

Influence of hop regime, cultivar and yeast on hop aroma in beer using descriptive sensory analysis

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Introduction

For centuries brewers have used hops (*Humulus lupulus* L.) to impart aroma and flavor to beer through the coordination of the physical, chemical and biochemical phenomena that occur during brewing. Physical factors include brewing conditions, such as heat and time, that preferentially extract the unique chemical composition of each hop cultivar. Biochemically, it has been suggested that yeast possess the ability to biotransform hop derived compounds, such as glycosidically bound terpene alcohols into their aroma active aglycones. The goal of this study was to investigate the effects of the physical, chemical, and biochemical factors mentioned above on the hop aroma properties of beer. This study is part of multiphase project aimed at modeling hop aroma in beer.

Objectives

- Identify and quantify hop derived aroma produced by different hopping methods, yeasts, and cultivars using sensory analysis techniques.
- Provide sensory directed insight for future instrumental analysis and model development.

Materials and Methods

Beer Production

Mash/Wort production

- 98 % pale ale malt, 2% acidulated malt
- Single infusion mash (20°P)→(12°P)

Hop Treatments

- Cultivars – Hallertau MF (HHA) or Simcoe Pellets
- Control – 25 ppm isohop™ 60 min boil
- Kettle (KH): 1.5 g/l hop pellets, 60 min boil
- Whirlpool (WP): 25 ppm isohop™ + 1.5 g/L pellets
 - 10 min whirlpool rest
- Dry hop (DH): 25 ppm isohop™ + 1.5 g/L pellets
 - 19 C for 48 hours

Beer Analysis

Original gravity, real extract, color, alcohol %(v/v) Iso-alphas and alphas by HPLC and Bitterness units were all measured for all beers using ASBC standard methods.

Fermentation and storage

- 40 liter ferments, OG = 12°P
 - Ale yeast - 19°C, 6-7 days
 - Lager Yeast - 19°C, 12 days
 - Cold storage at 1°C (2 weeks)

Filtration and packaging:

- Sheet filtration
- 1.6 volumes CO₂
- Kegged and bottled

Aroma Analysis

Panel Composition

- Trained daily for 2 weeks.
- 12 Panelists
- Ages 21-63, avg.= 39
- 9 male, 12 female

Difference Testing

- Triangle tests:
 - KH vs. Control
 - Brew Rep 1 vs. Brew Rep 2

Descriptive Analysis

- Randomized blocks (yeast)
 - 6 reps
 - Orthonasal aroma
 - 0-7 Scale

Consensus Derived Sensory Descriptors Reference Standards

| Term | Definition | Reference Composition |
|--------------------------|---|--|
| Overall intensity | Total combined aroma intensity | NA |
| Pine/Resinous | Coniferous woody aroma. Tree sap/pitch. | 75 µl α-pinene + 75 µl β-pinene + 25µL myrcene + 5µL hexanoic acid + 75 µl carophyllene oxide + 75 µl thujambur + 2.5 µl isothymol |
| Grassy/Hay | Fresh cut grass or dried grass | 75 µl myrcene + 75 µl cis-3-hexanol |
| Herbal | Oregano, basil or similar spice | 75 µl α-humulene + 10 µL eugenol |
| Floral | Geraniums, roses, orange blossom, sweet bouquet, or potpourri | 150 µl linalool + 10 µL phenyl ethanol + 10 µL eugenol |
| Citrus | Lemon, orange, grapefruit, mandarin peel or juice | 75 µl 10% limonene + 10% 75 µl + 10% citral + 25 µl 100% citronellol |
| Stone Fruit | Peach, cooked fruit, apricot, nectarine | 150 µl γ-decalactone |
| Tropical Fruit | Guava, pineapple, sweaty, dank(cannabis-like), papaya, passion fruit, pear. | 75 µl ethyl isobuturate, 75 µl 3-carene, 25 µL citronellol, 5 µl hexanoic acid, 0.5 µl dibutyl sulfide, 5 µl 0.01% 3MHA |
| Cooked Cabbage/Vegetable | Savory vegetable like aroma. Cooked cabbage, but not DMS. Garlic like. | 60 µl humulene epoxide, 5µl 100% α-phellandrene, 2µl isothymol, 5 µl ethyl isopropyl sulfide |

Results

Brewing

Average Beer Specs by Yeast

| Parameter | Yeast | |
|----------------------|--------|--------|
| | Ale | Lager |
| Original Gravity (P) | 13 | 13 |
| StDev | - | - |
| Real Extract | 4.58 | 4.86 |
| StDev | (0.10) | (0.11) |
| Color (SRM) | 8.42 | 7.92 |
| StDev | (0.20) | (0.29) |
| Alcohol (%v/v) | 5.58 | 5.40 |
| StDev | (0.06) | (0.07) |

Average hop acids measurements in beers by hop treatment

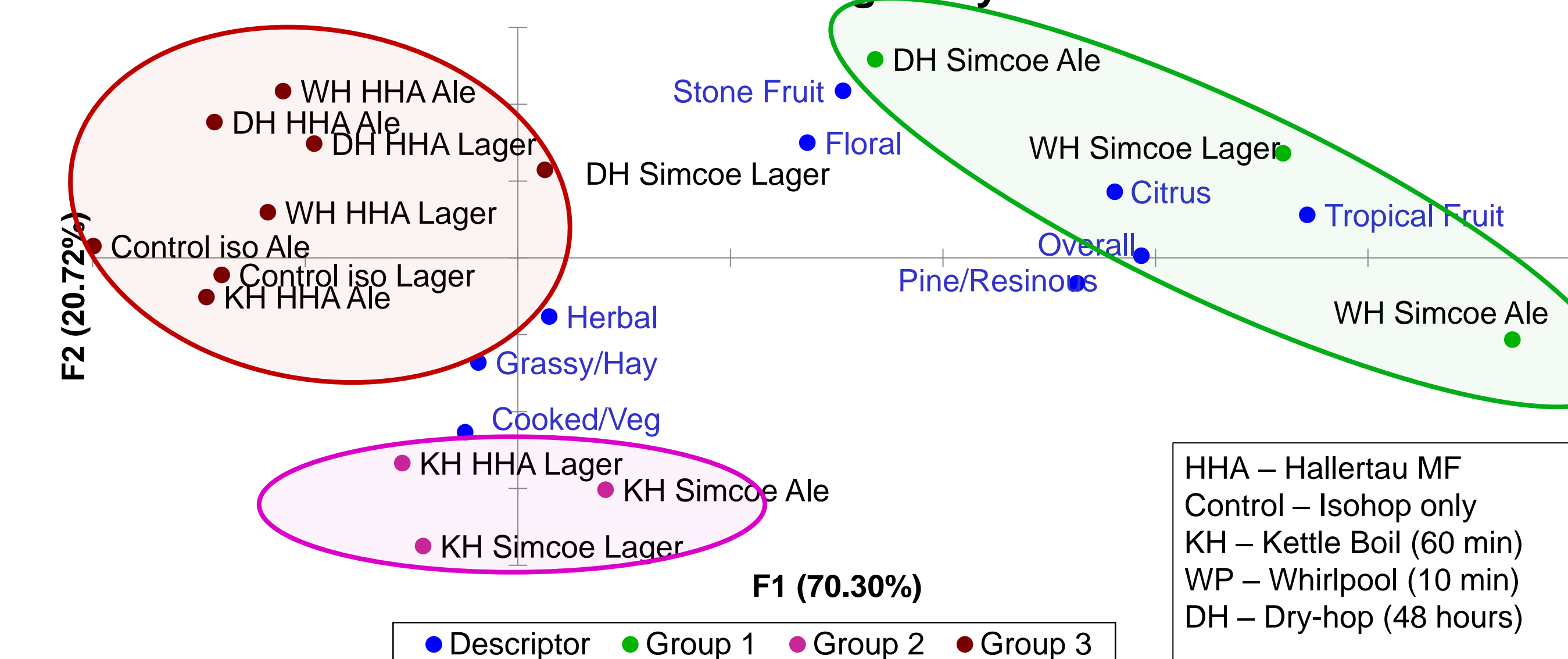
| Parameter | IsoHop | HHA | | | Simcoe | | |
|---------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| | Cont. | KH | WP | DH | KH | WP | DH |
| Iso-α (ppm) | 27.1 | 16.7 | 23.3 | 23.9 | 33.3 | 29.55 | 20.4 |
| StDev | (4.0) | (1.9) | (4.8) | (1.8) | (1.4) | (3.3) | (0.6) |
| BU | 30.2 | 20.5 | 23.6 | 22.1 | 36.7 | 35.0 | 20.0 |
| StDev | (8.4) | (2.0) | (5.0) | (2.1) | (2.1) | (2.4) | (2.2) |
| α-acids (ppm) | ND | 2.6 | 1.7 | 2.1 | 4.4 | 7.3 | 2.1 |
| StDev | (ND) | (0.7) | (1.6) | (0.7) | (0.5) | (0.5) | (0.3) |

Sensory

| Source | ANOVA F-statistics for Descriptive panel full model | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|-------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | Overall | Pine/Resin | Grassy/Hay | Herbal | Floral | Citrus | Stone Fruit | Tropical Fruit | Cooked/Vegetative |
| Treatment | 13.531 | 6.632 | 6.833 | 6.271 | 7.522 | 14.559 | 14.441 | 8.939 | 14.252 |
| Hop | 47.949 | 43.424 | 6.204 | 3.980 | 2.182 | 22.125 | 3.027 | 32.970 | 1.275 |
| Yeast | 0.449 | 0.165 | 1.474 | 1.090 | 0.201 | 0.781 | 0.002 | 1.974 | 6.830 |
| Treatment*Hop | 7.997 | 9.670 | 0.573 | 0.103 | 1.794 | 8.047 | 3.340 | 6.834 | 1.262 |
| Treatment*Yeast | 0.682 | 0.328 | 0.770 | 1.020 | 1.512 | 1.579 | 0.593 | 0.194 | 0.333 |
| Hop*Yeast | 1.723 | 1.769 | 0.351 | 0.068 | 1.369 | 1.550 | 0.290 | 3.067 | 0.581 |
| Treatment*Hop*Yeast | 0.175 | 0.843 | 1.520 | 0.788 | 0.907 | 0.073 | 2.611 | 1.681 | 0.954 |

Bold = Statistically significant p<0.05

Principle Component Analysis (91.02%) and Clustering analysis



Conclusions

- Significant difference in sensory attributes were driven mainly by a hop by treatment interaction and hop addition interaction effects (p-value <0.05)
- Beers hopped with Simcoe had higher Overall, Tropical Fruit, Citrus, Stone Fruit and Pine aroma intensities.
- Kettle hopping treatments were associated with cooked/veg, grassy, and herbal notes.
- Yeast had the least effect on aroma.

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