

Table B – Drug Discovery Predictive Toxicology Application

An example of a predictive toxicology application in drug discovery is given using the data on antimalarial compounds made available at the ChEMBL Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) archive (<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/chemblntd/>).

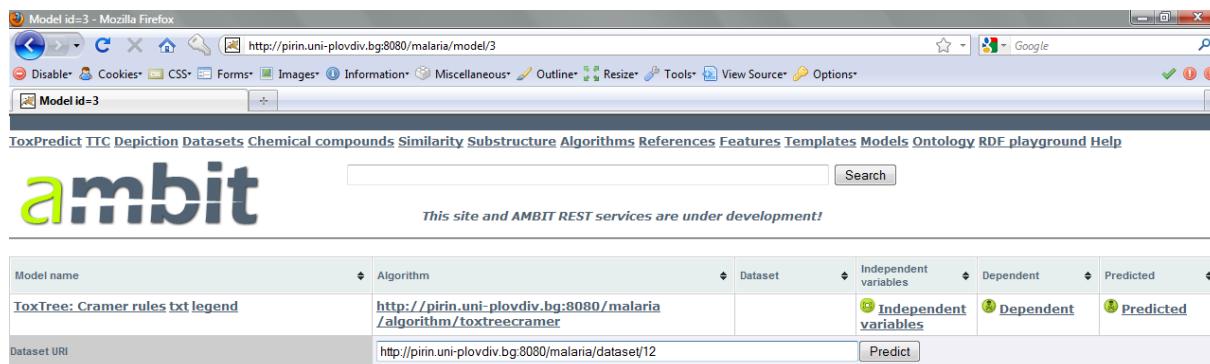
Activity A: Finding low toxicity drug candidates

In this exercise, the antimalarial compounds are prioritized based on a very conservative model for predicting oral toxicity. Experimentally determined cytotoxicities against human cells of the compounds predicted to be safe are further examined, and their mutagenicities predicted. Sites of cytochromeP450 metabolism are predicted for selected compounds with no mutagenicity alerts low human cytotoxicity, but high anti-malarial activity.

Step 1: Predicting Oral Toxicity

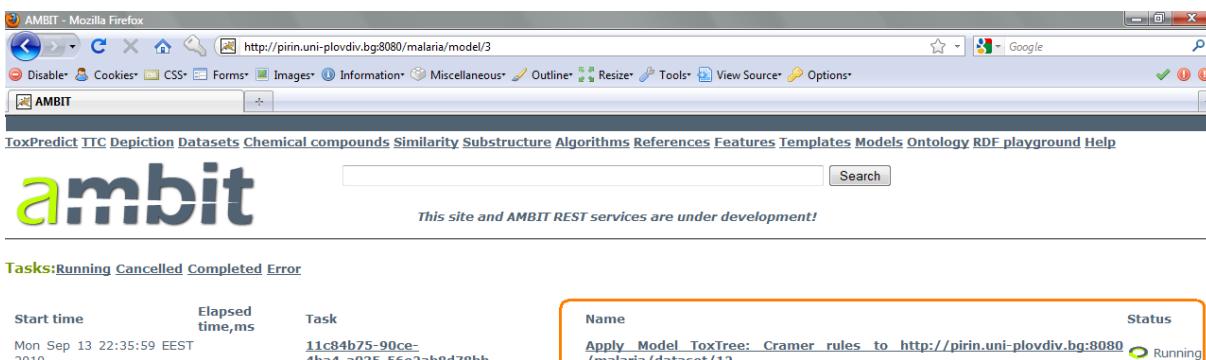
Go to the list of antimalarial datasets at <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/dataset>. We'll first predict oral toxicity for the TCAMS dataset. Start by clicking on the TCAMS dataset link. The URL in the browser should read <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/dataset/12>. You can browse the compounds.

In a new tab of your browser, go to the list of OpenTox models at <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model> (or follow the “Models” link at the top of the page listing the datasets). To predict oral toxicity we will use “Toxtree Cramer rules” model. Clicking on the Cramer rules link will open its page. OpenTox models accept dataset URLs as input (instead of file names). Enter (or paste) the TCAMS URL (“<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/dataset/12>”) into the text box . Click Predict.



Model name	Algorithm	Dataset	Independent variables	Dependent variables	Predicted
ToxTree: Cramer rules txt legend	http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/_algorithm/toxtreecramer		 Independent variables	 Dependent variables	 Predicted
Dataset URI	http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/dataset/12				<input type="button" value="Predict"/>

Predict will launch calculations. You might click on the links to find out if the calculations are completed.



The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with the URL <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/3>. The page title is "AMBIT". The menu bar includes "AMBIT", "File", "Edit", "View", "Tools", "Help", and "About". Below the menu is a navigation bar with links: ToxPredict, TTC, Depiction, Datasets, Chemical compounds, Similarity, Substructure, Algorithms, References, Features, Templates, Models, Ontology, RDF playground, and Help. A search bar is present. The main content area displays a table of tasks:

Start time	Elapsed time,ms	Task	Name	Status
Mon Sep 13 22:35:59 EEST 2010		11c84b75-90ce-4ba4-a035-56e2ab8d78bb	Apply Model ToxTree: Cramer rules to http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/dataset/12	Running

A note at the bottom says: "This site and AMBIT REST services are under development!"

When completed, clicking on the link will lead to a dataset with the results.

The Cramer rules model is an implementation of Cramer et al., *Estimation of Toxic Hazard - A Decision Tree Approach*, J Cosmet Toxicol, Vol. 16, pp. 255–276, Pergamon Press, 1978. It comprises 33 structural rules and places evaluated compounds into one of three classes:

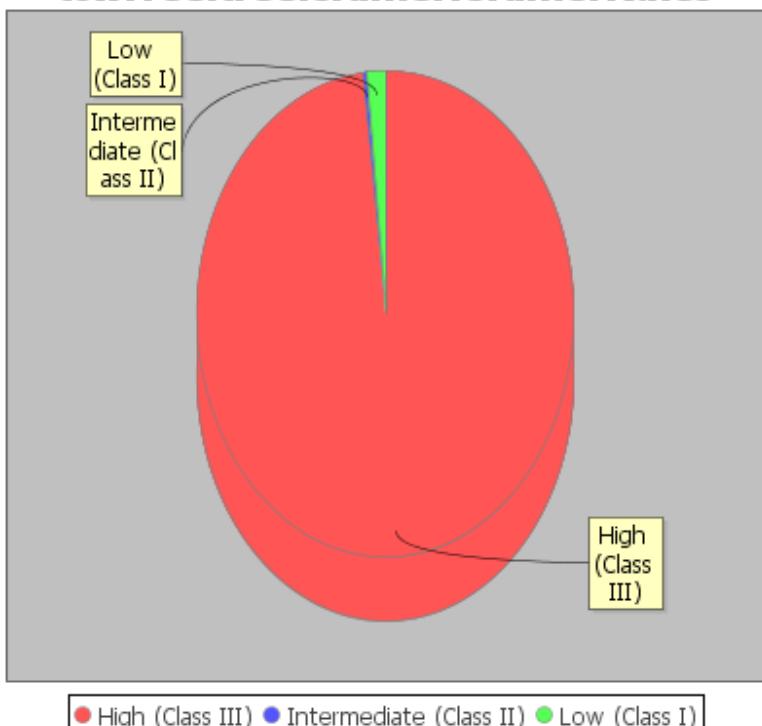
- Class I substances are simple chemical structures with efficient modes of metabolism suggesting a low order of oral toxicity;
- Class III substances are those that permit no strong initial presumption of safety, or may even suggest significant toxicity or have reactive functional groups; and finally,
- Class II are intermediate. This model is very conservative and places most of the compounds in Class III.

During this exercise, we'll look for compounds of low toxicity (Class I) and high antimalarial activity.

There are small number of Class I compounds, the distribution can be seen via the OpenTox chart generation service

[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/chart/pie?dataset_uri=http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/dataset/12&feature_uris\[\]="](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/chart/pie?dataset_uri=http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/dataset/12&feature_uris[]=) <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/212>

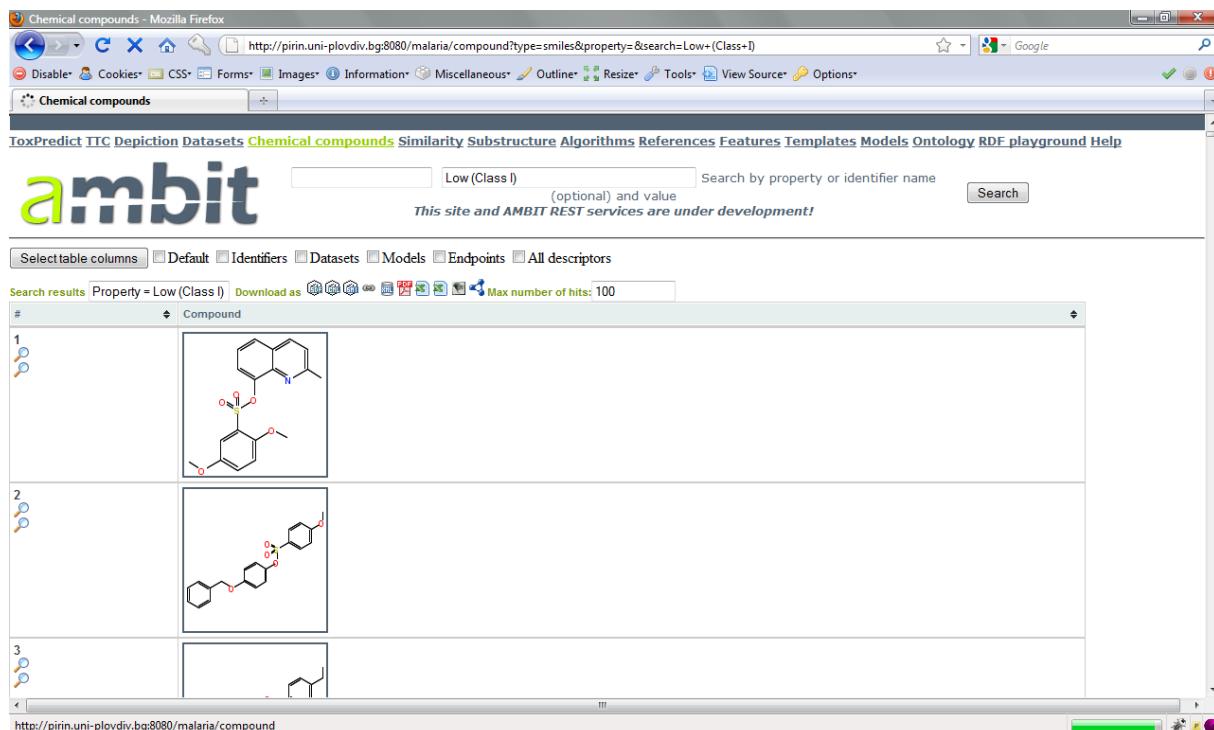
toxTree.tree.cramer.CramerRules



● High (Class III) ● Intermediate (Class II) ● Low (Class I)

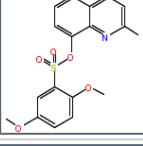
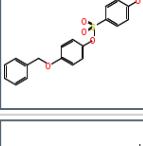
To filter for Class I compounds, click the “Chemical compounds” links on the top, and enter “Low (Class I)” in the search box. This results in the following web address

<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+Class+I> (which could be also used directly, instead of typing the search query in the text box). The results can be browsed as below.



AMBIT - Chemical compounds

Search results: Property = Low (Class I) | Download as: CSV | Max number of hits: 100

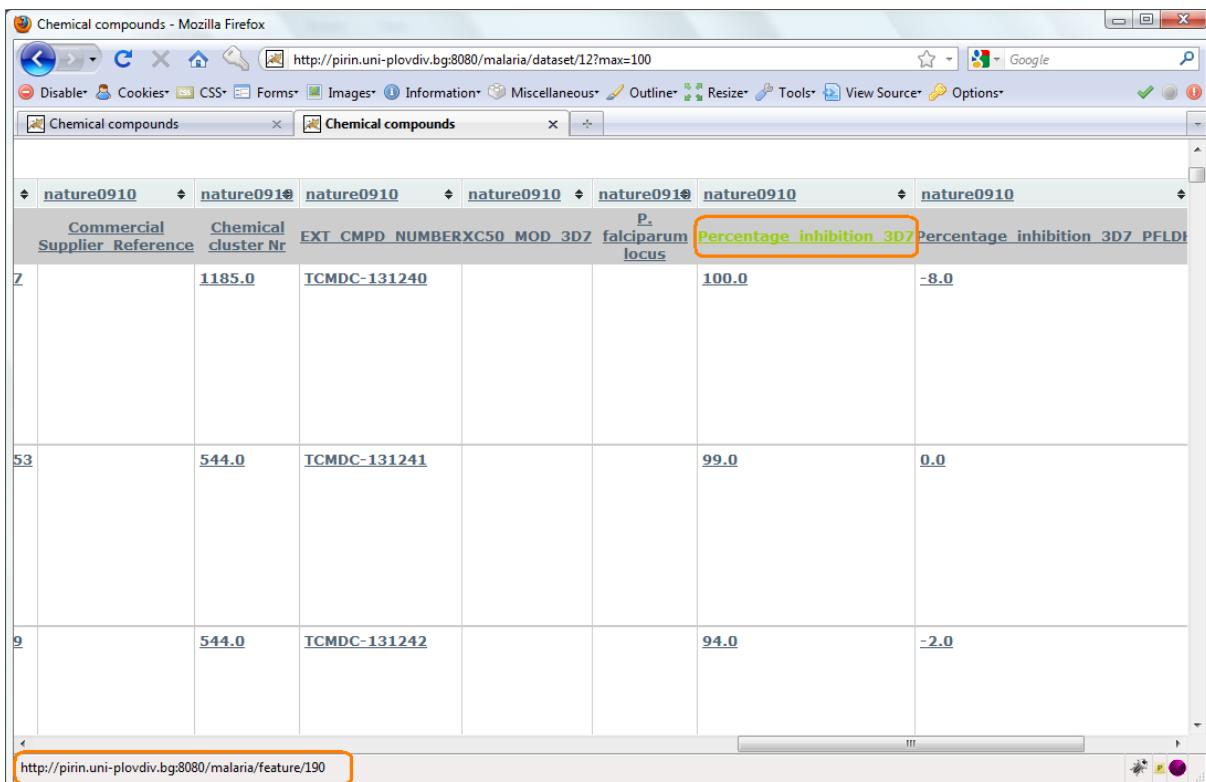
#	Compound
1	
2	
3	

Step 2: Analyze Cytotoxicities of the Cramer Class I compounds

From the previous step we ended up with a list of compounds considered safe according to Cramer rules. However, we would like to have some more information than just the chemical structures. For example, we would like to know the antimalarial activity of these compounds.

To add such a column, we need to edit the URL by adding an entry denoting the antimalarial activity given in the TCAMS Dataset. All data columns in OpenTox have their unique URL, and in this example, the URL of the data indicating the percentage inhibition of the growth of the *P. falciparum* strain 3D7 (column “Percentage_Inhibition_3D7” in the TCAMS dataset) is

<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190>



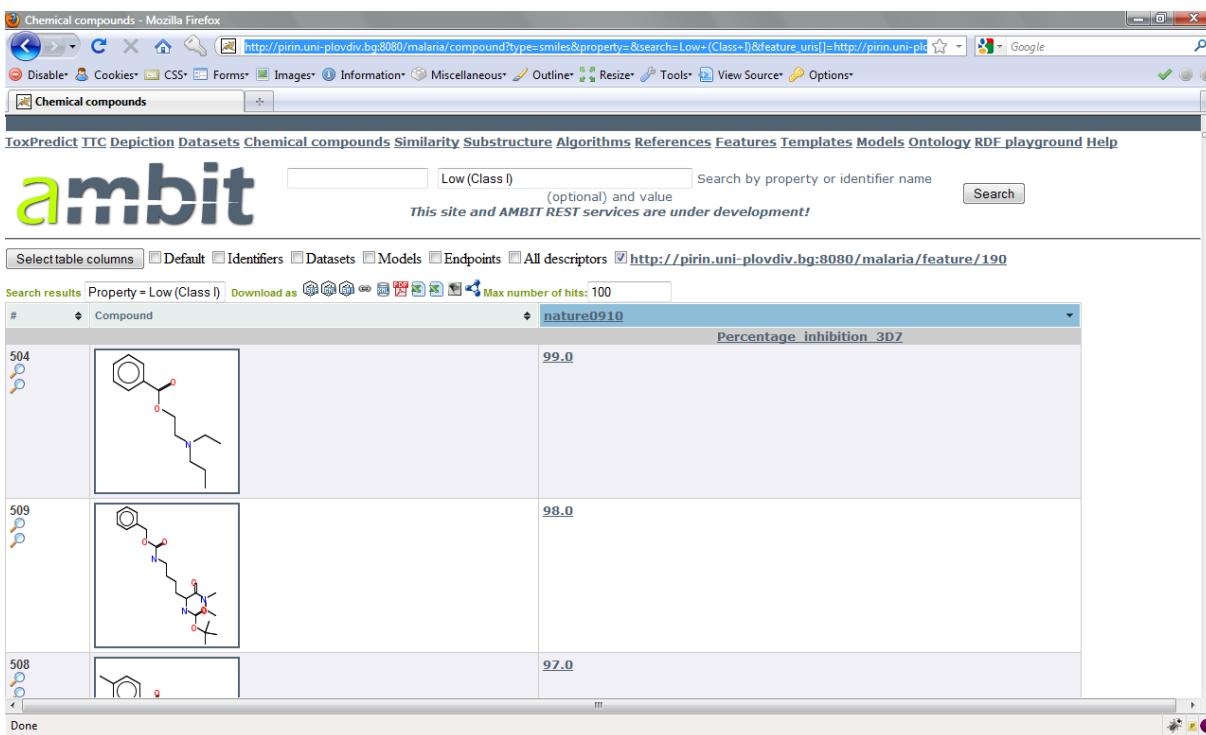
Commercial Supplier Reference	Chemical cluster Nr	EXT	CMPD	NUMBER	XC50	MOD	3D7	P. falciparum locus	Percentage inhibition 3D7	Percentage inhibition 3D7 PFID
Z		1185.0	TCMDC-131240					100.0	-8.0	
53		544.0	TCMDC-131241					99.0	0.0	
9		544.0	TCMDC-131242					94.0	-2.0	

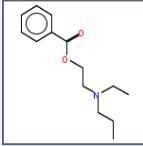
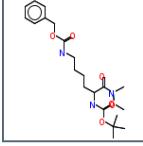
http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190

To add this column to our filtered list of compounds considered safe according to Cramer rules (Cramer class I), we simply add a feature_uris[] parameter to the URL of our filtered list:

[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+%28Class+I%29&feature_uris\[\]=%20http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+%28Class+I%29&feature_uris[]=%20http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190)

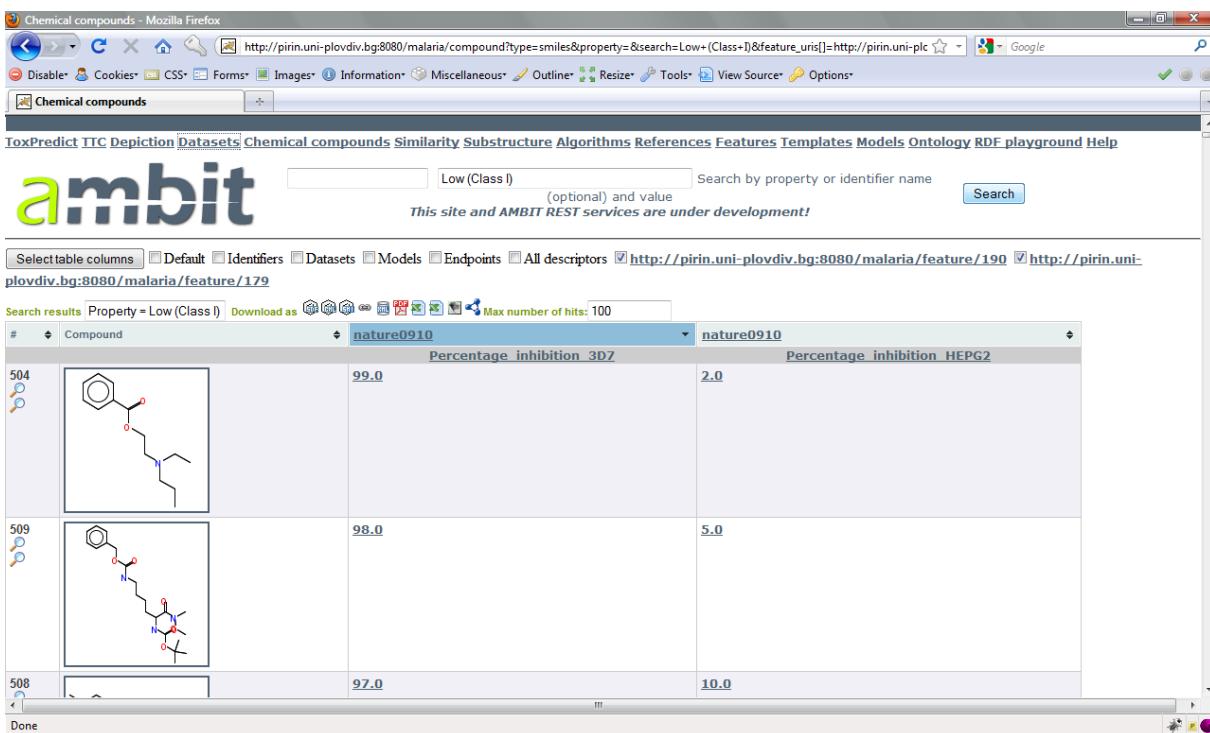
Copy this address into the web browser. There will be a small number of nonempty entries in the second column.

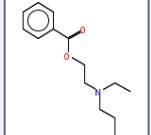
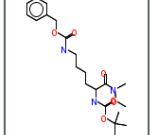
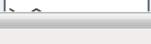


#	Compound	Percentage inhibition_3DZ
504		99.0
509		98.0
508		97.0

We're not only interested in the antimalarial activity, but would also like to take into account the experimentally determined human cytotoxicity. To do so, we add a second data column to our filtered list, now with human cytotoxicity data from TCAMS dataset ([Percentage_inhibition_HEPG2](#), <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/179>). The combination of the two features – antimalarial activity and human cytotoxicity – will result in the following URL:

[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+&feature_uris\[\]=%28Class+I%29&feature_uris\[\]=%28http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190&feature_uris\[\]=%28http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/179](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+&feature_uris[]=%28Class+I%29&feature_uris[]=%28http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190&feature_uris[]=%28http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/179)



#	Compound	nature0910	nature0910
504		99.0	2.0
509		98.0	5.0
508		97.0	10.0

Step 3: Predicting the Mutagenicity of the Selected Compounds

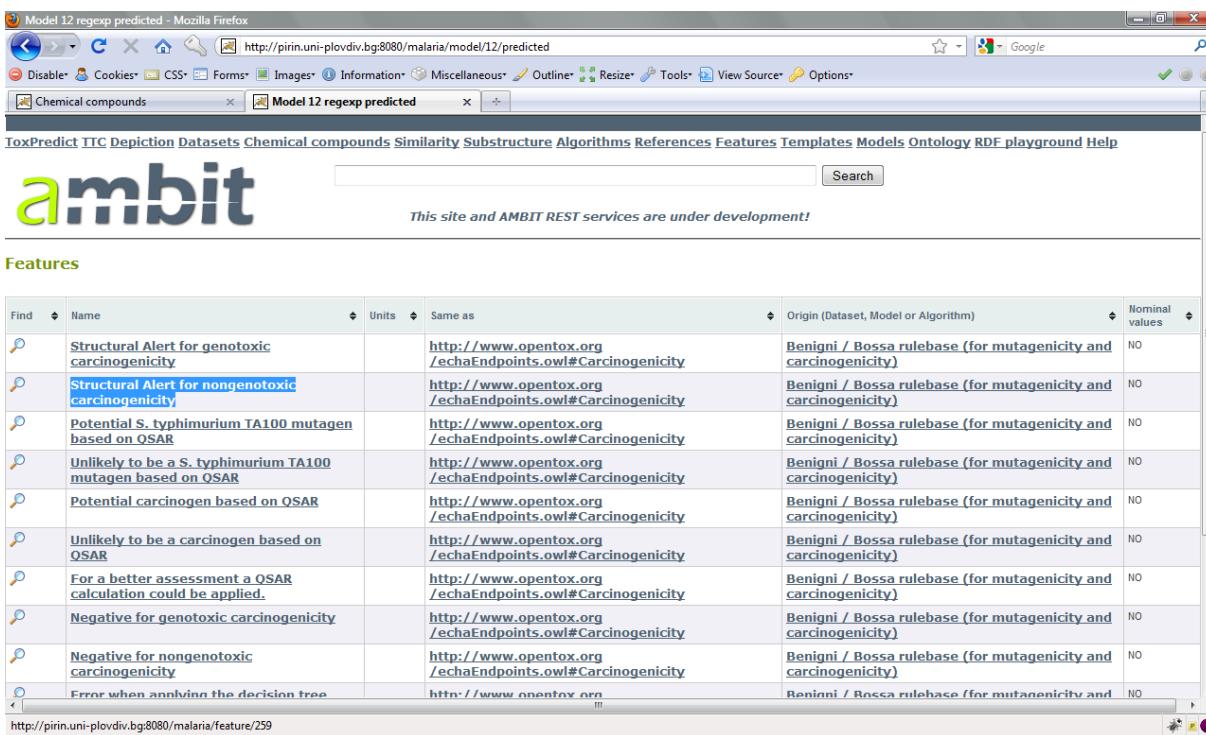
To add a further criterion to be used when selecting our drug candidate, we predict the compounds' mutagenicities. To do so, we'll use the Toxtree Benigni/Bossa rules for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity (Benigni et al. 2007, *Mechanistic QSAR of aromatic amines: new models for discriminating between mutagens and nonmutagens, and validation of models for carcinogens*, Environ Mol Mutag **48**:754–771.). The URL of this model is <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/12>.

Analogously as you have done for the Cramer rules, follow the URL of the Benigni/Bossa model (<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/12>), type or paste the URL or the TCAMS dataset (<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/dataset/12>) in the text box and click "Predict".

Alternatively, the URL of the filtered list could be entered here, as well.

OpenTox models store the prediction results again under data columns with unique URL. These are available via <http://host/model/{id}/predicted>, which in our example corresponds to

<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/12/predicted>



The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with the URL <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/12/predicted>. The page title is "Model 12 regexp predicted". The main content area displays a table titled "Features" with the following columns: Find, Name, Units, Same as, Origin (Dataset, Model or Algorithm), and Nominal values. The table lists nine rows of structural alerts:

Find	Name	Units	Same as	Origin (Dataset, Model or Algorithm)	Nominal values
	Structural Alert for genotoxic carcinogenicity		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	Structural Alert for nongenotoxic carcinogenicity		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	Potential S. typhimurium TA100 mutagen based on QSAR		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	Unlikely to be a S. typhimurium TA100 mutagen based on QSAR		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	Potential carcinogen based on OSAR		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	Unlikely to be a carcinogen based on QSAR		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	For a better assessment a QSAR calculation could be applied.		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	Negative for genotoxic carcinogenicity		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	Negative for nongenotoxic carcinogenicity		http://www.opentox.org/echaEndpoints.owl#Carcinogenicity	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO
	Error when applying the decision tree		http://www.opentox.org/...	Benigni / Bossa rulebase (for mutagenicity and carcinogenicity)	NO

The Toxtree mutagenicity and carcinogenicity model predicts whether there are structural alerts for genotoxic or nongenotoxic carcinogenicity, and also uses linear discriminant model for specific classes of compounds.

For our purpose, we select the columns "[Structural Alert for genotoxic carcinogenicity](#)" (<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/258>) and "[Structural Alert for nongenotoxic carcinogenicity](#)" (<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/259>). As before, we add data columns for these structural alerts to our Cramer-class filtered list of compounds, again using the `feature_uris[]` method. The resulting URL is:

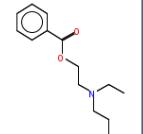
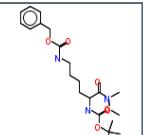
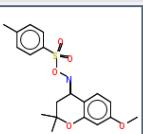
[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+\(Class+I\)&feature_uris\[\]=%0Ahttp://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190&feature_uris\[\]=%0Ahttp://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/179&feature_uris\[\]=%0Ahttp://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/258&feature_uris\[\]=%0Ahttp://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/259](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+(Class+I)&feature_uris[]=%0Ahttp://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190&feature_uris[]=%0Ahttp://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/179&feature_uris[]=%0Ahttp://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/258&feature_uris[]=%0Ahttp://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/259)

The resulting table (as well as any other) can be sorted according to the values in any column by clicking on the column header.

In the following examples, we'll consider the first compound in the image below as our antimalarial drug candidate. It is a Cramer class I compound that inhibits growth of *P. falciparum* 3D7 by 99% at the concentration tested (2 μ M), has a very low human cytotoxicity and no structural alerts for carcinogenicity. (You may choose a different compound).

Chemical compounds - Mozilla Firefox

http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+(Class+)&&feature_uris[]-http://pirin.uni-plc

#	Compound	nature0910	nature0910	Benigni / Structural Alert for genotoxic carcinogenicity	Benigni / Structural Alert for nongenotoxic carcinogenicity
504		99.0	2.0	NO	NO
509		98.0	5.0	YES	NO
508		97.0	10.0	NO	NO
512		96.0	30.0	NO	NO

Similar to datasets and models, also each compound inOpentox services has its unique URL. You find the URL of a compound by clicking on its 2D structure, and stripping off the “?media=text/html” part at the end of the URL this brings you to.

The URL of the compound selected above is

<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound/458166/conformer/773441>.

Step 4: Predicting Sites of Cytochrome P450 Metabolism

The URL of our drug candidate will be used to submit this compound to two models predicting cytochrome P450 sites of metabolism, namely

SmartCYP¹ (<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/10>) and

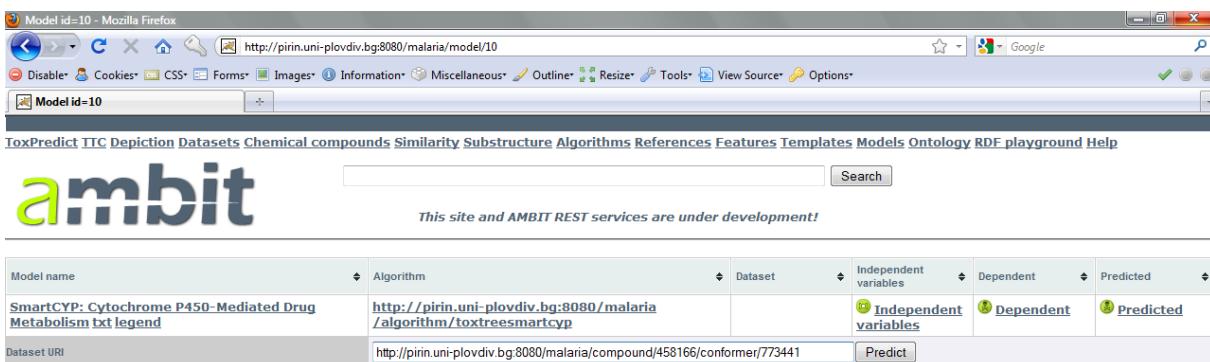
SOME² (<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/21>)

Model prediction is done analogously to the two models used in this exercise. Go to

<http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/10> and copy the compound URL into the text box.

¹RydbergP et al. SMARTCyp: A 2D Method for Prediction of CytochromeP450-Mediated Drug Metabolism. ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters 2010(3), 96-100

²ZhengM et al. Site of metabolism prediction for six biotransformationsmediated by cytochromesP450. Bioinformatics (2009) 25(10): 1251-1258



Model name	Algorithm	Dataset	Independent variables	Dependent	Predicted
SmartCYP: Cytochrome P450-Mediated Drug Metabolism txt legend	http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/algoirthm/toxtreesmartcyp				
Dataset URI	http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound/458166/conformer/773441	<input type="button" value="Predict"/>			

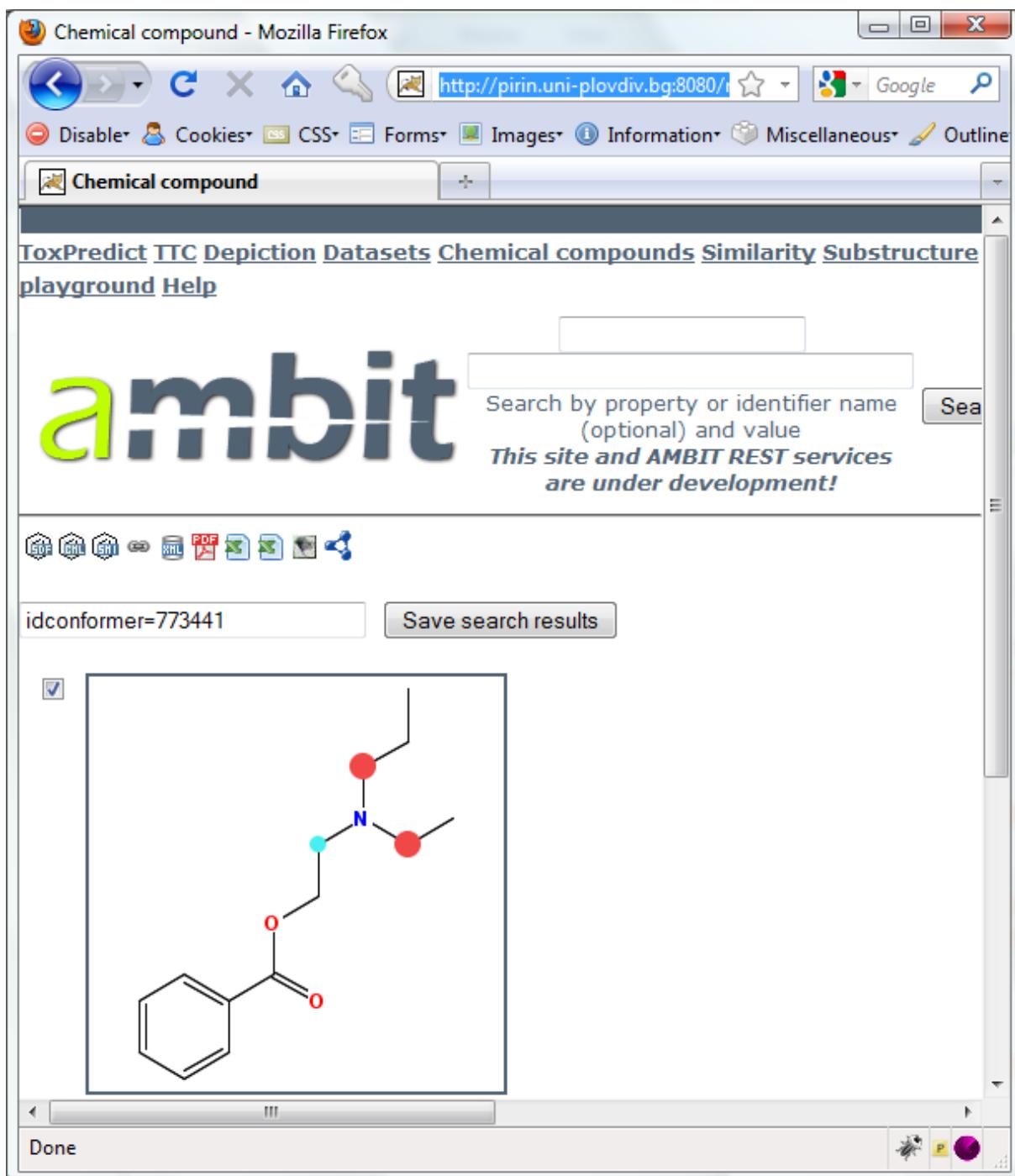


When completed, the results will be available at

[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound/458166/conformer/773441?feature_uris\[\]=%3A%2Fpirin.uni-plovdiv.bg%3A8080%2Fmalaria%2Fmodel%2F10%2Fpredicted](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound/458166/conformer/773441?feature_uris[]=%3A%2Fpirin.uni-plovdiv.bg%3A8080%2Fmalaria%2Fmodel%2F10%2Fpredicted)

and will consist of information which atoms are of rank 1, 2, 3 or lower. Higher rank means more labile site. This information will be best viewed graphically, which could be achieved by the following URL

http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound/458166/conformer/773441?model_uri=http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/10



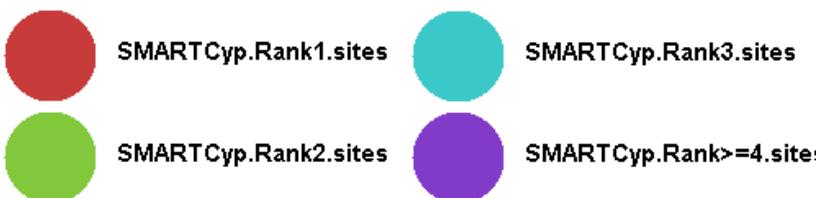
The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the [AMBIT](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/) website. The URL bar shows <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/>. The page title is "Chemical compound". The navigation menu includes ToxPredict, TTC, Depiction, Datasets, Chemical compounds, Similarity, Substructure, playground, and Help.

The main content area features the **ambit** logo and a search bar with placeholder text "Search by property or identifier name (optional) and value". Below the search bar, a note states "*This site and AMBIT REST services are under development!*".

Below the search bar are download links for various file formats: SDF, CML, GML, XML, PDF, XLS, CSV, and ZIP. A text input field contains "idconformer=773441" and a "Save search results" button.

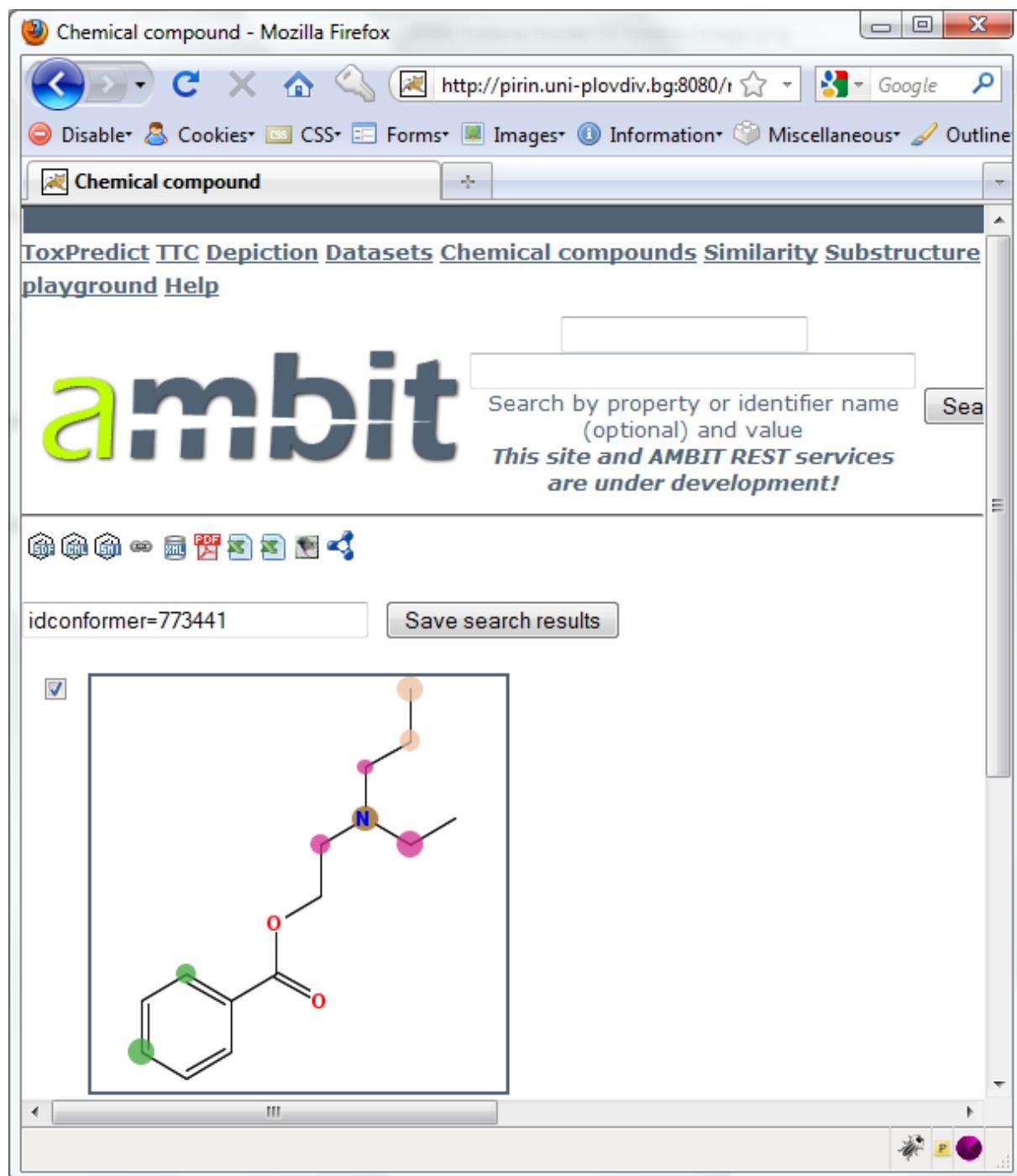
The central part of the screen displays a chemical structure of a substituted benzene ring. The structure is annotated with colored circles representing SMARTCyp sites: a red circle on the nitrogen atom of a dimethylaminomethyl group, a cyan circle on the oxygen atom of a methoxycarbonyl group, and a green circle on the ortho position of the benzene ring. A legend link is visible at the bottom of the structure panel.

The color code can be found by clicking on the “legend” link on model page.



Similarly, the SOME model predictions are visualized via

http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound/458166/conformer/773441?model_uri=http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/21



The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window displaying the AMBIT web application. The title bar reads "Chemical compound - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar shows the URL: <http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/>. The page header includes links for ToxPredict, TTC, Depiction, Datasets, Chemical compounds, Similarity, Substructure, playground, and Help. The main content area features the large "ambit" logo. Below it is a search bar with the placeholder "Search by property or identifier name (optional) and value" and a "Search" button. A message states "This site and AMBIT REST services are under development!". At the top left, there are download links for various file formats: SOF, CML, SMI, XML, PDF, and others. Below the search bar, there is a text input field containing "idconformer=773441" and a "Save search results" button. The central part of the screen displays a chemical structure of a molecule. The molecule consists of a benzene ring substituted with a green group at the para position. Attached to the ring is a carbonyl group (-C(=O)-) which is further connected to a methylene group (-CH₂-). This chain continues through another methylene group to a nitrogen atom (N), which is bonded to two pink groups. A legend at the bottom right identifies the color-coding: blue for carbon, red for oxygen, green for hydrogen, and pink for nitrogen.

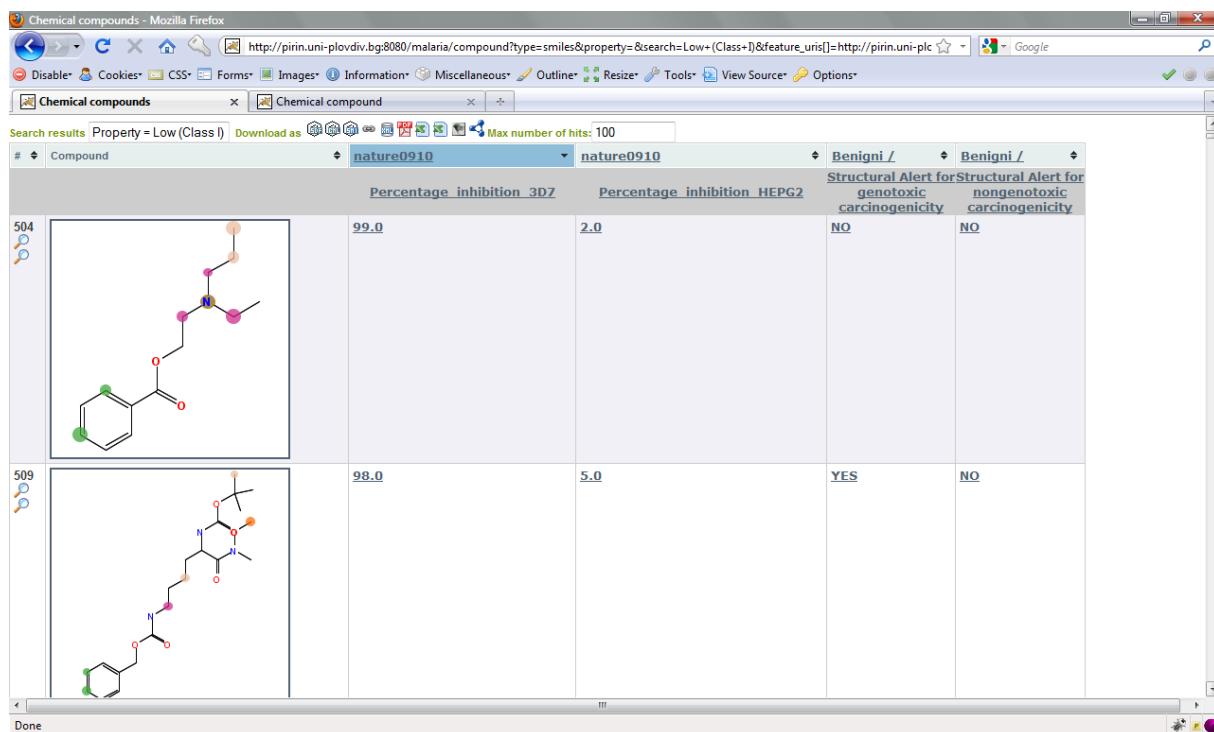
And the color code is

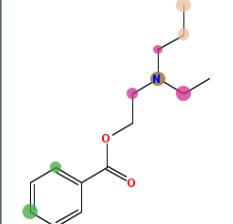
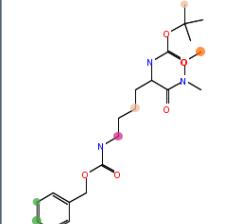
	Aliphatic Hydroxylation		N-Oxidation
	Aromatic Hydroxylation		O-Dealkylation
	N-Dealkylation		S-Oxidation

The color-coding of the metabolic sites according to the type of metabolic reaction taking place allows – with a little knowledge in organic chemistry – the work out the metabolites of the compound.

To obtain the predictions of the sites of metabolism for the entire dataset, use the following URL:

[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+Class+I&feature_uris\[\]="](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/compound?type=smiles&property=&search=Low+Class+I&feature_uris[]=)
[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190&feature_uris\[\]="](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/190&feature_uris[]=)
[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/179&feature_uris\[\]="](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/179&feature_uris[]=)
[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/258&feature_uris\[\]="](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/258&feature_uris[]=)
[http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/21&w=250&h=250](http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/feature/259&model_uri=http://pirin.uni-plovdiv.bg:8080/malaria/model/21&w=250&h=250)



#	Compound	Percentage inhibition 3D7	Percentage inhibition HEPG2	Structural Alert for genotoxic carcinogenicity	Structural Alert for nongenotoxic carcinogenicity
504		99.0	2.0	NO	NO
509		98.0	5.0	YES	NO

Discussion topics:

- Did we find a promising drug candidate?
- What kind of screening/toxicity assessment would be useful to apply as a next step?
- Comments/suggestions?



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19th September 2010