



**The methodological challenges – what is known about  
pro-hapten activation of fragrance materials in the  
in-vivo and in-vitro test methods we use for induction**  
*Part II – in vitro*

**Brunhilde Blömeke**

Department of Environmental Toxicology, University Trier

# In vitro approaches to sensitization

- skin absorption
- protein reactivity
- DC activation potential
- activation of keratinocytes
- T cell response

# Fragrance chemicals

total number of fragrance materials listed in the RIFM database:

➤ 5100 materials

list of fragrance ingredients used in consumer goods (IFRA, 2011):

➤ 3009 materials

Published: number of fragrance chemicals commonly tested *in vitro* (number of fragrance chemicals/total number of listed chemicals):

- Natsch *et al.*, 2013: 39/145
- Urbisch *et al.*, 2015: 53/213

➤ < 2% of fragrance materials tested in validated *in vitro* tests

# Fragrance chemicals

number of fragrance chemicals commonly tested *in vitro*  
(number of fragrance chemicals/total number of listed  
chemicals):

Natsch *et al.*, 2013: 39/145

Urbisch *et al.*, 2015: 53/213

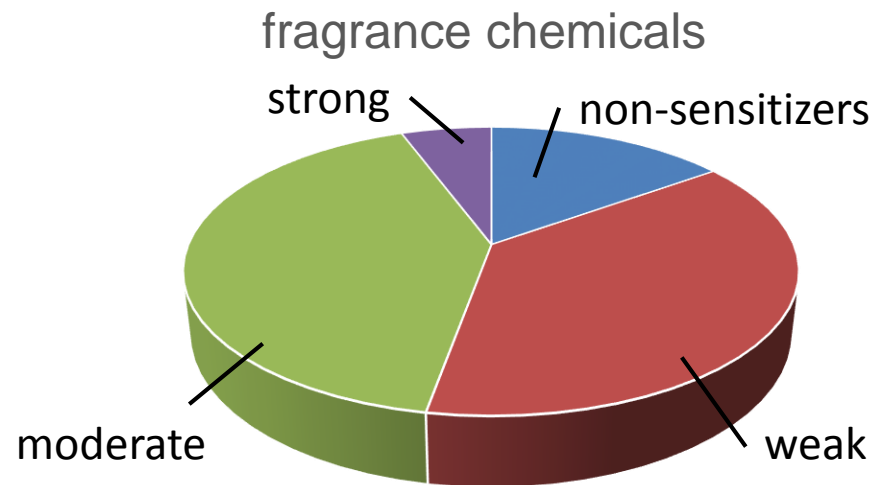
nonsensitizers: 8/53

weak: 20/53

moderate: 22/53

strong: 3/53

extreme: 0/53



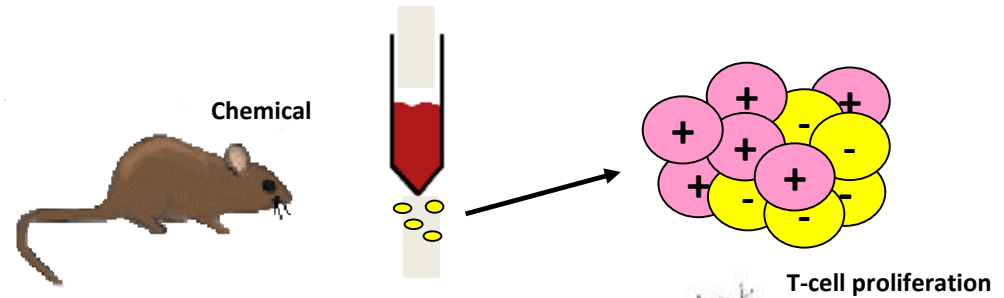
## *in vitro* testing of fragrance chemicals

classification acc. to LLNA	n	positive result (n pos. / n tested)		
		KeratinoSens	hCLAT	DPRA
non-sensitizers	8	5/8	1/7	0/8
weak	20	11/20	14/17	13/20
moderate	22	20/22	15/18	15/20
strong	3	2/3	3/3	2/3

# In house established alternative models for skin sensitization

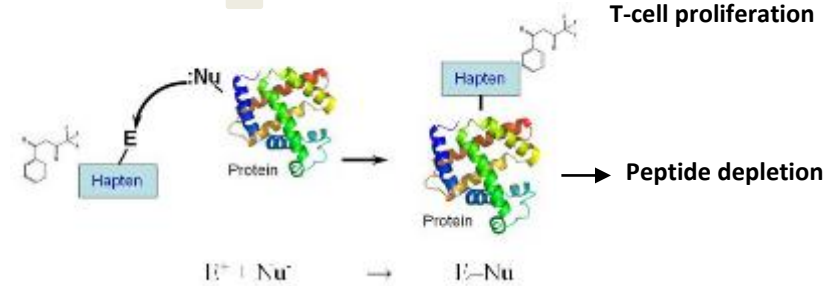
## *In vivo*

e.g. LLNA



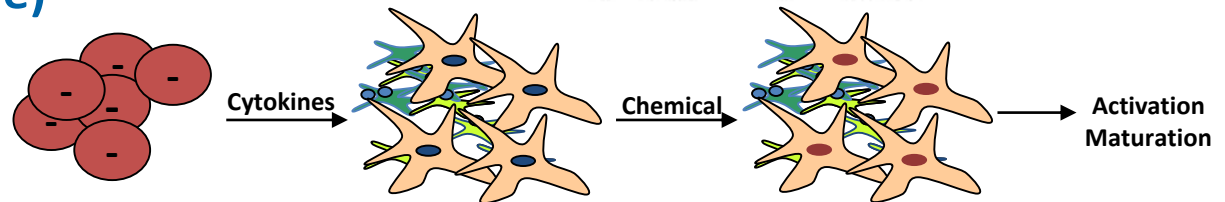
## Peptide reactivity

Direct Peptide Reactivity Assay (DPR)



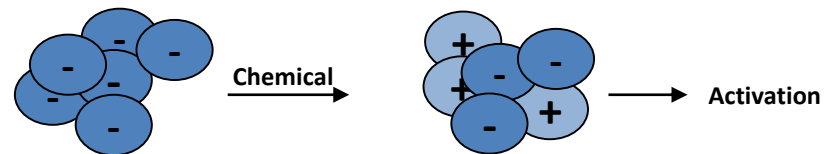
## Primary cells (monoculture)

human MoDC



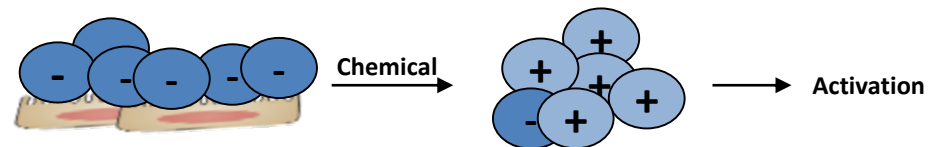
## Human cell line (monoculture)

THP-1 (hCLAT)

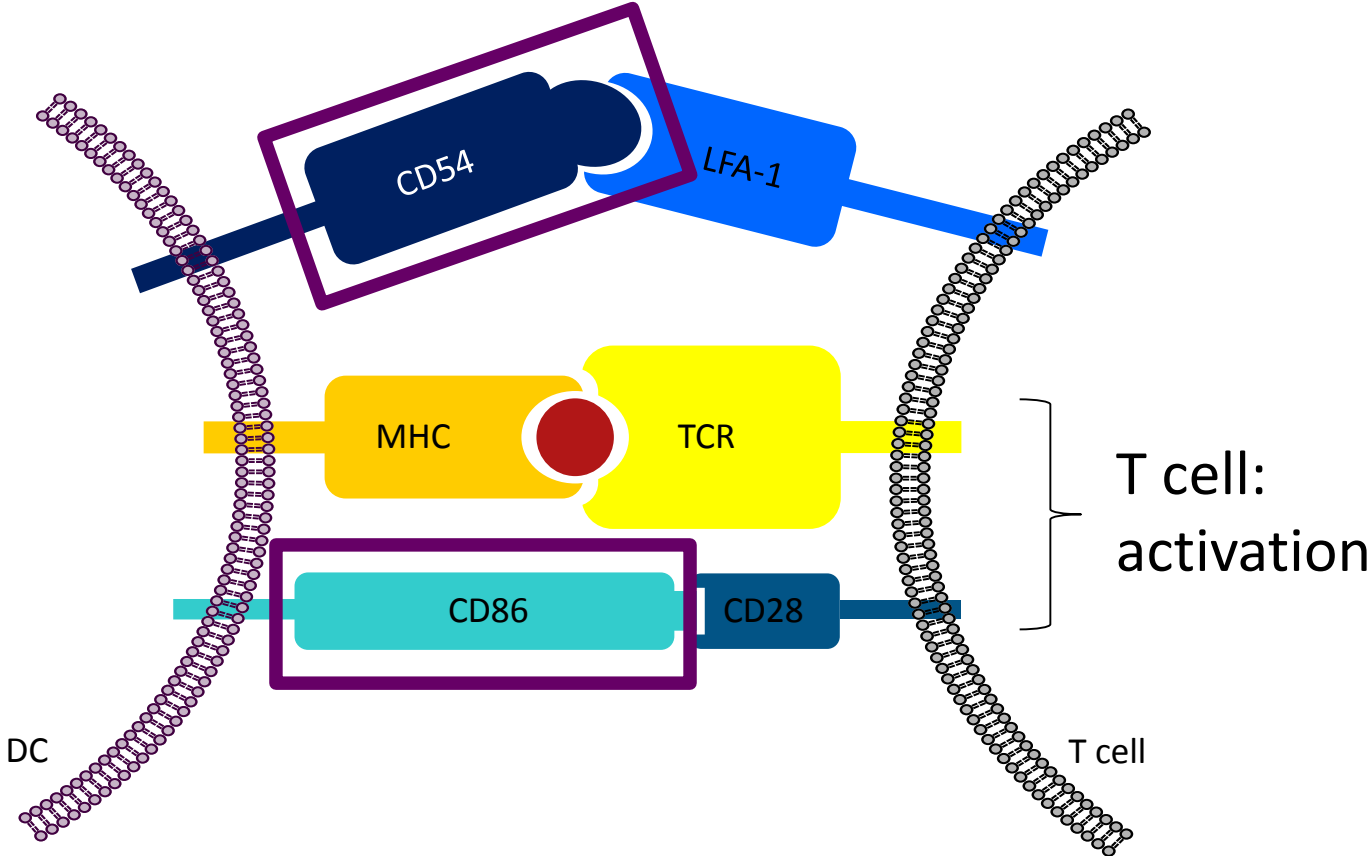


## Human cell lines (coculture)

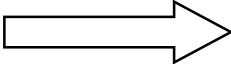
HaCaT + THP-1 = COCAT



# Principle -endpoints

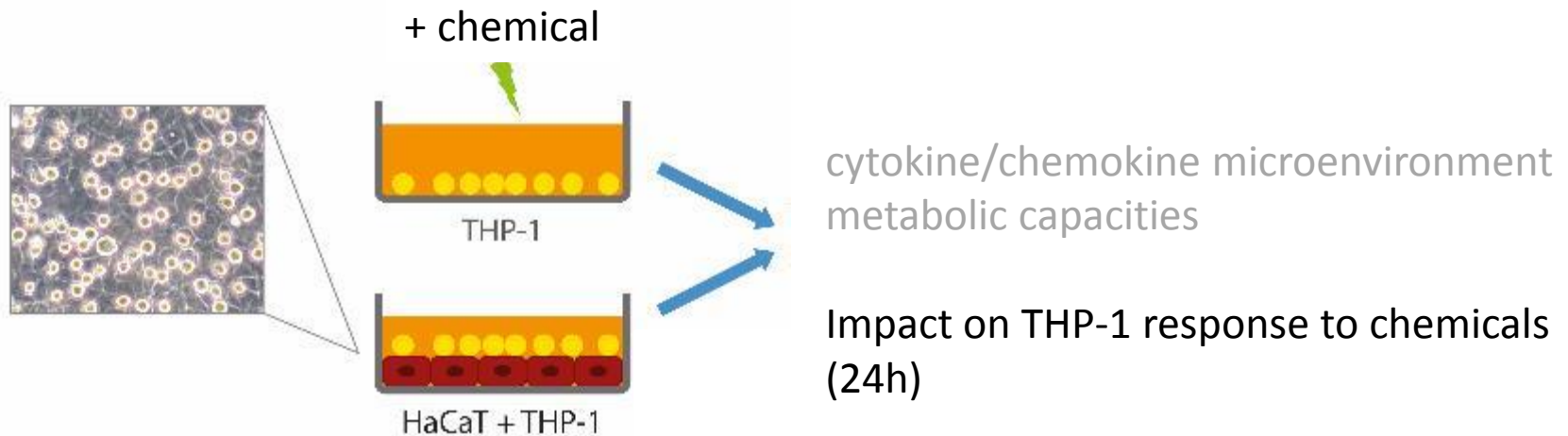


DC activation:  
costimulatory molecules and adhesion  
molecules



T cell activation

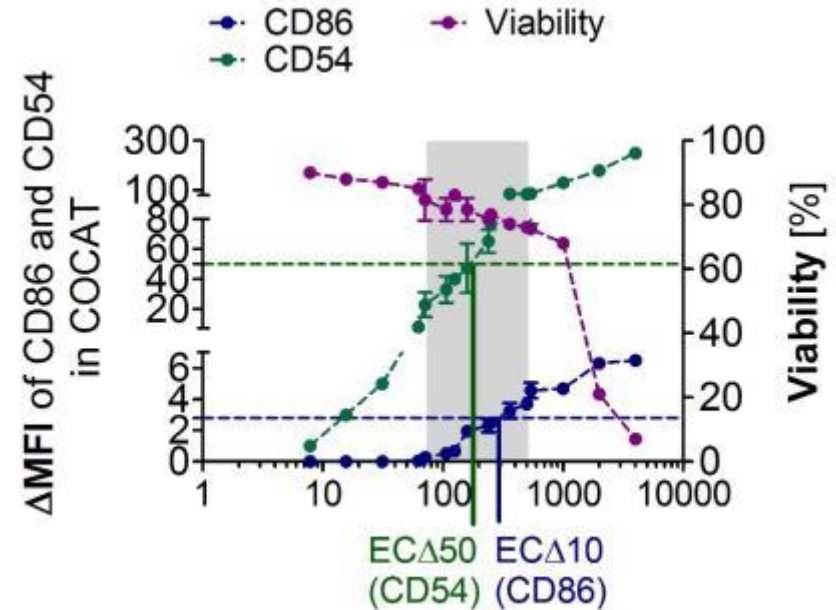
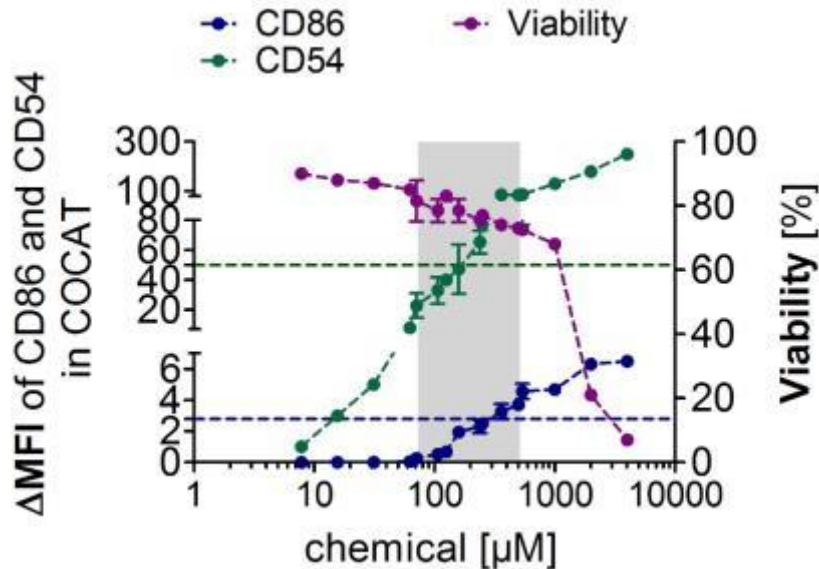
# Model



→ Upregulation of **CD86** and **CD54** on cell surface of cocultured THP-1 (MoDC)



# COCAT protocol & prediction model



→ readout: concentration needed for exceeding the thresholds for positivity

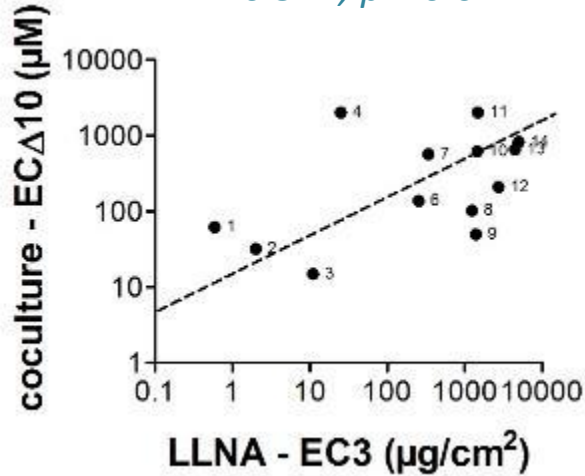
**EC $\Delta$ 10** for CD86 and **EC $\Delta$ 50** for CD54

→ **lower value of EC $\Delta$ 10 or EC $\Delta$ 50 is chosen for potency prediction**

# Comparison with *in vivo* data: LLNA EC3

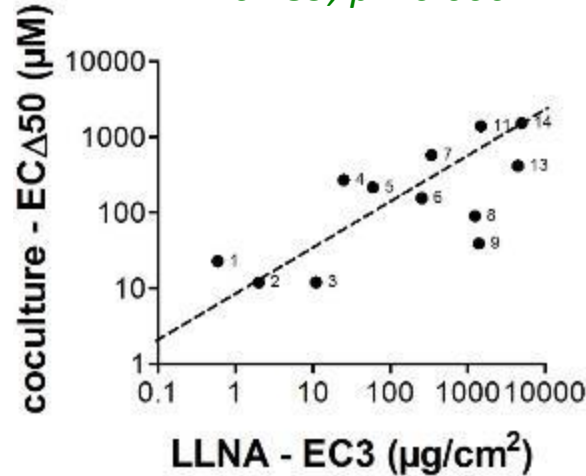
CD86

$r = 0.571, p = 0.041$



CD54

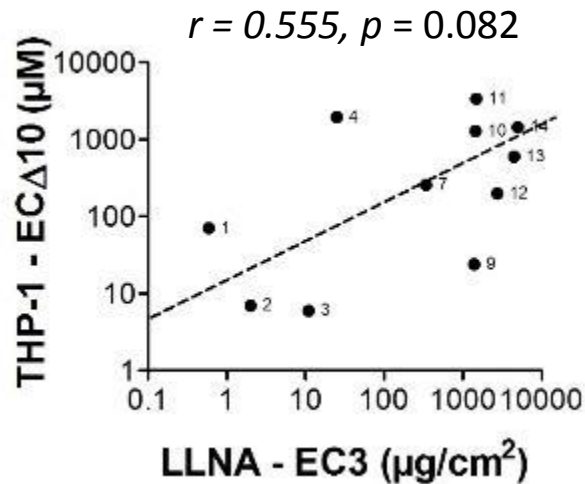
$r = 0.739, p = 0.006$



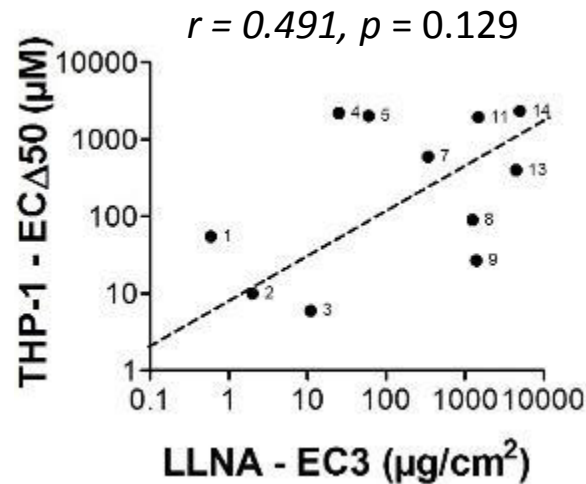
Overall trend: the more potent sensitizer also needs lower concentrations for positivity regarding CD86 and CD54

Significantly improved comparison with EC3

Helpful for quantitative risk assessment



$r = 0.555, p = 0.082$



$r = 0.491, p = 0.129$

# COCAT – Predictive performance

## **Sensitizers (including 8 pre-/prohaptens):**

CD86: 13/14 positive

CD54: 12/13 positive

## **non-sensitizers:**

CD86: 0/10 positive

CD54: 1/10 positive

## **sensitivity:**

CD86: 93%

CD54: 92%

## **specificity:**

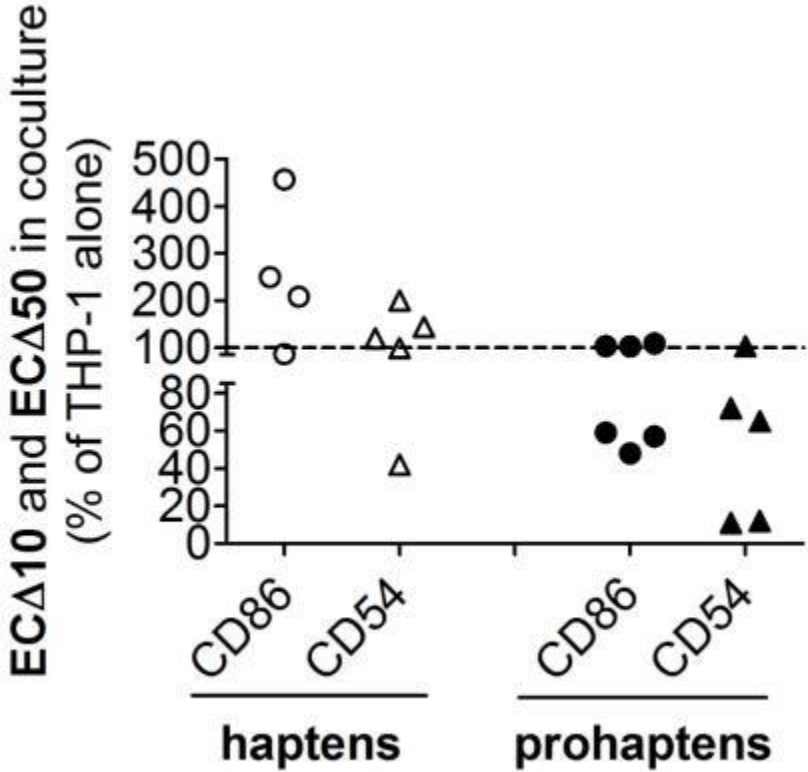
CD86: 100%

CD54: 90%

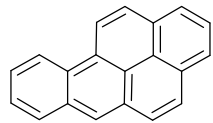
**accuracy: 96%**

# What did we learn?

# Concentrations needed for reaching thresholds in COCAT

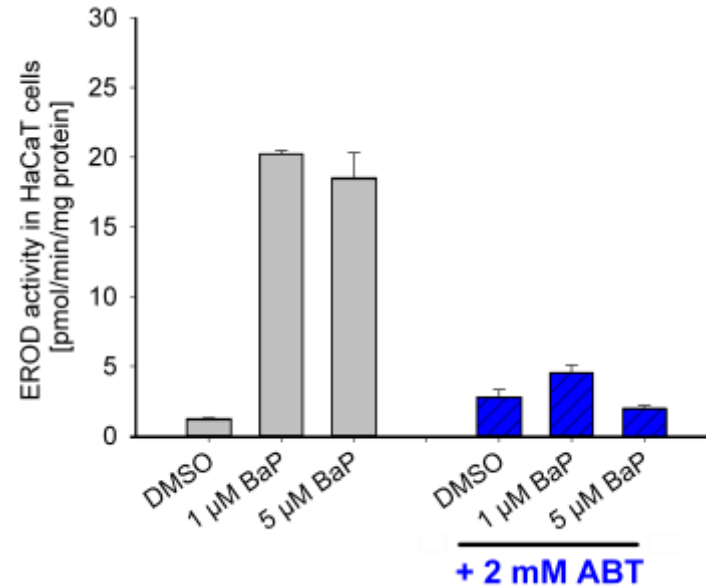
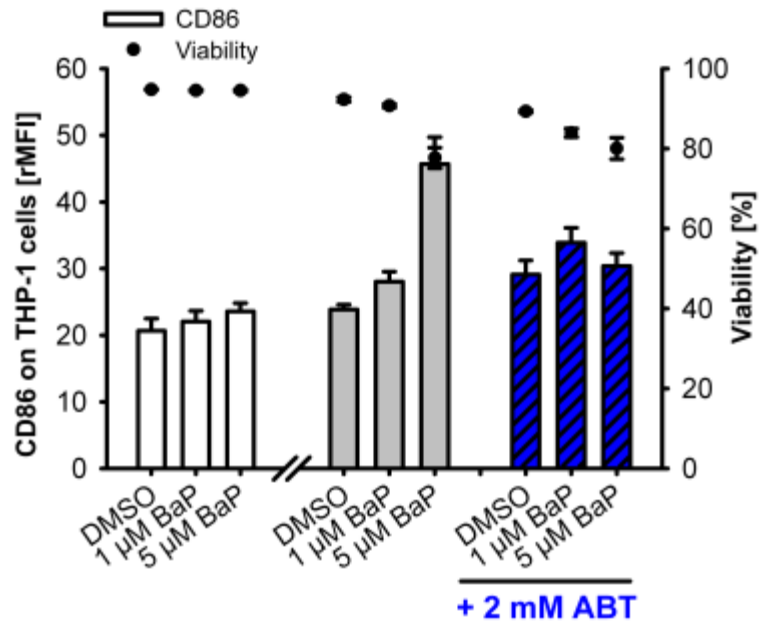
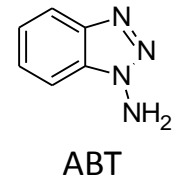


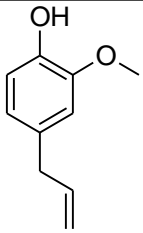
# Pro- and pre-haptens – metabolism involved?



# Prohaptern B[a]P – Coculture approach

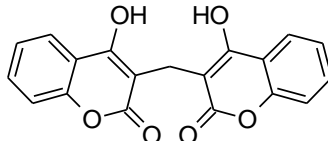
B[a]P



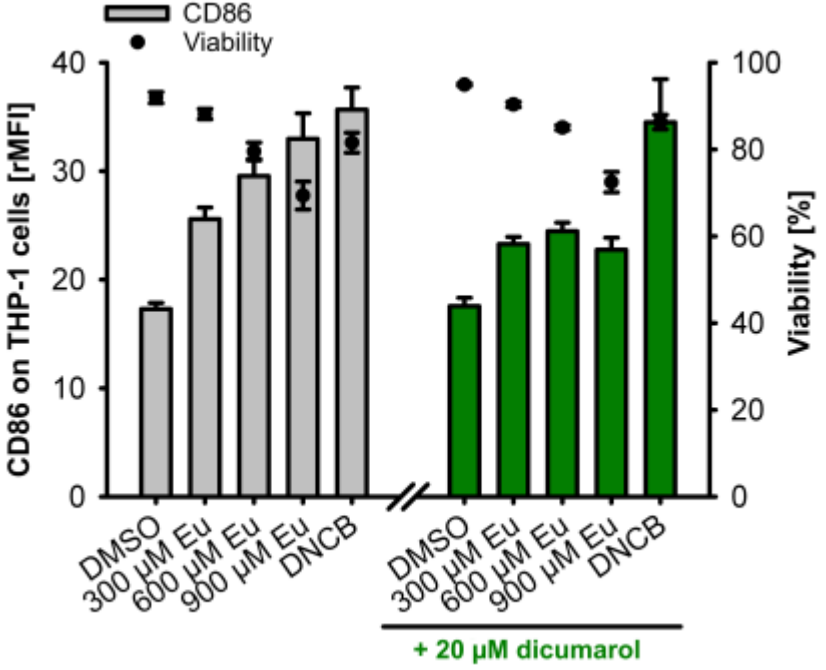
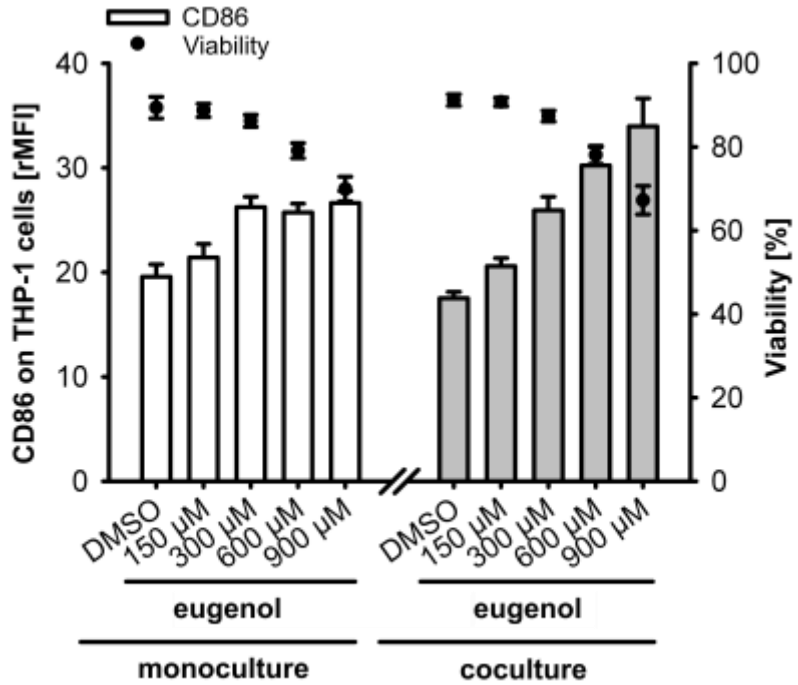


eugenol

# Prohaptten eugenol



dicumarol



Hennen er al., 2011



# The methodological challenges – what is known about pro-hapten activation of fragrance materials in the in-vivo and in-vitro test methods we use for induction

## *Part II – in vitro*

- THP-1/HaCaT coculture approach: significantly improved correlation with in vivo EC3 values
- Training set included a set of prohaptens and chemicals that were negative/false positive in other assays
- ....more?