



Of mice and wine  
An approach using SBSE-GC-MS

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# Mousy off-flavour: a wine defect



becoming more frequent in recent years

linked to

- pH increase
- decrease in the use of sulphur dioxide
- use of native microbiota

# Mousy off-flavour: a wine defect

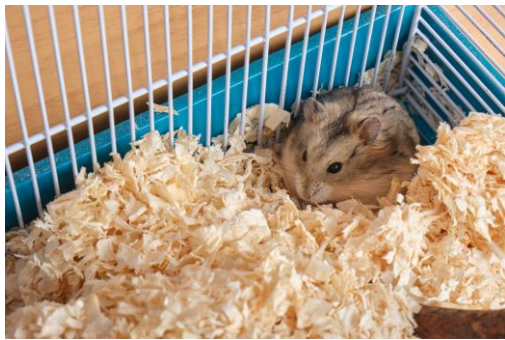


becoming more frequent in recent years

linked to

- pH increase
- decrease in the use of sulphur dioxide
- use of native microbiota

## Sensory descriptors



rodent urine  
(dirty mouse cage)



popcorn, basmati rice, rice cakes, crackers, bread crust



dried sausage skin

# Mousy off-flavour: molecular markers



## 3 *N*-heterocyclic molecules

2-acetyl-1-pyrroline (APY) (*Herderich et al., 1995*)

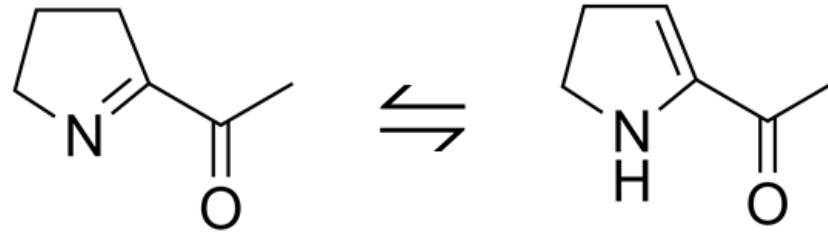
2-acetyltetrahydropyridine (ATHP) (*Strauss & Heresztyn, 1984*)

2-ethyltetrahydropyridine (ETHP) (*Craig & Heresztyn, 1984*)

# Mousy off-flavour compounds: tautomerism and protonation

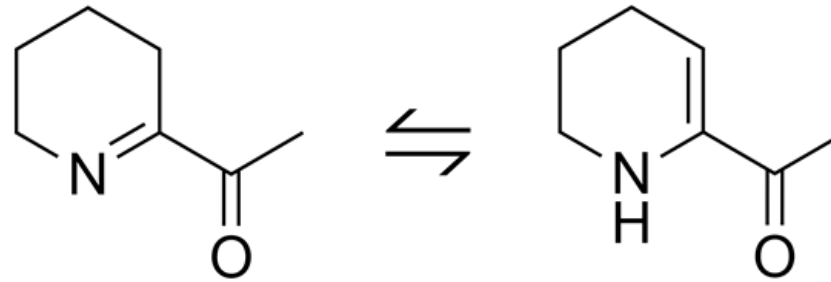
APY

2-acetylpyrroline



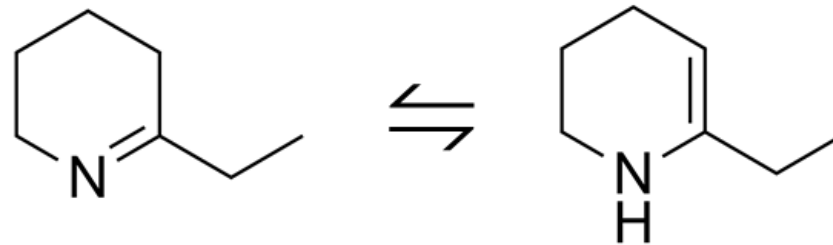
ATHP

2-acetyltetrahydropyridine



ETHP

2-ethyltetrahydropyridine



# Mousy off-flavour compounds: tautomerism and protonation

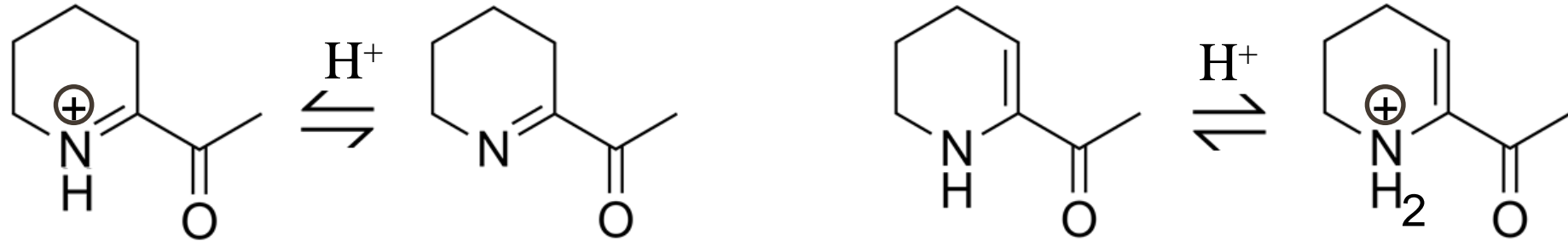
## APY

2-acetylpyrroline



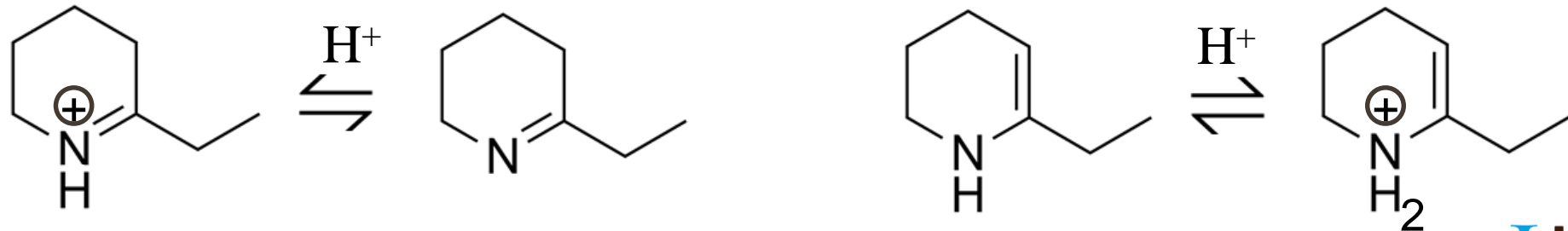
## ATHP

2-acetyltetrahydropyridine



## ETHP

2-ethyltetrahydropyridine



# Mousy off-flavour: a wine defect already mentioned in 1956

Archiv für Mikrobiologie, Bd. 24, S. 266—280 (1956)

(Station agronomique et oenologique de Bordeaux)

## Sur les *Brettanomyces* isolés de Raisins et de Vins

par  
E. PEYNAUD et S. DOMERCQ

### Caractères organoleptiques

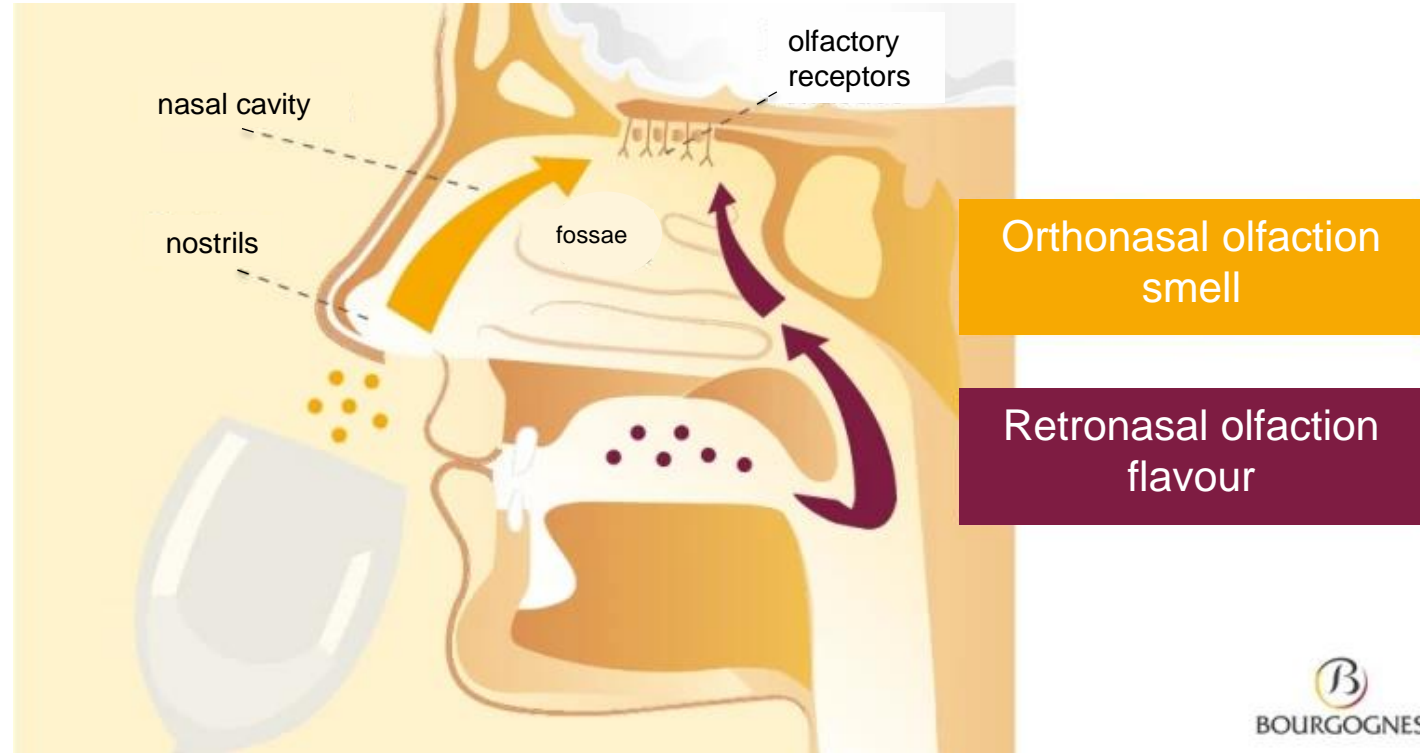
Les cultures de *Brettanomyces* sur moût de raisin présentent à l'odeur des caractères spéciaux assez typiques, que nous avons essayé d'analyser dans le tableau 7. Nous distinguons une odeur sure et aigre, désagréable, différente de l'odeur pénétrante d'acétate d'éthyle et plus complexe. La plupart des cultures ont une odeur fruitée, aldéhydique, rappelant la pomme; certaines possèdent un caractère particulier, butyrique par exemple. Mais toutes ont une odeur plus ou moins intense et toujours infecte, qui rappelle l'acétamide. Cette odeur, assez difficile à définir par un autre terme qu'odeur «de souris», se perçoit à la fin de la dégustation et semble être due à des produits peu volatils. Elle est exaltée surtout, et c'est de cette façon qu'on la distingue le plus aisément, lorsqu'on se mouille les doigts avec le liquide et qu'on les sent après un certain temps d'évaporation.



# Mousy off-flavour: olfactory perception



- more strongly perceived in the mouth at the end of tasting  
⇒ retronasal route



- alteration better detected when  $\text{pH} > \text{pH}_{\text{wine}}$ 
  - oral pH: 5.76 to 7.96 (*Larsen, Jensen, Madsen, & Pearce, 1999*)
  - skin pH: 4.7 on average (*Lambers, Piessens, Bloem, Pronk, & Finkel, 2006*)



# Mousy off-flavour: olfactory perception

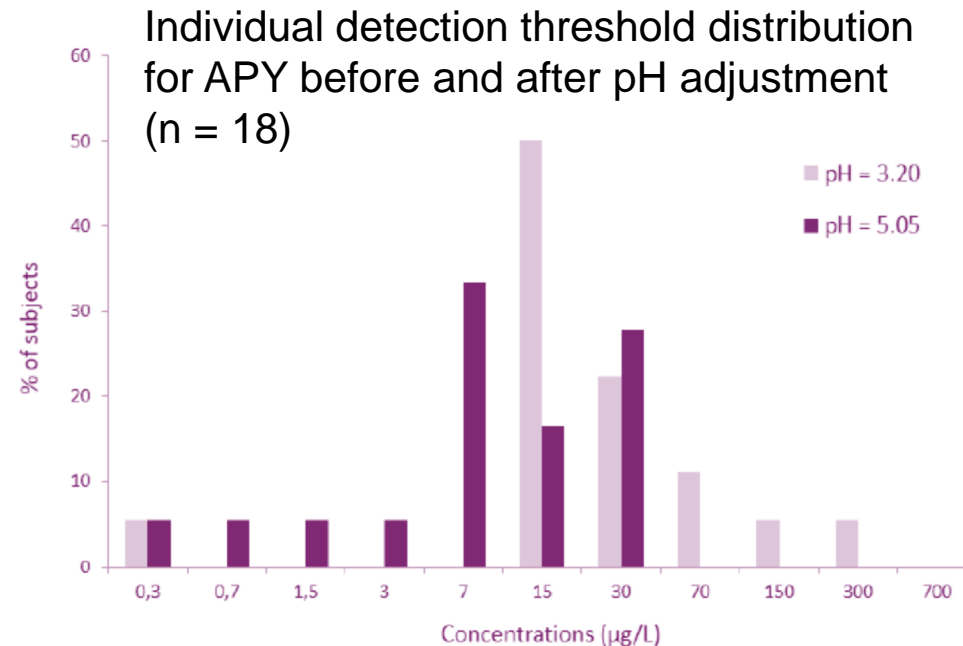
orthonasal evaluation preferred  $\Rightarrow$  reduce interindividual variations due to retronasal evaluation

- 3 protocols tested
1. alkalinized paper strips with a 0.1 M sodium hydroxide solution
  2. wine pH adjustment with sodium bicarbonate to pH = 5
  3. wine pH adjustment with sodium bicarbonate to pH = 7

## adjusting pH to around 5

increased the consensus among tasters

ensured clear discrimination among samples, according to contamination level



# Mousy off-flavour: olfactory perception



## Detection thresholds in water (orthonasal evaluation)

## Reported concentrations in spoiled wine

APY

0.1  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$

*(Buttery et al., 1983)*

7.8  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$

*(Snowdon et al., 2006)*

ATHP

1.6  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$

*(Teranishi et al., 1975)*

0.7 to 106  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$

*(Costello, 1998)*

ETHP

140.5  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$

*(Tempère et al., 2019)*

< 150  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$

*(Grbin et al., 1996)*

# Mousy off-flavour: an analytical challenge



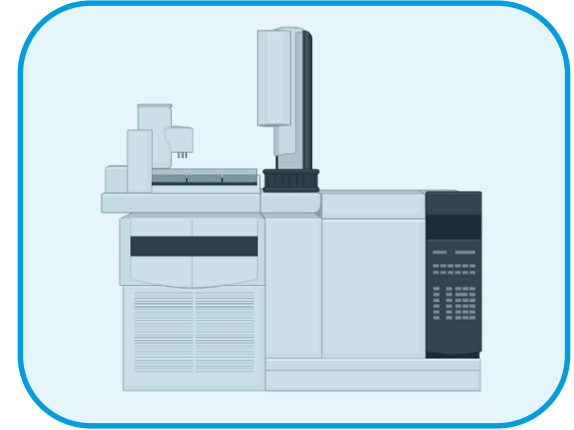
APY in aromatic rice

→ HS-SPME-GC-MS

Hopfer *et al.* 2016, Bryant *et al.* 2011

→ HSSE-GC-MS

Grimm *et al.* 2011



APY in wine

→ LLE-GC-MS

Herderich *et al.* 1995

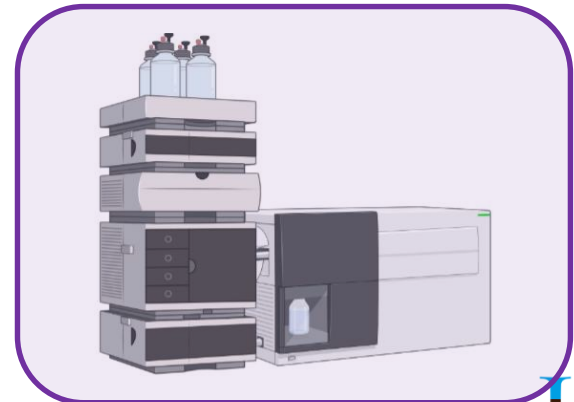
ATHP in wine

→ LC-APCI-MS/MS

Hayasaka, 2019

LODs → 0.07  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$  (red wine) 0.08  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$  (white wine)

LOQs → 0.21  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$  (red wine) 0.23  $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$  (white wine)



# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction in the lab



## Multi off-flavour profile in wine



**Abbreviation**

**Name**

**Smell**

**Perception threshold**

**IBMP**

2-Isobutyl-3-methoxypyrazine

Vegetal, green pepper

**15 ng/L**

**EP**

4-Ethylphenol

Horse stable, leather

**430 µg/L**

**EG**

4-Ethylguaiacol

Spicy, pharmaceutical

**33 µg/L**

**Geo**

Geosmin

Muddy, musty earthy soil

**50 ng/L**

**TCA**

2,4,6-Trichloroanisole

Cork

**3 ng/L**

**TeCA**

2,3,4,6-Tetrachloroanisole

Dust

**35 ng/L**

**TBA**

2,4,6-Tribromoanisole

Mouldy

**3 ng/L**

**PCA**

2,3,4,5,6-Pentachloroanisole

Dust

**100 ng/L**

**10 mL sample needed**

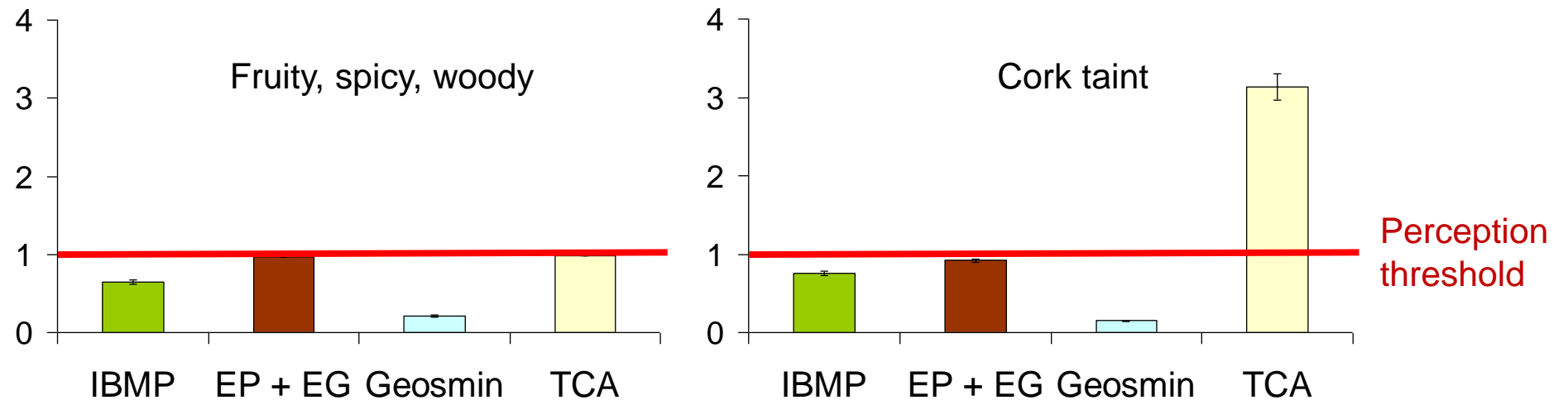


# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction in the lab



## Multi off-flavour profile in wine

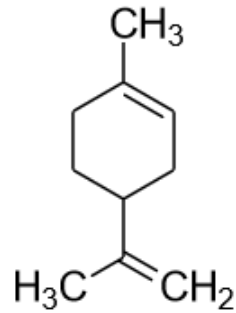
Comparison of 2 bottles of the same 1999 wine, one rejected by the panel of tasters



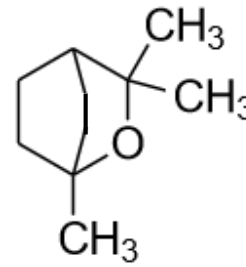
# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction in the lab



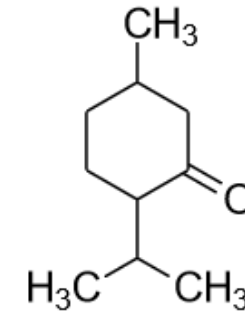
Aroma : mint, freshness  
Originating from limonene



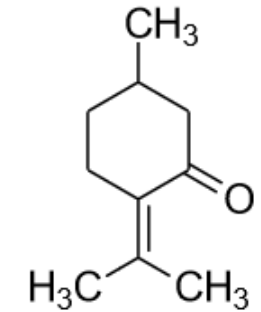
limonene



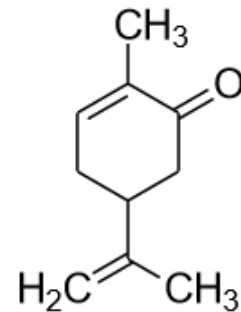
1,8-cineole



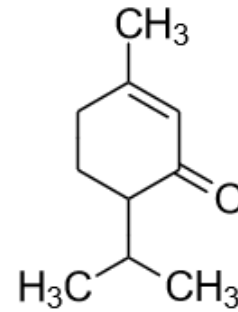
menthone



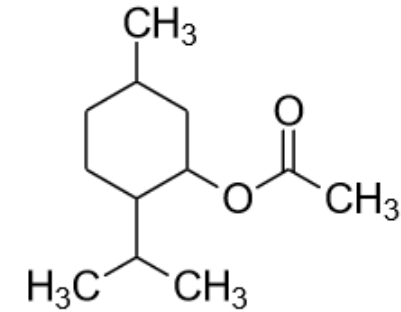
pulegone



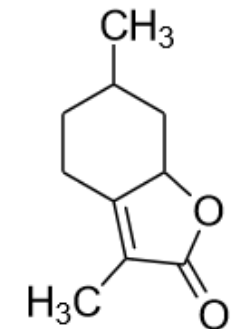
carvone



piperitone



menthyl acetate  
and  
neomenthyl acetate



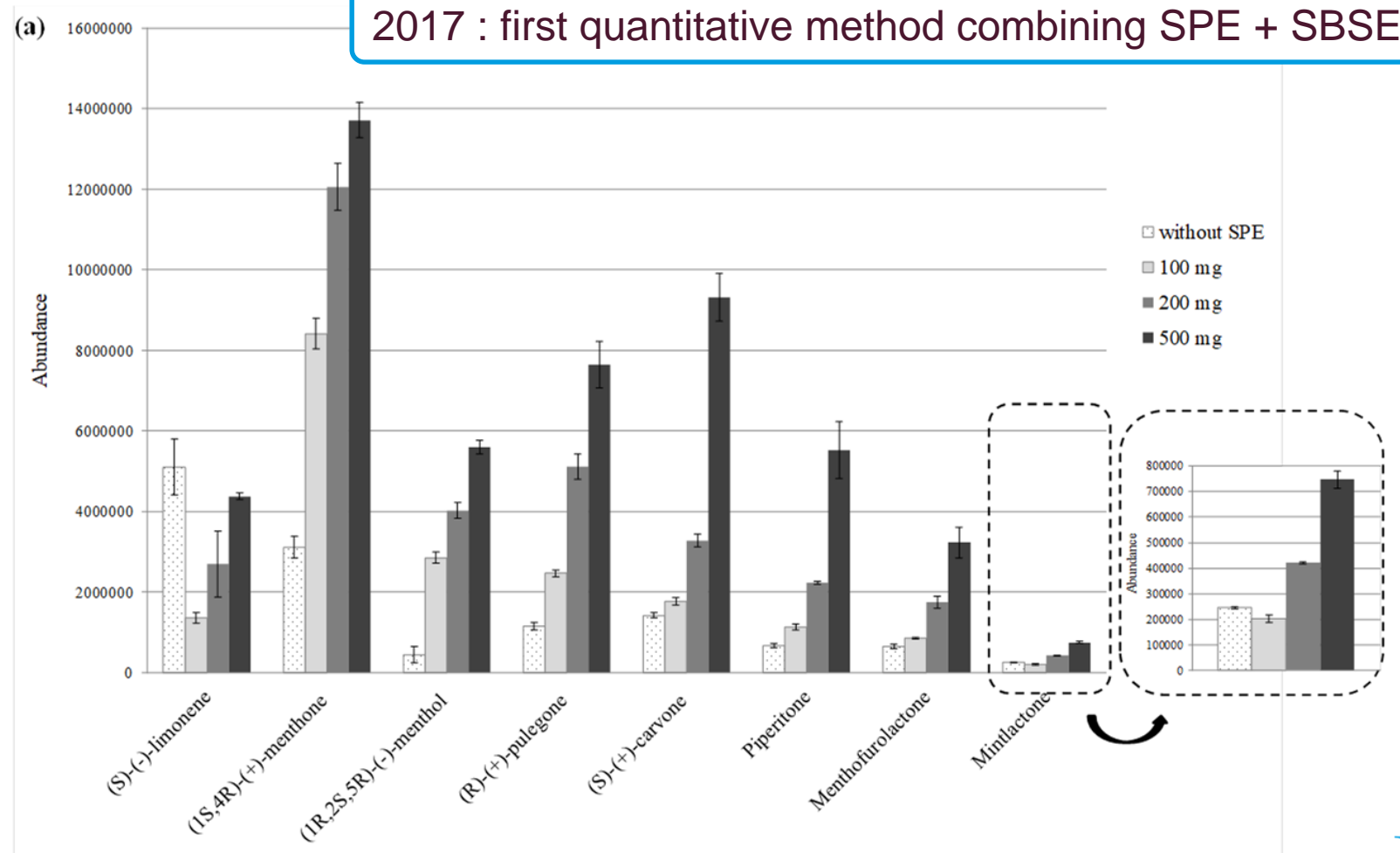
mintlactone

# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction in the lab



Aroma : mint, freshness  
Originating from limonene

100 mL sample needed



# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction for mousiness in wine

## SBSE optimisation

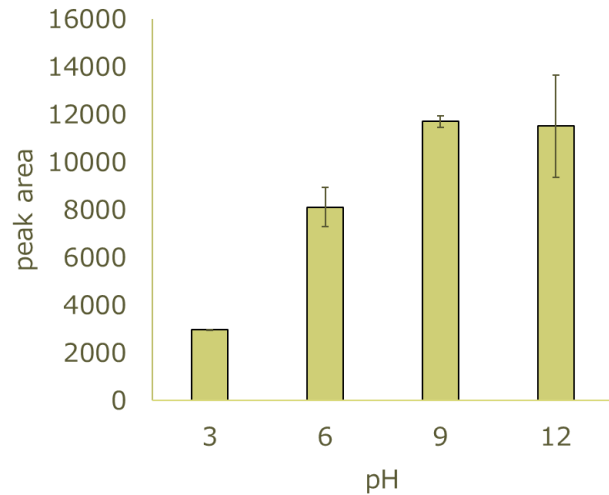
- pH optimisation

Polar compounds are barely extracted by Twisters®  
Ionizable species have to be in their neutral forms  
Basic sites are protonated below their pKa

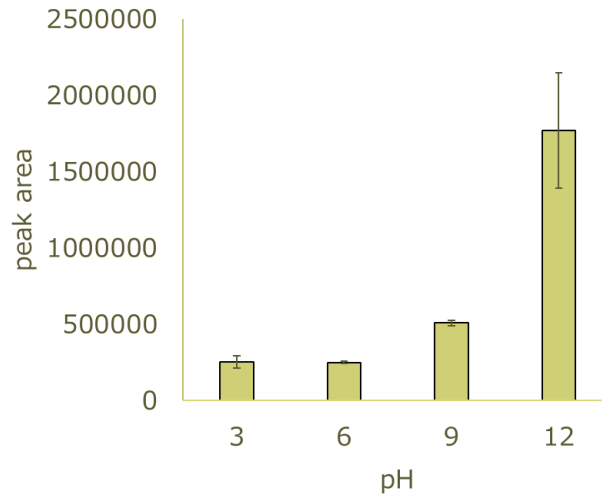


Evolution of extraction efficiency with sample pH in white wine

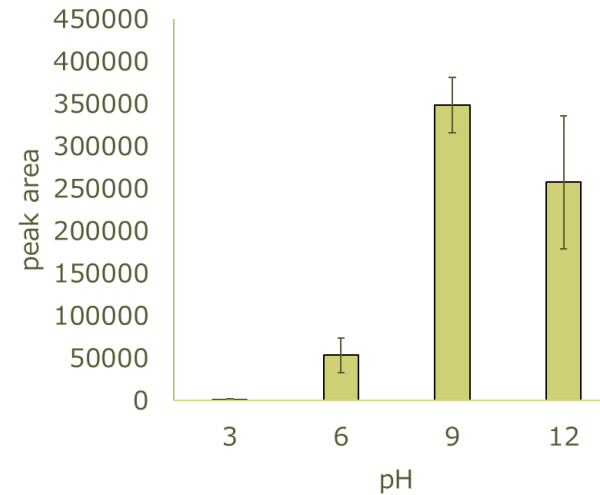
### APY



### ETHP

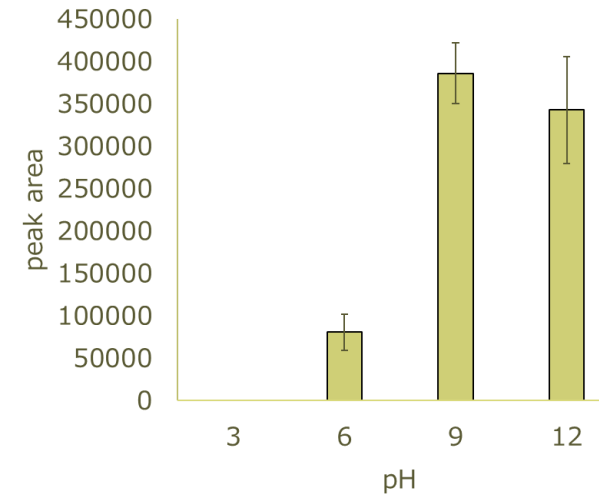


### ATHP (3,4,5,6-)



### ATHP

### ATHP (1,4,5,6-)





# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction for mousiness in wine

## SBSE optimisation

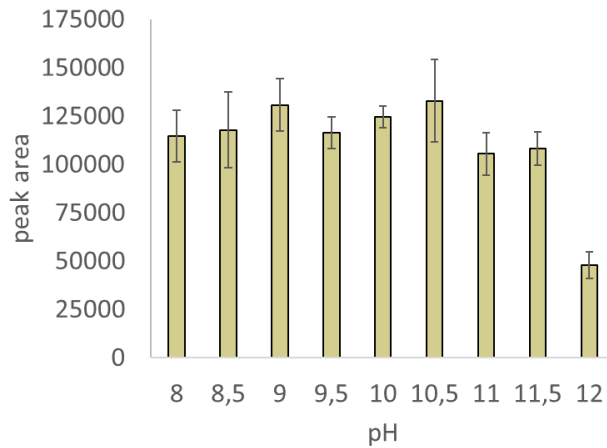


- pH optimisation

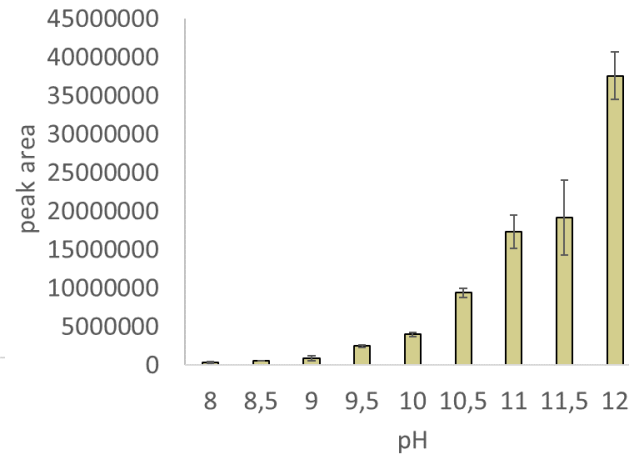
⇒ Best compromise pH = 10.5

Evolution of extraction efficiency with sample pH in white wine

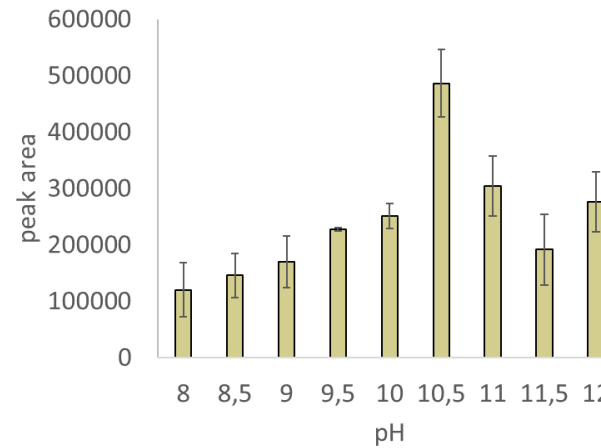
### APY



### ETHP

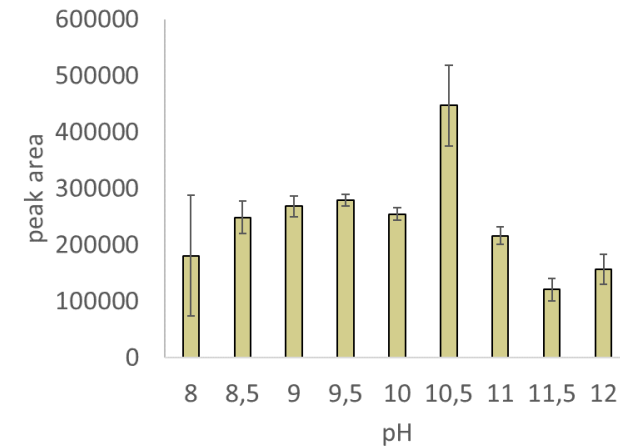


### ATHP (3,4,5,6-)



### ATHP

### ATHP (1,4,5,6-)



# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction for mousiness in wine

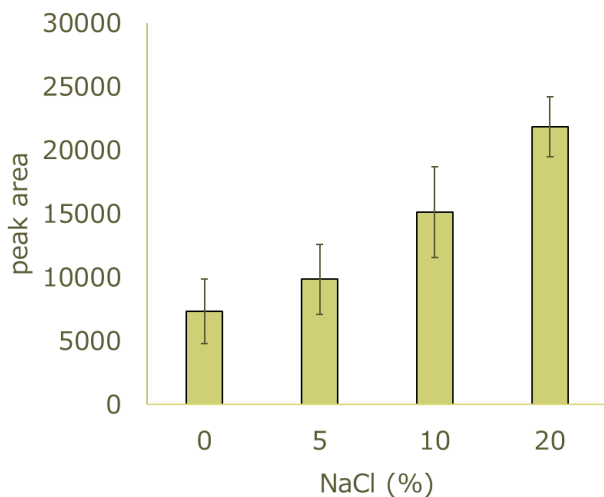
## SBSE optimisation



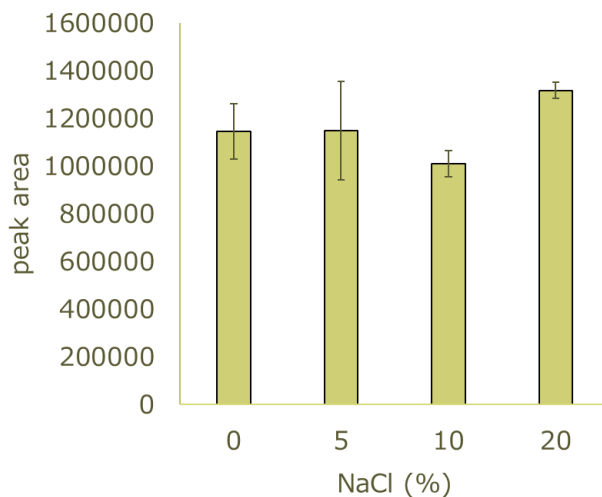
- salt addition

Evolution of extraction efficiency with % of NaCl in white wine sample

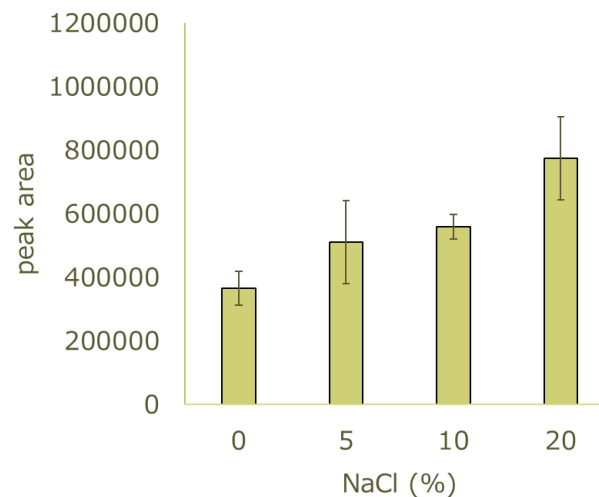
APY



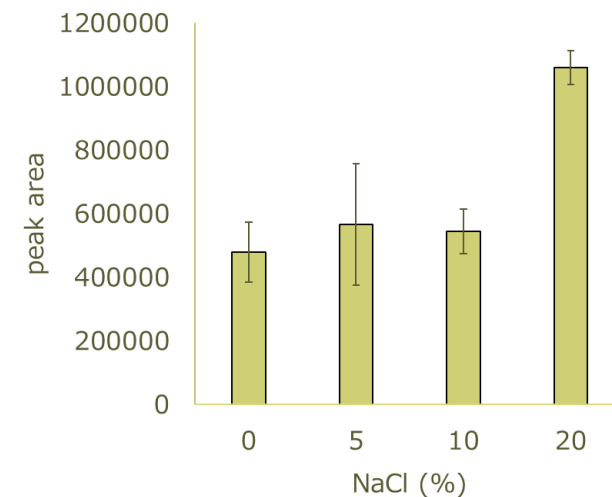
ETHP



ATHP (3,4,5,6-)




ATHP



# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction for mousiness in wine

## SBSE optimisation

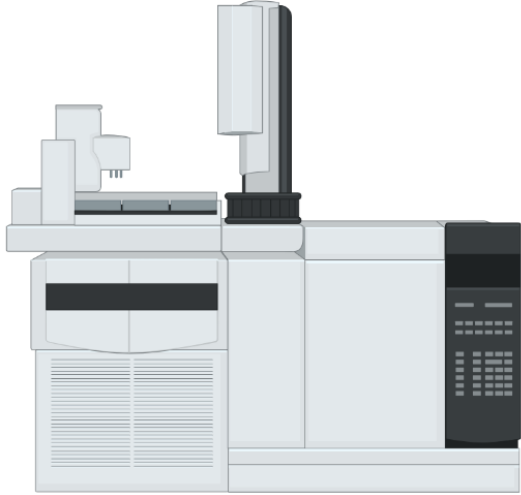
- pH optimization
- salt addition
- sample volume
- Twister<sup>®</sup> size



10 mL of wine  
2 g of NaCl  
ISTD: IBMP-d<sub>3</sub>  
pH = 10.5 (1M NaOH)



Twister<sup>®</sup> PDMS  
20 × 1 mm  
600 rpm  
1 h



GC separation and MS detection in SIM mode

# Stir Bar Sorptive Extraction for mousiness in wine

## SBSE-GC-MS method performance

Red wine:

Compound	Linear range ( $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$ )	LOD ( $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$ )	LOQ ( $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$ )	Average recovery (th. conc., $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$ ) (%, n=10)	Intra-day precision RSD (%, n=10)	Average recovery (th. conc., $\mu\text{g.L}^{-1}$ ) (%, n=10)	Intra-day precision RSD (%, n=10)
APY	3.6 – 71.3	0.5	1.8	107 (10.0)	26	95 (49.9)	19
ATHP	5.3 – 105.0	1.5	4.9	119 (23.5)	19	83 (117.5)	25
ETHP	14.1 – 282.7	2.7	8.9	98 (21.2)	18	116 (106.0)	21



Kiyomichi, Franc, Moulis, Riquier, Ballestra, Marchand, Tempère, & de Revel. Food Chemistry (2023)

Kiyomichi, Franc, Moulis, Riquier, Ballestra, Marchand, Tempère, & de Revel. IVES Technical Reviews vine & wine (2023)

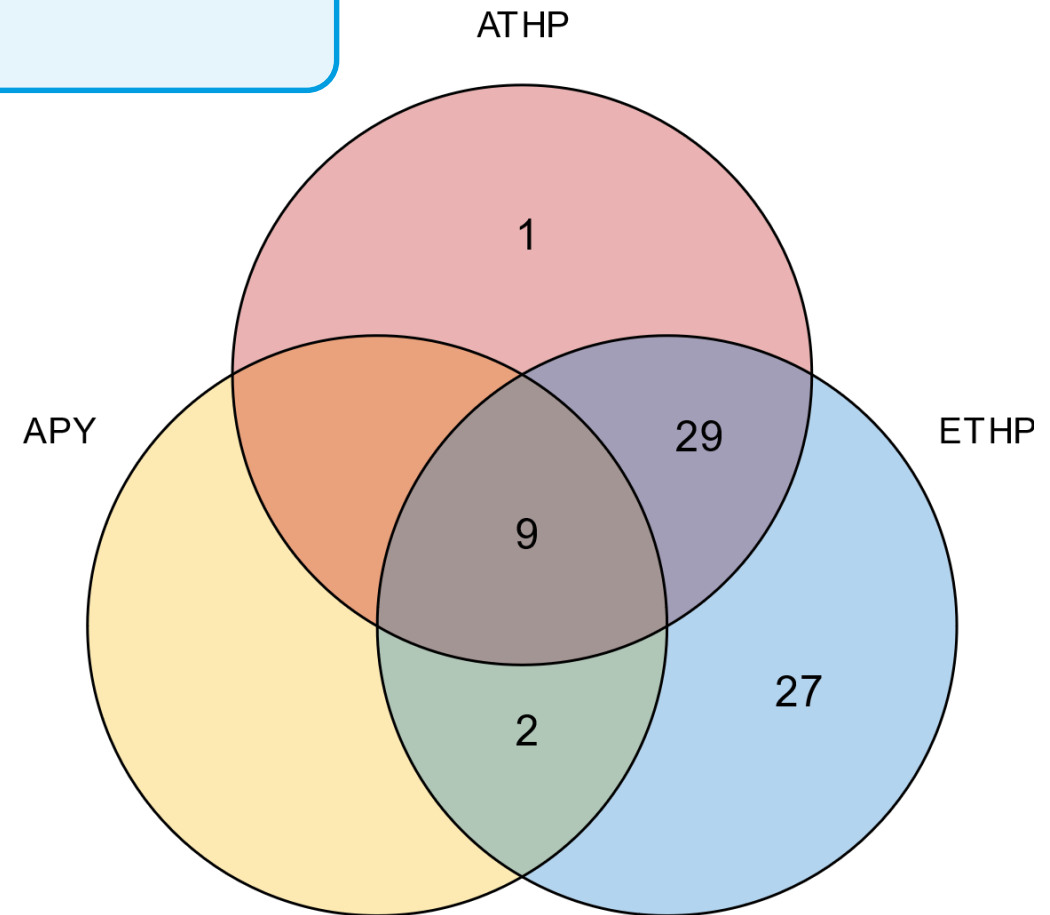


# Mousy off-flavour: wine analysis



68 wines without SO<sub>2</sub> addition or with limited addition of SO<sub>2</sub>  
6 control wines with classical use of SO<sub>2</sub>

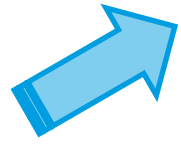
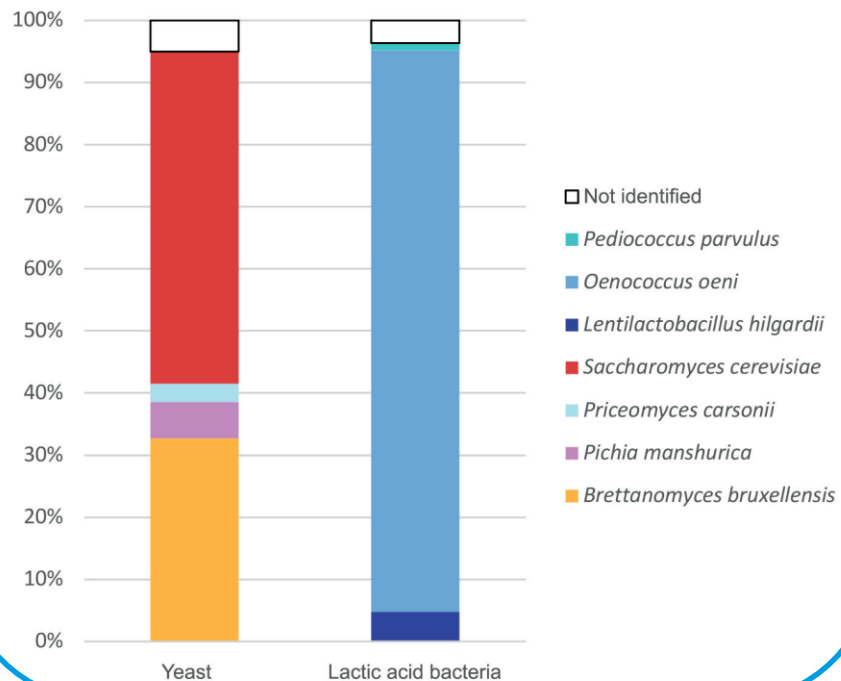
- No **APY** nor **ATHP** in control wines
- **ETHP** below LOQ in control wines
- **ETHP** in almost all wines with no or limited SO<sub>2</sub> addition (from 14.0 µg/L to 120.5 µg/L)
- **ATHP** in more than 57% of wines with no or limited SO<sub>2</sub> addition (from below LOQ to 54.5 µg/L)
- **APY** only in 16% of wines with no or limited SO<sub>2</sub> addition (from below LOQ to 7.7 µg/L)



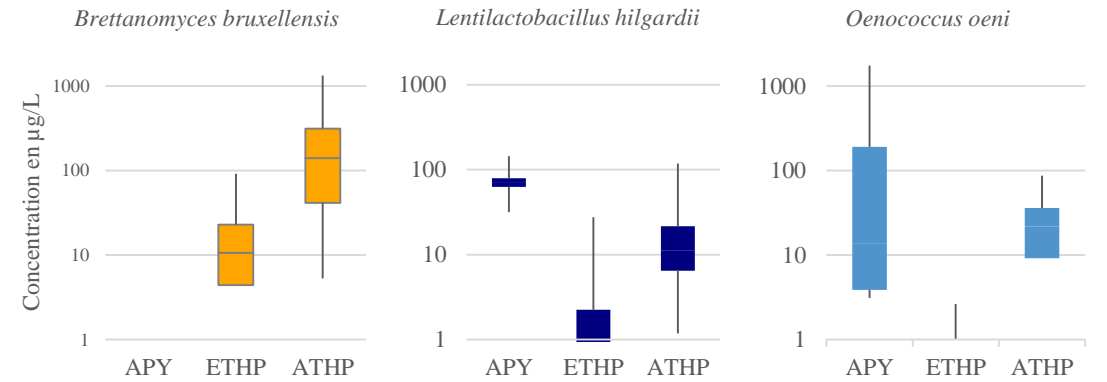
# Mousy off-flavour: production by microorganisms



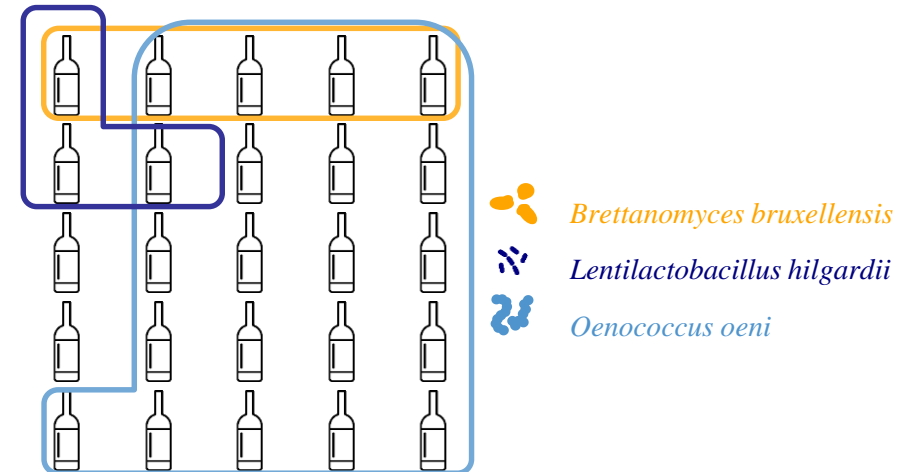
## Microbial species identified among 353 isolates from 25 altered wines



## Mousiness production capability in model medium



## Prevalence of isolated species from 25 altered wines



Pierre Moulis, PhD thesis, UMR œnologie, Univ. Bordeaux & Hochschule Geisenheim Univ. (2023)

Moulis, Miot-Sertier, Cordazzo, Claisse, Franc, Riquier, Albertin, Marchand, de Revel, Rauhut, & Ballestra. OENO One (2023)

Moulis, Miot-Sertier, Franc, Riquier, Marchand, de Revel, Rauhut, & Ballestra. IVES Technical Reviews vine & wine (2023)



# Mousy off-flavour: what next?



Use of this analytical method to further study mousiness in wine:

- implicated microorganisms
- wine evolution
- redox status



Thank you for your attention

INRAE



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