Bari, 29-04-2022

# WORKSHOP Metabolomics and Integrative omics: from data production to analysis

Findable Accessible Interoperable Reusable

# Data and Metadata Management

Stefania SAVOI









The practice of complying with established **principles and standards** so that the **data is fair** at all stages of <u>data collection</u>, <u>data analysis</u>, <u>management</u>, and <u>sharing</u> by including metadata, proving data in standard file formats, **depositing data** in the appropriate database or data repositories, ensuring the use of **unique identifiers** 

# **FAIR Principles**

# Compliance



## Findability

Resource and its metadata are easy to find by both, humans and computer systems. Basic machine readable descriptive metadata allows the discovery of interesting data sets and services.



#### Accessibility

Resource and metadata are stored for the long term such that they can be easily accessed and downloaded or locally used by humans and ideally also machines using standard communication protocols.



## Interoperability

Metadata should be ready to be exchanged, interpreted and combined in a (semi)automated way with other data sets by humans as well as computer systems.



## Reusability

Data and metadata are sufficiently well-described to allow data to be reused in future research, allowing for integration with other compatible data sources. Proper citation must be facilitated, and the conditions under which the data can be used should be clear to machines and humans.

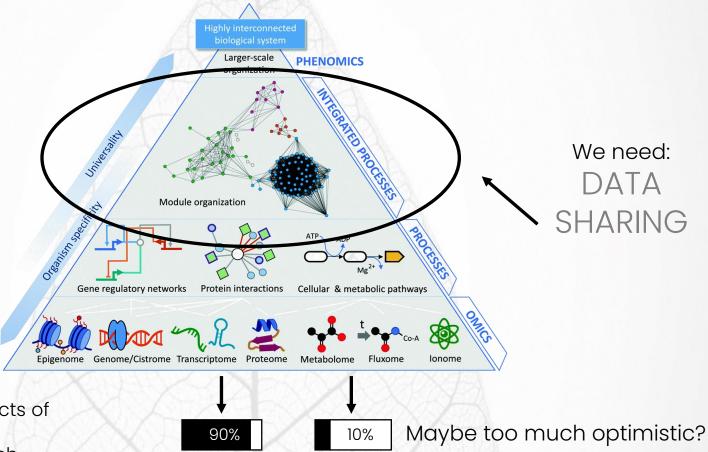
# approaching the wishlist ...

- F1. Resource is uploaded to a public repository.
- F2. Metadata are assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier.
- A1. Resource is accessible for download or manipulation by humans and is ideally also machine readable.
- A2. Publications and data repositories have contingency plans to assure that metadata remain accessible, even when the resource or the repository are no longer available.
- I1. Resource is uploaded to a repository that is interoperable with other platforms.
- I2. Repository meta- data schema maps to or implements the CG Core metadata schema.
- I3. Metadata use standard vocabularies and/or ontologies.
- R1. Metadata are released with a clear and accessible usage license.
- R2. Metadata about data and datasets are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes.

# "The cheapest experiment is the one already in the database"

the most valuable

ELIXIR EUROPE Tweet 11/03/21
Data-Driven Innovation in the Agritech Sector



Status and Prospects of Systems Biology in Grapevine Research, Matus et al, 2019

# Why data sharing is so important?

- Knowledge is additive
- No one can measure everything
- Standing on the shoulder of giants
- Good science is reproducible
- Context is continuously changing



Published: November 2000

#### Metabolite profiling for plant functional genomics

Oliver Fiehn  $^{oxtimes}$ , Joachim Kopka, Peter Dörmann, Thomas Altmann, Richard N. Trethewey & Lothar Willmitzer

Nature Biotechnology 18, 1157-1161 (2000) | Cite this article

2226 Accesses 1419 Citations 13 Altmetric Metrics

Original Article | Published: 12 September 2007

# Proposed minimum reporting standards for chemical analysis

Chemical Analysis Working Group (CAWG) Metabolomics Standards Initiative (MSI)

Lloyd W. Sumner [25] Alexander Amberg, Dave Barrett, Michael H. Beale, Richard Beger, Clare A. Daykin, Teresa W.-M. Fan, Oliver Fiehn, Royston Goodacre, Julian L. Griffin, Thomas Hankemeier, Nigel Hardy, James Harnly, Richard Higashi, Joachim Kopka, Andrew N. Lane, John C. Lindon, Philip Marriott, Andrew W. Nicholls, Michael D. Reily, John J. Thaden & Mark R. Viant

Metabolomics 3, 211-221(2007) Cite this article

— 2000— Metabol "omics"

— 2007— **Standard** 

2013 —

MetaboLights—an open-access general-purpose repository for metabolomics studies and associated meta-data ∂

Kenneth Haug, Reza M. Salek, Pablo Conesa, Janna Hastings, Paula de Matos, Mark Rijnbeek, Tejasvi Mahendraker, Mark Williams, Steffen Neumann, Philippe Rocca-Serra ... Show more Author Notes

Nucleic Acids Research, Volume 41, Issue D1, 1 January 2013, Pages D781–D786, https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gks1004

2016 — FAIR principles

Metabolights

EMBL-EBI

Open Access | Published: 15 March 2016

# The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship

Mark D. Wilkinson, Michel Dumontier, [...]Barend Mons <sup>™</sup>

Scientific Data 3, Article number: 160018 (2016) | Cite this article

212k Accesses 2421 Citations 1865 Altmetric Metrics

— 2021 — Rewards









# COST

(European **Co**operation in **S**cience and **T**echnology) is a funding organization for research and innovation networks

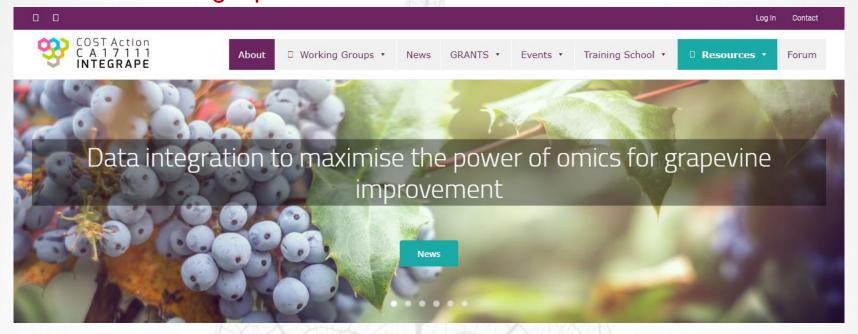
## **COST Actions**

are network dedicated to scientific collaboration, complementing national research funds



# Imagine having all data on grapevine in a single place ...

https://www.integrape.eu/



AIMS to develop minimal data standards and good practices in order to integrate data repositories and improve interoperability between datasets

- 4 YEARS: Sept 2018 Sept 2022
- 22 European countries
- 3 COST Near Neighbour countries
- 2 COST International partner countries

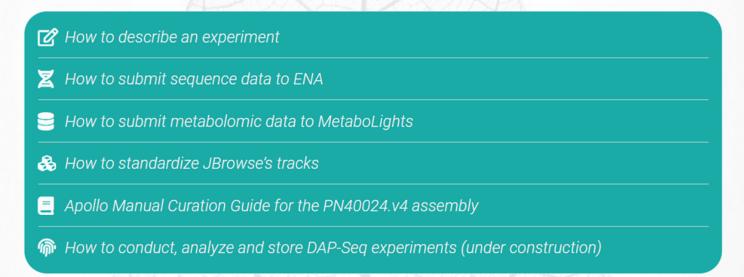


#### Data management

#### Guidelines for Data Management



The scope of these guidelines is to give recommendations to provide meaningful information on experiments, starting with the plant material used. Additionally, we set up an ontology for the organs, some of them being not present in general plant ontologies, as well as some recommendations to describe the phenological stages. This will allow a more accurate and standard description of grapevine biological samples. This will support the grapevine research community in opening its data according to the FAIR principles.



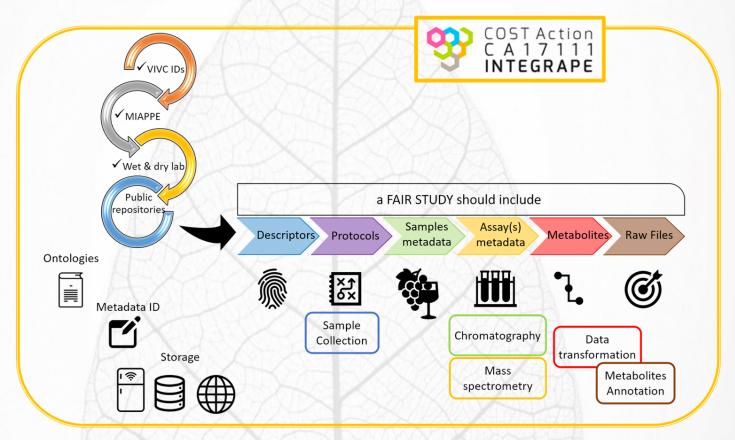


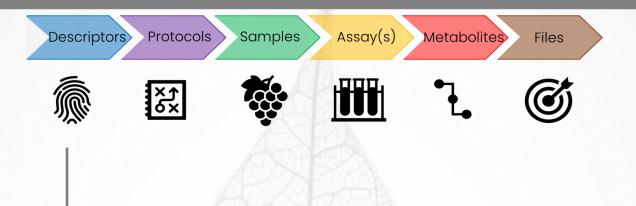


Technical Note

# Grapevine and Wine Metabolomics-Based Guidelines for FAIR Data and Metadata Management

Stefania Savoi <sup>1</sup>, Panagiotis Arapitsas <sup>2,\*</sup>, Éric Duchêne <sup>3</sup>, Maria Nikolantonaki <sup>4</sup>, Ignacio Ontañón <sup>5</sup>, Silvia Carlin <sup>2</sup>, Florian Schwander <sup>6</sup>, Régis D. Gougeon <sup>4</sup>, António César Silva Ferreira <sup>7</sup>, Georgios Theodoridis <sup>8</sup>, Reinhard Töpfer <sup>6</sup>, Urska Vrhovsek <sup>2</sup>, Anne-Francoise Adam-Blondon <sup>9</sup>, Mario Pezzotti <sup>10,\*</sup> and Fulvio Mattivi <sup>2,11</sup>

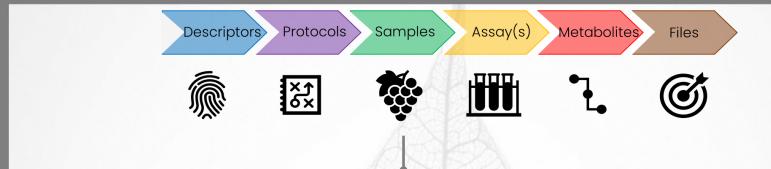




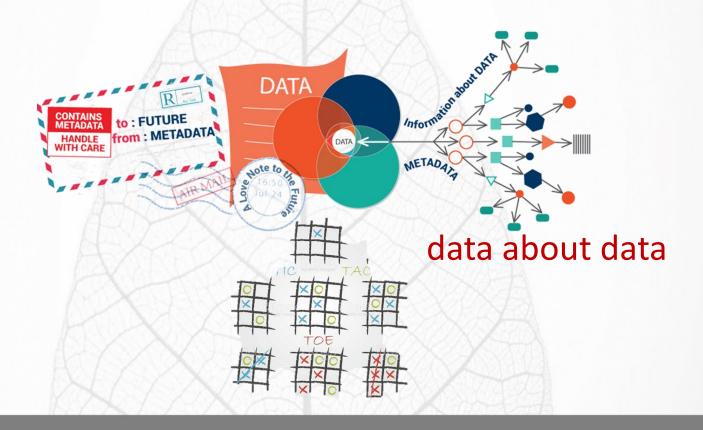
# The fingerprint of the study

- Each study uploaded on a repository has a unique alphanumeric study ID (e.g., MTBLS897)
- Linked publication
- Keywords





Info about sample and all the metadata we can think of



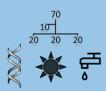


#### Sample ID

•NCBITAXON: 29760 Vitis vinifera L. •VIVC-ID: 10680 Sangiovese •Ripening berries

•15 DAV

#### **Factors**



#### **Ontologies**



Storage Metadata





Sample Preparation (Table 2)

#### randomization



extraction Solvents

•etc



samples aliquoting

88888 립 QC



**Ontologies** 



Storage Metadata





Chromatography (Table 3)



GC

Metadata

Stationary phase

Mobile phase

Separation parameters

Sequence

Storage

Ontologies

•etc



#### Ionization •EI

•ESI

•DESI •MALDI

DART

•APCI

#### Mass analyzer

•Q

•QqQ

Tof

•Trap Orbitrap

•FT-ICR

#### **Ontologies**



Storage

MS

888







Data transformation (Table 4)

#### Data conversion



#### Data pre-processing

peak picking,

 background subtraction noise reduction

•time or m/z filtration

•alignment

spectral deconvolution

•filling missing peaks

•etc

#### Data treatment

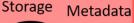
normalization

transformation

Data visualization











Metabolites (Table 4)

Annotation Confidence based on Levels of Annotation



Databases



Metadata



	Table 1. Sampling prot	ocol (plant materials or wine sample).  From Savoi et al., 2021
	Field	Description Metabolites
	Source	Where the samples were collected. The use of an ID is recommended (https://ror.org/, accessed on 30 October 2021). Example: Fondazione Edmund Mach collection (ID 0381bab64), or experimental winery, winery, supermarket, etc.
Sample Collection	Organism	An identifier for the organism at the species level. The use of the NCBI taxon ID is recommended. For <i>Vitis vinifera</i> the ID is 29760. (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/taxonomy/, accessed on 30 October 2021).
(Table 1)	Specie(s)	According to the standard scientific nomenclature, species name (formally: specific epithet) for the organism under study (e.g., Vitis vinifera L.).
•NCBITAXON: 29760 •Vitis vinifera L. •VIVC-ID: 10680 •Sangiovese	Intraspecific name(s)	Three field codes might be necessary to identify the exact plant material used in an experiment.  Field 1: code for the institution. Please refer to WIEWS codes from the FAO (http://www.fao.org/wiews/en/, accessed on 30 October 2021) or ROR codes (https://ror.org, accessed on 30 October 2021) for research organizations.  Field 2: type of plant material. The most commonly used denomination for grapevine material is the variety name. We recommend using a standard name, such as the "prime name" extracted from the VIVC database (http://www.vivc.de, accessed on 30 October 2021). The type of plant material can be classified with (i) the five-digit VIVC code for identified varieties, (ii) "PRO" for genotypes from bi-parental crosses, (iii) "TL" for transgenic lines, (iv) "ESL" for lines regenerated from anthers or somatic tissues, or (v) nothing when the type of plant material is not characterized.  Field 3: code used to identify the accession available in the institute. For plants from genetic resources, the unique accession number of the EU-Vitis Database (http://www.eu-vitis.de/, accessed on 30 October 2021) is recommended.
•Ripening berries •15 DAV		Examples: FRA038_VIVC10077_274Col49 for Riesling clone number 49 available at INRAE Colmar. FRA038_PRO_41207Col0011E for a genotype in the progeny from a cross between Riesling and Gewürztraminer. DEU098-1980-315 for a specific Riesling accession in the <i>Vitis</i> collection of JKI Geilweilerhof.
Factors	Organism part	A reliable description of biological samples requires a shared vocabulary for the organ collected. The grapevine ontology anatomy is available at <a href="http://agroportal.lirmm.fr/ontologies/GAO">http://agroportal.lirmm.fr/ontologies/GAO</a> (accessed on 30 October 2021) or <a href="https://data.inrae.fr/dataset.xhtml?persistentid=doi:10.15454/SBXYSV">https://data.inrae.fr/dataset.xhtml?persistentid=doi:10.15454/SBXYSV</a> (accessed on 30 October 2021).
20 20 20		Several scales to describe the grapevine developmental stages are available [27,28,29] and can be used in a grapevine experiment. Here we propose to add some accuracy to the descriptions of these stages [30].  Dates for the main development stages.  A bud is counted as "broken" if a green (or red) tip is visible (BBCH 07, Baggiolini C). The budbreak date is determined by interpolation between several successive records, as the day when 50% of the buds left after pruning have reached this stage.  For flowering (BBCH 65, Baggiolini I), the flowering date is determined as the day when 50% of the flower caps detach or fall.  For véraison (BBCH 85, Baggiolini M), the most relevant definition is "softening" and not "color change", in order to record values that can be compared between white and colored genotypes. The date of véraison is determined as the day when 50% of the berries are soft. A reliable estimation of the percentage of soft berries should be based on touching at least 100 berries (20 on five plants, for example).
Ontologies	Developmental stages	Phenological descriptors for the berries. Four types of berry samples can be distinguished: (i) green berries, (ii) ripening berries, (iii) mix of green and ripening berries, (iv) harvested berries.  In order to allow comparisons between experiments, we propose to provide the following data to best characterize a sample, ranked by decreasing relevance. For green berries: (i) number of days after flowering (DAF) or before véraison (as defined above), (ii) heat sums calculated with the degree days (usually above 10 °C, otherwise to be specified), starting at flowering, (iii) single berry weight or volume.  For ripening berries: (i) number of days after véraison (DAV) (as defined above), (ii) heat sums (usually base 10 °C, otherwise to be specified) after véraison, (iii) single berry weight or volume, (iv) sugar concentration, (v) acidity parameters (pH, titratable acidity, malic acid concentration, tartaric acid concentration, potassium concentration).  For harvested berries (post ripening berries, BBCH 99): (i) number of days after harvest.  Phenological descriptors for the leaves: (i) age (number of leaves above, when the apex is active), (ii) position (from the base of the shoot).  Deviations due to the needs of experimental settings are to be explained in detail.
ك ل	Tissue harvesting method	Register the details about how the sampling occurred in the field/vineyard. For example, report if the samples were directly frozen and how (e.g., liquid $N_2$ , dry ice, freeze clamping, etc.), the date and time of collection, the place of collection, if samples were washed to remove unwanted external components (e.g., soil), shipping time and temperature, and sample storage before further preparation (e.g., $-80$ °C for two weeks).
	Harvest protocol	Include information about the harvest date and period, if it was made manually or mechanically, the time of the day (morning, afternoon, night), grape sanitary status, crop yields, crushing and pressing devices and settings, yield of must or wine, pre-fermentative processing (e.g., grape cooling, sulfitation, etc.), information related to the experiment, etc.
	Sample Type (Wine)	Describe at which point in the production line the samples were collected (must, day of fermentation, end of alcoholic fermentation, end of malolactic fermentation, after barrel aging, etc.).

#### Sample Preparation (Table 2)



•pH buffer

•Temperature

•Volume •etc

samples aliquoting 급급급급 \_ 급

립 QC





Ontologies



Storage Metadata





 Table 2. Extraction (sample preparation) protocol.

Field	Description		
Randomization	Report if the sample preparation order was randomized and how (https://www.random.org/sequences/, accessed on 30 October 2021).		
Extraction parameters	Solvent(s), pH and ionic strength of the buffer, solvent temperature and volume(s) per quantity of tissue, internal standard(s), number of replicate extracts (technical and biological replicates), sequential extraction, and extraction time.		
Concentration/Dilution	Extract concentration, dilution, and resolubilization processes (e.g., dried under nitrogen, solubilized in methanol).		
Enrichment	Extract enrichment (e.g., solid-phase extraction, desalting, molecular cut-off, ion exchanges, rotary vapor).		
Extract treatments	Extract cleanup and/or use of additives (e.g., ultrafiltration, centrifugation, the addition of antioxidants, pH change).		
Derivatization	Report the protocol of derivatization (the chemical used, temperature, time, etc.).		
Quality Control Sample(s)	Report if a QC pooled sample was prepared using extracts of the entire "sample set" or a "sample subset". In addition, report the method (volume or weight from each sample and total amount of the QC pooled sample).		
Reference Material	Report if any biological reference material and/or a standard mixture was used and how it was purchased or prepared. This material can also be used as QC samples.		
Blanks	Report how the blank sample was prepared.		
Aliquoting	Aliquots prepared during or after the sample preparation (code, volume, number). This includes the QC samples.		
Storage–Relocation	Extract storage (e.g., temperature, duration, atmosphere, volumes, containers, etc.) and/or relocation (e.g., temperature, duration, atmosphere, places).		
Internal standard(s) addition	Internal standard(s) at any stage(s).		
Samples ID list	Samples ID list Update the Sample ID list, including the names or the IDs of the extracts. Often more than one extraction protocol is applied to the same samples.		



Review > Mol Nutr Food Res. 2019 Jan;63(1):e1800384. doi: 10.1002/mnfr.201800384. Epub 2018 Oct 11.

## Nutrimetabolomics: An Integrative Action for Metabolomic Analyses in Human Nutritional Studies

Marynka M Ulaszewska <sup>1</sup>, Christoph H Weinert <sup>2</sup>, Alessia Trimigno <sup>3</sup>, Reto Portmann <sup>4</sup>, Cristina Andres Lacueva <sup>5</sup>, René Badertscher <sup>4</sup>, Lorraine Brennan <sup>6</sup>, Carl Brunius <sup>7</sup>, Achim Bub <sup>8</sup>, Francesco Capozzi <sup>3</sup>, Marta Cialiè Rosso <sup>9</sup>, Chiara E Cordero <sup>9</sup>, Hannelore Daniel <sup>10</sup>, Stéphanie Durand <sup>11</sup>, Bjoern Egert <sup>2</sup>, Paola G Ferrario <sup>8</sup>, Edith J M Feskens <sup>12</sup>, Pietro Franceschi <sup>13</sup>, Mar Garcia-Aloy <sup>5</sup>, Franck Giacomoni <sup>11</sup>, Pieter Giesbertz <sup>14</sup>, Raúl González-Domínguez <sup>5</sup>, Kati Hanhineva <sup>15</sup>, Lieselot Y Hemeryck <sup>16</sup>, Joachim Kopka <sup>17</sup>, Sabine E Kulling <sup>2</sup>, Rafael Llorach <sup>5</sup>, Claudine Manach <sup>18</sup>, Fulvio Mattivi <sup>1 19</sup>, Carole Migné <sup>11</sup>, Linda H Münger <sup>20</sup>, Beate Ott <sup>21 22</sup>, Gianfranco Picone <sup>3</sup>, Grégory Pimentel <sup>20</sup>, Estelle Pujos-Guillot <sup>11</sup>, Samantha Riccadonna <sup>13</sup>, Manuela J Rist <sup>8</sup>, Caroline Rombouts <sup>16</sup>, Josep Rubert <sup>1</sup>, Thomas Skurk <sup>21 22</sup>, Pedapati S C Sri Harsha <sup>6</sup>, Lieven Van Meulebroek <sup>16</sup>, Lynn Vanhaecke <sup>16</sup>, Rosa Vázquez-Fresno <sup>23</sup>, David Wishart <sup>23</sup>, Guy Vergères <sup>20</sup>

Affiliations + expand

PMID: 30176196 DOI: 10.1002/mnfr.201800384

# For human nutritional studies





24 h urine

sample

MarketLab®

#### URINE COLLECTION





Wide-mouth plastic bag and a plastic container











Fecotainer®

Toilet type T-1970, Gisebo; Privetti® Pikkuvihrea



collection of 24h urine sample requires an instruction for volunteer.



avoid stool contamination with water, urine or other materials (e.g. toilet paper). An instruction for volunteer is required.

Samples should be transferred/delivered to laboratory as soon as possibile for further storage (< 2h).

In contrast to serum/plasma, urine and feces require sample specific normalization. Volume and weight of urine and feces and thus the overall concentration of metabolites may vary drastically. Information such as volume and weight for both matrices should be collected at sample arrival to the laboratory. before samples aliquotiation.







#### URINE

#### PRE-STORAGE PREPARATION

Plasma/serum (top layer) should be decanted as aliquots into micro tubes pre-labelled according to their destination using a transfer pipette, homogenized by vortexing and then aliquoted.

Centrifugation of urine is a necessary step in order to remove human cells/bacteria, as well as other non-cellular components and materials in suspension. Selected volumes of urine should be transferred into appropriate centrifuge tubes and centrifuged at 1800 x g for 10 min at 4°C. After that the supernatant should be aliquoted.

#### **ALIQUOTING**



or GC-MS 3 replicates 150-300 µL each



or LC-MS 3 replicates 150-300 µL each



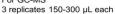
or NMR 3 replicates 150-300 µL each



+ Pooled QC 50-300 µL from each sample, splitted into few vials



For GC-MS





For LC-MS 3 replicates 150-300 µL each



For NMR 3 replicates 150-300 µL each



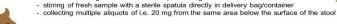
+ Pooled QC 50-300 µL from each sample splitted into few vials

#### **FECES**





PRE-STORAGE PREPARATION





#### PREPARATION OF SAMPLE AFTER HOMOGENIZATION:

- a. fresh feces freezing at -80° C b. centrifuging of fresh feces with or without portions of extracting agent (ice-cold PBS, 95% ethanol, etc.) and collection of supernatants (fecal water)
- c. feces freeze-drying (fecal powder)

#### **ALIQUOTING**

#### Fresh feces freezing



For GC-MS 3 replicates 10-50 g each



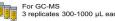
For LC-MS 3 replicates 10-50 g each







+ Pooled OC 0.5-10a from each sample splitted into several vials



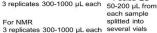


Tips & Tricks

For LC-MS + Pooled QC 3 replicates 300-1000 µL each

Fresh feces centrifuging: fecal water





From Ulaszewska et al., 2019

Molecolar Nutrition Food

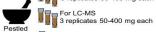
Research

#### Feces freeze-drying: fecal powder



dry powder

For GC-MS 3 replicates 50-400 mg each







+ Pooled QC approx. 30-100 mg from each sample splitted into several vials



Fecal powder is hygroscopic, weigh with caution. Verify the weight of one spatula of fecal powder, and fill eppendorf tube/vial with only approximative amount (i.e. ca 50 mg or 100mg). Take note of exact weight on the sample label.



#### From Ulaszewska et al., 2019 Molecolar Nutrition Food Research

# QC pool sample

Consists of small aliquots (10uL or 50 uL) taken from each study samples pooled in one vial and injected along a queue many times

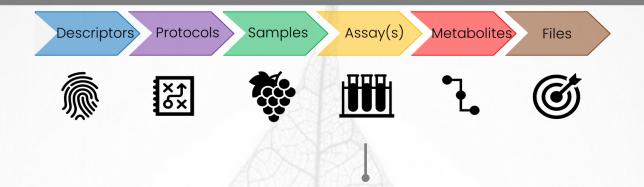
Depending on retention time duration it can be every 5, 10 samples



Randomize samples for extraction procedure

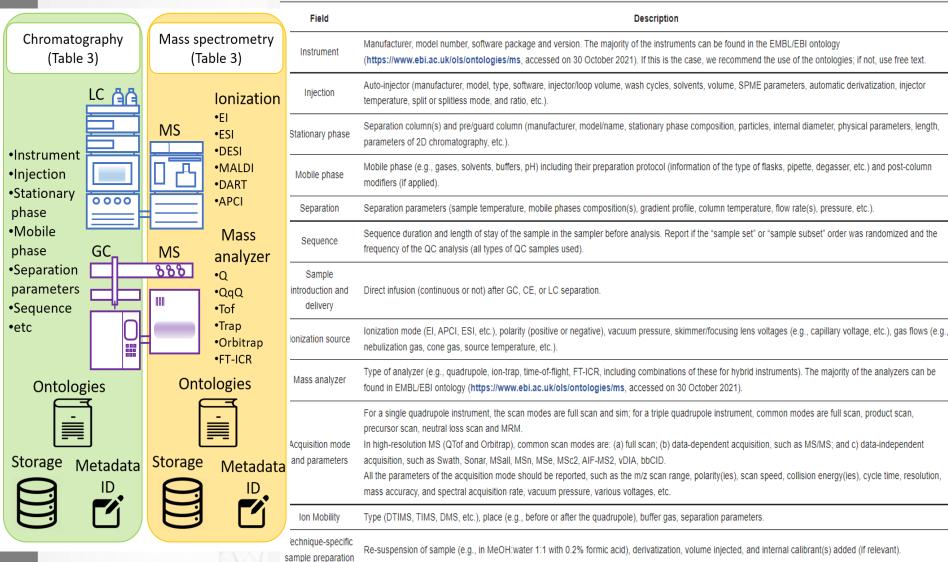


	x001_	solvent
	x002_	solvent
	x003_	QC_equilibration_run
	x004_	QC_equilibration_run
	x005_	The second secon
	x006_	QC_equilibration_run
	x007_	QC_equilibration_run
	x008_	_Blank1
	x009_	_Blank2
	x010_	_Blank3
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	x032_	THE RESIDENCE OF THE PARTY OF T
	x033	QC pooled



# The core of the study

LC-MS GC-MS ...



Calibration compound(s) and mode

Calibration

#### Data transformation (Table 4)

#### Data conversion

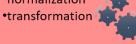


#### Data pre-processing

- •peak picking,
- background subtraction
- noise reduction
- •time or m/z filtration
- •alignment
- spectral deconvolution
- •filling missing peaks
- •etc

#### Data treatment

normalization



#### Data visualization



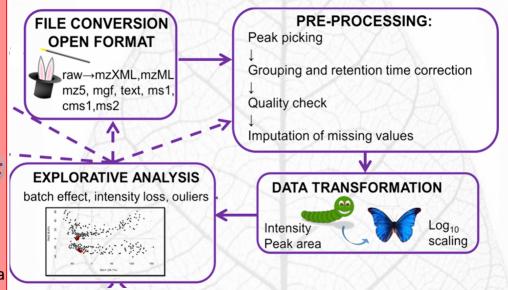
Storage Metadata





Table 4. Data transformation/conversion parameters protocol and metabolite identification.

Field	Description
Raw data format	Report the format of the original raw data, as registered by the instrument and its software.
Data conversion	Often the raw data are converted to "open" (or not) formats, such as net.CDF, XML, MZml, etc., for their further analysis. Report the software and its version used for the data conversion and the parameters used.
Data pre- processing	The original or the converted data are often processed before the statistical analysis. For the MS data, the process might include peak picking, background subtraction, noise reduction, time or m/z filtration, alignment, spectral deconvolution, smoothing, binning, data reduction, filling missing peaks, etc. Report the software and its version used together with the parameters. The most popular software are MZmine, XCMS, MSdial, metaMS, Progenesis QI, and MetAlign.
Data treatment	The obtained peak table from the data pre-treatment can be further treated with normalization and scaling tools. First, report the software, its version, and the parameters used. Then, inspecting the data for drift correction or outliers' detection is envisaged.
Annotation	The correct peak or metabalite apparation is existed for the interpretation of the results, and it is important to provide information as far as the confidence of each



# Some data preprocessing software

















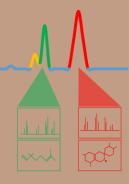






Metabolites (Table 4)

Annotation Confidence based on Levels of Annotation



Databases



# Metabolite ID







Four levels

annotation

[18]





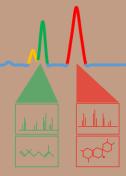






Metabolites (Table 4)

Annotation
Confidence
based on
Levels of
Annotation



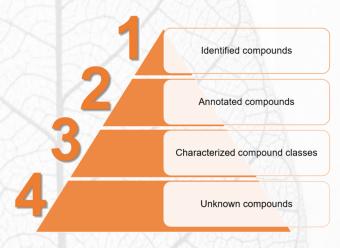
#### **Databases**



# FOUR LEVELS OF ANNOTATION CONFIDENCE

This is the most common method used to report the annotation confidence in metabolomics. It includes the following levels of annotation:

- 1. Identified compounds. A minimum of two independent and orthogonal data relative to an authentic compound analyzed under identical experimental conditions is proposed as necessary to validate non-novel metabolite identifications (e.g., retention time/index and mass spectrum, retention time and NMR spectrum, accurate mass and tandem MS, accurate mass and isotope pattern, full <sup>1</sup>H and/or <sup>13</sup>C NMR, 2-D NMR spectra).
- 2. Putatively annotated compounds. This level is applied when the annotation is made without chemical reference standards, based upon physicochemical properties and/or spectral similarity with public/commercial spectral libraries or literature. If spectral matching is utilized in the identification process, then the authentic spectra used for the spectral matching should be described appropriately or libraries made publicly available.
- **3. Putatively characterized compound classes.** The annotation is based upon characteristic physicochemical properties of a chemical class of compounds or by spectral similarity to known compounds of a chemical class (e.g., hexose, carotenoid, lipid, anthocyanin, etc.).
- 4. Unknown compounds. Although unidentified or unclassified, these metabolites can still be differentiated and quantified based upon spectral data.



Sumner et al. 2007 Metabolomics





Five levels

annotation

[31]







1



#### Metabolites (Table 4)

Annotation Confidence based on Levels of Annotation



#### **Databases**



# FIVE LEVELS OF ANNOTATION CONFIDENCE

This is the second most used method to report the annotation confidence in metabolomics. It includes the following levels of annotation:

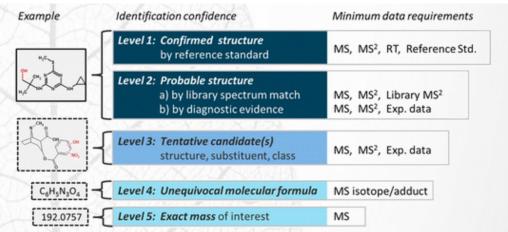
Level 1: Confirmed structure represents the ideal situation, where the proposed structure has been confirmed via appropriate measurement of a reference standard with MS, MS/MS and retention time matching. If possible, an orthogonal method should also be used.

Level 2: Probable structure indicates that it was possible to propose an exact structure using different evidence. For Level 2a: a library that involves matching literature or library spectrum data where the spectrum–structure match is unambiguous. Care is needed when comparing spectra recorded with different acquisition parameters (e.g., resolution, collision energy, ionization, MS level, retention behavior) to ensure the validity of the match; decision criteria should be clearly presented. For Level 2b: diagnostic represents the case where no other structure fits the experimental information, but no standard or literature information is available for confirmation. Evidence can include diagnostic MS/MS fragments and/or ionization behavior, parent compound information, and the experimental context.

Level 3: Tentative candidate(s) describes/e a "grey zone", where evidence exists for possible structure(s), but the information for one exact structure only is insufficient (e.g., positional isomers).

Level 4: Unequivocal molecular formula is possible when a formula can be unambiguously assigned using the spectral information (e.g., adduct, isotope, and/or fragment information), but insufficient evidence exists to propose possible structures. The MS/MS could be uninformative, contain interferences, or not even exist.

Level 5: Exact mass (m/z) can be measured in a sample and be of specific interest for the investigation but lack information to assign even a formula. Screening and nontarget methods allow the tracing of these masses in other investigations, but level 5 indicates that no unequivocal information about the structure or formula exists. It is even possible to record the MS/MS of a level 5 mass and save it as an "unknown" spectrum in a database. This level should only apply to a few masses of specific interest since it would be counterproductive to label all masses in a sample as level 5. Blank measurements should be used to ensure the substance does not arise from sample preparation or measurement.



Schymansky et al. 2014 Environmental Science & Technology



Metabolomics

Society's Metabolite

Identification Task

Group





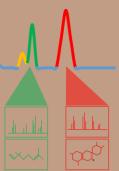






#### Metabolites (Table 4)

Annotation
Confidence
based on
Levels of
Annotation



#### Databases



The proposed levels are:

A: Known enantiomer. A single defined enantiomer or a single defined achiral metabolite. Molecular formula, structure, and stereochemistry, including chirality, are known. Usually requires isolation of metabolite and complete structure determination or chiral chromatography on metabolite in a mixture to prove chirality and matching of two orthogonal pieces of data with an authentic chemical standard. For achiral metabolites, it requires the matching of two orthogonal pieces of data with authentic chemical standards (e.g., RT and MS/MS mass spectrum).

METABOLOMICA SOCIETY'S METABOLITE

**IDENTIFICATION TASK GROUP** 

- **B: Known diastereomer.** One of two enantiomers. Known molecular formula, structure, and stereochemistry but unknown chirality. Requires matching of two orthogonal pieces of data with authentic chemical standards (e.g., RT and MS/MS mass spectrum).
- **C:** Known structure/DB position. One of a number of stereoisomers, e.g., E/Z geometric or *cis-\trans*-ring isomers. Known molecular formula and structure but unknown stereochemistry. Requires matching of two orthogonal pieces of data with authentic chemical standards (e.g., RT and MS/MS mass spectrum).
- **D: Known functional group.** One of a number of positional isomers. Known molecular formula and metabolite class but unknown structure, e.g., high-resolution mass spectrometry provides unique and unambiguous single molecular formula, and additional data proves metabolite class membership.
- **E: Known formula**. One of a number of possible compounds of known molecular formula. Known molecular formula but unknown structure, e.g., high-resolution mass spectrometry provides the unique and unambiguous single molecular formula.
- **F: Known structural class.** Specific spectral features defining a structural class. Unknown molecular formula but a known class of metabolite; characteristic signals of metabolite class in the sample.
- G: Known formula. Specific spectral futures. Unknown molecular formula; characteristic signals of unknown metabolite in the sample.

