

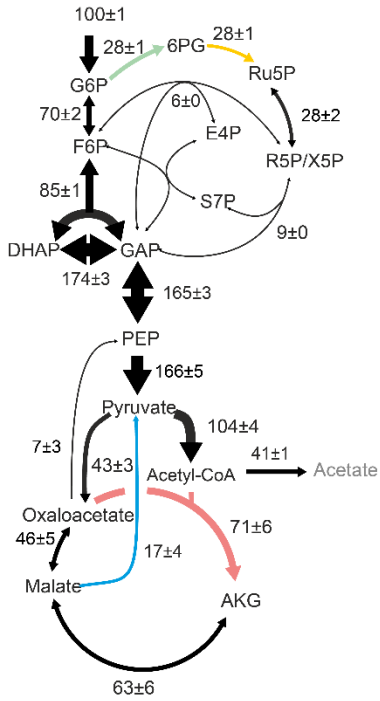
**Supplementary Figure 1.** Metabolic flux distributions in *B. subtilis* malic enzyme deletion mutants, estimated by  $^{13}\text{C}$  flux ratio analysis and metabolite balancing. Flux values are normalized to the glucose uptake rate ( $q_{\text{glc}}$ ,  $\text{mmol g}_{\text{CDW}}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$ ) of each strain. Arrow dimensions scale with flux magnitude.

[figure on next page]

**a***Δ maeA*

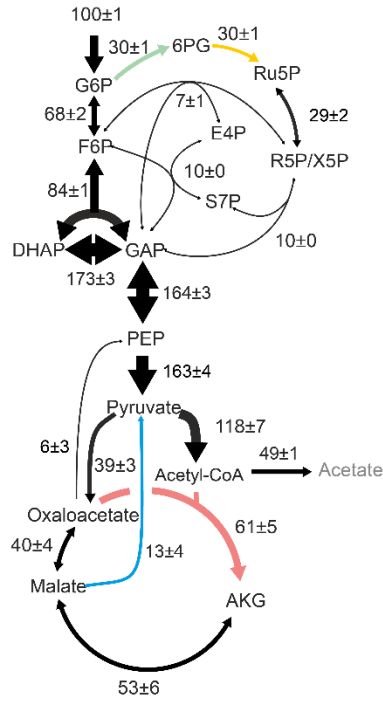
$$q_{\text{glc}} = 8.07 \pm 0.1 \text{ mmol g}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$$

$$\mu = 0.47 \pm 0.02 \text{ h}^{-1}$$

**b***Δ malS*

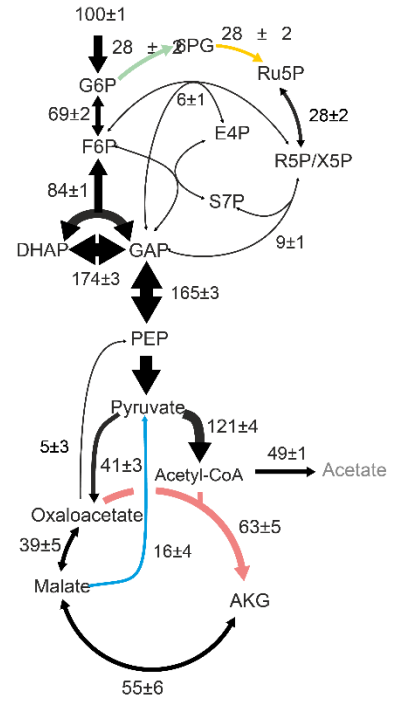
$$q_{\text{glc}} = 7.56 \pm 0.1 \text{ mmol g}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$$

$$\mu = 0.46 \pm 0.02 \text{ h}^{-1}$$

**c***Δ mleA*

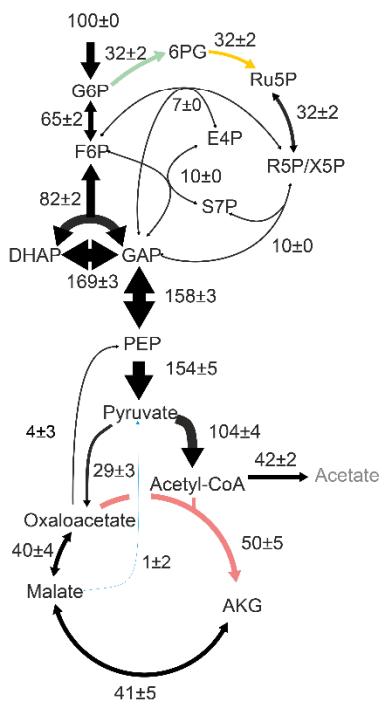
$$q_{\text{glc}} = 7.39 \pm 0.1 \text{ mmol g}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$$

$$\mu = 0.44 \pm 0.02 \text{ h}^{-1}$$

**d***Δ ytsJ*

$$q_{\text{glc}} = 6.06 \pm 0.1 \text{ mmol g}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$$

$$\mu = 0.44 \pm 0.02 \text{ h}^{-1}$$

**e***Δ maeA Δ malS Δ mleA*

$$q_{\text{glc}} = 7.46 \pm 0.1 \text{ mmol g}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$$

$$\mu = 0.42 \pm 0.02 \text{ h}^{-1}$$

