



# Overview of activities within WP 3

## Development and validation of QSAR models

Paola Gramatica

WP3 leader

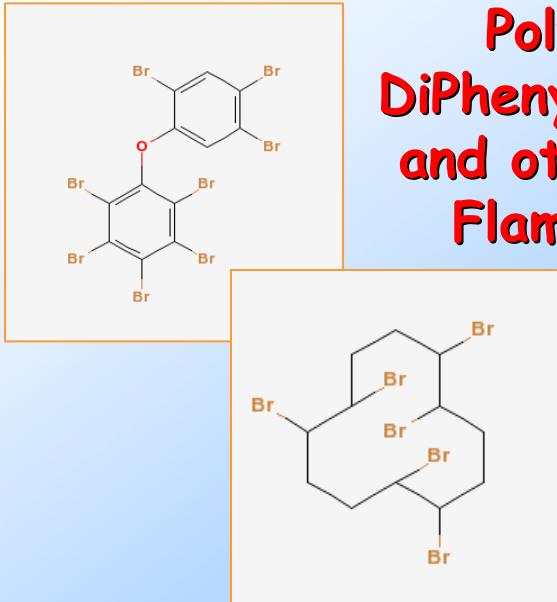
QSAR Research Unit in Environmental Chemistry and Ecotoxicology  
DBSF -University of Insubria, Varese - Italy

E-mail: [paola.gramatica@uninsubria.it](mailto:paola.gramatica@uninsubria.it)  
<http://www.qsar.it>

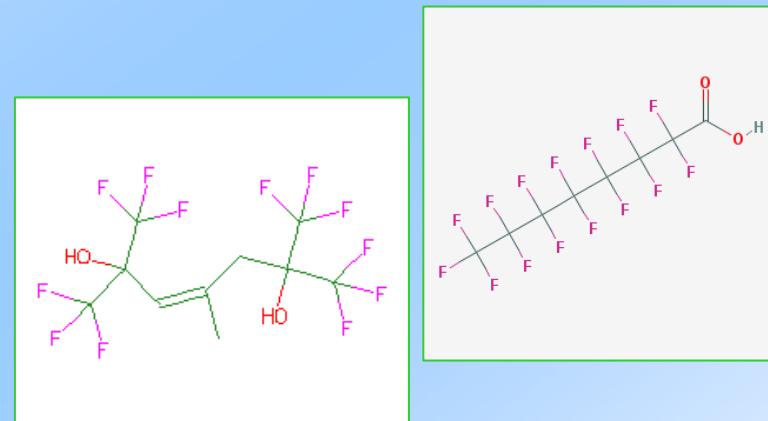


# Emerging Pollutants - CADASTER classes

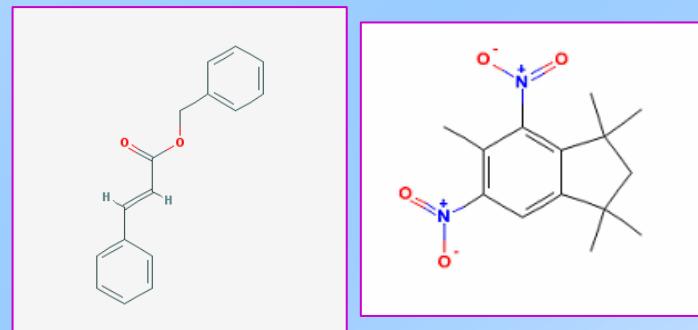
PolyBrominated  
DiPhenyl Ethers (PBDE)  
and other Brominated  
Flame Retardants  
(BFRs)



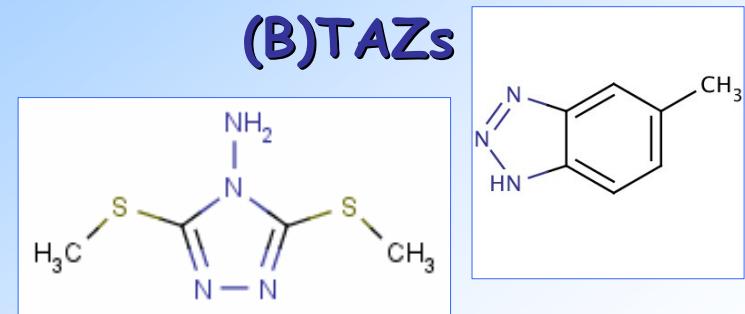
Poly- and Perfluorinated  
compounds (PFCs)



Substituted musks/Fragrances



Triazoles and Benzotriazoles  
(B)TAZs



## WP3 Partners

- University of Insubria (Italy)- P. Gramatica
- Linneus University (Sweden)- T. Oberg
- IVL Swedish Environ. Res. Inst. (Sweden)- M. Rahmberg
- IDEAConsult Ltd. (Bulgaria) - N. Jeliazkova
- Helmholtz Zentrum München (Germany) - I.Tetko

## WP3 Tasks

- Task 3.1 - Preparation of the chemical structures and molecular descriptors database for the chemicals of the four selected classes.
- Task 3.2 - Evaluation of existing QSARs.
- Task 3.3 - Gap analysis.
- Task 3.4 - Prioritization for experimental tests.
- Task 3.5 - Development of new QSARs.
- Task 3.6 - Development of multi-model approaches (consensus modeling).
- Task 3.7 - External Validation of QSAR models with experimental data from the Project.



CAse studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment

# CADASTER Partners at 21° SETAC meeting

## May 2011, Milan (Italy)



CAse studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment

# QSAR Research Unit

*in Environmental Chemistry  
and Ecotoxicology*

<http://www.qsar.it>

DBSF - University of Insubria  
Varese - Italy

## Staff

**Prof. Paola Gramatica**

**Dr. Ester Papa, Ph.D**

**Dr. Simona Kovarich**

**Dr. Mara Luini**

**Dr. Barun Bhatarai, Ph.D**

**Dr. Jiazhong Li, Ph.D**



*Brominated Flame Retardants*



*Fragrances*



*Perfluoroalkylate Substances*  
*Triazoles & Benzotriazoles*



Case studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment



## Task 3.1 - Preparation of the chemical structures and molecular descriptors database for the chemicals of the 4 selected classes.

- a) Minimization of Chemical Structures by Hyperchem
- b) Calculation of DRAGON molecular descriptors
- c) Calculation of CADASTER online molecular descriptors

Database



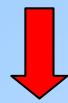
## Task 3.2 - Evaluation of existing QSARs Task 3.3 - Gap analysis

### OECD Principles for QSAR models in REACH

To facilitate the consideration of a QSAR model for regulatory purposes, it should be associated with the following information:

- a defined endpoint
- an unambiguous algorithm
- a defined domain of applicability
- appropriate measures of goodness of fit, robustness and predictivity
- a mechanistic interpretation, if possible

- In literature, very few local models for the specific CADASTER classes, mainly
  - not validated and without information on their Applicability Domain (AD)
- Only general models (as EPISUITE), mainly without AD
- Very few experimental data for SIDS end-points, useful for Risk Assessment



- Need for specific local models for CADASTER chemicals verifying external validation and AD



## Task 3.4 - Prioritization for experimental tests.

Prioritization through structural similarity analysis and ranking methods, based on available toxicity data

### BFRs

prioritization based on toxicity profile (exp+pred ED potency) (UI), structural diversity (LNU/UI)

### PFCs

prioritization based on toxicity profile (exp+pred mammalian toxicity) (UI), structural representativity (LNU/UI)

### FRAGRANCES

prioritization based on toxicity profile (exp+pred mammalian and cyto-toxicity), structural representativity (UI).

### (B)TAZs

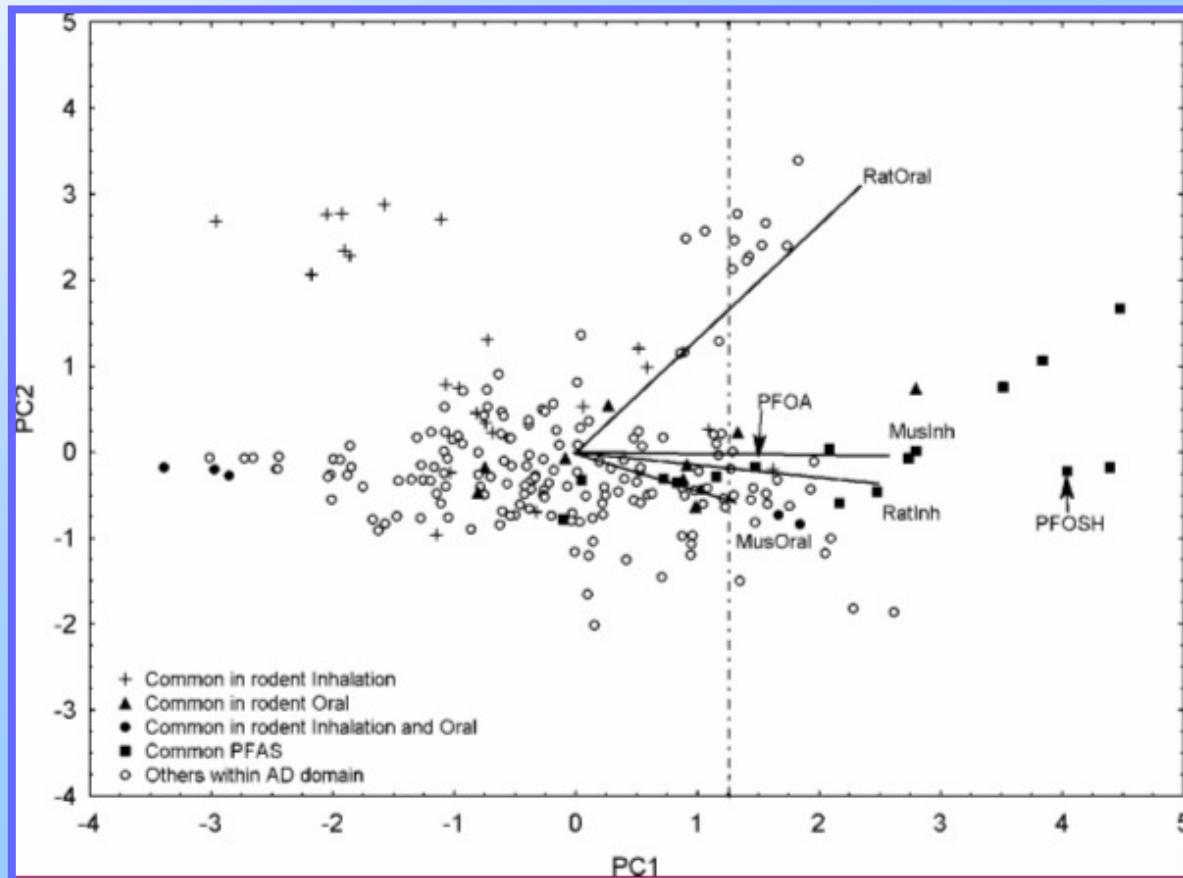
prioritization based on toxicity profile (exp aquatic toxicity) (UI) and structural diversity (UI-LNU).

and compound's commercial availability.



## Task 3.4 : Prioritization for experimental tests in the Project

Prioritization based on toxicity profile  
(exp+pred mammalian toxicity: rat and mouse oral and Inhalation toxicity)  
(UI)



PFOA and PFOSH  
among the more  
toxic



## Task 3.5 - Development of new QSARs.

### QSAR prediction of physico-chemical properties and biological activities

➤ Development of QSAR models for available end-points (sufficient experimental data for modeling), paying attention to external validation and structural applicability domain analysis.



➤ Identification of more toxic and environmental hazardous chemicals based on the studied end-points



# Summary on BFRs

Endpoint (N <sub>obj</sub> )	SIDS		Model D 3.5 (*on-line) UI	Desc	Data set	Pred & AD (243 BFRs)	LNU	Ref
	Phys-chem	Fate						
H * (7)	X		MLR *	Dragon 5.5	Published + CADASTER web	Published + uploaded in CAD. Database		a
MP * (25)	X		MLR *	II II				a-b
VP * (34)	X		MLR *	II II				a
WS * (12)	X							a
logK <sub>OA</sub> * (30)					CADASTER Database			a-b
logK <sub>OW</sub> * (20)	X							a-b
Kp (15)		X	MLR	II II	CADASTER Database			
HLp (15)		X	MLR	II II				
BCF							X	c
ED Activity (~20)					Published + CAD. Dat.	II II		d-e

Prediction of SIDS endpoints and characterization of environmental behaviour

Exp and Pred data used for Prioritization (Del 3.4)  
→ experimental testing

Predictions compared with EPI Suite software

<sup>a</sup> Papa, E.; Kovarich, S.; Gramatica P., *QSAR Comb. Sci.* 2009, 28, 790-796.

<sup>b</sup> Papa, E.; Kovarich, S.; Gramatica P., *Molecular Informatics* 2011 , 30, 232-240 (Proceedings issue of Euro-QSAR2010).

<sup>c</sup> Oberg T., *Environ Sci & Pollut Res* 2002, 9, 405-411.

<sup>d</sup> Papa, E.; Kovarich, S.; Gramatica, P., *Chem. Res. Toxicol.* 2010, 23, 946-954.

<sup>e</sup> Kovarich, S.; Papa, E.; Gramatica, P., *J. Hazardous Mat.* 2011, 190, 106-112.



Case studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment

# Summary on Fragrances

Endpoint (N <sub>obi</sub> )	SIDS		Model Del 3.5 (* on-line) UI	Descriptors	Data set	Pred & AD (79 frag)	Ref
	Phys-chem	Tox					
VP* (37)	X		MLR	Dragon 5.5	Exp data uploaded in CADASTER web / database		a
WS* (37)	X		II II	II II			
logKow* (52)	X						
Rodent acute toxicity (23)							
Cytotoxicity (~20)			" "	" "	Database	Published	b

Prediction of SIDS endpoints and characterization of environmental behaviour

\* Predictions compared to Experimental Data

Exp and Pred data used for Prioritization (Del 3.4)  
→ experimental testing

<sup>a</sup> Papa, E.; Luini, M.; Gramatica, P. POSTER presented at SETAC-Europe 2009, Göteborg, Sweden, 31 May – 4 June 2009.

<sup>b</sup> Papa, E.; Luini, M.; Gramatica, P. *SAR QSAR Environ. Res.*, 2009, 20, 767–779.



CAse studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment

# Summary on PFCs

Endpoint (N <sub>obj</sub> )	SIDS		Model & Desc (* on-line) UI	Data set	Pred & AD (221 PFCs)	Ref	Models by WP3 Partners	Consensus
	Ph-ch	Tox						
MP* (94)	X		MLR-Drag5.5			<sup>a</sup>	LNU, IDEA, HMGU	X
BP* (93)	X							X
VP* (35)	X					<sup>b</sup>	LNU (PLS) ref c	
WS* (20)	X							
CMC (10)			MLR-Drag5.5	CAD. Polar				
Rodent acute toxicity (~55)		X				<sup>d-e</sup>		
ED activity (24)								

**Prediction of SIDS endpoints and characterization of environmental behaviour**

**Exp and Pred data used for Prioritization (Del 3.4)  
→ experimental testing**




\* Predictions compared with EPI Suite software

<sup>a</sup> Bhatarai, B. et al. (WP3 partners), *Molecular Informatics*, 2011 30, 189-204 (Proceedings issue of Euro-QSAR2010).

<sup>b</sup> Bhatarai, B.; Gramatica, P., *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2010, Online first (2011 45: Special issue on PFCs), Oral at CMTP11

<sup>c</sup> Oberg T.; Liu T., *Chemo Lab*, 2011, 107, 59-64.

<sup>d</sup> Bhatarai, B.; Gramatica, P., *Molecular Diversity*, 2010, 15, 467-476.

<sup>e</sup> Bhatarai, B.; Gramatica P., *Chem. Res. Toxicol.*, 2010, 23, 528-539.

<sup>f</sup> Kovarich, S.; Papa, E., Gramatica, P Submitted to *SAR & QSAR Environ. Res.*, 2011.



CAse studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment



# Summary on (B)TAZs

Endpoint (N <sub>obj</sub> )	SIDS		Model D3.5 (*on-line) UI	Desc	Data set	Pred&AD (351 TAZ)	Ref UI	WP3 Partn ers
	Ph-ch	Ecotox						
WS* (49)	X		MLR *	Drag 5.5	Published			
LogKow* (64)	X				web / base	Published	a	
VP* (33)	X							
MP* (56)	X							
EC <sub>50</sub> Algae			X					
EC <sub>50</sub> Daphnia			X	in progress				
LC <sub>50</sub> Fish			X					in progress
BCF							b	
LC <sub>50</sub> Earthworm			X					
LD <sub>50</sub> Honeybees			X	(MLR)				
LD <sub>50</sub> Bird			X					

Prediction of SIDS endpoints  
and characterization of  
environmental behaviour

Experimental data used for  
Prioritization (Del 3.4)  
→ experimental testing

\* Predictions compared with EPI Suite software

<sup>a</sup> Bhatarai, B.; Gramatica, P., Water Research, 2011, 45 (3) 1463-1471. Oral at CMTPI11

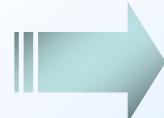
<sup>b</sup> Kovarich S. et UI group, Oral at CMTPI1



Case studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment



## WP3 in WP5 : Models in CADASTER web



A limited amount of developed and published local models for CADASTER chemicals are now uploaded in the CADASTER database:

- BFRs: VP, MP, logKow, logKoa
- PFCs: BP, WS, VP
- (B)TAZs: WS, logKow



Better results than EPI Suite  
and check of structural AD:  
**definition of interpolation or  
extrapolation**

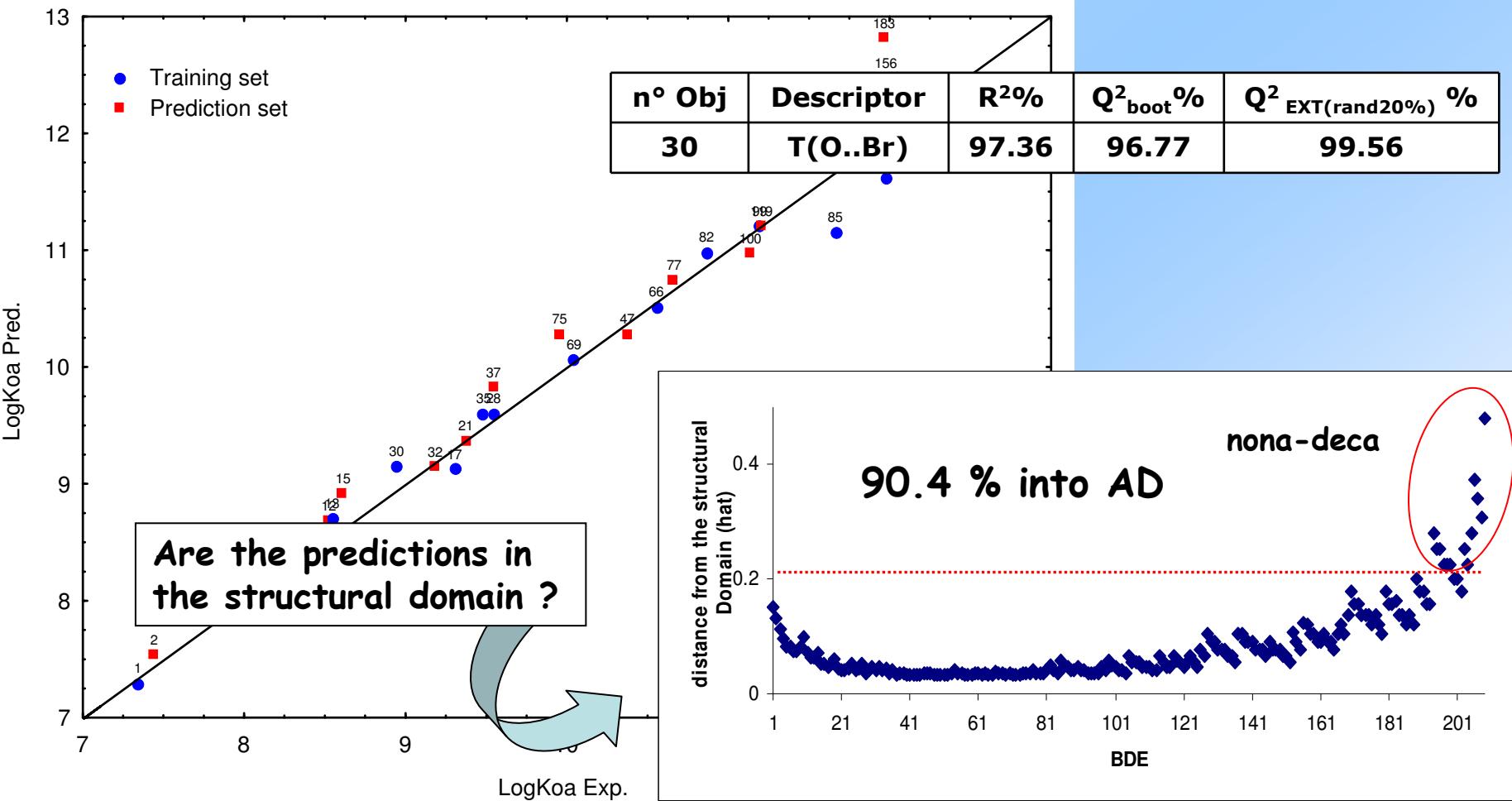
Ongoing modelling for (B)TAZ are based also on descriptors calculated in the CADASTER database → uploadable models



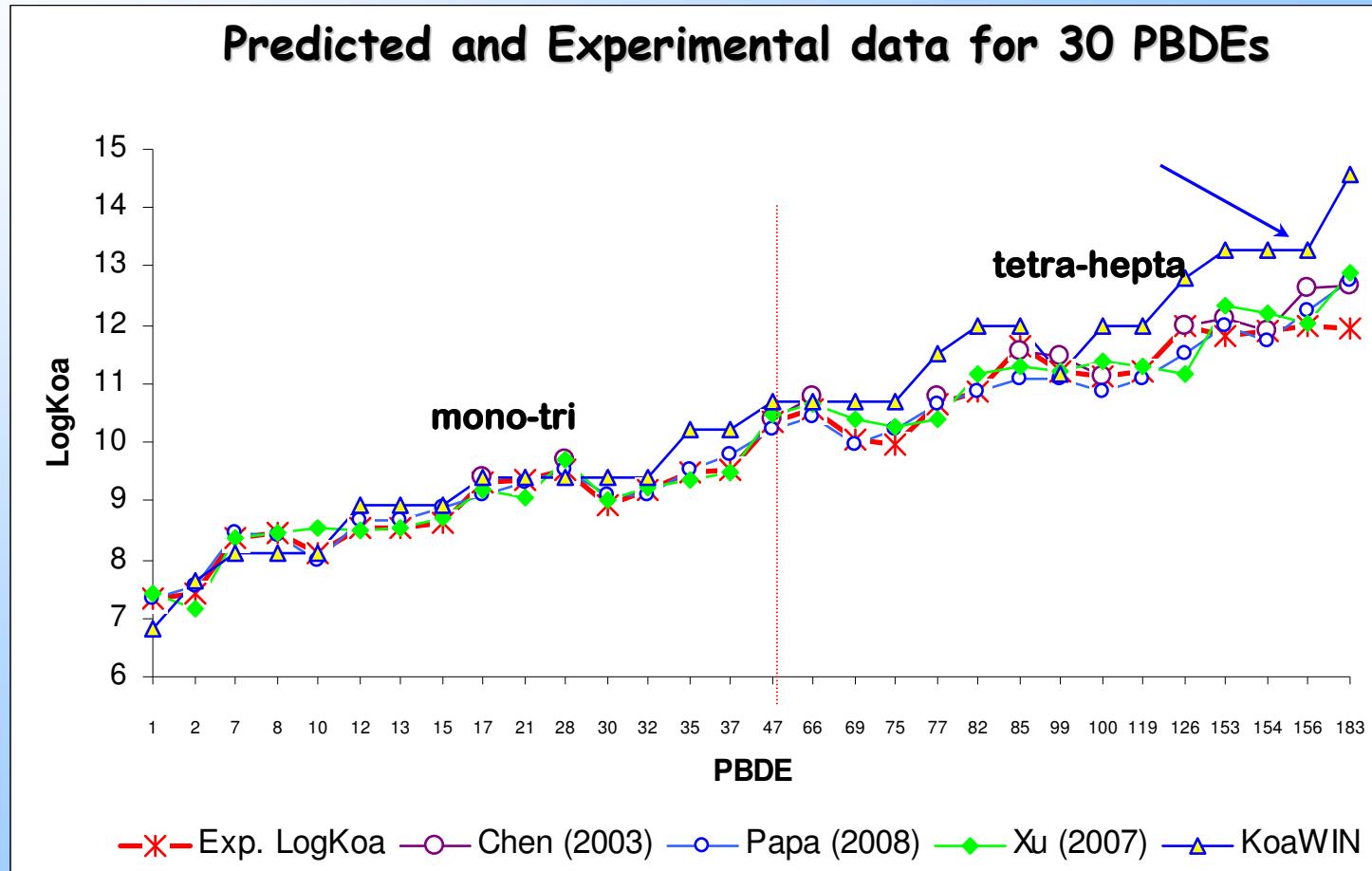
# Example: Local Model for Log Koa of PBDE

Experimental range of LogKoa: 7.34 (mono-BDE) - 11.96 (hepta-BDE)

$$\text{LogKoa} = 6.654 + 0.222 \text{ T(O..Br)}$$



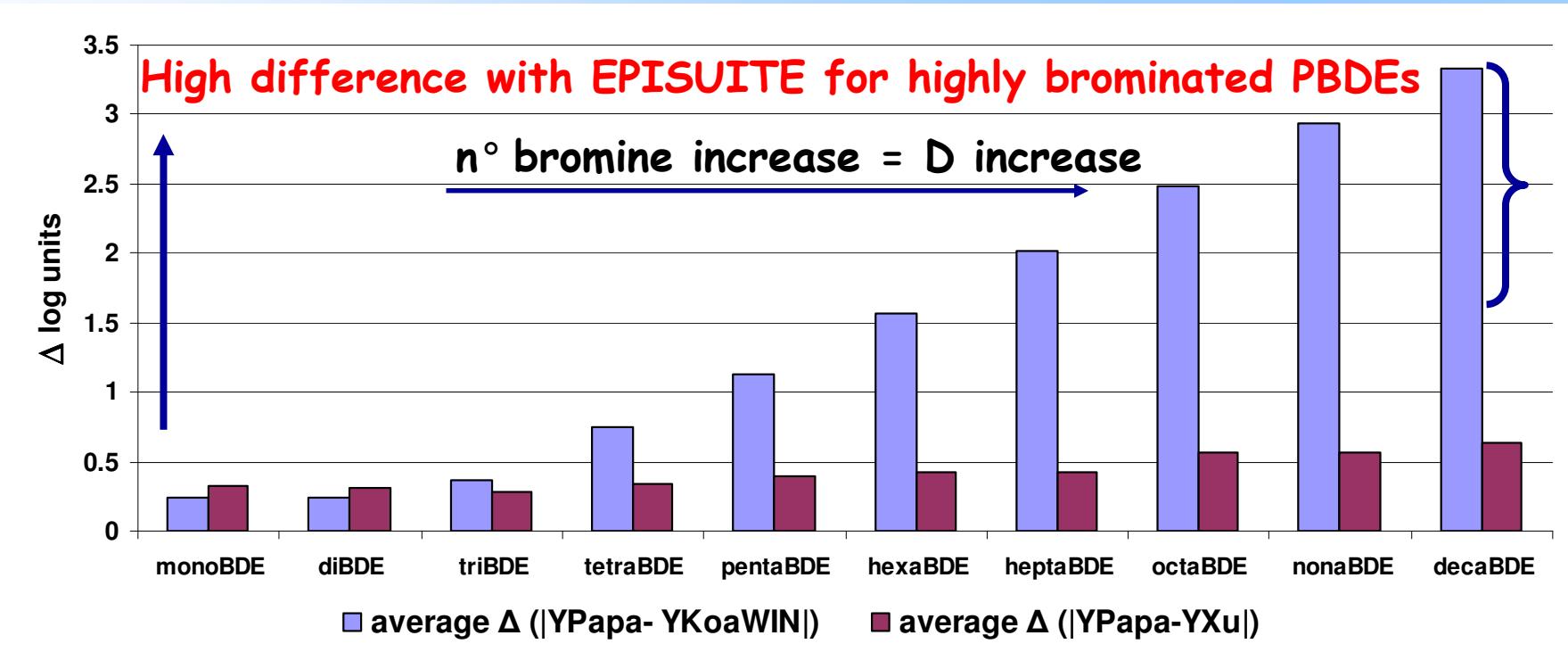
# Comparison with some existing models, in particular EPISuite



Author	Method	Nº obj.	Nº vars	R <sup>2</sup> %	Q <sup>2</sup> <sub>LOO</sub> %	Q <sup>2</sup> <sub>EXT</sub> %	RMSE (30 obj)
Papa et al.	MLR	30	1	97.4	96.8	99.6	0.23
Xu et al.	MLR	22	2	97.6	97.2	-	0.31
Chen et al.	PLS	13	10	97.9	97.5	-	-
KoaWIN (Episuite)	K <sub>ow</sub> /K <sub>AW</sub>						0.81

# Comparison with some existing models, in particular EPISuite

## Predictions for all the 209 PBDEs congeners



$Y_{Papa}$  = Predictions by our model (range Log Koa: 7.32 - 15.09)

$Y_{Episuite}$  = Predictions by KoawIN (Dmax = 3.33 log units; range Log Koa: 6.81-18.23)

$Y_{Xu}$  = Predictions by Xu et al. (2007) (Dmax = 1.06 log units; range Log Koa: 7.4-15.73)

Papa, E.; Kovarich, S.; Gramatica P., *Molecular Informatics* 2011 , 30, 232-240 (Proceedings issue of Euro-QSAR2010).



CAse studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment



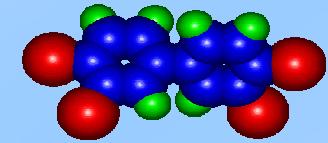
## Aim of WP3 in CADASTER Project to develop and propose in:

<http://www.cadaster.eu>

- local QSAR models
- specific for the 4 classes of emerging pollutants
- externally validated
- verified for their structural Applicability Domain



CAse studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment



*Thanks to all for your attention !!*

<http://www.qsar.it>

[paola.gramatica@uninsubria.it](mailto:paola.gramatica@uninsubria.it)

Prof. Paola Gramatica - QSAR Research Unit - DBSF - University of Insubria - Varese (Italy)



CAse studies on the Development and Application of in-Silico Techniques for Environmental hazard and Risk assessment