



Poznań University of Life Sciences

FACULTY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE  
AND ANIMAL SCIENCES  
Department of Genetics  
and Animal Breeding

# Methane emission collected on Polish commercial dairy farm

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NATIONAL SCIENCE CENTRE

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Polish Methane Project goal:

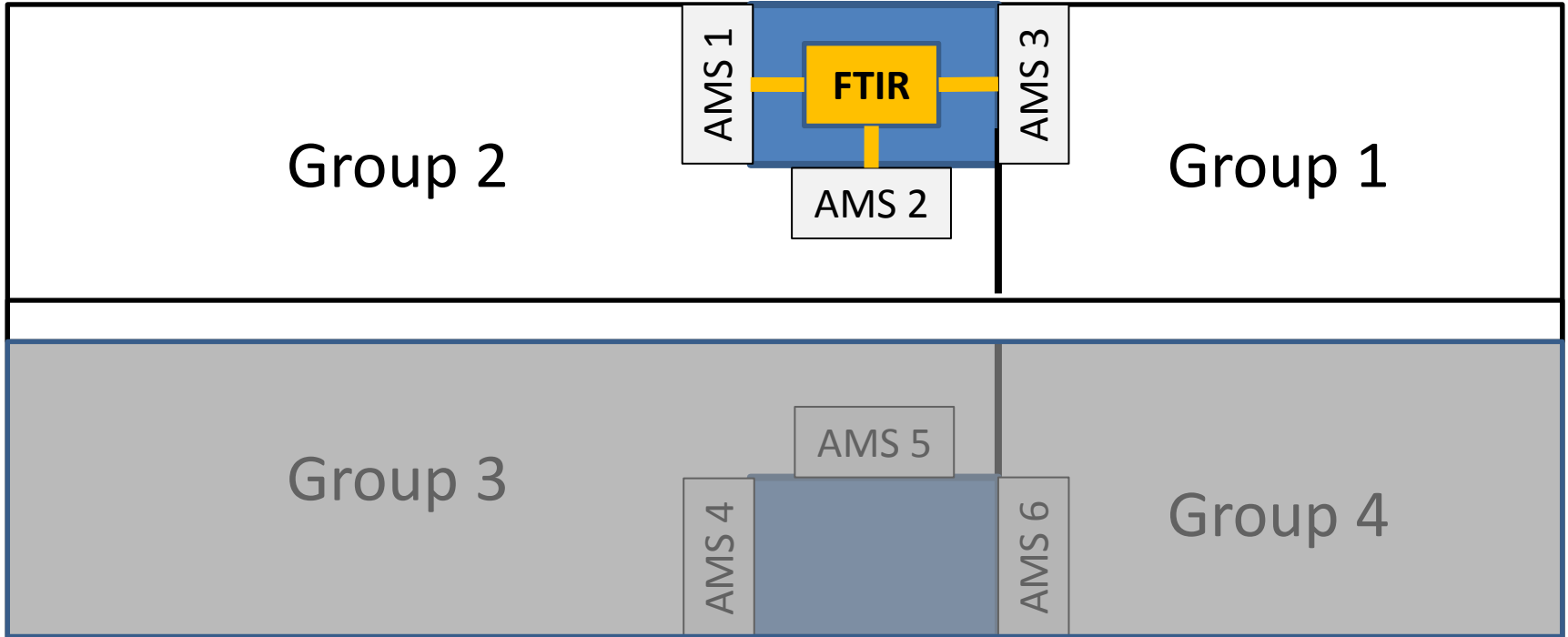
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Determine (non)genetics factors  
affecting CH<sub>4</sub> emissions

# The farm

300 HF cows on farm

3 AMS measured 24hrs each



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## Non-CH<sub>4</sub> data:

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AMS recorded data (milk, weight, activity, etc.)

Group nutrition

Health data (own application)

Routine recording data (milk, type traits, etc.)

Genotypes (coming soon)

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# Nutrition:

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PMR for all cows

Concentrate in AMS based on production level

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# Collected CH<sub>4</sub> data

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Period 12 Jan-10 Aug 2015

33 806 milking visits

294 cows measured

137 visits / day

1.73 visits / day / cow

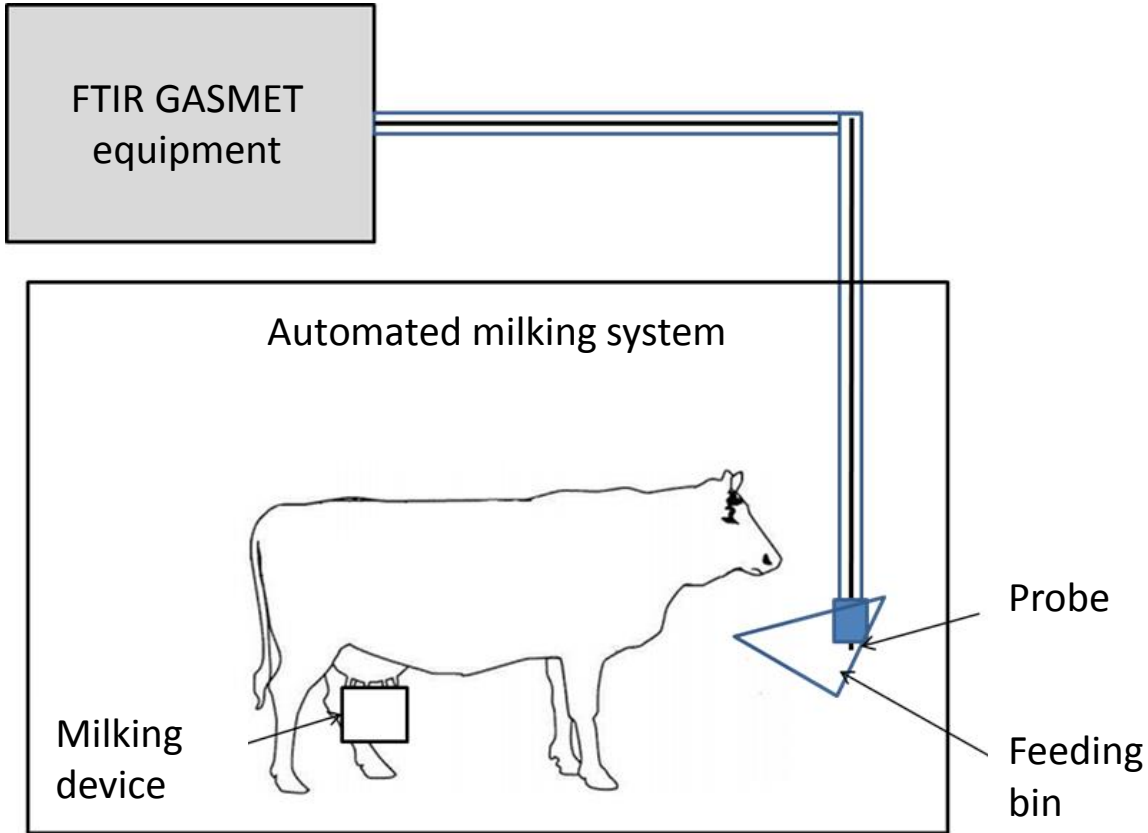
135 ( $\pm 85$ ) visits / cow

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| Lactation number | No. of records |
|------------------|----------------|
| 1                | 22 054         |
| 2                | 11 311         |
| 3                | 382            |
| 4                | 59             |

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# Measuring scheme



# Measuring scheme

— - CH<sub>4</sub> averaged every ~5 secs; Continues measurements

CH<sub>4</sub>



Milking

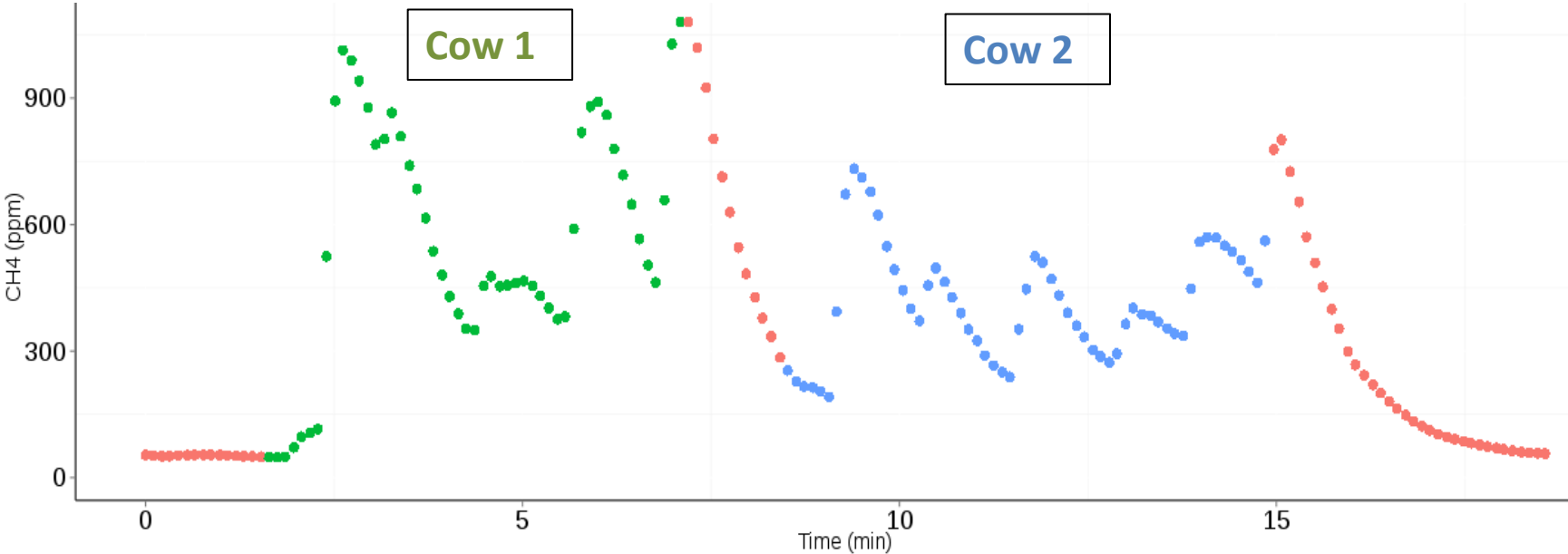


Time

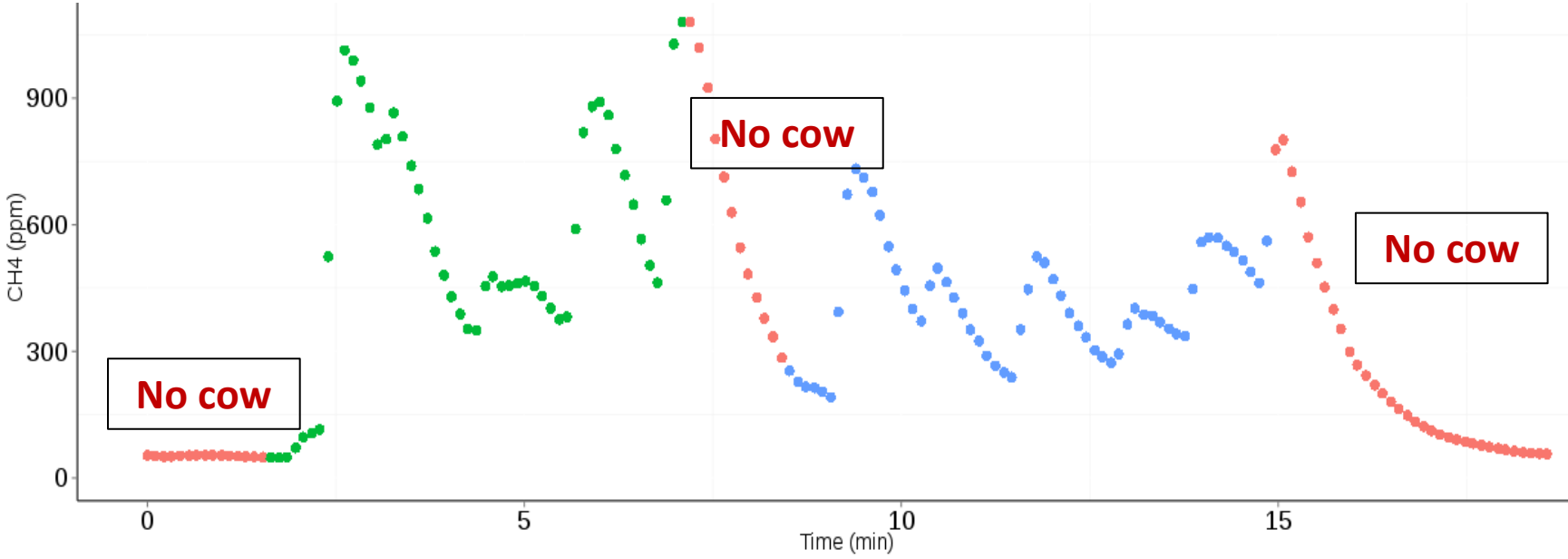




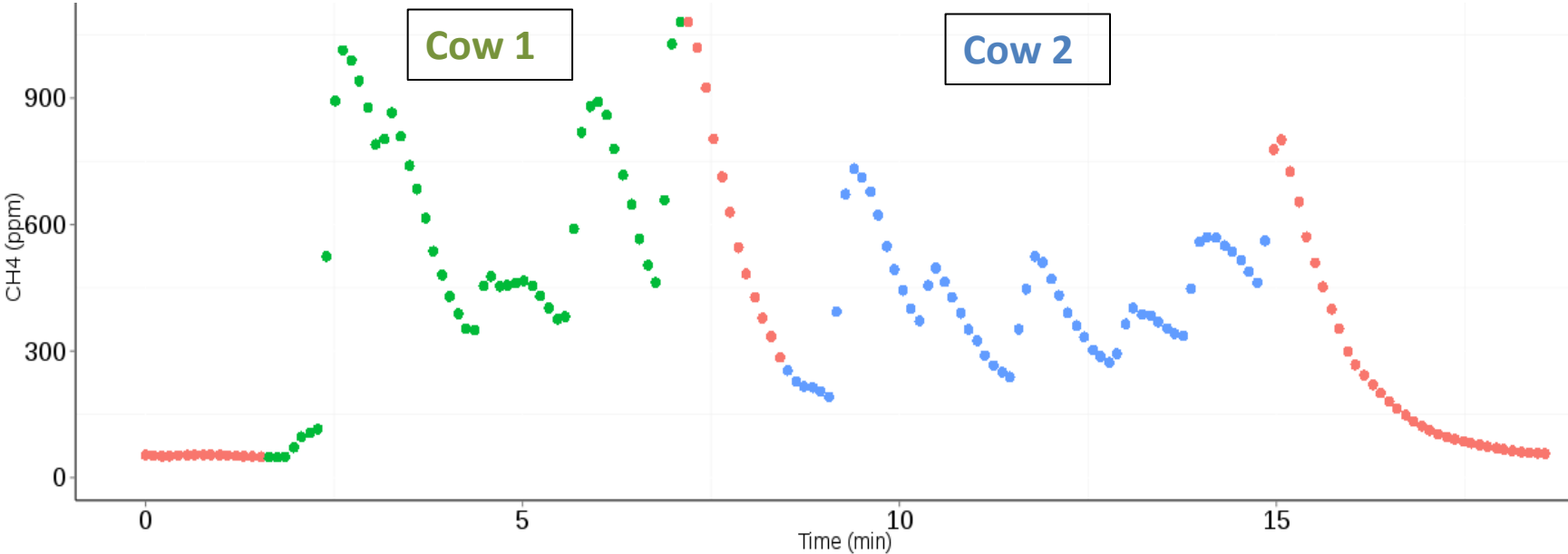
# Measurements



# Measurements



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# Phenotypes per milking visit

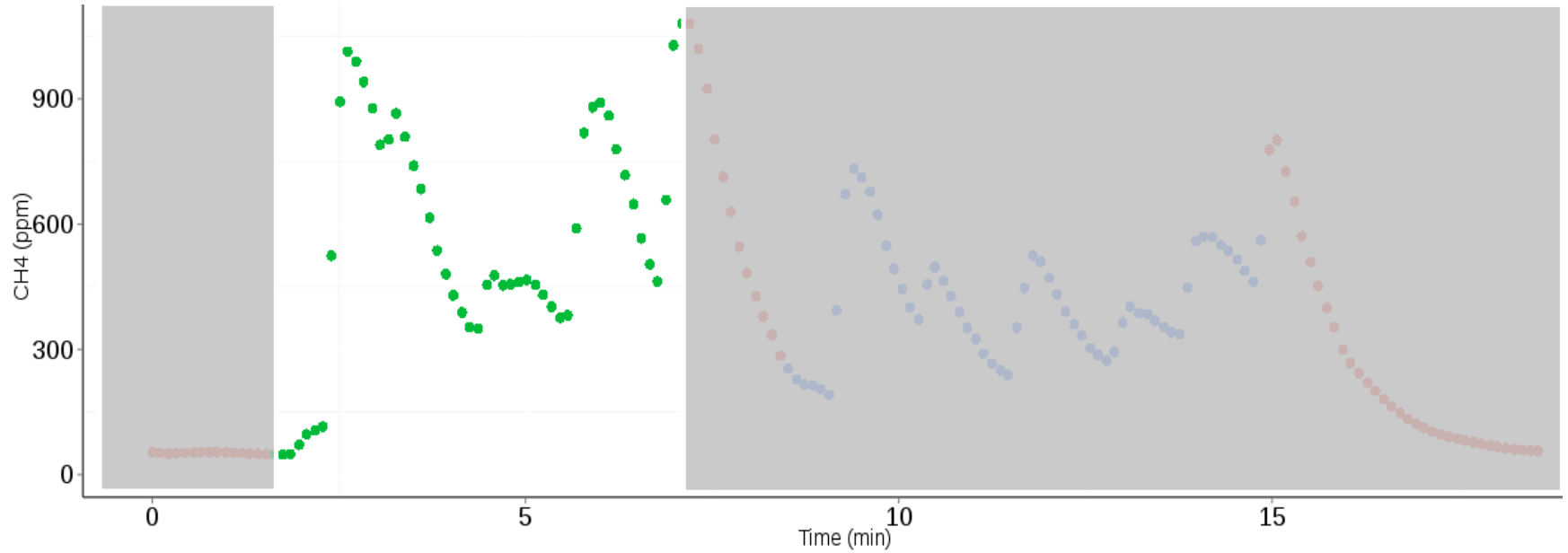
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**Mean [ppm]** = Mean CH<sub>4</sub>

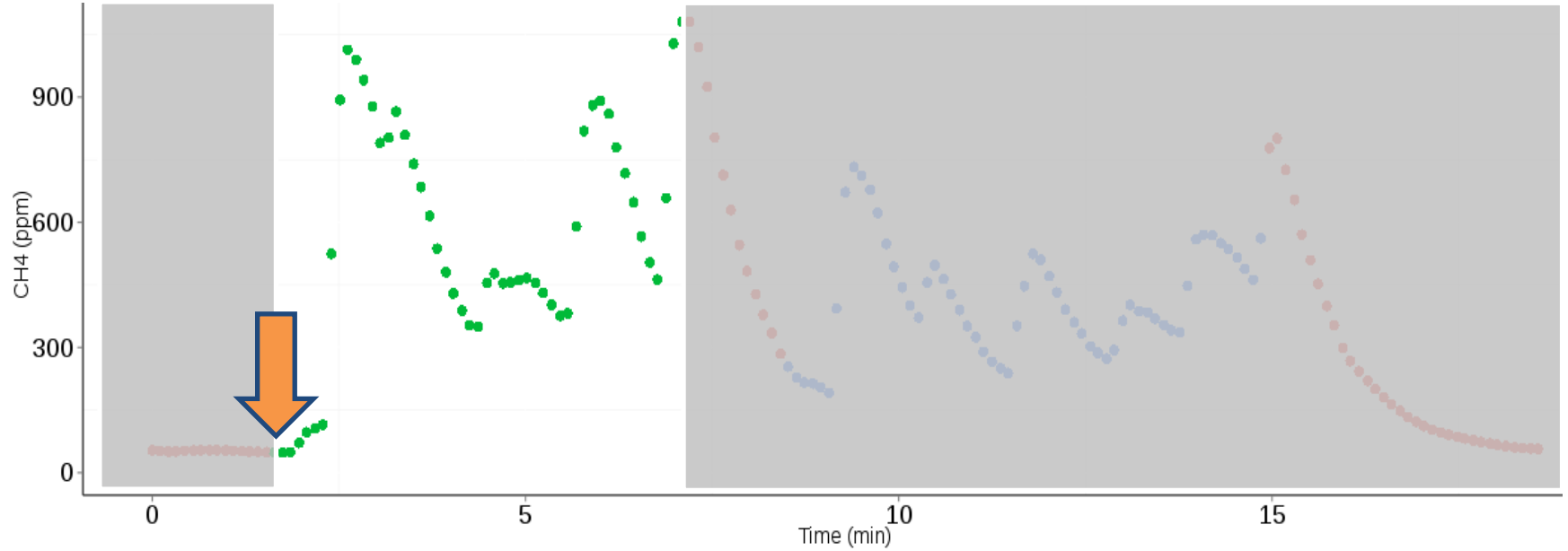
**MeanStart [ppm]** = Mean CH<sub>4</sub> - CH<sub>4</sub>@milking start

**MeanBckg [ppm]** = Mean CH<sub>4</sub> - CH<sub>4</sub>@background

# Mean = $\sum \text{measurements} / N$



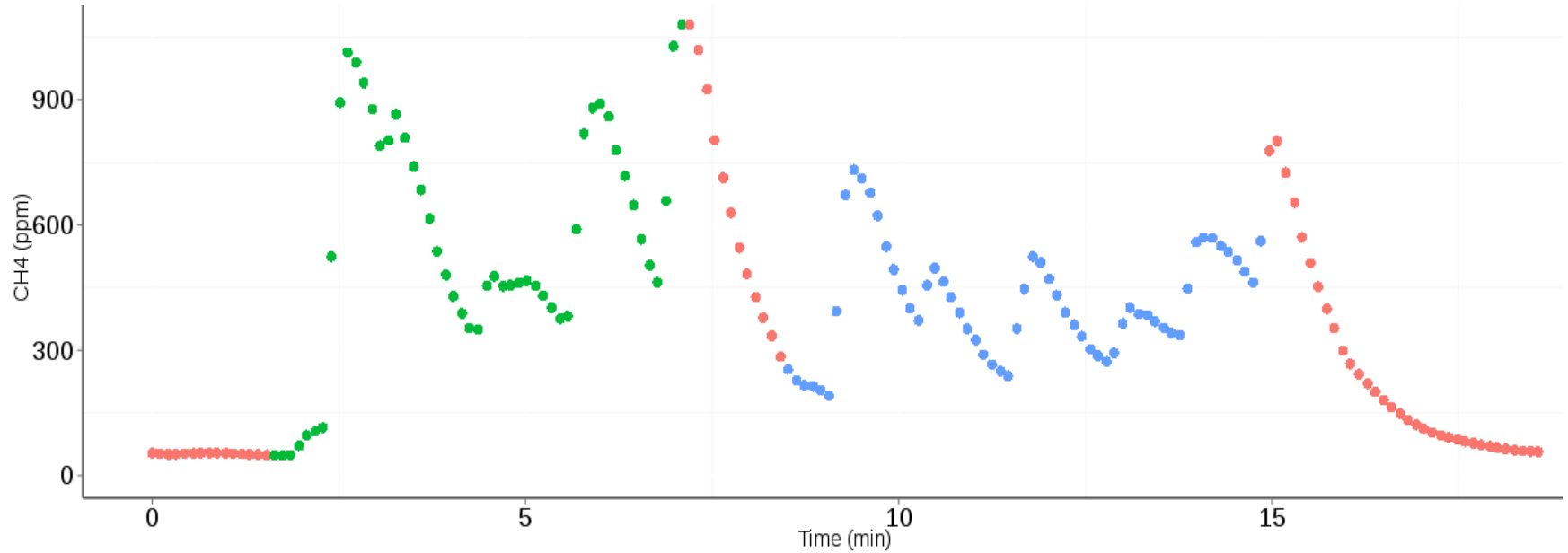
**MeanStart =  $\sum \text{measurements} / N$  - start**



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# MeanBckg = $\sum \text{measurements} / N$ - background

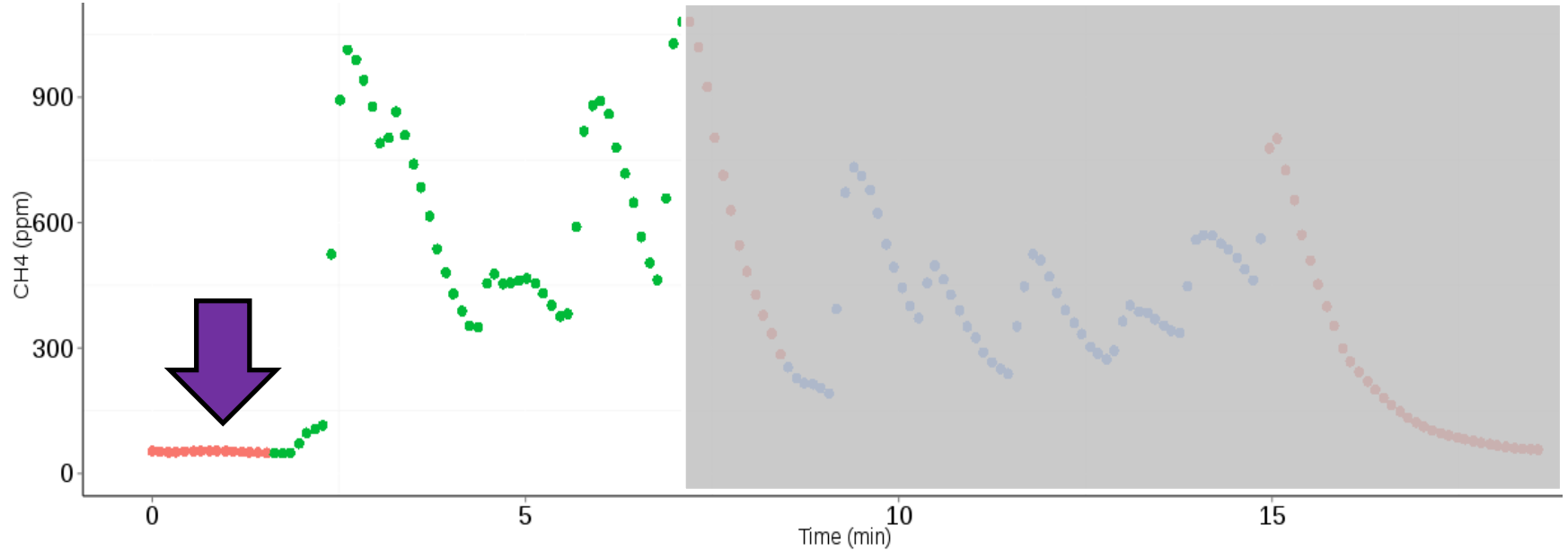
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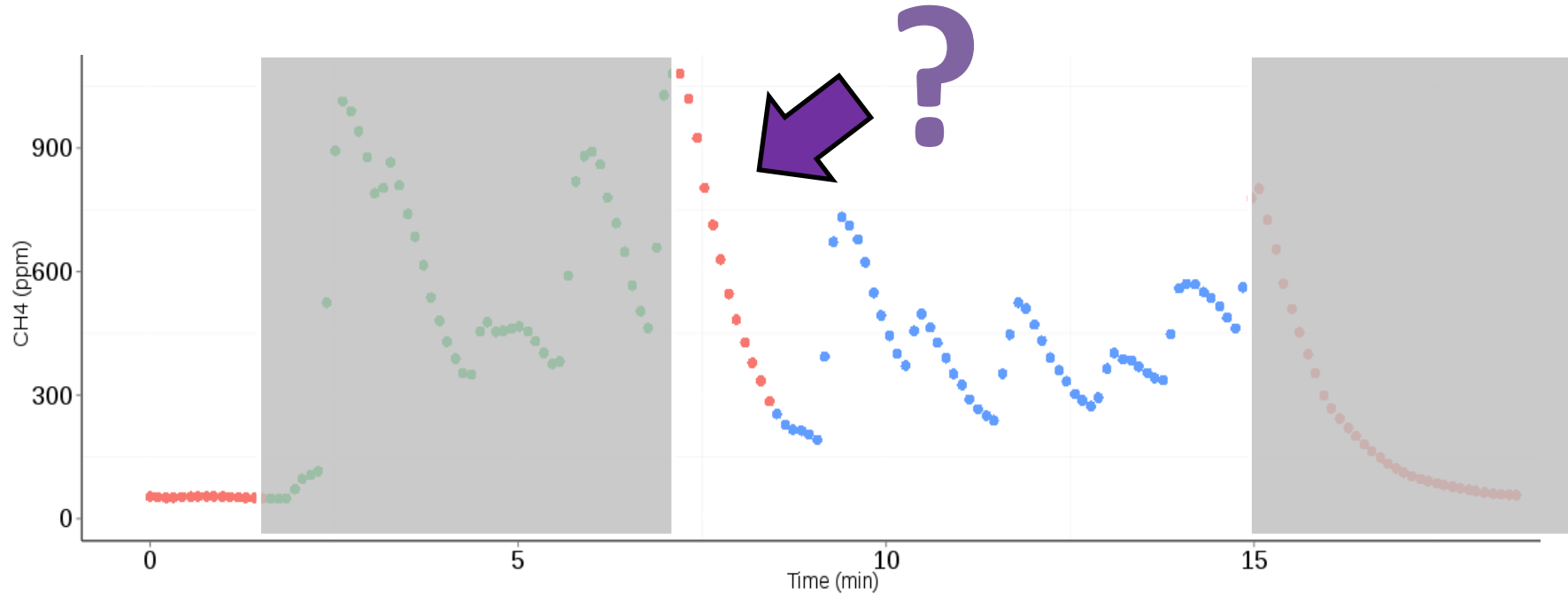
# MeanBckg = $\sum \text{measurements} / N$ - background

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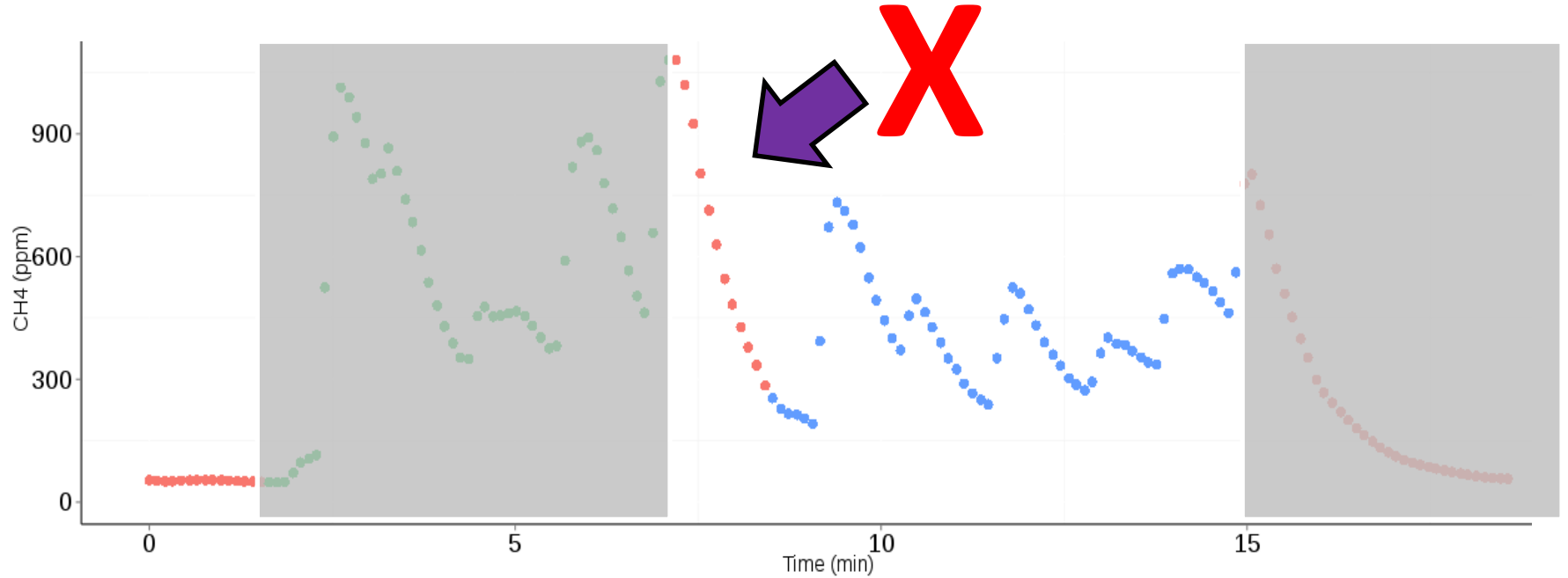




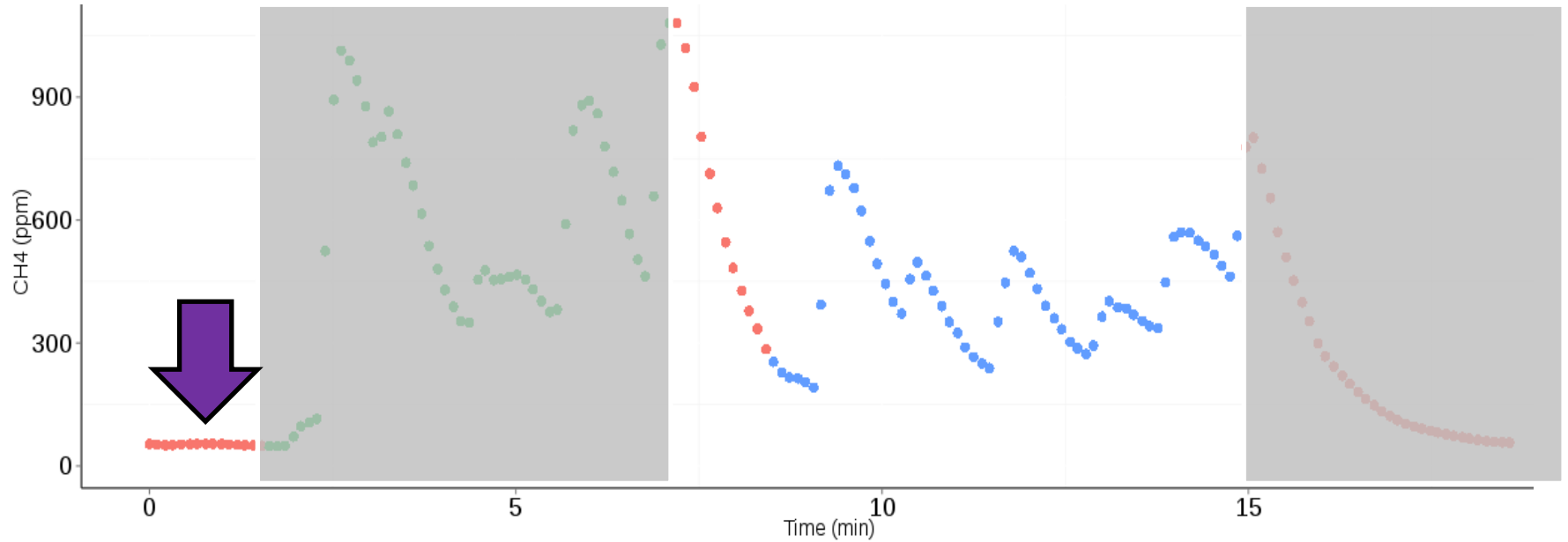
# MeanBckg = $\sum \text{measurements} / N$ - background



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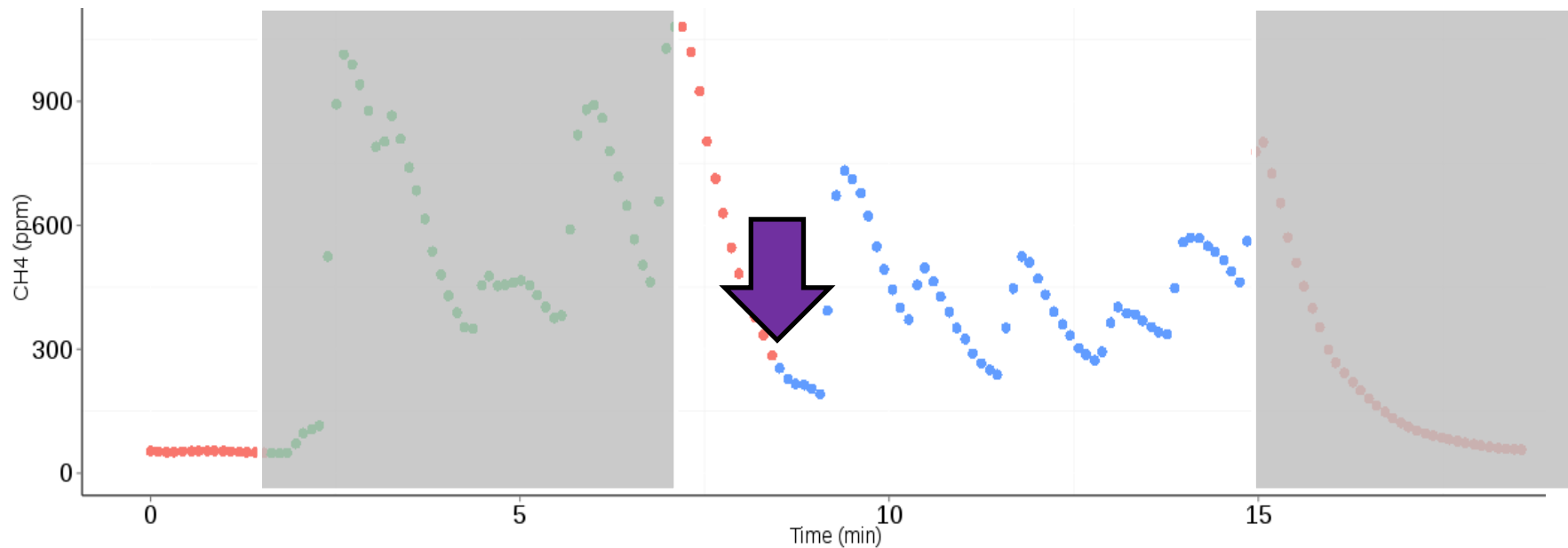
# Basic statistics of 3 methane phenotypes

|         | Phenotype [ppm] |           |          |
|---------|-----------------|-----------|----------|
|         | Mean            | MeanStart | MeanBckg |
| Average | 510.19          | 268.70    | 469.64   |
| Min     | 0.04            | -1484.74  | -467.57  |
| Max     | 1606.87         | 1417.02   | 1568.61  |
| S.D.    | 201.45          | 278.12    | 203.81   |

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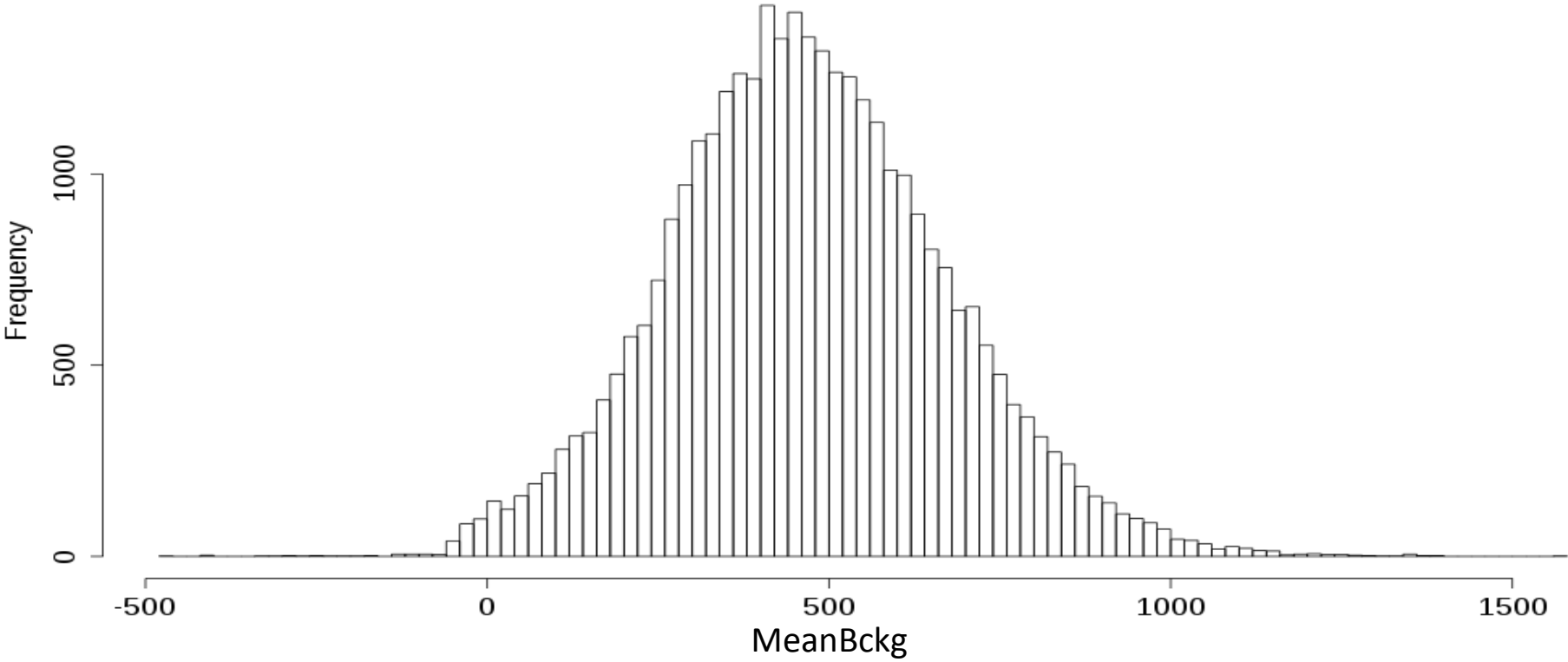
# MeanStart – wrong starting point



# Basic statistics of 3 methane phenotypes

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# Methane MeanBckg Phenotype





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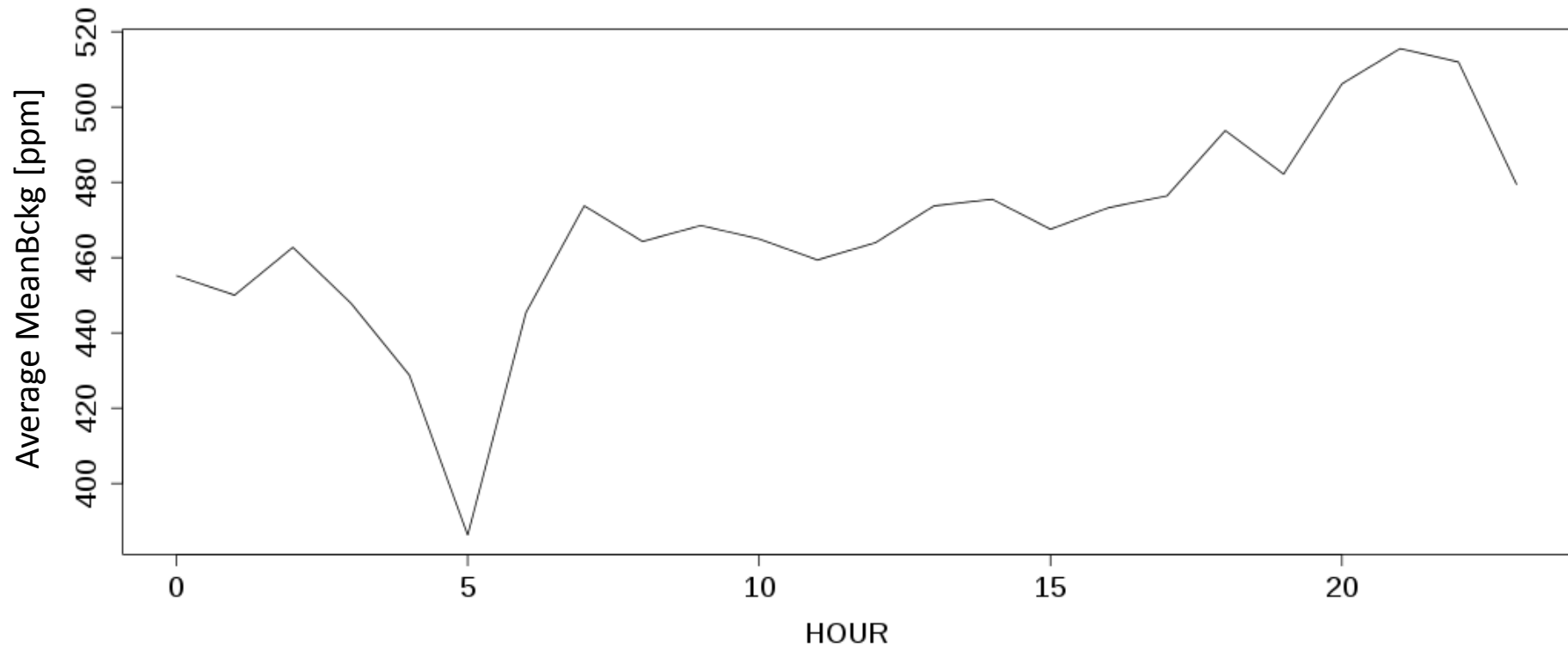
# Correlations between 3 methane phenotypes

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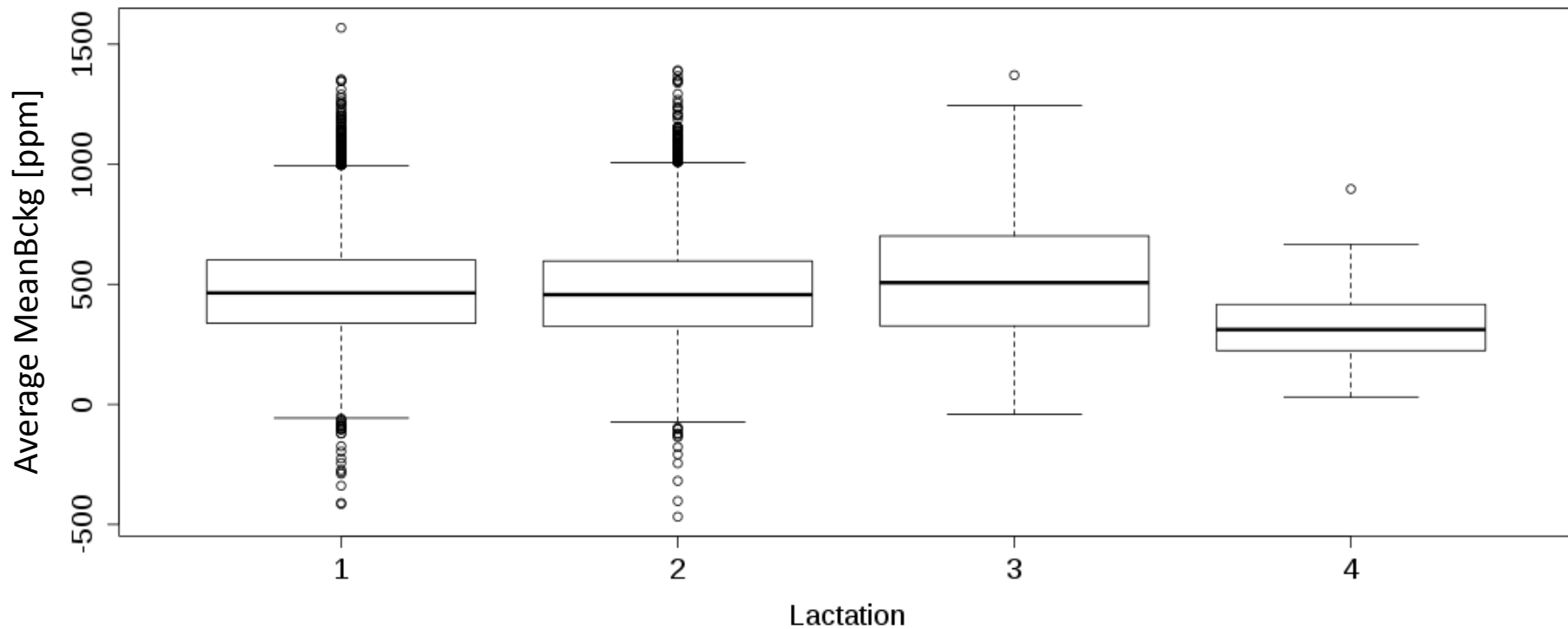
|           | MeanStart | MeanBckg |
|-----------|-----------|----------|
| Mean      | 0.51      | 0.98     |
| MeanStart |           | 0.51     |

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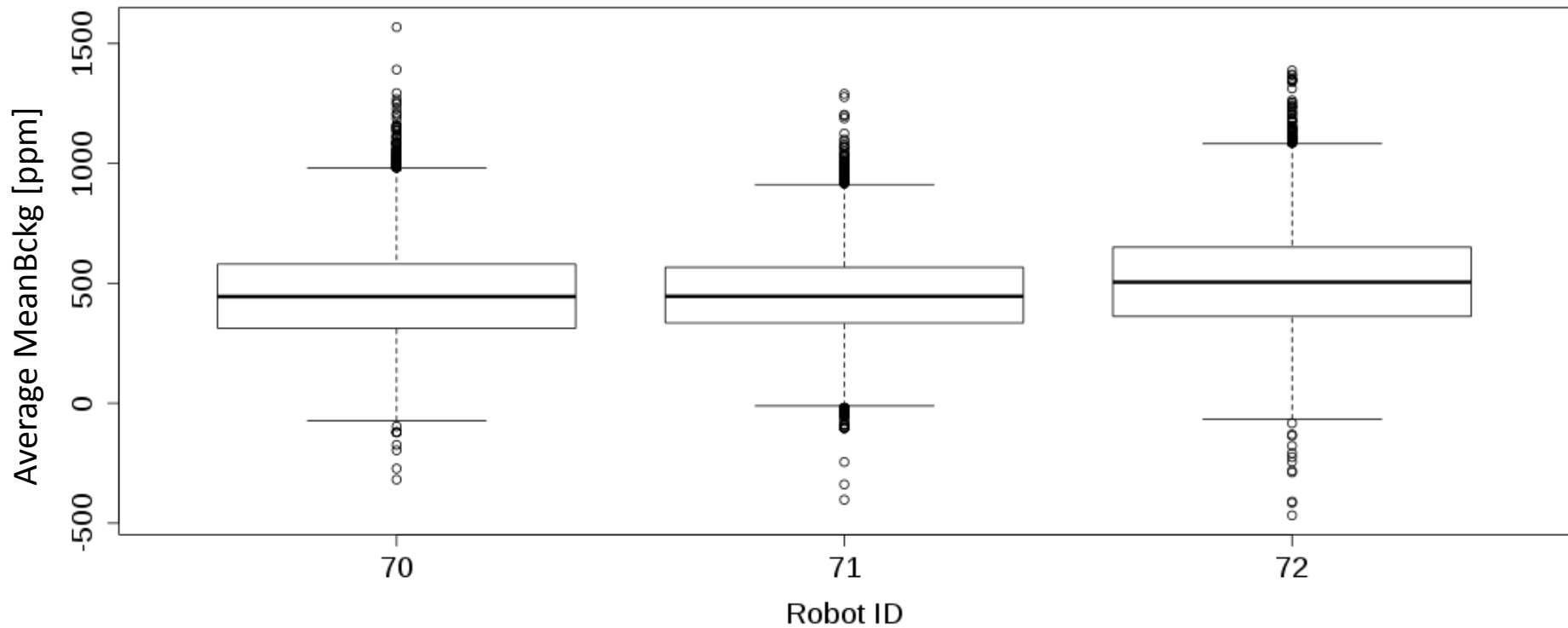
# Hourly variation



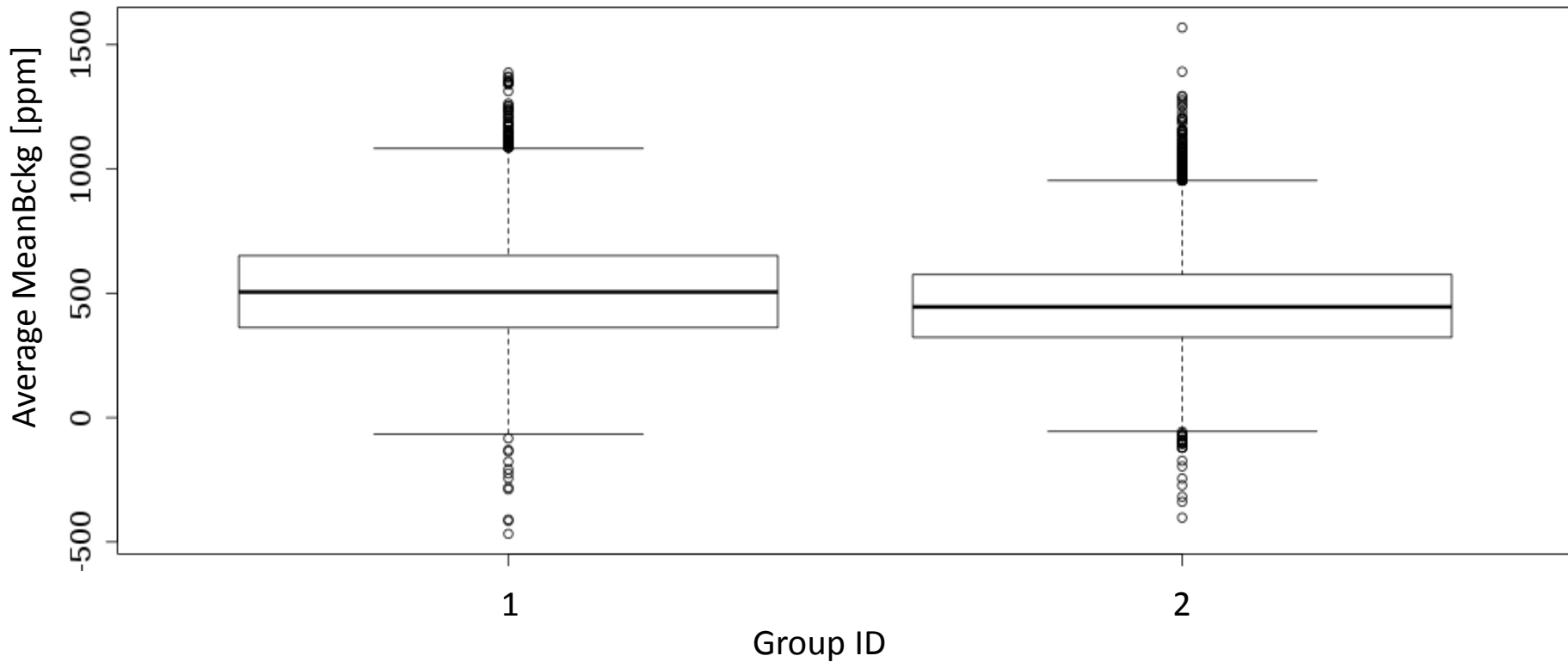
# Lactation differences



# Robot difference



# Group differences



# Repeatability

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$CH_4$  phenotype $_{ijklmn} =$

$mean + \beta_1 \times dim_j + lact_k +$

$group_m + hour_n + \mathbf{animal}_i + \mathbf{error}_{ijklmn}$

# Repeatability

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$CH_4$  phenotype $_{ijklmn} =$

$mean + \beta_1 \times dim_j + lact_k +$

$cos2\theta\pi + sin2\theta\pi$

$group_m + hour_n + animal_i + error_{ijklmn}$

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# Repeatability

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Phenotype [ppm]

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Mean MeanStart MeanBckg

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|               |      |      |      |
|---------------|------|------|------|
| Repeatability | 0.26 | 0.12 | 0.25 |
|---------------|------|------|------|

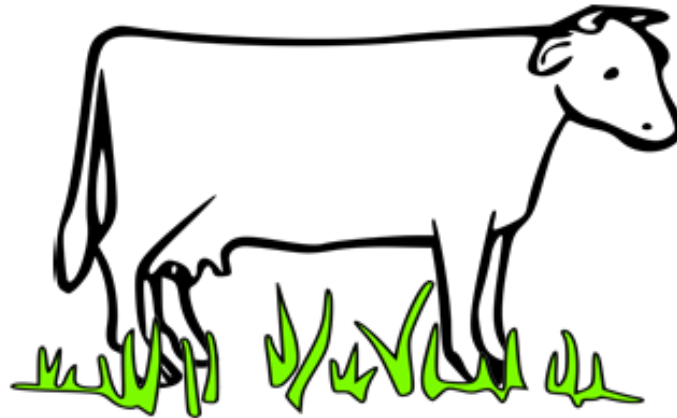




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Thank  
you



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Thank  
you



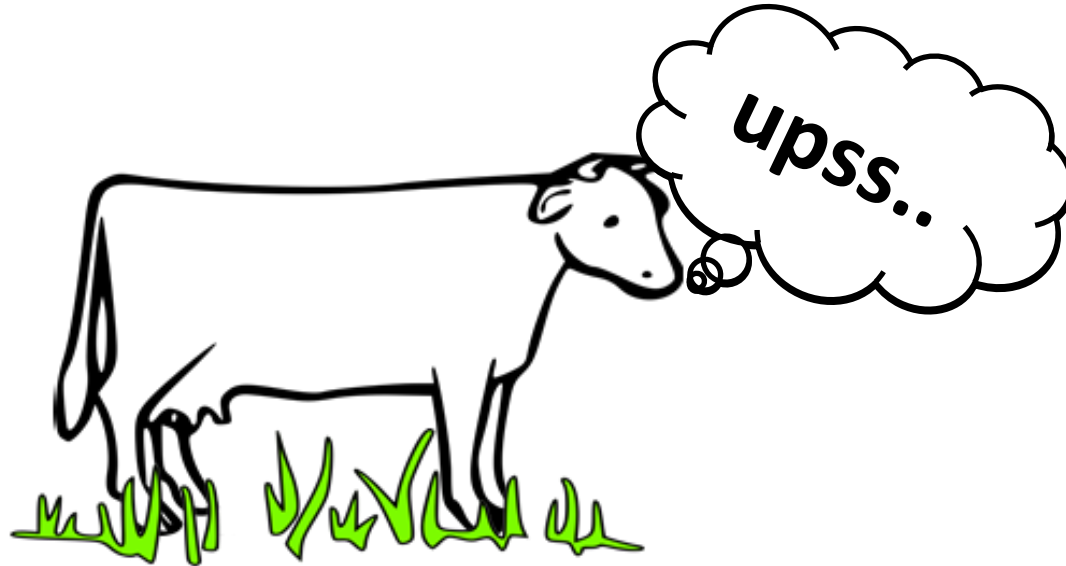
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[marcin.pszczola@gmail.com](mailto:marcin.pszczola@gmail.com)

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Thank  
you



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Thank  
you



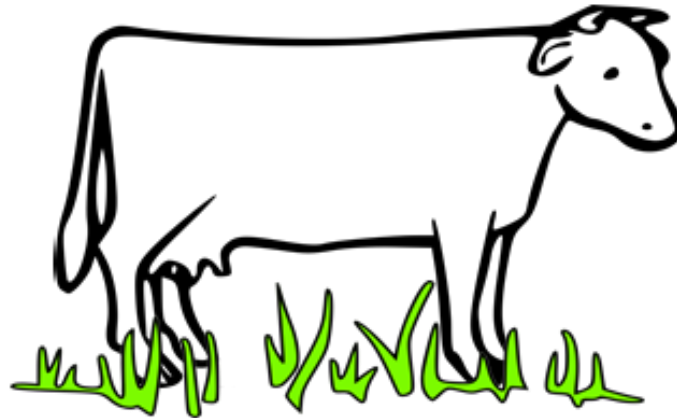
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[marcin.pszczola@gmail.com](mailto:marcin.pszczola@gmail.com)

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Thank  
you



**Don't blame  
the cows!**

Just do  
something  
about it!

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