

Innovative lactation stage specific prediction of CH₄ from milk MIR spectra

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Agricultural Product Technology Unit

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Context :

Methane produced by ruminants

- Greenhouse gas + loss of gross energy intake (6 to 12%)



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- Sources of variation of CH₄ emissions - genetics
 - diet
 - management

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→ Before reducing it is necessary to study the link between those levers and methane emissions

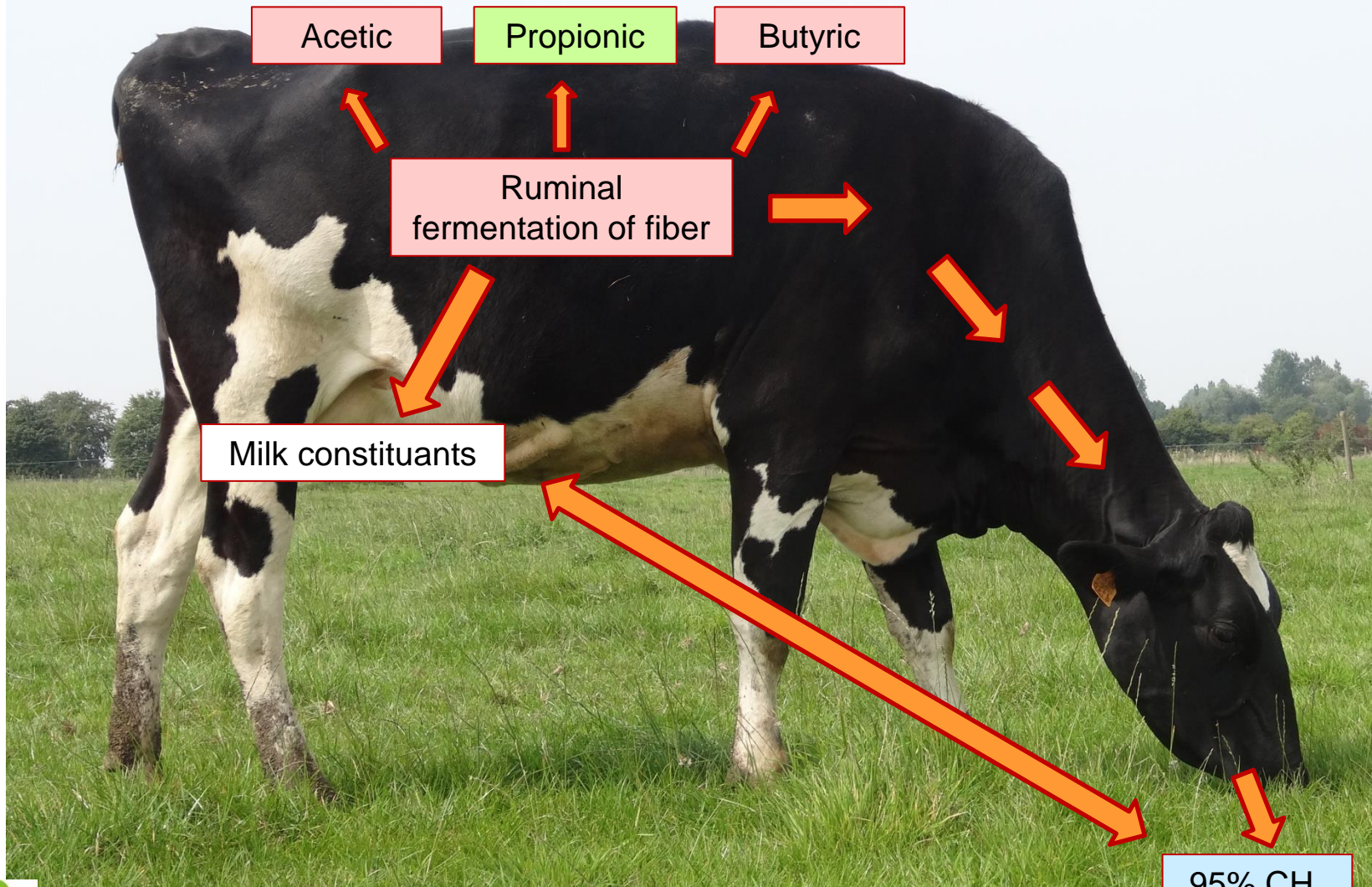


Methane produced by ruminants

- Greenhouse gas + loss of gross energy intake (6 to 12%)
 - Sources of variation of CH₄ emissions - genetics
 - diet
 - management
- Possibility to reduce enteric CH₄ emissions
- Before reducing it is necessary to study the link between those levers and methane emissions
- Development of a technique that allows large scale studies



Context

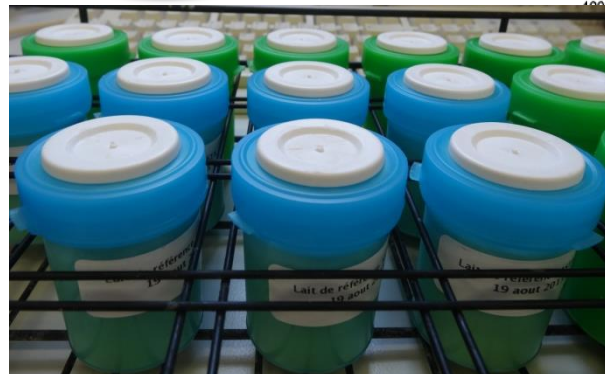
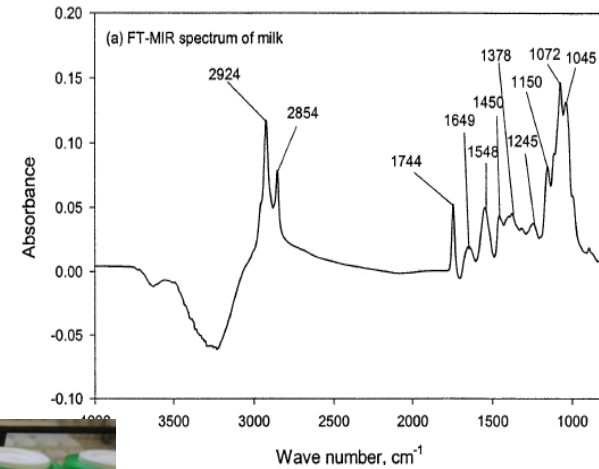
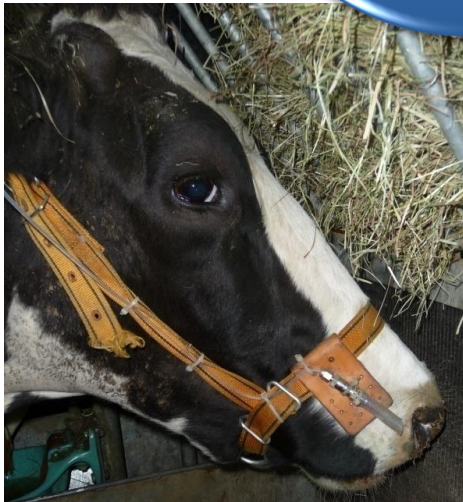


Principle

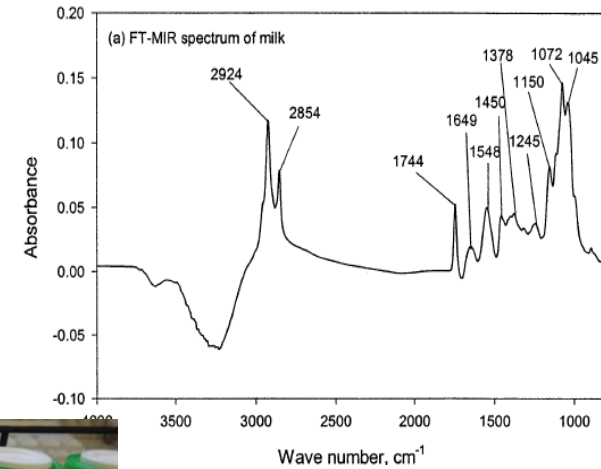
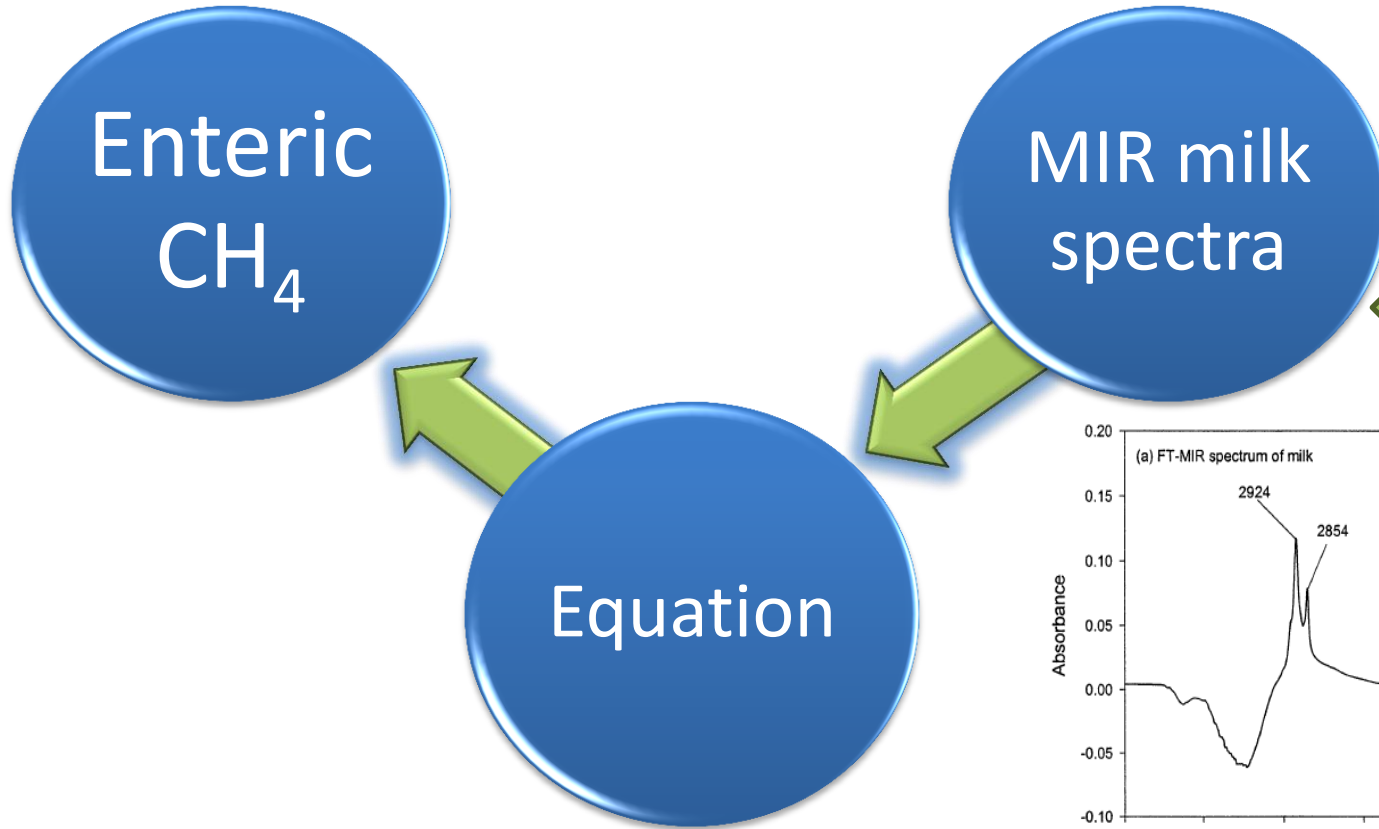
Enteric
 CH_4

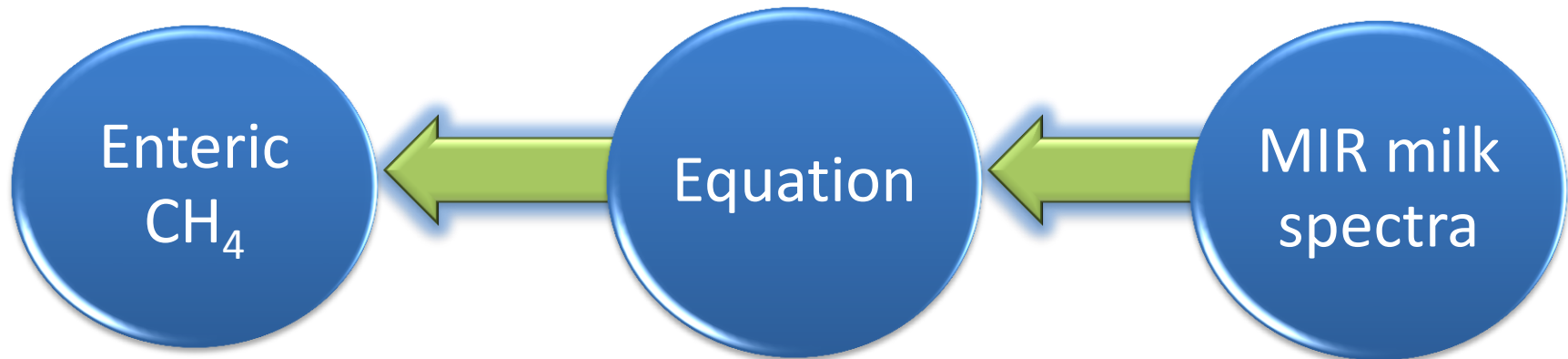
MIR milk
spectra

Equation



Principle





Animal (2012), 6:10, pp 1694–1701 © The Animal Consortium 2012
doi:10.1017/S1751731112000456



Potential use of milk mid-infrared spectra to predict individual methane emission of dairy cows

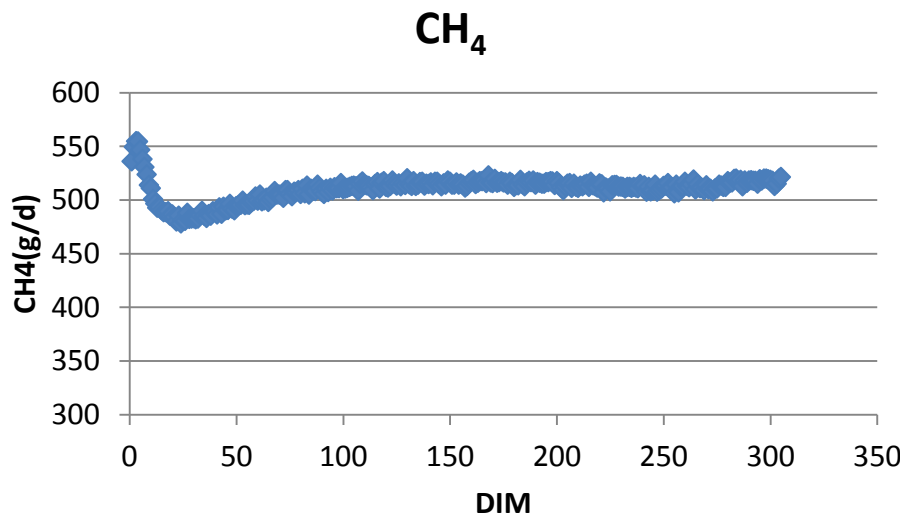
F. Dehareng^{1*†}, C. Delfosse^{1*}, E. Froidmont², H. Soyeurt^{3,4}, C. Martin⁵, N. Gengler^{3,4},
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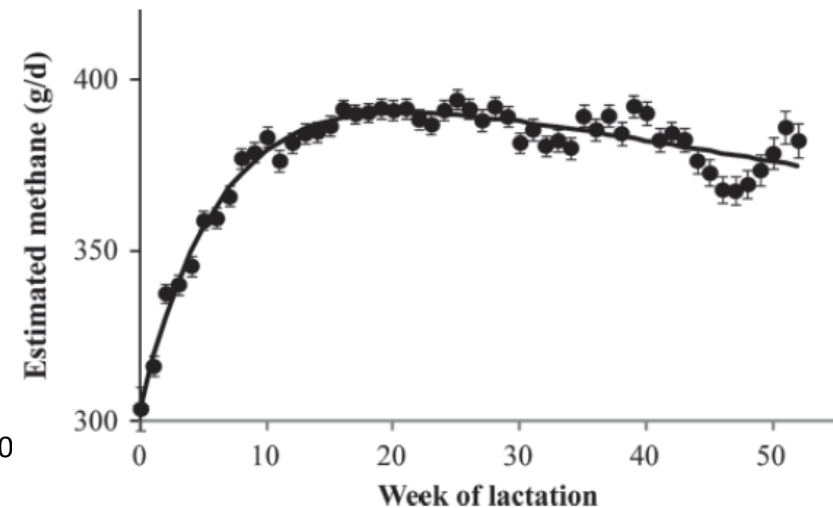




Methane predictions depending on lactation stage



Garnworthy *et al.*, 2012

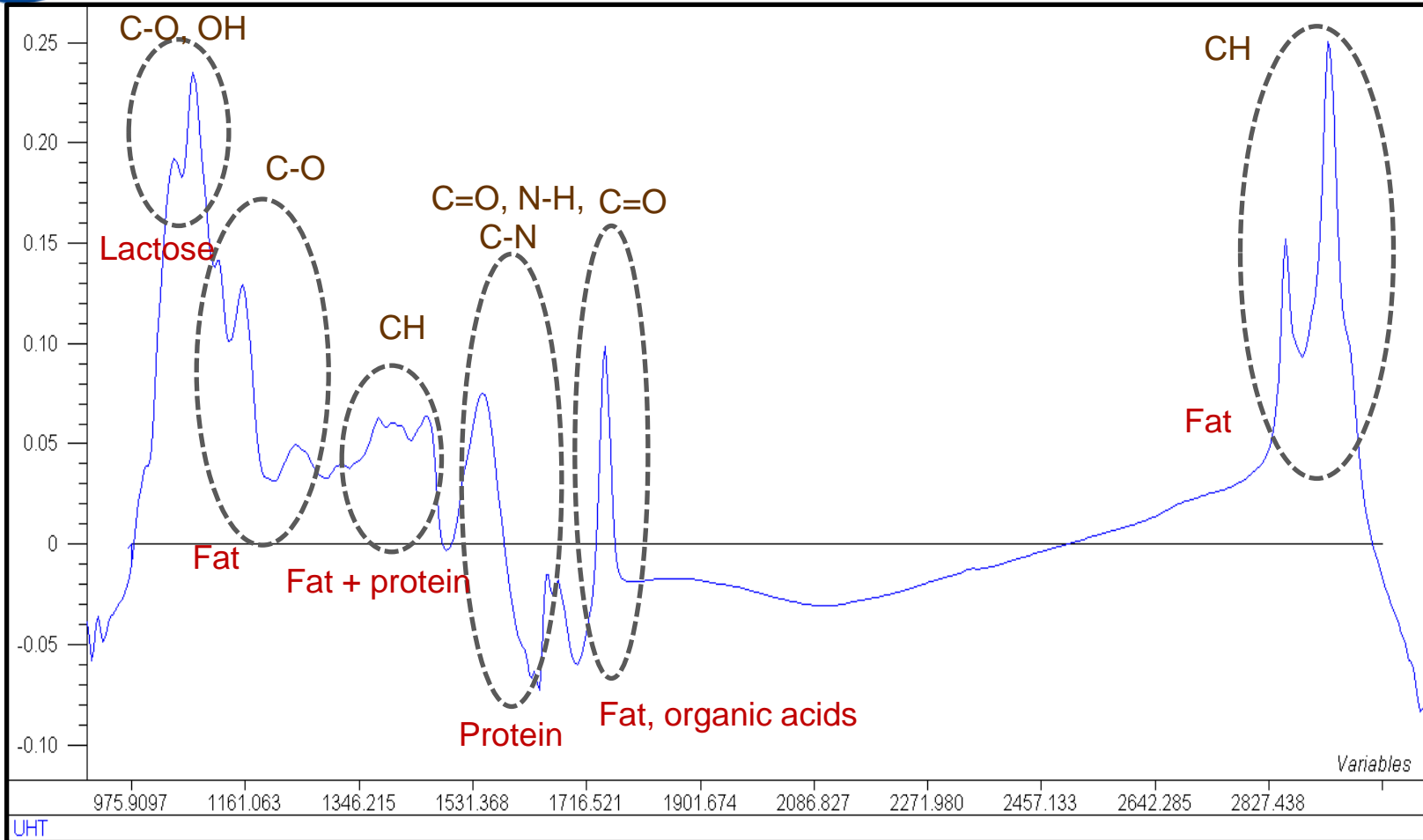


→ Reversed curves

→ Need to improve our model



Milk MIR spectra





Influence of lactation stage (DIM) on milk fatty acids



J. Dairy Sci. 94:4152–4163

doi:10.3168/jds.2010-4108

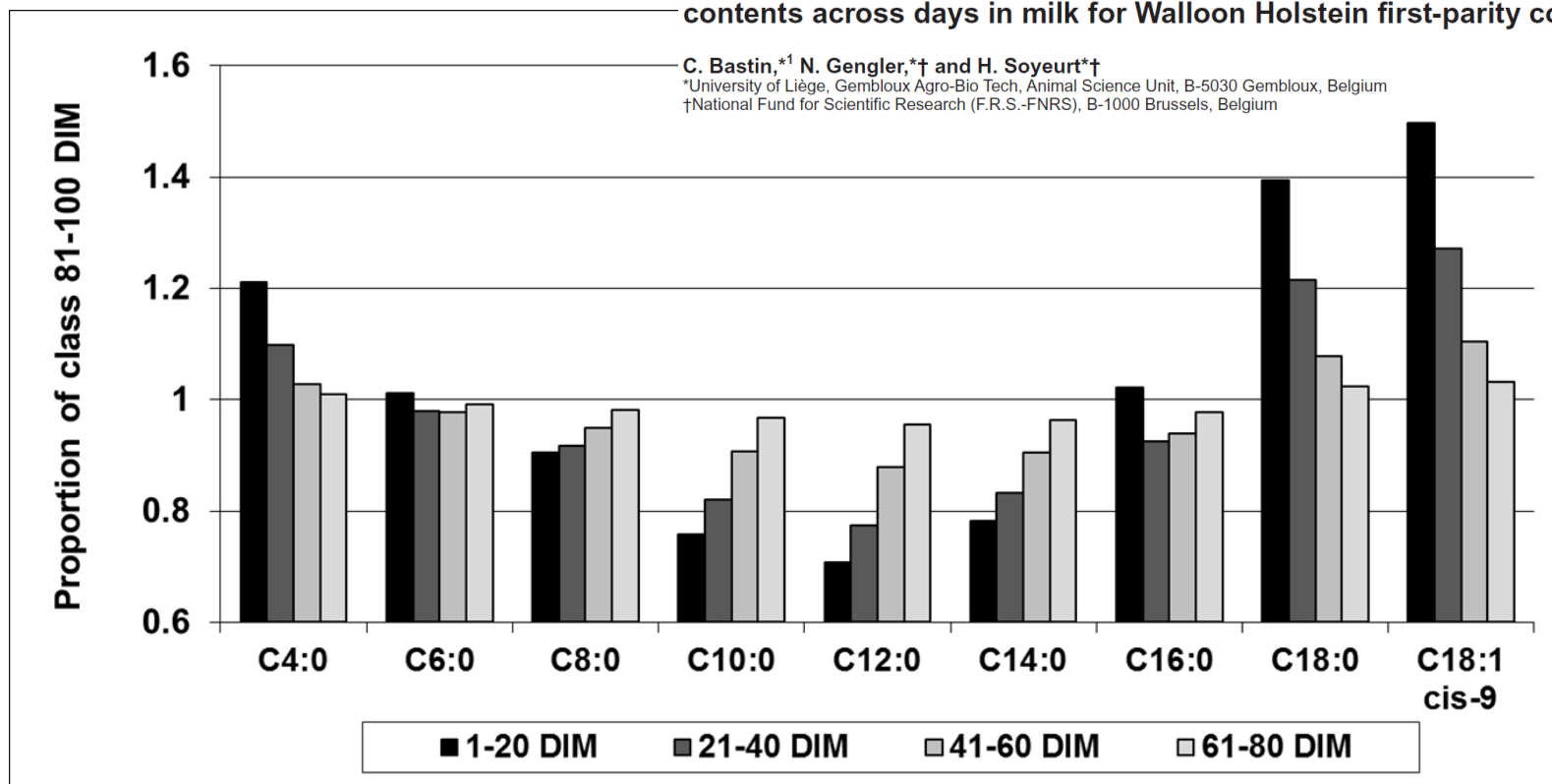
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Phenotypic and genetic variability of production traits and milk fatty acid contents across days in milk for Walloon Holstein first-parity cows

C. Bastin,^{*†} N. Gengler,^{*†} and H. Soyeurt^{*†}

^{*}University of Liège, Gembloux Agro-Bio Tech, Animal Science Unit, B-5030 Gembloux, Belgium

[†]National Fund for Scientific Research (F.R.S.-FNRS), B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

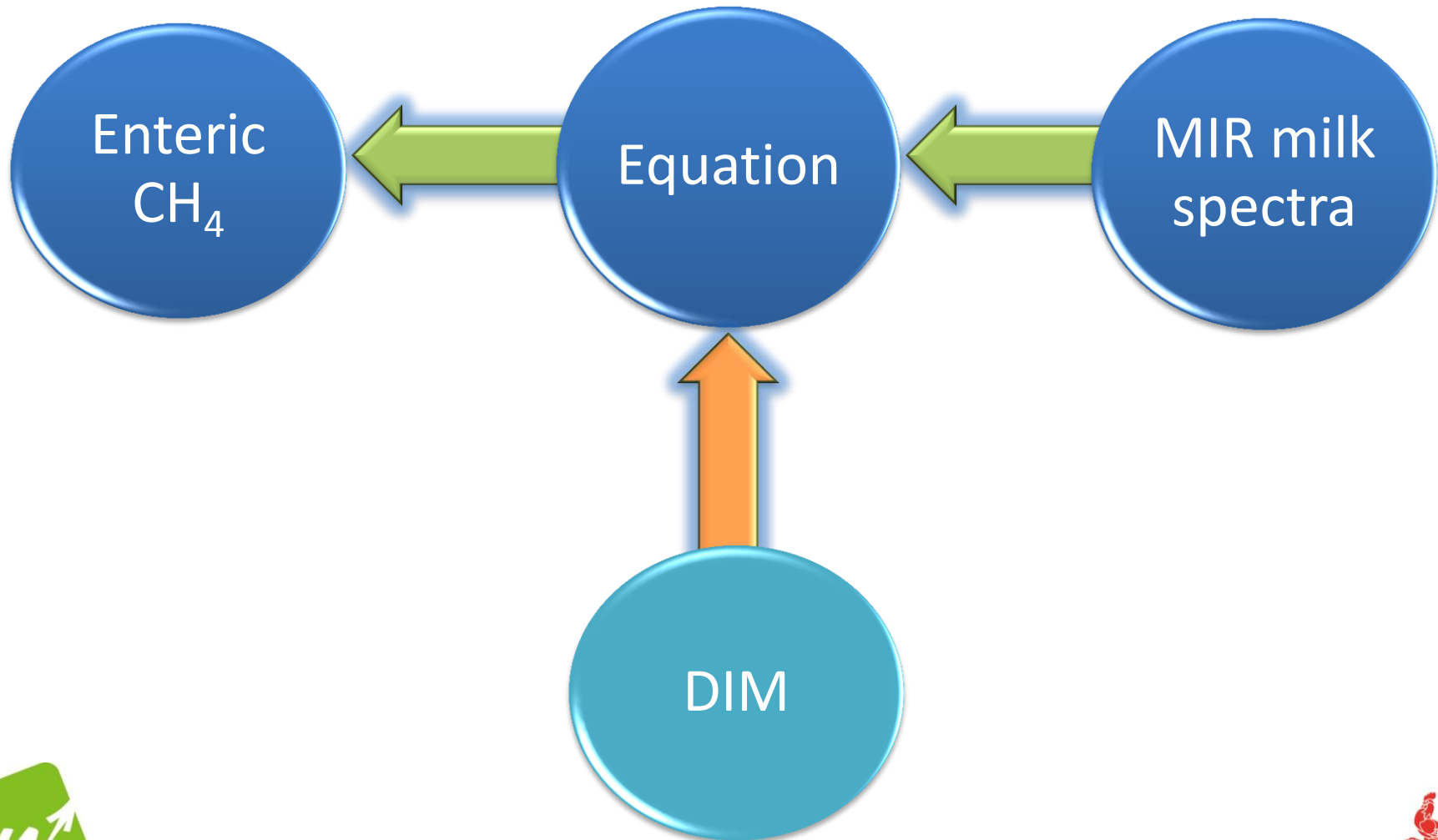


→ Influence on the milk MIR spectra

→ Influence the relationship between MIR spectra and CH₄



Objective : Inclusion of DIM information in methane equation



Material and Methods

- Comparison of equations including or not the DIM information
- 446 reference data : milk MIR spectrum // enteric CH₄ (SF₆)

→ A maximum variability is needed



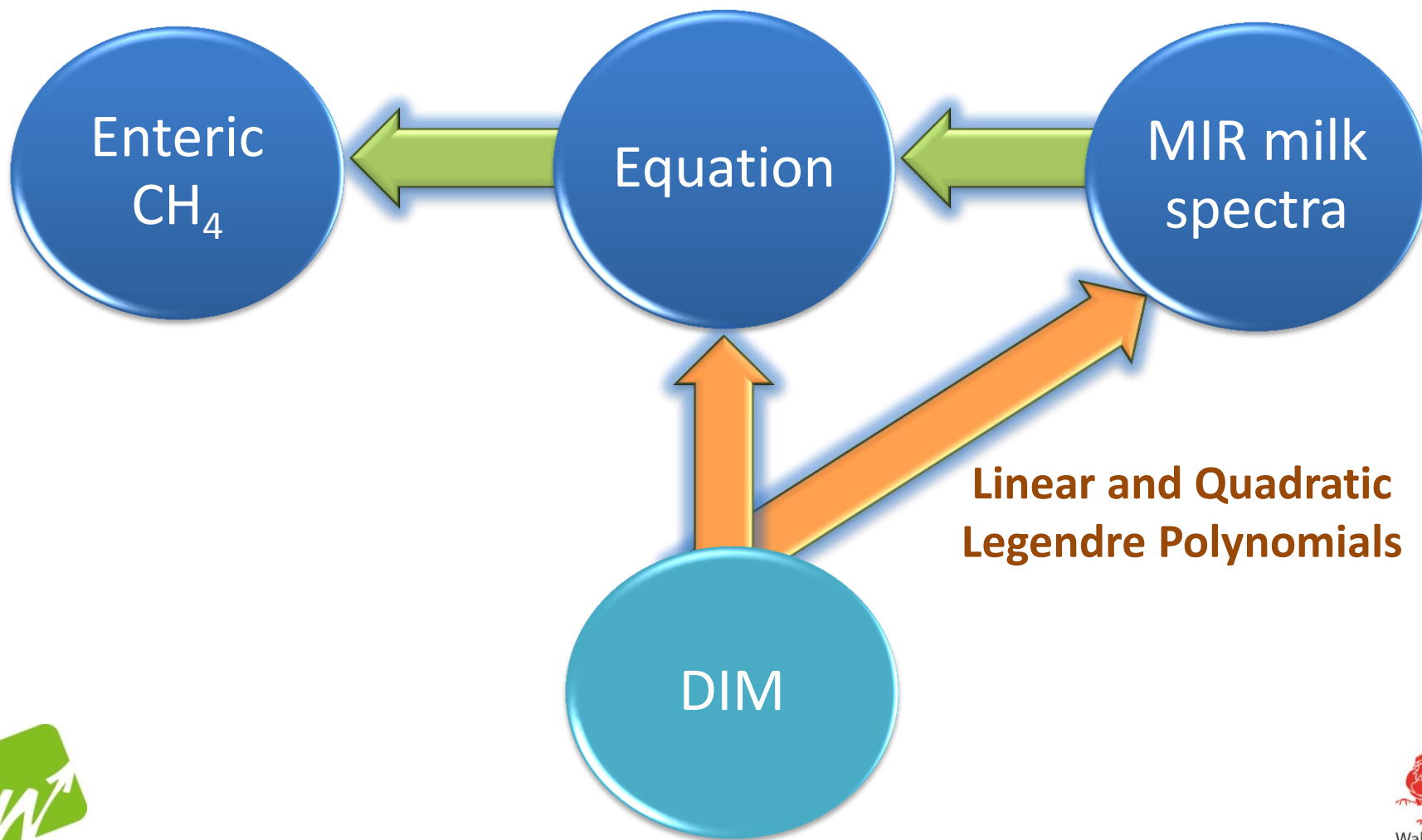
- Belgium (CRA-W) and Ireland (Teagasc – Moorepark)
- 142 cows
- Lactations : 60 x 1st, 36 x 2nd, 45 x 3rd or +
- Holstein, Jersey and Cross-breed (Hol x Jer)
- Different diets : basic diet enriched in
 - maize
 - fresh grass
 - linseed

classic total mixed ration
starch morning, fiber evening
grassland





Material and Methods : Inclusion of DIM information in methane equation





Material and Methods : Legendre Polynomials



Estimation of (Co)variance Function Coefficients for Test Day Yield with a Expectation-Maximization Restricted Maximum Likelihood Algorithm

N. GENGLER,^{*,†} A. TIJANI,^{†,1} G. R. WIGGANS,[‡] and I. MISZTAL[§]

1999 J. Dairy Sci.(Aug.)

Legendre polynomials has been adapted depending on the lactation stage to take into account the expected metabolic status of the cow.

→ Adapted polynomials can be applied on milk MIR spectra.





Material and Methods : Legendre Polynomials



- First derivatives of milk MIR spectra are multiplied by :

- 1 (**constant**)

- adapted **linear** Legendre polynomial

- adapted **quadratic** Legendre polynomial

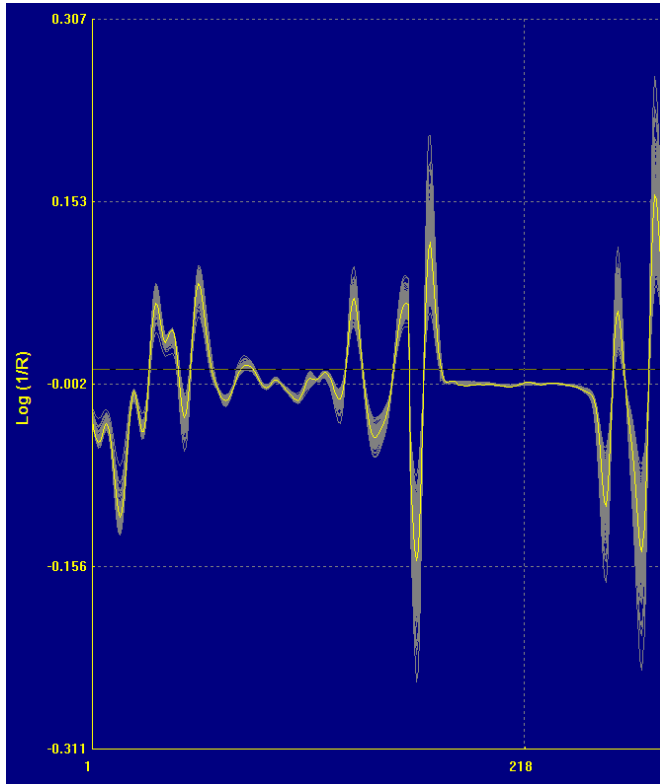


Vary for each spectra according to
the DIM of the linked cow





Material and Methods : Legendre Polynomials

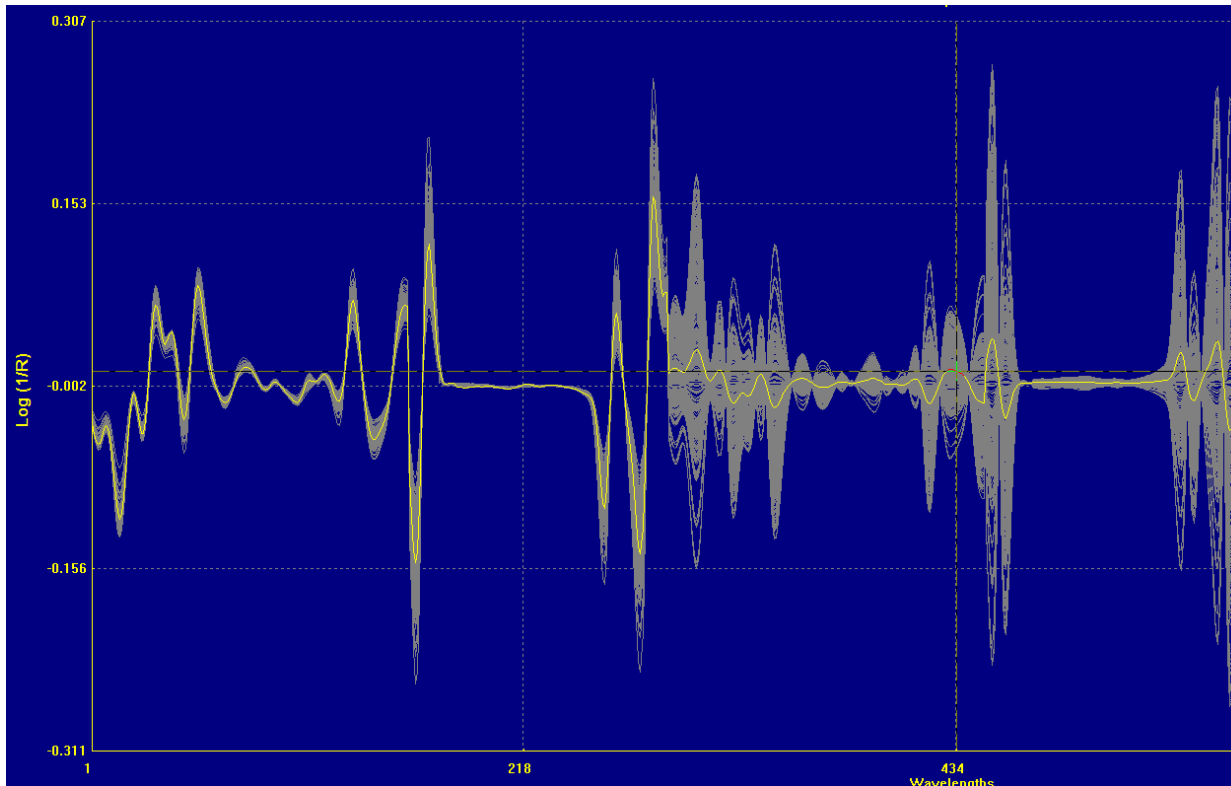


Constant





Material and Methods : Legendre Polynomials



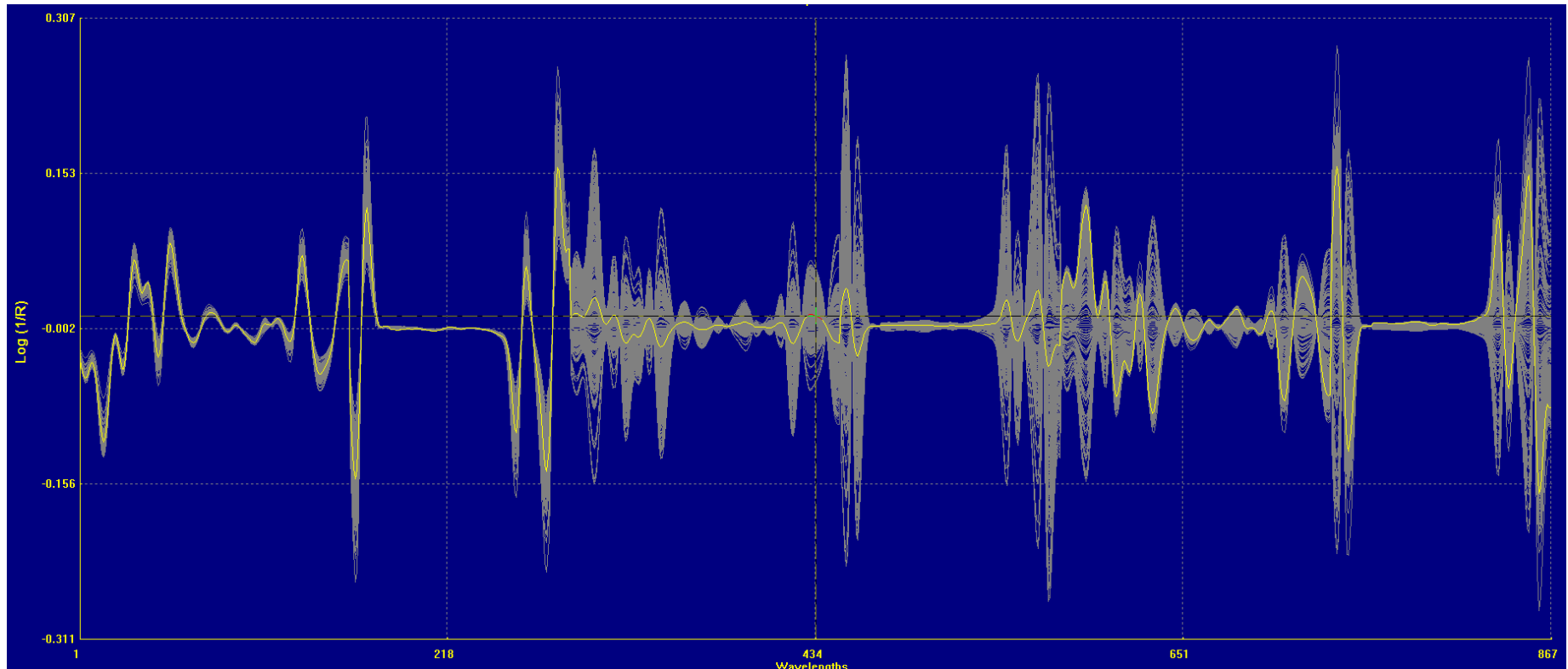
Constant

Linear





Material and Methods : Legendre Polynomials



Constant

Linear

Quadratic



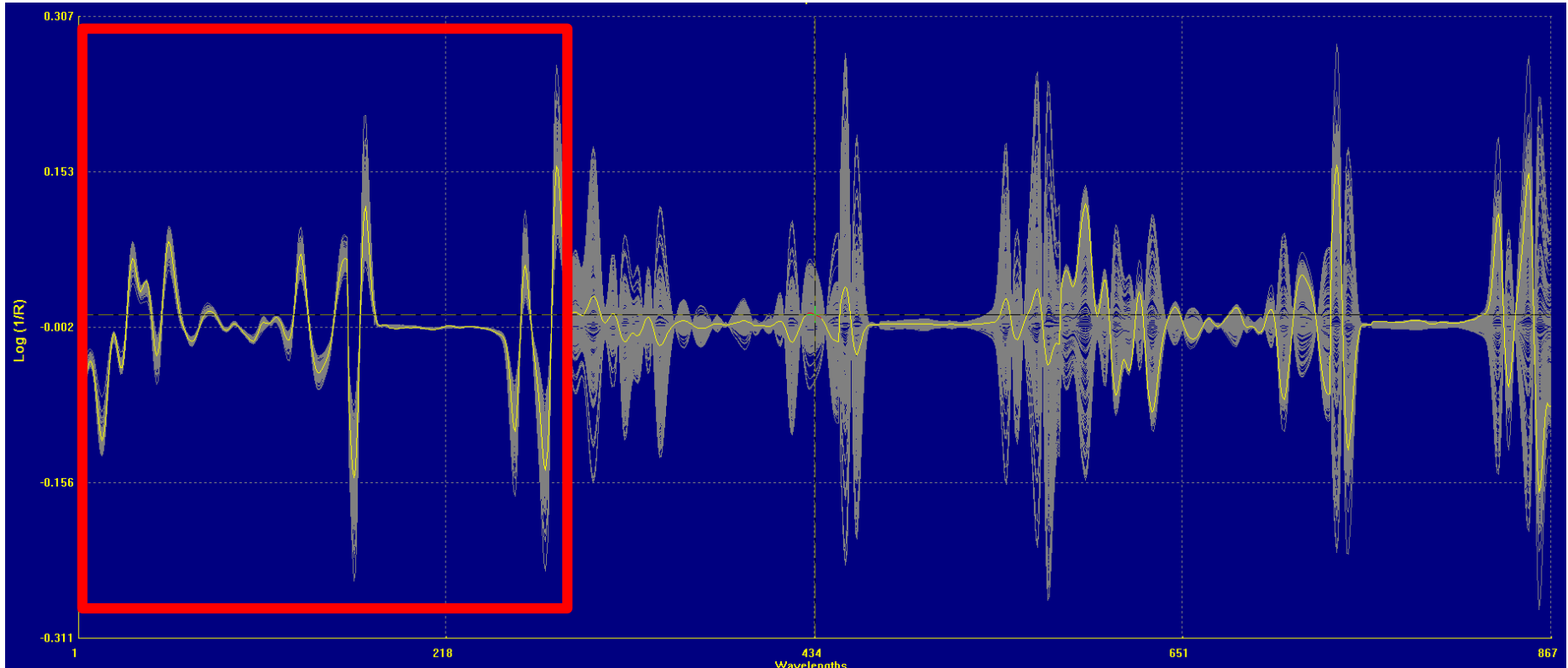
Wallonie



Material and Methods



Spectra used to develop the equation independent of DIM



Constant

Linear

Quadratic



Wallonie



Equations to predict CH₄ from MIR milk spectra



Equation (g/day)	N	SD	R ² c	R ² cv	SEC	SECV
CH ₄	446	132.6	0.78	0.74	63	68
CH ₄ and DIM	446	127.5	0.75	0.67	63	72

N = number of observations; SD = standard deviation; R²c = calibration coefficient of determination; R²cv = cross-validation coefficient of determination; SEC = calibration standard error; SECV = cross-validation standard error

→ Statistical parameters are a slightly lower...

...BUT!

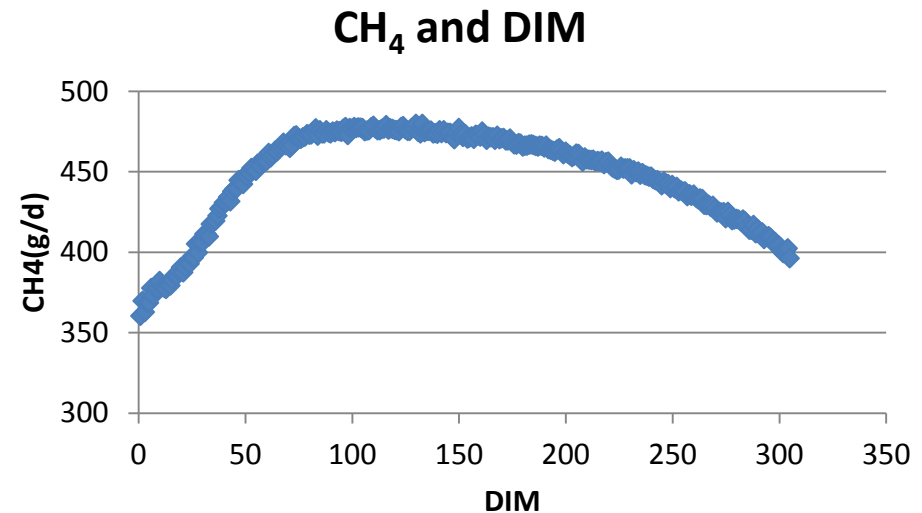
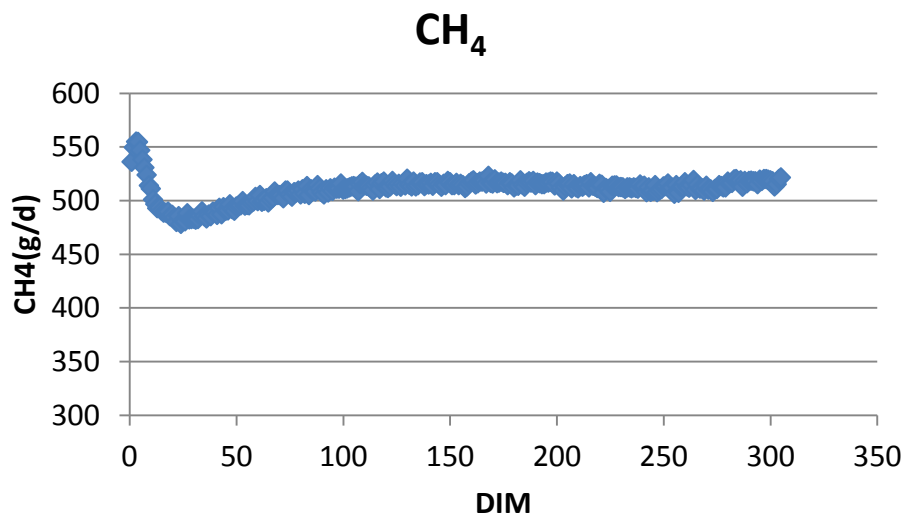




Equations to predict CH_4 from MIR milk spectra



Application of CH_4 equations on Belgian spectral database
– 1st lactation Holstein cows



→ The only modification in our calibration is the incorporation of the lactation stage information



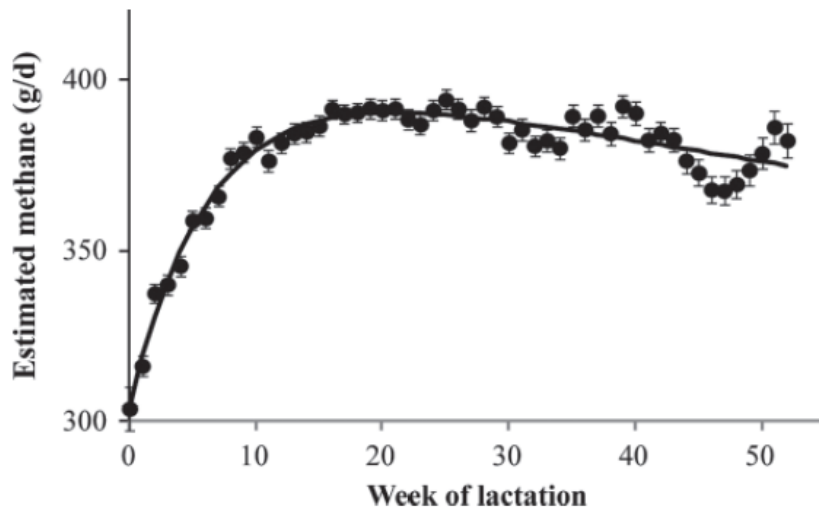


Equations to predict CH₄ from MIR milk spectra

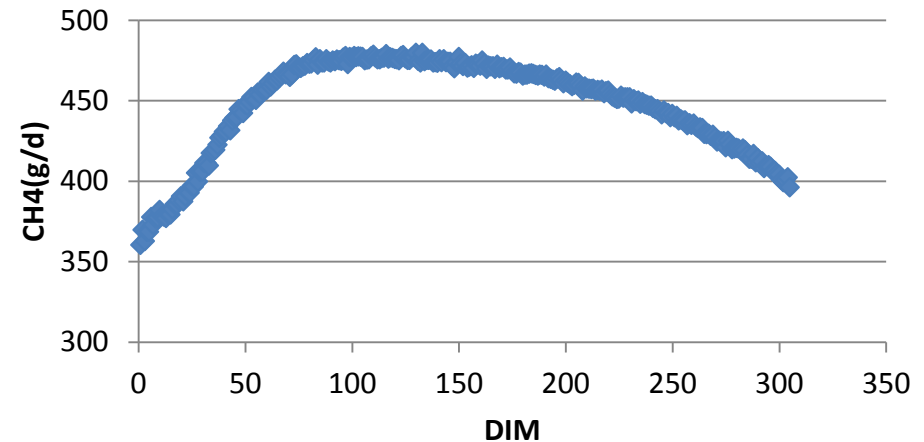


Application of CH₄ equations on Belgian spectral database
– 1st lactation Holstein cows

Garnworthy *et al.*, 2012



CH₄ and DIM



→ In accordance with literature

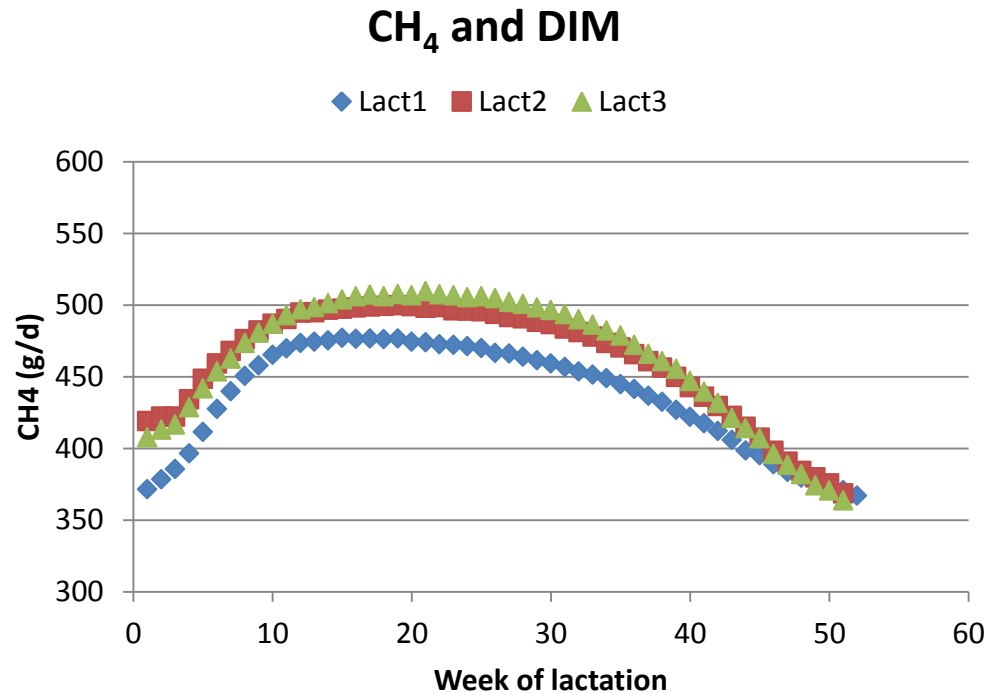




Equations to predict CH₄ from MIR milk spectra



Application of CH₄ equations on Belgian spectral database
– Holstein cows



Trends over lactations correspond to what is expected

Conclusions

- Possible to predict enteric methane from milk MIR spectra
- Important to check if the applications at large scale are logical at a metabolic level
- Integration of DIM information seems to be a good strategy to :
 - take a better account of the metabolic status of cows
 - improve the equation
- More data are needed to
 - include more variability
 - cover better the beginning and the end of lactation
 - improve performance of the equation



Thank you!

