

ProScale Conference



A method for assessing the toxicological potentials of product systems in a life cycle perspective

Brussels, | 5 October 2017
Hôtel Métropole | 9.30 to 17.00

**APPLYING THE SAME PRINCIPLES TO
ECOTOXICITY AND HUMAN TOXICITY
VIA THE ENVIRONMENT?**

ProScale
Conference



Extending the scope of ProScale

Proscale guidance Section 1.2.

“ProScale is intended as a widely applicable method that can cover both human and eco-toxicity aspects, be applicable to any kind of products on a worldwide basis. The ProScale consortium decided to first focus on near-field human toxicity, on The method can nevertheless be extended following the same principles.”

How about a tough starter on this “next step”?



Main challenge

Make it simple or make it exhaustive?

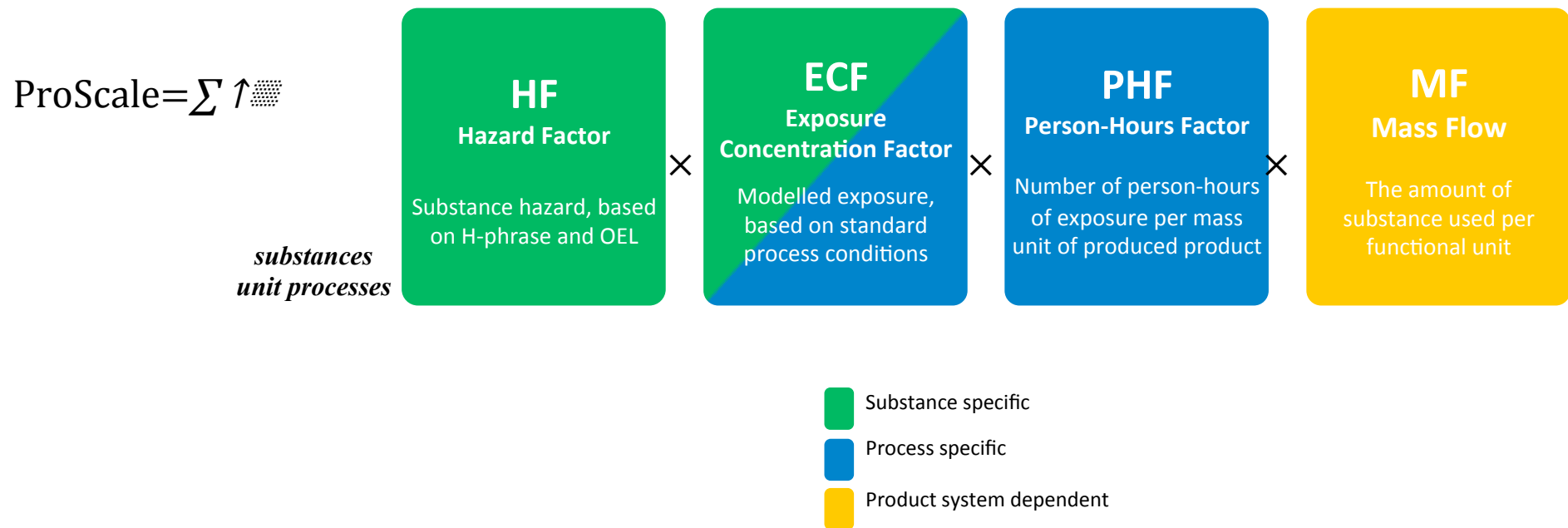
- Simplify to make it “easy” to use?
→ *Current limitation of UseTox?*

OR

- Make it more exhaustive, but also more data-, expertise- and labour-demanding



Elements of ProScale – schematic presentation



Hazard Factor

ProScale

- Grouping according to a hazard banding approach based on GHS classifications, taking into account the route of exposure
- Modified according to OEL(-surrogate) to take into consideration potency differences

Environmental applicability?

- Which environmental compartments (\approx exposure routes)?
 - Aquatic only?
 - 2 GHS hazard classes
 - Limit and PNEC values \pm available
 - Also sediment, soil, atmosphere (man via environment)?
 - Limit and PNEC values , most often derived from aquatic PNECs

Interesting source? ECETOC Task Force: Sufficiency of aquatic hazard information for environmental risk assessment

- Hazard factor: only limited number of classification classes under GHS (Aquatic Acute, Aquatic Chronic)
 - Use lowest NOEC?
 - Include persistency, bioaccumulation, mobility, ... as modifier?



Exposure Concentration Factor

ProScale

- Workers : ECETOC TRA Tier1
- Consumers: ECETOC TRA Tier 1
- Service life consumers
- End-of-life workers: ECETOC TRA Tier 1
- Input parameters/modifiers:
 - PROC- Product (sub-)category
 - Use
 - Physical state
 - Fugacity
 - Risk management measures
 - Concentration

Environmental applicability?

- Equivalent to environmental release factors for water, soil and air?
To be combined with fate/fugacity models (e.g. for sediment)?
- Use of ERC, spERC and usual RMM (e.g. municipal STP) covering manufacturing to consumers (wide dispersive use)?
What about service life, end-of-life and recycling?
- 100% bioavailability to be assumed (worst-case hypothesis)?



Person-Hours Factor

ProScale

- Production: determined by annual hours worked , annual production volume
- Use: determined by duration and amount
- Service life: determined by persons, surface, product lifetime, amount

Environmental applicability?

- No real equivalent for environment?



Mass Flow Factor

Proscale

- To take into consideration the amount of substance required for fulfilment of the functional unit
- Based on the mass fractions of inputs and outputs of the unit process

Environmental applicability?

- Same approach for environment?
- “Background levels” and other sources; not relevant for comparative LCA-like approach?

