QSAR integrated risk assessment – prioritization within the four CADASTER classes

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Conclusions

Uncertainty in QSAR predictions

- can aid to verify experimental results
- can be used to generate conservative (safer) hazard and risk assessments
- may have an impact on decision making
- can aid to evalute policy strategies
- can help us to identify knowledge gaps
 - including learning more about chemistry :)

The need to consider QSAR uncertainty needs motivation

- from a knowledge oriented perspective
- by consideration of net-benefits to increasing knowledge
- through CAse-studies



Why consider uncertainty in QSAR predictions?

"There must be greater appreciation of QSAR "quality" and the appropriateness of their use, both in terms of the chemical domain described, and in terms of the precision of the estimates that are produced."

Cronin et al 2003 Environmental Health Perspectives

Decision making

- Single hazard or risk assessment
- Prioritization of chemicals

Examples

- Uncertainty analysis
- Value of information analysis







Uncertainty analysis in hazard assessment



Triazoles BDE PFC Fragrances

QSAR intergrated SSD

- MC sample for predictive distributions from each species QSAR on aquatic toxicity
- for each species-triplet derive an hazardous concentration





Uncertainty -> Rank after hazard





HC05 no QSAR uncertainty



Rank after PNEC with no uncertainty



Ranking after PNEC no uncertainty



Rank after expected PNEC



Ranking after mean PNEC



Rank after conservative bound



Ranking after conservative PNEC

neg Hazardous concentration

Linnæus University

substance



Rank after conservative bound & extra due to out of AD

Ranking after conservative PNEC & out of AD



neg Hazardous concentration

substance



Rank to improve information

Losses needs to be compared to benefit from using the substance and reduced cost for regulatory decision making, saved animal lives.

Value of information analysis considers

- expected loss of making wrong decisions
- error of type I and II
- net-benefit of a decision
- Classification
- Non-classification





Value of information analysis given Maximum Permissable Load

Action alternatives

- Load (production of a chemical)

Decision rule

- Maximize load keeping risk below safety margin

Uncertain outcome

 Maximum permissable load (MPL) from a probabilistic risk assessment

Loss function

L-: Loss of missed opportunities following an over-estimated risk

L⁺: Loss due to undesireable damages resulting from an overproduction following an under-estimated risk











MPL under perfect info = "1/Risk"

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Variance in MPL = "Uncertainty"

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VOI given linear L+

beta1= 0.1 beta2= 3 c= 1



MPL under perfect info = "1/Risk"

Extent of extrapolation from AD



Guide further testing – several substances

Test those believed to be of largest risk?

with the largest uncertainty?

those that provide additional QSAR data for building better QSARs?







Guide further testing – which endpoints to test

Which input parameters have the largest contribution to overall uncertainty?

Sensitivity analysis – relative contribution of QSAR uncertainty Ranking



Conclusion 2

There are lessons to be learnt by considering uncertainty from QSAR predictions in hazard and risk assessment

by showing impacts on decision making



