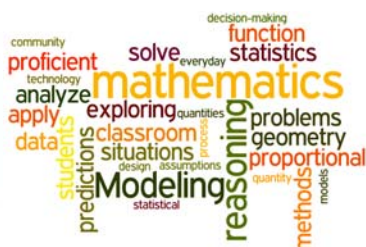


# The Evolution of Mathematical Models for Animal Nutrition —what to expect next?

Luis Tedeschi, Texas A&M University  
NANP-NRSP-9 Modeling Committee

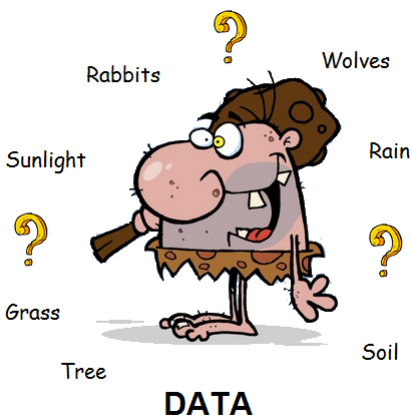


The National Animal  
Nutrition Program



## Why Mathematical Modeling?

The Logical Process of Modeling

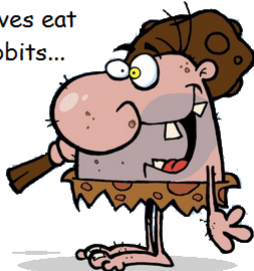


**Data** is the set of individual facts, figures, sensory impressions, etc. that is regarded as essentially meaningless, although it is the raw material from which meaning is derived.



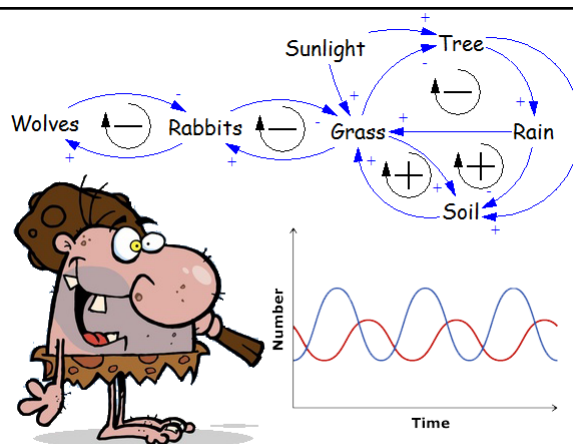
**Information** is **data** which has undergone some kind of organization. Datasets may be divided into categories according to some criteria; individual data items may be linked together according to some salient feature.

Rabbits eat Grass...  
Soil feeds Grass...  
Grass needs Rain...  
Wolves eat Rabbits...



## KNOWLEDGE

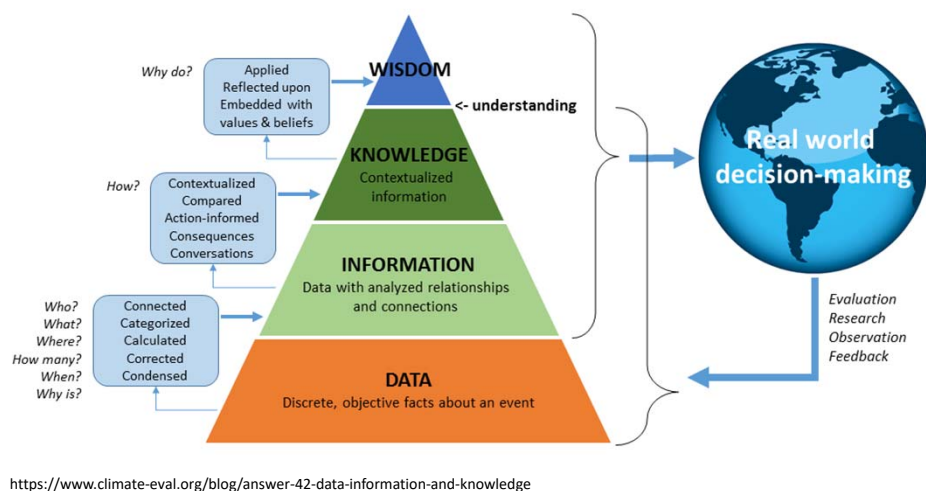
**Knowledge** is the **information** that has been internalized by the person such that they might put it to use. An important feature of knowledge is that, whereas information and data may reside in texts, objects, and events, knowledge acquisition, ownership, and transfer can only be effected by human agents.



## WISDOM

**Wisdom** is the possession of **knowledge** such that one is able not only to observe *patterns* of information within data and make intelligent connections between different patterns, but also to feel the *principles* (i.e., *structure*) which underlie the patterns themselves. Wisdom allows one to see these various *patterns* in their contexts and to be able to remain independent of immersion in that context oneself. The observer may transpose *patterns* to different *contexts* but keeping the same *principles*

## DIKW x Real World Problems



## The Elephant in the Room...

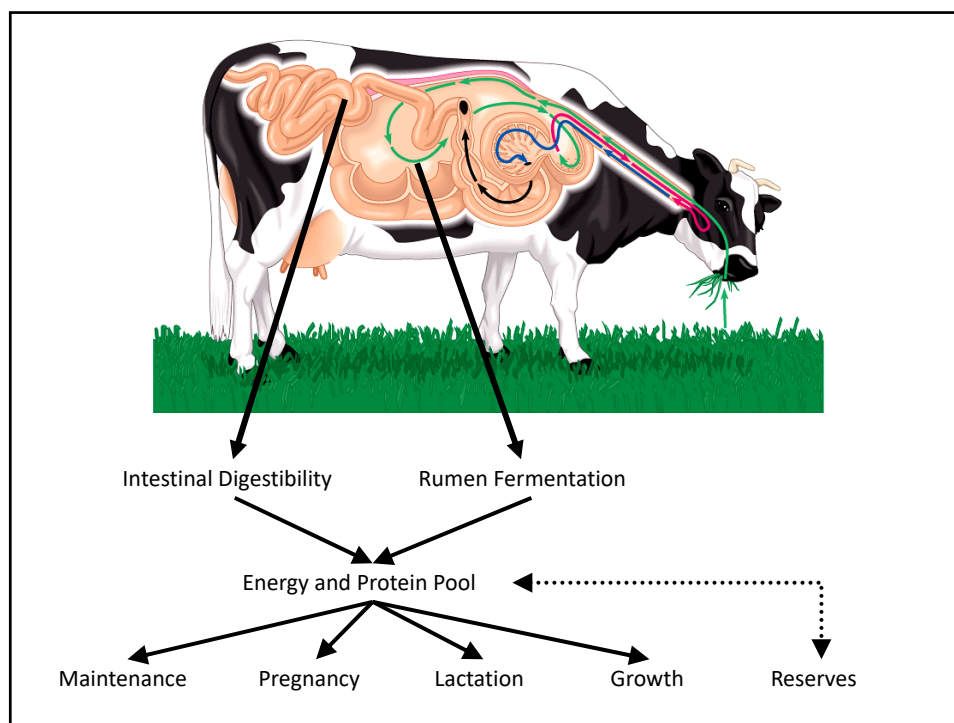
- Simulation modeling is a potentially valuable approach to facilitate agricultural research, but it is consistently underutilized, most likely because its potential users are (1) not aware of its capabilities, and (2) believe that model development is complex and difficult (Tedeschi and Fox, 2018)



## Modeling

- What level of detail?
  - Descriptive vs. Predictive
  - Empirical vs. Mechanistic
  - Deterministic vs. Stochastic
  - Static vs. Dynamic
  - Continuous vs. Discrete
  - Spatially homogeneous vs. heterogeneous
  - Basic vs. Applied
  - Problem- vs. System-driven
  - Data- vs. Concept-driven
  - Teleonomic vs. Teleologic
- Objectives (Baldwin, 1995)
  - Appraise feed biological and nutritive values
  - Describe nutrients/substrates in the organs/tissues and their relationships with animal's physiological stage
  - Determine feed requirement to meet animal production
  - Estimate animal performance given ration composition and intake

## Ruminant Models

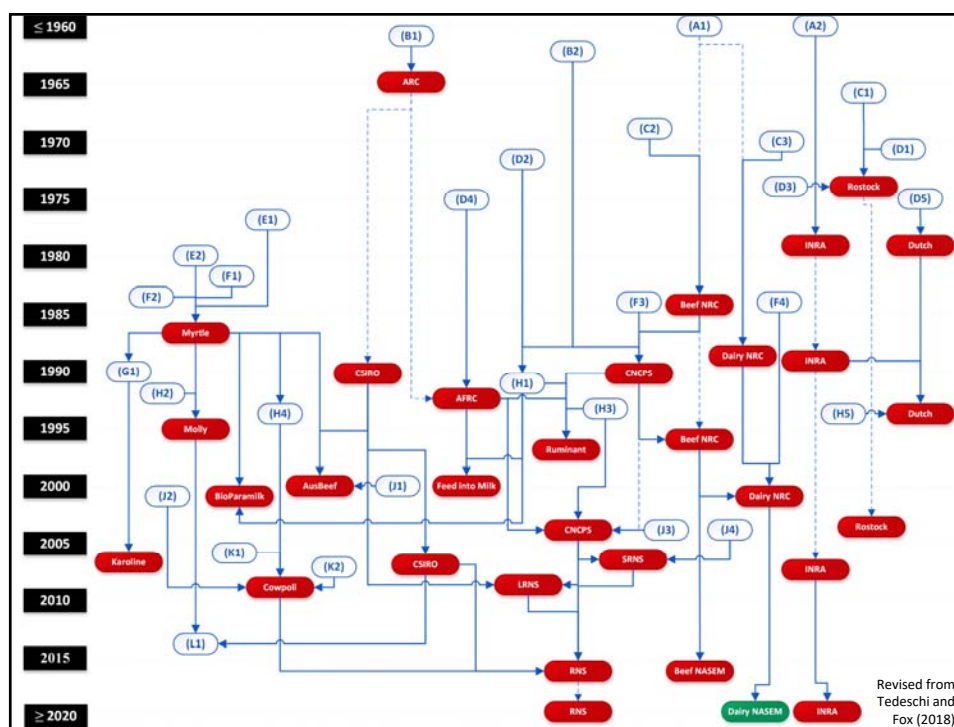


## Different Schools of Thoughts → Many Models

- **American models**
  - Applied: NRC, CNCPS, LRNS, BR-Corte, RNS
  - Research: Baldwin's Molly
- **British models**
  - Applied: AFRC, CSIRO, FiM, Bioparamilk, Ruminant
  - Research: France and Thornley, Illius and Gordon, AusBeef
- **French models**
  - Applied: InRation
  - Research: INRA
- **Dutch and Scandinavian models**
  - Applied: NorFor, DVE/OEB
  - Research: Dijkstra's, Karoline

## Chronological Evolution of Models

- 1940s: National Research Council (NRC)
- 1960s: Agriculture Research Council (ARC)
- 1970s: Rostock, INRA, Dutch
- 1980s: Beef/Dairy NRC
- 1990s: CSIRO, AFRC, CNCPS, Molly
- 2000s: AusBeef, FiM, Ruminant, BioParamilk
- 2010s: Karoline, Cowpoll, LRNS, SRNS, RNS





## American Models

### History



- 1908 – Inception of protein requirements by Henry P. Armsby (Chairman of the Committee on Organization of the American Society of Animal Nutrition) (Forbes, 1924)
- 1910 – Armsby presented “A Scheme for Cooperative Experiments upon the Optimum Protein Supply of Fattening Cattle” (Christensen, 1932)
- 1917 – Armsby formulated “Cooperative Experiments upon the Protein Requirements for the Growth of Cattle” and sponsored by the National Research Council with the participation of several stations from 1918 to 1923 (Christensen, 1932)
- 1924 – A report by the Subcommittee on Animal Nutrition, chaired by Dr. E. B. Forbes provided the guidelines for future experimentation on protein requirements of cattle (Forbes, 1924)
- 1929 – A detailed report by the Subcommittee on Animal Nutrition, chaired by Dr. H. H. Mitchell provided the guidelines for minimum protein requirements of cattle (Mitchell, 1929)

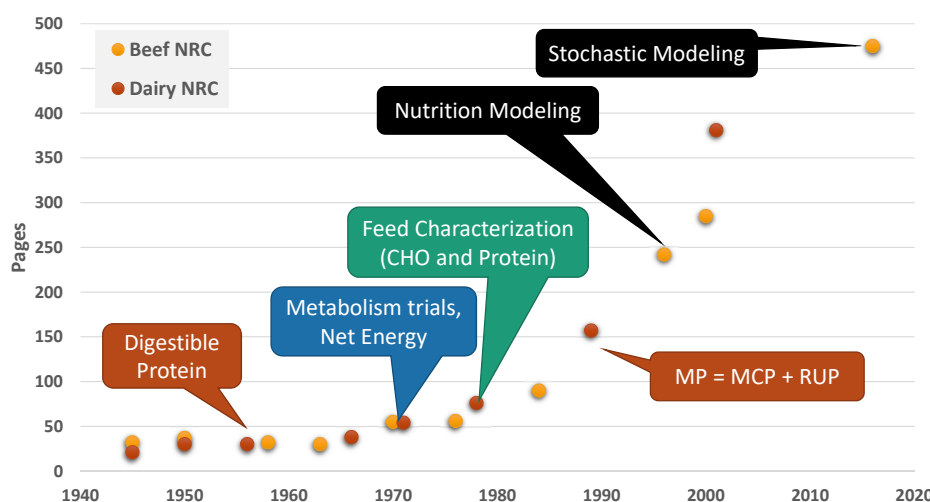


## National Research Council (NRC)

- 1945 – Recommended nutrient allowances for cattle
- 1956 – Nutrient requirements of dairy cattle
- 1958 – Nutrient requirements of beef cattle
- Serve as the basis for most applied models used in the US
- Beef NRC (1996, 2000) introduced “levels of solution”
- Two methods to compute EE (comparative slaughter, respiration chambers)



## Evolution of NRC's “Knowledge”



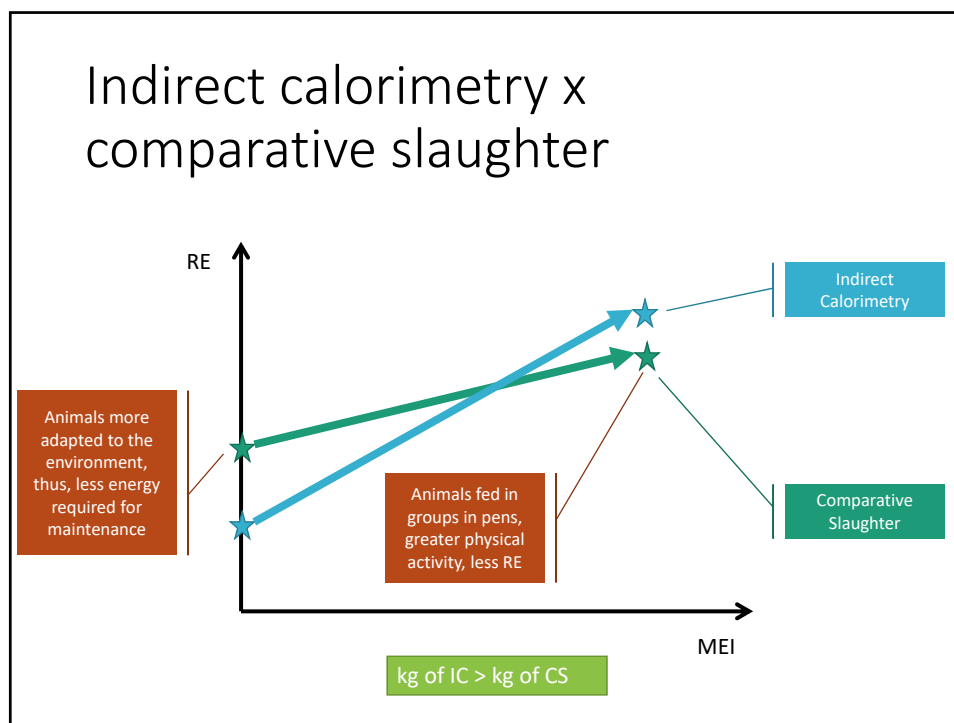


### Calorimetry Chambers in Beltsville, MD



### Feedlot at UC, Davis, CA Comparative Slaughter Technique





## Cornell Net Carbohydrate and Protein System—Based Nutrition Models

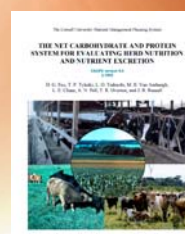
- 1980
  - Net protein (*Fox et al., 1981*) and rumen (*Van Soest et al., 1981*)
  - Requirements (*Fox and Black, 1984*)
  - Protein supply (*Sniffen et al., 1987*)
  - Environment adjustments (*Fox et al., 1988*)
- 1991 (version 1)
  - Cornell Net Carbohydrate and Protein System (CNCPS) never released to the public
- 1993 (version 2)
  - *Fox et al. (1990) – Search Ag. report*



Chalupa and Boston (2003)

## CNCPS-based Models Evolution

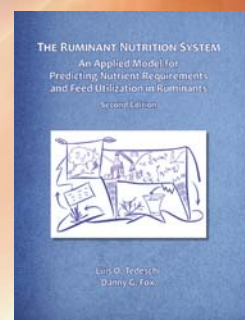
- 1994 (version 3)
  - Excel spreadsheet
  - Beef NRC (1996) is based on this version
- 2000 (version 4)
  - Microsoft Visual Basic 6.0
  - Dairy NRC (2001) has some components
- 2003 (version 5)
  - Microsoft Visual Basic .NET
  - *Fox et al. (2004)*
  - CPM Dairy



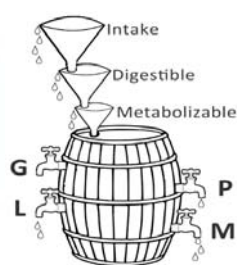
Chalupa and Boston (2003)

## CNCPS-based Models Evolution

- 2004
  - *Cannas et al. (2004)*
  - CNCPS Sheep (CNCPS-S)
- 2005
  - Small Ruminant Nutrition System (SRNS)
    - sheep and goats
- 2016
  - *Tedeschi and Fox (2016, 2018)*
  - Ruminant Nutrition System (RNS)
    - cattle (beef and dairy), sheep, and goats



Tedeschi and Fox (2018)



# Ruminant Nutrition System (RNS)

Level of Solution 1 (Empirical)

$$tTDN_{1x} = \begin{cases} 2.25 \times dEE & \text{Fat supplements} \\ dNFC + dCP + 2.25 \times dEE & \text{Animal protein meals} \\ dNFC + dCP + 2.25 \times dEE + dNDF & \text{Other feedstuffs} \end{cases} \quad [7.7]$$

$$dEE = \begin{cases} EED \times EE & \text{Fat supplements} \\ (1 - 0.0314 \times (EE - 1)) \times (EE - 1) & \text{Nonfat supplements, } EE > 1 \\ EE & \text{Nonfat supplements, } EE < 1 \end{cases} \quad [7.8]$$

$$dNFC = \begin{cases} 0.98 \times (100 - CP - Ash - EE) & \text{Animal protein meals} \\ 0.98 \times PAF \times (100 - NDF_N - (CP - IADIP) - Ash - EE) & \text{Other feedstuffs} \end{cases} \quad [7.9]$$

$$dCP = \begin{cases} I & \text{Animal protein meals} \\ CP \times e^{-0.012 \times (100 - ADIP/CP)} & \text{Forage-based feedstuffs} \\ CP \times (1 - 0.004 \times (100 \times ADIP/CP)) & \text{Concentrate-based feedstuffs} \end{cases} \quad [7.10]$$

$$dNDF = 0.75 \times (NDF_N - Lignin) \times \left(1 - \phi \times (Lignin/NDF_N)^{2/4}\right) \quad [7.11]$$

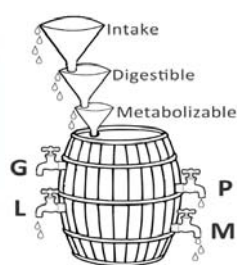
$$NDF_N = NDF - NDIP + IADIP \quad [7.12]$$

$$IADIP = \begin{cases} 0.7 \times ADIP & \text{Forage-based feedstuffs} \\ 0.4 \times ADIP & \text{Concentrate-based feedstuffs} \end{cases} \quad [7.13]$$

$$aTDN_{1x} = \begin{cases} tTDN_{1x} - 1.4 & \text{Fat supplements} \\ tTDN_{1x} - 4.13 & \text{Animal protein meals} \\ tTDN_{1x} - 7 & \text{Other feedstuffs} \end{cases} \quad [7.14]$$

Where  $ADIP$  is acid-detergent insoluble (crude) protein, % DM;  $aTDN_{1x}$  is apparent total digestible nutrients at maintenance level of intake, % DM;  $CP$  is crude protein, % DM;  $CPD$  is CP digestibility, g/g;  $dCP$  is digestible crude protein, % DM;  $dEE$  is digestible ether extract, % DM;  $dNDF$  is digestible neutral detergent fiber (NDF), % DM;  $dNFC$  is digestible nonfiber carbohydrate, % DM;  $e$  is the Napierian number (i.e., Napier's constant, 2.718, for exponential function), dimensionless;  $EE$  is ether extract, % DM;  $IADIP$  is indigestible acid-detergent insoluble (crude) protein, % DM;  $NDF$  is neutral detergent fiber, % DM;  $NDF_N$  is NDF corrected for  $NDIP$  and  $IADIP$ , % DM;  $NDIP$  is neutral-detergent insoluble (crude) protein, % DM;  $PAF$  is processing adjustment factor, g/g;  $tTDN$  is true total digestible nutrients at maintenance level of intake, % DM; and  $\phi$  is a coefficient to adjust the weights of lignin and NDF as an approximation to their volumes in using the surface law.





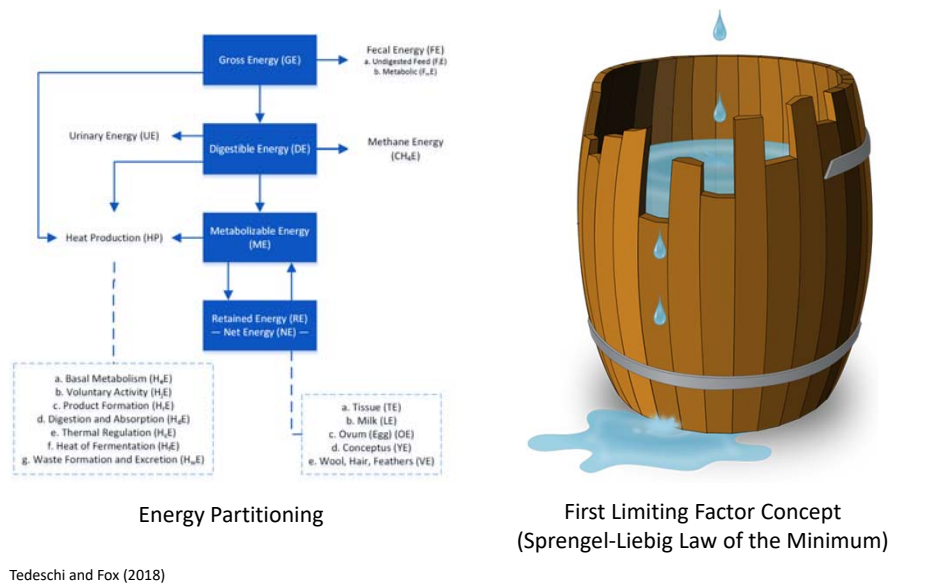
## Ruminant Nutrition System (RNS)

Level of Solution 2 (Mechanistic)

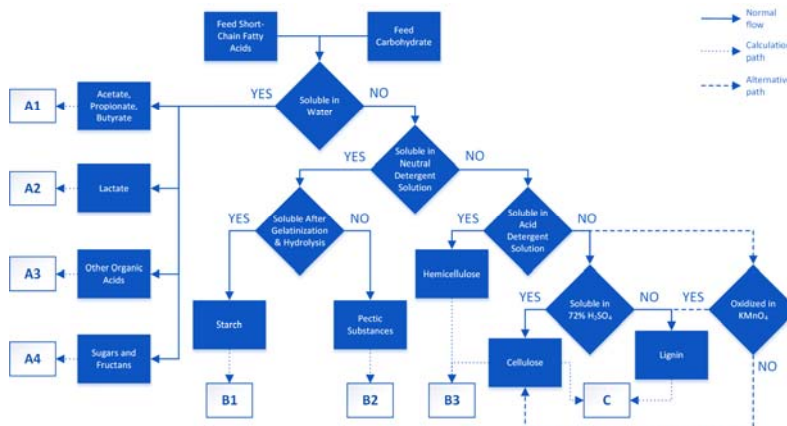
## Mechanistic Modeling

- Nutrient fractionation
  - Carbohydrate
  - Protein
- Bacteria submodel
  - Deficiency of N or Branched-Chain AA
- Ruminal degradation and passage fractional rates
- Ruminal pH submodel
- Intestinal digestibility
  - Midgut (small intestine)
  - Hindgut (large intestine)
- Fecal matter
- Digestibility and TDN

## Two Critical Concepts

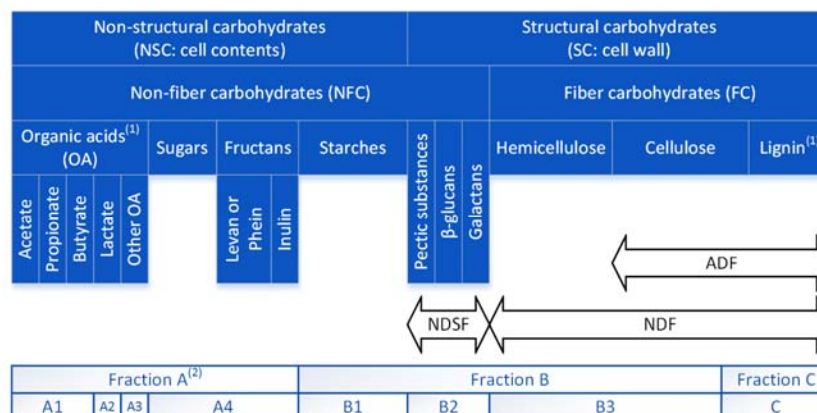


## Determining Feed Carbohydrate



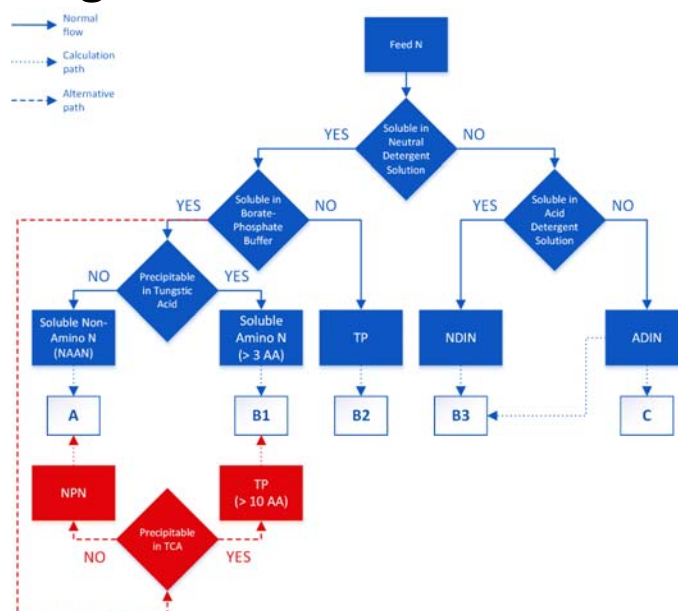


## Carbohydrate Fractionation



Sniffen et al. (1992); Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

## Determining Feed Protein



Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

## Protein Fractionation

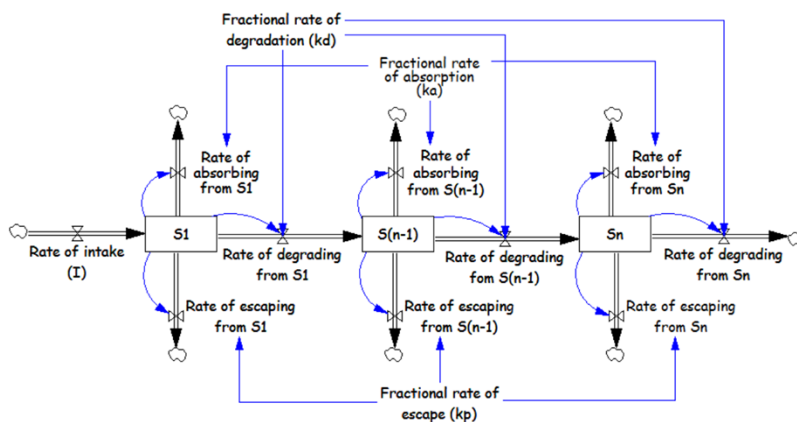
Feed crude protein (CP)											
Borate-phosphate buffer soluble CP						Borate-phosphate buffer insoluble CP					
Non-protein N (NPN)					Soluble true protein		Neutral detergent fiber (NDF) soluble N		NDF insoluble N (NDIN)		
NH <sub>3</sub> + Amines	Amides	Nitrates	Peptides	Non-essential AA	Albumins	Globulins	Glutelins	Prolamines	NDIN – ADIN	ADF insoluble N (ADIN)	
									Extensins	Maillard's	Tannin N
										Lignin N	

Fraction A		Fraction B			Fraction C
A1	A2	B1	B2	B3	C

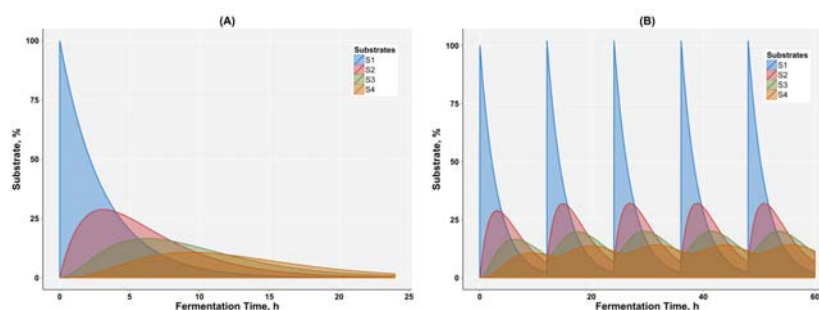
Sniffen et al. (1992); Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

## Fundamental Ruminant Dynamics



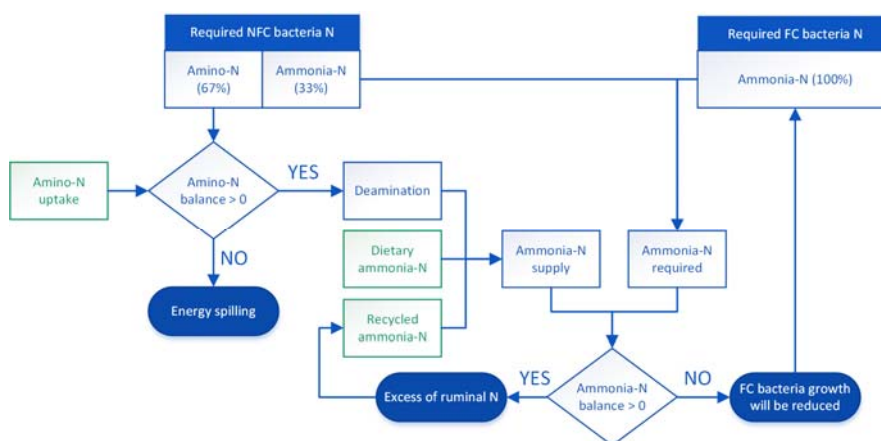
Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

## Ruminal Degradation Rate (single Feeding Event)



Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

## Bacteria Submodel



Russell et al. (1992); Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

# Deficiency of Ruminant N

```
graph TD; A[Dietary non-protein nitrogen] --> D[Gross Energy GE]; B[Recycled nitrogen] --> D; C[Degraded amino-N by NFC bacteria] --> D; E[FC bacteria ammonia-N requirement] --> D; D --> F{Ruminant N balance < 0}; F -- YES --> G[Reduce FC and NFC bacteria growth]; F -- NO --> H[Ruminally-degraded protein]; G --> I[Reduce CHO B3 degradation]; I --> H;
```

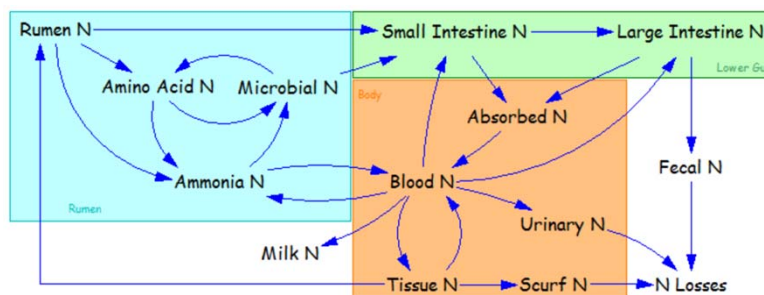
Tedeschi et al. (2000); Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

# Ruminal BCAA Metabolism

The diagram illustrates the metabolic pathways of branched-chain amino acids (BCAA) in the rumen. It shows the flow from feed and saliva BCAA into the ruminal BCAA pool, then to bacterial BCAA pools. From there, BCAA are metabolized into isobutyrate, isovalerate, and 2-methylbutyrate, which then enter the duodenum and plasma. The diagram also shows the flow of BCAA and BCVFA into the duodenum and plasma, and the flow of BCAA and BCVFA into the duodenum and plasma.

**Feed BCAA** and **Saliva BCAA** enter the **Rumen** at point **A**. They join the **Ruminal BCAA pool**. From this pool, BCAA can be converted to **Bacteria BCAA** (point **F**) or enter the **Bacteria** pool directly. The **Bacteria** pool contains **Val**, **Leu**, and **Ile**. From the **Bacteria** pool, BCAA can be converted to **Isobutyrate**, **Isovalerate**, and **2-methylbutyrate** (points **C1** and **C2**). These products then enter the **Duodenum** (point **B1**) and **Plasma** (point **B2**). The **Duodenum** also receives BCAA and BCVFA from the **Ruminal BCAA pool** (point **B3**). The **Plasma** also receives BCAA and BCVFA from the **Ruminal BCAA pool** (point **B4**). The **Duodenum** and **Plasma** are connected by a **BCVFA pool** (point **D**). The **Duodenum** also receives **Other substrates** (point **E**).

## The Intricate flow of Nitrogen

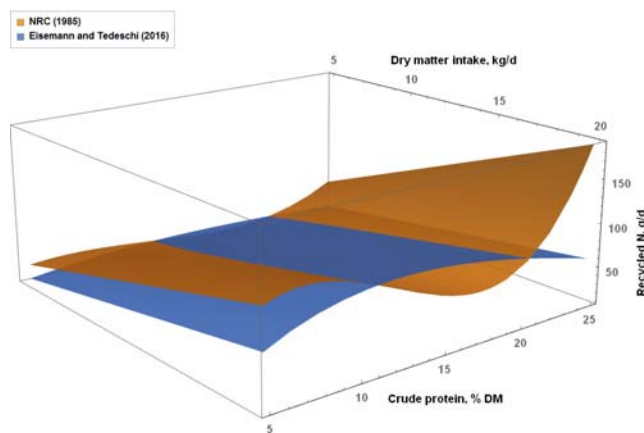


The amount of N recycled in the gastrointestinal tract (GIT) is neither a supply (inflow) nor a requirement (outflow) to the animal system; it is simply the amount of different forms of N (e.g., urea, ammonia) that circulates among the different organs of the animal. It is an abstraction of a transient N state that will eventually be allocated to a "real" N pool (e.g., faeces, urine, scurf plus hair, milk or tissue)

Tedeschi and Fox (2018) after Nolan and Leng (1972) and Mazanov and Nolan (1976)

## Meta-Regression to Predict UUA:

$$(-0.1113 + 0.966 \times \exp(-0.0616 \times CP)) \times (1.192 \times CP \times DMI - 11.98)$$




Eisemann and Tedeschi (2016); Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

# Ruminant Nutrition System (RNS)

Requirement

## Animal Requirements

- Maintenance
  - Computed using basal metabolism adjusted for different breeds, cold/Hot stress, physical activity, urea cost
- Lactation
  - Estimated from milk composition and milk yield observed for dairy and predicted for beef
- Pregnancy
  - Estimated from days pregnant
- Growth
  - Adjusted for equivalent body weight at a known % EBF
- Body reserves
  - Fluxes of fat and protein in the body



**Ransom Leland Baldwin**  
Univ. of California, Davis  
National Acad. Sci.

September 21, 1935, Meriden, CT  
November 30, 2007  
Education:  
University of Connecticut  
Michigan State University (1963)

## Baldwin's Molly

A fundamental Biochemical Model

## Evolution of Molly (1971 – 1987)

- Baldwin and Smith (1971) Modeling energetic transactions in the cow
- Reichl and Baldwin (1975) Representing microbial fermentation in the rumen
- Koong et al. (1975) Model of fetal growth
- Baldwin et al. (1976) Metabolic flux in the adipose tissue
- Baldwin et al. (1977) Integrated ruminal digestion and fermentation model
- Murphy et al. (1982) Estimating ruminal fermentation parameters
- Waghorn and Baldwin (1984) Model of metabolic flux in the mammary glands
- di Marco et al. (1987) Representing hyperplastic and hypertrophic growth
- Oltjen et al. (1986) Beef animal growth model
- Baldwin et al. (1987a,b,c) Molly cow model

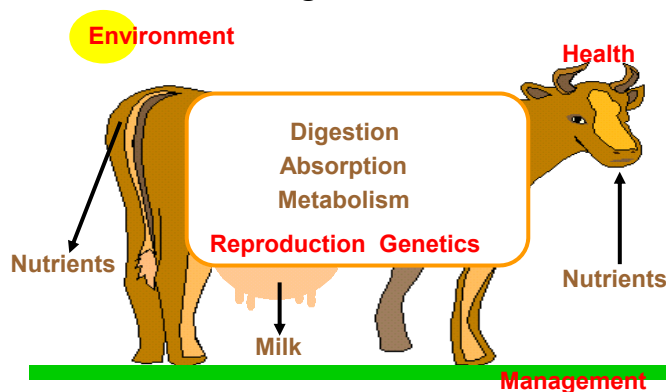


## Evolution of Molly (1988 – 2015)

- Argyle and Baldwin (1988) Modeling water kinetics and pH in the rumen
- Freetly et al. (1993) Model of liver metabolism in the lactating cow
- Boston and Hanigan (2000) Nonlinear optimization of diets with Molly
- Hanigan et al. (2007) Redefinition of mammary cells and activity in Molly
- Hanigan et al. (2009) Representing gestational metabolism in Molly
- Gregorini et al. (2013) Representing diurnal grazing patterns in Molly
- Hanigan et al. (2013) Revised digestive parameter estimates for Molly
- Ghimire et al. (2014) Thermodynamic effects on volatile fatty acid production in Molly
- Gregorini et al. (2015) Improved representation of ruminal digesta outflow in Molly

## Baldwin (1995)

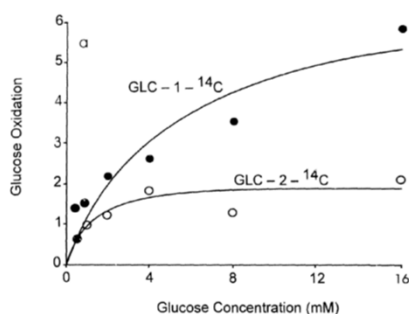
- “This is a long-term goal that will require the availability of advanced dynamic, mechanistic models of ruminant digestion and metabolism...”



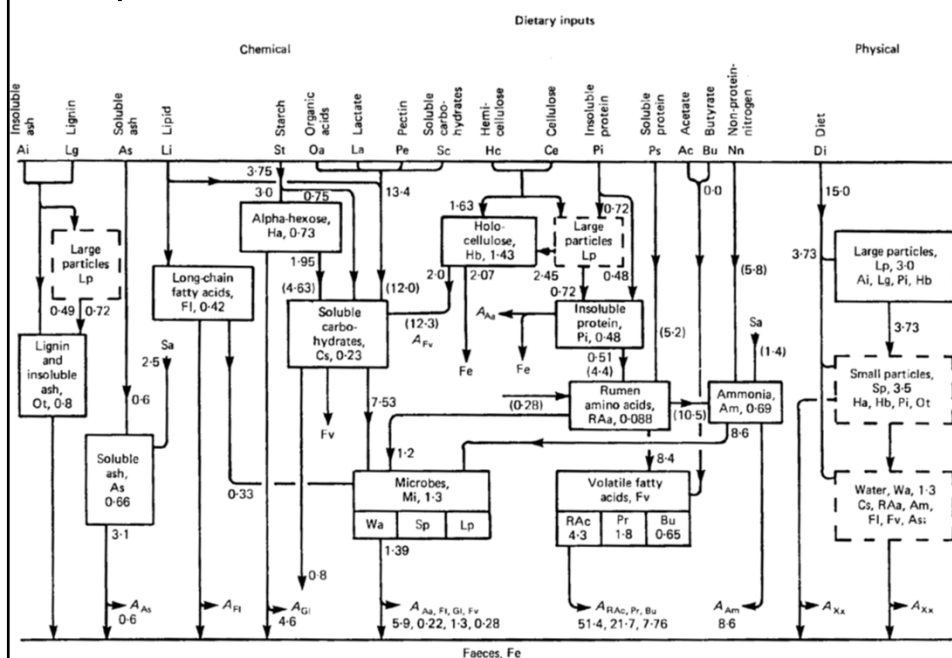
## Mechanistic Modeling

$$v = \frac{V_{\max} \times [S]}{k_m + [S]}$$

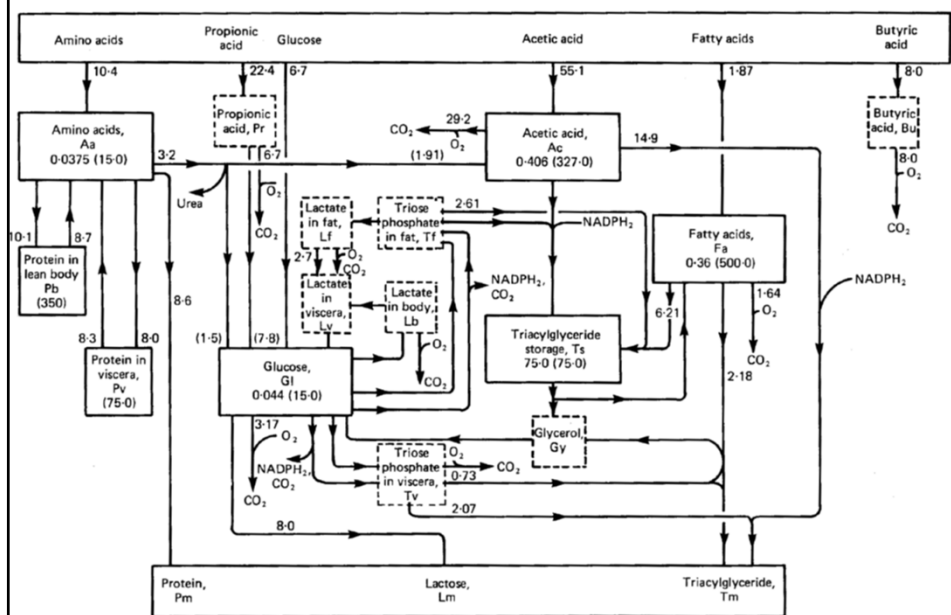
Level	Description of Level
$i + 1$	herd of animals
$i$	animal
$i - 1$	organs
$i - 2$	tissues
$i - 3$	cells



## Molly Rumen submodel



## Molly Animal submodel



## Animal Efficiencies... (Baldwin et al., 1980)

- Maximum observed efficiencies are sometimes quite comparable to theoretical efficiencies. On the other hand, observed efficiencies considerably below theoretical are also observed. This variation in observed efficiencies raises two important questions:
- (1) Could we learn to identify animals that are capable of attaining maximum efficiencies and based on genetic selection improve the average efficiency of animal production?
- (2) If we knew exactly what types of unfortunate metabolic decisions the less efficient animals were making, could we manipulate the metabolism of those animals such that their efficiencies would approach those of the best animals?

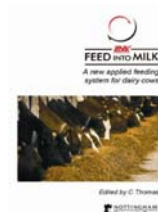
## British Models

### Agricultural Research Council (ARC) Ag. & Food Research Council (AFRC)

- ARC (1965, 1980) and technical reviews on energy (AFRC, 1987, 1990), protein (AFRC, 1987, 1992), mineral (AFRC, 1988, 1991), and intake (AFRC, 1991)
- Efficiency of use of energy/nutrients is a function of feed metabolizability ( $qm = ME/GE$ )
- $MCP = f(\text{Fermentable ME, Level of feeding})$ 
  - Address the  $kd/kp$  relationship
- No recycled N

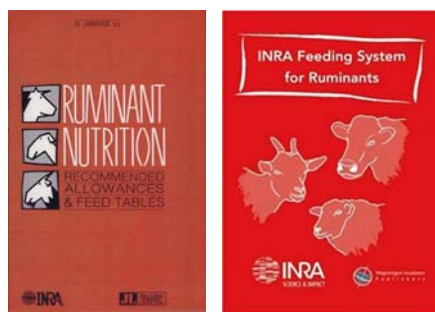


## Feed into Milk (FiM, 2004)



- Why FiM?
  - Concerns about energy standards for high yielding cows
  - Dissatisfaction with parts of MP model
  - Inadequate prediction of voluntary feed intake
  - “Pressure” from industry
- MCP
  - $Y_{ATP}$  = ATP of degraded DM from soluble, concentrate, and forage particles (ATPy)
  - $MCP = f(Y_{ATP})$

$$MPm = 4.1 \times BW^{0.75} + 0.3 \times BW^{0.6} + 30 \times DMI - 0.5 \\ \times (DMTP/0.8 - DMTP) + 2.34 \times DMI,$$



## French Models

Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique (INRA)

## Supply

- INRA assumes 2 NE values
  - UFL → lactation: 1 UFL = NE content of 1 kg barley for milk
  - UFV → Meat: 1 UFV = NE content of 1 kg barley for meat

- Protein supply based on PDI system:

- PDIE is energy first-limiting MP
- PFIN is protein first-limiting MP

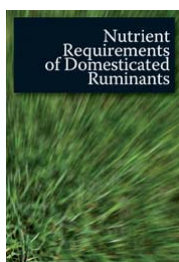
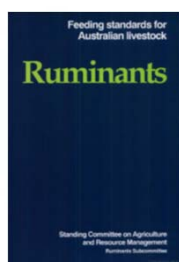
$$PDIE = PDIA + PDIME,$$

$$PDIN = PDIA + PDIMN,$$

$$PDIA = CP \times [1.11 \times (1 - a)] \times b,$$

$$PDIMN = CP \times [1.11 \times (1 - a)] \times 0.9 \times 0.8 \times 0.8,$$

$$PDIME = FOM \times 0.145 \times 0.8 \times 0.8.$$



## Australian Models

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization  
(CSIRO)

## Supply

- Factorial approach for protein, based on the ARC (1965, 1980) and AFRC (1993)
- RDP and UDP based on the “abc” system

$$RDP = a + b \times (1 - \exp(-c \times t)),$$

$$eRDP = a + b \times c / (c + kp),$$

$$UDP = b \times kp / (c + kp) + d,$$

- Broderick (1994)

$$UDP = ADIP + (NDIP - ADIP) \times (kp / (kp + c)),$$

Table 2.1. Estimates of effective degradability of protein in sacco at three fractional outflow rates per h from the rumen (k), in several UK and Australian feeds

	k		
	0.02	0.05	0.08
<b>Protein meals</b>			
Cottonseed meal <sup>a</sup>	0.71	0.51	0.46
Maize gluten feed <sup>b</sup>	0.90	0.84	0.80
Palm kernel meal <sup>b</sup>	0.71	0.52	0.43
Rapeseed meal <sup>c</sup>	0.86	0.78	0.72
Rapeseed meal <sup>d</sup>	0.81	0.70	0.62
Sunflower seed meal <sup>b</sup>	0.88	0.80	0.74
Sunflower seed meal <sup>c</sup>	0.88	0.77	0.69
Soyabean meal <sup>a</sup>	0.76	0.57	0.46
<b>Legume grains</b>			
Lupins: fine meal <sup>c</sup>	0.95	0.93	0.92
medium meal <sup>c</sup>	0.85	0.72	0.64
coarse meal <sup>c</sup>	0.75	0.54	0.42
<b>Cereal grains</b>			
Barley <sup>a</sup>	0.90	0.85	0.81
Triticale <sup>a</sup>	0.93	0.90	0.87
Wheat <sup>a</sup>	0.93	0.90	0.87

<sup>a</sup> Hennessy et al. (1983).

<sup>b</sup> MAF (1990).

<sup>c</sup> Freer and Dove (1984).

## Microbial Crude Protein

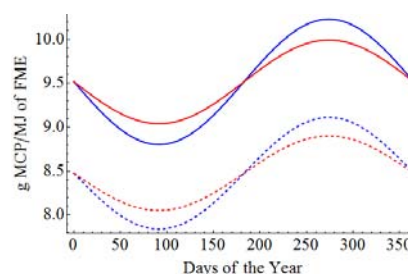
- MCP depends on fermentable ME (FME)

$$MCP = FME \times (7 + 6 \times (1 - \exp(-0.35 \times L))).$$

- MCP adjusted for latitude and day of the year and for tropical pastures, the efficiency of synthesis is discounted by 1 unit

$$MCP = FME \times (7 + 6 \times (1 - \exp(-0.35 \times L))) \times (1.0 + 0.1 \times (\lambda \times \sin(0.0172 \times t) / 40)),$$

$$MCP = FME \times (6 + 6 \times (1 - \exp(-0.35 \times L))),$$





## Requirements

- Maintenance:

- Endogenous N losses uses different equation than ARC (1965, 1980) because of unrealistic results for poor-quality pastures. For *Bos indicus*, further discounts EUP by 20%. Dermal loss is the same as ARC (1980)

$$EUP = 16.1 \times \ln(BW) - 42.2.$$

$$EFP = 15.2 \times DMI.$$

$$\text{Dermal loss} = 0.11 \times BW^{0.75}.$$

- Pregnancy: Same as ARC (1980)

- Lactation: Same as ARC (1980)

- Growth:

- Based on breed, degree of maturity, and level of nutrition, or using BCS

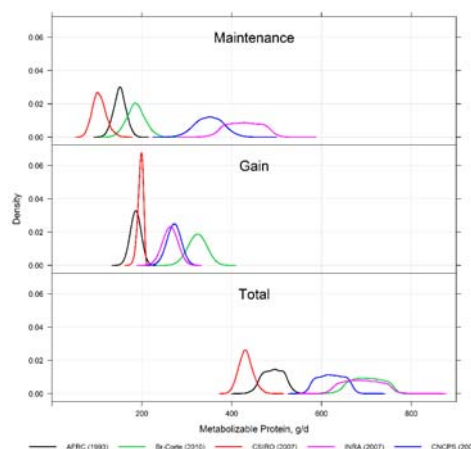
$$CPg = EWG \times \left[ (212 - 4 \times R) - \frac{b - 4 \times R}{1 + e^{(-6 \times (Z - 0.4))}} \right],$$

$$CPg = EWG \times (d - f \times BCS),$$

## Sensitivity Analysis for Metabolizable Protein Requirement

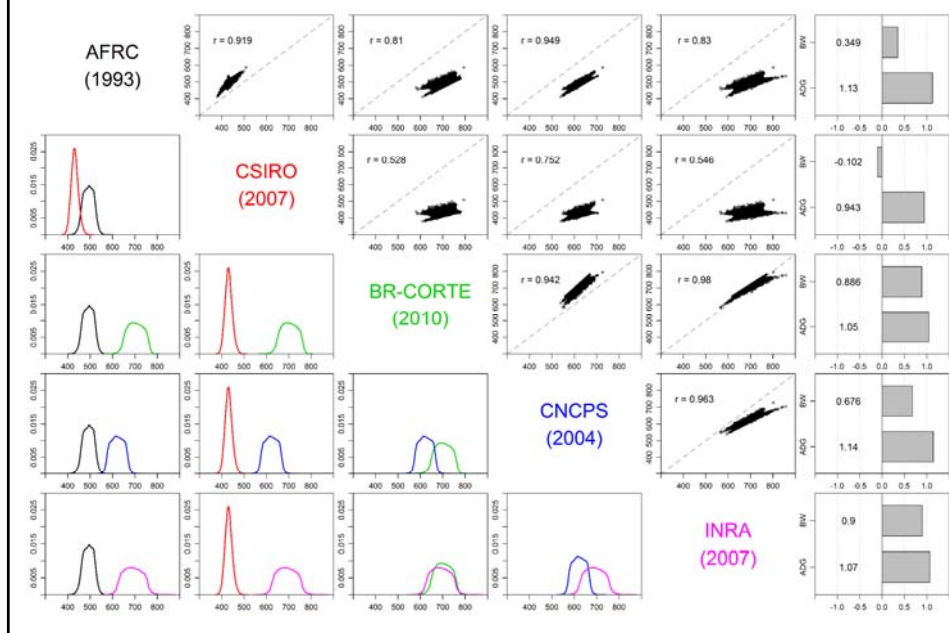
## Monte Carlo Simulations - Growth

- Sensitivity analysis using Monte Carlo simulations
- 5,000 iterations using Latin Hypercube sampling method
- Normal distribution for input variables
  - BW of  $350 \pm 30$  kg
  - ADG of  $1.2 \pm 0.12$  kg/d
  - Correlation between BW and ADG using a Gompertz nonlinear function: -0.5142



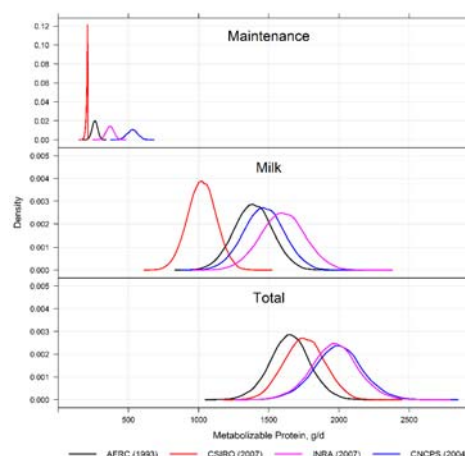
Tedeschi et al. (2013)

## MP Required for Growth



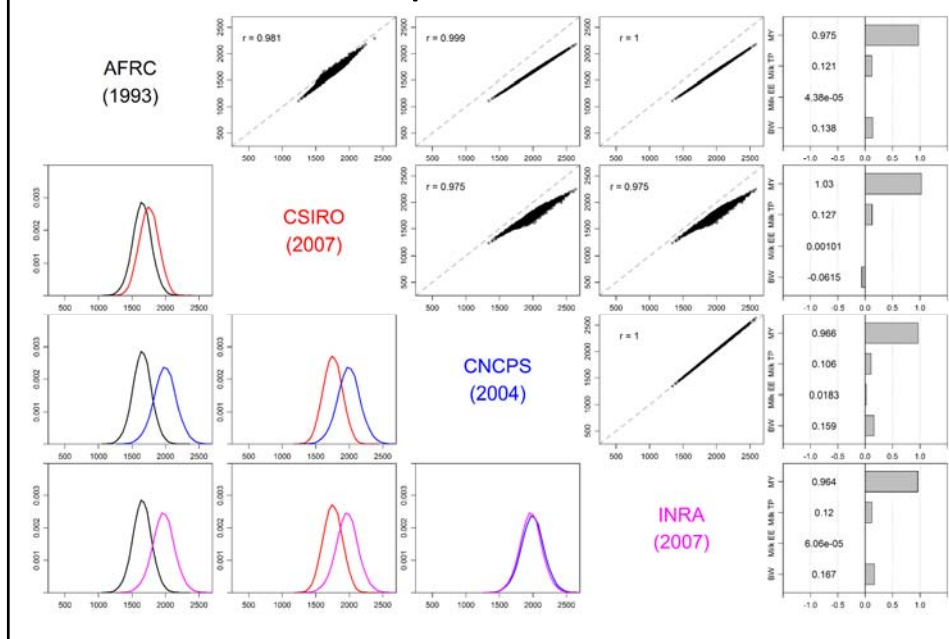
## Monte Carlo Simulations - Milk

- Sensitivity analysis using Monte Carlo simulations
- 5,000 iterations using Latin Hypercube sampling method
- Normal distribution for input variables
  - BW of  $550 \pm 55$
  - MY of  $32 \pm 3.2$
  - Milk fat  $3.7 \pm 0.1\%$
  - Milk protein  $3.2 \pm 0.04\%$
  - Correlation among inputs based on Sieber et al. (1988)



Tedeschi et al. (2013)

## MP Required for Milk





## Model Inter-Comparison for Milk Prediction



### Databases

- Milk production
  - 37 published studies
  - Six regions: Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America, North America, and Oceania
  - 173 data points
- Nutrition models
  - Planned to compare up to 10 empirical and mechanistic/dynamic models
  - Molly, Dairy NRC (2001), LRNS L1 and L2

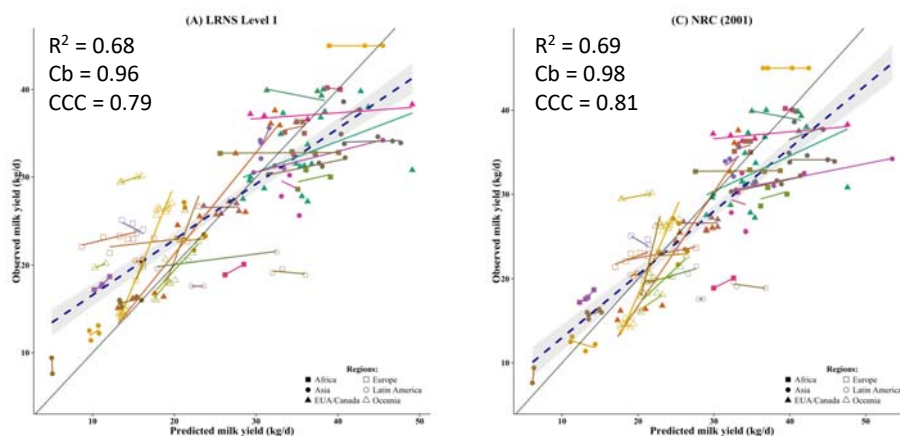
Tedeschi et al. (2014)

## Animal Information

Items	Median	Mean	SD	Range		Quartiles	
				Min	Max	25%	75%
Animals							
SBW, kg	567	555	66.4	345	660	522	598
DMI, kg/d	19.1	19.1	3.5	9.1	27.5	17.3	22.1
DIM, days	100	114	64.7	30	265	60	150
MY, kg/d	26.3	26.4	8.3	7.6	45	19.7	32.7
Milk fat, %	3.7	3.7	0.5	2.3	5.0	3.4	4.1
Milk protein, %	3.0	3.1	0.3	2.4	3.9	2.9	3.3

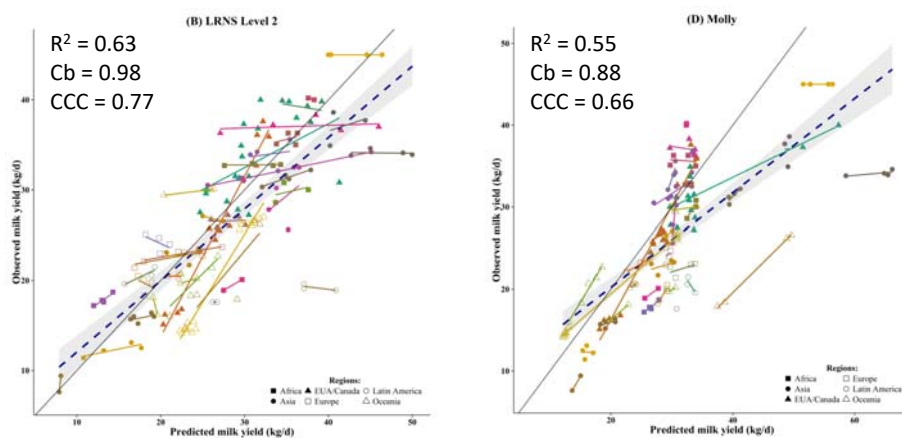
Tedeschi et al. (2014)

## Observed X Predicted: Empirical



Tedeschi et al. (2014)

## Observed X Predicted: Mechanistic



Tedeschi et al. (2014)

## Problems with Model Inter-Comparisons



## Areas that Need Research



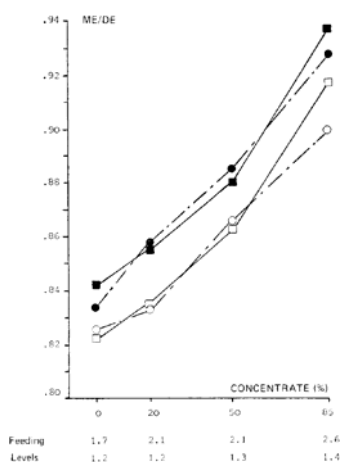
### Lessons Learned from NASEM (2016) and RNS (2018)

- Supply of Energy and Protein
  - Efficiency of conversion of DE to ME
  - Microbial crude protein (MCP)
  - Ruminal recycled nitrogen
- Requirements for energy and Protein
  - Energy requirement for grazing animals
  - Energy required for cold or heat stress
  - Metabolizable protein required for maintenance
  - Retained protein
  - Efficiency of conversion of metabolizable protein and amino acids

Tedeschi et al. (2017)



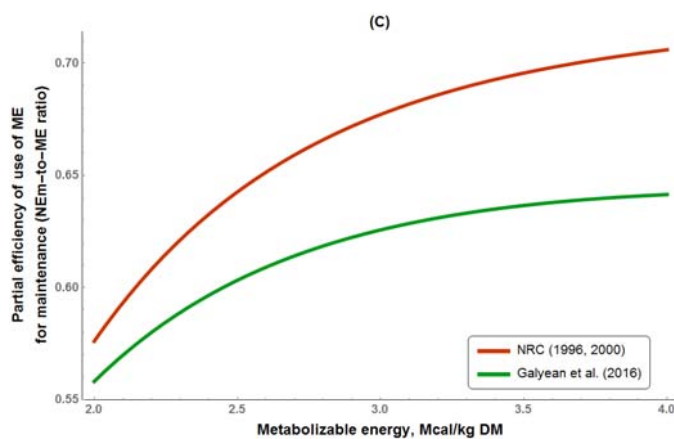
## Efficiency of DE → ME?



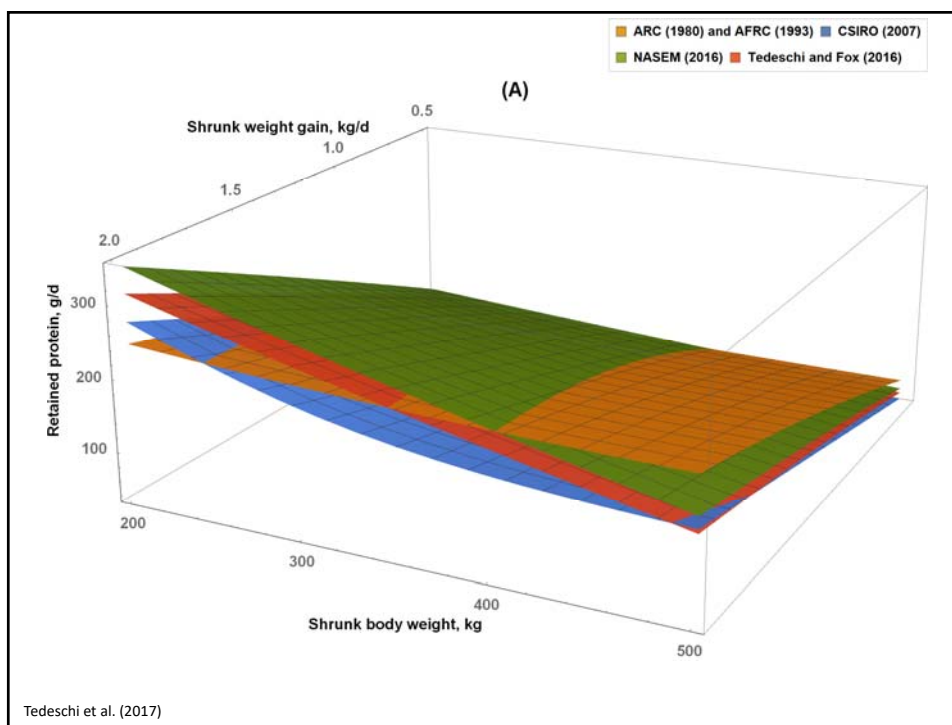
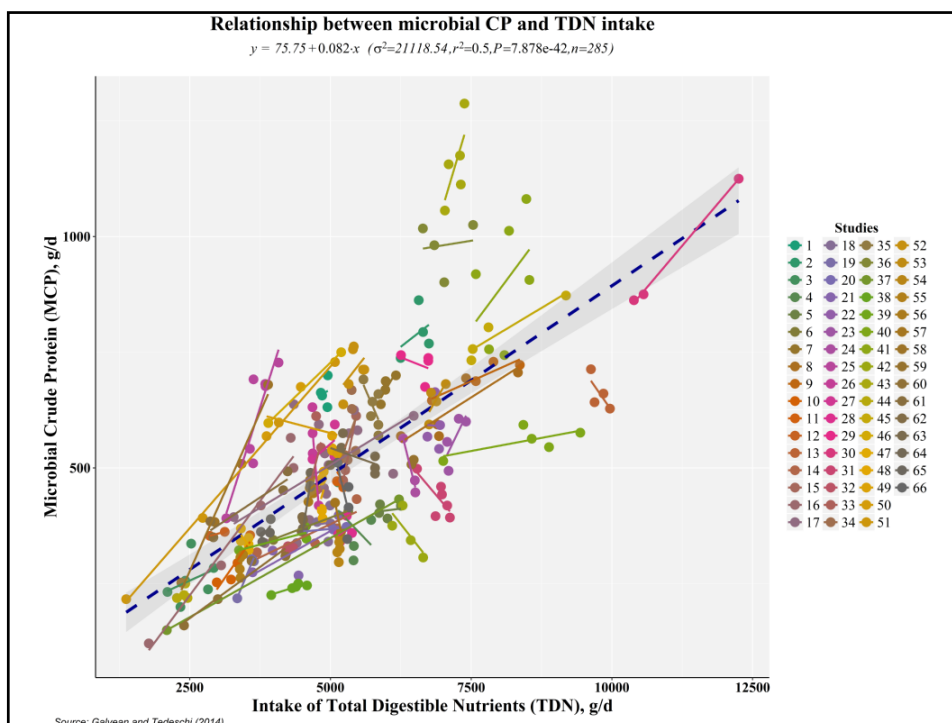
Vermorel and Bickel (1980)

- NRC (1984, 1996, 2000)
  - Fixed at 82%
- NRC (2001)
  - $ME = 1.01 \times DE - 0.45$
- Hales et al. (2012, 2013)
  - Jersey steers, high-concentrate diets → 95%
- Galyean et al. (2016)
  - 23 respiration calorimetry studies
  - $ME = 0.9611 \times DE - 0.299$
- Consistency and dependency
  - $DE \rightarrow ME \rightarrow NE$
  - Methane feedback?

## Consistency and Dependency

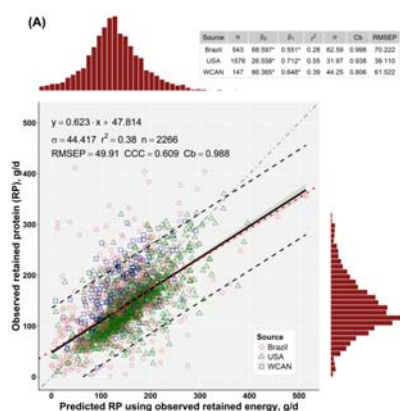


Tedeschi and Fox (2018)

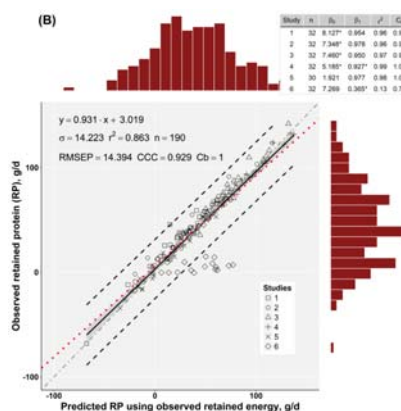


## Evaluation of Predicted RP

### Comparative Slaughter



### Respiration Calorimetry



A = Tedeschi and Fox (2016, 2018), B = Tedeschi et al. (2017)

## Theoretical Retained Protein

$$Eq1 = RE = 5.686 RP + 9.367 RF;$$

$$Eq2 = EBF = EBW - \frac{EBP}{EBPFFM} \rightarrow 0.2201;$$

$$Eq3 = fEBF - iEBF = \left( fEBW - \frac{fEBP}{EBPFFM} \right) - \left( iEBW - \frac{iEBP}{EBPFFM} \right);$$

$$Eq4 = RF = fEBF - iEBF;$$

$$Eq5 = RP = fEBP - iEBP;$$

$$Eq6 = EWG = fEBW - iEBW;$$

$$(*Eq6 = SWG = 0.8656 (fEBW - iEBW) ; *)$$

$$Sol1 = Solve[ \{ Eq3 /. EBPFFM \rightarrow 0.2201, Eq4, Eq5, Eq6 \},$$

$$RF, \{ fEBF, iEBF, fEBW, iEBW, fEBP, iEBP \}][[1]];$$

$$Eq7 = RF = Sol1[[1]][[2]];$$

$$Sol2 = Solve[ \{ Eq1, Eq7 \}, RP, \{ RF \}][[1]]$$

$$Eq8 = RP = Sol2[[1]][[2]] /. EWG \rightarrow 0.956 SWG$$

$$\{ RP \rightarrow 0. + 0.254042 EWG - 0.0271209 RE \}$$

$$RP = 0. - 0.0271209 RE + 0.242864 SWG$$

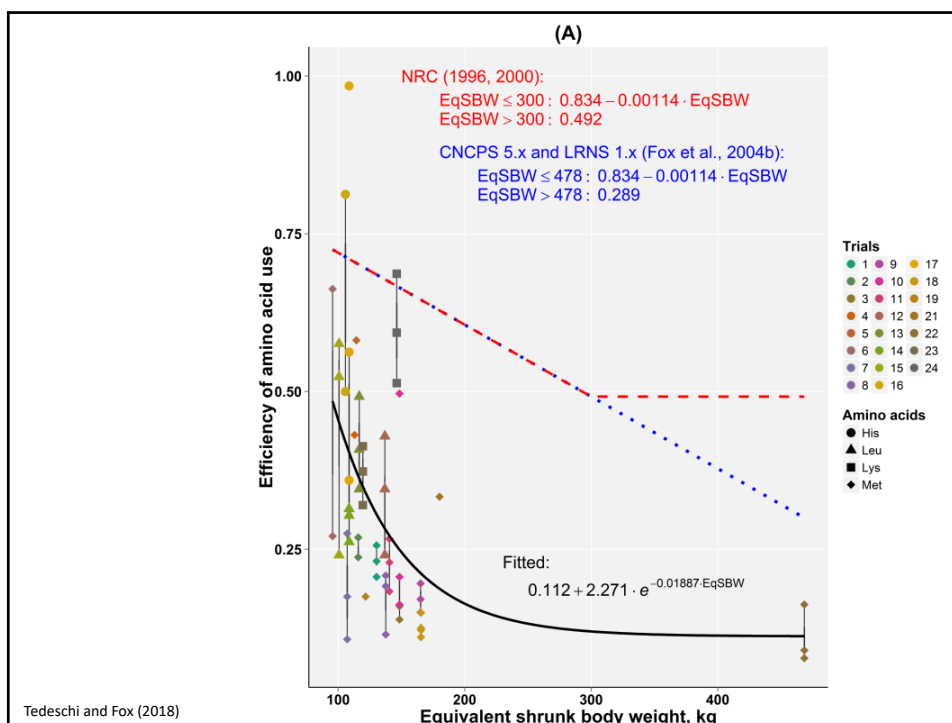
### Caloric value:

- Garrett et al. (1959):
  - Protein = 5.686 Mcal/kg
- Blaxter and Rook (1953):
  - Fat = 9.367 Mcal/kg

### Fat-free matter (FFM):

- Garrett and Hinman (1969):
  - Water = 73%
  - Protein = 22%
  - Ash = 5%

Tedeschi and Fox (2018)



## Looking forward..

- Research still needed
  - There are too many gaps & these are different times
- Scripted programming (e.g., R, python, julia)
  - Easy dissemination (free of charge)
  - High usability and adoptability ("easy" to learn)
  - Integration and modification "on the fly"
- Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Deep "layers" Learning
  - What to do with big data?
  - May or may not help modeling
  - We still need concepts to understand underlying mechanisms

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