

Supplementary Materials for

Tissue-of-origin Dictates Branched-Chain Amino Acid Metabolism in Mutant *Kras*-driven Cancers

Jared R. Mayers^{1,2*}, Margaret E. Torrence^{1,2*}, Laura V. Danai¹, Thales Papagiannakopoulos^{1†}, Shawn M. Davidson^{1,2}, Matthew R. Bauer¹, Allison N. Lau¹, Brian W. Ji³, Purushottam D. Dixit³, Aaron M. Hosios^{1,2}, Alexander Muir¹, Christopher R. Chin¹, Elizaveta Freinkman^{1,2,4,5,6}, Tyler Jacks^{1,2,6}, Brian M. Wolpin⁷, Dennis Vitkup³, and Matthew G. Vander Heiden^{1,2,5,7,‡}

Affiliations:

¹Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA. ²

²Department of Biology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA.

³ Center for Computational Biology and Bioinformatics and Initiative in Systems Biology, Columbia University, New York, New York 10027, USA.

⁴Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Nine Cambridge Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142, USA.

5 Broad Institute, Seven Cambridge Center, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02142, USA.

6 Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA.

7 Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Boston, Massachusetts 02115, USA.

*Equal contribution

† Current Address: School of Medicine, New York University, New York, New York 10016, USA

correspondence to: Matthew G. Vander Heiden, mvh@mit.edu

This PDF file includes:

Materials and Methods Figs. S1 to S10 Tables S1 to S8

Materials and Methods

Experimental Mice

All studies were approved by the MIT committee on animal care (IACUC). All experimental groups were assigned based on genotype. All animals were numbered and experiments conducted blinded. After data collection genotypes were revealed and animals assigned to groups for analysis.

KPC: Experimental KPC mice were male mice on a pure C57BL/6J background. Experimental mice were heterozygous for the conditional lox–stop–lox *KrasG12D* allele, heterozygous for the conditional lox–stop–lox *Trp53^{R172H}* allele and expressed Cre–recombinase under control of the Pdx–1–promoter (*Tg(Ipf1-cre)1Tuv*) (*26*). Littermate controls lacked either the LSL–*KrasG12D* allele, the Cre allele, or both. Control mice were sacrificed at the same time as their tumor–bearing littermates.

 $KP^{-/-}C$ (PDAC): Experimental $KP^{-/-}C$ mice were male mice on a pure C57BL/6J background. Experimental mice were heterozygous for the conditional lox–stop–lox *KrasG12D* allele, homozygous for loxP sites flanking exons 2–10 of *Trp53* and expressed Cre–recombinase under control of the Pdx–1–promoter $(Tg(1pf1-cre)1^{Tw})(19)$. Littermate control mice lacked either the Cre–recombinase allele, *LSL–KrasG12D* allele, or both as previously described (*18*), such that control pancreas samples used throughout were derived from a combination of p53 wildtype and null pancreata. Cancer cell lines derived from these mice were used for syngenic implantation studies. For FACS sorting, mixed background male mice with the $KP^{-/-}C$ alleles plus a *LSL-tdTomato* reporter gene expressed under control of the Rosa-26 promoter (*Gt(ROSA)26Sor tm9(CAG-tdTomato)Hze/+*) were used. Five-week old mice were used for the experiment presented in fig. S1, whereas 8-10-week-old mice were used for all other experiments presented in the study.

KP Non–small cell lung cancer: Experimental NSCLC mice were male mice on a pure C57BL/6J background. Experimental mice were heterozygous for the conditional lox–stop–lox *KrasG12D* allele, homozygous for loxP sites flanking exons 2–10 of *Trp53* were administered 2.5x107 pfu of Cre–expressing adenovirus intratracheally as previously described (*20*). Control mice lacked the lox–stop–lox *KrasG12D* allele, but contained the floxed-*Trp53* allele. High–titer adenovirus was obtained from the Gene Transfer Vector Core (University of Iowa). Cre was administered when the mice were 8-12 weeks of age. Cancer cell lines derived from these mice were used for syngenic implantation studies. Mice 8-weeks post-infection were used for the experiment presented in fig. S1, whereas mice 12-14-weeks post-infection were used for all other experiments presented in the study.

Subcutaneous and orthotopic implantation studies: Male C57BL/6J mice aged 6-12 weeks at the start of the study were used for these experiments.

Diets

Standard Chow Diet: RMH 3000 (Prolab).

Amino Acid Defined Diet: Control (unlabeled) amino acid-defined diet (TD.110839) was designed in consultation with and subsequently obtained from Harlan Teklad.

13C-BCAA Amino Acid Defined Diet: 20% 13C–leucine and 20% 13C–valine labeled diet was based on diet TD.110839 and produced by Cambridge Isotopes and Harlan Teklad. $KP^{-/-}C$ PDAC mice and NSCLC mice were fed this diet for 7 days beginning at seven weeks of age (PDAC) and 12-weeks post infection with adenoviral Cre-recombinase (NSCLC).

¹⁵N-Leu Amino Acid Defined Diet: 50% ¹⁵N–leucine labeled diet was based on diet TD.110839 and produced by Cambridge Isotopes and Harlan Teklad. $KP^{-/-}C$ PDAC mice were fed this diet for 7 days beginning at seven weeks of age (PDAC). NSCLC mice were fed this diet for 6 days, beginning 12-weeks post infection with adenoviral Cre-recombinase (NSCLC).

Plasma Collection

Mice were anesthetized under 2% isofluorane–oxygen mixture and retro–orbitally bled approximately 4.5 hours after the onset of the light cycle. Blood was immediately placed in EDTA-tubes and centrifuged to separate plasma. Plasma was aliquoted and frozen at -80˚C for further analysis.

LC–MS Plasma Amino Acid Measurements

Plasma amino acids were measured by LC–MS at the Koch Institute at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Cambridge, MA) using methods previously described (*18*). Raw data were analyzed as peak area tops using the open–access MAVEN software tool (*40*).

GC–MS Assessment of Stable Isotope Labeling

Plasma polar metabolites were extracted in ice–cold 4:1 methanol:water with norvaline internal standard (5µL plasma in 200µL extraction solution). Extracts were clarified by centrifugation and the supernatant evaporated under nitrogen and frozen at –80˚C for subsequent derivitization. Dried polar metabolites were dissolved in 20µL of 2% methoxyamine hydrochloride in pyridine (Thermo) and held at 37˚C for 1.5hr. After dissolution and reaction, tert–butyldimethylsilyl derivatization was initiated by adding 25µL *N*–methyl–*N*–(tert– butyldimethylsilyl)trifluoroacetamide + 1% tert–butyldimethylchlorosilane (Sigma) and incubating at 37˚C for 1hr.

All tissues used for metabolomic analysis were snap frozen using a BioSpec Biosquezer (#1210). To extract free polar metabolites, 10-30 mg of tissue was pulverized in liquid nitrogen using at Retsch Cryomill (#20.749.0001) and Retsch Cryomill Grinding Balls (#22.455.0002) for 2x 2min cycles at 25 Hz. Powdered tissue was extracted with 5:3:5 ice-cold methanol:water (with 13.3ng/µL Norvaline internal standard):chloroform. Extract was vortexted for 10min at 4˚C and centrifuged at for 10min at 20,000g at 4˚C in a benchtop centrifuge. An equal volume of the top (aqueous) phase was removed for each sample and evaporated under nitrogen and frozen at -80° C for subsequent derivitization. Dried polar metabolites were dissolved in 1μ L/mg tissue of 2% methoxyamine hydrochloride in pyridine (Thermo) and held at 37˚C for 1.5hr. After dissolution and reaction, tert–butyldimethylsilyl derivatization was initiated by adding 1.25µL/mg tissue *N*–methyl–*N*–(tert–butyldimethylsilyl)trifluoroacetamide + 1% tert– butyldimethylchlorosilane (Sigma) and incubating at 60˚C for 1hr.

The acid hydrolysis protocol was adapted from Antoniewicz and colleagues (*41*). Briefly, acid hydrolysis of tissue proteins was performed on snap frozen tissues by placing 1–5mg tissue in 1mL 18% hydrochloric acid overnight at 100˚C. 50µL supernatant was evaporated under nitrogen and frozen at –80˚C for subsequent derivitization. Dried hydrolysates were re–dissolved in pyridine (10µL/1mg tissue) prior to tert–butyldimethylsilyl derivatization, which was initiated by adding *N*–methyl–*N*–(tert–butyldimethylsilyl)trifluoroacetamide + 1% tert– butyldimethylchlorosilane (12.5µL/1mg tissue, Sigma) and incubating at 60˚C for 1h.

GC/MS analysis was performed using an Agilent 7890 GC equipped with a 30m DB–35MS capillary column connected to an Agilent 5975B MS operating under electron impact ionization

at 70eV. One microliter of sample was injected in splitless mode at 270°C, using helium as the carrier gas at a flow rate of 1 mlmin⁻¹. For measurement of amino acids, the GC oven temperature was held at 100°C for 3min and increased to 300°C at 3.5°Cmin[−]¹ . The MS source and quadrupole were held at 230°C and 150°C, respectively, and the detector was run in scanning mode, recording ion abundance in the range of 100–605 *m*/*z*. MIDs were determined by integrating the appropriate ion fragments (*41*) listed in table S7 and corrected for natural isotope abundance using an algorithm adapted from Ferandez and colleagues (*42*).

LC-MS Assessment of Stable Isotope Labeling

Tissue samples were collected and extracted as before. After drying the polar fraction, samples were resuspended in ice-cold 1:1 Acetonitrile:Water mix at 40µL/10mg tissue. LC/MS analyses were conducted on a QExactive benchtop orbitrap mass spectrometer equipped with a heated electrospray ionization (HESI) probe, which was coupled to a Dionex UltiMate 3000 UPLC system (Thermo Fisher Scientific, San Jose, CA). External mass calibration was performed using the standard calibration mixture every 7 days. For ¹³C-BCAA tracing in tissues, 2.5 μ of each sample was injected into the LC/MS. For ¹⁵N-BCAA tracing into nucleotides, 10 µl of each sample was injected into the LC/MS.

LC separation was performed on a ZIC-pHILIC 2.1 x 150 mm (5 µm particle size) column (EMD). Buffer A was 20 mM ammonium carbonate, 0.1% ammonium hydroxide; buffer B was acetonitrile. The chromatographic gradient was run at a flow rate of 0.150 ml/min as follows: 0- 20 min.: linear gradient from 80% to 20% B; 20-20.5 min.: linear gradient from 20% to 80% B; 20.5-28 min.: hold at 80% B.

The mass spectrometer was operated with the spray voltage set to 3.0 kV, the heated capillary held at 275°C, and the HESI probe held at 350°C. The sheath gas flow was set to 40 units, the auxiliary gas flow was set to 15 units, and the sweep gas flow was set to 1 unit. For ¹³C-BCAA tracing in tissues, the MS data acquisition was performed in full-scan, polarity switching mode in a range of 70-1000 m/z, with the resolution set at 70,000, the AGC target at 10⁶, and the maximum injection time at 20 msec. For ¹⁵N-BCAA tracing into nucleotides, the MS data were acquired in either positive or negative ion mode in a range of 285-385 m/z, with the resolution set at 140,000, the AGC target at $10⁶$, and the maximum injection time at 250 msec.

Relative quantitation of polar metabolites was performed with XCalibur QuanBrowser 2.2 (Thermo Fisher Scientific) using a 5 ppm mass tolerance and referencing an in-house library of chemical standards.

Tracer enrichment measurements were corrected for natural abundance for either ${}^{13}C$ or ${}^{15}N$ tracers as described by Yuan et al. (*43*).

Relative Abundance of Amino Acids in Tissue Samples

To determine the relative abundance of amino acids in the samples, protein hydrolysis with 18% hydrochloric acid was modified to include an amino acid internal standard mixture of U-13C and U-¹⁵N species (Cambridge Isotopes, # MSK-A2-1.2) at a final concentration of 100 μ M. The ratio of ion counts of unlabeled and fully labeled isotopomers of each amino acid was calculated. The fully labeled standards contain each amino acid at equal concentrations, so these calculated ratios represent their relative abundances. We therefore normalized the sum of these ratios to equal one to calculate the fraction of protein amino acids represented by each individual amino

acid. Cysteine and tryptophan residues are acid labile and not recoverable from the hydrolyzed samples.

DNA Isolation and Enzymatic DNA Digest

DNA was extracted using Phenol/Chloroform/Isoamyl extract mix (25:24:1 pH 8.0, Sigma P3803). DNA was precipitated with 0.1 volumes of 3M Sodium Acetate pH 5.2 and 3 volumes isopropanol overnight at -20°C. After pelleting and washing, DNA was resuspended in water. 20μ L DNA was mixed with 6 μ L 100mM Succinic Acid-NaOH 50mM CaCl₂ pH5.9, 0.1 μ L 0.02U/µL Bovine Spleen Phosphodiesterase II (Sigma P9041), 0.1µL 2000GelUnits/µL Micrococcal Nuclease (NEB 0247) and incubated at 37°C for 2.5 hrs. Reaction was then extracted with 90 μ L 2:1 Chloroform:Methanol and the resulting methanol fraction was evaporated under nitrogen. Sample was resuspended in 50:50 Acetonitrile:Water at 100ng/µL for Q-Exactive Mass Spectroscopic Analysis.

RNA Extraction and qPCR

Approximately 10-20mg of frozen tissue was homogenized (ProScientific Pro200) in Trizol (Life Technologies) and RNA extracted according to the manufacturer's instructions. RNA concentration was determined using a Nanodrop (#ND1000) and 1µg of cDNA synthesized using iScript cDNA synthesis kit (BioRad). Quantitative-RT PCR was carried out on 5ng of cDNA using a final concentration of 2µM each of forward and reverse primers (table S8) with LuminoCt SYBR Green qPCR ReadyMix on a Roche Lightcycler II qPCR machine. Samples were normalized to the geometric mean of a panel of endogenous control genes (table S8) as previously described (*44*).

FACS Sorting and RNA isolation from Sorted Cells

Tumors were digested with 3mg/mL Dispase II (Roche), 1 mg/mL Collagenase I (Sigma), and 0.1mg/mL DNAse I (Sigma) in PBS for 30 mins at 37°C. To halt digestion, EDTA was then added to a final concentration of 10mM EDTA. Cells were strained through 70uM strainers and resuspended in flow cytometry staining buffer (eBioscience). Sytox Red (Life Technologies) was used for live/dead staining. Cell sorting was performed with a BD FACSAria III. RNA was isolated using the Ambion RNAqueous-Micro Total RNA Isolation Kit.

Protein Immunoblots

Approximately 20-30mg of frozen tissue was homogenized in RIPA buffer containing Protease Inhibitor Cocktail Tablets (Roche). Lysates were clarified by centrifugation in a benchtop centrifuge (Eppendorf Centrifugre 5145R) at 4˚C. Following clarification, protein concentration was determined using Bradford Protein Assay Dye (BioRad). All samples were run on SDS-acrylamide gels. After transfer to PVDF membrane and blocking in 5% BSA, blotting was performed using primary antibodies against Slc7a5 (Bioss, #bs-10125R), Bcat1 (Abcam, #ab110761), Bcat2 (Pierce Biotechnology, #PA5-21549), Bckdha (Novus Biologicals, #NBP1-79616), Hsp90 (Cell Signaling, #4877) and Vinculin (Sigma, # V9131). Secondary antibodies were goat anti-rabbit-HRP and goat-anti mouse (EMG Millipore). Western blot quantification was performing using ImageJ Image Analysis Software (NIH). Levels of BCAA catabolic enzymes were normalized to levels of vinculin and Hsp90.

Microarray expression data sets

Microarray expression data sets for pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, non-small cell lung cancer, and normal tissue were obtained from the NCBI GEO database (*30*) (accession numbers GSE15471, GSE16515, GSE71989 for pancreas samples and GSE18842 for lung samples) and were restricted to those using Affymetrix U133 Plus 2.0 GeneChips. The affyQCReport package from Bioconductor was used to search for poor quality chips. GeneChip arrays that passed quality control checks were normalized using the GCRMA (*45*) algorithm from Bioconductor. For each cancer type, tumor and normal samples from the same study were processed together.

The limma (*46*) method from Bioconductor was used to calculate differential expression of metabolic genes with results reported as ratios on the log2 scale. P-values for differential expression were corrected for multiple hypothesis testing using the Benjamini and Hochberg method (*47*), controlling for false discovery rate at 5%. Expression changes of all human genes assigned to metabolic pathways in the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) (*48*) database were analyzed in addition to those assigned to the BCAA catabolic pathway.

TCGA RNA-seq data sets

Raw read counts were obtained from the Broad Firehose (https://gdac.broadinstitute.org/) LUAD and LUSQ January 28, 2016 data runs. Differential expression analysis was performed using the voom-limma (*48*) method from Bioconductor with results reported as ratios on the log2 scale. The Benjamini and Hochberg method was use to control the false discovery rate at 5%. Expression changes of metabolic genes in the KEGG database were analyzed in addition to those assigned to the BCAA catabolic pathway.

Principal Component Analysis and Hierarchical Cluster Analysis

Principal component analysis (PCA) was performed on qPCR expression data from mouse tumors and normal control tissues. The principal components were obtained by first meancentering each variable and then scaling by the respective standard deviation. The correlation matrix was then calculated, along with the corresponding eigenvalues and eigenvectors.

Hierarchical cluster analysis was performed on log-transformed qPCR expression data from mouse tumors and normal control tissues. The complete linkage method and Euclidean distance metric were adopted for clustering.

Cell Lines

 $\overline{\text{C57BL}}$ /6J KP NSCLC and PDAC (KP^{-/-}C) cell lines were derived as previously described (*18*). Briefly, end-stage tumors were dissected from indicated mice and mechanically chopped before trypsin disaggregation. Tumor cells were propagated in DMEM with 10% FBS, 4 mM glutamine and penicillin/streptomycin. Cell lines were tested and determined to be negative for mycoplasma.

Cell Culture

Isotope Tracing Experiments. For labeled-glutamine tracing, DMEM lacking glutamine was supplemented with $\lceil \alpha^{-15} N \rceil$ -glutamine (Cambridge Isotopes) to the standard DMEM concentration and with 10% dialyzed FBS. For leucine tracing, DMEM lacking leucine and containing either 4mM, 400 μ M or 40 μ M glutamine was supplemented with ¹⁵N-leucine (Cambridge Isotopes) to the standard DMEM concentration and with 10% dialyzed FBS. For 3and 24-hr tracing experiment, $1x10^5$ cells were plated six hours prior to the start of the experiment.

Proliferation Assay. $1x10^4$ cells/well were plated and grown for four days in standard DMEM (without pyruvate) conditions with 10% FBS. Growth rate (in doublings/day) was calculated by the following equation:

Doublings/day = $\lceil \log_2(\text{\#cells day 4/\#cells day0)} \rceil$ /4days

Tracing Experiments for Bcat KO lines. DMEM media lacking leucine was supplemented with ¹⁵N-leucine (Cambridge Isotopes) to the standard DMEM concentration and with 10% dialyzed FBS. For 24-hr tracing experiment, $1.5x10^5$ cells were plated six hours prior to the start of the experiment.

Slc7a5 Overexpression

The murine *Slc7a5* open reading frame was PCR amplified from a cDNA library obtained from Origene Technologies (Rockville, MD). The *Slc7a5* open reading frame was subcloned into pLHCX (Clontech, Mountain View, CA) by standard laboratory methods using the HindIII and ClaI restriction sites. The entire coding sequence of this construct was confirmed by sequencing analysis. Target PDAC cells were infected with either control empty vector or *Slc7a5*-expressing vector. Two *Slc7a5* cell lines (Lines A and B) were generated in parallel from different bacterial clones. Post-infection, cell lines were selected with hygromycin B for further experiments.

Leucine Uptake Assay

 $1x10⁵$ cells were plated the day before the experiment. At the start of the experiment, cells were washed once in PBS before exposure to PBS containing 200µM Leucine with 1µCi/mL [1- 14C]-leucine (American Radiolabeled Chemicals) for 0 min. or 2 min. at 37°C. Labeled media was aspirated and cells were washed 3x with excess ice-cold PBS before freezing in liquid nitrogen. Cells were extracted in 80% MetOH for measurement of radioactivity using scintillation counting.

Macropinocytosis Assay

Procedure. Macropinocytosis experiments were conducted as previously described (*49*) with the following modifications. Briefly, 2.5×10^4 NSCLC or PDAC cells were plated into 24well plates containing fibronectin coated coverslips. Cells were cultured for 12 hours in 0.5mL DMEM containing 10% FBS, then media was removed and replaced with serum free DMEM for 24 hours. After serum starvation the media was replaced with serum free DMEM containing 10 ug/mL DQ Red BSA (Thermo-Fisher, D12051) and incubated for 30 minutes at 37°C. The media was then aspirated and the plate was washed 5 times with 2 mL ice cold PBS. Cells were fixed with 4% PFA for 15 minutes. Coverslips were removed and PDAC cells stained with 1ug/mL WGA 647 (Thermo-Fisher, W32466) for 15 minutes room temperature (NSCLC cells express GFP), and then both cell lines were stained with DAPI (Thermo-Fisher, D3571) for 10 minutes and mounted in Prolong Gold mounting media (Invitrogen P36934). Cells were then imaged on an applied precision DeltaVision Spectris Imaging System with a 60X objective. Macropinocytic index was calculated by field of view as described previously (*49*).

Analysis. Cell area was determined based on GFP fluorescence (NSCLC) or WGA-647 staining (PDAC) imaged in the FITC channel. DQ Red BSA was imaged in the Rhodamine

channel. Images were converted to 8-bit, Z-stacked, and thresholded using ImageJ. Cell area was read out using the "Measure" function, while DQ Red BSA area was calculated with the "Analyze Particles" function. The macropinocytic index was calculated by dividing the area of the particles by the cell area for each image.

CRISPR-Cas9 genome editing

SgRNA to *Bcat1* and *Bcat2* was designed by identifying exon sequence homology in *Bcat1* and *Bcat2* followed by an NGG PAM sequence (fig. S8A). An additional G was added to sgRNAs lacking a 5'G for U6 transcriptional initiation. U6-sgRNA-EFS-CAS9-2A-Puro vector was digested with BsmB1 and ligated with annealed sgRNAs. Lentivirus was produced by cotransfection of 293T cells with lentiviral backbone constructs and packaging vectors (delta8.2 and VSV-G) using TransIT-LT1 (Mirus Bio).

Implantation studies

Subcutaneous. For subcutaneous implantation studies, recipient mice were anesthetized with inhaled 2% isoflurane-oxygen mixture. 100 μ L of PBS containing 2.0 x 10⁵ cells was delivered into the subcutaneous space on the hindflank of the animal. Volume estimates *in vivo* were calculated according to a modified ellipsoid volume equation:

Tumor volume =
$$
(4/3)\pi
$$
(length/2)(width/2)²

Lung. For orthotopic implantation studies, recipient mice were anesthetized with inhaled 2% isoflurane-oxygen mixture. A catheter was inserted into the trachea and 50µL of PBS containing 2.0×10^5 cells delivered.

Pancreas. For orthotopic implantation studies, recipient mice were anesthetized with inhaled 2% isoflurane-oxygen mixture, a vertical incision made in the abdomen at the left midcalvicular line, the spleen mobilized, and 50μ L of either PBS or PBS containing 2.0×10^5 cells was injected into the tail of the pancreas. After sacrifice, tumors were dissected and calipered to get measurements of length, width and height. Tumor volume was then calculated for ellipsoid shaped tumors:

Tumor volume =
$$
(4/3)\pi
$$
(length/2)(width/2)(height/2)

Statistics

Appropriate statistical tests were performed where required. Two–sided unpaired student's *t*–tests were performed for all statistical analyses unless otherwise specified using Mircosoft Excel for Mac:2011 (Microsoft) or GraphPad Prism 6 (GraphPad Software). For example, twoway repeated measures *ANOVA* was used to assess for differences in subcutaneous allograft tumor growth over time and one-way *ANOVA* with Dunnett's multiple comparisons test used for tumor weight comparisons across three groups. No statistical method was used to pre-determine sample size.

Fig. S1. Early pancreatic cancer and lung cancer have different effects on plasma BCAA levels.

(A) Plasma BCAA concentration in five-week-old control and PDAC mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 8$ control and $N = 6$ PDAC. (B) Plasma BCAA concentration eight weeks post-infection in control and NSCLC mice. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 7 control and *N* = 11 NSCLC. (C) Representative H&E section from a five-week-old PDAC mouse showing areas of normal pancreas and tumor. Scale bar = 100μ m. (D) Representative H&E section from an eight-weeks post-infection NSCLC mouse showing areas of normal lung and tumor. Scale bar = 100µm. (E) Plasma BCAA concentration in C57BL/6J mice four weeks after subcutaneous implantation of syngenic PDAC cells. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 5$ control, *N* = 5 PDAC. (F) Plasma BCAA concentration in C57BL/6J mice four weeks after subcutaneous implantation of syngenic NSCLC cells. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 6 control, $N = 7$ NSCLC. Two-tailed *t* test was used for all comparisons between two groups. $*$ *P*<0.05

Fig. S2. Mice with NSCLC display increased BCAA uptake and metabolism.

 $(A-I)$ Mice were fed ¹³C-BCAA containing diet for seven days. (A) Percent plasma enrichment of fully labeled BCAAs (left panel) and relative ion counts of total BCAAs (right panel) in control and PDAC mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 4$ control and $N = 4$ PDAC. (B) Percent plasma enrichment of fully labeled BCAAs (left panel) and relative ion counts of total BCAAs (right panel) in control and NSCLC mice. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 4 control and *N* = 4 NSCLC. (C) Percent enrichment of labeled free BCAAs (left panel) and relative ion counts of total free BCAAs (right panel) in control mouse pancreas tissues and PDAC mouse tumors. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 4 control and *N* = 4 PDAC. (D) Percent enrichment of labeled free BCAAs (left panel) and relative ion counts of total free BCAAs (right panel) in control mouse lung tissues and NSCLC mouse tumors. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 4 control and *N* = 4 NSCLC. (E) Percent enrichment of labeled BCAAs (left panel) and relative ion counts of total BCAAs (right panel) in protein hydrolysates of control mouse pancreas tissues and PDAC mouse tumors. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. $N = 4$ control and $N = 4$ PDAC. (F) Percent enrichment of labeled BCAAs (left panel) and relative ion counts of total BCAAs (right panel) in protein hydrolysates of control mouse lung tissues and NSCLC mouse tumors. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM, $N = 4$ control and $N = 4$ NSCLC. (G) Labeling $\left(\frac{9}{6}\right)$ from [U-¹³C]-leucine and relative total ion count of downstream leucine metabolites (Fig. 1B) in tumors from PDAC and NSCLC mice and normal tissues from their respective control mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 4 control and *N* = 4 PDAC; $N = 4$ control and $N = 4$ NSCLC. (H) Relative ion counts of labeled species downstream of KIC. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. Top panel, control mouse pancreas tissues and PDAC mouse tumors ($N = 4$ control and $N = 4$ PDAC) and bottom panel, control mouse lung tissues and NSCLC mouse tumors ($N = 4$ control and $N = 4$ NSCLC). (I) Citrate labeling (%) from [U-¹³C]-leucine in PDAC and NSCLC. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. Top panel, *N* = 4 control and $N = 4$ PDAC. Bottom panel, $N = 4$ control and $N = 4$ NSCLC. MID = mass isotopomer distribution. Two-tailed *t* test was used for all comparisons between two groups. * *P*<0.05, ** *P*<0.01, *** *P*<0.001

Lung Ala Arg Asp+ Asn Glu+ Gln Gly His Ile Leu Lys Met Phe Pro Ser Thr Tyr Val Amino Acid Percent of Total Protein A mino Acid Pool Control **NSCLC** 0.0 5.0 10.0 15.0

B

Fig. S3. Amino acid composition of PDAC and NSCLC tumors compared to control normal tissue.

ISSUC.
(A) Percent of each amino acid in total tissue protein determined following acid hydrolysis of control pancreas and PDAC tumors. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 7 control and *N* = 5 PDAC. (B) Percent of each amino acid in total tissue protein determined following acid hydrolysis of normal lung and NSCLC tumors. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 6 control and $N = 6$ NSCLC.

Fig. S4. Evidence for liver oxidation of BCAA-derived carbon in NSCLC tumor-bearing mice.

 $(A-C)$ NSCLC mice were fed ¹³C-BCAA containing diet for seven days. (A) Relative labeled ion counts of M+6 isotopomer (left), M+6 labeling $\frac{N}{2}$ from [U-¹³C]-leucine (center), and relative total ion counts (right) of KIC in the plasma of mice with NSCLC and their controls. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 4 control and *N* = 4 NSCLC. (B) Relative labeled ion counts of $M+6$ isotopomer (left), M+6 labeling (%) from [U-¹³C]-leucine (center), and relative total ion counts (right) of KIC in the liver, muscle (gastrocnemius) and perigonadal white adipose tissue (WAT) of mice with NSCLC and their controls. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 4$ control and $N = 4$ NSCLC. (C) Relative labeled ion counts of $M+5$ isotopomer (left), $M+5$ labeling $\frac{9}{6}$ from [U-¹³C]-leucine (center), and relative total ion counts (right) of C5-carnitine in the liver, muscle (gastrocnemius) and perigonadal white adipose tissue (WAT) of mice with NSCLC and their controls. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 4 control and *N* = 4 NSCLC. Two-tailed *t* test was used for all comparisons between two groups. * *P*<0.05, ** *P*<0.01.

Fig. S5. BCAA-derived nitrogen supports non-essential amino acid and DNA synthesis in NSCLC tumors.

 $(A-E)$ PDAC mice were fed ¹⁵N-leucine containing diet for seven days and NSCLC mice were fed ¹⁵N-leucine diet for six days. (A) Relative labeled ion counts of $M+1$ isotopomer (left), M+1 labeling $\frac{9}{6}$ from ¹⁵N-leucine (center), and relative total ion counts (right) of free leucine in control mouse pancreas tissues and PDAC mouse tumors. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* $= 6$ control and $N = 6$ PDAC. (B) Relative labeled ion counts of M+1 isotopomers (left), M+1 labeing $(\%)$ from ¹⁵N-leucine (top right), and relative total ion counts (bottom right) of amino acids from tissue protein hydrolysates in control mouse pancreas tissues and PDAC mouse tumors. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 6 control and *N* = 6 PDAC. (C) Relative labeled ion counts of M+1 isotopomers (left), M+1 labeing $\frac{9}{6}$ from ¹⁵N-leucine (top right), and relative total ion counts (bottom right) of free amino acids in control mouse lung tissues and NSCLC mouse tumors. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 6 control and *N* = 5 NSCLC. (D) M+1 labeing $(\%)$ from ¹⁵N-leucine (top) and relative total ion counts (bottom) of free plasma amino acids in control and NSCLC mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 5 control and *N* = 6 NSCLC. (E) M+1 labeing $\frac{9}{6}$ from ¹⁵N-leucine (top) and relative total ion counts (bottom) of free tissue amino acids in control mouse lung tissues and NSCLC mouse tumors. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 6 control and *N* = 6 NSCLC. Two-tailed *t* test was used for all comparisons between two groups. * $P<0.05$, ** $P<0.01$, *** $P<0.001$

Fig. S6. Relationship between BCAA transamination and glutamine level *in vitro***.**

(A) M+1 isoleucine (Ile), leucine (Leu) and valine (Val) labeling (%) from $\lceil \alpha^{-15} N \rceil$ -glutamine following exposure of PDAC or NSCLC cells for 24-hours to media containing $\left[\alpha^{-15}N\right]$ glutamine. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 3$ per group. (B) M+1 isoleucine (left panel) and valine (right panel) labeling $\frac{9}{6}$ from ¹⁵N-leucine following exposure of PDAC or NSCLC cells for 3-hours to media containing 15N-leucine and the indicated concentration of glutamine. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 3$ per group. (C) M+1 alanine (left panel), aspartate (middle panel) and glutamate (right panel) labeling $\frac{9}{6}$ from ¹⁵N-leucine following exposure of PDAC or NSCLC cells for 3-hours to media containing ¹⁵N-leucine and the indicated concentration of glutamine. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 3$ per group. Two-tailed *t* test was used for all comparisons between two groups. * *P*<0.05, ** *P*<0.01, *** *P*<0.001

Fig. S7. Gene expression in both mouse and human tumors reflects tumor tissue-specific BCAA metabolism.

(A) Relative expression of BCAA metabolic pathway genes in KPC PDAC tumors and normal pancreas. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 3$ control and $N = 4$ KPC. (B) Relative expression of BCAA metabolic pathway genes in FACS sorted tumor cells compared with parental whole tumor from $KP^{-/-}C$ PDAC mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 5$ tumors. Two-tailed paired-sample *t* test used for comparison. (C) Relative expression of downstream BCAA metabolic pathway genes in normal lung and NSCLC tumors from KP mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 6 control and *N* = 6 NSCLC. (D) Relative expression of downstream BCAA metabolic pathway genes in normal pancreas and PDAC tumors from KP-/- C mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 7$ control and $N = 5$ PDAC. (E) Relative expression of glycolytic genes in normal lung and NSCLC tumors from KP mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 6 control and *N* = 6 NSCLC. (F) Relative expression of glycolytic genes in normal pancreas and PDAC tumors from KP-/- C mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 7 control and *N* = 5 PDAC. (G) Principal component analysis (PCA) of mouse BCAA catabolic gene expression in normal lung, NSCLC tumors, normal pancreas and PDAC tumors from Figs. 3, A and B and figs. S7, C and D. The first two principal components explained ~41% and ~30% of the variance respectively. (H) Hierarchical cluster analysis of mouse BCAA catabolic gene expression data. Colors on the side bar correspond to tissue samples given in fig. S7G. (I) Correlation of tumor expression fold-changes for branched-chain amino acid degradation pathway genes in human studies involving pancreas (GSE15471, GSE16515, GSE71989) and lung (GSE18842, LUAD_TCGA, LUSQ_TCGA). Average Spearman R was 0.84 for pancreas data. Spearman R with GSE18842 was 0.61 for lung adenocarcinoma and 0.86 for squamous cell carcinoma. Two-tailed *t* test was used for all comparisons unless otherwise stated. * *P*<0.05, ** *P*<0.01, *** *P*<0.001

Bcat1 CDS G C T G G T C T T T G G A G C T A C G T T T A C T G A C C A C A T G C T G A C G G T G G A G T G G T C C T C T G C G T C T G G A T G *Bcat2* CDS *sgBcat* total Bcat2 CDS <code>|AGACCTTCACAGACCACATGCTGATGGTGGAGTGGAATAACAAGG</code> - C C A C A T G C T G A C G G T G G A G -

B

A

Fig. S8. Branched-chain amino acid transaminase (Bcat) activity is required for NSCLC tumor growth.

(A) Schematic of common exon sequence of *Bcat1* and *Bcat2* targeted with sgRNA for CRISPR-Cas9 genome editing. Red "T" highlights a 1bp sequence difference between the two isoforms. (B) Summary of sequence analyses of *Bcat1* and *Bcat2* in *Bcat* null clones derived from syngenic NSCLC and PDAC cell lines following sgRNA targeting with CRISPR-Cas9. (C) Normalized expression measured by qPCR of *Bcat1* and *Bcat2* in NSCLC *Bcat* null Clones A and B confirming decreased expression of both genes. (D) Normalized expression measured by qPCR of *Bcat1* and *Bcat2* in PDAC *Bcat* null cells confirming decreased expression of both genes. (E) M+1 Glu labeling (%) from ¹⁵N-leucine following 24-hour ¹⁵N-leucine tracing in control infected compared with NSCLC *Bcat* null Clone A and B cells. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 3 per group. Representative experiment from \geq 2 repeats. (F) M+1 Glu labeling $\frac{15}{2}$ from ¹⁵N-leucine following 24-hour ¹⁵N-leucine tracing in control infected compared with PDAC *Bcat* null cells. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 3$ per group. (G) Tumor weight of subcutaneous allograft tumors generated from control infected and *Bcat* null syngenic NSCLC cell lines in C57BL/6J mice. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 6 per group. (H) Two independent experiments determining tumor weight of subcutaneous allograft tumors derived from control infected and *Bcat* null syngenic PDAC cells in C57BL/6J mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. Left panel corresponds to mice in Fig. 4D. $N = 5$ pLenti control and $N = 6$ *Bcat* null. Right panel, $N = 3$ pLenti control and $N = 3$ *Bcat* null. (I) Calculated tumor volumes of orthotopically implanted syngenic PDAC pLenti control and *Bcat* null tumors. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. $N = 8$ per group. Two-tailed *t* test was used for all comparisons between two groups. * $P \le 0.05$, ** $P \le 0.01$, *** $P \le 0.001$

Fig. S9. NSCLC cells exhibit decreased macropinocytosis relative to PDAC cells.

(A) Representative images used to quantify macropinocytic uptake in NSCLC and PDAC cells. Cells were exposed to DQ Red BSA (DQBSA) and stained with DAPI. Scale bar = $10 \mu m$. (B) Quantified macropinocytic index based on fluorescence from DQBSA. Data were obtained from $N = 7$ fields-of-view (29 cells) for NSCLC and $N = 6$ fields-of-view (49 cells) for PDAC.

22

(A) Relative expression of *Slc7a5* in control infected PDAC cells and two PDAC cells lines overexpressing *Slc7a5*. (B) Uptake rate of leucine in vector control infected PDAC cells and PDAC cells overexpressing *Slc7a5*. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 3 per group. Oneway ordinary *ANOVA* with Dunnett's multiple comparisons for control vector versus each overexpression vector. (C) Doubling time *in vitro* of control infected and *Slc7a5* overexpressing PDAC cells. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 3 per group. (D) Estimated tumor volume (mm³) of subcutaneous allografts derived from control vector infected and *Slc7a5* overexpressing syngenic PDAC cell lines in C57BL/6J mice. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. *N* = 6 control vector and *N* = 5 each *Slc7a5* Vectors A and B. Two-way repeated measures *ANOVA* used for comparison between groups. (E) Tumor weight of subcutaneous allografts derived from control vector and *Slc7a5* overexpressing syngenic PDAC cells in C57BL/6J mice. Data are presented as mean \pm SEM. *N* = 6 control vector and *N* = 5 each *Slc7a5* Vectors A and B. One-way ordinary *ANOVA* (*P* = 0.0137) with Dunnett's multiple comparisons for control vector versus each overexpression vector. * *P*<0.05, ** *P*<0.01, *** *P*<0.001

Table S1.

Human expression data comparing PDAC to adjacent normal pancreatic tissue (GSE15471).

Table S2.

Human expression data comparing lung adenocarcinoma to adjacent normal lung tissue $(GSE18842)$

Table S3.

Table S4.

Human expression data comparing PDAC to adjacent normal pancreatic tissue (GSE71989).

Table S5.

Human expression data comparing lung adenocarcinoma to normal lung tissue (LUAD_TCGA)

Gene ID	Gene Symbol	logFC	AveExpr	t	$\overline{P.V}$ alue	adj.P.Val	$\, {\bf B}$
8140	SLC7A5	2.301489817	6.358231189	10.42262512	2.03E-23	1.99E-22	41.91341697
587	BCAT2	-0.022329943	5.405346113	-0.238943734	0.811234173	0.837543421	-7.962364892
586	BCAT1	-0.082200745	5.812571896	-0.390719929	0.696148682	0.734856037	-7.949366128
259307	IL4I1	1.802053865	3.662717891	7.146453383	2.70E-12	1.13E-11	16.96043713
593	BCKDHA	-0.064986379	5.742374666	-0.805448303	0.420893276	0.471526877	-7.695807869
594	BCKDHB	-0.089449287	3.848210819	-1.05811492	0.290446434	0.338490079	-7.215969219
1629	DBT	-0.165486395	4.901371519	-2.308007721	0.021351989	0.030447339	-5.296980892
1738	DLD	0.037319195	6.153408635	0.518807164	0.604094408	0.648584069	-7.903129538
35	ACADS	-0.396142929	4.654196909	-3.721228554	0.000217685	0.000404804	-1.096055568
34	ACADM	-0.149175994	5.561180575	-1.893454362	0.058798186	0.078016723	-6.224218221
3712	IVD	-0.454413704	6.120665928	-4.234544074	2.67E-05	5.56E-05	0.78537962
36	ACADSB	-0.656685952	5.224157391	-5.221457536	2.48E-07	6.60E-07	5.310708694
27034	ACAD ₈	0.952248253	5.346434799	6.865131266	1.72E-11	6.71E-11	14.77617986
3030	HADHA	-0.16085849	7.678322593	-3.398825913	0.000723518	0.001259949	-2.325968325
1962	EHHADH	0.029588819	3.912137766	0.267564907	0.789129991	0.818635495	-7.734194387
1892	ECHS1	0.496639082	6.83135147	6.780040815	2.98E-11	1.13E-10	14.08150294
3033	HADH	-0.073366638	5.661570217	-0.888721427	0.374523663	0.425039729	-7.619794388
3028	HSD17B10	0.506258189	5.855151605	6.499293438	1.75E-10	6.21E-10	12.40300803
30	ACAA1	-0.407743414	5.772675264	-5.017906592	6.97E-07	1.77E-06	4.293828537
10449	ACAA2	-0.837258146	5.703806931	-8.277737019	8.78E-16	4.84E-15	24.34694946
3032	HADHB	-0.021523161	6.805987063	-0.408996065	0.682694521	0.722433188	-7.971203158
5095	PCCA	-0.246456074	3.753144879	-2.016385373	0.044223175	0.059868769	-5.753673006
5096	PCCB	0.343767432	5.710113172	4.699194071	3.27E-06	7.66E-06	2.850605682
84693	MCEE	0.132703208	2.801890502	1.308484783	0.191230609	0.232045672	-6.694952278
4594	MUT	0.11151478	5.342882293	1.519870588	0.129092016	0.161790721	-6.820741756
26275	HIBCH	0.207361423	4.500464409	2.463148936	0.014063513	0.020557426	-4.826842489
11112	HIBADH	0.546603418	5.672095469	6.273912746	$6.92E-10$	2.33E-09	11.07907501
4329	ALDH6A1	-0.143182697	3.97983577	-1.19603012	0.232176743	0.276353846	-7.092230071
217	ALDH2	-1.376449884	8.081884479	-10.37850121	2.99E-23	2.89E-22	41.38215198
224	ALDH3A2	-0.455354534	7.29385346	-3.207001887	0.001415631	0.002381613	-2.950344994
219	ALDH1B1	0.947103168	5.207573479	7.848908012	2.05E-14	$1.02E-13$	21.41181195
501	ALDH7A1	0.165878163	5.557560458	1.785293215	0.074739652	0.097505234	-6.400096771
223	ALDH9A1	-0.23186742	6.512121218	-3.239786141	0.00126511	0.002143239	-2.849056789
316	AOX1	-2.15049672	2.471108098	-12.67670724	1.18E-32	2.09E-31	63.05942585
18	ABAT	-0.270201151	3.825653793	-1.616717801	0.106486521	0.135456773	-6.492303448
56922	MCCC1	-0.310875957	5.036842343	-3.089395627	0.002102324	0.003454369	-3.242611828
64087	MCCC2	0.60856239	6.249504932	7.598211993	1.22E-13	5.69E-13	19.51128747
549	AUH	-0.307891419	3.26732002	-4.000960494	7.13E-05	0.000141411	0.193214559

Table S6.

Human expression data comparing lung squamous cell carcinoma to normal lung tissue (LUSQ_TCGA)

Table S7.

Metabolite Fragments Used for Isotope Quantification in GC/MS analysis

Table S8.

* endogenous controls