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## 9 Abstract

10 The purpose of this study was to use  $^1\text{H}$  nuclear magnetic resonance ( $^1\text{H}$  NMR) to quantify  
11 taste-active and bioactive compounds in chicken breasts and thighs from Korean native  
12 chicken (KNC) [newly developed KNCs (KNC-A, -C, and -D) and commercial KNC-H] and  
13 white-semi broiler (WSB) used in *Samgye*. Further, each breed was differentiated using  
14 multivariate analyses, including a machine learning algorithm designed to use metabolic  
15 information from each type of chicken obtained using  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  heteronuclear single quantum  
16 coherence (2D NMR). Breast meat from KNC-D chickens were superior to those of  
17 conventional KNC-H and WSB chickens in terms of both taste-active and bioactive  
18 compounds. In the multivariate analysis, meat portions (breast and thigh) and chicken breeds  
19 (KNCs and WSB) could be clearly distinguished based on the outcomes of the principal  
20 component analysis and partial least square-discriminant analysis ( $R^2 = 0.945$ ;  $Q^2 = 0.901$ ).  
21 Based on this, we determined the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve for each of  
22 these components. AUC analysis identified 10 features which could be consistently applied to  
23 distinguish between all KNCs and WSB chickens in both breast (0.988) and thigh (1.000)  
24 meat without error. Here, both  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and 2D NMR could successfully quantify various  
25 target metabolites which could be used to distinguish between different chicken breeds based  
26 on their metabolic profile.

27

28 **Keywords:** Korean native chicken, Metabolomics, qNMR,  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC, White semi-broiler

29

## 30 Introduction

31 *Samgyetang* and *Baeksuk* are traditional Korean soups that are prepared using whole juvenile  
32 chickens filled with garlic, glutinous rice, jujube, and ginseng to combat the detrimental effects  
33 of the summer heat (Jayasena et al., 2013). Considering its short and concentrated seasonal  
34 demand, *Samgye* is generally prepared and distributed using meat from white semi-broiler  
35 (WSB) chickens, which are crossbred using a male broiler and female laying hen (Jeong et al.,  
36 2020). WSB is characterized by their white feathers, smaller size, and reduced fat and account  
37 for 60% to 70% of the *Samgyetang* market (Cho et al., 2007). This commercial dominance is  
38 attributed to aspects of WSB like a cheaper price, higher stability during high-temperature  
39 processing, and a chewy texture compared to commercial broiler (Park et al., 2011). However,  
40 this is an unofficial breed raised by private industries and several safety issues have recently  
41 been put forth regarding its production process (Jeong et al., 2020). Korean native chicken  
42 (KNC), is a slow-growing breed and is known for possessing lower fat content and a firmer  
43 texture than WSB and commercial broiler chickens (Jeon et al., 2010). KNC also has a unique  
44 flavor and a chewier texture when compared to commercial breeds and are known to contain  
45 higher concentrations of amino acids and inosinic acid, contributing to their umami taste  
46 (Jayasena et al., 2013; Jayasena et al., 2015b). The complex flavors of KNC can result from  
47 the combination of various inherent compounds including arachidonic acid (C20:4), glutamic  
48 acid, inosine 5'-monophosphate (IMP), and endogenous bioactive compounds such as anserine,  
49 creatine, and carnosine (Jayasena et al., 2013; Jayasena et al., 2014; Jayasena et al., 2015b;  
50 Jung et al., 2013). These dipeptides are known to possess antioxidative, antiaging, pH-buffering  
51 effects, and closely related to energy metabolism (Lee et al., 2015).

52 While metabolomic analyses are generally used to explain changes in the physicochemical  
53 properties of various meat products and rely on various chemometric analyses (Kim et al.,

2020a; Kim et al. 2020b; Simmler et al., 2014), there has been an increase in the number of NMR-based studies used to evaluate the metabolic profile of these meat samples without evaluating the chemical characteristics of the target metabolites (Simmler et al., 2014). NMR-based analysis combined with multivariate analysis was used to understand and/or to elucidate metabolic changes of meat samples (Kim et al., 2020a; Kim et al., 2020b). Several studies have used NMR-based analysis of meat samples to determine their metabolic profiles, and many of these profiles have been used to differentiate meat samples based on breed, age, geographical origin, and metabolic fingerprint as determined by one-dimensional  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR) analysis (Beauclercq et al., 2016; Jung et al., 2010; Kodani et al., 2017; Straadt et al., 2014). However, 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis may not reveal all the differences in the metabolic profiles as there may be chronic overlap in the obtained data (Kim et al., 2020a). To overcome this limitation, many studies have opted to include two-dimensional nuclear magnetic resonance (2D NMR) to solve the issue of overlapping via dimensional expansion (Kim et al., 2020b). 2D NMR qualifies and easily quantifies the specific peak exhibited by various metabolites which can then be used to evaluate quality-related metabolites and breed authenticity when used in conjunction with machine learning algorithms (Dass et al., 2017). Machine learning algorithms allow researchers to use the complex data obtained from various chemometric analyses to rapidly classify samples into specific groups without generating experimental bias (Jiménez-Carvelo et al., 2019).

The objective of this study was to evaluate and quantify differences in the taste-active and bioactive compounds in different breeds of chicken and to determine if these values could be applied to a machine learning algorithm and used to distinguish between different breeds of chicken, KNCs (-A, -C, -D, and -H) and WSB, based on metabolic differences in their breast and thigh meat.

78

## 79 **Materials and Methods**

### 80 **Reagents**

81 Deuterium oxide (D<sub>2</sub>O), D<sub>2</sub>O with 3-(trimethylsilyl) propionic-2,2,3,3-*d*<sub>4</sub> acid (TSP) sodium  
82 salt, and mono- and di-phosphate sodium salts (anhydrous form) were purchased from Sigma-  
83 Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA). Potassium hydroxide was purchased from Daejung Chemicals  
84 & Metals (Siheung, Korea).

85

### 86 **Sample preparation**

87 KNCs [newly developed KNCs (KNC-A, -C, and -D) and commercial KNC-H] and WSB were  
88 raised under the same conditions for 5 wk at a pilot-scale farm (Gimje, Korea). All chickens  
89 were raised across 15 pens (25 chickens/pen) within a single house and food and water were  
90 provided *ad libitum* throughout the entire experimental period. After 5 wks, the chickens were  
91 transferred to a slaughterhouse (Iksan, Korea) and held in lairage overnight. The slaughter  
92 process then proceeded automatically. Chickens were stunned in an electrical water bath, de-  
93 feathered, eviscerated, and air-chilled. Eight chicken carcasses (2 chickens/pen) of similar size  
94 (800 ± 50 g) were randomly selected and deboned, vacuum-packaged, and transferred to the  
95 laboratory (Seoul, Korea) using a cooler filled with ice. Eight samples (comprising both breast  
96 and thigh meat) were ground using a meat grinder (MG510, Kenwood Appliances Co., Ltd.,  
97 Dongguan, China) and homogenized. Subsequently, three homogenized samples (weighing  
98 approximately 100 g each) were then collected, vacuum-packed, and stored at -70°C for further  
99 analysis. All frozen meat samples were thawed at 4°C for 24 h before analysis.

100

### 101 **Polar metabolite extraction**

102 Thawed ground chicken meat (5 g) was homogenized at 1,720 × g for 30 s (T25 basic, Ika Co.,

103 KG, Staufen, Germany) in 0.6 M perchloric acid and then centrifuged (Continent 512R, Hanil  
104 Co., Ltd., Incheon, Korea) at  $3,086 \times g$  for 15 min. The supernatant was transferred into a new  
105 test tube and neutralized using potassium hydroxide. Neutralized extracts were centrifuged  
106 again under the same conditions and then the supernatant was filtered (Whatman No. 1,  
107 Whatman PLC., Brentford, Middx, UK) and lyophilized (Freezer dryer 18, Labco Corp. Kansas  
108 City, MO, USA) before storing at  $-70^{\circ}\text{C}$  until further use in NMR analysis.

109

### 110 **Reconstitution of meat extracts**

111 These lyophilized extracts were reconstituted using 1 mL of 1 mM TSP  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (20 mM phosphate  
112 buffer, pH 7.0), placed in a water bath at  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 10 min, and then centrifuged at  $3,086 \times g$   
113 for 20 min at  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The supernatants were then transferred into a microcentrifuge tube and  
114 centrifuged at  $17,000 \times g$  for 10 min. The supernatant (600  $\mu\text{L}$ ) was then transferred into an  
115 NMR tube prior to NMR analysis.

116

### 117 **NMR data acquisition**

118 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  heteronuclear single quantum coherence (HSQC) were recorded in  
119  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  at 298 K using the Bruker 850 MHz cryo-NMR spectrometer (Bruker Biospin GmbH,  
120 Rheinstetten, Germany). 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR was performed by applying a modified standard zg30  
121 (recycle delay of 1 s) default in Topspin 3.6.2 (Bruker Biospin GmbH). The 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR  
122 experiment was performed using 64k data points, a sweep width of 17,007.803 Hz, and 128  
123 scans. The  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC experimental conditions were as follows: 2k data points in the t2  
124 domain and 512 increments in the t1 over eight scans with a spectral width of 11 ppm for the  
125 f2 dimension and 180 ppm for the f1 dimension; and a coupling constant value of 145 Hz  
126 designed to set delay durations for short-range correlations. After acquisition of data, NMR  
127 baseline correction was performed manually and the TSP reference was used to align the

128 spectra obtained from both 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR and 2D  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR.

129

### 130 **Metabolite quantification**

131 Metabolite peaks were identified using standard compounds, the human metabolome database  
132 (HMDB; hmdb.ca), and the biological magnetic resonance bank (BMRB; bmrw.wisc.edu).

133 Only peaks with no and/or slight overlap were considered for quantification. Metabolites in the  
134 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analysis were quantified using methods described by Kim et al. (2019). Prior to  
135 multivariate comparison, peak intensities in the  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC data were quantified using  
136 AMIX (Analysis of MIXtures software v3.9, Bruker Biospin GmbH) according to the methods  
137 described by Kim et al. (2020a).

138

### 139 **Statistical analysis**

140 Statistical analysis for taste-active and bioactive compounds was performed using the  
141 procedure of the general linear model for comparison of quantified metabolites obtained from  
142 1D  $^1\text{H}$  NMR in each meat portion. Significant differences among the mean values were  
143 determined by using Duncan's multiple range test and the SAS software (SAS 9.4, SAS  
144 Institute Inc., Cary, NC, USA) with a confidence level of  $p < 0.05$ . All experimental procedures  
145 were conducted in triplicate.

146 A total of 44 integrated metabolite peaks (arbitrary units) from the  $^1\text{H}$ - $^{13}\text{C}$  HSQC dataset were  
147 considered for multivariate analysis. Prior to multivariate analyses, the absolute intensities  
148 were log-transformed (generalized logarithm transformation) and auto-scaled (mean-centered  
149 and divided by the standard deviation of each variable). Datasets [30 (samples)  $\times$  44  
150 (metabolites)] were then analyzed using one-way ANOVA and the Tukey's post hoc test  
151 ( $p < 0.05$ ) for comparison of chicken breeds in each meat portion (breast and thigh). Principal



152 component analysis (PCA, R mode), partial least square-discriminant analysis (PLS-DA), and  
153 biomarker analysis were performed using Metaboanalyst 4.0 (Metaboanalyst. ca), and a  
154 heatmap analysis of the top 30 metabolites identified using ANOVA was completed using  
155 Euclidean distance and Ward's cluster algorithm. Multivariate receiver operating characteristic  
156 (ROC) curve analysis was completed using the linear support vector machine (SVM)  
157 classification, and its features were ranked based on the SVM built-in ranking method.

158

## 159 **Results and Discussion**

### 160 **Taste-active and bioactive compound quantification**

161 Taste-active and bioactive compounds in the breast and thigh meat were quantified using 1D  
162 <sup>1</sup>H NMR analysis as numerical quantification of 2D NMR spectra requires standard curves for  
163 each compound (Fig. 1; Kim et al., 2020b). The composition and quantity of each of these  
164 taste-active and bioactive compounds were observed to be breed-specific (Table 1), with the  
165 breast meat from KNC-D demonstrating the highest levels of aspartic acid, glutamic acid,  
166 carnosine, creatine, and inosine 5'- monophosphate (IMP) among meat samples obtained from  
167 all breeds (p<0.05). KNC-C had the highest anserine content (p<0.05), while KNC-A  
168 demonstrated the lowest quantity of any of the examined flavor-active compounds (p<0.05).  
169 Aspartic and glutamic acid are both free amino acids and their presence is markedly associated  
170 with the meat flavor, which may be attributed to their synergistic effect with IMP that enhances  
171 the umami flavor associated with high-quality meat products (Dashdorj et al., 2015; Jayasena  
172 et al., 2014b; Yamaguchi, 1967). The amount of free amino acids in chicken meat could be  
173 proportional with growth rate of chicken breed (Ali et al., 2019). Likewise with previous study,  
174 the amount of glutamic acid and aspartic acid may present proportionally among KNCs since  
175 KNC-A showed the lowest growth rate (Lee et al., 2018). Anserine and carnosine both share a

176 histidine base and are commonly referred to as histidine dipeptides. Anserine is predominantly  
177 found in poultry and can be synthesized from carnosine via carnosine *N*-methyltransferase  
178 activity (Jung et al., 2013). These histidine dipeptides demonstrate multiple activities including  
179 exhibition of bioactive functions and act as taste-active compounds enhancing the underlying  
180 umami taste of meat (Dashdorj et al., 2015; Lee et al., 2015). Creatine is one of the major  
181 metabolites produced during rigor mortis (Watabe et al., 1991) and plays a vital role in energy  
182 metabolism, with its concentration often being inversely proportional to meat quality (Jung et  
183 al., 2013). These bioactive compounds could be varied by the characteristics of breeds such as  
184 enzyme activities, resulting in different levels of bioactive compounds (Jung et al., 2013).  
185 Following death, adenosine 5'-triphosphate is rapidly degraded to adenosine 5'-  
186 monophosphate (AMP) resulting in energy depletion, and is then converted to IMP by AMP  
187 deaminase, thus increasing the umami flavor of the meat (Dashdorj et al., 2015). In previous  
188 studies, nucleotide levels was also proportional to bird's age (Jayasena et al., 2015b; Xiao et  
189 al., 2019). Therefore, KNC, which has relatively lower growth rate showed higher nucleotides  
190 levels than those of broilers (Kim et al., 2020b). In the present study, the breast meat of KNC-  
191 D and -H had higher IMP levels than WSB and other KNCs. However, that of thigh meat  
192 showed the highest in WSB, which need to investigate further. Newly developed KNC-D  
193 demonstrated an overall improvement in the concentration and composition of both taste-active  
194 and bioactive compounds in the breast meat when compared to commercial KNC-H and WSB  
195 breeds. Additionally, the aspartic acid, glutamic acid, anserine, and creatine content in the thigh  
196 meat was highest in KNC-C and lowest in KNC-H ( $p < 0.05$ ) (Table 1).

197 The aspartic acid and glutamic acid levels were lower in the breast meat samples compared to  
198 those in the thigh meat samples ( $p < 0.0001$ ; Table 1). However, the anserine, carnosine, creatine,  
199 and IMP contents were higher in the breast meat ( $p < 0.0001$ ). These results are consistent with  
200 those reported in previous studies that show that breast meat has higher carnosine content than

201 thigh meat (Jung et al., 2013). The amount of carnosine can vary depending on the cut, sex,  
202 age, and breed of the meat evaluated (Jayasena et al., 2015a; Jung et al., 2013). Several previous  
203 studies have reported similar differences in the metabolites of these two meat portions  
204 (Jayasena et al., 2014a; Jayasena et al., 2015b; Jung et al., 2013). Breast meat primarily  
205 comprises type IIB muscle fibers (fast-twitch glycolytic white fiber) with relatively less type  
206 IIA fibers (fast-twitch oxidative glycolytic white fiber), while thigh meat contains high levels  
207 of type I (slow-twitch oxidative red fiber) and IIA fibers (Jaturasitha et al., 2008). Type II  
208 muscle is known to rely considerably on glycolytic metabolism for its energy supply because  
209 these muscles have fewer mitochondria than those observed in type I muscles (Booth and  
210 Thomason, 1991). This indicates that carnosine accumulation occurs more frequently in type I  
211 muscle fibers compared to that in type II muscle fibers (Jayasena et al., 2015b), thereby  
212 explaining the differences in its concentration in breast and thigh tissues. Taken together, these  
213 data suggest that KNC-D breast meat, which has more taste-active and bioactive compounds,  
214 is the best candidate to replace commercial KNC-H and WSB breeds for *Samgye*.

215

## 216 **Multivariate analysis**

217 Multivariate analysis can easily identify the differences in the metabolic characteristics of  
218 different samples (Ergon, 2004). Our data were classified using PCA and PLS-DA (Fig. 2). The  
219 PCA score plots show that meat portion (breast and thigh) and breed (KNCs and WSB) can be  
220 clearly distinguished by PC 1 (69.3%) and PC 3 (6.8%), respectively (Fig. 2a). This was also  
221 true for the PLS-DA score plots where components 1 and 2 allowed for easy differentiation ( $R^2$   
222 = 0.945;  $Q^2$  = 0.901; data not shown). Additionally, groups were easily distinguished by meat  
223 portion and breeds when using both the cumulative explained variation ( $R^2$ ) and predictive  
224 ability ( $Q^2$ ) values. Most of the metabolites (indicated by yellow dots; VIP scores >1) on the  
225 loading plots could be observed in one of two extremes in PC1, which indicated that more

226 important variables correlated substantially with the meat portion rather than the breed. This  
227 may primarily be the result of the major metabolic differences between type I and type II  
228 muscle fibers and the distinct differences in their distribution between thigh and breast meat  
229 (Jayasena et al., 2015b; Jung et al., 2013).

230 Samples can be arranged in a clustered heatmap based on the similarities in their metabolic  
231 information (Škuta et al., 2014). Here, our clustered heatmap analysis (Fig. 3) showed that  
232 whole metabolic profiles could be used to indicate breed even following hierarchical analysis  
233 by meat portion. WSB samples were completely distinct from the KNC samples, suggesting  
234 that these chickens demonstrated a markedly different metabolism from the KNCs. Different  
235 meat types may have different metabolomes, resulting from different postmortem metabolic  
236 rates (Ryu and Kim, 2005), suggesting that this metabolic information may be used to  
237 differentiate meat samples for meat authenticity using machine learning algorithms, such as  
238 support vector machine (SVM) and random forest classification, which can also be used to  
239 elucidate metabolic differences without performing quantitative analysis (Winning et al., 2008;  
240 Xia and Wishart, 2016). Based on the PCA and clustered heatmap analysis, multivariate ROC  
241 curve analysis was then used to validate the discriminatory value of these differences between  
242 KNCs and WSB in both meat types.

243 Multivariate ROC curve analysis using linear SVM algorithms was evaluated for optimal  
244 model selection (Fig. 4), and the area under the ROC curve (AUC) was shown to be highest  
245 when the model used 10 features with good confidence interval (CI) values. This model  
246 demonstrated excellent overall discriminatory ability ( $>0.90$ ) in both breast and thigh meat  
247 (Muller et al., 2005). Additionally, this model did not exhibit class probability errors and every  
248 sample was correctly classified (type I and type II errors) in both meat types (Fig. 4b and 4e).  
249 The 10 features selected for the breast meat were carnitine, 2-aminoadipic acid, phenylalanine,  
250  $\beta$ -alanine, myo-inositol, betaine, valine, cadaverine, lysine, and N,N-dimethylglycine (Table

251 2). Carnitine is synthesized from lysine and methionine (Kim et al., 2020b), and betaine is  
252 converted into dimethylglycine (Friesen et al., 2007). Likewise, other metabolic pathways may  
253 cause slight differences in the profiles of KNC and WSB breast meat.

254 N,N-dimethylglycine and lysine levels were lower in KNC thigh meat than those in WSB  
255 thigh meat (Table 2), while hypoxanthine content was higher in KNC samples compared to that  
256 in WSB samples, thereby presenting with lower IMP and rapid accumulation. In both the breast  
257 and thigh meat, WSB samples presented with higher amino acid content than the KNCs and  
258 this high concentration of free amino acids might be associated with the higher growth rate;  
259 this might promote faster muscle development in these chickens (Palma et al., 2016). Few  
260 ranked metabolites such as 2-aminoadipic acid and myo-inositol have rarely been reported in  
261 poultry meat. Additionally, metabolites undergo proteolytic enzyme cleavage and nucleotide  
262 degradation during the transition from muscle to meat and metabolic concentrations and end  
263 products can also change depending on the sex, species, and age (Jayasena et al., 2014b; Jung  
264 et al., 2013; Kim et al., 2020a; Ryu and Kim, 2005), suggesting that further analysis may be  
265 necessary to identify critical metabolic properties in these animals. However, despite this, our  
266 data were in agreement with those reported in previous studies which suggested that the  
267 combination of qNMR and multivariate analysis could elucidate metabolic characteristics of  
268 samples in the absence of numerical quantification (Kim et al., 2020a; Kim et al., 2020b;  
269 Winning et al., 2008).

270

## 271 **Conclusion**

272 Our results show that newly developed KNC-D chickens present with higher anserine, creatine,  
273 carnosine, and IMP contents in the breast tissues than those observed in the commercial KNC  
274 and WSB chicken breeds. Meat portion and breed were also clearly distinguishable using PCA

275 and hierarchical analysis based on the 2D HSQC analysis. Moreover, ROC analysis was useful  
276 for distinguishing between different breeds. Based on these results, we suggest that a  
277 metabolomics approach to identify breeds based on 2D HSQC analysis demonstrates superior  
278 performance to the conventional quality assessment tools and can differentiate between breeds  
279 and samples when used as part of a multivariate analysis. However, further analysis is  
280 warranted to determine the exact biomarker necessary to distinguish between each breed.

281

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287

## 288 **Conflict of Interest**

289 The authors declare no potential conflict of interest

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389 Table 1. Taste-active and bioactive compounds (mg/100 g) of breast and thigh meat from white  
 390 semi-broiler (WSB) and Korean native chicken breeds (A, C, D, and H)

Contents <sup>1</sup>		Breed					SEM <sup>2</sup>	Meat portion	
		A	C	D	H	WSB		<i>P</i> -value	<i>F</i> -value
Asp	Breast	9.98 <sup>b</sup>	10.86 <sup>b</sup>	12.88 <sup>a</sup>	12.52 <sup>a</sup>	11.44 <sup>ab</sup>	0.499	<0.0001	188.00
	Thigh	21.33 <sup>ab</sup>	22.98 <sup>a</sup>	19.77 <sup>b</sup>	18.72 <sup>b</sup>	18.66 <sup>b</sup>	0.816		
Glu	Breast	30.44 <sup>c</sup>	35.09 <sup>b</sup>	39.49 <sup>a</sup>	37.99 <sup>ab</sup>	38.07 <sup>ab</sup>	1.042	<0.0001	36.66
	Thigh	42.90 <sup>b</sup>	54.69 <sup>a</sup>	43.54 <sup>b</sup>	42.25 <sup>b</sup>	45.34 <sup>b</sup>	0.721		
Ans	Breast	616.54 <sup>c</sup>	696.03 <sup>a</sup>	652.69 <sup>b</sup>	584.07 <sup>d</sup>	588.58 <sup>d</sup>	8.041	<0.0001	1226.10
	Thigh	188.42 <sup>b</sup>	216.65 <sup>a</sup>	216.67 <sup>a</sup>	198.29 <sup>b</sup>	191.53 <sup>b</sup>	2.993		
Car	Breast	280.53 <sup>c</sup>	277.30 <sup>c</sup>	346.76 <sup>a</sup>	304.49 <sup>bc</sup>	328.57 <sup>ab</sup>	11.503	<0.0001	425.41
	Thigh	83.63 <sup>d</sup>	97.87 <sup>c</sup>	123.03 <sup>ab</sup>	115.83 <sup>b</sup>	128.74 <sup>a</sup>	2.793		
Cre	Breast	334.84 <sup>bc</sup>	335.32 <sup>b</sup>	357.16 <sup>a</sup>	321.91 <sup>c</sup>	333.46 <sup>bc</sup>	3.931	<0.0001	24.29
	Thigh	300.26 <sup>c</sup>	333.25 <sup>a</sup>	317.19 <sup>b</sup>	282.81 <sup>d</sup>	302.86 <sup>bc</sup>	4.690		
IMP	Breast	134.95 <sup>bc</sup>	135.96 <sup>bc</sup>	144.11 <sup>a</sup>	141.59 <sup>ab</sup>	133.04 <sup>c</sup>	2.461	<0.0001	292.49
	Thigh	73.27 <sup>d</sup>	66.08 <sup>e</sup>	86.20 <sup>b</sup>	79.90 <sup>c</sup>	98.59 <sup>a</sup>	1.118		

391 <sup>1</sup> Asp, aspartic acid; Glu, glutamic acid; Ans, anserine; Car, carnosine; Cre, creatine; IMP,  
 392 inosine 5'-monophosphate.

393 <sup>2</sup> Standard error of the means (n=15).

394 <sup>a-d</sup> Different letters in the same row indicate a significant difference (p<0.05).

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398 Table 2. Selected ranked features of multivariate receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve  
 399 of breast meat from different Korean native chicken breeds (KNCs) compared with white semi-  
 400 broiler (WSB).

Class	Compounds	T-tests	Log <sub>2</sub> Fold Change (KNCs/WSB)
<i>Breast meat</i>			
Amino acid	Carnitine	< 0.001	-0.927
Amino acid	2-Aminoadipic acid	< 0.001	-0.540
Amino acid	Phenylalanine	< 0.001	-1.392
Amino acid	β-Alanine	< 0.05	-1.024
Vitamin	Myo-inositol	< 0.001	0.159
Amino acid	Betaine	< 0.01	-0.277
Amino acid	Valine	< 0.01	0.267
Alkylamines	Cadaverine	< 0.05	-0.141
Amino acid	Lysine	< 0.05	-0.158
Amino acid	N,N-Dimethylglycine	< 0.05	-0.469
<i>Thigh meat</i>			
Nucleotide	Hypoxanthine	< 0.001	0.579
Carbohydrates	β-Glucose	< 0.001	0.467
Carbohydrates	α-Glucose	< 0.001	-0.580
Amino acid	N,N-Dimethylglycine	< 0.001	-0.464
Amino acid	Lysine	< 0.001	-0.378
Organic acids	Lactic acid	< 0.001	-0.222
Amino acid	Glutamine	< 0.01	-0.189
Amino acid	Methionine	< 0.01	0.953
Amino acid	Threonine	< 0.01	-0.153
Amino acid	Tryptophan	< 0.01	-2.148

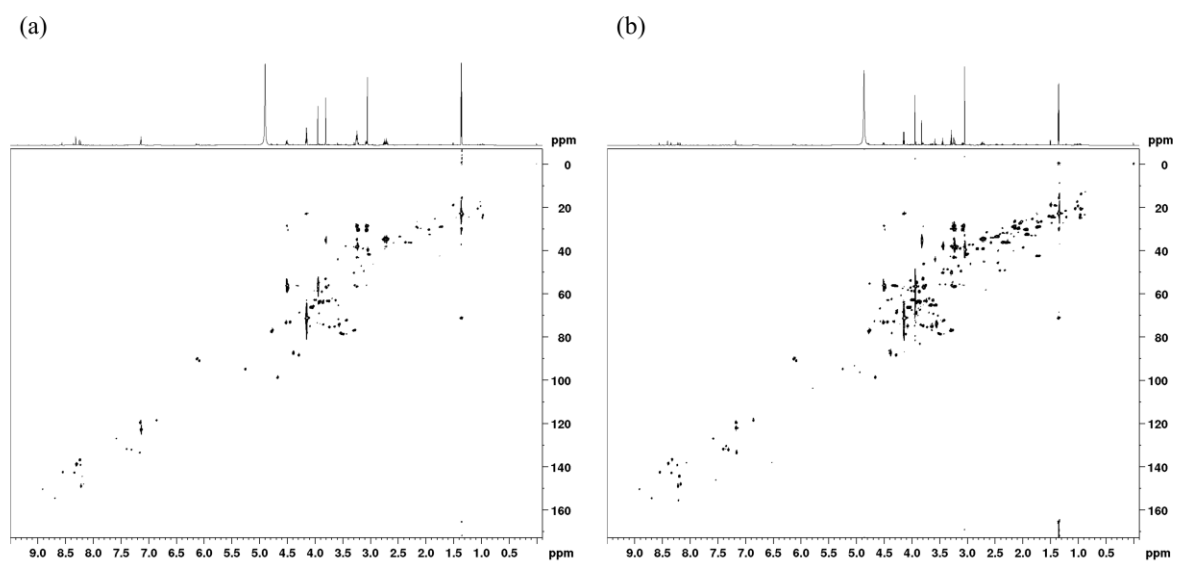
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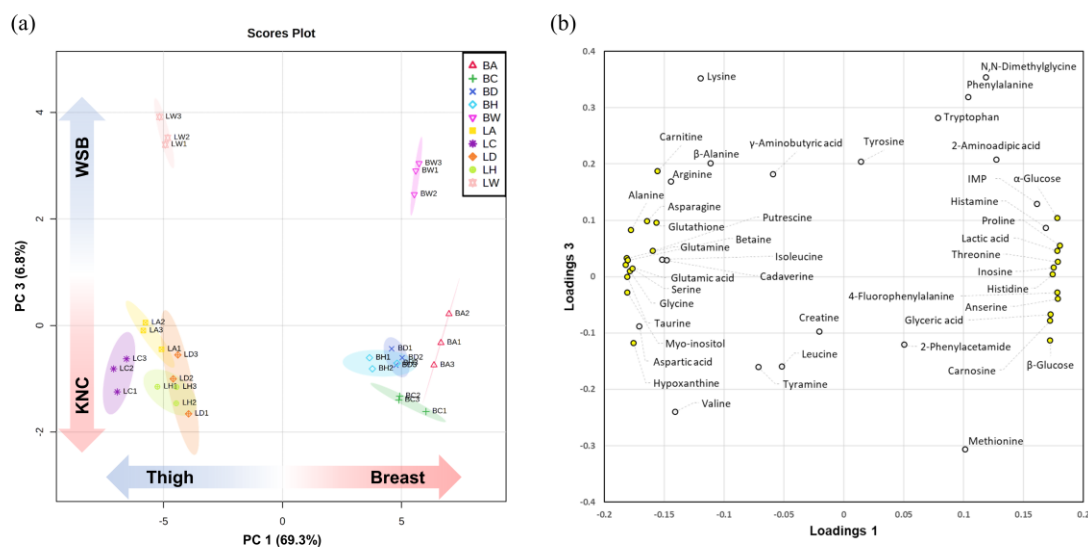


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407 Figure 1. 1D  $^1\text{H}$  and 2D heteronuclear single quantum coherence (HSQC) NMR spectra from

408 (A) breast and (B) thigh meat extracts on 850 MHz cryo-NMR spectrometer.

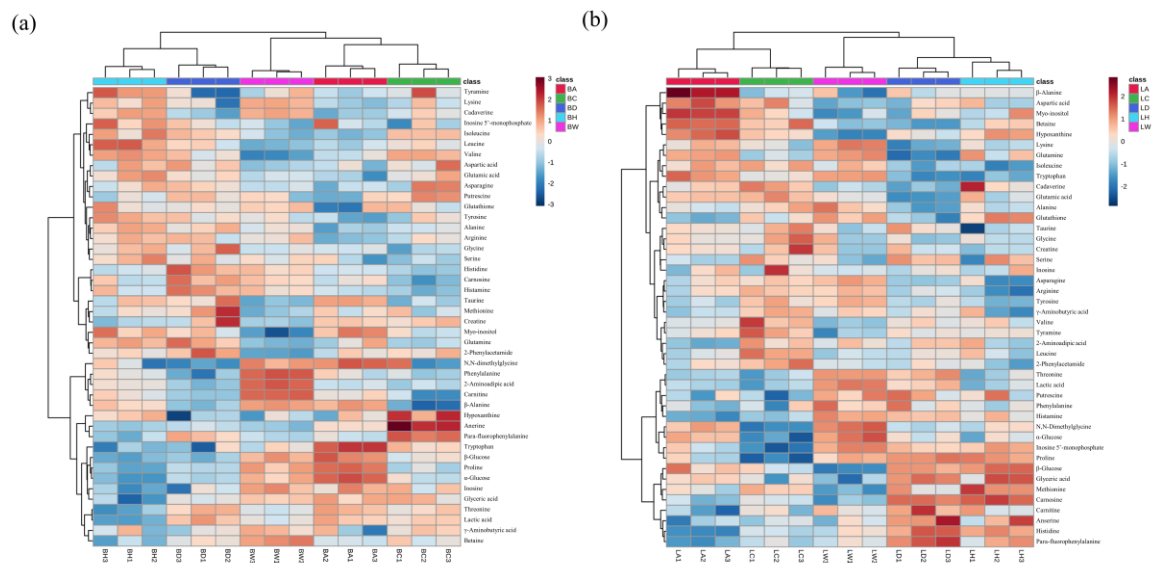
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411 Figure 2. (A) Principal component analysis (PCA) and (B) loading plots of partial least squares-  
 412 discriminant analysis (PLS-DA) from quantified metabolites of whole chicken meat extracts  
 413 using 2D NMR (heteronuclear single quantum coherence, HSQC) on 850 MHz cryo-NMR  
 414 spectrometer. Highlighted variates (yellow dots) on loading plot mean variance importance on  
 415 projection (VIP) score > 1.

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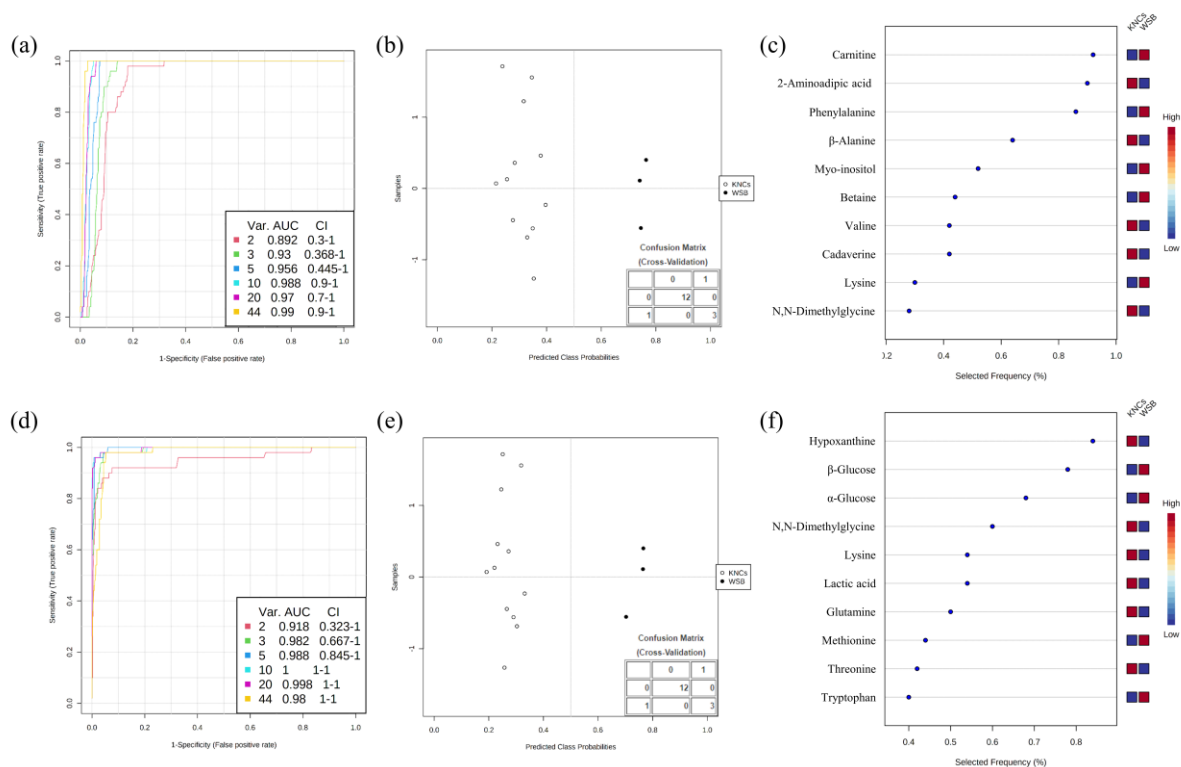


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418 Figure 3. Heatmap analysis based on the quantified metabolites from (A) breast and (B) thigh  
 419 meat extracts using 2D NMR (heteronuclear single quantum coherence, HSQC) on 850 MHz  
 420 cryo-NMR spectrometer.

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423 Figure 4. Receiver operating characteristic curves (2 to 44 variables), class probabilities, and  
 424 the most importance features from (A-C) breast and (D-F) thigh meat extracts using 2D NMR  
 425 (heteronuclear single quantum coherence, HSQC) on 850 MHz cryo-NMR spectrometer.

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