



# COMPUTER-ASSISTED LC(CE)-HRMS TOOLS FOR UNTARGETED ANALYSIS: SOURCES OF ERRORS AND STRATEGIES TO OVERCOME THEM

Guillaume L. Erny, Lúcia Santos LEPABE – FEUP; Porto, Portugal Patrícia Gomes-Alves, Ricardo A. Gomes, Ana C. L. Guerreiro, UniMS – iBET; Oeiras, Portugal Nuno Neuparth, Pedro Carreiro-Martins, João Gaspar Marques CEDOC - NOVA Medical School; Lisboa, Portugal

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#### A SIMPLE GOAL: FINDING MARKERS SPECIFIC TO EACH

#### **BIOLOGICAL STATE**







## GARBAGE IN GARBAGE OUT ...

#### **1- Systematic error**

Systematic (or determinate) error, causes the mean of a data set to differ **(constant shift)** from the *true* value.

#### 2- Random error

Random (or indeterminate) error, causes data to be scattered more or less symmetrically around a mean value.



**Mean Concentration** 

#### 3- Gross error

They usually occur only occasionally, are often large, and may cause a result to be either high or low. Gross errors lead to **outliers**, results that appear to differ **markedly** from all other data in a set of replicate measurements.







### WHERE DOES ERRORS COME FROM? EXAMPLE WITH IMET-



**Schematic depiction of iMet-Q workflow for peak detection and peak alignment**, from: PLoS ONE 11(1):e0146112, licensed under CC BY 4.0







## POOLED QC SAMPLES - THE MINIMAL REQUIREMENT?



Tidal breathing





3

97.0770

97.0765

97.0760

97.0755

97.0750

3

2

Time /min

#### **How to Reduce Gross Errors**

Step 2 – Optimization and validation Step 1 – Extracting features of interest **QC** Samples **QC** Samples Selected Features Conversion to Conversion to Conversion to mzML mzML mzML \* \* ¥ Data Data Data ROI and ROI and ROI and quantification quantification Cleaning Cleaning Cleaning quantification 1 1 1 Profile to Profile to Profile to Peak centroid centroid centroid Peak Peak Limits Limits Limits + ╈ ¥ Peak mining Peak mining Peak mining 2.5 1.5 2 Time /min Peak Peak Peak Optimization -List 1 List ... List n common peak limits Peak Lists Alignment Quantitative analysis - Andrew Filtering Filtering 5350 Selected Features **Final Features with** optimized limits 1782

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## **RESULTS (QC SAMPLES, FROM HEALTHY, COPD AND ATHMA PATIENTS)**







#### **C**ONCLUSIONS

#### The quality of your separation is paramount to reduce random and gross error

- ✓ Constant sampling rate
- ✓ 10 points per peak minimal (LC & MS)
- ✓ S/N > 10
- ✓ Baseline resolution of peaks

Due to the high number of extracted ion profiles, gross errors are hard to find

The number of transformation should be reduced, to decrease errors







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#### **ABOUT FINNEE**

Finnee is an open-source, **free to use** Matlab toolbox. Anyone is welcome to test, exchange and <u>collaborate</u>!

## Repository: <u>https://github.com/glerny/Finnee2016</u> Blog: <u>https://finneeblog.wordpress.com/</u>

