Supplementary material of the article "Joint automatic metabolite identification and quantification of a set of ¹H NMR spectra"

Gaëlle Lefort^{1,2}, Laurence Liaubet², Nathalie Marty-Gasset², Cécile Canlet^{3,4}, Nathalie Vialaneix^{1,+}, Rémi Servien^{5,6,+}

¹INRAE, UR875 Mathématiques et Informatique Appliquées Toulouse, F-31326 Castanet-Tolosan, France
²GenPhySE, Université de Toulouse, INRAE, ENVT, F-31326, Castanet-Tolosan, France
³INRAE, Université de Toulouse, ENVT, Toxalim, 31027 Toulouse, France
⁴Axiom Platform, MetaToul-MetaboHUB, National Infrastructure for Metabolomics and Fluxomics, Toulouse, France
⁵INRAE, Univ. Montpellier, LBE, 102 Avenue des étangs, F-11000 Narbonne, France
⁶INTHERES, Université de Toulouse, INRAE, ENVT, Toulouse, France
⁺these authors contributed equally to this work
{gaelle.lefort,remi.servien}@inrae.fr

Contents

S1	Common preprocessing step	S2
S2	Experimental data for the evaluation S2.1 Simulated spectra	S2 S2
	S2.2 Plasma spectra of newborn piglets: experimental protocol	S3
S3	Comparison of alignment methods	$\mathbf{S5}$
	S3.1 Simulated dataset	S5
	S3.2 Piglet plasma dataset	S9
$\mathbf{S4}$	Comparison of quantification methods	S10

S1Common preprocessing step

Algorithm S1 Preparation of a common aligned library. **Require:** user defined ratio of evidence, $r_c \in [0, 1]$ 1: for all j = 1, ..., p do \triangleright Cleaning step 1 2: for all $i = 1, \ldots, n$ do Perform independent cleaning steps (based on the presence of peaks of \mathbf{g}_i in \mathbf{f}_i) 3: **return** kept metabolites for $\mathbf{f}_i, \mathcal{S}_i$ end tor Metabolites j used to fit model (4) are the ones such that: $\frac{|\{j \in \mathcal{S}_i, i=1,\dots,n\}|}{n} \ge r_c$ 4: 5: 6: end for 7: for all i = 1, ..., n do \triangleright Cleaning step 2 (optional) Perform alignment of the reference library and quantification of \mathbf{f}_i and FWER selection 8. **return** selected metabolites for $\mathbf{f}_i, \mathcal{S}'_i$ 9: end for 10: for all j = 1, ..., p do Metabolites j used to fit model (4) are the ones such that: $\frac{|\{j \in \mathcal{S}'_i, i=1,...,n\}|}{n} \ge r_c$ d for \ge End of Cleaning step 2 11: 12: end for 13: for all j = 1, ..., p do \triangleright Global alignment Perform a joint alignment as described in Section "Joint alignment of the reference 14:library" return global shifts $(s_{ij})_{i=1,\dots,n}$ Align \mathbf{g}_j using the global shift $\tilde{s}_j = \text{median}(s_{ij})_{i=1,\dots,n}$ 15:16: end for \triangleright End of Global alignment \triangleright Local alignment 17: for all j = 1, ..., p do Perform local alignment of \mathbf{g}_j on a reference complex spectrum \mathbf{f}^{ref} defined as 18: $\mathbf{f}^{\text{ref}} = \underset{i=1,\dots,n}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i'=1}^{n} \operatorname{Cor}_{\text{FFT}}(\mathbf{f}_i, \mathbf{f}_{i'}).$ 19: **end for**

20: return Common aligned reference library G

 \triangleright End of Local alignment

Experimental data for the evaluation S2

S2.1 Simulated spectra

To assess the performances of joint alignment and joint quantification, we first simulated nspectra $(\mathbf{f}_i)_{i=1,\dots,n}$ with metabolites in known concentrations, b_{ij} , from some of the p pure spectra $(\mathbf{g}_j)_{j=1,\dots,p}$ present in **ASICS** reference library. Five steps were necessary to simulate spectra:

1. a common set of metabolites was selected from the p pure spectra by using p independent Bernoulli random variables with parameter r = 1/2;

- 2. to introduce individual variations between the n simulated complex spectra, d = 2 additional metabolites were randomly chosen among all the metabolites, independently for each simulated complex spectra. More precisely, if the metabolite was already present in the common set of selected metabolites (respectively absent), it was removed (respectively added) in the set of selected metabolites for this specific complex spectrum. For $i = 1, \ldots, n$, this led to a maximum of four different metabolites between any two complex mixture spectra. In addition, we will denote p_i the number of metabolites present in the *i*th complex mixture spectrum;
- 3. $\forall i = 1, ..., n \text{ and } j = 1, ..., p_i$, ground truth quantifications, $(\tilde{\mathbf{b}}_{ij})_j = (\tilde{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{ij})_j/(u_j)_j$, were then simulated using p_i independent normal distributions $\mathcal{N}(\mu_1, \sigma_1 = 0.3\mu_1)$ where μ_1 was itself generated from a log-normal distribution of parameters $\mu_2 = -8$ and $\sigma_2 = 2$. Quantifications smaller than 0 were set to 0, as well as quantifications larger than 1 that were set to 1, to avoid an unrealistically large skewness in the simulated quantifications;
- 4. for each metabolites, \mathbf{g}_j global shifts were simulated independently for each spectra \mathbf{f}_i using negative binomial distributions $s_{ij} \sim NB(2, 0.25)$ and local shifts were simulated independently using normal distributions $\tau_{ijl} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.09)$ with *l* corresponding to the *l*th peak of the pure spectrum \mathbf{g}_j in the complex spectrum \mathbf{f}_i . The final overall shift for this peak was then obtained as $r_{ijl} = \min(s_{ij} + \tau_{ijl}, m_1)$ with $m_1 = 0.02$. Finally, the direction of the shift (left or right), α_{ijl} , was chosen using a Bernoulli distribution of parameter 0.5;
- 5. the simulated complex spectra \mathbf{f}_i were computed as follows: for all chemical shift t,

$$\tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{i}(t) = \sum_{j=1}^{p_{i}} \tilde{\mathbf{b}}_{ij} u_{j} \mathbf{g}_{j} \left(t + (2\alpha_{ijl(t)} - 1)r_{ijl(t)} \right)$$
(S1)

with l(t) the peak at position t (if any), u_j the number of protons of the *j*th metabolite. This induces variation in line widths from one peak to another. Then, a noise was added based on Equation (1):

$$\mathbf{f}_i = \epsilon_1 \mathbf{f}_i + \epsilon_2$$

with $\epsilon_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \omega_1^2 = 0.09)$ and $\epsilon_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \omega_2^2 = 0.07)$.

Finally, the n complex spectra were normalized by the area under the curve.

S2.2 Plasma spectra of newborn piglets: experimental protocol

Ethics statement This study was conducted in accordance with the French legislation on experimentation and ethics. The French Ministry of Agriculture authorized this experiment on living animals at the INRAE facilities (UE1372 GenESI Génétique, Pig phenotyping and Innovative breeding facility, doi:10.15454/1.5572415481185847E12) with the agreement number APAFiS for animal housing and the agreement number #13648-2018020417291866 v4 for the protocol.

Plasma sample collection Blood (approximately 5 mL) of the 97 piglets was collected individually on piglets from the umbilical cord and placed in heparinized tubes. Plasma was prepared by low-speed centrifugation (2,000 g for 10 min at 4° C) and stored at -80° C until further analysis.

NMR protocol Each sample of plasma (200 μ L) was diluted in 500 μ L phosphate buffer prepared in deuterated water (0.2 M, pH 7.0) containing TSP (1.17 mM) as internal standard, vortexed, centrifuged at 5000 g for 15 min at 4°C, and 600 μ L transferred into 5 mm NMR tube. All ¹H NMR spectra were acquired on a Bruker Avance III HD NMR spectrometer (Bruker Biospin, Rheinstetten, Germany) operating at 600.13 MHz for ¹H resonance frequency and at 300K, using the Carr-Purcell-Meiboom-Gill (CPMG) spin-echo pulse sequence. Spectrum preprocessing (group delay correction, solvent suppression, apodization, fourier transformation, zero order phase correction, internal referencing, baseline correction and window selection) was perform using the R package **PepsNMR** (version 1.2.1) with the TSP peak for internal reference. Finally, all spectra were aligned with each other using the method implemented in the **ASICS** package (as previously described in Section 2.1 of Lefort et al. (2019)).

UPLC protocol Plasma amino acid concentrations were obtained using an ultra HPLC system (Waters Acquity Ultra Performance LC system, Waters, Guyancourt, France) coupled to an Acquity tunable UV detector and a mass detector (SQD detector) to identify the few coeluting chromatographic peaks. The column was a MassTrak AAA column $(2.1 \times 150 \text{ mm})$. Amino acid derivatization was performed with using an AccQ·Tag Ultra derivatization (MassTrak AAA Waters, Milford, MA). Norvaline was used as internal standard and a mixture of amino acids was used for calibration and quantification. The Empower 2chromatography software (Waters corporation, Milford, MA, USA) was used for instrument control and data acquisition.

Concentrations (in μ mol/L)	Minimum	Maximum	Median	Concentrations (in μ mol/L)	Minimum	Maximum	Median
3-Methylhistidine	3.16	19.22	7.58	Isoleucine	10.71	123.22	46.89
Alanine	270.08	1939.22	855.93	Leucine	24.09	229.82	79.58
Arginine	25.49	150.97	69.35	Lysine	76.75	388.93	218.82
Asparagine	16.57	130.55	49.66	Methionine	4.97	79.77	13.43
Aspartic Acid	1.68	57.61	10.02	Ornithine	11.32	70.94	34.00
Carnosine	1.11	25.02	14.23	Phenylalanine	9.00	107.22	55.40
Citrulline	39.99	152.44	80.23	Proline	86.85	384.19	169.51
Cysteine	10.98	42.38	22.75	Sarcosine	1.78	63.20	18.49
Ethanolamine	12.61	78.24	27.68	Serine	71.61	464.62	147.19
Glutamine	97.29	663.70	303.11	Taurine	19.93	214.85	59.22
Glutamic Acid	44.34	567.18	153.17	Threonine	77.81	262.25	141.75
Glycine	177.70	1902.22	473.74	Tryptophan	11.97	26.83	19.30
Histidine	24.98	256.10	96.92	Tyrosine	19.13	171.25	54.26
Hydroxyproline	42.56	140.38	70.05	Valine	161.72	424.20	291.98

Table S1. Minimum, maximum and median concentrations for each metabolites dosed with UPLC (n = 97).

S3 Comparison of alignment methods

S3.1 Simulated dataset

The rate of null quantification is computed on the metabolites identified in at least one complex mixture. It is given by the following formula

Rate of null quantification =
$$1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \sum_{j=1}^{p} \mathbf{1}_{\{\beta_{ij} > 0\}}}{n \sum_{j=1}^{p} \mathbf{1}_{\{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \beta_{ij} > 0\}}}$$

(average frequency of unidentification for metabolites that have been identified at least once). In particular, the rate of null quantification is low if the identified (resp. unidentified) metabolites are identified (resp. unidentified) in all complex spectra, *i.e.*, if the identification are consistent accross complex spectra.

-	icoshift	speaq	independent		icoshift	speaq	independent
speaq	1.00	-	-	speaq	0.99	-	-
independent	0.95	0.91	-	independent	0.005	0.003	-
joint	0.84	0.90	0.52	joint	0.04	0.05	< 0.001
(a) Sensit	tivity (gloł Kruskal-W	ne = 0.60;	(b) Specificity (global p -value < 0.001 ; Kruskal-Wallis test)				
	$\mathbf{i}\mathbf{c}\mathbf{o}\mathbf{s}\mathbf{h}\mathbf{i}\mathbf{f}\mathbf{t}$	speaq	independent		$\mathbf{i}\mathbf{c}\mathbf{o}\mathbf{s}\mathbf{h}\mathbf{i}\mathbf{f}\mathbf{t}$	speaq	independent
speaq	0.41	-	-	speaq	< 0.001	-	-
independent	< 0.001	< 0.001	-	independent	< 0.001	< 0.001	-
joint	0.005	< 0.001	0.83	joint	< 0.001	< 0.001	< 0.001

(c) Null quantification rate (global p-value < 0.001; Kruskal-Wallis test)

(d) Correlation between simulated and quantified metabolites (global p-value < 0.001; Durbin test)

Table S2. *p*-values of post-hoc Nemenyi tests for sensitivity, specificity and null quantification rate or Durbin tests for correlation for the comparison between each pair of alignment methods (icoshift, **speaq**, **ASICS** independent and joint alignment). **ASICS** independent quantification was performed after library alignment for all methods.

Nath: changer l'axe des y en "average correlation" (si je comprends bien mais average sur quoi ? "over metabolites for 100 datasets"? Si oui, l'ajouter dans le caption et si non, préciser

+ je ne suis pas sûre qu'il soit nécessaire de mentionner que les quantifs ont été faites en changeant aussi le paramètre correspondant mais si vous voulez le faire, il faut l'expliquer dans une phrase entière à part et ne pas mélanger la partie simulation et la partie quantif.



Fig. S1. Comparison of alignment methods based on four indicators. Points on Figure S1d correspond to the correlation obtained for the 30 most concentrated metabolites. ASICS independent quantification was performed after library alignment for all methods.



Fig. S2. Comparison of impact of alignment methods on signal reconstruction and focus on one peak (valerate). Black: original simulated complex spectrum. Blue: Reconstructed spectrum after alignment and quantification (performed with ASICS independent quantification). Green: Residual spectrum (black spectrum minus blue spectrum).



Fig. S3. Difference in average correlation over metabolites for 100 datasets for ASICS independent and joint alignments using different values of the shift magnitude in simulations (m_1 as in Section S2.1). ***: significant differences using paired Wilcoxon tests (*p*-values < 0.001 overall).

S3.2 Piglet plasma dataset



Fig. S4. Correlations between quantifications and UPLC dosages using three different alignment methods. ASICS independent quantification was performed after library alignment for all methods. Points correspond to every individual correlations.

	$\mathbf{icoshift}$	speaq	independent
speaq	0.71	-	-
${\bf independent}$	0.003	0.007	-
joint	< 0.001	< 0.001	0.08

Table S3. *p*-values of Durbin post-hoc tests for correlations between quantifications and UPLC dosages between each pair of alignment methods (global *p*-value < 0.001; Durbin test). **ASICS** independent quantification was performed after library alignment for all methods.

S4 Comparison of quantification methods



Fig. S5. Null quantification rate by quantification method.

References

Lefort, G., Liaubet, L., Canlet, C., Tardivel, P., Père, M.-C., Quesnel, H., Paris, A., Iannuccelli, N., Vialaneix, N., and Servien, R. (2019). ASICS: an R package for a whole analysis workflow of 1D 1H NMR spectra. *Bioinformatics*, 35(21):4356–4363.