

Databasing Drug Metabolites to Influence Design-Make-Test Drug Discovery Cycles

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Clinical & Pharmaceutical Solutions through Analysis

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What is Design - Make - Test?

Drug Metabolism
Scientist

Chemist



DESIGN



MAKE

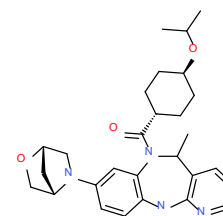
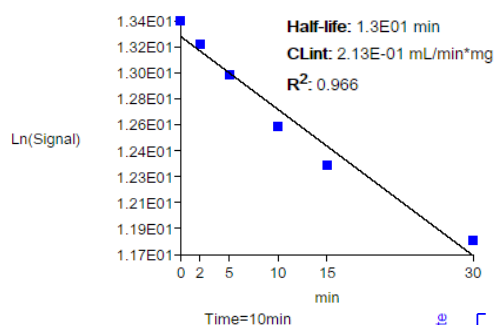
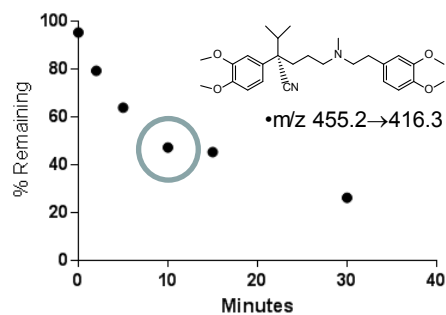


TEST

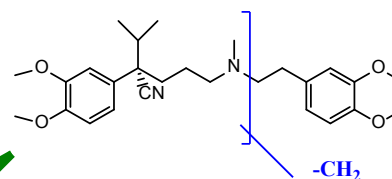
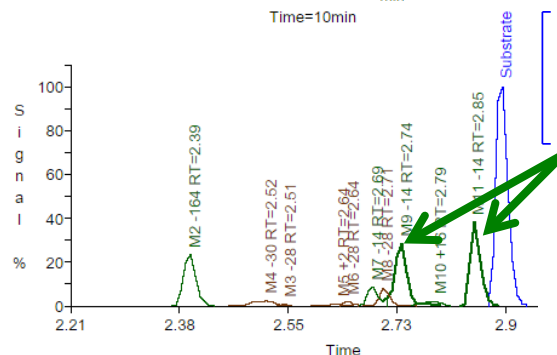
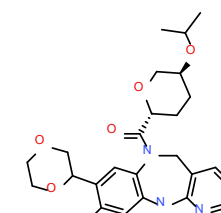


Drug Metabolism Involvement Traditionally in Test Phase

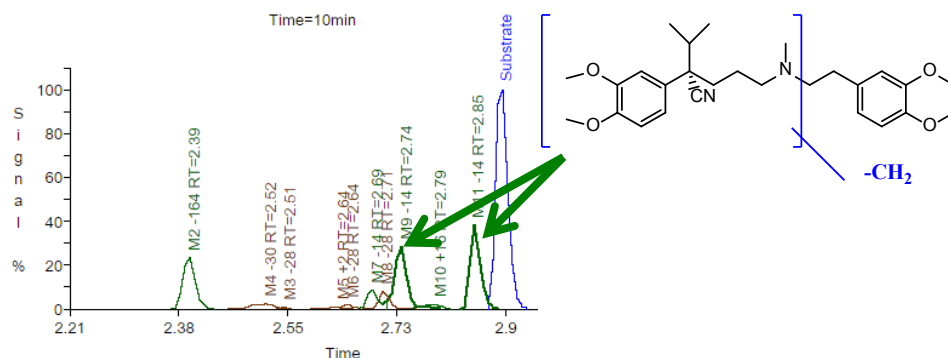
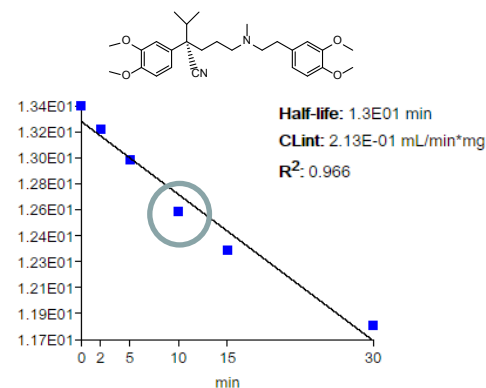
- Improve Pharmacokinetics (PK)
 - Metabolic Stability and Intrinsic Clearance (MSIC; CL_{int})
 - Metabolite Identification to aid MSIC
- Improve Safety
 - Reactive Metabolite Trapping & ID



GSH
CN
Trapping



Early read on PK (or CL) via MSIC



Add another 1-2 Weeks; ~10 compounds / week

How to Better Inform?

- Structure Proposals
- Reduce Cycle Time

The Process of Metabolite Structure Proposal



- Mass Spec Independent
- Acquisition Independent
 - DDA - Data Dependent Acquisition
 - DIA - Data Independent Acquisition
 - MS^E (Waters)
 - SWATH (Sciex)
Sequential Windowed Acquisition of All Theoretical Fragment Ions
- In Silico Augmented
 - Site of metabolism prediction



- Interpret
- Report / Communicate
- Store / Search
- Design

Interactive Data Views in WebMetabase

Apply filter:

☐ Check metabolites on every condition

☐ Include metabolites with score between: and

☐ Include metabolites with area between: and

☐ Include metabolites with relative area between: and

☒ Include metabolites with m/z diff. between: and (abs. ppm)

☐ Include metabolites with names that contains: (Select)

☐ Include metabolites of group:

☒ Include red peak metabolites

☐ Include red peak metabolites without formula

☒ Include singleton metabolites

☐ Show on the chroma table only the metabolites in the selected condition

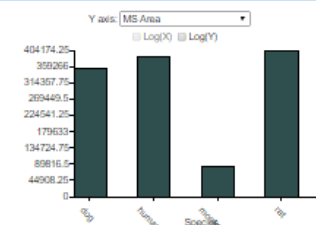
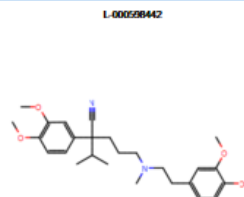
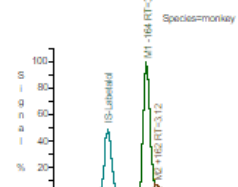
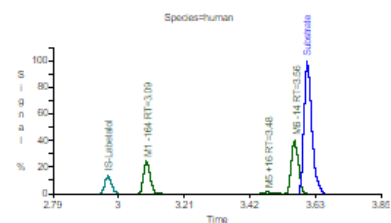
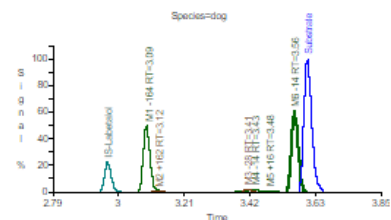
☐ Show hidden metabolites in charts

☒ Sync chart zoom

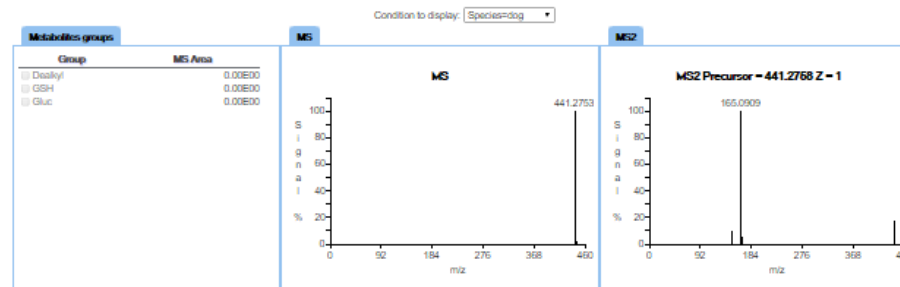
☒ Display selected metabolite structure

☒ Display analysis variable chart

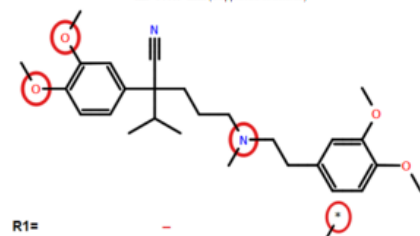
☒ Display metabolite spectra



	Name	RT	m/z	Mass shift	m/z diff (ppm)	Z	Area ABS	Area %	Ion formula	Max score
<input type="checkbox"/>	IS-Labeled	2.96-2.97	329.1860-329.1865		1.68-2.98		1.23E05-1.30E05			
<input type="checkbox"/>	M1-164 RT=3.09	3.09	291.2065-291.2082	-164.0837	-5.28-0.66	1	1.56E05-2.94E05	11.60-45.49	[C ₁₇ H ₂₀ N ₂ O ₂ + H] ⁺	408.9
<input type="checkbox"/>	M2 +162 RT=3.12	3.12	617.3057-617.3087	+162.0164	-2.97-1.89	1	4.23E03-1.83E04	0.31-3.34	[C ₂₂ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₁₀ + H] ⁺	540.8
<input type="checkbox"/>	M3-28 RT=3.41	3.41	427.2584-427.2595	-28.0313	-0.82-1.82	1	8.66E03-1.05E05	0.65-19.19	[C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₈ + H] ⁺	400.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	M4-14 RT=3.43	3.43-3.45	441.2747-441.2756	-14.0157	-1.94-0.10	1	9.37E03-3.27E04	1.10-2.43	[C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₈ + H] ⁺	400.0
<input type="checkbox"/>	M5 +10 RT=3.48	3.48-3.49	471.2855-471.2873	+15.9949	-4.17-0.22	1	1.43E03-2.08E04	0.26-1.55	[C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₈ + H] ⁺	499.3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	M6-14 RT=3.56	3.56-3.57	441.2753-441.2759	-14.0157	-2.59-1.13	1	8.17E04-4.04E05	14.90-30.13	[C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₈ + H] ⁺	482.4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Substrate	3.61	455.2911-455.2918		-3.02-1.48	1	1.08E06-8.28E04	63.26-15.11	[C ₂₃ H ₂₄ N ₂ O ₈ + H] ⁺	

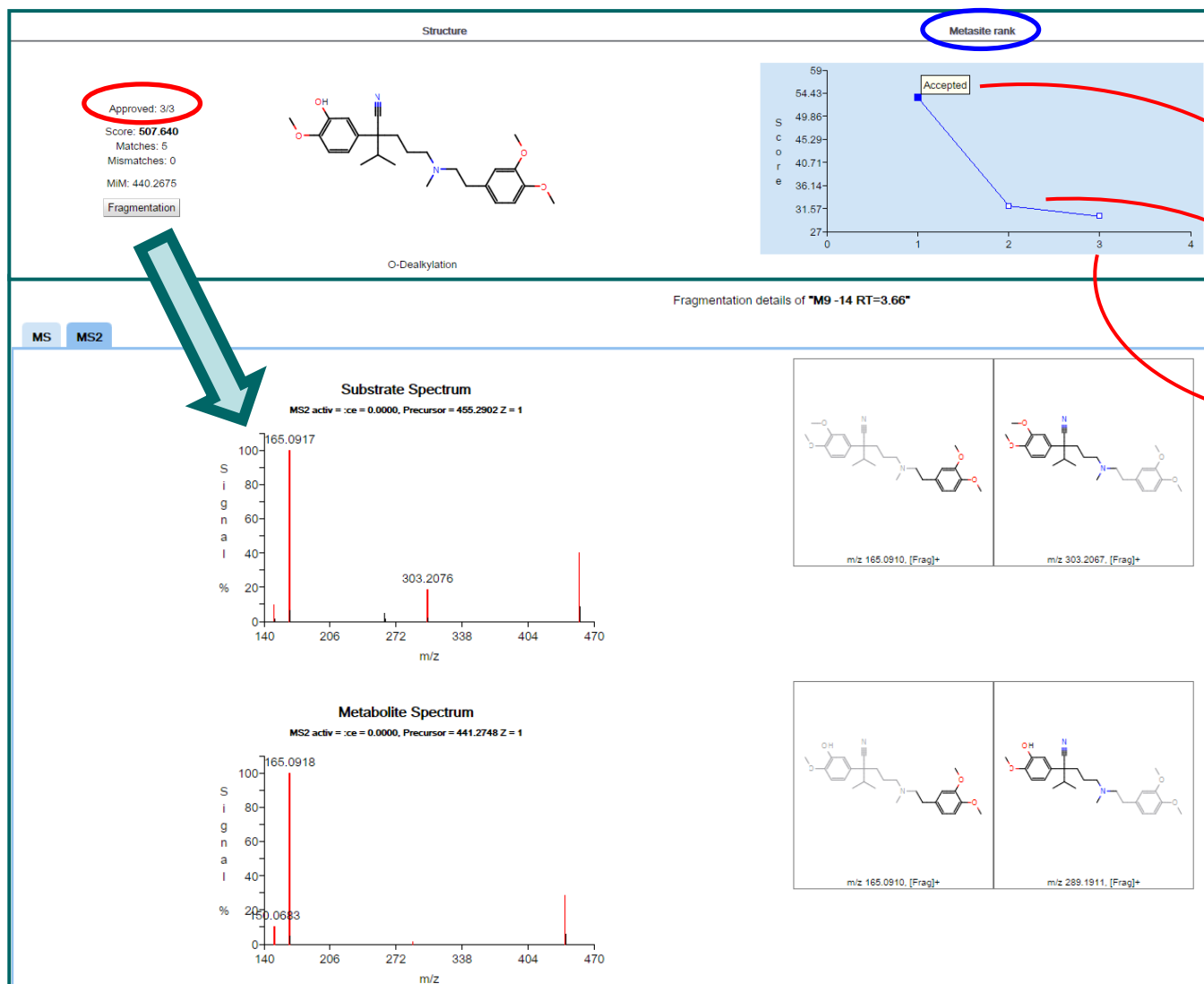


M6-14 RT=3.56 (3 approved structures)



MOLECULAR DISCOVERY **WebMetabase**
release-3.1.7

Data Interpretation & More Informed Proposals

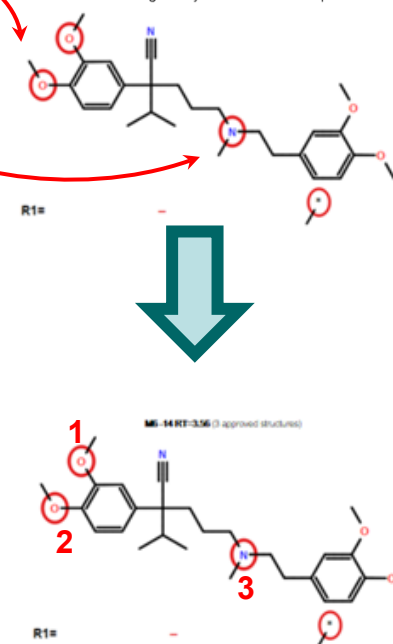


Zamora et al. *J. Med.-Chem.* 2003
Cruciani et al., *J. Med. Chem.* 2005

$$P_{\text{SoM},i} = (1 + w_e)E_i(1 + w_r)R_i$$

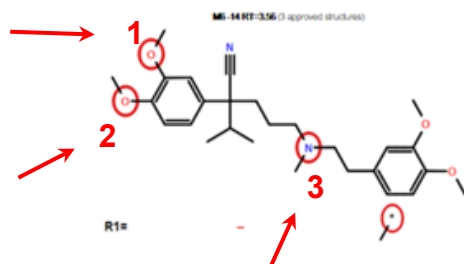
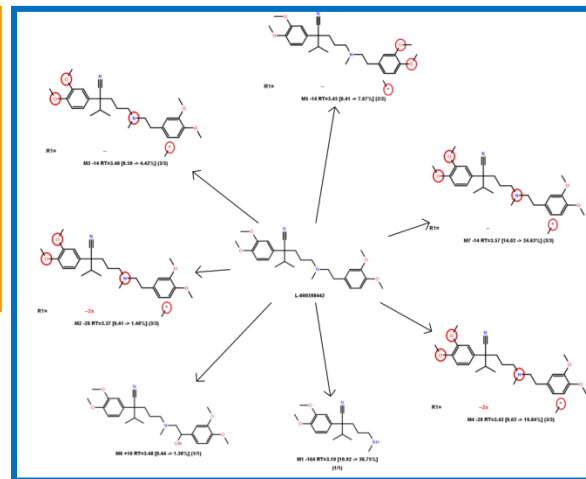
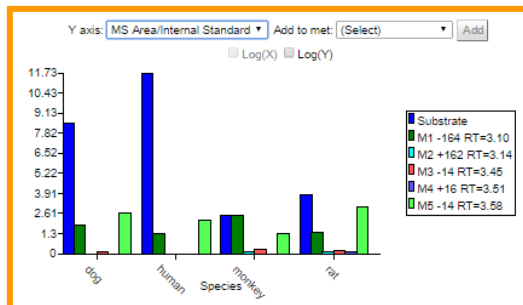
enzyme cavity flexibility accessibility
Recognition process
Binding affinity

cofactor reactivity substrate reactivity mechanism of reaction
Reaction process
Kinetic process



Communicating More Informed Structure Proposals via WebMetabase

- Metabolite chart
- Metabolic pathway
- Export structures in .sdf
 - in silico modeling
- Summary in PowerPoint
 - Metadata, chromatograms, metabolic pathway, table of metabolites, metabolite chart
 - make modifications before sending
 - add “appropriate” Metasite prediction
- Multi experiment reporting via Search

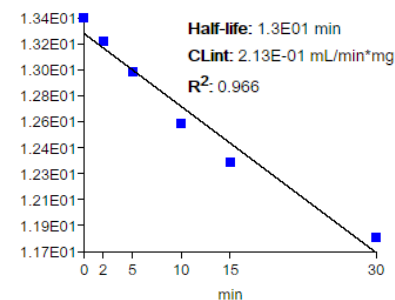
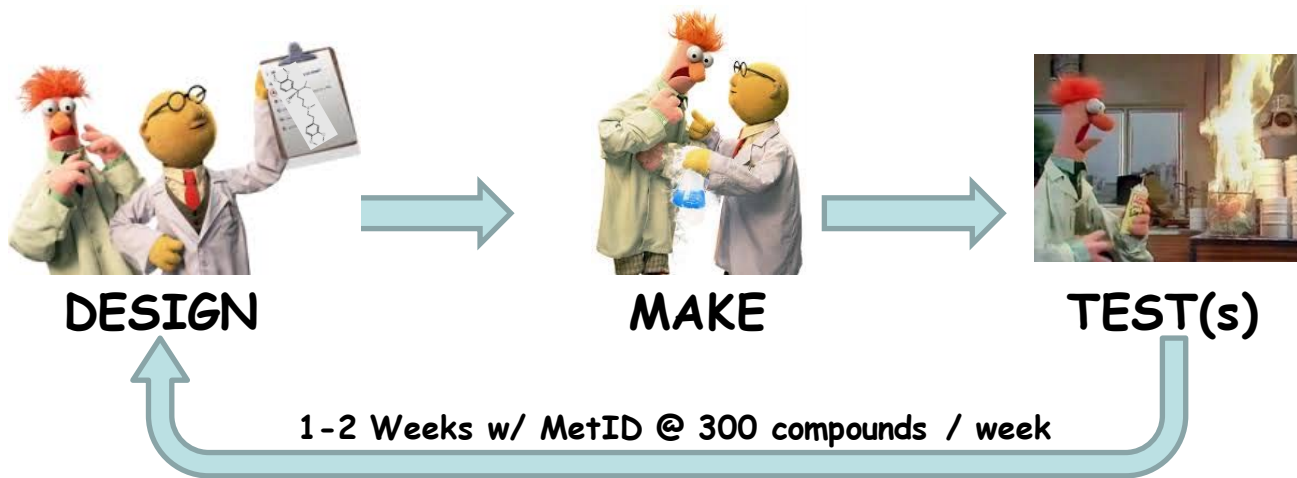



WebMetabase interface showing the 'Export Structures' button. The interface includes tabs for Substrate, Chromatogram, Metabolites, Chemical results, Results, and Analysis tools. The 'Export Structures' button is highlighted with a green circle. A black arrow points from the 'Export Structures' button in the interface to the 'Export Structures' button in the 'Analysis tools' section.

Routine WebMetabase Use Began in 2015

- The “Users” - today consist of:
 - mainly the MetID Scientists (~15)
 - a few ADME Principle Investigators
 - a few Medicinal Chemists
- The Data - standard non-labeled in vitro MetID assay
 - microsomes or hepatocytes
 - generally 1-time point (15, 30, 60, or 120 min)
 - species comparison (typically 2-4 species)
 - ~10 compounds per week
- ~600 Merck compounds across ~40 programs in WebMetabase

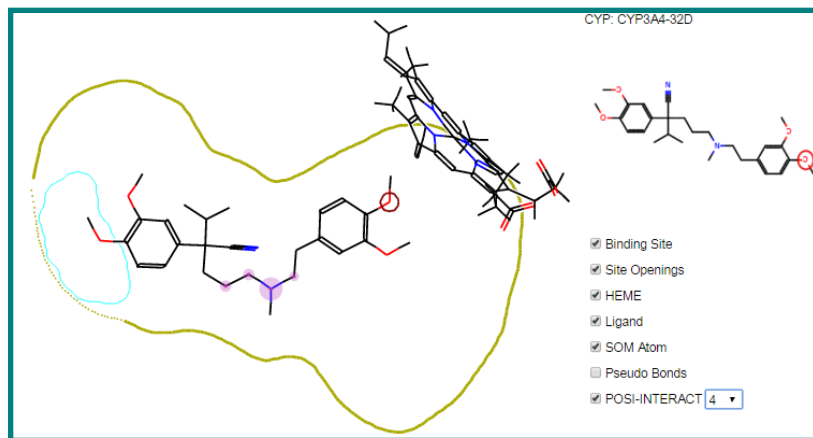
To Influence Tomorrow's Design... Need More Data and More Timely



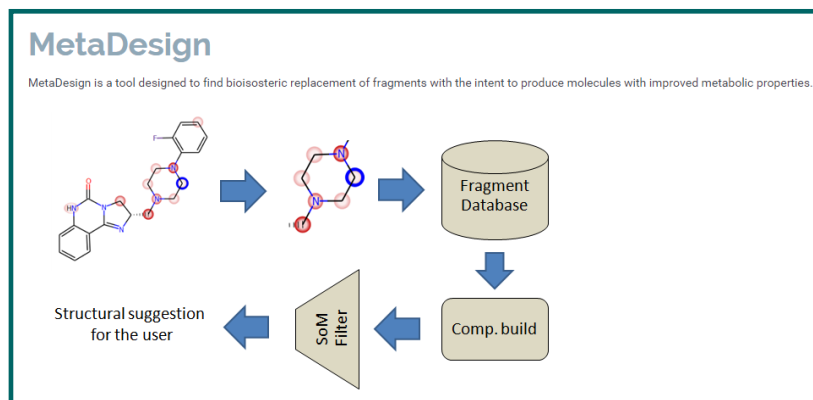
- 2016 effort to...
 - acquire MSIC data via high resolution mass spectrometry (HRMS)
 - identify mass spectrometry platforms; identify CRO partners
 - automate software identification via MassMetasite / WebMetabase
 - visualize MetID data in tools like  (IT & Structural Chemistry)

Influence Tomorrow's Design... with Ideating Tools in WebMetabase

- Three2D - CYP interaction modeling when positioning the site of metabolism next to the heme.

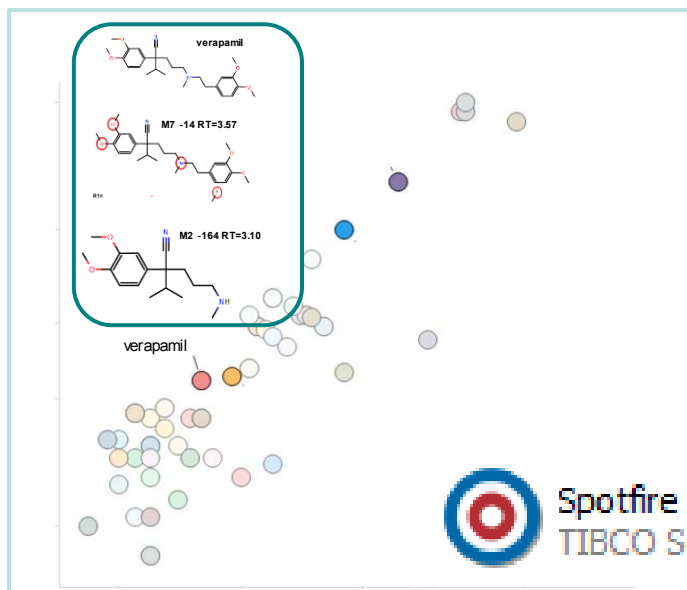


- MetaDesign - replace metabolic soft spots with bioisosteres

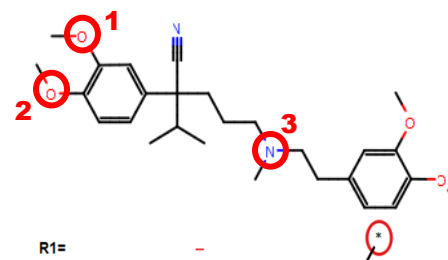


Tomorrow's Drug Metabolism in Design - Make - Test... More Timely and More Info

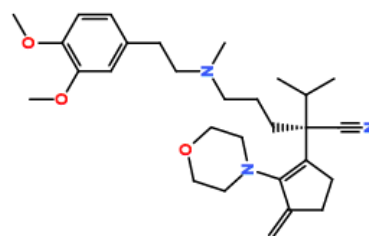
- Auto-generated info...
 - Metasite augmented Markush
 - Three2D
 - MetaDesign
- Get info out of WebMetabase and...
 - into other predictive tools (e.g. ADMET workbench)
 - use for model dev (e.g. phase II conjugation prediction)
 - visualize with other data in Spotfire



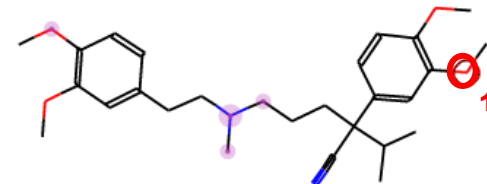
In silico augmented proposal



Design proposal

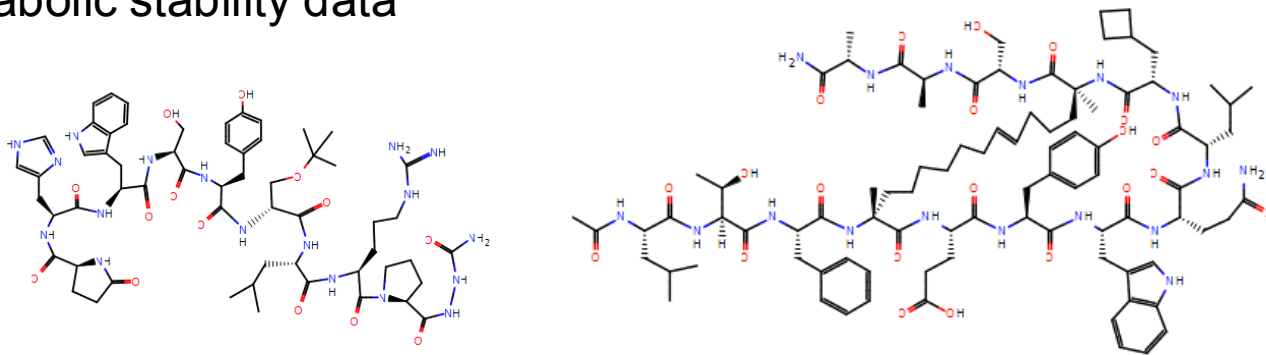


Docking for CYP active site interaction(s)



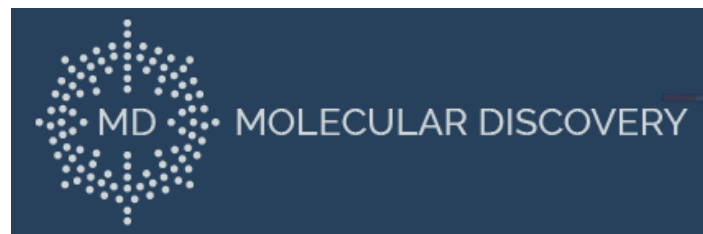
Metabolite Databasing and Predictive Tools for Peptides are Trailing those for Small Molecules

- Design - Make - Test Challenge: oral bioavailable therapeutic peptides
- Potential Key - understand the metabolic stability of these peptides within the body and in vitro systems that mimic bodily conditions
- Build Tools - to aid therapeutic peptide Design-Make-Test cycles
 - process high resolution mass spec data of peptides
 - multi-charged, non-natural amino acid containing, stapled, etc.
 - identify metabolites - possibilities large
 - visualize, communicate, database, and even interrogate large sets of peptide metabolic stability data



Collaborative Project to Interrogate Metabolic Stability Data of Peptides

- with Lead Molecular Design (LMD) and Molecular Discovery (MD)



- Merck internship to generate / provide metabolic stability data (parent loss and metabolite formation over time) for 30-40 peptides in variety of in vitro systems
 - No sharable data sets currently exist at Merck (“firewalled” or limited variables)
- PhD project of LMD to develop new peptide version of WebMetabase for viewing, searching, and data interrogation capabilities.

What Peptides to Study?

- Chang et al (2013) PNAS 110:E3445-3454:

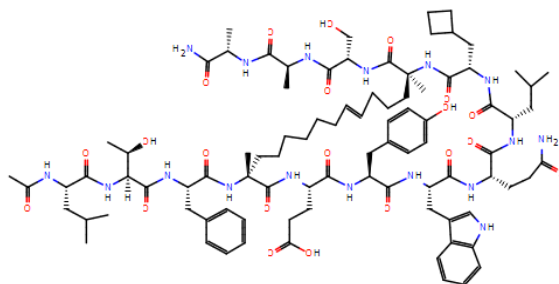
- 20+ analogs of stapled peptide ATSP-7041

- Acetyl-LTF-**X**-EYWQL-**Cba**-**Y**-SAA-amide

X = R-stereochemistry for alkenyl side chain (CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CH=CH₂) and α-methyl substitution

Y = S-stereochemistry for alkenyl side chain (CH₂-CH₂-CH₂-CH=CH₂) and α-methyl substitution

Cba = cyclobutyl-Ala



- Wang et al. (2015) Mol. Pharmaceutics 12, 966–973:

molecular
pharmaceutics

Article

pubs.acs.org/molecularpharmaceutics

Toward Oral Delivery of Biopharmaceuticals: An Assessment of the Gastrointestinal Stability of 17 Peptide Drugs

Jie Wang, Vipul Yadav, Alice L. Smart, Shinichiro Tajiri,[†] and Abdul W. Basit*

Department of Pharmaceutics, UCL School of Pharmacy, University College London, WC1N 1AX London, U.K.

Peptides

Buserelin
Calcitonin (salmon)
Deslorelin
Glucagon
Gonadorelin
Goserelin
Histrelin
Leuprolide
Octreotide
Oxytocin
Secretin Human
Terlipressin
Lys-Vasopressin



What Matrices or Systems to Study?

- MD wish-list has many human proteases
- In-house cookbook:
 - porcine pepsin and elastase
 - bovine trypsin and α -chymotrypsin
 - Simulated intestinal fluid (SIF) - pancreatin
 - pancreatin has trypsin, amylase, and lipase
 - with and without protease (buffer controls)
- Matrices of interest
 - blood, plasma, and serum
 - tritosomes (lysosomal lysate)
 - intestinal - contents (e.g. feces), microsomes, cytosol, S9
 - liver - microsomes, cytosol, S9, lysosomes, homogenate
- Does species / gender of matrix matter?



Tier-1

caspase-1
caspase-3
caspase-6
caspase-7
cathepsin B
cathepsin D
cathepsin G
cathepsin K
cathepsin L
elastase-2
granzyme A
granzyme B
matrix metalloproteinase-2 (MMP2)
MMP7
MMP9
thrombin
trypsin-1

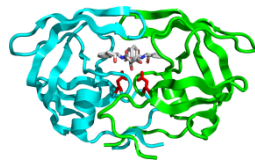
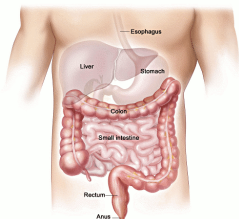


Tier-2

HIV-1 retro pepsin
Calpain-1
Caspase-8
Matrix metalloproteinase-3
Chymotrypsin A (bovine)
Elastase-2
Plasmin
Glutamyl peptidase I
Furin
Signal peptidase I
Thylakoidal processing peptidase
Signalase

The Process of Metabolic Stability

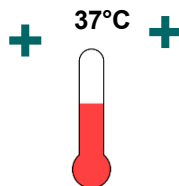
Acetyl-LTF-**X**-EYWQL-**Cba**-**Y**-SAA-amide



Proteases



Use of HP D300e ability to dispense nL of DMSO stock



Mass Spectrometer

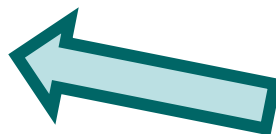
- ☐ Thermo Ion-Trap
- ☒ Thermo Orbitrap
- ☐ Agilent Q-TOF
- ☐ Waters Q-TOF
- ☐ ABSciex Triple-TOF
- ☐ Bruker Q-TOF



- Mass Spec Independent
- Data Acquisition Independent



- Interpret
- Report / Communicate
- Store / Search
- Interrogate
- Design



Important MassMetasite Settings

Experiment | MS Peaks | MetId | DD-MS/MS | TEC | Results |

Global

☐ Use retention time range (min). Min: 0.00 Max: 0.00

Mode: **Peptide** Advanced...

UV

☐ Use UV peak area. Threshold (%): 1.00

☐ Use preset UV wavelength (nm): 220

Wavelength selection method: ☒ Area ratio ☐ Local maxima

Radiolabeled

☐ Use Radio peak area. Threshold (%): 1.00

Radio Peak detection smoothing: High

Fluorescence

☐ Use Fluorescence peak area. Threshold (%): 1.00

Fluorescence Peak detection smoothing: Very High

Internal Standard

Name: MelatoninIS

Retention time (min): 2.90 Tolerance (min): 0.50

m/z (amu): 512.778

UV wavelength (nm): 0

Mass Spectrometer

☐ Thermo Ion-Trap ☐ Waters Q-TOF

☒ Thermo Orbitrap ☐ ABSciex Triple-TOF

☐ Agilent Q-TOF ☐ Bruker Q-TOF

Algorithms Thresholds

Same peak tolerance (amu): 0.010

Chromatogram automatic filtering threshold: 0.98

MS automatic filtering threshold: 0.98

MS/MS automatic filtering threshold: 0.95

Ionization Mode

☒ Positive [M + H]⁺

☐ Negative [M - H]⁻

Spectra comparisons

Maximum MS/MS level: 2

☐ Collapse MS/MS levels

Signal Filtering

☒ Automatic

☐ Signal Threshold: 1000

Scan Filtering

☒ Automatic

☐ Max scan ratio (scan/min.): 0

Metabolite generation

Number of metabolite generations: 2

Compound Fragmenting

Substrate bond breaking limit: 2

☒ Break Metabolites limit: 1

Bond breaking reorganizations:

Even Electron: ☐ MS/MS

Odd Electron: ☒ MS ☒ MS/MS

N-Oxide: ☒ MS ☐ MS/MS

Peptides in Wang et al. (2015) Mol. Pharmaceutics 12, 966–973

Peptides

Buserelin

Calcitonin (salmon)

Deslorelin

Glucagon

Gonadorelin

Goserelin

Histrelin

Leuprolide

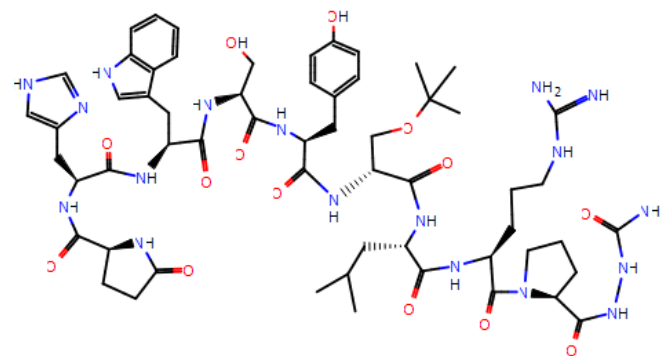
Octreotide

Oxytocin

Secretin Human

Terlipressin

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Department of Pharmaceutics, UCL School of Pharmacy, University College London, WC1N 1AX London, U.K.

LC Method Comparison

Wang et al.

Column	Luna C18 150 x 4.6 mm, 5 μ m
Temperature	33°C
Injection Volume	50 μ L
Flow rate	1 mL/min
UV absorbance	214 nm
Mobile Phase	Water (0.1%TFA)/acetonitrile (78:22)
Stop Solution	3 volumes methanol
HPLC System	Agilent Technologies, 1260 Infinity
UV detector	Diode array model G1329B
Pepsin Concentration	3.2mg/mL pH(25°C) 1.2
Initial Peptide Concentration	0.67 μ M
Run Time	\geq 18 min

In house

Column	Aquity BEH C18, 100 x 2.1 mm, 1.7 μ m,
Temperature	60°C
Injection Volume	3 μ L
Flow rate	0.5 mL/min
UV absorbance	N/A
Mobile Phase	Water (0.1%FA) /acetonitrile (0.1%FA)
Stop Solution	2 volumes 80:20 Acetonitrile:FA
HPLC System	Waters Aquity
Instrument	Thermo Scientific LTQ Orbitrap
Pepsin Concentration	0.1mg/mL pH(25°C) 1.0-1.4
Initial Peptide Concentration	10 μ M

molecular
pharmaceutics

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Time (min)	Flow (mL/min)	%A	%B
Initial	0.50	90	10
0.50	0.50	90	10
3.50	0.50	60	40
4.00	0.50	10	90
4.20	0.50	90	10
5.25	0.50	10	90
6.00	0.50	90	10

Parent Loss for Goserelin in Pepsin in Gastric Simulated Fluid

Wang et al.

In House (intern Alison Bateman)

Pepsin Concentration 3.2mg/mL pH(25°C) 1.2

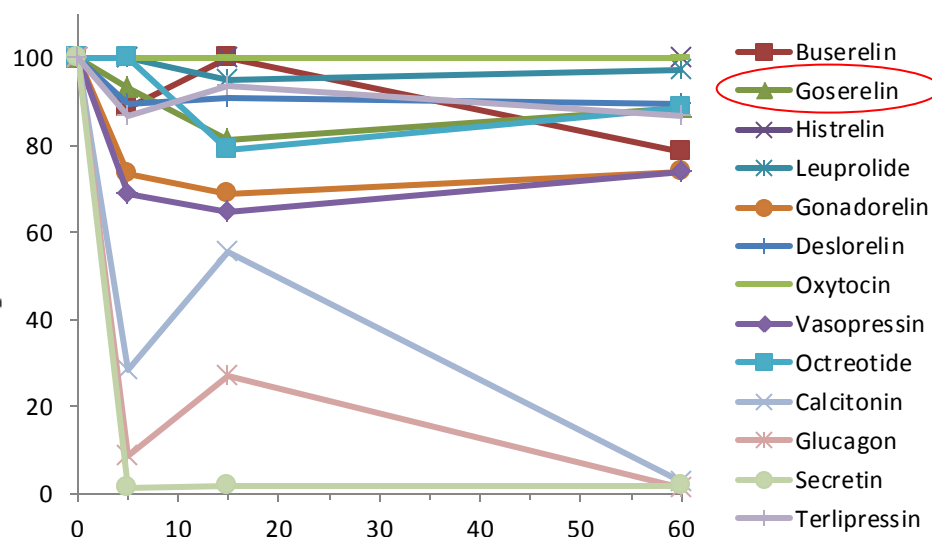
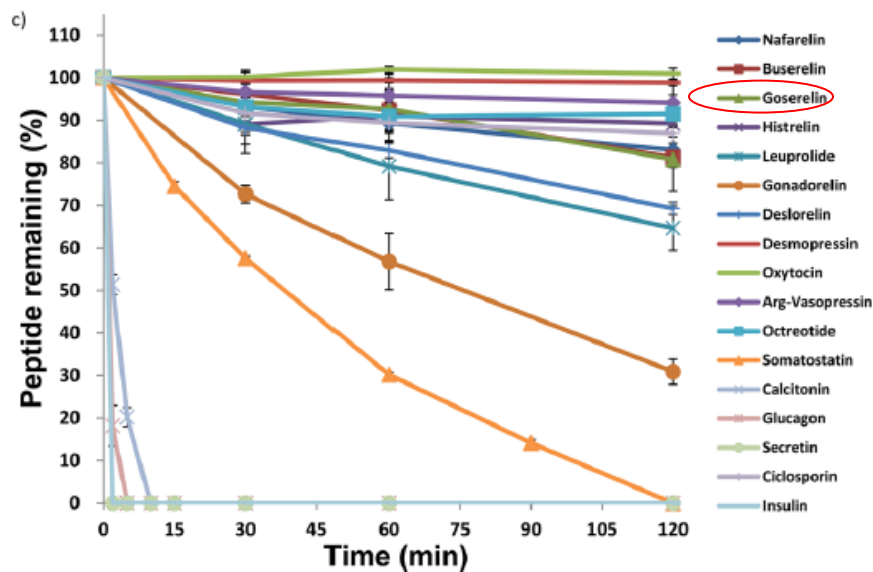
Pepsin Concentration 0.1mg/mL pH(25°C) 1.0-1.4

Initial Peptide Concentration 0.67μM

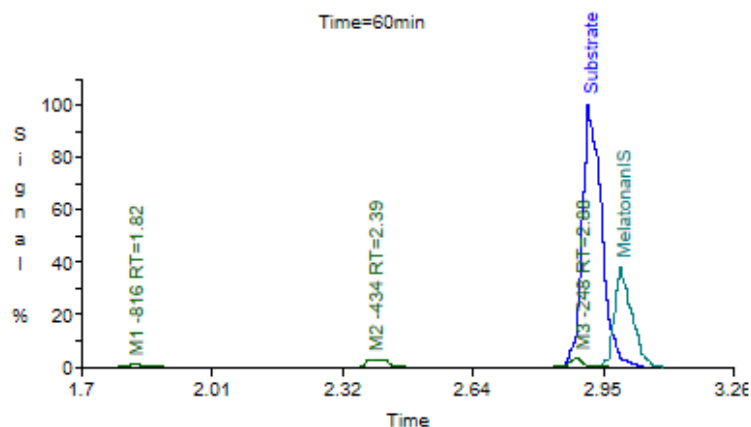
Initial Peptide Concentration 10μM

Parent Loss ~10%

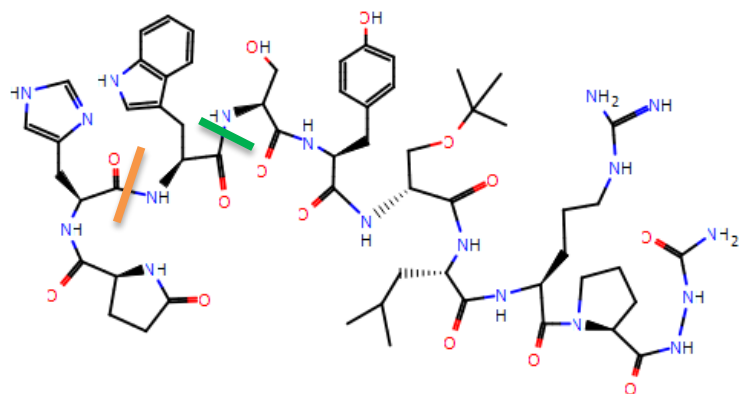
Parent Loss ~10%



Visualize Parent Loss (Goserelin) and Metabolite Formation in WebMetabase



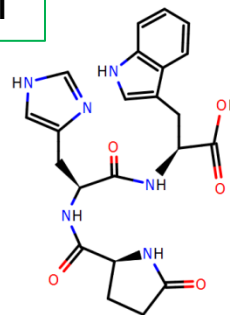
Substrate



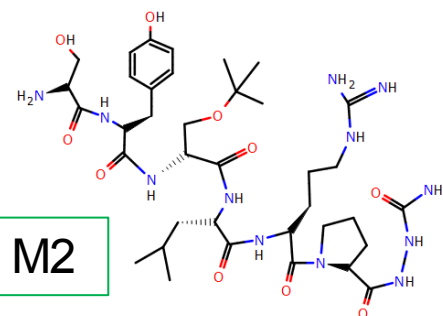
Matrix:
Pepsin in Simulated
Gastric Fluid

Peptide:
Goserelin
Exact Mass:1268.6414

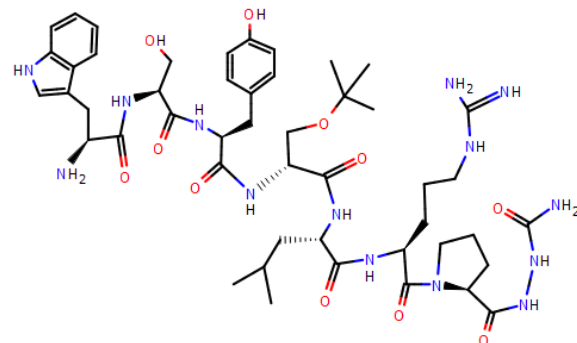
M1

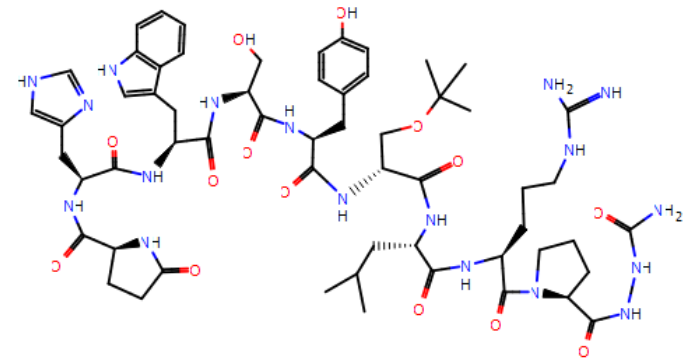
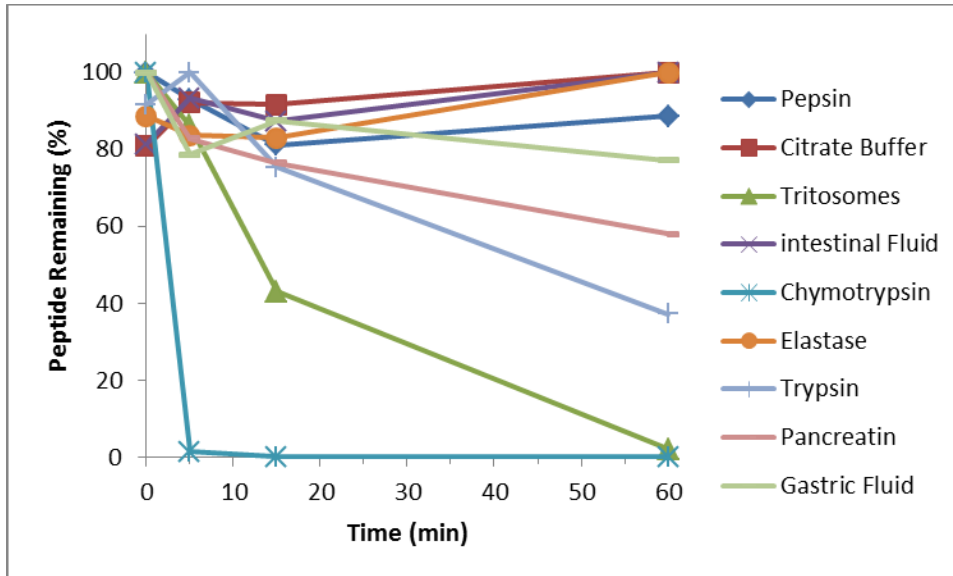


M2



M3

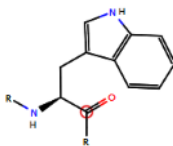
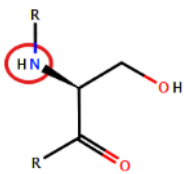
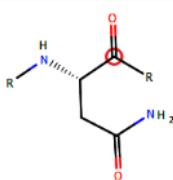
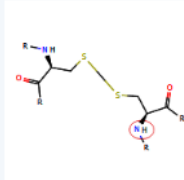
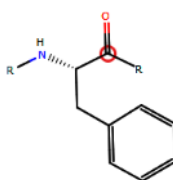
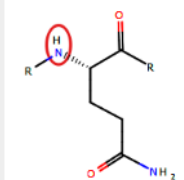
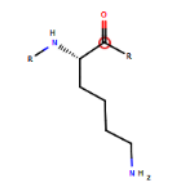
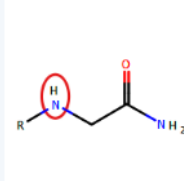




- Manually plotted in excel
- WebMetabase can do if setup proper data input (protocol)

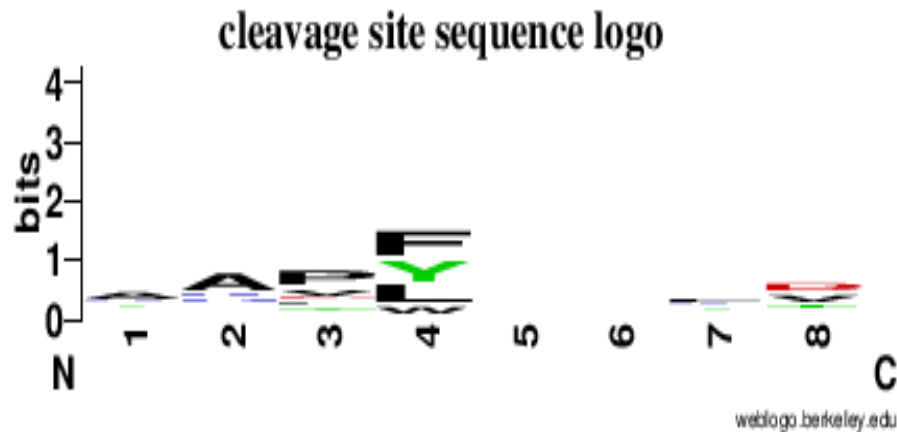
Frequency Analysis of Chymotrypsin Metabolism of Thirteen Wang et al. Peptides

Global results Detailed results

Monomer C	Monomer N	Matrix	Bondtype	Amount of times this bond was met	Amount of times this bond was broken once
		Chymotrypsin		6	6
		Chymotrypsin		1	2
		Chymotrypsin		2	2
		Chymotrypsin		2	2



Can One Harness a Peptide Database to Visualize Monomer Specificities with Respect to Cleavage?



MEROPS
the Peptidase Database

<http://merops.sanger.ac.uk/about/glossary.shtml#SUBSITE>

Data Challenges and Next Steps to Aid Design

- Visualization and Usage!
 - big complicated molecules - finite screen space
 - frequency analyses; structure-activity relationships (SAR)
 - data aggregation with use of software tools like Spotfire
 - linking / exporting data to other software tools
- Automation!
 - data generation - need more data
 - incubation
 - metabolite identification (software automated MetID)
 - computation
 - small molecule - CYP interactions
 - design



Acknowledgments

- Molecular Discovery and Lead Molecular Design
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- Kevin Bateman and Conrad Raab