

# EAAP, GHENT 2019

## Variability in gestating sows' nutrient requirements

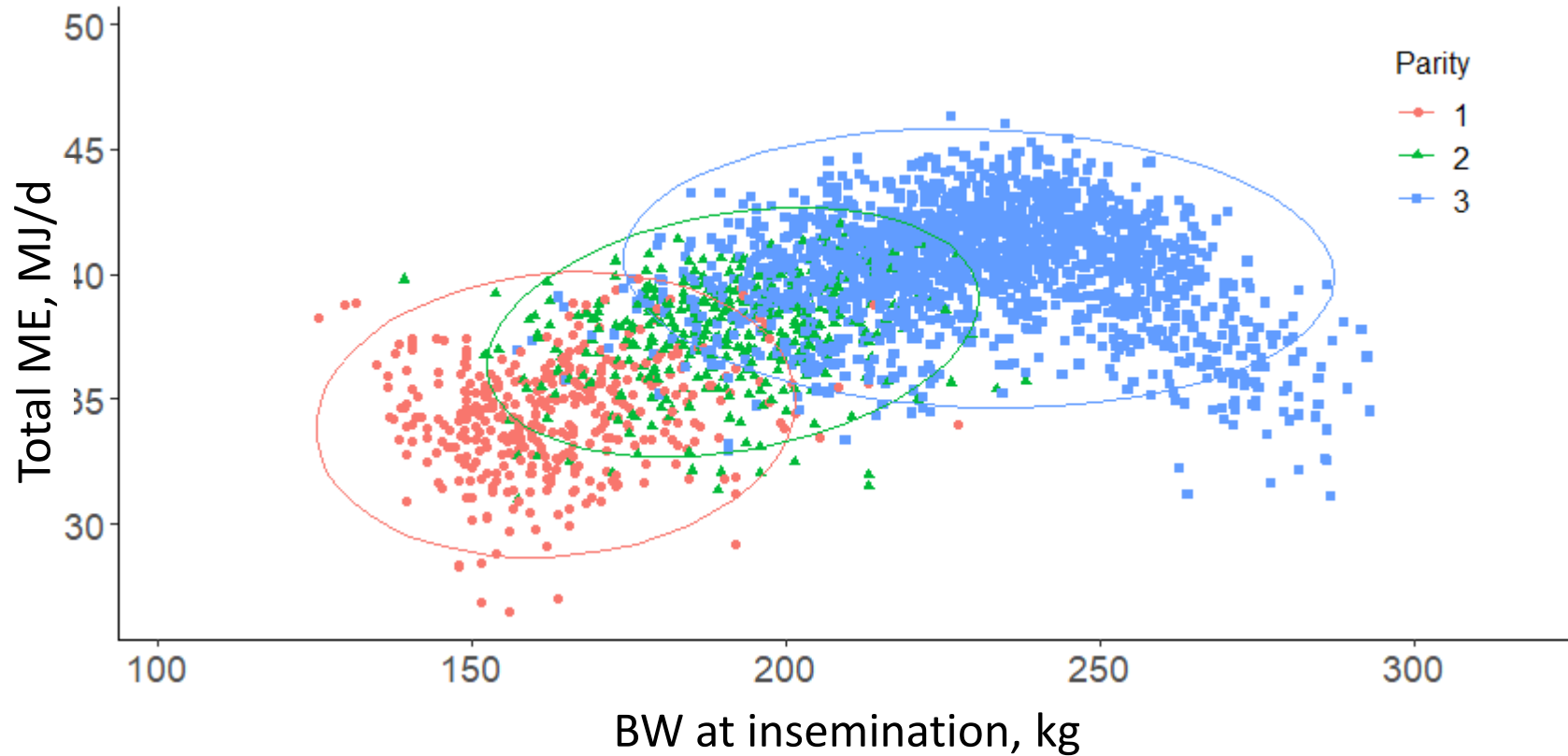
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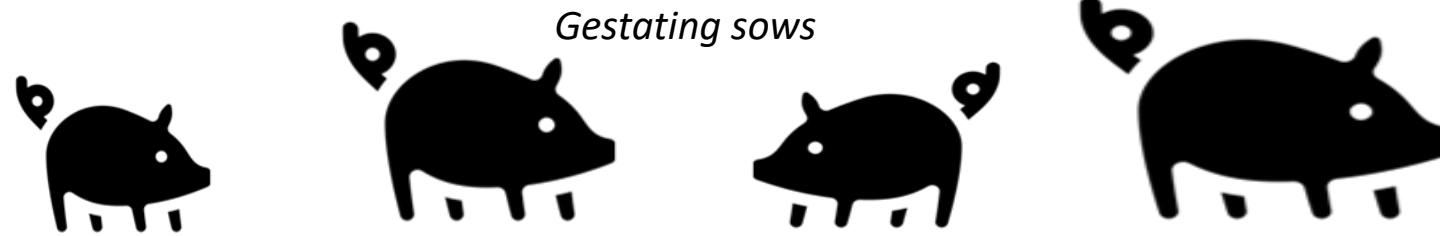
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- Variation of sows' nutritional requirements **among sows** and over **gestation**

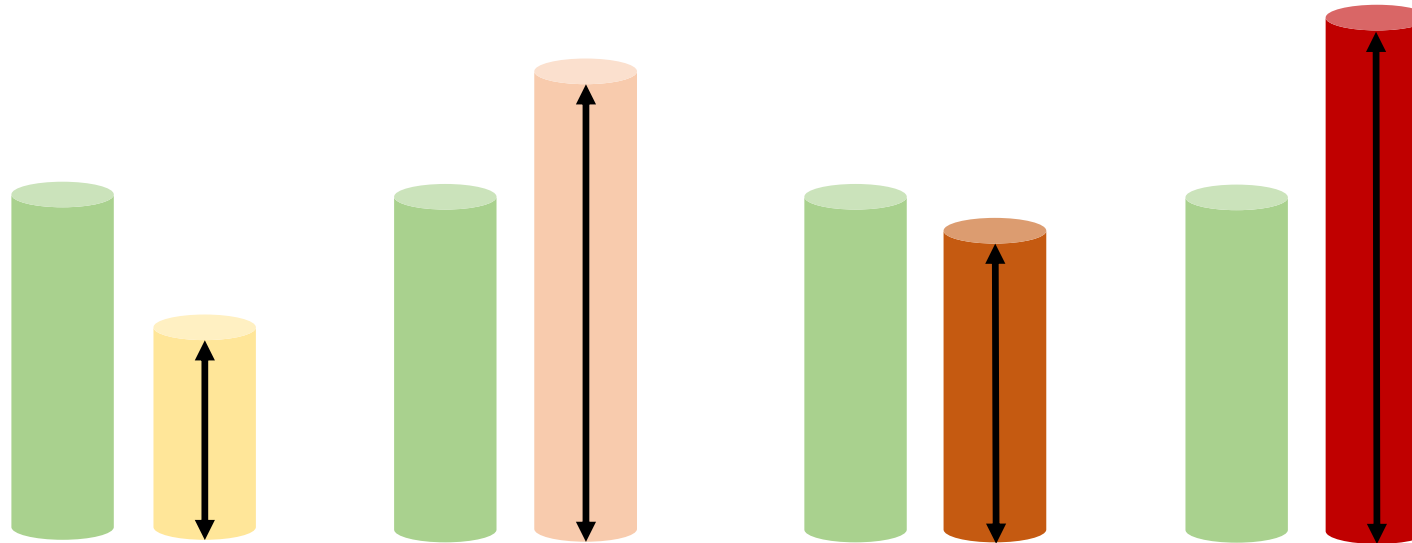


ME: Metabolizable Energy, BW: Body Weight



In practice :

- Restricted feed allowance
- 1 diet for all the sows during the gestation
- Fixed amount of energy and nutrients in diet



New technologies (feeders, sensors) characterize in real-time sows & environment  
=> Use in real time the prediction model of nutrient requirements

**Perspective** : to improve feed efficiency, reduce production costs and decrease environmental impacts

## Feed-a-Gene



### **OBJECTIVE**

To explore the variability in nutrient requirements among sows and over time, in order to develop a precision feeding tool that can be included in the sows' feeders

**STEP 3** / Compare the effects of feeding strategies (conventional feeding, group feeding, precision feeding)

**STEP 2** / Determine and characterize the effects of factors (week, parity, litter size, temperature) on sows nutrients requirements during gestation

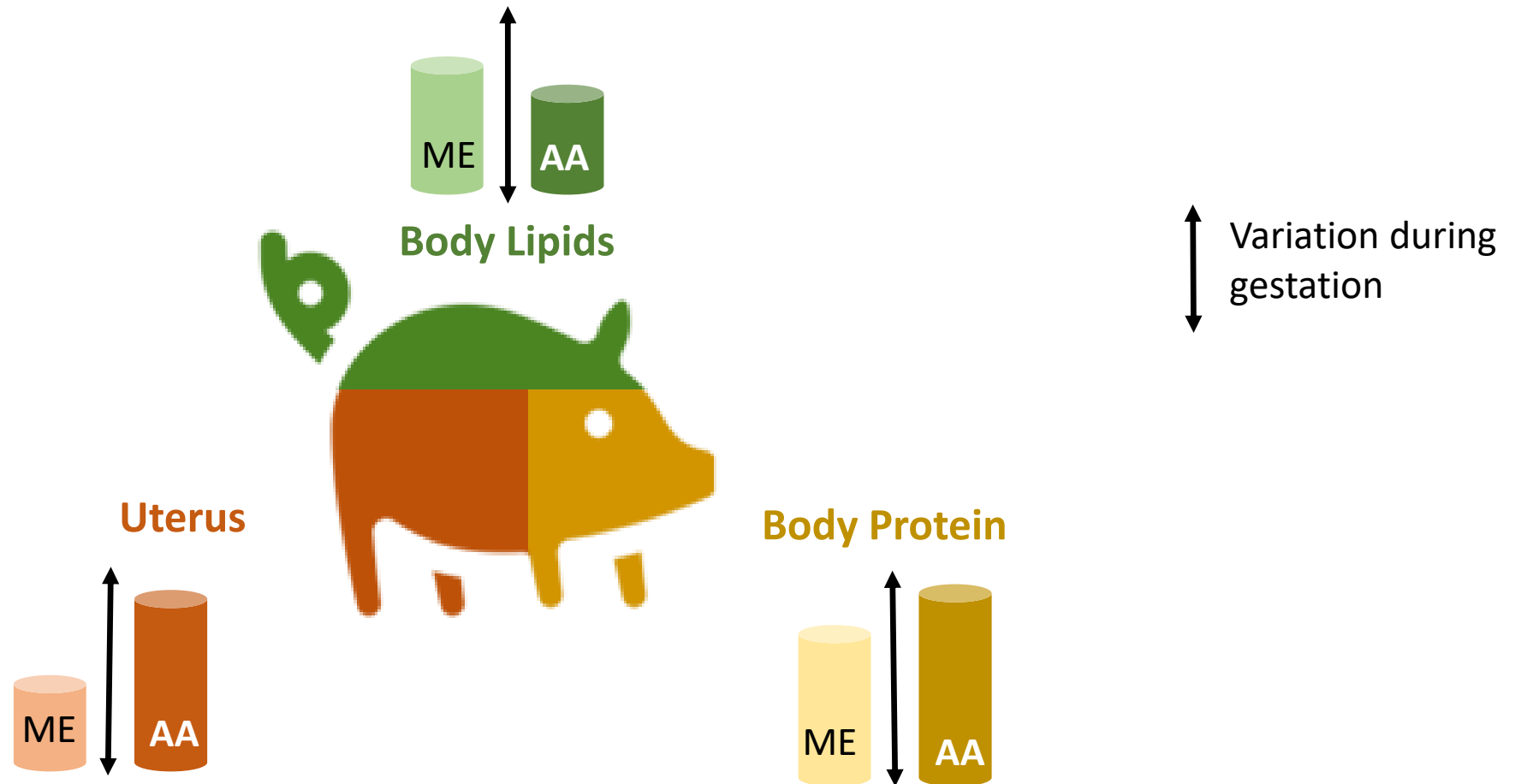
**STEP 1** / Build a prediction model of the sows' requirements

*Horizon 2020 EU Feed-a-Gene program (grant agreement n°633531)*

## STEP 1 / Build a prediction model of the sows' requirements



- Description of the gestating sow model (Adapted from InraPorc \*)



ME: Metabolizable Energy, AA: Amino Acid

\* Dourmad et al. / *Animal Feed Science and Technology* 143 (2008) 372-386

- Model inputs

## Sow

Parity  
Litter size  
Average litter BW  
BW at AI and objective at farrowing  
BT at AI and objective at farrowing



## Feed

AA content  
Mineral content  
Energy content



## Environment

Housing  
Temperature



Calculate **total ME** requirement per sow, regarding BW and BT at AI

Calculate **feed supply** per sow

For each sow, prediction of the **daily nutrient requirements** based on simulated BW from previous day



BW: Body Weight, BT: Backfat Thickness, AI: Artificial Insemination, ME: Metabolizable Energy

- Data set and analysis

2511 gestations



Python model



Statistical analysis : linear mixed model

Variables:

- requirements in ME
- requirements in SID Lys
- requirements in STTD-P

Fixed factors:

- week of gestation
- parity (1, 2, 3+)
- litter size (S, M, L)
- temperature (in °C)

Random factor : sow

**S:** < 12 piglets

**M:** ≥ 12 & < 16 piglets

**L:** ≥ 16 piglets

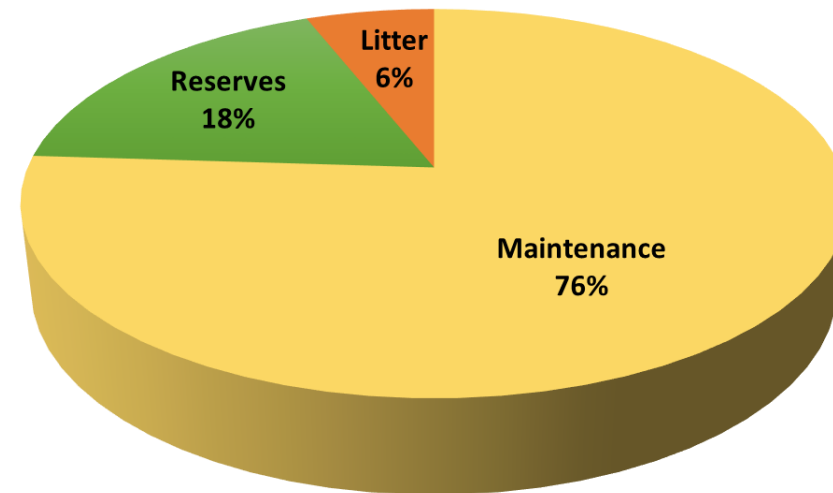
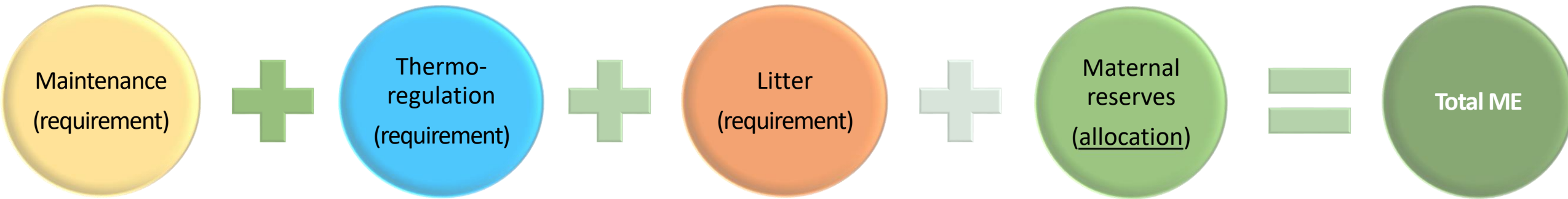
ME: Metabolizable Energy, SID Lys: Standardized ileal digestible lysine, STTD-P: Standardized total tract digestible phosphorus



**STEP 2 /** Determine and characterize the effects of different factors (week of gestation, parity, litter size, temperature) on sows nutrients requirements during gestation



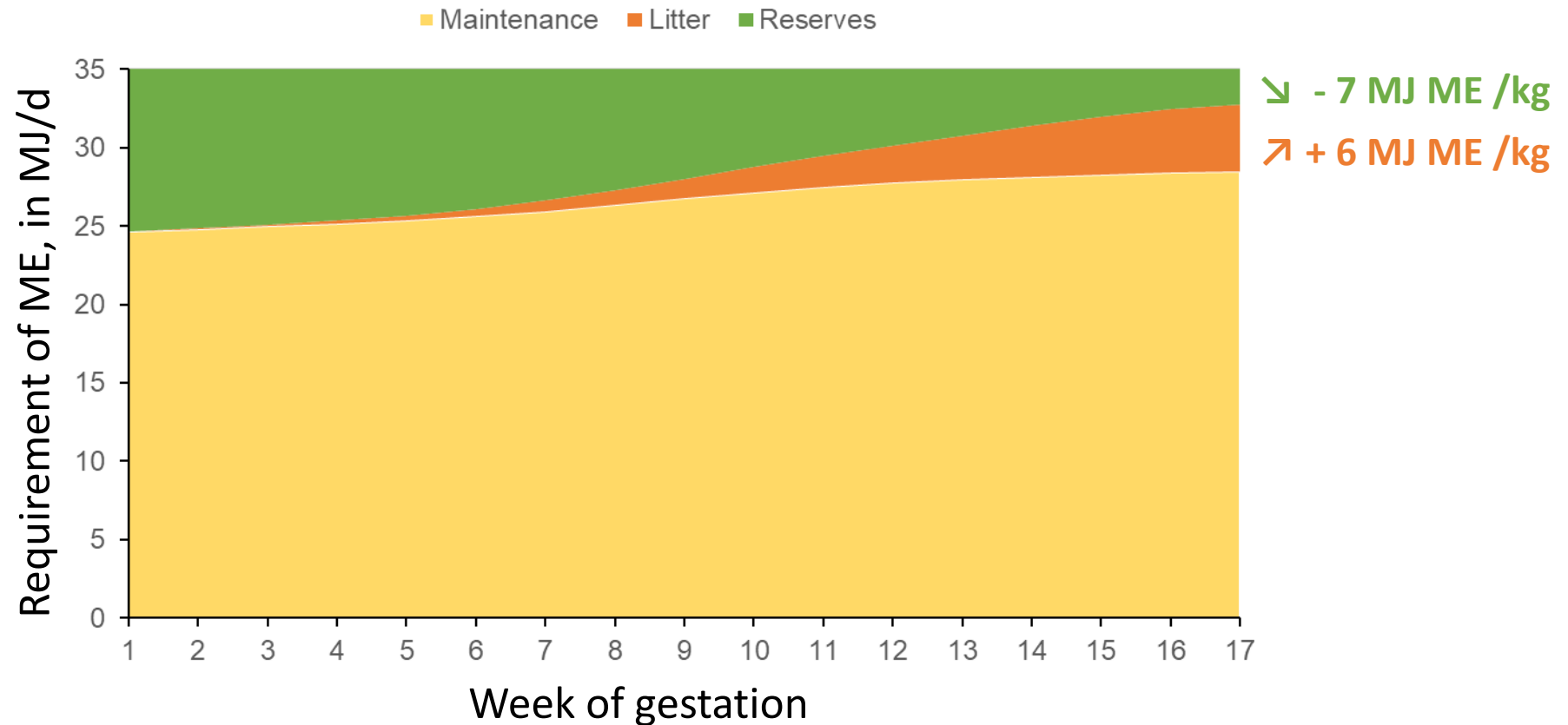
- Allocation of metabolizable energy (ME)



Average ME allocation in thermoneutral conditions

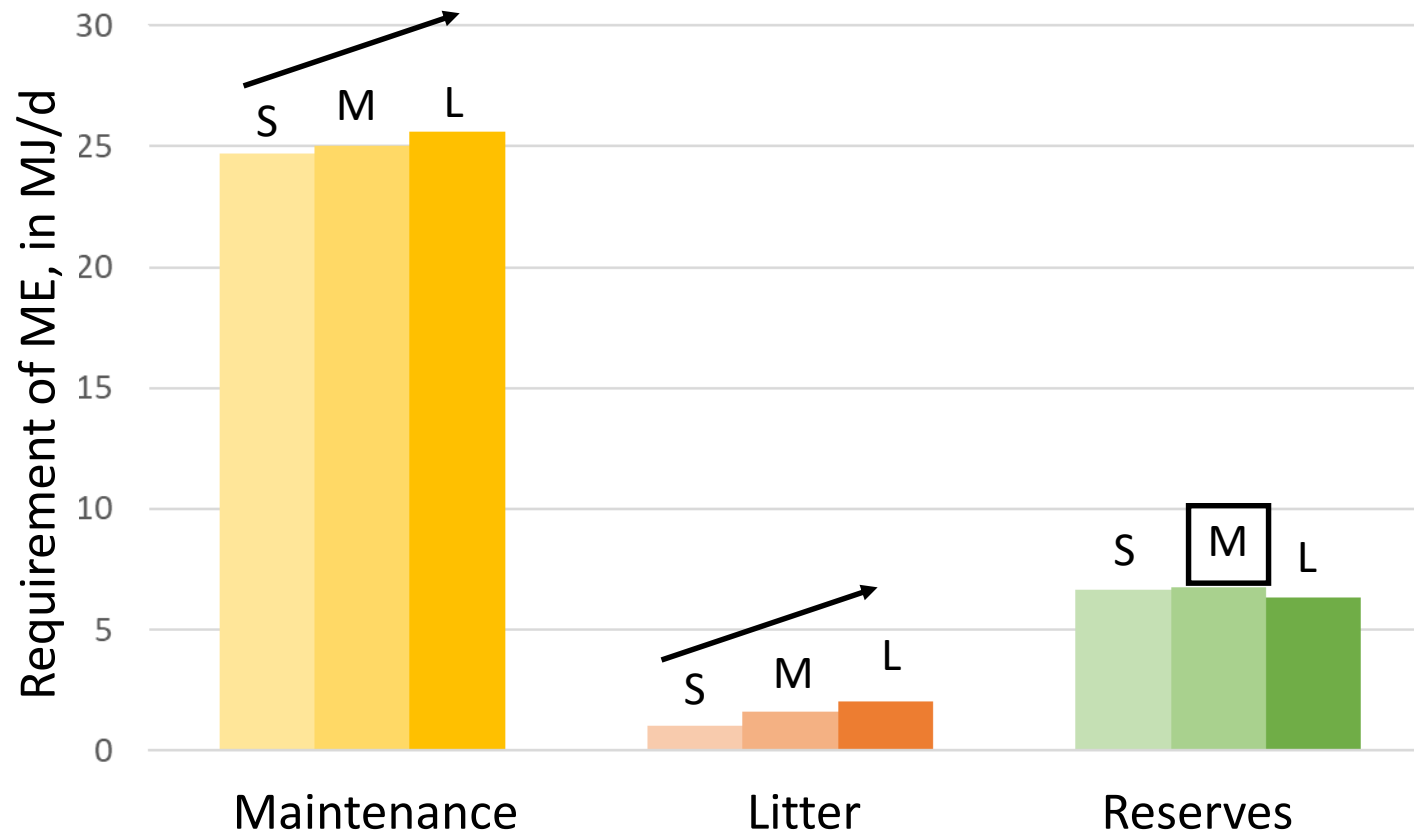
ME: Metabolizable Energy

- Variation of energy requirements over gestation



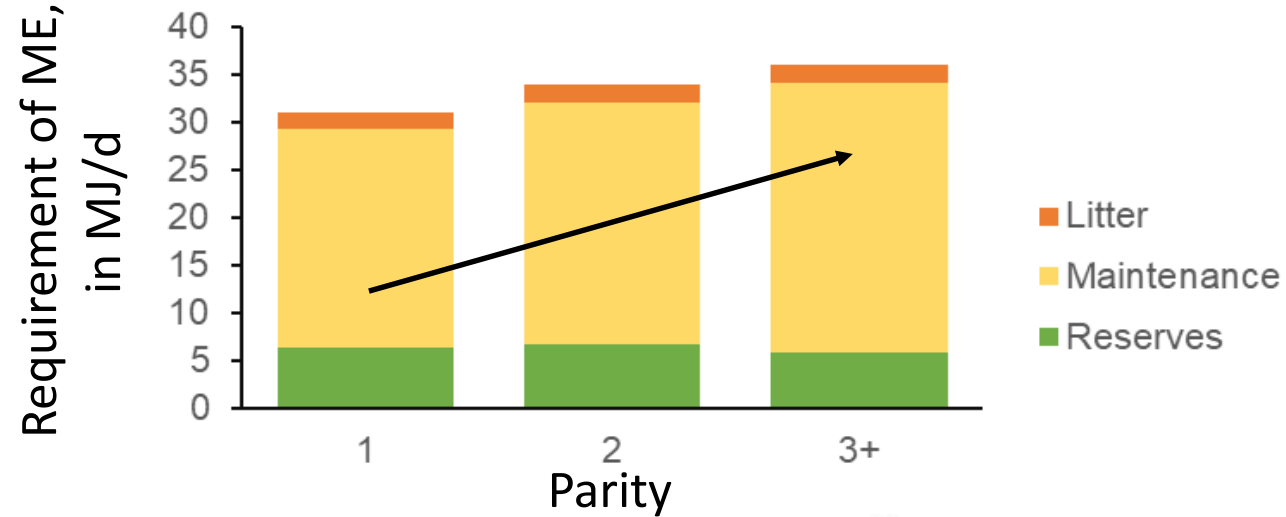
ME: Metabolizable Energy

- Variability of energy requirements with litter size



S: < 12 piglets, M:  $\geq 12$  & < 16 piglets, L:  $\geq 16$  piglets

- Variability of energy requirements with parity

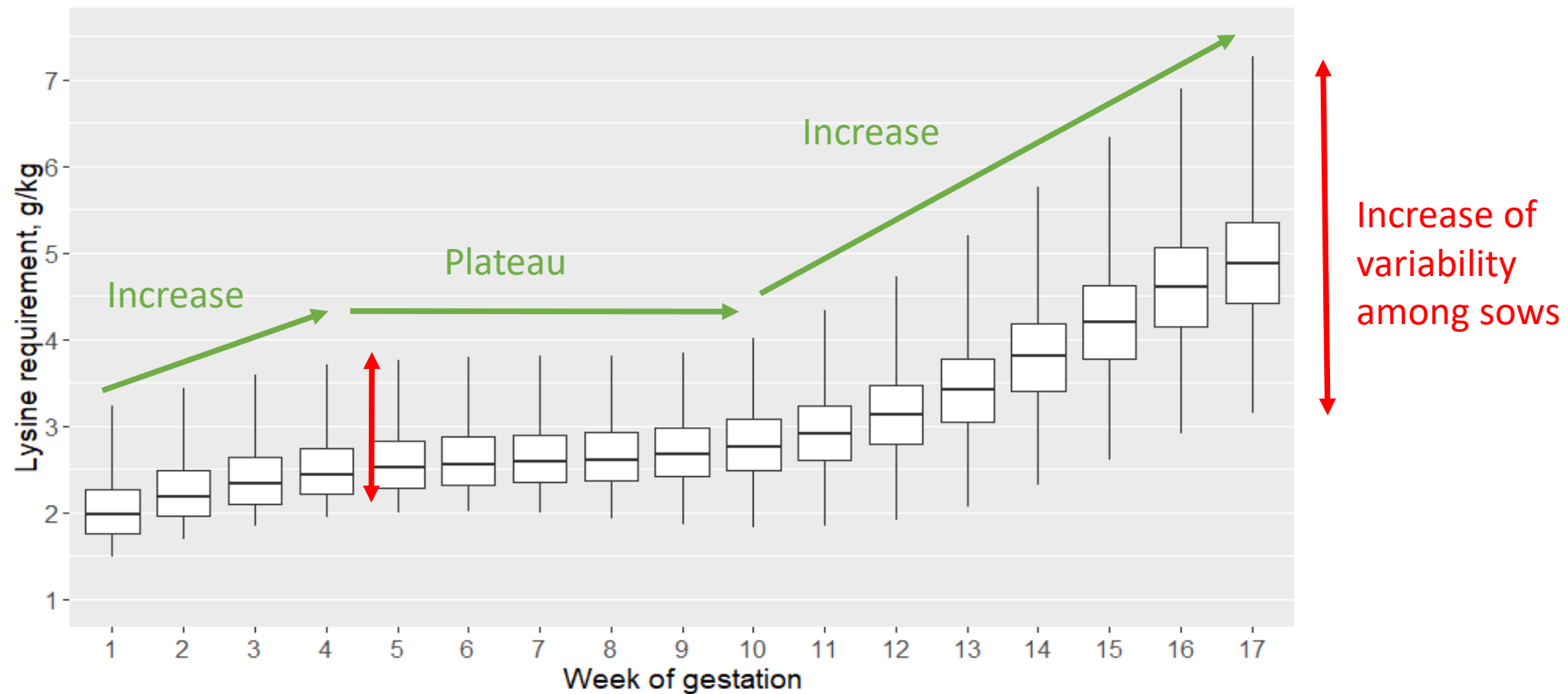


Difference due to different sow BW....

.... leading to different feed supply :

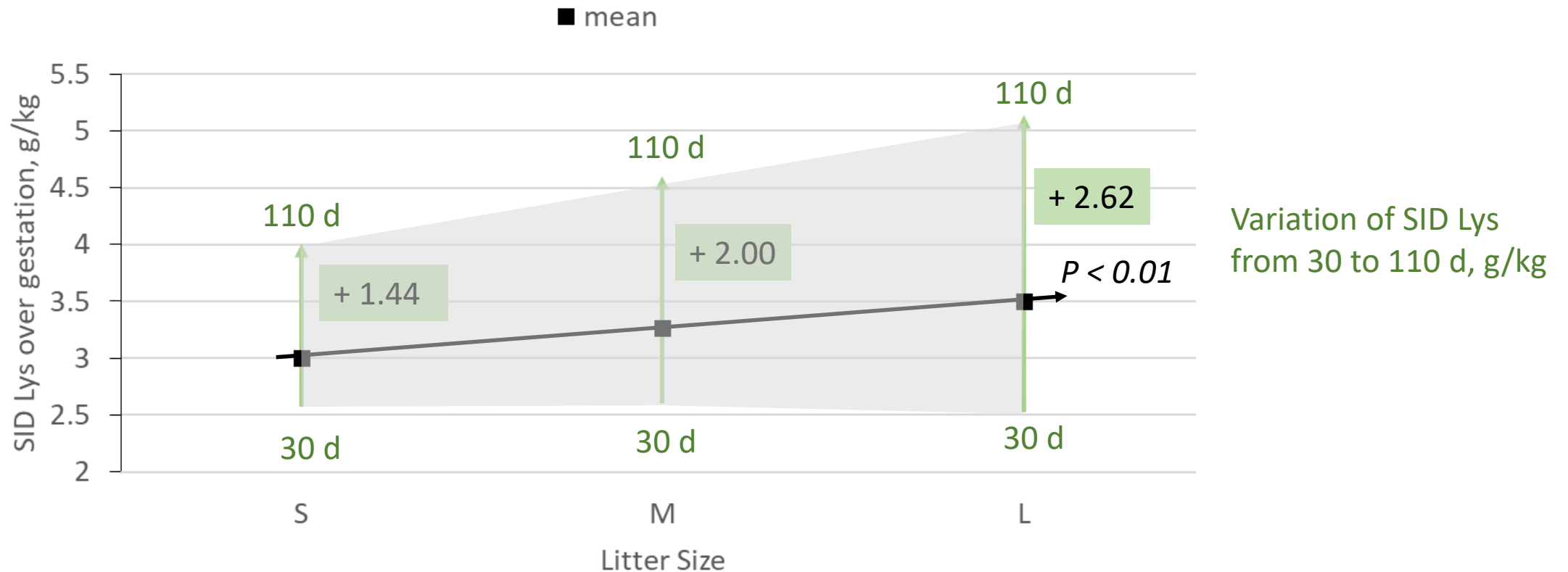


- Variation and variability in AA requirements (SID Lys) over gestation



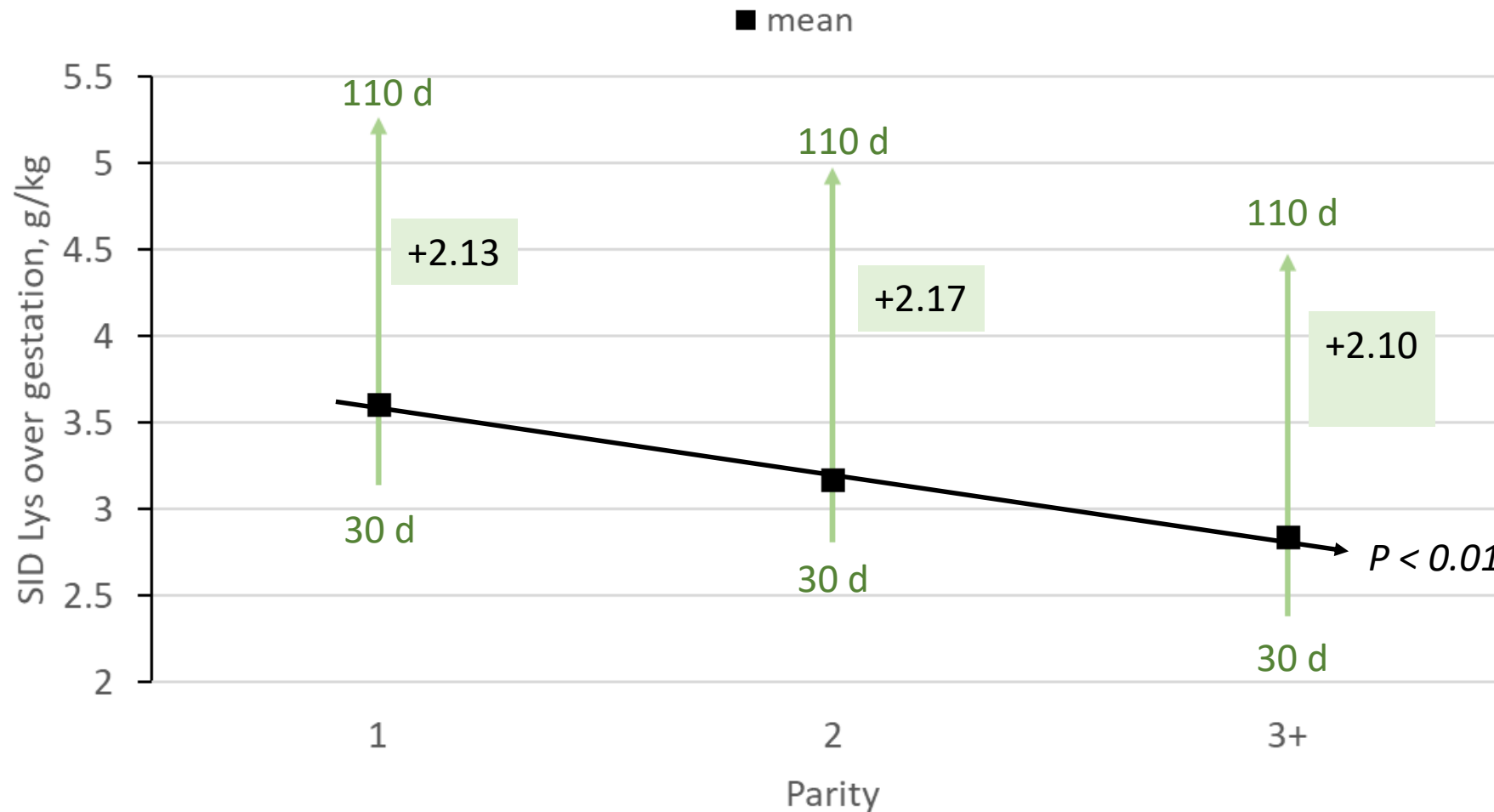
SID Lys: Standardized ileal digestible lysine, AA: Amino Acid

- Variability in AA requirements (SID Lys) with litter size



SID Lys: Standardized ileal digestible lysine, AA: Amino Acid

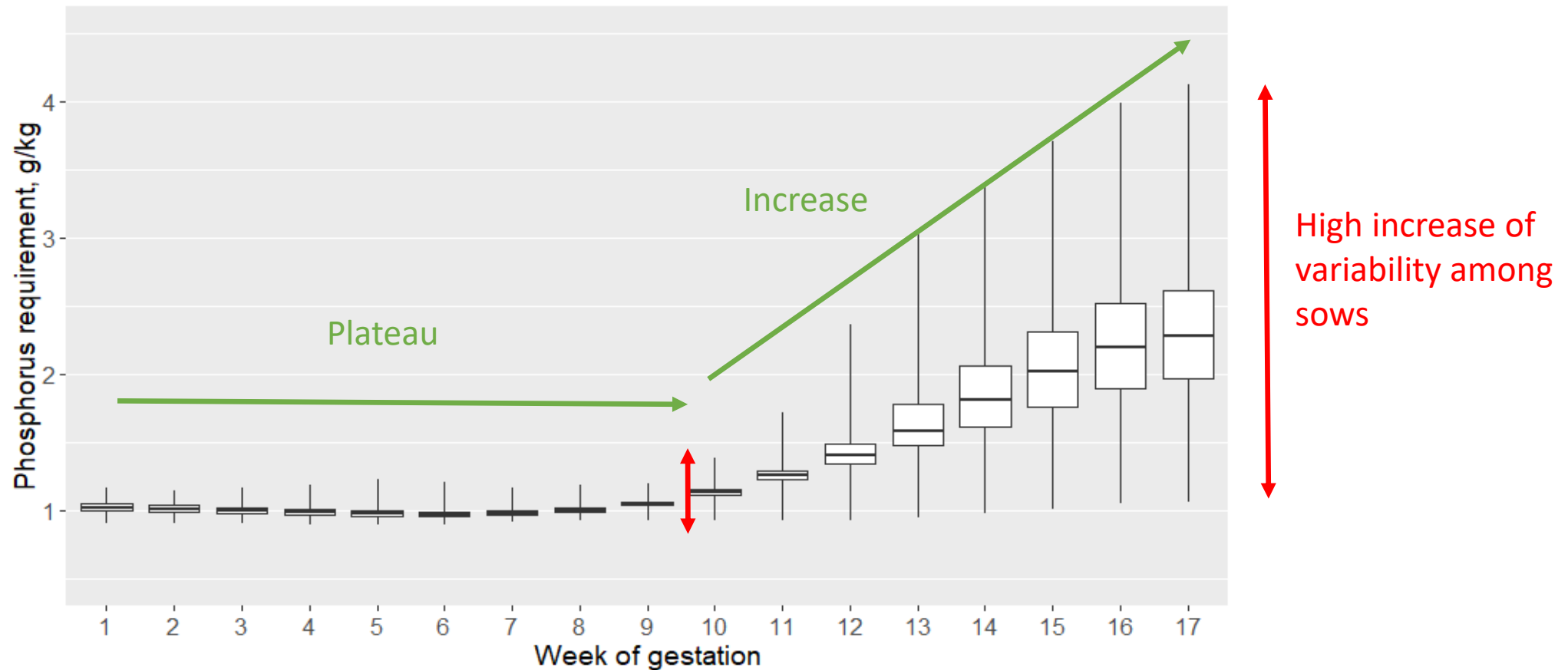
- Variability in AA requirements (SID Lys) with parity



SID Lys: Standardized ileal digestible lysine, AA: Amino Acid

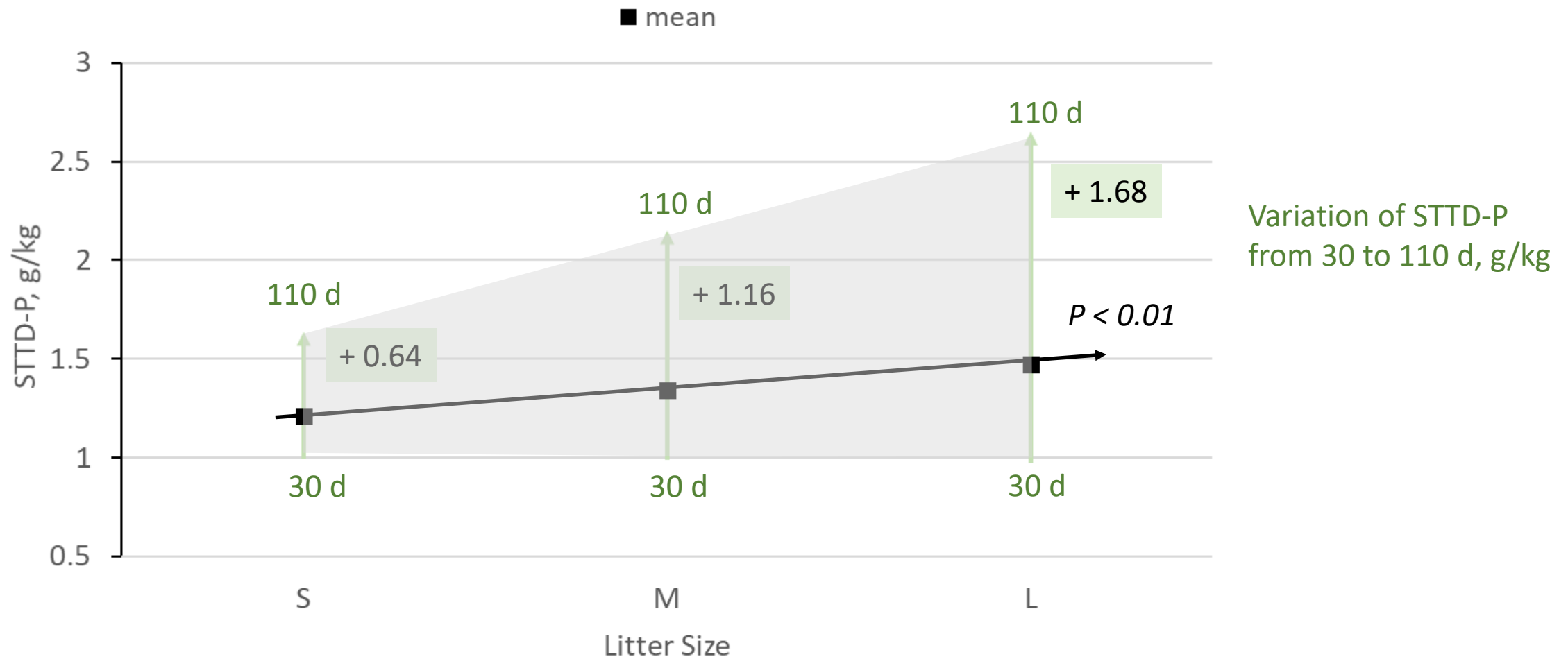


- Variability of mineral requirements (STTD-P) over gestation



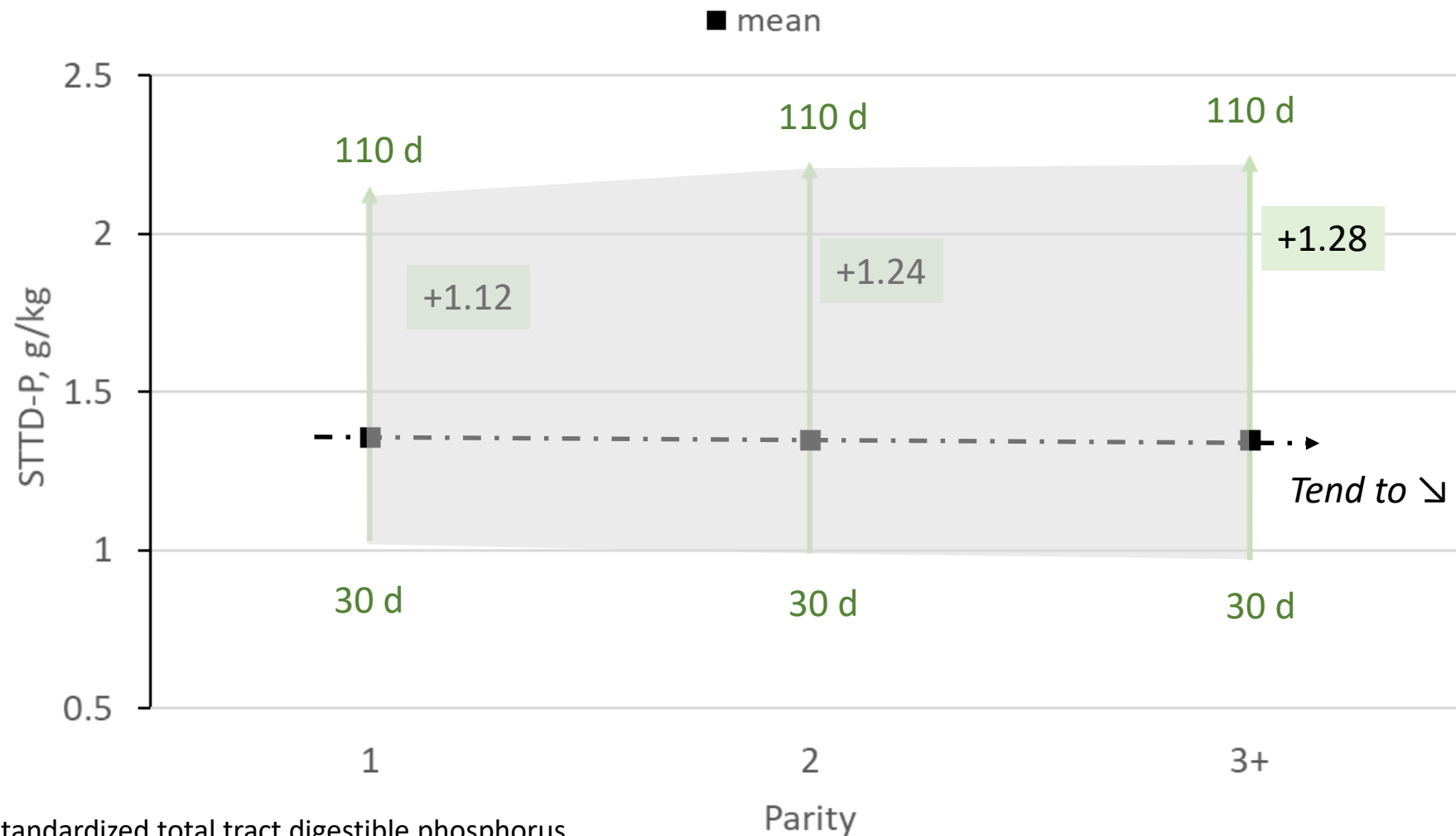
STTD-P: Standardized total tract digestible phosphorus

- Variability of mineral requirements (STTD-P) with litter size



STTD-P: Standardized total tract digestible phosphorus

- Variability of mineral requirements (STTD-P) with parity





Variation of STTD-P  
from 30 to 110 d, g/kg

STTD-P: Standardized total tract digestible phosphorus

Parity

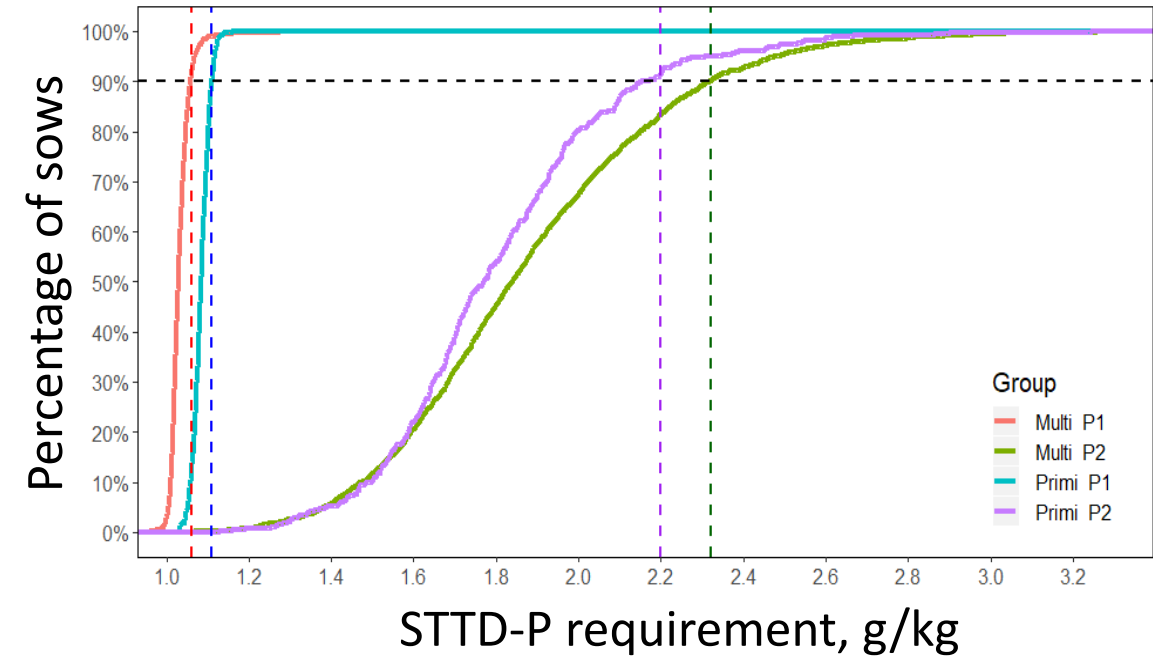
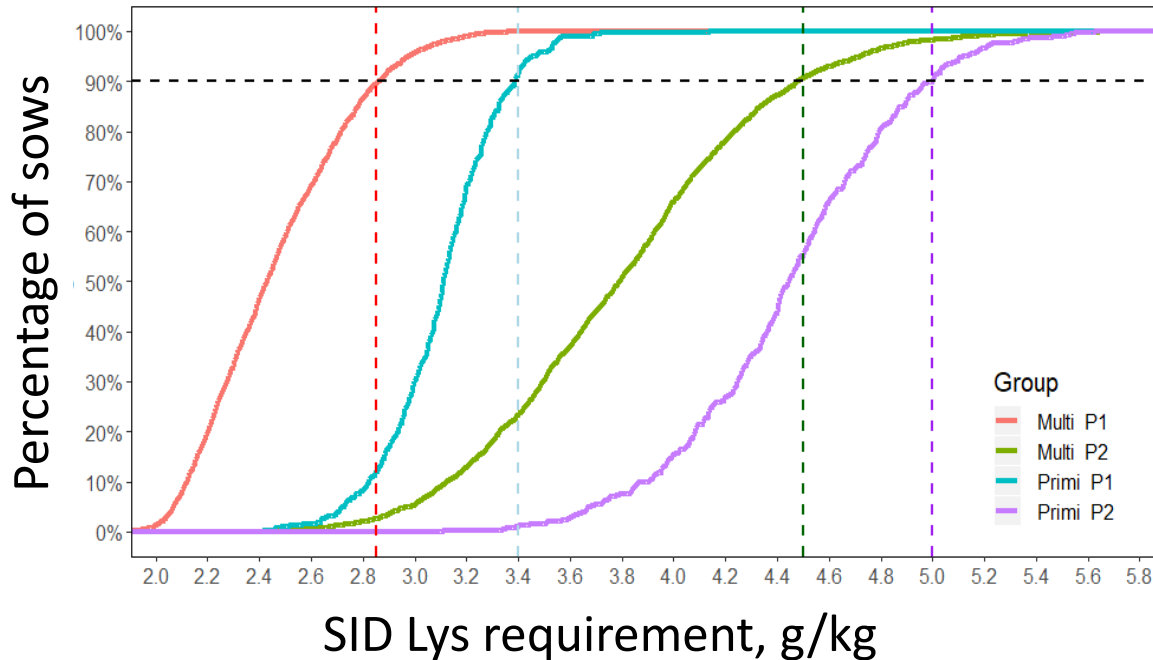
- Temperature effects

	Means at 16°C 	Means at 12°C 	SE	P-value
Thermoregulation, MJ ME/d	0	1.96	0.01	< 0.01
<i>Average requirements in g/d</i>				
SID Lys	8.25	8.29	0.03	< 0.01
STTD-P	3.62	3.64	0.01	< 0.01
<i>Average requirements in g/kg</i>				
SID Lys	3.08	2.92	0.01	< 0.01
STTD-P	1.35	1.28	0.51	< 0.01

**SID Lys and STTD-P decrease of 0.04 and 0.02 g/kg per °C below LCT, respectively**

EM thermo : Metabolizable Energy required for thermoregulation, SID Lys: Standardized ileal digestible lysine, STTD-P: Standardized total tract digestible phosphorus, LCT: lower critical temperature (16°C)

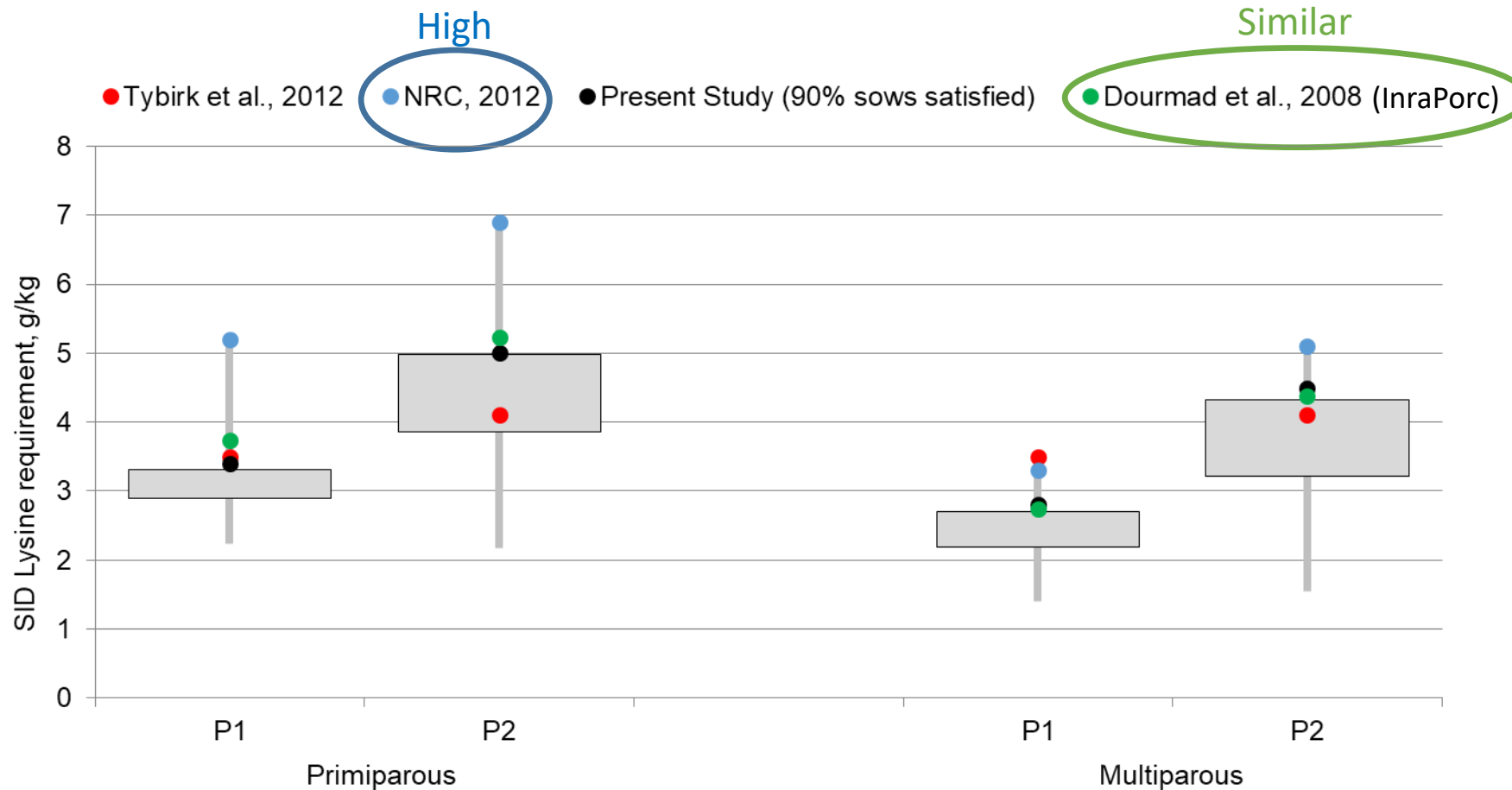
- Summary** : nutrient requirements vary with gestation period and parity. Variability of litter size can't be predicted yet in practice.



**4 diets** based on gestation period and parity to satisfy the requirements of 90% of the sows

Multi : multiparous, Primi : primiparous, P1: week 0 to 11, P2: week 12 to 17

- Results compared with recommendations



P1: **early** gestation, P2: **late** gestation [different days of diet shift between studies from 77 to 108 d]

## STEP 3 / Evaluation of different feeding strategies



# Feeding strategies

**Conventional feeding [CF]**  
1 diet 4.8 g SID Lys/kg

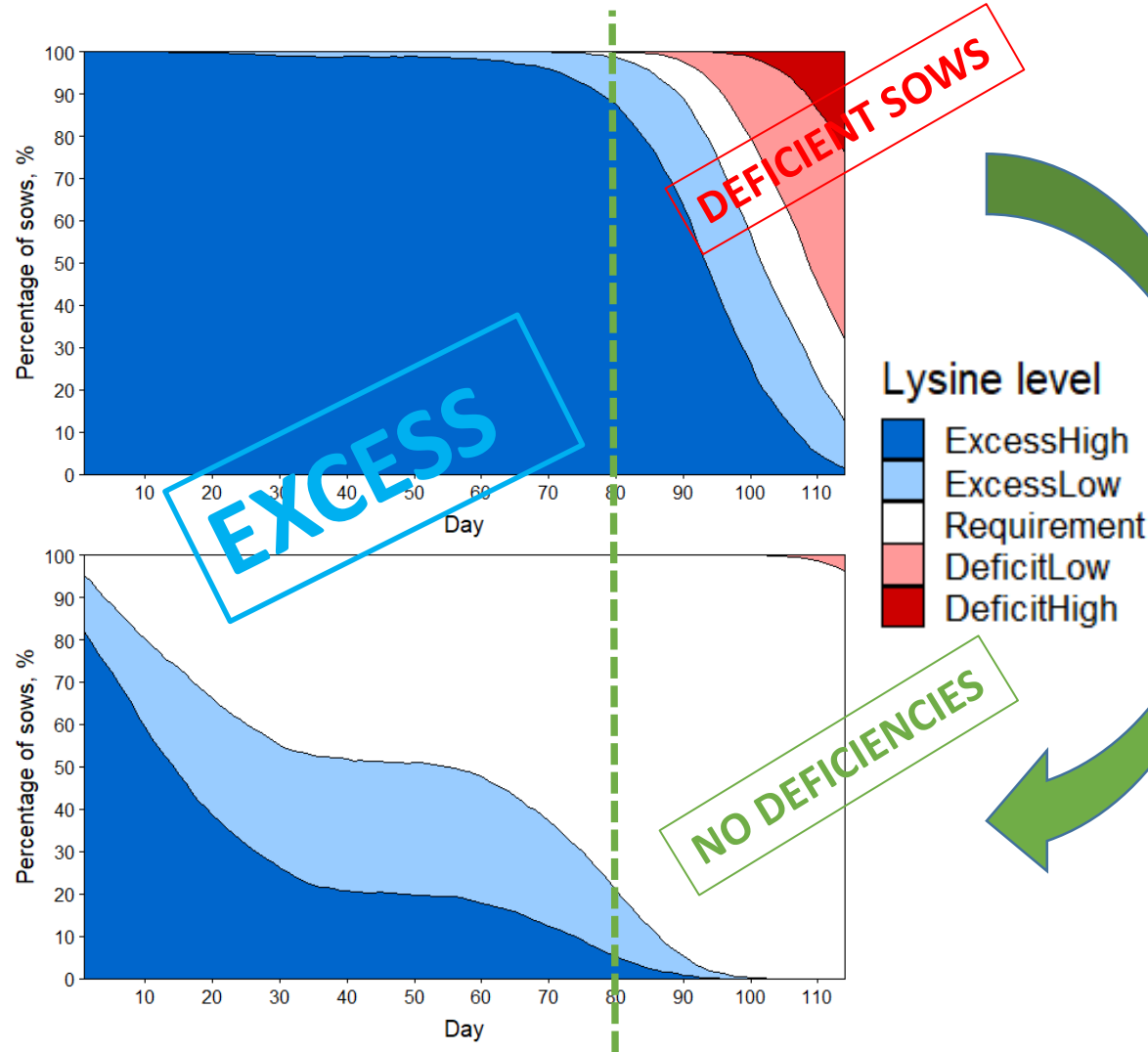


**Precision feeding [PF]**  
Daily Mix of 2 diets:

- Diet A 3.0 g SID Lys/kg
- Diet B 6.5 g SID Lys/kg



## ALL SOWS group-housed at 20°C



diet lysine content  $\searrow$  of 27%

SID Lys: Standardized ileal digestible lysine



## Feeding strategies

### Conventional feeding [CF]

1 diet 4.8 g SID Lys/kg



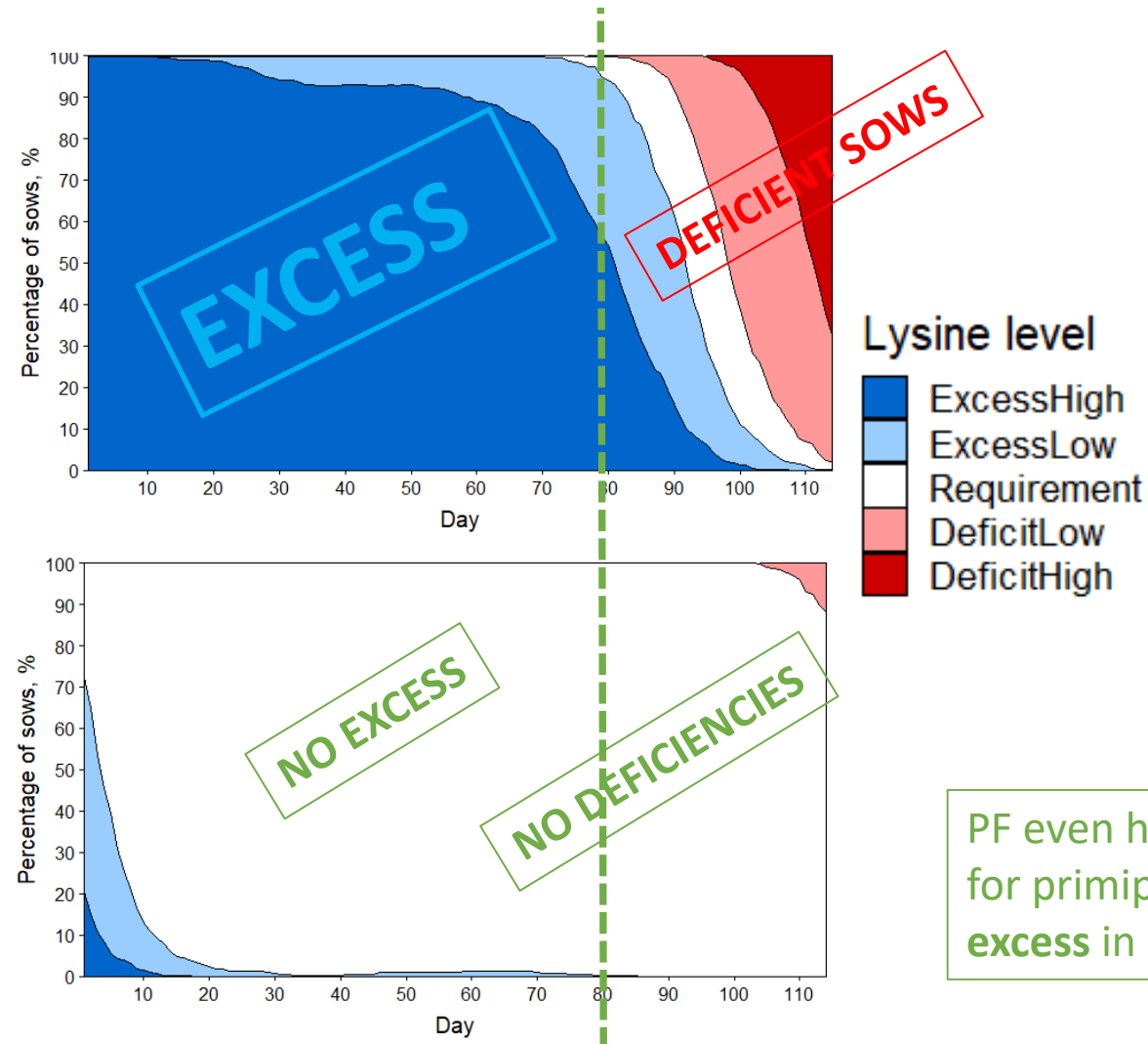
### Precision feeding [PF]

Daily Mix of 2 diets:

- Diet A 3.0 g SID Lys/kg
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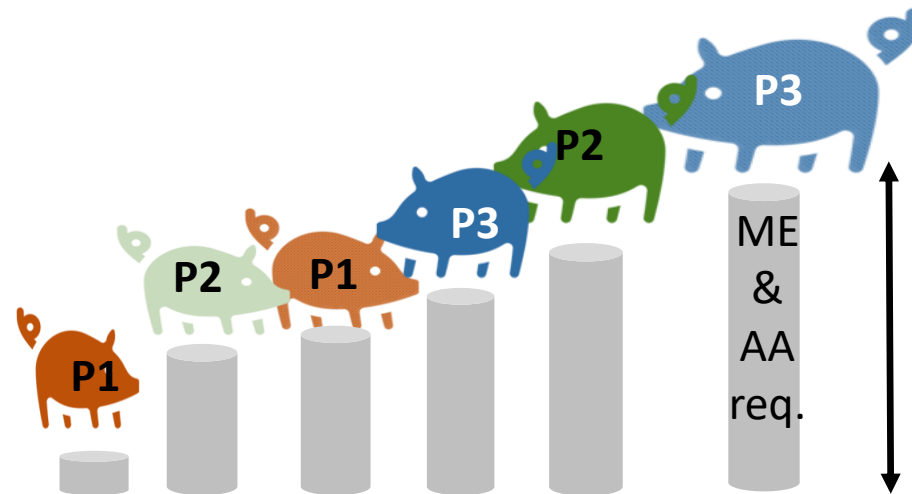
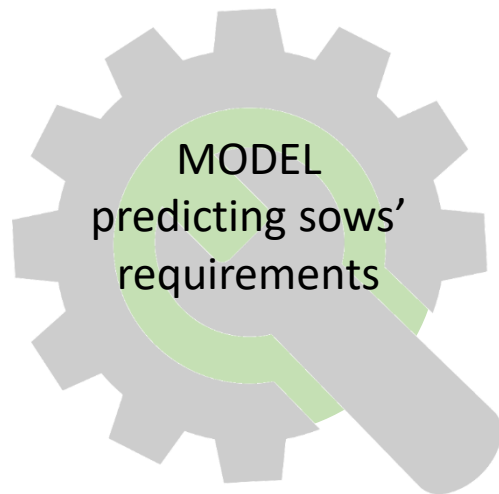
## PRIMIPAROUS SOWS group-housed at 20°C



PF even has a higher benefit for primiparous sows :  $\searrow$  excess in early gestation

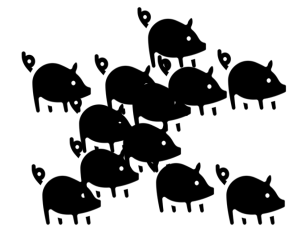
SID Lys: Standardized ileal digestible lysine

- To conclude ...

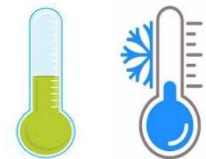


Sow's characteristics  
(parity, BW, BT)

Litter size



Temperature



Week of gestation

In practice, to feed sows closer to their requirements, two options:

- Feeding by group (**week, parity**)
- Individual feeding (precision feeding strategy)

=> reduce excess and avoid deficiencies in nutrients during gestation

- Perspectives

- Include this decision system tool in experimental station (UEPR, INRA Saint-Gilles, France) in 2019-2020 to use real-time data
- Thanks to the development of activity and temperature sensors, the model will also be improved taking into account these real-time information in the calculations



# Thank you for your attention

