# **1** Supplementary notes

**Proof 1** (Theorem 1)  $V^{(m)}V^{(m)^T}$  is the projection matrix that projects an arbitrary vector to the principal component space of group m. From the definition we have  $\cos^2(\delta^{(m)}) = b^T V^{(m)} V^{(m)^T} b$ . Therefore  $\sum_{m=1}^{M} \cos^2(\delta^{(m)}) = b^T (\sum_{m=1}^{M} V^{(m)} V^{(m)^T}) b$  is maximized by the eigenvector corresponding to the largest eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  of  $\sum_{m=1}^{M} V^{(m)} V^{(m)^T}$ .

**Theorem 2** We already showed in Theorem 1 that  $\sum_{m=1}^{M} \cos^2 \delta^{(m)}$  is maximized by  $\mathbf{b}_1$  (eigenvector of  $V^{(m)}V^{(m)^T}$ ). Repeating this procedure k times by using the eigenvectors corresponding to the first k largest eigenvalues will lead to the subspace of dimension k which resembles all M group closely. E.g. the eigenvector  $\mathbf{b}_2$  corresponding to the second largest eigenvalue will give the direction, which is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{b}_1$  and  $\sum_{m=1}^{M} \cos^2 \delta^{(m)}$  obtains its next largest value.

**Proof 2** (Theorem 2) Since  $\sum_{m=1}^{M} \cos^2(\delta^{(m)}) = b^T (\sum_{m=1}^{M} V^{(m)} V^{(m)^T}) b$ , within the subspace  $\mathbb{R}^p / \{\mathbf{b}_1\}$ ,  $\sum_{m=1}^{M} \cos^2(\delta^{(m)})$  will be maximized by eigenvector  $\mathbf{b}_2$  corresponding to the second largest eigenvalue  $\lambda_2$  of  $\sum_{m=1}^{M} V^{(m)} V^{(m)^T}$ . This procedure can be repeated k times and the resulting  $\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \ldots, \mathbf{b}_k$ , will best resemble all M groups of principal components as closely as possible.

# 2 Simulation studies under various scenarios

Simulation studies via comprehensive experimental scenarios are taken into account that can capture most real applications: (1) different strength of dependence (2) full dependence (3) different sample size for different studies. In what follows, we spell down technical details of simulating omics data, from which we differently created the underlying true common covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ . Table S7 encapsulates all numerical results of each simulation design. It is clear to say that SV and SSC consistently outperform JIVE, standard PCA and pooled PCA over the experiment scenarios.

### 2.1 Different strength in block diagonal structures

 $\Sigma = e_1^T \lambda_1 e_1 + e_2^T \lambda_2 e_2 + \Theta_{\rho}, \ \Theta_{\rho} = \{\theta_{ij}\} \ and \ \theta_{ij} = \rho \ (= 0.5) \ if \ 1 \le i, j \le 50 \ or \ 51 \le i, j \le 100, otherwise \ \theta_{ij} = 0.$  This configuration serves to impose gene correlation structures to  $\Sigma$ . We simulated covariance matrix  $\Sigma^{(m)}$  for the  $m^{th}$  study  $(1 \le m \le M)$ , where  $\Sigma^{(m)} = \Sigma + E^{*(m)}, E^{*(m)} = E^{(m)^T} \cdot E^{(m)}, E^{(m)} = (\epsilon_1^{(m)}, \ldots, \epsilon_{200}^{(m)}), \ \epsilon_i^{(m)} \sim MVN_p(0, W), W = C \cdot I, C \in \{0.1, 0.5, 1\}$  and C functions as the noise level and  $I_{p \times p}$  is an identity matrix. We generated M simulated datasets of 20 samples and 200 features,  $X^{(m)} = (x_1^{(m)}, \cdots, x_{200}^{(m)}) \sim MVN_{200}(0, \Sigma^{(m)})$  for  $1 \le m \le M$  and  $1 \le M \le 10.$ 

### 2.2 Full dependence

 $\Sigma = e_1^T \lambda e_1 + e_2^T \lambda e_2 + I + \Theta_{\rho}, \Theta_{\rho} = \{\theta_{ij}\}, and \theta_{ij} = \rho \ (= 0.5) \ for \ 1 \le i, j \le 200.$  I is a diagonal matrix to constantly keep the positive definite property. The remaining designs are identical to (2.1)

## 2.3 Different sample size

This simulation design is equivalent to (2.1) but just differs in sample size. To figure out the sheer effect of sample size, we just augment sample size adding up to 40.

### 2.4 Different measurement scales

It is worth of considering the effects of different measurement scales as various microarray platforms are employed in practice. To this end, we simulated datasets with varied mean, say,  $X^{(m)} =$   $(x_1^{(m)}, \dots, x_{200}^{(m)}) \sim MVN_{200}(\mu^*, \Sigma^{(m)})$  for  $1 \le m \le M$  and  $1 \le M \le 10$ , where  $\mu^* = (\underbrace{\mu, \mu, \dots, \mu}_{200})$ ,  $\mu \sim unif(0, 10)$ . The remaining simulation settings are equivalent to (2.1).

# **3** Flury's likelihood ratio statistic

In this section, we evaluate if the likelihood ratio test is practically applicable to high-dimension omics data. Below we outline our simulation setting:

Step 1 (True eigen-space): We considered two-dimensional underlying true eigen-space spanned by  $E = (e_1^T, e_2^T)$  and  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  be the corresponding true eigenvalues, where  $e_1 = (1, 0, ..., 0) \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times p}$  and  $e_2 = (0, 1, ..., 0) \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times p}$ , p = 10, 50 and 100,  $\lambda_1 = 2$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1$ .

Step 2 (Simulate datasets): By multiplying the true eigenvectors and eigenvalues, we created the underlying true common covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ , where  $\Sigma = e_1^T \lambda_1 e_1 + e_2^T \lambda_2 e_2$ . This configuration serves to impose gene correlation structures to  $\Sigma$ . We simulated covariance matrix  $\Sigma^{(m)}$  for the  $m^{th}$  study  $(1 \le m \le M)$ , where  $\Sigma^{(m)} = \Sigma + E^{*(m)}$ ,  $E^{*(m)} = E^{(m)^T} \cdot E^{(m)}$ ,  $E^{(m)} = (\epsilon_1^{(m)}, \ldots, \epsilon_p^{(m)})$ ,  $\epsilon_i^{(m)} \sim MVN_p(\mathbf{0}, W)$ ,  $W = C \cdot I$ ,  $C = 10^{-4}$  and C functions as the noise level and  $I_{p \times p}$  is an identity matrix. We generated M simulated datasets of 1000 samples and 10, 50 and 100 features,  $X^{(m)} = (x_1^{(m)}, \cdots, x_p^{(m)}) \sim MVN_p(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma^{(m)})$  for  $1 \le m \le 2$ .

In what follows, we revisit the likelihood test statistic (Flury, 1984)

$$\sum_{m=1}^{M} n^{(m)} \log \frac{|\hat{\Sigma}^{(m)}|}{|S^{(m)}|} \sim \chi^2_{(m-1)p(p-1),}$$
(1)

where  $S^{(m)}$  is the sample covariance matrix of study m,  $\hat{\Sigma}^{(m)} = \hat{B}\Lambda^{(m)}\hat{B}^T$ ,  $\hat{B}$  and  $\Lambda^{(m)}$  are the estimated common eigenvector and eigenvalues matrix, respectively. We repeat this simulation 1,000 times to access the true type I error rate at a nominal level of  $\alpha = 0.05$ . As feature size increases (p = 10, 50, 100) with sample size fixed (n = 1, 000), type I error is found notably increasing as 0.048, 0.255 and 1, respectively. This implies that the Flury's likelihood ratio test (1) is only suited to small-p and large-n experiments. This is expected since the likelihood ratio test is an asymptotic test which requires large number of samples. For high dimensional setting, Flury's likelihood ratio test gets even worse.

Table S1: Sample size for multi-tissue microarray studies using metabolism related knockout mice, These microarray date are from Li et al. (2011). They are of the same platform and each tissue has 14,495 genes. There are four tissues to be meta-analyzed comparing wild type (WT), very long chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficient (VLCAD-deficient) and long chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase deficient (LCAD-deficient).

| Tissue   | wild type | VLCAD-deficient | LCAD-deficient |
|----------|-----------|-----------------|----------------|
| brown    | 4         | 4               | 4              |
| heart    | 3         | 4               | 3              |
| liver    | 4         | 4               | 4              |
| skeleton | 3         | 3               | 3              |

Table S2: The summary of four prostate cancer data.

| Author            | Year | Platform       | Sample Size | Source  |
|-------------------|------|----------------|-------------|---------|
| Lapointe et al.   | 2004 | cDNA           | 103         | GSE3933 |
| Tomlins et al.    | 2006 | cDNA           | 57          | GSE6099 |
| Varambally et al. | 2005 | HG-U133 Plus 2 | 13          | GSE3325 |
| Yu et al.         | 2004 | HG-U95Av2      | 146         | GSE6919 |

| Type | Platform           | # of genes | Sample Size | Source                  |
|------|--------------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| BRCA | HumanMethylation27 | 13,311     | 350         | The Cancer Genome Atlas |
| COAD | HumanMethylation27 | 13,169     | 215         | The Cancer Genome Atlas |
| KIRC | HumanMethylation27 | 12,606     | 427         | The Cancer Genome Atlas |
| LUAD | HumanMethylation27 | 12,709     | 157         | The Cancer Genome Atlas |
| READ | HumanMethylation27 | $13,\!295$ | 84          | The Cancer Genome Atlas |
| STAD | HumanMethylation27 | 13,196     | 114         | The Cancer Genome Atlas |

Table S3: The summary of six TCGA methylation data.

Table S4: The four proposed methods of sparse MetaPCAs for variable selection

#### Method 1: SSC + PMD

Estimate Meta-sparse eigenvectors (SSC) by the sparse PCA method (PMD),  $(U^*, B^*) = \operatorname{argmax}_{U,B} U^T T^{SSC} B$  subject to  $\|B\|_2^2 \leq 1, \|B\|_1 \leq \lambda$  and  $\|U\|_2^2 \leq 1$ , where  $B^* = (\beta_1^*, \cdots, \beta_K^*) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times K}$ 

### Method 2: SSC + eNet

Estimate Meta-sparse eigenvectors (SSC) by the sparse PCA method (eNet),  $(A^*, B^*) = \operatorname{argmax}_{A,B} \sum_{i=1}^p \|t_i - AB^T t_i\|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^K \|\beta_j\|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^K \lambda_j \|\beta_j\|_1$  subject to  $A^T A = I$ , where  $B^* = (\beta_1^*, \cdots, \beta_K^*) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times K}$  and  $t_i$  is the  $i^{th}$  column vector of  $T^{SSC}(1 \le i \le p)$ .

### Method 3: SV + PMD

Estimate Meta-sparse eigenvectors (SV) by the sparse PCA method (PMD)  $(U^*, B^*) = \operatorname{argmax}_{U,B} U^T T^{SV} B$  subject to  $\|B\|_2^2 \leq 1, \|B\|_1 \leq \lambda$  and  $\|U\|_2^2 \leq 1$ , where  $B^* = (\beta_1^*, \cdots, \beta_K^*) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times K}$ .

### Method 4: SV + eNet

Estimate Meta-sparse eigenvectors (SV) by the sparse PCA method (eNet),  $(A^*, B^*) = \operatorname{argmax}_{A,B} \sum_{i=1}^p \|t_i - AB^T t_i\|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^K \|\beta_j\|^2 + \sum_{j=1}^K \lambda_j \|\beta_j\|_1$  subject to  $A^T A = I$ , where  $B^* = (\beta_1^*, \cdots, \beta_K^*) \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times K}$  and  $t_i$  is the  $i^{th}$  column vector of  $T^{SV}$   $(1 \le i \le p)$ .

Table S5: Fisher discriminant scores of PC projections (mouse metabolism data; Brown denotes Brown fat).

|         | Brown | Heart | Liver | Ske   | Average |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| Brown   | 8.64  | 12.60 | 7.75  | 8.15  | 9.28    |
| Heart   | 16.65 | 24.43 | 15.28 | 10.91 | 16.82   |
| Liver   | 3.83  | 5.48  | 2.19  | 5.23  | 4.18    |
| Ske     | 15.51 | 16.91 | 12.93 | 20.93 | 16.57   |
| SSC     | 8.28  | 15.05 | 8.40  | 8.93  | 10.17   |
| JIVE    | 3.59  | 5.83  | 3.75  | 3.35  | 4.13    |
| SSC+PMD | 19.11 | 29.17 | 22.90 | 22.68 | 23.47   |

Table S6: Fisher discriminant scores of PC projections (TCGA pan-cancer data; Class lables: Tumor, Normal, Male and Female).

|         | BRCA  | COAD  | KIRC  | LUAD  | READ  | STAD  | Average |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| BRCA    | 18.16 | 22.22 | 20.73 | 12.17 | 15.04 | 8.17  | 16.08   |
| COAD    | 20.50 | 25.50 | 28.23 | 13.87 | 17.50 | 10.70 | 19.38   |
| KIRC    | 22.59 | 29.13 | 32.70 | 16.25 | 20.33 | 13.78 | 22.46   |
| LUAD    | 21.81 | 25.30 | 27.64 | 14.47 | 17.03 | 11.09 | 19.55   |
| READ    | 20.27 | 21.29 | 18.43 | 11.06 | 15.35 | 7.02  | 15.57   |
| STAD    | 21.84 | 26.17 | 29.34 | 14.89 | 17.40 | 11.98 | 20.27   |
| SSC     | 24.93 | 21.02 | 16.88 | 12.52 | 13.12 | 7.94  | 16.07   |
| JIVE    | 19.69 | 20.15 | 18.50 | 10.68 | 12.77 | 8.90  | 15.11   |
| SSC+PMD | 16.96 | 29.66 | 27.12 | 14.72 | 20.34 | 13.98 | 20.46   |

| # of studies          | 2   | 3         | 4                     | 5         | 6      | 7      | 8      | 9      | 10     |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|--|--|--|--|
| A. different strength | A. different strength in block diagonal structures (implemented in the main manuscript) |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | experin   | nent para | meters (C=1, $r$      | ho = 0.5) |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| SV                    | 0.4430  | 0.6740    | 0.8704                | 1.0720    | 1.1958 | 1.2868 | 1.3653 | 1.4279 | 1.4812 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{SSC}$        | 0.4139  | 0.6775    | 0.8919                | 1.0743    | 1.1944 | 1.2825 | 1.3663 | 1.4281 | 1.4785 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                  | 0.2800  | 0.5128    | 0.7601                | 0.9038    | 1.0791 | 1.1443 | 1.2342 | 1.2866 | 1.3217 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Single                |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 0.2173 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)   |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 1.0920 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | experiment parameters (C=2, rho=0.5)  |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| SV                    | 1.0205  | 1.3002    | 1.4406                | 1.5412    | 1.6061 | 1.6583 | 1.6960 | 1.7296 | 1.7550 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{SSC}$        | 0.8965  | 1.2572    | 1.4261                | 1.5249    | 1.5945 | 1.6503 | 1.6889 | 1.7215 | 1.7473 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                  | 0.7766  | 1.1672    | 1.3157                | 1.4180    | 1.4710 | 1.5271 | 1.5572 | 1.5975 | 1.6199 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Single                |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 0.5781 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)   |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 1.5319 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | experiment parameters (C=10, $rho=0.5$ )  |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| $_{\rm SV}$           | 1.7591  | 1.8362    | 1.8794                | 1.9009    | 1.9165 | 1.9290 | 1.9372 | 1.9437 | 1.9493 |  |  |  |  |  |
| SSC                   | 1.7336  | 1.8221    | 1.8699                | 1.8925    | 1.9109 | 1.9243 | 1.9335 | 1.9404 | 1.9463 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                  | 1.5276  | 1.7286    | 1.7685                | 1.7935    | 1.8039 | 1.8187 | 1.8279 | 1.8357 | 1.8416 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Single                |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 1.5467 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)   |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 1.8984 |  |  |  |  |  |
| B. fully dependence   | $(\theta_{ij} = \rho$   | (=1) for  | $1 \le i, j \le 200)$ |           |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | experin   | nent para | meters (C=1, $r$      | ho=1)     |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| $_{\rm SV}$           | 0.4586  | 0.7211    | 0.9189                | 1.0850    | 1.2129 | 1.3116 | 1.3818 | 1.4428 | 1.4950 |  |  |  |  |  |
| SSC                   | 0.4080  | 0.7001    | 0.9011                | 1.0735    | 1.1948 | 1.2959 | 1.3748 | 1.4350 | 1.4874 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                  | 0.2806  | 0.5157    | 0.7857                | 0.9121    | 1.0551 | 1.1398 | 1.2403 | 1.2851 | 1.3265 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Single                |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 0.2403 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)   |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 1.1129 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | experin   | nent para | meters (C=2, $r$      | ho=1)     |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| SV                    | 1.0521  | 1.3144    | 1.4517                | 1.5476    | 1.6087 | 1.6554 | 1.6923 | 1.7217 | 1.7473 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{SSC}$        | 0.9641  | 1.2724    | 1.4225                | 1.5225    | 1.5915 | 1.6440 | 1.6852 | 1.7158 | 1.7428 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                  | 0.8026  | 1.1573    | 1.3321                | 1.4238    | 1.4738 | 1.5370 | 1.5609 | 1.6085 | 1.6247 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Single                |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 0.5892 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)   |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 1.5352 |  |  |  |  |  |
|                       | experin   | nent para | meters (C= $10$ ,     | rho=1)    |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |  |
| SV                    | 1.7375  | 1.8240    | 1.8708                | 1.8958    | 1.9123 | 1.9251 | 1.9336 | 1.9404 | 1.9455 |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{SSC}$        | 1.7021  | 1.8099    | 1.8615                | 1.8889    | 1.9072 | 1.9209 | 1.9302 | 1.9373 | 1.9428 |  |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                  | 1.5482  | 1.7357    | 1.7704                | 1.7887    | 1.8087 | 1.8193 | 1.8288 | 1.8361 | 1.8434 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Single                |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 1.5188 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)   |   |           |                       |           |        |        |        |        | 1.8912 |  |  |  |  |  |

Table S7: Evaluation measures of simulated data sets for all experiment scenarios.

| # of studies                                | 2          | 3                   | 4          | 5         | 6          | 7         | 8           | 9              | 10     |  |  |  |  |
|---|------------|---------------------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| C. different sample s                       | size in th | e block d           | liagonal s | structure | (i.e., equ | ivalent t | to the scen | nario A above) |        |  |  |  |  |
|   | experin    | ient para           | meters (   | C=1, rho  | =0.5, n=   | =40)      |             |                |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV  | 0.9198     | 1.2787              | 1.4549     | 1.5611    | 1.6320     | 1.6846    | 1.7198      | 1.7490         | 1.7753 |  |  |  |  |
| SSC   | 0.8716     | 1.2177              | 1.4059     | 1.5129    | 1.5823     | 1.6348    | 1.6738      | 1.7050         | 1.7345 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE  | 0.3134     | 0.5098              | 0.7493     | 0.9808    | 1.0591     | 1.1615    | 1.2223      | 1.2921         | 1.3179 |  |  |  |  |
| Single                                      |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 0.4154 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)                         |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.5272 |  |  |  |  |
|   | experin    | nent para           | meters (   | C=2, rho  | =0.5, n=   | =40)      |             |                |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV  | 1.5040     | 1.6602              | 1.7435     | 1.7971    | 1.8308     | 1.8535    | 1.8701      | 1.8840         | 1.8963 |  |  |  |  |
| $\operatorname{SSC}$                        | 1.4622     | 1.6357              | 1.7201     | 1.7767    | 1.8138     | 1.8385    | 1.8576      | 1.8727         | 1.8860 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE  | 0.7313     | 1.1027              | 1.3286     | 1.4158    | 1.4666     | 1.5221    | 1.5663      | 1.5967         | 1.6240 |  |  |  |  |
| Single                                      |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.0713 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)                         |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.7867 |  |  |  |  |
| experiment parameters (C=10, rho=0.5, n=40) |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV  | 1.9054     | 1.9374              | 1.9528     | 1.9621    | 1.9683     | 1.9726    | 1.9759      | 1.9784         | 1.9805 |  |  |  |  |
| SSC   | 1.8988     | 1.9346              | 1.9509     | 1.9609    | 1.9674     | 1.9718    | 1.9751      | 1.9777         | 1.9799 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE  | 1.4397     | 1.7398              | 1.7682     | 1.7900    | 1.8059     | 1.8200    | 1.8268      | 1.8360         | 1.8413 |  |  |  |  |
| Single                                      |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.8105 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)                         |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.9601 |  |  |  |  |
| D. simple diagonal c                        | ovarianc   | e (i.e., $\theta_i$ | $_{j}=0).$ |           |            |           |             |                |        |  |  |  |  |
|   | experin    | nent para           | meters (   | C=1)      |            |           |             |                |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV  | 0.4158     | 0.6702              | 0.8981     | 1.0871    | 1.2061     | 1.3098    | 1.3909      | 1.4416         | 1.4945 |  |  |  |  |
| SSC   | 0.4203     | 0.6679              | 0.9070     | 1.0824    | 1.2009     | 1.2911    | 1.3719      | 1.4257         | 1.4768 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE  | 0.3180     | 0.5121              | 0.7591     | 0.9770    | 1.0653     | 1.1480    | 1.2292      | 1.2971         | 1.3282 |  |  |  |  |
| Single                                      |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 0.2300 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)                         |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.1025 |  |  |  |  |
|   | experin    | nent para           | meters (   | C=2)      |            |           |             |                |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV  | 1.0182     | 1.2903              | 1.4459     | 1.5384    | 1.6078     | 1.6590    | 1.6968      | 1.7269         | 1.7514 |  |  |  |  |
| $\operatorname{SSC}$                        | 0.9002     | 1.2549              | 1.4178     | 1.5201    | 1.5926     | 1.6467    | 1.6850      | 1.7162         | 1.7409 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE  | 0.7575     | 1.1233              | 1.3304     | 1.4137    | 1.4798     | 1.5272    | 1.5686      | 1.5962         | 1.6323 |  |  |  |  |
| Single                                      |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 0.5780 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)                         |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.5309 |  |  |  |  |
|   | experin    | nent para           | meters (   | C = 10)   |            |           |             |                |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV  | 1.7591     | 1.8362              | 1.8794     | 1.9009    | 1.9165     | 1.9290    | 1.9372      | 1.9437         | 1.9493 |  |  |  |  |
| SSC   | 1.7336     | 1.8221              | 1.8699     | 1.8925    | 1.9109     | 1.9243    | 1.9335      | 1.9404         | 1.9463 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE  | 1.5276     | 1.7286              | 1.7685     | 1.7935    | 1.8039     | 1.8187    | 1.8279      | 1.8357         | 1.8416 |  |  |  |  |
| Single                                      |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.5467 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)                         |            |                     |            |           |            |           |             |                | 1.8984 |  |  |  |  |

| # of studies         | 2   | 3           | 4                     | 5      | 6      | 7      | 8      | 9      | 10     |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------|---|-------------|-----------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|--|--|--|
| E. Different measure | ement sca   | ales with s | ample size n=20       |        |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |
|                      | experin   | ient parai  | neters (C=1, rho=     | =0.5)  |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV                   | 0.4656  | 0.7336      | 0.9589                | 1.1291 | 1.2338 | 1.3264 | 1.3981 | 1.4558 | 1.5053 |  |  |  |  |
| SSC                  | 0.4091  | 0.6961      | 0.9498                | 1.1077 | 1.2197 | 1.3067 | 1.3851 | 1.4416 | 1.4909 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                 | 0.3181  | 0.4893      | 0.8289                | 0.9691 | 1.0842 | 1.1939 | 1.2496 | 1.3033 | 1.3330 |  |  |  |  |
| Single               |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 0.2441 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)  |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 1.1342 |  |  |  |  |
|                      | $\underline{\text{experiment parameters (C=2, rho=0.5)}}$ |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV                   | 1.0126  | 1.2845      | 1.4414                | 1.5383 | 1.6085 | 1.6594 | 1.6999 | 1.7313 | 1.7557 |  |  |  |  |
| $\operatorname{SSC}$ | 0.9007  | 1.2457      | 1.4205                | 1.5268 | 1.5967 | 1.6483 | 1.6908 | 1.7227 | 1.7485 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                 | 0.8255  | 1.1586      | 1.3451                | 1.4311 | 1.5003 | 1.5514 | 1.5772 | 1.6093 | 1.6351 |  |  |  |  |
| Single               |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 0.5878 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)  |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 1.5297 |  |  |  |  |
|                      | experiment parameters (C=10, rho= $0.5$ )                 |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV                   | 1.7629  | 1.8402      | 1.8790                | 1.9034 | 1.9178 | 1.9305 | 1.9393 | 1.9458 | 1.9512 |  |  |  |  |
| SSC                  | 1.7398  | 1.8305      | 1.8711                | 1.8976 | 1.9135 | 1.9264 | 1.9358 | 1.9424 | 1.9481 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                 | 1.5425  | 1.6892      | 1.7744                | 1.7932 | 1.8141 | 1.8245 | 1.8341 | 1.8425 | 1.8459 |  |  |  |  |
| Single               |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 1.5479 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)  |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 1.9002 |  |  |  |  |
| F. Different measure | ement sca   | ales with s | ample size $n=40$     |        |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |
|                      | experin   | nent parar  | neters (C=1, rho=     | =0.5)  |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV                   | 0.8255  | 1.1593      | 1.3596                | 1.4698 | 1.5514 | 1.6145 | 1.6622 | 1.6988 | 1.7281 |  |  |  |  |
| $\operatorname{SSC}$ | 0.7790  | 1.1323      | 1.3201                | 1.4246 | 1.5080 | 1.5717 | 1.6236 | 1.6603 | 1.6935 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                 | 0.5798  | 0.9749      | 1.2673                | 1.3818 | 1.4555 | 1.5092 | 1.5522 | 1.5912 | 1.6080 |  |  |  |  |
| Single               |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 0.3632 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)  |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 1.4520 |  |  |  |  |
|                      | experin   | nent parar  | meters (C= $2$ , rho= | =0.5)  |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV                   | 1.4095  | 1.5938      | 1.6934                | 1.7491 | 1.7898 | 1.8194 | 1.8420 | 1.8583 | 1.8725 |  |  |  |  |
| $\operatorname{SSC}$ | 1.3580  | 1.5701      | 1.6789                | 1.7356 | 1.7760 | 1.8076 | 1.8304 | 1.8471 | 1.8621 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                 | 1.2617  | 1.5070      | 1.5998                | 1.6397 | 1.6838 | 1.7115 | 1.7323 | 1.7524 | 1.7623 |  |  |  |  |
| Single               |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 0.9432 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)  |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 1.7397 |  |  |  |  |
|                      | experin   | nent parar  | meters (C= $10$ , rho | b=0.5) |        |        |        |        |        |  |  |  |  |
| SV                   | 1.8808  | 1.9198      | 1.9392                | 1.9519 | 1.9604 | 1.9660 | 1.9701 | 1.9733 | 1.9759 |  |  |  |  |
| SSC                  | 1.8695  | 1.9152      | 1.9359                | 1.9497 | 1.9584 | 1.9642 | 1.9687 | 1.9722 | 1.9749 |  |  |  |  |
| JIVE                 | 1.7703  | 1.8207      | 1.8412                | 1.8519 | 1.8612 | 1.8662 | 1.8710 | 1.8736 | 1.8760 |  |  |  |  |
| Single               |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 1.7639 |  |  |  |  |
| Pooled (10 studies)  |   |             |                       |        |        |        |        |        | 1.9497 |  |  |  |  |

Table S8: Differential expression genes detected by muliti-class linear models. The cut-off criteria is adjusted p-value (< 0.05) by Benjamini and Hochberg's method. An R package (limma) was used to fit the models.

| Data set               | Brown | Heart | Liver | Skeleton |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|----------|
| The number of DE genes | 154   | 574   | 110   | 282      |



Figure S1: Two major types of omics data integration: (A) Horizontal omics meta-analysis to combine K transcriptomic datasets (B) Vertical omics integrative analysis to combine different omics data in a given cohort.



Figure S2: The example of scree plot to determine the best dimension of Meta-PCA. In scree plot, eigenvalues are sorted in decreasing order on the y-axis. Selection of the optimal K is determined by an elbow point at which the decreasing trend becomes flat when  $d(i, i + 1) < \Delta$ , where  $d(i, i + 1) = \frac{e(i)-e(i+1)}{e(i)}$ ,  $\Delta = 0.1$  and e(i) refers to an eigenvalue of  $i^{th}$  leading principal component. Here we randomly generated data exploiting the similar simulation scenario in the section 3. The following is the description of the simulation scenario. Let  $E = (e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5) \in \mathbb{R}^{200\times 5}$  be the true eigenvector matrix, where  $e_1 = (1, 0, \ldots, 0)$ ,  $e_2 = (0, 1, 0, \ldots, 0)$ ,  $e_3 = (0, 0, 1, 0, \ldots, 0)$ ,  $e_4 = (0, 0, 0, 1, 0, \ldots, 0)$ ,  $e_5 = (0, 0, 0, 1, 0, \ldots, 0)$ . Denote true eigenvalues by  $\lambda_1 = 500, \lambda_2 = 300, \lambda_3 = 200, \lambda_4 = 100$ , and  $\lambda_5 = 50$ , and create a diagonal matrix  $\lambda = diag(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3, \lambda_4, \lambda_5)$ . Define C = 5 and  $j^{(m)} = 5$  ( $1 \le m \le M = 10$ ). The simulations are repeated 100 times and average values are presented. For both SV and SSC in Figure S2, the elbow points declared by d(i, i + 1) clearly indicate the fifth principal component, and so we choose K = 5 as the best.

Table S9: Evaluation measures of simulated data sets and standard errors shown in Figure 3C of the main manuscript.

| # of studies        | 2      | 3      | 4      | 5      | 6      | 7      | 8      | 9      | 10     |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| SV                  | 1.7591 | 1.8362 | 1.8794 | 1.9009 | 1.9165 | 1.9290 | 1.9372 | 1.9437 | 1.9493 |
| s.e(SV)             | 0.0077 | 0.0044 | 0.0023 | 0.0019 | 0.0016 | 0.0014 | 0.0011 | 0.0008 | 0.0007 |
| SSC                 | 1.7336 | 1.8221 | 1.8699 | 1.8925 | 1.9109 | 1.9243 | 1.9335 | 1.9404 | 1.9463 |
| s.e(SSC)            | 0.0086 | 0.0051 | 0.0027 | 0.0023 | 0.0019 | 0.0015 | 0.0012 | 0.0010 | 0.0009 |
| JIVE                | 1.5276 | 1.7286 | 1.7685 | 1.7935 | 1.8039 | 1.8187 | 1.8279 | 1.8357 | 1.8416 |
| s.e(JIVE)           | 0.0425 | 0.0048 | 0.0024 | 0.0021 | 0.0016 | 0.0013 | 0.0011 | 0.0011 | 0.0010 |
| Single              |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | 1.5467 |
| s.e(Single)         |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | 0.0158 |
| Pooled (10 studies) |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | 1.8984 |
| s.e(Pooled)         |        |        |        |        |        |        |        |        | 0.0088 |



Figure S3: The example of the scree plot to determine the optimal penalization constant for MetasparsePCA. We generate simulated data sets using the same scenario as introduced in the section 3. Given fixed K, we select the best  $\lambda$  via the scree plot based on G(a, b), a proportion of increased explained variance as a benchmark, where  $G(a, b) = \frac{f(b)-f(a)}{f(b)}$  and f(z) is explained variance of PC when the z number of non-zero features of eigenvector matrix are applied. Here, note that the number of non-zero features corresponds to size of  $\lambda$ . Two arbitrary  $\lambda$  values are taken to produce a and b non-zero features of eigenvector matrix such that  $G(a, b) < \Delta$ , where  $\Delta = 0.1, 0 \le a, b \le p^*$ , a < b and  $p^*$  the number of entire non-zero features. The simulations are repeated 100 times and average values are presented. Figure S3A-D shows that the stopping rule automatically chooses 20 nonzero features of true eigenvector matrix, suggesting that the selected penalization constant  $\lambda$ correctly leaves the true 20 non-zero features.



Figure S4: Two dimensional PC projections using mRNA expressions of four mouse metaboloism data; WT (square), LCAD (dot) and VLCAD (star). Brown denotes Brown fat and Ske denotes skeletal.



Figure S5: Two dimensional PC projections using methylation expressions of six different cancers (TCGA) data; Tumor (square), Normal (dot), Male (black) and Female (grey).



Figure S6: Robustness comparisons of MetaPCA, JIVE and PCA to outliers and noises. The yaxis represents the averages of Fisher discriminant scores, and the x-axis the magnitude of cluster separation. The figure presents the two MetaPCA methods SV (dot), SSC (triangle), JIVE (circle) and standard PCA (Single, star) applied to each individual study.



Figure S7: Scree and differences in eigenvalue plots to determine the optimal K for each scenario.



Figure S8: Scree and differences in eigenvalue plots to determine the optimal K for real data examples.