



**IBERS**

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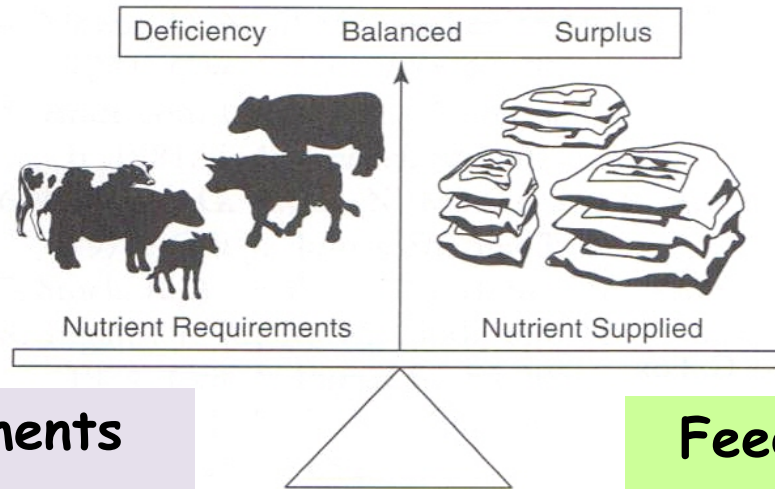
**Prediction of CP concentration  
and rumen degradability by  
Fourier Transform Infrared Spectroscopy (FTIR)**

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EAAP meeting, 27 August, Bratislava (Slovakia)

# Introduction

## Optimize the ruminant nutrition



### Animal requirements

#### -In:

- Energy
- Protein (digestible)

#### -Depends on:

- Physiological state (Mant. Grow. Preg.)
- Animal performance
- Others (BW, °C, activity, etc.)

#### -Estimation

- "Trial and error"* (production data)
- Tables (INRA, AFRC, NRC, etc)

### Feed nutritional value

#### -Tables of feed evaluation

- Ingredients in the diet?
- Broad approach

#### -Chemical analysis

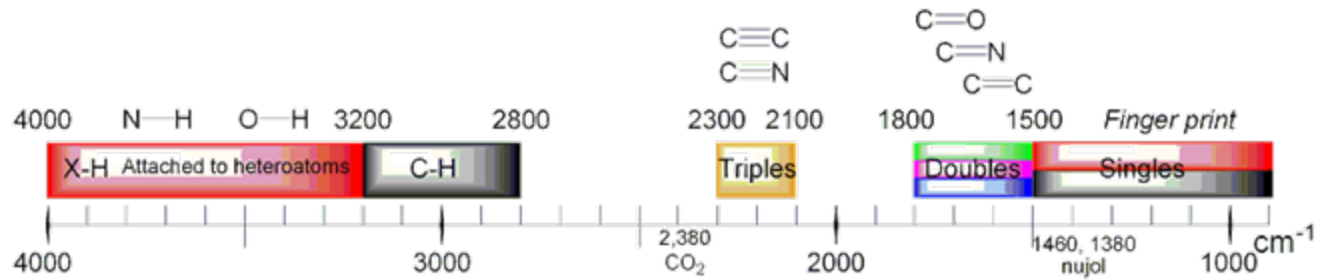
- Expensive
- No degradability data

#### -*In situ* degradability

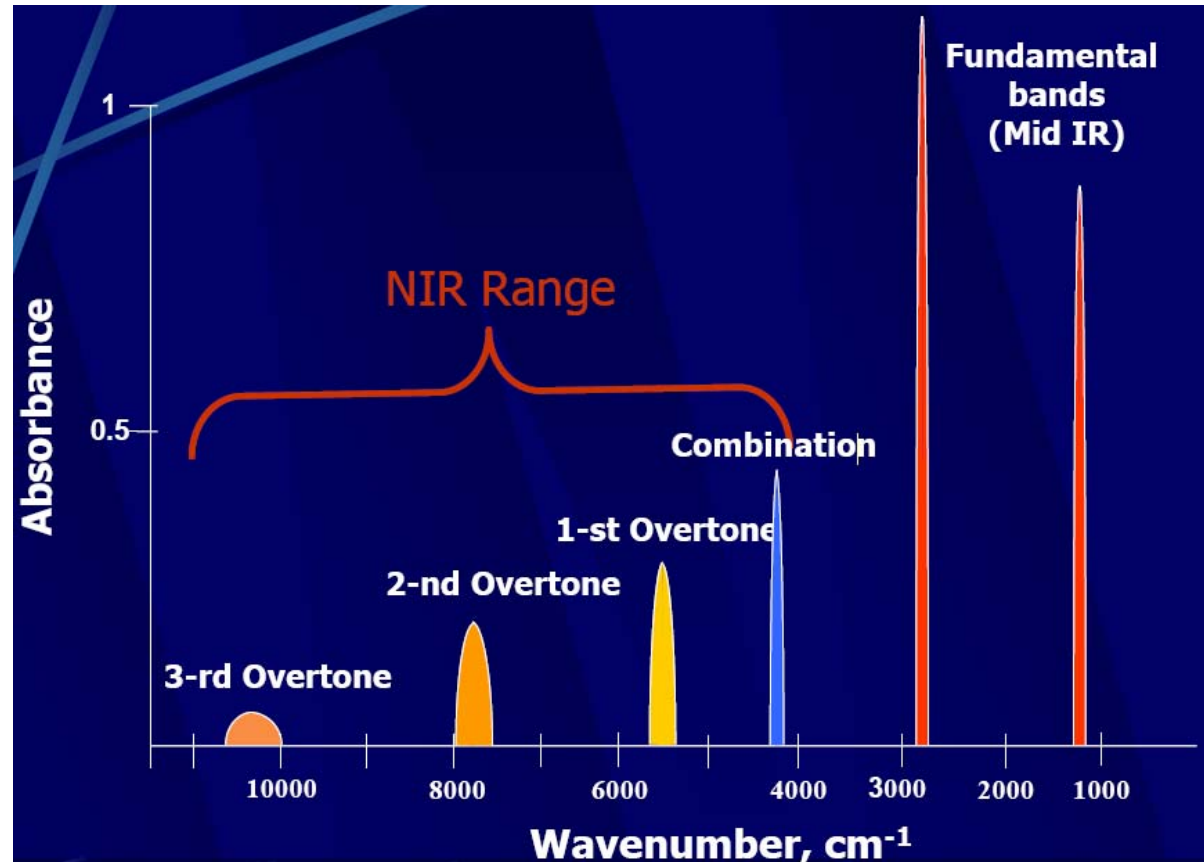
#### -Alternatives

- Accurate prediction
- Simple and cost-effective

# Infrared Spectroscopy



## NIR vs. FTIR



# Objectives:

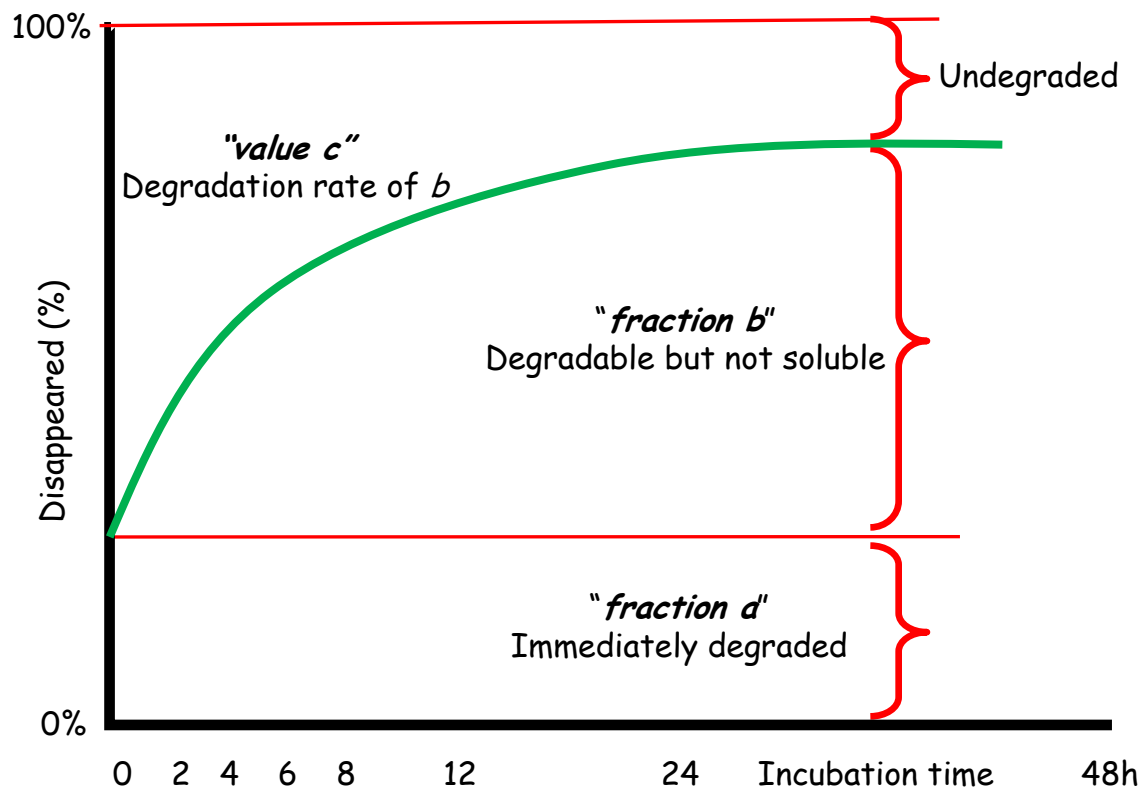
- 1) Investigate whether FTIR spectra differ between feeds
- 2) Evaluation the potential of FTIR spectrometry to predict the CP concentration and rumen degradability

**Dataset = 786 samples (80 different feeds)**

<b>38 Barley-wheat forage</b>	<b>111 Grass-clover forage</b>	<b>39 Legume forage</b>	<b>200 Oil by products</b>
10 Barley whole crop	36 Grass-clover forage	12 Lupinus whole crop	112 Rapeseed
10 Winter wheat whole crop	26 Grass silage	7 Lucerne forage	42 Soybean
8 Winter wheat silage	16 Grass-clover silage	5 Peas whole crop forage	25 Sunflower
4 Barley whole crop silage	14 Grass forage	4 Peas whole crop silage	12 Cotton seed
4 Green barley forage	7 Artificial-dry grass	4 Galega forage	2 Soypass
2 Barley straw	8 Clover forage	4 Field beans whole crop	2 Treated soybean meal
	2 Grass straw	2 Artificial dry lucerne	4 Others
	2 Festulolium forage	1 Peas straw	
<b>18 Mill by products</b>	<b>63 Cereal grains</b>	<b>18 Legume seeds</b>	<b>17 Protein products</b>
7 Maize gluten feed	30 Barley	7 Peas	7 Guar meal
4 Maize feed meal	12 Wheat	3 Soybean	5 Malt sprouts
3 Wheat gluten feed	7 Rye	3 Toasted soybean	3 Brewers grains
2 Wheat bran	5 Triticale	2 Rapeseed	2 Potato protein
2 Amyfeed	4 Oat	2 Lupinus	
	3 Maize	1 Field beans	
	2 Grain mix		
<b>22 Maize silage</b>	<b>32 Maize forage</b>	<b>22 Beets</b>	<b>35 Distillers</b>
22 Maize silage		14 Dry sugar beet pulp	28 Corn distillers
2 Maize silage with pulp		6 Fodder beets	5 Wheat distillers
		2 Beet pulp	2 Barley distillers
<b>16 Soybean hulls</b>	<b>127 Concentrate mix</b>	<b>19 Total mixed ration</b>	<b>9 Tropical feeds</b>

# Protein nutritional value of feeds

Parameter	Abbreviation	Method
Crude protein	CP	Kjeldahl
Water soluble CP	CP <sub>WS</sub>	Water
Total tract CP digestibility	CP <sub>TTD</sub>	Mobile bag (Duodenum-faeces)
Rumen degradation pattern	<i>a, b, c</i> and CP <sub>ED</sub>	<i>In situ</i> or <i>in sacco</i> method



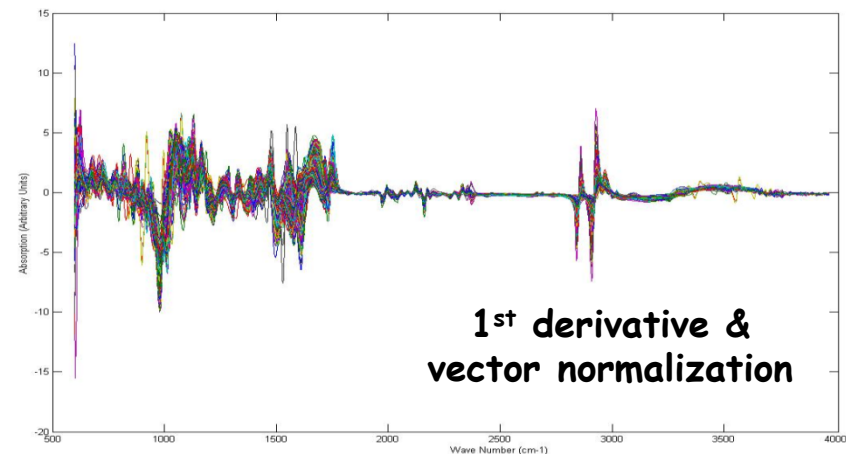
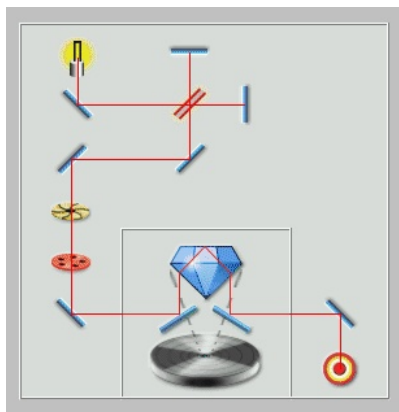
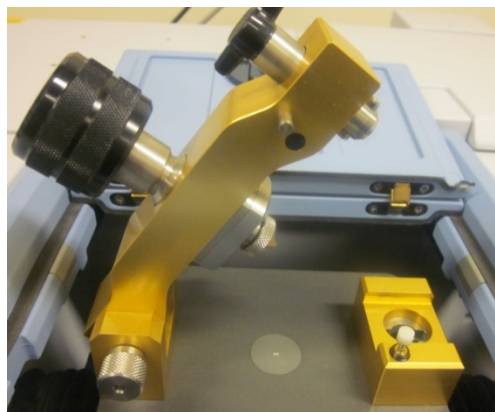
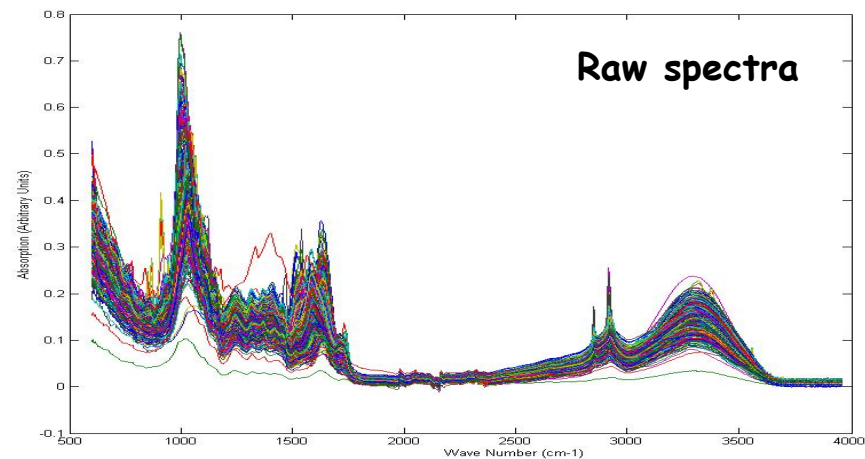
## Effective degradability

$$CP_{ED} = a + b [c / (c + k)]$$

$k$  = rumen outflow rate = 5%/h  
RRT=20h

# FTIR analysis

- **Sample preparation:**
  - Dry at 60°C and milled at 1.5 mm diameter
- **FTIR analysis:**
  - Equinox 55 FTIR spectrometer fitted with a Golden Gate ATR accessory
  - Wavelength: 500 to 4000  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (resolution 2 $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )
  - 64 scans per sample in duplicate



# Modelling

- Metadata (n=663)

- Mean centre scaled

- Spectral data

- Calibration dataset (85% samples)
- Validation dataset (15% samples)

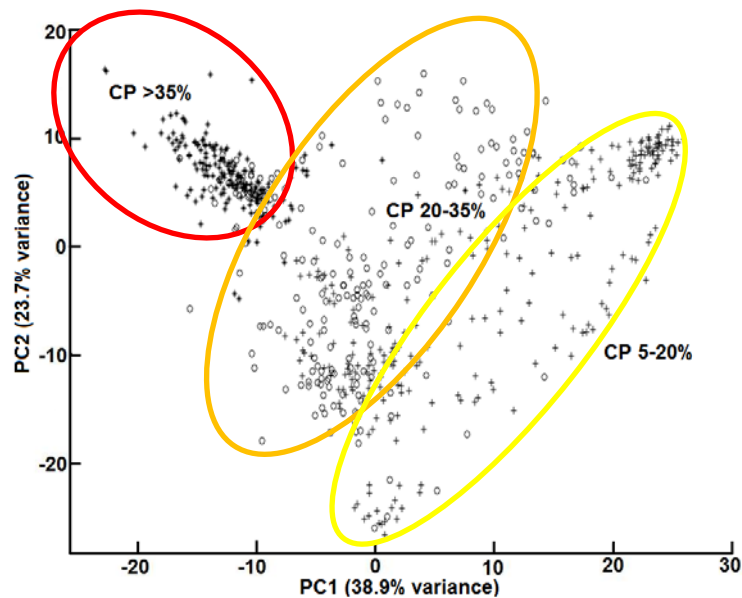
- Prediction models

- Partial Least Squares (PLS-Matlab)
- Data transformation (de-trend, SNV, MSC)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative
  - Vector normalized (mean=0, variance=1SD)
  - Mean centre scale
- Outliers (high hotelling, Q residuals, >3SD)
- Cross validation (“Venetian Blinds”)
- Number of LV chosen to minimize RMSECV
- Model accuracy ( $R^2$  &  $RPD=SD/SEP$ )
  - Very satisfactory  $R^2 > 0.90$  &  $RPD > 3.0$
  - Satisfactory:  $R^2 > 0.80$  &  $RPD > 2.5$
  - For screening:  $R^2 > 0.70$  &  $RPD > 2.0$
  - Inaccurate:  $R^2 < 0.70$  &  $RPD < 2.0$

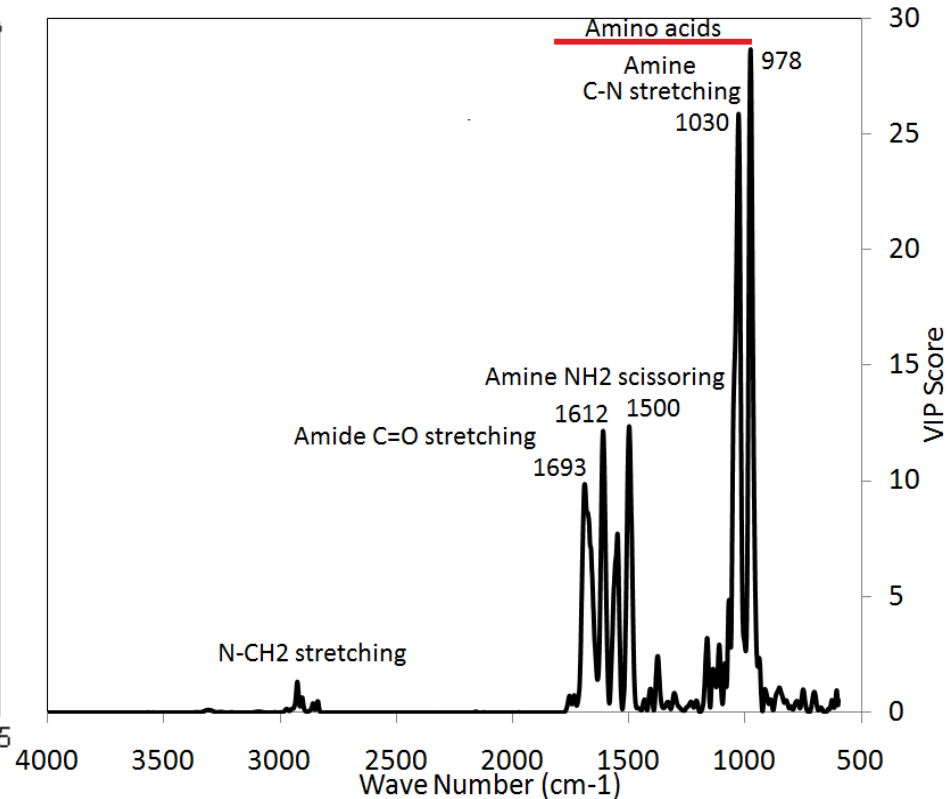
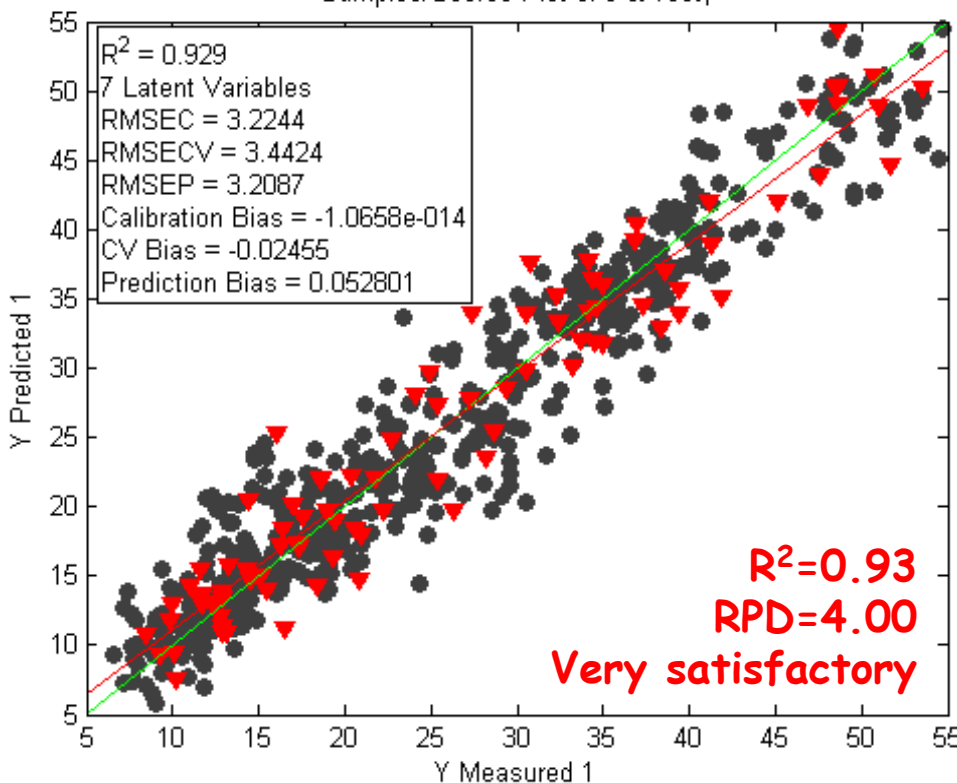
Universal model

**% CP**

( $n = 655$ )



Samples/Scores Plot of c & Test,





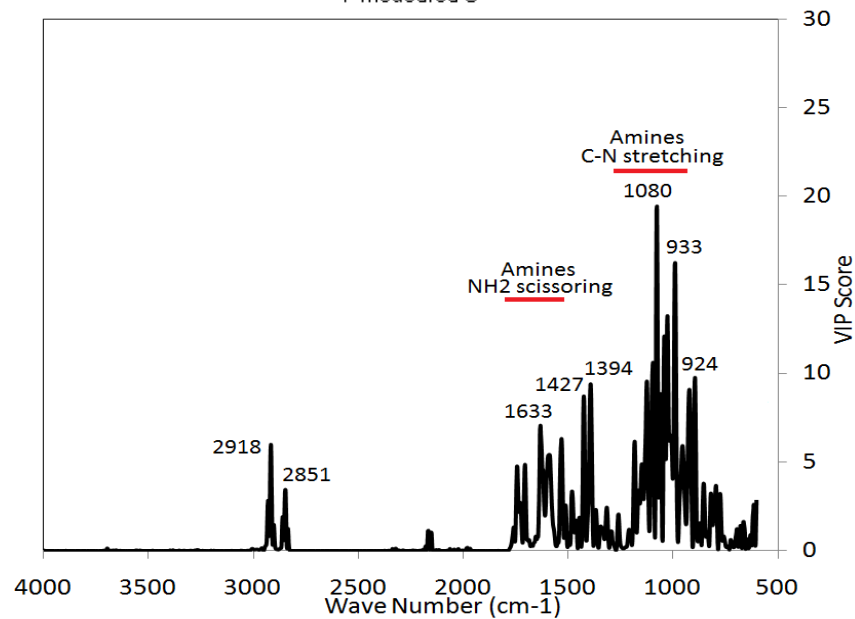
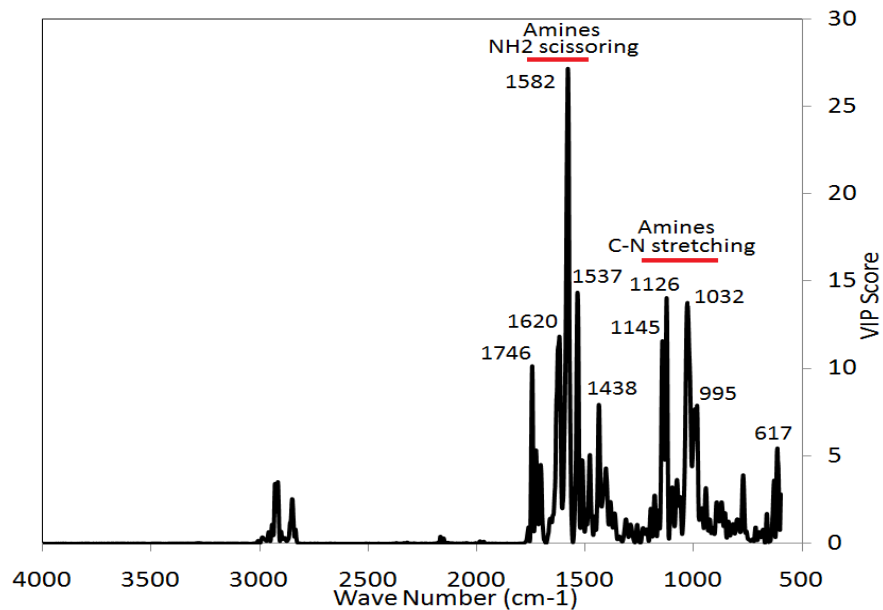
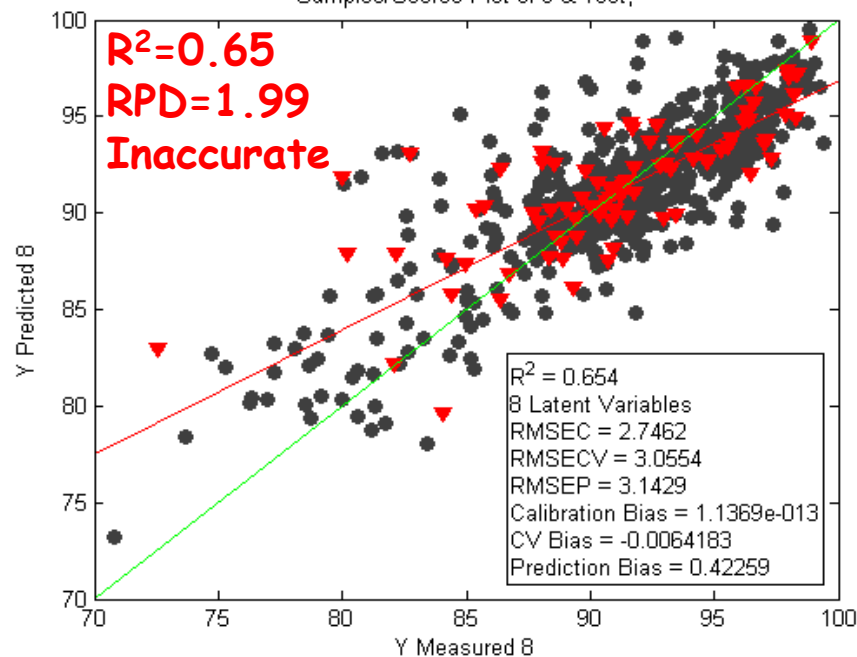
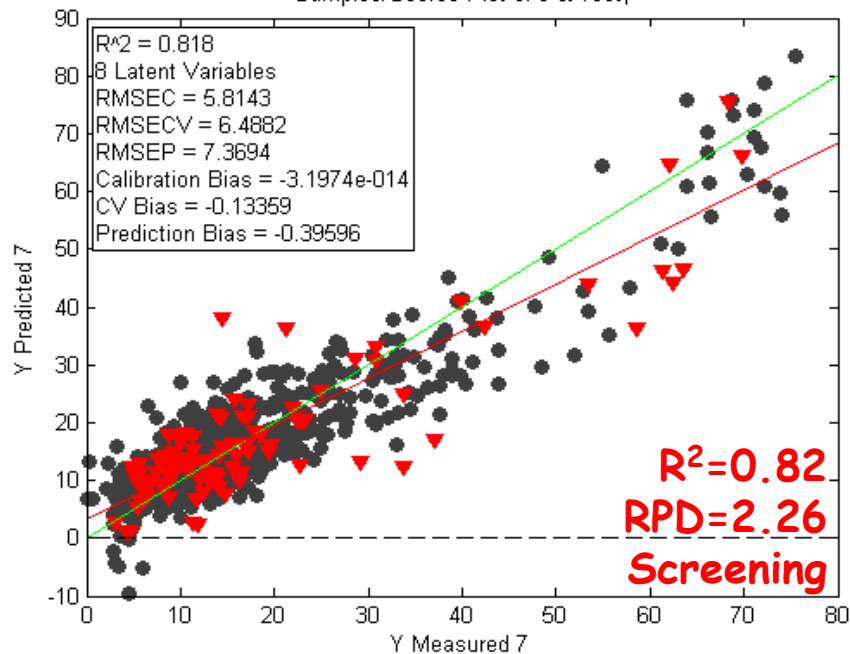
# CP<sub>WS</sub>

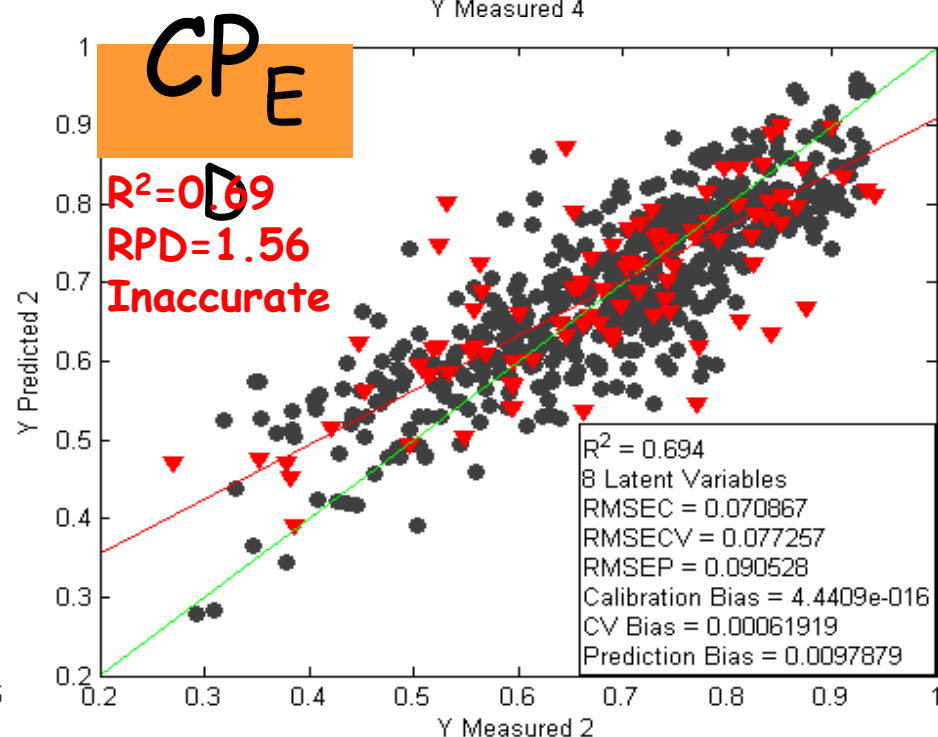
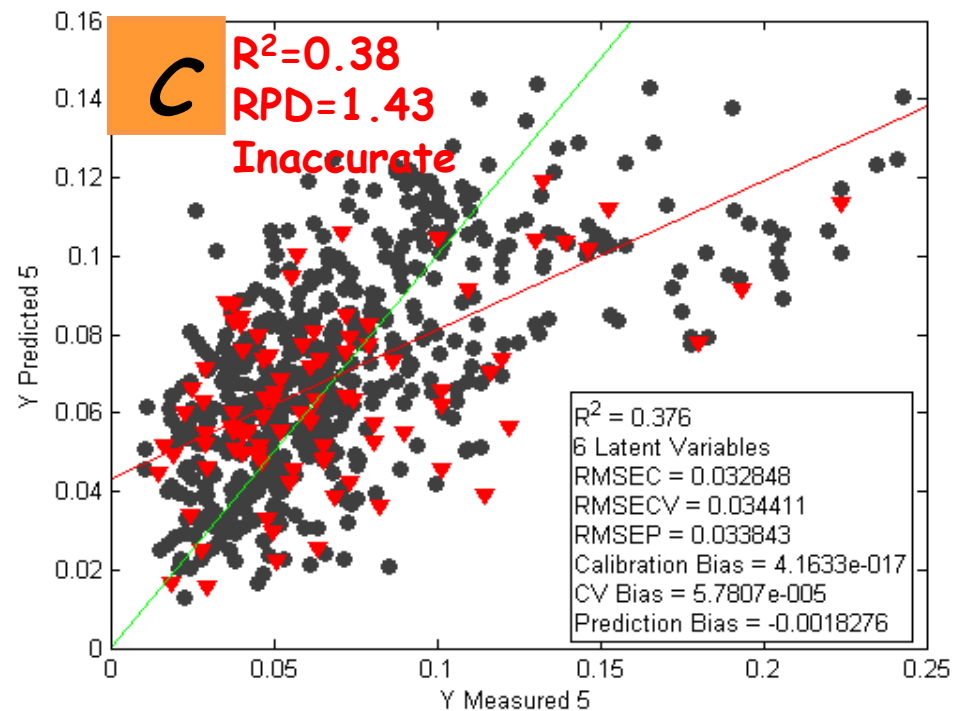
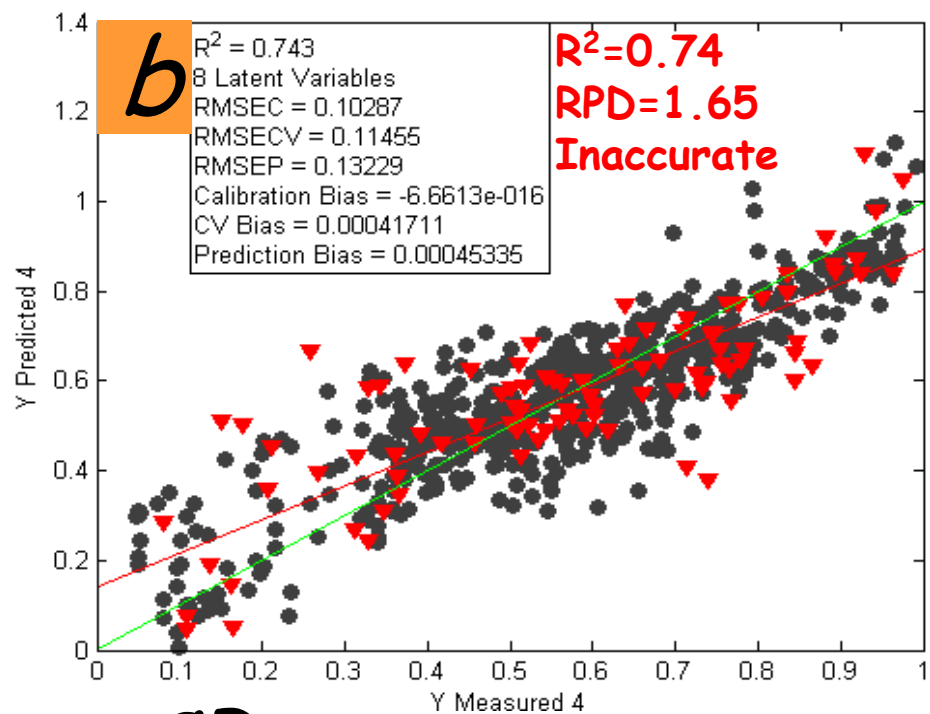
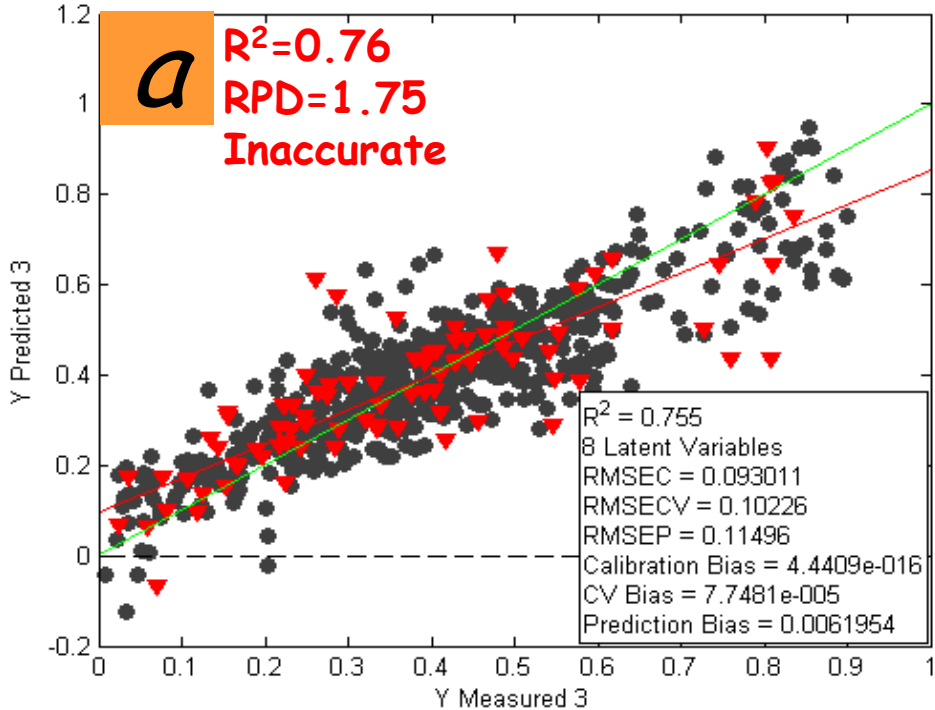
# Universal models (n=655)

# CP<sub>TTD</sub>

Samples/Scores Plot of c & Test,

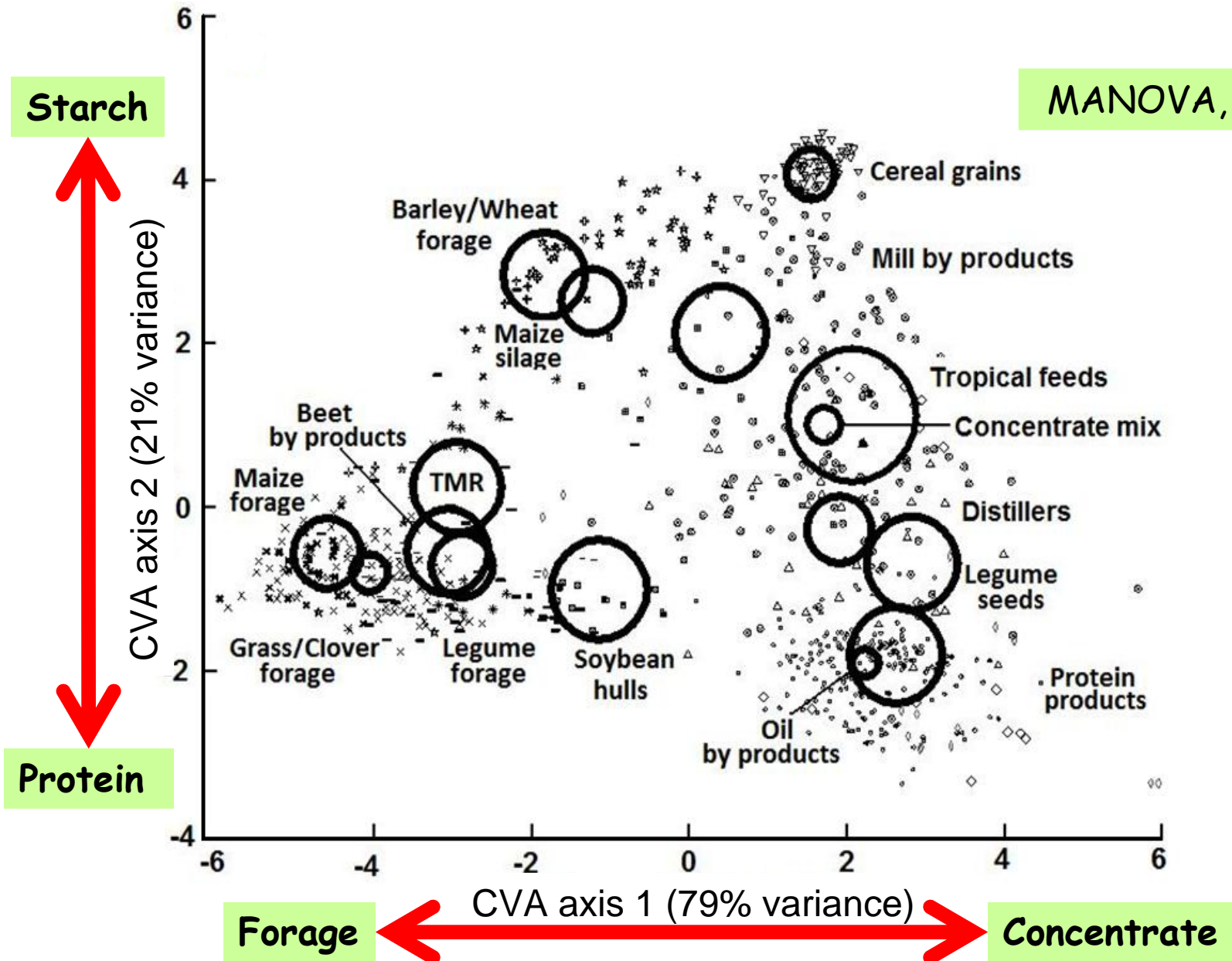
Samples/Scores Plot of c & Test,



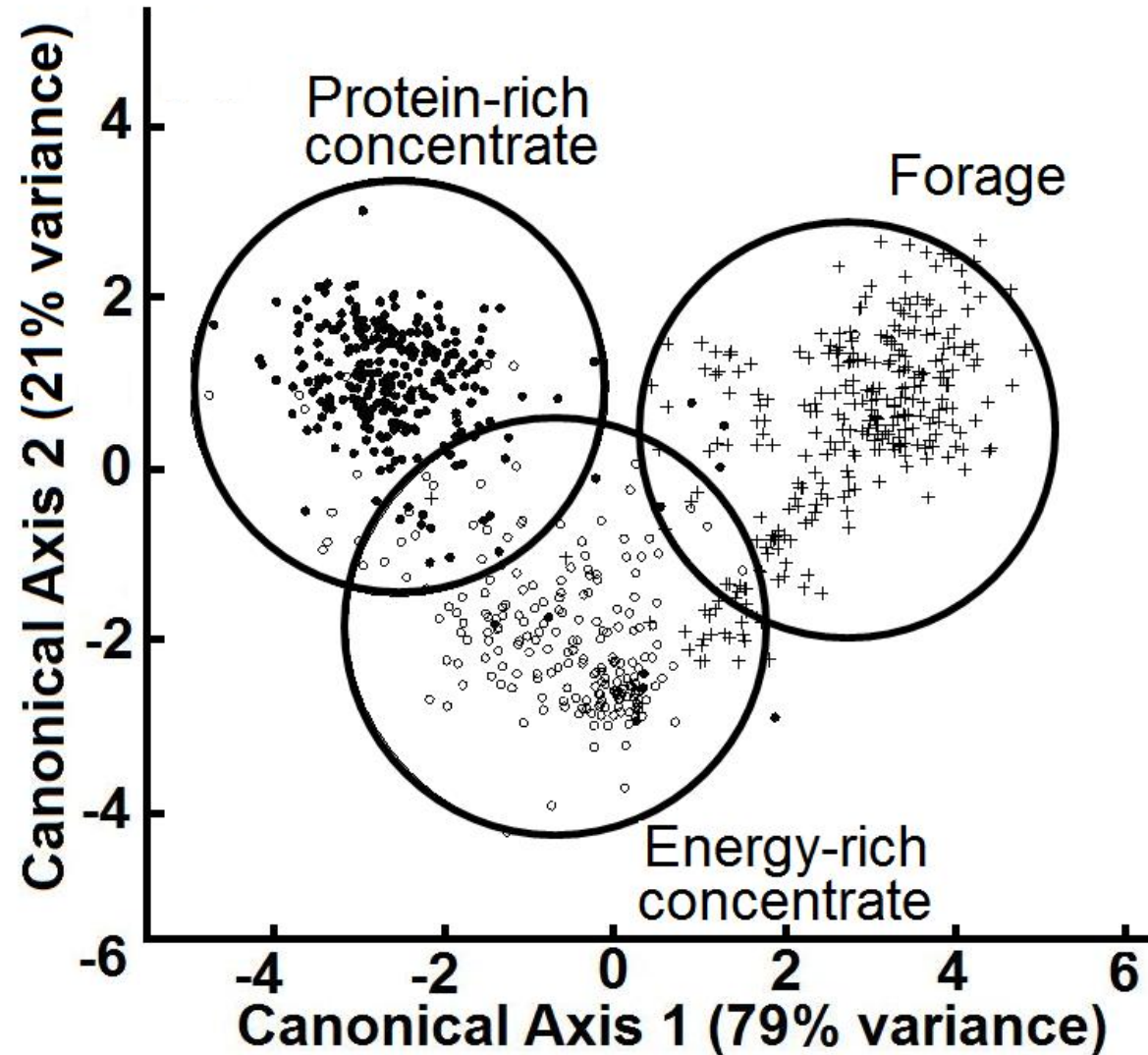


# Canonical analysis of variance (10 PCs = 90% var)

MANOVA,  $P < 0.001$



# Feeds classification



## FORAGES

Barley-wheat forage  
Grass-clover forage  
Maize forage  
Legume forage  
Total mixed ration  
Soybean hulls  
Beets

## ENERGY-RICH concentrates

Cereal grains  
Mill by products  
Tropical feeds  
Concentrate mix

## PROTEIN-RICH concentrates

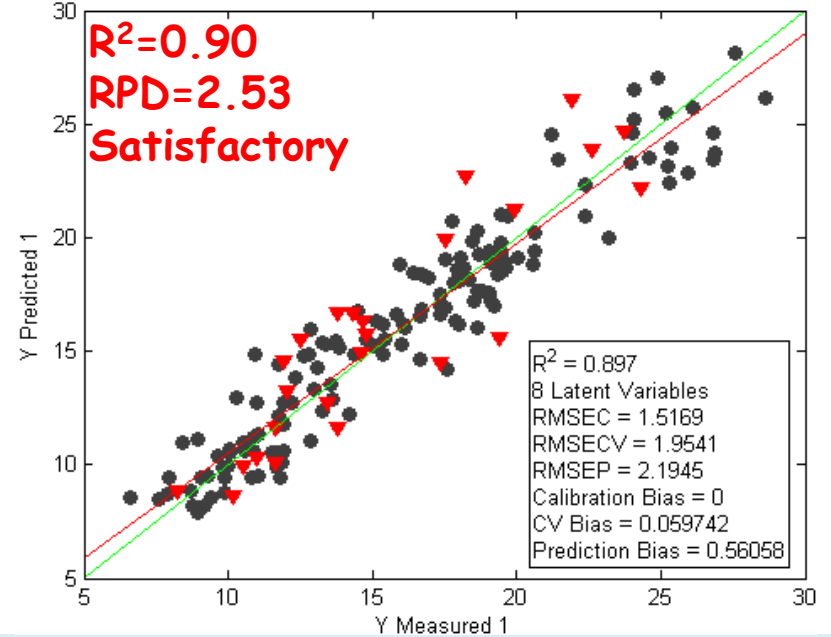
Legume seeds  
Protein products (>30%CP)  
Oil by products  
Dried distiller grains (DGGS)

# % CP

Crude protein

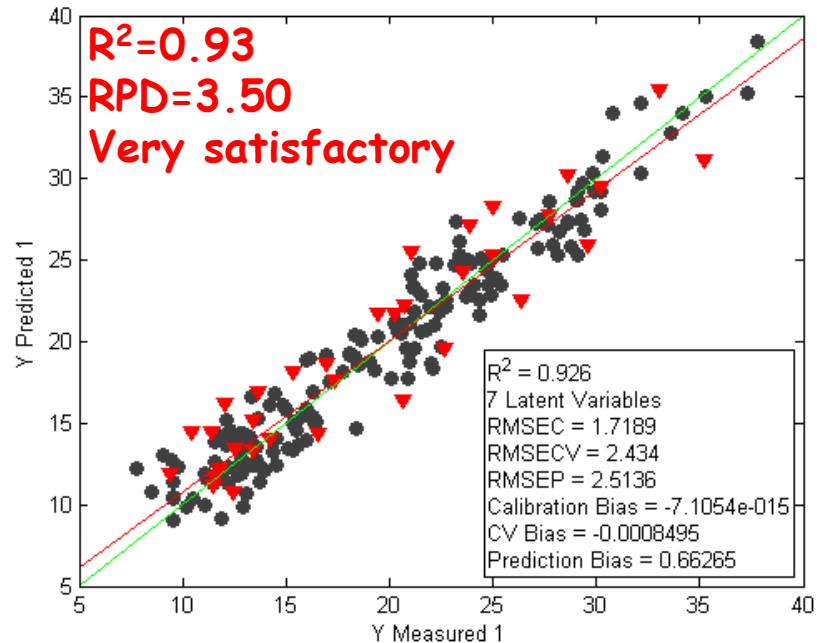
## FORAGES

(n=183)



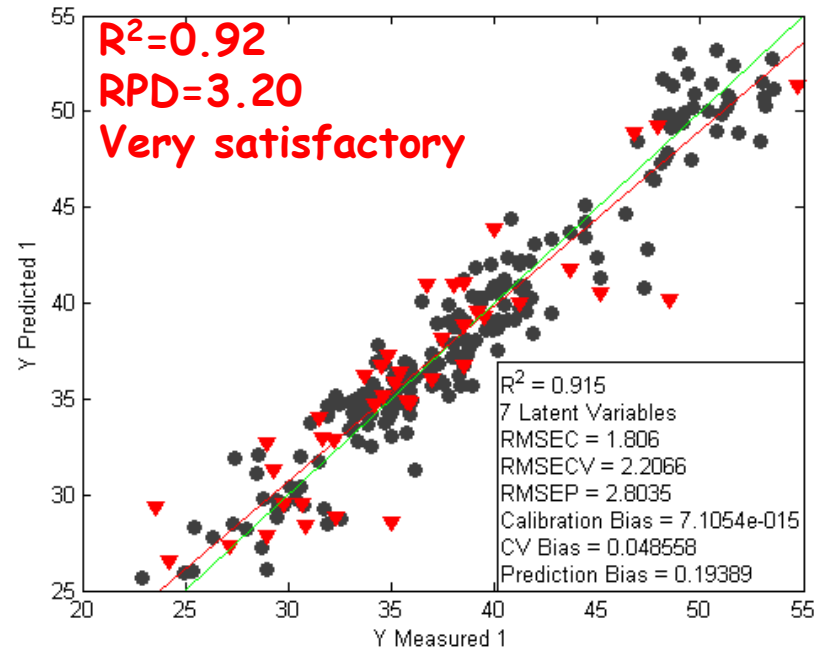
## ENERGY-RICH concentrates

(n=215)



## PROTEIN-RICH concentrates

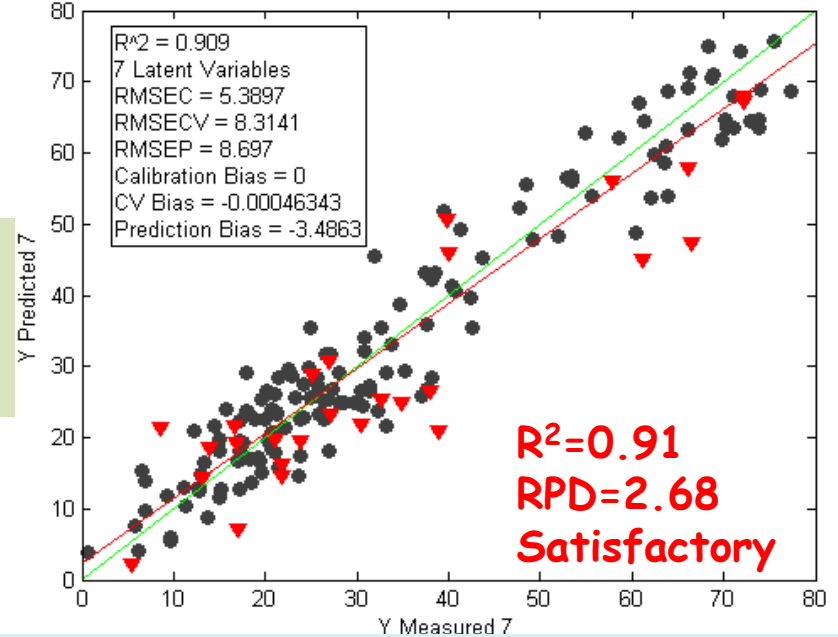
(n=266)



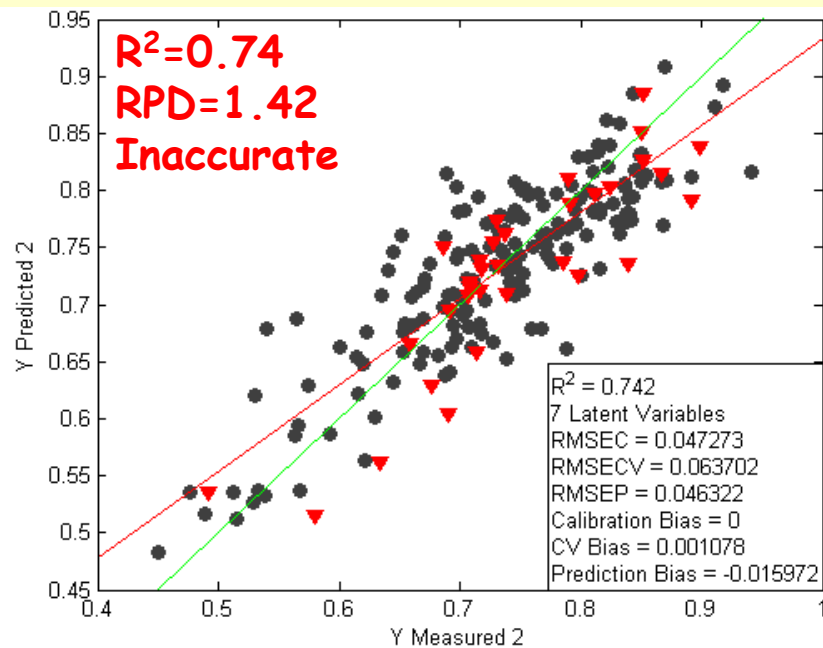
# CP<sub>WS</sub>

Water soluble CP

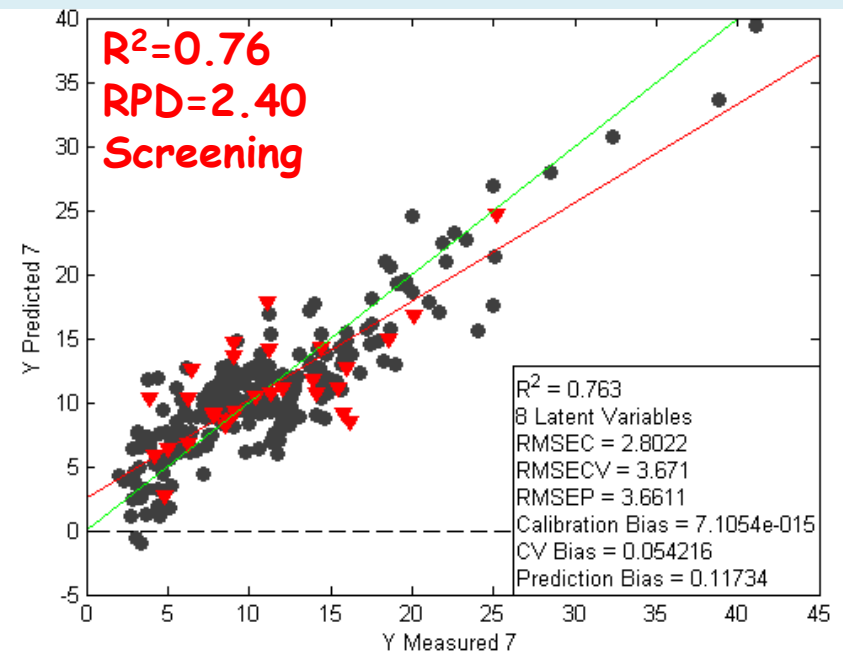
## FORAGES (n=183)



## ENERGY-RICH concentrates (n=215)



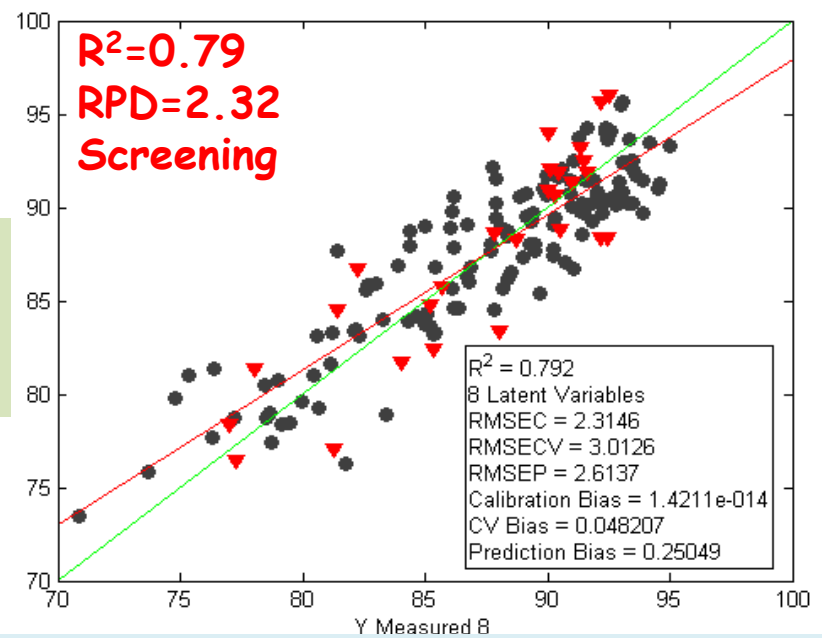
## PROTEIN-RICH concentrates (n=266)



# CP<sub>TTD</sub>

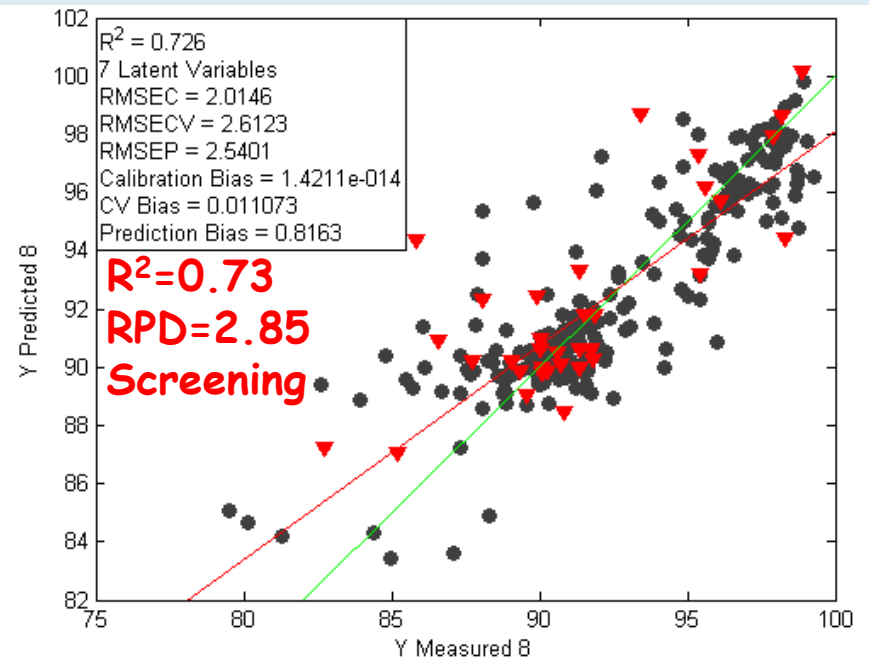
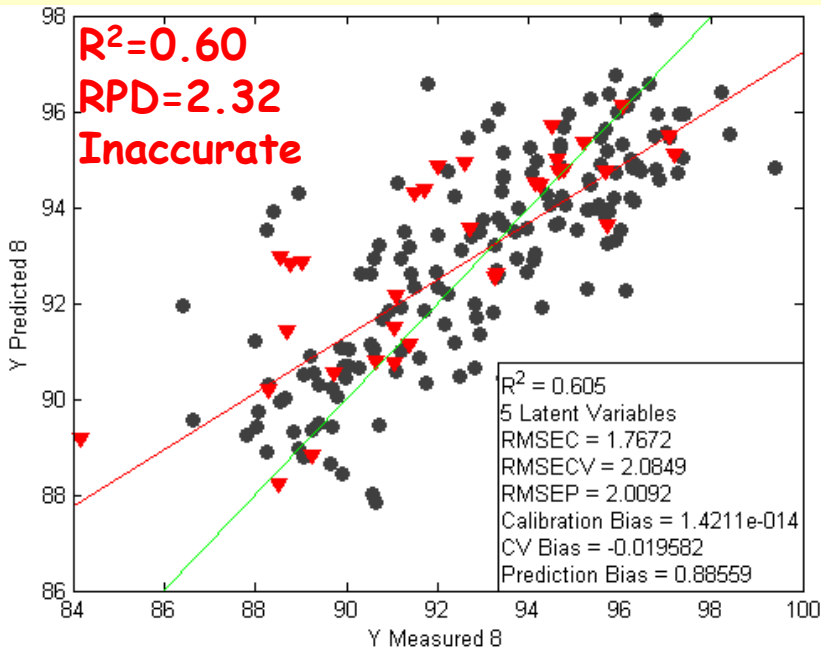
Total tract digestible CP

FORAGES  
(n=183)



ENERGY-RICH concentrates  
(n=215)

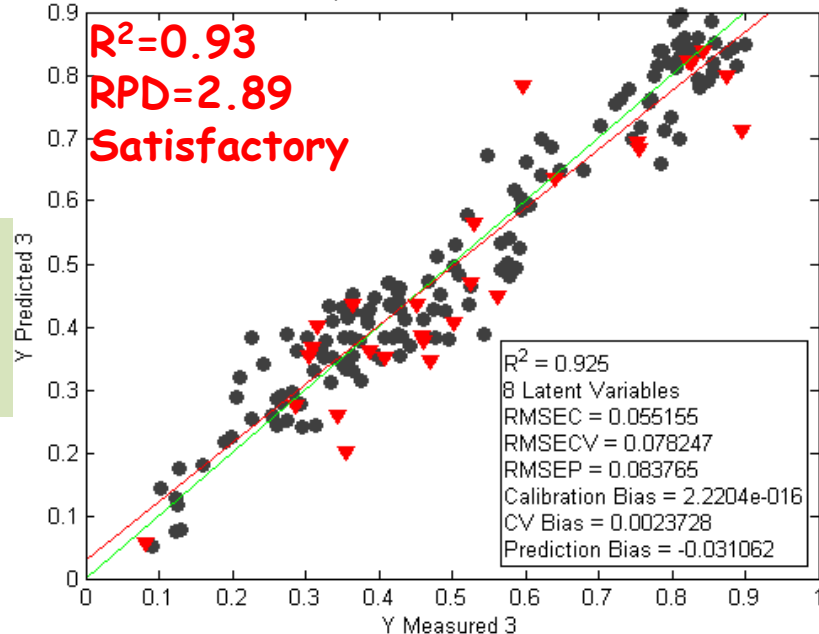
PROTEIN-RICH concentrates  
(n=266)



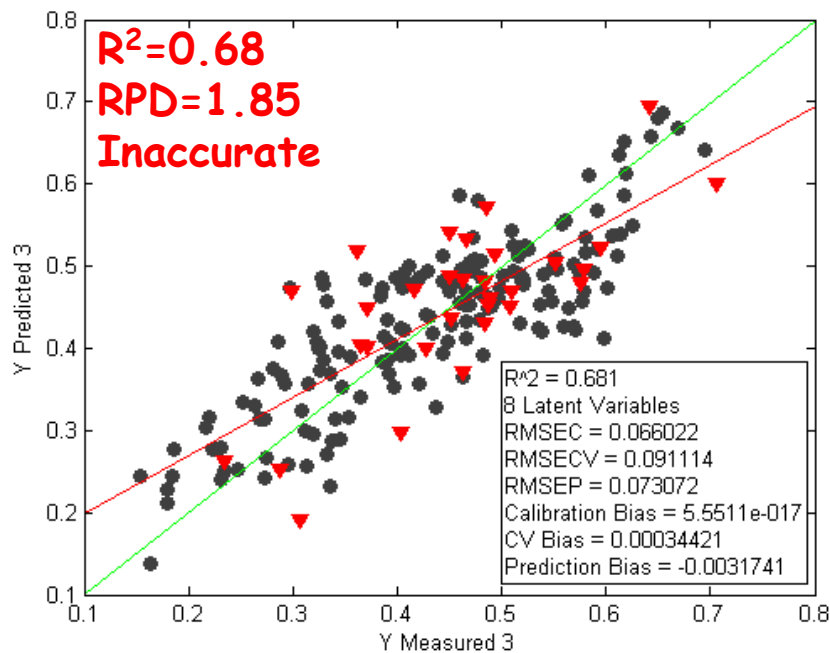
# Fraction *a*

Immediately degradable CP

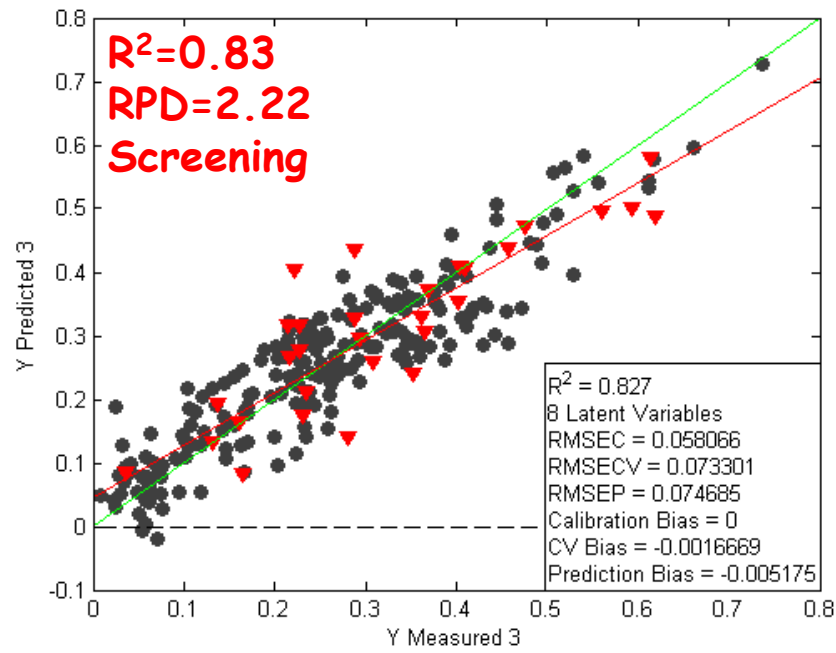
FORAGES  
(*n*=183)



ENERGY-RICH concentrates  
(*n*=215)



PROTEIN-RICH concentrates  
(*n*=266)

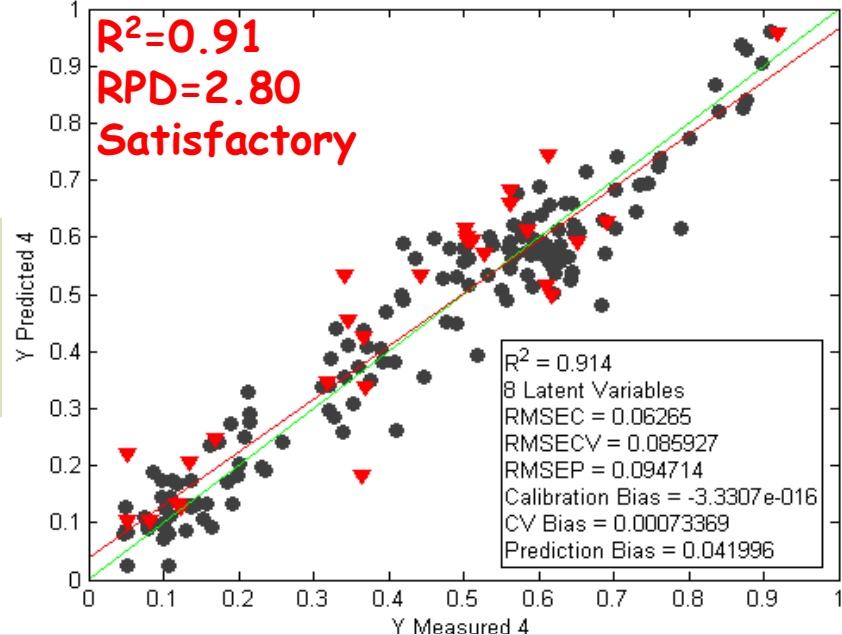




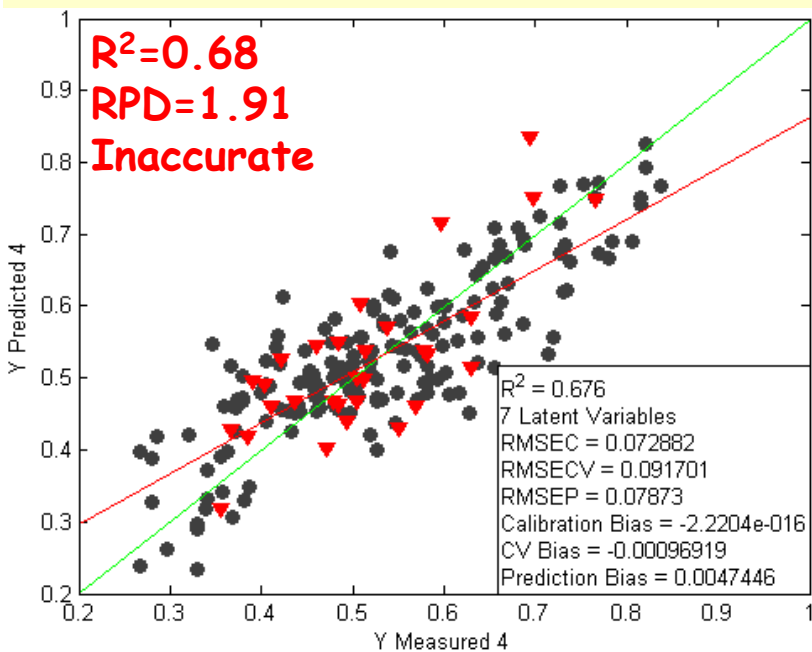
# Fraction *b*

Degradable but not soluble CP

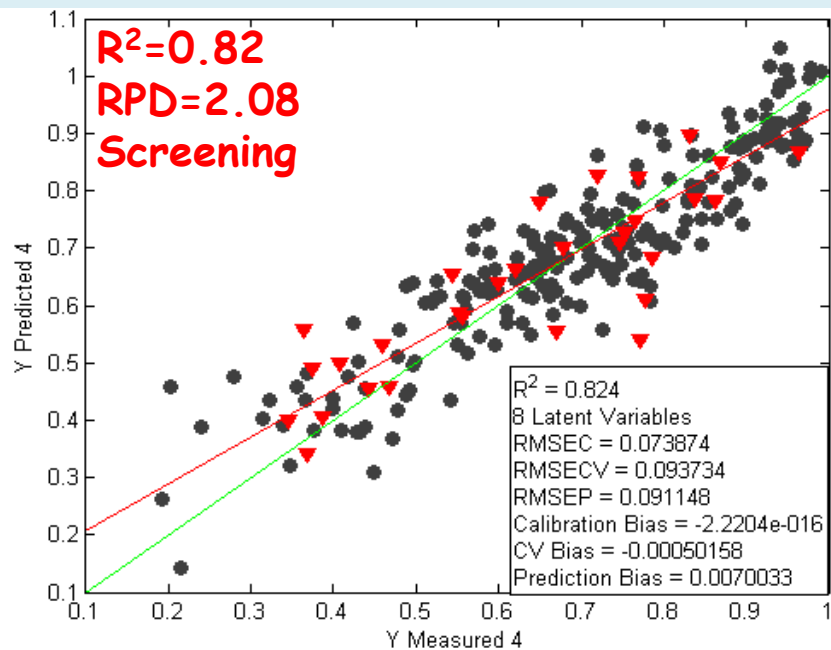
FORAGES  
(*n*=183)



ENERGY-RICH concentrates  
(*n*=215)



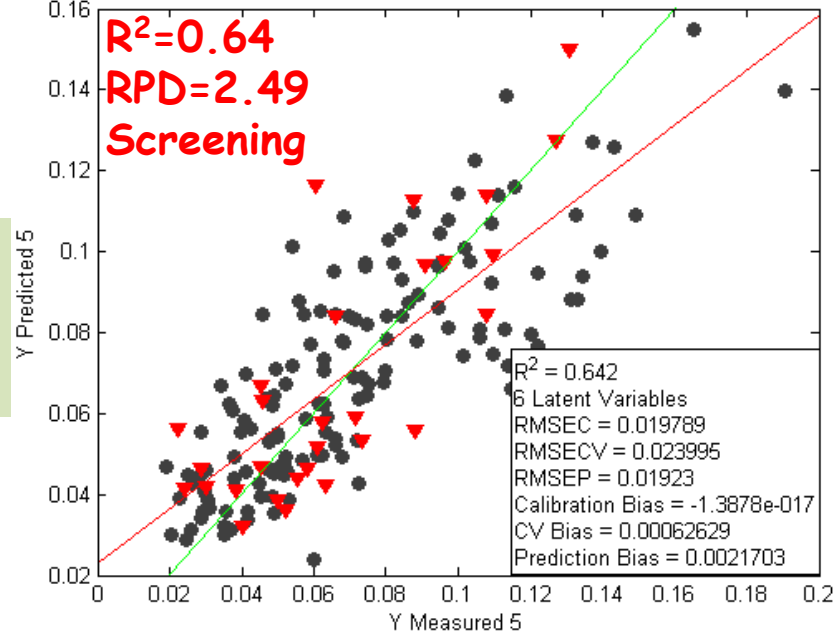
PROTEIN-RICH concentrates  
(*n*=266)



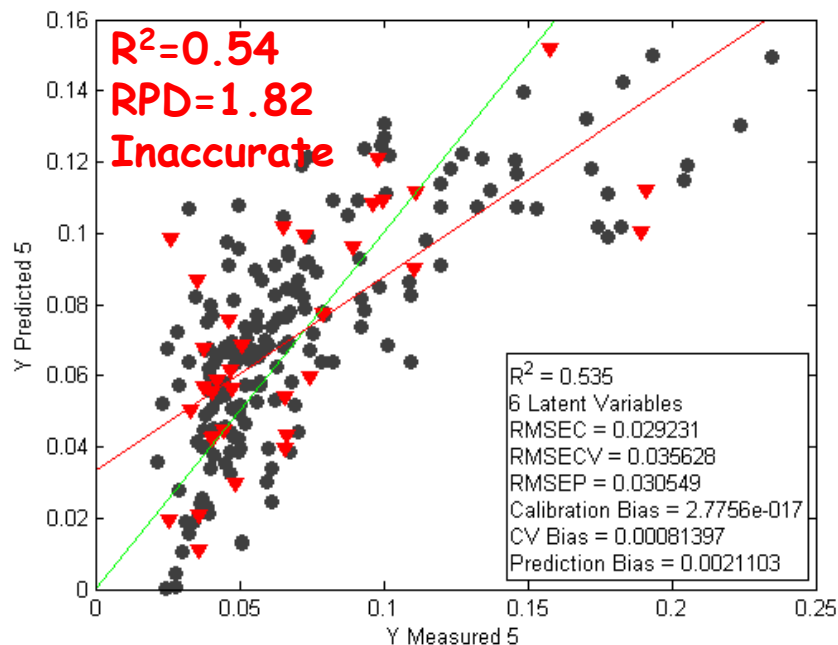
# Value $c$

Degradation rate of  $b$

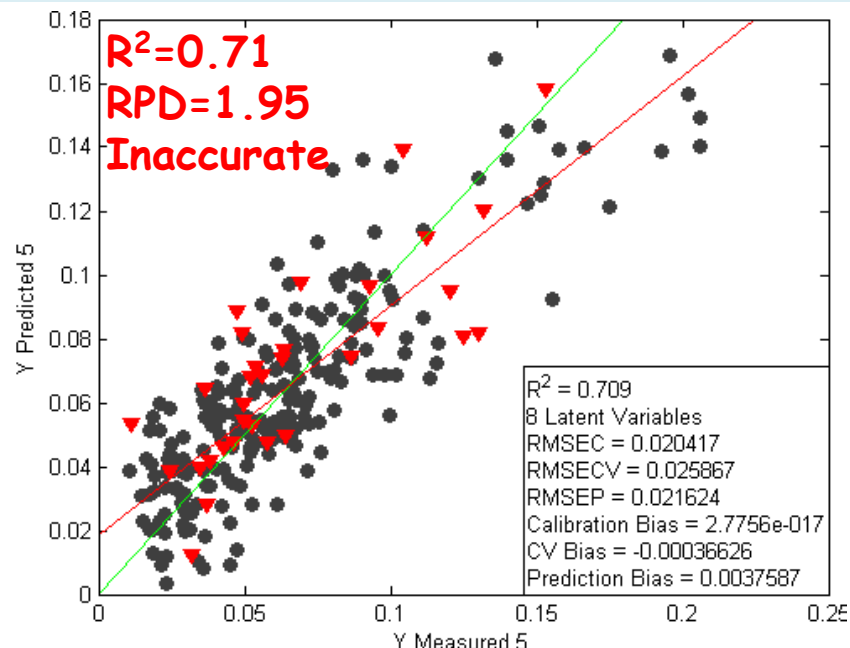
FORAGES  
( $n=183$ )



ENERGY-RICH concentrates  
( $n=215$ )



PROTEIN-RICH concentrates  
( $n=266$ )

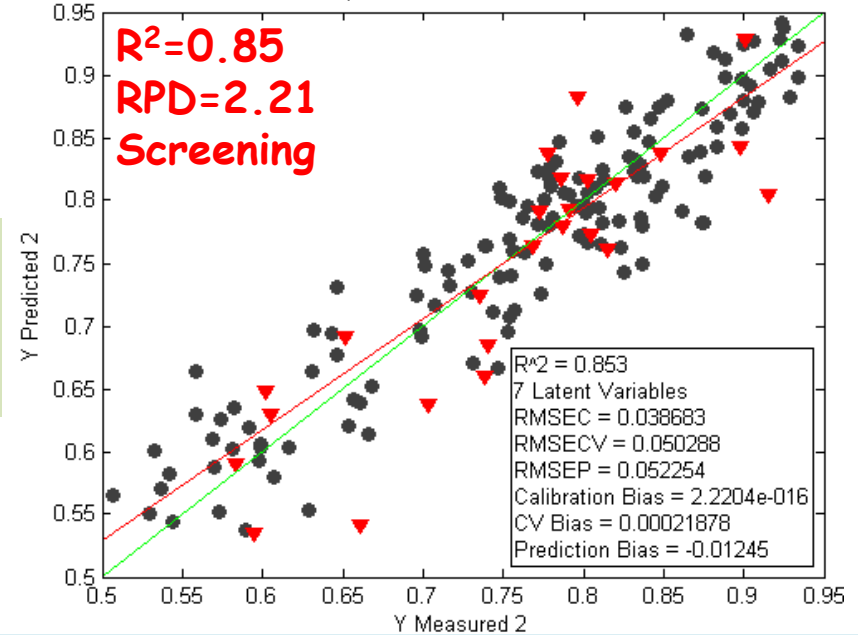


# CP<sub>ED</sub>

Effective digestible CP

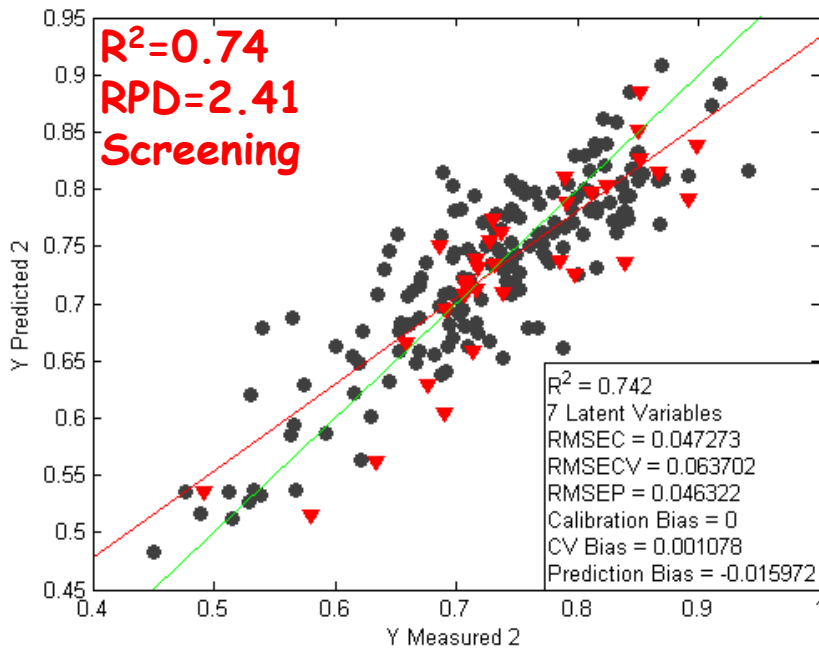
## FORAGES

(n=183)



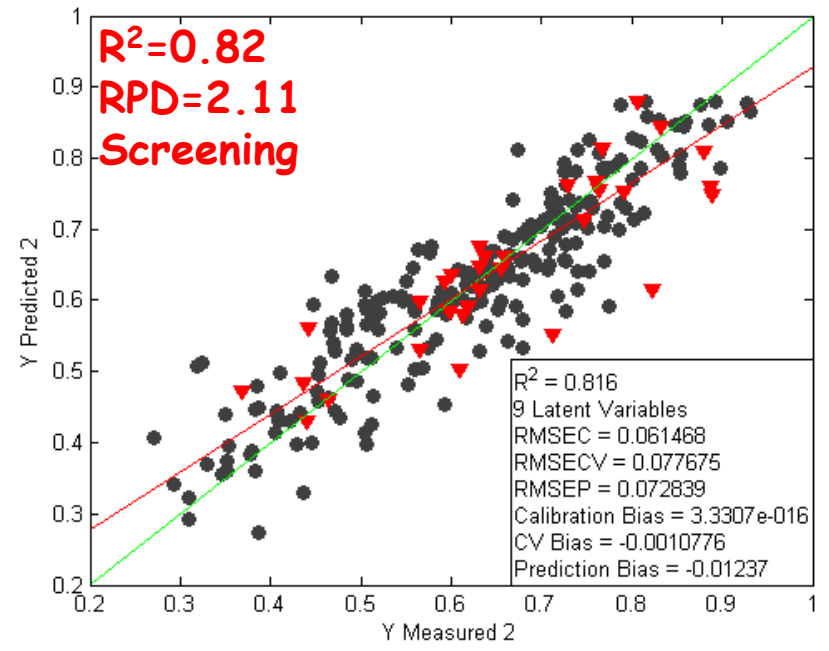
## ENERGY-RICH concentrates

(n=215)



## PROTEIN-RICH concentrates

(n=266)



# Conclusions

- Mid-infrared spectra allows to classify feeds according to the nutritional value
- **UNIVERSAL** equations:
  - Quantification:  $CP$
  - Screening:  $CP_{WS}$
- Equations for **FORAGES**:
  - Quantification:  $CP_{WS}$ , "a" and "b"
  - Screening:  $CP_{TTD}$ ,  $CP_{ED}$  and "c"
- Equations for **PROTEIN-RICH concentrates**:
  - Screening:  $CP_{WS}$ ,  $CP_{TTD}$ ,  $CP_{ED}$ , "a" and "b"
- Equations for **ENERGY-RICH concentrates**:
  - Screening:  $CP_{ED}$

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The Welsh Government



*Thank you for your attention !!*



***Innovative and practical management  
approaches to **reduce** nitrogen  
**excretion** by ruminants***