

# Exposure-Based Screening and Priority-Setting

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Presentation to the  
National Science and Technology Council (NSTC)  
Committee on Environment, Natural Resources, and Sustainability (CENRS)  
Toxics and Risk Subcommittee

**February 16, 2017**

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author  
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# Introduction

- The timely characterization of the human and ecological risk posed by thousands of existing and emerging commercial chemicals is a critical challenge facing EPA in its mission to protect public health and the environment
- Tools developed by EPA Exposure Forecasting “ExpoCast” project (co-leads Kristin Isaacs and John Wambaugh) inform chemical priority setting

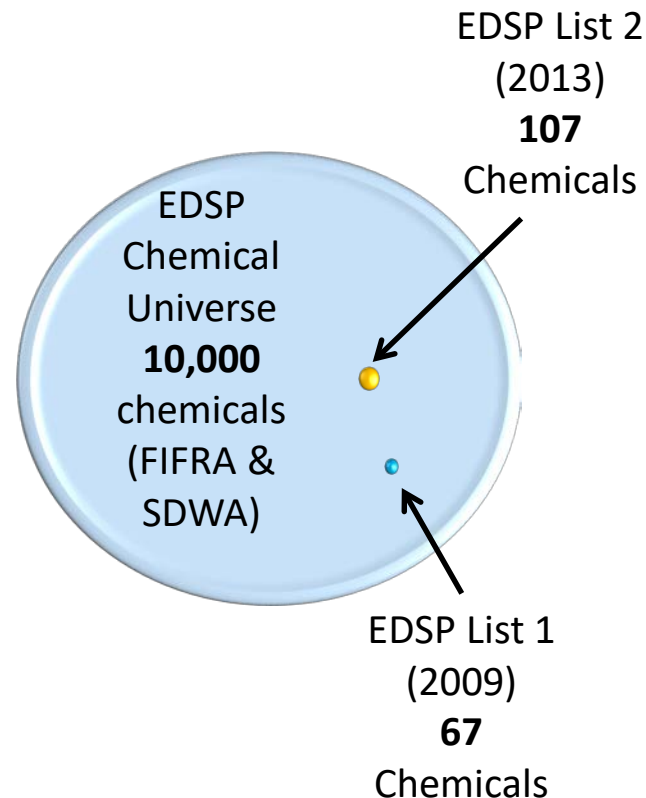


November 29, 2014

# Scale of the Problem

- Park *et al.* (2012): At least 3221 chemicals in humans, many appear to be exogenous

Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP) Chemical List	Number of Compounds
Conventional Active Ingredients	838
Antimicrobial Active Ingredients	324
Biological Pesticide Active Ingredients	287
Non Food Use Inert Ingredients	2,211
Food Use Inert Ingredients	1,536
Fragrances used as Inert Ingredients	1,529
Safe Drinking Water Act Chemicals	3,616
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,341</b>



So far 67 chemicals have completed testing and an additional 107 are being tested

# New NAS Report

## Using 21st Century Science to Improve Risk-Related Evaluations

*The National Academies of*  
SCIENCES • ENGINEERING • MEDICINE

THE NATIONAL ACADEMIES PRESS

*Washington, DC*

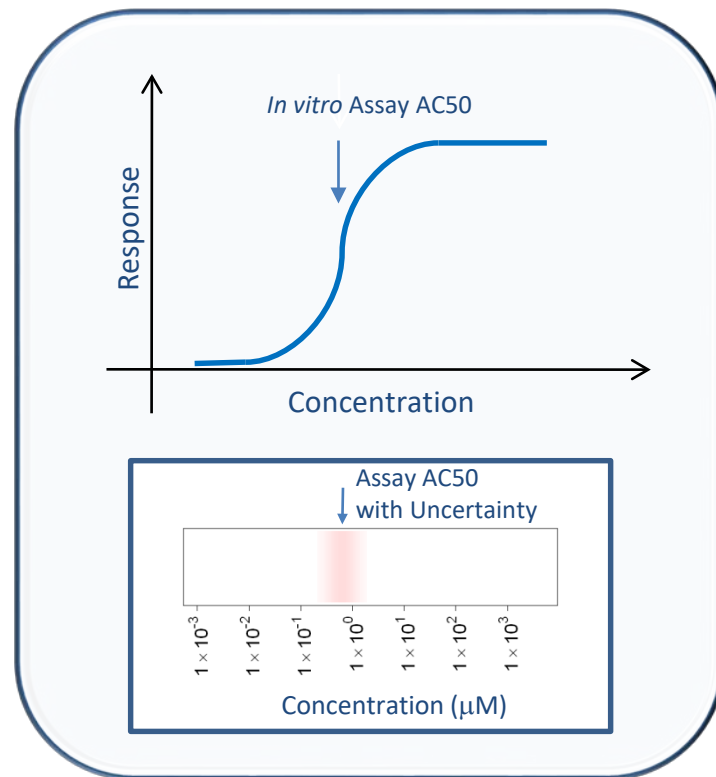
[www.nap.edu](http://www.nap.edu)

“Translation of high-throughput data into risk-based rankings is an important application of exposure data for chemical priority-setting. Recent advances in high-throughput toxicity assessment, notably the ToxCast and Tox21 programs (see Chapter 1), and in high-throughput computational exposure assessment (Wambaugh et al. 2013, 2014) have enabled first-tier risk-based rankings of chemicals on the basis of margins of exposure”

# High-Throughput Bioactivity Screening

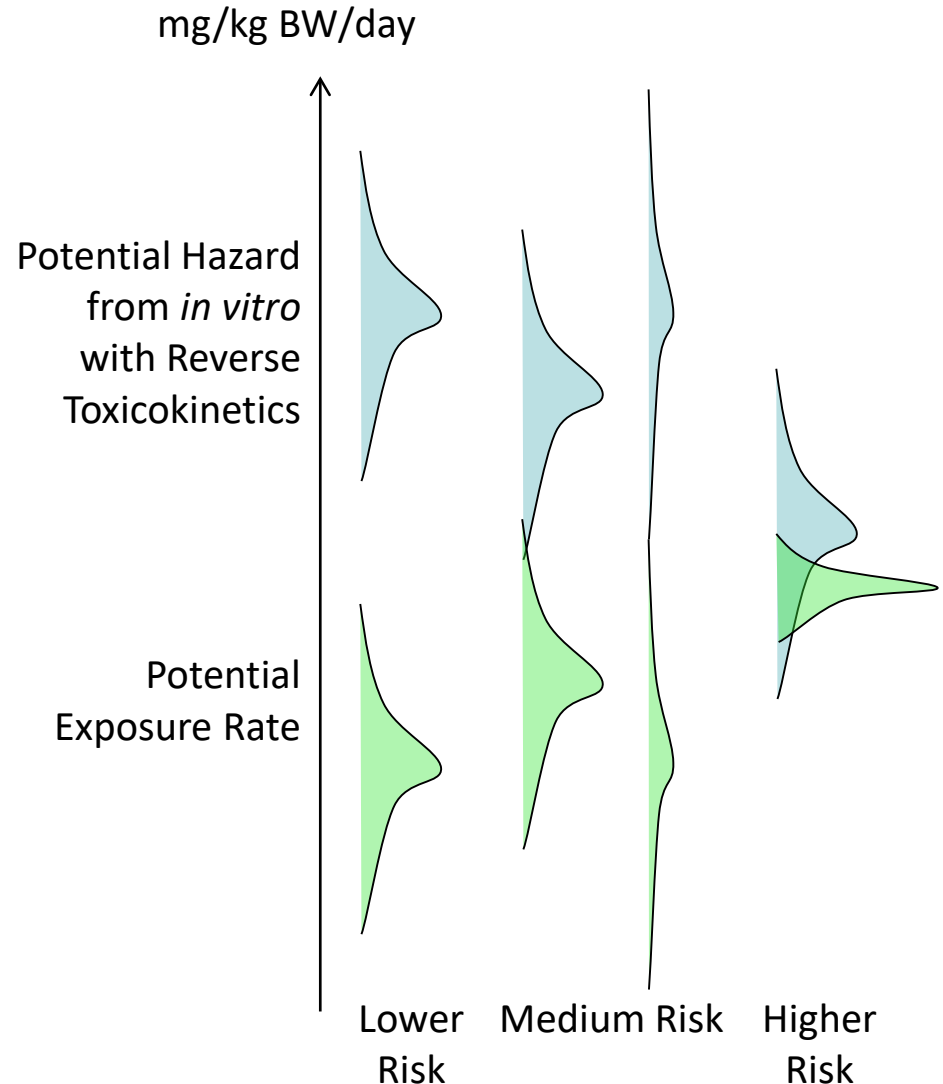


- **Tox21:** Examining >10,000 chemicals using ~50 assays intended to identify interactions with biological pathways (Schmidt, 2009)
- **ToxCast** : For a subset (>1000) of Tox21 chemicals ran >500 additional assays (Judson *et al.*, 2010)
- Most assays conducted in dose-response format (identify 50% activity concentration – AC50 – and efficacy if data described by a Hill function, Filer *et al.*, 2016)
- All data is public: <http://actor.epa.gov/>

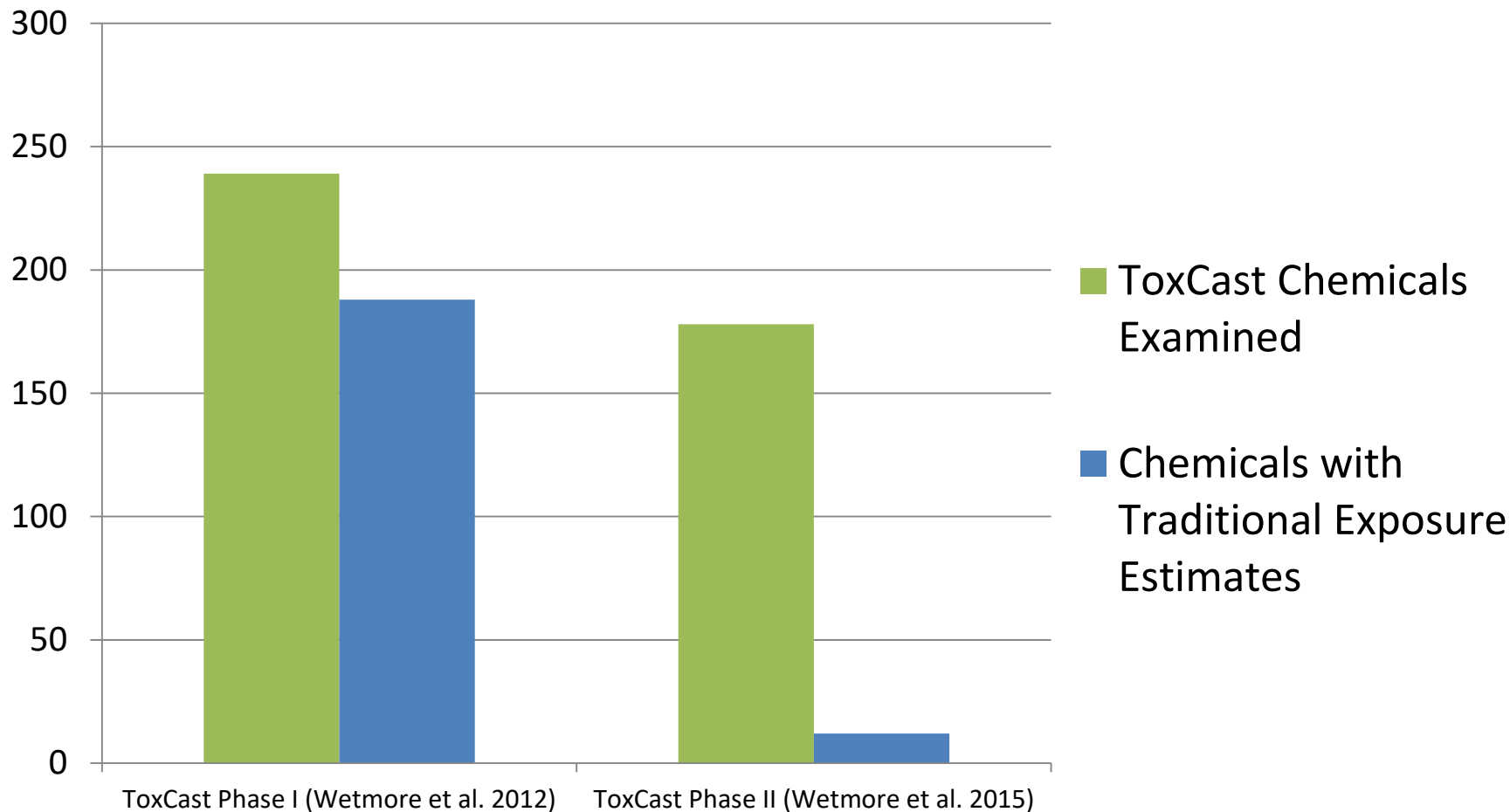


# High Throughput Risk Prioritization

- **High throughput risk prioritization** needs:
  1. high throughput **hazard** characterization (e.g., ToxCast, Tox21)
  2. high throughput **exposure** forecasts
  3. high throughput **toxicokinetics** (*i.e.*, dosimetry)

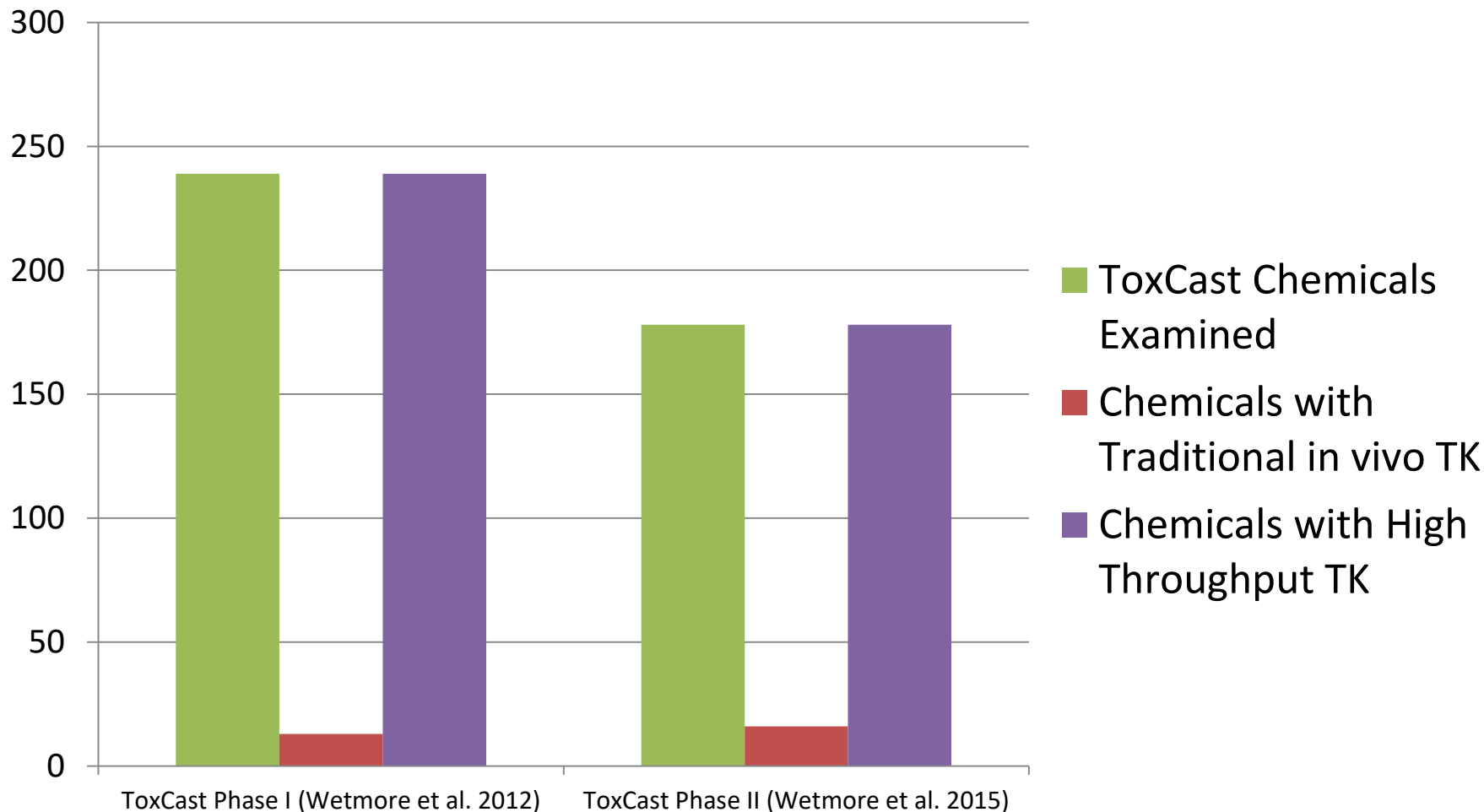


# Available Data for Exposure Estimations



- Egeghy et al. (2012) – Most chemicals lack exposure data
- We need high throughput exposure models

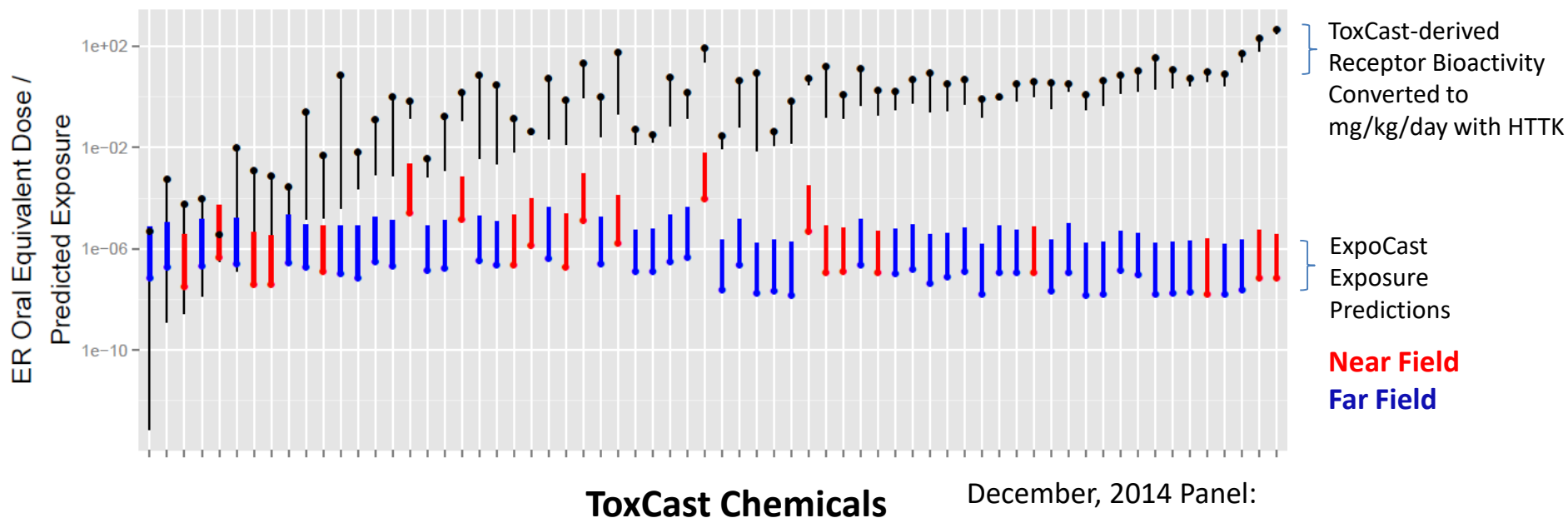
# The Need for *In Vitro* Toxicokinetics



- We need high throughput toxicokinetics (HTTK)
- Studies like Wetmore et al. (2012,2015), address the need for TK data using *in vitro* methods



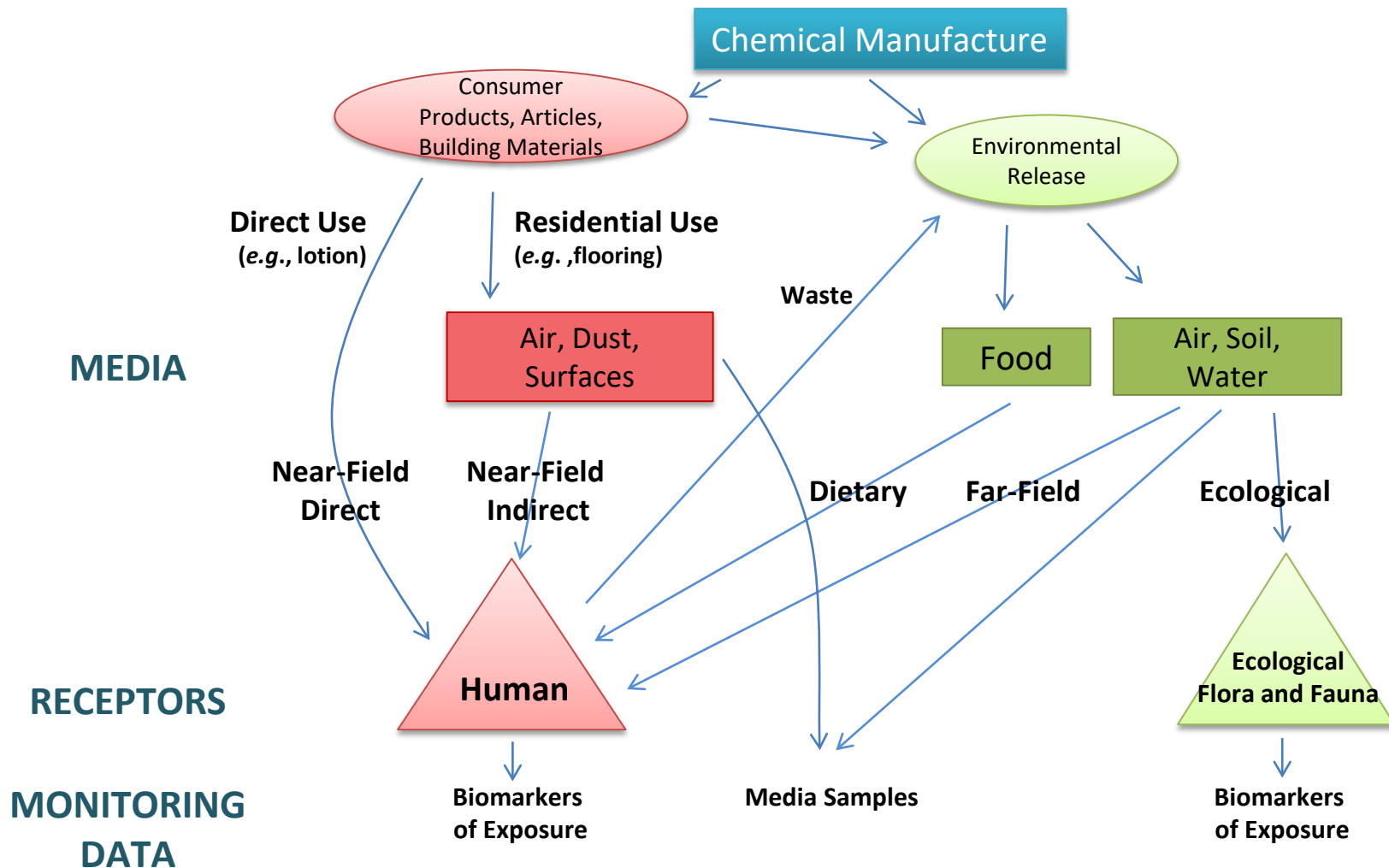
# High Throughput Risk Prioritization in Practice



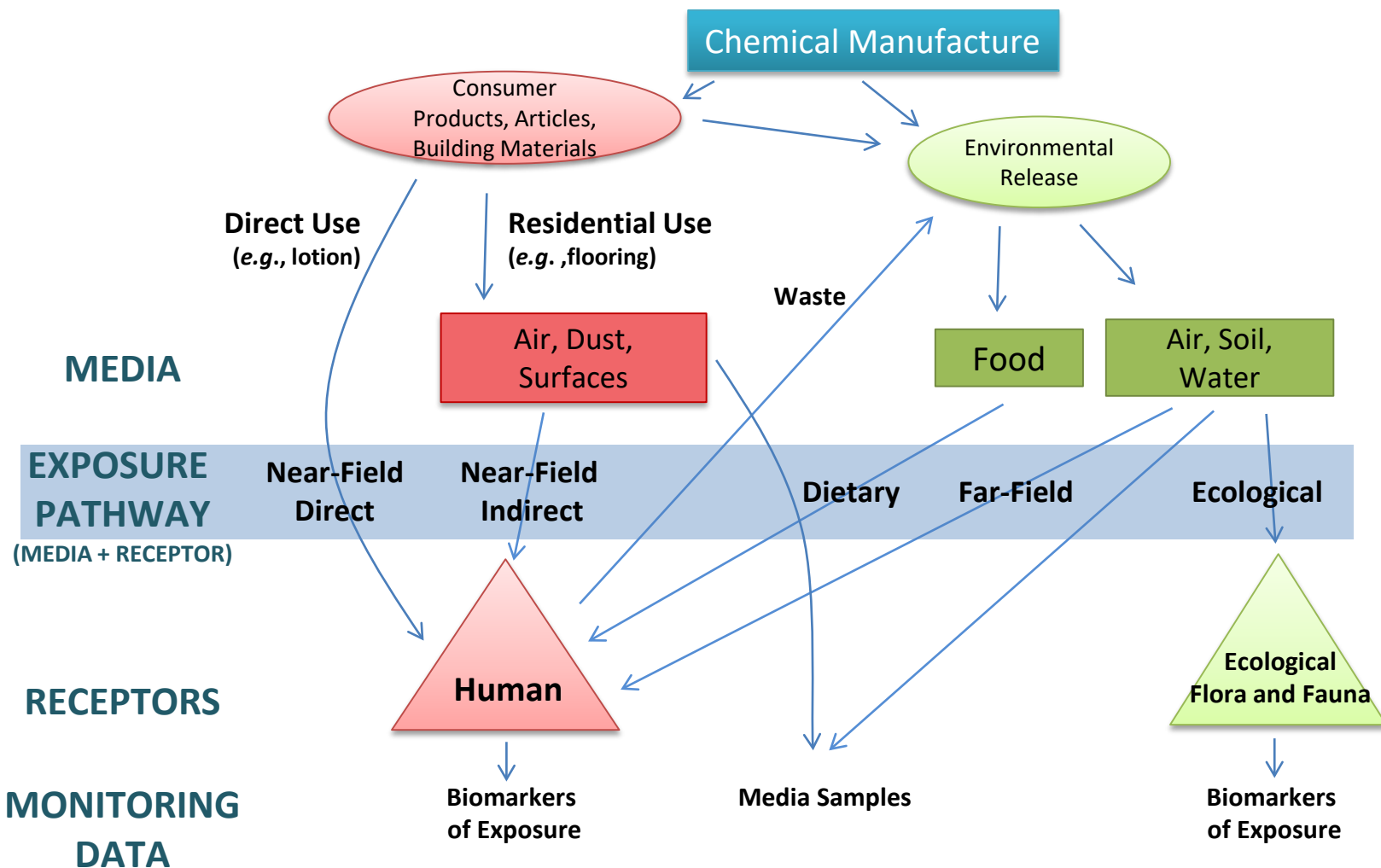
December, 2014 Panel:  
“Scientific Issues Associated with Integrated  
Endocrine Bioactivity and Exposure-Based  
Prioritization and Screening”

- July and December EPA FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panels reviewed ExpoCast research as it applies to the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program

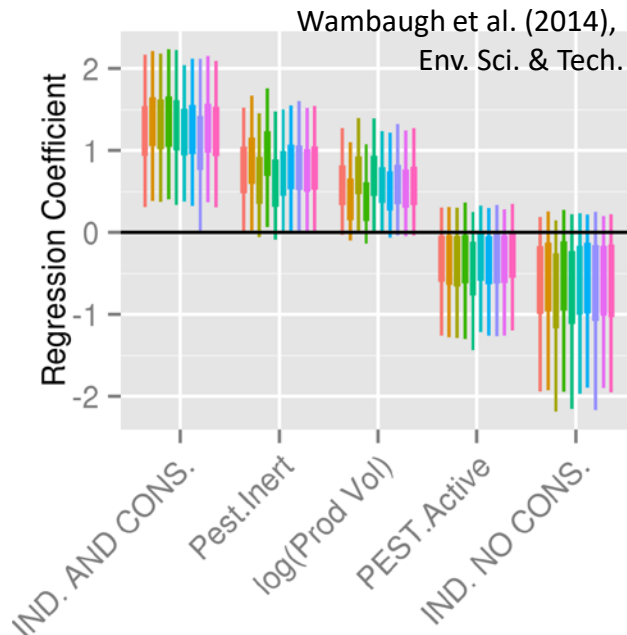
# Thinking About Exposure



# Exposure Pathways



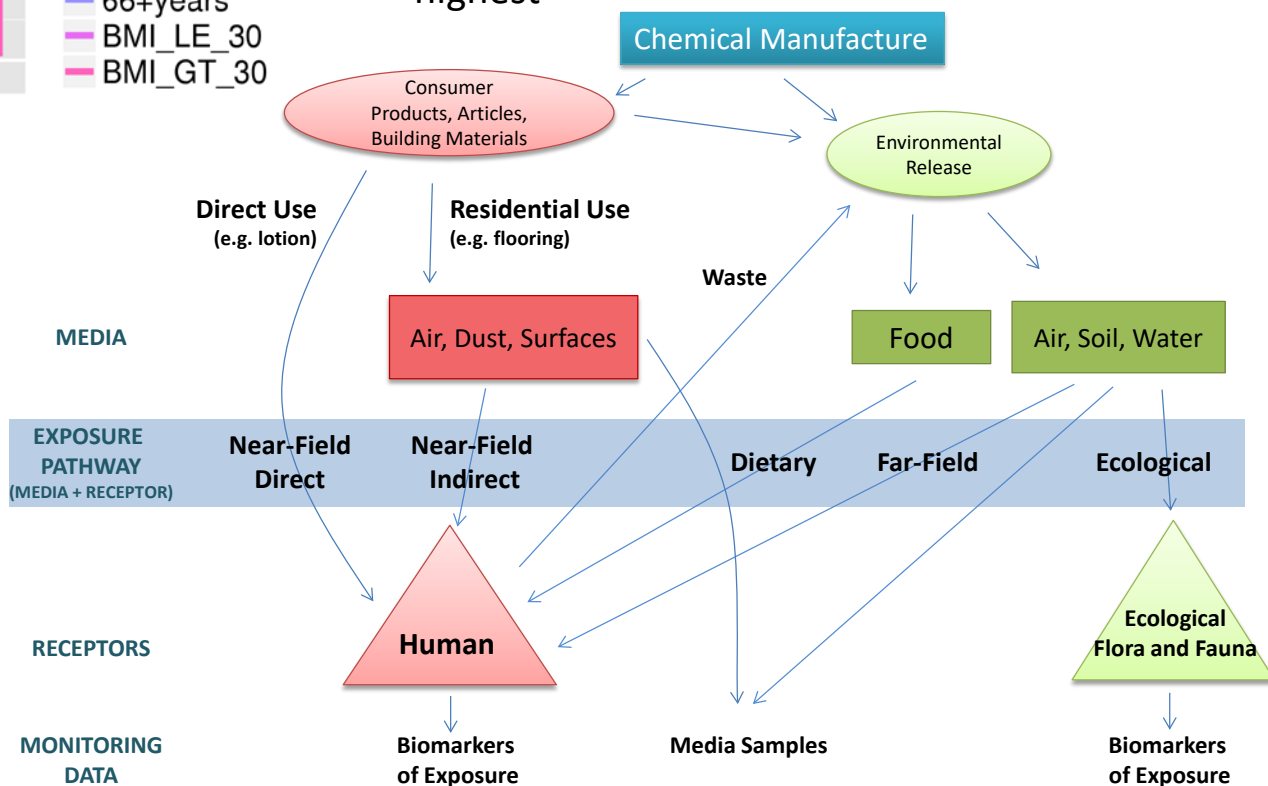
# Chemical Use Identifies Relevant Pathways



...and some pathways have much higher average exposures!

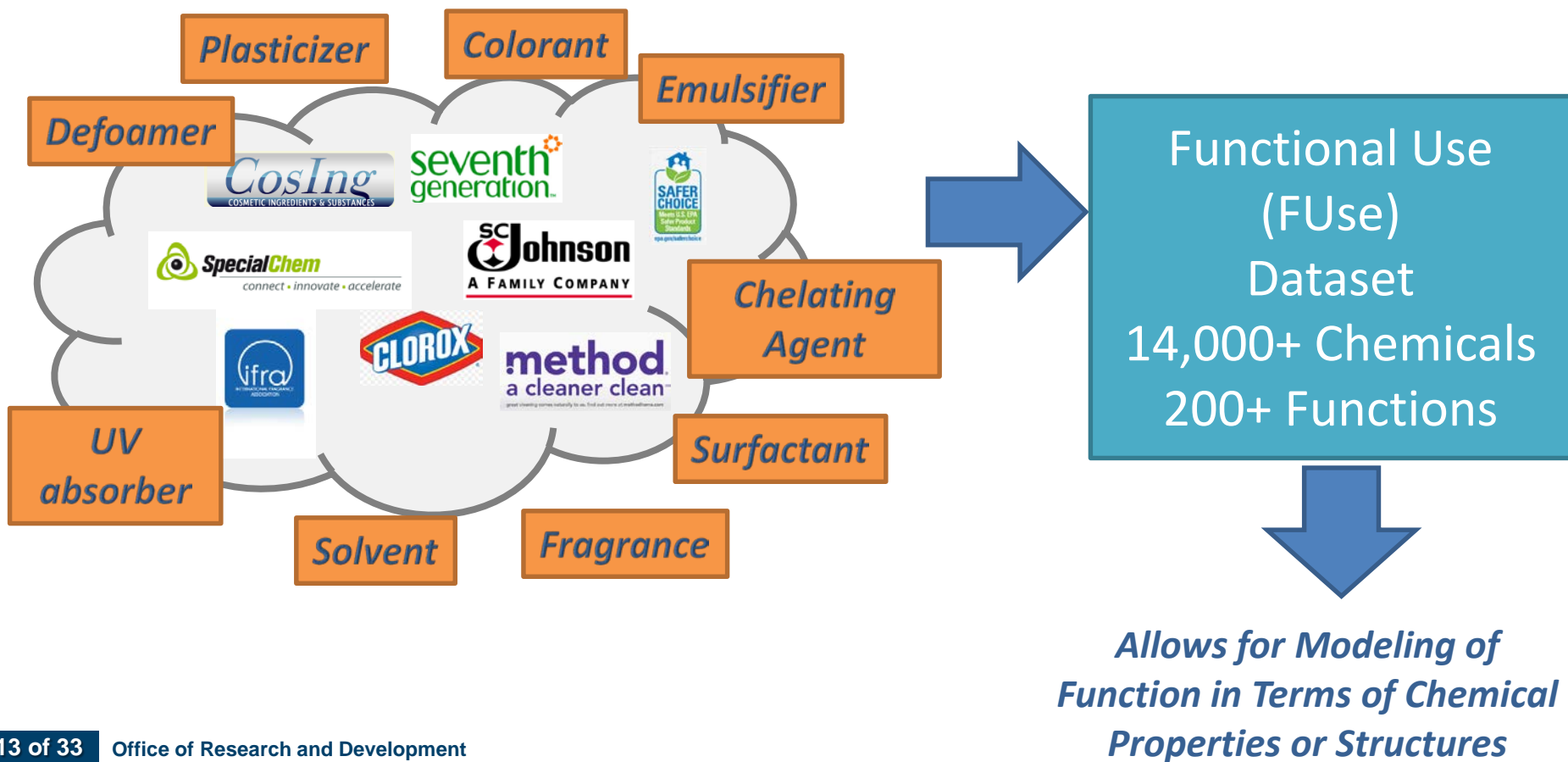
In particular, NHANES biomonitoring indicates exposures to consumer product chemicals are highest

SHEDS-HT (High Throughput Stochastic Human Exposure Dose Simulation Model) simulates human exposure in the indoor environment (Isaacs et al. (2014), Env. Sci. & Tech.)



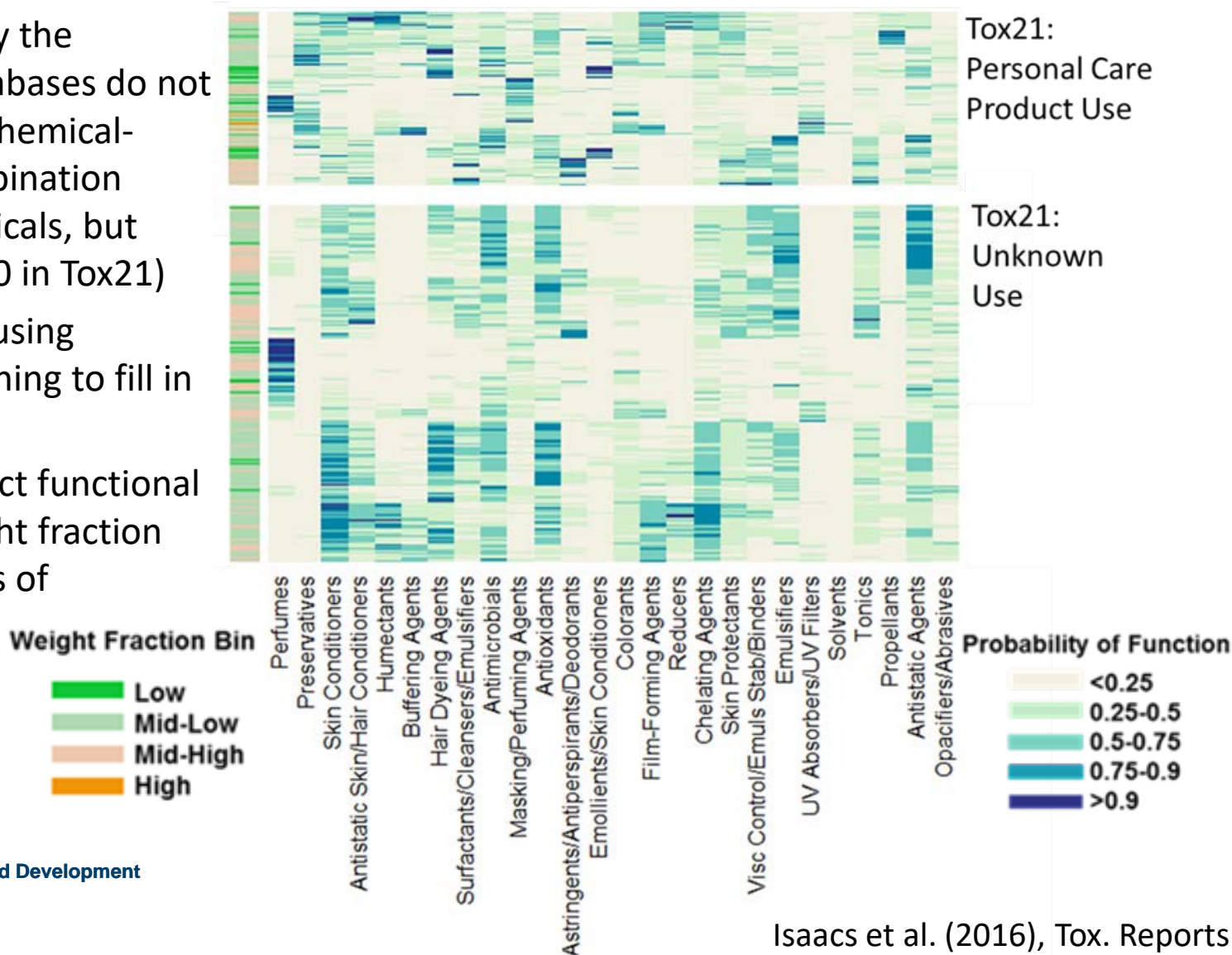
# Databases and Models for Predicting Function of Chemicals

>2000 chemicals with Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) in CPCPdb (Goldsmith *et al.* (2014), Food Chem. Tox.)



# Predicting Whether Chemicals Are in Consumer Products

- Unfortunately the available databases do not cover every chemical-product combination (~2000 chemicals, but already >8000 in Tox21)
- We are now using machine learning to fill in the rest
- We can predict functional use and weight fraction for thousands of chemicals



# Obtaining New Data

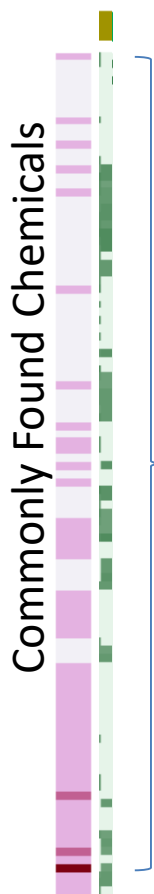
- Emphasis on suspect screening and non-targeted analysis mass spectrometry
- Ongoing ExpoCast contract consumer product scanning and blood sample monitoring
- EPA has developed significant in house capabilities
  - Published on analysis of house dust from American homes – can identify many of the most prevalent chemicals but only 2% overall, *Rager et al. (2016)*
- EPA is coordinating a comparison of non-targeted screening workflows used by leading academic and government groups using known chemical mixtures (ToxCast) and standardized environmental/biological samples (led by Jon Sobus and Elin Ulrich)



*"I'm searching for my keys."*



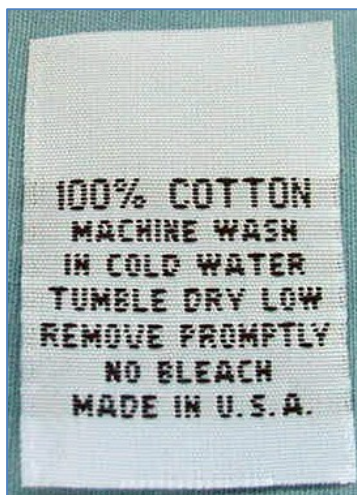
# ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan



Scanned 5 examples each of 20 class of consumer products

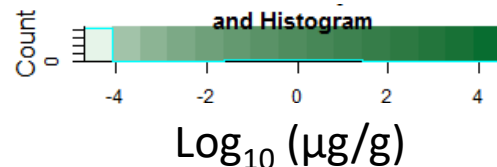
Found >3500 chemicals in total across the 100 products

The chemicals found in a cotton shirt



GC-MS with DCM Extraction

Common Chemical (n>19)  
ToxCast  
Flame Retardant  
Potent ER



Air freshener  
Baby soap  
Carpet  
Carpet padding  
Cereals  
Cotton clothing  
Deodorant  
Fabric upholstery  
Glass cleaners  
Hand soap  
Indoor house paint  
Lipstick  
Plastic children's toys  
Shampoo  
Shaving cream  
Shower curtain  
Skin lotion  
Sunscreen  
Toothpaste  
Vinyl upholstery

Phillips et al. (in preparation)



# ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan

Commonly Found Chemicals

Scanned 5 examples each of 20 class of consumer products

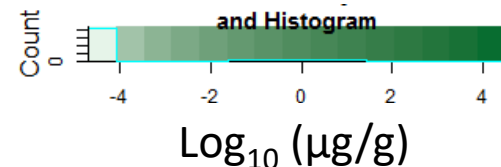
Found >3500 chemicals in total across the 100 products

**Dark green** is a high concentration

**Light green** is not detected

GC-MS with DCM Extraction

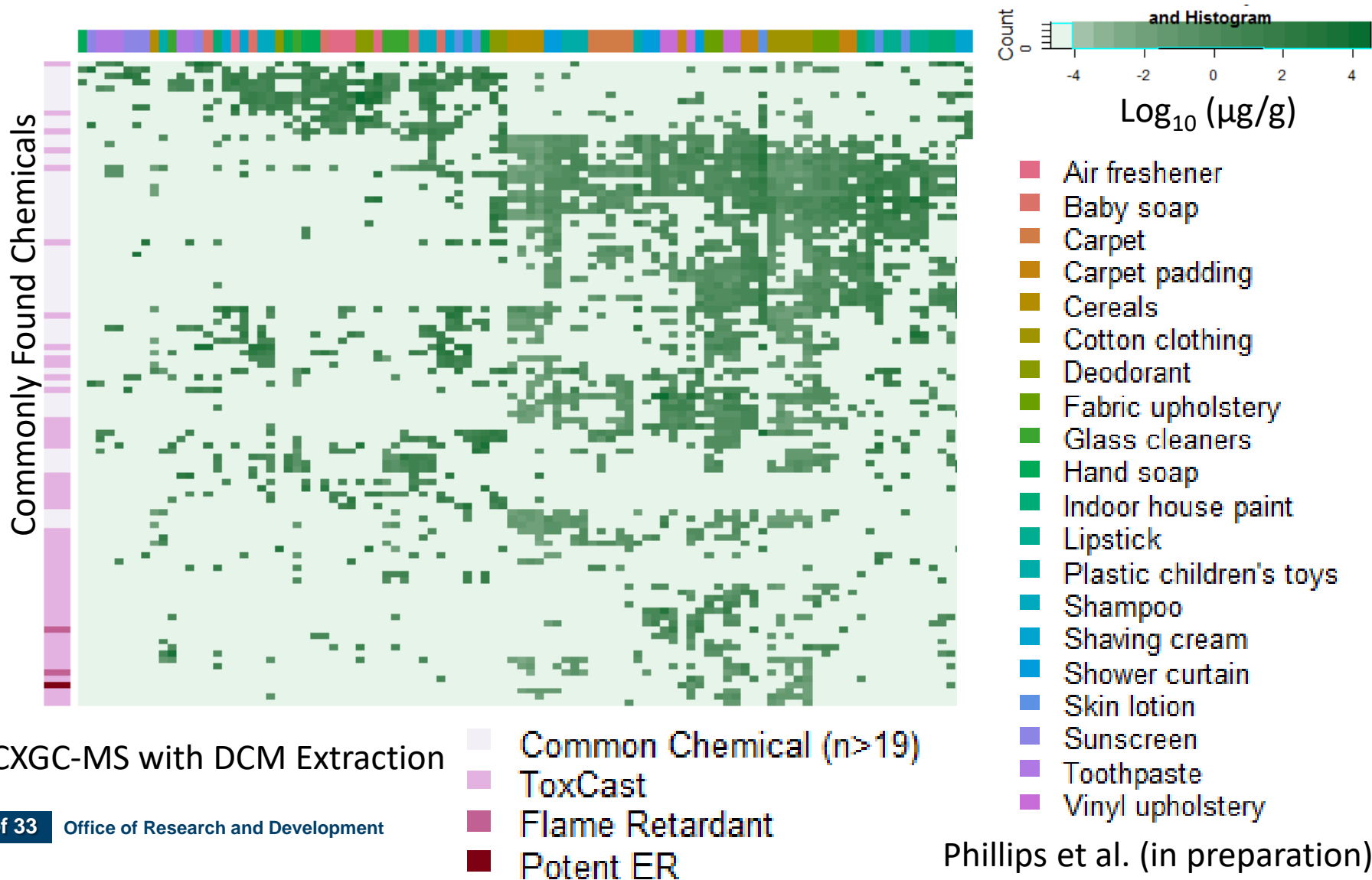
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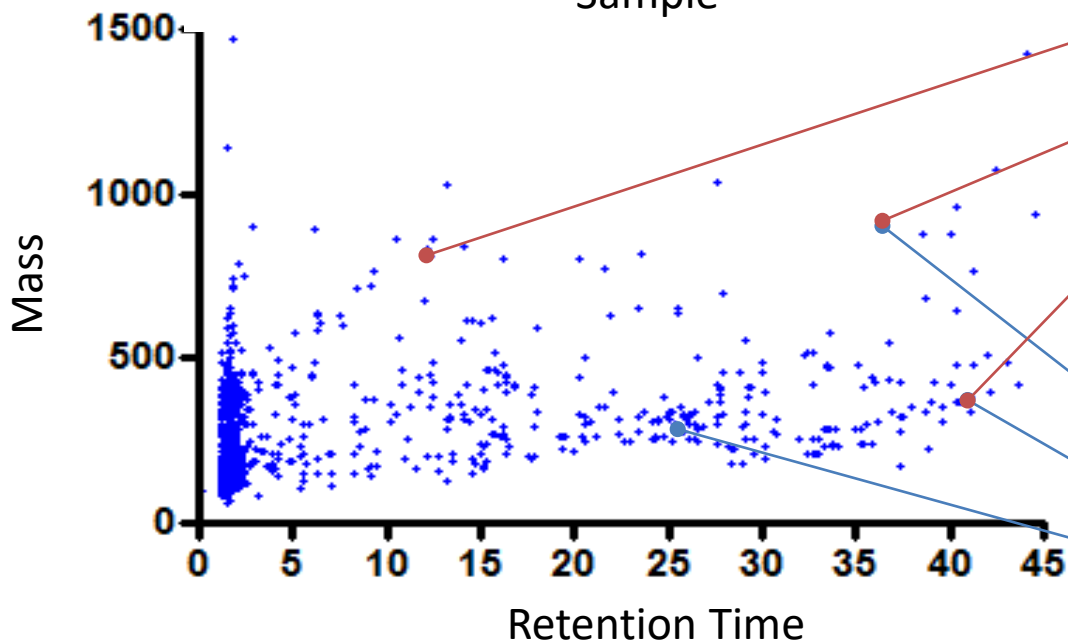
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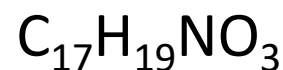
Phillips et al. (in preparation)

# Suspect Screening and Non-Targeted Analytical Chemistry

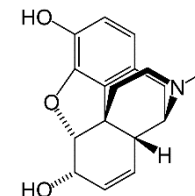
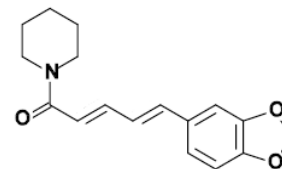
947 Peaks in an American Health Homes Dust Sample



Each peak corresponds to a chemical with an accurate mass and predicted formula:



Multiple chemicals can have the same mass and formula:



Is chemical A present, chemical B, both, or some other chemical (neither)?

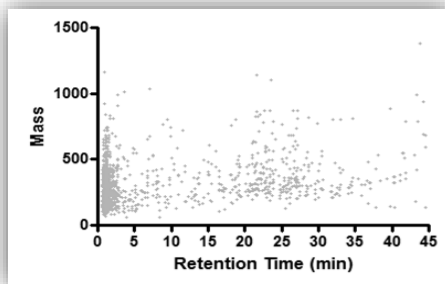
We are expanding our reference libraries using ToxCast chemicals to enable greater numbers and better accuracy of confirmed chemicals

# Application: HT Exposure “Forensics”

Environmental or  
Biological Sample



Molecular Features  
Identified by Non-  
Targeted Analyses



**New Forensic  
Analysis  
Tools/Models**

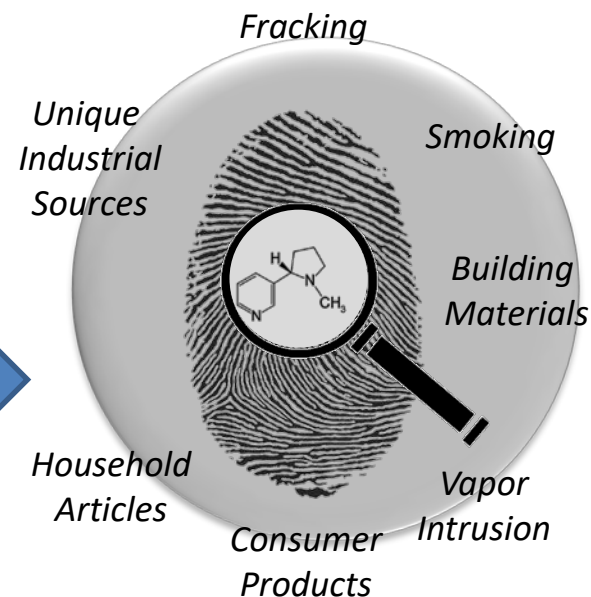
Chemical Use  
Databases

Data Mining  
and Machine  
Learning

Chemical  
Structure  
Databases

Analyzed  
Sample Archives

Mass Spectra  
Databases



**What sources  
are present?**

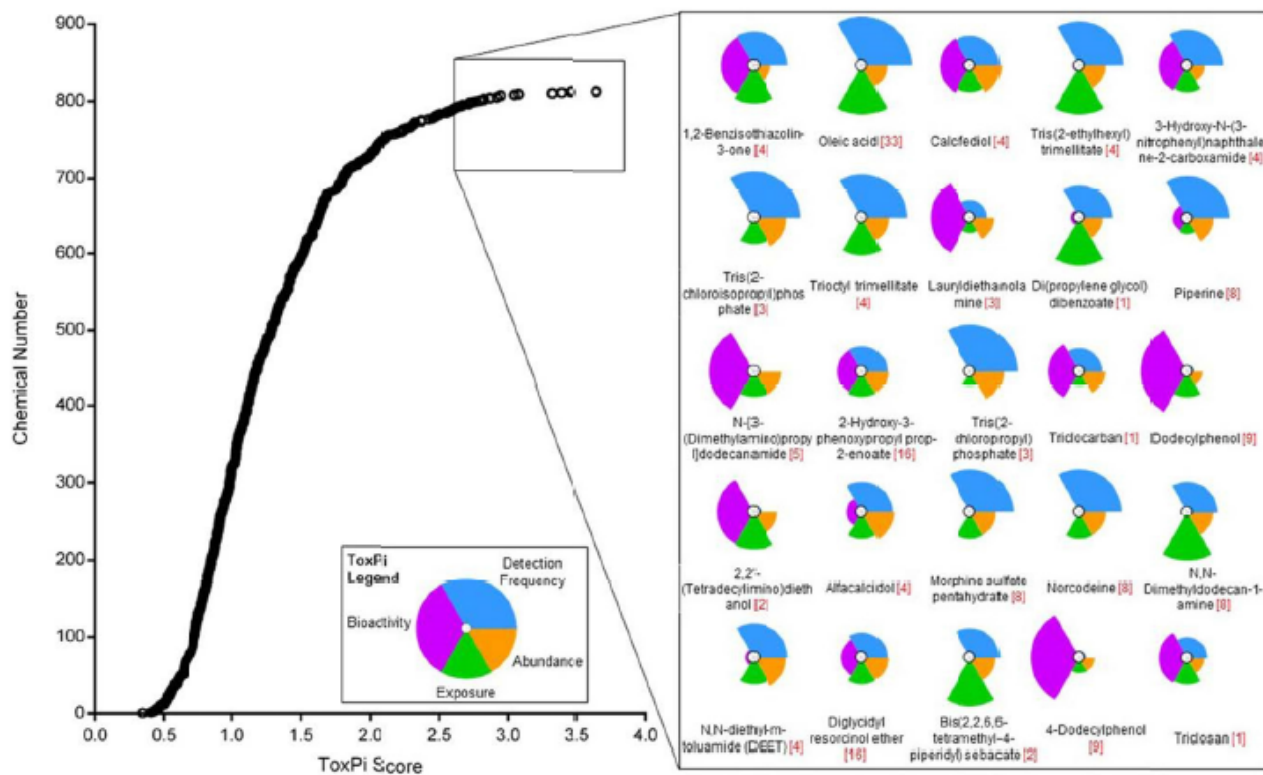
**What chemicals  
comprise the source  
fingerprint?**

**Can we identify new  
sources?**

Figure from Kristin Isaacs

# Exposure-Based Screening and Priority-Setting

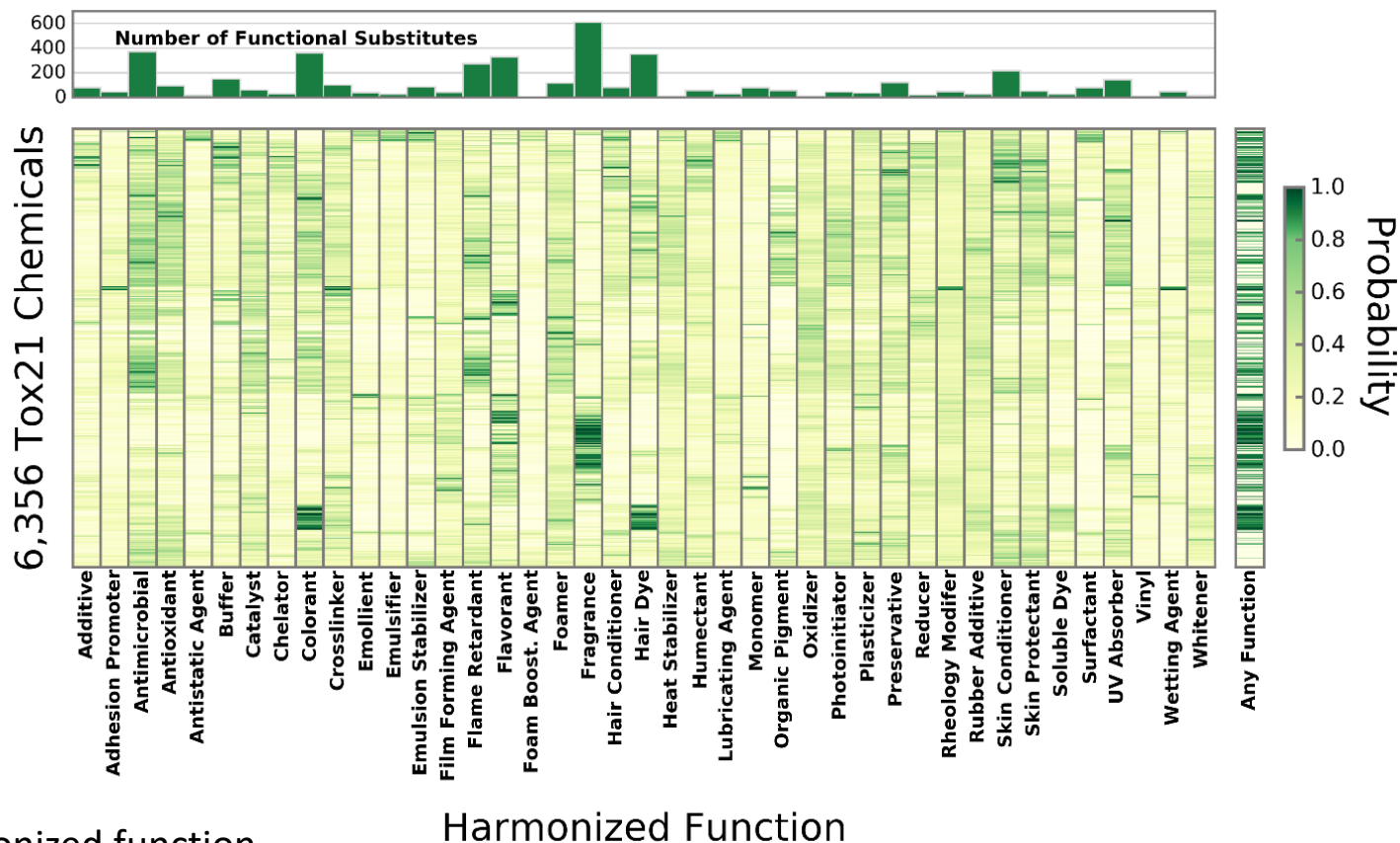
Using 21st Century Science to  
Improve Risk-Related Evaluations



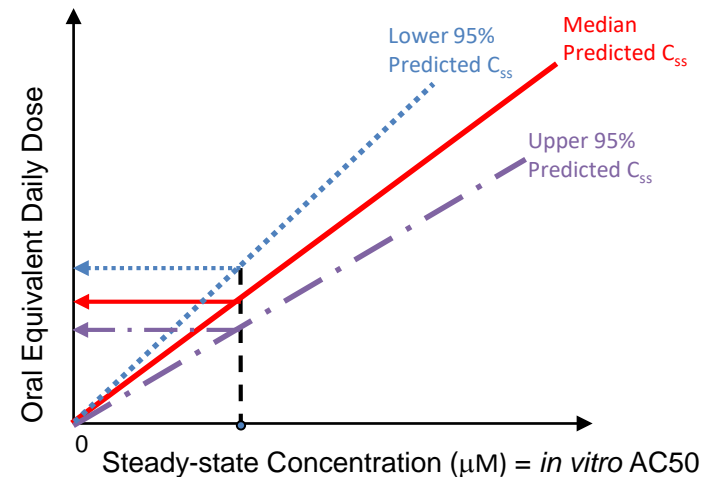
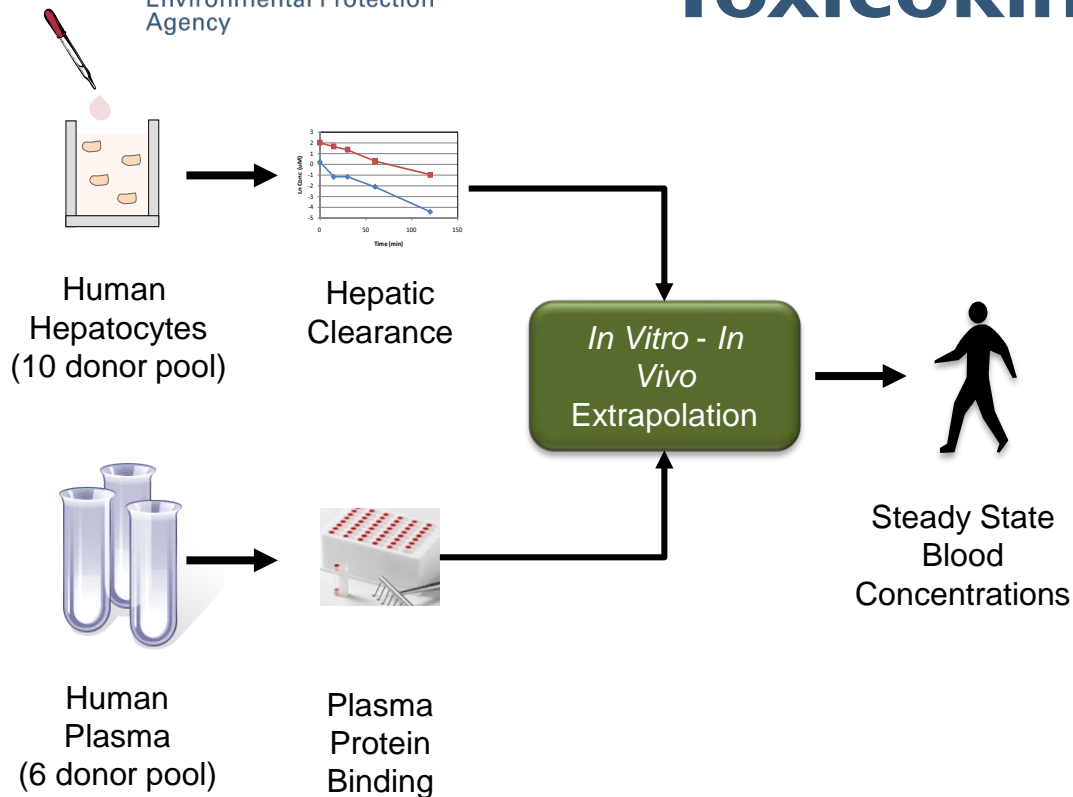
**FIGURE 2-7** Data from nontargeted and targeted analysis of dust samples were used with toxicity data to rank chemicals for further analysis and testing. Source: Rager et al. 2016. Reprinted with permission; copyright 2016, *Environment International*.

# Hazard and Functional Use Prediction Allows Searches for Chemical Alternatives

- Some chemicals with may have alternative uses and lesser bioactivity
- Dark green indicates a high probability of a chemical having a function
- The histogram above, indicates how many high-probability predictions were made for each harmonized function

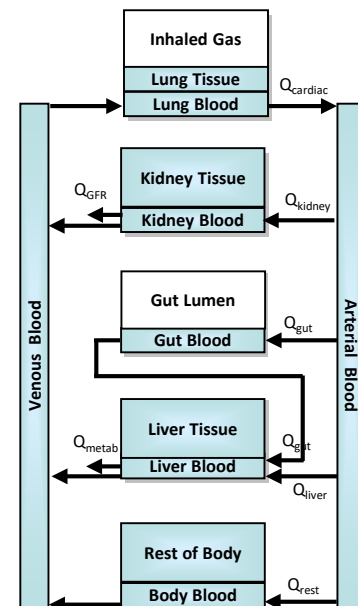


# High-Throughput Toxicokinetics



543 chemicals published to date  
“httk” R Package publicly available

Open source *In Vitro-In Vivo*  
Extrapolation and Physiological-  
based Toxicokinetics (PBTK)



# *In Vitro* - *In Vivo* Extrapolation (IVIVE)

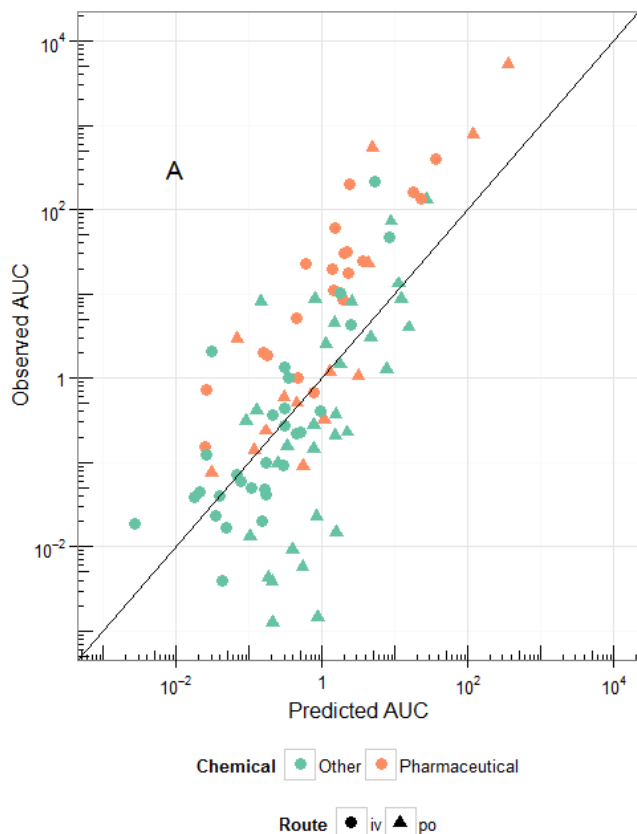
## Definition:

IVIVE is the utilization of *in vitro* experimental data to predict phenomena *in vivo*

- IVIVE-PK/TK (Pharmacokinetics/Toxicokinetics):
  - Fate of molecules/chemicals in body
  - Considers absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion (ADME)
  - Uses empirical PK and physiologically-based (PBPK) modeling
- IVIVE-PD/TD (Pharmacodynamics/Toxicodynamics):
  - Effect of molecules/chemicals at biological target *in vivo*
  - Assay design/selection important
  - Perturbation as adverse/therapeutic effect, reversible/ irreversible
- Both contribute to predict *in vivo* effects



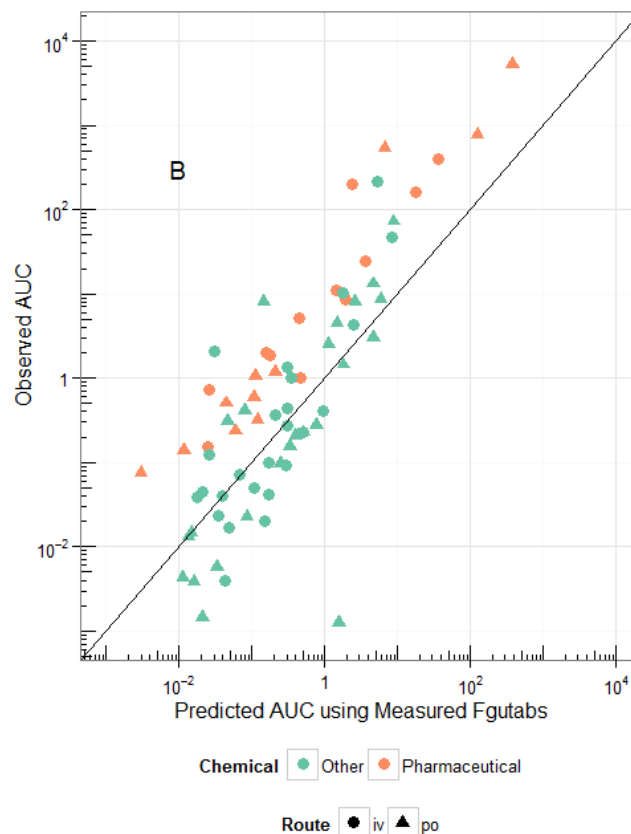
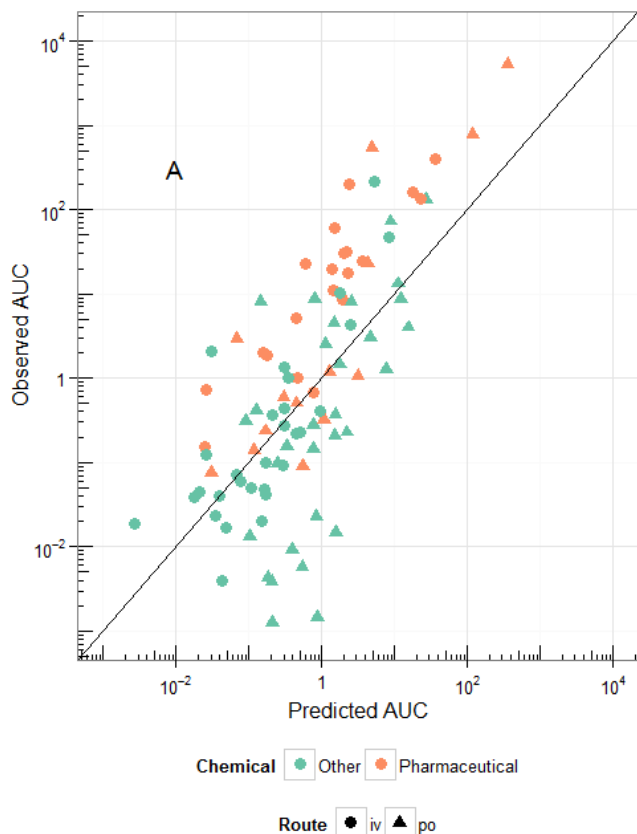
# Evaluating *In Vitro* HTKK Predictions with *In Vivo* Data



- Collected *in vitro* HTKK data for rat
- Conducted *in vivo* rat TK studies on 26 ToxCast compounds in rat
- Supplemented with published rat *in vivo* TK data (mostly pharmaceuticals)
- Can estimate
  - Fraction absorbed
  - Absorption Rate
  - Elimination Rate
  - Volume of Distribution

with Mike Hughes, Jane-Ellen Simmons, Carolin Ring, Tim Fennell (RTI, and Rusty Thomas

# Evaluating *In Vitro* HTKK Predictions with *In Vivo* Data

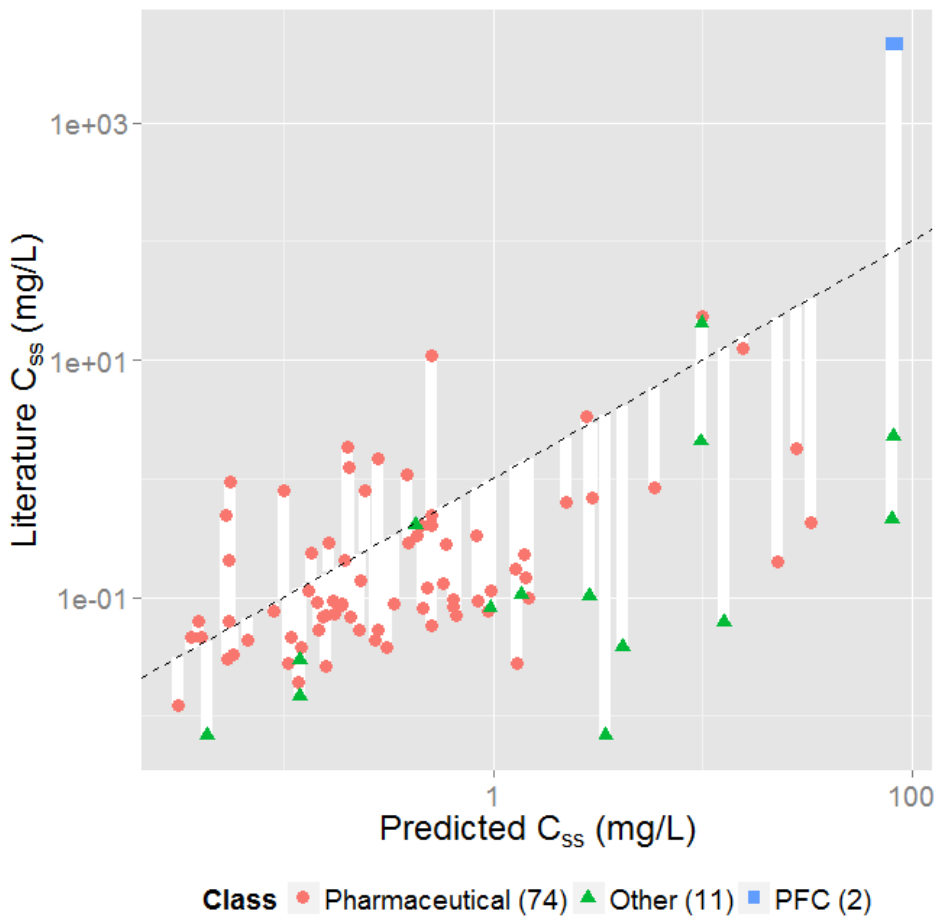


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**Now measuring bioavailability (CACO2) for all HTKK chemicals**

with Mike Hughes, Jane-Ellen Simmons, Carolin Ring, Tim Fennell (RTI, and Rusty Thomas

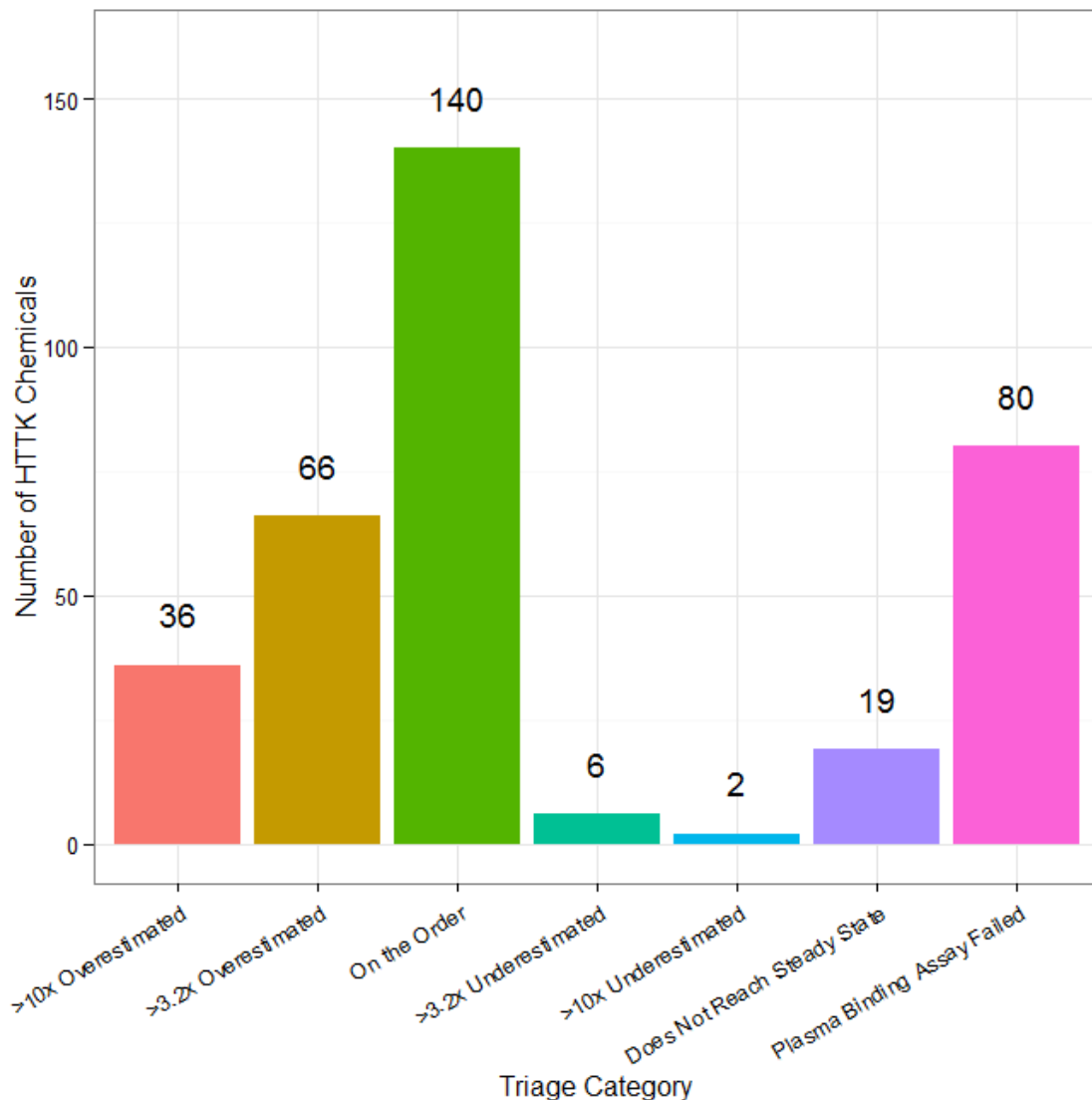
# Using *in vivo* Data to Evaluate RTK



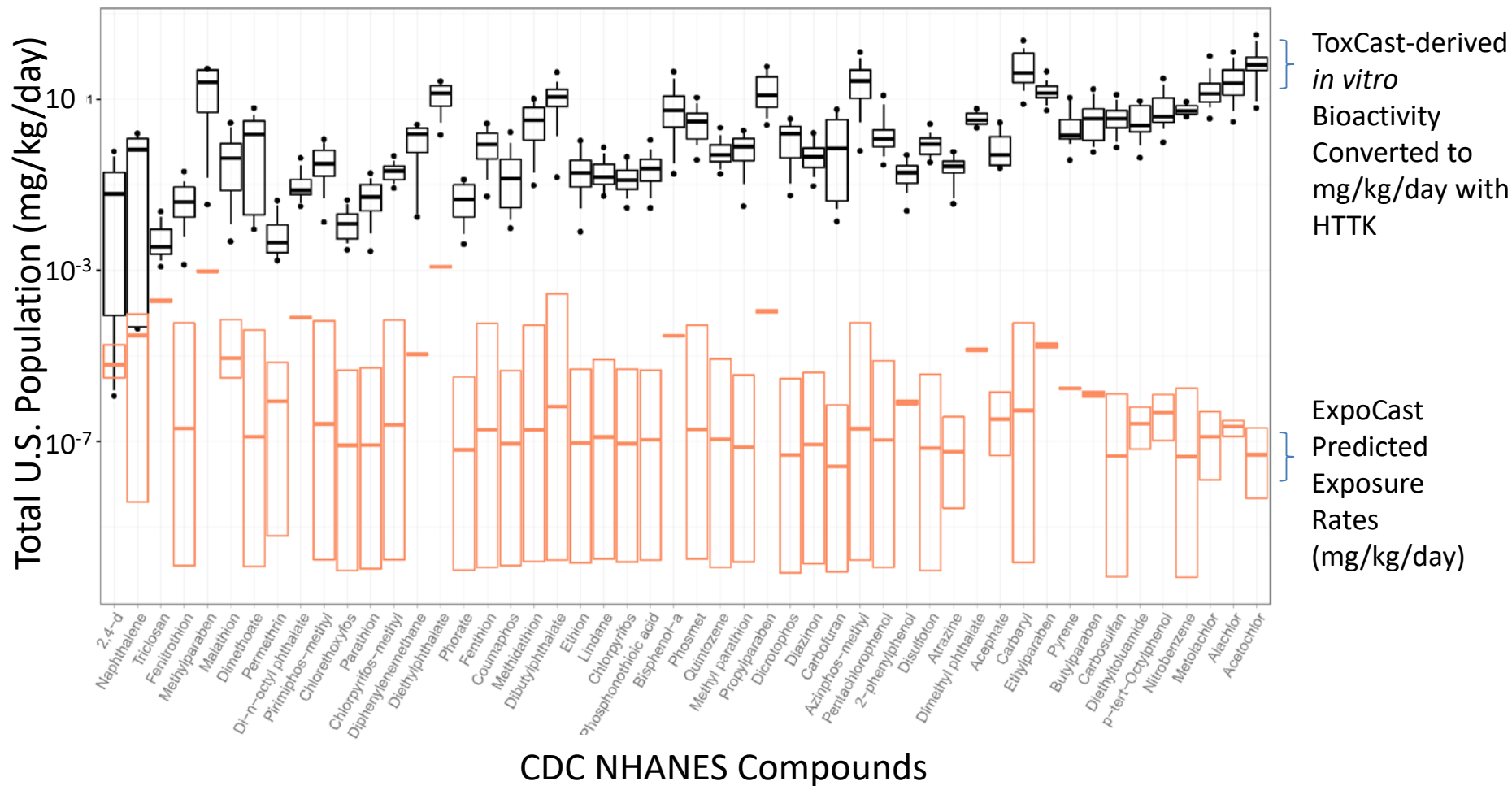
- When we compare the steady-state concentrations ( $C_{ss}$ ) predicted from *in vitro* HTTK with *in vivo*  $C_{ss}$  values determined from the literature we find limited correlation ( $R^2 \sim 0.34$ )
- The dashed line indicates the identity (perfect predictor) line:
  - Over-predict for 65
  - Under-predict for 22
- The white lines indicate the discrepancy between measured and predicted values (the residual)

# Toxicokinetic Triage

- Through comparison to *in vivo* data, a cross-validated (random forest) predictor of success or failure of HTTK has been constructed
- Add categories for chemicals that do not reach steady-state or for which plasma binding assay fails
- All chemicals can be placed into one of seven confidence categories



# High Throughput Risk Prioritization in Practice



# Monte Carlo Population simulator for HHTK

*Sample* NHANES  
quantities

Sex  
Race/ethnicity  
Age  
Height  
Weight  
Serum creatinine



*Predict*  
physiological  
quantities

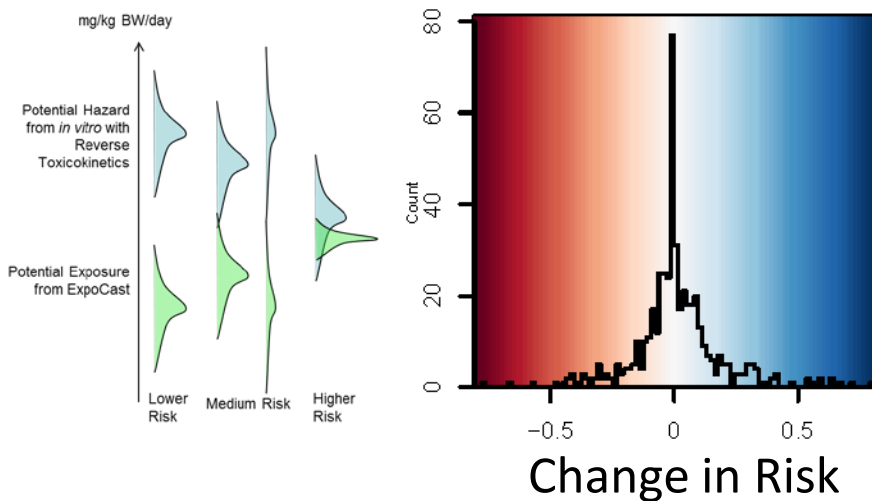
Tissue masses  
Tissue blood flows  
GFR (kidney  
function)  
Hepatocellularity

Correlated sampling of  
physiological model  
parameters

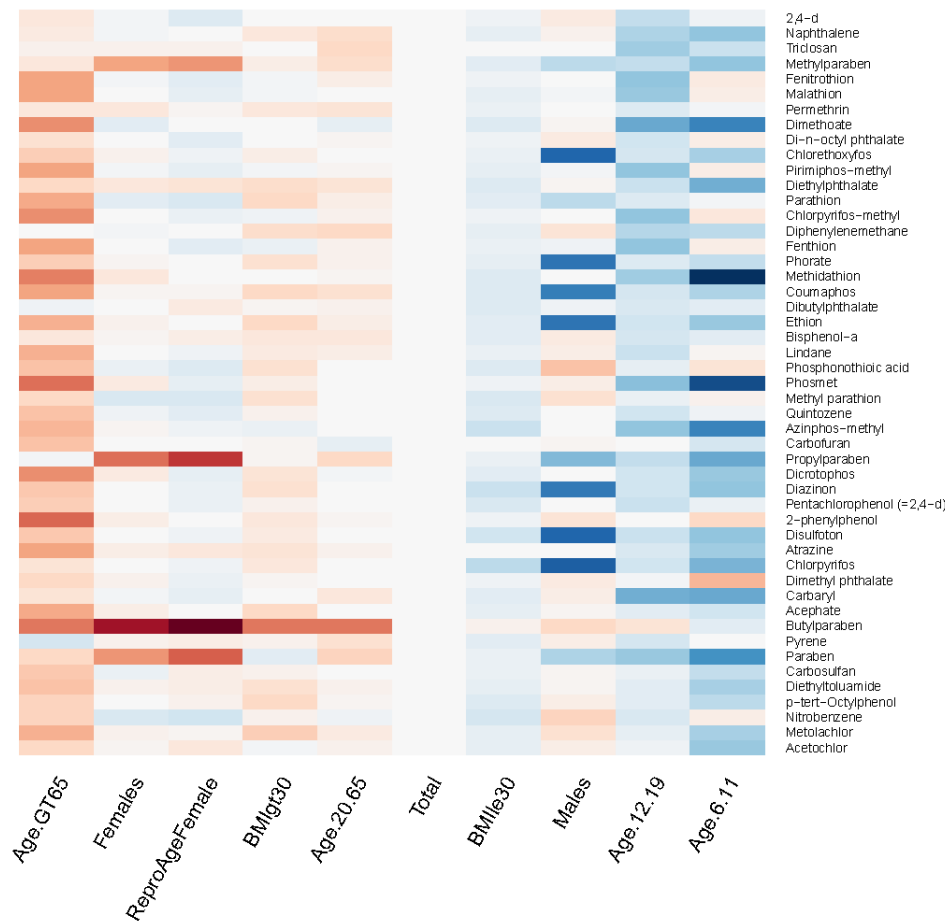
Ring *et al.*, submitted

# Life-stage and Demographic Specific Predictions

- Wambaugh *et al.* (2014) predictions of exposure rate (mg/kg/day) for various demographic groups
- Can use HTTK to calculate margin between bioactivity and exposure for specific populations

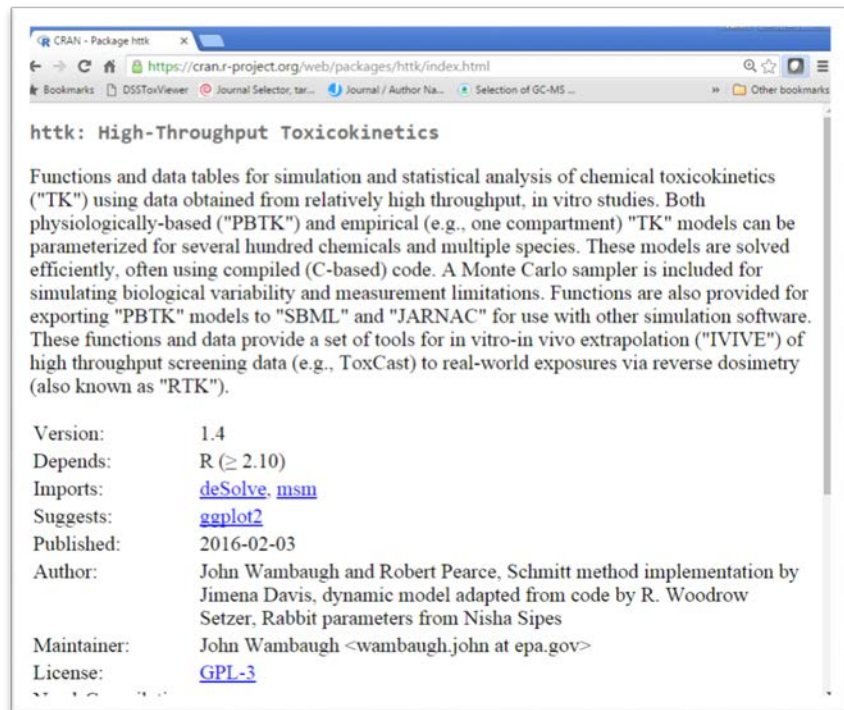


## Change in Activity:Exposure Ratio



# httk: An Public, Open Source Tool

Old versions are archived



CRAN - Package httk

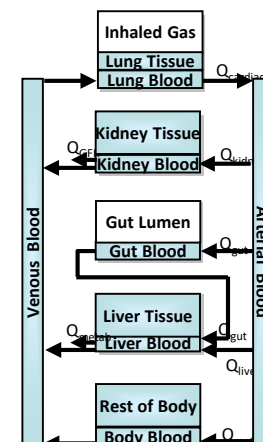
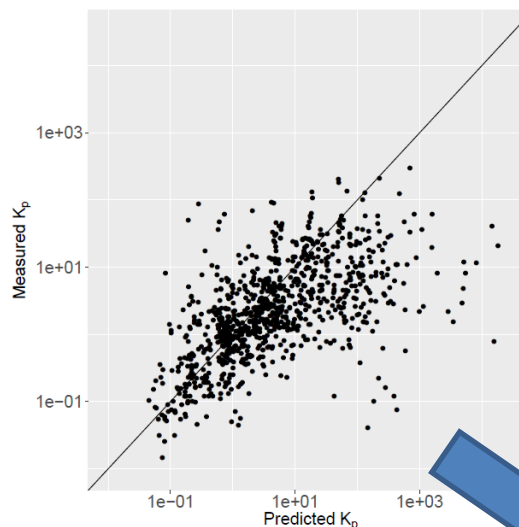
<https://cran.r-project.org/web/packages/httk/index.html>

Bookmarks: DSSToxViewer, Journal Selector, tar..., Journal / Author Na..., Selection of GC-MS ...

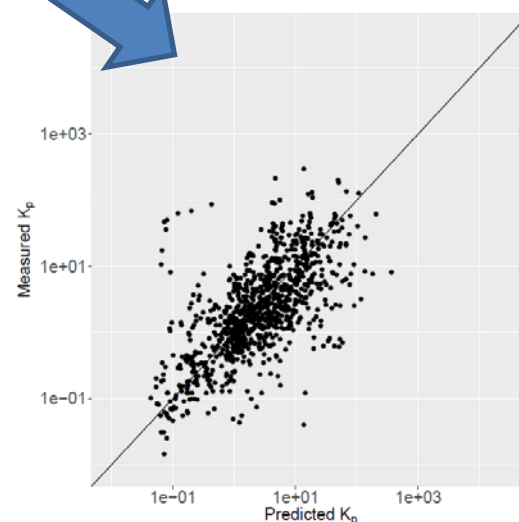
**httk: High-Throughput Toxicokinetics**

Functions and data tables for simulation and statistical analysis of chemical toxicokinetics ("TK") using data obtained from relatively high throughput, in vitro studies. Both physiologically-based ("PBTk") and empirical (e.g., one compartment) "TK" models can be parameterized for several hundred chemicals and multiple species. These models are solved efficiently, often using compiled (C-based) code. A Monte Carlo sampler is included for simulating biological variability and measurement limitations. Functions are also provided for exporting "PBTk" models to "SBML" and "JARNAC" for use with other simulation software. These functions and data provide a set of tools for in vitro-in vivo extrapolation ("IVIVE") of high throughput screening data (e.g., ToxCast) to real-world exposures via reverse dosimetry (also known as "RTK").

Version: 1.4  
Depends: R ( $\geq 2.10$ )  
Imports: [deSolve](#), [msm](#)  
Suggests: [ggplot2](#)  
Published: 2016-02-03  
Author: John Wambaugh and Robert Pearce, Schmitt method implementation by Jimena Davis, dynamic model adapted from code by R. Woodrow Setzer, Rabbit parameters from Nisha Sipes  
Maintainer: John Wambaugh <wambaugh.john at epa.gov>  
License: [GPL-3](#)



Ongoing refinements:  
High log P, ionization  
(Pearce et al., in preparation)



- "httk" R Package for reverse dosimetry and PBTk
- 543 Chemicals to date
- 100's of additional chemicals being studied
- Pearce *et al.* package documentation manuscript accepted at Journal of Statistical Software



# Conclusion

- We would like to know more about the risk posed by thousands of chemicals in the environment – which are most worthy of further study?
  - High throughput screening (HTS) provides a path forward for identifying potential hazard
  - Exposure and dosimetry provide real world context to hazards indicated by HTS
- Using *in vitro* methods developed for pharmaceuticals, we can relatively efficiently predict TK for large numbers of chemicals, but we are limited by analytical chemistry
- Using high throughput exposure approaches we can make coarse predictions of exposure
  - We are actively refining these predictions with new models and data
  - In some cases, upper confidence limit on current predictions is already many times lower than predicted hazard,

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. EPA



## Chemical Safety for Sustainability (CSS) Rapid Exposure and Dosimetry (RED) Project

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Risa Sayre\*  
Woody Setzer  
Rusty Thomas  
**John Wambaugh**  
Antony Williams

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Jane Ellen  
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### North Carolina Central University

### Research Triangle Institute

Timothy Fennell

### ScitoVation

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### Silent Spring Institute

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### Southwest Research Institute

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