Metabolomic Data Analysis with MetaboAnalyst 6.0

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1 Data Processing and Normalization

1.1 Reading and Processing the Raw Data

MetaboAnalyst accepts a variety of data types generated in metabolomic studies, including compound concentration data, binned NMR/MS spectra data, NMR/MS peak list data, as well as MS spectra (NetCDF, mzXML, mzDATA). Users need to specify the data types when uploading their data in order for MetaboAnalyst to select the correct algorithm to process them. Table 1 summarizes the result of the data processing steps.

1.1.1 Reading Peak Intensity Table

The peak intensity table should be uploaded in comma separated values (.csv) format. Samples can be in rows or columns, with class labels immediately following the sample IDs.

Samples are in rows and features in columns The uploaded file is in comma separated values (.csv) format. 1 empty labels were detected and excluded from your data. The uploaded data file contains 49 (samples) by 2182 (peaks(mz/rt)) data matrix.

1.1.2 Data Integrity Check

Before data analysis, a data integrity check is performed to make sure that all the necessary information has been collected. The class labels must be present and contain only two classes. If samples are paired, the class label must be from -n/2 to -1 for one group, and 1 to n/2 for the other group (n is the sample number and must be an even number). Class labels with same absolute value are assumed to be pairs. Compound concentration or peak intensity values should all be non-negative numbers. By default, all missing values, zeros and negative values will be replaced by the half of the minimum positive value found within the data (see next section)

1.1.3 Missing value imputations

Too many zeroes or missing values will cause difficulties for downstream analysis. MetaboAnalyst offers several different methods for this purpose. The default method replaces all the missing and zero values with a small values (the half of the minimum positive values in the original data) assuming to be the detection limit. The assumption of this approach is that most missing values are caused by low abundance metabolites (i.e. below the detection limit). In addition, since zero values may cause problem for data normalization (i.e. log), they are also replaced with this small value. User can also specify other methods, such as replace by mean/median, or use K-Nearest Neighbours (KNN), Probabilistic PCA (PPCA), Bayesian PCA (BPCA) method, Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) method to impute the

missing values ¹. Please choose the one that is the most appropriate for your data.

Zero or missing values were replaced by 1/5 of the min positive value for each variable.

1.1.4 Data Filtering

The purpose of the data filtering is to identify and remove variables that are unlikely to be of use when modeling the data. No phenotype information are used in the filtering process, so the result can be used with any downstream analysis. This step can usually improves the results. Data filter is strongly recommended for datasets with large number of variables (> 250) datasets contain much noise (i.e.chemometrics data). Filtering can usually improve your results².

For data with number of variables < 250, this step will reduce 5% of variables; For variable number between 250 and 500, 10% of variables will be removed; For variable number bwteen 500 and 1000, 25% of variables will be removed; And 40% of variabled will be removed for data with over 1000 variables. The None option is only for less than 5000 features. Over that, if you choose None, the IQR filter will still be applied. In addition, the maximum allowed number of variables is 10000

No data filtering was performed.

¹Stacklies W, Redestig H, Scholz M, Walther D, Selbig J. pcaMethods: a bioconductor package, providing PCA methods for incomplete data., Bioinformatics 2007 23(9):1164-1167

²Hackstadt AJ, Hess AM. Filtering for increased power for microarray data analysis, BMC Bioinformatics. 2009; 10: 11.

Features (positive) Missing/Zero Features (processed) X16.C9.3.neg 2124 58 2182 X19.C9.2.neg 1951 231 2182 X21.C9.4.neg 2075 107 2182 X45.C9.1.neg 2117 65 2182 X13.D9.4.neg 2149 33 2182 X20.D9.1.neg 2055 127 2182 X49.D9.2.neg 2122 60 2182 X48.D9.3.neg 2145 37 2182 X48.D9.3.neg 2145 37 2182 X26.F9.1.neg 2126 56 2182 X36.F9.3.neg 2112 70 2182 X36.F9.3.neg 2112 70 2182 X36.F9.3.neg 2112 70 2182 X46.F9.4.neg 861 1321 2182 X23.X9.1.neg 2125 57 2182 X27.X9.3.neg 2133 49 2182 X27.X9.3.neg 2133 49 2182 X27.X9.3.neg 2148 34 2182 X24.QC.2.neg 2165 17 2182 X24.QC.2.neg 2165 17 2182 X24.QC.2.neg 2165 17 2182 X24.QC.2.neg 2174 8 2182 X39.QC3.neg 2151 31 2182 X39.QC3.neg 2151 31 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2151 31 2182 X29.QC3.neg 2154 8 2182 X29.QC3.neg 2154 8 2182 X29.QC3.neg 2158 24 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2111 71 2182 X33.C12.4.neg 2140 42 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2129 53 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2129 53 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2129 53 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2129 53 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2124 38 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2124 38 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2148 34 2182 X22.F12.1.neg 2071 111 2182 X35.D12.4.neg 2144 38 2182 X25.D12.4.neg 2148 34 2182 X25.D12.4.neg 2149 33 2182 X25.D12.4.neg 2149 348 348 X25.D12.4.neg 2149 348 348 X25.D12.4.neg 2149 348 348 X25.D12.4.neg 214	Table 1: Summary of data processing results									
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X12.D12.2.neg 2158 24 2182 X28.D12.3.neg 2129 53 2182 X44.D12.1.neg 792 1390 2182 X52.D12.4.neg 2144 38 2182 X05.F12.4.neg 2149 33 2182 X22.F12.1.neg 2071 111 2182 X38.F12.2.neg 2130 52 2182 X43.F12.3.neg 2090 92 2182 X09.X12.3.neg 796 1386 2182 X32.X12.2.neg 2117 65 2182 X41.X12.1.neg 2148 34 2182 X41.X12.1.neg 2148 34 2182 X47.C15.1.neg 2127 55 2182 X50.C15.2.neg 2085 97 2182 X04.D15.4.neg 755 1427 2182 X06.D15.2.neg 2096 86 2182 X35.D15.1.neg 844 1338 2182 X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X35.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182				2182						
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X41.X12.1.neg 2148 34 2182 X31.C15.3.neg 2120 62 2182 X47.C15.1.neg 2127 55 2182 X50.C15.2.neg 2085 97 2182 X04.D15.4.neg 755 1427 2182 X06.D15.2.neg 2096 86 2182 X35.D15.1.neg 844 1338 2182 X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182		2117	65	2182						
X31.C15.3.neg 2120 62 2182 X47.C15.1.neg 2127 55 2182 X50.C15.2.neg 2085 97 2182 X04.D15.4.neg 755 1427 2182 X06.D15.2.neg 2096 86 2182 X35.D15.1.neg 844 1338 2182 X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182			34	2182						
X47.C15.1.neg 2127 55 2182 X50.C15.2.neg 2085 97 2182 X04.D15.4.neg 755 1427 2182 X06.D15.2.neg 2096 86 2182 X35.D15.1.neg 844 1338 2182 X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182	X31.C15.3.neg	2120	62	2182						
X50.C15.2.neg 2085 97 2182 X04.D15.4.neg 755 1427 2182 X06.D15.2.neg 2096 86 2182 X35.D15.1.neg 844 1338 2182 X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182		2127	55	2182						
X04.D15.4.neg 755 1427 2182 X06.D15.2.neg 2096 86 2182 X35.D15.1.neg 844 1338 2182 X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182		2085		2182						
X35.D15.1.neg 844 1338 2182 X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182		755	1427	2182						
X35.D15.1.neg 844 1338 2182 X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182	X06.D15.2.neg	2096	86	2182						
X37.D15.3.neg 881 1301 2182 X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182		844	1338	2182						
X17.F15.3.neg 834 1348 2182 X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182		881	1301	2182						
X25.F15.1.neg 838 1344 2182 X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182		834								
X30.F15.2.neg 1909 273 2182										
	X51.F15.4.neg	2053	129	2182						
X08.X15.4.neg 2139 43 2182										
X11.X15.3.neg 2124 58 2182										
X29.X15.1.neg 2099 83 2182										
X42.X15.2.neg 847 1335 2182										

1.2 Data Normalization

The data is stored as a table with one sample per row and one variable (bin/peak/metabolite) per column. The normalization procedures implemented below are grouped into four categories. Sample specific normalization allows users to manually adjust concentrations based on biological inputs (i.e. volume, mass); row-wise normalization allows general-purpose adjustment for differences among samples; data transformation and scaling are two different approaches to make features more comparable. You can use one or combine both to achieve better results.

The normalization consists of the following options:

1. Row-wise procedures:

- Sample specific normalization (i.e. normalize by dry weight, volume)
- Normalization by the sum
- Normalization by the sample median
- Normalization by a reference sample (probabilistic quotient normalization)³
- Normalization by a pooled or average sample from a particular group
- Normalization by a reference feature (i.e. creatinine, internal control)
- Quantile normalization

2. Data transformation:

- Log transformation (base 10)
- Square root transformation
- Cube root transformation

3. Data scaling:

- Mean centering (mean-centered only)
- Auto scaling (mean-centered and divided by standard deviation of each variable)
- Pareto scaling (mean-centered and divided by the square root of standard deviation of each variable)
- Range scaling (mean-centered and divided by the value range of each variable)

Figure 1 shows the effects before and after normalization.

Row-wise normalization: Normalization by a reference feature; Data transformation: Log10 Normalization; Data scaling: Pareto Scaling.

³Dieterle F, Ross A, Schlotterbeck G, Senn H. Probabilistic quotient normalization as robust method to account for dilution of complex biological mixtures. Application in 1H NMR metabonomics, 2006, Anal Chem 78 (13);4281 - 4290

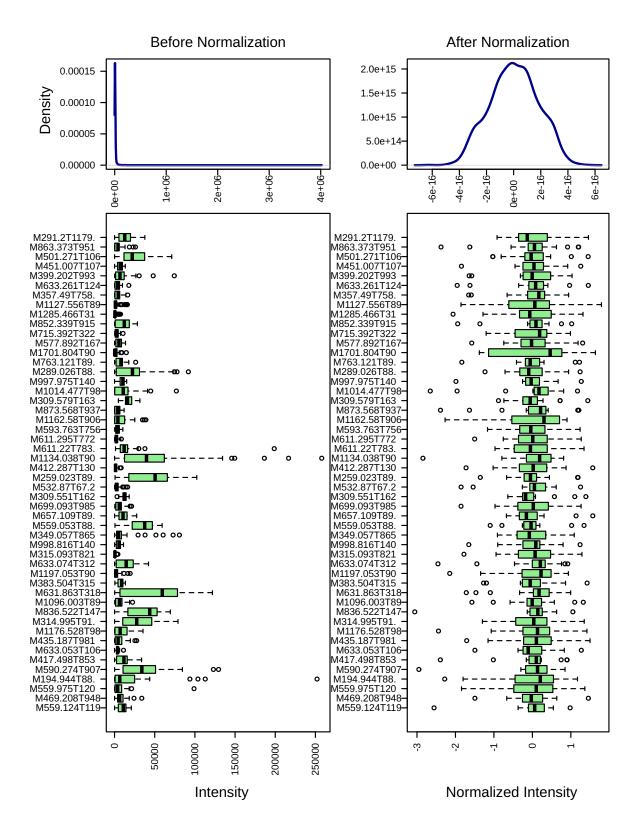


Figure 1: Box plots and kernel density plots before and after normalization. The boxplots show at most 50 features due to space limit. The density plots are based on all samples.

2 Statistical and Machine Learning Data Analysis

Metabo Analyst offers a variety of methods commonly used in metabolomic data analyses. They include:

- 1. Univariate analysis methods:
 - Fold Change Analysis
 - T-tests
 - Volcano Plot
 - One-way ANOVA and post-hoc analysis
 - Correlation analysis
- 2. Multivariate analysis methods:
 - Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
 - Partial Least Squares Discriminant Analysis (PLS-DA)
- 3. Robust Feature Selection Methods in microarray studies
 - Significance Analysis of Microarray (SAM)
 - Empirical Bayesian Analysis of Microarray (EBAM)
- 4. Clustering Analysis
 - Hierarchical Clustering
 - Dendrogram
 - Heatmap
 - Partitional Clustering
 - K-means Clustering
 - Self-Organizing Map (SOM)
- 5. Supervised Classification and Feature Selection methods
 - Random Forest
 - Support Vector Machine (SVM)

Please note: some advanced methods are available only for two-group sample analyais.

2.1 One-way ANOVA

Univariate analysis methods are the most common methods used for exploratory data analysis. For multi-group analysis, MetaboAnalyst provides one-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA). As ANOVA only tells whether the overall comparison is significant or not, it is usually followed by post-hoc analyses in order to identify which two levels are different. MetaboAnalyst provides two most commonly used methods for this purpose - Fisher's least significant difference method (Fisher's LSD) and Tukey's Honestly Significant Difference (Tukey's HSD). The univariate analyses provide a preliminary overview about features that are potentially significant in discriminating the conditions under study.

Figure 2 shows the important features identified by ANOVA analysis. Table 2 shows the details of these features. The post-hoc Sig. Comparison column shows the comparisons between different levels that are significant given the p value threshold.

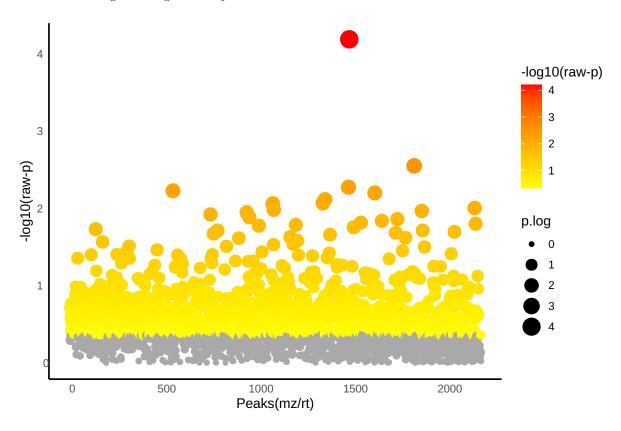


Figure 2: Important features selected by ANOVA plot with p value threshold 0.69293.

Table 2: Top 50 features identified by One-way ANOVA and post-hoc analysis

	Table 2: Top 50 features identified by One-way ANOVA and post-hoc analysis						
	Peaks(mz/rt)	f.value	p.value	-log10(p)	FDR	Fisher's LSD (top 1000)	
1	M283.086T201.788	15.8460	6.4094e-05	4.1932	0.13979	First-tp Drought - First-tp Control; Other - First-tp Control; First-t	
2	M374.109T731.372	7.1827	2.7930e-03	2.5539	0.69292	First-tp Drought - First-tp Control; First-tp Xanthomonas - First-tp	
3	M698.86T68.208	6.1456	5.2907e-03	2.2765	0.69292	First-tp Control - First-tp Fusarium; First-tp Drought - First-tp Fu	
4	M392.288T1179.554	5.9833	5.8806e-03	2.2306	0.69292	Other - First-tp Control; Other - First-tp Drought; Other - First-tp	
5	M437.29T1178.675	5.8862	6.2698e-03	2.2027	0.69292	Other - First-tp Control; Other - First-tp Drought; Other - First-tp	
6	M315.405T313.892	5.5982	7.6086e-03	2.1187	0.69292	First-tp Control - First-tp Fusarium; First-tp Drought - First-tp Fu	
7	M1712.298T909.092	5.4339	8.5190e-03	2.0696	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
8	M459.275T1179.554	5.4199	8.6017e-03	2.0654	0.69292	First-tp Drought - First-tp Control; First-tp Fusarium - First-tp Co	
9	M467.051T320.771	5.2274	9.8449e-03	2.0068	0.69292	First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Control - Other; First-	
10	M435.234T1304.756	5.1588	1.0336e-02	1.9856	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
11	M1231.291T836.99	5.1091	1.0711e-02	1.9702	0.69292	First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_D	
12	M698.888T1003.439	5.0520	1.1159e-02	1.9524	0.69292	First-tp Control - First-tp Drought; First-tp Fusarium - First-tp Dr	
13	M387.034T831.689	4.9620	1.1911e-02	1.9240	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
14	M246.097T864.37	4.8524	1.2907e-02	1.8892	0.69292	First-tp_Xanthomonas - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Xanthomonas - Fi	
15	M401.027T415.826	4.7695	1.3722e-02	1.8626	0.69292	First-tp Drought - First-tp Control; First-tp Fusarium - First-tp Co	
16	M338.196T1226.316	4.7032	1.4418e-02	1.8411	0.69292	First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Control; Other - First-tp_Control; First-	
17	M463.02T875.074	4.6326	1.5203e-02	1.8181	0.69292	First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Xanthomonas - First-t	
18	M593.306T1591.72	4.5883	1.5721e-02	1.8035	0.69292	Other - First-tp_Control; Other - First-tp_Drought; Other - First-tp_	
19	M516.992T825.04	4.5463	1.6231e-02	1.7897	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
20	M272.073T418.674	4.5127	$1.6652 \mathrm{e} ext{-}02$	1.7785	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
21	M539.034T616.33	4.4500	1.7472 e-02	1.7577	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
22	M453.17T879.981	4.3783	1.8467e-02	1.7336	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Xanthomonas - First-tp	
23	M687.305T1181.604	4.3294	1.9182e-02	1.7171	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
24	M469.019T418.674	4.3260	1.9233e-02	1.7160	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
25	M461.223T1572.372	4.2747	2.0021e-02	1.6985	0.69292	Other - First-tp_Control; Other - First-tp_Fusarium; Other - First-tp_	
26	M433.122T384.02	4.2371	2.0621 e-02	1.6857	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Xanthomonas - First-tp	
27	M642.302T1183.207	4.2045	2.1158e-02	1.6745	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
28	M469.036T876.272	4.1705	2.1736e-02	1.6628	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
29	M1130.437T924.326	4.0832	2.3303e-02	1.6326	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
30	M429.156T412.291	4.0540	2.3856 e - 02	1.6224	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
31	M511.046T749.487	4.0365	2.4193e-02	1.6163	0.69292	First-tp_Control - Other; First-tp_Drought - Other; First-tp_Fusariur	
32	M433.038T831.69	3.9426	2.6105 e - 02	1.5833	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
33	M781.218T930.113	3.8996	2.7038e-02	1.5680	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Fus	
34	M375.129T729.569	3.8211	2.8840 e - 02	1.5400	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
35	M449.004T832.738	3.7996	2.9358e-02	1.5323	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
36	M481.183T769.795	3.7471	3.0665e-02	1.5134	0.69292	First-tp_Control - Other; First-tp_Drought - Other; First-tp_Fusariur	
37	M365.052T459.24	3.7405	3.0833e-02	1.5110	0.69292	First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Xanthomonas - First-t	
38	M339.058T415.891	3.7162	3.1466e-02	1.5022	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
39	M204.085T413.719	3.6140	3.4287e-02	1.4649	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Cd	
40	M365.135T389.484	3.5843	3.5162e-02	1.4539	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Cd	
41	M404.065T806.181	3.5613	3.5856e-02	1.4454	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Cd	
42	M1176.528T983.06	3.5440	3.6388e-02	1.4390	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Cd	
43	M471.046T618.546	3.5041	3.7651e-02	1.4242	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Cd	
44	M541.425T1223.783	3.4792	3.8464e-02	1.4150	0.69292	First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_X	
45	M642.242T817.768	3.4547	3.9281e-02	1.4058	0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
46	M609.777T834.854	3.4493	3.9463e-02	1.4038	$0.69292 \\ 0.69292$	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Xar	
47 48	M632.783T316.499 M355.571T782.72	3.4450	3.9613e-02 3.9953e-02	1.4022	0.69292 0.69292	First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Cd First-tp_Drought - Other; First-tp_Fusarium - Other; First-tp_Xanth	
48 49	M531.009T876.272	$3.4350 \\ 3.4289$	3.9953e-02 4.0164e-02	1.3984 1.3962	0.69292 0.69292	First-tp_Drought - Other; First-tp_Fusarium - Other; First-tp_Xanth First-tp_Drought - First-tp_Control; First-tp_Fusarium - First-tp_Co	
49 50		3.4289 3.4049			0.69292 0.69292		
- 50	M771.203T760.252	5.4048	4.1009e-02	1.3871	0.03434	First-tp_Control - Other; First-tp_Drought - Other; First-tp_Fusariur	

2.2 Principal Component Analysis (PCA)

PCA is an unsupervised method aiming to find the directions that best explain the variance in a data set (X) without referring to class labels (Y). The data are summarized into much fewer variables called *scores* which are weighted average of the original variables. The weighting profiles are called *loadings*. The PCA analysis is performed using the prcomp package. The calculation is based on singular value decomposition.

The Rscript chemometrics.R is required. Figure 3 is pairwise score plots providing an overview of the various seperation patterns among the most significant PCs; Figure 4 is the scree plot showing the variances explained by the selected PCs; Figure 5 shows the 2-D scores plot between selected PCs; Figure 6 shows the biplot between the selected PCs. Interactive 3-D scores plots are not included here and can be directly downloaded from website.

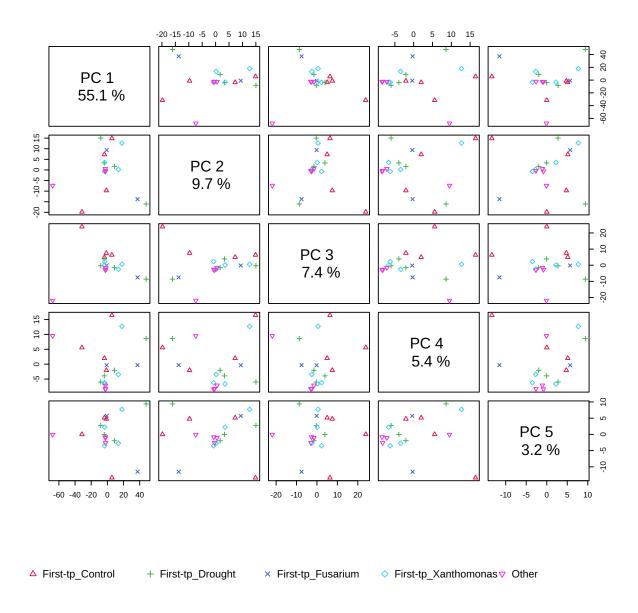


Figure 3: Pairwise score plots between the selected PCs. The explained variance of each PC is shown in the corresponding diagonal cell.

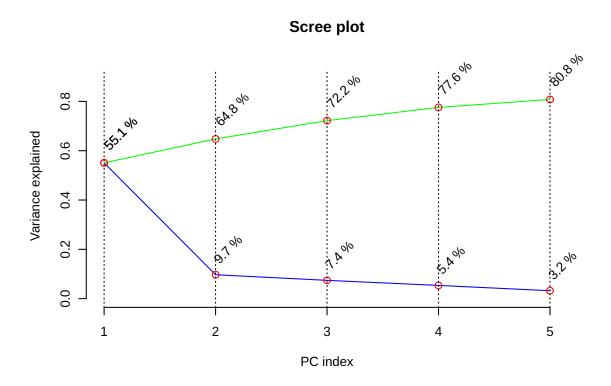


Figure 4: Scree plot shows the variance explained by PCs. The green line on top shows the accumulated variance explained; the blue line underneath shows the variance explained by individual PC.

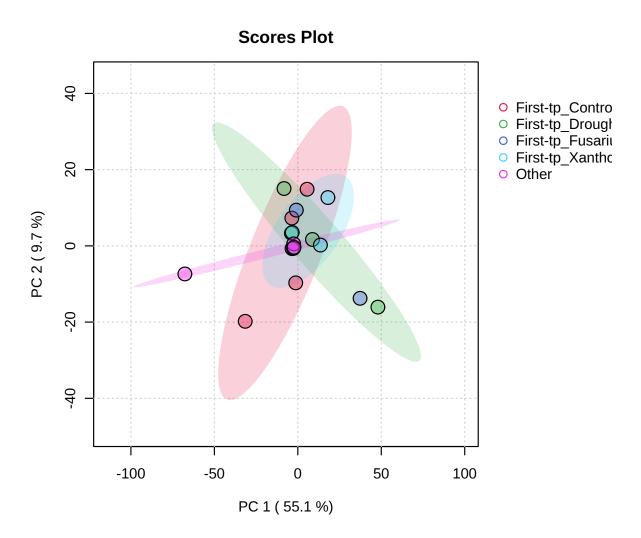


Figure 5: Scores plot between the selected PCs. The explained variances are shown in brackets.

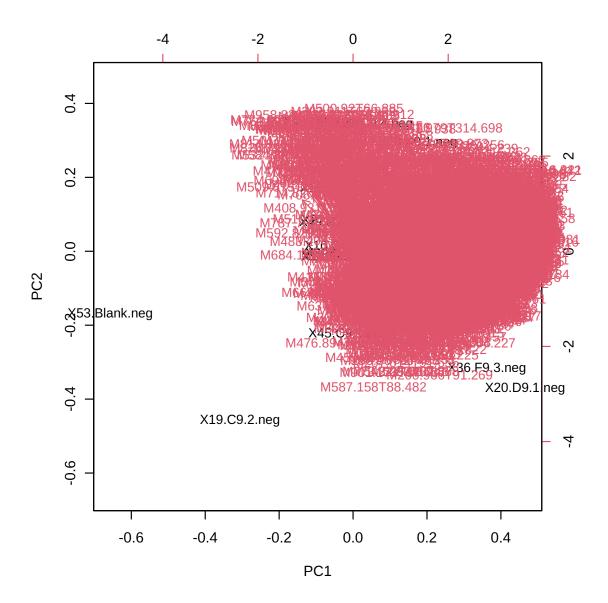


Figure 6: PCA biplot between the selected PCs. Note, you may want to test different centering and scaling normalization methods for the biplot to be displayed properly.

2.3 Partial Least Squares - Discriminant Analysis (PLS-DA)

PLS is a supervised method that uses multivariate regression techniques to extract via linear combination of original variables (X) the information that can predict the class membership (Y). The PLS regression is performed using the plsr function provided by R pls package⁴. The classification and cross-validation are performed using the corresponding wrapper function offered by the caret package⁵.

To assess the significance of class discrimination, a permutation test was performed. In each permutation, a PLS-DA model was built between the data (X) and the permuted class labels (Y) using the optimal number of components determined by cross validation for the model based on the original class assignment. MetaboAnalyst supports two types of test statistics for measuring the class discrimination. The first one is based on prediction accuracy during training. The second one is separation distance based on the ratio of the between group sum of the squares and the within group sum of squares (B/W-ratio). If the observed test statistic is part of the distribution based on the permuted class assignments, the class discrimination cannot be considered significant from a statistical point of view. ⁶.

There are two variable importance measures in PLS-DA. The first, Variable Importance in Projection (VIP) is a weighted sum of squares of the PLS loadings taking into account the amount of explained Y-variation in each dimension. Please note, VIP scores are calculated for each components. When more than components are used to calculate the feature importance, the average of the VIP scores are used. The other importance measure is based on the weighted sum of PLS-regression. The weights are a function of the reduction of the sums of squares across the number of PLS components. Please note, for multiple-group (more than two) analysis, the same number of predictors will be built for each group. Therefore, the coefficient of each feature will be different depending on which group you want to predict. The average of the feature coefficients are used to indicate the overall coefficient-based importance.

Figure 7 shows the overview of scores plots; Figure 8 shows the 2-D scores plot between selected components; Figure 9 shows the 3-D scores plot between selected components; Figure 10 shows the loading plot between the selected components; Figure 11 shows the classification performance with different number of components; Figure 12 shows the results of permutation test for model validation; Figure 13 shows important features identified by PLS-DA.

⁴Ron Wehrens and Bjorn-Helge Mevik.pls: Partial Least Squares Regression (PLSR) and Principal Component Regression (PCR), 2007, R package version 2.1-0

⁵Max Kuhn. Contributions from Jed Wing and Steve Weston and Andre Williams.caret: Classification and Regression Training, 2008, R package version 3.45

⁶Bijlsma et al. Large-Scale Human Metabolomics Studies: A Strategy for Data (Pre-) Processing and Validation, Anal Chem. 2006, 78 567 - 574

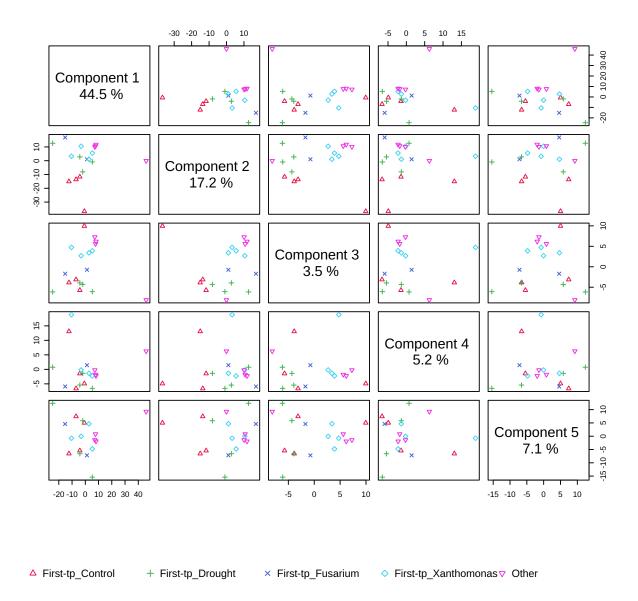


Figure 7: Pairwise scores plots between the selected components. The explained variance of each component is shown in the corresponding diagonal cell.

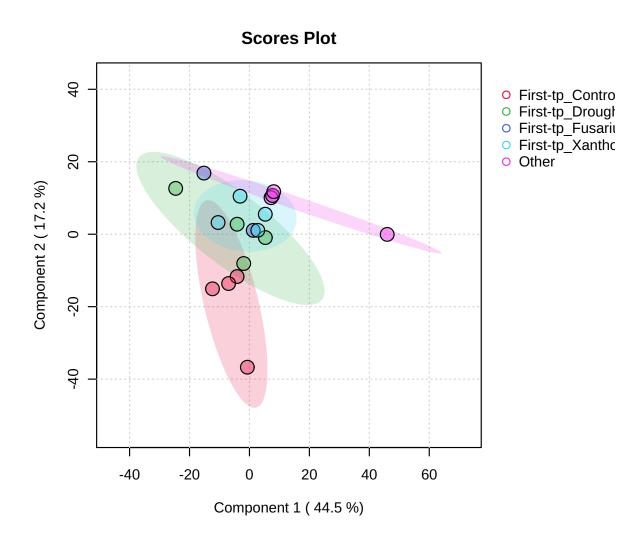


Figure 8: Scores plot between the selected PCs. The explained variances are shown in brackets.

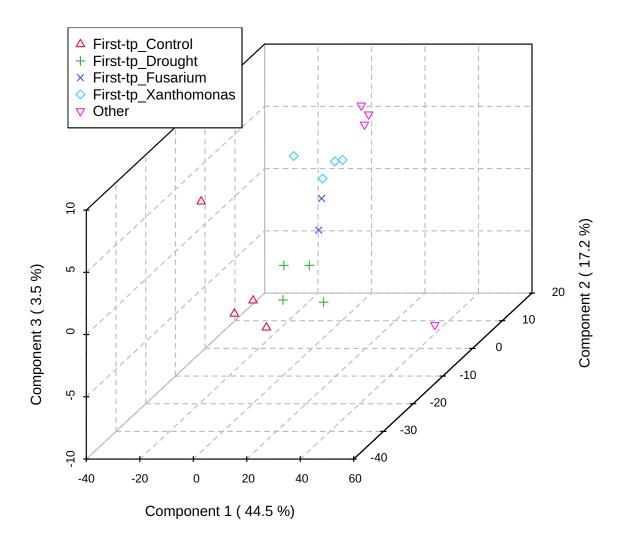


Figure 9: 3D scores plot between the selected PCs. The explained variances are shown in brackets.

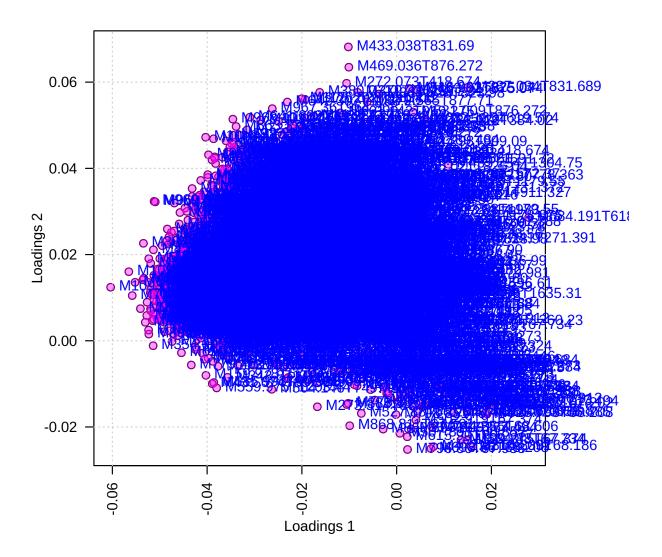


Figure 10: Loadings plot between the selected PCs.

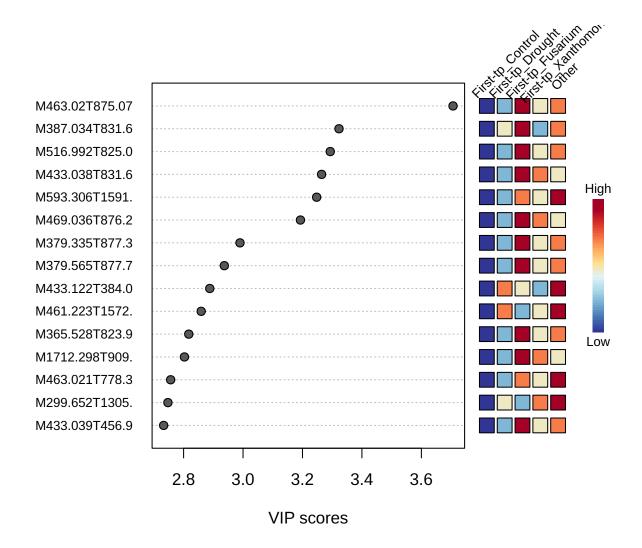


Figure 11: Important features identified by PLS-DA. The colored boxes on the right indicate the relative concentrations of the corresponding metabolite in each group under study.

2.4 Hierarchical Clustering

In (agglomerative) hierarchical cluster analysis, each sample begins as a separate cluster and the algorithm proceeds to combine them until all samples belong to one cluster. Two parameters need to be considered when performing hierarchical clustering. The first one is similarity measure - Euclidean distance, Pearson's correlation, Spearman's rank correlation. The other parameter is clustering algorithms, including average linkage (clustering uses the centroids of the observations), complete linkage (clustering uses the farthest pair of observations between the two groups), single linkage (clustering uses the closest pair of observations) and Ward's linkage (clustering to minimize the sum of squares of any two clusters). Heatmap is often presented as a visual aid in addition to the dendrogram.

Hierarchical clustering is performed with the hclust function in package stat. Figure 14 shows the clustering result in the form of a dendrogram. Figure 15 shows the clustering result in the form of a heatmap.

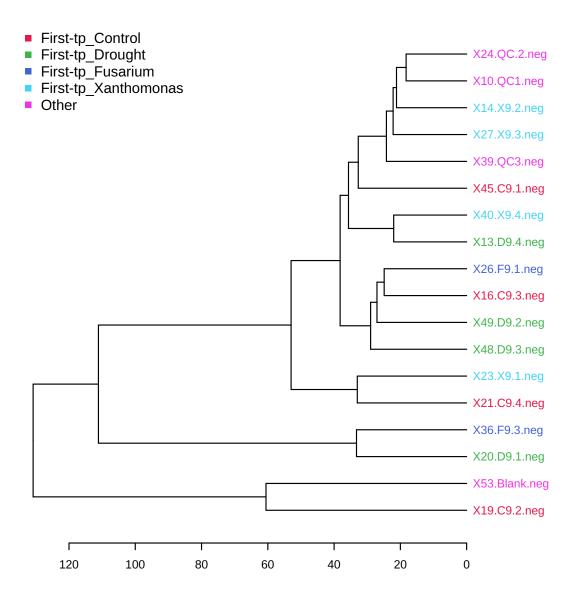


Figure 12: Clustering result shown as dendrogram (distance measure using euclidean, and clustering algorithm using ward.D).

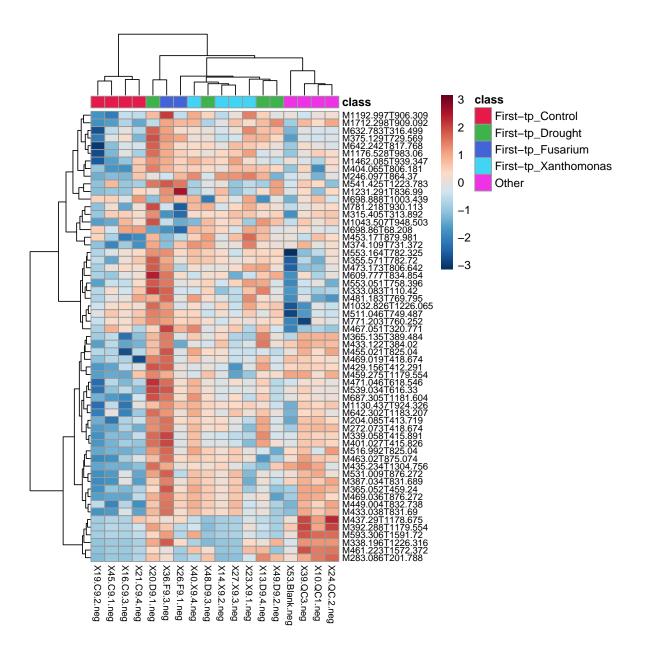


Figure 13: Clustering result shown as heatmap (distance measure using euclidean, and clustering algorithm using ward.D).

3 Appendix: R Command History

```
[1] "mSet<-InitDataObjects(\"pktable\", \"stat\", FALSE)"
 [2] "mSet<-Read.TextData(mSet, \"Replacing_with_your_file_path\", \"rowu\", \"disc\");"
 [3] "mSet<-SanityCheckData(mSet)"
 [4] "mSet<-ReplaceMin(mSet);"
 [5] "mSet<-SanityCheckData(mSet)"
 [6] "mSet<-FilterVariable(mSet, \"F\", 25, \"iqr\", 0, \"mean\", 0)"
 [7] "mSet<-PreparePrenormData(mSet)"
 [8] "mSet<-SanityCheckData(mSet)"
 [9] "mSet<-GetGroupNames(mSet, \"\")"
[10] "feature.nm.vec <- c(\"\")"
[11] "smpl.nm.vec <- c(\"X34.F9.2.neg\",\"X46.F9.4.neg\")"
[12] "grp.nm.vec <- c(\"First-tp_Control\",\"First-tp_Drought\",\"First-tp_Fusarium\",\"First-tp_Xan
[13] "mSet<-UpdateData(mSet, T)"
[14] "mSet<-PreparePrenormData(mSet)"
[15] "mSet<-Normalization(mSet, \"CompNorm\", \"LogNorm\", \"ParetoNorm\", \"sodium_formate\", ratio
[16] "mSet<-PlotNormSummary(mSet, \"norm_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA)"
[17] "mSet<-PlotSampleNormSummary(mSet, \"snorm_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA)"
[18] "mSet<-ANOVA.Anal(mSet, F, 0.05, FALSE)"
[19] "mSet<-PlotANOVA(mSet, \"aov_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA)"
[20] "mSet<-ANOVA.Anal(mSet, F, 1.0, FALSE)"
[21] "mSet<-PlotANOVA(mSet, \"aov_1_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA)"
[22] "mSet<-Calculate.ANOVA.posthoc(mSet, \"fisher\", 0.05)"
[23] "mSet<-ANOVA.Anal(mSet, F, 0.69292, FALSE)"
[24] "mSet<-PlotANOVA(mSet, \"aov_2_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA)"
[25] "mSet<-ANOVA.Anal(mSet, F, 0.69293, FALSE)"
[26] "mSet<-PlotANOVA(mSet, \"aov_3_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA)"
[27] "mSet<-Calculate.ANOVA.posthoc(mSet, \"fisher\", 0.05)"
[28] "mSet<-PCA.Anal(mSet)"
[29] "mSet<-PlotPCAPairSummary(mSet, \"pca_pair_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 5)"
[30] "mSet<-PlotPCAScree(mSet, \"pca_scree_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 5)"
[31] "mSet<-PlotPCA2DScore(mSet, \"pca_score2d_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 1,2,0.95,0,0, \"na\")"
[32] "mSet<-PlotPCALoading(mSet, \"pca_loading_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 1,2);"
[33] "mSet<-PlotPCABiplot(mSet, \"pca_biplot_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 1,2)"
[34] "mSet<-PlotPCA3DLoading(mSet, \"pca_loading3d_0_\", \"json\", 1,2,3)"
[35] "mSet<-PLSR.Anal(mSet, reg=TRUE)"
[36] "mSet<-PlotPLSPairSummary(mSet, \"pls_pair_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 5)"
[37] "mSet<-PlotPLS2DScore(mSet, \"pls_score2d_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 1,2,0.95,0,0, \"na\")"
[38] "mSet<-PlotPLS3DScoreImg(mSet, \"pls_score3d_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 1,2,3, 40)"
[39] "mSet<-PlotPLSLoading(mSet, \"pls_loading_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, 1, 2);"
[40] "mSet<-PlotPLS3DLoading(mSet, \"pls_loading3d_0_\", \"json\", 1,2,3)"
[41] "mSet<-PlotPLS.Imp(mSet, \"pls_imp_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, \"vip\", \"Comp. 1\", 15,FALSE)
[42] "mSet<-PlotHCTree(mSet, \"tree_0_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, \"euclidean\", \"ward.D\")"
[44] "mSet<-PlotSubHeatMap(mSet, \"heatmap_2_\", \"png\", 72, width=NA, \"norm\", \"row\", \"euclide
[45] "mSet<-SaveTransformedData(mSet)"
[46] "mSet<-PreparePDFReport(mSet, \"guest5167835141083460443\")\n"
```

The report was generated on Tue Mar $12\ 11:59:51\ 2024$ with R version $4.3.2\ (2023-10-31)$, OS system: Linux, version: -Ubuntu SMP Tue Jan $9\ 15:25:40\ UTC\ 2024$.