



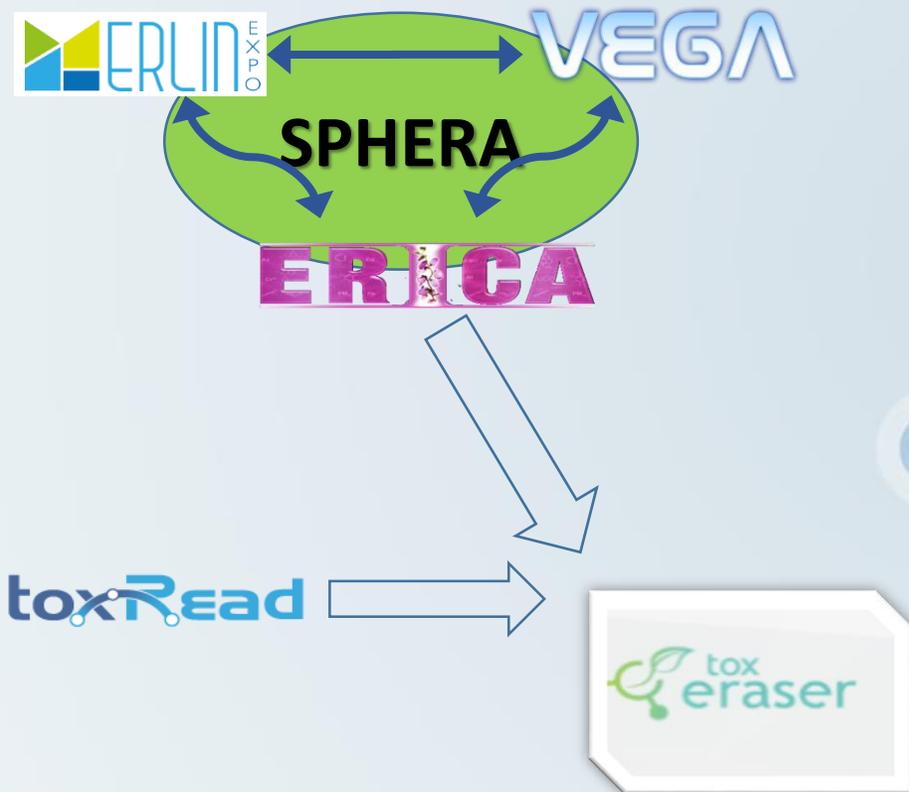
Substituting harmful chemicals.

The challenge of perfluorinated compounds

Emilio Benfenati – Istituto di Ricerche Farmacologiche Mario Negri, Milano



The LIFE VERMEER project



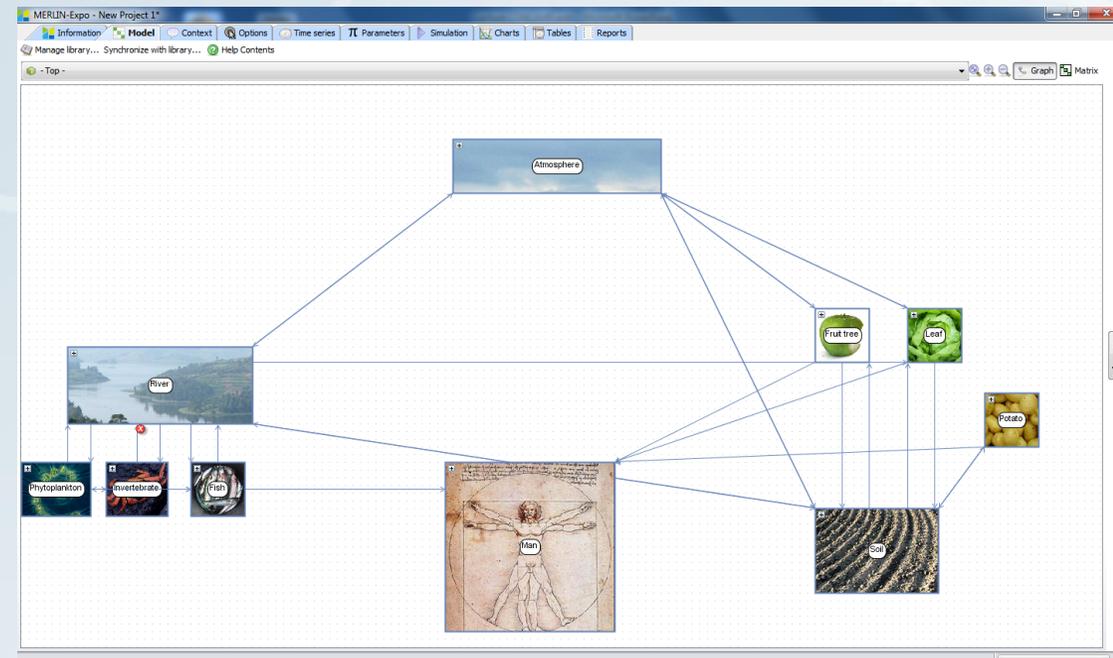
Integrating **VEGA**, **ToxRead**, **MERLIN-Expo**, and **ERICA** in a **platform for risk assessment and substitution** of risky substances

Towards substitution:

1. Identification of the risky substances
2. Identification of possible substitutes
3. Application to **6** case studies



Modelling **E**xposure to
chemicals for **R**isk assessment:
a comprehensive **L**ibrary of
multimedia and PBPK models
for **I**ntegration, prediction,
uNcertainty and sensitivity
analysis.





Select models

VEGA

Tox Ecotox Environ Phys-Chem

Single models:

- Mutagenicity (Ames test) model (CAESAR) - v. 2.1.13
- Mutagenicity (Ames test) model (SarPy/IRFMN) - v. 1.0.7
- Mutagenicity (Ames test) model (ISS) - v. 1.0.2
- Mutagenicity (Ames test) model (KNN/Read-Across) - v. 1.0.0
- Carcinogenicity model (CAESAR) - v. 2.1.9
- Carcinogenicity model (ISS) - v. 1.0.2
- Carcinogenicity model (IRFMN/Antares) - v. 1.0.0
- Carcinogenicity model (IRFMN/ISSCAN-CGX) - v. 1.0.0
- Developmental Toxicity model (CAESAR) - v. 2.1.7
- Developmental/Reproductive Toxicity library (PG) - v. 1.0.0
- Estrogen Receptor Relative Binding Affinity model (IRFMN) - v. 1.0.1
- Estrogen Receptor-mediated effect (IRFMN/CERAPP) - v. 1.0.0
- Skin Sensitization model (CAESAR) - v. 2.1.6

80 models regarding properties on:

- Human toxicity
- Eco-toxicity
- Environmental
- Physico-chemical
- Toxicokinetics



- OECD ○ Docked to the OECD QSAR Toolbox
- ECHA ○ Projects from Italian Health and Environmental Ministries
- EFSA ○ Used by German UBA for prioritization and substance evaluation



Preparation of an inventory of substances suspected to meet REACH Annex III criteria

Technical documentation



Practical guide
How to use and report (Q)SARs

Version 3.1 – July 2016

EFSA



SCIENTIFIC OPINION

ADOPTED: 12 July 2017
doi: 10.2903/j.efsa.2017.4971

Guidance on the use of the weight of evidence approach in scientific assessments

EFSA Scientific Committee,
Anthony Hardy, Diane Benford, Thorhallur Halldorsson, Michael John Jeger,
Helle Kathrine Knutsen, Simon Mary, Hancater Naeali, Hilbert Moteham, Colin Oakleford,
Dominique Turk, Emilia Venturi, Osman Bishamga, ...



Six tools for specific targets

- Cosmetics
- FCM
- Solvents
- Biocides
- Oil
- Dispersants



**Software Predicting Human
and Environmental Risk
Assessment**



SpheraCosmetics



Sphera Cosmetics - v. 0.12

Directory for output:

List of ingredients

Id	Concentration
----	---------------

+ ✎ - | 📄 | ✖

Product Type: (dropdown menu open)

- Shower gel
- Shampoo
- Hair styling products (leave-on)
- Hair styling products (rinse-off)
- Body lotion
- Face cream
- Face cream (applied on neck)
- Face cream (applied on back of neck)

Application log

- * Initializing core...
- * Ready.

- The user is asked to provide the information regarding the ingredient, its concentration and the product type
- The software allows to add single or multiple ingredients

New ingredient

Ingredient Id:

SMILES:

SMILES (Neutral form):

CAS: 🔍

INCI: 🔍

Concentration (%):



SpheraCosmetics



The software provides a preliminary output table with a summary of the hazard and exposure features of the ingredients

Processed product

Product type: **Shower gel**

Ingredients:

	Ingredient Id	CAS	INCI	Conc. %	Annex	Mutagenicity	Dermal abs.	MoS	TTC
Details	DISODIUM EDTA	139-33-3	DISODIUM EDTA	0.05	-	NON-Mutagen (EXPERIMENTAL value)	10%	7168458.78	0.0015 mg/kg bw/day
Details	GLYCERIN	56-81-5	GLYCERIN	5.0	-	NON-Mutagen (EXPERIMENTAL value)	80%	30842.29	0.03 mg/kg bw/day
Details	POTASSIUM BENZOATE	582-25-2	POTASSIUM BENZOATE	2.0	V	NON-Mutagen (EXPERIMENTAL value)	80%	619.62	0.03 mg/kg bw/day
Details	EUGENOL	97-53-0	EUGENOL	0.001	III	NON-Mutagen (EXPERIMENTAL value)	80%	10304659.5	0.03 mg/kg bw/day
Details	GERANIOL	106-24-1	GERANIOL	0.001	III	NON-Mutagen (EXPERIMENTAL value)	40%	6996415.77	0.03 mg/kg bw/day



Question: How to identify safe/risky substances for cosmetics?

- ✓ Libraries of safe substances (SIN, SCIL, CIR)
- ✓ Libraries of substances with thresholds
- ✗ Libraries of toxic/excluded compounds

Acceptance depends on regulation



TOXERASER. Future software. The strategy

Identify elements/reasons of risk

Identify lists of safe substances

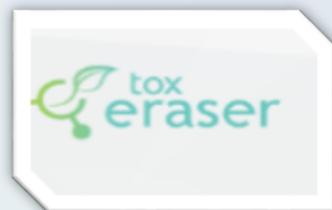
Identify elements associated to safety

Identify functional use – case studies

Replace substances with safer compounds, if the list of safer substances functional use is available

Identify related compounds with similar phys-chem properties from other safety lists

Design new, safer substances, replacing fragments associated to adverse effect





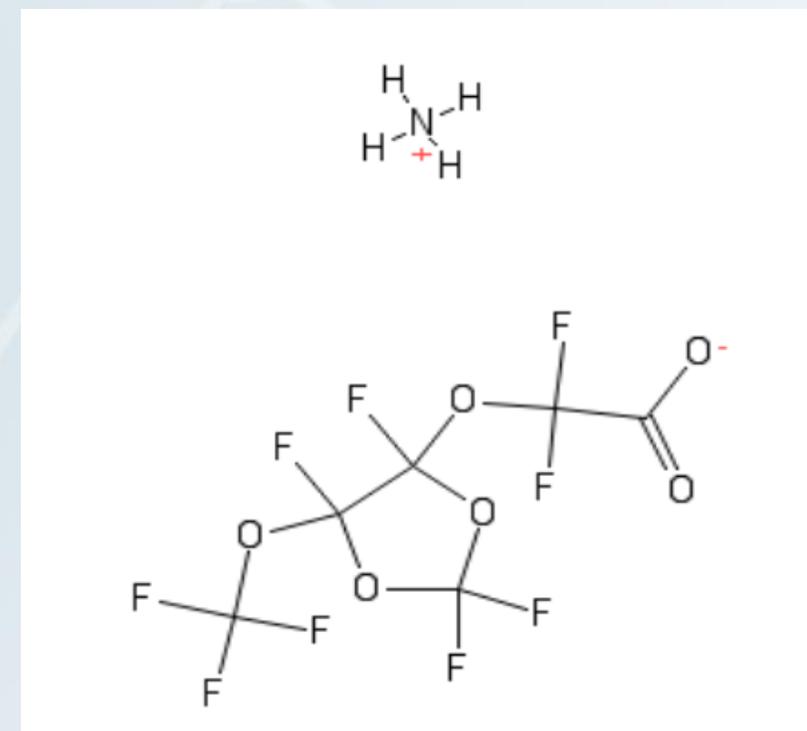
Evaluating a target perfluorinated compound

BCF

- *In silico models*
- *Read-across*
- *Reasoning*

cC604

CAS: 1190931-41-9





Weight-of-evidence

Gather all lines of evidence
Evaluate them
Assemble

- *Relevance*
- *Reliability*
- *Consistency*



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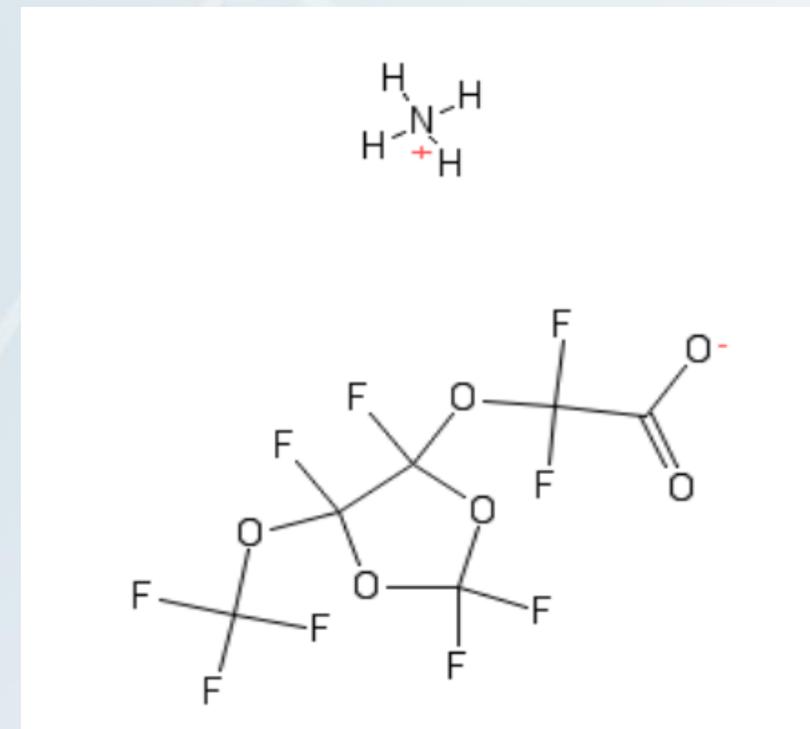


BCF. Multiple in silico models.

- *EPI Suite Meylan* 0.5 (neutral or salt)
- *OPERA* 0.695
- *TEST consensus* 1.43 (-1.2 / 3.4)
- *VEGA CAESAR* 0.06
- *VEGA Arnot-Gobas* 2.26

Similar level of reliability: low

Value 0 – 2 - Not bioaccumulative



Home Strumenti report_by_models... x

6 / 41 76% CAESAR) 2.1.14 page 5

3.2 Applicability Domain: Measured Applicability Domain Scores

Global AD Index
AD index = 0.279
Explanation: the predicted compound is outside the Applicability Domain of the model.

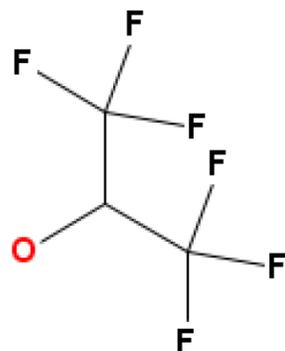
Similar molecules with known experimental value
Similarity index = 0.698
Explanation: no similar compounds with known experimental value in the training set have been found.

Accuracy of prediction for similar molecules
Accuracy index = 1.301
Explanation: accuracy of prediction for similar molecules found in the training set is not adequate.

Concordance for similar molecules
Concordance index = 3.301
Explanation: similar molecules found in the training set have experimental values that disagree with the predicted value.

Maximum error of prediction among similar molecules
Max error index = 2.015
Explanation: the maximum error in prediction of similar molecules found in the training set has a high value, considering the experimental variability.

Model's descriptors range check
Descriptors range check = True
Explanation: descriptors for this compound have values inside the descriptor range of the compounds of the training set.



Compound #4

CAS: 920-66-1

Dataset id: 263 (Training set)

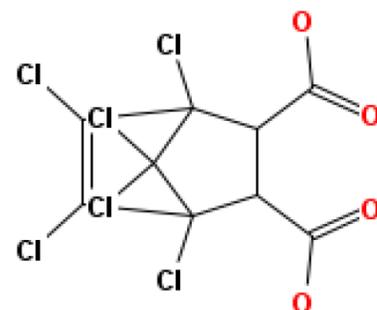
SMILES: FC(F)(F)C(O)C(F)(F)F

Similarity: 0.614

Experimental value [$\log(L/kg)$]: 0.3

Predicted value [$\log(L/kg)$]: 0.601

Alerts (not found in the target): OH group (PG 06)



Compound #5

CAS: 115-28-6

Dataset id: 282 (Training set)

SMILES: O=C(O)C1C(C(=O)O)C2(C(=C(C1(C2(Cl)Cl)Cl)Cl)Cl)Cl

Similarity: 0.614

Experimental value [$\log(L/kg)$]: 0.32

Predicted value [$\log(L/kg)$]: 0.261

Alerts (found also in the target): Carbonyl residue (SR 02); COOH group (PG 01)



Read-across. BCF

Target:

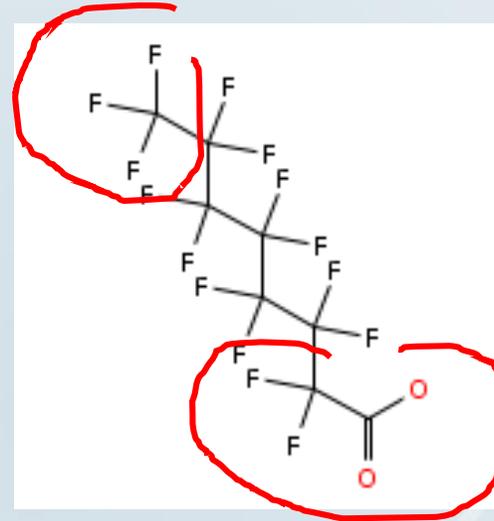
C 6

F 9

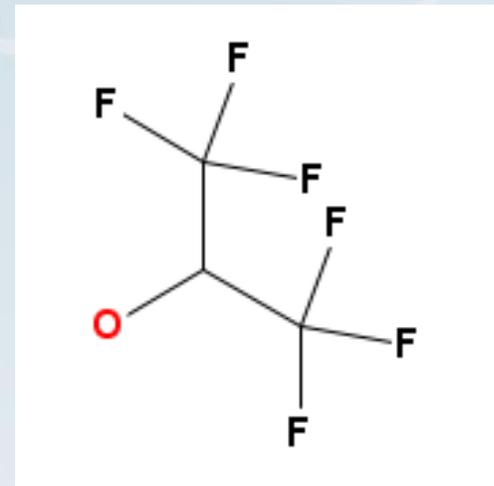
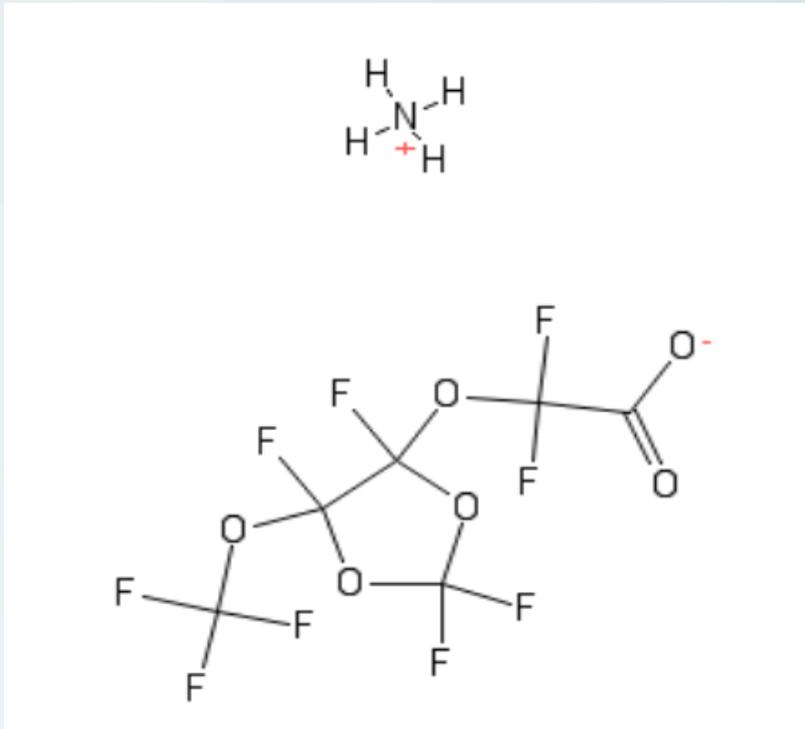
O 6

Average 1.7,
likely lower

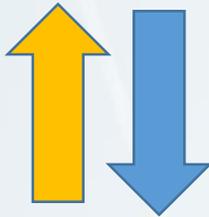
Similar



3.12 (0.977) **C8F15O2**



0.3 (-1.3)
C3 F6 O





Weight-of-evidence

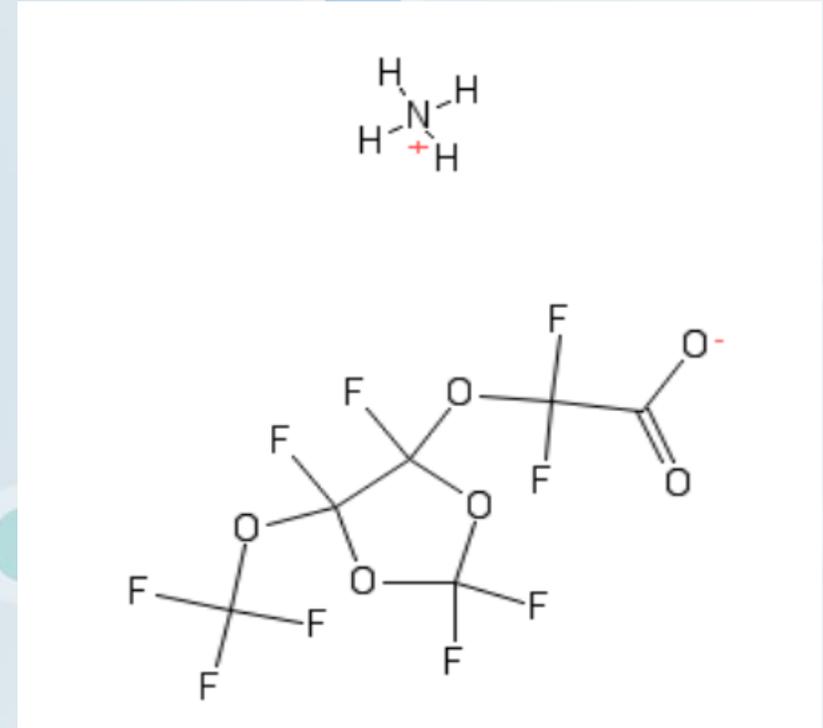
Prediction: 0 – 2

Read-across: 0.3, max 1.7 *

Reasoning: COOH, F, chain, oxygen

 0.3 – (1.7)

**large experimental variability*





CONCLUSIONS

New software for evaluation of risky substances

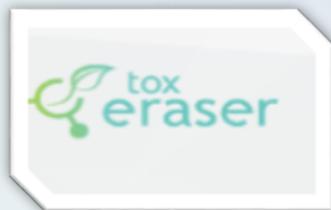
Case studies (cosmetics, food, biocides, environmental contaminants, solvents, and generic tool)

Integrated assessment in one single platform.

Risky substances linked to substituents

General tool for substitution

WoE strategy to use in silico and read-across





GRAZIE !

