The normal distribution of data was evaluated by the Anderson-Darling normality test using the excel tool provided by University of Missouri (faculty.missouri.edu/.../AD-**Test\_**Calculator.xls).

Spot number	p-value stimulatedcondition	p-value control condition
418	0.20	0.49
420	0.38	Spot not expressed
423	0.20	Spot not expressed
506	0.54	Spot not expressed
513	0.70	0.39
540	0.72	Spot not expressed
553	0.59	0.41
560	0.76	0.71
562	0.51	0.56
656	0.46	0.45
701	0.67	0.25
745	0.33	0.50
761	0.12	Spot not expressed
762	0.64	0.82
852	0.49	0.34

The values are reported in the following table:

All the values are higher than 0.05 which is the minimum value to state that a series of data display a normal distribution.

power The of the test was calculated by using the tool available site at the http://www.statisticalsolutions.net/pss\_calc.php . The obtained value is 0.69; this value is strictly influenced by the low number of replicates (i.e. 6: 2 technical replicates from every biological replicates). Anyway this number of replicates is widely accepted for publication of 2-DE based works by all the journals specific for proteomic studies.