

UV-LED TECHNOLOGY AS A POTENTIAL DECONTAMINATION STRATEGY OF POULTRY MEAT WITH FOCUS ON *CAMPYLOBACTER JEJUNI*



Koenraad Van Hoorde

EURL Campylobacter 2024



Sciensano connects health, science and society

The Foodborne pathogens service supports food safety and public health policy via

- i. fast detection of pathogens, their toxins and antimicrobial resistance;
- ii. expert advise;
- iii. future oriented innovative research in the context of foodborne outbreak investigations, AMR monitoring, environmental surveillance and our national reference laboratory/center activities.

This way our service contributes to the One-Health approach of Sciensano.



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INTRODUCTION



OBJECTIVES



METHODOLOGY



RESULTS



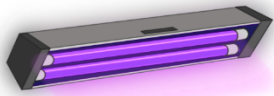
CONCLUSIONS & FUTURE PERSPECTIVE

INTRODUCTION - UV LIGHT, AN EMERGING TECHNOLOGY ?

Downes and Blunt discovered the use of sunlight as disinfection strategy



Bernard and Morgan found $\lambda \sim 250$ nm more effective



Henri, Helbronner and Recklinghausen install first commercial UV mercury lamp

Beukers and Berends discovered UV mechanism of action

1877

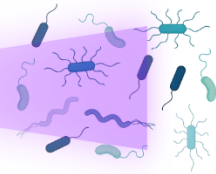
1900

Niels Finson creates first UV source



1904

Kuch creates first quartz lamp



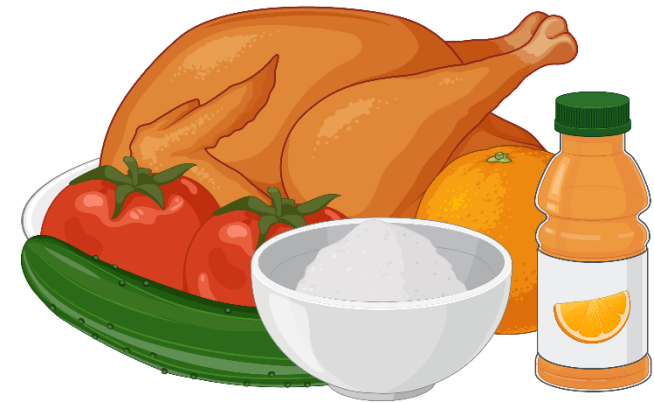
1903

1910

1949

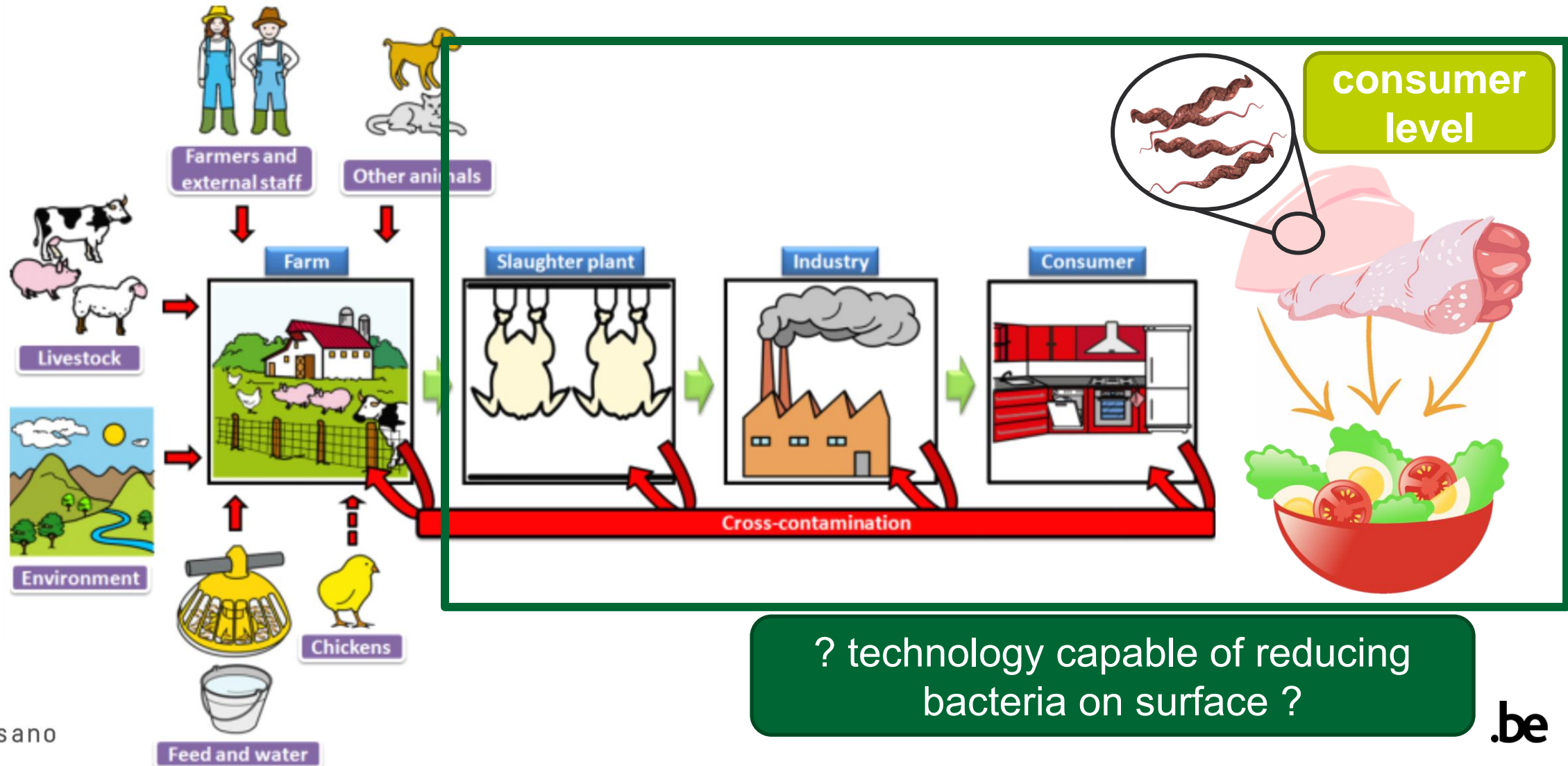
Kelner discovered photoreactivation

1960



- <> consumer safety
- <> potential for off-flavours
- <> nutrient degradation

INTRODUCTION – *CAMPYLOBACTER* PROBLEM



INTRODUCTION - APPLICATION OF UV-LED TECHNOLOGY

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Investigation of differences in susceptibility of *Campylobacter jejuni* strains to UV light-emitting diode (UV-LED) technology

[Arturo B. Soro](#), [Daniel Ekhlās](#), [Maitiú Marmion](#), [Amalia G. M. Scannell](#), [Paul Whyte](#), [Declan J. Bolton](#),

[Catherine M. Burgess](#) & [Brijesh K. Tiwari](#) 

[Scientific Reports](#) **13**, Article number: 9459 (2023) | [Cite this article](#)

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ELSEVIER

Food Microbiology

Volume 116, December 2023, 104365



The efficiency of UV light-emitting diodes (UV-LED) in decontaminating *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella* and natural microbiota in chicken breast, compared to a UV pilot-plant scale device

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conclusions:

- larger # of strains
- food matrix
- culturability ?
- antibiotic resistance ?
- protein profile ?



OBJECTIVES

this study aimed at further assessing the effectiveness of UV-LED technology to inactivate *C. jejuni* on **chicken meat** via the investigation of the impact of UV light on the **bacterial culturability** and on the **susceptibility to antibiotics**

METHODOLOGY – SELECTED *CAMPYLOBACTER JEJUNI* STRAINS

25
C. jejuni
strains

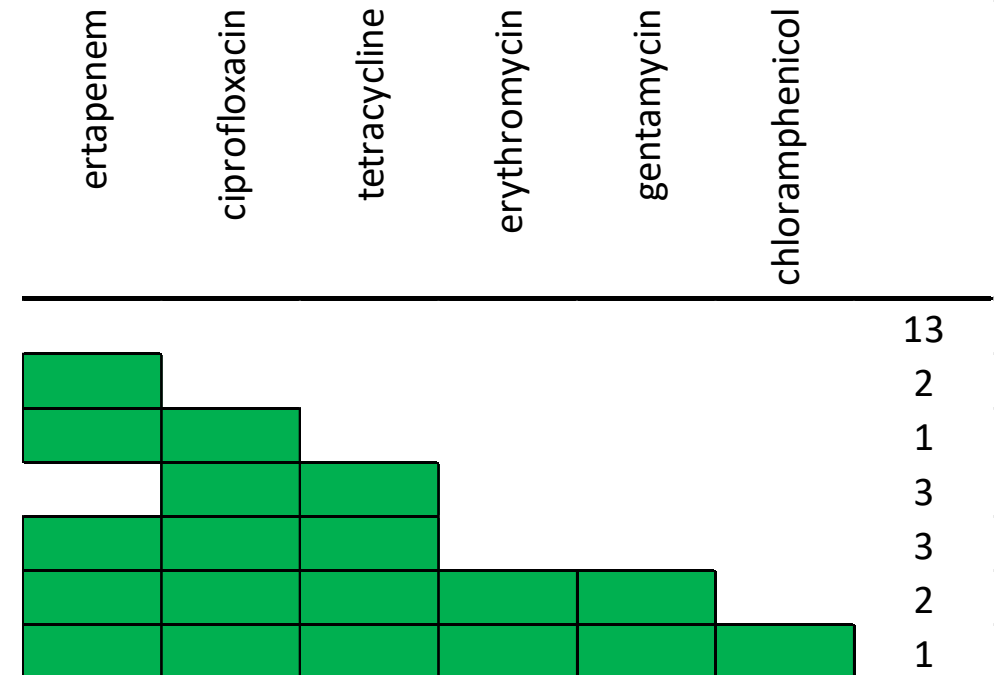
origin

human (fbo): 5

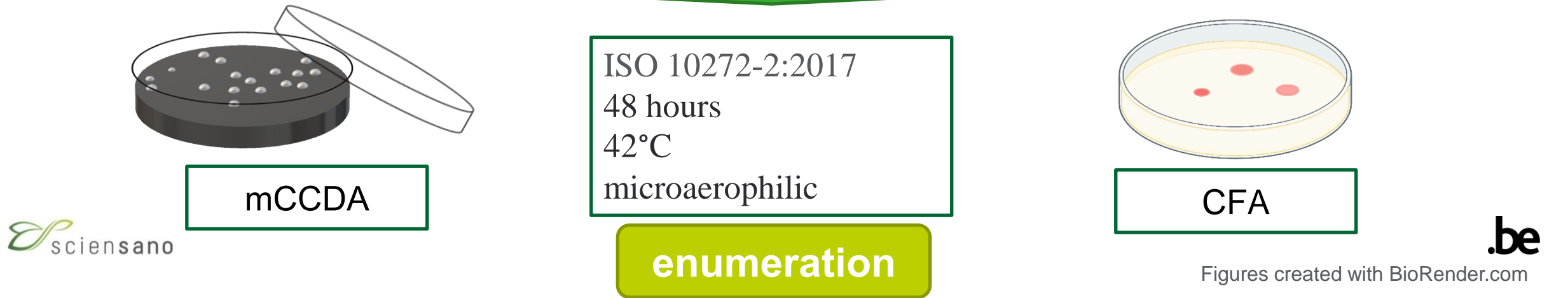
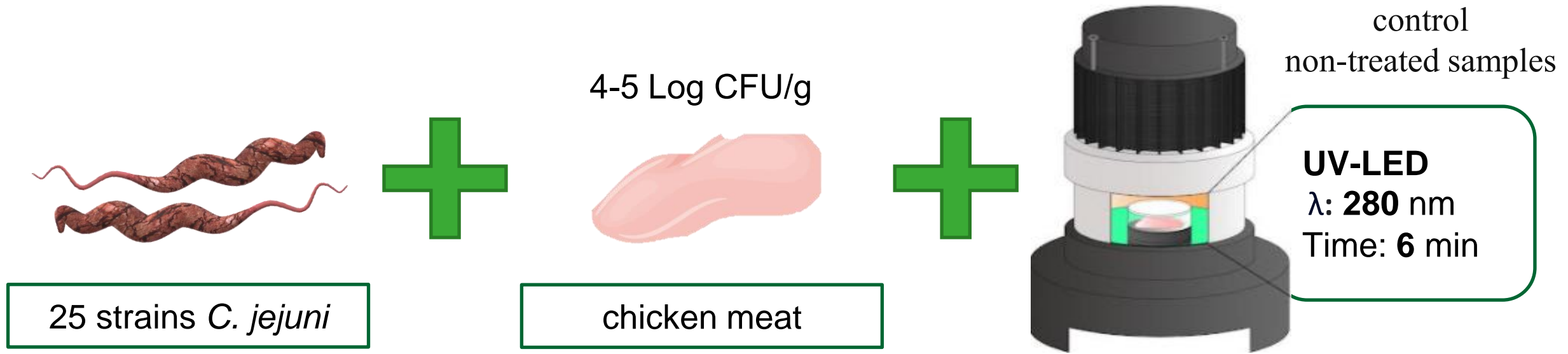
chicken: 17

calf: 3

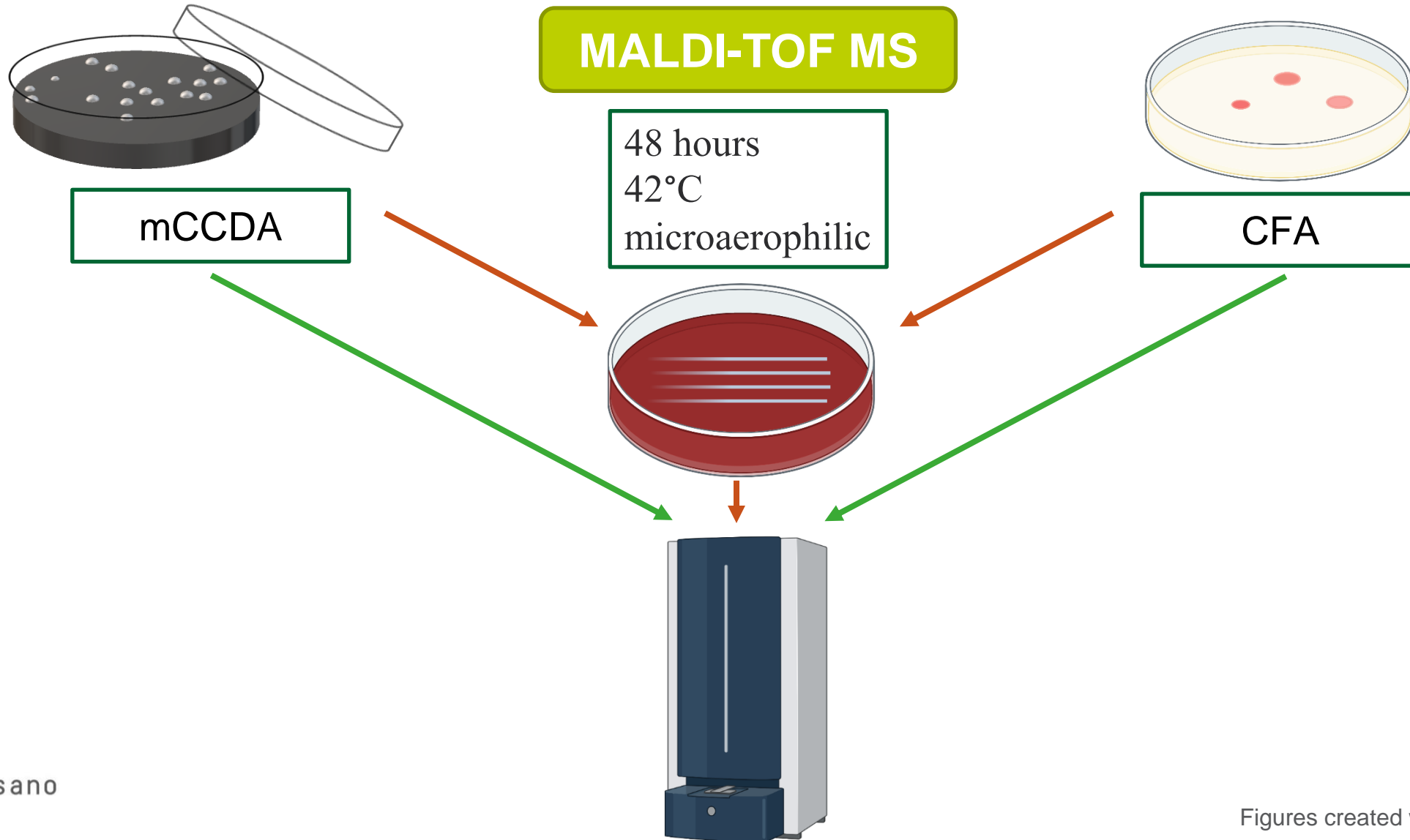
antimicrobial resistance properties



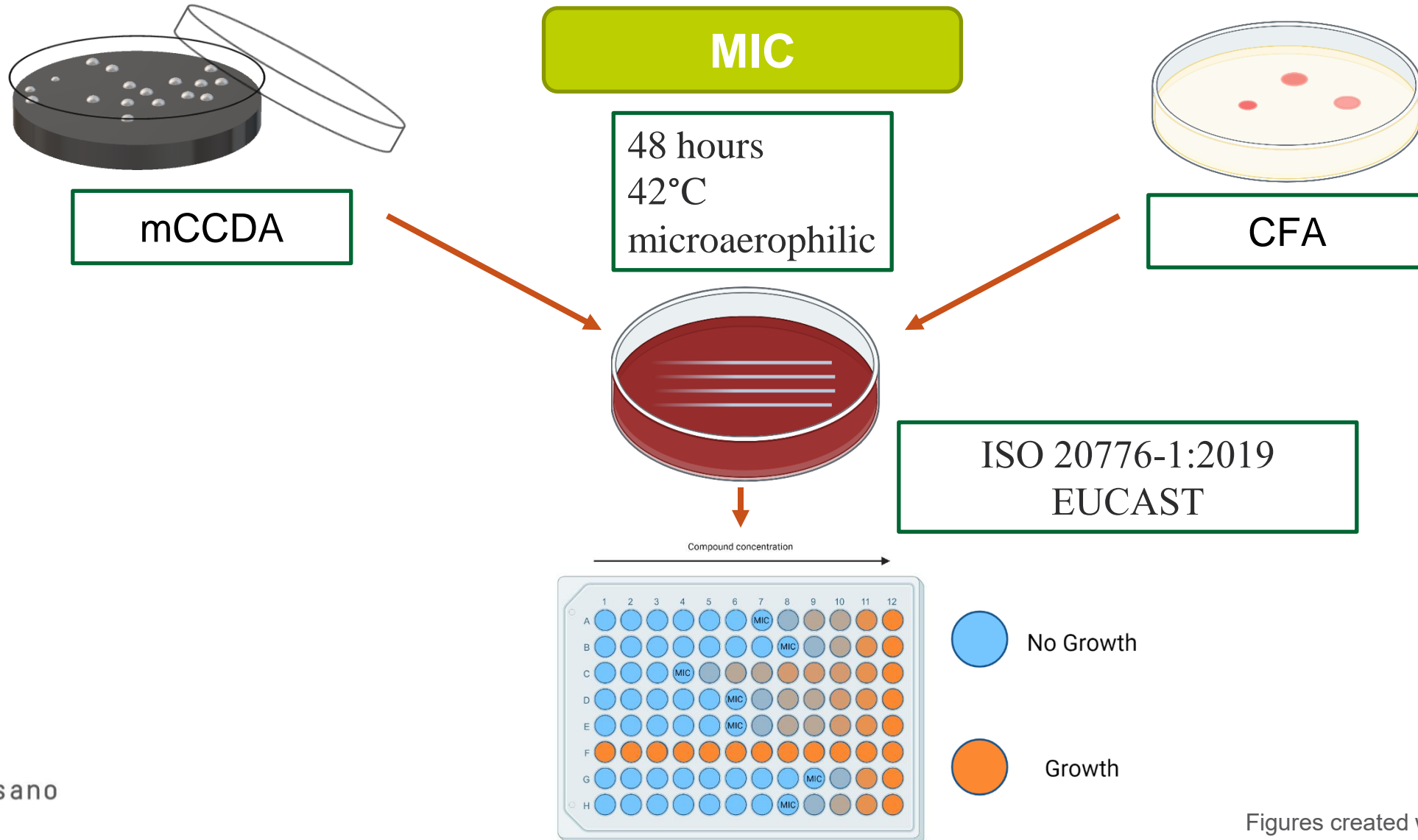
METHODOLOGY - UV TREATMENT + *C. JEJUNI* ENUMERATION



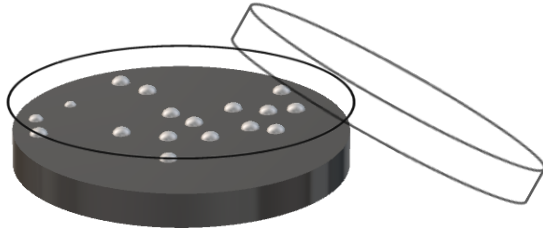
METHODOLOGY – MALDI-TOF MS



METHODOLOGY – ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE (MIC)



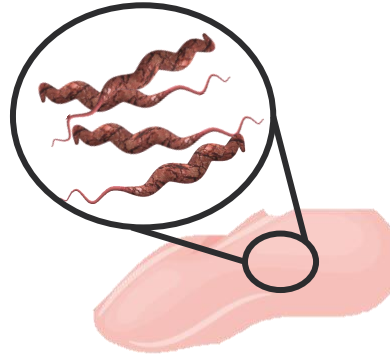
RESULTS – ENUMERATION mCCDA vs CFA



mCCDA

$\bar{x} = 4.51 \log \text{CFU/g}$

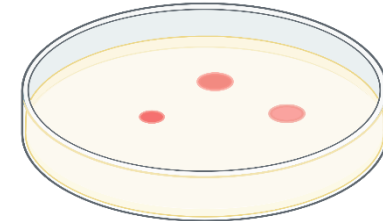
enumeration



25 strains *C. jejuni*

≠

$\Delta\bar{x} = 0.75 \log \text{CFU/g}$

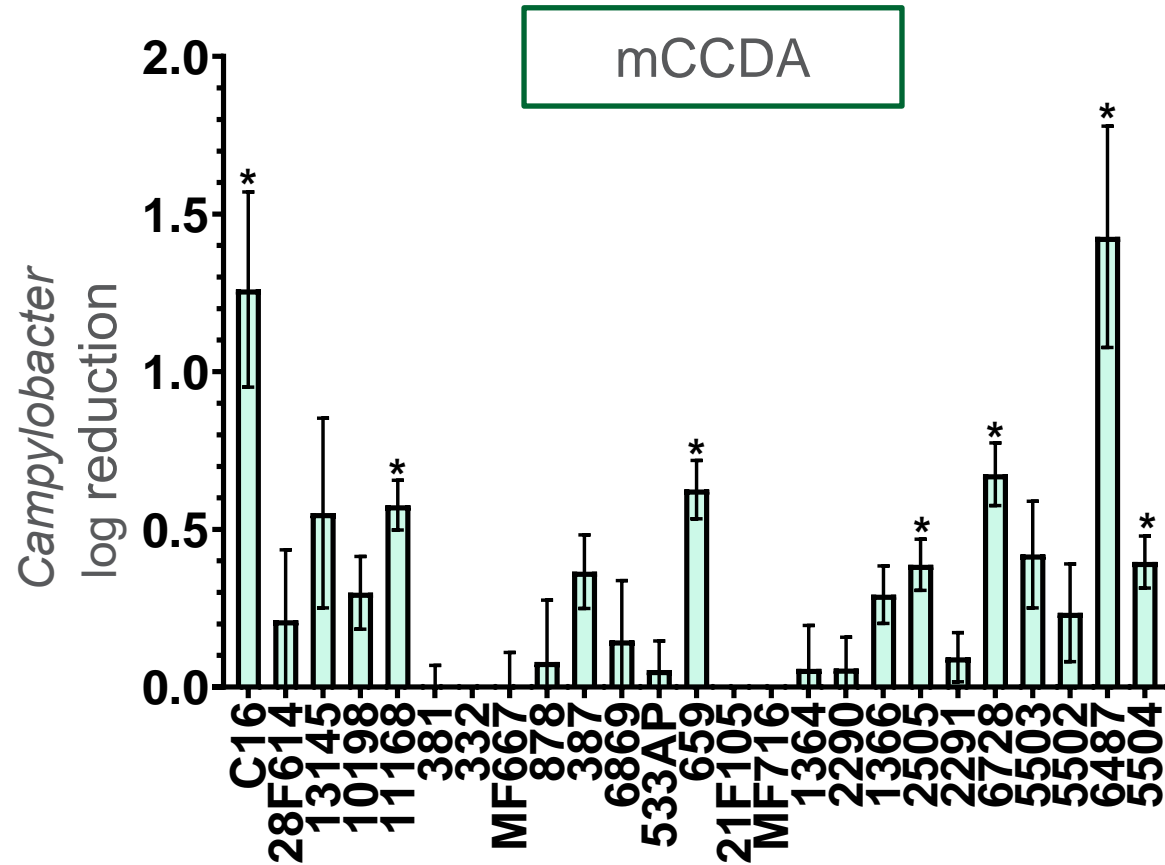


CFA

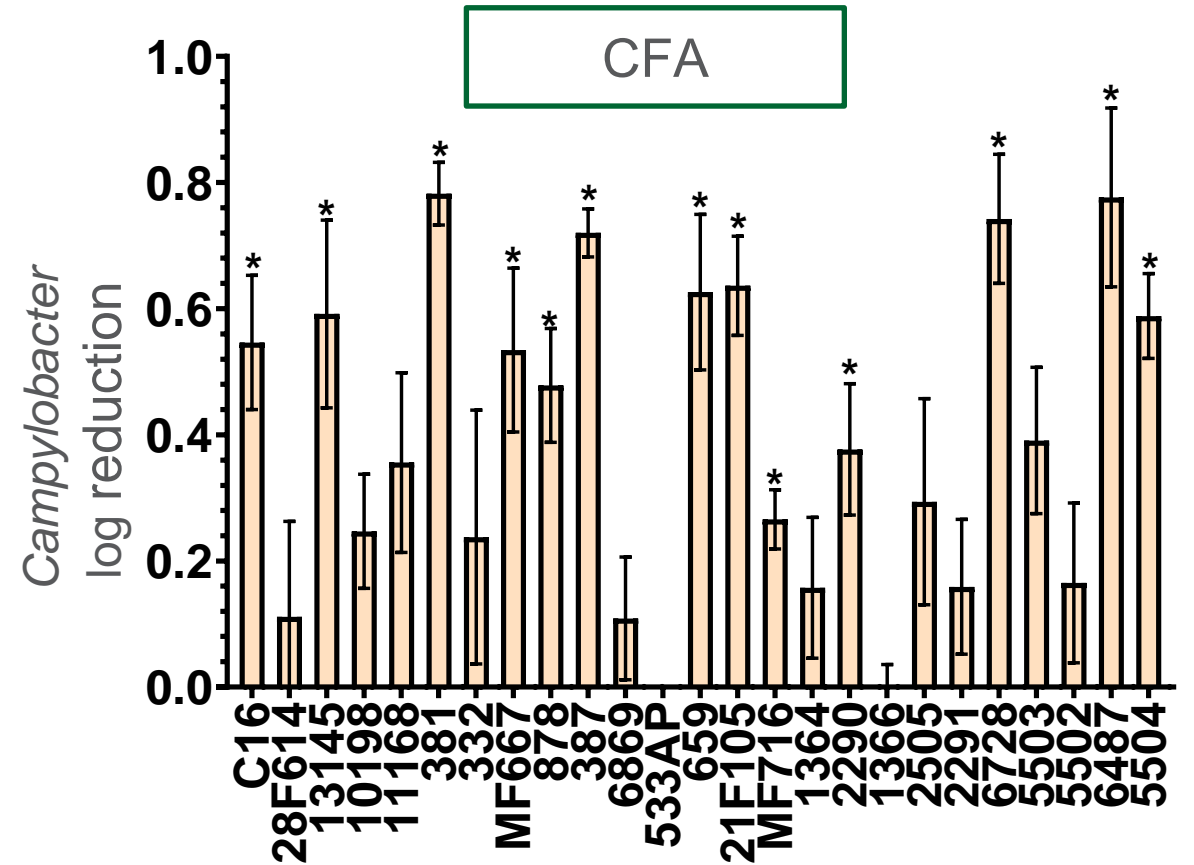
$\bar{x} = 5.26 \log \text{CFU/g}$

counts on mCCDA and CFA to take into account separately

RESULTS - ENUMERATION NON-TREATED VS UV-LED TREATED



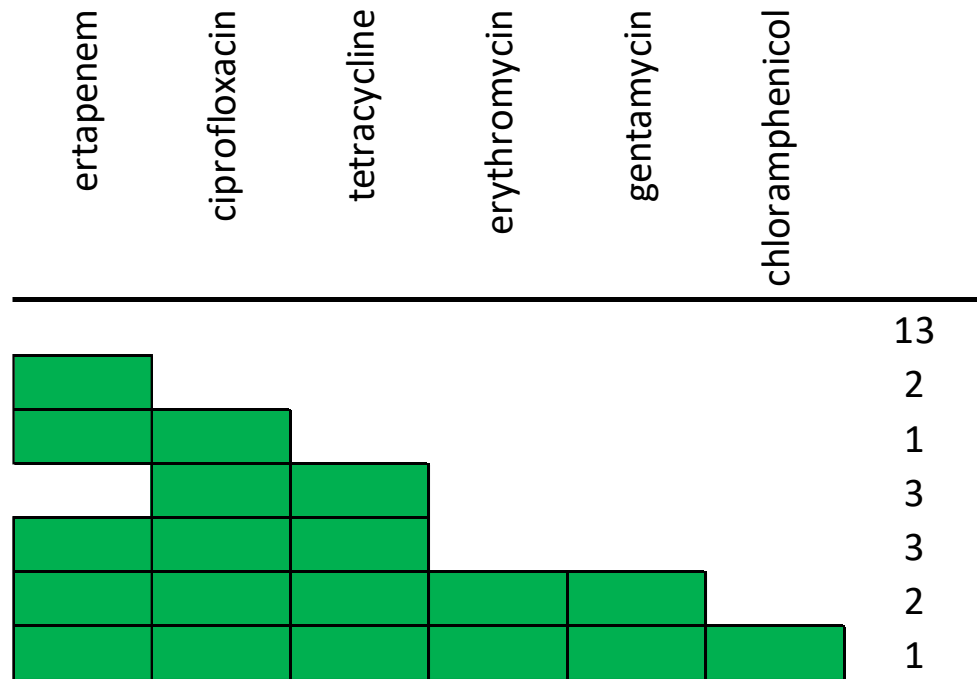
7 out of 25 (28%)
[0.4-1.4 Log CFU/g]



13 out of 25 (52%)
[0.3-0.8 Log CFU/g]

RESULTS - ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE - NON-TREATED VS UV-LED

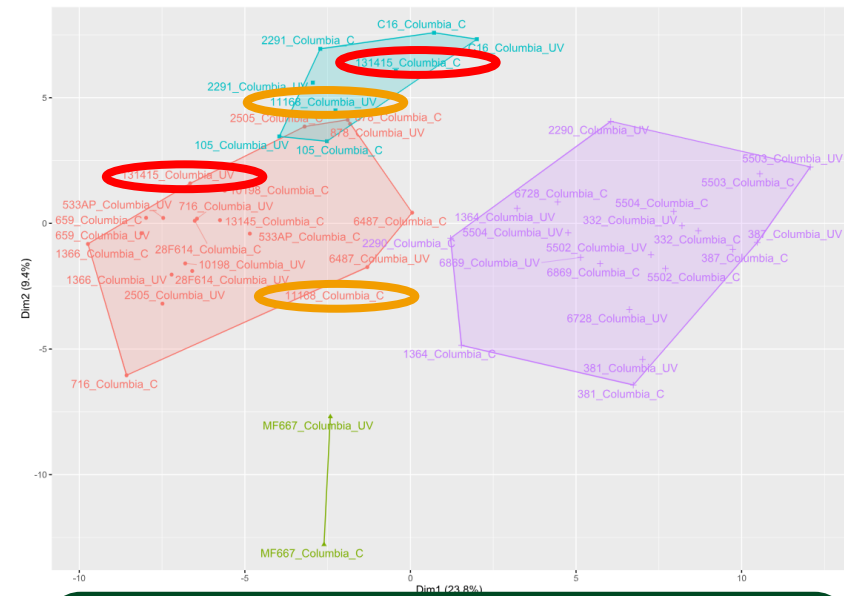
antimicrobial resistance properties
non-treated = UV-LED treated



UV-LED did not affect MIC
of tested resistant *campylobacters* strains

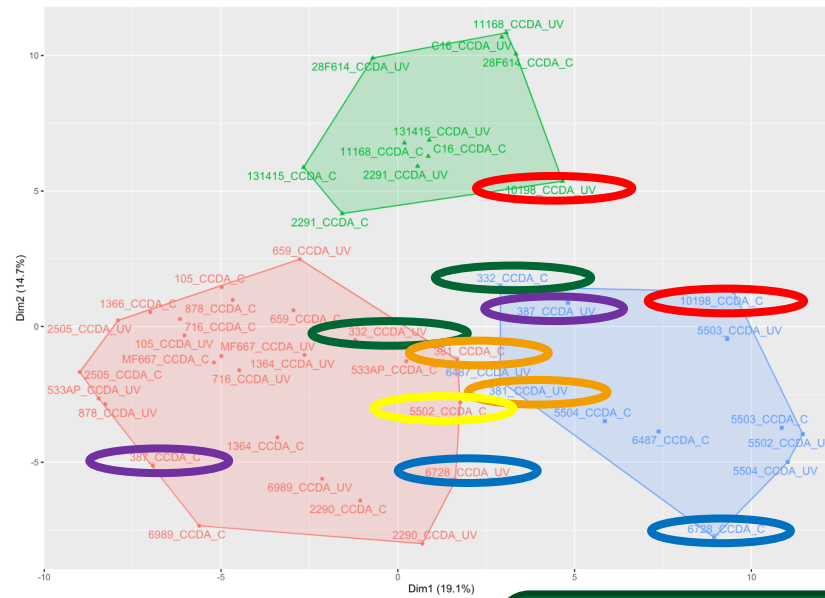
UV-LED did not induce bacterial resistance
to any of the studied antibiotics

RESULTS- MALDI-TOF BLOOD AGAR

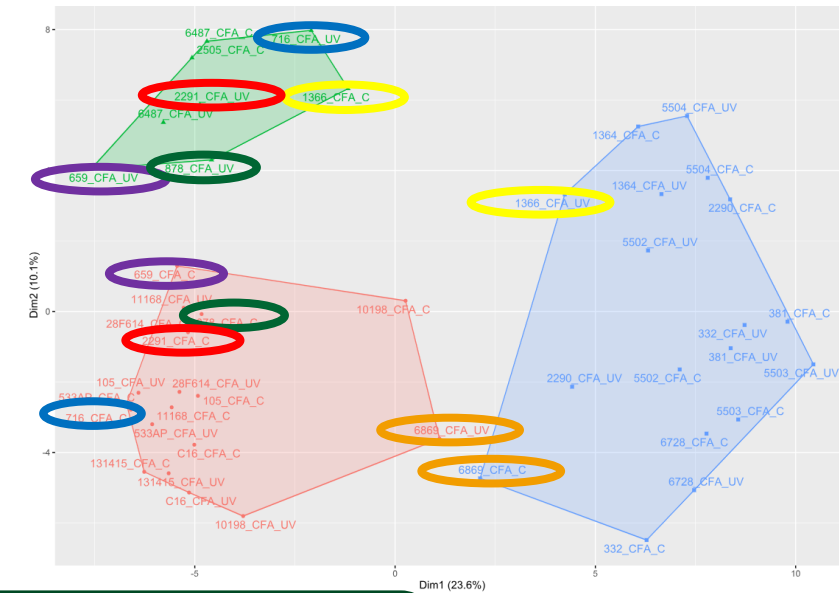


validated method
but no original colonies

only 2 strains
non-treated ≠ UV-LED



6 strains
non-treated ≠ UV-LED



different strains
for the different media

Conclusions

important differences in counts on mCCDA and CFA ~ 1 log

following UV-LED treatment
different behaviour/observations on mCCDA and CFA

importance of post-treatment conditions

no impact on AMR profile

for some strains impact on MALDI-TOF MS profile
yet dependent on culture conditions

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