

## Supplementary material

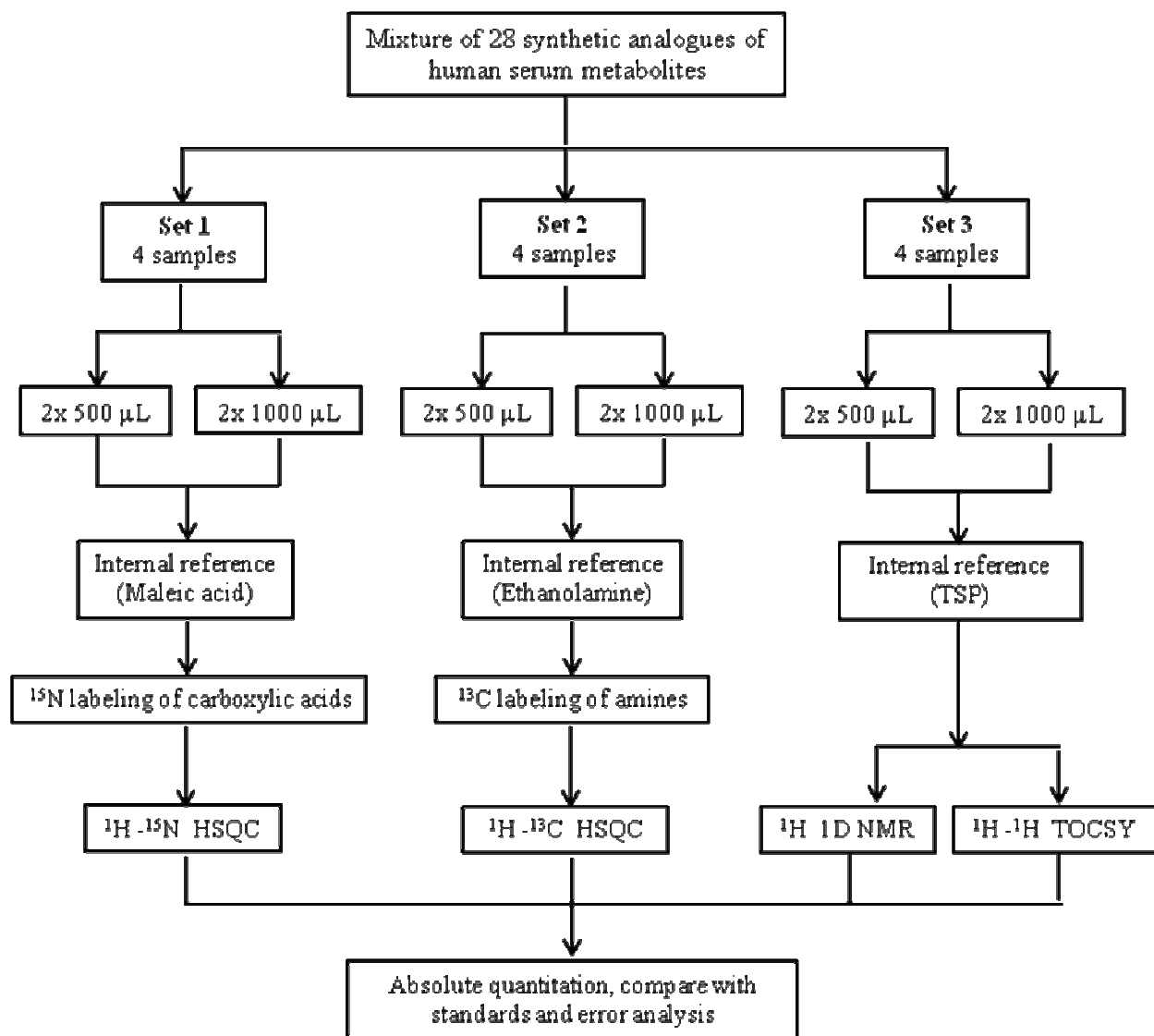
### <sup>15</sup>N ethanolamine tagging procedure

3  $\mu\text{L}$  <sup>15</sup>N-ethanolamine (50  $\mu\text{mol}$ ) was added to the sample, the pH adjusted to 7.0 with 1 M HCl and DMT-MM (21 mg) was added to initiate the reaction<sup>1,2</sup>. The mixture was continuously stirred at room temperature for 4 hrs to complete the reaction. The pH was then adjusted to 5.0 by adding 1 M HCl or NaOH and the solutions were diluted to 600  $\mu\text{L}$  by adding water or D<sub>2</sub>O prior to detection by <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>15</sup>N 2D NMR.<sup>3,4</sup>

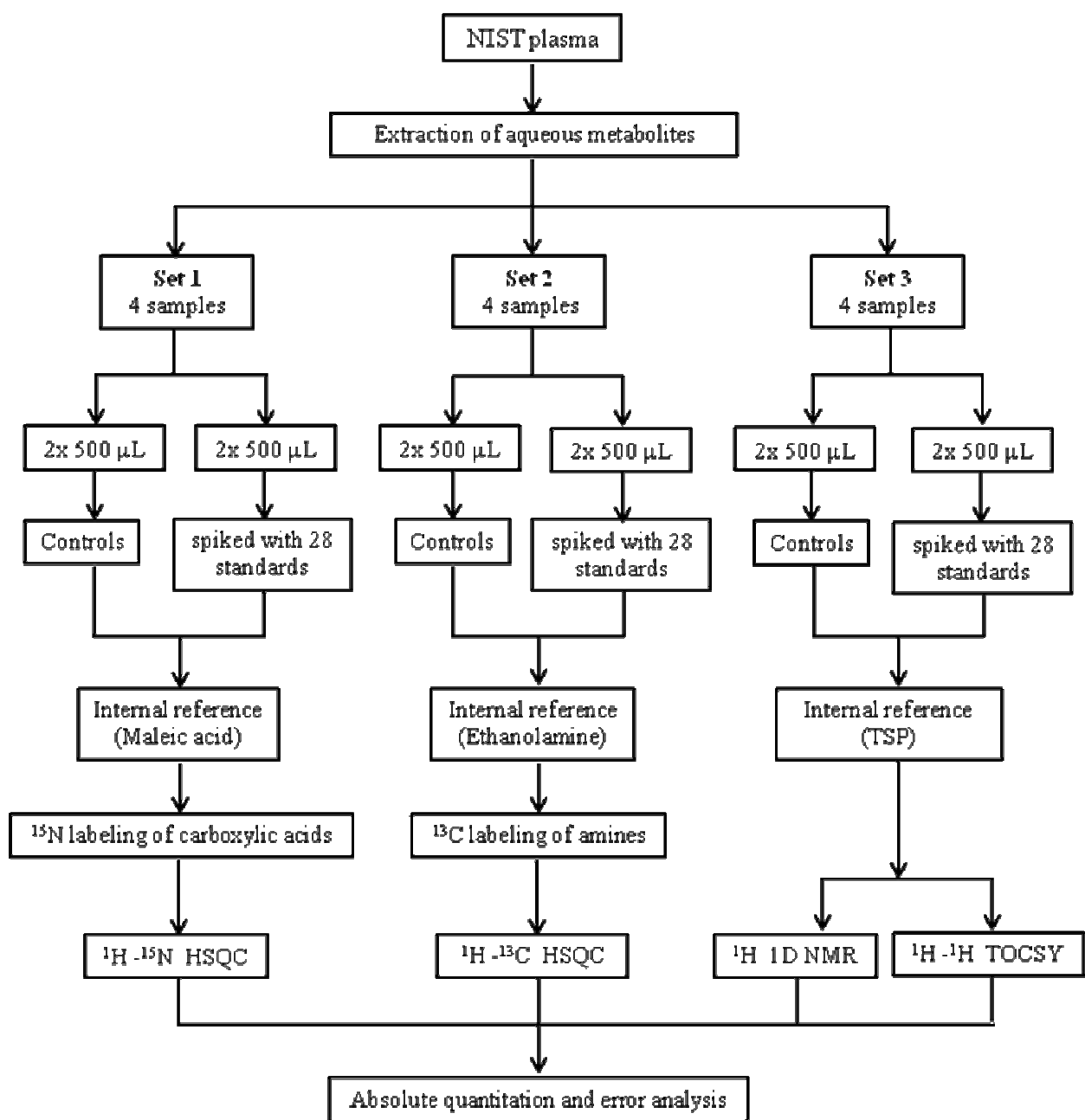
### <sup>13</sup>C -formic acid tagging procedure

2  $\mu\text{L}$  of <sup>13</sup>C-formic acid (0.05 mmol) and 5 mg of N-hydroxysuccinimide (0.04 mmol) were dissolved in 100  $\mu\text{L}$  tetrahydrofuran. Nine mg of N, N-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide (0.04 mmol) in 50  $\mu\text{L}$  tetrahydrofuran was added to the mixture and stirred at room temperature.<sup>5</sup> After 15 min, the reaction mixture was centrifuged to remove insoluble urea; the supernatant containing <sup>13</sup>C-N-formyloxysuccinimide was then added to the mixture of synthetic analogues of the metabolites along with 50  $\mu\text{L}$  of 2 M NaHCO<sub>3</sub> (0.1 mmol) aqueous solution. The reaction was stirred at room temperature for 4 h and dried under vacuum. The residue was redispersed in 500  $\mu\text{L}$  D<sub>2</sub>O, the pH was adjusted to 7.0 by adding 1M HCl and then transferred to a standard 5mm NMR tube for analysis using <sup>1</sup>H-<sup>13</sup>C 2D NMR.<sup>6</sup>

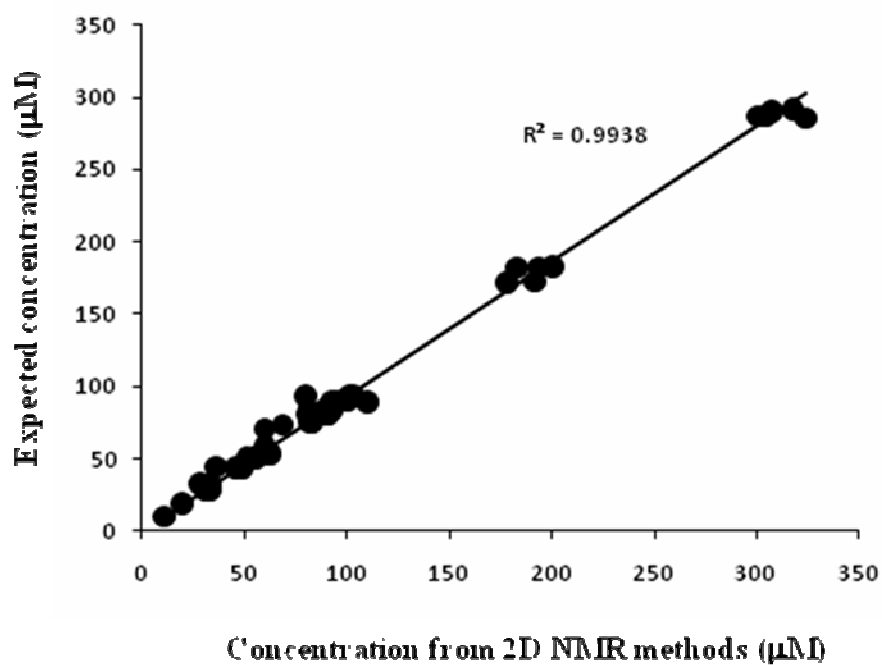
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3. Zhang, Y. Z.; Paterson, Y.; Roder, H. *Protein Sci.* **1995**, 4, 804-814.
4. Ye, T.; Mo, H.; Shanaiah, N.; Nagana Gowda, G. A.; Zhang, S.; Raftery, D. *Anal. Chem.* **2009**, 81(12), 4882-4888.
5. Hecht, S. M.; Werner, D. *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans. 1*, **1973**, 1903-1906.
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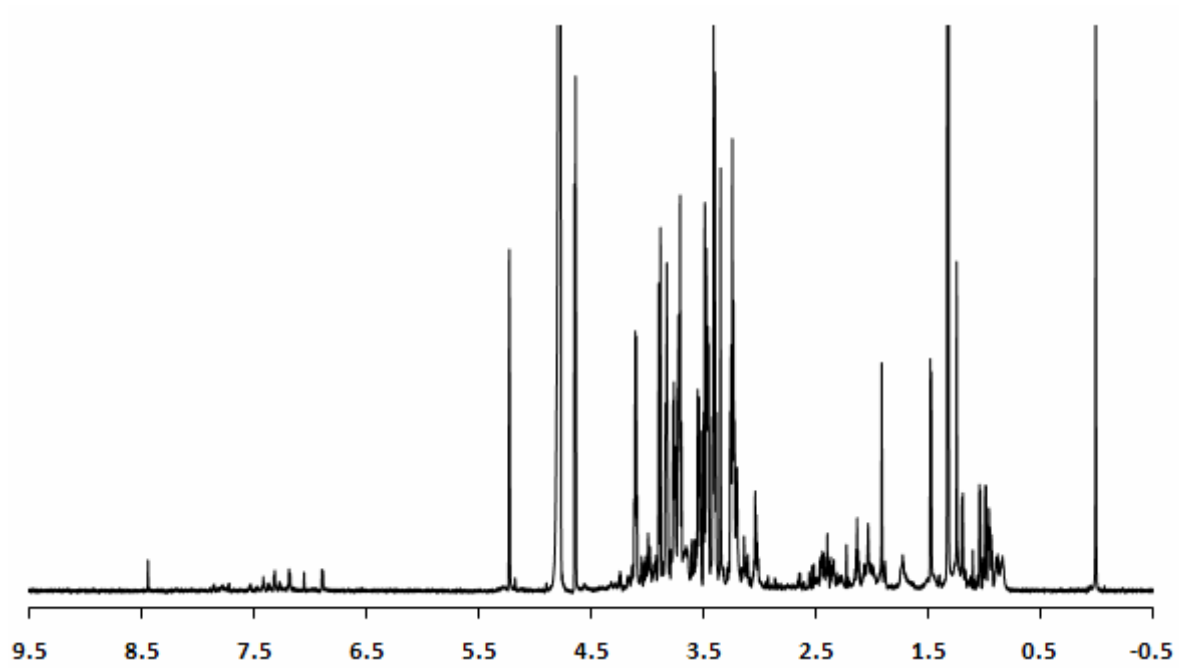
**Flow Diagram 1:** Flow chart depicting the steps followed in the analysis of the standard metabolite mixture using isotope enhanced NMR methods.



**Flow Diagram 2:** Flow chart depicting the steps followed in the analysis of metabolites in the NIST plasma sample using isotope enhanced NMR methods.



**Figure S1:** Correlation of the concentration of the metabolites determined by a combination 2D experiments with or without  $^{15}\text{N}$  or  $^{13}\text{C}$  tagging with the expected values.



**Figure S2:** 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of aqueous metabolites of NIST plasma obtained on a Bruker 500 MHz NMR spectrometer.

**Table S1:** Concentration of synthetic analogues of human plasma metabolites before and after calibration using  $^1\text{H}$  NMR.

Serial Number	Compound	Concentration from the weight (mM)*	Concentration after calibration by $^1\text{H}$ NMR (mM)*
1	3-Hydroxybutyrate	20.02	20.69 $\pm$ 0.32
2	Acetate	19.62	19.33 $\pm$ 0.30
3	L-Alanine	19.67	20.07 $\pm$ 0.31
4	L-Arginine	20.00	23.62 $\pm$ 0.37
5	Citrate	20.09	19.67 $\pm$ 0.31
6	Creatinine	20.15	16.18 $\pm$ 0.30
7	Formate	20.38	17.02 $\pm$ 0.26
8	L-Glutamic acid	20.18	22.39 $\pm$ 0.12
9	L-Glutamine	20.15	20.33 $\pm$ 0.19
10	L-Glycine	20.58	18.09 $\pm$ 0.28
11	L-Histidine	20.10	21.83 $\pm$ 0.17
12	L-Isoleucine	20.24	21.07 $\pm$ 0.09
13	Lactate	20.21	20.12 $\pm$ 0.31
14	L-Leucine	20.37	21.16 $\pm$ 0.33
15	L-Lysine	20.11	15.98 $\pm$ 0.49
16	L-Methionine	19.95	19.96 $\pm$ 0.03
17	L-Phenylalanine	20.00	21.29 $\pm$ 0.33
18	L-Proline	20.16	19.57 $\pm$ 0.31
19	L-Threonine	19.98	18.95 $\pm$ 0.41
20	L-Tryptophan	20.00	20.36 $\pm$ 0.32
21	L-Tyrosine	19.87	21.04 $\pm$ 0.08
22	L-Valine	20.07	19.10 $\pm$ 0.15
23	Succinate	20.03	20.77 $\pm$ 0.33
24	Betaine	20.15	18.69 $\pm$ 0.30
25	4-hydroxy-proline	20.00	22.39 $\pm$ 0.35
26	L-Serine	19.98	19.45 $\pm$ 0.14
27	L-Asparagine	20.01	23.01 $\pm$ 0.36
28	Taurine	19.94	19.17 $\pm$ 0.07
30	Ethanolamine	20.00	20.34 $\pm$ 0.95
31	Maleic acid	20.07	20.85 $\pm$ 0.31
32	DSS	5.00	4.70 $\pm$ 0.02

DSS: 4,4-dimethyl-4-silapentane-1-sulfonic acid; \* The errors are standard deviations based on two measurements.

**Table S2:** Synthetic analogues of human plasma metabolites grouped for concentration calibration using  $^1\text{H}$  NMR.

<b>Group 1</b>	<b>Group 2</b>	<b>Group 3</b>	<b>Group 4</b>	<b>Group 5</b>
3-Hydroxybutyrate	L-Arginine	L-Glutamine	Creatinine	Succinate
Acetate	L-Histidine	L-Isoleucine	L-Glutamic acid	L-Serine
L-Alanine	Lactate	L-Threonine	L-Lysine	Taurine
Citrate	L-Phenylalanine	L-Tryptophan	L-Methionine	
Formate	L-Tyrosine	Ethanolamine	L-Proline	
L-Glycine	L-Valine			
L-Leucine	4-Hydroxy-proline			
Betaine	maleic acid			
L-Asparagine				