

## Questions

- Where in the grape berry do most of the important phenolic compounds in wine come from?
- How are skin tannins different from seed tannins
- Why are Pinot noir wines generally lighter in color than other red wines?



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## Dr. Richard Smart Seminar Improving Wine Quality in the Vineyard Vine Vigor and Wine Quality

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North West Viticulture Center, Salem, OR  
June 16, 2010

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## Tamar Pilot Winery Research Group



Phil using the small lot press

Gail



Fiona

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## Tamar Pilot Winery Research Group



L to R Gail, (summer intern) Fiona (PhD student), Phil (summer intern), Bob Danbergs (Senior Research Wine Chemist), Angela Sparrow and Richard Smart

## Today

- Review of phenolic compounds in grapes
- Research on vine vigor and fruit and wine chemistry in Pinot noir
- Canopy management influences on Pinot noir aroma and flavor compounds



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## Phenolic Compounds in Wine

Anthocyanins – Provide color properties to wine as anthocyanins and derived pigments

Flavan-3-ols - Contribute bitterness

Proanthocyanidins (tannins) - Provide astringency /mouth feel

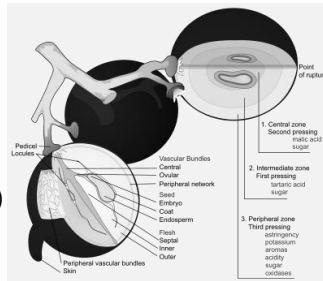
Flavonols – Contribute to white wine color and co-pigmentation in red wines

All have associated health benefits

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### The Grape Berry (after Coombe, 1987)

- Skin (anthocyanins, tannins, aroma and flavors)
- Pulp (water, sugars, organic acids, mineral salts, aroma and flavors)
- Seeds (tannins)
- Stems (tannin, aroma and flavors)



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## Flavonoid (Phenols) Biosynthesis

- Accumulation of phenolic compounds is an integral part of berry ripening
- External stimuli such as microbial infections, ultraviolet radiation, and chemical stressors induce their synthesis.
- Phenolic compounds are plant-based materials, phytochemicals.
- Under conditions of low water and nutrient availability (especially nitrogen) plants can reduce growth and shift into producing more secondary plant metabolites.

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## Phenolic Compounds

- Phenolic synthesis begins early during berry development; each group differs in berry location, in changes during ripening, and potential impact on wine quality
- Each variety has its own unique set of compounds and pattern of accumulation

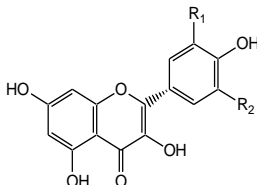
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## Phenolic Compounds Flavonoids

- Flavonoids comprise about 85% of the total phenols in winegrapes; flavonoid content is moderate to high in the skins, low in the juice, and high in the seeds.
- Aside from seed phenolics, both red and white grapes contain most of their phenolics in the skin.
- Primary source of grape phenolics in most wines come from skins.

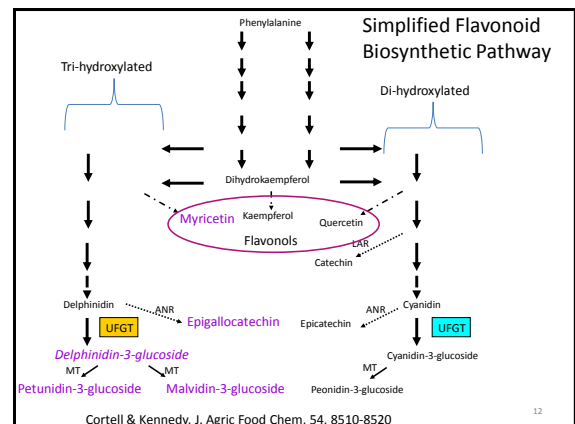
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## Flavonols



Flavonol	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>
kaempferol	H	H
quercetin	OH	H
myricetin	OH	OH

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Cortell &amp; Kennedy, J. Agric Food Chem, 54, 8510-8520

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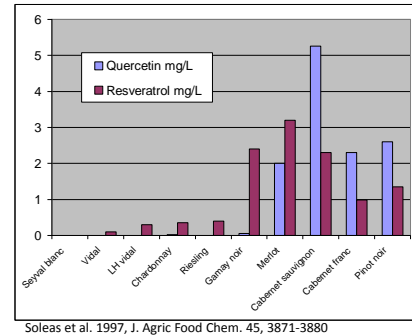
## Phenolic Compounds

### Flavonols

- Found only in skin tissue.
- The predominant flavonol in *V. vinifera* is kaempferol while in *V. labrusca*, quercetin appears to predominate.
- Glycosidically linked to glucose, rhamnose or glucuronic acid.
- Responds to sunlight exposure in the vineyard, plays a UV screening protective role.
- Contributes to color in white wines, plays a role in copigmentation in red wines.

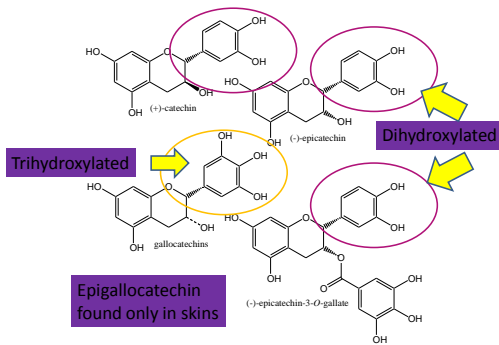
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Wine varietal differences in  
quercetin and resveratrol (mg/L)



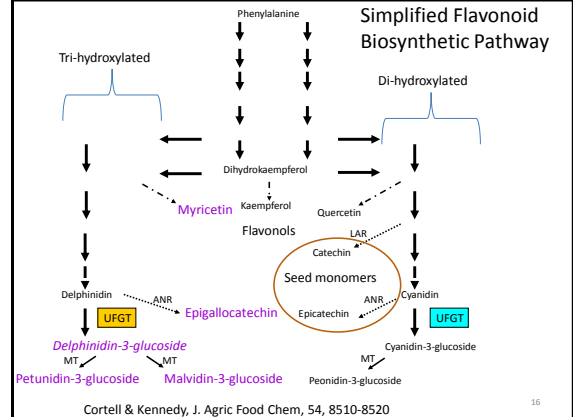
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## Flavan-3-ols



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### Simplified Flavonoid Biosynthetic Pathway



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## Phenolic Compounds

### Flavan-3-ol

- Present in seeds, skins and stems.
- Building blocks for tannins (flavonoid polymers).
- Seed flavan-3-ol monomer accumulation was shown to have a rapid increase 1-2 weeks after veraison followed by a decline leading to harvest.
- (-)-epicatechin and catechin account for the major proportion of monomers.

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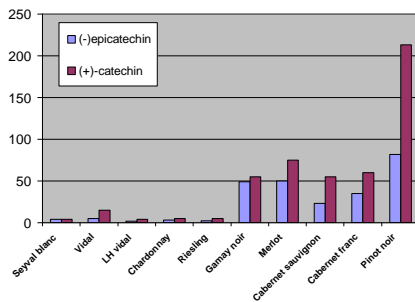
## Phenolic Compounds

### Flavan-3-ols

- Difference between varieties exist
  - P. noir – (70% C & 30% EC); Shiraz (30% C and 70% EC); C. Sauvignon (50% C & 50% EC).
- Low MW, tend to be bitter in water solutions.
- Epicatechin was found to be 2X more bitter than catechin.

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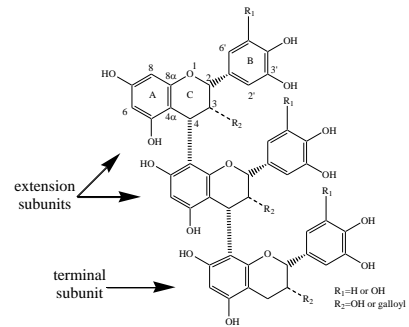
### Wine varietal differences in flavan-3-ols (+)-catechin and (-)-epicatechin (mg/L)



Soleas et al. 1997, J. Agric Food Chem. 45, 3871-3880

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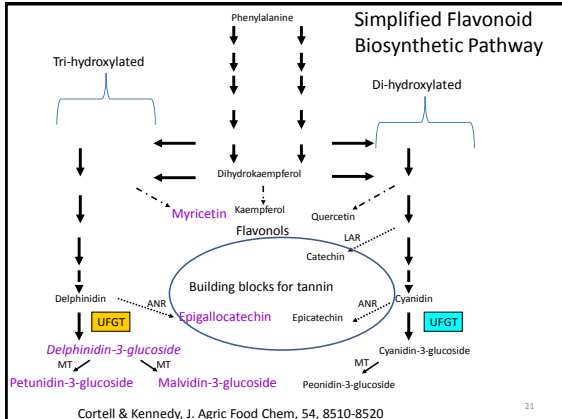
### Proanthocyanidins (tannins)



Structure by Jim Kennedy

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### Simplified Flavonoid Biosynthetic Pathway



Cortell & Kennedy, J. Agric Food Chem, 54, 8510-8520

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### Phenolic Compounds Tannins

- Tannins are found in the skins, seeds and stems
- All are astringent and bitter and MW. ranges from 1,000-4,000 corresponding to polymers of 3-40+ monomer units.
- In solution tannins can interact with protein to form precipitates.
- Astringency is a tactile (touch) sensation resulting from the interaction and precipitation of proteins in the saliva with tannins.

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### Phenolic Compounds Skin Tannins

- Skin tannins increase to a maximum early in berry development and then tend to decrease in concentration.
- As skin tannins decrease in concentration they increase in size (mean degree of polymerization) in the later stages of ripening.
- PN skin tannins were found to have a mDP of 27-42 units.

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### Phenolic Compounds Skin Tannins

- Skin tannins contain 33% epigallocatechin which is not found in seeds.
- Skin tannins are also associated with cell wall material such as pectin and anthocyanins and they become more easily extractable at the later stages of ripening.
- Skin tannin modified with pectin may moderate astringency.

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## Phenolic Compounds Seed Tannins

- Seed tannins increase to a maximum concentration up to veraison and then tend to decrease moderately.
- Seed tannins decrease in both solubility and extractability which leads to lower bitterness and astringency and a reduction in tannins
- Seeds have mDP of 5-9 subunits in Pinot noir
- Seed tannin contain high levels of epicatechin-gallate compared to skin tannins.

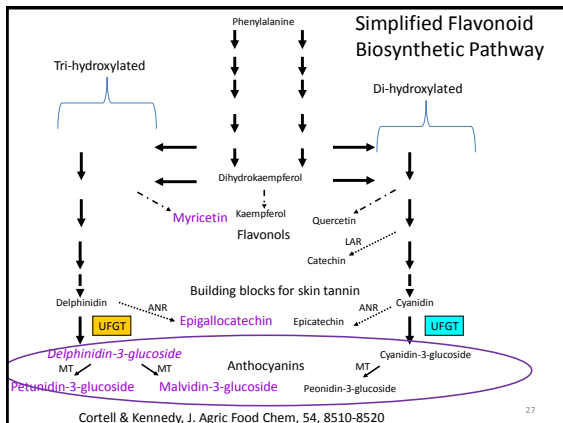
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## Phenolic Compounds Seed Tannins

- Reduction in seed tannins appears to be due to oxidation as the tannins become fixed to the seed coat which parallels the color change from green to brown seeds.

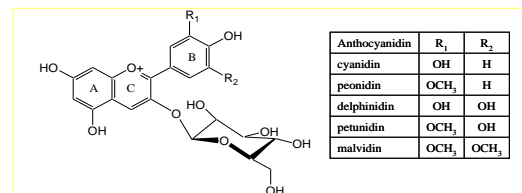


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## Pinot noir Anthocyanins



Pinot noir: glucosides of delphinidin, cyanidin, petunidin, peonidin and malvidin  
Other varieties can have up to 20 different anthocyanins  
Anthocyanin profile can affect color and color stability of wines

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## Phenolic Compounds Anthocyanins

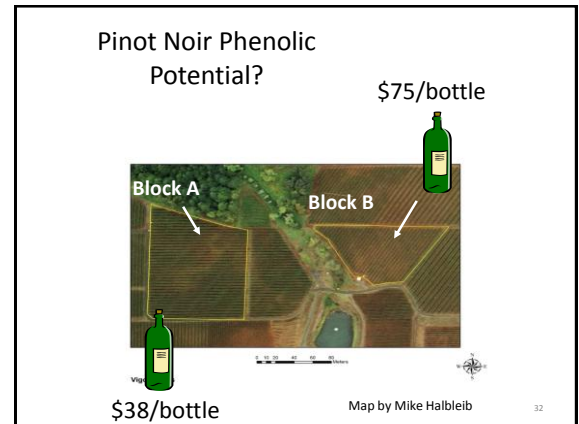
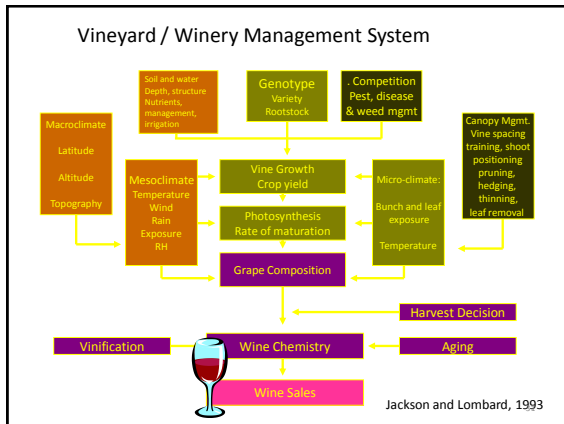
- Begin accumulating in grape skins at veraison
- Continue to accumulate up until about 24 Brix.
- All genes leading to the production of anthocyanins are expressed as early as 10 weeks post flowering except for UFGT which is specific to anthocyanins.
- Regulation of UFGT is under different controls than the other genes in the pathway.

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## Phenolic Compounds Anthocyanins

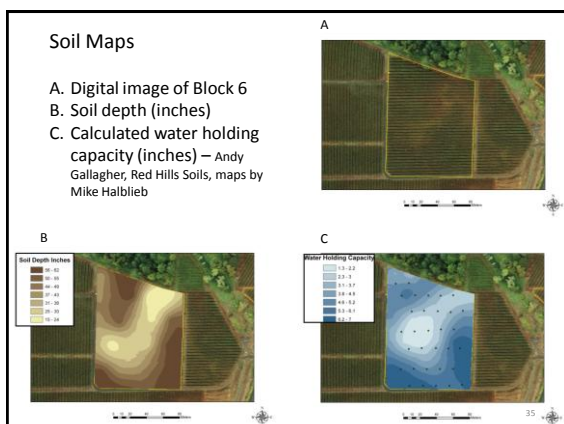
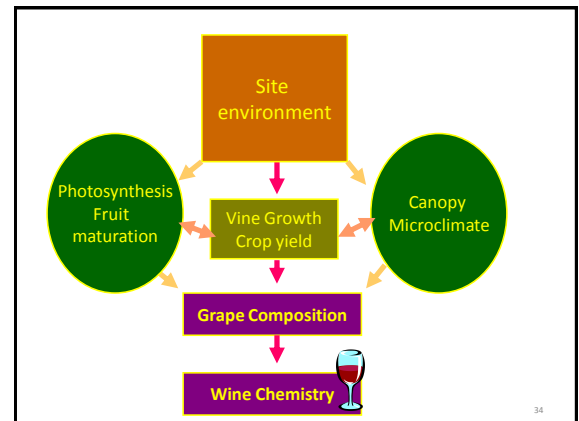
- At veraison synthesis and accumulation begins in the skin epidermal layers and are contained in vacuoles within the skin cells.
- Anthocyanin synthesis generally reaches a maximum on a per berry basis with maximum sugar accumulation and then the concentration tends to decline slightly.
- Synthesis is stimulated by light and good sun exposure of the clusters in the canopy; very high temperatures can degrade them (<90°F).

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### Research Objectives

- To investigate the influence of vineyard site environment and vine vigor on yield components, fruit chemical analyses, and wine chemical analyses
- To determine the extent of variation in phenolic compounds in fruit
- To explore relevant environmental factors in the system



### Vine Vigor

- Vine vigor is NOT the same as VINE SIZE!!
- Vine vigor reflects a vine out of balance in one direction or another:
  - High vine vigor – too much vegetation relative to fruit production
  - Low vigor – Not enough vegetation relative to fruit load

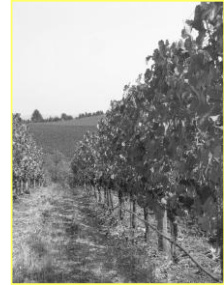
## Vine Vigor

- Vine vigor is related to the amount of shoot and lateral growth
- Low vigor = minimal shoot growth and few laterals, small diameter shoots, small leaves and light green colored leaves
- High vigor = Excessive shoot and lateral growth, heavy shoots, large leaves and dark green leaves

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## Influence of Low to Moderate Vigor on Phenolic Accumulation in the Vineyard

- High phenolics
  - High sun exposure
  - Lower levels N
  - Low soil moisture
  - Moderate canopy size
  - Moderate crop load
  - Low soil fertility
  - Small berry size



Jackson and Lombard, 1993

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## Influence of High Vigor on Phenolic Accumulation in the Vineyard

- Low phenolics
  - Shading
  - Higher leaf N
  - High soil moisture
  - Excessive vegetation
  - High crop load
  - High soil fertility
  - Large berry size



Jackson and Lombard, 1993

## Vine Vigor Index



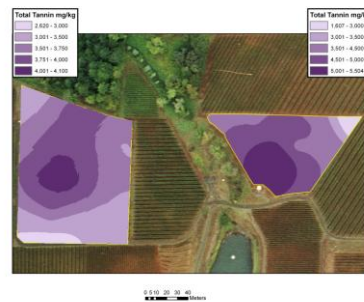
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## Vine Growth Parameters used in Delineating the Vigor Zone Wines

Block	Vigor zone	Shoot length (cm)	Trunk cross sectional area (cm <sup>2</sup> )	Leaf chlorophyll (SPAD units)	Relative vigor index
A	High	122 a	8.6 a	45.4 a	.82 a
A	Med	108 b	8.9 a	41.6 b	.64 b
A	Low	99 c	7.3 b	40.1 b	.44 cd
B	High	108 b	7.2 b	40.3 b	.49 c
B	Med	91 c	7.2 b	38.6 c	.35 d
B	Low	73 d	5.0 c	34.2 d	.09 e
ANOVA	p-value	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001

Values sharing the same letter within each column are not significantly different at  $\alpha \geq 0.05$ .

## Total Fruit Tannin



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Cortell et al. 2005, J. Ag. Food Chem. 53, 5798-5808

### Tannin in Seeds

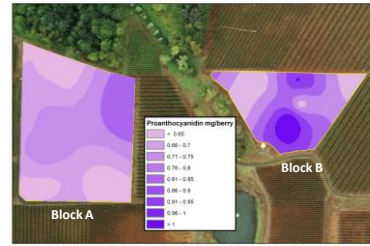
Block	Vigor zone	# seeds per berry	Tannin (nmol/seed)
6	High	1.31 <sup>a</sup>	7939 <sup>a</sup>
6	Med	1.37 <sup>ab</sup>	7785 <sup>a</sup>
6	Low	1.56 <sup>a</sup>	7666 <sup>ab</sup>
19	High	1.45 <sup>abc</sup>	6489 <sup>b</sup>
19	Med	1.50 <sup>ab</sup>	7653 <sup>ab</sup>
19	Low	1.59 <sup>a</sup>	7082 <sup>ab</sup>



Values sharing the same letter within each column are not significantly different at  $\alpha \geq 0.05$

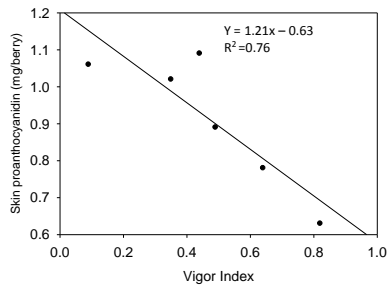
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### Skin Tannin (mg/berry)



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### Relationship between the Vigor Index and Skin Tannin



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### Fruit Summary – Reduction in Vine Vigor

- ↓ Flavan-3-ol monomers
- ↑ (+)-catechin relative to (-)-epicatechin
- Seed tannin
- ↑ Skin tannin
- Anthocyanin mg/berry

Cortell et al. 2005, J. Ag. Food Chem. 53, 5798-5808

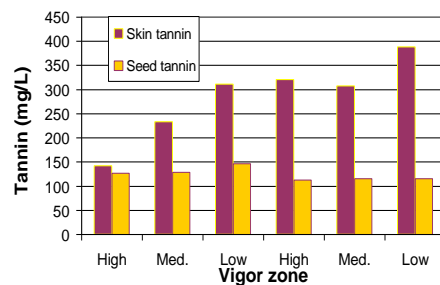
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### Wine flavan-3-ol monomers

Block	Vigor zone	Total monomers (mg/L)	(+)-catechin (%)	(-)-epicatechin (%)
A	High	53.6 a	77.3 c	22.7 a
A	Med	50.5 ab	75.7 c	24.3 a
A	Low	46.1 b	77.6 c	22.4 a
B	High	38.9 c	83.9 b	16.1 b
B	Med	36.2 c	86.6 a	13.4 c
B	Low	35.6 c	88.0 a	12.0 c
	p-value	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001

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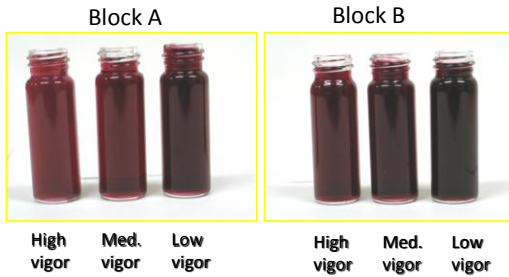
### Extraction of Skin and Seed Tannin into Wine



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## Wine Color Differences



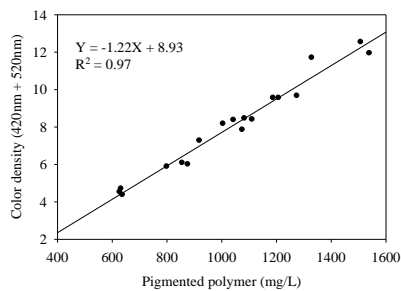
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## Wine Color

Block	Vigor zone	ACY (Mg/L)	Pigmented polymers (mg/L)	Sulfite resistant pigments (%)	Color density (520nm + 420nm)	Hue (420nm/520nm)
A	High	143.9 d	632 e	36.9 c	4.5 e	0.78 a
A	Med	199.7 a	844 d	37.7 c	6.0 d	0.77 a
A	Low	159.7 c	1090 b	41.6 b	8.2 c	0.68 b
B	High	204.8 a	989 c	33.3 d	8.0 c	0.67 bc
B	Med	162.3 c	1223 b	43.7 ab	9.6 b	0.64 cd
B	Low	177.6 b	1459 a	44.3 a	12.1 a	0.62 d
	p-value	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001

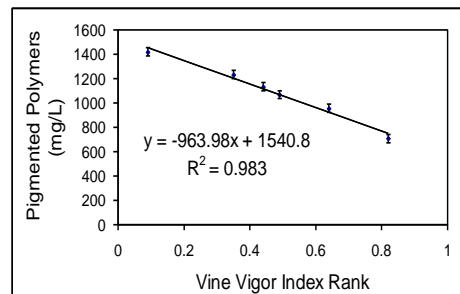
Values sharing the same letter within each column are not significantly different at  $\alpha \geq 0.05$

## Relationship between Pigmented Polymers and Wine Color Density



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## Relationship between Vine Vigor and Wine Pigmented Polymers



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## Wine Summary – Reduction in Vine Vigor

- ↓ Flavan-3-ol monomers
- Seed tannin
- ↑ Skin tannin
- ↑ Pigmented polymers
- ↑ Skin extraction

Cortell et al. 2005, J. Ag. Food Chem. 53, 5798-5808

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## Vineyard Exposure Experiment

In low vigor zone of Block 6

Two clusters on one shoot installed in box and two labeled outside  
All clusters treated the same

Fruit harvested at véraison and harvest

Boxes Courtesy of Dr. Mark Downey

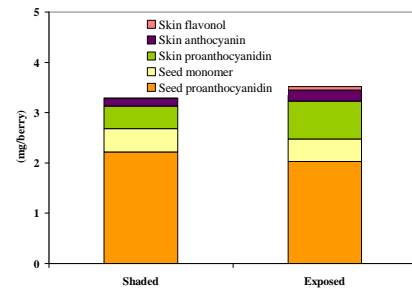


## Model Extractions

10 reps of 300 g of berries  
Run through roller  
Used 300 ml 40% ethanol v/v  
with 100 ppm SO<sub>2</sub>  
Extracted on shaker table for  
48 hours at 38°C  
Pressed, weighed and  
analyzed



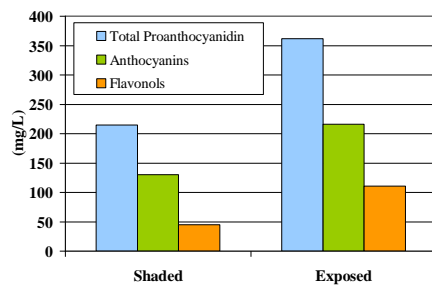
## Total Accumulation of Phenolics in Shaded and Exposed Fruit at Harvest



Cortell & Kennedy, Journal of Agric. Food Chem., 2006

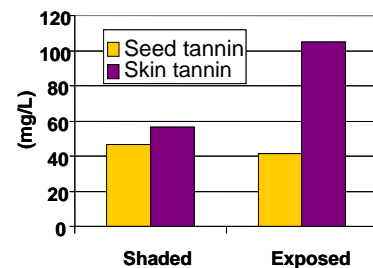
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## Model Extraction Phenolic Profile



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## Extraction of Skin and Seed Tannin



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## Summary-Exposed Fruit

- ↓ Flavan-3-ol monomers
- Seed tannin
- ↑ Skin tannin
- ↑ Pigmented polymers
- ↑ Skin extraction

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## Summary-Exposed Fruit

- ↑ Flavonols
- Anthocyanins (fruit)
- ↑ Anthocyanins (model extract)

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## Conclusions

- Vine vigor did not have an impact on seed tannin in fruit or wine
- Vine vigor differences influenced the accumulation of skin tannin, flavonols and anthocyanins
- Skin tannin and the percent skin tannin extraction were higher in low vigor zone wines
- Pigmented polymers were higher in wines made from low vigor zones

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## Development of Aroma and Flavor

- Several hundred different chemicals are involved with grape aroma and flavor including hydrocarbons, alcohols, esters, aldehydes, ketones, and other compounds often present at small concentrations of ppm and ppt.

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## Development of Aroma and Flavor

- Nearly all compounds identified are present in most varieties even those that do not have specific distinctive varietal aromas.
- For certain varieties the characteristic aromas result from a limited number of specific compounds.

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## Pinot noir Aroma and Flavor Compounds

- Very complex involving a large number of compounds.
- Different proportions of these compounds give rise to different perceived odors.
- Concentration of these aroma compounds and their balance in the wine matrix will affect the quality of Pinot noir wines.
- Differences could be related to clones, growing conditions, climate, etc.



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## Pinot noir Aroma and Flavor Compounds

Compound	Level found	Threshold	Aroma/flavor
Phenyl ethanol	24-37 mg/L	1 mg/L	Rosy & honey
Guaiacol	70 -200 mg/L	20 ppb	Smoky, spicy, medicinal
Eugenol & 4-ethyl guaiacol		ug/L	Smoky, spicy (fault at high levels)
linalool		ug/L	Floral, cherry aroma
geraniol		ug/L	Floral, cherry aroma
nerol		ug/L	Floral, cherry aroma
citronellol		ug/L	Floral, cherry aroma
B-damascanone	5-10 ug/L	0.002 ug/L	Exotic fruit, apple, rose, honey
B-ionone	0.2 – 0.6 ug/L	0.007 ug/L	Berry and violet aroma
Δ - nonalactone	10-18 ug/L	N/A	Cocconut, peach

J. Agric. Food Chem. 2006, 54, 8567-8573

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## More Pinot noir Aroma and Flavor compounds

- 3-methylbutyl acetate      Banana
- ethyl hexanoate      Sweet Fruity
- ethyl 3-(methylthio)propanoate      Vegetable
- ethyl octanoate      Green fruity floral
- whisky lactone      Green floral
- ethyl dihydrocinnamate      Fruity
- methyl and ethyl vanillate      Green tea
- ethyl cinnamate      Fruity, Cinnamon

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### Changes in Pinot noir Aroma Compounds in Wine from Different Grape Maturities

- For most short-chain fatty acid esters, there were no obvious trends with grape maturity, however, the concentrations of ethyl 2-methylpropanoate and ethyl 3-methylbutanoate consistently decreased with grape maturity.
- The decreasing trend was also observed for other esters including ethyl cinnamate, ethyl dihydroxycinnamate, and ethyl anthranilate, with the exception of ethyl vanillate.

J. Agric. Food Chem. 2006, 54, 8567-8573

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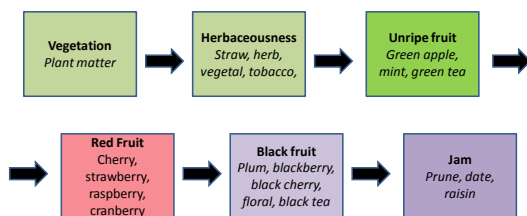
### Changes in Pinot noir Aroma Compounds in Wine from Different Grape Maturities

- The C13 norisprenoids, monoterpenes, and guaiacols had increasing trends with grape maturation.
- These include norisprenoids - B – damascanone and B –ionone
- Monoterpenes – geraniol, linalool and nerol
- Guaiacol and eugenol

J. Agric. Food Chem. 2006, 54, 8567-8573

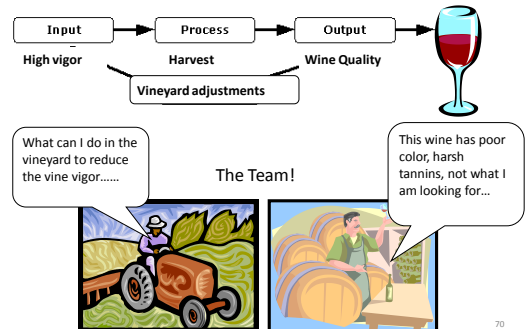
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### Changes in Pinot noir flavorants during ripening



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### Vigor Management



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### Applications

- Manage vineyard zones differently
- Harvest vineyard zones separately
- Use zones to target fruit for premium wines

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**Don't Just Grow a Vine, Grow Wine!"**

**Thank-you!!**

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