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### ► To cite this version:

Maëva Durand, Christine Largouët, Louis Bonneau de Beaufort, Jean-Yves Dourmad, Charlotte Gaillard. Prediction of daily nutritional requirements of gestating sows based on their behaviour and machine learning methods. ESPHM - 14th European symposium of porcine health management, May 2023, Thessalokini, Greece. pp.1-1, 2023. hal-04119697

**HAL Id: hal-04119697**

**<https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-04119697v1>**

Submitted on 6 Jun 2023

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# Prediction of daily nutritional requirements of gestating sows based on their behaviour and machine learning methods

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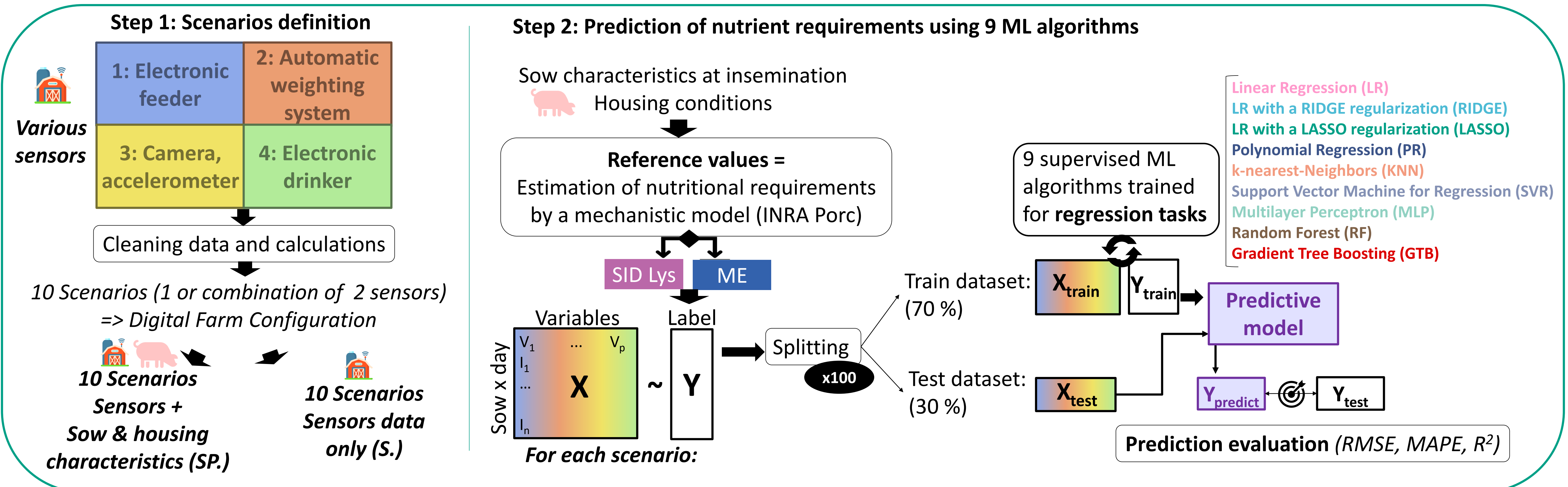
## BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVE

- Precision Feeding** aims to define the right feeding strategy according to **individual's nutrient requirements**, to reduce feed cost and environmental losses.
- Usually, the nutrient requirements of gestating sows are calculated by a **mechanistic nutritional model** requiring input data such as sows and herd characteristics.
- Aim of this study: Prediction of nutritional requirements using machine learning methods and sensor data.**

## CONCLUSION

- Machine learning methods using sensor data and behavioural data can accurately predict** the sows daily requirements (error under 7 % for energy and 12% for lysine) which could **simplify the application** of precision feeding on farms.
- Sow's activity, feeding behaviour, and body weight** are the best predictors. **Adding sow and housing characteristics** significantly improves the results.
- Gradient Tree Boosting** is the most accurate ML algorithm.

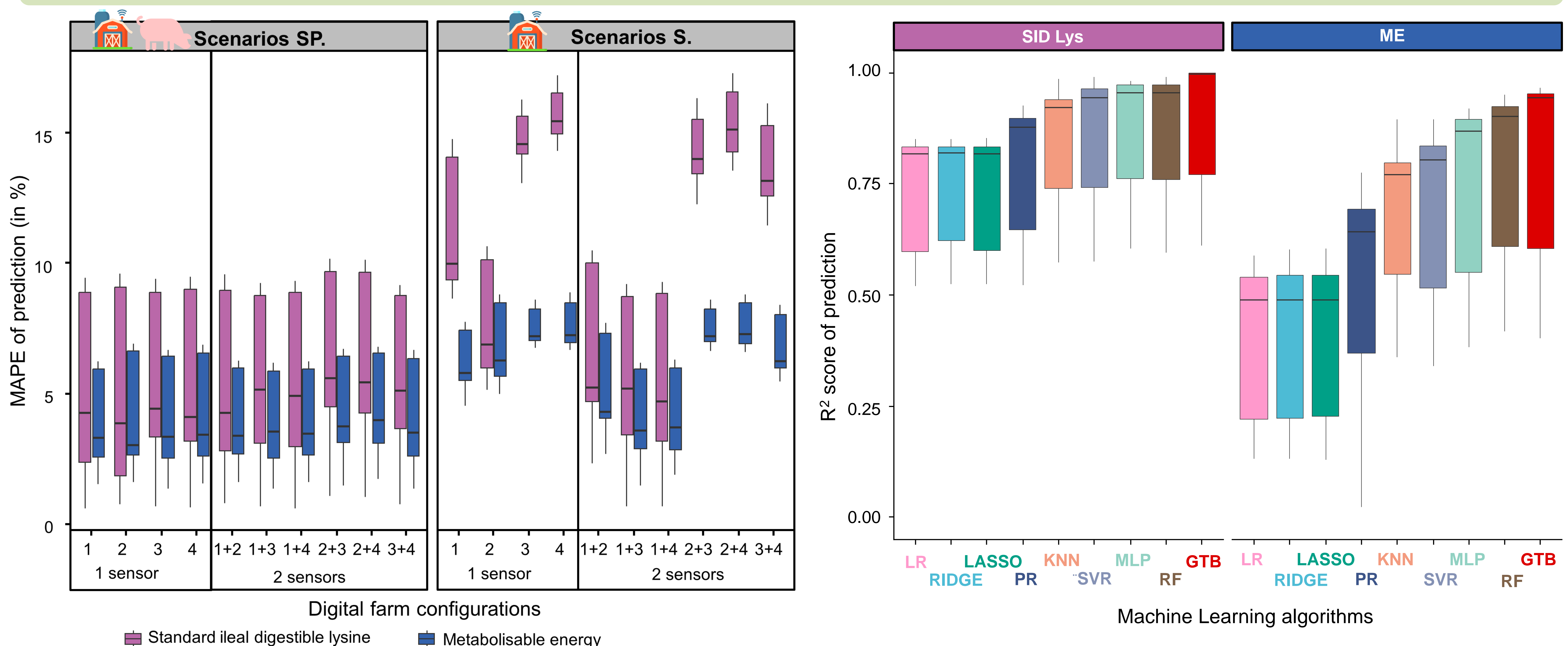
## MATERIAL AND METHODS



SID Lys: Standard ileal digestible lysine; ME: Metabolisable energy; RMSE: Root Mean Square Error ; MAPE: Mean Absolute Percentage Error; R<sup>2</sup>: coefficient of determination

## RESULTS

Integration of sow and housing characteristics (scenarios SP.) reduced the RMSE by 20% for energy and 35% for lysine.



Lower MAPE obtained using scenarios SP with **automatic weighting system + feeder** for lysine (5.31%) and with **feeder + activity sensors** for energy (3.88%).

R<sup>2</sup> values were higher with **Gradient Tree Boosting** (0.95 for energy and 0.99 for lysine) compared to those obtained with **linear regression** (0.52 and 0.83).