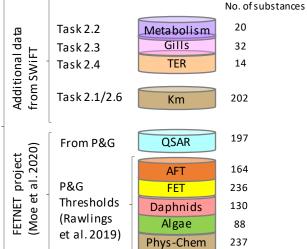
# WP3: Development and evaluation of the BN model for replacing AFT

Cefic-LRI ECO51 – SWiFT: Strengthening weight of evidence for FET data to replace acute fish toxicity

Progress meeting 13.10.2021 Jannicke Moe (NIVA)

# Current BN model structure and use for WoE

# Data sources for current BN model



- Currently expanded by SWiFT WP1 ٠ (Kristin Connors)
- ٠ Expanded SWiFT database will be used for final revision of BN model November - December 2021

### How can our Bayesian Network be used in a WoE approach?

#### EFSA JOURNAL

Scientific Opinion 🖞 Open Access 💿 💽 🗐

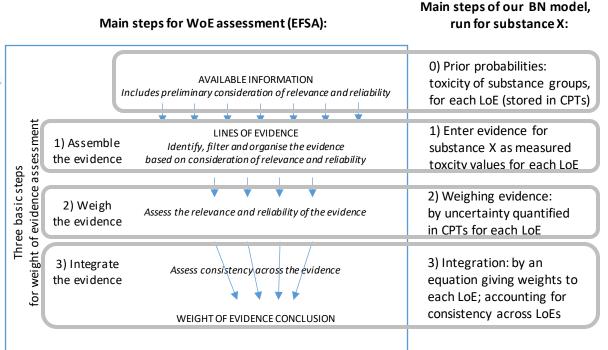
Guidance on the use of the weight of evidence approach in scientific assessments

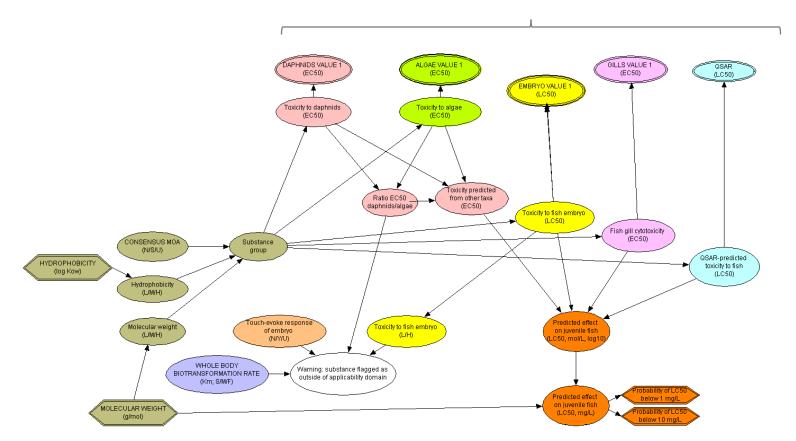
EFSA Scientific Committee, Anthony Hardy, Diane Benford, Thorhallur Halldorsson, Michael John Jeger, Helle Katrine Knutsen, Simon More, Hanspeter Naegeli, Hubert Noteborn ... See all authors  $\sim$ 

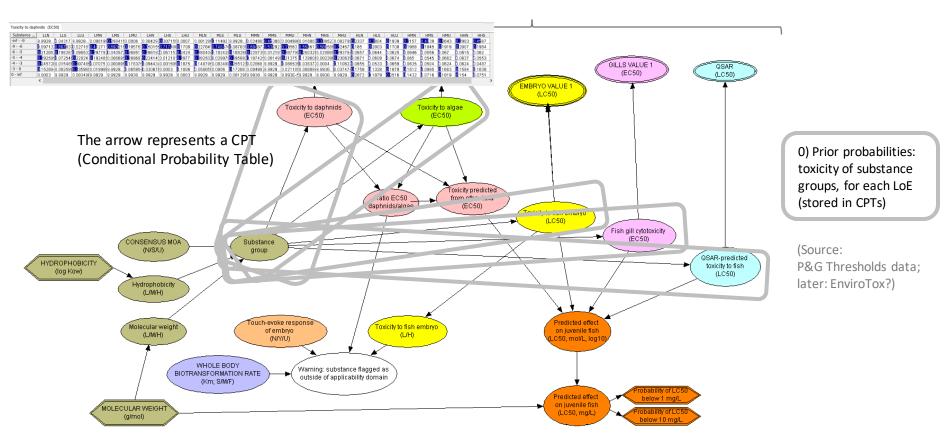
First published:03 August 2017 | https://doi.org/10.2903/j.efsa.2017.4971 | Citations: 47

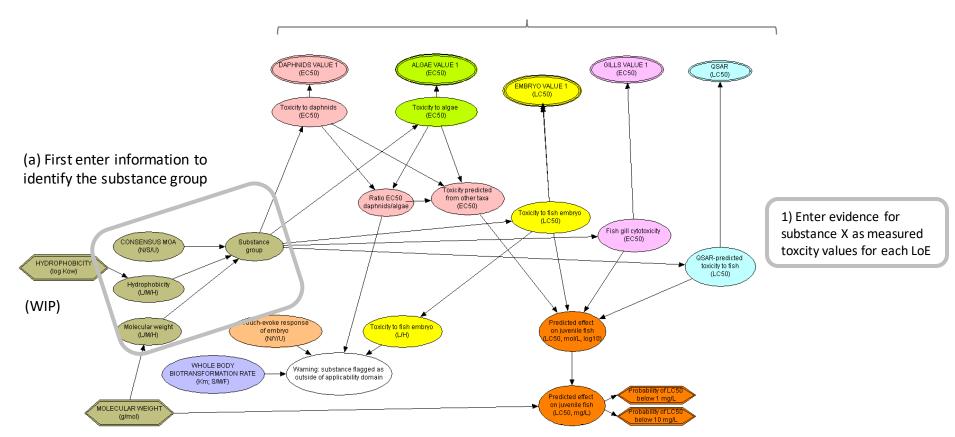
#### Our BN-WoE should be

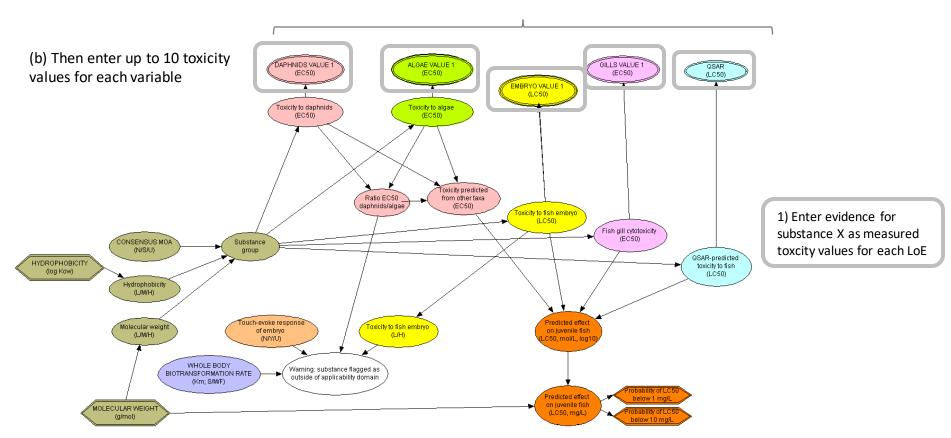
- consistent with WoE approaches recommended for regulatory frameworks (EFSA, ECHA, US EPA, OECD)
- quantitative
- intuitive
- flexible

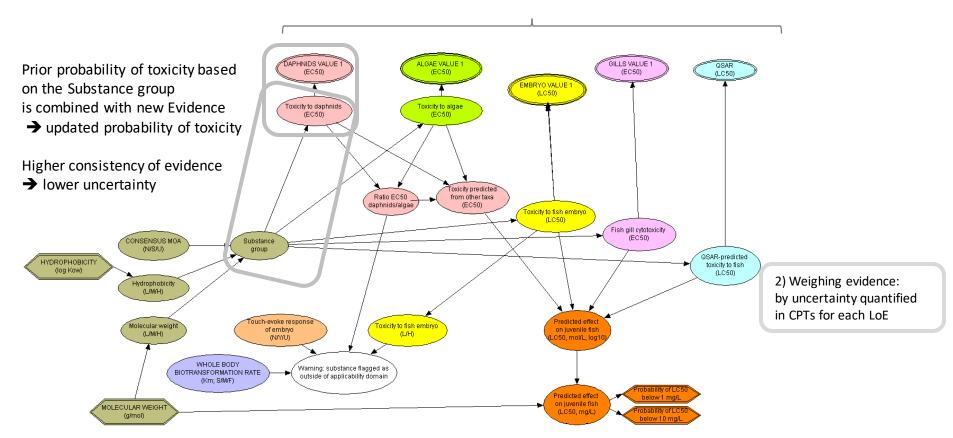


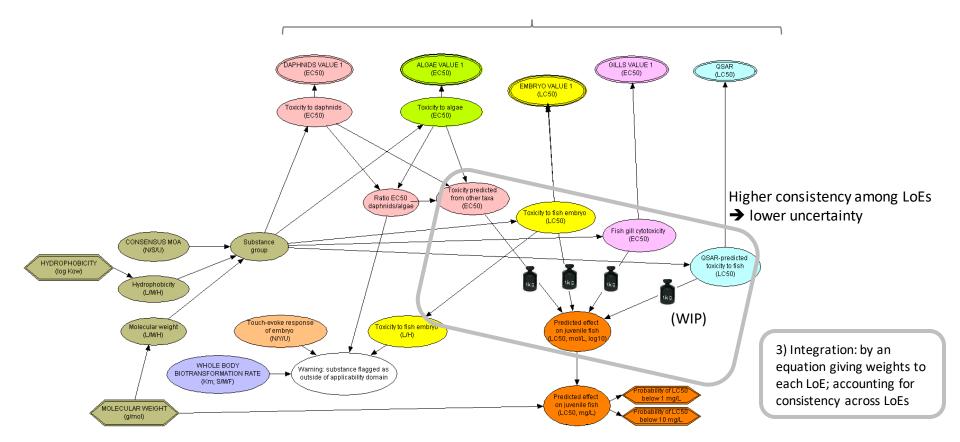


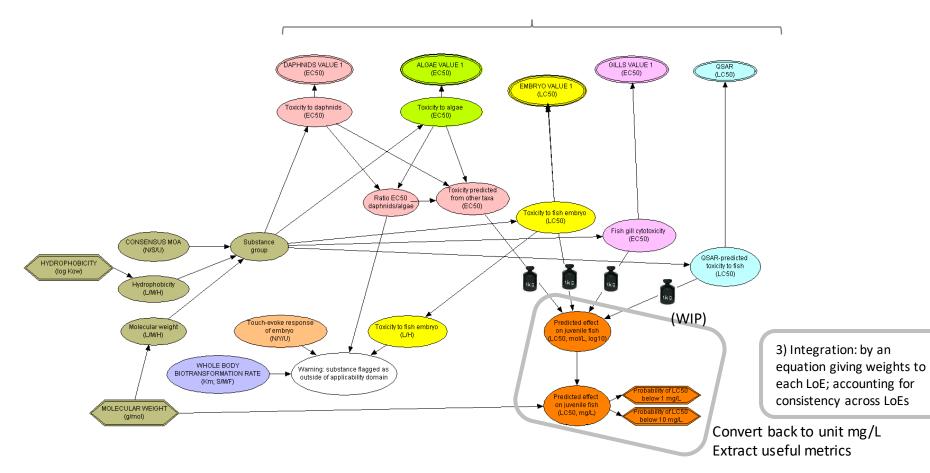












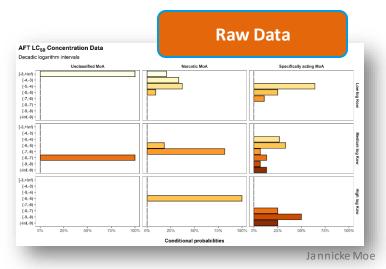
New developments March – October 2021 & Ongoing work October - December 2021

## 1) Refinement of prior probability distributions

- Used hierarchical Bayesian regression model to set conditional probability tables (priors)
- Incorporating all known sources of uncertainty

Ongoing:

Re-do with larger dataset (EnviroTox)



#### **Regulating a SWiFT Transition**

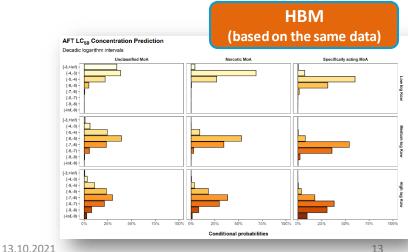
#### A Bayesian Network as Weight-of-Evidence Approach to Replace the AFT With the FET

Raoul Wolf, Scott Belanger, Thomas Braunbeck, Kristin Connors, Michelle Embry, Anders Madsen, Jannicke Moe, Kristin Schirmer, Stefan Scholz, Adam Lillicrap

#### raoul.wolf@niva.no

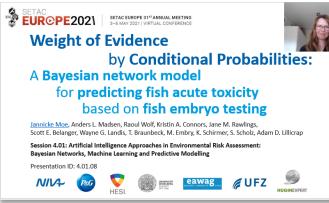
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NIVA



# 2) Refinement of BN structure and evaluation

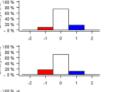
- Explored alternative scenarios for weighting of lines of evidence
- Compared predicted and observed AFT (toxicity to juvenile fish)



## The model's success rate depends on the **weighting** of lines of evidence



Weight sceanario	Fish embryo	Algae & daphnids	QSAR fish
1	0%	50.0 %	50.0%
2	25 %	37.5%	37.5 %
3	50 %	25.0%	25.0%
4	75 %	12.5 %	12.5 %
5	100 %	0%	0%



80 %

65 %



- Intermediate weight to Embryo (25-50%)
   → highest accuracy
- Higher weight to Embryo
  → more underestimation of acute fish toxicity

# 2) Refinement of BN structure and evaluation

Recent:

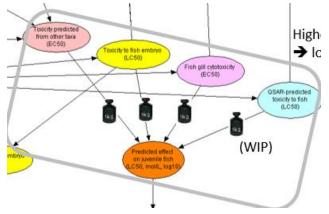
- All expert-based CPTs are replaced by equations
- Integration step: weights calibrated by linear regression

AFT = 35% FET + 30% Algae & Daphnids + 25% Gills + 10% QSAR

Testing: Calibrated model does not yet perform better than the initial scenarios

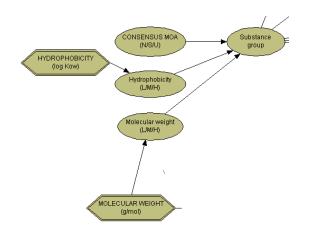
Ongoing:

- Refine method for calibrating weights
- Refine method for model evaluation
  - Consider training vs. testing data
  - Cross-validation?
- Aim: finalise BN by end of December 2021



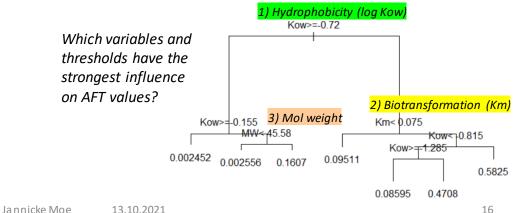
# 3) Definition of Substance group

- Prior probabilities of toxicity for each substance group are stored in the BN
- Currently defined by 3 variables:
  - Consensus MOA
  - Molecular weight
  - Hydrophobicity (log Kow)



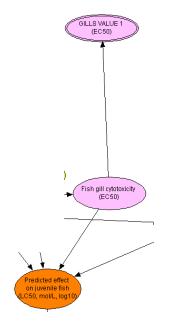
Ongoing:

- Use Whole body fish biotransformation rate (Km) • as alternative variable?
- Explore relationship & thresholds between AFT and all candidate components of substance group
- Method: Regression tree analysis
- Re-do with larger dataset: EnviroTox .



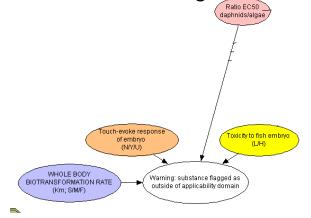
# 4) Inclusion of Gill cytotoxicity as a LoE

- EC50 data for 32 substances are included in the BN as a separate Line of Evidence
- Included in the integration



# 5) «Warning node»

- Purpose: identify substances for which the BN predictions may not be reliable
- Reasoning: response of fish embryo may not representative of later fish stages



Current criteria to trigger a warning:

- Fish embryo toxicity = Low
- Daphnia/algae toxicity ratio = High
- Touch-evoke response = Yes / Unmeasured
- Biotransformation rate = Fast

Ongoing work:

- Refine Embryo toxicity criterion (< Daphnia & Algae toxicity)</li>
- Include Metabolic activity (embryo vs. juvenile fish) as alternative variable?

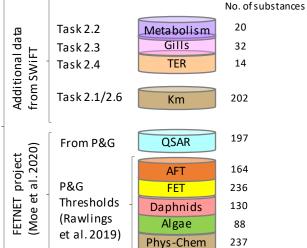
# 6) Define the applicability domain of the BN

Critieria for exclusion from the applicability domain:

- 1) "Warning node": substances with certain combination of toxicity values and other properties
- 2) Substances without QSAR values: metals
- 3) ... [to be continued]
- Applicability domain is a scientific decision, not a technical issue
- Criteria must be defined in the Technical user manual (task 4.2) and the Guidance document for stakeholders (task 5.3)

Data sources for BN development and evaluation

# Data sources for current BN model



- Currently expanded by SWiFT WP1 ٠ (Kristin Connors)
- ٠ Expanded SWiFT database will be used for final revision of BN model November - December 2021