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Supplemental Material

Cytotoxicity Burst? Differentiating Specific from Nonspecific Effects in Tox21 *in Vitro* Reporter Gene Assays

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Table of Contents

Text S1. MATLAB code 1: Processing and sorting of Tox21 concentration-response browser data.

Text S2. MATLAB code 2: Calculation of IC_{10} and EC_{10} from the Tox21 concentration-response data.

 Table S1. Additional information on test chemicals.

Table S2. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in AREc32.

Table S3. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in ARE-BLA.

Table S4. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in AhR-CALUX.

Table S5. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in PPAR γ -BLA.

Table S6. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in AR-BLA.

Table S7. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in ER α -BLA.

Table S8. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in PR-BLA.

Table S9. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in GR-BLA.

Table S10. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in AREc32.

Table S11. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in ARE-BLA.

Table S12. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in AhR-CALUX.

Table S13. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in PPARγ-BLA.

Table S14. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in AR-BLA.

Table S15. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in ER α -BLA.

Table S16. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in PR-BLA.

Table S17. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in GR-BLA.

Table S18. Analysis given in Table 2 split into the two subsets of neutral ($f_{neutral} > 98\%$) and (partially) charged ($f_{neutral} < 98\%$) chemicals.

Figure S1. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in AREc32.

Figure S2. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in ARE-BLA.

Figure S3. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in AhR-CALUX.

Figure S4. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in PPAR γ -BLA.

Figure S5. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in AR-BLA.

Figure S6. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in ER α -BLA.

Figure S7. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in PR-BLA.

Figure S8. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in GR-BLA.

Figure S9. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in AREc32.

Figure S10. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in ARE-BLA.

Figure S11. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in AhR-CALUX.

Figure S12. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in PPARγ-BLA.

Figure S13. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in AR-BLA.

Figure S14. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in $ER\alpha$ -BLA.

Figure S15. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in PR-BLA.

Figure S16. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in GR-BLA.

Figure S17. Cytotoxicity of the additional seven chemicals in relation to the Quantitative Structure Activity Relationships (QSAR) for baseline toxicity for all cell lines.

Figure S18. Workflow for the analysis of the Tox21 data.

Figure S19. Cytotoxicity of the seven environmental chemicals (Bisphenol A, Quinoxyfen, Fluoranthene, Genistein, Coumarin, 8-Gingerol, Zingerone) in relation to the QSARs for baseline toxicity for all cell lines.

Figure S20. Comparison of the toxic ratio (TR) analysis of the entire dataset (legend "all", data from Figure 4A) in comparison to the two subsets of neutral ($f_{neutral} > 98\%$) and (partially) charged ($f_{neutral} < 98\%$) chemicals.

Figure S21. Comparison EC_{10} derived from the results of the individual Tox21 laboratories (black dots) compared to the joint data evaluation of all data (red diamonds) of a given chemical in this study. Selected examples are depicted for ER α -BLA. They demonstrate that the joint evaluation is reasonable.

Figure S22. Comparison between the IC_{10}/EC_{10} values measured in the present study and the corresponding chemicals/assays in Tox21.

Figure S23. Ratio between the IC_{10} and EC_{10} values measured in the present study and the corresponding chemicals/assays in Tox21.

References

Additional File- Excel Document

Text S1. MATLAB code 1: Processing and sorting of Tox21 concentration-response browser data

%This is the script to transform the .csv files downloaded from the Tox21 concentration-response browser into individual .csv files containing the data for each chemical for further data analysis

```
clear all;
```

```
M = readtable('.csv file downloaded from the browser.csv');
```

```
outputByName = containers.Map;
```

```
input = M;
```

```
[rowCount, ] = size(input);
```

chemNameIndex = 1;

```
% Now we look at each file independently
```

```
for row = 1:rowCount
```

```
% Identify Chemical name as input
```

```
chemName = input{row,chemNameIndex};
```

```
name = string(chemName);
```

key=char(name);

```
if isKey(outputByName, key)
```

```
\% Now we extract concentration, effect and CAS-Number
```

```
outputByName(key) = [outputByName(key); input(row, 2:5)];
```

```
else
```

```
outputByName(key) = input(row, 2:5);
```

```
end
```

end

```
allKeys = keys(outputByName);
```

```
keyCount = size(allKeys,2);
```

% This loop writes the independent csv. files

```
for keyIndex = 1:keyCount
```

```
key = allKeys{keyIndex};
```

outputTable = outputByName(key);

```
% Now we write files named by the chemical and save them in the workspace
```

```
writetable(outputTable, filename);
```

end

Text S2. MATLAB code 2: Calculation of IC_{10} and EC_{10} from the Tox21 concentration-response data

%This is the script to fit the cell viability and activity data yielding EC10 and IC10 values with standard errors and maximum concentrations considered in the fit. The code first excludes all values for cytotoxicity >50% effect and all >30% activity effects. Then, linear regression is fitted and with resulting slopes. The IC10 and EC10 are then 0.1/slope.

```
clear all:
pathxls='add path containing individual .csv files from Code 1';
d=uigetdir('add path containing individual .csv files from Code 1');
cd(d);
pr=dir('*.xls');
names={pr.name};
% First, we need to create empty matrices for the values we want to calculate that we can later fill with
data
IC10 = [];
EC10 = [];
SE_IC10 = [];
SE_EC10 = [];
CAS = [];
Max_conc_EC10 = [];
Max\_conc\_IC10 = [];
for NameIndex=1:length(names)
  NUMERIC=readtable(names{NameIndex});
  x_viab=[];
  y_viab=[];
  x_ratio=[];
  y_ratio=[];
  for Index=1:height(NUMERIC)
     experiment=string(NUMERIC{Index,1});
     if startsWith(experiment, 'ratio')
       if NUMERIC{Index, 3} < 30
  x_ratio = [x_ratio;NUMERIC{Index, 2}];
  y_ratio = [y_ratio;NUMERIC{Index, 3}];
       end
elseif startsWith(experiment, 'via')
  if NUMERIC{Index, 3} < 50
  x_viab = [x_viab;NUMERIC{Index, 2}];
```

```
y_viab = [y_viab;NUMERIC{Index, 3}];
end
  else
    disp('Experiment not recognized')
  end
end
x_viabdelog = 10.^x_viab*100000;
x_ratiodelog = 10.^x_ratio*100000;
y_viabdelog = y_viab;
y_ratiodelog = y_ratio;
b_viab = x_viabdelog\y_viabdelog;
b_ratio = x_ratiodelog\y_ratiodelog;
y_viabfit = x_viabdelog*b_viab;
y_ratiofit = x_ratiodelog*b_ratio;
r_viab = y_viabdelog-y_viabfit;
r_ratio = y_ratiodelog-y_ratiofit;
n_viab = length(x_viabdelog);
n_ratio = length(x_ratiodelog);
SSE_viab = sum(r_viab.^2);
SSE_ratio = sum(r_ratio.^2);
MSE_viab=SSE_viab/(n_viab-1);
MSE_ratio=SSE_ratio/(n_ratio-1);
SE_viab = sqrt(MSE_viab/sum(x_viabdelog.^2));
SE_ratio = sqrt(MSE_ratio/sum(x_ratiodelog.^2));
SE_IC10 = [SE_IC10; 10/b_viab^2*SE_viab];
SE_EC10 = [SE_EC10; 10/b_ratio^2*SE_ratio];
IC10 = [IC10; 10/b_viab];
EC10 = [EC10; 10/b_ratio];
CAS = [CAS; NUMERIC{1,4}]
Max_conc_EC10 = [Max_conc_EC10; max(x_ratiodelog)];
Max_conc_IC10 = [Max_conc_IC10; max(x_viabdelog)];
```

```
end
```

Output = table(transpose(names), CAS, IC10, SE_IC10, EC10, SE_EC10, Max_conc_EC10, Max_conc_IC10);

writetable(Output, 'define output sheet name here.xls');

				log $K_{ip/w}$ or		
Chemical	CAS Number	DSSTox	f _{neutral}	log D _{lip/w} (pH 7.4)	Source	Purity
				[L/L]		
2-Phenylphenol	90-43-7	DTXSID2021151	1.00	3.46 ^a	Sigma Aldrich	99.6%
3-Nitroaniline	99-09-2	DTXSID6025725	1.00	2.17 ^a	Sigma-Aldrich	98.0%
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	59-50-7	DTXSID4021717	1.00	3.34ª	Sigma-Aldrich	≥ 98%
4-Pentylphenol ^b	14938-35-3	DTXSID9044164	1.00	4.31 ^ª	Sigma-Aldrich	≥ 98%
2-Allylphenol	1745-81-9	DTXSID3022164	1.00	3.06ª	Sigma-Aldrich	98.0%
2-Butoxyethanol	111-76-2	DTXSID1024097	1.00	0.60 ^a	Sigma-Aldrich	≥ 99.5%
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline ^b	636-30-6	DTXSID5044152	1.00	4.16 ^ª	Sigma-Aldrich	99.1%
Bisphenol A	80-05-7	DTXSID1048839	0.99	3.50 ^c	Sigma-Aldrich	>99%
						Pestanal,
Quinoxyfen	124495-18-7	DTXSID1042364	1.00	5.32 ^d	Sigma-Aldrich	analytical
						standard
Fluoranthene	206-44-0	DTXSID8020628	1.00	5.41 ^e	Sigma-Aldrich	98.0%
Genistein	446-72-0	DTXSID3047849	0.39	3.32 ^f	Roth	>98%
Coumarin	91-64-5	DTXSID8041797	1.00	2.09 ^d	Sigma-Aldrich	>99%
8-Gingerol ^b	23513-08-8	DTXSID20178078	1.00	4.70 ^d	Sigma-Aldrich	>98%
Zingerone ^b	122-48-5	DTXSID8047420	1.00	1.97 ^d	Sigma-Aldrich	>96%

Table S1. Additional information on test chemicals.

^a(Vaes et al. 1997).

^bNot included in Tox21.

^c(Kwon et al. 2006).

^d(Henneberger et al. 2020).

^e(van der Heijden and Jonker 2009).

^f(Henneberger et al. 2019).

AREc32			Toxic ratio	Specificity	Specificity
	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	TR	ratio	ratio
				SR _{cytotoxicity}	SR _{baseline}
2-Phenylphenol	9.9±0.4 ^{-10⁻⁵}	9.5±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	2.0	1.0	2.1
3-Nitroaniline	1.7±0.2 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	3.8±0.2 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	0.6	4.3	2.8
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	1.3±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻⁴	1.4±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁴	1.9	0.9	1.7
4-Pentylphenol	7.9±0.8 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	5.0±0.2 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	0.8	1.6	1.3
2-Allylphenol	2.8±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	1.7±0.6 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	1.2	1.6	1.9
2-Butoxyethanol	9.2±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	3.0±0.6 [.] 10 ⁻²	0.9	0.3	0.3
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline	2.1±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	1.3±0.4 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	0.4	1.6	0.6

Table S2. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in AREc32.

Note: we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the $EC_{IR1.5}$ values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: $EC_{IR1.5}$, effect concentration causing an induction ratio IR of 1.5 (50% over control); IC₁₀, 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). $EC_{IR1.5}$ and IC₁₀ are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve.

ARE-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	Toxic ratio TR	Specificity ratio SR _{cytotoxicity}	Specificity ratio SR _{baseline}
2-Phenylphenol	1.3±0.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	1.3±0.7 ^{-10⁻⁴}	2.2	1.0	2.2
3-Nitroaniline	2.1±0.2 [.] 10 ⁻³	4.3±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	0.5	5.0	2.5
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	2.3±0.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	no effect	1.0	-	-
4-Pentylphenol	6.0±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	1.1	-	-
2-Allylphenol	1.2±0.5 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	5.4±0.3 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	0.3	2.2	0.6
2-Butoxyethanol	2.4±0.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻²	3.6±0.3 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	0.3	0.7	0.2
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline	1.6±0.1 ⁻⁴	3.3±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁴	0.5	0.5	0.2

Table S3. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in ARE-BLA.

Note: that we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the $EC_{IR1.5}$ values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: $EC_{IR1.5}$, effect concentration causing an induction ratio IR of 1.5 (50% over control); IC₁₀, 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). $EC_{IR1.5}$ and IC₁₀ are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed induction ratio IR 1.5.

AhR-CALUX	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC ₁₀ (M)	Toxic ratio TR	Specificity ratio SR _{cytotoxicity}	Specificity ratio SR _{baseline}
2-Phenylphenol	1.3±0.9 [.] 10 ⁻⁴	1.3±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	1.2	1.0	1.2
3-Nitroaniline	4.1±0.3 [.] 10 ⁻⁴	no effect	3.3	-	-
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	1.6±0.4 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	1.6±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻⁴	1.2	1.0	1.2
4-Pentylphenol	4.9±0.3 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	1.2±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁴	0.8	0.4	0.3
2-Allylphenol	4.7±0.6 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	5.1±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁴	0.7	0.9	0.6
2-Butoxyethanol	3.8±0.9 [.] 10 ⁻²	too variable	0.5	-	-
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline	7.8±0.7 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	9.3±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁶	1.1	8.1	8.7

Table S4. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in AhR-CALUX.

Note: that we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the $EC_{IR1.5}$ values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10%; too variable: concentration-response curves of different independent repeats were inconclusive because the differed too much, no EC_{10} could be derived.

			Toxic ratio	Specificity	Specificity
ΡΡΑΚγ-ΒLΑ	IC_{10} (IVI)	EC_{10} (M)	TR	ratio	ratio
				SR _{cytotoxicity}	SR _{baseline}
2-Phenylphenol	5.4±0.3 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	2.2	-	-
3-Nitroaniline	-	no effect	-	-	-
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	3.3±0.2 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	1.6±0.1 ⁻⁵	5.8	0.2	1.2
4-Pentylphenol	1.5±0.5 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	1.2±0.1 ⁻⁴	2.5	0.1	0.3
2-Allylphenol	6.4±0.3 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	5.1±0.1 ⁻⁴	0.5	1.3	0.6
2-Butoxyethanol	8.8±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	no effect	2.2	-	-
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline	2.6±0.7 ^{-10⁻⁴}	9.3±0.2 [.] 10 ⁻⁶	0.3	28.2	8.7

Table S5. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in PPARγ-BLA.

Note: that we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10%.

AR-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC ₁₀ (M)	Toxic ratio TR	Specificity ratio
0. Dhanailte an ai	6 6 · 0 2·10 ⁻⁵	tooveriable	1.0	Crytotoxicity
2-Phenyiphenoi	6.6±0.310	too variable	1.3	-
3-Nitroaniline	-	no effect	-	-
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	2.5±0.1 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	no effect	7.5	-
4-Pentylphenol	1.4±0.1 ⁻⁴	no effect	2.7	-
2-Allylphenol	2.2±0.1 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	no effect	0.8	-
2-Butoxyethanol	1.4±0.1 ⁻¹⁰⁻²	no effect	1.4	-
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline	6.9±0.5 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	1.2	-

Table S6. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in AR-BLA.

Note: that we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect; too variable: concentration-response curves of different independent repeats were inconclusive because the differed too much, no EC_{10} could be derived.

			Toxic	Specificity	Specificity
ERα-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	ratio	ratio	ratio
			TR	SR _{cytotoxicity}	SR _{baseline}
2-Phenylphenol	5.6±0.3 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	1.2	-	-
3-Nitroaniline	2.5±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	no effect	5.6	-	-
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	2.6±0.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	2.4±0.3 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	7.3	1.1	8.1
4-Pentylphenol	1.3±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	3.2±1.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	3.0	0.4	1.2
2-Allylphenol	4.1±0.3 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	too variable	1.4	-	-
2-Butoxyethanol	1.9±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻²	too variable	1.0	-	-
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline	6.3±0.3 ^{-10⁻⁵}	no effect	1.3	-	-

Table S7, Ana	lysis of the s	pecific effects	of the baseline	toxicants in	ER _a -BLA
	19313 01 1110 3	peome encora		toxicants in	

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect; too variable: concentration-response curves of different independent repeats were inconclusive because the differed too much, no EC_{10} could be derived.

PR-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	Toxic ratio TR	Specificity ratio	Specificity ratio
2 Dhanylphanal	E Z 0 2:10 ⁻⁵	no offect	2.0	Cytotoxicity	Crypaseline
2-Prienyiprienoi	5.7±0.210	no enect	2.0	-	-
3-Nitroaniline	(7.0±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵)	no effect	-	-	-
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	2.7±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	5.2	-	-
4-Pentylphenol	3.1±0.2 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	0.9	-	-
2-Allylphenol	5.2±0.3 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	no effect	0.4	-	-
2-Butoxyethanol	1.4±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻²	1.3±0.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻²	0.8	1.1	0.9
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline	9.5±0.5 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	0.4	-	

Table S8. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in PR-BLA.

Note: that we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect.

GR-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	Toxic ratio TR	Specificity ratio SR _{cytotoxicity}
2-Phenylphenol	4.4±0.1 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	no effect	1.6	-
3-Nitroaniline	(7.3±0.3 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵)	no effect		-
4-Chloro-3-methylphenol	2.4±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁵	no effect	5.9	-
4-Pentylphenol	2.3±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	no effect	1.2	-
2-Allylphenol	2.3±0.1 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	no effect	1.0	-
2-Butoxyethanol	1.0±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻²	no effect	1.1	-
2,4,5-Trichloroaniline	4.7±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	no effect	0.8	-

Table S9. Analysis of the specific effects of the baseline toxicants in GR-BLA.

Note: that we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect.

			Toxic ratio TR	Specificity	Specificity
AREc32	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)		ratio	ratio
				SR _{cytotoxicity}	$SR_{baseline}$
Bisphenol A	7.2±05 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	4.9±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	2.8	1.5	4.0
Quinoxyfen	2.1±0.2 ⁻⁵	1.5±0.2 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	1.9	1.5	1.3
Fluoranthene	8.5±1.1 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	5.6±0.5 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	0.2	1.5	0.3
Genistein	2.1±0.3 ^{-10⁻⁴}	5.3±0.3 ^{-10⁻⁶}	1.1	38	47
Coumarin	2.3±0.5 ^{-10⁻³}	5.6±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	0.7	4.2	2.1
8-Gingerol	6.1±0.4 ^{-10⁻⁵}	no effect	0.3	-	-
Zingerone	1.5±0.8 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	4.8±0.3 ^{-10⁻⁴}	0.5	3.0	2.9

Table S10. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in AREc32.

Note: we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the $EC_{IR1.5}$ values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: $EC_{IR1.5}$, effect concentration causing an induction ratio IR of 1.5 (50% over control); IC₁₀, 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). $EC_{IR1.5}$ and IC₁₀ are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed an induction ratio IR of 1.5.

			Toxic ratio	Specificity	Specificity
ARE-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	TR	ratio	ratio
				SR _{cytotoxicity}	$SR_{baseline}$
Bisphenol A	1.3±0.1 ⁻¹	1.2±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁴	2.9	1.1	2.3
Quinoxyfen	1.3±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	3.1±0.1 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	0.3	4.1	0.5
Fluoranthene	no	1.5±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁴	-	-	0.1
	cytotoxicity				
Genistein	3.2±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	4.0±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	1.0	8.3	9.0
Coumarin	3.6±0.2 ^{-10⁻³}	1.6±0.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	1.0	2.3	1.6
8-Gingerol	5.5±0.3 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	no effect	0.3	-	-
Zingerone	2.8±0.2 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	no effect	0.5	-	-

Table S11. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in ARE-BLA.

Note: we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the $EC_{IR1.5}$ values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: $EC_{IR1.5}$, effect concentration causing an induction ratio IR of 1.5 (50% over control); IC₁₀, 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). $EC_{IR1.5}$ and IC₁₀ are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed an induction ratio IR of 1.5.

AhR-CALUX	IC ₁₀ (M) EC ₁₀ (N	EC ₁₀ (M)	Toxic ratio	Specificity ratio	Specificity ratio
				SR _{cytotoxicity}	SR _{baseline}
Bisphenol A	1.2±0.1 ⁻¹	1.2±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	1.2	1.0	1.2
Quinoxyfen	1.8±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁵	no effect	1.1	-	-
Fluoranthene	1.3±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁴	1.7±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁵	0.049	7.5	0.3
Genistein	3.0±0.3 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	1.9±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	6.8	1.6	10.6
Coumarin	8.1±0.3 [.] 10 ⁻⁴	no effect	2.9	-	-
8-Gingerol	5.8±0.6 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	0.1	-	-
Zingerone	5.8±031 ^{-10⁻⁴}	3.5±0.5 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁴	1.6	1.7	5.5

Table S12. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in AhR-CALUX.

Note: we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect.

PPARγ-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC ₁₀ (M)	Toxic ratio TR SR _{cytotoxicity}		Specificity ratio SR _{baseline}
Bisphenol A	2.6±0.2 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	4.2	-	-
Quinoxyfen	1.8±0.2 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	7.1±0.1 ⁻⁷	1.0	25.4	10.8
Fluoranthene	no	1.3±0.7 [·] 10 ⁻⁵		-	0.5
	cytotoxicity		-		
Genistein	2.3±0.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	6.3	-	-
Coumarin	2.3±0.2 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	8.6±0.1 ^{-10⁻⁴}	0.6	1.5	1.0
8-Gingerol	4.6±0.3 ^{-10⁻⁵}	no effect	0.2	-	-
Zingerone	8.7±0.3 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	no effect	0.6	-	-

Table S13. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in PPAR_γ-BLA.

Note: we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±)

standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentrationresponse curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect.

AR-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	Toxic ratio TR	Specificity ratio SR _{cytotoxicity}
Bisphenol A	2.2±0.1 ^{-10⁻⁵}	no effect	3.5	-
Quinoxyfen	2.12±0.4 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	0.4	-
Fluoranthene	no	no effect		
	cytotoxicity		-	-
Genistein	2.5±0.1 ⁻ 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	4.3	-
Coumarin	2.9±0.6 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	no effect	0.5	-
8-Gingerol	1.3±0.8 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	0.3	-
Zingerone	1.3±0.9 ⁻ 10 ⁻³	no effect	0.4	-

Table S14. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in AR-BLA.

Note: we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect.

ERα-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	Toxic ratio	Specificity	Specificity
			TR	ratio	ratio
				SR _{cytotoxicity}	SR _{baseline}
Bisphenol A	2.2±0.8 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	2.2±0.1 ⁻¹ 10 ⁻⁷	2.9	98	282
Quinoxyfen	2.2±0.2 ⁻⁵	4.8±0.4 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁶	0.3	4.7	0.5
Fluoranthene	3.0±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁵	6.4±0.1 ⁻¹ 0 ⁻⁶	0.1	4.7	0.3
Genistein	2.3±0.1 ⁻⁴	2.0±0.1 ⁻¹ 10 ⁻⁷	3.7	118	441
Coumarin	1.2±0.1 ⁻³	no effect	0.9	-	-
8-Gingerol	1.1±0.1 ⁻⁵	no effect	0.3	-	-
Zingerone	8.4±0.3 ^{-10⁻³}	1.3±0.1 ⁻⁴	0.5	6.5	7.0

Table S15. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in ER α -BLA.

Note: we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect.

PR-BLA	IC ₁₀ (M)	EC _{IR1.5} (M)	Toxic ratio TR	Specificity ratio SR _{cytotoxicity}
Bisphenol A	2.4±0.1 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	6.1	-
Quinoxyfen	1.1±0.1 ⁻⁵	no effect	1.9	-
Fluoranthene	no cytotoxicity	no effect		-
Genistein	1.3±0.1 ⁻⁵	no effect	14.9	-
Coumarin	8.3±0.3 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	no effect	2.3	-
8-Gingerol	7.9±0.1 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁶	no effect	1.2	-
Zingerone	8.7±0.5 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	no effect	0.9	-

Table S16. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in PR-B	LA.
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Note: that we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect.

GR-BLA	A IC ₁₀ (M)		Toxic ratio TR	ratio	
				SRcytotoxicity	
Bisphenol A	1.6±0.1 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	5.5	-	
Quinoxyfen	1.0±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	1.2	-	
Fluoranthene	3.0±0.3 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	0.1	-	
Genistein	1.2±0.1 [.] 10 ⁻⁵	no effect	9.8	-	
Coumarin	6.6±0.2 [.] 10 ⁻⁴	no effect	1.9	-	
8-Gingerol	7.9±0.2 [.] 10 ⁻⁶	no effect	0.7	-	
Zingerone	5.9±0.2 ⁻¹⁰⁻⁴	no effect	0.8	-	

Table S17. Analysis of the specific effects of the environmental chemicals in GR-BLA.

Note: that we did not remove all concentrations above IC_{10} as it would be normally done in such an evaluation (Escher et al. 2018) but kept more data in the linear range to extrapolate the EC_{10} values to demonstrate the cytotoxicity burst.

Abbreviations: EC_{10} , effect concentration causing 10% of maximum effect; IC_{10} , 10% inhibitory concentration (cytotoxicity). EC_{10} and IC_{10} are reported as molar concentrations (M) plus/minus (±) standard error of mean (SEM), from error propagation of the SEM of the slope of the concentration-response curve. No effect: concentration-response curve did not exceed 10% effect.

Table S18. Analysis given in Table 2 split into the two subsets of neutral ($f_{neutral} > 98\%$) and (partially) charged ($f_{neutral} < 98\%$) chemicals.

Reporter	n(TR)	n(TR	< 10)	n(neutral)	n(TR	2 > 10	n(charged)	n(TR	10)
gene assay		1(11(>10)		n(neutral)	n(11(> 10)		n(enargea)	1(11(2)10)	
ARE-BLA	694	384	(55.3%)	340	157	(46.2%)	354	227	(64.1%)
AhR-CALUX	930	524	(56.3%)	365	165	(45.2%)	565	359	(63.5%)
PPARγ-BLA	723	326	(45.1%)	334	129	(38.6%)	389	197	(50.6%)
AR-BLA	1172	485	(41.4%)	643	226	(35.1%)	529	259	(49.0%)
$ER\alpha ext{-BLA}$	610	193	(31.6%)	279	78	(28.0%)	331	115	(34.7%)
GR-BLA	599	204	(34.1%)	336	103	(30.7%)	263	101	3(8.4%)

Number of chemicals n for which a TR could be derived n(TR) and thereof number of neutral (n(neutral)) and charged (n(charged)) chemicals and number with TR > 10 (n(TR > 10)).

Figure S1. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in AREc32.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S2. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in ARE-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S3. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in AhR-CALUX.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S4. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in PPARγ-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S5. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in AR-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S6. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in ERα-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S7. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in PR-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S8. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the confirmed baseline toxicants in GR-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S9. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in AREc32.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S10. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in ARE-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S11. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in AhR-CALUX.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S12. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in PPARγ-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S13. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in AR-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S14. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in ERα-BLA.

On the left plot are all data plotted on a logarithmic concentration scale with the percent response relative to the maximum effect represented in green filled symbols (left y-axis) and the cytotoxicity in empty black-rimmed symbols (right y-axis). Different symbols refer to different independent experiments. On the right are only experimental cytotoxicity data depicted that are in the linear portion of the concentration-cytotoxicity relationship (solid line) up to 40% cytotoxicity (=100% - % cell viability), from which the IC_{10} is derived (10% effect level marked by a dotted line). In the middle plot are only experimental effect data in the linear portion of the concentration-effect relationship, from which the EC_{10} is derived (10% effect level marked by a dotted horizontal line); IC_{10} , which is normally the cut-off for evaluation of reporter gene activation, marked by a vertical dotted line.



2018_02_12_ERa_robot effect

Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S15. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in PR-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Figure S16. Concentration-cytotoxicity and concentration-effect relationships of the environmental chemicals in GR-BLA.



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays



Supplementary Material Cytotoxicity burst? Differentiating specific from nonspecific effects in reporter gene assays

Figure S17. Cytotoxicity of the additional seven chemicals in relation to the Quantitative Structure Activity Relationships (QSAR) for baseline toxicity for all cell lines.

The colored symbols with chemicals' names are the additional chemicals. The black diamonds are the experimental data of the baseline toxicants from (Escher et al. 2019), the solid lines correspond to the best fit. The QSARs equations from (Escher et al. 2019) are reprinted in Table 1. Abbreviations: AhR, arylhydrocarbon receptor; AR, androgen receptor; ARE, Antioxidant response element; BLA, GeneBLAzer reporter gene cell line, CALUX, Chemical Activated LUciferase gene eXpression; ER, estrogen receptor; GR, glucocorticoid receptor, PPARγ, peroxisome proliferator activated receptor gamma; PR, progesterone receptor.



Figure S18. Workflow for the analysis of the Tox21 data.

Abbreviations: *D*_{lip/w} (pH 7.4), ionization-corrected liposome-water distribution ratio; EC₁₀, effect concentration, leading to 10% effect; IC₁₀, inhibitory concentration, leading to 10% reduction in cell viability; *K*_{lip/w}, liposome-water partition constant; QSAR, Quantitative Structure Activity Relationship; SR_{cytotoxicity}, Specificity ratio in relation to experimental cytotoxicity; SR_{baseline}, Specificity ratio in relation to baseline cytotoxicity.



Figure S19. Cytotoxicity of the seven environmental chemicals (Bisphenol A, Quinoxyfen, Fluoranthene, Genistein, Coumarin, 8-Gingerol, Zingerone) in relation to the QSARs for baseline toxicity for all cell lines.

The colored symbols with chemicals' names are the additional chemicals. The black diamonds are the experimental data of the baseline toxicants from (Escher et al. 2019), the solid lines correspond to the best fit. The QSARs equations from (Escher et al. 2019) are reprinted in Table 1.



Figure S20. Comparison of the toxic ratio (TR) analysis of the entire dataset (legend "all", data from Figure 4A) in comparison to the two subsets of neutral (f_{neutral}

> 98%) and (partially) charged ($f_{neutral} < 98\%$) chemicals.

The underlying data are in the EXCEL Tables S1 to S6. The number of chemicals n for which a TR could be derived n(TR) is given in the top row. The percentages in the top refer to all data with TR > 10 (black diamond symbols), the percentages in the bottom refer to all data with TR \leq 10 (red circle symbols).



Figure S21. Comparison EC_{10} derived from the results of the individual Tox21 laboratories (black dots) compared to the joint data evaluation of all data (red diamonds) of a given chemical in this study. Selected examples are depicted for $ER\alpha$ -BLA. They demonstrate that the joint evaluation is reasonable.







Figure S23. Ratio between the IC_{10} and EC_{10} values measured in the present study and the corresponding chemicals/assays in Tox21.



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