

1 Wine yeast phenomics: a standardized fermentation method for  
2 assessing quantitative traits of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strains in  
3 enological conditions

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## 29 **Abstract**

30 This work describes the set up of a small scale fermentation methodology for measuring quantitative traits of  
31 hundreds of samples in an enological context. By using standardized screw cap vessels, the alcoholic  
32 fermentation kinetics of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strains were measured by following the weight loss over  
33 time. Preliminary results showed that the kinetic parameters measured are in agreement with those observed  
34 in larger scale vats. The small volume used did not impair any analysis of the strain performance. Indeed,  
35 this fermentation system was coupled with robotized enzymatic assays and 8 end-point metabolites of  
36 enological interest were measured accurately. Moreover, the vessel used offers the possibility to assay 32  
37 volatiles compounds using a headspace solid-phase microextraction coupled to gas chromatography-mass  
38 spectrometry approach. Data presented demonstrates that the shaking conditions significantly impacted the  
39 mean and the variance of kinetic parameters, primary metabolites, and the production of volatile compounds.  
40 This effect was likely due to an enhanced transfer of dissolved oxygen during the first hours of the alcoholic  
41 fermentation. To test the efficiency of this experimental design, the phenotypic response of 35 wine  
42 industrial starters was measured in five grape juices from the Bordeaux area. A multivariate analysis  
43 illustrated that strains were better discriminated by some grape must, than others. The technological  
44 performances as well as the phenotypic robustness of these strains was measured and discussed. The  
45 optimized methodology developed allows investigating multiple fermentation traits for numerous yeast  
46 strains and conditions and greatly contributes in achieving quantitative genetics studies as well as yeast  
47 selection programs.

## 48 **Introduction**

49 In the last decade, the emergence of NGS (Next Generation Sequencing) has opened perspectives for  
50 studying the genetic adaptation of microbial species in their environments [1]. This is the case for the wine  
51 microbiome [2,3], which is subjected to a complex and evolving environment from grape must to wine.  
52 Thanks to the reduction in the genome sequencing costs, large comparative genomic studies were carried out  
53 at the intraspecific level for lactic bacteria (*Oenococcus oeni*) [4] and various yeast species, including *S.*  
54 *uvarum* [2,3], *B. bruxellensis* [5,6] and *S. cerevisiae* [7]. The bioinformatics analysis of such genomes shed  
55 light on genomic adaptation mechanisms such as chromosomal introgression [5], chromosomal  
56 translocations [8,9], horizontal transfer [10,11], polyploidy [5,6]; for an extensive review see [12]. Moreover,

57 since most of those species are found in other environments, population structure studies based on SNP  
58 analysis clearly demonstrated the wine microbial domestication in link with its environmental origin  
59 [4,5,13,14].

60 To bridge the gap existing between all this diversity and the molecular mechanisms of phenotypic  
61 adaptation, functional genetics studies have to be achieved. In order to decipher the molecular basis of  
62 phenotypic diversity, quantitative genetics approaches such Quantitative Trait Loci (QTL) mapping or  
63 Genome Wide Association Studies (GWAS) can be used [15]. QTL mapping turns out to be particularly  
64 efficient for identifying natural genetic variations controlling relevant traits in enology [8,16–21].

65 One of the main limitations of this approach is the requirement of intensive genotyping and phenotyping  
66 work. While the genotyping task can be easily achieved with NGS strategies [22,23], the measurement of  
67 complex phenotypes for several hundreds of individuals is not yet an easy task. Recently, various methods  
68 for measuring yeast phenotypes in a high throughput way has been reviewed and referred to as *phenomics*  
69 [24]. Although very efficient and standardized, these methods are mostly used for measuring yeast fitness  
70 (growth) but partially fail to measure the fermentation performance. Indeed, physiological studies showed  
71 that during the stationary growth phase, huge phenotypic discrepancies can be measured among strains  
72 having similar growth parameters [25]. Moreover, individuals showing the best growth are not always the  
73 most efficient during the fermentation [11,26]. Beyond the fermentation rate, the measurement of other  
74 phenotypes is critical. In fact, during fermentation, yeasts produce and/or consumes compounds, that affect  
75 the organoleptic qualities of the resulting wine [17,27,28]. Therefore, standardized methods for measuring  
76 wine fermentation phenotypes are required.

77 In this work, we set up a methodology for phenotyping several enological traits in 10 mL-vials with a good  
78 reliability. The effect of shaking was particularly investigated and strongly impacted the phenotypic response  
79 of yeast. The phenotypic characterization of 35 industrial starters was measured in 5 different grape musts,  
80 highlighting some interesting genetics  $\times$  environmental interactions.

## 81 **Materials and Methods**

### 82 **Yeast strains and culture media used**

83 All the yeast strains used belong to the *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* species. Four strains are monosporic  
84 clones derived from industrial wine starters that have been previously described [18,20]. The strains SB, GN

85 and F15 are derived from Zymaflore VL1, Actiflore BO213, Zymaflore F15 (Laffort, Bordeaux, France),  
86 respectively, while M2 is derived from Oenoferm M2 (Lallemand, Blagnac, France). The remaining 31  
87 strains used are commercial starters obtained from different companies. To avoid any conflict of interest  
88 there were encoded C1 to C31 and are available and deposited on the CRB collection of ISVV, S1Table.  
89 Yeasts were propagated on YPD (Yeast extract 1 % Peptone 1 % Dextrose 2 %) supplemented with agar (2  
90 %) when required. The strains were long-term stored in YPD with 50 % of glycerol at -80 °C.

## 91 **Grape musts and vessels used and fermentation monitoring**

92 The five grape musts used, i.e. Merlot 2014 (M14), Merlot 2015 (M15), Cabernet Sauvignon 2014 (CS14),  
93 Sauvignon Blanc 2014 (SB14) and Sauvignon Blanc 2015 (SB15), were provided by *Vignobles Ducourt*  
94 (Ladaux, France) and stored at -20 °C. Before fermentation, grape musts were sterilized by membrane  
95 filtration (cellulose acetate 0.45 µm Sartorius Stedim Biotech, Aubagne, France). Their main enological  
96 characteristics are given in Table 1. Sugar content, assimilable nitrogen, pH, total and free SO<sub>2</sub> have been  
97 assayed by the enological analysis laboratory (SARCO, Floirac, France). Malic acid has been assayed by  
98 enzymatic assay as described in the enzymatic assay section. Initial active SO<sub>2</sub> concentration was estimated  
99 using the protocol given at [http://www.vignevin-sudouest.com/services-professionnels/formulaires-](http://www.vignevin-sudouest.com/services-professionnels/formulaires-calcul/so2-actif.php)  
100 [calcul/so2-actif.php](http://www.vignevin-sudouest.com/services-professionnels/formulaires-calcul/so2-actif.php). Input parameters used: pH and free SO<sub>2</sub> concentration of the grape must, fermentation  
101 temperature (24 °C), and 0.1 % of alcohol by volume to simulate the beginning of the fermentation.

102 **Table 1 - Grape musts composition**

Grape must	Code	Sugar content (g.L <sup>-1</sup> )	Assimilable Nitrogen (mg N.L <sup>-1</sup> )	Malic acid (g.L <sup>-1</sup> )	pH	total SO <sub>2</sub> (mg.L <sup>-1</sup> )	free SO <sub>2</sub> (mg.L <sup>-1</sup> )	active SO <sub>2</sub> (mg.L <sup>-1</sup> )
Sauvignon Blanc 2014	SB14	194	157	5.6	3.19	34	7	0.32
Sauvignon Blanc 2015	SB15	203	158	2.9	3.25	67	23	0.91
Merlot 2014	M14	207	111	2.1	3.58	37	29	0.54
Merlot 2015	M15	219	99	1.9	3.53	46	33	0.68
Cabernet Sauvignon 2015	CS15	220	132	2.4	3.57	35	25	0.47

103

104 To carry out the fermentations, 10 mL screwed vials (Fisher Scientific, Hampton, New Hampshire, USA)  
105 were used in order to ferment 3 mL or 5 mL of grape must in a standardized way. The Screwed Vials (here  
106 after named SV) were tightly closed with 18mm screw cap-magnetic- 3mm HT silicone/PTFE (Fisher  
107 Scientific, Hampton, New Hampshire, USA). Hypodermic needles (G 26 – 0.45 x 13 mm, Terumo, Shibuya,  
108 Tokyo, Japan) were inserted into the septum for CO<sub>2</sub> release.

109 Fermentations were initiated by inoculating 2.10<sup>6</sup> viable cell.mL<sup>-1</sup> of 24h-liquid culture (YPD) carried out in  
110 1 mL deepwell microplates (Fisher Scientific, Hampton, New Hampshire, USA). The concentration of viable  
111 cells was estimated by flow cytometry using a Cell Lab Quanta apparatus (Beckman Coulter, Brea,  
112 California, USA) according to the method described by Zimmer *et al.* [8].

113 The fermentation temperature was maintained at 24°C by an incubator (Binder GmbH, Tuttlingen,  
114 Germany). When specified, the SV were shaken at 175 rpm during the overall fermentation using an orbital  
115 shaker (SSL1, Stuart, Vernon Hills, Illinois, USA). In order to compare this new vessel type with already  
116 published conditions, 125 mL-glass bioreactors (GB) were also used according to the specification described  
117 by da Silva *et al.* [29].

118 The fermentation kinetics were estimated by monitoring regularly the weight loss caused by CO<sub>2</sub> release  
119 using a precision balance (AB104, Mettler Toledo, Greifensee, Switzerland). Theoretical maximum CO<sub>2</sub>  
120 release (*tCO<sub>2</sub>max*) was calculated according to the formula: 0.482\*[Sugar] [29], where [Sugar] is the sugar  
121 concentration (g.L<sup>-1</sup>) of the must. The amount of CO<sub>2</sub> released according to time was modeled by local  
122 polynomial regression fitting with the R-loess function setting the span parameter to 0.45. Six kinetic  
123 parameters were extracted from the model:

- 124 - *lp* (h): lag phase time observed before to release the first 2 g.L<sup>-1</sup> of CO<sub>2</sub> ;
- 125 - *t35*, *t50* and *t80* (h): time to release 35, 50 and 80 % of the *tCO<sub>2</sub>max* after subtracting *lp* ;
- 126 - *V50\_80* (g.L<sup>-1</sup>.h<sup>-1</sup>): average CO<sub>2</sub> production rate between 50 % and 80 % of *tCO<sub>2</sub>max* ;
- 127 - *CO<sub>2</sub>max*: maximal amount of CO<sub>2</sub> released (g.L<sup>-1</sup>).

## 128 **Enzymatic assays**

129 At the end of the fermentation, a sample volume of 800 µL was stored at -20 °C and analyzed at the  
130 metabolomics platform of Bordeaux by semi-automatized enzymatic assays ([http://metabolome.cgfb.u-](http://metabolome.cgfb.u-bordeaux.fr/)  
131 [bordeaux.fr/](http://metabolome.cgfb.u-bordeaux.fr/)). The concentrations of the following organic metabolites were measured: acetic acid, glycerol,  
132 malic acid, pyruvate, acetaldehyde and total SO<sub>2</sub> using the respective enzymatic kits: K-ACETGK, K-

133 GCROLGK, K-LMAL-116A, K-PYRUV, K-ACHYD, K-TSULPH (Megazyme, Bray, Ireland) following  
134 the instructions of the manufacturer. Dilution level and volume of sample used are described in S2 Table.  
135 Glucose and fructose were assayed by using the enzymatic method described by Stitt et al. [30], however in  
136 the presented data, all the fermentations were completed containing less than 1.5 g.L<sup>-1</sup> of residual sugars.

## 137 **Apolar esters analysis**

138 Samples were analyzed after thawing. Concentration of 32 esters (ethyl fatty acid esters, acetates of higher  
139 alcohol, ethyl branched acid esters, isoamyl esters of fatty acid, methyl fatty acid esters, cinnamates and  
140 minor esters) (S3 Table). Concentration was determined using a head space solid phase microextraction (HS-  
141 SPME) followed by gas chromatography–mass spectrometry (GC–MS) as described by Antalick *et al.* [31].

## 142 **Dissolved oxygen measurement**

143 To control the initial oxygen concentration, oxygen was removed by bubbling nitrogen inside SV for 20 min.  
144 Non-intrusive measurement of the concentration of dissolved oxygen in the grape juice was done by using  
145 NomaSense O2 P300 sensor (Nomacorc, Narbonne, France) bonded on the inner surface of the SV.

## 146 **Statistical analyses**

147 All the statistical and graphical analyses were carried out using R software [32]. The variation of each trait  
148 was estimated by the analysis of variance (ANOVA) using the *aovp* function of the *lmPerm* package in  
149 which significance of the results was evaluated by permutation tests instead of normal theory tests. Tukey's  
150 honest significant difference test was used on *aovp* results to determine which group of means differ  
151 significantly using the *HSD.test* function (*agricolae* package) [33].

152 The LM1 model estimated the effect of strain, of grape must of micro-oxygenation of the strain-by-must  
153 interaction and of the strain-by-micro-oxygenation interaction on fermentation traits according to the  
154 following formula:

$$y_{ijk} = m + S_i + GM_j + MOX_k + (S * GM)_{ij} + (S * MOX)_{jk} + \epsilon_{ijk}$$

155

156 where  $y_{ijk}$  was the value of the trait for strain  $i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, 4$ ) in grape must  $j$  ( $j = 1, 2$ ) and with micro-  
157 oxygenation level  $k$  ( $k = 1, 2$ ),  $m$  was the overall mean,  $S_i$  was the strain effect,  $GM_j$  the grape must effect,

158  $MOX_k$  the micro-oxygenation effect,  $(S * GM)_{ij}$  was the interaction effect between strain and grape must,  
159  $(S * MOX)_{jk}$  was the interaction effect between strain and micro-oxygenation level and  $\epsilon_{ijk}$  the residual error.  
160 Correlations between traits were computed with the Spearman method using the *cor* function and the  
161 significance of the results was assessed by the *cor.test* function at 0.95 of confidence level. Results were  
162 displayed with the *corrplot* function (*corrplot* package).  
163 Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was calculated using the *ade4* package and heatmaps were generated  
164 with the *heatmap.2* function. When necessary non-parametric comparison of samples were carried out using  
165 the Wilcoxon-Mann-Withney test ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ).

## 166 **Results**

### 167 **Optimization of the fermentation protocol in screw capped vials**

168 The first aim of this study was to develop a fermentation method for measuring in a reliable manner  
169 numerous strains in a small volume (<10 mL). We used 10 mL-screwed vials (SV) filled with 3 or 5 mL of  
170 grape must. Their small and standard size can be conveniently exploited to run in parallel more than 300  
171 fermentations at the same time in a small space (S1 Fig). In preliminary experiments (not shown), we  
172 observed that the volume of grape juice used influences the success of the fermentation. To evaluate this  
173 effect on enological parameters, the fermentation behavior of four yeast strains (M2, F15, SB, GN) was  
174 evaluated in the SB14 grape must in 6 replicates. Three conditions were tested: 3 mL with shaking  
175 (Sk.3\_SV), 5 mL with shaking (Sk.5\_SV) and 5 mL without shaking (noSk.5\_SV). In order to validate the  
176 SV, the same juice was also fermented in 125 mL glass-bioreactors (Sk.125\_GB) that had been previously  
177 used for measuring the fermentation behavior of numerous *Saccharomyces* strains and hybrids [29]. For all  
178 assays, fermentations were completed (no residual sugars detected); the overall results are given in the S4  
179 Table for the 12 parameters measured for each strain in the 4 assays.

180 To compare the reliability of trait values, the coefficient of variation (CV %, for 6 replicates) was computed  
181 for each strain and the average CV was shown in Table 2. The fermentation kinetic traits are very reliable  
182 confirming the efficiency of weight loss measurement for monitoring ongoing alcoholic fermentations [34],  
183 even in very small volumes (Fig 1, panel A). For some metabolic traits, high CVs (>25 %) were measured  
184 showing that some conditions are not reliable enough. This is the case for acetaldehyde, pyruvate or acetic  
185 acid for which the CVs are particularly high in shaken conditions. The Sk.3\_SV trial was the less reliable

186 and the cumulated CV for metabolic compounds is much higher than for the other 3 conditions (Fig 1, panel  
 187 B). In this condition, the kinetics parameters are also less reproducible (CV>10 %). In contrast, noSk.5\_SV  
 188 offers the most reliable condition for both metabolic compounds and kinetic parameters. Except for the lag  
 189 phase, the Sk.5\_SV condition had an intermediate reliability level, similar to the 125 mL glass-bioreactors  
 190 used here as a control.

191

192 **Table 2 - Average coefficient of variation for the different traits**

Condition	CO <sub>2</sub> max	Lp	t35	t50	t80	V50_80	SO <sub>2</sub>	Acetic acid	Glycerol	Malic acid	Pyruvate	Acetaldehyde
noSk.5_SV	2.0	11.5	6.8	7.4	7.3	7.3	9.1	11.3	6.4	5.4	17.8	17.4
Sk.125_GB	2.0	9.8	6.4	5.0	5.3	6.8	9.8	13.8	11.8	19.0	45.8	32.1
Sk.3_SV	0.8	21.4	8.6	8.4	9.2	13.6	6.0	61.1	17.0	14.8	63.2	46.2
Sk.5_SV	2.3	41.2	8.0	7.3	6.1	6.7	6.2	25.0	12.1	19.1	27.4	26.2

193

194 The data presented are the average coefficients of variation (CV in %) calculated from the CV values obtained for each  
 195 strain with 6 replicates

196

197 **Fig 1. Trait measurement reliability for both kinetics and metabolite concentrations**  
 198 **according to vessel modalities**

199 The average CV for each trait was calculated from the CV values obtained for each strain (M2, F15, SB,  
 200 GN) with 6 replicates. Panel A. The bar chart presents the cumulated CV for each kinetic parameter, the  
 201 stacking is ordered from the least variable (CO<sub>2</sub>max) to the most variable (lp) trait. Panel B. The bar chart  
 202 presents the cumulated CV for each metabolic end-product, the stacking is ordered from the least variable  
 203 (SO<sub>2</sub>) to the most variable (Acetic acid).

204

205 Despite important changes according to the conditions, the overall differences between the four strains were  
 206 maintained and the genetic differences within the strains were broadly conserved (see below). Strikingly, the  
 207 shaking conditions impacted the fermentation kinetics for all the strain. This is illustrated for example with  
 208 the CO<sub>2</sub> kinetics of the GN strain, Fig 2, panel A. The CO<sub>2</sub> production rate was dramatically impacted by  
 209 shaking, which significantly reduced (by around 20 %) the t50 and t80 (Wilcoxon test  $\alpha = 0.01$ ). In contrast,  
 210 the fermentation volume (3, 5 and 125 mL) did not affect the fermentation kinetics in shaken conditions,



211 suggesting that scaling down in SV did not influence the fermentation behavior of yeast cell. The metabolic  
212 end-products were also affected by the shaking conditions, as shown in Fig 2, panel B for glycerol. As  
213 observed for kinetic parameters, the fermentation volume had a minor impact on the primary metabolites  
214 composition (such as glycerol) whereas shaking appeared as the main source of phenotypic variation. This  
215 result, observed for all strains, could be due to the higher oxidative conditions met in shaken cultures.

216

217 **Fig 2 Impact of agitation on fermentation kinetics and metabolic compounds according to the**  
218 **vessel modalities.**

219 Panel A. CO<sub>2</sub> production kinetics of the GN strain fermenting SB14 grape must in four vessel modalities  
220 (Sk.3\_SV, Sk.5\_SV, noSk.5\_SV, Sk.125\_GB). The lines are the average CO<sub>2</sub> produced for 6 replicates; the  
221 shaded areas represent the standard error. Panel B. Glycerol production of GN strain according the vessel  
222 modalities. The values shown are the means of 6 replicates and the error bars represent standard error.

223

224 A second experiment was performed in 5 mL SV as they represent the most reproducible conditions for  
225 measuring all the traits investigated (Fig 3). The micro-oxygenation effect was estimated by comparing  
226 modalities with or without shaking during the fermentation. The O<sub>2</sub> concentration was monitored during 20  
227 hours in non-inoculated SB14 grape juice degassed by nitrogen bubbling. During this period, corresponding  
228 to the fermentation lag phase, oxygen can be efficiently transferred since CO<sub>2</sub> stripping is not active.  
229 Although this measurement did not correspond to real conditions since no yeast cells were present, the effect  
230 of agitation on the oxygen transfer could be estimated. Indeed, when yeast cells are present, all the dissolved  
231 oxygen is consumed in less than 20 hours due to the strong reductive conditions generated by yeast biomass  
232 (data not shown). In the shaken condition, the grape juice was immediately enriched with dissolved oxygen  
233 that reached a concentration of 3.7 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> after 20 h (Fig 3, panel A). In contrast, without shaking, there was  
234 only 2.4 mg.L<sup>-1</sup> of dissolved oxygen after 20 h. A maximum difference in oxygenation rate was found after 3  
235 hours of incubation (Fig 3, panel B). Although the total amount of oxygen transferred during the overall  
236 fermentation cannot be measured, these data suggest that agitation in 5 mL-SV significantly impacts the  
237 micro-oxygenation level. These small, but significant differences may explain the kinetic and metabolic  
238 differences described in Fig 2.

239 In order to have a broader idea of the impact of micro-oxygenation on secondary metabolism, we next  
240 measured the production of volatile compounds. At the end of the alcoholic fermentation, the headspace

241 volume of SV was analyzed using a targeted GC-MS analysis. 32 esters were quantified for the four strains  
242 in shaken or not conditions (S5 Table). A Principal Component Analysis (PCA) (75.5 % of total variance for  
243 axes 1 and 2) was carried out for exploring this multivariate dataset (Fig 3, panel C). The first component  
244 clearly discriminates shaken from non-shaken conditions while the second axis mainly discriminates strains.  
245 Indeed, the production of esters was greatly impacted by shaking. Up to 27 of the 32 esters were significantly  
246 impacted (ANOVA,  $p < 0.05$ ), 14 with a decreased and 13 with an increased production in the shaken  
247 condition (S5 Table). The compounds, for which shaking decreased their production, were mainly acetates of  
248 higher alcohols, methyl and ethyl fatty acid esters while those for which the production was increased were  
249 mainly ethyl branched acid esters, ethyl acid esters with odd carbon numbers, cinnamates and minor esters.  
250 The proportion of PhC<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>2</sub>PhC<sub>2</sub> was 6 fold decreased in shaken condition (S2 Fig). This could be  
251 caused by a higher oxygenation of the media.

### 252 **Fig 3 Measure and effect of micro-oxygenation in 5 mL SV**

253 Panel A. Kinetics of dissolved oxygen concentration in SB14 grape must. The kinetic curves represent the  
254 mean of 6 replicates and the shadows around the lines illustrated the standard errors. Panel B. Concentration  
255 of the dissolved oxygen in SB14 after 4 hours. The data shown are the means of 6 replicates and the error  
256 bars represent the standard deviations. Different letters indicate significant differences between groups  
257 (Tukey's honest significant difference test, significance level,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ). Panel C. PCA performed for the 32  
258 esters measured. Each point represents one of the four strains in noSk.5\_SV or in Sk.5\_SV.  
259 Panel D. Correlation of the variables to the PCA1 axis. The variables that were significantly correlated to the  
260 first axis of the PCA were shown ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ), the bar plot indicated the  $p$  value of the correlation (Pearson's  
261 product moment correlation coefficient).

## 262 **Assessment of genetics x environmental effects**

263 In order to demonstrate the efficiency of our SV fermentation setup, we explored phenotypic response of  
264 strains to relevant environment parameters in enology. On the basis of the results shown in Fig 2-3, shaken  
265 fermentations could be considered as micro-oxygenated modalities transferring moderate amounts (2-4 mg.L<sup>-1</sup>  
266 per day) of oxygen in a reproducible way. The possibility to control oxygenation in small volumes is an  
267 opportunity to study the reaction of yeast strains against this technological parameter which has a significant  
268 impact on winemaking [35–37]. Assuming this statement, a second experiment was carried out in 5-SV, by  
269 fermenting the two grape juices SB14 and M15 with four strains (M2, GN, F15 and SB) and with or without

270 shaking. This set of 160 fermentations (S6 Table) ran at the same time allowed to estimate the effects of  
 271 three main factors: (i) strain, (ii) micro-oxygenation, and (iii) grape must. The proposed model for the  
 272 analysis of variance also estimated the primary interaction within strain and grape must or micro-  
 273 oxygenation (model LM1 described in material and methods). Thanks to the small volume used, 10  
 274 biological replicates were carried out for each strain and condition, thus increasing the statistical power of  
 275 the analysis. For most of the traits, the phenotypic variance was first explained by the grape juice type, then  
 276 by the yeast strain used (Table 3). The effect of micro-oxygenation mainly influenced kinetic parameters  
 277 ( $t_{50}$ ,  $t_{80}$ ) and metabolic end-product such as  $SO_2$  and *Glycerol*. For this last trait, the micro-oxygenation  
 278 increased the production by 15 % (Fig 4, panel A) for all the strain, as previously reported by others [38–40].  
 279 Few strain  $\times$  environment interactions were detected and accounted only for a small part of the total variance  
 280 explained. The most striking interaction pertained to the lag phase duration ( $lp$ ) being differentially affected  
 281 by the micro-oxygenation and the grape must, respectively. The panel B of Fig 4 shows that the strains SB  
 282 and M2 had a longer lag phase in the SB14 grape must than in M15 (+ 6 h). Moreover, shaking resulted in a  
 283 reduced lag phase for M2 in the SB14 grape must. In contrast, F15 and GN were not affected neither by the  
 284 grape must nor by the agitation. In the same way, the *acetic acid* production of GN showed a complex G $\times$ E  
 285 interaction (Fig 4, panel C). Globally, as previously described [41], micro-oxygenated conditions tended to  
 286 reduce the production of this compound, which is undesirable in enology. Interestingly, in the M15 grape  
 287 must, GN showed the lowest acetic acid production even in a non-agitated fermentation, suggesting that it is  
 288 an interesting lower producer whatever the conditions. This second experiment confirms the reliability of SV  
 289 for assessing wine fermentation traits in various environmental conditions and paves the way for larger  
 290 phenotypic investigations.

291 **Table 3 Analysis of variance for the 11 phenotypes with 4 strains, 2 musts and 2 micro-oxygenation conditions**

	CO <sub>2</sub> max	lp	t35	t50	t80	V50_80	SO <sub>2</sub>	Acetic acid	Malic acid	Pyruvate	Glycerol
Must	37.9 ***	15.8 ***	38.6 ***	36.8 ***	35.2 ***	21.5 ***	15.4 ***	10.7 ***	81.2 ***	4.9 **	0.3
Strain	2.3 .	41.5 ***	10.3 ***	16.7 ***	27.3 ***	43.8 ***	4.3 ***	3.7 *	8.1 ***	9 ***	17.2 ***
Micro-Oxygenation	7.4 ***	2.8 ***	37.2 ***	32.1 ***	22 ***	20.2 ***	40.3 ***	39.1 ***	0	5.2 ***	49.4 ***
Strain:Must	0.3	10 ***	2.1 ***	2.5 ***	2.7 ***	0.5	2.8 **	0.4	0.2	6.8 ***	0.1

Strain:Micro- Oxygenation	0.6	3.7 ***	0.7 *	0.3	1.6 ***	0.1	1.8 .	2.6 *	1.1 ***	4 .	1.8 *
Residuals	51.4	26.2	11.1	11.6	11.3	13.9	35.5	43.5	9.4	70	31.3

292

293 Percentage of variance explained by the LM1 model. Significance codes: pval < 0.001 = \*\*\*,

294 pval < 0.01 = \*\*, pval < 0.05 = \*, pval < 0.1 = .

295

296 **Fig 4 Effect of micro-oxygenation level and grape must on technological properties of wine**  
297 **yeast strains**

298 The data shown are the mean of 10 replicates, the error bars representing the standard error. Different letters  
299 indicate significant differences between groups (Tukey's honest significant difference test, significance level,  
300  $\alpha = 0.05$ ). Panel A. *Glycerol* (g.L<sup>-1</sup>) according to strain and fermentation conditions. Panel B. *lp* (h)  
301 according to strain and fermentation conditions. Panel C. *Acetic acid* (g.L<sup>-1</sup>) according to strain and  
302 fermentation conditions.

303 **Evaluation of technological properties of 35 wine yeast strains in 5**  
304 **grape juices.**

305 The SV fermentation setup coupled with robotic assisted enzymatic assays offers the opportunity to measure  
306 in parallel the fermentation behavior of numerous strains in various conditions. As a matter of proof, we  
307 evaluated in a unique experiment the fermentation properties (kinetics and end by-products) of 35 strains in 5  
308 grape juices and two repetitions (350 SV) without shaking. In this experiment, we used three red grape musts  
309 (M14, M15 and CS14) and two white grape musts (SB14 and SB15) from the Bordeaux area. As all the  
310 fermentations were completed (less than 1.5 g.L<sup>-1</sup> of residual sugars), the final concentrations of glucose and  
311 fructose were very low and thus removed from the data (not shown). Acetaldehyde concentrations were also  
312 removed, as they were very low in red wines and thus impacted data normality (not shown). The  
313 measurement of the 11 quantitative variables for 175 modalities is given in S7 Table. For all the traits  
314 analyzed, except pyruvate, the average CV per trait (n = 175) was less than 18 %.

315 A PCA (58 % of total variance for axes 1 and 2) was carried out for exploring this large dataset. The first  
316 component (42 % of total variance) clearly discriminates red and white juices and was correlated with *Malic*  
317 *acid*, *SO<sub>2</sub>*, *Acetic acid* concentrations and kinetic parameters (*t50*, *t80*, *V50\_80*) (Fig 5, panel A). Indeed the

318 white grape juices used were more acidic and more sulphited than red ones. The second axis (16 % of total  
319 variance); mainly discriminates the CS15 must from the others by its higher production of *glycerol* and  
320 *CO<sub>2</sub>max*. These results are consistent with the biochemical composition of grape juices. Moreover the CS15  
321 juice contained 20 g.L<sup>-1</sup> more sugar than the other grape musts.

322 The PCA also illustrates the phenotypic variability of the 35 industrial strains tested. Globally, the analysis  
323 showed that some grape musts are more suitable than others for between strains. Indeed, the projected cloud  
324 of the 35 strains in SB14 is more compact than in M15. In order to evaluate the discriminating properties of  
325 each grape must, we computed the average Euclidian distance within all the strains for both kinetic and  
326 metabolic parameters and according to the grape must. The panel B of Fig 5 summarizes the phenotypic  
327 distance observed within each grape must and parameter class. For example, SB15 emphasized strain  
328 discrepancy for kinetic traits and metabolic end-products. To better visualize particular strain properties, the  
329 positions of the four strains SB, GN, M2 and F15 were labeled on the projection. These strains have some  
330 phenotypic specificities; for example SB and GN are often more distant from the remaining set of  
331 commercial strains than M2 and F15. This is in particular due to the high *glycerol* production of SB and the  
332 slow fermentation rate (*V50\_80*) of GN in all the conditions tested (Fig 5, panel C).

333

### 334 **Fig 5 PCA of winemaking properties of 35 strains in 5 grape juices**

335 Panel A. The first two axes of the PCA performed from the average of two replicates for 11 phenotypes  
336 measured in the 5 grape juices and 35 strains. Axes 1 and 2 explain 41.8 % and 15.8 % of total variation,  
337 respectively. Each point represents the fermentation of one strain and is colored according to the grape juice  
338 used. Points are connected to their group gravity centers that are labeled with the grape juice name M14,  
339 M15, SB14, SB15, CS14. Ellipses diameter corresponds to the standard deviations of the projection  
340 coordinates on the axes. The correlation circle indicates the correlation of the variables for axes 1 and 2.  
341 Panel B. Euclidian distances within all the strains for each grape must. The bar plot represents the Euclidian  
342 distances within the 35 strains according to kinetics (high density colored bar) and metabolic parameters  
343 (low density colored bar) for each grape juice. Panel C. Comparison of the trait value of GN and SB respect  
344 to the 34 others strains for *V50\_80* and the glycerol produced, respectively. A boxplot was generated from  
345 the 10 phenotypic values measured in the 5 grape juices with two replicates for GN and SB, and from the  
346 340 values of the 34 other strains. Significant differences were estimated by applying the Wilcoxon-Mann-  
347 Withney test ( $\alpha = 0.05$ ).

348

349 As shown on the PCA, the nature of the juice strongly impacted the phenotypic values. In order to overcome  
350 this effect and perform more accurate comparative analyses between strains, we normalized the response of  
351 each strain according to the grape juice (S8 Table). First, the relations between the 11 traits were investigated  
352 by using the average of normalized values of each strain for the five conditions. A correlation matrix with  
353 non-parametric tests was computed with the 35 strain values in order to observe phenotype-phenotype  
354 relations (Fig 6, panel A). Obvious correlations between kinetic traits were found confirming that the strains  
355 that rapidly reached 35 % of the fermentation (lowest  $t_{35}$  values) had also low  $t_{80}$  values (S3 Fig).  
356 Interestingly, we detected less trivial correlations suggesting metabolic link. For example, a correlation  
357 between kinetic parameters and *Malic acid* was found (Fig 6, panel B). The strains with the fastest  
358 fermentation rates were also the ones that consumed the most of malic acid. This link has already been  
359 reported [42] and could be explained by a greater deacidification capacity for strains that consume more  
360 malic acid, resulting in easier fermentation. Negative correlations were found between kinetic parameters  
361 ( $t_{35}$ ,  $t_{50}$ ,  $t_{80}$ ) and  $SO_2$ . These negative relations could be explained by the toxic effect of  $SO_2$  that reduces  
362 yeast growth [43,44] and may indirectly impact the fermentation activity. Other correlations were found for  
363  $lp$  with  $V_{50\_80}$  (Fig 6, panel C) and *glycerol* and will be discussed further.

364

### 365 **Fig 6 Correlation between traits**

366 Panel A. A correlation matrix is shown. The size and the colour of the circles correspond to the correlation  
367 coefficients calculated by the Spearman method. Only significant correlations are shown  
368 (confidence = 0.95). Panel B and C. Two examples of scatter plots showing correlation of  $t_{80}$  with *Malic*  
369 *acid* and  $V_{50\_80}$  with  $lp$ . Each dot represents the average phenotypic values of a strain across the 5 grape  
370 musts from the normalized dataset. The blue line represents the linear regression line and the shaded area  
371 represents the confidence interval of the regression (0.95).

372

373 The normalized dataset was also used for evaluating the performance of the strains. The rank of each strain  
374 with respect to the others was calculated and can be visualized on a heatmap plot (Fig 7). As each column of  
375 the heatmap plot represents a rank value (1 to 35), each trait has the same weight in the clustering. Because  
376 most of the kinetic parameters are strongly correlated (Fig 6, panel A), only three of them (poorly correlated)  
377 were included in the analysis ( $CO_2max$ ,  $lp$  and  $V_{50\_80}$ ). The intensive green tones indicate lowest ranks

378 while intensive red tones indicated the highest ranks for each parameter. For example, the commercial strains  
379 C11, C4 and C18 were among the fastest strains and consumed more malic acid than the others. Rapid  
380 identification of strains having outlier levels compared to a representative commercial set can be made with  
381 this figure. For example, the strains C6, C17 and C20 produced high quantities of acetic acid while the  
382 strains C5, C8 and C16 released an important quantity of  $SO_2$  at the end of the alcoholic fermentation.  
383 As displayed by the dendrogram on the left of the heatmap, a hierarchical clustering ordered the strains  
384 according to their overall profiles. Four main groups were computed. The group A contained slow  
385 fermenting strains, which leave high amounts of *malic acid* at the end of the fermentation and produce low  
386  $SO_2$ . Group B contained strains with the shortest *lp*. Moreover, most of the strains of this group had a slow  
387 fermentation rate, produced low amounts of *glycerol* and released high level of  $SO_2$ . The strains of group C  
388 were the fastest fermenting ones, produced more *glycerol* and  $SO_2$  than the average. This group also  
389 consumed more *malic acid*. Finally, the strains of group D fermented rapidly but in contrast with those of  
390 group C they produced low amounts of *glycerol* and  $SO_2$ .

391

### 392 **Fig 7 Relative ranking of 35 strains in 5 grape juices**

393 Ascending order ranked of the average phenotypic values of each strain across the 5 grape juices. Only a  
394 subset of the representative phenotypes is represented here. A color palette shows each rank from green  
395 (lowest ranks) to red (highest rank) as displayed by the color key. The rank of each cell is also displayed by a  
396 black bar plot and the vertical dashed black line represents the average rank. The dendrogram on the left  
397 represents strain ordered by hierarchical clustering.

398

399 Finally, we investigated the strain phenotypic variability according to the environmental conditions. This  
400 characteristic is very important in enology since industrial strains might be used in different grape musts with  
401 contrasted physicochemical properties. Therefore, the assessment of phenotypic robustness of industrial  
402 starters is crucial for optimizing their use in a wine making process. We computed the phenotypic variance  
403 of the 35 strains by using the non-normalized dataset. The overall results are shown on Fig 8, panel A.  
404 Strains showing a low variance value (green tones) had similar phenotypic behavior in the 5 grape musts. On  
405 the contrary, high variance (red tones) values indicated a contrasted phenotypic response according to the  
406 must. Some industrial strains such as C23, C10 or C12 showed a strong robustness to environmental change.  
407 In contrast, the monosporic clones SB, GN and M2, as well as some commercial strains (C22, C7, C18)

408 appeared to be quite sensitive to environmental changes (high phenotypic variability indicated by red tones).  
409 The source of the lack of robustness was investigated by splitting the 35 strains in two groups according to  
410 their phenotypic robustness (variance). The less robust quartile was compared to the 75 % more robust  
411 strains in the 5 grape juices. Thus the conditions that generate a lack of robustness could be identified. For  
412 example, *lp* was only significantly different for the two groups only in SB15 (3.2 time longer for the non-  
413 robust group) (Fig 8, panel B). In this example, identified grape must had the strongest initial  $SO_2$   
414 concentration ( $67 \text{ mg.L}^{-1}$ ), which is known to strongly affect the lag phase [8]. All the strains of the non-  
415 robust group (C1, C11, F15, C15, M2, C22, SB, C31) are therefore not suitable for running fermentations in  
416 highly sulphited grape musts. This is also the case for another group of strains (C4, C7, C17, GN, C18, C21,  
417 C24, C25, C27), which only produced high concentrations of  $SO_2$  at the end of the fermentation in  
418 SB15 (Fig 8, panel B). The two Merlot grape musts (M14 and M15), which are harsh to ferment, were those  
419 that best discriminated the strains for the *t80* and *pyruvate* robustness (S4 Fig). For *acetic acid*, SB14 mainly  
420 increased the variance of the less robust strains. For example, the strains C18 and C24 produced high levels  
421 of *acetic acid* in white grape musts but they showed a moderate production in the three red grape musts. This  
422 result suggests that these two strains are not suitable for white grape musts. Finally, due to its higher sugar  
423 concentration, CS15 promoted high glycerol production and exacerbated differences between  
424 strains (S4 Fig).

425

### 426 **Fig 8 Phenotypic variance of 35 strains in 5 grape juices**

427 Panel A. For each strain, the variance was computed for the 5 average phenotypic values in the 5 grape  
428 musts. Variance is scaled by column and its level is represented by a color palette from green (lowest  
429 variance) to red (highest variance) as displayed by the color key. The value of each cell is also displayed by  
430 black bar plots and the vertical dashed black lines represents the average variance. Strains are ordered by  
431 hierarchical clustering that is represented by the dendrogram on the left. Panel B. Comparison of *lp* and  $SO_2$   
432 between robust and non-robust strains according to grape musts. The data shown are the mean of 8 strains  
433 (non-robust group) or 27 strains (robust group), the error bars represent the standard error. Different letters  
434 indicate significant differences between groups (Tukey's honest significant difference test, significance level,  
435  $\alpha = 0.05$ ).



## 436 **Discussion**

### 437 **A new platform for measuring quantitative traits related to wine** 438 **fermentation**

439 The wide development of NGS technologies gives the opportunity to collect large sets of genomic data that  
440 could be used for dissecting the genetic architecture of complex traits using both QTL mapping and GWAS  
441 approaches [15]. In order to implement genetic studies efficiently, this genomic data must be completed with  
442 massive sets of phenotypic data. The high throughput measurement of phenotypes is therefore a crucial point  
443 for finding out new genetic determinisms. In the last decade, the term of “phenomics” has been used to  
444 describe methods aiming at measuring phenotype at a large-scale [24]. Mostly based on the measurement of  
445 OD [45] or plate growth [46], the parallel measurement of basic growth parameters in numerous media can  
446 be performed. Although this approach is very useful for screening growth-related phenotypes, other complex  
447 traits of industrial interest, such as fermentation kinetics and end-product metabolites can neither be  
448 measured in micro-plates nor in agar plates.

449 In this study, we set up a standardized method for assessing alcoholic fermentation experiments at a  
450 relatively large scale (>300 samples per batch). By reducing the fermentation volume to 5 mL in standard  
451 SV, we conserved a very accurate estimation of fermentation kinetics that matches well with the methods  
452 previously used [47]. Here, the fermentation time course was followed manually by weighing each SV two  
453 times per day with a precision balance. However, robotic solutions for an automatic handling of the SV could  
454 easily be implemented thanks to the standardized format of the vials used. In order to face the large sample  
455 analysis set required, we successfully coupled our fermentation setup with a robotized enzymatic platform  
456 for measuring eight enological metabolites in 1 mL samples. Unfortunately, we failed to efficiently measure  
457 ethanol, since the enzymatic kit used was not sufficiently accurate for high ethanol concentrations.  
458 Alternatively, the estimation of total CO<sub>2</sub> loss was very precise (average CV<3 %) and perfectly matched  
459 with the production of ethanol during the alcoholic fermentation [34]. During this study, we also  
460 demonstrated that at the end of the alcoholic fermentation, many volatile compounds produced by yeast  
461 metabolism could be readily analyzed by GC-MS after an automated solid-phase micro-extraction [31].  
462 Coupling analytical facilities and developing robotic handling of SV will be the next steps for developing  
463 large screening programs.

## 464 **Assessment of some GxE interactions relevant in enology**

465 Although the volume fermented is far from representing those of vats used during industrial wine production,  
466 our setup was close as possible to the enological conditions. The effects of some parameters that are relevant  
467 for enology (grape must, strain, micro-oxygenation level) could be tested. First of all, we used natural grape  
468 musts rather than synthetic media that might be less pertinent for assessing quantitative traits due to their  
469 incomplete composition [20,48]. As previously demonstrated, frozen grape juices conserved their  
470 fermentation properties and can be kept for long periods [29]. Moreover, in this work we only tested a panel  
471 of commercial starters that are used in various geographic areas for the production of red, white, *rosé* and  
472 sparkling wines. This contrasts with previous studies that also included *S. cerevisiae* strains from other  
473 origins [49,50]. By using only commercial starters, we captured here a phenotypic variability having an  
474 industrial relevance and reflecting those proposed to the winemaker. Finally, the shaking of SV was able to  
475 mimic micro-oxygenation in a reproducible manner. The amount of oxygen transferred during the 20 first  
476 hours ( $2-4 \text{ mg/L}^{-1}$  of  $\text{O}_2$ ) is close to that occurred in red winemaking practices [37]. Although the micro-  
477 oxygenation is provided by several pumping-over operations in the cellar, we were able to reproduce this  
478 effect in our small design vessels with similar scale values. This was confirmed by observing effects that are  
479 similar to those already known in enological practices. Indeed, a higher level of micro-oxygenation  
480 accelerates the fermentation rate [37,51,52], decreases the production of acetic acid [41,51], and increases  
481 the production of glycerol [38,39,51,53]. The shaking conditions also had an impact on the stripping of  
482 volatile molecules such as  $\text{SO}_2$ .

483 Interestingly, by assaying 32 volatile compounds using a GC-MS approach we demonstrated that shaken  
484 conditions do not impact all the volatile molecules in the same way suggesting that the oxygen transfer could  
485 influence the production of aromatic compounds and in particular esters. Unravelling the impact of oxygen  
486 on esters production during the alcoholic fermentation is not trivial. According to the quantity and the  
487 addition moment, the oxygen effect may indeed be drastically different. The oxygen supplementation of  
488 grape must in winemaking conditions resulted in an increase of the concentration of higher alcohol acetates  
489 and branched chain ethyl esters, and in a decrease of fatty acid ethyl esters [51,54]. Aside higher alcohol  
490 acetates that were 2 times higher in non-shaken conditions, our findings are broadly in agreement with  
491 previous data measured in a cellar [51,54]. The similar response between 5 mL SV and vats of several liters  
492 is very encouraging and demonstrates that our setup could be relevant for assessing the aromatic production

493 of a large set of strains/conditions. The change in proportion of 2-phenylethyl acetate to ethyl-phenylacetate  
494 could be a signature of micro-oxygenation, as the proportion of the most oxidized ester (ethyl-phenylacetate)  
495 is greater with agitation. Moreover, the relative higher production of acetate of higher alcohols in non-shaken  
496 conditions could be explained by the fact that the moment of oxygen addition and metabolizing is drastically  
497 different between the yeast growth and stationary phase [35,55]. For example, in a brewing context, when  
498 oxygen is added during the fermentation, a decreased production of higher alcohol acetates can be observed  
499 [55,56], thus supporting our observations (S5 Table). Conversely, oxygen addition has been reported to  
500 increase the concentration of ethyl esters and to reduce the concentration of acetate esters and higher  
501 alcohols [57]. These seemingly contradictory results can be also due to strain-by-oxygenation interactions.  
502 Indeed 16 of the 32 compounds assayed showed *strain x environment* interactions. This setup thus could be  
503 useful in the future to better investigate the physiological and enological consequences of micro-oxygenation  
504 for up to very large panels of yeast strains.

505 Thanks to this setup, we gained insight on other GxE interactions between wine strains and environmental  
506 conditions. For example, GN maintained a constant level of *acetic acid* in M15, regardless of the level of  
507 micro-oxygenation. This particular feature, which is a relevant trait in enology, suggests that acetic acid  
508 metabolism is poorly impacted by hypoxia in this strain. Another interaction was observed for the strain M2,  
509 for which the long lag phase observed in sulphited grape must (SB14) is reduced by the micro-oxygenation.  
510 Those preliminary observations open perspectives for studying the phenotypic response of yeast strains to  
511 micro-oxygenation at a large scale.

## 512 **Survey of the fermentation performances of 35 enological strains in 5** 513 **grape musts**

514 As a matter of proof, we measured the phenotypic performances of 35 strains including 31 industrial starters.  
515 After 3 weeks of fermentation, we measured in the same batch 11 traits in 5 different grape juices (350  
516 fermentations), supporting the efficiency of the method for high throughput phenotyping. We have observed  
517 an important grape must effect on the phenotypes (Table 3). This effect was generated by the basic  
518 physicochemical characteristics of the grape musts (concentration of sugar, malic acid and SO<sub>2</sub> etc.). In order  
519 to go beyond this effect, the response of each strain was normalized according to the grape juice. Therefore  
520 the principal effect of the media was eliminated allowing the comparison of each strain's response measured  
521 in five grape juices. With the normalized dataset, we first investigated the relations between the quantitative

522 traits measured for 35 strains. The large panel of commercial strains and the measurement of each trait in 5  
523 conditions reinforces the robustness of these links and ensures the generalization of the conclusions that can  
524 be drawn. Omitting the obvious correlations found between kinetic parameters, we shed light on other  
525 correlations that can reflect important metabolic trade-offs. A strong correlation was identified between  
526 *malic acid* and kinetic parameters (*T35*, *T50* and *T80*). Thus, we found that fast fermenting strains were also  
527 those consuming more malic acid. This link had already been observed for the ML01 strain, which has been  
528 genetically modified to carry out the malolactic fermentation [42]. ML01 has a higher fermentation rate than  
529 the parental strain. This can be explained by the deacidification of the media caused by the malic acid  
530 consumption that can provide more permissive pH conditions. However, it is important to note that this  
531 effect appears to occur in low pH conditions. Therefore, as the pH of the grape musts used in our study  
532 ranged from 3.19 to 3.58, other mechanisms were probably involved. For example it is known that malic acid  
533 plays an important role in carbon metabolism. During fermentation its decarboxylation provides pyruvate  
534 which could play an anaplerotic effect on biomass and/or on ethanol synthesis [58,59]. A second positive  
535 correlation was found between the duration of the lag phase (*lp*) and the glycerol production, suggesting that  
536 strains starting the fermentation later produce more glycerol. The production of glycerol at the beginning of  
537 fermentation helps restoring the redox balance by regenerating the NAD<sup>+</sup> consumed via the reaction catalyzed  
538 by glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase at the beginning of the glycolysis [60]. Indeed, at that stage,  
539 the regeneration of NAD<sup>+</sup> by alcohol dehydrogenase is subject to inhibition by the formation of complexes  
540 between acetaldehyde and bisulfites ions. Thus, strains that are able to rapidly start the alcoholic  
541 fermentation do not need to produce high glycerol amounts to compensate for this NAD<sup>+</sup> deficiency.  
542 Moreover, glycerol production is a well-known response to osmotic stress, which results from the high sugar  
543 concentration found in grape juice [61]. As osmotic shock affects cell growth and the lag phase [62], the high  
544 producer strains could be more adapted to initiate the alcoholic fermentation promptly after inoculation.

545

546 This dataset was also used to evaluate and compare the performance of the strains. This comparison revealed  
547 groups of strains with distinct phenotypic profiles. This disparity shows that despite the high specialization  
548 level of wine starters [63], the completion of the fermentation takes place over a wide range of production or  
549 consumption of important end-products. For example, groups C and D defined in Fig 7 mainly discriminate  
550 the strains having the highest fermentation rate by their *glycerol* and *SO<sub>2</sub>* production levels. This suggests  
551 that high performing (commercial) strains adapted to winemaking conditions have undergone different

552 adaptive strategies that have modelled their central metabolism in order to accomplish the alcoholic  
553 fermentation. Strain robustness against the grape must parameter was evaluated, leading to the identification  
554 of the most robust commercial starters. Robustness is a critical factor for the wine industry, as it ensures  
555 successful fermentations in a wide range of grape musts. Some grape musts with extreme characteristics  
556 (SO<sub>2</sub> or sugar concentrations) highlighted the weakness of the less robust ones leading to the identification of  
557 the type of grape must for which they are the most suited. The setup developed in the present study could  
558 help to identify the physicochemical factors (amino acids, vitamins, cofactors or polyphenols) that could be a  
559 source of inappropriate phenotypic responses. The identification of enological factors that affect the  
560 performance of strains is of great interest. It has already been shown for example that the effect of  
561 temperature during fermentation was dependent on the strain used [25]. The fermentation system  
562 implemented here is well adapted to push forward the identification of new factors of this type.

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568

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724

## 725 **Supporting information**

### 726 **S1 Fig SV setup**

727 On the left, a SV filled with 5 mL of grape juice (SB14) and with a hypodermic needle to allow the CO<sub>2</sub>  
728 release. On the right 70 vials on a rack illustrating the possibility of managing hundreds of fermentations in  
729 parallel.

### 730 **S2 Fig Oxygen impact on ester production**

731 Panel A. The data shown are the mean proportion of PhC<sub>2</sub>C<sub>2</sub> to C<sub>2</sub>PhC<sub>2</sub> of the 4 strains in 2 replicates, the  
732 error bars represent the standard error. Different letters indicate significant differences between groups  
733 (Tukey's honest significant difference test, significance level,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ). Panel B. The data shown are mean of  
734 2 replicates, the error bars represent the standard error. Different letters indicate significant differences  
735 between groups (Tukey's honest significant difference test, significance level,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ). Table represents  
736 ANOVA results (pval, and % of variance explained).

### 737 **S3 Fig Correlations between traits**

738 Scatter plots of correlated traits. Each dot represent the average phenotypic values of a strain across the 5  
739 grape must from the normalized dataset. The blue line represents the linear regression line and the shaded  
740 area represents the confidence interval of the regression (0.95).

741 **S4 Fig Comparison of the phenotypic values between robust and non-robust strains according**  
742 **to grape musts.**

743 The data shown are the mean of 8 strains (non-robust group) or 27 strains (robust group), the error bars  
744 represent the standard error. Different letters indicate significant differences between groups (Tukey's honest  
745 significant difference test, significance level,  $\alpha = 0.05$ ).

746 **S1 Table yeast strains used**  
747

748 **S2 Table Dilution and volume of sample used for robotic enzymatic assay**  
749

750 **S3 Table List of the 32 esters analyzed**  
751

752 **S4 Table SB14 dataset**

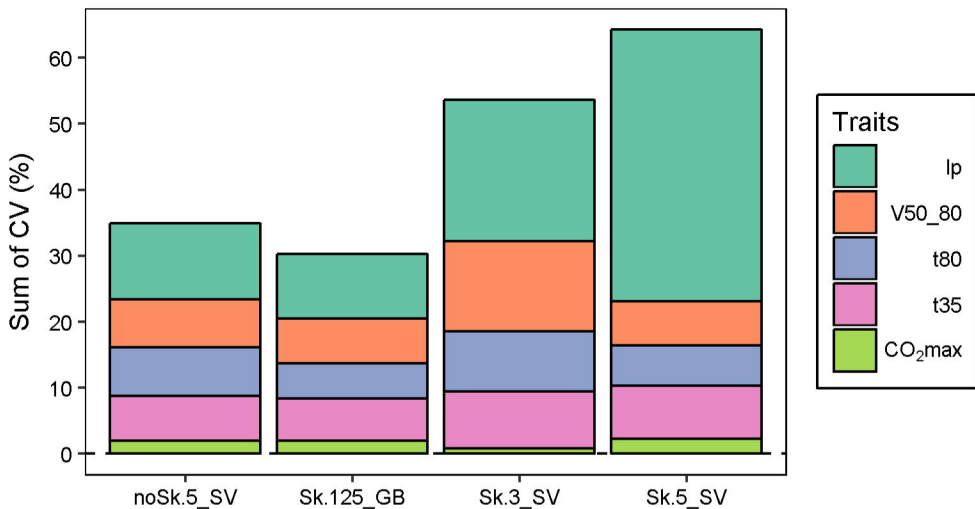
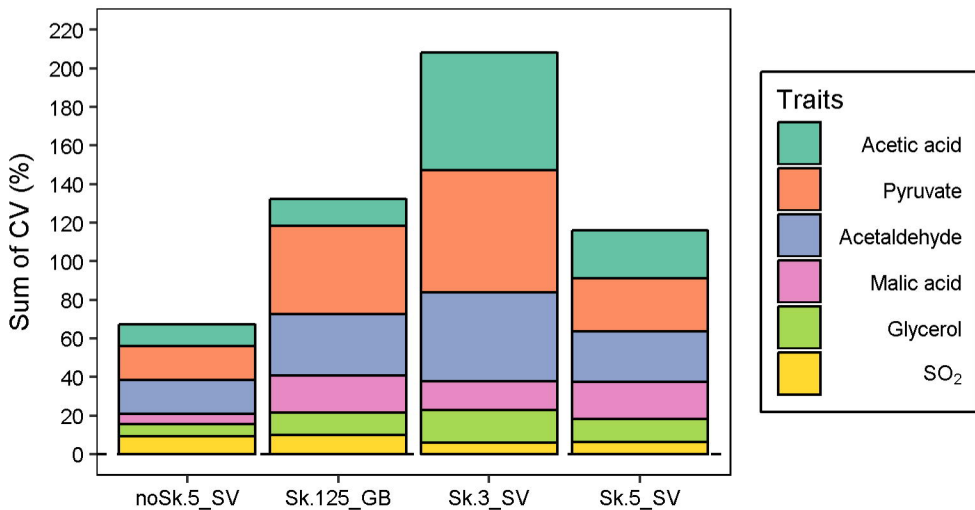
753 Data presented are the mean of six fermentation replicates of SB 14 grape must. The residual sugars (glucose +  
754 fructose) at the end of the fermentation was not shown and was always lower than  $1.5 \text{ g.L}^{-1}$ . Statistical differences  
755 within strains and modalities was assayed by Tukey's honest significant difference test, significance level,  $\alpha = 0.05$ , the  
756 different groups were shown by a letter code: groups sharing the same letter are non-significantly different.

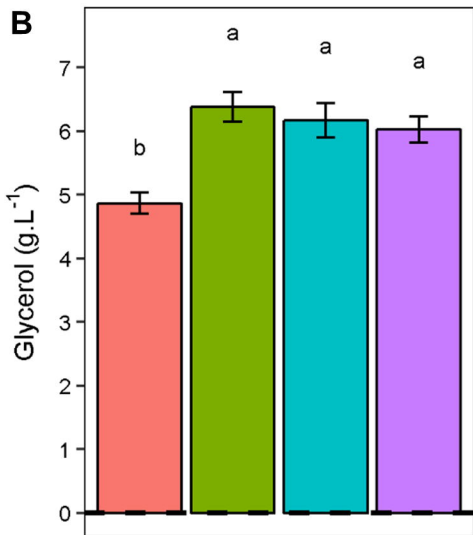
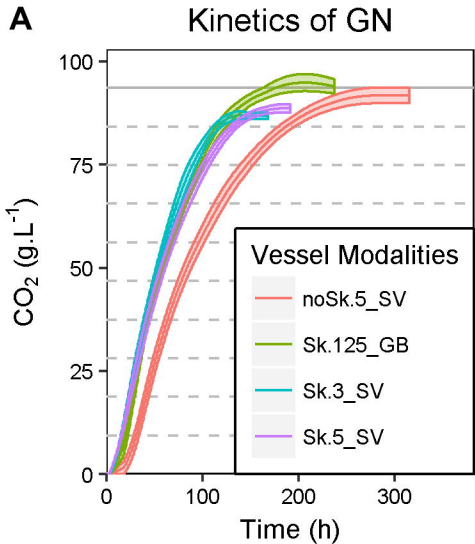
757 **S5 Table Esters dataset**

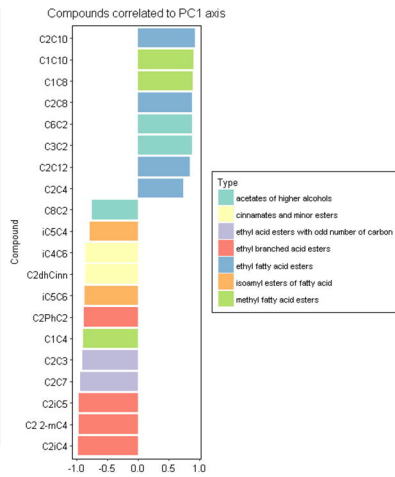
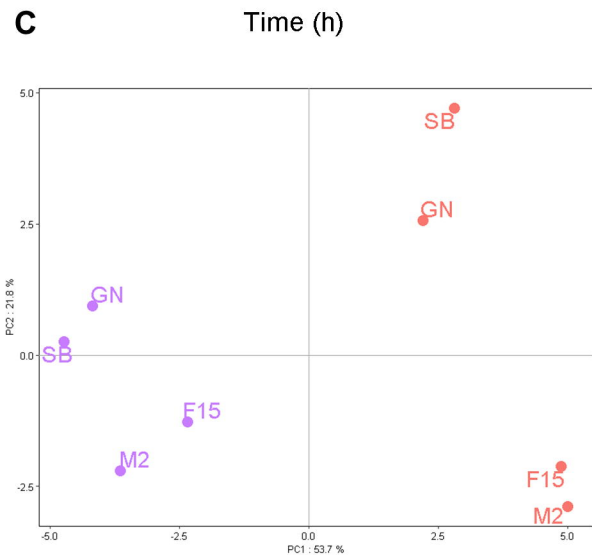
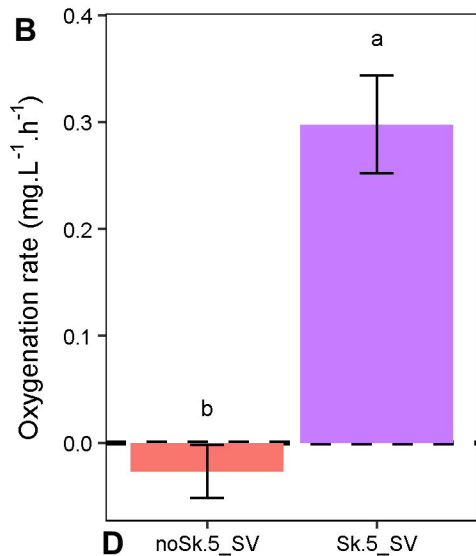
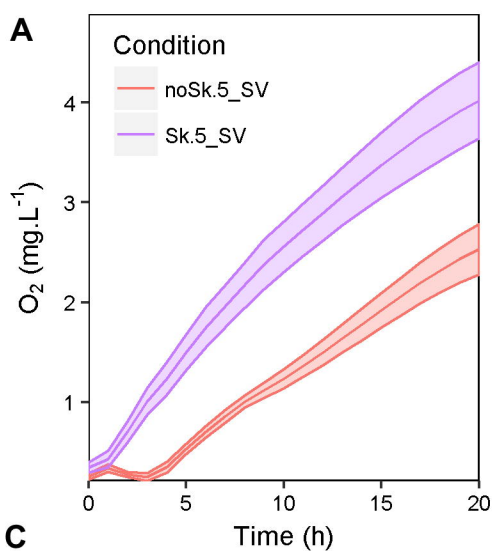
758 **S6 Table Micro-oxygenation and grape must interaction dataset**

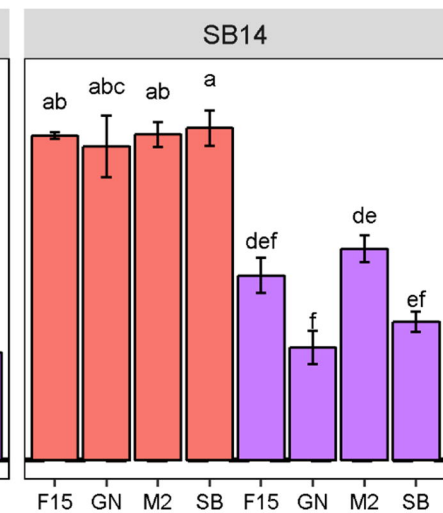
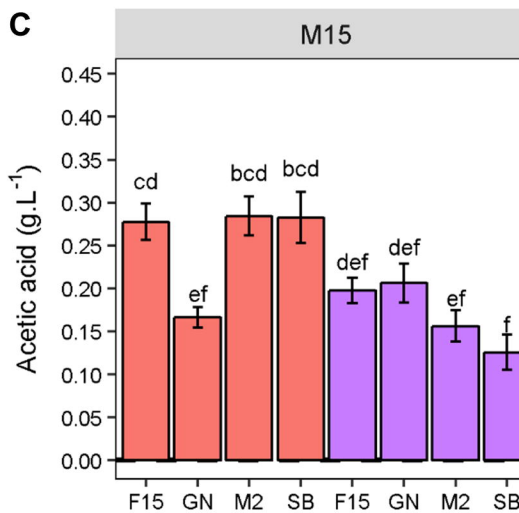
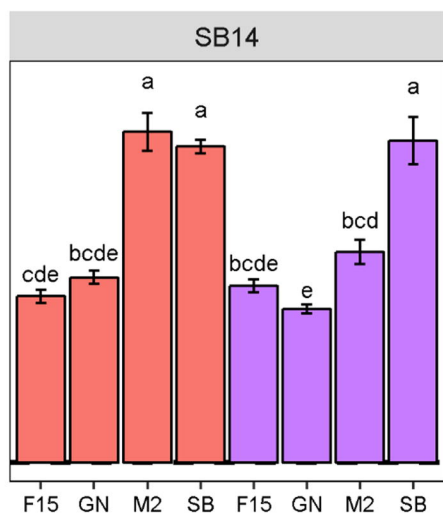
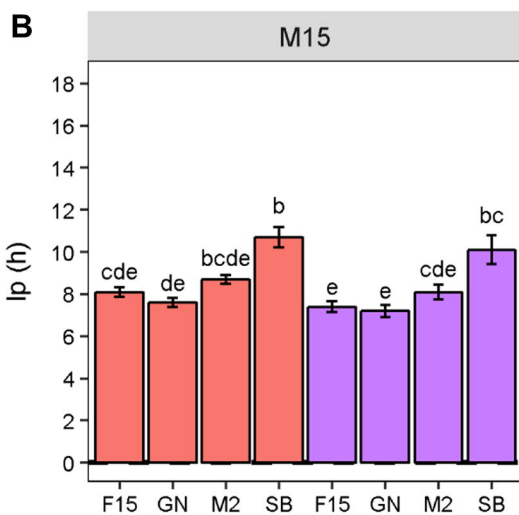
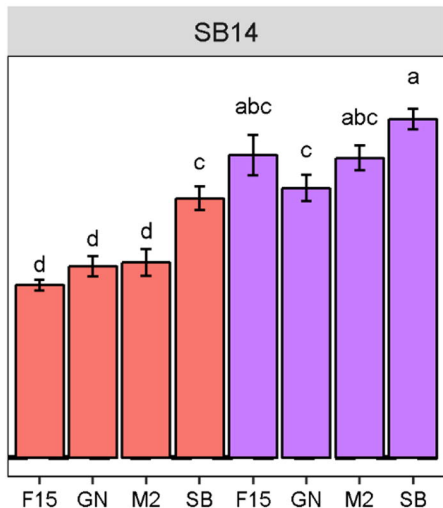
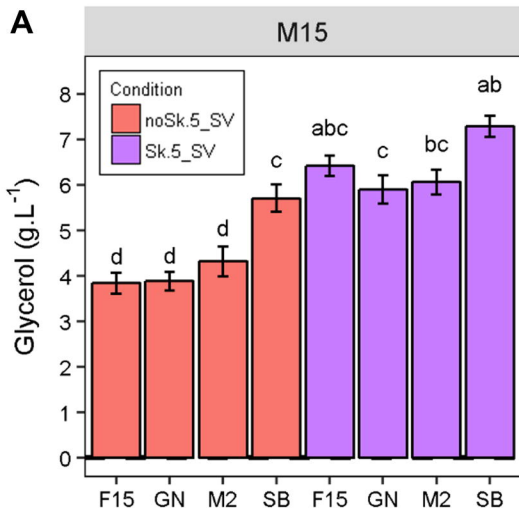
759 **S7 Table phenotypic data of 35 commercial strains in 5 grape juices (raw data)**

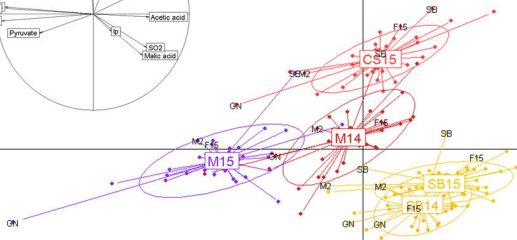
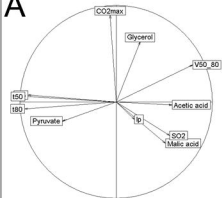
760 **S8 Table phenotypic data of 35 commercial strains in 5 grape juices (centered reduced data)**

**A** Kinetic traits**B** Metabolic traits

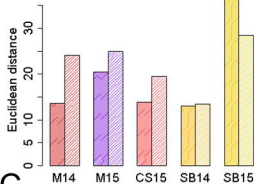
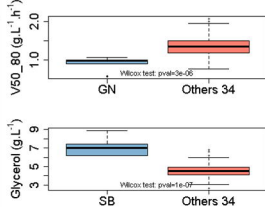


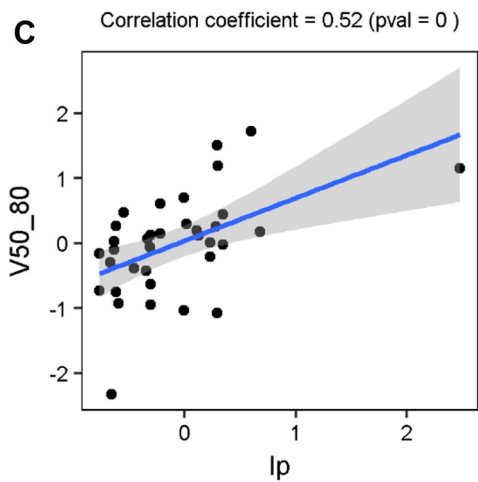
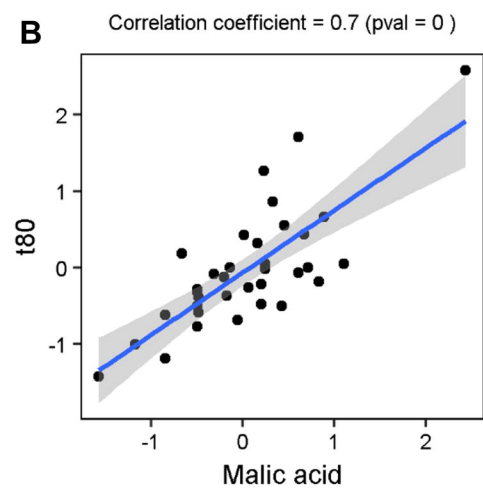
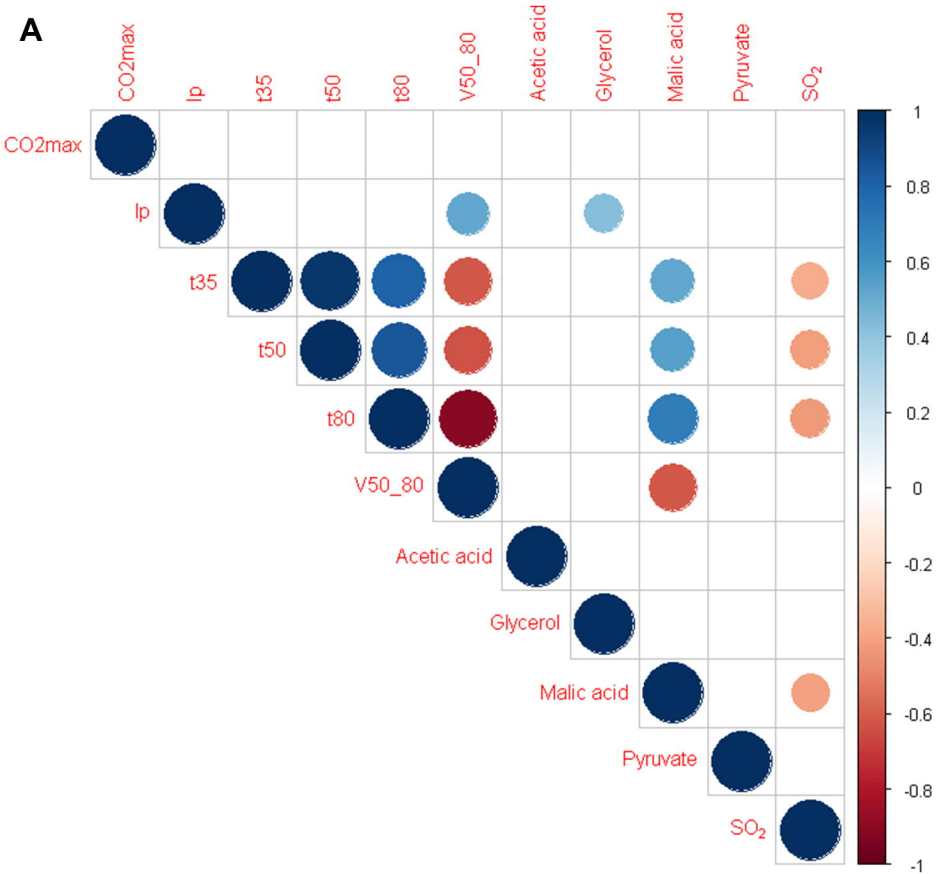




**A****B**

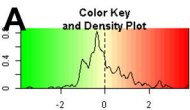
Average distance within strains

**C**









Variance of the strains across the 5 musts

