



# Medicinal Chemistry/ CHEM 458/658

## Chapter 3- SAR and QSAR

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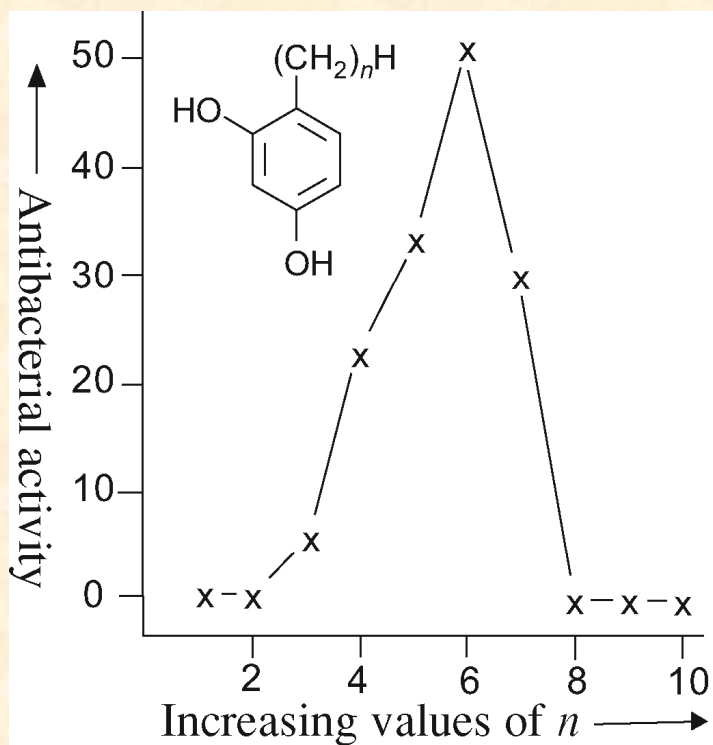
# Introduction



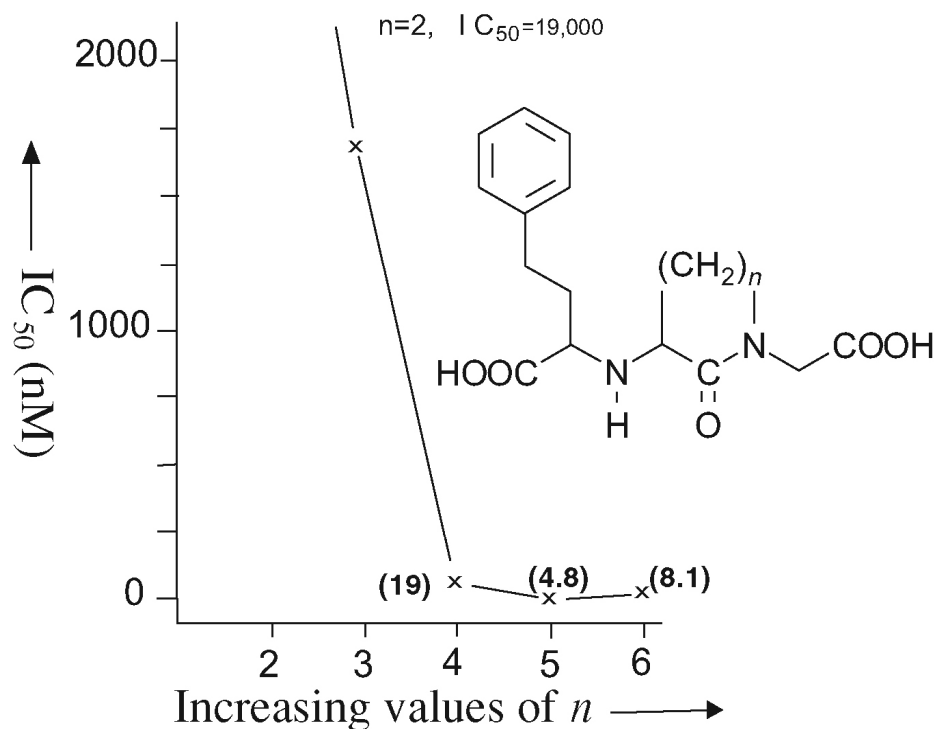
- Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)
  - similar structures –similar effects
  - more potency or improved side effects
  
- Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)
  - similar structures –similar effects but uses parameters to describe the potency
  - parameters – anything (related to drug action) that can be represented by a numerical values

# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Usually go through minor changes on the lead structure
  - the and shape of the carbon skeleton
  - the nature and degree of substitution
  - stereochemistry



(a)



(b)

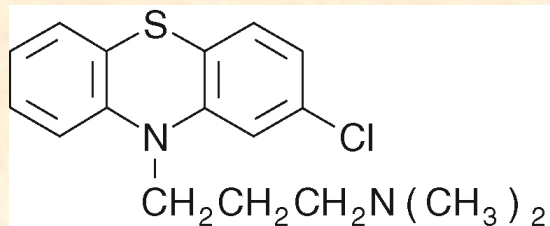
# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)



- Changing size and shape
  - number of methylene groups in chains and rings
  - increasing or decreasing the degree of unsaturation
  - introducing or removing a ring system

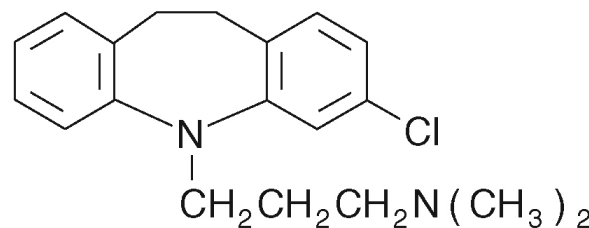
# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Changing the number of methylene groups
  - increases lipophilicity (increased activity)
  - decreases water solubility (decreased activity)
  - aliphatic compounds – micelle formation – no selective binding



Chlorpromazine

antipsychotic

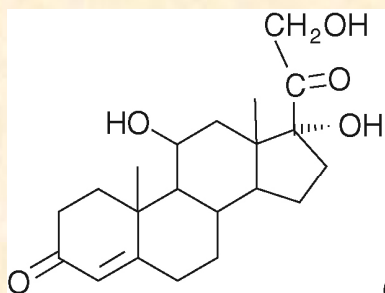


Clomipramine

antidepressant

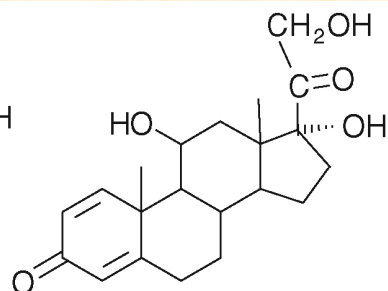
# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Changing the degree of unsaturation
  - increasing – rigidity
  - *E-Z* isomers might complicate the picture
  - more sensitivity
  - increased toxicity



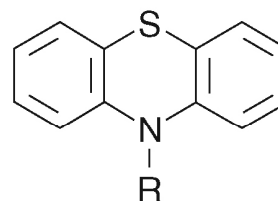
Cortisol

1



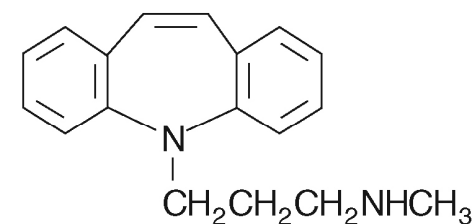
Prednisone

30



Phenothiazine drugs

antipsychotic

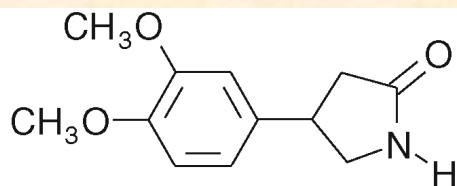


Protriptyline (Vivactil)

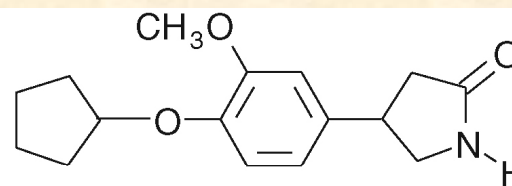
antidepressant

## Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Introduction or removal of a ring system
  - addition – size increase, shape changes (effect mostly unpredictable)
  - increasing size – better fills the hydrophobic pocket

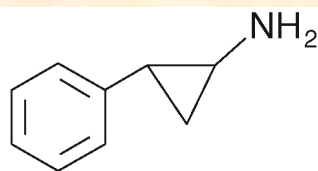


3-(3,4-Dimethoxyphenyl)-butyrolactam

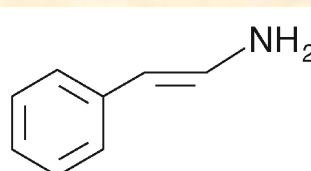


Rolipram, an antidepressant, is ten times more active than 3-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-butyrolactam.

- small ring to substitute C=C double bonds - stability



Tranylcypromine

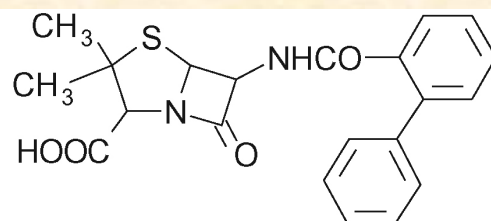


1-Amino-2-phenylethene

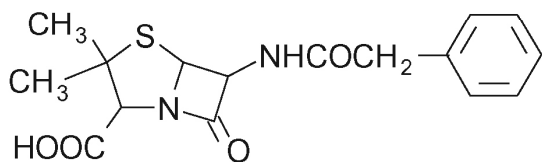
antidepressant

# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

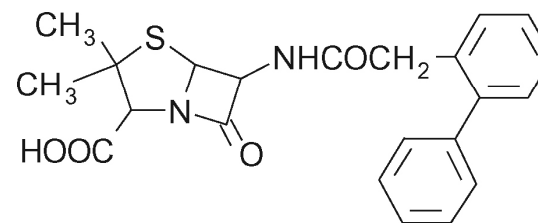
- Introduction of an aromatic ring
  - increases rigidity, shape changes resistance toward metabolism might improve



Diphenicillin ( $\beta$ -lactamase resistant)



Benzylpenicillin (not  $\beta$ -lactamase resistant)

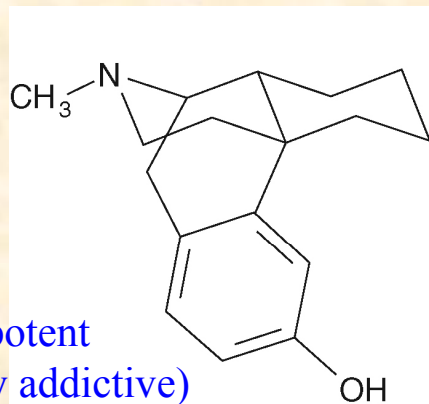


2-Phenylbenzylpenicillin (not  $\beta$ -lactamase resistant)



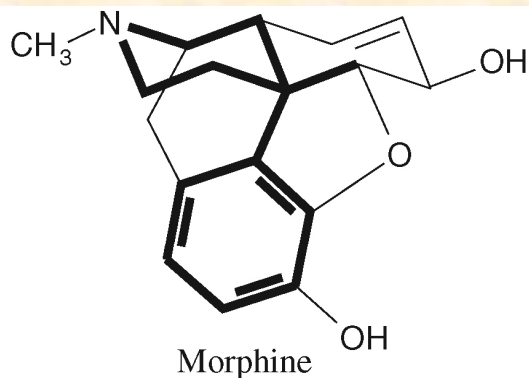
# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Modifying the ring system of drugs of natural origin
  - fine tuning of effect and side effects

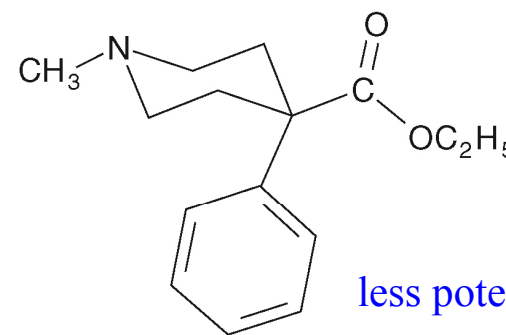


more potent  
(highly addictive)

Levorphanol

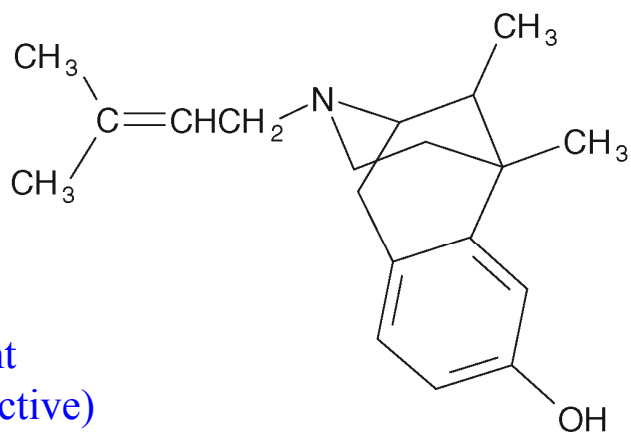


Morphine



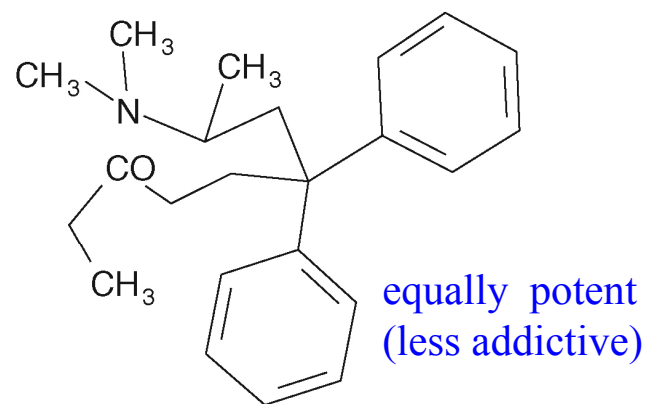
less potent

Pethidine



less potent  
(less addictive)

Pentazocine



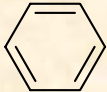
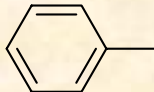
equally potent  
(less addictive)

Methadone

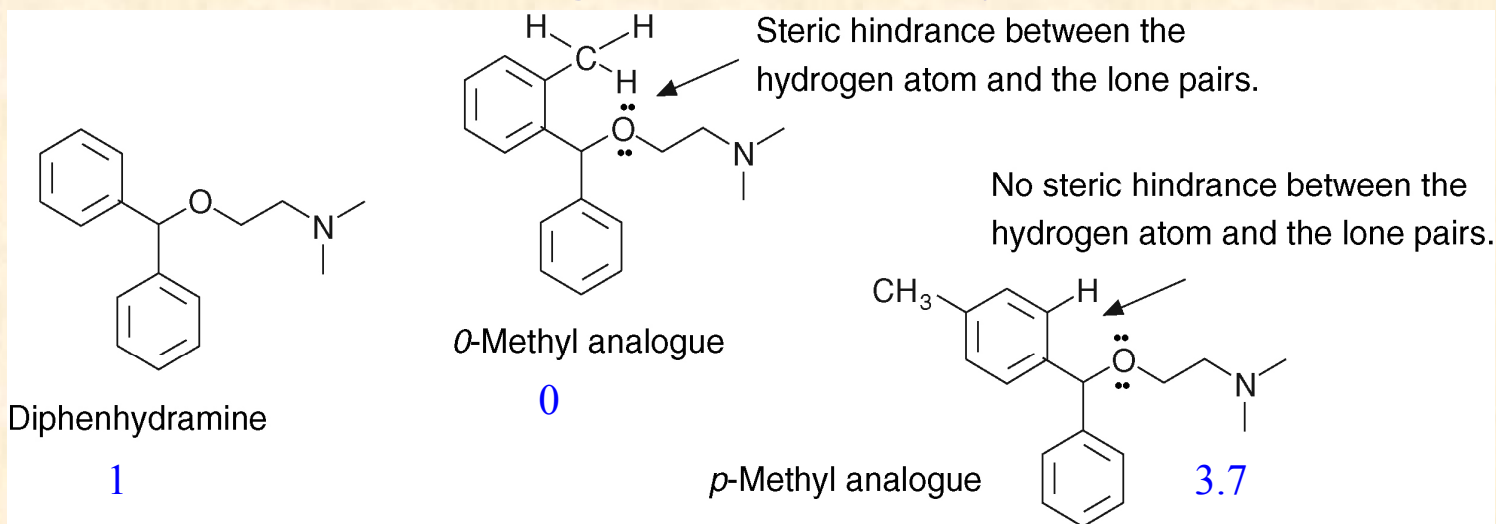
# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Introduction of new substituents

methyl groups  $\longrightarrow$  increases lipophilicity

Compound	Structure	P	Analogue	Structure	P
benzene		135	toluene		490
acetamide	CH <sub>3</sub> CONH <sub>2</sub>	83	propionamide	CH <sub>3</sub> CH <sub>2</sub> CONH <sub>2</sub>	360
urea	NH <sub>2</sub> CONH <sub>2</sub>	15	N-methylurea	CH <sub>3</sub> NHCONH <sub>2</sub>	44

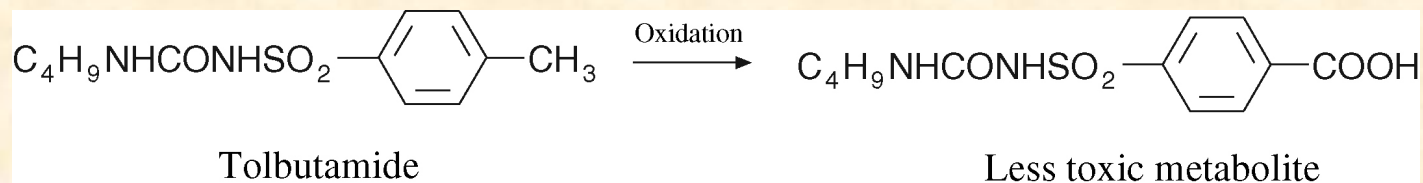
steric hindrance – might block activity



# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

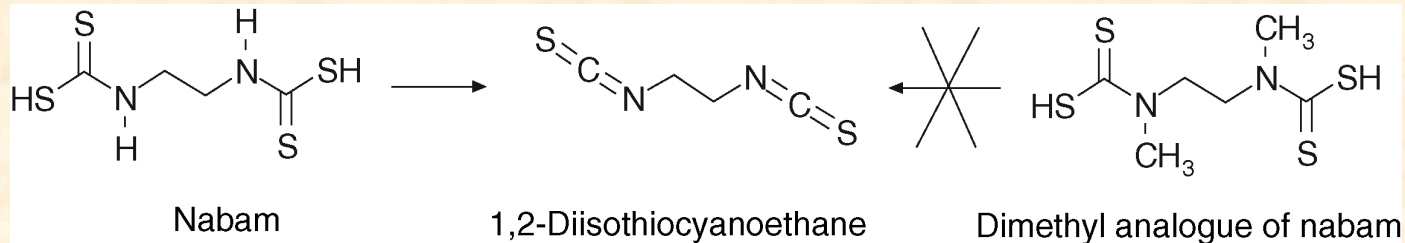
- Introduction of methyl group

- methyl group on aromatic rings – increased rate of metabolism

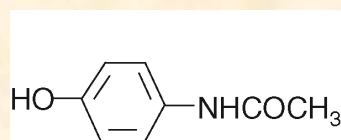


- demethylation – easy on heteroatoms, especially on N<sup>+</sup>, S<sup>+</sup>

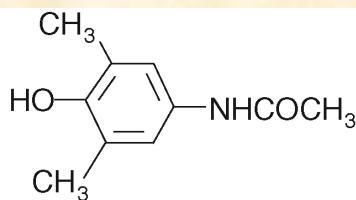
- reduce the rate of metabolism



- reduce unwanted side effects



Paracetamol



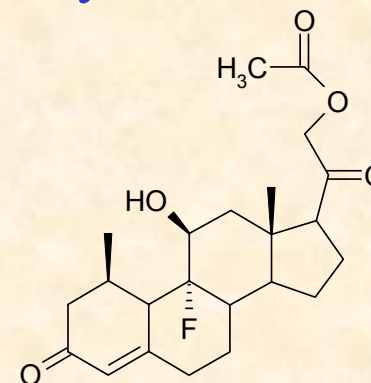
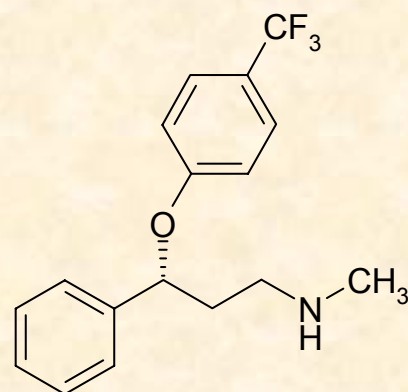
*o,o'*-Dimethyl analogue of paracetamol

# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

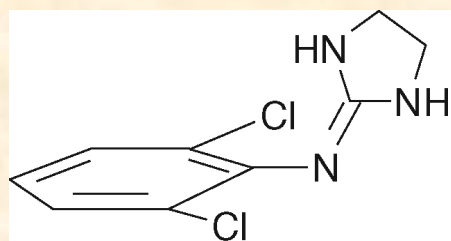
- Introduction of halogens

Mostly F and Cl - C-X bond stability - reactivity

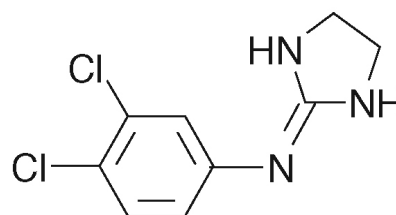
CF<sub>3</sub> is also very popular



location



Clonidine ED<sub>50</sub> 0.01 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>



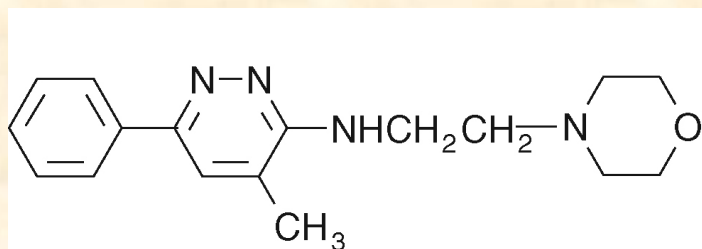
ED<sub>50</sub> 3.00 mg kg<sup>-1</sup>

# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

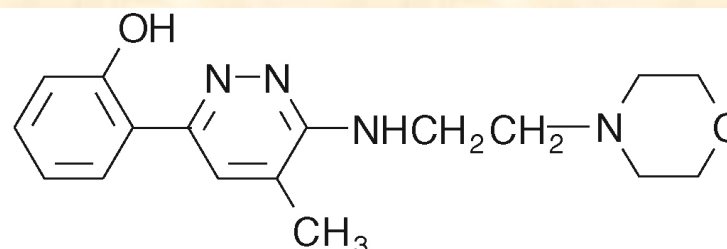
- Introduction of hydroxyl groups

Mostly to increase hydrophilic character

Phenolic OH is special



Minaprine



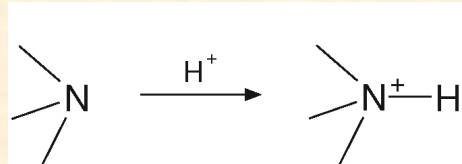
The *ortho*-hydroxylated analogue

# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

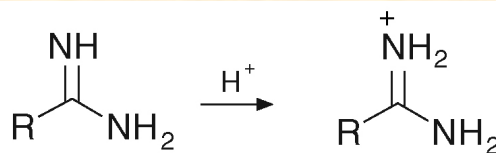


- Introduction of basic groups

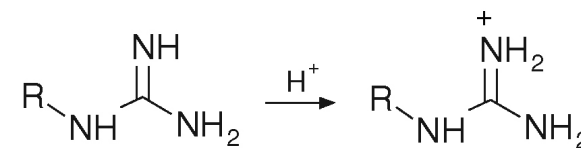
Mostly to increase binding via H-bonding/acid base interactions



All types of amine



Amidines

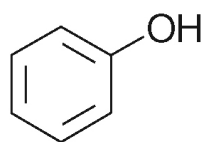


Guanidines

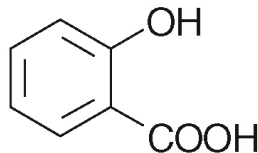
# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Introduction of COOH and SO<sub>3</sub>H groups

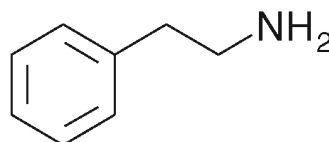
Mostly to increase binding via H-bonding/acid base interactions – in vivo salt formation  
introduction to small leads – usually changes the activity



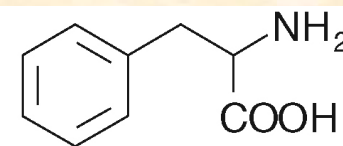
Phenol



Salicylic acid



Phenylethylamine



Phenylalanine

SO<sub>3</sub>H – no significant effect except faster excretion

Other S groups are rare - metabolism

# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

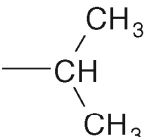
- Changes the existing substituents of a lead

## isosteres - bioisosteres

### Classical Isosteres

-CH<sub>3</sub>, -NH<sub>2</sub>, -OH, -F, -Cl.

-Cl, -SH -PH<sub>2</sub>

-Br, Isopropyl 

-CH<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-, -O-, -S-

-COCH<sub>2</sub>R, -CONHR, -COOR, -COSR

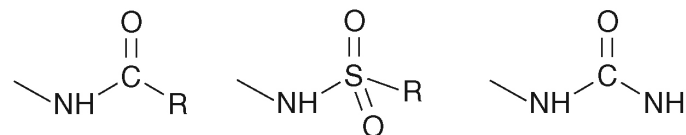
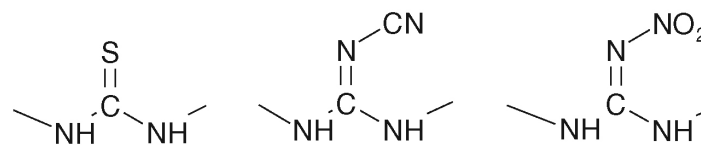
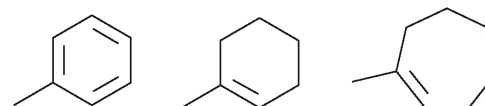
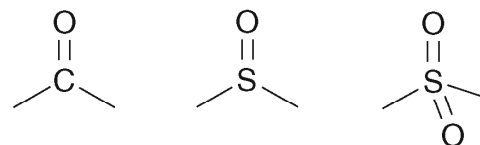
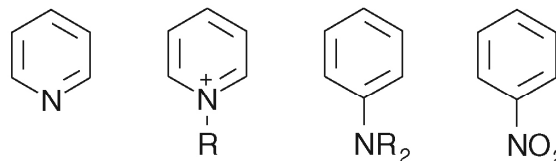
-HC=, -N=

**In rings:** -CH=CH-, -S-

-O-, -S-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-, -NH-

-CH=, -N-

### Bioisosteres

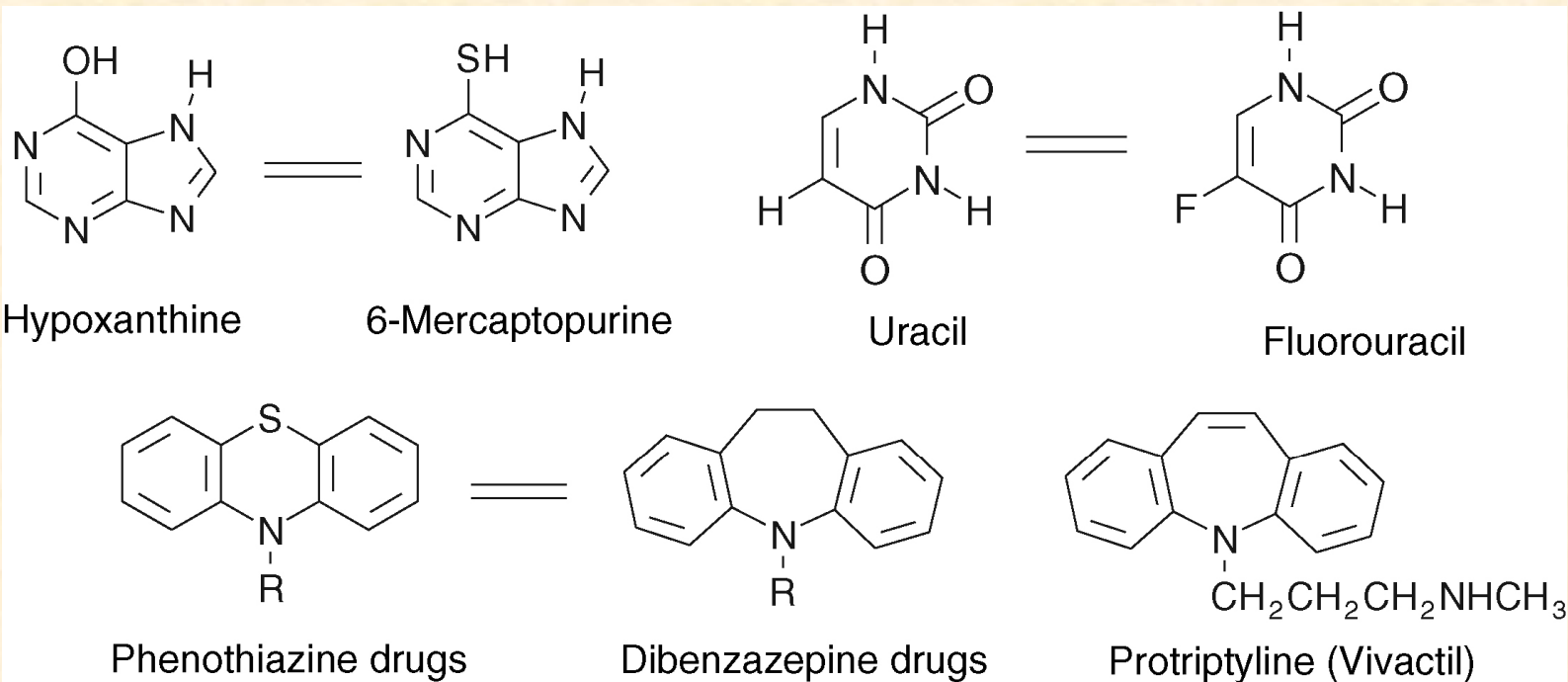




# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

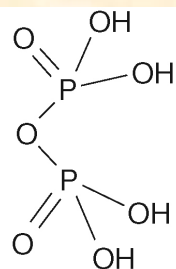
- Changes the existing substituents of a lead

isosteres - bioisosteres

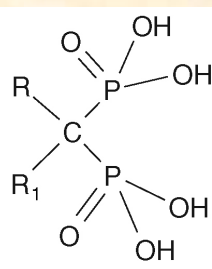


# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Case Study: SAR investigation to discover potent geminal bisphosphonates

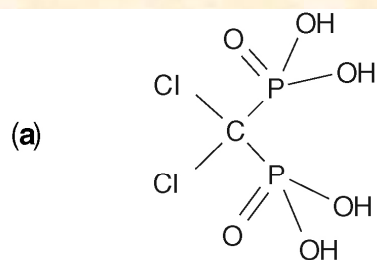


(a) Pyrophosphoric acid

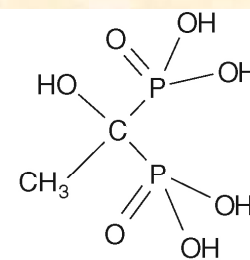


(b) Bisphosphonic acid

first generation

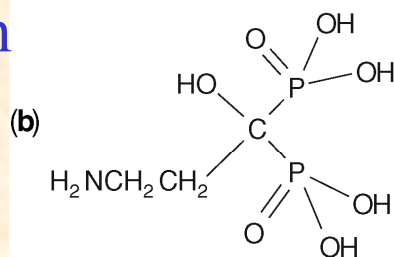


Clodronic acid

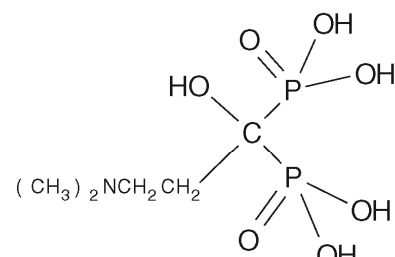


Etidronic acid

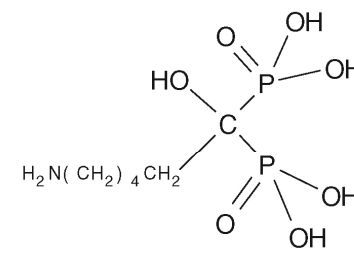
second generation



Pamidronate (ED<sub>50</sub>61)



Olpadronate (ED<sub>50</sub>12)

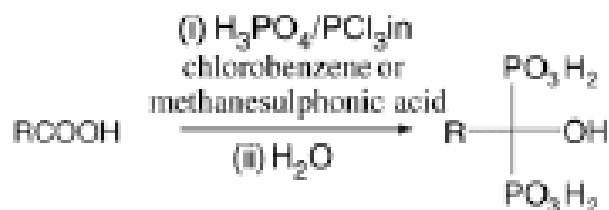


Neridronate (ED<sub>50</sub>60)

# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Case Study: SAR investigation to discover potent geminal bisphosphonates

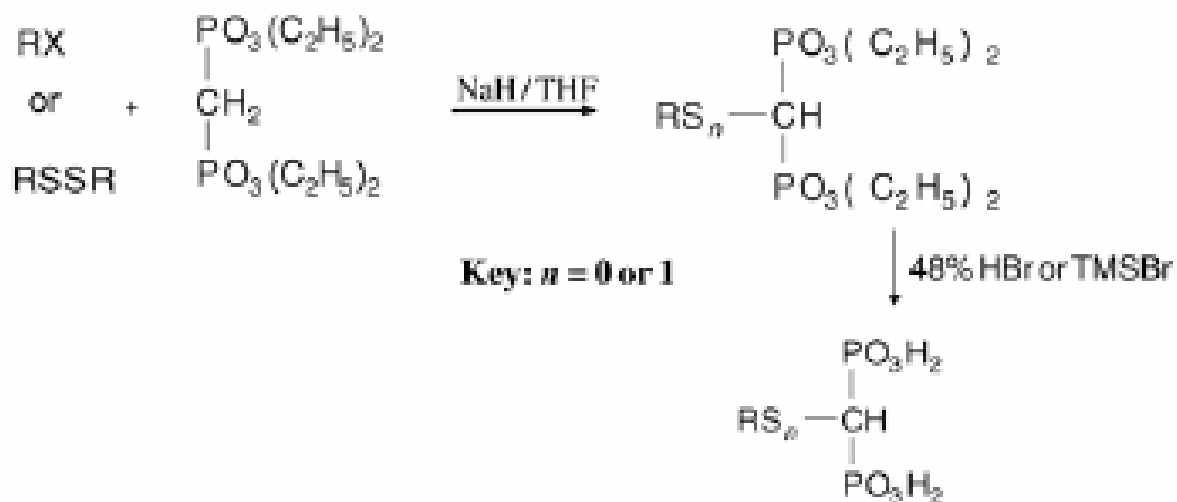
## Method 1



## Method 2



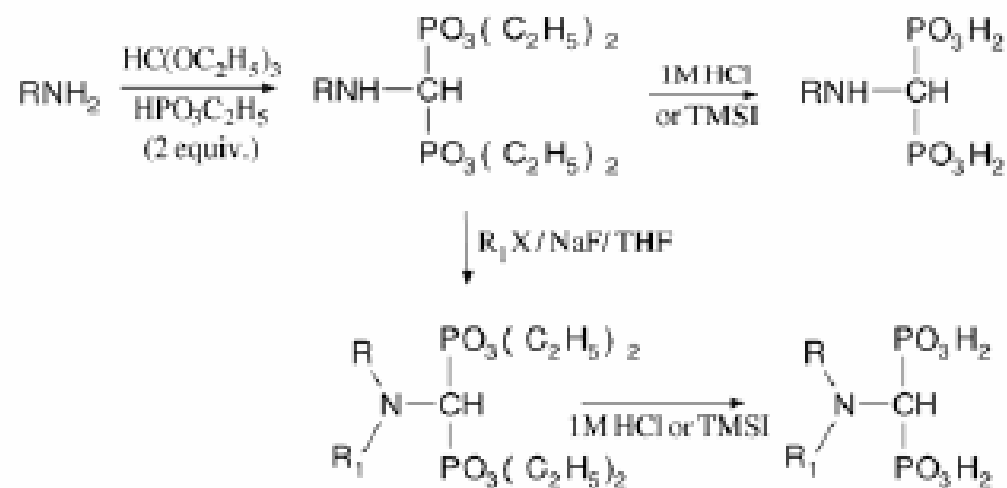
## Method 3



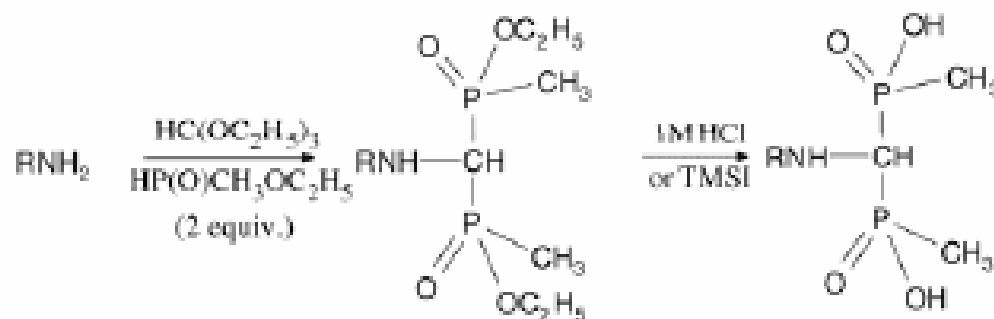
# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Case Study: SAR investigation to discover potent geminal bisphosphonates

## Method 4



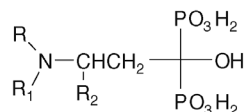
## Method 5



# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

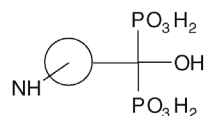
- Case Study: SAR investigation to discover potent geminal bisphosphonates





## General structural formulae



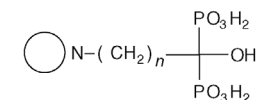
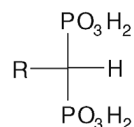
Compound	R	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	ED <sub>50</sub>
1 Pamidronate	H	H	H	61
2	H	H	CH <sub>3</sub>	3.4
3 Olapadronate	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	12
4	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	18
5 Ibandronate	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>11</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	H	1.2
6	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>11</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>3</sub>	65

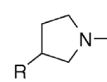
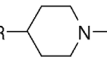
## General structural formula






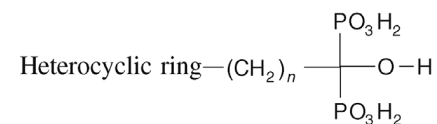
Compound	Ring	ED <sub>50</sub>
21		50
22		250
23		~2500
24		>3000

## General structural formulae




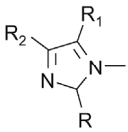


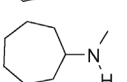


Compound	Ring	R	n	ED <sub>50</sub>
7		H	2	10
8		H	3	25
9		H	5	250
10		Ph	2	70
11		4-Cl-Ph	2	3.5
12		H	2	5.6
13		Ph	2	~11
14		Ph	3	100
15		Ph	5	>300
16		3-F-Ph	2	30

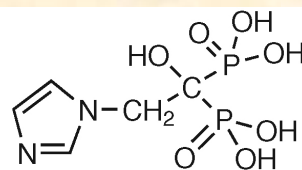
17			2	25
18			2	>300
19		Me	2	~400
20		Ph	2	>10000



# Structure-Activity Relationship (SAR)

- Case Study: SAR investigation to discover potent geminal bisphosphonates

Compound	R	ED <sub>50</sub>	Compound	Ring	R	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	n	ED <sub>50</sub>
25		>2000	29 30 31 32		H	H	H	1	0.07
26		800			H	H	H	2	45
27		40			Me	H	H	1	3
28		7			H	Me	Me	1	1.5
			33						>300
			34						600



Zoledronice acid (Zometa, ED<sub>50</sub> 0.07 μg/kg<sup>-1</sup>)

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



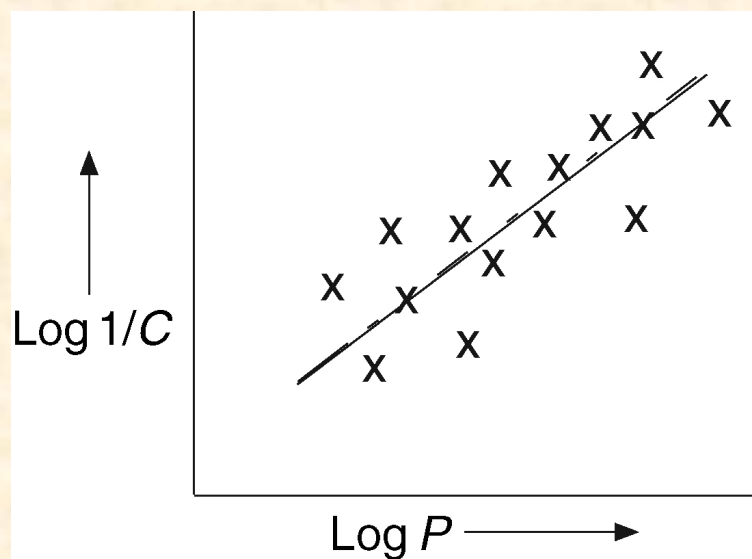
- QSAR – mathematical relationship (equations)  
biological effect vs. physicochemical parameters
  - lipophilicity
  - electron distribution
  - shape
  - size
  - partition coefficients
  - Hammett or Tafts constants

Biological activity = F {parameters (s)}

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Regression Analysis





# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Lipophilic parameters

Partition coefficient

$$\log (1/C) = k_1 \log P + k_2$$

---

(1) Toxicity of alcohols to red spiders:

$$\log (1/C) = 0.69 \log P + 0.16 \quad r = 0.979, \quad n = 14, \quad s = 0.087$$

(2) The binding of misc. neutral molecules to bovine serum:

$$\log (1/C) = 0.75 \log P + 2.30 \quad r = 0.96, \quad n = 42, \quad s = 0.159$$

(3) The binding of misc. neutral molecules to haemoglobin:

$$\log (1/C) = 0.71 \log P + 1.51 \quad r = 0.95, \quad n = 17, \quad s = 0.16$$

(4) Inhibition of phenols on the conversion of P-450 to P-420 cytochromes:

$$\log (1/C) = 0.57 \log P + 0.36 \quad r = 0.979, \quad n = 13, \quad s = 0.132$$

---

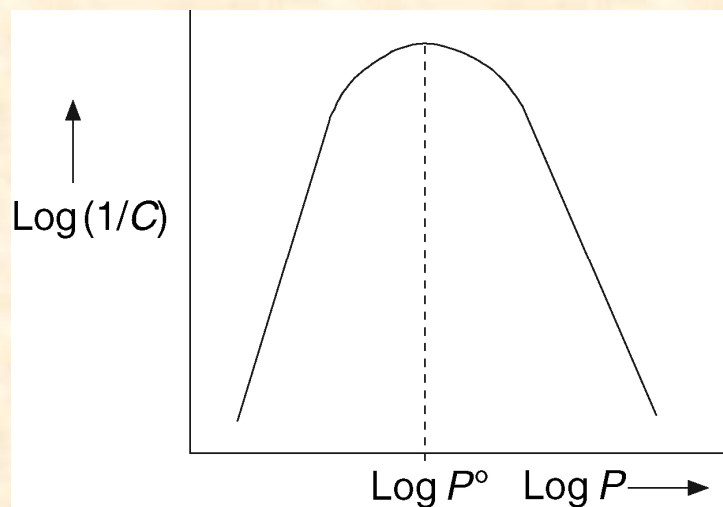
# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Lipophilic parameters

Partition coefficient – often parabolic

$$\log (1/C) = -k_1 (\log P)^2 + k_2 \log P + k_3$$



# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)

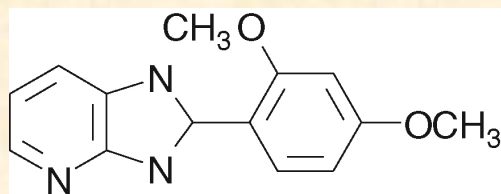


- Lipophilic parameters

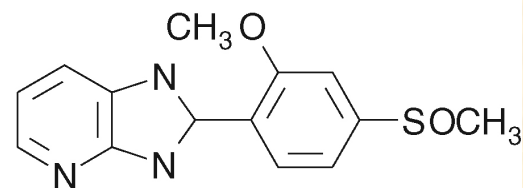
hypnosis (mice) with barbiturates

$$\log (1/C) = - 0.44 (\log P)^2 + 1.58 \log P + 1.93 \quad (r=0.969)$$

Hansch –  $\log P \sim 2$  hypnotic (CNS drug)



Compound I ( $\log P=2.57$ )



Sulmazole ( $\log P=1.17$ )

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Lipophilic parameters

lipophilic substituent constants ( $\pi$ ) (or hydrophobic) contribution of substituents to P

$$\pi = \log P_X - \log P_H$$

$$\pi = \log P_{(C_6H_5Cl)} - \log P_{(C_6H_6)} = 2.84 - 2.13 = 0.71$$

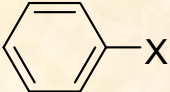
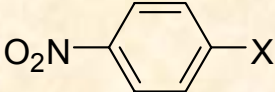

$$\pi = \pi(\text{substituent 1}) + \pi(\text{substituent 2}) \dots + \pi(\text{substituent n})$$

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Lipophilic parameters

lipophilic substituent constants ( $\pi$ )

Substituent X	Aliphatic systems R-X			
- H	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
- CH <sub>3</sub>	0.50	0.56	0.52	0.49
- F	- 0.17	0.14		0.31
- Cl	0.39	0.71	0.54	0.93
- OH	- 1.16	- 0.67	0.11	- 0.87
- NH <sub>2</sub>		- 1.23	- 0.46	- 1.63
- NO <sub>2</sub>		- 0.28	- 0.39	0.50
- OCH <sub>3</sub>	0.47	- 0.02	0.18	- 0.12

$\log (1/C)$  vs  $\pi$  high r and low s – important contributor

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Lipophilic parameters

distribution coefficients ( $D$ )

ionization

$$D = \frac{[HA_{\text{organic}}]}{[H^+_{\text{aqueous}}] + [A^-_{\text{aqueous}}]}$$

for acids

$$\log (P/D-1) = \text{pH} - \text{p}K_a$$

for bases

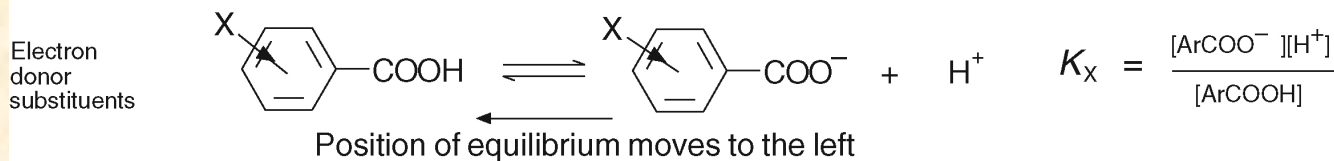
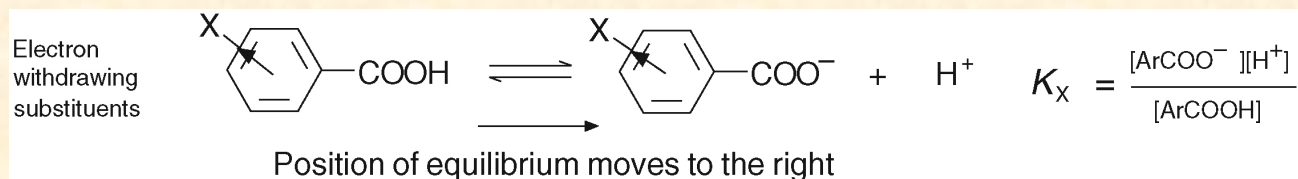
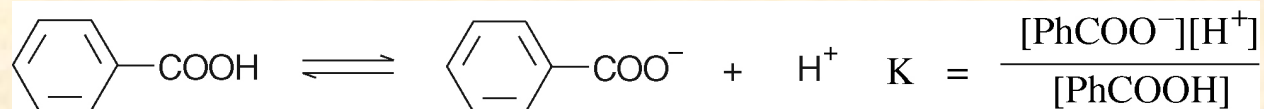
$$\log (P/D-1) = \text{p}K_a - \text{pH}$$

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Electronic parameters

## The Hammett constant ( $\sigma$ )



$$\sigma_x = \log \frac{K_x}{K}$$

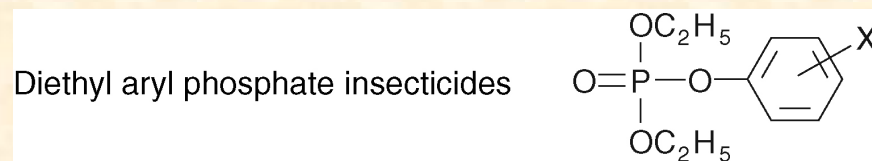
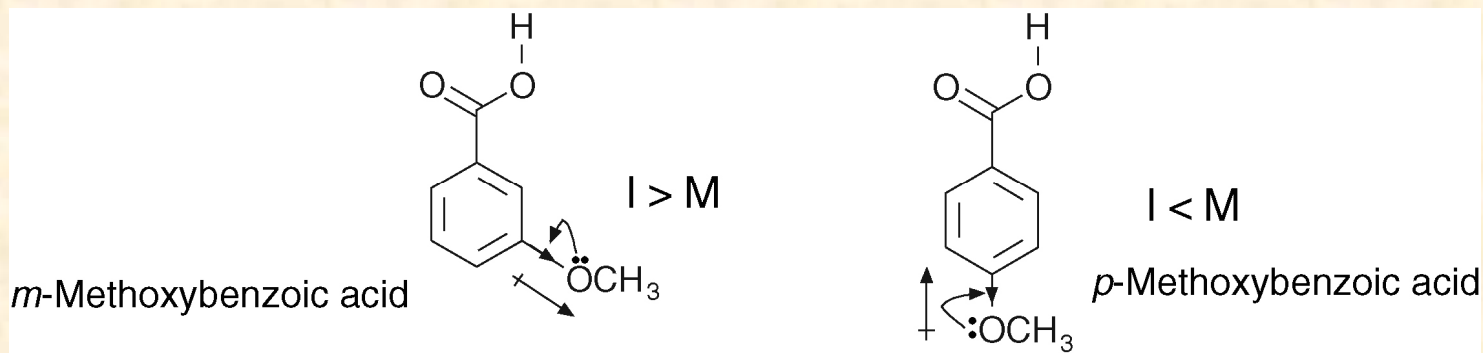
$$\sigma_x = \log K_x - \log K$$

$$\sigma_x = \text{p}K - \text{p}K_x$$

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)

- Electronic parameters

## The Hammett constant ( $\sigma$ )



$$\log (1/C) = 2.282 \sigma - 0.348$$

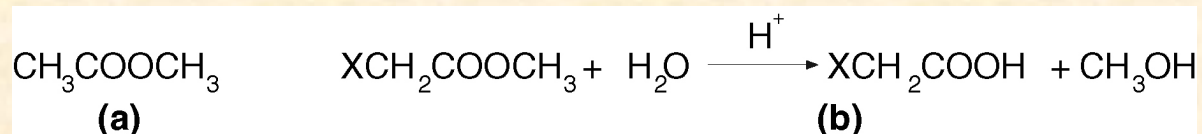


# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



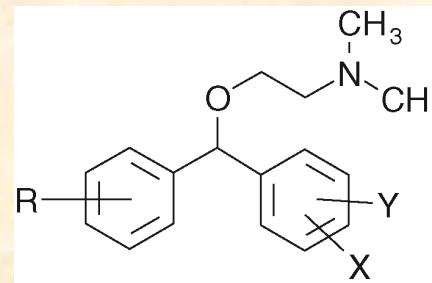
- Steric parameters

## The Taft steric parameter ( $E_s$ )



$$E_s = \log \frac{k_{(\text{XCH}_2\text{COOCH}_3)}}{k_{(\text{CH}_3\text{COOCH}_3)}} = k_{(\text{XCH}_2\text{COOCH}_3)} - k_{(\text{CH}_3\text{COOCH}_3)}$$

$$\log \text{BR} = 0.440E_s - 2.204 \quad (n=30; s=0.37; r= 0.886)$$



# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Steric parameters

Molar refractivity (*MR*)

$$MR = \frac{(n^2 - 1) M}{(n^2 + 2) \rho}$$

additive – functional groups

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Hansch analysis

drug activity vs. measurable chemical properties  
multiparameter approach

two stages: - transport to the site of action  
- binding to the target site

$$\log 1/C = k_1(\text{partition parameter}) + k_2(\text{electronic parameter}) + k_3(\text{steric parameter}) + k_4$$

$$\log 1/C = k_1P - k_2P^2 + k_3\sigma + k_4E_s + k_5$$

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Hansch analysis

Accuracy :

- Greater number of analogs –  $n=5x$  ( $x$ = number of parameters)
- biological data
- the choice of parameters

Use:

- Asses the factors controlling the activity
- predict optimum activity (ideal parameter values)

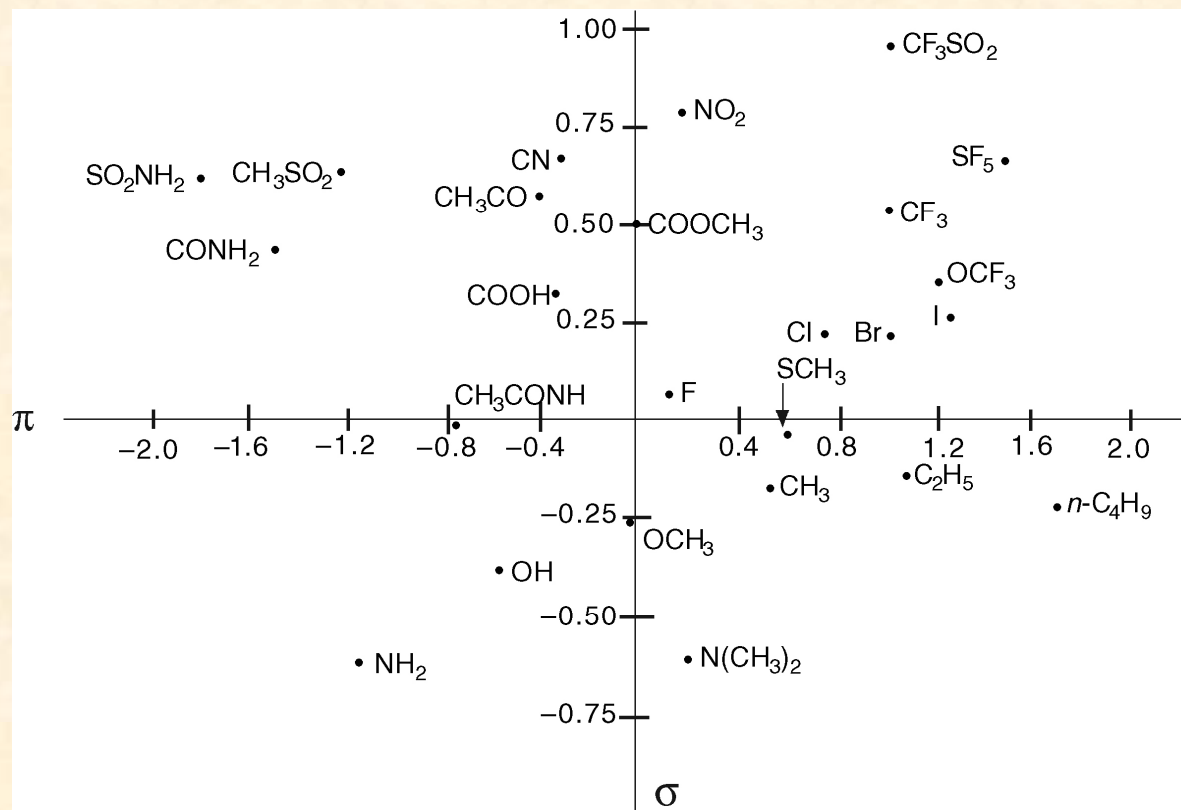
Sources of parameters

- CRC, CAS, Merck Index, etc.

# Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationship (QSAR)



- Craig plots



Use with Hansch analysis:

$$\log 1/C = 2.67\pi - 2.56\sigma + 3.92$$