

A Cheminformatics Approach to Characterize Metabolomes In Stable-Isotope-Labeled Organisms

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As structure determination has become essential in metabolomics and natural products studies, advances in metabolomic technologies are essential for high-throughput screening of natural products. Generally, conventional techniques of structure elucidation involve LC-MS and NMR. It requires isolation of a single metabolite and comparison with the available databases to determine the compound. This paper discussed online methods in characterizing untargeted metabolomes that analyzes mass fragmentation of ions (LC-MS/MS) and ¹³C-labeled and non-labeled plants to determine the carbon numbers and classify unknown molecules.

Abstract

We report a computational approach (implemented in MS-DIAL 3.0; <http://prime.psc.riken.jp/>) for metabolite structure characterization using fully ¹³C-labeled and non-labeled plants and LC-MS/MS. Our approach facilitates carbon number determination and metabolite classification for unknown molecules. Applying our method to 31 tissues from 12 plant species, we assigned 1,092 structures and 344 formulae to 3,604 carbon-determined metabolite ions, 69 of which were found to represent structures currently not listed in metabolome databases.