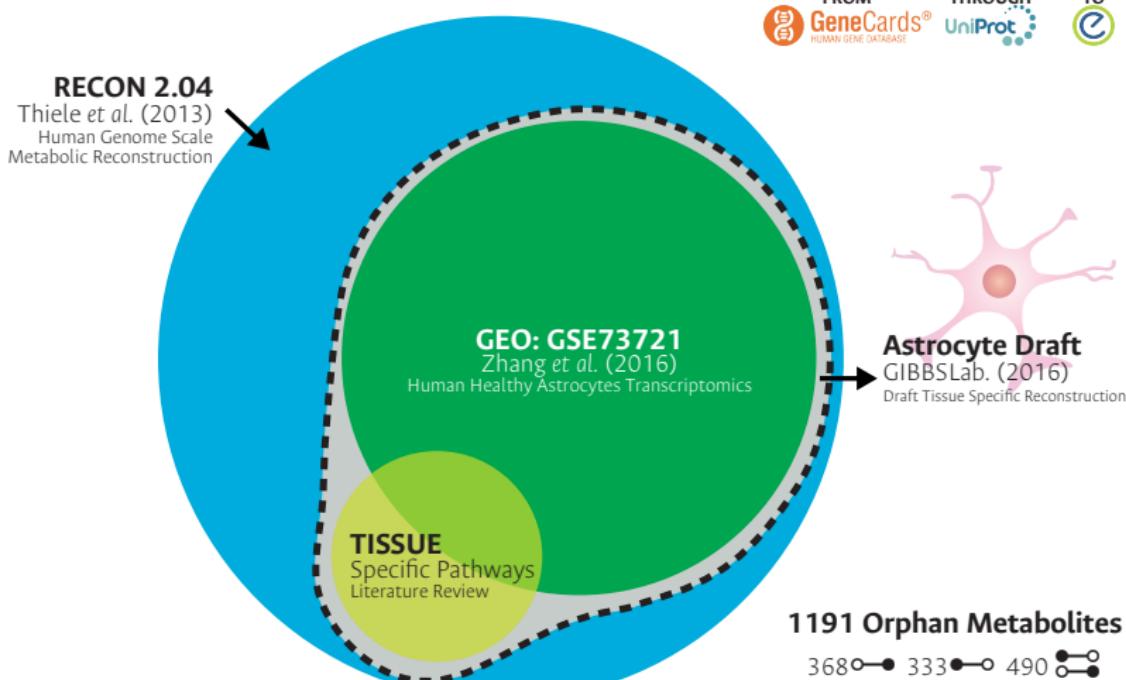
OBJECTIVE 1:

Build a tissue specific computational model of astrocytes metabolism using gene expression data integration.

Healthy Human Astrocytes Gene Expression Data



Mapping Reactions



Gap-Find and Gap-Fill Available Algorithms

ALGORITHM	ENVIRONMENT	HOW IT WORKS
SMILEY	Python - OpenSource	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Optimization based.Fills one metabolite per time.
gap-Find/Fill	GAMS - OpenSource	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Optimization based.Makes several intra model modifications.
growMatch	Python - OpenSource	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Optimization based.Fills one objective function per time.
fastGapFill	MATLAB - Privative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Optimization based.Multiobjective.

Finding and Filling Gaps



'g2f' Package

An R Package to Find and Fill Gaps for genome-scale metabolic networks

Kelly Botero, Daniel Osorio, Janneth Gonzalez and Andres Pinzón-Velasco.

Language: R

Stable: CRAN

Development: [gibbslab/g2f](#)

License: GPL-2

Binaries: Windows - Linux - Mac

$\text{h2o[r]} + \text{dheas[r]} \Rightarrow \text{h[r]} + \text{dhea[r]} + \text{so4[r]}$
 $\text{uri[e]} \Leftrightarrow \text{uri[c]}$
 $\text{na1[e]} + \text{uri[e]} \Rightarrow \text{na1[c]} + \text{uri[c]}$
 $\text{atp[c]} + \text{pi[m]} \Rightarrow \text{pi[c]} + \text{atp[m]}$
 $\text{na1[e]} + \text{gchola[e]} \Rightarrow \text{na1[c]} + \text{gchola[c]}$

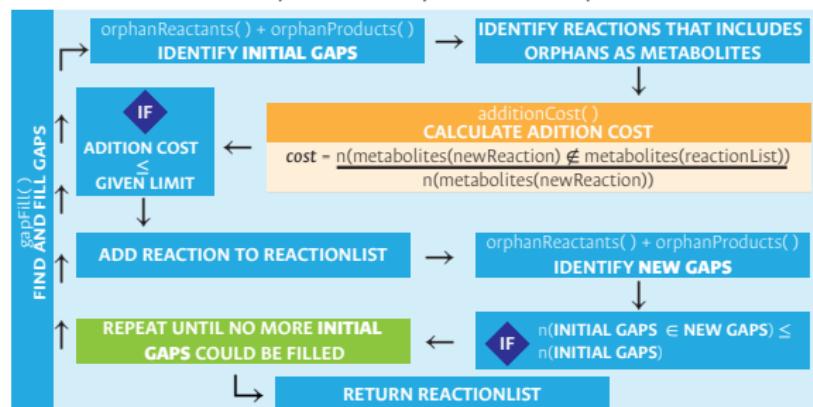
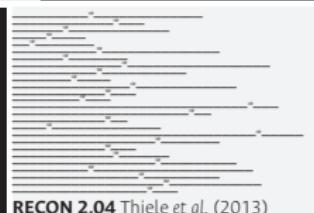
ASTROCYTE DRAFT GiBBS Lab (2016)

REACTIONLIST



getReference()
DOWNLOAD
STOICHIOMETRIC REACTIONS
FROM THE KEGG DATABASE

REFERENCE



Syntax, Mass-Charge Validation and SBML files



'minval' Package

An R Package for MINimal VALidation of stoichiometric reactions

Daniel Osorio, Janneth Gonzalez and Andres Pinzón-Velasco.

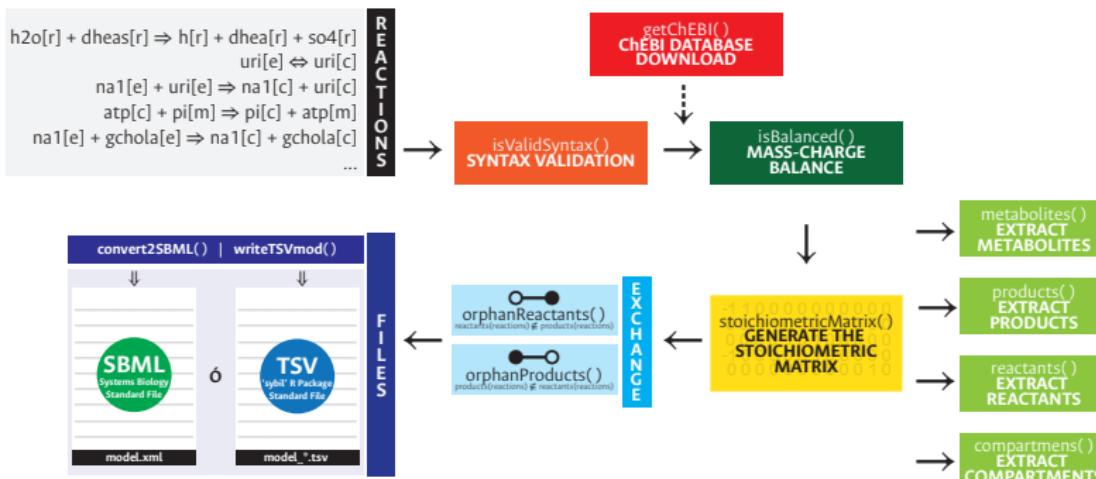
Language: R

Stable: CRAN

Development: [gibbslab/minval](#)

License: [GPL-2](#)

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Metabolic Model Debugging



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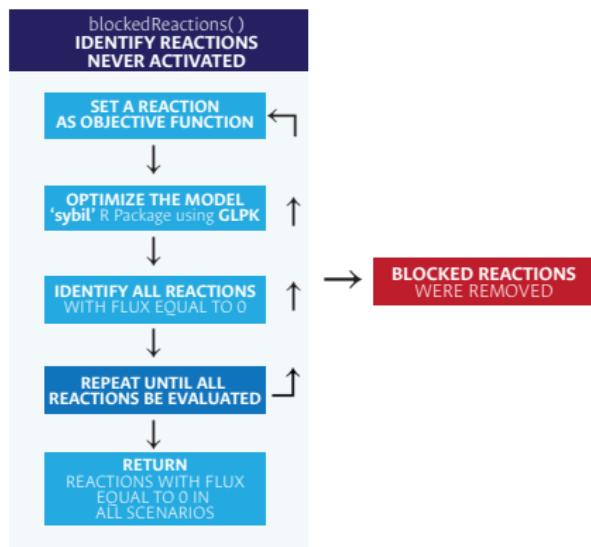
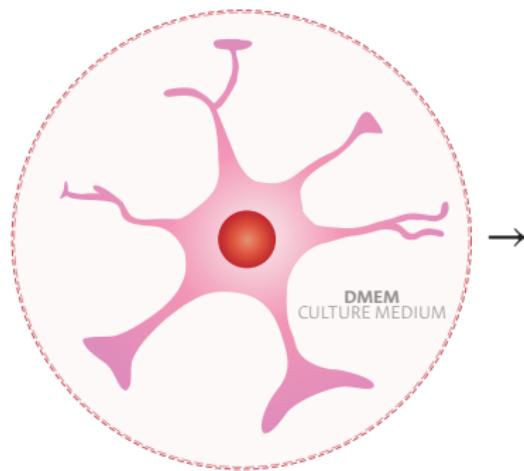
Language: R

Stable: CRAN

Development: [gibbslab/g2f](#)

License: [GPL-2](#)

Binaries: Windows - Linux - Mac



Gene Expression Integration Available Methods

METHOD	ENVIRONMENT	HOW IT WORKS
GIMME	MATLAB Privative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Binary Discretization· Ensures flux for a selected objective function
iMAT	MATLAB Privative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Integration proportional to gene-expression (H, M and L categorization)· Not objective function required
E-FLUX	Not implemented	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Requires a user-given threshold· Continuous Integration
PROM	MATLAB Privative	<ul style="list-style-type: none">· Requires a user-given regulatory network· Constraints are setting according to the associated transcript. factor

Constraining the Metabolic Model



'exp2flux' Package

An R Package to convert expression data to FBA fluxes

Daniel Osorio, Kelly Botero, Janneth Gonzalez and Andres Pinzón-Velasco.

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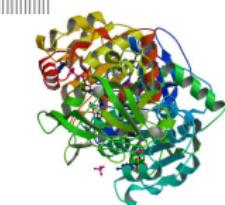
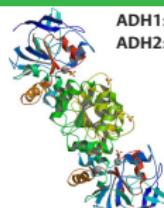
E.C: 1.1.1.1



1.1.1.1

ADH2

ADH1



(ADH2 or ADH1)

sum (ExprADH2 + ExprADH1)

E.C: 3.4.21.5



3.4.21.5

IDE.A

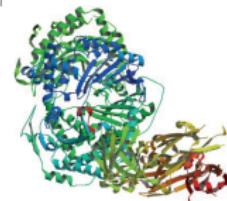
IDE.B

IDE.C

IDE.A:

IDE.B:

IDE.C:



GPR

(IDE.A and IDE.B and IDE.C)

min (ExprIDE.A, ExprIDE.B, ExprIDE.C)

GENE EXPRESSION
DATA



exp2flux()
CONVERT GENE
EXPRESSION DATA
TO FBA FLUXES



CONSTRAINED
METABOLIC MODEL



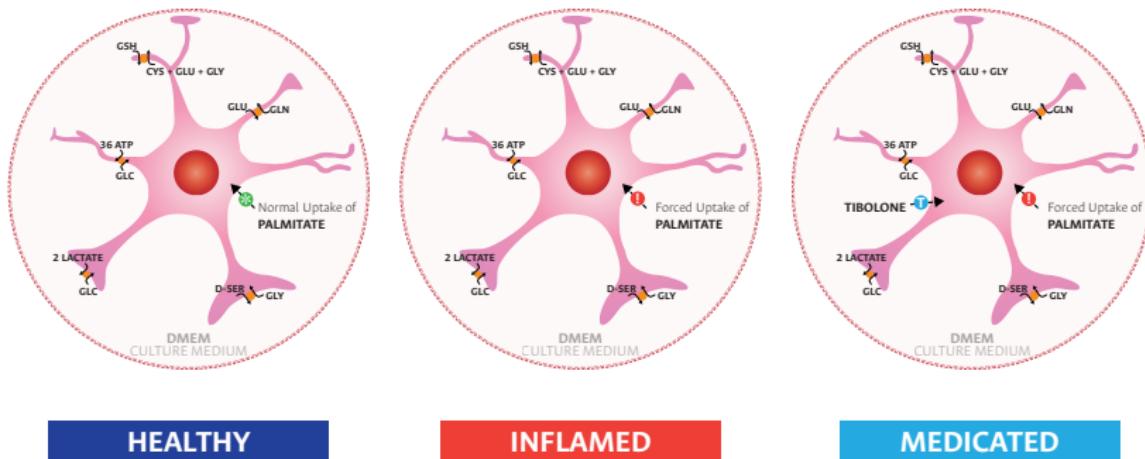
fluxDifferences()
COMPUTE FOLDCHANGE
OF FLUXES BETWEEN
METABOLIC SCENARIOS

METABOLIC MODEL
WITH GPR

OBJECTIVE 2:

Evaluate the effects caused by the increase of free fatty acids and tibolone presence in astrocytes metabolism.

Metabolic Scenarios



HEALTHY

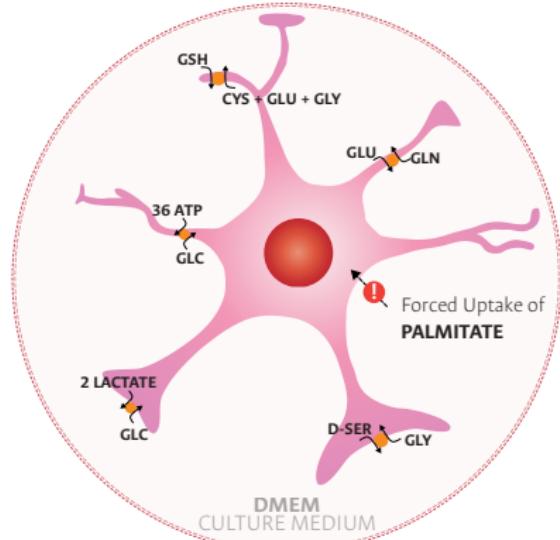
INFLAMED

MEDICATED

MAIN OBJECTIVE FUNCTION:

Generic Human Biomass Reaction included in RECON 2.04
(Thiele *et al.*, 2013)

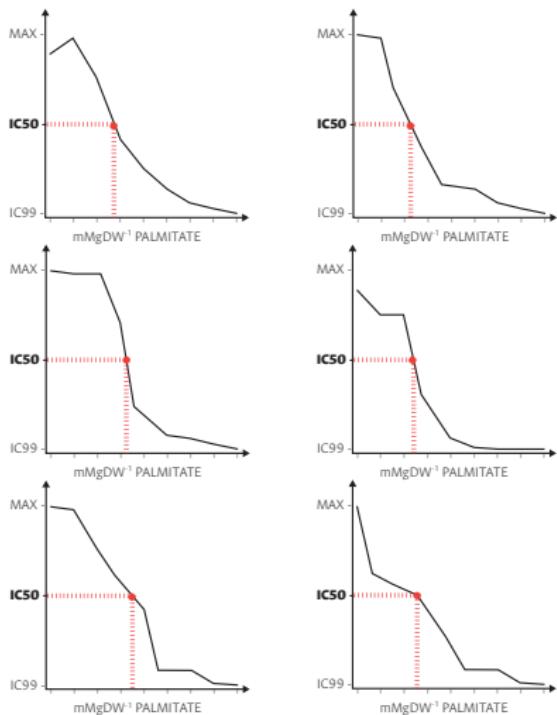
Inflamed Metabolic Scenario



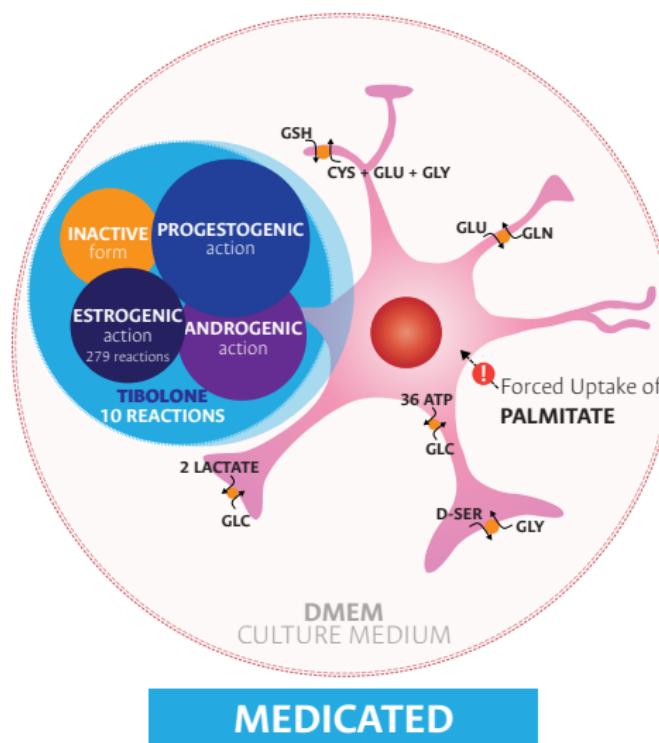
PALMITATE UPTAKE RATE: AVERAGED IC₅₀ VALUES

INFLAMED

ROBUSTNESS ANALYSIS



Medicated Metabolic Scenario

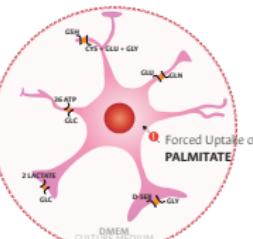
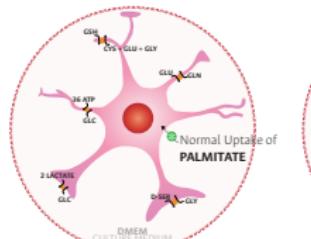


OBJECTIVE 3:

Determine metabolic pathways and relevant functional products in response to steroid tibolone through systems biology approximations.

Metabolic Pathways Activation Pattern Changes

INFLAMMATION CHANGES

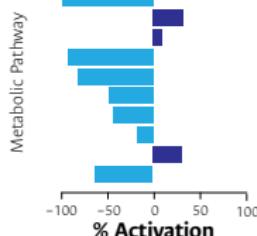


HEALTHY

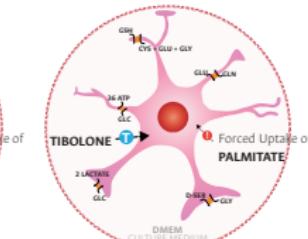
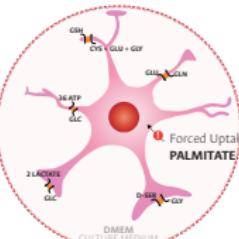
INFLAMED

```
fluxDifferences()
COMPUTE FoldChange
OF FLUXES BETWEEN
METABOLIC SCENARIOS
```

Metabolic Changes



TIBOLONE CHANGES

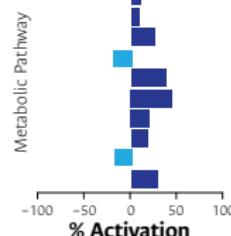


INFLAMED

MEDICATED

```
fluxDifferences()
COMPUTE FoldChange
OF FLUXES BETWEEN
METABOLIC SCENARIOS
```

Metabolic Changes



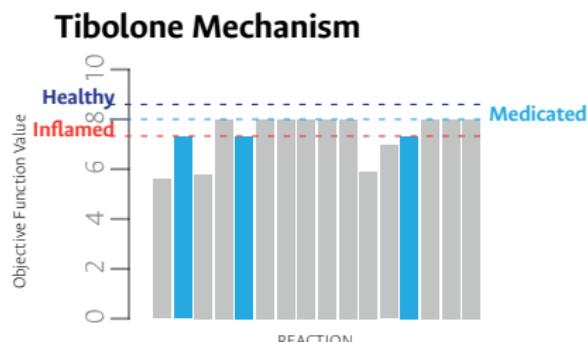
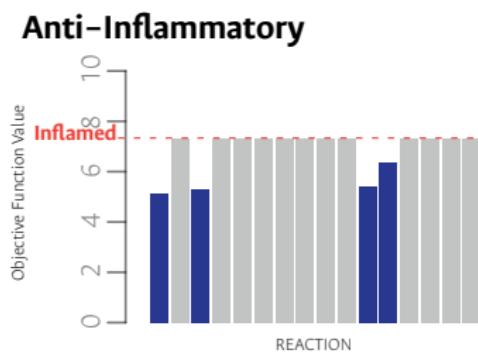
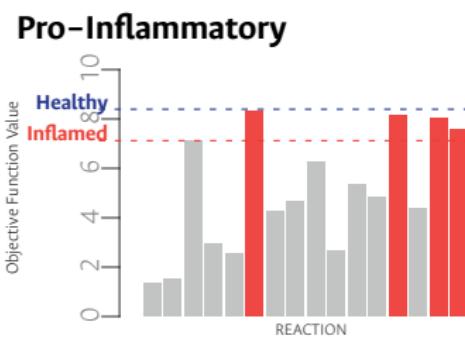
$$\text{foldChange} = \frac{\text{FluxModel2} - \text{FluxModel1}}{|\text{FluxModel1}|}$$



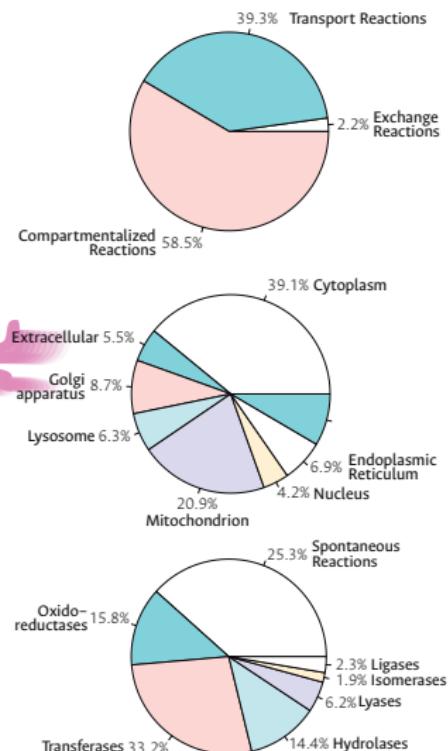
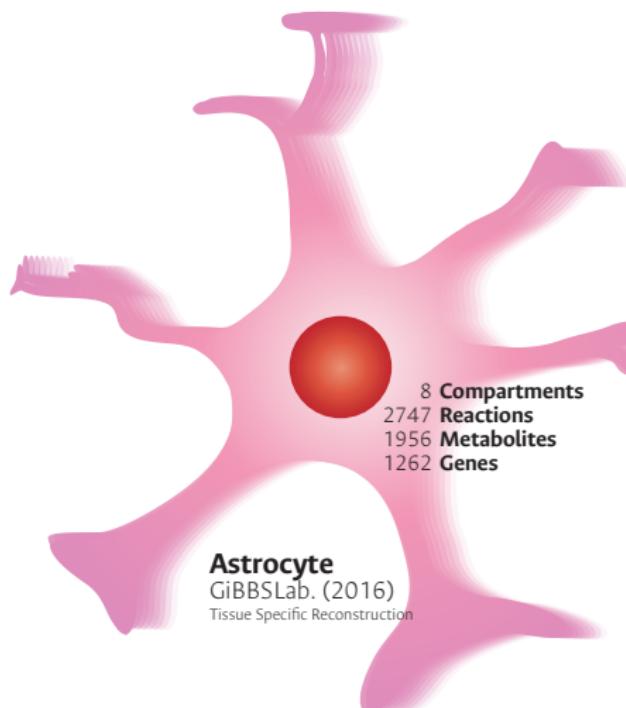
OBJECTIVE 4:

Evaluate the importance of proteins and metabolic pathways previously identified on the dynamics of the metabolic model.

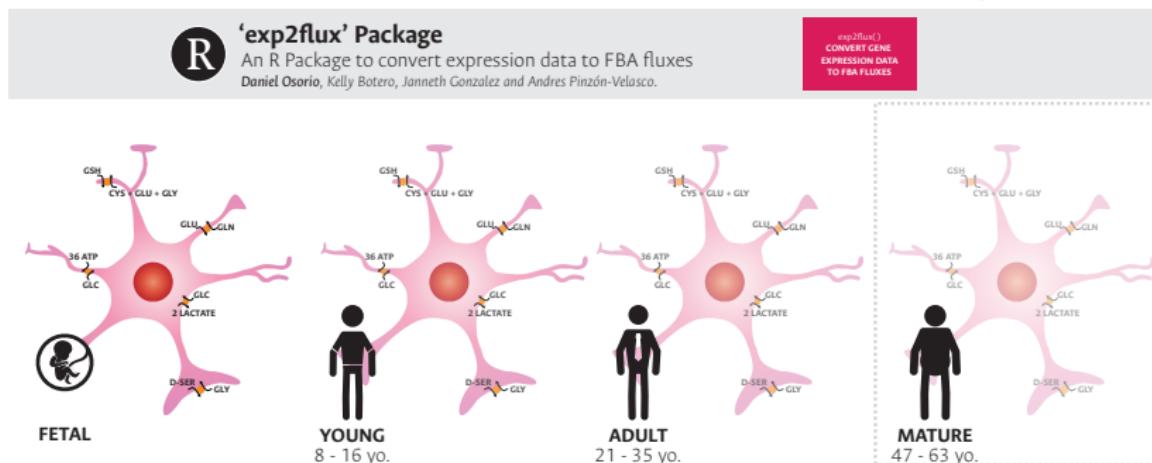
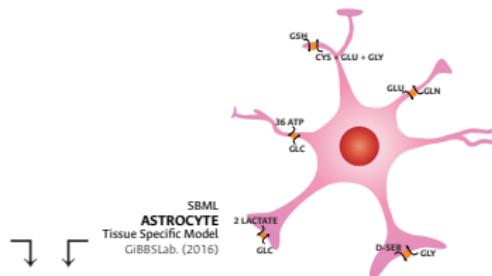
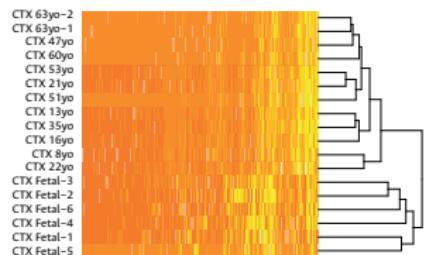
Reaction Knock-out: Protein Importance



Tissue Specific Metabolic Reconstruction



Human Healthy Mature Astrocyte Model

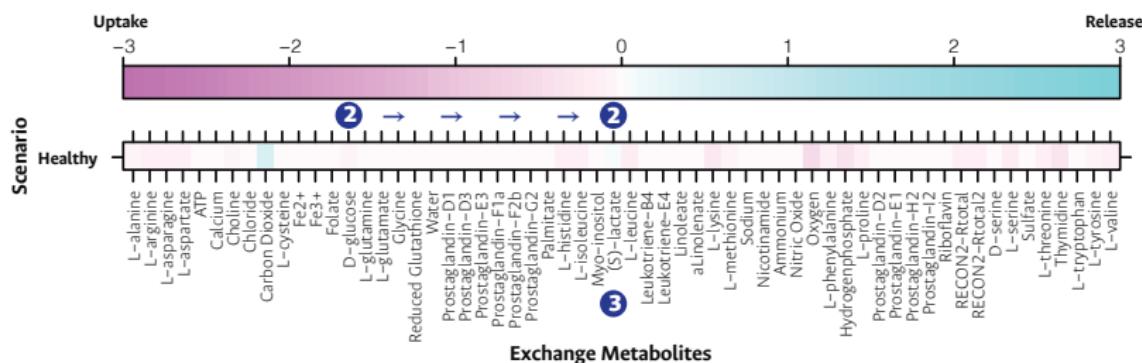


Cellular Maintenance: Healthy Scenario

① OBJECTIVE FUNCTION: 0.37 mMgWD-1h-1

DMEM Culture Medium

METABOLISM ACTIVATION: 52%



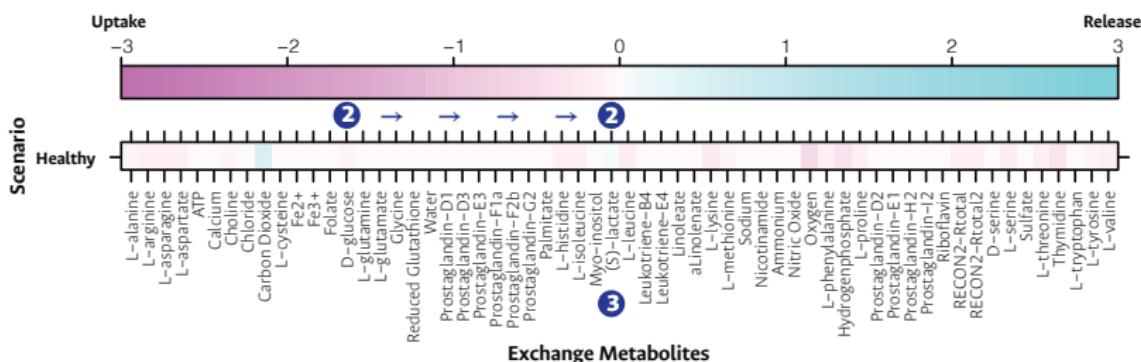
① Arabinda Das, et al. (2010). Flavonoids activated caspases for apoptosis in human glioblastoma T98G and U87MG cells but not in human normal astrocytes.

Cellular Maintenance: Healthy Scenario

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② Tunahan Cakir *et al.* (2007). Reconstruction and flux analysis of coupling between metabolic pathways of astrocytes and neurons: application to cerebral hypoxia.

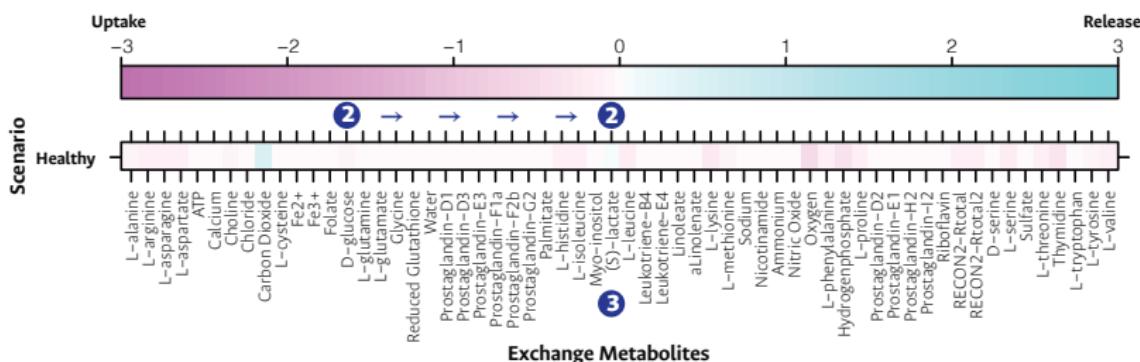
③ Rupa Bhowmick, *et al.* (2015). Exploring the differences in metabolic behavior of astrocyte and glioblastoma: a flux balance analysis approach.

Cellular Maintenance: Healthy Scenario

① OBJECTIVE FUNCTION: **0.37 mMgWD-1h-1**

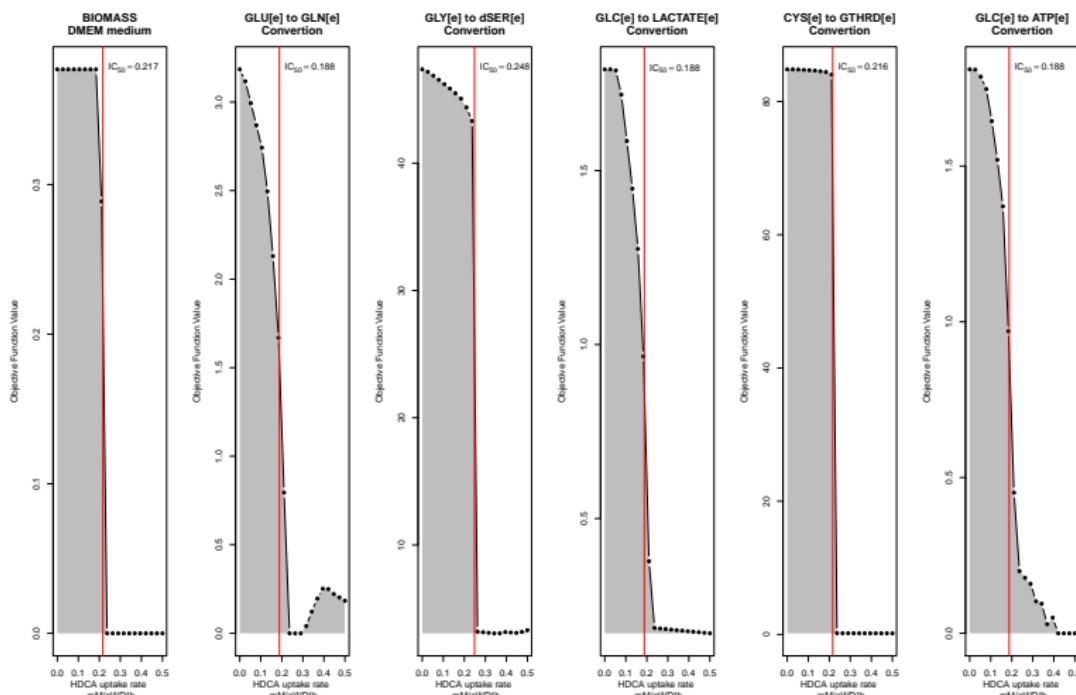
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- ③ Rupa Bhowmick, et al. (2015). Exploring the differences in metabolic behavior of astrocyte and glioblastoma: a flux balance analysis approach.
- ④ Christelle Le Foll, et al. (2010). Fatty acid-induced astrocyte ketone production and the control of food intake.

Averaged IC₅₀: $0.208 \pm 0.024 \text{ mMgDW}^{-1}\text{h}^{-1}$



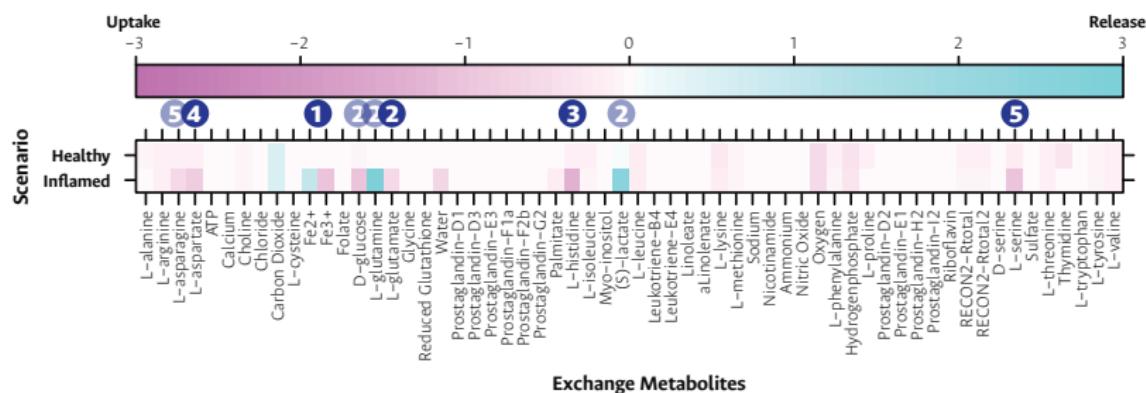
Li Liu et al. (2013) Palmitate-activated astrocytes via serine palmitoyltransferase increase BACE1 in primary neurons by sphingomyelinases.

Cellular Maintenance: Inflamed Scenario

OBJECTIVE FUNCTION: **0.31 mMgWD-1h-1** (-15.6%)

DMEM Culture Medium + 0.208 mM Palmitate

METABOLISM ACTIVATION: **46.6%** (-5.6%)



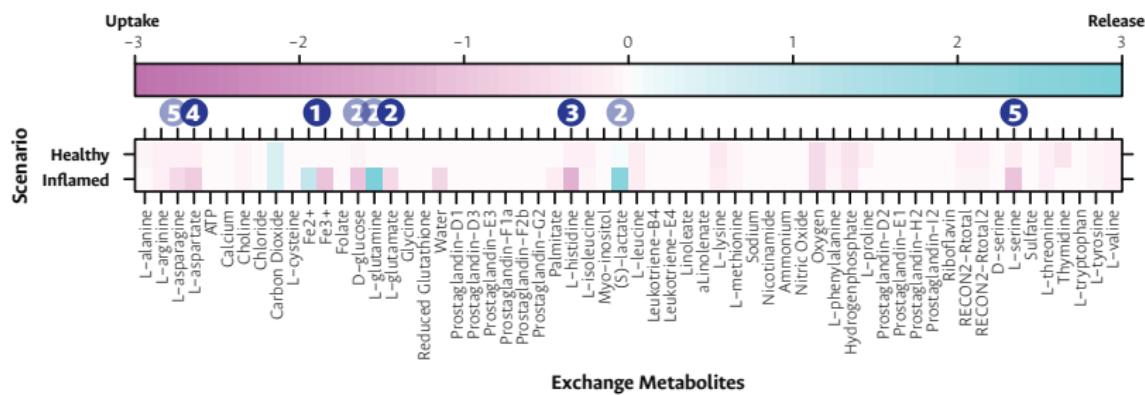
- ① Rachel Williams et al. (2012). Pathogenic implications of iron accumulation in multiple sclerosis.

Cellular Maintenance: Inflamed Scenario

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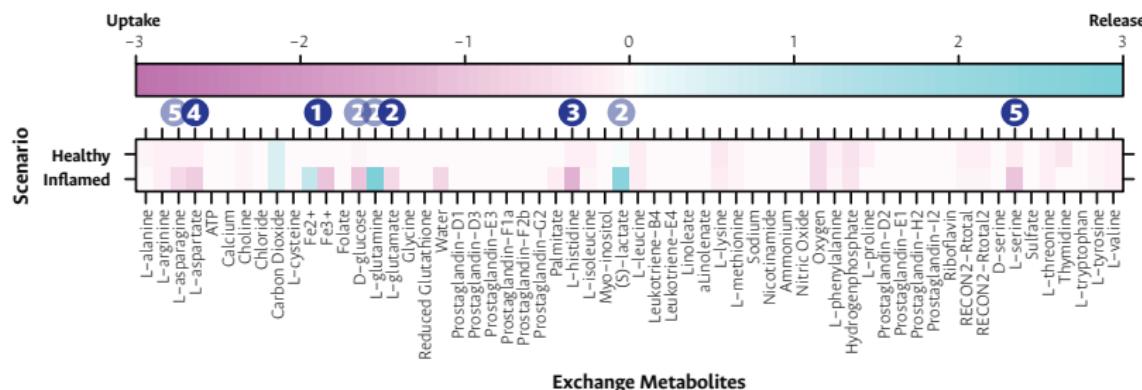
- ① Rachel Williams *et al.* (2012). Pathogenic implications of iron accumulation in multiple sclerosis.
- ② Mithilesh Kumar Jha *et al.* (2016). Metabolic Control of Glia-Mediated Neuroinflammation.
- ② V Pampura and P G Haydon. (2000). Physiological astrocytic calcium levels stimulate glutamate release to modulate adjacent neurons.
- ② Leif Hertz *et al.* (1999). Astrocytes: Glutamate producers for neurons.

Cellular Maintenance: Inflamed Scenario

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- ③ Yu-Cun Niu *et al.* (2012). Histidine and arginine are associated with inflammation and oxidative stress in obese women.
- ④ Leonard T. Rael *et al.* (2004). An anti-inflammatory role for N-acetyl aspartate in stimulated human astroglial cells.
- ⑤ D. R. Green *et al.* (2014). Metabolic control of cell death.

Gliotransmitters

- Not Released
- Released
- Increased Release
- Decreased Release



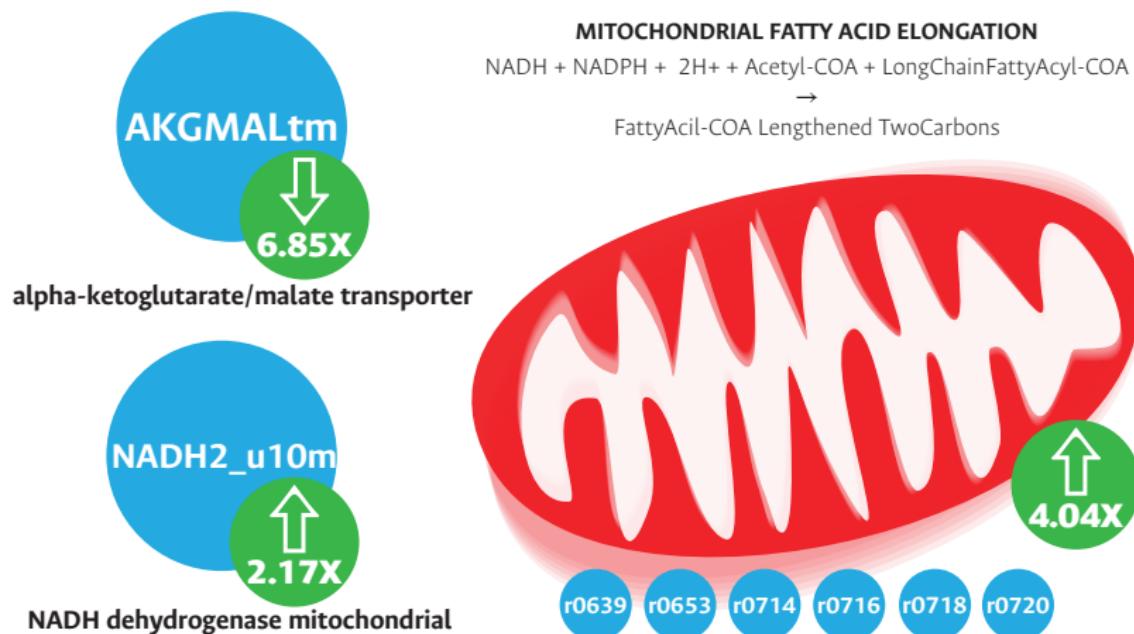
Normal Uptake of
PALMITATE
Healthy Scenario

	LACTATE	GSH	GLN	GLU	ATP	SERD		LACTATE	GSH	GLN	GLU	ATP	SERD
CELLULAR MAINTENANCE (BO)													
BO + GLU → GLN													
BO + GLY → D-SER													
BO + GLC → LACTATE													
BO + GLC → ATP													
BO + CYS → GSH													



Forced Uptake of
PALMITATE
Inflamed Scenario

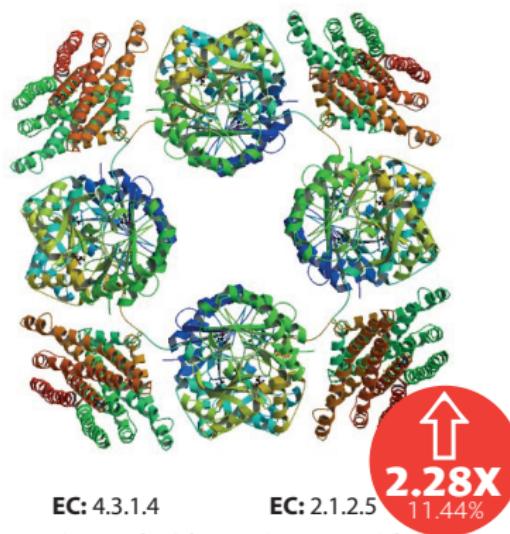
Anti-inflammatory Enzymes: Innate defence against inflammation



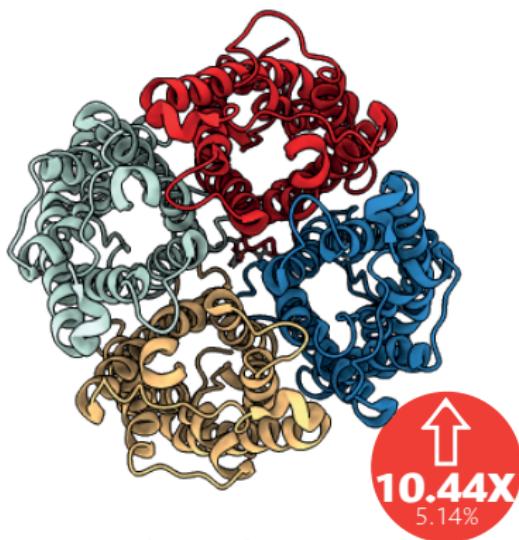
Pro-inflammatory Enzymes

FTCD

FormimidoylTransferase CycloDeaminase

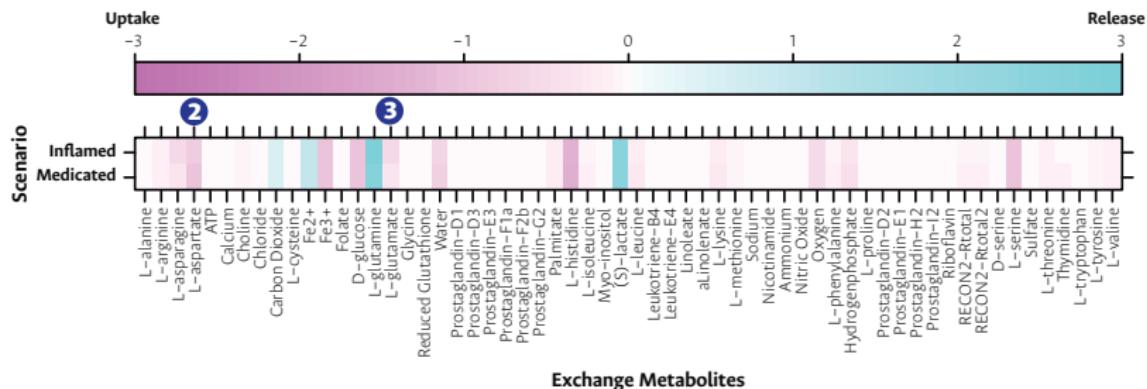
**H2Otm**

H2O Transport Mitochondrial



Cellular Maintenance: Medicated Scenario

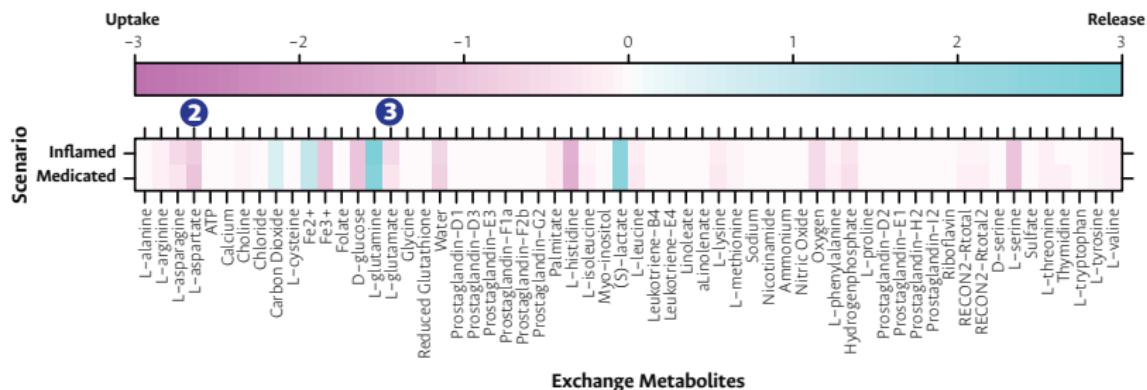
- 1** OBJECTIVE FUNCTION: **0.41 mMgWD-1h-1** (+13.26% than Healthy Scenario)
 DMEM Culture Medium + 0.208 mM Palmitate + 289 Tibolone associated reactions
 METABOLISM ACTIVATION: **46.6%**



①

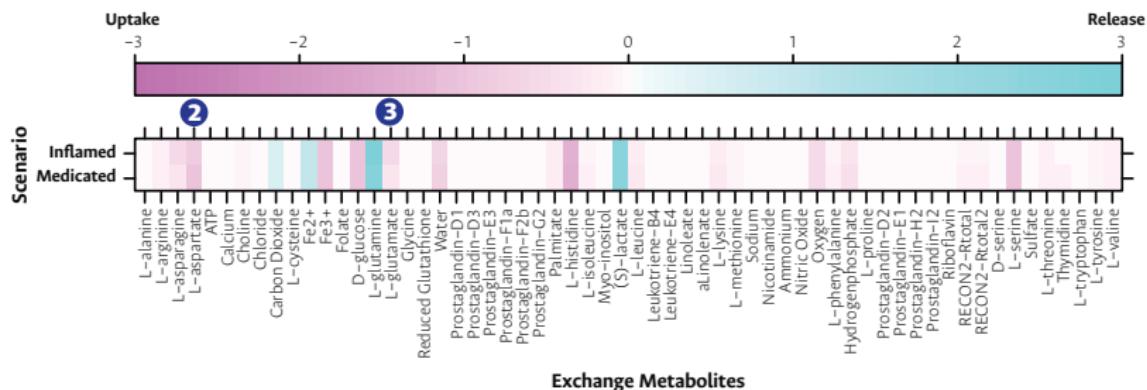
Cellular Maintenance: Medicated Scenario

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 DMEM Culture Medium + 0.208 mM Palmitate + 289 Tibolone associated reactions
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**①****②**

Cellular Maintenance: Medicated Scenario

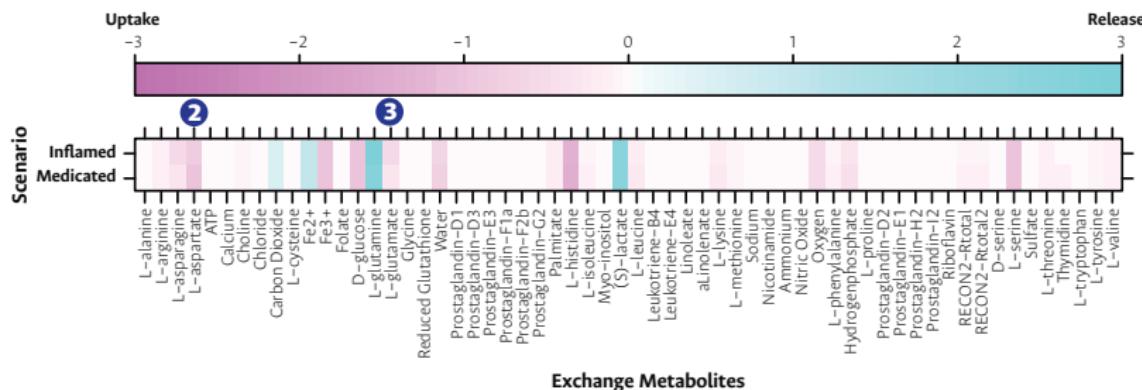
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- (1)
 (2)
 (3)

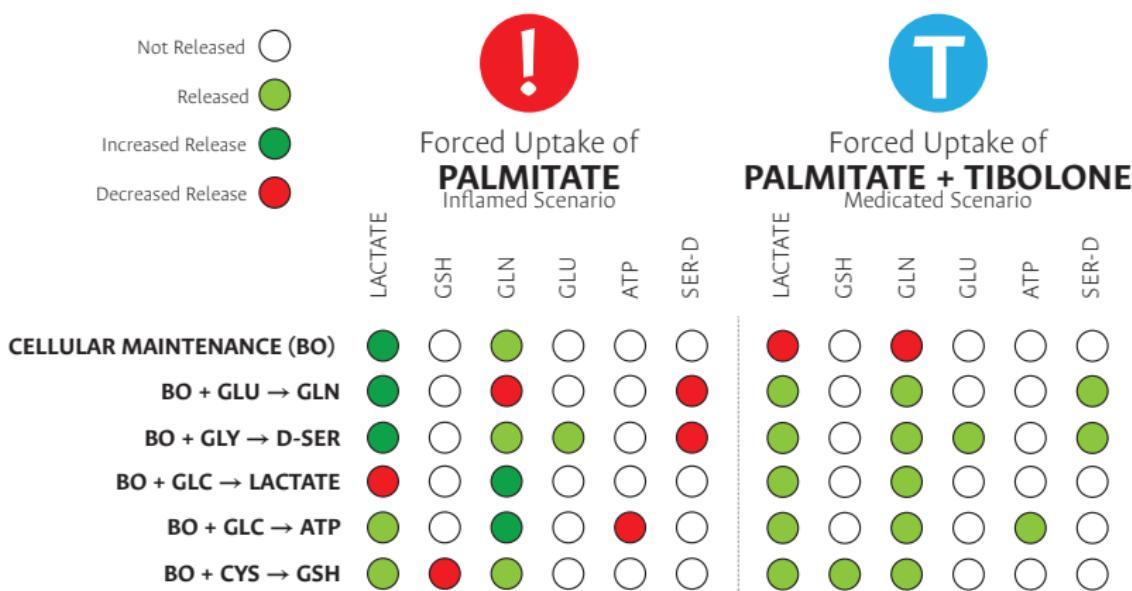
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 METABOLISM ACTIVATION: **46.6%**



- ①
- ②
- ③

Gliotransmitters



Conclusions

1. A tissue-specific metabolic reconstruction for mature astrocytes has been developed and on it, three different metabolic scenarios were modeled.
2. The metabolic model was capable of yielding results which were in correspondence to the experimentally proved metabolic processes.
3. Adverse effects associated with the increase of palmitate uptake were described based on exchange, metabolite production, and metabolic pathways perturbed under the inflammatory response.
4. Two possible reactions and their associated enzymes susceptible to be knocked out to reduce the metabolic inflammation were identified.

Conclusions

5. Based on literature reports a tibolone medicated scenario was modeled and used to identify and describe the neuroprotective effects of this synthetic neurosteroid under an inflamed scenario in mature astrocytes.
6. Our main results suggest that tibolone execute their neuroprotective effects through a reduction of neurotoxicity mediated by L-glutamate in mature astrocytes.
7. We found a tibolone associated increase in growth rate probably in concordance to previously reported side effects of steroids in other human cell types.

Published Software Packages



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Stable: CRAN
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License: GPL-2
Binaries: Windows - Linux - Mac

This work was presented as a set of four manuscripts

ACCEPTED WITH CORRECTIONS Osorio, D., Gonzalez, J., and Pinzón-Velasco, A. **minval: An R package for MINimal VALidation of stoichiometric reactions.** *The R Journal*.

IN PREPARATION Osorio, D., Botero, K., Gonzalez, J., and Pinzón-Velasco, A. **exp2flux: An R package to convert expression data to FBA fluxes.** To be submitted to *The R Journal*

IN PREPARATION Osorio, D., Gonzalez, J., and Pinzón-Velasco, A. **Exploring the neuroprotective effects of tibolone during astrocytic metabolic inflammation: a flux balance analysis approach.** To be submitted to *Medical Hypotheses*

IN PREPARATION Botero, K., Osorio, D., Gonzalez, J., and Pinzón-Velasco, A. **g2f: An R packafe to find and fill gaps for genome-scale metabolic networks.** To be submitted to *The R Journal*

Advances of this work were presented as:

Metabolic inflammation effects over the gliotransmitters release in mature astrocytes: a network-based approach.

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Bioinformatics and Computational Systems Biology Lab, Universidad Nacional de Colombia.



at: _____



CDMX, México
Short Talk



Barcelona, España
Poster

ICGEB Course on Bioinformatics and Computational Neuroscience



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5 - 8 October - Bogotá, Colombia

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