

The putative role of ACAA2 in ovine milk traits



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Summary

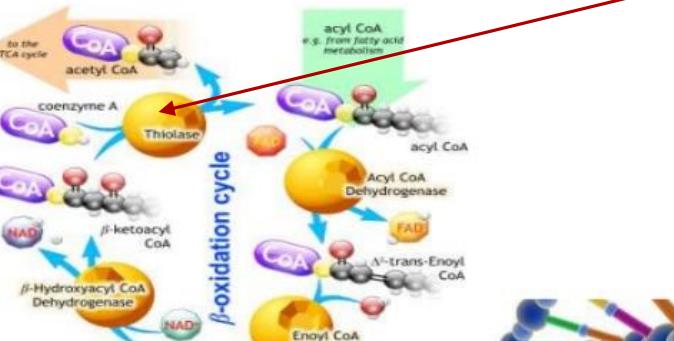
In the next 15 minutes

- Working hypothesis
- Association of ACAA2 polymorphism with
 - milk traits
 - in a closed nucleus
 - in an extended population
- with FA profile
- Functional ACAA2 study
- Conclusions



ACAA2: Acetyl-CoA acyl transferase 2

FATTY ACID OXIDATION



Biochemistry for
Medics
www.namrata.co

ACAA2 catalyses the last step of mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation

ACAA2 is a candidate gene for milk traits due to function

Substrates for
mammary
FA synthesis

Fatty acids

Acetyl-CoA

Energy requirements
for lactation

Krebs cycle

Ketone bodies

Working hypothesis

PROJECT TITLE: USE OF MOLECULAR AND QUANTITATIVE GENETICS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF CHIOS SHEEP



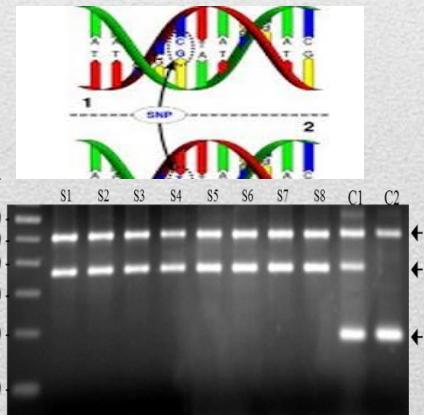
Pedigree and records of traits for 43 years (1968-2012)



Data obtained during the project (blood for SNP identification and genotyping, milk for chemical analysis)



Agricultural Research Institute nucleus flock



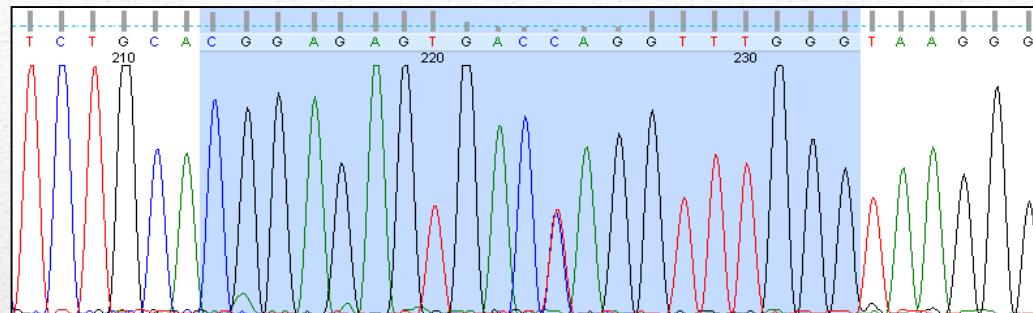
Correlation!



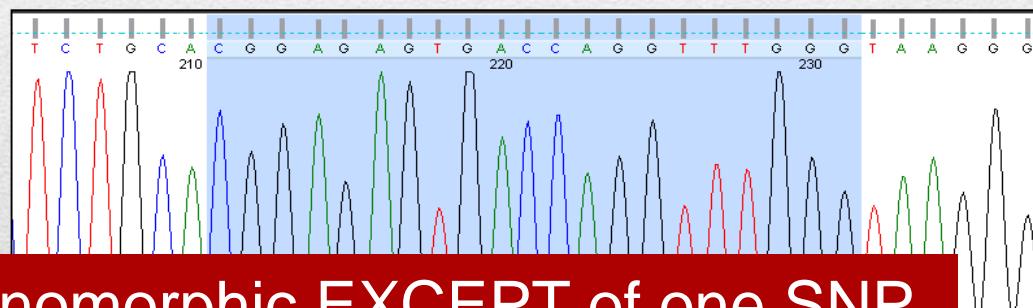
Work flow of the project

ACAA2

Sequence based SNP identification

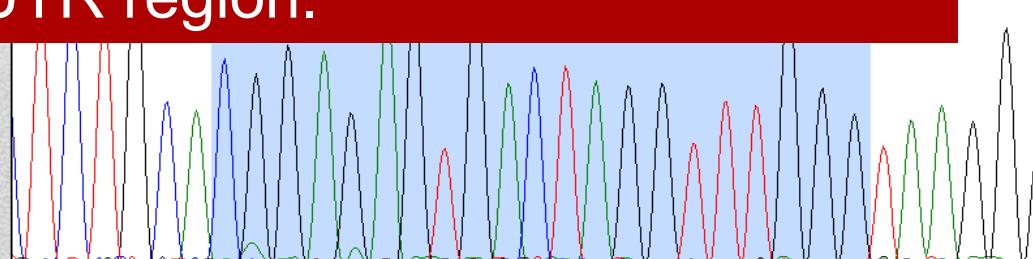


T/C



C/C

All exons were monomorphic EXCEPT of one SNP identified in the 3'UTR region.



T/T

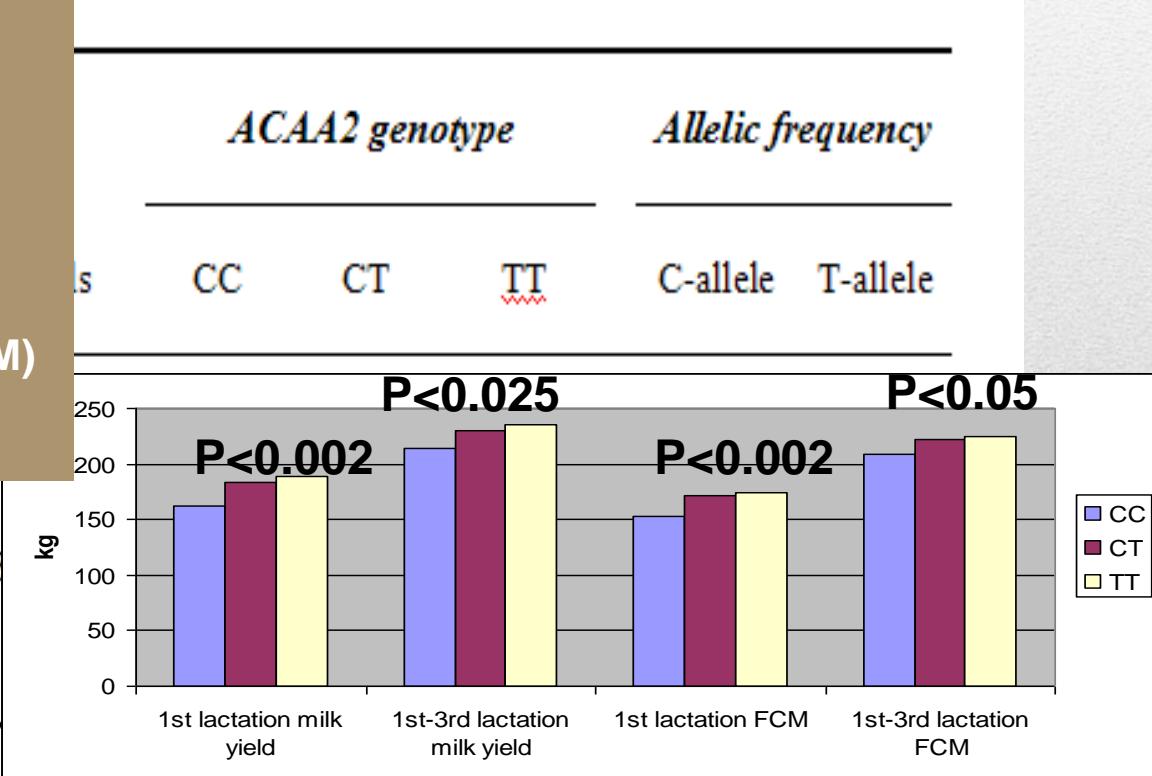
SNP identification

ACAA2 IS SIGNIFICANTLY ASSOCIATED WITH MILK YIELD AND FCM

- 318 genotyped ewes
- Offspring from 104 sires
- 717 records for
 - ❖ milk yield
 - ❖ fat corrected milk (FCM)
 - ❖ fat percentage

Hardy-Weinberg
Prediction

343

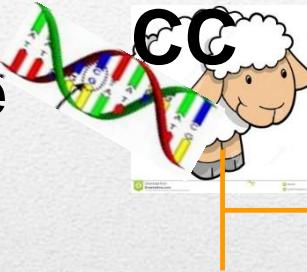


ACAA2 association with milk traits

ACAA2

Genotype means for first lactation milk yield

Genotype Class



Class

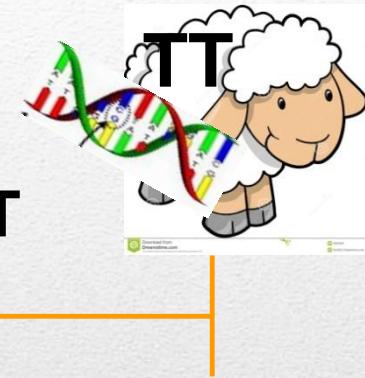
161.7

Mean (kg)

Homozygote midpoint

175.1

CT



182.9

188.4

- Ewes with the TT genotype had higher milk yields than ewes with CC genotype.
- Partial dominance was observed.

**THE GENE EFFECT COULD BE REGARDED AS
A MAJOR GENE EFFECT
WITH HOMOZYGOUS DIFFERING BY 0.5SD
AND
THE 3'UTR SNP EXPLAINED 10% OF THE
ADDITIONAL GENETIC VARIANCE**

Orford M., Tzamaloukas O., Hadjipavlou G., Hatziplis D., Koumas A., Mavrogenis A., Papachristoforou C., Miltiadou D.* (2012) *J. Dairy Sci.* 95:3419–3427

ACAA2 association with milk traits

Confirmed previous association of **ACAA2** with milk yield in an extended population of Chios

ACAA2 is associated with milk protein %

	all lactations milk yield	1 st lactation milk yield	milk protein percentage	milk fat percentage	milk protein yield	milk fat yield
a ¹ ±SE	6.81±2.95	10.61±3.56	-0.05±0.02	-0.03±0.03	0.23±0.18	0.28±0.17
P ²	0.021*	0.003*	0.003*	0.370	0.200	0.100
d ³ ±SE	8.67±3.53	13.02±4.26	0.02±0.02	0.04±0.04	0.41±0.21	0.46±0.21
P ⁴	0.014*	0.002*	0.41	0.322	0.048*	
% V _P due to SNP ⁵	0.62%	2.25%	1.68%	0.3	44%	

Results from 742 animals from all sheep farms keeping da

Dillution effect

ACAA2 is NOT associated with milk fat% and is associated with fat yield

Trait	all lactations milk yield ¹	1 st lactation milk yield ¹	milk protein percentage	milk fat percentage	
Genotyped means±SE ²					
CC	245.23±4.44 ^a	170.21±5.28 ^a	5.29±0.02 ^a	5.19±0.05	8.78±0.25
CT	260.71±2.76 ^c	193.85±3.33 ^d	5.23±0.01 ^c	5.20±0.03	9.42±0.16
TT	258.85±3.88 ^b	191.44±4.77 ^c	5.20±0.02 ^c	5.14±0.04	9.23±0.25
					12.87±0.26 ^a
					13.62±0.17 ^d
					13.44±0.23 ^b

ACAA2 association with milk traits

PROJECT TITLE:

IMPROVEMENT OF LIPID FRACTION IN OVINE MILK AND HALLOUMI CHEESE, TOWARDS HEALTHIER LOCAL PRODUCTS

Collection of milk samples

4 Chios Farms → 1st 171 ewes
 → 2nd 118 ewes
 → 3rd 94 ewes
 → 4th 46 ewes

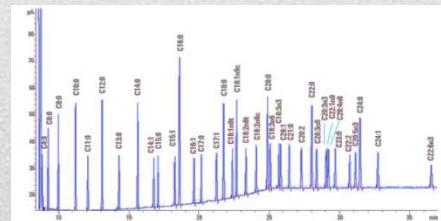
Total **429** Chios ewes

At least 3
samplings/animal

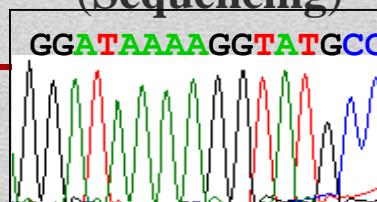
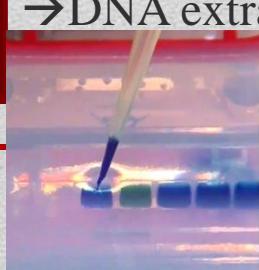
~1300 milk
samples

MILK → fat, protein, lactose

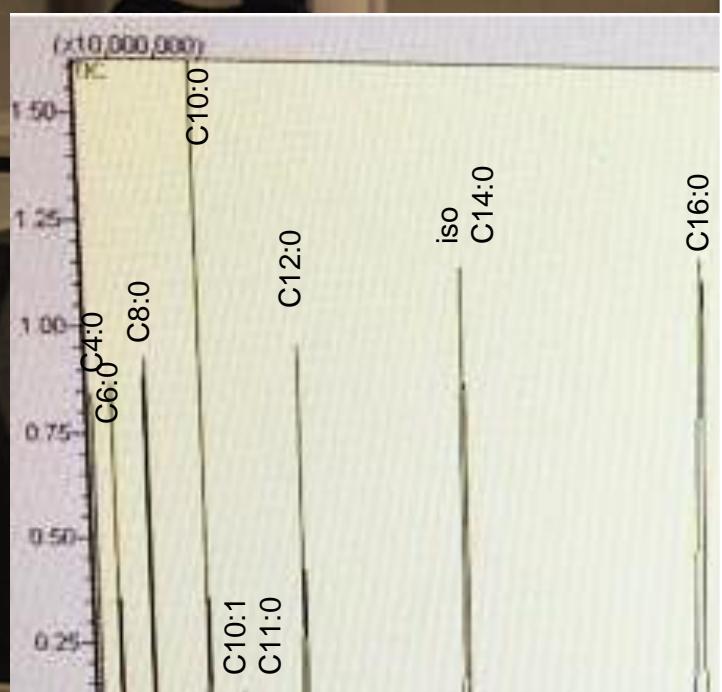
fame → fatty acid profile (**GC-MS**)



→DNA extraction → Genotyping
(Sequencing)

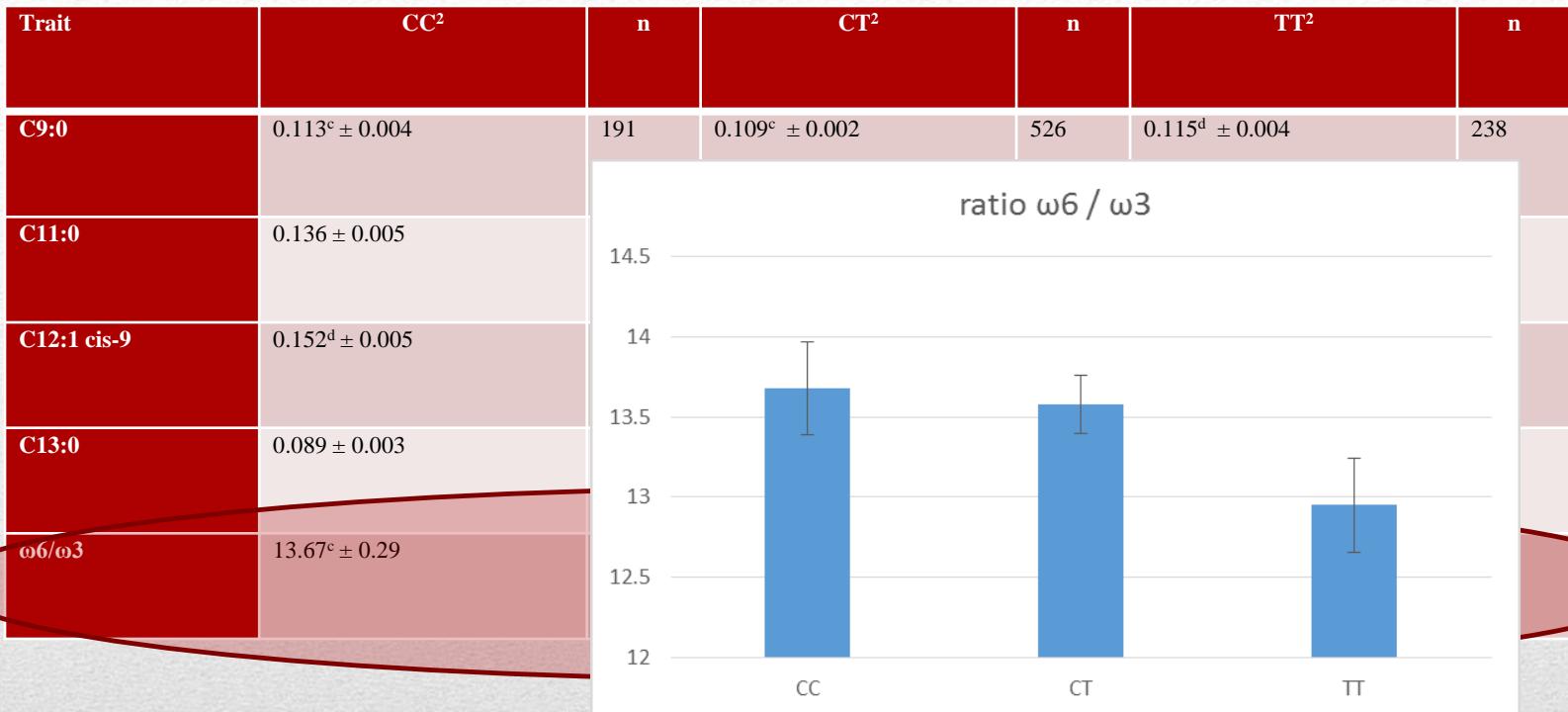


GCMS RESULTS



FAME	mean		FAME	mean	
	% w/w	sd		% w/w	sd
C4:0	3.27	1.56	C16:1 cis9	0.92	0.55
C5:0	0.04	0.02	iso C17:0	0.34	0.15
C6:0	3.18	1.56	C16:1 other	0.44	0.29
C7:0	0.07	0.04	anteiso C17:0	0.49	0.32
C8:0				0.57	0.23
C9:0				0.21	0.11
C10:0	FAME		mean		
	% w/w	sd		8.70	3.25
C10:1	SFA	72.93	7.21	2.14	3.00
C11:0	SCFA (4C-10C)	18.98	8.67	18.70	5.23
C12:0	mammary origin C4-C14	35.96	10.70	0.96	0.61
C12:1cis9	MCFA (12C-14C)	16.86	2.83	0.45	0.28
C13:0	LCFA(16C-24C)	36.00	5.24	0.14	0.09
iso C14:0	MUFA	22.42	5.70	2.72	1.10
C14:0	PUFA	3.85	1.54		
iso C15:0	UFA	26.25	6.88	0.17	0.11
C14:1	C<16	64.81	9.89	0.08	0.04
ant C15:0	C>16	34.39	9.55	0.27	0.13
cis10 C15:1	0.07	0.04	Linoleic acid (9Z, 11E)	0.56	0.31
C15:0	1.03	0.35	cis-11-C20:1	0.16	0.12
iso C16	0.28	0.24	C20:4ω6	0.21	0.10
C16:0	24.96	3.74	C22:0	0.14	0.07
			cis-13_C22:1ω9	0.15	0.08

ACAA2 association with FA profile



ACAA2 WAS ASSOCIATED WITH
 ω_6/ω_3 RATIO

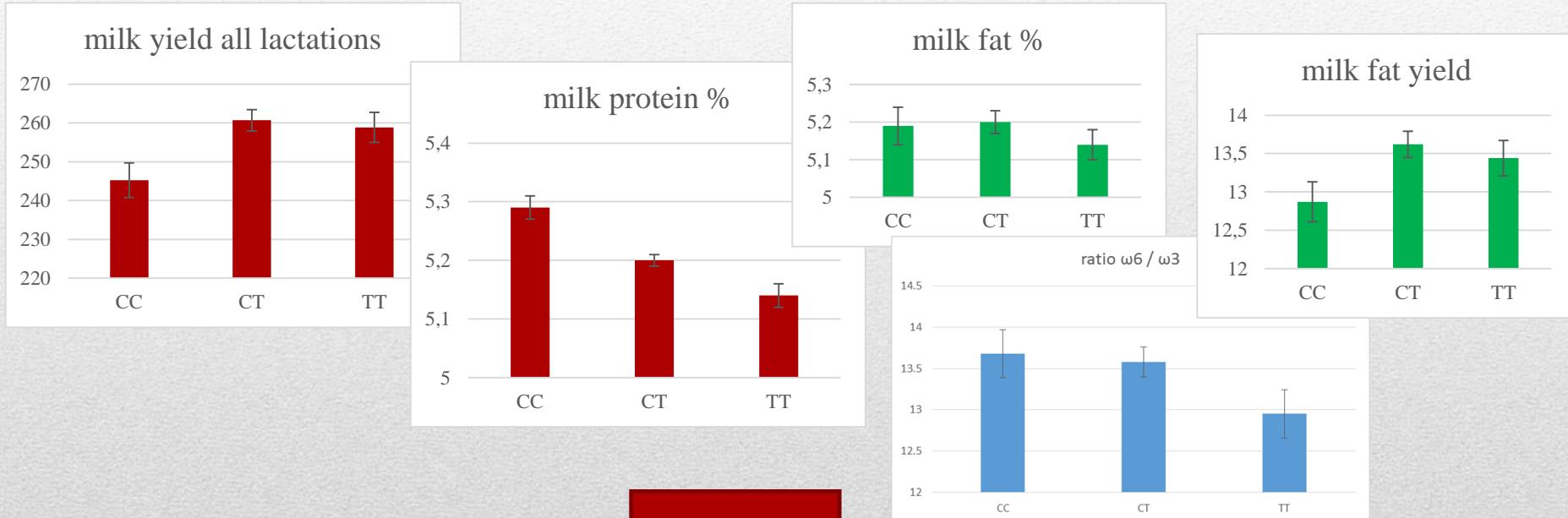
Simoni Symeou^a, Ouranios Tzamaloukas^a, Georgios Banos^{b,c}, Despoina Miltiadou^a
ACAA2 and *FASN* polymorphisms affect fatty acid profile of Chios sheep milk; under reviewing in Journal of Dairy Research

ACAA2 association with FA profile

ACAA2 IS ASSOCIATED WITH DAIRY TRAITS

TT and CT animals produce more milk with lower protein percentage, higher fat yield

CC animals produce less milk with higher protein percentage, TT animals with higher ω_6/ω_3 ratio



**ACAA2 3UTR SNP
is the causative mutation?**

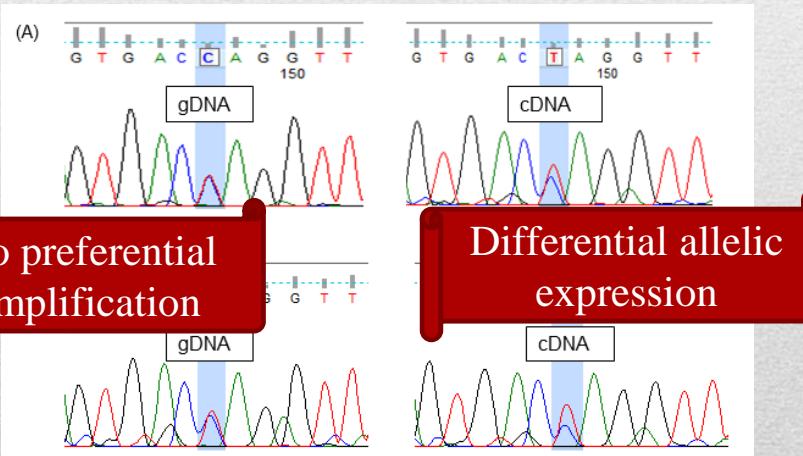
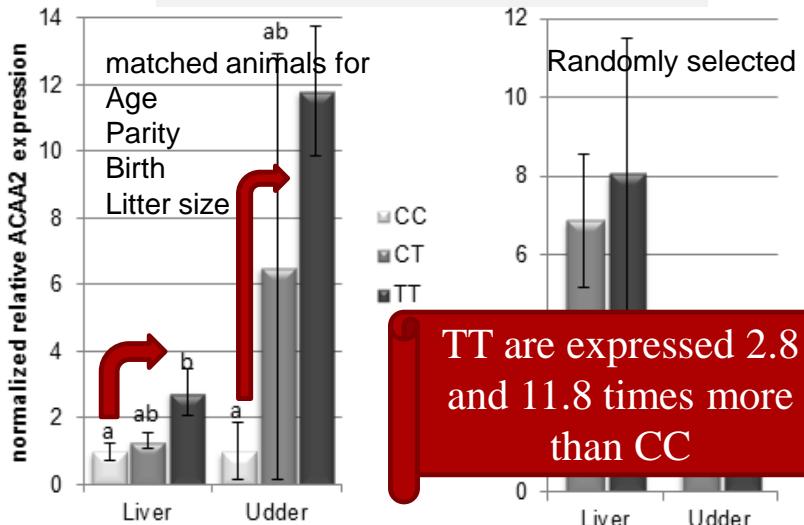
**Effect
observed**

**ACAA2 3UTR SNP
is in linkage or LD with
the causative mutation?**

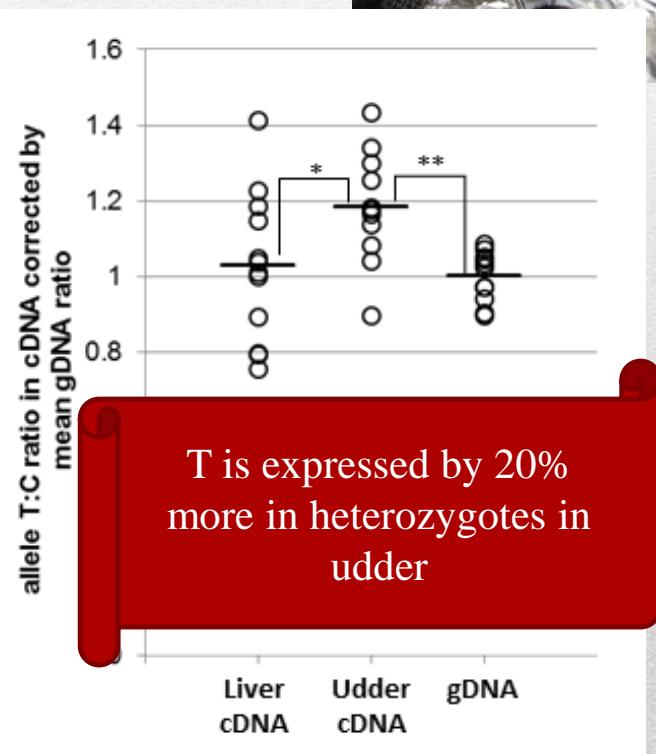
No aminoacid change, may affect the expression of the gene

A

RNA expression analysis



Comparison of gDNA and cDNA from heterozygous animals

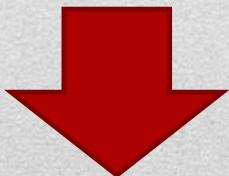


Functional ACAA2 study

Conclusions

- The variants in the 3'UTR of the ACAA2 gene are associated
 - with milk yield
 - protein percentage
 - fat yield
 - ω6/ω3 ratio
- are differentially expressed in homozygous ewes of each allele and
- exhibit AEI within heterozygotes in a tissue specific manner

=>suggesting the existence of a cis-acting regulatory DNA mechanism.



↑ mRNA expression=>likely ↑ ACAA2 activity=> ↑ energy and carbon substrates for lactation and FA synthesis

My colleagues in Animal and Dairy Science

- Dr Ouranios Tzamaloukas
- Dr Michael Orford



Our PhD students

- Simoni Symeou
 - Constantina Constantinou



Our partners
Prof. Georgios Banos



Dr. Ariadne-Hager
Theodorides



Dr Dimitris Hatziplis



Dr. Georgia Hatzipavlou



Undergraduate students
Farm technical staff

Acknowledgments



- Partner institutions



ΓΕΩΠΟΝΙΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ
AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS



- Funding bodies

Acknowledgments

Thank you for your attention !

