

Figure 3. Number of published independent values per protein-ligand system. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0061007.g003

 $\Delta pIC_{50}\mbox{'s}$ and $\Delta pK_i\mbox{'s}$ with an upper threshold of 2.0 are shown in Figure 5.

The standard deviations of the ΔpIC_{50} data is constantly 21–26% larger than the standard deviation of the ΔpKi data. After dividing by $\sqrt{2}$, the σ for the Gaussian distribution fitted to all ΔpK_i values <2.5 then becomes 0.47 (a bit lower than the σ value of 0.54 previously calculated for heterogeneous pK_i data from ChEMBL version 12 data without upper threshold for ΔpKi data. [13] Since σ , MUE, and M_{ed} UE are proportional to each other in Gaussian distributions, we can estimate σ , MUE and MedUE for

the IC_{50} data to be $21{\text -}26\%$ larger than the same metrics for pK_i data, yielding $\sigma_{pIC50} = 0.68$, $MUE_{pIC50} = 0.55$ and $M_{ed}UE_{pIC50} = 0.43$ (when using a factor of +25% for converting pK_i data to pIC_{50} data).

In order to test the alternative approach of directly obtaining quality metrics from the data, we calculated the quality metrics from the ΔpIC_{50} data with an upper threshold of ΔpIC_{50} = 2.5. Here, σ_{pIC50} = 0.68, MUE_{pIC50} = 0.54 and $M_{ed}UE_{pIC50}$ = 0.43 are obtained. These values are very similar to the values obtained from comparing fitted Gaussian distributions and indicate that the

Table 2. Errors found for samples of pairs of measurements with specific differences in measured pIC₅₀.

Δ pIC ₅₀	# invalid pairs out of 10	Error types found
From 4.7 to 7.8	9	unit error, receptor subtype error, stereochemistry error, cellular assay error
3.2	10	unit error, cellular assay error, target error, value error
2.5	8	unit error, receptor subtype error, value error
1.5	6 (+2 dubious)	unit error, cellular assay error, receptor subtype error, value error
1.1	1 (+2 dubious)	cellular assay error, receptor subtype error
0.05	1 (+1 dubious)	value error, different assay conditions
0.02	0 (+4 dubious)	original paper retracted, data cited from third source which is not available any more, receptor subtype error

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