

05 November 2015, Breda

3<sup>de</sup> docentendag CBBE  
biobased products and refinery

dr. ir. G.C.H. (Dorien) Derksen





# Isolation of secondary metabolites

## Natural Colours as a product

Centre of Expertise BioBased Economy  
[www.CoEBBE.nl](http://www.CoEBBE.nl)



# Company Rubia Natural Colours

## Bio-Based Dyes and Pigments

cultivation, manufacturing, application, innovation and market

RUBIA 100% NATURAL  
COLOURS  
• • • • •



# Crop growing & processing

---

- new colours, new sources, new crops
- plant breeding and harvesting
- phytochemistry, knowledge on plant compounds and metabolism
- agrification, economic value of new sustainable crops
- cost efficient processing, sustainable, low in energy



## Rubia's manufacturing capability

breeding plants, up to 30 ha., licensed  
cultivars

harvesting plants, 20 breeders

plant pretreatment, wash, dry, grind

extraction

solid – liquid separation

drying

quality control, own laboratory

packaging, up to 150 tpa finished product



a colourful  
future

# Rubia NC product portfolio



- Rubia® Red: red & brown
- Rubia® Yellow: yellow & green
- Rubia® Blue and Rubia® Black: blue, black and grey

different plant sources: madder, woad and weld



# Isolation of secondary metabolites Natural Colours as a product

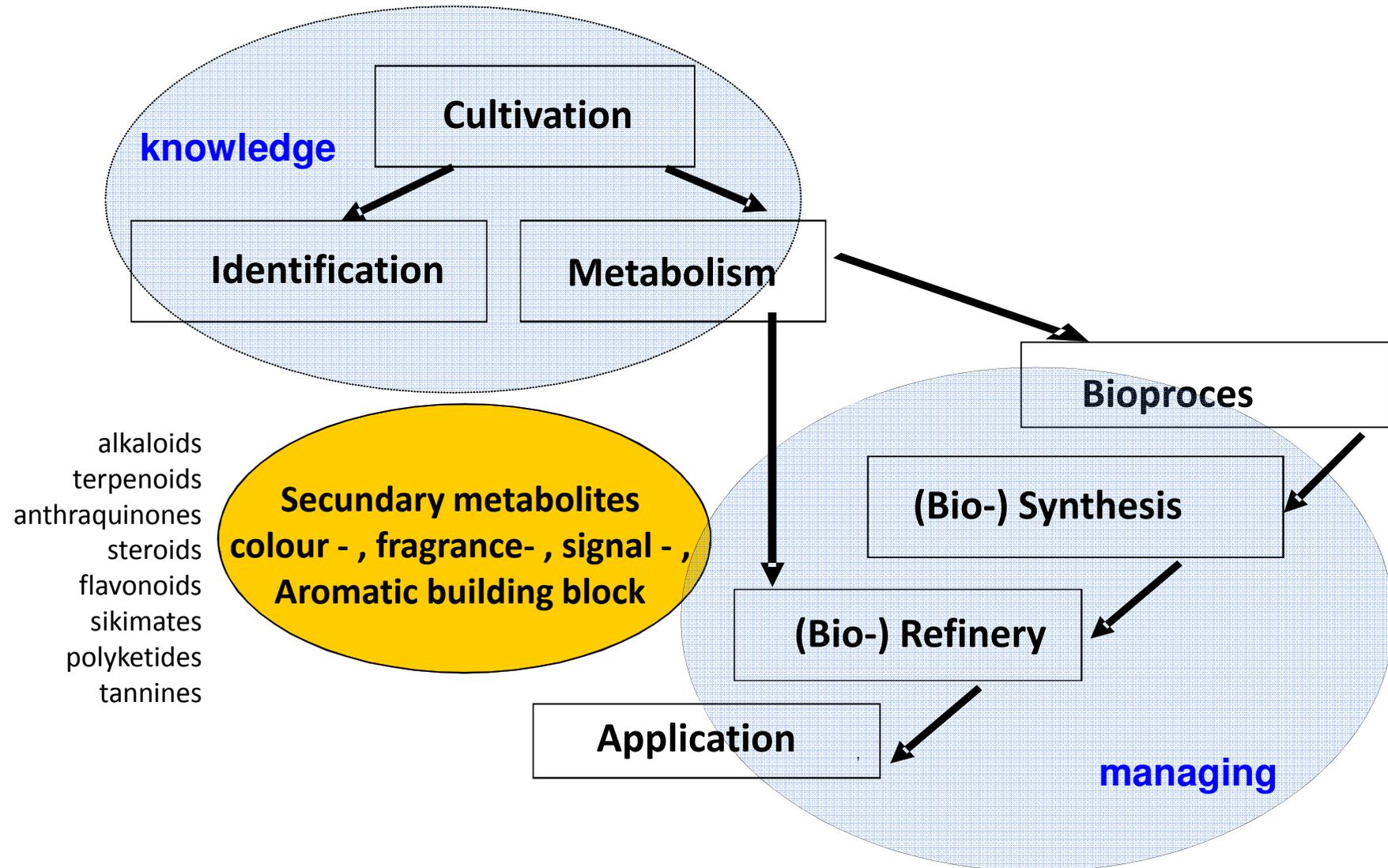


Centre of Expertise BioBased Economy  
[www.CoEBBE.nl](http://www.CoEBBE.nl)

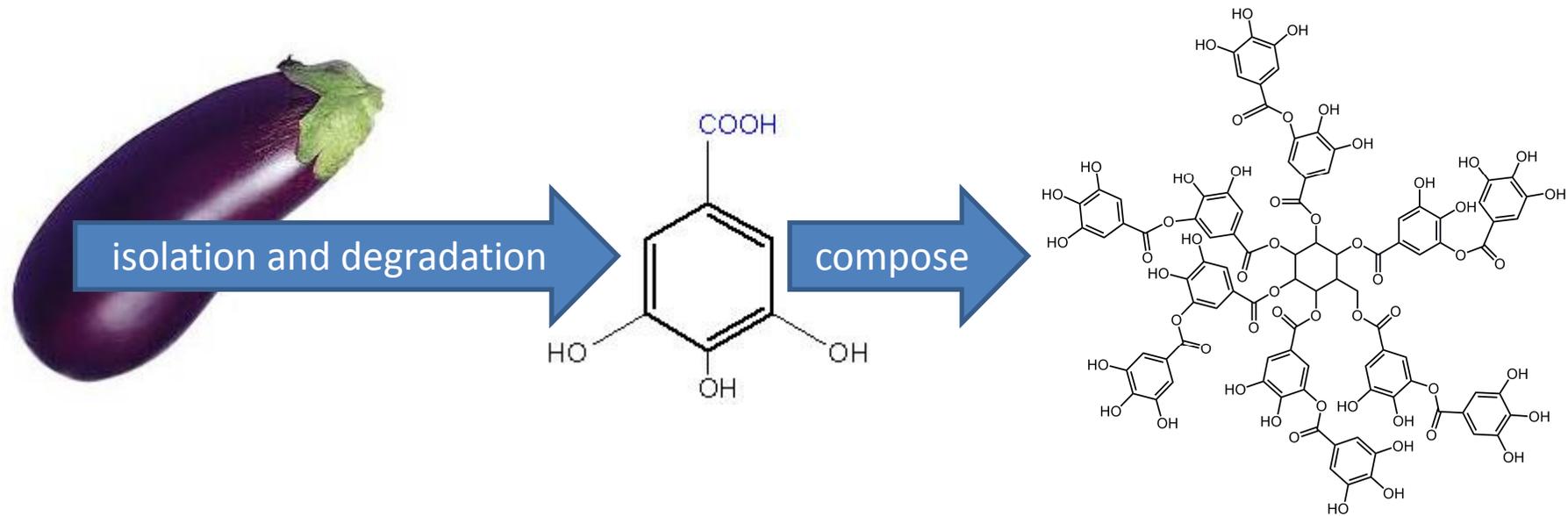
Lectoraat Biobased Products



# Biobased products





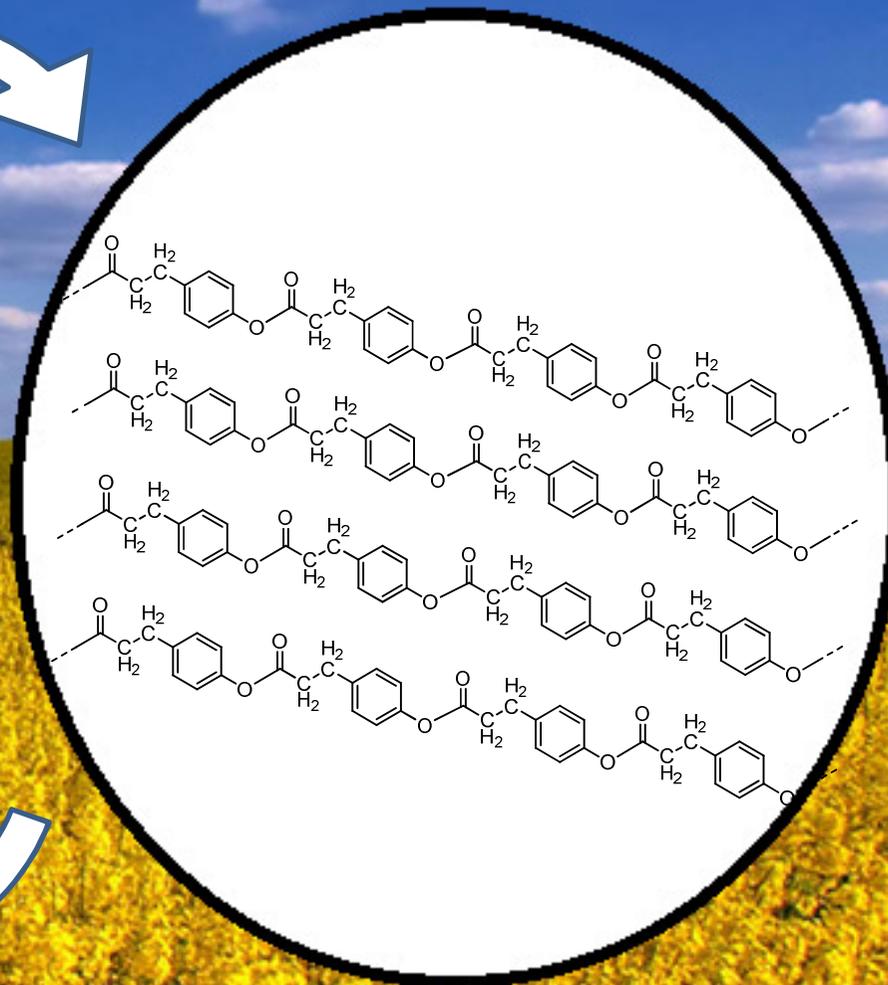
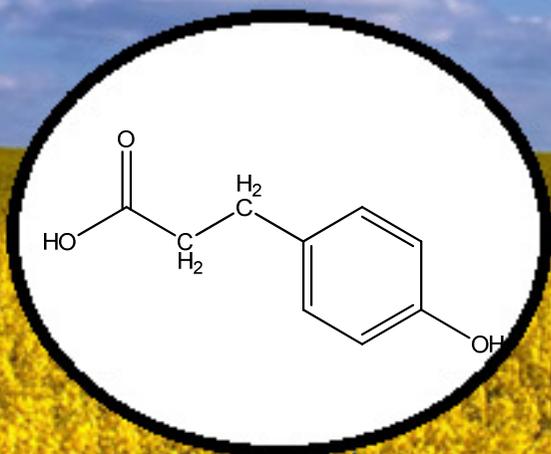


## Natural dyes and pigments

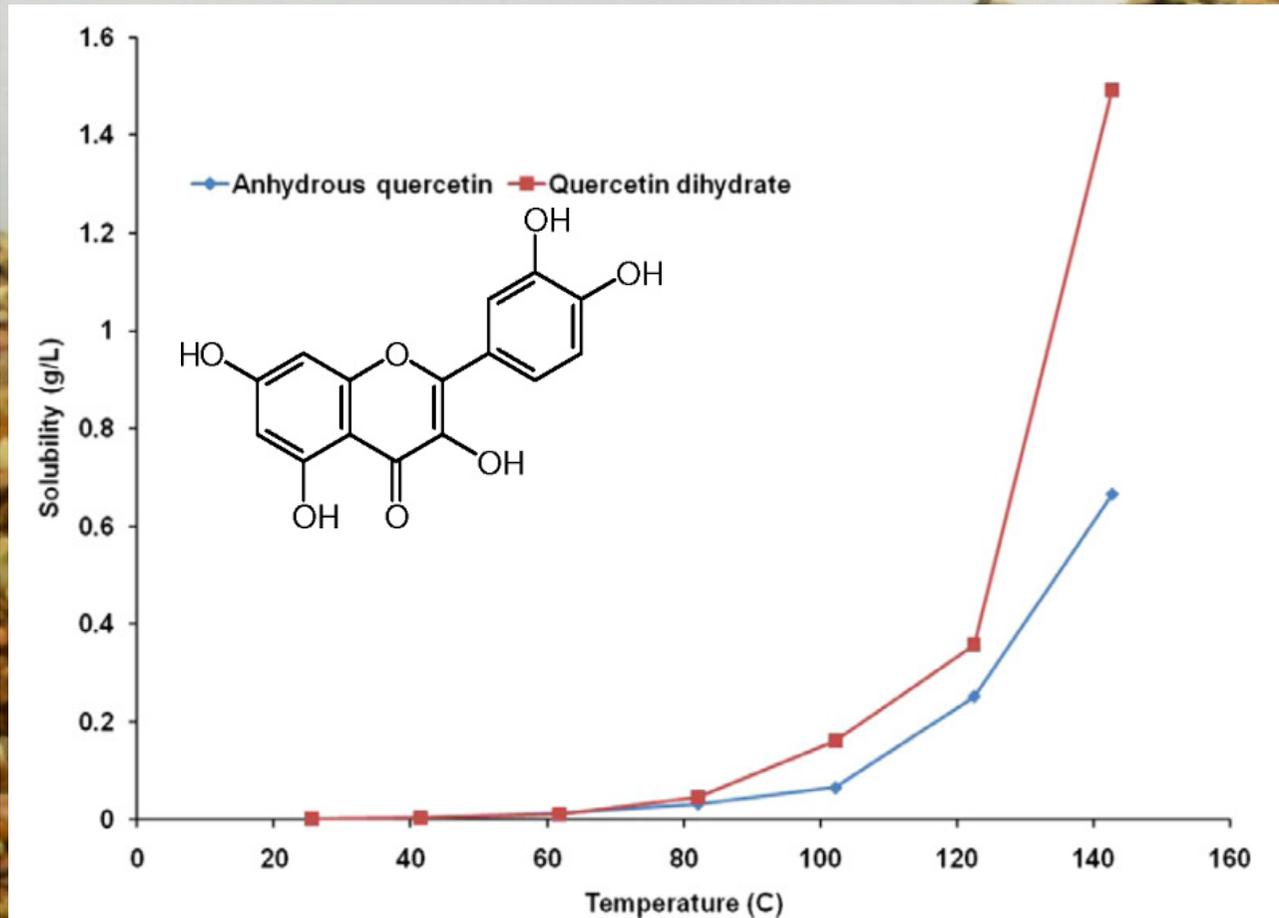
- Tannins, polyphenols
  - Building block
  - Encapsulation
  - Light stability

Other colours

# Biopolymeren, phytochemicals as recyclable polyesters



# Quercetine: meerwaarde uit reststroom uien



- Sub-kritisch water (160 °C)
- Geen organische oplosmiddel

- Uienpellen 17000 ton/jaar in Zuidwest Nederland
- Biogas productie
- Digestaat als meststof

Antioxidant  
Kleurstof papier, textiel en levensmiddelen



# Isolation of secondary metabolites

## Natural Colours as a product

Applied Research on Natural Colours in practical

- HBO, ROC (KLAC), GCC, MKB (company)
- Chemistry, Chemical Technology, Biobased TeCH, Other



The header features a dark red background with white chemical structures. On the left, there is a complex polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon structure with several hydroxyl (-OH) groups. On the right, there is a heterocyclic structure containing a benzene ring fused to a five-membered ring with a nitrogen atom, and another fused five-membered ring with a nitrogen atom and a carbonyl group.

# Possibilities

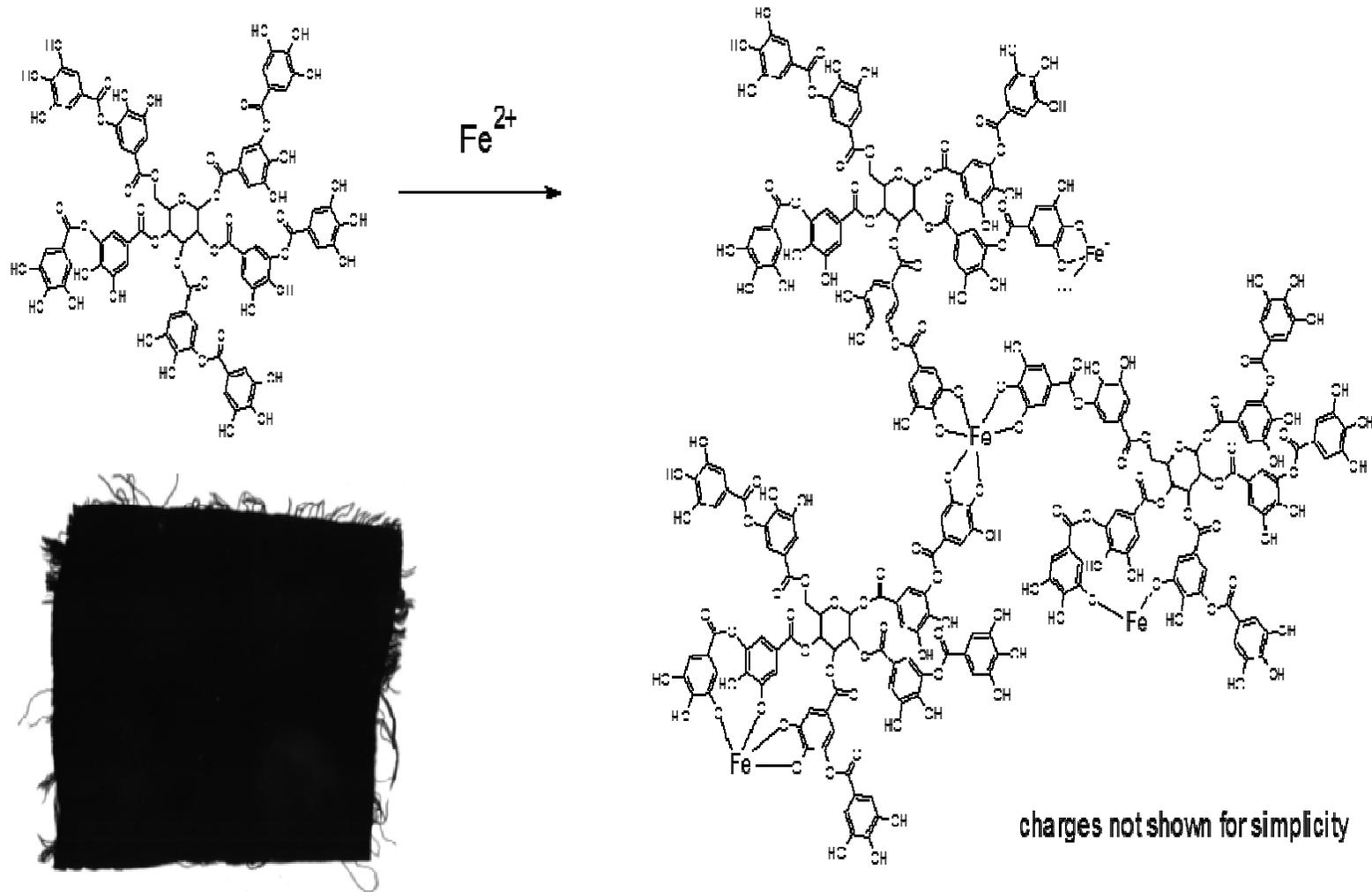
## Present Setting

1. Welke onderzoeksprojecten → strategic innovation.
2. Emerged → Funnelling
  - Example Rubia; Dyeing of textile,  
Improvement in mass balance total process,

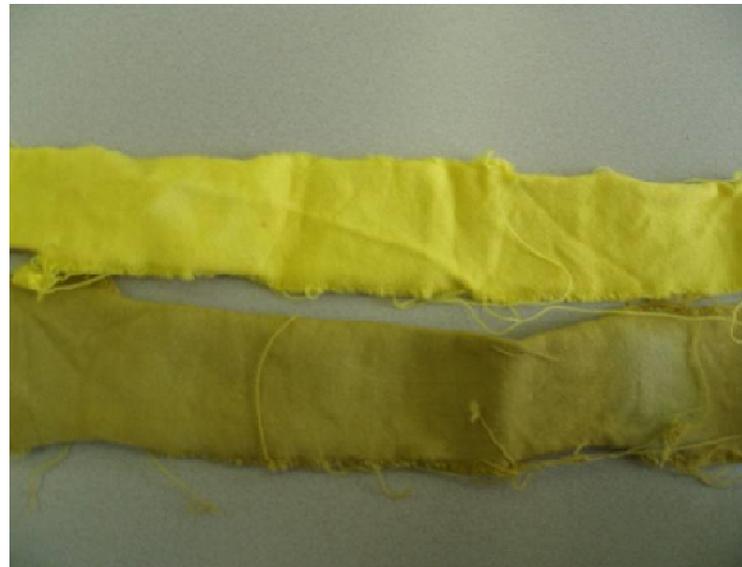
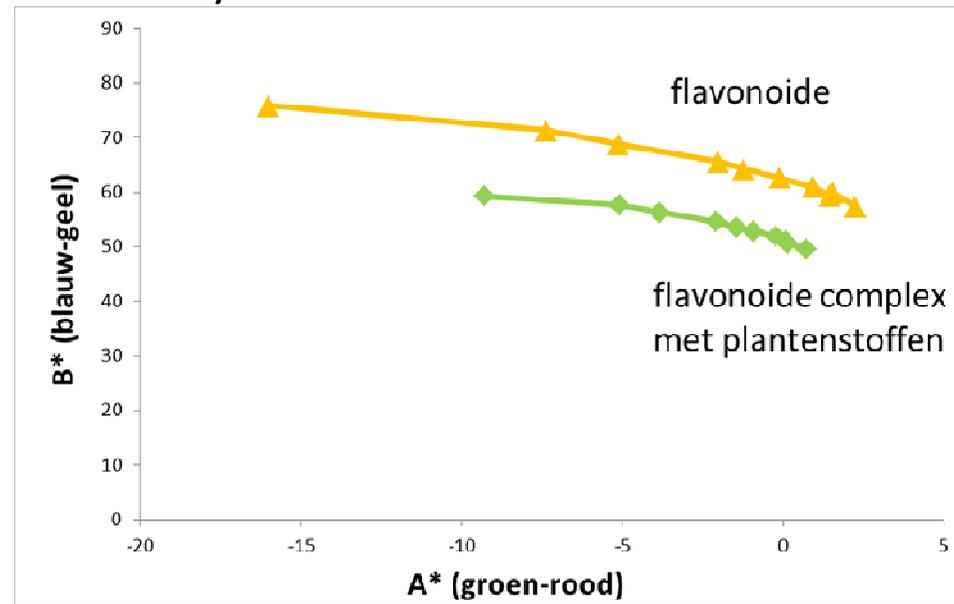
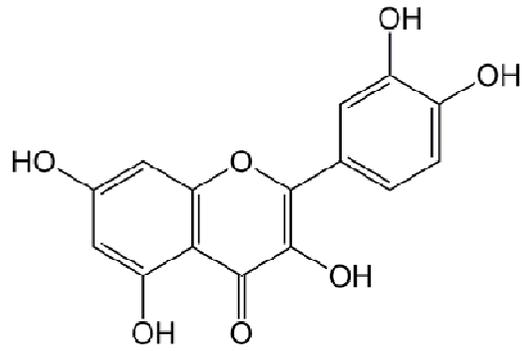
## “FIND the NICE to know instead of NEED to know”

- Example Rubia; Deeper black  
Application of knowledge on colour stability
- Example RIGO, Van Houtum; Pigment application paint, paper

## 2. Complexation of tannic acids



## 4. Light stability of natural dyes



## 6. Connect and support

### Living colours

SIA-RAAK-MKB

*Give interior a natural and bio based  
ambiance*

Lectoraat Innovatie Bouwproces en  
Techniek

*A rendezvous between  
chemistry and art*

Lectoraat Biobased Products

AKV | St.Joost

Geeske van den Meijdenberg



Tessy Korremans



# Possibilities

## Present Setting

1. Laboratories AVANS →
  - organic-, analytical and biobased chemistry
  - Chemical technology
2. Green Chemistry Campus, GCC →
  - Light stability research
  - Molecular work

## Future Adding

3. ROC → KLAC (kleurstoffen applicatie centrum)
  - MBO, HBO students work together with masters and with
  - Small medium enterprises
  - Application work

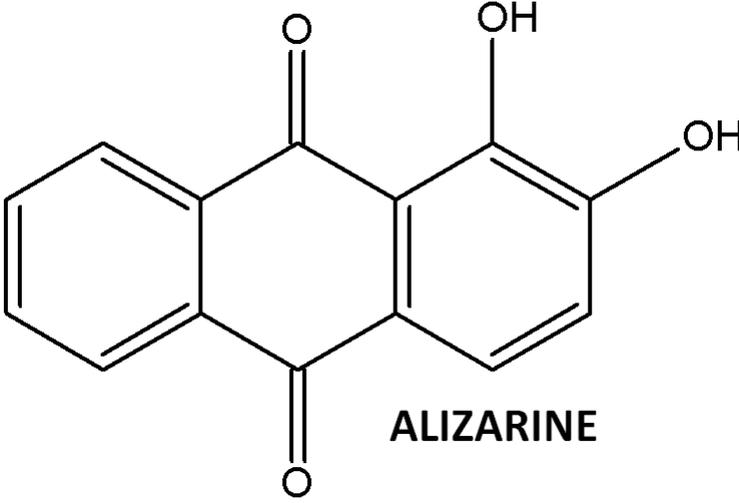
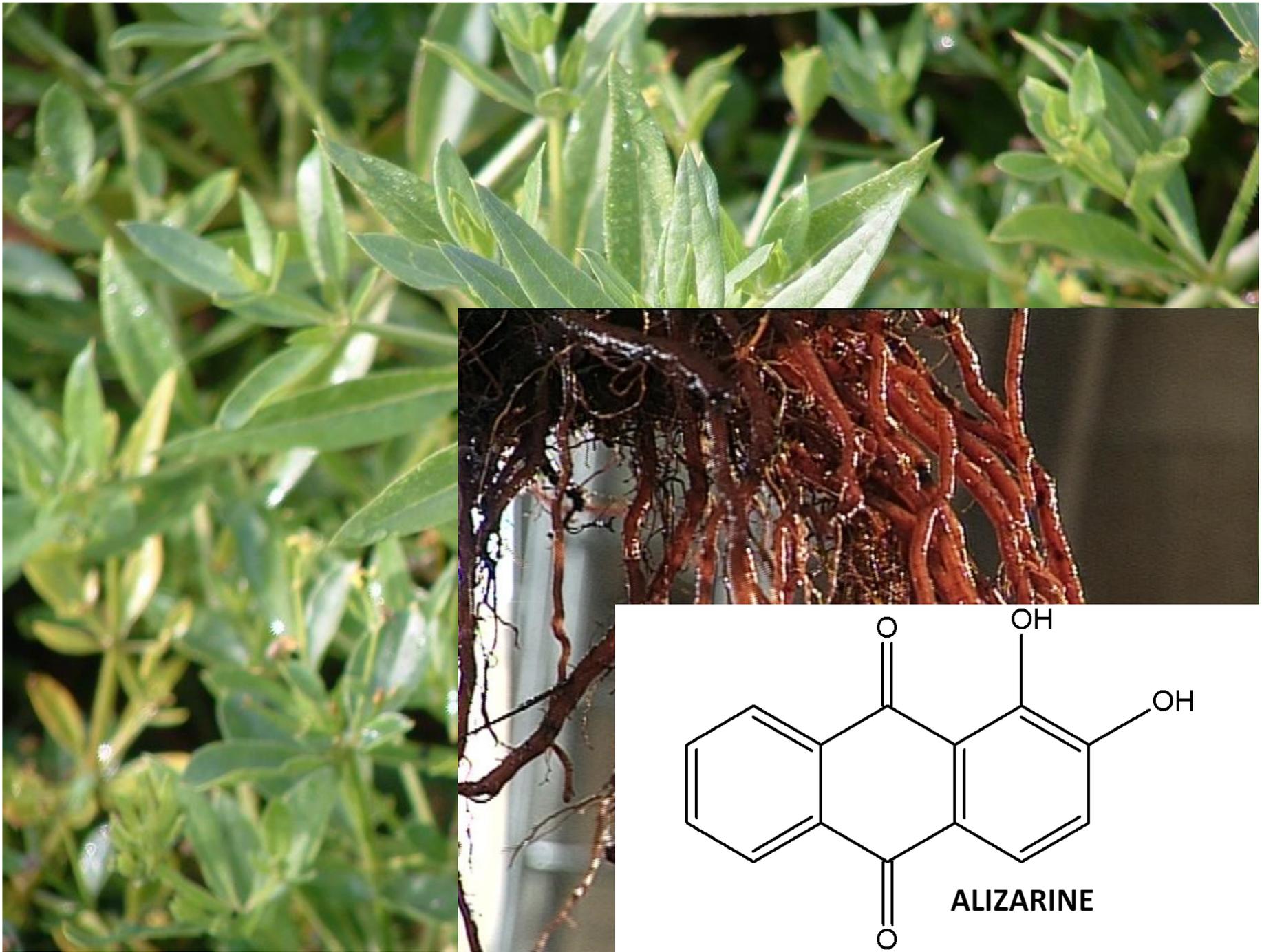


# Isolation of secondary metabolites

## Natural Colours as a product

Case study



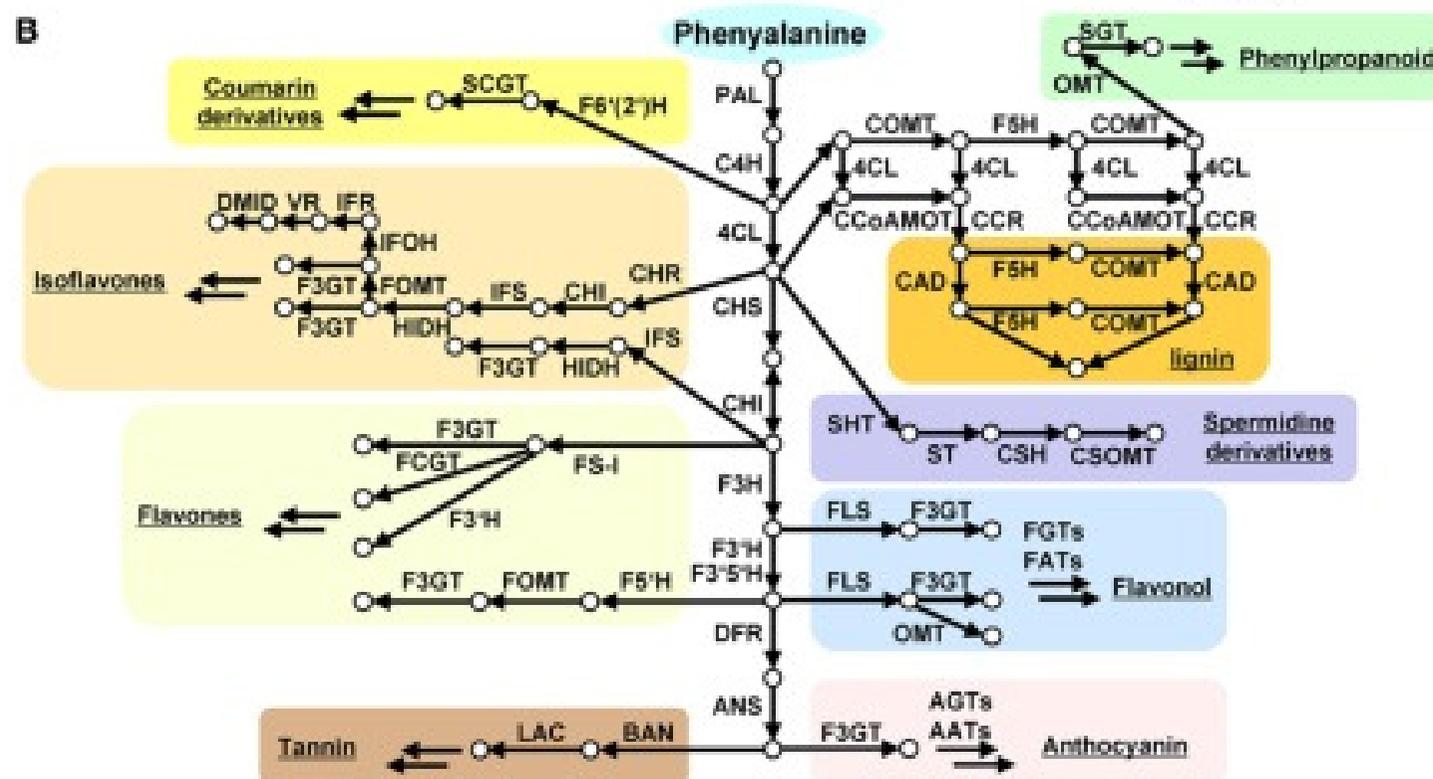
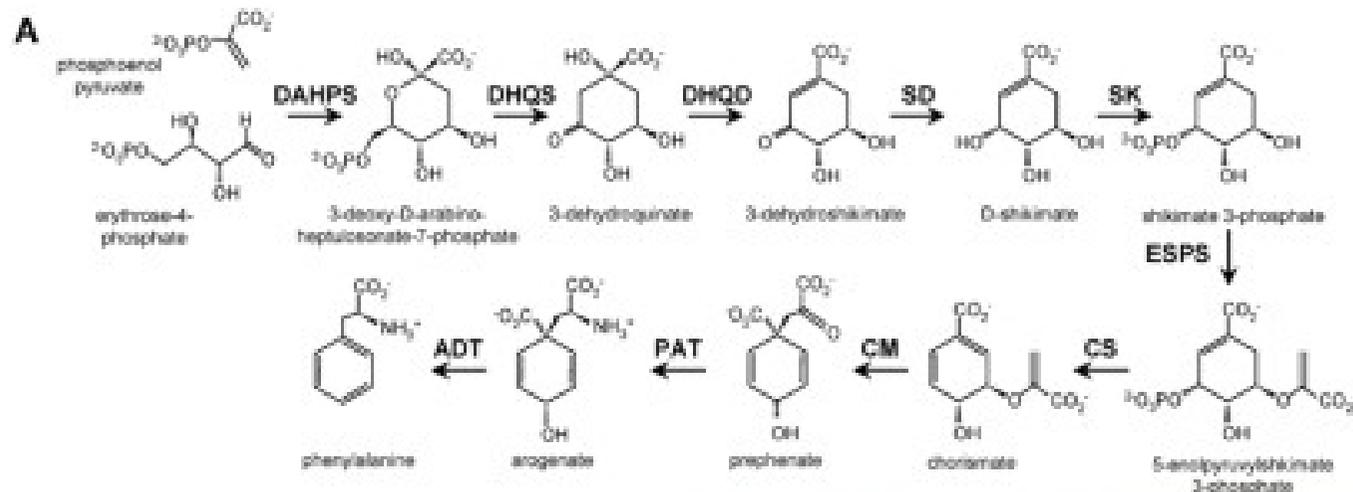


RUBIA 100% NATURAL  
COLOURS

# Applicatie



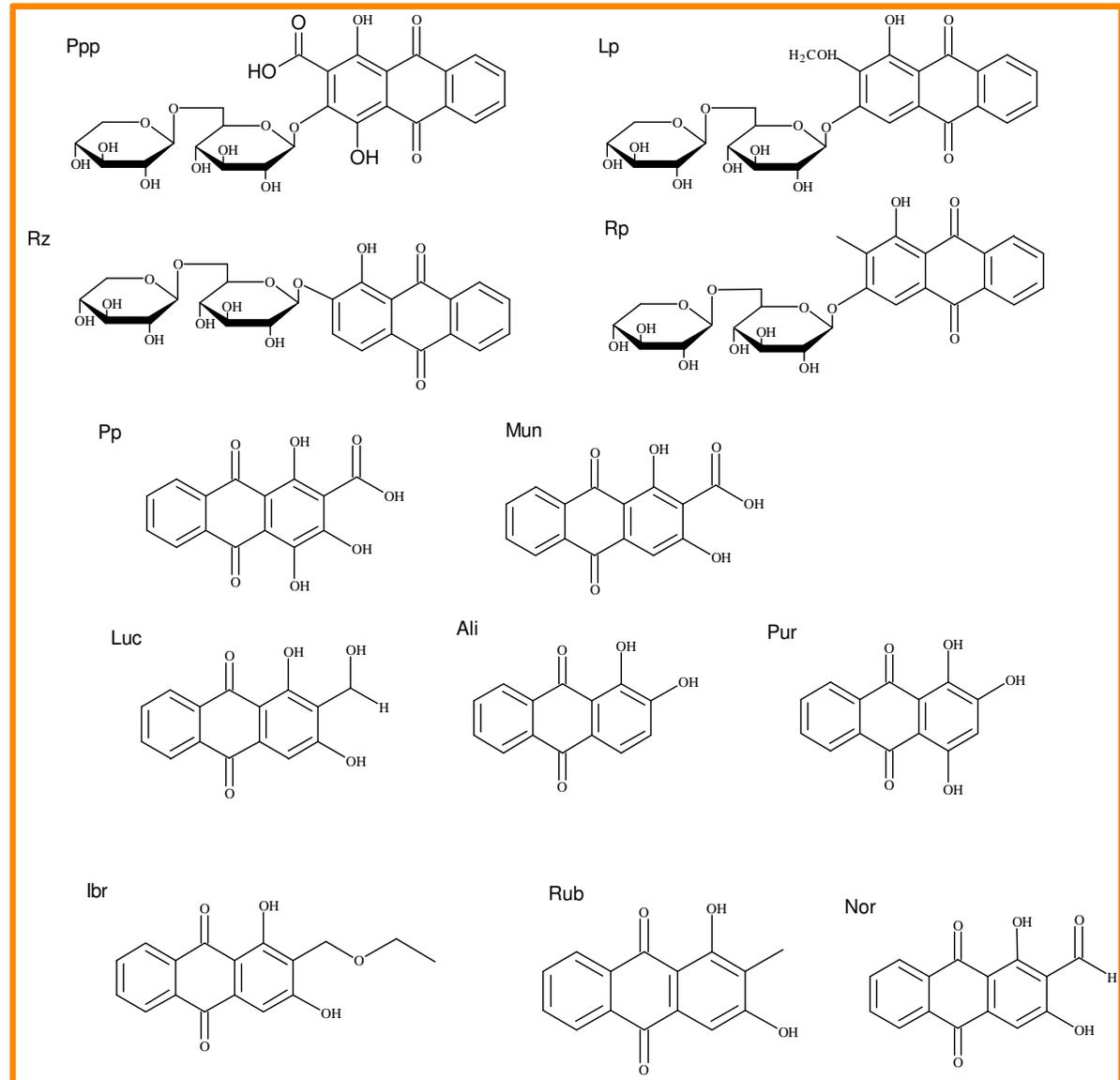
a colourful  
future

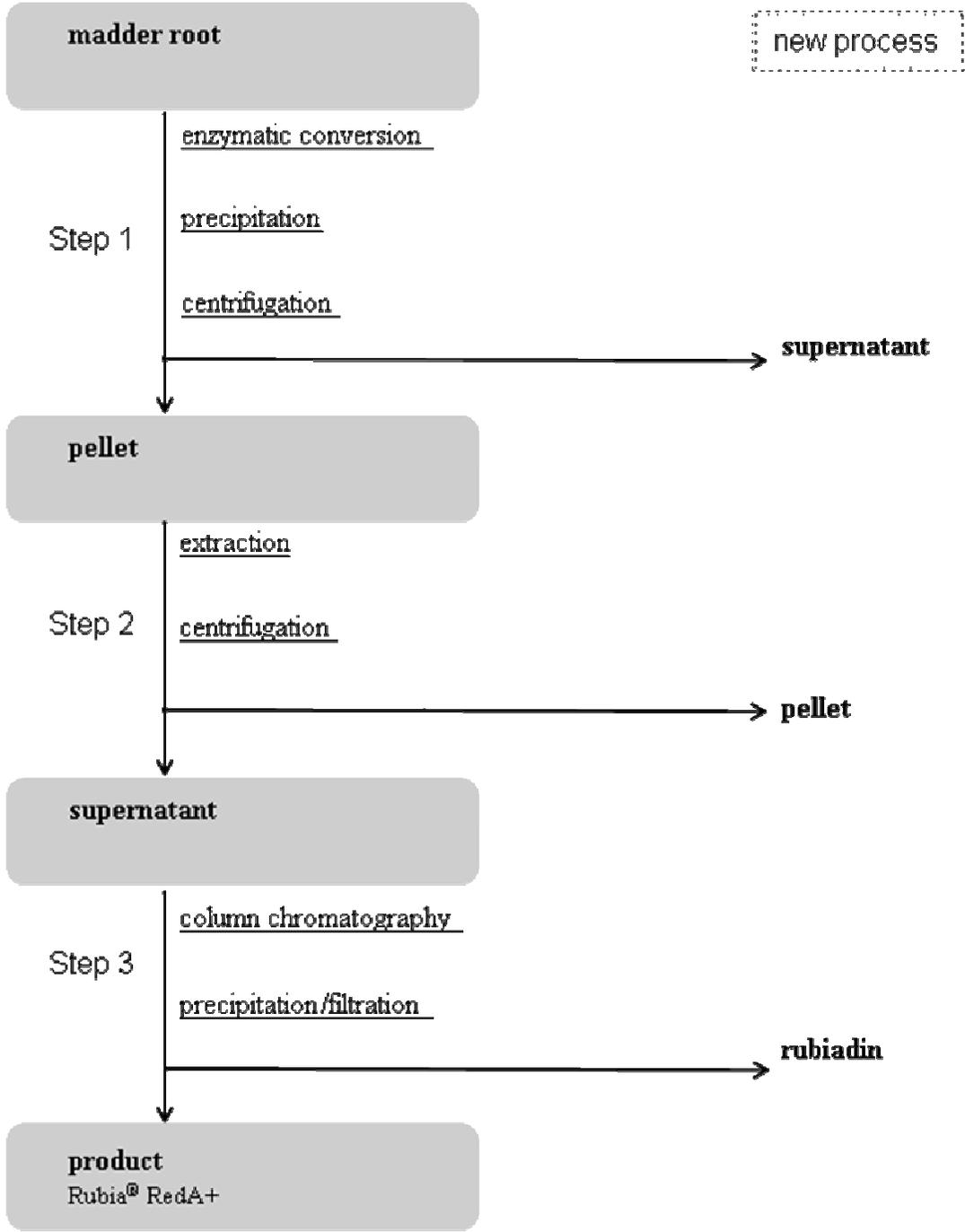


# Research

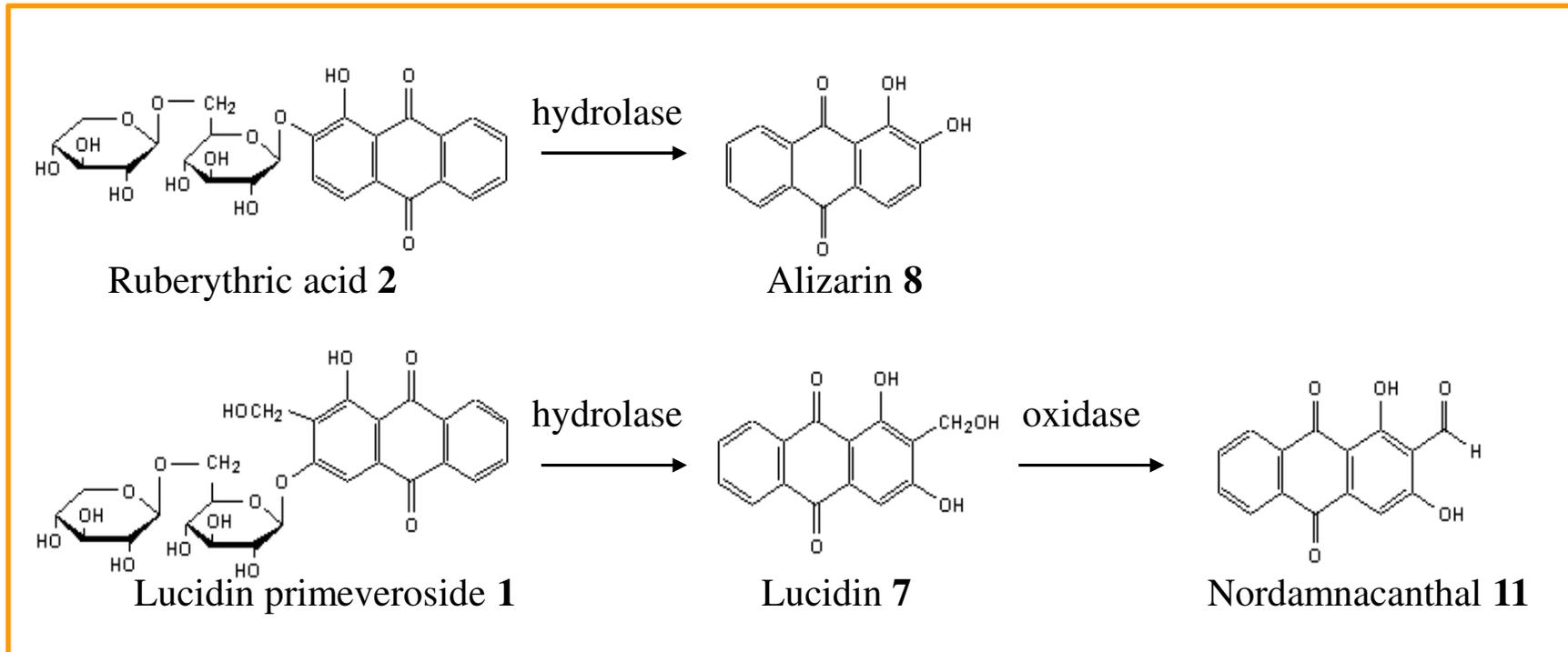
## Compounds

1. Water soluble  
sucrose, salts (40%)
2. Fibres, 40%
3. Anthraquinones  
Glycosides  
COOH  
Aglycones  
(5-15%)





# step 1, enzymatic conversion



madder root

new process

Step 1  
enzymatic conversion  
precipitation  
centrifugation

- removal water soluble compounds (30%)
- formation insoluble aglycones  
no lucidin

supernatant

pellet

Step 2  
extraction  
centrifugation

pellet

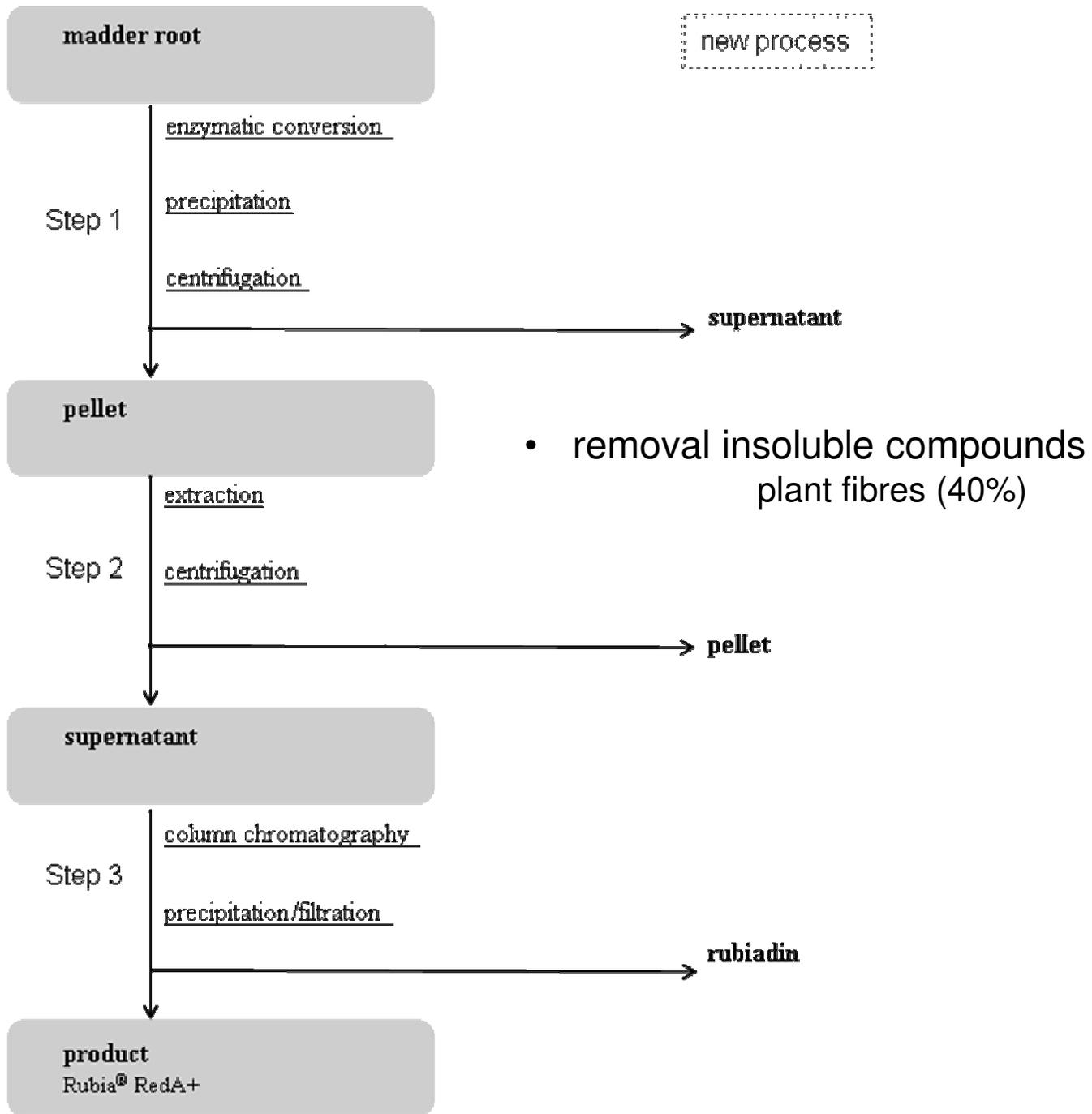
supernatant

Step 3  
column chromatography  
precipitation /filtration

*Studenten CT en chemie*  
 enzymatische omzetting, T t K O<sub>2</sub>  
 scheiding  
 opschaling  
 enzym identification

product  
Rubia® RedA+





---

### Step 3: Affinity chromatography

Selection resin, Static tests, Corresponding isotherm profile

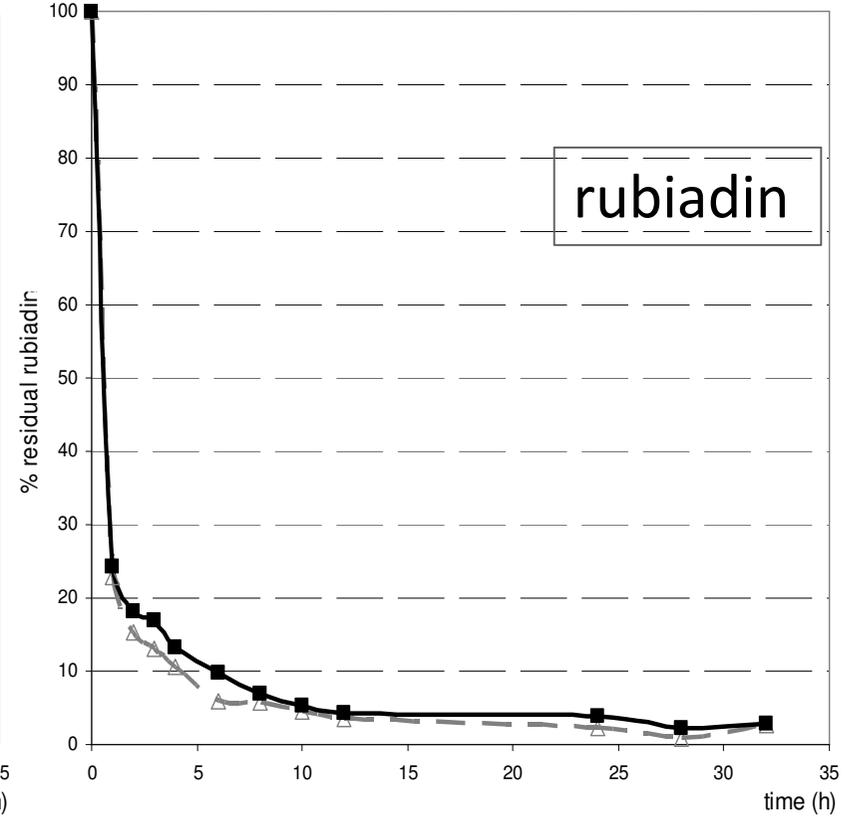
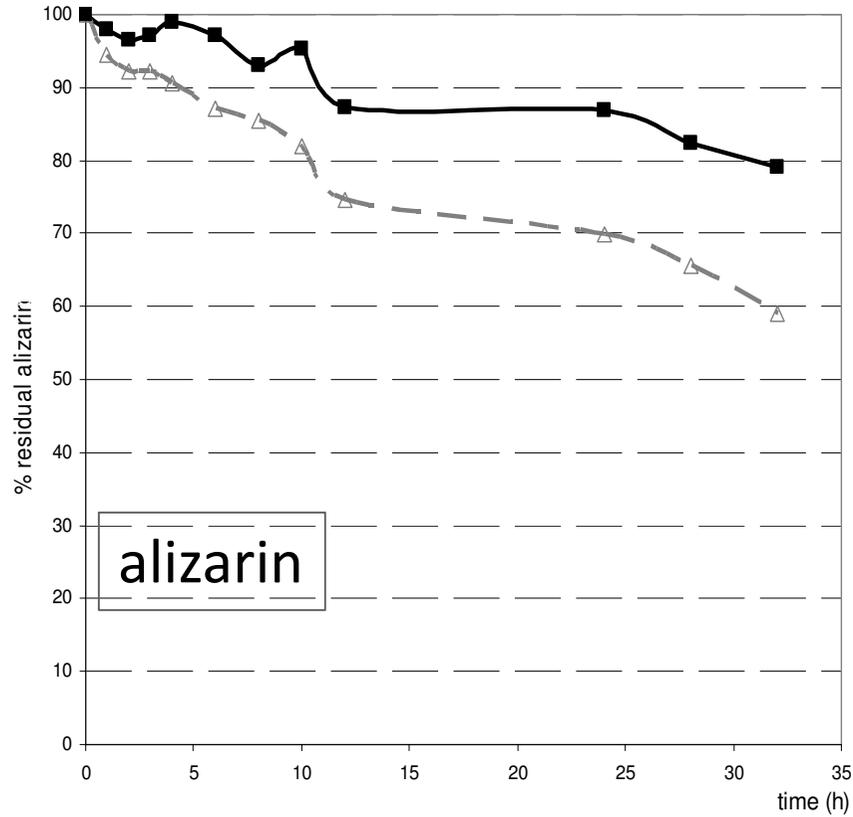
15 different resins investigated  
here described:

resin 1

resin 2



# contact time and adsorption

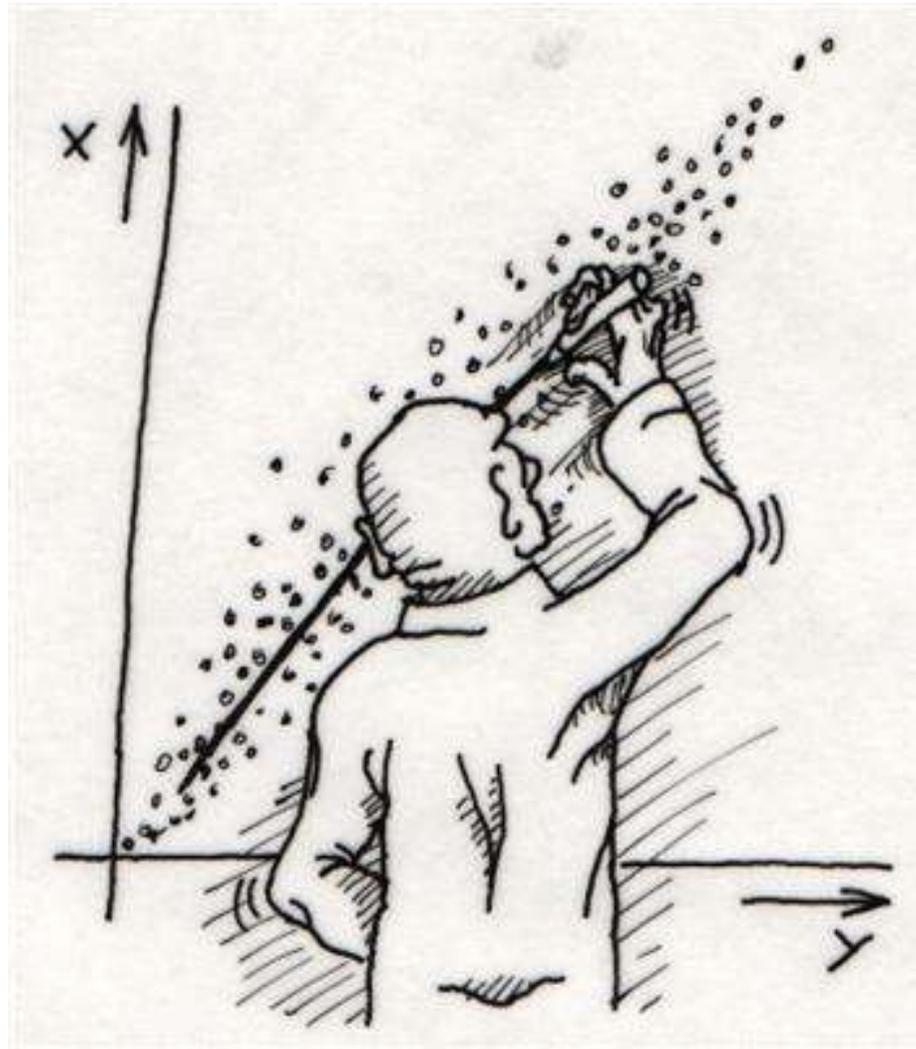


■ resin 1

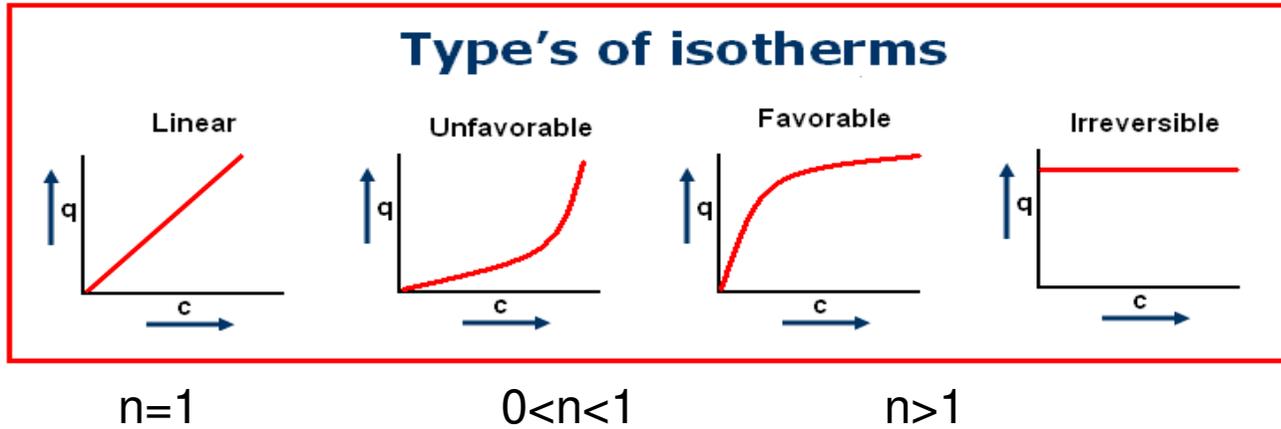
△ resin 2

# Modelling

---



## Type's of isotherms



### Adsorption isotherm modelling

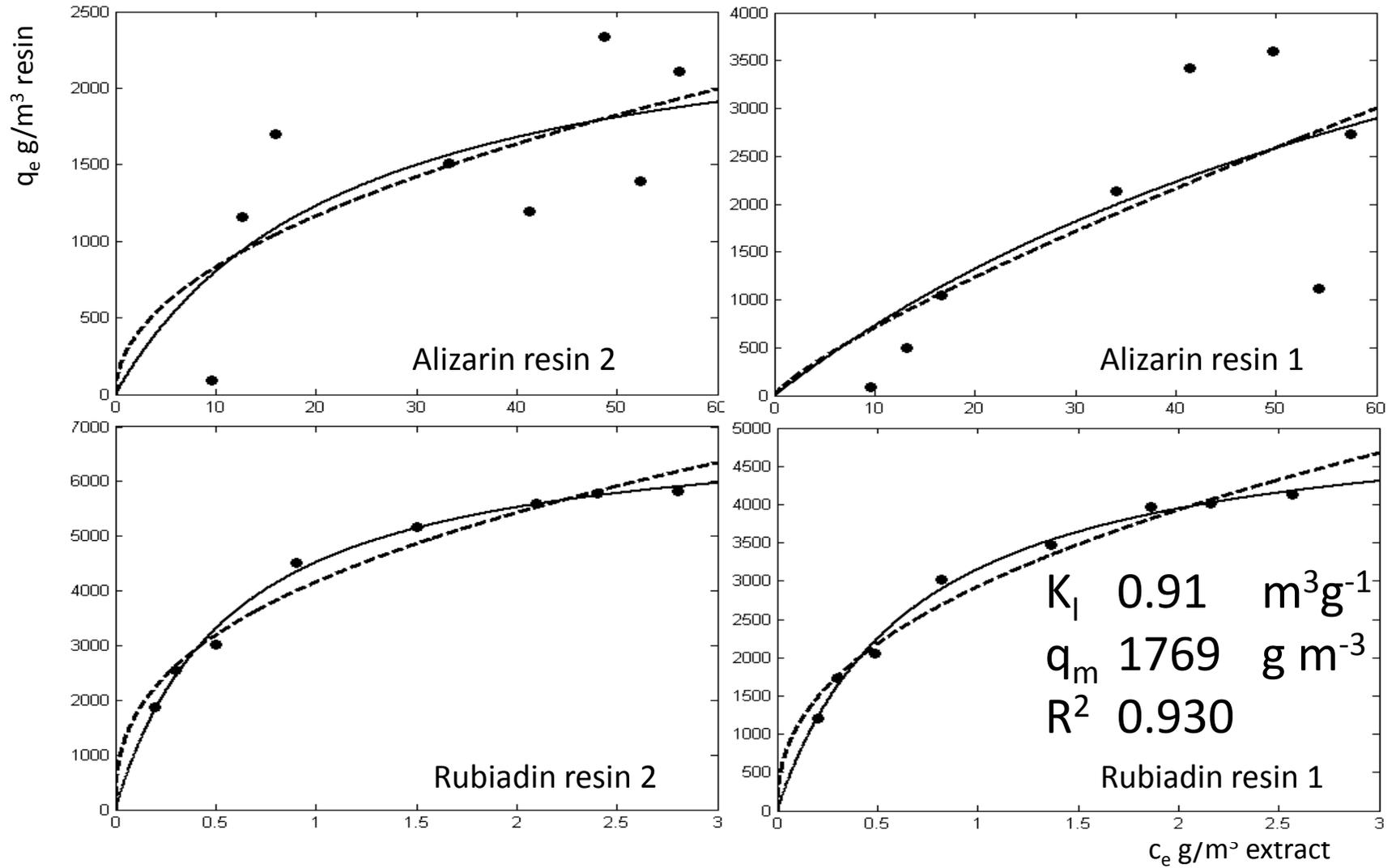
- Langmuir isotherm

$$q_e = \frac{q_m K_L C_e}{1 + K_L C_e} \qquad \frac{C_e}{q_e} = \frac{1}{q_m K_L} + \frac{C_e}{q_m}$$

- Freundlich isotherm

$$q_e = K_F C_e^{1/n} \qquad \log q_e = \log K_F + \frac{1}{n} \log C_e$$

# ISOTHERMS

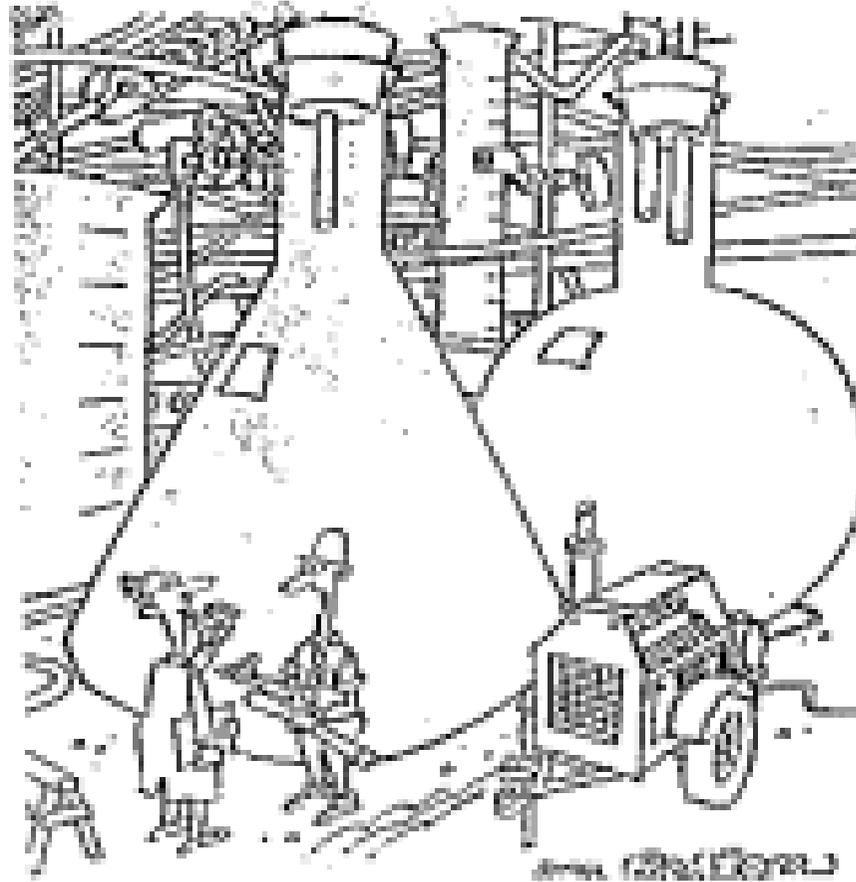


----- Freundlich

————— Langmuir

# Scale-up

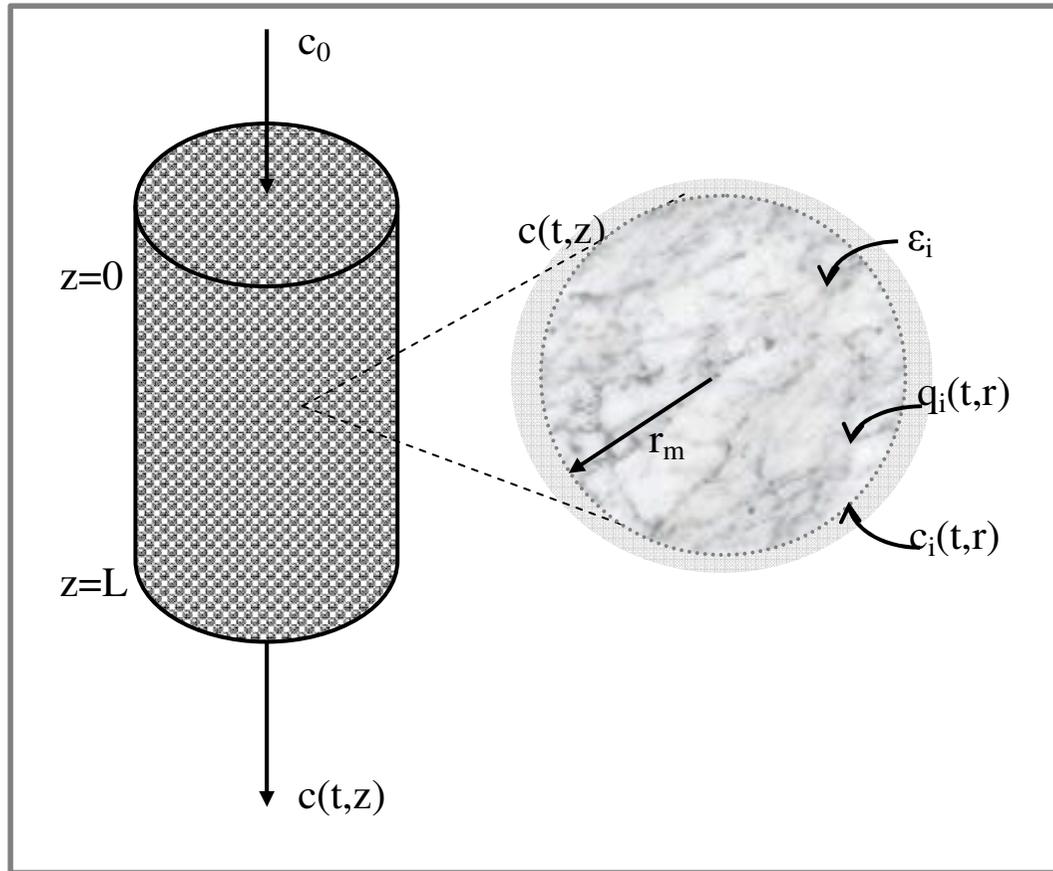
---



*"Got a few problems going from lab  
scale up to full-scale commercial."*

---

# Model of the affinity packed bed column



**1:** mass balance in fluid: convection (flow), dispersion and mass transfer

**2:** mass balance in the fluid of the particle

**3:** Interaction of rubiadin and affinity adsorbent, 2<sup>nd</sup> order.



# PARTIAL DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

$$\varepsilon A \Delta z \frac{dc_z}{dt} = (F c_z - F c_{z+\Delta z}) - (\varepsilon A N_z - \varepsilon A N_{z+\Delta z}) - (1-\varepsilon) A \Delta z \frac{3}{r_m} N \Big|_{r=r_m}$$

$$N = -D_L \frac{dc}{dz}$$

$$N \Big|_{r=r_m} = k_f (c - c_i)$$

$$\frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = D_L \frac{\partial^2 c}{\partial z^2} - \frac{F}{\varepsilon A} \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} - \frac{3}{r_m} \frac{(1-\varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} k_f (c - c_i) \Big|_{r=r_m}$$

$$\varepsilon_i A_r \Delta r \frac{dc_i}{dt} + (1-\varepsilon_i) A_r \Delta r \frac{dq_i}{dt} = A_r N_r - A_{r+\Delta r} N_{r+\Delta r}$$

$$\varepsilon_i \frac{\partial c_i}{\partial t} + (1-\varepsilon_i) \frac{\partial q_i}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{A} \frac{\partial (AN)}{\partial r}$$

$$N = -D_R \frac{dc}{dr}$$

$$\varepsilon_i \frac{\partial c_i}{\partial t} + (1-\varepsilon_i) \frac{\partial q_i}{\partial t} = D_R \left( \frac{\partial^2 c_i}{\partial r^2} - \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial c_i}{\partial r} \right)$$



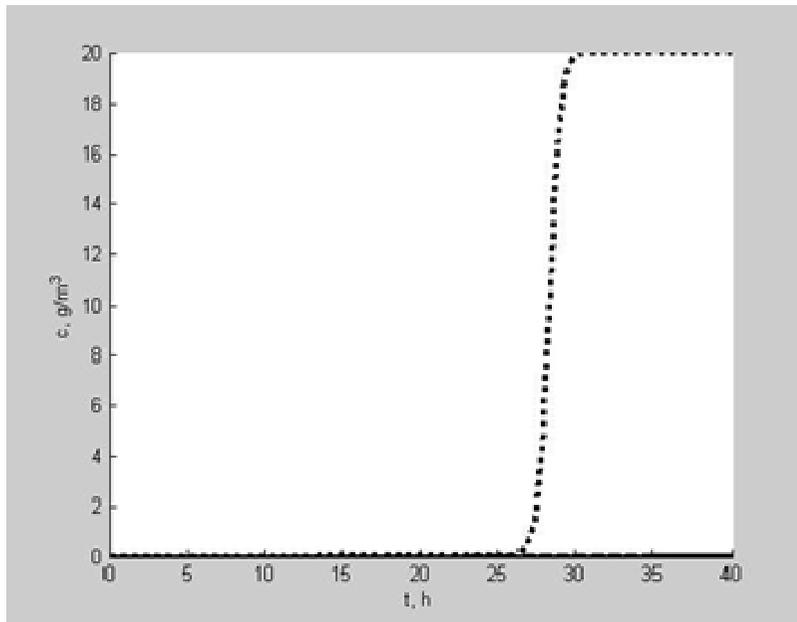
$$\frac{\partial q_i}{\partial t} = k_{ads} c_i (q_m - q_i) - k_{des} q_i$$

# Scale-up

---

Flow= 5000 L per 24 h (208 L h<sup>-1</sup>)

$C_{in} = 20 \text{ g m}^{-3}$



Based on Matlab:

$V = 0.351 \text{ m}^3$

$t_{br\ 10\%} = 27 \text{ h.}$

Based on experimental:

$V = 0.170 + 0.170 = 0.340 \text{ m}^3$

$t_{br\ 10\%} = 24 \text{ h.}$

---

madder root

Step 1  
enzymatic conversion  
precipitation  
centrifugation

pellet

Step 2  
extraction  
centrifugation

supernatant

Step 3  
column chromatography  
precipitation /filtration

product  
Rubia® RedA+

new process

*Students CT and chemistry*  
adsorption mechanism  
kinetics  
modelling  
balances  
synthesis reference compounds  
downstream processing

pellet

rubiadin

- removal unwanted anthraquinones



# Isolation of secondary metabolites

## Natural Colours as a product

Thanks to:

research members  
students  
companies  
TU/e and WUR  
audience

Thanks for your attention

