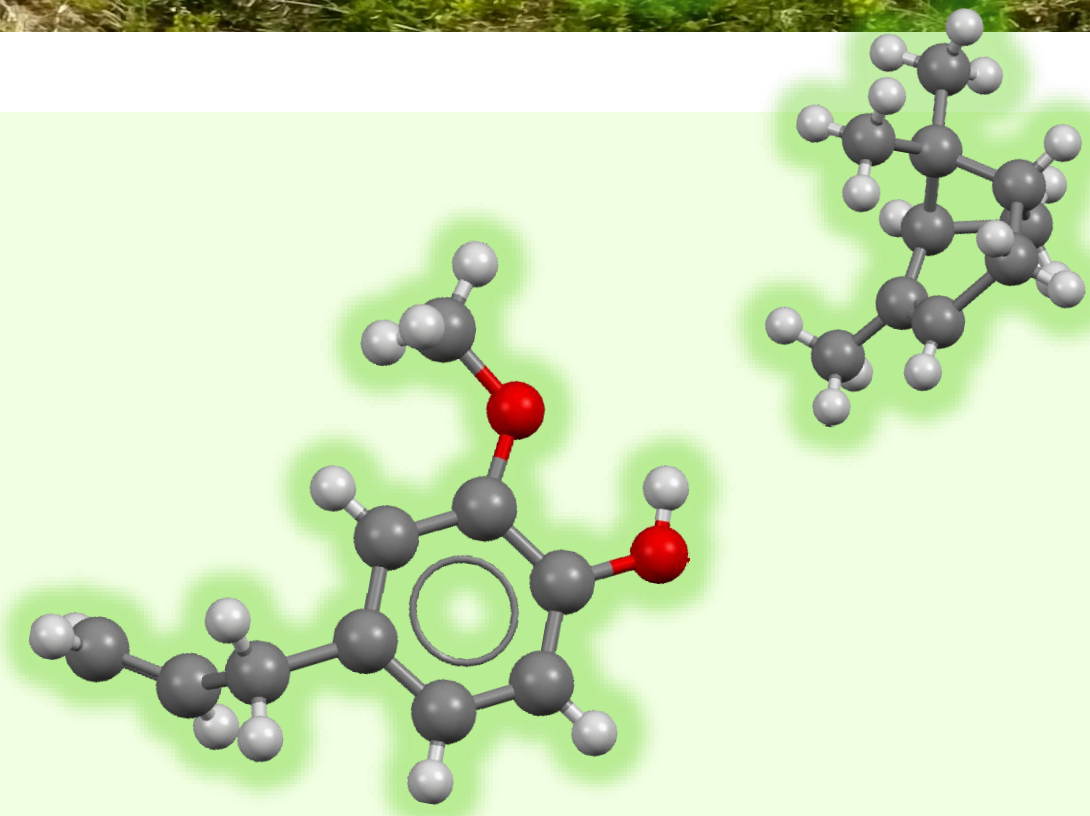
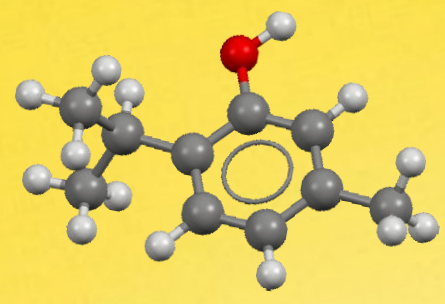


Looking for molecules

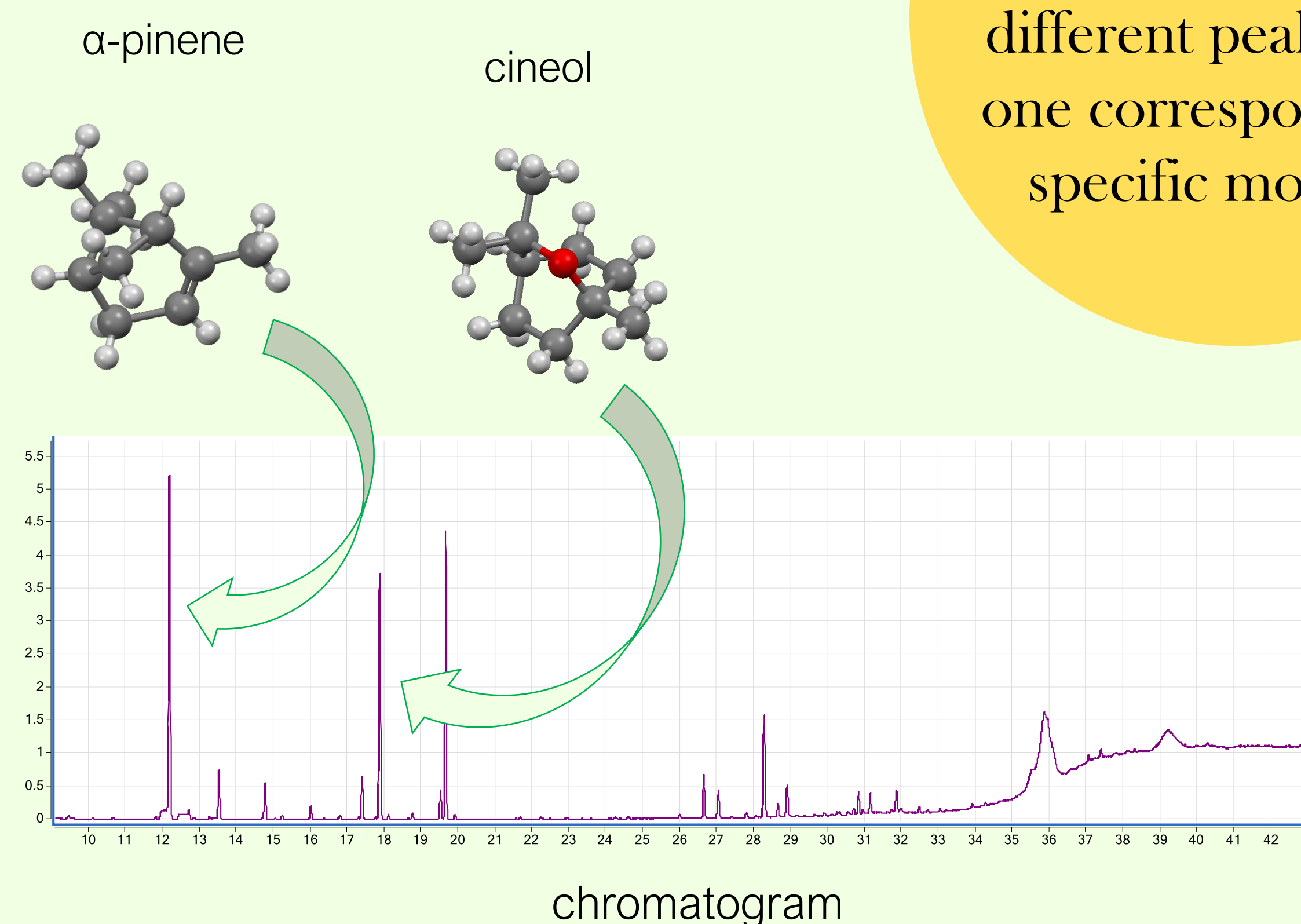
The Pistoia Mountains host a variety of aromatic plants including thyme, helichrysum, juniper, mint and savory. Their fragrances come from the combination of different volatile molecules, known as terpenes

Molecule comes from the Latin word *moles* (matter) and means a group of atoms linked together through chemical bonds



The molecule investigator looks for the key substances of a fragrance by analyzing different plant tissues (leaf, stem and flower)

The gas-chromatograph and the mass-spectrometer allow to split and identify the terpenes, showed in a chromatogram



The chromatogram is a graph showing different peaks: each one corresponds to a specific molecule