



3rd RDKit Meeting
Merck, Darmstadt, Oct 2014

Using RDKit for Matched Molecular Series Analysis

When two are not enough

Noel O'Boyle

NextMove Software



HOW TO CHOOSE WHAT COMPOUND TO MAKE NEXT?

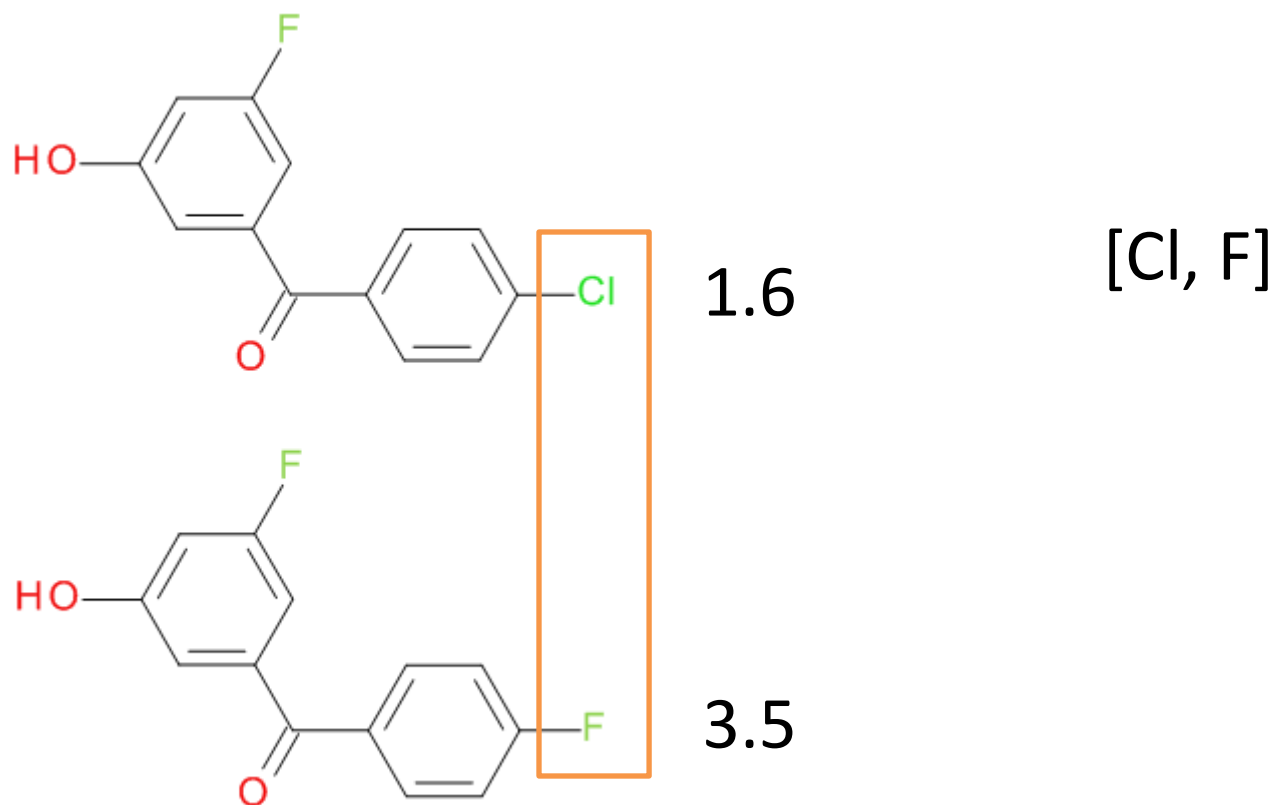
- Based on **experience** on related projects
 - What worked last time?
- By observing an **activity trend**, inferring a SAR relationship, and extrapolating
 - Aka ‘chemical intuition’
- Our additional suggestion:
 - Take advantage of the wealth of experience and trends contained in 57K med chem papers
 - **‘evidence-based medicinal chemistry’**



MATCHED PAIRS & SERIES



MATCHED (MOLECULAR) PAIRS



Coined by Kenny and Sadowski in 2005*

Easier to predict **differences** in the values of a property than it is to predict the value itself

* Chemoinformatics in drug discovery, Wiley, 271–285.



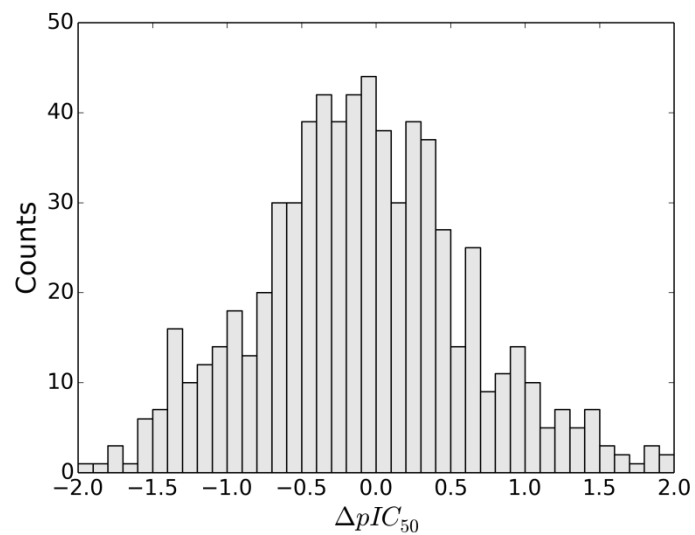
MATCHED PAIR USAGE

- **Successfully** used for:
 - Predicting physicochemical property changes
 - Finding bioisosteres
- **Not very successful** in improving activity
 - Activity changes dependent on binding environment
 - Need to use matched pair data only for a particular binding pocket for a particular protein
- Hajduk, Sauer. *J. Med. Chem.* **2008**, *51*, 553
 - Data from 30 protein targets at Abbott
 - Most R group transformations led to potency changes normally distributed around 0



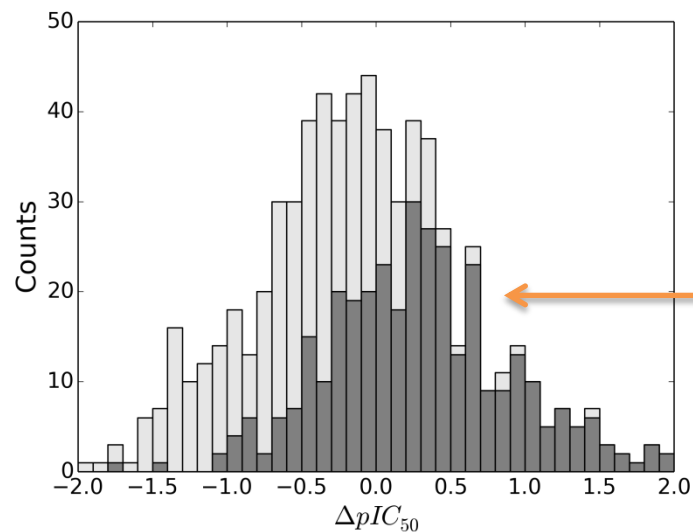
MATCHED PAIRS AND ACTIVITY

$\text{pIC}_{50}(\text{CC}) - \text{pIC}_{50}(\text{CCCC})$



MATCHED PAIRS AND ACTIVITY

$$pIC_{50}(CC) - pIC_{50}(CCCC)$$

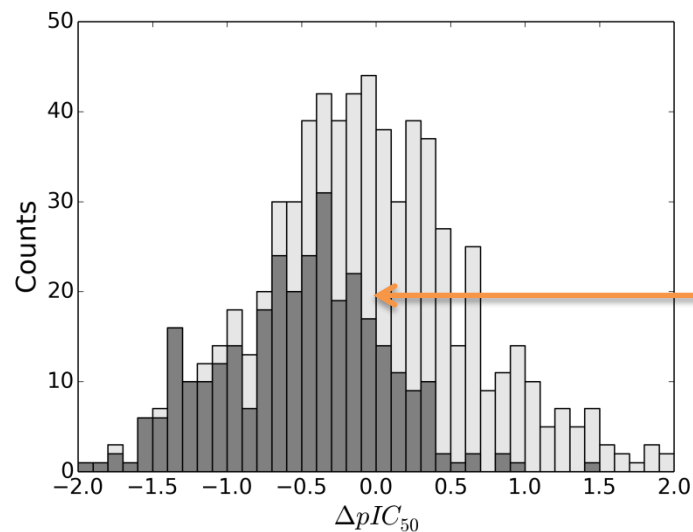


For those cases where:
[CCC > CCCC]



MATCHED PAIRS AND ACTIVITY

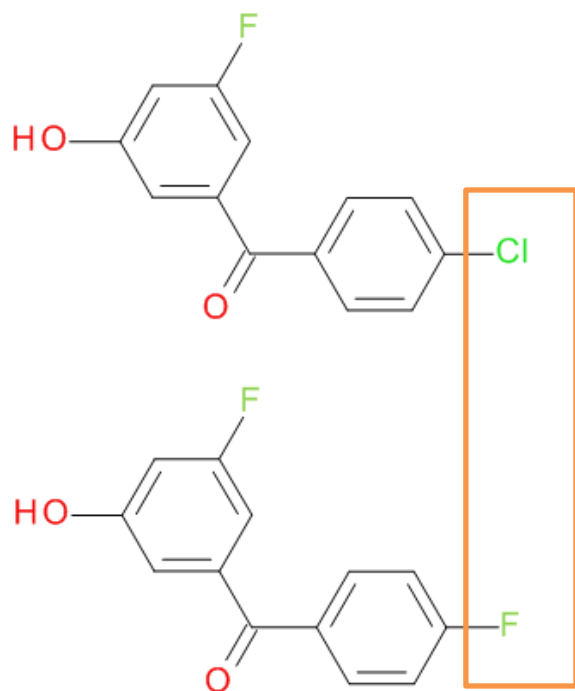
$$pIC_{50}(CC) - pIC_{50}(CCCC)$$



For those cases where:
[CCC < CCCC]



MATCHED SERIES OF LENGTH 2 = MATCHED PAIR

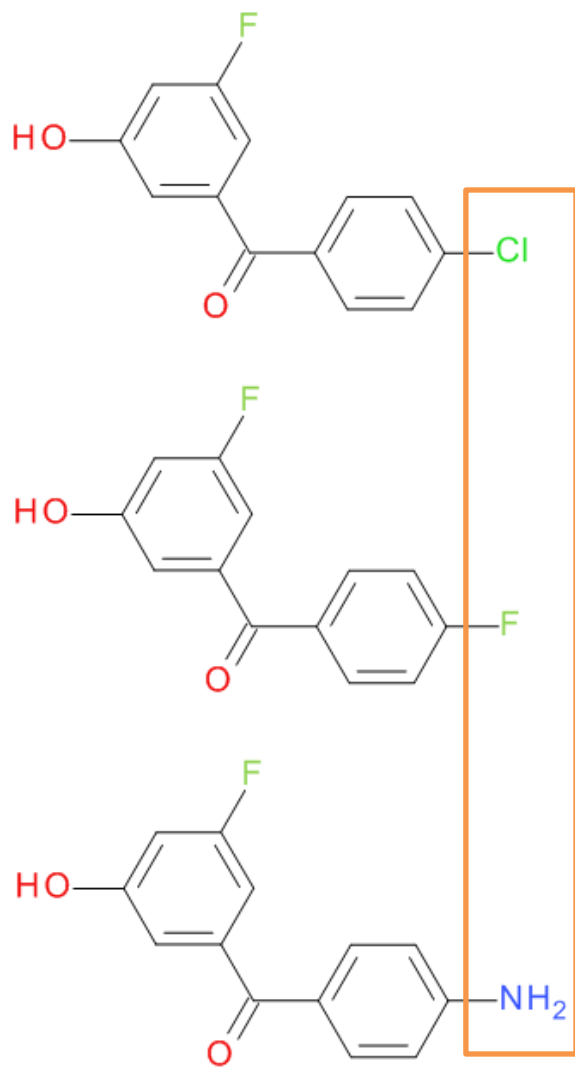


[Cl, F]

“Matching molecular series” introduced by Wawer and Bajorath, *J. Med. Chem.* **2011**, 54, 2944



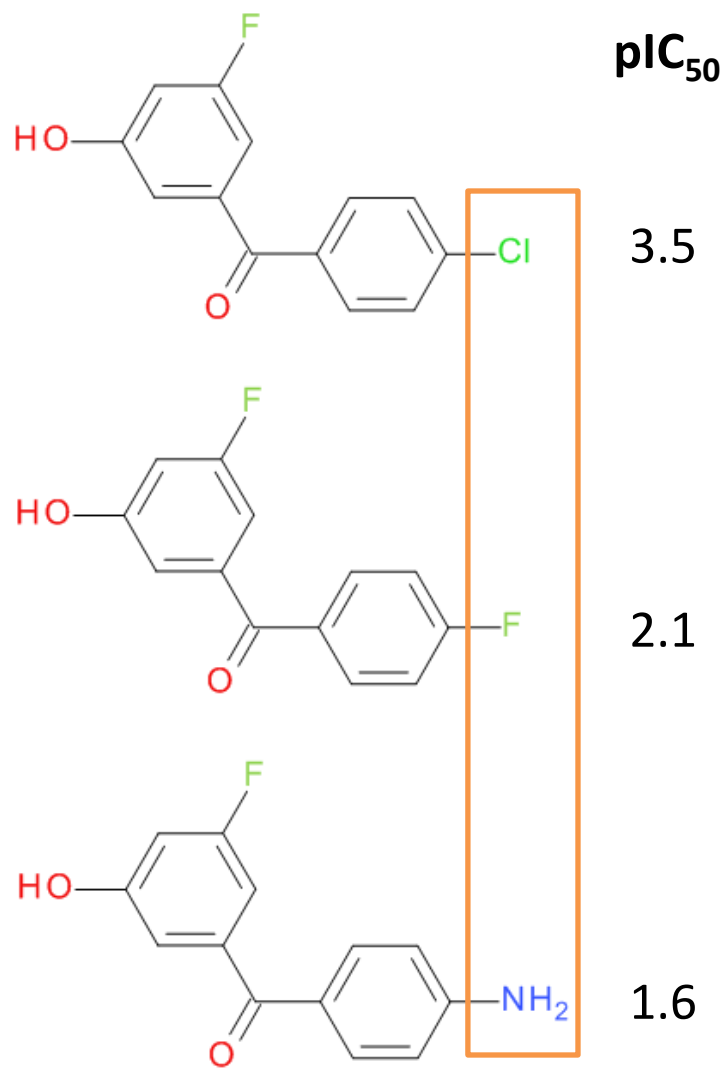
MATCHED SERIES OF LENGTH 3



[Cl, F, NH₂]



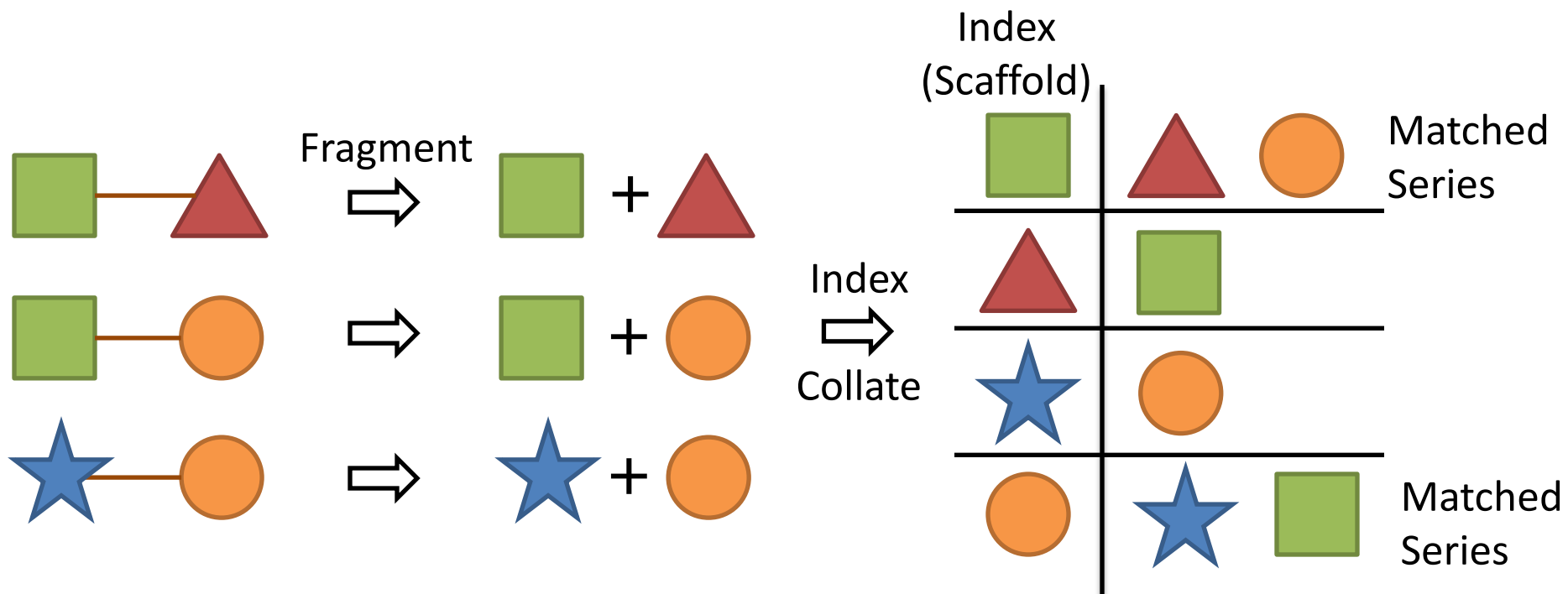
ORDERED MATCHED SERIES OF LENGTH 3



[Cl > F > NH₂]



ALGORITHM TO FIND MATCHED SERIES



- **Hussain and Rea** *JCIM* **2010**, 50, 339

- Fragment molecules at acyclic single bonds

- Single-cut only, scaffold ≥ 5 , R group ≤ 12 , preserve stereochemistry at break point

- Index each fragment based on the other

- A matched series will be indexed together



FIND MATCHED SERIES IN JAMEED'S FRAGMENTS

```
import rdk
import sys
from collections import namedtuple

Frag = namedtuple('Frag', ['id', 'scaffold', 'rgroup'])

class Series():
    def __init__(self):
        self.rgroups = []
        self.scaffold = ""

def getFrag(filename):
    frags = []
    for line in open(filename):
        broken = line.rstrip().split(",")
        if broken[2]: # should be blank for single-cut
            continue
        smiles = broken[-1].split(".")
        mols = [rdk.readstring("smi", smi) for smi in smiles]
        numAtoms = [mol.Mol.GetNumAtoms() for mol in mols]

        if numAtoms[0] > 5 and numAtoms[1] < 12:
            frags.append(Frag(broken[1], smiles[0], smiles[1]))
        if numAtoms[1] > 5 and numAtoms[0] < 12:
            frags.append(Frag(broken[1], smiles[1], smiles[0]))
    frags.sort(key=lambda x:(x.scaffold, x.rgroup))
    return frags
```

```
def getSeries(frags):
    oldfrag = Frag(None, None, None)
    series = Series()
    for frag in frags:
        if frag.scaffold != oldfrag.scaffold:
            if len(series.rgroups) >= 2:
                series.scaffold = oldfrag.scaffold
                yield series
            series = Series()
            series.rgroups.append( (frag.rgroup, frag.id) )

        oldfrag = frag
    if len(series.rgroups) >= 2:
        series.scaffold = oldfrag.scaffold
        yield series

if __name__ == "__main__":
    filename = sys.argv[1]

    frags = getFrag(filename)
    it = getSeries(frags)

    for series in it:
        print "# %s" % series.scaffold
        for rgroup in sorted(series.rgroups):
            print "%s %s" % (rgroup[0], rgroup[1])
```



FIND MATCHED SERIES IN JAMEED'S FRAGMENTS

sample_fragmented.txt

```
# [*:1]CNc1ncnc2sccc21
[*:1]c1cccc1 2139597
[*:1]c1cccnc1 2531831
# [*:1]Cn1nc(C)cc1C
[*:1]c1ccc(C(=O)O)cc1 615212
[*:1]c1ccc(C(=O)O)o1 658387
# [*:1]NC(=O)C1COc2cccc2O1
[*:1]c1ccc(C(=O)O)cc1 2881039
[*:1]c1ccc(C(N)=O)cc1 2787356
....
```

pickett_fragmented.txt

```
# [*:1]C[C@H](NS(=O)(=O)c1ccc(-c2c(C)cccc2C)cc1)C(=O)O
[*:1]C(=O)OC(C)(C)C A18B22
[*:1]C(C)C A04B22
[*:1]C(N)=O A29B22
[*:1]C1CC1 A42B22
[*:1]CC(=O)NC(C)C A41B22
[*:1]CC(=O)OC(C)(C)C A19B22
[*:1]CC(=O)OCC A14B22
[*:1]CCC A31B22
[*:1]CCCNC(C)=O A06B22
[*:1]CS(C)=O A24B22
[*:1]NC(N)=O A09B22
[*:1]OC(C)(C)C A33B22
[*:1]OCc1cccc1 A32B22
[*:1]SC A02B22
[*:1]SCCc1ccncc1 A17B22
[*:1]SCc1cccc1 A03B22
[*:1]Sc1cccc1 A43B22
[*:1]Sc1cccs1 A50B22
[*:1]Sc1nccs1 A49B22
[*:1]c1c[nH]c2cccc12 A28B22
[*:1]c1ccc(O)cc1 A01B22
[*:1]c1cccc(C#N)c1 A44B22
[*:1]c1ccccn1 A39B22
[*:1]c1cccs1 A27B22
[*:1]n1cccn1 A46B22
[*:1]n1cncn1 A47B22
```



CHEMBL BIOACTIVITY DATABASE

- ChEMBL 19 – July 2014



- 57k papers

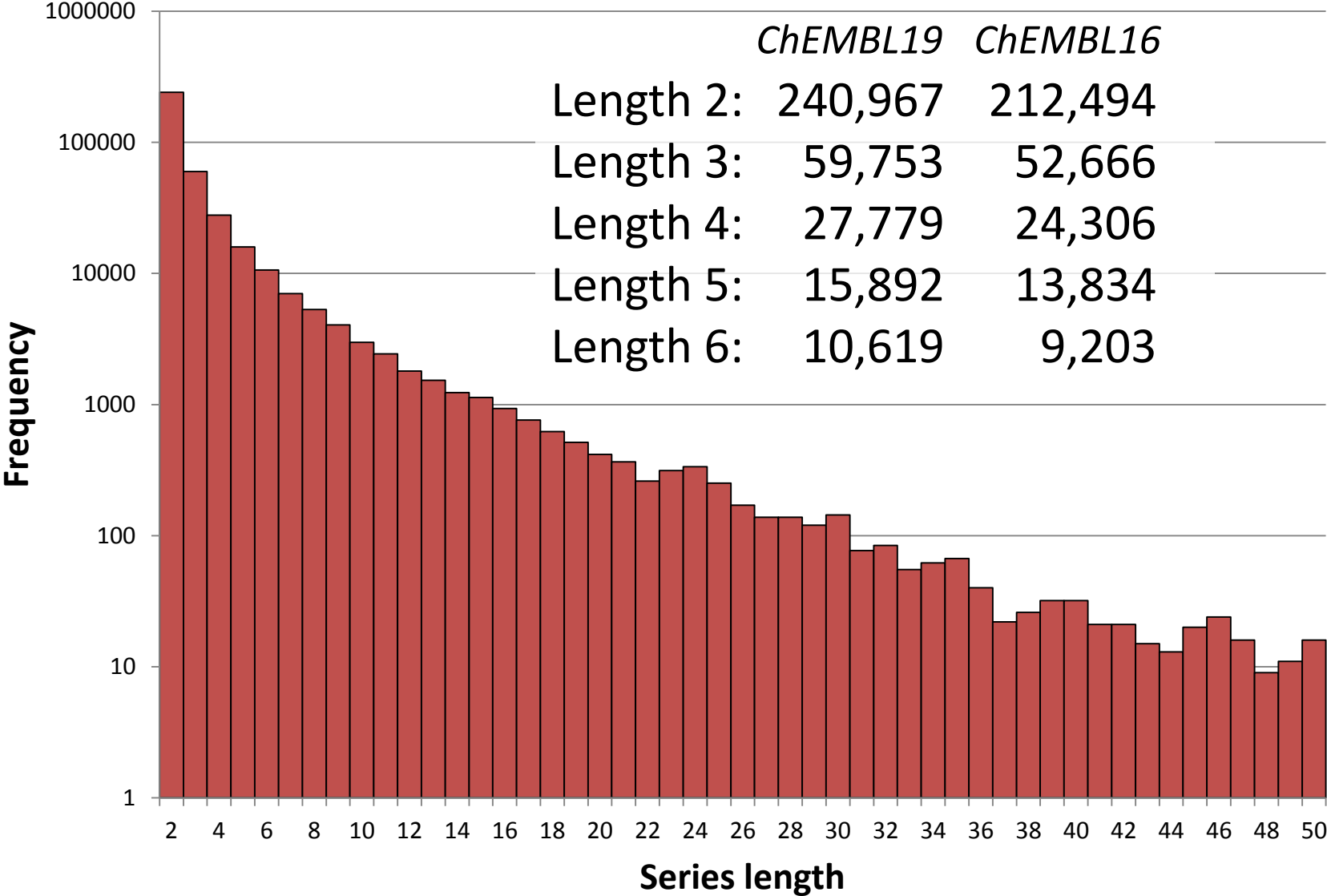
- 94% from *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, *J. Med. Chem.*, *J. Nat. Prod.*, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.*, *Eur. J. Med. Chem.*, *Antimicrob. Agents Chemother.*, *Med. Chem. Res.*

- 1.4 million compounds with 12 million activities

- 1.1 million assays against 10k targets

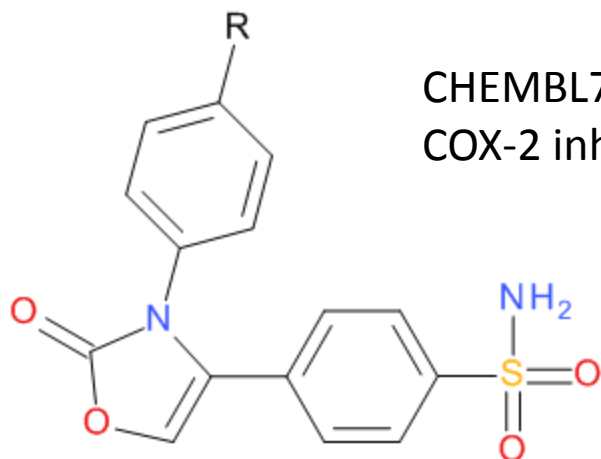


Matched series in ChEMBL19 IC50 binding assays

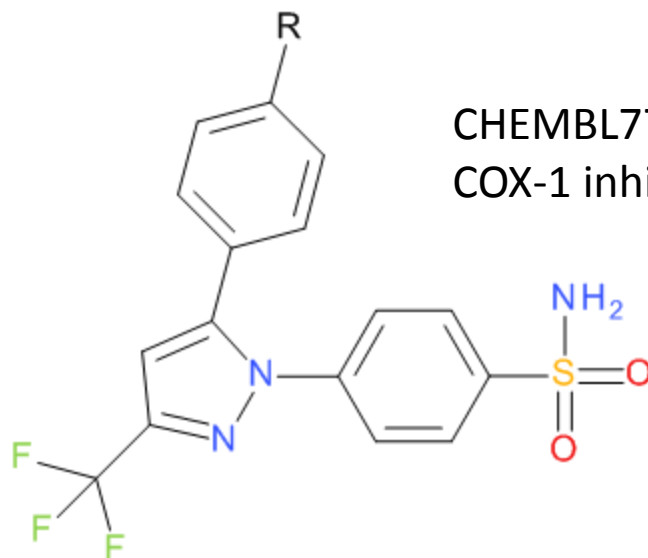


SAR TRANSFER





CHEMBL768956
COX-2 inhibition



CHEMBL772766
COX-1 inhibition

R Group	CHEMBL768956 (pIC ₅₀)	CHEMBL772766 (pIC ₅₀)
SMe	??	5.92
NH ₂	??	5.88
OMe	6.68	5.59
Me	6.10	4.82
Cl	5.92	4.75
F	5.82	4.59
Et	5.81	4.54
CF ₃	5.70	<4.00
H	5.62	4.26
COOH	4.23	<3.60

Rank order

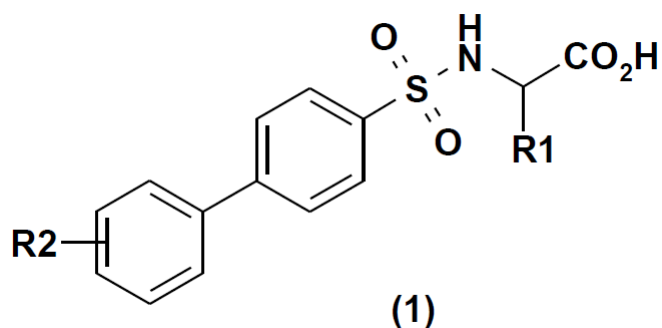
Potential SAR
transfer

0.93 rank order
correlation

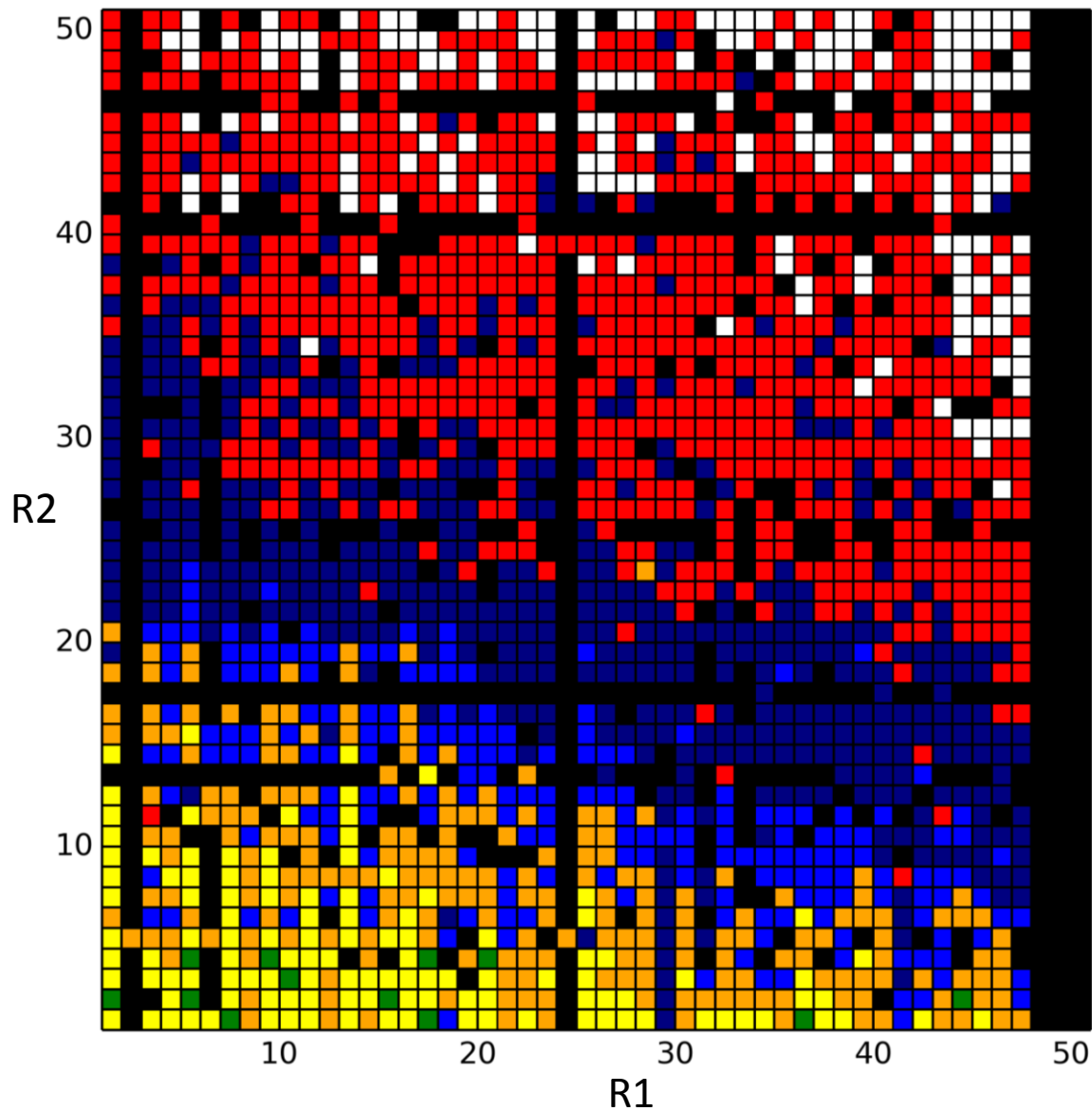
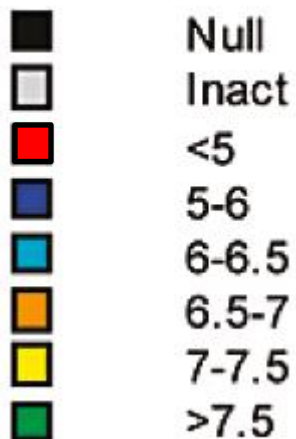


SOX50 MATRIX FROM PICKETT ET AL.

Pickett, Green, Hunt, Pardoe, Hughes. *ACS Med. Chem. Lett.* **2011**, 2, 28.



MMP-12 pIC50



INTERNAL SAR TRANSFER

Do an all-against-all comparison of the series

Record_719

Record_729

Corr: 0.82 (p=0.00)

N1: 39

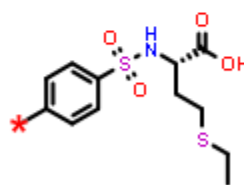
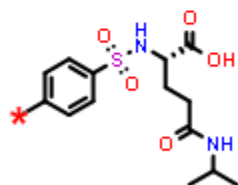
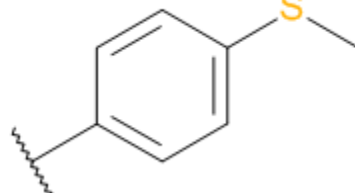
N2: 33

Overlap: 31

Pearson R^2 : 0.90

LHS pred err: 0.1

RHS pred err: 0.1



<chem>*c1ccc(cc1)SC</chem>	8.0 7.7
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1)Br</chem>	1 7.5 7.2 3
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1)CC</chem>	2 7.3 7.3 2
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1)OC(F)(F)F</chem>	2 7.3 7.2 3
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1)C(=O)OC</chem>	4 7.2 6.6 8
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1)C</chem>	5 7.1 7 5
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1)CCC</chem>	5 7.1 7.5 1
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1)CO</chem>	5 7.1 6.8 7
<chem>*c1ccc2c(c1)OCO2</chem>	5 7.1 6.2 10
<chem>*c1ccc(c(c1)F)C</chem>	9 7 7 5
<chem>*c1cccc(c1)NC(=O)C</chem>	10 6.7 5.8 13
<chem>*c1ccccc1</chem>	10 6.7 6.5 9
<chem>*c1cccc(c1)F</chem>	12 6.6 6.1 11
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1C)F</chem>	13 5.9 5 16
<chem>*c1ccc(c(c1)N(=O)=O)C</chem>	14 5.8 5.3 14
<chem>*c1ccccc1F</chem>	14 5.8 5.9 12
<chem>*c1cccc(c1)C#N</chem>	16 5.7 4.8 17
<chem>*c1ccc(cc1OC)OC</chem>	17 5.1 4.5 20
<chem>*c1cccc(c1)/C=C/C(=O)O</chem>	17 5.1 4.4 22
<chem>*c1cccc(c1)C(F)(F)F</chem>	19 5 4.6 19
<chem>*c1cccc(c1F)OC</chem>	20 4.8 4.4 22
<chem>*c1cccc(c1Cl)Cl</chem>	21 4.6 4.1 25
<chem>*c1ccccc1Cl</chem>	21 4 6 5 1 15

EXTERNAL SAR TRANSFER

Do an all-against-ChEMBL comparison

Record_734
CHEMBL763870

Corr: 0.74 (p=0.00)

N1: 38

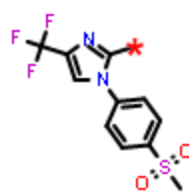
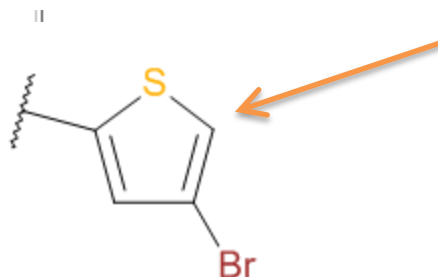
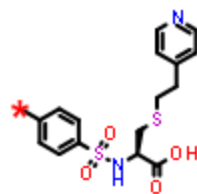
N2: 65

Overlap: 11

Pearson R²: 0.76

LHS pred err: 0.45

RHS pred err: 0.06



*c1cc(cs1)Br	8.22	7.59	
*c1ccc(c(c1)Cl)C	8.06	7.52	
*c1cccc(c1)C	7.34	7.22	
*c1cccc(c1)Cl	7.34	7.22	
*c1cc(cc(c1)Cl)C	7.05	7.10	
*c1cccc(c1)Br	7.05	7.10	
*c1cc(c(c(c1)Br)OC)Br	6.93	7.05	
*c1ccc(c(c1)C)Cl	6.93	7.05	
*c1ccc(cc1)SC	1	7	6.80 4
*c1ccc(c(c1)F)C	2	6.8	6.96 1
*c1ccc(cc1)C	3	6.5	6.80 4
*c1cccc(c1)F	3	6.5	6.92 2
*c1cccc1	5	6.2	6.92 2
*c1ccc2c(c1)OCO2	6	6.1	6.55 7
*c1cccc1F	7	6	6.40 8
*c1cccc(c1)C(F)(F)F	8	5.1	6.68 6
*c1cc(c(c(c1)C)OC)C	9	4.8	6.14 9
*c1cccc1Cl	10	4.4	6.05 11
*c1cccc1OC	10	4.4	6.10 10

STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES

- High confidence in predictions if sufficiently **long series** with correlated activities (or their rank order)
 - Not always able to find such a series
 - For short series will typically find 10s/100s/1000s of matching series with low confidence
- Suited to pairwise comparison within **focused dataset**
 - Dense SAR matrix from target with well-explored SAR



PREFERRED ORDERS IN MATCHED SERIES



PREFERRED ORDERS: HALIDES (N=2)

For an ordered matched series (i.e. $A > B > C > \dots$), there are $N!$ ways of arranging the R Groups:

Series	Observations*
F > H	9761
H > F	8685

Would expect 9223 for each assuming the order is random

- We can calculate **enrichment**

*Dataset is ChEMBL19 IC₅₀ data for binding assays (transformed to pIC₅₀ values)



PREFERRED ORDERS: HALIDES (N=2)

For an ordered matched series (i.e. $A > B > C > \dots$), there are $N!$ ways of arranging the R Groups:

Series	Enrichment	Observations
F > H	1.06*	9761
H > F	0.94*	8685

Would expect 9223 for each assuming the order is random

– We can calculate **enrichment**

*Significant at 0.05 level according to binomial test after correcting for multiple testing (Bonferroni with N-1)



PREFERRED ORDERS: HALIDES (N=3)

Series	Enrichment	Observations
Cl > F > H	1.90*	1478
H > F > Cl	1.08	838
F > Cl > H	0.86*	673
F > H > Cl	0.78*	607
Cl > H > F	0.76*	589
H > Cl > F	0.63*	490



PREFERRED ORDERS: HALIDES (N=4)

Series	Enrichment	Observations
Br > Cl > F > H	5.43*	263
Cl > Br > F > H	3.22*	156
H > F > Cl > Br	1.59*	77
Br > Cl > H > F	1.43	69
F > Cl > Br > H	1.40	68
Cl > Br > H > F	0.85	41
...
H > F > Br > Cl	0.76	37
...
H > Br > F > Cl	0.50*	24
Cl > H > F > Br	0.48*	23
Cl > F > H > Br	0.45*	22
H > Cl > F > Br	0.43*	21
Br > F > H > Cl	0.41*	20
F > H > Br > Cl	0.41*	20
H > Cl > Br > F	0.41*	20
F > Br > H > Cl	0.35*	17
Br > H > F > Cl	0.23*	11

N=2: Max = 1.06, Min = 0.94

N=3: Max = 1.90, Min = 0.63

N=4: Max = 5.43, Min = 0.232

Longer series exhibit greater preferences

If [H>F>Cl] is observed, will Br increase activity further?
149 observations of [H>F>Cl]
but only 11 where [Br>H>F>Cl]



MATSY: PREDICTION USING MATCHED SERIES



FIND R GROUPS THAT INCREASE ACTIVITY



In-house

Query

A > B



MATSY

A > B > C

C > A > B

D > A > B > C

D > A > C > B

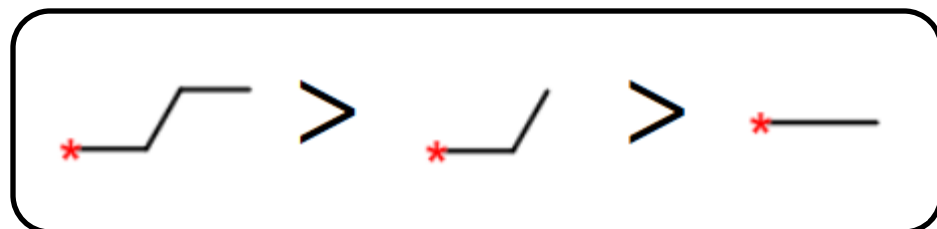
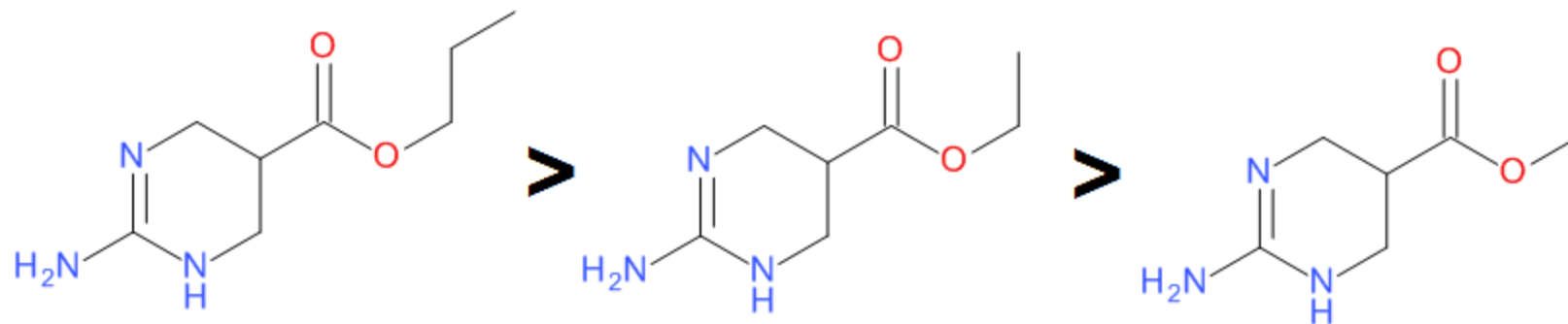
E > D > A > B

...

R Group	Observations	Obs that increase activity	% that increase activity
D	3	3	100
E	1	1	100
C	4	1	25
...



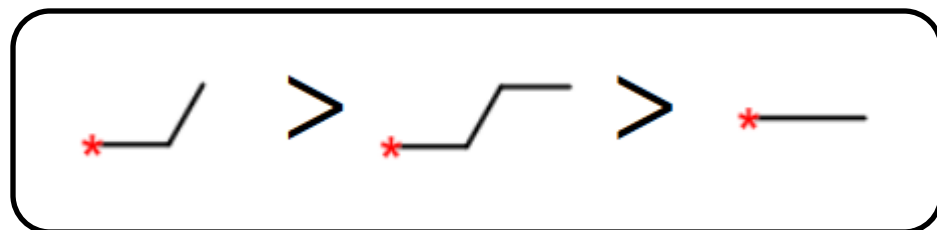
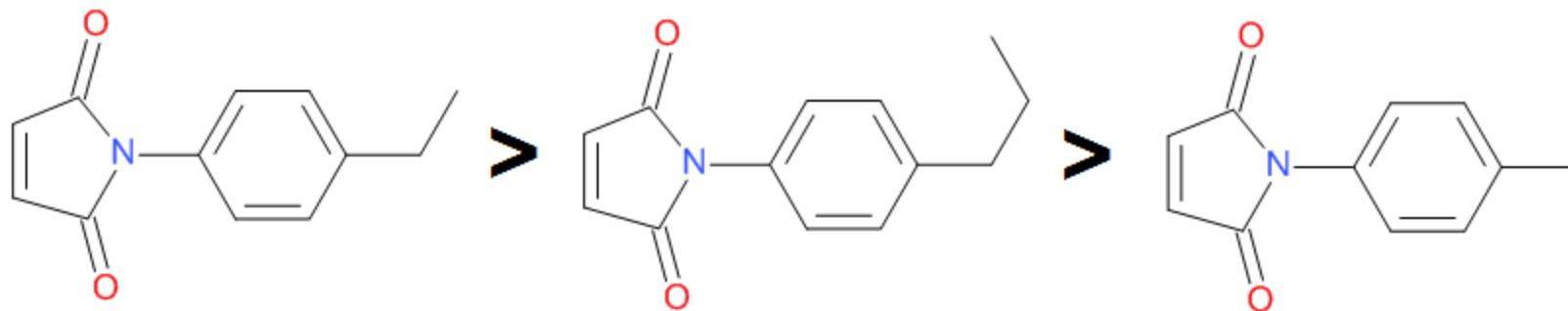
EXAMPLE



◀ % > ▼ Counts ▼ ΔLogP ▶

	90	21	+3.3
	72	60	+1.7
	69	32	+2.8
	63	27	+1.6
	60	40	-0.1

EXAMPLE II

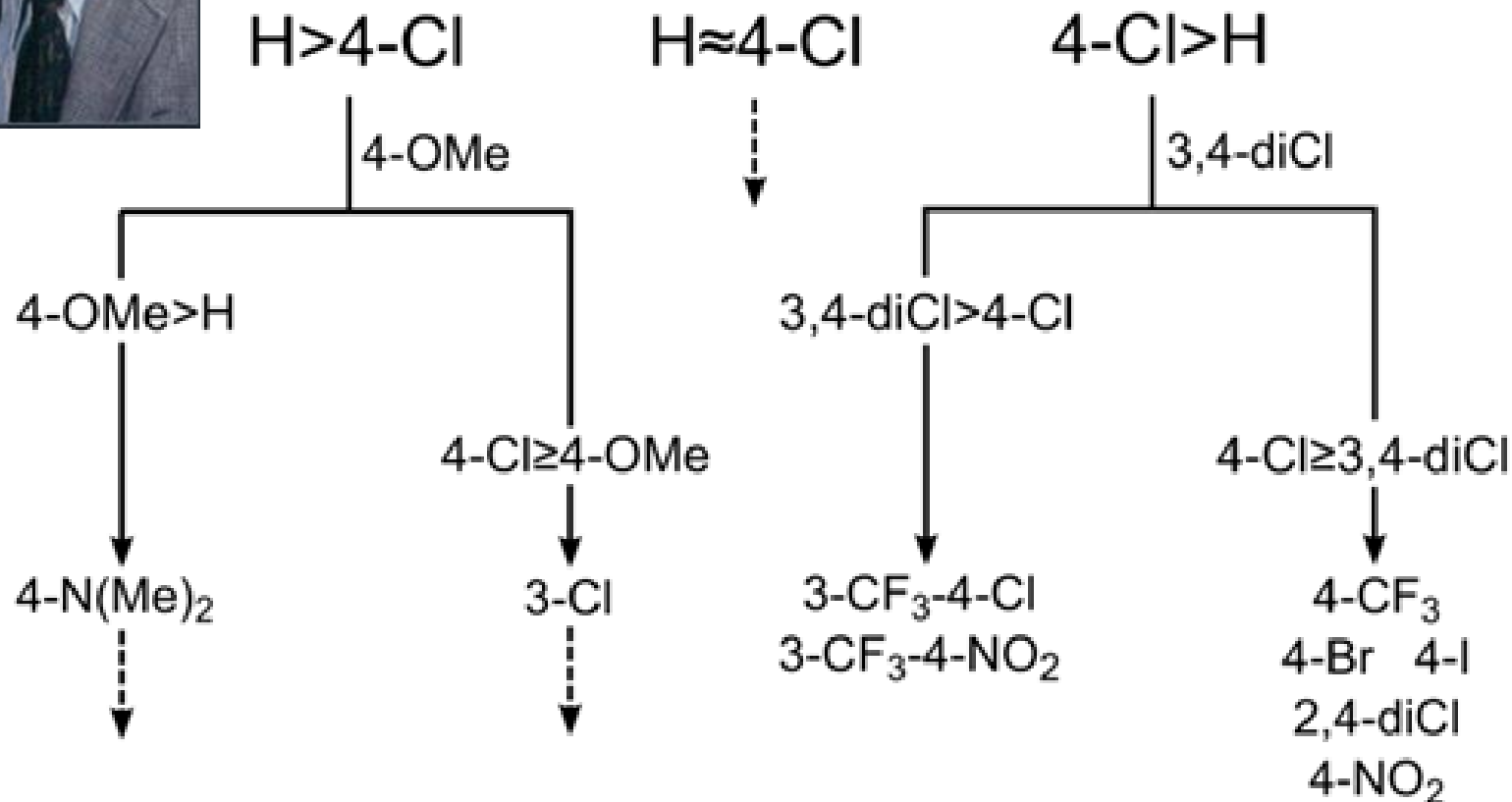


%
 > Counts ΔLogP

	38	21	-0.8
	37	27	+0.9
	33	111	+0.3
	33	27	+1.0
	33	21	-1.6



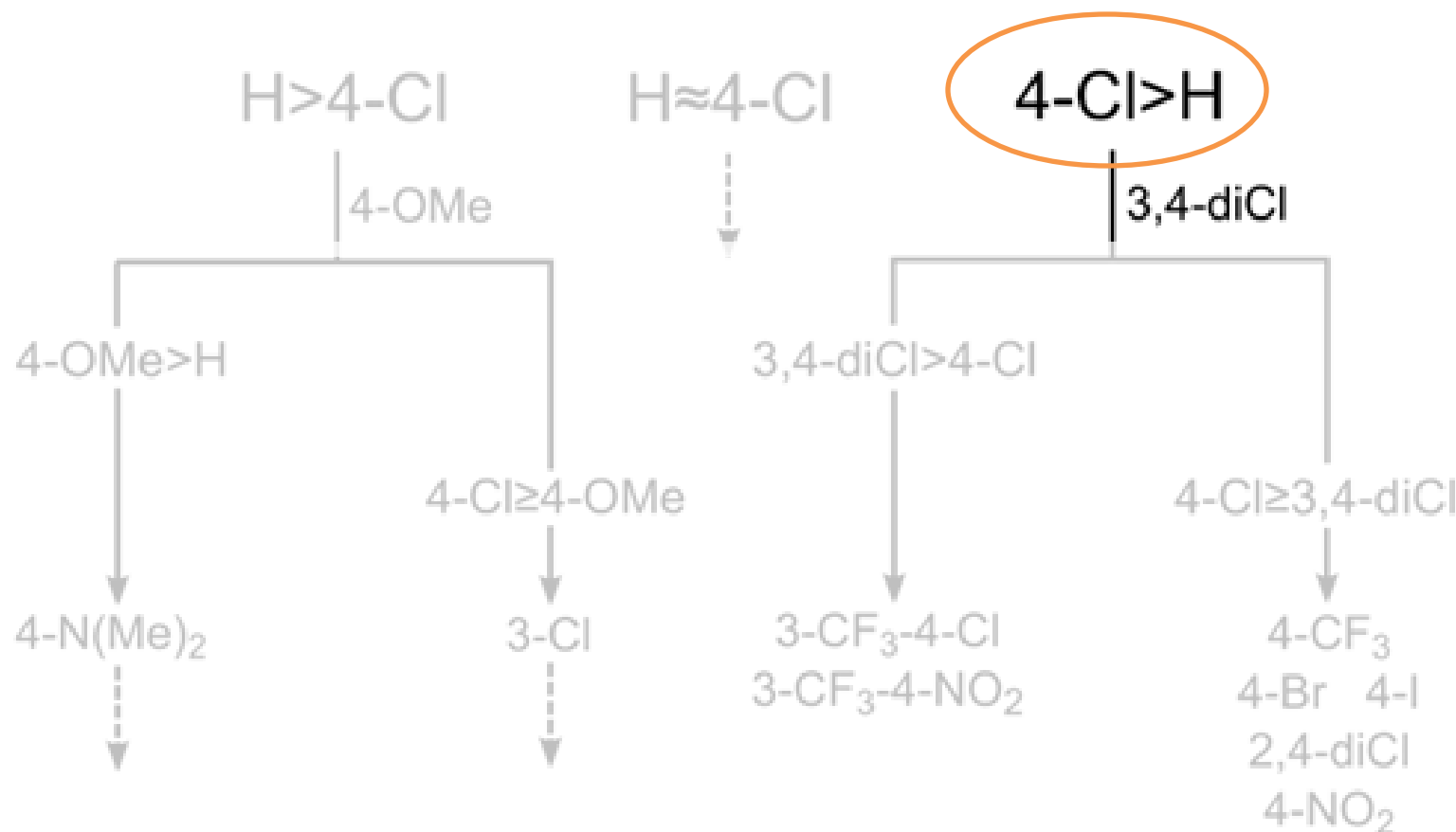
TOPLISS DECISION TREE



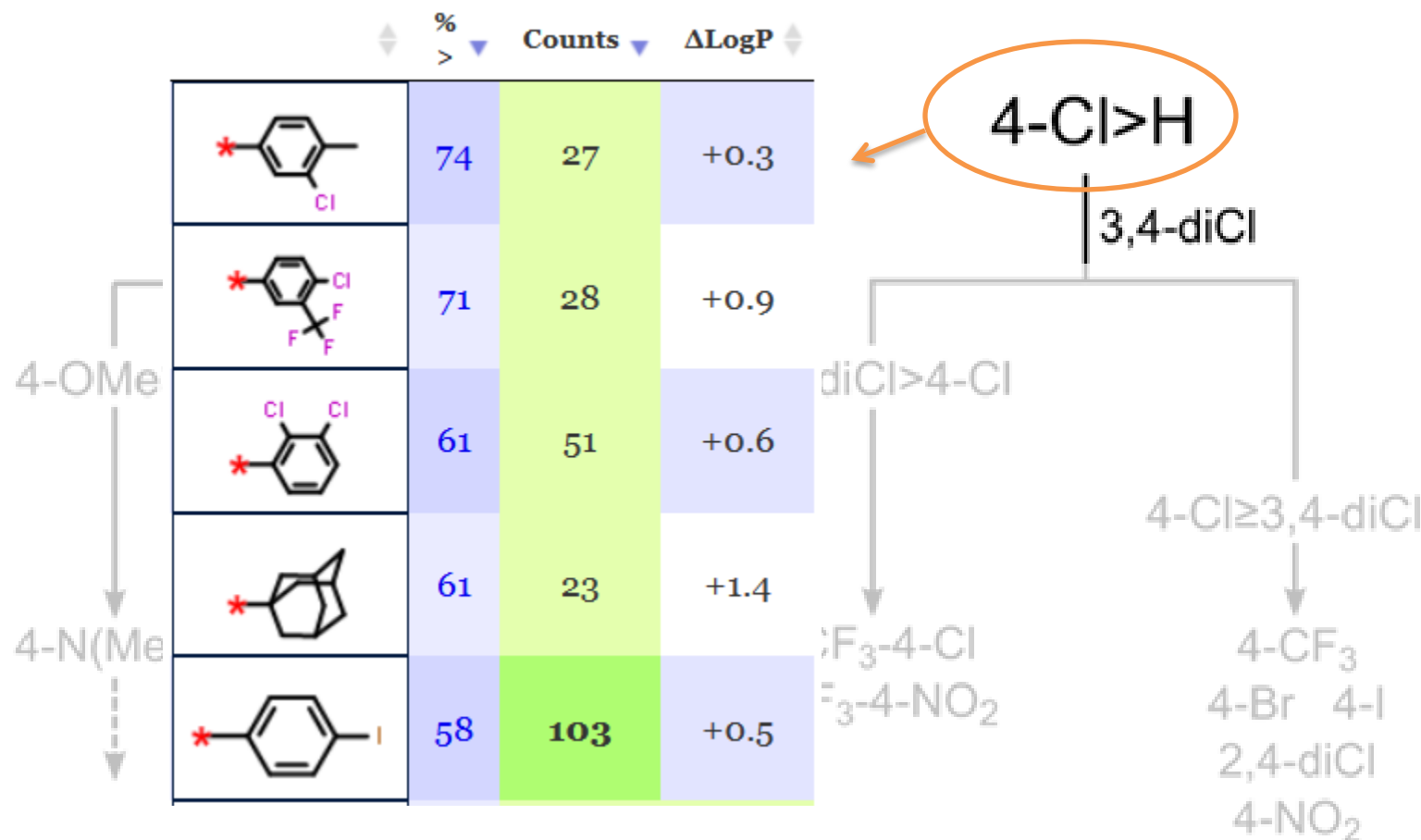
Topliss, J. G. Utilization of Operational Schemes for Analog Synthesis in Drug Design. *J. Med. Chem.* **1972**, 15, 1006–1011.



TOPLISS DECISION TREE



TOPLISS DECISION TREE

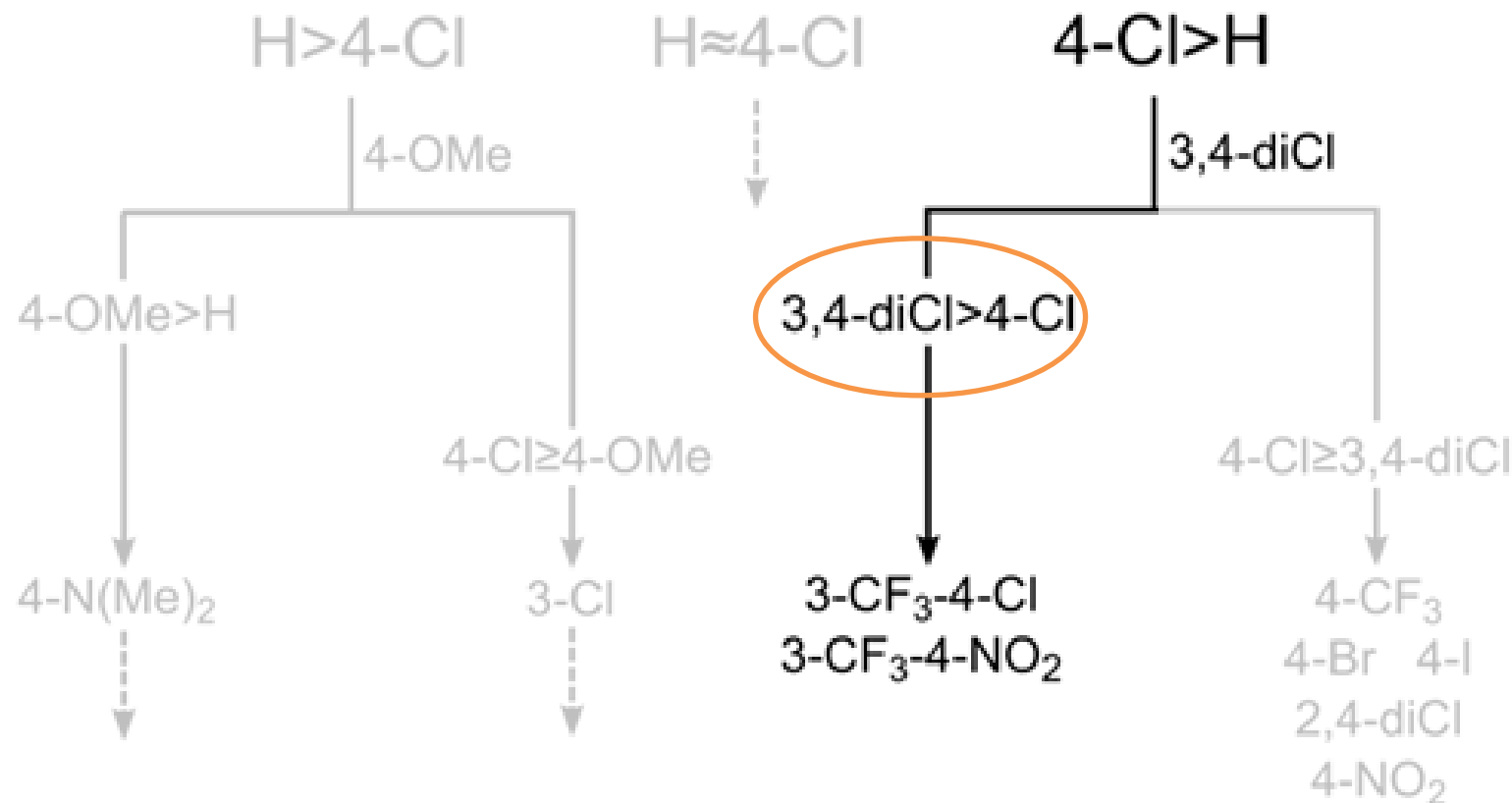


(11th)

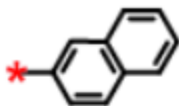
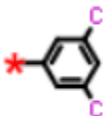
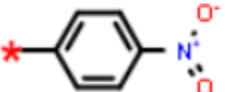
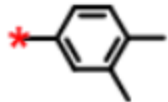
	54	391	+0.6
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TOPLISS DECISION TREE

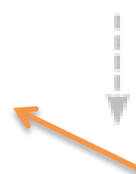


TOPLISS DECISION TREE

	◇ % > ▾	Counts ▾	ΔLogP ◇
	32	57	+0.4
	24	37	0.0
	22	23	-0.1
	21	47	-2.9
	20	20	-0.1

H ≈ 4-Cl

4-Cl > H



3,4-diCl > 4-Cl


3-CF₃-4-Cl
3-CF₃-4-NO₂

3,4-diCl

4-Cl ≥ 3,4-diCl

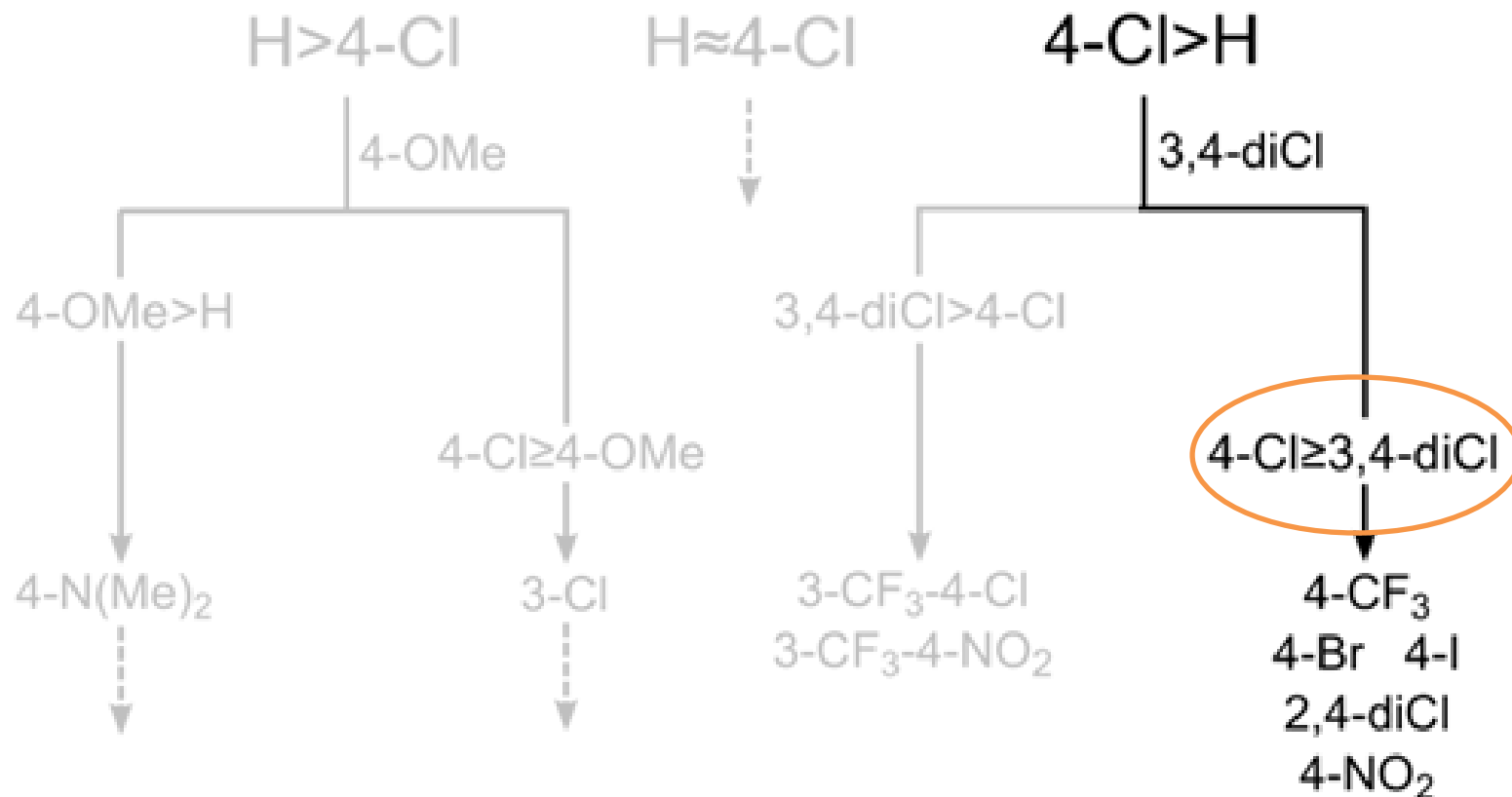
4-CF₃
4-Br 4-I
2,4-diCl
4-NO₂

(1st if lower cutoff)

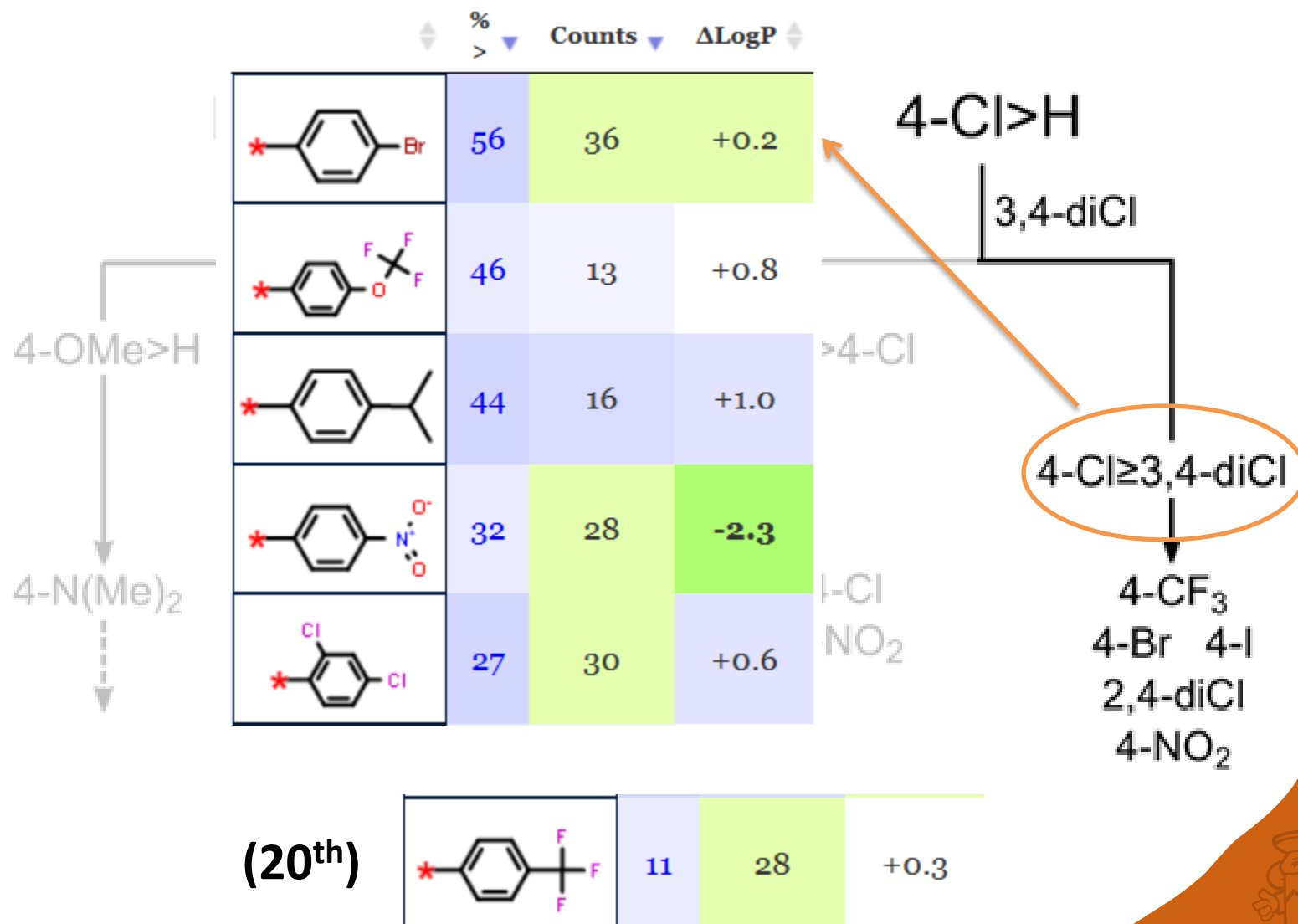
	33	5.00	15	+0.3
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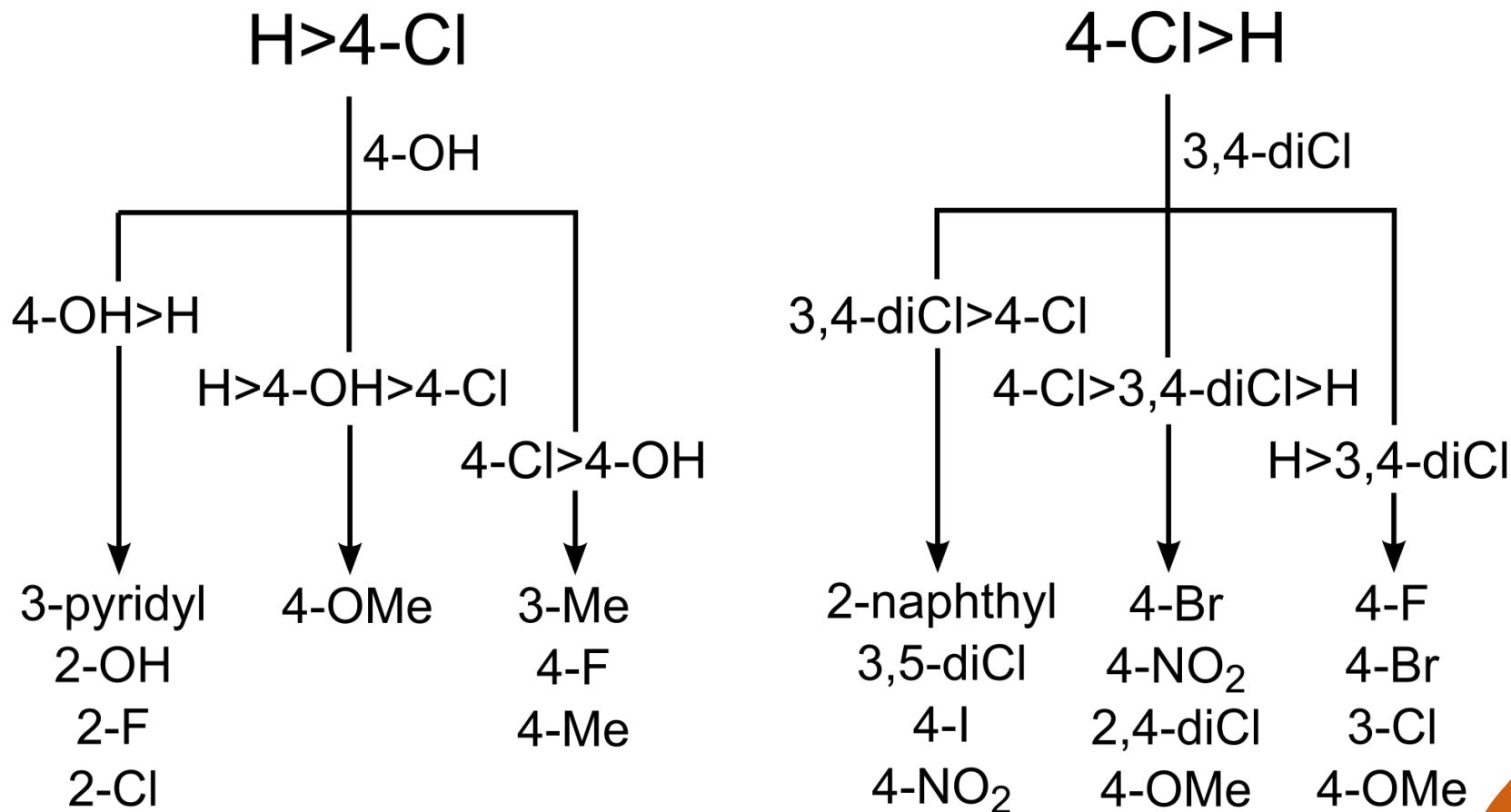
TOPLISS DECISION TREE



TOPLISS DECISION TREE

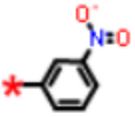
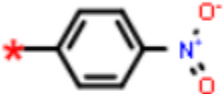
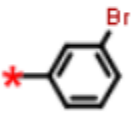
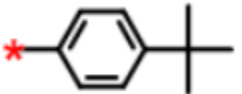
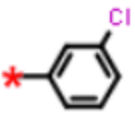


MATSY DECISION TREE (ONE OF MANY)



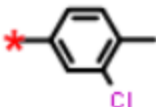

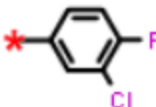
MODIFYING THE PREDICTIONS FOR

4-Cl > H

	% >	Counts
	67	30
	47	30
	46	24
	44	25
	42	77

Kinases

Target-specific

	% >	Counts	ΔLogP
	63	27	+0.3
	55	20	-0.4
	49	63	0.0
	48	46	-0.4
	48	46	+0.1

$\Delta\text{LiPE} > 0$

Incorporate metrics

DRAG-AND-DROP INTERFACE TO MATSY

1/2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 Ph 1 Ph 2 Ph 3 Ph 4 Ph 5/6 Custom

⚙ 📄 ?

⬆ ⬇ ⬆ Counts ΔLogP

*c1ccc(C)cc1

*c1cc(C)ccc1

*c1cc(C)ccc1

*c1ccc(N)cc1

*c1cc(N)ccc1

*c1ccc(N)cc1

*c1ccc(O)cc1

*c1cc(O)ccc1

*c1cc(O)ccc1

*c1ccc(F)cc1

*c1cc(F)ccc1

*c1cc(F)ccc1

*c1cc(Cl)ccc1

*c1cc(Cl)ccc1

*c1ccc(Br)cc1

*c1cc(Br)ccc1

*c1cc(Br)ccc1

*c1ccc(I)cc1

*c1cc(I)ccc1

*c1cc(I)ccc1

<chem>*c1cc(Cl)cc(Cl)c1</chem>	54	391	+0.6
<chem>*c1ccc2ccccc2c1</chem>	54	37	+2.0
<chem>*c1ccc(CC)cc1</chem>	53	30	+1.1
<chem>*c1cc(F)cc(Cl)c1</chem>	52	46	+0.1
<chem>*c1ccc(Br)cc1</chem>	50	521	+0.2
<chem>*c1cc(F)cc(Cl)c1</chem>	50	32	+0.1
<chem>*c1ccc(S)cc1</chem>	49	63	0.0
<chem>*c1ccc(OCC)cc1</chem>	48	46	-0.4
<chem>*c1cc(C)cc(Cl)c1</chem>	48	25	+0.3
<chem>*c1cc(O)cc(O)c1</chem>	48	21	-2.2

?
Stronger binding

ChEMBL19 pIC50

▼

Weaker binding

2277

Showing 11 to 20 of 111 entries
⬇ ⬆ Previous Next ⬆ ⬇

IN SUMMARY

- Longer matched series ($N > 2$) show an increased preference for particular activity orders
- This can be exploited to **predict R groups** that will increase activity
 - Predictions are typically based on data from a range of targets and structures
- Completely **knowledge-based**
 - Can link predictions to particular targets/structures
 - Predictions refined based on new results



Using RDKit for Matched Molecular Series Analysis

When two are not enough

noel@nextmovesoftware.com

Acknowledgements

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Jonas Bostrom, AstraZeneca

Using Matched Molecular Series as a
Predictive Tool To Optimize Biological
Activity

J. Med. Chem. **2014**, 57, 2704.

