

In silico tools for early phase side effect profiling and off target prediction of potential drug candidates

Outline

- Introduction & technical background
 - Rule-based approach
 - (Q)SAR-based approach
 - Molecular interactions-based approach
- Our own technology platform
- Success stories
- Conclusions

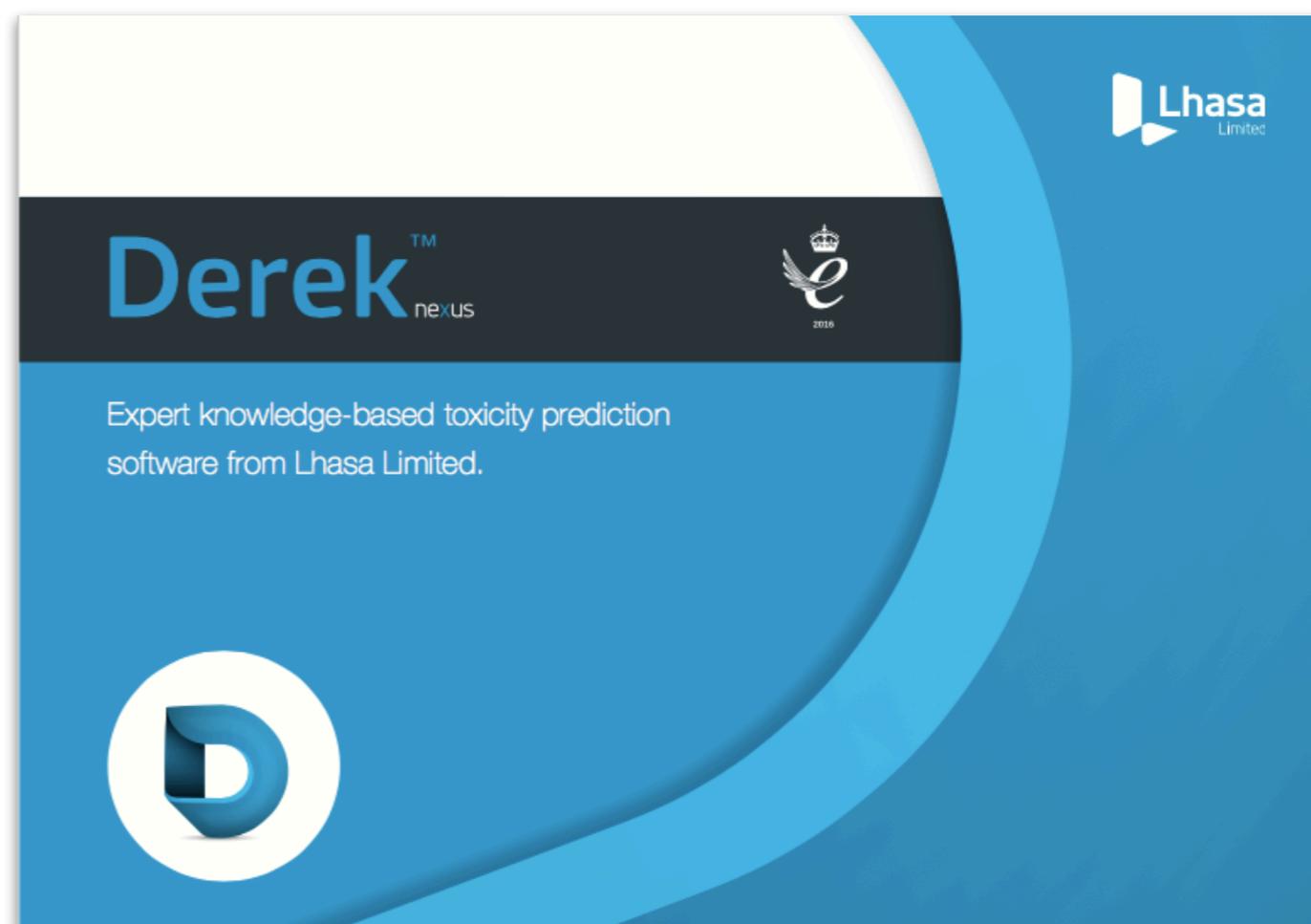
Never Forget !

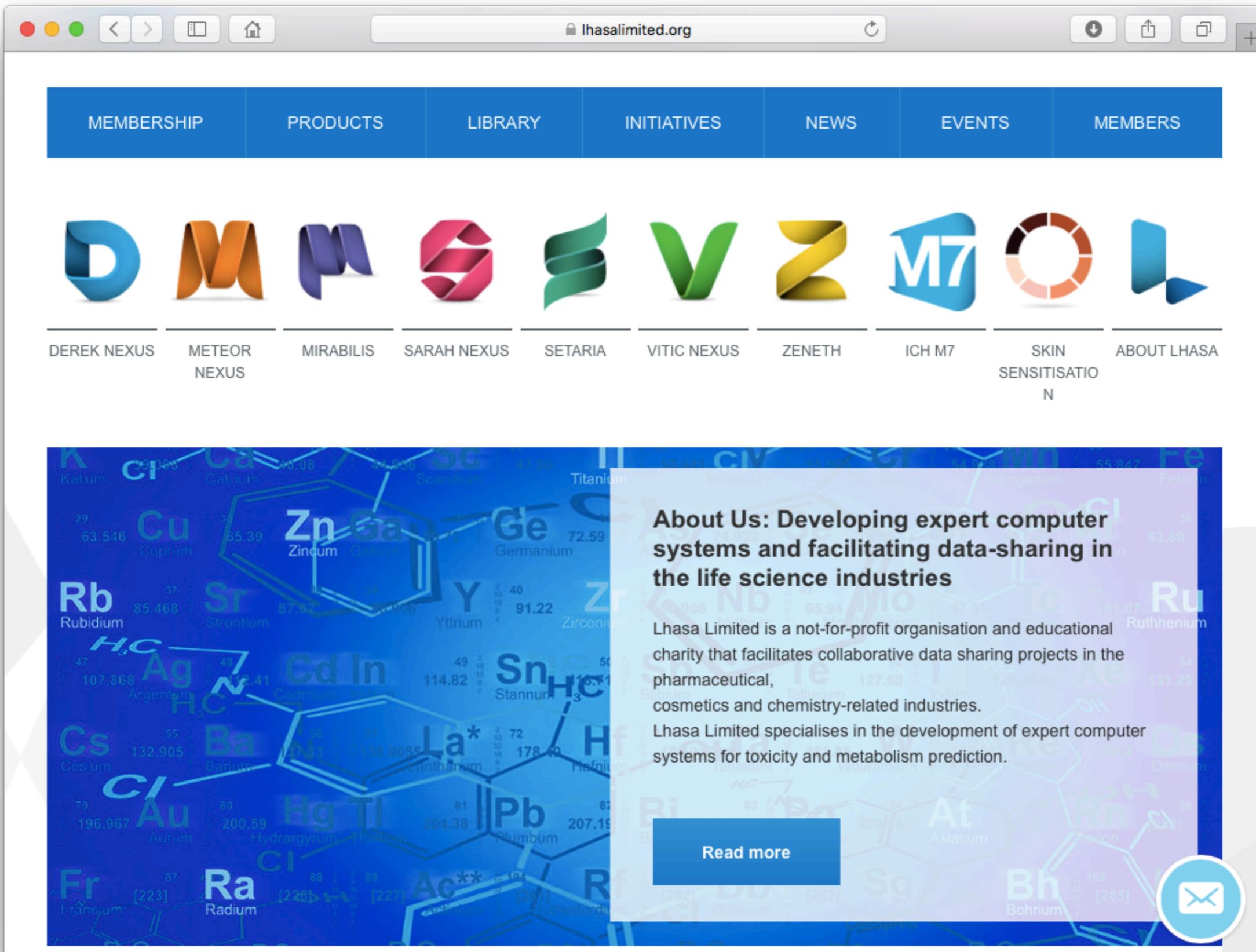
- Risk of toxicity / unwanted side effects can also be related to drug metabolites
- All possible metabolites must therefore be enumerated and assessed
- For in silico prediction of metabolism, see e.g.

Predicting Drug Metabolism: Experiment and/or Computation?
Kirchmair et al., Nature Reviews Drug Discovery 14, 387–404 (2015)

Rule-based Approach

- Alerts based on substructure analysis and compound database knowledge-based search
- For examples see e.g. Lhasa Limited
 - Derek Nexus





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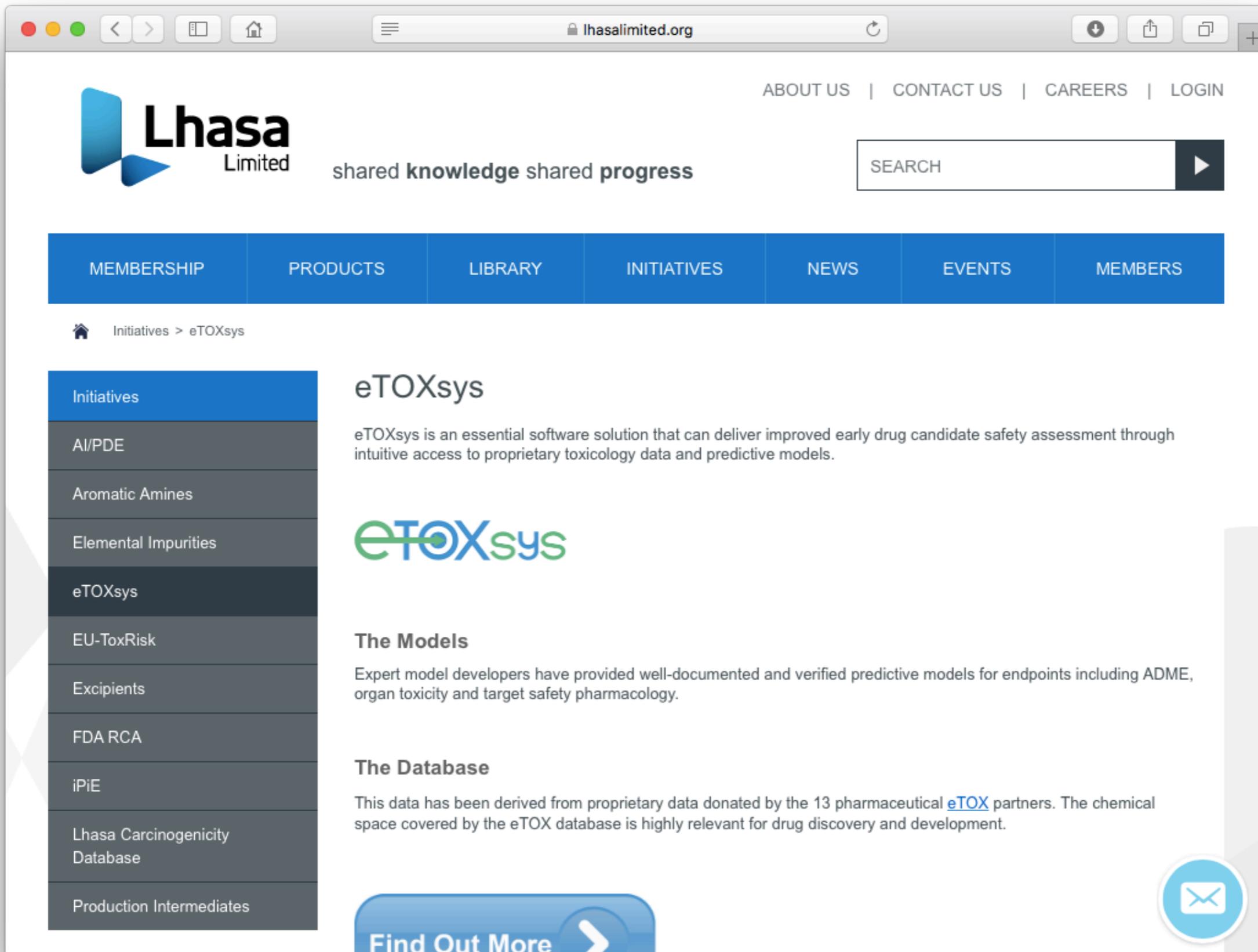
About Us: Developing expert computer systems and facilitating data-sharing in the life science industries

Lhasa Limited is a not-for-profit organisation and educational charity that facilitates collaborative data sharing projects in the pharmaceutical, cosmetics and chemistry-related industries.

Lhasa Limited specialises in the development of expert computer systems for toxicity and metabolism prediction.

[Read more](#)





The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL lhasalimited.org. The page features the Lhasa Limited logo and tagline "shared knowledge shared progress". A navigation menu includes links for ABOUT US, CONTACT US, CAREERS, and LOGIN. A search bar is present with the text "SEARCH". Below the navigation is a blue bar with menu items: MEMBERSHIP, PRODUCTS, LIBRARY, INITIATIVES, NEWS, EVENTS, and MEMBERS. The main content area is titled "Initiatives > eTOXsys". A sidebar on the left lists various initiatives, with "eTOXsys" highlighted. The main text describes eTOXsys as a software solution for drug candidate safety assessment. It includes a sub-section "The Models" and "The Database". A "Find Out More" button with a right-pointing arrow is at the bottom. A circular icon with an envelope symbol is in the bottom right corner.

Lhasa Limited
shared **knowledge** shared **progress**

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Initiatives > eTOXsys

Initiatives

- AI/PDE
- Aromatic Amines
- Elemental Impurities
- eTOXsys**
- EU-ToxRisk
- Excipients
- FDA RCA
- iPIE
- Lhasa Carcinogenicity Database
- Production Intermediates

eTOXsys

eTOXsys is an essential software solution that can deliver improved early drug candidate safety assessment through intuitive access to proprietary toxicology data and predictive models.



The Models

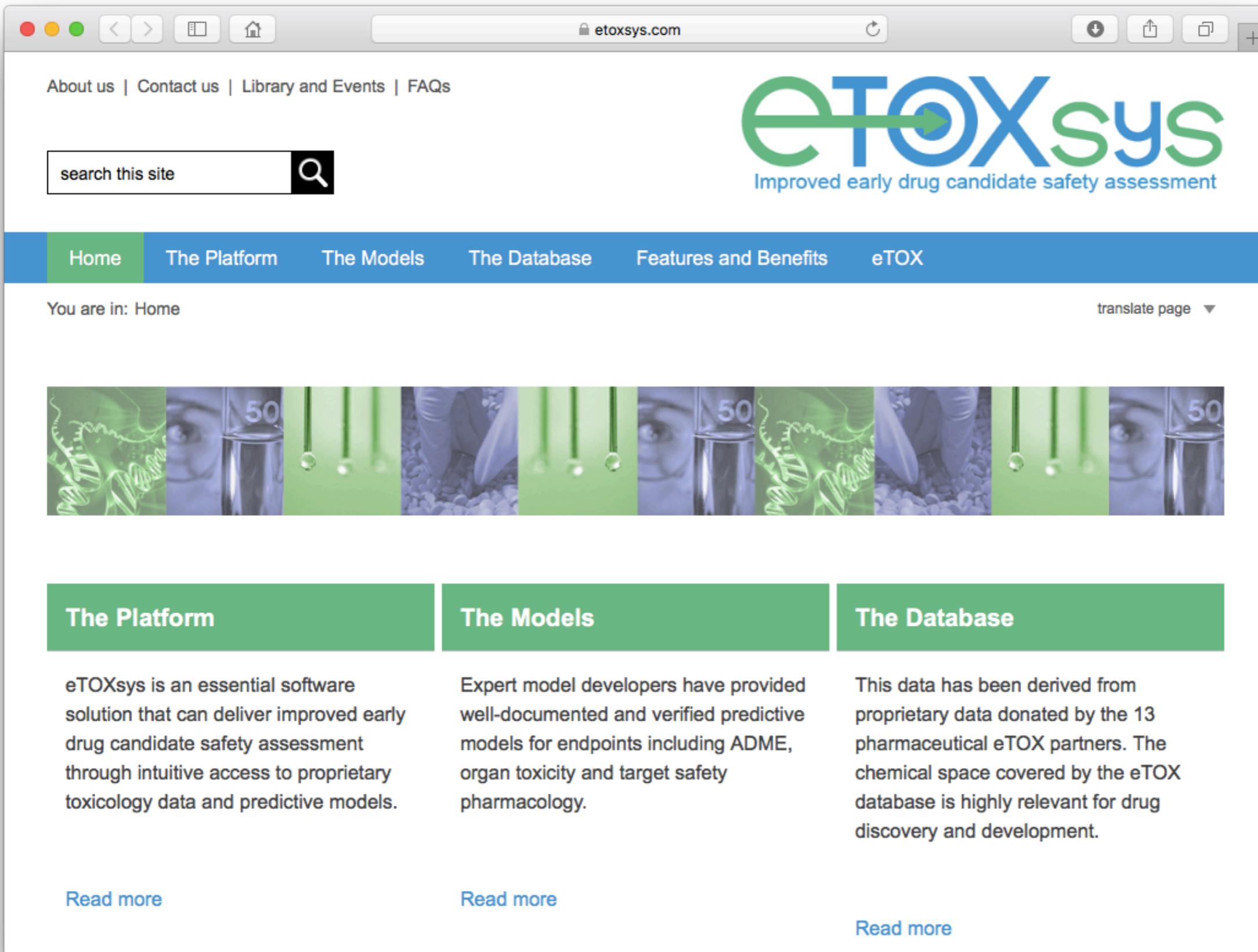
Expert model developers have provided well-documented and verified predictive models for endpoints including ADME, organ toxicity and target safety pharmacology.

The Database

This data has been derived from proprietary data donated by the 13 pharmaceutical [eTOX](#) partners. The chemical space covered by the eTOX database is highly relevant for drug discovery and development.

[Find Out More](#)





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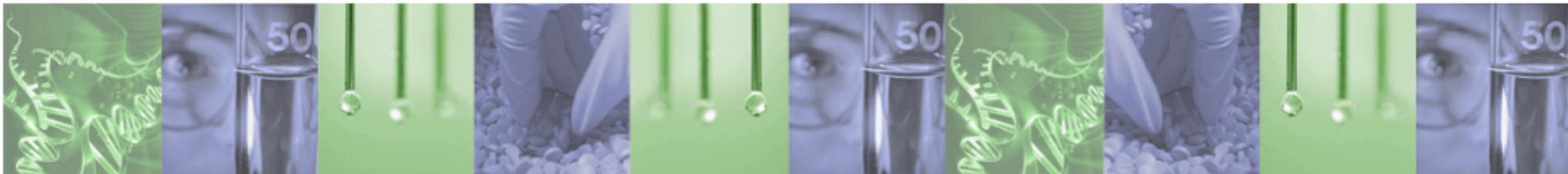
search this site

eTOXsys

Improved early drug candidate safety assessment

Home The Platform The Models The Database Features and Benefits eTOX

You are in: Home translate page



The Platform

eTOXsys is an essential software solution that can deliver improved early drug candidate safety assessment through intuitive access to proprietary toxicology data and predictive models.

[Read more](#)

The Models

Expert model developers have provided well-documented and verified predictive models for endpoints including ADME, organ toxicity and target safety pharmacology.

[Read more](#)

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[Read more](#)



The screenshot shows the eTOX website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for HOME, PROJECT, CONSORTIUM, CONTACT, PUBLICATIONS, NEWS, RESULTS, and INTRANET. Below the navigation bar, there is a main content area with a large heading "Welcome to the eTOX Website" and a sub-heading "This has been the main communication tool of the eTOX outcomes during the project's life, 2010-2016." The main content area also features a section for "eTOX FACTS and FIGURES" with several bullet points detailing project milestones and achievements. On the right side of the main content area, there are three featured images: "OntoBrowser" showing a hierarchical ontology diagram, "eTOX TOOLS" showing the project logo, and a collage of various project outputs and logos. On the left side, there is a "LAST NEWS" section with two news items: "February 2018 eTOX project close out meeting" and "January 2018 Latest version of the histopathology ontology has been released".

eTOX

HOME PROJECT CONSORTIUM CONTACT PUBLICATIONS NEWS RESULTS INTRANET

Print page Send page A A

LAST NEWS

February 2018
eTOX project close out meeting

On January 25th, eTOX Executive Committee members: François Pognan, Ferran Sanz, Thomas Steger-Hartmann and Carlos Díaz held the close out meeting of the eTOX project at the IMI's offices in Brussels.

January 2018
Latest version of the histopathology ontology has been released

Histopathology Ontology was initially developed in the framework of the eTOX consortium, aiming at the standardisation of the histopathology findings, and it is now made

Welcome to the eTOX Website

This has been the main communication tool of the eTOX outcomes during the project's life, 2010-2016.

The **eTOX project** was granted as one of the first IMI projects. It has successfully ended its consortium life after 7 years of collaboration between 13 pharma companies, 11 academia institutions and 6 SMEs.

The **eTOX project** as IMI consortium has been completed with the accomplishment of an effective synergic sharing of historical toxicological data within the pharmaceutical industry. It created a series of models to support toxicity prediction. Both data and models are integrated in the platform developed in the project, the **eTOXsys™**, which is a powerful system to access the **eTOX** data and the predictive models.

eTOX FACTS and FIGURES

- * 15 Consortium meetings, 1 Mid-term Review, 7 **eTOXsys** user meetings, 1 modelling workshop and 2 Hackathons were celebrated.
- * 15 releases of the Vitic Nexus **eTOX** database were delivered. The final version contains **1,947 substances** (483 labelled as confidential) and **8,047 study design records from 6,971 legacy reports; and 265,502 substances and 1,088,007 records** from public sources like ChEMBL, DrugMatrix and Open TG-GATES.
- * Technical synchronization between **OntoBrowser, Vitic Nexus eTOX database** and **eTOXsys** regarding the Terminology (SEND codelists and INHAND controlled vocabularies) harmonization allowed the mapping of around **20 millions of verbatim terms to 7,262 preferred terms**, which highly improves the quality of read across analysis and data stratification for modelling challenges.
- * **Several tools** were developed and are freely accessible for the scientific community benefit.
- * 5 releases of the **eTOXsys** were launched. The final version includes the **2016.3 Vitic release**, a bunch of **200 predictive models**, and the **Human Outcomes Module integrated**, which was designed to support and open a door for translational research from preclinical to clinical research.

OntoBrowser

eTOX TOOLS

(Q)SAR-based Approach

- Usually, activity is calculated as a function of molecular descriptors or physicochemical parameters
- Modification: Toxicity Index (Ti)
 - Lipophilicity
 - pKa
 - Molecular refractivity
 - Polarizability
 - Volume
 - ...

(Q)SAR-based Approach

It is rare to find human drug toxicity studies. One such was carried out by King and Moffat [6], who used as a toxicity index (TI) of barbiturates the number of U.K. deaths in a given year from a specified barbiturate divided by the number of prescriptions issued for that barbiturate:

$$\log \text{TI} = 1.48 \log P - 1.28 \quad (2)$$

$$n = 5 \quad r^2 = 0.983 \quad s = 0.078$$

Although the data-set is very small, the statistics are remarkably high, reflecting probably the accuracy of the data. The limited log P range of the 5 barbiturates probably explains the lack of observed biphasic dependence on hydrophobicity.

In silico prediction of dr

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Summa

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Advanced Review

In silico toxicology: computational methods for the prediction of chemical toxicity

Arwa B. Raies and Vladimir B. Bajic*



Determining the toxicity of chemicals is necessary to identify their harmful effects on humans, animals, plants, or the environment. It is also one of the main steps in drug design. Animal models have been used for a long time for toxicity testing. However, *in vivo* animal tests are constrained by time, ethical considerations, and financial burden. Therefore, computational methods for estimating the toxicity of chemicals are considered useful. *In silico* toxicology is one type of toxicity assessment that uses computational methods to analyze, simulate, visualize, or predict the toxicity of chemicals. *In silico* toxicology aims to complement existing toxicity tests to predict toxicity, prioritize chemicals, guide toxicity tests, and minimize late-stage failures in drugs design. There are various methods for generating models to predict toxicity endpoints. We provide a comprehensive overview, explain, and compare the strengths and weaknesses of the existing modeling methods and algorithms for toxicity prediction with a particular (but not exclusive) emphasis on computational tools that can implement these methods and refer to expert systems that deploy the prediction models. Finally, we briefly review a number of new research directions in *in silico* toxicology and provide recommendations for designing *in silico* models. © 2016 The Authors. *WIREs Computational Molecular Science* published by John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

How to cite this article:

WIREs Comput Mol Sci 2016, 6:147–172. doi: 10.1002/wcms.1240

Models nicity

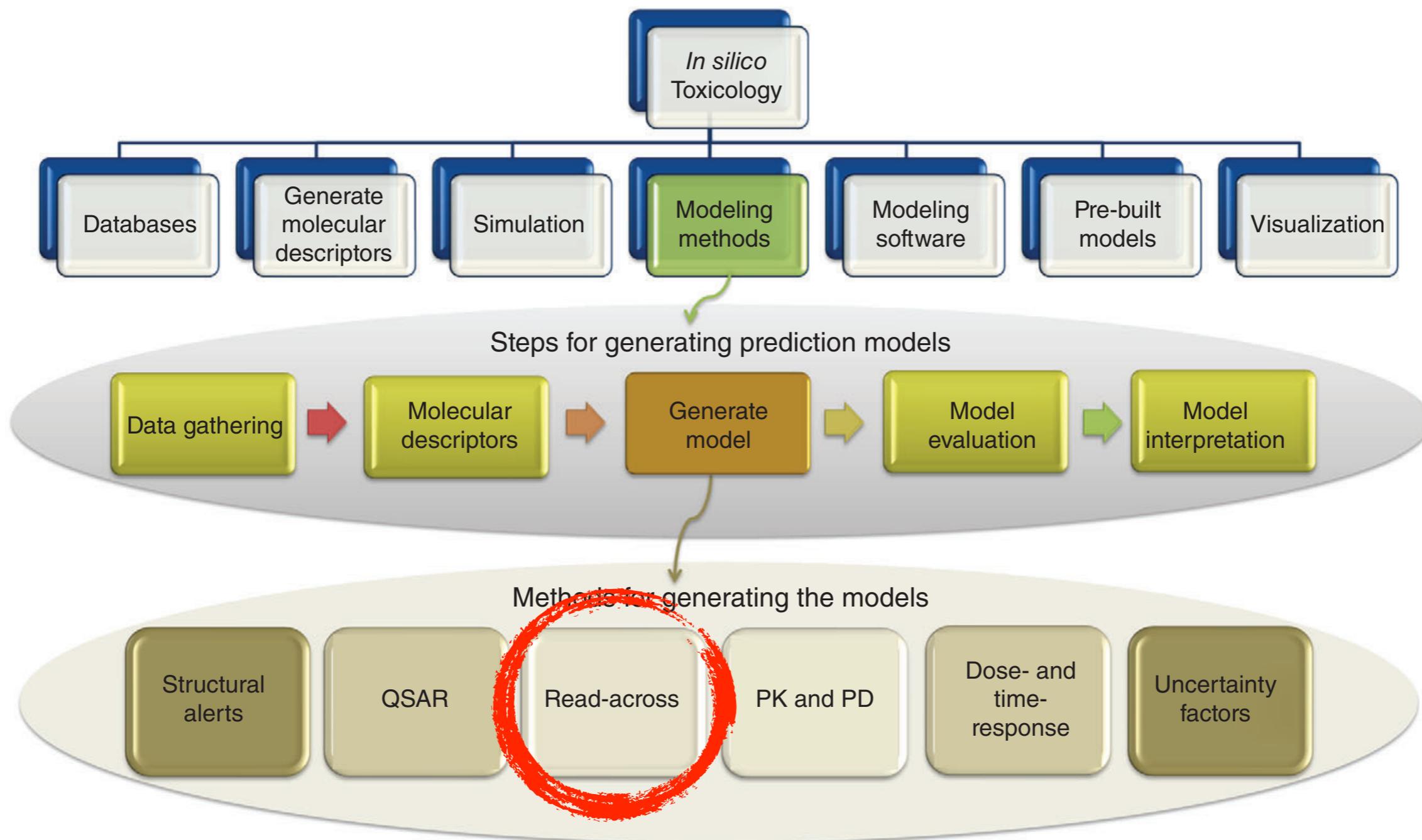
Benfenati,¹

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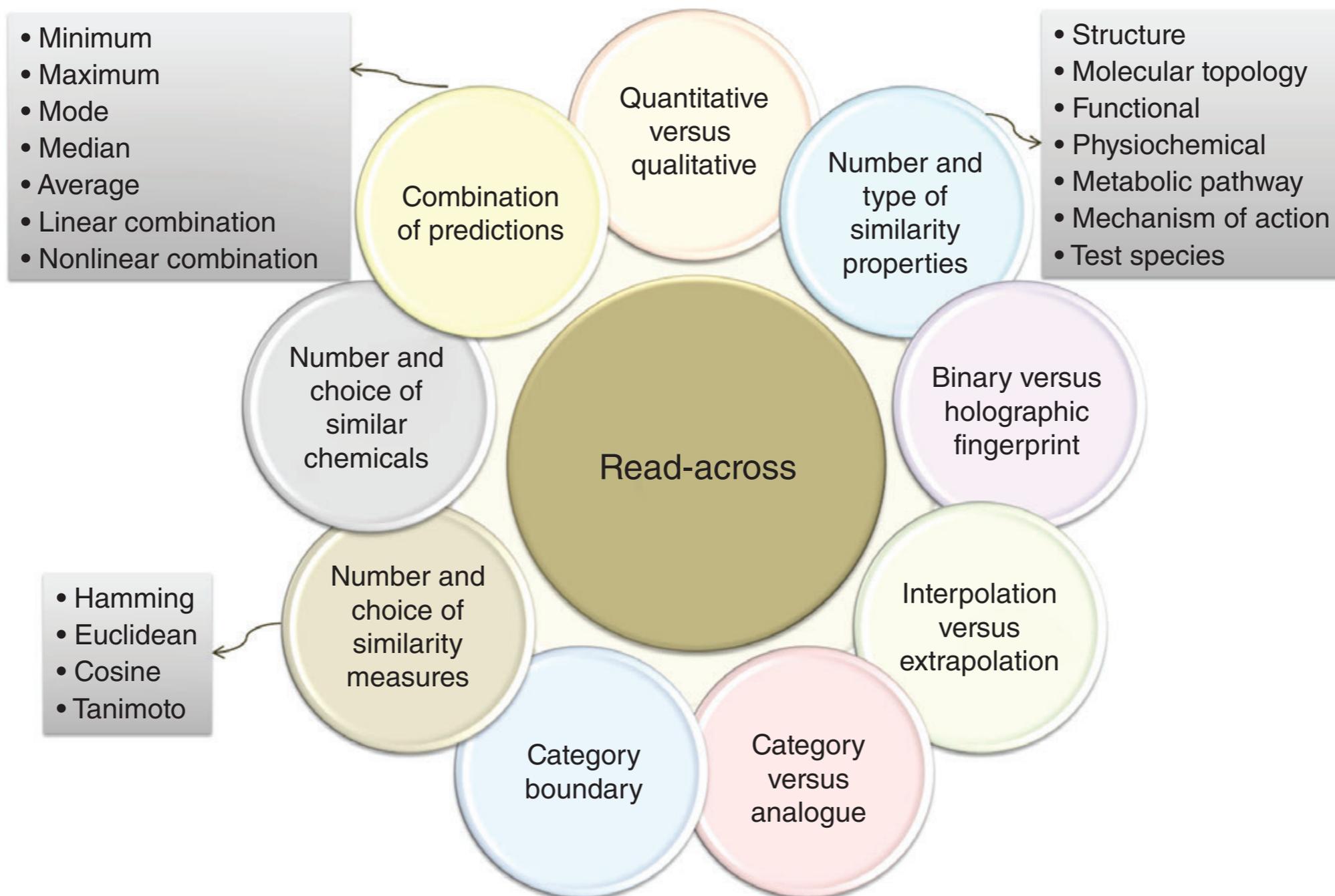
e of eight quantita-
ACD/Tox Suite, Ab-
chemical substances
(S.T.), TOxicity Pre-
ASAR, and SARpy
ormance. To have a
inside and outside
ability domain tools
The predictive tools
on of both methods.



General Workflow



A New Trend: Read-across



Molecular Interaction Approach

- Assumption: toxicity / unwanted side effect is based on molecular interactions between drug and target
- Correlation between interaction pattern and effect
- Advantage: Bi-directional information flow possible
- Pharmacophore concept established

The Pharmacophore Concept

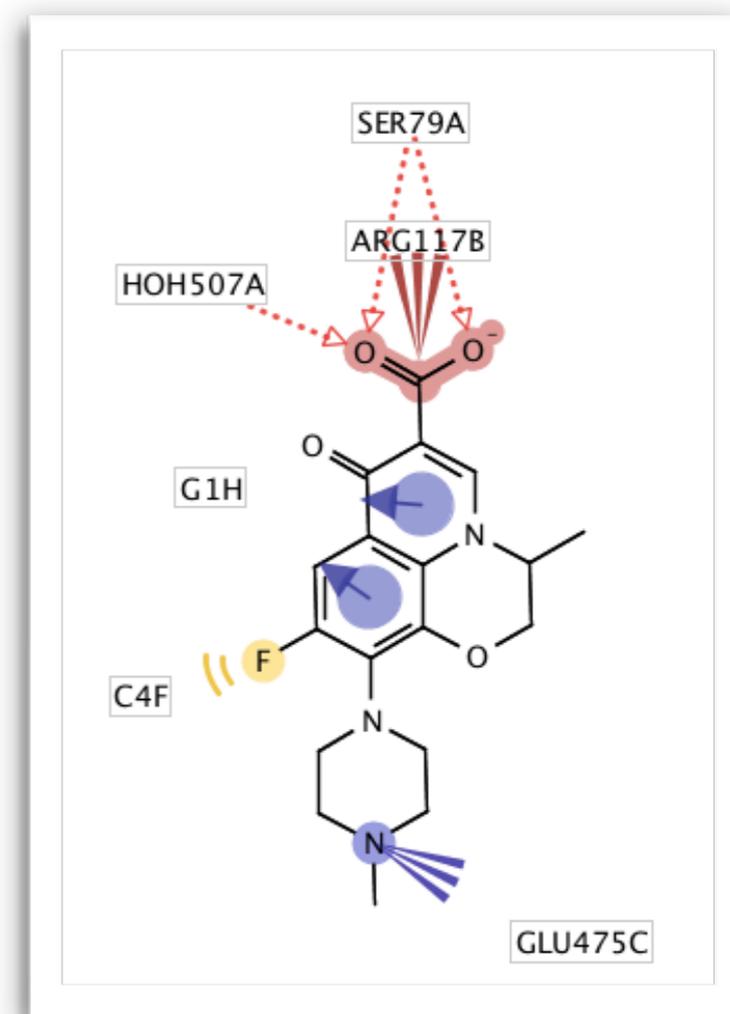
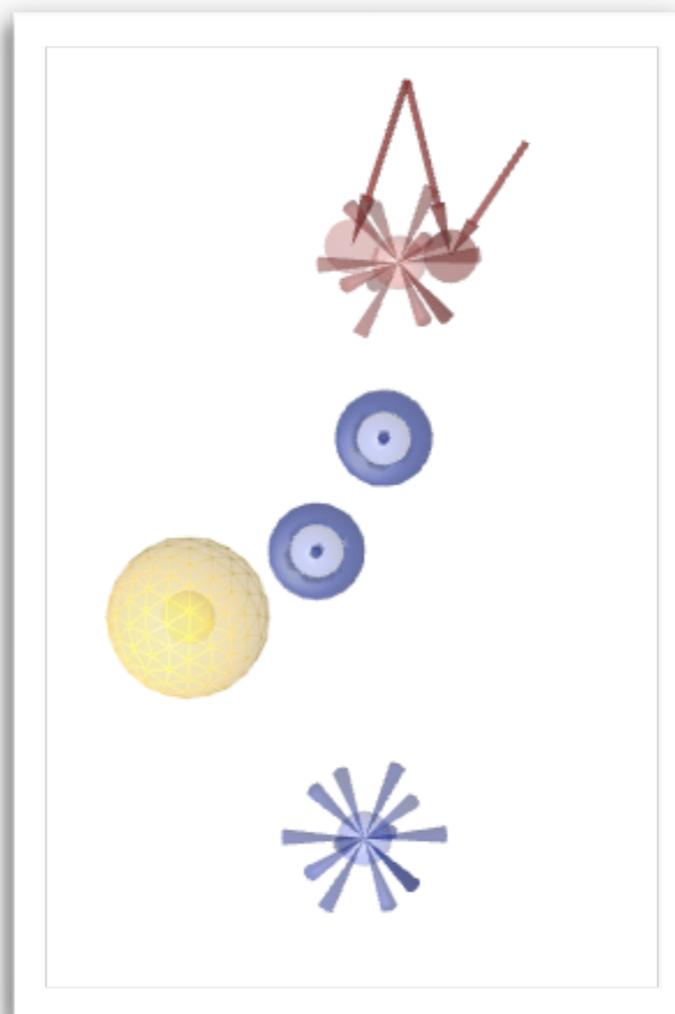
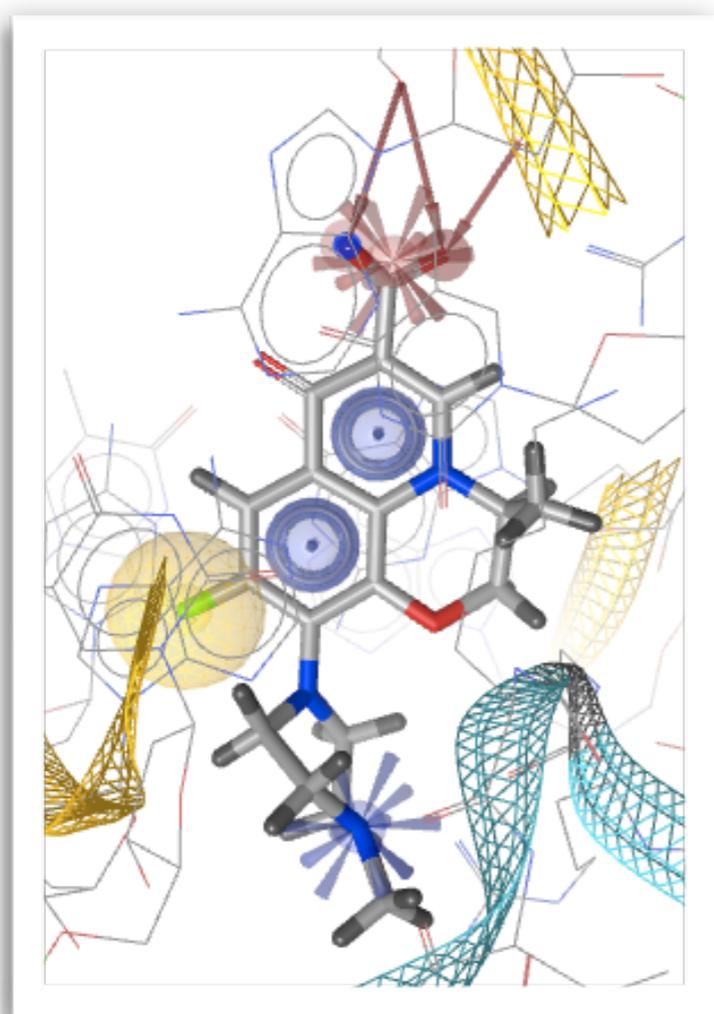
“A pharmacophore is the ensemble of steric and electronic features that is necessary to ensure the optimal supra-molecular interactions with a specific biological target and to trigger (or block) its biological response.”

C.-G. Wermuth et al., *Pure Appl. Chem.* 1998, 70: 1129-1143

Feature-based Pharmacophores

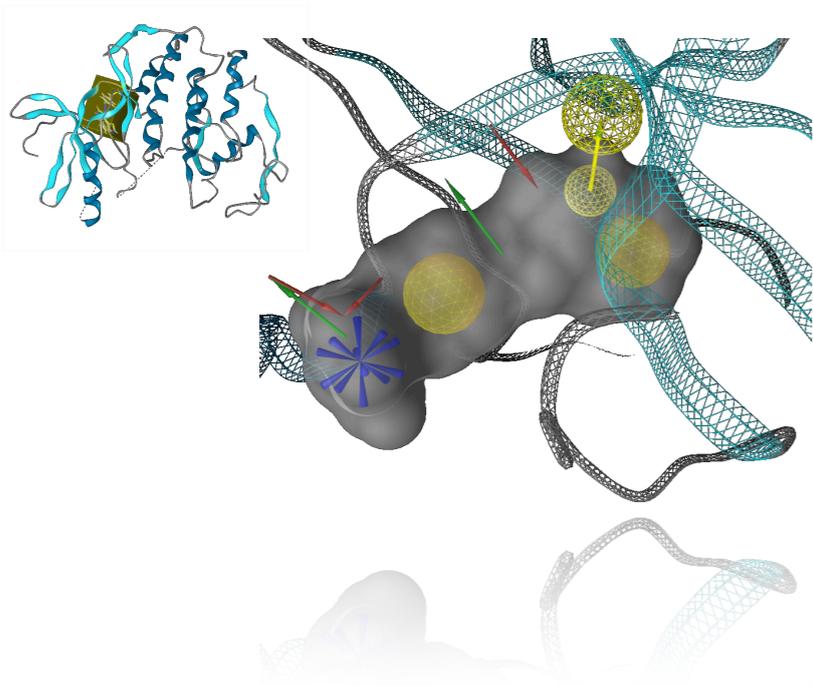
Totality of universal chemical features that represent a defined binding mode of a ligand to a bio-molecular target

Features: Electrostatic interactions, H-bonding, aromatic interactions, hydrophobic regions, coordination to metal ions ...

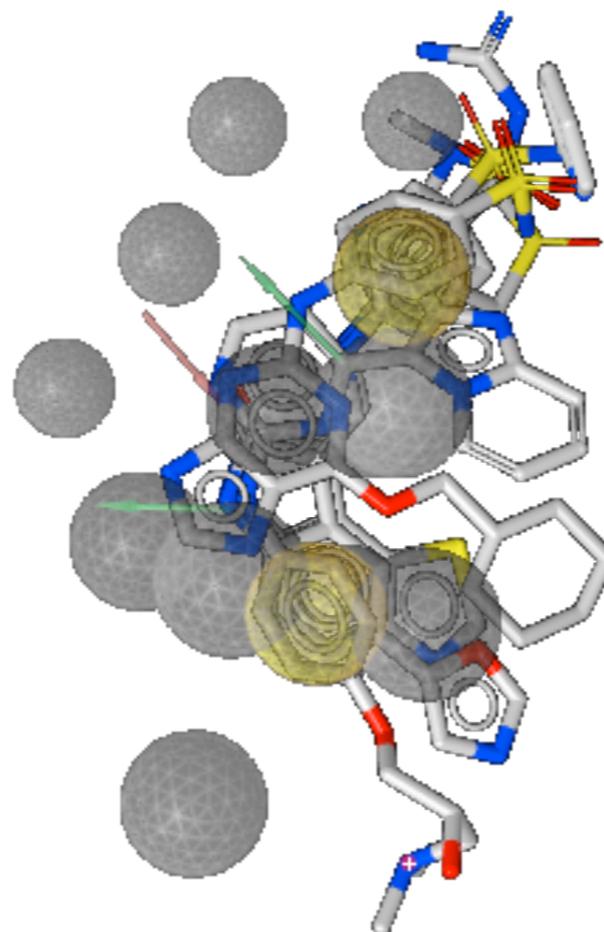


Pharmacophore-based Screening

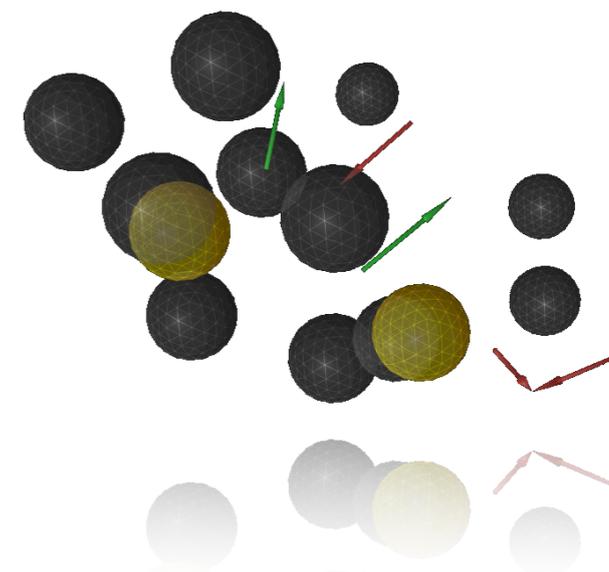
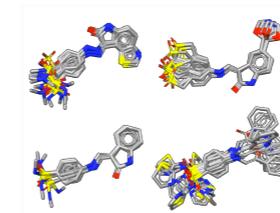
Structure-Based Pharmacophore



3D Pharmacophore as a query

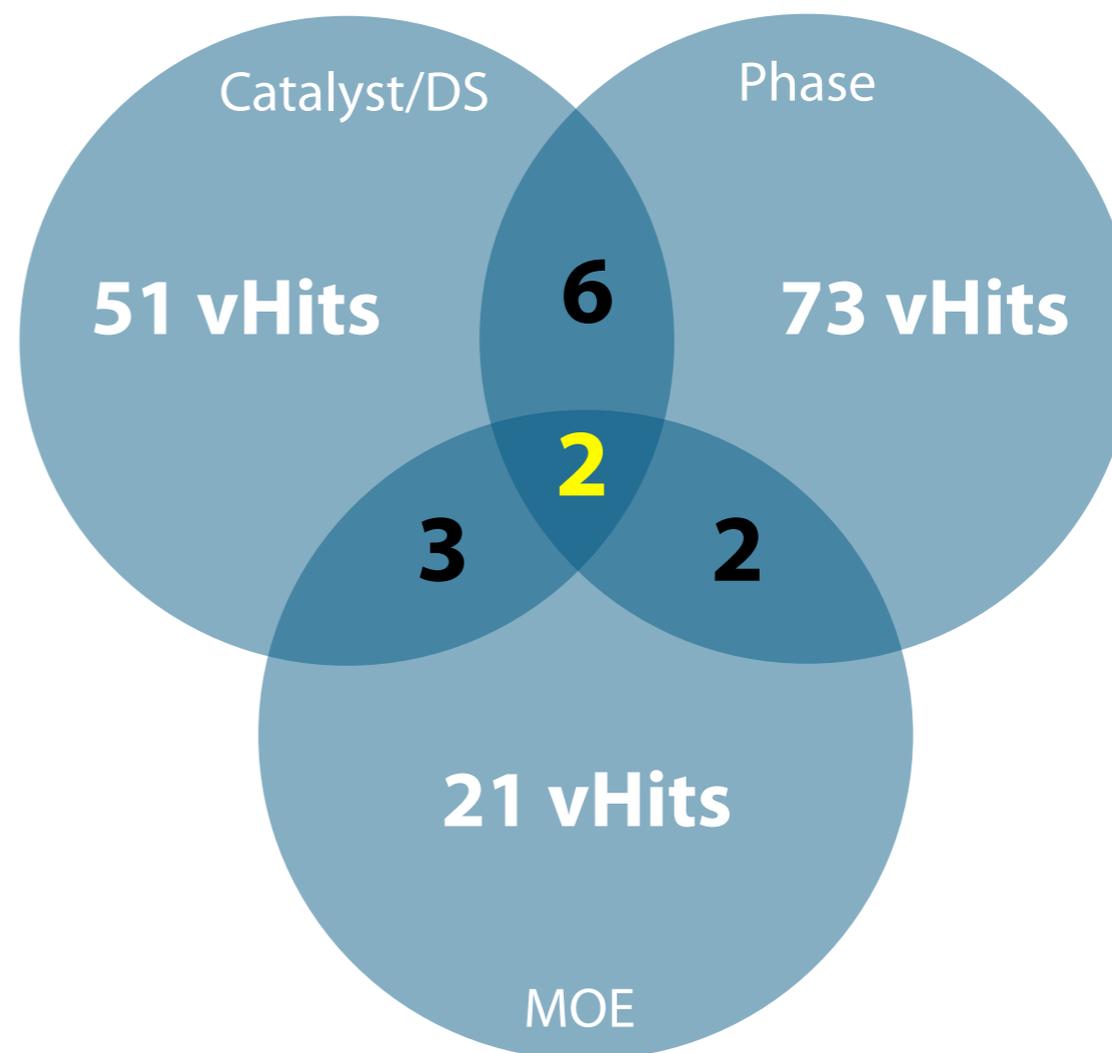
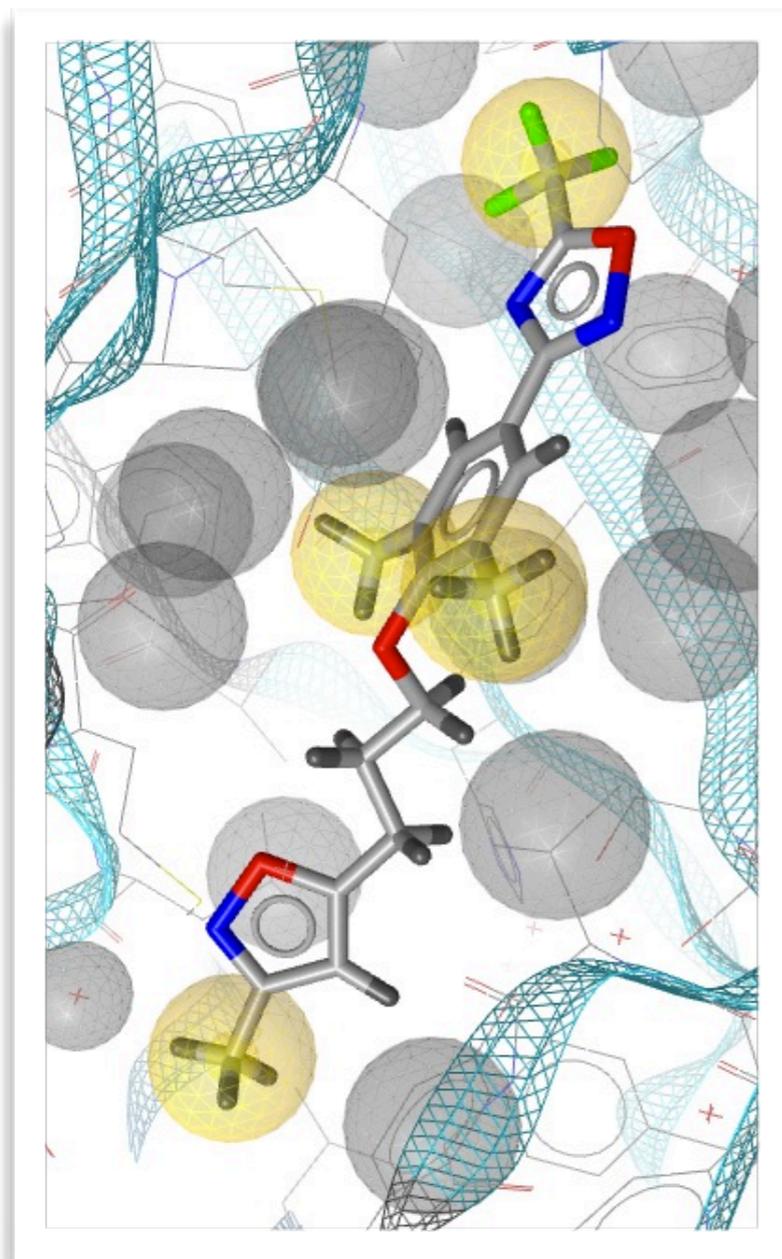


Ligand-Based Pharmacophore



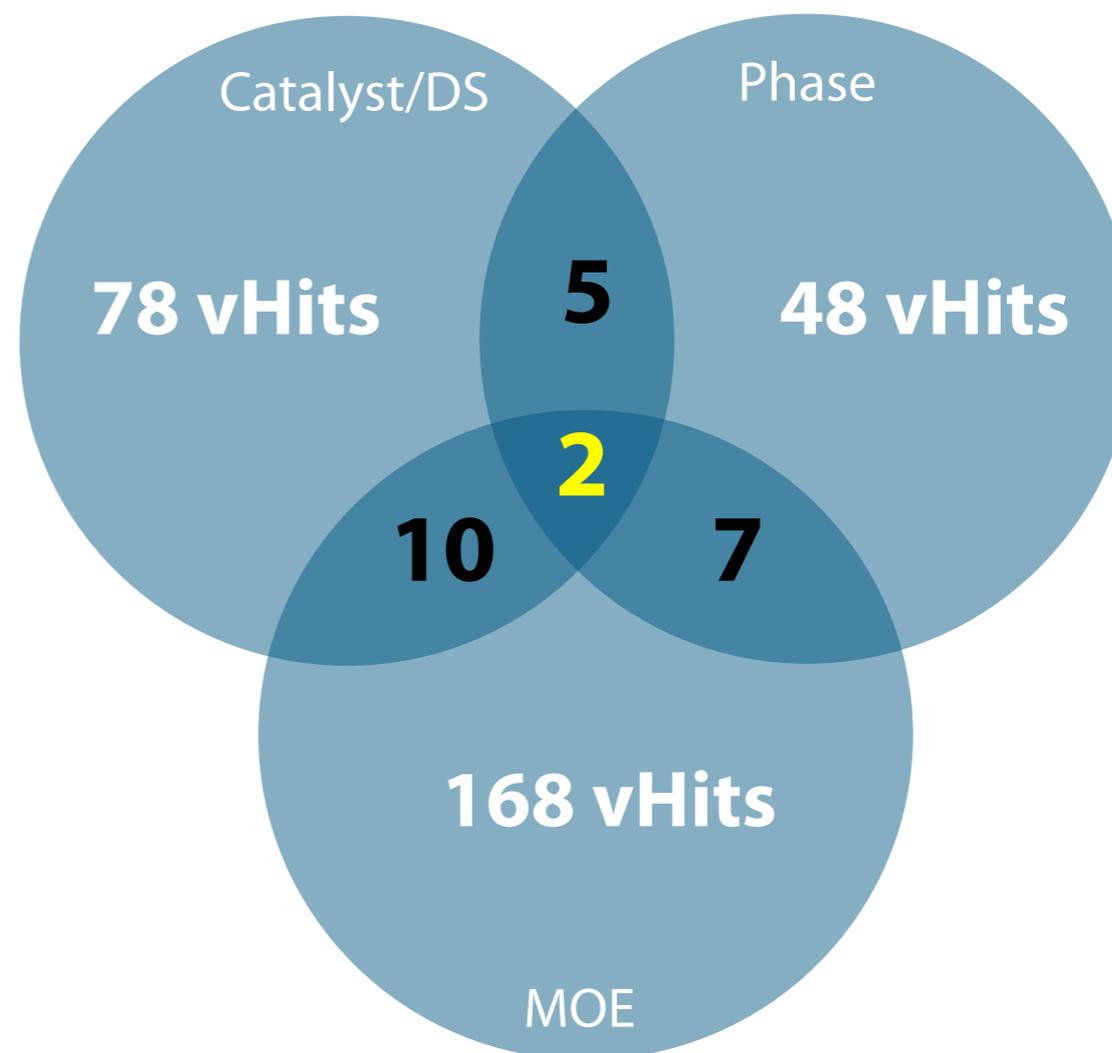
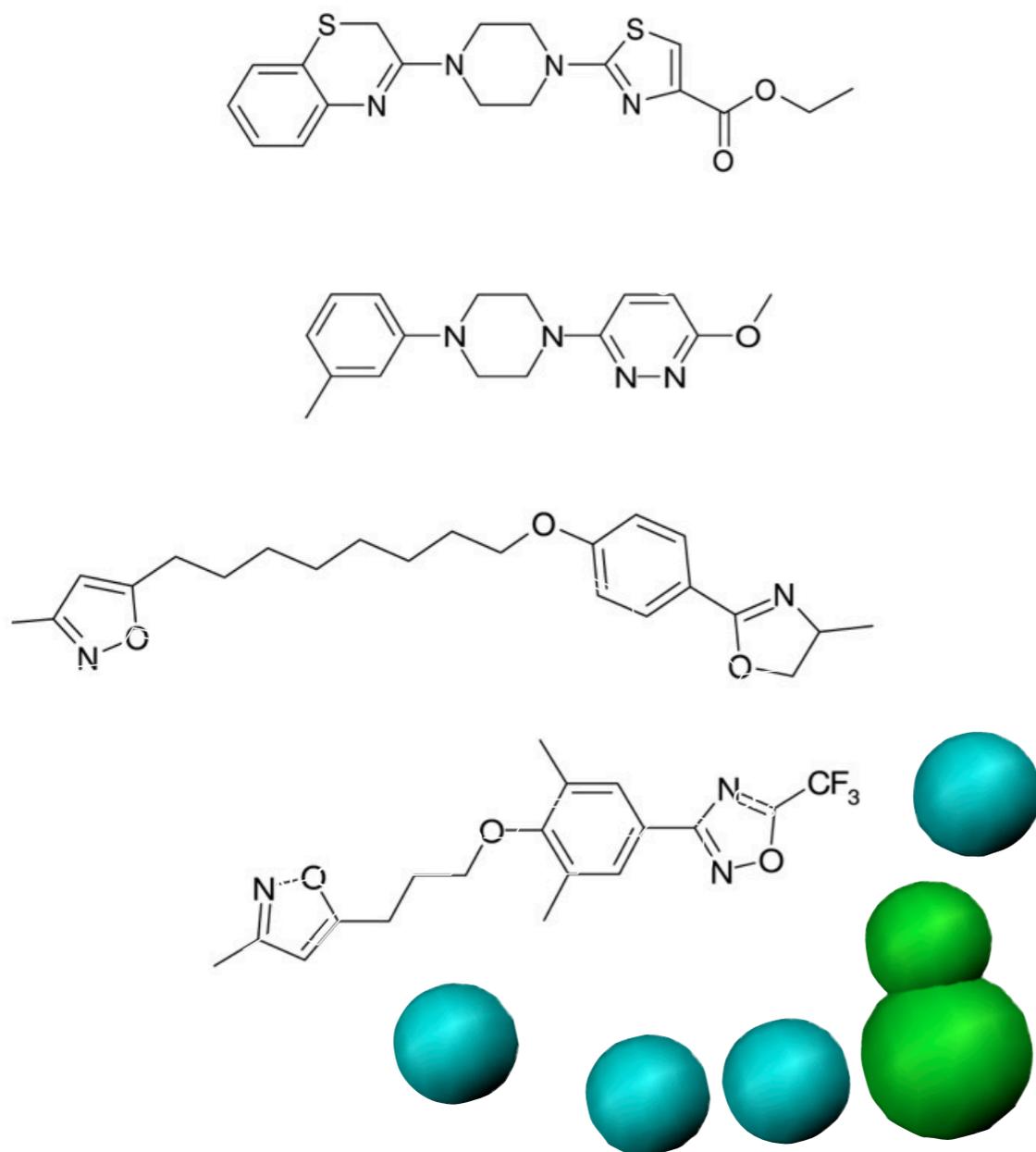
Screen rapidly large
multi-conformational
compound databases

Pharmacophore Screening ...



[Mangold 2006] Martina Mangold. *Human Rhinovirus Coat Protein Inhibitors - A Pharmacophore Modeling Approach*.
Master's thesis at the University of Innsbruck (2006)

Pharmacophore Screening ...



[Mangold 2006]

Martina Mangold. *Human Rhinovirus Coat Protein Inhibitors - A Pharmacophore Modeling Approach.*

Master's thesis at the University of Innsbruck (2006)

There Is A Problem ...

- “Old” 3D pharmacophore methods suffer from severe limitations
 - different tools return inconsistent results
 - alignment by graph matching ----> slow
 - low number of features ----> inaccurate

What is the solution ?

Pattern Recognition

... Breaking the Code

- Why Your Brain Can Read This

... Breaking the Code

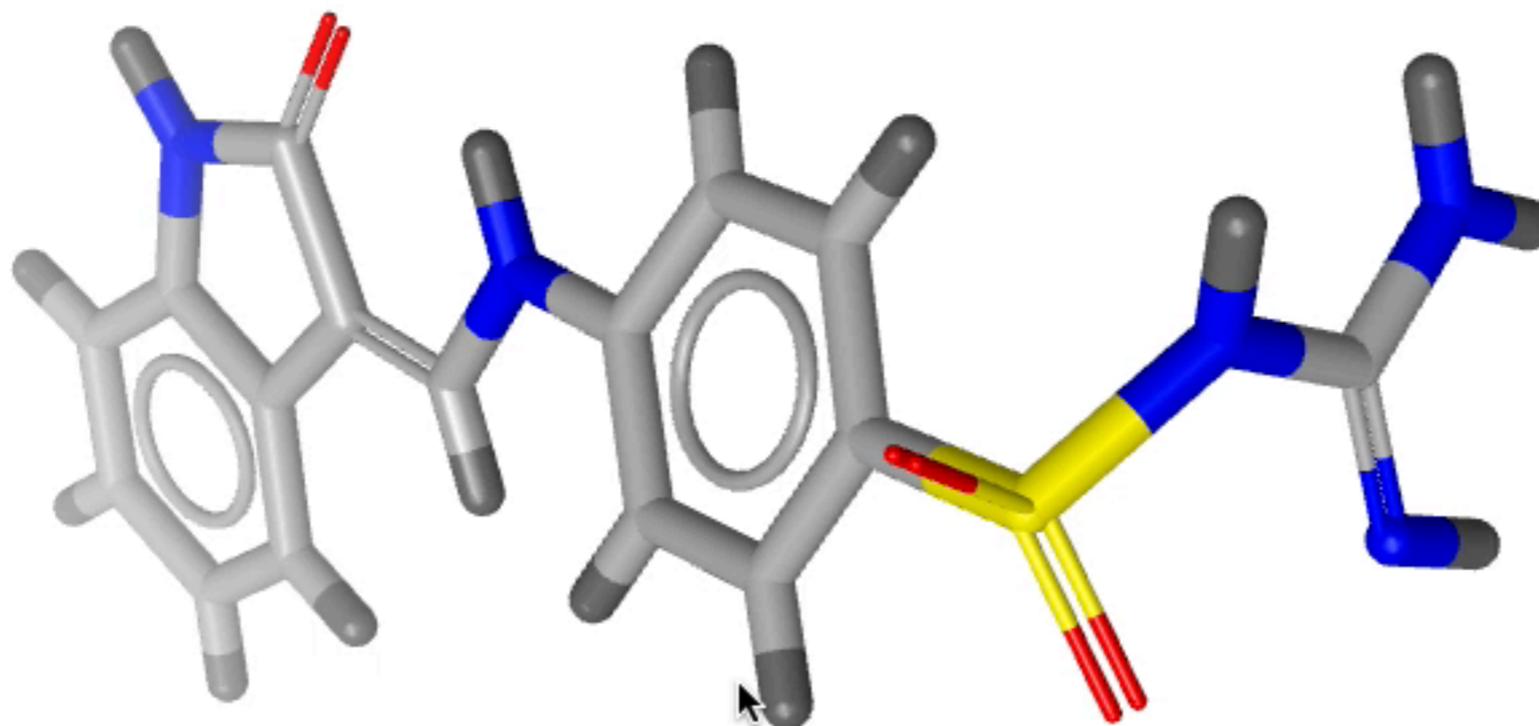
- It doesn't matter in what order the letters in a word appear, the only important thing is that the first and last letter are in the right place. The rest can be a total mess and you can still read it without problem.

... Breaking the Code

- S1M1L4RLY, YoUR M1ND 15 R34D1NG
7H15 4U7oM471C4LLY W17HoU7 3V3N
7H1NK1NG 4BoU7 17

What Are We Looking At ?

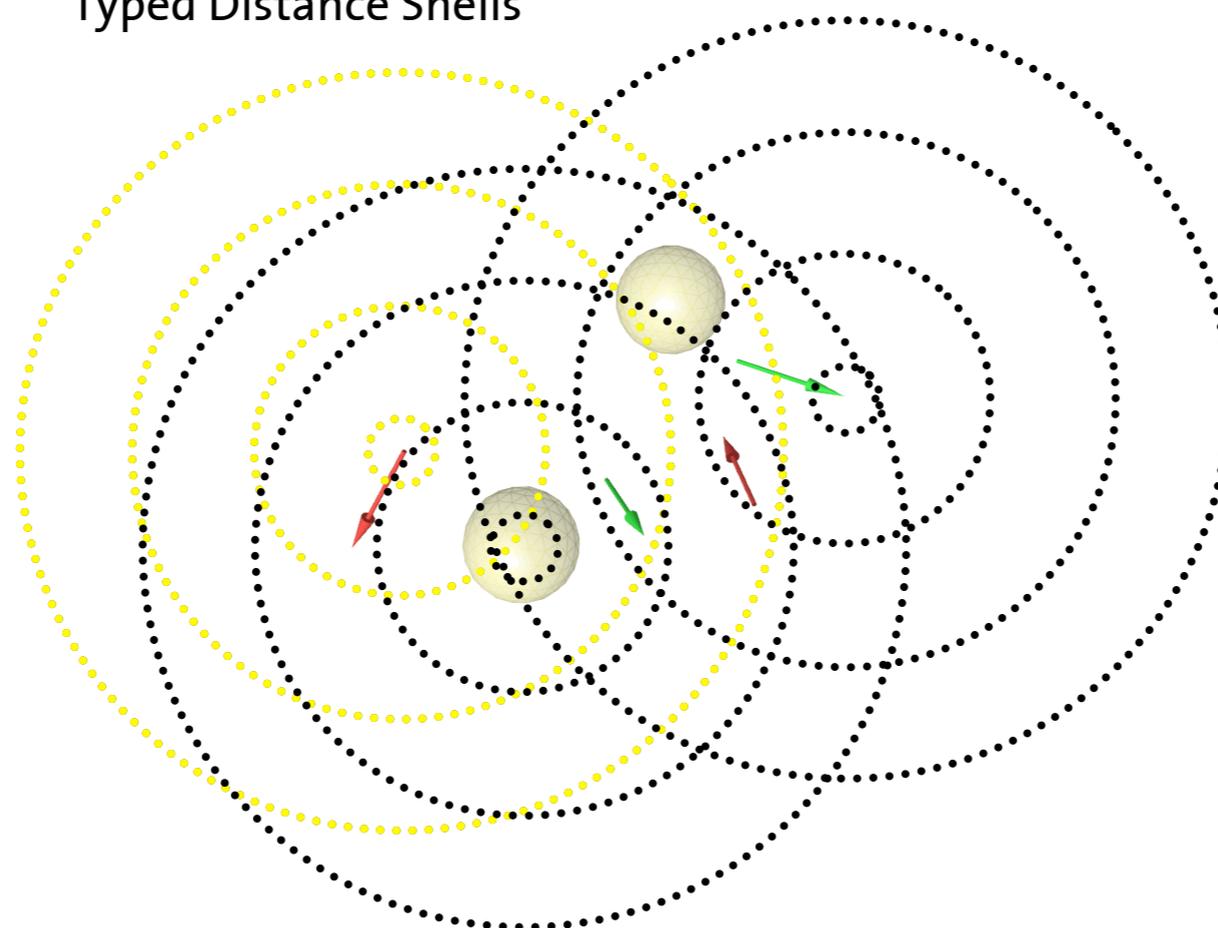
It's all about pattern recognition !



We Need Speed & Accuracy

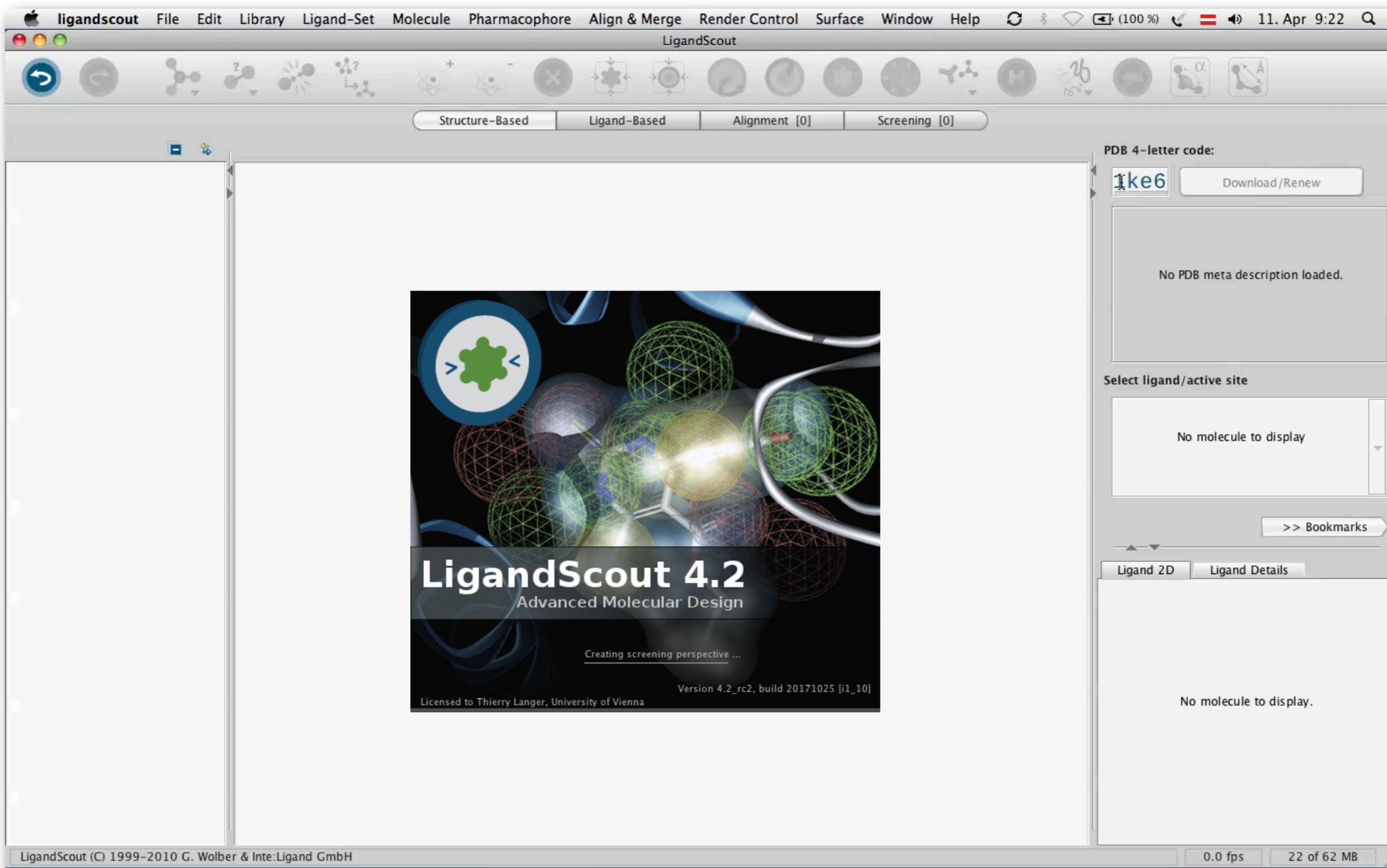
- Redesign the alignment algorithm
- Avoid computationally inefficient graph matching
- Create a pattern recognition based approach

Typed Distance Shells



	Acceptor	0 0 1
	Donor	0 1 1
	Lipophilic	0 1 1

LigandScout Design Platform



ligandscout File Edit Library Ligand-Set Molecule Pharmacophore Align & Merge Render Control Surface Window Help 11. Apr 9:22

LigandScout

Structure-Based Ligand-Based Alignment [0] Screening [0]

PDB 4-letter code:
1ke6 Download/Renew

No PDB meta description loaded.

Select ligand/active site
No molecule to display

>> Bookmarks

Ligand 2D Ligand Details

No molecule to display.

LigandScout 4.2
Advanced Molecular Design
Creating screening perspective ...
Version 4.2_rc2, build 20171025 [i1_10]
Licensed to Thierry Langer, University of Vienna

LigandScout (C) 1999-2010 G. Wolber & Inte:Ligand GmbH 0.0 fps 22 of 62 MB

LigandScout Scientific Articles

- More than 1500 papers*
 - structure-based modeling
 - ligand-based modeling
 - virtual screening
- Hit identification
- Fragment-based design
- Lead structure optimization
- Protein-Protein Interactions
- Drug repurposing
- Profiling (side-effects)

Protein Interface Pharmacophore Mapping Tools for Small Molecule Protein: Protein Interaction Inhibitor Discovery

Arnout Voet^{1,*}, Eleanor F. Banwell², Kamlesh K. Sahu¹, Jonathan G. Heddle² and Kam Y. J. Zhang¹

¹Zhang Initiative Research Unit, and ²Heddle Initiative Research Unit, Advanced Science Institute, RIKEN, 2-1 Hirozawa, Wako, Saitama 351-0198, Japan

Abstract: Protein:protein interactions are becoming increasingly significant as potential drug targets; however, the rational identification of small molecule inhibitors of such interactions remains a challenge. Pharmacophore modelling is a popular tool for virtual screening of compound libraries, and has previously been successfully applied to the discovery of

ligands in the field of protein:protein interaction inhibitors. In this review, we explore the interaction, demonstrating the validity of pharmacophore mapping methods that have these successful cases demonstrate the usefulness of

Pharmacophore-Based Discovery of Small-Molecule Inhibitors of Protein-Protein Interactions between HIV-1 Integrase and Cellular Cofactor LEDGF/p75

Laura De Luca,^{*[a]} Maria Letizia Barreca,^{*[b]} Stefania Ferro,^[a] Frauke Christ,^[c] Nunzio Iraci,^[b] Rosaria Gitto,^[a] Anna Maria Monforte,^[a] Zeger Debyser,^{*[c]} and Alba Chimirri^[a]

The cellular protein lens epithelium transcriptional coactivator p75 (LED) in HIV integration. The protein-protein interaction between HIV-1 integrase (IN) and its cofactor LEDGF/p75 may therefore serve as targets for anti-HIV drugs. In this work, a structural model for potential small-molecule inhibitors of the LEDGF/p75 interaction was developed using a combination of computational and experimental approaches. The 3D model obtained from our in-house chemical database was used for the identification of compound CHIBA for further optimization. The rationale

Identification of the first non-peptidic small molecule inhibitor of the c-Abl/14-3-3 protein-protein interactions able to drive sensitive and Imatinib-resistant leukemia cells to apoptosis

Valentina Corradi^{a,†}, Manuela Mancini^b, Fabrizio Manetti^a, Sara Petta^b, Maria Alessandra Santucci^b, Maurizio Botta^{a,*}

^aDipartimento Farmaco Chimico Tecnologico, Università degli Studi di Siena, Via Aldo Moro 2, I-53100 Siena, Italy

^bDipartimento di Ematologia e Scienze Oncologiche "Lorenzo e Ariosto Seragnoli", Università di Bologna, Via Massarenti 9, I-40138 Bologna, Italy

ARTICLE

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Therapeutic Discovery

Molecular
Cancer
Therapeutics

New Use for an Old Drug: Inhibiting ABCG2 with Sorafenib

Yinxiang Wei^{1,3}, Yuanfang Ma³, Qing Zhao^{1,4}, Zhiguang Ren^{1,3}, Yan Li¹, Tingjun Hou², and Hui Peng¹

Abstract

Human ABCG2, a member of the ATP-binding cassette transporter superfamily, represents a promising target for sensitizing MDR in cancer chemotherapy. Although lots of ABCG2 inhibitors were identified, none of them has been tested clinically, maybe because of several problems such as toxicity or safety and pharmacokinetic uncertainty of compounds with novel chemical structures. One efficient solution is to rediscover new uses for existing drugs with known pharmacokinetics and safety profiles. Here, we found the new use for

* scholar.google.com, March 2018

Drug Repurposing



universität
wien

Molecular
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Therapeutic Discovery

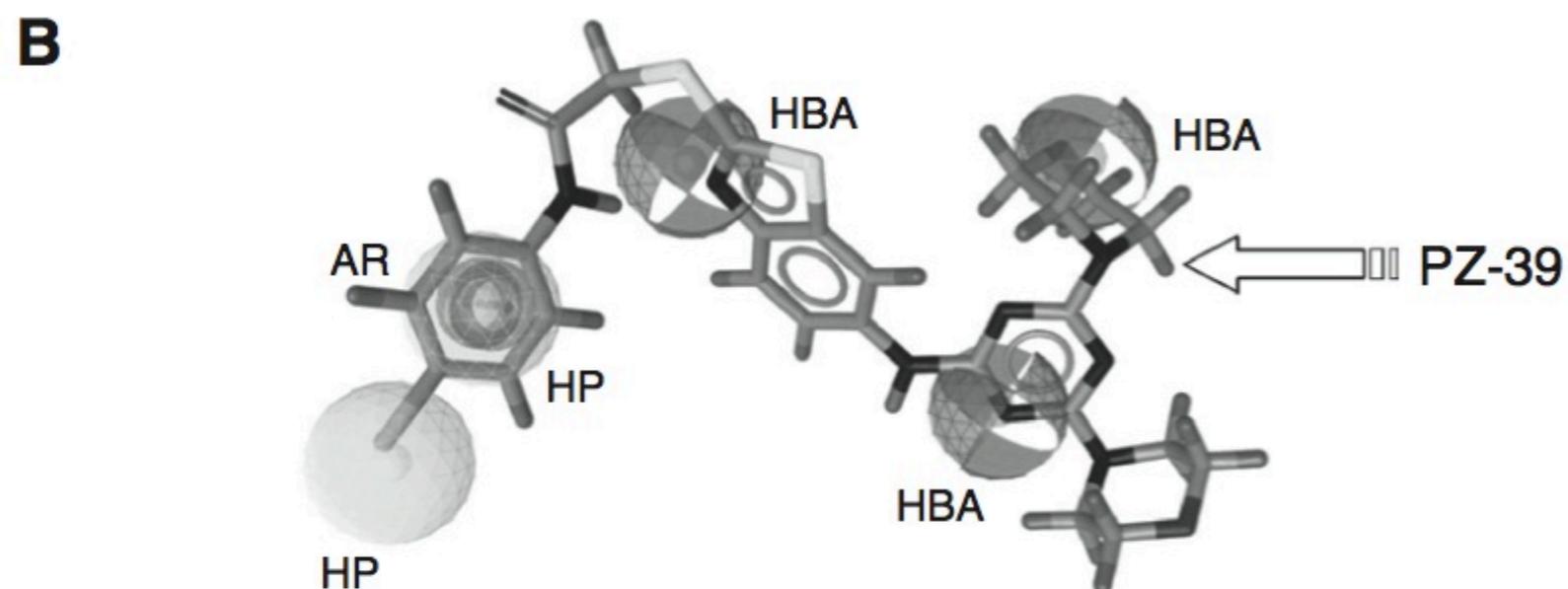
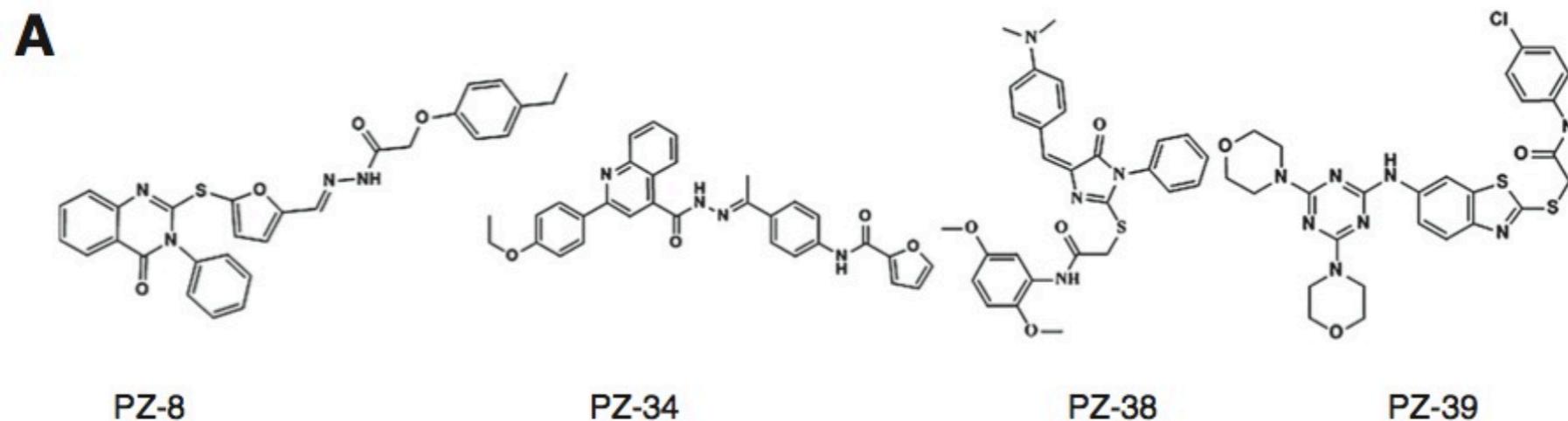
New Use for an Old Drug: Inhibiting ABCG2 with Sorafenib

Yinxiang Wei^{1,3}, Yuanfang Ma³, Qing Zhao^{1,4}, Zhiguang Ren^{1,3}, Yan Li¹, Tingjun Hou², and Hui Peng¹

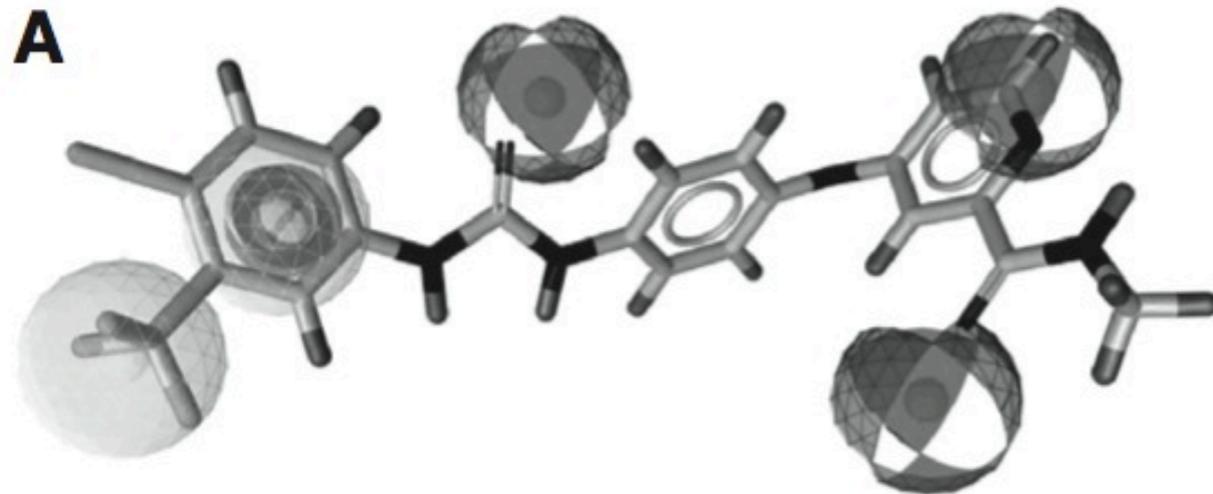
Abstract

Human ABCG2, a member of the ATP-binding cassette transporter superfamily, represents a promising target for sensitizing MDR in cancer chemotherapy. Although lots of ABCG2 inhibitors were identified, none of them has been tested clinically, maybe because of several problems such as toxicity or safety and pharmacokinetic uncertainty of compounds with novel chemical structures. One efficient solution is to rediscover new uses for existing drugs with known pharmacokinetics and safety profiles. Here, we found the new use for sorafenib, which has a dual-mode action by inducing ABCG2 degradation in lysosome in addition to inhibiting its function. Previously, we reported some novel dual-acting ABCG2 inhibitors that showed closer similarity to degradation-induced mechanism of action. On the basis of these ABCG2 inhibitors with diverse chemical structures, we developed a pharmacophore model for identifying the critical pharmacophore features necessary for dual-acting ABCG2 inhibitors. Sorafenib forms impressive alignment with the pharmacophore hypothesis, supporting the argument that sorafenib is a potential ABCG2 inhibitor. This is the first article that sorafenib may be a good candidate for chemosensitizing agent targeting ABCG2-mediated MDR. This study may facilitate the rediscovery of new functions of structurally diverse old drugs and provide a more effective and safe way of sensitizing MDR in cancer chemotherapy. *Mol Cancer Ther*; 11(8); 1693–702. ©2012 AACR.

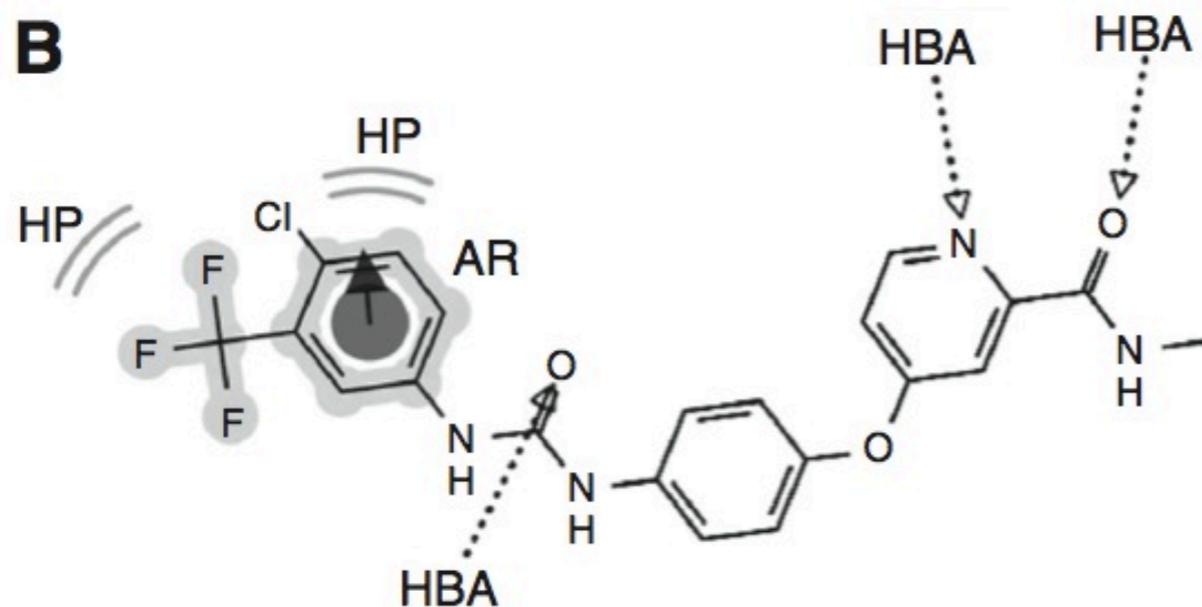
LigandScout Model of ABCG2-1



Inhibiting ABCG2 With Sorafenib



... at a concentration up to 2,5 μ M/L
no cytotoxic effect was observed ...

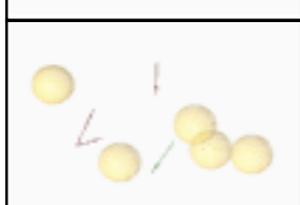
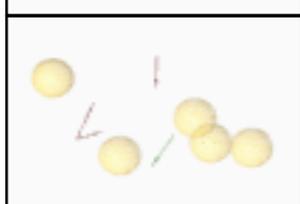
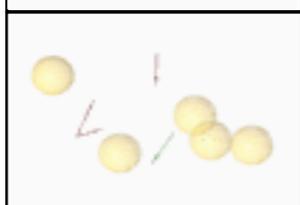
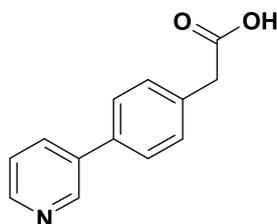
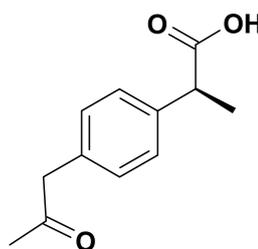
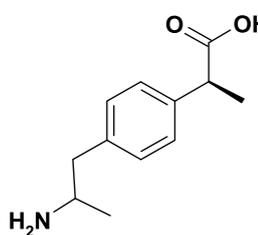
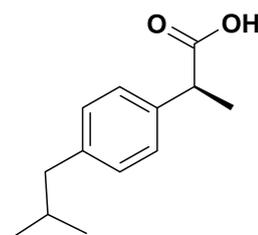
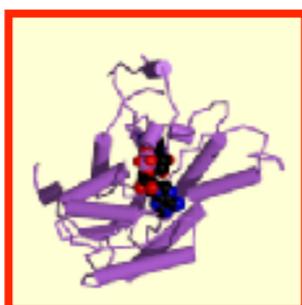


... led us to conclude that sorafenib
behaves like ABCG2 degradation-
induced inhibitor. Sorafenib may,
therefore, be a good candidate for
MDR chemosensitizing agent ...

One Step Further - Ligand Profiling

Usual Virtual Screening Protocols

10^x molecules against one target



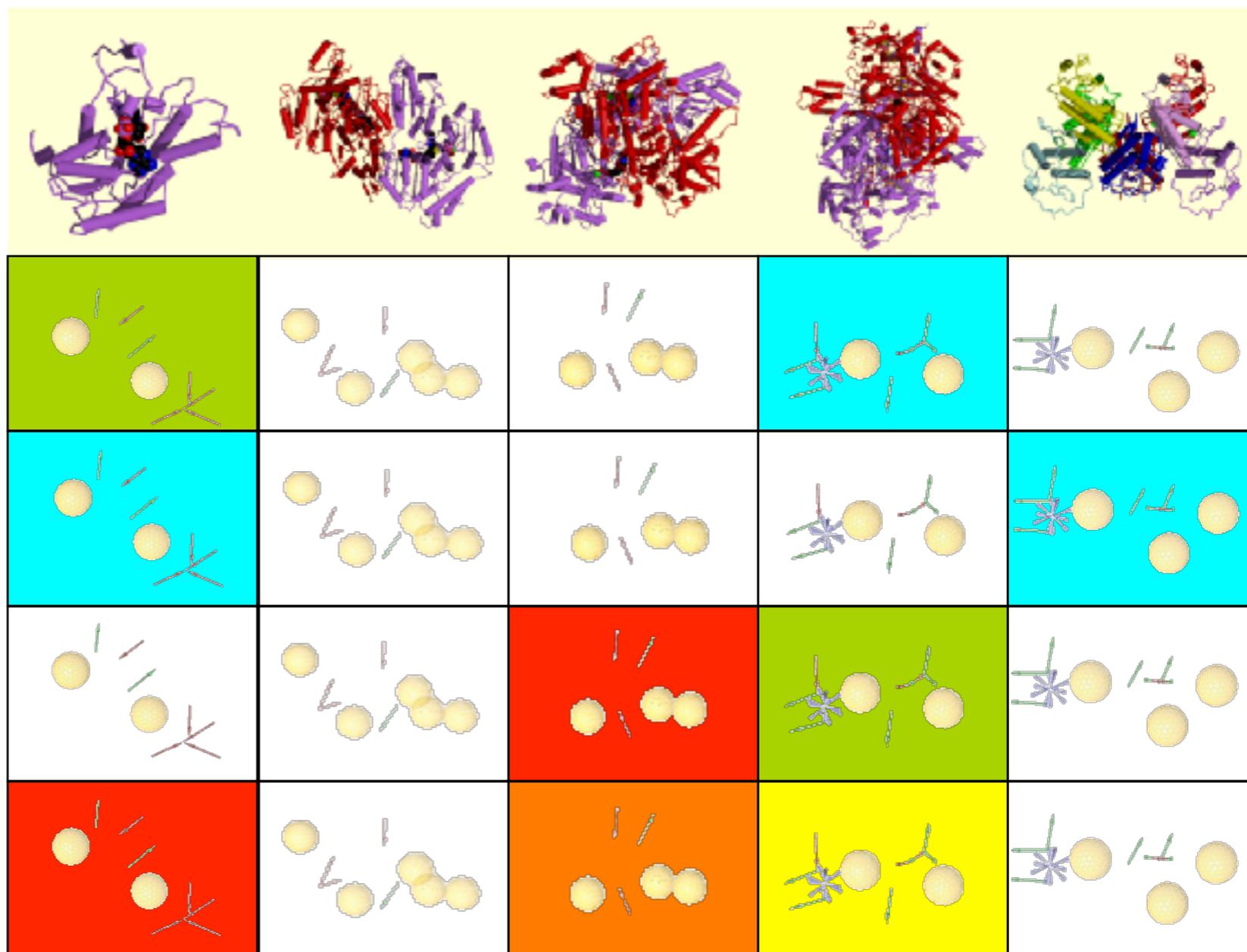
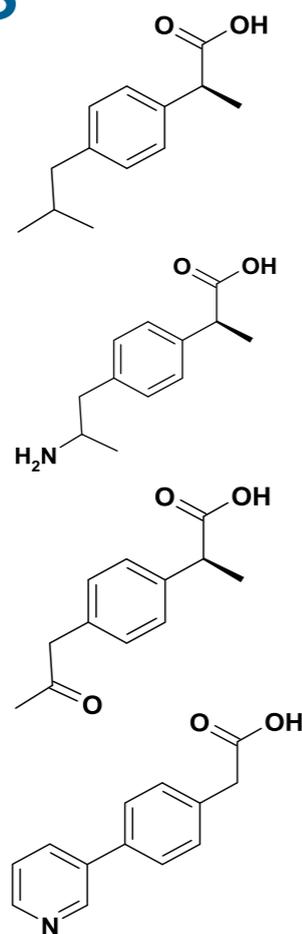
Hypothesis Data Spreadsheet: ACE-hypogen 20 Compounds

Row	Name	Activ	Uncert	Color	Estimate	Error	MolWt	Principal	MaxOmitFeat
1	ala-gly	2.5e+06	3.0	Red			146.146		
2	ala-his	9e+06	3.0	Green			226.235		
3	ala-leu	1.6e+06	3.0	Blue			202.253		
4	ala-pro	270000	3.0	Yellow			186.21		
5	ala-val	300000	3.0	Cyan			188.226		
6	arg-ala-pro	16000	3.0	Magenta			342.397		
7	glu-ala-pro	360000	3.0	Olive			315.326		
8	gly-asp	9.2e+06	3.0	Purple			190.155		
9	gly-glu	5.4e+06	3.0	Teal			204.182		
10	gly-lys	5.4e+06	3.0	Red			203.241		
11	gly-phe	450000	3.0	Green			222.243		
12	ile-pro	150000	3.0	Blue			228.291		
13	ile-tyr	3700	3.0	Brown			294.35		
14	leu-ala-pro	2300	3.0	Dark Green			299.369		
15	nleu-ala-pro	700	3.0	Dark Blue			299.369		
16	phe-ala-pro	4200	3.0	Red			333.387		
17	phe-pro-pro	78000	3.0	Green			359.424		
18	pro-pro	7.5e+06	3.0	Blue			212.248		
19	val-pro	420000	3.0	Yellow			214.264		
20	val-trp	1700	3.0	Cyan			303.36		

results in a hit list

Pharmacophores for Profiling

10^x molecules
against
 10^x targets



... needs a large number of models !

Multitarget Activity Profiling

- Make easy-to-use technology available for parallel screening
- Create multitude of interaction models for interesting targets
- Our solution: The KNIME Workflow Environment



KNIME Analytics Platform - /Users/thierrylanger/knime-workspace

100%

Quick Access

KNIME Explorer

- EXAMPLES (knime-guest@htt
- LOCAL (Local Workspace)

Node Repository

LigandScout

- LigandScout
 - Alignment
 - Pharmacophore/Molecule
 - Clustering
 - Diversity Picker
 - Fingerprint Clustering
 - Pharmacophore/Molecule
 - Conformer Generation
 - Icon
 - Data Manipulation
 - Active Site Ligand Extract
 - Ligand-Set Creator
 - Ligand-Set Splitter
 - Database
 - ChEMBL-DB Extractor
 - LDB Database List
 - Database Merger
 - Patent
 - Docking
 - AutoDock 4
 - AutoDock Vina
 - Filtering
 - Duplicate Remover
 - Library Filter

LDB

drag & drop

Console

KNIME Console

```
WARN Database List 0:14 Loading model settings failed: /Users/thierrylanger/Desktop/Meclofe
WARN LoadWorkflowRunnable Warnings during load: Status: Warning: IL PharmDB Profiling Ono 1.4
WARN LoadWorkflowRunnable Status: Warning: IL PharmDB Profiling Ono 1.4.3 0
WARN LoadWorkflowRunnable Status: Warning: Database List 0:14
WARN LoadWorkflowRunnable Status: Warning: Loading model settings failed: /Users/thierr
WARN Meta-data 0:13 No CSV meta-data file specified.
```

KNIME Analytics Platform - /Users/thierrylanger/knime-workspace

100%

Quick Access

KNIME Explorer

- EXAMPLES (knime-guest@htt
- LOCAL (Local Workspace)

Node Repository

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 - AutoDock 4
 - AutoDock Vina
 - Filtering
 - Duplicate Remover
 - Library Filter

*0: IL Pharm... | 0: T2 Build ... | 2: T8 Advanc... | 3: T5 Perfor...

Node Description

Database List

LDB
Compound LDB for screening

Activity Profiling

IL Profile Set
415 Models

Meta-data

add meta-data information

SDF Writer

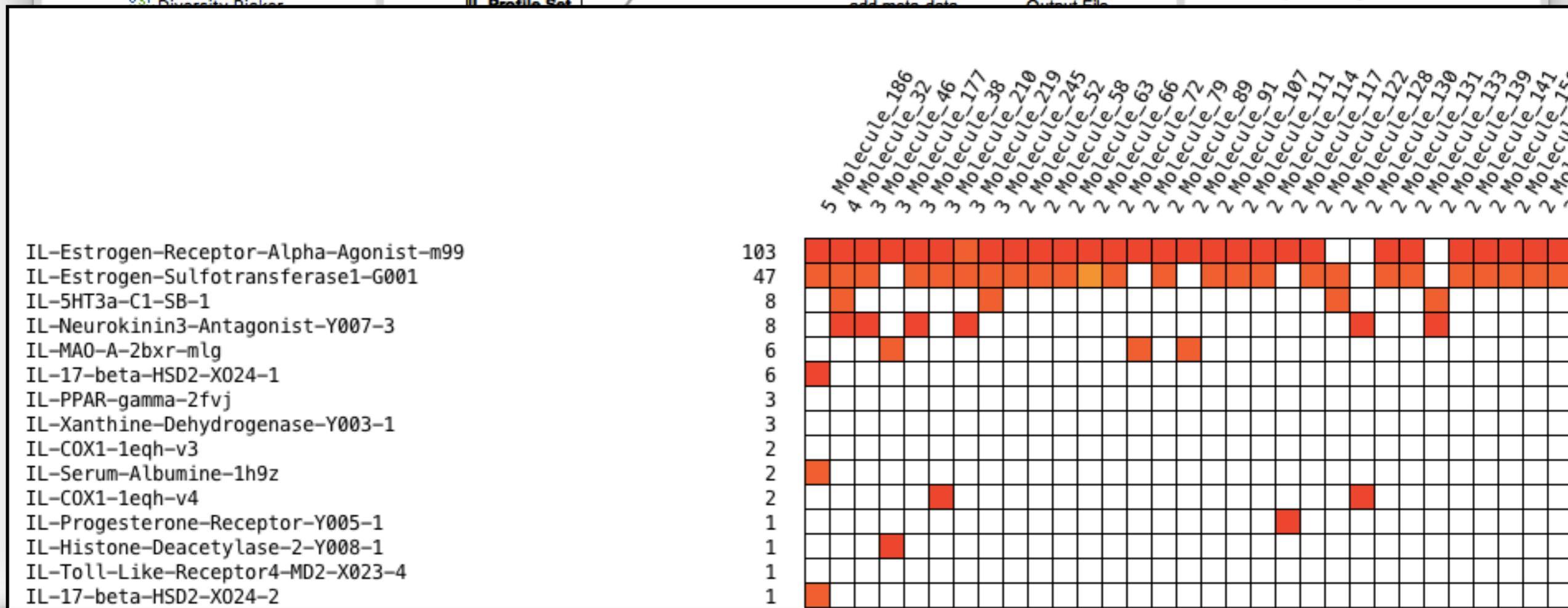
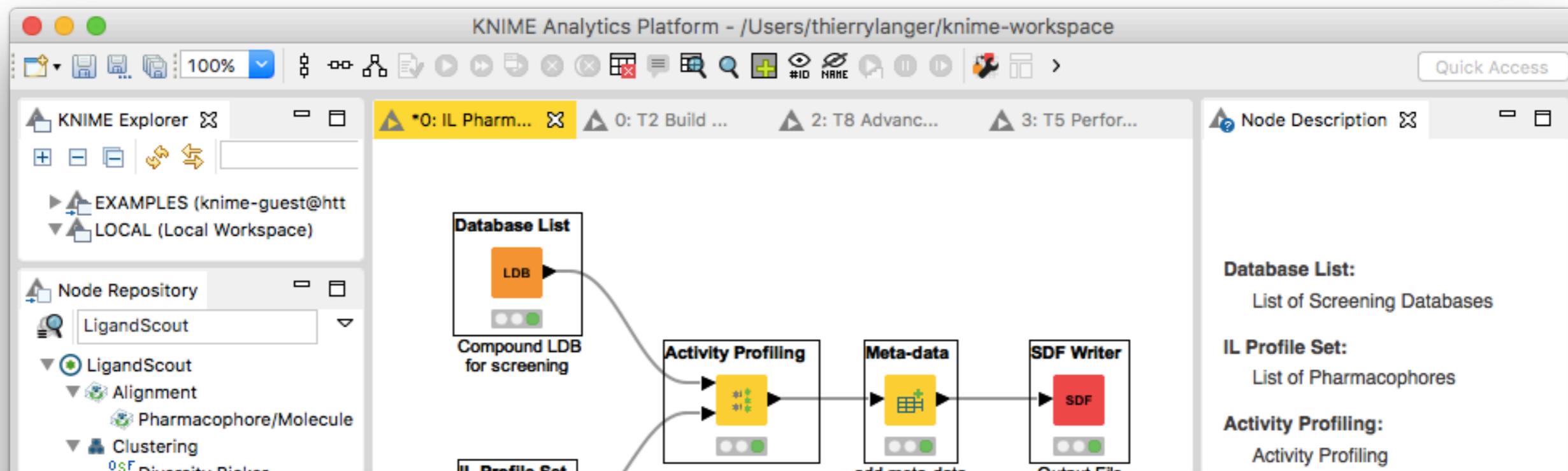
SDF
Output File

Console

KNIME Console

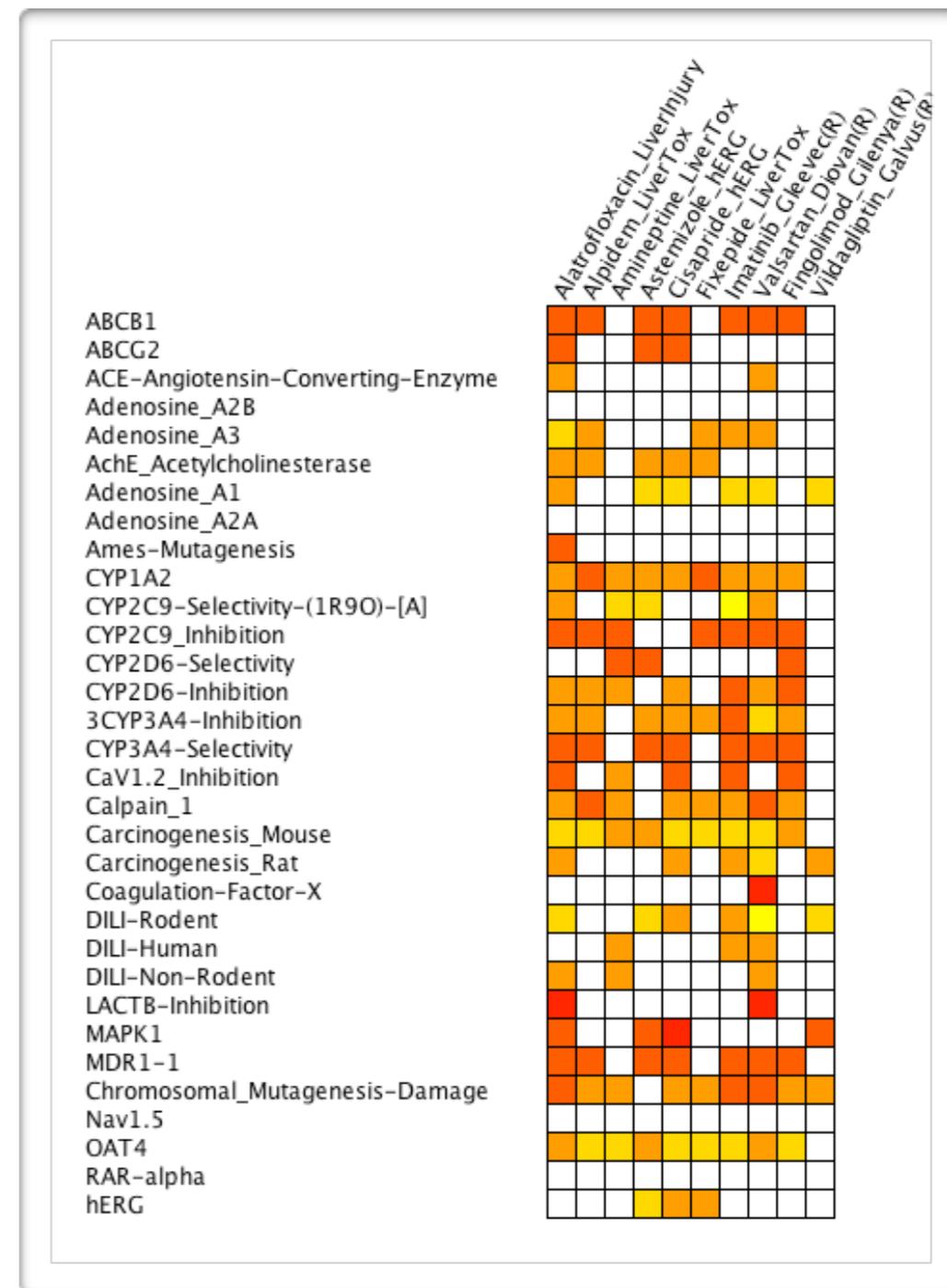
```

WARN Database List 0:14 Loading model settings failed: /Users/thierrylanger/Desktop/Meclofe
WARN LoadWorkflowRunnable Warnings during load: Status: Warning: IL PharmDB Profiling Ono 1.4
WARN LoadWorkflowRunnable Status: Warning: IL PharmDB Profiling Ono 1.4.3 0
WARN LoadWorkflowRunnable Status: Warning: Database List 0:14
WARN LoadWorkflowRunnable Status: Warning: Loading model settings failed: /Users/thierr
WARN Meta-data 0:13 No CSV meta-data file specified.
  
```



Toxicity Assessment Models

7 year collaborative EC Project on Toxicity Prediction



KNIME Workflow Tutorials

IntelLigand KNIME EXTENSION TUTORIAL CARD 2

Create Ligand Based Pharmacophore Models

Experience level: Intermediate
Time needed: 15 minutes

Node Repository	Sequence
<ul style="list-style-type: none">I/OPDB ReaderPharmacophoreLigand-based Pharmacophore Creator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Read a SMILES file by using "SMILES Reader" nodeConnect the output of "SMILES Reader" node to "Icon Conformer Generator" nodeConfigure "Icon Conformer Generator" nodeConnect the first port of "Icon Conformer Generator" node with the second input port of "Ligand-based Pharmacophore Creator" node and execute itConnect the second output port of "Ligand-based Pharmacophore Creator" node to "Pharmacophore/Molecule Clustering" node and execute itConfigure "Ligand-based Pharmacophore Creator" nodeConfigure "Ligand-based Pharmacophore Creator" node selecting the "Treat cluster individually" optionConnect "Ligand-based Pharmacophore Creator" node with "Pharmacophore Writer" nodeConfigure "Pharmacophore Writer" node"Export all pharmacophores to a single file"Choose the folder in which save my_model.pmx, then execute the node

Description

In the Node Repository panel, open the "I/O" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "PDB Reader" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Configure the "PDB Reader" node by using a left double click or by pressing F6. [2] A pop-up window for configuration will appear and you enter the path to the PDB file you want to load. Press the "Add" button. You can add multiple PDB files. After pressing OK, the traffic light underneath the node, which was red before, will turn to yellow. Press F7 to execute the node (alternatively, you can right click on it and press "Execute" from the pop-up menu). The traffic light will turn green once the node has finished the task. Now, visit the Node Repository panel again and open the "Pharmacophore" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Connect the output port of the "PDB Reader" node (black triangle) with the input port of the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node (black triangle) [3]. Select the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node and configure it. In the pop-up window, select the minimum number of features necessary or creating the model [3] and set the flag for adding an exclusion volume coat. After pressing OK, execute the node as before [F7]. Once the task is finished the traffic light underneath the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node will turn green. In the "I/O" drop down menu select the "Pharmacophore Writer" node and drag and drop it in the workspace, connect the output of the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node with it and start the configuration as before. In the pop-up windows select "Export all pharmacophores to a single file" and choose a name for the output (you can also browse for the folder). [4] Press OK and execute the node (F7). The program will save a file in the specified directory containing the pharmacophore model(s) you have generated.

Where to go from here:

- Screening database(s) against pharmacophore model(s)
- Cluster pharmacophores
- Use generated pharmacophores for Activity profiling

IntelLigand KNIME EXTENSION TUTORIAL CARD 1

Create Structure Based Pharmacophore Models

Experience level: basic
Time needed: 10 minutes

Node Repository	Sequence	Advanced controls (opt.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">I/OPDB ReaderPharmacophore WriterPharmacophoreStructure-based Pharmacophore Creator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Read a PDB file by using "PDB Reader" nodeConnect the output of "PDB Reader" node with "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" nodeConfigure "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node and execute itConnect "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node with "Pharmacophore Writer" nodeConfigure "Pharmacophore Writer" node selecting "Export all pharmacophores to a single file"Choose the folder in which save my_model.pmx, then execute the node	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prepare batch mode processing:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Configure "PDB Reader" node to read multiple PDB files at the same timeModify pharmacophore creation parameters<ul style="list-style-type: none">Configure "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node to add the exclusion volume coat to the modelExplore the options of the "Pharmacophore Writer" node (e.g. pharmacophore models saved as separate files)

Description

In the Node Repository panel, open the "I/O" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "PDB Reader" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Configure the "PDB Reader" node by using a left double click or by pressing F6. [2] A pop-up window for configuration will appear and you enter the path to the PDB file you want to load. Press the "Add" button. You can add multiple PDB files. After pressing OK, the traffic light underneath the node, which was red before, will turn to yellow. Press F7 to execute the node (alternatively, you can right click on it and press "Execute" from the pop-up menu). The traffic light will turn green once the node has finished the task. Now, visit the Node Repository panel again and open the "Pharmacophore" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Connect the output port of the "PDB Reader" node (black triangle) with the input port of the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node (black triangle) [3]. Select the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node and configure it. In the pop-up window, select the minimum number of features necessary or creating the model [3] and set the flag for adding an exclusion volume coat. After pressing OK, execute the node as before [F7]. Once the task is finished the traffic light underneath the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node will turn green. In the "I/O" drop down menu select the "Pharmacophore Writer" node and drag and drop it in the workspace, connect the output of the "Structure-based Pharmacophore Creator" node with it and start the configuration as before. In the pop-up windows select "Export all pharmacophores to a single file" and choose a name for the output (you can also browse for the folder). [4] Press OK and execute the node (F7). The program will save a file in the specified directory containing the pharmacophore model(s) you have generated.

Where to go from here:

- Screening database(s) against pharmacophore model(s)
- Cluster pharmacophores
- Use generated pharmacophores for Activity profiling

IntelLigand KNIME EXTENSION TUTORIAL CARD 3

Calculate Physicochemical Properties and Filter a Database

Experience level: basic
Time needed: 5 minutes

Node Repository	Sequence	Advanced controls (opt.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">I/OSDF ReaderStandard PropertiesLibrary FilterSDF Writer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Read a SDF file by using "SDF Reader" nodeConnect the output of "SDF Reader" node with "Standard Properties" node and execute itConnect the output of "Standard Properties" node with "Library Filter" node and execute itConnect the output port of "Library Filter" node with "SDF Writer" node and execute it	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Calculate physicochemical properties:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Configure "Standard Properties" node to compute different sets of propertiesModify filtering parameters:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Add other text and/or numeric filters in "Library Filter" nodeConfigure the "Library Filter" node<ul style="list-style-type: none">adding multiple properties to your filterExplore all the filtering operators (equal, different, smaller than, greater than)

Description

In the Node Repository panel, open the "I/O" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "SDF Reader" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Configure the "SDF Reader" node by using a left double click or by pressing F6. [2] A pop-up window for configuration will appear and you enter the path to the SDF file you want to load. Press the "Add" button. You can add multiple SDF files. After pressing OK, the traffic light underneath the node, which was red before, will turn to yellow. Press F7 to execute the node (alternatively, you can right click on it and press "Execute" from the pop-up menu). The traffic light will turn green once the node has finished the task. Now, visit the Node Repository panel again and open the "Standard Properties" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "Standard Properties" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Connect the output port of the "SDF Reader" node (black triangle) with the input port of the "Standard Properties" node (black triangle) [3]. Select the "Standard Properties" node and configure it. In the pop-up window, select the properties you want to compute (these properties will be used in the next step). Press OK. The traffic light underneath the "Standard Properties" node will turn green. Now, visit the Node Repository panel again and open the "Library Filter" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "Library Filter" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Connect the output port of the "Standard Properties" node (black triangle) with the input port of the "Library Filter" node (black triangle) [4]. Select the "Library Filter" node and configure it. In the pop-up window, select the filtering operators you want to use (e.g. "Smaller than") and enter the value you want to use (e.g. 400). Press OK. The traffic light underneath the "Library Filter" node will turn green. Now, visit the Node Repository panel again and open the "SDF Writer" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "SDF Writer" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Connect the output port of the "Library Filter" node (black triangle) with the input port of the "SDF Writer" node (black triangle) [5]. Select the "SDF Writer" node and configure it. In the pop-up window, select the output file name and the directory where you want to save the file. Press OK. The traffic light underneath the "SDF Writer" node will turn green. Press F7 to execute the workflow. The hit molecules will be saved as a SDF file.

Where to go from here:

- Screening database(s) against pharmacophore model(s)
- Cluster pharmacophores
- Use generated pharmacophores for Activity profiling

IntelLigand KNIME EXTENSION TUTORIAL CARD 4

Screening Database(s) Against Pharmacophore Model(s)

Experience level: basic
Time needed: 10 minutes

Node Repository	Sequence	Advanced controls (opt.)
<ul style="list-style-type: none">I/OLDB ReaderPharmacophore ReaderPharmacophoreSDF ReaderScreeningSDF Writer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Read a LDB file by using "LDB Reader" nodeConnect the output of "LDB Reader" node with "Pharmacophore Reader" nodeConfigure "Pharmacophore Reader" nodeConnect the output of "Pharmacophore Reader" node with "Screening" nodeConfigure "Screening" nodeConnect the output of "Screening" node with "SDF Writer" nodeConfigure "SDF Writer" nodeExecute the workflow	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Change Ligand parameters:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Configure "SDF Reader" node to extract name from a different columnChange "Icon Conformer Generator" settings (e.g. Apply BEST settings)Modify parameters for "Screen" node:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Change the scoring functionShift to fragment screening modeChoose different retrieval modesConfigure the node in order to not check the exclusion volumesPrepare batch mode processing:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Configure "Pharmacophore Reader" node to read multiple files at the same timeConfigure Boolean expression with "Screen" node (e.g. (1 and 2) not 3. Numbers are referred to the pharmacophores ranking in the "Pharmacophore Reader" node)

Description

In the Node Repository panel, open the "I/O" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "LDB Reader" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Configure the "LDB Reader" node by using a left double click or by pressing F6. [2] A pop-up window for configuration will appear and you enter the path to the LDB file you want to load. Press the "Add" button. You can add multiple LDB files. After pressing OK, the traffic light underneath the node, which was red before, will turn to yellow. Press F7 to execute the node (alternatively, you can right click on it and press "Execute" from the pop-up menu). The traffic light will turn green once the node has finished the task. Now, visit the Node Repository panel again and open the "Pharmacophore" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "Pharmacophore Reader" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Connect the output port of the "LDB Reader" node (black triangle) with the input port of the "Pharmacophore Reader" node (black triangle) [3]. Select the "Pharmacophore Reader" node and configure it. In the pop-up window, select the pharmacophore model you want to use (e.g. "my_model.pmx") and the directory where you want to save the file. Press OK. The traffic light underneath the "Pharmacophore Reader" node will turn green. Now, visit the Node Repository panel again and open the "Screening" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "Screening" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Connect the output port of the "Pharmacophore Reader" node (black triangle) with the input port of the "Screening" node (black triangle) [4]. Select the "Screening" node and configure it. In the pop-up window, select the scoring function you want to use (e.g. "Fragment") and the retrieval mode you want to use (e.g. "Fragment"). Press OK. The traffic light underneath the "Screening" node will turn green. Now, visit the Node Repository panel again and open the "SDF Writer" drop down menu in the LigandScout section to see all the Input/Output nodes. Look for the "SDF Writer" node and drag and drop it into the workspace. Connect the output port of the "Screening" node (black triangle) with the input port of the "SDF Writer" node (black triangle) [5]. Select the "SDF Writer" node and configure it. In the pop-up window, select the output file name and the directory where you want to save the file. Press OK. The traffic light underneath the "SDF Writer" node will turn green. Press F7 to execute the workflow. The hit molecules will be saved as a SDF file.

Where to go from here:

- Screening database(s) against pharmacophore model(s)
- Cluster pharmacophores
- Use generated pharmacophores for Activity profiling

Another Success Story



- Collaboration with Domain Therapeutics (F)
 - Target: mGluR4 positive allosteric modulators
 - Disease area: Parkinson, Schizophrenia
- Project Setup
 - 3 years, 2.5 FTEs at Prestwick for med. chem.
(hit to lead & and lead optimization)
- Result
 - Optimized lead family, in vivo proof of concept
 - Patent filed by October 2009

mGluR4 PAMs



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mGluR4 PAMs Project

- Starting point: (-)-PHCCC

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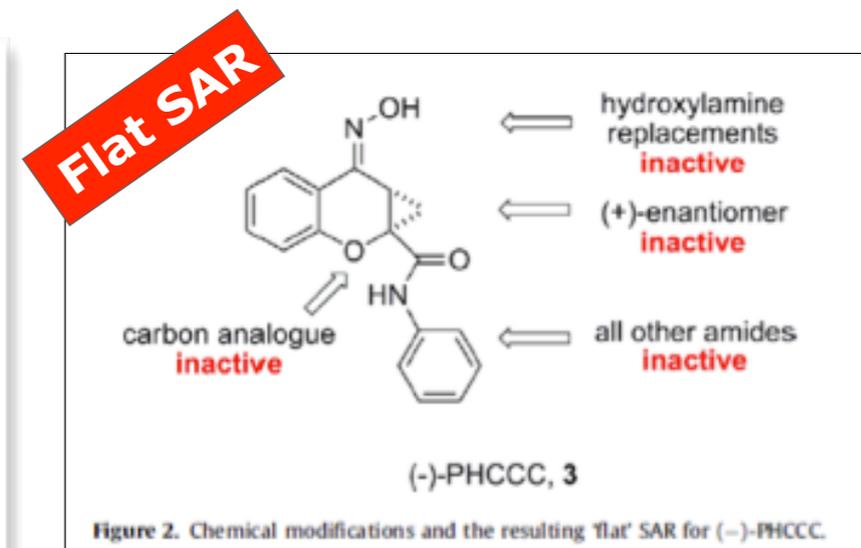
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(-)-PHCCC, a positive allosteric modulator of mGluR4: characterization, mechanism of action, and neuroprotection

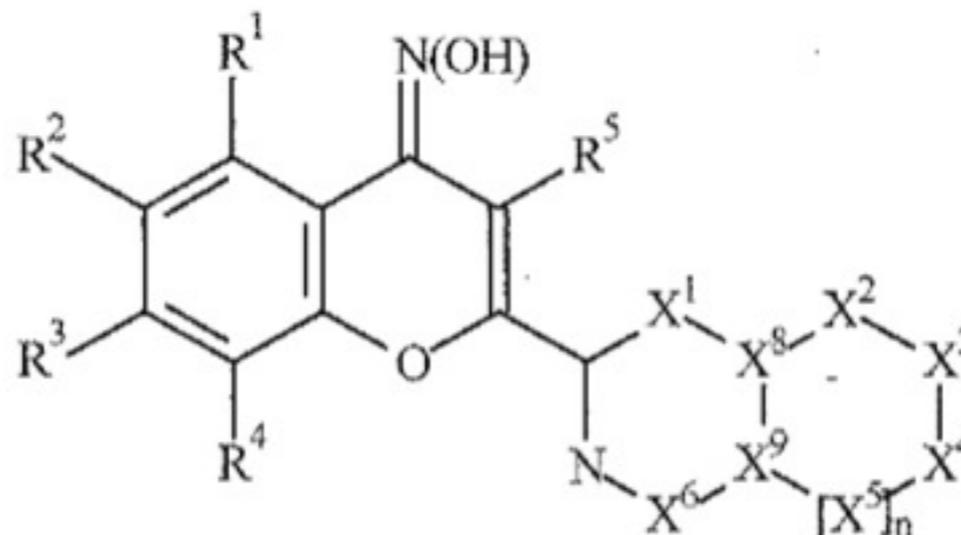
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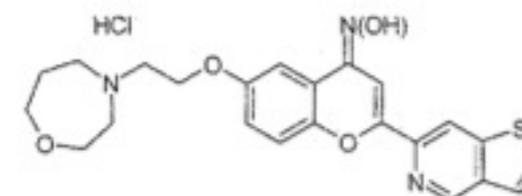
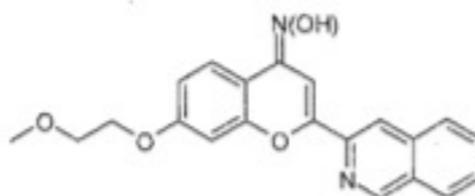
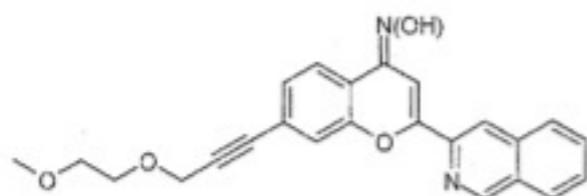
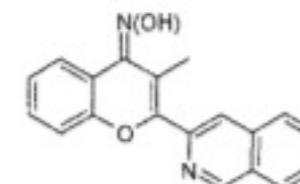
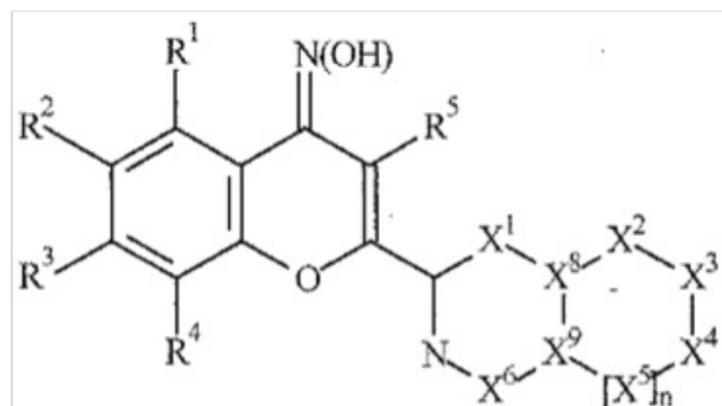
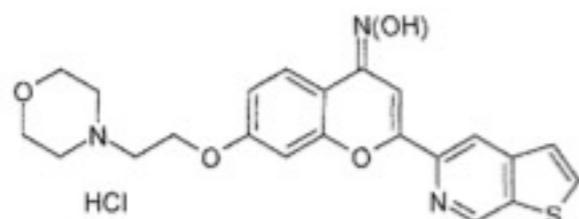
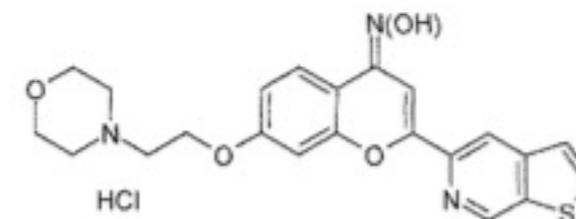
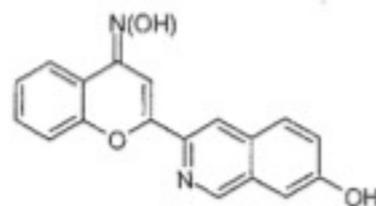
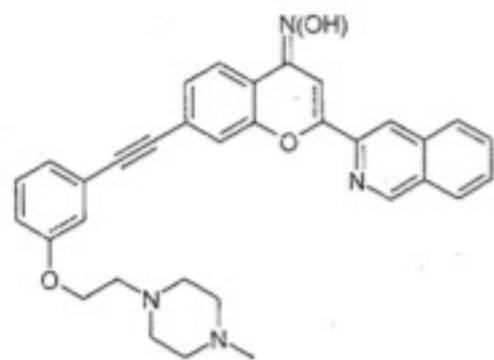
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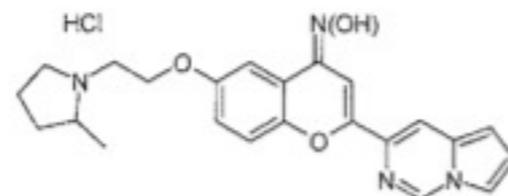
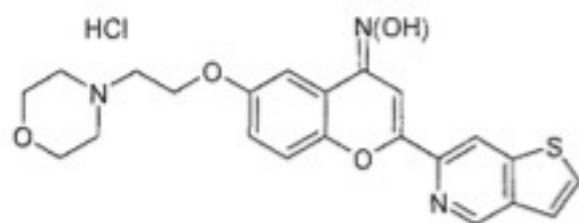
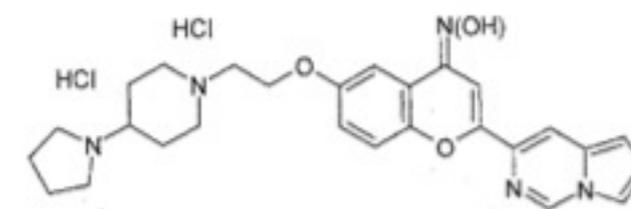
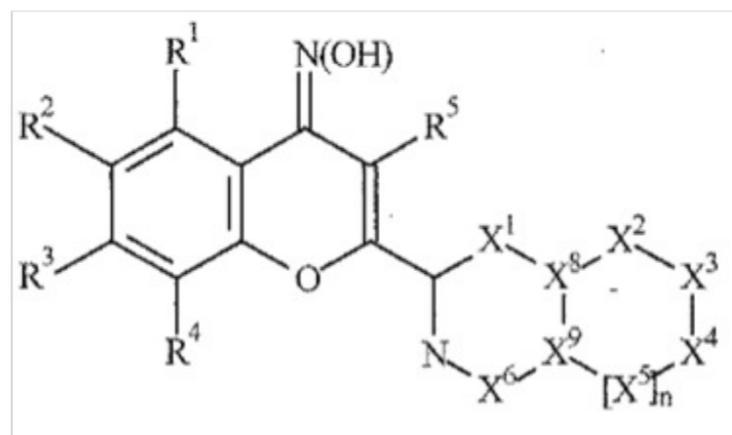
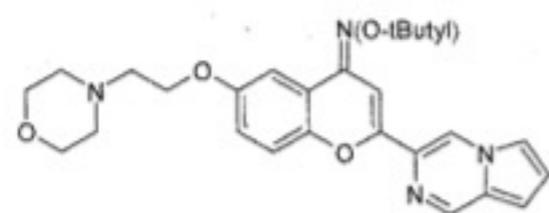
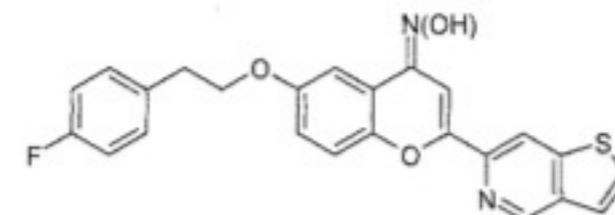
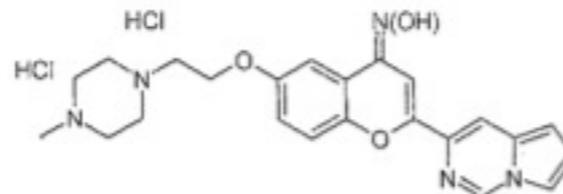
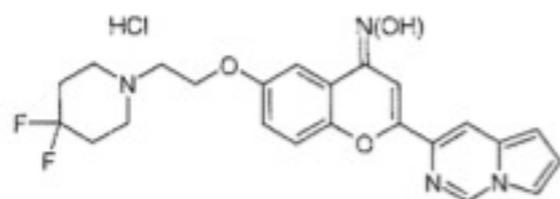
- The result:



mGluR4 PAMs Patent



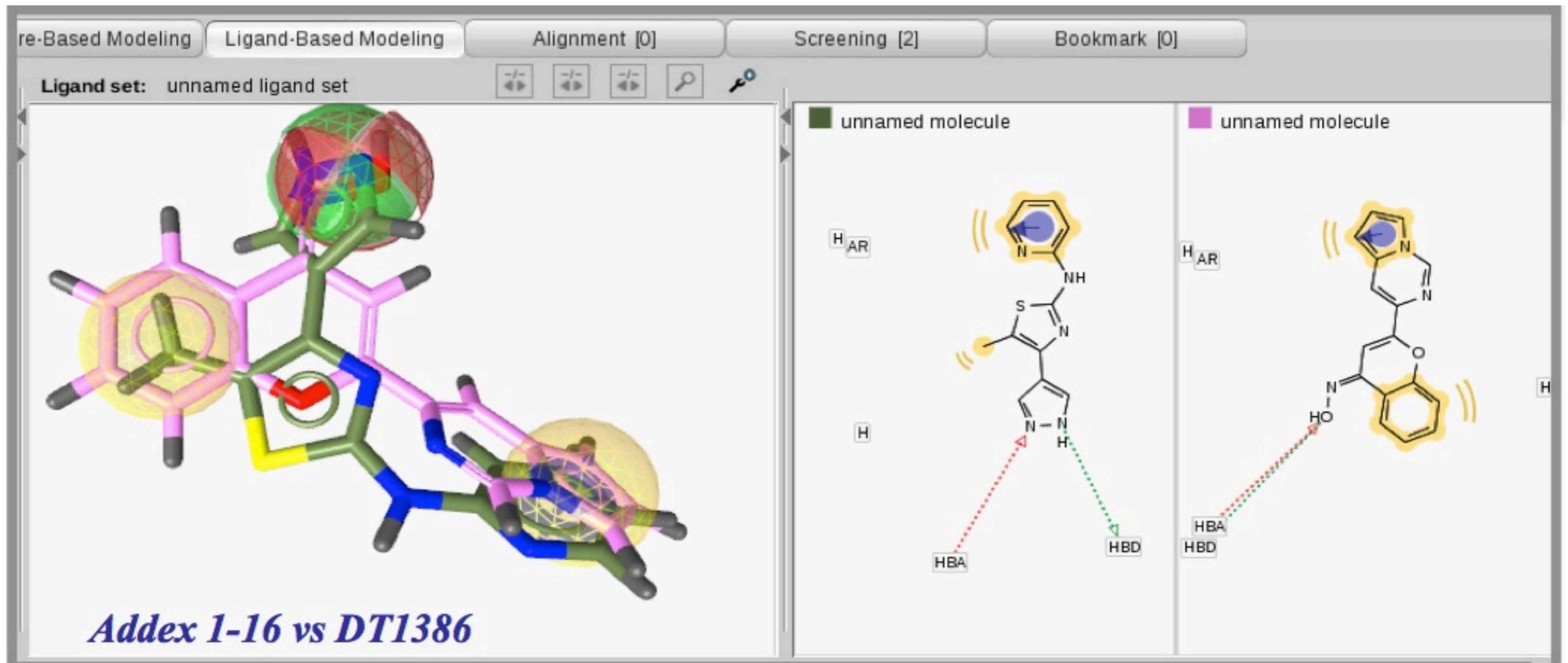
mGluR4 PAMs Patent



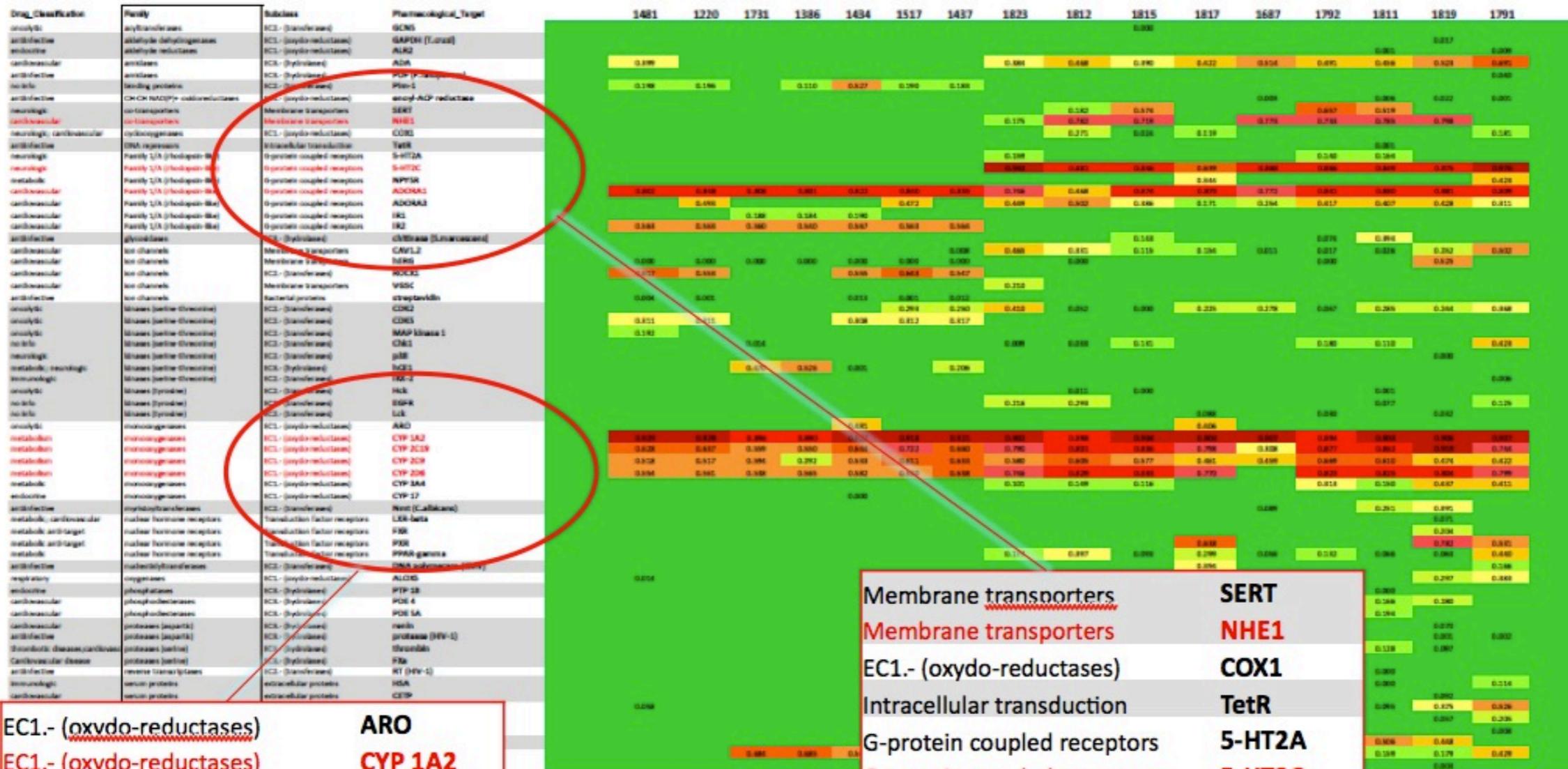
in total:
124 examples
described

Pharmacophore Modeling

For benchmarking against Addex compounds ...



In silico Profiling



EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **ARO**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CYP 1A2**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CYP 2C19**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CYP 2C9**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CYP 2D6**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CYP 3A4**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CYP 17**

EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CAV 1.2**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CAV 3A4**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CAV 3D6**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CAV 3C9**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **CAV 3C10**

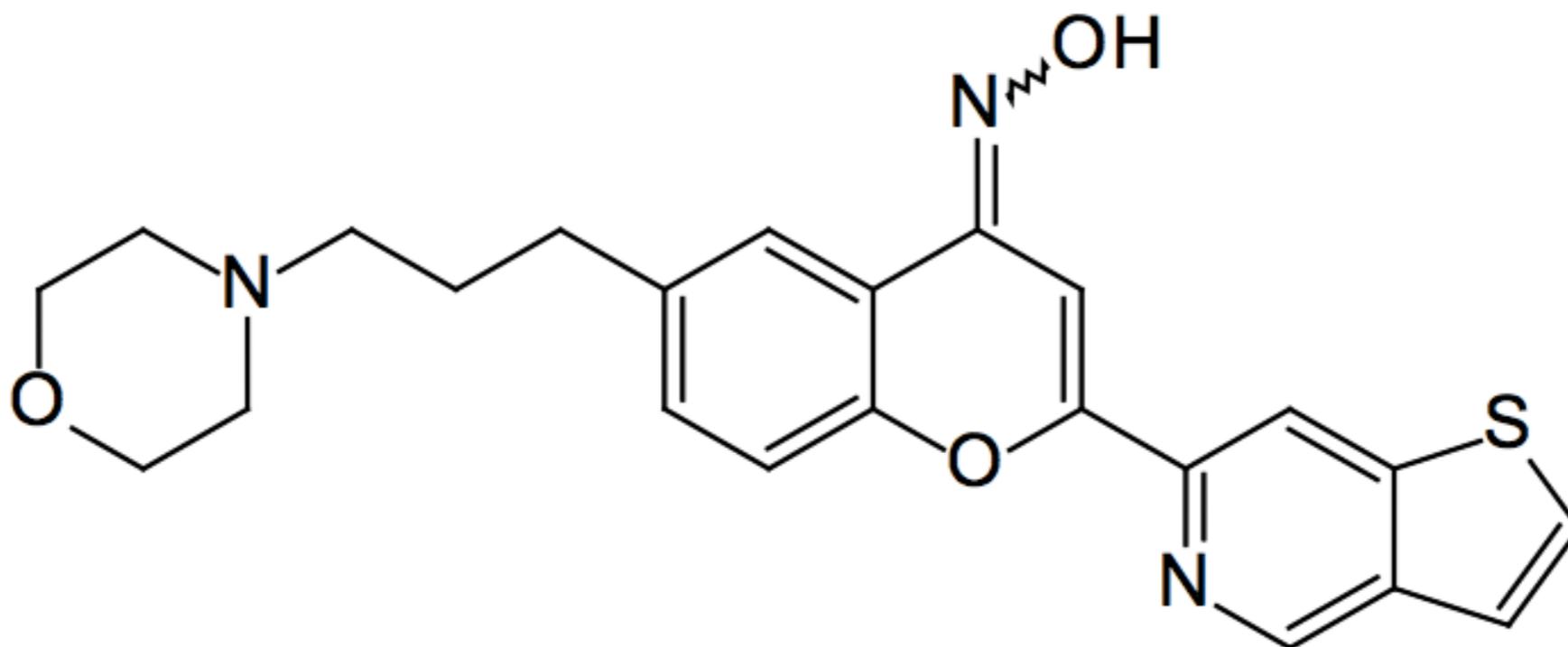
Membrane transporters **SERT**
 Membrane transporters **NHE1**
 EC1.- (oxydo-reductases) **COX1**
 Intracellular transduction **TetR**
 G-protein coupled receptors **5-HT2A**
 G-protein coupled receptors **5-HT2C**
 G-protein coupled receptors **NPY5R**
 G-protein coupled receptors **ADORA1**
 G-protein coupled receptors **ADORA3**

Another Success Story



- Collaboration with Domain Therapeutics (F)
 - Target: mGluR-4 positive allosteric modulators
 - Disease area: Parkinson, Schizophrenia
- Project Setup
 - 3 Years, 2.5 FTEs at Prestwick for med chem (hit to lead & and lead optimization)
- Result
 - Optimized lead family, in vivo proof of concept
 - License agreement signed in Q4 2010





Foliglurax

How did the story continue ?

- Merck Serono closed their site in Geneva in 2012 and gave up all their neuroscience projects
- An ex-Merck team started Prexton Therapeutics and acquired the mGluR4 PAM project
- Foliglurax was selected as candidate and was developed into the clinics up to Phase II
- March 2018: Lundbeck acquired Prexton Therapeutics (total deal volume 1.12 billion USD)



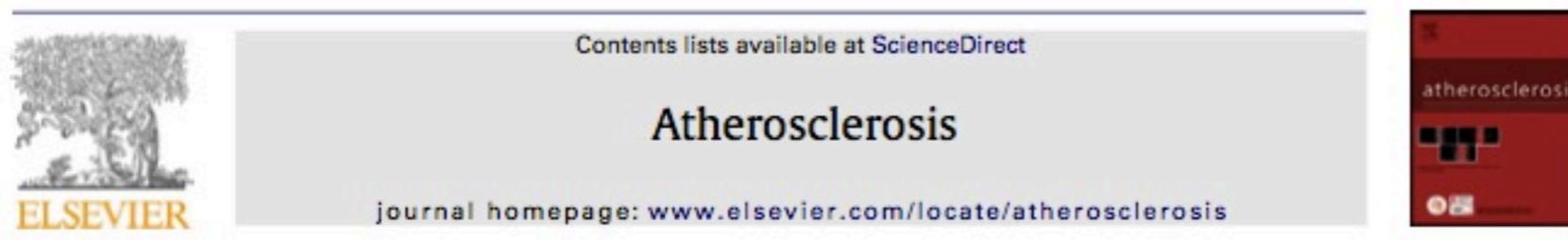
Lundbeck to acquire Prexton Therapeutics adding foliglurax in clinical phase II to its pipeline of innovative treatments for patients suffering from Parkinson's disease

- *Lundbeck will make an upfront payment of EUR 100 million and the deal terms also include up to EUR 805 million in development, regulatory and sales milestones*
- *Foliglurax is a first-in-class treatment which entered clinical phase II testing in Parkinson's disease in July 2017*
- *There remains a large unmet need for effective treatments for Parkinson's patients to sustain the utility of dopaminergic therapies*

Valby, Denmark, Oss, The Netherlands, 16 March 2018 - H. Lundbeck A/S (Lundbeck) and Prexton Therapeutics BV (Prexton) today announced signing of a definitive agreement in which Lundbeck will acquire Prexton. Under terms of the agreement, Lundbeck will pay EUR 100 million (approximately DKK 750 million) upfront and is furthermore required to later pay up to EUR 805 million (approximately DKK 6 billion) in development and sales milestones to the group of current owners.

By acquiring Prexton, Lundbeck will obtain global rights of an attractive compound (foliglurax) which currently is in clinical phase II testing for symptomatic treatment of *OFF*-time reduction in Parkinson's disease and dyskinesia including Levodopa Induced Dyskinesia (LID). First data from the ongoing clinical phase II programme is expected to be available during the first half of 2019.

Natural Product Target Fishing



Leoligin, the major lignan from Edelweiss, activates cholesteryl ester transfer protein

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ABSTRACT

Objective: Cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP) plays a central role in the metabolism of high-density lipoprotein particles. Therefore, we searched for new drugs that bind to CETP and modulate its activity.

Methods: A preliminary pharmacophore-based parallel screening approach indicated that leoligin, a major lignan of Edelweiss (*Leontopodium alpinum* Cass.), might bind to CETP. Therefore we incubated leoligin *ex vivo* at different concentrations with human ($n=20$) and rabbit plasma ($n=3$), and quantified the CETP activity by fluorimeter. Probucol served as positive control. Furthermore, we dosed CETP transgenic mice with leoligin and vehicle control by oral gavage for 7 days and measured subsequently the *in vivo* modulation of CETP activity ($n=5$ for each treatment group).

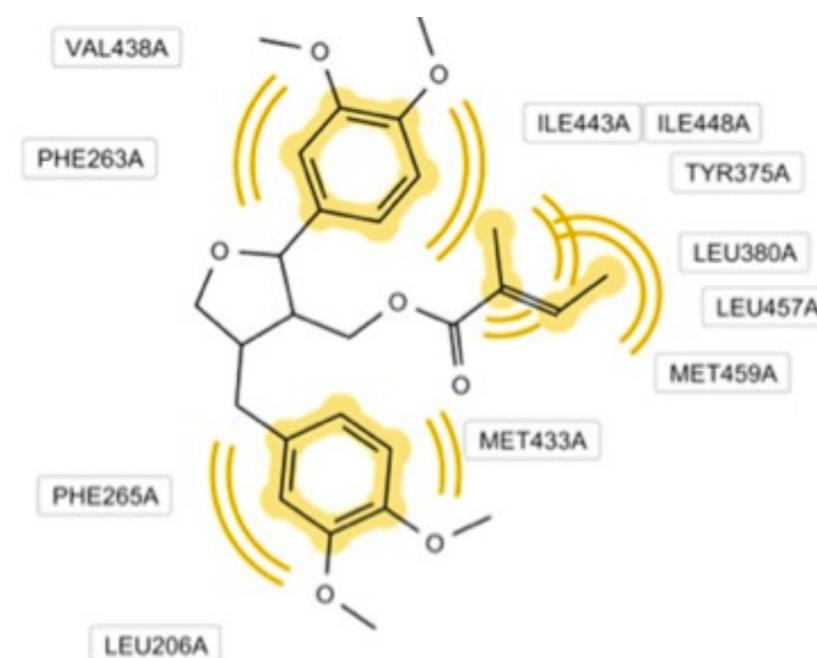
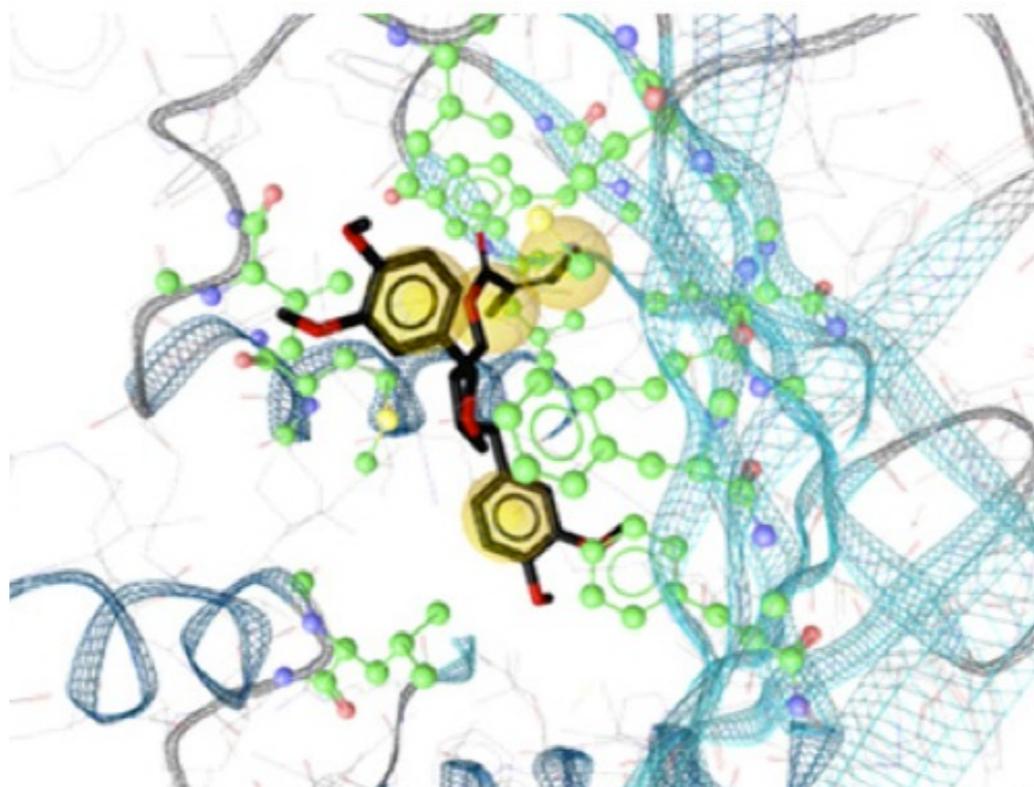
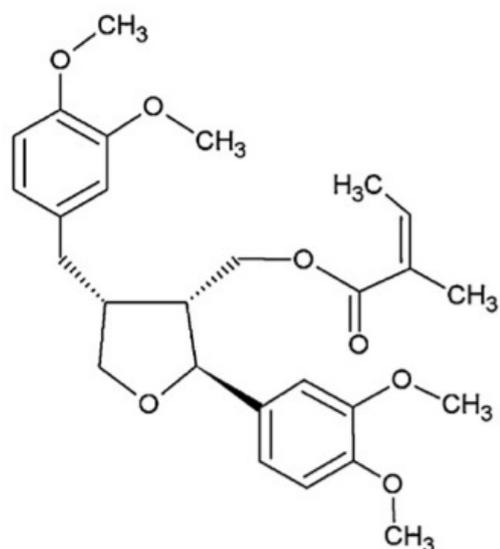
Results: *In vitro*, leoligin significantly activated CETP in human plasma at 100 pM ($p=0.023$) and 1 nM ($p=0.042$), respectively, whereas leoligin concentrations of 1 mM inhibited CETP activity ($p=0.012$). The observed CETP activation was not species specific, as it was similar in magnitude for rabbit CETP. *In vivo*, there was also a higher CETP activity after oral dosage of CETP transgenic mice with leoligin ($p=0.015$). There was no short-term toxicity apparent in mice treated with leoligin.

Conclusion: CETP agonism by leoligin appears to be safe and effective, and may prove to be a useful modality to alter high-density lipoprotein metabolism.

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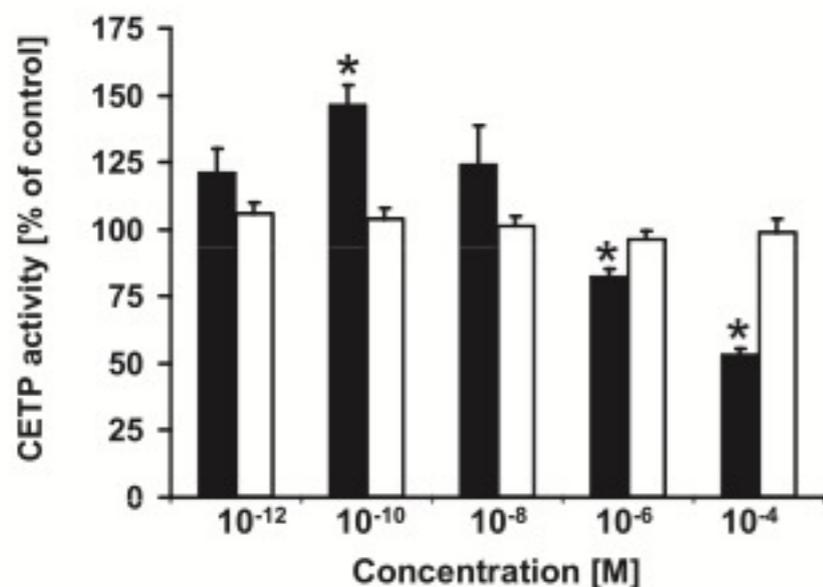


Leoligin: Pharmacophore Profiling

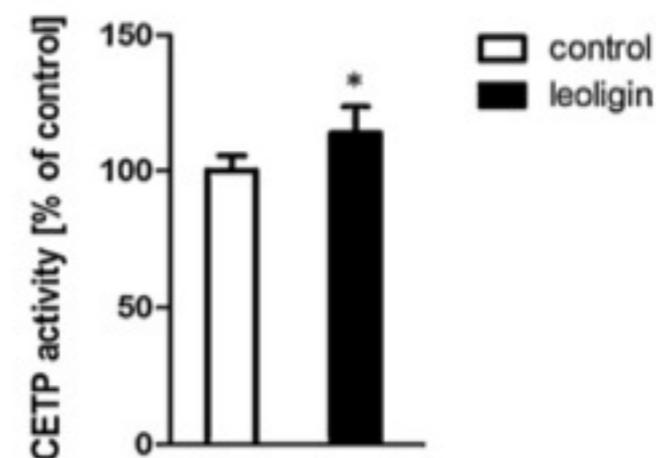


Leoligin matches the pharmacophore model encoding for the interaction site of cholesteryl ester transfer protein (CETP)

Biological Testing



Leoligin enhances the activity of human and rabbit CETP in vitro when applied in **subnanomolar concentration** (control Probucol)



Leoligin activates CETP in vivo (7 days test with CETP transgenic mice, leoligin dosed orally)

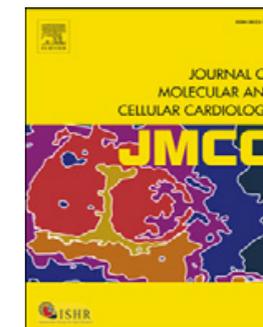
Further Analysis: New Target ?



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)

Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/yjmcc



Leoligin, the major lignan from Edelweiss, inhibits 3-hydroxy-3-methyl-glutaryl-CoA reductase and reduces cholesterol levels in ApoE $-/-$ mice



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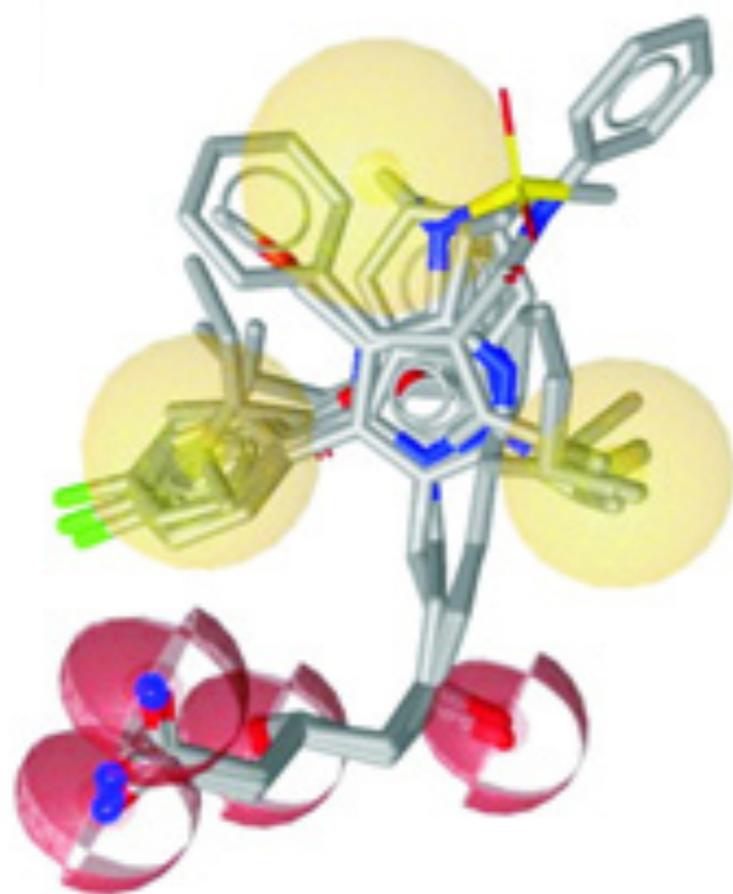
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^g Department of Internal Medicine, Intensive Care Unit, Medical University of Graz, Graz, Austria

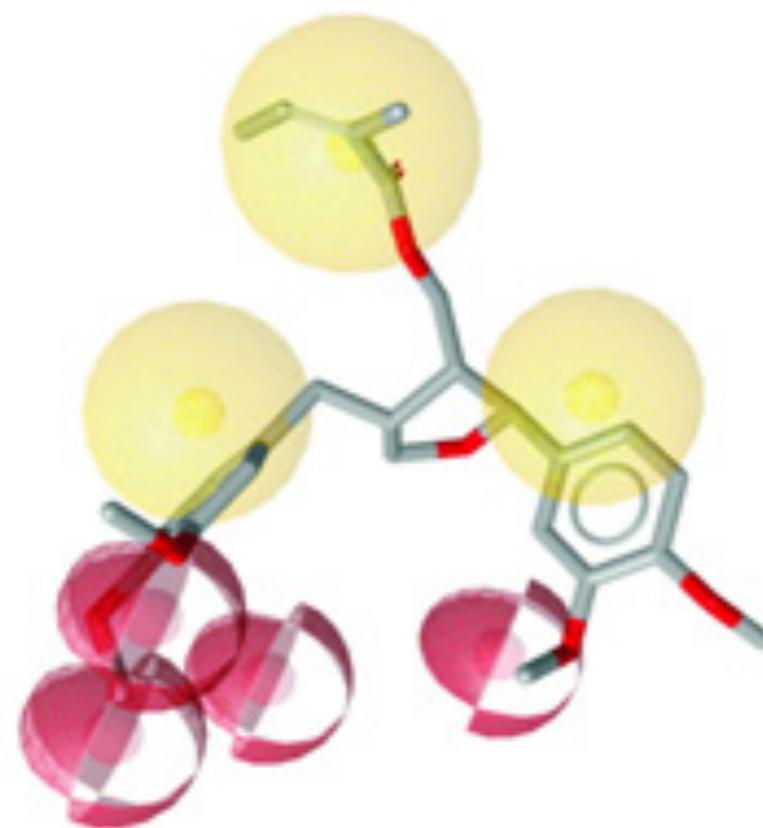
^h Department of Internal Medicine I, Medical University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria

Further Analysis: New Target ?

- Pharmacophore model suggests that leoligin is able to form similar protein-ligand interactions with HMGCR as statins do



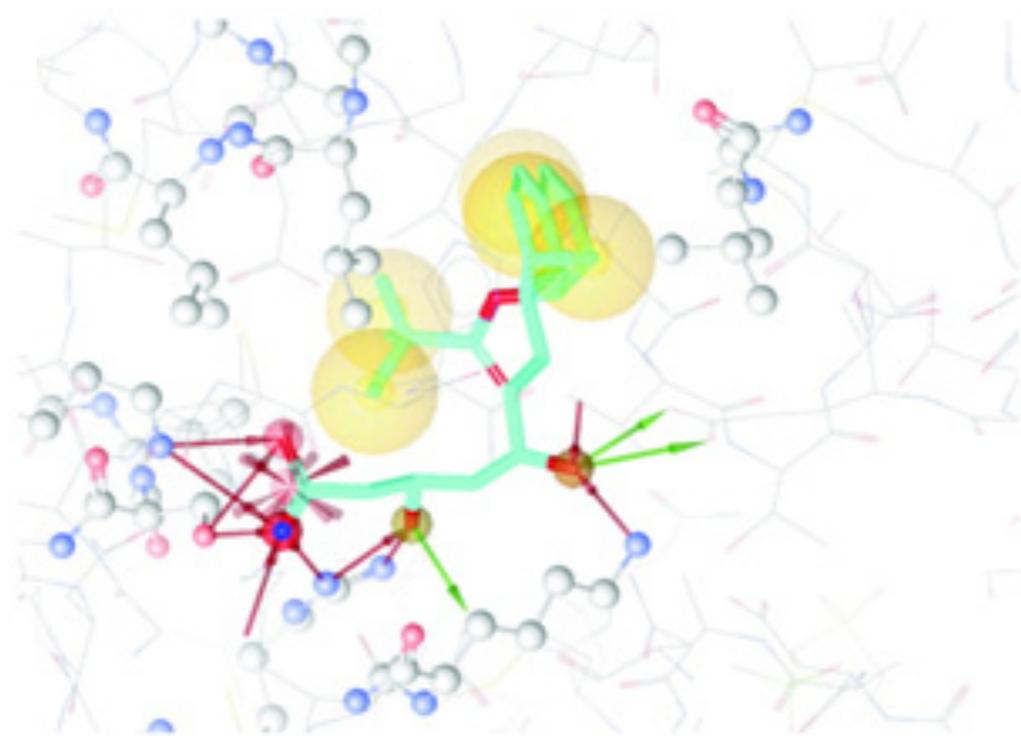
statins derived model



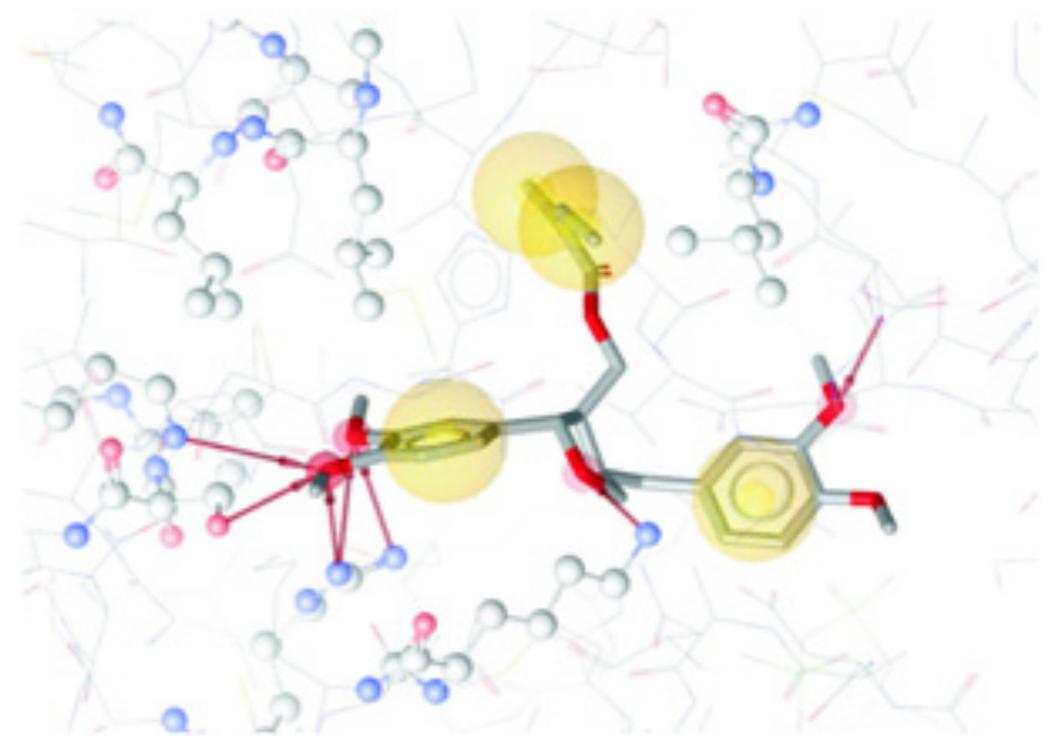
Leoligin fit onto model

New Target Confirmed (1)

- Leoligin is able to form similar protein-ligand interactions with HMGCR as statins do: confirmed by docking



Simvastatin in HMGCR

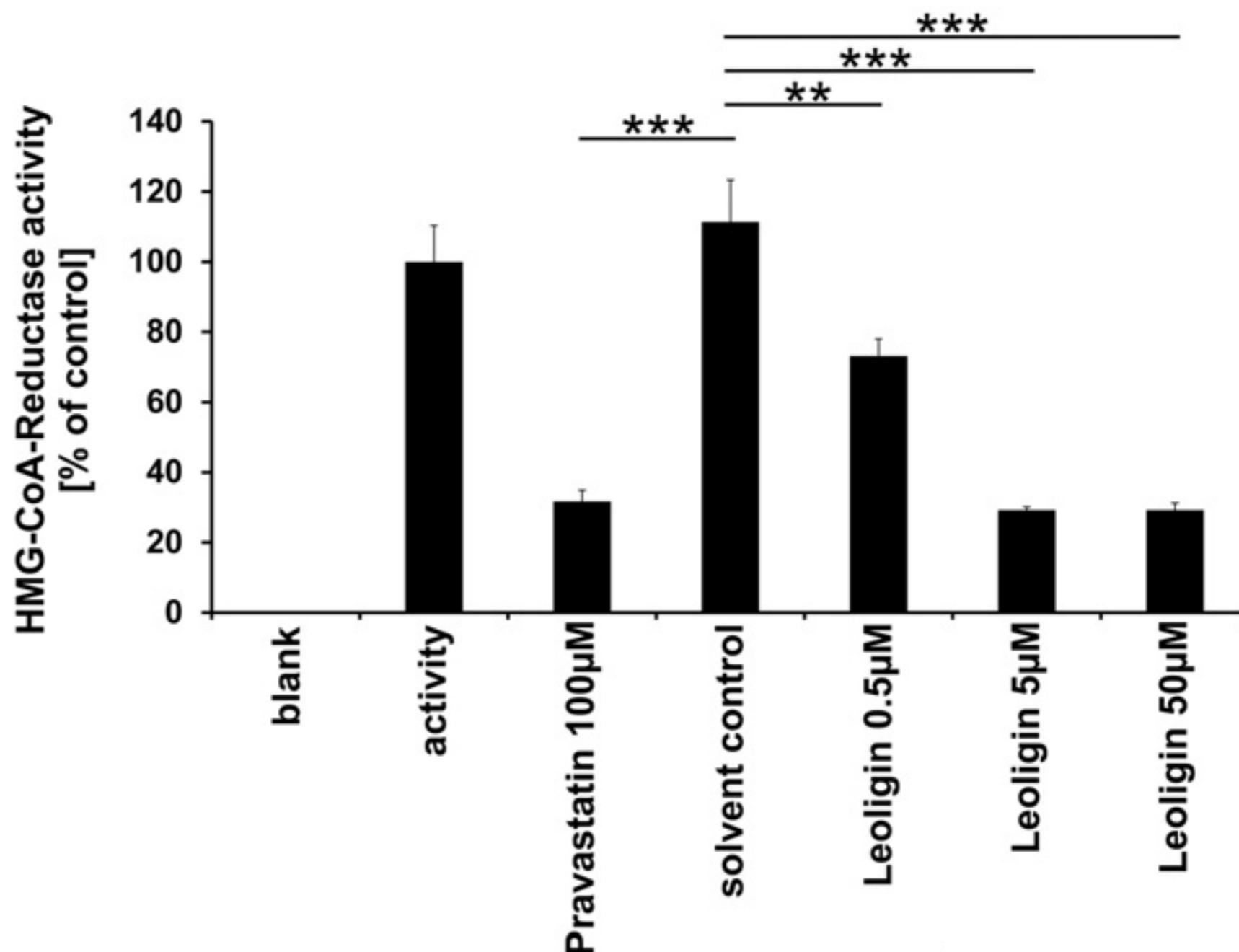


Leoligin docked into HMGCR

New Target Confirmed (2)

- Biological evaluation

Effect of leoligin on HMGCR activity is comparable to that of pravastatin, however, at 20-fold lower concentration !



LigandScout Profiling Advantages

- Speed and Accuracy
 - Due to pattern recognition based alignment, LigandScout virtual screening is amendable for ligand profiling:
 - no speed limitation by the number of features
 - 10000 models can be aligned per minute (standard CPU)
 - Due to its advanced pharmacophore technology, the technique is much more accurate than traditional pharmacophore approaches
 - no limits for the number of features
 - several features on one atom possible

Thank you for your attention

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