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*for a sustainable future*

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**UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION  
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND HIGH  
TECHNOLOGY, TRIESTE, ITALY**



**AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA BUDAPEST. HUNGARY**



**EÖTVÖS UNIVERSITY, BUDAPEST**

ICS-UNIDO Workshop on  
*Trends and Applications of Combinatorial Chemistry and  
Combinatorial Technologies*  
Budapest, Hungary 15–18 October, 2001

Co-sponsors:  
Bayer AG, Germany  
Lab-Comp Kft, Hungary  
Merck Kft., Hungary  
Chinoi Rt., Hungary  
Spectrum-3D, Hungary  
Mettler Toledo Kft., Hungary  
Reanal Rt., Hungary



UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION  
INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND HIGH TECHNOLOGY



supported by the Italian Embassy in Budapest



AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA BUDAPEST

**SUNDAY**

October 14, 2001

**12:00 – 18:00 REGISTRATION**

*Eötvös University, Faculty of Science  
Chemistry Building, Gate 1/A  
Pázmány Péter sétány 1/A  
Budapest, H-1117*

**18:00 DEPARTURE FOR HOTEL AURA  
(Symposium venue)**

*Methodology and Information Centre for In-service Teacher Training of  
the Ministry of Education  
Pilisborosjenô Fô út 1.  
Pilisborosjenô, H-2097*

**19:00 HOTEL REGISTRATION**

**19:15 Dinner**

# MONDAY

October 15, 2001

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast

8:30 – 9:00 **Stanislav MIERTUS** (*ICS-UNIDO, Trieste, Italy*)  
ICS-UNIDO Programmes – An Introduction

9:00 – 10:45 **Giorgio FASSINA** (*Xeptagen SpA, Naples, Italy*)  
Combinatorial Technologies – An Overview

10:45 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:45 **Alexey, ELISEEV** (*State University of New York, Buffalo, NY, USA*)  
Dynamic Combinatorial Libraries

12:45 – 13:15 Discussion

13:15 – 14:15 Lunch

14:15 – 16:15 **Claude MIRODATOS** (*CNRS, Villeurbanne, France*)  
Combinatorial Optimization of Heterogenous Catalysis

16:15 – 16:30 Coffee Break

17:00 – **WELCOME RECEPTION**

In the Aula of the Methodology and Information Centre for In-service Teacher  
Training of the Ministry of Education,  
Pilisborosjenô, Fô út 1.

# TUESDAY

October 16, 2001

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast

8:30 – 9:30 **Wolfgang BENDER** (*Bayer AG, Wuppertal, Germany*)  
The Bayer Synthon Concept

9:30 – 10:30 **Ferenc HUDECZ** (*Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Application of MS for Library Characterization

10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break

10:45 – 11:45 **Giorgio FASSINA** (*Xeptagen SpA, Naples, Italy*)  
Biological Methods for Library Characterization and Screening

11:45 – 12:45 **István T. HORVÁTH** (*Eötvös University, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Application of Fluorous Biphasic Chemistry in Combinatorial Technology

12:45 – 13:15 Discussion

13:15 – 14:15 Lunch

14:15 – 15:15 **István GREINER** (*Richter Gedeon, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Robotics & Lab Automation

15:15 – 16:15 **László KOVÁCS** (*InFarmatik, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Combinatorial Process Research & Development

16:15 – 16:30 Coffee Break

16:30 – 18:30 **Wolfram ALTENHOFEN** (*Chemical Computing Group, Lörrach, Germany*)  
QSAR Modelling to Library Design Strategies

18:30 – 19:30 Dinner

19:30 – **ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION**

# WEDNESDAY

October 17, 2001

- 7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast
- 8:30-9:30 **Menotti RUVO** (*Xeptagen SpA, Naples, Italy*)  
Combinatorial Chemistry in Biotechnology - A Case Study
- 9:30-10:30 **Béla NOSZÁL** (*Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Combinatorial Phenomena in Biological Systems
- 10:30 – 10:45 Coffee Break
- 10:45-12:45 **Pierfausto SENECCI** (*NAD AG, München, Germany*)  
Molecular Diversity in Drug Discovery: A Critical Assessment
- 12:45 – 13:15 Discussion
- 13:15 – 14:15 Lunch
- 14:15 – 16:15 **Aubrey MENDONCA** (*Polymer Laboratories, Amherst, MA, USA*)  
Solid Phase Synthesis – An Overview
- 16:15 – 16:30 Coffee Break
- 16:30 – 17:30 **Aubrey MENDONCA** (*Polymer Laboratories, Amherst, MA, USA*)  
Solid Phase Synthesis – Recent Developments in Resin Technology
- 17:30 – 18:30 **Péter ARÁNYI** (*Chinoin-Sanoffi, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Role of Combinatorial Chemistry in Original Drug Discovery
- 18:30 – 19:30 Dinner
- 19:30 – **ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION**

# THURSDAY

October 18, 2001

7:30 – 8:30 Breakfast

8:30 – 10:15 **Ian E. MAXWELL** (*Avantium Technologies BV, Amsterdam, The Netherlands*)  
High Throughput Technologies: An Exciting New Development in Process  
Chemistry Research and Development

10:15 – 10:30 Coffee Break

10:30 – 12:30 **György KÉRI** (*Semmelweis University, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Rational Drug Design and Signal Transduction Therapy  
11:30 – 12:30

12:30 – 13:30 **György DORMÁN** (*ComGenex, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Good Quality Libraries (Predicted and Measured Parameters)

13:30 – 14:15 Lunch

14:15 – 15:45 **COUNTRY REPORT**

15:45 – 16:00 Coffee Break

16:00 – 17:30 **FOLLOW-UP SESSION**

17:30 – 18:30 **Árpád FURKA** (*Eötvös University, Budapest, Hungary*)  
Twenty Years in Combinatorial Chemistry

18:30 – **BANQUETTE**

# Combinatorial Technologies – An Overview

**Giorgio Fassina**

*XEPTAGEN S.p.A, 80078 Pozzuoli (NA), ITALY*

*fassina@xeptagen.com*



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## COMBINATORIAL TECHNOLOGIES – AN OVERVIEW

**Giorgio Fassina**

*XEPTAGEN S.p.A, 80078 Pozzuoli (NA), ITALY*

*fassina@xeptagen.com*

The time and cost needed for the development of new drugs have increased steadily during the past three decades. Estimated costs for introducing a new drug in the market now reach around 200-300 millions USD, and this process takes around 10-12 years after discovery. This increase in time and cost is due mainly to the extensive clinical studies of new chemical entities required by competent regulatory agencies, such as the FDA, and to a lesser extent to the increased costs associated to research. The time and cost required for clinical and pre clinical evaluation of new drugs is not likely to decrease in the near future, and as a consequence, a key issue for pharmaceutical companies to stay in the market has been to increase the number of new drugs in the development pipeline. Drug discovery in the past has been based traditionally on the random screening of collection of chemically synthesized compounds or extracts derived from natural sources, such as microorganisms, bacteria, fungi, plants, of terrestrial or marine origin or by modifications of chemicals with known physiological activities. This approach has resulted in many important drugs, however the ratio of novel to previously discovered compounds has diminished with time. In addition, this process is very time consuming and expensive.

A limiting factor was linked to the restricted number of molecules available or extract samples to be screened, since the success rate in obtaining useful lead candidates depends directly from the number of samples tested. Chemical synthesis of new chemical entities often is a very laborious task, and additional time is required for purification and chemical characterization. The average cost of creating a new molecular entity in a pharmaceutical company is around 7500 USD/compound. Generation of natural extracts, while very often providing interesting new molecular structures endowed with biological properties, leads to mixtures of different compounds at different concentrations, thus making activity comparisons very difficult. In addition, once activity is found on a specific assay, the extract needs to be fractionated in order to identify the active component. Quite often, the chemical synthesis of natural compounds is extremely difficult, thus making the lead development in to a new drug a very complex task. While the pharmaceutical industry was demanding more rapid and cost effective approaches to lead discovery, the advent of new methodologies in molecular biology, biochemistry, and genetic, leading to the identification and production of an ever increasing number enzymes, proteins, receptors, involved in biological processes of pharmacological relevance, and good candidates for the development of screening assay, complicated even more this scenario. The introduction of combinatorial technologies provided an unlimited source of new compounds, capable to satisfy all these needs. This approach was so appealing and full of promises that many small companies started to flourish financed by capitals raised from private investors.

Combinatorial approaches were originally based on the premise that the probability of finding a molecule in a random screening process is proportional to the number of molecules subjected to the screening process. In its earliest expression, the primary objective of combinatorial chemistry focused on the simultaneous generation of large numbers of molecules and on the simultaneous screening of their activity. Following this approach, the success rate to identify new leads is greatly enhanced, while the time required is considerably reduced.

The development of new processes for the generation of collection of structurally related compounds (libraries) with the introduction of combinatorial approaches has revitalized

random screening as a paradigm for drug discovery and has raised enormous excitement about the possibility of finding new and valuable drugs in short times and at reasonable costs. However the advent of this new field in drug discovery did not obscure the importance of "classical" medicinal chemistry approaches, such as computer-aided rational drug design and QSAR, for example, but catalyzed instead their evolution to complement and integrate with combinatorial technologies.

The word "combinatorial" appeared in the scientific literature at the beginning of the '90, but the generation of the first combinatorial libraries can be dated back to the beginning of the '80. The first reports dealt with the simultaneous production of collection of chemically synthesized peptides, produced by solid phase methods on solid supports. Peptides were particularly suited for combinatorial synthesis given the well established synthetic protocols available, the great number of different molecules attainable, and the potential to generate leads of biological and pharmaceutical value. The use of peptide libraries was greatly accelerated by the introduction of biological methods for library preparation, by the use of the phage display technology, which provided interesting advantages over the synthetic counterpart. At the same time, the first papers on the generation of oligonucleotide libraries appeared in the literature, thus suggesting the possibility to extend the applicability of combinatorial approaches even to other classes of synthetic or natural oligomeric compounds, such as carbohydrates. A broad variety of new synthesis and screening methods are currently grouped under the term combinatorial. These methods include parallel chemical synthesis and testing of multiple individual compounds or compounds mixtures in solution, synthesis, and testing of compounds on solid supports, and biochemical or organism-based synthesis of biological oligomers coupled to selection and amplification strategies. Combinatorial technologies merged different disciplines such as solid phase and solution phase chemistry, analytical chemistry, molecular biology, molecular design, automation and miniaturization in an integrated platform technology. The philosophy of combinatorial technologies is to make rational the random approach to drug discovery. The main advantage of using combinatorial technologies is the speed in finding and optimizing useful leads. The disadvantage is that it is impossible to explore the entire chemical space in the combinatorial format, i.e. not all chemical structures can be produced by combinatorial approaches. Combinatorial technologies can now be considered an integrated approach for novel compounds discovery, where chemistry, molecular design and screening are the essential components. Molecular design methods have reached a satisfactory level in helping the design of rational libraries. To the same extent, hardware for libraries generation and screening has reached a good level of implementation. Existing screening assays still need implementation, to be more representative of the disease under investigation, and more sophisticated cell-based assays for screening replacing biochemical in vitro assays, by integrating modern molecular biology approaches to pharmacology, are needed. The bottleneck for the development of new drugs is not anymore related to the capacity to synthesize and screen large number of compounds, but to select out of a large number of leads only few candidates already endowed with the best characteristics for clinical development.

Development of assays, and/or computational methods to determine preliminary pharmacodynamic / pharmacokinetic / toxicology parameters applicable to large numbers of compounds represent an emerging research trend in CCCT

The different technologies and strategies used in the production of combinatorial libraries are now so well developed that is easy to plan synthetic schemes for the generation of a huge number of compounds. Since the rate at which compounds can be screened does constitute a limitation to the use of combinatorial technologies, it is important to be selective about the compounds, which are synthesized. Computational methods are very

valuable from this point of view to assist in the design of combinatorial libraries. The main requirement for lead generation is often to maximize the range of structural types within the library with the expectation that a broad range of activities will result. As a consequence, diversity analysis is an important aspect of library design. The diversity of libraries may be measured by the use of similarity or dissimilarity indexes, which make intermolecular comparisons possible. Measures of chemical similarity have been developed for similarity searching in chemical databases. The calculation of the similarity between two molecules involves the characterization of the molecules by using chemical/structural descriptors, and then the application of similarity coefficients to quantify the similarity.

In combinatorial chemistry, due to the high number of chemical manipulations required to synthesize libraries of compounds automation is unavoidable. Many research groups, both in academia and industrial settings are developing automated instruments specifically tailored to these needs, and this technology field is acquiring an extremely important role for the development of combinatorial technologies for the next millennium. On the other hand, the huge number of compounds produced simultaneously with these technologies requires automation also in purification protocols, quality assessment, sample dispensing and testing. In addition, the ever increasing number of compounds generated by combinatorial technologies pushes towards miniaturization of screening assays, in order to handle an increasing number of tests at the same time with little consumption of reagents. The rapidity of new chemical entity generation and screening allows validation of molecular targets associated to diseases in short time. This is a very important emerging trend in combinatorial technologies, since the advent of new methodologies in molecular biology, biochemistry, and genetic, leads to the identification of many factors which should be screened quickly in order to define their relevance to biomedical processes. With the increased speed at which new drug entities are now synthesized and evaluated for pharmacological activity, a need has arisen to provide fundamental metabolism data at the early stages of drug discovery. Strategies are being developed to permit drug metabolism data to be an important part of early drug discovery. Many important properties of drugs related to metabolism could be the deciding factor in whether or not a compound is selected for clinical development, and application of combinatorial approaches to such assessments is emerging as a new trend of application.

Many active compounds have been selected to date following combinatorial methodologies, and a considerable number of those have progressed into clinical trials. However, combinatorial chemistry (CC) and related technologies for producing and screening large number of molecules find useful applications also in other industrial sectors not necessarily related to pharmaceutical industry. Emerging fields of application of combinatorial technologies are the diagnostic, the down-stream processing, the catalysis, and the new material sectors.

## SUMMARY

Combinatorial approaches were originally based on the premise that the probability of finding a molecule in a random screening process is proportional to the number of molecules subjected to the screening process. In its earliest expression, the primary objective of combinatorial chemistry focused on the simultaneous generation of large numbers of molecules and on the simultaneous screening of their activity. Following this approach, the success rate to identify new leads is greatly enhanced, while the time required is considerably reduced. The development of new processes for the generation of collection of structurally related compounds (libraries) with the introduction of combinatorial approaches has revitalized random screening as a paradigm for drug discovery and has raised enormous excitement about the possibility of finding new and valuable drugs in short times and at reasonable costs

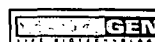
### OLD WAY OF DRUG DISCOVERY

- Find "Lead Compound"
- Improve potency
- Improve selectivity
- Go to bioavailability studies
- Go to short-term toxicology studies

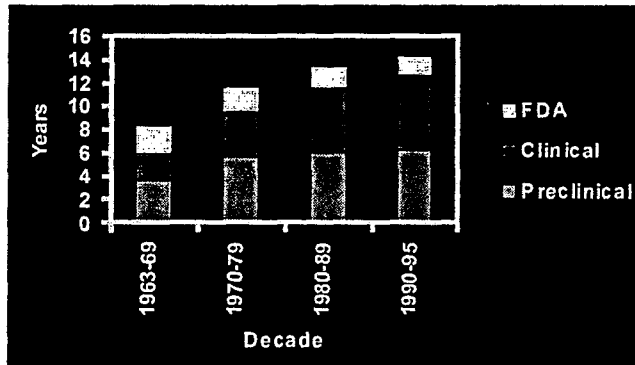


## INTRODUCTION

Drug discovery in the past has been based traditionally on the random screening of collection of chemically synthesized compounds or extracts derived from natural sources, such as microorganisms, bacteria, fungi, plants, of terrestrial or marine origin or by modifications of chemicals with known physiological activities. This approach has resulted in many important drugs, however the ratio of novel to previously discovered compounds has diminished with time. In addition, this process is very time consuming and expensive. A limiting factor was linked to the restricted number of molecules available or extract samples to be screened, since the success rate in obtaining useful lead candidates depends directly from the number of samples tested. Chemical synthesis of new chemical entities often is a very laborious task, and additional time is required for purification and chemical characterization. Generation of natural extracts, while very often providing interesting new molecular structures endowed with biological properties, leads to mixtures of different compounds at different concentrations, thus making activity comparisons very difficult. In addition, once activity is found on a specific assay, the extract needs to be fractionated in order to identify the active component. Quite often, the chemical synthesis of natural compounds is extremely difficult, thus making the lead development in to a new drug a very complex task. While the pharmaceutical industry was demanding more rapid and cost effective approaches to lead discovery, the advent of new methodologies in molecular biology, biochemistry, and genetic, leading to the identification and production of an ever increasing number enzymes, proteins, receptors, involved in biological processes of pharmacological relevance, and good candidates for the development of screening assay, complicated even more this scenario. The introduction of combinatorial technologies provided an unlimited source of new compounds, capable to satisfy all these needs.



## TIME FOR DRUGS DEVELOPMENT



The time and cost needed for the development of new drugs have increased steadily during the past three decades (Figure 2). Estimated costs for introducing a new drug in the market now reach around 200-300 millions USD, and this process takes around 10-12 years after discovery. This increase in time and cost is due mainly to the extensive clinical studies of new chemical entities required by competent regulatory agencies, such as the FDA, and to a lesser extent to the increased costs associated to research. The time and cost required for clinical and preclinical evaluation of new drugs is not likely to decrease in the near future, and as a consequence, a key issue for pharmaceutical companies to stay in the market has been to increase the number of new drugs in the development pipeline.



## FACTORS AFFECTING STRATEGY CHANGES IN DRUG DISCOVERY

- 1] **BIOTECHNOLOGY (GENOMICS):** provides molecular targets of therapeutic relevance (receptors, hormones, proteins).
- 2] **COMBINATORIAL TECHNOLOGY:** provide the possibility of generating huge collections of molecules which are simultaneously produced with a built-in decoding capability.
- 3] **HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING (HTS):** provides the possibility of handling many assays at the same time.

While the pharmaceutical industry was demanding more rapid and cost effective approaches to lead discovery, the advent of new methodologies in molecular biology, biochemistry, and genetic, leading to the identification and production of an ever increasing number enzymes, proteins, receptors, involved in biological processes of pharmacological relevance, and good candidates for the development of screening assay, complicated even more this scenario. The introduction of combinatorial technologies provided an unlimited source of new compounds, capable to satisfy all these needs.



## SOURCES OF MOLECULAR DIVERSITY

- Plants extracts
- Microbial extracts
- Collection of chemical compounds (synthetic)
- Oligonucleotide libraries (biological or synthetic)
- Oligosaccharide libraries
- Chemical compounds libraries (synthetic)
- Peptide libraries (biological or synthetic)

### LIBRARIES

Collection of structurally related compounds (peptides, oligonucleotides, oligosaccharides, organic molecules) obtainable by chemical or biological means simultaneously as a mixture and screened for activity as a mixture of compounds, without any isolation step. Identification of active compounds derives from the synthesis/production protocol used to generate the library. Great acceleration of leads identification since millions of different compounds can be screened simultaneously. Combinatorial approaches were originally based on the premise that the probability of finding a molecule in a random screening process is proportional to the number of molecules subjected to the screening process. In its earliest expression, the primary objective of combinatorial chemistry focused on the simultaneous generation of large numbers of molecules and on the simultaneous screening of their activity.



## COMBINATORIAL CHEMISTRY

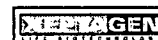
### ON SOLID PHASE

- large excess of reagents allowed
- multistep synthesis allowed
- easy workup-isolation
- mix and split possible

### IN SOLUTION

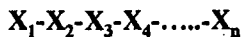
- all organic reactions can be used
- no chemistry assessment
- no linker/cleavage chemistry
- unlimited product quantities

The development of new processes for the generation of collection of structurally related compounds (libraries) with the introduction of combinatorial approaches has revitalized random screening as a paradigm for drug discovery and has raised enormous excitement about the possibility of finding new and valuable drugs in short times and at reasonable costs. However the advent of this new field in drug discovery did not obscure the importance of "classical" medicinal chemistry approaches, such as computer-aided rational drug design and QSAR for example, but catalyzed instead their evolution to complement and integrate with combinatorial technologies.



## PEPTIDES CHEMICAL DIVERSITY

Given a linear amino acid sequence of  $n$  residues



the total number of different peptides obtainable equals to:

$$y^n$$

$n$  = peptide length  
 $y$  = number of different amino acids used in the synthesis (usually 18)

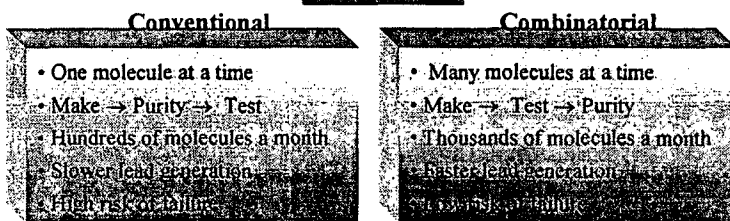
$n = 3$	5.832 peptides
$n = 4$	104.976 peptides
$n = 5$	1.889.568 peptides
$n = 6$	34.012.224 peptides

The word "combinatorial" appeared in the scientific literature at the beginning of the '90, but the generation of the first combinatorial libraries can be dated back to the beginning of the '80. The first reports dealt with the simultaneous production of collection of chemically synthesized peptides, produced by solid phase methods on solid supports. Peptides are particularly suited for combinatorial synthesis given the well established synthetic protocols available, the great number of different molecules attainable, and the potential to generate leads of biological and pharmaceutical value.



## COMBINATORIAL & HTS TECHNOLOGIES

### STRATEGIES



Synergy



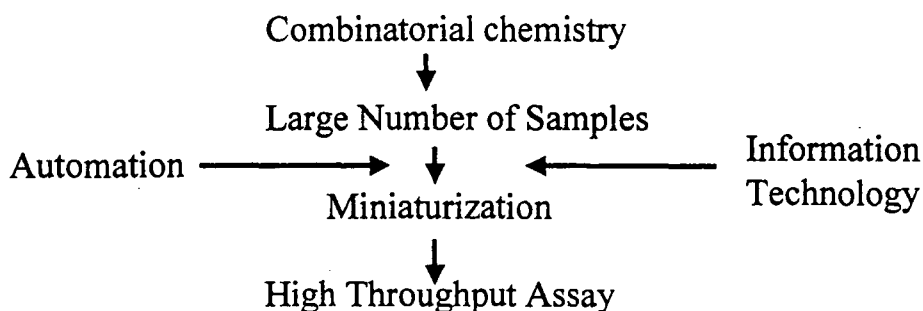
## LEAD IDENTIFICATION

•Leads identified by combinatorial approaches may be refined following classical medicinal chemistry.

•Conventional and combinatorial methodologies complement each other accelerating drug discovery.

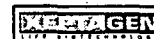


## HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING



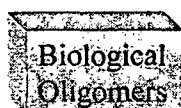
• Combinatorial technologies merged different disciplines such as solid phase and solution phase chemistry, analytical chemistry, molecular biology, molecular design, automation and miniaturization in an integrated platform technology.

• Automation in Combinatorial Technologies speeds up lead identification

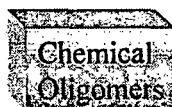


## COMBINATORIAL DIVERSITY GENERATION

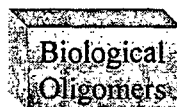
### Oligomeric Space



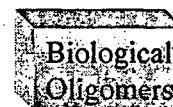
peptides  
 oligonucleotides  
 oligosaccharides



peptoides  
 PNA  
 vinylogous peptoids  
 tertiary amines  
 morpholinos  
 ethylene glycols  
 hydroxymethyl  
 pyrrolidinones  
 carbamates  
 pyrrolinones  
 β turn mimetics



RNA  
 DNA  
 polysomes  
 modified DNA/RNA  
 random chemistry  
 oligomers



Phage proteins  
 bacterial membrane  
 proteins  
 peptide-plasmids

A broad variety of new synthesis and screening methods are currently grouped under the term combinatorial. These methods include parallel chemical synthesis and testing of multiple individual compounds or compounds mixtures in solution, synthesis, and testing of compounds on solid supports, and biochemical or organism-based synthesis of biological oligomers coupled to selection and amplification strategies. Combinatorial technologies merged different disciplines such as solid phase and solution phase chemistry, analytical chemistry, molecular biology, molecular design, automation and miniaturization in an integrated platform technology.

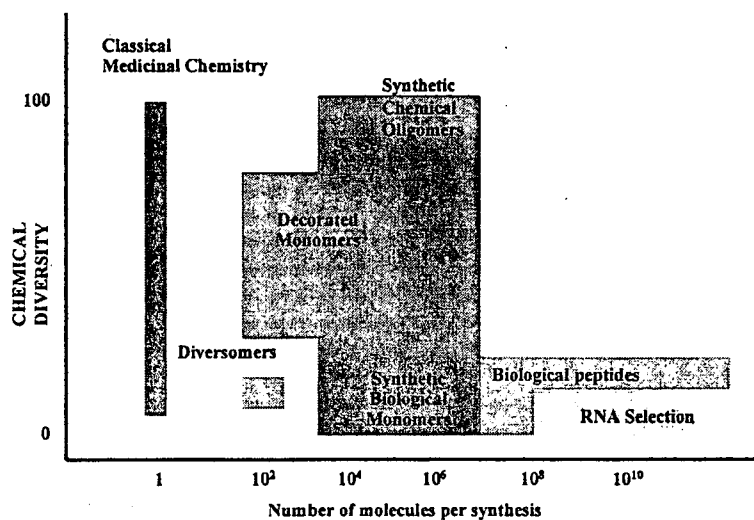


## CHEMICAL DIVERSITY

The different technologies and strategies used in the production of combinatorial libraries are now so well developed that it is easy to plan synthetic schemes for the generation of a huge number of compounds. Since the rate at which compounds can be screened does constitute a limitation to the use of combinatorial technologies, it is important to be selective about the compounds which are synthesized. Computational methods are very valuable from this point of view to assist in the design of combinatorial libraries. The main requirement for lead generation is often to maximize the range of structural types within the library with the expectation that a broad range of activities will result. As a consequence, diversity analysis is an important aspect of library design.

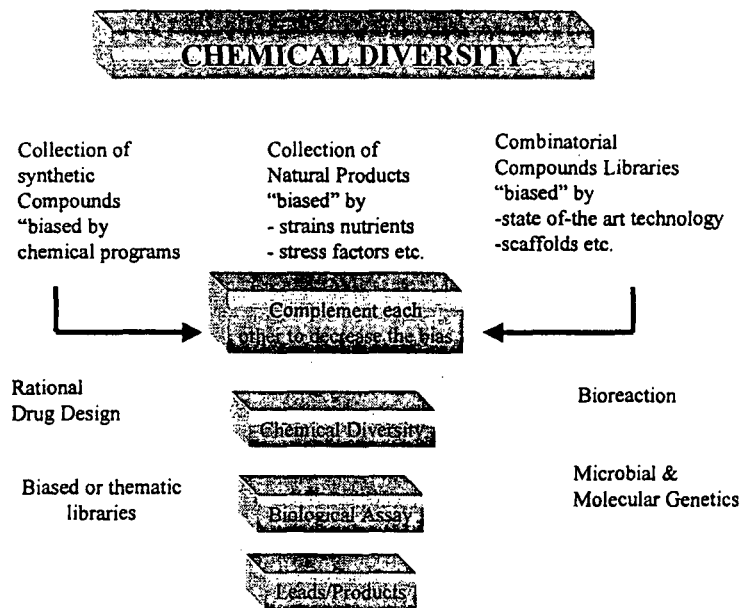


### LIBRARIES: Chemical Diversity

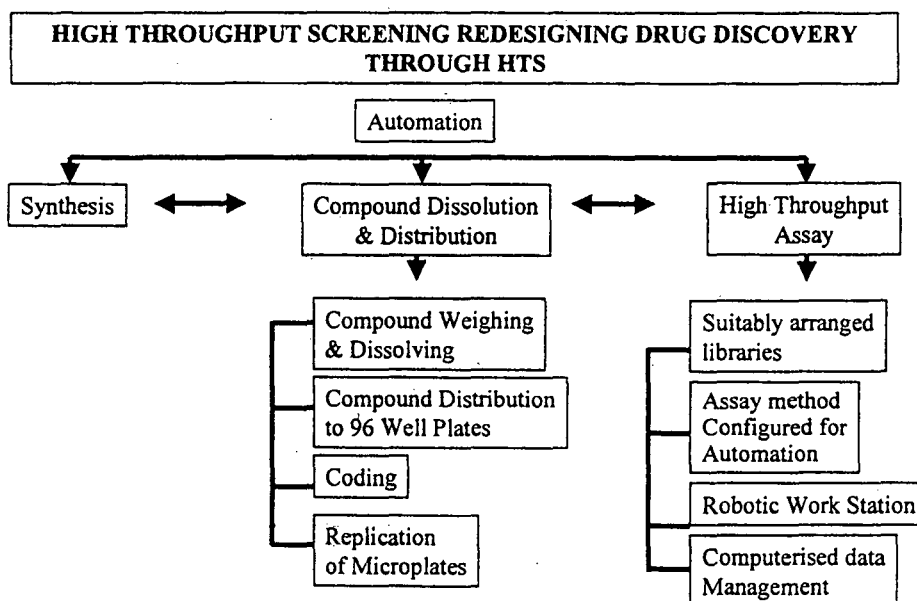


The diversity of libraries may be measured by the use of similarity or dissimilarity indexes which make intermolecular comparisons possible. Measures of chemical similarity have been developed for similarity searching in chemical databases. The calculation of the similarity between two molecules involves the characterization of the molecules by using chemical/structural descriptors, and then the application of similarity coefficients to quantify the similarity.

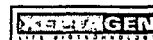


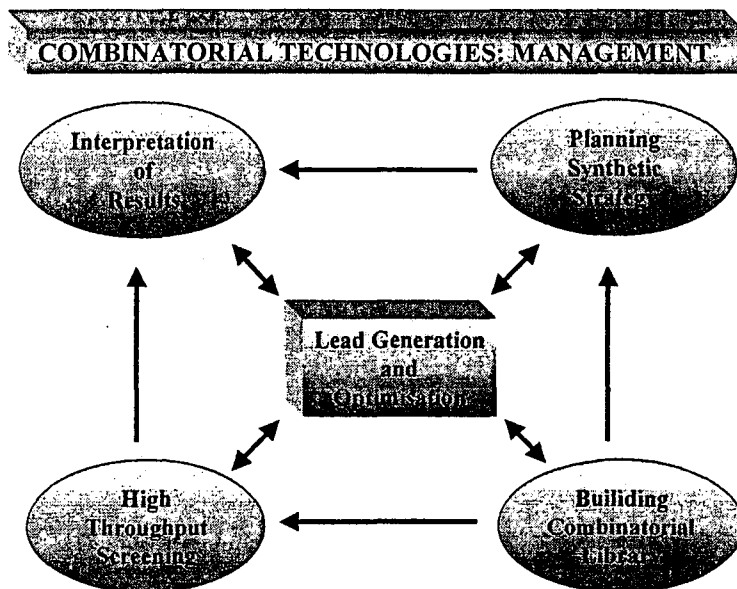


The rapidity of new chemical entity generation and screening allows validation of molecular targets associated to diseases in short time. This is a very important emerging trend in combinatorial technologies, since the advent of new methodologies in molecular biology, biochemistry, and genetic, leads to the identification of many factors which should be screened quickly in order to define their relevance to biomedical processes.



Due to the high number of chemical manipulations required to synthesize libraries of compounds automation is unavoidable. The huge number of compounds produced simultaneously with these technologies requires automation also in purification protocols, quality assessment, sample dispensing and testing. In addition, the ever increasing number of compounds generated by combinatorial technologies pushes towards miniaturization of screening assays, in order to handle an increasing number of tests at the same time with little consumption of reagents.





Combinatorial technologies merged different disciplines such as solid phase and solution phase chemistry, analytical chemistry, molecular biology, molecular design, automation and miniaturization in an integrated platform technology. The philosophy of combinatorial technologies is to make rational the random approach to drug discovery. The main advantage of using combinatorial technologies is the speed in finding and optimizing useful leads. The disadvantage is that it is impossible to explore the entire chemical space in the combinatorial format, i.e. not all chemical structures can be produced by combinatorial approaches.



# Dynamic Combinatorial Chemistry

**Alexey Eliseev**

*State University of New York at Buffalo, USA*  
*eliseev@acsu.buffalo.edu, eliseev@therascope.de*

**DYNAMIC COMBINATORIAL CHEMISTRY****Alexey Eliseev***State University of New York at Buffalo, USA**eliseev@acsu.buffalo.edu, eliseev@therascope.de*

The major effort of today's combinatorial chemistry is focused on the synthesis and screening of libraries of individual compounds. The alternative approach, use of mixtures (pools) of compounds, is significantly less labor and resource consuming, but requires elaborate analytical tools to identify effective components in complex mixtures.

This lecture will consider dynamic combinatorial chemistry (DCC), an approach to molecular diversity generation and screening that involves reorganization of pools of compounds, existing in a dynamic equilibrium, *via* their interactions with the target compound. Such reorganization results in the formation of amplified amounts of those components that form the strongest complexes with the target and thereby simplifies their isolation and identification. DCC offers a potentially new approach to drug discovery that combines library synthesis and screening in a single step and allows one to rapidly explore and customize pharmaceutical diversity space for a given target.

The following subjects will be considered in the presentation.

- 1) DCC as a general approach to synthesis and screening of combinatorial libraries: advantages and limitations as compared to parallel techniques.
  - A. Case studies of early examples of dynamic libraries. Bioactive peptides, cation receptors, inhibitors of carbonic anhydrase.
  - B. Mechanisms and quantitative assessment of amplification effect in dynamic libraries. Thermodynamic vs. kinetic effects.
  - C. Basic reactions used in DCC. Examples of imine exchange, transesterification, coordination chemistry, alkene metathesis.
- 2) DCC as emerging tool of drug discovery. Case study of neuraminidase inhibitors formed from *in vitro* virtual libraries.
- 3) Other applications of dynamic libraries.
  - A. Nucleic acid recognition.
  - B. Ion separation.
- 4) Methodological developments in DCC:
  - A. Dynamic deconvolution.
  - B. Multi-level dynamic libraries.
  - C. Analytical techniques: case study of regiochemical tagging.

**Suggested Literature**

1. A. Ganesan, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **37**, 2828-2831 (1998).
2. J. M. Lehn, *Chem. Eur. J.* **5**, 2455-2463 (1999).
3. J. M. Lehn, A. V. Eliseev, *Science* **291**, 2331-2332 (2001).

# Combinatorial Optimization of Heterogenous Catalysis

**Claude Mirodatos**

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France*

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*<http://catalyse.univ-lyon1.fr>*

## COMBINATORIAL APPROACHES FOR SPEEDING UP HETEROGENOUS CATALYST DISCOVERY AND OPTIMISATION: STRATEGIES AND PERSPECTIVES FOR ACADEMIC RESEARCH

Claude Mirodatos

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*http://catalyse.univ-lyon1.fr*

The application of combinatorial chemistry to heterogeneous catalysis is analysed in terms of current strategies and perspectives on the industrial and academic levels. Potential methodologies for academic research laboratories are proposed with emphasis on both theoretical and practical considerations.

As a case study, the European consortium "COMBICAT" "Catalyst Design and Optimisation by Fast Combinatorial Procedures" is presented focusing on the chosen strategy [1].

"COMBICAT" started on 01/01/00 is dedicated to the "Competitive and Sustainable Growth" EU programme. It mainly deals with the development of innovative combinatorial methods of fast preparation and high-speed testing of solid materials to be used as heterogeneous catalysts to reduce R&D time and costs. The new methods to be developed will be validated using a widespread of catalytic reaction categories of importance for European chemical industry.

In that consortium, 10 research partners (3 large companies, 2 SME, 4 research institutions, 1 university) from 6 European countries are grouped to fulfil the work program. The partners cover all point of views within the project: Research institutions with widespread basic knowledge on catalyst development, experienced SME's as specialists for development of chemical research software and high-tech robotics hardware and large catalyst production companies as well as catalyst end users (engineering entities) of the European chemical industry.

Various aspects of the running research will be presented:

- analysis of the combinatorial approach to heterogeneous catalysis,
- strategies and technologies for secondary screening,
- preparation and testing of catalyst libraries : development of hard and software tools adapted to case studies
- strategies for a combinatorial approach of kinetic modelling, applied to transient operations.

As a general conclusion, once a certain level of confusion (in terms of concepts and strategies) is put aside, the combinatorial approach seems like a real opportunity to grasp in this initial phase of extension to the vast field of heterogeneous catalysis, and especially for academic research. The basic technical and theoretical tools of combinatorial catalysis already exist, and in the short term, advancements of varying degrees depending on the chemistry attempted can reasonably be envisioned. Though considerable human and material investments are necessary for the expansion of combinatorial catalysis, we must remember that this approach that combines *discovery and comprehension* is at the heart of the goals of research. In this way, it can only reinforce the creativity of our laboratories [2].

References :

- [1] website: [www.ec-combicat.org](http://www.ec-combicat.org)

[2] Combinatorial approaches to heterogeneous catalysis: strategies and perspectives for academic research, Arnold Holzwarth, Patricia Denton, Horst Zanthoff and Claude Mirodatos  
Catalysis Today 2441 (2001) 1-10.



From Synthons to Bioactive Molecules:  
Efficient Strategies in  
Modern Lead Structure Research

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*wolfgang.bender.wb@bayer-ag.de*

## Major incurable diseases

### Arteriosclerosis

Underlying disorder in cardiovascular disease; infarction/stroke as most common cause of death

### Tumor diseases

Second most common cause of death

### Alzheimer's disease/senile dementia

5-10% of the population over 65, high costs

### Diabetes

Approx. 3 % of world population

### Viral diseases

HIV, hepatitis, HCMV

### Rheumatic disorders

Leading cause of morbidity, health care expenditures and invalidity

### Infectious diseases

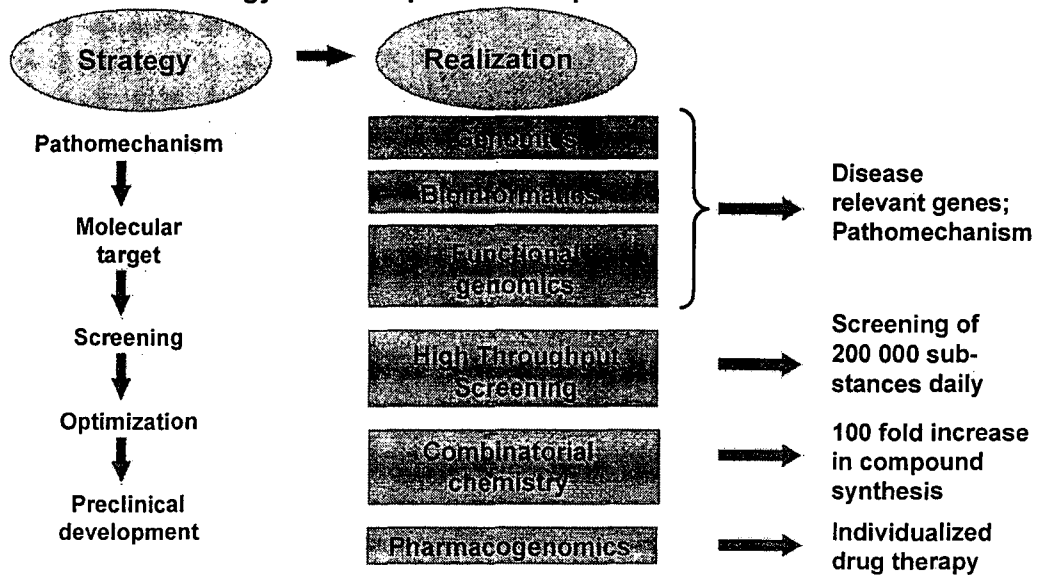
Development of resistance

### Allergies

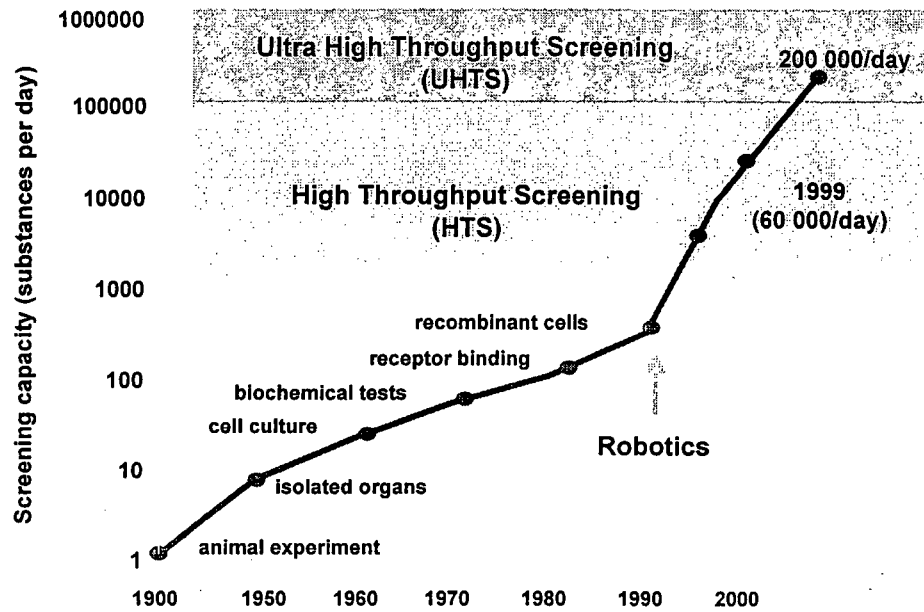
Asthma, neurodermatitis

## Discovery research is technology driven

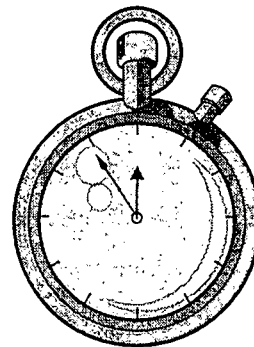
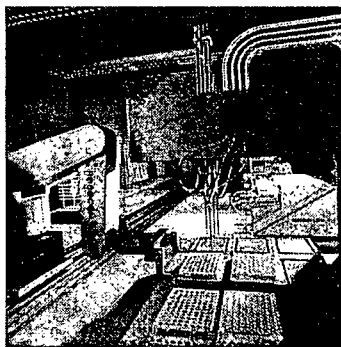
Technology leadership is most important factor of success



## Explosion of Throughput in Drug Screening



## Trends in "Actives" Research



the same commercially available "building blocks" and often create... very similar test compounds.

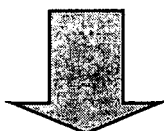
**Test Compounds**

- From all corners of the company, hitherto never or seldom used

and

**Key Building Blocks**

- For primary synthesis and resynthesis for the evaluation of potential hits



**BAYER Synthons**

- For the *de novo* creation of test compounds
- 
- 

**The BAYER Synthon Concept**

What are BAYER Synthons?

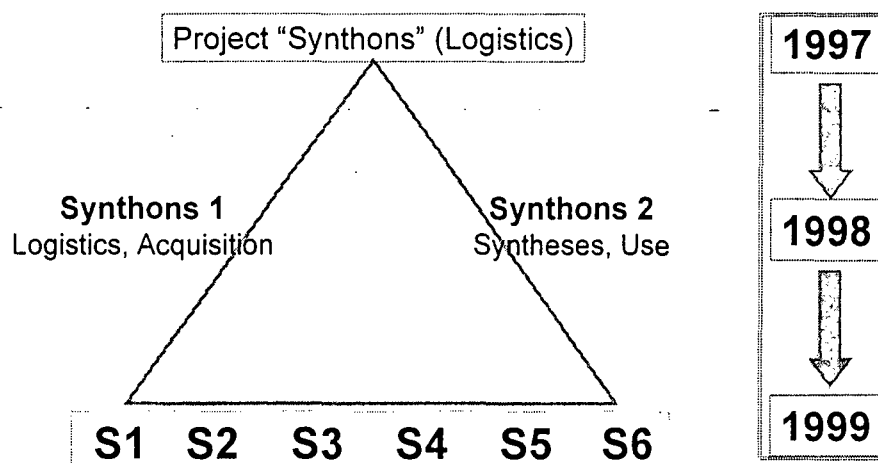
All Compounds that are exclusively available to BAYER or that are not readily commercially available on grounds of cost or time.

These compounds must possess at least one derivatizable functional group or reactive centre.

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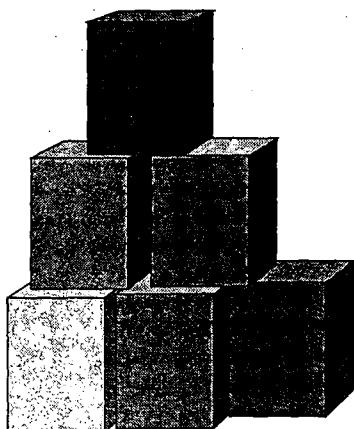
## Chronology of the Synthon Concept



## Main Projects 1999

- S1: Basic Project "Synthons"
- S2: Internal Synthon Syntheses
- S3: External Synthon Syntheses
- S4: Strategic Synthon Purchase
- S5: Molecular Diversity by  
Chemo- and Biocatalysis
- S6: Integrated Synthesis and Testing

## Synthon Concept – Activities



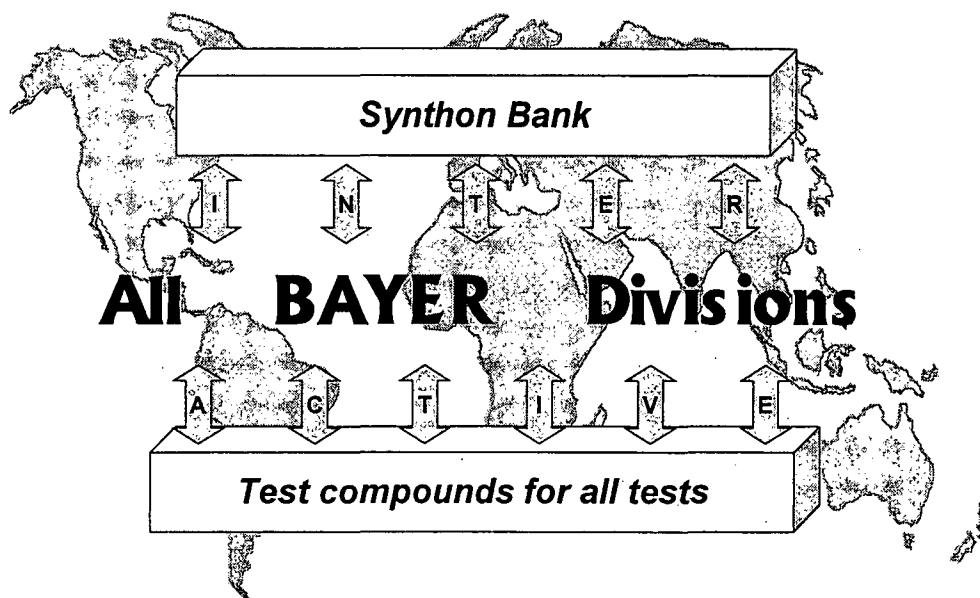
between all BAYER Divisions

- Strengthening of BAYER Life Science research through new exclusive synthons
- Preparation of a high diversity of test compounds through *online* microsyntheses with synthons

---

## The Basis Project “Synthons”

- Interactive Depot Management
  - Synthon Exchange
  - Synthon Markets
  - Coordination of internal and external Cooperation Networks
  - Synthesis Planning
  - Gap and Trend Analysis
  - Biophore Models and Diversity
-



## The Synthon Bank

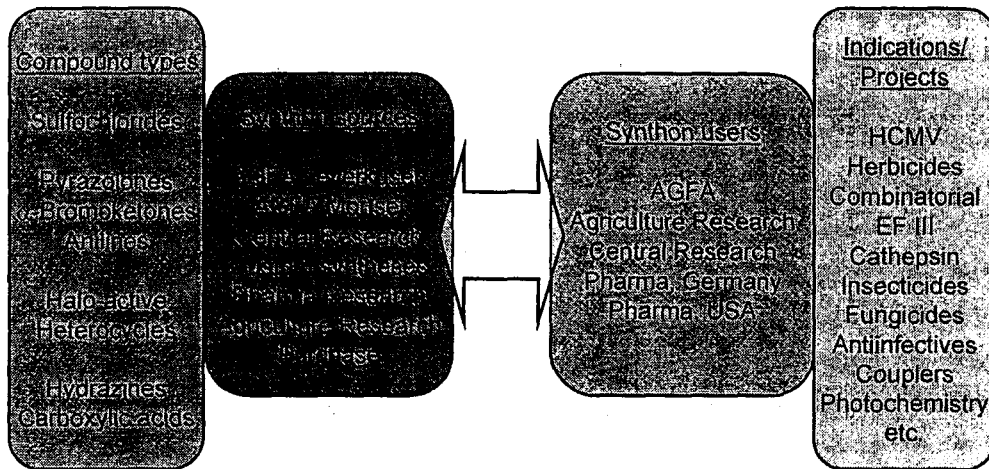
### Internal Sources

- Old stocks ("Old Synthons")
- Process Development, Kilo Labs, Production
- Synthon labs from 1998
- All chemical laboratories within the Company

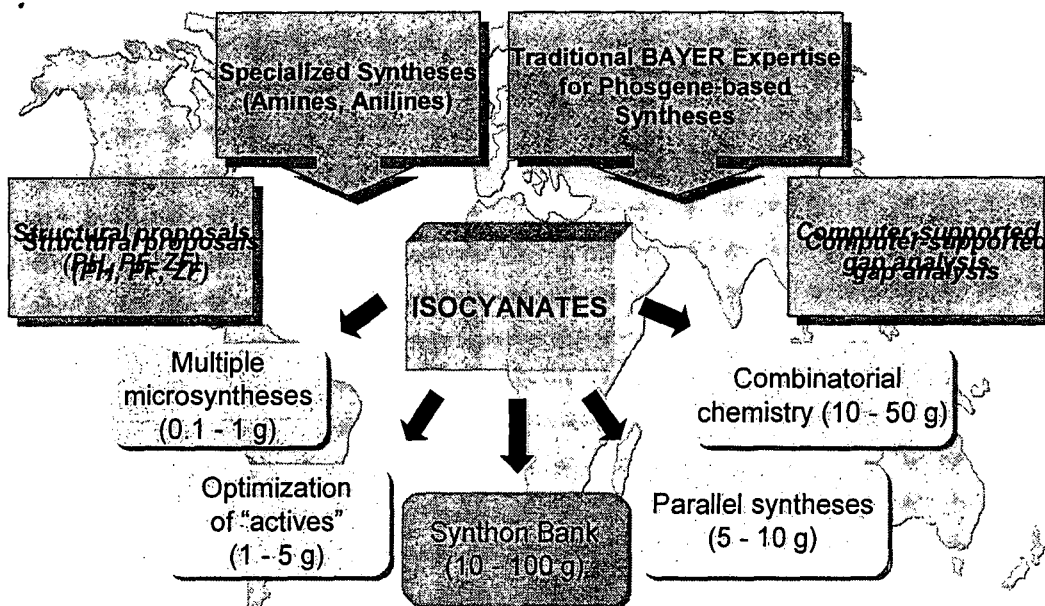
### External Sources

- Cooperation with Universities and their chemical collections
- Custom synthesis companies
- Specialty companies
- Selected big chemical companies

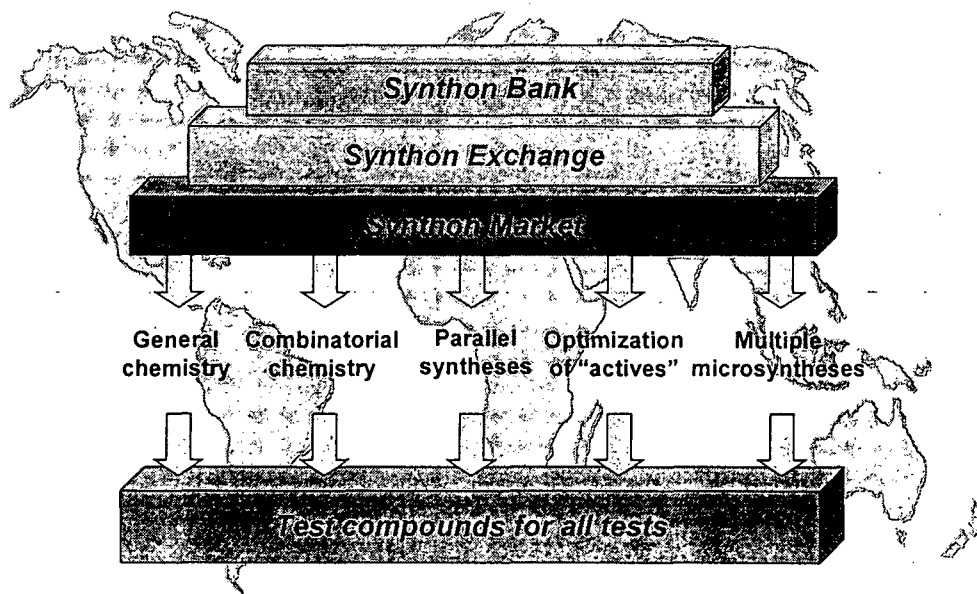
## Synthon Exchange (Selected Examples)



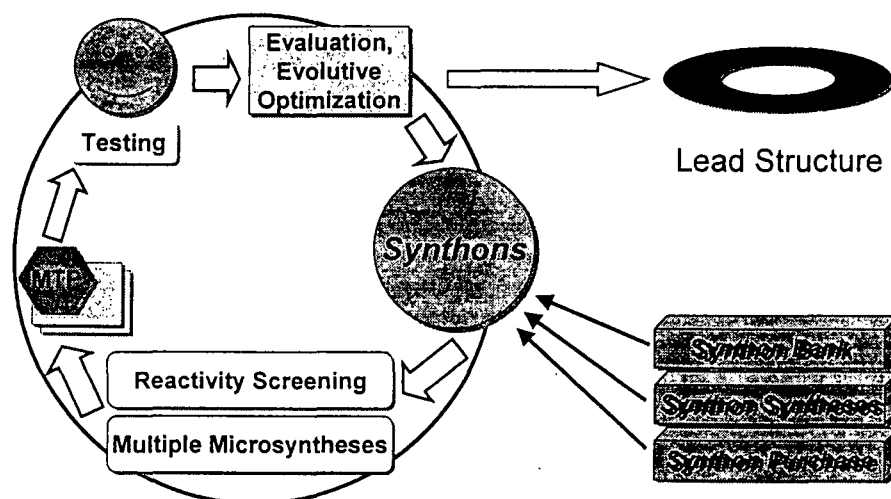
## Synthon Market (Example)



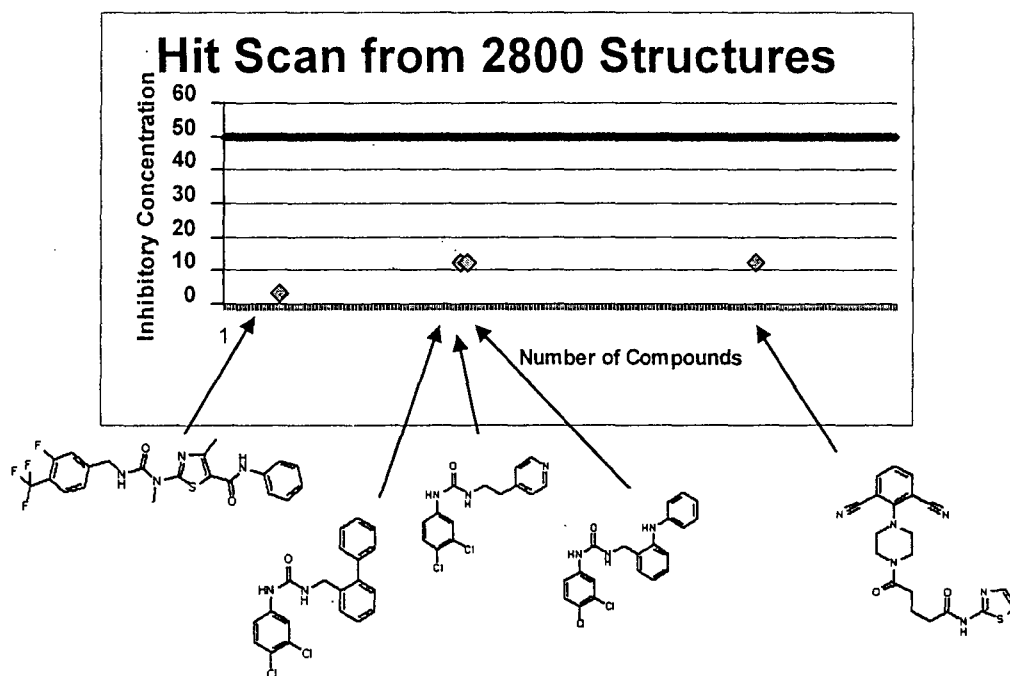
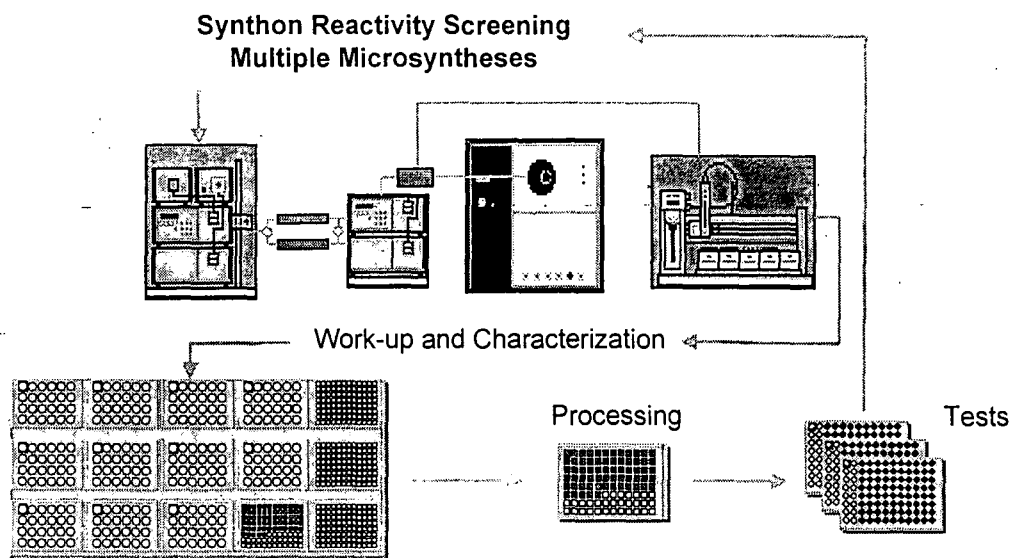




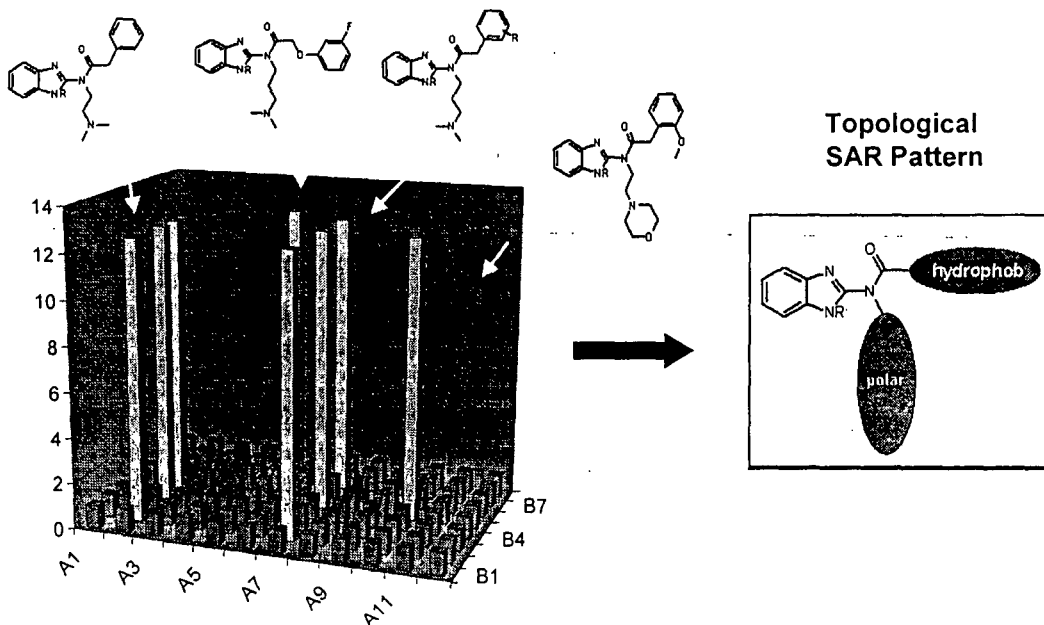
### Exploratory Lead Structure Research with Synthons



# Integration of Synthesis, Purification and Testing



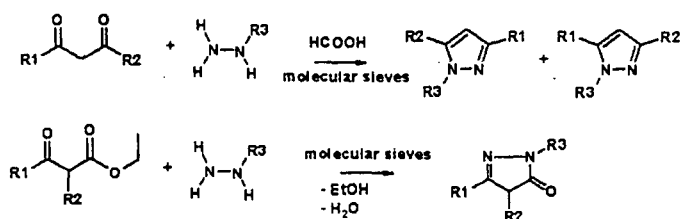
## Activity Profile of a Hit Region



## Synthon - Chemistry realized on Microtiter Plates



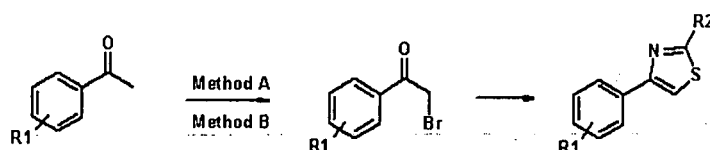
### Examples



Pyrazoles

Pyrazolones

## Synthon-Chemistry realized on Robot System Hantzsch-Thiazole Synthesis



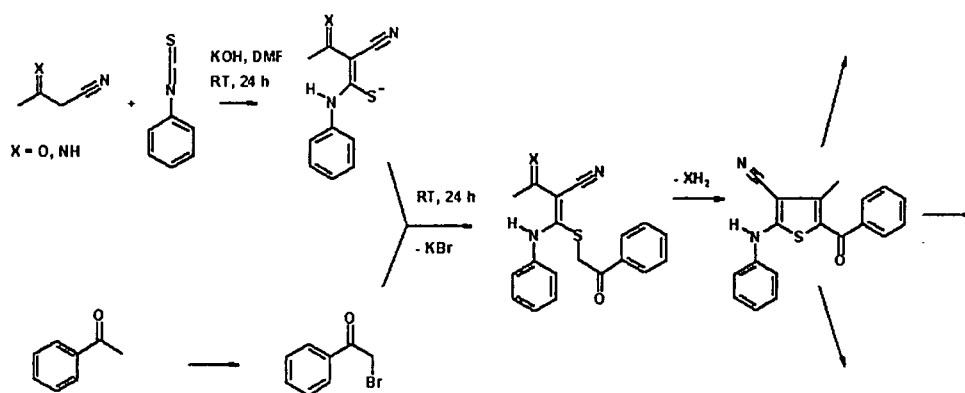
### Associated difficulties (classic way / Method A):

- only a limited number of phenacyl bromides available
- synthesis requires use of bromine and glacial acetic acid

### Polymer supported: Bromination with $\text{Br}_3$ on cationic ion exchange resin (Method B)

- commercial reagent / use in excess / removal by filtration
- pure phenacyl bromides
- many acetophenones available

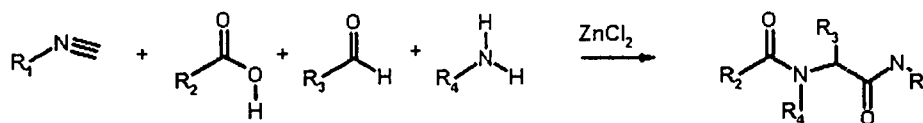
## From Synthons to Polyfunctional Thiophenes



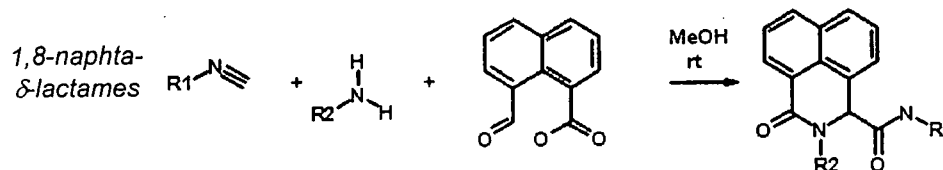
"Robot-Synthons"

further reactions on MTP's

## UGI Reaction

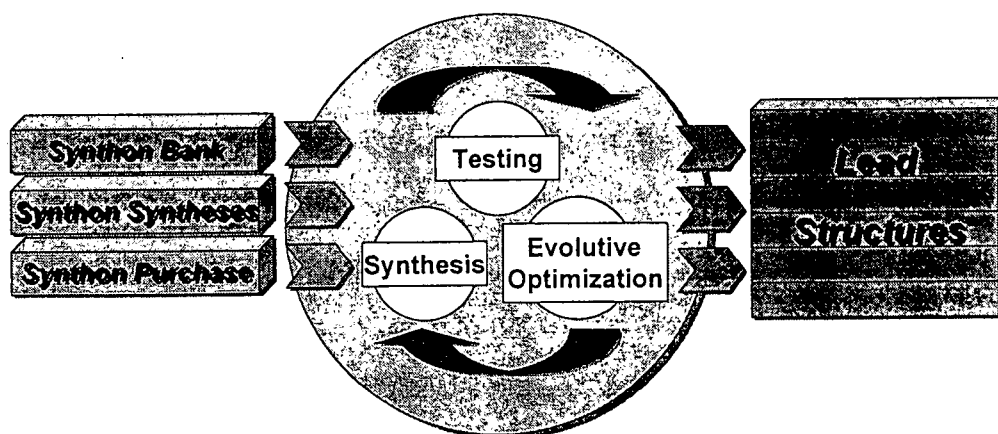


## Cyclic UGI compounds



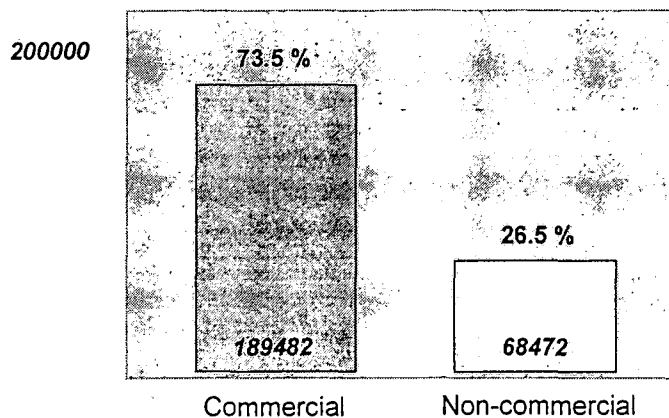
Reactions were performed in commercially available  
96-2ml-MTPs in MeOH at room temperature

## Pre-Exploratory Lead Structure Research with Synthons



## Availability of Synthons and their Precursors

Reactive compounds in over 60 reactive compound classes  
(March 1999, mol wt up to 1000 g/mol)



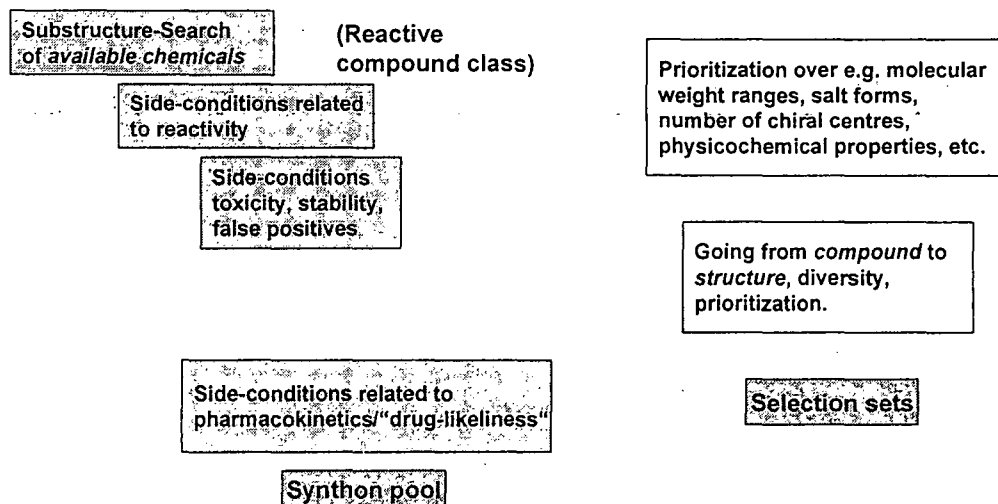
Verfügbare Chemikalien, 08.03.99  
(≅ BAYER's proprietary ACD)

## Reactive Compound Classes

AAB	Boc-protected amino acids	EPO	epoxide
AAE	Amino acid esters	EST	ester (overlap with CAC)
AAF	Fmoc-protected amino acids	GRI	Grignards
AAL	amino alcohols	HAL	aliphatic halogenides
AAS	amino acids	HAR	arom-CH <sub>2</sub> -Hal
AAT	t-Butyl protected amino acids	HET	heterocycles with substitution groups
ACC	acid chlorides	HYA	hydroxyl amine like
ACE	acetylenes	HYD	hydrazine
ALC	alcohols	ISA	isatines
ALD	aldehydes	ISC	isocyanate
ALK	alkenes	ISN	isonitrils
AME	primary amide	ISY	isothiocyanate
AMI	aromatic amidines	KES	beta-ketoester
AMP	primary amines	KET	ketons (no KES)
AMS	secondary amines	NAL	aliphatic nitro compnds.
ANH	anhydrides	NAR	aromatic nitro compnds.
ANI	anilines	NIT	nitri
AOH	aldehyde & alcohol on same phenyl ring	PHE	phenolic compnds.
APY	alpha-aminopyridine	PIT	phosphites
AZL	azoles	PMD	pyrimidine
BCA	bromoketones	POS	phosphonium salts
BOH	boronic acids	SAA	N-alkylated sulfonamides
CAA	carboxy aldehydes	SFA	sulfonamides
CAC	carboxylic acids	SFO	sulfones
CAD	dicarboxylic acids	SL	silane
CAH	hydroxy carboxylic acids	STN	stannane
CPE	chloroformic ester	SUL	sulfonylhalides
CYC	carbamoyl chloride	THA	thioamide
DBA	1,2-diketons	THU	thiourea
DCA	1,3-diketons	TOL	thiol
DDA	1,4-diketons	URE	urea
DEP	dienophiles (1,3-dipol. Cycloadd., Diels-A.)	UTH	urethanes
ENA	enamines	XAR	aromatic halogenides

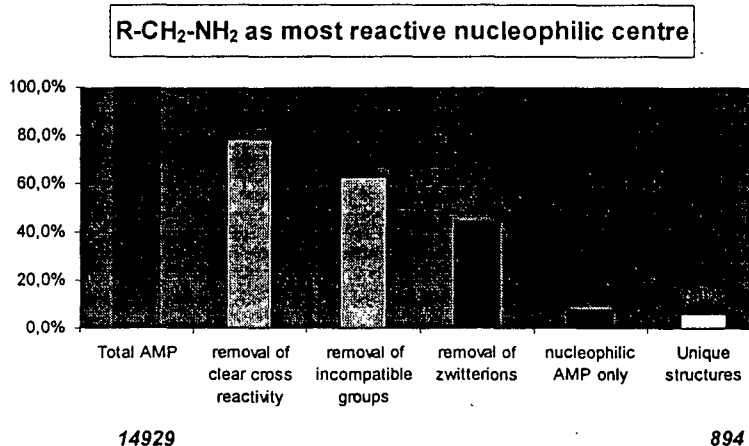
## Availability of Synthons and their Precursors

Selection from all available chemicals



## Availability of Suitable Synthons

Primary amines registered from commercial sources



Verfügbare Chemikalien, 08.03.99  
(≅ BAYER's proprietary ACD)

## Drugs Based on Substituted Benzene Rings

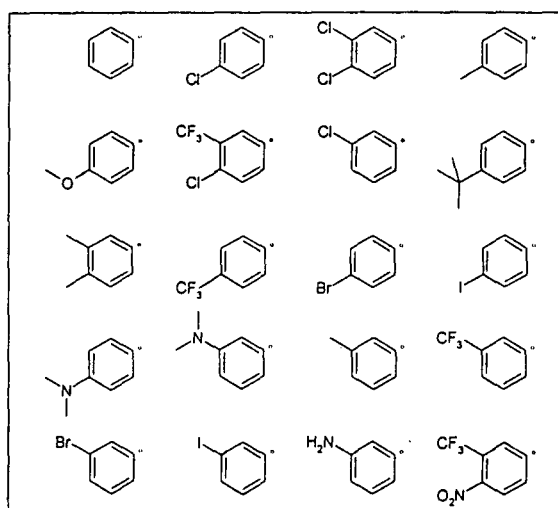
Arylethanol amines	beta-adrenergics
Aryloxypropanol amines	beta-blockers, non-tricyclic antidepressants
Arylsulfonic acid derivatives	antibacterials, diuretics, oral hypoglycemics, thromboxane antagonists.
Arylacetic acids, aryloxypropionic acids	NSAIDs*, anti-arrhythmics
others	aspirin, verapamil

After: Daniel Lednicher, *Strategies for Organic Drug Synthesis and Design*, John Wiley & Sons, Inc, New York, 1998.

\* Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs.

## Topliss Tree for Substituents on a Phenyl Ring (1)

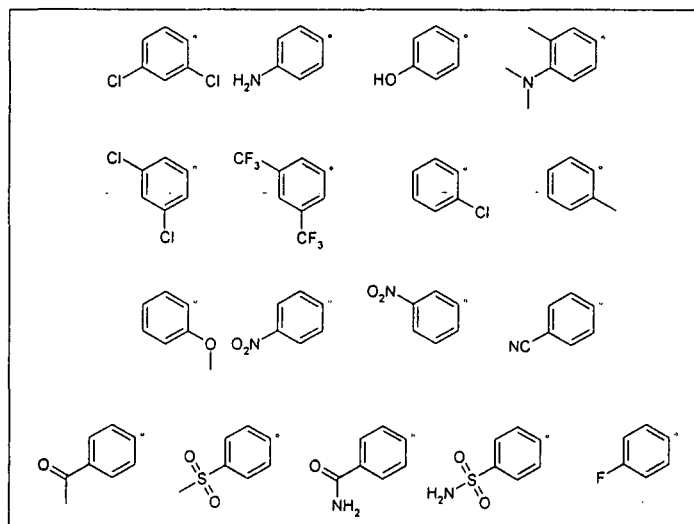
(J.G. Topliss, *J. Med. Chem.*, 1972, 15, 1006-1011)





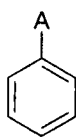
## Topliss Tree for Substituents on a Phenyl Ring (2)

(J.G. Topliss, *J. Med. Chem.*, 1972, 15, 1006-1011)

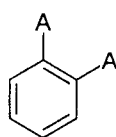


## Drugs Based on Substituted Benzene Rings

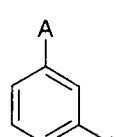
47 % of a collection of over 14000 clinical candidates  
and drugs contain a (substituted) phenyl ring



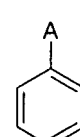
17.3 %



5.2 %



3.5 %

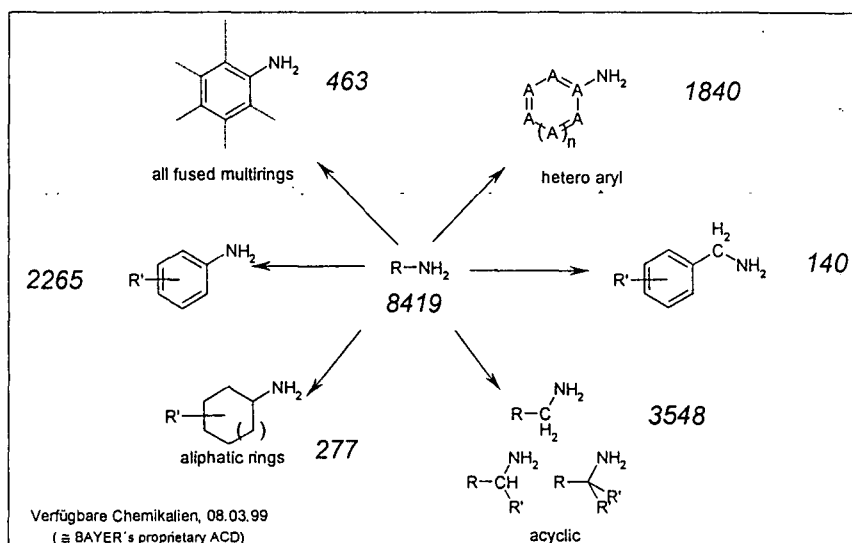


17.2 %

Pharma projects, PJB, 20 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey, UK; Bayer Pharma Research, 1998

## Primary Amines from Commercial Sources

Reduced to the synthon pool - absolute numbers



## Availability of Suitable Synthons

Selected amines from commercial sources

	Registered compounds	Unique structures
	>> 1000	>> 1000
	158	133
	88	61

Verfügbare Chemikalien, 08.03.99  
(≅ BAYER's proprietary ACD)

## Availability of Suitable Synthons

Substituents and gaps in the "commercial" Topliss tree

1 All hydrogens			
2 4-O			
3 3,4-dO			
4 4-OH			
5 4-OCH3			
6 3-CF3,4-O			
7 3-O			
8 4-COCH3			
9 Alternative for 4-COCH3: 3,4-dCHO			
10 4-CF3			
11 Alternative 1 for 4-CF3: 4-F			
12 Alternative 2 for 4-CF3: 4-I			
13 4-N(CH3)2			
14 3-N(CH3)2			
15 3-CH3			
16 3-CF3			
17 Alternative 1 for 3-CF3: 3-F			
18 Alternative 2 for 3-CF3: 3-I			
19 3-NH2			
20 3-CF3,4-NO2			
21 2,4-dCl			
22 4-NH2			
23 4-CN			
24 3-CH3,4-N(CH3)2			
25 3,3-dCl			
26 Alternative for 3,5-dCl: 3,5-dCF3			
27 3-O			
28 2-CH3			
29 2-OCH3			
30 3-NO2			
31 4-NO2			
32 Alternative 1 for 4-NO2: 4-CN			
33 Alternative 2 for 4-NO2: 4-COCH3			
34 Alternative 3 for 4-NO2: 4-SO2CH3			
35 Alternative 4 for 4-NO2: 4-CONH2			
36 Alternative 5 for 4-NO2: 4-SO2NH2			
37 4-F			

Verfügbare Chemikalien, 08.03.99  
(≅ BAYER's proprietary ACD)

## Availability of Suitable Synthons

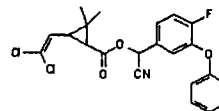
Substituents and gaps in the "commercial" Topliss tree

			A is non-H
1 All hydrogens	92	396	
2 4-O	12	20	
3 3,4-dO		1	
4 4-OH	8	5	
5 4-OCH3	10	10	
6 3-CF3,4-O			
7 3-O	1	1	
8 4-COCH3			
9 Alternative for 4-COCH3: 3,4-dCHO			
10 4-CF3	1	3	
11 Alternative 1 for 4-CF3: 4-F	5	3	
12 Alternative 2 for 4-CF3: 4-I		5	
13 4-N(CH3)2			
14 3-N(CH3)2			
15 3-CH3			
16 3-CF3	1	2	
17 Alternative 1 for 3-CF3: 3-F			
18 Alternative 2 for 3-CF3: 3-I			
19 3-NH2			
20 3-CF3,4-NO2			
21 2,4-dCl			
22 4-NH2		10	
23 4-CN	15	321	
24 3-CH3,4-N(CH3)2			
25 3,3-dCl			
26 Alternative for 3,5-dCl: 3,5-dCF3	1	2	
27 3-O	1	3	
28 2-CH3	1	1	
29 2-OCH3			
30 3-NO2		1	
31 4-NO2	4	20	
32 Alternative 1 for 4-NO2: 4-CN		2	
33 Alternative 2 for 4-NO2: 4-COCH3			
34 Alternative 3 for 4-NO2: 4-SO2CH3			
35 Alternative 4 for 4-NO2: 4-CONH2			
36 Alternative 5 for 4-NO2: 4-SO2NH2			
37 4-F	9	6	

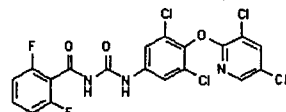
Verfügbare Chemikalien, 08.03.99  
(≅ BAYER's proprietary ACD)

## Crop Protection Agents containing Substituted Benzene Rings

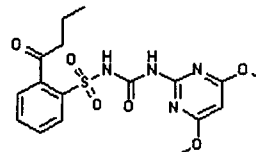
Pyrethroids

*insecticides*

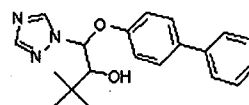
Benzoylureas

*insecticides*

Sulfonylureas

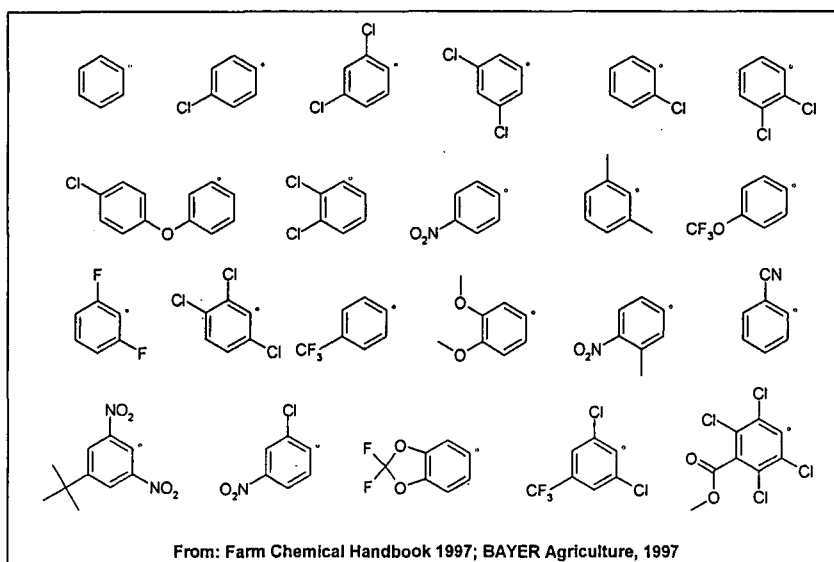
*herbicides*

Azoles

*fungicides*

etc.

## Substituted Benzene Rings in Crop Protection Agents Some examples



### Availability of Suitable Synthons

Typical substitution patterns in crop protection agents  
(commercial availability)

1 phenyl		
2 4-Cl		
3 2,4-dCl		
4 3,5-dCl		
5 2-Cl		
6 diphenylether		
7 3,4-dCl		
8 4-NO2		
9 2,6-dCH3		
10 2,6-dIF		
11 2-Cl,4-CF3		
12 4-tBu		
13 4-F		
14 2,4-diNO2		
15 2,6-diCl		
16 2,4,5-triCl		
17 2,3,6-triCl		
18 2,6-diNO2/4-CF3		

Verfügbare Chemikalien, 08.03.99  
(≅ BAYER's proprietary ACD)

### Availability of Suitable Synthons

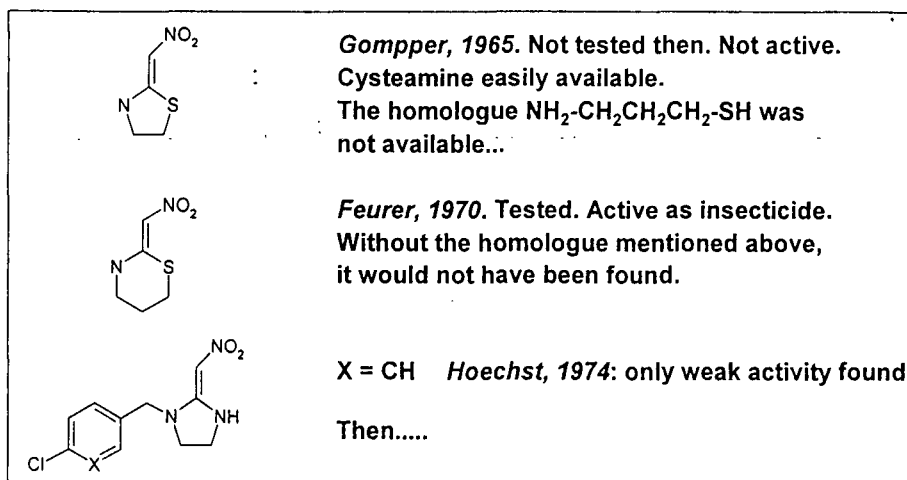
Typical substitution patterns in crop protection agents  
(commercial availability)

1 phenyl	92	398
2 4-Cl	12	20
3 2,4-dCl		
4 3,5-dCl		
5 2-Cl	1	3
6 diphenylether		
7 3,4-dCl		1
8 4-NO2	4	20
9 2,6-dCH3		
10 2,6-dIF	1	2
11 2-Cl,4-CF3		
12 4-tBu		
13 4-F	9	6
14 2,4-diNO2	1	2
15 2,6-diCl		
16 2,4,5-triCl		
17 2,3,6-triCl		
18 2,6-diNO2/4-CF3		

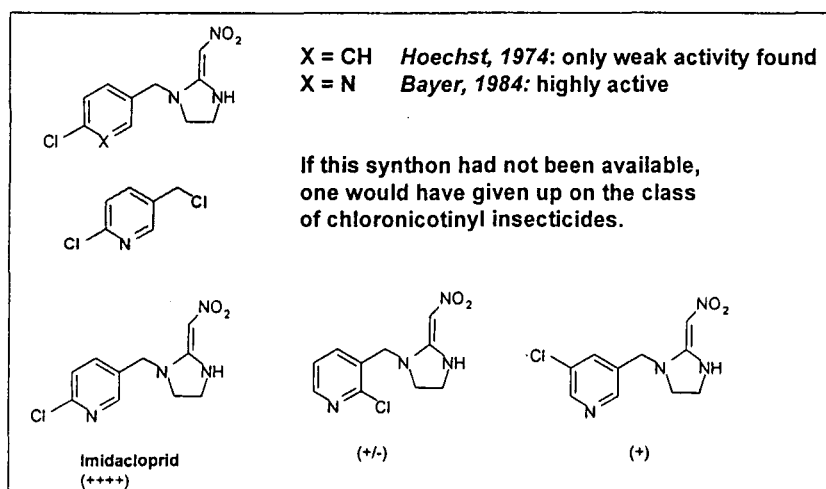
A is non-H

Verfügbare Chemikalien, 08.03.99

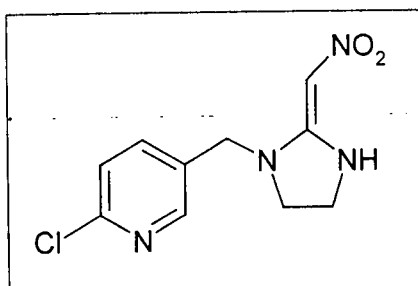
## If the crucial Synthons had not been there....



## If the crucial Synthons had not been there....



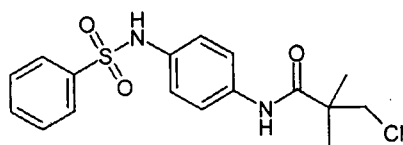
## Imidacloprid



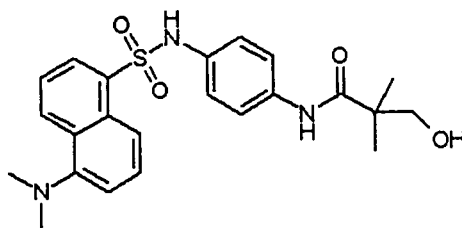
**Advantage®**

„Heroes of Chemistry Award“, *American Chemical Society*, August 1999

## Human Cytomegalovirus (HCMV)



An AGFA compound as hit!

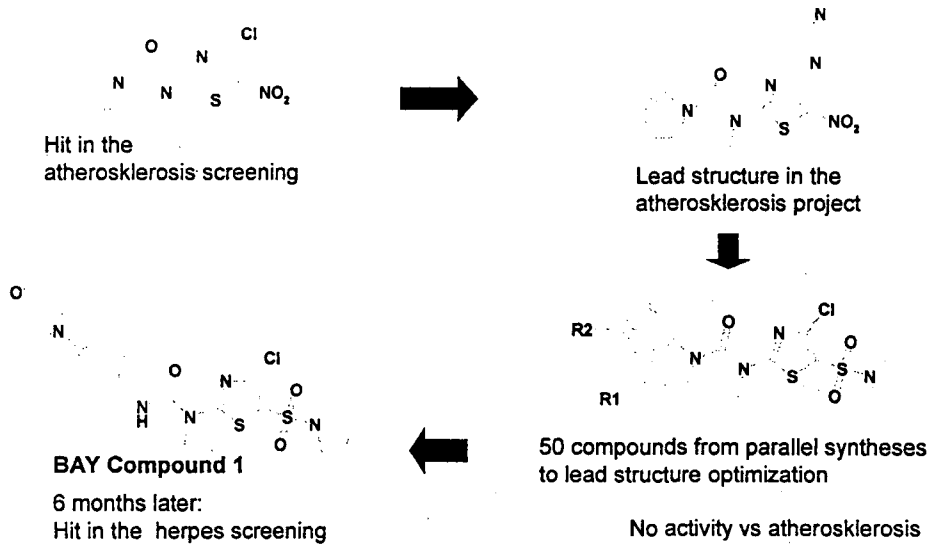


BAY 38-4766

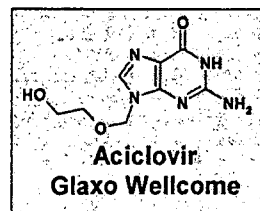
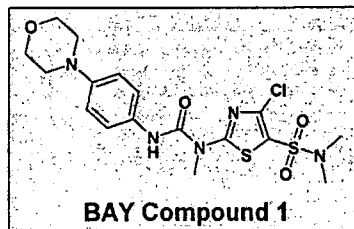
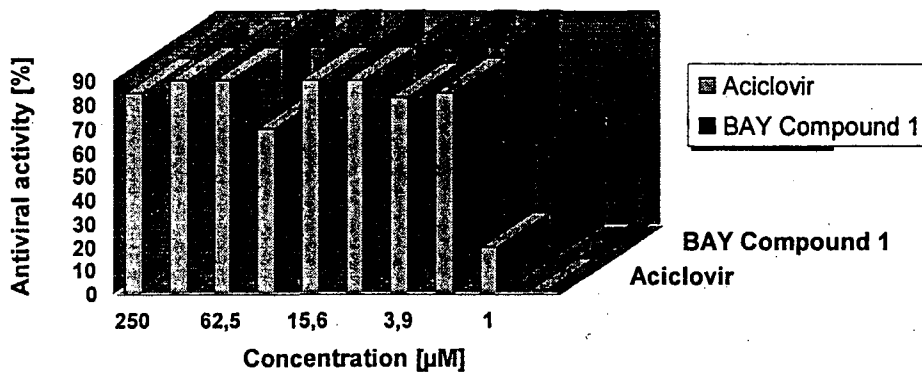
- Non-nucleosidic Inhibitor of HCMV
- New chemical class
- New mechanism of action

Patents: WO 9937608 A1, WO 9937609 A1, Published 29-JUL-99; Priority 23-JAN-98

## History of the first Hit in HSV (BAY Compound 1)



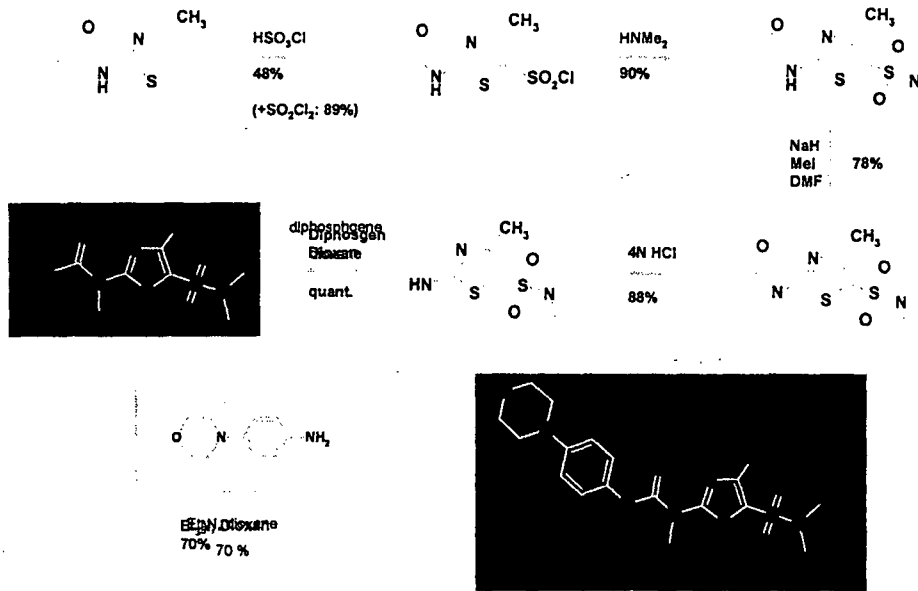
## Antiviral Activity of BAY Compound 1 vs Aciclovir



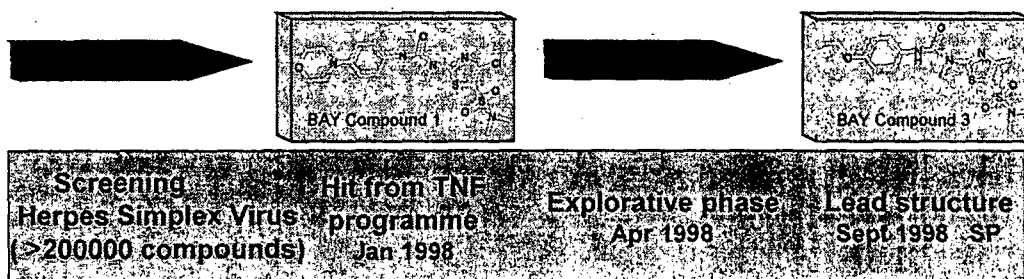


## Synthesis of BAY Compound 2

Replacement of 4-Chloro- with 4-Methylthiazole

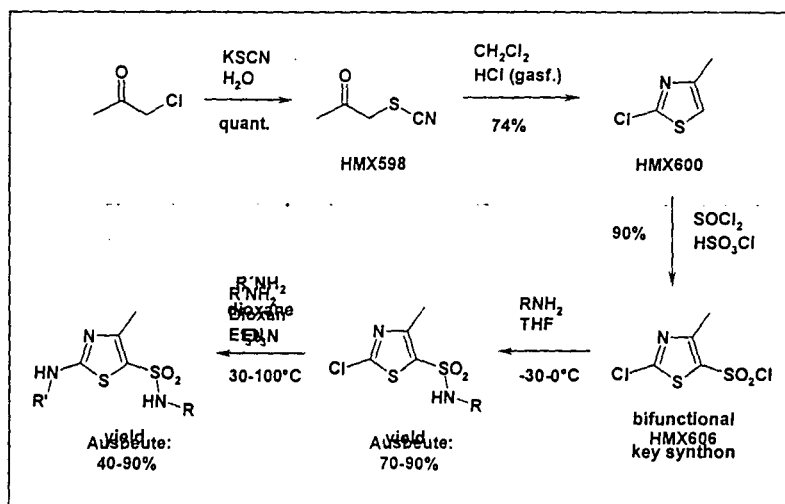


## Intramural Synthon Capacity Shortens Important Learning Curves

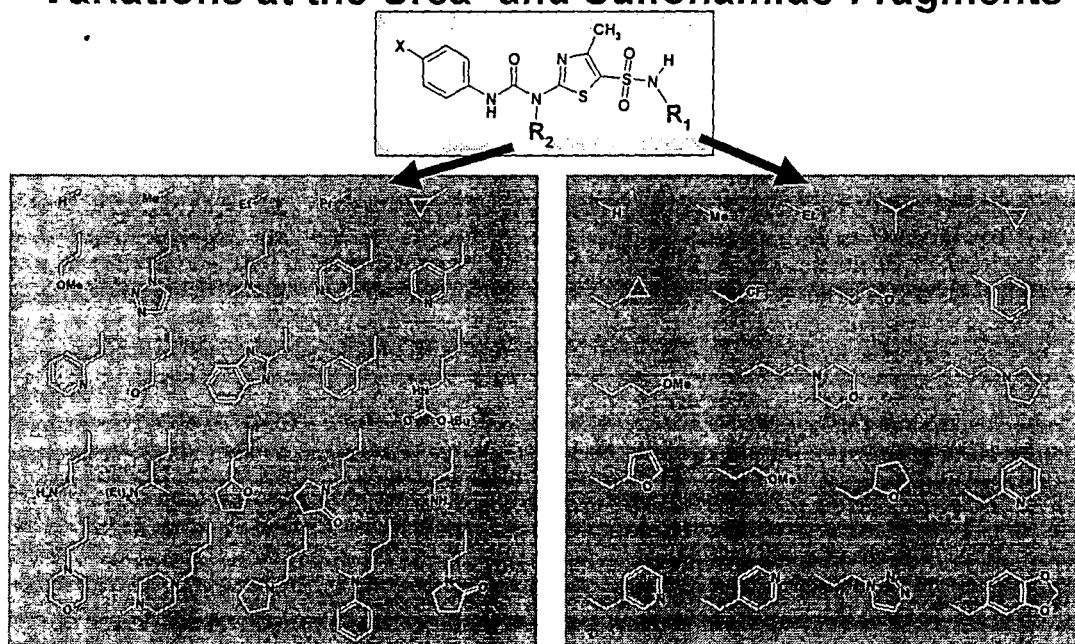


New synthons from the methylthiazole class led to active compounds with improved stability

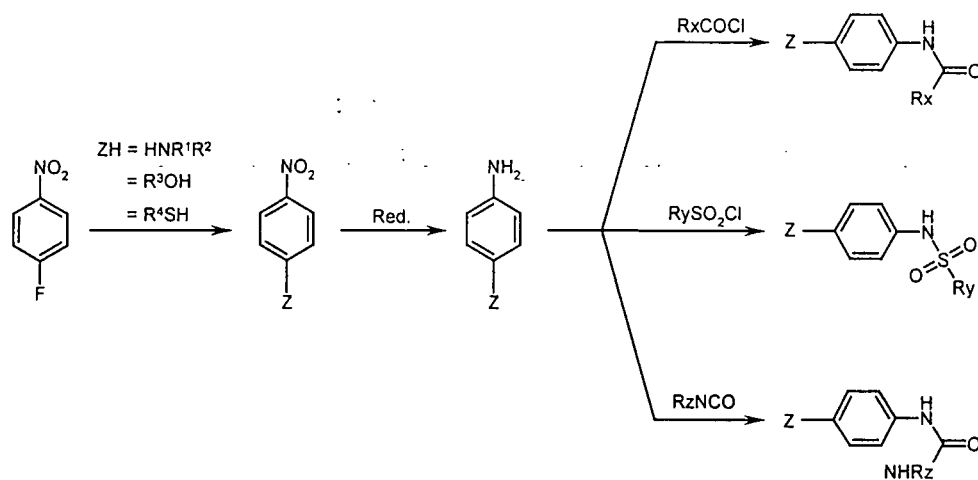
## Synthesis of Thiazolesulfonamide Synthons



## Variations at the Urea- and Sulfonamide-Fragments

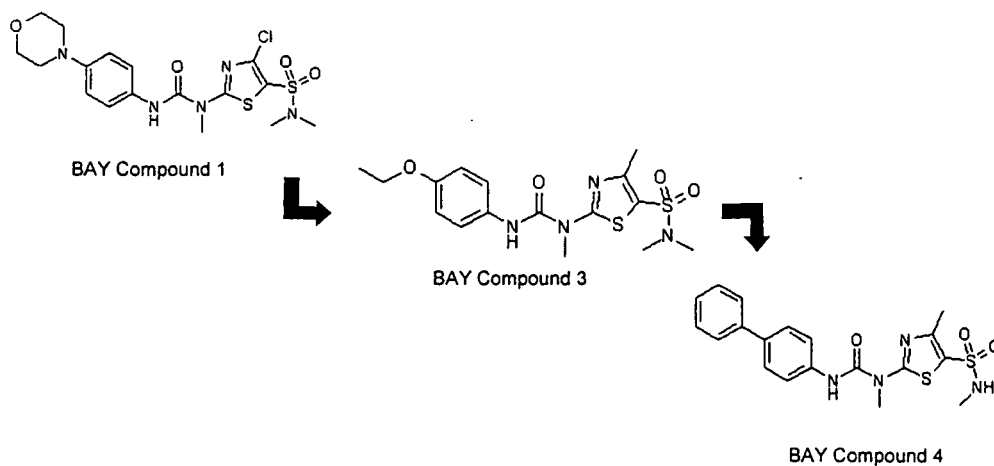


## Multiple Step Cascade Reactions



## Intramural Synthon Capacity

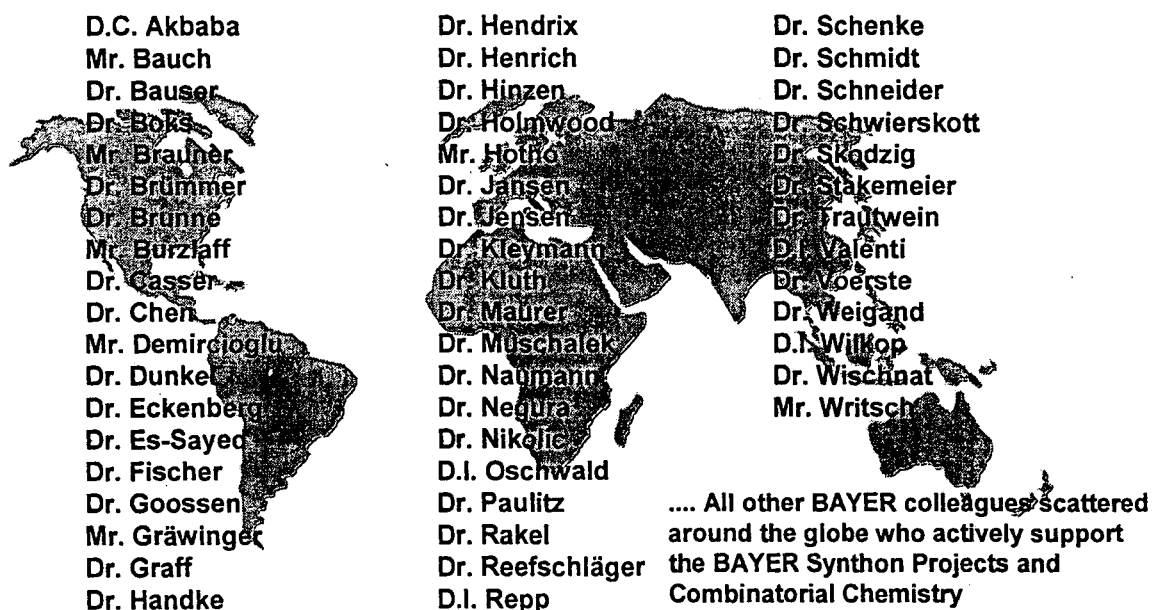
Leads to Fast Discovery of Clinical Candidates



## Concluding Remarks

- Relying on fine-chemical wholesale dealers and other commercial sources is not enough...
- Knowledge and experience from the discovery research cycle should flow into the selection/prioritization of synthons.
- Simple, yet important gaps have been illustrated for primary amines only.
- Many other important gaps have not been revealed...
- Any synthon is welcome, but many diverse synthons are best for every case. Every synthon has a chance for success.

## Acknowledgement



# Biological Methods for Library Characterization and Screening

**Giorgio Fassina**

*XEPTAGEN S.p.A, 80078 Pozzuoli (NA), ITALY*

*fassina@xeptagen.com*

## BIOLOGICAL METHODS FOR LIBRARY CHARACTERIZATION AND SCREENING

**Giorgio Fassina**

*XEPTAGEN S.p.A, 80078 Pozzuoli (NA), ITALY*

*fassina@xeptagen.com*

Biological methods for library preparation are mainly limited to peptide or oligonucleotide libraries. For peptide libraries, methods are based on the construction of a pool of clones each one expressing a different peptide on its surface. The peptides are fused to proteins normally expressed on the surface of the microorganism used. Phage display libraries are the most commonly used. Screening is accomplished by incubation of the target molecule, adsorbed to a solid support, with the phage population. Active phages will bind the target even after extensive washing steps. Target-bound phages are isolated and propagated by infection of *E. coli* and subjected to an additional round of adsorption to the immobilized target. This procedure increases both the number of active phages and the stringency of selection, since harsher condition may be employed in the washing steps to reduce the number of non-specifically bound phages. As for the case of synthetic libraries, iterative cycles of adsorption, washing, elution and propagation in *E. coli* are performed to enrich the phage population in the active or in few active sequences. Active phages may then be subjected to DNA sequencing in order to decode the active peptide sequence. In a very similar way, also oligonucleotide libraries can be screened for immobilized targets using the polymerase chain reaction (PCR) methodology to expand the number of active sequences after each selection cycles.

The construction of biological display libraries requires the introduction into a microorganism of the genetic information necessary for the peptide synthesis. For the construction of a random peptide display library it is necessary to synthesize pools of DNA fragments that are then inserted into specific vectors. The DNA fragments are chemically synthesized as a mixture of single-stranded degenerated oligonucleotides containing constant regions and one or more degenerated stretches of DNA. DNA consists of sequences of 4 different nucleotides and each trinucleotide codes for a corresponding amino acid. Because of the codon degeneracy, most of the amino acids are coded by more than one triplet. Since in fully degenerated oligonucleotides there is the possibility to introduce stop codons that will interrupt protein synthesis, the oligonucleotides are synthesized using different mixtures of nucleotides especially in the third position of each triplet. The DNA fragments to be cloned must be in a double-stranded form, at least at the end of each fragment. This is normally done by annealing short oligonucleotides to a complementary constant region inserted during the synthesis and by enzymatically completing the complementary DNA strand. After compatible ends are prepared by restriction enzyme digestion, the fragments are ligated into an appropriate vector and then introduced into the microorganism.

The ligand selection process is called Biopanning. The target molecule must be bound to a solid support, usually a microtiter plate or a small Petri dish. Less common alternative supports are magnetic particles, column with solid matrices, cells, mammalian organs. In a typical experiment, the number of phages that are incubated with the target corresponds to about 100 to 1000 times the complexity of the library. After the unbound clones are washed away, the bound ones are eluted by different methods, like low pH, high concentration of free target, direct infection of bacteria cells. The eluted phages are grown, purified and submitted to a new cycle of selection. Usually 3 to 4 rounds of selection are

sufficient, and the entire process can be completed in about a week. At the end, several clones are isolated and their DNA extracted and sequenced. The DNA portions coding for the peptides are translated into amino acids and the sequences compared. If a consensus sequence can be identified, the screening may have been successful. One or more peptides are chosen and chemically synthesized in order to verify their binding affinity, outside of the microorganism system.

Compared to chemical libraries, biological display libraries have several advantages and disadvantages. Some of the major advantages are the possibility to use a library for many different selection processes (even 100s), the easy propagation of the library and of the selected clones. The possibility to build larger size libraries is another advantage together with simple selection and sequencing procedures. On the contrary, a disadvantage is the fusion of peptides to a microorganism protein, and, therefore, the binding site can be extended to the fusion protein or the fusion protein may influence the peptide conformation.

#### Suggested readings

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- Lu, Z., Murray, K.S., Van Cleave, V., laVallie, E.R., Stahl, M.L., McCoy, J.M. (1995) *Biotechnology* 13, 366.
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- Smith, G.P. (1991) *Curr. Opin. in Biotechnol.* 2, 668.
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- Cwirla, S.E., Peters, E.A., Barrett, R.W., Dower, W.J. (1990) *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA* 87, 6378.
- McCafferty, J., Griffiths, A.D., Winter, G. Chiswell, D.J. (1990) *Nature* 348, 552.
- Markland, W. Roberts, B.L., Saxena, M.J. Guterman, S.K., Ladner, R.C. (1991) *Gene* 109, 13.
- Felici, F., Castagnoli L., Mustacchio, A., Jappelli, R., Cesareni, G. (1991) *J. Mol. Biol.* 222, 301.

# Robotics & Laboratory Automation

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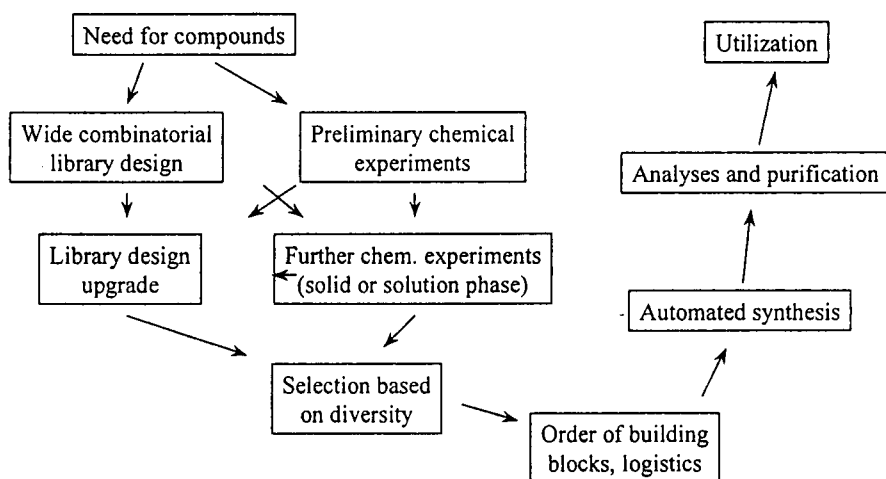
*greiner@Richter.hu*



## Introduction

- Combinatorial chemistry process
- Robotics and automation in general
- Automated processes
- Products show-case

## Combinatorial chemistry process



## Automation as such

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- Repeated actions - reason to consider automation
- 3 shift - high time to count on automation
- Accuracy and reliability is extremely important - automation has to be implemented
- One of the most important part of automation is standardising relevant instruments to ensure proper transfer processes
- Solid IT background is a must
- Targeted softwares are necessary

## Processes can be automated like

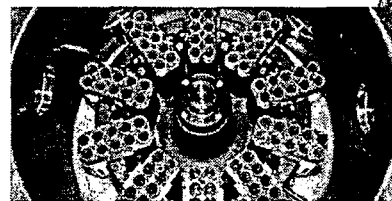
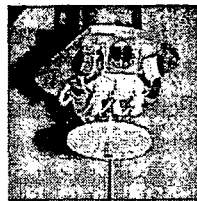
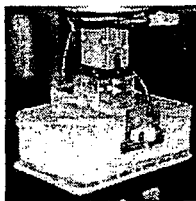
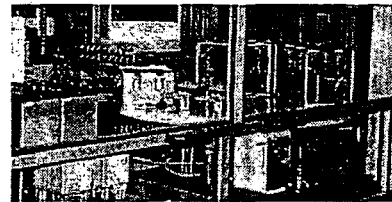
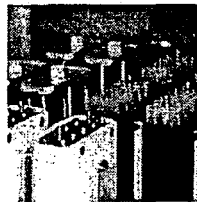
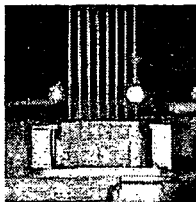
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- Order of materials (e-business), dissolving them
- Dosing
- Reaction
- Downstream process (liq.-liq. extraction)
- Evaporation
- Analyses, purification, quality control
- Standard solution preparation (for biological testing)

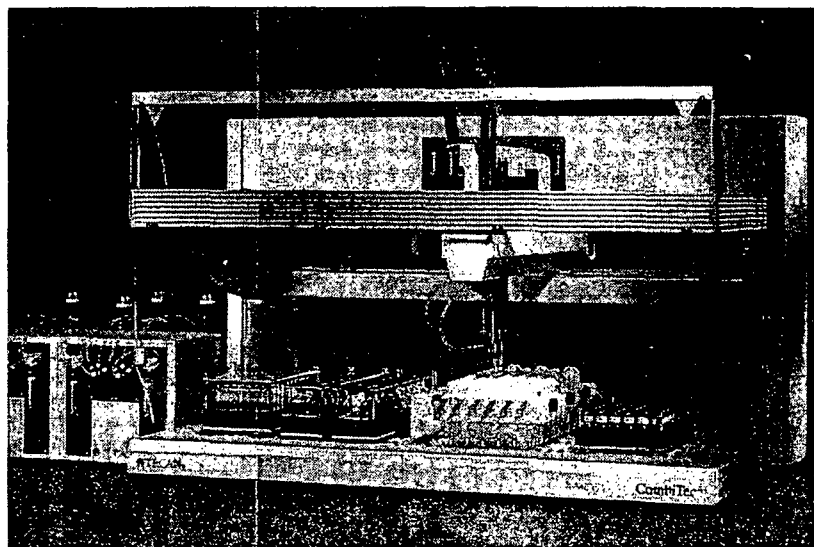
## Vendors

- Two main types of suppliers
  - Standardised equipment
  - Custom made systems (integrated equipment)
- It is not a marketing presentation!
- Quick shot about some product on the market
- Validity is limited (rapid development time)
- Experience is also limited due to limited access

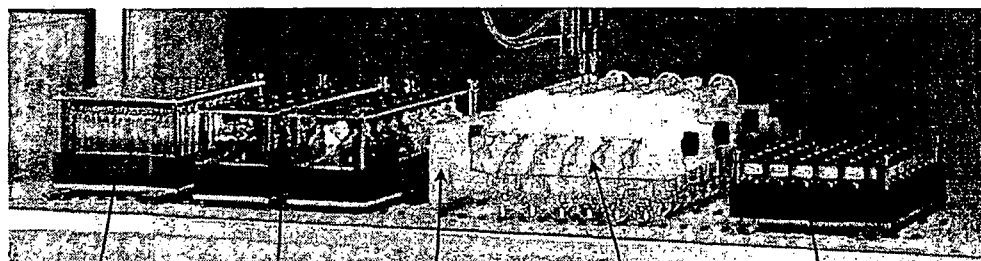
## accelab: arcossyn98



## Tecan: Combitec

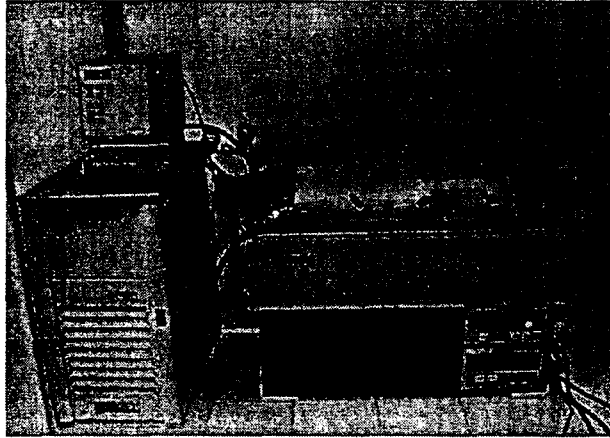
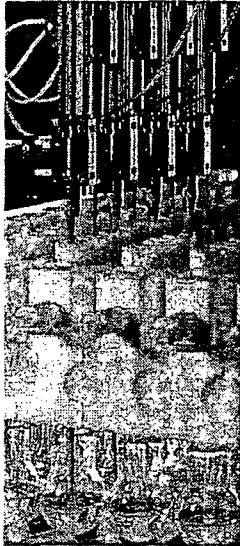


## Tecan: CombiTec

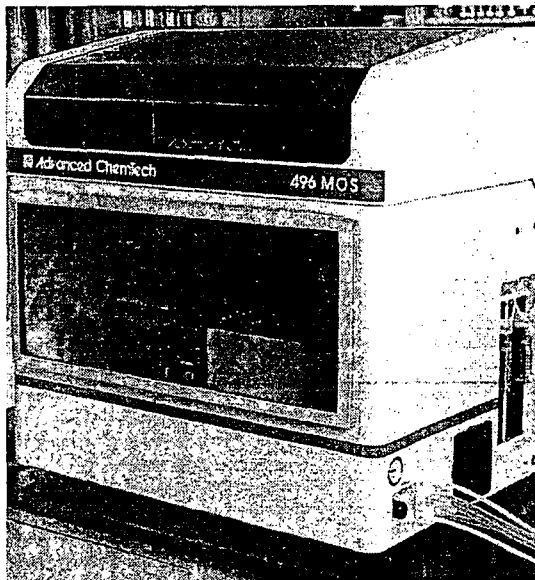


Building blocks    Reagents    Needle washer    Reaction block  
48 vessel    Products

## Tecan: CombiTec

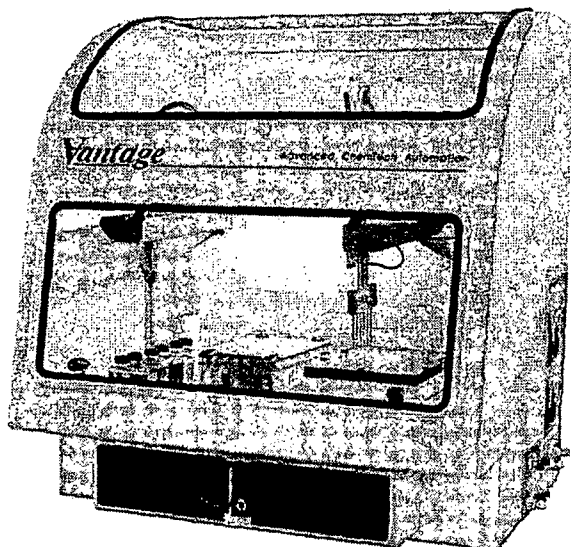


## Advanced ChemTech: 496 MOS



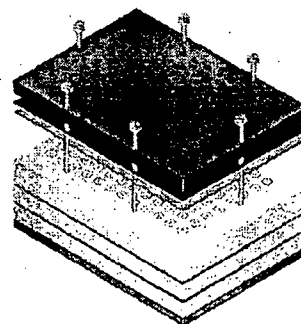
- 96 vessels
- bottom filtration
- one needle
- inert gas application
- shaker
- -70 - 150°C

## Advanced ChemTech: Vantage

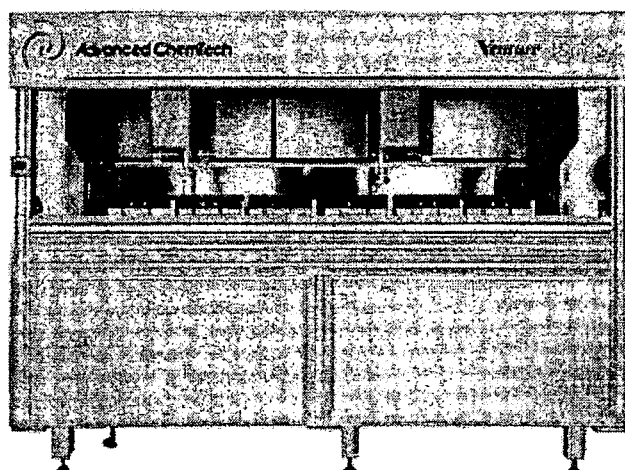


- 96 vessels
- bottom filtration
- 6+1 needle
- inert gas application
- shaker
- -70 - 150°C

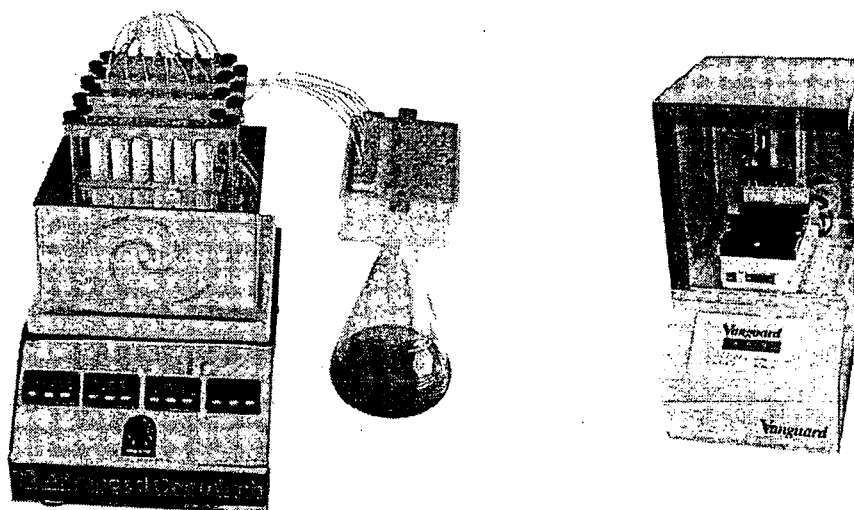
## Advanced ChemTech: Vantage



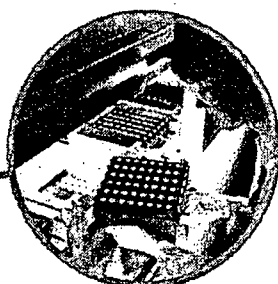
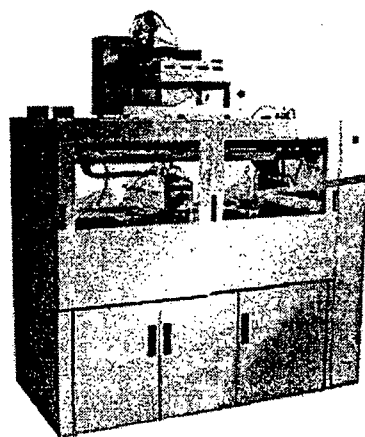
## Advanced ChemTech: Venture



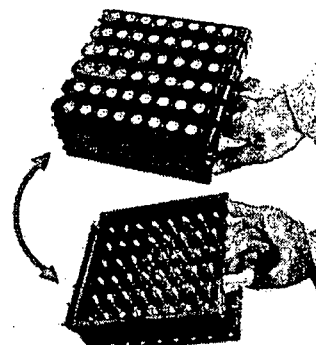
## Advanced ChemTech: LabMate & Vanguard



## Argonaut Technologies: Trident

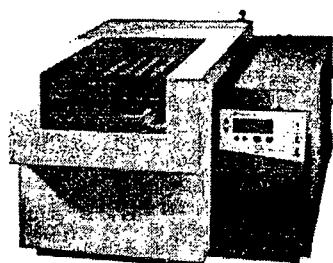


*Place one to four  
Reaction Cassettes  
on individual thermal-  
agitation units in the  
synthesizer.*



*Each Reaction Cassette  
holds 48 visible glass  
reaction vessels.*

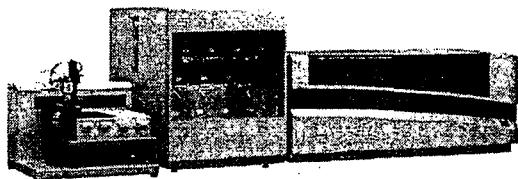
## Argonaut Technologies: Trident



- 48 vessels by cassettes (4 ml)
- top filtration (solution phase synthesis)
- Gilson dosing unit
- separate reaction unit is available
- -40 - 150°C



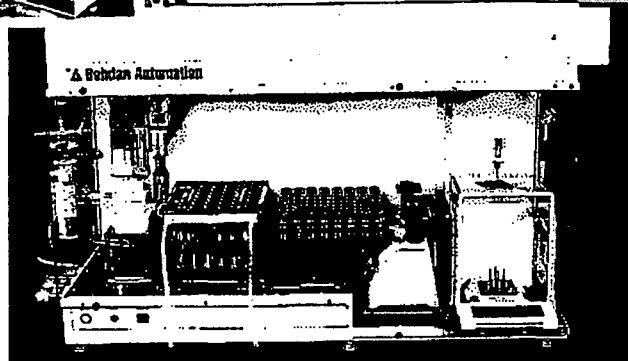
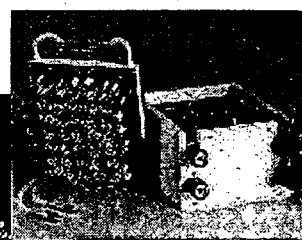
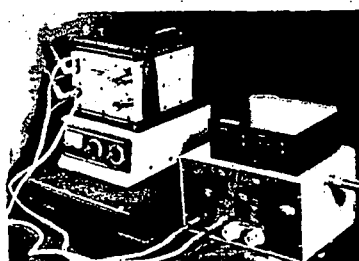
## Argonaut Technologies: Nautilus



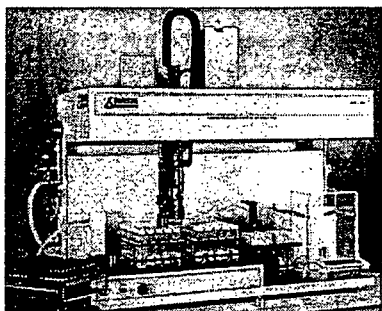
- 24 vessels
- top filtration

- Temperature control for each vessel ( $\pm 10^{\circ}\text{C}$ )
- for process optimisation
- $-40 - 150^{\circ}\text{C}$

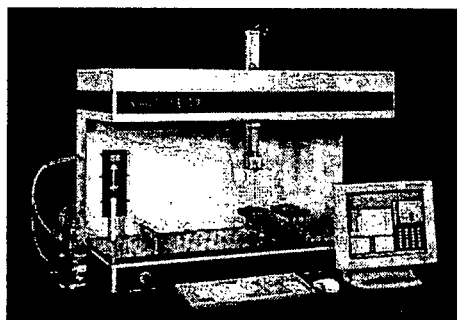
## Bohdan: Full range of appliances



## Bohdan: Full range of appliances

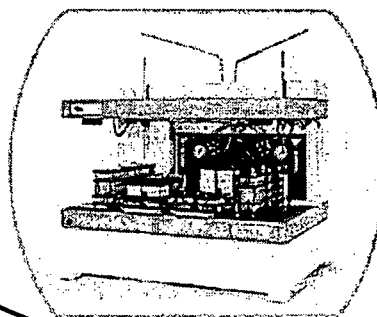
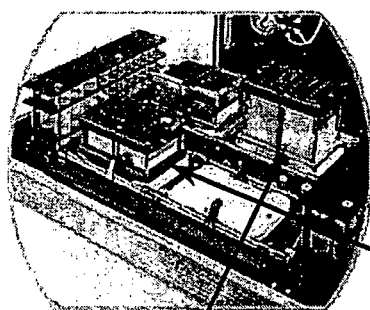


Reagent dissolving unit



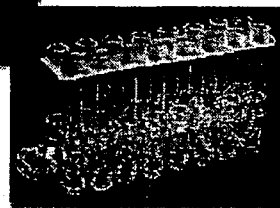
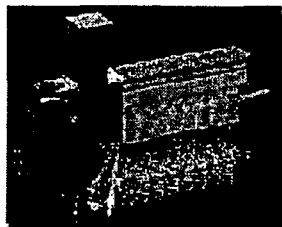
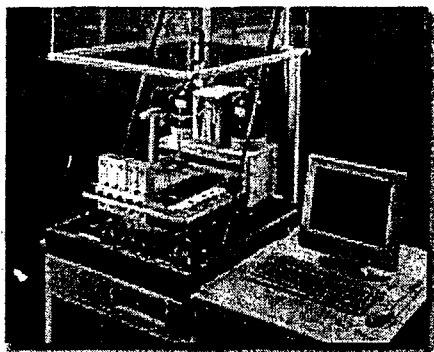
Liquid-liquid extraction

## Charybdis: Gemini



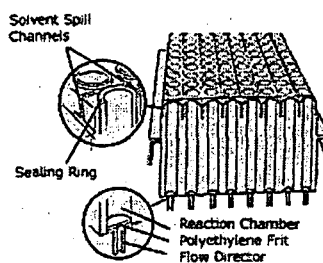
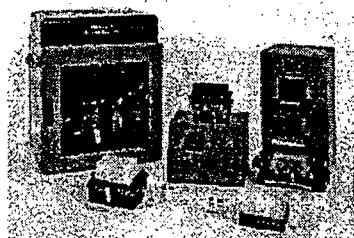
- 4 reaction blocks, max. 96 vessels (-40/150°C)
- or -80/180°C reaction block
- bottom filtration

## ChemSpeed: ASW2000



- 80 parallel reaction (-70/150°C) in glass vessels
- both solid and solution phase chemistry
- in situ cooling-heating-shaking

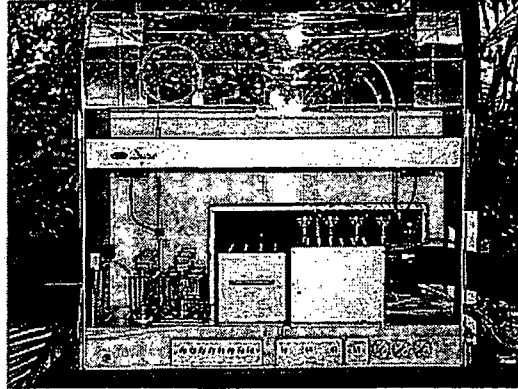
## Robbins: FlexChem



*Cutaway View of a  
FlexChem Multiple Synthesis Reactor*

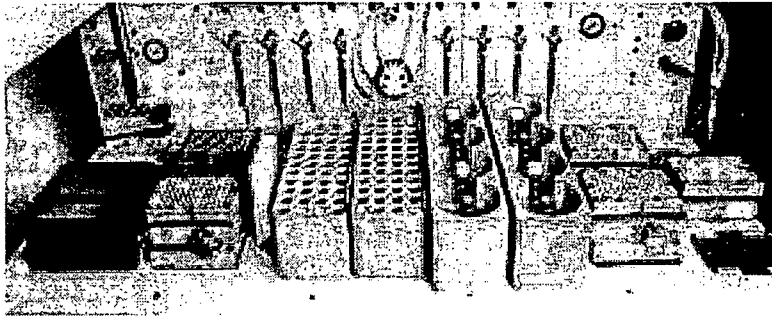
- 96 reaction vessels, separate cooling and heating
- bottom filtration

## MultiSynTech: Syro



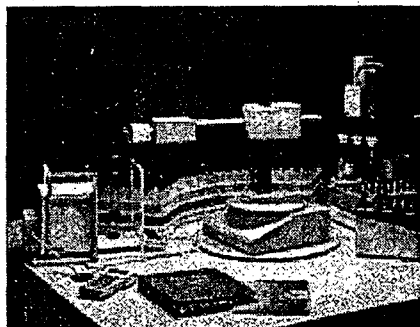
- special mixing (levitation)
- bottom filtration, two needles

## Zinsser: Sophas M



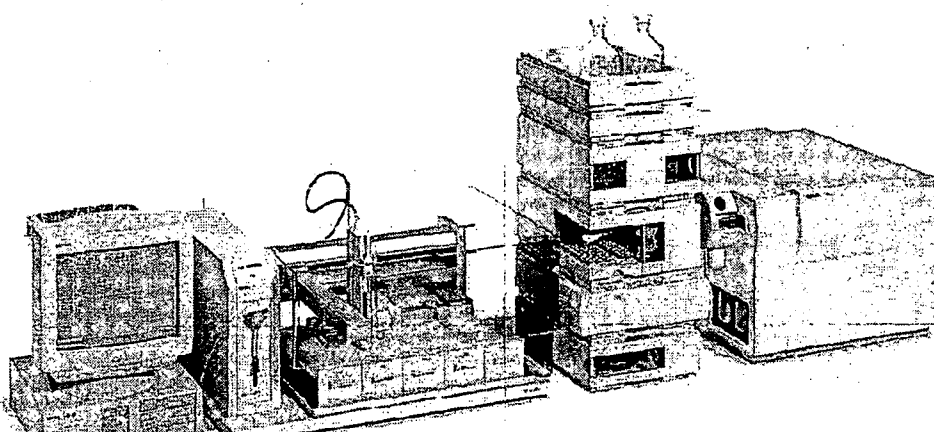
- max. 96 vessels
- top or bottom filtration
- 1-8 needles

## Zymark: Solution Phase Synthesis System (SPSS)

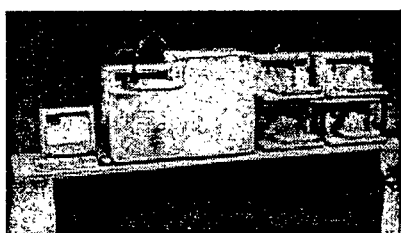
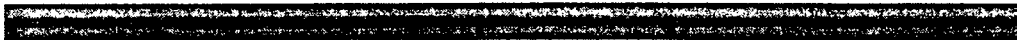


- weighing, reagent adding
- reaction performing (-30/150)
- cap screwing (on and off)
- filtration
- liquid-liquid extraction

## Agilent (earlier HP): HPLC/MS purification

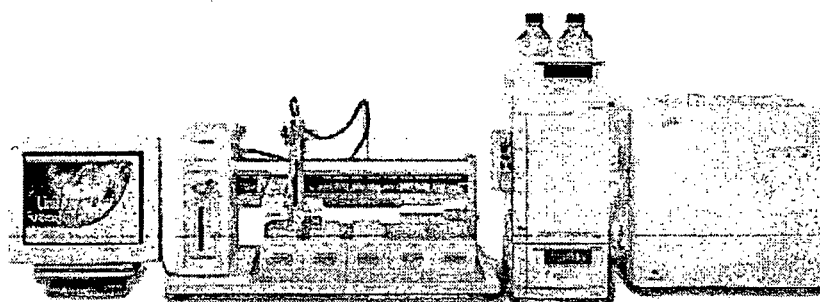


## Biotage: Parallelex

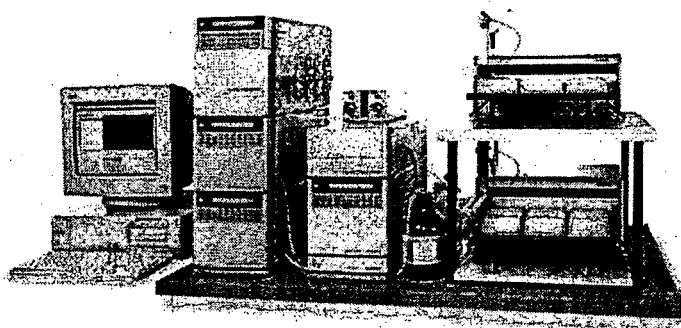


- 1-4 channel HPLC
- fully automated
- MS confirmation
- sample monitoring by software
- good throughput, quick purification

## Gilson: HPLC/MS system

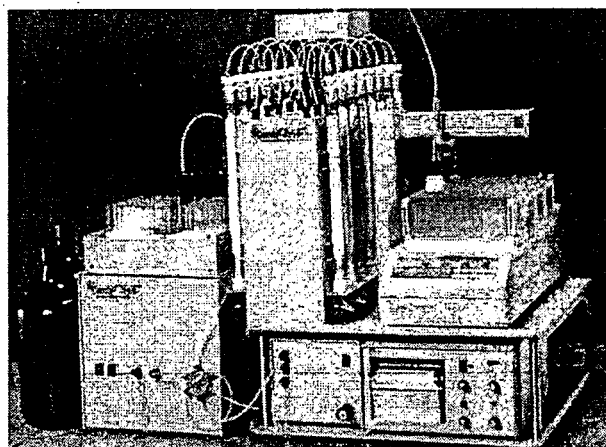


## Merck: HPLC/MS system

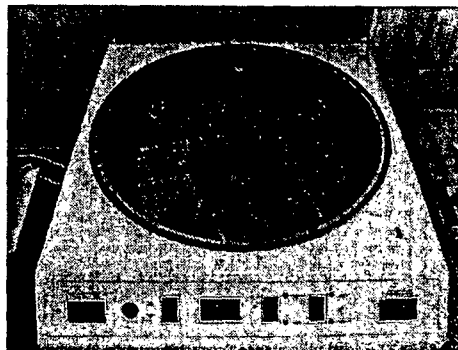


- Controlled both UV or MS detector

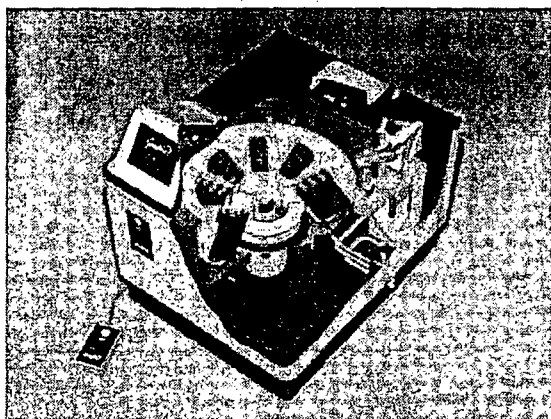
## ISCO: LC purification



## Savant: SpeedVac for evaporation



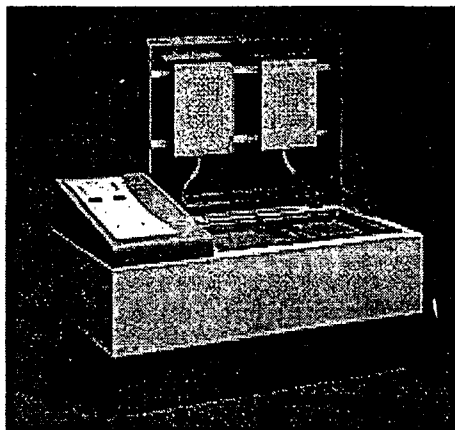
## GeneVac: Open Access Evaporator



- Special auto-balanced rotor
- Build in cryopump and solvent recovery system

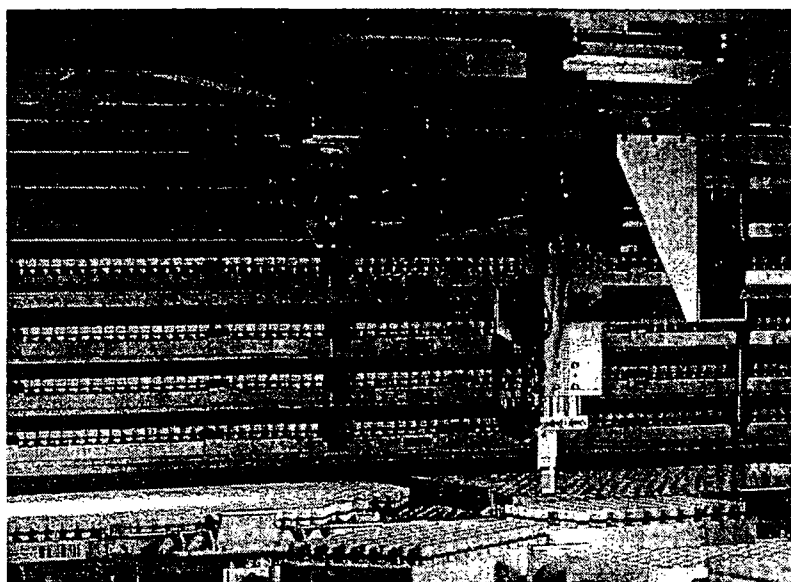


## Zymark: TurboVap 96



Continuous nitrogen flow increases evaporation using special gas jets

## Haystack (GSK)



# Combinatorial Process Research & Development

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## COMBINATORIAL PROCESS RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

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### Introduction:

The accelerated drug discovery and increasing outsourcing have increased the importance of the Process Research & Development (P R&D) in the pharmaceutical industry. Beside the obvious direct benefit of reducing manufacturing cost of the drugs, other useful applications were found for P R&D. Since combichem provide methodology and tools: labware, automation, software, and complete instrumentation, the automated P R&D brought a lot of results quickly.

### Discussion:

The lecture deals only with real combinatorial part of automated PR&D: process scouting and process optimization. In these stages vary large parameter (factorial) field should be mapped.

In order to be able to deal with this large factorial field one should combine the following features:

- Parallel synthesis reactors
- Liquid handlers
- Analysis
- Control software
- Design of experiments

Since temperature is a key factor in chemical reactions and properties beside the traditional isotherm block reactors, the manufacturers have developed machines with thermal zones or individual heating and cooling.

Integrated systems control the whole procedure from preparation of reactions till collecting the data from the analysis (mostly HPLC) detectors(s).

The control software is a key issue in these systems, since rational handling of limited resources might be a key issue in the success.

Design of experiments can substantially reduce the number of experiments, needed to find the optimum of a process.

The examples are collected to cover the whole range of the affected pharma and agro industry, from the discovery till the manufacturing of active substances. Different methods for optimum search are demonstrated.

# Combinatorial Chemistry in Biotechnology - A Case Study

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## COMBINATORIAL CHEMISTRY IN BIOTECHNOLOGY - A CASE STUDY

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Monoclonal antibodies are becoming an important class of therapeutic agents useful for the treatment of a vast array of diseases. Many monoclonals are waiting for FDA approval, and they represent almost 30 % of biotechnology derived drugs under development. Production of MAb's by hybridoma technology or transgenic animals can be easily scaled up, but still immunoglobulins purification from crude feedstocks poses several problems. Main difficulties are due to the low antibody concentration in cell culture supernatants or milk of transgenic animals and the high amounts of contaminating proteins. Purification by affinity chromatography of monoclonal antibodies for therapy is based on the use of protein A or protein G immobilized on appropriate supports [1], as a first step to capture and concentrate the immunoglobulin from diluted feedstocks. These two proteins, which bind to the constant portion of the immunoglobulins, and so can be used to purify the majority of antibodies, are obtained from microorganisms or genetically modified bacteria, through complex and expensive procedures, requiring in addition time consuming analytical controls to check for the presence of contaminants such as viruses, pyrogens, or DNA fragments, which may affect the safety of the purified MAb for clinical purposes. Given the importance of the application of MAb's for therapy, and given the role of the purification process in assuring the quality, consistency and safety of the products, it is clear that the availability of synthetic ligands able to mimic protein A or G in the purification of antibodies is of remarkable industrial importance, since may lead to less expensive production costs and reduced risks of contamination. A synthetic ligand [Protein A Mimetic, PAM], able to mimic protein A in the recognition of the immunoglobulin Fc portion, has been previously identified in our laboratory through the synthesis and screening of multimeric combinatorial peptide libraries [2]. Its applicability in affinity chromatography for the downstream processing of antibodies has been fully characterized, examining the specificity and selectivity for polyclonal and monoclonal IgG derived from different sources. Ligand specificity is broader than protein A, since IgG derived from human, cow, horse, pig, mouse, rat, rabbit, goat, and sheep sera [3], as well as IgY derived from egg yolk [4], are efficiently purified on PAM-affinity columns. Adsorbed antibodies are conveniently eluted by a buffer change to 0.1 M acetic acid or 0.1 M sodium bicarbonate pH 9 with full retention of immunological properties. Monoclonal antibodies deriving from cell culture supernatants or ascitic fluids are also conveniently purified on PAM-affinity columns, even from very diluted samples. The ligand is useful not only for IgG and IgY purification from different sources, but also for IgM [5], IgA [6], and IgE [7] isolation from sera or crude cell supernatants.

Affinity constant for PAM:IgG interaction is 0.3  $\mu$ M, as determined by plasmon resonance experiments. Antibody purity after affinity purification is close to 95 %, as determined by densitometric scanning of SDS-PAGE gels of purified fractions, and maximal column capacity reaches 30 mg Ig/ml support under optimized conditions. Validation of antibody affinity purification processes for therapeutic use, a very complex, laborious, and costly procedure, is going to be simplified by the use of PAM, which could reduce considerably the presence of biological contaminants in the purified preparation, a very recurrent

problem when using recombinant or extractive biomolecules as affinity ligands. In vivo toxicity studies in mice indicate a ligand oral toxicity >2000 mg/kg, while intravenous toxicity is close to 150 mg/kg [8]. Additional studies have suggested that PAM, given its ability to interfere with Protein A/immunoglobulin interaction, may find applications also as a novel therapeutic agent.

Protein A is the bacterial receptor for IgG, and this protein binds to IgG in a site partially overlapping with that of immunoglobulin receptors (FcγR). In further studies, a PAM derivative stable to proteolysis, prepared by replacing the natural amino acids with the corresponding D analogues, has shown to inhibit IgG/ FcγR in vitro in a dose dependent manner. Inhibition of FcγR is important in a wide range of diseases, such as Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE). Administration of this derivative to MRL/lpr mice, the animal model to study SLE, has resulted in a remarkable enhancement of the survival rate (80 %) compared to placebo treated animals (10 %) and the significant reduction of proteinuria, the typical clinical sign associated to SLE. Kidney histological examination of treated animals has confirmed the preservation of tissue integrity and a remarkable reduction of immune-complexes deposition [8]. These results have confirmed the role of Fcγ receptors in SLE pathogenesis opening new perspectives for the development of new drugs for treating autoimmune disorders.

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- 3] Fassina, G., Verdoliva, A., Palombo, G., Ruvo, M., and Cassani, G., Immunoglobulin specificity of TG 19318: A novel synthetic ligand for antibody affinity purification. *J. Mol. Recogn.* 11 (1998) 128-133.
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- 7] Palombo, G., Rossi, M., Cassani, G., and Fassina, G. Affinity purification of mouse monoclonal IgE using a protein A mimetic ligand [TG 19318] immobilized on solid supports. *J. Molec. Recogn.*, 11 (1998) 247-249.
- 8] Marino, M., Ruvo, M., De Falco, S., and Fassina, G.; Prevention of Systemic Lupus Erythematosus in MRL/lpr mice by administration of an immunoglobulin binding peptide. *Nat. Biotechnology* 18 (2000) 735-739.

## BIOTECH DRUGS APPROVED FOR SALE AND/OR CURRENTLY IN CLINICAL TRIALS

**250 TOTAL DRUGS (100%)**

STATUS	NUMBER OF DRUGS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
DRUGS APPROVED	23	9
PLA <sub>1</sub> PENDING	13	5
PHASE III	53	21
PHASE II	72	29
PHASE I	106	42

**27% OF TOTAL BIOTECHNOLOGY DRUGS ARE  
MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES (68 DRUGS)**



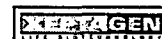
## MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES FOR THERAPY

### PRODUCTION

- HYBRIDOMA TECHNOLOGY
- TRANSGENIC ANIMALS

### PURIFICATION

- IONIC EXCHANGE
- HYDROPHOBIC INTERACTION
- GEL FILTRATION
- AFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY



## PROTEIN A & G AFFINITY COLUMNS FOR mAb PURIFICATION: MAIN PROBLEMS

- BIOLOGICAL CONTAMINATION
- COLUMN LEAKAGE
- COST OF LIGAND
- SANITATION
- PROCESS VALIDATION
- IgG RESTRICTION

**XERTAGEN**  
THE PROFESSIONAL

## PAM

### IDENTIFICATION APPROACH

- GENERATION OF HIGHLY DIVERSIFIED COMBINATORIAL LIBRARIES "MULTIMERIC LIBRARIES"
- SCREENING ASSAY ON MICROTITER ELISA PLATES BY INHIBITION OF PROTEIN A / IgG INTERACTION

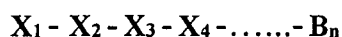
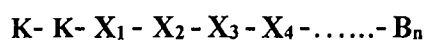
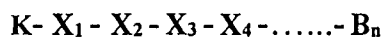
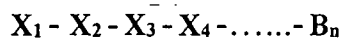
**XERTAGEN**  
THE PROFESSIONAL



## LIBRARIES

### CHEMICAL DIVERSITY MULTIMERIC LIBRARIES

Given a tetrameric amino acid sequence composed of n residues



The total number of different peptides  $N_T$  equals to:

$$N_T = A^n$$

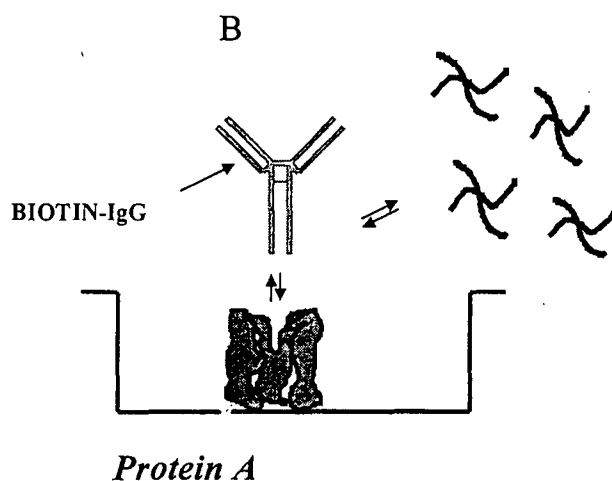
A: number of building blocks

The library has been prepared applying the Portioning-Mixing method to obtain homogeneous molecules



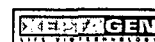
## PAM IDENTIFICATION

### CHEMICAL LIBRARY SCREENING ASSAY

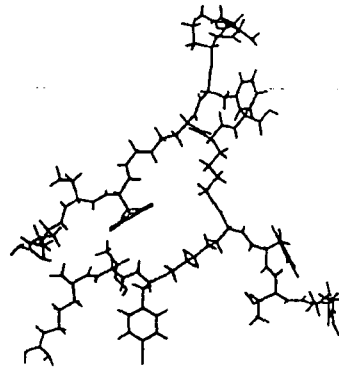
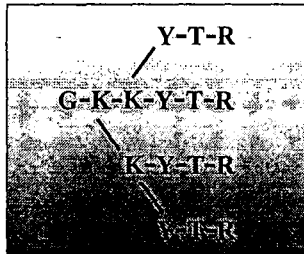


TETRAMERIC TRIPEPTIDE  
LIBRARY USING 18  
NATURAL AMINOACIDS  
(CYS TRP OMITTED)

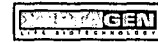
Fassina, Verdoliva, Odierna, Ruvo, Cassani, (1996) *J. Mol. Rec.* 9:564-569



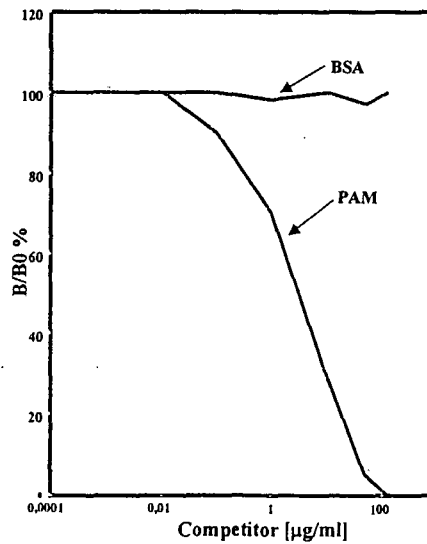
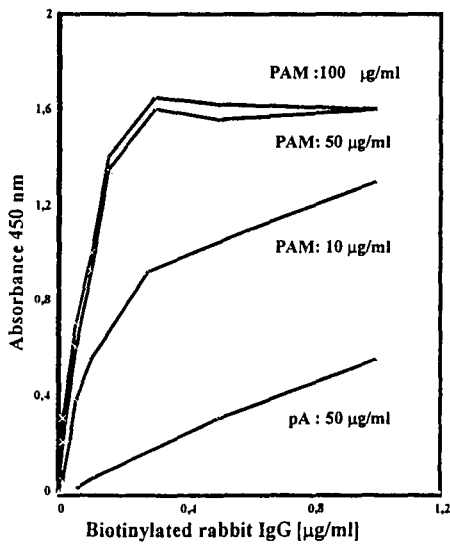
## PAM (PROTEIN A MIMETIC)



*M.W.:* 2141 amu  
*SOLUBILITY:* >100 mg/ml (water)  
*A.A. COMPOSITION:* G (1), K (3), Y (4), T (4), R (4)



### BINDING OF BIOTINYLATED RABBIT ANTIBODIES TO IMMOBILIZED PAM

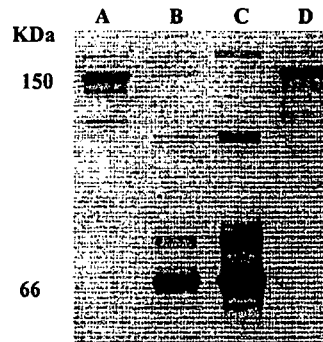


## AFFINITY PURIFICATION OF mAb 7H3 (mouse IgG 1k) FROM CELL CULTURE SUPERNATANTS ON PAM-EMPHAZE

### CHROMATOGRAPHIC CONDITIONS:

**COLUMN VOLUME:** 1 ml  
**PAM LOADING:** 10 mg/ml  
**SAMPLE VOLUME:** 40 ml  
**mAb CONCENTRATION:** 100µg/ml  
**BINDING BUFFER:** 50 mM BIS-TRIS pH 6.5  
**ELUTION BUFFER:** 0.1 M ACETIC ACID  
**FLOW RATE:** 1ml/min  
**mAb RECOVERY:** 95%  
**mAb PURITY:** 90%

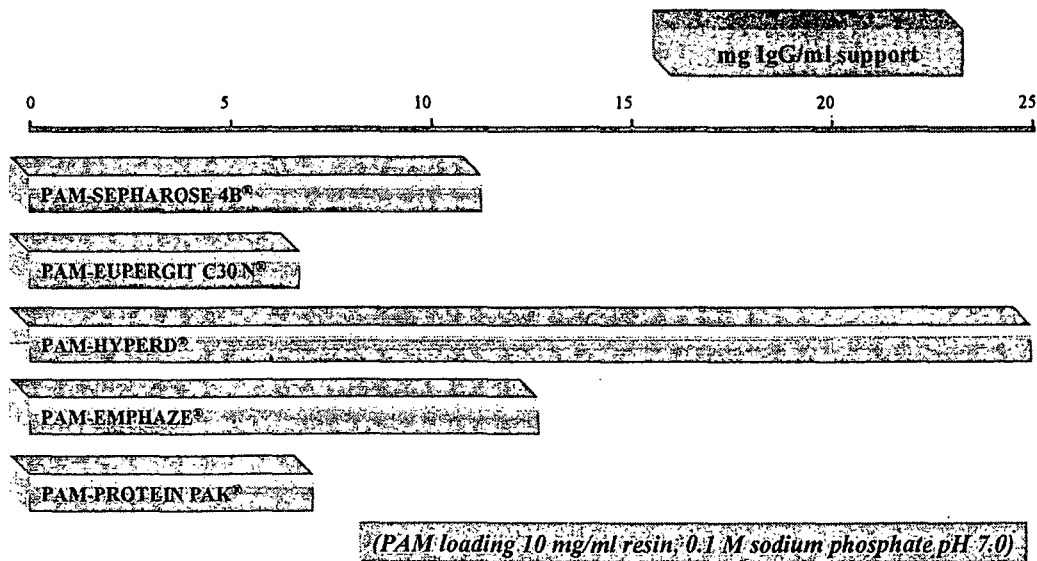
### SDS-PAGE ANALYSIS



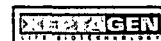
**A.** mAb 7H3 (protein A)  
**B.** CELL CULTURE SN  
**C.** UNBOUND  
**D.** BOUND



## RABBIT IgG BINDING CAPACITY OF PAM -AFFINITY COLUMN

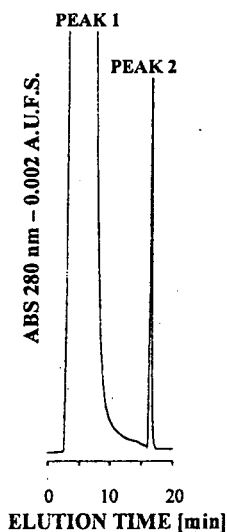


Fassina, G., Verdoliva, A., Palombo, G., Ruvo, M., and Cassani, G. *J. Mol. Recognit.* (1998) 11:128-133

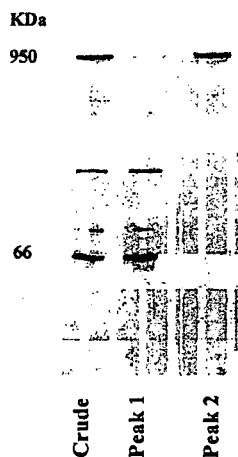


## PURIFICATION OF MURINE IgM mAb FROM ASCITIC FLUID ON PAM/CH-Sepharose-4B

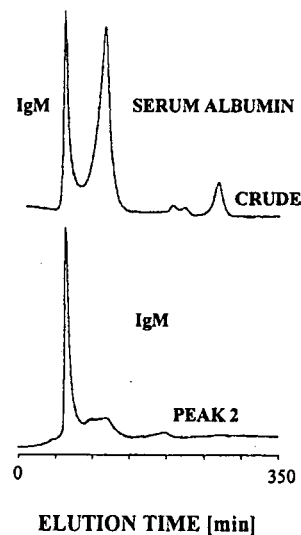
### AFFINITY PURIFICATION



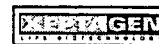
### SDS-PAGE ANALYSIS



### GEL FILTRATION ANALYSIS

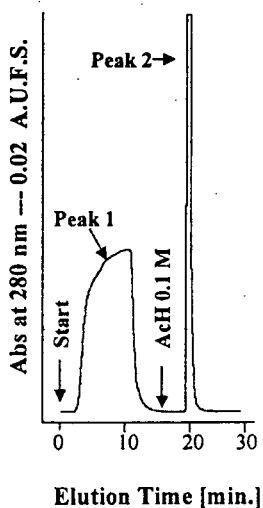


Palombo, G., Verdoliva, A., and Fassina, G. (1998) *J. Chrom. B*, 715:137-145.

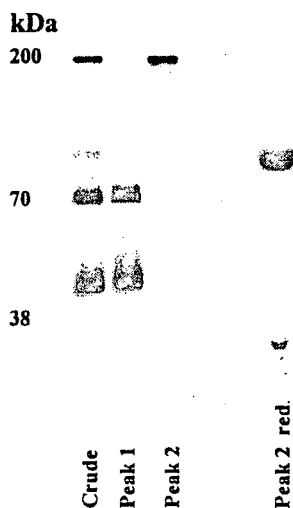


## AFFINITY PURIFICATION OF IgY FROM CHICKEN EGG YOLK ON PAM-Emphaze

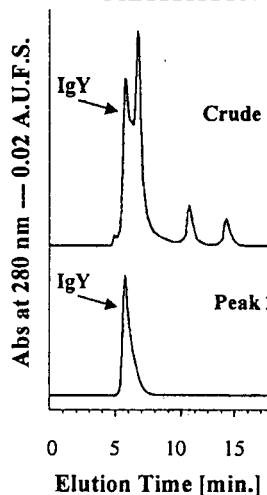
### AFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY



### SDS-PAGE



### GEL FILTRATION

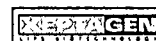


Verdoliva, A., Basile, G., and Fassina, G. (2000) *J. Chrom. B*, 749: 233-242

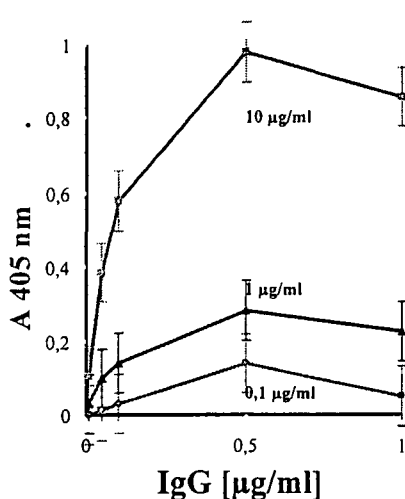


## PAM CHROMATOGRAPHIC FEATURES

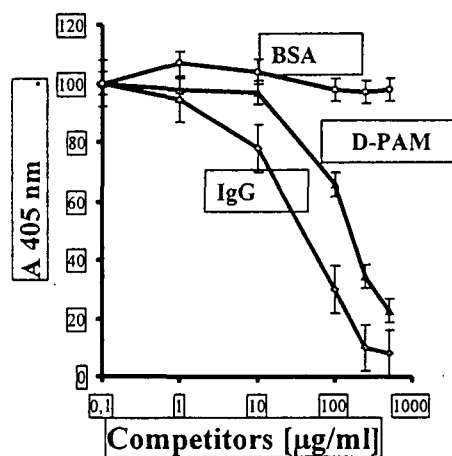
- SYNTHETIC PRODUCT, NO BIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS
- LOW PRODUCTION COST AT LARGE SCALE
- STABLE TO SANITISING AND DENATURING AGENTS (NaOH)
- CAPACITY UP TO 25 mg IgG/ml SUPPORT (HYPERD®, BIOSEpra)
- EASY IMMOBILIZATION ON AFFINITY MATRICES
- IMMUNOGLOBULINS ADSORPTION AT pH 5.0-7.0
- IMMUNOGLOBULINS DESORPTION AT pH 3.0 OR pH 9.0
- USEFUL FOR IgG, IgM, IgA, IgE AND IgD PURIFICATION
- LOW TOXICITY (LD<sub>50</sub> >2000 mg/kg OS, 150 mg/kg i.v.)



**Binding of Biotinylated hIgG  
to various amount of U937  
FcγRs**



**Inhibition of Biotinylated  
hIgG/U937 FcγRs Interaction**

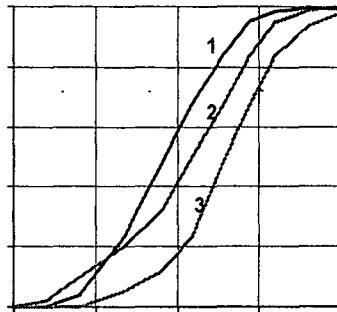


# Lupus Erythematosus: experimental model



MRL/lpr mouse strain

incidence (%)



weeks

1. Immune complexes deposition
2. Multiple autoantibodies anti-double stranded DNA and histon
3. Proteinuria



# Molecular Diversity in Drug Discovery: A Critical Assessment

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## MOLECULAR DIVERSITY IN DRUG DISCOVERY: A CRITICAL ASSESSMENT

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This Lecture will at first examine the phases of modern drug discovery and see where diversity [1,2] and combinatorial chemistry [3-6] are going to play a major role (Figure 1). Target identification and target validation are now crucial milestones, as the unraveling of the human genome is providing thousands of uncharacterized genes as potential targets for the cure of important diseases. Research laboratories able to identify and validate targets better and faster than competitors will be significantly advantaged, and combinatorial approaches and tools will provide relevant benefits at this stage [7]; nevertheless, the full potential of chemical diversity and combinatorial libraries is evident in the following three steps of the process (Figure 1).

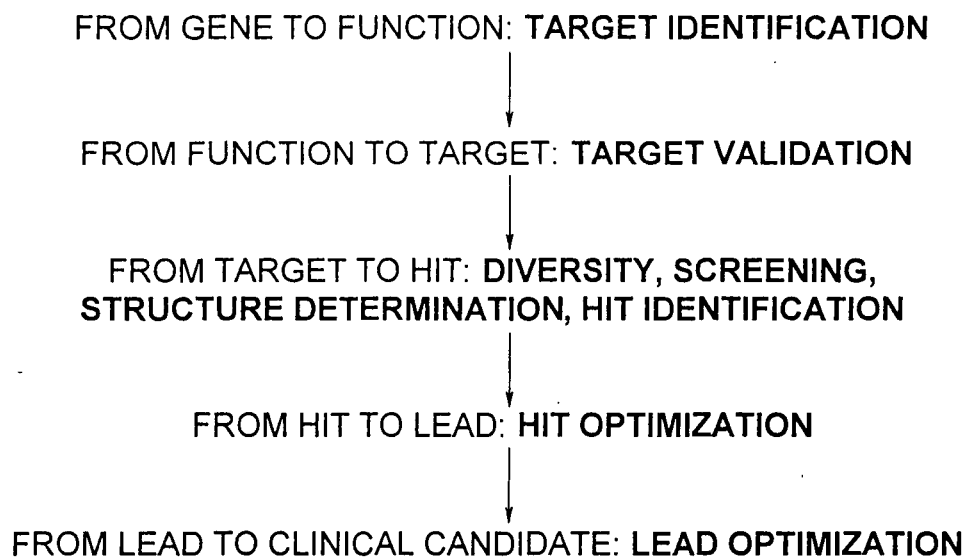


Figure 1. Modern drug discovery: The critical steps.

Traditionally the accent in Drug Discovery was put on the throughput, i.e. on the availability of large diversity collections (>>100K), of high-throughput robotics for the handling and the screening of the diversity, and of high-throughput analytical tools for the determination of the structure(s) and of the quality of active compounds. As for the collections, four major sources of compounds are available:

- Single compounds (externally acquired or in house prepared);
- Natural products from living organisms;
- Discrete libraries (parallel synthesis, individual compounds);
- Pool libraries (mix and split synthesis, mixtures).

Each source has its advantages and disadvantages, and will be thoroughly examined during the Lecture. Several key messages summarize the current tendencies related to chemical diversity and screening in hit identification:

•



- 
- A collection must contain subsets from all diversity sources, and must evolve by acquisition/synthesis/isolation of novel, relevant individuals or libraries;
- Large pool primary libraries are becoming less popular;
- Medium-small, high quality, modular discrete libraries are increasingly popular;
- Libraries inspired by natural products' complex structures are increasingly popular, especially concerning the so-called chemical genetics approach [8,9].

The second part of this Lecture will present three recent examples referring to lead discovery and lead optimization. The first covers the synthesis of so called "activity profiling libraries", used to determine the nature of proteases in in vitro and in vivo assays and to validate their relevance as targets in Drug Discovery [10]. The second covers modular libraries in solution derived from a common chalcone library [11]. The third [12] reports a high quality solid phase pool library of complex, natural products-like compounds obtained from high quality and yield chemical transformations.

### References

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- [12] D.S. Tan, M.A. Foley, B.R. Stockwell, M.D. Shair and S.L. Schreiber, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **121**, 9073-9087 (1999).

# Solid Phase Synthesis - An Overview

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## Talk Overview

- Introduction and definitions of combinatorial chemistry
- Literature references
- Needs for solid phase chemistry
- Manufacture of the resin beads
- Linkers for solid phase chemistry
- Resins in solution phase chemistry
- Analog resins
- Suppliers for resins

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## Introductions and Definitions of Combinatorial Chemistry

### Background reading

- Solid Phase Organic Synthesis: Anthony Czarnik Ed; Volume One; Wiley
- Combinatorial Chemistry: Nicholas Terret Ed.; Oxford Chemistry Masters
- Combinatorial Chemistry: A Practical Approach, Hicham Fenniri Ed.; Oxford University Press
- Solid-Phase Synthesis and Combinatorial Technologies Pierfausto Seneci Ed.; Wiley
- Organic Synthesis on Solid Phase: Supports, Linkers, Reactions Florencio Zaragoza Dorwald Ed.; Wiley-VCH

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## Background reading

- Solid Supported Combinatorial and Parallel Synthesis of Small Molecular Weight Compound Libraries Daniel Obrecht and Jose M. Villalgordo Eds. Pergamon (Tetrahedron Org. Chem. Ser. Vol 17)
- Combinatorial Chemistry and Technology Principles, Methods and Applications Stanislav Miertus and Giorgio Fassina Eds:Marcel Dekker
- Solid Phase Synthesis: Steven Kates and Fernando Albericio Eds. Marcel Deckker
- Combinatorial Chemistry and Molecular Diversity in Drug Discovery Eric M. Gordon and James F. Kerwin Jr. Eds: Wiley

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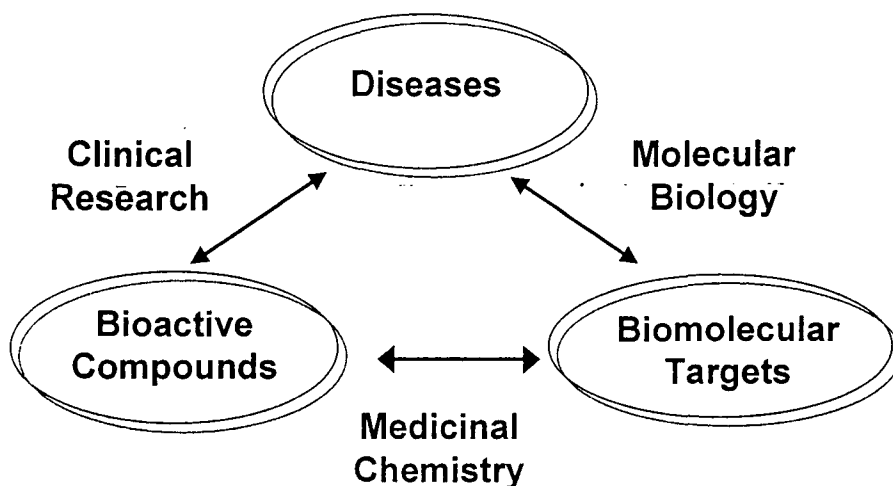
## Relevant websites

- [www.5z.com](http://www.5z.com)
- [www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org)
- [www.combichem.net](http://www.combichem.net)
- [www.biospace.com](http://www.biospace.com)
- [www.bioworld.com](http://www.bioworld.com)
- [www.drugdiscoveryonline.com](http://www.drugdiscoveryonline.com)
- [www.spoc.cc](http://www.spoc.cc)

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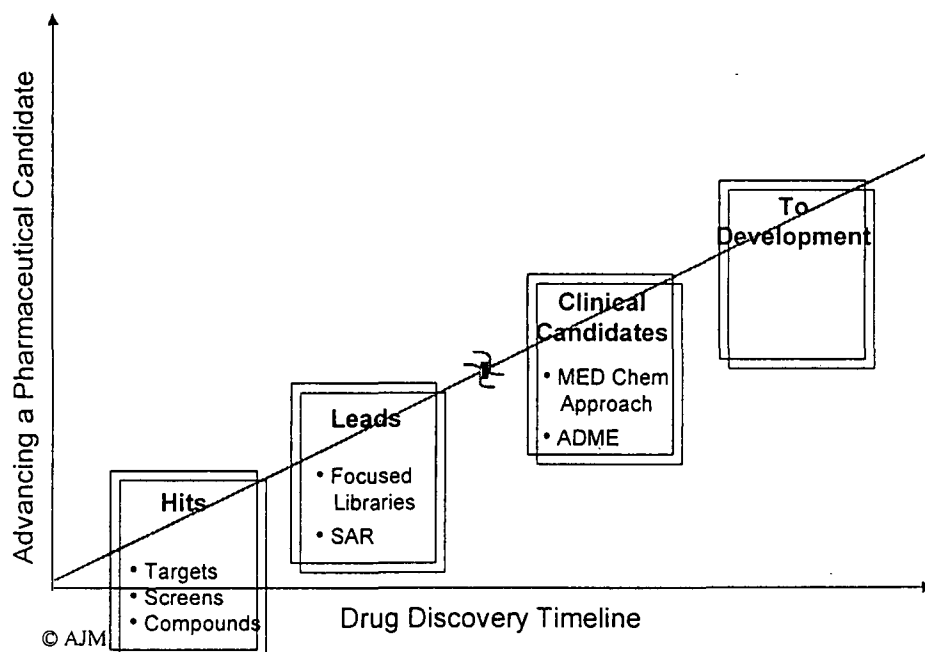
## Medicinal Chemistry Based Approach



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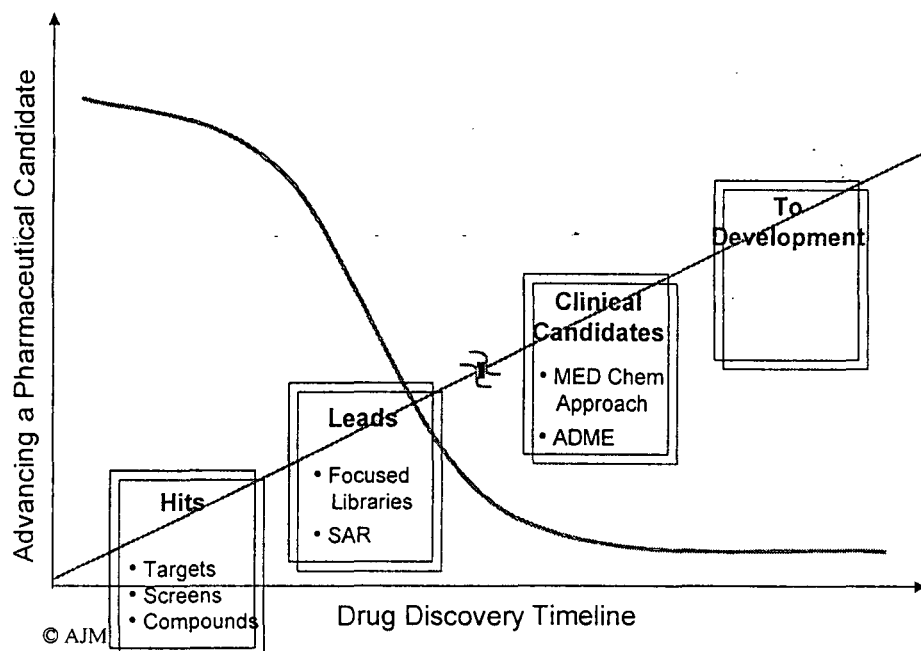
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## Value of a Compound



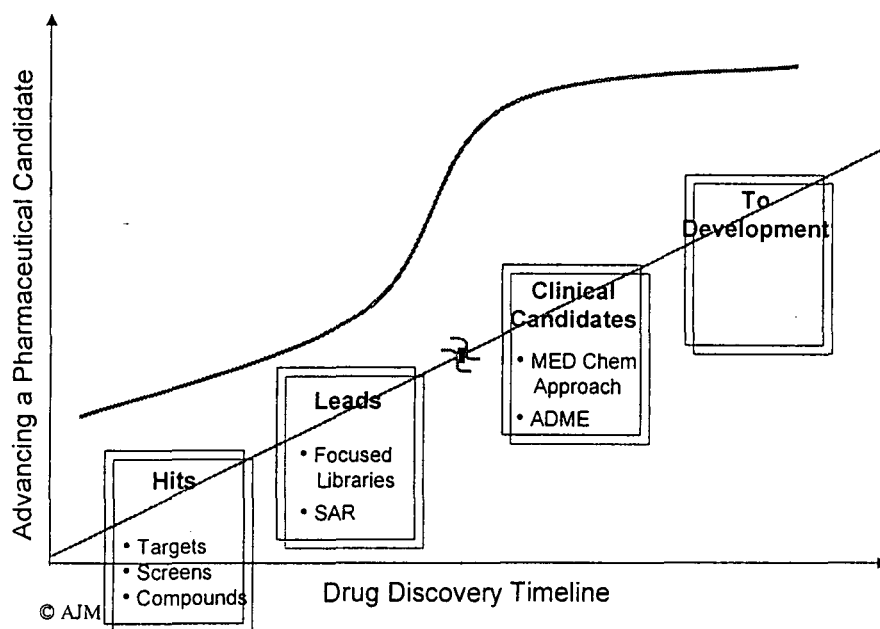
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## Need for Low Cost per Compound



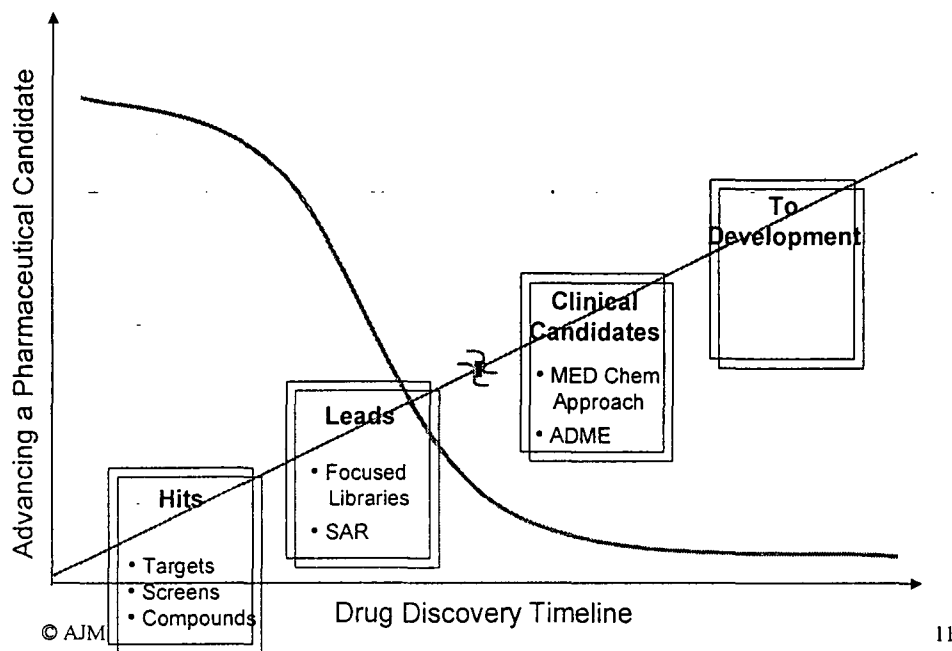
9

## Quality of the Compounds



10

## Need for High Throughput



## What is Combinatorial Chemistry?

It is a method which encompasses many strategies and processes for rapid synthesis of large or organized collection of compound called libraries

Libraries are intentionally created collections of differing molecules that may be screened for sets of pre-selected criteria

## Combinatorial Chemistry process

- **Library Design** (Medicinal Chemistry, Informatics, Computational Chemistry, Molecular Modeling)
- **Building Block Selection** (Inventory supply, Diversity measurement, Medicinal Chemistry)
- **Chemical Rehearsal** (Building Blocks, Synthesis technique, Automation, Linker technology, Bead handling, Informatics, Solid Phase chemistry)
- **Library Synthesis** (Analytical chemistry, Solid phase chemistry, Automation, Organic chemistry)

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## Combinatorial Chemistry process

- **Biological Screening** (Protein expression, Assay development, Biochemistry, Automation-robotics, Informatics, Imaging Technology)
- **Structure Elucidation** (Microchemistry, Derivatisation, Analytical Chemistry)
- **Hit Confirmation** (Organic serial synthesis, Automated parallel synthesis, Individual assays)
- **Interpretation** ( Informatics, Computational chemistry, Molecular modeling, Medicinal Chemistry)

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## Kinds of Libraries: Discovery

- Lead Discovery:
  - Mainly used for broad screening
  - Large library size
  - Broad structural diversity
  - Many building blocks used
  - No specific structural goal
  - Undefined order of combination

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## Kinds of Libraries: Focussed

- Lead Optimization:
  - Moderate Library size
  - Used for chemical analoging
  - Narrow structural diversity
  - Specific structural role
  - Specific retro building blocks
  - Specific order of combination

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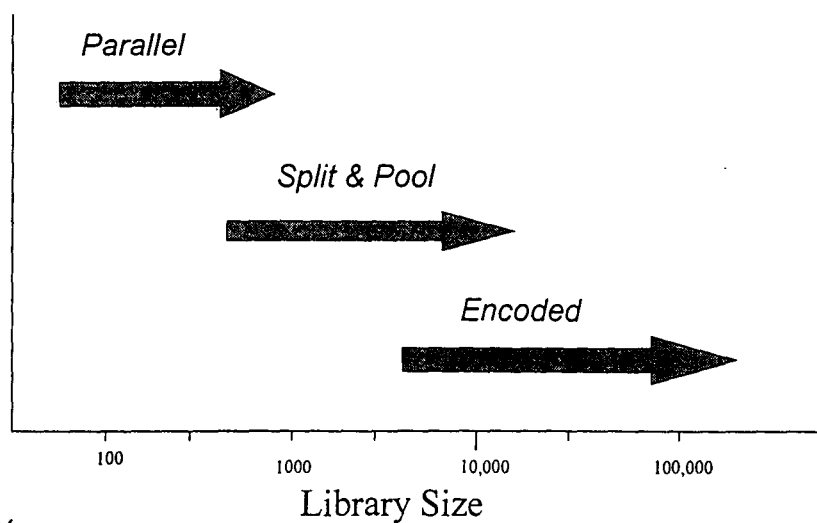
## Synthesis Techniques

- Solution phase
  - Parallel method
- Solid Phase
  - Split and Pool
  - Parallel Synthesis
  - Directed Sorting

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## Synthesis formats



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## Solution phase synthesis: Features

- Yields congeneric sets of compounds in SAR ordered arrays
- In principle, any chemistry and any reaction can be employed, including complex organometallic reagents, bio-catalysis, etc
- Minimal development effort is needed to “combinatorialize” a viable synthetic reaction
- Greater range of temperature accessible, e.g.  $-20^{\circ}$  to  $+150^{\circ}$
- Some degree of in-process control is possible (TLC, HPLC)
- Identity is keyed to a location (it is where you put it)

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## Solution phase synthesis: Limitations

- Identity is keyed to a location (it stays where you put it)
- Cannot use mass action to drive reactions to completion, unless reagents are volatile
- Separation of products from co-products, reagents and inorganic salts is difficult
- Purity of products deteriorates rapidly in multi-step syntheses
- Massive investment in laboratory automation is needed for “big library” operation. e.g. Myriad system

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## Solid Phase Synthesis: Features

- Ideally suited to split-and-pool amplification
- Excess reagents, co-products, salts are readily removed at each stage by simple washing
- Affords access to “big library” operations with modest capital investment
- Tagging techniques allow free movement/transfer of in-process materials without loss of identity

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## Solid Phase Synthesis: Limitations

- Relatively small proportion of synthetic reactions adapted to solid phase methods
- Development of a “new” reaction can be long and complicated because tethering and cleavage strategies must be devised and perfected
- Library compounds tend to have “navels”
- Incompatible with solid reagents and catalysts ( $\text{MnO}_2$ , Pd/C)
- Resins and linkers can add substantial material costs
- Large scale re-synthesis of bioactive library members may not be straightforward

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## Solid Phase Synthesis Reports

- Solid Phase Synthesis of Peptides: Merrifield R. B. *JACS* **85** 2149-54 (1963) (Nobel Prize 1984)
- First Report of Combinatorial Chemistry (Mimotope strategy) Geysen H. M. et al *PNAS* **91** 3998-4002 (1984)
- Split - and - Pool Method Furka A. et al *14th Congress Biochem Prague* 1988 pp 47, *Int J Pept Protein Res.* 1991, **37**, 487
- Multiple peptide synthesis using "Tea bags": Houghten R.A. *PNAS* **82** 5131-5135 (1985)

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## Literature Review

- **Molecular Diversity**  
obtained from natural product: Hylands P.J. and Nisbet L. *J. Ann. Rep. Med. Chem.* **26** 259-269 (1991)  
or from Peptides  
Dover W.J. and Fodor, S.P.A. *J. Ann. Rep. Med. Chem.* **26** 271-280 (1991)
- **Early reviews barely mentioned Organic Chemistry:**  
Pavia M.R. et al *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Ltr.* **3** 387-396 (1993)  
Moos W.H. et al *Ann. Rep. Med. Chem* **28** 315-324 (1993)
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Peptide: Gallop M.A. et al *J. Med. Chem.* **37** 1233 (1994)  
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## Reviews: 1996-1997

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- Plunkett, M.J., and Ellman, J.A. *Sci. Amer.*, **267**, 68-73 (1997)
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- Lam, K.S. et al *Chem. Rev.*, **97**, 411-448 (1997)
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- Albericio, F., & Carpino, L.A. *Methods Enzymol.*, **289**, 104-126 (1997)

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- Blackburn, C. et al. *Drugs Future*, **22**, 1007-1025 (1998)
- Sofia, M.J. *Mol. Diversity*, **3**, 75-94 (1998)
- Li, J. et al. *Drug Disc. Today*, **3**, 105-112 (1998)
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- Albericio F. *Biopolymers (Pept. Sci)* **55**, 123-139 (2000)
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## Solid Phase Organic Synthesis

- First done to support the peptide field  
Boc chemistry (Merrifield : ABI instruments)  
Fmoc chemistry (Sheppard: Biosearch instruments)
- Main advantage was that excess reagent removed by washing steps
- Early papers in the 1970 did not support SPS for organic chemistry
  
- Early success with SPS for Organic chemistry:  
Leznoff C. *Acc. Chem. Res.* **11**, 327-333 (1978)  
Neckers D.C. *ChemTech* 108-116 (1978)  
Frechet J.M.J. *Tetrahedron* **37**, 663-683 (1981)

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## Solid Phase Organic Synthesis

- 1970-1980's: Period for the development of selective reagents and methods for solution phase organic synthesis
- Only organic and medicinal chemists involved in SPS were the peptide and oligonucleotide chemists
- Explosion of the present day started in 1992 with the Bunin/Ellman publication of benzodiazepines on solid phase (*JACS* 114, 10997-10998) Followed by the Parke-Davis (Divosomer paper) *PNAS* 90, 6909-13 (1993)
- Review of 1992-1996 papers  
Fruchtel, J.S. and Jung, G. *Angew. Chem. Intl. Ed Engl.* 35, 17-42 (1996)

## Needs for Solid Phase Synthesis

### Organic Synthesis

- Traditional medicinal chemist: 1-2 weeks for synthesis of a compound and then submits it to screening where it takes weeks for assays
- New Automation for synthesis : 5-10K compounds/week achievable
- Screening goals: 500K compounds/week

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### Needs for SPOC

- Resin beads: mainly been Polystyrene beads with a 1% crosslink. Europe used the 200-400 mesh (35-75mm), USA used the 100-200 mesh (75-150 mm) (StratoSpheres, NovaSyn)
- Solvents in which these beads swell the best to ensure maximum reaction
- Good loading on the resin beads and consistent from batch to batch
- Other resins which have been used are the PEG-PS grafted resins (TentaGel, ArgoGel, SPOCC, NovaGel, HypoGel and PEG-PS); Macroreticular resins (ArgoPore, TentaPore, ScavengePore); Methylacrylate resins (PEGA)
- Variety of linkers and scaffolds

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3

## The Market

- Applications
  - Peptide synthesis
  - Solid phase combinatorial chemistry
  - Solution phase combinatorial chemistry
  - Reagents on resins
- Particle size and formats
  - Microporus and Macroporus resins
  - 75-150 mm(100-200 mesh) and 150-300 mm (50-100 mesh)
- Base resins
  - Polystyrene based
  - Pegylated based resins

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## Resin Particle

- Microporous
  - Peptide synthesis
  - Combinatorial chemistry
  - Scavenger resins
  - Reagents on resin
- Macroporous
  - Scavenger resins
  - Reagents on resins
- Magnetic particles
  - Combinatorial chemistry

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**Solid Phase Syntesis – Resent  
Developments in Resin Technology**

**Aubrey Mendonca**

*Polymer Laboratories, Inc., Amherst, MA, USA*

*mendonca@powersurfr.com*

## Uses of Resin

- Solid Phase synthesis
  - Peptide synthesis
  - Oligonucleotide synthesis
  - Small molecule organic synthesis
  - Material sciences
- Solution phase synthesis
  - Scavenger resins
  - Analog resins
  - Purification resins
- Purification and Analysis
  - Ion exchange

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## Manufacture of a Resin Bead

### Reproducibility

**“The key to reproducible synthesis is to use a resin that is manufactured reproducibly”**

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## How does one choose a resin

- Pick a product catalog
- Pick the appropriate linker-resin
  - MERRIFIELD RESIN
    - 0.2-1.2 mmol/gm
    - 100-200 mesh (75-150  $\mu\text{m}$ )
    - 1% DVB
    - 8.5 mL/gm in DCM

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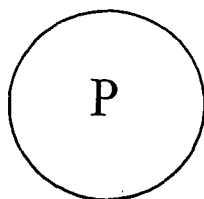
## Introduction

- Resins which are base polymers with a linker attached serve to be an inert carrier of a synthetic substrate
- Linker is a functional moiety which allows the attachment and cleavage of the substrate under controlled conditions
- Linkers should be stable to a variety of reaction conditions; have points of diversity and have a functional group easily attached or cleaved

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## Original Criteria for the Solid Support

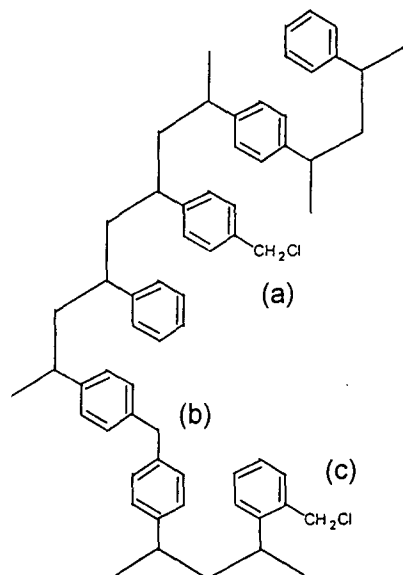


- Insoluble and yet permeable
- Inert and yet functional
- Useful and yet minimal side reactions

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## Chloromethylation of Polystyrene



Degree of functionalisation is dependent on reaction conditions and choice of catalyst.

- (a) Chloromethylation giving desired product
- (b) Undesired additional crosslinking
- (c) Chloromethylation in hindered ring positions

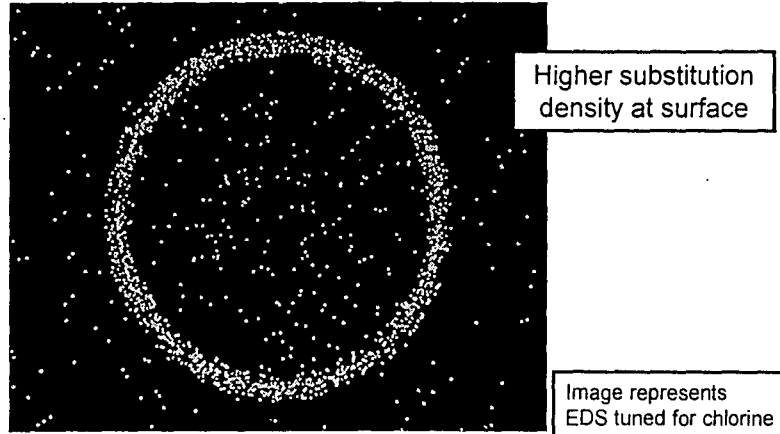
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## Chloromethylation : Problems

- Particles are no longer homogeneous ...

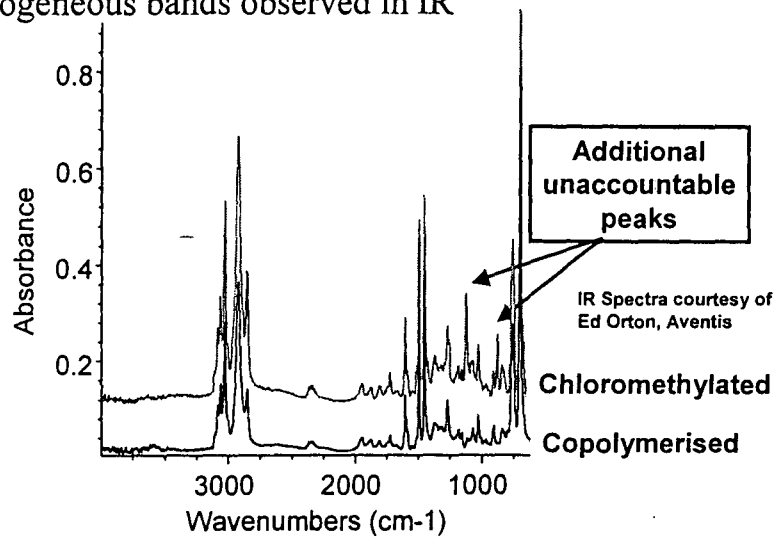


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## Chloromethylation : Problems

- Heterogeneous bands observed in IR



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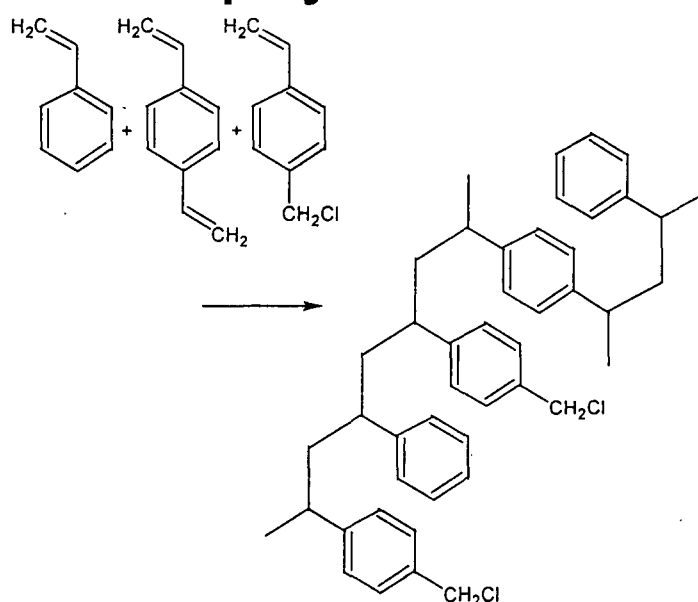
## Developing New Solid Supports : *Objectives*

- Maximizing the chemical properties of beads for improved synthesis
- Optimizing the physical properties of the beads for better performance and consistency
- Improving the loading capacity of beads to optimize yields
- Using the new resins for the synthesis of new molecules

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## Optimizing Chemical Properties : Co-polymerization

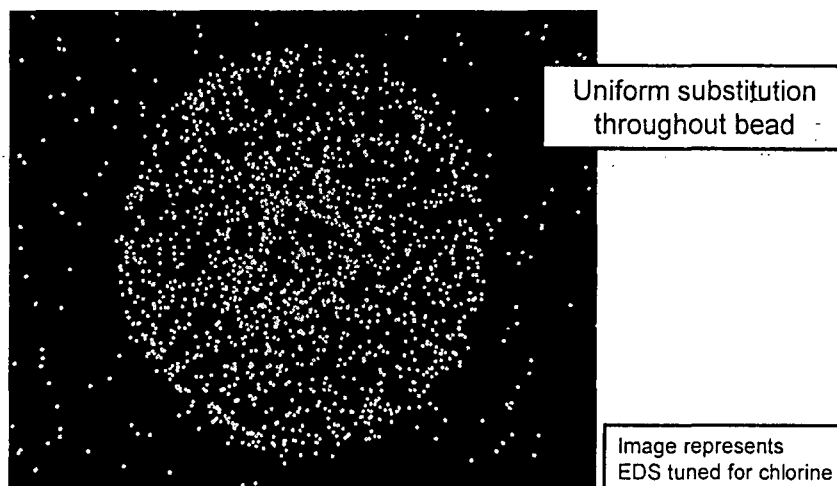


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## Copolymerisation : Advantages

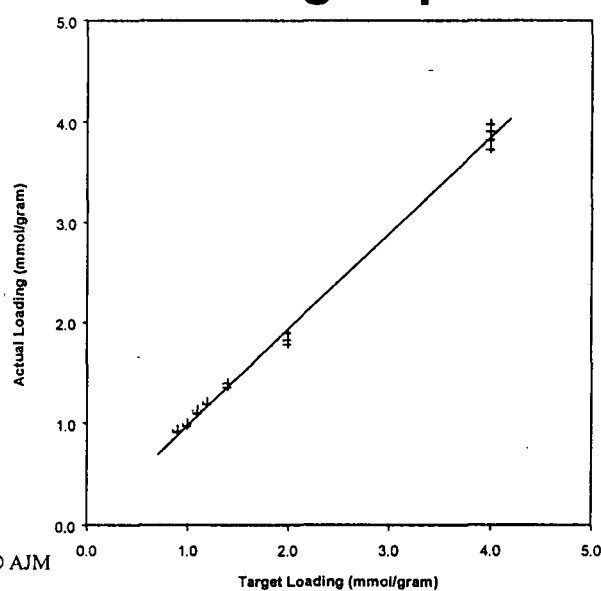
- Particles are homogeneous



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## Optimizing Chemical Properties : Loading Reproducibility



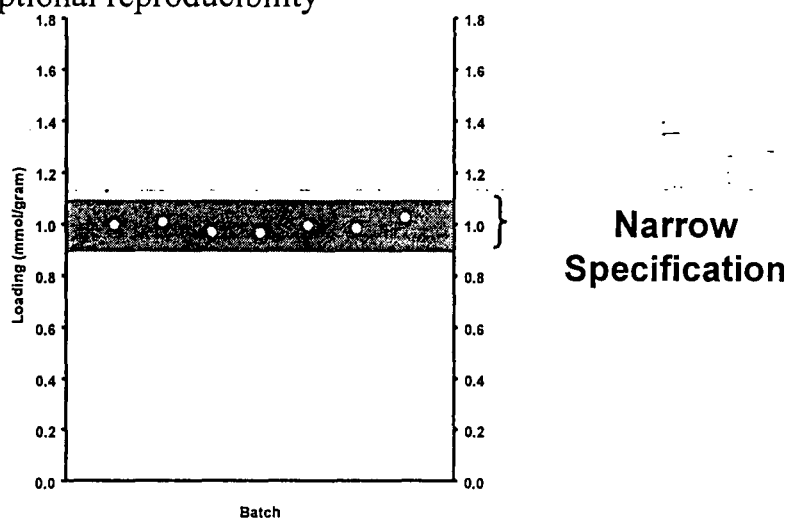
Loading (mmol/g)	Mol%
0.0	0%
1.0	11%
2.0	23%
4.0	52%
6.5	98%

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## Copolymerisation : Advantages

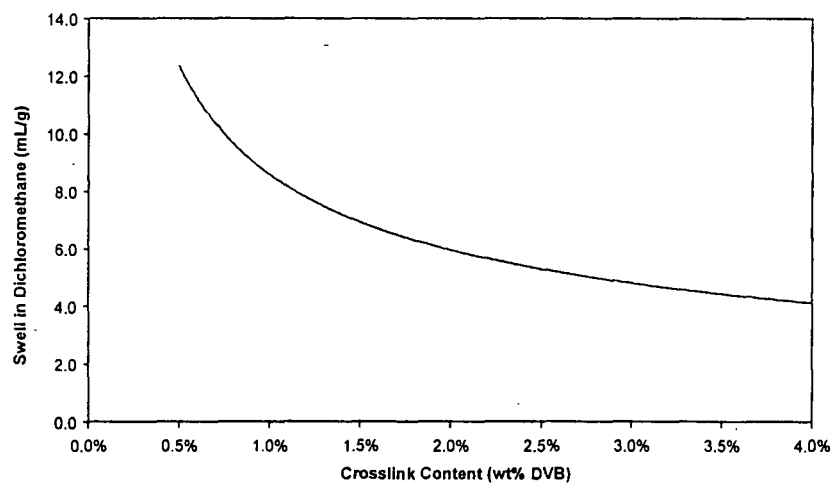
- Exceptional reproducibility



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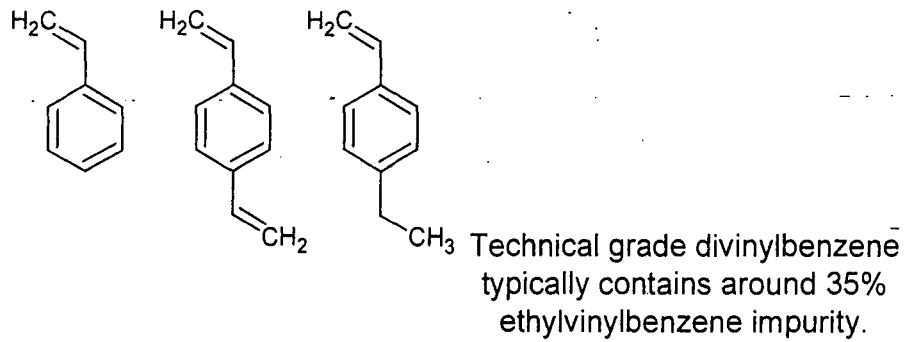
## Optimizing Chemical Properties : Effect of Crosslinker



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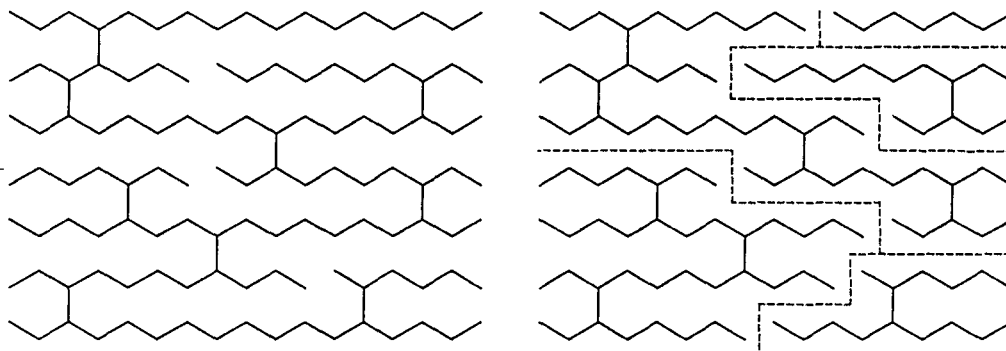
## Reasons for Swell Variation : Monomer Purity



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## Reasons for Swell Variation : Initiator Concentration

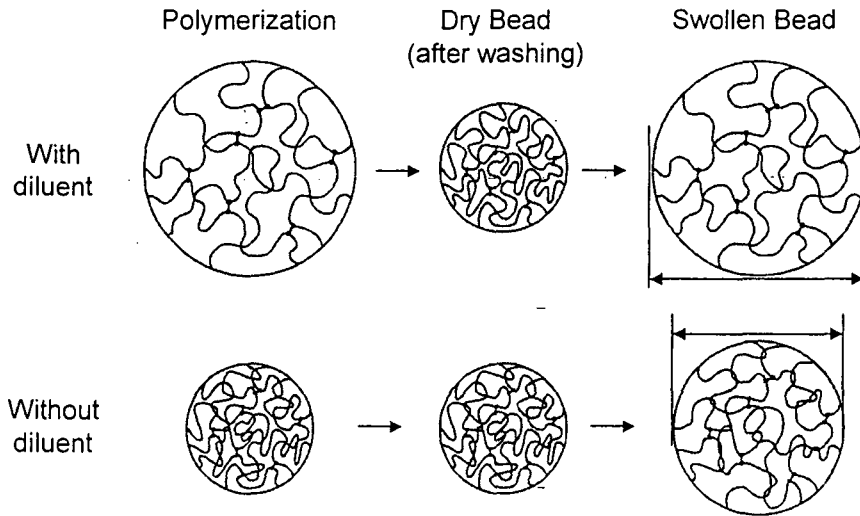


Higher levels of initiator creates shorter chains.

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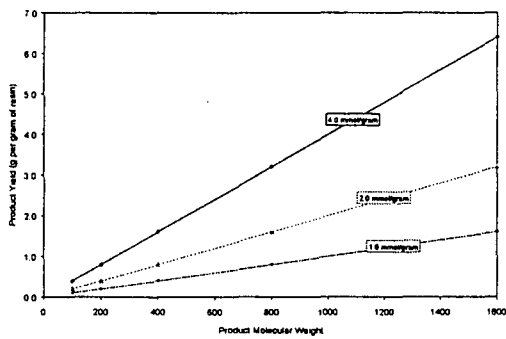
## Reasons for Swell Variation : Effect of Diluent



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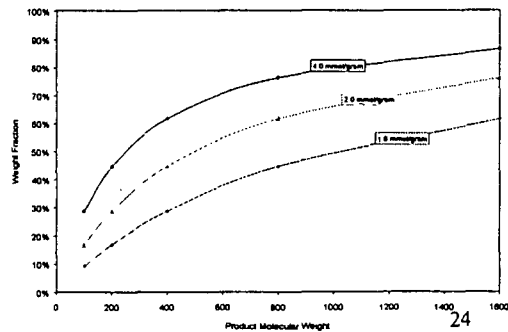
## Optimizing Physical Properties : Effect On Yield



... increased loading gives increased yield.

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Increased loading gives higher product-to-resin ratio ...



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## Sizes: Resin Beads

- Commercial sources generally offer a size variation of the beads
- Size of >50 micron needed (avoid frit plugging)
- Smaller resin beads called fines major problem with leakage and plugging
- Most commonly used beads are 100-200 mesh (75-150 micron) in the USA and 200-400 mesh (75-38 micron)
- Large beads show slow reactivity and fragile

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## Advantages and Disadvantages

- **Advantages**  
All excess reagents and soluble by-products are removed with washing. Resin bound toxic materials handled safely.  
Excess reagents used to drive reactions to completion
- **Disadvantages**  
Additional attachment and cleavage steps  
Swelling properties of the resin to be factored in.  
Batch to batch reproducibility of the loading and resin manufacture. Chemistry transfer from existing protocols.

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## Base Polymer resins

- Polystyrene 0.5-2.0% cross linking with DVB (StratoSpheres)
- Polyethylene glycol polymerised onto 1% cross linked PS-DVB (TentaGel, ArgoGel, NovaGel)
- Polyethylene glycol grafted onto 1% cross linked PS (PEG-PS)
- Highly crosslinked polystyrene matrix Macroporous resin (ArgoPore, TentaPore)
- Bis -2-acrylamide-co-bisacrylamidopolyethylene glycol-co-monoacrylamido polyethylene glycol (PEGA)
- Dimethylacrylamide supported within the macropores of kieselguhr matrix (Pepsyn K)
- Dimethylacrylamide supported within the macropores of 50% cross linked polystyrene-DVB matrix (Polyhipe)

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## Resin Loading Determination

- Loading values supplied is a measure of the amount of reactive groups present on the resin
- Normally published as mmol/gm
- Methods of loading determination used
  - Quantitative cleavage of the chromophore e.g. Fmoc (301 nm) (amine, alcohol and acid resins)
  - Elemental analysis (aldehydes, sulfonamides)
  - Quantitative product obtained on cleavage after reaction
  - $^1\text{H NMR}$

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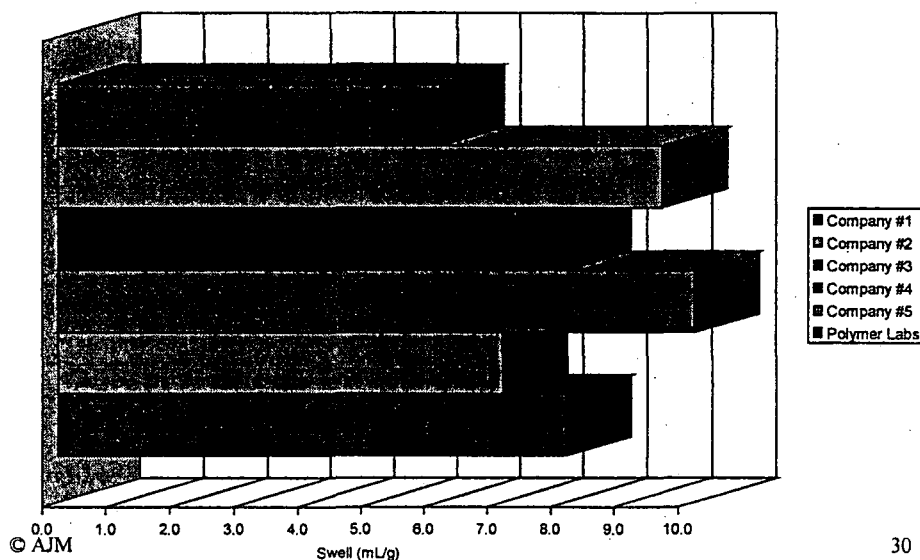
## Swell Comparison : Other Resin Types

Solvent	Polarity	PEGA Resin	CMS Resin	Tentagel
		0.4 meq/g PEG crosslinked	1.0 meq/g 1% crosslinked	0.3 meq/g 130µm
Toluene	2.4	12.0 mls/g	8.0 mls/g	5 mls/g
CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	3.1	13.4 mls/g	8.0 mls/g	5 mls/g
THF	4.0	12.7 mls/g	8.5 mls/g	6 mls/g
CHCl <sub>3</sub>	4.1	13.4 mls/g	8.5 mls/g	-
MeOH	5.1	13.4 mls/g	-	4 mls/g
DMF	6.4	11.7 mls/g	5.5 mls/g	5 mls/g
Water	10.2	15.5 mls/g	2.0 mls/g	4 mls/g

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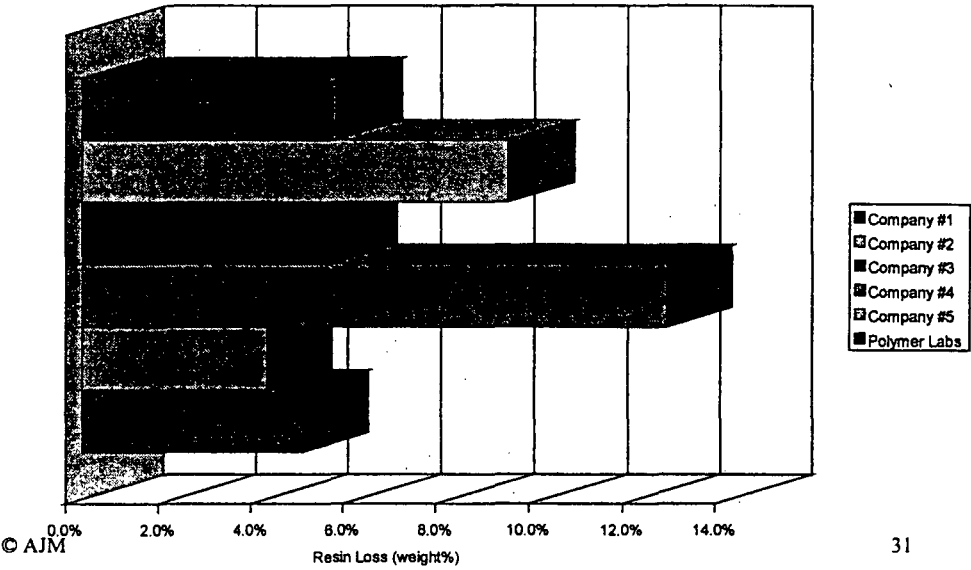
29

## Swell Comparison : Various 100-200 mesh Resins



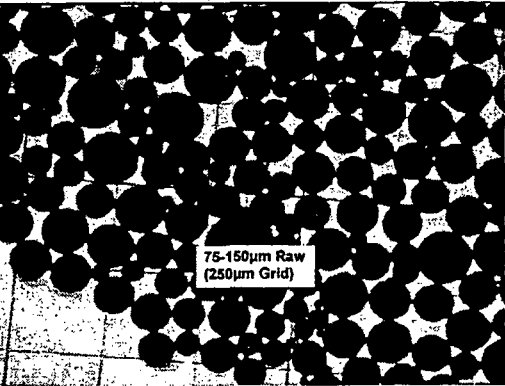
30

# Resin Loss from Kans (100-200 mesh particle size)



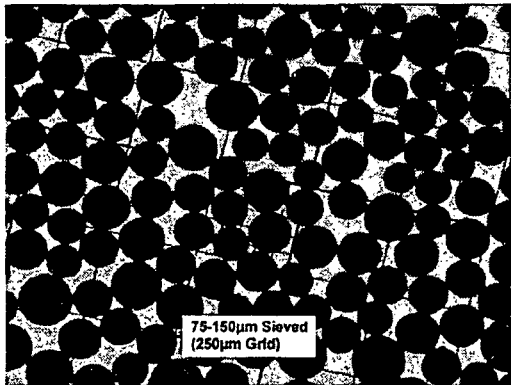
31

## Optimizing Physical Properties : Effect of Particle Size



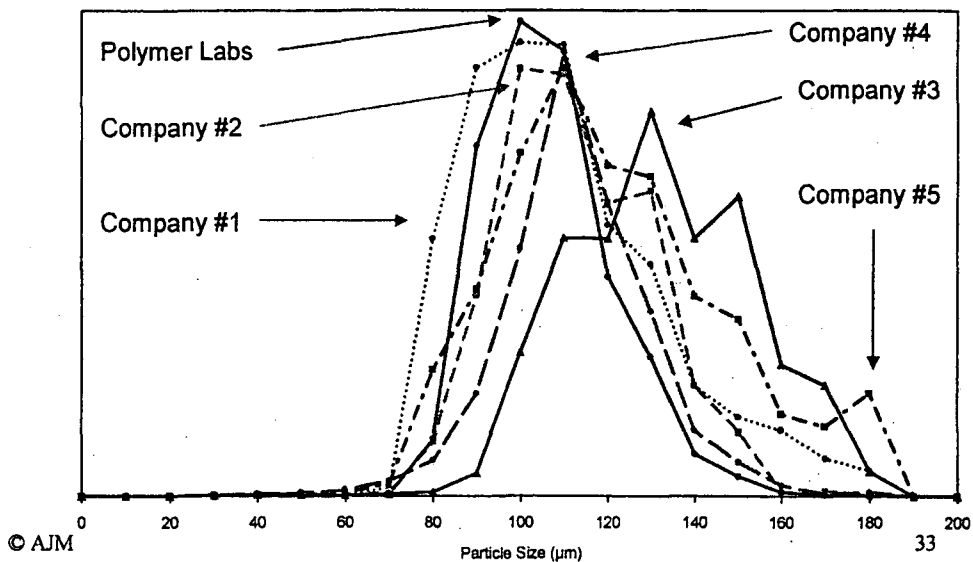
Raw distribution  
prior to sieving

Finished distribution  
after sieving



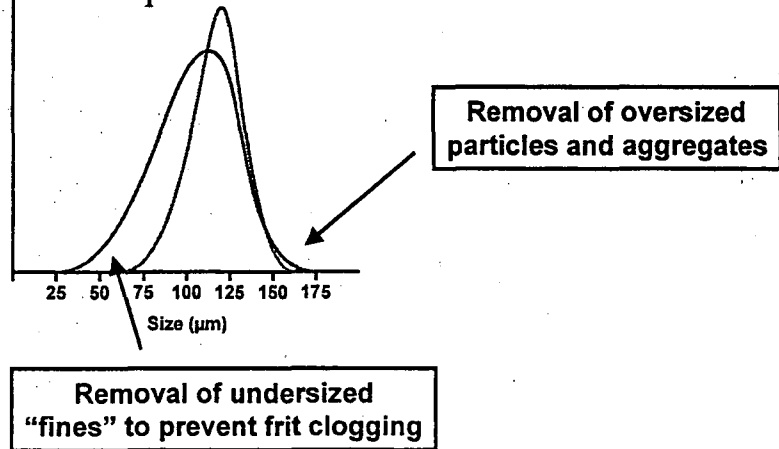
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## Particle Size Comparison : Various 100-200 mesh Resins



## Sieving

- Finished particle size distribution



# Linkers for Solid Phase Chemistry

## Linkers for SPOC

- They are functional groups attached to resin to enable the attachment and cleavage of a variety of substrates under specific conditions
- Should be stable to a variety of reaction conditions
- Sometimes referred to a polymer bound protecting group
- Linker substrate bond is cleaved and the reagents and by-products removed easily
- Classifications done various ways
  - (1) functional groups (Carboxylic acid, Alcohol, Amine)
  - (2) cleavage conditions (Acid, Nucleophilic attack, Safety catch, Traceless, Photolabile)

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2

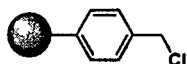
## Overview

- Linkers used
  - Halomethyl
  - Hydroxy
  - Amino
  - Aldehyde
  - Carbonate
  - Silyl

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3

## Halomethyl Resins

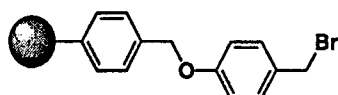


Merrifield Resin

Attachment: carboxylic acids, alcohols  
phenols, thiols, amines

Synthesis: acids, alcohols, esters, thioesters

Cleavage: TFMSA,  $H_2/Pd$ , DIBAL,  
MeONa, HF



Bromo Wang Resin

Attachment: alkyl and aryl  
amines

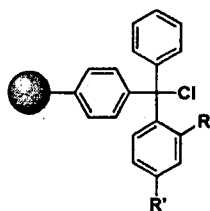
Synthesis: anilides and  
sulfonamides

Cleavage: TFA, thionyl  
chloride/TFA

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## Halomethyl Resins



Trityl resins

R=H, Cl R<sup>1</sup>=Me, OMe

Attachment: alcohols, acids,  
phenols, thiols, amines

Synthesis: alcohols, acid, thiols,  
amines, esters,

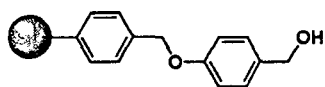
Cleavage: 1-5%TFA, 30% HFIP  
(hexafluoroisopropanol)

2ClTrt resins is useful for the prevention of DKP formation in peptides  
If OH is present has to be first converted to the reactive chloride

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## Hydroxy resins

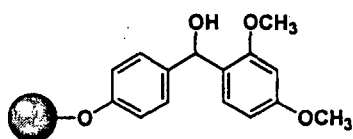


Wang Resin or HMP Resin

Attachment: alcohols, acids

Synthesis: alcohols, acid, amides

Cleavage: TFA, amine/ $\text{AlCl}_3$ , DIBAL



Rink Acid Resin

Attachment: alcohols, acids

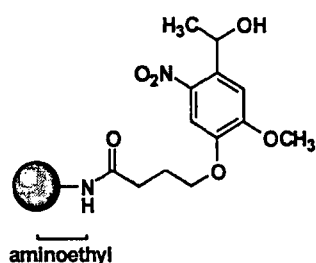
Synthesis: alcohols, acids

Cleavage: 5%TFA, 10% AcOH

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## Hydroxy Resins



Hydroxyethyl Photolinker Resin

Attachment: acids

Synthesis: acids

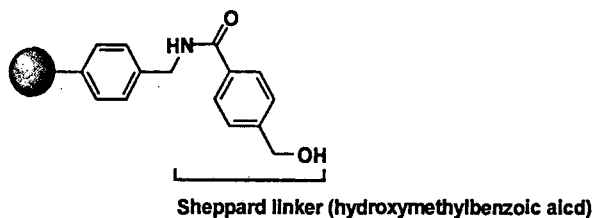
Cleavage: light 365 nm

Linker stable to TFA and PIP conditions

© AJM

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## Hydroxy Resin



### HMBA- AM Resin

Attachment: acids,

Synthesis: acids amides, alcohols, esters, hydrazides

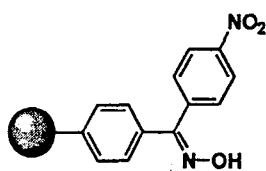
Cleavage: Nucleophiles (NaOH; NH<sub>3</sub>/MeOH; NaBH<sub>4</sub>/EtOH;

MeOH/TFE; NH<sub>2</sub>NH<sub>2</sub>/DMF

© AJM

8

## Hydroxy Resins

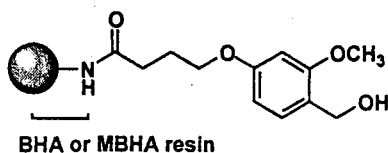


### Oxime Resin

Attachment: protected peptides,  
acids

Synthesis: cyclic peptides,  
ureas, segment condensation

Cleavage: 25% TFA, hydrazide



Rinker linker

### HMPB Resin

Attachment: alcohols, acids, phenols

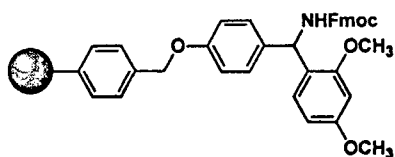
Synthesis: alcohols, acid, phenols

Cleavage: 1-5% TFA

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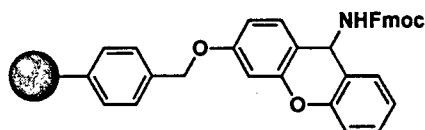
9

## Amino Resins



Rink Amide Resin

Attachment: acids  
 Synthesis: carboxamides  
 Cleavage: two step TFA,  
 AM/MBHA has a one step 95% TFA



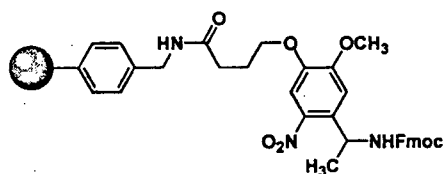
Sieber Resin

Attachment: acids  
 Synthesis: protected amides  
 Cleavage: 1% TFA

© AJM

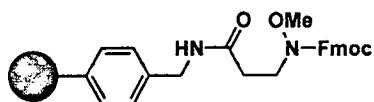
10

## Amino Resins



Fmoc-aminoethyl Photolinker AM Resin

Attachment: acids  
 Synthesis: protected amides  
 Cleavage: light 365 nm



Weinreb AM Resin

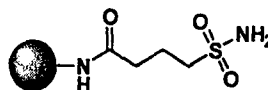
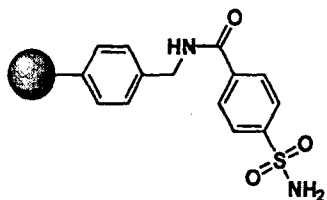
Attachment: acids  
 Synthesis: aldehydes and ketones  
 Cleavage:  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  or Grignard  
 reagent

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## Amino Resins: Safety catch



4-sulfamylbenzoyl AM resin    4-sulfamylbutyryl AM resin

Attachment: carboxylic acids

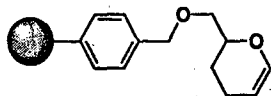
Synthesis: amides or carboxylic acids

Cleavage: activation of sulfonamide with diazomethane or  
bromoacetonitrile followed by Nu<sup>-</sup> attack by amine or hydroxide

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## Aldehyde Resins

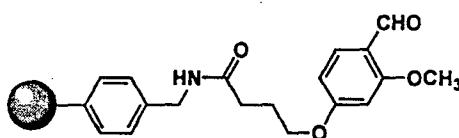


Attachment: primary/secondary alcohols

Synthesis: alcohols

Cleavage: 95% TFA/H<sub>2</sub>O or TFA/DCM/EtOH

DHP-AM Resin



Attachment: amines

Synthesis: carboxamides or sulfonamides

Cleavage: 25% or 5% TFA

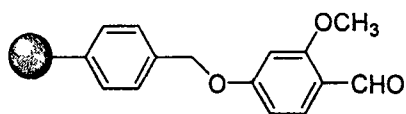
FMPB-AM Resin

4-(4-Formyl-3-methoxyphenoxy)butyryl AM Resin

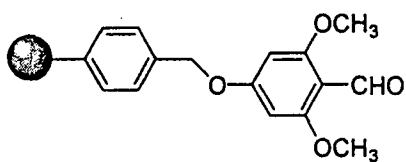
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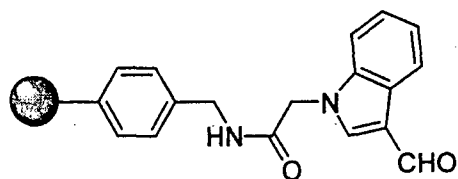
## New Aldehyde resins



Attachment: Amines

Synthesis: Carboxamides,  
sulfonamides

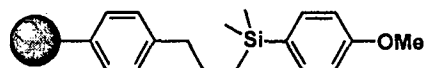
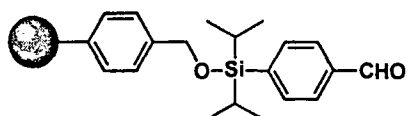
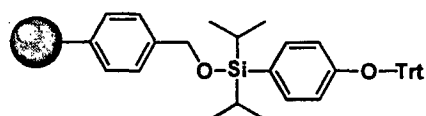
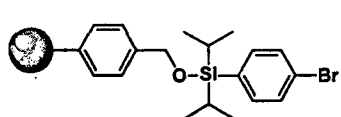
Cleavage: TFA



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## Silicon resins: Traceless linkers



Useful for the SPS synthesis of substituted arenes.  
Cleavage and simultaneous desilylation effected with HF,  
TFA, or TBAF depending on nature of substituents

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# Resins for Solution Phase Synthesis

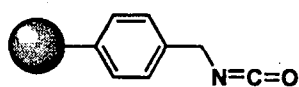
## Use of Resins

- Scavengers
  - Nucleophilic scavenger resins
  - Electrophile scavenger resins
- Reagents on resins
  - Coupling reagents
  - Oxidising reagents
  - Reducing reagents
  - Bases on resin
  - Miscellaneous resins

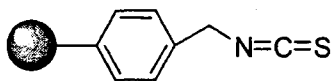
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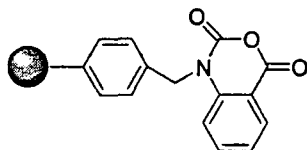
## Electrophilic Scavenger Resins



Methylisocyanate Resin  
Removal of Nucleophilic reagents  
like amines and hydrazines



Methylisothiocyanate resin  
Removal of amines and  
hydrazines

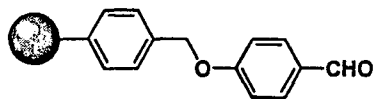


Isotoic Anhydride  
Removal of primary and  
Secondary amines

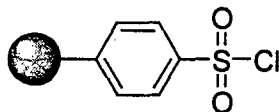
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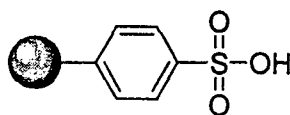
## Electrophilic Scavenger Resins



Benzyloxybenzaldehyde Resin  
Removal of hydrazines,  
hydroxylamines and 1,2 aminothiols



Sulfonyl chloride  
Used for the immobilization  
of alcohols

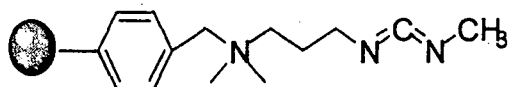


Sulfonic acid  
Immobilize olefins and epoxides  
Scavenge Nitrogen nucleophiles  
EDC and activated esters

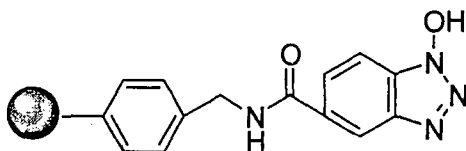
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## Coupling Reagents on Resin



EDC on resin  
Useful for coupling reactions

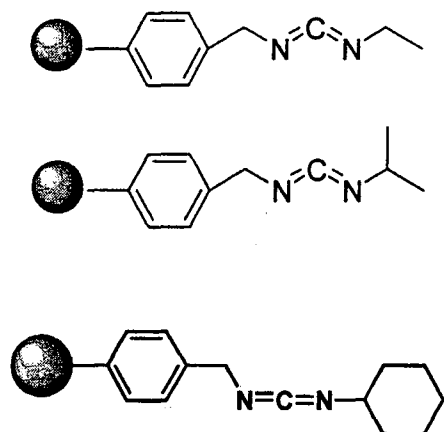


HOBt on Resin  
Useful for amide and  
Peptide synthesis

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## Coupling Reagents on Resin

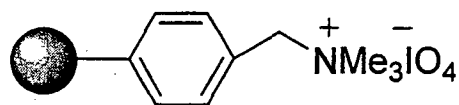


Various carbodiimide Resin  
Catalyst for the mediation solution  
phase coupling reactions.  
Solid phase catalyst for acylation  
reactions  
Urea byproduct remains on the resin

© AJM

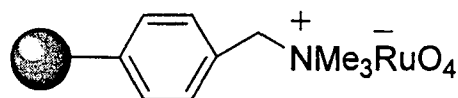
22

## Polymer-bound oxidizing agents



Useful for conversions of  
Alkenes to aldehydes

Oxidation of sulfur compds

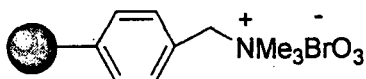
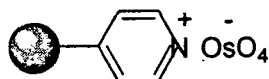
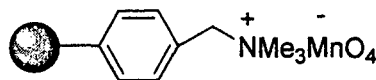
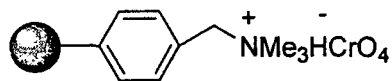


Useful for the oxidation of  
Primary alcohols

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## Polymer-bound oxidizing agents

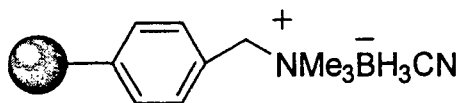


Mainly available as Amberlyst resins  
Uses depend on chemistry

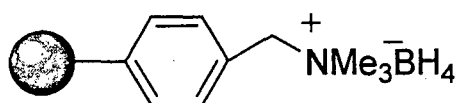
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## Polymer-bound reducing agents



Cyano borohydride on resin  
Useful for reductive  
aminations

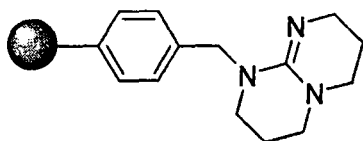


Borohydride on resin  
Useful for reduction of  
aldehydes, ketones, imines  
and  $\alpha,\beta$  unsaturated carbonyl  
compounds without reduction  
of the double bond

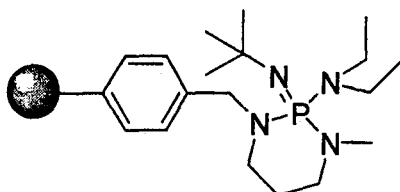
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## Supported Bases on Resin



TBD on resin  
Useful as an acylation  
catalyst

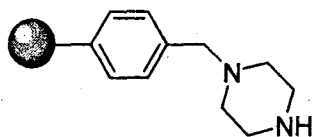


BEMP on resin  
Strong base useful  
For N-Alkylation

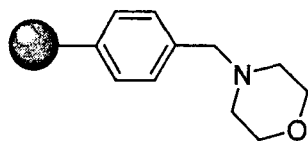
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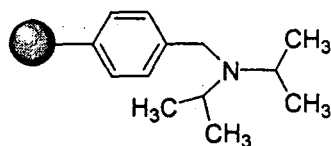
## Supported Bases on Resin



Piperzine on resin  
Useful as a Knoevenagel  
catalyst



Morpholine on resin  
Useful in the synthesis of  
Amides, sulfonamides  
Used as proton sponge

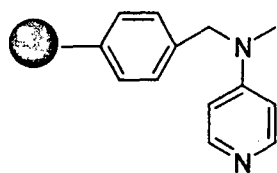


Diisopropyl amine on resin  
Useful for the synthesis of  
Amides, sulfonamides and  
carbonates

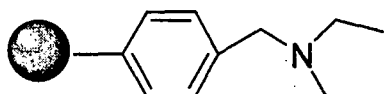
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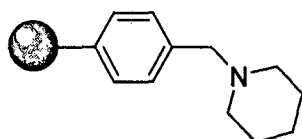
## Supported Bases on Resin



DMAP on resin  
Useful as an acylation catalyst



Diethylamine on resin  
Useful as a proton sponge

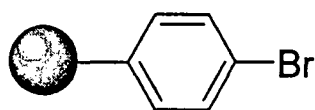


Piperidine on resin  
Useful as tertiary base

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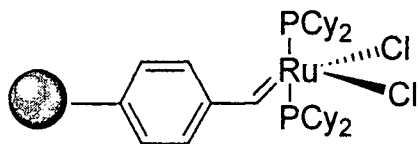
28

## Miscellaneous Reagents on Resin



PBS Resin (p-bromostyrene)

Useful for preparation of supports and solid supported reagents via controlled lithiation or Pd mediated coupling



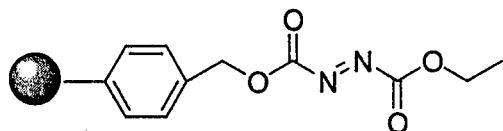
Polymer Supported Grubbs Catalyst  
Useful for construction of macrocycles by ring closing alkene metathesis

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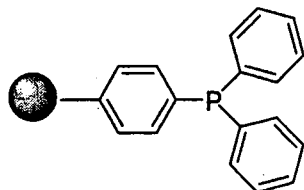
29



## Miscellaneous Reagents on Resin



Azodicarboxylate on resin  
Useful for Mitsunobu reactions



Triphenyl phosphine on resin  
Useful for Wittig, Mitsunobu, and  
halogenation reactions  
Scavenger for alkyl halides  
and palladium

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## Analog Resins

### Analoging in Lead Optimization

- Well-defined lead structures
- Class(es) of analogs
- Straightforward, established chemistry
- 10's to low 100's of analogs
- Relatively high purity
- Fast turn-around

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## Current Process

- Mostly solution chemistry
- One analog a time, or
- Small Multiples by parallel (array) synthesis
- Individual work-up and purification
- Slow and labor-intensive

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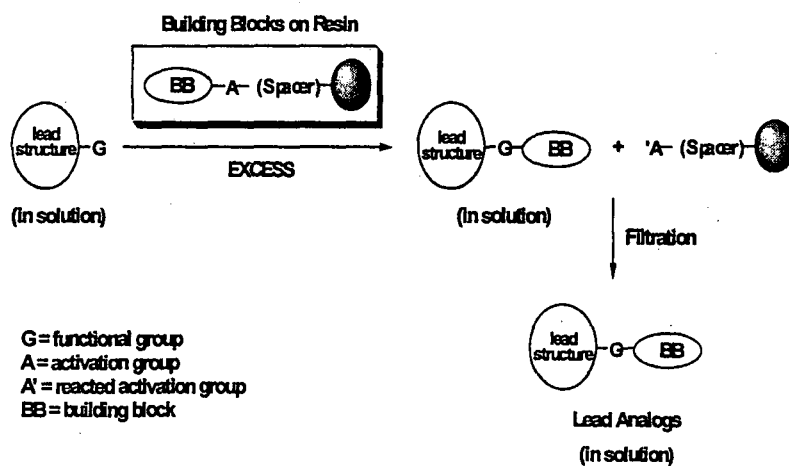
## New Process

- Solid phase chemistry
- Clean reactions
- Parallel (array) synthesis
- Multiple 100's
- No/minimum purification/work-up
- Fast turn-around

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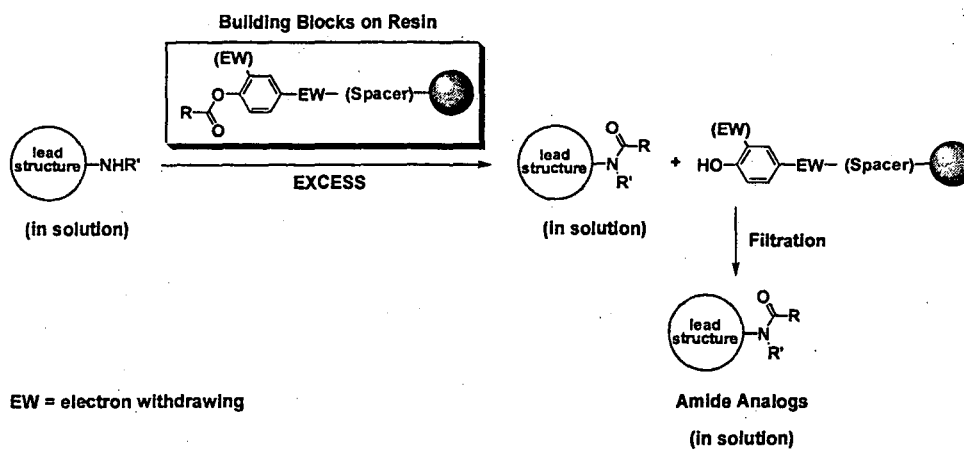
## General Concept



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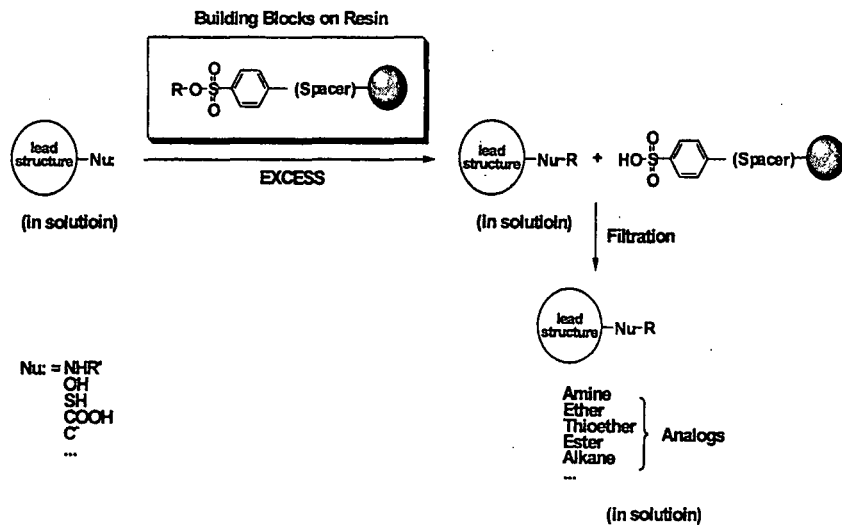
## Functional Trapping: Acylation



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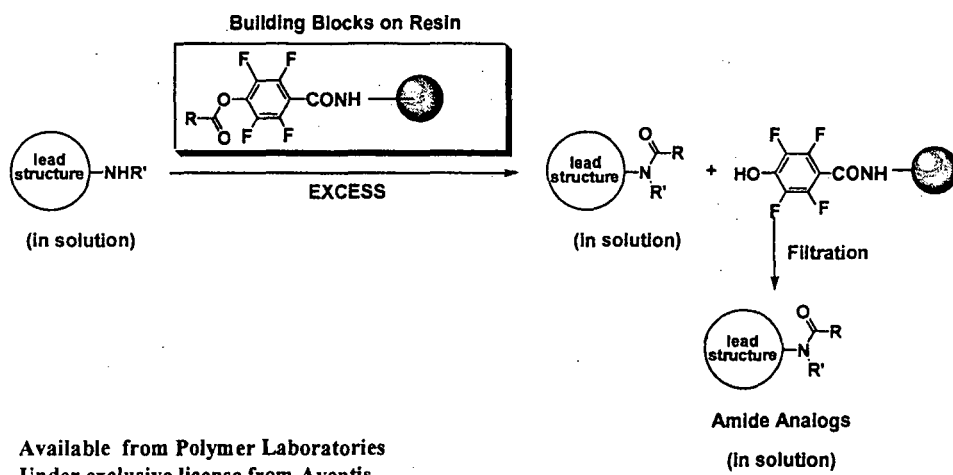
## Functional Trapping: Alkylation



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## Tetrafluorophenol Resin



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## Objectives for analog resins

- Creation of Hit to Lead libraries
- Selected, pharmacologically interesting building blocks
- Suitably selected and tuned activation groups (reactivity/stability)
- Accompanying use of scavenging/work-up resins when required
- For Medicinal/organic/solution phase chemists
- Allows for the creation of new building blocks

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## Resin suppliers

### The Players

- Polymer Laboratories
- Rapp Polymere
- Aldrich/Sigma
- Novabiochem
- Senn Chemicals
- Bachem
- Advanced ChemTech
- Argonaut

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## Talk Overview

- Issues with present resin offerings
- Solid phase synthesis
  - Loadings
  - Resin reproducibility
- Scavenger resins
  - Costs
  - Speed
- New alternate supports
- New encoding techniques

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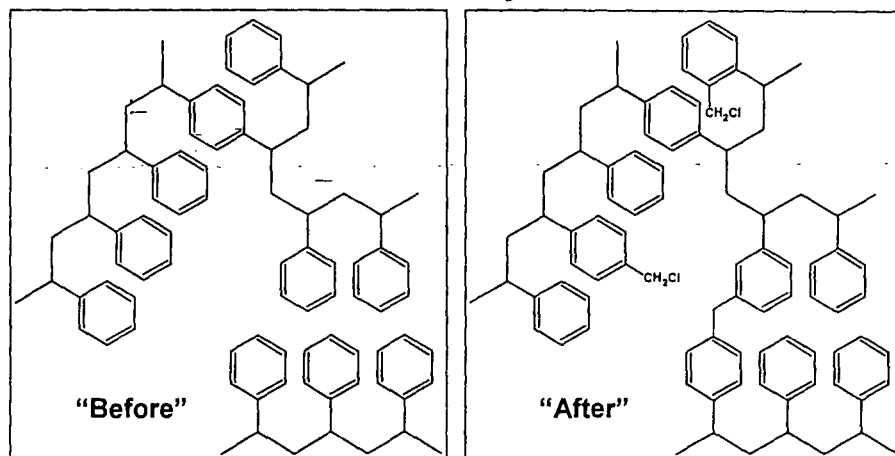
## Using Resins for Solid Phase Synthesis

### Issues With Present Resin Offerings

- Peptide Resins being used for small molecule chemistry
- Low loadings
  - Ideal for large peptide synthesis (high MW products)
  - Low yields of small molecule products (low MW products)
- Batch to batch reproducibility
- Wide loading range
- Resin fines
- Uniform bead size

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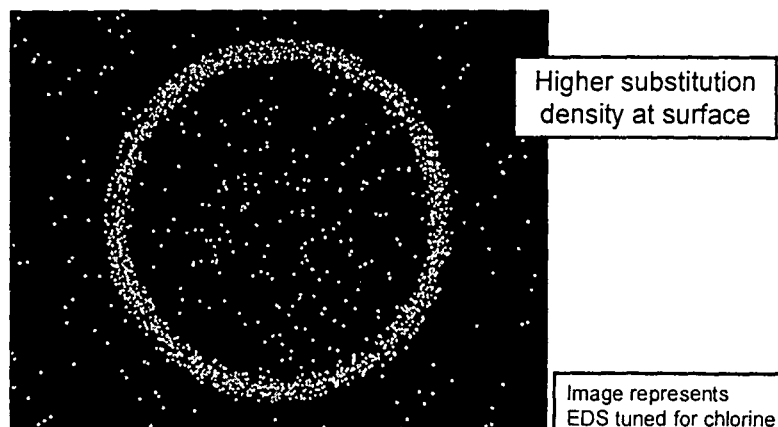
## Introduction of Functionality : Chloromethylation



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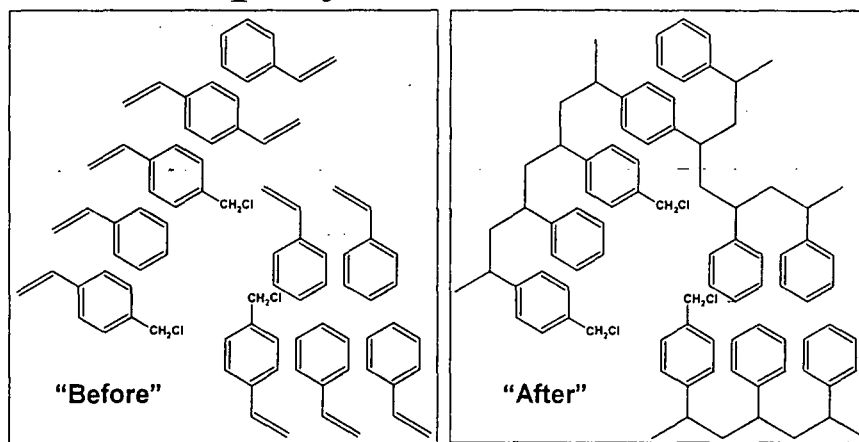
## Chloromethylation : Problems

- Particles are no longer homogeneous ...



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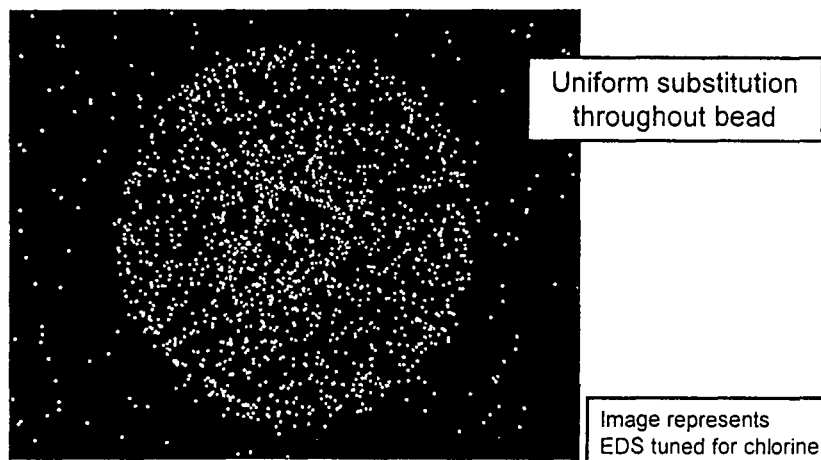
## Introduction of Functionality : Copolymerisation



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## Copolymerisation : Advantages

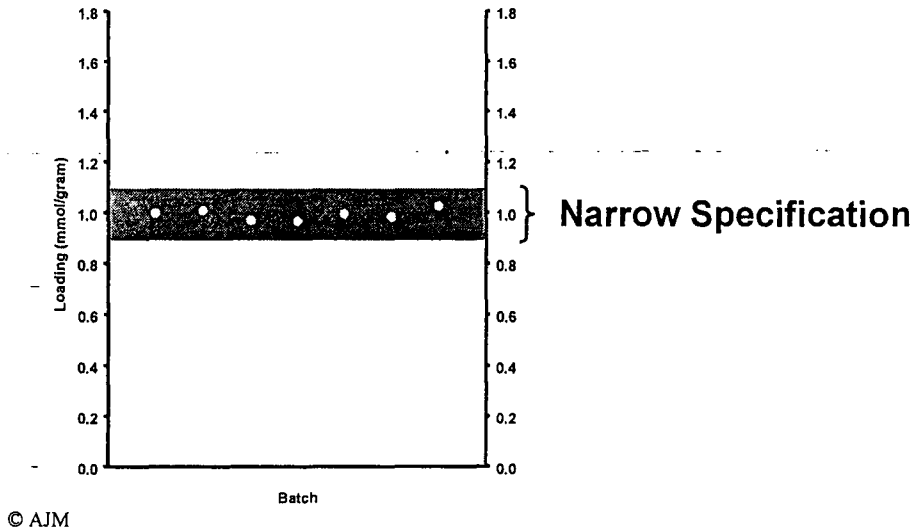
- Particles are homogeneous



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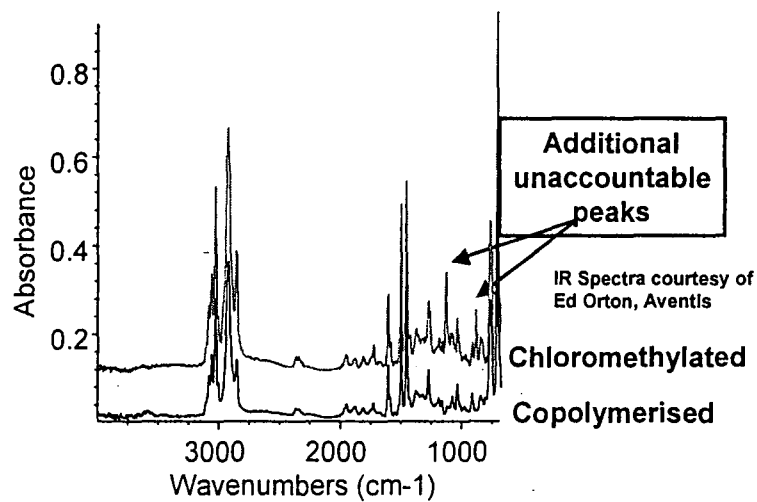


## Copolymerisation : Advantages

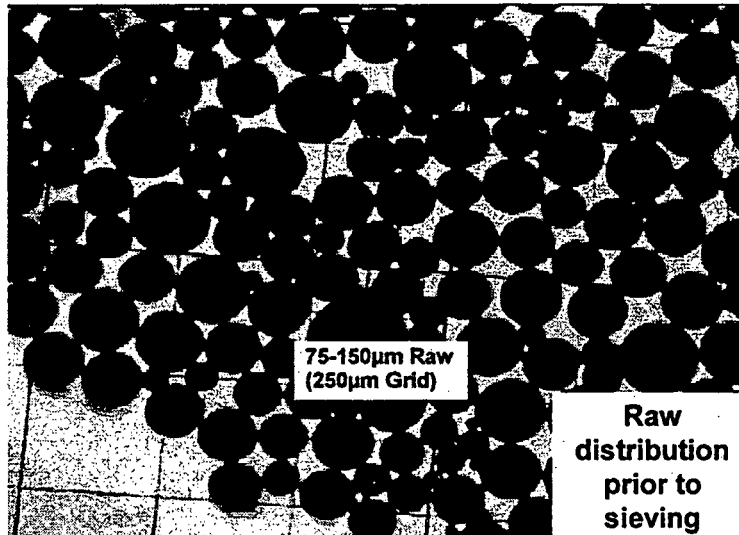


## Chloromethylation : Problems

- Heterogeneous bands observed in IR



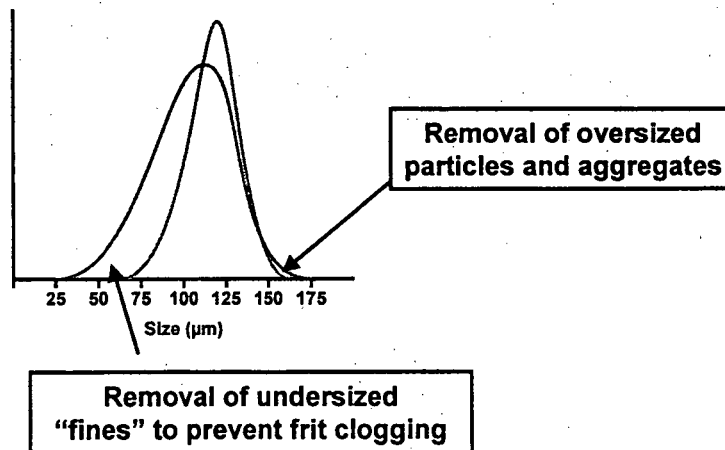
# Raw Particle Size Distribution



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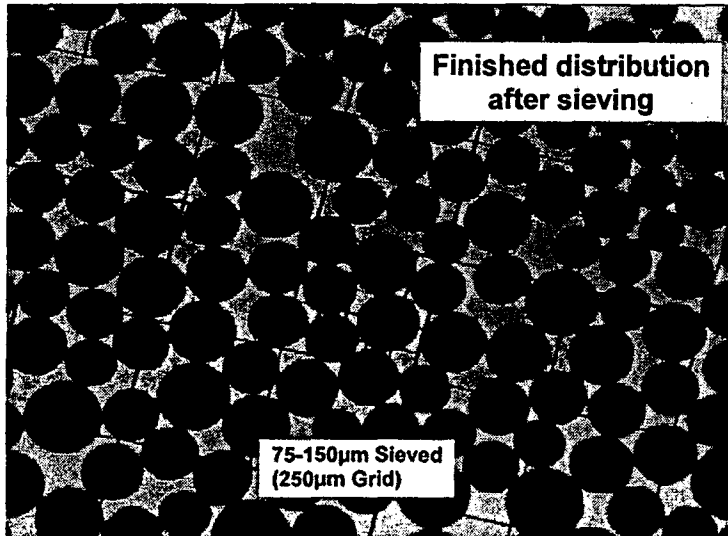
## Sieving

- Finished particle size distribution



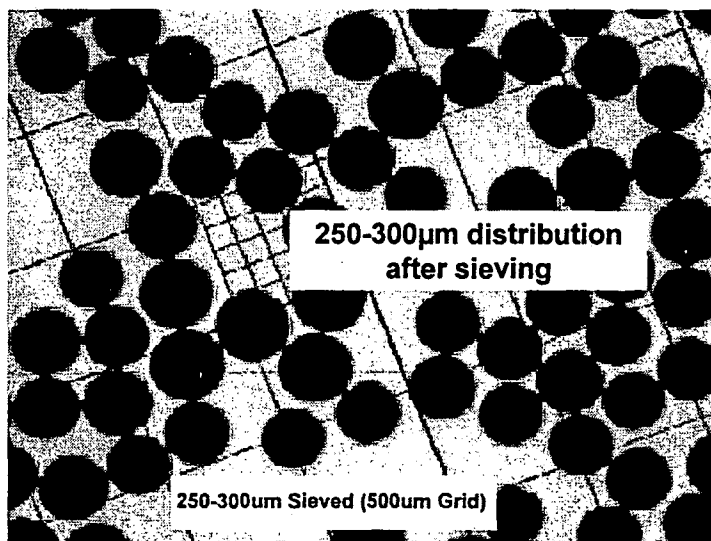
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## Final Particle Size Distribution



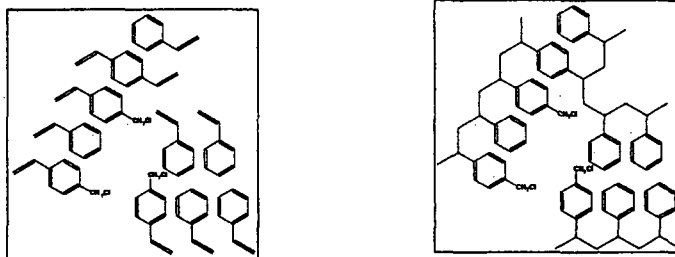
© AJM

## Narrow Particle Size Distribution



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## Introduction of Functionality : Copolymerisation



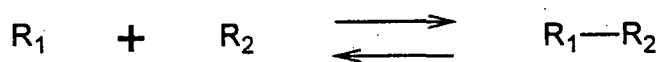
- This allows accurate control of the loading from batch to batch
- Narrow loading range +/- 10%
- Allows for high loading for the synthesis resins (2.0 mmol/gm) hence more compound off the bead
- Extensive washings resulting in no byproducts or side reactions

© AJM

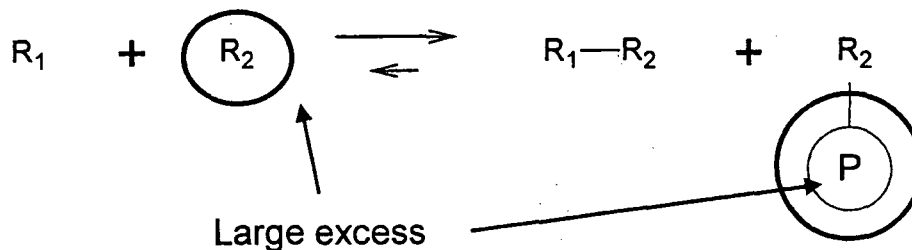
## Using Resins for Solution Phase Synthesis

### Application of Solid Phase Particles to Solution Synthesis

Solution phase synthesis



Use of scavenger resin



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## Practical Solution Phase Example

- Solution phase
  - 1M solution of reagent (#1) (e.g. 1.5mmol in 15mL)
  - 3x excess of reagent (#2)
  - React for several hours
  - Perform liquid-liquid extraction (3 – 4 times reaction volume, or 45 – 60 mL per wash)
  - Evaporate to dryness

© AJM

## Solid Phase Assisted Example

- Solution phase
  - 1M solution of reagent (#1) (e.g. 1.5mmol in 15mL)
  - 3x excess of reagent (#2)
  - React for several hours
  - *Remove excess reagent (#2) using scavenger resin (i.e. 3.0mmol to be removed)*
  - Evaporate to dryness

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## Solid Phase Assisted Example

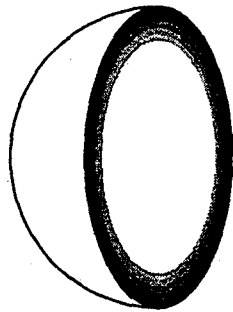
- Conventional low load resin
  - 1.0 mmol/g
  - 1% crosslinked
  - 75-150 $\mu$ m
  - ~ 8 mL/g
- Superior high load resin
  - 4.0 mmol/g
  - 1% crosslinked
  - 150-300 $\mu$ m
  - ~ 8 mL/g
- Require 3x excess ...
  - 9.0 mmol resin functionality
  - 9.0 g resin
  - 72.0 mL gel volume !!!
- Require 3x excess ...
  - 9.0 mmol resin functionality
  - 2.3 g resin
  - 18.4 mL gel volume

© AJM

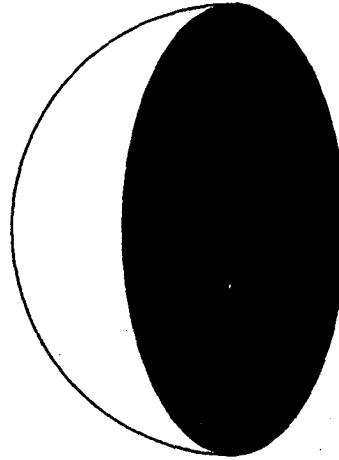
## Development of a New Hybrid Macroporus Resin

Combining the advantages of HL synthesis resins and speed of chromatographic particles

## Microporous Bead Permeation During Scavenging



Resin un-swollen  
(in acetonitrile)



Resin swollen  
(in tetrahydrofuran)

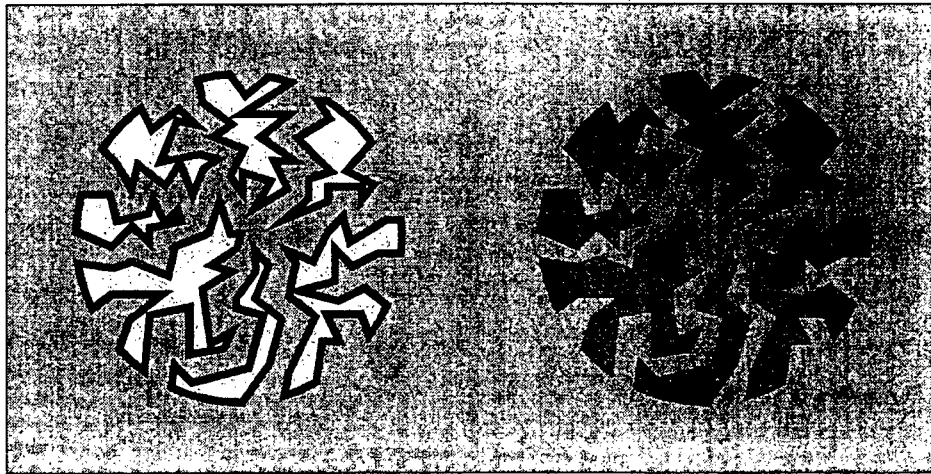
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## Polystyrene/DVB : Microporous vs Macroporous

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low crosslink content (&lt; 12% DVB)</li><li>• Soft</li><li>• High swell (must be used in good solvents)</li><li>• Slow diffusion rates</li><li>• High loading</li><li>• Designed for solid phase synthesis</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High crosslink content (&gt; 20% DVB)</li><li>• Rigid</li><li>• Low swell (can be used in poor solvents)</li><li>• Very high diffusion rates</li><li>• Low loading</li><li>• Designed for chromatography</li></ul> |
|---|--|

© AJM

## Macroporous Bead Permeation During Scavenging ?



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### Hybrid Particle Goals:

- Macroporous for rapid diffusion and solvent toleration
- Microporous for maximum capacity
- Easily handled particle size
- Try to minimise costs

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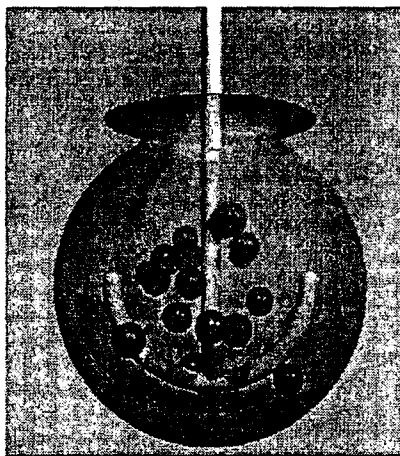
## Hybrid Particle Parameters:

- Pore size
- Loading / crosslink content
- Particle size

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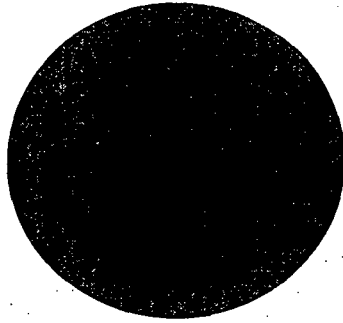
## Macroporous Particles : Method of Manufacture

- Suspension Polymerisation

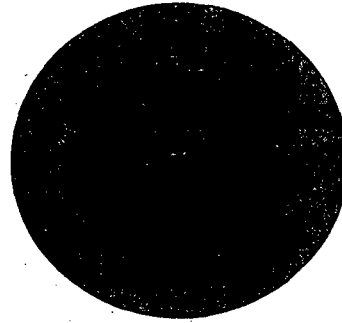


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## Macroporous Particle Formation



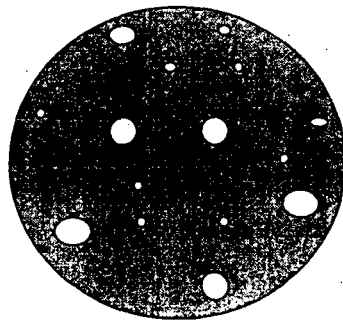
**Monomer droplet  
contains :  
Monomer, crosslinker,  
porogen, initiator**



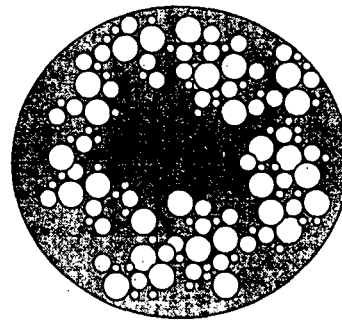
**Polymerisation  
commences :  
Short polymer chains  
remain in solution**

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## Macroporous Particle Formation



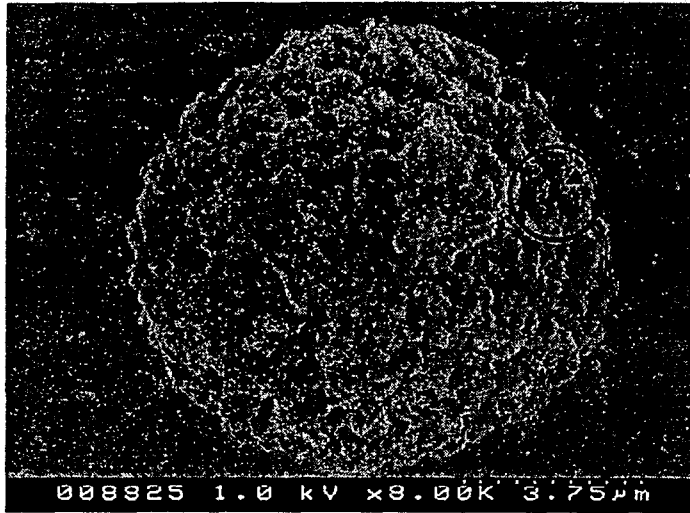
**Polymerisation progresses :  
Longer polymer chains  
precipitate from solution**



**Polymerisation progresses  
further: Precipitated polymer  
particles adhere together**

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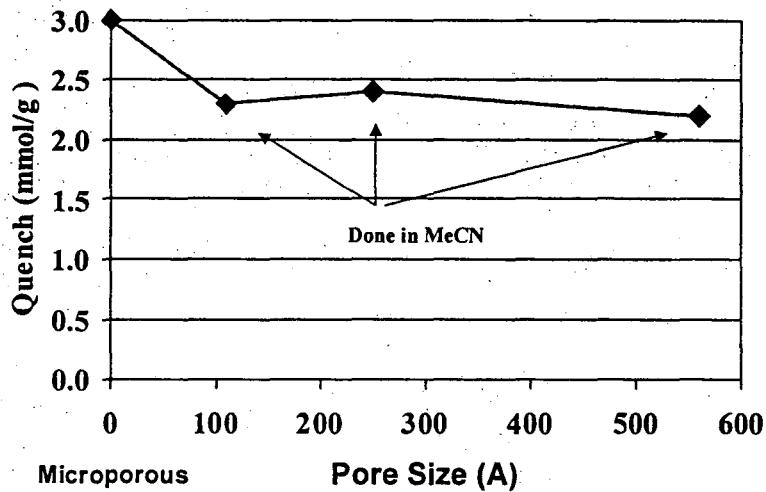
# Macroporous Particle Image



Extreme Limit:  
microspheres  
are visible, as  
are macropores

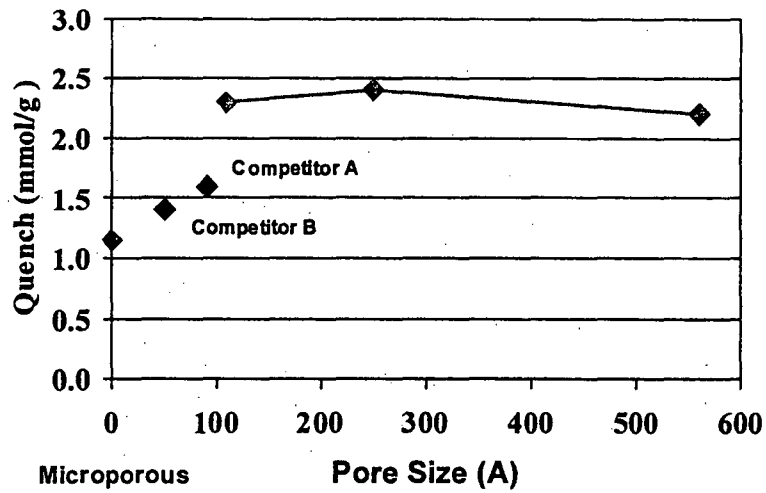
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# Macroporous Resin Quenching Activity



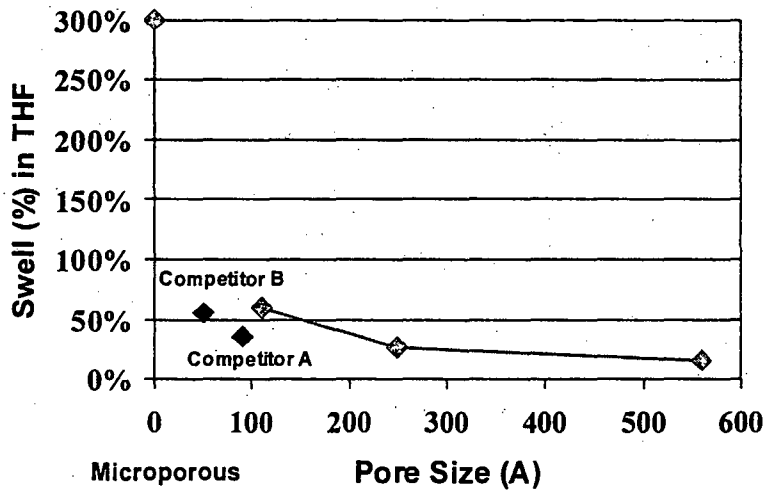
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## Macroporous Resin Quenching Activity



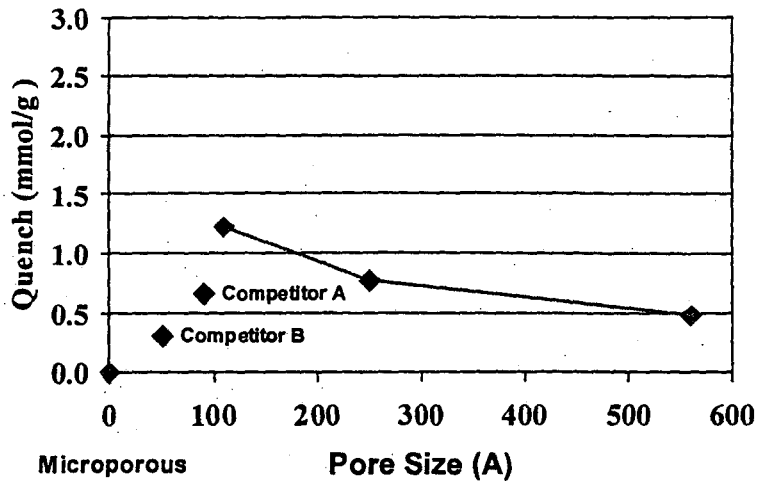
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## Macroporous Resin: "Swell"



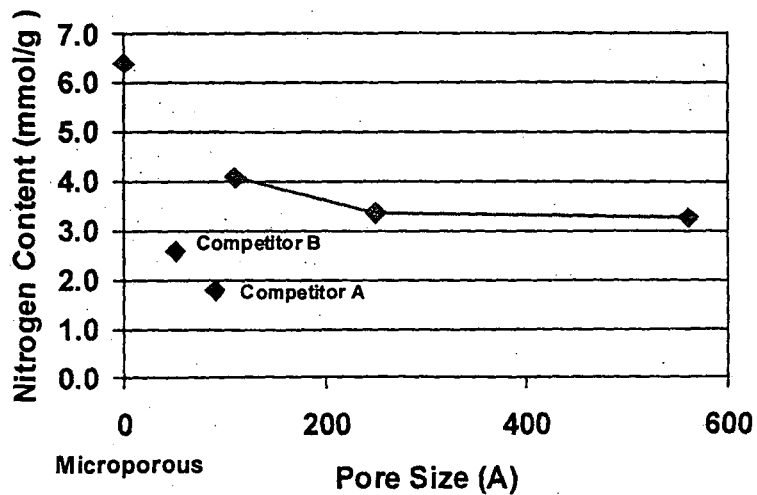
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## Macroporous Resin Rapid Quenching Activity



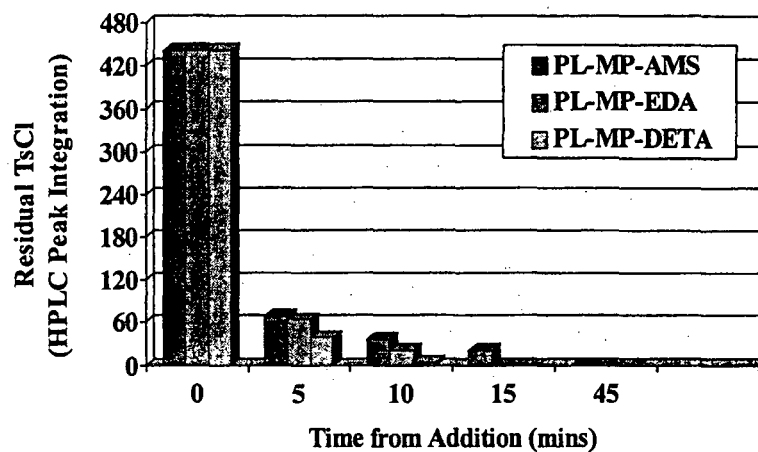
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## Macroporous Resin Elemental Analysis Results



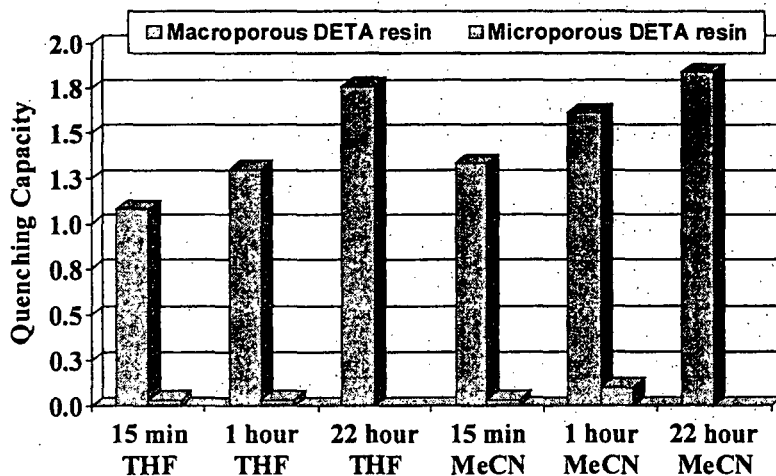
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## Macroporus Scavenging Results



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## Scavenging Rate Comparison



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## Scavenger Resin Design : Conclusions

- Scavenger Resins are an important aid in solution phase synthesis
- Microporous Resins are
  - readily available
  - easy to use, but can be very slow to react
  - *more suited to bulk applications*
- Macroporous Resins are
  - more difficult to manufacture
  - react extremely rapidly and can be made in high load
  - *more suited to high throughput applications*

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## Plug Dimensions



- Plug weight: 170 mg
- Resin weight: 85 mg
- Loading/plug: 85 $\mu$ mol using 1.0 mmol/gm resin
- New format: Larger beads
- Increased loading on resin
- Better distribution

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## Types of resins used

- Synthesis resins (Wang, Amino-methyl, Rink, TentaGel, Oxime, ClTrt, Formyl)
- Scavenger resins (Aldehyde, Amino, Acid)
- Catalysts (Under development)

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## Advantages of Plug Use

- Ease of handling
- Use with multiple synthesis formats
- Amenable to encoding techniques
- Low void volume (lower reagent quantities)
- Low swelling
- Costs

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## Alternate Encoding Techniques

Improving detection and compound  
tracking

### Existing Encoding Techniques

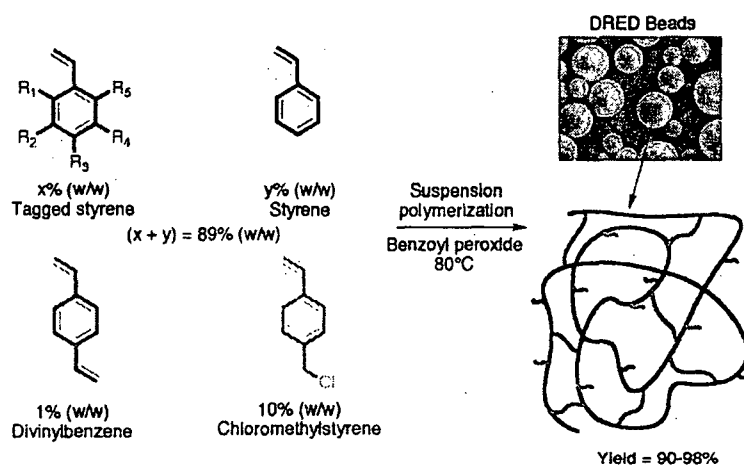
- Invasive labeling or encoding
  - Chemical tags
  - Radio labeling
  - Orthogonal labeling
- Non invasive labeling or encoding
  - Radio frequency (Rf) labeling

## Use of Imaging Technology

- Chemically specific
- Sensitive
- High throughput and Real time monitoring
- Suitable for catalysts
- Non availability of easy to use experiments and instruments
- Bead size distribution and availability

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## DRED Bead Synthesis

Fenniri, H., et al. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 2001, 123, 8151.

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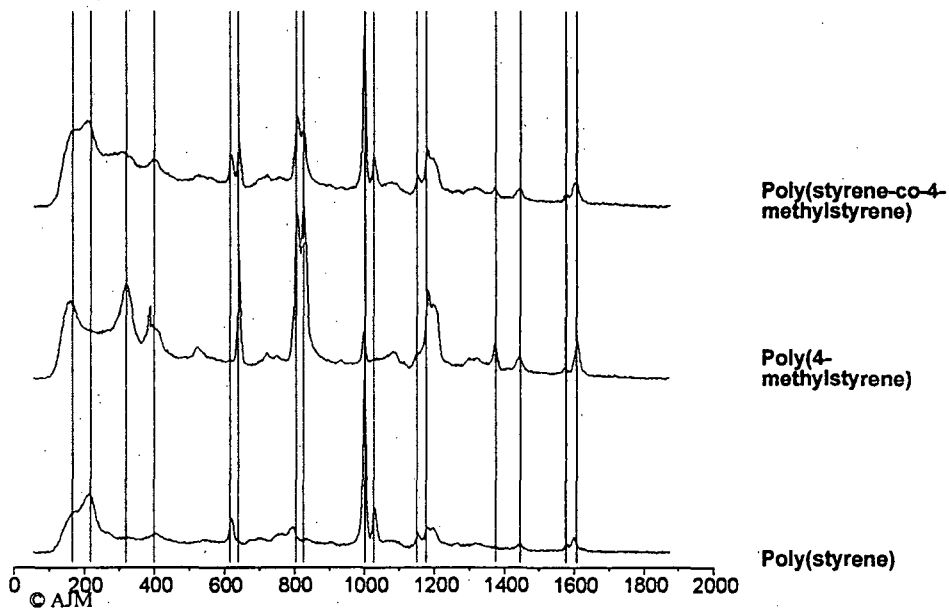


# Scanning Electron Microscopy

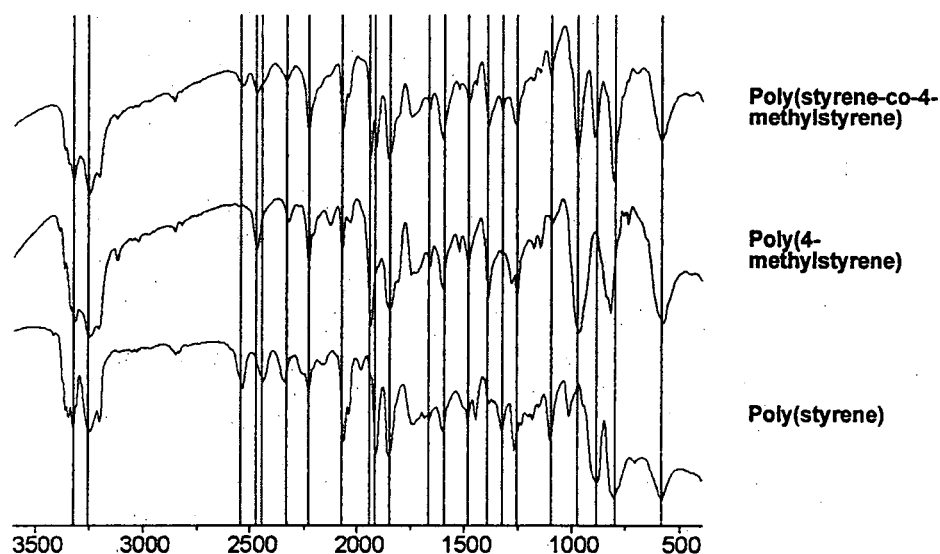


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## Raman Spectral Features



## FT-IR Spectral Features



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## Summary

- Co-polymerisation of monomers controls bead characteristics
- Development of high load base material for scavenger resins helps to decrease cost per compound in solution phase synthesis
- Development of hybrid macroporous resins help increase speed of scavenging action
- Development of plugs help in resin delivery
- Development of new encoding technique using IR and Raman spectral character of the monomers

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# Role of Combinatorial Chemistry in Original Drug Discovery

**Péter Arányi**

*CHINOIN Co. Ltd., Budapest, Hungary*

*[peter.aranyi@sanofi-synthelabo.fr](mailto:peter.aranyi@sanofi-synthelabo.fr)*

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## ROLE OF COMBINATORIAL CHEMISTRY IN ORIGINAL DRUG DISCOVERY

**Péter Arányi**

*CHINOIN Co. Ltd., Budapest, Hungary*

*peter.aranyi@sanofi-synthelabo.fr*

Combinatorial synthetic methods became a routine in drug discovery during the nineties. Use of combinatorial libraries find two well discernible applications. In order to identify random hits, a diverse combinatorial library can be added to in-house existing compounds and tested in first screen assays. Later in the discovery process a focussed library is more useful to optimize the structure in order to get a lead. Several different technical solutions exist today. The most straightforward approach apparently is parallel synthesis of individual compounds. An aspect that should be considered while designing the basic scaffold (and set of substituents) is drug-likeness of the resulting compounds. Known toxicophores, mutagenic cores, alkylating, acylating or other highly reactive side chains should be avoided. Molecular weight of the compounds should remain below or in the vicinity of 500. Many published libraries are built around core structures of known drugs on the market or in development. Structures that are not stable in the biological milieu, or otherwise have poor bioavailability, such as peptides or alkyl esters are defavored even if their chemistry is easy to master.

## **QSAR MODELING AND LIBRARY DESIGN STRATEGIES**

**Dr. Wolfram Altenhofen**

*Chemical Computing Group AG, Lörrach, Germany*

*wolfram@chemcomp.de*



# QSAR MODELING AND LIBRARY DESIGN STRATEGIES

**Dr. Wolfram Altenhofen**

*Chemical Computing Group AG, Lörrach, Germany*

*wolfram@chemcomp.de*

The session will be divided into an introduction to basic concepts of QSAR Modeling and Library Design and a hands-on tutorial which will allow participants to experience the basic steps from deriving a QSAR model to designing a focused library themselves.

In the theory section, a general overview on

- representation of chemical structures in the context of computer applications,
- deriving physico-chemical properties
- the theory of ligand-protein interactions
- building QSAR models
- strategies for library design
- will be presented.

During the tutorial, a methodology is presented that guides through the drug design cycle starting from the analysis of experimental HTS data, constructing a QSAR model and using the model to design a virtual focused combinatorial library for cyclic GMP Phosphodiesterase V inhibitors in an almost fully automated way.


The analysis of the experimental dataset is based on 2.5D descriptors. These descriptors are fast and easy to calculate since they rely on 2D information and still reflect 90 % of the information inherent in 3D structures. They were specifically designed to provide a tool for a rapid though stable initial approach to large datasets of unknown SAR. The descriptor values correspond to binned van-der-Waals surface areas. The binning procedure was based on logP, MR and partial charge (PEOE), supposed to be fundamental physico-chemical properties that cover most of the relevant property space in an intuitive and interpretable manner.

The QSAR model applies a non-linear probabilistic binary method rather than a linear regression based technique. The focused library design uses virtual enumeration with a binary QSAR model as product-based scoring agent for reagent selection.

The dataset consists of about 400 known cGMP Phosphodiesterase V inhibitors with activity data selected from the literature and a total of 1800 molecules. The initial QSAR model is about 20 times more potent in selecting active compounds over random picking. The building blocks ( $2 \times 10 \times 12 \times 27 = 6500$  potential products) used in the combinatorial design of a focused quinazoline library ( $1 \times 3 \times 3 \times 5 = 45$  products) reflect chemical intuition and input from the literature. Using the binary QSAR model as focusing agent the percentage of predicted active compounds increases from 5 % in the unfocused library to 75 % in the focused library. The resulting focused library preserves the essential SAR known from the literature.

## “How to ?” in Computer Aided Library Design

- Understand the basic requirements for a small molecule to become a potent drug
- Linear and non-linear Filters
- A closer look at principles ruling the activity of a compound
- Teach the computer to handle chemical structures
- Find efficient methods to handle large amounts of data within reasonable time
- Correlate chemical structures with desired/undesired property, choose descriptors, build model, choose reagents

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## What turns a small molecule into a potent drug?

Resorption

Metabolism


**Affinity**

Distribution

Specificity

Toxicity

*Excretion...*

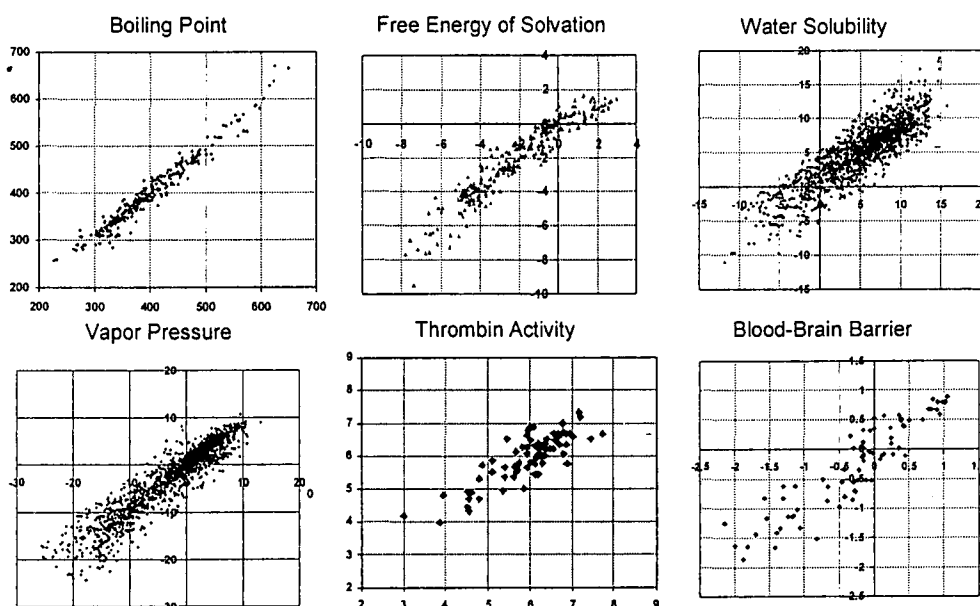
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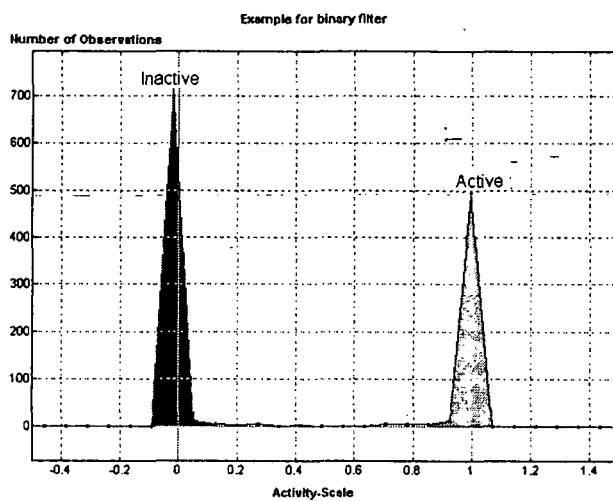
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### Examples for linear Filters



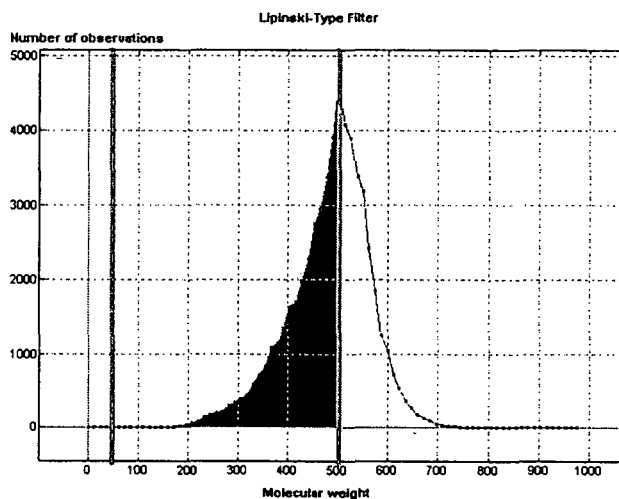
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## Example for non-linear Filter



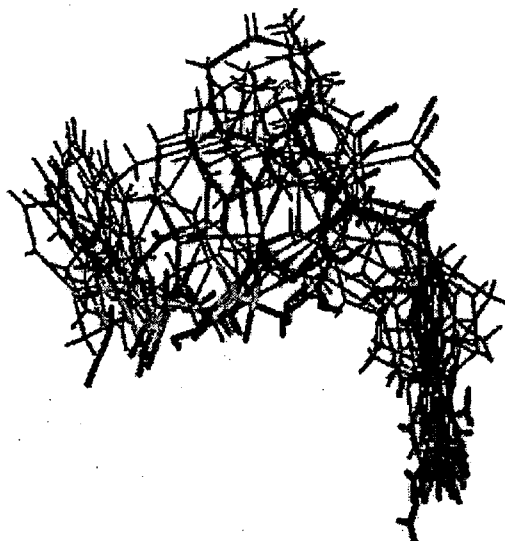
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## Example for Lipinski-Type Property Filter



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## Pharmacophore Models



Thrombin Inhibitors from Superimposed Crystal Structures

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## Pharmacophore based 3D Filter

### Functional Groups:

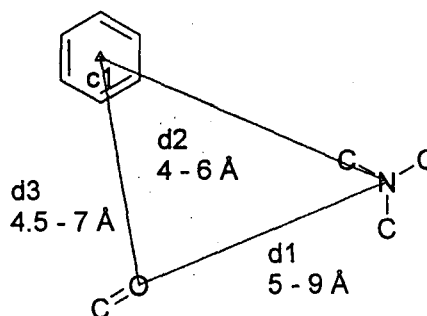
- H-Bond Donors
- H-Bond Acceptors
- Positively charged groups
- Negatively charged groups
- Hydrophobic groups

### Constraints:

- Distances
- Angles
- Vectors
- Planes
- Excluded Volumes

### Generation:

- Automatically or manually
- Broad range of activities and molecular features
- Bind to one site in identical binding mode
- Start with set of superimposed, diverse, rigid molecules
- Add more flexible molecules



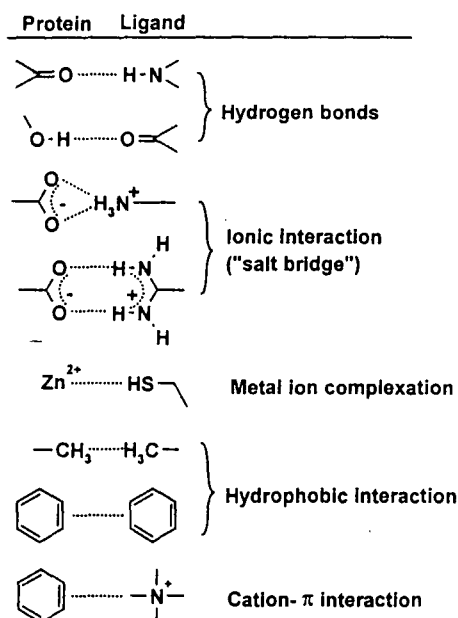
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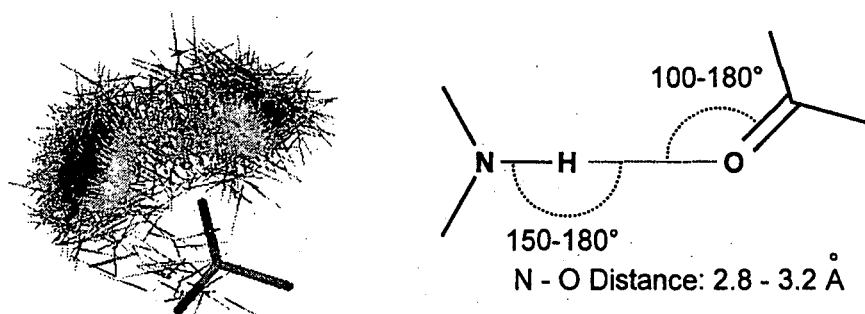
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### Noncovalent interactions in ligand-protein complexes



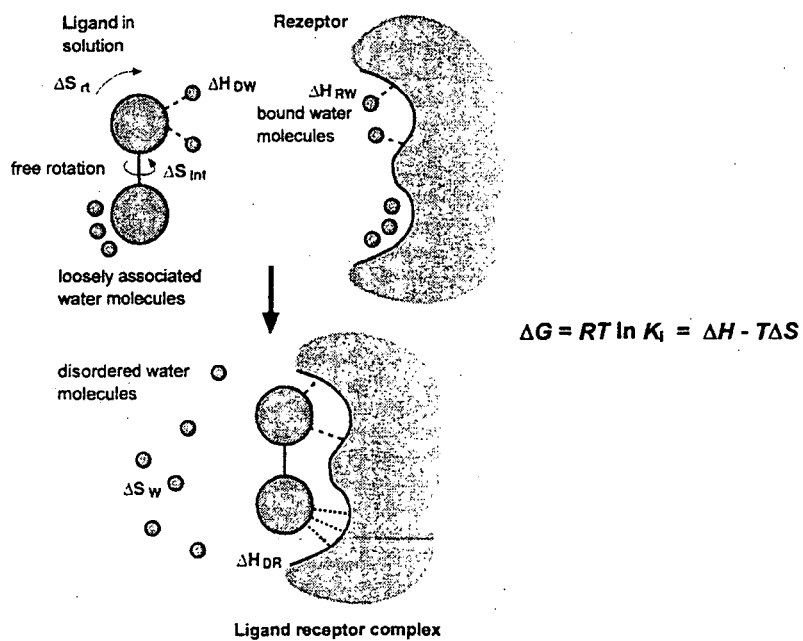
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# Hydrogen Bonds



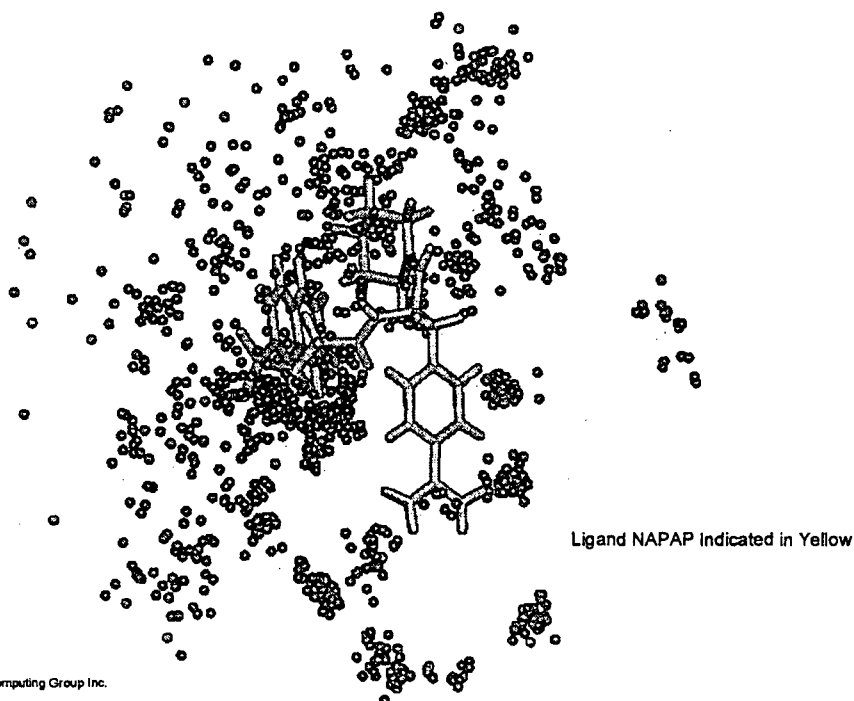
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## The Process of Ligand Binding

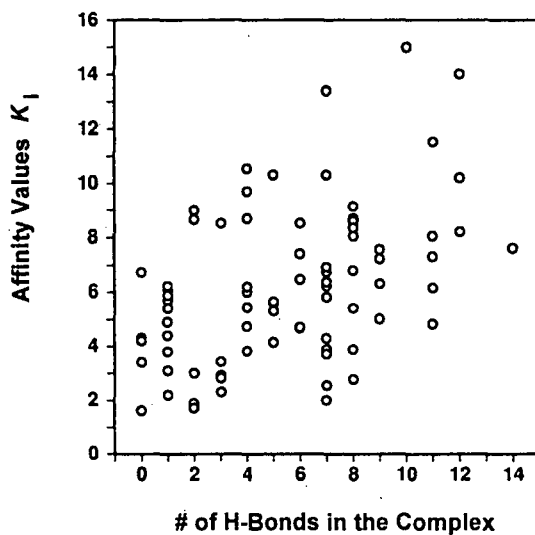


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## Distribution of Water Molecules in Unoccupied Active Sites of Thrombin



## Contribution of Hydrophilic Interactions to Ligand Affinity

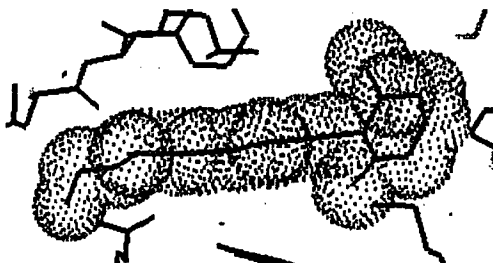


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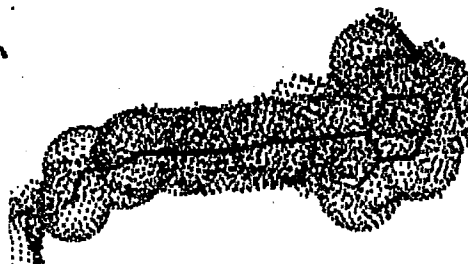


## Contribution of Hydrophobic Interactions to Ligand Affinity

Retinol Binding Protein:  
Residue side chains (magenta) of the protein  
and vdW surface of the ligand Retinol (blue)



Retinol Binding Protein:  
Connolly surface (magenta) of the protein  
and vdW surface of the ligand Retinol (blue)



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## “How to ?” in Computer Aided Library Design

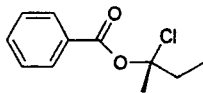
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## Structural Representations of Small Molecules

1D: c1ccccc1C(=O)O[C@](CC)(C)Cl

2D:



3D:



Textfile:

```
ISIS
30 30 0 0 0 0 1 v2000
-0.0169 1.3921 0.0097 C 0 0 0
1.1701 2.0948 0.0021 C 0 0 0
2.3776 1.4193 -0.0126 C 0 0 0
2.4036 0.0359 -0.0207 C 0 0 0
1.2241 -0.6793 -0.0137 C 0 0 0
0.0021 -0.0041 0.0020 C 0 0 0
-1.2651 -0.7633 0.0096 C 0 0 0
-1.2455 -1.9779 0.0020 O 0 0 0
-2.4424 -0.1088 0.0247 O 0 0 0
-3.6879 -0.8551 0.0322 C 0 0 2
-4.8667 0.1202 0.0493 C 0 0 0
-4.8118 1.0085 -1.1952 C 0 0 0
-3.7428 -1.7434 1.2764 C 0 0 0
-3.7667 -1.7284 -1.2217 C 0 0 0
-0.9586 1.9205 0.0260 H 0 0 0
1.1570 3.1747 0.0081 H 0 0 0
.
.
1 6 1 0
1 2 2 0
1 15 1 0
2 3 1 0
2 16 1 0
3 4 2 0
3 17 1 0
4 5 1 0
4 18 1 0
5 6 2 0
5 19 1 0
6 7 1 0
7 8 2 0
7 9 1 0
9 10 1 0
10 11 1 0
10 13 1 0
.
.
M END
$$$$
```

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## Structural Representations of Proteins

1D: EADCGLRPLPEKKSLEDKTERELLESYIDIVEGSDAEIGMSFWQVLMFRKSPQE  
LLCGASLISDRWVLTAAHCLLYPWNKFTENDLLPDRETAASLLQAGYKGRVT  
GWNLKEITWANVKGQPSVLQVNLPIVERPCKDSTRIR

"2D": IVEGSDAEIGMSFWQVLMFRKSPQELLCGASLISDRWVLTAAHCLLYPWNKDN  
T SS TTT TSSSSSSSTTTSSSSSSSS TTTSSS 333TSS333

IGKHSRTRYERNIEKISMLEKIYIHPRYNWRENDRDIALMKLKKPVAFSDYI  
SST TT TTT SSSSSSSSS TT TTT T SSSSST TT

3D:




Textfile:

```
ATOM 1 N GLU L 1C 63.691 25.940 17.920 0.00
ATOM 2 CA GLU L 1C 64.331 26.594 16.778 0.00
ATOM 3 C GLU L 1C 63.325 27.181 15.823 0.00
ATOM 4 O GLU L 1C 63.253 28.400 15.711 0.00
ATOM 5 CB GLU L 1C 65.333 25.719 16.023 0.00
ATOM 6 N ALA L 1B 62.540 26.309 15.144 0.00
ATOM 7 CA ALA L 1B 61.528 26.767 14.192 0.00
ATOM 8 C ALA L 1B 60.677 27.829 14.830 0.00
ATOM 9 O ALA L 1B 60.267 27.670 15.965 0.00
ATOM 10 CB ALA L 1B 60.675 25.608 13.772 0.00
ATOM 11 N ASP L 1A 60.419 28.936 14.148 0.00
ATOM 12 CA ASP L 1A 59.616 29.916 14.837 0.00
ATOM 13 C ASP L 1A 58.180 29.473 14.803 0.00
ATOM 14 O ASP L 1A 57.740 28.843 13.838 0.00
ATOM 15 CB ASP L 1A 59.843 31.394 14.473 0.00
ATOM 16 CG ASP L 1A 58.777 31.961 13.594 0.00
ATOM 17 OD1 ASP L 1A 57.587 32.151 14.206 0.00
ATOM 18 OD2 ASP L 1A 58.998 32.224 12.393 0.00
ATOM 19 H CYS L 1 57.464 29.769 15.871 0.00
ATOM 20 CA CYS L 1 56.104 29.368 15.999 0.00
ATOM 21 C CYS L 1 55.465 30.177 17.051 0.00
ATOM 22 O CYS L 1 56.146 30.757 17.853 0.00
ATOM 23 CB CYS L 1 56.102 27.939 16.548 0.00
ATOM 24 SG CYS L 1 56.982 27.807 18.150 0.00
ATOM 25 N GLY L 2 54.159 30.186 17.080 0.00
ATOM 26 CA GLY L 2 53.489 30.931 18.092 0.00
ATOM 27 C GLY L 2 53.388 32.388 17.738 0.00
ATOM 28 O GLY L 2 52.651 33.115 18.393 0.00
ATOM 29 N LEU L 3 54.104 32.832 16.706 0.00
```

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## “How to ?” in Computer Aided Library Design

- Understand the basic requirements for a small molecule to become a potent drug
- Linear and non-linear Filters
- A closer look at principles ruling the activity of a compound
- Teach the computer to handle chemical structures
- Find efficient methods to handle large amounts of data within reasonable time
- Correlate chemical structures with desired/undesired property, choose descriptors, build model, choose reagents

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## Explicit Treatment of Atomic Properties vs *Atom Typing*

- *Ab initio* Methods
- Semi Empirical Methods
- Empirical Methods (Force Field Based Systems, differentiable)
  - Molecular Mechanics (static picture), Molecular Dynamics (somewhat dynamic picture)
- Knowledge (Rule) Based Systems (discrete sampling)

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## Force Fields

Necessary building blocks for a force field:

- A list of atom types and atomic charges
- Atom typing rules
- Functional forms for the components (bonded, non bonded terms) of the energy expression
- Parameters for the function terms (rules for generating them if not explicitly given)
- An algorithm to calculate new atomic coordinates

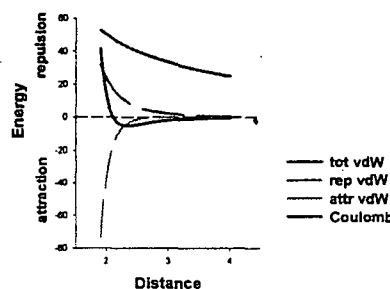
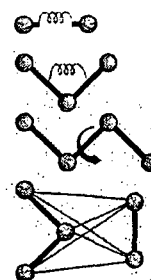
$$E = E_{\text{Bonding}} + E_{\text{Bonding}} + E_{\text{Torsion}} + E_{\text{nonbonded}}$$

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{Bonding}} K_b (b - b_0)^2$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{Bonding}} K_\theta (\theta - \theta_0)^2$$

$$+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\text{Torsion}} K_\phi (1 + \cos(n\phi - \delta))$$

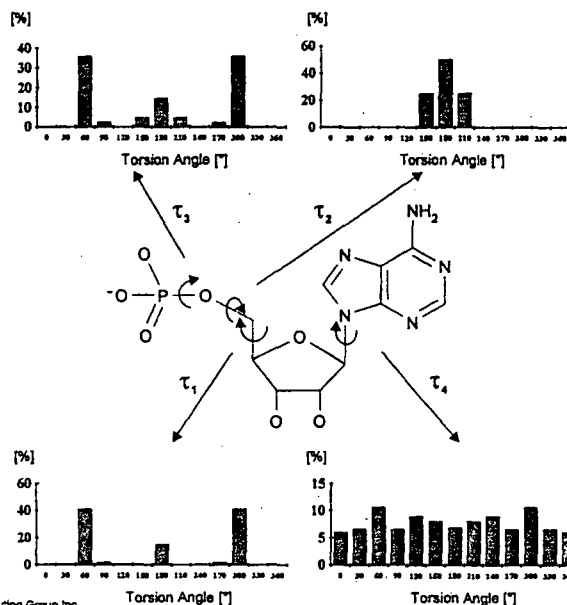
$$+ \sum_{\text{nonbonded}} (A/r^{12} - C/r^6 + q_i q_j / D_{ij})$$



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## Rule Based Systems

Torsion Angle Pseudopotentials Derived from the CSDB



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## Molecular Descriptors

Used for QSAR, Diversity Analysis, Combinatorial Library Design

### 2D Descriptors

Use only the atom and connection information of the molecule


- Physical properties (weight, logP, vdW volume or area, polarizability)
- Charge descriptors
- Atom counts (atom types, donors, acceptors)
- Bond counts
- Connectivity indices
- Graph distance matrix descriptors
- Pharmacophore atom types

### 3D Descriptors

Internal 3D descriptors use 3D coordinate information, but they are invariant to rotations and translations

External 3D descriptors require an absolute frame of reference

- Moments (Dipole, PMI)
- Areas, volumes and shape
- Energy descriptors

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## Fingerprints, Similarity and Dissimilarity

### Fingerprints:

- Set of features derived from the structure of a molecule
- Can be based on 2D or 3D features.
- Used as a "surrogate" for the chemical structure.

Example:


Assume our universe to describe chemical structures has the following 8 features:

$U = \{\text{Is-aromatic, has-ring, has-C, has-N, has-O, has-S, has-P, has-halogen}\}$

All structures are then described by subsets of  $U$ . There are  $2^8 = 256$  possible Fingerprints - or different "molecules".


### Metrics:

- Needed to compare (cluster) fingerprints / molecules
- A common metric is the Tanimoto coefficient
  - The number of common features divided by the number of total features in both fingerprints.
  - A number between 0 and 1, where 0 means maximally dissimilar and 1 means maximally similar

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## Library Enumeration Tools

- Explicit (explore all combinations)
- Virtual (explore representative subset)
- Prepare Reagents (R-group clipping)
- Apply filter -
  - (Diversity, Activity, Cost, Availability, ADME/T, Lipinski-Rules)
- Select reagent subset

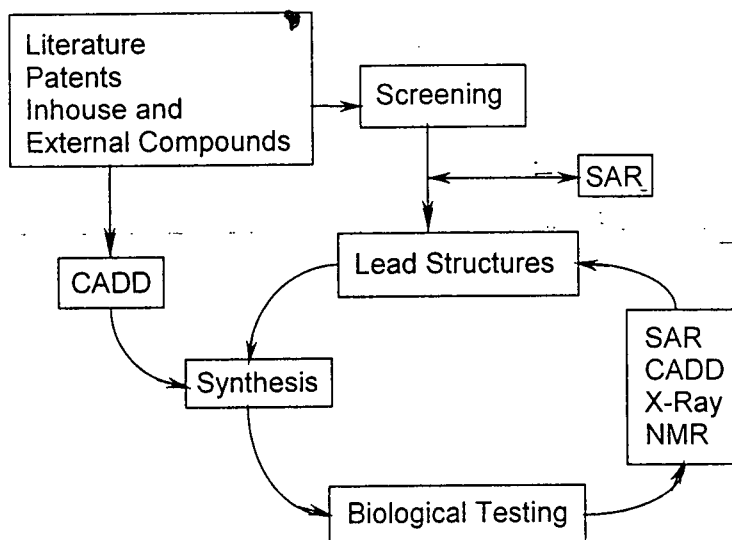
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## “How to ?” in Computer Aided Library Design

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## The Drug Design Cycle



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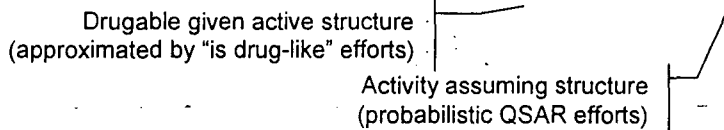
## Probabilistic Modeling in High Throughput Discovery

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## Probability based QSAR in Drug Discovery

- Use joint probability ( $Y = \text{active}(0/1)$   $D = \text{druggable}(0/1)$   $S = \text{structure}$ )
- Decompose joint probability into measurable components:

$$\Pr(Y, D, S) = \Pr(D | Y, S) \Pr(Y | S) \Pr(S)$$



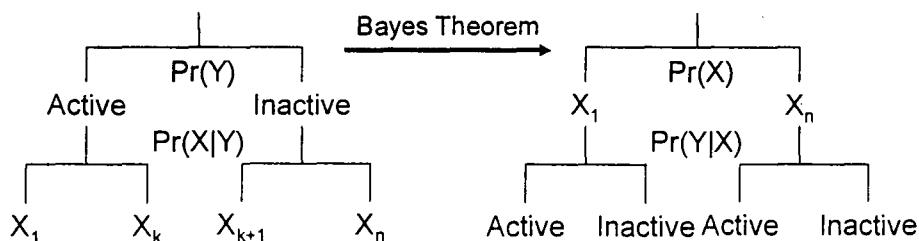
- Product of probabilities balances competing goals
  - Classification alone (e.g., RP) is not enough: weighted outcomes needed
  - Methodology similar to “soft” classification problems or fuzzy logic
- Make predictions using computed model of  $\Pr(A,B,C)$

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## $\Pr(Y|X)$ via Binary QSAR

- If  $Y$  is “binary activity” and  $X$  is a descriptor vector then

$$\Pr(Y = 1 | X = x) = \left[ 1 + \frac{\Pr(X = x | Y = 0) \Pr(Y = 0)}{\Pr(X = x | Y = 1) \Pr(Y = 1)} \right]^{-1}$$




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## Distribution Estimates

- Four distributions in formula are of two types
  - $\Pr(Y=0), \Pr(Y=1)$  Prior probability of inactive/active
  - $\Pr(X=x|Y=0), \Pr(X=x|Y=1)$  Probability of ligand assuming inactive/active
- Modeling assumption: independent  $\Leftrightarrow$  uncorrelated!
  - Decompose multi-dimensional distribution into a product
    - $\Pr(X = x | Y = y) = \prod_i \Pr(X_i = x_i | Y = y)$
  - Estimate  $2n+2$  distributions instead of original four
- Binary QSAR Algorithm
  - Compute descriptor vectors  $d_i$
  - De-correlate descriptors  $x_i = Q(d_i - u)$
  - Estimate distributions from  $\{x_i, y_i\}$   $\Pr(X = x | Y = y)$
  - Assemble  $p(x)$   $\Pr(Y = 1 | X = x)$
  - Predict for new molecules  $p(Q(\bar{d} - u))$

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## A Meaningful Subset of Descriptors

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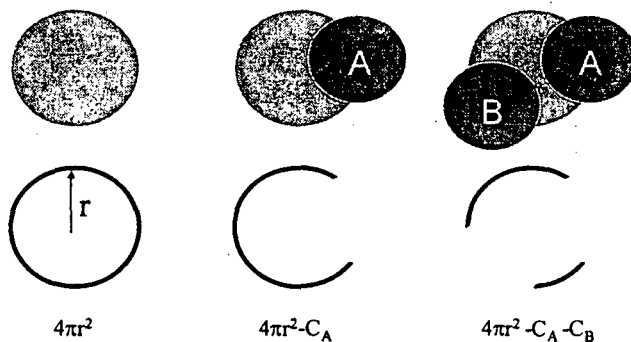
## Fundamental Notions

- Use a meaningful set of descriptors for diversity and QSAR/QSPR
  - A meaningful chemistry space should not require customization
  - In QSAR/QSPR automatic variable selection can be dangerous
- Model 3D properties from 2D (connectivity) information
  - 3D information from 2D connectivity = 2½ D descriptors
  - HTS QSAR and large-scale diversity require fast calculation times
  - 2D topological descriptors too weak, 3D descriptors too expensive
  - Use approximate atomic surface areas as fundamental representation
- Intended applications
  - QSAR/QSPR models - linear and nonlinear - early and late in project
  - Chemistry space for library design
  - Diversity analysis, ADMET filter etc.

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## Exposed Van der Waals Surface Area (VSA)

- Calculate exposed Van der Waals surface area for each atom by subtracting off surface area inside neighbors

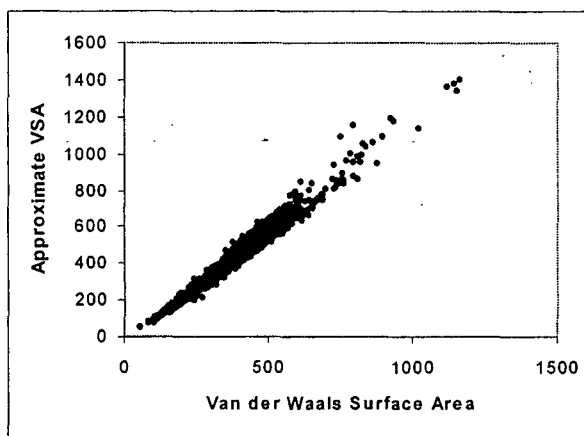


- Correction factors to sphere formula depend on atomic radii and inter-atomic distances

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## Quality of Approximate VSA Calculation

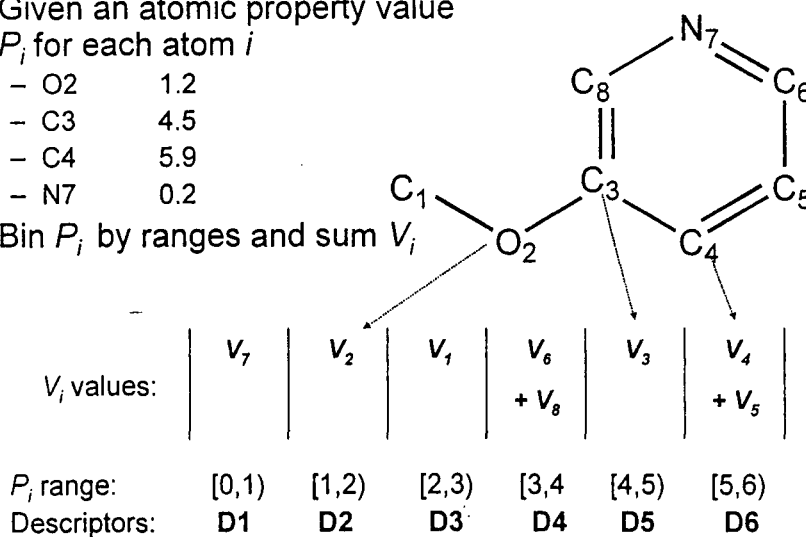
- Data set of 1,947 conformations
  - MOE 2D → 3D converter, MMFF94 force field, 0.01 RMS gradient
  - Molecular weights in [300,1600] range
- VDW Surface Area
  - 3D dot calculation
- Accuracy
  - $r = 0.9856$
  - $r^2 = 0.9666$
  - <10% error
  - Largest errors on steroids and other fused ring systems



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## Subdivision of VSA by Properties

- Given an atomic property value  $P_i$  for each atom  $i$ 
  - O2 1.2
  - C3 4.5
  - C4 5.9
  - N7 0.2
- Bin  $P_i$  by ranges and sum  $V_i$



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## Encoding of Traditional Descriptors

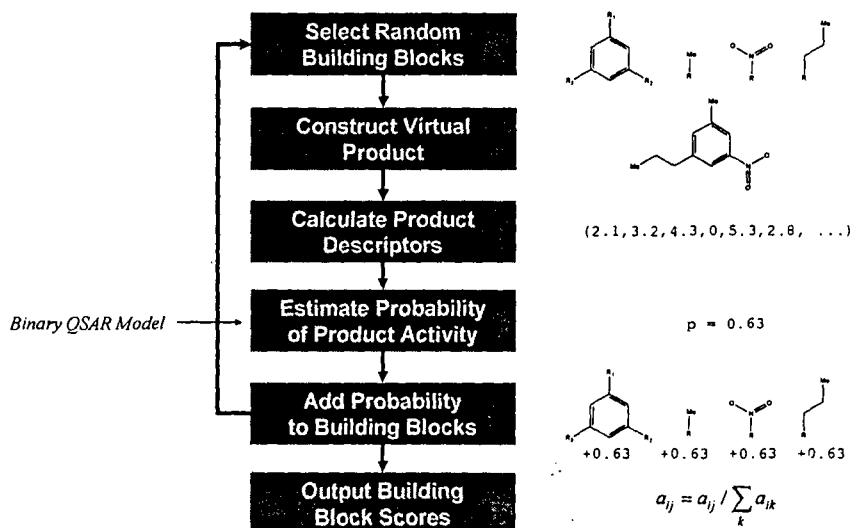
- Traditional descriptors modeled with VSA descriptors
  - 1,932 small organic molecules with weights in (28,800)
  - SlogP\_VSA, SMR\_VSA and PEOE\_VSA descriptors calculated
  - Principal components regression models for 64 traditional descriptors

chi0	0.99	chi0v_C	0.97	b_ar	0.89	b_1rotN	0.78
Kier1	0.99	KierA1	0.97	Kier2	0.89	b_double	0.77
vdw_area	0.99	a_hyd	0.96	vsa_pol	0.89	b_rotN	0.77
vdw_vol	0.99	a_nC	0.96	vsa_acc	0.88	a_ICM	0.73
vsa_hyd	0.99	a_nH	0.96	diameter	0.87	vsa_don	0.73
a_count	0.98	a_nO	0.95	VadjEq	0.87	KierFlex	0.69
a_heavy	0.98	b_heavy	0.95	a_nN	0.86	balabanJ	0.61
a_IC	0.98	chi1_C	0.95	KierA2	0.86	a_nP	0.60
apol	0.98	chi1v_C	0.95	radius	0.86	Kier3	0.57
b_count	0.98	SlogP	0.95	VdistMa	0.86	a_nCl	0.56
chi0v	0.98	a_acc	0.94	wienPath	0.85	KierA3	0.55
chi1	0.98	chi1v	0.94	wienPol	0.84	a_nS	0.53
SMR	0.98	Weight	0.93	VadjMa	0.82	b_1rotR	0.50
b_single	0.97	a_aro	0.91	VdistEq	0.82	density	0.49
bpol	0.97	a_don	0.91	vsa_oth	0.82	b_rotR	0.48
chi0_C	0.97	zagreb	0.91	a_nF	0.80	b_triple	0.46

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## Library Design Tools

### Building Block Scoring Algorithm



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## Quinazoline Library R-Group Scores

R1	R2	R3	R4
0.121 CH2-(2-thienyl)	0.191 1-imidazolyl	0.197 Me	0.960 H
0.120 benzyl	0.160 2-pyridyl	0.192 H	0.040 Me
0.109 CH2-benzyl	0.145 3-pyridyl	0.142 Cl	
0.083 phenyl	0.127 H	0.120 F	
0.081 CH2-(3-pyridyl)	0.111 4-pyridyl	0.112 CH3O	
0.062 CH2-(2-furanyl)	0.099 2-thienyl	0.093 Br	
0.061 2-pyridyl	0.076 2-furyl	0.065 CH3S	
0.041 3-(5-Me-isoxazolyl)	0.072 Cl	0.042 CH3SO2	
0.038 2-ClPh	0.016 4-morpholine	0.024 NO2	
0.037 3-ClPh	0.003 c-hexyl	0.013 NCC	
0.036 4-ClPh	0.001 4-Me-1-piperazinyl		
0.034 3-pyridyl			
0.032 1-pyrrolyl			
0.023 3-CH3OPh			
0.015 CH2CH2-2(3-Me-pyrrolyl)			
0.015 3-NO2Ph			
0.011 H			
0.008 CH2(CH2)4OH			
0.007 CH2(cPr)			
0.007 4-(CO2Me)Ph			
0.006 CH2-(c-hexyl)			
0.005 3-(CO2Me)Ph, c-pentyl, c-hexyl			
0.004 CH2-(2-THF)			
0.003 CH2(CH2)2OCOCH2CH3			

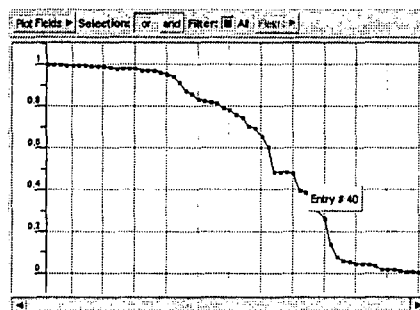
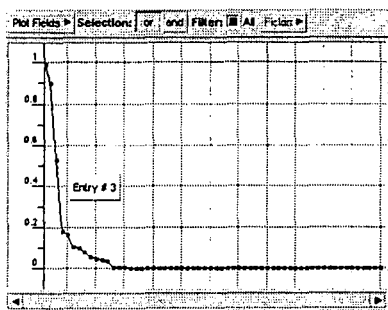
- Use median cutoff at each position (selected R-groups shown in blue)
- Retain only high-scoring R-groups that account for 50% of the probability

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## Enrichment of predicted active compounds

Random picked

Focused



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**COMBINATORIAL PHENOMENA IN BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS**

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# COMBINATORIAL PHENOMENA IN BIOLOGICAL SYSTEMS

**Béla Noszál**

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*NOSBEL@HOGYES.SOTE.HU*

Combinatorial chemistry (C.c.) is a recent branch of sciences, with several applications in drug research.

C.c. produces a wide variety of compounds, in order to provide the target moiety of the drug receptor with a large selection of possibly binding countermolecules.

The number of compounds formed can be expressed in terms of combinatorics, such as the number of combinations, variations, permutations, and numerous exponential formulas.

For example, if pentapeptide libraries are produced using 7 amino acids, the number of constitutionally distinct peptides is  $\binom{7}{2} = \frac{7!}{5!2!} = 21$  (the number of combinations regardless the sequence). The possible, non-repeating sequences within a given set of five amino acids are  $5! = 120$ , the number of permutations, which allows for 2520 pentapeptides of 5 different amino acids each. If repeating sequences are also permitted, the total number of pentapeptides with 7 building blocks is  $7^5 = 16807$ . Such cornucopia of compounds represents a substantial chance of receptor binding.

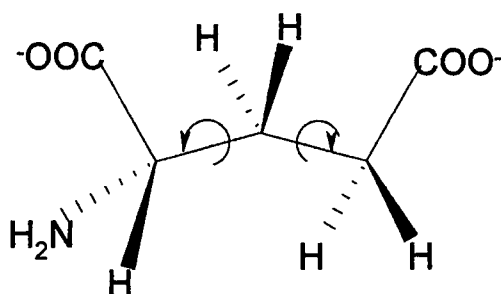
Several analogous combinatorial phenomena occur in biological systems.

Two of such combinatorial events are the protonation and conformation changes of biomolecules, in which a wide variety of distinct species are formed in a spontaneous manner. Prime examples are the neurotransmitters

that constitute an extremely important group of versatile, multiconform biomolecules.

These compounds are typically of low molecular mass and relatively few atoms, but they usually bear several biological functions, due to their structural and coulombic chargeability, and the concomitant set of distinct forms that can be counted by operations of combinatorics.

For example, glutamic acid, one of the 20 "classical" amino acids and a ubiquitous neurotransmitter on excitatory amino acid receptors, carries at least 6 biological functions, which can be assigned to its  $F = 2^n \cdot 3^m$  different solution forms, where  $n$  is the number of basic sites, and  $m$  is the number of rotational axes. For glutamic acid,  $n = 3$ ,  $m = 2$ , and  $F = 72$ .



All the 72 forms of glutamic acid coexist in solution, providing the various receptors with a multitude of binding choices, being each of them is a particular microform of glutamic acid. The various microforms have different physico-chemical properties, with individual capabilities not only in receptor binding, but also in enzyme-catalysis, metabolism and membrane penetration. The significance, methods and results of combinatorial phenomena in biological systems will be further exemplified on N-acetylcysteine, the most widely used mucolytic agent<sup>1</sup>, and amphetamine, a psychostimulant drug<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>Noszál, B., Visky, D., Kraszni, M.: *J. Med. Chem.* 2000, **43**, 2176-2182

<sup>2</sup>Noszál, B., Kraszni, M.: *J. Phys. Chem. B.* 2001, in press



# Molecular Diversity in Drug Discovery: A Critical Assessment

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## MOLECULAR DIVERSITY IN DRUG DISCOVERY: A CRITICAL ASSESSMENT

Pierfausto Seneci

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This Lecture will at first examine the phases of modern drug discovery and see where diversity [1,2] and combinatorial chemistry [3-6] are going to play a major role (Figure 1). Target identification and target validation are now crucial milestones, as the unravelling of the human genome is providing thousands of uncharacterized genes as potential targets for the cure of important diseases. Research laboratories able to identify and validate targets better and faster than competitors will be significantly advantaged, and combinatorial approaches and tools will provide relevant benefits at this stage [7]; nevertheless, the full potential of chemical diversity and combinatorial libraries is evident in the following three steps of the process (Figure 1).

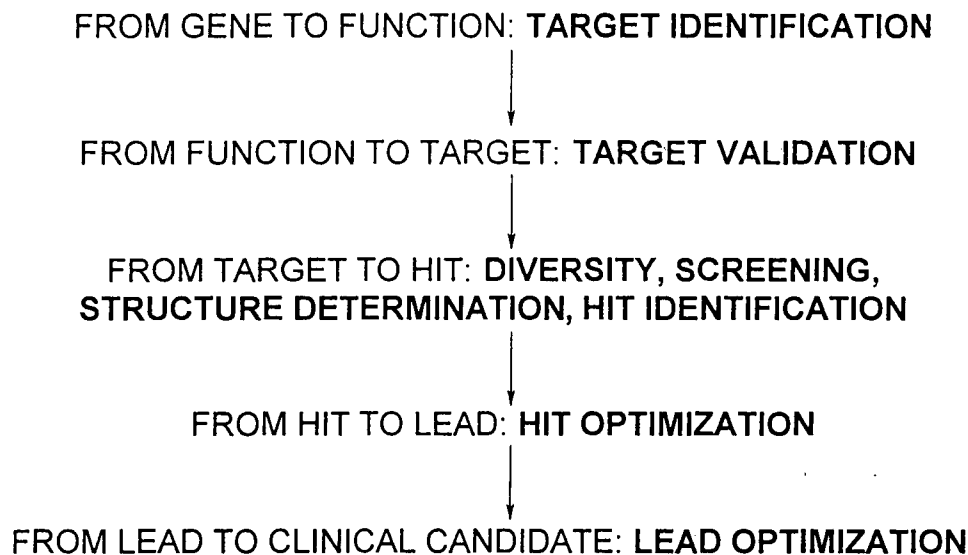


Figure 1. Modern drug discovery: The critical steps.

Traditionally the accent in Drug Discovery was put on the throughput, i.e. on the availability of large diversity collections ( $>>100K$ ), of high-throughput robotics for the handling and the screening of the diversity, and of high-throughput analytical tools for the determination of the structure(s) and of the quality of active compounds. As for the collections, four major sources of compounds are available:

- Single compounds (externally acquired or in house prepared);
- Natural products from living organisms;
- Discrete libraries (parallel synthesis, individual compounds);
- Pool libraries (mix and split synthesis, mixtures).

Each source has its advantages and disadvantages, and will be thoroughly examined during the Lecture. Several key messages summarize the current tendencies related to chemical diversity and screening in hit identification:

•

- 
- A collection must contain subsets from all diversity sources, and must evolve by acquisition/synthesis/isolation of novel, relevant individuals or libraries;
- Large pool primary libraries are becoming less popular;
- Medium-small, high quality, modular discrete libraries are increasingly popular;
- Libraries inspired by natural products' complex structures are increasingly popular, especially concerning the so-called chemical genetics approach [8,9].

The second part of this Lecture will present three recent examples referring to lead discovery and lead optimization. The first covers the synthesis of so called "activity profiling libraries", used to determine the nature of proteases in in vitro and in vivo assays and to validate their relevance as targets in Drug Discovery [10]. The second covers modular libraries in solution derived from a common chalcone library [11]. The third [12] reports a high quality solid phase pool library of complex, natural products-like compounds obtained from high quality and yield chemical transformations.

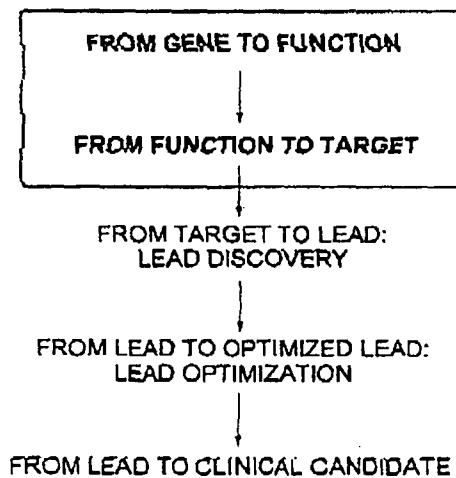
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# Molecular Diversity in Drug Discovery: a critical assessment

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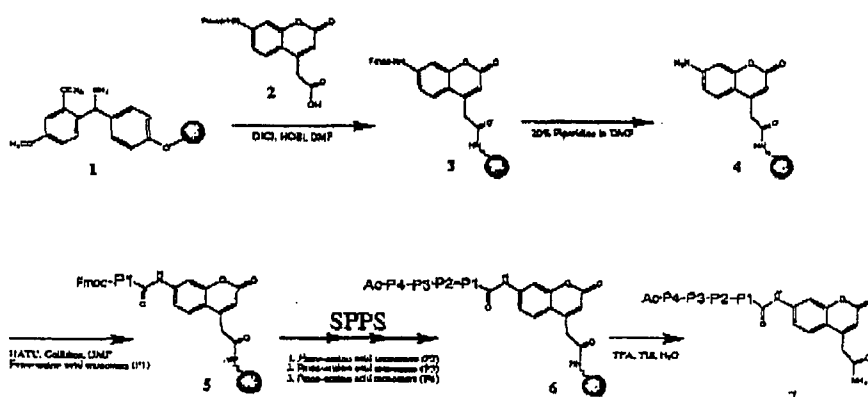
## The Drug Discovery Process



## Activity Profiling Libraries

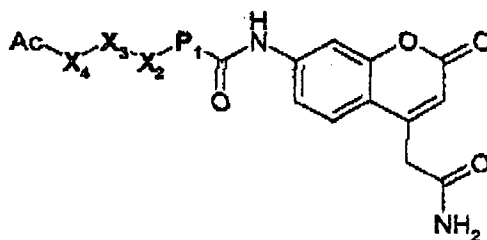
- Functional proteomics
- Targeted onto broad enzyme classes: e.g., proteases
- Reversible or irreversible probes
- This example: peptide libraries as reversible probes for serine and cysteine proteases

## Activity Profiling Libraries



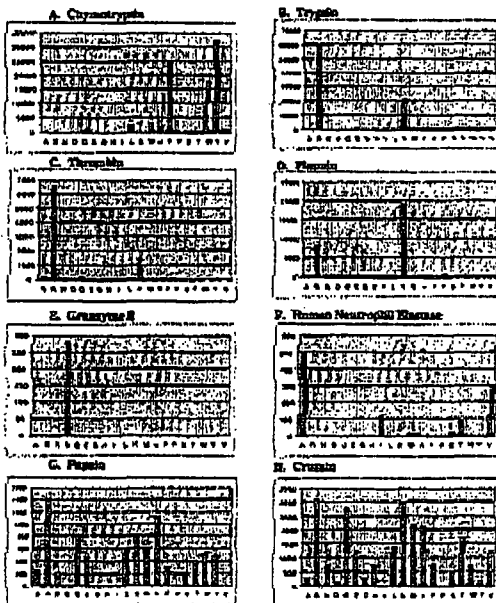
Harris, J.L. et al., PNAS 97, 7754-7759 (2000)

## Activity Profiling Libraries

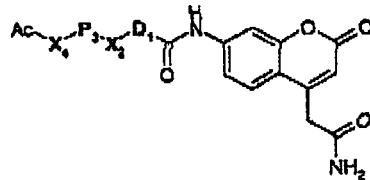
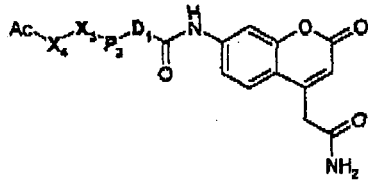


$P_1$ -determined SP tetrapeptide library  
 $P_1$  = 20 determined AAs (-Cys, +Nle)  
 $X_2$ - $X_4$  = 19 randomized AAs (-Cys)  
 20 pools, 137,180 compounds, 6,859 compounds/pool

## ACTIVITY PROFILING



## Activity Profiling Libraries



three  $P_2$ -determined SP tetrapeptide sublibraries

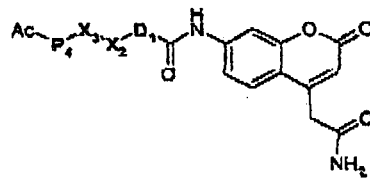
$D_1$  = 3 AAs (Lys, Leu and Arg)

$P_2$  = 19 determined AAs (-Cys)

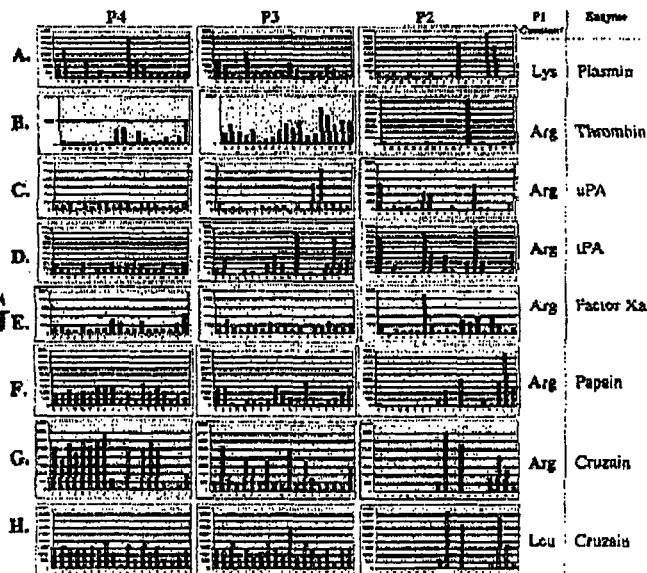
$X_2$ - $X_4$  = 19 randomized AAs (-Cys)

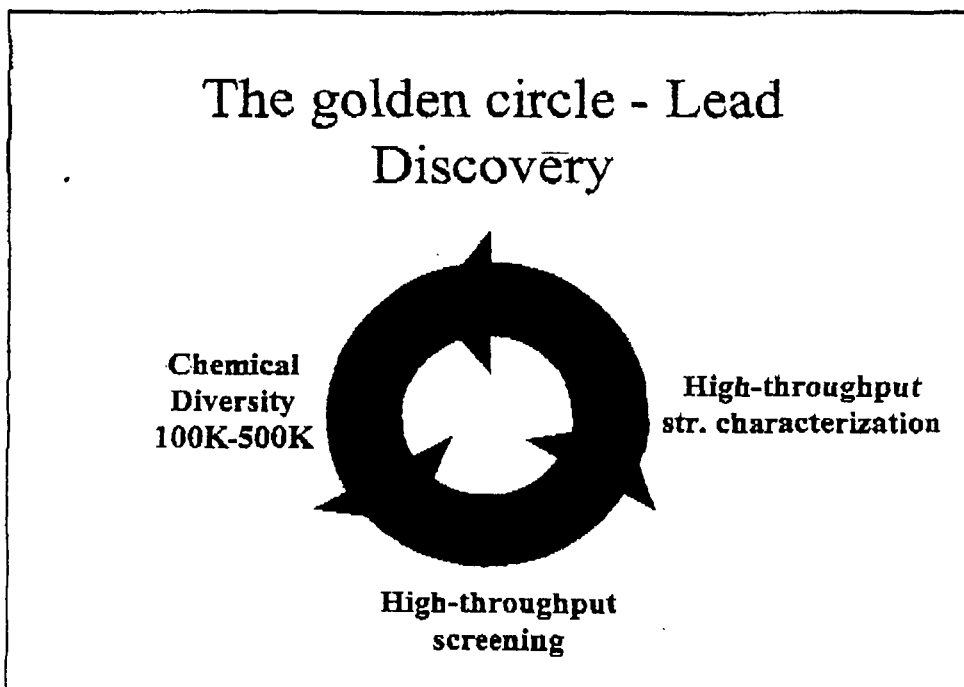
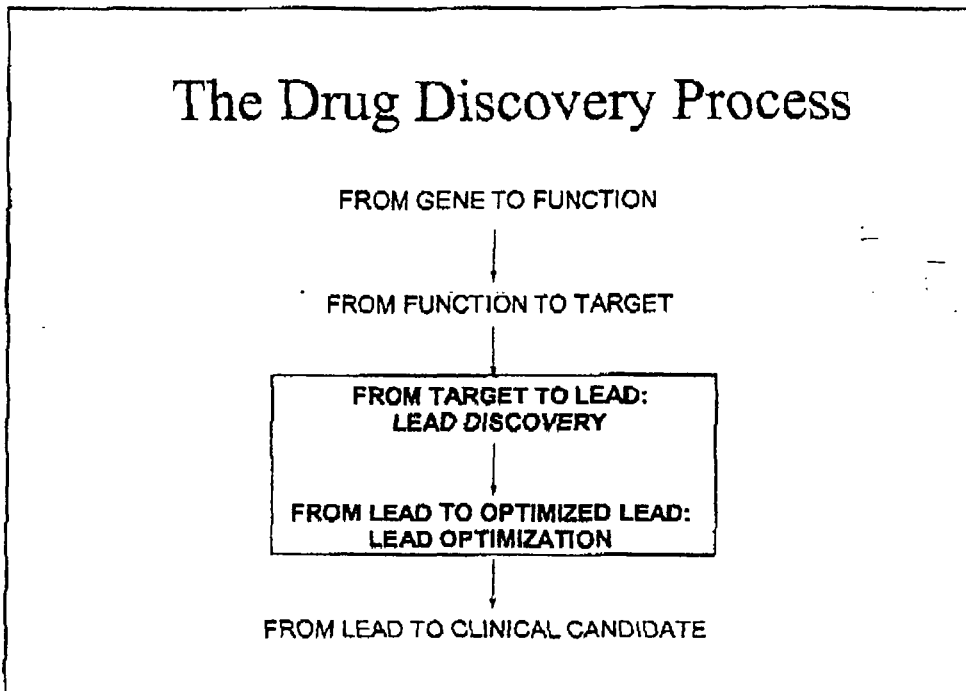
19 pools per sublibrary, 6,859 compounds per sublibrary,

361 compounds/pool



## ACTIVITY PROFILING







## CD Sources – Single Compounds

- In house: historically built (large pharmas)
- CD depends on company history
- Ex novo: time- and money- requiring
- Very “diverse”, if well planned: high CD embedded
- From any source (synthesis, acquisition, natural products, etc.)

## CD Sources - SP pool libraries

- HT synthesis with minimal efforts
- No or little automation required
- Low embedded CD
- Problematic screening: false positives, false negatives, etc.
- Problematic structural characterization: throughput, missing compounds, etc.

## CD Sources -Discrete libraries

- Extensive automation required
- Slower, more expensive
- Medium-Low embedded CD
- Screening and structural characterization:  
no problems

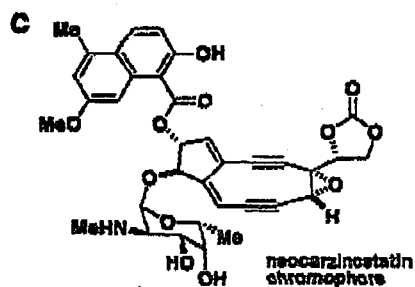
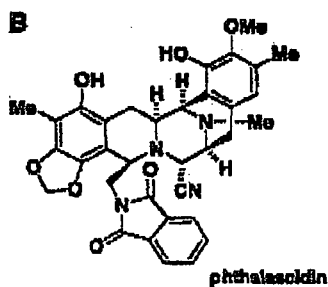
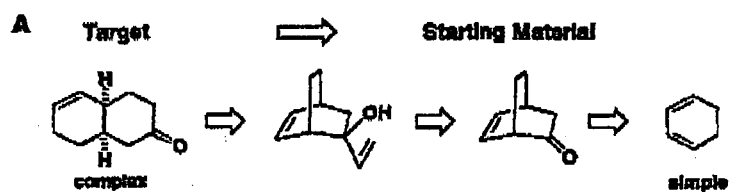
## CD Sources - Natural products

- Troublesome isolation/purification
- "Deja vu" effect: novelty
- Particular skills required
- If novel sources are available, valuable and unpredictable CD is found
- If novel selection criteria are applied, valuable and unpredictable CD is found

## Trends:

- Multiple CD sources in an "evolutionary" screening collection
- Less large, primary libraries (only if expensive technology is available)
- More small, high quality, modular discrete libraries
- Back to novel natural products and NP-like compounds/libraries
- Meaningful screening assays with in vivo relevance: chemical genetics

## Target-Oriented Retrosynthesis

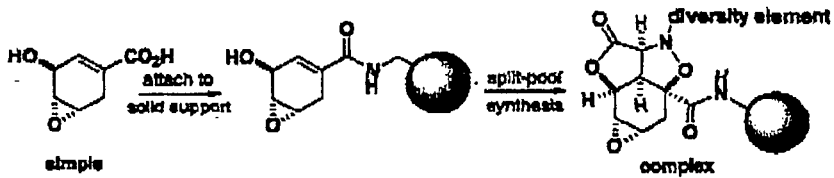


## Diversity-Oriented Retrosynthesis

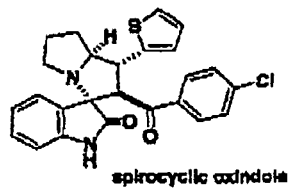
A Starting Material



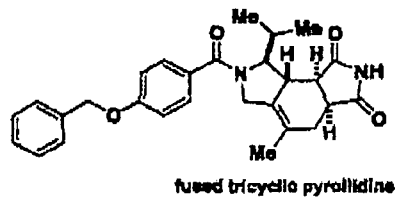
Complexity, Diversity



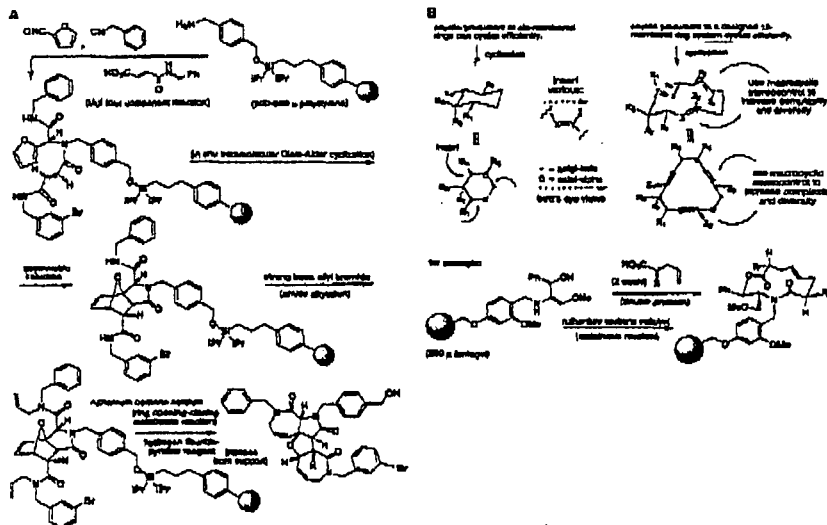
B



C

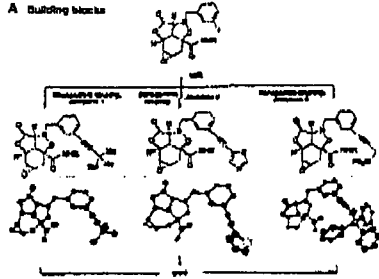


## Diversity-Oriented Retrosynthesis

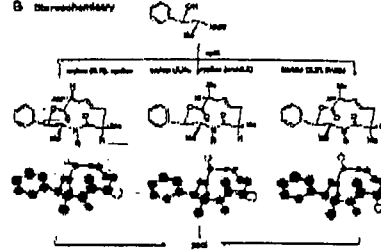


## Diversity-Oriented Retrosynthesis

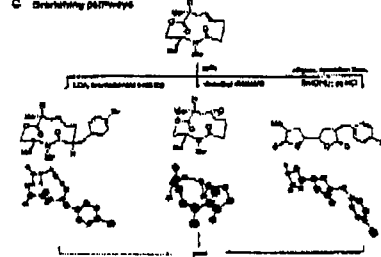
A Building blocks



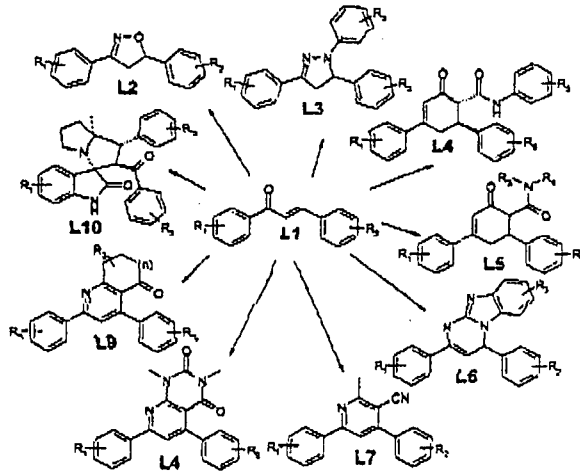
B Stereocenter



C Branching pathways

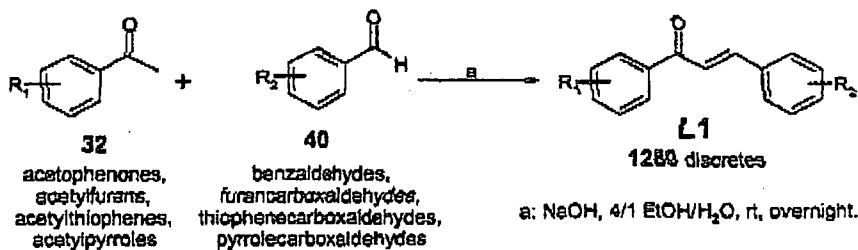


## MODULAR DISCRETE LIBRARIES

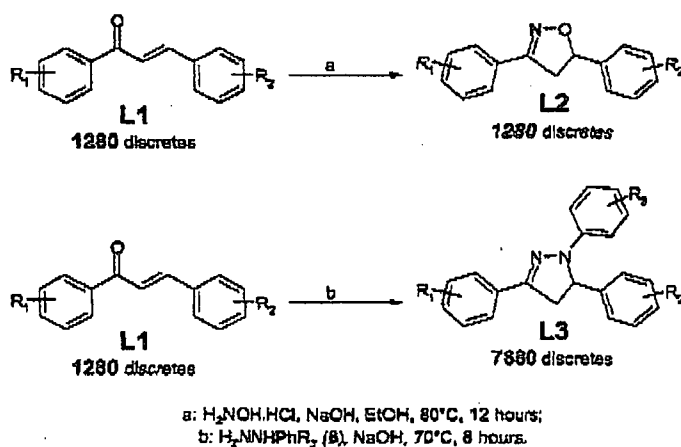


Powers, D.G. et al., *Tetrahedron* 54, 4085-4096 (1998).

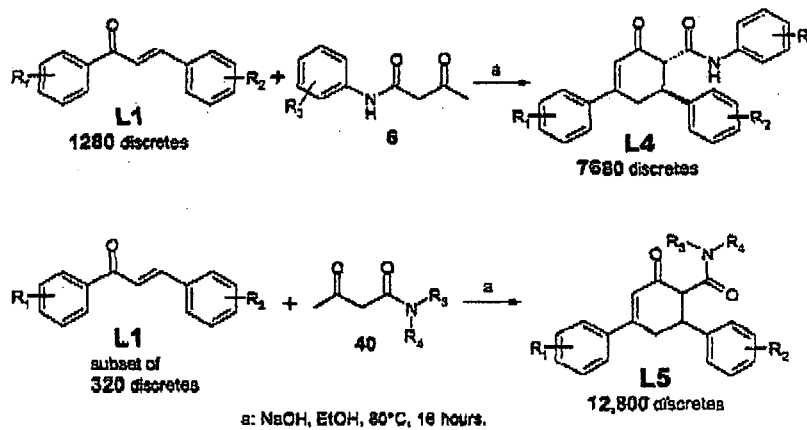
## MODULAR DISCRETE LIBRARIES



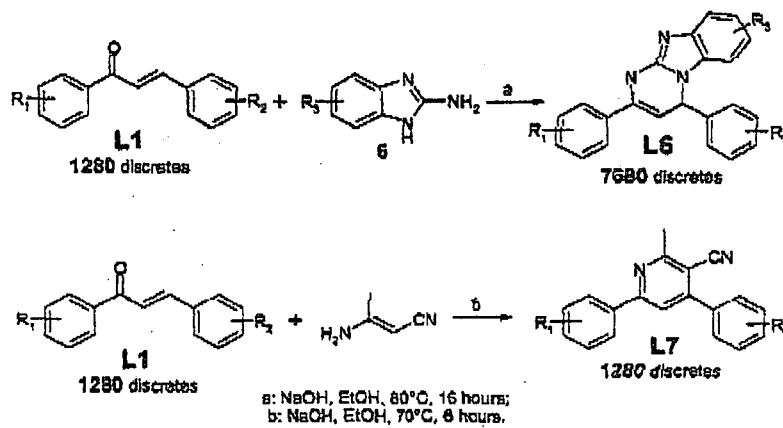
## MODULAR DISCRETE LIBRARIES



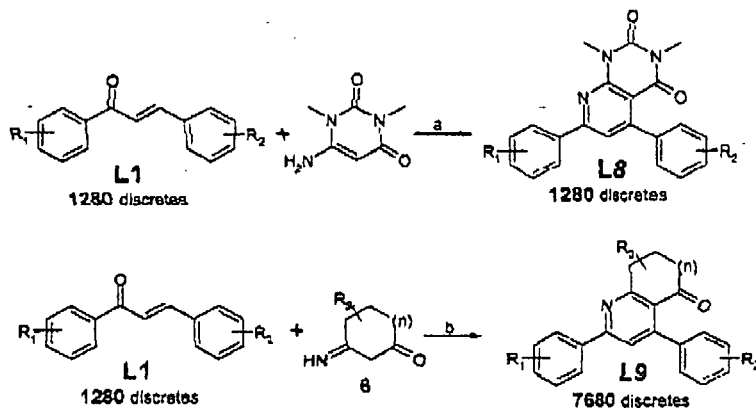
## MODULAR DISCRETE LIBRARIES



## MODULAR DISCRETE LIBRARIES

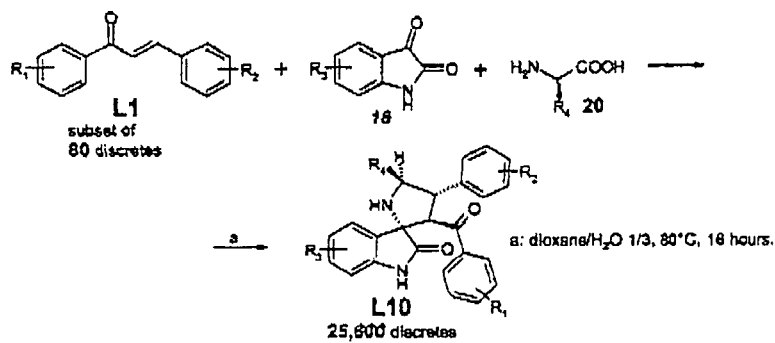


## MODULAR DISCRETE LIBRARIES



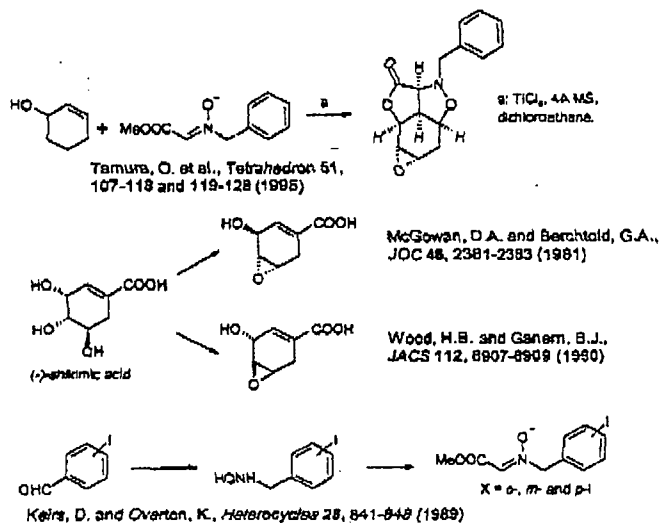
a: NaOH, EtOH, 80°C, 18 hours;  
 b: NaOH, EtOH, 80°C, 12 hours.

## MODULAR DISCRETE LIBRARIES

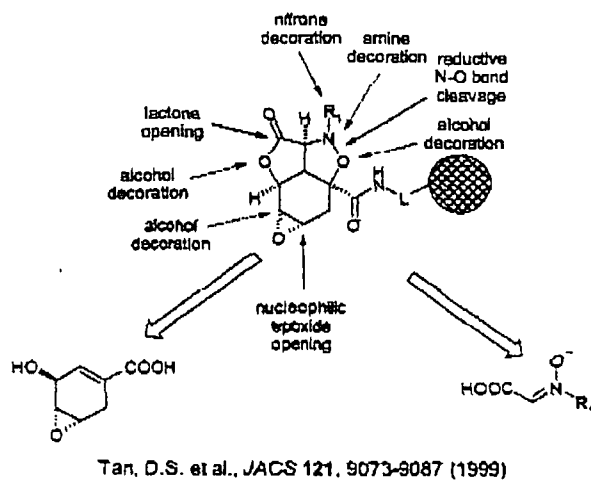




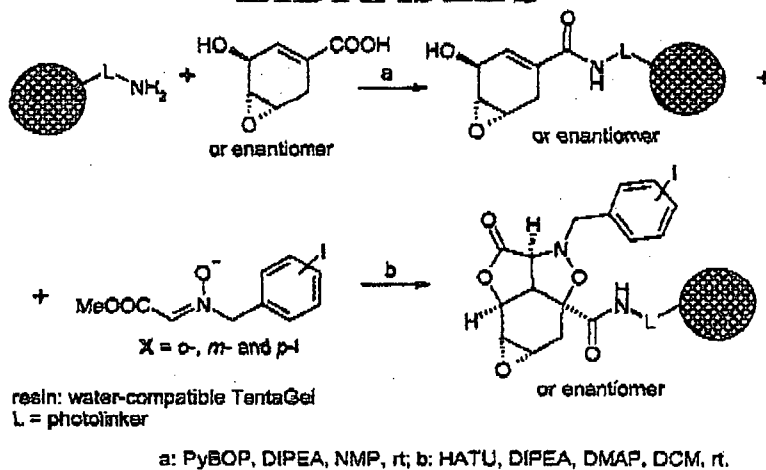
## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES



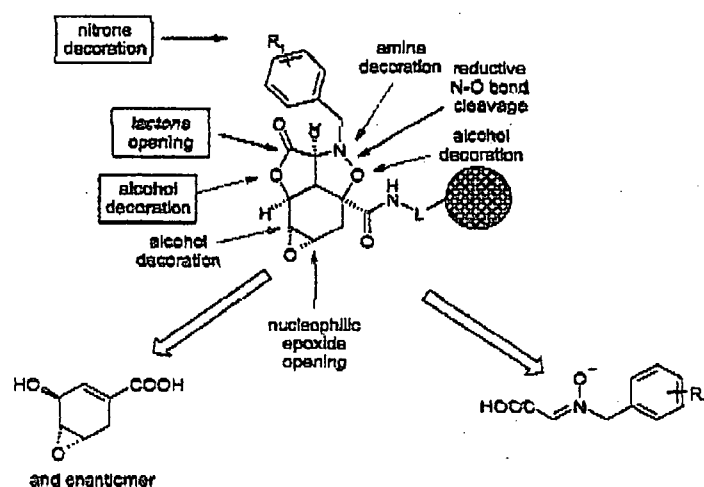
## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES



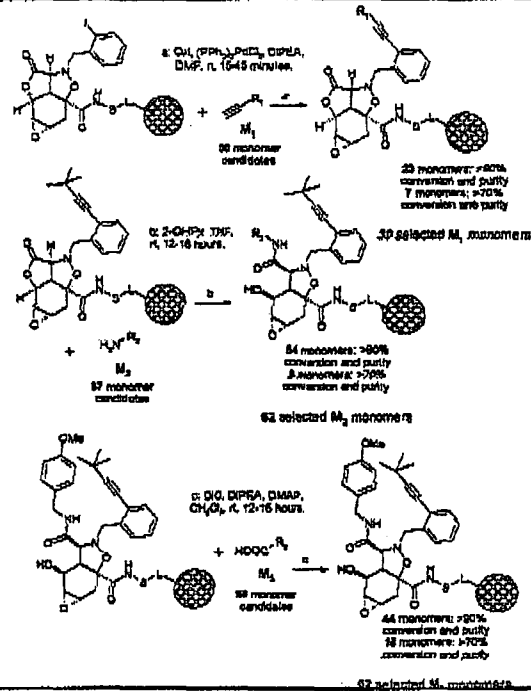
## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES



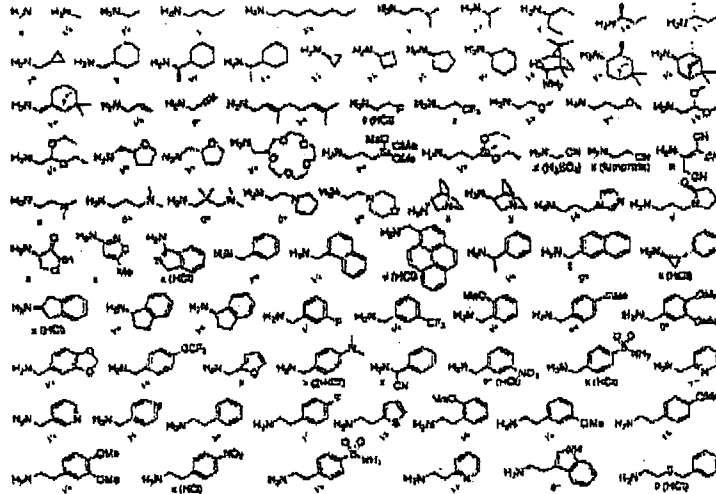
## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES



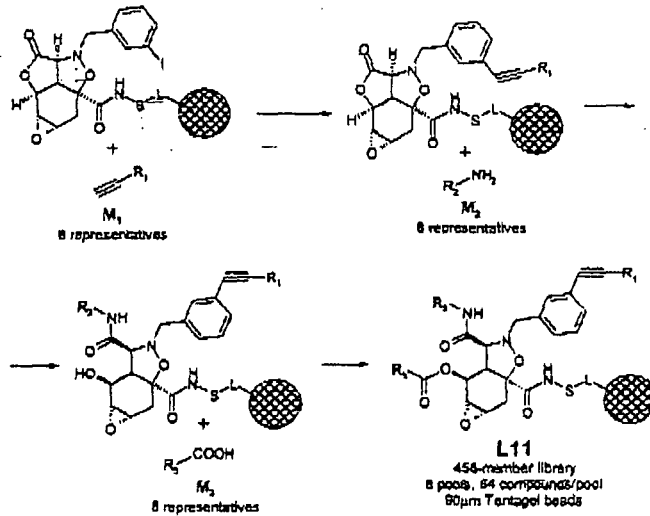
## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES



## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES

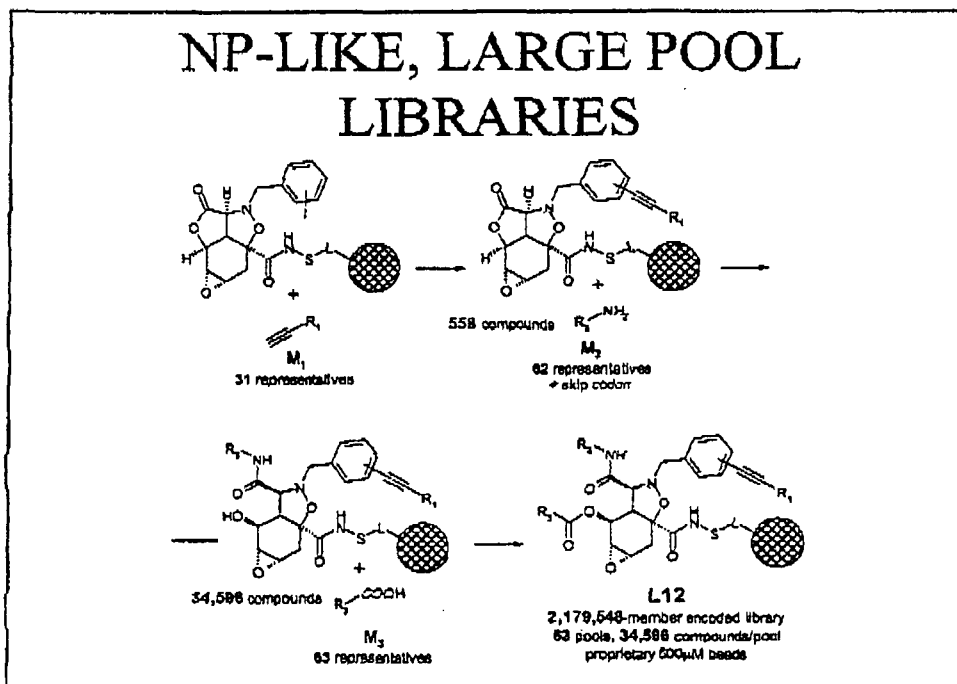
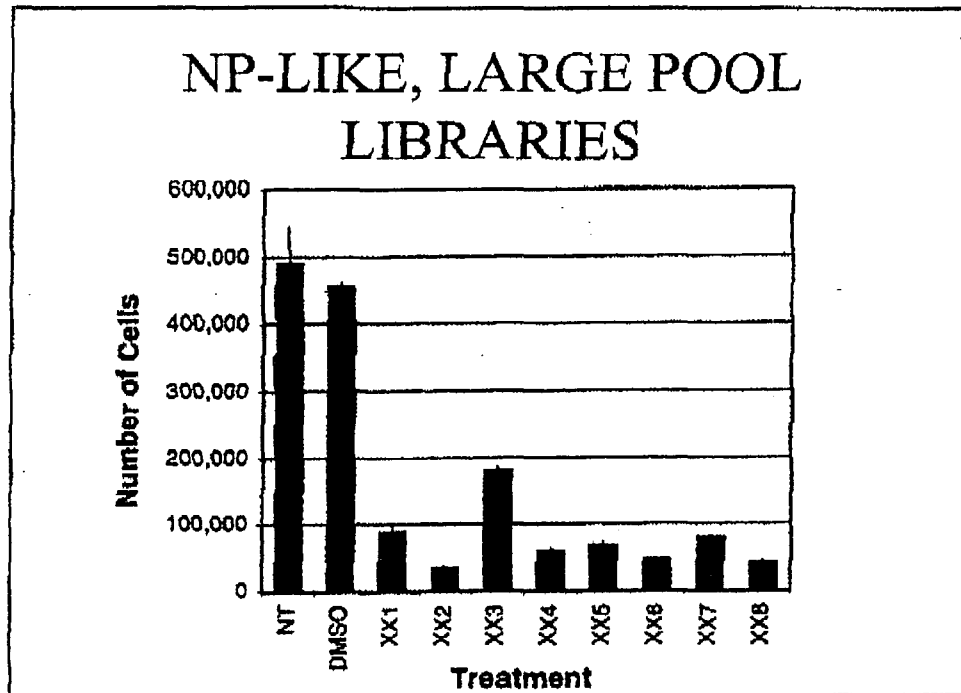


## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES



## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES

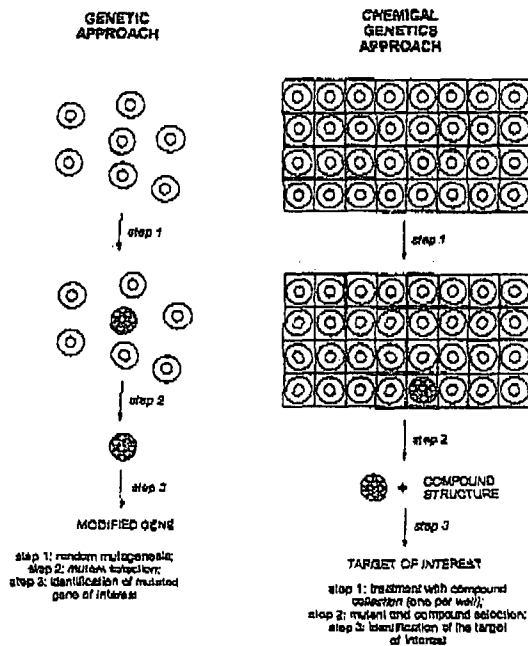
- DECONVOLUTION OF L11:
- Activity on a mink lung cell proliferation assay (low micromolar)
- Difficult deconvolution (synergistic effects)
- Low quantity of supported compound per bead



## NP-LIKE, LARGE POOL LIBRARIES

- DECODING OF L12:
- Simple and reliable decoding
- Large quantity of supported compound per bead, sufficient for bead-based test and reconfirmation

### Chemical genetics



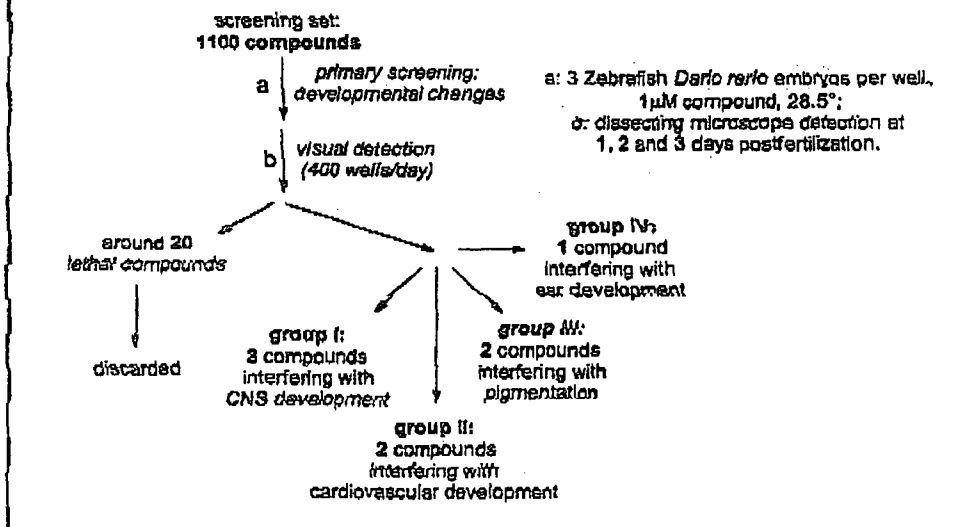
## Chemical genetics

*Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, Vol. 97, Issue 24, 12965-12969, November 21, 2000*

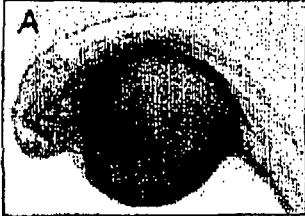
### Small molecule developmental screens reveal the logic and timing of vertebrate development

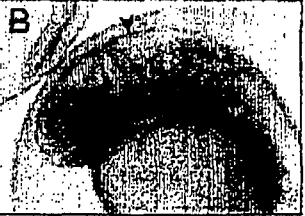
Randall T. Peterson\*, Brian A. Link, John E. Dowling, and Stuart L. Schreiber\*


## Chemical genetics

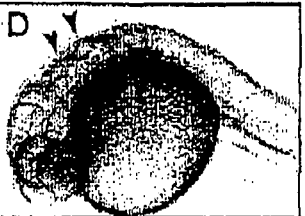


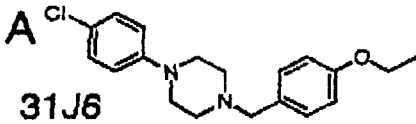
**CNS alterations**


**A**  **not treated**

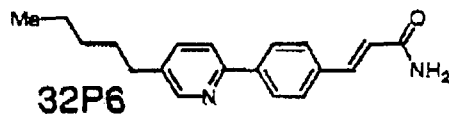
**B**  CNCCCNC1=CN2C=CC=CC2=C1O **32N8**

**C**  CCCCCCCCN1C(=S)NC2CCN12 **33M20**

**D**  CCN(C)C(=O)N1C=CC=C1 **32N5**

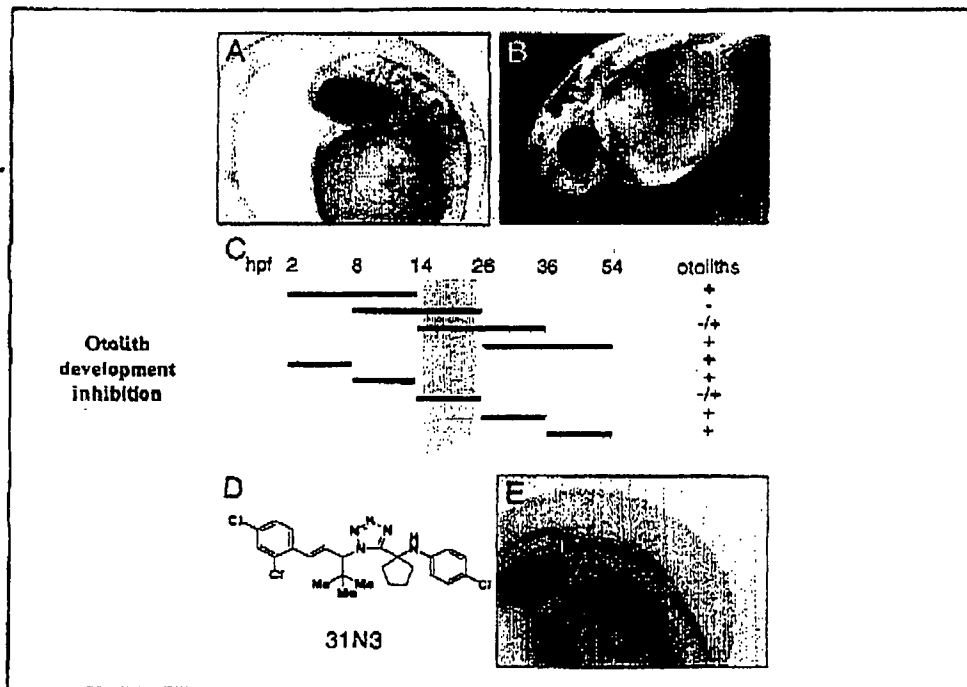
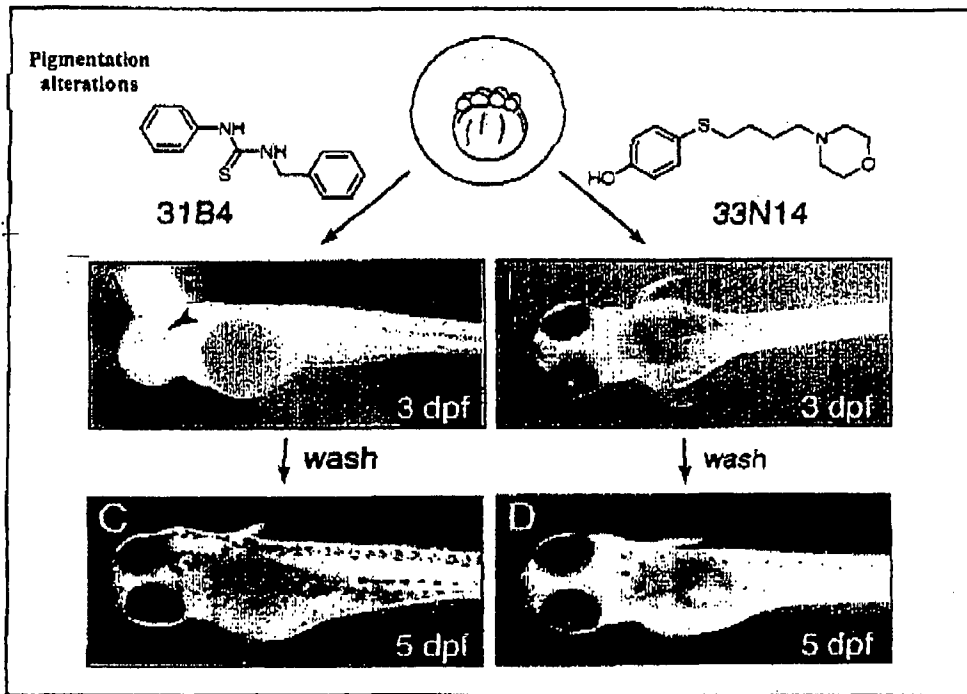
**A**  CCOC1=CC=C(C=C1)CN2CCN(C2)C3=CC=C(Cl)C=C3 **31J6**

**B** 

**C**  CCCCc1ccc(cc1)-c2ccc(cc2)/C=C/C(=O)N **32P6**

**Cardiovascular Alterations (genetic Similarity noticed)**



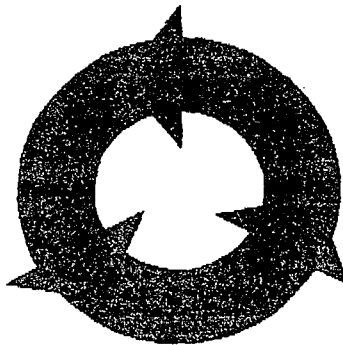


## CD Sources - Virtual compounds

- Particular skills required
- Equipment (software, hardware)
- Risk taking (ruling out candidates), approximated
- Significant reduction of necessary CD
- Significant reduction of screening/structural characterization

## The golden circle - Virtual Lead Discovery

Virtual  
Diversity  
Ks-Ms

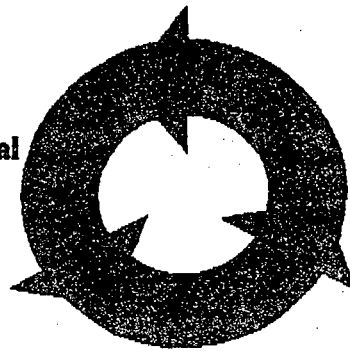


Virtual CD subset  
selection

Virtual  
screening

# The golden circle - Lead Discovery and Optimization

**Rational Chemical  
Diversity  
1K-10K**



**Low/medium-  
throughput str.  
characterization**

**Low/medium-throughput  
screening**