

# USEtox for application in building & construction

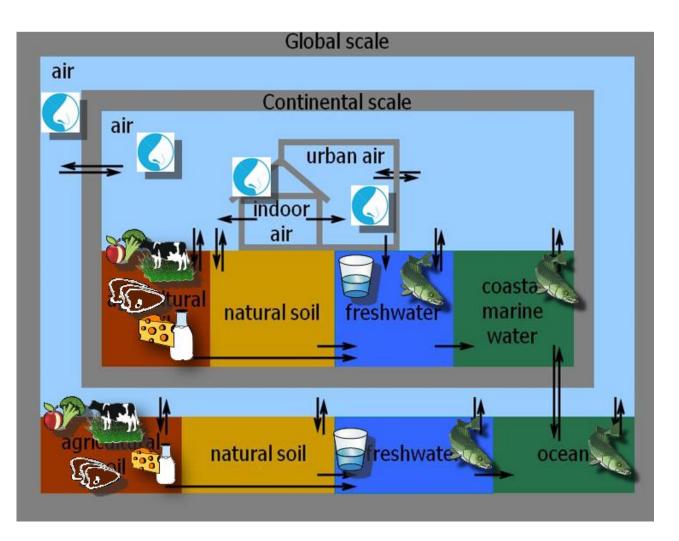
Prof. Peter Fantke, Prof. Olivier Jolliet, Dr. Lei Huang



# USEtox® - the UNEP-SETAC toxicity consensus model

**USEtox:** A parsimonious model to assess toxic impacts of chemicals on humans and ecosystems. Now extended to chemicals in products





## USEtox® - the UNEP-SETAC toxicity consensus model

# USEtox base model + six basic models applied to 10000 chemicals in 500 products





 customized to particular applications + developed necessary QSARS for high throughput determination

- Life Cycle Initiative
- → Relevant mass balance-based models for building and materials:
  - Releases from building materials, with indoor sorption)
  - Releases from object surface (e.g. wet paints, cleaning agents)
  - Indoor air modeling
- → USEtox determines
  - Human exposures of the user and the general population via inhalation, ingestion incl. mouthing and dust, dermal direct contact and gaseous uptake
  - Risks for cancer, developmental and other non-cancer
     Maximum chemical content for acceptable risk
     Cumulative human health and ecosystem impacts for LCA

# Chemicals of concern in building materials

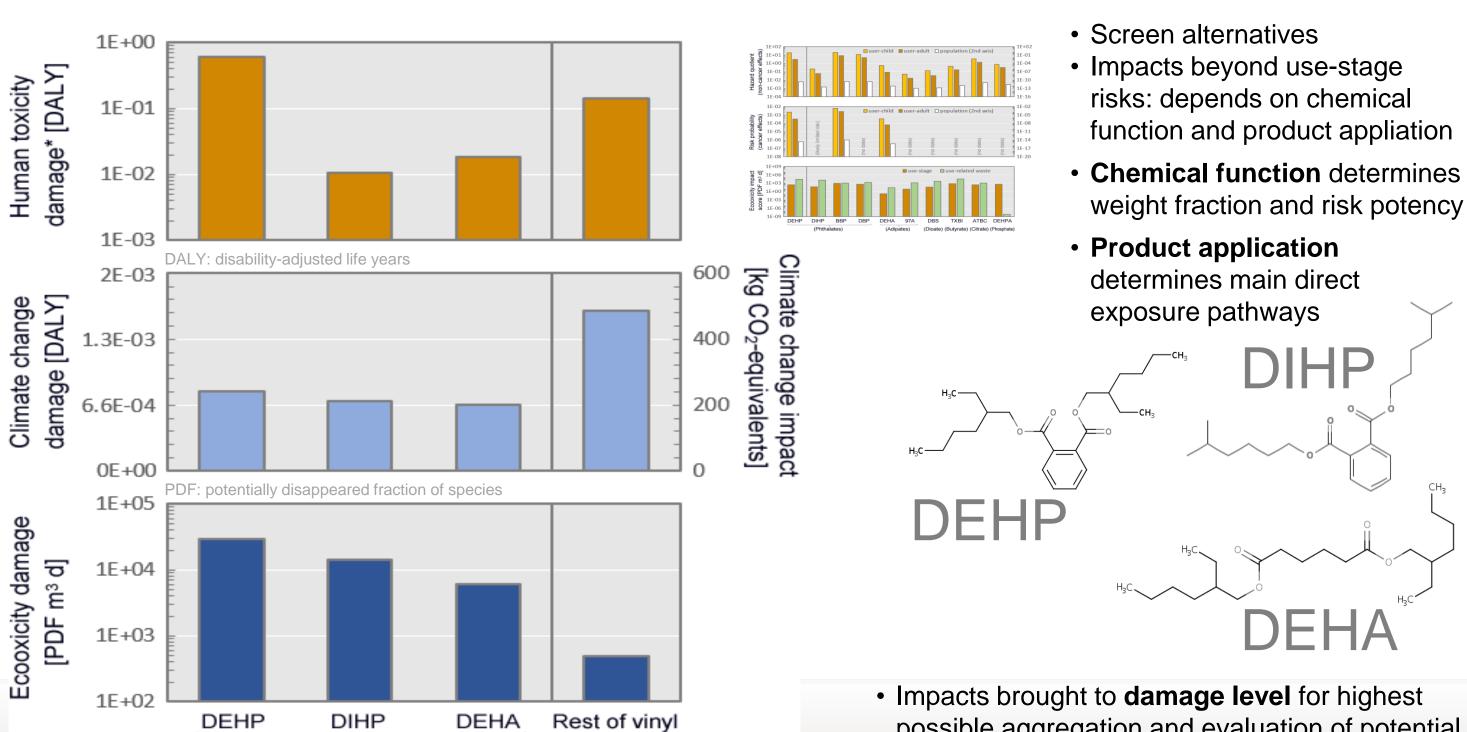


CAS	Chemical	Product categories*	Chemical function	MAC (ppm)	MAC endpoint	Actual content (ppm)	HCR
822-06-0	1,6-Hexamethylene diisocyanate (HDI)	Carpet flooring	Crosslinker	0.2	Non-cancer	48800	244000
		Acrylic flooring adhesive	Crosslinker	7	Non-cancer	13650	1950
		Flooring (wood, cork, vinyl)	Crosslinker, Residual monomer	0.1	Non-cancer	2.8 - 236	28 - 2360
51-79-6	Ethyl carbamate	Flooring (rubber, cork, wood)	Solvent	0.2	Cancer	11560 - 28800	57800 - 144000
50-00-0	Formaldehyde	Wooden furniture, Base cabinetry	Preservative, Residual monomer	0.1	Cancer	6.6 - 3102	110 - 51700
		Flooring (wood, cork, bamboo, fluid-applied)	Preservative, Residual monomer	0.1	Cancer	6.58 - 1890	94 - 27000
		Gypsum wallboard	Preservative	0.03	Cancer	1032	34400
		Foam insulation (polyurethane, spray), Gypsum ceiling	Preservative, Residual monomer	0.1	Cancer	2.8 - 236.8	35 - 2960

## Substituting DEHP phthalate in flooring

(Plasticizers)



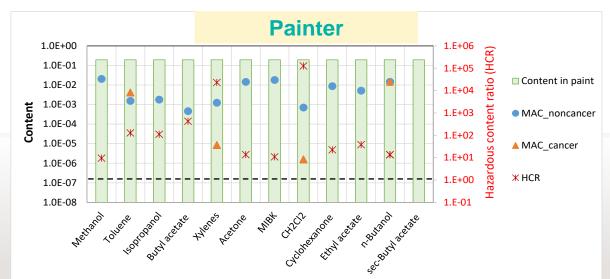


flooring material

possible aggregation and evaluation of potential trade-offs

### Summary – Building materials interface

- USEtox enables us to assess thousands of chemicals in 100+ different types building materials
- It combines far-field and near-field exposures, accounting for multiple exposure pathways
- Exposure in the near-field environment are usually dominant, but environmental exposures can remain high for persistent and bio-accumulating chemicals
- Enables both a risk and a damage-oriented approach
- Applied in multiple building materials and products, including
  - > PU vs EPS and XPS inner and outer insulation, including indoor air quality & optimal ventilation rates
  - Chemicals in paints in Sri Lanka
  - Plasticizer substitution in flooring materials
  - High throughput screening of 400+ chemical in building materials: chemicals of concern





### Main Application Areas of USEtox version 3

Near-field/far-field USEtox framework is suitable for **comparative evaluation of chemicals** emitted along product life cycles and chemicals in various product applications. Primary application areas are (model already tested):

Application area	Product types already covered in our framework (emissions already directly or indirectly included)
Product life cycle assessment (LCA)	Food contact materials
High-throughput exposure screening	Personal care products; food contact materials
High-throughput risk screening	Children toys; building materials; paints
Chemical exposure and risk prioritization	Household products (cleaning, personal care, and home maintenance products)
Chemical alternatives assessment (CAA) / chemical substitution	Building materials; personal care products; agricultural pesticides

http://doi.org/10.1007/s11367-021-01889-y

#### USEtox product interfaces

## USEtox® - the UNEP-SETAC toxicity consensus model

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Direct environmental emission (e.g. industrial processes)



**Food contact materials** 



Skin surface (e.g. cosmetics)



Object surface (e.g. wet paints, cleaning agents)



Article interior (e.g. building materials) (with indoor sorption)



Pesticide residues

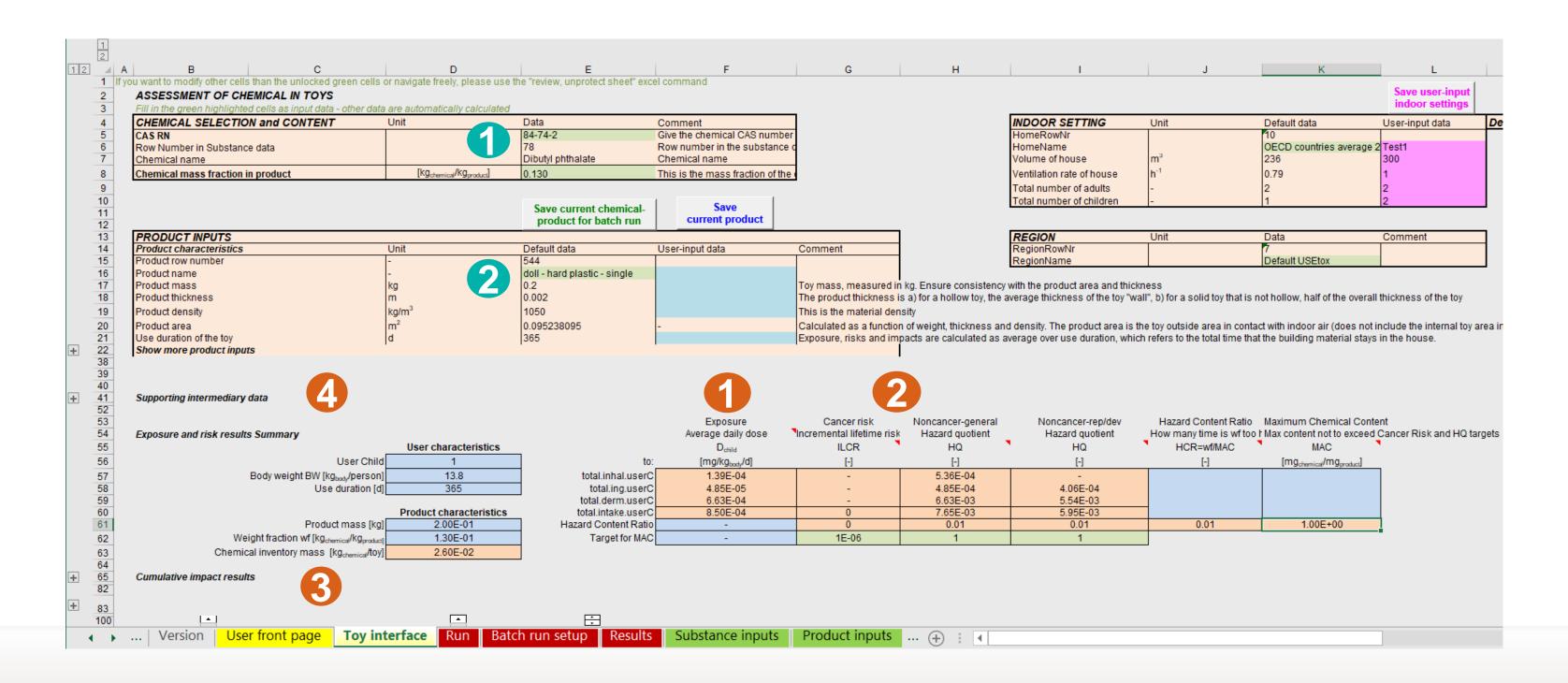
#### USEtox Product interfaces (https://manual.usetox.org)

- Select your chemical among 400+ chemicals and provide the chemical mass fraction in product
- 2 Define your product and usage characteristics

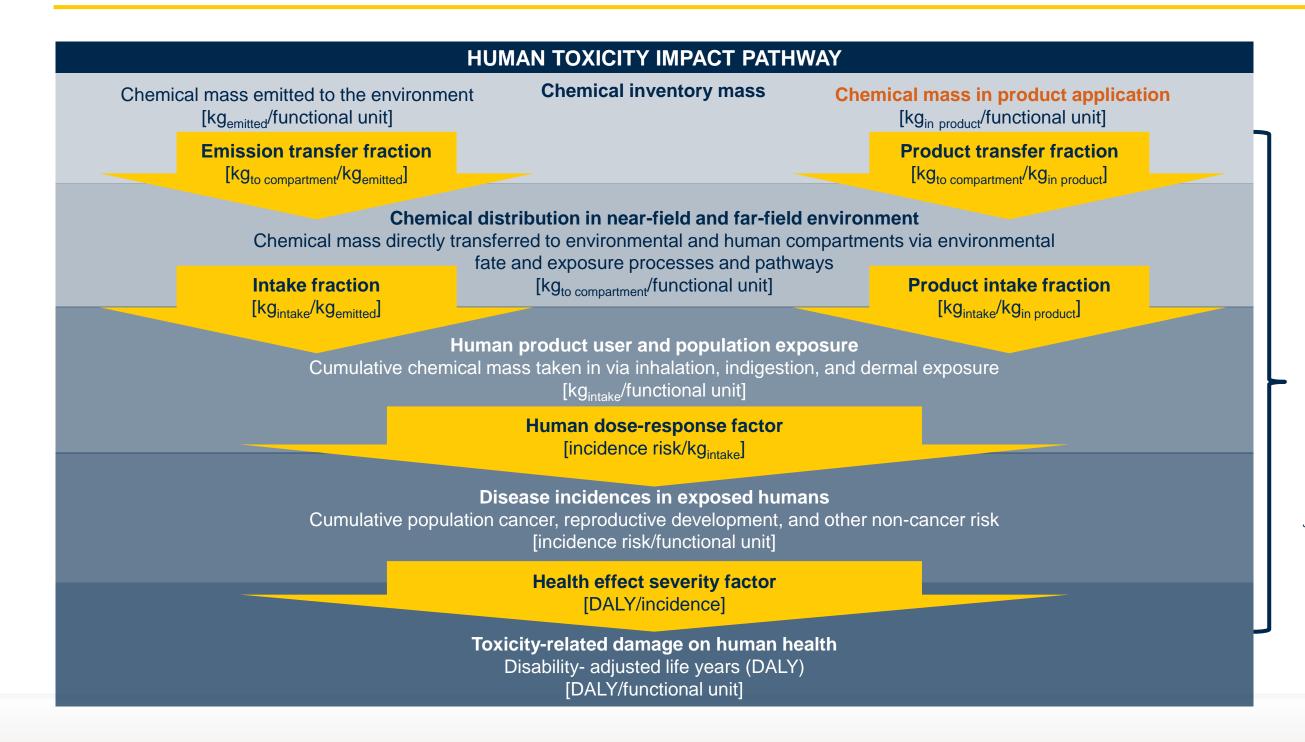
#### **USEtox** determines

- The exposure of the user and of the general population
- Relative measure of risks (incremental lifetime cancer risk ILCR, hazard quotient -HQ, maximum chemical content MAC)
- Relative cumulative measures of impacts for LCA or alternatives assessment
- Supporting intermediary data, such as the product intake fraction, i.e. the fraction of the chemical mass in product taken in by the user and the general population

#### USEtox Product interfaces (https://manual.usetox.org)

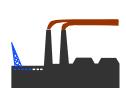


#### Human health assessment framework

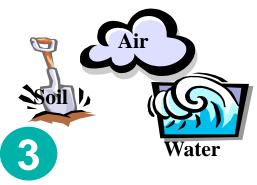


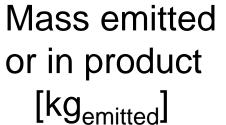
Characterization factor [DALY/kginventory mass

#### **Emission to Intake**

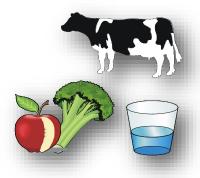








Transfer to environment [kg<sub>to compartment</sub>]



Exposure=transfer to human [kgintake = to human compartment]

Fraction transferred T

#### Fraction transferred to environment and to humans

$$[kg_{to\ compartment\ n}/kg_{emitted\ to\ compartment\ m}] = [-]$$

T<sub>cum</sub> = 
$$T^{-1}$$
= (Product) Intake fraction, *iF*

### Exposure Doses for Chemical i in Product p

Intake:  $I_i = PiF_{i,p}^{tot} \cdot f_{i,p} \cdot M_p$  [kg/functional unit, FU]  $PiF_{i,p}^{tot}[kg_{i \text{ intake}}/kg_{i \text{ in product p}}]: \text{ Product intake fraction}$   $f_{i,p}[kg_{i \text{ in product p}}/kg_{\text{product p}}]: \text{ Fraction of chemical } i \text{ in product p}$   $M_p[kg_{\text{product p}}/\text{FU}]: \text{ Mass of product p applied or used}$ 

Intake dose rate: 
$$IR_i = \frac{PiF_{i,p}^{tot}}{BW \cdot N_{pers}} \cdot f_{i,p} \cdot \frac{M_p}{\Delta t} \cdot cf_{kg to mg} \text{ [mg/kg}_{body}\text{-d]}$$
 $BW \text{ [kg}_{body}\text{]: Body weight (e.g 70 kg for an adult)}$ 
 $N_{pers} \text{ [capita]: Number of persons exposed (e.g. 2 adults for household)}$ 
 $\Delta t \text{ [d]: Exposure time considered } (M_p/\Delta t = \text{mass applied per day)}$ 
 $cf_{kg to mg} = 10^6 \text{ mg/kg}$ 

#### Cancer and non-cancer risk characterization

En poi		Chemica I mass in product	Exposure dose	Dose – response metric	Assessment metric & criteria
A Canc	er	m <sub>applied in</sub>	Oral ingestion  D <sub>lifetime</sub> [mg/kg-day]	Linear dose-response Cancer slope factor CSF [1/(mg/kg-day)]	Compare risks Risk= D <sub>lifetime</sub> ·CSF Risk<10 <sup>-4</sup> to 10 <sup>-6</sup>
B Non- cance		[kg/d]	Oral ingestion D [mg/kg-day]	Non linear dose-response Reference dose RfD Safe dose = PoD/UF [mg/kg-day]	Compare doses  Dose ratio:  Hazard quotient  HQ=D/RfD<1

Cancer risk  $< 10^{-6}$ ?

Non cancer dose ratio: Hazard quotient HQ < 1?

- general non cancer
- reproductive/developmental

#### **Hazardous Content Ratio**

HCR = maximum (cancer risk/10<sup>-6</sup>, HQ)

How many times is the risk higher than target

**Maximum Chemical Content** 

MAC=Actual content/HCR

Max chemical content in product not to exceed targets HQ = 1 or cancer risk =  $10^{-6}$ 

USEtox applied to assess chemicals in building materials

#### Illustrative example: Formaldehyde in wood flooring



Formaldehyde's main use in buildings is in resin such as urea formaldehyde, used as a binder in composite wood flooring.

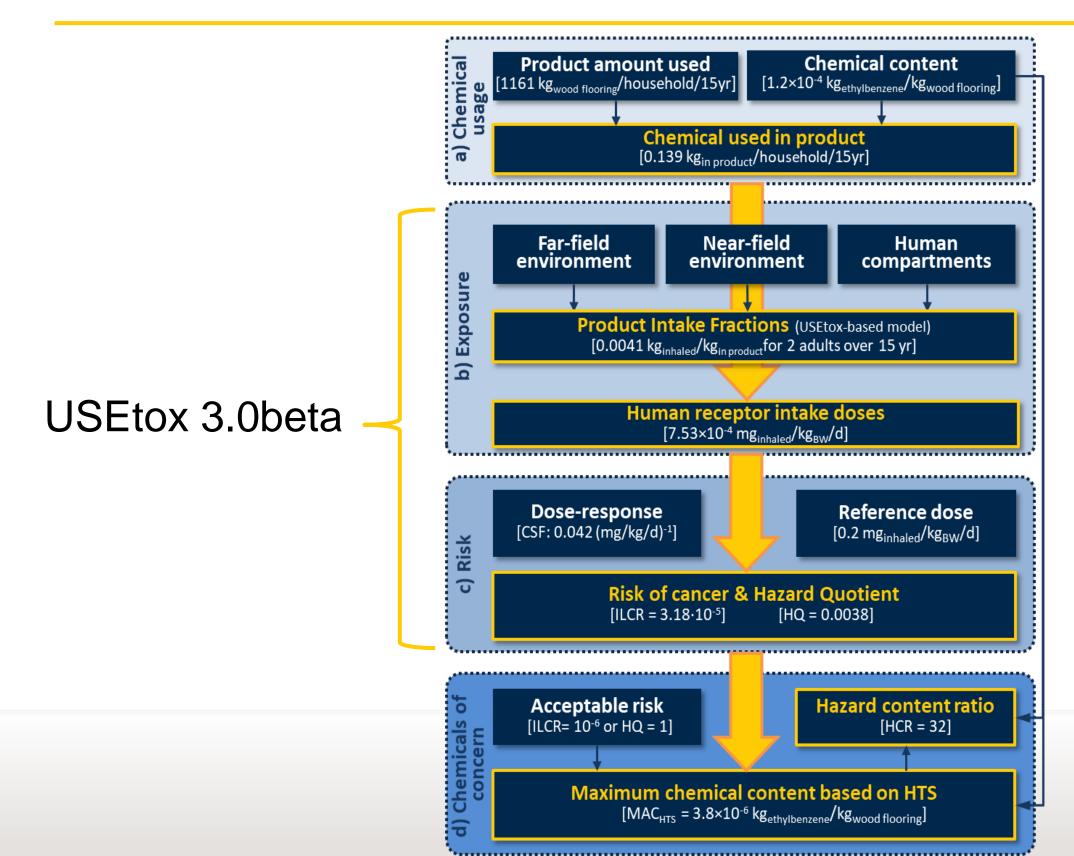
CAS 50-00-0, with residual monomer of up to 0.3% in urea formaldehyde, that is itself found at 8.3% in the wood flooring, the resulting concentration of residual formaldehyde in wood flooring amounts to 2.5·10<sup>-4</sup>.

Formaldehyde is a probable human carcinogen and breathing in formaldehyde can also cause eye, nose and throat irritation.

→ Launch USEtox and activate the Building material interface

Activate Building material interface

#### Assessment framework



#### For building occupants:

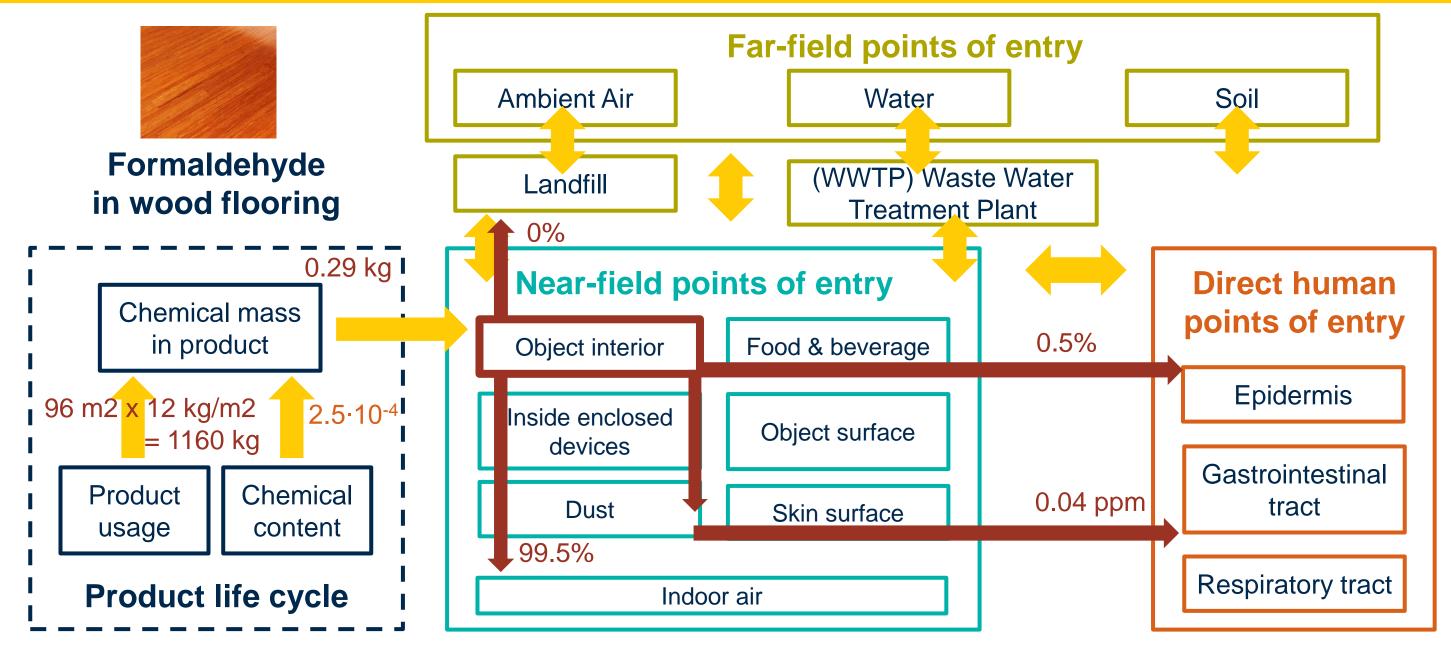
- Inhalation
- Dust ingestion
- Direct dermal contact
- Gaseous dermal uptake

#### Prioritization criteria:

• 
$$HCR = \frac{Actual\ content}{MAC_{HTS}} > 10$$

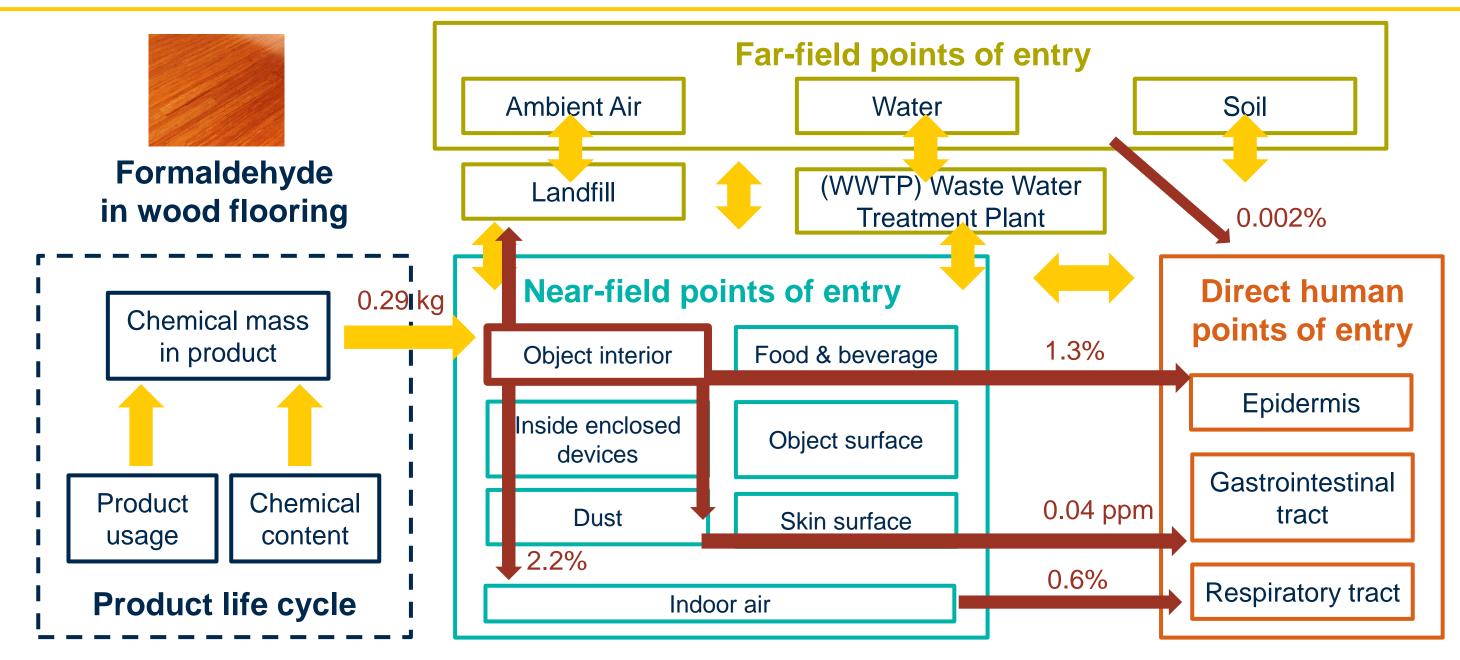
HQ: hazard quotient. ILCR: incremental lifetime cancer risk. CSF: cancer slope factor. HCR: hazard content ratio. MAC<sub>HTS</sub>: maximum chemical content based on high-throughput screening.

### Start from compartment of entry $\rightarrow$ direct transfers



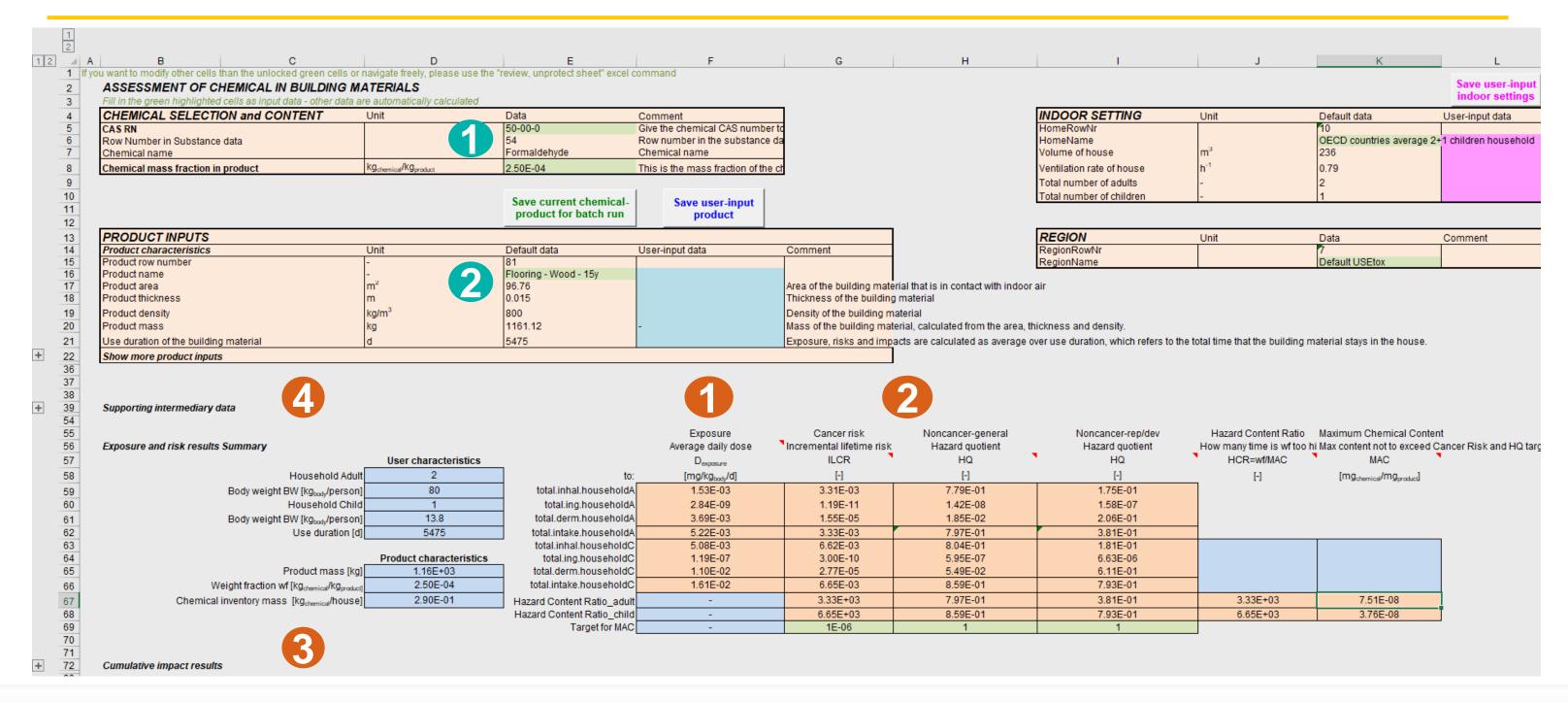
Fantke et al. 2018. Environ Health Perspect 126: 125001

### Start from compartment of entry $\rightarrow$ direct transfers

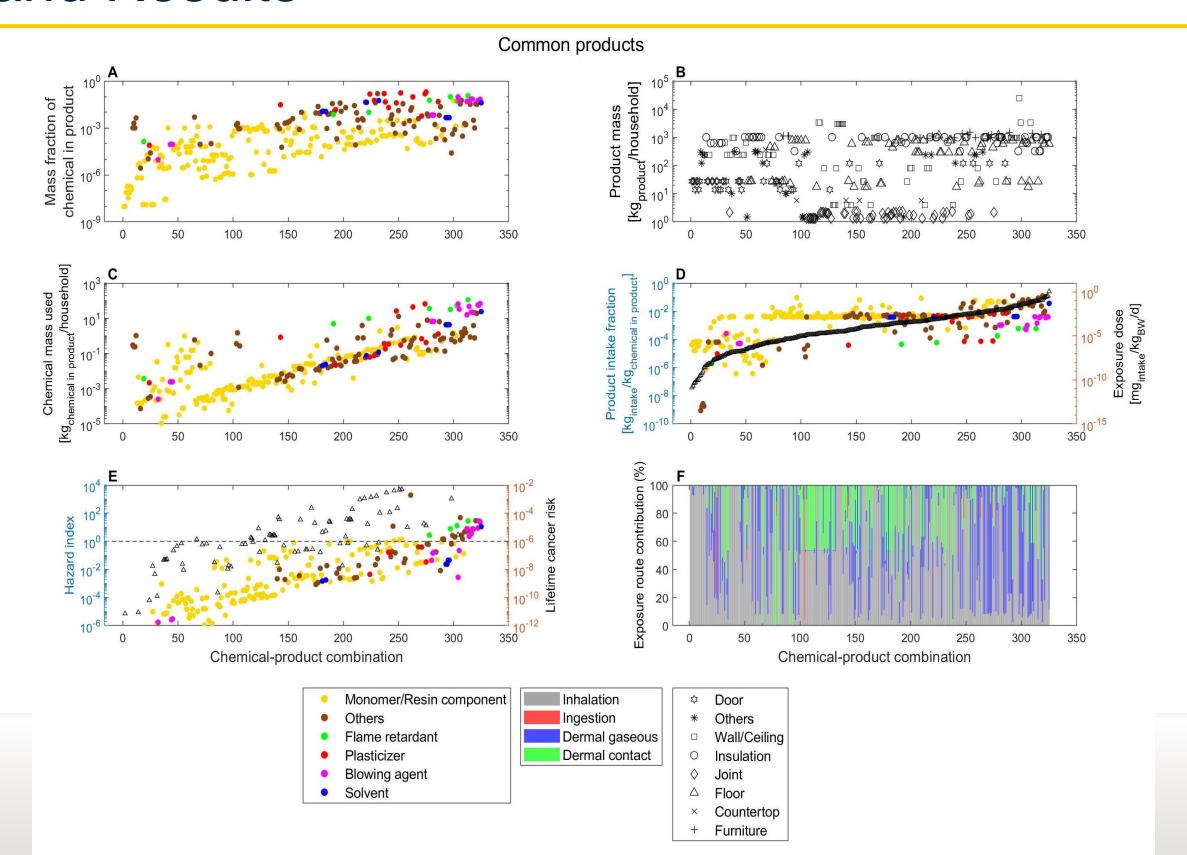


Fantke et al. 2018. Environ Health Perspect 126: 125001

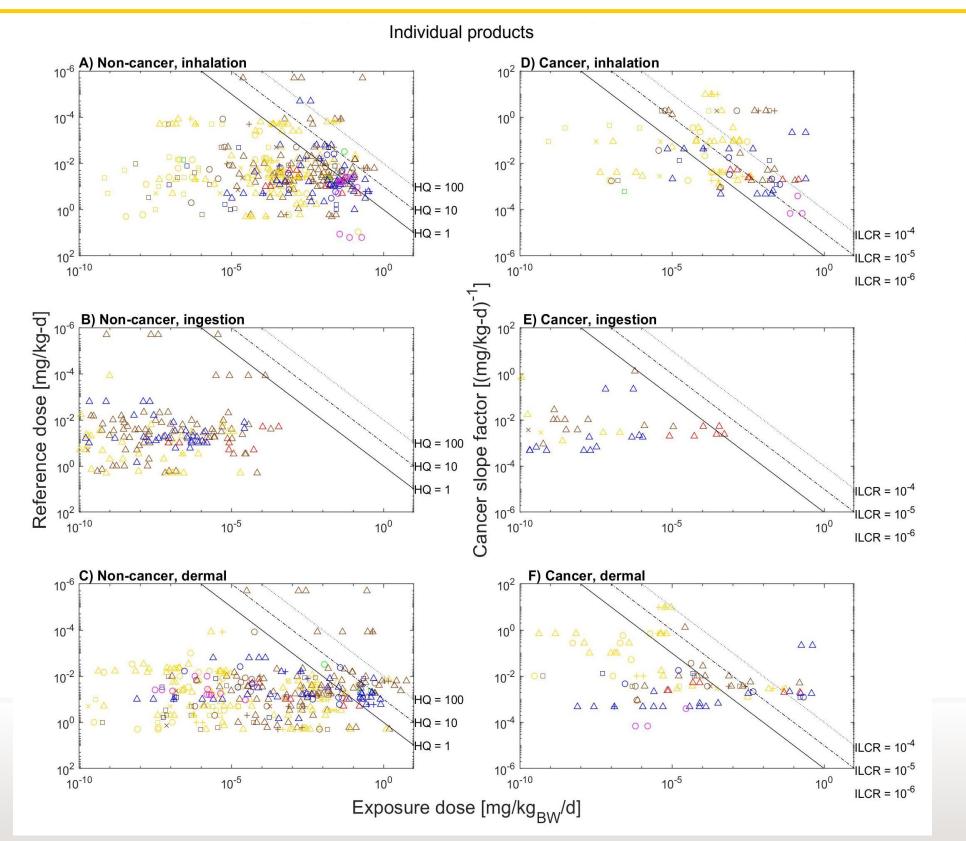
#### Building material interface: Formaldehyde in wood flooring



#### Data and Results



# Consumer Exposure and Risk by Pathway



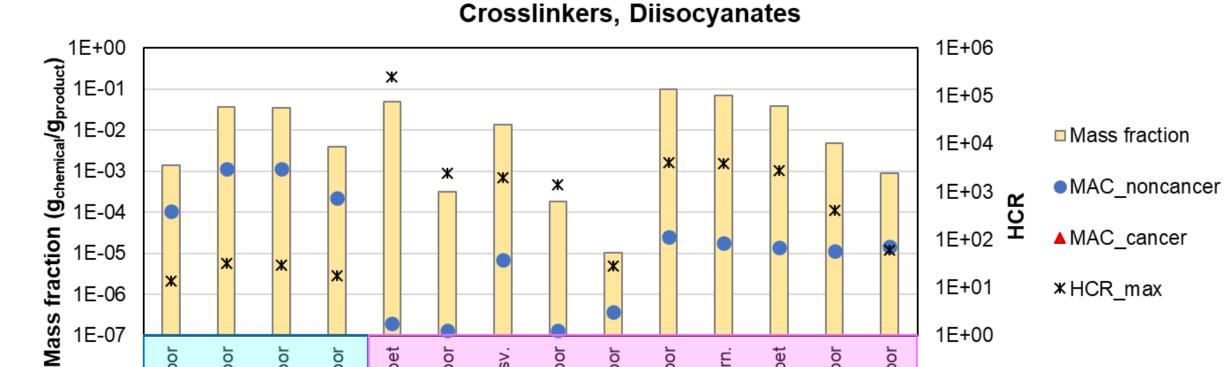
- Others
- Monomer/Resin component
- Solvent
- Flame retardant
- Plasticizer
- Blowing agent
- △ Floor
- Wall/Ceiling
- Insulation
- Countertop
- + Furniture

MDI-Carpet

MDI-FA floor

MDI-Wood floor

1E+00



HDI-Vinyl floor

MDI-Rubber floor

Diisocyanate

MDI-Wood furn.

HDI-Cork floor

**HDI-Floor adhsv.** 

- HDI and MDI indicate great concern due to noncancer effects.
- HDI: 1,6hexamethylene diisocyanate.
- MDI: 4,4'-methylene bisphenyl diisocyanate

$$HCR = \frac{Actual\ content}{MAC_{HTS}}$$

DEtriamine: diethylenetriamine. IPdiamine: isophorone diamine.

HDI-Wood floor

HDI-Carpet

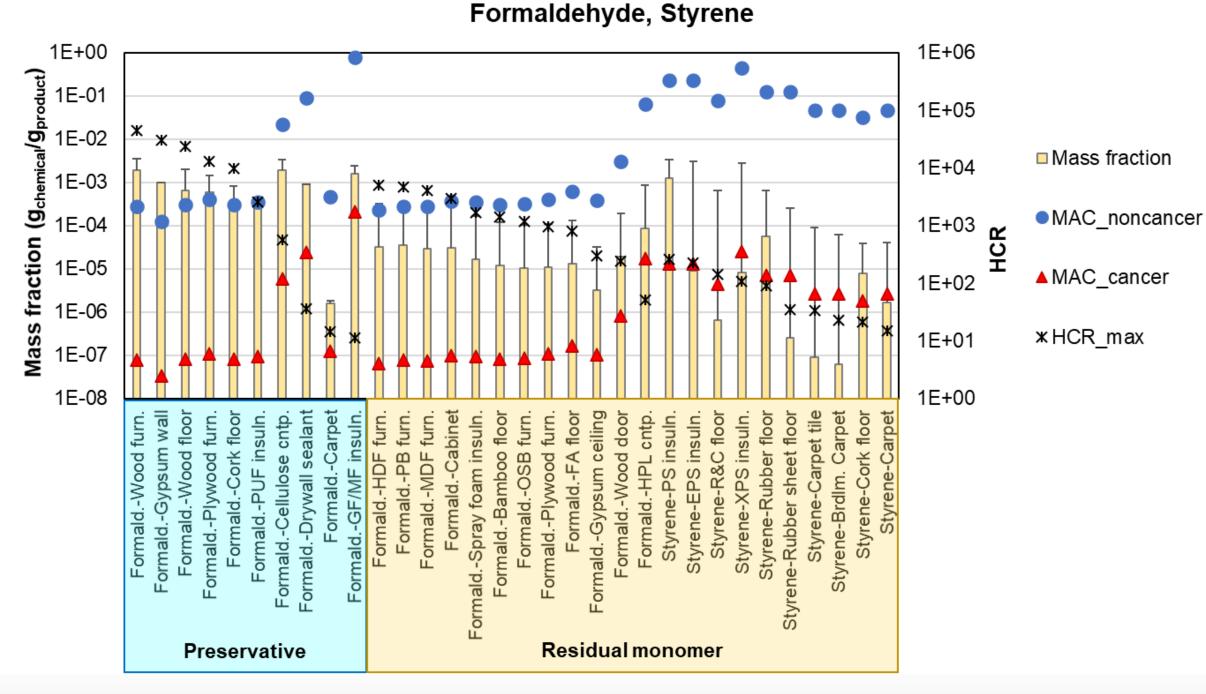
Pdiamine-Wood floor

FA floor: fluid-applid flooring

Crosslinker

Pdiamine-FA floor

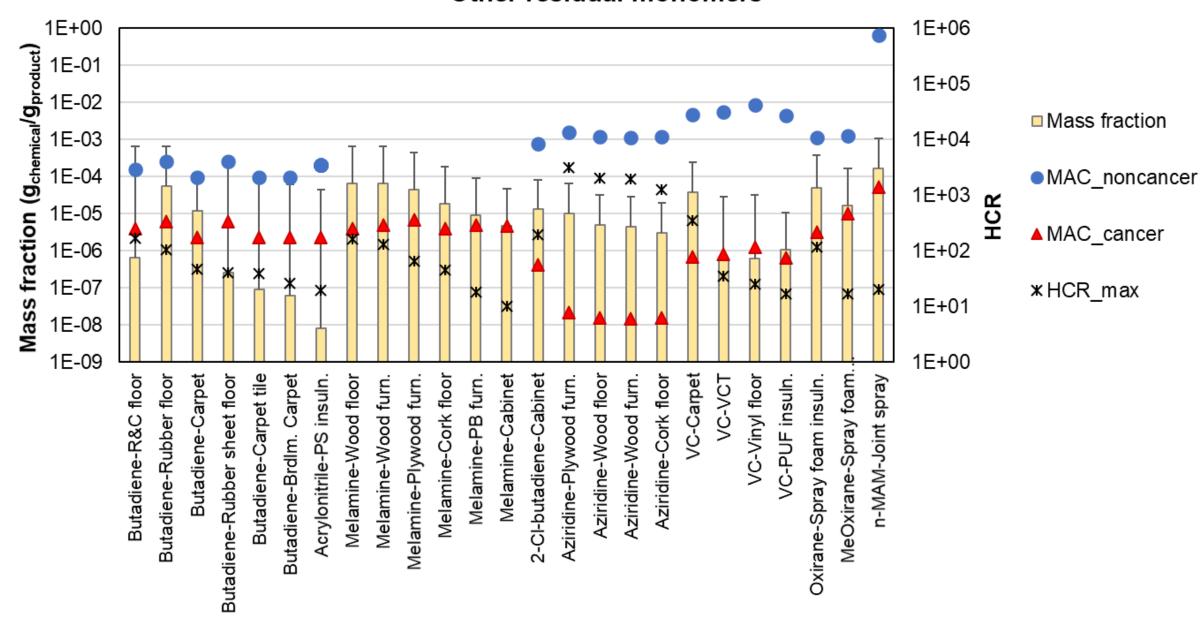
DEtriamine-Wood floor



- Formaldehyde with HCRs up to 52,000, all based on cancer effects.
- Usage of formaldehydecontaining resins may need to be completely avoided.
- Formaldehyde as biocide may be replaced by thiabendazole, CIT, etc.

Insuln: insulation. Cntp: countertop.

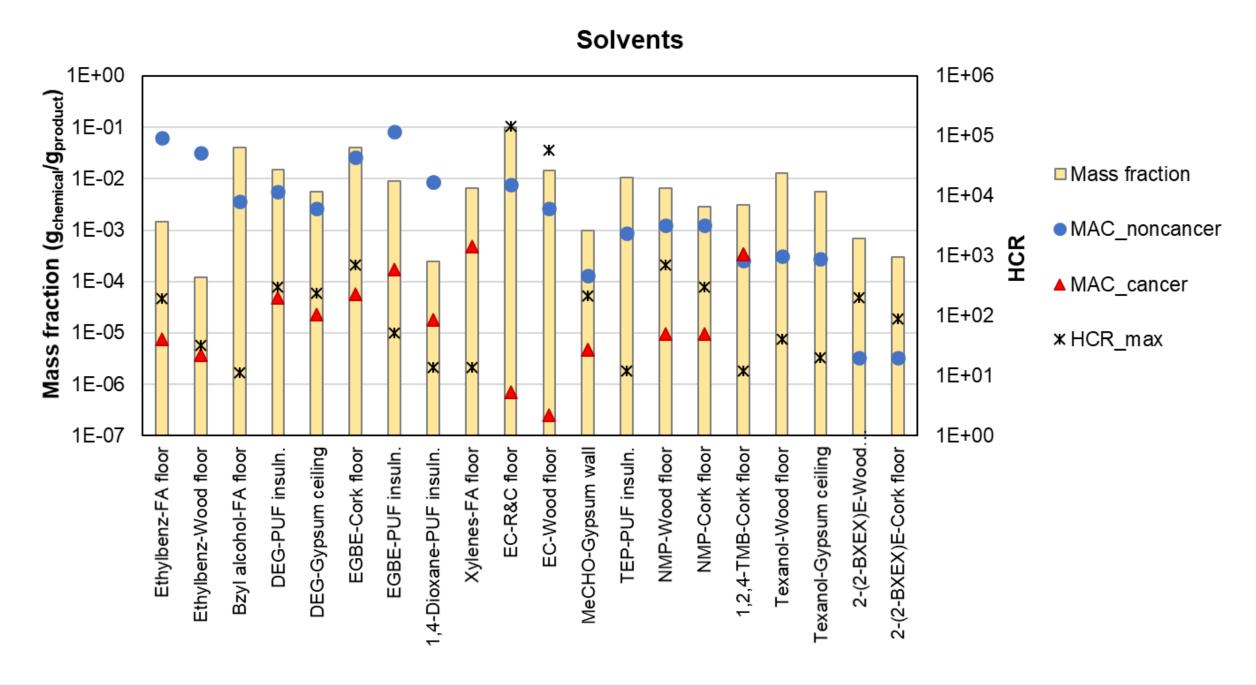




- Aziridine
- Vinyl chloride
- 2-Chloro-1,3butadiene
- 7 others

Butadiene: 1,3-butadiene. 2-Cl-butadiene: 2-chloro-1,3-butadiene. VC: vinyl chloride.

MeOxirane: 2-methyloxirane. n-MAM: n-methylol acrylamide.



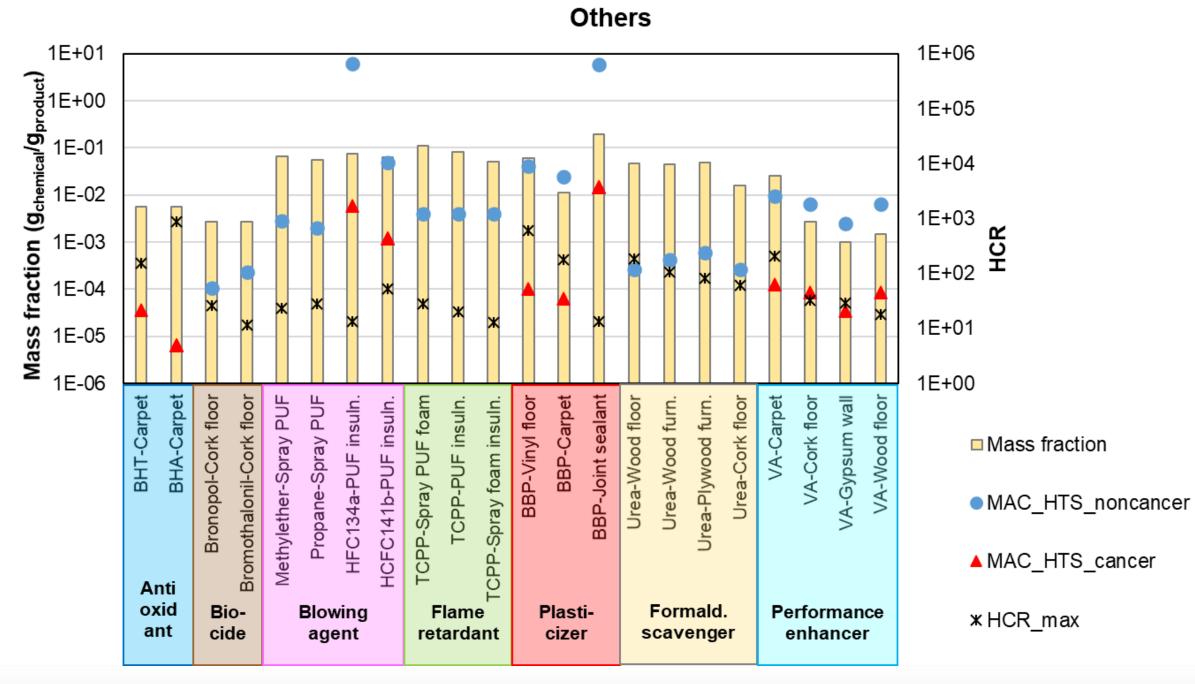
Ethyl carbamate
 (EC) with extremely
 high HCR of 58,000
 to 140,000 based on
 cancer effects.

Ethylbenz: ethylbenzene. Bzyl alcohol: benzyl alcohol. DEG: diethylene glycol.

EGBE: Ethylene glycol monobutyl ether. EC: ethyl carbamate. MeCHO: acetaldehyde.

TEP: triethyl phosphate. NMP: N-Methylpyrrolidone. 1,2,4-TMB: 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene.

2-(2-BXEX)E: 2-(2-butoxyethoxy)ethanol.

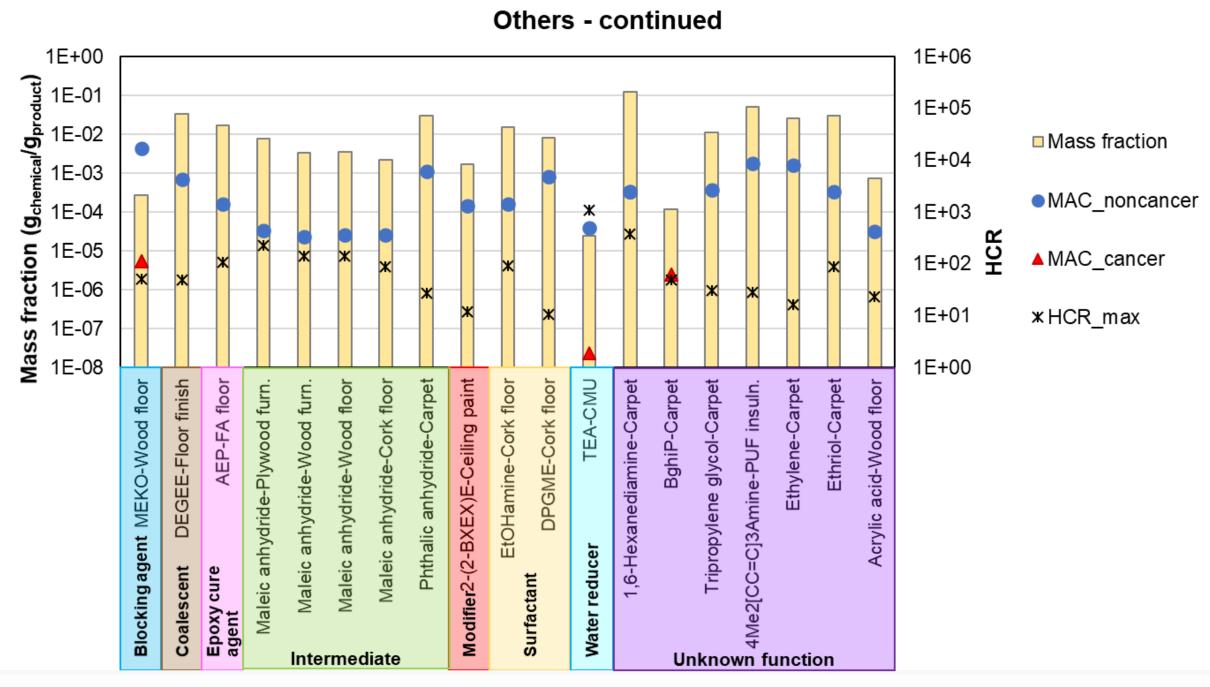


- Only one phthalate plasticizer BBP is identified as CoC.
- Only one flame retardant, tris(1chloro-2propyl)phosphate (TCPP) is identified as CoC.

BHT: Butylated hydroxytoluene. BHA: butylated hydroxyanisole.

TCPP: Tris(1-chloro-2-propyl)phosphate. BBP: Butyl benzyl phthalate.

VA: vinyl acetate.



MEKO: methyl ethyl ketoxime. DEGEE: diethylene glycol monoethyl ether. AEP: Aminoethylpiperazine. Ethriol: 1,1,1-tri(hydroxymethyl)propane.

2-(2-BXEX)E: 2-(2-butoxyethoxy)ethanol. EtOHamine: ethanolamine. DPGME: dipropylene glycol monomethyl ether.

TEA: triethanolamine. BghiP: benzo[g,h,i]perylene.4Me2[CC=C]3Amine: tetramethyldipropylenetriamine.

#### Summary – Building materials interface

- USEtox enables us to assess thousands of chemicals in 100+ different types building materials
- It combines far-field and near-field exposures, accounting for multiple exposure pathways
- Exposure in the near-field environment are usually dominant, but environmental exposures can remain high for persistent and bio-accumulating chemicals
- Enables both a risk and a damage-oriented approach
- The building material interface enables us to easily inputs new products and perform batch mode calculations

USEtox applied to assess chemicals in indoor paints

#### USEtox paint interface – chemical selection

АВ	C	D	E	F		
If you want to modify other cells than the unlocked green cells or navigate freely, please use the "review, unprotect sheet" excel command						
ASSESSMENT OF C	CHEMICAL IN INTERIOR PA	INTS				
	Fill in the green highlighted cells as input data - other data are automatically calculated					
CHEMICAL SELECT	CHEMICAL SELECTION and CONTENT		Data	Comment		
CAS RN			50-00-0	Give the chemical CAS number to se		
Row Number in Substance data			34	Row number in the substance data I		
Chemical name			Formaldehyde	Chemical name		
Chemical mass fraction	in product	[kg <sub>chemical</sub> /kg <sub>product</sub> ]	7.50E-05	This is the mass fraction of the chen		

	A	В	С
182		NAME OF THE OWNER OW	
183		Available chemicals	
184			
185		1002-53-5	DIBUTYLTIN
186		100-37-8	N,N-Diethylethanolamine
187		100-40-3	4-Vinylcyclohexene
188		100-41-4	Ethylbenzene
189		100-42-5	Styrene
190		100-45-8	3-Cyclohexene-1-carbonitrile
191		100-51-6	Benzyl alcohol
192		100-52-7	Benzaldehyde
193		1008-80-6	NAPHTHALENE, DECAHYDRO-2,3-DIMETHYL-
194		100-97-0	Methenamine
195		101-39-3	2-Propenal, 2-methyl-3-phenyl-
196		1014-60-4	BENZENE, 1,3-BIS(1,1-DIMETHYLETHYL)-
197		101-67-7	Benzenamine, 4-octyl-N-(4-octylphenyl)-
198		101-68-8	4,4'-Diphenylmethane diisocyanate

Give the chemical CAS number to select the chemical in the list below (row 184 onwards)

Give the mass fraction of the chemical in the toy

# USEtox paint interface - Product characteristics and usage

PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS	Unit	Data	Comment
Product Mass	kg	4.77E+00	Mass of paint applied
Density	kg/m <sup>3</sup>	1.25E+03	Density of the paint
Product area	m <sup>2</sup>	42	Area that is painted, typically 42 m2 pe
Initial liquid thickness	m	9.09E-05	Liquid thickness when the paint is fres
Material type for Dm	-	Synthetic rubber	Select the paint main matrix, or closes
Material type for Kma	-	Latex and solvent-based paint	Select the paint main matrix, or "gener
Material type for Kmw	-	Generic	Select the paint main matrix, or "gener
Solid fraction of paint	-	0.80	Fraction of mass remaining when pair
Average liquid thickness	m	8.18E-05	Calculated as average between intial t
Solvent system of the paint	-	water	Main solvent of the paint. "dry" means
Solvent chemical CAS RN	-	7732-18-5	CAS number of the main solvent
Viscosity of paint	centipoise	4	Viscosity of the paint, not the pure solv

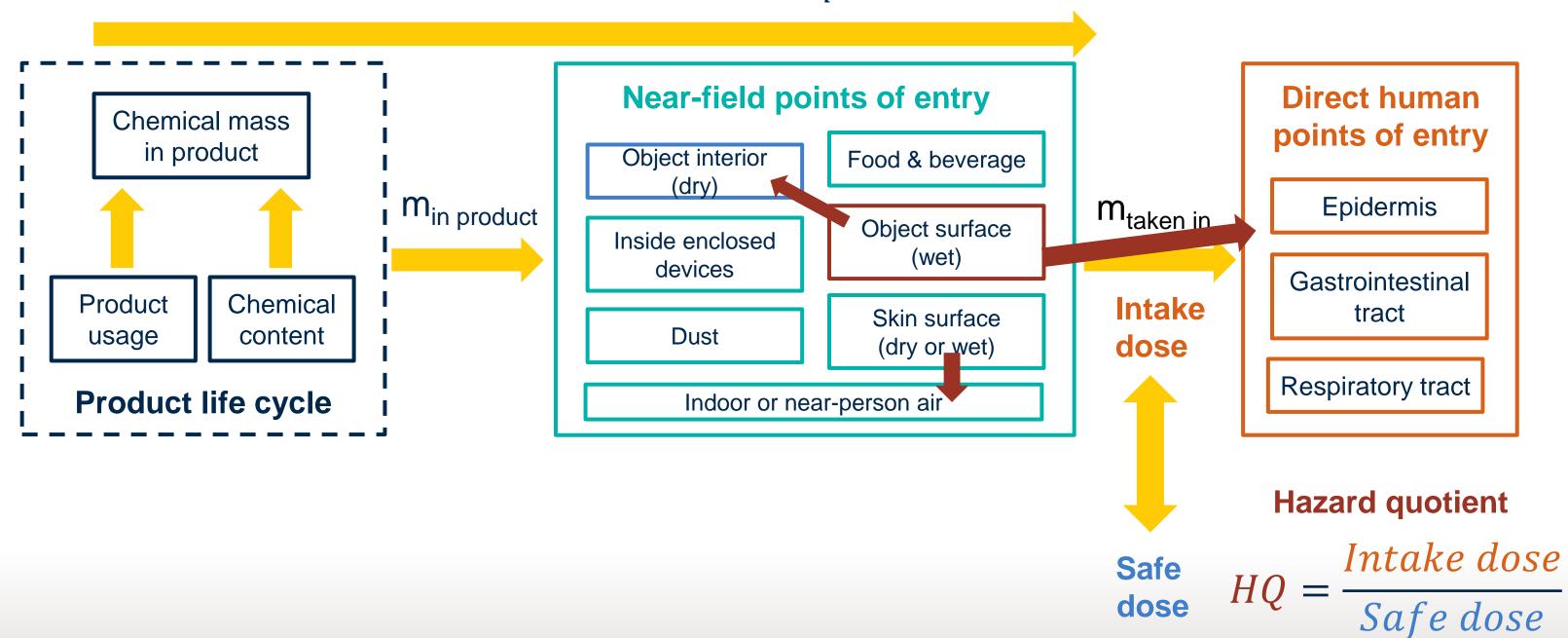
USAGE DATA	Unit	Data	Comment
Use duration of the finished paint	d	1	Exposure, risks and impacts are calculated as average over use duration
Dermal contact area	-	hands one-sided	Select the part of the body in direct contact with the painted area
Dermal contact area_adult	m <sup>2</sup>	4.90E-02	
Dermal contact frequency_adult	min/min	0	Fraction of the day an adult might touch the painted area
Fraction of ingested dust for adults	-	0.00E+00	
Dermal contact area_child	m <sup>2</sup>	1.40E-02	
Dermal contact frequency_child	min/min	0.00E+00	Fraction of the entire day a child might touch the painted area
Fraction of ingested dust for children	-	0.00E+00	
Total time touching different objects, both hands	min/hr	9.91E+01	
Fraction of time at home_adult	-	0.644	Will be used to adjust exposures
Fraction of time at home_child	-	0.772	Will be used to adjust exposures
Relative humidity indoors	%	70	

# USEtox paint interface – Indoor exposure

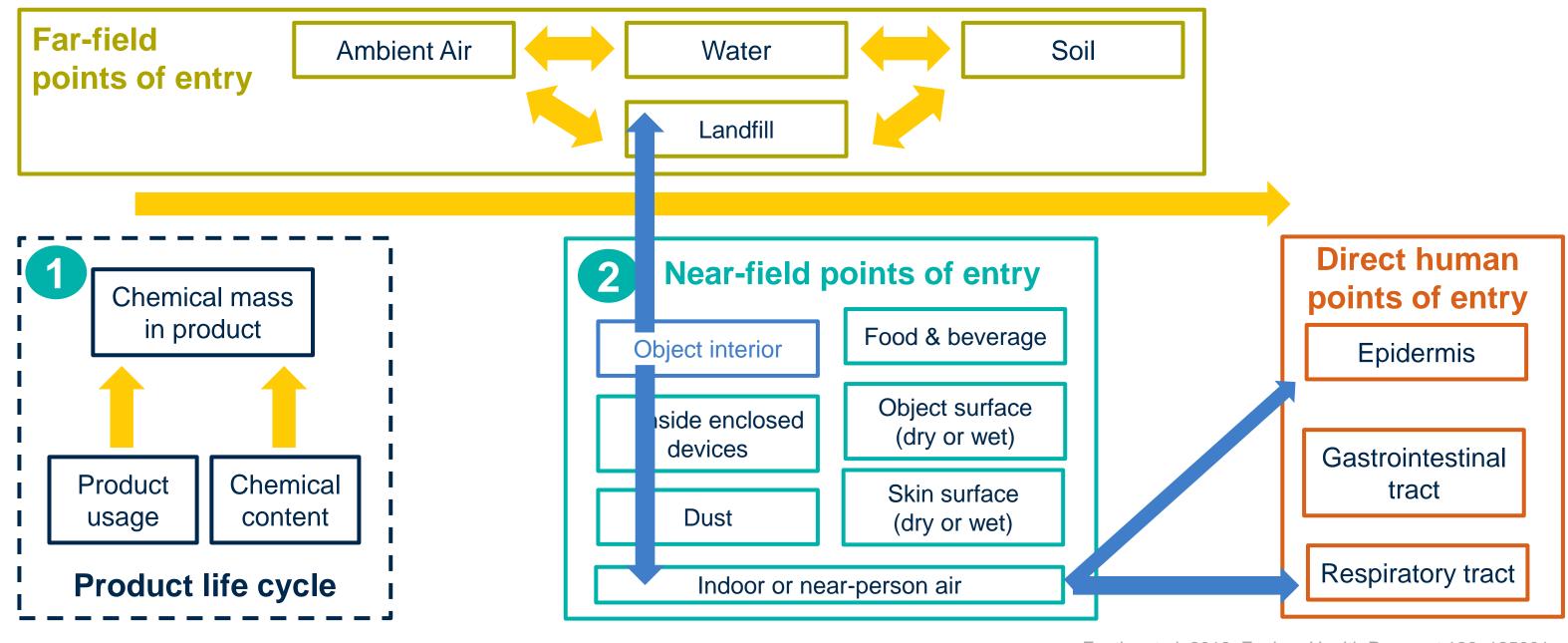
INDOOR EXPOSURE						
HomeName		Non-OECD countries avera	age (airtight building) 2+1 household			
OccupationName		Industry, non-OECD				
User scenario		adult				
Temperature for product use	°C	25	Indoor temperature			

#### Near field consumer exposure to chemicals in wet paint

Product intake fraction:  $PiF = \frac{m_{taken in}}{m_{in product}}$ 



#### Near field bystander exposure to chemicals in dry paint



0.20 kg DEHP/kg toy

0.2 kg toy

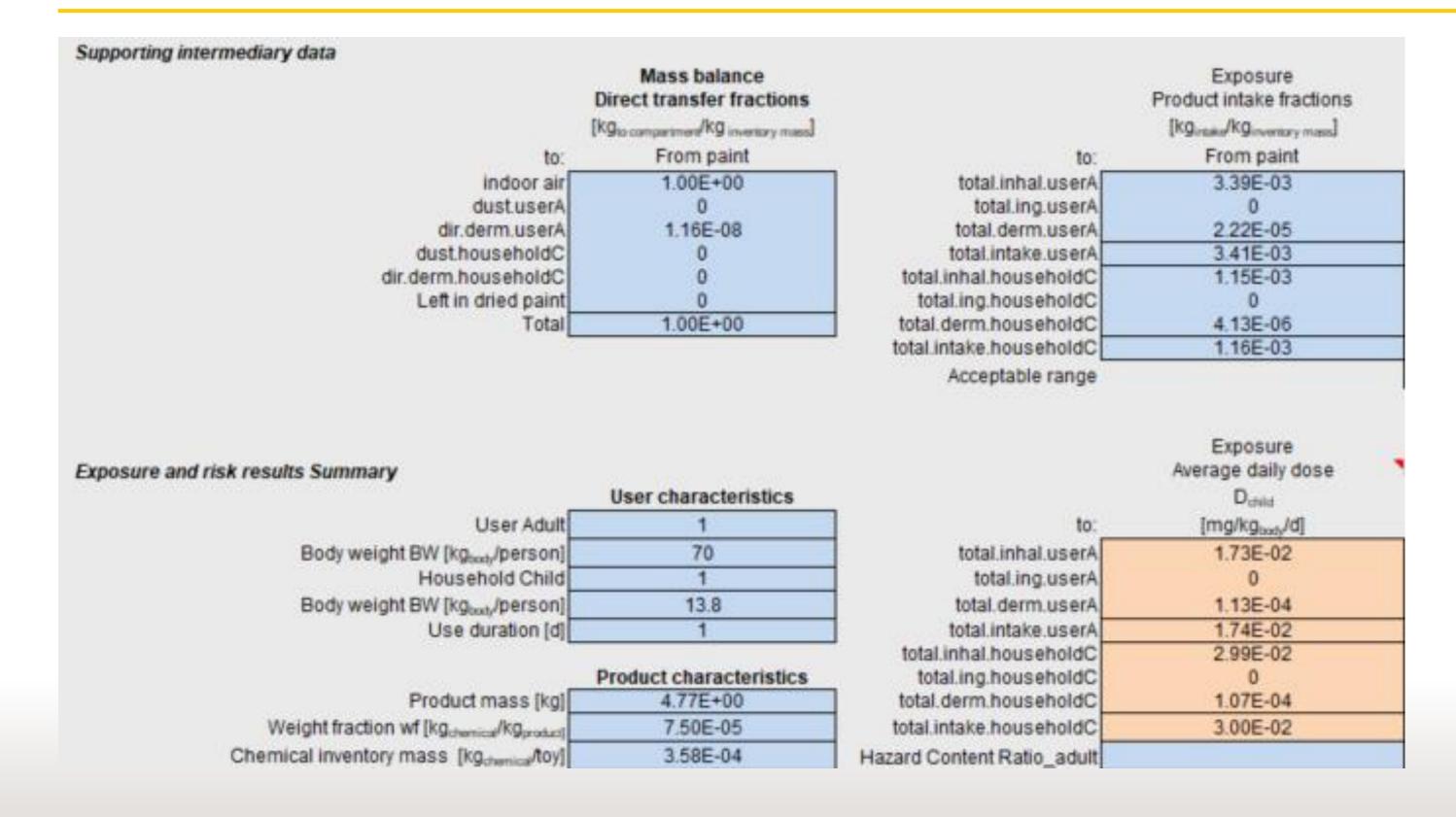
Volatilization 0.19%

- → Inhalation child 0.8 ppm
- → Gaseous dermal 0.08 ppm

Fantke et al. 2018. Environ Health Perspect 126: 125001

$$I_{dust\ ingestion} = PiF_{i,p}^{tot} \cdot m_{i,p}$$
  
= 1.8% · 0.04  $kg$  = 0.00072 kg

#### Results – Product and user characteristics, transfer fractions & exposures



#### Relative risks and maximum chemical content

	Cancer toxicity	Non cancer safe dose		
	Cancer slope factor	Reference Dose	_	
	CSF	RfD	1	
to:	[(mg/kg <sub>body</sub> /d) <sup>-1</sup> ]	[mg/kg <sub>body</sub> /d]		
total.inhal.userA	1.90E+00	2.24E-03		
total.ing.userA	3.68E-03	2.00E-01		
total.derm.userA	3.68E-03	2.00E-01		
total.intake.userA				
total.inhal.householdC	7.60E+00	6.32E-03		
total.ing.householdC	1.47E-02	2.00E-01		
total.derm.householdC	1.47E-02	2.00E-01		
total.intake.householdC	-	-		
Acceptable range	<10 <sup>-4</sup> to 10 <sup>-6</sup>	<1		
	Cancer risk	Non cancer characterization	Hazard Content Ratio	Maximum Chemical Content
	Incremental lifetime risk	Hazard quotient	How many time is wf	Max content not to exceed
			too high to reach target	Cancer Risk and HQ targets
	ILCR	HQ	HCR=wf/MAC MAC	
to:	[-]	[ <del>-</del> ]	_ [-]	[mg <sub>chemical</sub> /mg <sub>product</sub> ]
total.inhal.userA	3.29E-02	7.74E+00		
total.ing.userA	0	0		
total.derm.userA	4.16E-07	5.66E-04		
total.intake.userA	3.29E-02	7.74E+00		
total.inhal.householdC	4.54E-02	4.73E+00		
total.ing.householdC	0	0		
total.derm.householdC	3.15E-07	5.35E-04		
total.intake.householdC	4.54E-02	4.73E+00		
total.intake.householdC Hazard Content Ratio_adult		4.73E+00 7.74E+00	3.29E+04	2.28E-09
	3.29E+04 4.54E+04		3.29E+04 4.54E+04	2.28E-09 1.65E-09

## Chemicals in paints: Cumulative intake and impacts

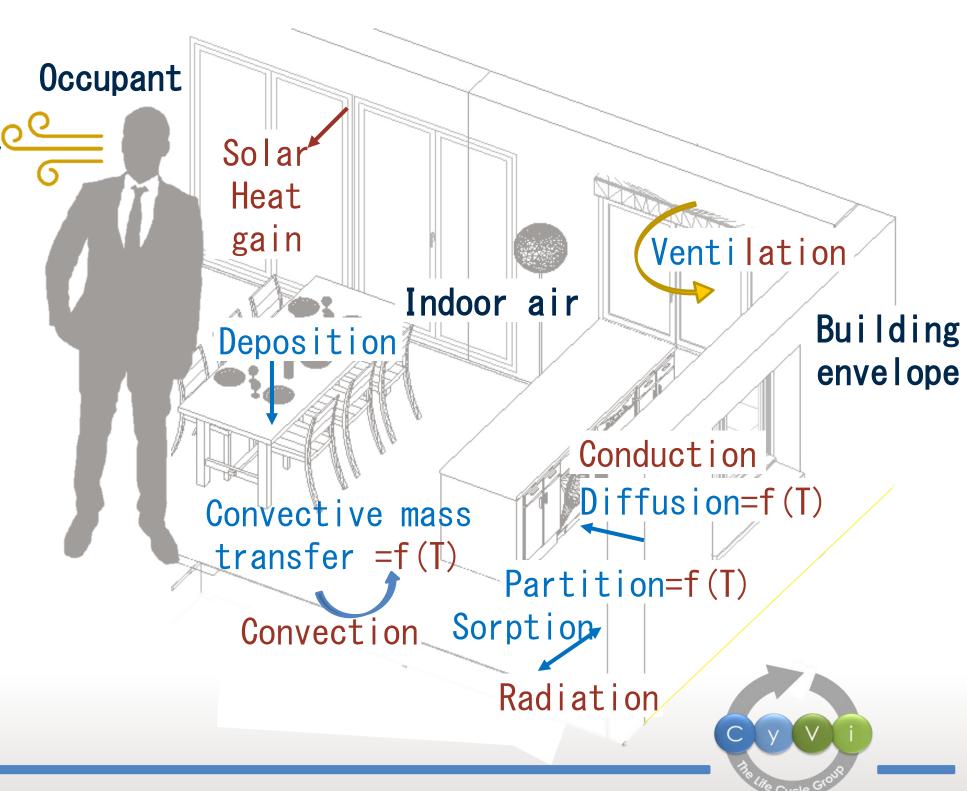
58	Cumulative impact results					
59					_	_
60		Cancer damage	Non cancer damage	Total damage	Damage per person-d	Damage per person-d
61		[DALY/paint application]	[DALY/paint application]	[DALY/paint application]	[µDALY/person-d]	[min. lost/person-d]
62	User adult	1.48E-05	2.79E-08	1.48E-05	1.20E+01	6.32E+00
63	Household adult	9.05E-06	1.71E-08	9.06E-06	7.35E+00	3.87E+00
64	Household child	5.03E-06	9.46E-09	5.04E-06	4.09E+00	2.15E+00
65	Population	7.50E-08	1.42E-10	7.52E-08	6.11E-11	3.21E-11
66	Total	5.11E-06	9.61E-09	5.12E-06	-	-
67						

#### MATERIAL & METHOD: Modelling energy and mass conservation

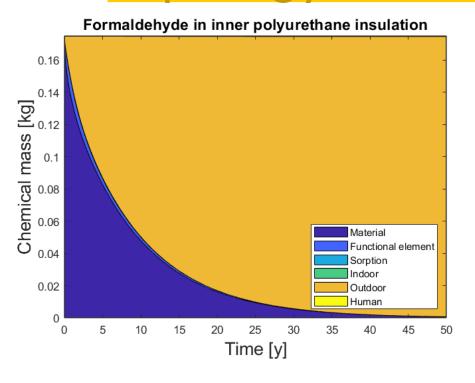
System of 2N coupled ordinary differential equations, with N the number of nodes in the building envelope

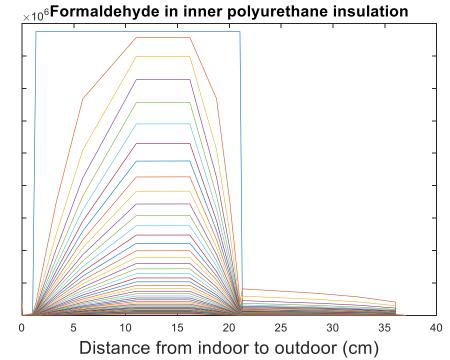
$$\begin{bmatrix} \overline{dt} \\ \cdots \\ \overline{dT_i} \\ \overline{dt} \end{bmatrix} = A_S \begin{bmatrix} C_i \\ T_i \end{bmatrix} + B_S$$

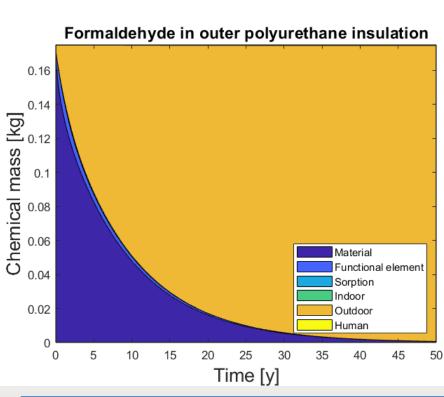
$$\begin{bmatrix} Mass \\ transfer \end{bmatrix}$$
Heat
$$\begin{bmatrix} 250 \\ 300 \\ 350 \end{bmatrix}$$

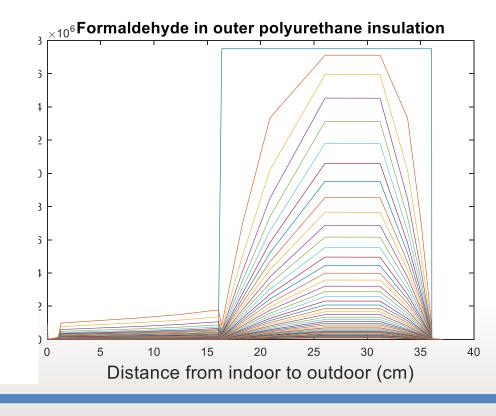


# RESULTS: WHAT MATTERS FOR INDOOR EXPOSURE? Surprisingly, not the position of the insulation inner/outer for VOCs









# 100% emitted after 50years for every insulation system

#### **Inner insulation:**

PiF = 0.20%

Human health damage= 0.0041 DAL

#### **Outer insulation:**

PiF = 0.20%

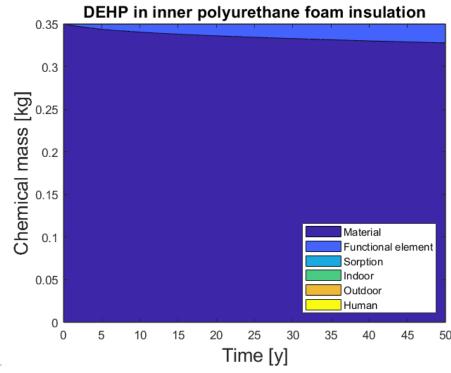
Human health damage= 0.0041 DAL\

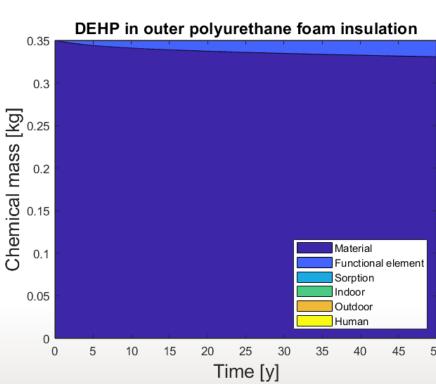
#### Outer insulation, 30cm-concrete:

PiF = 0.20%

Human health damage= 0.0041 DALY

#### RESULTS: WHAT MATTERS FOR INDOOR EXPOSURE? Large influence of insulation position for SVOCs such as DEHP!





#### **Inner insulation:**

 $PiF = 3.86e^{-7} kg_{intake}/kg_{initial}$ 

Human health damage= 8.8e<sup>-7</sup> DALY

0.01%, 0.04% and 0.04% emitted after 50 years for inner and outer insulation respectively

 $^{50}$  PiF = 9.91e<sup>-10</sup> kg<sub>intake</sub>/kg<sub>initial</sub>

Outer insulation:

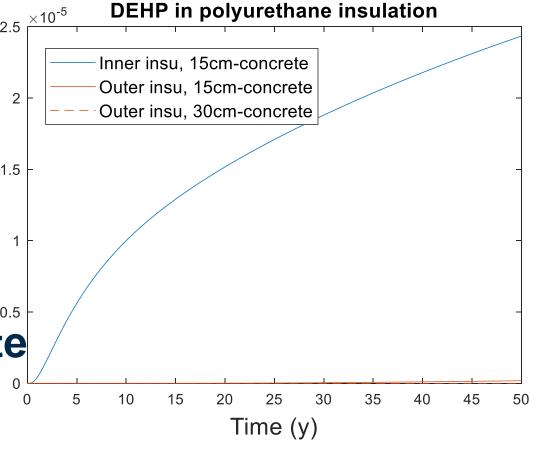
PiF = 9.91e<sup>-10</sup> kg<sub>intake</sub>/kg<sub>initial</sub>

Human health damage= 1.3e<sup>-9</sup> DALY

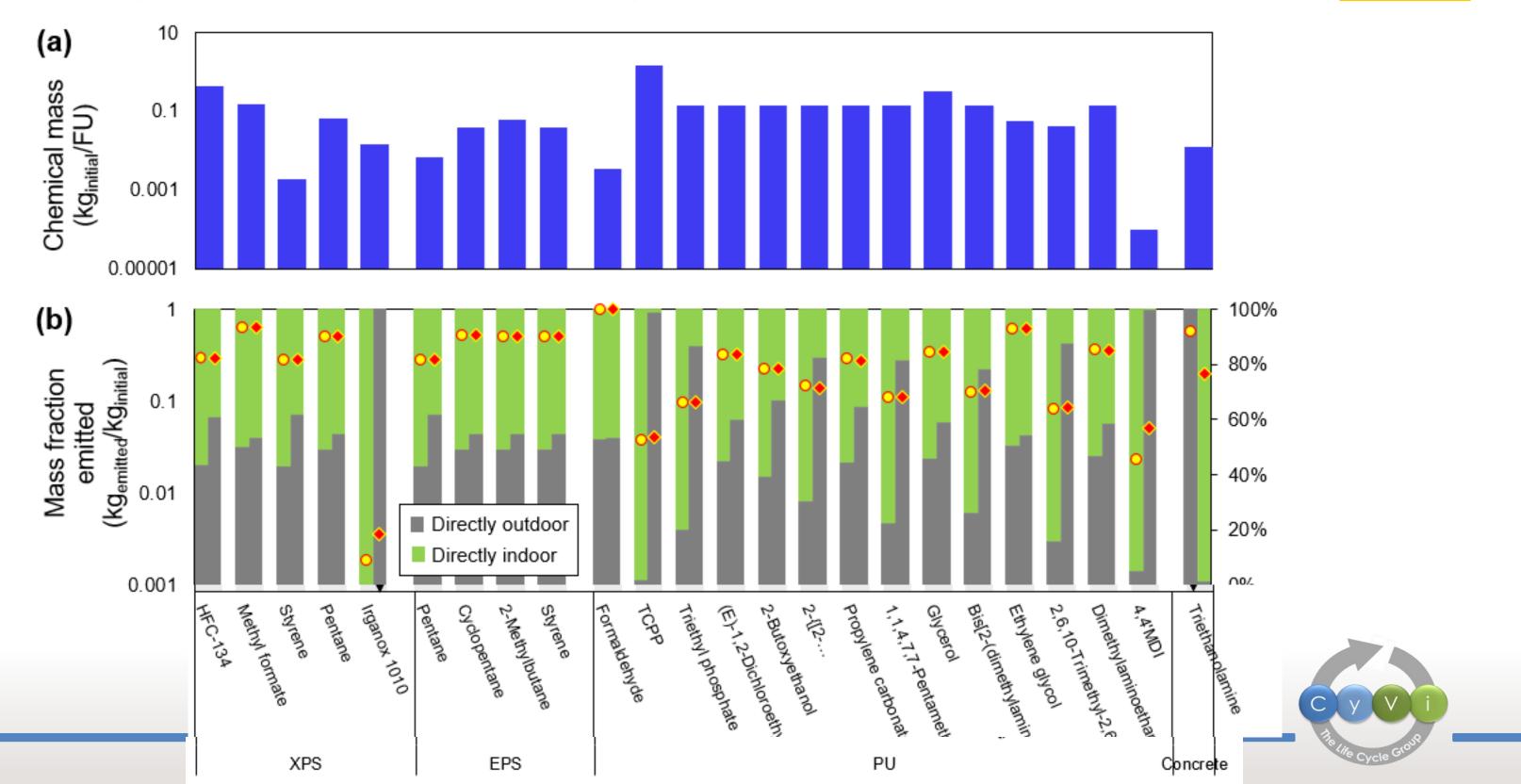
Outer insulation with 30cm-concrete

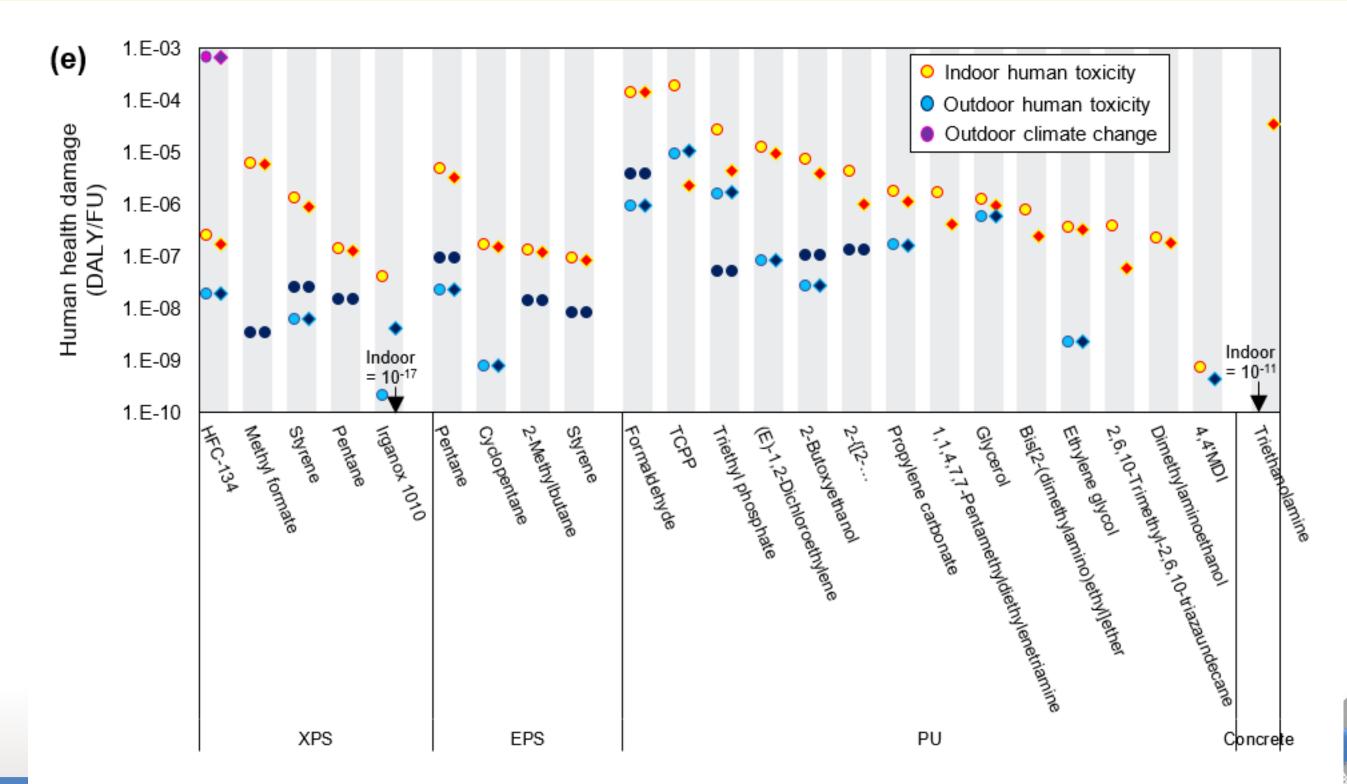
 $PiF = 9.40e^{-12} kg_{initial}$ 

Human health damage= 7.0e<sup>-14</sup> DALY



(a) Initial chemicals mass/m2 of three insulations and mass fraction emitted directly indoor (green) and directly outdoor (grey) for inner (circle) & outer (diamond) insulation







Human health damage over the complete life cycle for 1 m2 of the inner (a) and outer (b) insulation thickness and of the air renewal rate without (c) and with (d) heat

