



Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro



# New Challenge in Drug Discovery

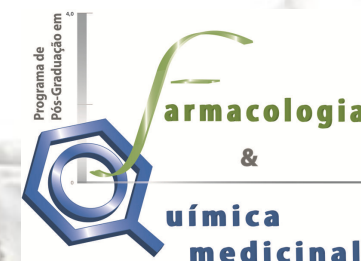


## Eliezer J. Barreiro

Professor

Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

Laboratório de Avaliação e Síntese de Substâncias Bioativas



Instituto Nacional de Ciência e Tecnologia em Fármacos e Medicamentos  
INCT-INOFAR

Projeto CNPq nº 573.564/2008-6 «» FAPERJ nº E-26/170.020/2008



med  
chemical  
chemistry

# Summary

## ➔ Introduction

- ➔ The Fischer-Ehrlich paradigm of *MedChem*: 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - ➔ The present *MedChem* paradigm of drug discovery: 21<sup>th</sup> century
- ➔ The multitarget contemporary challenge

## ➔ *Rational Design of New Dual Lead-candidates:*

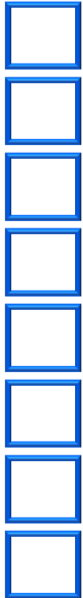
The design & discovery of LASSBio-468

LASSBio-596, LASSBio-1349

Novel dual antiinflammatory lead-compound

➔ Acknowledgements





**Emil Fischer**

1852-1919

**1902**



**1908**

**Paul Ehrlich**

1854-1915



# The Fischer-Ehrlich paradigm

**LOCK & KEY**

**CONCEPT**



1900

... postulated the existence of specific receptors, associated with cells or distributed in the blood

K Strebhardt & A Ullrich, Paul Ehrlich magic bullet concept: 100 years of progress, *Nature Rev. Cancer* **2008**, 8, 473

**One-molecule,  
one-target**

bioreceptor

macromolecule

Structure-based DD

**Rational Drug Design  
(20<sup>th</sup> century)**

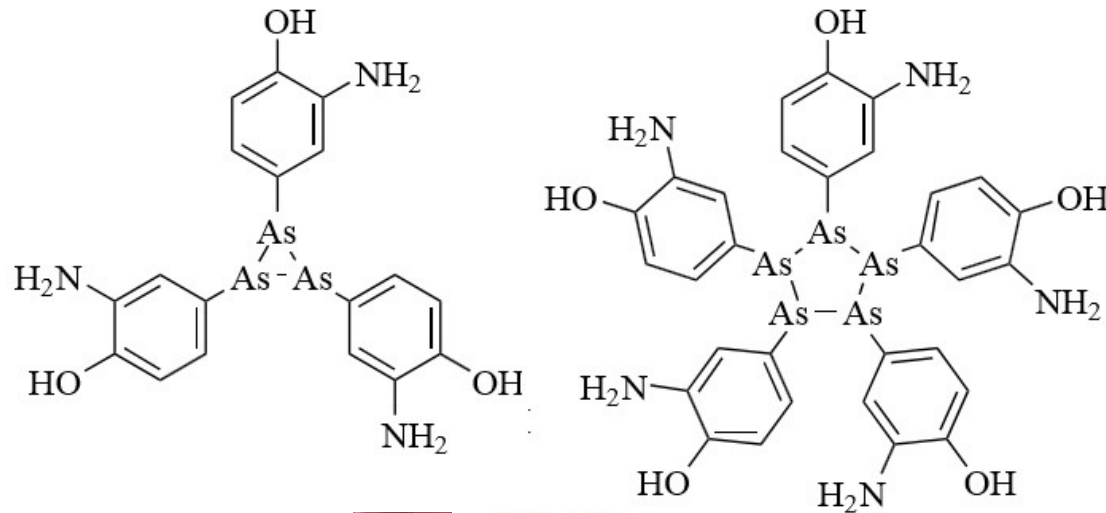
Drug

Small molecule

Ligand-based DD

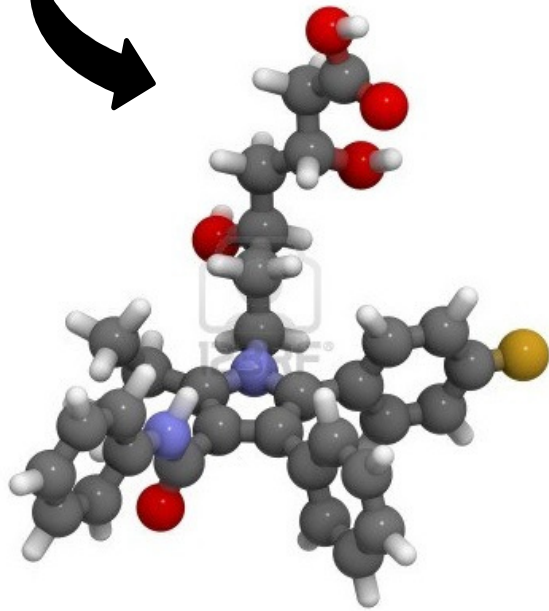
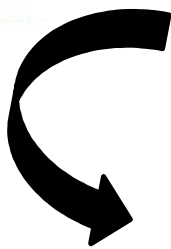


# Drug Innovation during 20<sup>th</sup> Century

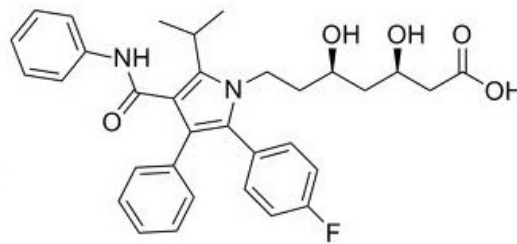


Salvarsan  
1909  
Ehrlich & Hata

NC Lloyd et al., *The composition of Ehrlich's salvarsan: resolution of a century-old debate*, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **2005**, 44, 941.



Atorvastatina  
1991  
B Roth



**Innovation**

1910 – Introduced  
1912 – the leading drug  
Arsenic-containing drug  
~1.5 year

**translational**



~100y

**translational**

Top-seiling drug of all time  
1991–2011 - patent  
Total world sales: US\$ 140bi  
~8-10 year

**Innovation**



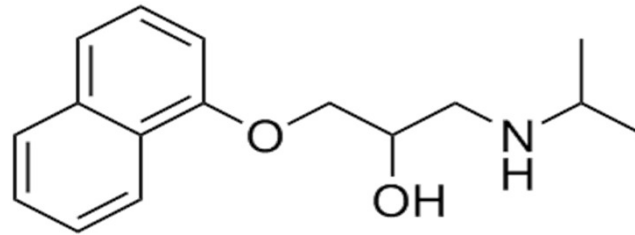
# Drug Innovation during 20<sup>th</sup> Century

1964

propranolol  
cimetidine  
captopril  
omeprazole

paclitaxel  
lovastatin  
penicillin

1942



Mono-target



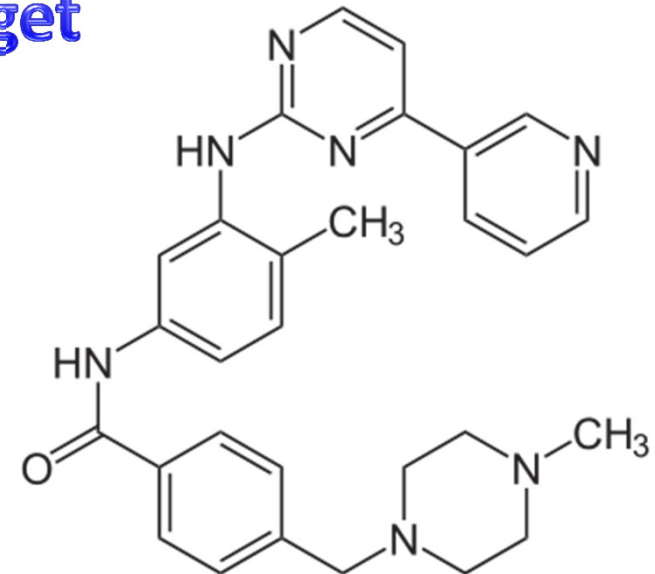
Multi-target

**Therapeutic innovations**



2001

imatinib





# New Insights for Multifactorial Disease Therapy: The Challenge of the Symbiotic Drugs

Eliezer J. Barreiro and Carlos Alberto Manssour Fraga



Laboratório de Avaliação e Síntese de Substâncias Bioativas (LASSB) Carlos A. M. Fraga de Farmácia, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, P.O. Box 68023, 21944-971, Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil.



**Abstract:** Some physiopathological processes involved in the genesis of diseases could suggest the necessity of designing bioligands or prototypes that aggregate, in only one molecule, dual pharmacodynamical properties, becoming able to be recognized by two elected bioreceptors. This approach can have distinct aspects and, when a novel ligand or a prototype acts in two elected targets belonging to the same biochemical pathway, e.g. arachidonic acid cascade, it receives the denomination of dual or mix agent. On the other hand, if these two targets belong to distinct biochemical routes and both are related to the same disease, we can characterize the agents able to modulate it as symbiotic ligands or prototypes. In the present work, we provide some examples and applications of the molecular hybridization concept for the structural design of new symbiotic ligands and prototypes, especially those applied in the treatment of chronic-degenerative disorders.



**Key Words:** Symbiotic drugs; molecular hybridization; multifactorial diseases; therapeutic innovation; drug design; dual compounds.



& "WHO has recently recognized that noncommunicable diseases such as cardiovascular, diabetes, cancer, respiratory and neurological disorders are now also a great emerging epidemic among the poor"

& AB Reitz, Future horizons in drug discovery research, *ACS Med. Chem. Lett.* **2012**, 3, 80

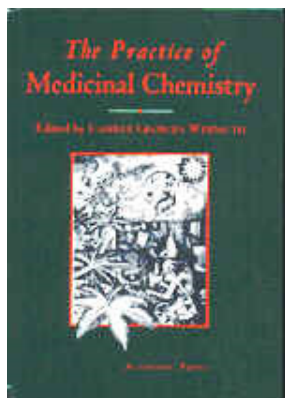
JL Medina-Franco, MA Giulianotti, GS Welmaker, RA Houghten, Shifting from the single to the multitarget paradigm in drug discovery, *Drug Discov Today* **2013**, 18, 495; S Reardon, A world of chronic disease, *Science* **2011**, 333, 558.





## The modern MedChem paradigm

“ ... the preparation of dual- or multiple-ligands on an almost rational basis is now conceivable and it can be expected that many of these molecules will yield drugs of superior clinical value compared with monotarget formulations”



**Camille G. Wermuth**

*Drug Discov. Today* 2004, **9**, 826





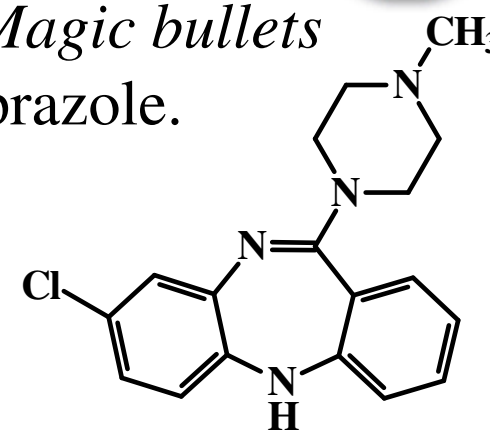
# medicinal chemistry



## • One-target-one-ligand: the 20<sup>th</sup> century paradigm

One-ligand / one-disease – *Lock & Key & Magic bullets*  
*e.g.* propranolol, cimetidine, captopril, omeprazole.

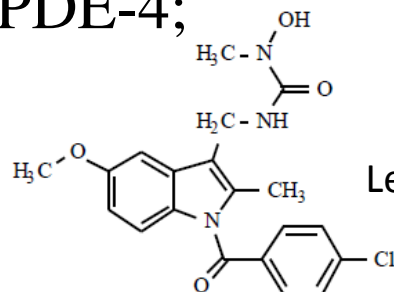
Clozapine, an “*atypical*” neuroleptic drug has affinity for the D<sub>4</sub> central receptor & D<sub>2</sub>, D<sub>3</sub>, 5-HT<sub>2A</sub>, 5-HT<sub>3</sub>, α<sub>1</sub> and 2 - is an exception considered as “*promiscuous*” drug.



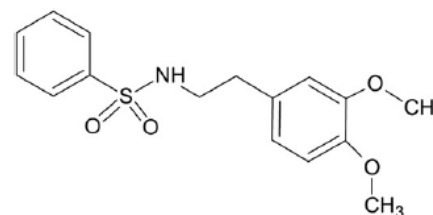
## • Ligands for multi-target: the 21<sup>th</sup> paradigm

Clozapine

Dual, binary, dimeric, bivalent, symbiotic = multi ligands:  
 5-LOX/COX-2 ; TXS/TP<sub>ant</sub>; COX-1/LTA<sub>4</sub> hydrolase;  
 5-HT<sub>1A</sub>R<sub>ant</sub>/SSRI; TP<sub>ant</sub>/IP<sub>ag</sub>; SSRI/PDE-4; PDE-3/PDE-4  
 TNFα/PDE-4;



Leval, 2002

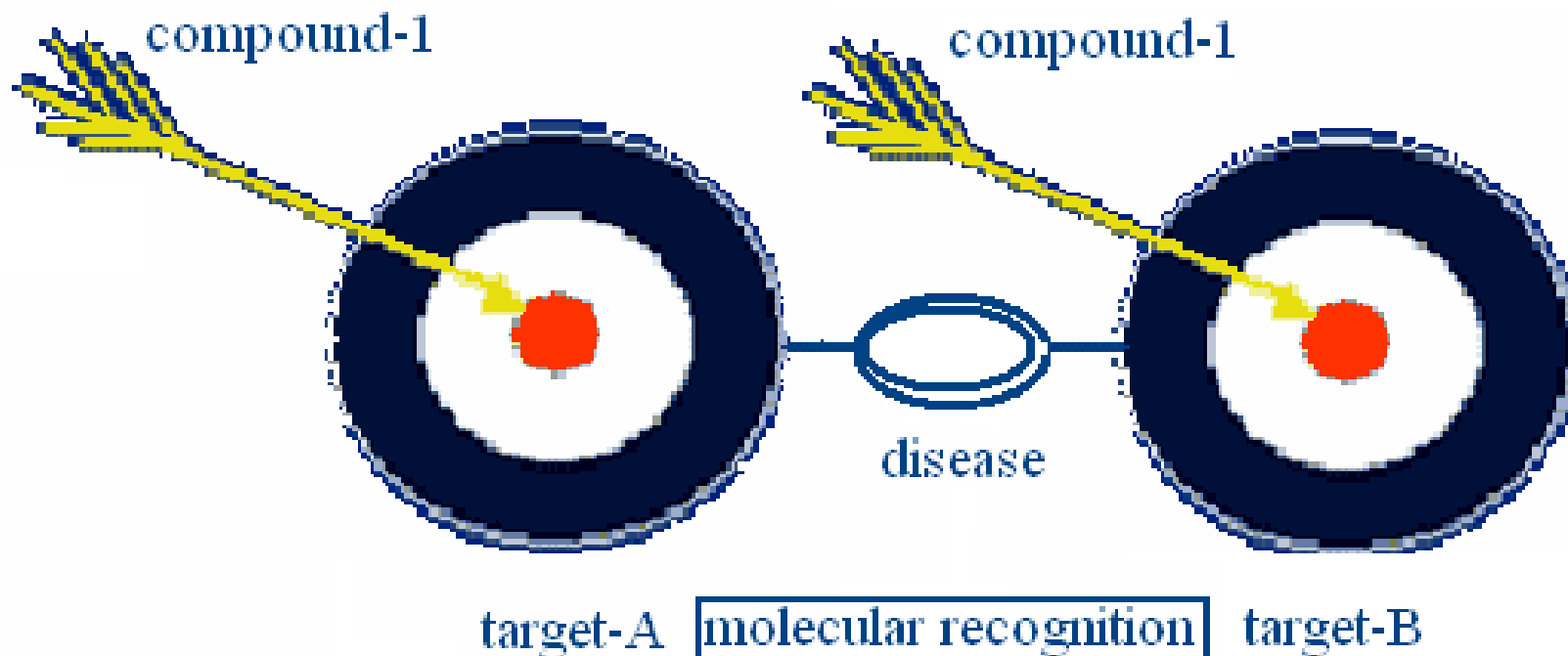


Zapata-Sudo, 2012





# The symbiotic lead-candidate design

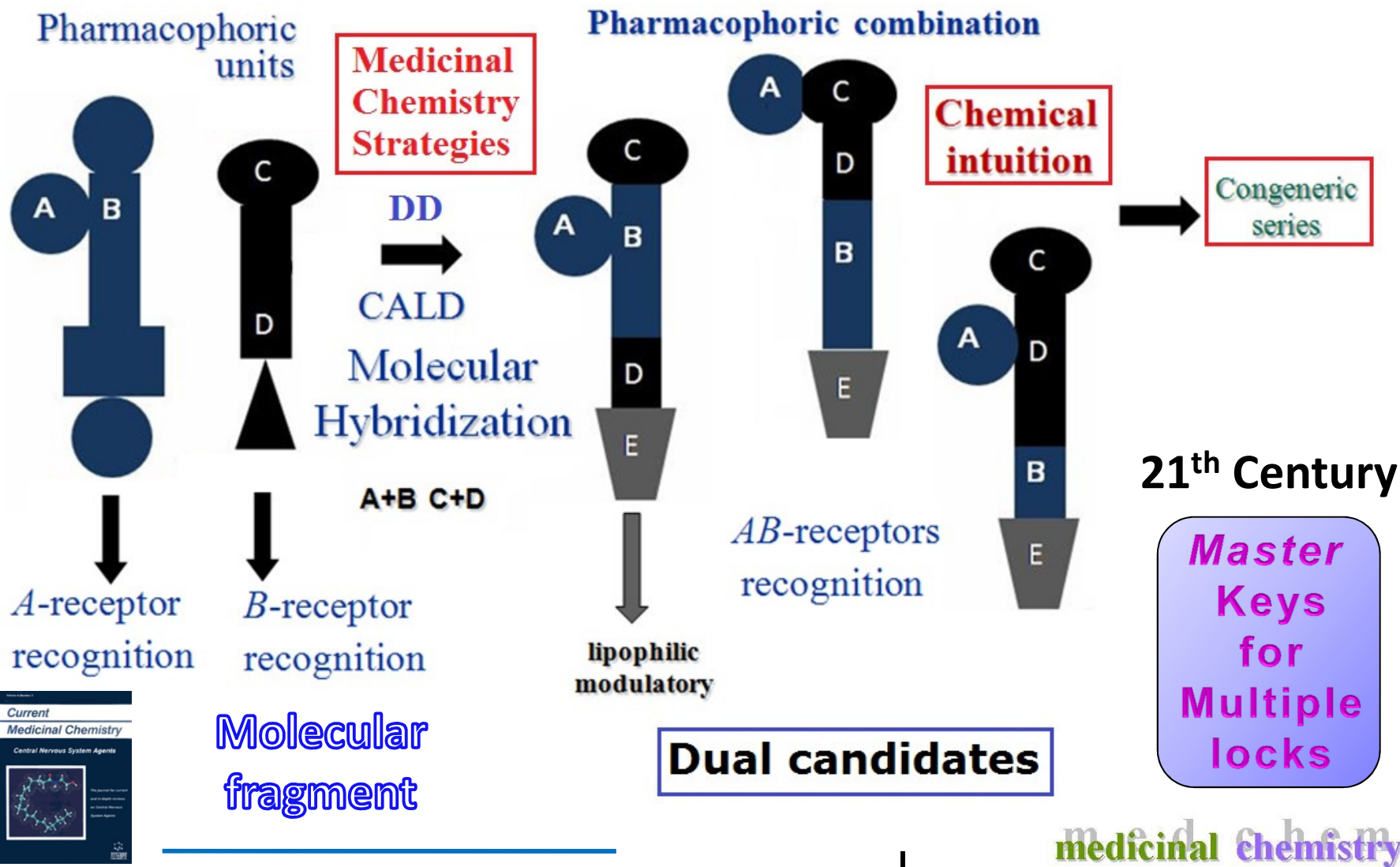


The symbiotic approach is concerned to a new lead-compound with multiple-target recognition pattern, where the receptors are involved with a complex disease pathology, but belonging to different biochemical pathways. A dual agent with this profile can be structurally designed by combining molecular pharmacophoric fragments for each target.





# The rational-based dual ligand design



C Viegas-Jr, A Danuello, VS Bolzani, EJ Barreiro, CAM Fraga, *Molecular Hybridization: A useful tool in the design of new drug prototypes*, *Curr Med Chem* **2007**, 14, 1829

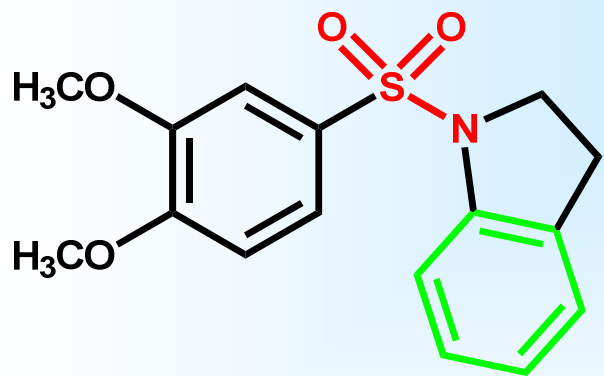
G Nicola et al., *Public domain databases for medicinal chemistry*, *J Med Chem* **2012**, 55, 6987



Rational Design of New Symbiotic Lead-candidates:

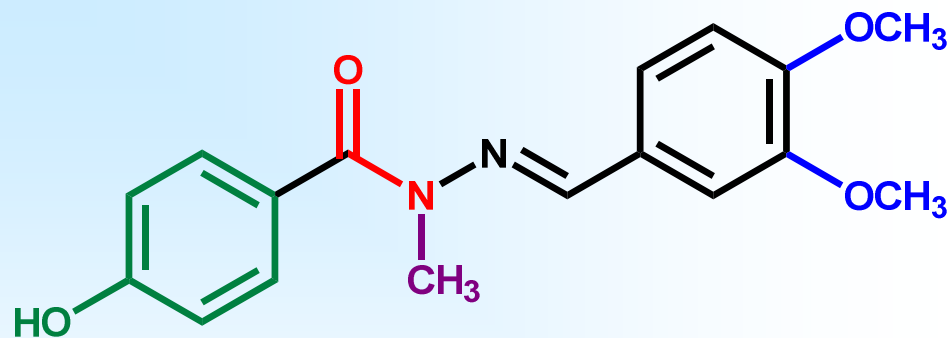
# The discovery of LASSBio-468, 596 & 1349 as novel dual antiinflammatory drug candidates

sulfonamide



Montana, 1998

LASSBio-1349

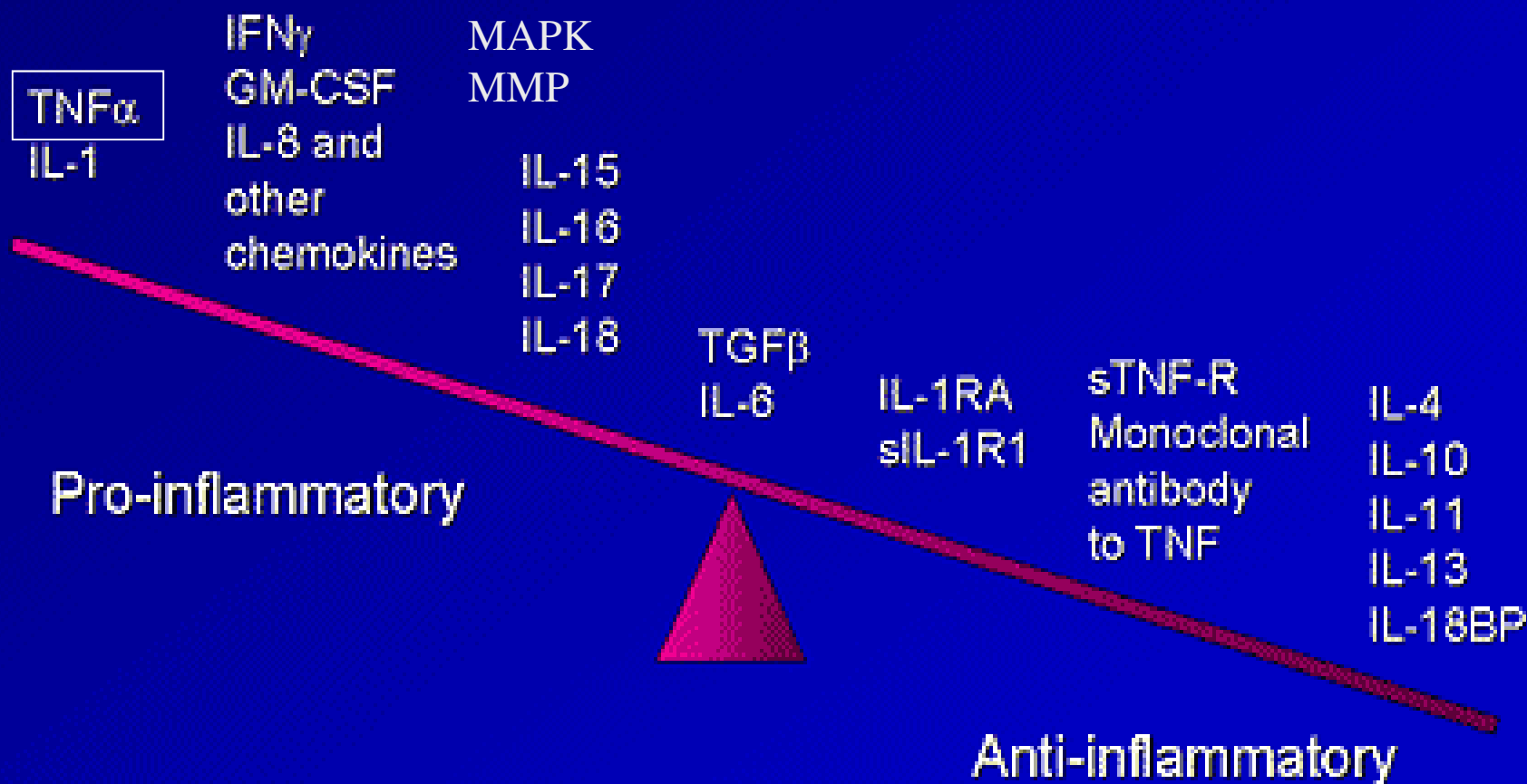


*N*-methyl-*N*-acylhydrazone





# Role of Cytokines and Cytokine Inhibitors in Chronic Inflammation

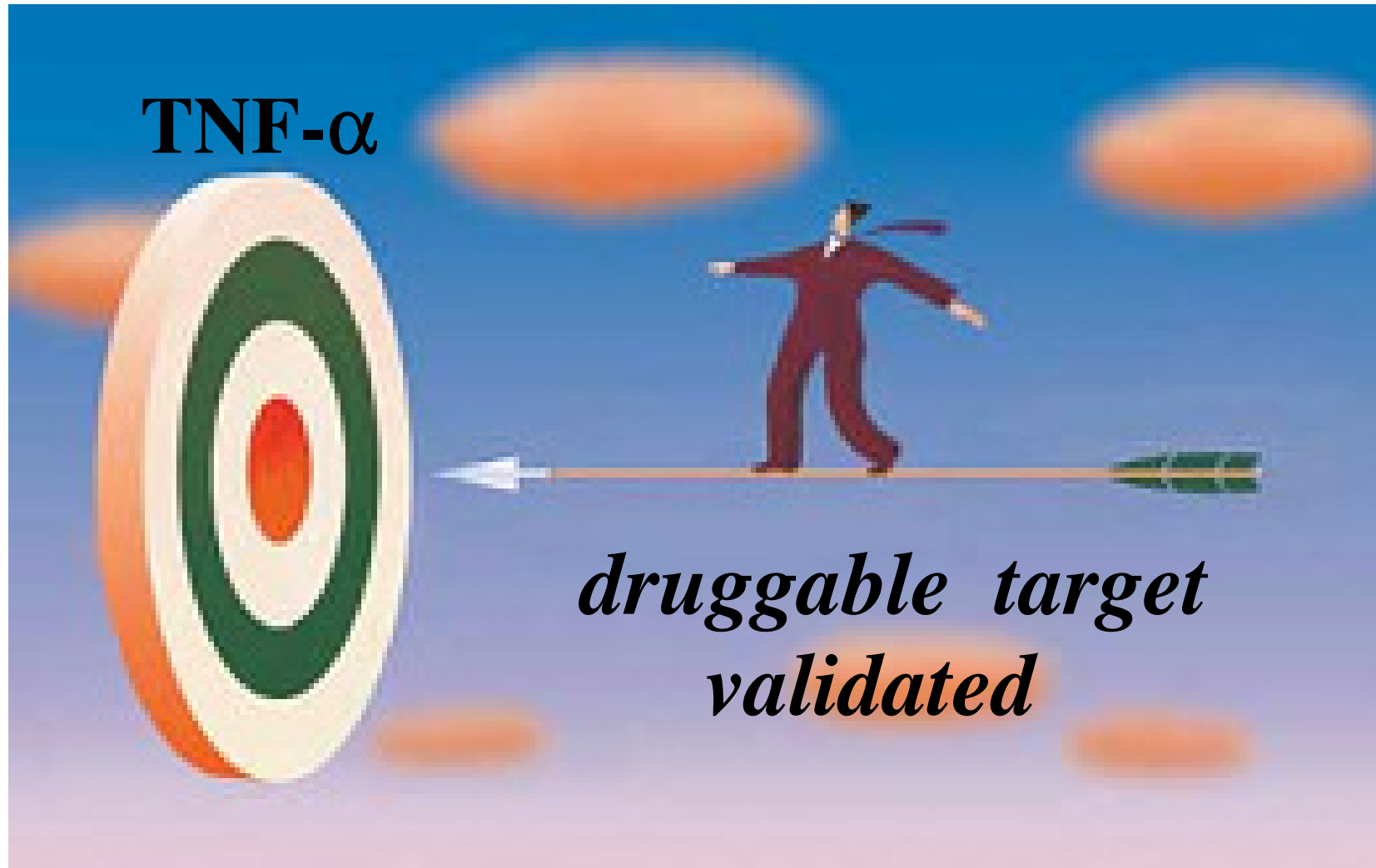


Arend. Arthritis Rheum 2001.

\* TNF- $\alpha$  = Tumor necrosis factor-alpha



# The Target Election: TNF- $\alpha$



**TNF- $\alpha$  is a cytokine that appears rapidly in response to inflammatory injury**

---

PC Taylor, Pharmacology of TNF blockade in RA and other chronic inflammatory diseases, *Curr. Op. Pharmacol.* **2010**, *10*, 308; MLC Barbosa et al., Therapeutic approaches for tumor necrosis factor inhibition, *Braz. J. Pharm. Sci.* **2011**, *47*, 427.



# Anti-TNF $\alpha$ Therapies

*Protein-based anti-TNF-alpha Therapies in Clinical Use\**

Drug	Status	Biological Form
Etanercept	approved	soluble TNFR2 coupled to Fc portion of IgG
Infliximab	approved	chimeric anti-human TNF antibody
Adalimumab	approved	anti-human TNF antibody
ISIS 104838	clinical	TNF anti-sense
Onercept	clinical	soluble p55 TNFR
Humicade	clinical	anti-TNF humanised IgG4

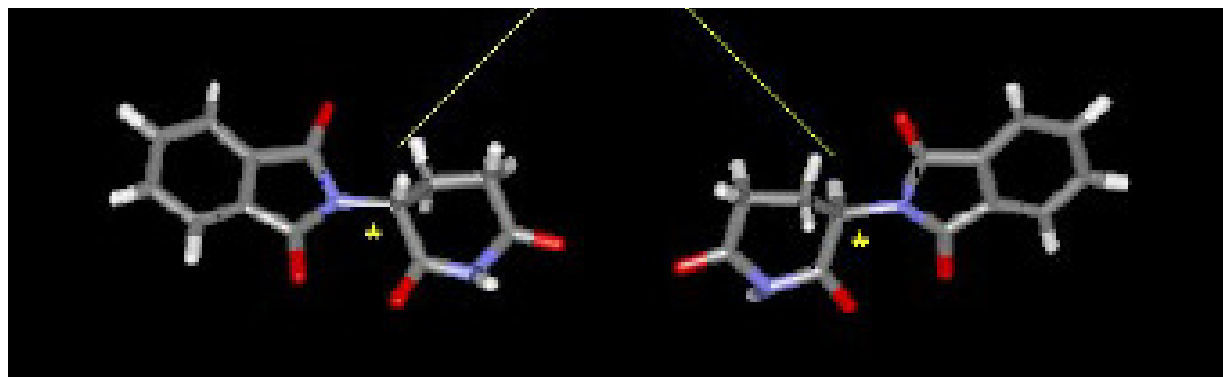
PC Taylor, Pharmacology of TNF blockade in rheumatoid arthritis and other chronic inflammatory diseases, *Curr. Op. Pharmacol.* **2010**, 10, 308

\* protein-based injectable anti-TNF $\alpha$  therapies



# The first pharmacophoric identity

2-(2,6-Dioxo-3-piperidiny)-1*H*-isoindole-1,3(2*H*)-dione

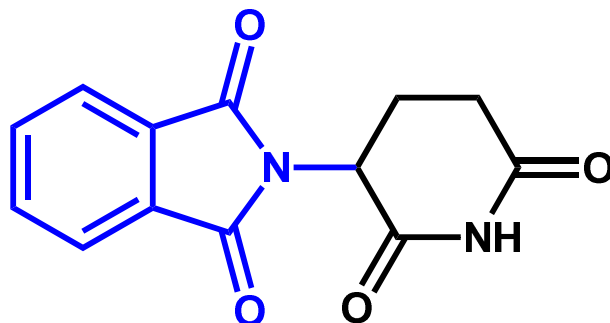


Wilhelm Kunz, 1953  
Herbert Keller, 1953  
CNS, 1957  
Frances Kelsey, 1961  
Gilla Kaplan, 1991 (TNF- $\alpha$ )  
Elisabeth Sampaio, 1997

## Thalidomide

Anti-TNF

TNF- $\alpha$  IC<sub>50</sub> = 200  $\mu$ M



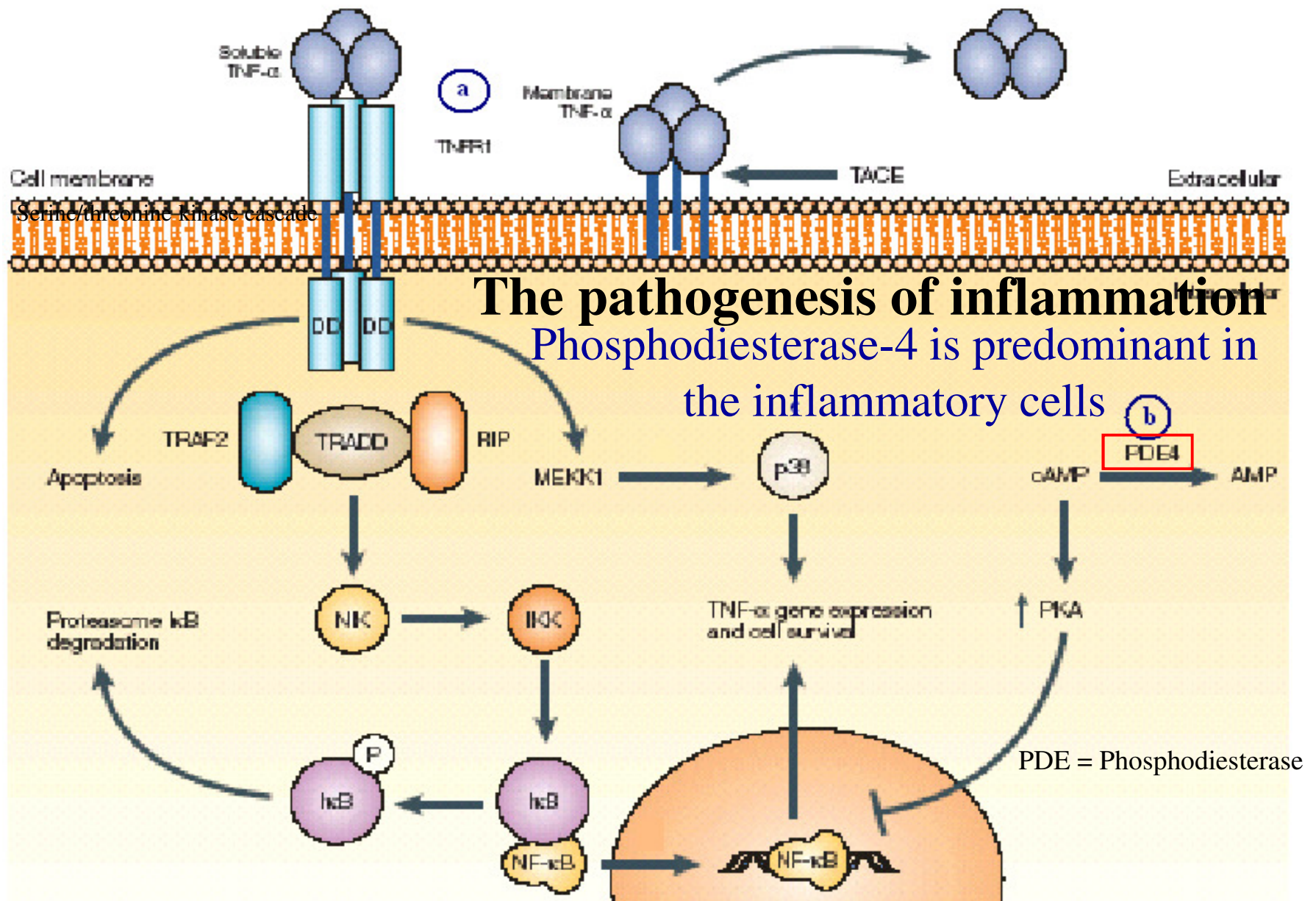
medicinal chemistry

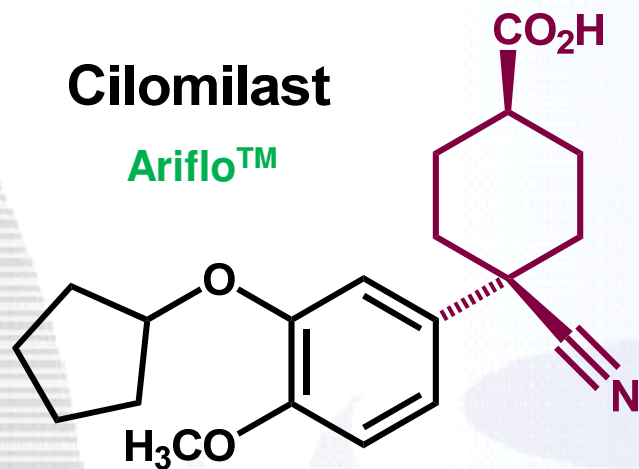




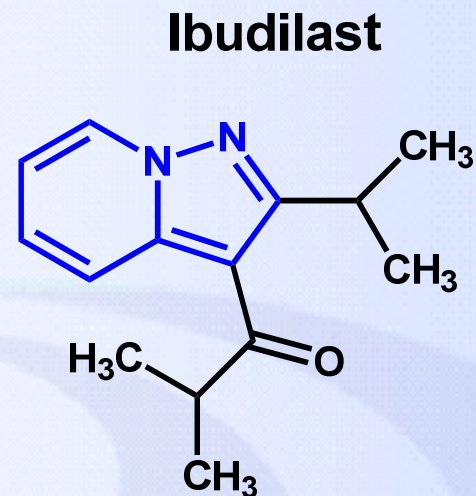


# Second Target Election: PDE

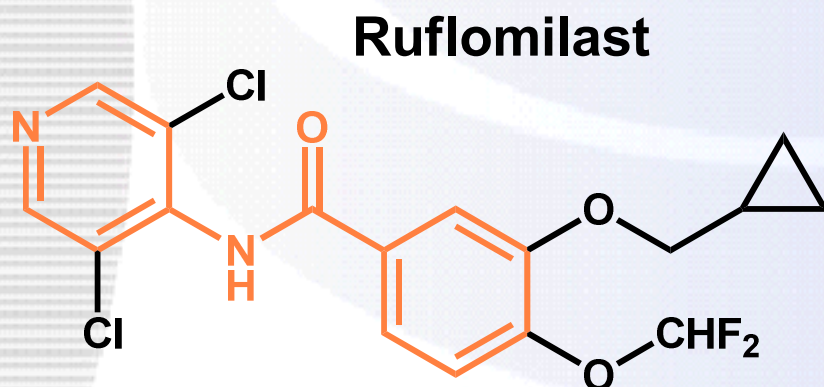




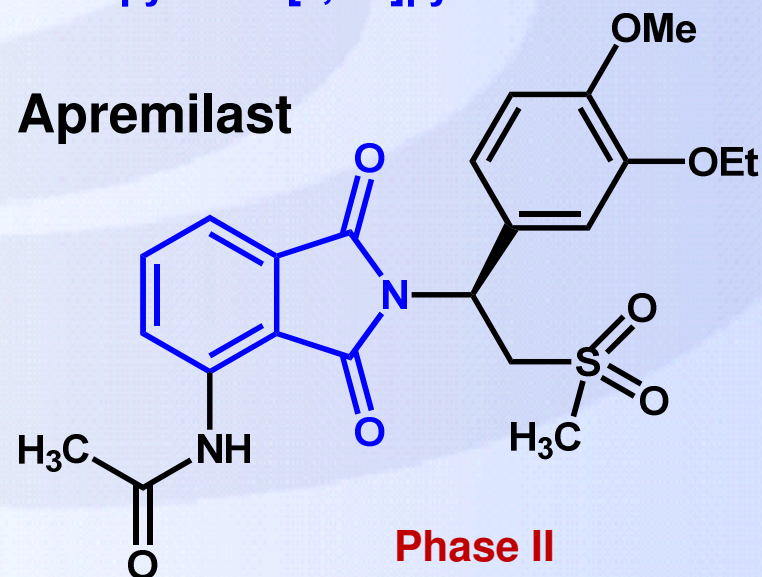
4-cyano-cyclohexyl carboxylic acid



pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyridine



pyridine-benzamide

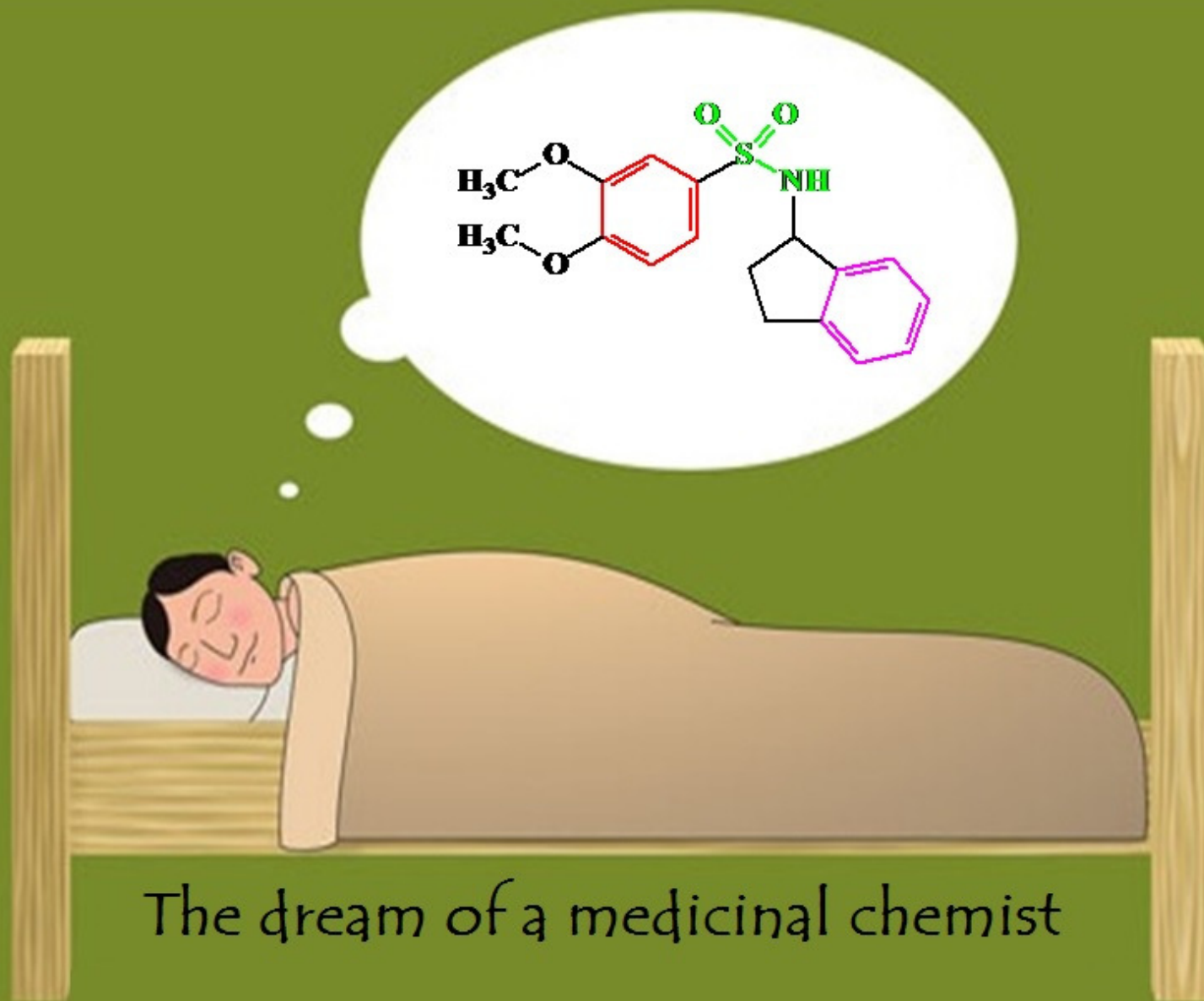


Phase II

Recent advances on phosphodiesterase-4 inhibitors for the treatment of asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease

A. Kodimuthali, S. S. L. Jabarlis, M. Pal

*J. Med. Chem.* **2008**, 51, 5471

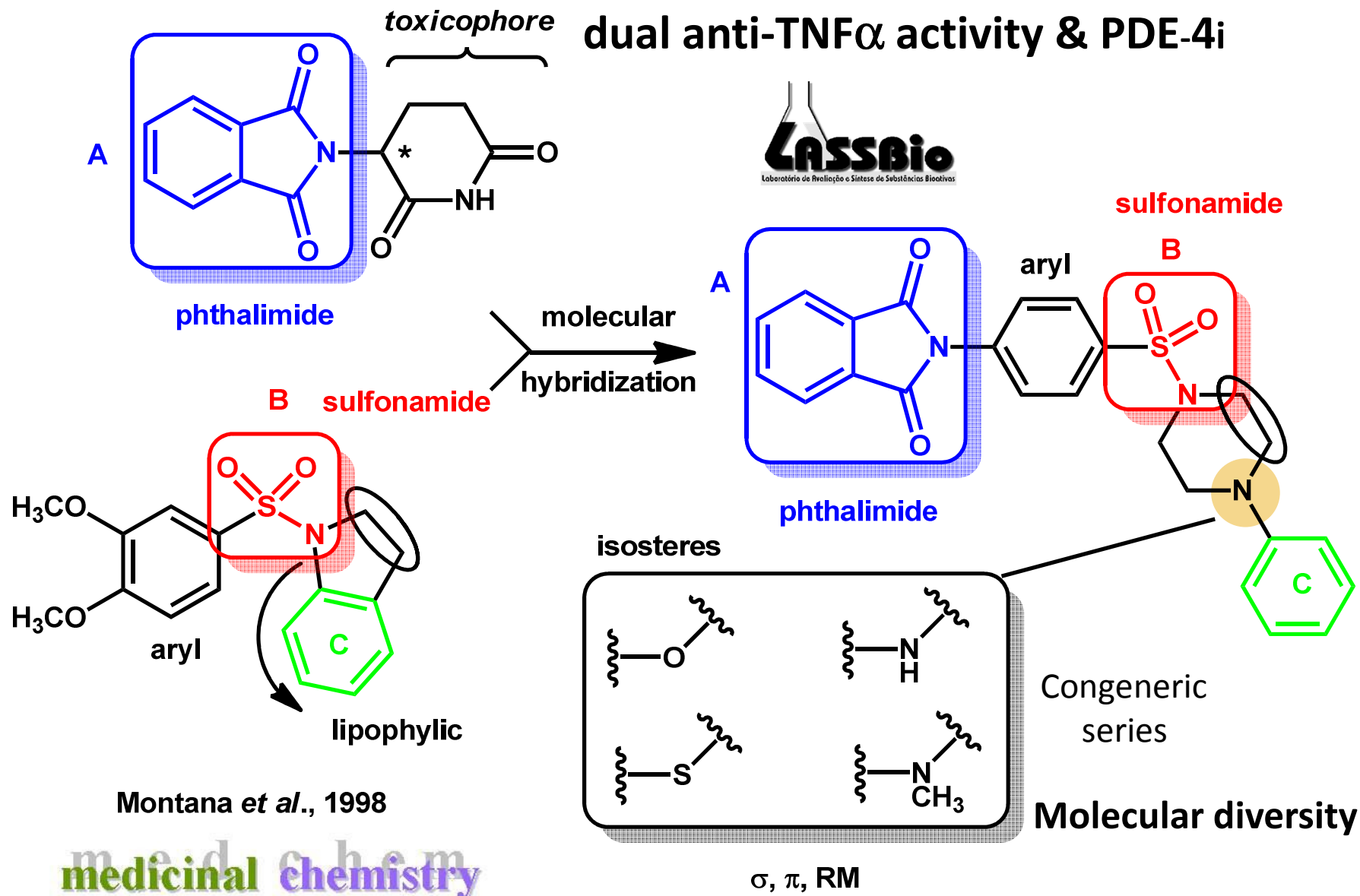


The dream of a medicinal chemist



# Drug Design

## The molecular design of new agent with dual anti-TNF $\alpha$ activity & PDE-4i



sulfonamide

B

aryl

phthalimide

isosteres

Congeneric series

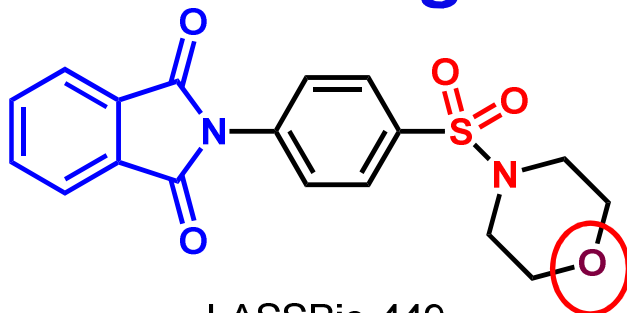
Molecular diversity

$\sigma$ ,  $\pi$ , RM

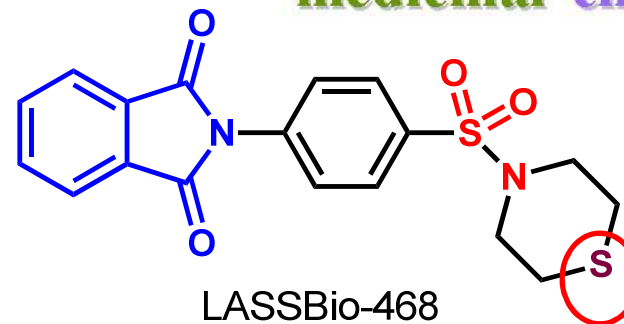


# Congeneric series

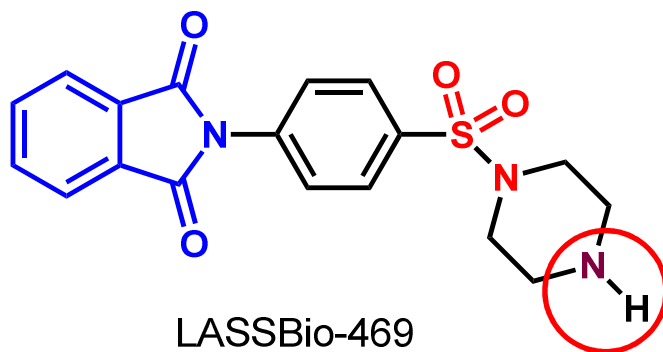
medicinal chemistry



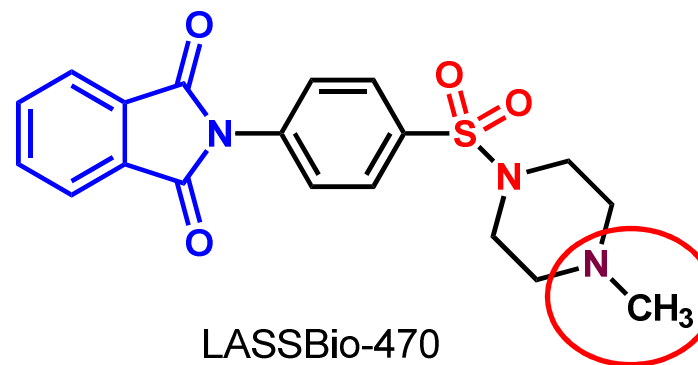
LASSBio-449



LASSBio-468



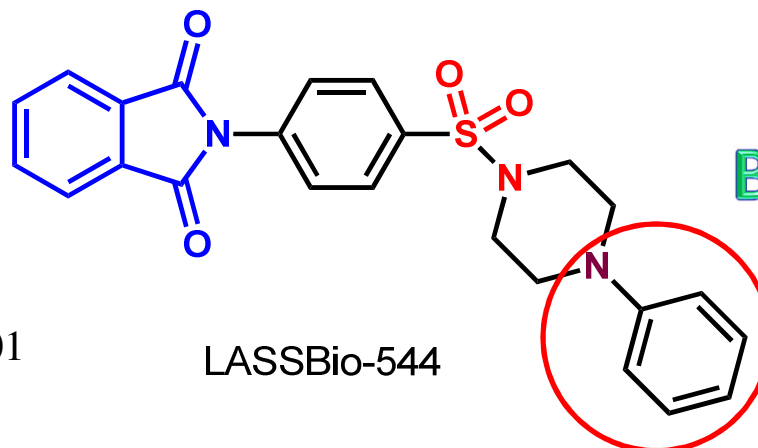
LASSBio-469



LASSBio-470



Lidia M. Lima (LASSBio),  
PhD Thesis, IQ-UFRJ, Br., 2001

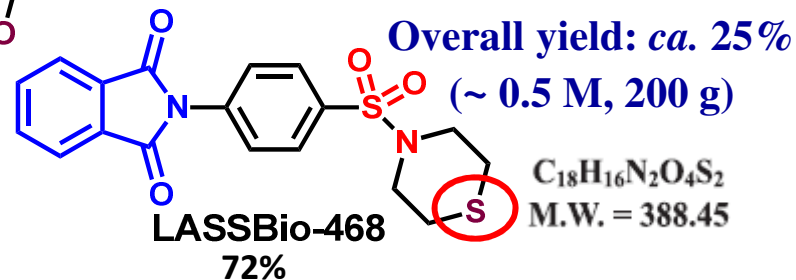
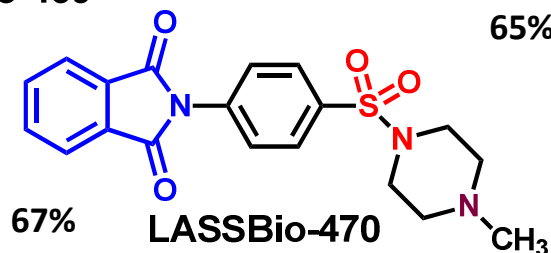
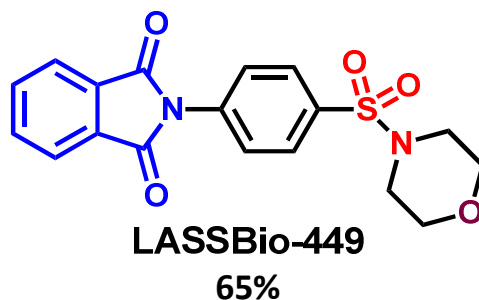
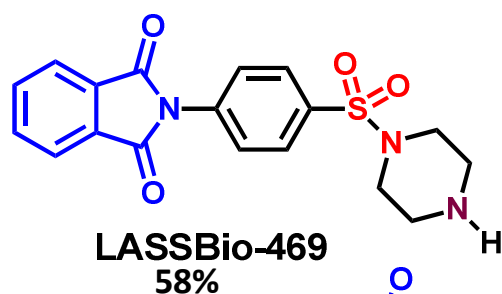
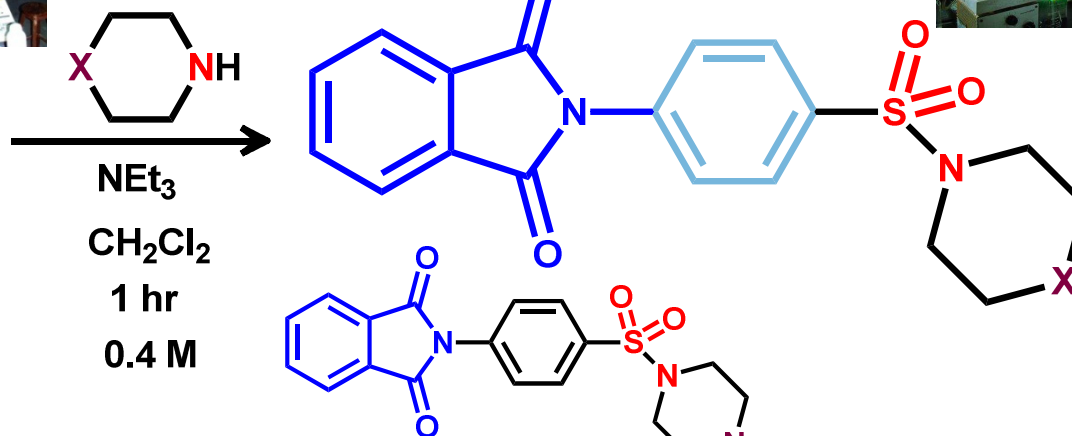
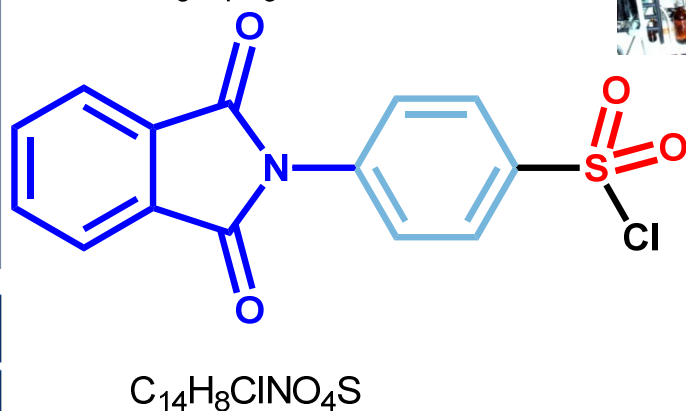
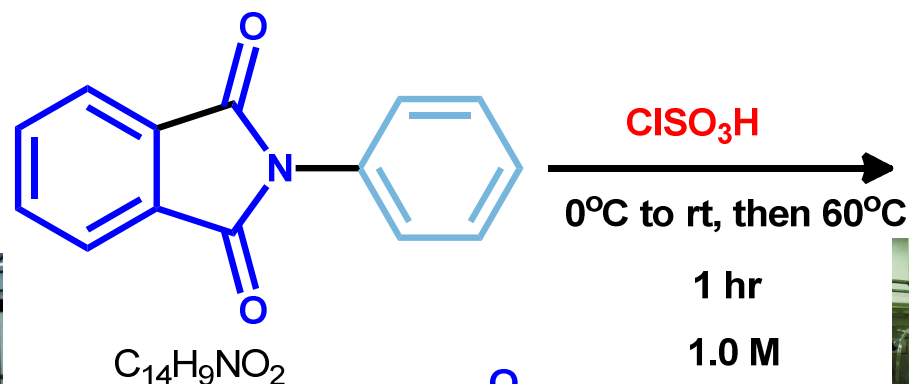
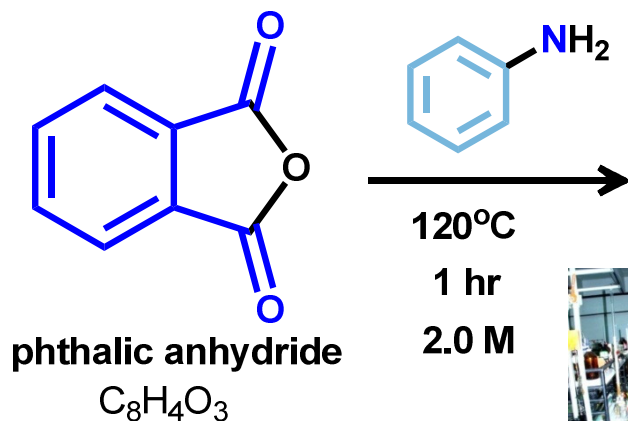


LASSBio-544

Bioisosterism



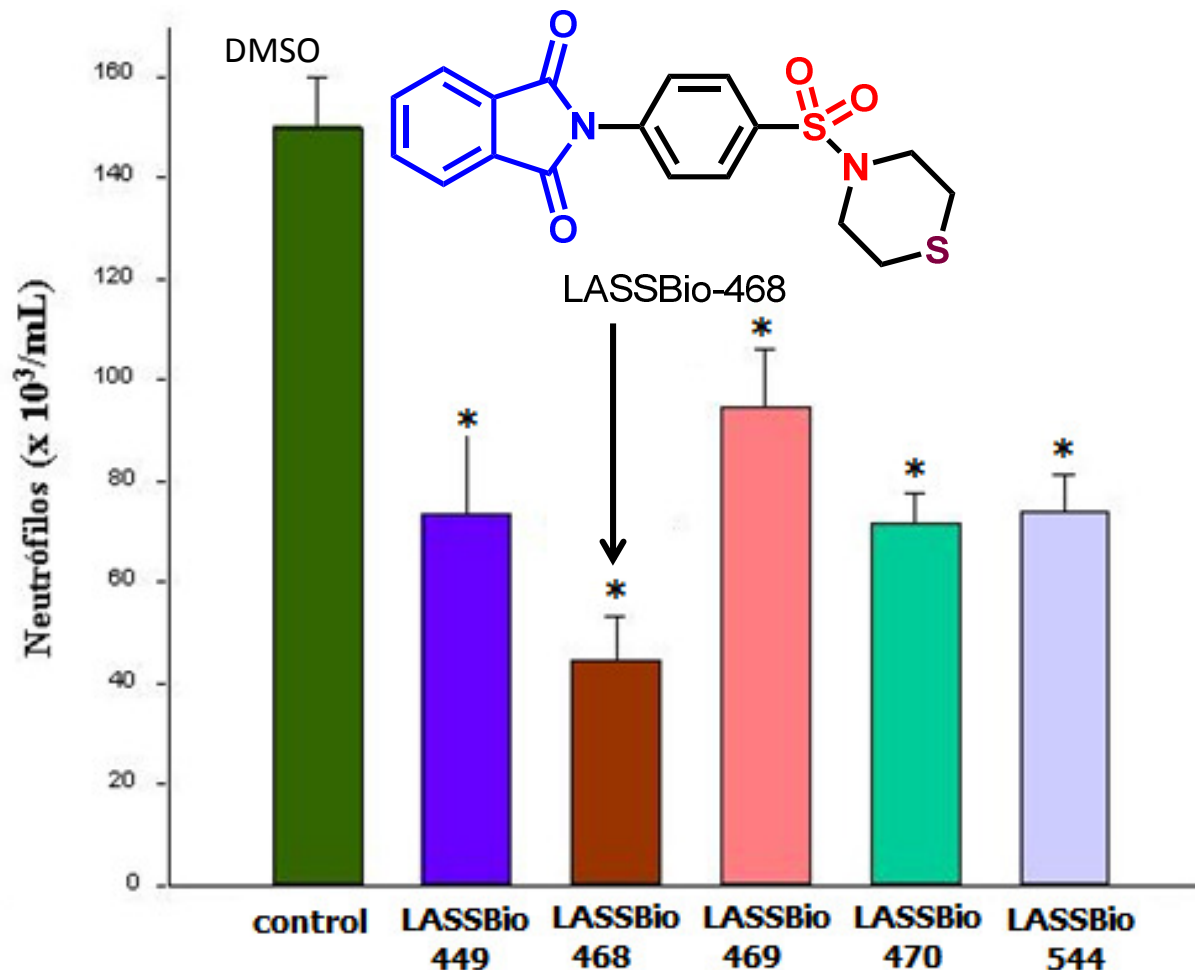
# Synthesis of congeneric series





# Effect of new compounds and thalidomide on neutrophils influx, induced by *LPS* into BALB/c of mice lungs (10 mg/kg, DMSO; *ip*)

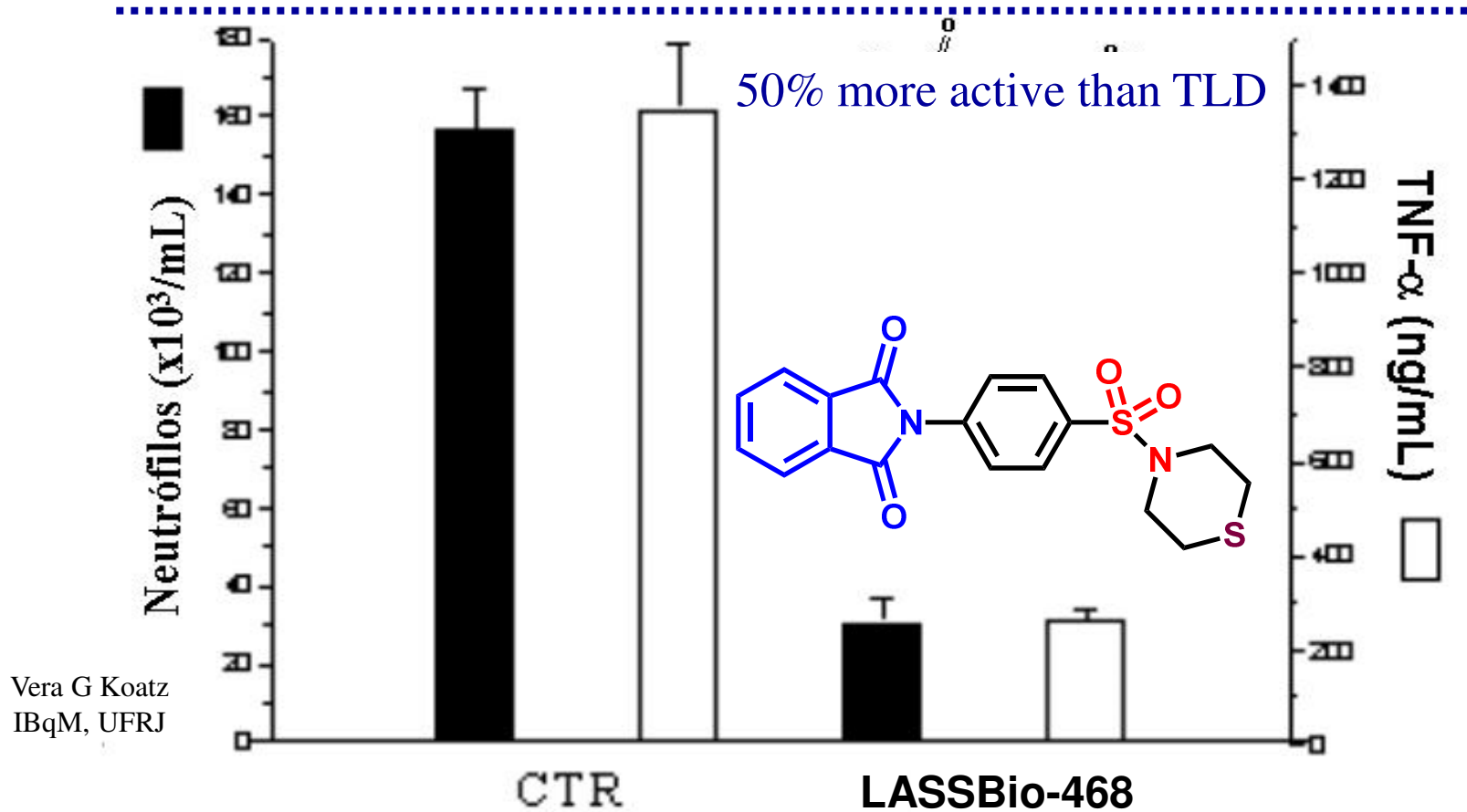
*in vivo*



Results are expressed as means SEM of seven animals.



## Effect of compound LASSBio 468 (50 mg/kg, ip) on TNF- $\alpha$ levels and neutrophils influx (BALB/c of mice lungs)

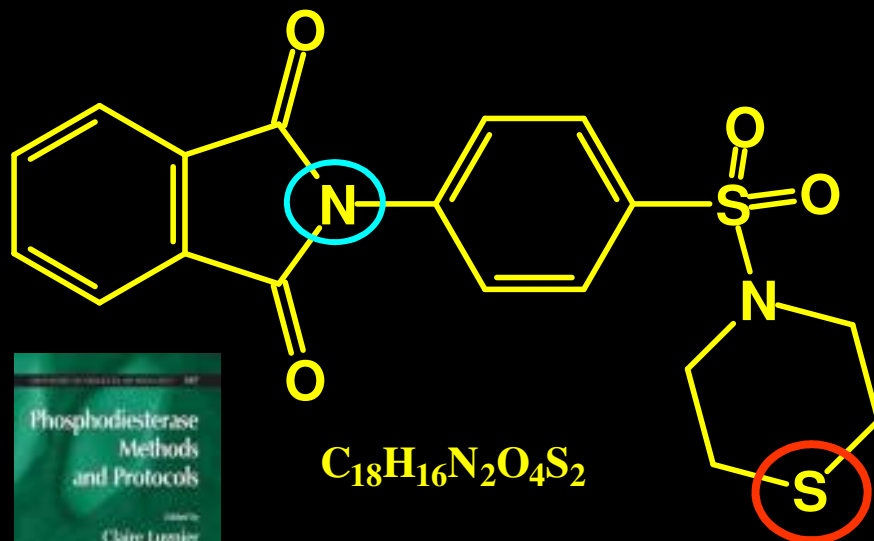


Vera G Koatz  
IBqM, UFRJ

inhibition of the production of TNF- $\alpha$  promote the elevation of intracellular levels of cyclic 3',5'-adenosine monophosphate (cAMP) in leukocytes, associated with inhibition of PDE-4 activity.\*

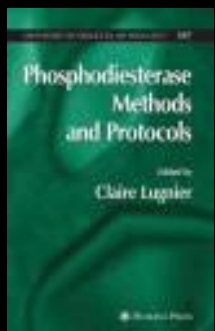
\* DO Procopio, MM Teixeira, MM Camargo, LR Travassos, MA Ferguson, IC Almeida, RT Gazzinelli, Differential inhibitory mechanism of cyclic AMP on TNF- and IL-12 synthesis by macrophages exposed to microbial stimuli. *Br. J. Pharmacol.* **1999**, 127, 1195





$C_{18}H_{16}N_2O_4S_2$

LASSBio 468



TNF- $\alpha$  ED<sub>50</sub> 2.5 mg/Kg

lead compound

PDE-4 inhibitor

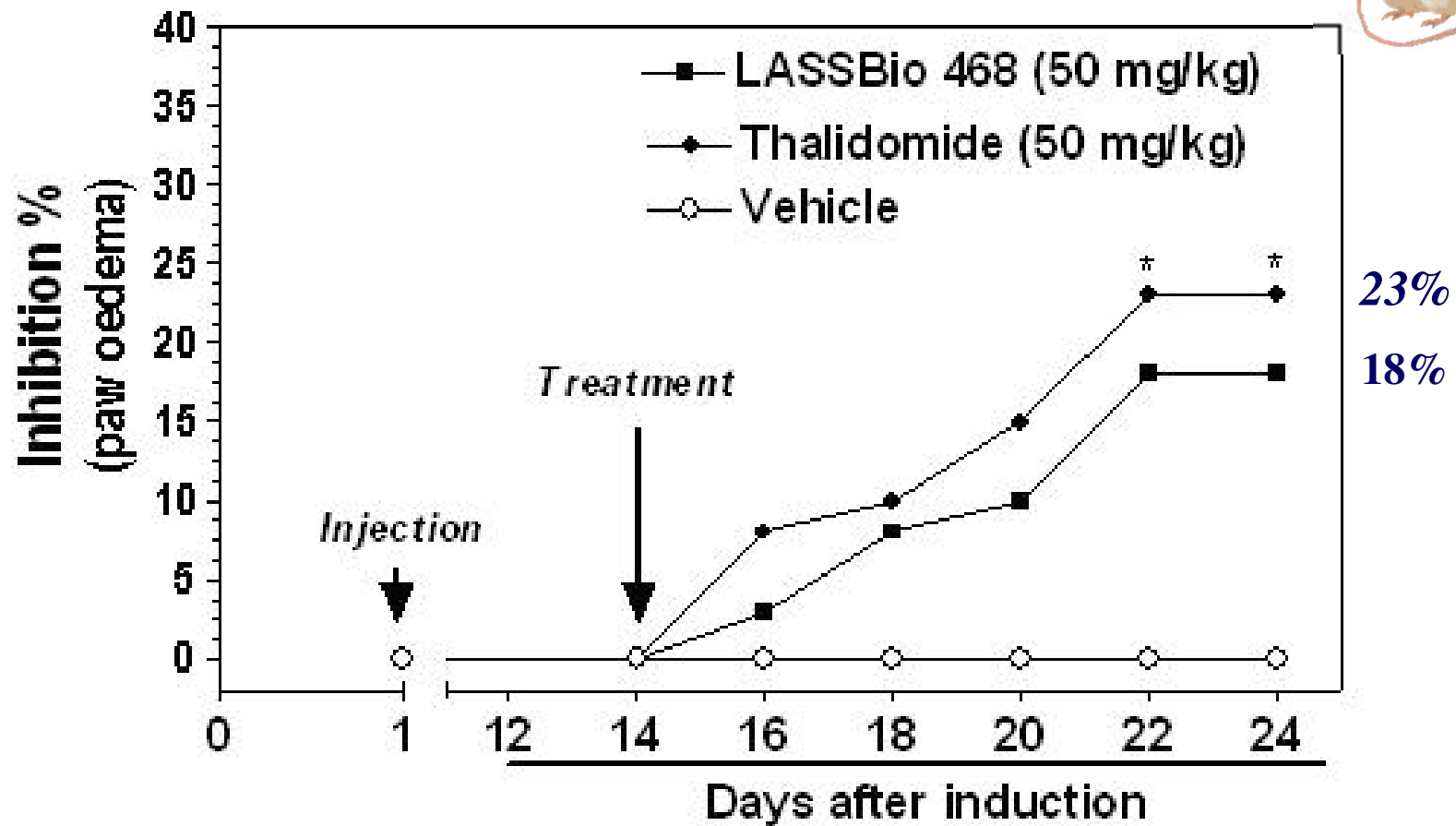
Dr Claire Lugnier (CAPES-COFECUB; LASSBio-Strasbourg)  
Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, FR.  
Laboratoire de Pharmacologie et de Physicochimie des Interactions  
Cellulaires et Moléculaires.

IC<sub>50</sub> = 30.3  $\mu$ M  
cf. PDE-1, 2, 3, > 150  $\mu$ M;

L M Lima et al., **Synthesis and Anti-inflammatory Activity of Phthalimide Derivatives**, Designed as New Thalidomide Analogues, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2002**, *10*, 3067; M S Alexandre-Moreira et al., **LASSBio-468**: a New achiral Thalidomide Analogue which Modulates TNF- $\alpha$  and NO Production and Inhibit Endotoxic Shock and Arthritis in Animal Model, *International Immunopharmacology* **2005**, *5*, 485; LM Lima, CAM Fraga, VLG Koatz, EJ Barreiro, **Thalidomide and Analogs** as Anti-Inflammatory and Immunomodulator Drug Candidates, *Anti-Inflammatory & Anti-Allergy Agents in Medicinal Chemistry*, **2006**, *5*, 79; L M Lima, N M de Lima, *Rev. Virtual Quim.* **2009**, *1*, 35;

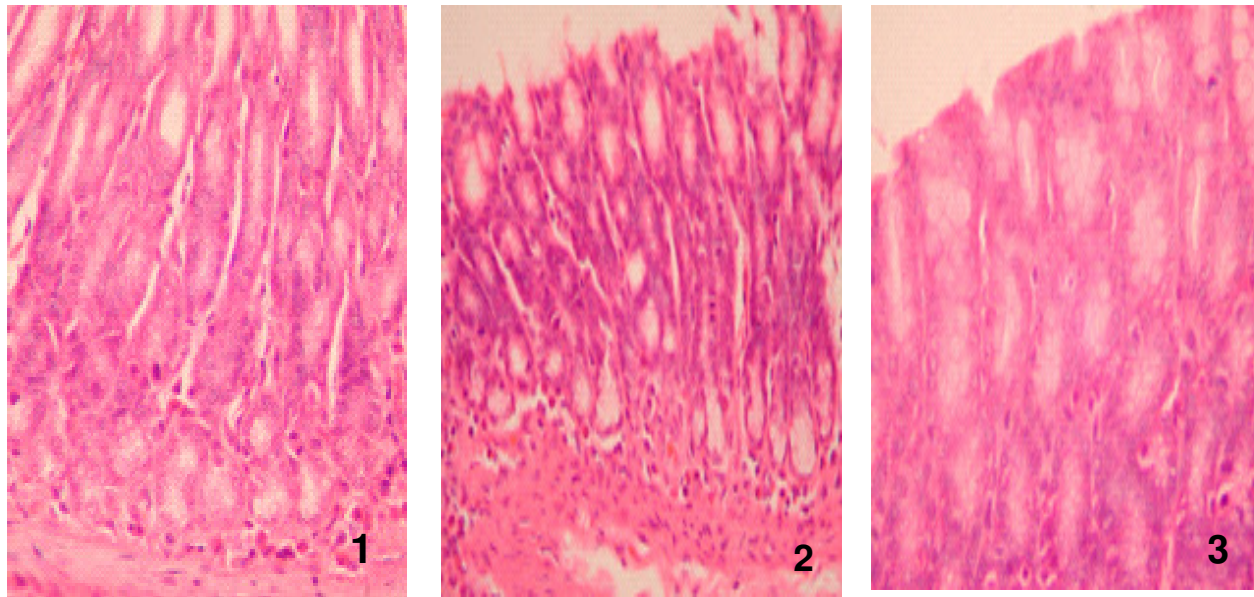


# Effect of the treatment with LASSBio-468 (50 mg/kg *po*) on hind paw edema in adjuvant-induced arthritis (AiA-model) (*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*) in rats





# Histopathological results



- (1) Photomicrography of granulomatous hepatitis in the control animals (HE – 100X);
- (2) Animals treated with thalidomide (HE – 100X);
- (3) Animals treated with LASSBio 468 (HE – 200X);

-----  
\* A positive control was performed *M. tuberculosis*.

**LASSBio-468 has a protective effect on inflammation development mediated by immunomodulatory macrophage activity**





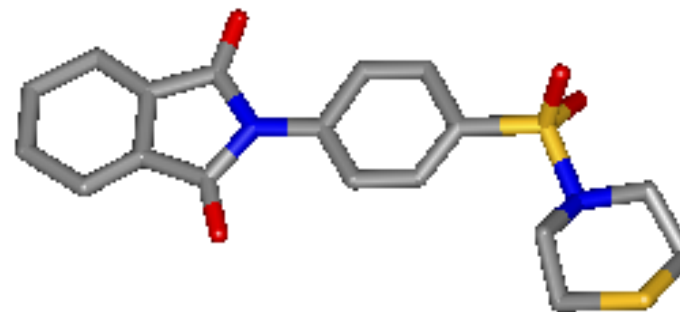
# LASSBio-468

lead compound

## A new symbiotic anti-inflammatory agent

LASSBio-468 is a new dual antiinflammatory agent (DMARD), active at TNF- $\alpha$  production with inhibitory activity on PDE-4.

This new achiral compound is an immunomodulator lead, without proliferative activity in the concavalin-A mitogen assay, in contrast to TLD. It is an useful lead to therapy of rheumatoid arthritis & shock septic syndrome.



L. M. Lima *et al.*, Synthesis and Anti-inflammatory Activity of Phthalimide Derivatives, Designed as New Thalidomide Analogues, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* 2002, 10, 3067; AL Machado *et al.*, Design, Synthesis and anti-inflammatory activity of novel phthalimide derivatives, structurally related to thalidomide, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* 2005, 15, 1169.

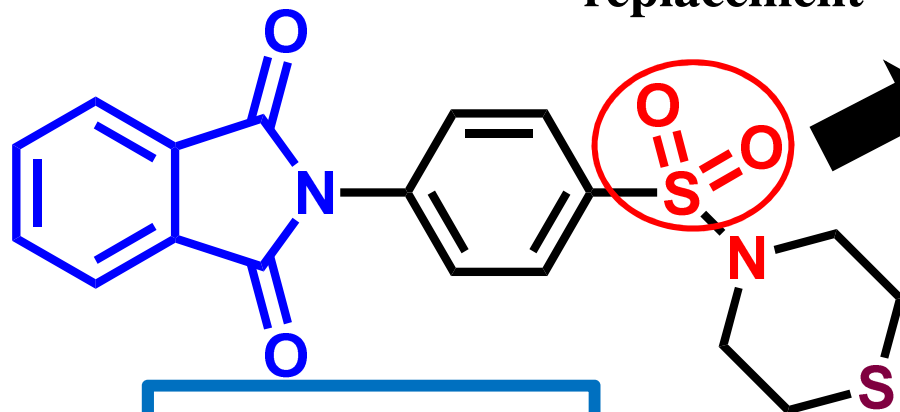


# Lead optimization

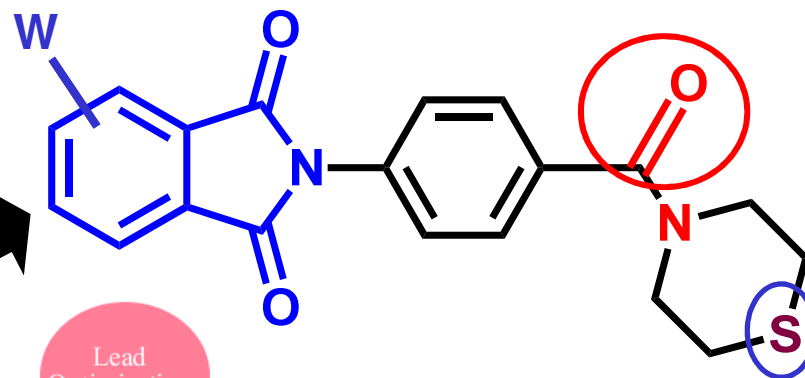
## Phthalimide Derivatives as TNF- $\alpha$ Inhibitor

medicinal chemistry

### LASSBio-468



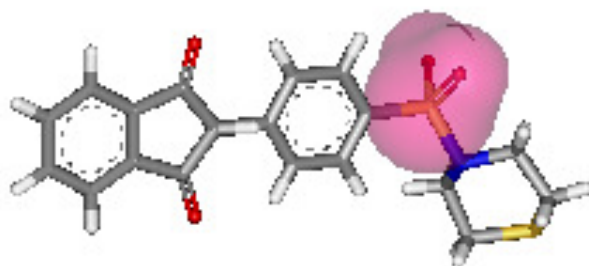
Bioisosteric replacement



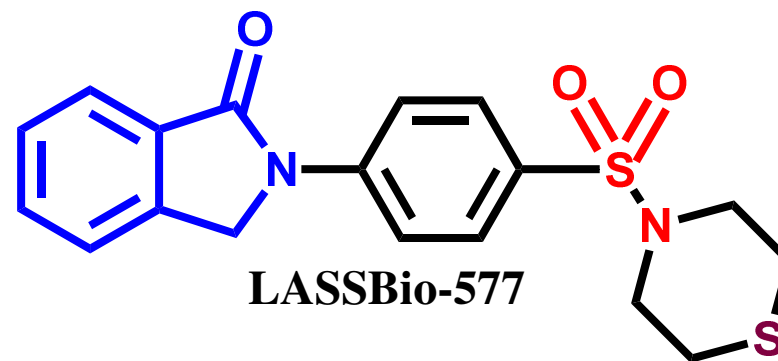
Lead Optimization

### LASSBio-595

Metabolism studies



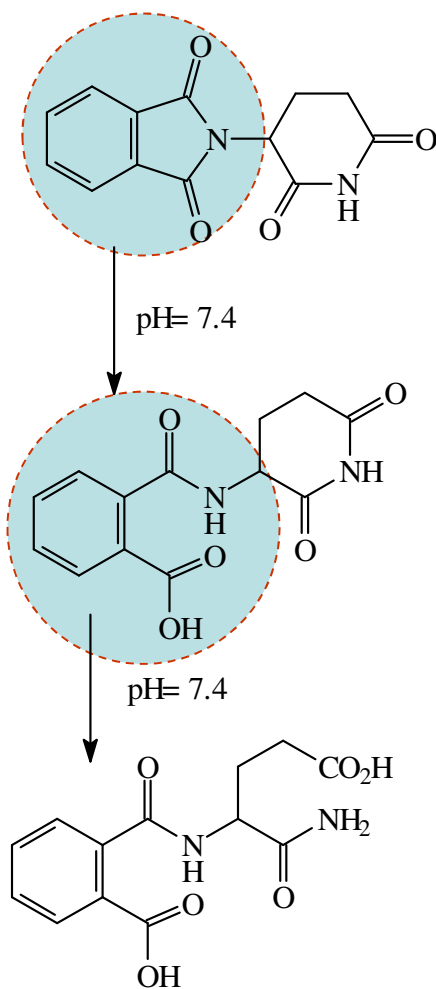
Instituto Nacional de Ciência e Tecnologia de Fármacos e Medicamentos  
www.inct-inofar.ccs.ufrj.br



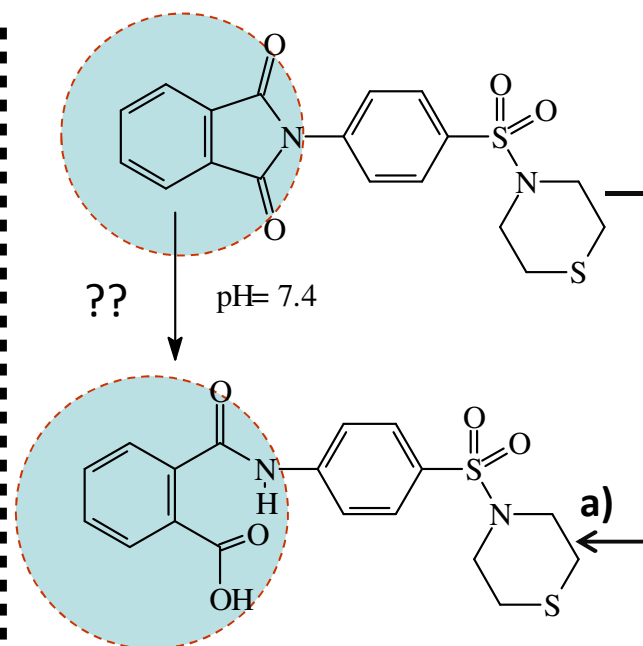
### LASSBio-577



# Metabolic & chemical stability of LASSBio-468

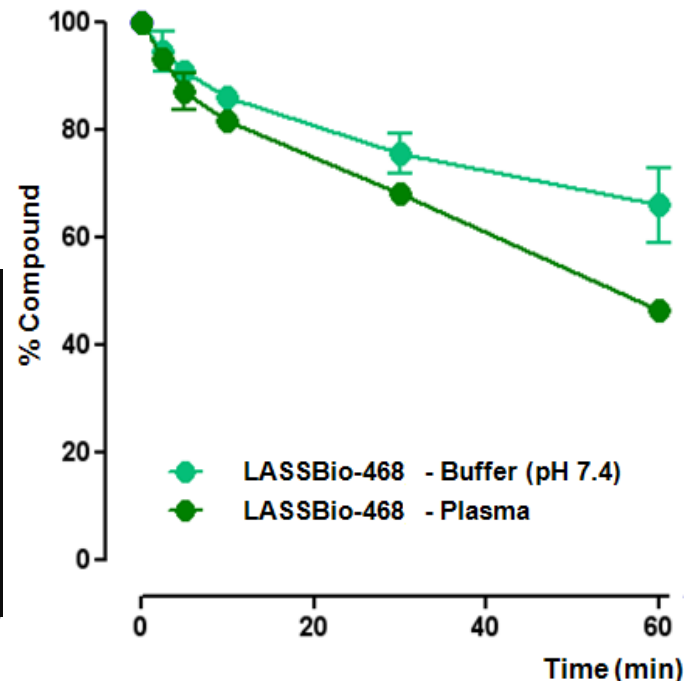


***in vivo* plasma metabolites of TLD**



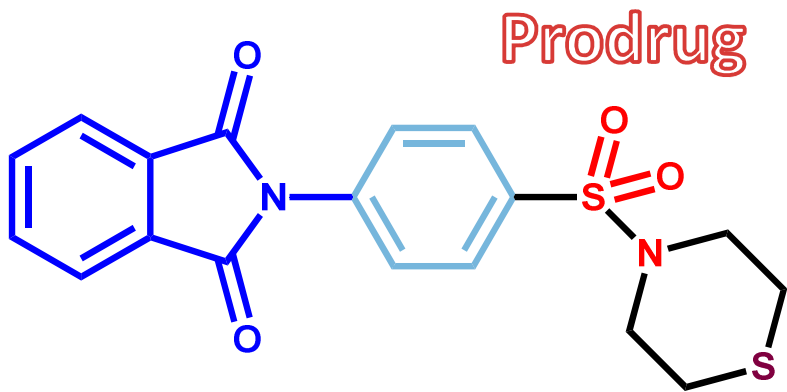
*in vivo* plasma metabolite of LASSBio-468 (**596**)

**a) KOH, MeOH/H<sub>2</sub>O, 0°C, 1h, 91%**



Chemical stability at pH 7.4 and plasma stability of LASSBio-468. The points represent the mean of the percentage of compound remaining at each time point. \*\*P<0,01 Student's t-test.



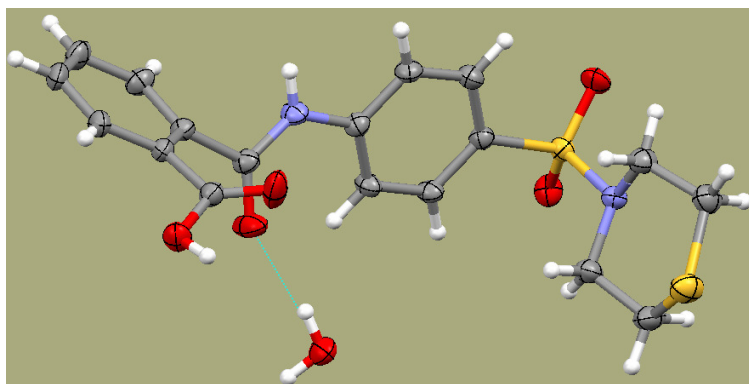


**LASSBio-468**

$C_{18}H_{16}N_2O_4S_2$

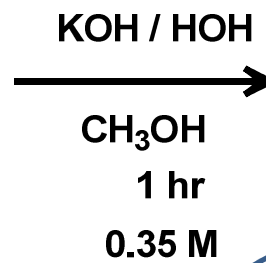


x-ray diffraction

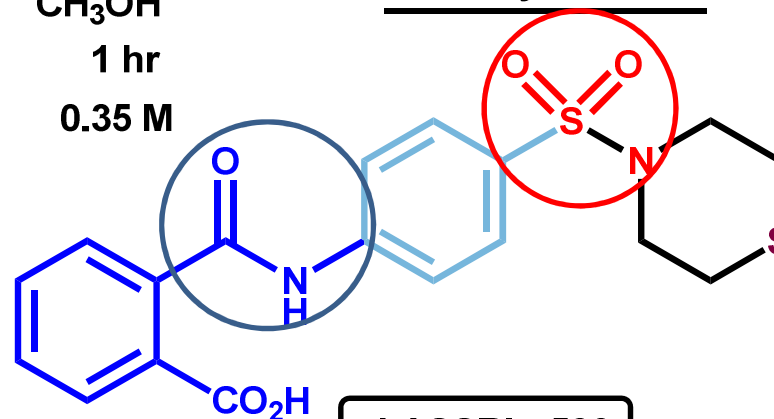


### Ames Test

The bacteria reversed mutation assay : in the presence or absence of liver S9 fraction ⇒ **LASSBio-596 (625-3125 µg/plate) not presented carcinogenic potential**



**Overall yield: 29%**



**LASSBio-596**

$C_{18}H_{18}N_2O_5S_2$

**<sup>13</sup>C, <sup>1</sup>H NMR / IR / UV / MS  
 HPLC / CHN  
 differential scanning calorimetry (DSC)  
 X-ray**

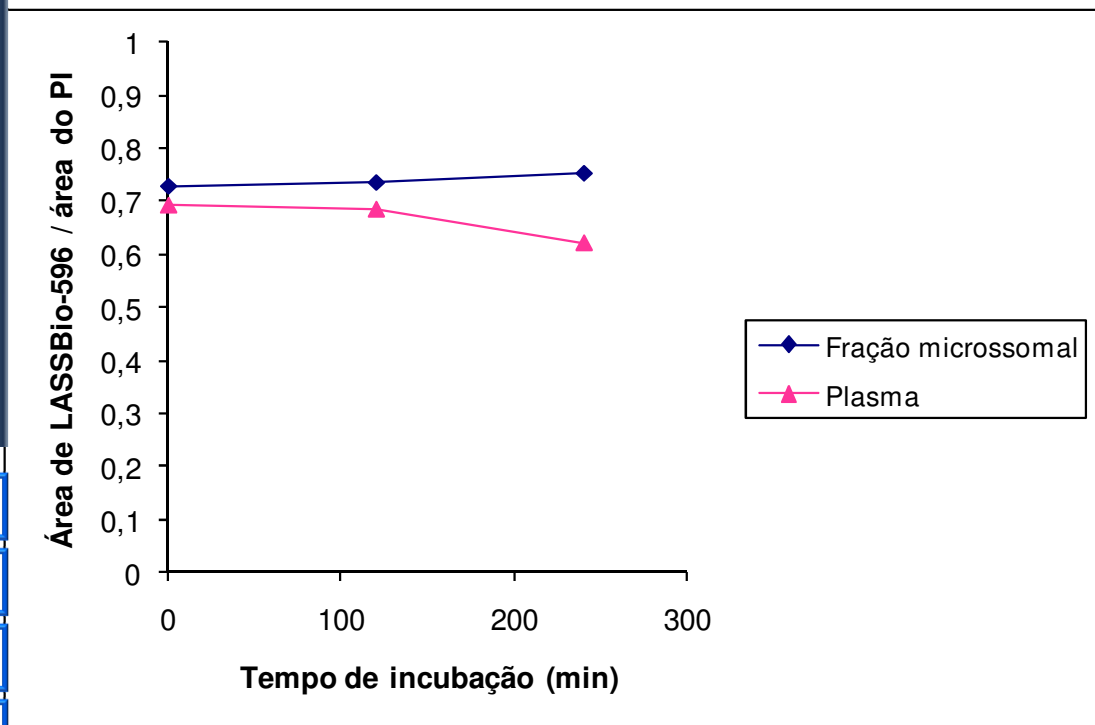
### Micronucleus Test

Used to quantify chromosomal damage in eukaryotic cell : in the presence or absence of liver S9 fraction ⇒ **LASSBio-596 (153-768 µM) not presented genotoxic potential**



# Metabolism profile & toxicity in animals (rodents)

## LASSBio-596



Metabolism profile of LASSBio-596 in rat liver microsomes in the presence of cofactors (blue) and in plasma of rats (in pink). Chart obtained from the ratio of the area LASSBio-596 and the area of internal standard methyl-biphenyl-4-carboxylate vs. incubation time.

### ✓ Acute Toxicity (14 days):

LD<sub>50</sub> = 150-200mg (iv)

LD<sub>50</sub> > 2000 mg (po)



### ✓ Subchronic Toxicity (90 days):

Dose = 10, 50 and 250 mg/Kg

**Not induce death;**  
some hematological  
and few histopathological  
changes were observed,  
without clinical significance.



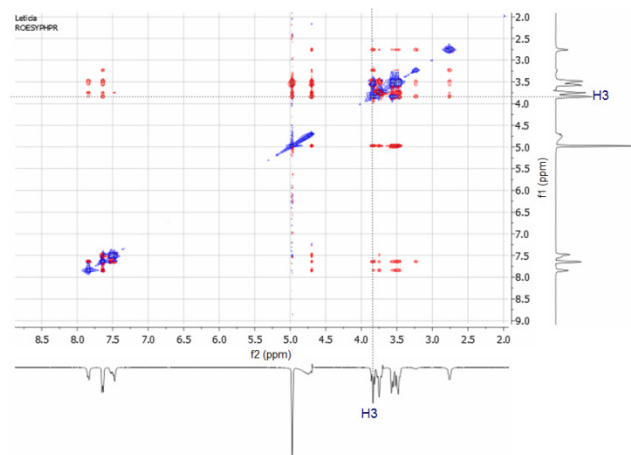
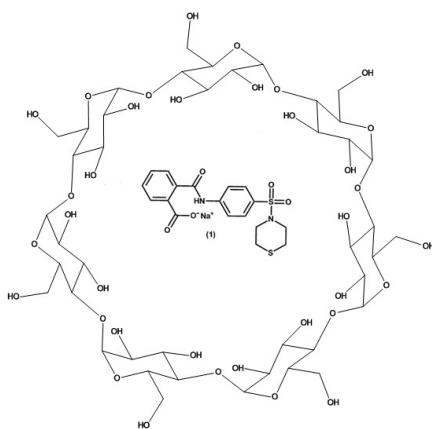


# Pharmacokinetic Parameters

PK	LASSBio-596
$t_{1/2}$ (h)	$2.0 \pm 0.4^*$
CL (L/h/kg)	$0.22 \pm 0.05$
$C_{max}$ ( $\mu\text{g/mL}$ )	$0.61 \pm 0.16$
Bioavailability (%) (p.o)	3.6
Bioavailability (%) (ip)	96

\* Significantly different with respect to the parameters after ip dose ( $\alpha = 0.05$ )

## $\beta$ -Cyclodextrin Inclusion complex



ROESY spectra ( $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ )

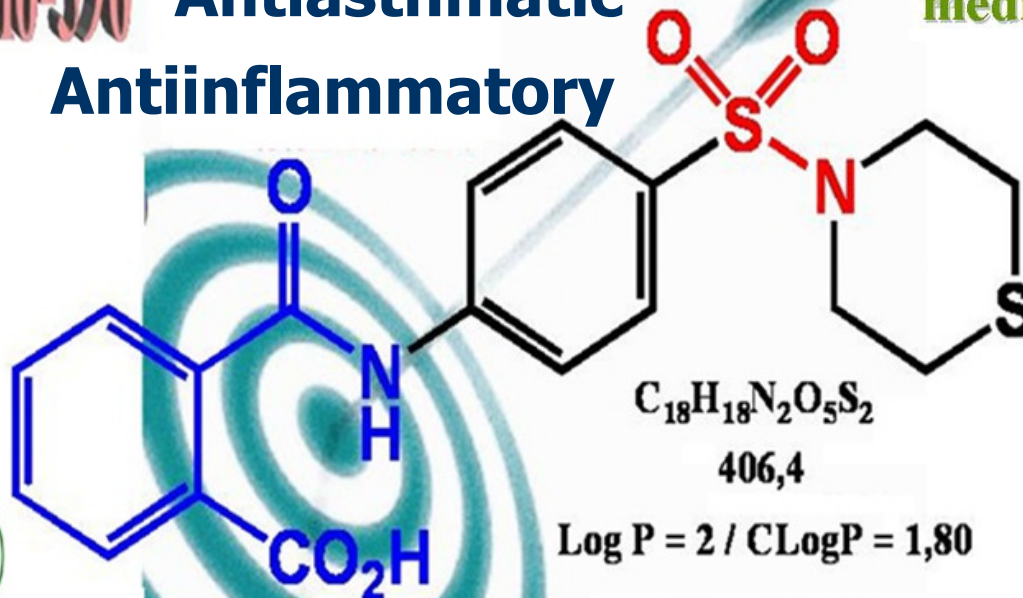
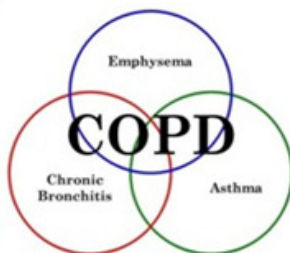


LASSBio-596

Antifibrinogenic  
Antiasthmatic  
Antiinflammatory

medicinal chemistry

RVq Revista Virtual de Química  
ISSN 1585-0835  
Volume 2, Número 1 Janeiro-Março 2010



$C_{18}H_{18}N_2O_5S_2$   
406,4

Log P = 2 / CLogP = 1,80

MR = 103,02

Lead Optimization

PIBR 0208767-7 - 08/11/2002

Pre-clinic studies

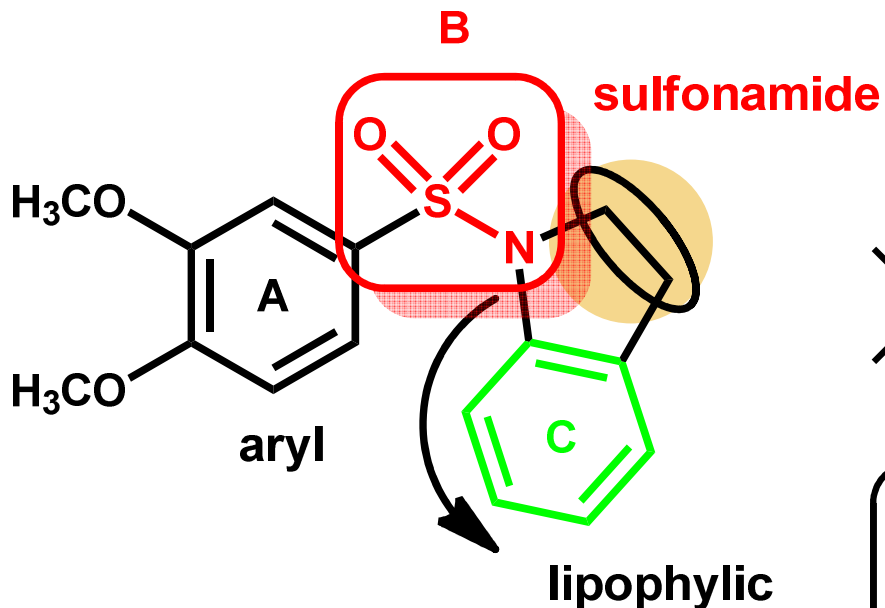
PIBR 0401660-2 - 27/04/2004

lead compound  
2012

L. M. Lima *et al.*, Synthesis and Anti-inflammatory Activity of Phthalimide Derivatives, Designed as New Thalidomide Analogues, *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2002**, *10*, 3067; A. L. Machado *et al.*, Design, Synthesis and anti-inflammatory activity of novel phthalimide derivatives, structurally related to thalidomide, *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.* **2005**, *15*, 1169; M. S. Alexandre-Moreira *et al.*, LASSBio-468: a New achiral Thalidomide Analogue which Modulates TNF- $\alpha$  and NO Production and Inhibit Endotoxic Shock and Arthritis in Animal Model, *Internat. Immunopharmacol.* **2005**, *5*, 485; L. M. Lima, N. M. de Lima, Contribuição do LASSBio no desenvolvimento de novos candidatos a protótipos de fármacos antiasmáticos, *Rev. Virtual Quim.* **2009**, *1*, 35; R.M.P. Rocco *et al.*, LASSBio-596: da descoberta aos ensaios pré-clínicos, *Rev. Virtual Quim.* **2010**, *2*, 10; G.M.C. Carvalho *et al.*, Can LASSBio-596 and dexamethasone treat acute lung and liver inflammation induced by microcystin-LR?, *Toxicon* **2010**, *56*, 604; N.V. Casquilho *et al.*, LASSBio-596 *per os* avoids pulmonary and hepatic inflammation induced by microscystin-LR, *Toxicon* **2011**, *58*, 195; J.C.M.L. Ribeiro, F.V. Fechine, M.Z.M.L. Ribeiro, E.J. Barreiro *et al.*, Potential Inhibitory Effect of LASSBio-596, a New Thalidomide Hybrid, on Inflammatory Corneal Angiogenesis in Rabbits, *Ophthalmic Res* **2012**, *48*, 177.



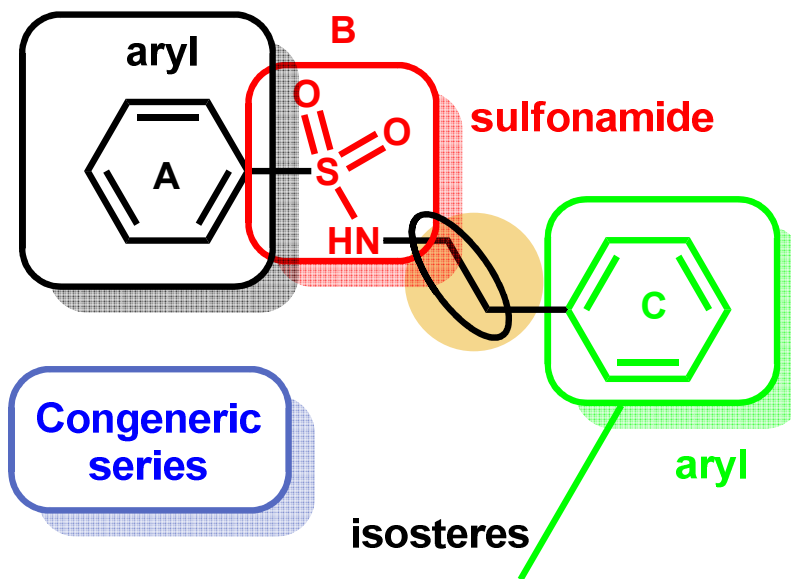
# Molecular Diversity



Montana *et al.*, 1998

**Drug Design**

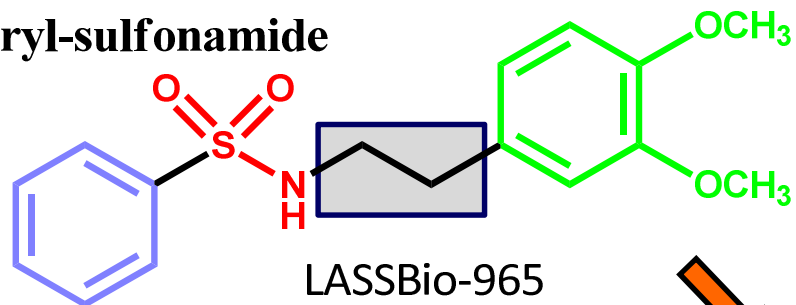
molecular  
simplification



$\sigma$ ,  $\pi$ , RM

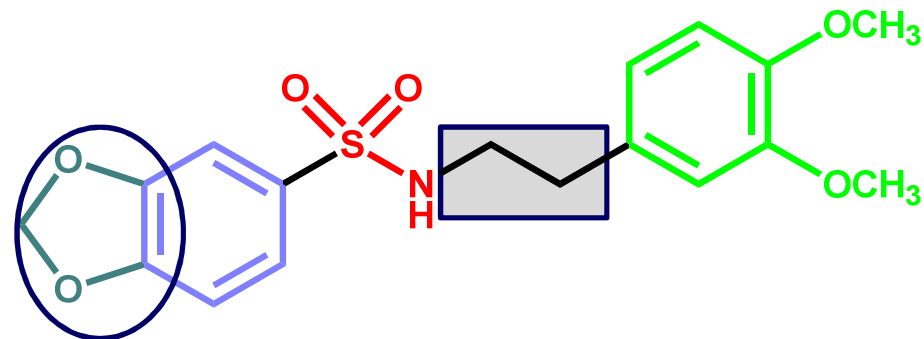


Aryl-sulfonamide

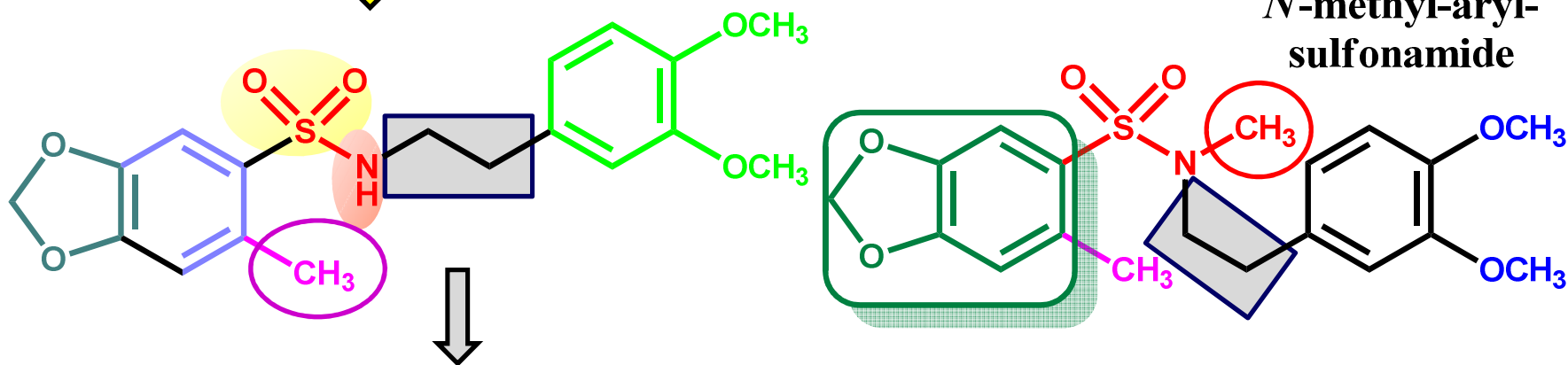


LASSBio-965

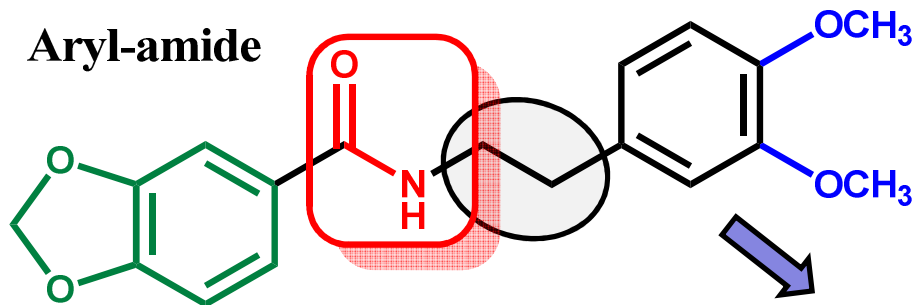
Aryl-ethylaryl sulfonamide



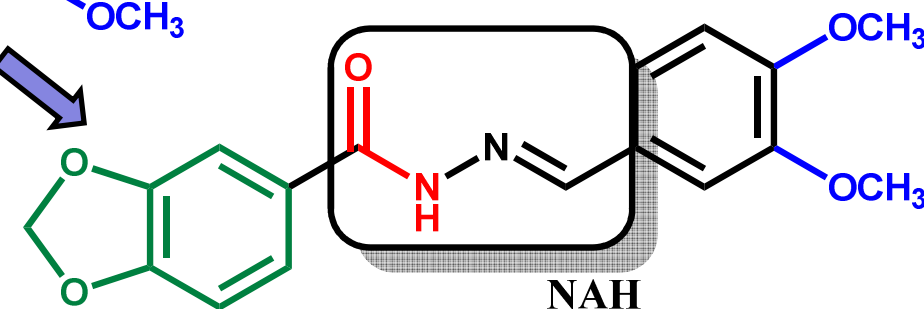
N-methyl-aryl-sulfonamide



Aryl-amide



Aryl-N-acylhydrazone

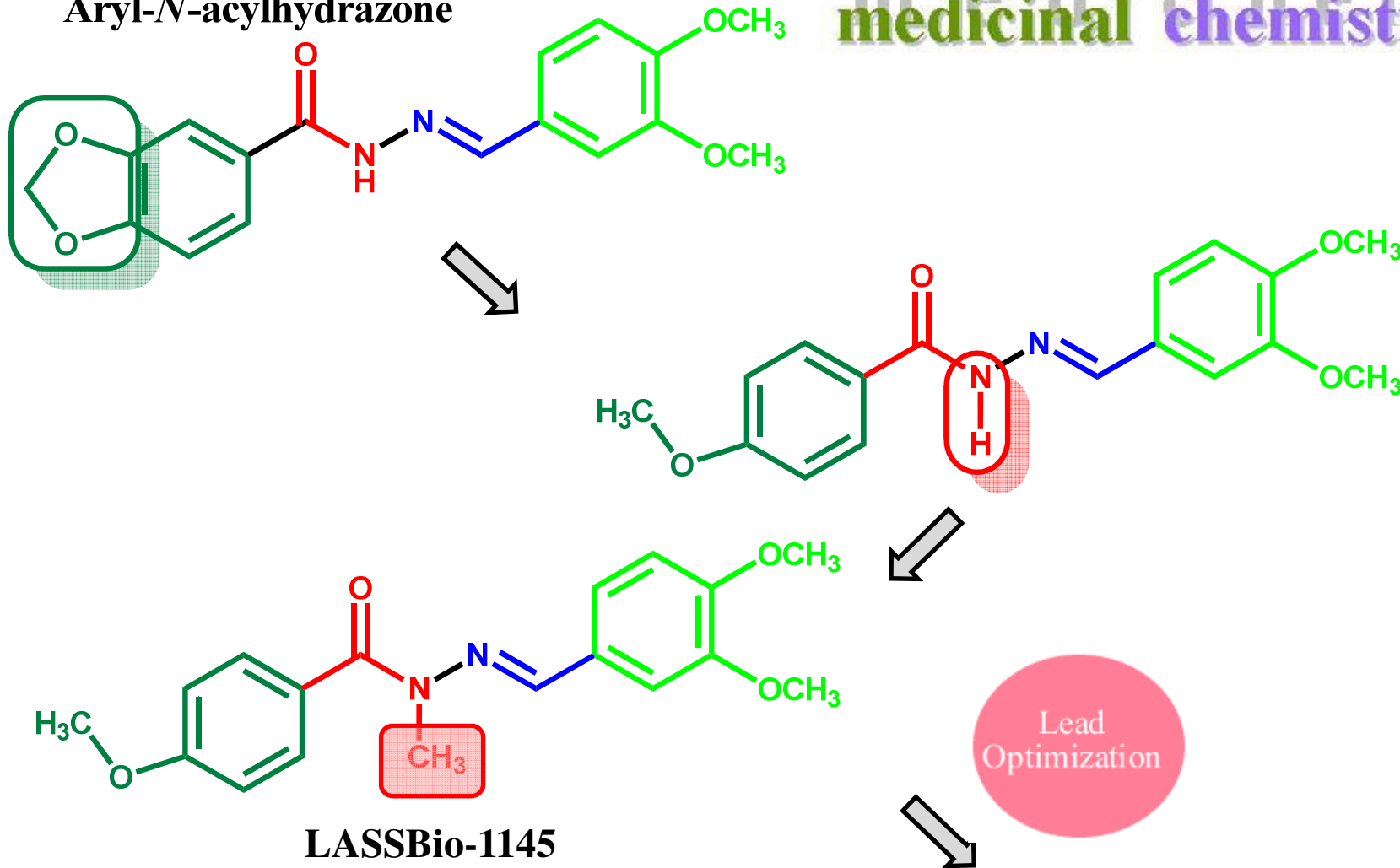


NAH



### Aryl-N-acylhydrazone

# medicinal chemistry



**LASSBio-1145**

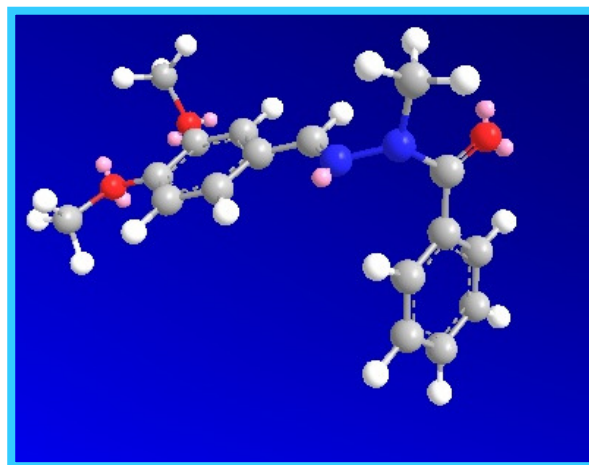
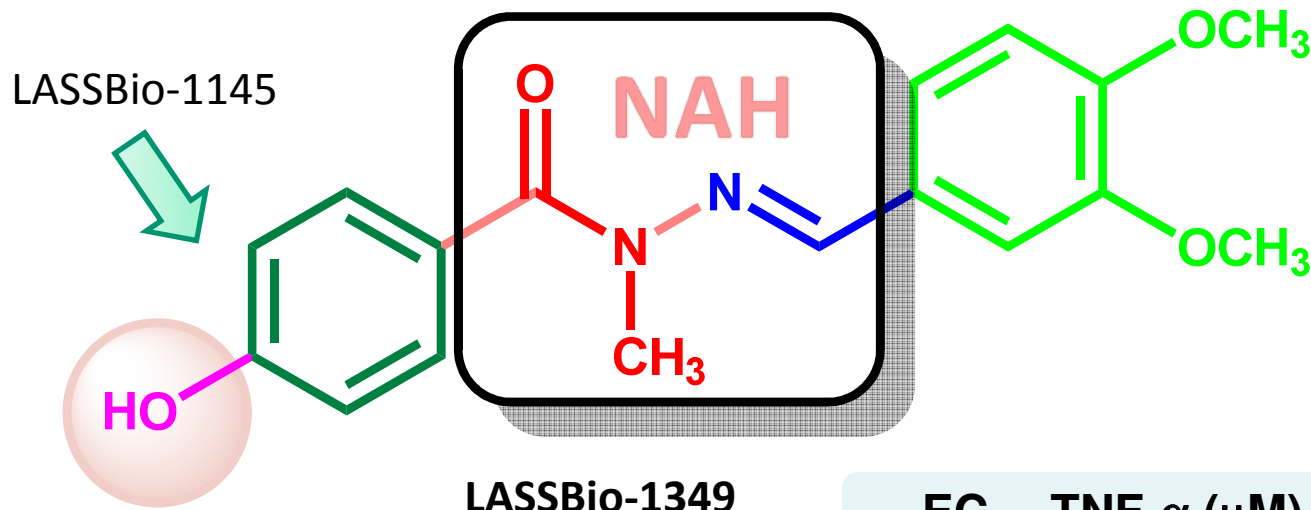
**IC<sub>50</sub> PDE4 (nM) = 105.0**

**EC<sub>50</sub> TNF-α (μM) = 1.45 ± 2.1**

**LASSBio-1349**



# New Dual AI-DMARD Lead-candidate



medicinal chemistry

$EC_{50}$  TNF- $\alpha$  ( $\mu$ M) = 0.52

$IC_{50}$  PDE4 (nM) = 50.0

$IC_{50}$  PDE4A (nM) = 64

$IC_{50}$  PDE4B (nM) = 47

$IC_{50}$  PDE4C (nM) = 206

$IC_{50}$  PDE4D (nM) = 31.0

IS PDEX / PDE4 (X=1, 2, 3, 5, 6) = 182

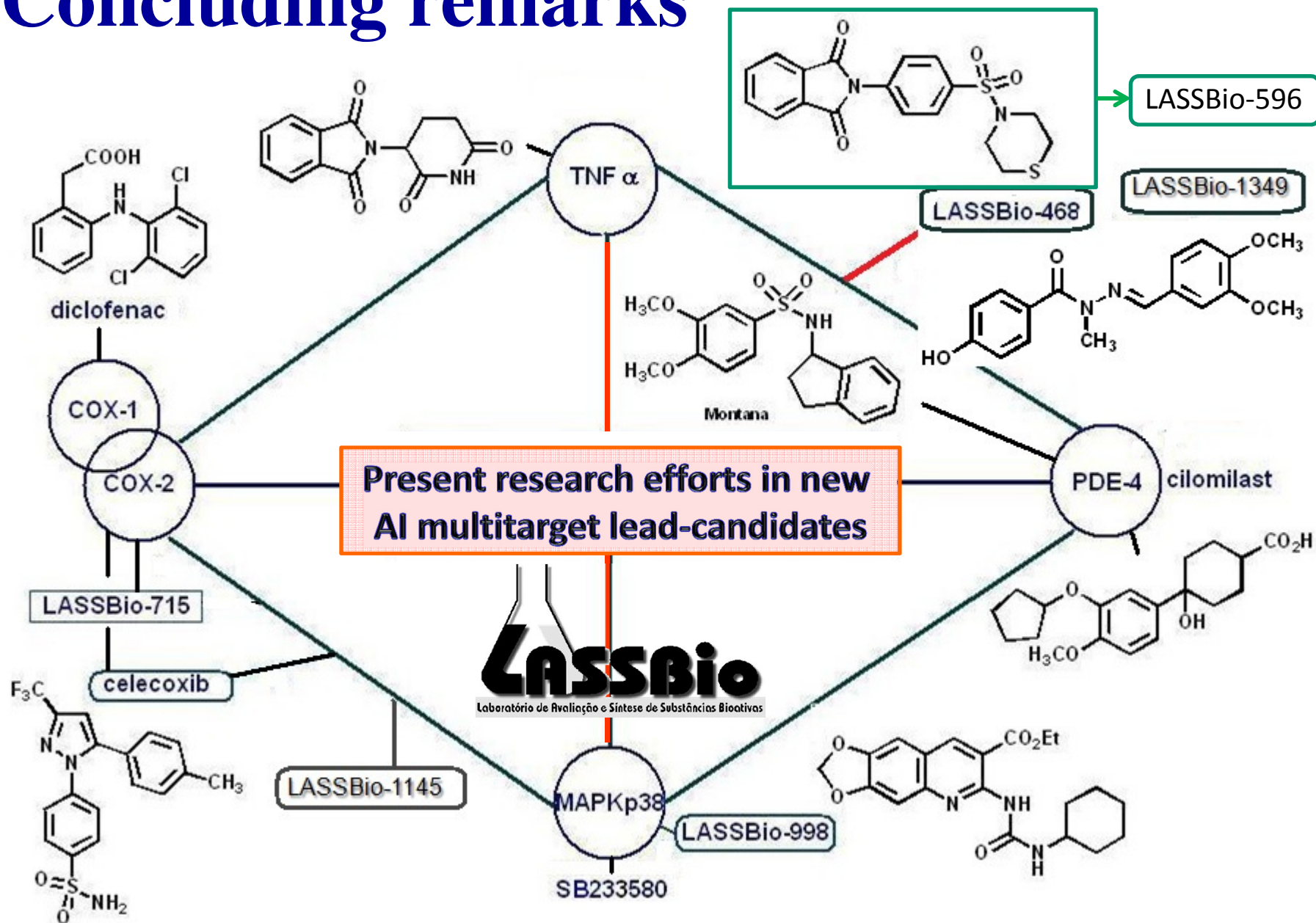
*In vivo*



AE Kümmerle *et al.* Design, Synthesis and Pharmacological Evaluation of *N*-Acylhydrazones and Novel Conformationally Constrained Compounds as Selective and Potent Orally Active PDE-4 Inhibitors, *J Med Chem* **2012**, *55*, 7525.



# Concluding remarks

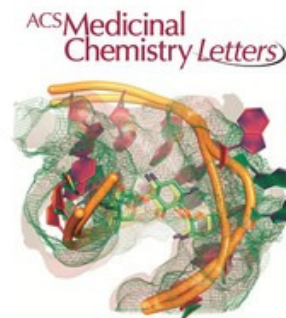


RB Lacerda, LL da Silva, et al., "Discovery of Novel Orally Active Anti-Inflammatory *N*-Phenylpyrazolyl-*N*-Glycinyll Hydrazone Derivatives That Inhibit TNF- $\alpha$  Production." PLoS ONE 2013, 7 (10).



# Concluding remarks

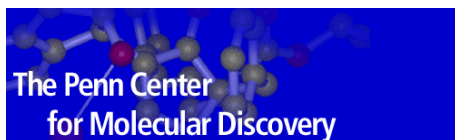
ACS Medicinal  
Chemistry Letters



## Drug Discovery in an Academic Setting: Playing to the Strengths

Donna M. Huryn\*

Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, University of Pittsburgh, 712 Salk Hall, 3501 Terrace Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15261, United States



medicinal chemistry

“ Without a doubt, a university has a number of unique characteristics that could contribute to making it an ideal environment where drug discovery & medicinal chemistry activities can thrive...There is no doubt that academia can play an important role in drug discovery”

ACS Med. Chem. Lett. **2013**, 4, 313







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# De fármacos e suas descobertas

Pretende-se tratar de temas, opiniões, comentários sobre a Ciência dos Fármacos, seu uso seguro e benefícios. Aspectos da formação qualificada de universitários e pós-graduandos nas Ciências dos Fármacos também são de interesse.

sábado, 6 de julho de 2013

## As estruturas químicas e os recursos para desenhá-las



*Relendo um artigo de divulgação científica publicado este ano, me deparei com alguns argumentos centrais do autor, sobre o avanço tecnológico que se observou na difusão da informação, com inúmeros novos recursos, além das redes sociais, capazes de distribuí-la eficiente e rapidamente. Não sei bem porque, fiz um link com a evolução que acompanhei no desenho das estruturas químicas de compostos orgânicos desde aquelas dos triterpenos tetracíclicos do tipo damarano de minha dissertação de mestrado, concluída em 1973, até as últimas, representadas em recente publicação oriunda do **LASSBio**. Achei que poderia ser interessante como leitura, o registro da evolução dos recursos para o desenho das estruturas químicas dos compostos orgânicos, que testemunhei, daquela época até hoje.*

Total de visualizações de página

**27,632**

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Dra Lídia M. Lima



Dr. Carlos A. M. Fraga



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# Thank You