

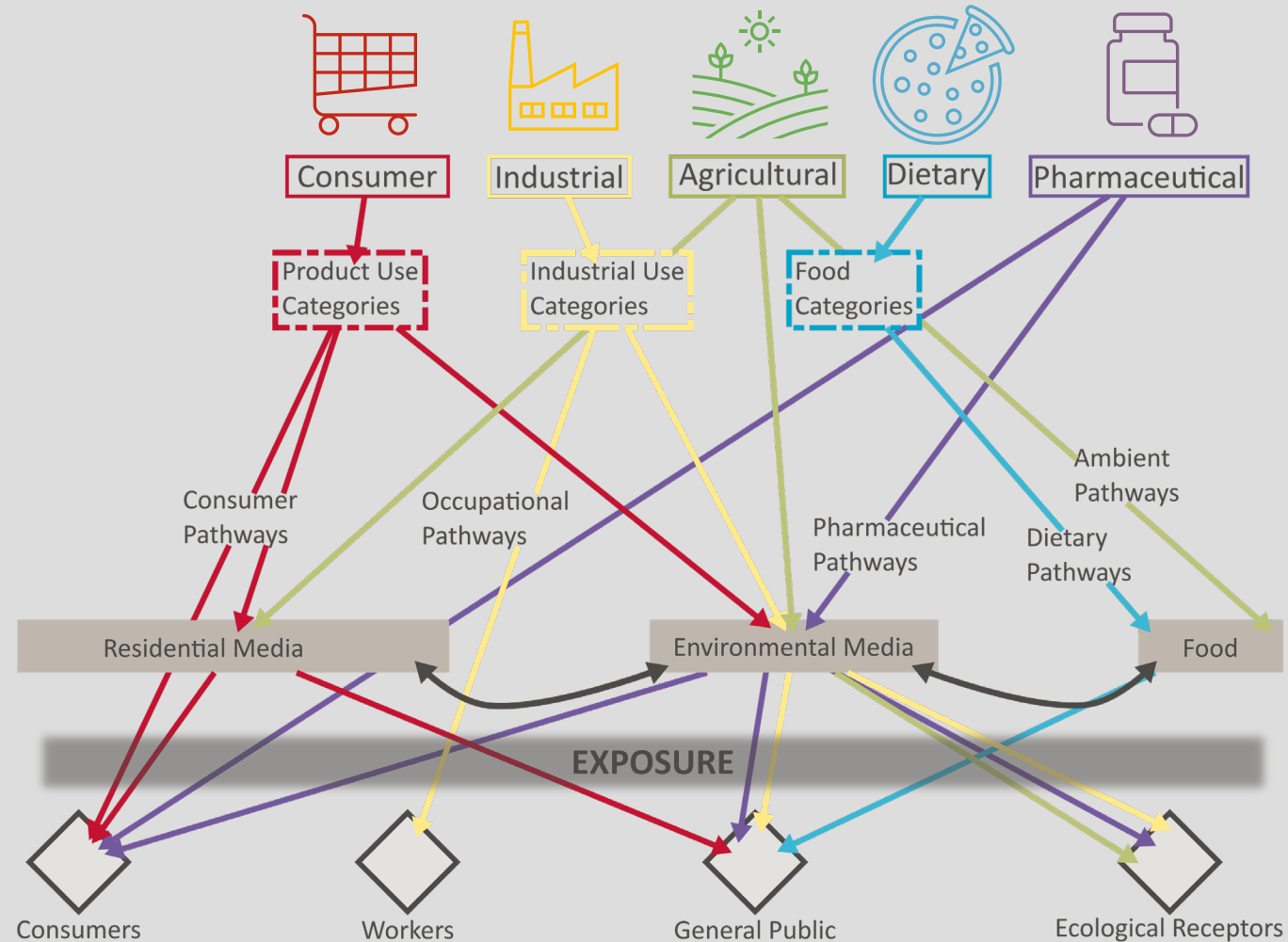
# GAP-FILLING METHODS FOR EXPOSURE MODELING

Katherine Phillips

**DISCLAIMER:** The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

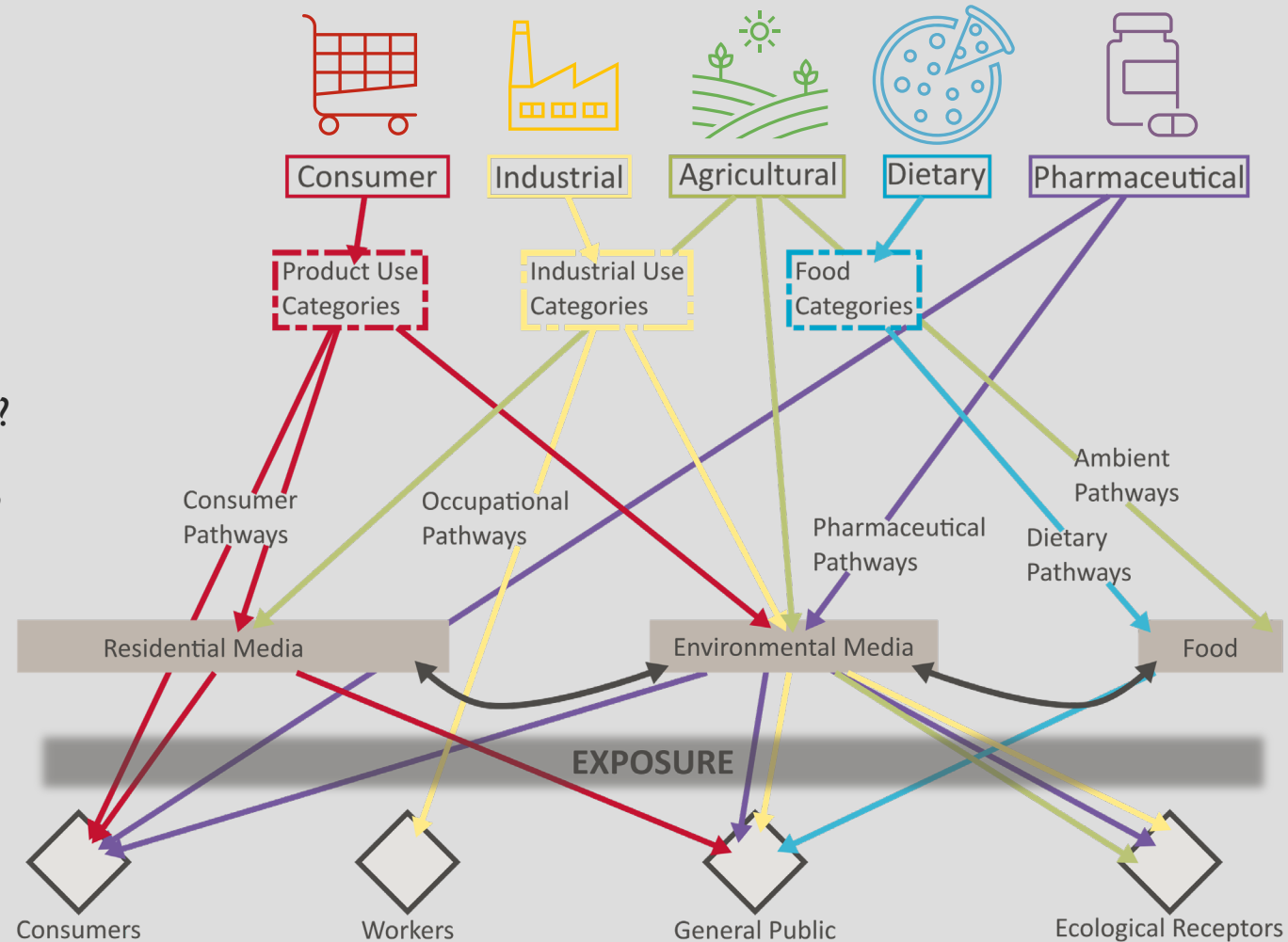
# EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

- Exposure pathways provide structured ways to track exposure from a source to a receptor



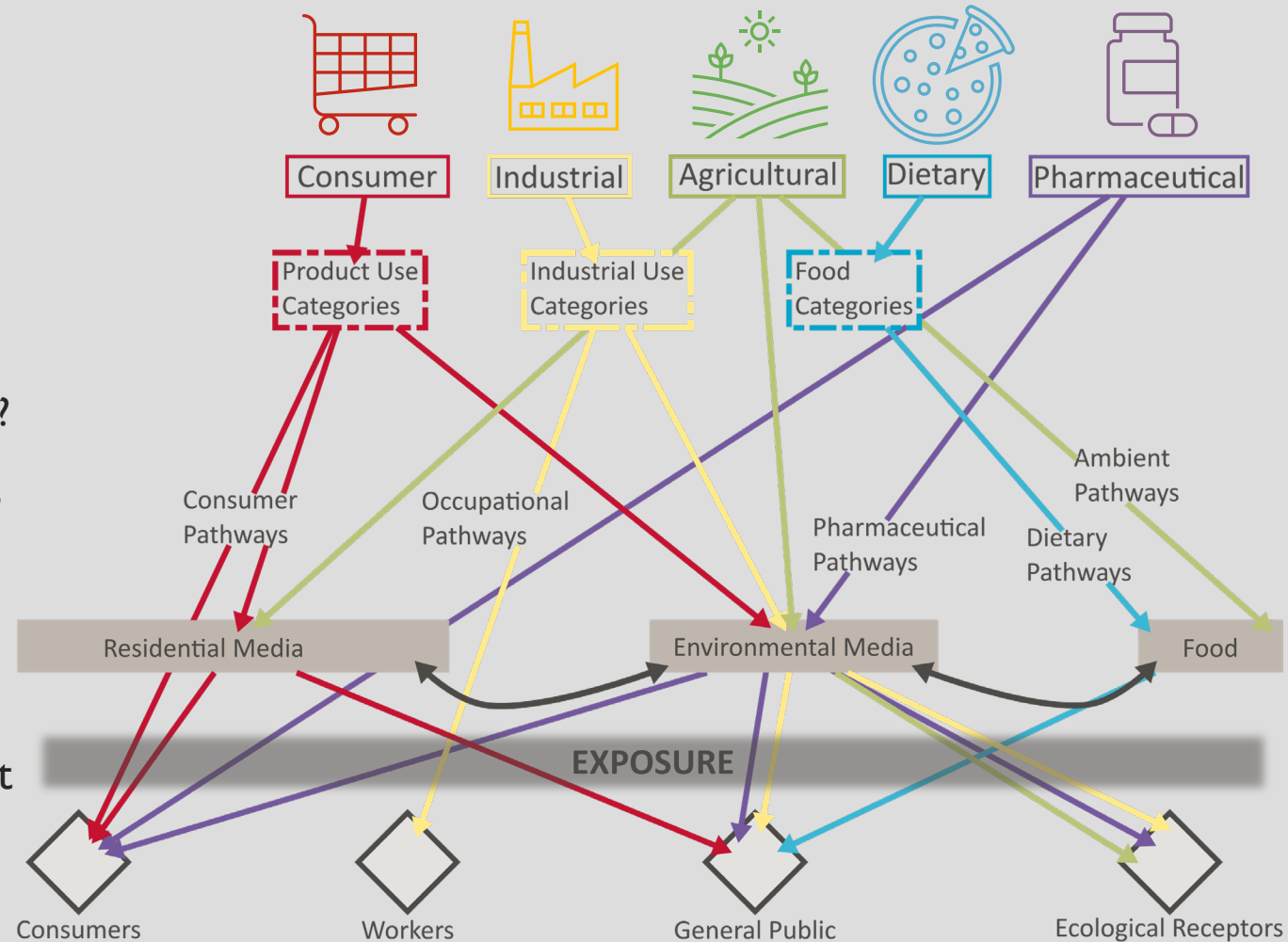
# EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

- Exposure pathways provide structured ways to track exposure from a source to a receptor
- Along the pathway there are key pieces of information that help provide an estimate of exposure:
  - What product is being used? What chemicals does it contain (at what concentrations)? How much gets used at a time? How frequently is the product used? And on, and on...
  - What media does a chemical reside in based on its source? What is state of matter (liquid, gas, solid) does it have? Do chemicals break down there and become other chemicals? At what rate? In what proportions? How long does a person contact it? How do they interact with the chemical?



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- Maybe you could get all your questions answered for one chemical if you had infinite time and resources, but what if you don't have that?...and you have thousands of chemicals?




# EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

- Exposure pathways provide structured ways to track exposure from a source to a receptor

Along the way, we need to ask questions that help us understand:

- What pathways are most important to consider at a given time? How do they change over time?
- What methods are available to assess exposure? What are the strengths and limitations of each? What is the quality of the data? At what scale is the data? How do we account for individual differences in exposure? How do we account for cumulative exposure to multiple chemicals?

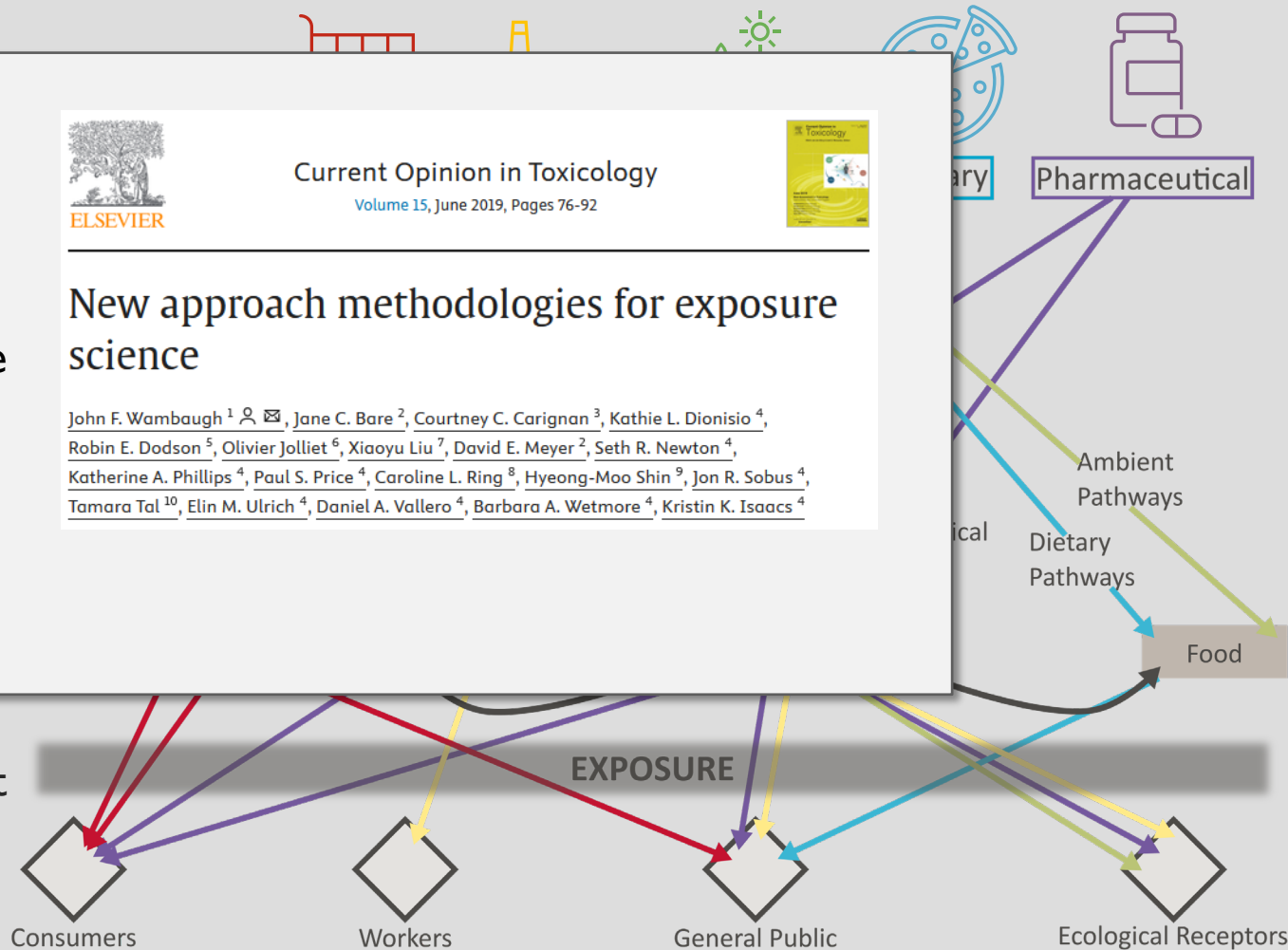
New approach methods (NAMs), similar to those in Wambaugh et al., 2019 can help address some of these gaps in exposure data



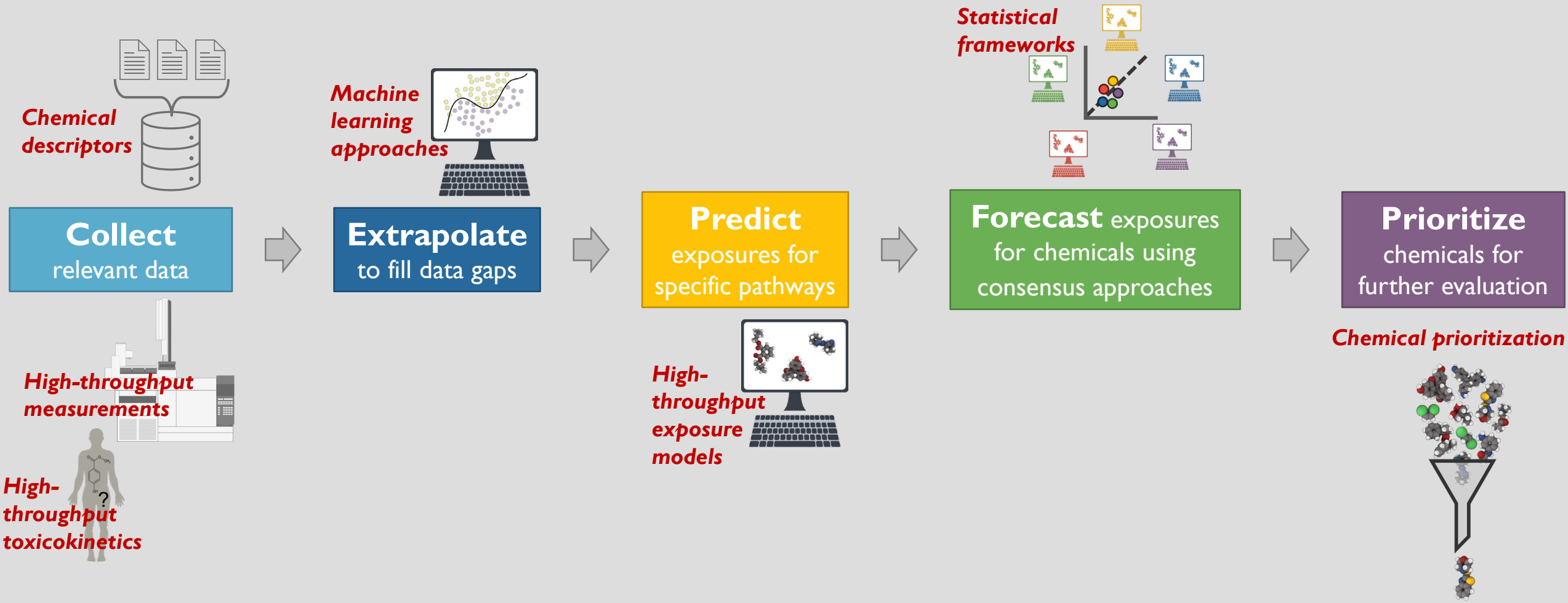
**New approach methodologies for exposure science**

John F. Wambaugh<sup>1</sup>, Jane C. Bare<sup>2</sup>, Courtney C. Carignan<sup>3</sup>, Kathie L. Dionisio<sup>4</sup>, Robin E. Dodson<sup>5</sup>, Olivier Jolliet<sup>6</sup>, Xiaoyu Liu<sup>7</sup>, David E. Meyer<sup>2</sup>, Seth R. Newton<sup>4</sup>, Katherine A. Phillips<sup>4</sup>, Paul S. Price<sup>4</sup>, Caroline L. Ring<sup>8</sup>, Hyeong-Moo Shin<sup>9</sup>, Jon R. Sobus<sup>4</sup>, Tamara Tal<sup>10</sup>, Elin M. Ulrich<sup>4</sup>, Daniel A. Vallero<sup>4</sup>, Barbara A. Wetmore<sup>4</sup>, Kristin K. Isaacs<sup>4</sup>

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# EXPOSURE-NAMS



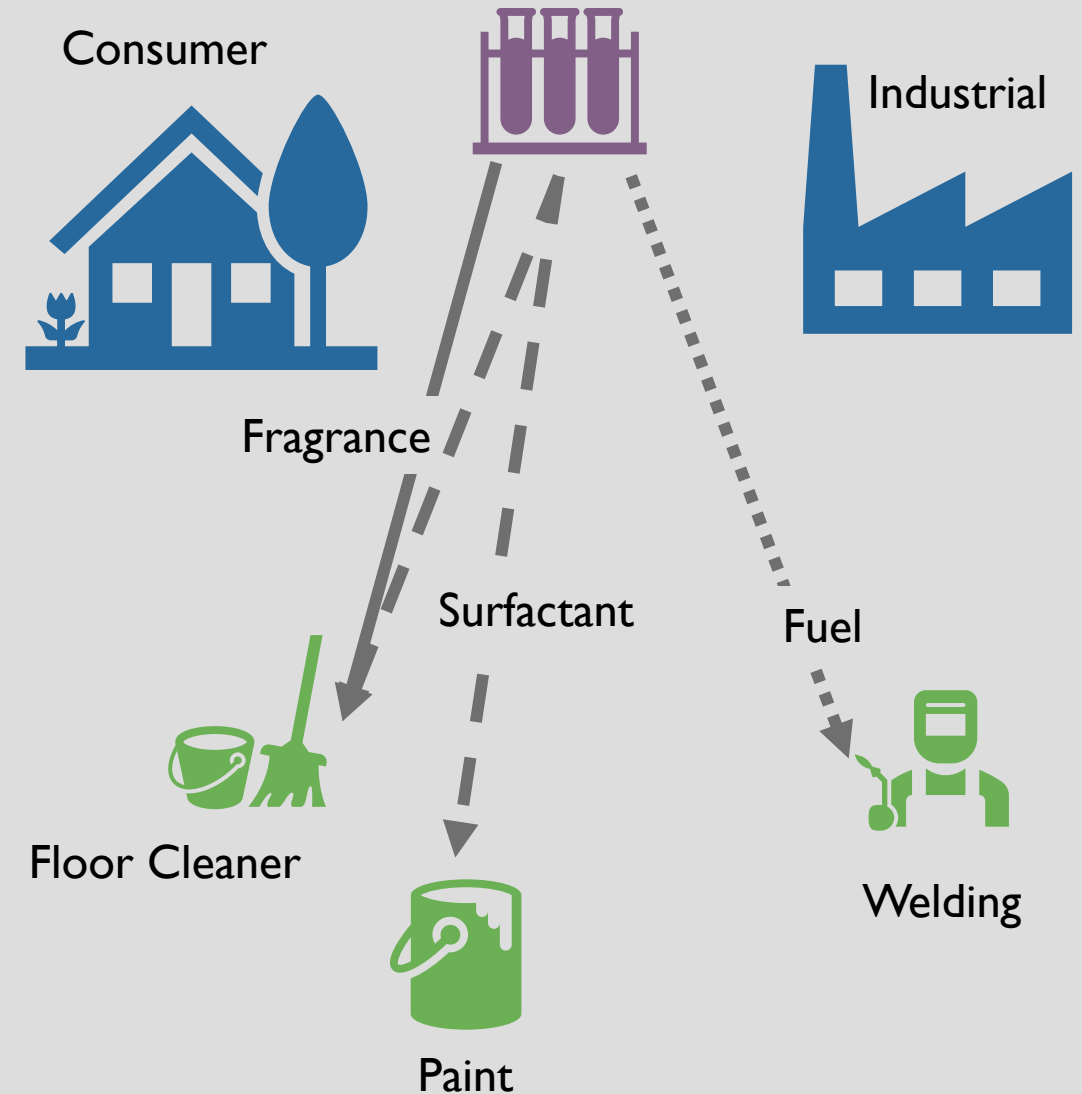
# CHEMICAL USE INFORMS EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

- Chemical use is an excellent example of how indirect information can be applied to fill gaps in current exposure data



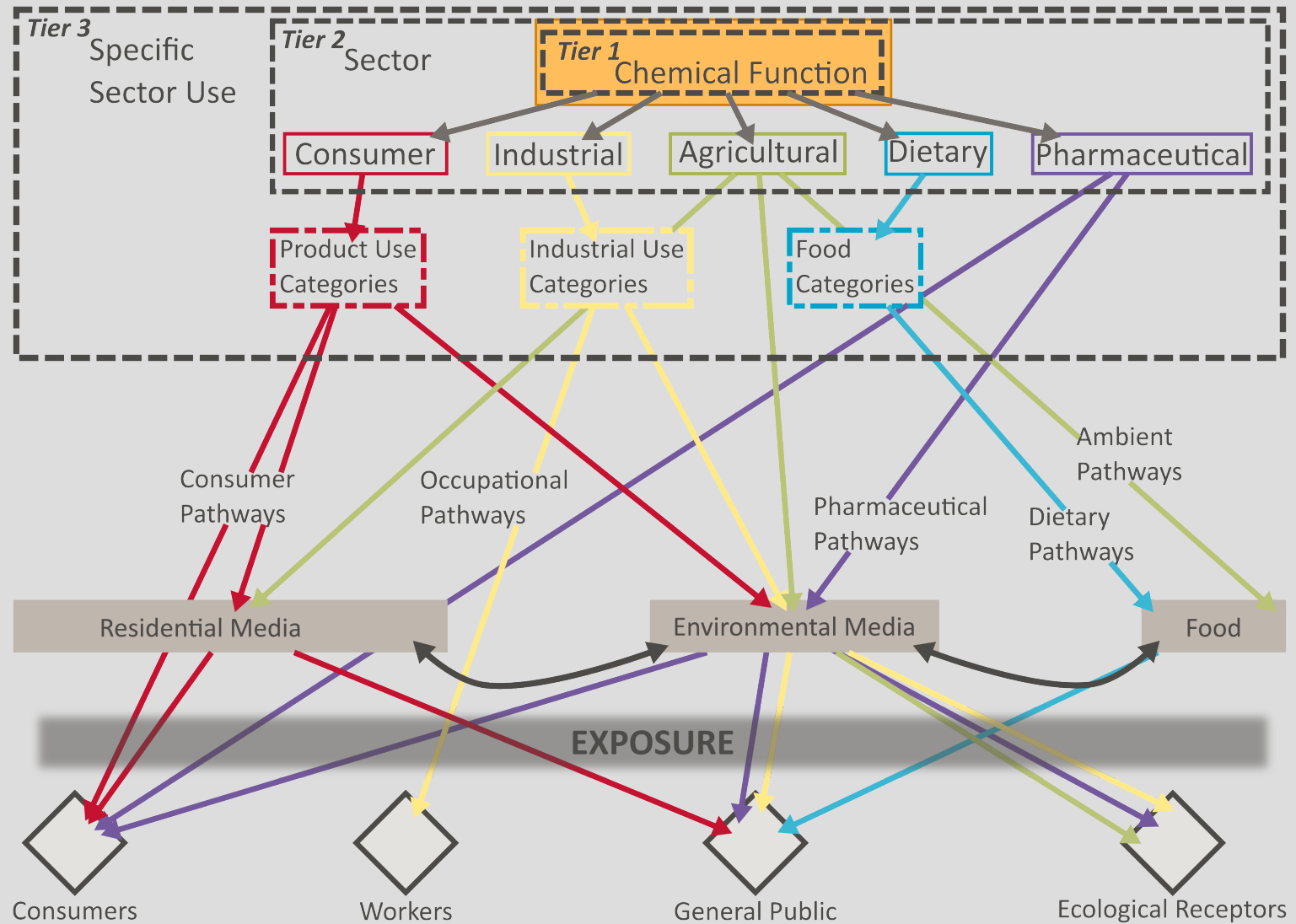
# CHEMICAL USE INFORMS EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

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  - **Functional use:** role a chemical serves in product or process
  - **Commercial sector use:** which economic sectors use a chemical (industrial vs consumer)
  - **Product use:** the specific product or process a chemical is in and how a population interacts with it



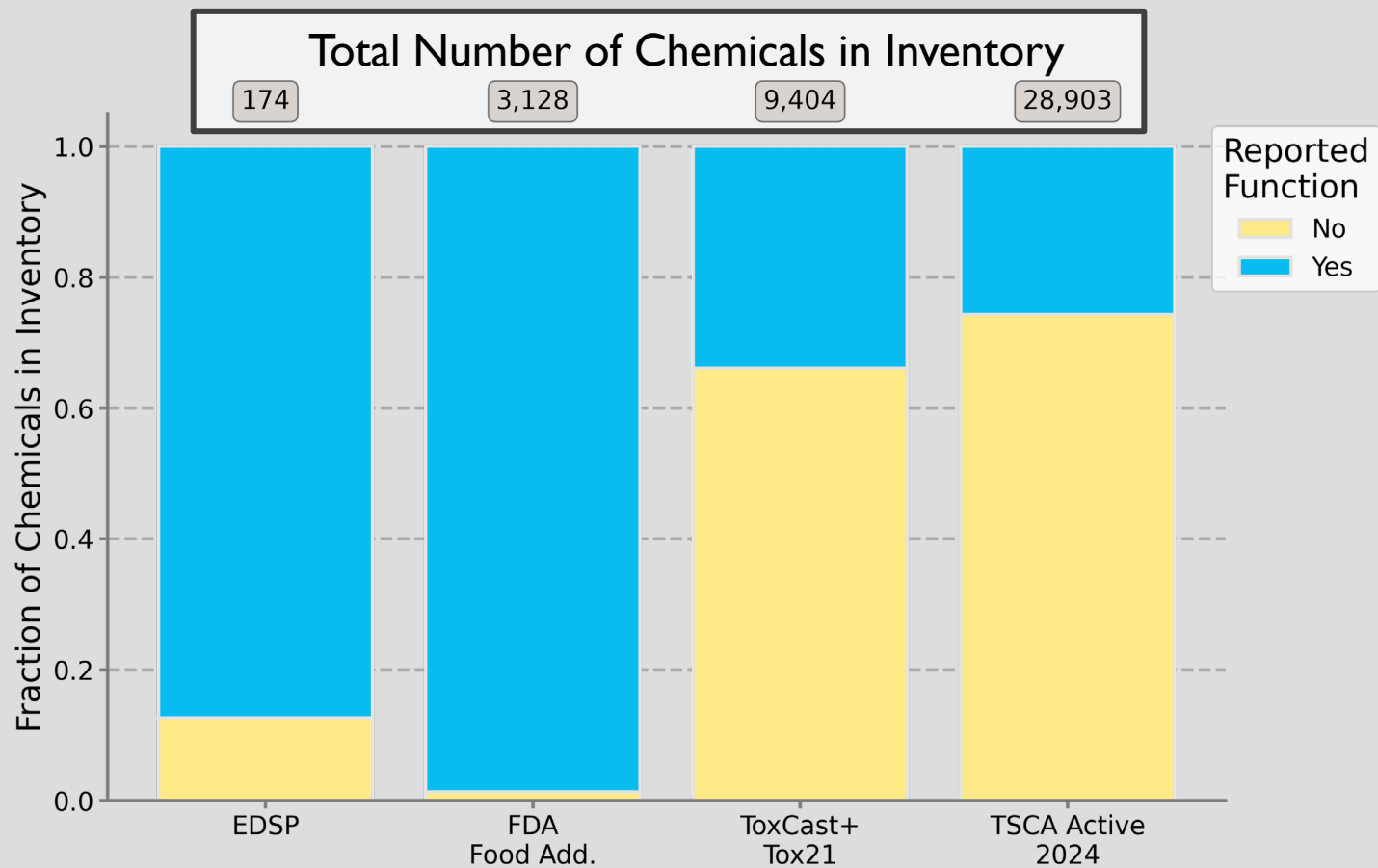
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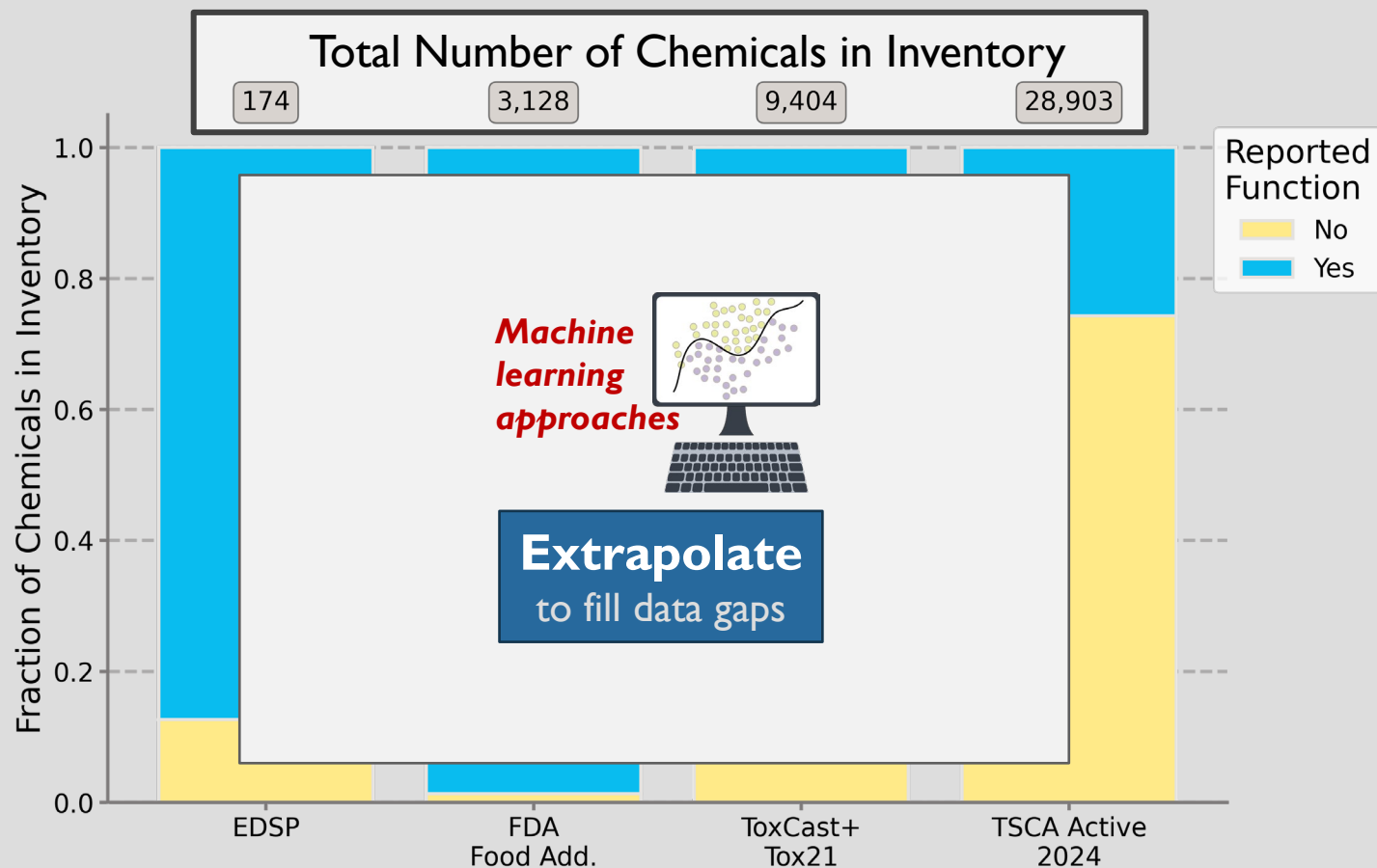
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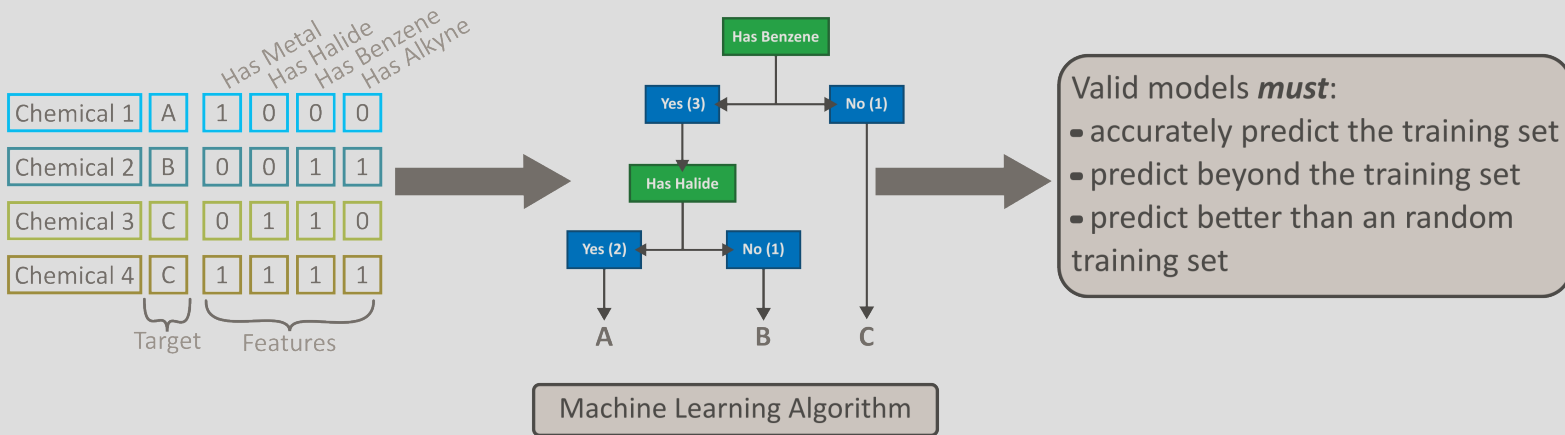
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- A chemical's functional use informs both the commercial sectors and products in which it could be used
- However, use data are lacking for many chemicals
- Using machine learning, we can extrapolate a chemical's functional use from reported use data



# MACHINE LEARNING WORKFLOW

## Train the Model

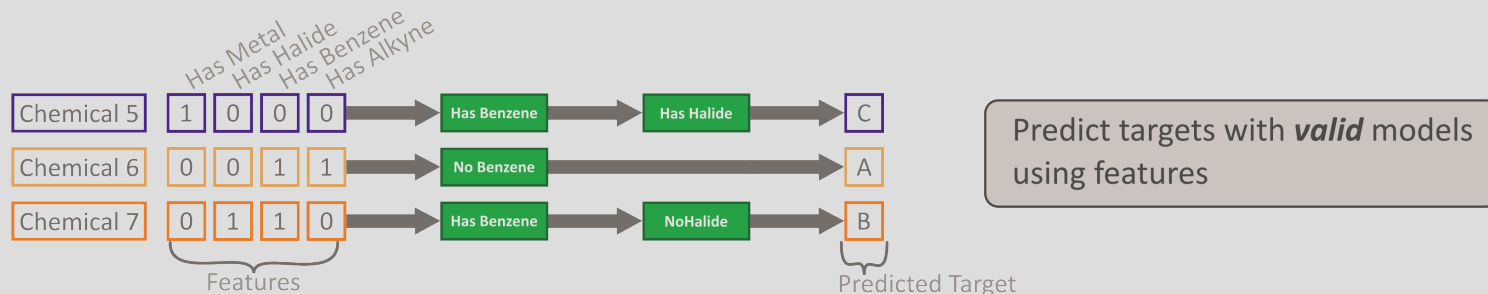


Ensure predictions made with valid models are in Applicability Domain (AD)

● Training Set  
● Inside AD  
● Outside AD

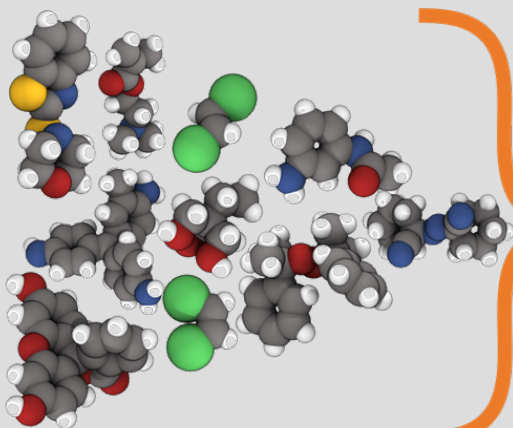


## Predict with the Model



# QUANTITATIVE STRUCTURE USE RELATIONSHIPS

Chemicals with no reported use



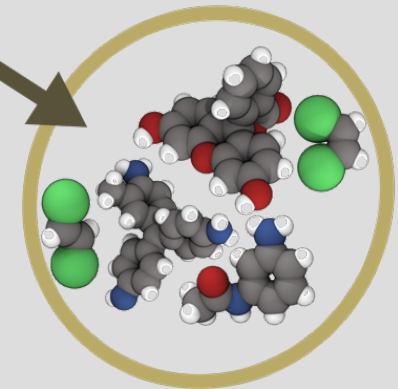
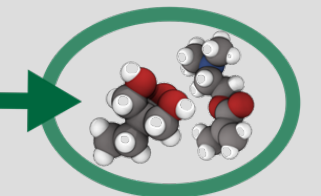
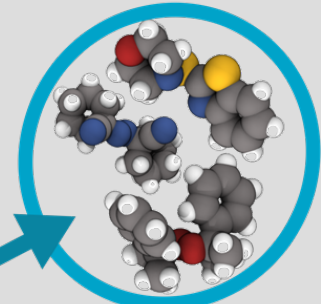
Any chemical with a QSAR-amenable structure

Suite of QSUR models



39 out of 49 QSUR models were valid using structure only as ML features

Predicted uses for chemicals

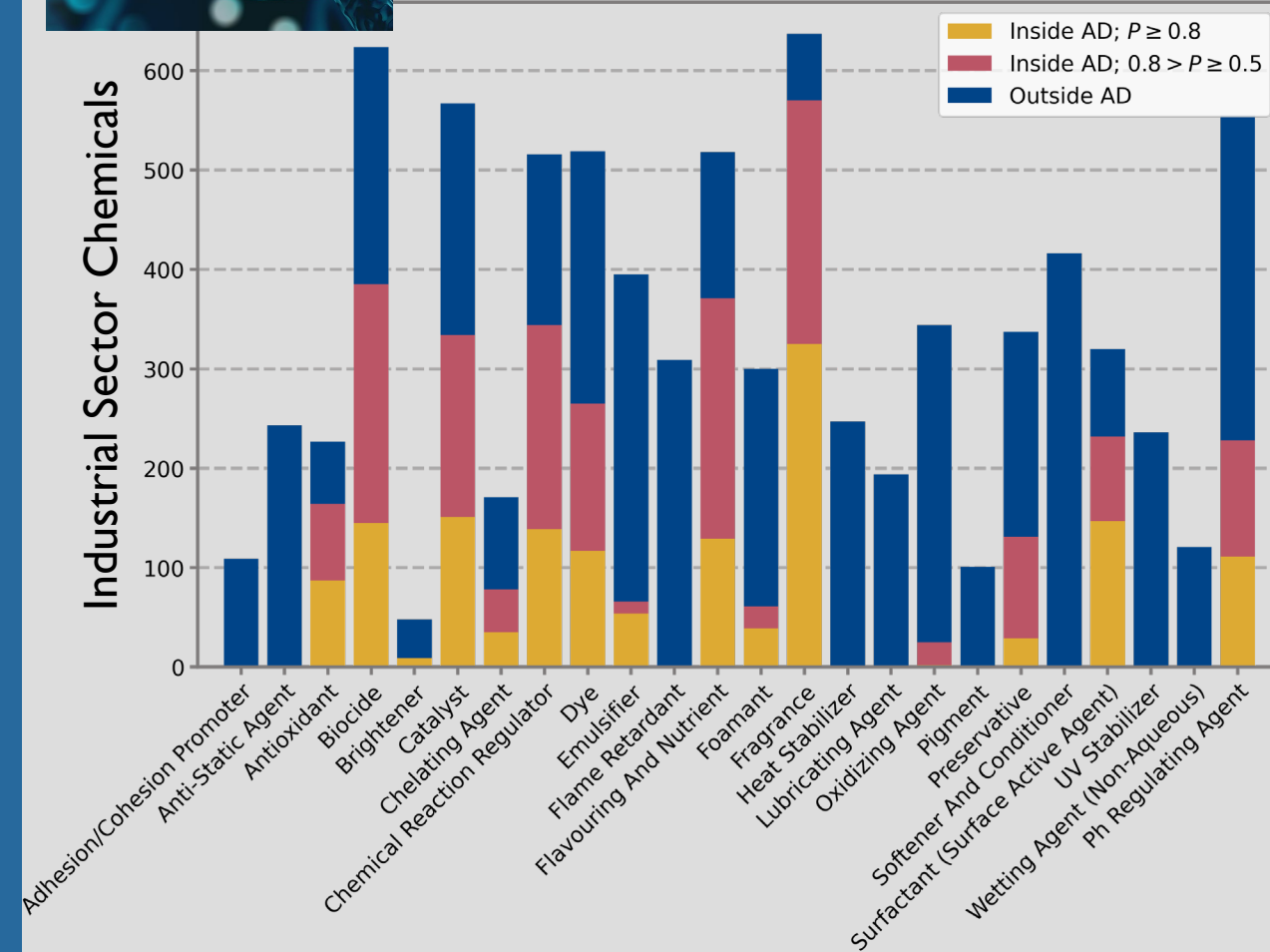


Probabilities are output for each of the 39 models and range from 0 (chemical not likely to serve the function) to 1 (chemical likely to serve the function)



## QSUR IMPROVEMENT

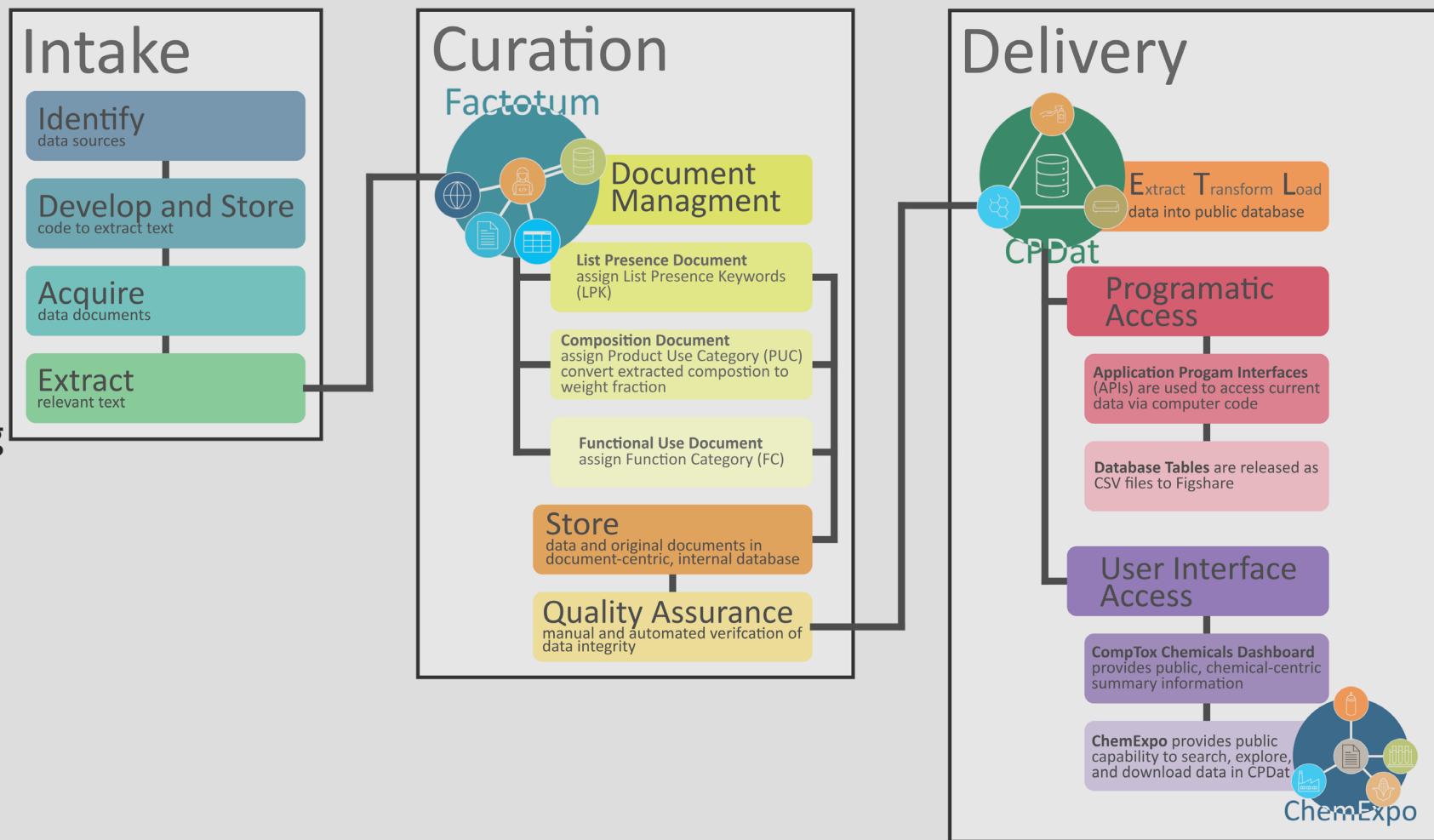
- QSUR models were trained primarily on consumer data
- QSUR predictions were evaluated against industrial chemical use data from U.S. EPA, Health Canada, and ECHA
- As part of an ongoing APCRA cases study, models are being rebuilt to account for this new space of chemicals





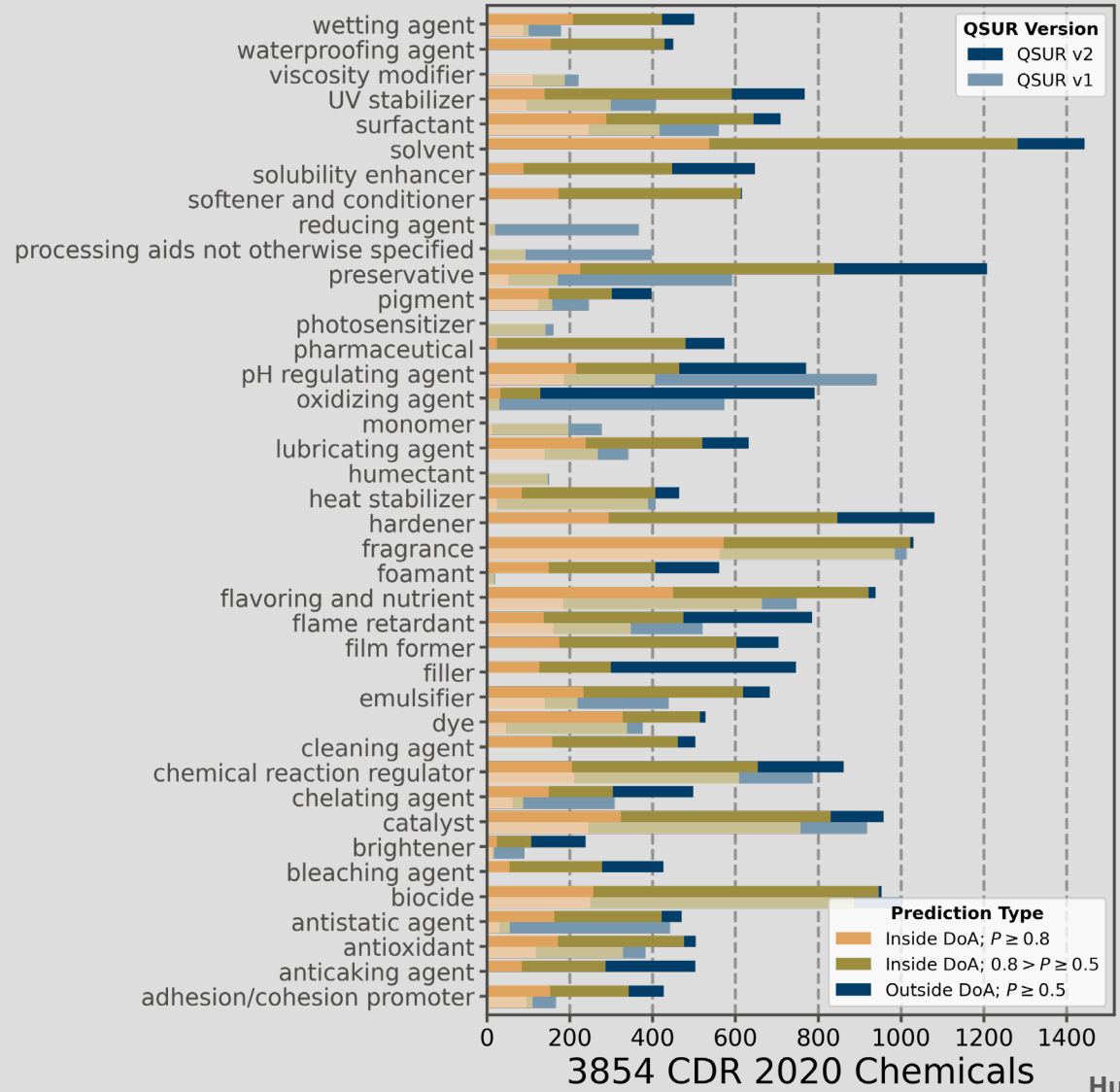
# NEW DATA FOR VERSION 2

- The Chemical and Products Database (CPDat) is where we store our chemical use data. It contains:
  - Product composition and use
  - Functional use
  - Broad use across industrial sectors
- Using the updated functional use available in CPDat expands the training set for QSUR models.
- Data are available through the ChemExpo online tool: <https://comptox.epa.gov/chemexpo>



# QSUR PREDICTIONS FOR 2020 CDR

- Took ~3,000 chemicals from 2020 CDR and predicted with version 1 and 2 models
- Any predictions below  $p=0.5$  are not shown
- 24 overlapping models were valid
- Generally, there are more “in domain” predictions for both consumer and industrial chemicals with 2022 models



# CURRENT APPLICATIONS OF QSURS



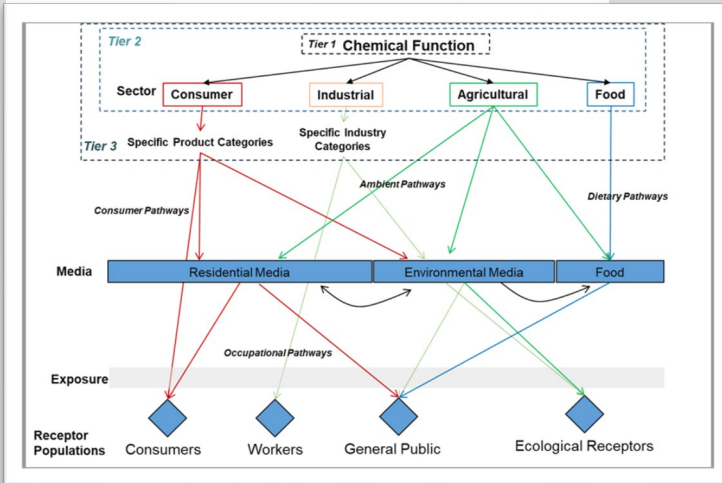
**Reviewing New Chemicals under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)**

### New Chemicals Collaborative Research Program

In February 2022, EPA launched a new effort under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) to modernize the process and bring innovative science to the review of new chemicals before they can enter the marketplace.

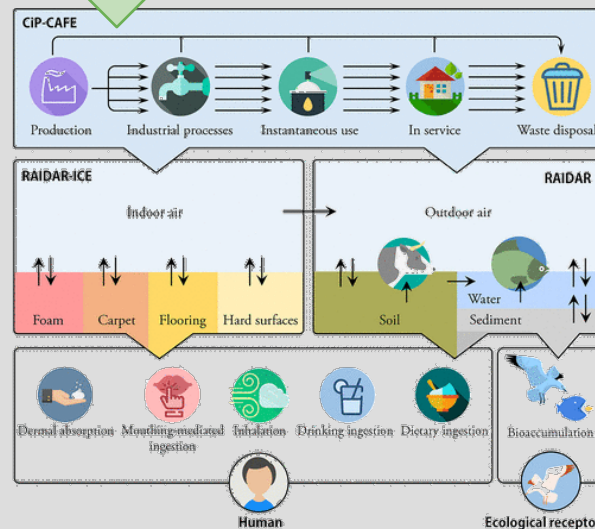
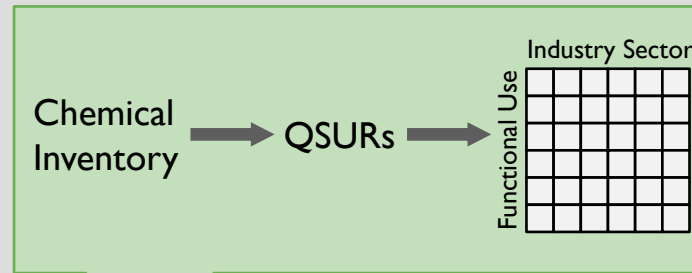
Through this effort, the Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP) is proposing to develop and implement a multi-year collaborative research program in partnership with the Agency's Office of Research and Development (ORD) and other federal entities focused on approaches for performing risk assessments on new chemical substances under TSCA.

EPA held a virtual public meeting on April 20 and 21, 2022, to provide an overview of the TSCA



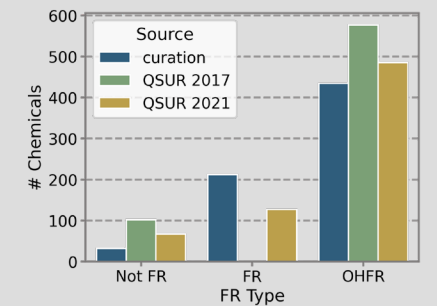
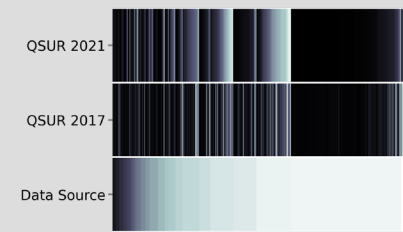
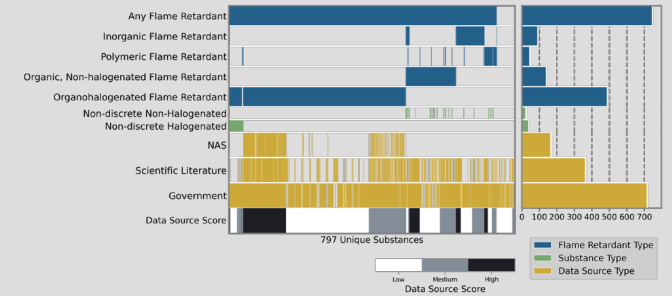
Proposed for identification of “conditions of use” and “use analogues”

**New Chemicals Collaborative**



Li et al., *Environ. Health Perspect.*, 2021

**Environmental Exposure Models**

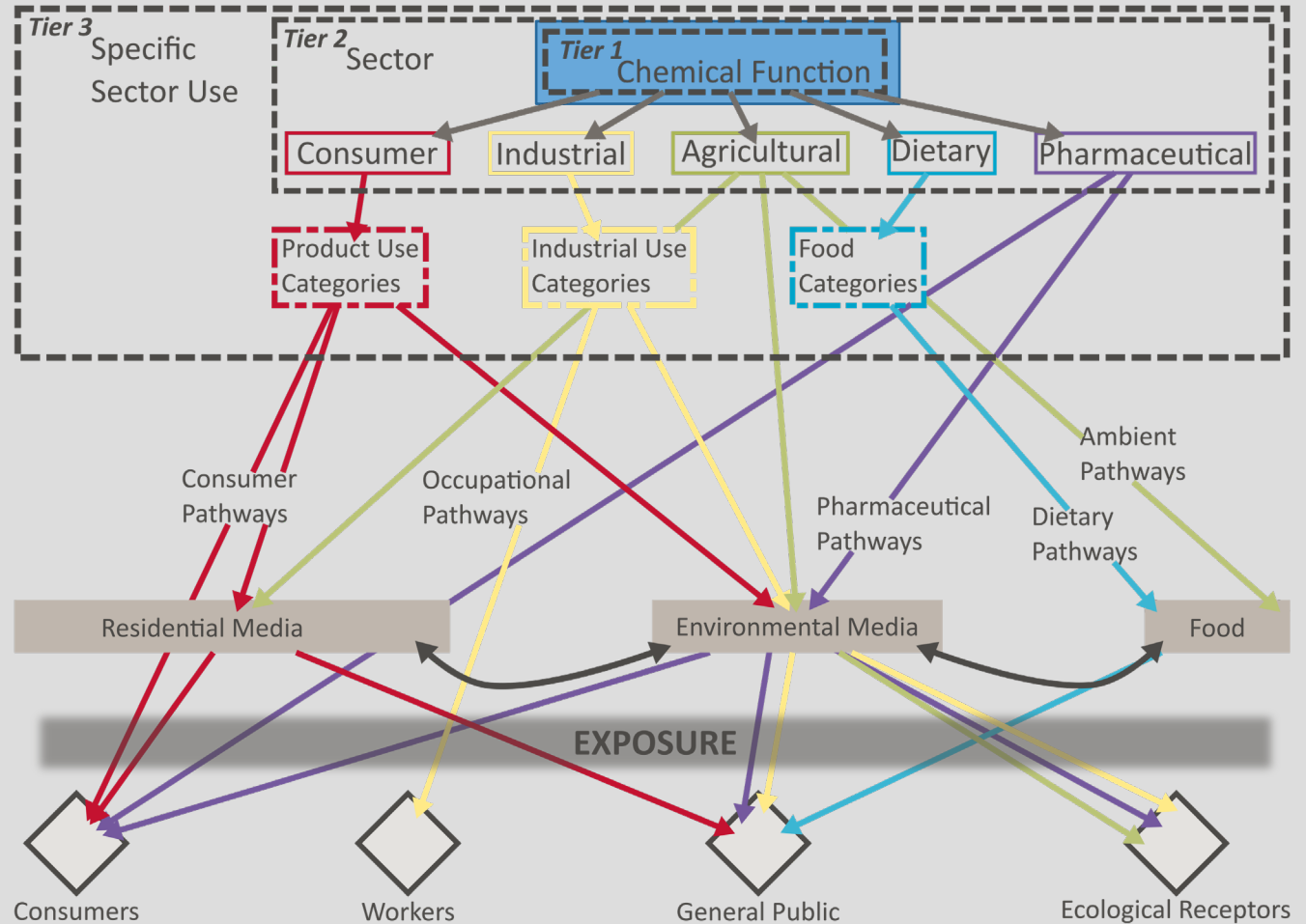


Bevington et al., *Sci. Data*, 2022

**Refine for Specific Needs**

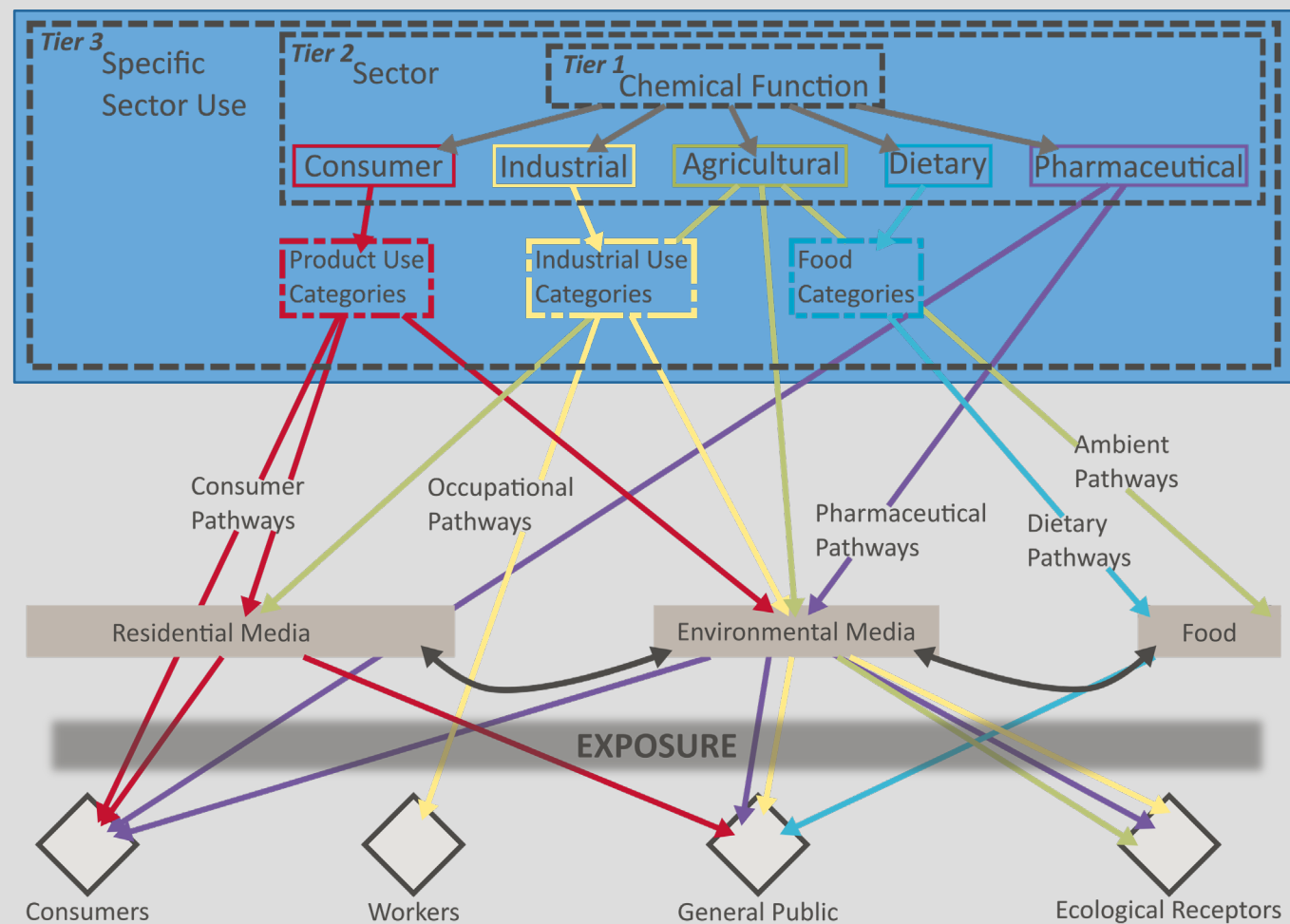
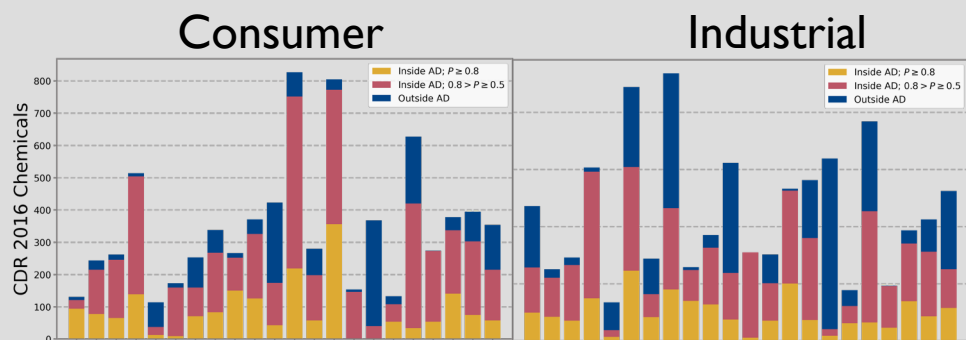
# GAPS IN EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

- While QSURs fill consequential gaps, there still areas in to fill along exposure pathways



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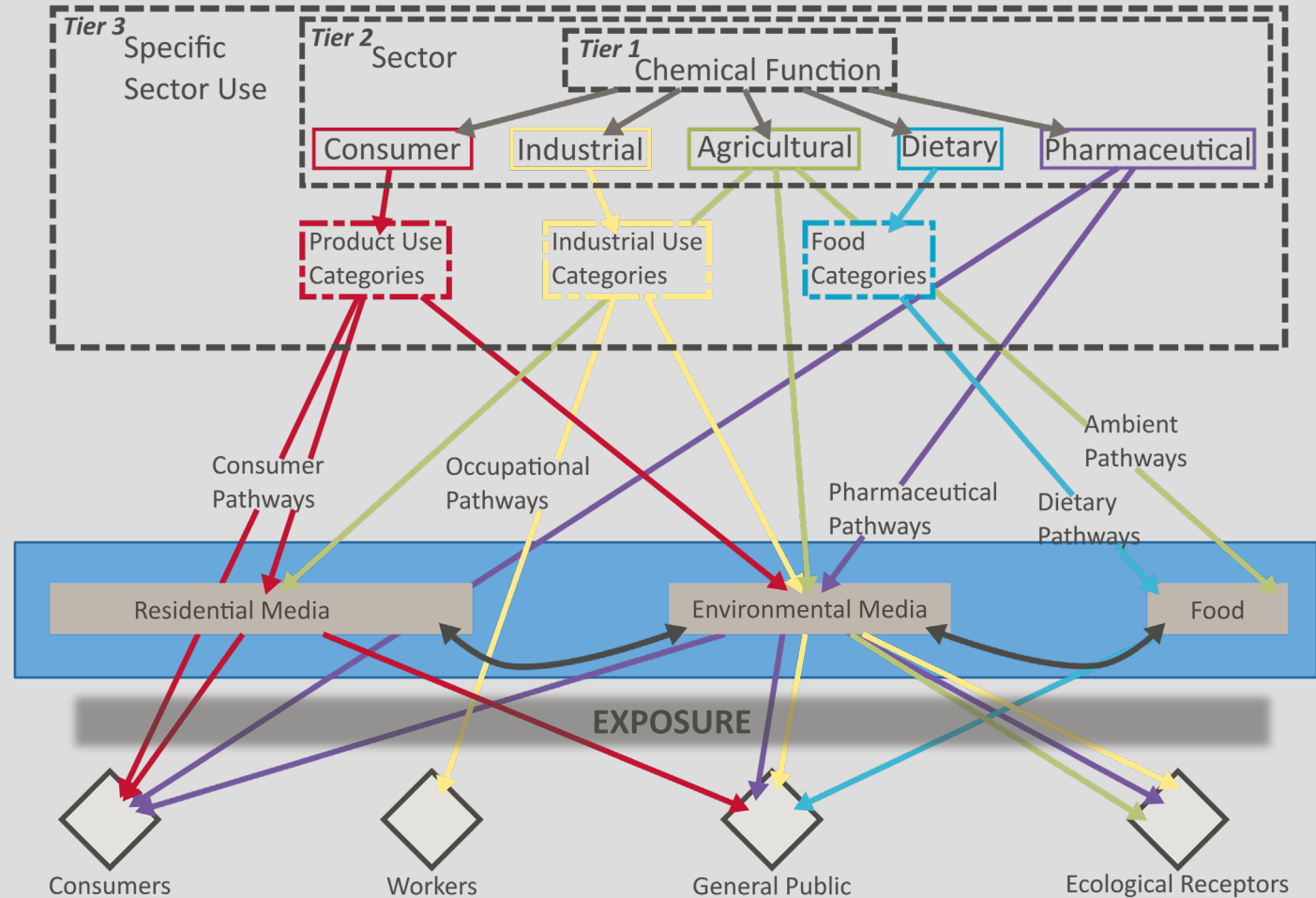
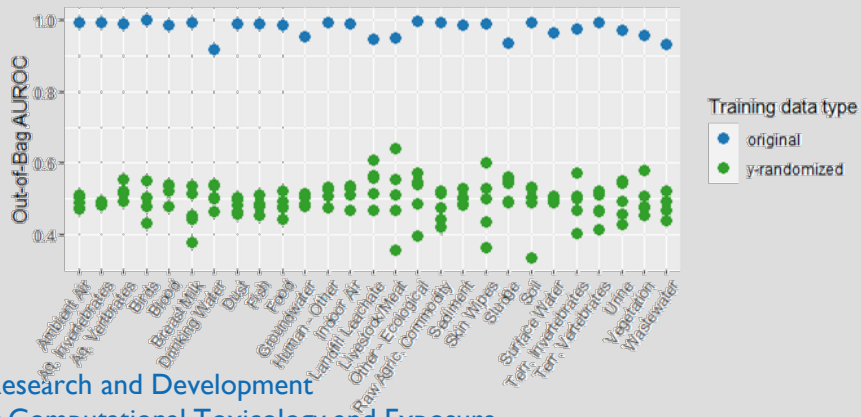
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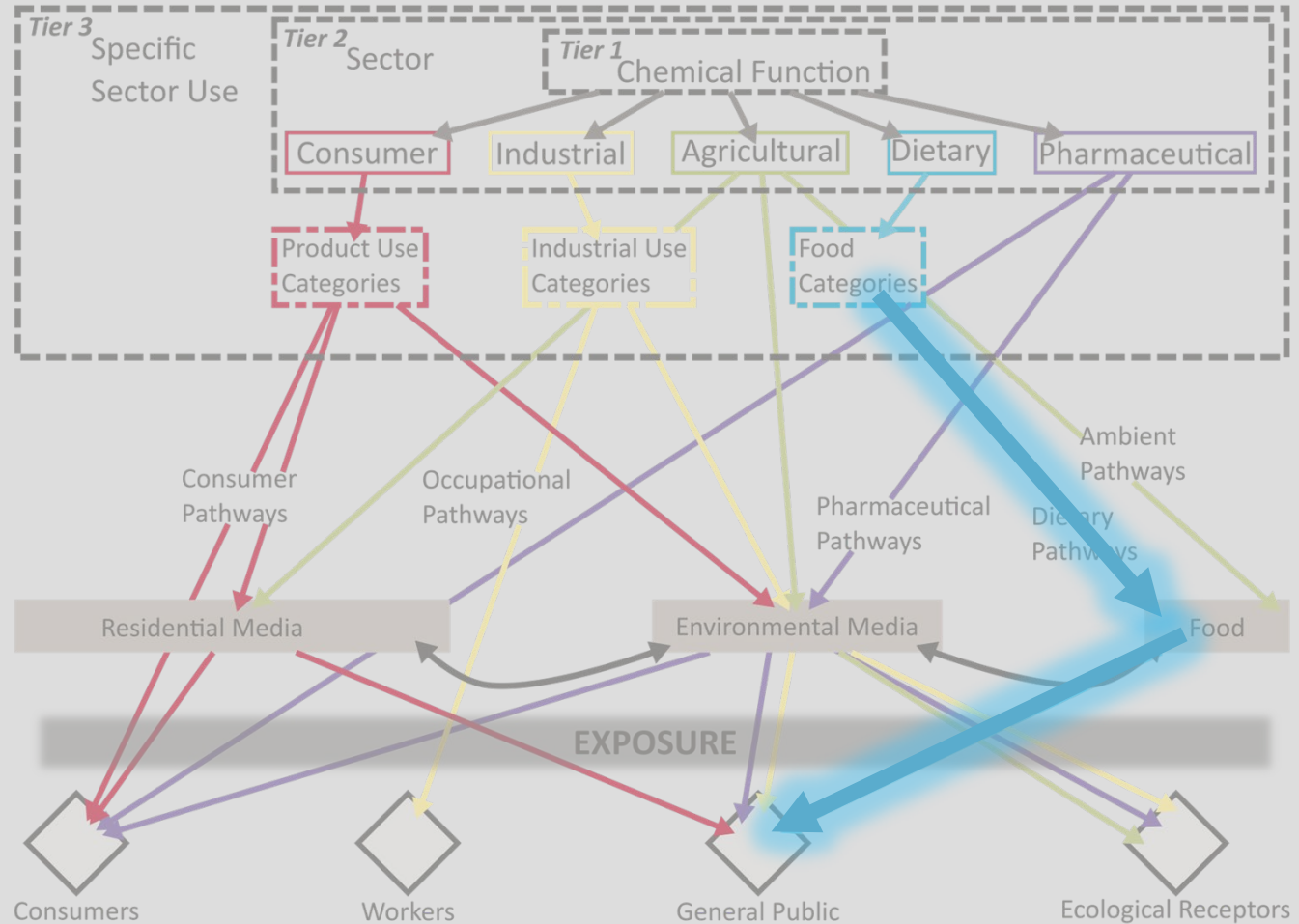
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- Similar structure-based models can also predict

• chemical occurrence in media.



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  - chemical occurrence in media
  - exposure pathways



**ENVIRONMENTAL**  
Science & Technology

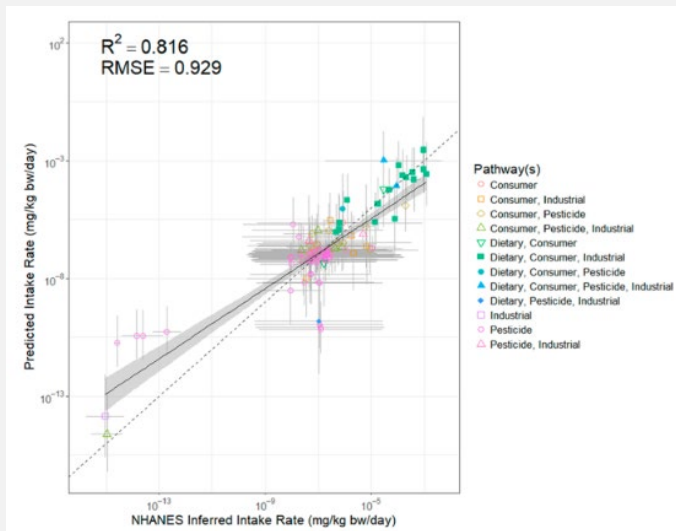
Article  
Cite This: Environ. Sci. Technol. 2019, 53, 719–732  
pubs.acs.org/est

**Consensus Modeling of Median Chemical Intake for the U.S. Population Based on Predictions of Exposure Pathways**

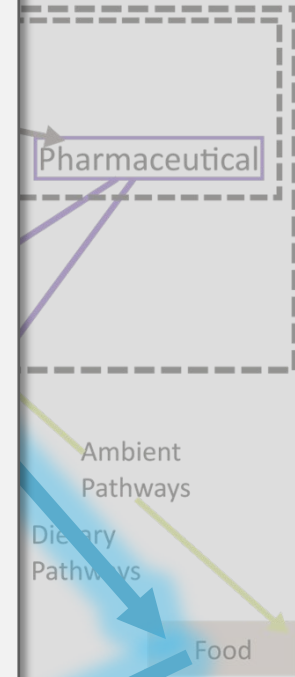
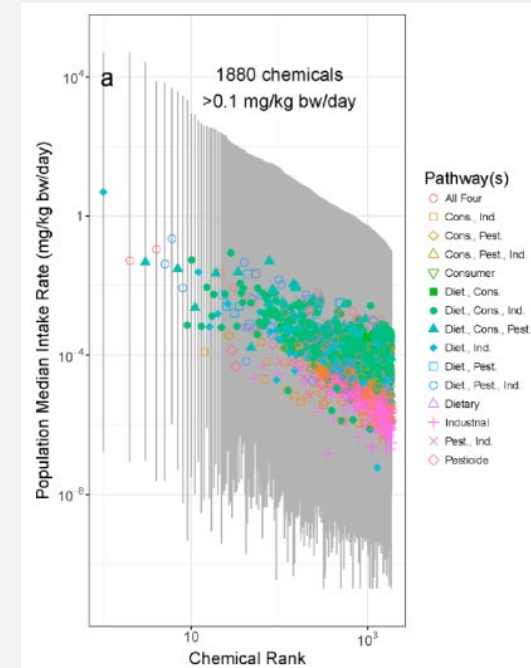
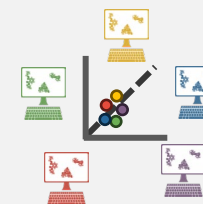
Caroline L. Ring,<sup>†,§,∞</sup> Jon A. Arnot,<sup>||,⊥,#</sup> Deborah H. Bennett,<sup>∇</sup> Peter P. Egeghy,<sup>‡</sup> Peter Fantke,<sup>○</sup> Lei Huang,<sup>◆</sup> Kristin K. Isaacs,<sup>‡</sup> Olivier Jolliet,<sup>◆</sup> Katherine A. Phillips,<sup>‡</sup> Paul S. Price,<sup>‡</sup> Hyeon-Moo Shin,<sup>‡</sup> John N. Westgate,<sup>||,⊥</sup> R. Woodrow Setzer,<sup>†</sup> and John F. Wambaugh,<sup>\*,†</sup>

# GAPS IN EXPOSURE PATHWAYS

- While Q there sti pathways
- Models a (using th predict c
- Models a
- predict
- exposu



These models provide crucial input into statistical frameworks that forecast exposures along different pathways.



## Consensus Modeling of Median Chemical Intake for the U.S. Population Based on Predictions of Exposure Pathways

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Ring et al., 2018, *ES&T*







THANKS



### **New QSUR Models**

- Victoria Hull (former trainee)
- Kristin Isaacs

### **Training Data from CPDat**

- Allison Larger (GDIT)
- All former trainees from the data curation team
- Sakshi Handa
- Kristin Isaacs

### **Refined Flame Retardant QSURs**

- Colin Guider (former trainee)
- Charles Bevington (U.S. CPSC)
- Michael Babich (U.S. CPSC)

### **Media Prediction Models**

- Lindsey Eddy (former trainee)
- Kristin Isaacs