

Machine learning-based detection of individual cow **global health** using MIR-predicted traits and big data

Y. Chen, S. Franceschini, H. Atashi, C. Grelet, C. Nickmilder, P. Lemal, K. Wijnrocx, H. Soyeurt, Holicow Consortium, N. Gengler

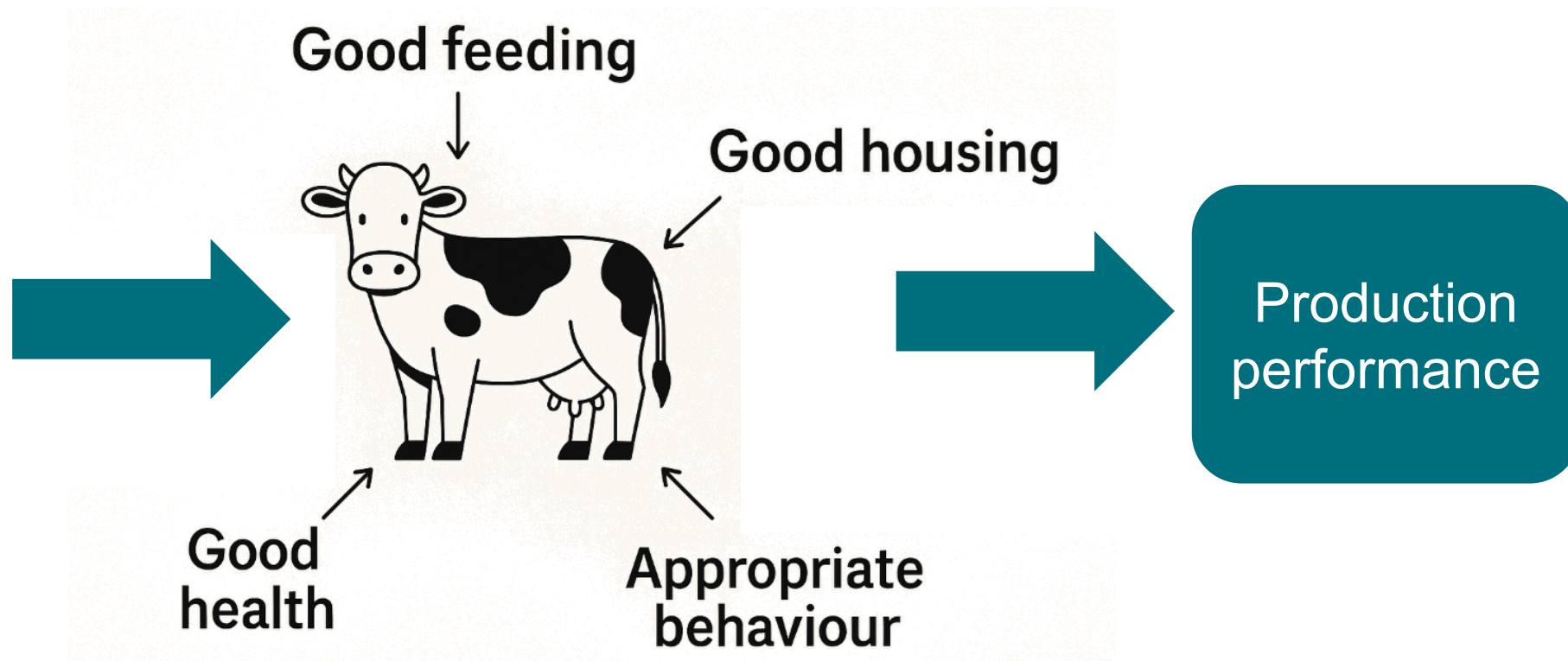
Background

Global health from Well-being



5 freedoms

Freedom from
hunger, thirst,
discomfort, pain,
injury, disease, fear,
and freedom to
express normal
behaviors



Welfare Quality assessment protocols: 12 Welfare criterias



Well-being

- ✓ Housing
 - temperature, humidity, ventilation...
- ✓ Feeding
 - Feed quality and availability, water...
- ✓ Health
 - Body temperature, heart rate, respiration..
- ✓ Behavior
 - Social interactions, walking, lying, eating, ruminating...



Background

Measure well-being routinely possibility



Milk Sampling

Collect 50 ml
milk from cow

Each month



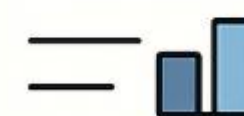
DHI center

Predict

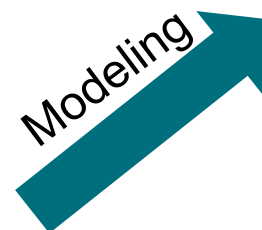


Milk fat %

Protein %



Modeling



Modeling



300+ Novel Phenotypes

- Milk Fatty Acids
- Nitrogen Use Efficiency
- Methane Emission
- Etc.



Milk Infrared Spectrum

Background

Measure well-being routinely possibility



Well-being

- ✓ Housing
- ✓ Feeding
- ✓ Health
- ✓ Behavior



Milk Infrared Spectrum

- ✓ Housing
 - THI, Milk pH
- ✓ Feeding
 - Milk composition (fat, protein, minerals...)
 - DMI, body weight, nitrogen use efficiency...
- ✓ Health
 - Blood NEFA, BHB, IGF-1...
 - Milk Nagasem citrate acetone...
- ✓ Behavior

Background



Cow global health

- ✓ Environmental
 - THI, Milk pH
- ✓ Feeding
 - Milk composition (fat, protein, minerals...)
 - DMI, body weight, nitrogen use efficiency...
- ✓ Health
 - Blood: NEFA, BHB, IGF-1...
 - Milk: lactoferrin, citrate, acetone...
- ✓ Behavior



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Can **unsupervised learning methods** applied to milk recording big data provide new insights into dairy cow health?

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Aim



Milk Mid-infrared (MIR) spectral



35 MIR-predicted traits

Unsupervised
hierarchical clustering

①

②

Four supervised
machine learning

Cow global health

③

Two supervised

Data



Whole dataset

- ✓ ~41 million records
- ✓ 17 breeds

mean $\pm$ 3SD

Cleaned dataset

- ✓ ~28 million records
- ✓ 11 breeds

Sample dataset

- ✓ ~5.5 million records
- ✓ 11 breeds

Interreg  Co-funded by
the European Union
North-West Europe

HoliCow



- ✓ **Environmental (2 traits)**
 - THI, Milk pH
- ✓ **Feeding (18 traits)**
 - Milk fat, protein, minerals...(15)
 - DMI, body weight, protein efficiency
- ✓ **Health (15 traits)**
 - Blood: NEFA, BHB, IGF-1...(6)
 - Milk: lactoferrin, citrate, acetone...(9)

MIR predicted models

- ✓ 300+

35 MIR predicted models

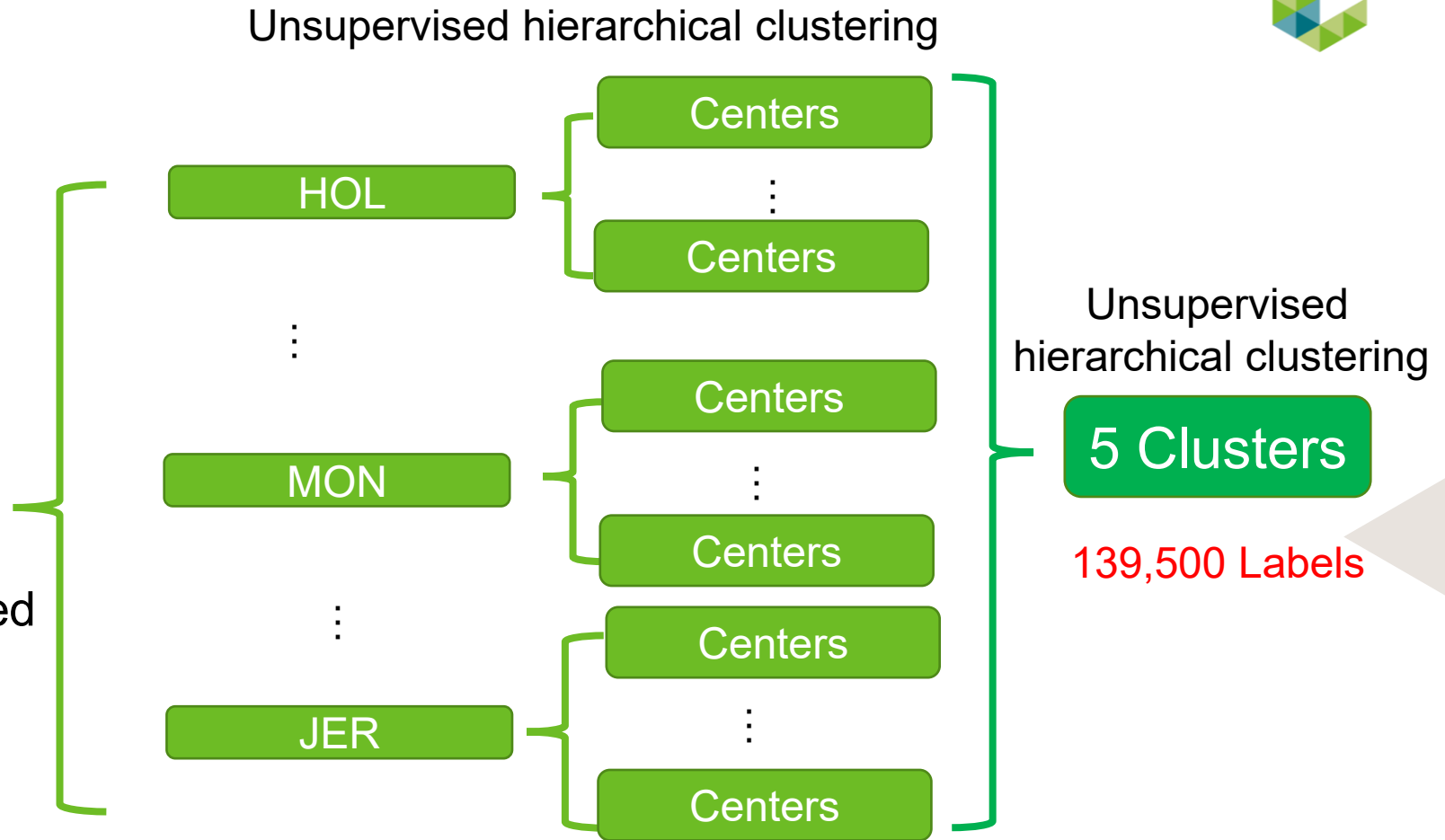
Workflow




Balance
Sample
Milk MIR
~5.5 million records



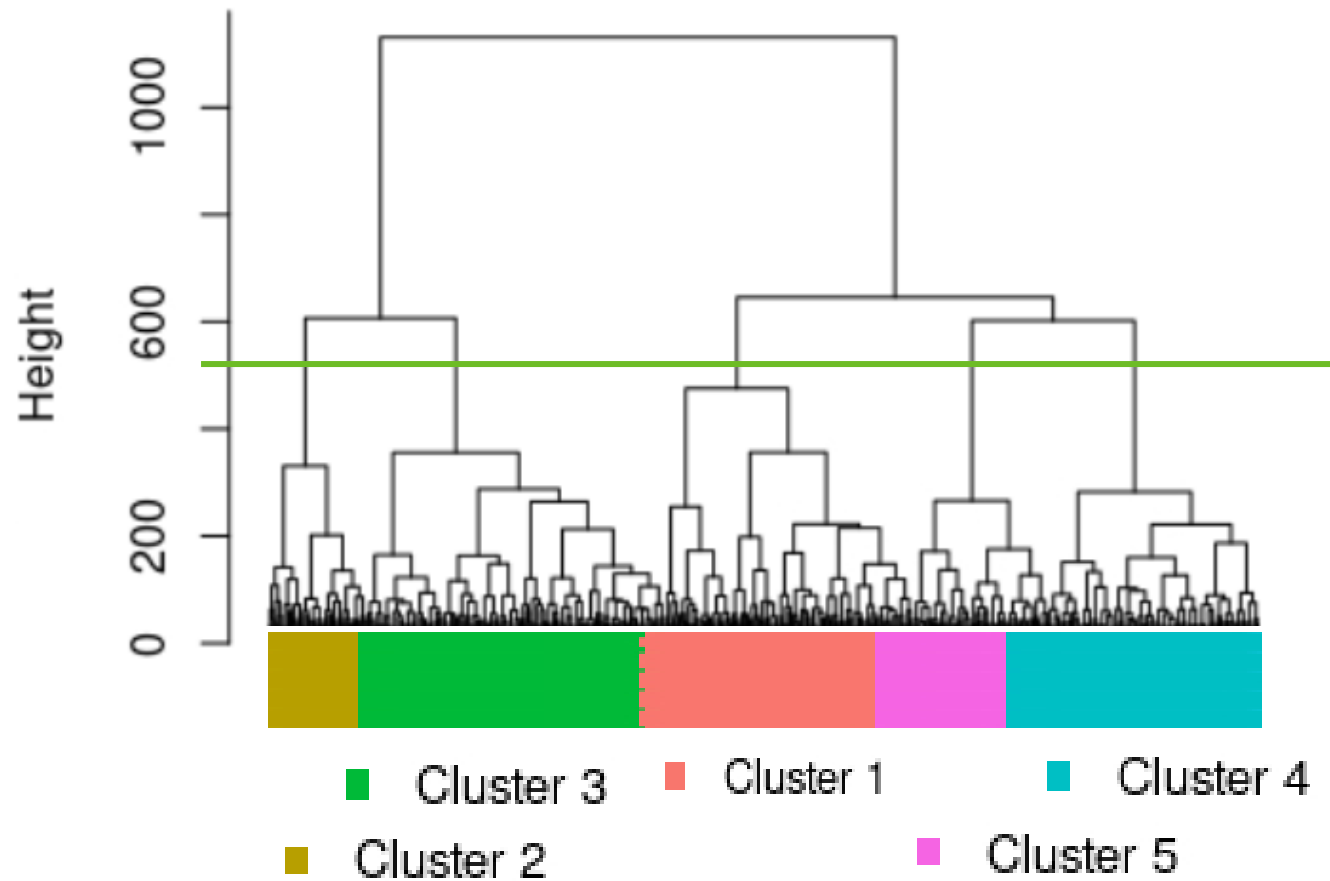

35 MIR-predicted
traits



Each 20,000 samples generate 500 centers;
139,500 centers

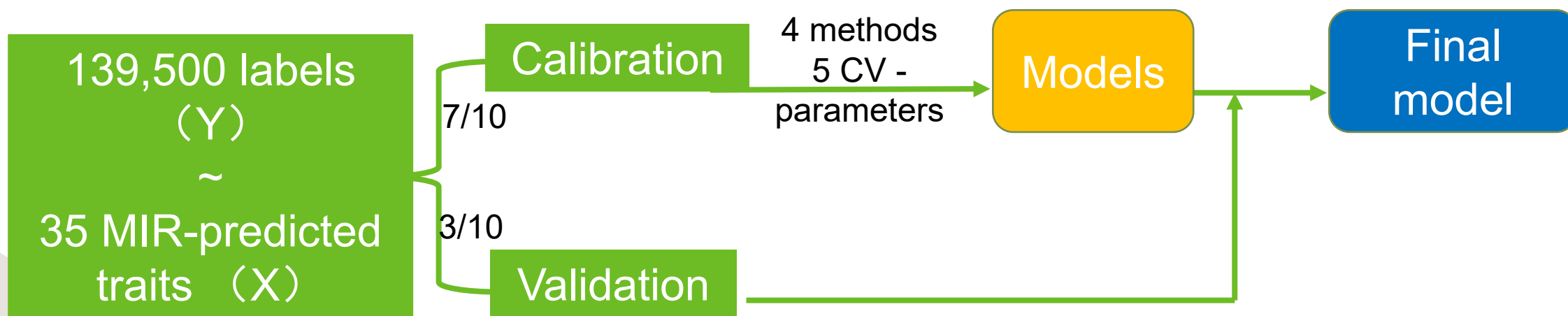
Results

Why chose 5 clusters



Results

35 MIR-predicted traits model

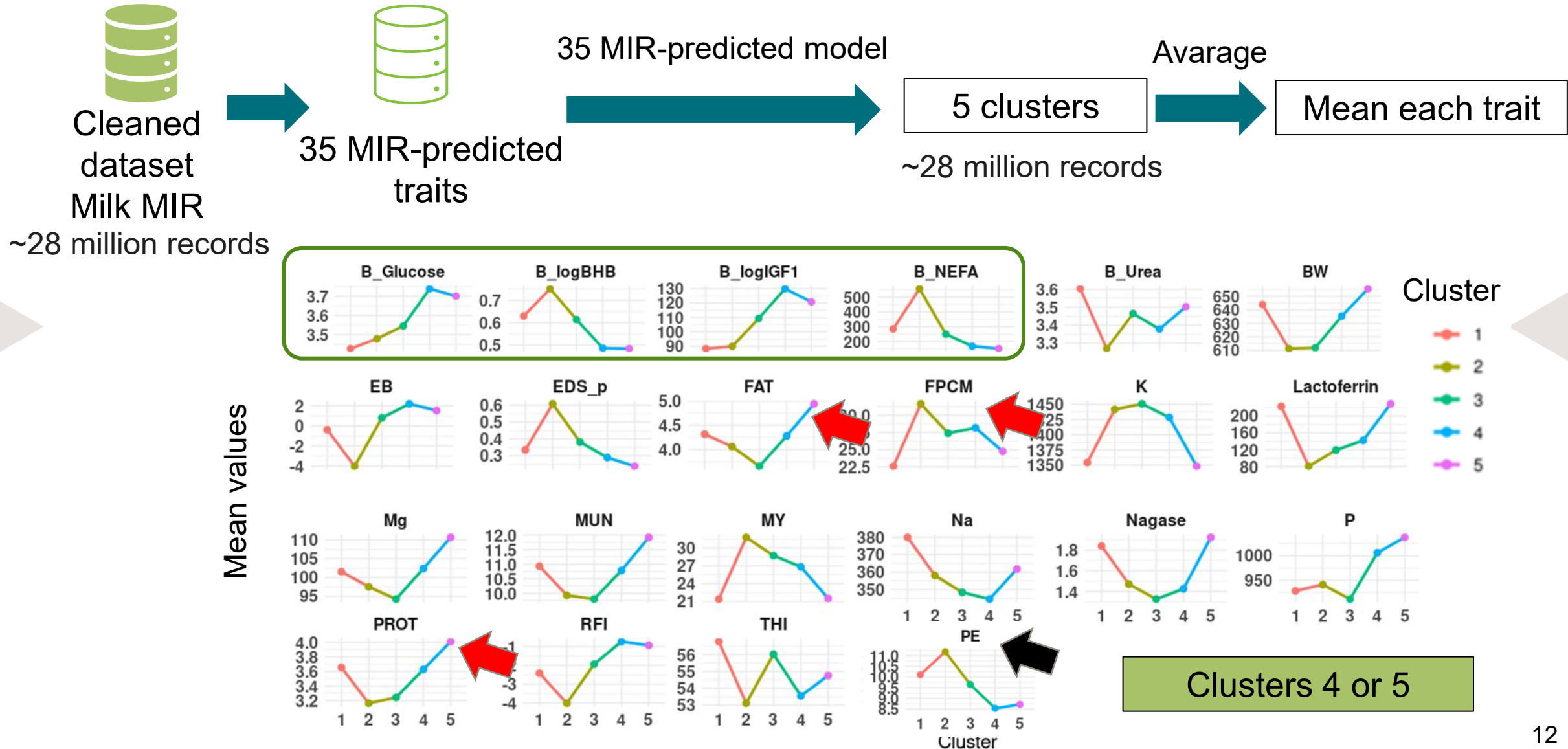


Method	SVM	NN	PLS-DA	RF
Calibration	0.73	0.80	0.70	0.83
Validation	0.74	0.80	0.70	0.83

SVM: Support Vector Machine; **NN**: Three-layer Feedforward Neural Network; **PLS-DA**: Partial Least Squares Discriminant Analysis; **RF**: Random Forest

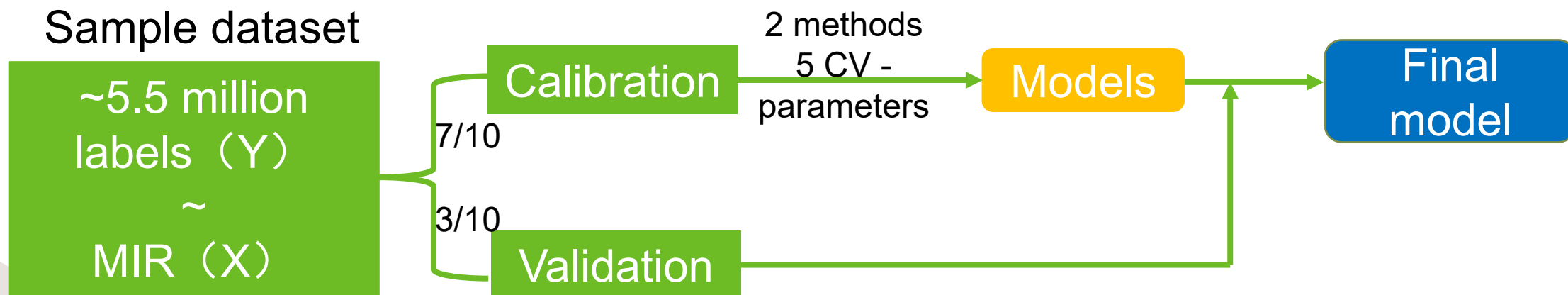
Results

Cleaned dataset: ~28 million (35 MIR-predicted traits model)



Results

Developing the MIR predicted model



Method	PLS-DA	RF
Calibration	0.70	0.83
Validation	0.70	0.83

PLS-DA: Partial Least Squares Discriminant Analysis; **RF:** Random Forest

Results

Validate the clusters based on reference data

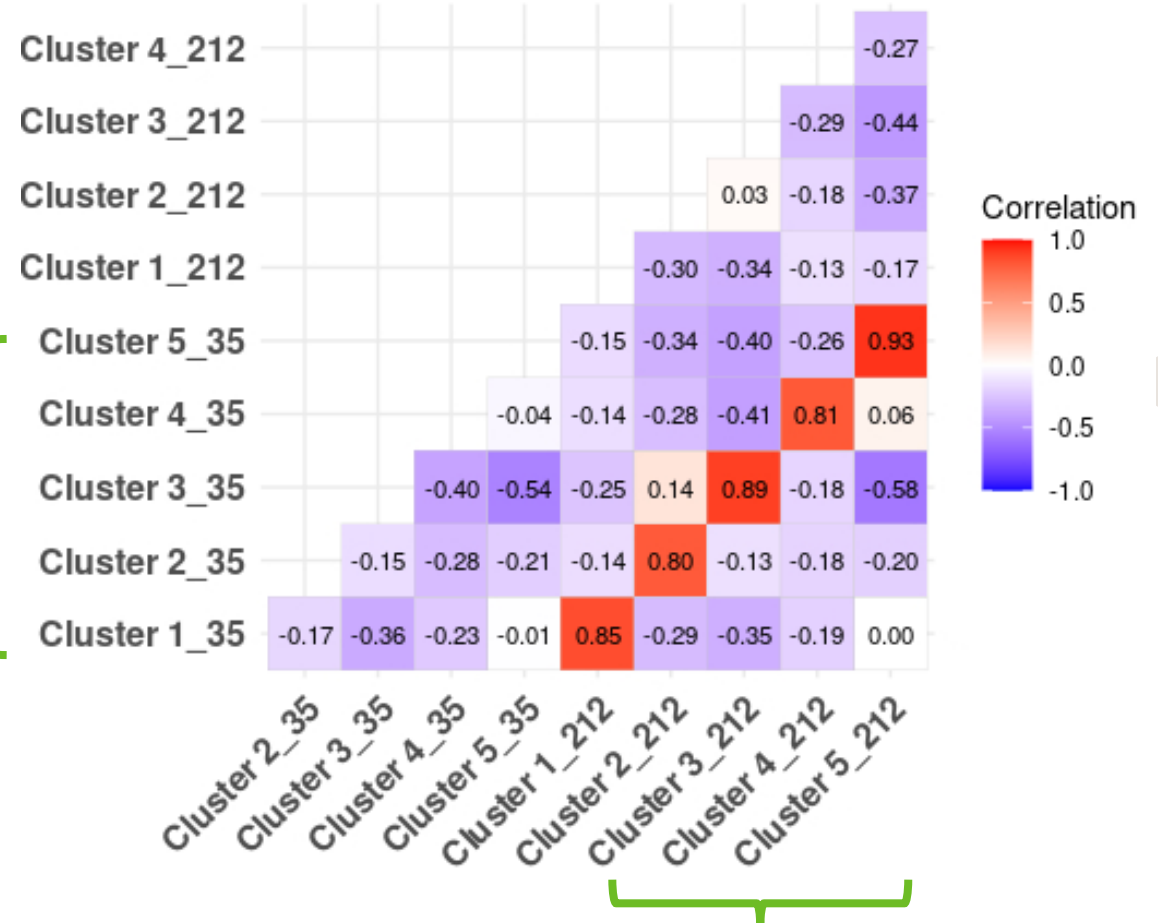


Welfare Quality
Assessment protocol for dairy cows

ScorWelCow
(D65-1420) project

Belgium:
1,870 **Global health score** (1-100)
records

35 MIR-predicted traits model



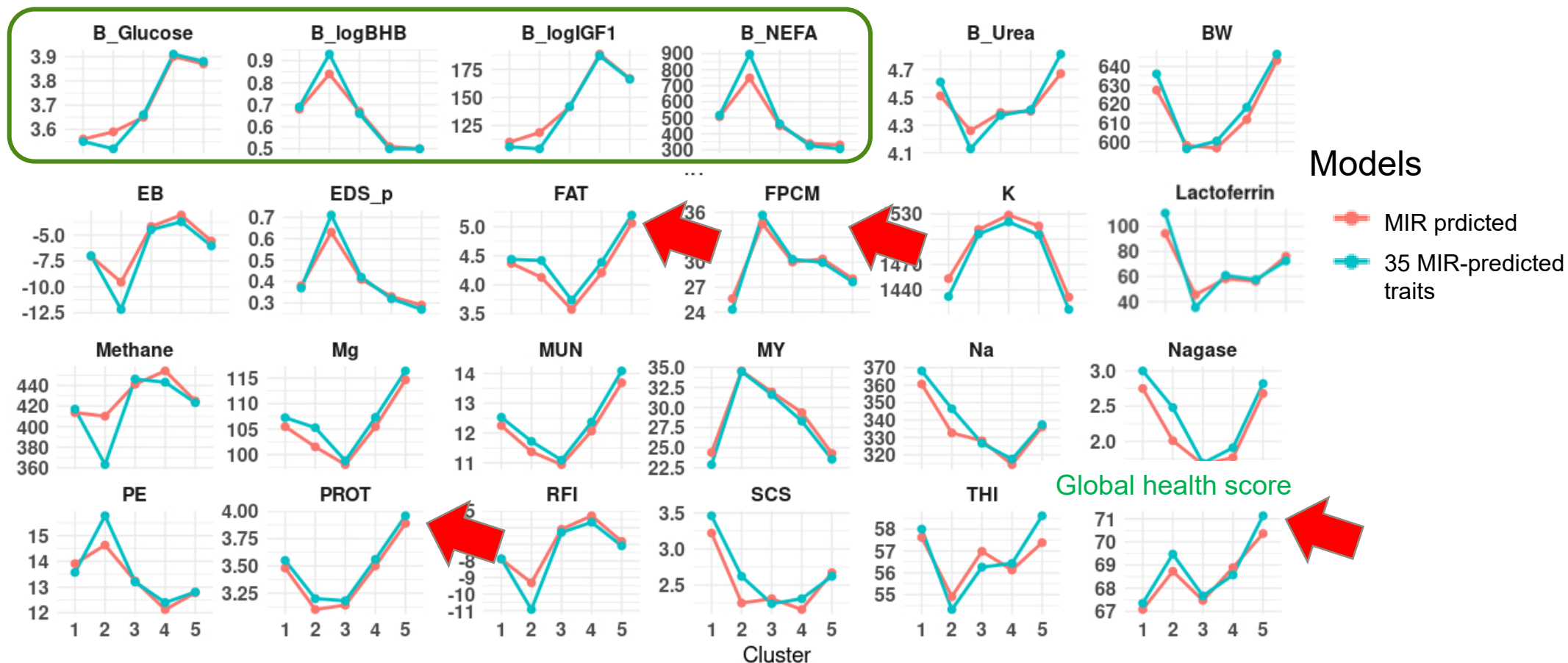
MIR predicted model

Results

Validate the clusters based on reference data



Mean values

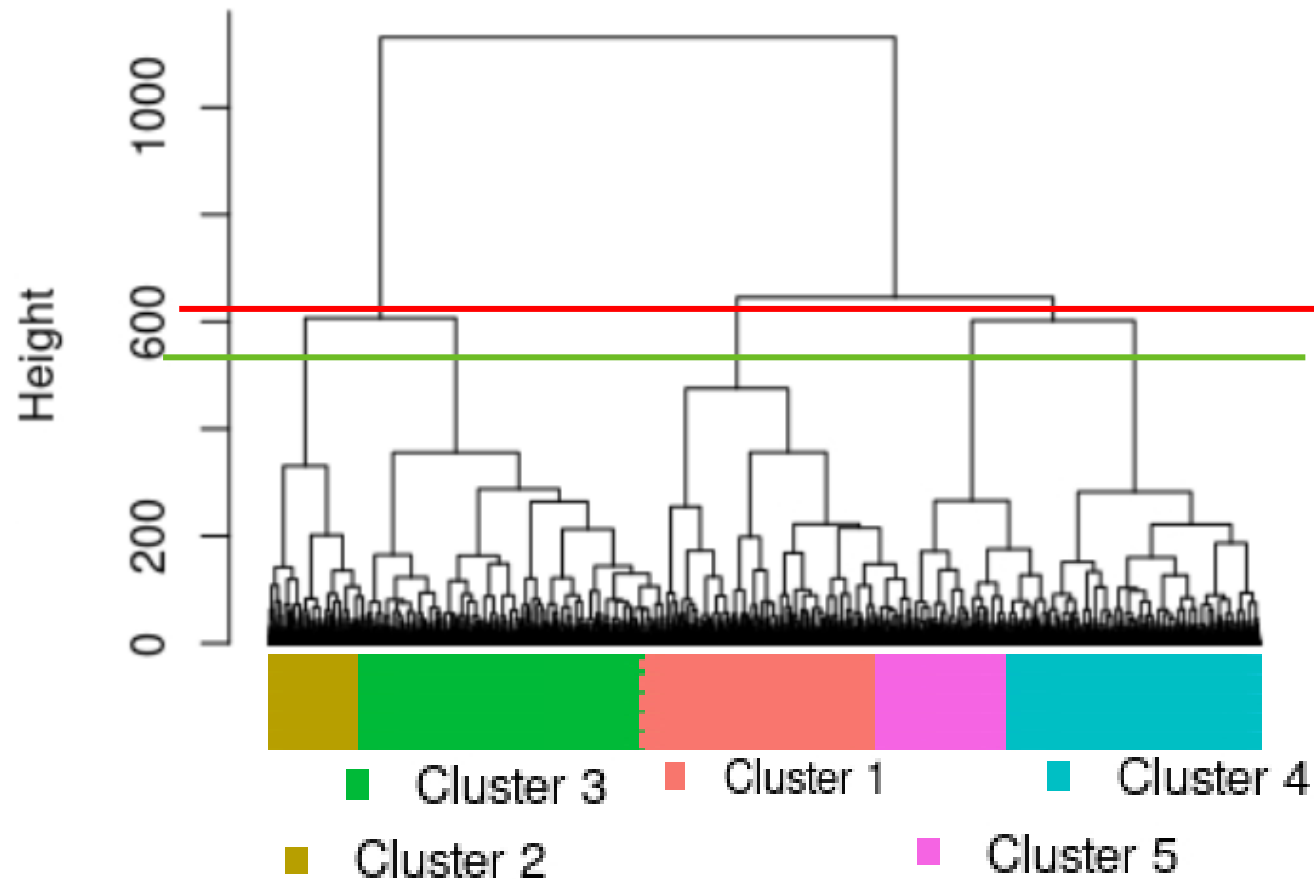


Clusters 4 or 5

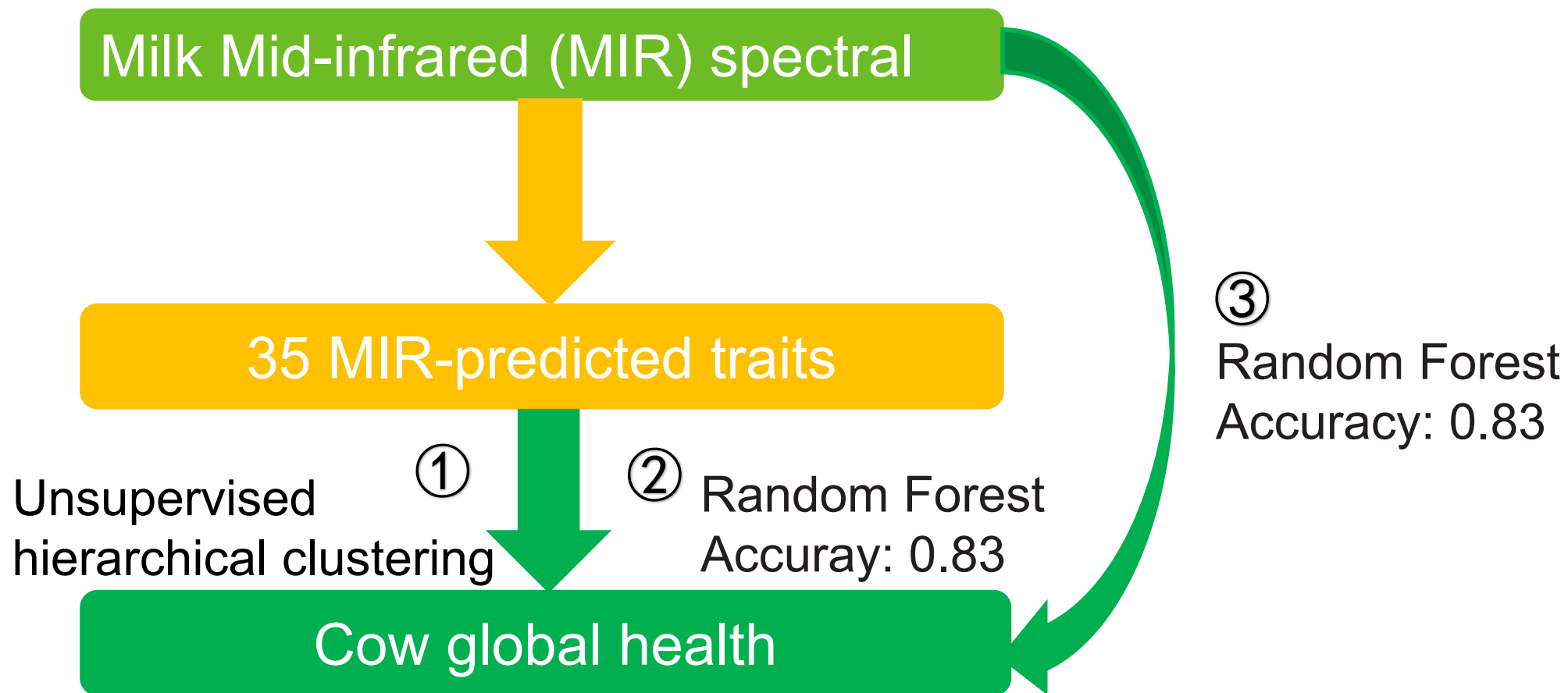
Conclusions



Cluster 4 or 5: **Global health** (middle milk production and stable health)



Conclusions



Thank you for your attention!

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