Genetic and environmental effects on individual wavenumbers of bovine milk InfraRed spectra

Qiuyu Wang*, Alex Hulzebosch, Henk Bovenhuis *qiuyu.wang@wur.nl











Introduction



Data

- 1,748 first-parity Holstein cows
- 371 herds in the Netherlands
- 1 morning milk sample during a 2 month period
- 1,060 IR wavenumbers
 (925 to 5,008 cm⁻¹)

- Genotypes of DGAT1
 SCD1
 κ-Casein
 β-Lactoglobulin
- Days in milk, age of calving, date of IR analysis etc.

Statistical Model

Univariate: 1,060 IR wavenumbers

- ➢ Fixed
- Days in milk
- Age of calving
- Season of calving
- Date of IR analysis
- Genotypes

- Random
- Animal
- Herd
- Residual

Results - fixed effects



Results - variance components



Results - DGAT1



Wavenumbers (cm⁻¹)

Results - SCD1



Wavenumbers (cm⁻¹)

Results - *k*-Casein



Wavenumbers (cm⁻¹)

Results - β -Lactoglobulin



Conclusions and Highlights

- The genetic effect in milk IR spectra is great
- Herd variance is substantial
- And environmental factors play roles
- New findings: effect of genes on milk IR spectra
- Keep in mind: DGAT1 vs. SCD1
- Use of milk IR spectra could be better understood

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- Use of milk IR spectra could be better understood