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Farm Animal Biology

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Oro-caecal transit time measured with the lactose-¹³C-ureide breath test, in pigs fed high and low fibre diets

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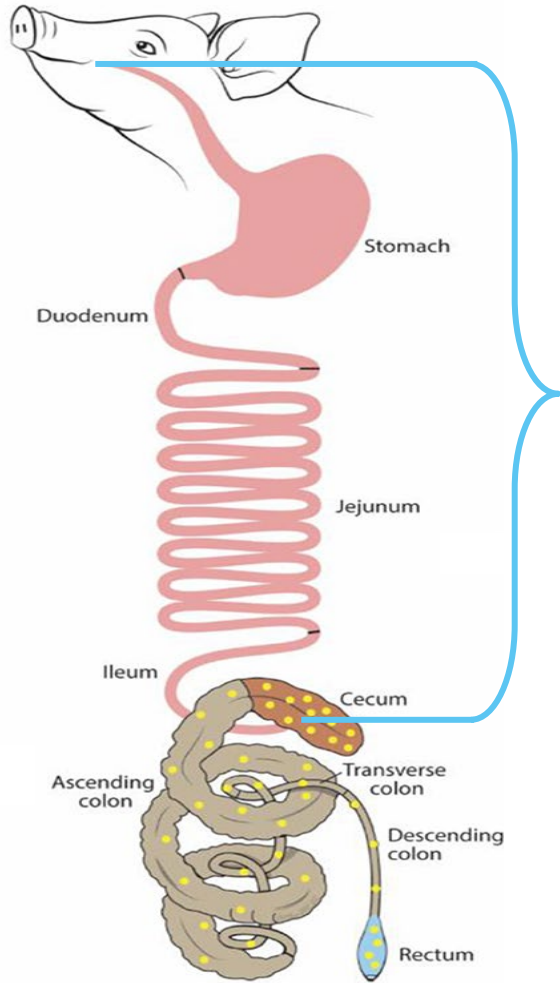


Disclaimer: the PIGWEB project has received funding from European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under Grant Agreement No 101004770.

75th EAAP ANNUAL MEETING

04/09/2024

Background



OCTT

Oro-caecal transit time:

The time elapsed for the digesta to transit from mouth to caecum

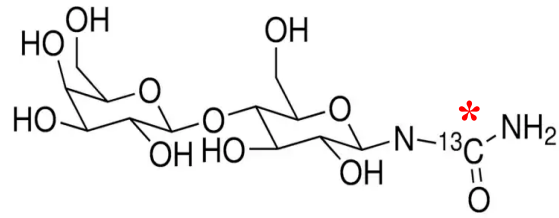
INVASIVENESS

Cannulation of different gut segments
(duodenal, distal ileum or caecal)



Source: Schaaf CR and Gonzalez LM (2022)

Lactose- ^{13}C -ureide



Lactose-ureide¹

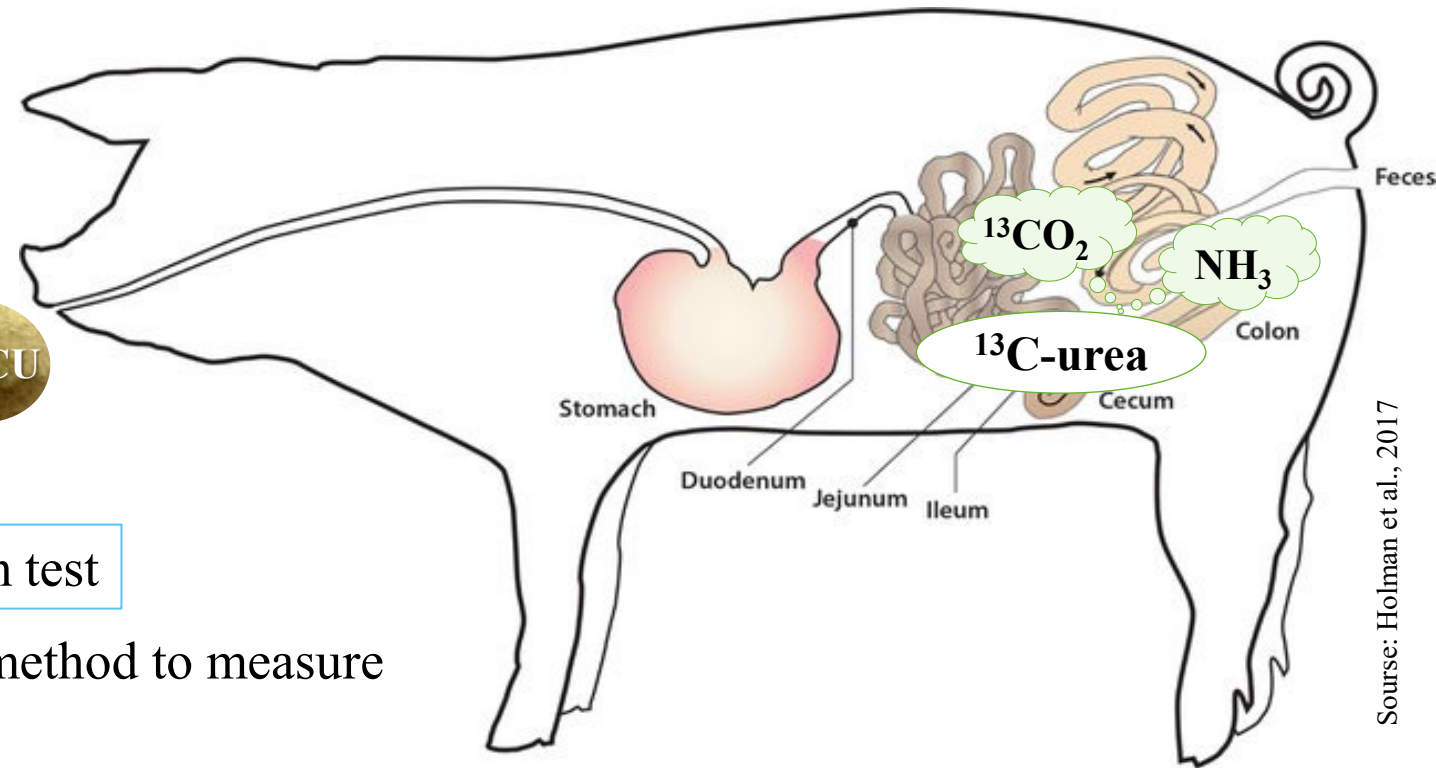
labelled with the stable isotope
 ^{13}C on the urea moiety (**L ^{13}CU**)

- Bacterial glucose-ureide hydrolase: Liberation of ^{13}C -urea
- Urease: NH_3 and $^{13}\text{CO}_2$
- $^{13}\text{CO}_2$ exhaled with breath

Humans¹
Horses²
Rats³

L ^{13}CU -Breath test

validated as non-invasive method to measure
OCTT



¹Geypens et al., 1999

²Sutton et al., 2011

³Uchida and Yoshida, 2009

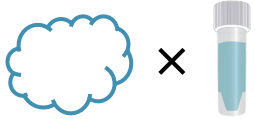
Aims



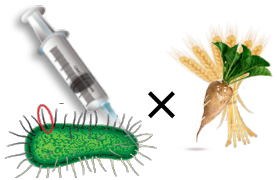
1. Measure the OCTT using $L^{13}CU$ and $^{13}CO_2$ in breath samples



2. Measure the OCTT using $L^{13}CU$ and $^{13}CO_2$ in saliva samples



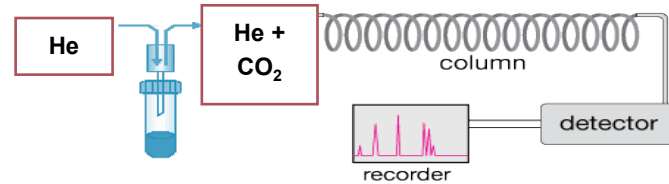
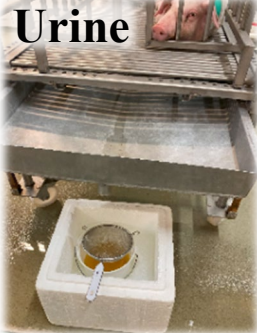
3. Compare breath and saliva to assess the use of saliva as minimally invasive sample as a replacement for breath



4. Investigate whether measuring OCTT with $L^{13}CU$ test reflects the effects of dietary fibre and immune stimulation (LPS) in pigs

Lactose- ^{13}C -ureide test

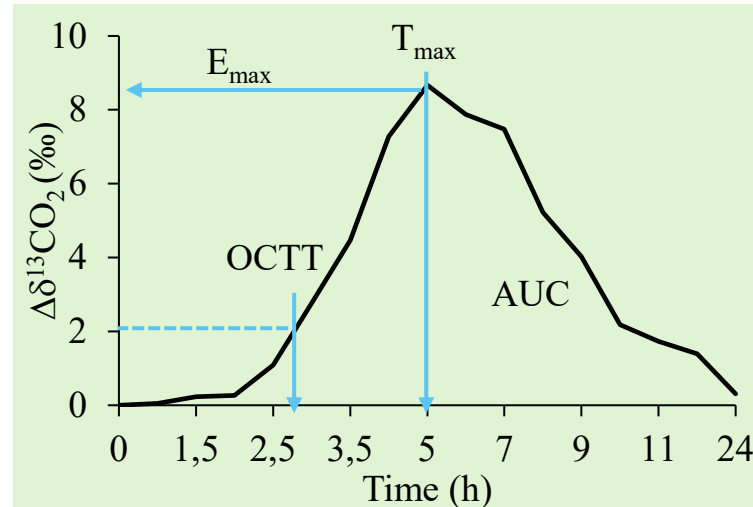
☁️ L^{13}CU
400 mg



Breath/Saliva: Gas Chromatography + Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry
Urine: Elemental analyzer

→ Enrichment $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰) = $^{13}\text{C} / ^{12}\text{C}$ against standard (PDB)

→ $\Delta\delta^{13}\text{CO}_2$ (‰) = measured enrichment – basal enrichment



OCTT: oro-caecal transit time (time to reach $2 \Delta\delta^{13}\text{CO}_2$)

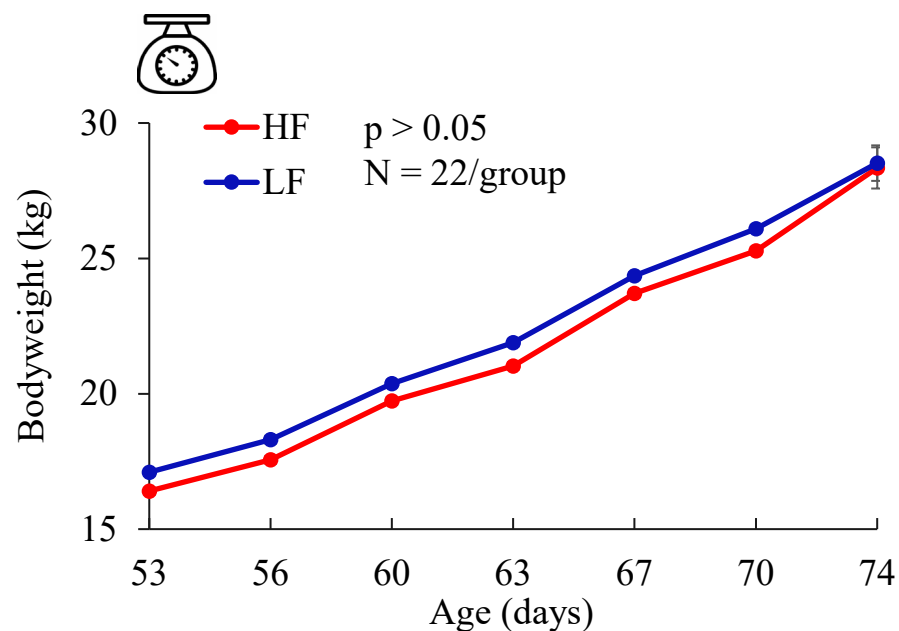
AUC: area under the enrichment-time-curve

E_{max} : maximum enrichment

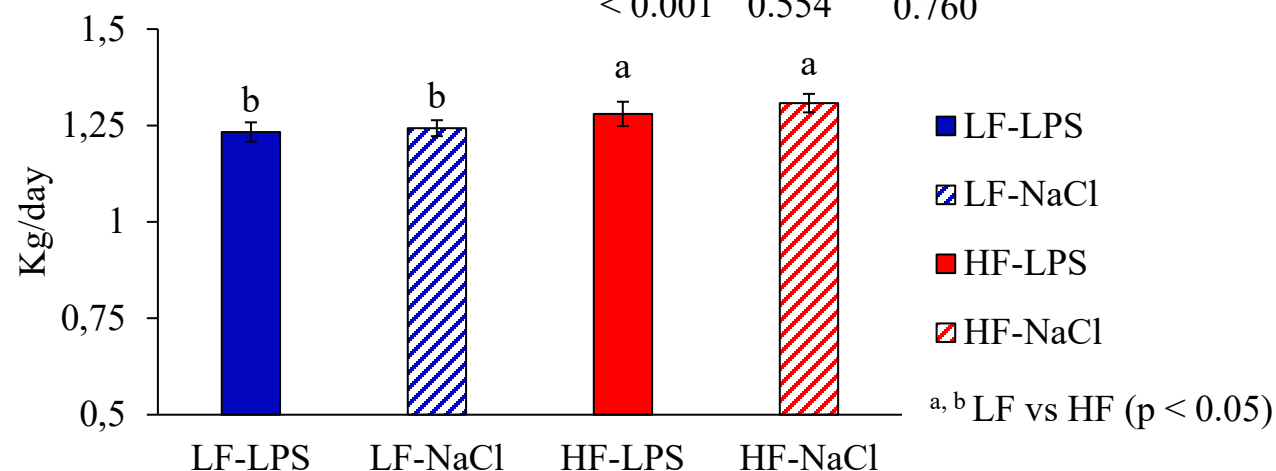
T_{max} : time to reach the maximum enrichment

Mixed model of SAS for the analysis

Zootechnical parameters



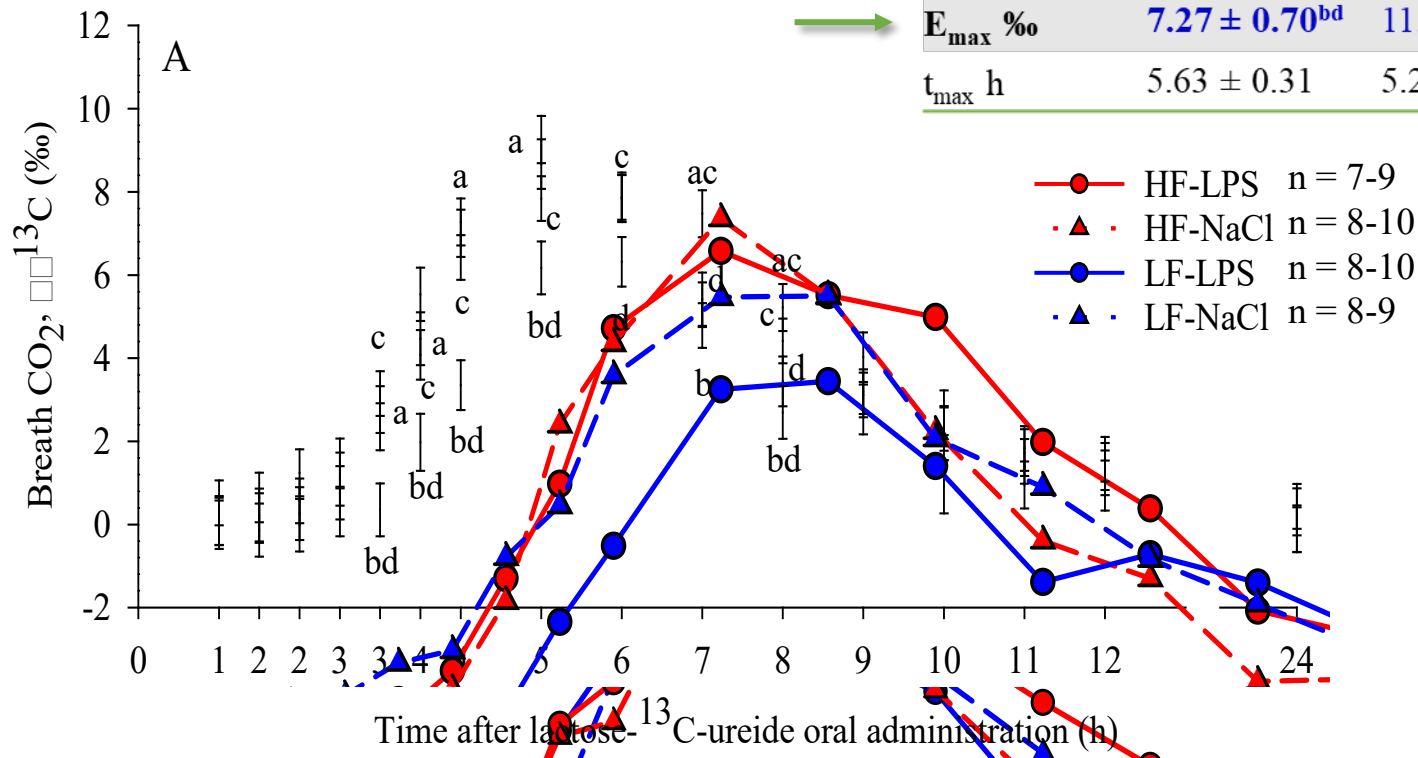
Feed Intake day 76



Diet	Trt	Diet×Trt
< 0.001	0.554	0.760

	Low Fibre		High Fibre		P-value		
	LPS	NaCl	LPS	NaCl	Diet	Trt	Diet×Trt
N	8-10	8-9	7-9	8-10			
Water intake (L/d)	3.67 ± 0.23	4.08 ± 0.52	3.56 ± 0.35	3.55 ± 0.25	0.460	0.743	0.923
Energy intake (MJ/d)	18.9 ± 0.39	19.0 ± 0.32	18.6 ± 0.46	19.0 ± 0.35	0.116	0.554	0.760

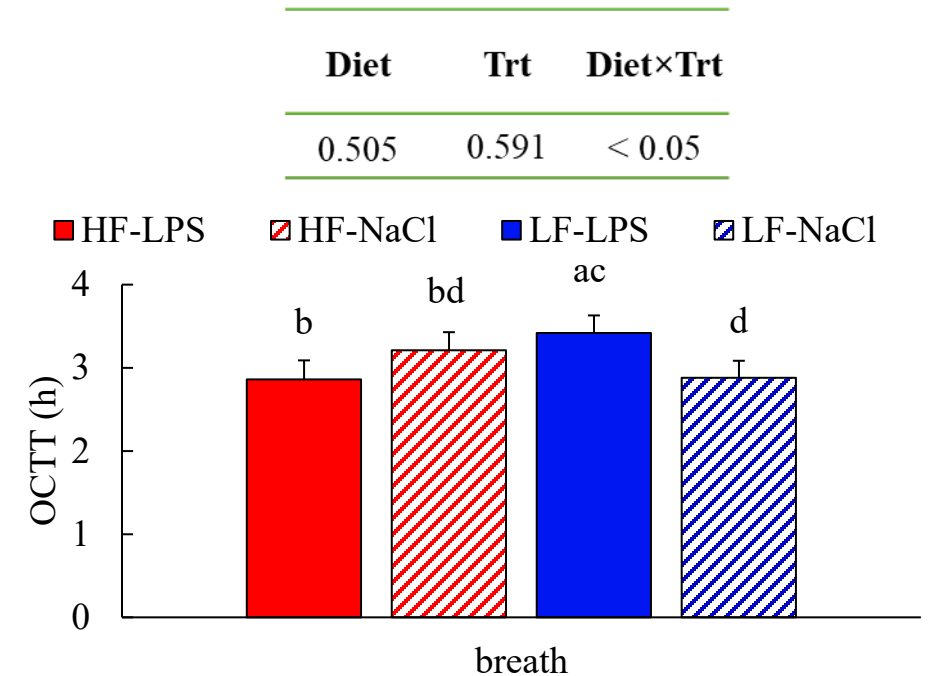
L¹³CU test: Breath ¹³CO₂



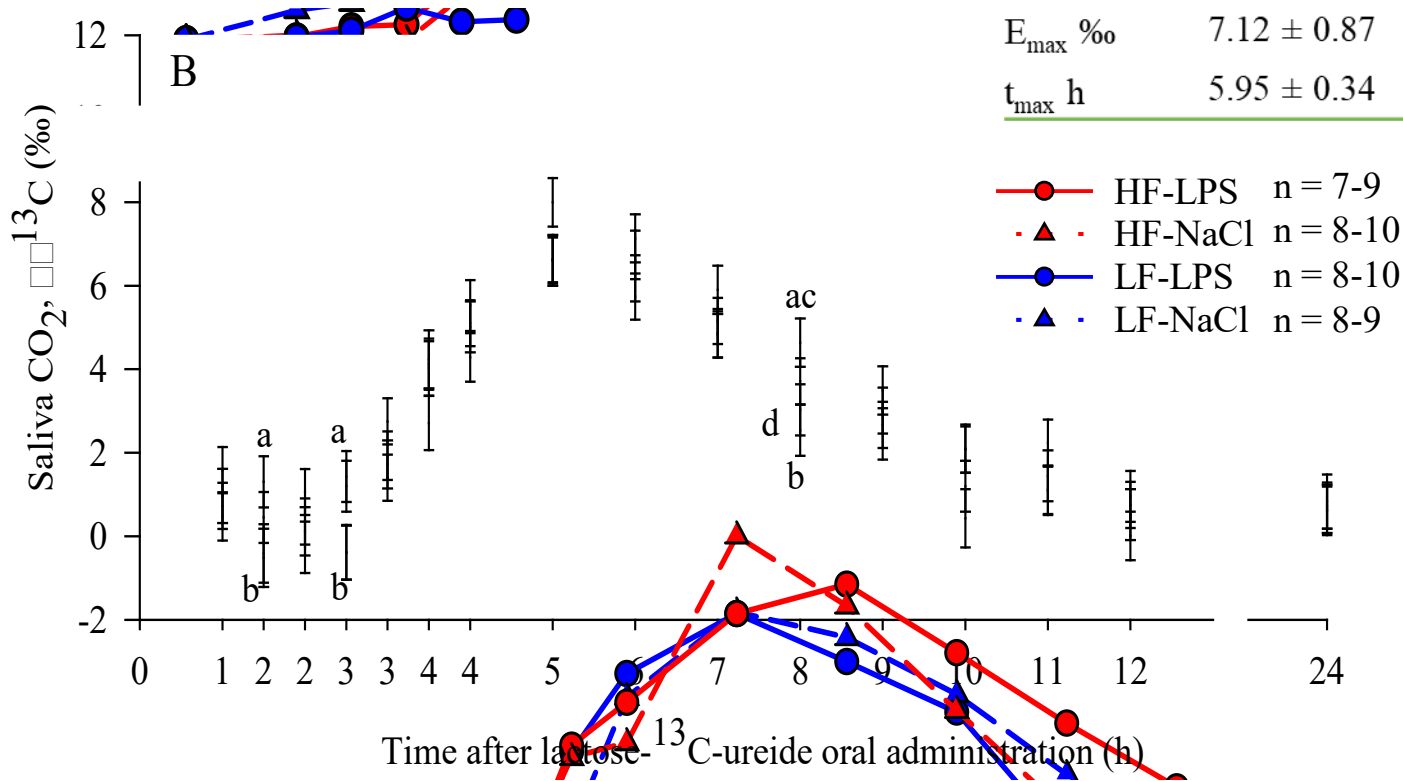
a, b LF vs HF, within same treatment Trt ($p < 0.05$)

c, d NaCl vs LPS, within same diet ($p < 0.05$)

	Low Fibre		High Fibre		P-value	
	LPS	NaCl	LPS	NaCl	Trt	Diet×Trt
AUC %·h	45.7 ± 2.9	46.7 ± 2.6	48.6 ± 2.8	46.4 ± 2.6	0.802	0.517
E_{max} %	7.27 ± 0.70^{bd}	11.9 ± 0.75^c	9.68 ± 0.65^a	9.86 ± 0.61^{ac}	< 0.01	< 0.01
t _{max} h	5.63 ± 0.31	5.20 ± 0.30	5.00 ± 0.33	5.16 ± 0.32	0.647	0.291

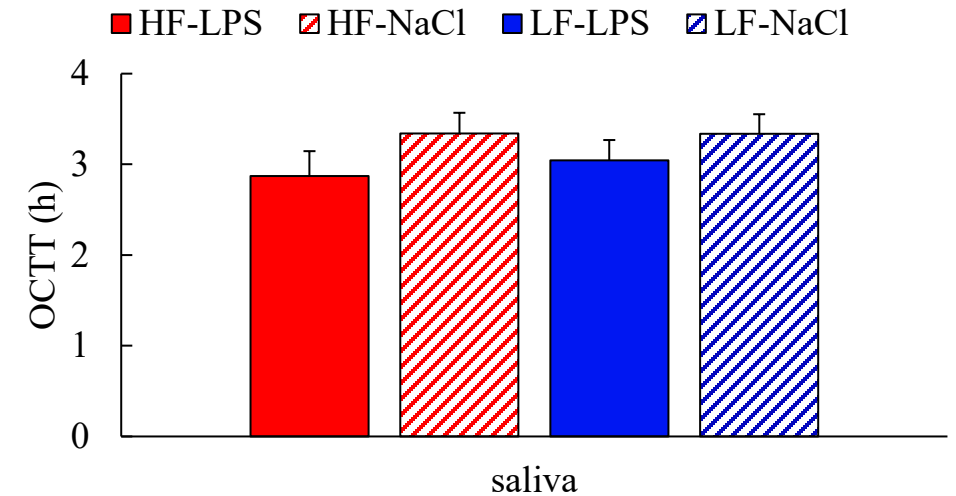


L¹³CU test: Saliva ¹³CO₂



	Low Fibre		High Fibre		P-value	
	LPS	NaCl	LPS	NaCl	Trt	Diet×Trt
AUC %·h	50.9 ± 4.3 ^{ac}	34.9 ± 4.6 ^d	40.0 ± 4.8 ^{ad}	40.1 ± 5.2 ^{ad}	0.106	0.102
E _{max} ‰	7.12 ± 0.87	7.85 ± 0.75	7.86 ± 0.80	8.69 ± 0.75	0.304	0.944
t _{max} h	5.95 ± 0.34	5.17 ± 0.41	5.19 ± 0.36	5.14 ± 0.34	0.251	0.314

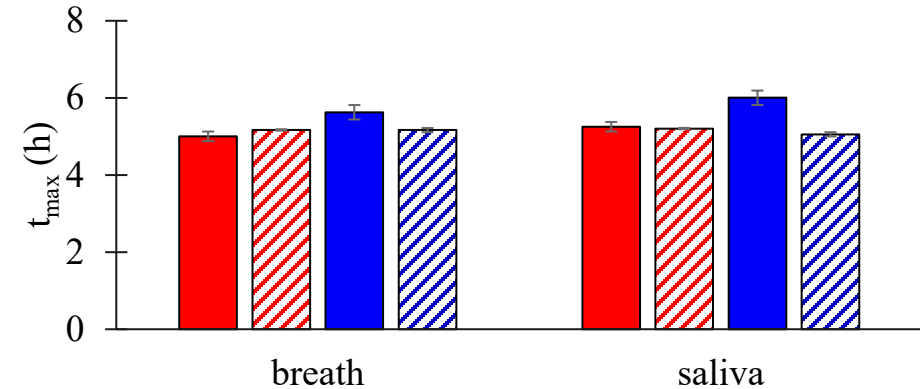
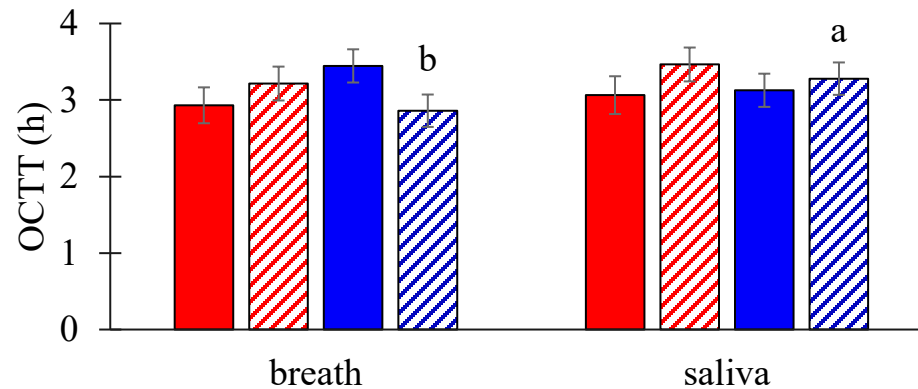
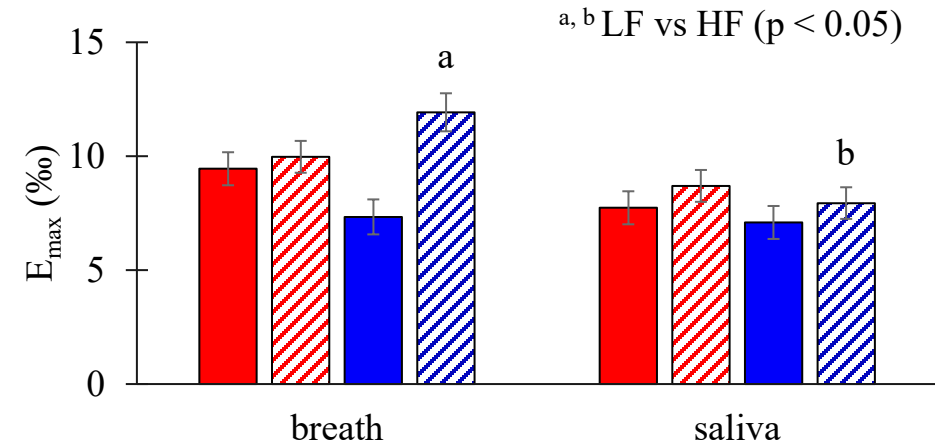
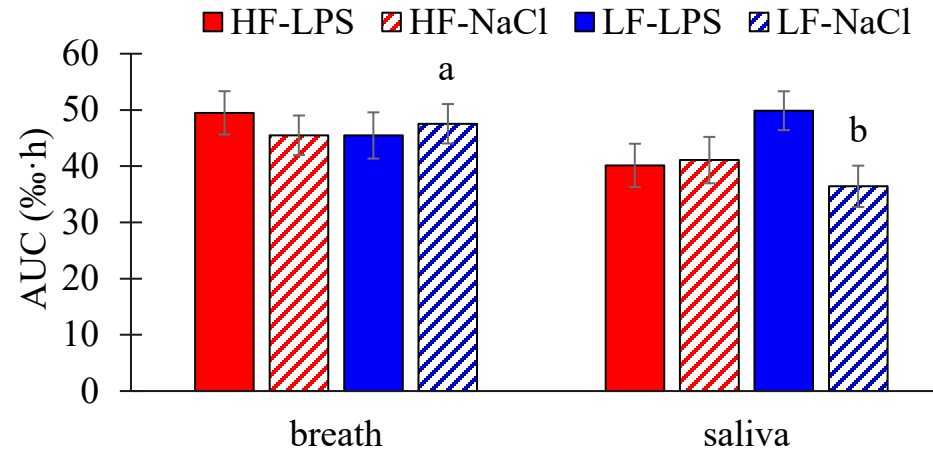
Diet	Trt	Diet×Trt
0.718	0.111	0.699



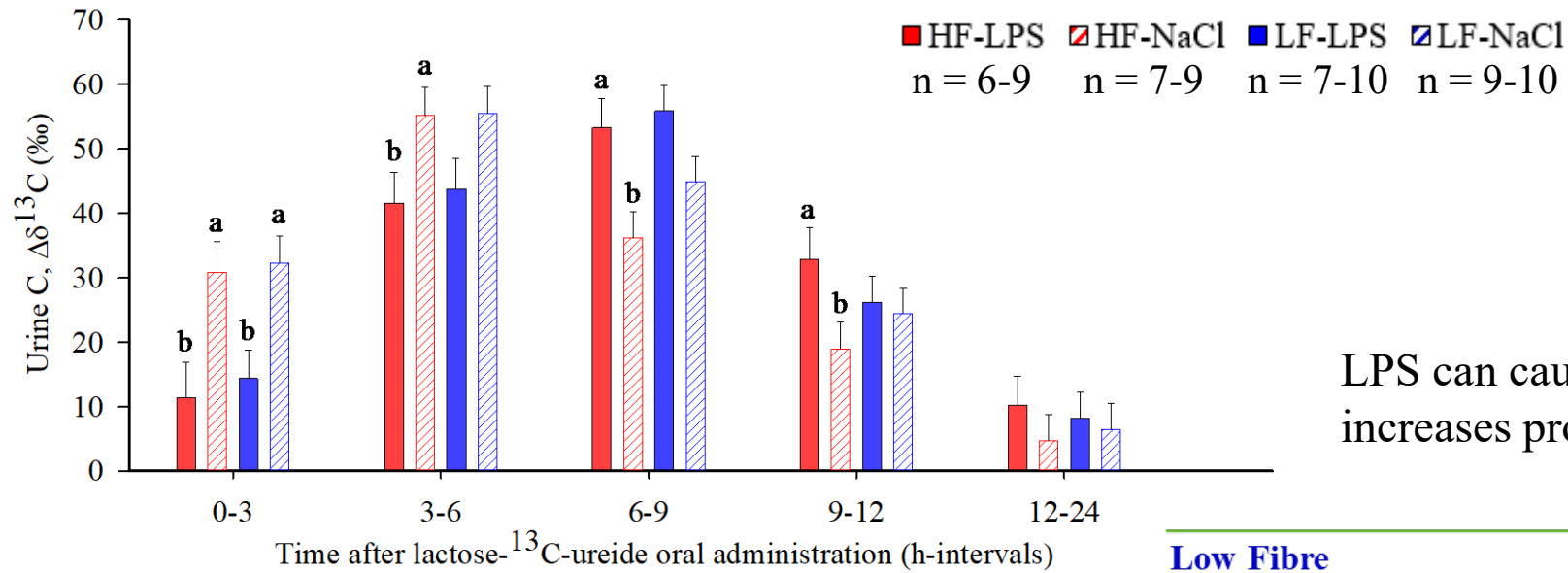
^{a, b} LF vs HF, within same treatment Trt ($p < 0.05$)

^{c, d} NaCl vs LPS, within same diet ($p < 0.05$)

L¹³CU test: Breath ¹³CO₂ vs Saliva ¹³CO₂



L¹³CU test: Urine ¹³C



LPS can cause liver or kidney impairment and increases protein breakdown and nitrogen loss as urea¹

^{a, b} LF vs HF, within same treatment Trt ($p < 0.05$)
^{c, d} NaCl vs LPS, within same diet ($p < 0.05$)

	Low Fibre		High Fibre		P-value		
	LPS	NaCl	LPS	NaCl	Diet	Time	Trt
Urea mmol/L					0.635	< 0.001	< 0.001
Overnight	225 ± 24.2 ^c	106 ± 24.2 ^d	201 ± 25.5 ^c	104 ± 30.6 ^d			
0-3 h	198 ± 24.8 ^c	73.9 ± 24.7 ^d	132 ± 27.8	86.7 ± 25.5			
3-6 h	149 ± 26.2 ^b	96.0 ± 25.3	246 ± 26.1 ^{ac}	91.5 ± 26.8 ^d			
6-9 h	204 ± 24.2 ^c	125 ± 24.9 ^d	244 ± 25.5 ^c	134 ± 25.5 ^d			
9-12 h	133 ± 24.2	64.3 ± 26.1	149 ± 26.3	77.4 ± 26.3			

¹Doi et al. 2009

Discussion and conclusions



Starch (faster transit)

Soluble fibre (slower transit in the upper gut)

Insoluble fibre (faster transit in the upper gut)¹

No differences in OCTT

LF-NaCl (2.9 ± 0.2 h)

HF-NaCl (3.2 ± 0.2 h)

- Method limitation
- Fibre inclusion



Differences in OCTT

LF-LPS (3.4 ± 0.2 h)

LF-NaCl (2.9 ± 0.2 h)

HF-LPS (2.9 ± 0.2 h)

Fibre “protective” effect over LPS

LPS induces delayed gastric emptying and has inhibitory effects on gastrointestinal motility (Rats/Canine/Human studies)²

- OCTT can be measured in pigs using L¹³CU using breath and saliva samples
- Saliva ¹³CO₂ was less sensitive than breath
- The method could be a potential proxy for monitoring the gut health of pigs

¹Ratanpaul et al., 2019

²De Winter and De Man, 2010



8th EAAP International Symposium on Energy and Protein Metabolism and Nutrition (ISEP 2025)

15 – 18 September 2025
Rostock-Warnemünde, Germany

<https://isep2025-fbn.de/>



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Questions
Opinions
Comments
?



Thank you for the attention!



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The PIGWEB project has received funding from European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under Grant Agreement No 101004770.

Table: Urine and faeces production, ^{13}C and nitrogen balance of 76 d pigs during the L ^{13}CU test¹

Items	Low Fibre		High Fibre		<i>P</i> -value ²	
	LPS	NaCl	LPS	NaCl	Diet	Trt
Faeces, g/d	429 ± 61.9 ^b	577 ± 71.4 ^b	774 ± 71.4 ^{ad}	1089 ± 71.4 ^{ac}	< 0.001	< 0.01
Urine, g/d	1997 ± 446 ^d	3915 ± 515 ^{ac}	895 ± 515	1984 ± 515 ^b	< 0.05	< 0.05
^{13}C balance, g/d	1.68 ± 0.33	1.57 ± 0.38	1.60 ± 0.38	1.81 ± 0.38	0.829	0.889
Ingested N, g/d	31.4 ± 0.57 ^b	32.2 ± 0.66 ^b	38.6 ± 0.66 ^a	39.5 ± 0.66 ^a	< 0.001	0.196
Faecal N, g/d	5.07 ± 0.77	6.20 ± 0.89 ^b	6.97 ± 0.89	9.24 ± 0.89 ^a	< 0.05	0.081
Faecal N/Ingested N, %	16.0 ± 2.28	19.3 ± 2.63	18.1 ± 2.63	23.4 ± 2.63	0.253	0.128
Urine N, g/d	8.93 ± 0.76 ^c	6.26 ± 0.88 ^d	7.11 ± 0.88	5.91 ± 0.88	0.234	< 0.05
Urine N/Ingested N, %	28.6 ± 2.36 ^{ac}	19.4 ± 2.72 ^d	18.4 ± 2.72 ^b	15.0 ± 2.72	< 0.05	< 0.05
N excreted, g/d	14.0 ± 0.65	12.5 ± 0.75 ^a	14.1 ± 0.75	15.1 ± 0.75 ^b	0.087	0.744
Urine N : Faecal N	2.09 ± 0.34	1.12 ± 0.39	1.02 ± 0.39	0.65 ± 0.39	0.072	0.108

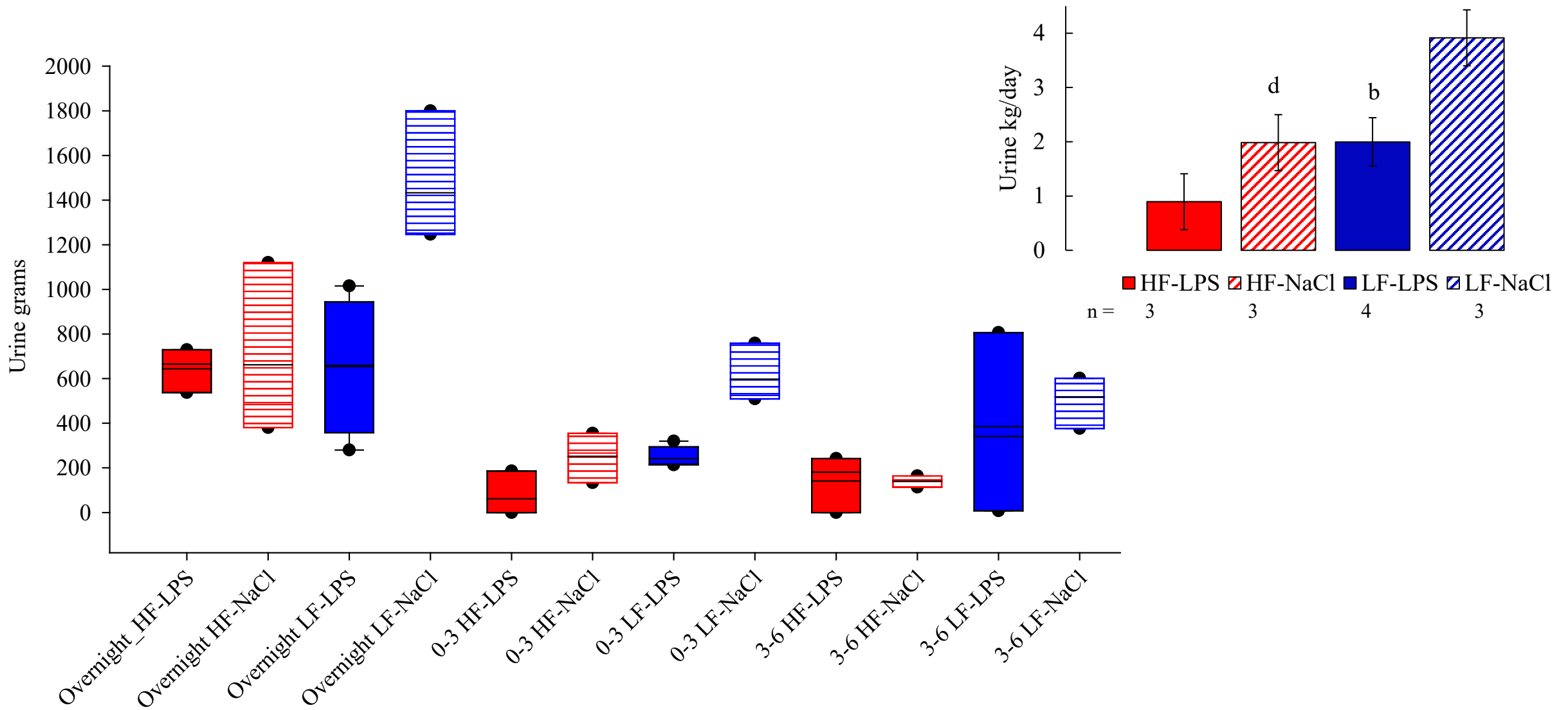
¹Values are least-square means ± standard error of the mean: LF-LPS *n* = 4; LF-NaCl/HF-LPS/HF-NaCl *n* = 3

²*F*-test, Diet × Trt interaction was not significant (*P* > 0.1)

^{a,b}Values with different superscripts within row differ between diets within treatment (*P* < 0.05)

^{c,d}Values with different superscripts within row differ between treatments within diet (*P* < 0.05)

Urine production until 6h from L¹³CU administration



Faeces during L¹³CU test

