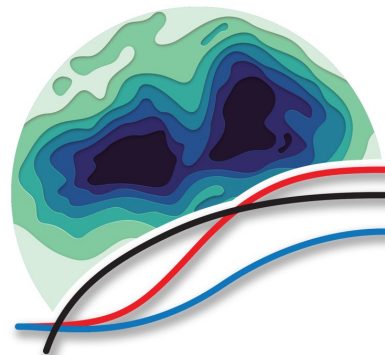


# Advancing Spatiotemporal Methods for Large-Scale Environmental Exposure and Mechanistically-Informed Risk Assessment

Kyle P Messier, PhD  
Stadtman Investigator

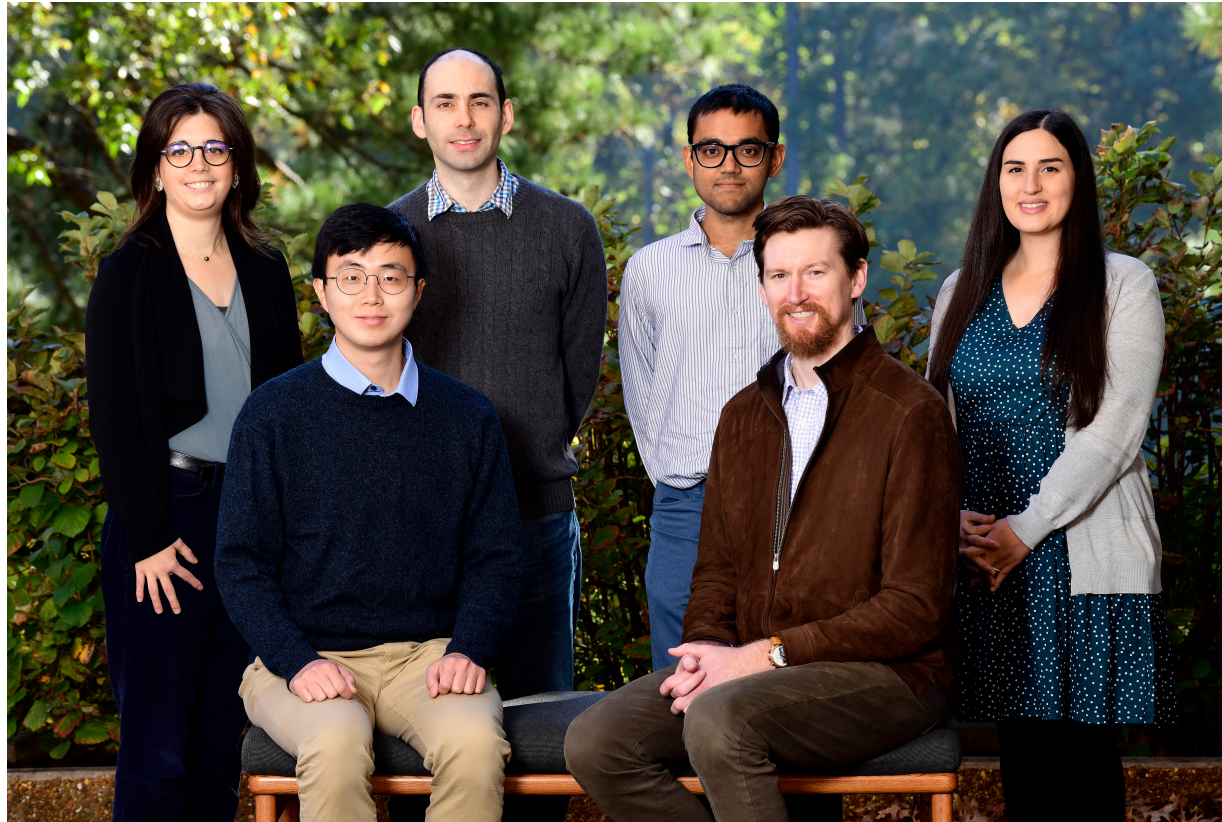


Spatiotemporal Exposures  
and Toxicology (SET) Group

Daniel Zilber

Ranadeep Daw

Eva Marques



Mariana Alifa



Mitchell Manware  
(Data Analyst)

Insang Song

Kyle Messier

# Spatiotemporal Exposures and Toxicology Group



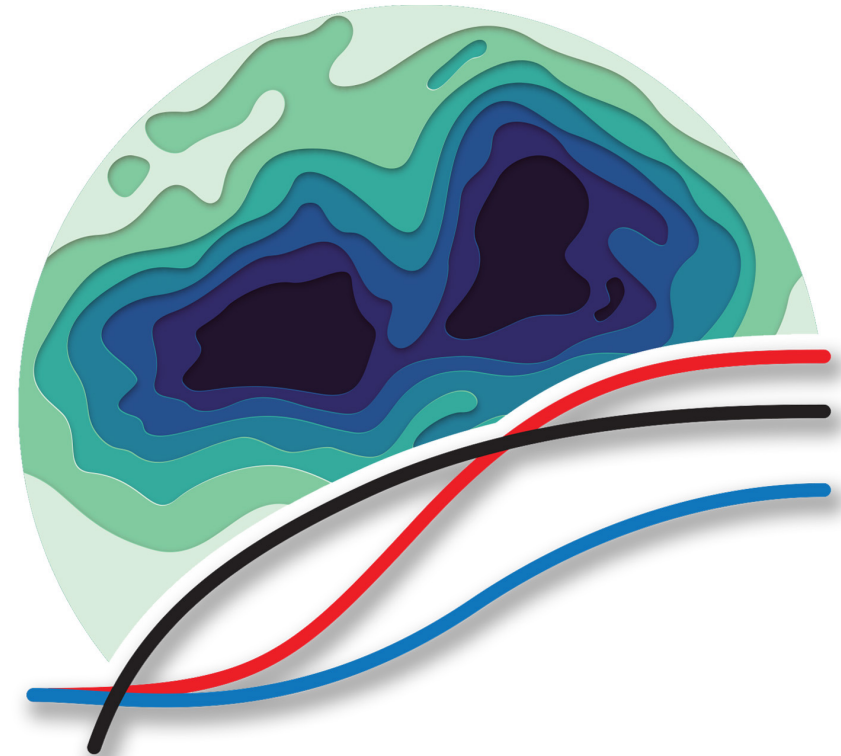
Spatiotemporal Exposure  
Mapping



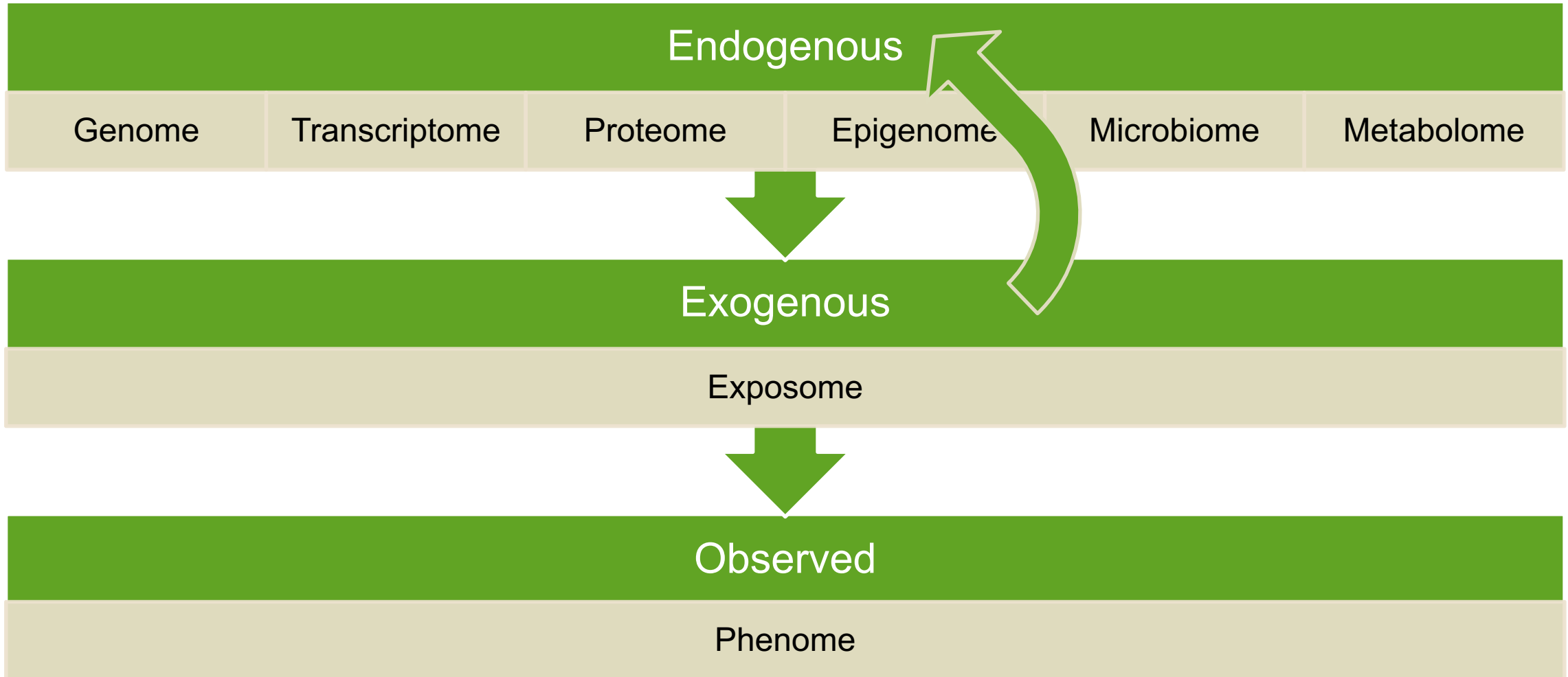
Chemical and Stressor  
Mixtures Prediction



Mechanistically Informed  
Risk Assessment



## What drives our health outcomes (i.e. phenotypes)?



### Ecosystems

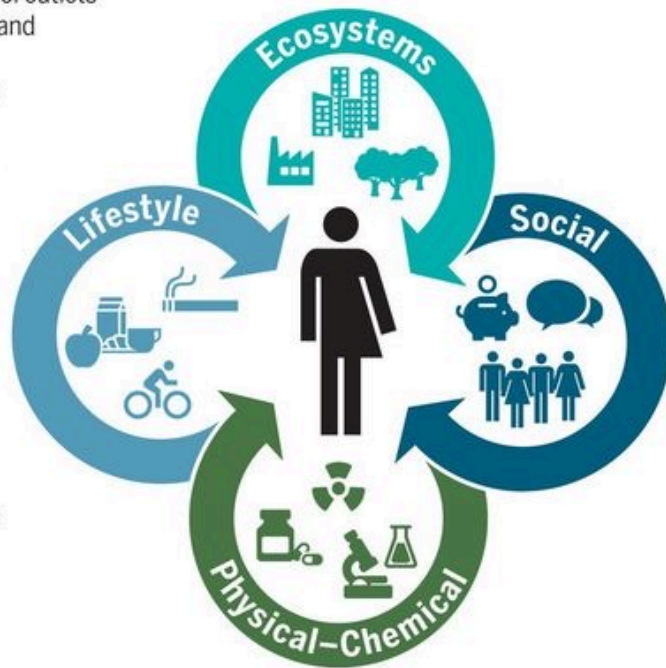
Food outlets, alcohol outlets  
Built environment and  
urban land uses  
Population density  
Walkability  
Green/blue space

### Lifestyle

Physical activity  
Sleep behavior  
Diet  
Drug use  
Smoking  
Alcohol use

### Social

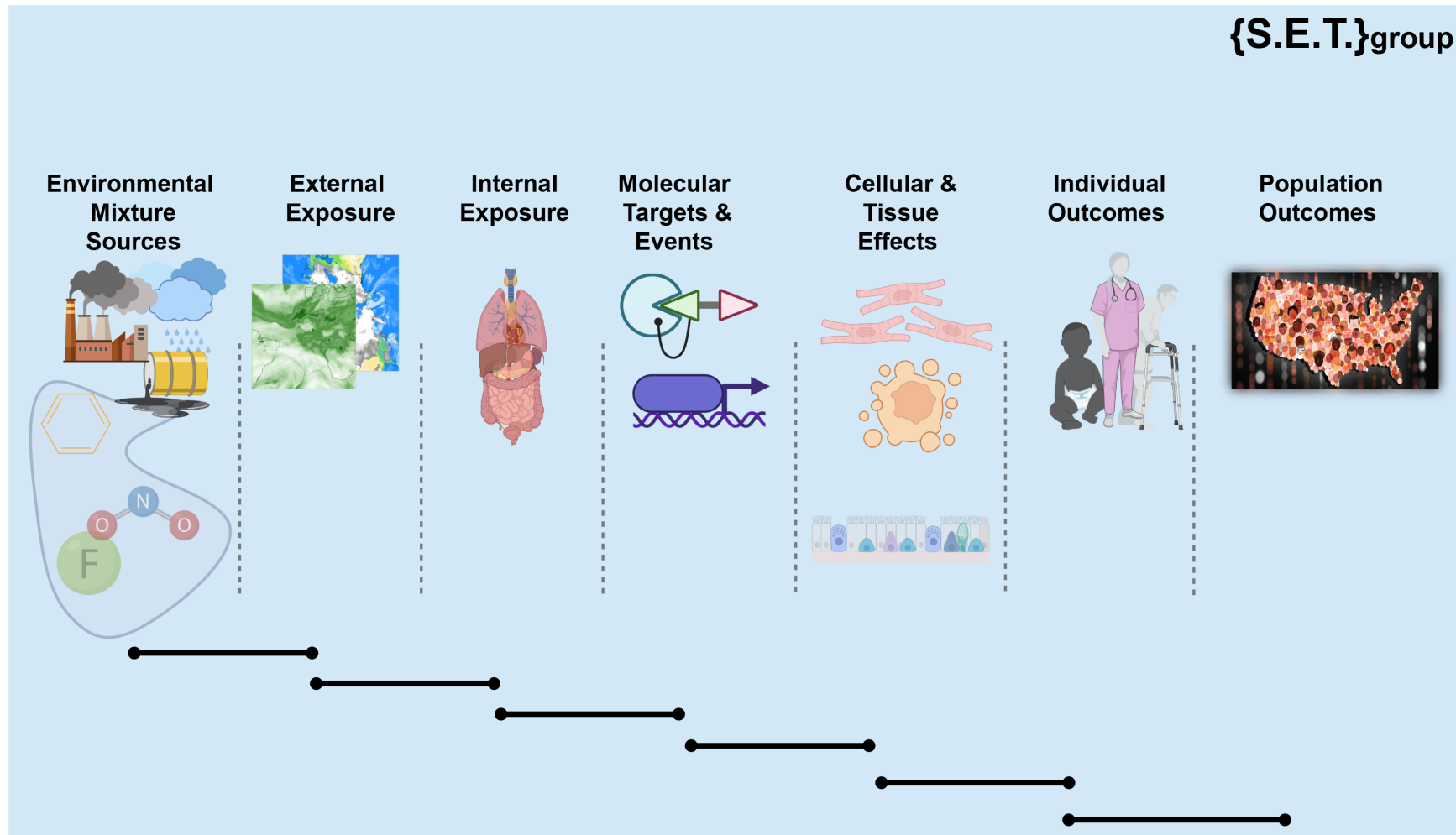
Household income  
Inequality  
Social capital  
Social networks  
Cultural norms  
Cultural capital  
Psychological and mental stress



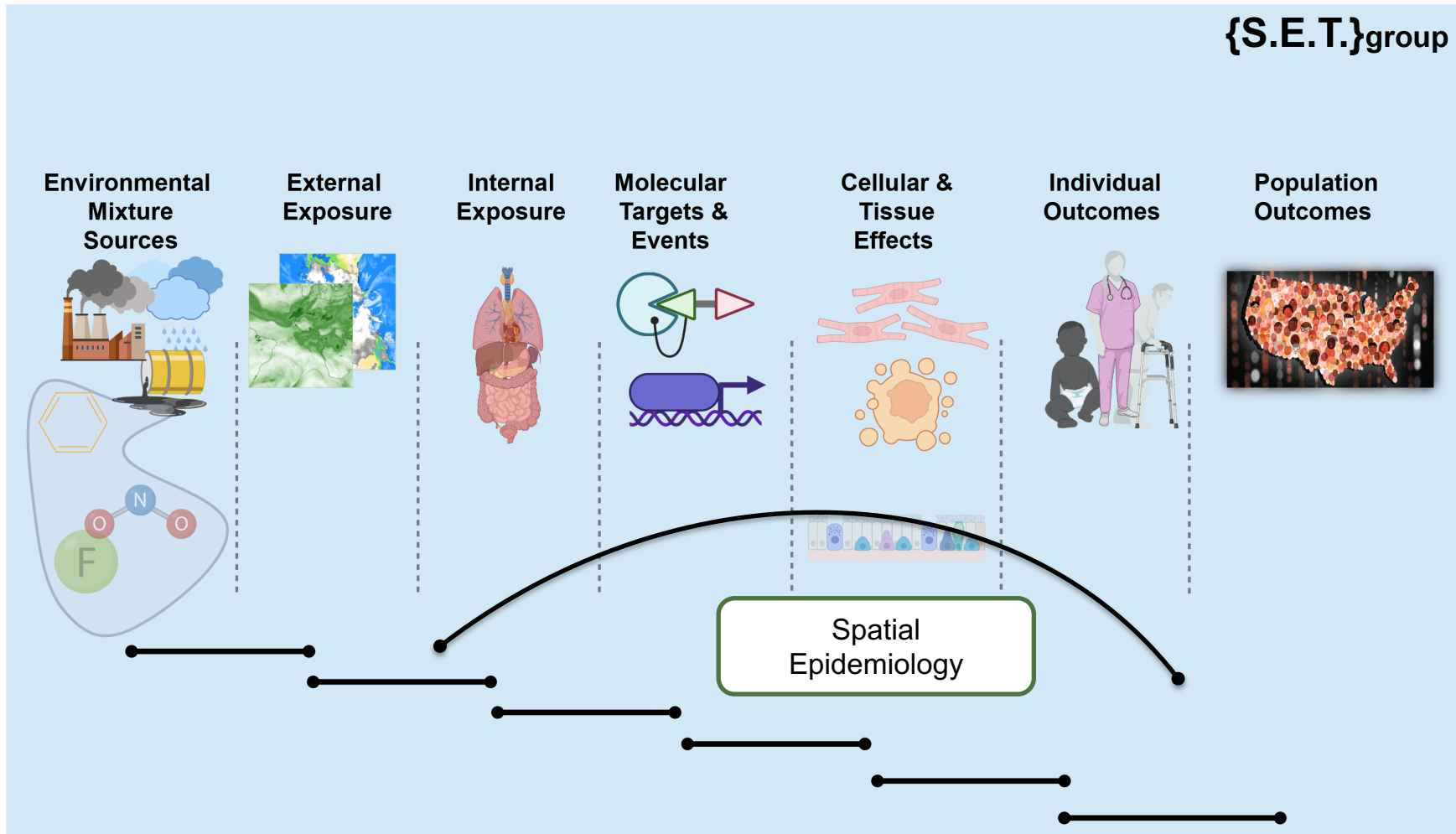
### Physical-Chemical

Temperature/humidity  
Electromagnetic fields  
Ambient light  
Odor and noise  
Point, line sources, e.g.  
factories, ports  
Outdoor and indoor air  
pollution  
Agricultural activities,  
livestock  
Pollen/mold/fungus  
Pesticides  
Fragrance products  
Flame retardants (PBDEs)  
Persistent organic pollutants  
Plastic and plasticizers  
Food contaminants  
Soil contaminants  
Drinking water contamination  
Groundwater contamination  
Surface water contamination  
Occupational exposures

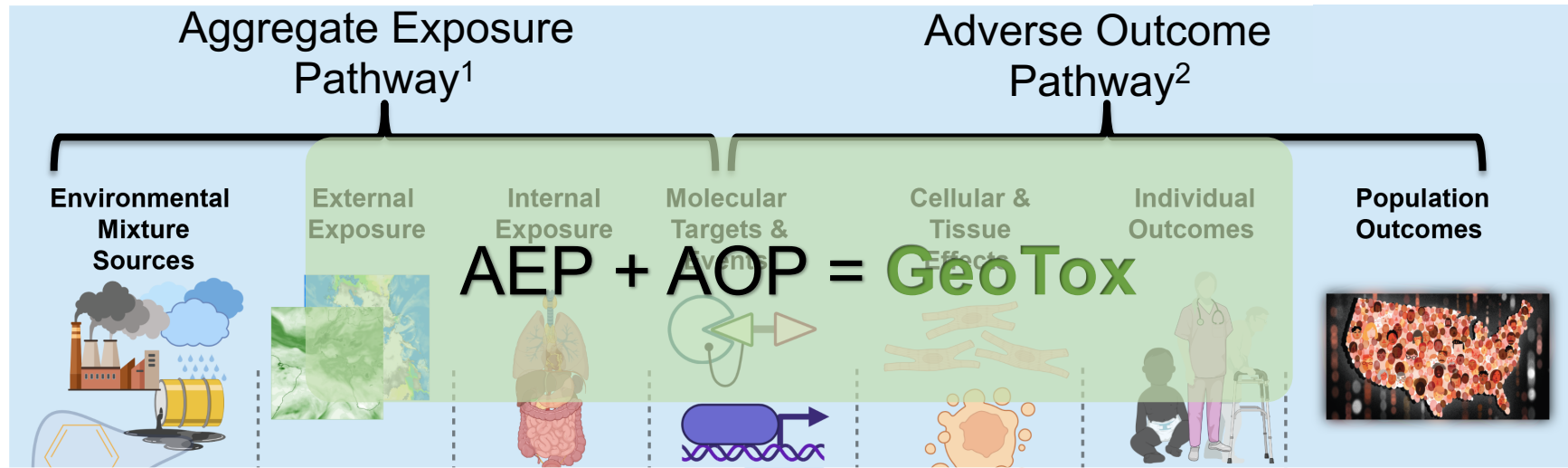
The exposome and health: Where chemistry meets biology, Volume: 367, Issue: 6476, Pages: 392-396, DOI: (10.1126/science.aay3164)



A Cascade of Events: The Events MUST Occur In This Order



Bypasses the Mechanisms



AEP is a comprehensive external analysis of source, media, and transformations

AOPs provide a linkage specific biological target, pathway or process by a stressor and an adverse outcome(s) considered relevant to risk assessment

1. Teeguarden JG, Tan YM, Edwards SW, Leonard JA, Anderson KA, Corley RA, Kile ML, Simonich SM, Stone D, Tanguay RL, Waters KM. Completing the link between exposure science and toxicology for improved environmental health decision making: the aggregate exposure pathway framework.

2. <http://aop.wiki.org>; Society for the Advancement of Adverse Outcome Pathways

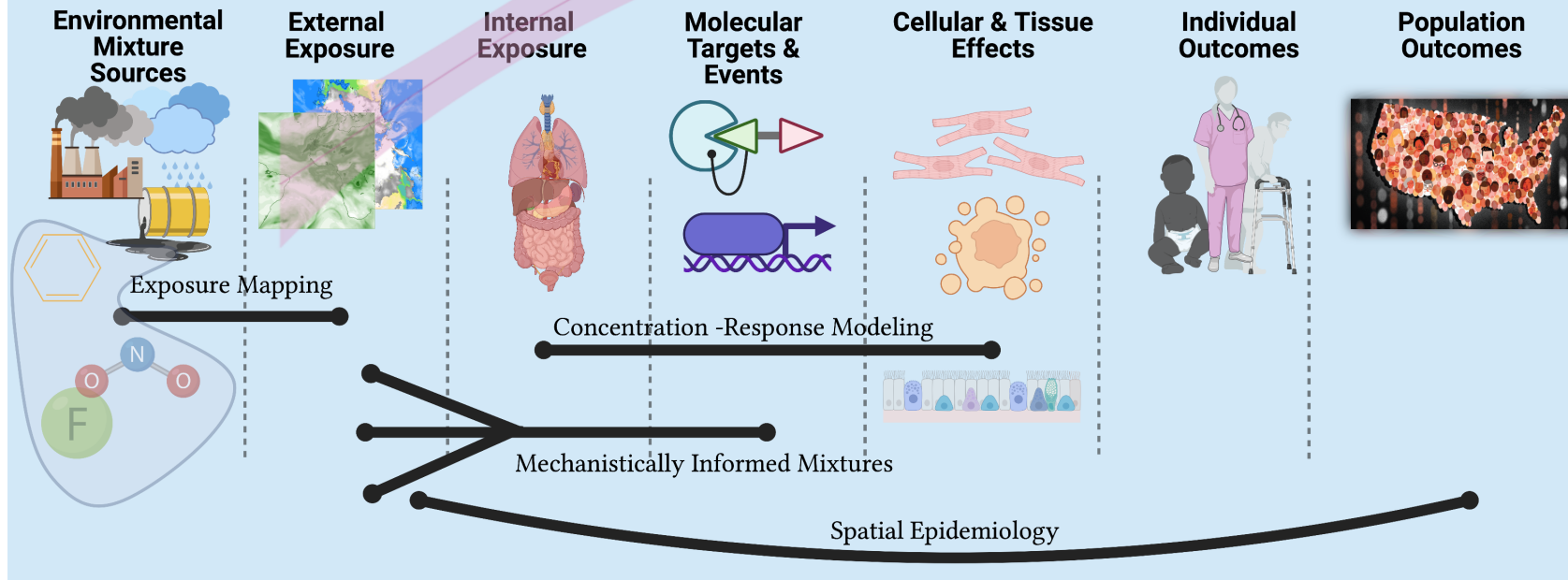


# Environmental Exposure Assessments and Mechanistically-Informed Mixture Risk Assessments Using Spatiotemporal Statistics

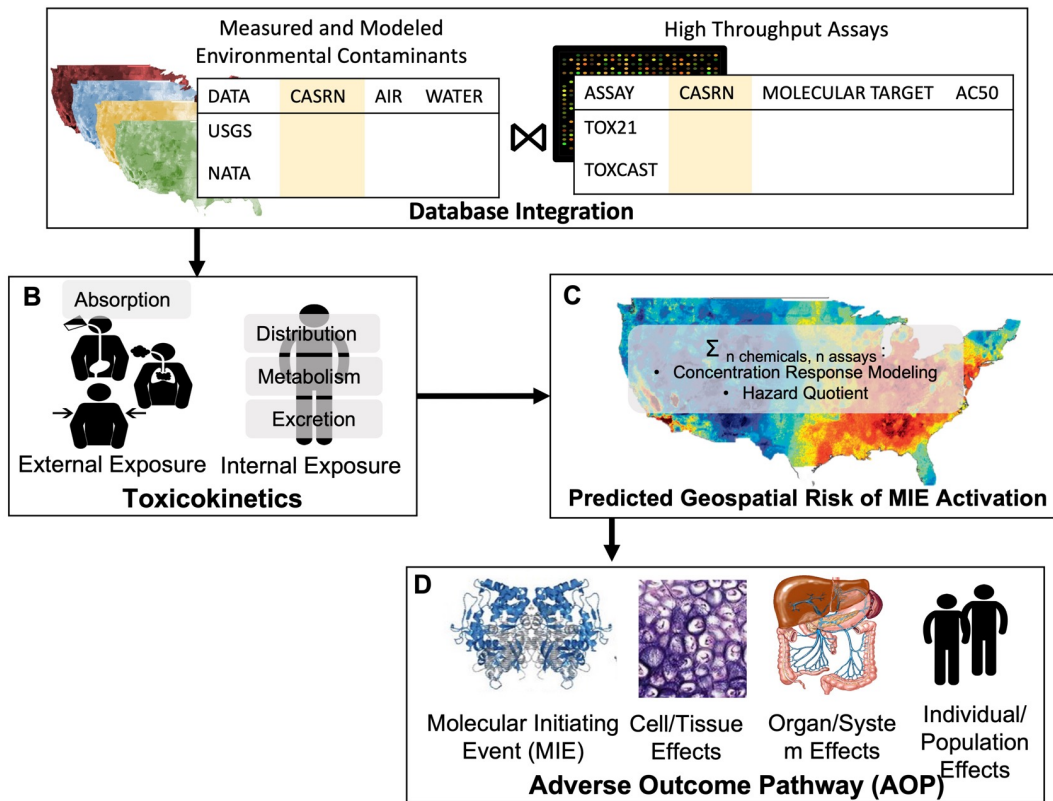
{ S.E.T. }<sub>group</sub>

$$\eta \sim GP(\mu, \Sigma)$$

$$\min_{\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \left\{ \frac{1}{N} \|y - X\beta\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\beta\|_1 \right\}$$



# GeoTox Proof of Concept



Group Alum:  
Kristin Eccles, PhD  
Health Canada

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

ELSEVIER Science of the Total Environment journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/scitotenv](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/scitotenv)

A geospatial modeling approach to quantifying the risk of exposure to environmental chemical mixtures via a common molecular target

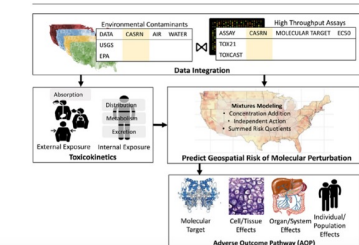
Kristin M. Eccles<sup>a</sup>, Agnes L. Karmaus<sup>b</sup>, Nicole C. Kleinstreuer<sup>a</sup>, Fred Parham<sup>a</sup>, Cynthia V. Rider<sup>a</sup>, John F. Wambaugh<sup>c</sup>, Kyle P. Messier<sup>a,\*</sup>

<sup>a</sup> National Institute of Environmental Health Science, Division of the Translational Toxicology, Durham, USA  
<sup>b</sup> Integrated Laboratory Systems, an Inativ Company, Morrisville, NC, USA  
<sup>c</sup> United States Environmental Protection Agency, Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure, Durham, USA

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- We assess the geographic variation for the joint effect of many chemical exposures.
- This example workflow integrates NAMs with chemical exposure data.
- The biological perturbations were heterogeneously distributed across space.
- Exposure concentrations, demographics, and toxicokinetics influence variability.
- We provide methods for modeling the source-exposure-effect continuum.

**GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT**




## Key Steps in GeoTox Risk Mapping

External  
Exposure

- Geospatial models:
- Gaussian process, land-use regression, chemical transport

Internal  
Exposure

- Inhalation, Ingestion, Dermal absorption

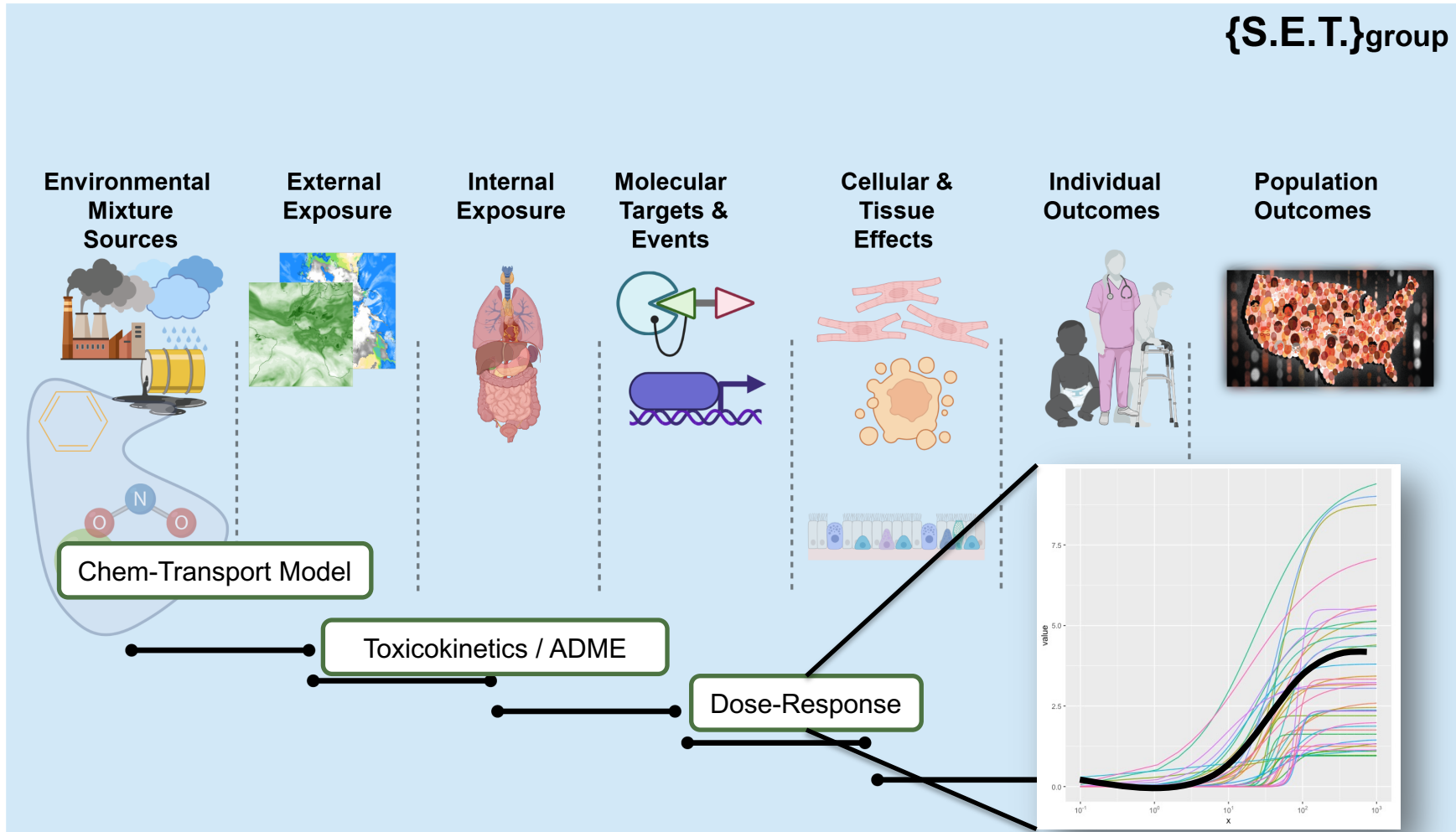
In vitro  
equivalent dose

- Physiologically Based Toxicokinetic Models
- IVIVE

Dose Response  
Modeling

- Toxicological Mixtures Predictions
- Generalized Concentration Addition, Independent Action

{S.E.T.}group

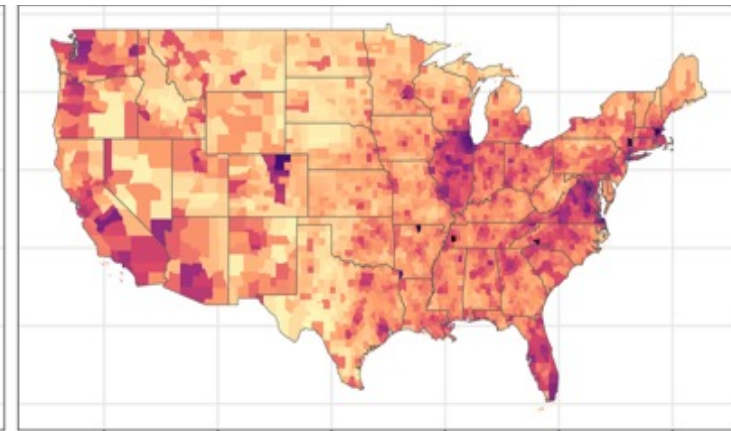
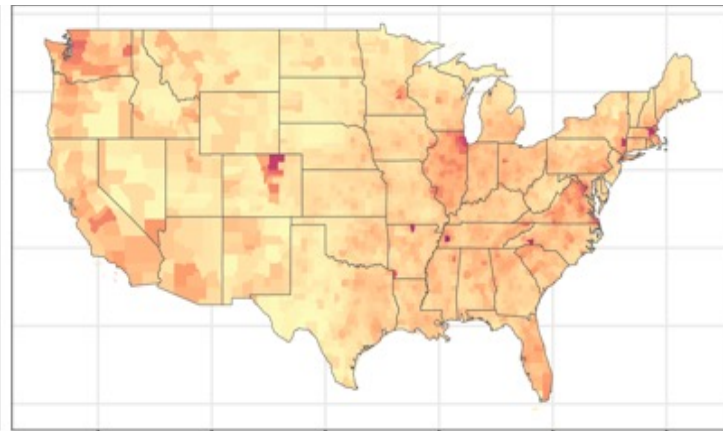
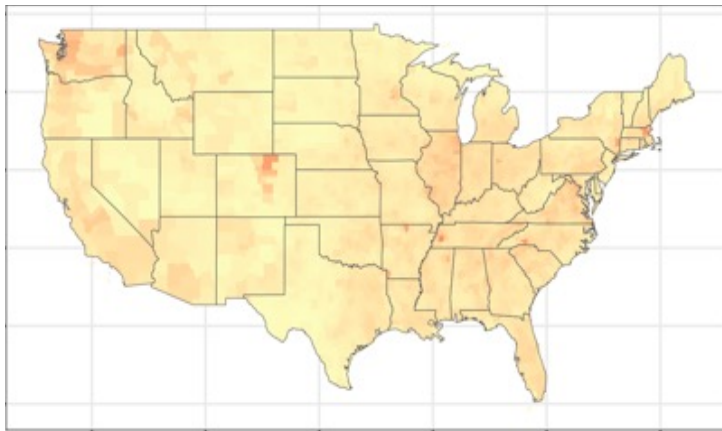


# Mapped Risk of Molecular Perturbation

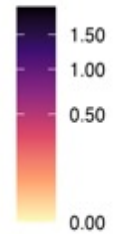
5th Percentile

Median

95th Percentile



Predicted Response  
Log<sub>2</sub> Fold Change  
mRNA Expression



## Current Applications of GeoTox



Ex 1: Air pollution causing impaired mucociliary clearance



Ex 2: VOC exposures in air and water leading to increased eczema



Mapped AOP Key Events



Large Scale Molecular Epidemiology

## Some of the Current Limitations of GeoTox

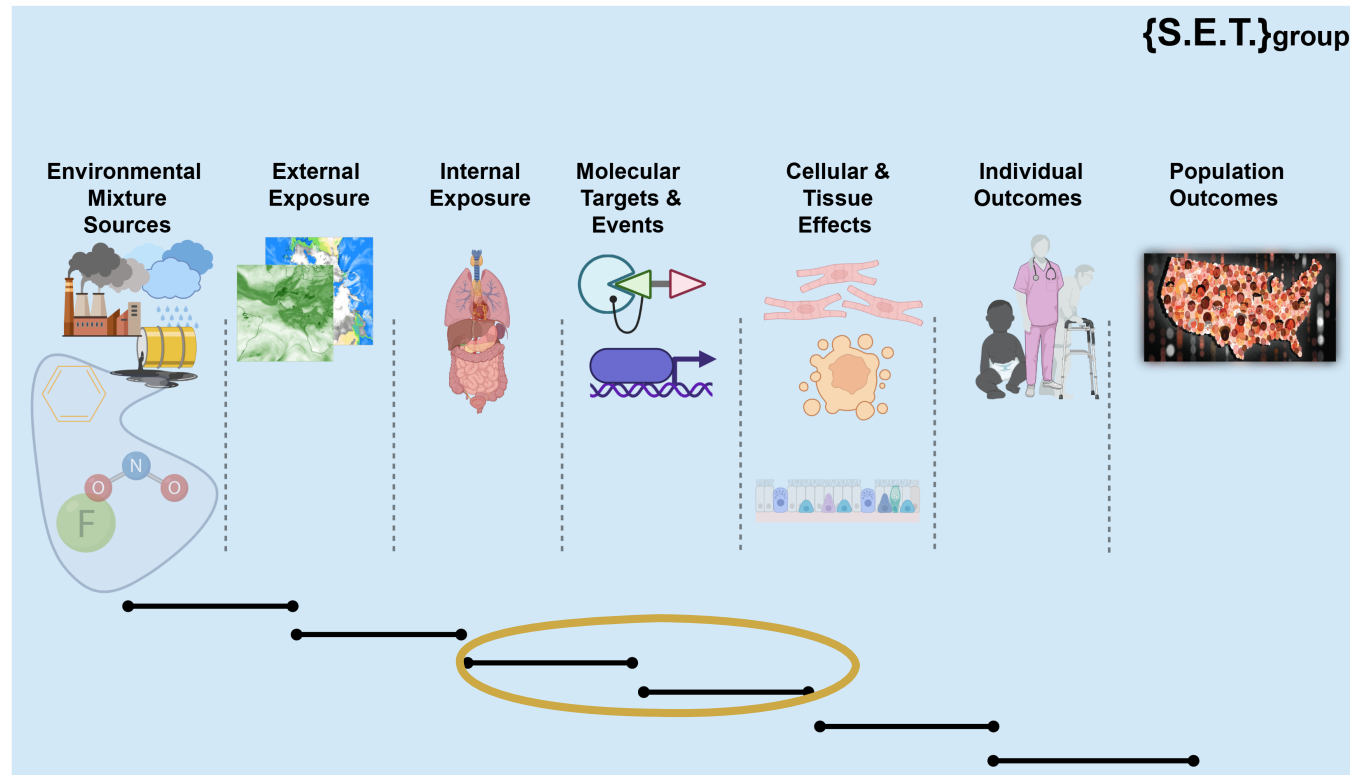


Infinite Mixtures Problem



Geospatial chemical exposure models have a “lamp-post” problem

# Improving Chemical Mixture Prediction



Postdoctoral Fellow:  
Daniel Zilber, PhD



## A little math

$$R = f(c|\alpha, \theta, \beta) = \frac{\alpha}{1 + \left(\frac{\theta}{c}\right)^\beta}$$

3 parameter hill model

$$C = f^{-1}(R|\alpha, \theta, \beta) = \frac{\theta}{\left(\frac{\alpha}{R} - 1\right)^{1/\beta}}$$

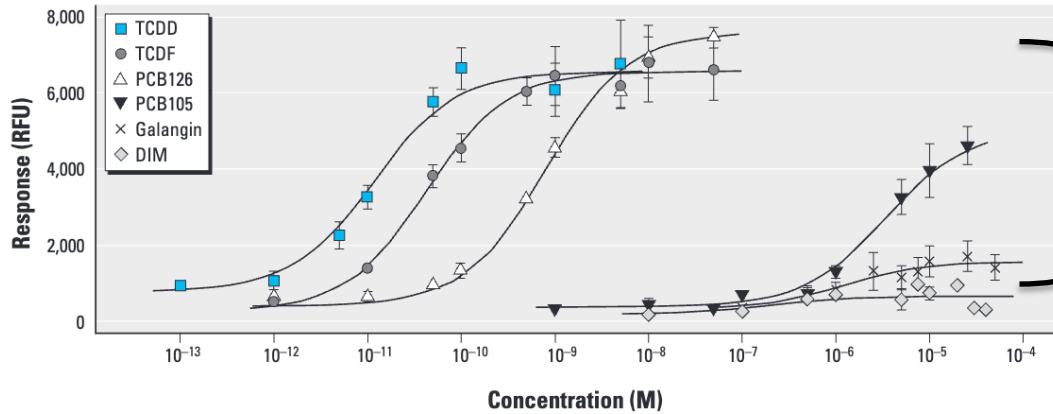
3 parameter hill model inverse

Parameters  $\begin{cases} \alpha & \text{Sill/maximal effect} \\ \theta & \text{Inflection/ Half maximal effect} \\ \beta & \text{Slope at inflection} \end{cases}$

# Generalized Concentration Addition (GCA)

- Concentration Addition

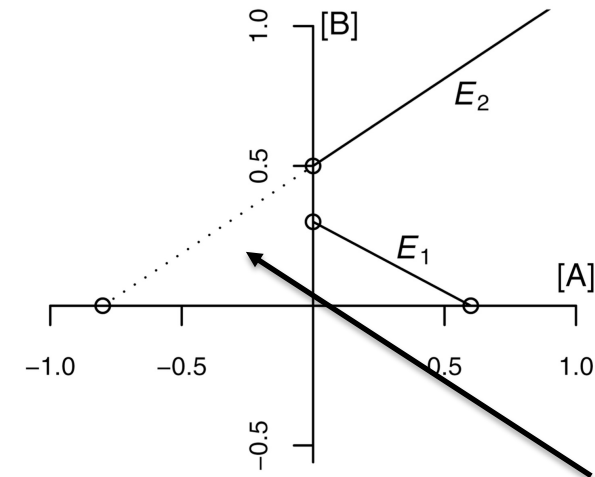
$$\sum_i \frac{C_i}{EC_i(R)} = 1$$



Mixture response can exceed the maximal response (sill) of partial agonists

- Generalized Concentration Addition

$$\sum_i \frac{C_i}{f_i^{-1}(R)} = 1$$

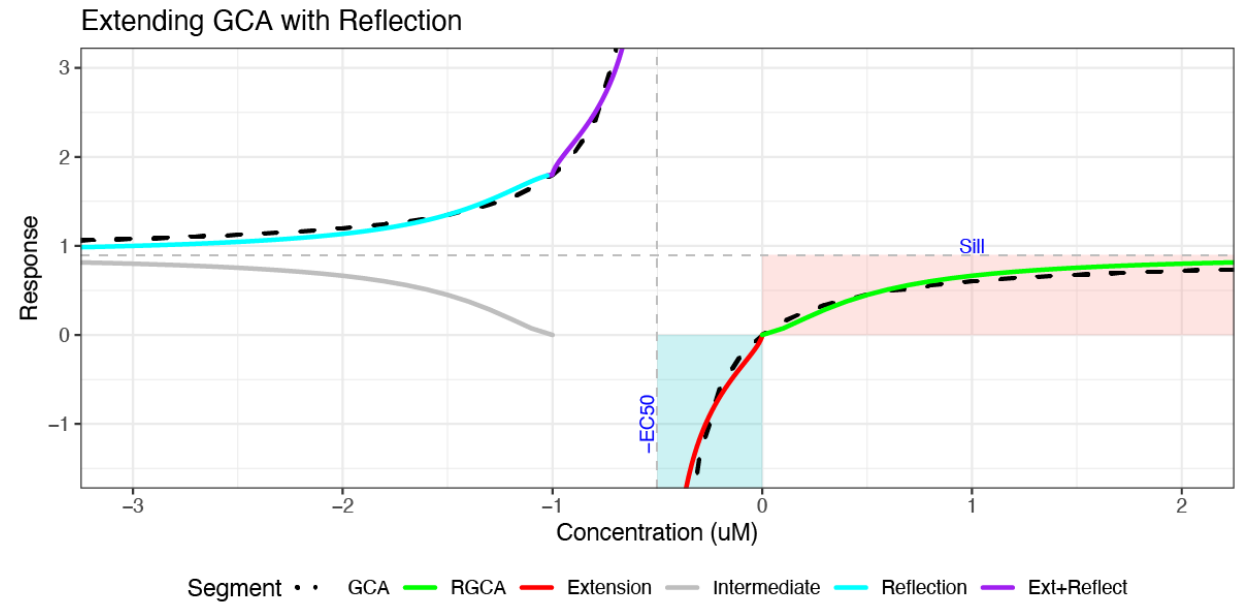


GCA allows for partial agonists to contribute a "negative" concentration to the mixture response

# Reflected Generalized Concentration Addition (RGCA)

- RGCA proposes a geometric technique that piece-wise reflects the inverse function such that it achieves defined inverse functions for 3+ parameter hill (i.e. sigmoidal) models

$$c = f^{-1}(R|\alpha > 0, \theta, \beta = 1) = \begin{cases} -\frac{\theta}{1+(\frac{-\alpha}{R})^\beta} & R \in (-\infty, 0) \\ \theta \left(\frac{\alpha}{R} - 1\right)^{-1/\beta} & R \in [0, \alpha) \\ -2\theta - \theta \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\alpha - R} - 1\right)^{-1/\beta} & R \in (\alpha, 2\alpha) \\ -2\theta + \frac{\theta}{1+(\frac{\alpha}{R-2\alpha})^\beta} & R \in (2\alpha, \infty) \end{cases}$$



## Some of the Current Limitations of GeoTox



Infinite Mixtures Problem



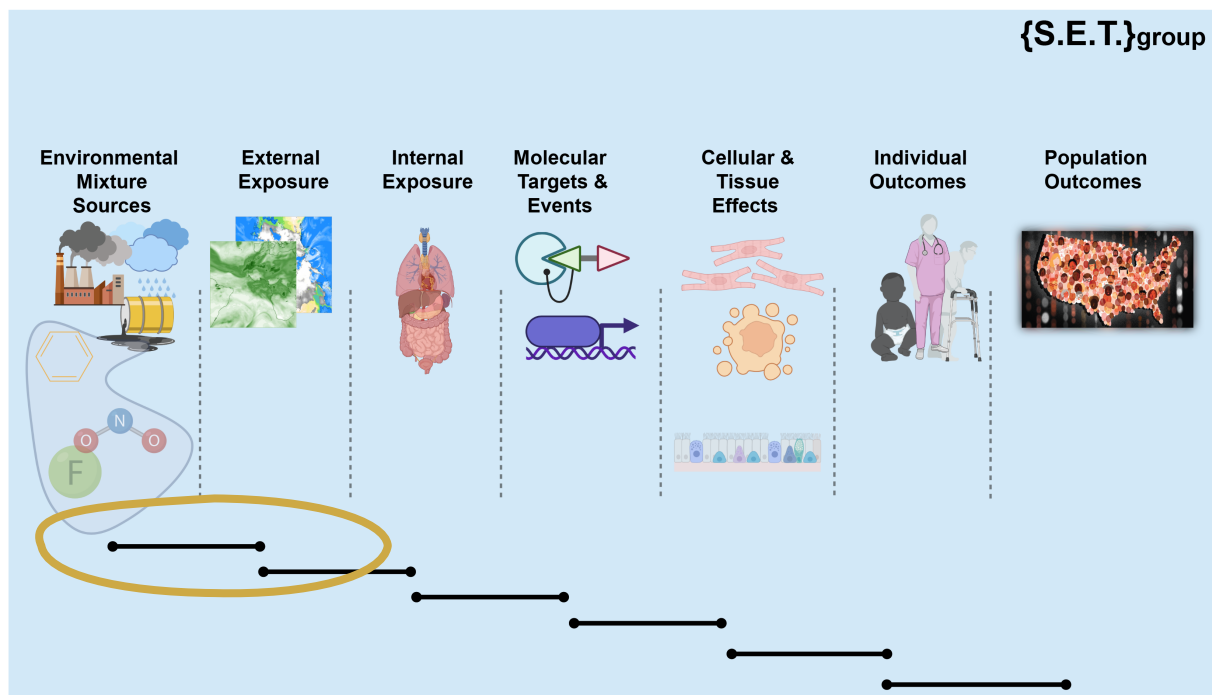
Geospatial chemical exposure models have a “lamp-post” problem

# “Remember who you are”



Please don't sue me, Disney

# Advances in Geospatial Exposure Modeling



1. Modeling Data-Sparse Chemicals
2. Spatially-Explicit Machine Learning Methods
3. Climate Related Exposures
4. Scalable, Interpretable Geospatial Models that deal with censoring
5. Code Development and Accessibility

## Modeling Data Sparse Chemicals



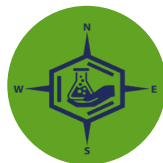
Toxic Releases and National Emissions Inventory



In-vitro mechanistic and toxicity assays



Atmospheric Dispersion Model with ML



Goal: Exposure predictions for 100+ chemicals without information



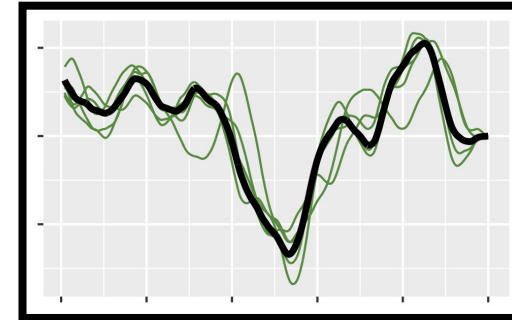
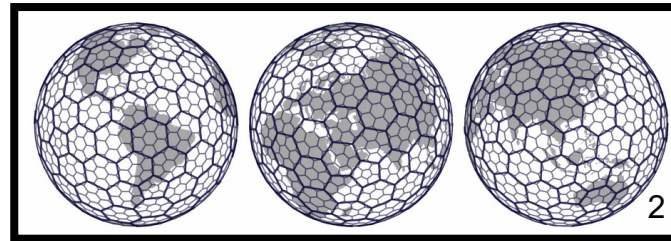
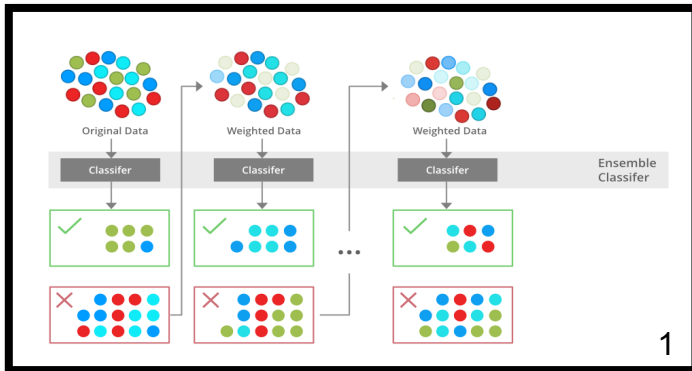
Postdoctoral Fellow:  
Mariana Alifa, PhD

# Spatially-Explicit Machine Learning Methods

Gradient Boosting

Spatiotemporal Random Subsampling

Scalable Gaussian Processes



$$\eta \sim GP(\mu, \Sigma)$$



Postdoctoral Fellow:  
Ranadeep Daw, PhD



# Climate Exposures Modeling



Data Source Integration: Satellite, Reference Monitoring, Citizen Sensors



High-Resolution Temperature and Humidity Maps



Hierarchical Spatiotemporal Model



Climate Modifications of AEP and AOP



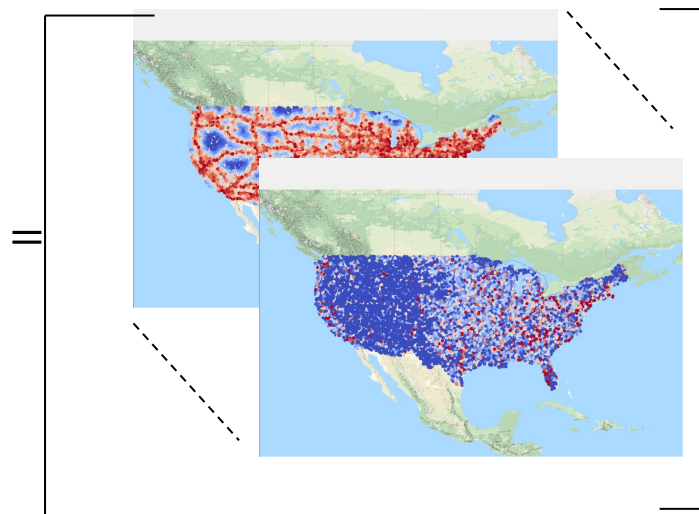
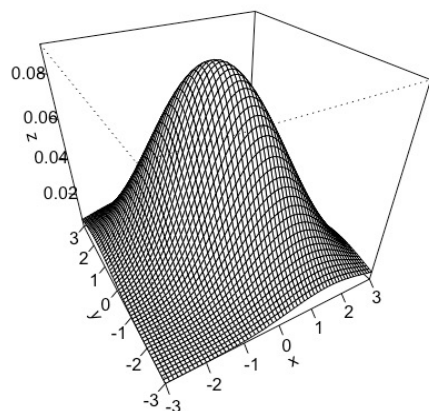
Epidemiological Relevant Exposure Metrics



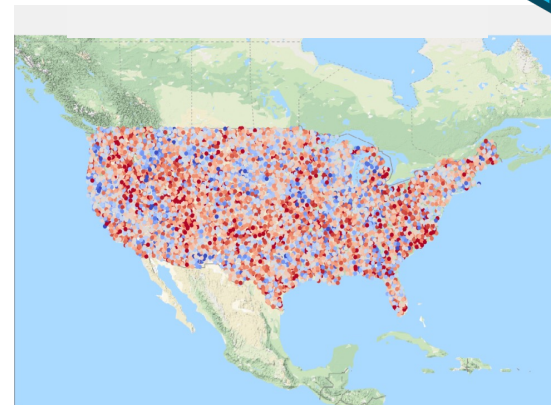
Postdoctoral Fellow:  
Eva Marques, PhD

# Scalable, Interpretable Geospatial Models with censoring

$$Y(s) = X^T(s) \beta + \varepsilon(s)$$



$\beta$  +



$Y(s)$  is assumed Gaussian →  
The joint distributions are multivariate normal with mean  $X\beta$  and covariance  $\Sigma_\theta$

- GIS Covariates
- Spatial, temporal, spatiotemporal
- Easily 100 to 1000's

- Spatiotemporal error
- $$Cov(\varepsilon(s), \varepsilon(s')) = C(\mathbf{h}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

# Penalized Spatiotemporal Regression

$$f(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathcal{N}_n(\mathbf{z} | \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\theta)$$

Multivariate Gaussian Density

$$Q(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \underbrace{-2 \log f(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\beta}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}_{\text{Likelihood}} + \underbrace{\lambda p(\boldsymbol{\beta})}_{\text{Density}} = \underbrace{(\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\theta^{-1} (\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\beta})}_{\text{Penalty}} + \log |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\theta| + \lambda p(\boldsymbol{\beta})$$

- Simultaneous estimation of covariates and spatiotemporal error parameters
- Computational Scaling via the General Vecchia Approximation
- Model selection via a penalty
- Matérn Cross-Covariances
- Censoring Imputation via Truncated Normal Distribution

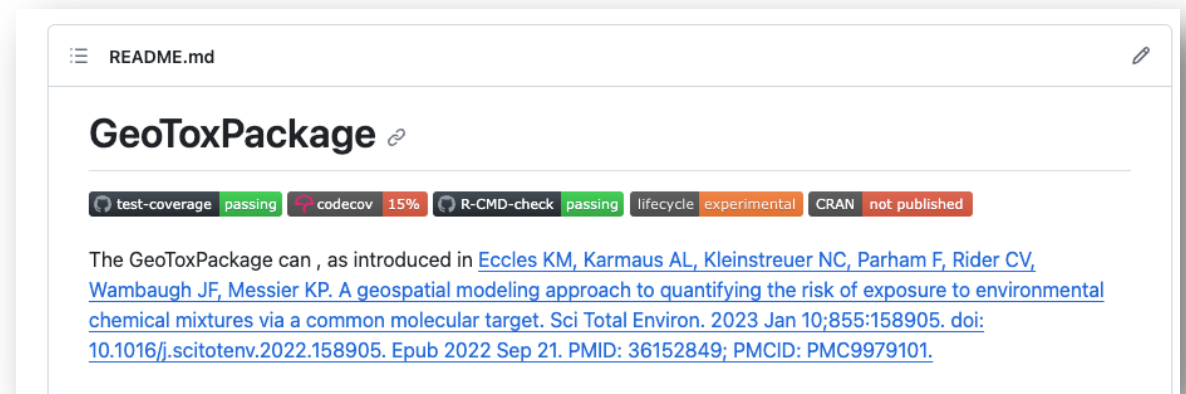
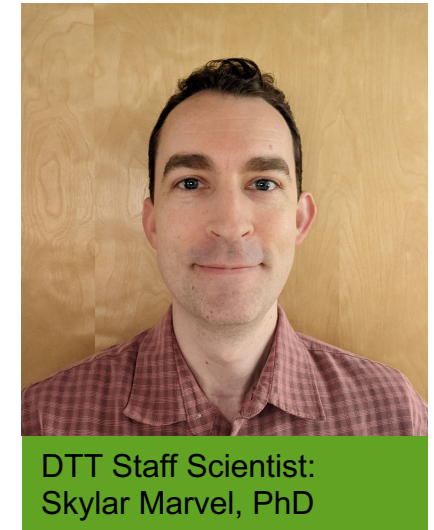


# Continuous Developments



## GeoTox R package

- R package expected by Society of Toxicology meeting (March 2024)
- Increase accessibility and extensibility of GeoTox
- Improve computational speed
- Incorporate time resolution



☰ README.md ✎

### GeoToxPackage [↗](#)

test-coverage passing codecov 15% R-CMD-check passing lifecycle experimental CRAN not published

The GeoToxPackage can , as introduced in [Eccles KM, Karmaus AL, Kleinstreuer NC, Parham F, Rider CV, Wambaugh JF, Messier KP. A geospatial modeling approach to quantifying the risk of exposure to environmental chemical mixtures via a common molecular target. Sci Total Environ. 2023 Jan 10;855:158905. doi: 10.1016/j.scitotenv.2022.158905. Epub 2022 Sep 21. PMID: 36152849; PMCID: PMC9979101.](#)

## Mixtures Predictions

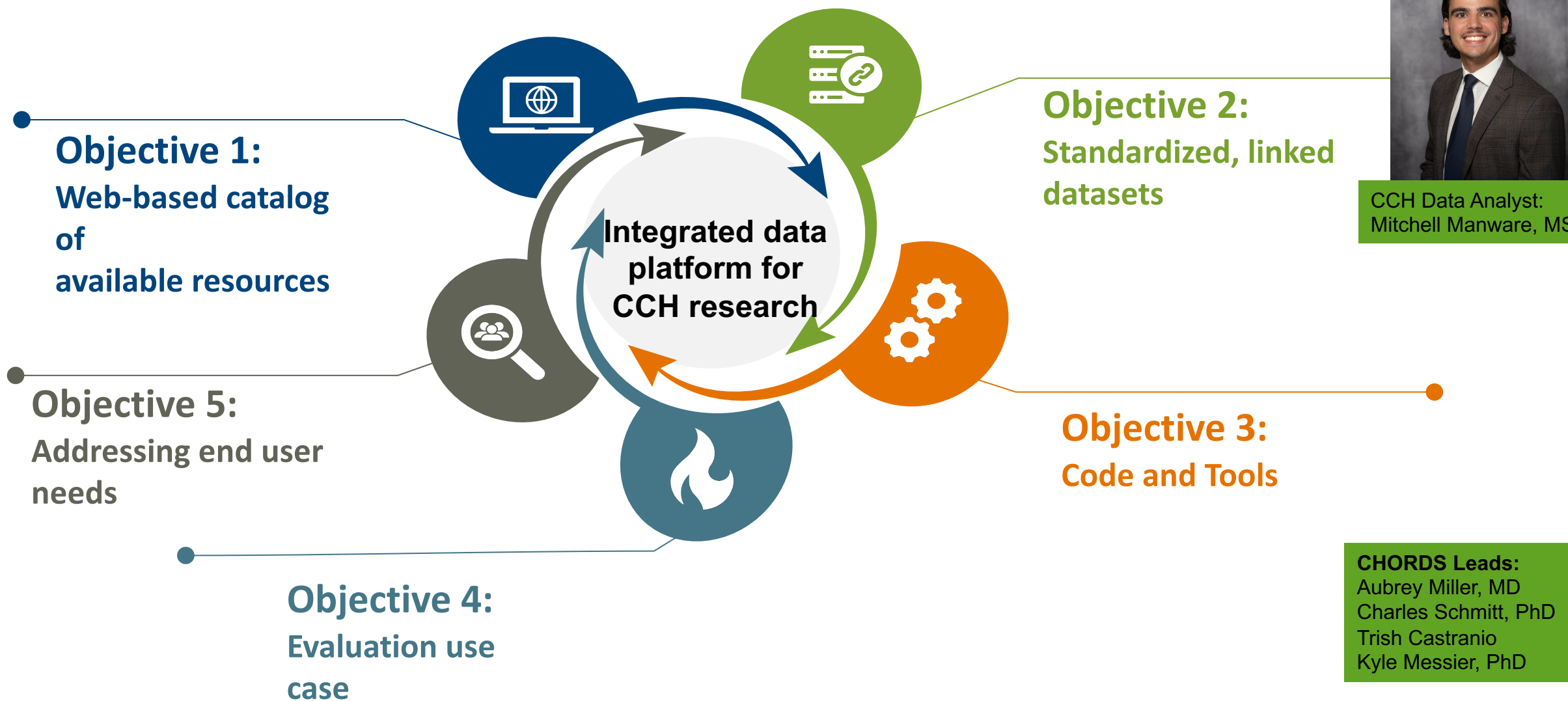


Synergy &  
Antagonism

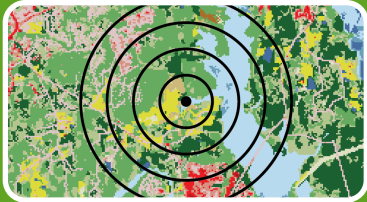


QSAR and Docking  
Mechanisms

# Climate Health Outcomes Research and Data Systems → CHORDS

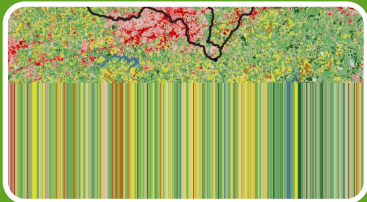


# Scalable GIS Tools for Environment, Climate, and Health



## Raster and Vector Processing

- Usable for a laptop
- Blazing fast on high-performance computing



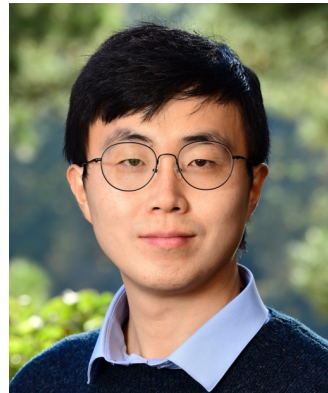
## Sophisticated GIS covariates

- Most common GIS covariates for environmental health
- Non-Isotropic buffers
- Mechanistic



## Documented and Tested

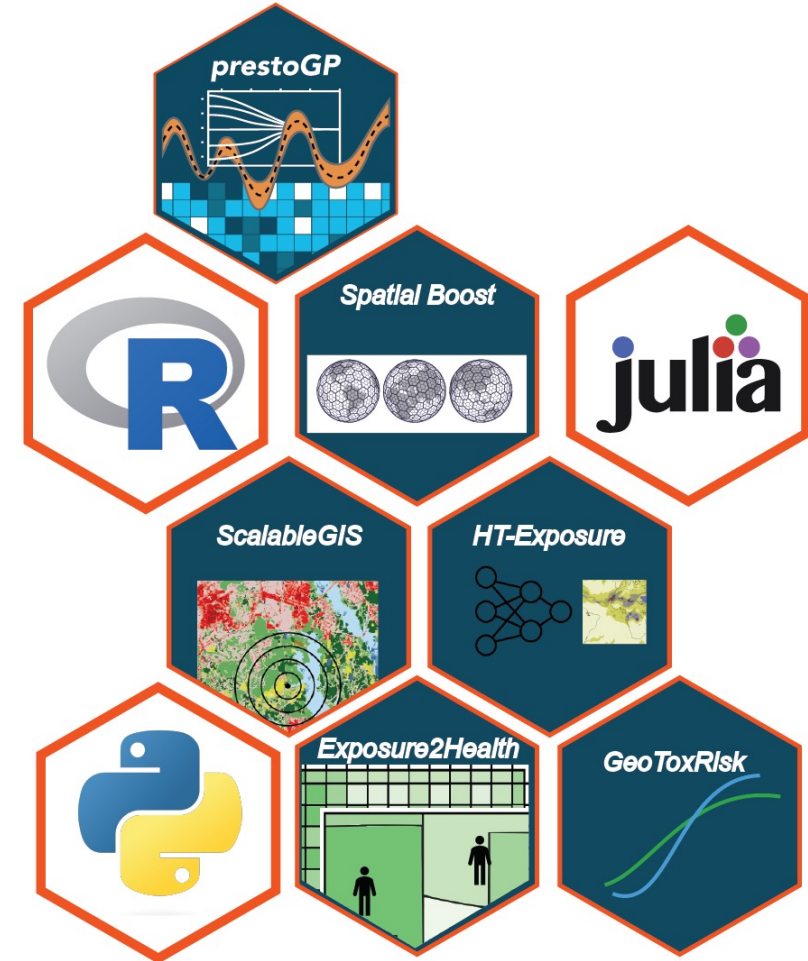
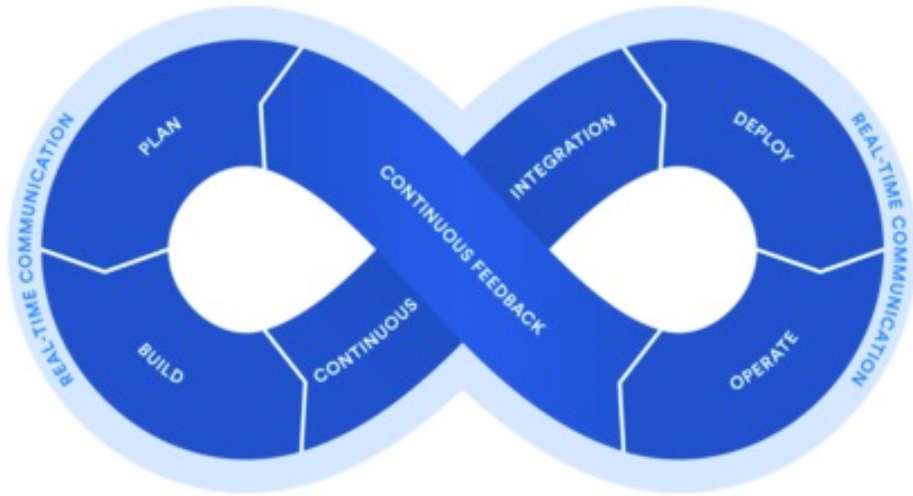
- Documentation
- Vignettes
- Unit Tests
- Build and System Tests



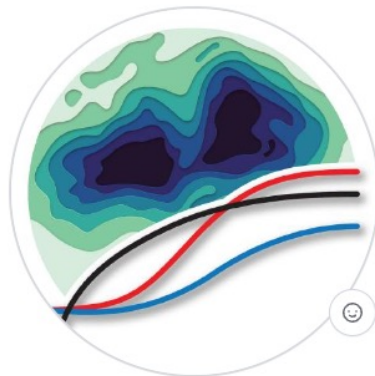
Postdoctoral Fellow:  
Insang Song, PhD



# FAIR+ Data Science Standards



# Documented, Tested, and Open



## {SET}group

Spatiotemporal-Exposures-and-Toxicology

Kyle P Messier, PhD Stadtman  
Investigator -- Geospatial exposure and risk assessment methods with tox data integration. He/Him @NIEHS

Edit profile

5 followers · 2 following

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences  
Research Triangle Park, North Carolina  
13:08 (UTC -04:00)  
<https://www.niehs.nih.gov/research/atniehs/labs/ptb/spatiotemporal/index.cfm>

Spatiotemporal-Exposures-and-Toxicology / README.md

## { Spatiotemporal Exposures and Toxicology }

GitHub for open-source code and projects from {SET}.


### Methods Used

- Spatial and Spatiotemporal Statistics
  - Gaussian processes
  - Penalized Regression
- Geographic Information Systems
- Land Use Regression
- Artificial Neural Networks

### Software We Use

- R, RMarkdown, RShiny
- Julia
- Python, PyTorch
- Linux
- Jupyter Notebooks

Pinned

 **NRTAPmodel** (Public)  
Near Real Time Air Pollution I  
R

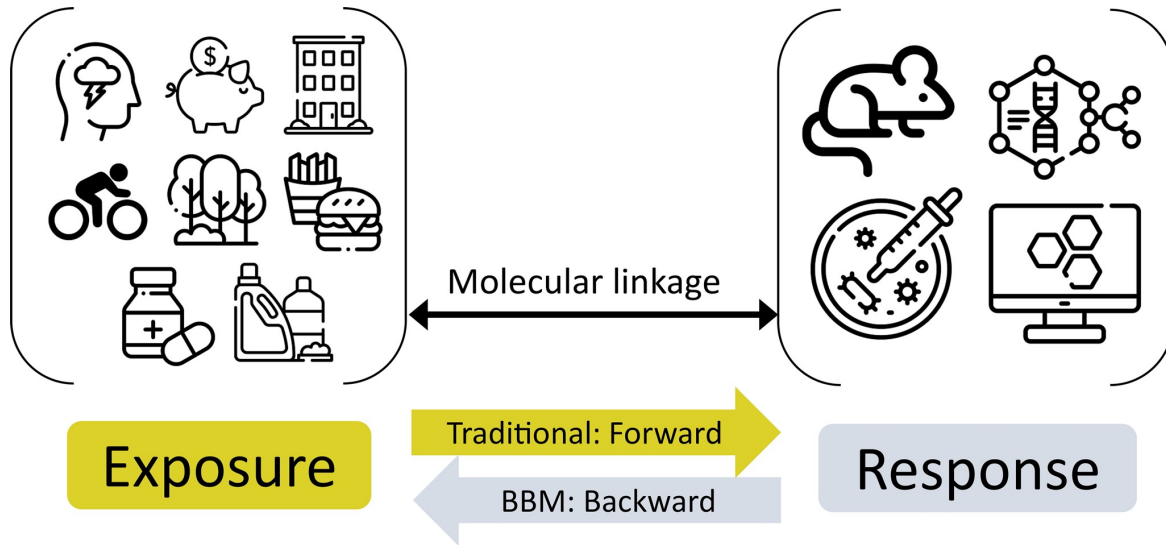
README.md

test-coverage **passing** | codecov **68%** | R-CMD-check **passing** | lint **passing** | lifecycle **experimental**

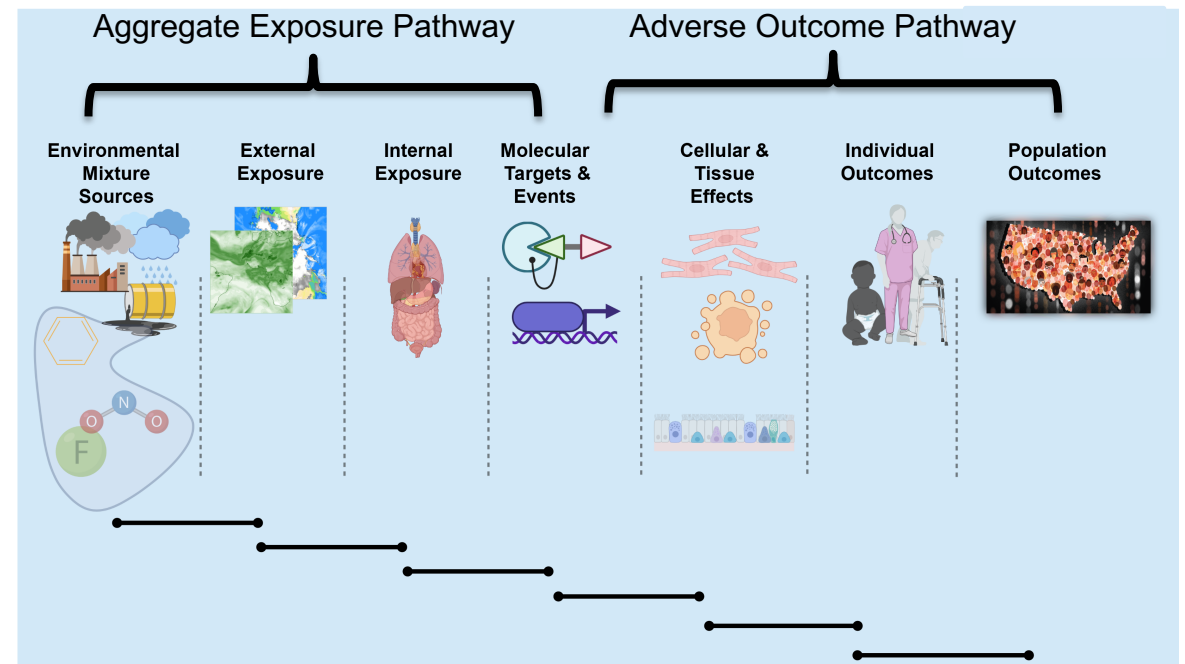
## Air Pollution Data for the Masses: An Open-Access, Tested, Updated PM<sub>2.5</sub> Hybrid Model

Group Project for the Spatiotemporal Exposures and Toxicology group with help from friends 🤝👑🌍

# Competing and Complementary Ideas



AEP + AOP = **GeoTox**



# Acknowledgements

## SET group

- Daniel Zilber, PhD
- Insang Song, PhD
- Mariana Alifa, PhD
- Ranadeep Daw, PhD
- Eva Marques, PhD
- Alumni:
  - Kristin Eccles, PhD
  - Melissa Lowe, MS
  - Taylor Potter, BA

## CHORDS

- Aubrey Miller, MD
- Charles Schmitt, PhD
- Trisha Castranio, MS
- Ann Liu, PhD
- Gwen Collman, PhD
- Mike Conway, PhD
- Deep Patel, PhD
- Richard Kwok, PhD

## DTT

- David Reif, PhD
- Skylar Marvel, PhD
- Kristin Eccles, PhD
- Cynthia Rider, PhD
- Nicole Kleinstreuer, PhD
- Fred Parham, PhD

## Biostatistics and Comp Biology

- Alison Motsinger-Reif, PhD
- Matt Wheeler, PhD

## University of Wisconsin

- Matthias Katzfuss, PhD
- MJ Kang, PhD

## Sciome

- Ruchir Shah, PhD
- Eric Bair, PhD
- Brian Kidd, PhD
- Deepak Mav, PhD
- Bekki Elmore, MS