



# UnB

## *In silico* reconstruction of *Copaifera multijuga* Hayne terpenoids network

Waldeyr Silva, Maria Emilia Walter, Marcelo Brígido

# Outline

## Introduction

Terpenoid metabolism

Sesquiterpene cyclases

*Copaifera multijuga* Hayne

## Method

## Preliminary results

# Terpenoid metabolism

## Metabolism

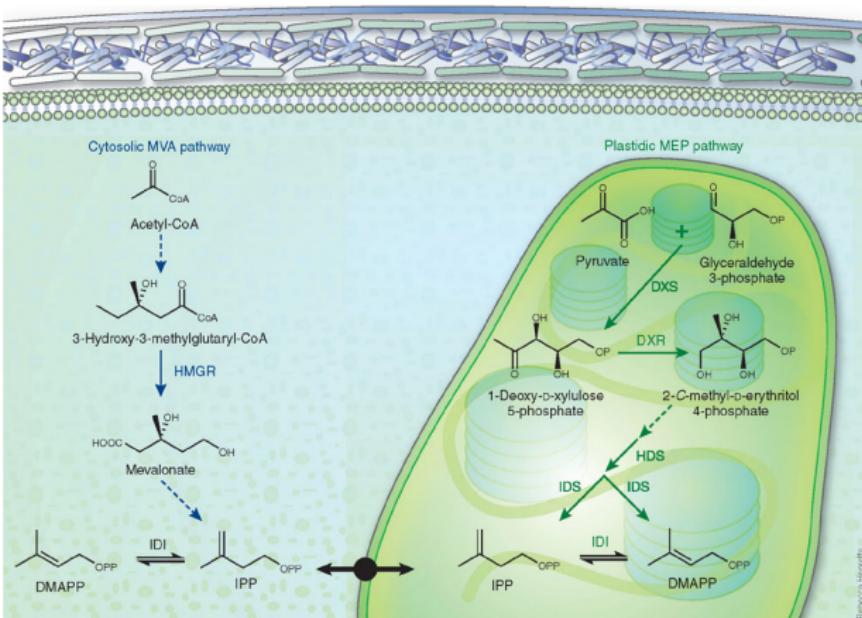
Set of metabolic reactions and physicochemical processes occurring in a live organism.

- ▶ Primary metabolism
- ▶ **Secondary metabolism**
  - ▶ polyketides (PKS)
  - ▶ non-ribosomal peptides (NRP)
  - ▶ alkaloids
  - ▶ **terpenoids**

# Terpenoids

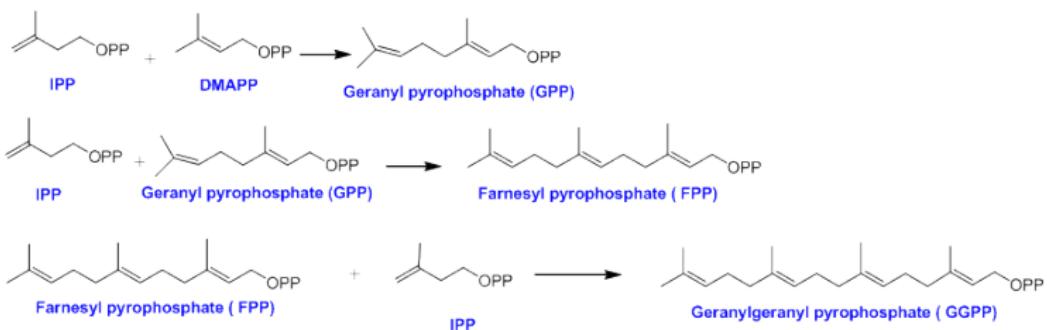
- ▶ hydrocarbons resulting from the combination of several isoprene units
- ▶ interact as signal molecules for:
  - ▶ communication intra/inter species
  - ▶ attracting pollinating insects
- ▶ act as a defense against herbivores and microbes
- ▶ vast applicability in medicine and biotechnology

# Terpenoid biosynthesis

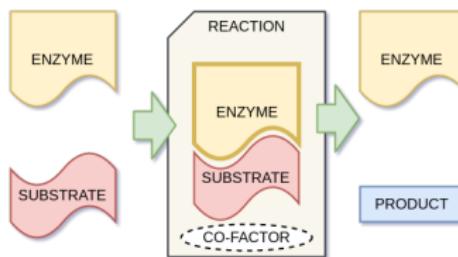


Compartmentalized biosynthesis of IPP and DMAPP [3].

# Terpenoid biosynthesis

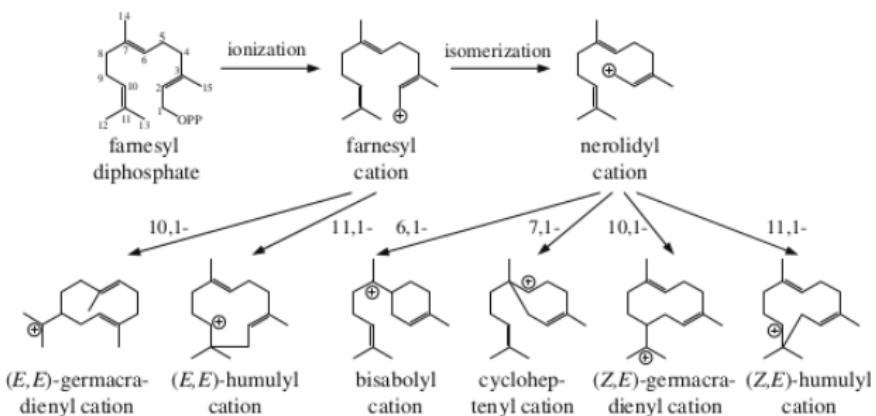


# Cyclization mechanisms



- ▶ C – C bonds formation
- ▶ cationic intermediates
- ▶ hydride, methyl, and allyl shifts
- ▶ Wagner-Meerwein rearrangements
- ▶ carbocation capture by water

# Cyclization mechanisms

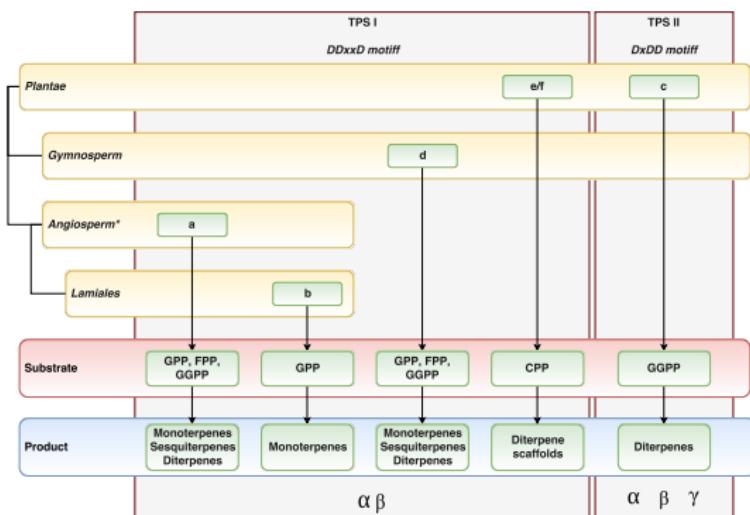


Initial cyclization mechanisms for sesquiterpenes biosynthesys [2] [1].

# Sesquiterpene cyclases

- ▶ 500–580 amino acids
- ▶ aspartate-rich region, DDxxD
- ▶ often a second motif, NSE/DTE
- ▶ product specificity:
  - ▶ dependent on the amino acid residues, and
  - ▶ constraints of the active site

# Cyclases classification



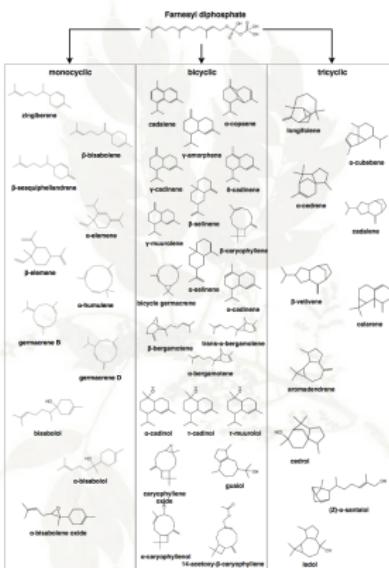
Sesquiterpene cyclases classification.

# *Copaifera multijuga* Hayne



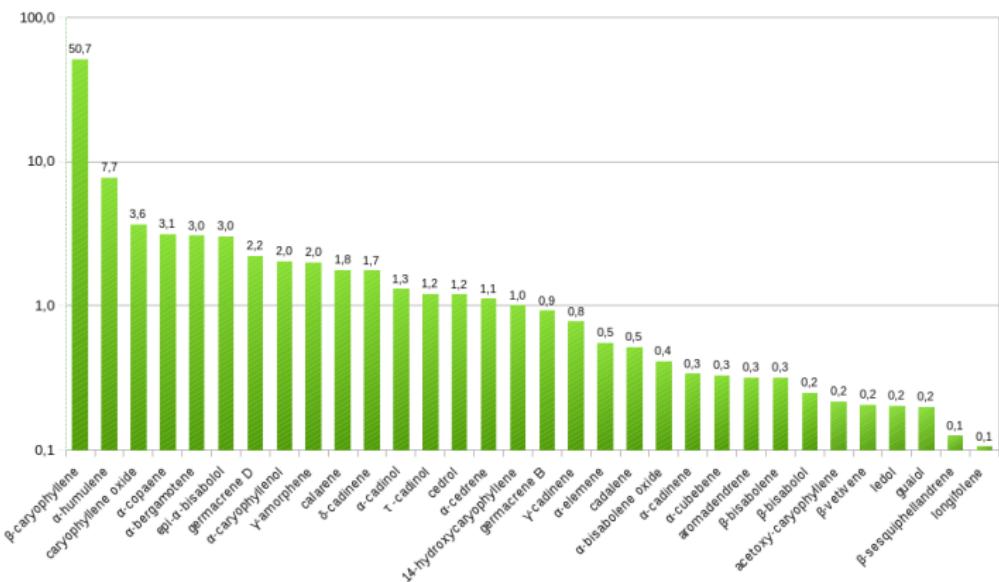
Area of occurrence of *Copaifera multijuga* Hayne in Brazil.

# Copaifera multijuga Hayne



42 sesquiterpenes of *Copaifera multijuga* Hayne's oil-resin.

# Copaifera multijuga Hayne



Percent amount of sesquiterpenes in *C. multijuga* Hayne's oil-resin.

# Method

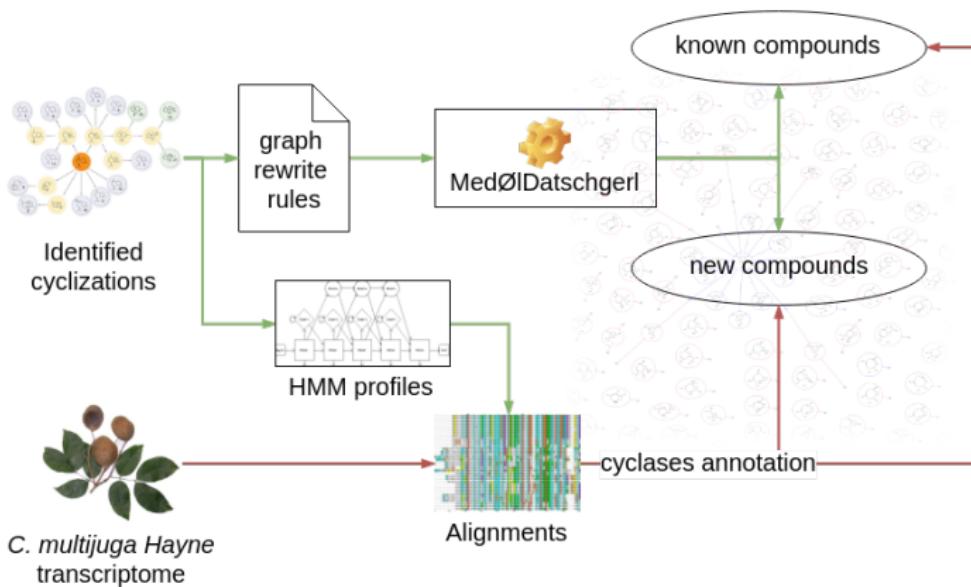
For the 42 known sesquiterpenes of *Copaiba*:

- ▶ Can we confirm the literature reported cyclizations?
- ▶ Can we propose new predicted cyclizations?

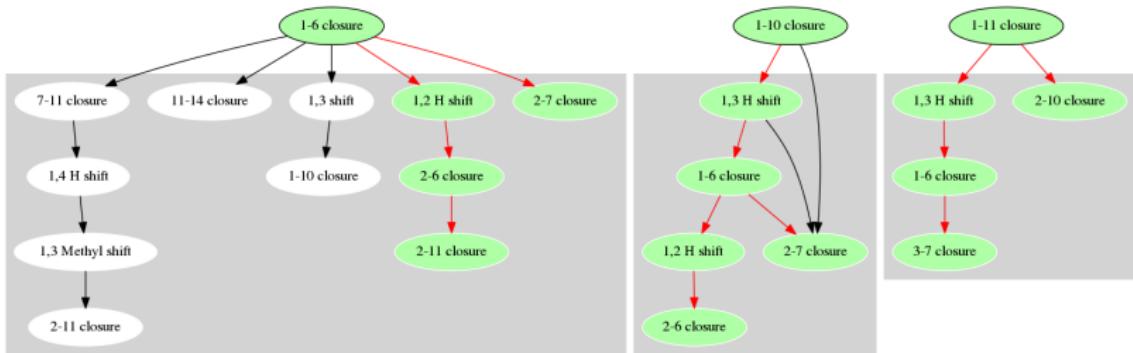
For the transcriptome of *Copaiba*:

- ▶ Can we use a cyclization family based HMM profile to annotate the enzymes?

## Method

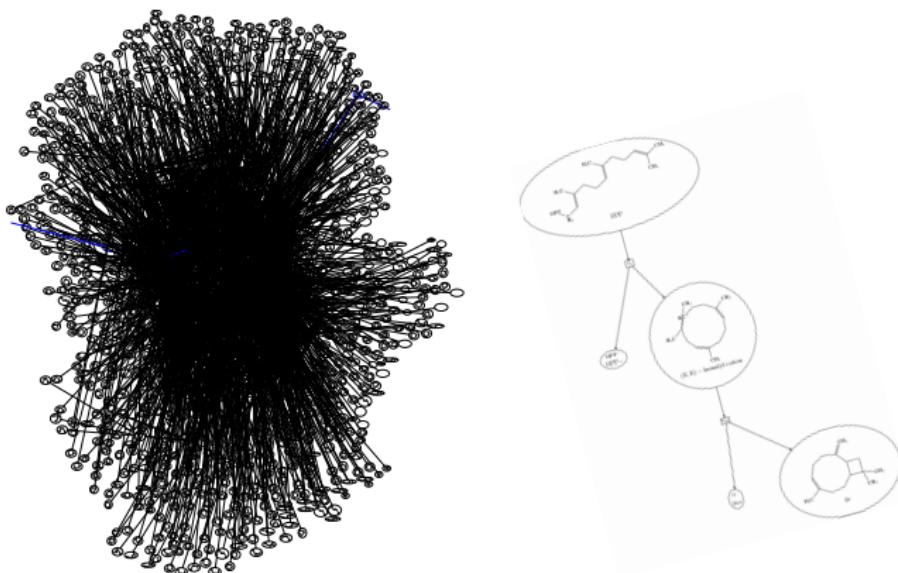


# Method



Cyclizations identified in the literature for *Copaifera multijuga* Hayne compounds.

# Preliminary results



Unfiltered and filtered results for  $\beta$ -caryophyllene cyclization experiment.

## Next steps

- ▶ Update 2Path database to a new level of details;

[\*\*A terpenoid metabolic network modelled as graph database\*\*](#)

by Waldeyr Mendes Cordeiro Da Silva; Danilo José Vilar; Daniel Da Silva Souza; Maria Emilia Machado Telles Walter; Maristela Terto De Holanda; Marcelo De Macêdo Brígido  
*International Journal of Data Mining and Bioinformatics (IJDDB)*, Vol. 18, No. 1, 2017

- ▶ Expand source sequences for the HMM profiles;
- ▶ Make available pathway searches from submitted sequences.



# Acknowledgements



# References

- [1] David W. Christianson. Structural and Chemical Biology of Terpenoid Cyclases. *Chemical Reviews*, 117(17):11570–11648, 2017.
- [2] Jörg Degenhardt, Tobias G Köllner, and Jonathan Gershenzon. Monoterpene and sesquiterpene synthases and the origin of terpene skeletal diversity in plants. *Phytochemistry*, 70(15-16):1621–1637, 2009.
- [3] Susan C Roberts. Production and engineering of terpenoids in plant cell culture. *Nature chemical biology*, 3(7):387, 2007.