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New tools for a more sustainable dairy sector







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Predicting the risk of ketosis using mid infrared spectrometry



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Ketosis: a metabolic disease of high productive dairy cows

Ketosis = trouble of energy metabolism of dairy cows in high negative energy balance in early lactation

- 2 ketosis types signalled by different biomarkers:
 - Hypoglycemic ketosis
 - → high beta-hydroxybutyrate content in blood
 - Hyperglycemic ketosis
 - → high non esterified fatty acids content in blood
- High prevalence but few clinical symptoms
- Consequences on animal welfare and farms competitiveness but difficult to diagnose





Context & objective of the study

Ketosis modifies milk composition

- Increase in Fat:Protein ratio
- Expression of biomarkers in milk

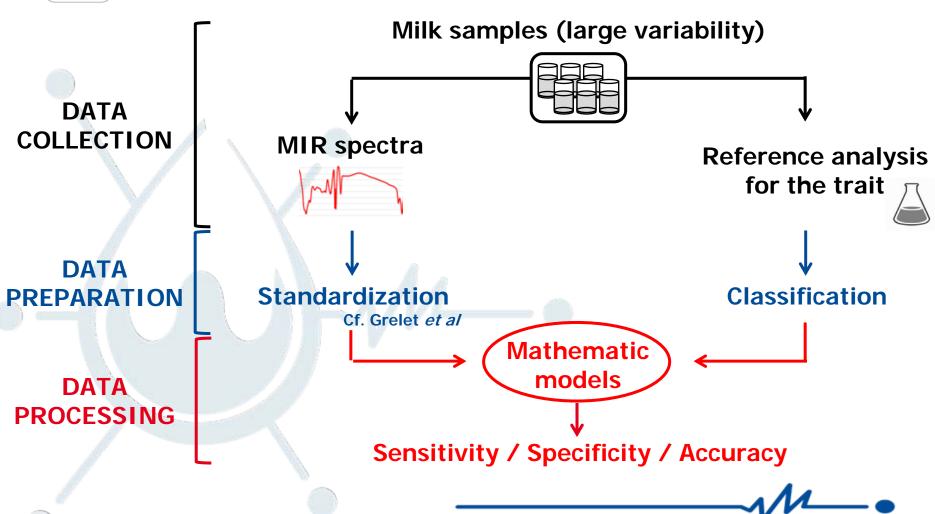
Mid infrared spectrum reflects milk composition

•Each molecular bond absorbs the light at specific wavelengths





Material & Methods



DATA COLLECTION



Data collection in 4 French and German experimental farms

Les Trinottières



Marcenat



Hofgut Neumühle







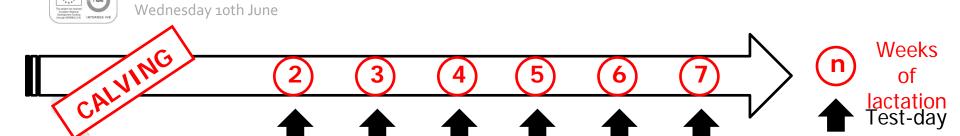




DATA COLLECTION



1,124 collected phenotypes on 214 cows

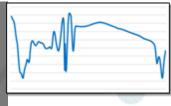


Data collected during each test-day:



LDHVet.
Nantes (FRA):
Blood BHB &
NEFA





Milk Recording Organizations:

Milk fat and protein contents

Spectra



Experimental farm:

- Weight
- BCS
- Diet



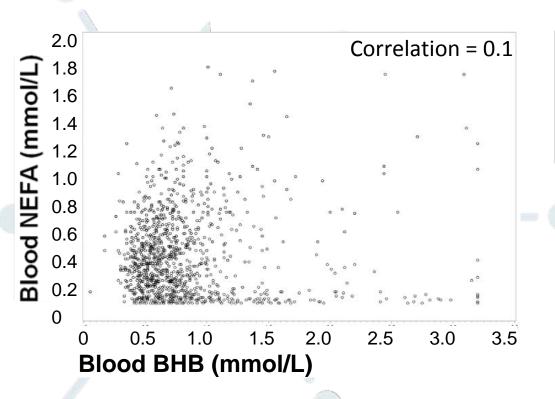


Classifying the reference ketosis status of the cows

No correlation between biomarkers



Combination of biomarkers into a classification



Classification	Distribution
Low Risk of Ketosis	71 %
High risk of Ketosis	29 %

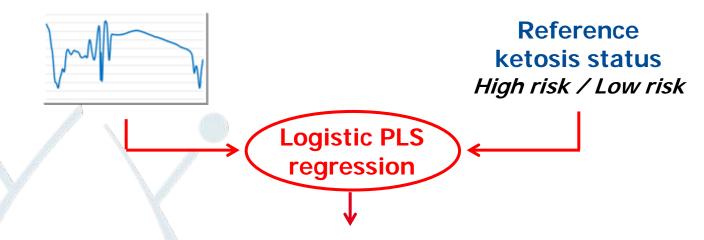
Risk of type I Ketosis	18.7 %
Risk of type II Ketosis	5.1 %
Suspected ketosis	5.2 %



BHB: beta hydroxybutyrate - NEFA: non esterified fatty acids



Prediction of the level of ketosis risk

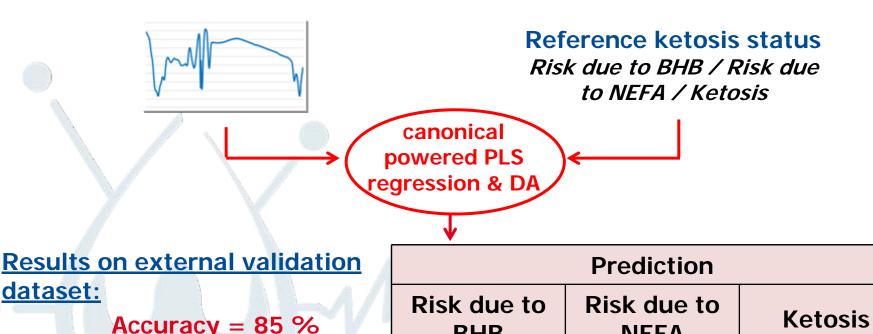


Results on external validation dataset

Sensitivi	ty = 81 %			
Specificity = 69 %		Prediction		
PPV = 48% / NPV = 91%		Negative	Positive	
Observation	Low risk	(188)	83	
	High risk	18	(78)	



Prediction of the type of ketosis high risk



		ВПВ	NEFA	
Observation	Risk due to BHB	65	4	2
	Risk due to NEFA	4	15	2
	Ketosis	1	1	2





Conclusion

MIR spectrum gives the possibility of giving an alarm on the level of risk and the type of risk

→ Information on animals

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To treat ( « ketosis »)
To monitor ( « high risk »)
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→ Information on practices to change (energy density in early lactation and/or managing the dry period...)

Prospects for improvement:

- → Increase in the volume of records
- → Better balance of the calibration dataset







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Thank you for your attention!

