

# **Application of Toasted Oak and Micro-Oxygenation to Aging of Cabernet Sauvignon**

*Dr. Jeff McCord*  
StaVin Inc.

# Outline

1. Goals
2. Introduction
3. Grapes and Winemaking
4. Analysis
5. Results
6. Summary
7. Preliminary Sensory Results
8. Conclusions

# Goal

Produce superior wines with enhanced control and consistency, more economically

# Introduction

- The major goal of this study was to produce the best wine possible from Cabernet sauvignon grown in the Edna Valley region of San Luis Obispo County in California.
- Determine which technique or combination of techniques provide the best results?
- How do the application of these techniques affect winemaking logistics?
- How do the application of these techniques affect wine quality?
- Can these affects on wine be measured and quantified in an objective manner?

# Grapes and Winemaking

Christian Roguenant, Orcutt Road Cellars

- Cabernet sauvignon was harvested at  $\approx 22.5$  brix
- Chardonnay juice concentrate was added to enable the completed fermentation to reach 14 % alcohol
- Fermentation trials included
  - tannins
  - color enzymes
  - toasted oak
  - punch down vs pump over
- Two barrel samples were pulled from each completed fermentor.
- All wine was composited and divided into lots as follows:

## **No Oxygen Treatments**

Control – No oak, No oxygen

tk 3010

tk 3011

Staves only – No oxygen

tk 3012

tk 3013

Segments only – No oxygen

tk 3014

tk 3015

## **Oxygen Additions**

Oxygen only

tk 1203

tk 1204

Staves + Oxygen

tk 1201

tk 6011

Segments + Oxygen

tk 1202

tk 6012

# Treatment Protocols

1. Composited wine was inoculated with the malolactic culture Oeno.
2. Inoculated wines were divided into the treatment tanks and allowed to finish MLF.
3. Oak treatments were added prior to MLF at 3 g/L.
4. All tanks were clean racked and SO<sub>2</sub> added at 35 ppm.
5. Micro-Oxygenation was initiated at 10 mL O<sub>2</sub>/L/month.
6. After three months the Micro-Oxygenation rate was reduced to 5 mL O<sub>2</sub>/L/month.
7. After 6 months micro-oxygenation was halted.
8. Wines were bottled at 8 months and analysis started.

# Ox Box



# French Oak Segments™ - 15lb bag



# French Oak Fans or Bundles – 44sq.ft.



# **Analysis**

## **ETS Laboratories, St. Helena, California**

- Basic chemistry panel
- Oak volatile analysis
- Sulfides
- Price phenolic profile
- Color profile

## **UC Davis, Dr. Andrew Waterhouse Laboratory**

- Folin Ciocalteu tannin assay
- Adams tannins assay
- Normal phase tannins
- Reverse phase phenol compounds

## **FlavorSense Inc.**

- Difference testing
- Descriptive sensory analysis
- Consumer sensory analysis

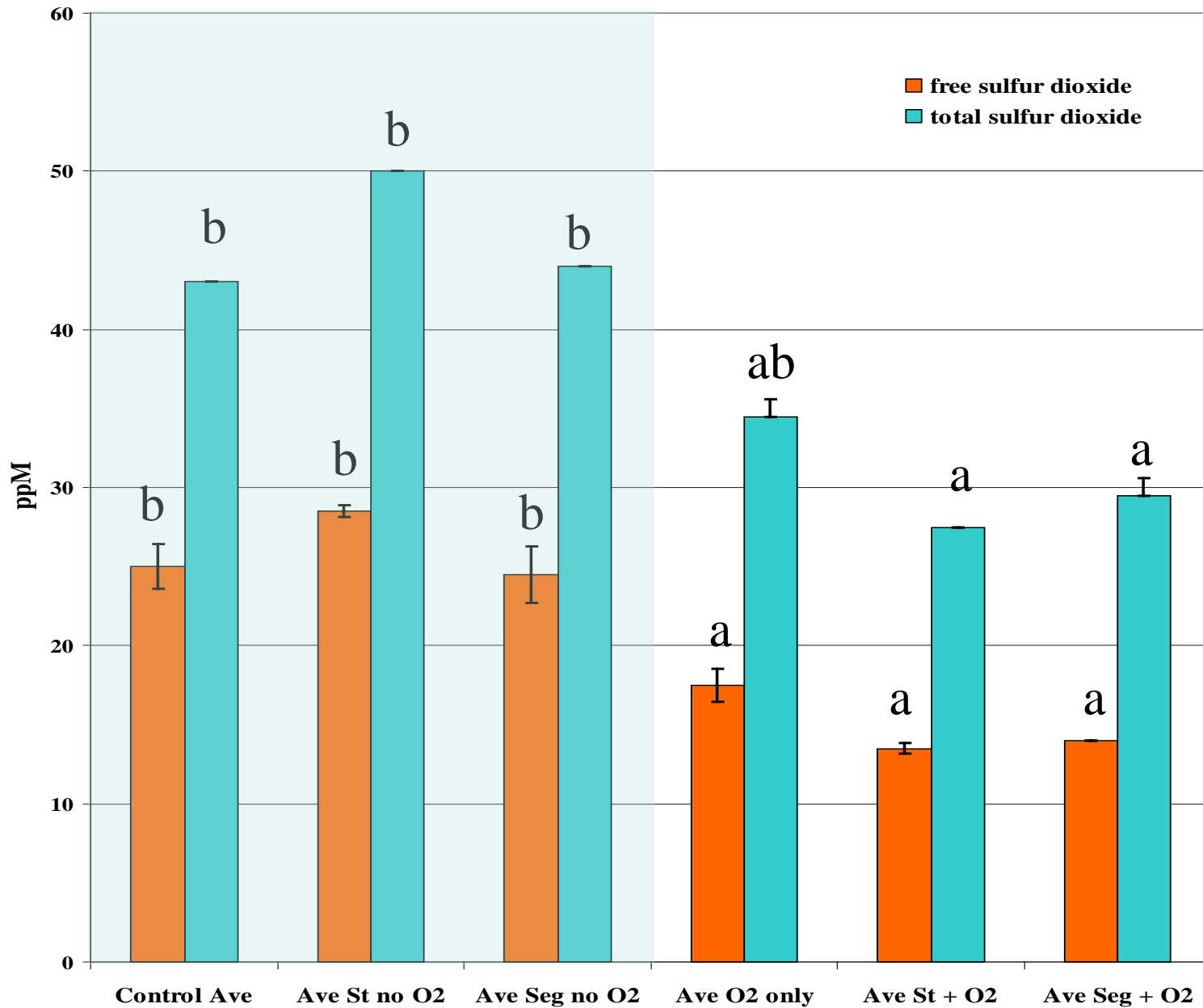
## **Tragon**

- Data Analysis (Principle component analysis)

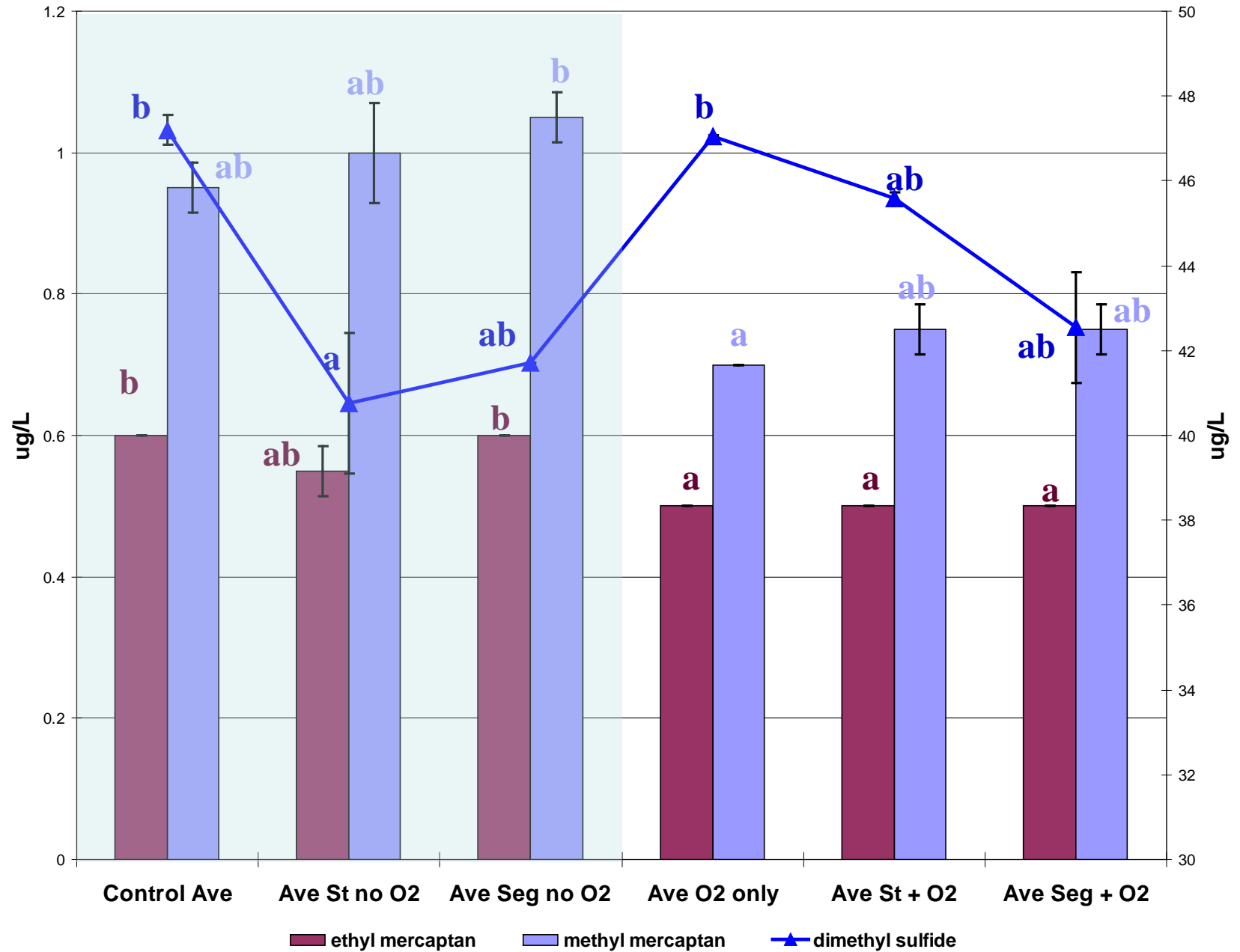
# What results do we expect to see??

1. Does oxygenation affect compounds which we expect to effect mouthfeel?
  - Folin-Ciocalteu, Adams, HPLC measures of tannins and polymeric compounds.
2. Does oxygenation affect color or intensity of color?
  - Change in 420 & 520 nm measures, shifts in in spectra.
3. Can we discern the effects of toasted oak with or without added oxygenation?
  - Oak flavor, tannins, colored polymers
4. Will differences seen in analytical measurements be perceived in sensory measures?
  - Mouthfeel, smoothness,color, integration of flavors

# Significant Chemistry Panel Results

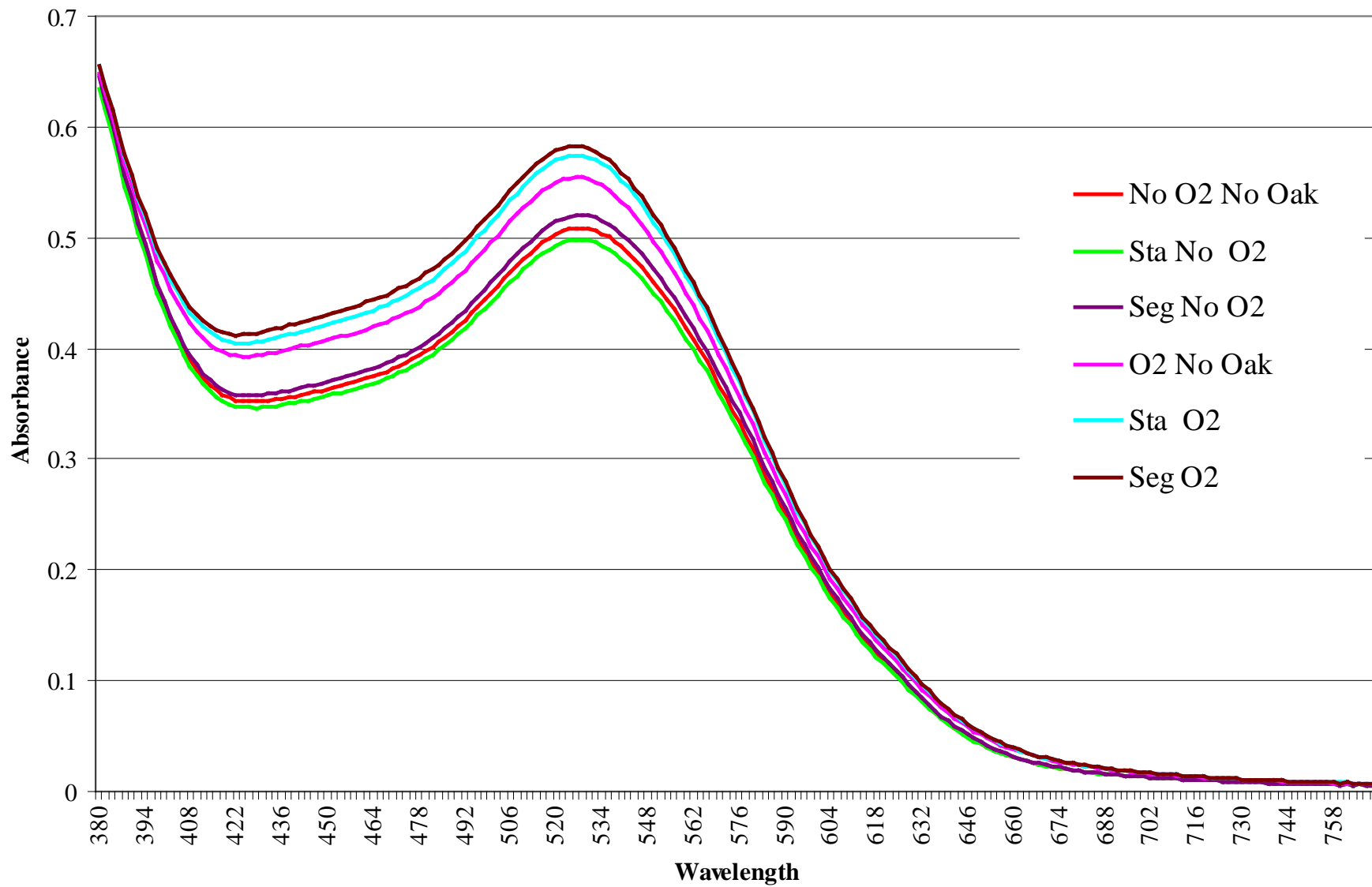


# Significant Sulfides ETS



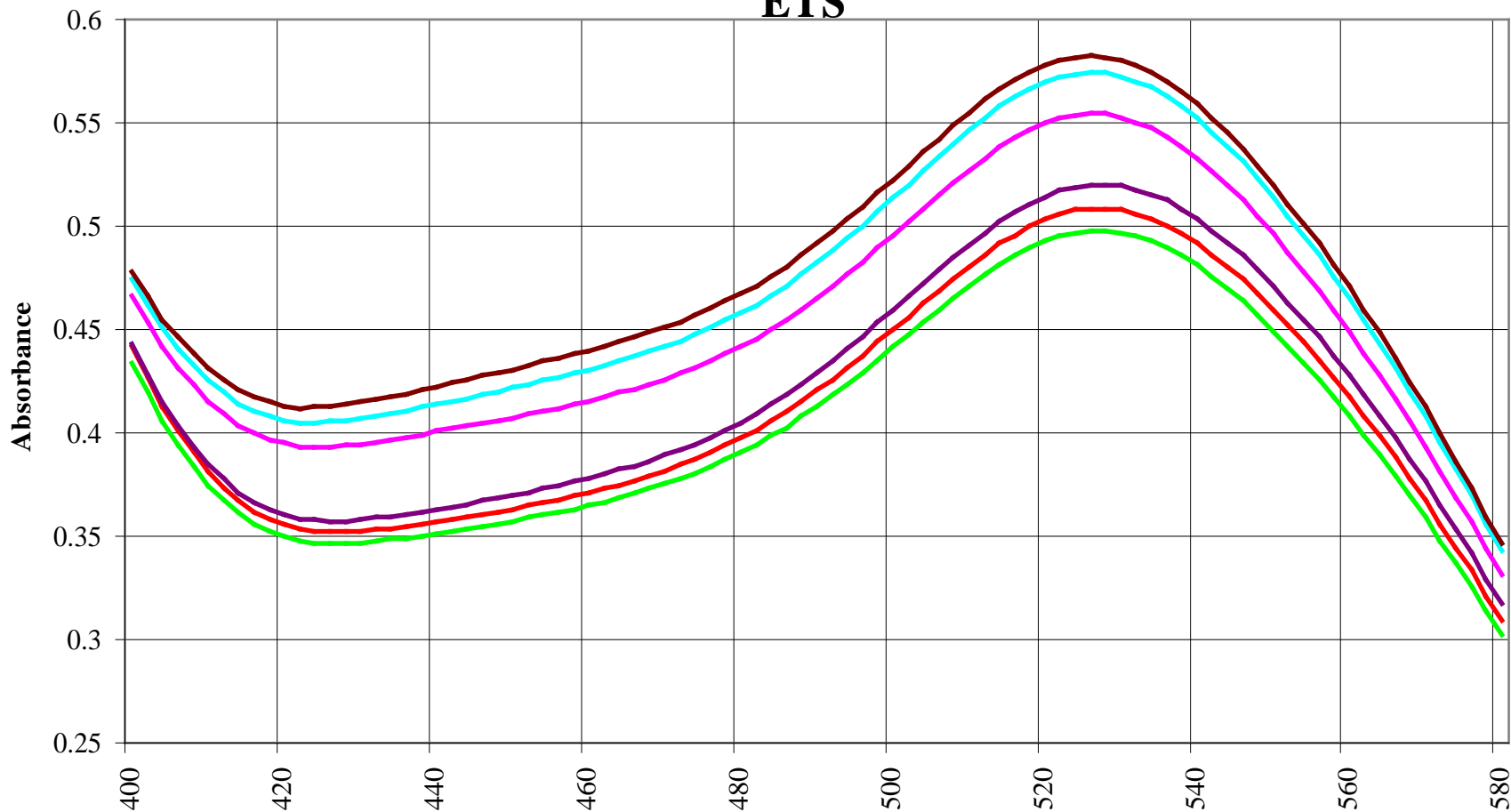
# Spectral Comparisons

## ETS



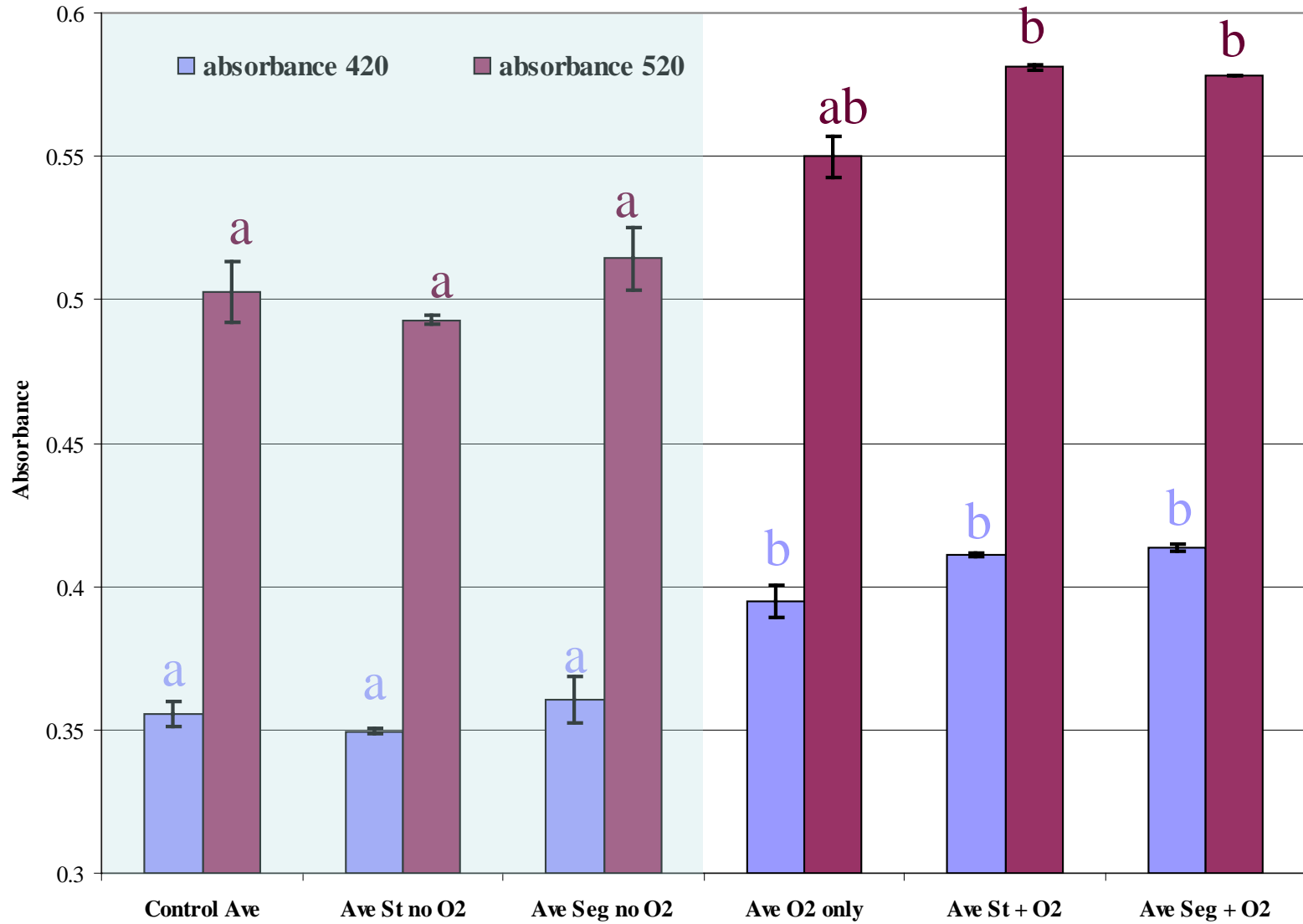
# Zoom of Spectral Comparisons

## ETS

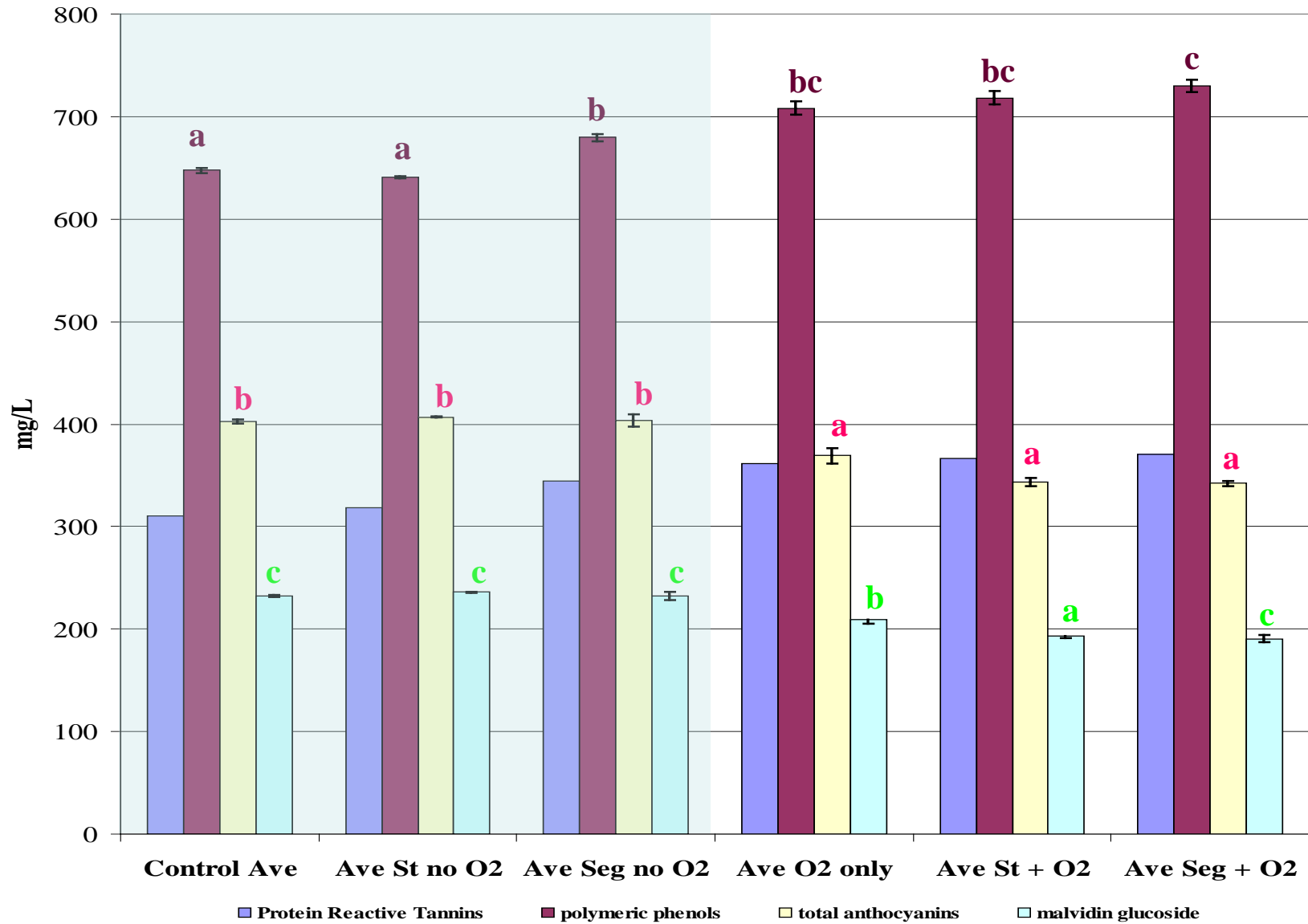


— No O2 No Oak    — Sta No O2    — Seg No O2    — O2 No Oak    — Sta O2    — Seg O2

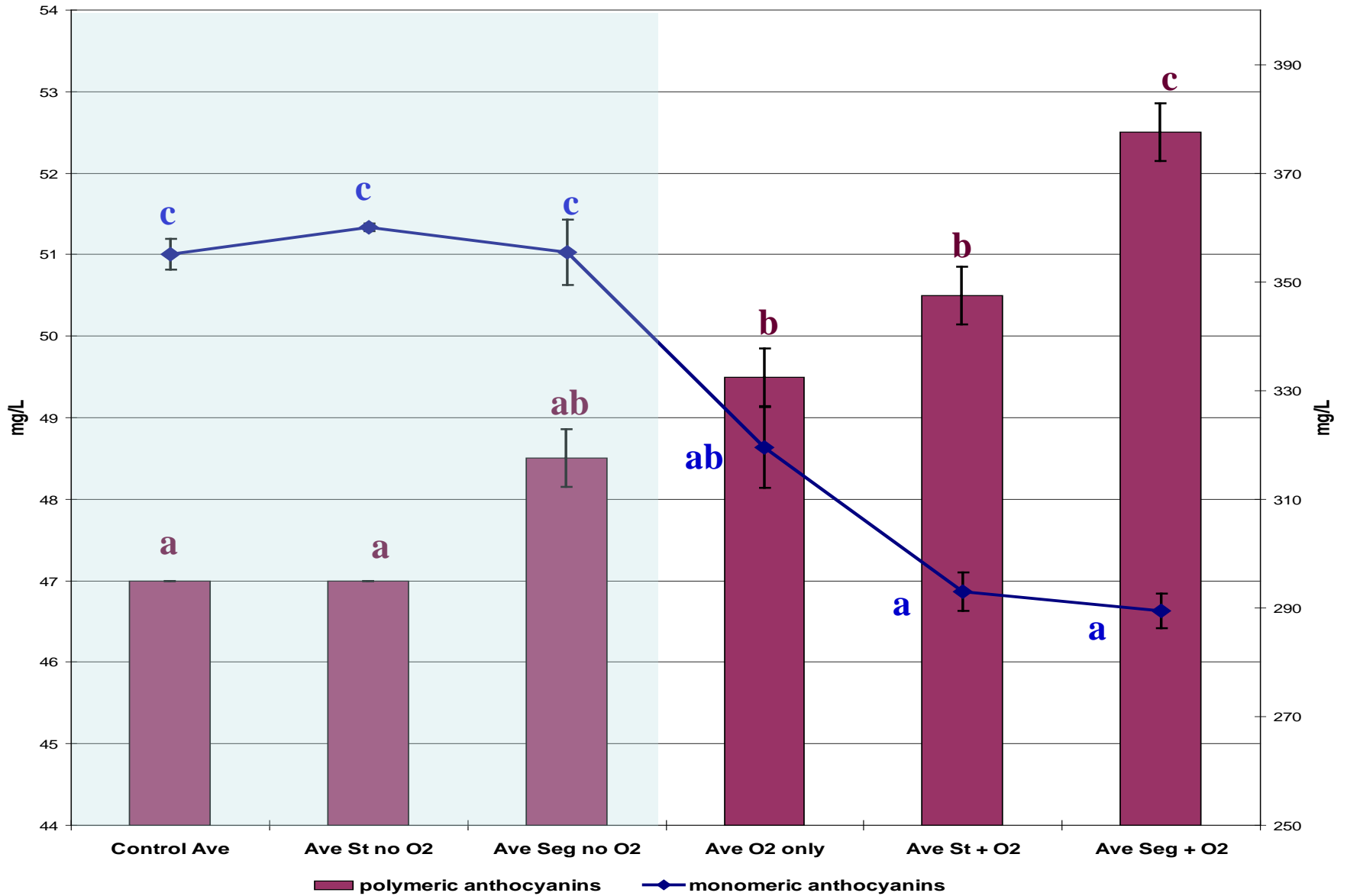
# Red (520nm) vs Brown (420nm) ETS



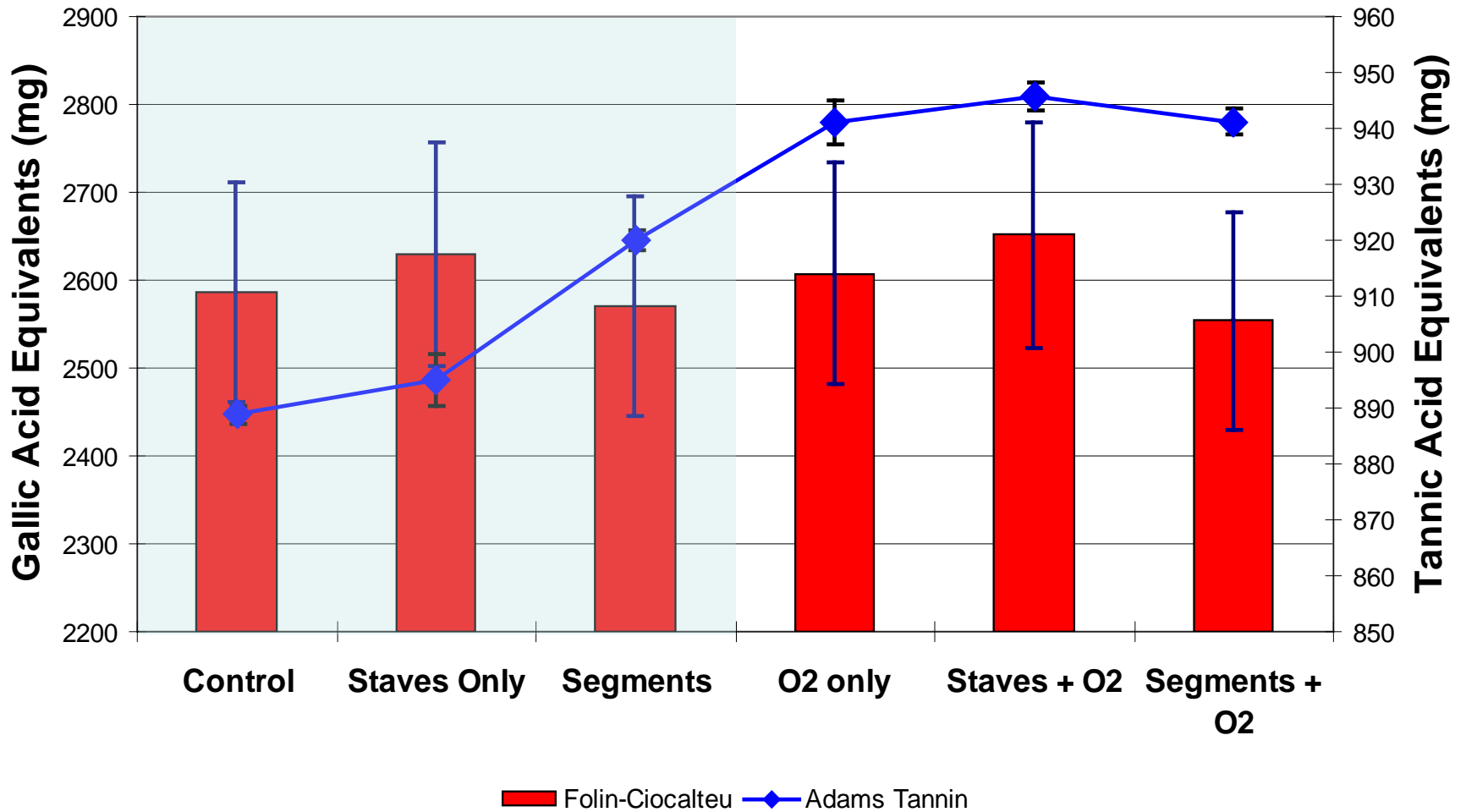
# Polymeric Phenolics ETS



# Polymeric vs Monomeric Anthocyanins ETS

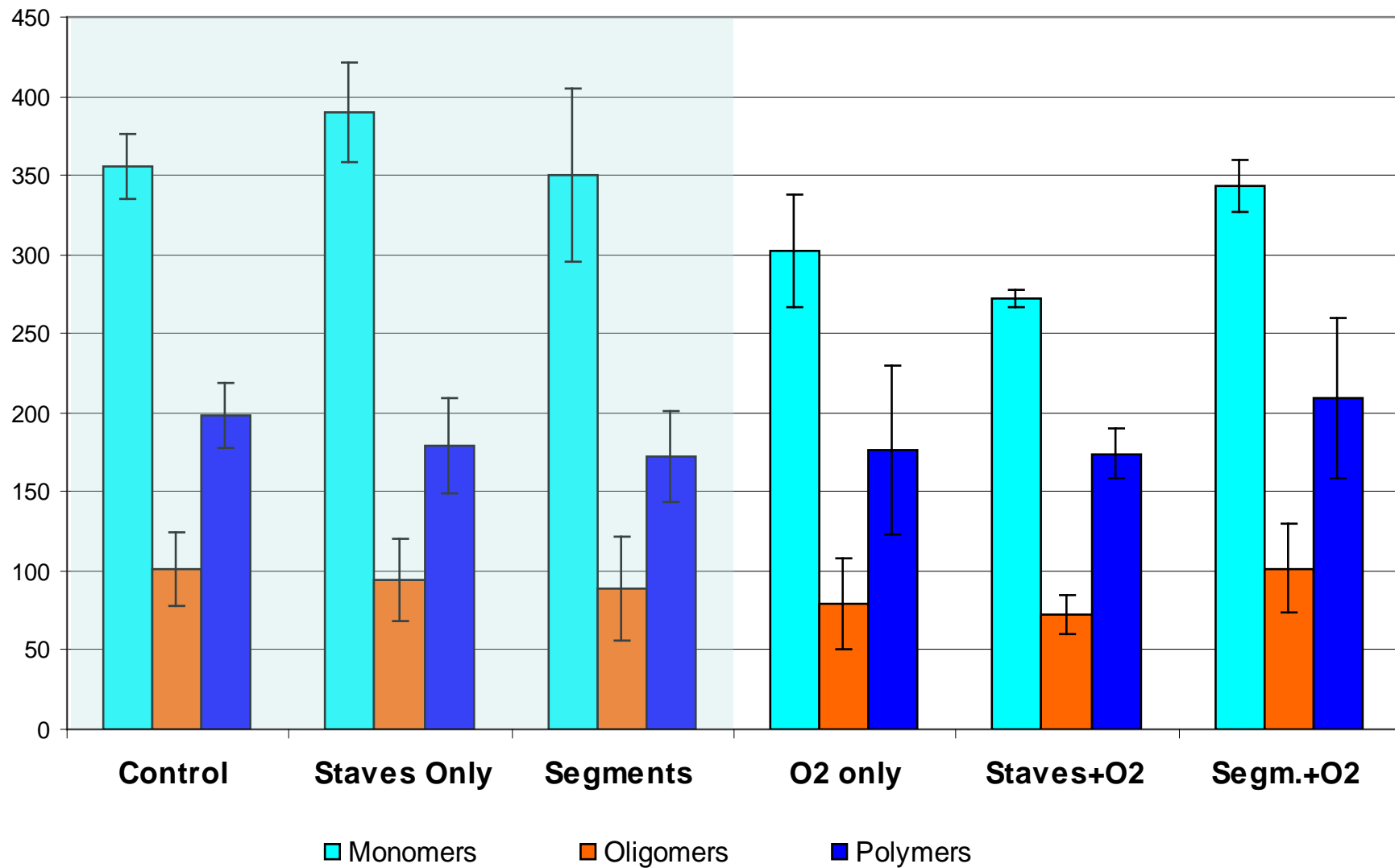


# Adams vs Folin Tannin Assay Waterhouse Laboratory



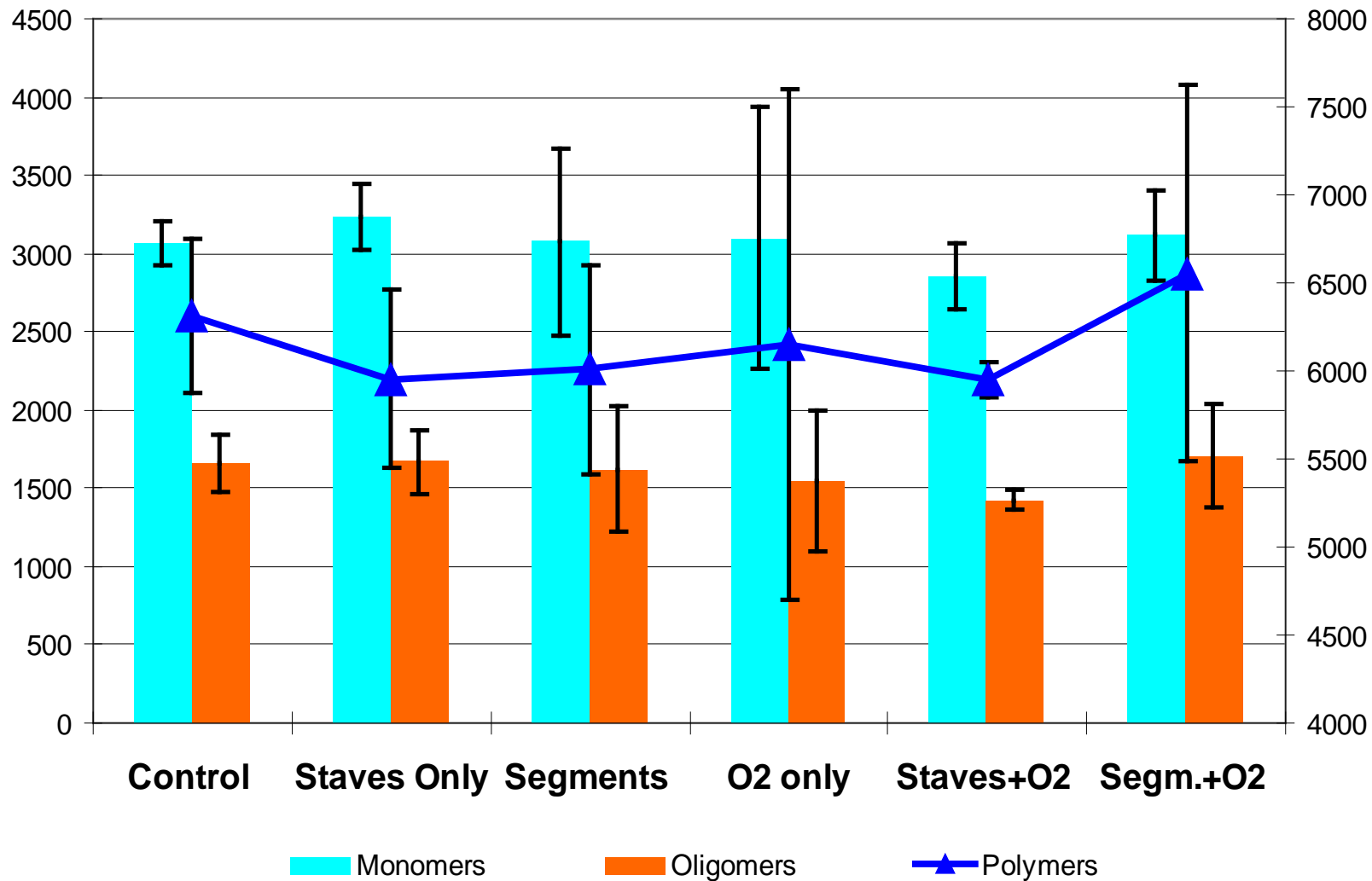
# Normal Phase HPLC Analysis 520 nm Absorbance

## Waterhouse Laboratory

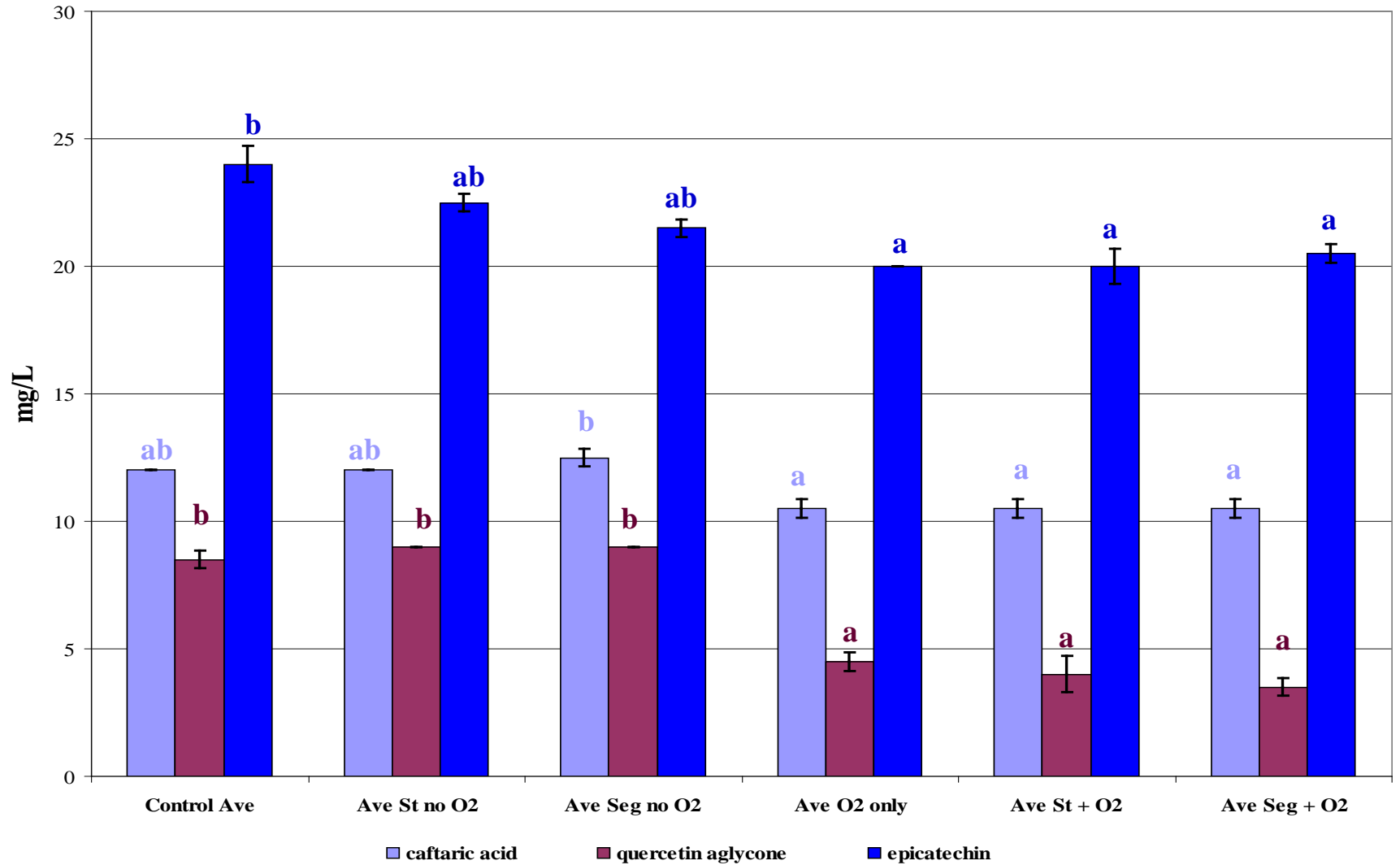


# Normal Phase HPLC Analysis - 280 nm

## Waterhouse Laboratory

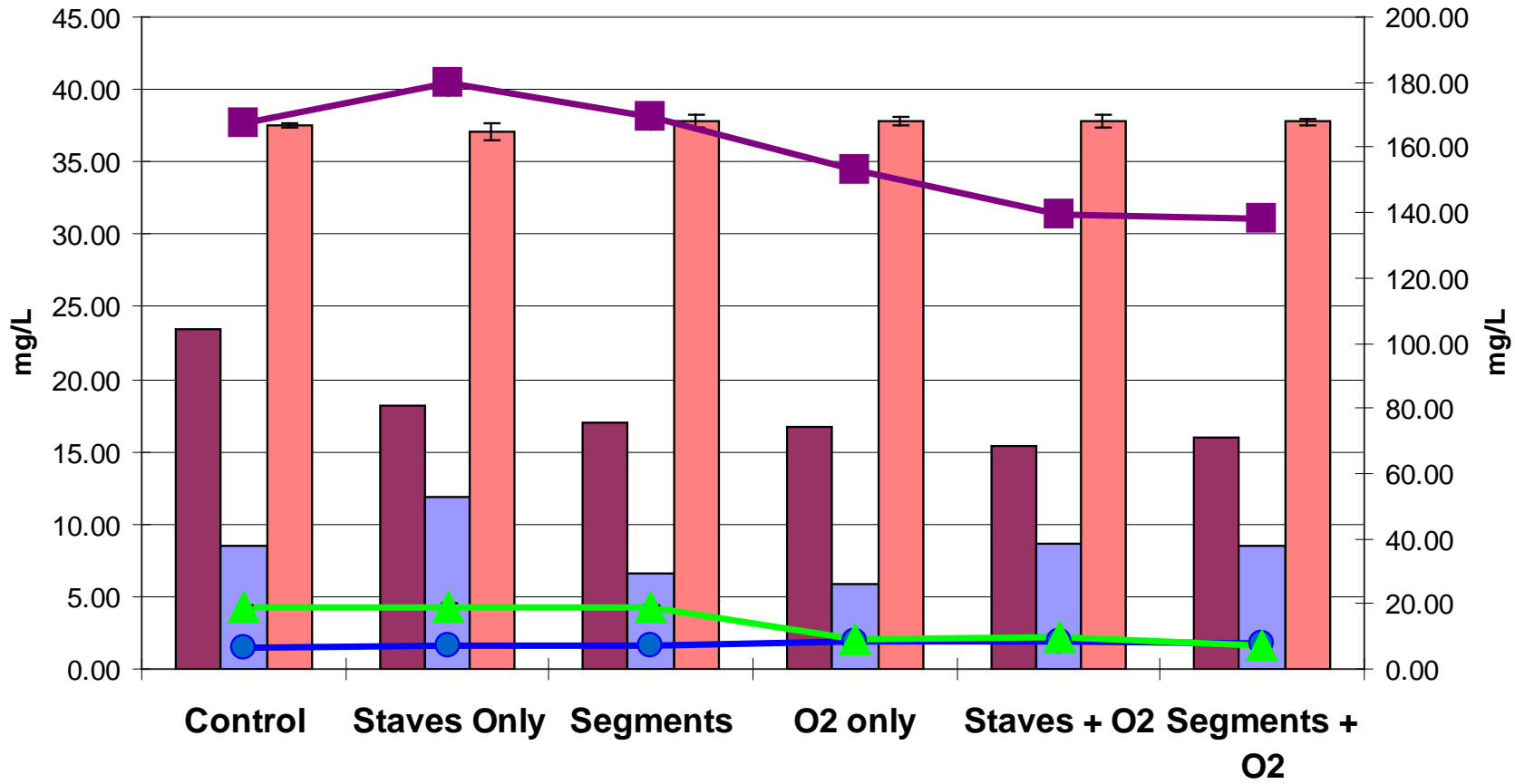


# Grape Phenolics - ETS



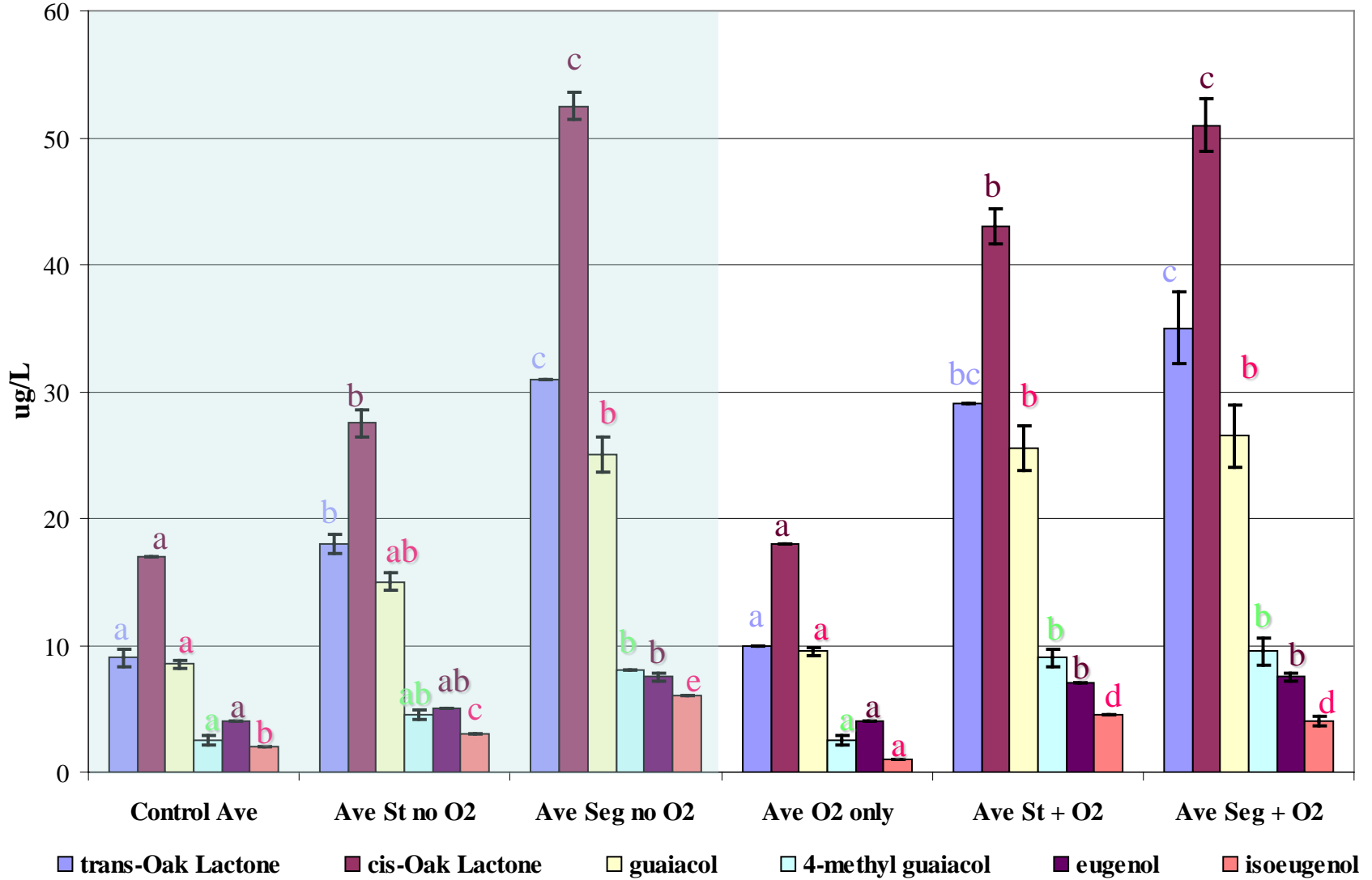
# Reverse Phase Phenolic Analysis

## Waterhouse Laboratory

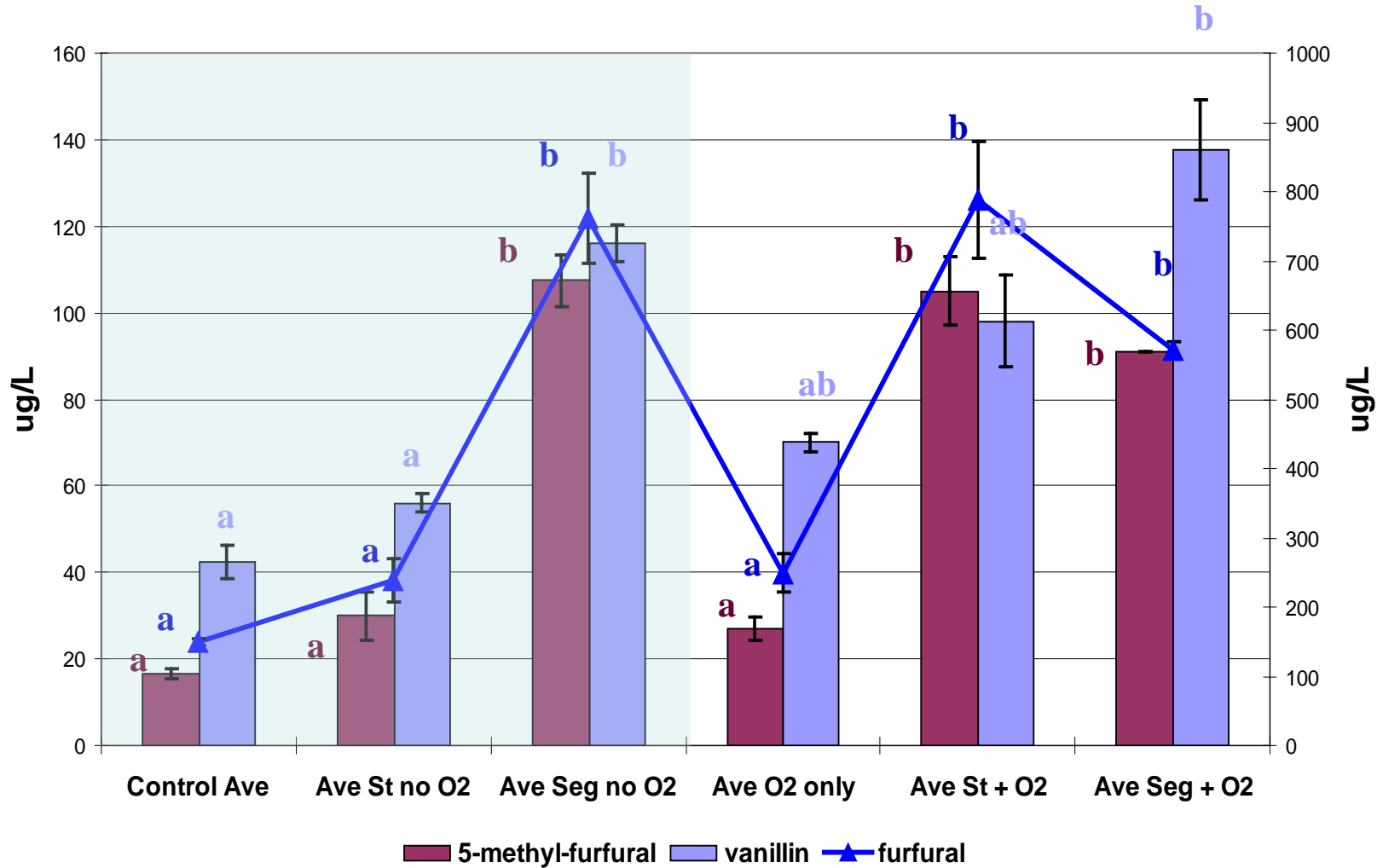


Catechin
  Epicatechin
  Gallic acid
  Caffeic acid
  Quercetin
  Mv-3-glc

## Minor Oak Components - ETS

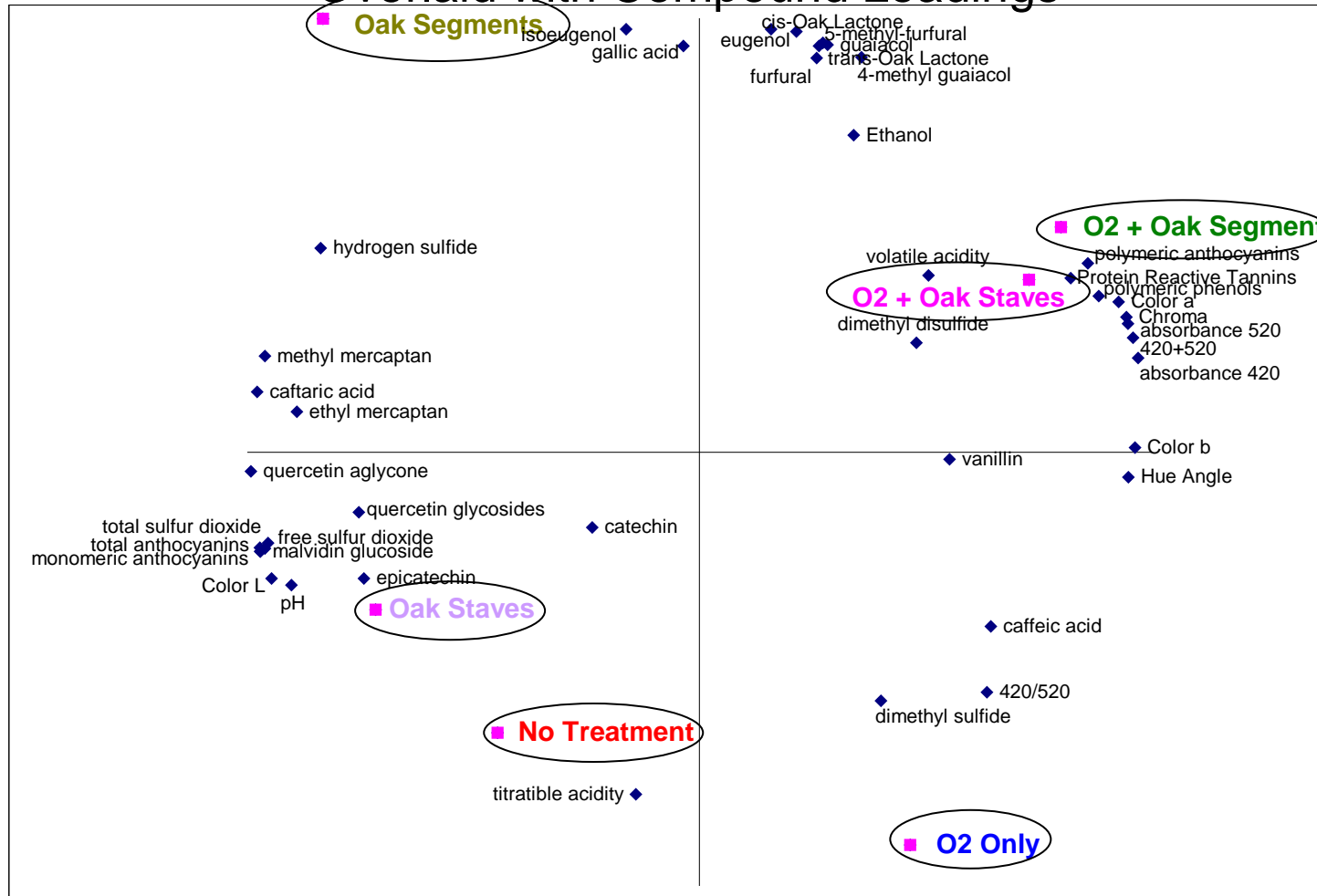


# Major Oak Components ETS



# Analytical Results

## Product Principal Component Analysis Overlaid with Compound Loadings



# Summary

1. Free SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations drop with O<sub>2</sub>.
2. Total SO<sub>2</sub> concentrations drop with O<sub>2</sub>.
3. Methyl and ethyl mercaptans decrease with O<sub>2</sub>.
4. Dimethyl sulfide concentrations were lower with Oak.
5. Caftaric acid & quercetin aglycone decreased with O<sub>2</sub>.
6. Epicatechin decreased with O<sub>2</sub>.

## Summary (cont.)

7. Red, absorbance at 520 nm increases with O<sub>2</sub>.
8. Brown, absorbance at 420 nm increases with O<sub>2</sub>.
9. Monomeric anthocyanins decreased with a concurrent increase in polymeric anthocyanins.
10. Most measures of phenolic polymers did not show significant differences.
11. Adams assay for tannin did show an increase with O<sub>2</sub>.
12. Concentrations of oak flavor compounds from staves increased with O<sub>2</sub>.

# Preliminary Results of Sensory Screening Tests

- Replicates not different
- No oak vs oak segments different
- No oak vs oak segments with oxygen different
- Oak segments vs oak segments with oxygen different
- No oak vs oak staves not different
- Oak staves vs oak staves with oxygen not different

# Conclusions

1. Addition of oxygen does have measurable effects on wines.
2. There appears to be an interaction between stave oak and O<sub>2</sub>.
3. Stave oak extracts and interacts with wines differently than segment oak. Further studies are needed to confirm these findings.
4. Correlation of analytical measures to sensory measures needs further study.
5. Effects on fruity based compounds should be quantified.
6. Other analytical measures should be included in future studies.
7. Complex measurements do not reveal the story, simpler assays need further investigation for use in wineries..

# Acknowledgements

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