

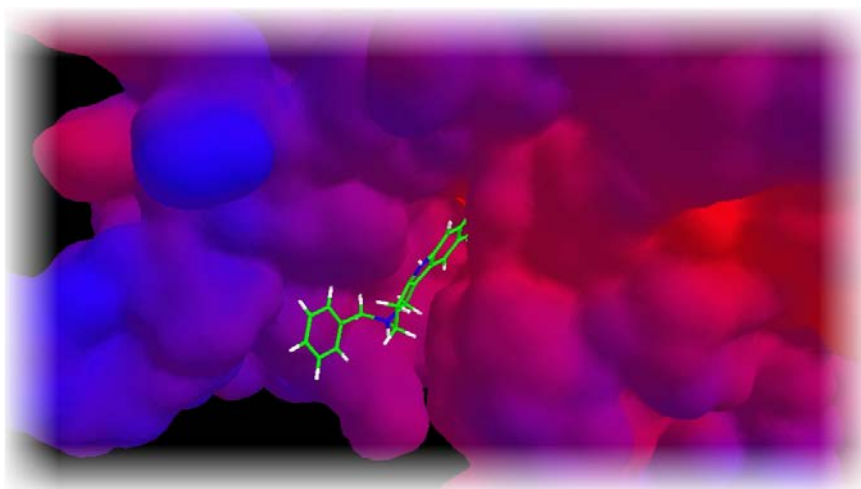
*RBC 2018, #REBICON2018  
ZREČE, MAY 16TH - 20TH 2018*

# **LIGAND-BASED DRUG DESIGN CONSIDERING SPECIFIC FEATURES OF ALDOSE REDUCTASE**

**Magdaléna Májeková, Milan Štefek, Marta Šoltésová Prnová,  
Lucia Kováčiková, Jana Balleková**



## Department of Biochemical Pharmacology



**Institute of Experimental Pharmacology & Toxicology**

**Centre of Experimental Medicine SAS**

**SLOVAK ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**

**841 04 Bratislava, Slovak Republic**

## Medicinal chemistry of aldose reductase inhibitors

Milan Štefek

(head of Department 1995-2015)

Lucia Kováčiková

Marta Šoltésová Prnová

Ľudmila Križanová - technician

Design, development and testing new multi-target oriented compounds for a treatment and prevention of diabetic complications and other chronic disorders caused by hyperglycemia

**Targets:** aldo-keto reductases, monoamine oxidases, reactive products and modulators of oxidation stress, modulators of inflammation

## SERCA and $\beta$ -pancreatic cells study

Ľubica Horáková

Jana Lomenová

Petronela Rezbáriková \*

Barbora Benešová – undergraduate student

Silvia Michalíková postdoc \*

Vladimír Heger - postgraduate student

Denisa Lipsceyová – undergraduate student

Oxidative injury, other postranslation changes and conformational study of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -ATPase from sarcoplasmic reticulum as a calcium regulatory enzyme.

**Targets:** SERCA,  $\beta$ -pancreatic cells

## G-LUCK - Pharmacological intervention in glucose-toxicity in type 2 diabetes

+

**In silico methods:** drug design, MM, QCH and MD calculations, QSAR, combinatorial libraries,...

Magdaléna Májeková (head of department)

Kristína Tomeková – undergraduate student

Pavel Majek (ext) - statistical methods

# Aldo-keto reductases

cytosolic NAD(P)H dependant oxido reductases (34 - 37 kDa)

## Physiology:

- Transformation and detoxification of endogenous and exogenous carbonyl compounds
- Crucial role in the 1st phase of metabolism of eubiotics and xenobiotics

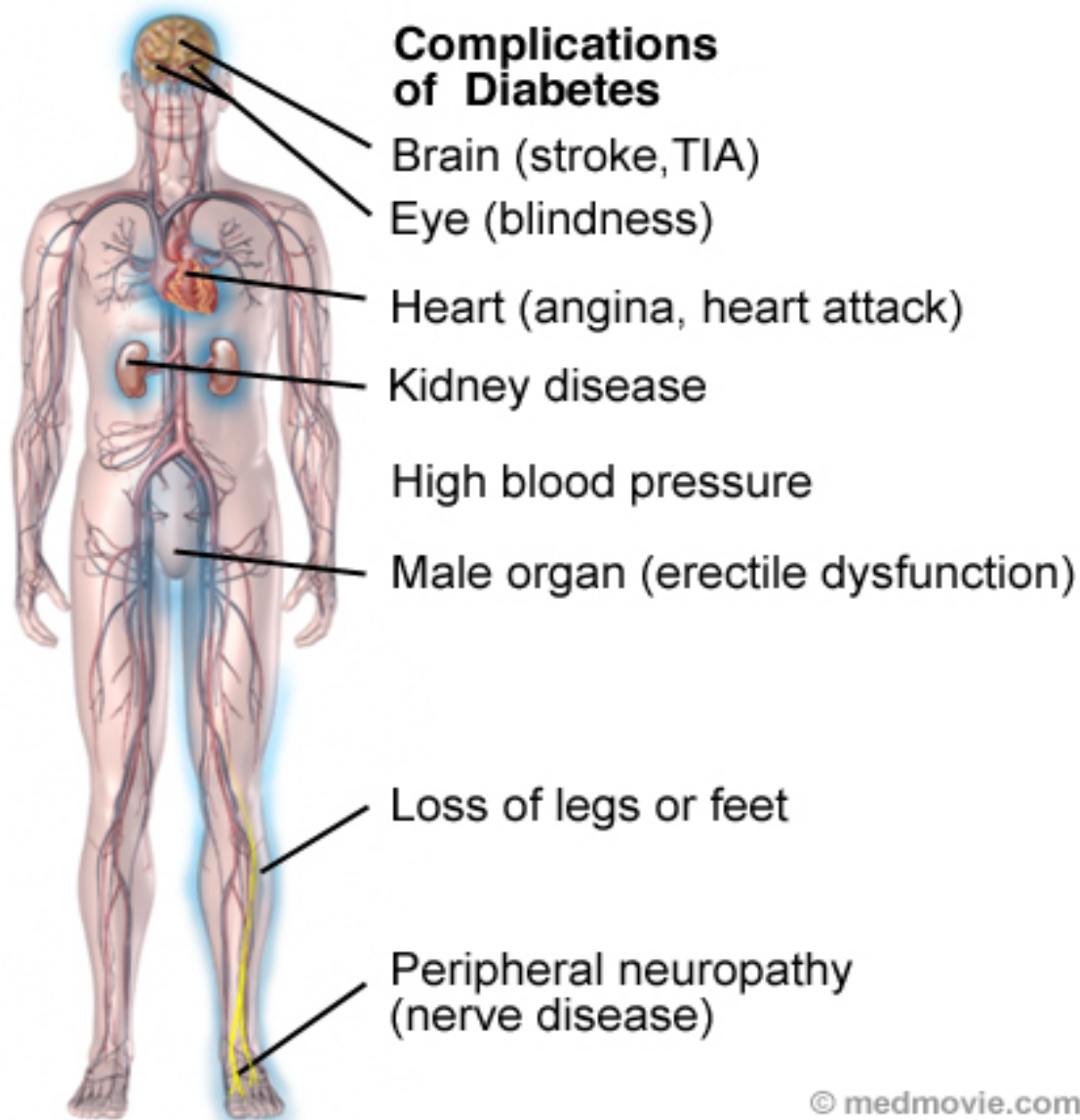
## Patophysiology:

- chronic diabetic complications, inflammation, cancer, endocrinologic and metabolic disorder, drug resistance



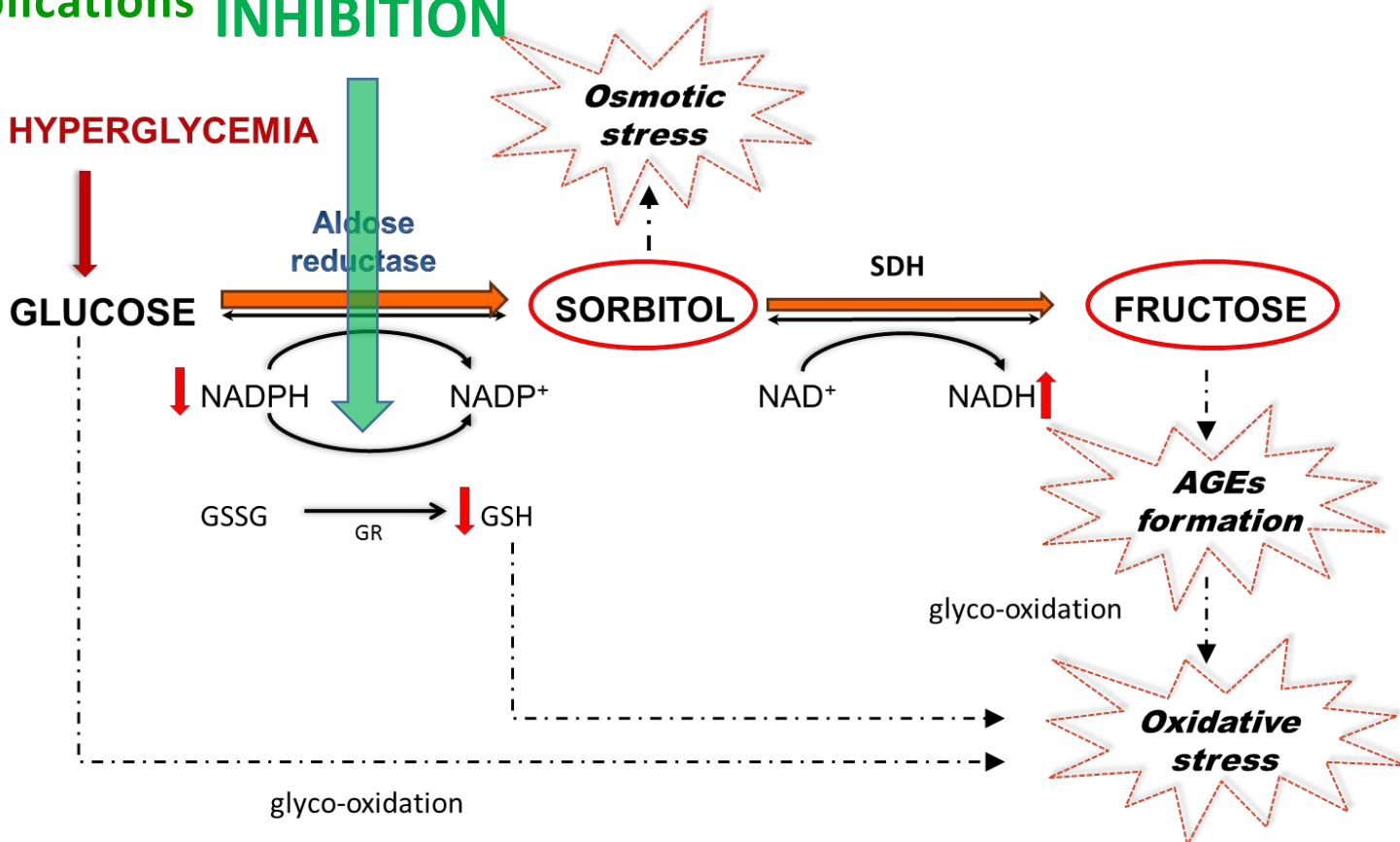
<https://www.med.upenn.edu/akr/>  
AKR- superfamily homepage

# Late (chronic) diabetic complications



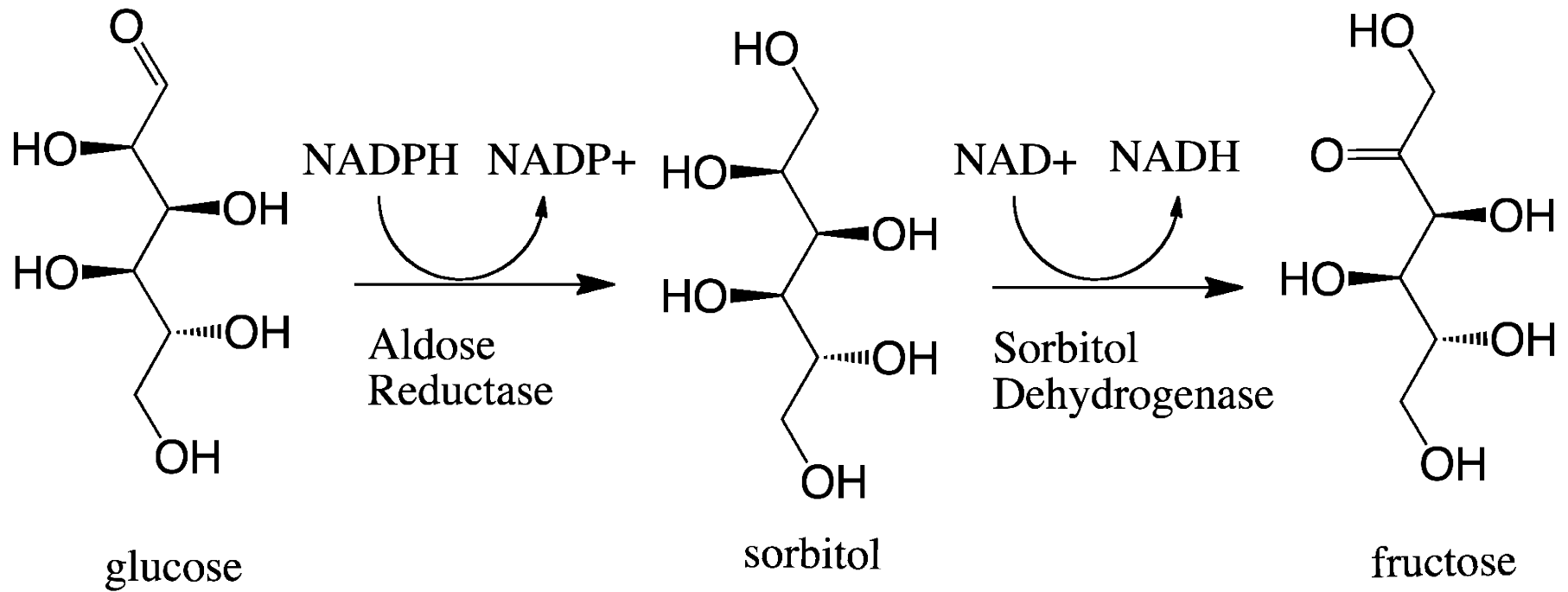
# Patients with T2DM – insulin resistance

Hyperglycemia (blood level > 7 mmol/L) long term effect - **chronic diabetic complications** **INHIBITION**



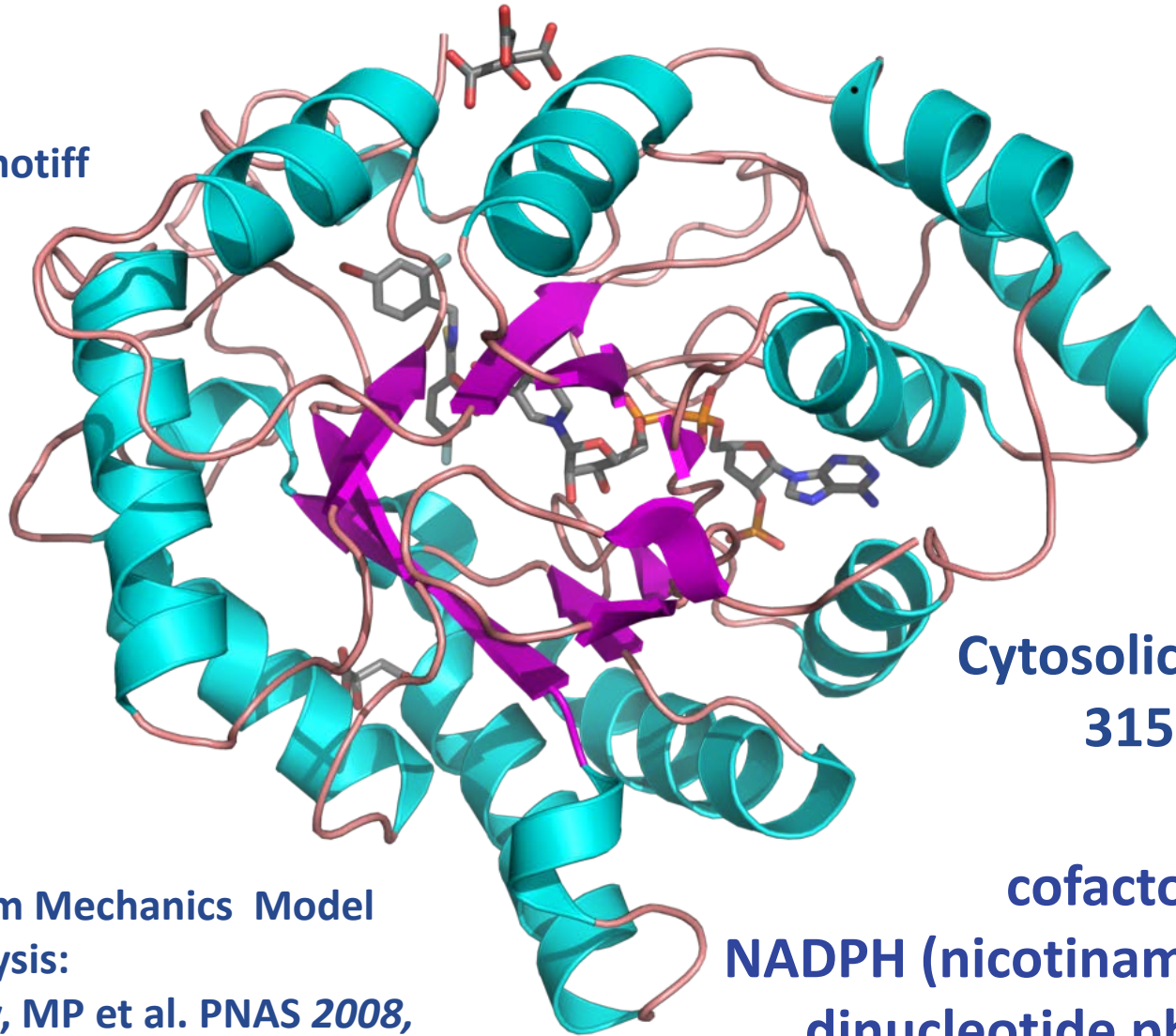
Hyperglycemia → disorder of the cell calcium regulation (SERCA)

## Polyol pathway



# ALR2

$(\alpha\beta)_8$  motif



Cytosolic enzyme  
315 AA

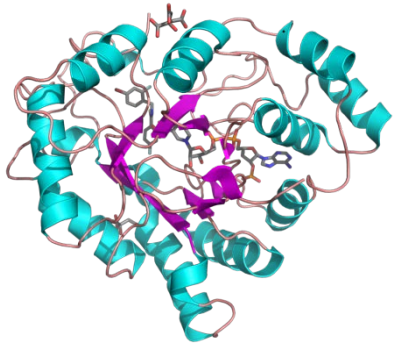
Quantum Mechanics Model  
of Catalysis:  
Blakeley, MP et al. PNAS 2008,  
105 (6) 1844-1848

cofactor:  
NADPH (nicotinamide adenine  
dinucleotide phosphate)



# ALR2

Important !



ALR2 – **multi-substrate** enzyme  
(aldehydes, HNE, GS-HNE, PGH2,  
methylglyoxal, doxorubicine ...)

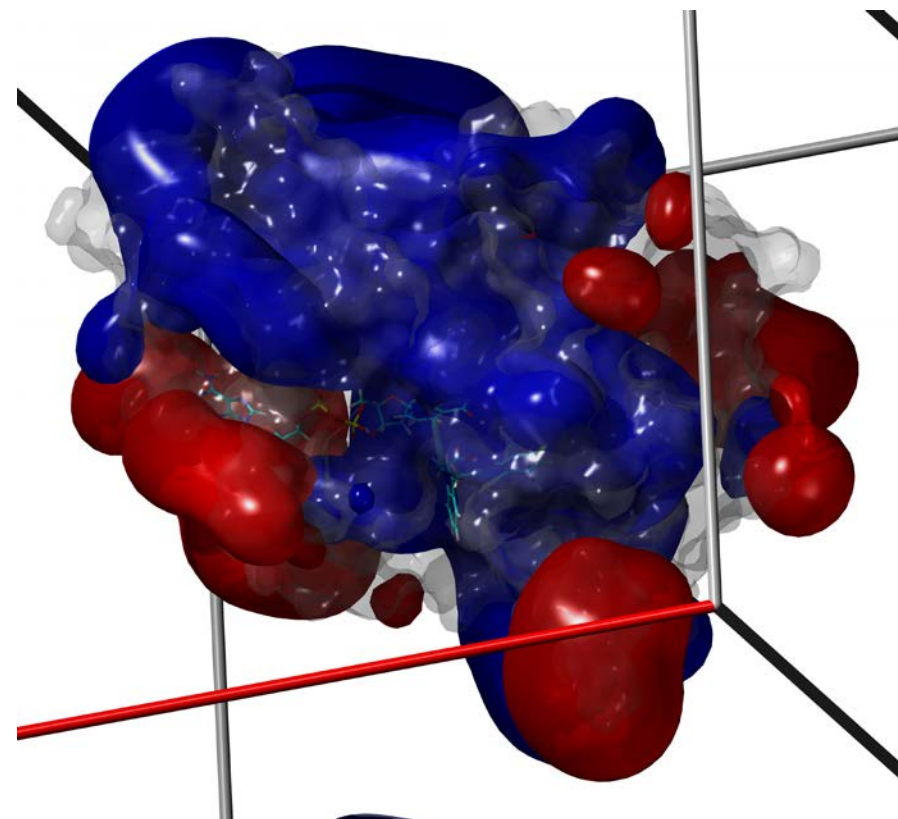
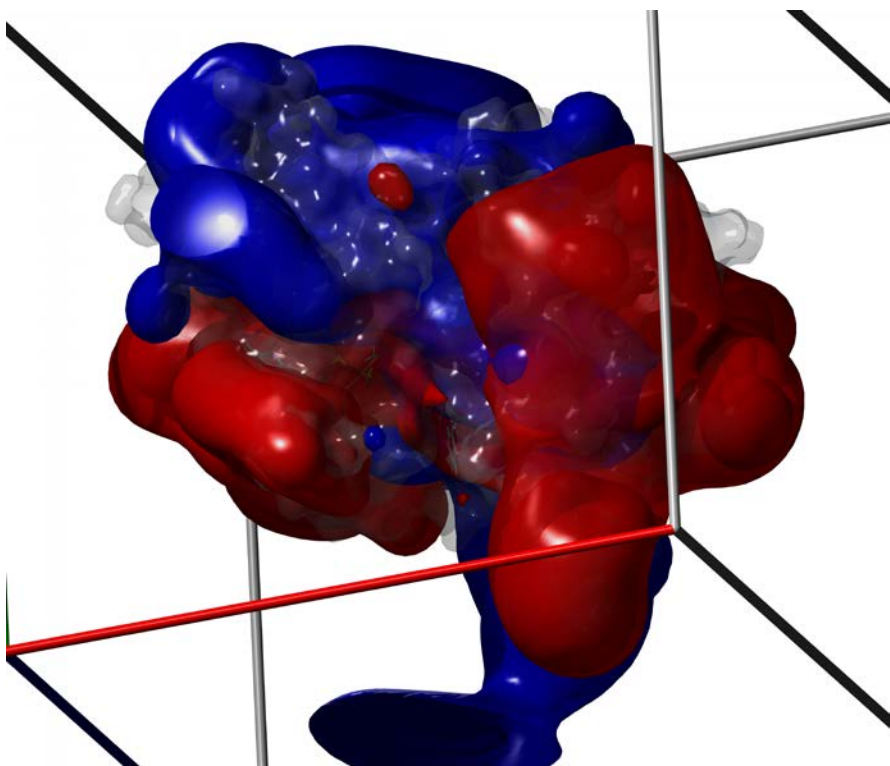
ALR2 needs the cofactor NADPH →  
**2 substrates mechanism**  
**of the catalysis (and inhibition)**

ALR2 – optimal catalytic activity  
under **acidic condition** (pH = 6.2) ←  
protonation state of the catalytic site

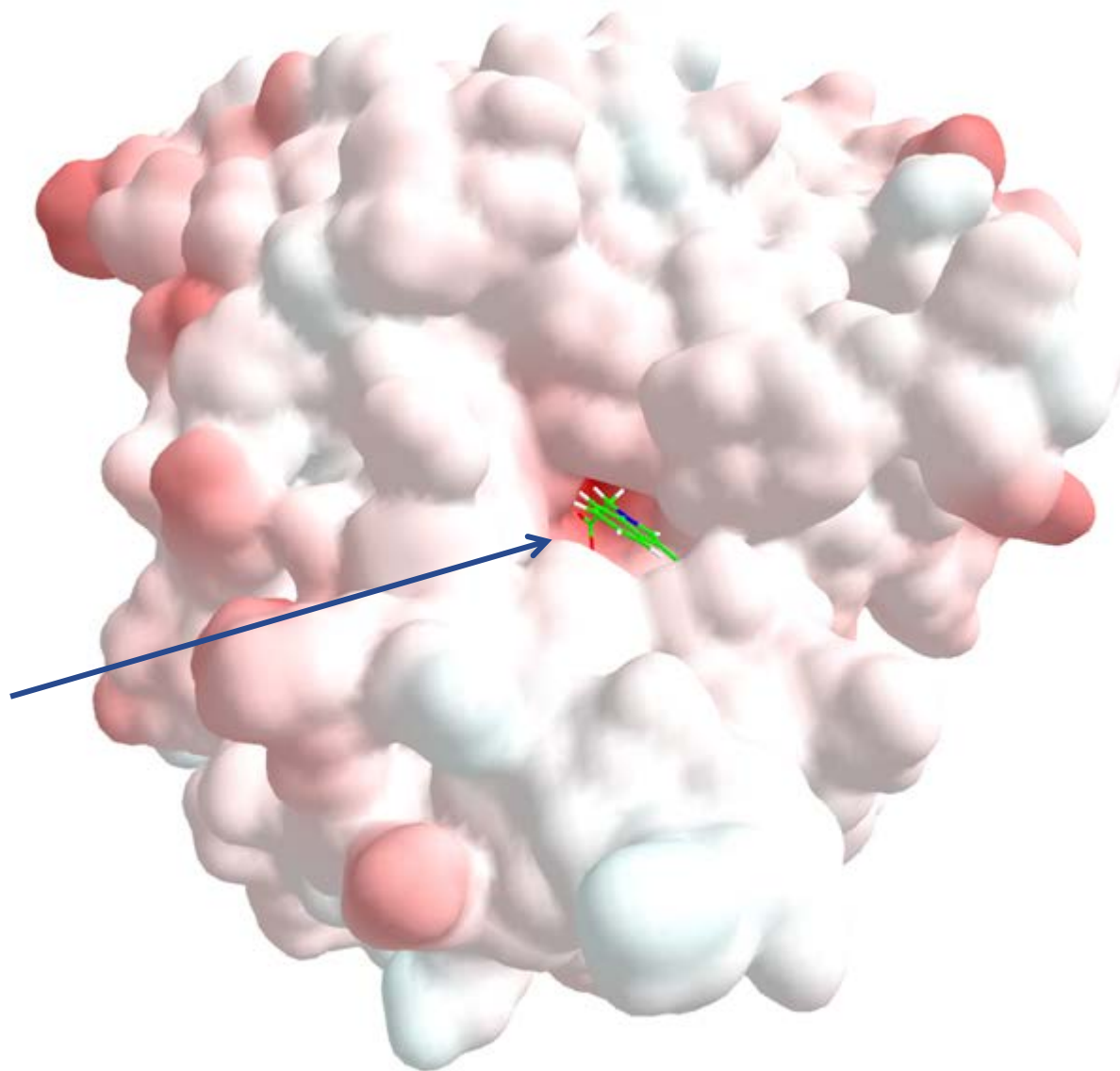
## MEP dependance on pH

pH=7.4

pH=6.2



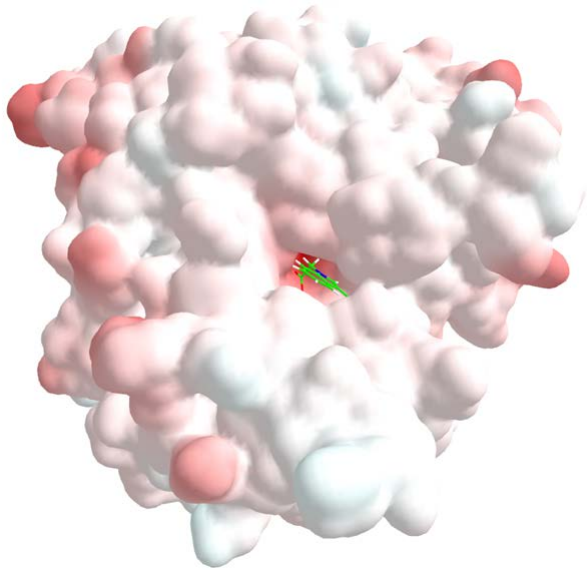
# MEP of aldose reductase





cavity of the  
active site

**+ value**  
**red**

# MEP of aldose reductase



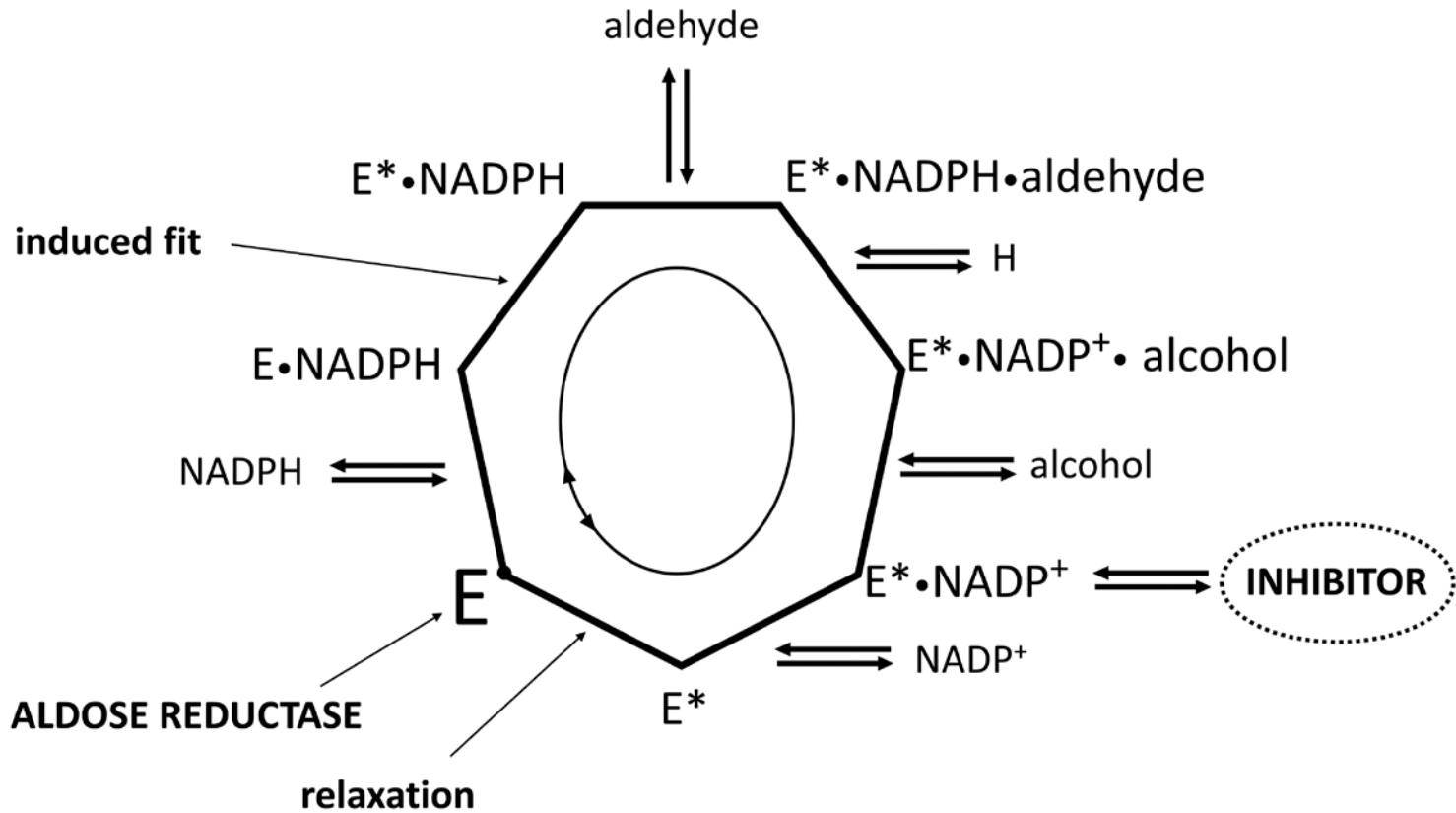
long-range (+) electrostatic driving force ->  
for organic acids, e.g.

lidorestat, zopolrestat,  
**epalrestat** (clinical use), ...  
dissociation – negative charge  
activity  bioavailability 

carboxymethyl substituent  
?

lipophilic scaffold  
with good permeation

## 2 substrates mechanism



# Inhibitors

Two steps when inhibition could be achieved by external compound:

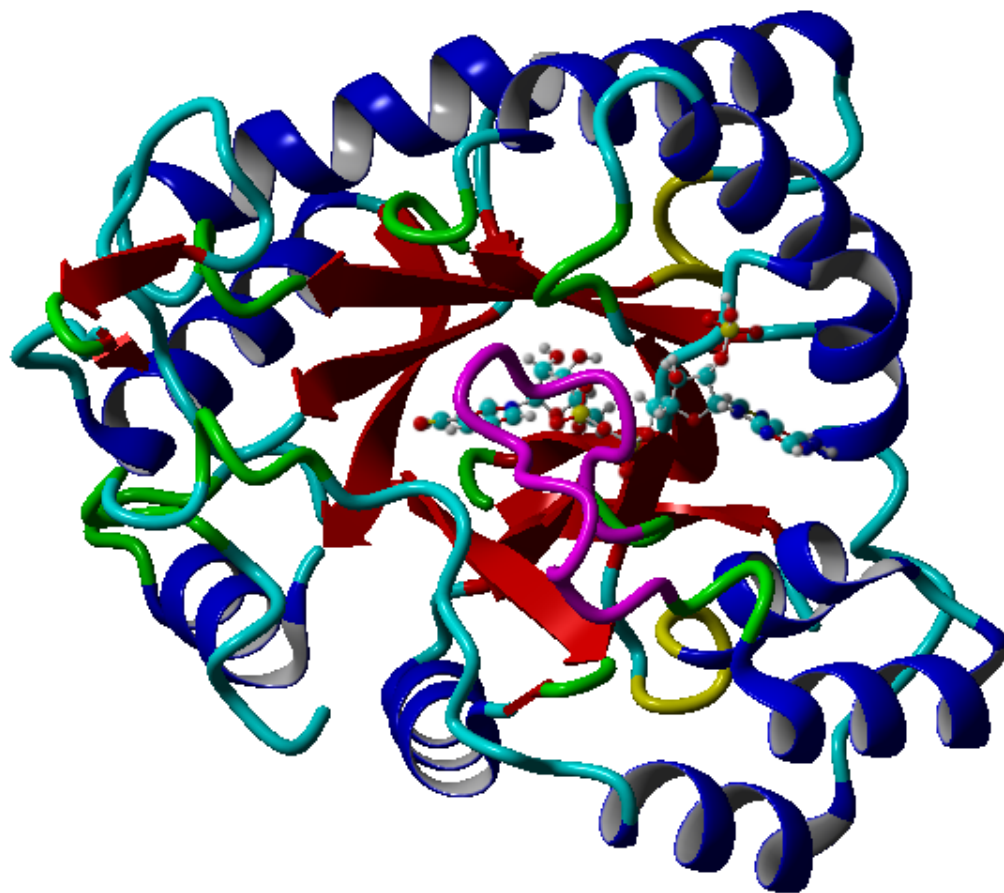
- i) Before NADPH binding and subsequent fixation of the “safety-belt”, i.e. pushing the loop of residues Gly213–Leu226 to ;
- ii) After leaving the second product, i.e. by attacking the complex  $E^* \bullet NADP^+$

i) Substrate-like inhibitors (glutathione analog)

ii) Products like inhibitors

- **organic acids** (carboxymethyl substituent)
- hydantoins (tautomeric balance, large dipoles)
- polyphenols (? PAINS)

## Safety belt



# HISTORY

IEPT SAS - 20 years ago

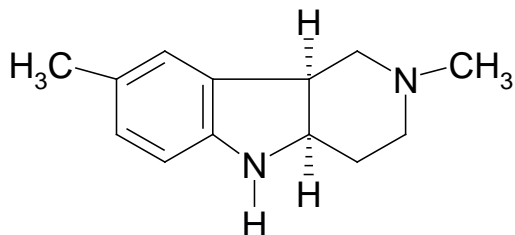
Hexahydropyridoindoles -

efficient radical scavengers



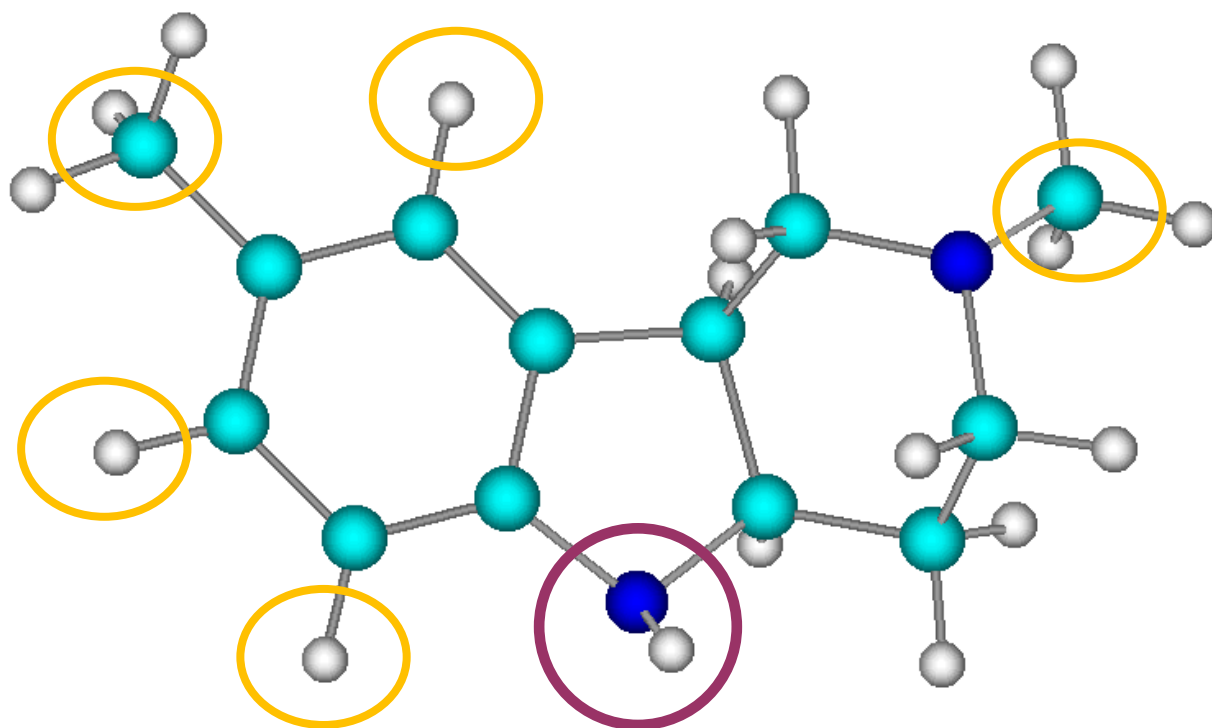
# Hexahydropyridoindoles – efficient radical scavengers

## Stobadine



neuroprotective, antiarrhythmic, local anesthetic,  
alpha-adrenolytic, antihistaminic,  
myorelaxant, antiulcerogenic,

**inhibits development of chronic  
disorders in diabetes ...**



~ 80 compounds

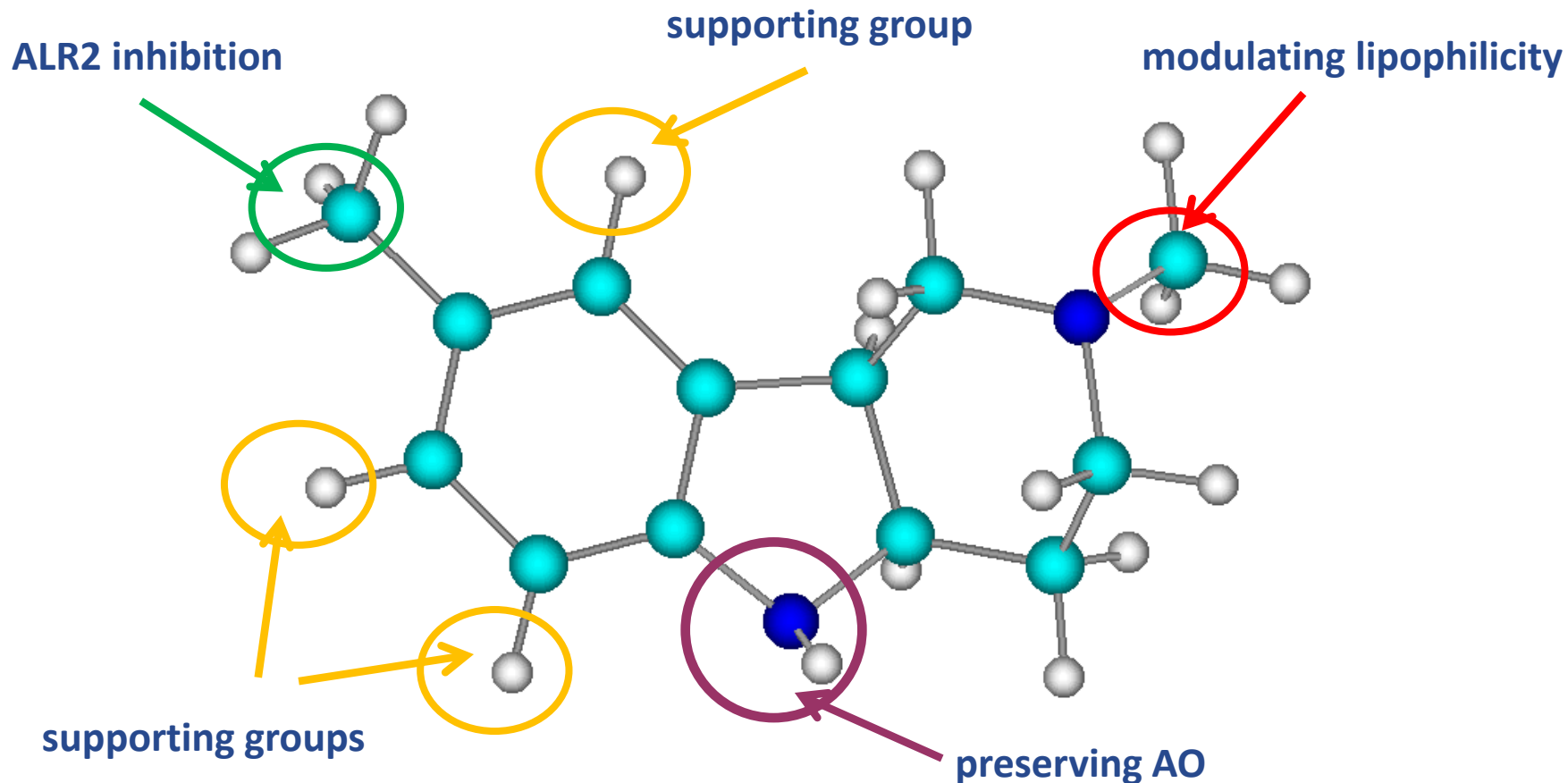
AO activity in IC<sub>50</sub>  
for the inhibition  
of lipoperoxidation  
1.5 order > Trolox

+  
**specific effect  
inhibition of  
ALR2 ?**

# Hexahydropyridoindoles – efficient radical scavengers

?

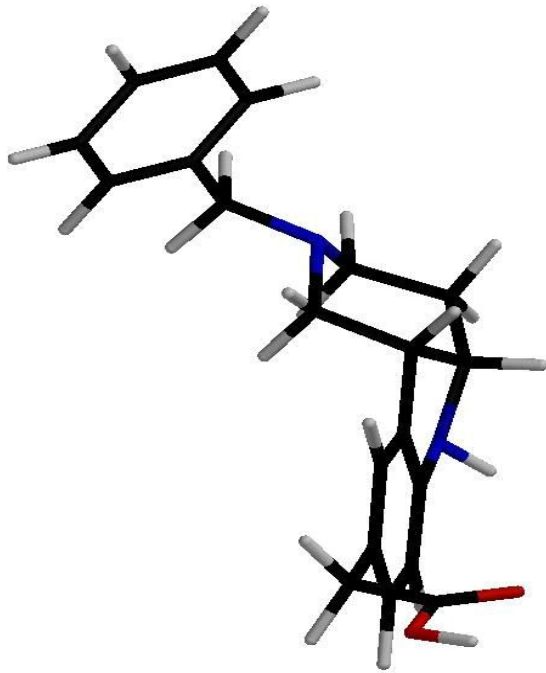
+ specific activity - ALR2 inhibition



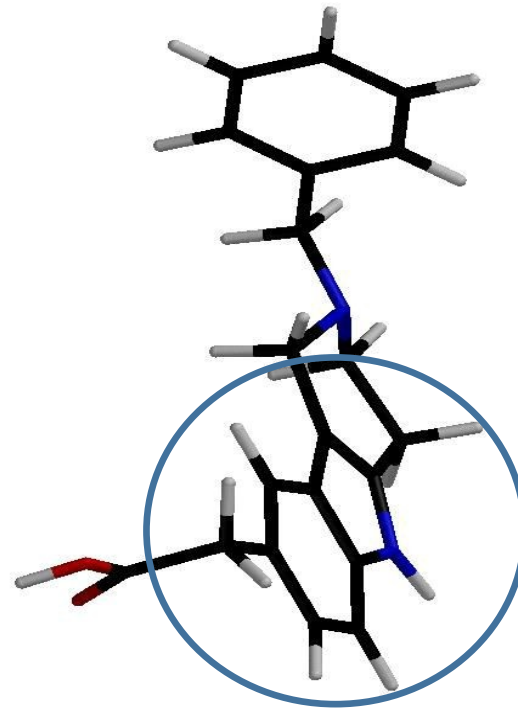


### 3-D structure

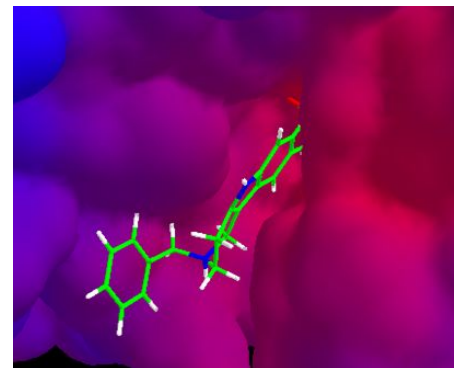
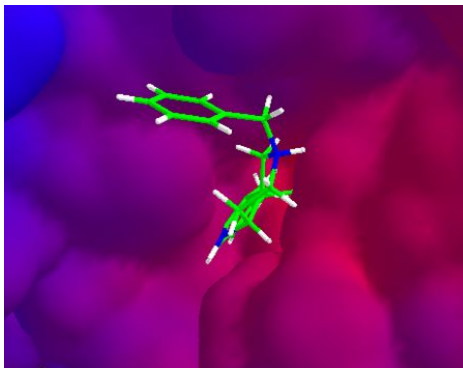
hexahydropyridoindolej

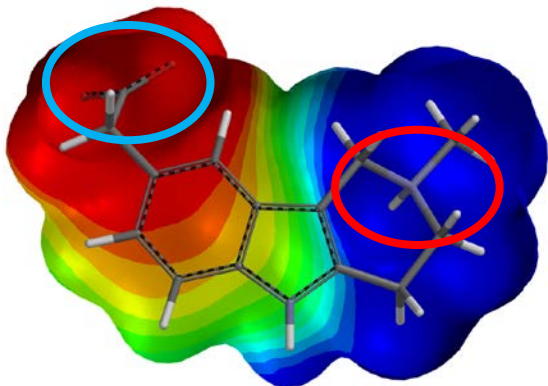


tetrahydropyridoindole

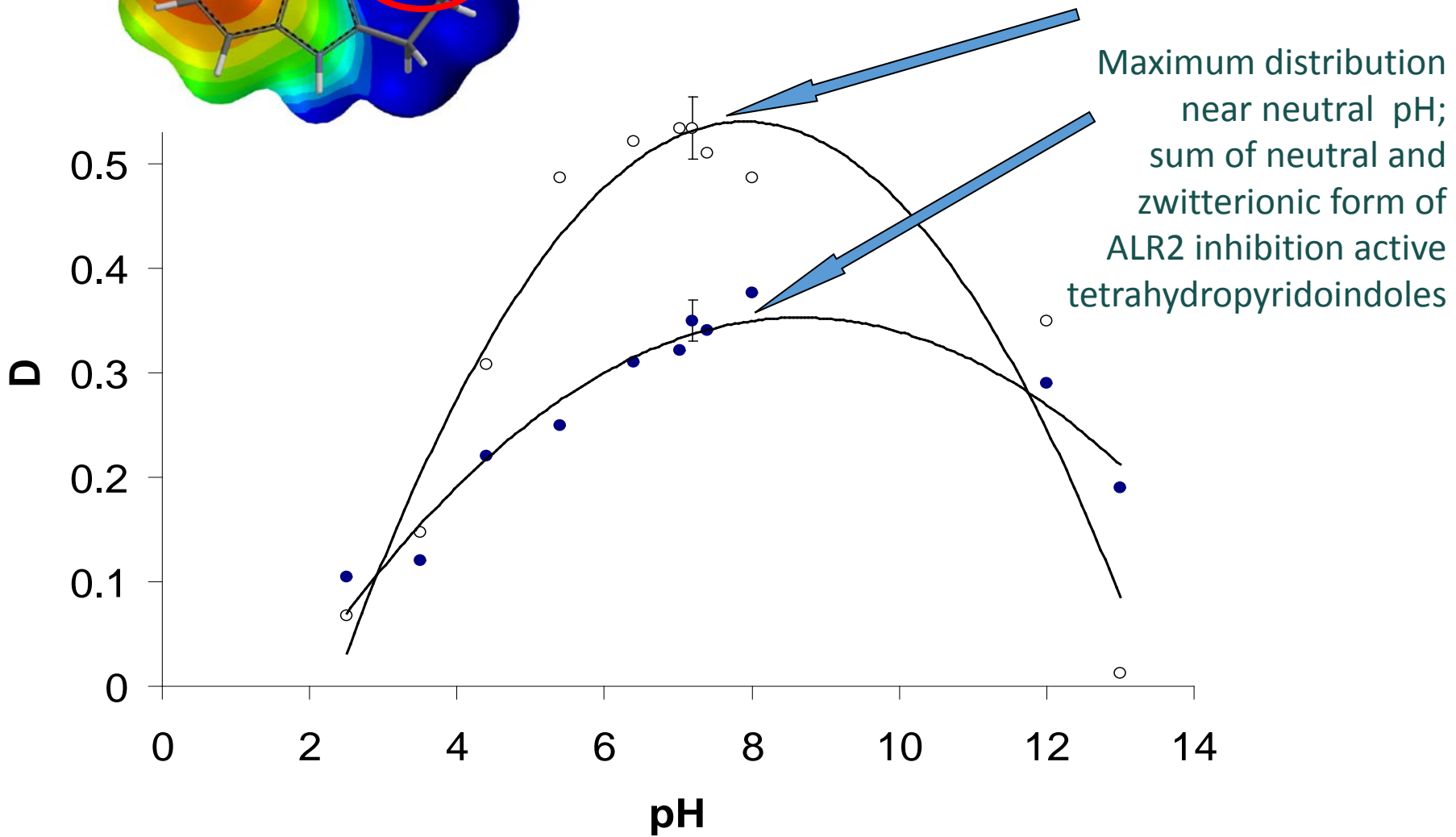


planar





**basic (protonated) nitrogen**  
**+ acidic (dissociated) >COO<sup>-</sup>**  
**=> zwitterion**



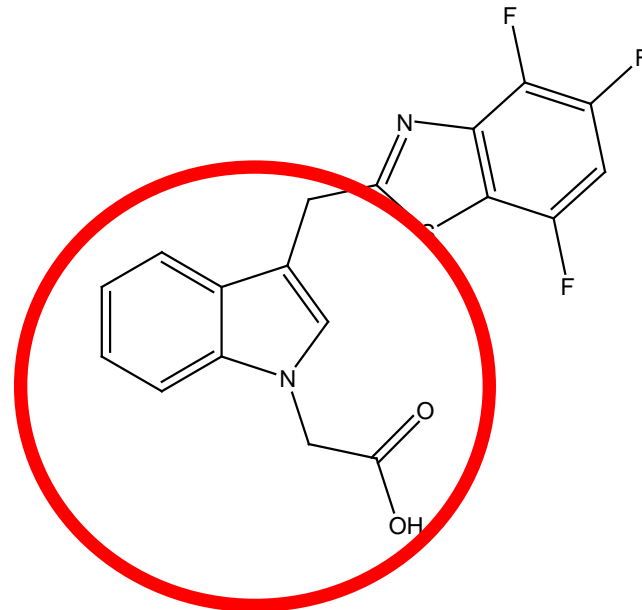
**tetrahydropyridoindoles**



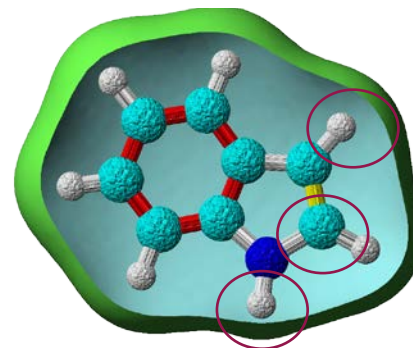
**substituted indoles**

**lidorestat**

**IC<sub>50</sub> = 5 nM**



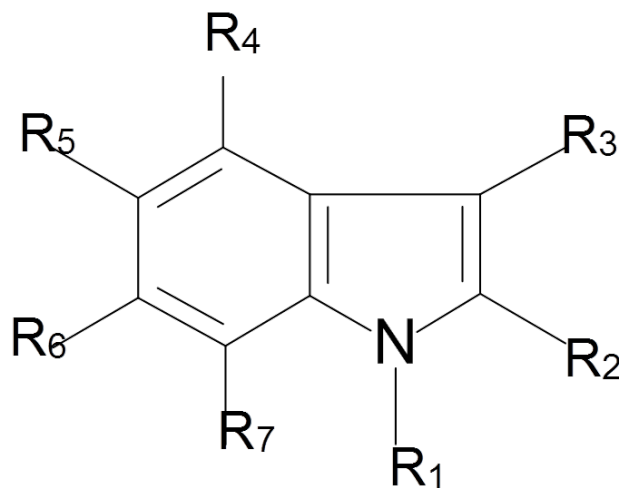
# Indole acetic acids



Compound	AKR1B1		AKR1A1	
	IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	I <sub>%</sub> (100μM)	IC <sub>50</sub> (μM)	I <sub>%</sub> (100μM)
Indole 1 acetic acid	7.98	99.26±5.90	80.17	55.49
Indole 2 acetic acid	θ		θ	
Indole 3 acetic acid	θ		-	

## Structure Coding

R1-R2-R3-R4-R5-R6-R7



## Substituents

1	-H
2	-CH <sub>2</sub> COOH
3	-CH <sub>3</sub>
4	-C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>
5	-OCH <sub>3</sub>
6	-NH <sub>2</sub>
7	-N(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>
8	-O-Bz
9	-O-CH <sub>2</sub> -Bz
10	-SH

**Database of indole derivatives  
for in silico ADMET and activity study**



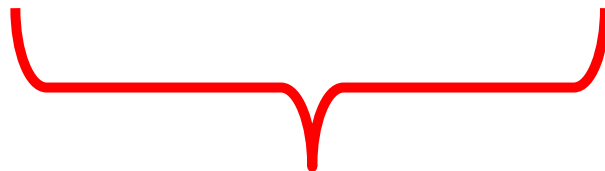
**1-2-R3-R4-R5-R6-R7; 1-5-R3-R4-R5-R6-R7;** with the exception of compounds with R3=C2H5, R7=NH2 or N(CH3)2

**2-3-R3-R4-R5-R6-R7; 2-5-R3-R4-R5-R6-R7** with the exception of compounds with R3=C2H5, R7=NH2 or N(CH3)2, R5= O-C6H6  
Compounds with R2=SH - cardiotoxicity expected, in spite of the good predicted absorption.

+

Pharmacophore (lidorestat-type) aligning (similarity  $\geq 70\%$ ):

**2-3-5-1-1-8-1, 2-3-5-1-1-5-1, 2-3-5-1-1-9-1,  
2-1-4-1-8-1-1, 2-1-3-1-8-1-1, 2-1-4-1-1-8-1**

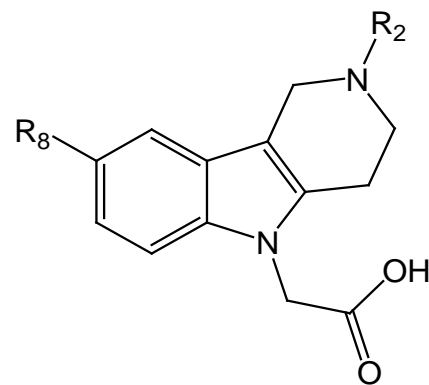
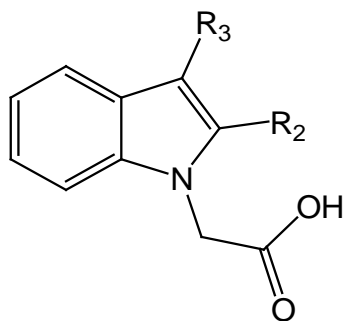


methylation at R2 and R3

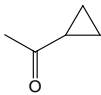
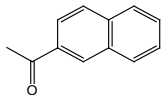
**tricyclic structure of cemtirestat  
+  
positive effect of methylation in  
R2 and R3**



**return to  
tetrahydropyridoindoles**

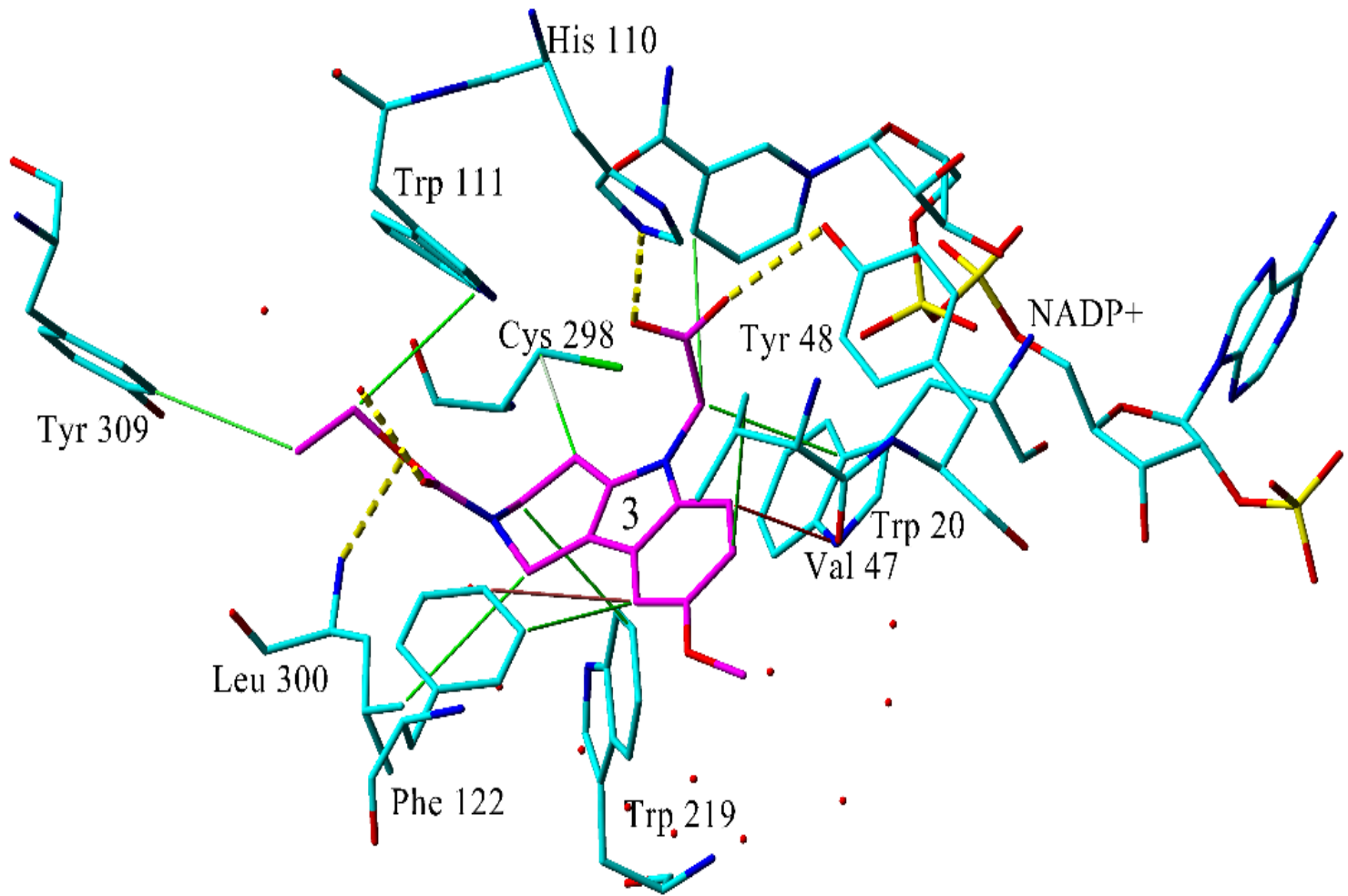


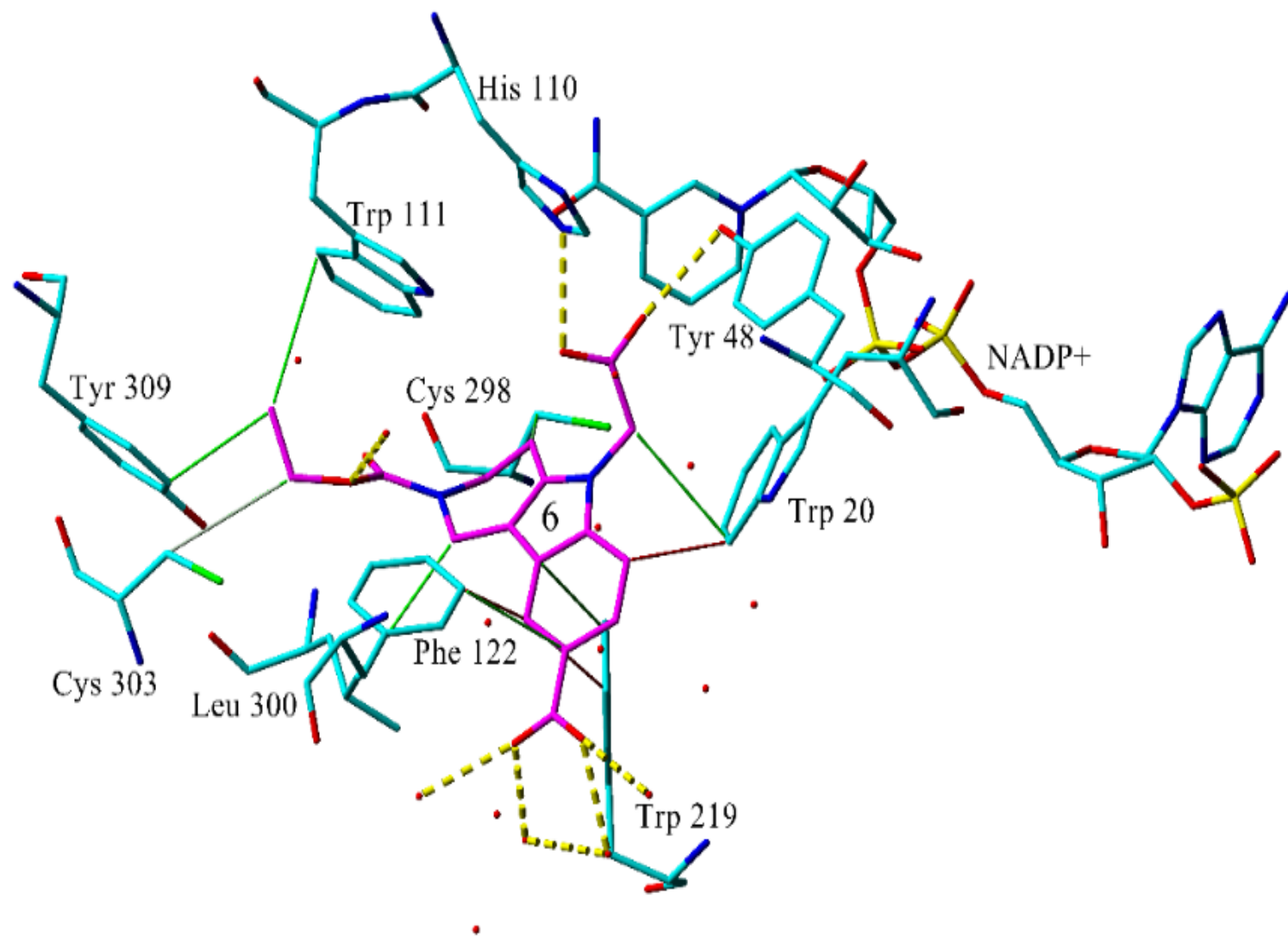
	<b>R<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>R<sub>3</sub></b>
<b>1</b>	CH <sub>3</sub>	CHO
<b>2</b>	CH <sub>3</sub>	COCH <sub>3</sub>

	<b>R<sub>2</sub></b>	<b>R<sub>8</sub></b>
<b>3</b>	COOC <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	OCH <sub>3</sub>
<b>4</b>	COCH <sub>3</sub>	H
<b>5</b>		H
<b>6</b>	COOC <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub>	COOH
<b>7</b>		F
<b>8</b>	CH(CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>	H

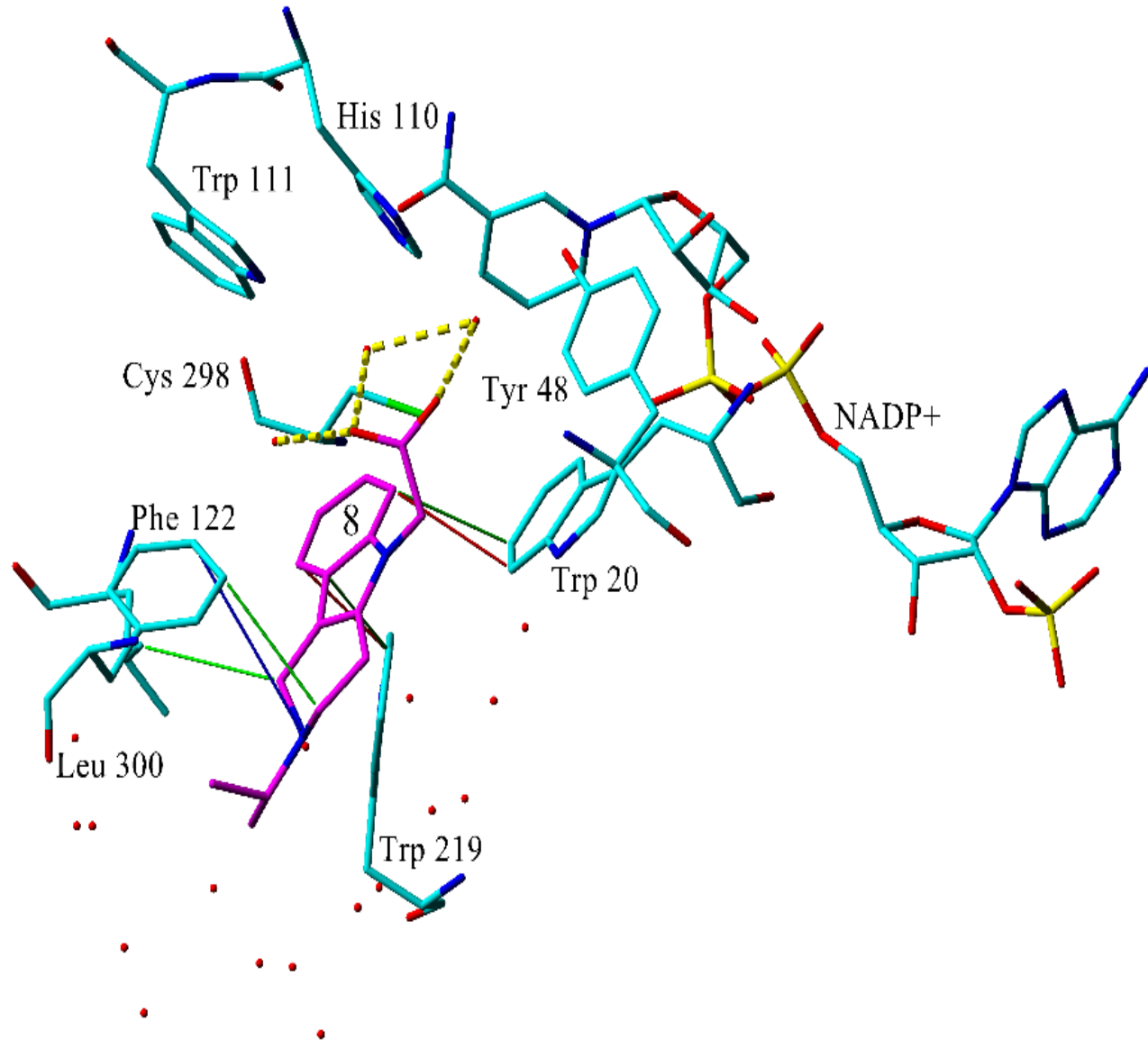
## Rat ALR2

Compound	IC <sub>50</sub> (nM)
1	340.2 ± 37.1
2	169.1 ± 13.6
3	12.6 ± 2.20
4	20.5 ± 1.67
5	57.5 ± 3.96
6	12.7 ± 1.6
7	141.2 ± 53.0
8	34 250.0 ± 4 717.2
<b>Epalrestat</b>	<b>250</b>





## Return to the beginning

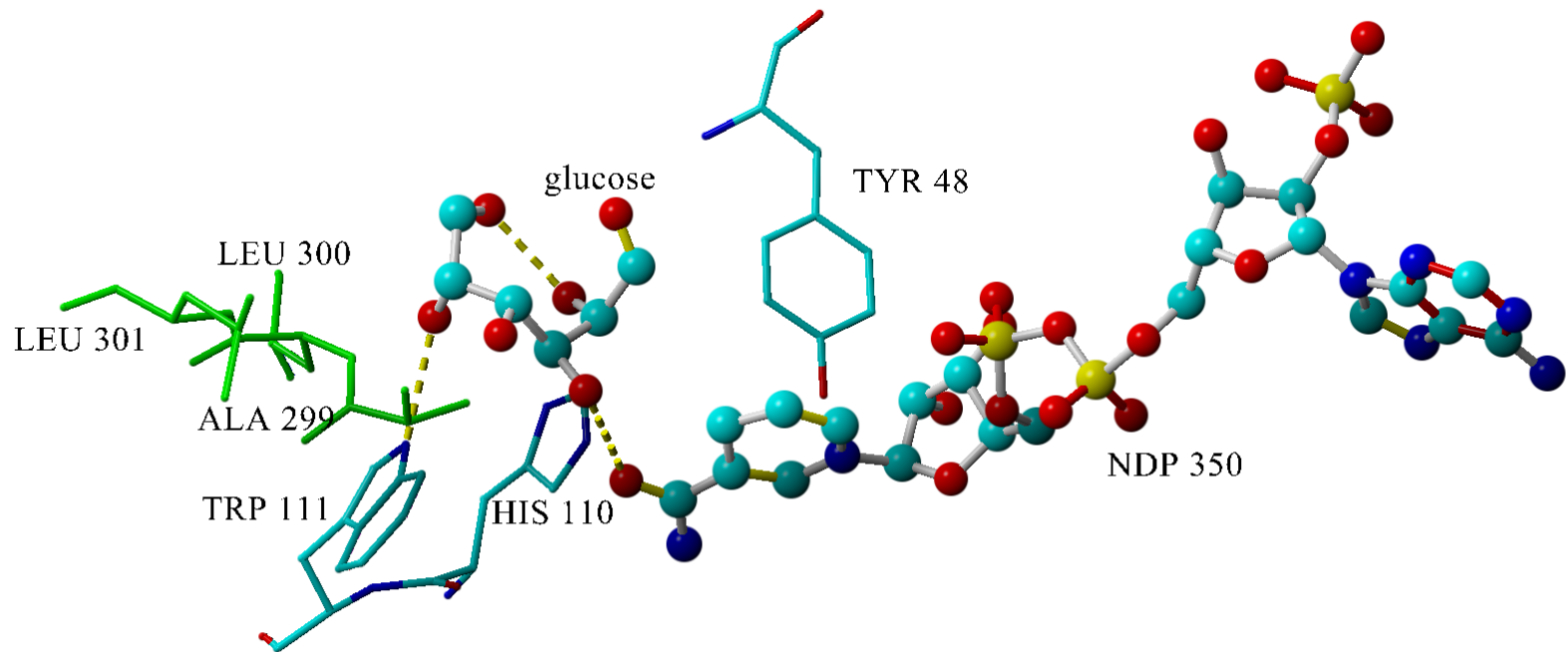


- **DPI-1 is a novel, highly potent and selective ALR2 inhibitor**
- Effective in *ex vivo* model of DC – **significant inhibition of sorbitol accumulation in rat lens**
- Effective in *in vivo* model of DC – DPI-1 (50 mg/kg/day) **significantly decreased sorbitol level in erythrocytes and sciatic nerves → uptake of DPI-1 into the central compartment after *i.g.* administration**
- Inhibitory effect on **reduction of inflammation mediator GS-HNE**
- Binding site – the most important interactions (**Trp20, Val47, Tyr48, Trp111, Phe122, Trp219 and NADP+**)
- **Excellent ‘lead-likeness’**, suitable for further structure optimization, emphasized by structural features fitting ‘the rule of three’, and the corresponding ‘lead-like’ values of molecular obesity indices

**Patent**



## 2<sup>nd</sup> substrate-protein-cofactor



# Software

**Spartan'08** – conformational search (systematic, MC)

QCH calculations

multiprocessing (DFT B3LYP 6-31G\*)

**YASARA** – protein modeling, docking,

AMBER, YASARA, YAMBER3, NOVA FF

molecular dynamics, homology modeling

multiprocessing

**DRAGON** - calculation of molecular descriptors > 3000

estimation of pharmacodynamic properties

**STATISTICA** – statistical analysis

**GAUSSIAN 09** – exact QCH calculations, HPC klaster STU

**MOE** – molecular modeling, combinatorial libraries, MD,  
pharmacophore constructing

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Jana Balleková \* poster, Mária Jusková, Ľudmila Križanová**

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**#ReBiCon2018 Organization Team**

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