

➤ The volatolomic signature differs between primiparous and multiparous cows across different matrices

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Introduction

Nutritional and physiological research → non-invasive biomarkers of the metabolic status

Metabolomics → potential development of biomarkers of different phenotypes

- ✓ Feed efficiency
- ✓ Ketosis, acidosis
- ✓ Product quality

(Saleem et al., 2012; Foroutan et al., 2020; Goldansaz et al., 2017)

Volatolomics arises as an alternative within metabolomics approaches

The profile of volatile organic compounds (VOC)

GC-MS targeted analysis → successful discrimination of contrasting diets (Silberberg et al., 2018; Eichinger et al., 2023).

- ✓ Time consuming
- ✓ Not feasible at field conditions

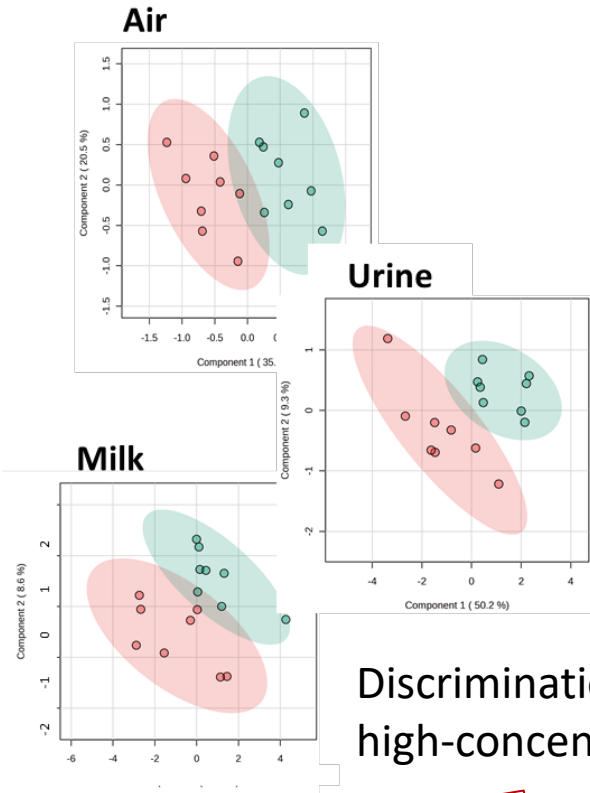
Single Ion Flow Tube - Mass Spectrometry (SIFT-MS)



- ✓ No sample preparation
- ✓ Easy and cheap

- ✓ Biomarkers of human and pathologies (Dharmawardana et al. 2020; Segers, et al., 2021)
- ✓ Successfully used with different matrices, e.g.: urine, sweat or breath (Smith et al. 1999; Catala, et al., 2020; Belluomo, et al., 2021)

Single Ion Flow Tube - Mass Spectrometry (SIFT-MS)



Preliminary
results

Session 89
Wednesday 4th

Discrimination of high-fibre vs.
high-concentrate diet

Other sources of effect on the volatolomic profile of dairy cows?

Primiparous vs. multiparous cows

- ✓ physiological maturity
- ✓ milk yield
- ✓ behaviour
- ✓ metabolic differences (Wathes et al., 2017; Adrien et al., 2012; Saqib et al., 2018)

Should we take into account the parity when performing non-targeted volatolomics?

Is it possible to discriminate primiparous vs. multiparous (2nd, 3rd lactation) cows?

Hypothesis

The metabolic differences between primiparous and multiparous cows affect the profile of volatile organic compounds (VOC) which can be determined by untargeted volatolomics based on SIFT-MS

Objective

To assess the volatolomic differences between primiparous and multiparous cows based on SIFT-MS untargeted volatolome of breath, ruminal liquid, feces, urine, milk and sweat.

Materials and Methods



PRIM

n = 10

1st lactation

73 ± 11 DIM

22.3 ± 3.31 kg/d milk

618 ± 41 kg BW

1.5 ± 0.20 BCS



MULT

n = 6

2nd lactation

76 ± 11 DIM

23.0 ± 1.59 kg/d milk

642 ± 49 kg BW

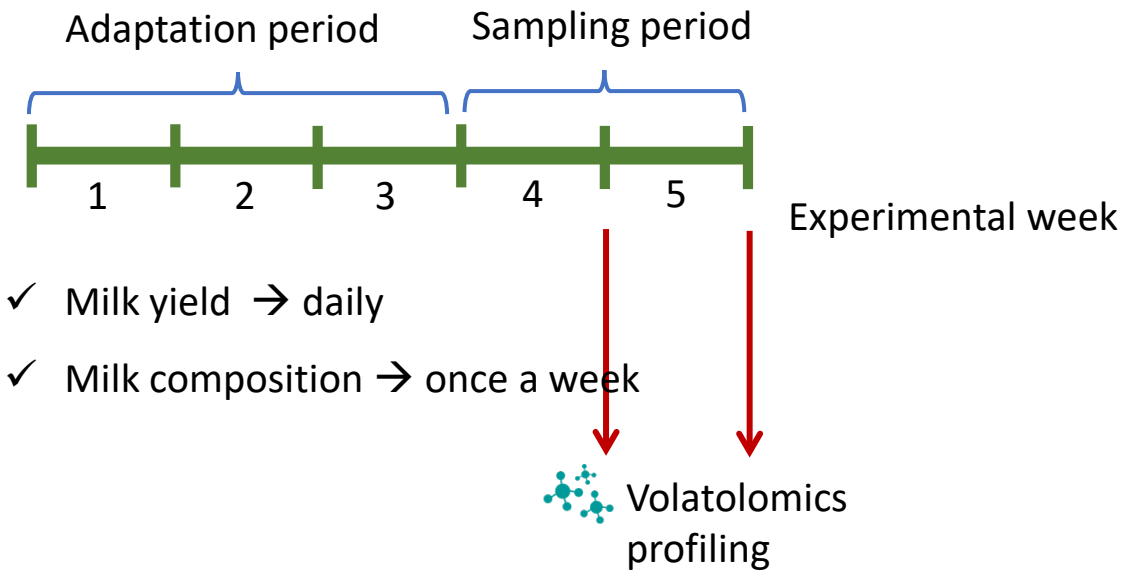
1.4 ± 0.20 BCS

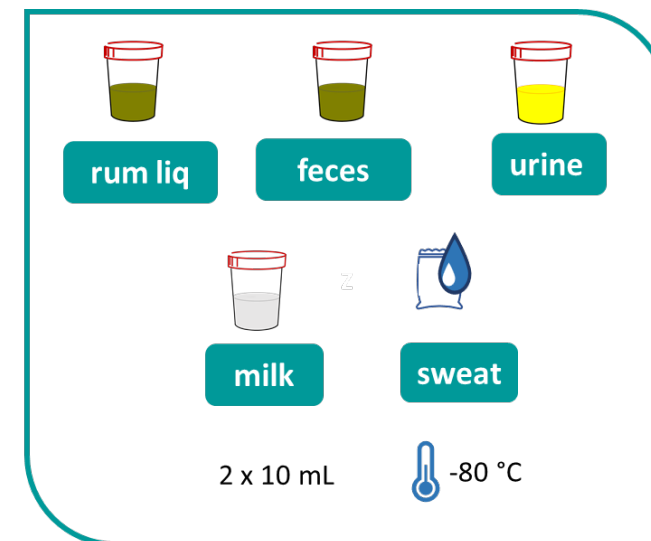
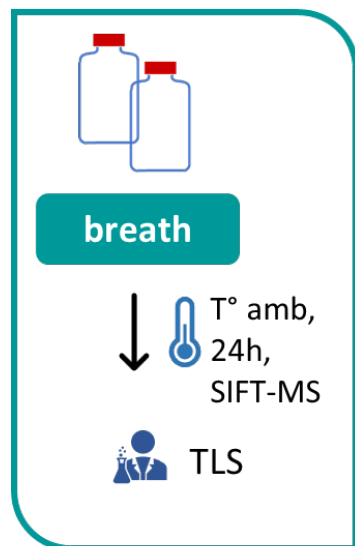
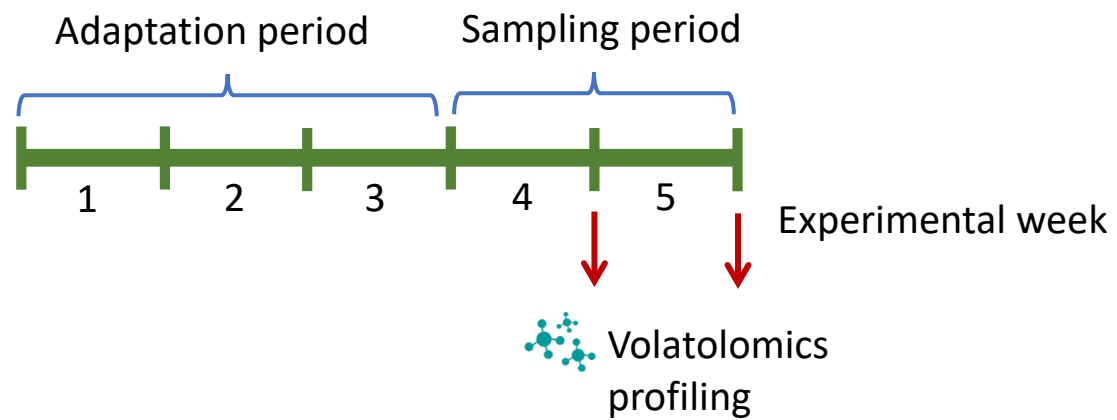


Forage: 76 % DM



Concentrate: 24 % DM







Statistical analyses

1. Productive data

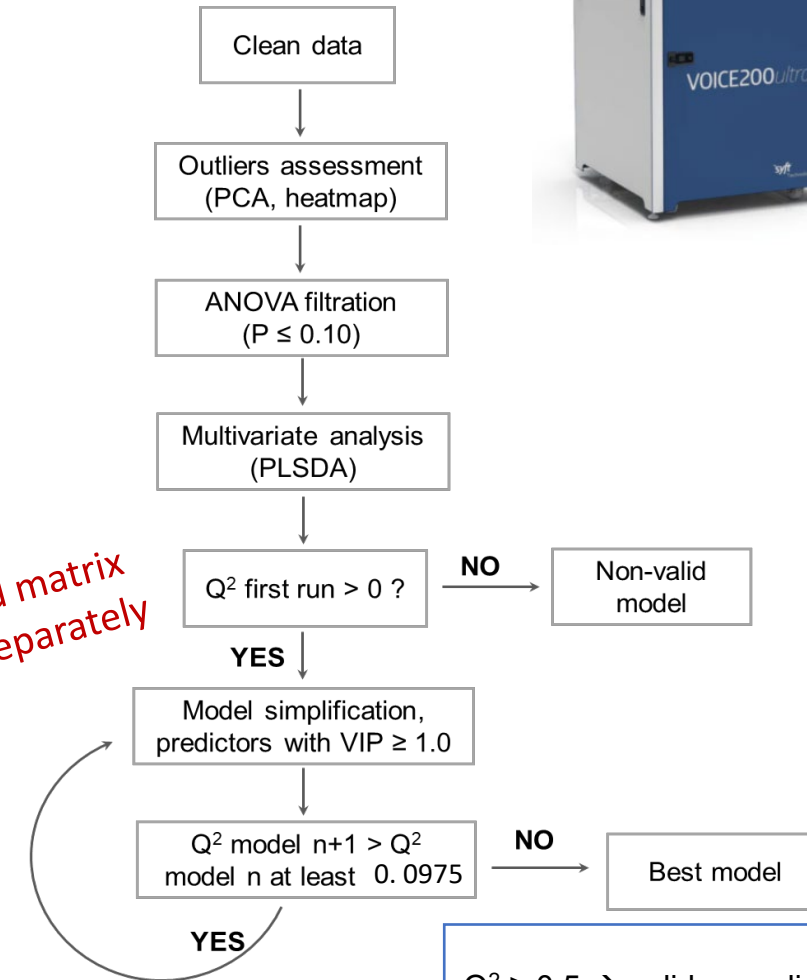
DMI and performance as repeated measures (mixed model)

- Parity, week (4, 5), Parity $\times$ week $\rightarrow$ fixed effects
- Cow(parity) $\rightarrow$ random effect
- AR(1) as the covariance structure

2. Volatolomics data

1860 ions

*Each week and matrix
 $\rightarrow$ analysed separately*



$Q^2 \geq 0.5 \rightarrow$ valide, predictive
 $0 < Q^2 < 0.5 \rightarrow$ valide non predictive
 $Q^2 < 0 \rightarrow$ non valide

Table 1. DMI and productive performance in primiparous and multiparous cows in weeks 4 and 5

Trait	LS-means		SEM	P-value		
	PRIM	MULT		Diet	Week	Diet × Week
DMI (kg DM/d)	20.6	21.6	0.64	0.288	0.017	0.475
Milk yield (kg/d)	21.7	21.3	0.95	0.787	0.301	0.194
Milk fat (g/100 g)	3.37	3.84	0.144	0.042	0.004	0.727
Milk protein (g/100 g)	2.90	2.87	0.520	0.668	< 0.001	0.832



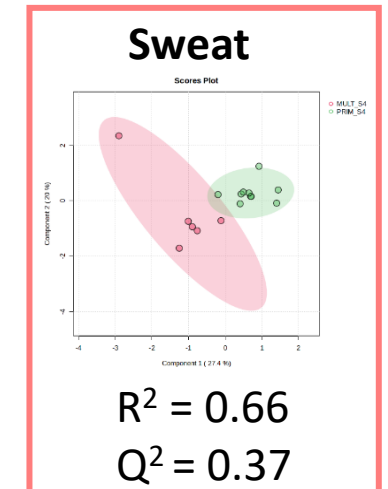
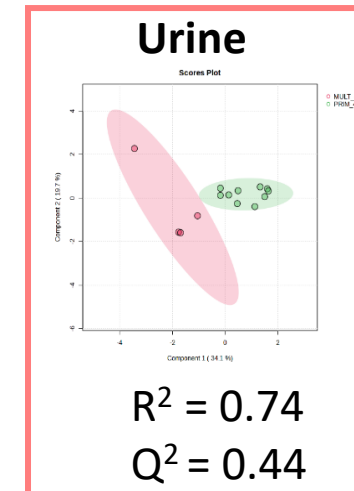
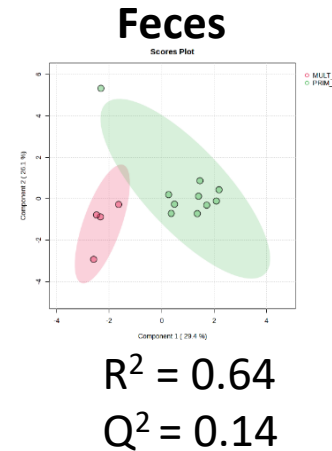
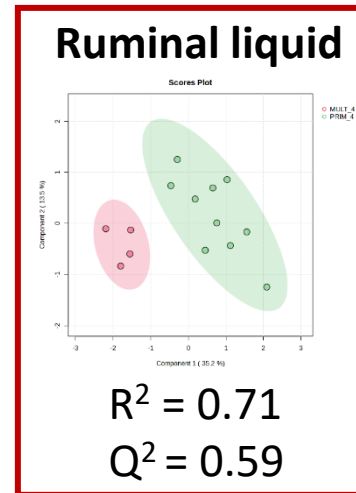
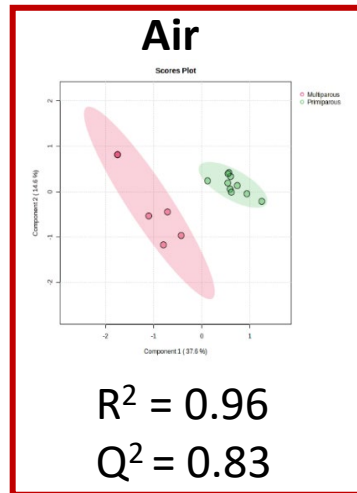
No major differences in terms of production and DMI

1180 ions effectively quantified:

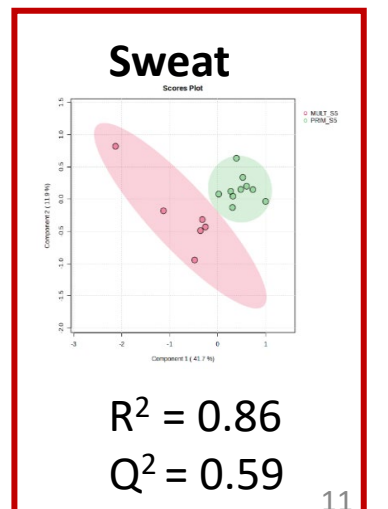
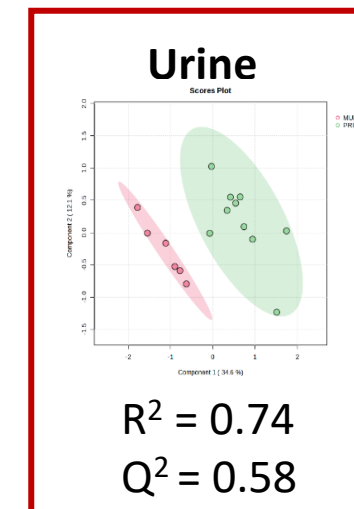
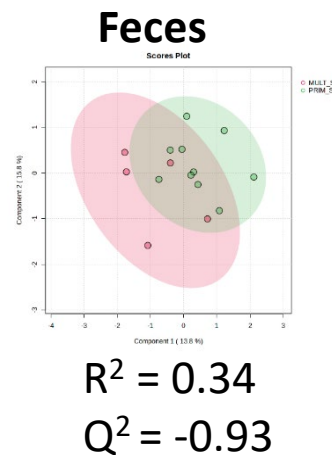
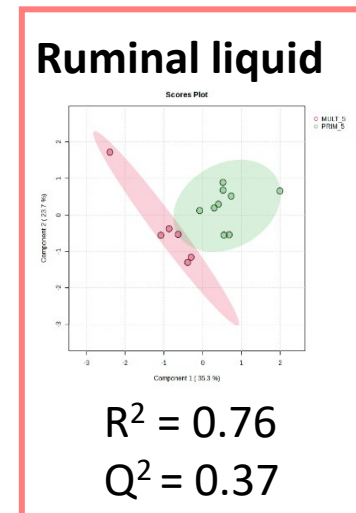
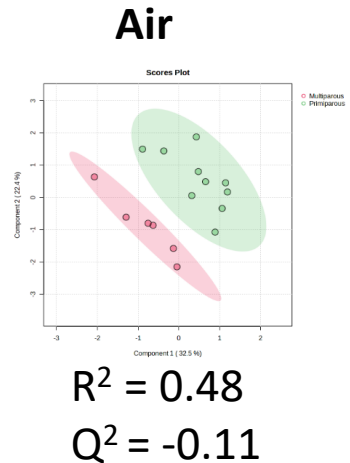
193 – 451 → according to the matrix



Week 4



Week 5



Take-home messages

- ✓ The **parity impact** the **volatolomics** profile of different matrices
- ✓ Matrices related with the **host metabolism** → better potential to **discriminate the parity class**
- ✓ The **breath** is possibly the most sensitive matrix to environmental interferences
→ Integrate current developments to **refine the breath sampling** ? (Islam et al., 2023)
- ✓ Ruminal liquid, urine and sweat → better consistency between sampling periods
- ✓ The results based on multiparous or primiparous only cannot be extrapolated between parities
→ attention to the robustness of conclusions for field application



Thank you

