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# I Primi Risultati dei Progetti Europei **ORCHESTRA** e **ANTARES** sui Metodi Alternativi



# Alternative Non-Testing methods Assessed for REACH Substances

LIFE08  
ENV/IT/000435



FEDERCHIMICA  
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[www.antares-life.eu](http://www.antares-life.eu)

- ❁ (Q)SAR is mentioned among other alternatives to animal testing  
**AS AN ACCEPTABLE METHOD TO FILL DATA GAP**

- ❁ According to *REACH* regulation (Annex XI)  
a (Q)SAR is VALID if:

the model is recognized scientifically valid;

the substance is included in the *applicability domain* of the model;

results are adequate for classification and labelling and for risk assessment;

adequate documentation of the methods provided.

# Main Actions

- Action 1**      **Survey of current methods** for REACH
- Action 2**      Identification of the **criteria for the non-testing methods** for REACH
- Action 3**      **Identification of** suitable **experimental databases/data sets** for the ecotoxicological, toxicological and environmental endpoints for REACH
- Action 4**      **List of (Q)SAR models** for REACH, and their review
- Action 5**      **Validation** of non-testing methods (incl. read-across)
- Action 6**      Identification of **boundaries for best use** of models (applicability domain) and of the **assessment factors**
- Action 7**      **Architecture for integration** of non-testing methods

## SURVEY OF CURRENT METHODS FOR THE COMPLIANCE TO THE REACH LEGISLATION (I)

### STEP 1

- Launch of contacts to existing laboratory structures in Italy to involve at least 20 Italian laboratories.
- First screening information from those 20 companies about their locations, analytical and testing capabilities, and the type of certification declared by the laboratories.
- Inquiry with full Reach endpoints list with OECD guidelines was sent to and completed by the laboratories.
- Beside national laboratories also 4 important European laboratories had been contacted – only 1 gave a reply and concrete contribution.

## SURVEY OF CURRENT METHODS FOR THE COMPLIANCE TO THE REACH LEGISLATION (II)

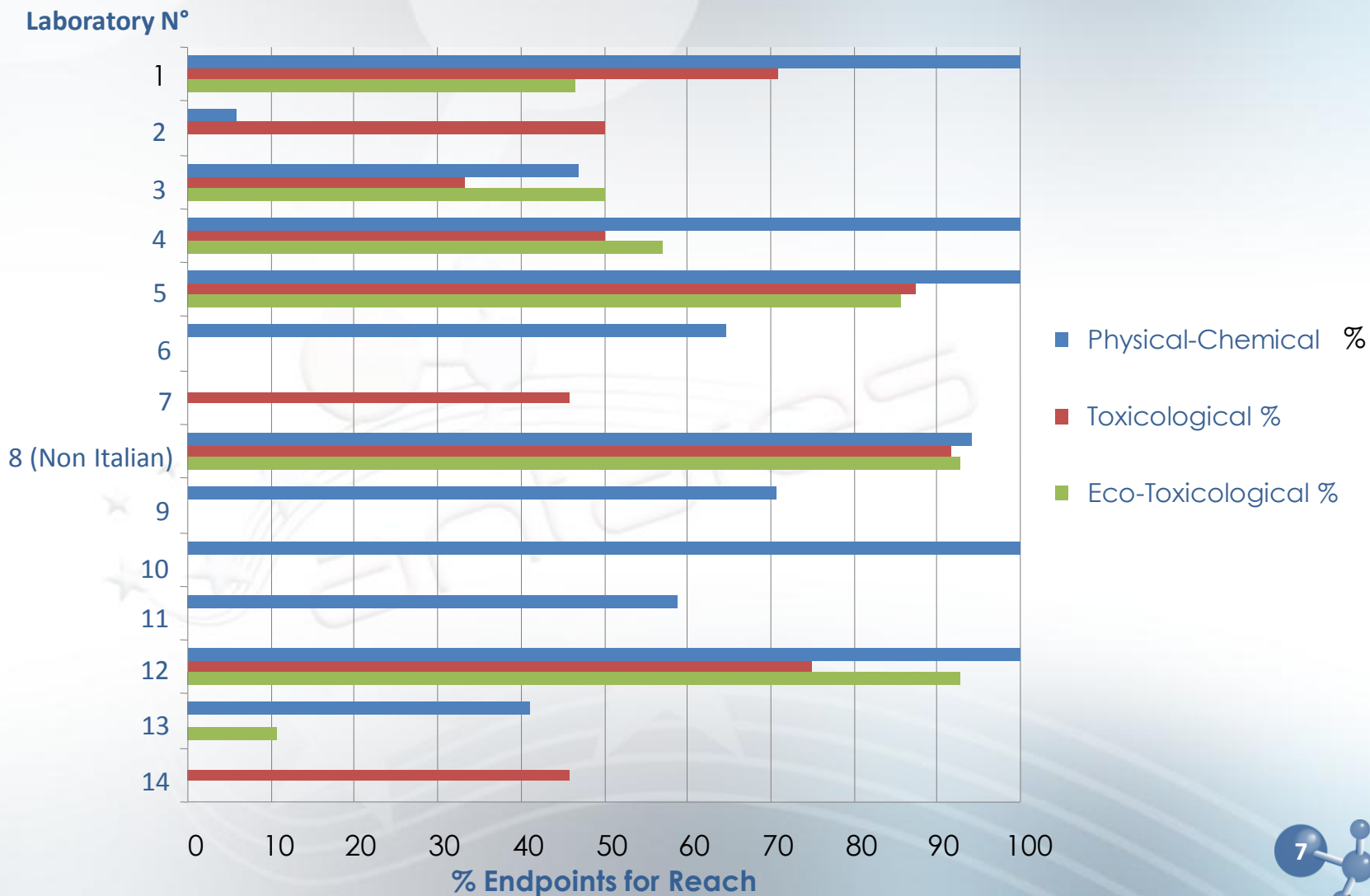
### STEP 2 (i)

FEDERCHIMICA + CENTRO REACH evaluated all details of the survey coming from 13 national + 1 European laboratories:

- 10 national laboratories cooperated → GLP Certification
- 3 national laboratories cooperated → without GLP (some in progress)
- 1 European laboratory → GLP Certification



## REACH ENDPOINT LABORATORY CAPABILITIES



## SURVEY OF CURRENT METHODS FOR THE COMPLIANCE TO THE REACH LEGISLATION (II)

### STEP 2 (ii) : OVERVIEW on TESTING CAPABILITIES

- 5 Italian companies offer tests min. 50 % of Reach tox endpoints.
- 4 can conduct min. 50 % of REACH ecotox endpoint testing.
- Some have capability for in vitro/alternative testing.
- European lab covers more than 90 % of all requirements.
- Best Italian laboratory has similar capabilities.



## SURVEY OF CURRENT METHODS FOR THE COMPLIANCE TO THE REACH LEGISLATION (III)



### NEXT STEPS

- Federchimica/Centro Reach will keep monitoring of the Italian laboratory situation for REACH testing.
- Complete evaluation and upgrading of labs with GLP certification for tox and ecotox testing activities necessary to run studies for REACH Regulation.
- Federchimica/Centro Reach will arrange interviews with several stakeholders.
- The REACH registration deadline 2013 will involve more substances which need new data/studies compared to the 2010 registrations where much data was/is already available.
- On 3.400 phase-in substances registered by 30 Nov 2010 for a total of more than 20.000 dossiers, only 500 dossiers had test-proposals (ca. 2,5 % !)

## SURVEY OF CURRENT METHODS FOR THE COMPLIANCE TO THE REACH LEGISLATION (IV)



### COST FOR REACH ENDPOINT TESTING

- Comparison of average costs of national laboratories with European references for same endpoint testing.
- These European references in general used for REACH registration activities in Europe.
- **Trend:** *average figures generally lower in Italy.*
- Less evident for long-term and very costly tests.
- Purely indicative since no lab is/was working for 2010 registration on such tests to our knowledge.

## SURVEY OF CURRENT METHODS FOR THE COMPLIANCE TO THE REACH LEGISLATION (V)

### NUMBER OF ANIMALS IN REACH TESTING

- Animal testing for the 1st registration deadline was extremely limited due to the official input to only submit testing proposals in case of missing data.
- Therefore Federchimica got only very few information about real executed tests with animals.

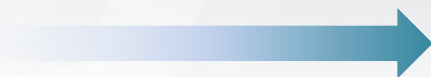
## CRITERIA WITH SCORES FOR THE MODEL SELECTION

- Data and its quality
- Descriptors/fragments
- Algorithm
- Applicability domain
- Statistical results
- Validation
- Uncertainty/reproducibility
- Documentation

**References:** *ECHA documentation; OECD principles*

## ENDPOINTS AND MODELS

**PHYSICAL- CHEMICAL  
PROPERTIES**



**Log P, Solubility**

**ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROPERTIES**



**BCF, persistence**

**ECOTOXICOLOGICAL  
EFFECTS**



**Acute fish toxicity, acute  
daphnids toxicity**

**TOXICOLOGICAL  
EFFECTS**



**Skin sensitization, oral acute  
tox, carcinogenicity,  
mutagenicity**

 QSAR not only for registration  
as only source of info:

- For registration, also as support info  
(*weight of evidence*);
- For CSA, also as support;
- For CLP;
- For prioritization of substances, for further check.





Organising dissemination on Results of  
projects on Chemicals Evaluation, Spreading  
Techniques for Risk Assessment



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Universität Stuttgart

[www.orchestra-qsar.eu](http://www.orchestra-qsar.eu)

## Computational Models for Environmental Evaluation: A Case Study

9 EC Funded Projects considered as CASE STUDIES



# Dissemination through a Web Portal: A RESOURCE FOR USERS



The screenshot shows the ORCHESTRA web portal interface. At the top, there is a search bar and a navigation menu with links: ABOUT ORCHESTRA, ABOUT IN-SILICO, USE IN-SILICO, REGULATORY CONTEXT, IN-SILICO RESOURCES, and COMMUNITIES. The main banner features the title "ORCHESTRA WORKSHOP: REACH AND QSAR - WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM CASE STUDIES?" with the date "Milan, 6 April, 2011" and a "Learn more" link.

**WHAT'S HERE**

ORCHESTRA is an EU project, funded to disseminate recent research on computer-based methods for evaluating the toxicity of chemicals.

*... In silico methods make it possible to test large numbers of chemicals (as required by EU REACH legislation) while reducing the numbers of tests on animals.*

The project aims to promote wider understanding, awareness and appropriate use of in-silico methods. So...

- to find out about *in silico* methods, download the introductory leaflet;
- to contribute, please respond to our technical survey or non-technical survey;
- for users of *in silico* / QSAR methods, there are resource links on this site;
- if you want to know more, keep an eye on the events and on these pages.

**IN SILICO MODELS**

Get toxicity information from chemical structure and properties of related compounds.

What are *In-silico* methods? What is the challenge?

Where can I use them? Are the results comparable with other methods?

**REGULATION & REACH**

**WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

**Survey of the benefits and barriers to the use of QSARs**

(An invitation to all involved with toxicology or QSARs)

► ... Summary

Complete it online or Read more..

**Survey of the policy issues around *in silico* methods as alternatives to animal testing**

(An invitation to all)

► ... Summary

Complete it online or Read more..

Please tell us your thoughts. Thank you

**NEWS & EVENTS**

POSTED: JANUARY 5, 2011

COURSE ON IN-SILICO METHODS AND WORKSHOP ON REACH AND QSAR

POSTED: OCTOBER 20, 2010

21ST ANNUAL MEETING - SETAC EUROPE

21st ANNUAL MEETING

15-19 May 2011 MILAN, Italy

SETAC EUROPE Milan 2011

ECOSYSTEM PROTECTION IN A SUSTAINABLE WORLD a Challenge for Science and Regulation

... Learn more

POSTED: OCTOBER 4, 2010

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION DELPHI-WORKSHOP IN STUTTGART

POSTED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2010

EFSA SEMINAR IN PARMA

## Development of Strategies for a Wider Dissemination and Exploitation

		NEEDS	BARRIERS	BENEFITS
 <b>REGULATORS</b> Environmental protection, Chemical registration, Pharmaceuticals, Pesticides, Cosmetics, Biocides		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• COVERAGE</li><li>• REASONING</li><li>• STANDARDIZATION</li><li>• DEFINITION OF APPLICABILITY</li><li>• TRANSPARENCY</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EXPERTISE NEEDED</li><li>• RELIABILITY</li><li>• LACK OF COMMUNICATION BETWEEN DEVELOPERS AND USERS</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IMPROVED RESPONSE TO REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS</li><li>• REDUCTION OF ANIMAL TESTS</li><li>• PRIORITIZATION</li></ul>
 <b>INDUSTRY</b> Chemicals Pharmaceuticals Pesticides Food	REGULATORY PURPOSES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SUPPORT</li><li>• SUGGESTION</li><li>• EASY-TO-USE</li><li>• DEFINITION OF APPLICABILITY</li><li>• REASONING</li><li>• AUTOMATED REPORTING</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EXPERTISE NEEDED</li><li>• REGULATORS' ACCEPTANCE</li><li>• LACK OF TRANSPARENCY</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IMPROVED RESPONSE TO REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS</li><li>• REDUCTION OF ANIMAL TESTS</li><li>• PRIORITIZATION</li><li>• HIGH-THROUGHPUT</li></ul>
	R&D	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SUGGESTION</li><li>• CONFIDENTIALITY</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EXPERTISE NEEDED</li><li>• METHODS NOT CONSIDERED POWERFUL</li><li>• COSTS OF INITIAL SETTINGS</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• REDUCTION OF COSTS/ANIMALS/TIME</li><li>• HIGH-THROUGHPUT</li><li>• ADDRESS SPECIFIC TARGETS/ENDPOINTS</li></ul>
 <b>SCIENTISTS</b> Consultants on Information technology, Toxicology, Chemistry, Environmental sciences		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DEFINITION OF APPLICABILITY</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EXPERTISE NEEDED</li><li>• REGULATORS' ACCEPTANCE</li><li>• RELIABILITY</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• REDUCTION OF COSTS/ANIMALS/TIME</li></ul>
 <b>NGOs</b> Environmental protection Animal protection		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SAFETY</li><li>• ANIMALS RIGHTS</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LACK OF EXPERTISE/KNOWLEDGE</li><li>• LACK OF INFORMATION</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• REDUCTION OF ANIMAL TESTS</li><li>• HEALTH &amp; ENVIRONMENT</li><li>• SURVEILLANCE OF POLLUTANTS</li></ul>
 <b>CITIZENS</b> Citizens associations Consumers associations		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SAFETY</li><li>• ANIMALS RIGHTS</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• LACK OF EDUCATION</li><li>• LACK OF INFORMATION</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• REDUCTION OF ANIMAL TESTS</li><li>• HEALTH &amp; ENVIRONMENT</li></ul>

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

SWOT Analysis (Strength, Weakness, Threats, Opportunities)  
of EC projects OUTCOMES

QUESTIONNAIRES to Stakeholders

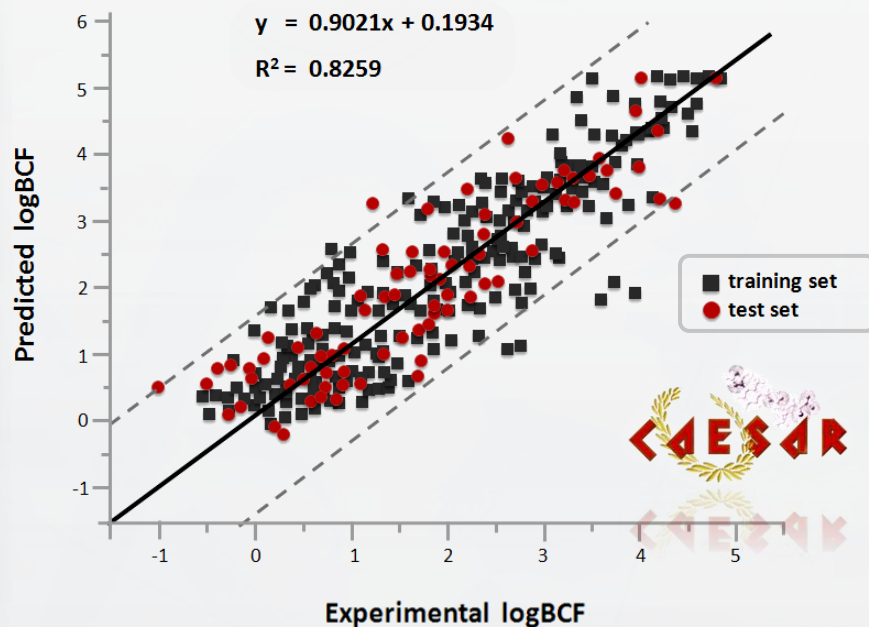
WORKSHOP April 6, Milan  
*Discussion with regulators and stakeholders  
on the safe use of QSAR*



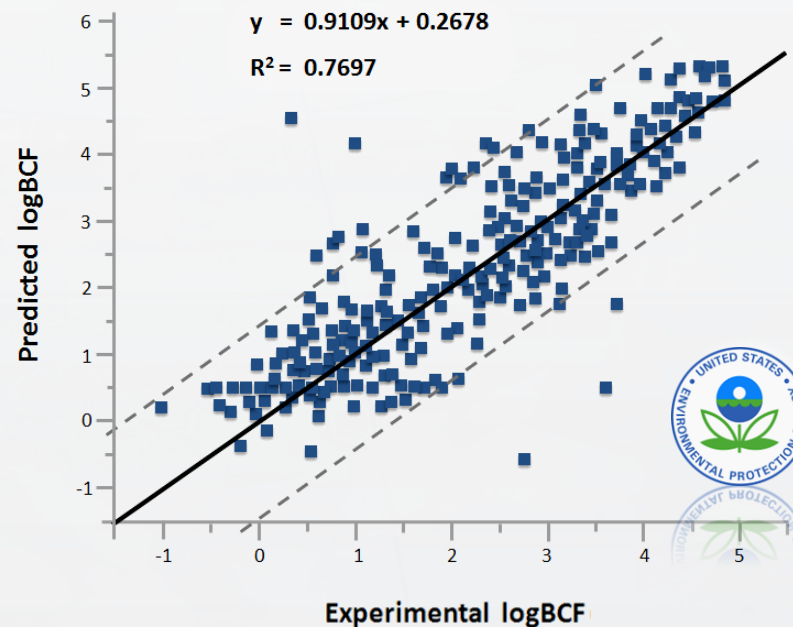
NEW PLATFORM FOR QSAR (WITH ANTARES)

## CAESAR MODELLING FOR BCF

### CAESAR MODEL



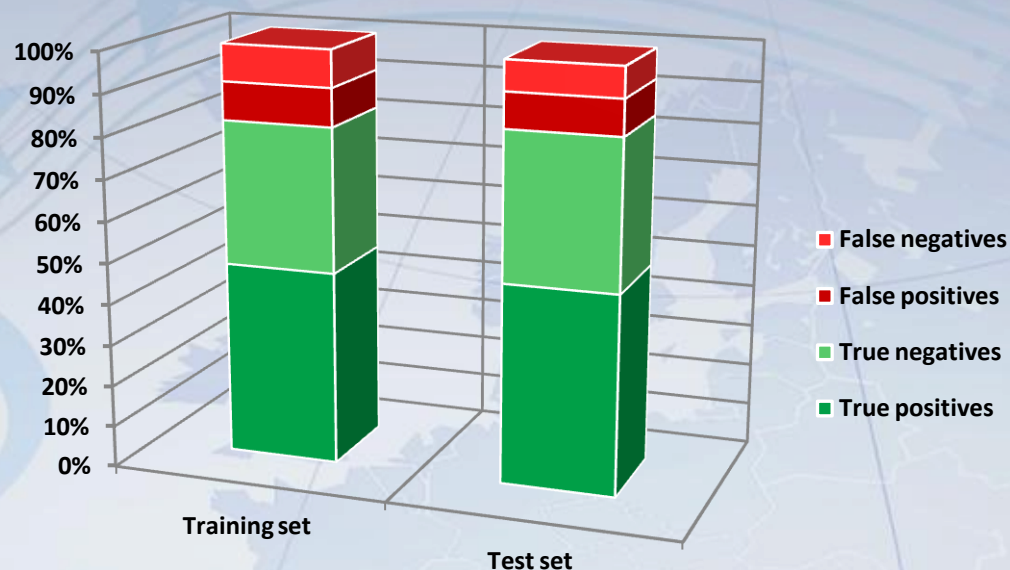
### EPIsuite MODEL







## CAESAR MODELLING FOR MUTAGENICITY

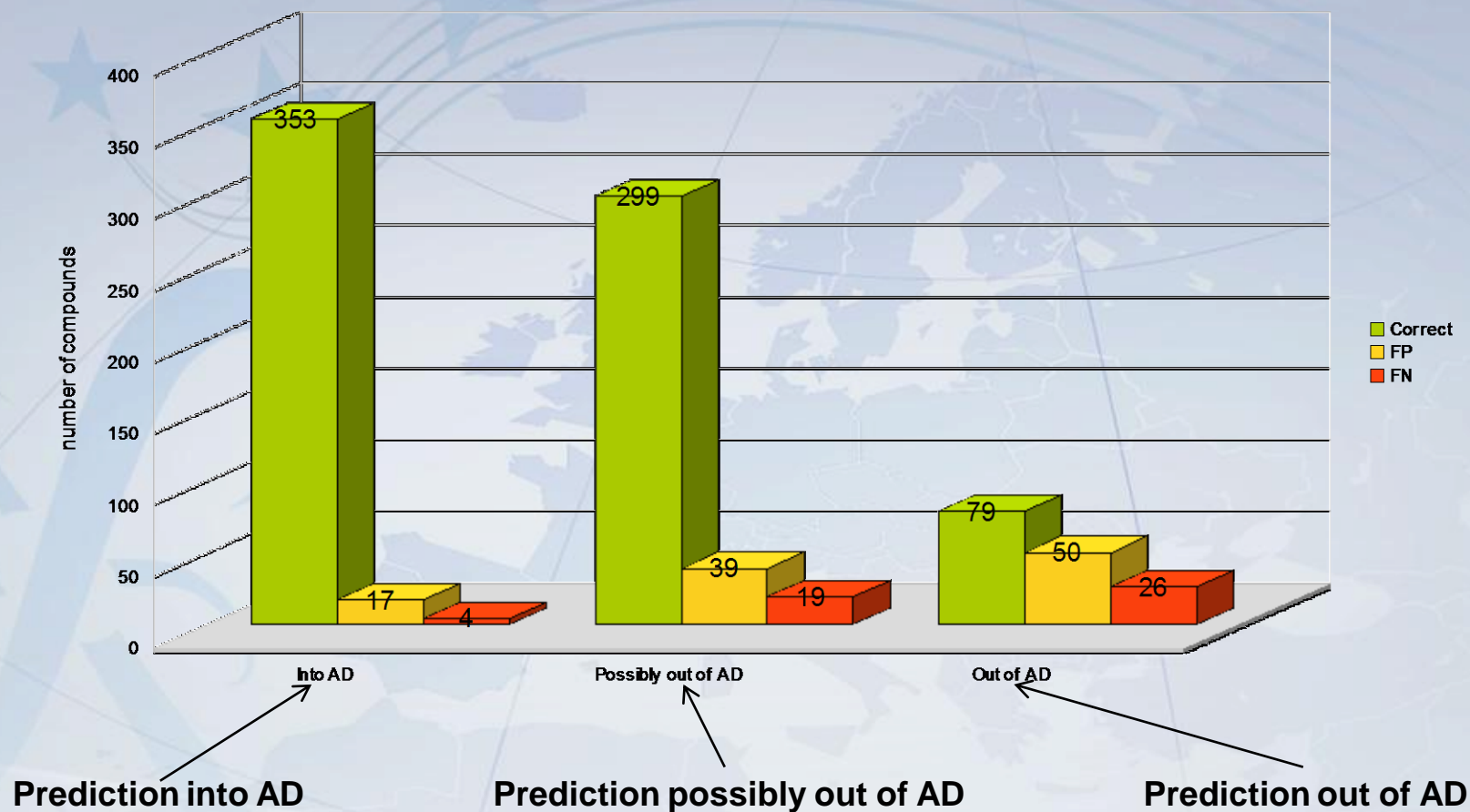


- Good accuracy (considering reproducibility of the experimental data about 85%)
- A cost-sensitive model was also evaluated to reduce *FN*



# MUTAGENICITY

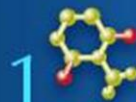
Errors for Mutagenicity model on the Test-Set (836 compounds)  
for three Applicability Domain classes:



# THE APPLICABILITY DOMAIN TOOL



STEP



ID	IUPAC Name	SMILES	Assessment	
1	5-(butan-2-yl)-5-ethyl-1,3-...	<chem>CCC(C)C1(CC)C(=O)NC...</chem>	Developmental toxicant (compound into AD)	
2	acetamide	<chem>CC(N)=O</chem>	Developmental toxicant (compound possibly out of AD)	
3	(E)-N-ethylidenehydroxyl...	<chem>C/C=N/O</chem>	n.a. (compound out of AD)	
4	acetonitrile	<chem>CC#N</chem>	Developmental NON-toxicant (compound possibly out of AD)	
5	acetaldehyde	<chem>CC=O</chem>	Developmental NON-toxicant (compound into AD)	



MOLECULE ID	2
SMILES	<chem>CC(N)=O</chem>
IUPAC NAME	acetamide
PREDICTED VALUE	Developmental toxicant
APPLICABILITY DOMAIN	Predicted substance could be out of the Applicability Domain of the model.
ASSESSMENT	Developmental toxicant (compound possibly out of AD)



# New Platform for QSAR





# New Platform for QSAR

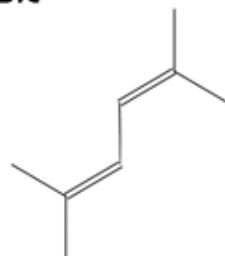


The Model Reasoning: **MODEL A**



ID	IUPAC Name	Smile	Predicted Activity	Applicability Domain
3	(Z)-2,4,6-trimethylhept-3-ene	<chem>CC(C=C(CC(C)C)C)C</chem>	2.81	
413	1,3-benzothiazole-2(3H)-thione	<chem>SC1=Nc2c(cccc2)S1</chem>	0.82	
61	2,5-dimethylhexa-2,4-diene	<chem>C(C=C(C)C)=C(C)C</chem>	2.10	

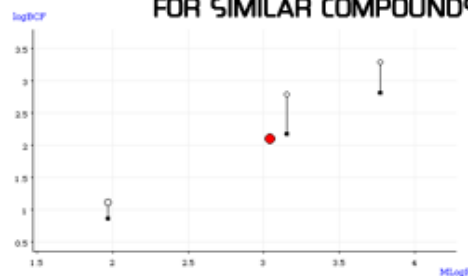
## Molecule



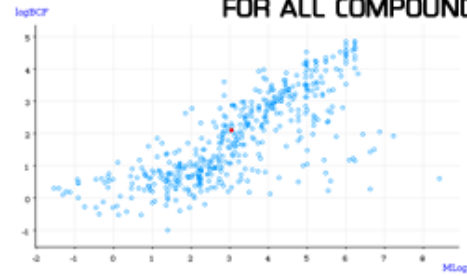
## Comments

*This result refers to LogP, the main descriptor*

THE ROLE OF LOGP FOR SIMILAR COMPOUNDS



THE ROLE OF LOGP FOR ALL COMPOUNDS



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**GRAZIE!**