## <sup>1</sup> Graphical Abstract

- <sup>2</sup> Cloning instruments, model maintenance and calibration transfer
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## ₄ Highlights

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- A unified view of model maintenance, incorporating chemometrics and machine learning perspectives
- A review of methods according to their ability to handle different types
   of data shift
- A strategy for managing the model maintenance calibration problem

## Cloning instruments, model maintenance and calibration transfer

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#### 15 Abstract

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Most literature on the application of Non-Destructive Spectral Sensors (NDSS) reports proofs of concept limited to model calculation (calibration) and its application on a so-called independent data set (validation, or test). However, developing NDSS also requires proving that the performance obtained during this first validation remains valid when conditions change. This generic problem is referred to as robustness in chemometrics. When the measurement conditions change, the measured spectrum is subject to a deviation. The reproducibility of the model, and thus of the sensor, with respect to this deviation, defines its robustness. The application of NDSS involves a large number of processes, and thus deviation sources. Instrument cloning, between laboratory instruments or from a benchtop to an online device, is certainly the most concerning issue for deploying NDSS-based applications. This problem has been studied for many years in chemometrics, under the paradigm of calibration transfer, through geometric corrections of spectra, spectral spaces, or calibration model corrections. The same problem has been addressed in the machine learning community under the domain adaptation paradigm. Although all these issues have been addressed separately over the last twenty years, they all fall under the same topic, i.e., model maintenance under dataset shift. This paper aims to provide a vocabulary of concepts for formalizing the calibration model maintenance problem, reviewing recent developments on the subject, and categorizing prior work according to the proposed concepts.

Keywords: Calibration model maintenance, Calibration transfer, Domain
 adaptation

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#### 18 1. Introduction

Public policies on food safety, quality, and traceability rely on a global, 19 unified characterization of the entire food supply chain. Moreover, the food 20 industry's analytical needs go beyond simply complying with current regu-21 lations; they also encompass the imperative of controlling processes, under-22 standing the variability of raw materials and final products, and how one 23 influences the other. All this has necessitated the adoption of new analyti-24 cal technologies to meet the demands of industry, consumers, and regulators 25 alike. Non-destructive spectral sensors (NDSS) - such as near-infrared spec-26 troscopy, hyperspectral imaging, fluorescence, and Raman spectroscopy - are 27 particularly well suited to answering these questions [1], [2], [3]. NDSS offers 28 a fast, non-destructive, and environmentally friendly method for assessing 29 numerous parameters in a wide range of products and processes. They have 30 proved their worth outdoors, indoors, and online, from farm to supermarket, 31 for a wide range of products [4]. However, NDSS operation relies on cali-32 bration, which relates the measured signals (a.k.a. spectra) to the desired 33 response, such as analyte concentration or the product class (e.g. fruit vari-34 ety). Maintaining the predictive accuracy of multivariate calibration models 35 upon matrix, instrumental, or environmental (i.e., measurement condition) 36 changes is one of the key challenges for the practical success of NDSS-based 37 systems. Despite the large number of studies on the subject and the avail-38 ability of a vast number of algorithms, approaches, and/or workflows for cali-39 bration model maintenance (CMM), the problem seems to be far from solved 40 as of now. The lack of a theoretical framework formalizing the CMM prob-41 lem that would allow the categorization of current methodologies and predict 42 under which conditions they are suited for CMM, as well as the spillover of 43 ideas from the machine learning community (coupled with the terminology 44 gap with chemometrics) complicates the alignment of research activities and 45 the efficient application of existing approaches to address CMM in practice. 46 Thus, this review aims at: 47

# i) Providing a vocabulary of concepts towards formalizing the CMM prob lem

- <sup>50</sup> ii) Reviewing recent developments on the subject
- <sup>51</sup> iii) Categorizing prior work according to the concepts proposed in i)

The rest of this review is organized as follows: Section 2 introduces common terminology related to calibration model maintenance, provides a formal problem statement, and reviews some historical background on how the problem has been addressed since the 1980s, highlighting some more recent developments rooted in machine learning research. Section 3 reviews relevant literature related to the subject, and section 4 concludes the paper and outlines open problems.

#### <sup>59</sup> 2. Problem Statement

Statistical learning theory posits that a model learned from some train-60 ing data - in this case spectra and corresponding quality attributes - will 61 produce accurate predictions on new, test data as long as the underlying 62 distributions of training and test data are equivalent [5]. However, in most 63 real-world applications pertaining to NDSS, the data generating process, and 64 thus the data distribution, tends to change upon internal or external influ-65 ences that might deteriorate the predictive capability of the corresponding 66 calibration model [6]. Thereby a change in the joint distribution over spectra 67 X and corresponding quality attribute Y (e.g., analyte concentration), i.e., 68 P(X,Y), can occur due to changes in the so-called marginal distribution 69 over the spectra, i.e., P(X), the quality attribute, i.e., P(Y), and/or the 70 conditional distribution P(Y|X). The corresponding changes are referred 71 to as *covariate*, *prior* and *conditional* shift, respectively. The dataset shift 72 concept is often associated with the notion of a domain, i.e., the entity where 73 the joint distribution is stationary. Formally, a domain is composed of a pair 74  $\langle P(X), P(Y|X) \rangle$ . The domains in which a model is trained and deployed 75 are often referred to as source domain  $(\mathcal{D}_S := \langle P_S(X), P_S(Y|X) \rangle)$  and target 76 domain  $(\mathcal{D}_T := \langle P_T(X), P_T(Y|X) \rangle)$ , respectively. 77

The implications of dataset shift on model performance are diverse and 78 depend upon which distributions are affected by the changes in the spec-79 tra and/or quality attributes, and the particular nature of the change (e.g., 80 whether it is a constant offset affecting the spectra or a more complicated 81 change in the covariance structure of the marginal distribution). Figure 1 82 illustrates the (base) types of prediction drift that must be expected under 83 dataset shift. Often a combination of the prediction drift types is encoun-84 tered, such as a drift in slope and bias. 85

As illustrated in Figure 2a, a calibration model is robust against prior shift only if the conditional distribution does not change between the source



Figure 1: Prediction drift types.



Figure 2: Dataset shifts. a) Prior shift with (blue area) and without (red area) conditional shift. The dashed lines indicate (optimal) source and target domain models, and the green data points indicate predictions of the source model on the target domain patterns X. b) Covariate shifts given some source  $(X_S)$  and target  $(X_T)$  domain data. The function  $g(\cdot)$  re-scales  $X_T$  to match the distribution of  $X_S$  leading to an alignment of the joint distribution P(X, Y).

and target domain, i.e., if  $P_S(Y|X) = P_T(Y|X)$ . Under conditional shift, 88 however, there is a risk that the source domain model predictions on the 89 target domain spectra (green points) systematically deviate from the true 90 values of Y (blue points). In contrast to prior shift, which is always associ-91 ated either with a covariate (as in Figure 2a) or conditional shift<sup>1</sup>, covariate 92 shift exclusively affects the marginal distribution over the spectra (P(X)). 93 Thus, it can be corrected by proper alignment of the corresponding marginal 94 distributions (Figure 2b). 95

The goal of instrument cloning and model maintenance in NDSS is to use data sampled from either  $\mathcal{D}_S$  and/or  $\mathcal{D}_T$  to obtain a model that performs well in the latter – usually in terms of the mean squared error (MSE) of prediction. On the other hand, the goal of robust calibration is to derive a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Note that if  $P_S(X)$  would be equivalent to  $P_T(X)$  in Figure 2A, while  $P_S(Y) \neq P_T(Y)$ , implies conditional shift.



Figure 3: Illustration of the effect of a spectral perturbation on the model output.  $\mathbf{x}$  is the measured spectrum,  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  is the spectral perturbation,  $\hat{y}$  is the predicted response and  $\delta \hat{y}$  is the resulting error. Inspired from [13]

<sup>100</sup> model that is invariant with respect to the domain in which it is deployed, <sup>101</sup> such that on average it has the same performance in every (possible) domain.

#### <sup>102</sup> 2.1. How the robustness problem has been handled in chemometrics

Any quality control regulatory body has not officially defined the concept of robustness. However, it is acknowledged as a critical quality of the NDSS calibration models. The robustness has been extensively discussed in the literature, with various definitions tailored to each specific field of application [7, 8, 9]. In chemometrics applied to NDSS, robustness can be defined as the reproducibility of the calibration model in the face of spectral perturbations [10].

When the *measurement conditions* of the spectrum change, a spectral 110 disturbance  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  is added to the spectrum  $\mathbf{x}$  which should have been measured 111 in calibration conditions [11]. As illustrated in Figure 3, the addition of  $\delta \mathbf{x}$ 112 provokes an error  $\delta \hat{y}$  in the y estimation [12, 13]. In Figure 3-a, the mea-113 sured spectrum is projected onto the model direction, yielding an estimated 114 response  $\hat{y}$ . In Figure 3-b, it can be noticed that following the same mech-115 anism, the spectral perturbation provokes an error  $\delta \hat{y}$ . Thus, improving the 116 robustness of a calibration relies on managing  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  and its influence on  $\hat{y}$ . 117

Changes in measurement conditions, which cause spectral disturbances, may correspond to changes in a continuous variable, such as product temperature, particle size, or spectrometer temperature. Likewise, they may be linked to changes in a discrete variable, such as the instrument, the season, or the product origin. Each specific value of this variable that influences the measurements establishes a measurement condition. Thus, maintaining

the calibration's robustness relies on keeping the model running under differ-124 ent measurement conditions. In the chemometrics community, consideration 125 of this problem dates back to the era of personal computers, i.e., to the 126 1980s. The concept of measurement condition initially concerned the change 127 of spectrometer, to develop calibrations that are robust across instruments 128 of laboratory networks. In 1985, Shenk discussed the possibility of not re-129 calibrating a model when changing spectrometers. He suggested performing 130 a calibration transfer instead, following his patented method [14, 15]. The 131 change of spectrometer then became an emblematic cause of the robustness 132 problem, and the vocabulary *master* and *slave* became established to des-133 ignate two measurement conditions between which the calibration transfer 134 takes place [14]. 135

Shenk's method acts by geometrically correcting slave spectra to resemble master spectra (or vice versa). Other geometric methods have been proposed, introducing the term optical standardization [16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21]. All these methods try to suppress the source of disturbances, i.e., to lower  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  in Figure 3.

Unlike previous methods, which treat spectra as signals, methods for 141 correcting the measurement vector space emerged in the 2000s. In 2001, 142 Wise *et al.* proposed to correct the differences between master and slave 143 covariance structures using a General Least Squares (GLS) [22]. Next came 144 orthogonal projection-based methods, which remove from the spectral vector 145 space the subspace generated by variations in measurement conditions [23, 146 24, 25, 26]. All these methods try to make the model space independent from 147 the disturbances, i.e. to lower the projection of  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  on **b** in Figure 3, and thus 148 making the model as close as possible to the Net Analyte Signal (NAS) [27]. 149

#### <sup>150</sup> 2.2. How machine learning concepts can help to improve the robustness

From a statistical point of view, the "lack of robustness under data set 151 shift" problem is a so-called *sample selection bias* problem. It arises due to 152 the fact that, in practice, it is usually impossible to calibrate using a com-153 prehensive sample covering all possible sources of variability (either mea-154 surement and sample related) affecting the spectral signals. Inferring the 155 parameters of a statistical model under a biased sample is a long-standing 156 problem in statistics and related disciplines. In the 1970s Heckmann, in his 157 seminal work on estimating statistical models under sample selection bias, 158 proposed to estimate the selection probability for each (calibration) sample 159 and use this probability to derive an unbiased estimate under the ordinary 160

least squares (OLS) model [28]. However, the Heckmann correction requires 161 the observation of some (instrument) variable that constitutes the sample 162 selection mechanism (e.g., when it is known that only samples with some 163 interferent concentration above a certain threshold are included in the cali-164 bration set). In the mid-2000s, with the advent of (open-source) deep learning 165 models, the sample selection bias problem was re-discovered by the machine 166 learning community. The importance weighting approach by Zadrozny rep-167 resents an important development from this period that has constituted the 168 fields of *domain adaptation* (DA) and *transfer learning* (TL) [29]. Impor-160 tance weighting assigns a weight to each source domain sample  $(\mathbf{x}, y)$  that is 170 proportional to  $\frac{P_T(X=\mathbf{x})}{P_S(X=\mathbf{x})}$ , i.e., assigning a high weight to those samples that 171 have a high probability under the target domain (marginal) distribution. 172

Transfer learning and domain adaptation are machine learning problems 173 where a model developed respectively for one task, or domain, should be 174 reused to improve learning on a related task, or in a related domain [30]. 175 For example, TL is used to fine-tune a model, initially developed to dis-176 criminate between images of cats and dogs, to enable discrimination between 177 images of cars and boats. DA is a special case of TL, where the task does 178 not change across domains [31]. The first generally accepted formalization 179 of TL/DA was proposed in 2006 by Ben-David *et al.*, which provided impor-180 tant insights into the necessary conditions for generalization under data set 181 shift [32, 33] prompting a research boom on the subject in machine learning 182 [34] and later also in chemometrics community [6]. By applying the domain 183 adaptation paradigm to analytical chemistry, we can notice that the concepts 184 of initial and secondary conditions, or master and slave instruments, com-185 monly used in chemometrics correspond to the ones of source domain and 186 the *target domain* used in DA. Furthermore, different problems encountered 187 in analytical chemistry can be characterized by a particular type of dataset 188 shift. Calibration transfer problems, for instance, often amount to correcting 189 for covariate shift while a change in sample matrix often leads to conditional 190 shift [6]. Finally, the robustness concept can be defined as the reproducibility 191 of a calibration model in the face of domain changes. 192

#### <sup>193</sup> 2.3. How to manage the robustness

Managing the robustness of calibration models benefits from following a strategy that depends on the characteristics of the influencing variables, i.e. the domains [7, 35, 36, 37]. Figure 4 shows a decision tree that can help select <sup>197</sup> a domain transfer method, depending on the characteristics of the domain<sup>198</sup> in which the model is applied.

- The first step is to decide how damaging the domain change really is. Answering this question is not so simple, and has been the subject of much discussion in statistical journals, under the heading of sensitivity analysis [38], but also in chemometrics [10, 39].
- If the answer is yes, the second step is to consider the controllability
   of the influencing variables responsible for the domain change. For
   example, if the domain change is due to the spectrometer's temperature
   variation, placing it in a temperature-controlled environment may solve
   the problem.
- If this control is impossible or not desired, the third step is to ask whether the domain is known when the model is applied. For example, is the spectrometer temperature measured simultaneously with the spectrum?
- If the domain is known while applying the model, three solutions exist:
- $^{213}$  *a priori correction*: The measured spectrum is modified using the information about  $\mathcal{D}$ . For example, a spectrum measured on a slave spectrometer can be geometrically modified to match that which should have been measured on the master spectrometer.
- <sup>217</sup> model correction: The model is modified according to the infor-<sup>218</sup> mation about  $\mathcal{D}$ . For example, the model can be chosen according <sup>219</sup> to the variety of the fruit measured.
- $\begin{array}{rcl} & & a \ posteriori \ correction: \ The \ model \ output \ is \ modified \ according \\ & to \ the \ information \ about \ \mathcal{D}. \ For \ example, \ the \ estimated \ sugar \\ & content \ of \ a \ fruit \ is \ modified \ using \ the \ law \ relating \ the \ estimation \\ & error \ to \ its \ temperature, \ which \ will \ have \ been \ learned \ experimen- \\ & tally. \end{array}$
- If the domain is unknown when the model is applied, a robust calibration must be performed, for example by calibrating a model on a data set comprising a diversity of fruit origins.
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Figure 4: A strategy for managing the model robustness.  $\mathcal{D}$  is the current domain. Cited methods are described in section 3

#### 228 3. Review on calibration transfer / domain adaptation methods

Table 1 summarizes the categories of methods, indicating the types of samples required and whether or not they produce a model that works in both domains. Categories are based on Figure 4. We will describe here each category's characteristics and generalize the methods' trends.

#### 233 3.1. a priori correction

Linear standardization methods have been the most classical and predom-234 inant solutions for calibration transfer. In the context of transfer between 235 instruments, where they are called optical standardization, the objective is 236 to standardize the signal response between source and target instruments. 237 These methods can be used in two different ways: forward or backward [71]. 238 Forward standardization transforms the source spectra so that they resemble 230 the target spectra; this transformation must then be applied to all the spectra 240 in the calibration database, and a new model recalculated, which can then be 241 applied directly to the target spectra. Backward standardization transforms 242 target spectra so that they resemble source spectra; this transformation must 243 then be applied to each measured spectrum before the model calibrated in 244 the source domain is applied to it. 245

The two most predominant techniques in this category are called Direct Standardization (DS) and Piecewise Direct Standardization (PDS) [40, 41]. Table 1: Compilation of methods for calibration transfer/domain adaptation. Std: (1) Standard samples, (2) Standard-free with reference values, (3) Standard-free without reference values.  $\mathcal{D}$ : (0) Domain independent model, (1) Domain dependent ÷

model. Type of sift manage	id: (P) prior, (M) marginal, (C) conditional.				
Category (Cf Fig. 4)	Method name	$\operatorname{Std}$	$\mathcal{D}$	Shift	Ref.
	Shenk's patented method (Piecewise) Direct Standardization ((P)DS) Snectral Space Transformation (SST)			MMM	$\begin{bmatrix} 14, \ 15 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 40, \ 41 \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 42 \end{bmatrix}$
A priori correction	Finite Impulse Response (FIR) Filter	۰ co -	·	W	[43] [43]
	Calibration transfer based on the weight matrix of PLS (CTWM)	1,2		M M,C,P	[44]
	Calibration transfer via filter learning	, , – ,	, ⊢-,	N	[46]
	(Kernel) Joint PCA	1,2		M	[47]
A posteriori	Slope and Bias Correction (SBC)	2		M,C,P	[48]
correction	Calibration transfer with affine invariance	3	1	Μ	[49]
	Transfer Component Analysis (TCA)	က	0	$M,C,P^*$	[50, 51]
	Trimmed Scores Regression (TSR)		Ц	Μ	[52, 53]
Model correction	Maximum Likelihood PCA (MLPCA)			Μ	[52, 53, 54]
(Domain Adantation)	Joint and Unique Multiblock Analysis (JUMBA)			Μ	[55]
(momendant mannon)	Domain Invariant Partial Least Squares (di-PLS)	လ		$M,C,P^*$	[56, 57, 58]
	$Graph-based$ calibration transfer $(GCT-PLS)^2$		μ	$M,C,P^*$	[59]
	Domain Adaptive Partial Least Squares (da-PLS)	3	1	$M,C,P^*$	[00]
Rohnet Modoline	Correlation-Analysis-Based Wavelength Selection (CAWS)	H	0	Μ	[61]
(Wouse Moushing)	Screening Wavelengths (SWCSS)	1,3	0	Μ	[62]
( National Selection )	Domain-invariant Covariate Selection (di-CovSel)	3	0	Μ	[63]
Bohust Modeling	Model Update	1,2	0,1	M,C,P	[64,  65]
(Concatenation)	RepFile		0	Μ	[66]
	Joint Y PLS (JYPLS)	<del>,</del> 1	$0,1^{3}$	M,C,P	[53, 67]
	External Parameter Orthogonalization (EPO)		0	Μ	$\begin{bmatrix} 23 \end{bmatrix}$
	Transfer by Orthogonal Projection (TOP)	1,3	0	M	$\begin{bmatrix} 24 \end{bmatrix}$
Robust Modeling	Dynamic Orthogonal Projection (DOP)	c1 ,	0	M,C,P	$\begin{bmatrix} 25 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$
(Orthogonalization)	Tikhonov Regularization (TR)	1,2	0,	M,C,P	[65]
	Orthogonal Space Regression (OSR)	, 1 2		M,C	[68]
	Unsupervised Dynamic Orthogonal Projection (uDOP)	າ ດ_ບ	0 0	M	[09]
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				-

\* These methods can accommodate labeled data from the target domain and are thus capable of accounting for prior and conditional shifts. <sup>1</sup> Source and target domain can have different numbers of variables. <sup>2</sup> Can cope with CT problems where standards and calibration samples have different physicochemical properties.<sup>3</sup> Note that JYPLS-inv is domain-dependent while JYPLS-noninv is domain-independent.

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These two techniques depend on the availability of standard samples which 248 are used to fit a linear model to transform the target instrument signal into 249 the source instrument signal. The difference between DS and PDS is the cor-250 respondence that is assumed between the wavelengths of each instrument. In 251 DS, the transformation to a wavelength of one instrument is considered a lin-252 ear combination of all the wavelengths of the other instrument. In the PDS, 253 the transformation to a wavelength of one instrument corresponds to a linear 254 combination of wavelengths within a small window around the wavelength of 255 the other instrument (i.e. piecewise). 256

Another predominant method in this category is Spectral Space Transformation (SST) [42]. In SST, the same type of standardization as in DS and PDS takes place but is fit under a different approach. SST uses the formulation of Beer Lambert's law on each instrument and couples it with the Singular Value Decomposition (SVD) of a horizontally concatenated matrix of standard samples. This allows to standardize the spectra via the loadings of each domain [42].

#### 264 3.2. a posteriori correction

The second category of calibration transfer methods involves the transfor-265 mation or adjustment of predictions when using a source calibration model 266 directly on target spectra. The most predominant classical technique in this 267 category is Slope and Bias Correction (SBC) where, as the name indicates, 268 the slope and bias of the predictions are corrected [48]. The slope and bias 269 terms are estimated with least squares linear regression using samples mea-270 sured in the target domain whose reference values are available. One of the 271 major advantages of SBC is that it can cope with either prior, covariate and 272 conditional shifts without the need for transfer standards. However, its main 273 drawback is that multivariate outlier statistics like e.g., Hotelling's  $T^2$ , Q-274 Residuals [72], or cumulative sum statistics [73] are not available to assess 275 if predictions for new samples (in the target domain) are reliable. Further-276 more, SBC requires spectra and corresponding reference measurements (i.e., 277 labeled samples) from the target domain to learn the correction function. 278 Calibration transfer with affine invariance, on the other hand, does not use 270 standard samples nor target reference values but obtains scores and predic-280 tions for the source samples and the target samples based on a separate set 281 of samples in the target domain. Then, regression coefficients between the 282 scores and the predicted values are calculated for each set. To align these 283 regression coefficients, angle and bias terms are calculated. These are then 284

used to correct the predictions for the target instrument [49]. On the downside, the method can handle only covariate shift problems and might thus
have limited applicability in practice.

#### 288 3.3. Model correction: Variable selection

As a step in the pipeline of model building, variable selection started 289 being considered to achieve calibration transfer. While variable selection 290 has been greatly explored for model building, only three approaches were 291 found to tackle the difference between instruments. The first approach cor-292 responds to wavelength selection based on correlation analysis (CAWS). In 293 CAWS, standard samples are used to calculate Pearson correlations for each 294 wavelength between the two instruments. The wavelengths with the highest 295 absolute correlation values are selected for further recalibration, so the re-296 sulting model can be directly applied to spectral measurements in the target 297 instrument [61]. 298

Another solution was recently proposed to relax the requirement for the 299 availability of standard samples. In this solution, a screening of wavelengths 300 is done by calculating the consistency and stability of the wavelength in each 301 instrument (SWCSS<sup>2</sup>). Such consistency is quantified by the similarity in 302 standard deviation and mean between the two sets of samples. As in CAWS, 303 the wavelength selection is followed by a recalibration of the model. A major 304 drawback of both approaches is that despite their capability to select wave-305 lengths that are consistent across domains with respect to their (marginal) 306 distributions, it is not guaranteed that these variables will carry (sufficient) 307 Y-predictive information. To address this shortcoming, di-CovSel was re-308 cently proposed as an extension to the original CovSel algorithm by Roger 309 et al. [74] aiming at identifying variables that are both consistent across 310 domains and predictive with respect to Y [63] without requiring transfer 311 standards nor labeled target domain samples. Conceptually, di-CovSel in-312 volves a DA-inspired domain regularization approach first proposed in [56]. 313 We note that all variable selection approaches discussed here aim at obtain-314 ing robust models that are domain-independent, whereas they are capable of 315 handling covariate shifts only. 316

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The abbreviation comes from the title of the original publication [62]

#### 317 3.4. Model correction: Domain adaptation methods

One of the first approaches within the framework of domain adaptation 318 was Transfer Component Analysis (TCA) which has recently been tested 319 for calibration transfer [51, 13]. In unsupervised TCA, a kernel matrix is 320 calculated to be indicative of the discrepancy of the samples within each in-321 strument and between the two instruments. This optimization is a trade-off 322 between finding maximum variance and finding common variance between 323 the two sample sets [50]. The components can then be used for further cal-324 ibration. A semi-supervised TCA uses the kernel matrix and the available 325 reference values to extend the optimization criterion to include the depen-326 dence between the kernel matrix of spectral measurements and the kernel 327 matrix of reference values [50]. 328

The main drawback of TCA is that when used with a linear kernel, which 329 for NDSS applications is often the optimal choice due to (approximately) lin-330 ear relationships between the predictors and the response variable, it can only 331 account for differences in the means related to  $P_S(X)$  and  $P_T(X)$ . When the 332 shift involves more complicated changes related to higher order distributional 333 properties like e.g., variance, a universal kernel (like the Gaussian kernel) is 334 required which comes at the risk of over-fitting the corresponding (non-linear) 335 calibration model – in particular for small calibration sets. To address this 336 problem, Nikzad-Langerodi et al. in [56] proposed a domain-regularization 337 approach for partial least squares regression that allows to model the response 338 Y using a linear model, while (implicitly) accounting for domain differences 339 in terms of mean and variance, i.e. di-PLS regression. Despite the flexibility 340 of the corresponding model in the sense that it can accommodate labeled 341 and/or unlabeled data from the target domain, and work with calibration 342 standards [59] or in standards-free settings, it assumes normal distribution 343 of the domains. In domain adaptative PLS (da-PLS), proposed later, a simi-344 lar optimization problem that employs the (non-parametric) Hilbert-Schmidt 345 independence criterion (HSIC) between the domains, as a constraint, is for-346 mulated [75], which does not make assumptions about the underlying distri-347 butions. In terms of the classification presented in Table 1, apart from TCA. 348 all domain adaptation approaches proposed/employed so far (in the realm 340 of analytical chemistry) yield domain-dependent models, i.e., when used to 350 make predictions it must be known which domain the data originates from. 351 When reviewing existing literature we also noted that some approaches, while 352 not explicitly referring to DA, are related to this category of methods, e.g., 353 trimmed scores regression (TSR) and maximum likelihood PCA (MLPCA) 354

proposed in [52, 54, 53]. The basic idea of these approaches is to model a 355 common latent structure underlying the source and target domains, and sub-356 sequently use this structure to infer how the source domain spectra would 357 look like in the target domain. A similar (multi-block) approach was pro-358 posed by Skotare *et al.* in [55], where the authors used On-PLS to extract 359 common latent variables across transfer standards measured on multiple NIR 360 spectrometers to stabilize the transfer between some source and target do-361 main instrument. In a similar line of research, Mikulasek *et al.* recently 362 extended the original di-PLS method to accommodate Mango samples from 363 multiple domains and found that the corresponding model not only per-364 formed better in the target domains but was also more robust when applied 365 in an out-of-domain context [58]. 366

#### 367 3.5. Robust modeling: Concatenation

Concatenation refers to the methods that merge datasets obtained from the source and target domain to achieve an adaptation of the model that takes into account the variability of both domains.

The easiest way to do this is simply to supplement the source calibra-371 tion database with target spectra and corresponding reference values [76]. 372 Another way consists in augmenting the database with a *repeatability file*, 373 which consists in the collection of differences in measured spectra between 374 two instruments or two conditions, i.e.  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  from Figure 3, associated with 375 null Y values [66]. Two natural questions arise with concatenation-based 376 modeling approaches: Are the domains "compatible" at all and if so, what 377 emphasis should be put on the the source and target domain data when fit-378 ting the model? The first question is not easy to answer (theoretically) and 379 is an area of active research. However, if the domains are not compatible, 380 so-called *negative transfer* might be the consequence, i.e., including source 381 domain data harms learning in, and generalization to, the target domain [77]. 382 As to the weighting problem, Stork & Kowalski showed that the variance in 383 the predicted concentration on a test sample is related to its outlyingness 384 (a.k.a. *leverage*) with respect to the augmented calibration set [64], and that 385 the leverage is the only quantity affected by changing the sample weighting. 386 This allows us to derive an optimal weighting of (labeled) source and target 387 domain data that minimizes the prediction variance for a (unlabeled) test 388 set. One decade later Kalivas *et al.* re-addressed the weighting problem 389 and showed that it can be cast as a least-squares regression problem with a 390 two-norm penalty [78]. The corresponding regularization parameter controls 391

the weight that is assigned to the target domain samples. Concatenation ap-392 proaches have also been disseminated for calibration transfer. Joint-Y PLS 393 is a technique that attempts to unify a calibration model across several in-394 struments by concatenating the scores of two instruments and modifying the 395 regression step in PLSR to acquire a unique regression vector [67, 53]. This 396 method is suitable when standard samples are available, but also when sep-397 arate sets with reference values are available for the different instruments. 398 In terms of dataset shift, concatenation-based techniques that involve la-399 beled data from all domains are, in principle, capable of correcting for all 400 three types of shifts while those that only use unlabeled data from the target 401 domain(s) account for covariate shift only. 402

#### 403 3.6. Robust modeling: Orthogonalization

Orthogonalization techniques have been developed to modify the space in which the model is constructed, to make **b** orthogonal to  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  (Cf Figure 3). In short, these techniques project the vector space spanned by **X**,  $Row(\mathbf{X})$  orthogonally to the vector subspace containing the  $\delta \mathbf{x}$ , and as **b** lies in  $Row(\mathbf{X})$ , it naturally becomes orthogonal to any  $\delta \mathbf{x}$ .

This mechanism was initially developed in External Parameter Orthogonalization (EPO), which has proved effective in making a Brix prediction model insensitive to the temperature of the fruit [23]. Then, orthogonalization started to be used as a solution to make calibration models robust against the differences between source and target instruments, with Transfer by Orthogonal Projection (TOP) [24].

With the availability of standard samples, the most direct solution for transfer using orthogonalization is to estimate the interference information from the difference between the two measurement conditions. A new calibration model is fitted with the orthogonalized signals. The resulting calibration model is robust against the difference between the measurement conditions.

Other orthogonalization techniques estimate the interference matrix under different criteria. One of the first methods that proposed orthogonalization solutions for multiple instruments simultaneously is TOP in which the interference matrix is based on the mean spectra for all instruments [24]. In this way, orthogonalization allows handling the between-instrument variability among different spectrometers.

Inspired by TOP, other methods such as Dual-Domain Calibration Transfer (DDTOP) use orthogonalization by estimating the difference between instruments from wavelet decomposition of the spectral signals in both instruments [69]. Because these methods are based on mean or structural differences between the instruments, they can be performed without standard
samples.

Another solution from process control monitoring suitable for calibra-432 tion transfer is Dynamic Orthogonal Projection (DOP), which estimates the 433 interference matrix from the spectral differences of samples with similar ref-434 erence values. This method uses reference values in the source and the target 435 domain to create a set of virtual standard samples. Such virtual standard 436 samples are identified using a nearest neighbors approach which serves to 437 calculate the spectral signals of the target samples as if they were measured 438 on the source instrument. This allows us to obtain the set of target samples 439 and its virtual standards which are used to calculate the interference matrix 440 and proceed with orthogonalization [25]. This method has been applied to 441 different types of corrections, such as process control conditions, temperature 442 drifts, and calibration transfer [25, 51, 79]. 443

An unsupervised version of DOP has recently been published [70]. It pro-444 poses the creation of virtual standards based solely on two spectra matrices of 445 the source and target domains. An SVD provides the scores and loadings of 446 these two matrices. A source version of the target spectra is then estimated 447 by projecting the target scores onto the source loadings. This method has 448 been successfully applied to the transfer of a PLS model predicting the acid 440 detergent fiber fraction of sugarcane between two portable spectrometers. It 450 was also used to establish a PLS model for predicting the dry matter value 451 of mangoes, robust over two varieties and two harvest seasons. 452

Orthogonalization approaches may be too aggressive in the sense that 453 they can remove domain differences at the expense of the NAS. It's worth 454 noting, however, that this risk can be easily detected since it translates into 455 model degradation, visible in calibration and cross-validation performances. 456 Some approaches though, such as the Tikhonov regularization approach by 457 Kalivas et. al [65], or the GLS approach by Wise *et al.* [22] relax the orthog-458 onality constraint and try to balance better the trade-off between making **b** 459 orthogonal to  $\delta \mathbf{x}$  (Cf Figure 3) and preserving the NAS. 460

#### 461 4. Discussion and open problems

This review shows that the causes of robustness problems in calibration models can be formalized as dataset shifts, whereas covariate shift is the most

common one. It corresponds to cases where the measurement condition is 464 affected, for example when a spectrometer is changed, leading to a change in 465 the marginal distribution over the spectra. This is the easiest case and has 466 been addressed by historical correction methods developed by the chemomet-467 rics community. Conditional shifts correspond to a change in the relationship 468 between the measured spectrum and the response to be predicted. They can 469 occur frequently in NDSS when calibrations are based on secondary cor-470 relations. For example, the estimation of a fruit's sugar content by NIRS 471 spectroscopy is based on the spectral responses of all the compounds in the 472 fruit that are correlated with the sugar content. However, this internal fruit 473 correlation can change with the variety or the origin of the fruit. Finally, 474 prior shits correspond to changes in the distribution of the response to be 475 predicted, which can occur when the NDSS needs to extrapolate beyond the 476 concentration range of the calibration samples. 477

<sup>478</sup> Numerous methods have been developed to improve the robustness of <sup>479</sup> calibration models, both in the field of chemometrics and machine learning. <sup>480</sup> They differ according to whether or not they need paired samples (i.e., trans-<sup>481</sup> fer standards) or reference values from both domains, whether or not they <sup>482</sup> require knowledge of the domain when applying the model, and whether or <sup>483</sup> not they handle prior, conditional, and/or covariate shifts. A careful analysis <sup>484</sup> of the situation is therefore imperative before implementing a CMM.

As far as covariate shift is concerned, domain adaptation techniques can 485 be considered the most promising methodology since they provably minimize 486 an upper bound on the generalization error in the target domain, and neither 487 require transfer standards nor labeled samples from the target domain [57]. 488 Methods dedicated to prior and conditional shifts are less numerous and 489 require the use of labeled target domain samples. A largely open challenge 490 here is the assessment of the "compatibility" of the domains to avoid negative 491 transfer. 492

Almost all published methods are aimed at the simple case of a source 493 and a target domain. In reality, however, the user is often confronted with 494 the case of multiple domain changes. For example, a change of spectrometer 495 will often occur simultaneously with a change of harvest year. This raises the 496 question of how to combine several transfers. Some methods, such as those 497 using data augmentation or orthogonalization, can deal with this problem 498 globally, while others, such as those based on model correction, will have to be 499 used successively for each domain change. New methodological developments 500 are expected in this field. 501

A similar problem arises for instrument networks. What is the best strat-502 egy to employ in this case? Is it possible to have a single model for all 503 instruments? This would offer the advantage of not having to manage sev-504 eral models. Should we decide that there is only one master instrument? 505 This multi-domain problem, as yet little treated as such in the literature. 506 should be the subject of specific research, that will address the problem of 507 multiple and combined shifts. With the trend towards the availability of 508 larger and open-source data, we also foresee further developments related 509 to the application of deep learning to address the robustness problem. The 510 first promising results in this direction comprise, e.g., the recently proposed 511 Deep Tutti Frutti model by Passos & Mishra capable of fruit-independent, 512 NIR-based dry matter prediction [80]. 513

The methods described in this review show that progress has been made 514 in solving the problem of calibration transfer in chemometrics. Nevertheless. 515 industrial practitioners are often still unaware of methodological advances 516 that offer the efficient solutions required to transfer calibration models. To 517 date, most commercial chemometrics software only offers solutions based on 518 linear normalization and orthogonalization, with none of the many methods 519 identified in this review available. Efforts must therefore be made to develop 520 and enrich open software, such as ChemFlow [81], FACT [82] or Saisir [83]. 521

This study aims to explain the reasons for robustness problems and to list 522 the main methods for improving it. In other words, it aims to answer the why 523 and the how. However, the question of when to carry out a CMM is also prac-524 tically very relevant. The most reliable solution is still to acquire reference 525 measurements periodically and implement a conventional, threshold-based 526 process diagnostic tool. Little methodological research has been carried out 527 to provide more elaborate tools. When the products being measured are 528 stable, such as flour, sealed cups containing a range of samples can be mea-529 sured periodically. The predicted values for these cups can be used to replace 530 comparisons with reference analyses [84]. The evolution of measured spectra 531 can be examined using multivariate techniques [85]. In short, new spectra 532 are projected into the space of a PCA or a PLS, where the quality of their 533 projection is evaluated with the so-called Hotelling statistic and residuals  $(T^2)$ 534 and Q). A new method has recently been proposed for estimating a regres-535 sion model's prediction bias and covariate shift in real-time, without using 536 target reference values [37]. A set of current spectra, acquired during process 537 monitoring is used to re-estimate the intercept of the calibration model. The 538 covariance structure of the current spectra is also calculated as loadings. The 539

calibration set is then projected onto these loadings, giving scores that are
compared with the scores obtained directly by a PCA on the calibration set.
Despite this original contribution, the issue of unsupervised diagnosis of the
calibration models remains largely open.

This review shows that CMM is a common concern in both machine learning and chemometrics, but conceptual approaches differ. Chemometric approaches are essentially based on signal processing and linear algebra, while machine learning approaches are based on the notions of conditional distribution and probability. It's a safe bet that the combination of these two paradigms will pave the way for new methods capable of resolving the questions still open to us.

This review does not cover all methodological developments on CMM in chemometrics since this would be prohibitive in the current format. We thus want to point the interested reader to the excellent literature surveys by Workman [86] and Mishra *et al.* [87] on calibration transfer and standardsfree calibration transfer, respectively, and to Feudale *et al.* [88] for a general primer on the more general CMM problem.

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