

# Topic 7 Drug Discovery and design Pt. 1

Chapter 9 Patrick

# Contents

## Part 1: Sections 9.1-9.3

1. Target disease
2. Drug Targets
3. Testing Drugs
  - 3.1. In vivo Tests
  - 3.2. In vitro Tests
    - 3.2.1. Enzyme Inhibition Tests
    - 3.2.2. Testing with Receptors

# DRUG DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT

## Stages

- 1) Identify target disease
- 2) Identify drug target
- 3) Establish testing procedures
- 4) Find a lead compound
- 5) Structure Activity Relationships (SAR)
- 6) Identify a pharmacophore
- 7) Drug design- optimising target interactions
- 8) Drug design - optimising pharmacokinetic properties
- 9) Toxicological and safety tests
- 10) Chemical development and production
- 11) Patenting and regulatory affairs
- 12) Clinical trials

# 1. TARGET DISEASE

## Priority for the Pharmaceutical Industry

- **Can the profits from marketing a new drug outweigh the cost of developing and testing that drug?**

## Questions to be addressed

- **Is the disease widespread?**  
(e.g. cardiovascular disease, ulcers, malaria)
- **Does the disease affect the first world?**  
(e.g. cardiovascular disease, ulcers)
- **Are there drugs already on the market?**
- **If so, what are there advantages and disadvantages?**  
(e.g. side effects)
- **Can one identify a market advantage for a new therapy?**

## **2. DRUG TARGETS-Remember?**

### **A) LIPIDS**

**Cell Membrane Lipids**

### **B) PROTEINS**

**Receptors**

**Enzymes**

**Carrier Proteins**

**Structural Proteins (tubulin)**

### **C) NUCLEIC ACIDS**

**DNA**

**RNA**

### **D) CARBOHYDRATES**

**Cell surface carbohydrates**

**Antigens and recognition molecules**

## **2. DRUG TARGETS**

### **TARGET SELECTIVITY**

#### **Between species**

- **Antibacterial and antiviral agents**
- **Identify targets which are unique to the invading pathogen**
- **Identify targets which are shared but which are significantly different in structure**

#### **Within the body**

- **Selectivity between different enzymes, receptors etc.**
- **Selectivity between receptor types and subtypes**
- **Selectivity between isozymes**
- **Organ selectivity**

### **3. TESTING DRUGS**

- **Tests are required in order to find lead compounds and for drug optimisation**
- **Tests can be *in vivo* or *in vitro***
- **A combination of tests is often used in research programs**

## **3.1 *in vivo* Tests**

- **Carried out on live animals or humans**
- **Measure an observed physiological effect**
- **Measure a drug's ability to interact with its target and its ability to reach that target**
- **Can identify possible side effects**
- **Rationalization may be difficult due to the number of factors involved**
- **Transgenic animals - genetically modified animals**
- **Drug potency - concentration of drug required to produce 50% of the maximum possible effect**
- **Therapeutic ratio/index - compares the dose level of a drug required to produce a desired effect in 50% of the test sample ( $ED_{50}$ ) versus the dose level that is lethal to 50% of the sample ( $LD_{50}$ )**



## 3.2 *in vitro* Tests-See drug binding supplement

- **Tests not carried out on animals/humans**

Target molecules (e.g. isolated enzymes or receptors)

Cells (e.g. cloned cells)

Tissues (e.g. muscle tissue)

Organs

Micro-organisms (for antibacterial agents)

- **More suitable for routine testing**
- **Used in high throughput screening**
- **Measure the interaction of a drug with the target but not the ability of the drug to reach the target**
- **Results are easier to rationalize - less factors involved**
- **Does not demonstrate a physiological or clinical effect**
- **Does not identify possible side effects**
- **Does not identify effective prodrugs**

## 3.2.1 Enzyme Inhibition Tests

- **Identify competitive or non competitive inhibition**
- **Strength of inhibition measured as  $IC_{50}$**
- **$IC_{50}$  = concentration of inhibitor required to reduce enzyme activity by 50%**

## 3.2.2 Testing with Receptors

- **Not easy to isolate membrane bound receptors**
- **Carried out on whole cells, tissue cultures, or isolated organs**
- **Affinity - strength with which compounds bind to a receptor**
- **Efficacy - measure of maximum biochemical effect resulting from binding of a compound to a receptor.**
- **Potency - concentration of an agonist required to produce 50% of the maximum possible effect.**

# Contents

Part 2: Section 9.4 Lead compounds from the natural world

## 4. The Lead Compound

4.1. Sources of Lead Compounds

4.2. Identification of Lead Compounds

4.3. Lead Compounds from the Natural World

- Plant Extracts
- Plants and Ancient Records
- Herbal Remedies of Olde
- Venoms and Toxins
- Endogenous Compounds

# 4 The Lead Compound

## Introduction

Def: A compound demonstrating a property likely to be therapeutically useful

- The level of activity and target selectivity are not crucial
- Used as the starting point for drug design and development
- Found by design (molecular modelling or NMR) or by screening compounds (natural or synthetic)
- Need to identify a suitable test in order to find a lead compound
- Active Principle - a compound that is isolated from a natural extract and which is principally responsible for the extract's pharmacological activity. Often used as a lead compound.

## 4.1 Sources of Lead Compounds

### A) The Natural World

**Plantlife** (flowers, trees, bushes)

**Micro-organisms** (bacteria, fungi)

**Animal life** (frogs, snakes, scorpions)

**Biochemicals** (Neurotransmitters, hormones)

**Marine chemistry** (corals, bacteria, fish etc)

### B) The Synthetic World

**Chemical synthesis (traditional)**

**Combinatorial synthesis**

### C) The Virtual World

**Computer aided drug design**

## 4.2 Identification of Lead Compounds

### A) Isolation and purification

solvent-solvent extraction  
chromatography  
crystallization  
distillation

### B) Structure determination

elemental analysis  
molecular weight  
mass spectrum  
infrared  
ultraviolet  
nmr ( $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^2\text{D}$ )  
X-ray crystallography

## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

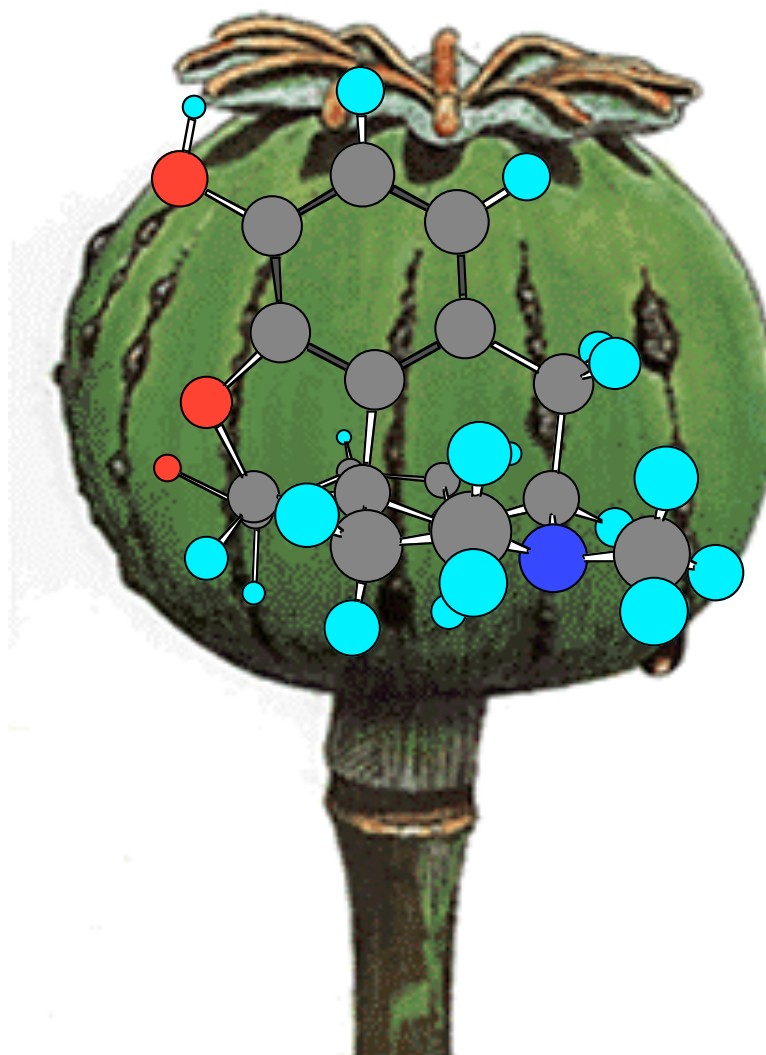
### PLANT EXTRACTS





## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

### PLANT EXTRACTS



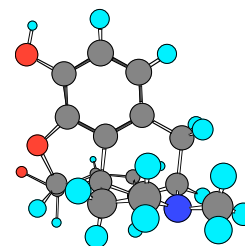
**MORPHINE**

**POPPY CAPSULE**

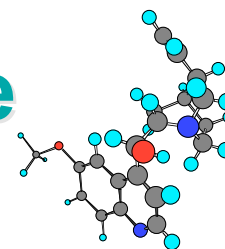
## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

### PLANT EXTRACTS

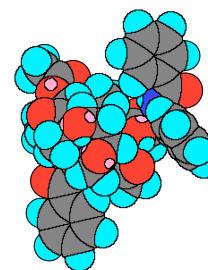
- **OPIUM - Morphine**



- **CINCHONA BARK - Quinine**



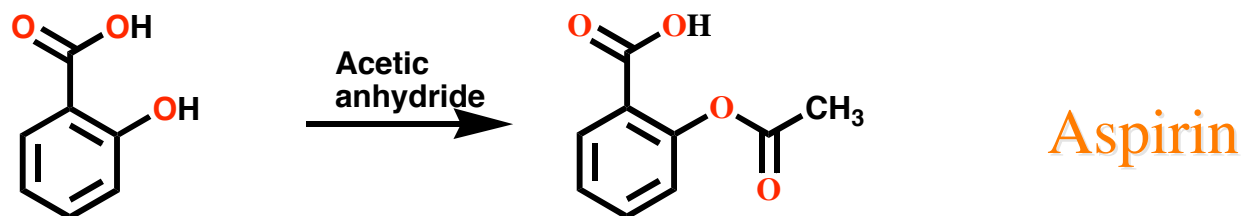
- **YEW TREE - Taxol**



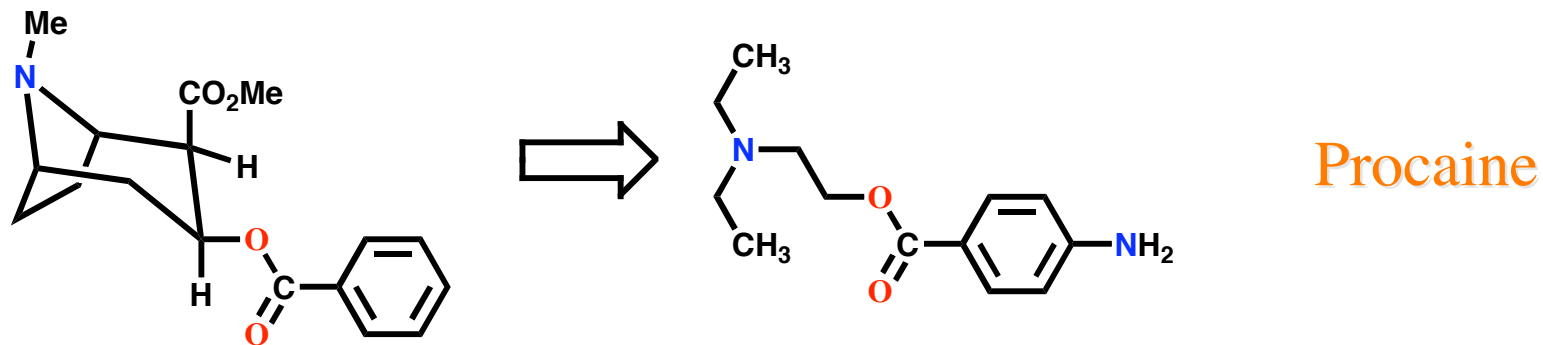
## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

### PLANT EXTRACTS

#### WILLOW TREE - SALICYLIC ACID

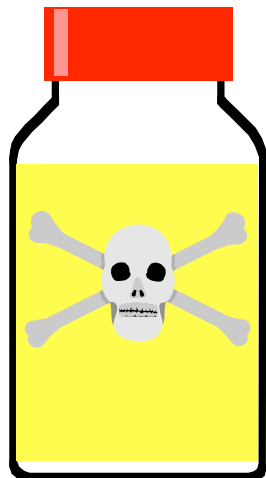


#### COCA BUSH - COCAINE

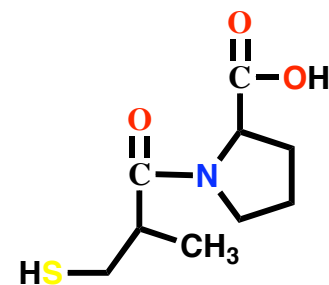
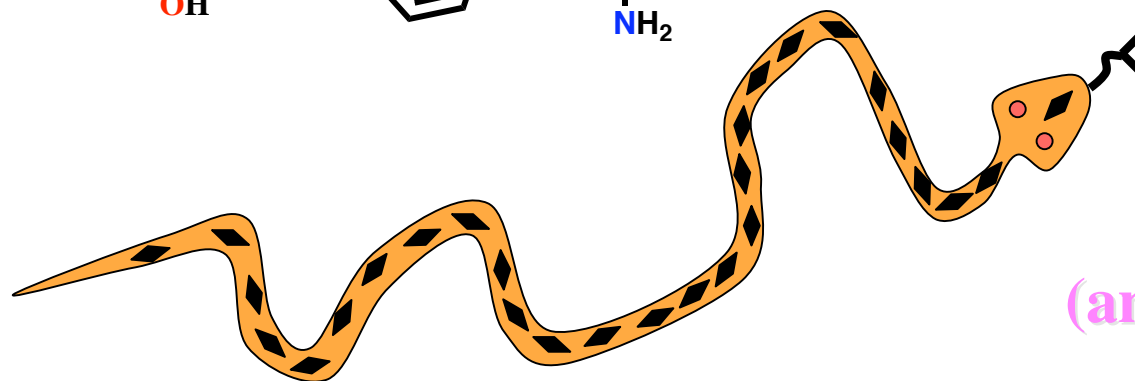
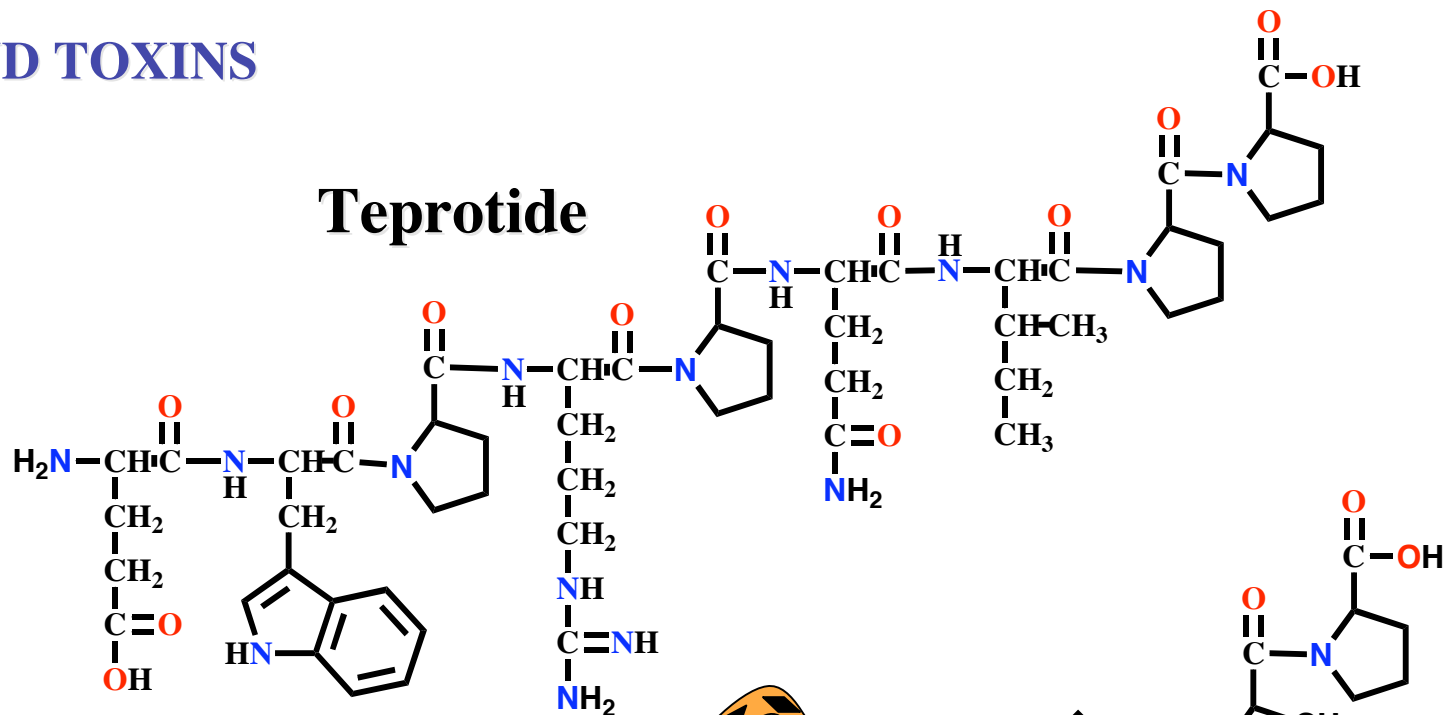


## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

### VENOMS AND TOXINS



**Teprotide**



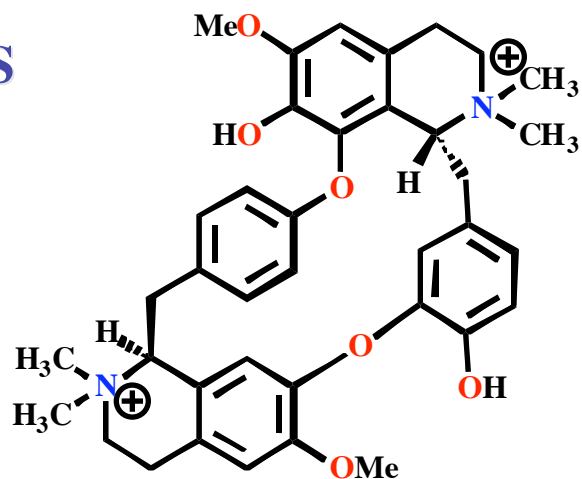
**Captopril**  
(anti-hypertensive)

## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

BUT WAIT....why do plants make these things???!!!

## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

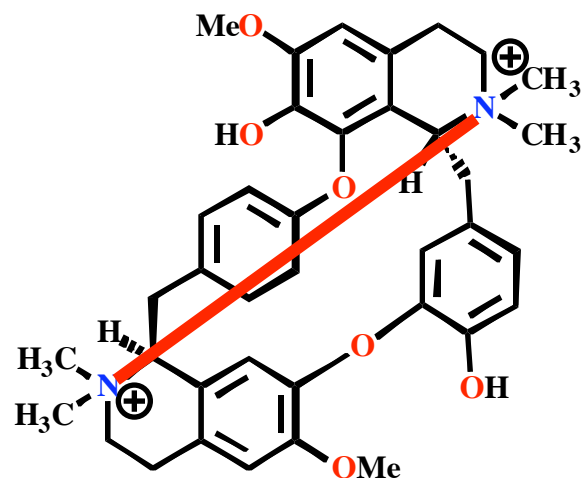
### VENOMS AND TOXINS



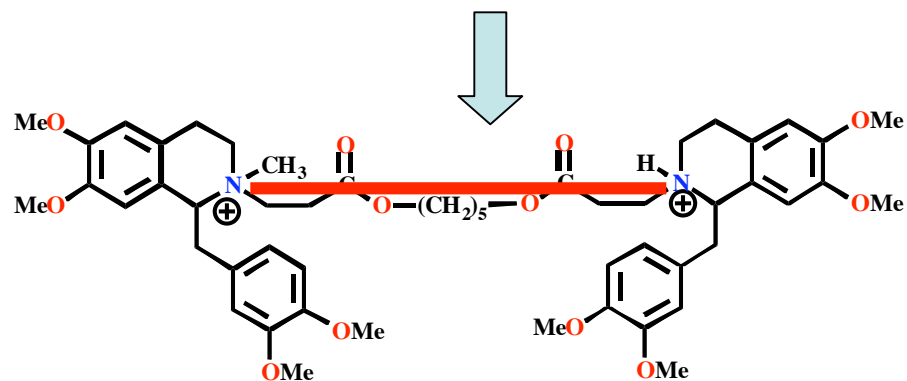
**Tubocurarine**  
(from curare)

## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

### VENOMS AND TOXINS



**Tubocurarine**  
(from curare)

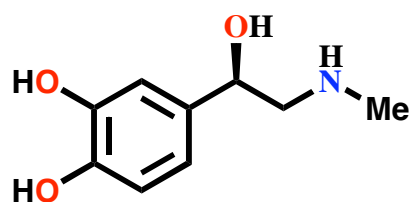


**Atracurium**  
(Neuromuscular blocker)

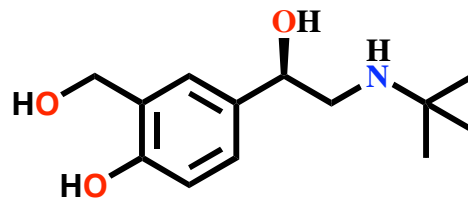
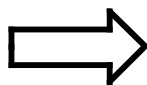
## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

ENDOGENOUS COMPOUNDS: found in YOU

NATURAL LIGANDS FOR RECEPTORS

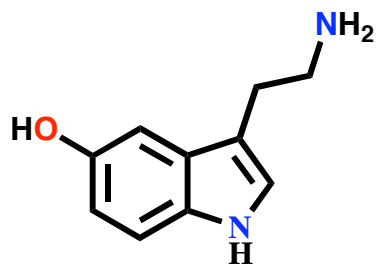


ADRENALINE

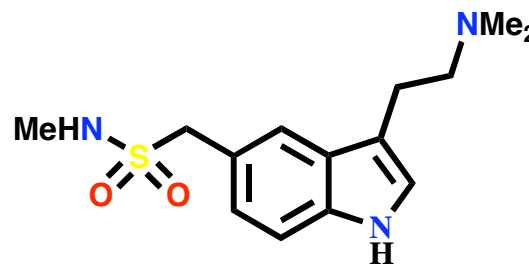
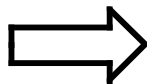


SALBUTAMOL

Agonist



5-HYDROXYTRYPTAMINE



SUMATRIPTAN

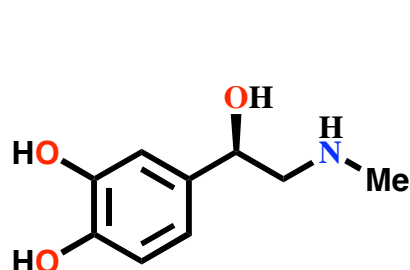
Agonist



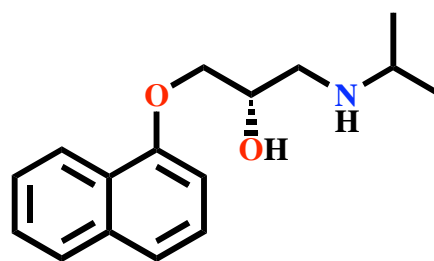
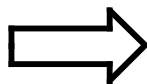
## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

### ENDOGENOUS COMPOUNDS

#### NATURAL LIGANDS FOR RECEPTORS

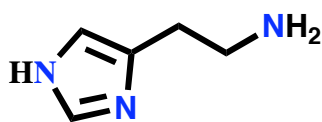


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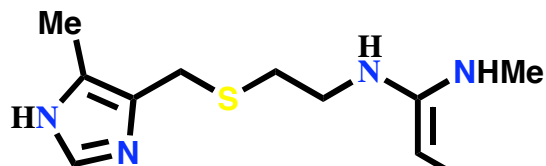
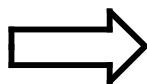


PROPRANOLOL

**Antagonist**



HISTAMINE



CIMETIDINE

**Antagonist**

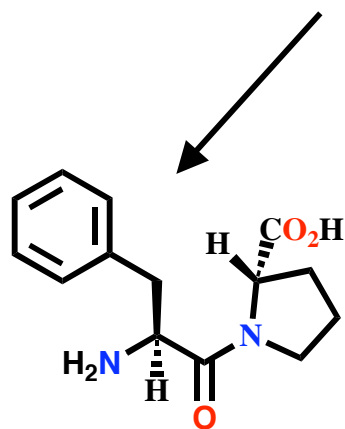
## 4.3 Lead Compounds from the Natural World

### ENDOGENOUS COMPOUNDS

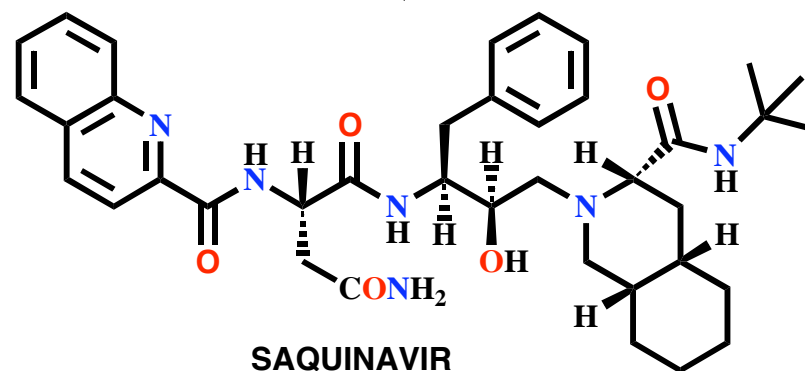
#### NATURAL SUBSTRATES FOR ENZYMES

Enkephalins  $\Rightarrow$  Enkephalinase inhibitors

HIV Peptides  $\Rightarrow$  HIV Protease inhibitors



L-Phe-L-Pro



SAQUINAVIR

# Contents

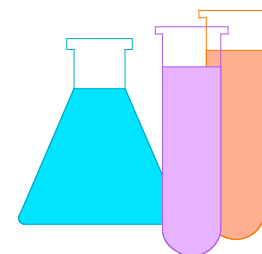
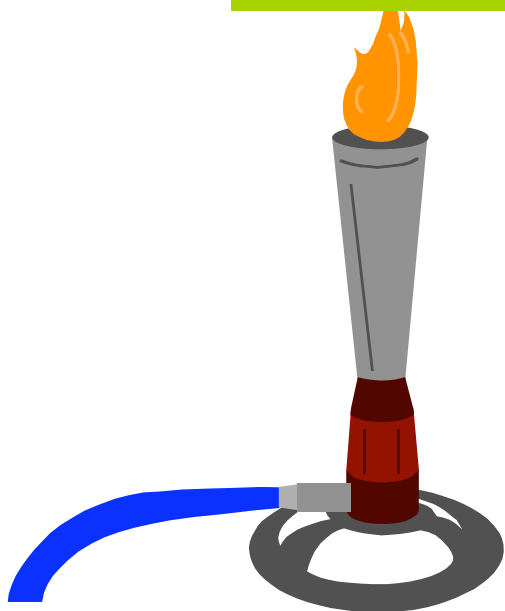
Part 3: Section 9.4 - Lead compounds from the synthetic world

## 4.4. Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

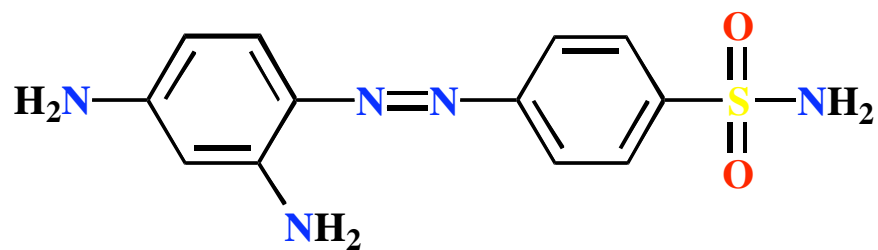
- Organic Synthesis
- Combinatorial Synthesis
- Combinatorial Synthesis - Peptide Synthesis
- Combinatorial Synthesis - Heterocyclic Synthesis

## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

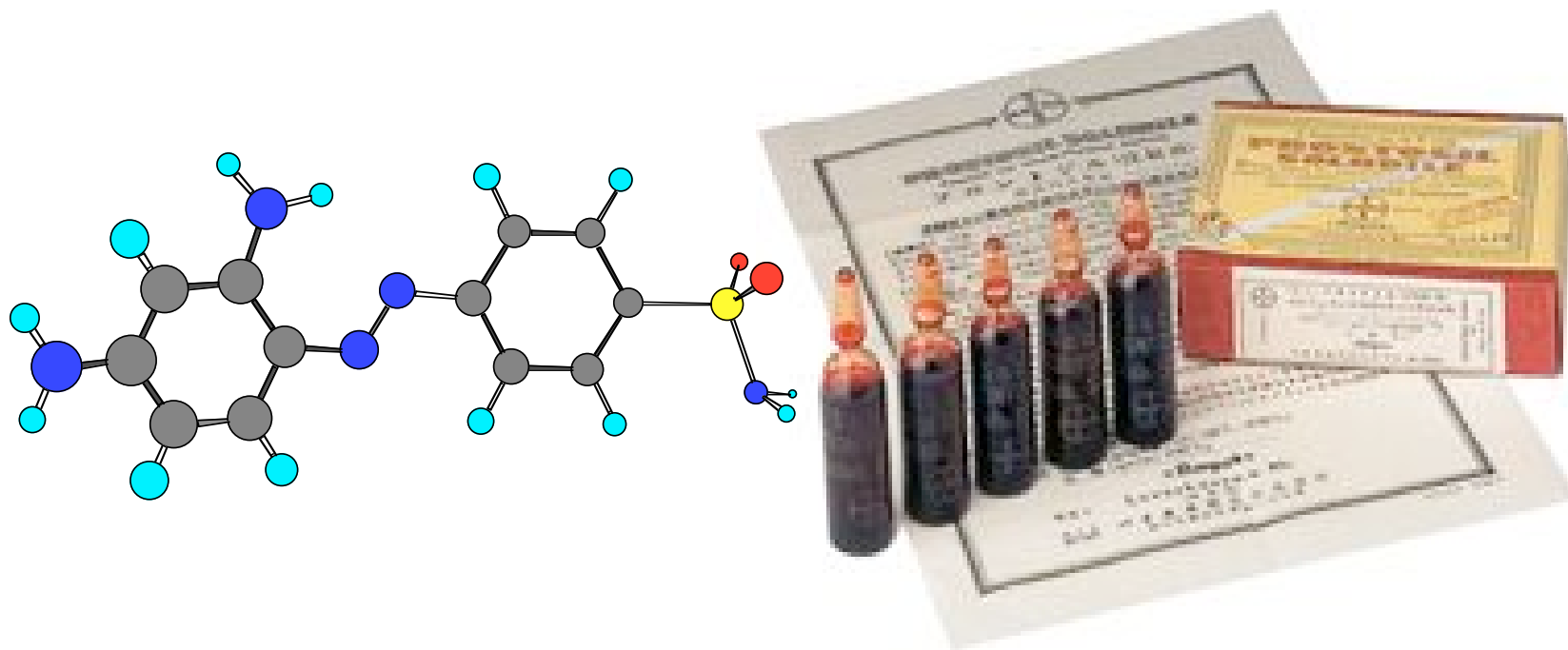
SYNTHETIC COMPOUNDS



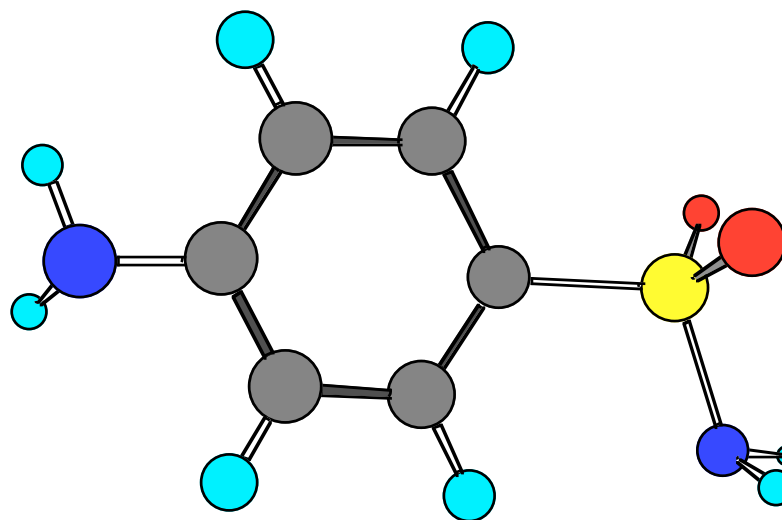
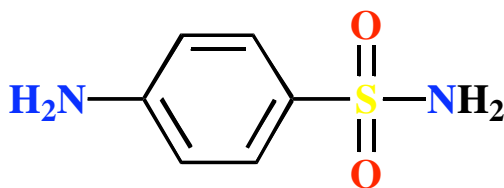
## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World



**PRONTOSIL: a dye**



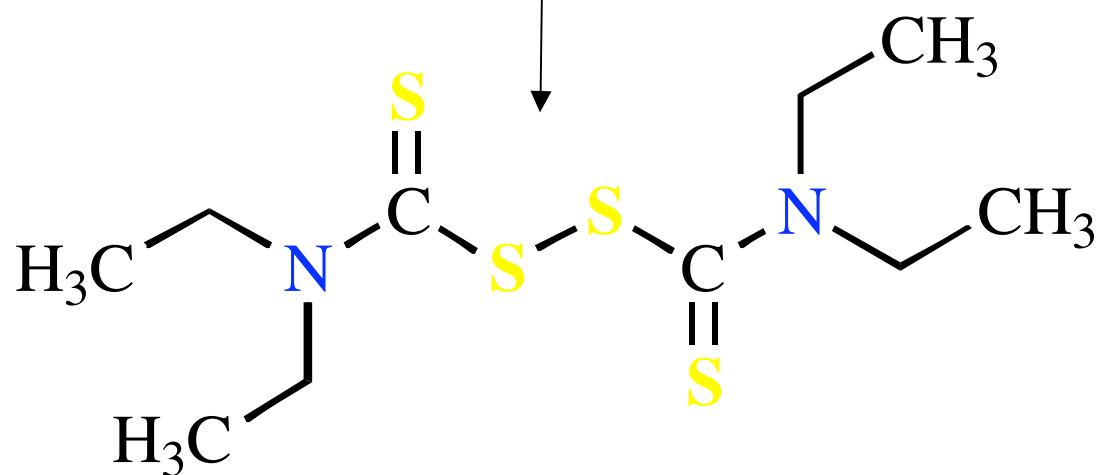
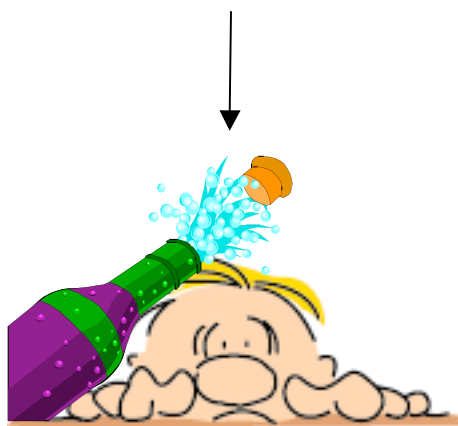
## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World



**SULFANILAMIDE: not RED**

## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

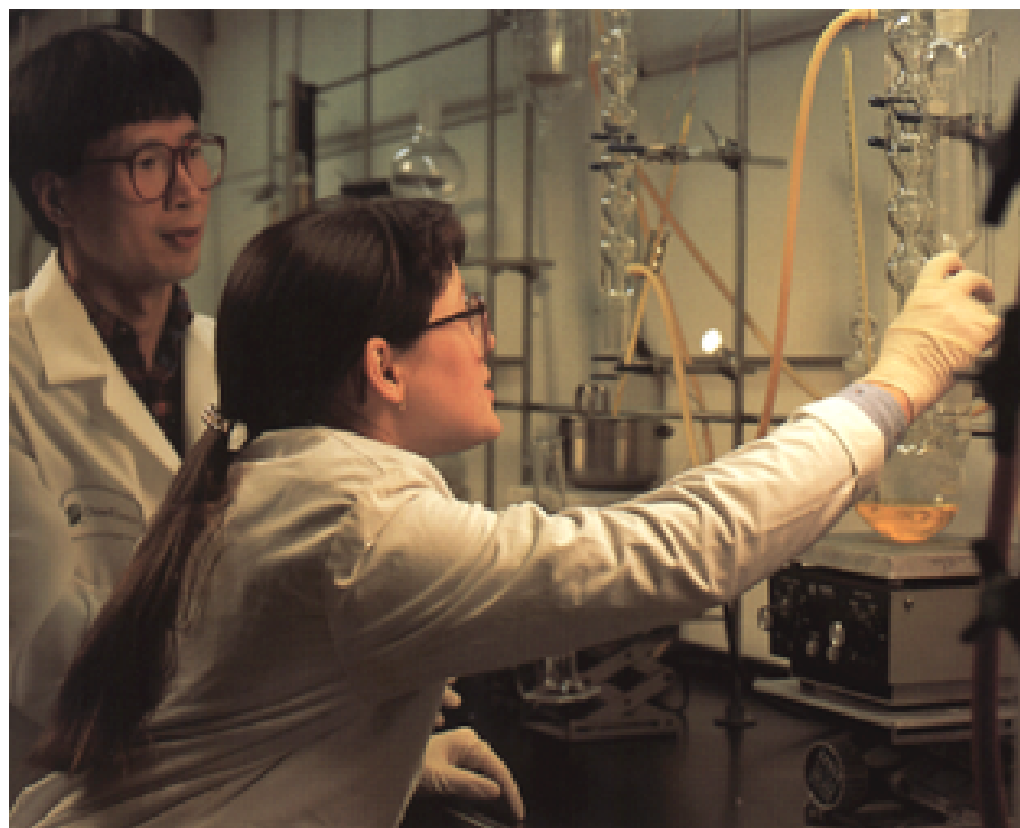
**RUBBER INDUSTRY**



**ANTABUSE**

## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

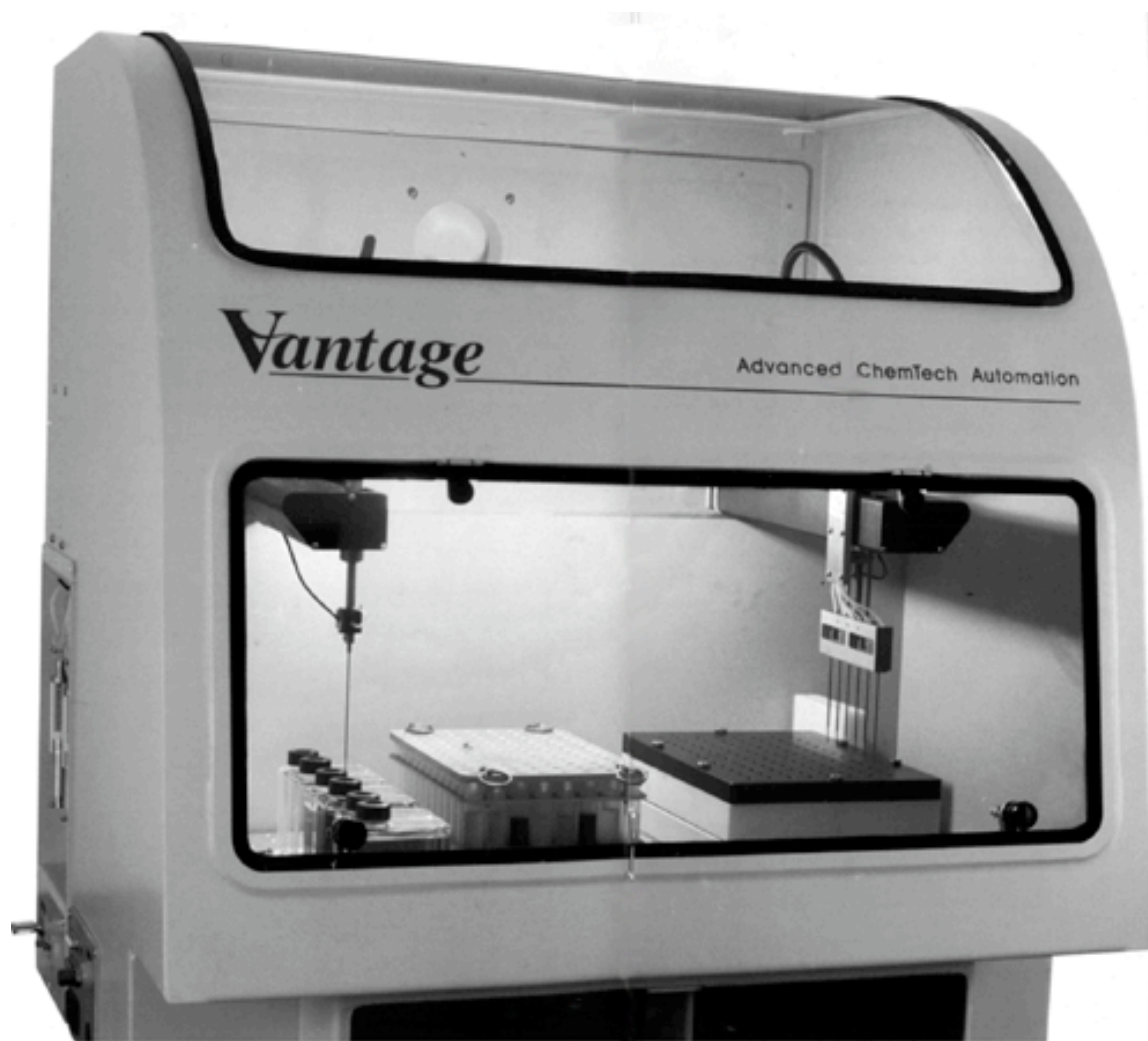
### ORGANIC SYNTHESIS





## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

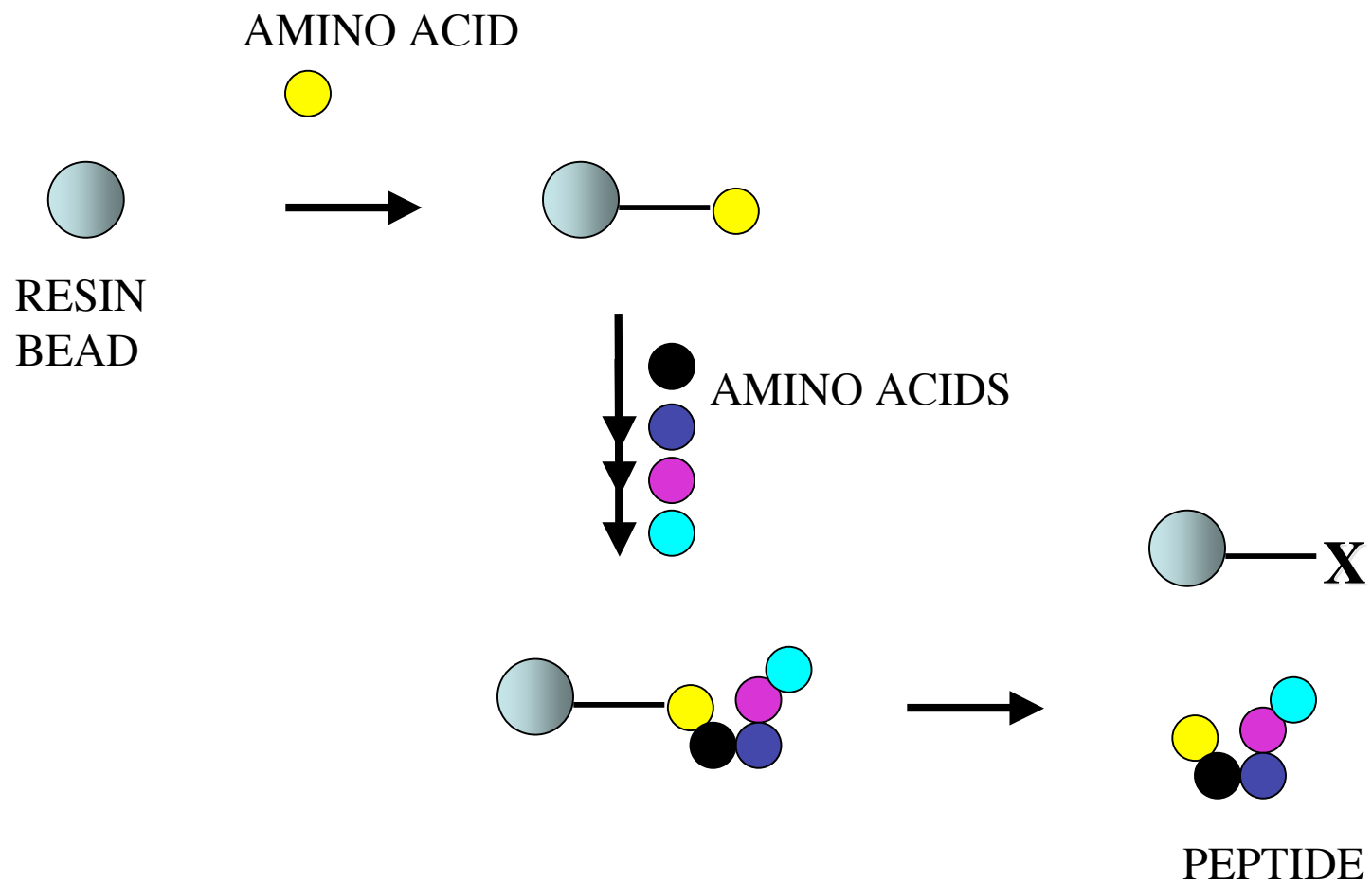
### COMBINATORIAL SYNTHESIS



AUTOMATED SYNTHETIC MACHINES

# 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

## COMBINATORIAL SYNTHESIS - PEPTIDE SYNTHESIS

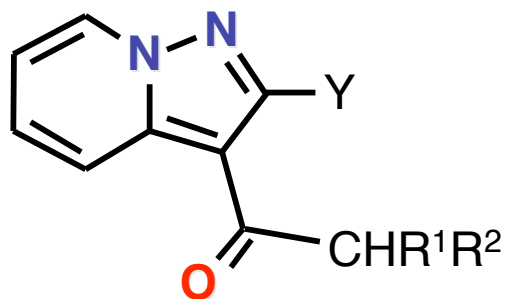


## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

### COMBINATORIAL SYNTHESIS - HETEROCYCLIC SYNTHESIS

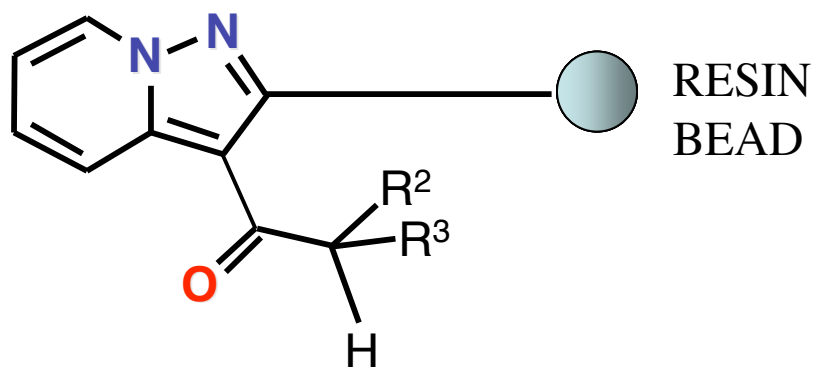


RESIN  
BEAD



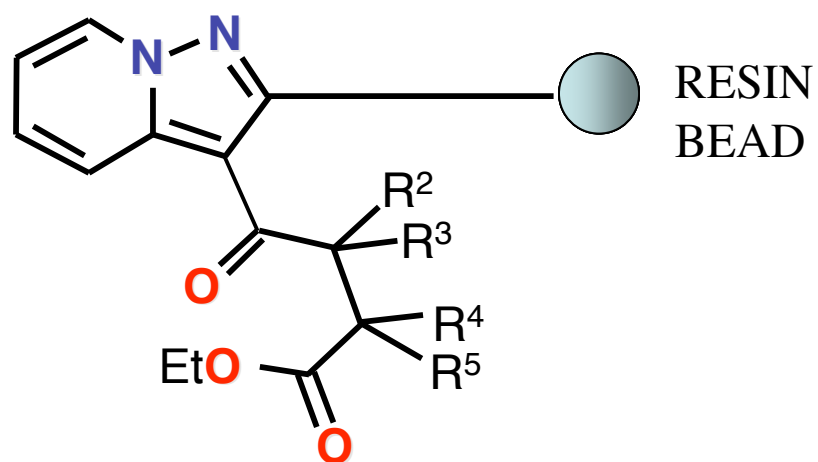
## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

### COMBINATORIAL SYNTHESIS - HETEROCYCLIC SYNTHESIS



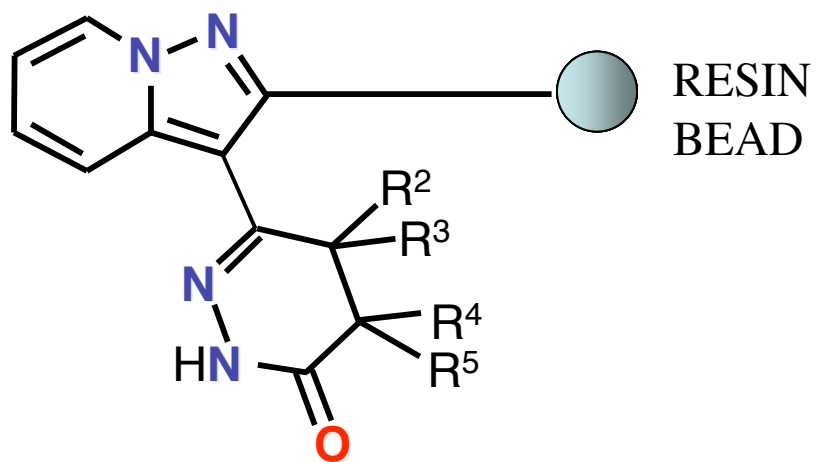
## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

### COMBINATORIAL SYNTHESIS - HETEROCYCLIC SYNTHESIS



## 4.4 Lead Compounds from the Synthetic World

### COMBINATORIAL SYNTHESIS - HETEROCYCLIC SYNTHESIS



# Contents

## Part 4: Lead compounds - Impact of the human genome project

### 4.5. Lead Compounds

- Impact of the human genome project

### 4.6. Lead Compounds - de novo design

### 4.7. Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy

## 4.5 Lead Compounds

### - Impact of the human genome project

**The Past**

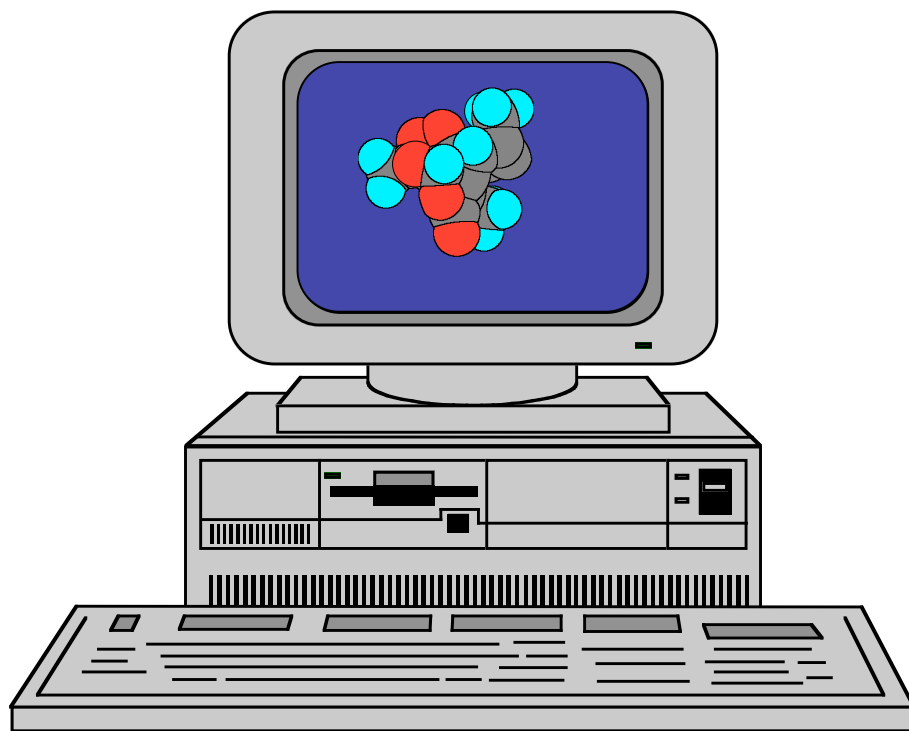
**Lead Compound** → **Targets**

**The Future**

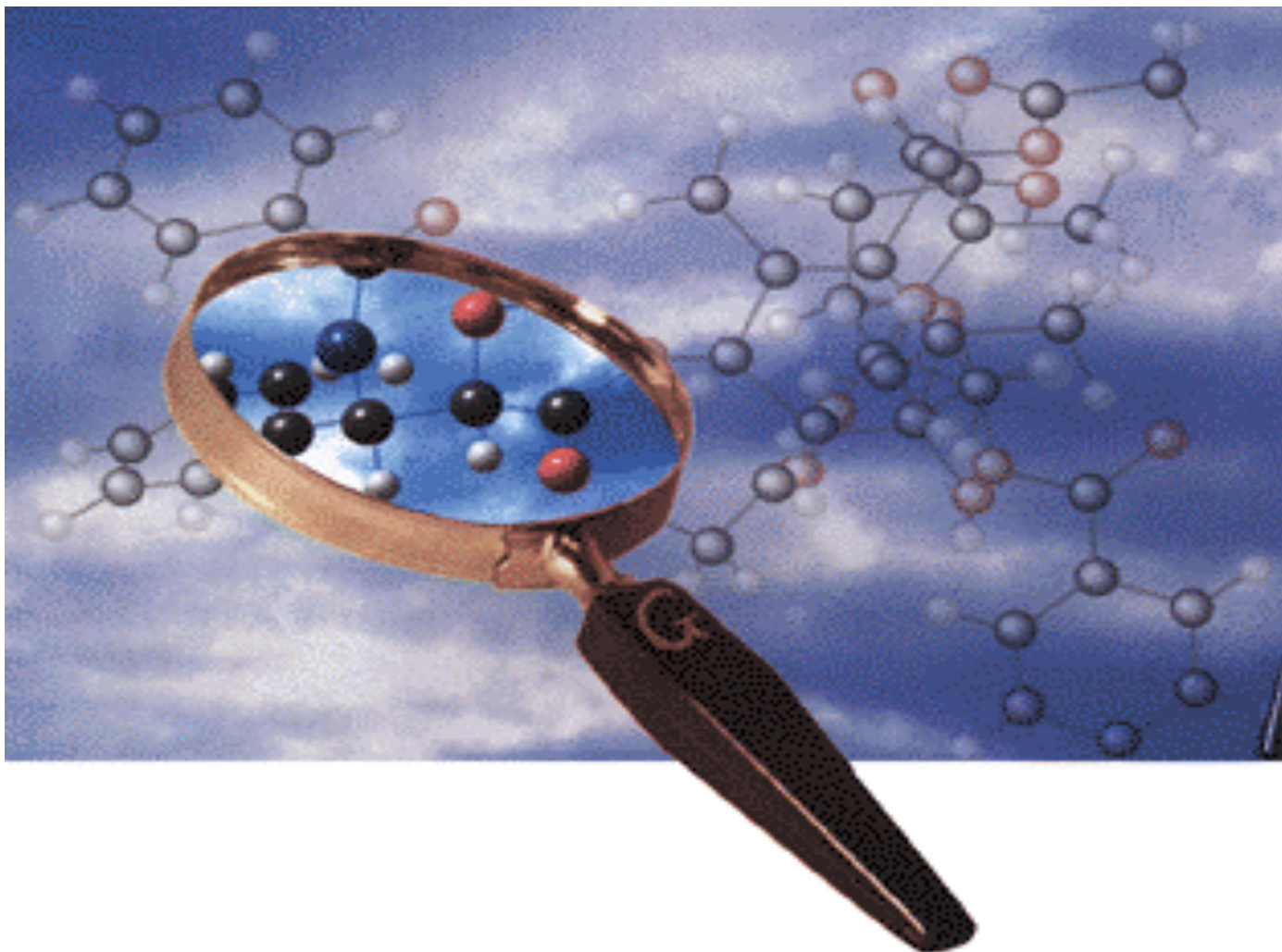
**Targets** → **Lead compounds**



## 4.6 Lead Compounds - *de novo* design

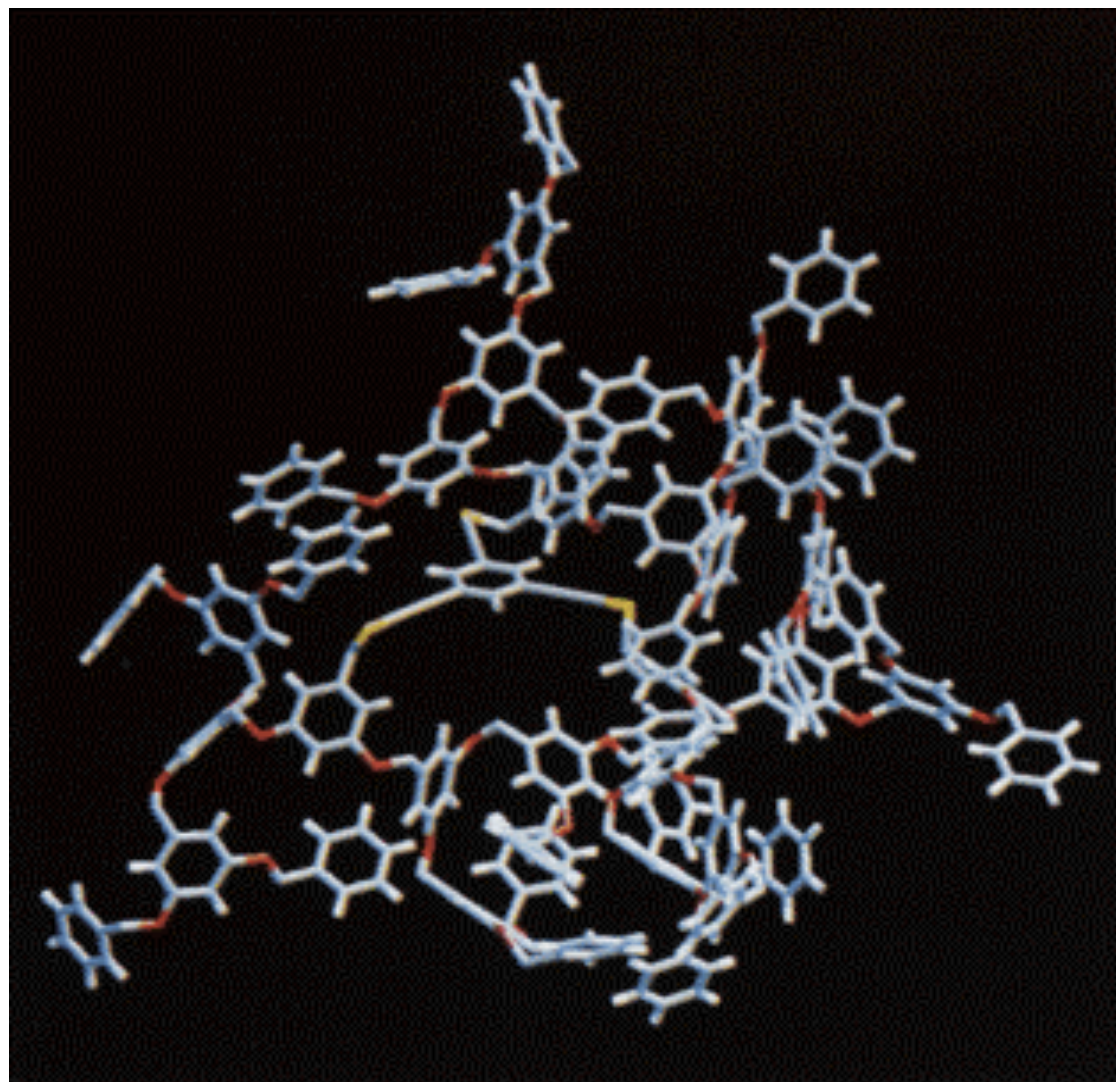


## 4.6 Lead Compounds - *de novo* design



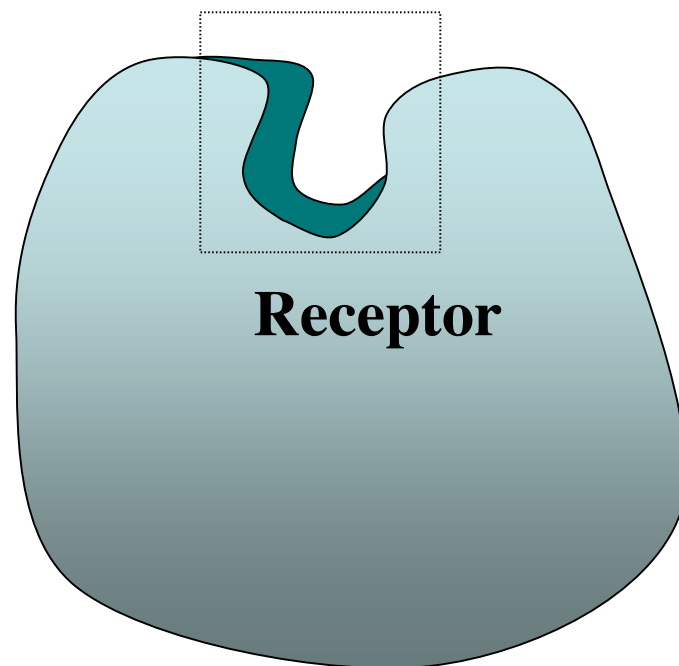
**X-RAY CRYSTALLOGRAPHY**

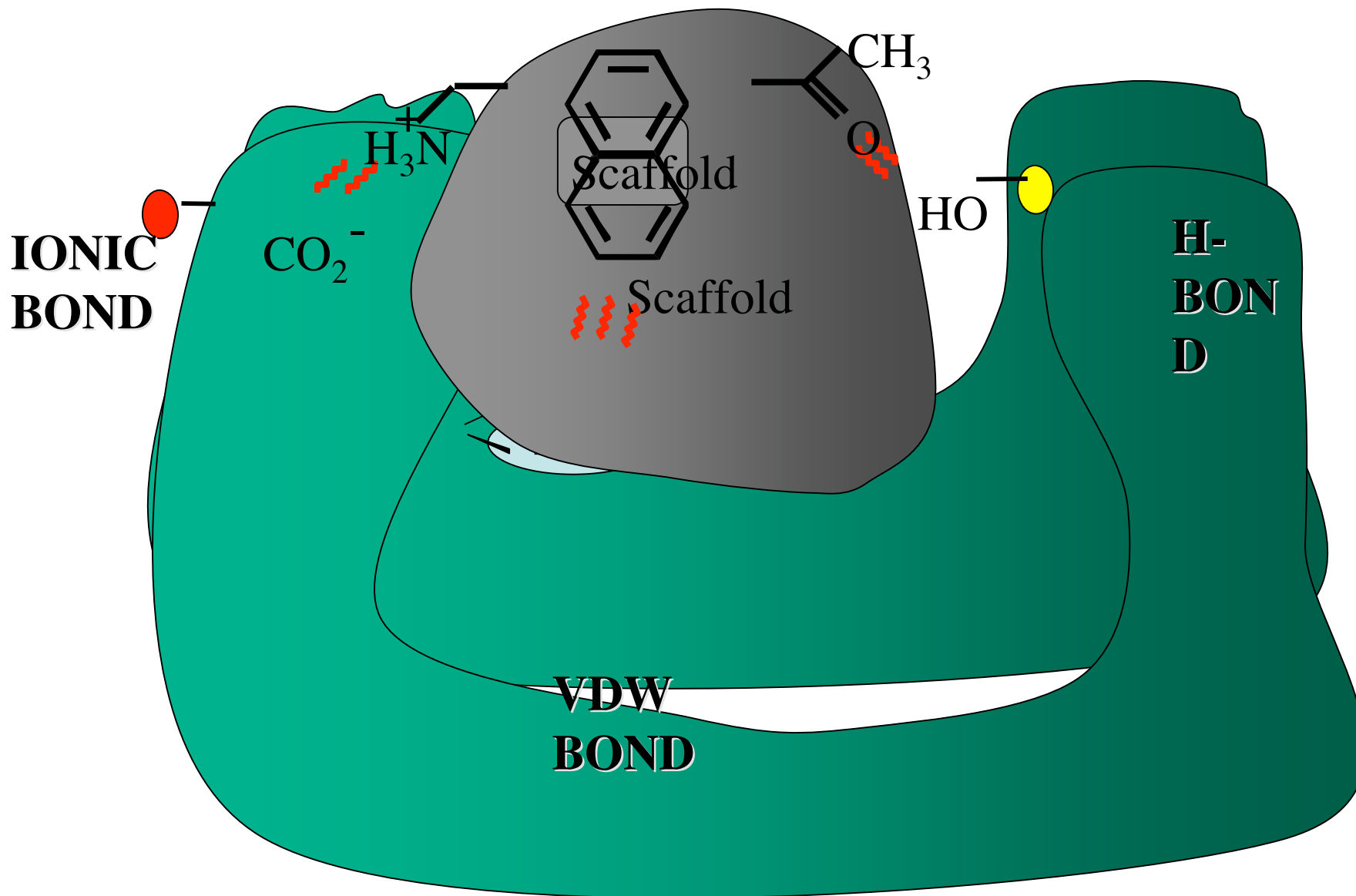
## 4.6 Lead Compounds - *de novo* design



**PROTEIN STRUCTURE**

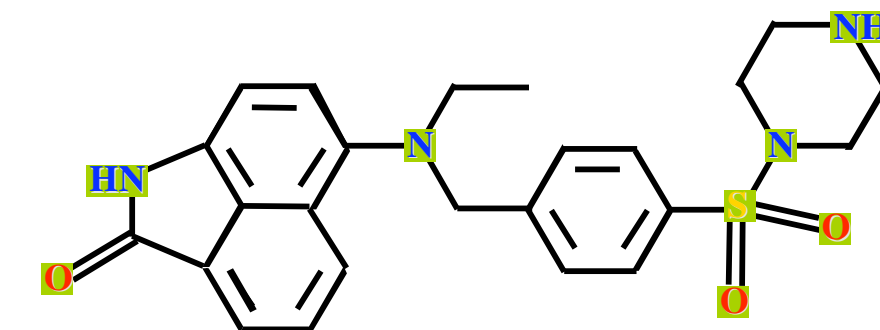
## 4.6 Lead Compounds - *de novo* design





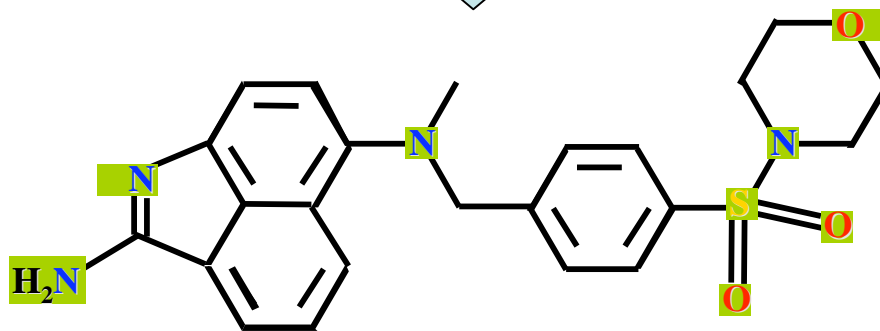
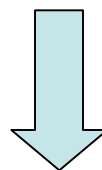
## 4.6 Lead Compounds - *de novo* design

### THYMIDYLATE KINASE INHIBITOR



LEAD  
COMPOUND

Optimisation



ANTICANCER AGENT

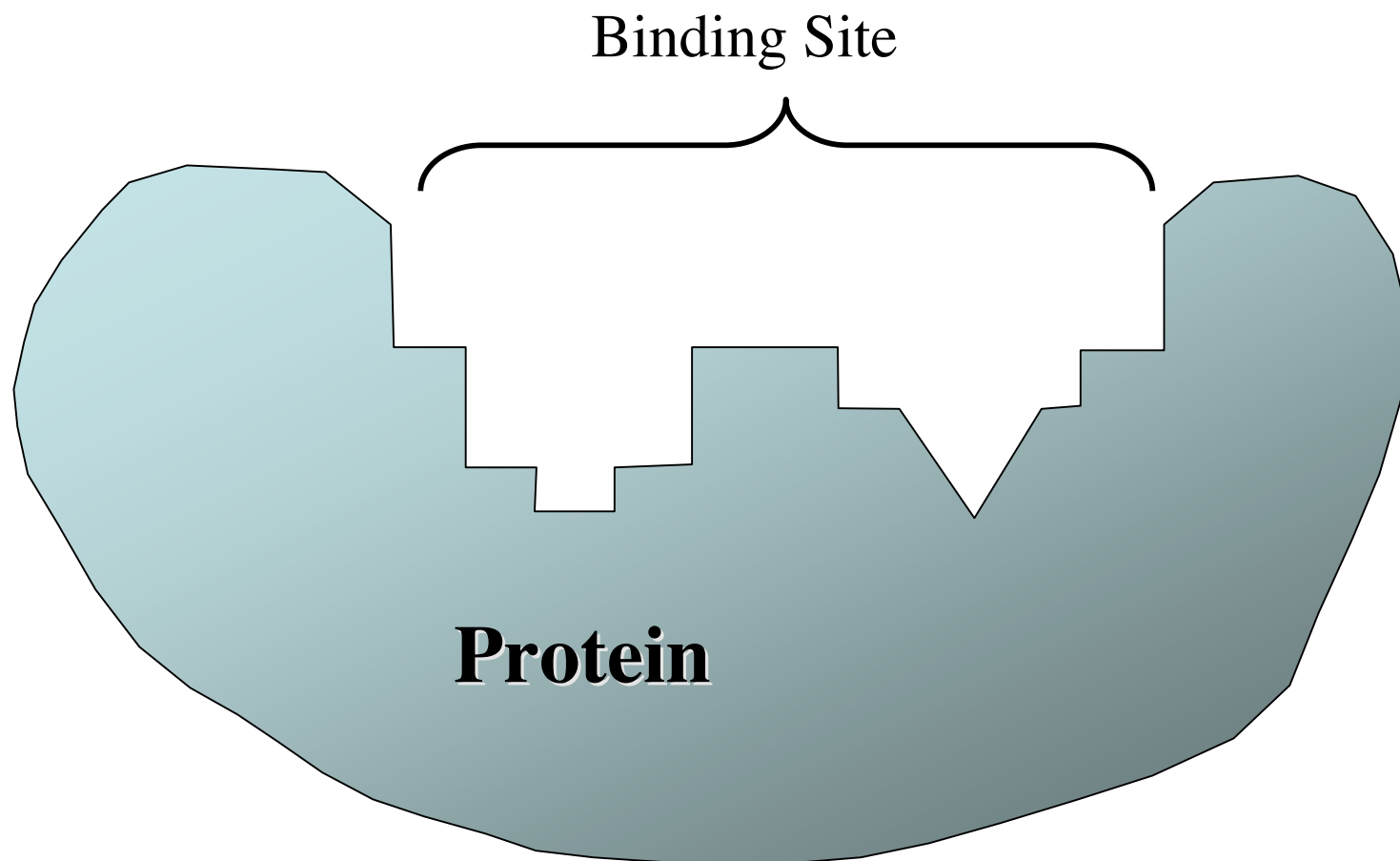


## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy

### NMR SPECTROSCOPY

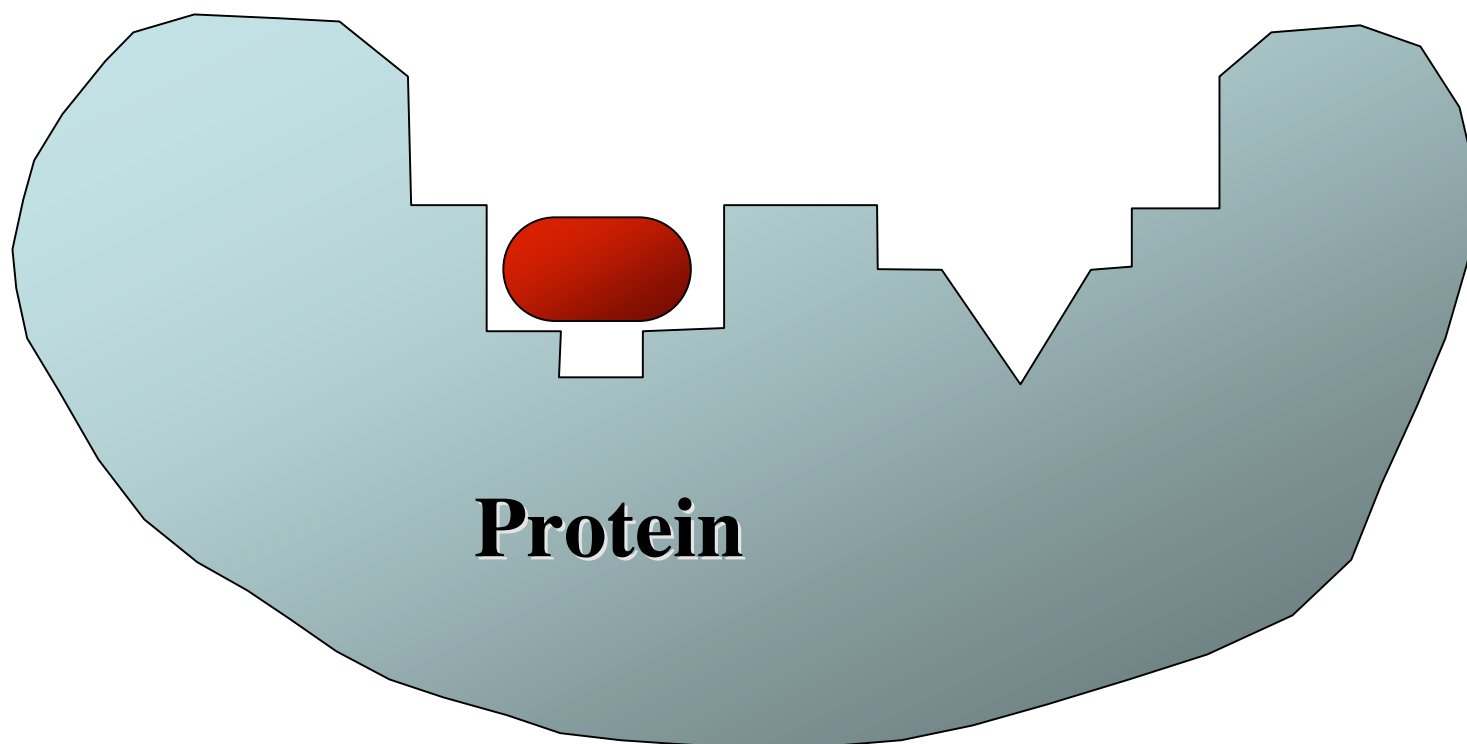


## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy



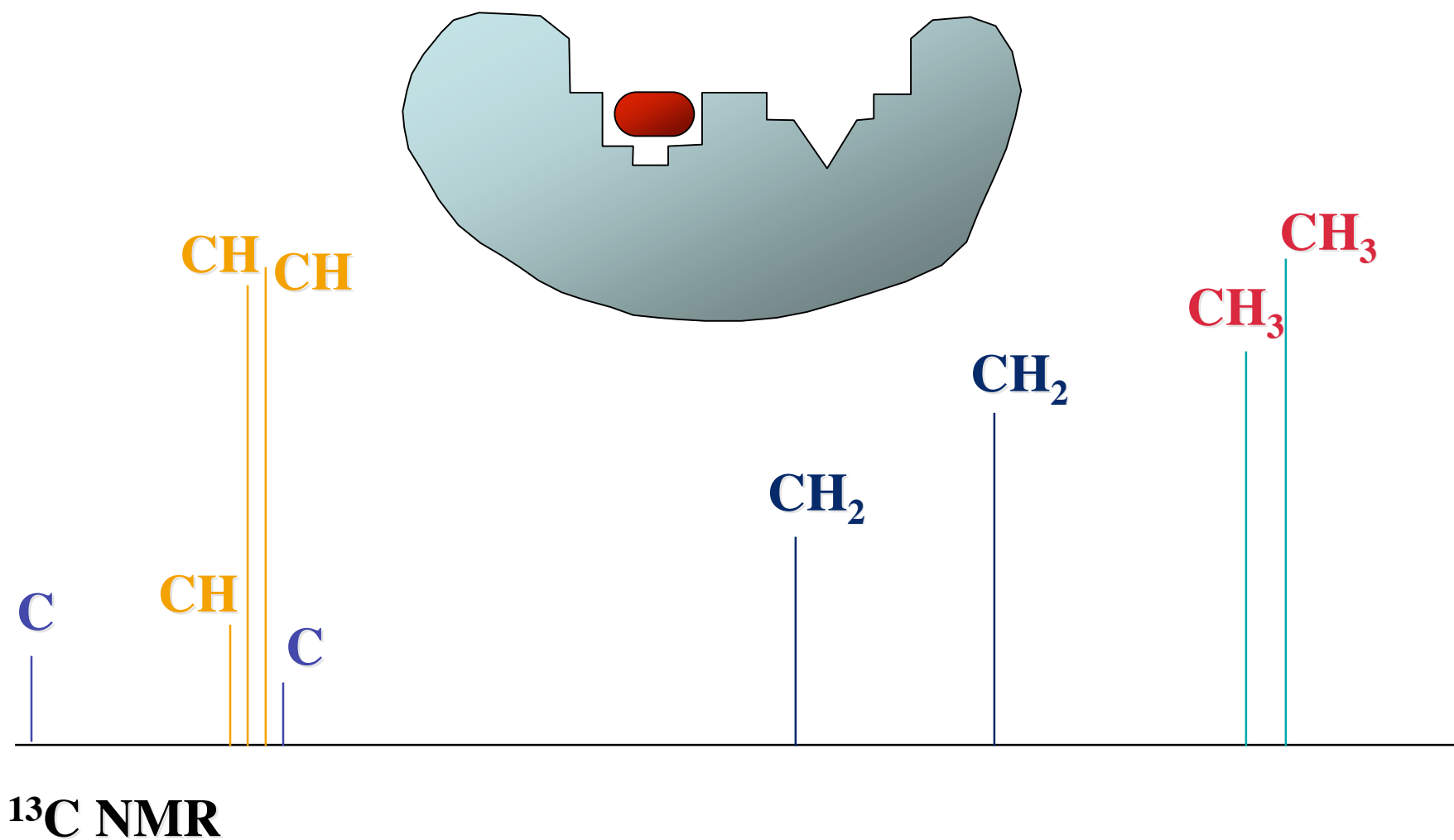


## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy

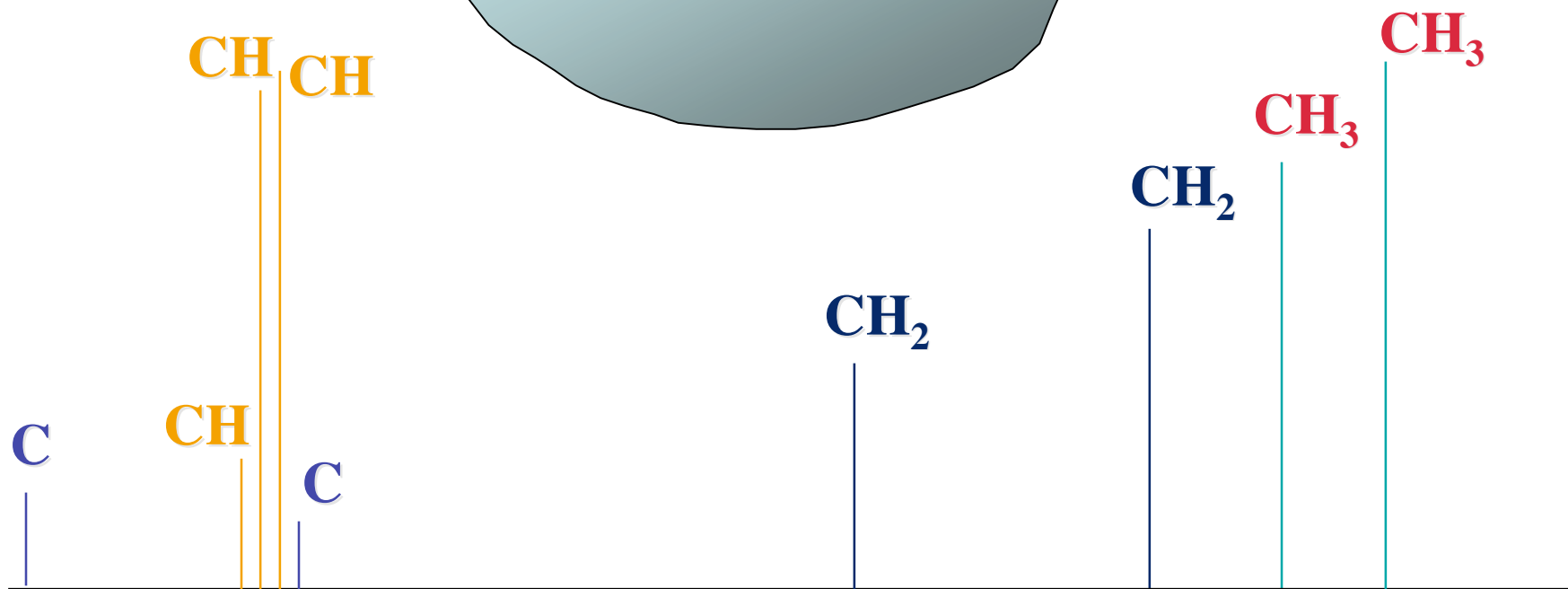
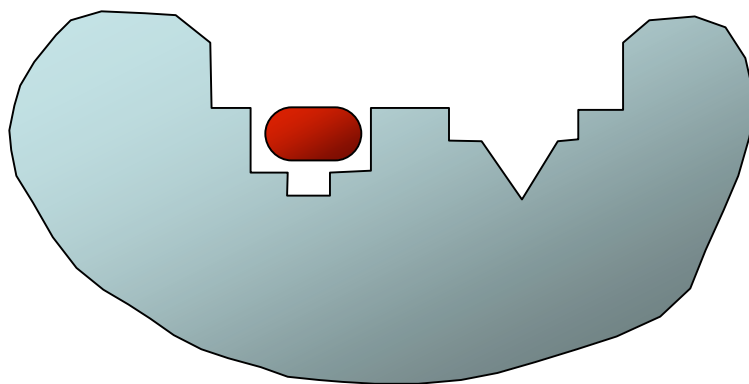


NO OBSERVABLE BIOLOGICAL EFFECT

## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy

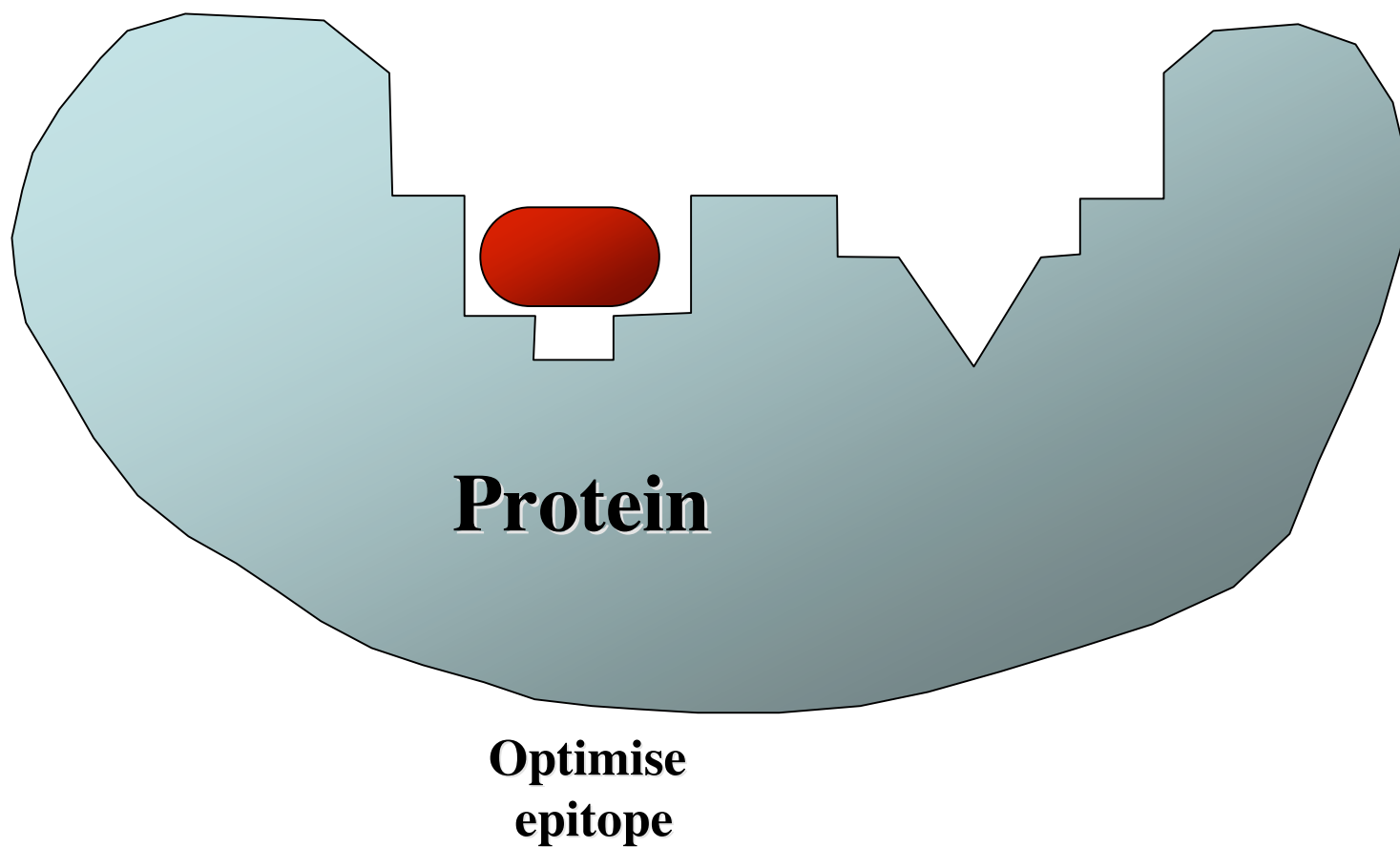


## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy

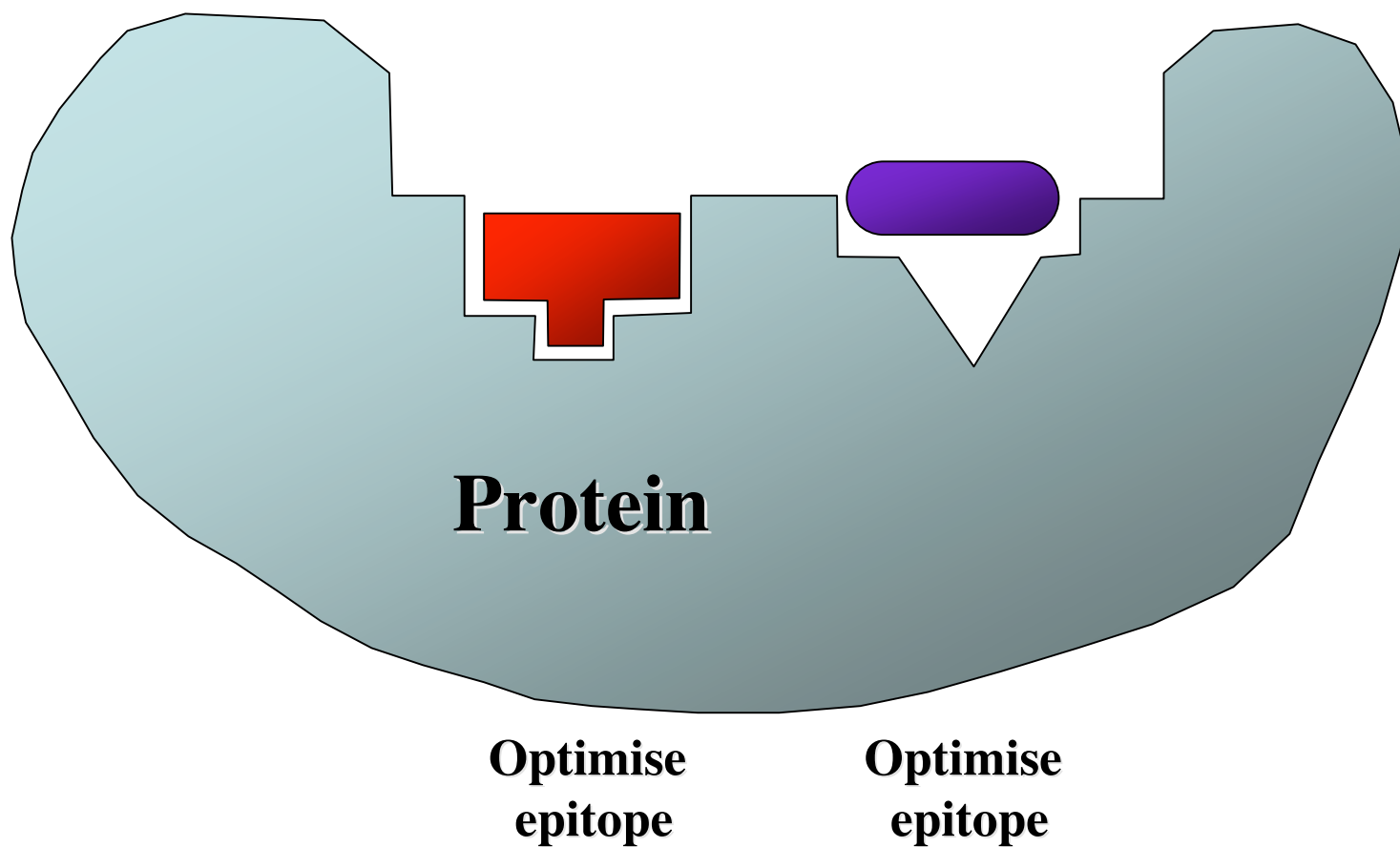


$^{13}\text{C}$  NMR

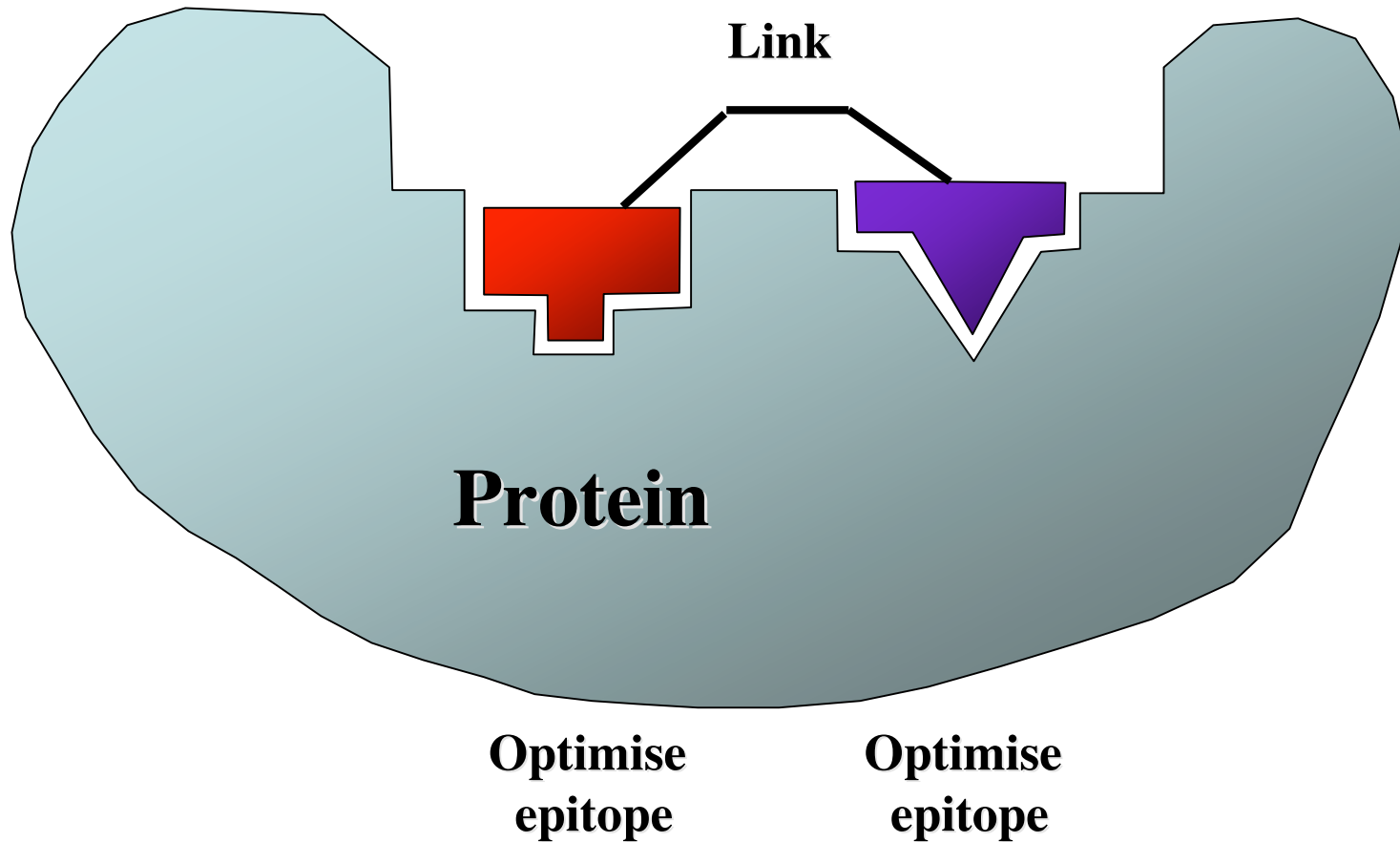
## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy



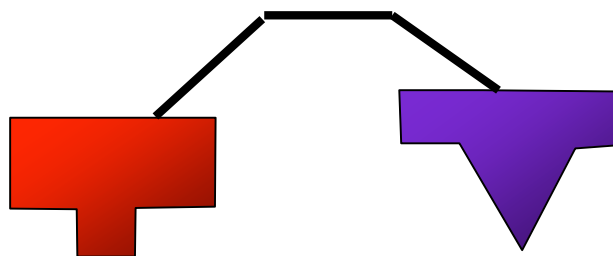
## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy



## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy



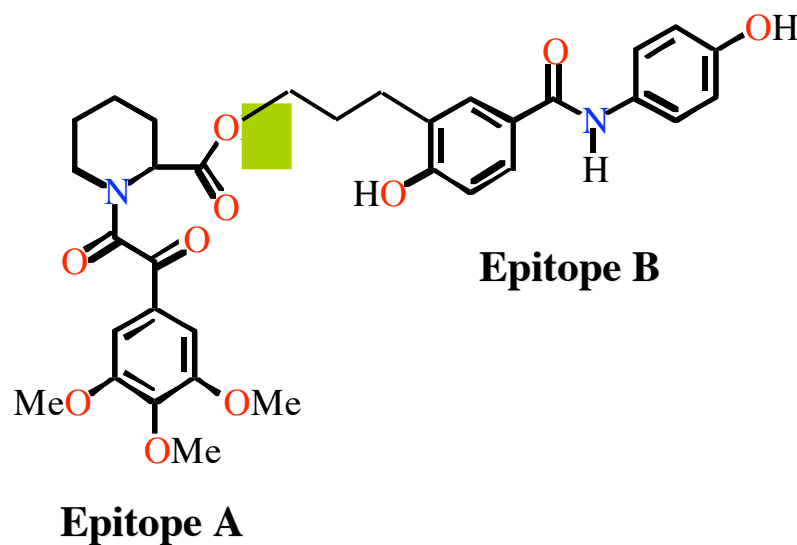
## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy



**LEAD COMPOUND**

## 4.7 Design of Lead Compounds using NMR Spectroscopy

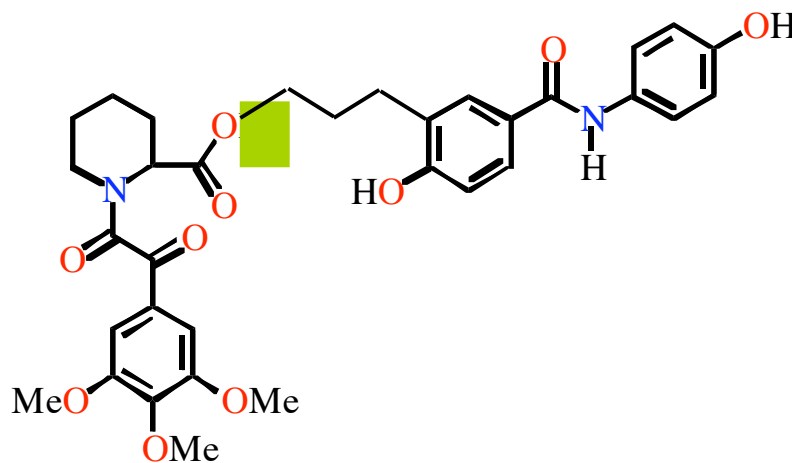
Design of a lead compound as an immunosuppressant





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Design of a lead compound as an immunosuppressant



Lead compound