

# Hop Flavor Paradigm

## What we think we know.....

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ASBC  
La Quinta, CA

# Hop Flavor

- Spicy, floral, citrus aroma and flavor, and “mouthfeel”
- Early extensive investigations were conducted to correlate the hop oil compounds to various hoppy flavors in beer.

Chapman's early studies (1895-1929)

Howard (1956)

Howard and Stevens (1959)

Irwin (Labatt)

Fukuoka and Kowaka (Kirin)

Peacock and Deinzer (Oregon State)

Tressl (Technischen University, Berlin)

Harley and Peppard (BRF)

Lam, Foster II, and Deinzer (Oregon State)

And many others.....

# Old World Hops vs. New World Hops

- European “Noble Aroma” hops
  - Hallertauer Mittelfrueh, Tettnanger, Saazer
  - Growing in US with low yields
- American-European noble type hops
  - Hallertauer Mittelfrueh: Mt. Hood, Liberty, Crystal, Ultra
  - Tettnanger: Santiam
  - Saazer: Sterling
- American characteristic hops
  - Cascade, Willamette, Fuggle, Simcoe, Amarillo, Millennium, Citra.....

# Classification of American hops by Aroma



(floral/fruity/ester)

- Chinook
- Mt. Hood
- Cluster
- Super Galena
- Sterling



(citrus/orange)

- Citra
- Amarillo
- Simcoe
- Summit
- Centennial
- Apollo
- Cascade



(piney/spicy/noble hop)

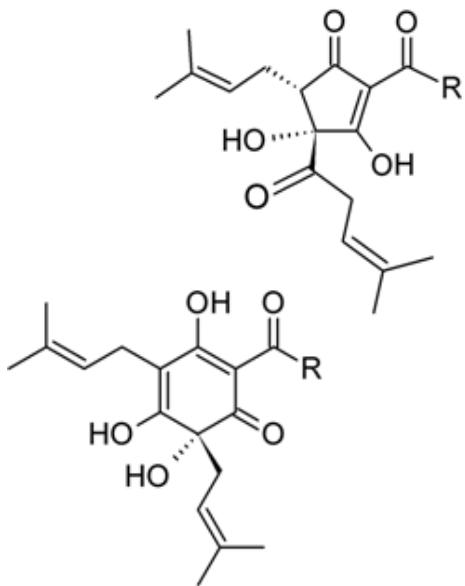
- Willamette
- Mt. Hood
- Fuggle
- Sterling



Extract

- Apollo
- Summit
- Super Galena
- Galena
- CTZ
- Nugget
- Warrior
- Brava

# Separation of Hop Constituents

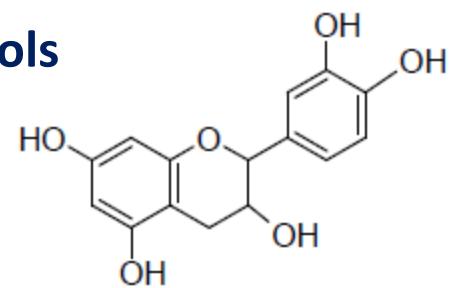


Organic  
Extractable

Aqueous  
Extractable

**Lipids**  
**Waxes**  
**Essential Oils**  
**Soft Resins**  
**Hard Resins**  
**Some polyphenols**

**Cellulose**  
**Lignin**  
**Proteins**  
**Polyphenols**



# Separation of Hop Constituents

## Chemical Composition

Total Resins 15-30%

Essential Oils 0.5-3.0%

Cellulose ~43%

Protein 15%

Polyphenols 4%

Waxes/Steroids trace -25%

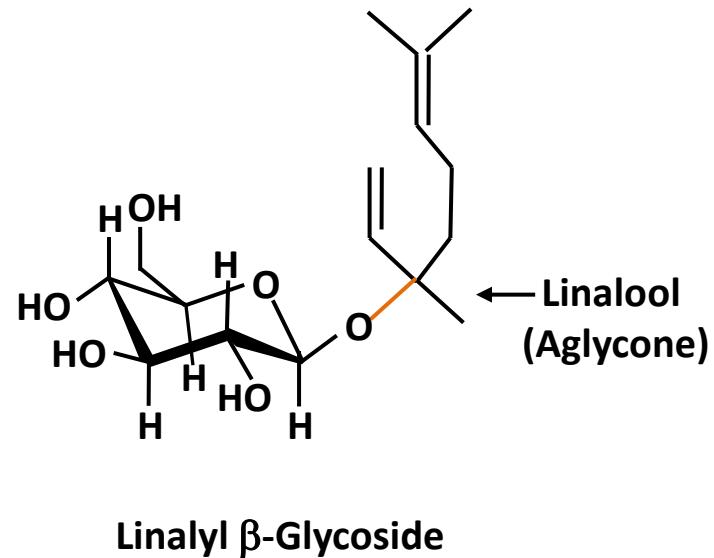
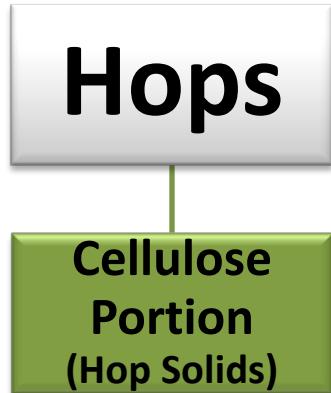
Moisture ~10%

# Aqueous Fraction

# Glycosides: A Secret of Hop Flavor Revealed

In 1998, Miller Brewing found that the cellulose portion (hop solids) after CO<sub>2</sub> extraction contains a mixture of water soluble substances composed of 92.4 mole% of glucose with a majority of 55% terminal and other linkages.

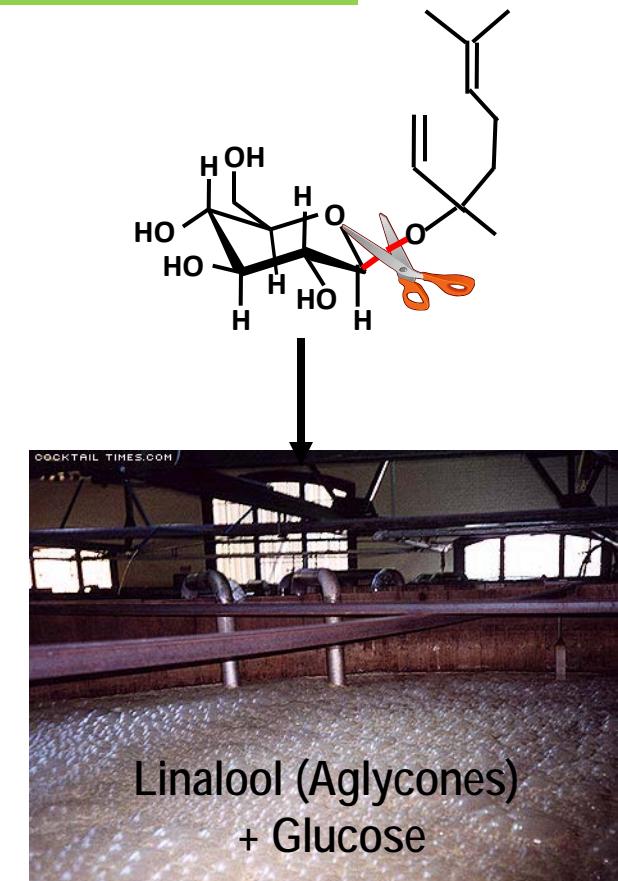
- A group of β-glycosides survive the kettle boil because they are **water soluble** and **non-volatile**.



# Glycosides: A Secret of Hop Flavor Revealed

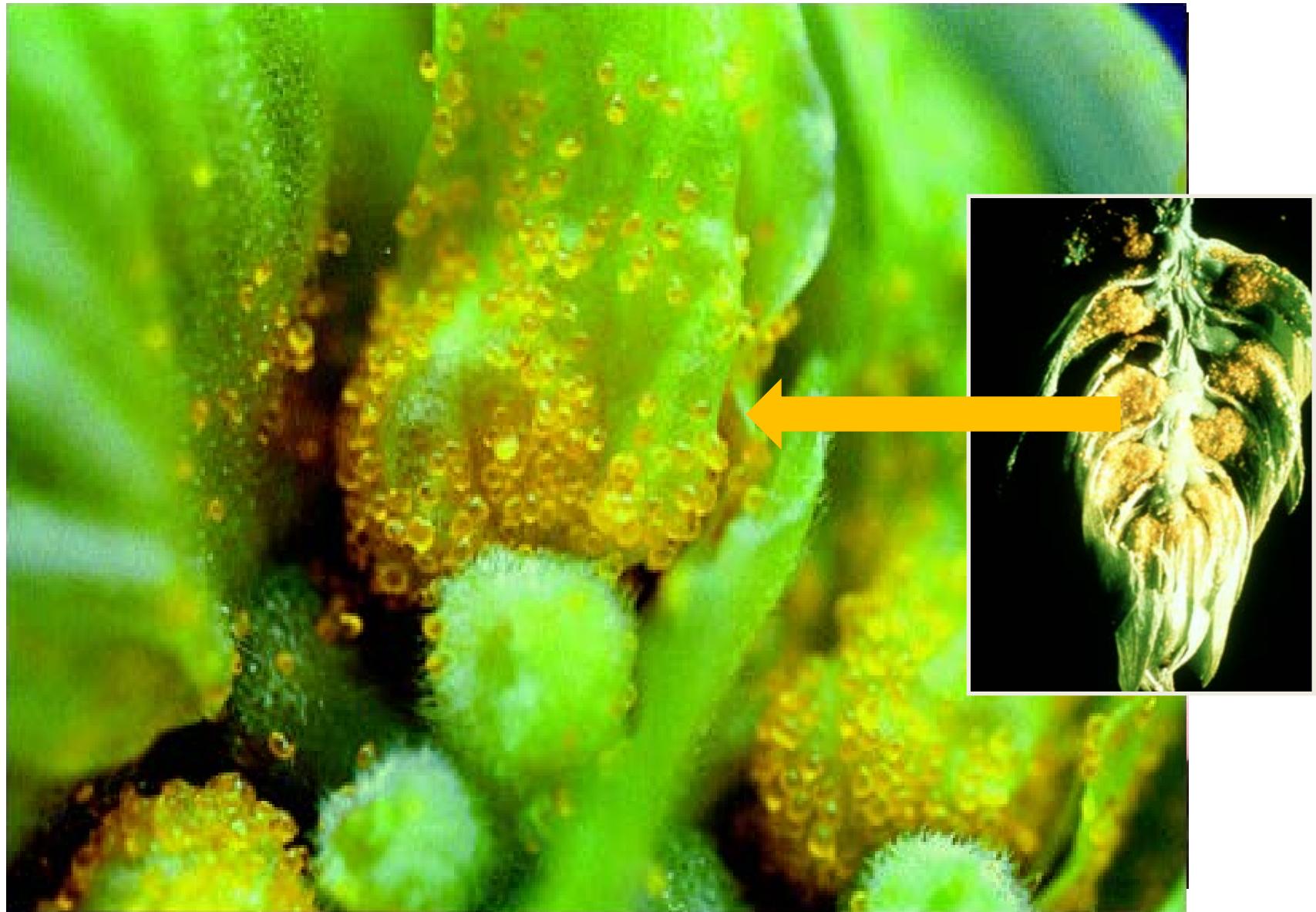
- Yeast can hydrolyze  $\beta$ -glycosides and further convert aglycones into hop flavor.
- The  $\beta$ -glycosides present in the hop cellulose portion contribute the true kettle hop flavor in beer.
- Further supported by
  - H. Kollmannsberger and S. Nitz, 2002
  - M. Biendl, H. Kollmannsberger and S. Nitz, 2003
  - L. Daenen, D. Saison, L. De Cooman, G. Derdelinckx, H., Verachtert, F. R. Delvaux, 2006

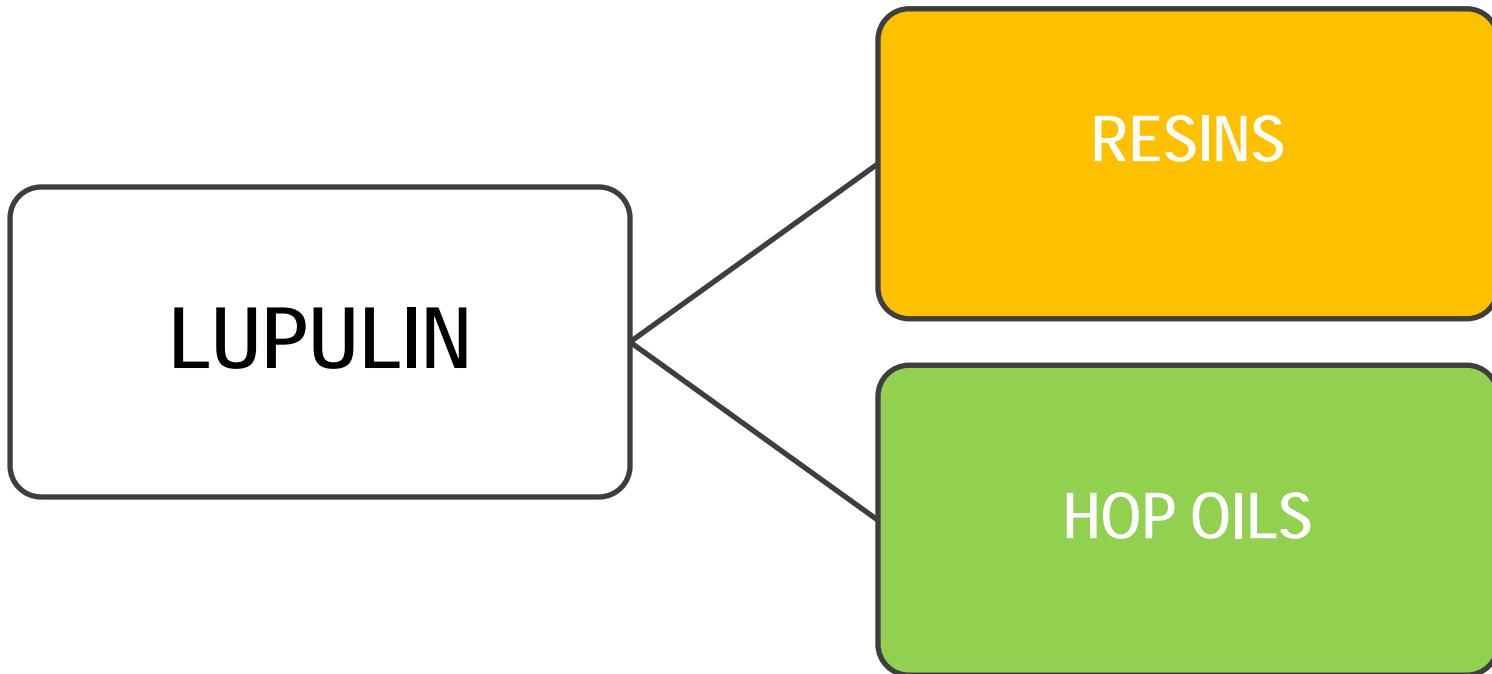
Aglycones are representative of the oxidative and sulfur containing compounds of the Hop Oil Fraction:  
alcohols, carbonyls and others



# Organic Fraction

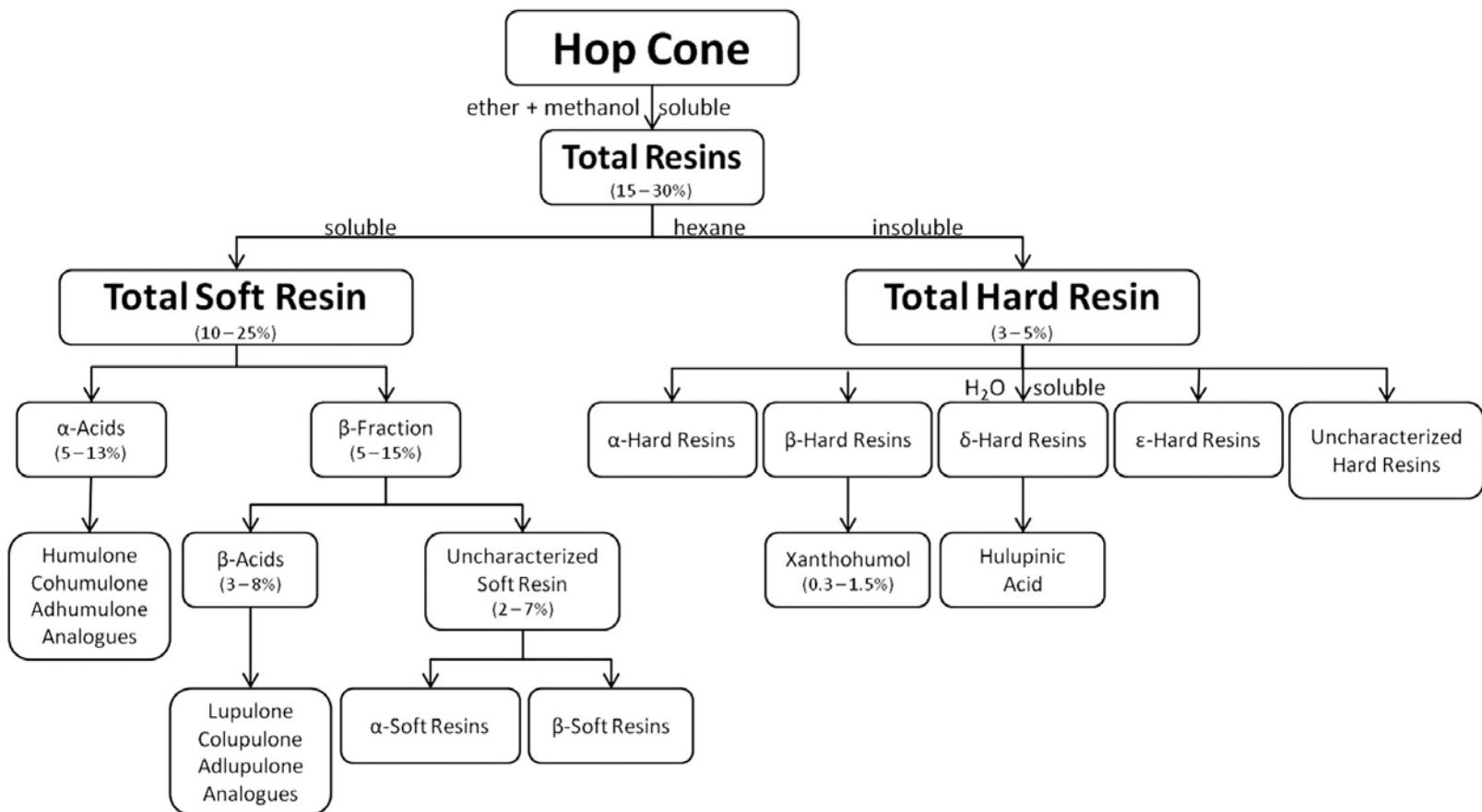
# Lupulin





# **RESINS**

# Resins



Amalguer et al. J.Inst. Brew 2014; 120: 289-314

# Soft Resins

- Alpha Acids – Bitterness and degradation lead to flavor.
- Beta Acids – Degradation may lead to flavor and oxidation leads to bitterness
- Soft resins will oxidize into uncharacterizable or ‘intermediate fractions’
- Intermediate fraction may have brewing value – but not exactly known.

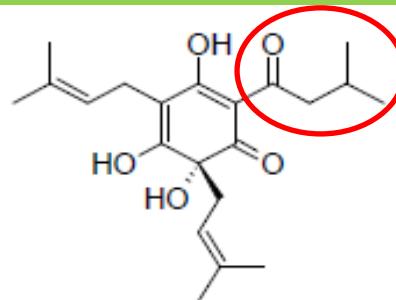
# Hard Resins

- Hard resins. Generally thought to arise from oxidation of soft resins – however not well defined.
- Believed that majority of hard resins are beta derived.
- Found in cones during the early stages of development... due to auto-oxidation during kilning and storage?
- As hops age soft resins decline and hard resins increase

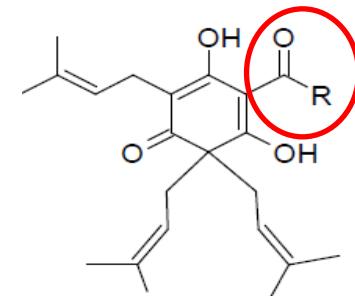
# HOP ACIDS and ESTERS

- Bitterness and Flavor
- Aged hops;

- Organic acids and esters of hop acid side chains lend aromatic characters, sweaty, citrus, fruity.
- Sunstruck Aroma



Humulone



Beta Acids

| $\alpha$ -Acids | $\beta$ -Acids | R-group  |
|-----------------|----------------|--|
| humulone        | lupulone       | COCH <sub>2</sub> CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub><br>isovaleric                  |
| cohumulone      | colupulone     | COCH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub><br>isobutyric                                  |
| adhumulone      | adlupulone     | COCH(CH <sub>3</sub> )CH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub><br>2-methylbutyric           |
| prehumulone     | prelupulone    | COCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub><br>Isohexanoic |
| posthumulone    | postlupulone   | COCH <sub>2</sub> CH <sub>3</sub><br>Isopropanic                                   |

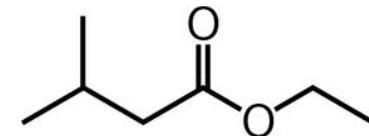


# GC-O evaluation of Hop Acid Side Chain Degradation

- Organic acids, aldehydes and esters are degradation products of the hop acid side chain (R-group) from beta and alpha acids.
- Once acid side chains are introduced into ethanol these esterify and become esters:

Ethyl isobutyrate – Fruity/Cherry/Vomit

Ethyl isovalerate – Pungent Black Cherry.



| <u>Elution Time<br/>(min)</u> | <u>Pattie's notes</u>                      | <u>Compound name(s)</u>                                     |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| 4.15                          | Waxy, Solvent, apple peels                 | Butanal, 3-methyl, Isovaleraldehyde                         |
| 5.86                          | Fruity Cherry, Vomit                       | *Ethyl Isobutyrate  |
| 8.29                          | Apple Pie, Baked Apple                     | Ethyl 2-methyl butyrate, Butyric Acid, 2-methyl-ethyl ester |
| 8.54                          | <b>Pungent Black Cherry/Tropical Fruit</b> | *Ethyl Isovalerate  |
| 11.47-11.70<br>(11.715 min)   | Blueberry/Fruity                           | Ethyl Isohexanoate  |
| 17.6                          | Apple Skins, Waxy, Pungent                 | Isobutyric Acid   |
| 20.65                         | Cheesy, Dirty Socks                        | **n-Valeric Acid, Isovaleric Acid                           |

# HOP OILS

# HOP OILS

## 1. Hydrocarbons:

1. Monoterpenes – Myrcene
2. Sesquiterpenes –  $\beta$ -caryophylene, farnescene, humulene
3. Aliphatic hydrocarbons – pentane, octane

## 2. Oxygenated Compounds:

1. Terpene alcohols – linalool, geraniol, nerol,  $\alpha$ -terpinol
2. Sesquiterpene alcohols – humulenols,
3. Others – aldehydes, acids, ketones, esters, epoxides:  
**Examples:** hexanal, nonanal, 3-methylbutanoic acid, geranyl acetate, caryophyllene oxide,

## 3. Sulfur containing compounds:

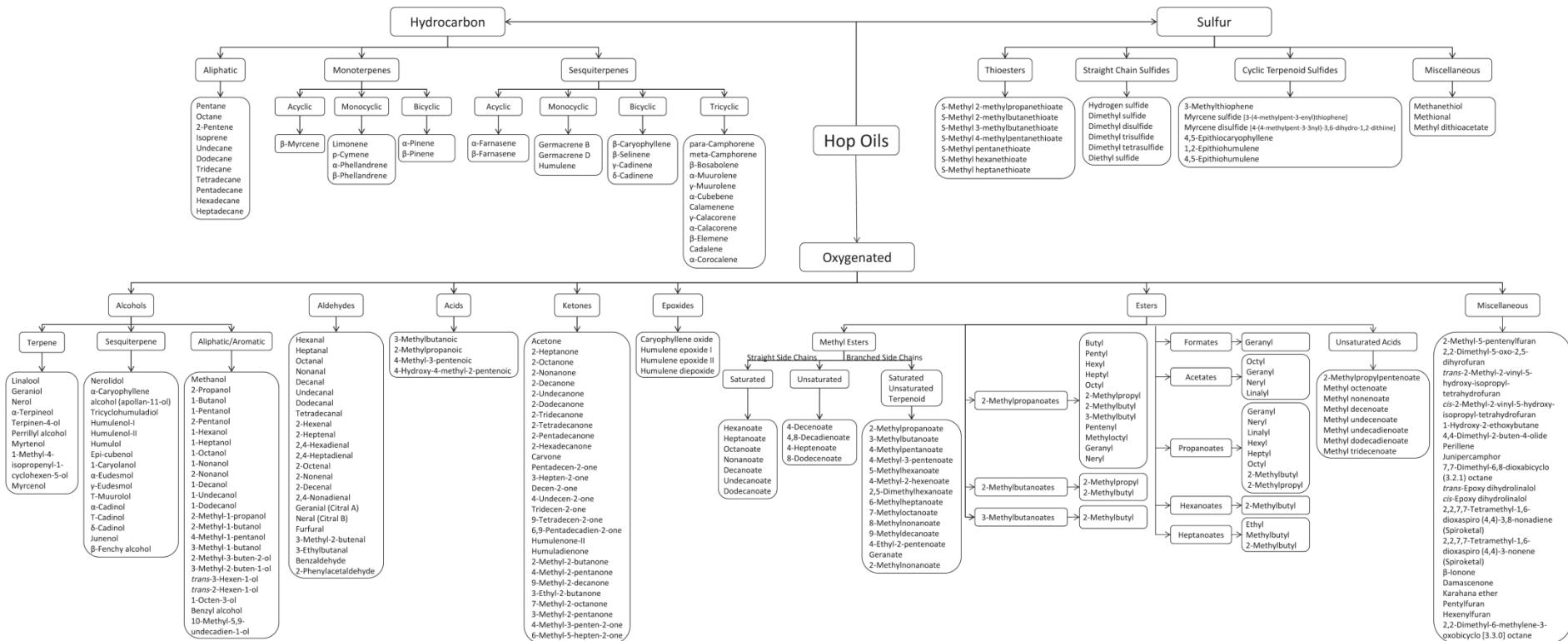
1. Thioesters – S-Methyl 2-methylpropanethioate
2. Sulfides - H<sub>2</sub>S, DMS, DMDS
3. Cyclic terpenoid sulfides and others - methanethiol

# TOTAL HOP OILS = 0.5-3.50% w/w

~ 1000 Compounds

70% Hydrocarbons

30% Oxygenated Compounds



# Kettle Hop Aroma

No single hop oil component has been shown unequivocally to be present in kettle-hopped beer.

- Sandra and Verzele
- Peacock and Deinzer
- Rigby
- Miller Brewing

.....and the chemistry of hop flavor is still not properly understood.



## Fractionation of hop oils

**Haley, Peppard, Westwood  
et al. of BRI in 1985**

Spicy fraction

Floral fraction

Citrus fraction

Noble Hops

Late Hops

Dry Hops

Commercial post-fermentation products mimic late and dry hopping.....

However, these fractions may not produce desired early kettle hop flavor. .....

# Floral/Citrus Aroma

## Active Monoterpenes and Terpene Alcohols

Myrcene



Linalool – R and S

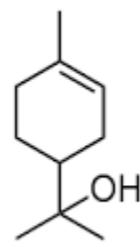
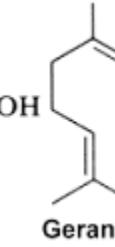
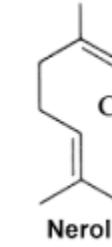
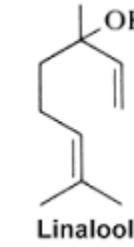
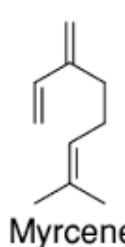


Geraniol - varietal specific

β-Citronellol

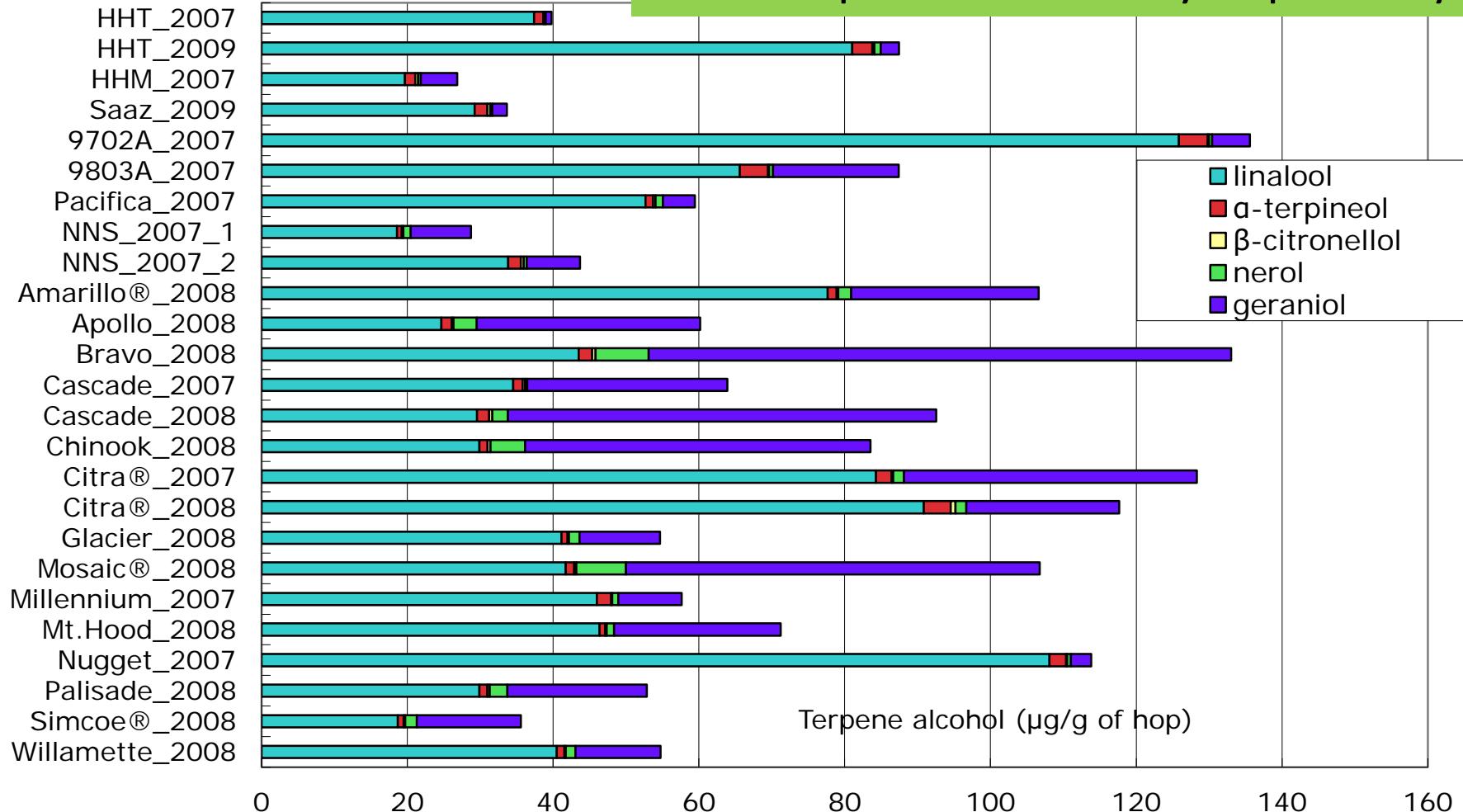
Nerol

α-Terpineol



- Correlated with cedar/orange, piney, lavender, lilac, lemongrass, rose, lime/citrus.
- Threshold at ppb levels
- Varietal impact: Geraniol rich hops could be impactful due to biotransformation and synergies.

# Monoterpenol content by hop variety



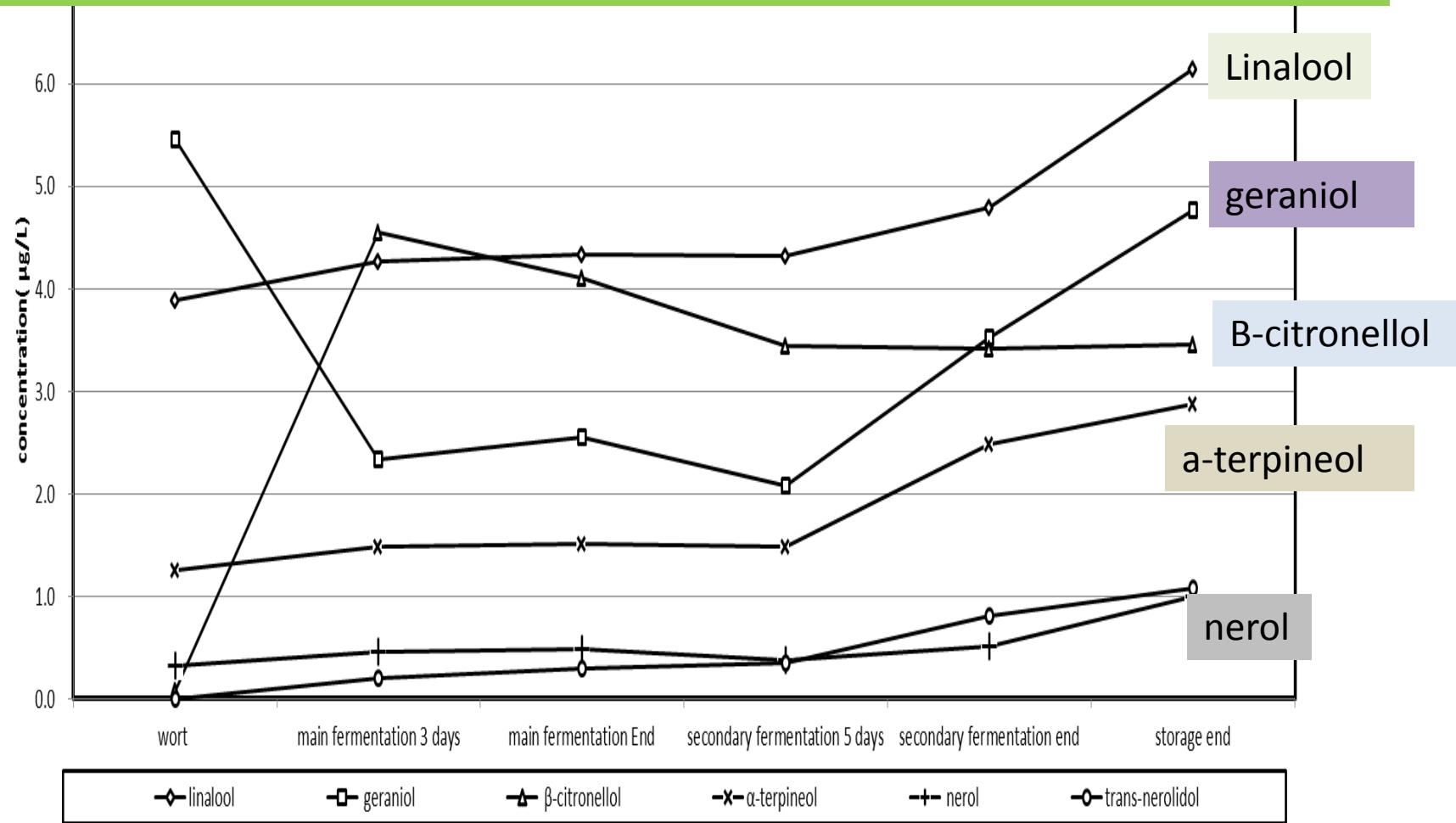
German (HHT, Hallertau tradition, HHM, Hallertau Magnum, 9702A; 9803A)

New Zealand (NNS New Zealand)

Czech ( Saaz)

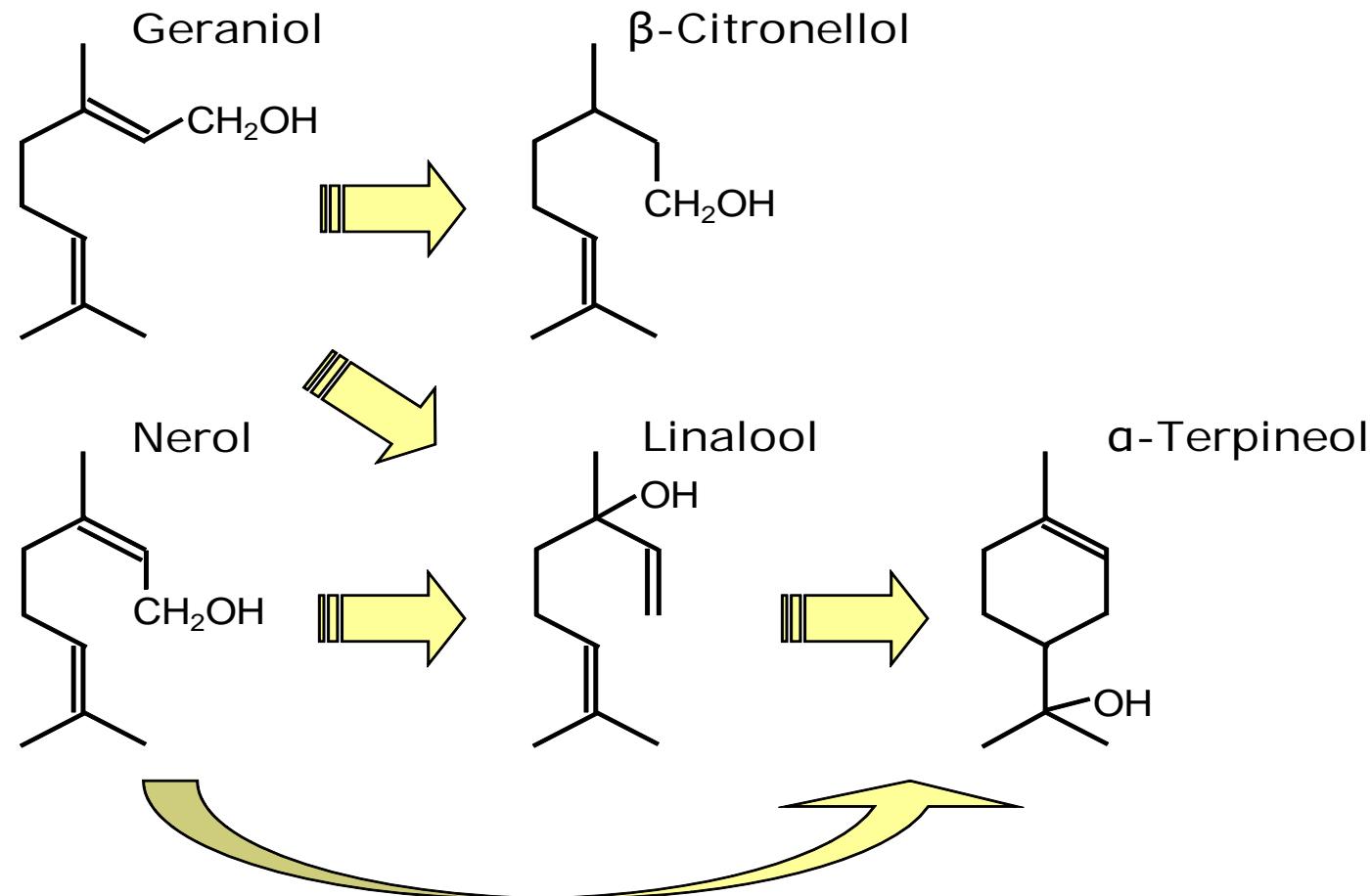
US (Amarillo, Appollo, Bravo, Cascade, Chinook, Citra, Mosaic, Millennium, Mt. hood, Nugget, Palisade, Simcoe, and Willamette)

# Fate of Terpenols during fermentation



Evolutions of terpenols (µg/L) during fermentation process of the Chinese lager brewing.  
(◊) linalool; (◻) geraniol; (△) β-citronellol; (✗) α-terpineol; (✚) nerol; (○) *trans*-nerolidol

# Biotransformation of Monoterpene alcohols

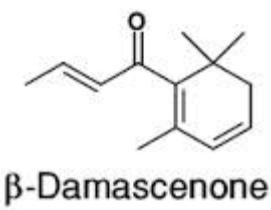
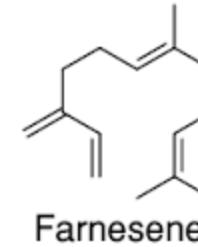
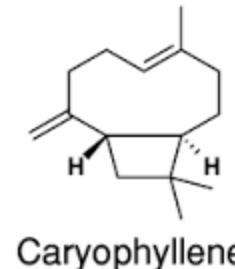
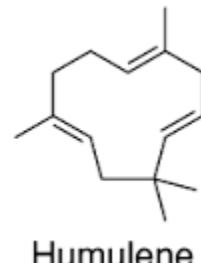


Takoi, et al 2010; Praet et al.; King et al 2003

# Spicy and Woody – Noble Aroma

## Sesquiterpenes and oxygenated Sesquiterpenes

- Humulene/humulene epoxide
- Caryophyllene/Caryophyllene Oxide
- Farnescene
- Humulenol II
- Damascenone -floral



# Fate of aroma compounds during boiling:

- Myrcene
- Linalool
- Geraniol
- Humulene
- Caryophyllene
- Humulene epoxide
- Eudesmol
- Farnescene
- Humulenol II
- Damascenone

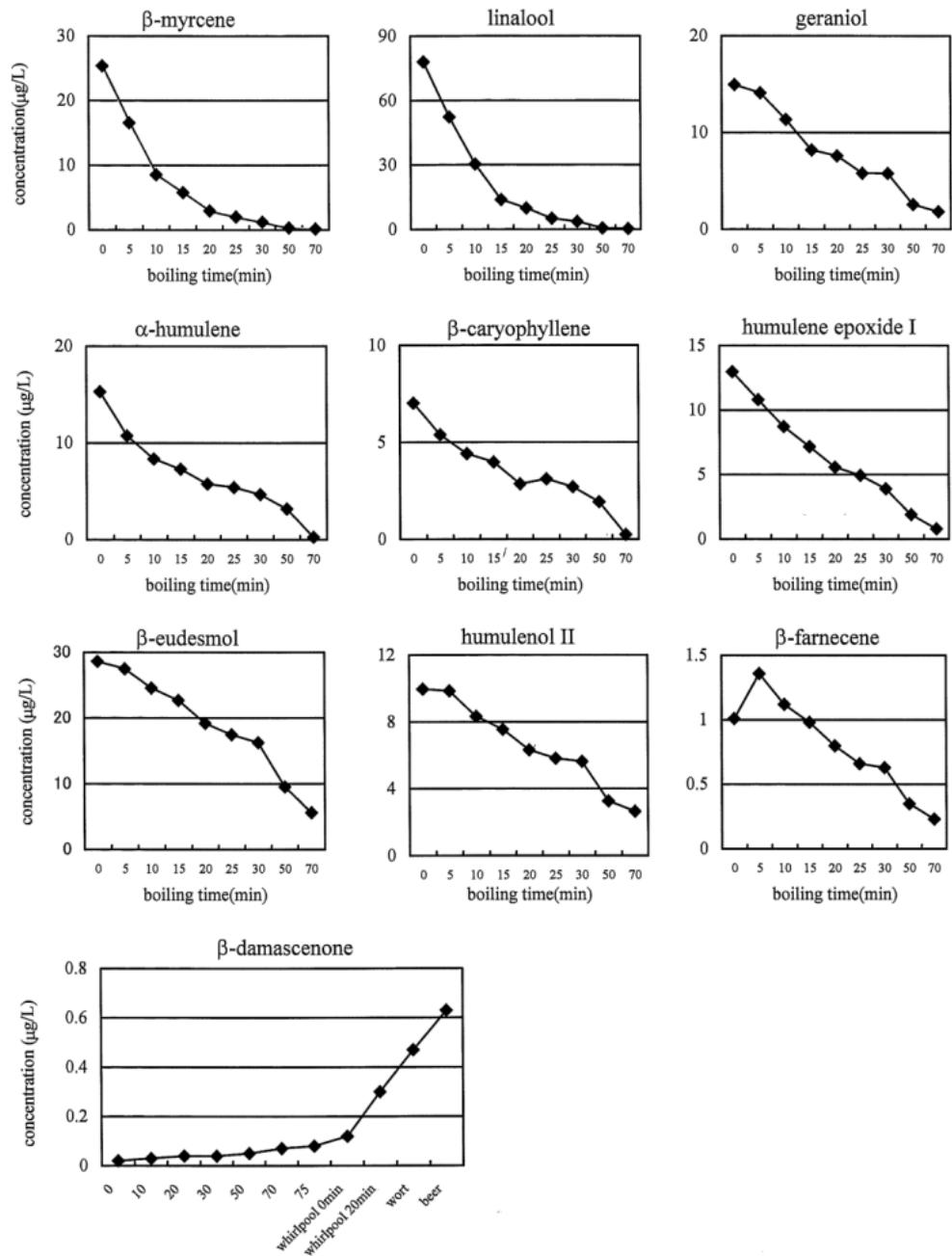


Figure 1-4. Behavior of hop-derived terpenoids during wort boiling.

# SULFUR AROMA

# Sulfur Derived Aromas

- ❖ Free thiol or sulfanyl compounds
- ❖ Hydrolysis/reduction/esterification of cysteine and thiol conjugates
- ❖ Citrus/lemon (grapefruit, orange, lemon, lychee, mango, Sauvignon....)
- ❖ **Thresholds extremely low: ng/L or ppt**



Nizet, Gros, et al.  
Kishimoto, et al.  
Lermusieau, et al.

# Sulfur Compounds and Citrus Flavor

Kishimoto detected 7 hop-derived odorant thiols:

- **4-MMP**, 4-methyl-4-mercaptopentan-2-one
- **3-MH**; 3-mercaptophexan-1-ol
- 3-MHA; 3-mercaptophexyl acetate (**malt and hops**)

**4-MMP** not detected in European hops due to either genetic or environmental effect.





## 4-MMP in US hops:

- SIMCOE
- SUMMIT
- APOLLO
- CASCADE

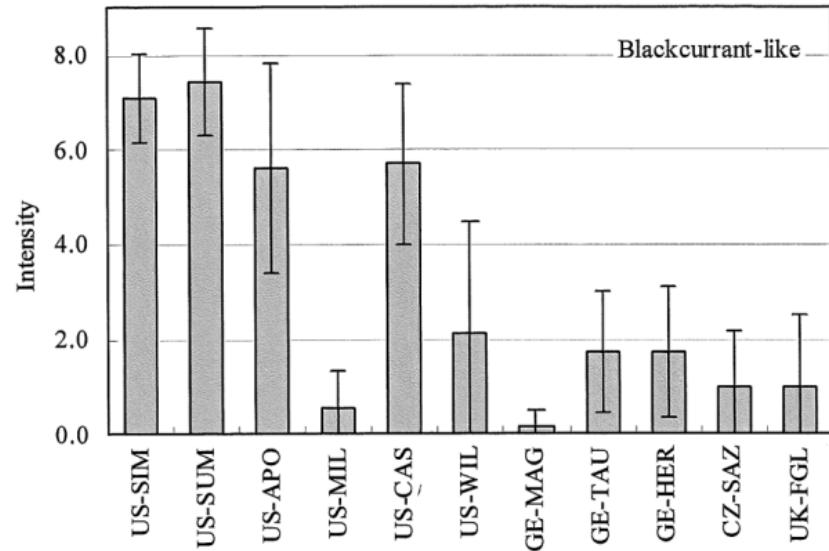


Figure 3-4a. Intensities of the blackcurrant-like aroma evaluated in sensory analysis.

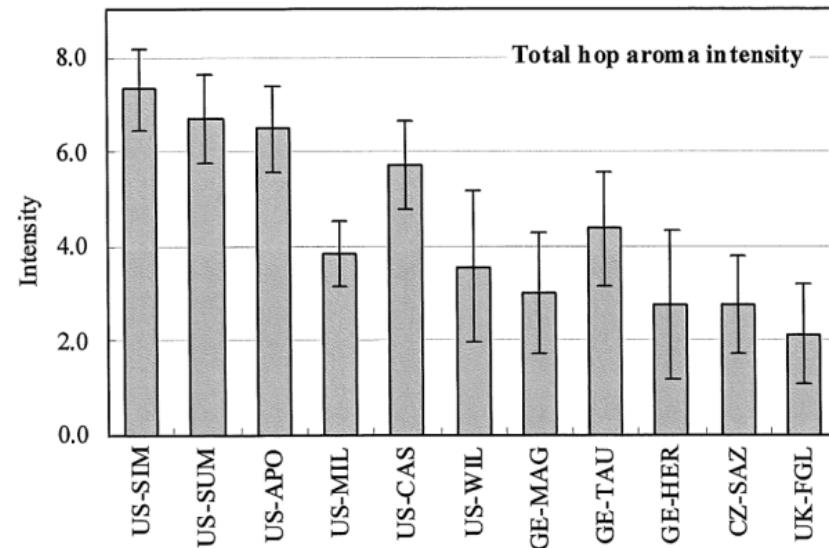


Figure 3-4b. Intensities of the total hop aroma evaluated in sensory analysis.

# SUMMARY - HOP AROMA

- Chemical background of hoppy aroma still not well understood.
- Impact of hop glycosides not fully elucidated
- Soft Resins: Cheesy, Butyric, Caproic, Sweat Socks, Skunk
- Hop Essential Oils: Kettle Hop, Late Hop  
Spicy, Floral, Citrus, Woody, Herbal, Dank
- Sulfur chemistry most recent - but still many questions and analytical measurement challenges.

# Thank YOU!

