

EPA's Rapid Exposure and Dosimetry Project

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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



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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

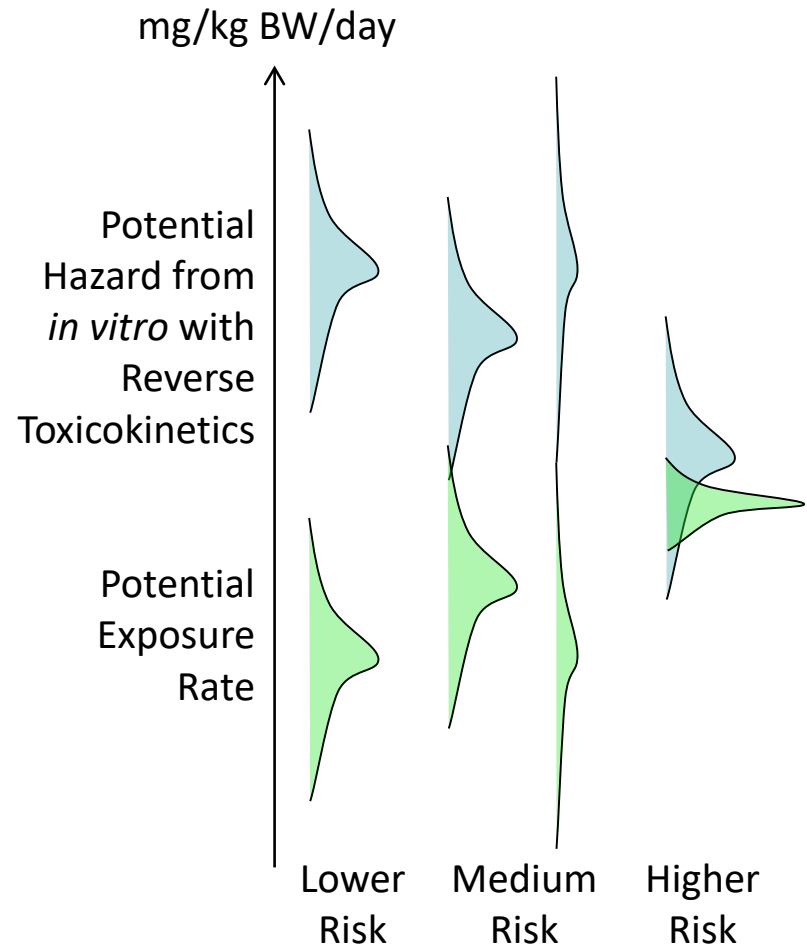
- Park *et al.* (2012): At least 3221 chemicals in humans, many appear to be exogenous



November 29, 2014

High Throughput Risk Prioritization

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



High-Throughput Bioactivity

- **Tox21:** Examining >10,000 chemicals using ~50 assays intended to identify interactions with biological pathways (Schmidt, 2009)

- **EPA Toxicity Forecaster (ToxCast):**

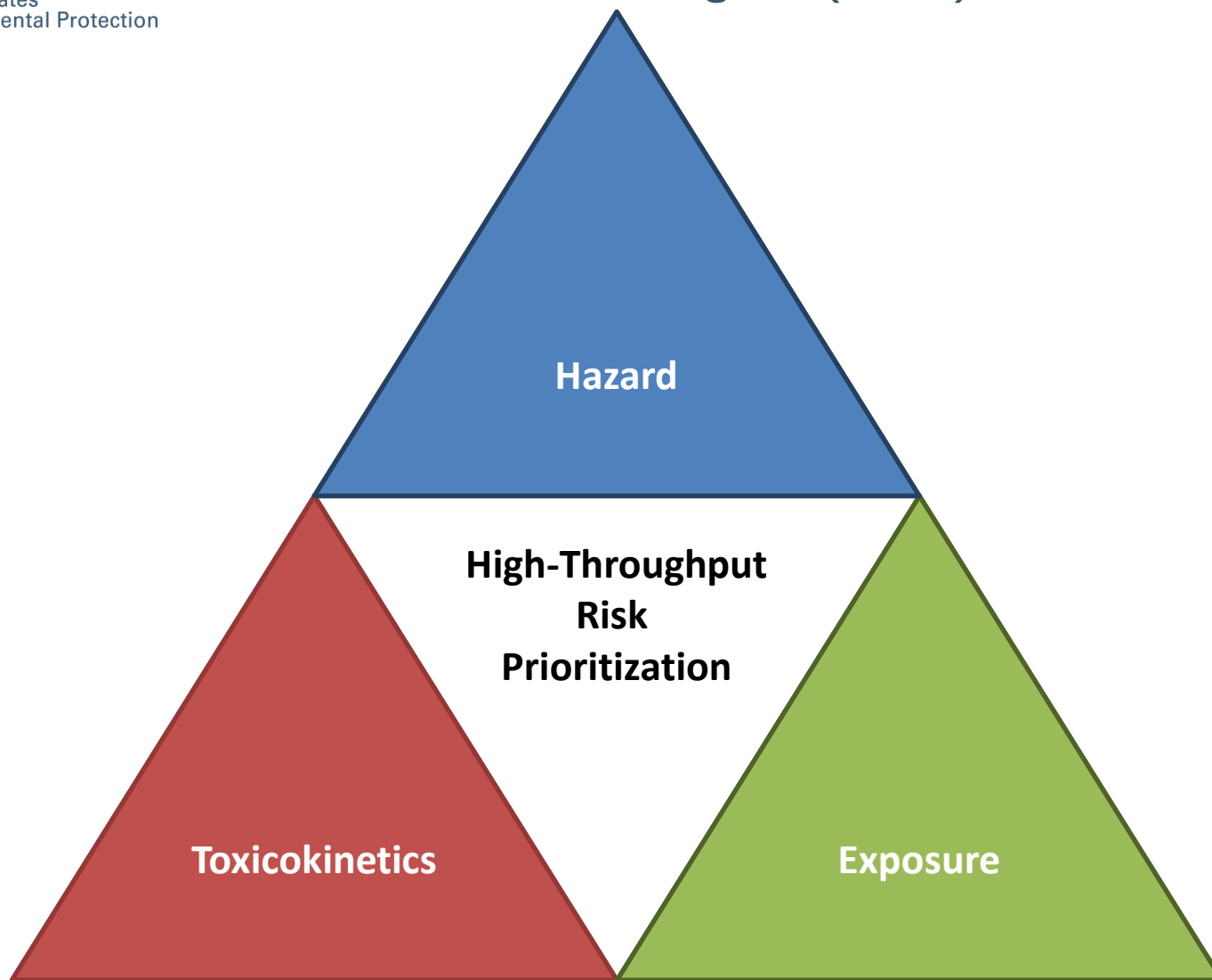
For a subset (>3000) of Tox21 chemicals run >1000 additional assay endpoints (Judson et al., 2010)

Most assays conducted in dose-response format (identify 50% activity concentration – AC50 – and efficacy if data described by a Hill function)



<http://actor.epa.gov/dashboard/>

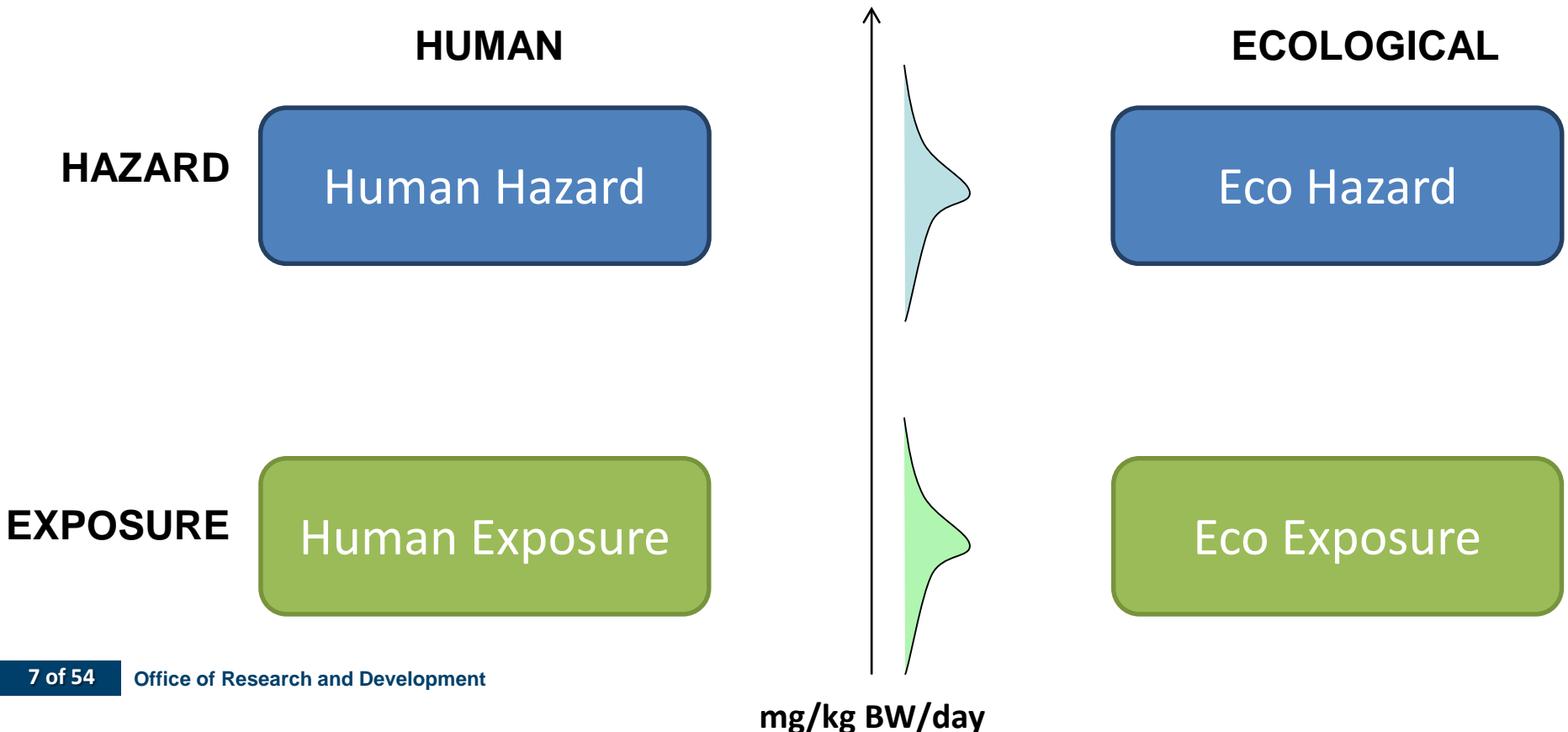
Application to U.S. EPA Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program (EDSP)



High Throughput Chemical Risk Prioritization

Prioritization as in
Wetmore *et al.*
(2015)

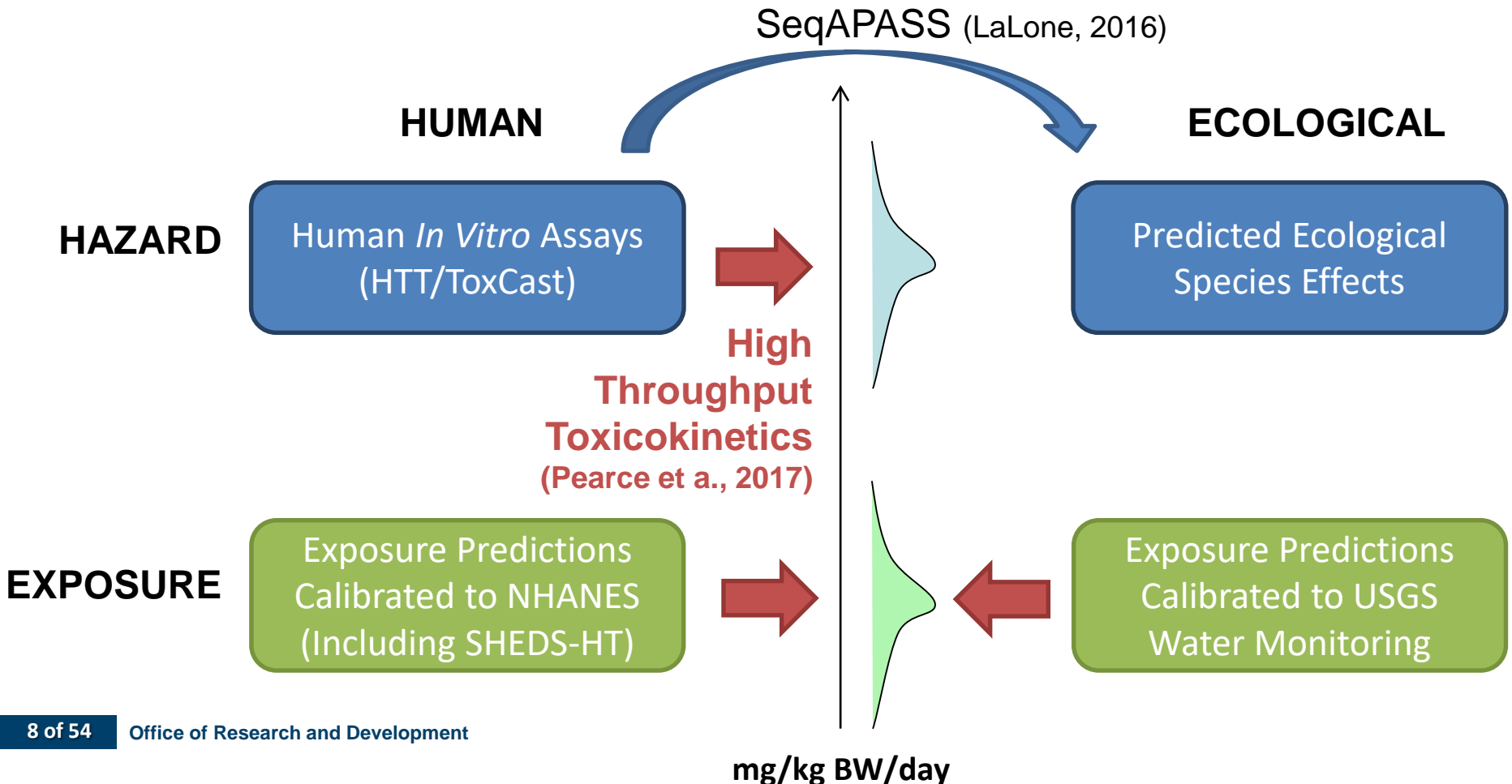
July and December 2014 FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panels reviewed research as it applies to the Endocrine Disruptor Screening Program



High Throughput Chemical Risk Prioritization

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High Throughput Risk Prioritization in Practice

mg/kg bw/day

} ToxCast-derived
Receptor Bioactivity
Converted to
mg/kg/day with
HTTK

} ExpoCast
Exposure
Predictions

Near Field
Far Field

ToxCast Chemicals

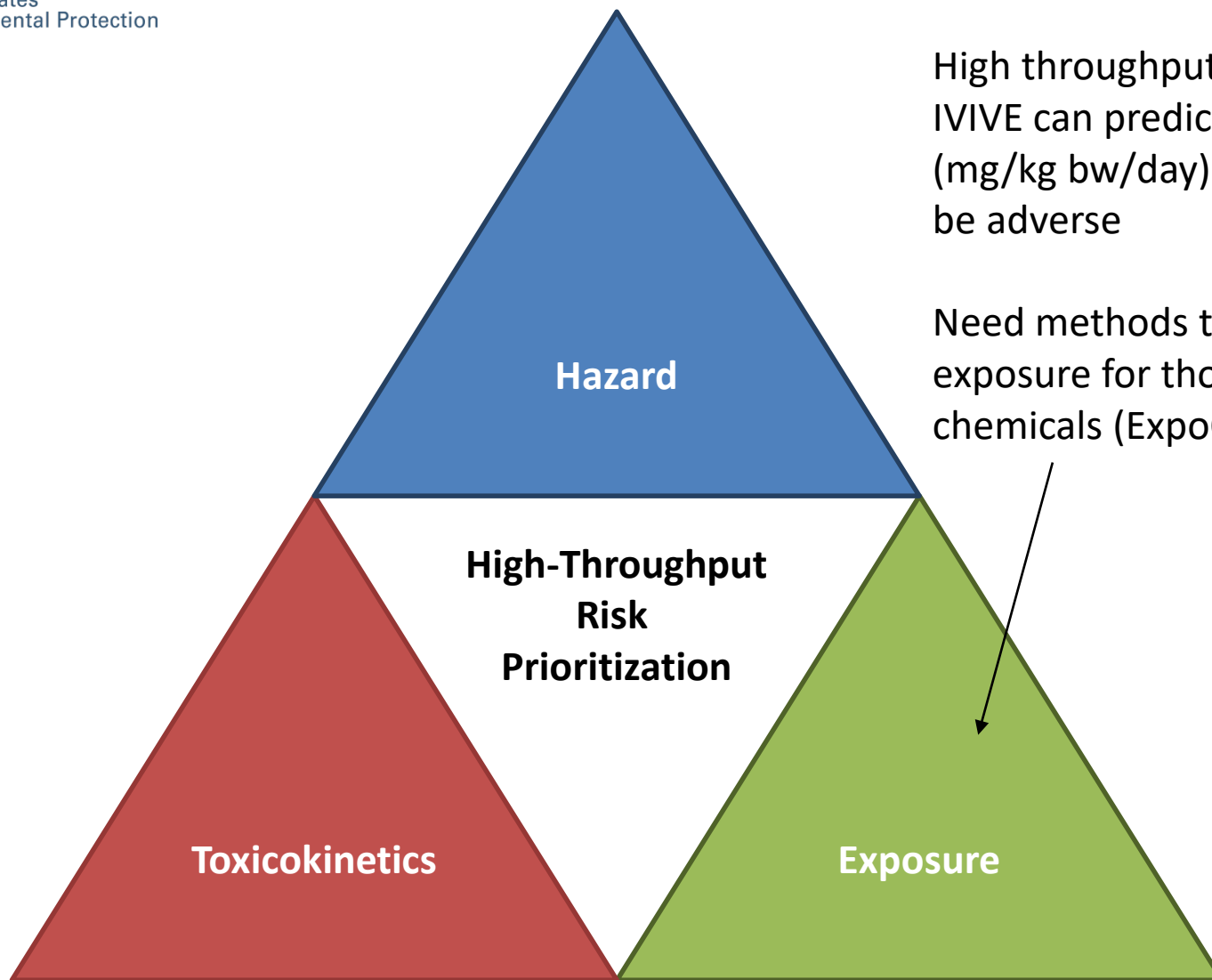
December, 2014 Panel:
“Scientific Issues Associated with Integrated
Endocrine Bioactivity and Exposure-Based
Prioritization and Screening”

ToxCast: Toxicity Forecaster

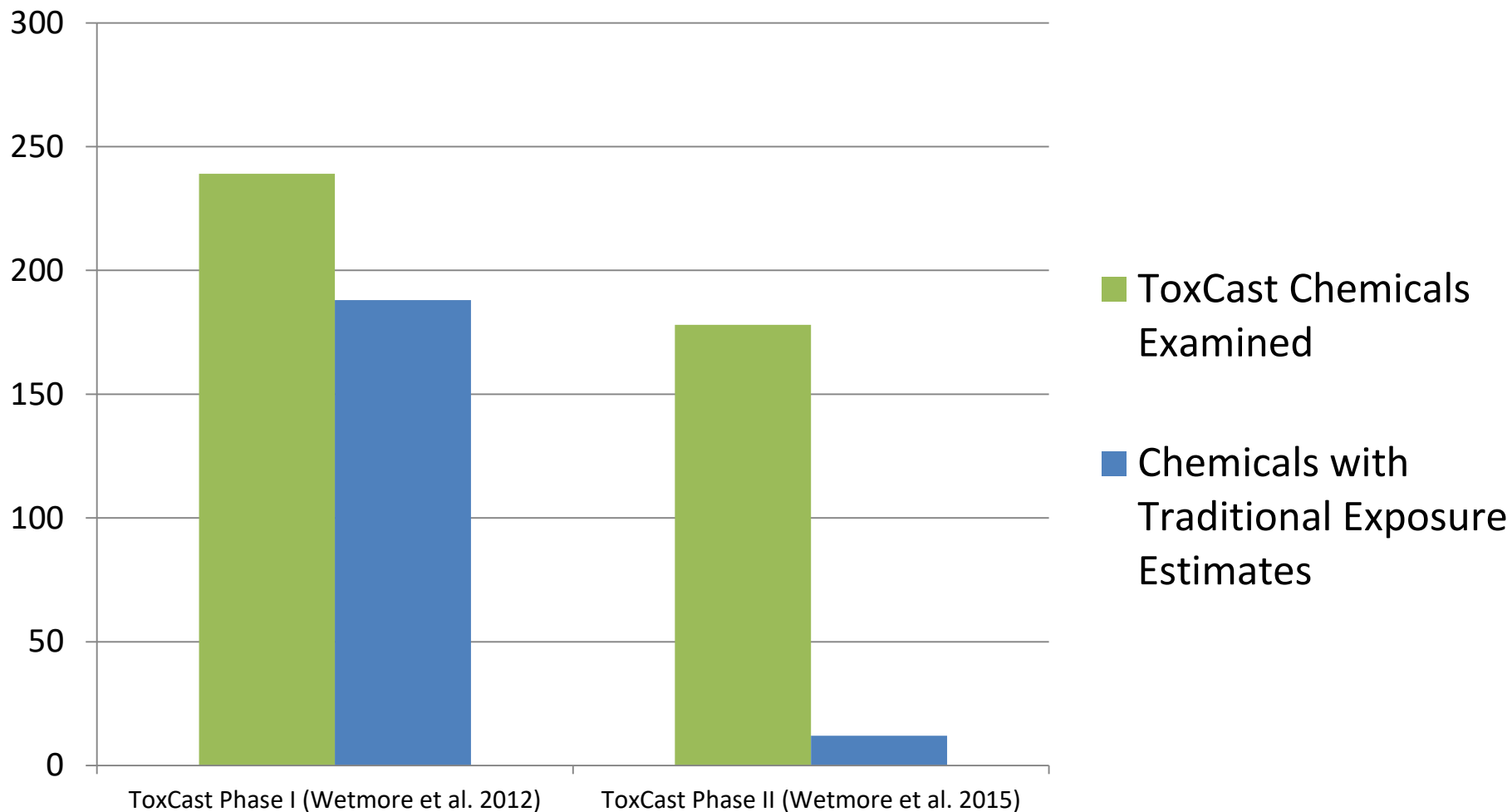
ExpoCast: Exposure Forecaster

Rapid Exposure and Dosimetry Project provides ExpoCast research

High Throughput Exposure

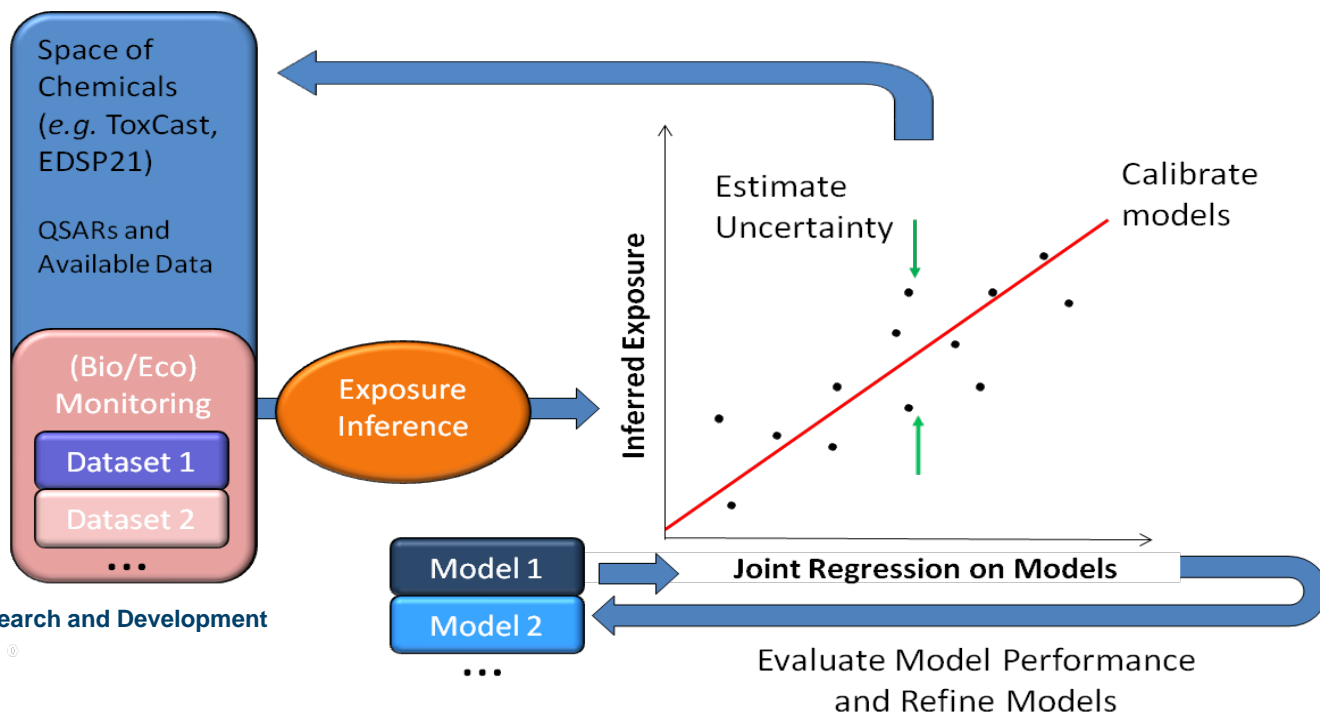


The Need for High Throughput Exposure



Consensus Exposure Predictions with the SEEM Framework

- We incorporate multiple models into consensus predictions for 1000s of chemicals within the **Systematic Empirical Evaluation of Models (SEEM) framework** (Wambaugh et al., 2013, 2014)
- We evaluate/calibrate predictions with available monitoring data
- This provides information similar to a sensitivity analysis: What models are working? What data are most needed? This is an iterative process.
- To date we have relied on median U.S. population exposure rates only



Exposures Inferred from NHANES

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey

- Annual survey, data released on 2-year cycle.
- Different predictive models provide different chemical-specific predictions
 - Some models may do a better job for some chemical classes than others overall, so we want to evaluate performance against monitoring data
- Separate evaluations can be done for various demographics



Heuristics of Exposure

Wambaugh *et al.* (2014)

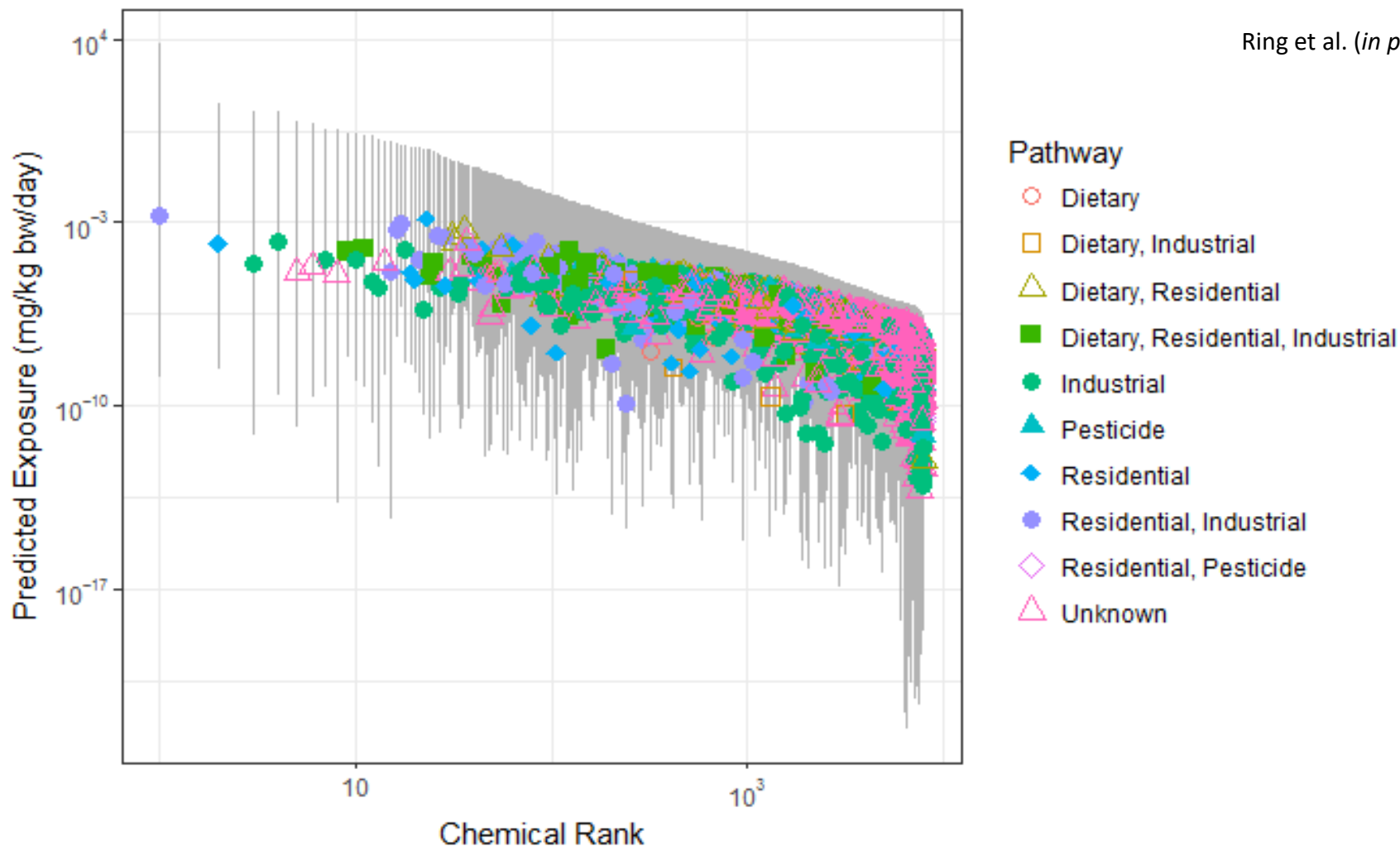
Five descriptors explain roughly 50% of the chemical to chemical variability in median NHANES exposure rates

Same five predictors work for all NHANES demographic groups analyzed – stratified by age, sex, and body-mass index:

- Industrial and Consumer use
- Pesticide Inert
- Pesticide Active
- Industrial but no Consumer use
- Production Volume

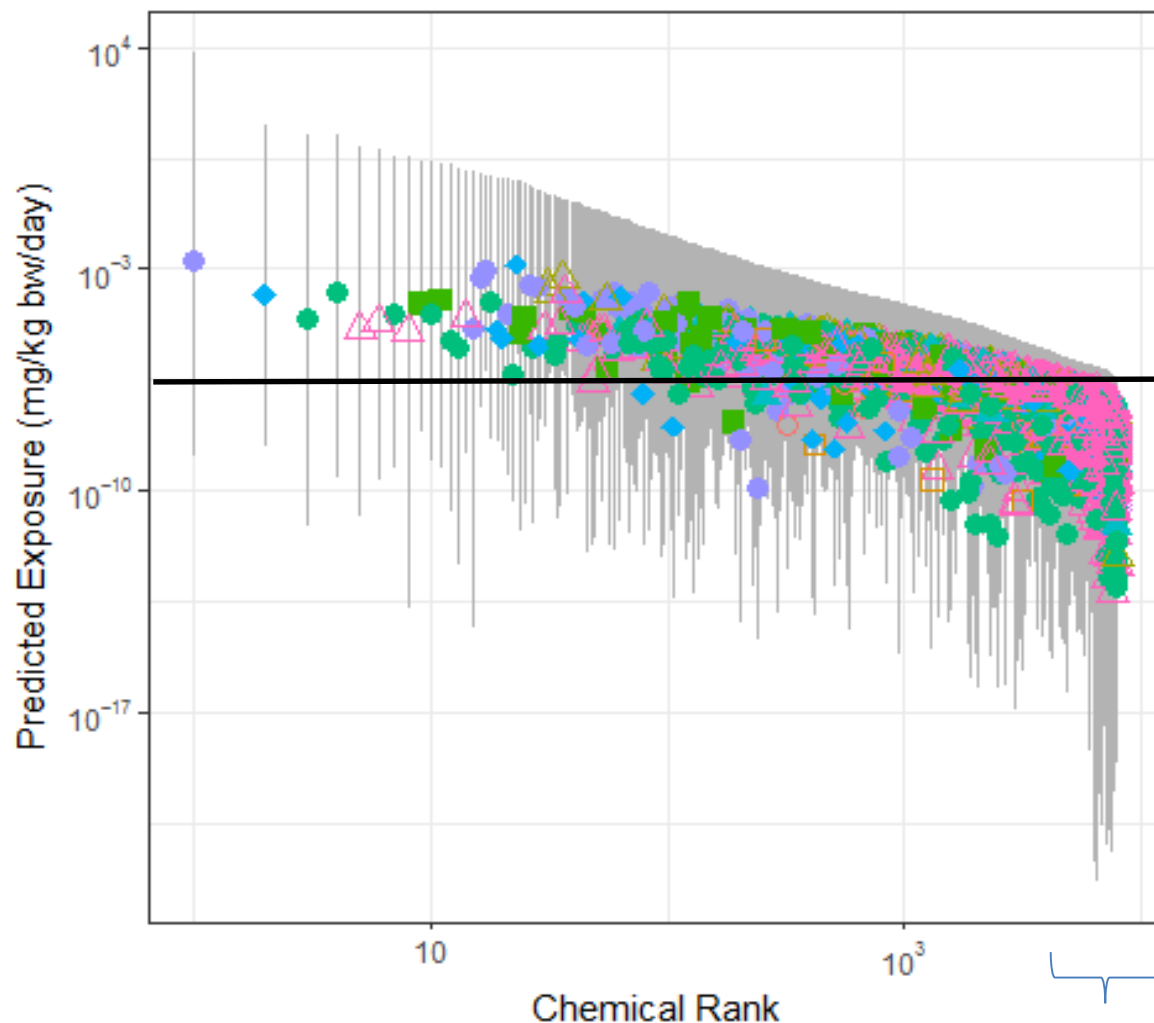
Human Exposure Predictions for 134,521 Chemicals

Ring et al. (*in prep.*)



Human Exposure Predictions for 134,521 Chemicals

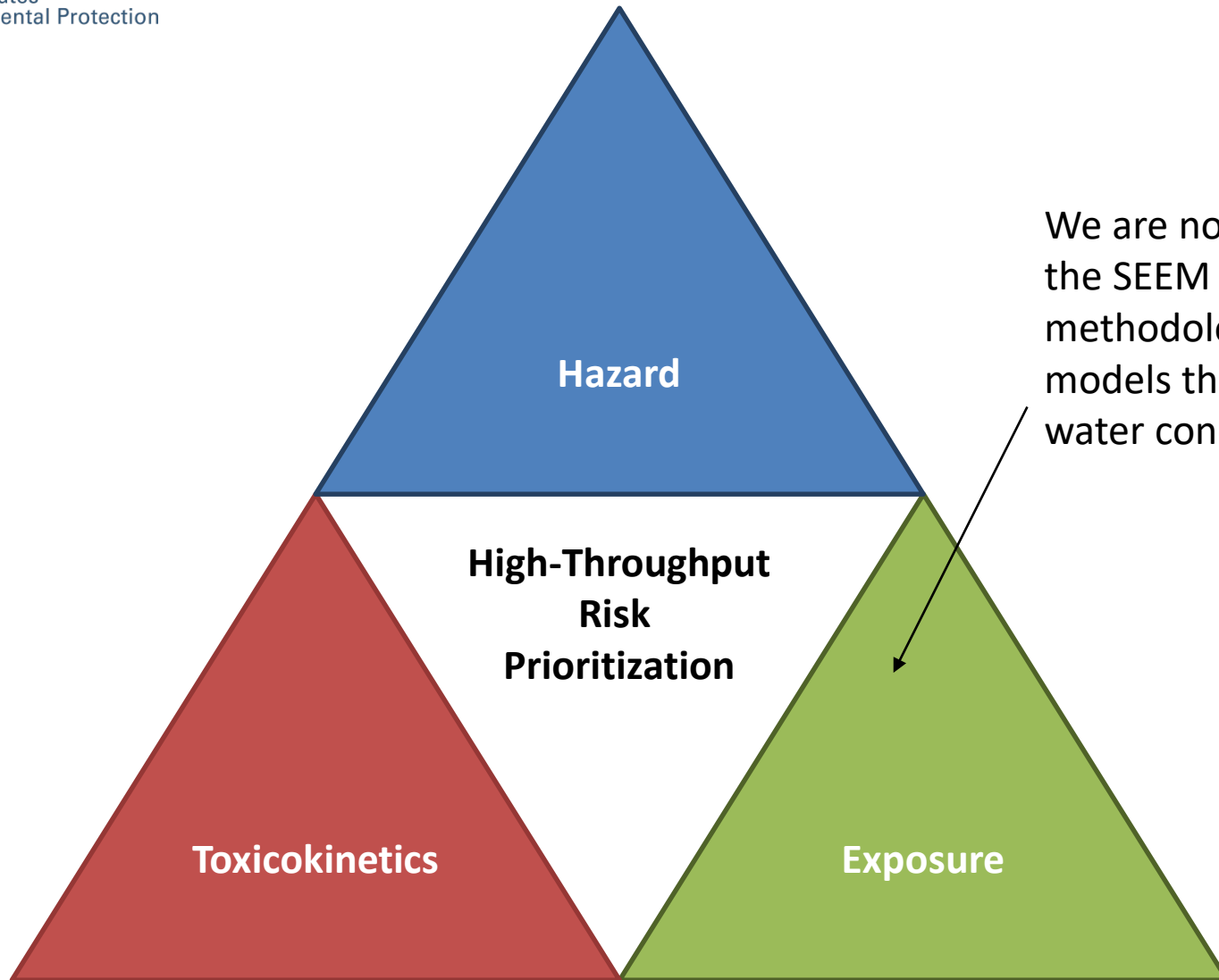
Ring et al. (*in prep.*)



← Lowest NHANES limit of detection (LOD) roughly corresponds to $\sim 10^{-6}$ mg/kg BW/day

95% confident that median population would be <LOD for thousands of chemicals

Water Concentrations



USGS National Water Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Data

<https://www.waterqualitydata.us/portal/>



Surface Water Sampling Sites

> 600,000 surface water sites in lower 48

> 700 individual chemicals

GPS, date, and time stamps

LOD indication

Watersheds

1984 – 2014

Aggregated by
season

HUC Levels

National

Region

(HUC2)

n = 18

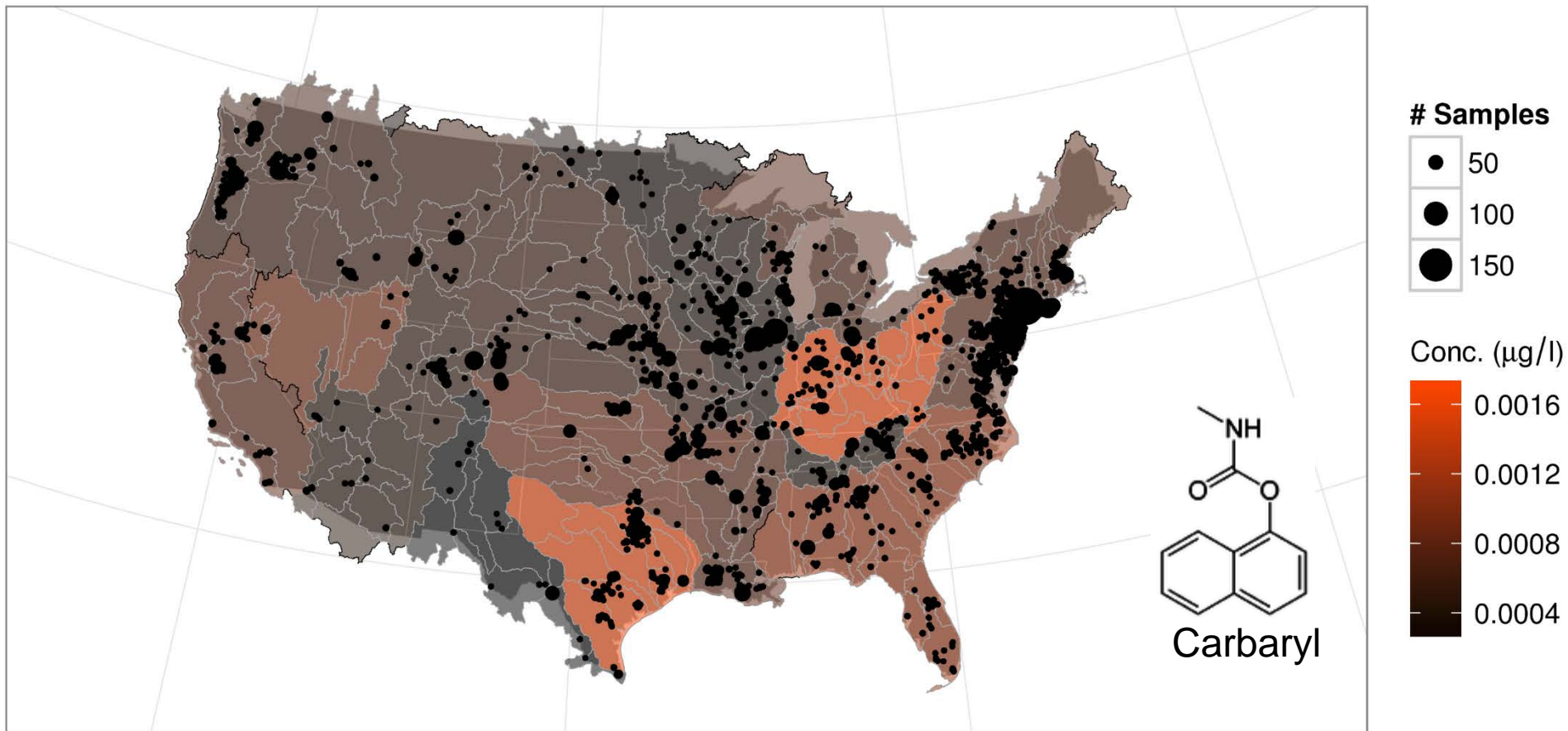
Sub-region

(HUC4)

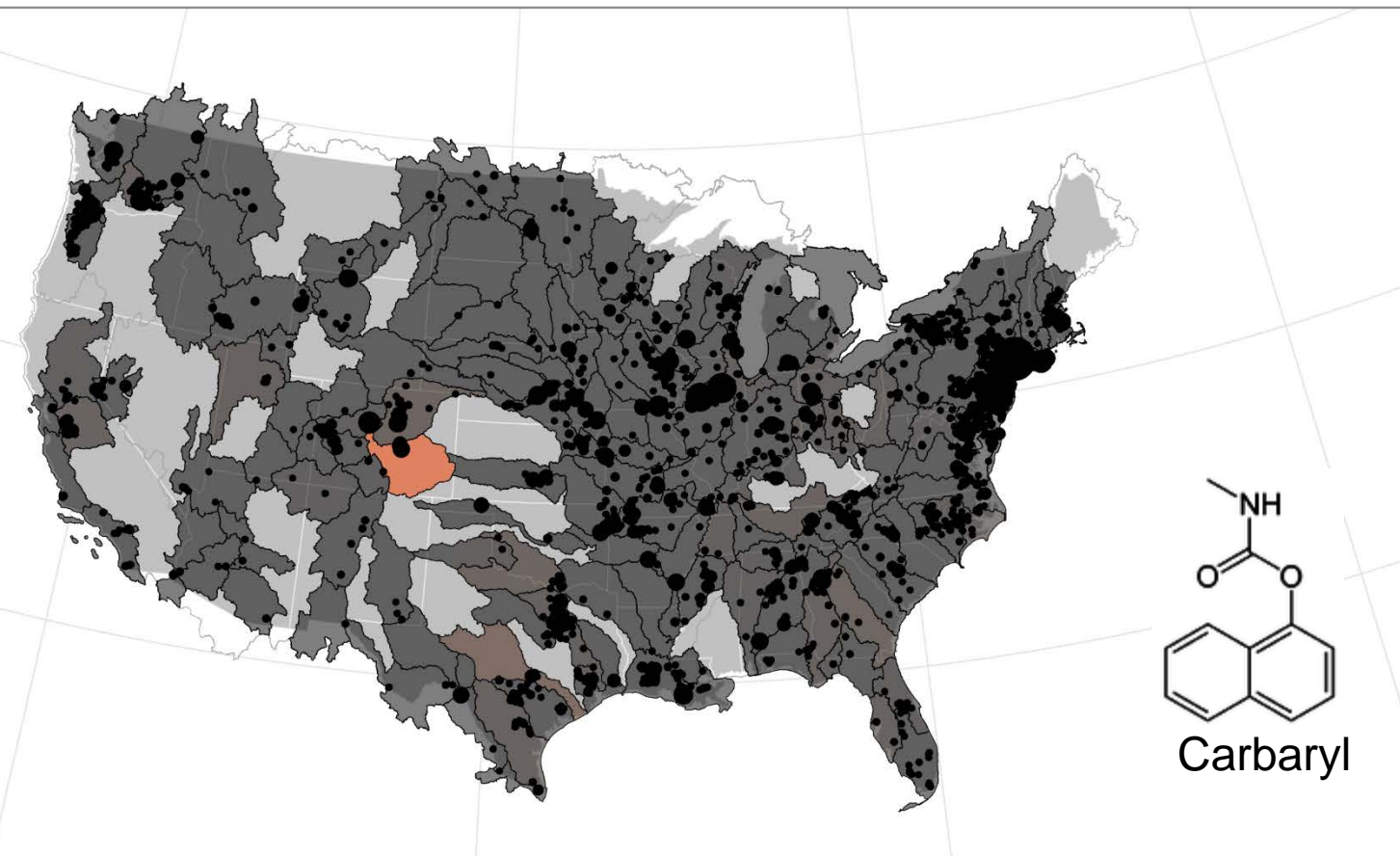
n = 196

HUC = hydrological unit

Regional Watersheds (HUC2)



Sub-Regional Watersheds (HUC4)



Predicting Water Concentrations for Thousands of Chemicals

Fate & transport models

USETox
(n = 82)

Rosenbaum et al.,
2008

RAIDAR
(n = 74)

Arnot et al., 2006

HT-EXAIR
(n = 91)

Barber et al., 2017

Loading models

**SHEDS-HT-
DTD**
(n = TBA)

Isaacs et al., 2014

PWC
(n = TBA)

U.S. EPA

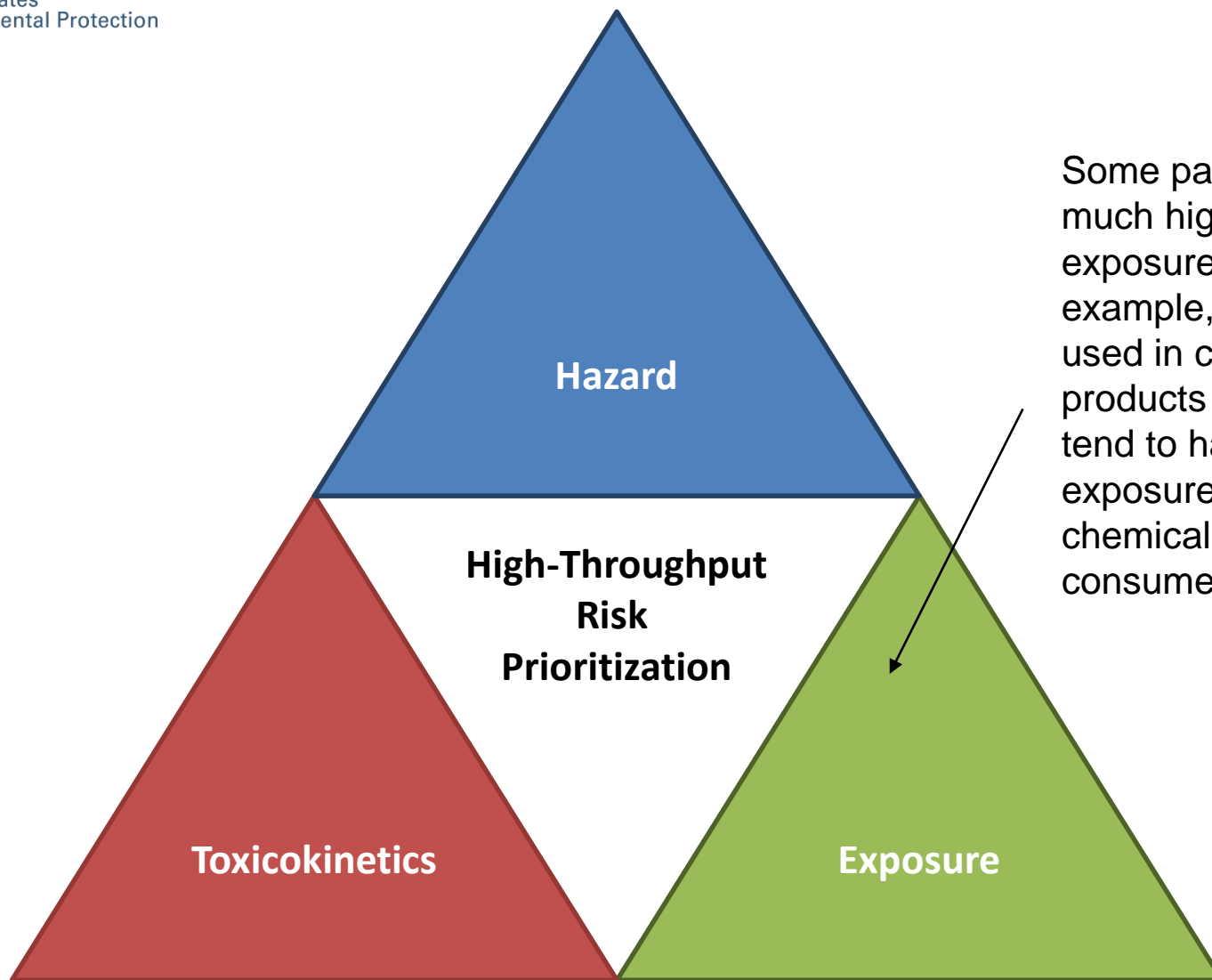
NPV
(n = 32)

U.S. EPA

μ = geometric mean water concentrations

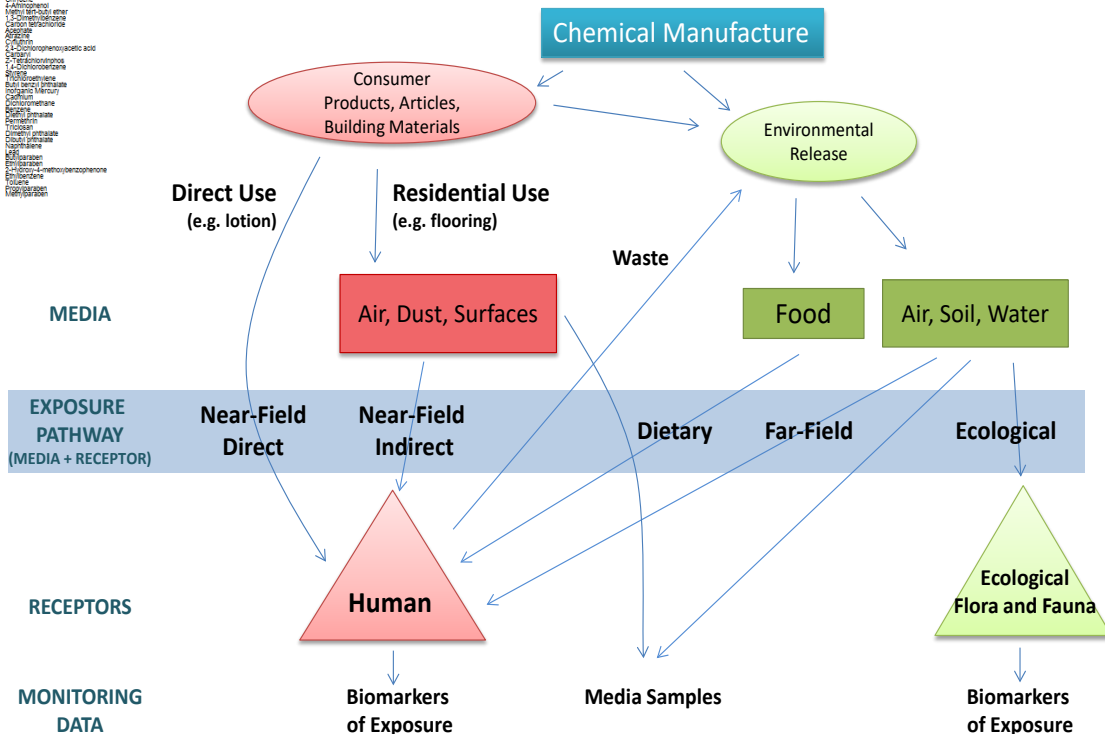
$\log(\mu)$ = fate and transport models * loading models

Identifying Exposure Pathways



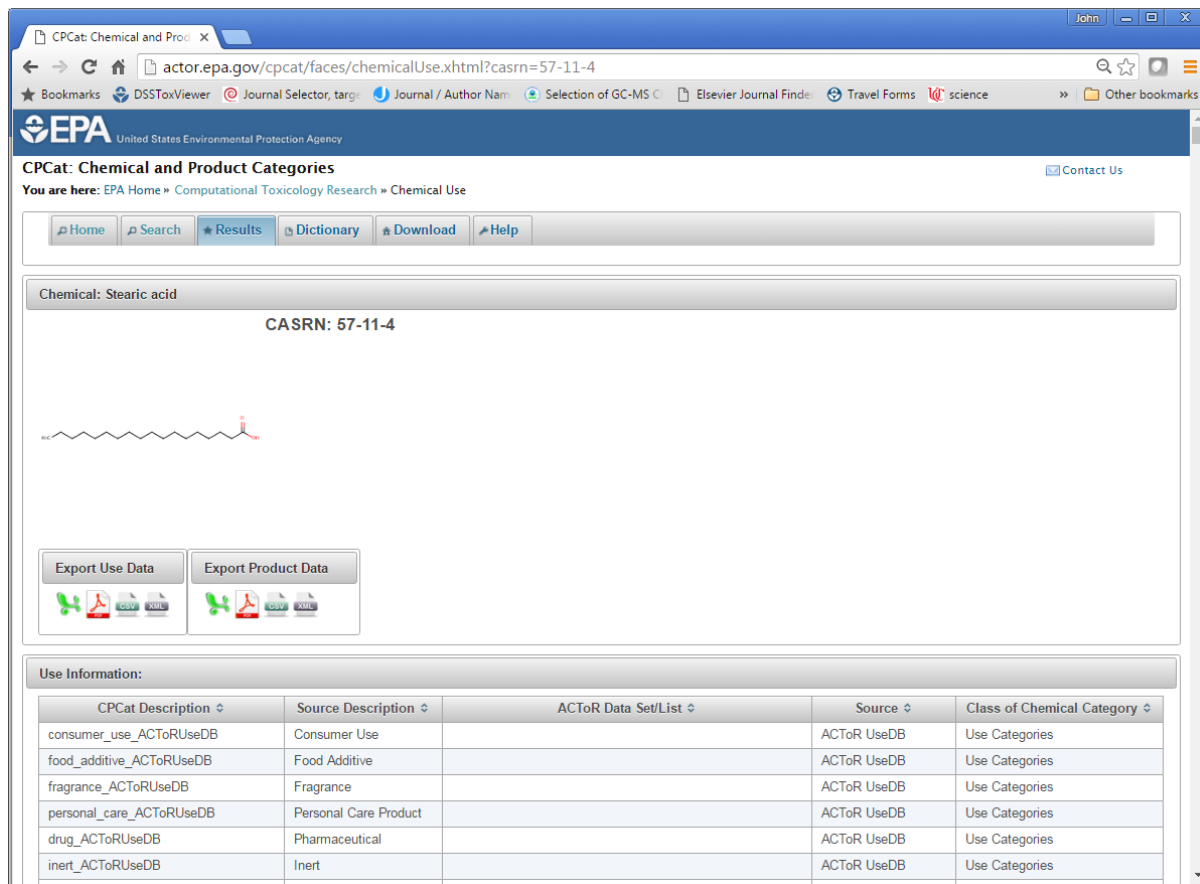
Some pathways have much higher average exposures. For example, chemicals used in consumer products in the home tend to have higher exposures. But what chemicals are in consumer products?

Some pathways have much higher average exposures!

[illegible]

CPdat: Chemical Use Information for ~30,000 Chemicals

- Chemical-Product database (CPdat) maps many different types of use information and ontologies onto each other
- Includes CPCPdb (Goldsmith, et al., 2014) with information on ~2000 products from major retailers
- Largest single database has coarsest information: ACToR UseDB



The screenshot shows the CPcat web application interface. The browser address bar displays the URL: actor.epa.gov/cpcat/faces/chemicalUse.xhtml?casrn=57-11-4. The page title is "CPcat: Chemical and Product Categories". The breadcrumb trail indicates the user is in "EPA Home » Computational Toxicology Research » Chemical Use". The main content area displays the chemical name "Stearic acid" and its CASRN "57-11-4". Below this, the chemical structure is shown. There are two buttons: "Export Use Data" and "Export Product Data". At the bottom, there is a table titled "Use Information:".

CPcat Description	Source Description	ACToR Data Set/List	Source	Class of Chemical Category
consumer_use_ACToRUseDB	Consumer Use		ACToR UseDB	Use Categories
food_additive_ACToRUseDB	Food Additive		ACToR UseDB	Use Categories
fragrance_ACToRUseDB	Fragrance		ACToR UseDB	Use Categories
personal_care_ACToRUseDB	Personal Care Product		ACToR UseDB	Use Categories
drug_ACToRUseDB	Pharmaceutical		ACToR UseDB	Use Categories
inert_ACToRUseDB	Inert		ACToR UseDB	Use Categories

Predicting Exposure

- 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

The New York Times

Internet

WORLD	U.S.	N.Y. / REGION	BUSINESS	TECHNOLOGY	SCIENCE	HEALTH	SPORTS	OPINION
Search Technology				Inside Technology				Bits Blog
<input type="text"/>				Go	Internet	Start-Ups	Business Computing	Companies

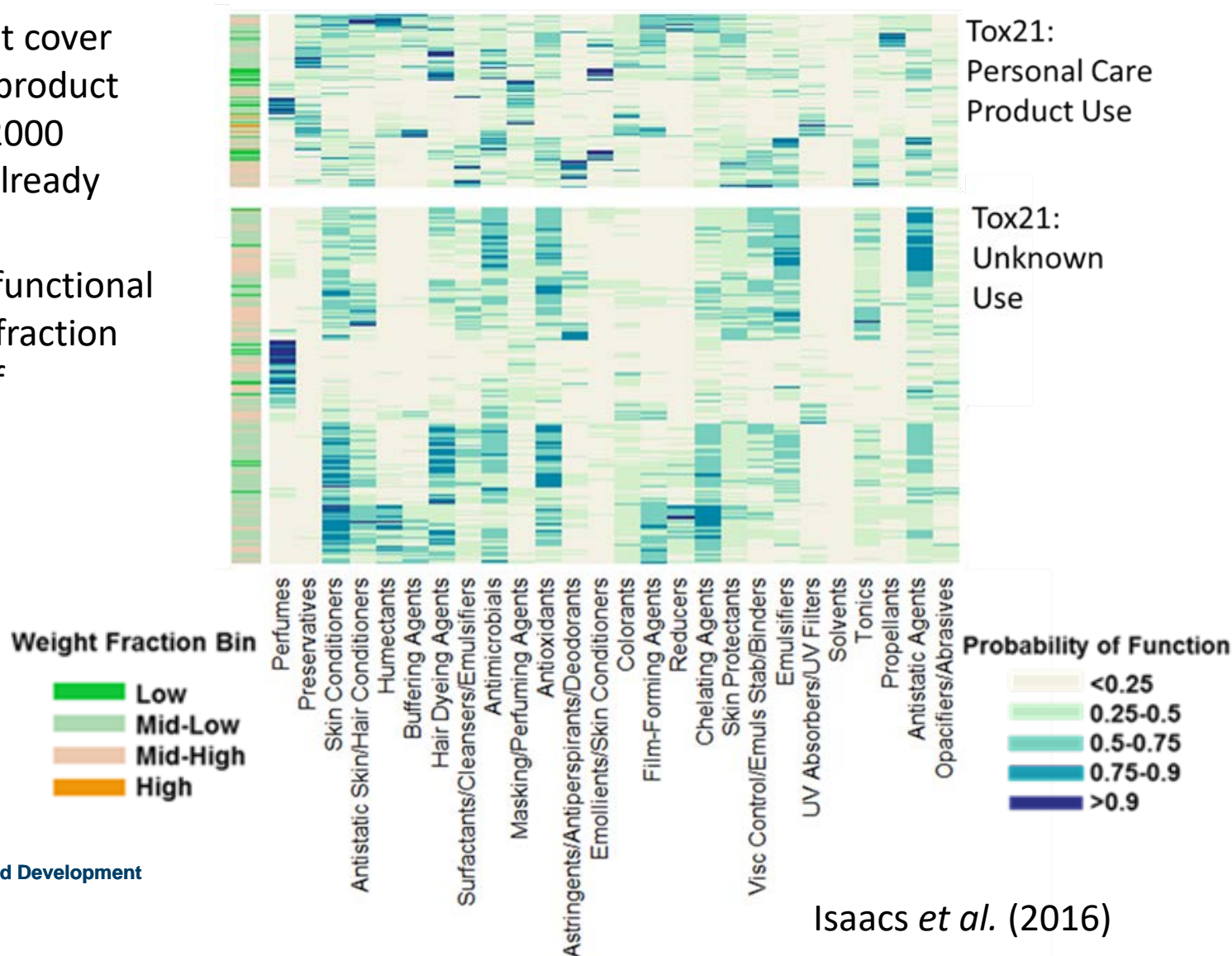
A \$1 Million Research Bargain for Netflix, and Maybe a Model for Others

By STEVE LOHR
Published: September 21, 2009



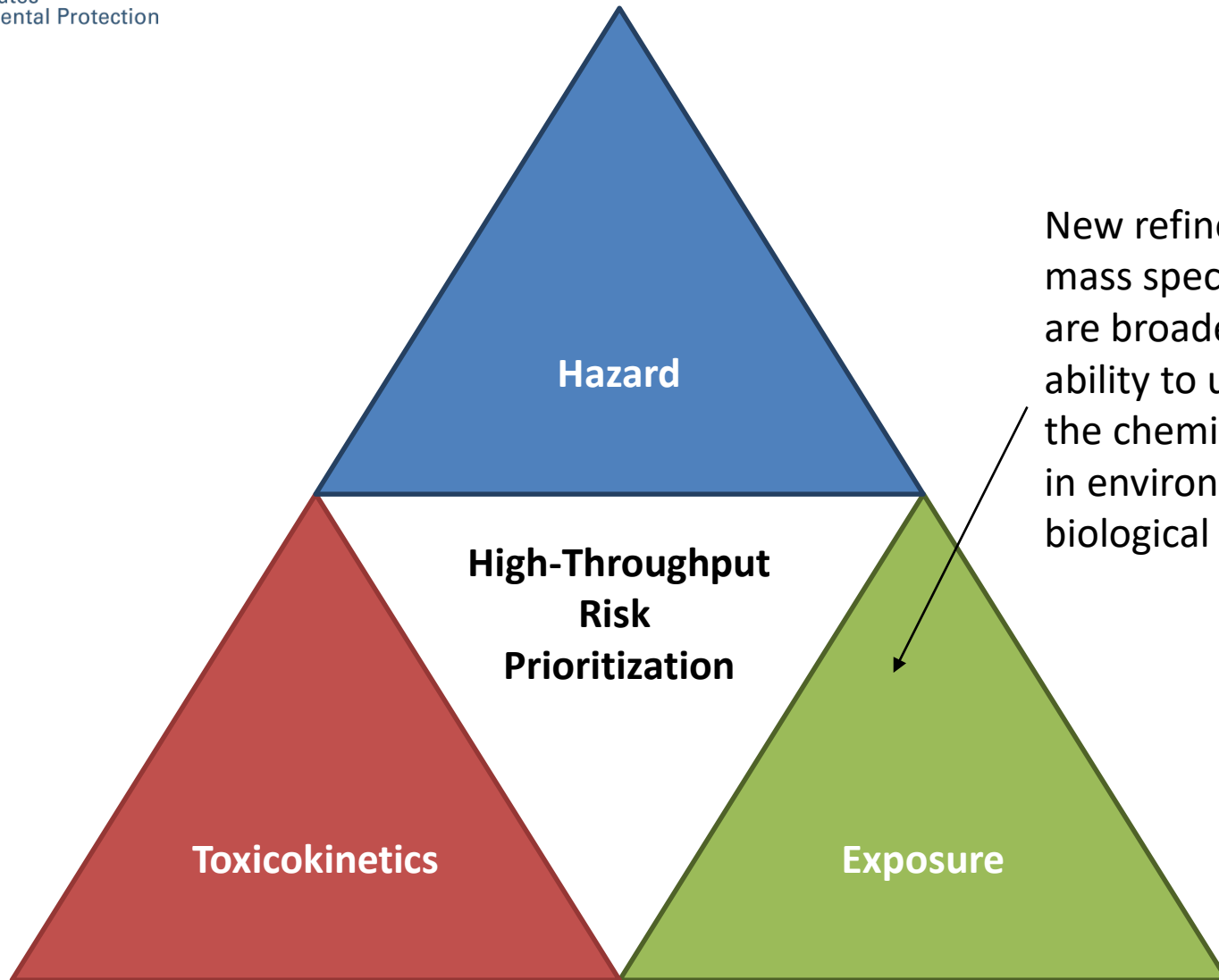
Predicting Chemical Constituents

- CPCPdb does not cover every chemical-product combination (~2000 chemicals, but already >8000 in Tox21)
- We can predict functional use and weight fraction for thousands of chemicals



Isaacs *et al.* (2016)

Non-Targeted Analysis



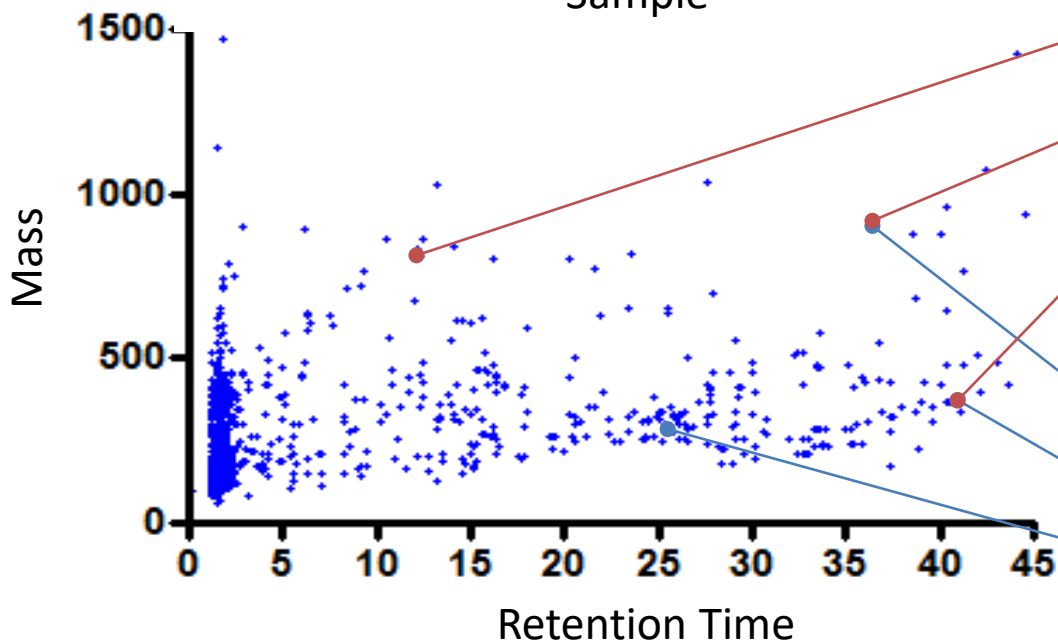
Non-Targeted and Suspect-Screening Analysis

- Models present one way forward, but new analytic techniques may also allow insight in to chemicals composition of products and the greater environment
- EPA is coordinating a comparison of non-targeted screening workflows used by leading academic and government groups (led by Jon Sobus and Elin Ulrich)
 - Examining house dust, human plasma, and silicone wristbands (O'Connell, et al., 2014)
 - Similar to NORMAN Network (Schymanski et al., 2015) analysis of water
- Published analysis on house dust (Rager et al., 2016)
 - 100 consumer products from a major U.S. retailer were analyzed, tentatively identifying 1,632 chemicals, 1,445 which were not in EPA's database of consumer product chemicals (Phillips *et al.*, submitted)

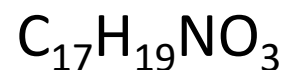


Suspect Screening in House Dust

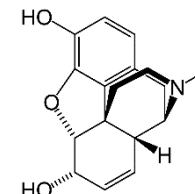
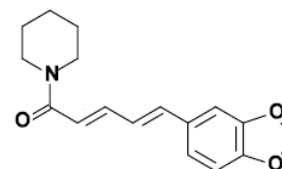
947 Peaks in an American Health Homes Dust Sample



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

Appropriate Skepticism for Non-Targeted Analysis and Suspect Screening

“As chemists we are obliged to accept the assignment of barium to the observed activity, but as nuclear chemists working very closely to the field of physics we cannot yet bring ourselves to take such a drastic step, which goes against all previous experience in nuclear physics. It could be, however, that a series of strange coincidences has misled us.”

Hahn and Strassmann (1938)

Appropriate Skepticism for Non-Targeted Analysis and Suspect Screening

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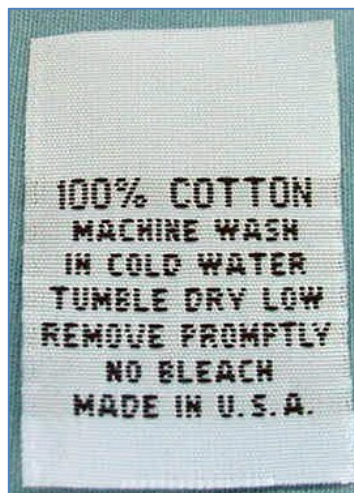
1944 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for “discovery of the fission of heavy nuclei”

ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan

$\text{Log}_{10}(\mu\text{g/g})$

}

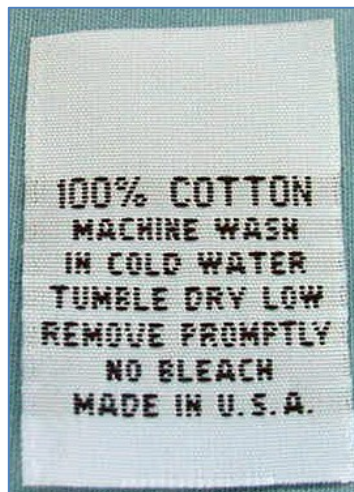
The chemicals
found in a
cotton shirt



ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan

$\text{Log}_{10}(\mu\text{g/g})$

← Chemicals that are present

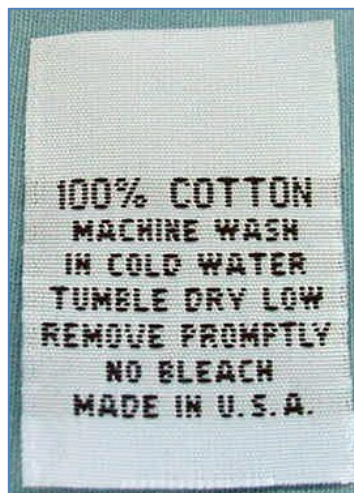


← Chemicals that are absent (but found in other products)

ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan

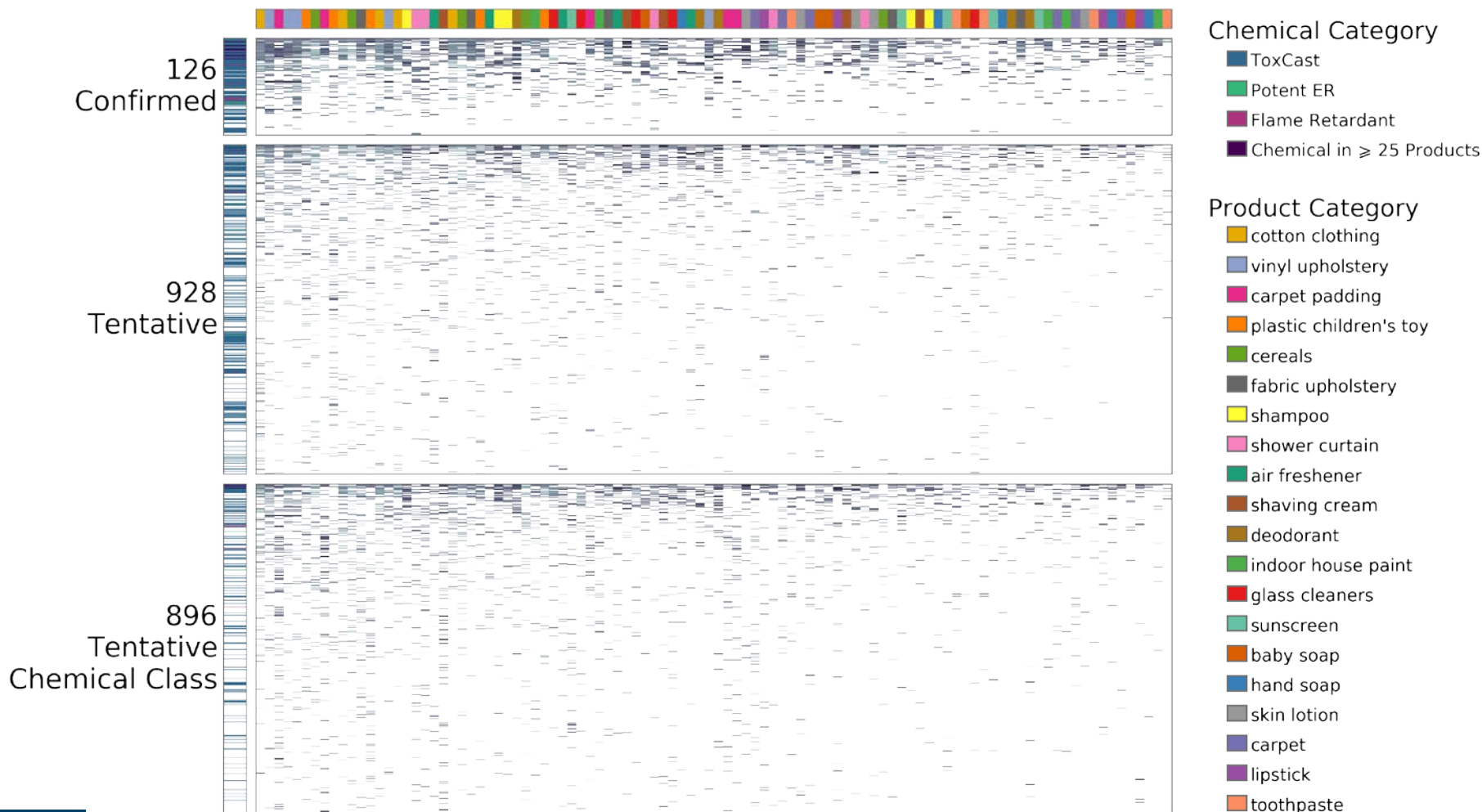
$\text{Log}_{10}(\mu\text{g/g})$

The chemicals
found in a
cotton shirt



ExpoCast Consumer Product Scan

$\text{Log}_{10}(\mu\text{g/g})$

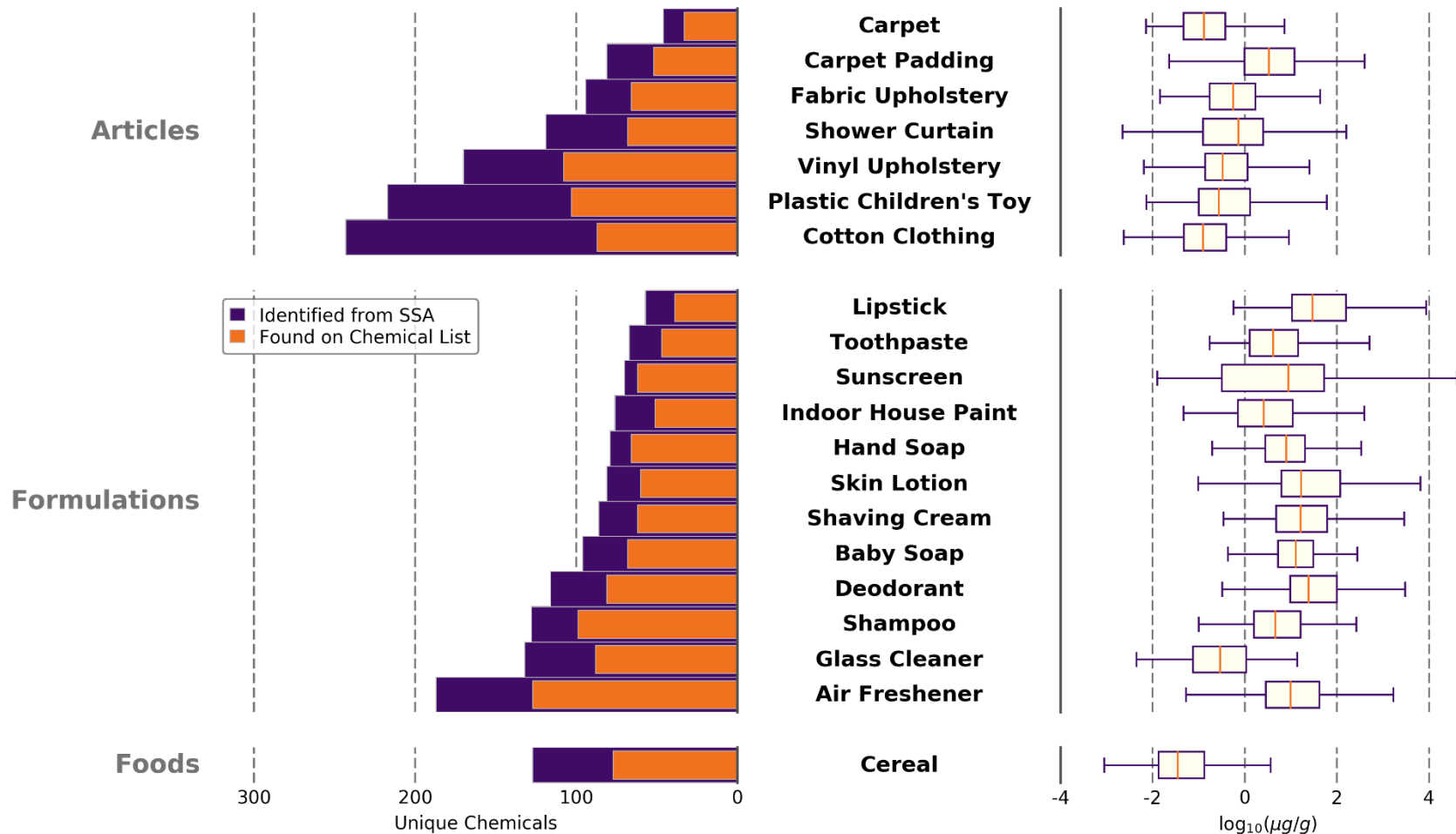


Of 1,632 chemicals, 1,445 were not present in our database from the major retailer (CPCPdb)

Phillips et al. (submitted)

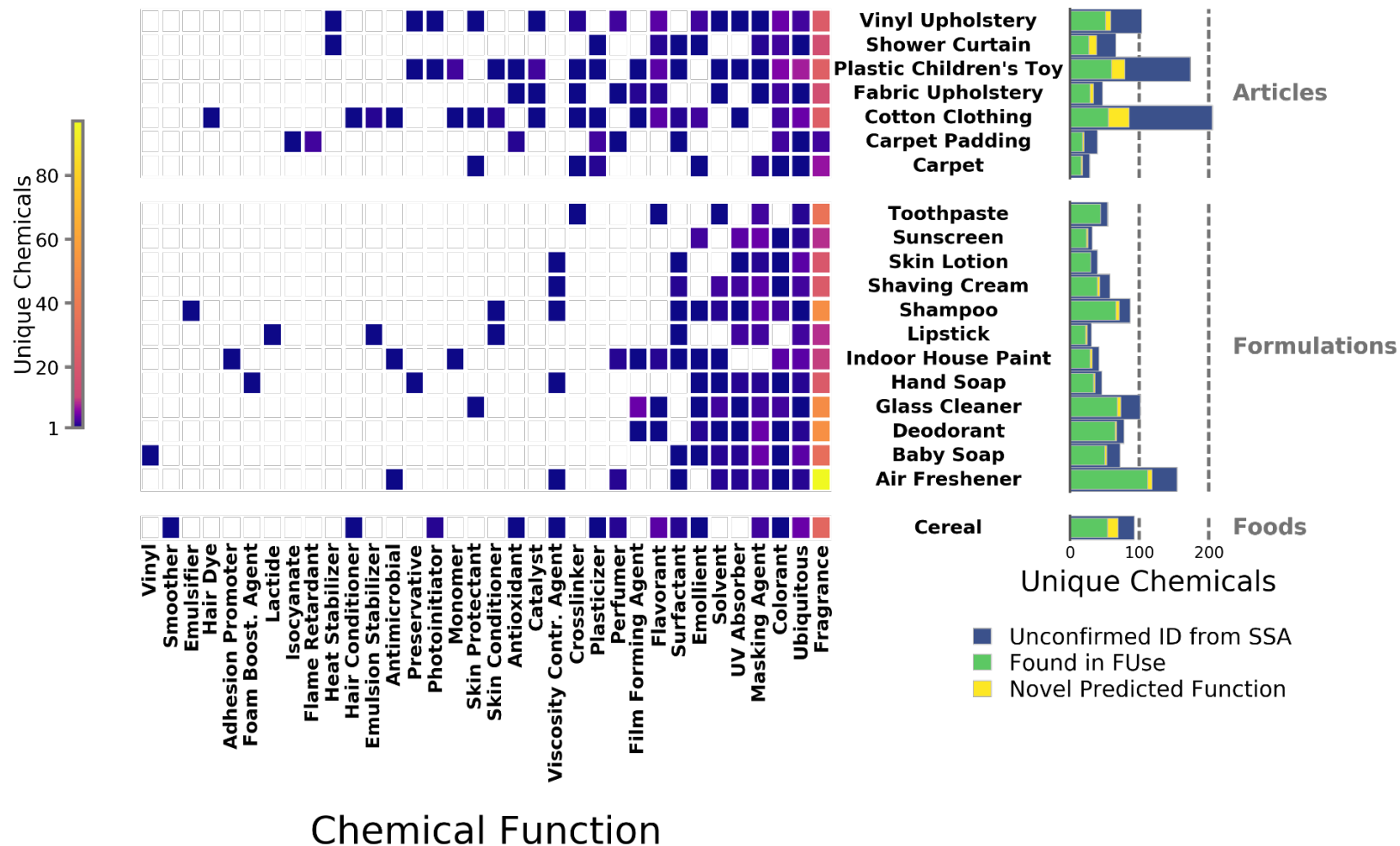
Product Scan Summary

Of 1,632 chemicals confirmed or tentatively identified, 1,445 were not present in CPCPdb



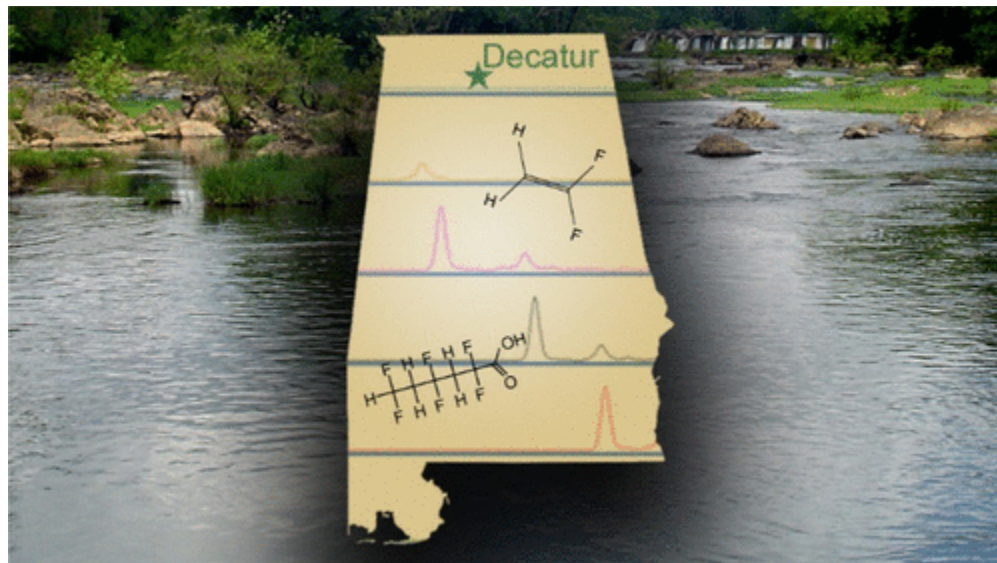
Predicting Chemical Function

Using the methods of Phillips *et al.*, (2017):



Analysis of Drinking Water

High resolution mass spectrometry was used to investigate the occurrence and identity of replacement fluorinated compounds in surface water and sediment of the Tennessee River near Decatur, Alabama



A series of nine polyfluorinated carboxylic acids was discovered

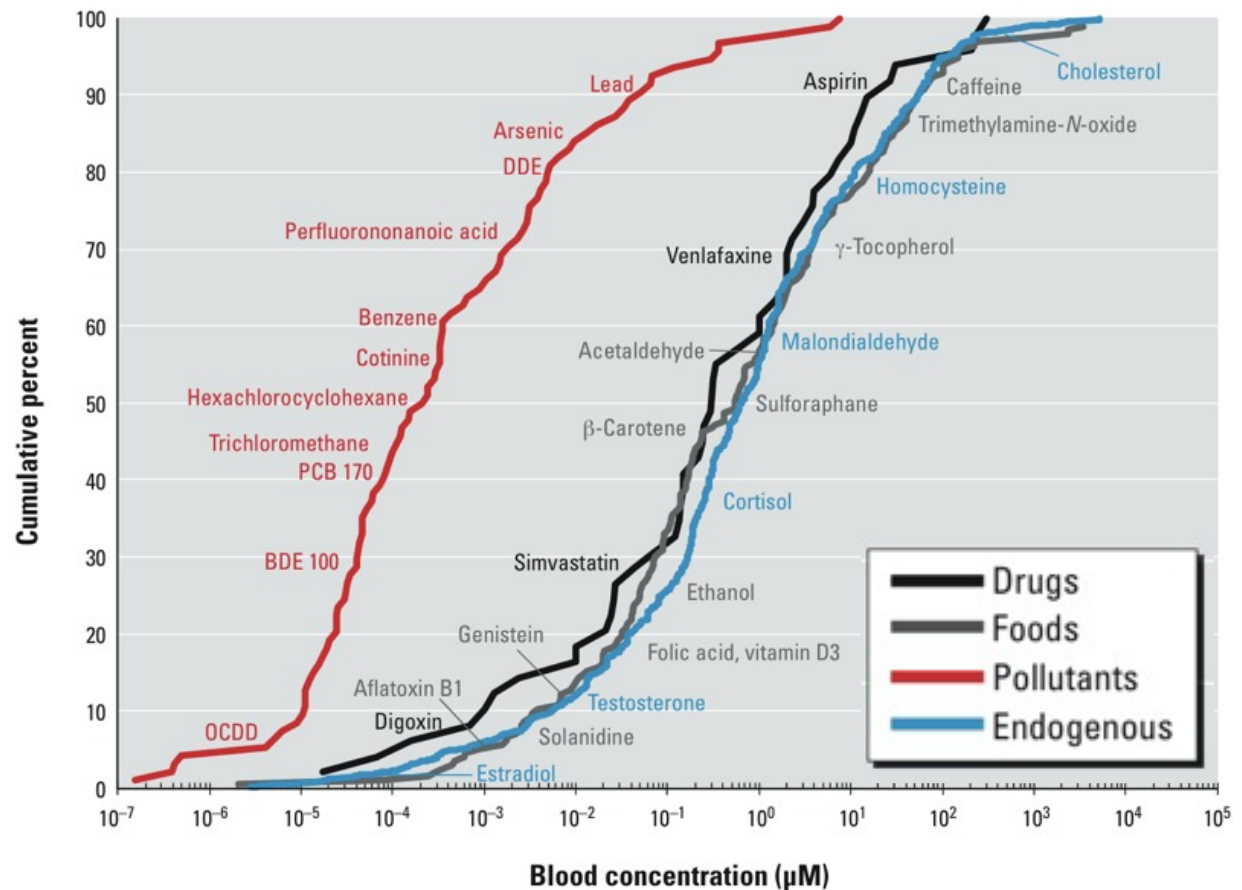
Caveats to Non-Targeted Screening

- **Chemical presence in an object does not mean that exposure occurs**
- **Only some chemical identities are confirmed, *most are tentative***
 - Can use formulation predictor models as additional evidence
- **Chemical presence in an object does not necessarily mean that it is bioavailable**
 - Can build emission models
- **Small range for quantitation leads to underestimation of concentration**
- **Product de-formulation 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
- **Exposure alone is not risk, need hazard data**

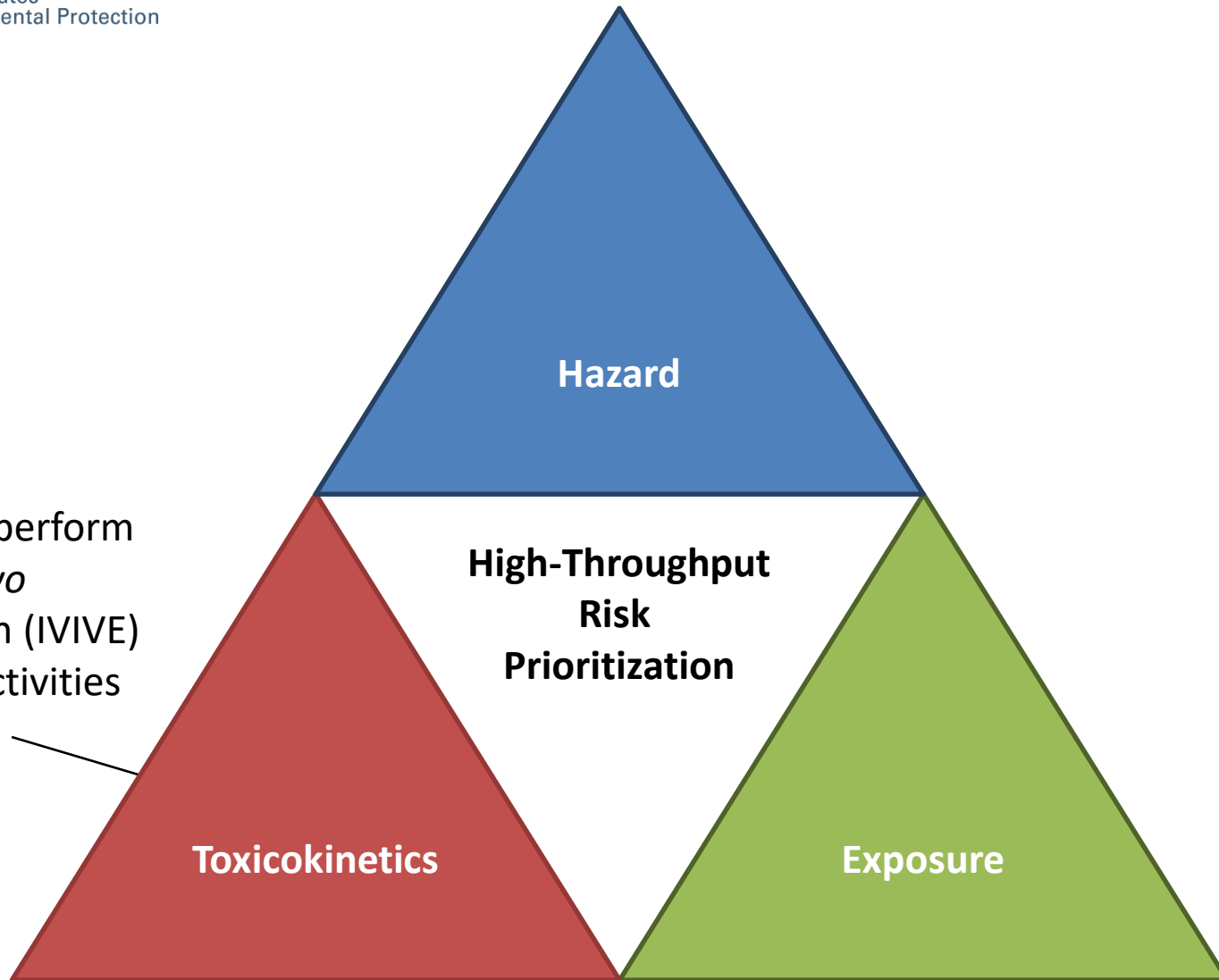
Expanded Biomonitoring

Rappaport et al. (2014)

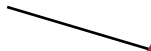
- Moving beyond NHANES chemicals
 - Non-targeted analysis of blood may be possible
 - Not just a matter of sensitivity, must also “filter out” endogenous, food, and drug chemicals



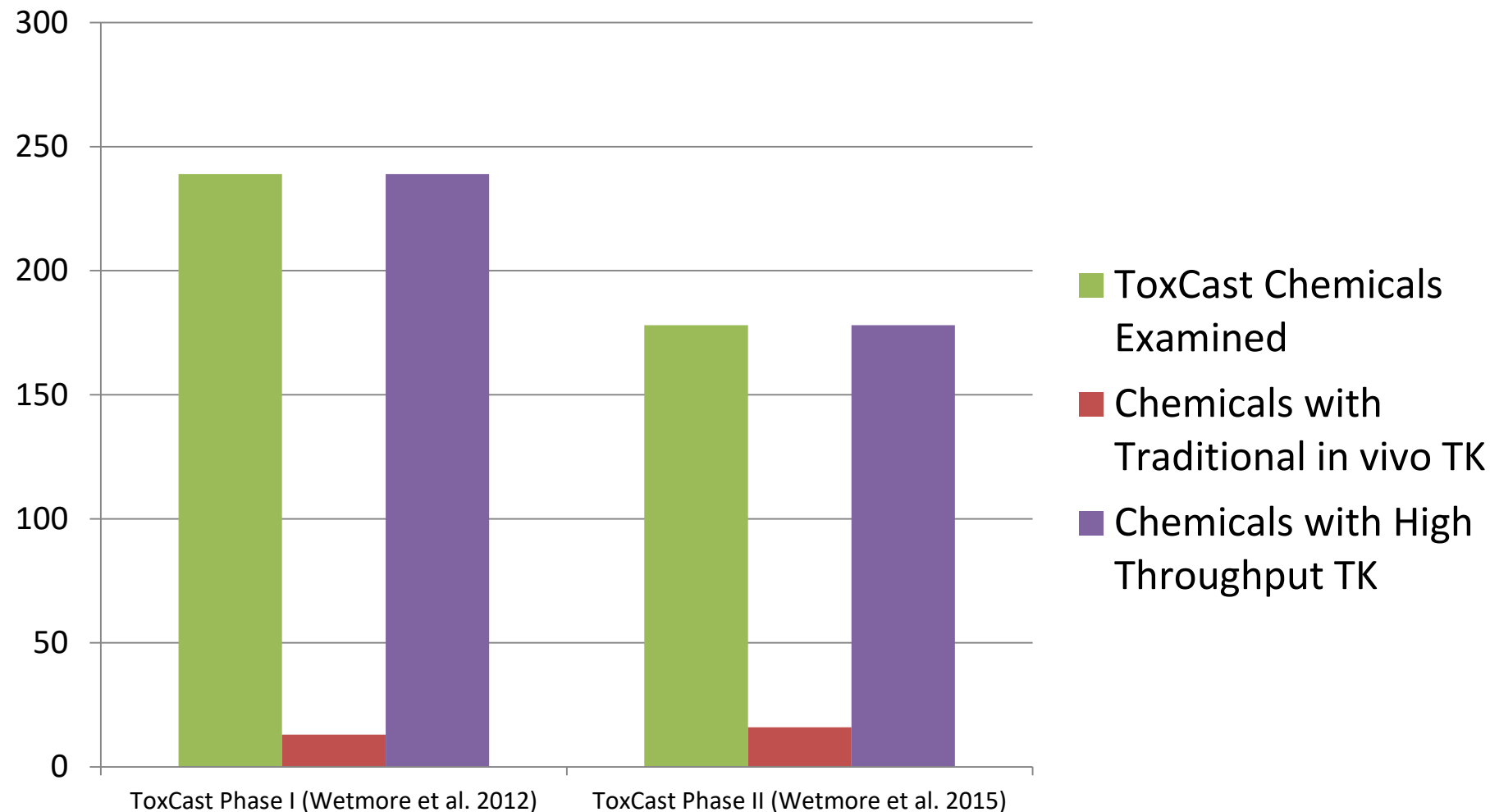
Toxicokinetics for IVIVE



We want to perform
in vitro-in vivo
extrapolation (IVIVE)
of ToxCast activities



The Need for *In Vitro* Toxicokinetics



- Studies like Wetmore et al. (2012, 2015), addressed the need for TK data using *in vitro* methods



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").

<https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=htk>

Can access this from the R GUI:
“Packages” then “Install Packages”

Reference manual: [httk.pdf](#)

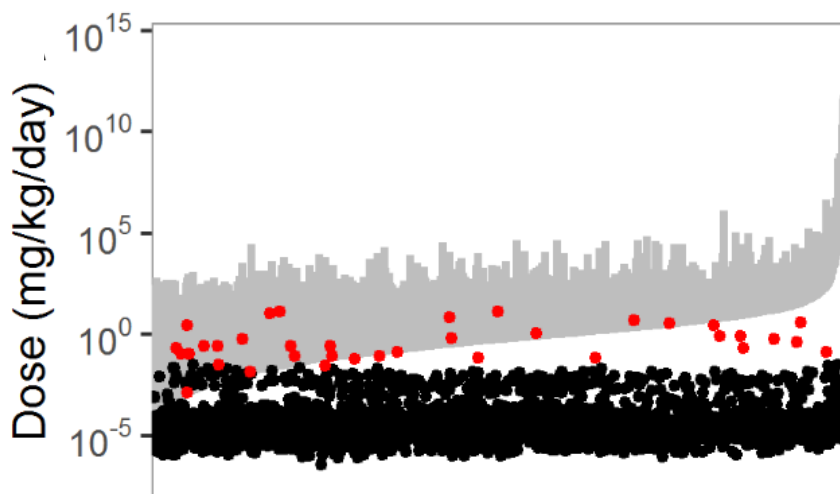
Vignettes: [Creating Partition Coefficient Evaluation Plots](#)
[Age distributions](#)
[Global sensitivity analysis](#)
[Global sensitivity analysis plotting](#)
[Height and weight spline fits and residuals](#)
[Hematocrit spline fits and residuals](#)
[Plotting C_{ss}95](#)
[Serum creatinine spline fits and residuals](#)
[Generating subpopulations](#)
[Evaluating HTTK models for subpopulations](#)
[Generating Figure 2](#)
[Generating Figure 3](#)
[Plotting Howgate/Johnson data](#)
[AER plotting](#)
[Virtual study populations](#)
[httk: R Package for High-Throughput Toxicokinetics](#)

- “httk” R Package for *in vitro-in vivo* extrapolation and PBTK
- 553 chemicals to date
- 100’s of additional chemicals being studied
- Pearce *et al.* (2017) provides documentation and examples
- Built-in vignettes provide further examples of how to use many functions

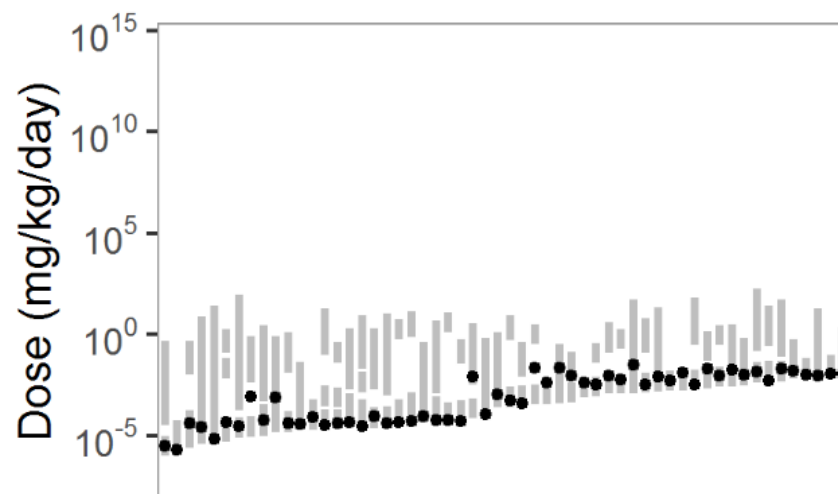
Using HTTK Predicted C_{\max} for Risk Prioritization



Screening for toxicity has blind spots and exposure forecasts are highly uncertain, yet:



Doses ranges for all 3925 Tox21 compounds eliciting a 'possible'-to-'likely' human *in vivo* interaction alongside estimated daily exposure



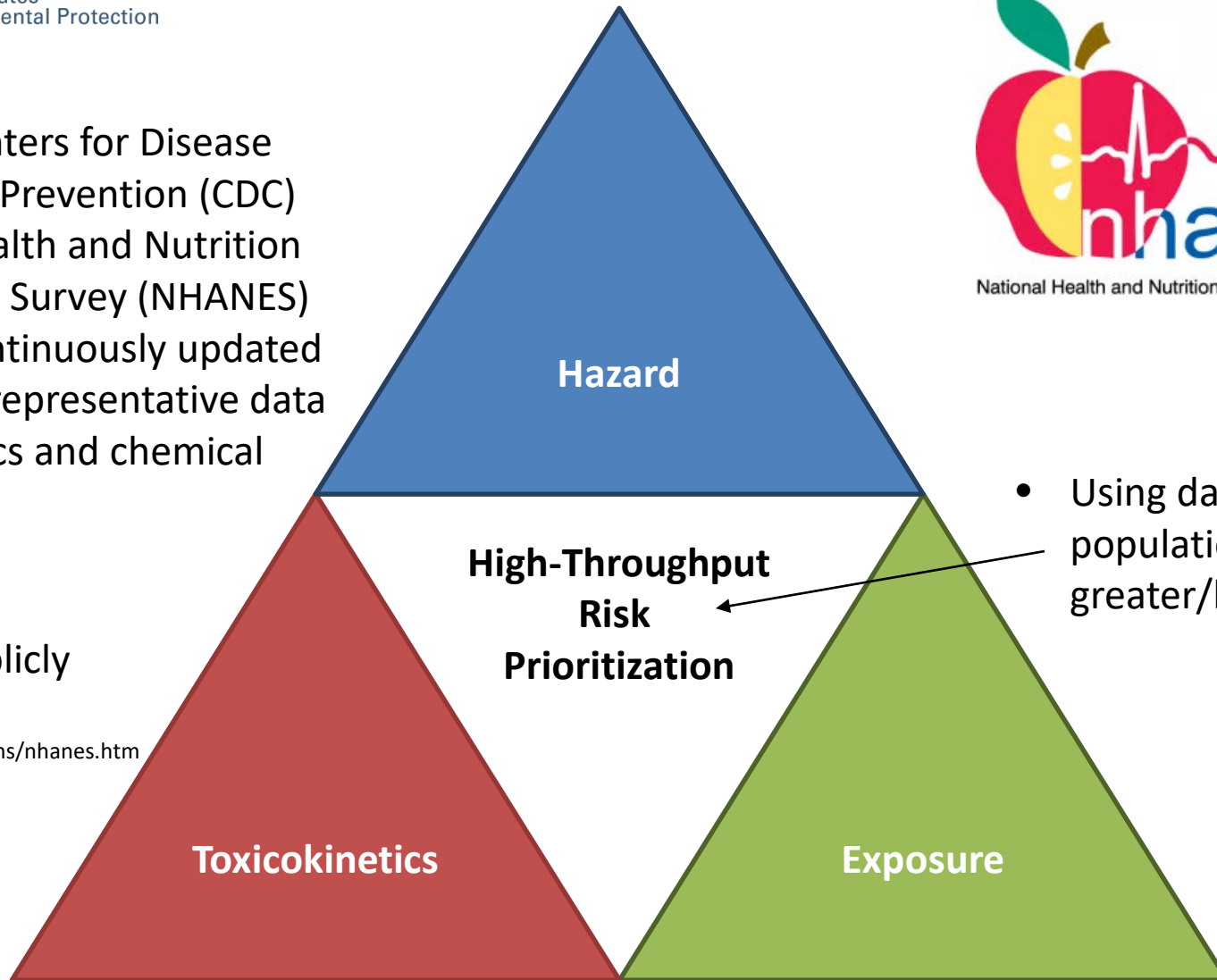
56 compounds with potential *in vivo* biological interaction at or above estimated environmental exposures

Further Analyzing the CDC NHANES Data



The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) provides continuously updated statistically representative data on biometrics and chemical exposure

Data sets publicly available:
<http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nhanes.htm>



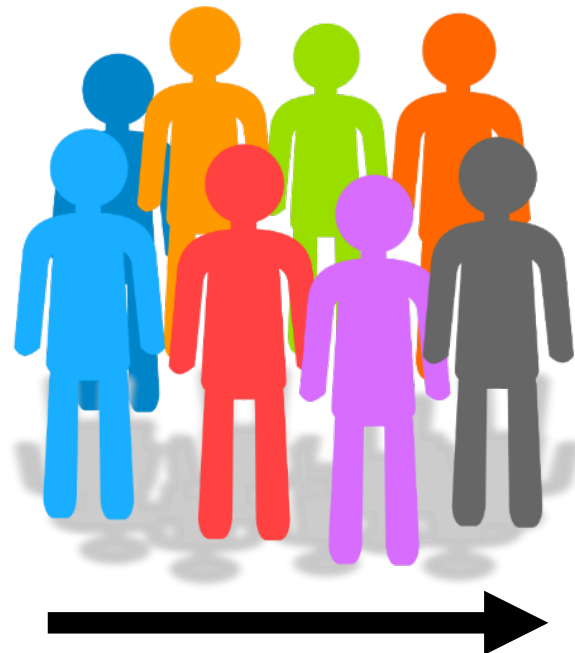
- Using data to identify populations with greater/lesser risk

Population simulator for HHTK

Correlated Monte Carlo sampling of physiological model parameters

Sample NHANES quantities

Sex
Race/ethnicity
Age
Height
Weight
Serum creatinine



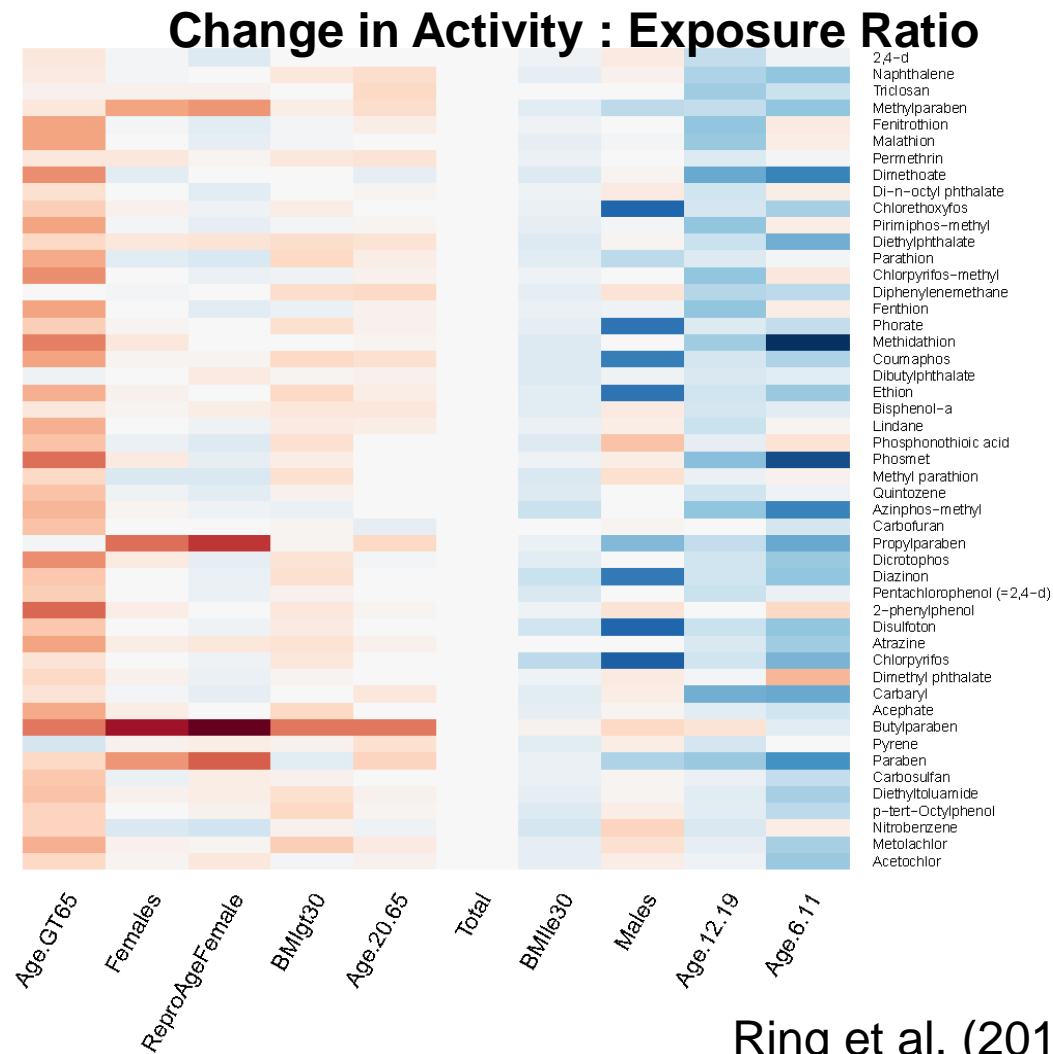
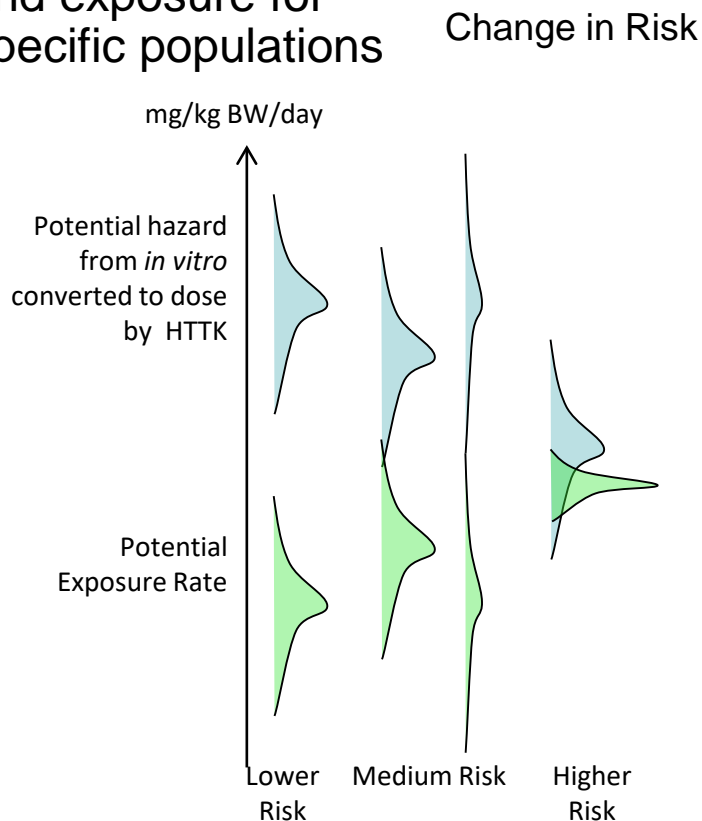
Predict physiological quantities

Tissue masses
Tissue blood flows
GFR (kidney function)
Hepatocellularity

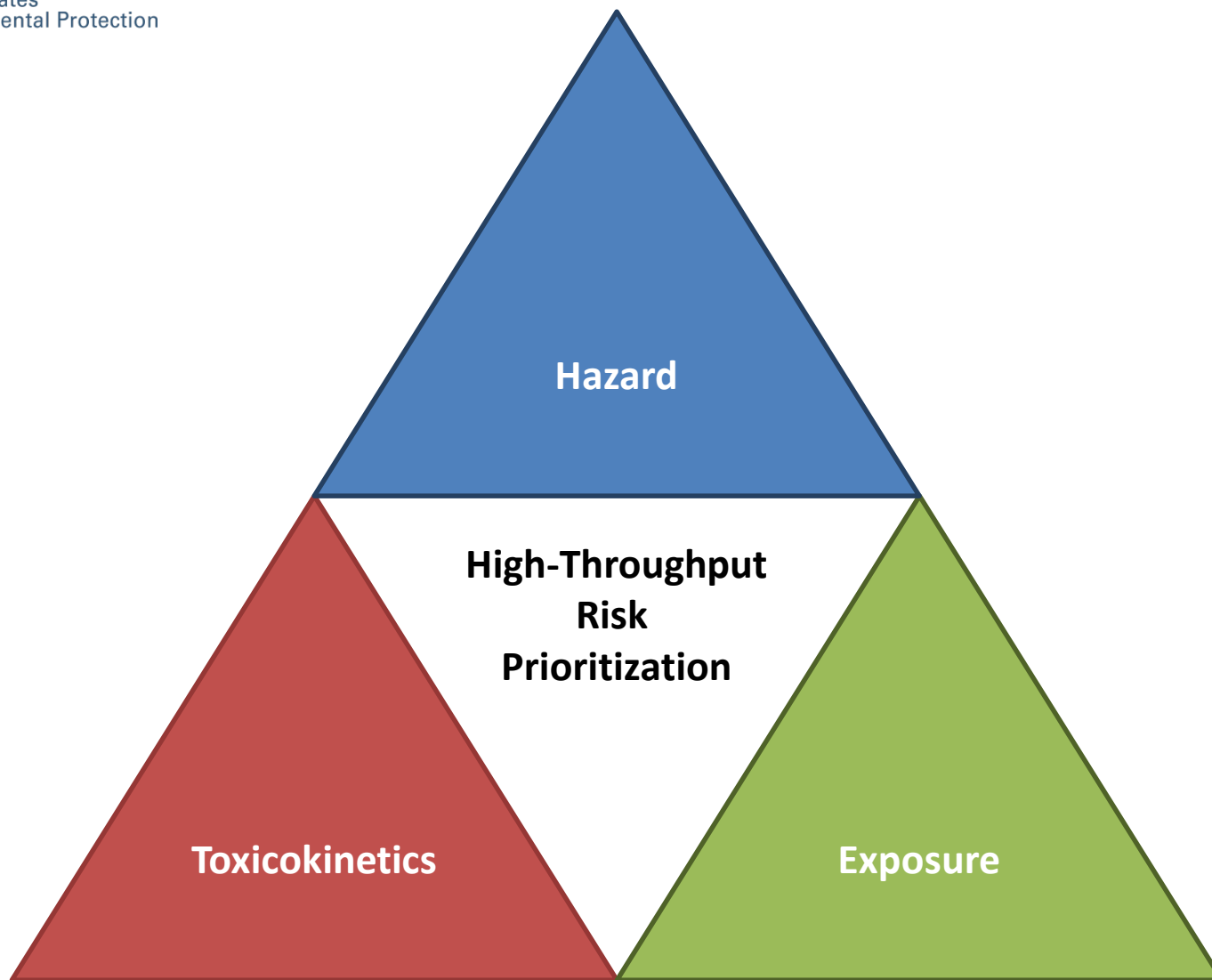
Regression equations from literature
(+ residual marginal variability)

Toxicokinetic IVIVE: Convert HTS μM to mg/kg/day

- We use HHTK to calculate margin between bioactivity and exposure for specific populations

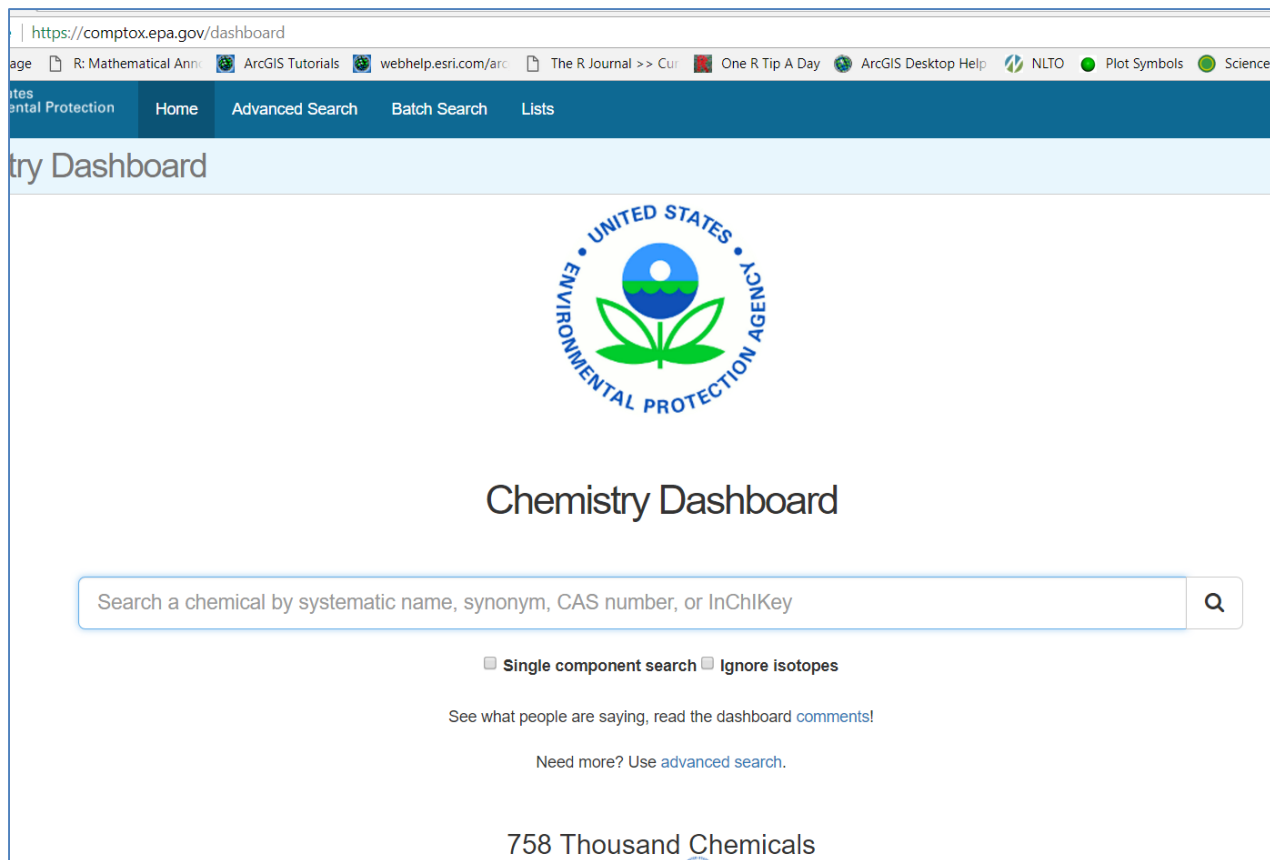


Public Chemical Assessment Tools from EPA ORD



A Google for Chemicals

<http://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/>



Examples:

“Stearic Acid”

“Bisphenol A”

“C17H19NO3”

A Google for Chemicals

<http://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/>

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the EPA Comptox Search Results page. The address bar shows the URL: <https://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/dsstoxdb/results?utf8=✓&search=C17H19NO3&formula=1>. The page header includes the EPA logo and a search bar labeled "Search Chemical". The main heading is "Search Results". Below this, a message states: "Searched by Molecular Formula: Found 108 results for 'C17H19NO3'." A "Show 25 entries" dropdown is visible. The results are displayed in a grid of five cards, each showing a chemical structure and its name:

- 94-62-2**
Piperine
- 466-99-9**
Hydromorphone
- 57-27-2**
Morphine
- 467-15-2**
Norcodeine
- 68568-55-8**
Methanone, (4-amino-2...

The footer contains links for "About", "Contact", "Discovered by ACToR", "Powered by DSSTox", "Privacy", "Accessibility", and "Help".

Public Chemical Assessment Tools from EPA ORD

Dashboards: **Chemistry Dashboard (one stop shop):**

<http://comptox.epa.gov/dashboard/>

iCSS Dashboard (ToxCast data):

<http://actor.epa.gov/dashboard/>

CPdat:

<http://actor.epa.gov/cpcat/>

Underlying

Databases: **DSStox** (Distributed structure-searchable toxicity (DSSTox) public database, Richard et al., 2002)

ToxRefDB (Animal Study data, Martin et al., 2009)

CPCPdb (Consumer Product Chemical Pathways database, Goldsmith et al, 2014)

R Packages: **httk: High-Throughput Toxicokinetics** (Pearce et al., *in press*)

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

tcpl: ToxCast Data Analysis Pipeline (Filer et al., 2014)

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

Conclusions

- We would like to know more about the risk posed by thousands of chemicals in the environment – which ones should we start with?
 - 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
- Expanded monitoring data (exposure surveillance) allows evaluation of model predictions
 - Are chemicals missing that we predicted would be there?
 - Are there unexpected chemicals?
- All data being made public:
 - R package “httk”: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=httk>
 - The Chemistry Dashboard (A “Google” for chemicals) <http://comptox.epa.gov/>
 - Consumer Product Database: <http://actor.epa.gov/cpcat/>

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