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TERPENOIDS

There are many different classes of naturally occurring compounds . Terpenoids also form a group of naturally occurring compounds majority of which occur in plants, a few of them have also been obtained from other sources. Terpenoids are volatile substances which give plants and flowers their fragrance. They occur widely in the leaves and fruits of higher plants, conifers, citrus and eucalyptus.

The term terpene' was given to the compounds isolated from terpentine, a volatile liquid isolated from pine trees. The simpler mono and sesqui terpenes are chief constituent of the essential oils obtained from sap and tissues of certain plants and trees. The di and tri terpenoids are not steam volatile. They are obtained from plant and tree gums and resins. Tetraterpenoids form a separate group of compounds called Carotenoids.

The term 'terpene was originally employed to describe a mixture of isomeric hydrocarbons of the molecular formula $C_{10}H_{16}$ occurring in the essential oils obtained from sap and tissue of plants, and-trees. But there is a tendency to use more general term terpenoids which include hydrocarbons and their Oxygenated derivatives. However the term terpene is being used these days by some authors to represent terpenoids.

By the modern definition: "Terperioids are the hydrocarbons of plant origin of the general formula $(C_5H_8)_n$ as well as their oxygenated, hydrogenated and dehydrogenated derivatives".

Isoprene rule: Thermal decomposition of terpenoids give isoprene as one of the product. Otto Wallach pointed out that terpenoids can be built up of isoprene unit.

Isoprene rule stats that the terpenoid molecules are constructed from two or more isoprene unit.

Further Ingold suggested that isoprene units are joined in the terpenoid via 'head to tail' fashion. Special isoprene rule states that the terpenoid_molecule are constructed of two or more isoprene units joined in a 'head to tail' fashion.



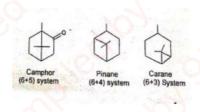
But this rule can only be used as guiding principle and not as a fixed rule. For example carotenoids are joined, tail to tail at their central and there are also some terpenoids whose carbon content is not a multiple of five.

In applying isoprene rule we look only for the skeletal unit of carbon. The carbon skeletons of open chain mono terpenoids an sesqui terpenoids are,

Ingold (1921) pointed that a gem alkyl group affects the stability of terpenoids. He summarized these results in the form of a rule called 'gem dialkyl rule' which may be stated as "Gem dialkyl group tends to render the cyclohexane ring unstable where as it stabilizes the three, four and five member rings."

This rule limits the number of possible structure in closing the open chain to ring structure. Thus the monoterpenoid open chain give rise to only one possibility for a monocyclic monoterpenoid i.e the p-cymene structure.

Bicyclic monoterpenodis contain a six member and a three member ring. Thus closure of the ten carbon open chain monoterpenoid gives three possible bicyclic structures.



Classification of Terpinoids

Most natural terpenoids hydrocarbon have the general formula (C₅H₈)_n. They can be classified on the basis of value of n or number of carbon atoms present in the structure.

Table-I: Classification of Terpenoids

Class	Value of n	Number of carbon atoms	S.No.
Monoterpepoids(C10H16)	2	10	1.
Sesquiterpenoinds(C15H24)	3	15	2.
Diterpenoids(C20H32)	4	20	3.
Sesterpenoids(C25H40)	5	25	4.
Troterpenoids(C30H48)	6	30	5.
Tetraterpenoids(C40H64)	8	40	6.
Polyterpenoids(C3Ha)n	>8	>40	7.

Each class can be further subdivided into subclass according to the number of rings present in the structure.

i) Acyclic Terpenoids: They contain open structure.

ii) Monocyclic Terpenoids: They contain one ring in the structure

iii)Bicyclic Terpenoids: They contain two rings in the structure.

iv)Tricyclic Terpenoids: They contain three rings in the structure.

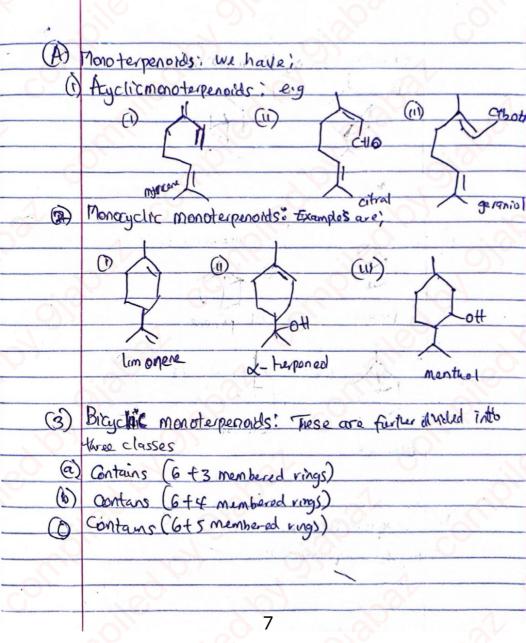
v)Tetracyclic Terpenoids: They contain four rings in the structure.

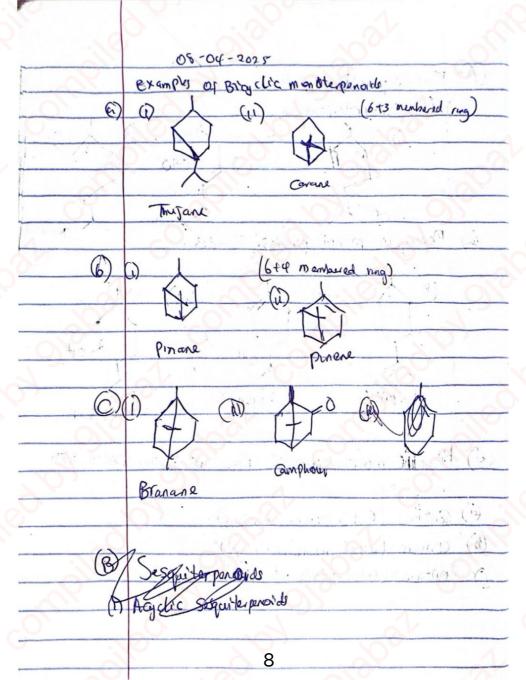
Some examples of mono, sesqui and di Terpenoids:

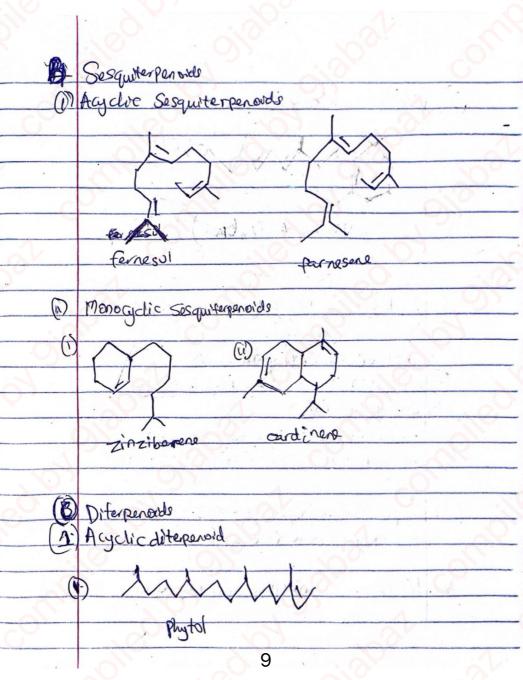
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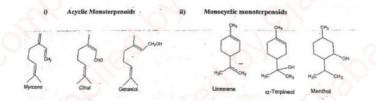
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•	10



- iii) Bicyclic monoterpenoids: These are further divided into three classes.
- a)Containing -6+3-membered rings
- b)Containing -6+4- membered rings.
- c)Contining -6+5-membered rings



Some bicyclic monoterpenes are:



B) Sesquiterpenoids:



C) Diterpenoids:

Isolation of mono and sesquiterpenoids

Both mono and sesquiterpenoids have common source i.e essential oils. Their isolation is carried out in two steps:

- i)Isolation of essential oils from plant parts
- ii)Separation of Terpenoids from essential oils
- i) **Isolation of essential oils from plant parts**: The plants having essential oils generally have the highest concentration at some particular time. Therefore better yield of essential oil plant material have to be collected at this particular time. e.g. From jasmine at sunset.there are four methods of extractions of oils.
- a) Expression method
- b) Steam distillation method
- c) Extraction by means of volatile solvents
- d) Adsorption in purified fats

Steam distillation is most widely used method. In this method macerated plant material is steam distilled to get essential oils into the distillate form these are extracted by using pure organic volatile solvents. If compound decomposes during steam distillation, it may be extracted with petrol at 50°C. After extraction solvent is removed under reduced pressure.

ii) **Separation of Terpenoids from essential oil**: A number of terpenoids are present in essential oil obtained from the extraction. Definite physical and chemical methods can be used for the separation of terpenoids. They are separated by fractional distillation. The terpenoid hydrocarbons distill over first followed by the oxygenated derivatives.

More recently different chromatographic techniques have been used both for isolation and separation of terpenoids.

General properties of Terpenoids

- 1.Most of the terpenoids are colourless, fragrant liquids which are lighter than water and volatile with steam. A few of them are solids e.g. camphor. All are soluble in organic solvent and usually insoluble in water. Most of them are optically active.
- 2. They are open chain or cyclic unsaturated compounds having one or more double bonds. Consequently they undergo addition reaction with hydrogen, halogen, acids, etc. A number of addition products have antiseptic properties.
- 3. They undergo polymerization and dehydrogenation.
- 4.They are easily oxidized nearly by all the oxidizing agents. On thermal decomposition, most of the terpenoids yields isoprene as one of the product.

General Methods of structure elucidation

Terpenoids

- 1) Molecular formula: molecular formula is determined by usual quantitative analysis and mol.wt determination methods and by means of mass spectrometry. If terpenoid is optically active, its specific rotation can be measured.
- 2)Nature of oxygen atom present: If oxygen is present in terpenoids its functional nature is generally as alcohol aldehyde, ketone or carboxylic groups.
- a) Presence of oxygen atom present: presence of —OH group can be determined by the formation of acetates with acetic anhydride and benzoyate with 3.5-dinitirobenzoyl chloride.

R-OH +
$$(CH_3CO)_2O$$
 \longrightarrow R-O-C-CH₃ + CH_3COOH

$$R-OH + C$$

$$NO_2$$

$$R-O = R$$

$$NO_2$$

$$NO_2$$

Primary alcoholic group undergo esterification more readily than secondary and tertiary alcohols.

b) **Presence of >C=0 group**: Terpenoids containing carbonyl function form crystalline addition products like oxime, phenyl hydrazone and bisulphite etc.

if carbonyl function is in the form of aldehyde it gives carboxylic acid on oxidation without loss of any carbon atom whereas the ketone on oxidation yields a mixture of lesser number of carbon atoms.

iii)Unsaturation: The presence of olefinic double bond is confirmed by means of bromine, and number of double bond determination by analysis of the bromide or by quantitative hydrogenation or by titration with monoperpthalic acid.

Presence of double bond also confirmed by means of catalytic hydrogenation or addition of halogen acids. Number of moles of HX absorbed by one molecule is equal to number of double bonds present.

Addition of nitrosyl chloride(NOC1) (**Tilden's reagent**) and epoxide formation with peracid also gives idea about double bonds present in terpenoid molecule.

iv)Dehydrogenation: On dehydrogenation with sulphur, selenium, polonium or palladium terponoids converted to aromatic compounds. Examination of these products the skelton structure and position of side chain in the original terpenoids can be determined.

For example α -terpenol on Se-dehydrogenation yields p-cymene.

Thus the carbon Skelton of terpenol is as follows.

v)Oxidative degradation: Oxidative degradation has been the parallel tool for elucidating the structure of terpenoids. Reagents for degradative oxidation are ozone, acid, neutral or alkaline potassium permanganate, chromic acid, sodium hypobromide, osmium tetroxide, nitric acid, lead tetra acetate and peroxy acids. Since oxidizing agents are selective, depending on a particular group to be oxidized, the oxidizing agent is chosen with the help of stfucture of degradation product.

vi)Number of the rings present: With the help of general formula of corresponding parent saturated hydrocarbon, number of rings present in that molecule can be determined.

vii)Relation between general formula of compound and type of compounds: Table 2

Table-2: Relation between general formula of compound and type of compounds

General formula of parent saturated Hydrocarbon	Type of structure
C _n H _{2n+2}	Acyclic
C_nH_{2n}	Monocyclic
C_nH_{2n-2}	Bicyclic
C_nH_{2n-4}	Tricyclic
C _n H _{2n-6}	Tetrayclic

For example limonene (mol. formula. $C_{10}H_{16}$) absorbs 2 moles of hydrogen to give tetrahydro limonene (mol. Formula $C_{10}H_{20}$) corresponding to the general formula. C_nH_{2n} . It means limonoene has monocyclic structure.

- viii) **Spectroscopic studies:** All the spectroscopic methods are very helpful for the confirmation of structure of natural terpenoids and also structure of degradation products. The various methods for elucidating the structure of terpenoids are:
- a)UV Spectroscopy: In terpenes containing conjugated dienes or α , β -unsaturated ketones, UV spectroscopy is very useful tool. The values of λ_{max} for various types of terpenoids have been calculated by applying Woodward's empirical rules. There is generally good agreement between calculation and observed values. Isolated double bonds, α , β -unsaturated esters , acids, lactones also have characteristic maxima.
- b)IR Spectroscopy: IR spectroscopy is useful in detecting group such as hydroxyl group (-3400cm⁻¹) or an oxo group (saturated 1750-1700cm⁻¹). Isopropyl group, cis and trans also have characteristic absorption peaks in IR region.
- c)NMR Spectroscopy: This technique is useful to detect and identify double bonds, to determine the nature of end group and also the number of rings present, and also to reveal the orientation of methyl group in the relative position of double bonds.
- d)Mass Spectroscopy: It is now being widely used as a means of elucidating structure of terpenoids. Used for determining mol. Wt., Mol. Formula, nature of functional groups present and relative positions of double bonds.
- ix) X-ray analysis: This is very helpful technique for elucidating structure and stereochemistry of terpenoids.
- x)Synthesis: Proposed structure is finally confirmed by synthesis. In terpenoid chemistry,many of the synthesis are ambiguous and in such cases analytical evidences are used in conjunction with the synthesis.

MYRCENE

Myrcene has molecular formula $C_{10}H_{16}$. It occurs in verbena and bay oils. It is a liquid with b. pts of $166-168^{\circ}C$.

Catalytic hydrogenation of myrcene in the presence of Pt converts it to decane, C₁₀H₂₂.

$$C_{10}H_{16} \xrightarrow{Pt} C_{10}H_{22}$$

Thus, myrcene contains 3 double bonds (dbs) and it is an open chain (structure) compound. Since myrcene forms an adduct with maleic anhydride, therefore, 2 of the dbs are conjugated. This conjugation is supported by the fact that myrcene shows optical exaltation (i.e. increase in the refractive index).

Ozonolysis of myrcene produce acetone, formaldehyde and ketodialdehyde;

The suggested structure based on the above chemical analysis is;

Which implies that;

• The ketodialdehyde on oxidation with chromic acid gave succinic acid and CO₂

 Hydration of myrcene in acidic medium gave an alcohol known as geraniol, C₁₀H₁₈O, which on further oxidation gave citral

$$H_2O/H^+$$
 CrO_3 CHO

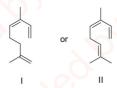
OCIMENE

Ocimene has molecular formula $C_{10}H_{16}$. It occurs in the leaves of a plant called *Ocimium basilicum*. It has a boiling point of 81°C/30 mm Hg.

- Catalytic hydrogenation resulted in addition of 3 moles of H₂ to form decane, this
 implies that ocimene is an acyclic compound with 3 dbs.
- It also forms an adduct with maleic anhydride, therefore, 2 of the dbs are conjugated.
- Ozonolysis of Ocimene produce formaldehyde, methylglyoxal, laevulaldehyde, acetic & malonic acids & acetone.

$$C_{10}H_{16}$$
 C_{rO_3} C_{rO

Proposed Structures:



From relative amount of aldehyde z& ketone, it is believed that structure (II) is the major constituent of the mixture.

Ocimene is unstable and is yet to be obtained in the pure form. When heated, it readily isomerizes to Allo-ocimene in which all the 3 dbs are conjugated.



Allo-ocimene

CITRAL

Citral is the most important of the acyclic monoterpenoids because the structures of most other compounds in this group are based on that of citral. It has a molecular formula $C_{10}H_{16}O$. It has a boiling point of -77°C. It is widely distributed. About 60-80% is obtained in lemon grass oil. It is liquid with lemon odour.

It contains an oxo-group (carbonyl functional group), hence, it forms an oxime (This
reaction was used to determine the structure of citral).

On heating with KHSO₄, it forms p-cymene

• It can be reduced by Na/Hg to form an alcohol, called geraniol.

$$C_{10}H_{16}O$$
 $2[H]$ $C_{10}H_{18}O$

It can be oxidized by Ag₂O to geranic acid C₁₀H₁₆O₂

$$C_{10}H_{16}O \xrightarrow{[O]} C_{10}H_{16}O_2$$

Both the above 2 last reactions show that oxo group in citral is therefore an aldehydic group. Citral also reduces Fehling's solution, further confirming the presence of aldehydic group.

Also, since there is no loss of C on oxidation to the acid, the oxo group in citral is, therefore an RCHO group.

• It adds on 2 molecules of Br₂, shows the presence of 2 dbs.

 Oxidation of citral with alkaline KMnO₄ followed by CrO₃ gives acetone, oxalic acid and laevulic acid.

$$C_{10}H_{16}O \xrightarrow{i) KMnO_4} CO_2H + O + CO_2H$$

Ozonolysis of citral also yields acetone, laevulaldehyde and glyoxal

$$C_{10}H_{16}O$$
 O_3 O + CHO + CHO

Citral

Citral is an acyclic monoterpenoid. It is a major constituent of lemon grass oil in which it occurs to an extent of 60-80%. It is pale yellow liquid having strong lemon like odour and can be obtained by fractional distillation under reduced pressure from Lemongrass oil.

Constitution: i) Mol. formula C₁₀H₁₆O, b.p-77°C

ii)Nature of Oxygen atom: Formation of oxime of citral indicates the presence of an oxo group in citral molecule.

21

On reduction with Na/Hg it gives an alcohol called geraniol and on oxidation with silver oxide it give a monocarboxylic acid called Geranic acid without loss of any carbon atom.

Both these reaction reveal that oxo group in citral is therefore an aldehyde group. Citral reduces Fehling's solution. further confirming the presence of aldehydic group.

iii)It adds on two molecule of Br_2 shows the presence of two double bonds. On ozonlysis, it gives acetone, laevulaldehyde and glyoxal.

Formation of above products shows that citral is an acyclic compound containing two double bonds. Corresponding saturated hydrocarbon of citral (mol. Formula $C_{10}H_{22}$) corresponds to the general formula $C_{n}H_{2n+2}$ for acyclic compounds, indicating that citral must be an acyclic compound.

iv) Formation of *p*-cymene and product obtained from the ozonolysis reveals that citral is formed by the joining of two isoprene units in the head to tail fashion

v) On the basis of above facts following structure was proposed for citral.

vi) Above structure was further supported by the degradation of citral on treatment with alkaline KMnO₄ followed by chromic acid.

Verley found that citral on boiling with aqueous potassium carbonate yielded 6-methyl hept-5- ene-2-one and acetaldehyde. The formation of these can only be explained on the basis of proposed structure.

It Appears that citral is product of aldol condensation of these two.

Synthesis: Finally the structure of citral was confirmed by its synthesis.

a) Barbier-Bouveault-Tiemann's synthesis: In this synthesis methyl heptenone is converted to geranic ester by using Reformatsky's reaction. Geranic ester is then converted to citral by distilling a mixture of calcium salts of geranic and formic acids.

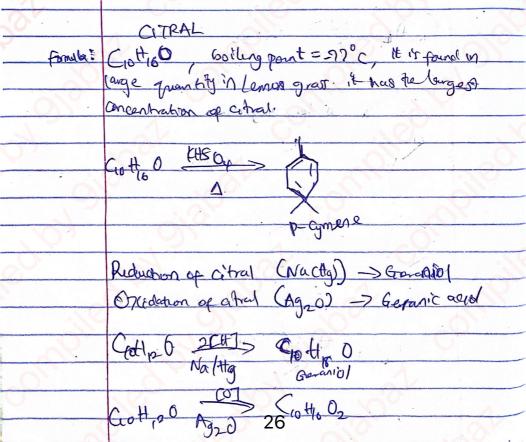
b)Arens-Van Drop's Synthesis: This synthesis involves condensation of acetone with acetylene in the presence of liquid ammonia. Condensation product is then reduced and treated with PBr₃, allylic rearrangement takes place. The rearranged product so obtained is treated with sodium salt of acetoacetic ester and then hydrolysed to yield methyl heptenone. The latter compound on condensation with ethoxy acetylene magnesium bromide, followed by the partial reduction and acidification yields citral by allylic rearrangement.

Isomerism of citral: two geometrical isomers occur in nature.

The existence of the two isomeric Citrals in natural citral has been confirmed chemically by the formation of two different semicarbazones and formation of geraniol and nerol on reduction.

Menthol

Menthol is the major constituent of Mentha Piperi. It is used as an antiseptic and anesthetic. Menthol (also called peppermint camphor or mint camphor) is the major constituent of peppermint oil and is responsible for its odour and taste and the cooling sensation when applied to the skin. It is ingredient in cold balms. Menthol is optically active compound with mol. formula $C_{10}H_{20}O$.

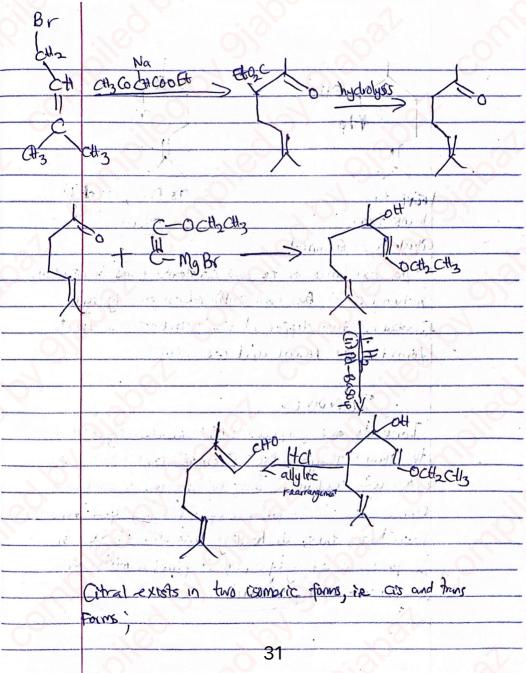


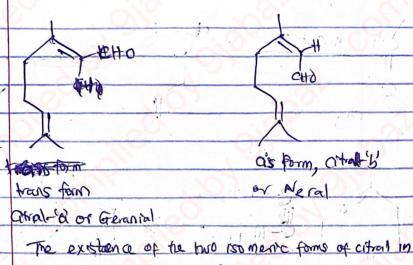
K200360 F Aqueous forcoz combated citral into constant @ methyl hopt -s on 2 -one So H160 ag K200 Ctts This but reaction implies that attallandeques clearlages at the a-B unsaturation On the basis of the above chemical analysis, citral is therefore cto or Synthesis of Chral

Spitheois of Citral Synthesis of &-metry hept-5-on-2-one This dedicage by a kali reagent is ageneral reaction by d-B unsaturated arbony Compounds the metry heption one itself is Oxotized to ace tone and backular gold Finalty the Structure of citral was confirmed by its synthesis Synthesis of 6-metryl hept-5-an-2-one 1, 3 dibromo-3-methyl buture is condensed with Sodium acetyl acetore and the resulting compound & heated with conc. NaOH solution + CH3CO. CHCOCH3 2 kH2 by cH3 cH3 NaBr CH (COCH 2)2

Hetermataky rxn Cordenses aldehyde and halo ester befores to * AC (CH3CO) CH2 CH (Cocts) Conversion of 6- methyl hept 5-en+2-one to CHal Vary Barbrer - Boureault - Treman's Sypothesis" This reaction convert 6-methy hept-5-ene 2-one conver geranic ester by using Reformats ky meach on Geranic ester is then converted to citral by distilling a mixture of Calcium salts of geranic acid and formic acid. ACO CCH3CO) Ca salt of geranic Ca. Formate atral

	The synthesis of cital has confirmed that, that structure
	of Edral is Correct.
6	Using Arens - Van Drop's Synthesis! This is amother
	Method of Synthesizing Citral and involves consensative
(-1),)	of acetone with acetylene in the presence on liquid
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	and treated with phosphorus tri bromide (PBr3) in
entre.	which there is an allylic rearrangement.
	The practinged product so obtained to heated with
	Sodown sait of acctoacetic ester and then hydrolyzed
	to gield metry l'heptenone and the compainds voltained
	on cordensation with ethoxyacotylene magnesium bromodo
	followed by the partial reduction and acidification that
	greeds attal by allyline rearrangement
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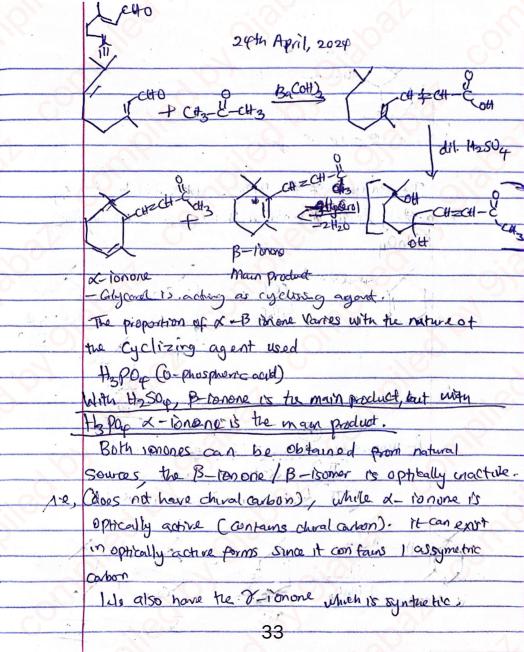




The existence of the two isometric forms of citral natural citral has been confirmed chemocally by the formation of two different semi-carbazones and formation of Neurol and Garantol

TO NON ES

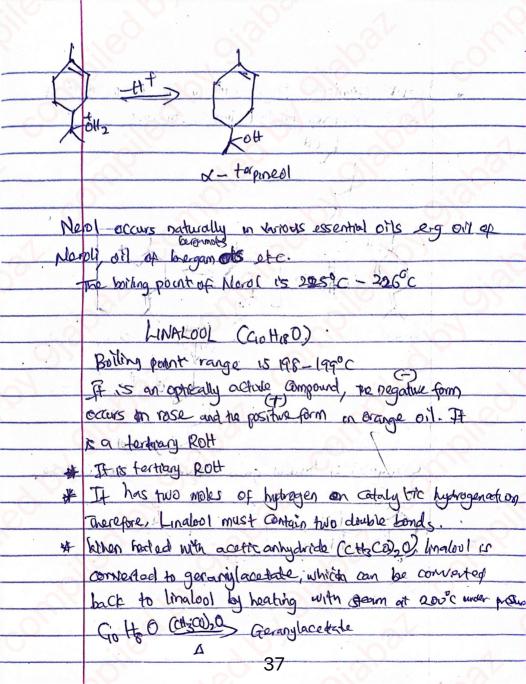
Tonomes are compounds which are directly related to citizal. They ar ise from the condensation of citizal with acetone. Thus, when citizal is condensed with acetone, in the presence of Ba(Ott), 4-iongne is formed and this, on heating with dil. He say in the presence of gly carol, it forms a mixture of x-ionone and B-ionone



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<u> </u>	It is a primary alcohol, on oxidation form
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	bromde. It has 2-double bonds
1 1	
	Reduction of Citizal produces General of Stero (Co form)
0	d CHOH 1
	H+ CH2014
×.	2 John Ji
1 .	Germin
	trans or E) (Cir or z-)
	In the presence of acid, geranial is converted to
	d-torpen10)
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most acyclismometer prenond under cyclimation to form 6-membered rongs, usually in paramethone dente tive (12 18 opropy) - 1 momethy og clo hexane). Cy clization of Garaniol and North CH2 dtzoff CH20H Crevaniol Nerol



Linabol isomeries to gerandol under the influence of W acods- Thorofore, linated has to structure -OH ott analost gorantol Oxodation of Ionatool gives lapulity acid and Calebono [0] 38

