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Recent methodological developments in Data-Dependent Analysis and Data-Independent Analysis workflows for exhaustive lipidome coverage

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- 13 Keywords: Lipidomics, Data-Dependent Acquisition, Data-Independent Acquisition, High-
- 14 Resolution Mass Spectrometry, Lipid annotation
- 15 Abstract
- 16 Untargeted lipidomics applied to biological samples typically involves the coupling of separation
- 17 methods to high-resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS). Getting an exhaustive coverage of the
- 18 lipidome with a high confidence in structure identification is still highly challenging due to the wide
- 19 concentration range of lipids in complex matrices and the presence of numerous isobaric and isomeric
- 20 species. The development of innovative separation methods and HRMS(/MS) acquisition workflows
- 21 helped improving the situation but issues still remain regarding confident structure characterization.
- 22 To overcome these issues, thoroughly optimized MS/MS acquisition methods are needed. For this
- 23 purpose, different methodologies have been developed to enable MS and MS/MS acquisition in
- 24 parallel. Those methodologies, derived from the proteomics, are referred to Data Dependent
- 25 Acquisition (DDA) and Data Independent Acquisition (DIA).
- 26 In this context, this perspective paper presents the latest developments of DDA- and DIA-based
- 27 workflows for lipidomics and lists available bioinformatic tools for the analysis of resulting spectral
- data.

30 1 Introduction

- 31 Lipids represent a large class of primary metabolites playing vital biological functions to maintain
- 32 homeostasis in living organisms, serving as energy storage and cell signaling processes (Züllig et al.,
- 33 2020). They are also involved in a large number of heterogeneous diseases including cancer,
- 34 neurodegenerative and metabolic disorders. Lipids are classified in 8 categories according to the Lipid
- 35 Maps classification system (Fahy et al., 2005, 2009; Liebisch et al., 2020) available online through the
- curated Lipid MAPS Structure Database (LMSD) gathering almost 48,000 unique lipid species in 2022
- 37 (https://www.lipidmaps.org/). Those categories can be further separated into classes, in which lipids
- 38 share some building blocks but also differ by the length of alkyl chains and number of unsaturations
- 39 creating a high diversity of closely related lipid species making their distinction highly challenging
- 40 (Quehenberger et al., 2010; Harayama and Riezman, 2018).
- 41 Lipidomics can be defined as a system-level analysis of lipids and their interacting factors (Wenk,
- 42 2005). Lipidomics is a subset of metabolomics requiring dedicated sample preparation, as lipids are
- 43 mostly soluble in organic solvents (e.g. methyl tert-butyl ether, chloroform and methanol for Bligh-
- Dyer and Folch extractions), as well as specific analytical tools to qualitatively and quantitatively
- 45 characterize complex samples.
- 46 One of the major challenges in lipidomics is to distinguish isobaric and isomeric lipid species by
- 47 implementing either optimized hyphenated mass spectrometry (MS)-based methods and/or tandem
- 48 mass spectrometry approaches. The fine structure elucidation of complex lipids, such as
- 49 glycerophospholipids, requires the identification of the polar head group, the chain lengths and the
- 50 position of the fatty acids together with the number and position of unsaturations or other chemical
- 51 modifications of the lipid backbone. The precise characterization of lipid species is mandatory to
- 52 interpret their biological or chemical roles in a defined context (Wenk, 2010).
- Among the technical developments performed in the last 70 years, gas chromatography coupled to
- electron ionization mass spectrometry (GC-EI-MS) can be considered as the first major tools towards
- 55 lipidomics. Even if the techniques required complex sample preparation including subclasses
- separation and chemical derivatization, GC-MS allowed efficient profiling of the fatty acids composing
- 57 complex lipids (Chiu and Kuo, 2020).
- The multiple ionization sources and particularly soft ionization such as Electrospray Ionization (ESI),
- 59 Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption/Ionization (MALDI) and Atmospheric Pressure Chemical/Photo-
- 60 Ionization (APCI/APPI), have made mass spectrometry as the technique of preference to perform
- 61 lipidome characterization and quantification. Also, Atmospheric Pressure ionization sources are mostly
- 62 employed for compounds difficult to ionize in ESI, mostly represented by neutral lipids such as
- triacylglycerols or carotenoids (Byrdwell, 2001; Imbert et al., 2012).
- The advent of liquid chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry (LC-MS) in the 80's offered new
- perspectives as intact complex lipids can be directly separated, detected and isolated for tandem mass
- spectrometry (MS/MS) experiments. Nevertheless, the low mass resolution instruments available at
- 67 that time did not offer sufficient high mass measurement accuracy and led to difficulty in distinguishing
- 68 isobaric species. The commercialization of fast and robust high-resolution (HR)/high-mass accuracy
- 69 tandem mass spectrometers paved the route to the analysis of high-mass lipids thanks to extended mass
- 70 capacities and dynamic ranges (up to 4 decades on modern instruments), high ionization rate for
- 71 increased sensitivity in both polarities and for all lipid sub-classes. Time-of-flight (TOF) mass
- 72 analyzers show the highest repetition rate. In terms of mass accuracy and resolving power, Fourier

73 Transform mass spectrometers, such as Orbitrap and Fourier-transform ion cyclotron resonance 74 (FTICR) instruments, are overpassing the TOF performances in spite of their slower acquisition rates limiting the number of data points per chromatographic peak. The Orbitrap-based instruments, since 75 their first commercialization with the LTQ-Orbitrap in 2006, have witnessed innovations in sensitivity, 76 77 resolution and scan speed (Eliuk and Makarov, 2015). The lipidome investigation can be now achieved at high throughput by either a shotgun approach (direct introduction into the mass spectrometer) or 78 79 using hyphenated MS-based techniques such as normal or reverse liquid phase or supercritical fluid 80 chromatography (Rustam and Reid, 2018). The common analysis workflow for those methods is based 81 on the acquisition at the MS level of robust data for biological and technical replicates together with 82 quality control (QC) injections to correct any deviation of the analytical chain. Then the identification 83 of relevant markers or compounds differentiating sample groups is further accomplished by tandem mass spectrometry (MS/MS) following multiple injections into the LC-MS/MS system using targeted 84 85 MS/MS workflows. MS/MS spectral data are necessary for the elucidation structure of lipids. The major part of the existing lipid databases mostly includes tandem mass spectra acquired under low-86 energy non-resonant collision-induced dissociation (CID) or higher energy collision dissociation 87 88 (HCD) conditions on hybrid TOF and Orbitrap-based instruments. But, multiple types of ion activation 89 modes (i.e. resonant and non-resonant activation modes) exist and can be employed in MS/MS and are 90 currently used to a lesser extent for high throughput lipidomics workflows.

As for classical proteomics approaches, the parallel acquisition of HRMS and MS/MS data can be achieved using either a Data-Dependent Analysis (DDA) or a Data-Independent Analysis (DIA) approach. In the following Perspective article, technical and practical considerations on DDA and DIA for lipidomics will be discussed to offer an overview of the latest developments and future trends in the field of lipidomics.

2 DDA-based acquisition workflows

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The DDA fragmentation method allows successive acquisitions of MS and MS/MS data. The most widely used DDA acquisition method is often designated as the "DDA Top N". It consists of a cycle of a single HRMS scan followed by the automatic selection and further fragmentation of the N most intense signals in a defined m/z range (Figure 1). The first HRMS scan offers the unique possibility of getting high mass accuracy measurements, typically below 1-2 ppm. Unambiguous chemical formula can be easily determined for small lipids, below m/z 300-400 but much higher mass accuracy (< 0.1 ppm) would be required to determine the elemental composition of complex lipids. Then automatic MS/MS scans are programmed based on rules such as peak intensity and mass range on HRMS data. This method enables fragmenting a high number of ions and leads to high-quality and high-purity MS/MS spectra since the selection window is restricted to monoisotopic ions. Nevertheless, precursor ions selection is a (semi-)stochastic event suffering from low analytical reproducibility and favoring selection of the most abundant (but sometimes biologically irrelevant) precursor ions to the detriment of other co-eluting relevant ones (Fenaille et al., 2017). These issues can be partially overcome through the implementation of exclusion rules, typical after one or several consecutive MS/MS experiments, . The number of selected ions must be thoroughly optimized considering the MS/MS overall duty cycle (usually few tens to hundreds of milliseconds per MS/MS spectrum) and the LC peak width. A too high number of precursor ions will limit the number of complete DDA cycles recorded per chromatographic peak, thus downgrading the quality of peak integration and quantification at the MS level due to insufficient number of data points. This clearly advantages fast MS/MS scanning instruments such as hybrid TOF, with MS acquisition rate up to 100 Hz in both the MS and MS/MS modes (at 50K resolution) for the TripleTOF 6600 and timsTOF

- instruments, compared to the latest generation of quadrupole-Orbitrap instruments (Orbitrap Exploris
- series) working at 40 Hz at 7.5K resolution at m/z 200 (Perez de Souza et al., 2021).
- Neumann et al. proposed a protocol to realize a better sampling in MS/MS mode by focusing on
- biologically relevant and meaningful features (Neumann et al., 2013). First, a LC run at the MS level
- is performed, with the direct analysis of the data by preprocessing software XCMS for automated
- annotation and statistical analysis to select significant features. Then methods with inclusion lists are
- created and performed on pooled samples using targeted MS/MS (tMS²) acquisition mode in order to
- 125 confirm previous annotations while also limiting the number of LC-MS/MS experiments. This method
- enables a better coverage of the sample by selecting lower abundance relevant features, while losing
- the unbiased nature of DDA.
- Koelmel et al. developed an Iterative Exclusion IE-Omics approach whose goal is to create several
- non-redundant inclusion lists (Koelmel et al., 2017). First, a classic DDA acquisition is performed, and
- all the fragmented ions are added to an exclusion list. The workflow is repeated up to 5 times until the
- intensity of the precursor ions becomes too low for getting exploitable MS/MS data for automated
- annotation. When compared to 5 independent DDA scans performed on the same sample, the IE-Omics
- method shows an increase of 30% in the coverage of the lipidome for a plasma sample.
- 134 A strategy based on an automated DDA inclusion list workflow, called Data-Set-Dependent
- Acquisition (DsDA), was developed by Broeckling et al. (Broeckling et al., 2018). This method reports
- 136 the specific combination of MS-data processing and target prioritization to enable a more
- comprehensive MS/MS coverage of the metabolome. The workflow consists of Top4 DDA scan, then
- data is automatically treated and a score is attributed to each MS/MS spectra to determine its
- importance to be fragmented. A module, written in R programming language, forces the workflow to
- fragment precursor ions not previously fragmented in order to improve the metabolome coverage. This
- novel method offered 45% more MS/MS features. In the recently introduced BoxCar method, the MS
- spectrum is segmented in several windows to improve detection sensitivity and the dynamic range of
- the MS acquisition (Meier et al., 2018). Under these conditions, less abundant ions can be isolated
- during DDA, thus providing unprecedented structural information.
- Another recently introduced gas phase fractionation approach is the so-called Parallel Accumulation
- 146 Serial Fragmentation (PASEF, available on timsTOF Pro instruments) that synchronizes Trapped Ion
- Mobility Spectrometry (TIMS) with MS/MS precursor selection and fragmentation. This acquisition
- mode drastically multiplies the fragmentation speed and detection sensitivity thereby approaching
- almost 100% duty cycle, thus annotating up to 1,100 unique lipids in 1 µL of human plasma
- 150 (Vasilopoulou et al., 2020).

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- All the presented methods of DDA are suffering from the same issue. As the sample often needs to be
- injected several times (up to 5 in both positive and negative ionization modes), its volume needs to be
- sufficient and the global analysis time is significantly extended making it impossible to apply these
- strategies for large cohort analysis in the field of medicine or biology.

3 DIA-based acquisition workflows

- DIA performance was first described in the proteomic field 18 years ago (Venable et al., 2004) and
- have been implemented for lipidomics (Schwudke et al., 2006). The application of DIA is essentially
- motivated by the wider accessible dynamic range (4 orders of magnitude) (Gillet et al., 2012), higher
- sensitivity and reproducibility and, more importantly, the unbiased characterization of complex
- biological matrices (Venable et al., 2004).

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- 161 Analyzing the lipidome by direct injection into the mass spectrometer without prior chromatographic
- 162 separation steps (shotgun approach) is highly attractive owing to the short acquisition time, the low
- solvent consumption, and its ease of implementation even if ion suppression effects are usually 163
- reported (Schwudke et al., 2011; Yang and Han, 2016). Shotgun DIA mode is mainly based on MS^{ALL} 164
- 165 workflow (Simons et al., 2012) and aims at monitoring MS/MS spectral information with 1 Da mass
- isolation on a large mass range for a run time lasting less than 6 minutes (Simons et al., 2012). MS^{ALL} 166
- 167 mode was efficient to identify and quantify lipids belonging to different classes in various biological
- 168 matrices (Simons et al., 2012; Gao et al., 2016, 2018, 2021).
- MS^E for O-TOF or All Ion Fragmentation (AIF) for Orbitrap-based instruments consist in acquiring 169
- 170 alternating scans of all ions without mass filtering at two or three collision energies (Plumb et al., 2006)
- (Figure 1). Precursor information are retrieved at low collision energy whereas specific product ions 171
- 172 are given by higher collision energy, facilitating the annotation step by combining all the MS/MS data
- 173 into consensus MS/MS spectra (Plumb et al., 2006; Diedrich et al., 2013).
- 174 One of the first approaches of DIA-AIF method was implemented on a LC coupled to a single-stage
- 175 Orbitrap mass analyzer using polarity switching in a single analytical run and using either in source
- CID or HCD fragmentation (Gallart-Ayala et al., 2013). Annotation of both phospholipids and 176
- 177 triacylglycerols from serum samples for diagnosis of canine mammary cancer thanks to known
- retention times and typical diagnostic product ions was performed. Similarly, Castro-Perez et al. 178
- 179 reported the advantages of applying alternated low and high collision energies in positive and negative
- 180 ionization modes to identify lipids from human plasma (Castro-Perez et al., 2010). More recently, lipids
- 181 from human plasma and dermal fibroblasts extracts were annotated using DIA-AIF and HCD in both
- 182 polarities (Ventura et al., 2020a, 2020b).
- In order to improve the association of precursor ions with their corresponding fragments, SWATH 183
- (Sequential Window Acquisition of All THeoretical) has been developed (Gillet et al., 2012). The 184
- principle is to define sequential MS/MS experiments in reduced m/z windows, typically 10-20 Da to 185
- 186 cover the whole mass range, all ions within these windows are then fragmented simultaneously
- 187 (Figure 1). It has been initially developed on hybrid TOF instruments since a high-speed acquisition is
- 188 mandatory, but can be now implemented on Orbitrap-based instruments (Fenaille et al., 2017).
- 189 SWATH experiments were performed to characterize 214 and 140 lipids from immortalized
- 190 keratinocytes in both positive and negative ionization modes, respectively. As statistical treatment of
- 191 the data is mainly based on retention times, authors strongly advise to add internal standards to correct
- 192 any deviation (Calderón et al., 2020; Cebo et al., 2021). Interestingly, SWATH can be employed for
- 193 compound annotation using MS/MS library search but also quantification at the MS/MS level because,
- 194 unlike classic DDA, it offers continuous MS/MS spectra acquisition for particular fragment ions.
- 195 One of the main drawbacks of DIA workflows is related to the obtained (highly) convoluted tandem
- 196 mass spectra. Indeed, isobaric or isomeric lipid species from different classes can produce overlapping
- 197 isotopic clusters that will be co-isolated and fragmented MS/MS thus yielding highly convoluted and
- 198 thereby difficult-to-match MS/MS spectra. For instance, protonated phosphatidylcholine (PC 33:1) and
- 199 phosphatidylethanolamine (PE 36:1) share the same elemental composition (Züllig and Köfeler,
- 200 2021b). The frequent presence of sodium adducts can bring additional spectral complexity with lipid
- 201 sodiated species isobaric to protonated unsaturated ones differing only by ~2mDa in some extreme
- 202 cases (Höring et al., 2020; Züllig and Köfeler, 2021b).

In DIA workflows, such as SWATH, the direct link between a given precursor ion and its corresponding fragments is often lost, which renders MS/MS data interpretation of unknown lipid species much more difficult than that of MS/MS data resulting from DDA protocols. Data treatment step, i.e. the concatenation and alignment of precursor and fragment ions, is indeed often considered as the critical point. This can be performed according to retention times (Castro-Perez et al., 2010) or by specific data filtering through mass defect calculation (Stagliano et al., 2010). A correlation-based deconvolution (CorrDec) method that uses correlation of ion abundances between precursor and product ions has been developed to improve the metabolite annotation rate (Tada et al., 2020).

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- While SWATH techniques provide a better coverage of the lipidome, it comes at the cost of lower 212 213 quality spectra. Therefore, DIA SWATH method has been implemented together with DDA leading to 214 the hybrid DaDIA mode (Guo et al., 2021). The sequence is composed of blanks and samples analyzed in DIA SWATH mode and quality controls (QCs) in DDA mode. DDA MS/MS data provided high 215 quality spectra for the highest intensity features and are used to improve the deconvolution of SWATH 216 data for better quality. This hybrid method enables a better lipidome coverage while improving the 217 quality of deconvoluted SWATH spectra to a level similar to DDA spectra. Combination of 2D-LC, 218 DIA MS^E and DDA Top3, called HDDIDDA, outperforms DDA with a slightly higher annotation rate 219 and MS^E with a slightly higher coverage at the cost of a complex data treatment (Wang et al., 2022). 220
- 221 Even if DIA approach looks appealing in terms of numbers of annotated lipid species, the annotation 222 steps required the most exhaustive and reliable MS/MS databases including normalized retention times 223 if available. Acquiring MS/MS spectra from pure authentic standards is the best way to generate 224 spectral databases, but this is clearly unrealistic due to the cost and viability of pure compounds. The 225 most feasible strategy is to generate in-silico low-energy fragmentation spectra thanks to the welldocumented mechanisms of lipid fragmentation (Murphy, 2015) as defined in LipidBlast database. As 226 already documented in the literature, MS/MS data are strongly dependent on the type of tandem mass 227 228 spectrometer and the collision energy used that is challenging to normalize especially in the case of 229 small molecule analysis (Murphy, 2015). Thus, the information related to the relative intensities of the fragments cannot be easily employed to refine structure annotation making the match scoring process 230 231 less robust.
- 232 Several software solutions (Kitata et al., 2021) include modules capable of achieving the complete 233 pipeline from the conversion of vendor raw files to statistical analysis and through the identification 234 from integrated and/or implementable lipid libraries as exemplified in Table 1. While attributing ion products to the precursor ion is unproblematic in DDA mode, to reconstruct MS/MS data in DIA mode 235 236 remains highly challenging. To the best of our knowledge, only two robust software tools, i.e. MS-DIAL and DecoMetDIA, offer a deconvolution step for untargeted analysis in the DIA mode (Tsugawa 237 238 et al., 2019; Yin et al., 2019; Tada et al., 2020). Multiple processing strategies for DIA deconvolution 239 emerge in proteomics (Kitata et al., 2021) and are expected to be applied to small compounds in the 240 near future.

4 Discussion and Conclusions

Considering the rapid development of mass spectrometers in terms of scan speed, resolving power and mass accuracy, the analytical strategies for lipidomics have widely expanded during the last two decades. Beyond the use of high mass accuracy at MS level to suggest molecular formulas, MS/MS experiments are fully integrated in lipidomics workflows to provide successful semi-quantification and

- 246 structural characterization. Both DDA and DIA methodologies require high acquisition rate tandem
- 247 mass spectrometers to access deep lipidome. The quality of MS/MS data is needed for facilitating
- annotation but the total number of MS/MS scans on a unique feature is limited. Iterative DDA allows 248
- 249 to exceed this limitation but significantly increases the sample consumption and the overall
- 250 experimental time making this approach not compatible with the analysis of large cohorts. On the
- contrary, DIA significantly increases the number of annotated lipid species but is still far limited by 251
- 252 the available software solutions (notably regarding spectra deconvolution).
- 253 Free software tools are reviewed in the Table 1 and three of them, namely MS-DIAL (Tsugawa et al.,
- 254 2015), DecoMetDIA (Yin et al., 2019) and DecoID (Stancliffe et al., 2021) propose efficient
- 255 bioinformatic tools for the deconvolution of mixed tandem mass spectra obtained from SWATH
- 256 workflows.
- 257 Also, as exposed by Barbier Saint Hilaire et al., well-designing SWATH isolation windows can impact
- significantly the detection rate of targeted compounds (Barbier Saint Hilaire et al., 2020). The free 258
- 259 software tool SwathTUNER (Table 1) permits the automatized design of the variable isolations
- windows according either the Total Ion Current (TIC) or precursors density (Zhang et al., 2015) to 260
- significantly lower the complexity of tandem mass spectra obtained in the DIA-SWATH mode. Also, 261
- 262 the commercial vendor Sciex proposes the SWATH® Acquisition module available on their
- TripleTOF® systems for the automatically designing of variable isolation windows, permitting the all-263
- 264 in-one acquisition workflow (https://sciex.com/technology/swath-acquisition).
- 265 Since a decade, ion mobility (IM) offers the unique possibility to separate ions not only on their m/z
- 266 values but also on their shape in the gas phase, thus enabling the measure of collision cross-sections
- (CCSs). The IM time is fully compatible with the chromatographic time and the fast acquisition time 267
- of modern mass spectrometers. Several groups demonstrated that lipid isomers bearing different fatty 268
- chains but the same total number of carbons, including Z/E isomers, can be efficiently separated by 269
- IM-MS (Paglia et al., 2015). MS^E experiments by coupling LC to IM-QTOF were performed for the 270
- characterization of non-purified glycolipids extracts from Caenorhabditis elegans (Witting et al., 271
- 272 2021). The multidimensional information collected from chromatographic separation (Retention
- Time), ion mobility (CCS) and MS^E acquisition permits extended lipid annotation. Ion mobility 273
- 274 coupled to DIA or DDA approaches paves the way for a rather complete structural annotation and
- 275 (semi-)quantification of deep lipidome including all minor species, while also significantly improving
- 276 the quality of both DDA and DIA tandem mass spectra by separating isobaric/isomeric lipid ion species
- 277 prior to their isolation and fragmentation. The file sizes, from several hundreds of Mo to several Go
- 278 per injection, the limited software availability for efficiently handling resulting datasets and the
- 279 difficulty to generate absolute collision cross-sections for highly flexible molecules, such as lipids in
- 280 the gas phase, strongly restrict the full exploitation of the data acquired by DIA- or DDA- ion mobility.
- 281 A last issue in MS/MS is the efficient location of double bonds on lipid structures as dissociations at
- low-energy are not efficient (Ma et al., 2016). Prior chemical derivatization of carbon-carbon double 282
- 283 bonds either directly by a chemical agent (e.g. ozonolysis, epoxidation, hydroxylation) or facilitated
- 284 by UV irradiation (e.g. Paternò - Büchi reaction) can lead to reaction products that can be further
- fragmented under low-energy dissociation conditions to pinpoint the location of double bonds (Cao et 285
- 286 al., 2018; Harris et al., 2018). Nonetheless, the routine and broad application of these methods remain
- 287 limited due to the required long reaction time and the inadequate utilization with online LC-MS/MS
- workflows (Poad et al., 2017). Other fragmentation techniques can be also implemented. Electron-288
- 289 capture Dissociation (ECD) on a divalent metal complex of glycerophospholipids was proposed for
- 290 double bond location (James et al., 2011). Other electron-activated dissociation (EAD) types have been

- devised such as Electron-induced dissociation (EID) and Electron-Impact Excitation of Ions from
- Organics (EIEIO) compatible with singly-charged precursor ions (Baba et al., 2021). Ultraviolet
- 293 photodissociation (UVPD) activation mode has recently been used to distinguish sn-positional isomers
- and to determine carbon-carbon double bonds location (Williams et al., 2017). Only few commercial
- 295 instruments are now equipped with EAD, EID, EIEO or UVPD while relatively low yields of
- fragmentation are usually reported for those methods restricting their applications to abundant species
- even if the fragmentation process is fully compatible with LC peak width.
- Even if major progresses in lipidomics have been reported in the last years, improvements of each step
- of the workflow, from the sample preparation, the chromatography, the MS and MS/MS acquisition to
- 300 the automated data treatment, are needed to expand lipidome coverage.

301 **5 Author Contributions**

302 VM and MV equally contributed to the work. All authors completed and approved the manuscript.

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8 Figure

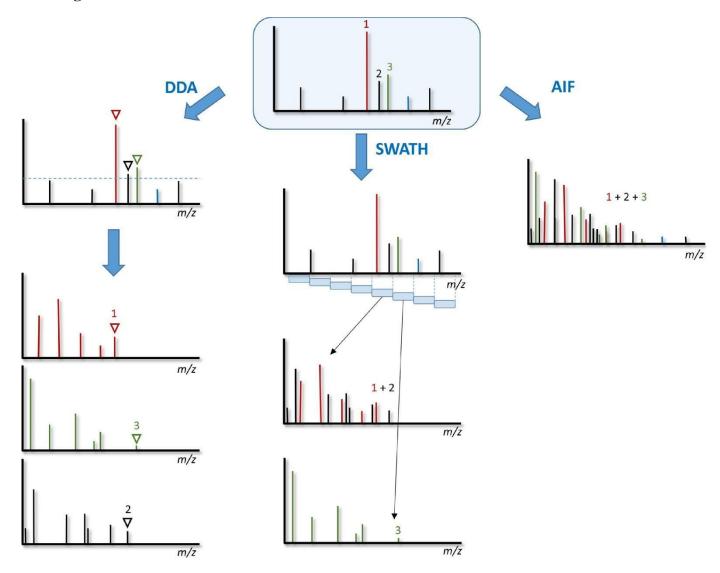


Figure 1: Scheme illustrating the DDA, SWATH and AIF acquisition workflows reproduced with the permission from Fenaille et al. (2017) with permission from Elsevier, copyright (2017).

9 Table



Table 1 - Overview of software and tools for the processing of lipid identification step from spectral data acquired by tandem mass spectrometry in DDA and DIA. Remark: Software specified by * are commercial.

	Data processing			Lipid annotation		G	
Software Tools	Peak detection	Peak alignment	Peak grouping	Precursor match	MS/MS match	Statistical tools	Application and descriptions
Lipid Search*	X	X	X	X	X	X	DDA: ESI-(LC)-MS/MS, identification from integrated lipid library, univariate statistics and MS/MS scoring. By Thermo Scientific TM .
LipidView*, Lipidyzer*	X	X	X	X	X	X	DDA: ESI-(LC)-MS/MS, identification from integrated lipid library, univariate statistics and MS/MS scoring. By SCIEX.
SimLipid*	X	X	X	X	X	X	DDA, DIA: ESI-(LC)-MS/MS identification from integrated lipid library, univariate statistical analysis and MS/MS scoring (MS ^E for DIA mode acquisition). By PREMIER Biosoft.
Lipostar*	X	X	X	X	X	X	DDA, DIA: ESI-LC-MS/MS identification from implementable lipid library, multivariate unsupervised and supervised statistical analyses (e.g. Principal Component Analysis (PCA), Partial Least-Squares (PLS)) (Goracci et al., 2017). By Molecular Discovery.
SwathTuner							DIA: Tool to tune method and optimize width windows for SWATH acquisitions (Zhang et al., 2015).
MS-DIAL	X	X	X	X	X	X	DDA, DIA: Deconvolution of MS/MS spectra of SWATH acquisition (two available algorithms) and identification from implementable lipid libraries with MS/MS scoring. Univariate and non-supervised statistics (<i>e.g.</i> T-test, PCA) (Tsugawa et al., 2015; Tada et al., 2020).
MetDIA	X	X	X	X	X	X	DIA: Targeted peak detection from SWATH acquisition according to implementable lipid libraries with MS/MS scoring, univariate statistics on precursors ion area (Li et al., 2016).
LipiDex	X	X	X	X	X		DDA: Peak detection and identification from implementable lipid libraries (Hutchins et al., 2018).
LipidMS 3.0	X	X	X	X	X		DDA, DIA: Targeted peak detection from the integrated lipid libraries (Alcoriza-Balaguer et al., 2019).
Skyline	X	X	X	X	X		DDA, DIA: Targeted approach for identification according indexed Retention Time and Collision-Cross Section, MS and MS/MS spectra from implementable lipid libraries (Kirkwood et al., 2022).
DecoMetDIA	X	X	X				DIA: Deconvolution of MS/MS spectra from SWATH acquisitions and identification according to implementable lipid libraries (Yin et al., 2019).
Greazy/ LipidLama	X		X	X	X		DDA: Peak detection and identification from set of theoretical phospholipids and fragments (Kochen et al., 2016).
DecoID				Х	Х		DDA, DIA: Peak detection, deconvolution of MS/MS spectra (LASSO regression algorithm) and identification according implementable lipid libraries (Stancliffe et al., 2021).
SWATHtoMRM				X	X		DIA: Targeted peak detection from SWATH acquisitions from implementable lipid libraries (Zha et al., 2018).
Lipid Data Analyzer2 (LDA2)				X	X		DDA, DIA: Semi-targeted approach for identification according to decision rules from various mass spectrometers (Hartler et al., 2011, 2017).
LipidMatch				X	X		DDA, DIA: Untargeted approach for identification according <i>in-silico</i> lipid libraries. For DIA, AIF uniquely (Koelmel et al., 2017).
LipidIMMS				X	X		DDA, DIA: Targeted approach for identification according Retention Time and Collision-Cross Section predictions, MS and MS/MS spectra from integrated lipid libraries (Zhou et al., 2019).