



# **FRAGMENTS 2015**

## **RSC BMCS Workshop**

### **March 3<sup>rd</sup>**

## **INTRODUCTION TO FBLG/FBDD – BACKGROUND**

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# What is FBDD all About?





# Where Does “FBDD” Come From?

- By early 1980s
  - ✓ Jencks “On the Attribution and Additivity of Binding Energies”



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    - Goodford, *J. Med. Chem.* (1985), **28**, 849
    - Example of OH probe on surface of lysozyme





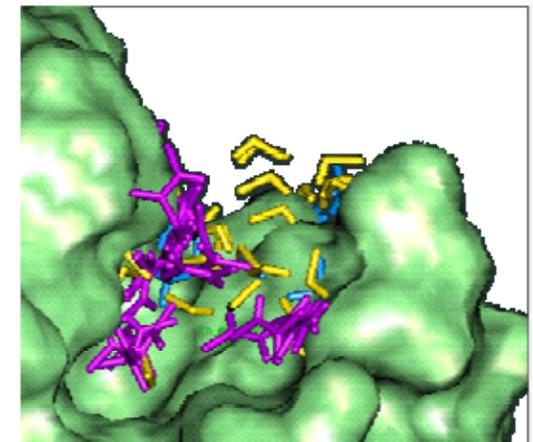
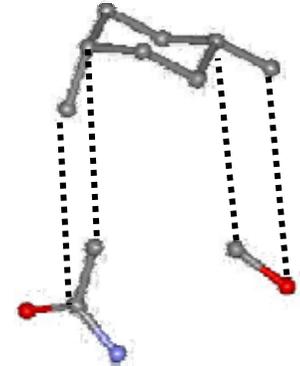
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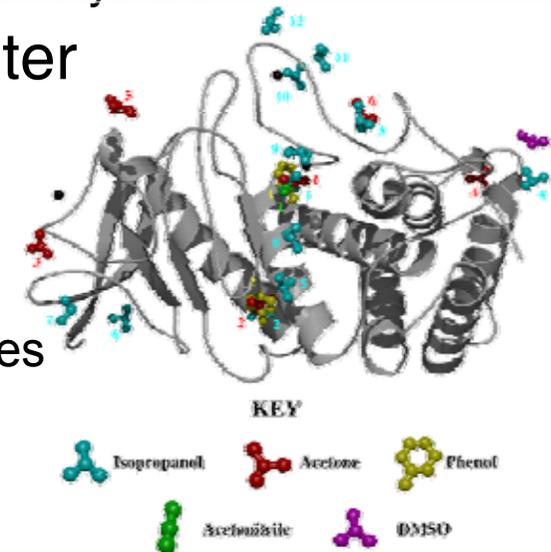
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- Early 1990s – linking fragments by computer
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  - ✓ Karplus, Miranker, Eisen, Hubbard – MCSS / Hook
    - Karplus and Miranker, *Proteins* (1991), **11**, 29.
    - Eisen et al. *Proteins* (1994), **19**, 119.
    - English, Groom & Hubbard, *Prot Eng*, (2001), **14**, 47.





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  - ✓ Ringe – Xray mapping of solvent binding to active sites
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# Where Does “FBDD” Come From?

- 1996 - SAR by NMR from Abbott group (Fesik and Hajduk)
- 1999 - SAR by Xray from Abbott group (Nienaber)
- Late 1990s / early 2000s
  - ✓ Big pharma for targets that failed HTS
    - Roche, Novartis, AZ
  - ✓ Small technology oriented companies started developing the methods (Astex, Vertex, RiboTargets (Vernalis), SGX, Plexxikon, .....)
- Additional conceptual framework developed
  - ✓ Hann et al. analysis of compound size, complexity and finding hits (*J. Chem. Inf. Comp. Sci.* **2001**, 41, 856-864.)
  - ✓ Ligand efficiency
  - ✓ Kuntz and maximal affinity – (*PNAS*, **1999**, 96, 9997-10002.)
  - ✓ Ligand Efficiency – DG/HAC – (*Drug Disc Today*, **2004**, 9, 430-431.)
- Mid-2000s
  - ✓ A number of fragment-derived compounds selected for clinical trials
  - ✓ Unlike many other technologies – methods developed and relevance understood (with minimal hype) before large-scale take-up



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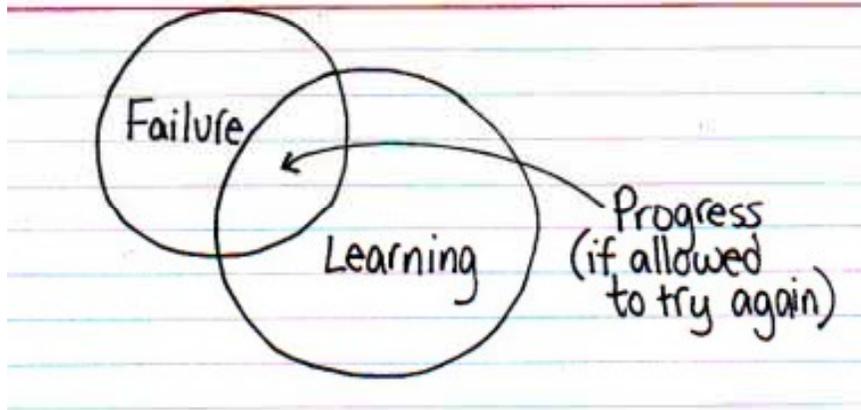


# What Do You Need?

Target



Library



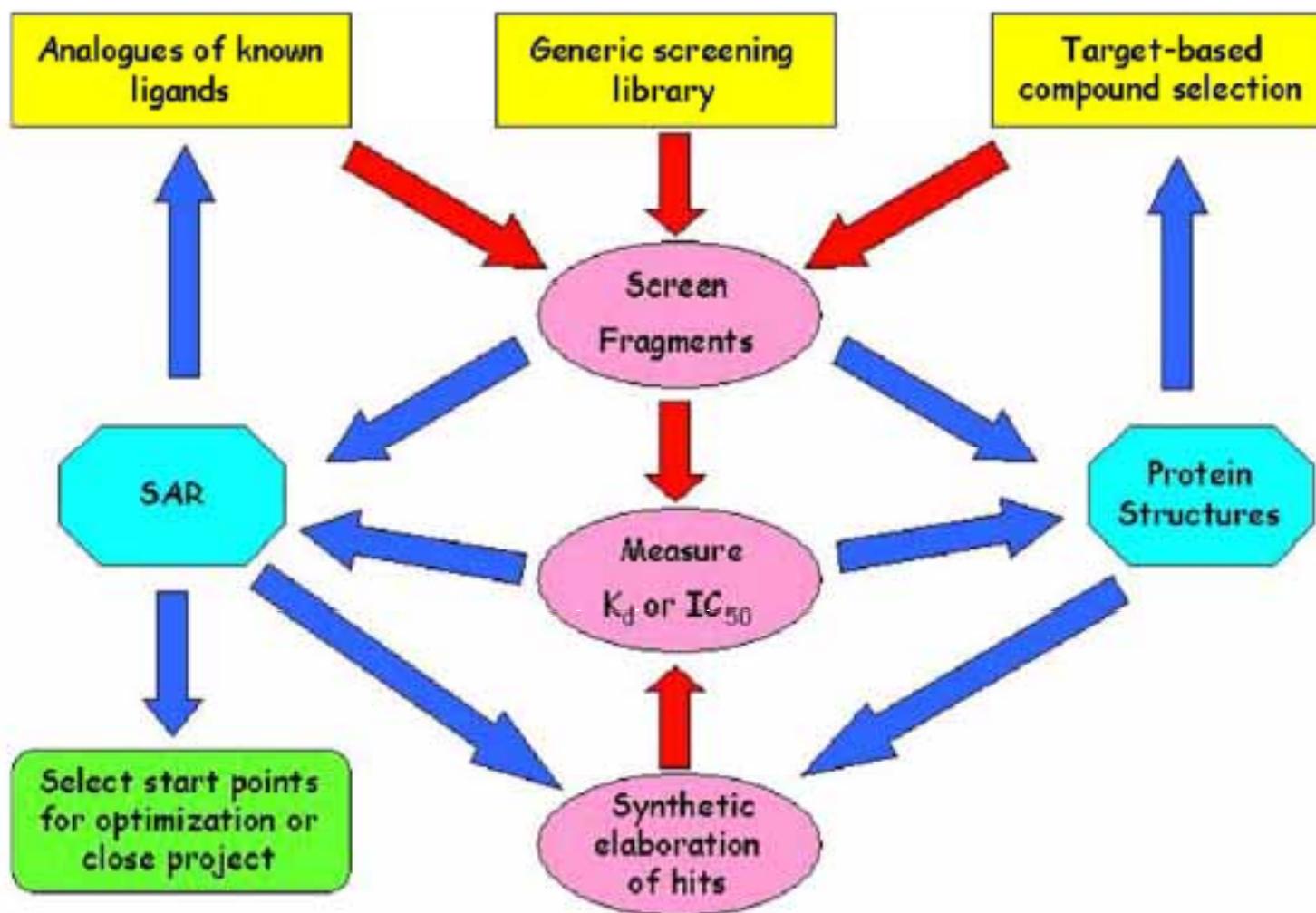
conducting an experiment to test the discoveries were hit on by accident"

Screening

Optimisation/Patience/EXPERIENCE



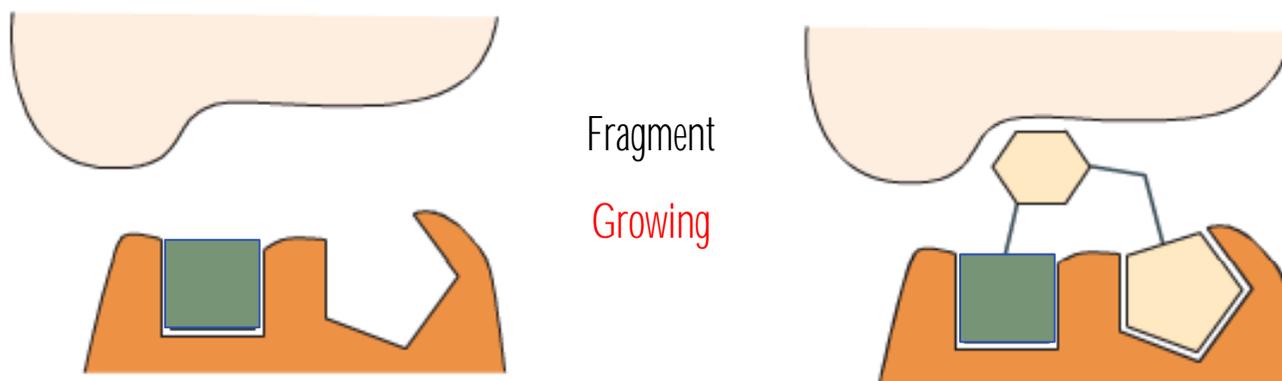
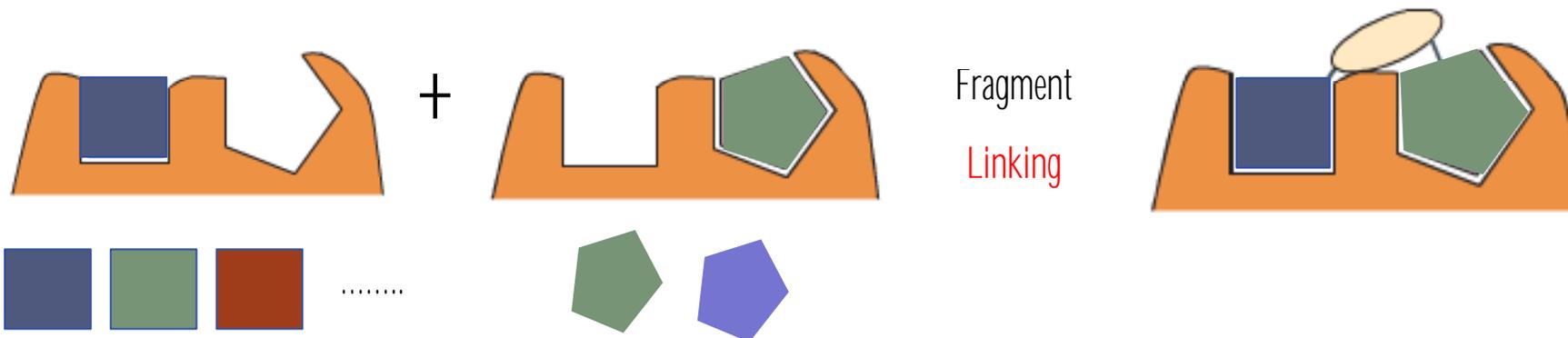
# How Is It Done? – Principal Workflow



Blomberg, N.; Cosgrove, D.; Kenny, P.; Kolmodin, K. *Journal of computer-aided molecular design* (2009), **23**, 513–25.



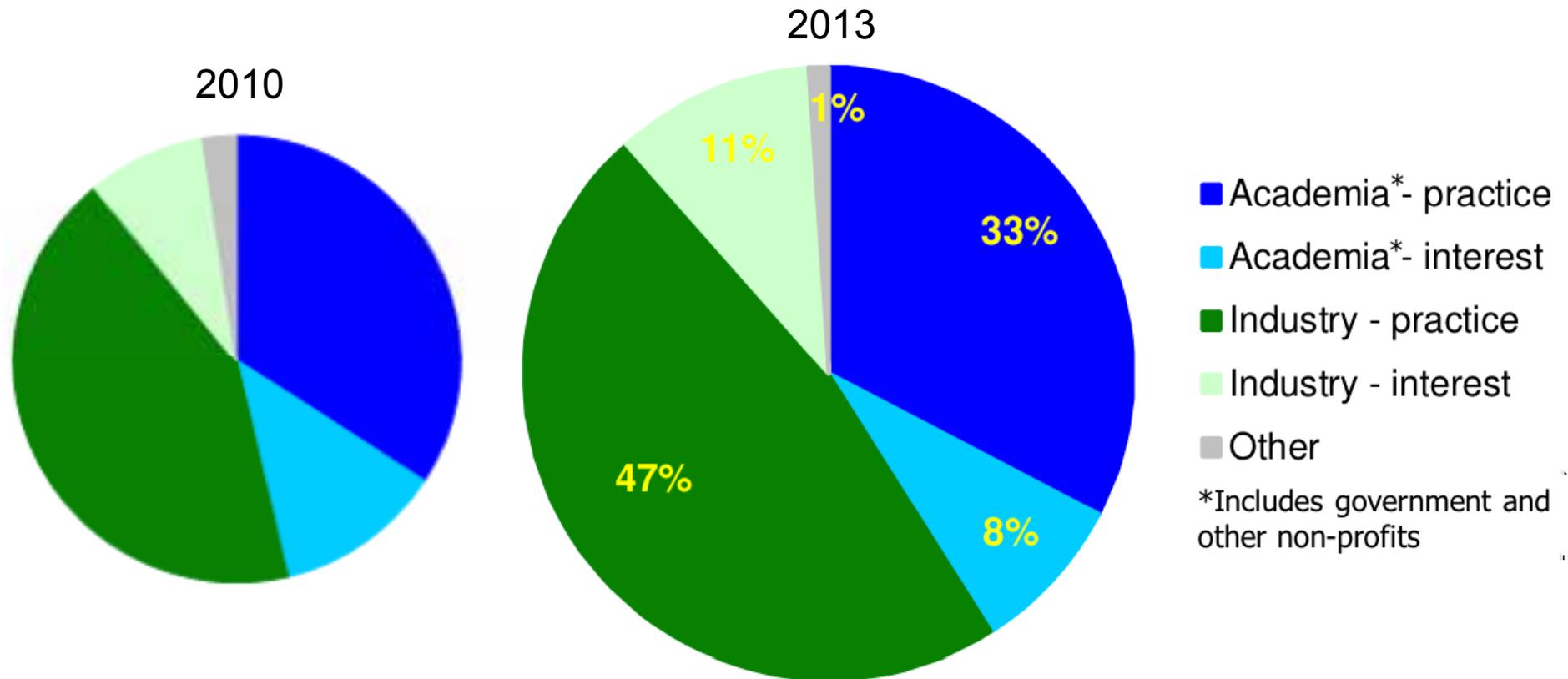
# Strategies of Fragment Exploitation



Rees, D.; Congreve, M.; Murray, C.; Carr, R. Fragment-based lead discovery. *Nature reviews. Drug Discovery*, (2004), **3**, 660–72.



# Where is FBDD Applied?



Taken from a poll carried out on Practical Fragments (2013) and is based on 95 responses  
<http://practicalfragments.blogspot.co.uk/2014/01/poll-results-affiliation-fragment.html>



# FBDD Impact – Business

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Target</b>
<b>Approved!</b> Vemurafenib	Plexxikon	B-Raf(V600E) inhibitor
<b>Phase 3</b> ABT-199	Abbott	Selective Bcl-2 inhibitor
LEE011	Novartis/Astex	CDK4 inhibitor
MK-8931	Merck	BACE1 inhibitor
<b>Phase 2</b> AT13387	Astex	HSP90 inhibitor
AT7519	Astex	CDK1,2,4,5 inhibitor
AT9283	Astex	Aurora, Janus kinase 2 inhibitor
AUY922	Vernalis/Novartis	HSP90 inhibitor
AZD3293	AstraZeneca/Astex/Lilly	BACE1 inhibitor
AZD5363	AstraZeneca/Astex/CR-UK	AKT inhibitor
Indeglitazar	Plexxikon	pan-PPAR agonist
Linifanib (ABT-869)	Abbott	VEGF & PDGFR inhibitor
LY2886721	Lilly	BACE1 inhibitor
LY517717	Lilly/Protherics	FXa inhibitor
Navitoclax (ABT-263)	Abbott	Bcl-2/Bcl-xL inhibitor
PLX3397	Plexxikon	FMS, KIT, and FLT-3-ITD inhibitor

<http://practicalfragments.blogspot.co.uk/2015/01/fragments-in-clinic-2015-edition.html>



# FBDD Impact – Business

<b>Drug</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Target</b>
<b>Phase 1</b>		
ABT-518	Abbott	MMP-2 & 9 inhibitor
ABT-737	Abbott	Bcl-2/Bcl-xL inhibitor
AT13148	Astex	AKT p70S6K inhibitor
AZD3839	AstraZeneca	BACE1 inhibitor
AZD5099	AstraZeneca	Bacterial topoisomerase II inhibitor
DG-051	deCODE	LTA4H inhibitor
IC-776	Lilly/ICOS	LFA-1 inhibitor
JNJ-42756493	J&J/Astex	FGFr inhibitor
LP-261	Locus	Tubulin binder
LY2811376	Lilly	BACE1 inhibitor
PLX5568	Plexxikon	kinase inhibitor
(RG-7129)	Roche	BACE1 inhibitor
SGX-393	SGX	Bcr-Abl inhibitor
SGX-523	SGX	Met inhibitor
SNS-314	Sunesis	Aurora inhibitor
Undisclosed	Vernalis/Servier	Bcl-2 inhibitor

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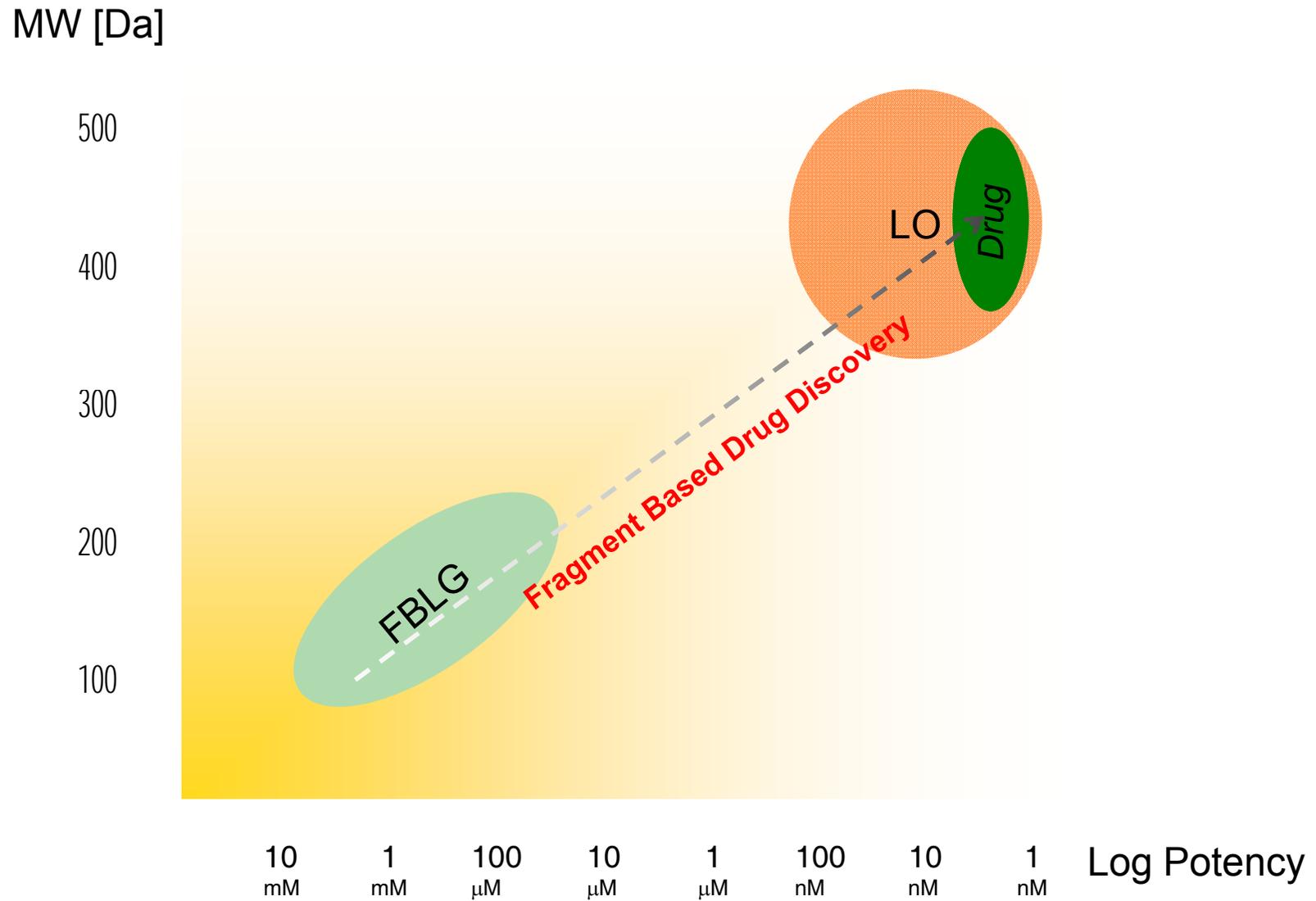


# FBDD Impact – Science

- Tighter integration of biophysical methods in med. chem.
  - ✓ Kinetic and Thermodynamic profiling
  - ✓ Diversification of techniques and increases in throughput and efficiency
- Protein crystallography
  - ✓ High throughput approaches in data collection, analysis
- Mind-set changes
  - ✓ Composite optimisation parameters – Efficiency indices
  - ✓ Concepts of druggability/ligandability



# But WHY “FBDD”?





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**March 23<sup>rd</sup>**



Mike Hann

Director of Bio-Molecular Structure

Computational and Structural Chemistry

GSK Medicines Research Centre

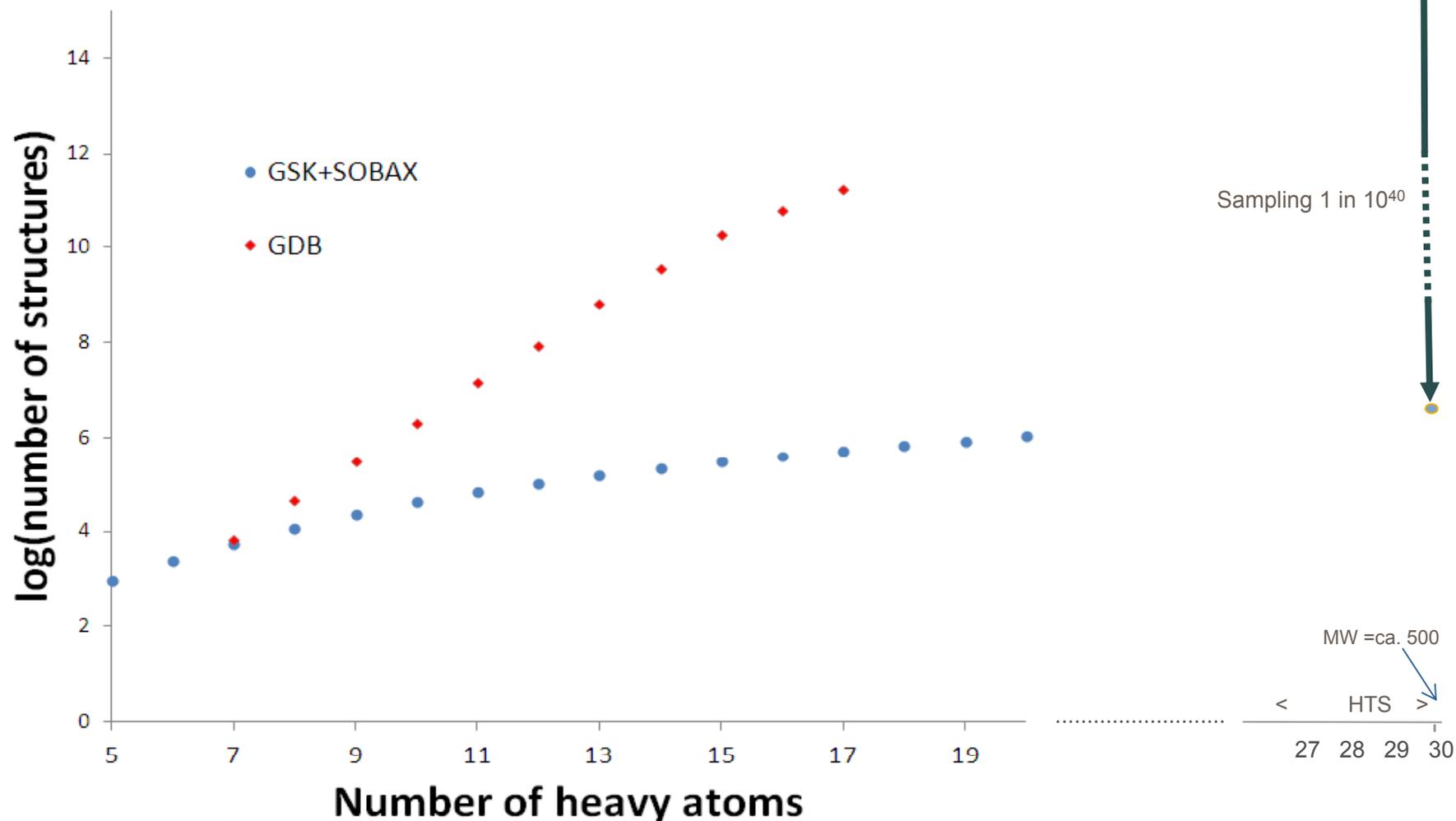
Stevenage, UK

[Mike.M.Hann@gsk.com](mailto:Mike.M.Hann@gsk.com)

# Five Fortes of Fragments

- The combinatorial explosion of chemistry space means that fragments can sample more of the available chemistry space at that level of complexity than is possible with more complex molecules.
- At lower complexity there is a higher probability of compounds matching the receptor even though they may be harder to detect. More complex molecules are more likely to have more “clashes” and thus do not fit.
- Medicinal chemists like to build molecules and so fragments are a great boot strap for structure based design. This plays to the strength of computational chemistry design
- By starting small and selecting the most Ligand Efficient compounds (eg DGbinding/number of heavy atoms), more Lead-like starting points are found which enhance the chances of successful Lead Optimisation campaigns.
- By reducing the number of pharmacophores in initial lead, only necessary interactions are built in to the compound as it is optimised. This should help ensure good developability properties of the resulting candidates

The divergence of sampling rates of real compounds compared to the size of virtual chemistry space from the GDB\* database at increasing levels of ligand complexity (as measured by the number of heavy atoms) – note the log scale.



\*Ruddigkeit, L., van Deursen, R., Blum, L.C., and Reymond, J-L., "Enumeration of 166 Billion Organic Small Molecules in the Chemical Universe Database GDB-17," *JACS*, (2012), **52**(11), 2864-2875.

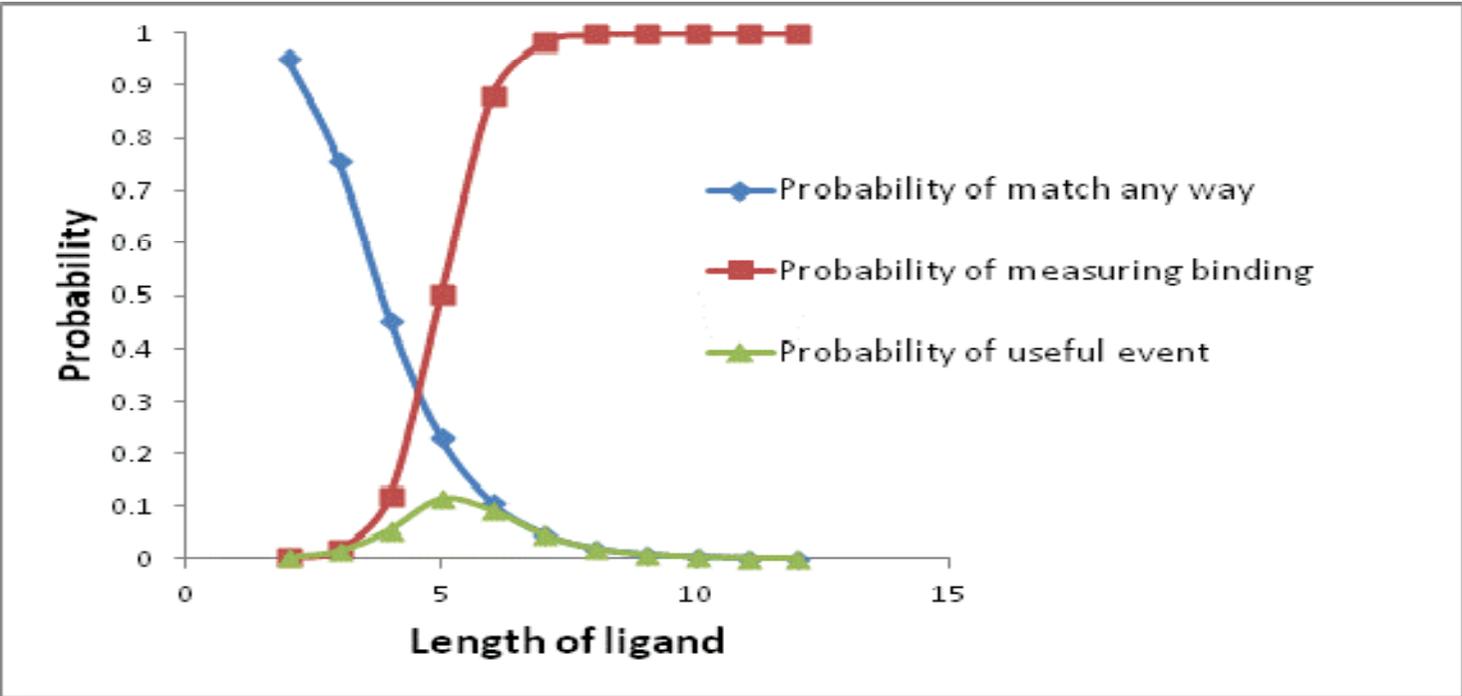
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# The probabilities that ligands of different complexity (ie length) can match, be detected and the resultant “useful event”.

Receptor:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
features:	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-
Ligand A mode 1	+	+	-						
Ligand A mode 2						+	+	-	
Ligand B unique								-	+

(note it wraps round!!)



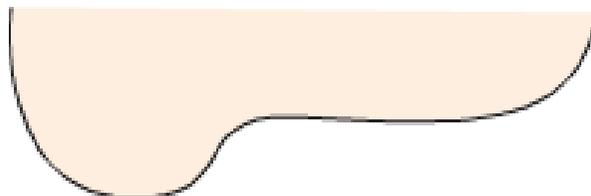
Hann MM, Leach AR, Harper G., Molecular complexity and its impact on the probability of finding leads for drug discovery. *JCICS* (2001), **41**(3) 856-64  
 Leach AR, Hann MM. Molecular complexity and fragment-based drug discovery: ten years on. *Curr Opin Chem Biol.* 2011 Aug;15(4):489-96.



# There are More Reasons

*Low* absolute Potency  
*High Lig. Eff.*  
*mM*  $\rightarrow$   *$\mu$ M*

*Excellent* Properties  
*ADMET*    *What is a real hit*



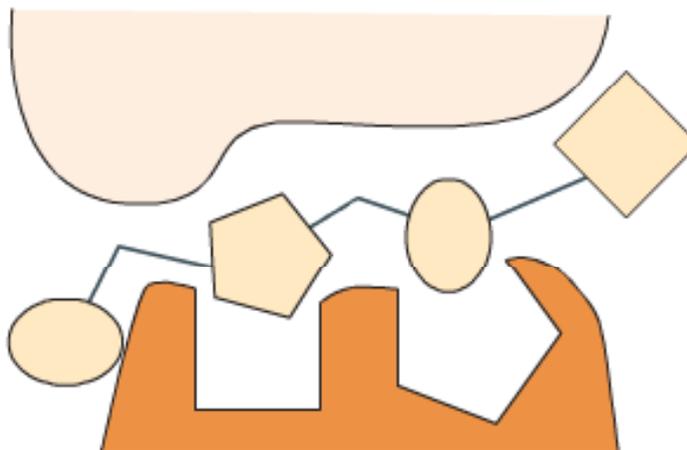
Poor Fit to *any* Target

*Need to "construct"*

*Ultimate* Relevance of  
Chemical Space  
*Hundreds*  $\rightarrow$  *Thousands*

Potency  
 $\mu$ M  $\rightarrow$  nM

Properties  
*ADMET*    *What is a real hit*



Poor Fit to Target

*Need to "deconstruct"*

Relevance of  
Chemical Space  
*Need for millions..*

Rees, D.; Congreve, M.; Murray, C.; Carr, R. Fragment-based lead discovery. *Nature reviews. Drug discovery*, (2004), **3**, 660–72.



# What Are The Main Pitfalls?

- Reliable assessment of technical feasibility of a new target
- Time from Gene-to-Structure
- Need for reliable affinity and high concentration biochemical assay
- SBDD – expertise

Experience and Mindset  
are a driver of success in FBDD



# Glossary of terms

## Definitions

## General references for background information



# Glossary

- **LE** = Ligand Efficiency
- **LLE** = Lipophilicity Ligand Efficiency
- **SBDD** = Structure Based Drug Design
- **FBDD** = Fragment Based Drug Discovery
- **FBLG** = Fragment Based Lead Generation



# Definitions

## Efficiency Indices

- ✓ Scaling factor to correct affinity/potency for size, lipophilicity etc.

## Fragment Growing

- ✓ Building new interactions into fragment start points; expanding into neighbouring pockets

## Fragment Linking

- ✓ Tether fragment screening hits together that bind in adjacent pockets, thus adding the affinities of the individual fragments -> Potency jumps

## Affinity Screening

- ✓ Screening of molecule applying a biophysical approach which will determine the dissociation constant ( $k_D$ ) as a measure of affinity i.e. how tightly a molecule binds to a target.



# “Efficiency” Indices

Type	Metrics	Definition	Use	Reference
<b>Ligand efficiency</b>	LE	$-RT\ln(K_d \text{ or } pK_i)/HA$	Prioritization of starting points, early optimization	Hopkins AL, Groom CR, Alex A. <i>Drug Discov Today</i> 2004;9(10):430-1
	BEI	$(pK_i \text{ or } pK_d)/MW$		Abad-Zapatero C, Metz JT. <i>Drug Discov Today</i> 2005;10(7):464-9
<b>Size independent ligand efficiency</b>	FQ	$LE/(0.0715 + 7.5328/HA + 25.7079/(HA)^2 + -361.4722/(HA)^3)$	Size unbiased comparison of compounds in early optimization	Reynolds CH, Tounge BA, Bembenek SD. <i>J Med Chem</i> 2008;51(8):2432-8
	%LE	$LE/(1.614^{\log_2(10/HA)}) * 100$		Orita M, Ohno K, Niimi T. <i>Drug Discov Today</i> 2009;14(5-6):321-8
	SILE	$-RT\ln(pK_i)/(HA)^{0.3}$		Nissink JWM. <i>J Chem Inf Model</i> 2009;49(6):1617-22
<b>Lipophilic ligand efficiency</b>	LLE	$pK_i - cLogP \text{ (or LogD)}$	Control of lipophilicity in lead optimization	Leeson PD, Springthorpe B. <i>Nat Rev Drug Discov</i> 2007;6(11):881-90
	LLE <sub>Astex</sub>	$0.11 * \ln(10) * RT(\log P - \log(K_d \text{ or } pK_i \text{ or } IC_{50}))/HA$	Lipophilic efficiency assessment for fragments	Paul N. Mortenson • Christopher W. Murray <i>J Comput Aided Mol Des</i> DOI 10.1007/s10822-011-9435-z
	LELP	$\log P/LE$	Control lipophilicity in optimization, assessment of druglikeness	Keseru GM, Makara GM. <i>Nat Rev Drug Discov</i> 2009;8(3):203-12
<b>Enthalpic efficiency</b>	EE	$\Delta H/HA$	Enthalpy driven potency optimization	J. E. Ladbury, G. Klebe, E. Freire <i>Nature Rev. Drug Disc.</i> <b>2010</b> , 9, 23-27
	SIHE	$(-\Delta H/40 * 2.303 * RT) * HA^{0.3}$	Size independent assessment of binding enthalpy contributions	G. G. Ferenczy, G. M. Keserü, <i>J. Chem. Inf. Comput. Sci.</i> <b>2010</b> , 50, 1536-1541
<b>Complex metrics</b>	MPO	$clogP, clogD \text{ pH}=7.4, MW, TPSA, HBD, pK_a$	Supporting the optimization of CNS compounds	Travis T. Wager, Xinjun Hou, Patrick R. Verhoest, and Anabella Villalobos <i>ACS Chem. Neurosci.</i> (2010), 1, 435–449
	CSE	in vitro promiscuity and toxicity data, cLogP, TPSA and pK <sub>a</sub>	Control toxicity related attrition	Kevin Dack, <i>Designing Safer Medicines in Discovery symposium, SCI</i> , , 17th March 2011
	DRUGeff	Biophase Concentration * 100/Dose	Estimation of in vivo efficacy in combination with <i>in vitro</i> potency	Expert Opinion on Drug Discovery 2010, 5(7), 609-618; S Braggio, D Montanari, T Rossi & E. Ratti

Hann, M.; Keserü, G. Finding the sweet spot: the role of nature and nurture in medicinal chemistry. *Nature reviews. Drug discovery* (2012), **11**, 355–65.



# Some Literature

- **Web Resources:** Fragment Blog Practical Fragment by Dan Erlanson: <http://practicalfragments.blogspot.co.uk>
- **Web Resources:** Fragment-Based Drug Discovery & Molecular Design by Pete Kenny: <http://fbdd-lit.blogspot.co.uk>
- **General Review:** Rees, D.; Congreve, M.; Murray, C.; Carr, R. Fragment-based lead discovery. *Nature reviews. Drug discovery* (2004), **3**, 660–72.
- **General Review:** Albert, J.; Blomberg, N.; Breeze, A.; Brown, A.; Burrows, J.; Edwards, P.; Folmer, R.; Geschwindner, S.; Griffen, E.; Kenny, P.; Nowak, T.; Olsson, L.-L.; Sanganee, H.; Shapiro, A. An integrated approach to fragment-based lead generation: philosophy, strategy and case studies from AstraZeneca's drug discovery programmes. *Current topics in medicinal chemistry* (2007), **7**, 1600–29.
- **Molecular Complexity:** Hann, M.; Leach, A.; Harper, G. Molecular complexity and its impact on the probability of finding leads for drug discovery. *Journal of chemical information and computer sciences* (2001), **41**, 856–64.
- **Fragment Library Design:** Blomberg, N.; Cosgrove, D.; Kenny, P.; Kolmodin, K. Design of compound libraries for fragment screening. *Journal of computer-aided molecular design* (2009), **23**, 513–25.
- **Fragment Library Design:** Brewer, M.; Ichihara, O.; Kirchhoff, C.; Schade, M.; Whittaker, M. Assembling a Fragment Library. *Fragment-Based Drug Discovery: A Practical Approach* (2008), 39–62.
- **Critical retrospective:** Hajduk, P.; Greer, J. A decade of fragment-based drug design: strategic advances and lessons learned. *Nature reviews. Drug discovery* (2007), **6**, 211–9.
- **Efficiency indices:** Hann, M.; Keserü, G. Finding the sweet spot: the role of nature and nurture in medicinal chemistry. *Nature reviews. Drug discovery* (2012), **11**, 355–65.
- **Efficiency indices:** Andrew L. Hopkins, Colin R. Groom, Alexander Alex, Ligand efficiency: a useful metric for lead selection, *Drug Discovery Today*, (2004) **9**, 430.
- **Structure Based Drug Design:** Böhm, H.-J.; Klebe, G.; What Can We Learn from Molecular Recognition in Protein–Ligand Complexes for the Design of New Drugs?. *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* (1996), **35**, 2588
- **Structure Based Drug Design:** Bissantz, C.; Kuhn, B.; Stahl, M. A medicinal chemist's guide to molecular interactions. *Journal of medicinal chemistry* (2010), **53**, 5061–84.