

# “Novel” methods to determine meat provenance

Frank Monahan



# Food Provenance

Geographical origin

- “the place of origin or earliest known history of something ..... the beginning of something's existence”

“Traceability” - the ability to follow the movement of a food through specified stages of production, processing and distribution

- “a record of ownership ... used as a guide to authenticity or quality”

“Authenticity” - the process by which food is verified as complying with its label or description

Food Fraud



# Potential tracers of production system

- Fatty acids
- Volatiles, terpenes, aldehydes
- Carotenoids
- Vitamin E
- Gene expression
- Fingerprinting (non-targeted methods)



We are what we eat....

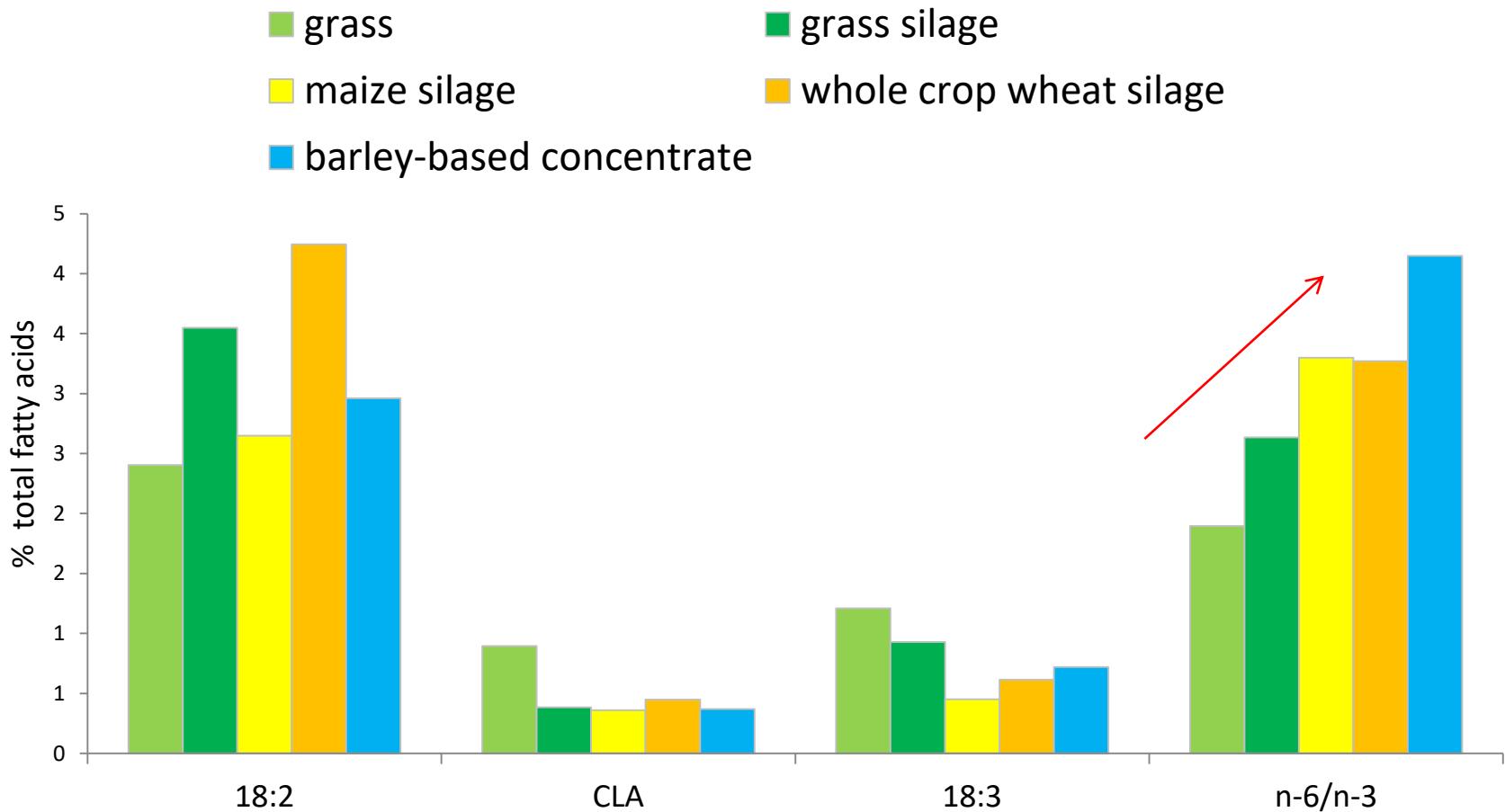
.....and geographical origin

- Stable isotopes
- Trace elements

# Methods

- GC/HPLC analysis of fatty acids, terpenes, phenolics, carotenoids, vitamin E
- Molecular techniques – DNA-based, gene expression
- Spectroscopic (“fingerprint”) techniques: visible, IR, UV, fluorescence, Raman
- Isotope ratio mass spectrometry (IRMS) analysis of stable isotopes
- Trace element analysis (ICP-MS)

# Fatty acids in beef

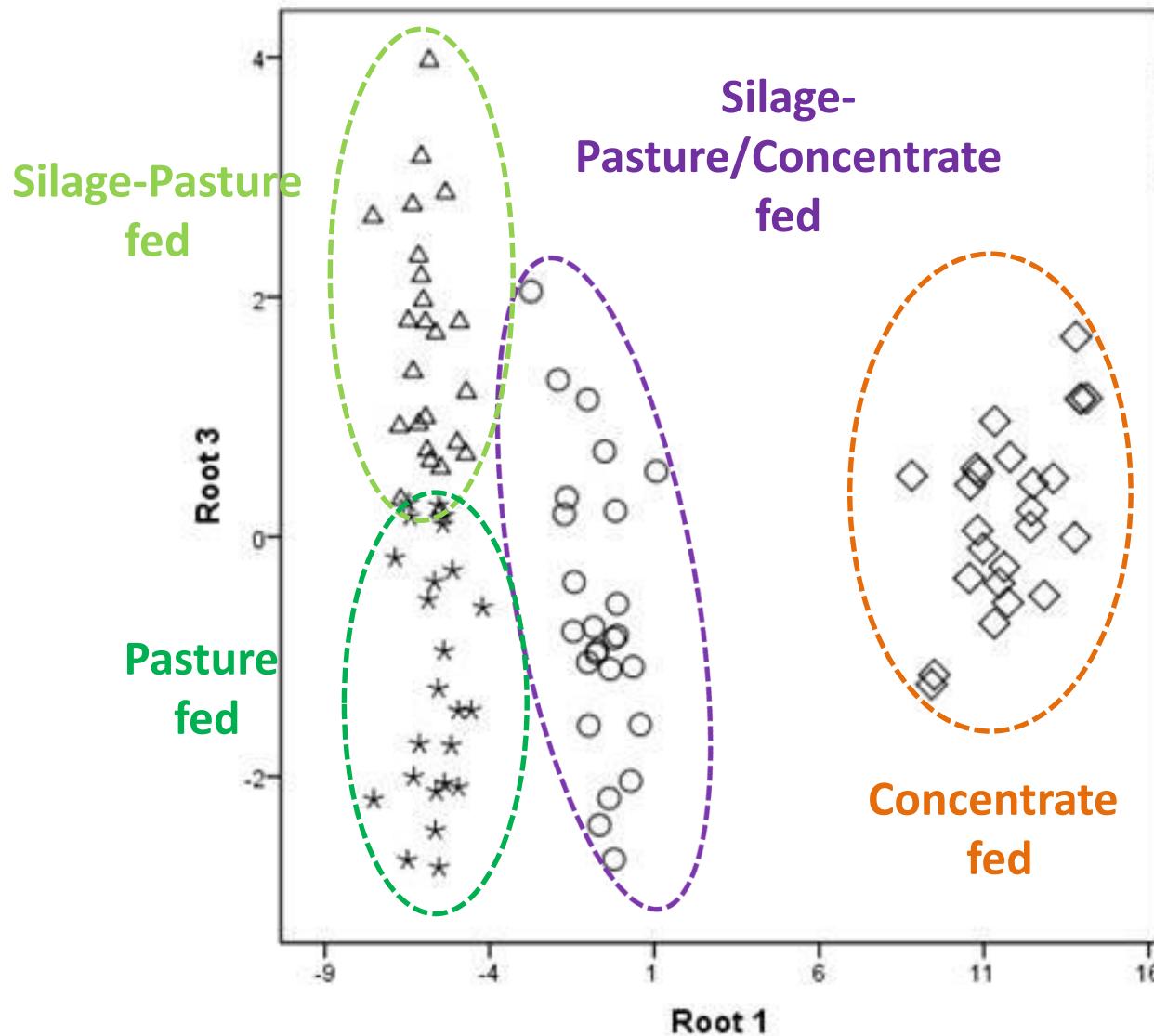


French et al, 2000, J. Anim. Sci., 78, 2849  
Moloney et al, 2013, Meat Sci., 95, 608  
Noci et al, 2005, J. Anim. Sci., 83, 1167

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28/2-1/3, 2019



# Canonical discriminant analysis



# REIMS (rapid evaporative ionization mass spectrometry)



<http://videos.waters.com/detail/videos/mass-spectrometry/video/4285321196001/reims-research-system---how-it-works>

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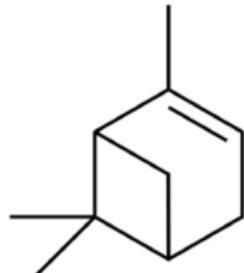
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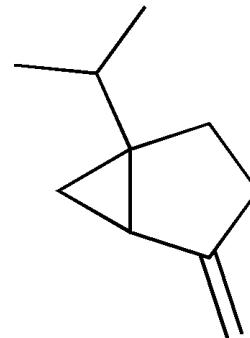
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# Volatiles - terpenes

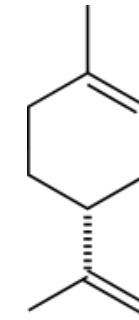
Monoterpenes:



pinene

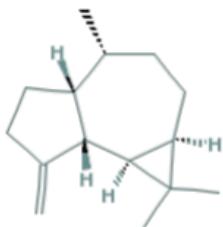


sabinene

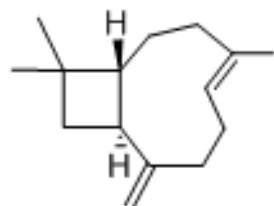


limonene

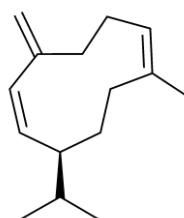
Sesquiterpenes:



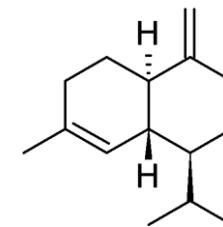
$\beta$ -gurjunene



$\beta$ -caryophyllene

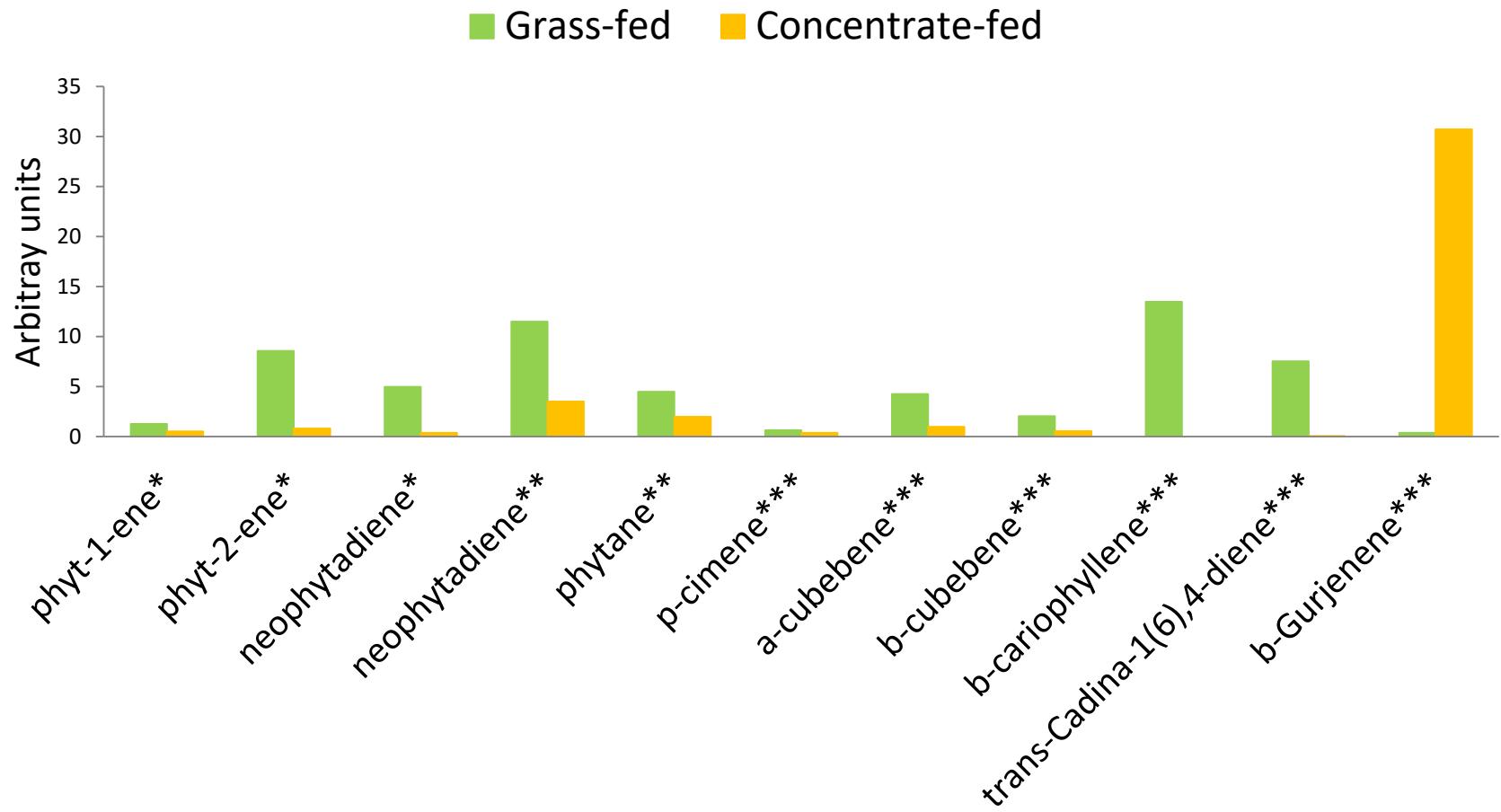
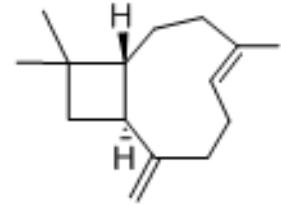


germacrene



$\gamma$ -cadinene

# Terpenes in sheep fat

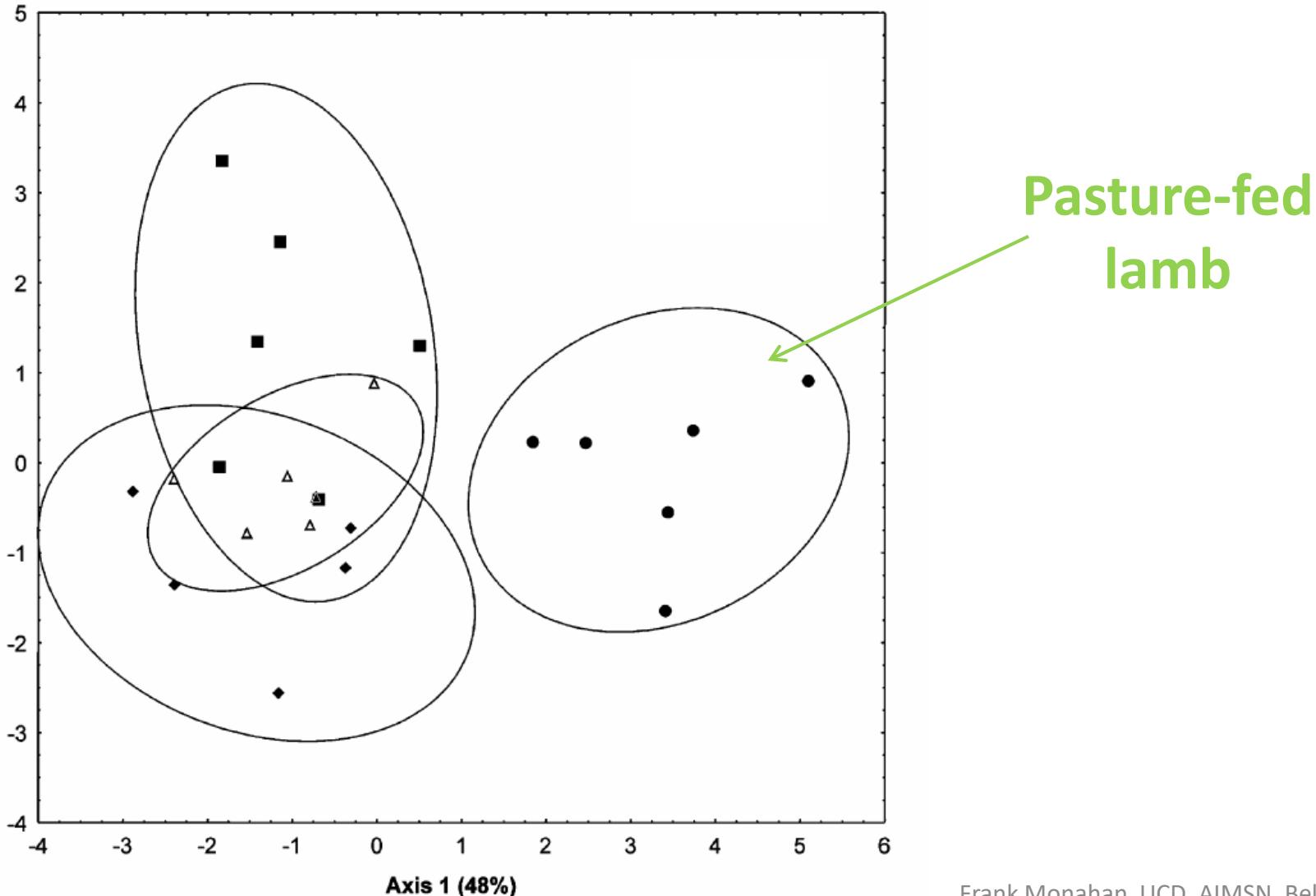


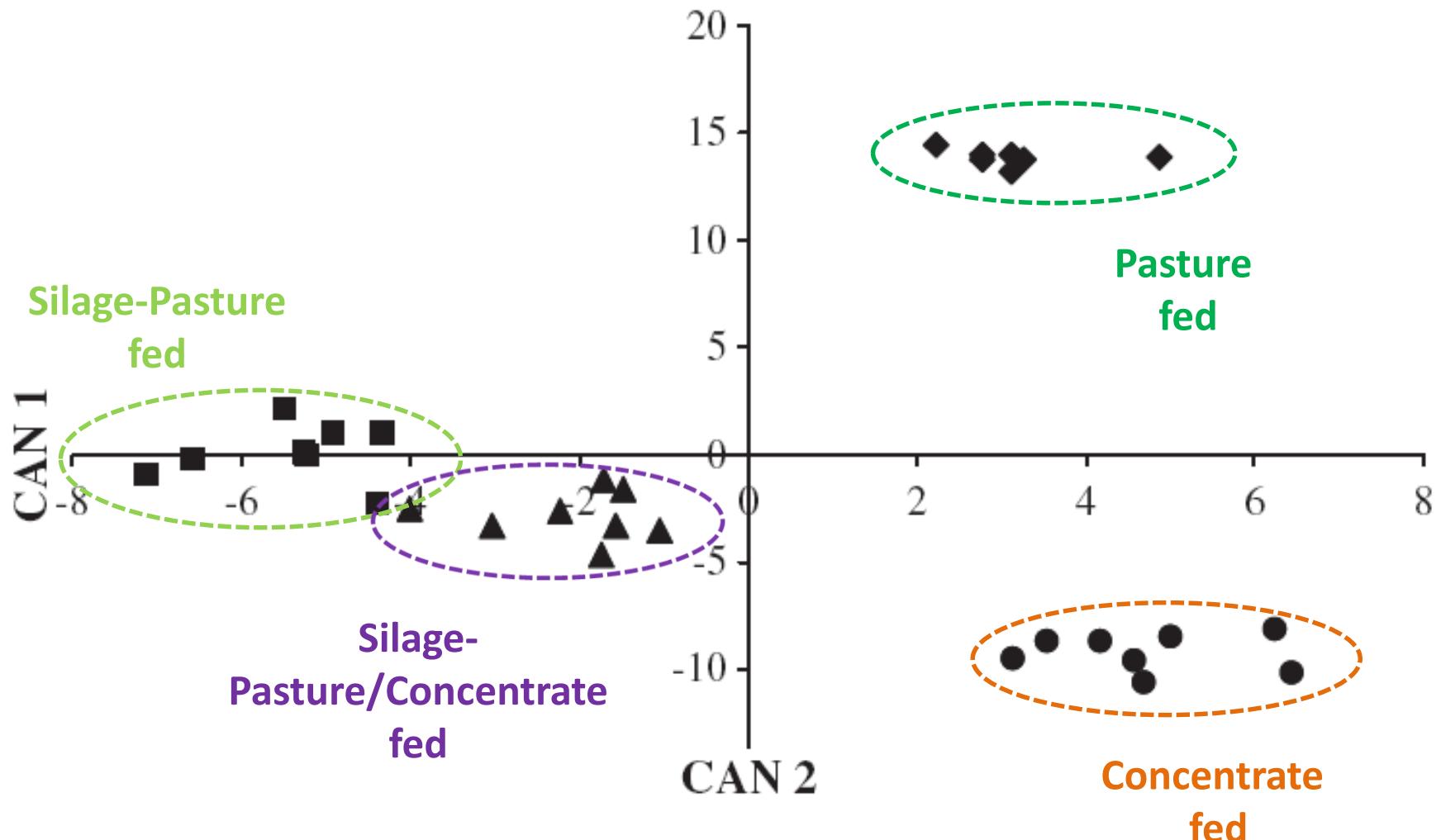
\*Suzuky & Bailey, 1985, JAFC, 33, 343

\*\*Young et al., 1997, Meat Sci., 45, 183

\*\*\*Priolo et al., 2004, Meat Sci., 66, 475

# Factorial discriminant analysis using four terpenes to discriminate lamb





# Potential tracers of production system

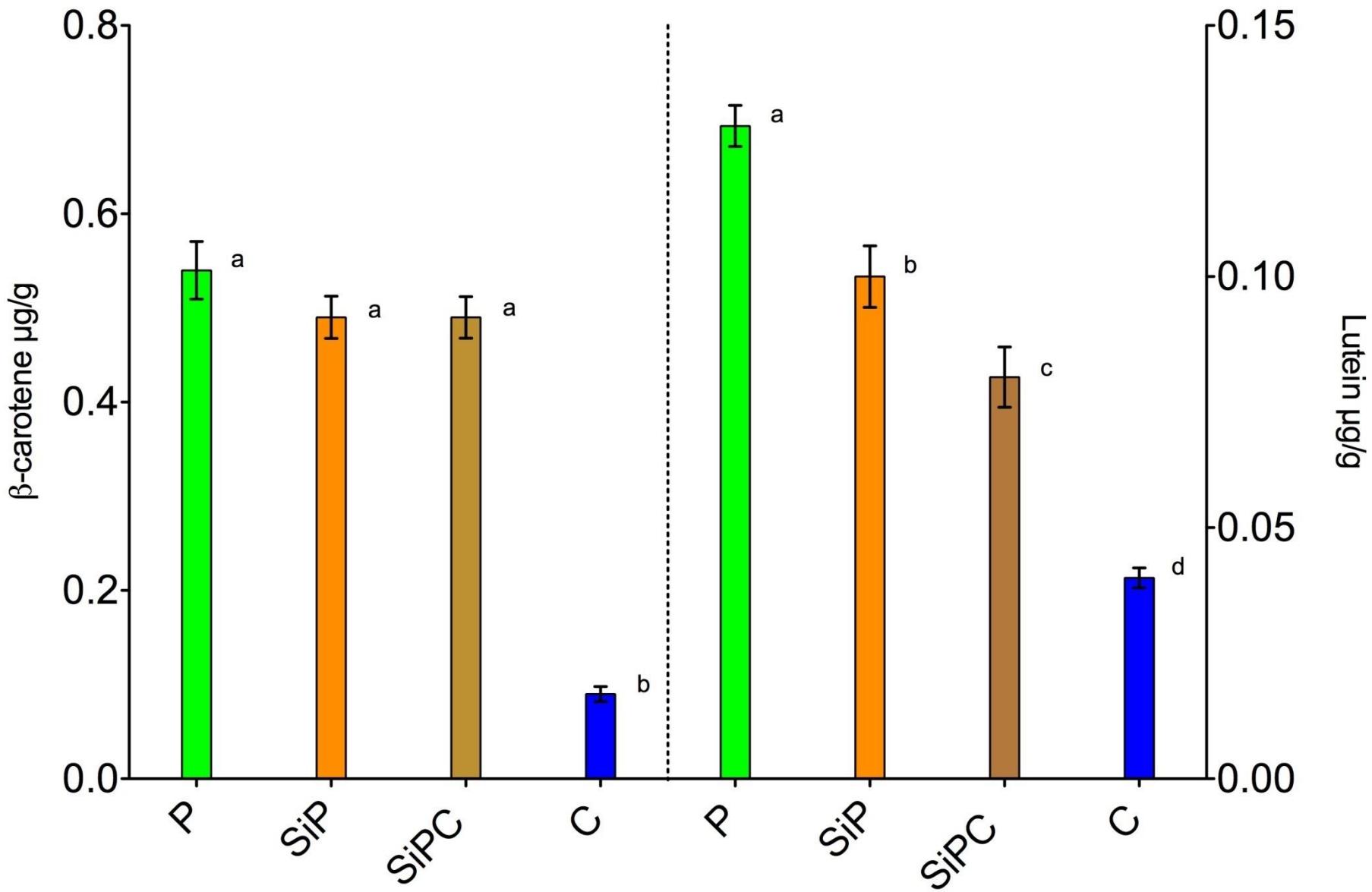
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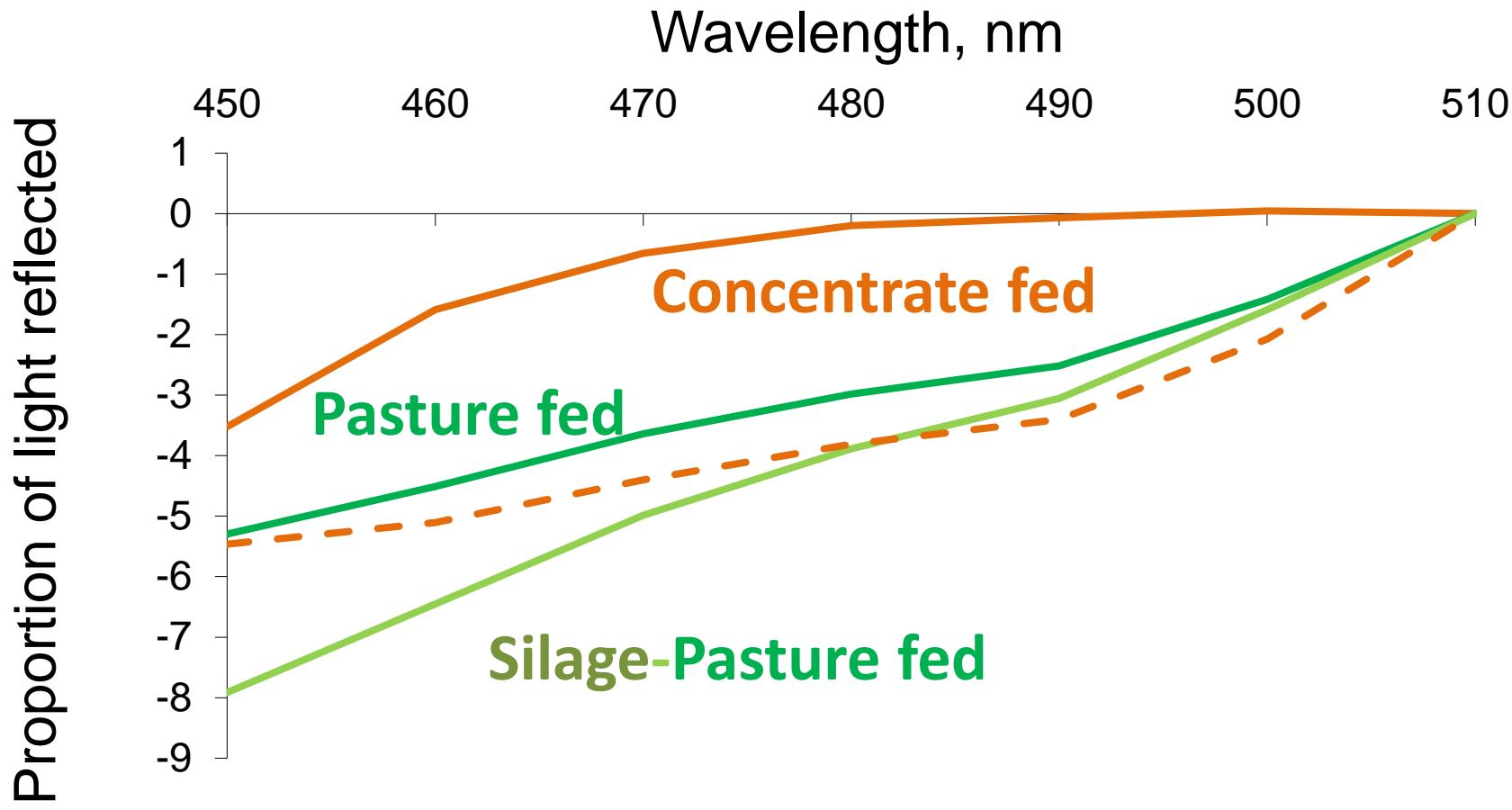
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Röhrle et al. 2010,  
Meat Science 88,  
347–353

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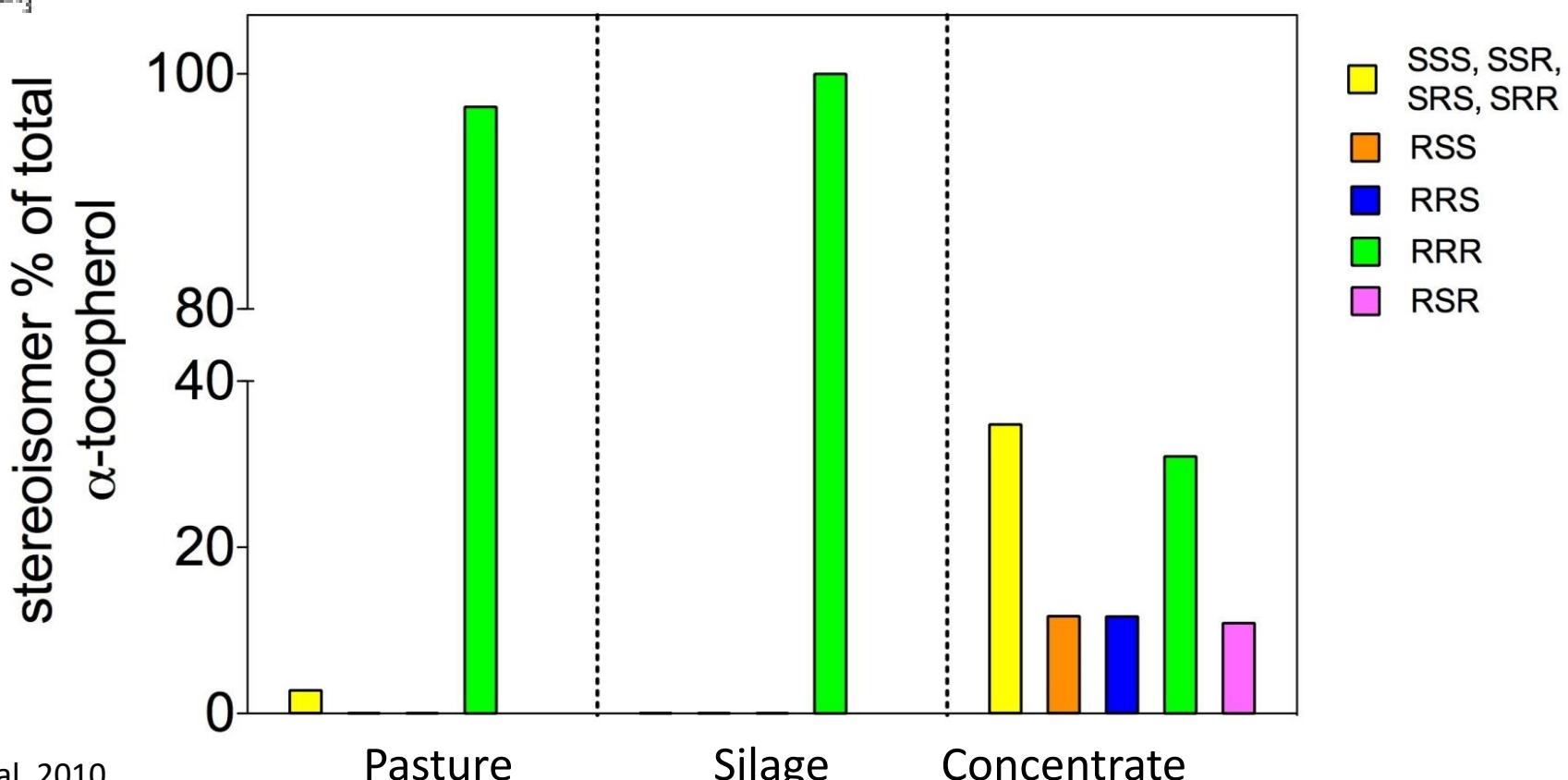
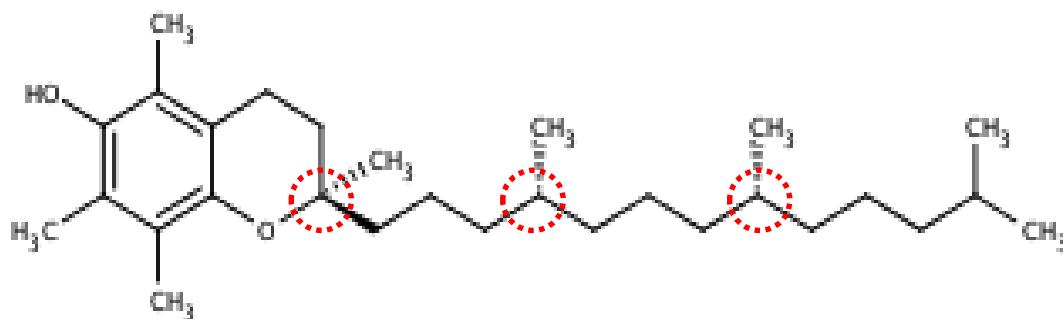


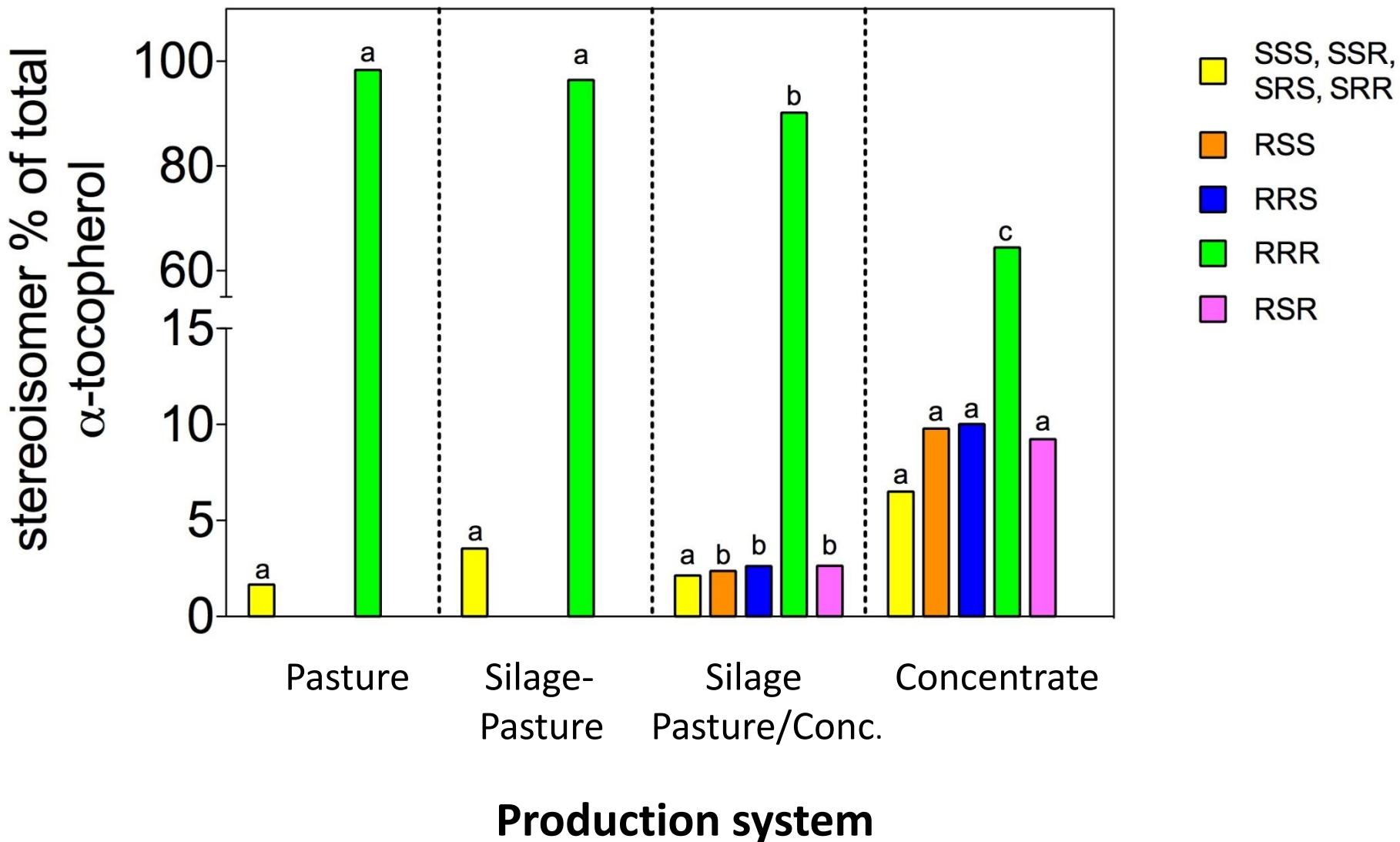
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# Vitamin E stereoisomers in animal feeds





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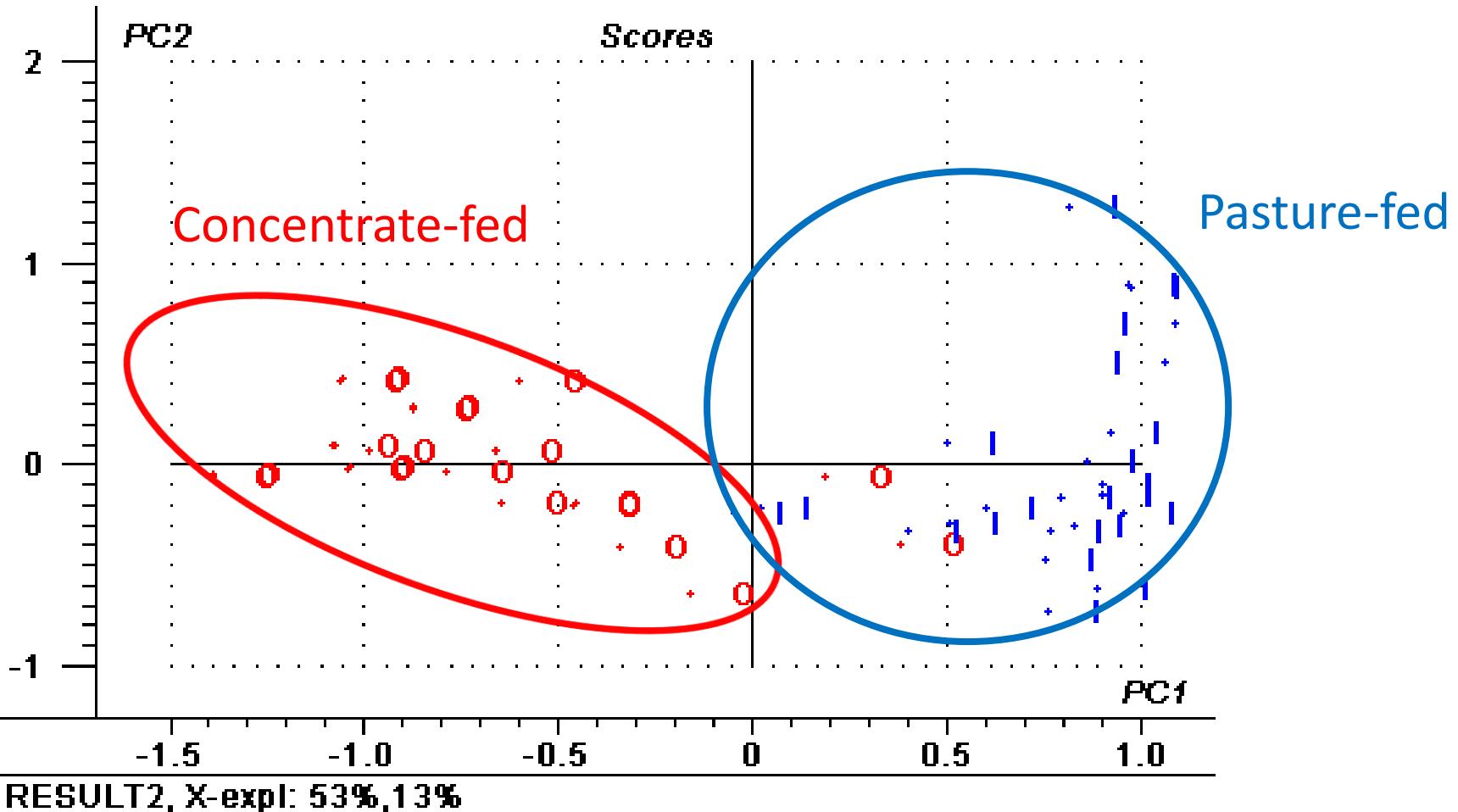
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# Genetic markers?

Authors	Genes
Cassar-Malek et al. (2009)	<b>Selenoprotein W</b> up-regulated in outdoor pasture vs indoor concentrate
Duckett et al. (2009)	<b>Stearoyl CoA desat</b> and FAS up-regulated in concentrate finished vs pasture
Shibato et al. (2009)	Differential expression attributed to changes in fibre type and metabolic enzymes
Lejeune et al (2015)	21 genes differentially expressed in outdoor pasture vs indoor concentrate-fed beef cattle

# PCA – gene expression data



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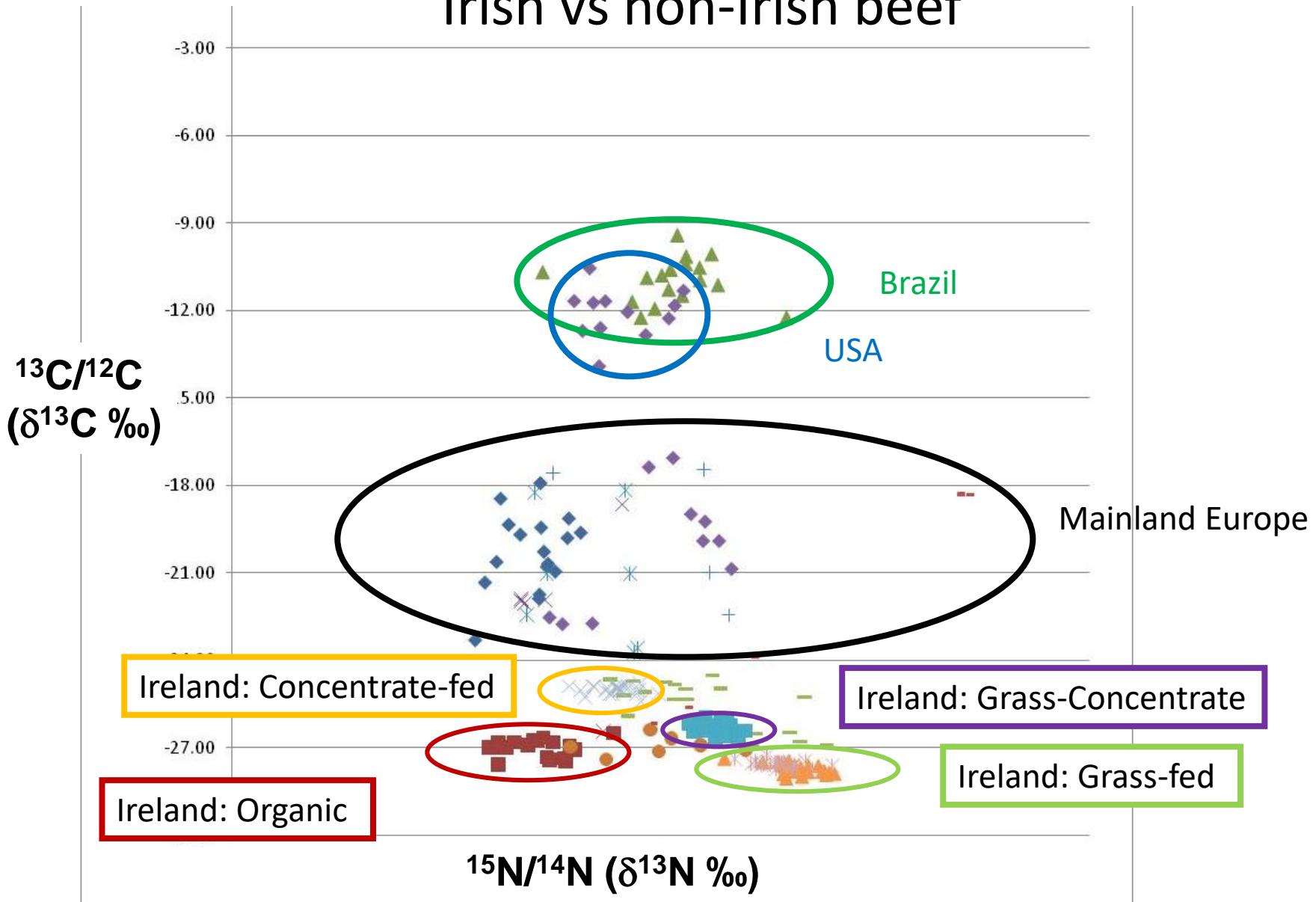


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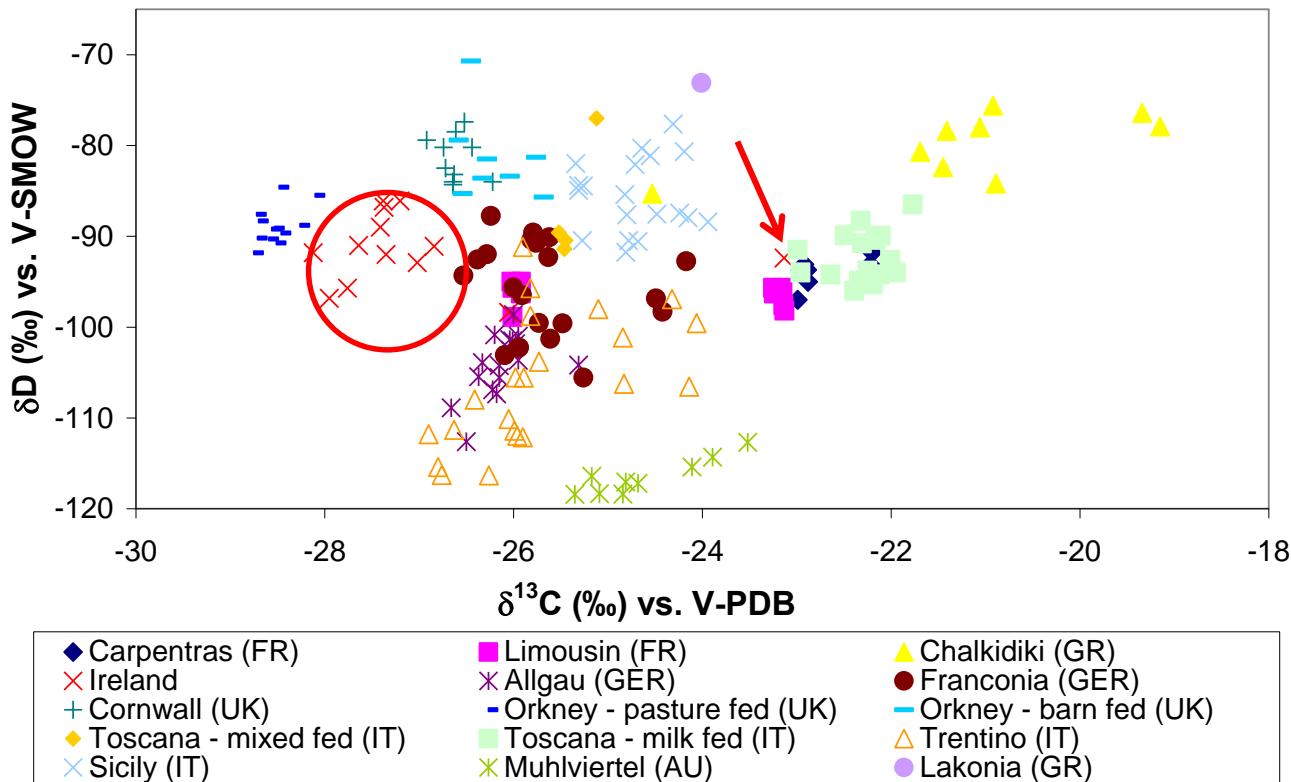
# Irish vs non-Irish beef



# Geographical origin of beef ( $^2\text{H}/^1\text{H}$ , $^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$ , $^{15}\text{N}/^{14}\text{N}$ , $^{34}\text{S}/^{32}\text{S}$ )

country	predicted group membership									total
	AU	BR	FR	GE	IR	IT	SP	UK	US	
AU	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
BR	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
FR	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
GE	2	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	6
IR	0	0	0	0	42	0	0	4	0	46
IT	0	0	0	0	0	16	2	0	0	18
SP	1	0	0	0	2	0	4	0	0	7
UK	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	17	0	20
US	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	18	22
AU	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
BR	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
FR	25.0	0.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	25.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
GE	33.3	0.0	0.0	50.0	16.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0
IR	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	91.3	0.0	0.0	8.7	0.0	100.0
IT	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	88.9	11.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
SP	14.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	28.6	0.0	57.1	0.0	0.0	100.0
UK	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	15.0	0.0	0.0	85.0	0.0	100.0
US	4.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	13.6	0.0	0.0	81.8	100.0

# European Lamb



Camin et al. (2007) Analytical and  
Bioanalytical Chemistry, 389,  
309.

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# Elemental analysis in poultry breast (n=56)

<sup>75</sup>As ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ )

	<i>p</i> <sup>a</sup>	Brazil (n = 10)		France (n = 11)		Germany (n = 12)		Hungary (n = 10)		Switzerland (n = 13)	
$\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$	**	5.81 ab	1.96	5.11 b	1.85	4.62 b	1.09	10.68 a	8.99	6.18 ab	2.12
mg/kg	**	125 ab	21	125 b	23	145 ab	18	133 ab	23	154 a	28
mg/kg	***	12.2 b	2.4	8.0 a	2.5	7.3 a	1.2	8.8 a	1.5	7.6 a	2.1
$\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$	***	109 b	34	130 ab	22	121 b	20	158 a	31	160 a	30
ug/kg	***	60.1 c	33.7	20.5 a	5.3	45.1 bc	20.7	31.7 ab	14.1	23.1 ab	10.6
$\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$	***	1.31 a	0.48	4.16 b	3.87	4.77 b	1.42	1.51 a	0.97	1.39 a	1.02

<sup>23</sup>Na ( $\text{mg}/\text{kg}$ )

<sup>85</sup>Rb ( $\text{mg}/\text{kg}$ )

<sup>77</sup>Se ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ )

<sup>88</sup>Sr ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ )

<sup>205</sup>Tl ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$ )

Classification using As, Na, Rb, Tl, Se, Sr

Actual origin	Predicted origin					% Correct
	Brazil	France	Germany	Hungary	Switzerland	
Brazil	10	0	0	0	0	100
France	0	7	3	1	0	64
Germany	0	1	10	0	1	83
Hungary	1	2	0	6	1	60
Switzerland	1	1	0	1	10	77
Overall	12	11	13	8	12	77

Franke et al. (2008). Eur Food Res.Tech. 227,701-708.



# Chinese beef (n=69)



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## Classification using $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ , $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ , Mg, K, Mn, Zn, Se, and Zr

		predicted group membership <sup>a</sup>				total
		Shandong	Heilong- jiang	Yunnan	Tibet	
original	count	Shandong				16
		Heilongjiang	14			14
cross-validated	count	Shandong				15
		Heilongjiang	14			24
	%	Yunnan		15		24
		Tibet			24	100
		100	100	100	100	100

Zhao et al. 2013 J Agric Fd Chem. 61,7075.

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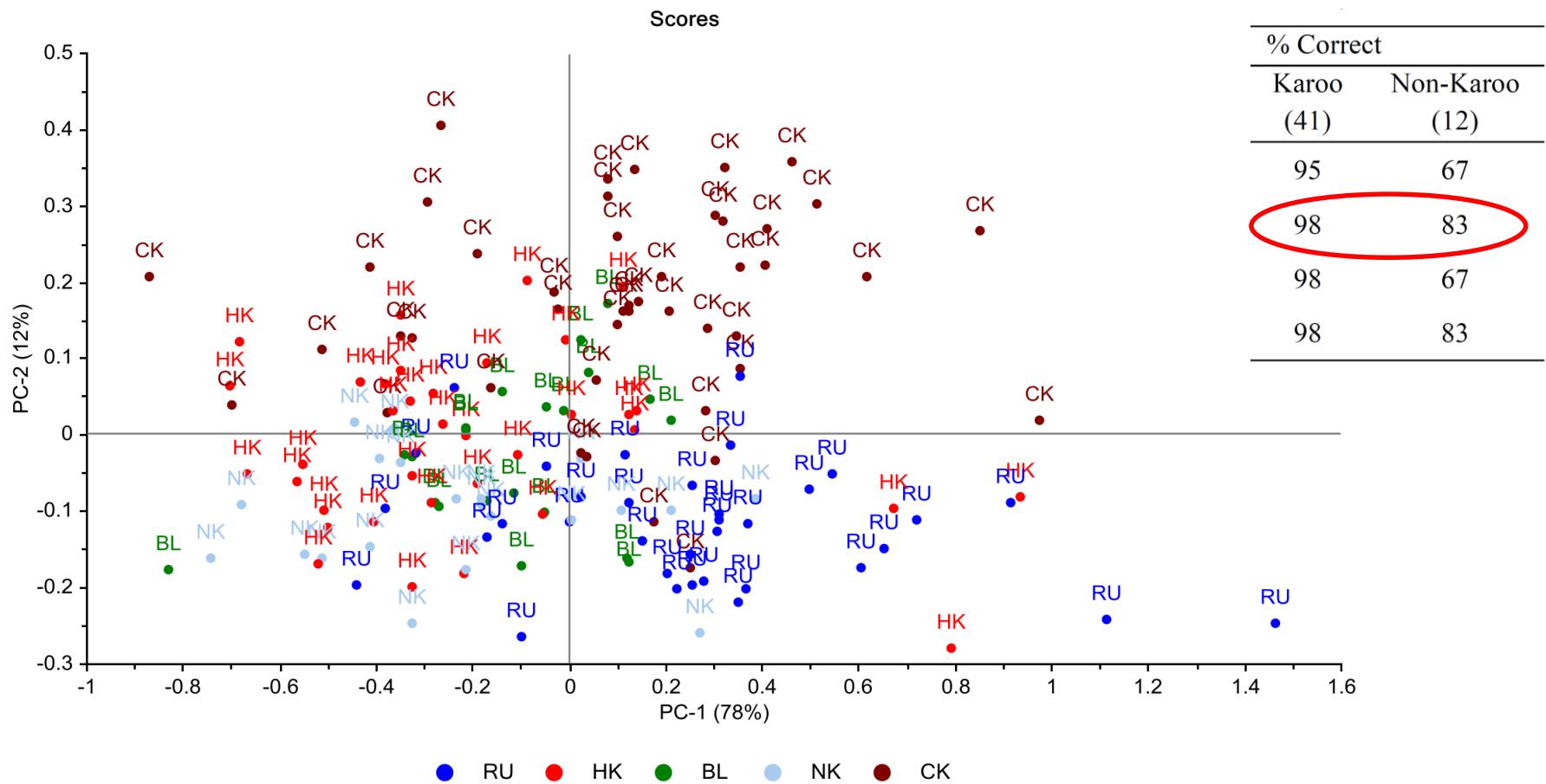
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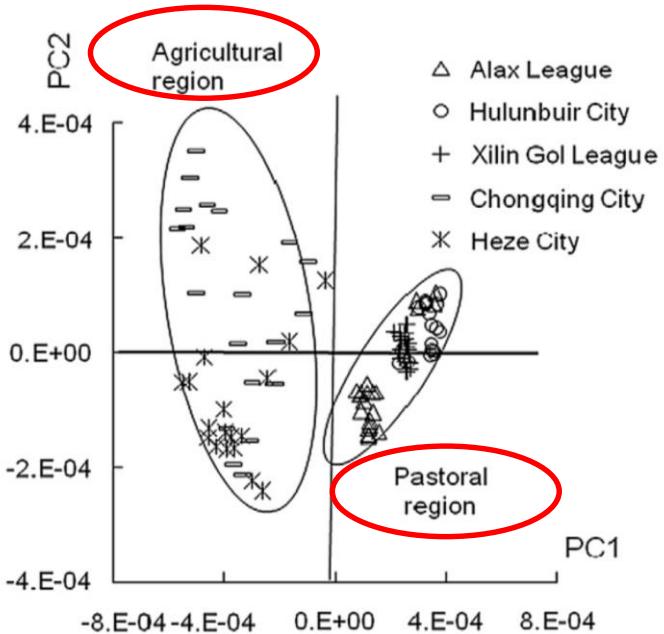
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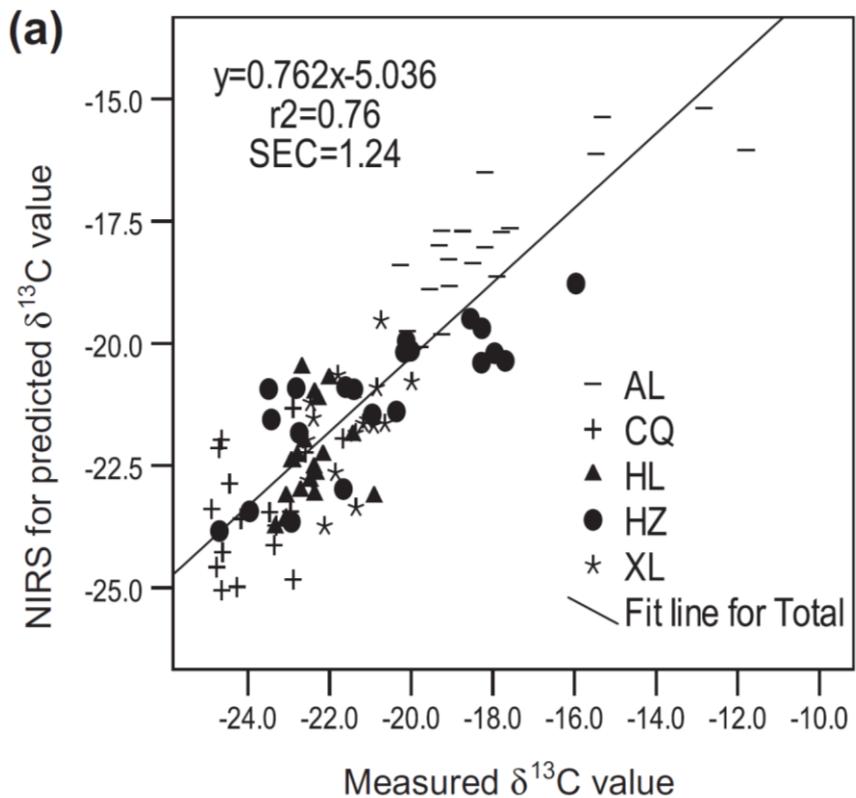


Erasmus et al, 2016, Proc.  
62<sup>nd</sup> ICoMST, Bangkok,  
Thailand

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**Fig. 1.** Score plot of first two PCs of defatted lamb meat samples from different regions based on NIR second derivative (Savitzky–Golay, 5 point) and MSC transformation spectra.



Sun et al. 2012, Food Chemistry, 135, 508.

# Conclusions

- Range of markers available with potential to authenticate dietary background and geographical origin
- Limitations/challenges
  - cost and speed of analysis
  - samples from controlled studies
  - seasonal variation
  - diet switches (what feed constituents, when, and for how long?)
  - trade in animal feedstuffs

# Conclusions

- **Solutions**

Rapid methods

**Data-bases** underpinning labels, e.g. grass-fed, country of origin, organic

Understanding:

- turnover of tissues in response to a diet change
- seasonal variation in marker compounds

Measurement of **multiple markers** make it less likely to “fake it”

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Prof Aidan Moloney	Teagasc
Prof Olaf Schmidt	UCD
Dr Sabine Harrison	PhD student
Dr Teresa Osorio-Arguelo	Post doc
Florian Roehrle	PhD student
Dr Antoine Zazzo	Post doc

