

<https://helda.helsinki.fi>

Metabolite profile based on H-1 NMR of broiler chicken breasts affected by wooden breast myodegeneration

Wang, Ying

2020-04-25

Wang , Y , Yang , Y , He , J , Cao , J , Wang , H & Ertbjerg , P 2020 , ' Metabolite profile based on H-1 NMR of broiler chicken breasts affected by wooden breast myodegeneration ' , Food Chemistry , vol. 310 , 125852 . <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2019.125852>

<http://hdl.handle.net/10138/327488>

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foodchem.2019.125852>

cc_by_nc_nd

acceptedVersion

Downloaded from Helda, University of Helsinki institutional repository.

This is an electronic reprint of the original article.

This reprint may differ from the original in pagination and typographic detail.

Please cite the original version.

1 **Metabolite profile based on ¹H NMR of broiler chicken breasts affected by**
2 **wooden breast myodegeneration**

3 Ying Wang^{1,2}, Yang Yang¹, Daodong Pan^{1,2}, Jun He¹, Jinxuan Cao^{1,3*},

4 Per Ertbjerg^{3,*}

5 ¹State Key Laboratory for Quality and Safety of Agro-products, Ningbo University,
6 Ningbo, 315211, China

7 ² Key Laboratory of Animal Protein Food Processing Technology of Zhejiang
8 Province, Ningbo University, Ningbo, 315211, China

9 ³ Department of Food and Nutrition, University of Helsinki, Helsinki 00014, Finland

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23 **Running title:** Metabolite profile of chicken affected by wooden breast

24 *Corresponding author: caojinxuan@nbu.edu.cn (J. Cao), TEL: +086-18758823803

25 *Corresponding author: per.ertbjerg@helsinki.fi (P. Ertbjerg), TEL: +358 503183909

Abstract

26 The objective was to characterize the effect of wooden breast (WB)
27 myodegeneration on the metabolite profile of chicken meat by ¹H NMR and
28 multivariate data analysis. The results displayed that the metabonome of chicken
29 breast consisted predominantly of 30 metabolites, including amino acids, organic
30 acids, carbohydrates, alkaloids, nucleosides and their derivatives. WB-affected
31 samples showed higher leucine, valine, alanine, glutamate, lysine, lactate, succinate,
32 taurine, glucose, and 5'-IMP levels, but lower histidine, β-alanine, acetate, creatine,
33 creatinine, anserine and nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide levels compared to normal
34 fillets ($p < 0.05$). In conclusion, results indicated that WB-affected fillets possessed a
35 unique biochemical signature. This unique profile could identify candidate biomarkers
36 for diagnostic utilization and provide mechanistic insight into biochemical processes
37 leading to WB myopathy in commercial broiler chickens.

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49 **Keywords:** chicken breast; wooden breast; metabolite profile; NMR; multivariate
50 data analysis

51 1 Introduction

52 Wooden breast (WB) is an emerging myopathy in fast growing broiler chickens
53 (high breast yielding birds), macroscopically considered as hardness and paleness of
54 *pectoralis major* muscle, and is often accompanied with white striping (Sihvo, Lindén,
55 Airas, Immonen, Valaja, & Puolanne, 2017). WB lesion areas are histologically
56 characterized by chronic myodegeneration with interstitial edema and regeneration,
57 and loose connective tissue accumulation (fibrosis) (Sihvo, Immonen, & Puolanne,
58 2014). White striping shares some histological features with WB, and is characterized
59 by pale striations running parallel to the breast muscle fibers (Kuttappan, Shivaprasad,
60 Shaw, Valentine, Hargis, Clark, et al., 2013). The underlying mechanisms leading to
61 WB are still unclear.

62 Sandercock, Barker, Mitchell, and Hocking (2009) reported that genetic selection
63 for broiler features could involve changes of cell cations, especially calcium, which
64 seemed to be related to myopathic changes. Soglia, Zeng, Gao, Puolanne, Cavani,
65 Petracci, and Ertbjerg (2018) observed an increase in free calcium in WB muscles at
66 day 7 postmortem. Huang, Ren, Jiang, Xiao, and Lei (2015) found that selenium
67 deficiency was a reason for oxidative damage leading to myodegeneration in birds.
68 Previous studies indicated that white striping was related to heavy birds and a fast
69 growth rate (Bauermeister, Morey, Moran, Singh, Owens, & McKee, 2009; Kuttappan,
70 Brewer, Apple, Waldroup, & Owens, 2012). Because of its healthy nutritional profile,
71 mild flavor and excellent tenderness, chicken breast targets different groups of
72 consumers. However, the WB and white striping myopathies may contribute to the
73 appearance of metabolic and structural abnormalities and have a substantial influence
74 on meat quality (Mudalal, Lorenzi, Soglia, Cavani, & Petracci, 2015; Petracci &
75 Cavani, 2012). A great deal of attention has been paid to the effect of WB on quality

76 traits, such as texture and processing characteristics (Mudalal et al., 2015; Soglia,
77 Mudalal, Babini, Nunzio, Mazzoni, Sirri, et al., 2015). Chicken meat, which was
78 affected by WB or both WB and white striping myopathies, showed poor texture and
79 reduced water holding ability (Mudalal et al., 2015; Petracci, Mudalal, Bonfiglio, &
80 Cavani, 2013). Especially the superficial layer of WB-affected fillets was harder than
81 that of normal fillets (Soglia, Gao, Mazzoni, Puolanne, Cavani, Petracci, and Ertbjerg,
82 2017). Nevertheless, no information is currently available on how the WB myopathy
83 is associated with changes in metabolites that can induce the special histological
84 changes of chicken breast.

85 As a technique for acquiring the metabolite profile, nuclear magnetic resonance
86 (NMR) spectroscopy has made great breakthroughs in the last decade and has been
87 developed as a superior tool for high-throughput and reliable metabolomics analysis
88 in the fields of nutrition and food science (Graham, Kennedy, Chevallier, Gordon,
89 Farmer, Elliott, et al., 2010). Particularly, NMR spectroscopy has been applied to
90 obtain metabolite profiles of meat samples. Castejón, García-Segura, Escudero,
91 Herrera, and Cambero (2015) explored changes in the metabolite profile of beef
92 during storage through ^1H NMR spectroscopy. Chen, Ye, Chen, Zhan, and Lou (2017)
93 used ^1H NMR-based metabolomics to analyze molecular nutritional properties of
94 vinasse pike eel. Liu, Pan, Ye, and Cao (2013) reported the relationship between age
95 and the quality of duck meat by ^1H NMR. These studies highlighted the significance
96 of the metabolite profile in the quality evaluation of meat. In addition, Chung et al.
97 (2005) found that the levels of metabolites in urine, such as creatine,
98 choline-containing compounds, betaine and glycine, increased in patients with
99 juvenile idiopathic inflammatory myopathies. Metabolic myopathies caused by
100 defects in cellular energy metabolism comprise a clinically and etiologically diverse

101 group of disorders (Berardo, DiMauro, & Hirano, 2010). Sugie, Tsurui, Sugie, and
102 Igarashi (1990) clearly detected a defect in the glycolytic pathway by ^1H NMR,
103 suggesting that ^1H NMR spectroscopy is useful for the analysis of metabolic
104 myopathies.

105 In the present study, ^1H NMR-based metabonomics was combined with
106 multivariate data analysis to analyze the metabolite profiles of chicken breast within
107 different degrees of WB myodegeneration. The objective of this work was to
108 characterize the biochemical markers of WB myodegeneration through
109 high-throughput metabolomics profile of breast muscle isolated from no, moderate
110 and severe WB samples.

111 **2 Materials and methods**

112 2.1 Sample selection and preparation

113 Ross 708 broilers from University of Helsinki experimental farm were killed at
114 the age of 38 d by cervical dislocation. The birds were raised in penned groups and
115 fed ad libitum. Ethical permission for the experiment was issued by the Research
116 Animal Resources Committee of the University of Helsinki. The *Pectoralis major*
117 breast muscles were palpated and visual evaluated within 30 min after slaughter and
118 categorized according to the severity of WB abnormality. Those with hardened,
119 out-bulging and pale area in the cranial end of the fillet were identified as WB, while
120 the softer ones with normal appearance were categorized as normal. Consistent with
121 the criteria proposed by Sihvo et al. (2014), breast fillets were then graded into 3
122 classes consisting of normal (N), moderate (M), or severe (S) based on the severity of
123 the condition. Those with hardness in a local muscle area were categorized as
124 moderate WB and those where a major part of the muscle was affected was
125 categorized as severe. Each group was sampled to consist of 10 muscles. [A core](#)

126 samples of 15 g from each breast muscles was sampled, frozen in liquid nitrogen,
127 powdered, mixed, freeze dried and stored at -80°C until further processed for
128 extraction of metabolites. Two g of freeze dried powder from each group was
129 processed in ten replicates for extraction of metabolites and NMR analysis.

130 2.2 Metabolites extraction

131 The extraction of metabolites was according to our previous methods (Yang, Ye,
132 Wang, Sun, Pan, Cao, 2018). Briefly, chicken breast sample was homogenized with
133 methanol/water (2:1, v/v) for 90 s at 20 Hz. After centrifugation at 12,000 g for 10
134 min at 4 °C, the supernatant of the homogenate was acquired. The same extraction
135 processing was repeated once. The two resultant supernatant extracts were combined
136 and condensed in vacuum for removing methanol. After lyophilization, the sample
137 was dissolved by phosphate buffer with 99.9% D₂O, and 0.005% sodium
138 3-trimethylsilyl [2, 2, 3, 3-d₄] propionate. After centrifugation, 550 µL supernatant of
139 each extract was used for NMR analysis in a 5 mm NMR tube.

140 2.3 NMR analysis

141 The NMR analysis and NMR signal assignment were according to our previous
142 methods (Yang et al., 2018). ¹H NMR spectra of the chicken breast extracts were
143 obtained at 298 K on a Bruker Avance 600 MHz Spectrometer equipped with an
144 inverse detection probe (Bruker Biospin, Rheinstetten, Germany). For each sample, a
145 standard NOESYGPPR1D pulse sequence was applied to acquire chicken breast
146 metabolite profiles with a weak irradiation during a 2 s recycle delay and a 100 ms
147 mixing time to suppress the water signal. A 90° pulse length was set to 10 µs. A total
148 of 32 scans were collected into 32 k data points with a spectral width of 20 ppm. For
149 NMR signal assignment purposes, a catalogue of two-dimensional NMR spectra were
150 obtained for selected samples and processed following a previously reported method

151 (Yang et al., 2018), including ^1H - ^1H correlation spectroscopy (COSY), ^1H - ^1H total
152 correlation spectroscopy (TOCSY), ^1H - ^{13}C heteronuclear single quantum correlation
153 (HSQC), and ^1H - ^{13}C heteronuclear multiple bond correlation spectra (HMBC).

154 2.4 Data analysis

155 The multivariate data analysis (principal component analysis, PCA), orthogonal
156 projection to latent structure with discriminant analysis (OPLS-DA) and quantitative
157 analysis of chicken breast metabolites were performed according to our previous
158 methods (Zhang, Ye, Sun, Pan, Ou, Dang, et al., 2018). After phase and baseline
159 corrections, the ^1H NMR spectra (δ 9.0-0.8) were integrated into regions with a 2.4
160 Hz width of (0.004 ppm). The regions containing the methanol signals (δ 3.37-3.35)
161 were excluded. Each bucketed region was normalized to the total sum of spectral
162 integral to offset for the whole concentration difference. Afterwards, the normalized
163 NMR datasets were analyzed with multivariate data analysis (SIMCA-P+ software,
164 version 12.0, Umetrics, Sweden). Principal component analysis (PCA) was performed
165 utilizing mean-centered scaling, and the PCA results were displayed as the scores and
166 loading plots; each point in the former showed an individual sample, while the latter
167 showed the magnitude and manners of the NMR signals (thus metabolites) to
168 classification. The orthogonal projection to latent structure with discriminant analysis
169 (OPLS-DA) was sequentially performed using the unit variance-scaled NMR data. All
170 of OPLS-DA models were validated using a cross validation-analysis of variance
171 method (CV-ANOVA) with $p < 0.05$ as significant level (Eriksson, Trygg, & Wold,
172 2008). The OPLS-DA results were also visualized in the scores and coefficient plot.
173 The loading in the coefficient plot presented the changed metabolites associated with
174 WB myodegeneration, and were acquired by a back-scaled transformation and plotted
175 with a color-coded correlation coefficient with version 7.1 of MATLAB (MathWorks,

176 Natick, MA, USA). In this study, $|r| > 0.602$ ($r > 0.602$ and $r < -0.602$) was utilized as
177 an absolute cut-off value for the statistical significance ($p < 0.05$).

178 For quantitative analysis of chicken breast metabolites, metabolite content was
179 calculated by equating the integrals of non-overlapping NMR signals related to that of
180 internal reference (TSP) with known concentration. The obtained metabolite content
181 data was carried out using the one-way ANOVA procedure (Duncan's Multiple Range
182 Test) with the SAS 8.0 software.

183 **3. Results and discussion**

184 3.1 ^1H NMR spectra of chicken breast extract

185 Figure 1 shows representative ^1H NMR spectra of chicken breast muscle extracts
186 from no (A), moderate (B) and severe (C) WB samples. Resonances were identified
187 by a series of 2D NMR spectra (Table 1). The metabonome of chicken breast muscle
188 contained 30 metabolites, including 15 amino acids (leucine, isoleucine, valine,
189 alanine, threonine, glutamate, glutamine, methionine, lysine, β -alanine, tyrosine,
190 glycine, histidine, phenylalanine and taurine), 6 organic acids (lactate, acetate,
191 succinate, creatine, creatinine and taurine), 2 carbohydrates (sucrose and glucose), 2
192 alkaloids (phosphorylcholine and betaine), and 3 nucleosides and their derivatives
193 (inosine, 5'-IMP and hypoxanthine). These spectra indicated that the contents of
194 metabolites of chicken breast muscles were affected by the WB myopathy. For
195 instance, WB fillets had higher contents of lactate, glucose and 5'-IMP compared to
196 normal fillets.

197 3.2 Effects of WB myodegeneration on the metabolite profile of chicken breast

198 In order to acquire an insight of the effect of WB myodegeneration on the
199 metabolite profile of chicken breast muscles, PCA was conducted on the NMR
200 spectral data. PC1 and PC2 explained a total of 65.0 and 23.6% of variables,

201 respectively. The PCA score plot (Figure 2) shows a clear variation in metabolite
202 profile affected by WB. The no (A), moderate (B), and severe (C) WB samples were
203 thus unambiguously divided into three distinctive groups based on their metabolite
204 profile.

205 To further investigate the WB-associated change in metabolites, coupled
206 comparative OPLS-DA created from the spectral data of no and moderate WB
207 samples (Figure 3a), no and severe WB samples (Figure 3b), moderate and severe WB
208 samples (Figure 3c) was performed. The OPLS-DA results were displayed as
209 cross-validated score plots (Figure 3, left) and corresponding coefficient plots (Figure
210 3, right). R^2 and Q^2 values demonstrated reasonable qualities for the 3 OPLS-DA
211 models (Figure 3, left). The results of Duncan's Multiple Range Test were displayed
212 by p values. The coefficient plots of OPLS-DA (Figure 3, right) revealed a significant
213 difference of metabolites between no WB, moderate WB and severe WB. The
214 correlation coefficients of metabolites were greater than 0.602, which was regarded to
215 be significant ($p < 0.05$).

216 Table 2 shows the corresponding correlation coefficients for most metabolites.
217 Compared with normal fillets, severe WB revealed significantly higher levels of
218 leucine, isoleucine, valine, alanine, threonine, glutamate, glutamine, lysine, glycine,
219 lactate, succinate, taurine, glucose, betaine and 5'-IMP, but contained less acetate,
220 creatine, creatinine, β -alanine, histidine, sucrose and nicotinamide adenine
221 dinucleotide (NAD) by the coefficients ($|r| > 0.602$). Moderate WB displayed similar
222 metabolites to severe WB, with the exception of isoleucine, leucine, valine, glutamine,
223 glycine, acetate, taurine and sucrose. In order to acquire more information of the
224 change of metabolites in WB-affected samples, an absolute quantification of
225 metabolites was performed (Table 2). Leucine, valine, alanine, glutamate, lysine,

226 glycine, lactate, succinate, taurine, glucose, sucrose, phosphorylcholine, 5'-IMP,
227 hypoxanthine and nicotinamide content were at significantly higher levels in moderate
228 WB than in normal ($p < 0.05$), while histidine, β -alanine, phenylalanine, tyrosine,
229 acetate, creatine, creatinine, betaine, inosine, anserine and NAD were at lower
230 concentrations in moderate WB than in normal ($p < 0.05$). Severe WB had similar
231 change for these metabolites compared with moderate WB except for glycine,
232 phenylalanine, tyrosine, sucrose and betaine ($p < 0.05$). These findings were similar to
233 the OPLS-DA results.

234 WB myodegeneration has significantly influenced the muscle health and meat
235 quality of broiler chickens. Many authors hypothesized that a high growth rate of
236 broiler chickens is associated to the development this myodegeneration (Mudalal et al.,
237 2015; Petracci & Cavani, 2012). Mutryn, Brannick, Fu, Lee, and Abasht (2015)
238 suggested various contributing factors to the myopathy such as an increase of
239 intracellular calcium, localized muscular hypoxia and oxidative stress damages. In
240 this study, we attempted to clarify major metabolic differences between the WB
241 myopathy and healthy chickens, and to further characterize biomarkers of this
242 myopathy. High levels of valine, leucine and isoleucine in WB-affected samples can
243 be candidate biomarkers of extracellular matrix remodeling related to changes in
244 muscle tissue (Abasht, Mutryn, Michalek, & Lee, 2016). The changes in muscle tissue
245 of WB birds can also be related to the appearance of fibrosis (loose connective tissue
246 accumulation) (Sihvo, Immonen, & Puolanne, 2014). The contents of histidine and
247 glutamate were higher than those of other amino acids in the extracts of WB-affected
248 and unaffected chickens, which indicated that histidine and glutamate may be the
249 most important amino acids in the characteristic metabolite profile of chickens.
250 Histidine with anti-oxidant and anti-inflammatory properties is a semi-essential amino

251 acid. WB myopathy significantly decreased the content of histidine, suggesting that
252 the WB condition was related to oxidative stress. In agreement, Bao, Boeren, &
253 Ertbjerg (2018) observed decreased histidine content of porcine myofibrils following
254 protein oxidation. In population studies, low level of histidine has been related to
255 chronic kidney disease patients (Watanabe, Suliman, Qureshi, Garcia-Lopez, Bárány,
256 Heimbürger, et al., 2008) and oxidative stress and inflammation in obese women (Niu,
257 Feng, Hou, Li, Kang, Wang, et al., 2012). Yu et al. (2015) found that high level of
258 blood histidine was correlated with risk reduction of developing incident coronary
259 heart disease. Glutamate, the primary excitatory neurotransmitter, is responsible for
260 adjusting a wide range of nervous system functions by glutamate receptors. Glutamate
261 plays an important role in normal central nervous system synaptic function (Choi,
262 Maulucci-Gedde, & Kriegstein, 1987). WB myopathy significantly elevated the
263 content of glutamate. The increased level of glutamate can lead to neurotoxicity in the
264 synaptic cleft (Maragakis & Rothstein, 2004).

265 Lactate, a mild acid, is the product of glycogenolysis and glycolysis (Chen, Ye,
266 Chen, & Yan, 2016). Mudalal et al. (2015) reported that WB-affected chickens
267 showed higher ultimate pH values compared to unaffected birds. They suggested that
268 these abnormalities may potentially decrease the levels of glycogen in the muscle. As
269 previously reported by Berri et al. (2001 & 2007), postmortem lactate production,
270 which is a main factor affecting ultimate pH, can be limited due to low glycogen
271 content of the muscle. Lactate accumulation, noninvasively evaluated by magnetic
272 resonance spectroscopy, can occur in diseased muscle (Nirkko, Rösler, & Slotboom,
273 2006). Berardo, DiMauro, and Hirano (2010) reported that lactate was elevated in
274 most mitochondrial disease patients with sporadic isolated myopathies and exercise
275 intolerance. In addition, Pal, Parker, and Costello (2009) found that elevated lactate

276 in liver was associated with liver damage and disease. Creatine, synthesized in the
277 kidney, liver and pancreas, is taken up by muscle cells involving an active transport
278 mechanism. Creatine is a key constituent of the energy transfer process in several
279 tissues, especially those characterized by the transportation of high-energy phosphate
280 to ADP in muscle cells (Wyss & Kaddurah-Daouk, 2000). Moderate and severe WB
281 contained a significantly higher ratio of creatine:creatinine compared with no WB.
282 Chung et al. (2005) found that urinary creatine:creatinine ratio was significantly
283 higher in patients with juvenile idiopathic inflammatory myopathy than in controls.
284 Furthermore, they reported that the creatine:creatinine ratio was correlated strongly
285 with physician-assessed global disease damage. This ratio may have potential use as a
286 signature of myositis disease damage. Taurine, a sulfur-containing amino acid, was
287 commonly generated in tissues exposed to high levels of oxidants. Inherited or
288 acquired myopathies characterized by metabolic changes, as well as alteration in
289 calcium homeostasis, have been associated with change in muscle taurine content
290 (Camerino, Tricarico, Pierno, Desaphy, Liantonio, Pusch, et al., 2004). Previous
291 studies reported that an increase of taurine was associated with growth enhancement
292 of broilers (Lee, Cheng, Chuang, Shive, Lian, Wei, et al., 2004). Taurine has short-
293 and long-term actions in the control of calcium homeostasis and ion channel function
294 in striated fibers (Camerino et al., 2004). Taurine has marked antioxidant activities
295 and protective effects, and has been shown to be able to elicit neuroprotection and
296 reduce apoptosis (Gharibani et al., 2013). Li et al. (2017) reported that an increased
297 level of taurine in liver tissues could play a role to replenish damaged phospholipid
298 membranes induced by reactive oxygen species, thus representing a self-repair
299 mechanism. The increase of taurine in WB-affected chickens could, therefore, be
300 related to a self-protection mechanism to inhibit cellular damage due to oxidative

301 stress.

302 Betaine, a source of methyl groups, is essential as a tissue osmolyte. Betaine and
303 phosphorylcholine are metabolic end products of choline metabolism.
304 Choline-containing compounds are essential constituents of cell membrane
305 metabolism and are synthesized in the liver (Zeisel, Da, Franklin, Alexander, Lamont,
306 Sheard, et al., 2000). Betaine may affect the characteristics of chicken meat and its
307 growth rate. The level of betaine in severe WB was higher than it was in no WB.
308 More betaine can enhance the growth of broiler chickens and delay the impacts of
309 lipid metabolism (Lever & Slow, 2010). Anserine, which has been found in muscle
310 tissues of most vertebrates, has been shown to have antioxidant properties and
311 buffering capacity (Peiretti, Medana, Visentin, Dal Bello, & Meineri, 2012). The
312 decreased level of anserine in WB-affected samples suggests reduced antioxidant
313 protection. The level of 5'-IMP in WB-affected chickens was higher than that in no
314 WB. Annandale, Valberg, and Essén-Gustavsson (2005) found that an increased
315 content of 5'-IMP without depletion of ATP, in individual horse muscle fibers with
316 polysaccharide storage myopathy during submaximal exercise, may lead to the
317 development of rhabdomyolysis and exercise intolerance. Weaver and Kim (2014)
318 reported that an increased level of 5'-IMP in the diet of young pigs could reduce
319 postweaning stress and enhance growth performance. NAD, one of the most
320 important coenzymes in the cell, is important in cell regulation and metabolic
321 reactions in all organisms. Its function as a cofactor is well-established in redox
322 reactions. NAD is generated from tryptophan or aspartic acid (the *de novo* pathway)
323 in organisms. In the salvage pathway, it is produced by recycling degraded NAD
324 products such as nicotinamide. NAD also plays vital roles in longevity, transcriptional
325 regulation, DNA repair, age-associated diseases and calorie-restriction-mediated

326 life-span extension (Lin & Guarente, 2003). The decreased content of NAD in
327 WB-affected chickens could lead to oxidative stress and impair self-repair.

328 In general, our findings suggested that WB-affected chickens possessed
329 biological markers of oxidative stress and muscle degradation. Based on these results,
330 we hypothesize that the wooden breast myopathy is related to deficiency of histidine,
331 anserine and NAD, excessive formation of lactate, 5'-IMP and glutamate, and a high
332 ratio of creatine:creatinine.

333 **4. Conclusions**

334 WB myodegeneration in commercial broiler chickens was associated with a
335 unique metabolic signature, which could have diagnostic potential. The deficiency of
336 reduced substances could cause oxidative stress and impair self-repair in WB-affected
337 muscle. Although the exact pathogenesis of the WB disease at present is unknown,
338 our study provides important information related to biochemical markers involved in
339 the etiology of WB myodegeneration.

340 The work provides the basic information to develop a potentially successful
341 strategy to reduce WB by increasing the level of certain metabolites (histidine,
342 anserine and NAD) or inhibiting accumulation of certain metabolites (lactate, 5'-IMP
343 and glutamate).

344 **Acknowledgements**

345 This work was supported by National Natural Science Foundation of China
346 (31471681), Science Foundation of Zhejiang Province (LR18C200003), Modern
347 Agricultural Technical System Foundation (CARS-43-17), and K.C.Wong Magna
348 Fund in Ningbo University.

349 **References**

350 Abasht, B., Mutryn, M. F., Michalek, R. D., & Lee, W. R. (2016). Oxidative stress and

-
- 351 metabolic perturbations in wooden breast disorder in chickens. *PLoS One*,
352 *11*(4), e0153750.
- 353 Annandale, E. J., Valberg, S. J., & Essén-Gustavsson, B. (2005). Effects of
354 submaximal exercise on adenine nucleotide concentrations in skeletal muscle
355 fibers of horses with polysaccharide storage myopathy. *American journal of*
356 *veterinary research*, *66*(5), 839-845.
- 357 Bao, Y., Boeren, S., Ertbjerg, P. (2018) Myofibrillar protein oxidation affects filament
358 charges, aggregation and water-holding. *Meat Science*, *135*, 102-108
- 359 Bauermeister, L., Morey, A., Moran, E., Singh, M., Owens, C., & McKee, S. (2009).
360 Occurrence of white striping in chicken breast fillets in relation to broiler size.
361 *Poult. Sci*, *88*(Suppl 1), 33.
- 362 Berardo, A., DiMauro, S., & Hirano, M. (2010). A diagnostic algorithm for metabolic
363 myopathies. *Current neurology and neuroscience reports*, *10*(2), 118-126.
- 364 Berri, C., Wacrenier, N., Millet, N., & Le Bihan-Duval, E. (2001). Effect of selection
365 for improved body composition on muscle and meat characteristics of broilers
366 from experimental and commercial lines. *Poultry Science*, *80*(7), 833-838.
- 367 Berri, C., Le Bihan-Duval, E., Debut, M., Santé-Lhoutellier, V., Baéza, E., Gigaud, V.,
368 Jégo, Y., & Duclos, M. J. (2007). Consequence of muscle hypertrophy on
369 characteristics of Pectoralis major muscle and breast meat quality of broiler
370 chickens. *Journal of Animal Science*, *85*(8), 2005-2011.
- 371 Camerino, D. C., Tricarico, D., Pierno, S., Desaphy, J. F., Liantonio, A., Pusch, M.,
372 Burdi, R., Camerino, C., Fraysse, B., & De Luca, A. (2004). Taurine and
373 Skeletal Muscle Disorders. *Neurochemical Research*, *29*(1), 135-142.
- 374 Castejón, D., García-Segura, J. M., Escudero, R., Herrera, A., & Cambero, M. I.
375 (2015). Metabolomics of meat exudate: Its potential to evaluate beef meat

-
- 376 conservation and aging. *Analytica Chimica Acta*, 901, 1-11.
- 377 Chen, D., Ye, Y., Chen, J., & Yan, X. (2016). Evolution of metabolomics profile of
378 crab paste during fermentation. *Food Chemistry*, 192, 886-892.
- 379 Chen, D., Ye, Y., Chen, J., Zhan, P., & Lou, Y. (2017). Molecular nutritional
380 characteristics of vinasse pike eel (*Muraenesox cinereus*) during pickling.
381 *Food Chemistry*, 224, 359-364.
- 382 Choi, D. W., Maulucci-Gedde, M., & Kriegstein, A. R. (1987). Glutamate
383 neurotoxicity in cortical cell culture. *The Journal of Neuroscience*, 7(2), 357.
- 384 Chung, Y. L., Rider, L., Bell, J. D., Summers, R., Zemel, L., Rennebohm, R., Passo,
385 M., Hicks, J., Miller, F., & Scott, D. (2005). Muscle metabolites, detected in
386 urine by proton spectroscopy, correlate with disease damage in juvenile
387 idiopathic inflammatory myopathies. *Arthritis Care & Research: Official
388 Journal of the American College of Rheumatology*, 53(4), 565-570.
- 389 Fan, T. W. M. (1996). Metabolite profiling by one- and two-dimensional NMR
390 analysis of complex mixtures. *Progress in Nuclear Magnetic Resonance
391 Spectroscopy*, 28(2), 161-219.
- 392 Gharibani, P.M., Modi, J., Pan, C., Menzie, J., Ma, Z., Chen, P.C., Tao, R., Prentice,
393 H., & Wu, J. Y. (2013). The mechanism of taurine protection against
394 endoplasmic reticulum stress in an animal stroke model of cerebral artery
395 occlusion and stroke-related conditions in primary neuronal cell culture.
396 *Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology*, 776, 241-258.
- 397 Graham, S. F., Kennedy, T., Chevallier, O., Gordon, A., Farmer, L., Elliott, C., &
398 Moss, B. (2010). The application of NMR to study changes in polar metabolite
399 concentrations in beef longissimus dorsi stored for different periods post
400 mortem. *Metabolomics*, 6(3), 395-404.

- 401 Huang, J. Q., Ren, F. Z., Jiang, Y. Y., Xiao, C., & Lei, X. G. (2015). Selenoproteins
402 protect against avian nutritional muscular dystrophy by metabolizing
403 peroxides and regulating redox/apoptotic signaling. *Free Radical Biology and*
404 *Medicine*, 83, 129-138.
- 405 Kuttappan, V., Brewer, V., Apple, J., Waldroup, P., & Owens, C. (2012). Influence of
406 growth rate on the occurrence of white striping in broiler breast fillets. *Poultry*
407 *science*, 91(10), 2677-2685.
- 408 Kuttappan, V., Shivaprasad, H., Shaw, D., Valentine, B., Hargis, B., Clark, F., McKee,
409 S., & Owens, C. (2013). Pathological changes associated with white striping in
410 broiler breast muscles. *Poultry science*, 92(2), 331-338.
- 411 Lee, D. N., Cheng, Y. H., Chuang, Y. S., Shive, J. L., Lian, Y. M., Wei, H. W., & Weng,
412 C. F. (2004). Effects of dietary taurine supplementation on growth
413 performance, serum constituents and antibody production of broilers. *Asian*
414 *Australasian Journal of Animal Sciences*, 17(1), 109-115.
- 415 Lever, M., & Slow, S. (2010). The clinical significance of betaine, an osmolyte with a
416 key role in methyl group metabolism. *Clinical Biochemistry*, 43(9), 732-744.
- 417 Li, M. H., Ruan, L. Y., Zhou, J. W., Fu, Y. H., Jiang, L., Zhao, H., & Wang, J. S.
418 (2017). Metabolic profiling of goldfish (*Carassius auratus*) after long-term
419 glyphosate-based herbicide exposure. *Aquatic Toxicology*, 188, 159-169.
- 420 Lin, S. J., & Guarente, L. (2003). Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide, a metabolic
421 regulator of transcription, longevity and disease. *Current Opinion in Cell*
422 *Biology*, 15(2), 241-246.
- 423 Liu, C., Pan, D., Ye, Y., & Cao, J. (2013). ¹H NMR and multivariate data analysis of
424 the relationship between the age and quality of duck meat. *Food Chemistry*,
425 141(2), 1281-1286.

-
- 426 Maragakis, N. J., & Rothstein, J. D. (2004). Glutamate transporters: animal models to
427 neurologic disease. *Neurobiology of Disease*, *15*(3), 461-473.
- 428 Mudalal, S., Lorenzi, M., Soglia, F., Cavani, C., & Petracci, M. (2015). Implications
429 of white striping and wooden breast abnormalities on quality traits of raw and
430 marinated chicken meat. *Animal*, *9*(4), 728-734.
- 431 Mutryn, M. F., Brannick, E. M., Fu, W., Lee, W. R., & Abasht, B. (2015).
432 Characterization of a novel chicken muscle disorder through differential gene
433 expression and pathway analysis using RNA-sequencing. *BMC genomics*,
434 *16*(1), 399.
- 435 Nirikko, A. C., Rösler, K. M., & Slotboom, J. (2006). Muscle Metabolites: Functional
436 MR Spectroscopy during Exercise Imposed by Tetanic Electrical Nerve
437 Stimulation. *Radiology*, *241*(1), 235-242.
- 438 Niu, Y. C., Feng, R. N., Hou, Y., Li, K., Kang, Z., Wang, J., Sun, C. H., & Li, Y.
439 (2012). Histidine and arginine are associated with inflammation and oxidative
440 stress in obese women. *British Journal of Nutrition*, *108*(1), 57-61.
- 441 Pal, R., Parker, D., & Costello, L. C. (2009). A europium luminescence assay of
442 lactate and citrate in biological fluids. *Organic & Biomolecular Chemistry*,
443 *7*(8), 1525-1528.
- 444 Peiretti, P. G., Medana, C., Visentin, S., Dal Bello, F., & Meineri, G. (2012). Effect of
445 cooking method on carnosine and its homologues, pentosidine and
446 thiobarbituric acid-reactive substance contents in beef and turkey meat. *Food*
447 *Chemistry*, *132*(1), 80-85.
- 448 Petracci, M., & Cavani, C. (2012). Muscle Growth and Poultry Meat Quality Issues.
449 *Nutrients*, *4*(1), 1.
- 450 Petracci, M., Mudalal, S., Bonfiglio, A., & Cavani, C. (2013). Occurrence of white

-
- 451 striping under commercial conditions and its impact on breast meat quality in
452 broiler chickens. *Poultry science*, 92(6), 1670-1675.
- 453 Ritota, M., Casciani, L., Failla, S., & Valentini, M. (2012). HRMAS-NMR
454 spectroscopy and multivariate analysis meat characterisation. *Meat Sci*, 92(4),
455 754-761.
- 456 Sandercock, D. A., Barker, Z. E., Mitchell, M. A., & Hocking, P. M. (2009). Changes
457 in muscle cell cation regulation and meat quality traits are associated with
458 genetic selection for high body weight and meat yield in broiler chickens.
459 *Genetics Selection Evolution*, 41(1), 8.
- 460 Sihvo, H. K., Immonen, K., & Puolanne, E. (2014). Myodegeneration with fibrosis
461 and regeneration in the pectoralis major muscle of broilers. *Veterinary
462 Pathology*, 51(3), 619-623.
- 463 Sihvo, H. K., Lindén, J., Airas, N., Immonen, K., Valaja, J., & Puolanne, E. (2017).
464 Wooden Breast myodegeneration of Pectoralis major muscle over the growth
465 period in broilers. *Veterinary Pathology*, 54(1), 119-128.
- 466 Soglia, F., Gao, J., Mazzoni, M., Puolanne, E., Cavani, C., Petracci, M., Ertbjerg, P.
467 (2017) Superficial and deep changes of histology, texture and particle size
468 distribution in broiler Wooden Breast muscle during refrigerated storage.
469 *Poultry Science*, 96, 3465-3472.
- 470 Soglia, F., Mudalal, S., Babini, E., Di Nunzio, M., Mazzoni, M., Sirri, F., Cavani, C.,
471 & Petracci, M. (2015). Histology, composition, and quality traits of chicken
472 Pectoralis major muscle affected by wooden breast abnormality. *Poultry
473 science*, 95(3), 651-659.
- 474 Soglia, F., Zeng, Z., Gao, J., Puolanne, E., Cavani, C., Petracci, M., & Ertbjerg, P.
475 (2018) Evolution of proteolytic indicators during storage of broiler Wooden

- 476 Breast meat. *Poultry Science*, 97, 1448-1455.
- 477 Sugie, H., Tsurui, S., Sugie, Y., & Igarashi, Y. (1990). Study of metabolic myopathies
478 using ¹H NMR spectroscopy--analysis of muscle metabolites and muscle
479 autolytic change. *Rinsho shinkeigaku= Clinical neurology*, 30(3), 320-323.
- 480 Watanabe, M., Suliman, M. E., Qureshi, A. R., Garcia-Lopez, E., Bárány, P.,
481 Heimbürger, O., Stenvinkel, P., & Lindholm, B. (2008). Consequences of low
482 plasma histidine in chronic kidney disease patients: associations with
483 inflammation, oxidative stress, and mortality. *The American journal of clinical*
484 *nutrition*, 87(6), 1860-1866.
- 485 Weaver, A. C., & Kim, S. W. (2014). Supplemental nucleotides high in inosine
486 5'-monophosphate to improve the growth and health of nursery pigs¹. *Journal*
487 *of Animal Science*, 92(2), 645-651.
- 488 Wyss, M., & Kaddurah-Daouk, R. (2000). Creatine and Creatinine Metabolism.
489 *Physiological Reviews*, 80(3), 1107-1213.
- 490 Yang, Y., Ye, Y., Wang, Y., Sun, Y., Pan, D., Cao, J. (2018). Effect of high pressure
491 treatment on metabolite profile of marinated meat in soy sauce. *Food*
492 *Chemistry*, 240, , 662-669.
- 493 Yu, B., Li, A. H., Muzny, D., Veeraraghavan, N., de Vries, P. S., Bis, J. C., Musani, S.
494 K., Alexander, D., Morrison, A. C., Franco, O. H., Uitterlinden, A., Hofman,
495 A., Dehghan, A., Wilson, J. G., Psaty, B. M., Gibbs, R., Wei, P., & Boerwinkle,
496 E. (2015). Association of Rare Loss-Of-Function Alleles in HAL, Serum
497 Histidine Levels and Incident Coronary Heart Disease. *Circulation:*
498 *Cardiovascular Genetics*.
- 499 Zeisel, S. H., Da, C. K., Franklin, P. D., Alexander, E. A., Lamont, J. T., Sheard, N. F.,
500 & Beiser, A. (2000). Choline, an essential nutrient for humans. *Nutrition*,

501 16(7-8), 669-671.

502 Zhang, J., Ye, Y., Sun, Y., Pan, D., Ou, C., Dang, Y., Wang, Y., Cao, J., Wang, D.
503 (2018). ¹H NMR and multivariate data analysis of the differences of
504 metabolites in five types of dry-cured hams, *Food Research International*, 113,
505 140-148.

506

507

508

509

510

511 Figures captions:

512 **Figure 1.** Representative 600 MHz ¹H NMR spectra of broiler chicken breast extracts
513 from no (A), moderate (B) and severe (C) wooden breast (WB) samples. The dotted
514 region was vertically expanded 16 times. Resonance assignments are given in Table 1.
515 Keys: 1. isoleucine, 2. leucine, 3. valine, 4. lactate, 5. threonine, 6. lysine, 7. alanine,
516 8. acetate, 9. methionine, 10. glutamate, 11. succinate, 12. β-alanine, 13. creatine, 14.
517 creatinine, 15. phosphorylcholine, 16. betaine, 17. taurine, 18. glycine, 19. β-glucose,
518 20. α-glucose, 21. sucrose, 22. inosine, 23. 5'-IMP, 24. tyrosine, 25. histidine, 26.
519 anserine, 27. phenylalanine, 28. nicotinamide, 29. hypoxanthine, 30. nicotinamide
520 adenine dinucleotide (NAD), 31. glutamine, 32. sucrose and amino acids, 33. residual
521 methanol.

522 **Figure 2.** PCA score plot for chicken breast extracts from no (A, stars), moderate (B,
523 circles) and severe (C, diamonds) WB samples. PC1 and PC2 represent 65.0 and
524 23.6% of the total variance, respectively.

525 **Figure 3.** OPLS-DA scores plots (left) and corresponding color-coded correlation
526 coefficient loadings plots (right) generated by comparisons between spectra of meat in
527 extracts from no (A, stars), moderate (B, circles) and severe (C, diamonds) WB
528 samples, respectively. Metabolites keys to the numbers are shown in Figure 1 and
529 Table 1.

530

Table 1 NMR data for metabolites of broiler chicken breast extracts

Key	Metabolites	Moieties	$\delta^1\text{H}$ (ppm) and multiplicity ^a	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (ppm)
1	Isoleucine	αCH , βCH , γCH_2 , $\gamma'\text{CH}_3$, δCH_3	3.67(d), 1.98(m), 1.26(m), 1.45(m), 1.01(d), 0.94(t)	62.4, 38.4, 27.3, 17.7, 13.8
2	Leucine	αCH , βCH_2 , γCH , δCH_3 , $\delta'\text{CH}_3$	3.75(d), 1.72(m), 1.66(m), 0.98(d), 0.96(d)	62.4, 42.6, 26.9, 25.0, 24.0
3	Valine	αCH , βCH , γCH_3 , $\gamma'\text{CH}_3$	3.64(d), 2.28(m), 1.05(d), 1.00(d)	63.2, 31.9, 20.9, 19.7
4	Lactate	αCH , βCH_3 , COOH	4.12(q), 1.34(d)	71.2, 20.3, 185.3
5	Threonine	αCH , βCH , γCH_3	3.58(d), 4.26(m), 1.33(d)	68.7, 63.3, 23.0
6	Lysine	αCH , βCH_2 , γCH_2 , δCH_2 , ϵCH_2	3.76(t), 1.92(m), 1.44(d), 1.73(m), 3.03(t)	56.9, 32.6, 26.0, 29.3, 41.9
7	Alanine	αCH , βCH_3 , COOH	3.81(q), 1.49(d)	53.4, 19.1, 178.2
8	Acetate	CH_3 , COOH	1.92(s)	26.2, 184.3
9	Methionine	S- CH_3	2.14(s)	16.9
10	Glutamate	δCO , αCH , βCH_2 , γCH_2 , COOH	3.77(m), 2.12(m), 2.05(m), 2.36(dt)	184.1, 57.3, 29.8, 36.2, 177.6
11	Succinate	CH_2	2.41(s)	37.0
12	β -Alanine	αCH_2 , βCH_2 , COOH	2.57(t), 3.18(t)	36.5, 39.3, 181.0
13	Creatine	αCH_2 , βCH_3 , CNH, COOH	3.94 (s), 3.04(s)	56.4, 39.8, 160.0, 177.3
14	Creatinine	CH_2 , N- CH_3 , C, CO	4.06(s), 3.05(s)	59.1, 33.1, 171.7, 191.4
15	Phosphorylcholine	αCH_2 , βCH_2 , N- CH_3	4.07(d), 3.54(d), 3.21(s)	70.1, 56.5
16	Betaine	CH_3 , CH_2 , COO^-	3.28(s), 3.93(s)	56.7, 68.9, 172.2
17	Taurine	CH_2NH_2 , CH_2SO_3	3.43(t), 3.27(t)	38.2, 50.6
18	Glycine	αCH_2 , COOH	3.58(s)	44.5, 175.4
19	β -Glucose	C_1H , C_2H	4.66(d), 3.26(dd)	98.9, 77.1
20	α -Glucose	C_1H , C_2H	5.24(d), 3.54(dd)	95.0, 74.9
21	Sucrose	G_1H , G_2H , G_3H , G_4H , G_5H , G_6H , F_1H , F_2 , F_3H , F_4H , F_5H , F_6H	5.43(d), 3.59(dd), 3.79(t), 3.49(t), 3.83(q), 3.81(q), 3.70(s), 4.23(d), 4.07(t), 3.91(m), 3.83	95.0, 73.9, 75.0, 72.1, 74.9, 62.8, 64.0, 106.5, 79.2, 76.6, 83.9, 65.0
22	Inosine	C_1H , C_2 , C_3 , C_4H , C_5 , $\text{C}_1'\text{H}$, $\text{C}_2'\text{H}$	8.35(s), 8.25(s), 6.10(d), 4.77, 4.45(m)	143.2, 127.2, 161.8, 149.1, 151.5, 91.0, 76.8
23	5'-IMP	C_1H , C_2 , C_3 , C_4H , C_5	8.57(s), 8.24(s), 6.15(d)	142.7, 126.7, 161.8, 149.1, 152.0, 90.2,
24	Tyrosine	αCH , βCH_2 , Ring C_1 , Ring $\text{C}_{2,6}\text{H}$, Ring $\text{C}_{3,5}\text{H}$, Ring C_4 , COOH	3.95(dd), 3.20(dd), 3.06(dd), 7.20(d), 6.90 (d)	59.4, 38.4, 129.7, 133.6, 118.8, 157.5, 177.1
25	Histidine	C_1H , C_2H , C_3 , C_4H , C_5H , COOH	7.88(d), 7.09(d), 3.15(dd), 3.25(dd), 4.00(dd)	139.0, 119.6, 133.9, 30.8, 57.6, 176.9
26	Anserine	Ring C_2H , Ring C_4H , C_5 , Ring N CH_3	8.48(s), 7.19(s), 3.82(s)	136.8, 119.6, 133.5, 35.1
27	Phenylalanine	αCH , βCH_2 , Ring C_1 , Ring $\text{C}_{2,6}\text{H}$, Ring $\text{C}_{3,5}\text{H}$, Ring C_4H , COOH	4.00(dd), 3.13(dd), 3.29(dd), 7.33(q), 7.43(t), 7.38(m)	59.1, 39.1, 138.1, 132.1, 131.8, 130.8, 177.1
28	Nicotinamide	C_2H , C_4H , C_5H , C_6H	8.94(dd), 8.27(dd), 7.60(dd), 8.72(dd)	150.1, 139.0, 127.0, 154.2
29	Hypoxanthine	C_2H , C_6H	8.21(s), 8.19(s)	148.2, 160.1
30	Nicotinamide adenine	N_4H , N_5H , N_1H , A_2H , A_8H , A_1H	8.82(d), 8.18(m), 6.10(d), 8.14(s), 8.43(s), 6.04(d)	148.7, 131.2, 102.6, 155.2, 143.3, 89.3

531

532

	dinucleotide (NAD)			
31	Glutamine	α CH, β CH ₂ , γ CH ₂ , δ CO, COOH	3.77(t), 2.14 (m), 2.46(m)	57.2, 29.2, 33.8, 180.7, 177.2
32	Sucrose and amino acids	α CH resonances	3.46-4.13	
33	Residual methanol	CH ₃	3.37(s)	52.0

^aMultiplicity: s, singlet; d, doublet; t, triplet; q, quartet; m, multiplet; dt, doublet of triples.

533

534

Table 2 Coefficients from OPLS-DA and metabolite contents of broiler chicken breast extracts affected with wooden breast (WB) myopathy.

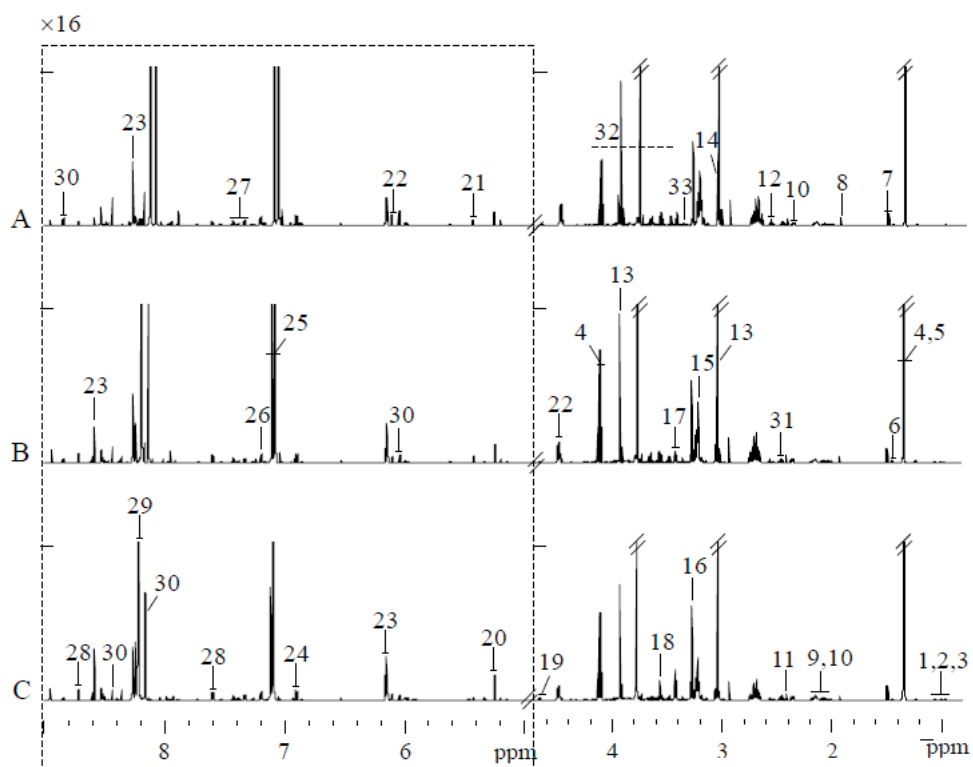
Metabolite	coefficient ^a			Mean±SD (mg/g) ⁷		
	B/A ^β	C/A	C/B	A	B	C
Isoleucine	—	0.99	0.99	0.04±0.0002b	0.04±0.0003b	0.07±0.001a
Leucine	—	0.99	0.99	0.032±0.0001c	0.034±0.0002b	0.063±0.0004a
Valine	—	0.96	0.99	0.036±0.0002c	0.039±0.0003b	0.066±0.0004a
Threonine	0.96	0.87	—	/	/	/
Alanine	0.72	0.82	0.83	0.36±0.001c	0.40±0.002b	0.53±0.003a
Glutamate	0.99	0.99	—	0.90±0.004c	1.07±0.01b	1.41±0.01a
Glutamine	—	0.92	0.87	/	/	/
Lysine	0.87	0.84	—	0.19±0.001c	0.23±0.002a	0.22±0.002b
β-Alanine	-0.95	-0.96	—	0.37±0.002a	0.25±0.001c	0.27±0.002b
Glycine	—	0.94	0.98	0.16±0.001b	0.18±0.001a	0.09±0.001c
Histidine	-0.95	-0.92	—	7.80±0.03a	6.35±0.06b	6.34±0.05b
Phenylalanine	—	—	—	0.044±0.0002b	0.043±0.0003c	0.064±0.0004a
Tyrosine	—	—	—	0.074±0.0003b	0.070±0.0002c	0.091±0.0005a
Taurine	—	0.98	0.93	1.12±0.004c	1.18±0.01b	2.84±0.02a
Lactate	0.98	0.85	—	6.52±0.02c	11.07±0.07b	11.78±0.06a
Acetate	0.98	-0.93	-0.89	0.08±0.0003a	0.07±0.001b	0.06±0.0004c
Succinate	0.97	0.95	0.87	0.09±0.0002c	0.11±0.001b	0.13±0.001a
Creatine	-0.97	-0.98	—	5.25±0.02a	2.87±0.02b	2.78±0.06b
Creatinine	-0.99	-0.99	—	4.30±0.04a	0.54±0.002b	0.43±0.004c
Glucose	0.94	0.92	0.86	0.21±0.002c	0.28±0.003b	0.49±0.003a
Sucrose	0.79	-0.88	-0.72	21.90±0.07b	23.59±0.14a	21.44±0.11c
Phosphorylcholine	0.78	—	—	0.15±0.001c	0.17±0.001b	0.29±0.003a
Betaine	0.92	0.97	0.92	0.64±0.002b	0.61±0.004c	0.94±0.003a
Inosine	—	—	—	0.26±0.001a	0.21±0.002c	0.25±0.002b
5'-IMP	0.92	0.96	—	0.46±0.001c	0.79±0.003b	1.19±0.01a
Hypoxanthine	—	—	—	0.24±0.01c	0.32±0.01b	0.61±0.02a
Anserine	—	—	—	0.04±0.001a	0.01±0.001b	0.01±0.001b
Nicotinamide	—	—	—	0.05±0.0002c	0.12±0.001b	0.16±0.001a
Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (NAD)	-0.89	-0.95	—	0.58±0.003a	0.36±0.003b	0.28±0.004c

^a The coefficients from OPLS-DA results, positive and negative signs indicate positive and negative correlation in the concentrations, respectively. The coefficient of 0.602 was used as the cutoff value for the significant difference evaluation ($p < 0.05$). — The value of coefficient is lower than 0.602. ^β A, B, C denote broiler chicken breast extracts obtained from no WB, moderate WB and severe WB samples, respectively. ⁷ The absolute concentration and standard deviation of mean (SD, mg/g the SMB extracts) were obtained from 10 parallel samples. / The absolute concentration was not determined due to signal overlapping. ^{a-c} Identical letters in the same row indicate that there was no significant difference in WB-affected chickens ($p > 0.05$).

535

536

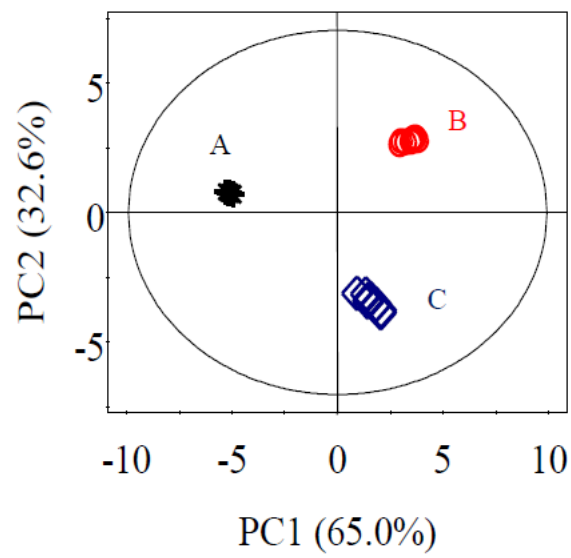
Figure 1



537

538

Figure 2



539

540

Figure 3

