

# High-throughput literature mining to support read-across predictions of toxicity

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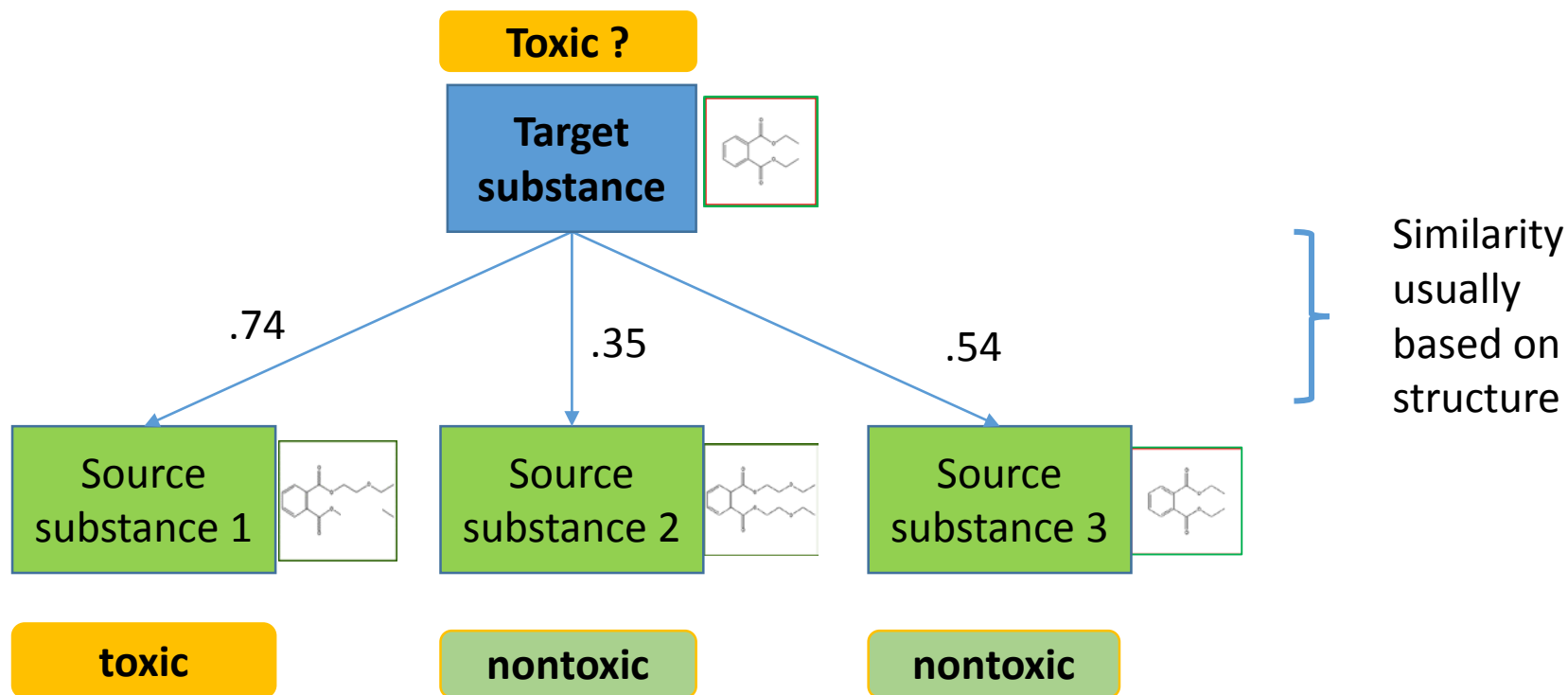
ASCCT

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# Outline

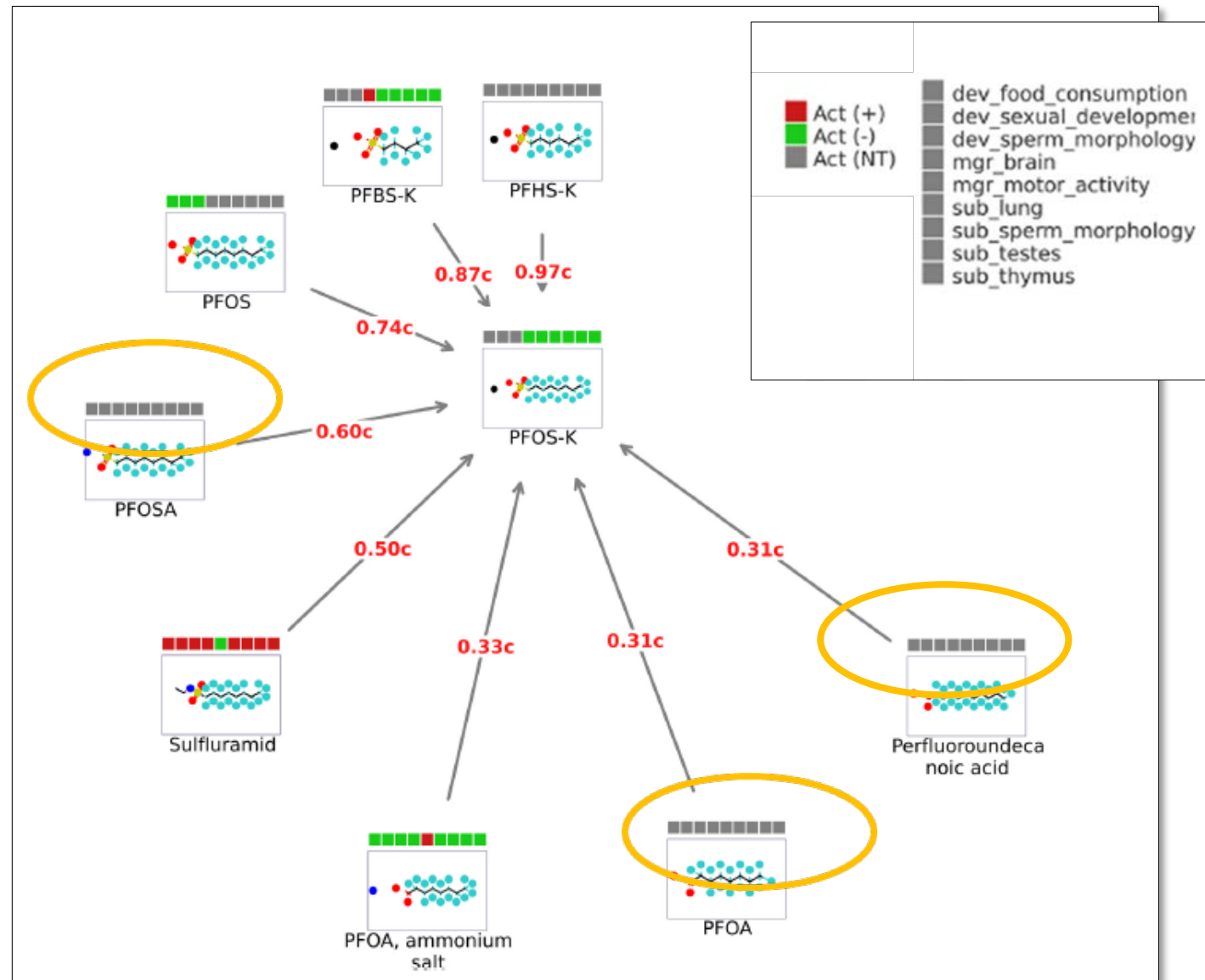
- Why literature mining?
- Methods to gather and process information from the biomedical literature
- Examples of how this solution can be applied to read-across

# Read-across: technique for filling data gaps



Example:  
Filling the  
information gap  
with ToxRefDB  
animal assay data

**Problem: ToxRefDB data is not available for all chemicals or for all endpoints.**

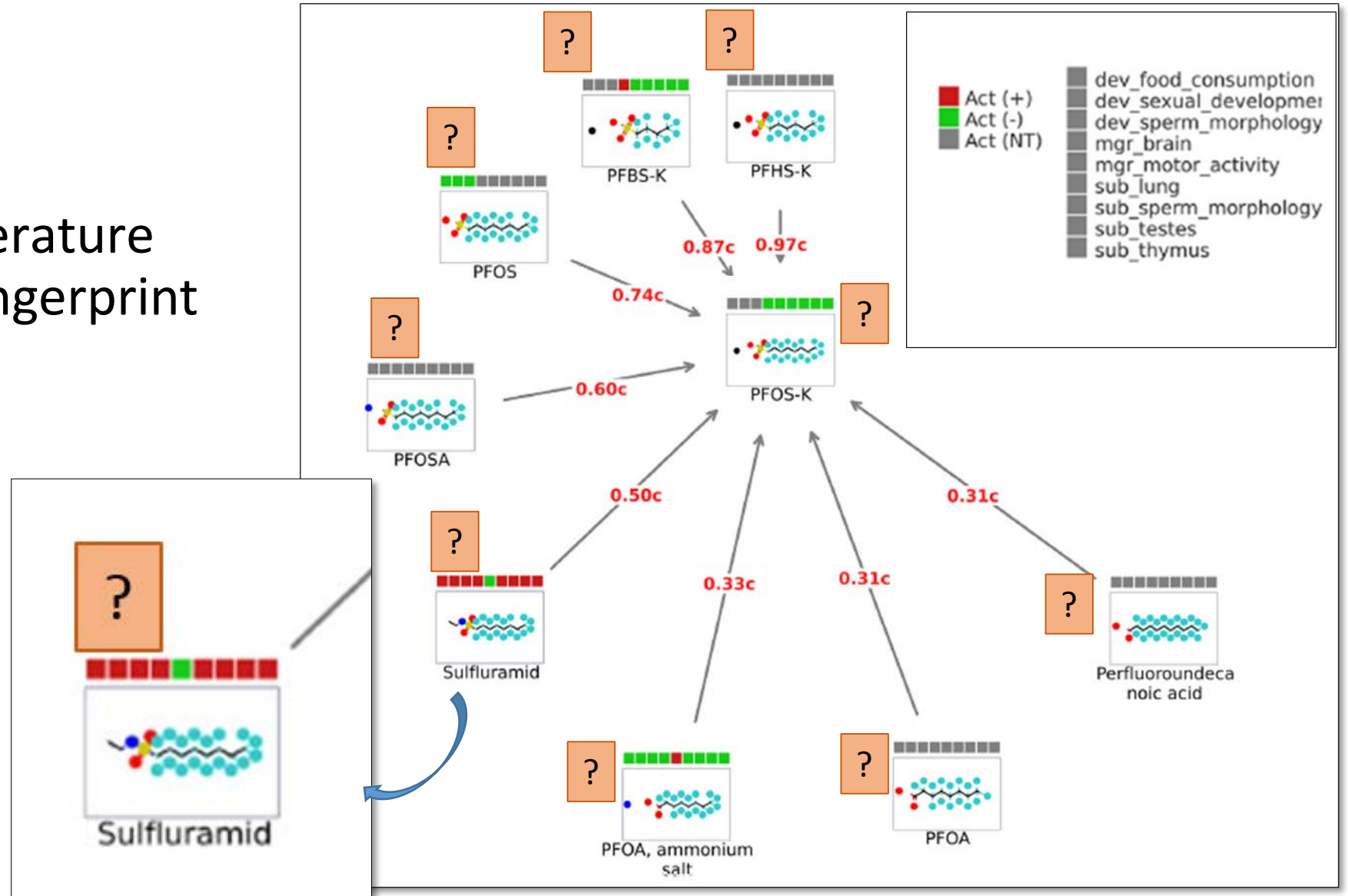


# Literature can inform read-across

- Why the literature?
  - Large and growing source
    - > 24 million articles; > 12 million about chemicals
    - Encompasses all sorts of toxicity
- Challenges
  - Literature is unstructured – not data
  - Limitations of literature mining; e.g., publication bias and granularity
  - Large and growing source – challenges for human cognition of big data
- Goal: gather and condense literature information into a signature that can be visualized for read-across.

# Goal

- Construct a literature signature or fingerprint or descriptors
- Visualize



# Methodology for literature mining to inform read-across

1. Gathering and extracting the literature information
2. Organizing by toxicity type
3. Condensing and strengthening signal → signature
4. Visualizing

# 1. Gathering and extracting

NCBI Resources How To

PubMed.gov  
US National Library of Medicine  
National Institutes of Health

PubMed Advanced

Format: Abstract Send to

Biochem Pharmacol. 1993 Oct 19;46(8):1385-91.

**Hexachlorobenzene-induced hypothyroidism. Involvement of different mechanisms by parent compound and metabolite.**

van Raaij JA<sup>1</sup>, Frijters CM, van den Berg KJ.

Author information

**Abstract**

Rats received repeated oral treatment with different doses of hexachlorobenzene (HCB) (0-3.5 mmol/kg) for 2 or 4 weeks. Measurements of thyroid hormone status after 2 weeks showed a dose-dependent decrease of total thyroxine (TT4) levels, decreased free thyroxine (FT4) levels and little change of total triiodothyronine (TT3) levels. The effects on thyroid hormone status were more pronounced after 4 weeks and also included increased thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) levels. These conditions suggest that HCB had induced hypothyroidism in these animals. Indications for occupation of thyroid hormone binding proteins were found in serum of exposed animals. The major metabolite pentachlorophenol (PCP) also caused, by competitive interactions with thyroid hormone binding proteins in serum, a rapid and dose-dependent decrease of TT4 and FT4 levels, but not of TT3 levels in serum. The decrease of serum TT4 levels by repeated dosing with 3.5 mmol HCB/kg for 4 weeks could be attributed to competitive interactions of PCP with hormone serum binding proteins and to increased metabolism induced by HCB to an equal degree. At lower dose levels or with shorter dosing periods, increased metabolism of T4 is the main cause of decreased TT4 serum levels. This is the first indication that a similar effect is caused simultaneously by the parent compound and its metabolite through different and independent mechanisms.

PMID: 8240387  
[PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

f t g+

Publication Types, MeSH Terms, Substances

## Publication Types, MeSH Terms, Substances

### Publication Types

[Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't](#)

### MeSH Terms

[Animals](#)

[Binding, Competitive](#)

[Blood Proteins/metabolism](#)

★★ [Body Temperature/drug effects](#)

[Dose-Response Relationship, Drug](#)

[Hexachlorobenzene/blood](#)

[Hexachlorobenzene/metabolism](#)

★★ [Hexachlorobenzene/toxicity\\*](#)

★★ [Hypothyroidism/chemically induced\\*](#)

[Hypothyroidism/metabolism](#)

[Male](#)

[Pentachlorophenol/administration & dosage](#)

[Pentachlorophenol/blood](#)

[Rats](#)

[Rats, Wistar](#)

★ [Thyroid Hormones/metabolism](#)

★ [Thyroxine/blood](#)

National Library of  
Medicine Indexers



# Indexing terms → data

PubMed ID	MeSH heading	Qualifier / subheading	Major topic?
8240387	Hexachlorobenzene	Toxicity	Y

PubMed ID	MeSH heading	Qualifier / subheading	Major topic?	Score
8240387	Hypothyroidism	Chemically induced	Y	2
8240387	Body Temperature	Drug effects	N	2
8240387	Thyroid Hormones	Metabolism	N	1
8240387	Thyroxine	Blood	N	1

Score  
reflects  
confidence.

High-throughput text-mining: a few readouts per article, but it adds up ...

# Hexachlorobenzene – 1485 articles

348 biological processes

Biological processes	Article Count
Organ Size	73
Body Weight	62
Enzyme Induction	36
Reproduction	17
Immunity	11
Birth Weight	6
Oxygen Consumption	5
Phagocytosis	5
Overweight	5
Motor Activity	4
Weight Gain	4
Cell Proliferation	4
Oxidative Stress	4
Oxidative Phosphorylation	4
Phosphorylation	4
Gluconeogenesis	4
Fertility	4
Apoptosis	4
Child Development	3
Obesity	3
Homeostasis	3
Lipid Peroxidation	3
Gene Expression	3

## 180 Diseases / conditions

Diseases		Article Count
Porphyrias		184
Body Weight		87
Drug-Induced Liver Injury		36
Prenatal Exposure Delayed Effects		30
Disease Models, Animal		27
Article Count		20
	enatal	22
	81	23
	54	16
	39	14
	24	12
	21	13
	18	10
	17	8
	16	7
	15	6
	15	6
	15	5
	12	5
	11	5
	11	5
	11	5
	11	5
	11	5
	9	5
	9	5
	8	5
	8	4
	8	4
	8	3
	6	3

269 Proteins / genes

Protein / gene	Article Count
Cytochrome P-450 Enzyme System	81
Uroporphyrinogen Decarboxylase	54
Carboxy-Lyases	39
Cytochrome P-450 CYP1A1	24
5-Aminolevulinate Synthetase	21
porphyrinogen carboxy-lyase	18
Glutathione	17
Thyroxine	16
Mixed Function Oxygenases	15
Aryl Hydrocarbon Hydroxylases	15
Receptors, Aryl Hydrocarbon	15
Glutathione Transferase	12
Oxygenases	11
Aminolevulinic Acid	11
Aminopyrine N-Demethylase	11
Triiodothyronine	11
Immunoglobulin M	11
Ferrochelatase	9
Immunoglobulin G	9
Receptors, Estrogen	8
Aniline Hydroxylase	8
7-Alkoxycoumarin O-Dealkylase	8
gamma-Glutamyltransferase	8
Alanine Transaminase	6

## 185 Anatomical terms

Anatomy Terms	Article Count
Liver	286
Adipose Tissue	124
Milk, Human	74
Microsomes, Liver	67
Feces	45
Kidney	39
Milk	27
Thyroid Gland	23
Skin	23
Brain	22
Lung	21
Fetal Blood	20
Muscles	19
Spleen	19
Mitochondria, Liver	17
Fetus	14
Bile	14
Ovary	12
Ovum	11
Chick Embryo	11
Placenta	11
T-Lymphocytes	11
Macrophages	10
Erythrocytes	10
Thymus Gland	9
Intestines	9
Lymph Nodes	8
Myocardium	8

# Gathering: how big is the data?

- 24 million articles in PubMed
- 12 million articles have chemical annotations
- 200 million MeSH annotations
- Growth rate: 1 million / month
- When looking only at annotations of most interest ...
  - 65 million chemical annotations
  - 61 million disease / effect annotations (diseases, anatomy)

## 2. Defining toxicity type and organizing by it

Toxicity Type			
Thyroid			
ReproTox			
GeneTox			
DevTox			
...			

Specify detail

Toxicity Type	MeSH Terms	Categories
Thyroid	Hypothyroidism	Clinical conditions
	Hyperthyroidism	Clinical conditions
	Hashimoto Disease	Clinical conditions
	Thyroid gland	Thyroid gland
	Thyroid nodule	Thyroid gland
	Receptor, Thyroid Hormone	Receptors
	Receptor, Thyrotropin	Receptors
	Thyroxine	Hormones
	Triiodothyronine	Hormones

Subject matter experts advise on the terms and categories for each Toxicity Type.

## 2. Organizing by toxicity type

Chemical	PubMed ID	MeSH heading	Score	ToxType	Category	Category Score
Hexachlorobenzene	8240387	Hypothyroidism	2	Thyroid	Clinical Conditions	2
	8240387	Body Temperature	2	Thyroid	Body Temp Regulation	2
	8240387	Thyroid Hormones	1	Thyroid	Hormones	2
	8240387	Thyroxine	1	Thyroid	Hormones	

Next step: 3. Condensing into a signature.

**Having a score that can be summarized is key.**

### 3. Condensing into signature

Each numeric value is the total score for that chemical for the corresponding toxicity category / type.

[illegible]

Double-click on signature scores goes back to detail.

Hexachlorobenzene	Thyroid_Binding Proteins	Prealbumin	1	<a href="#">/801323</a>	1994	Reduction of thyroxine uptake into cerebrospinal fluid and rat b
Hexachlorobenzene	Thyroid_BodyTempReg	Body Temperature	1	<a href="#">8240387</a>	1993	Hexachlorobenzene-induced hypothyroidism. Involvement of d
Hexachlorobenzene	Thyroid_Clinical Conditions	Hypothyroidism	2	<a href="#">1755017</a>	1991	Hexachlorobenzene and its metabolites pentachlorophenol and
Hexachlorobenzene	Thyroid_Clinical Conditions	Hypothyroidism	2	<a href="#">8240387</a>	1993	Hexachlorobenzene-induced hypothyroidism. Involvement of d
Hexachlorobenzene	Thyroid_Cognition_IQ	Cognition	3	<a href="#">23085522</a>	2013	Evaluating the neurotoxic effects of lactational exposure to per:
Hexachlorobenzene	Thyroid_Hepatic Catabolism	Arylsulfotransferase	1	<a href="#">24365113</a>	2014	Hexachlorobenzene and pentachlorobenzene accumulation, me
Hexachlorobenzene	Thyroid_Hepatic Catabolism	Glucuronosyltransferase	1	<a href="#">416059</a>	1978	Enhancement of the UDP glucuronyltransferase activity and bili
Hexachlorobenzene	Thyroid_Hepatic Catabolism	Glucuronosyltransferase	1	<a href="#">8442763</a>	1993	Increased glucuronidation of thyroid hormone in hexachlorobe

Double-click brings the user here.

# Methodology for literature mining to inform read-across

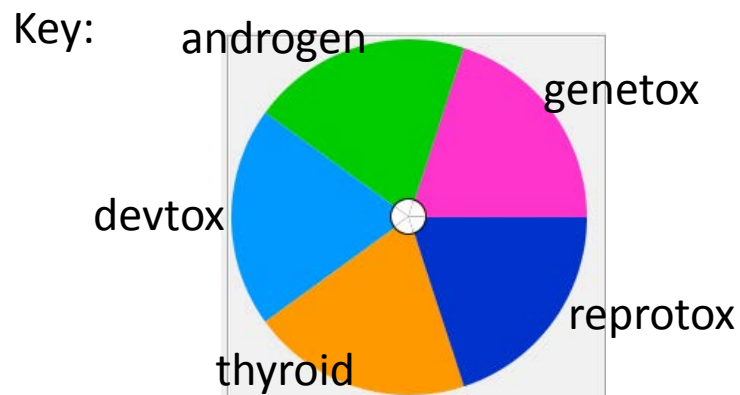
1. Gathering and extracting the literature information
2. Organizing by toxicity type
3. Condensing and strengthening signal → signature
4. Visualizing - use benzenes as example



Let's start by selecting only benzenes.

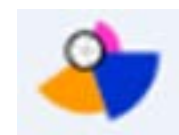
[illegible]

## 4. Visualization: new concept- LitToxPI



Example:

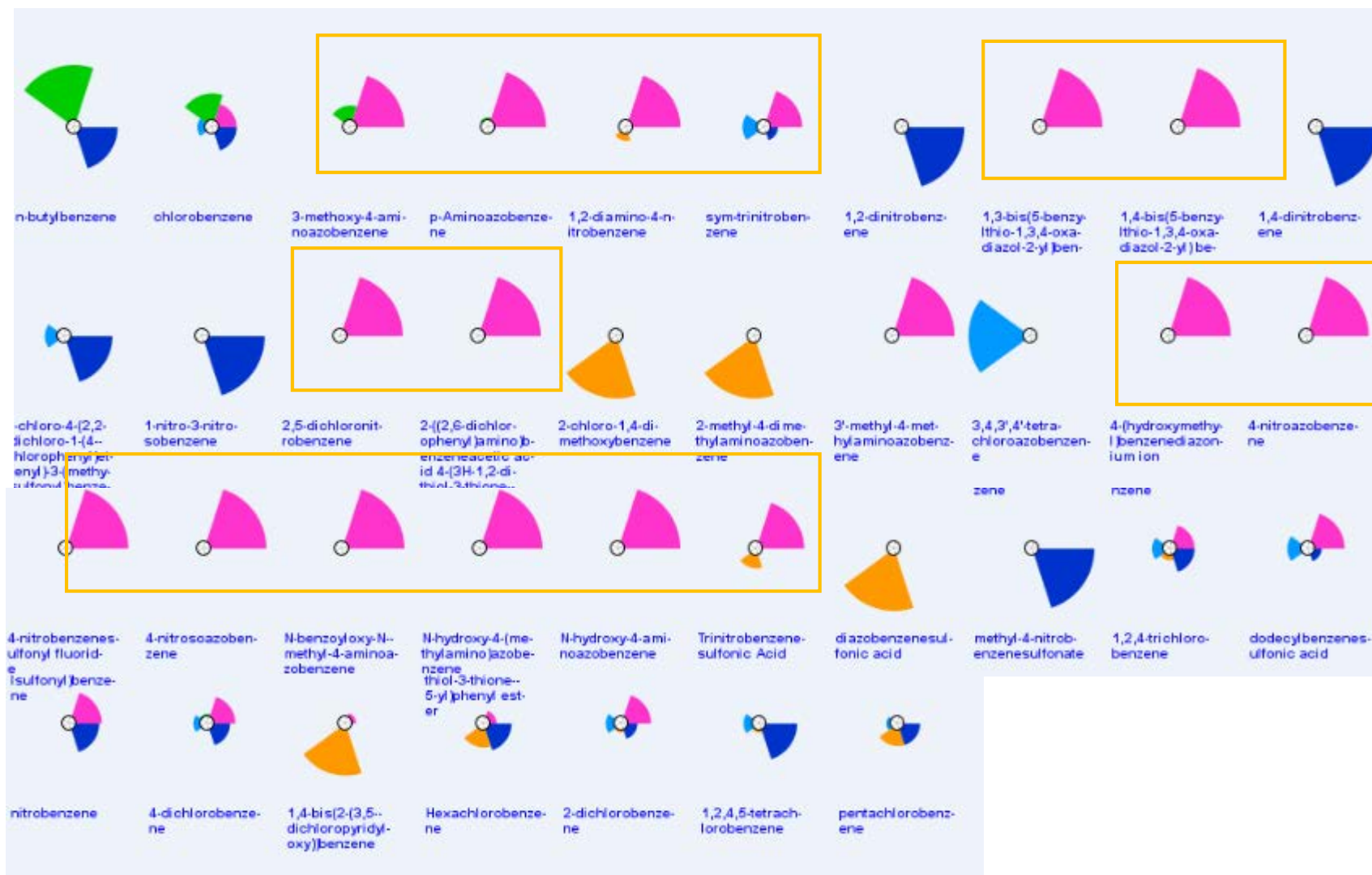
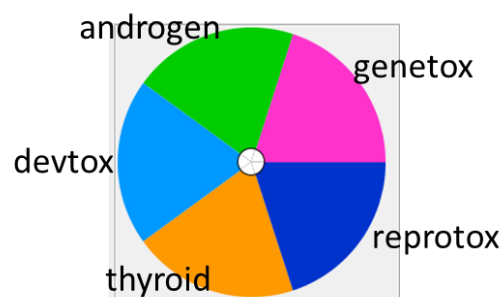
Hexachlorobenzene



Pie slice size  
reflects  
proportion.

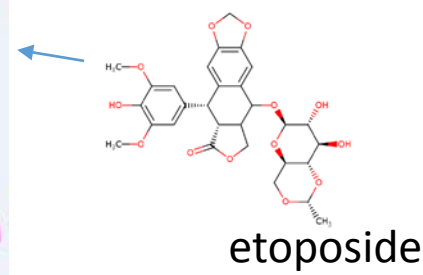
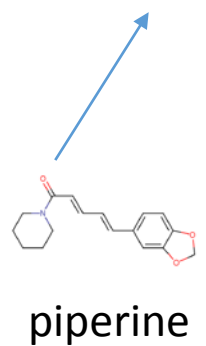
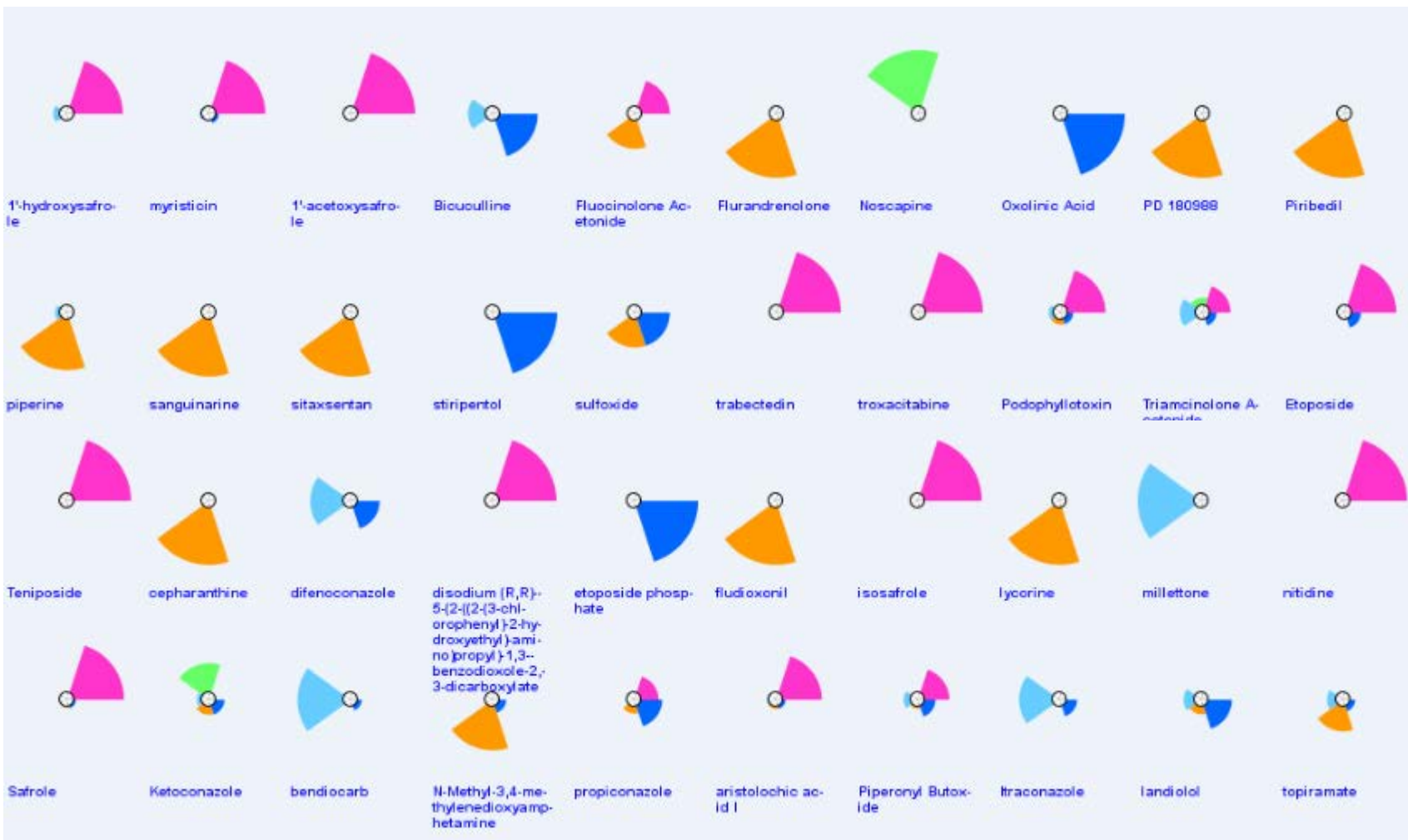
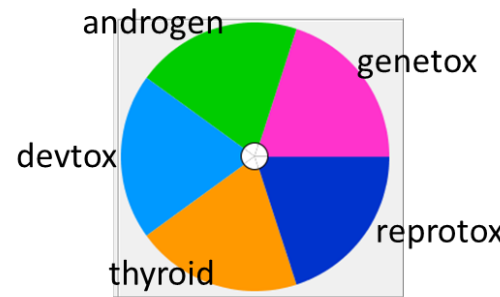
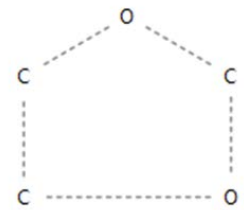
- Feed chemical names and weights into ToxPI software
- Normalize
- Produce Literature ToxPIs (LitToxPIs)

# LitToxPIs for benzenes



- What we can tell from this visualization?

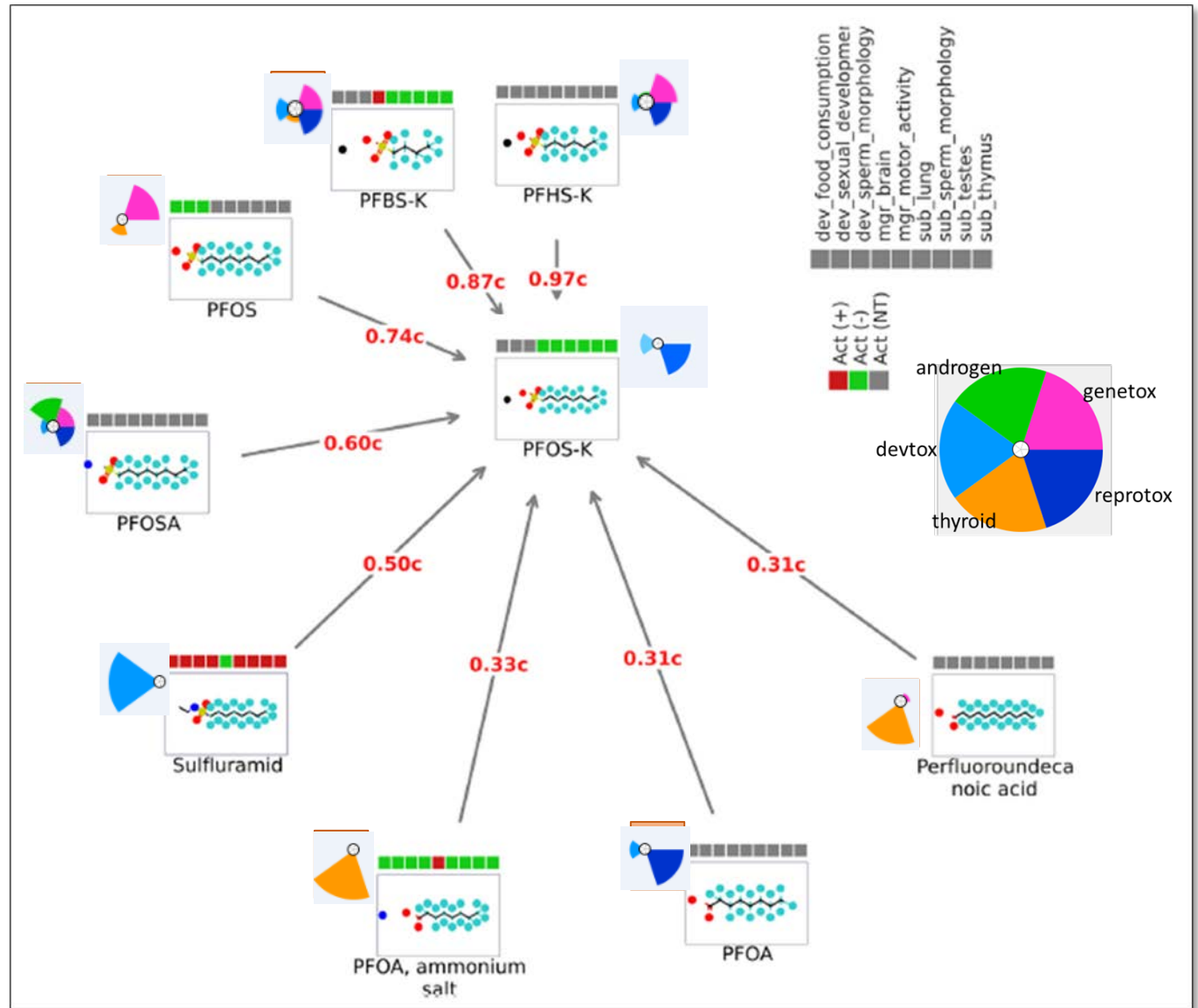
# LitToxPIs for ToxPrint chemotype ring:hetero\_[5]\_O\_dioxolane\_(1\_3-)



*Illustration only.*

## Next steps

- Visually integrate the LitToxPI signature with the ToxRefDB signature
- Continue to refine and enhance the gathering, organizing, condensing, weighting, and normalizing steps



# Conclusion

- Literature mining algorithms and processes can condense complex unstructured literature into quantitative biological descriptors or signatures.
- This literature mined data can be used to inform and enhance chemical read-across.



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Thank you!



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