

## Methane estimated from milk MIR spectra: model on data from 7 countries and 2 measurement techniques

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Lund, P. <sup>6</sup>, Olijhoek, D.W. <sup>6</sup>, Eugene, M. <sup>7</sup>, Martin, C. <sup>7</sup>, Bell, M. <sup>8</sup>, Mcparland, S. <sup>9</sup>, Soyeurt, H. <sup>2</sup>

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# Context

Reduction of CH<sub>4</sub> emitted by dairy cows

→ one of the most challenging aspect of dairy sector

Need of CH<sub>4</sub> measurements to study different factors influencing variation (nutrition, management, genetics, ...)

Large scale studies

→ use of indirect proxies easily available in routine and at reasonable cost



# CH<sub>4</sub> prediction from milk MIR

SF<sub>6</sub>

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
532	129	0.74	0.70	66	70

N cows = 165



CSIRO PUBLISHING

*Animal Production Science*, 2016, 56, 258–264  
<http://dx.doi.org/10.1071/AN15590>

Milk mid-infrared spectra enable prediction of lactation-stage-dependent methane emissions of dairy cattle within routine population-scale milk recording schemes

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## Respiration chambers

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
584	72	0.65	0.57	43	47

N cows = 148

ETH zürich QUALITAS<sup>®</sup>










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<https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2018-14472>

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**Short communication:** Development of an equation for estimating methane emissions of dairy cows from milk Fourier transform mid-infrared spectra by using reference data obtained exclusively from respiration chambers



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## 2 data sets with different variability






		N	Cows	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.
SF6 g/d		252	42 HO	510	105	225	786
		261	98 HO, 6 HOX, 6 NR	347	89	180	588
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>786</b>
Chambers g/d		213	51 HO	405	60	233	566
		138	40 BS, 9HO, 8RH, 1HOxSI	451	75	267	630
		130	9HO, 10 JER	366	64	244	556
		81	9HO	366	61	229	527
		24	6HO, 6RX	365	44	304	464
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>630</b>

## 2 data sets with different parity distribution

		N cows	Parity (N cows)		
			First	Second	Third or +
SF6		42	16	11	15
		110	45	29	36
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>51</b>
Chambers		50	/	34	16
		57	8	16	33
		19	8	4	7
		9	/	7	2
		12	/	3	9
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>67</b>

SF6		252
		261
	TOTAL	513

+

Chambers		213
		138
		130
		81
		24
	TOTAL	586



Increase the CH<sub>4</sub> and spectral variability



Enlarge the applicability of the CH<sub>4</sub> prediction equation

# Descriptive statistics



g/d	N	Cows	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.
SF6	513	152	427	127	180	786

g/d	N	Cows	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.
Chambers	586	149	433	87	229	630

↑ mean  
 ↓ SD  
 for chambers



Take into account a potential method bias?



# Method Bias Correction

J. Dairy Sci. 90:2755–2766

doi:10.3168/jds.2006-697

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## Methane Emissions from Dairy Cows Measured Using the Sulfur Hexafluoride (SF<sub>6</sub>) Tracer and Chamber Techniques

C. Grainger,<sup>\*1</sup> T. Clarke,<sup>\*</sup> S. M. McGinn,<sup>†</sup> M. J. Auld,<sup>\*</sup> K. A. Beauchemin,<sup>‡</sup> M. C. Hannah,<sup>\*</sup> G. C. Waghorn,<sup>‡</sup> H. Clark,<sup>§</sup> and R. J. Eckard<sup>#</sup>

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→ Respiration chambers **8%** higher than SF<sub>6</sub> technique (gases from rectum)

Respiration chambers **3%** higher than SF<sub>6</sub> technique (gases from rectum) ←



J. Dairy Sci. 95:3139–3148

<http://dx.doi.org/10.3168/jds.2011-4298>

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**Comparison of the sulfur hexafluoride tracer and respiration chamber techniques for estimating methane emissions and correction for rectum methane output from dairy cows**

C. Muñoz,<sup>\*†1</sup> T. Yan,<sup>\*</sup> D. A. Wills,<sup>\*</sup> S. Murray,<sup>\*</sup> and A. W. Gordon<sup>‡</sup>

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<sup>‡</sup>AFBI Biometrics Department, Belfast, BT9 5PX, United Kingdom



# Method Bias Correction

Development of different equations with

- Raw data
- Respiration chamber data reduced for 3% (Grainger et al., 2007)
- Respiration chamber data reduced for 8% (Munoz et al., 2012)

To be on the SF<sub>6</sub> technique level ←

# Methods

	N	Cows	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.
SF6	513	152	427	127	180	786

+

	N	Cows	Mean	SD	Min.	Max.
Chambers	586	149	433	87	229	630

RC -3%

RC -8%

between - 7 and - 19 g/d

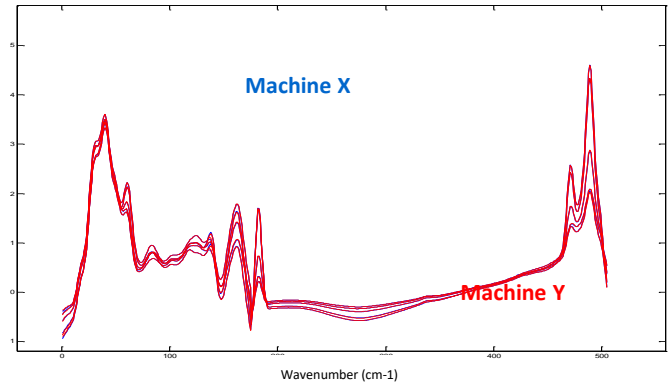
between - 18 and - 50 g/d

## CH<sub>4</sub> measurement



## Standardized Milk MIR spectra

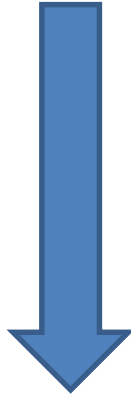
(Grelet et al, 2017)



WinISI 4.6 (Foss)

PLS

5 groups cross-validation



RAW MIR CH<sub>4</sub>  
RC -3% MIR CH<sub>4</sub>  
RAC -8% MIR CH<sub>4</sub>

+ Days in Milk

# Equation Statistical Parameters

RAW

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	102	0.68	0.64	57	61

RC -3%

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	102	0.70	0.64	57	61

RC -8%

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	104	0.70	0.66	57	61

SD : standard deviation ; SEC : standard error of calibration ; SECV : standard error of cross validation

# Equation Statistical Parameters

RAW

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	102	0.70	0.66	57	61

RC -3%

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	102	0.70	0.66	57	61

RC -8%

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	104	0.70	0.66	57	61

No significant method effect on residuals obtained for all 3 equations

SD : standard deviation ; SEC : standard error of calibration ; SECV : standard error of cross validation



**We prefer to keep initial CH<sub>4</sub> values**

# Equation Statistical Parameters

RC -3%

between - 7 and - 19 g/d

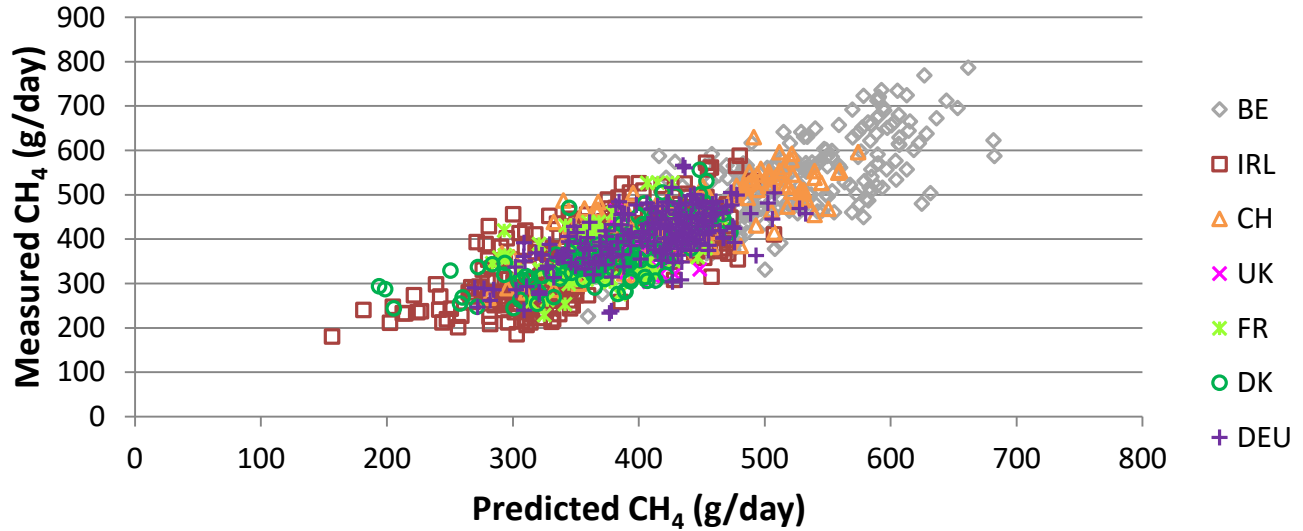
RC -8%

between - 18 and - 50 g/d

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	102	0.70	0.64	57	61

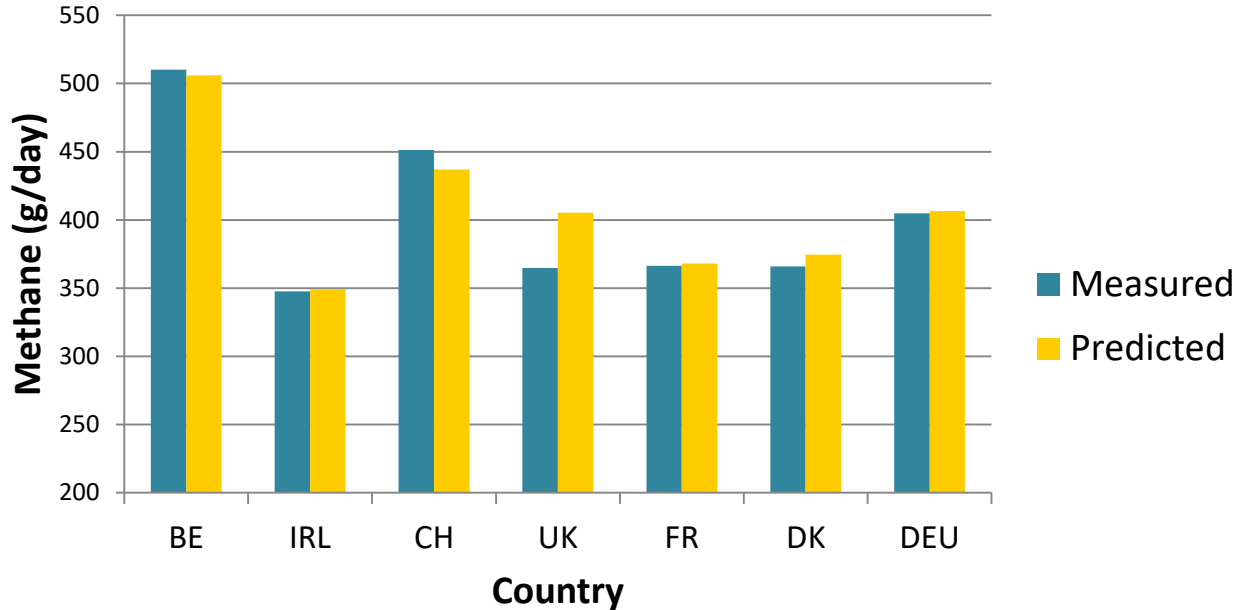
N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	104	0.70	0.66	57	61

- The SECV is higher than the RC reference values modification
- It might « mask » the impact of the RC values modification on the residuals



RAW

N	SD	R <sup>2</sup> c	R <sup>2</sup> cv	SEC	SECV
1089	102	0.68	0.64	57	61





# Conclusions

- Combination of both data sets available ( $SF_6$  tracer and RC-based) permitted the development of a new model.
- The slight improvement due to adjustment of chamber measurement does not permit to conclude that this correction is needed.
- $R^2_{cv}$  of this new equation is lower than for the  $SF_6$  based-version (0.64 vs. 0.70) but SECV is lower (61 vs. 70 g/day).
- 7 countries and 6 breeds are included in this model
  - increase of the covered variabilities and the applicability of the model.

# Conclusions

- Statistics confirm its potential as proxy especially for genetic evaluation
- This model demonstrate the interest of collaborations to built robust models
  - Data of interest are still required to improve the model

# Acknowledgments



OptiMIR (NWE Interreg) and EMR to facilitate collaborations and for milk MIR standardisation process



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# Thank you



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