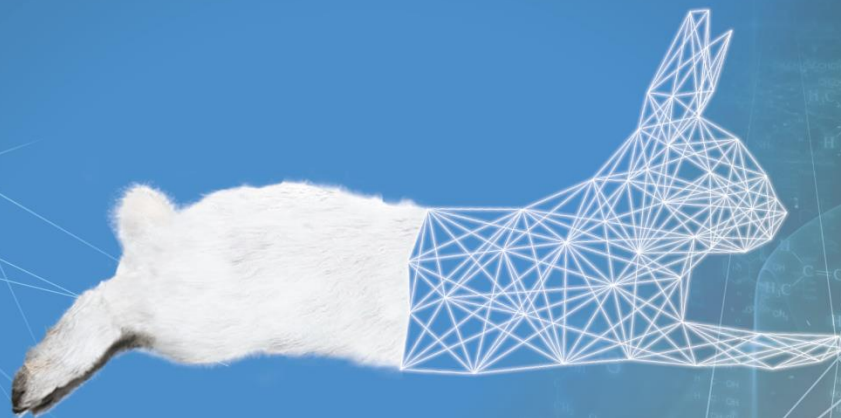


U.S. EPA Fragrance Technical Expert Meeting
January 30-31, 2024

Evaluating Chronic Aquatic Toxicity of Fragrances

Christopher Fassbender, Ph.D.
PETA Science Consortium International e.V.



ChristopherF@thepsci.eu
www.ThePSCI.eu

Overview

Goal: High level of environmental protection through the use of advanced scientific methods whilst reducing animal testing for the assessment of fragrances

Stepwise approach to assessing chronic fish toxicity:



**Waiving chronic
testing**

**Using
predictive tools**

Read-across

WoE / IATA

Testing as last
resort

Stepwise approach to assessing chronic fish toxicity

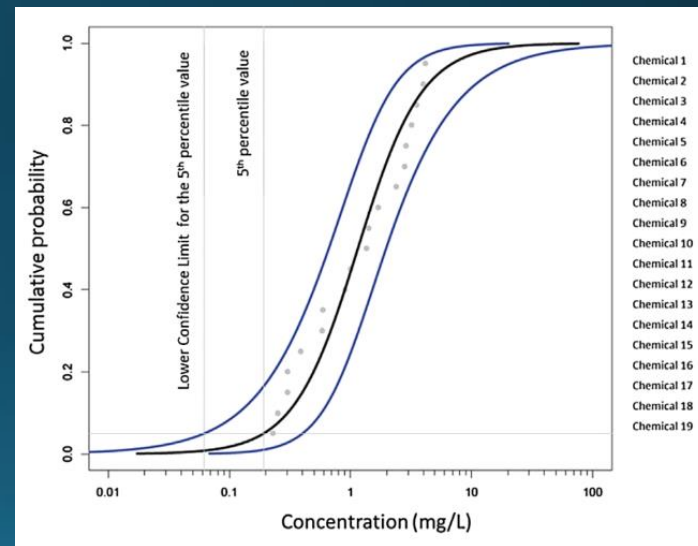
Waiving chronic testing

- Based on limited exposure and rapid biodegradation

Stepwise approach to assessing chronic fish toxicity

Using predictive tools before considering testing

- Species Sensitivity Distributions (SSDs)
- Ecological Threshold of Toxicological Concern (eco-TTC)



Belanger S. et al. It is time to develop ecological thresholds of toxicological concern to assist environmental hazard assessment. *Environ Toxicol Chem.* 2015;34(12):2864-2869. doi:10.1002/etc.3132

Waiving chronic
testing

Using predictive
tools

Read-across

WoE / IATA

Testing as last
resort

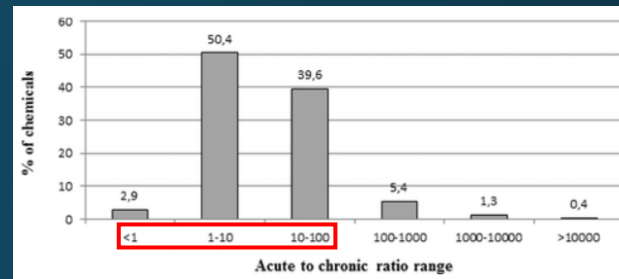
Stepwise approach to assessing chronic fish toxicity

Read-across

- Category or analogue approach
- Difficult for data-poor chemicals

Weight-of-evidence approach / IATA

- Integrated approaches rather than 1:1 replacements
- Acute-to-chronic toxicity ratios** of >100 protective for narcotics (Kienzler et al., 2017).
- Daphnia and algae data similar to FELS data for narcotics (Teixido et al., 2019).
- Fish embryo acute toxicity test (FET, OECD TG 236):** Baseline toxicity at similar concentrations in FET and FELS (Scholz et al., 2018).



Kienzler A. et al. Waiving chronic fish tests: possible use of acute-to-chronic relationships and interspecies correlations. *Toxicol Environ Chem.* 2017;99(7-8):1129-1151.

Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry—Volume 39, Number 1—pp. 30–41, 2020

Received: 23 May 2019 | Revised: 2 July 2019 | Accepted: 1 October 2019

30

Critical Review

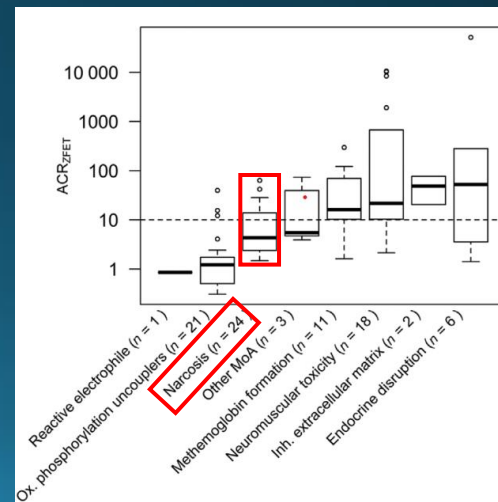
Comparative Assessment of the Sensitivity of Fish Early-Life Stage, *Daphnia*, and Algae Tests to the Chronic Ecotoxicity of Xenobiotics: Perspectives for Alternatives to Animal Testing

Elisabet Teixidó,^{a,*} David Leuthold,^a Noémie de Crozé,^b Marc Léonard,^b and Stefan Scholz^a

^aDepartment of Bioanalytical Ecotoxicology, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research—UFZ, Leipzig, Germany

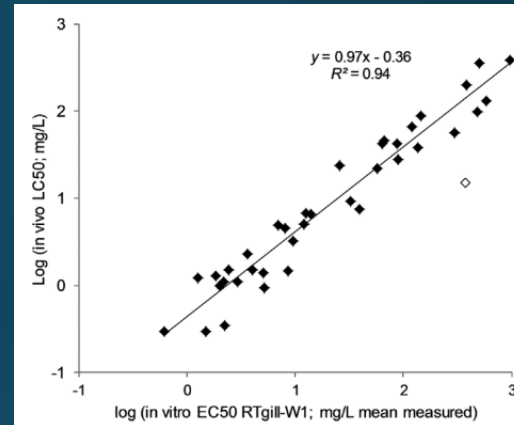
^bEnvironmental Research & Sustainable Development Department, L'Oréal Research & Innovation, Aulnay sous Bois, France

Scholz S. et al. Meta-analysis of fish early life stage tests—Association of toxic ratios and acute-to-chronic ratios with modes of action. *Environ Toxicol Chem.* 2018;37(4):955-969.

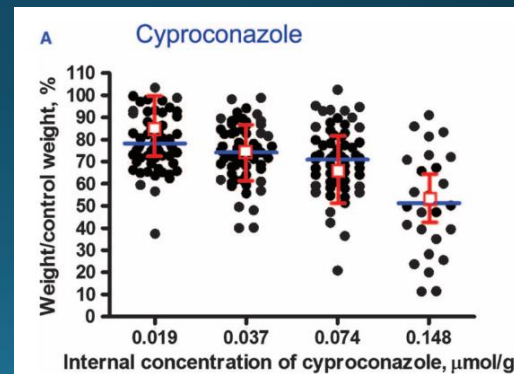


Weight-of-evidence approach / IATA

- **RTgill-W1 cytotoxicity test** (OECD TG 249): Good predictivity of acute toxicity of 38 fragrances (Natsch et al., 2018).
- Cell proliferation to predict fish growth (Stadnicka-Michalak et al., 2015).
- Take into account applicability domains of methods
- Non-vertebrate data sufficient, e.g., chronic daphnid testing?
- Future goal: AOP networks to predict chronic apical endpoints



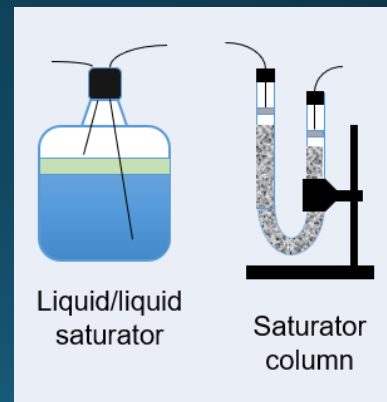
Natsch A. et al. Accurate prediction of acute fish toxicity of fragrance chemicals with the RTgill-W1 cell assay. *Environ Toxicol Chem.* 2018;37(3):931-941.



Stadnicka-Michalak J. et al. Toxicology across scales: Cell population growth in vitro predicts reduced fish growth. *Sci Adv.* 2015;1(7):e1500302. doi:10.1126/sciadv.1500302

Chronic fish testing as a last resort

- a. Determine concentration range for chronic tests using **baseline toxicity models** (e.g., QSARs for Kow)
- b. Careful application of **OECD GD 23** on Aqueous-Phase Aquatic Toxicity Testing of Difficult Test Chemicals
 - Poorly water-soluble chemicals
 - Highly volatile chemicals
 - Avoid the use of solvents through direct addition, generator systems, passive dosing, flow-through exposure systems



Outlook

- Consider applying stepwise approach for assessment of fragrances
- Is there scope for conducting a joint analysis of fragrance data with stakeholders to explore how confidence in advanced methodology can be increased and grouping and read-across for fragrances can be supported while ensuring a high level of environmental protection?

PETA Science Consortium International e.V.
www.ThePSCI.eu

Christopher Fassbender, Ph.D.
ChristopherF@thepsci.eu

