



High Throughput Chemical Safety

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*STEM in the Park
Educator ExternTrip*

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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 Regulation in the United States

- Park *et al.* (2012): At least 3221 chemicals in pooled human blood samples, many appear to be exogenous
- A tapestry of laws covers the chemicals people are exposed to in the United States (Breyer, 2009)
- Different testing requirements exist for food additives, pharmaceuticals, and pesticide active ingredients (NRC, 2007)
- Most other chemicals, ranging from industrial waste to dyes to packing materials are covered by the recently updated Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
 - Thousands of chemicals on the market were either “grandfathered” in or were allowed without experimental assessment of hazard, toxicokinetics, or exposure
 - Thousands of new chemical use submissions are made to the EPA every year
 - **Methods are being developed to prioritize these existing and new chemicals for testing**

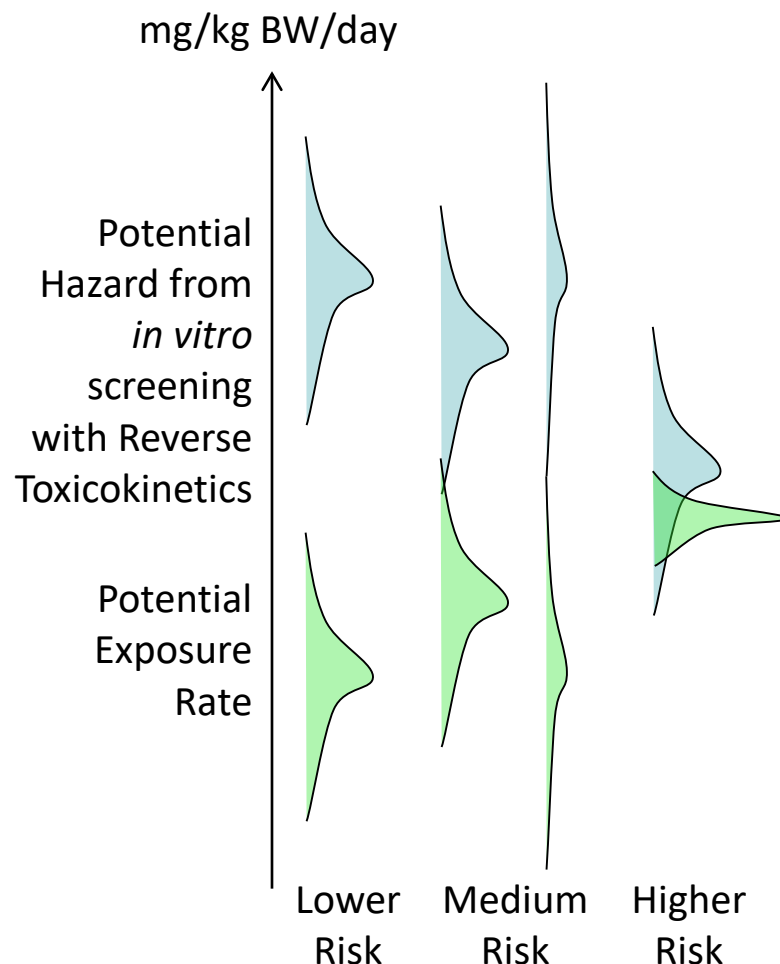


November 29, 2014

Chemical Risk = Hazard + Exposure



- “High Throughput” methods allow rapid assessment of potential hazard using “drug discovery” tools
- **Tox21**: Examining >10,000 chemicals using ~50 assays intended to identify interactions with biological pathways (Schmidt, 2009)
- **EPA Toxicity Forecaster (ToxCast)**: For a subset (>3000) of Tox21 chemicals run >1000 additional assay endpoints (Judson et al., 2010)



EPA's Rapid Exposure and Dosimetry Project

We do exposure forecasting or “ExpoCast”

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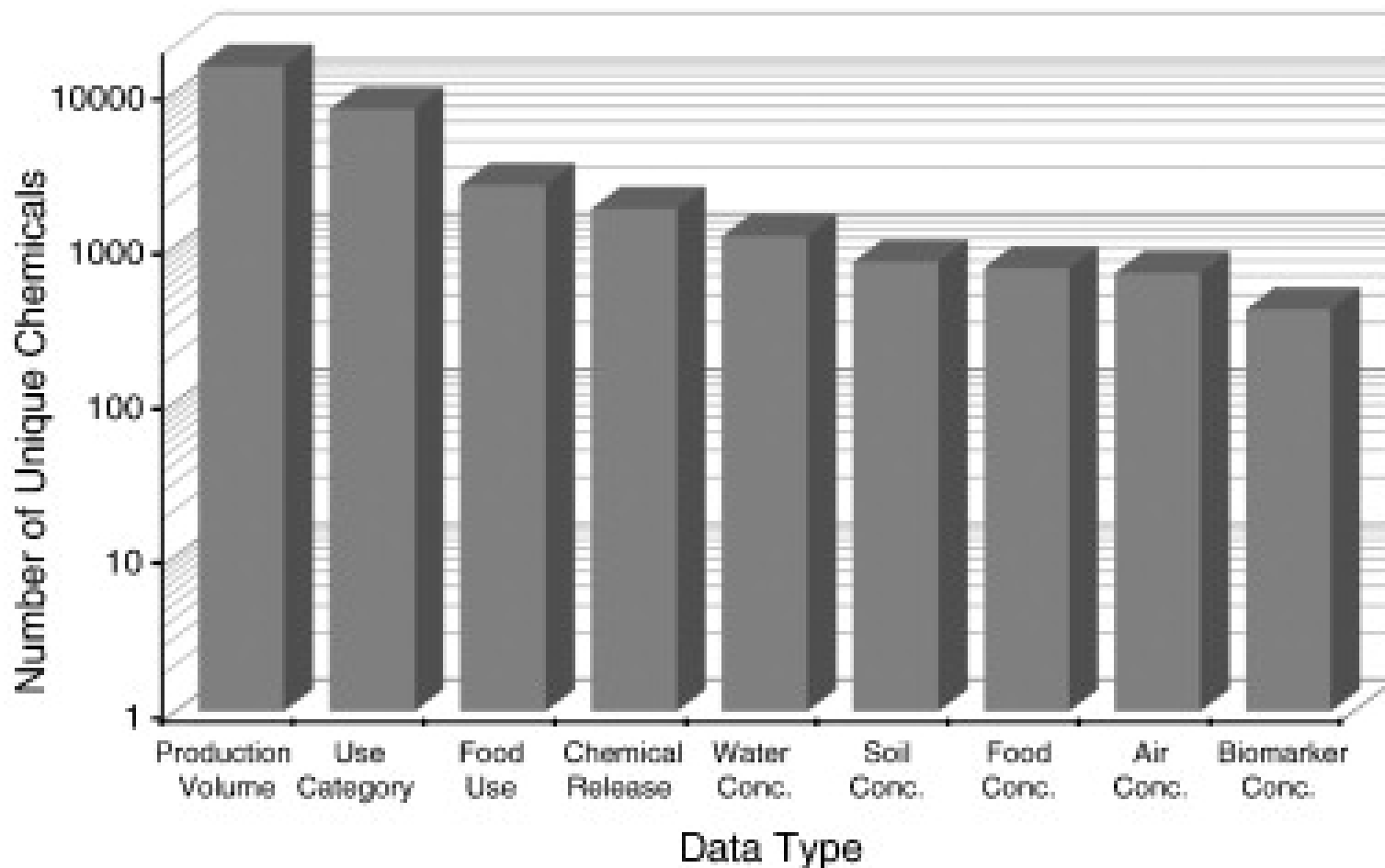
We develop exposure and toxicokinetic models, statistical methods, and chemical analyses of environmental samples including water, dust, blood, and household products

Lead CSS

Matrix Interfaces:

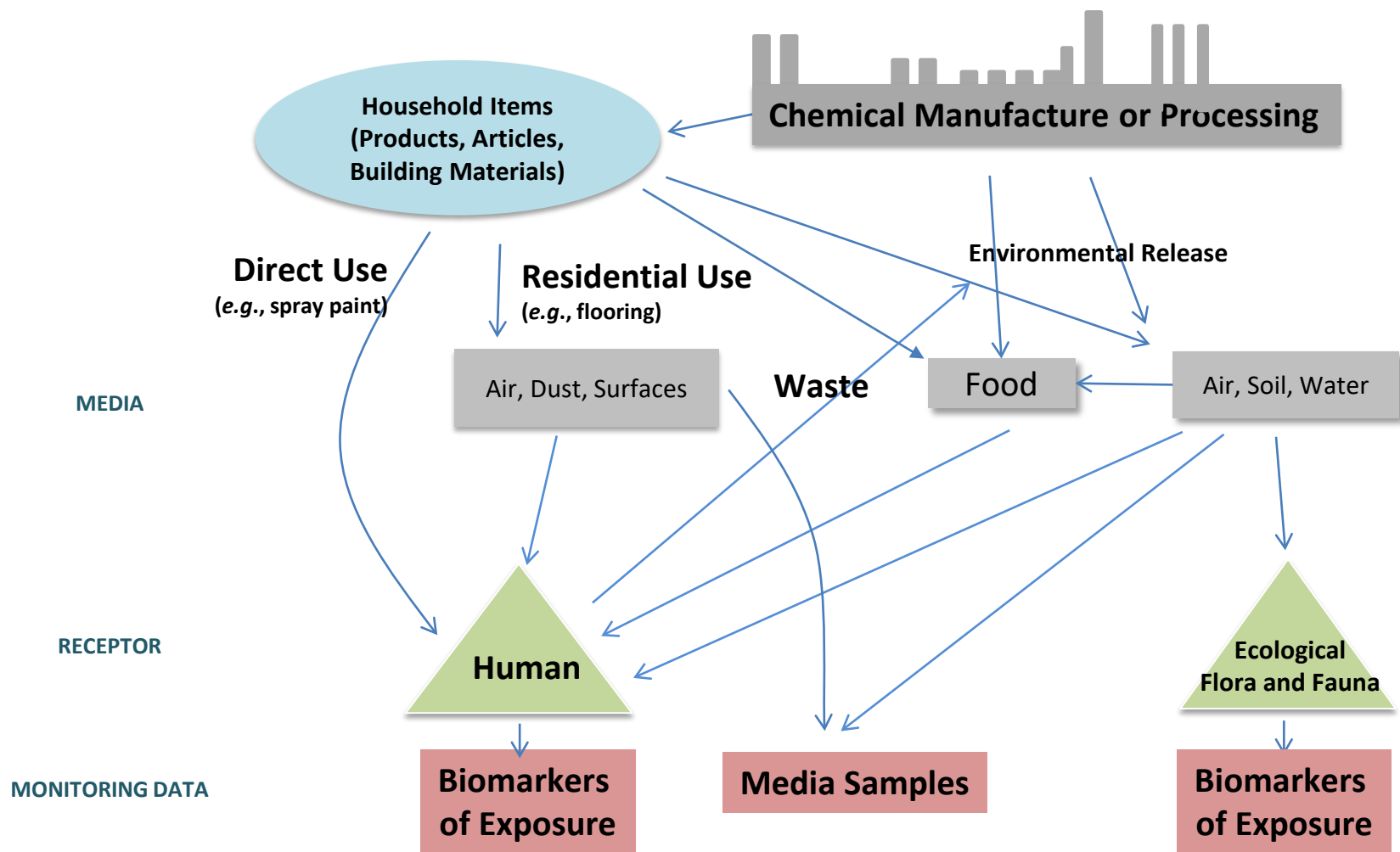
John Kenneke (NERL)
John Cowden (NCCT)

Limited Available Data for Exposure Estimations

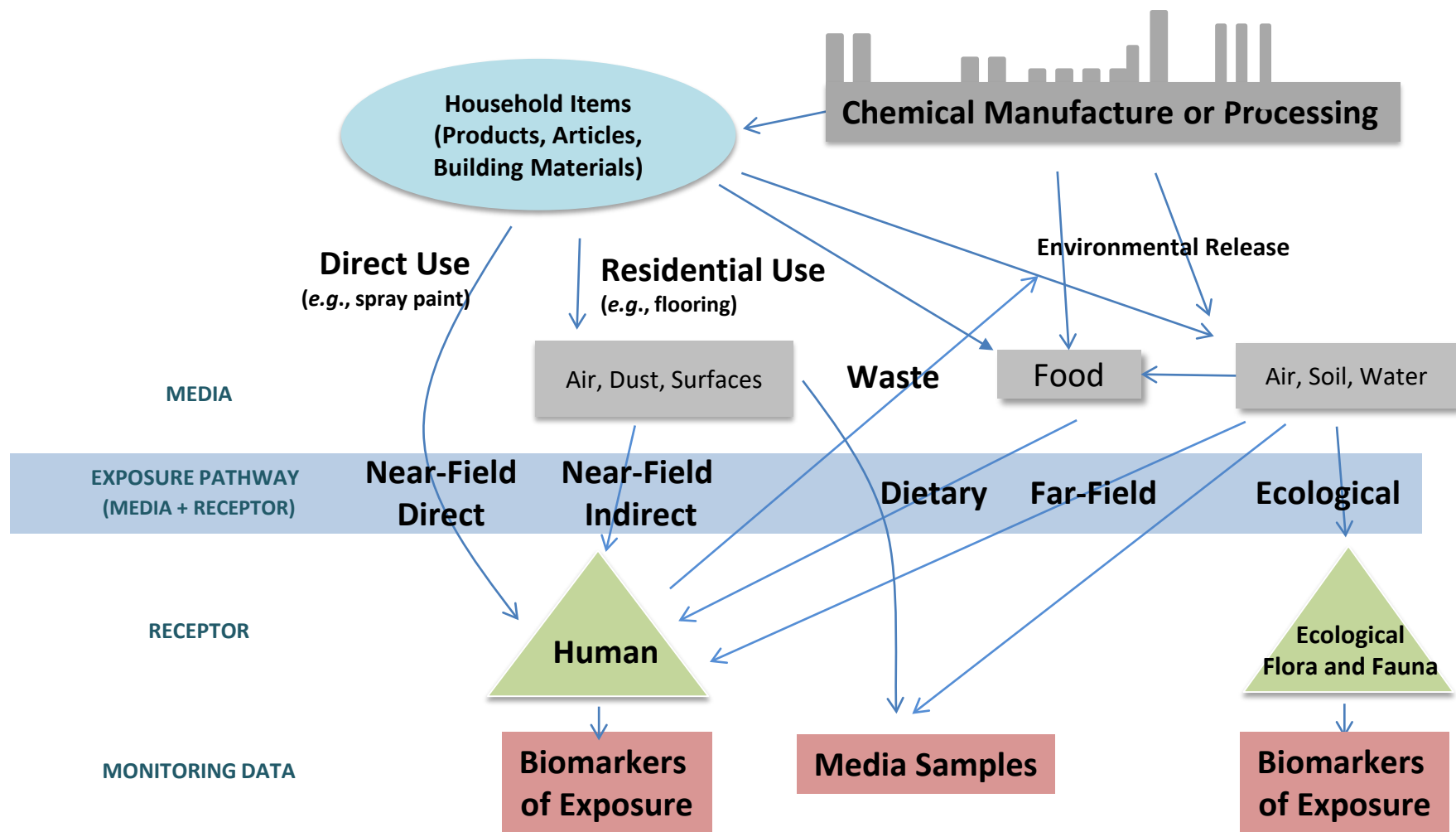


- Most chemicals lack exposure data (Egeghy et al., 2012)

Thinking About Exposure



Exposure Pathways



Predicting Exposure

- Some pathways have much higher average exposures. For example, chemicals used in consumer products in the home tend to have higher exposures. (Wambaugh et al., 2014)
 - But what chemicals are in consumer products?
- EPA's public CPdat (<http://actor.epa.gov/cpcat/>) includes every chemical safety sheet from a major U.S. retailer (>2000 chemicals) but there are many thousands of other chemicals (Goldsmith et al, 2015)
- We use applied statistics, including machine learning techniques, to learn from the data we have to fill in the gaps (Wambaugh et al., 2014, Isaacs et al., 2016, Phillips et al., 2017)
 - This is similar to how Netflix can guess how much you will like a movie
- ExpoCast: Exposure Forecaster Project

The New York Times

Internet

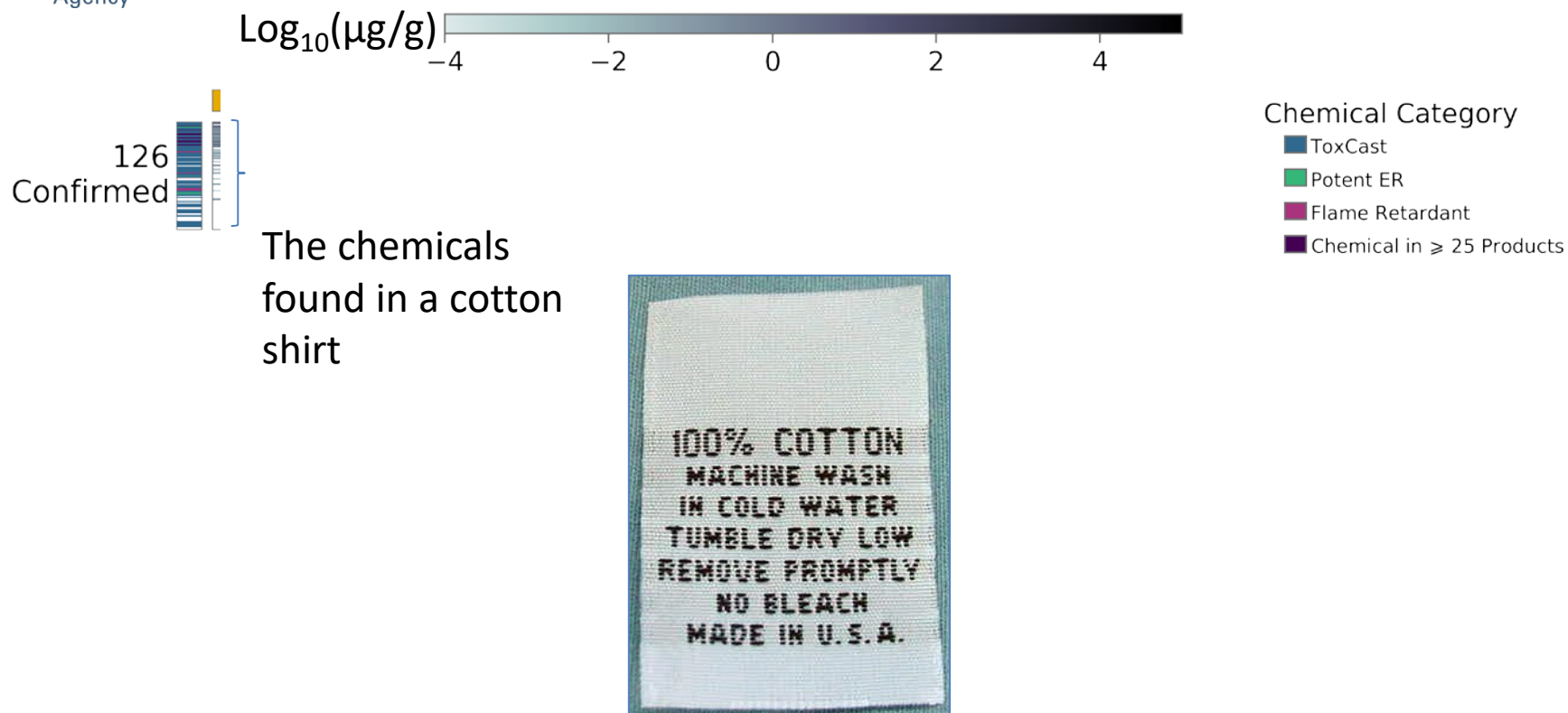
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A \$1 Million Research Bargain for Netflix, and Maybe a Model for Others

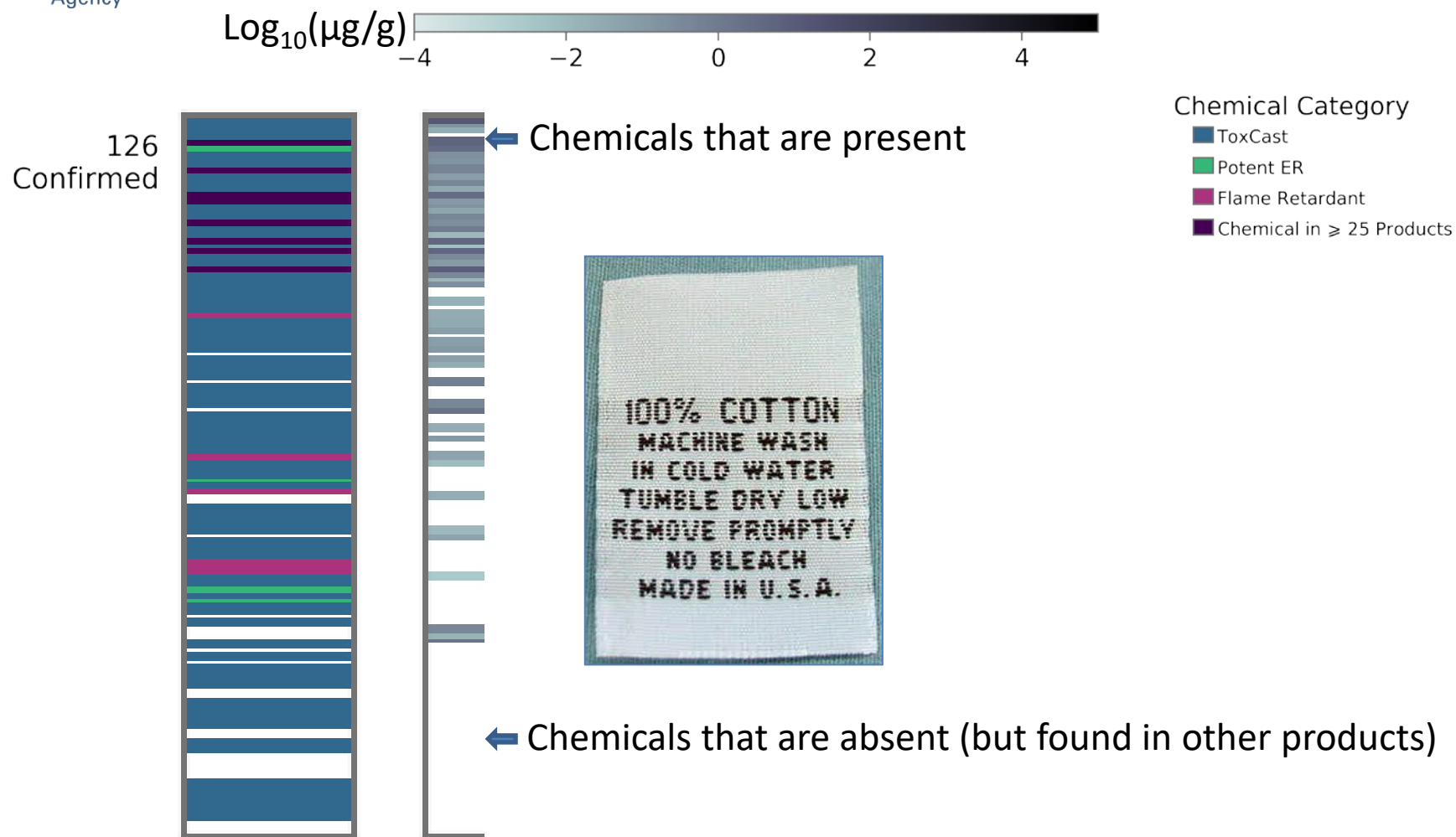
By STEVE LOHR
Published: September 21, 2009



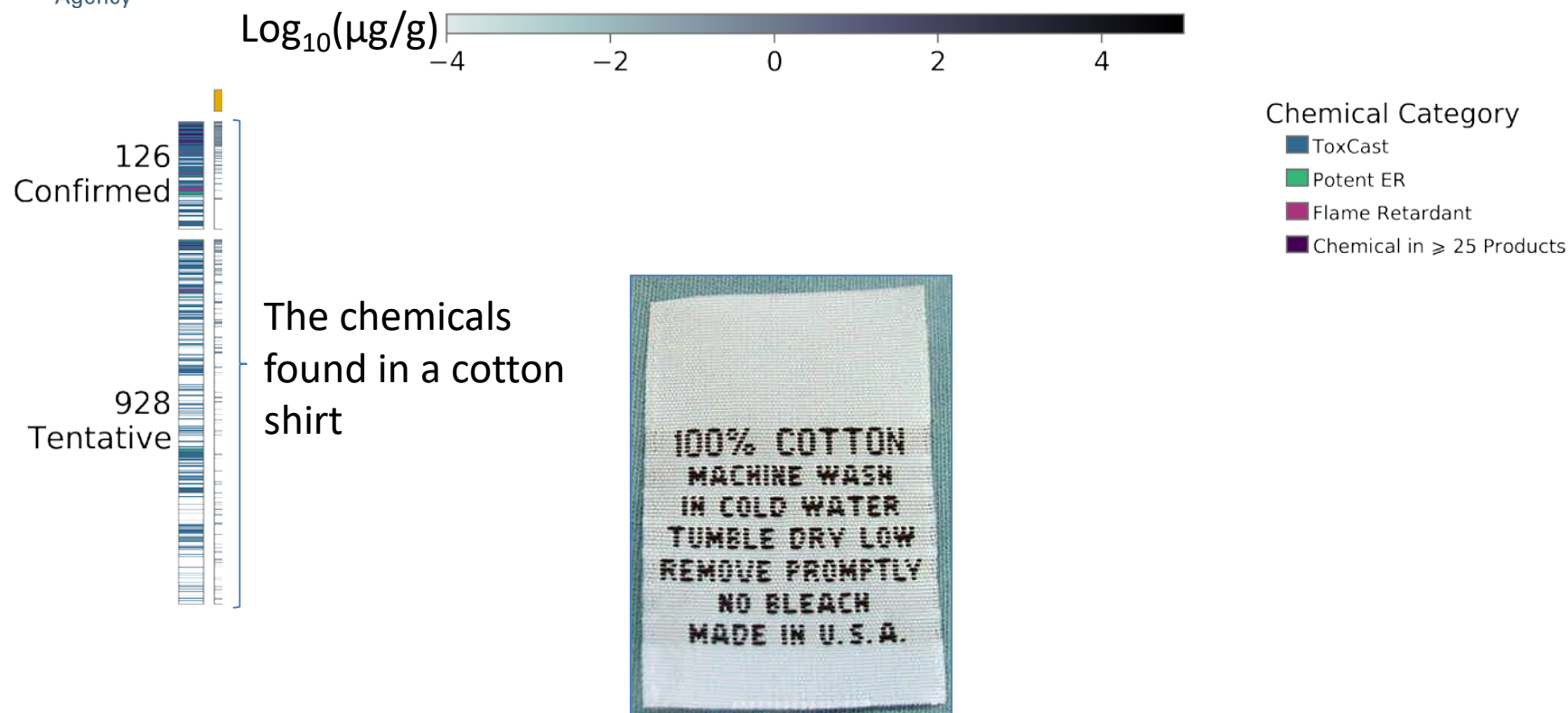
ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan



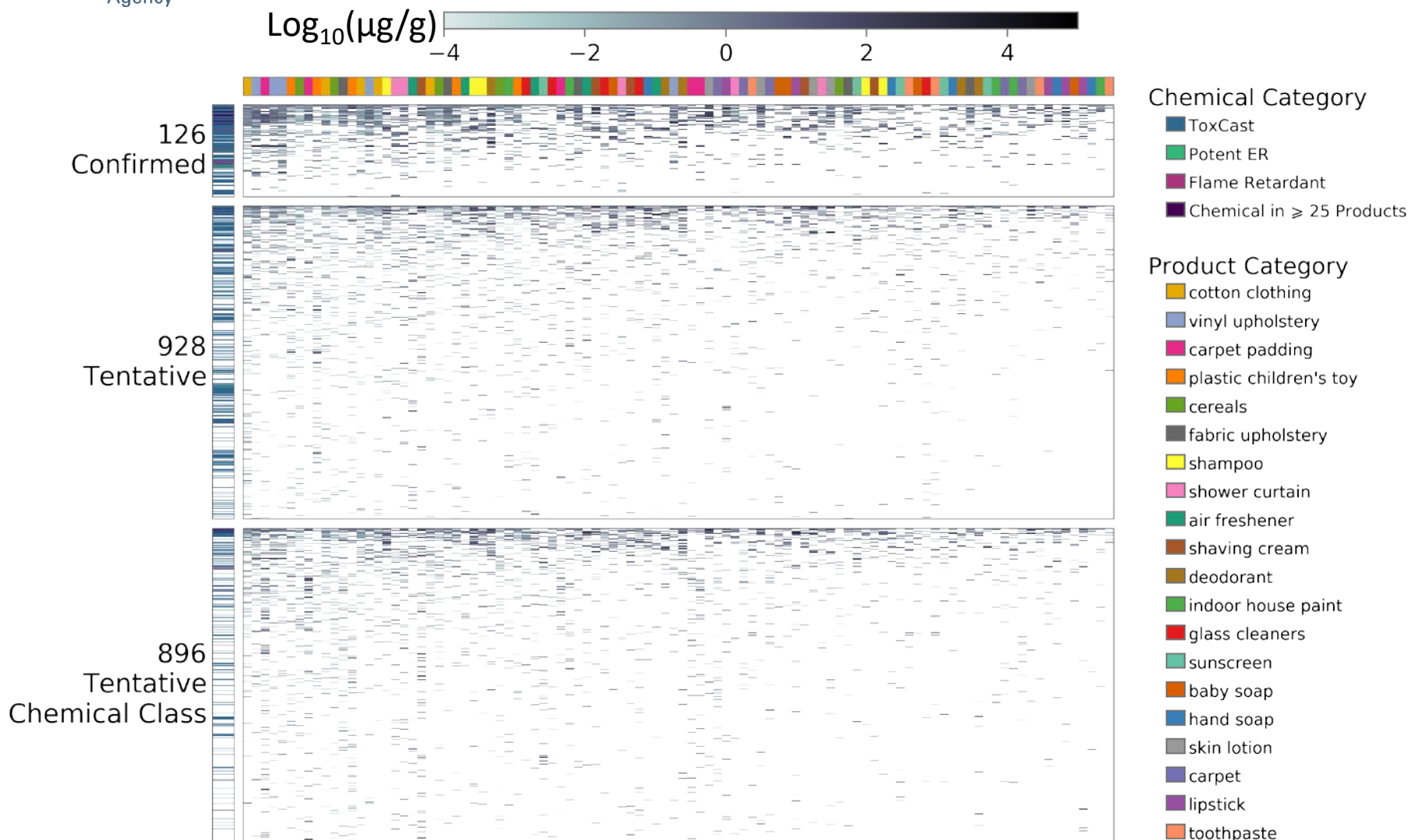
ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan



ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan



ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan



Of 1,632 chemicals, 1,445 were not present in our database from the major retailer (CPCPdb)

Phillips et al. (submitted)

Where We Are Today

- Understanding 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
- **Toxicity is hazard and exposure**
 - **Exposure alone is not risk**
- Product analysis caveats:
 - Samples are being homogenized (e.g., grinding) and are extracted with a solvent (dichloro methane, DCM)
 - Only using one solvent (DCM, polar) and one method GCxGC-TOF-MS
 - Varying exposure intimacy, from carpet padding to shampoo to cereal
- **Only some chemical identities are confirmed, *most are tentative***
- **Chemical presence in an object does not mean that exposure occurs**
- **Chemical presence in an object does not necessarily mean that it is bioavailable**



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

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