

Predictive Toxicology: Current Status and Future Outlook



EBI-EMBL Industry Programme Workshop
Predictive Toxicology

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The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author[s] and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

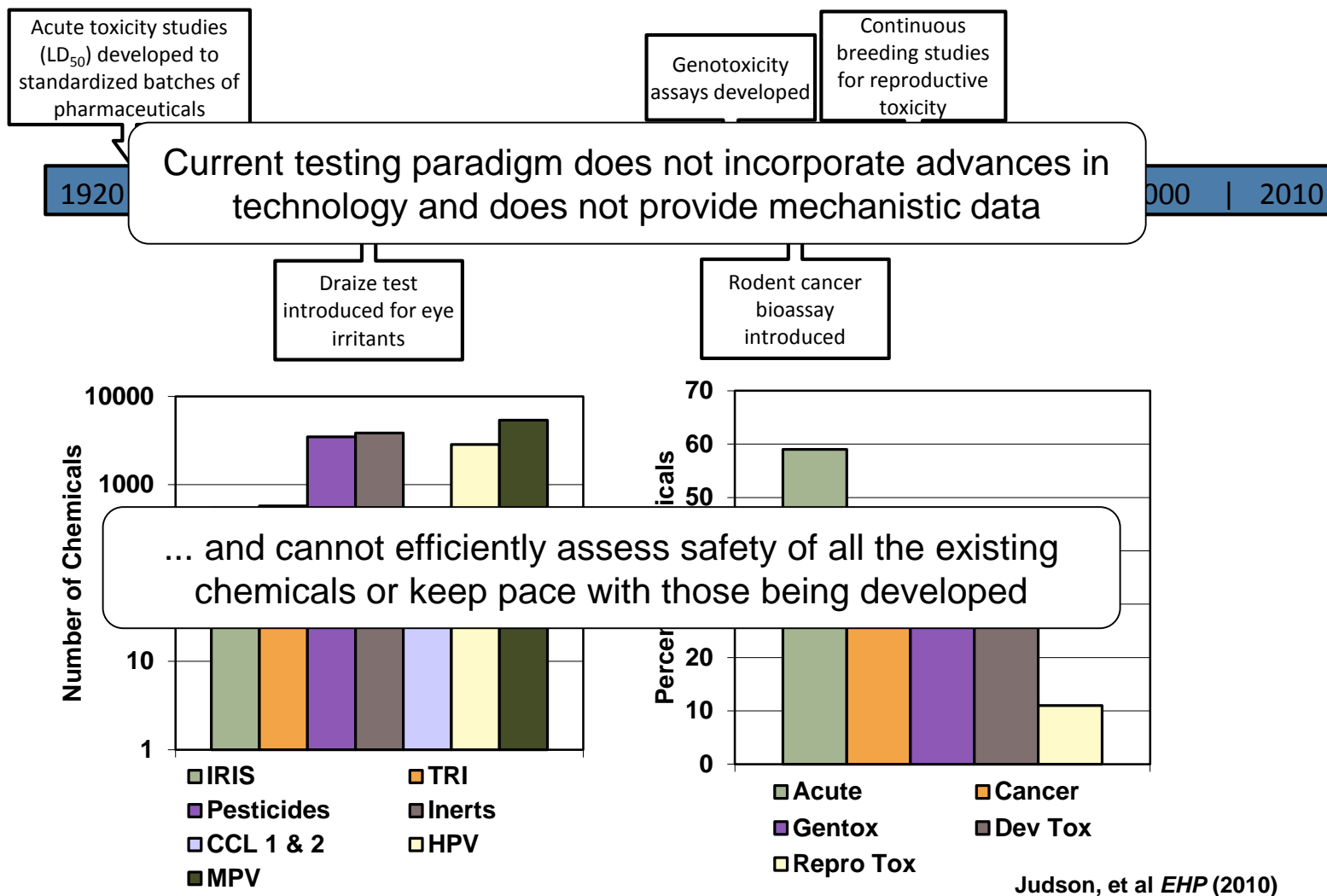
Regulatory Agencies Need to Make A Range of Decisions on Chemicals...

- Multiple drivers shape type of assessment
 - Regulatory scope
 - Economic considerations
 - Multiple applications
- Chemical assessments are “fit-for-purpose”
 - Prioritization (e.g., EDSP, PMN, SNUR)
 - Screening-level assessments (e.g., CCL, GreenChem)
 - Provisional assessments (e.g., PPRTVs)
 - Toxicity assessments (e.g., IRIS)
 - Risk assessments (e.g., MCLs, pesticides)

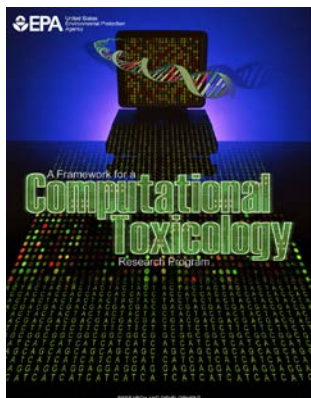
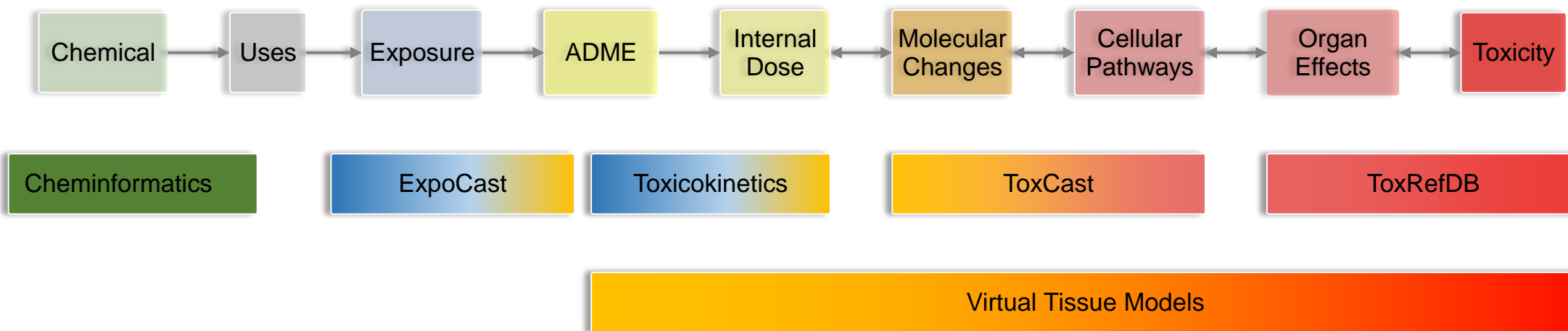
EPA	Workflow	Throughput	Data
OPPT	New chemicals: Premanufacture Notice (PMN)	~1000/yr (90d/chem)	III (II)
	Existing chemicals: Significant New Use Rule (SNUR)	~84,000 total	
	Current Chemical Risk Assessments	~10 total	I
	DFE / Green Chemistry	~2500	I, II, III
OPP	Pesticide registration (PR)	~10 new/yr ~50 old/yr	I
	Pesticide re-registration	~1000/yr 24,576 total	I
OW	Chemical Contaminant List	6yr / ~6,000 total	I, II, III
	RegDet on CCL	Every 6yr / 90 total	I
	Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring	30/5yr	I
	Drinking Water Health Advisories		II, III
OLEM	Spills Brownfields Super Fund		

I Guideline animal testing data
 II Some *in vitro* bioactivity
 III Chemical structure data

Current System to Evaluate Chemicals is Antiquated and Inefficient

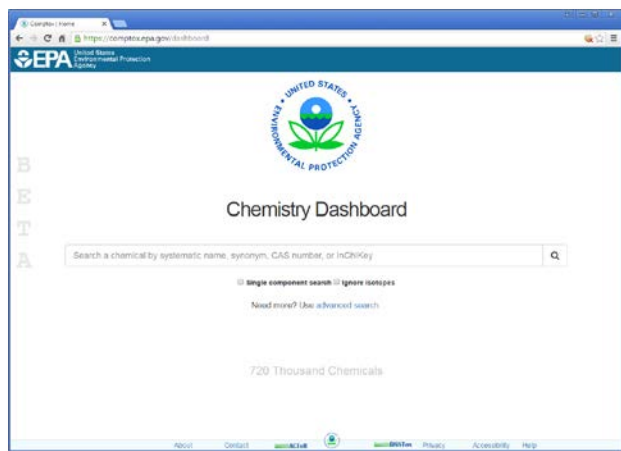


Requires an Integrated and Multidisciplinary Solution

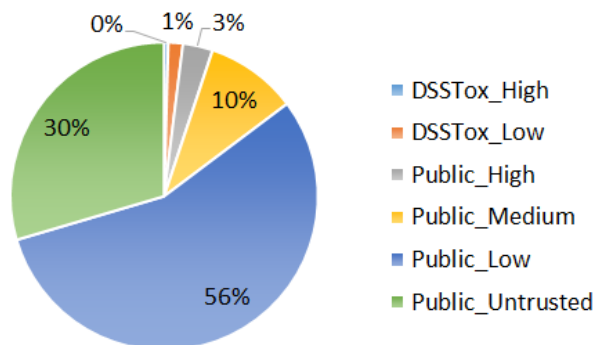


- National Center for Computational Toxicology established in 2005
- Currently staffed by ~60 employees
- Exists within the EPA's Office of Research and Development
- Home of the ToxCast and ExpoCast research efforts
- Key partner in U.S. Tox21 federal consortium

Need to Start with a High Quality Chemistry Foundation

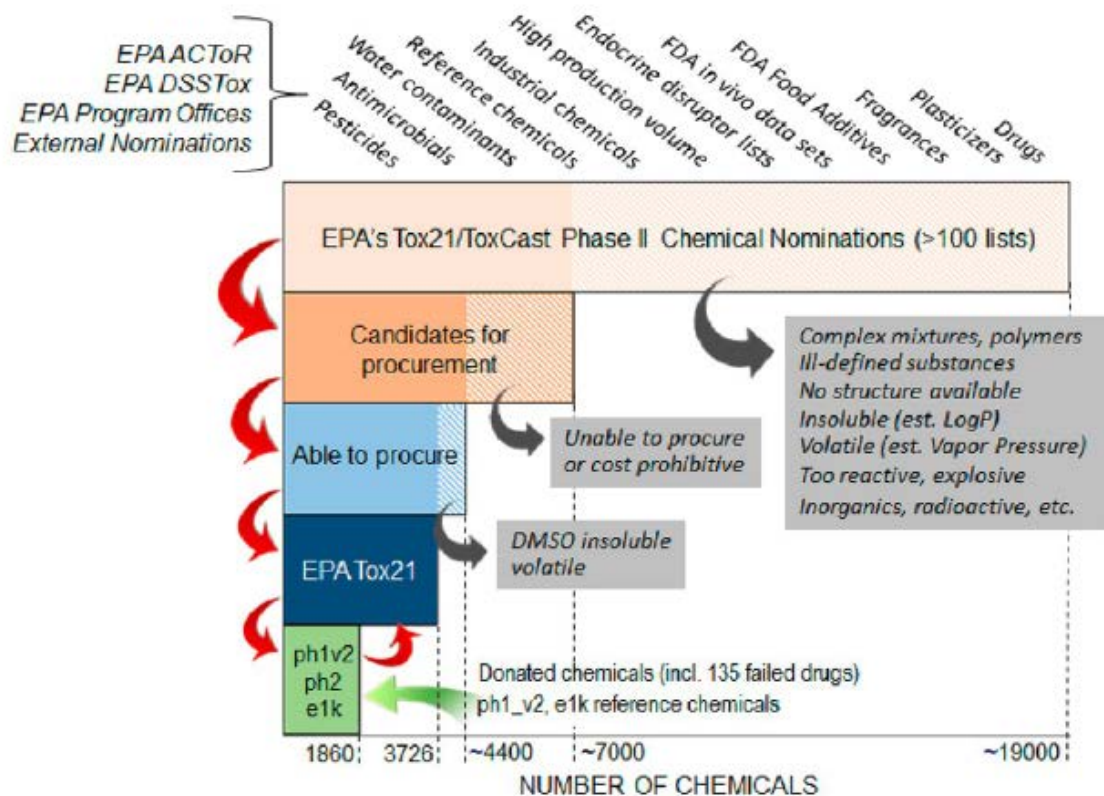


<https://comptox.epa.gov>

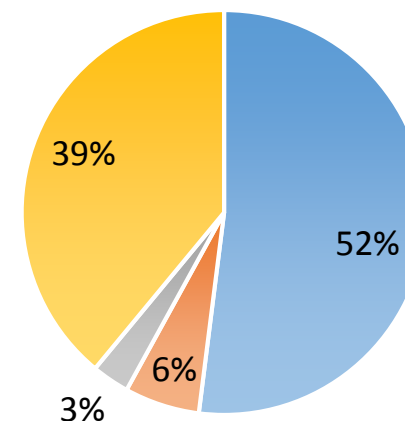


- Developing a centralized resource for curated chemical structure, identifier, and physical chemical properties of >700K unique substances with data quality flags
- Expand and curate training sets for QSAR models for phys-chem, environmental fate, and toxicological properties
- Use the centralized chemical resource as the foundation for an integrated hazard, bioactivity, pharmacokinetics, and exposure information

Need to Start with a High Quality Chemistry Foundation



Analytical QC of Chemical Library



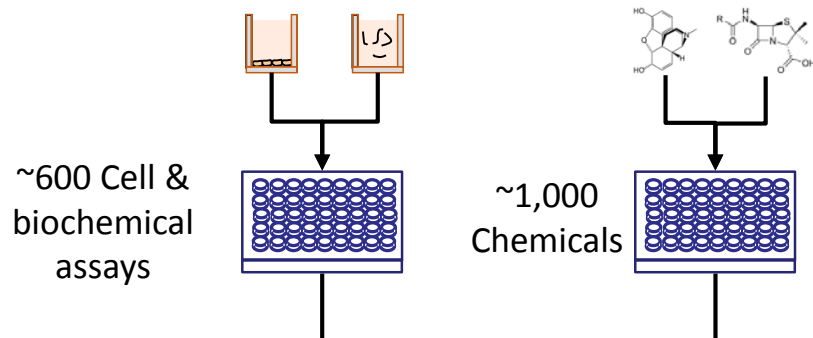
■ Pass ■ Fail ■ Degrade ■ ND

Pass = C (75%) or greater

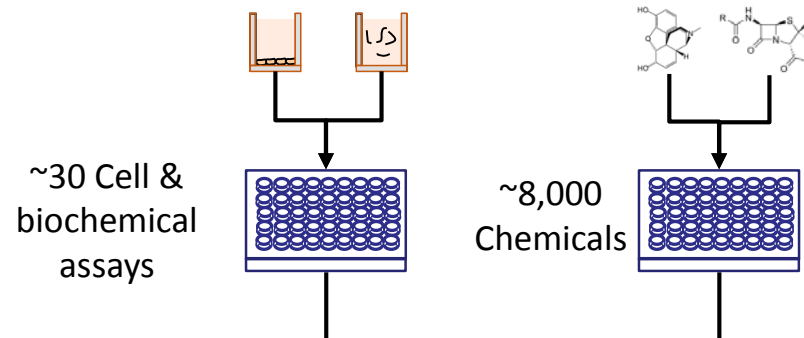
Fail = D, F, Ac, Bc, Cc

High-Throughput Bioactivity Screening

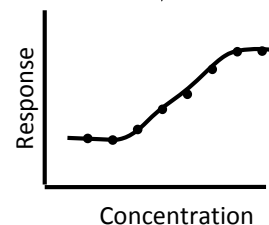
ToxCast



Tox21



Set	Chemicals	Assays	Completion
ToxCast Phase I	293	~600	2011
ToxCast Phase II	767	~600	2013
ToxCast Phase III	1001	~100	Ongoing
E1K (endocrine)	880	~50	2013



ToxCast Incorporates a Diverse Array of High-Throughput *In Vitro* Assays

Assay Provider

ACEA
Apredica
Attagene
BioReliance
BioSeek
CeeTox
CellzDirect
Tox21/NCATS
NHEERL MESC
NHEERL Zebrafish
NovaScreen (Perkin Elmer)
Odyssey Thera
Vala Sciences

Biological Response

cell proliferation and death
cell differentiation
Enzymatic activity
mitochondrial depolarization
protein stabilization
oxidative phosphorylation
reporter gene activation
gene expression (qNPA)
receptor binding
receptor activity
steroidogenesis

Target Family

response Element
transporter
cytokines
kinases
nuclear receptor
CYP450 / ADME
cholinesterase
phosphatases
proteases
XME metabolism
GPCRs
ion channels

Assay Design

viability reporter
morphology reporter
conformation reporter
enzyme reporter
membrane potential reporter
binding reporter
inducible reporter

Readout Type

single
multiplexed
multiparametric

Cell Format

cell free
cell lines
primary cells
complex cultures
free embryos

Species

human
rat
mouse
zebrafish
sheep
boar
rabbit
cattle
guinea pig

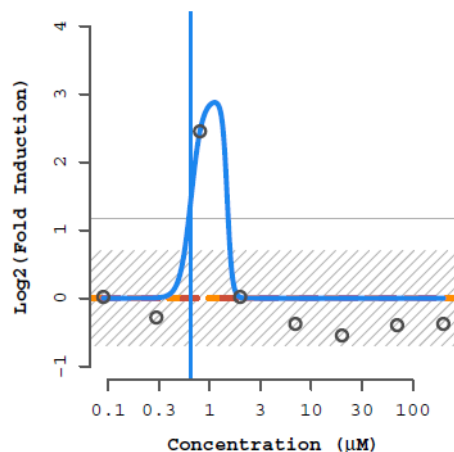
Tissue Source

Lung	Breast
Liver	Vascular
Skin	Kidney
Cervix	Testis
Uterus	Brain
Intestinal	Spleen
Bladder	Ovary
Pancreas	Prostate
Inflammatory	Bone

Detection Technology

qNPA and ELISA
Fluorescence & Luminescence
Alamar Blue Reduction
Arrayscan / Microscopy
Reporter gene activation
Spectrophotometry
Radioactivity
HPLC and HPEC
TR-FRET

Efforts to Ensure HTS Data Quality and Increase Transparency



ASSAY: ARID117 (ATQ_Era_TRANS)

NAME: Thioglycolic acid
CHID: 26141 CASRN: 68-11-1
SPID(S): TX007664
L4ID: 420385

HILL MODEL (in red):
tp ga gw
val: 3.1e-11 -2.15 0.416
sd: NaN NaN NaN

GAIN-LOSS MODEL (in blue):
tp ga gw la lw
val: 2.93 -0.184 8 0.173 18
sd: 3.56 0.334 9.48 5.82 814

	CNST	HILL	GNLS
AIC:	20.14	26.14	17.79
PROB:	0.23	0.01	0.76
RMSE:	0.92	0.92	0.32

MAX_MEAN: 2.45 MAX_MED: 2.45 BMAD: 0.233

COFF: 1.17 HIT-CALL: 1 FITC: 50 ACTP: 0.77

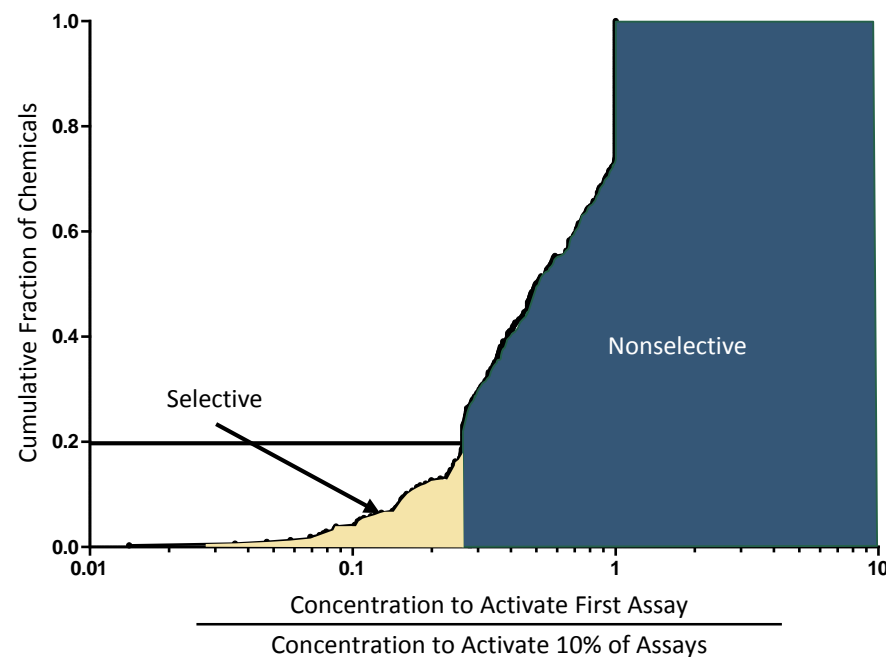
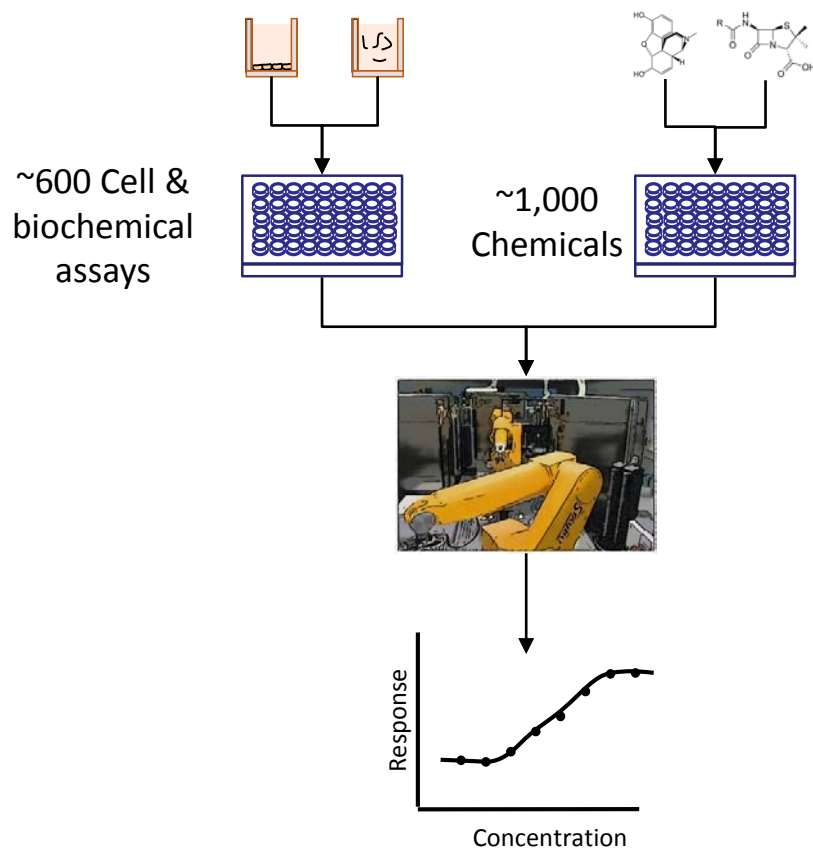
FLAGS:

Only one conc above baseline, active
Borderline active

- Public release of Tox21 and ToxCast data on PubChem and EPA web site (raw and processed data)
- Transparent ToxCast data analysis pipeline
 - Data quality flags to indicate concerns with chemical purity and identity, noisy data, and systematic assay errors
 - Publicly available as an R package
- Tox21 and ToxCast chemical libraries have undergone analytical QC and results publicly available
- Public posting of ToxCast procedures
 - Chemical Procurement and QC
 - Data Analysis
 - Assay Characteristics and Performance
- External audit on ToxCast data and data analysis pipeline

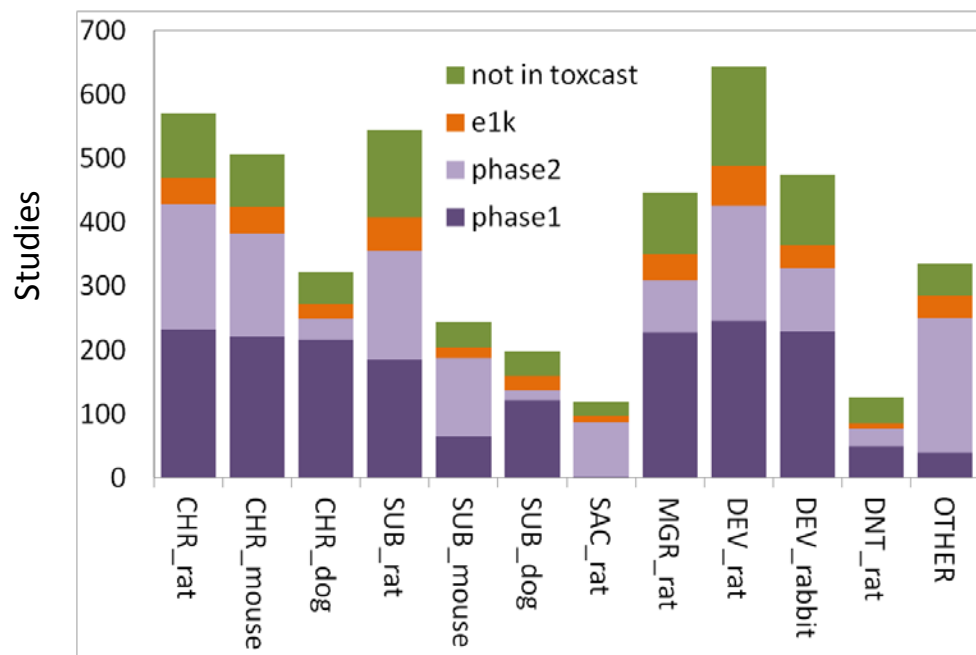
Most Environmental Chemicals are Nonselective for Biological Targets

ToxCast



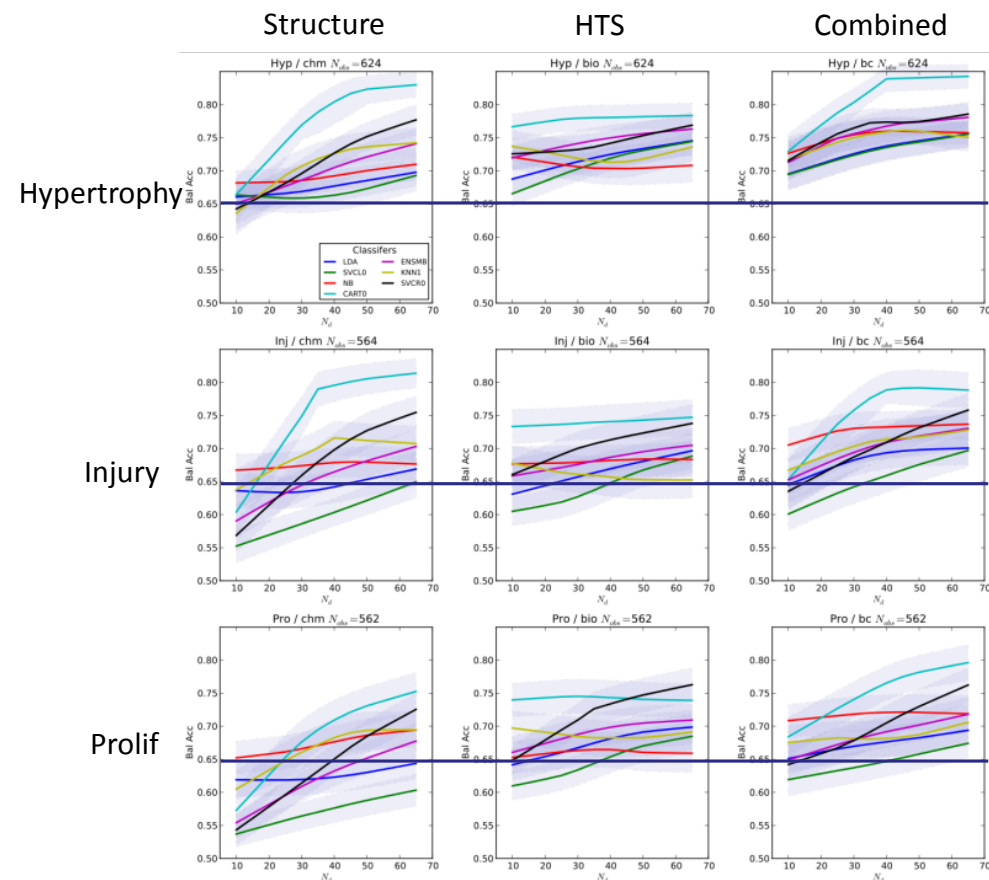
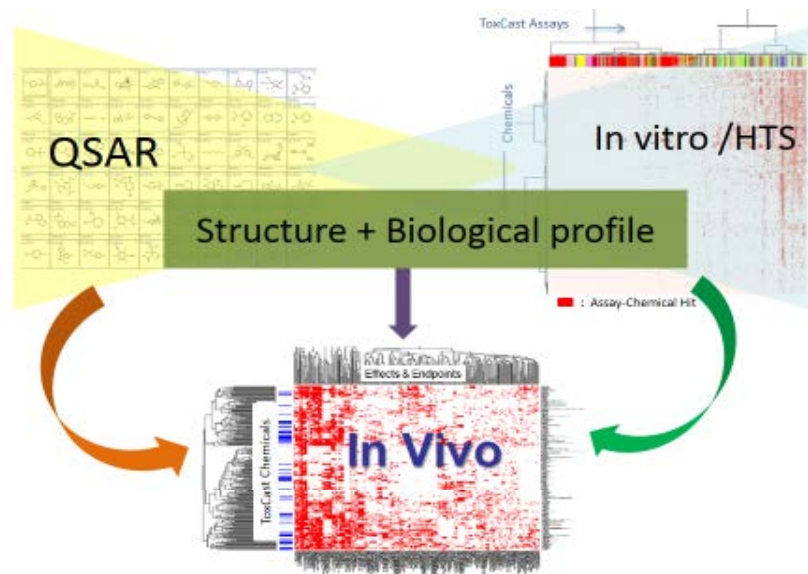
ToxRefDB: Digitizing Legacy *in vivo* Toxicology Data

- ToxRefDB holds *in vivo* endpoint data from animal toxicology studies (DERs, NTP, open literature, pharma)
- Currently at 5567 studies on 1049 unique chemicals

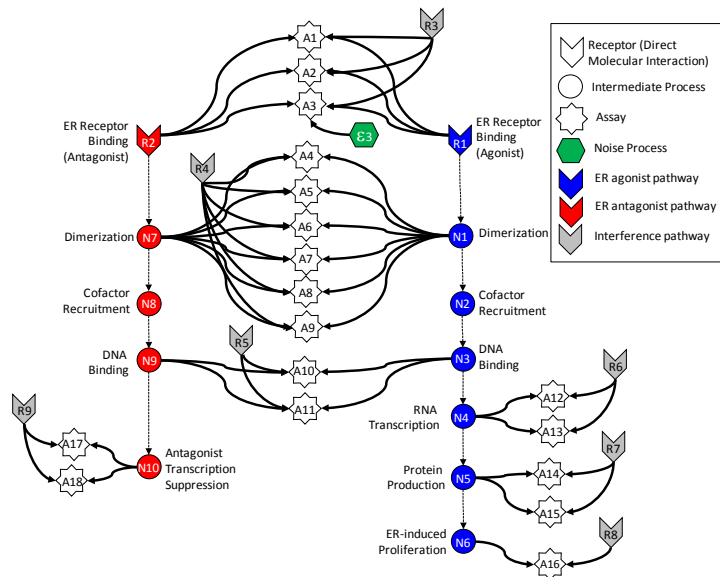


Data Source	Study Count
EPA OPP DER	3279
Open Literature	731
National Toxicol Program	666
Sanofi_Pharma	222
Unpublished Submissions	50
GSK Pharma	38
Health Canada PMRA DER	23

Predicting Target Organ Toxicities by Machine Learning



Developing a Pathway Model to Predict Endocrine Activity



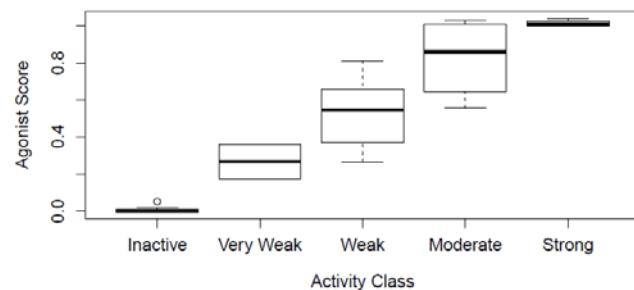
Performance for *In Vitro* Reference Chemicals

# True Pos	28
# True Neg	12
# False Pos	0
# False Neg	4
PPV	1.0
NPV	0.75
BA	0.94
Sensitivity	0.88
Specificity	1.0

Performance for *In Vivo* Uterotrophic Studies

# True Pos	28
# True Neg	12
# False Pos	1
# False Neg	1
PPV	0.97
NPV	0.92
BA	0.95
Sensitivity	0.97
Specificity	0.92

ER Pathway Model Integrating 18 *In Vitro* Assays



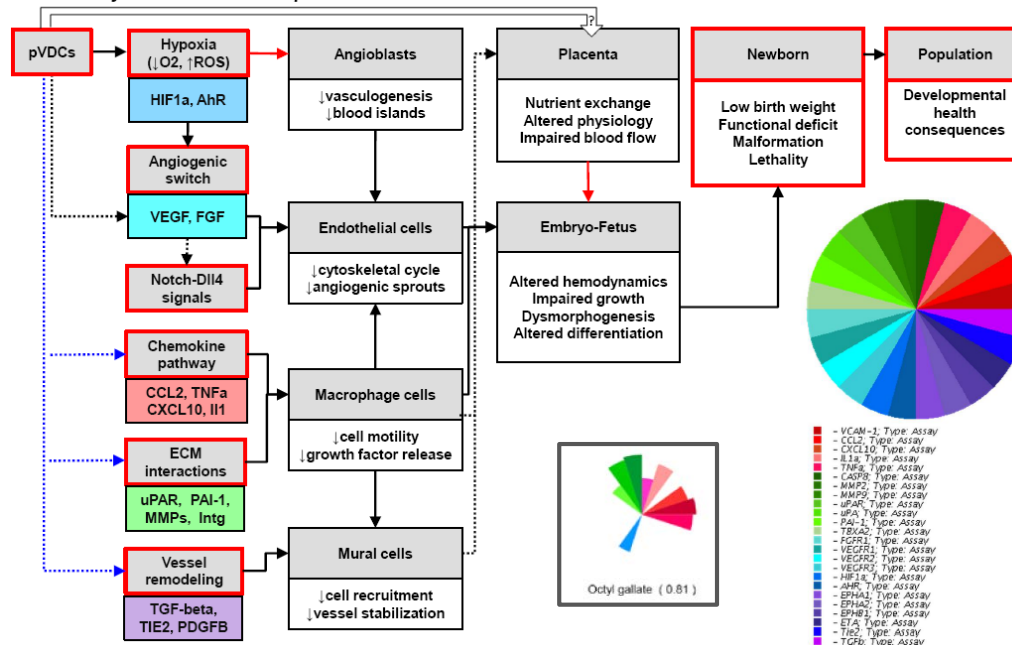
Judson *et al.*, ToxSci (in press)

ER Active Hit Rate

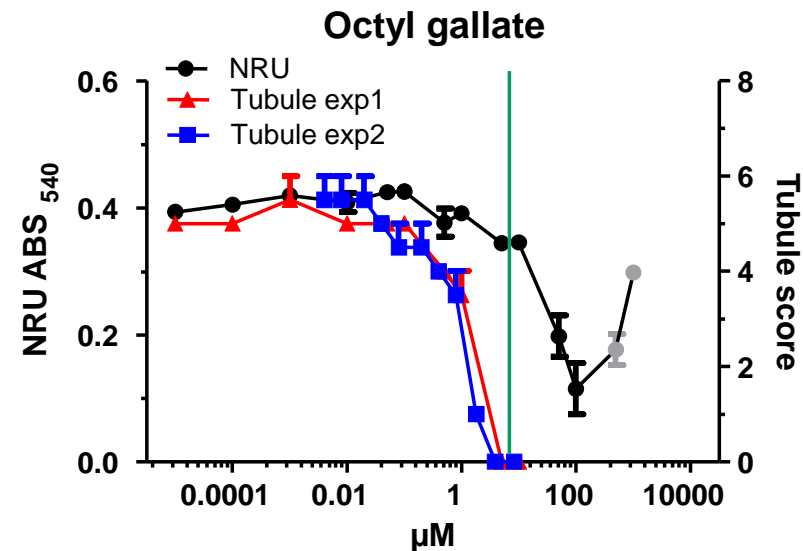
1431 EDSP chemicals run *in vitro*
71 (5%) have a significant ER score

Systems Biology Models To Scale Targets to Pathways and Networks – Virtual Tissues

AOP: Embryonic Vascular Disruption Kleinstreuer *et al.*, PLoS Comput Biol 9(4):e1002996, 2013



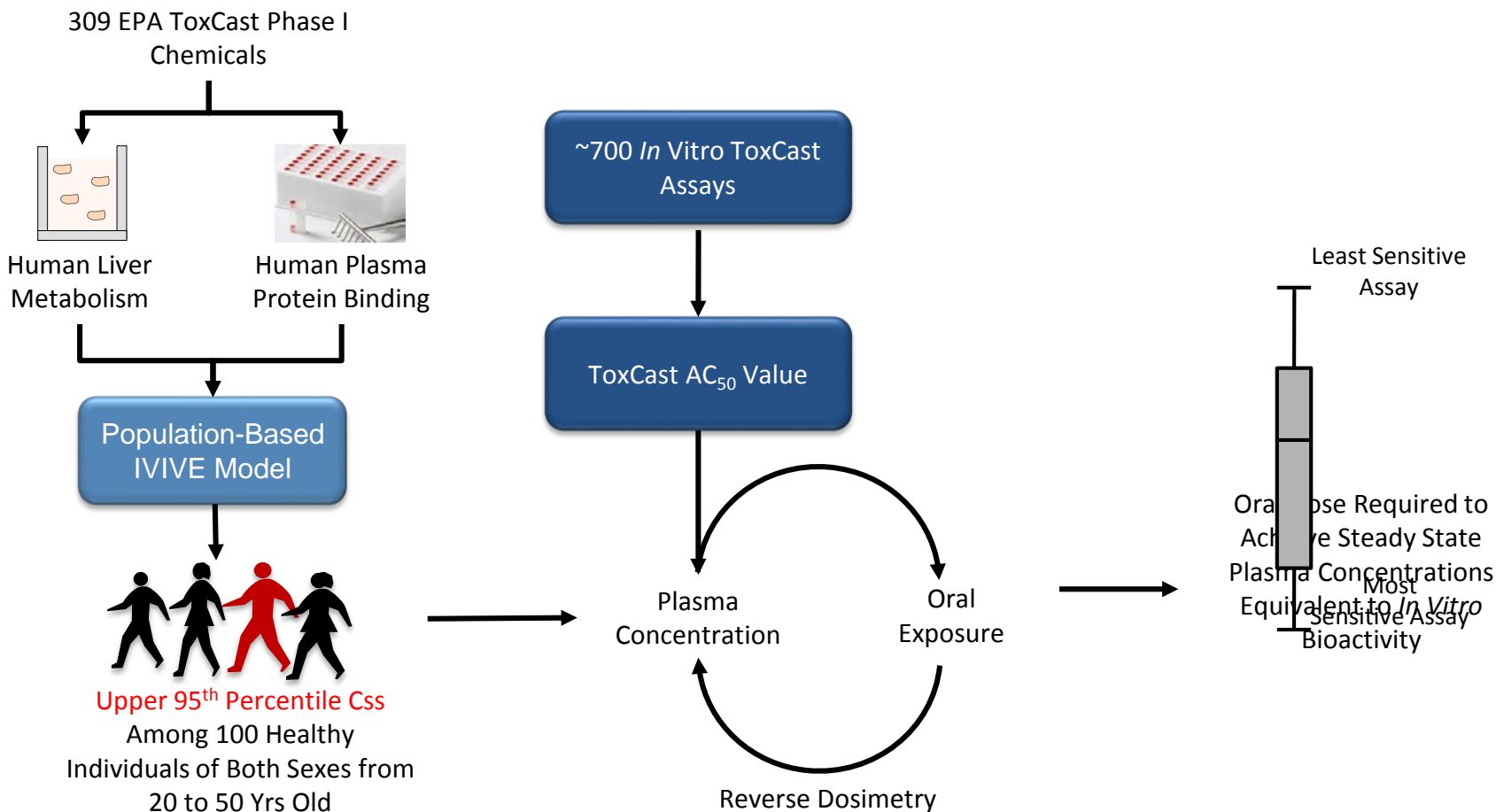
Human Tubulogenesis Assay (FICAM: T Heinonin)



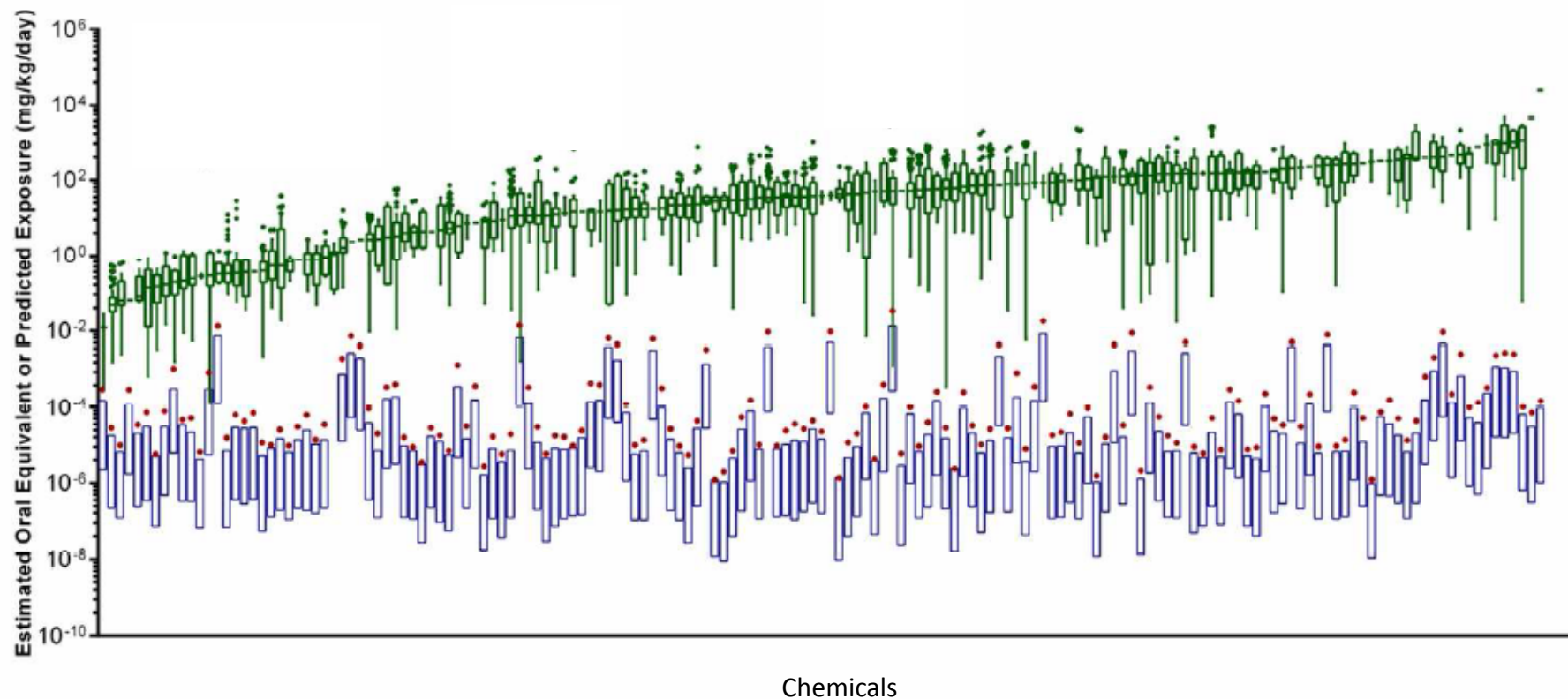
Cell ABM of Octyl Gallate (NCCT: G Nagaraj)



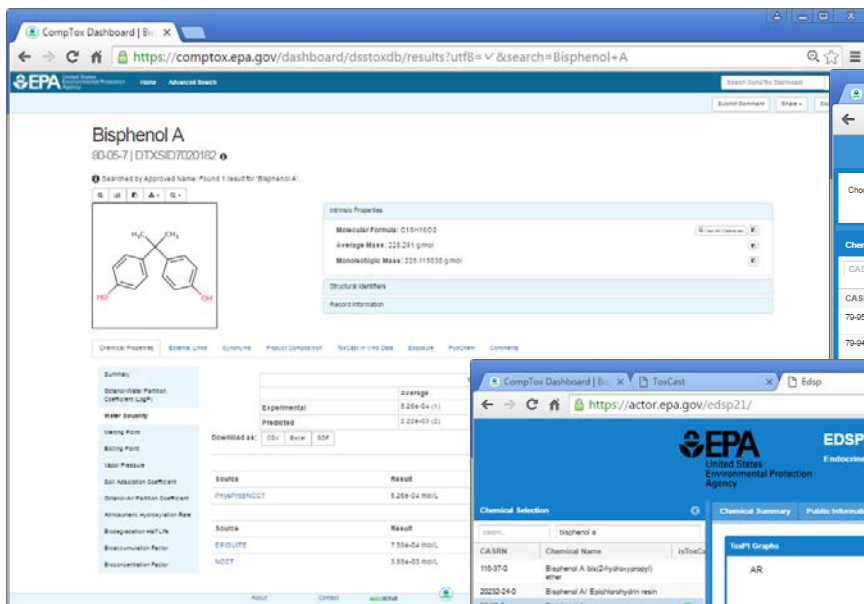
Providing Context by Incorporating Toxicokinetics and Exposure



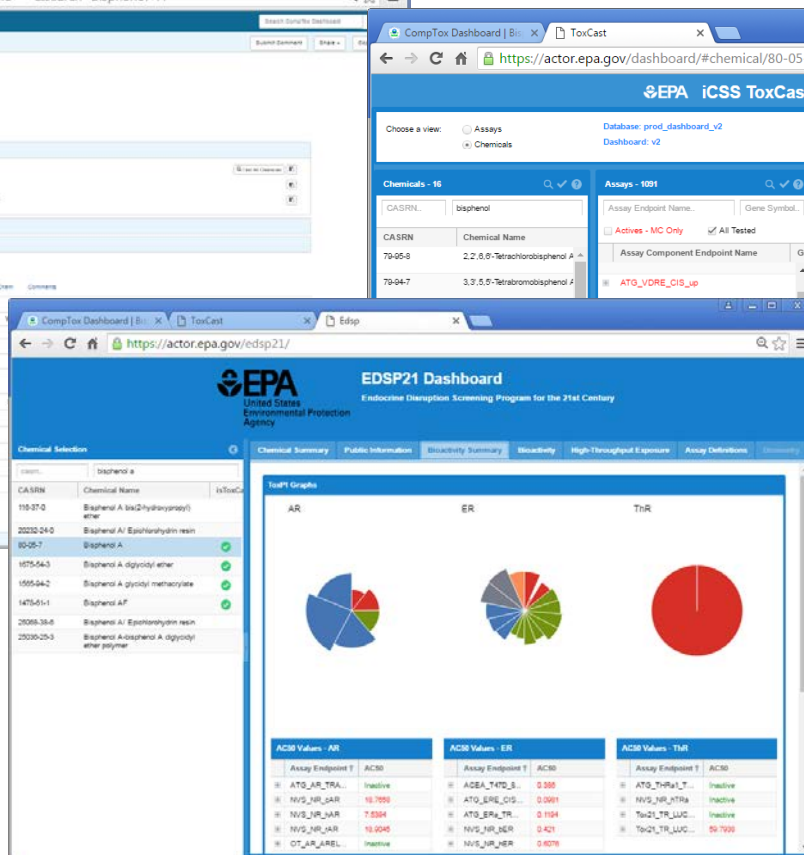
Comparing Bioactivity with Exposure Predictions for Risk Context



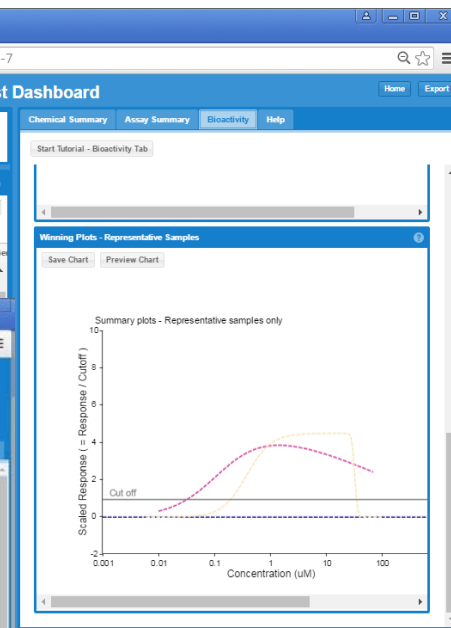
Delivering Data to Stakeholders and Scientific Community



Chemistry Dashboard
(<https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/>)

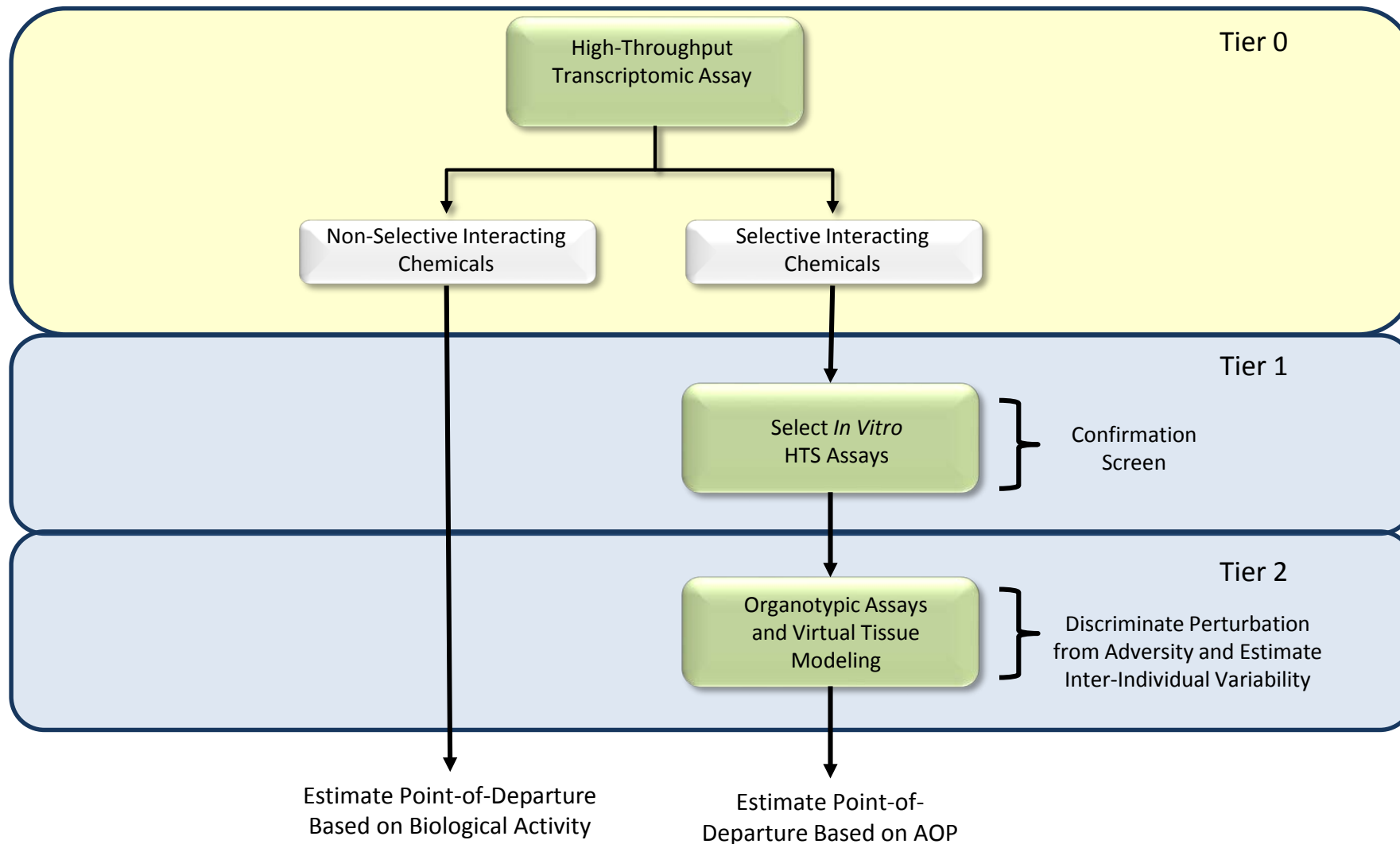


EDSP21 Dashboard
(<https://actor.epa.gov/edsp1>)



ToxCast Dashboard
(<https://actor.epa.gov/dashboard/>)

Developing a Broad Hazard Screening Platform

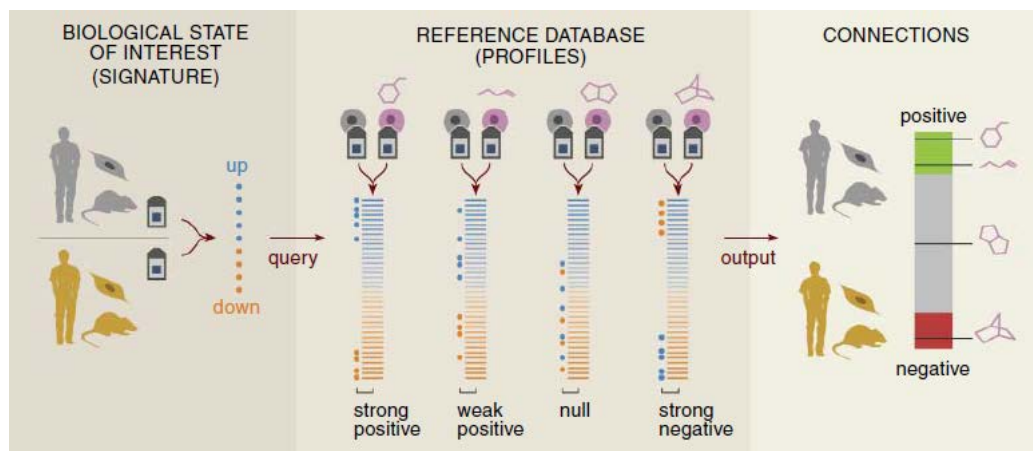


How Would a HT Transcriptomic Platform be Deployed?

High-Throughput
Transcriptomic
Assay

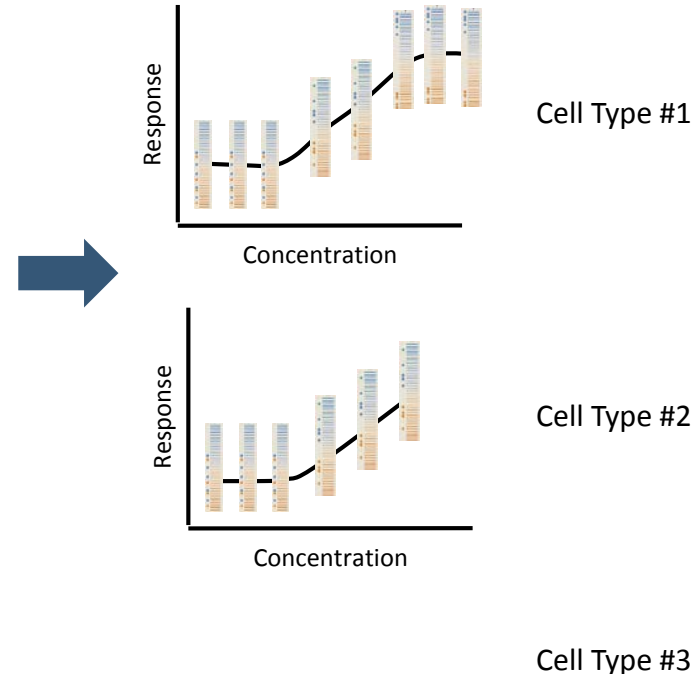
Tier 0

- **Identify predominant mechanisms as a function of concentration**
- Group chemicals by similar mechanism/bioactivity
- Identify a concentration that results in no transcriptional effects



Lamb et al. *Science* (2006)

Broad CMAPdb: 7,000 profiles; 1,309 compounds
NIH LINCS CMAPdb: 9,000 shRNAs, 3,000 over expression ORFs, and 4,000 compounds in 20 cell types/lines (cell lines and primary cells)

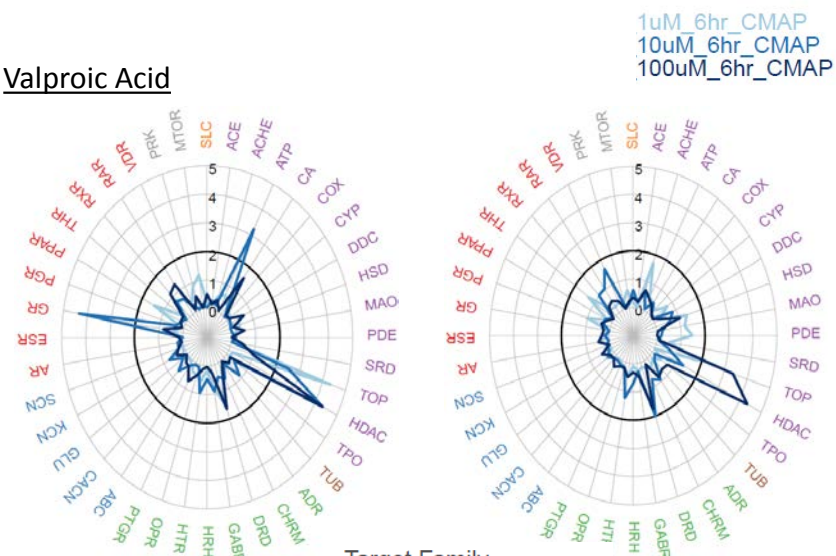


Using HT Transcriptomics to Identify Mode-of-Action

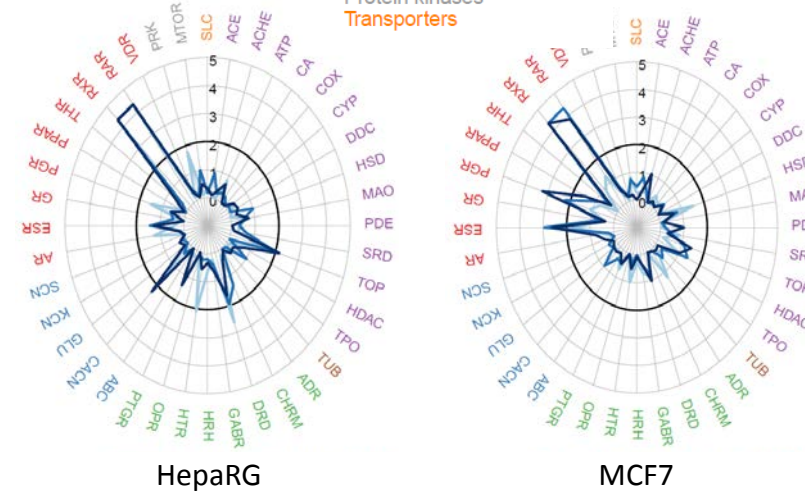
Target Family	Total Profiles	Target Genes	Chemicals	Cell Lines
Cytokine receptors	3	1	1	3
Enzymes	336	40	112	5
Exosome	14	1	4	4
G protein-coupled receptors	585	16	192	4
Ion channels	194	8	65	3
Nuclear receptors	227	10	71	5
Protein kinases	19	8	6	4
Transporters	102	2	35	3

- Developed local database of Broad's CMAP data (~3,000 profiles)
- Annotated targets using KEGG (1,571 profiles)
- Significant genes identified using a z-score cutoff of 2
- Incorporated "JG" scoring method (Jiang and Gentleman 2007)
- Determine significance using a permuted rank approach across target family

Valproic Acid

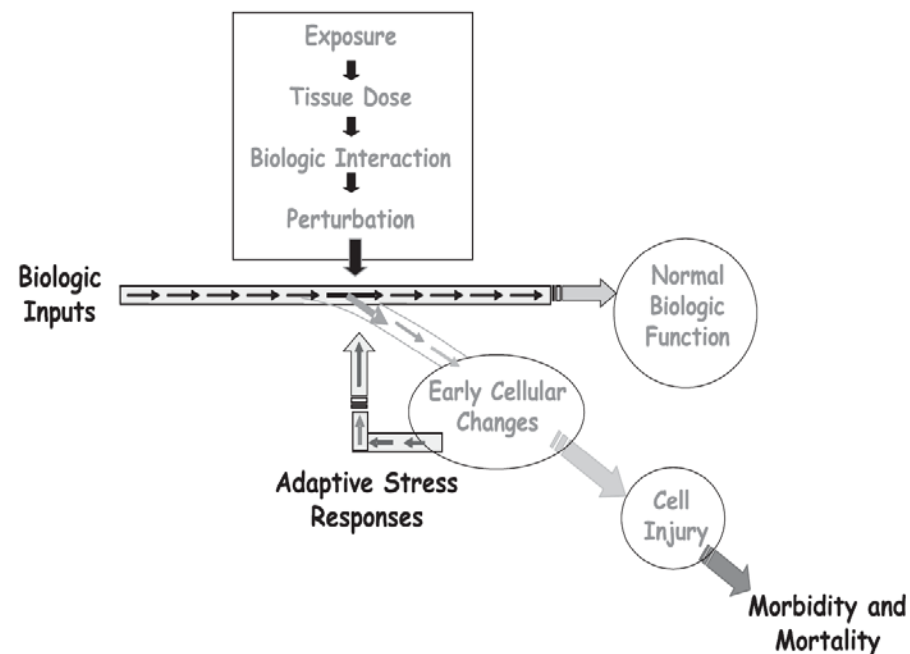


Retinoic Acid



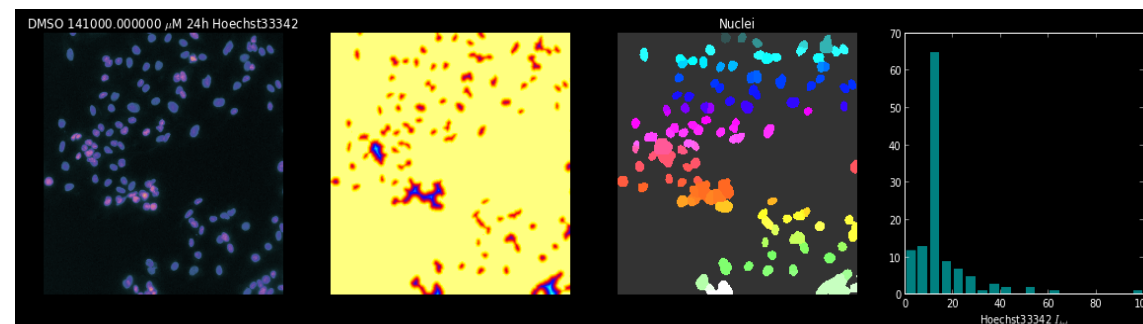
Distinguishing Adaptation from Adversity

- ❑ **Tipping Point:** Threshold between adaptation and adversity



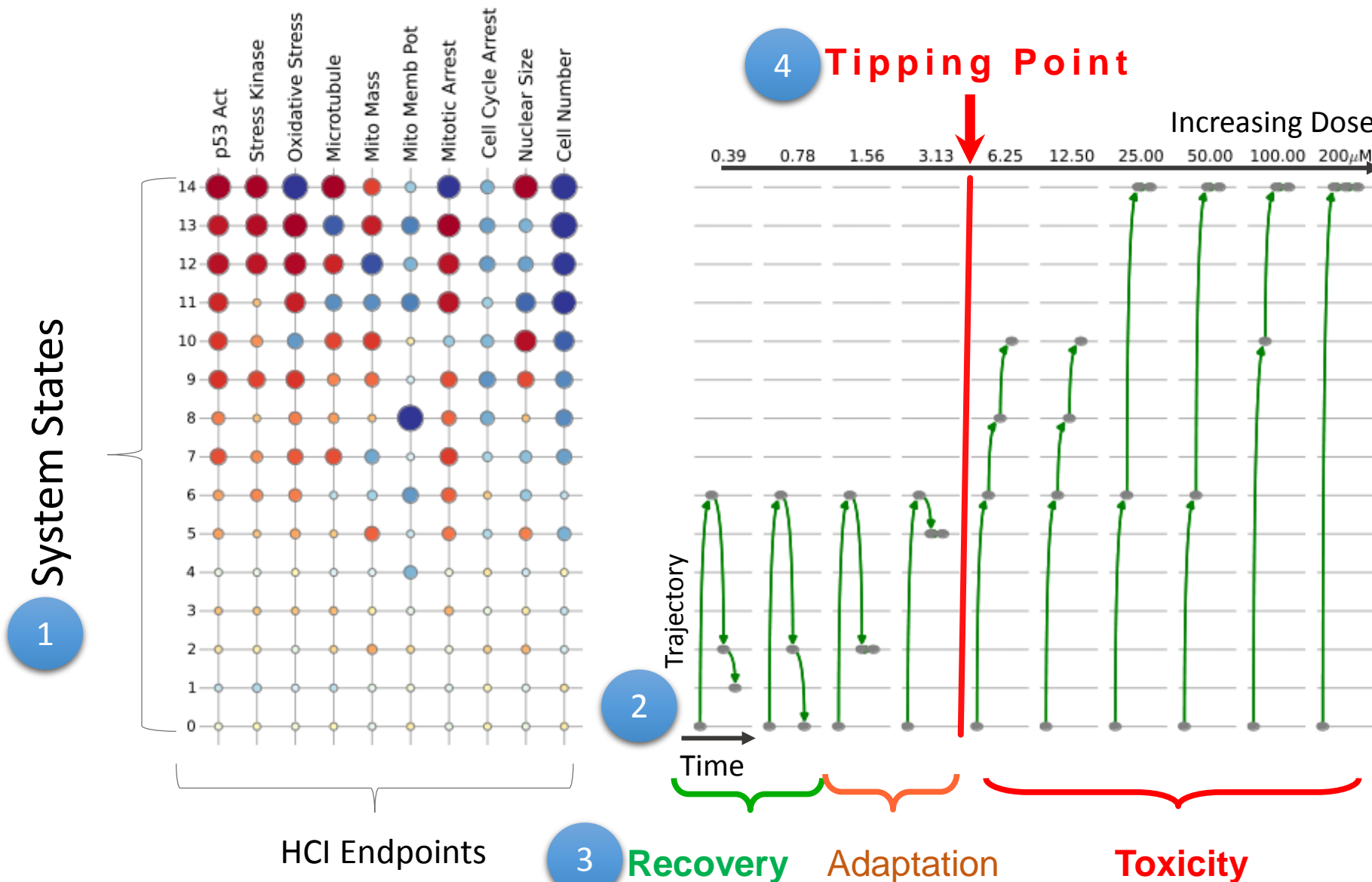
- ❑ Can we use **Tipping Point** to define a point of departure (PoD) for risk assessment ?

- ❑ Use ToxCast High Content Imaging (HCI) data to identify Tipping Points



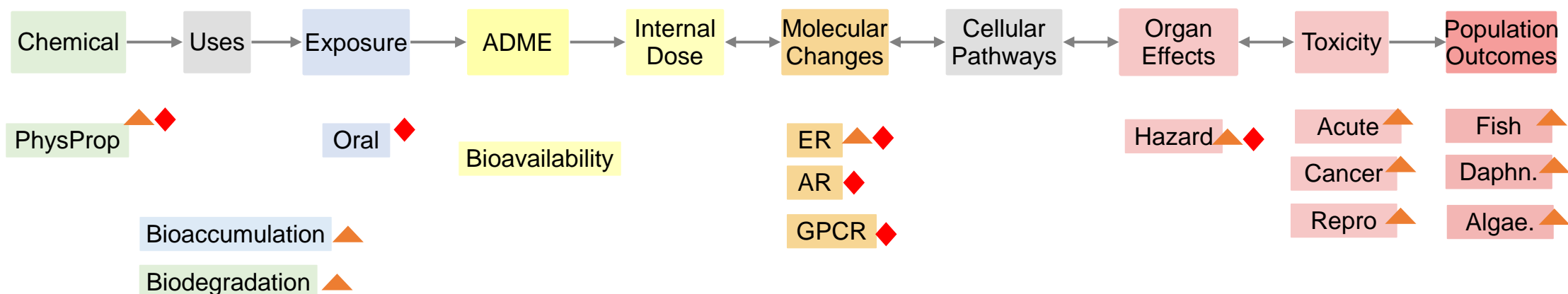
- 967 chemicals (ToxCast)
- HepG2 cells culture
- 10 concentrations
- 3 Time points
- 10 HCI Assays
- 400 plates
- 100,000 wells
- 2,400,000 images

Tipping Point Analysis



Thousands of chemicals have limited data!

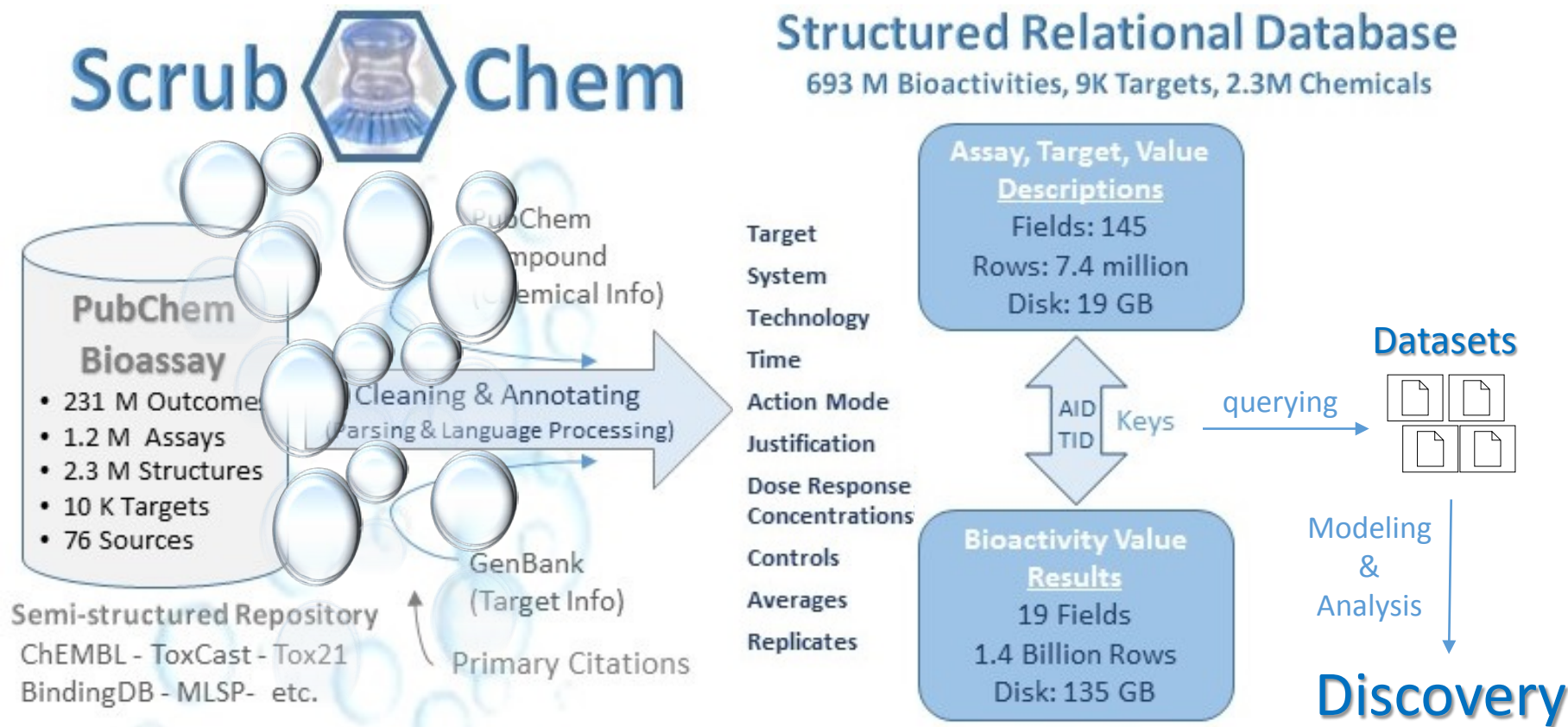
- Tens of thousands of environmental chemicals have very limited exposure/biological data
 - Need more effective tools to describe chemical properties, effects and linkages
 - Need predictive models to fill data gaps



▲ existing/legacy tools: TIMES, LeadScope, ECOSAR, EPIWIN

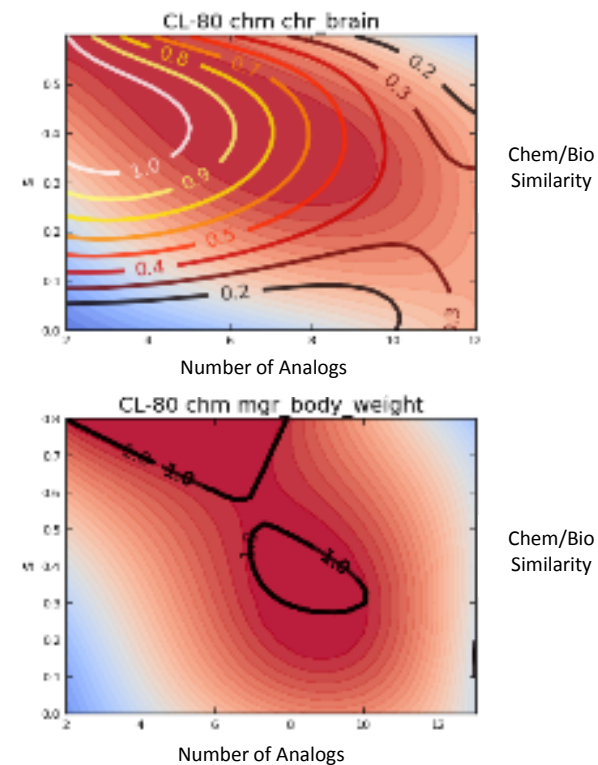
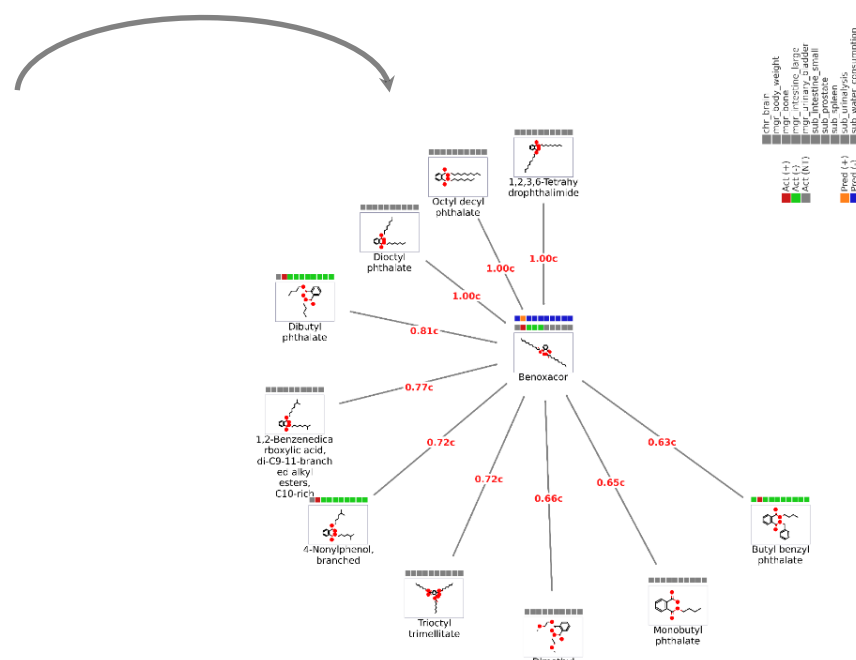
◆ developed internally: Read-across/GenRA, Machine Learning: classification and regression

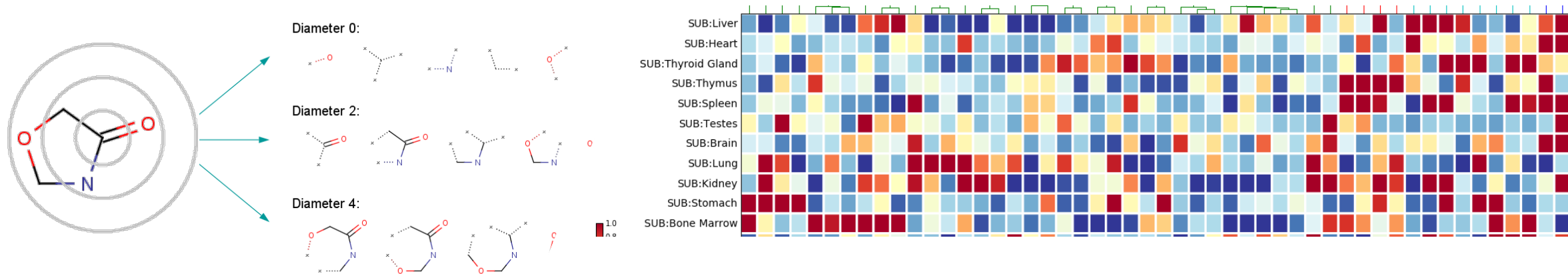
Structuring PubChem Data for Analysis



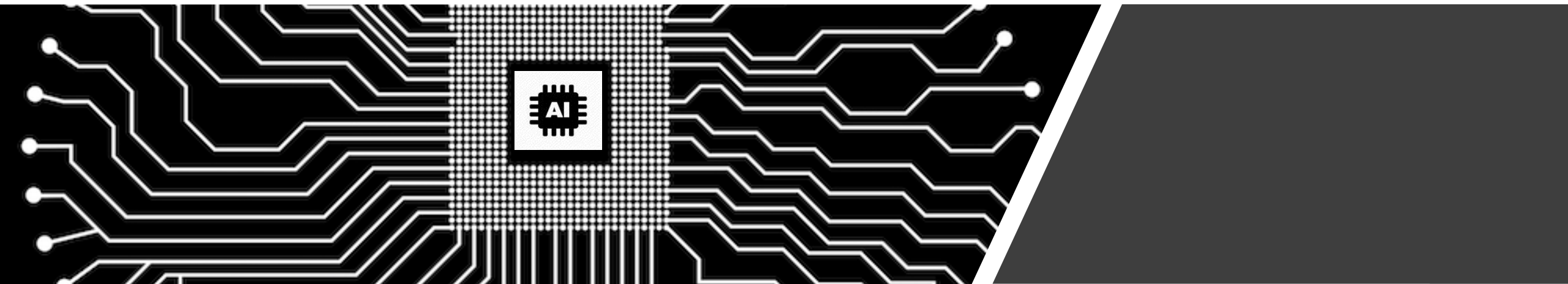
The Read-across toxicity prediction is a similarity-weighted activity of nearest neighbours based on chemistry and bioactivity descriptors

Uncertainties can be evaluated
across the local neighbourhoods

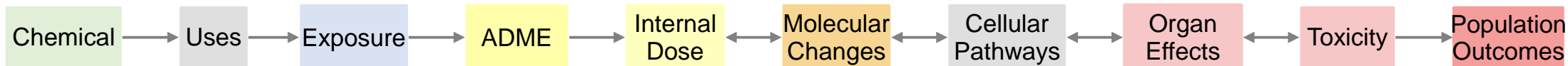




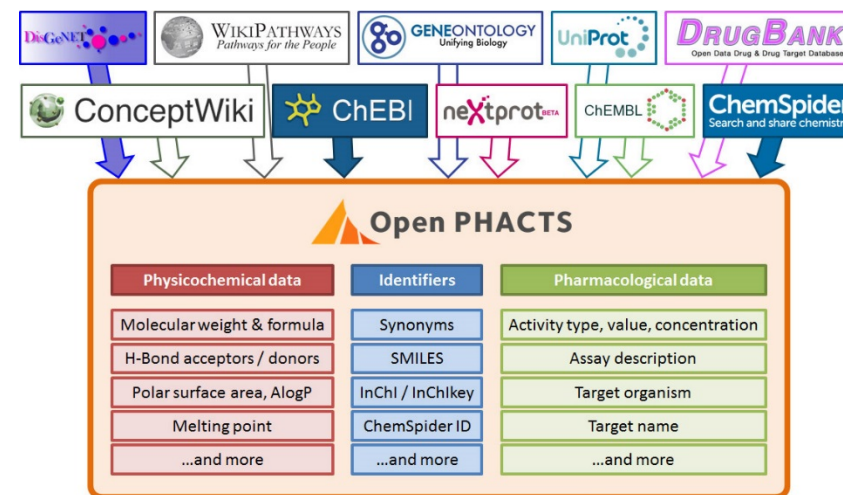
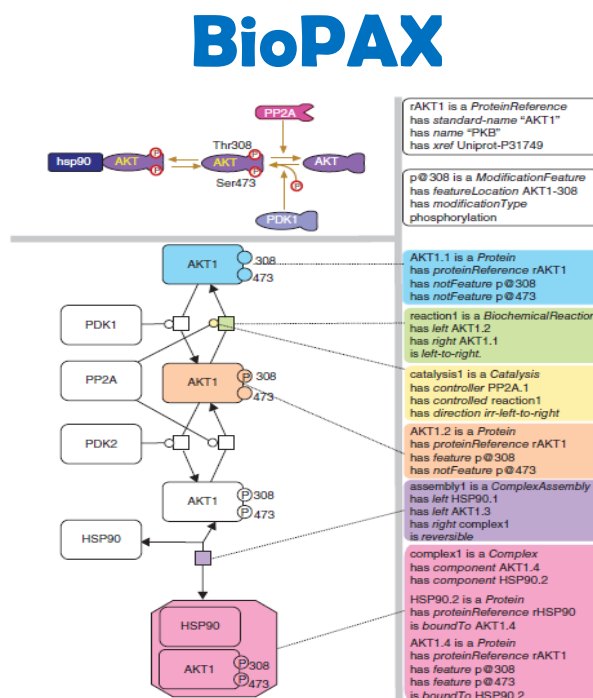
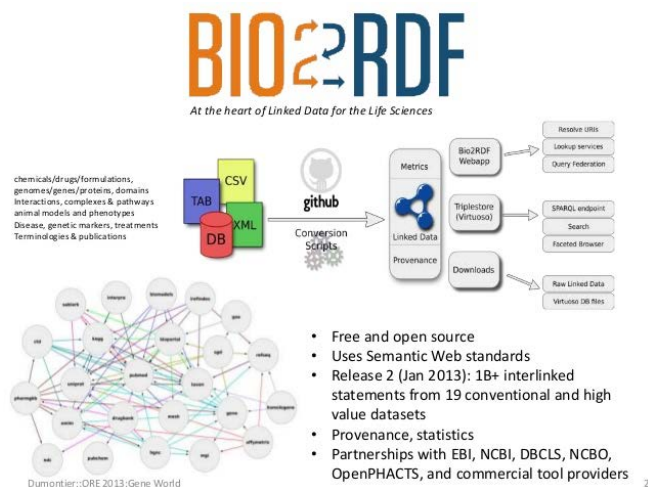
Machine Learning to Predict Chemical Effects



Use Semantic Tools to Link Disparate Data



Can we use semantic tools (OWL/RDF, existing ontologies to meaningfully integrated disparate resources ?



Data Challenges

- Transparently sharing complex data streams— adequately capturing chemical (treatment dose and time), biological (experimental modal, assay, etc.) context to ease re-use
- Systematically integrating disparate data streams— representing linkages across molecular, cellular, tissue, organs. This is vital for relating early molecular changes to adverse (e.g. histopathological) outcomes
- Effectively extracting evidence from unstructured textual data— the literature is one of the largest resource for information about apical outcomes
- Using linked data to better discriminate between adaptation vs adversity— predicting which molecular markers lead to apical outcomes
- Quantifying and incorporating uncertainty and variability in predictions
- Legal defensibility of new methods and assessment products

Acknowledgements and Questions

Tox21 Colleagues:

NTP Crew

FDA Collaborators

NCATS Collaborators

EPA Colleagues:

NERL

NHEERL

NCEA



EPA's National Center for Computational Toxicology