

How the new “Derived Consideration Reference Levels” compare with other data

Description of underlying data and comparison of other lab and field data with DCRLs

Christelle Adam-Guillermin, ICRP & ASNR, France

TG99 virtual workshop, 26 June 2025



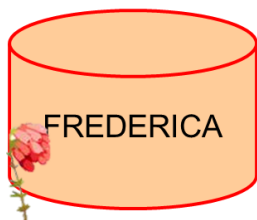
C. Adam-Guillermin
F. Alonzo
K. Beaugelin
N. Beresford
C. Cailles
D. Copplestone
A. Real
K. Tagami
M. Takada
J. Vives i Batlle
T. Yankovich

Primary source of biological data



Chap 4.1 to 4.4

Select QC data for each test
[series of data pairs for (species,
endpoint, exposure conditions)]



www.frederica-online.org

Copplestone et al., JER 2013
Garnier-Laplace et al., JER 2010

- **Most recent update of FREDERICA database (version 2010) :**
 - References cover **biological effects** to a range of non-human species following exposure to **ionising radiation** (including papers used for ICRP Publication 108)
 - > 1500 references; 26 000 data entries
 - ~ **2/3 of references deal with acute exposure** (~1/3 chronic, some transitory)
 - Mainly for **external gamma irradiation**
 - More **laboratory** than field studies (field or controlled field studies)

Description of data and electronic annexes

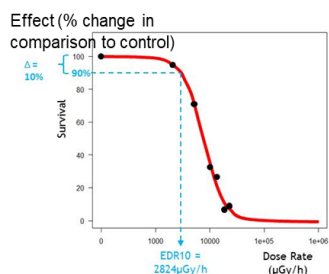


Chap 4.1 to 4.4

Reconstruct dose(rate)-effect relationship for each test

Chronic lab test – Observed EDR_{10}

Acute lab test -- Observed ED_{50}



Develop the Acute-to-Chronic Transformation of Radiation effects (ACTR) model



- Based on FREDERICA **gamma or X ray external irradiation laboratory test data sets*** only; **a data set is a series of [dose(rate)-effect] for a given species and a given effect, examined under defined exposure conditions*
- **Population-relevant endpoints (reproduction, morbidity, mortality)**
- For each effect data set, if selection criteria (see logic diagram in Annex B) were satisfied, a **dose response curve was constructed to estimate EDR_{10} (chronic exposure) and ED_{50} (acute exposure)**
- 10 models used to construct the dose (rate) response curve (best-fit primarily obtained using log-logistic patterns)
- Use of **ACTR (Acute-to-Chronic Transformation of Radiation effects) model**
 - transformation of observed data of acute radiotoxicity (ED_{50}) into predicted data of chronic radiotoxicity (EDR_{10}) ; enables the expansion of chronic radiation effect datasets predicting chronic radiotoxicity values (EDR_{10}) for (species and endpoint) where only acute effect data (ED_{50}) exist
- Use of **Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution (ESD) model**
 - statistical model to summarise the variation of radiosensitivity of population-relevant endpoints for all species within a given taxonomic level

Electronic annexes with the used data sets and references

4 files (Chronic ESD BroadGroups ; Chronic ESD Class ; Acute ESD BroadGroups ; Acute ESD Class) are available on demand (Christelle.adam-Guillermin@asn.fr)

File organisation

(example for ChronicESD_class)

ReadMe Spreadsheet (file explanation)

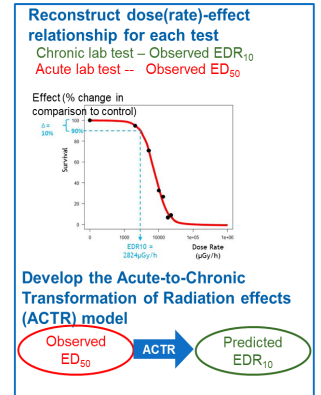
The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following content:

1	This Excel® file contains the following spreadsheets:
2	- READ ME : description of the content, with a focus on the fields of the DATA spreadsheet
3	- MODEL DESCRIPTION : explanation of model codes used in the DATA spreadsheet
4	- ADDITIONAL REF : references not already included in the FREDERICA database, ID begins with P
5	- AllDataChronic : radiotoxicity data (EDR10 observed and predicted from ACTR)
6	-Data_X : data of the X class used to build ESD curves
7	-ESD_X : ESD curves and associated statistics for the X class
8	-X_abstract : abstract of reference values for the X class
9	-graphs : graphs of ESD for all X classes
10	
11	DATA spreadsheet: field value (most of fields are taken from the FREDERICA database, with the same name and same content)
12	
13	Ecosystem
14	terrestrial
15	aquatic
16	freshwater
17	marine
18	
19	
20	Kingdom/Phylum/Class/Order/Family/Genus/Species
21	complete taxonomy of organism
22	
23	Common name
24	usual name associated with the italics means that no commonly used common name was found
25	
26	DoseType
27	chronic or predicted chronic exposure duration significant with regard to the lifetime of the species / the lifespan, exposure expressed by a dose rate (EDR10)
28	
29	ID/sub.id
30	identifiers of the data in the FR ID beginning with 'P' indicates a provisional ID pending the integration of the data into the FREDERICA database
31	references related to the data with a provisional ID are given in the ADDITIONAL REF spreadsheet
32	Radiation.type
33	gamma exposure to gamma radiation
34	X-rays exposure to X-rays
35	
36	Umbrella
37	morbidity
38	reproduction
39	mortality
40	
41	Effect.description
42	additional details on observed effects under the previously described umbrella endpoint

Electronic annexes with the used data sets and references

File organisation (example for ChronicESD_class)

Model description



Code	Model	lower limit	upper limit	alpha	number of parameters	
BC.4	Brain-Cousens (hormesis)	0	free	N.D.	4	$y(x) = c + \frac{d - c + fx}{1 + \exp[b(\log(x) - \log(e))]}$
CRS.4a	Cedergreen-Ritz-Streibig	0	free	1	4	
CRS.4b	Cedergreen-Ritz-Streibig	0	free	0,5	4	
CRS.4c	Cedergreen-Ritz-Streibig	0	free	0,25	4	$y(x) = c + \frac{d - c + f \exp(-1/x^\alpha)}{1 + \exp[b(\log(x) - \log(e))]}$
LL.2	Log-logistic	0	1	N.D.	2	
LL.3	Log-logistic	0	free	N.D.	3	
LL.3u	Log-logistic	free	1	N.D.	3	
LL.4	Log-logistic	0	free	N.D.	4	
LL.5	Log-logistic	0	free	N.D.	5	$y(x) = c + \frac{d - c}{1 + \exp[b(\log(x) - \log(e))]}$
UCRS.4a	U-shaped Cedergreen-Ritz-Streibig	free	1	1	4	

For more details
 Garnier-Laplace, J., Della-Vedova, C., Andersson, P., et al., 2010. A multi-criteria weight of evidence approach for deriving ecological benchmarks for radioactive substances. J. Radiol. Prot.

Electronic annexes with the used data sets and references

File organisation (example for ChronicESD_class)

References

ID	Author	Title	Year	Journal	Volume	PartNumber	ageNumbers
16	Egami, N., Shimada, A., and Hama-Furukawa, A.	Dominant lethal mutation rate after y-irradiation of the fish, <i>Oryzias latipes</i> .	-1983	Mutation Re	107		265-277.
17	Chakrabarti, S., Streisinger, G., Singer, F., and Wal	Frequency of y-ray induced specific locus and recessive lethal mutations in mature germ cells of the zebrafish, <i>Bra</i>	-1983	Genetics.	103		109-123.
18	Walker, C., and Streisinger, G.	Induction of mutations by y-rays in pregonial germ cells of zebrafish embryos.	-1983	Genetics.	103		125-136.
21	Hyodo-Taguchi, Y., and Egami, N.	Change in dose-survival time relationship after x-irradiation during embryonic development in the fish, <i>Oryzias lat</i>	-1969	Journal of R	10	(3-4),	121-125.
28	Ward, E., Beach, S.A., and Dyson, E.D	The effect of acute X-irradiation on the development of the eggs of the plaice, <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> .	-1970	United Kingdom Atomic Energy PG Re	1-10.		
29	Wadley, G.W., and Welander, A.D.	X-rays and temperature: Combined effects on mortality and growth of salmon embryos.	-1971	Transaction	100	(2),	267-275.
30	McGregor, J.F., and Newcombe, H.B.	Major malformations in trout embryos irradiated prior to active organogenesis.	-1968	Radiation Ri	35	(2),	282-300.
31	Konno, K., Kikuchi, T., Osakabe, I., and Okada, I.	On the influence of gamma-ray radiation on the aquatic animals. I. On the influence in the early development of g	-1955	Journal of th	41	(2),	163-168.
33	Templeton, W.L.	Resistance of fish eggs to acute and chronic irradiation.	Unknown.				847-860.
36	Ghoneum, M.M.H., Ijiri, K-I., and Egami, N.	Effects of gamma-rays on morphology of the thymus of the adult fish of <i>Oryzias latipes</i> .	-1982	Journal of R	23		253-259.
39	Aoki, K., Egami, N., and Arai, R.	Histological changes in internal tissue of the goldfish, <i>Carassius auratus</i> , following X-irradiation.	-1966	Journal of R	7	(2),	83-90.
41	Engel, D.W., Angelovic, J.W., and Davis, E.M.	Effects of acute gamma irradiation on the blood constituents of Pinfish, <i>Lagodon rhomboides</i> .	-1966	Chesapeake	7	(2),	90-94.
45	Ghoneum, M.M.H., Ijiri, K-I., and Egami, N.	A note on gamma-ray effects on the thymus in the adult fish of <i>Oryzias latipes</i> .	-1979	Journal of th	14	(3),	299-304.
47	Hama, A., and Egami, N.	The dose-rate effect of gamma-irradiation on the initiation of mitosis in the regenerating tail fin of the fish, <i>Oryzias</i>	-1977	Journal of th	14	(1),	47-60.
61	Newcombe, H.B., and McGregor, J.F.	Increased embryo production following low doses of radation to trout spermatozoa.	-1972	Radiation Ri	51		402-409.
65	Bonham, K., Donaldson, L.R., Foster R.F., Welandé	The effect of X-ray on mortality, weight, length and counts of erythrocytes and hematopoietic cells in fingerling chir	-1948	Growth.	12		107-121.
68	Brown, V.M., and Templeton, W.L.	Resistance of fish embryos to chronic irradiation.	-1964	Nature.			1257-1259.
69	Blaylock, B.G., and Griffith, N.A.	Effects of acute beta and gamma radiation on developing embryos of carp (<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>).	-1971	Radiation Ri	46	(1),	99-104.
74	Woodhead, D.S.	The effects of chronic irradiation on the breeding performance of the guppy, <i>Poecilia reticulata</i> (<i>Osteichthyes</i> : Tele	-1977	Internationz	32	(1),	1-22.
76	Hyodo-Taguchi, Y., and Etoh, H.	Vertebral malformations in Medaka (<i>Teleost Fish</i>) after exposure to tritiated water in the embryonic stage.	-1993	Radiation Ri	135		400-404.
88	Blaylock, B.G., and Mitchell, T.J.	The effect of temperature on the dose response of <i>Gambusia affinis affinis</i> from two natural populations.	-1969	Radiation Ri	40	(3),	503-511.
95	Hyodo-Taguchi, Y., and Etoh, H.	Effects of Tritiated water on germ cells in Medaka II. Diminished reproductive capacity following embryonic exposur	-1986	Radiation Ri	106		321-330.
97	Etoh, H., and Hyodo-Taguchi, Y.	Effects of tritiated water on germ cells in medaka embryos.	-1983	Radiation Ri	93		332-339.
101	Michibata, H.	The role of spermatogonia in the recovery process from temporary sterility induced by gamma-ray irradiation in th	-1976	Journal of R	17		142-153.
107	Egami, N., and Hyodo, Y.	Inhibitory effect of X-irradiation on the development of the ovaries of the fish, <i>oryzias latipes</i> , in sexually inactive s	-1965	Annotatione	38	(1),	8-11.
112	Egami, N., and Hyodo-Taguchi, Y.	Hermaphroditic gonads produced in <i>oryzias latipes</i> by X-radiation during embryonic stages.	-1969	Copeia.	1		195-196.
113	Kulikov, N.V., Timofeeva, N.A., and Al'shits, L.K.	Decrease in the radiosensitivity of tench embryos (<i>Tinca tinca</i> L.) as a result of preliminary irradiation.	-1969	Radiobiolog	9		637-639.
118	Shimada, Y., and Egami, N.	An electron microscopic study of radiation damage and their recovery in the germ cells in the early development of	-1982	Journal of th	15	(2),	255-272.
150	Foster, R.F., Donaldson, L.R., Welander, A.D., Bonl	The effect on embryos and young of rainbow trout from exposing the parent fish to X-rays.	-1949	Growth.	13		119-142.
170	Bonham, K., and Donaldson, L.R.	Sex ratios and retardation of gonadal development in chronically gamma-irradiated chinook salmon smolts.	-1972	Transaction	101	(3),	428-434.
174	Bakulina, E.D., Pokrovskaya, G.L., and Romashov.	On radio-sensitivity of loach (<i>Misgurnus fossilis</i> L.) spermatozoa.	-1962	Radiobiolog	2		135-147.
178	Egami, N., and Hyodo, Y.	Effect of X-irradiation on the oviposition of the teleost, <i>Oryzias latipes</i> .	-1965	Annotatione	38	(4),	171-181.
184	Baldwin, W.F.	Increased yield of gamma-induced eye colour mutations from chronic versus acute exposures in <i>Dahlbominus</i> .	-1968	Isotopes and Radiation in Entomolog	365-375.		
199	Menhinick, E.F., and Crossley, D.A.	Radiation sensitivity of twelve species of arthropods.	-1969	Annals of th	62	(4),	711-717.
204	Egami, N., and Hama-Furukawa, A.	Late effects of continuous gamma irradiation of the developmental stage on the gonads in <i>Oryzias latipes</i> .	-1980	Radiation Effects on Aquatic Organis	105-117.		
207	Knowles, J.F.	Long-term irradiation of the marine fish, the plaice <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> : an assessment of the effects on size an	-1999	Internationz	75	(6),	773-782.
213	Welander, A.D., Donaldson, L.R., Foster, R.F., Bonl	The effects of roentgen rays on the embryos and larvae of the chinook salmon.	-1948	Growth.	12		203-242.
247	Hingston, J.L., Knowles, J.F., Walker, P.J., Wood, M	Effects of ionising radiation on soil fauna.	-2004	Environment Agency R&D Technical Report P3-101/SP7			
286	Bonham, K., and Palumbo, R.F.	Effects of X-rays on snails, crustacea and algae.	-1951	Growth.	15		155-188.
292	Ballardin, E., and Metallio, P.	Estimates of some components of fitness in diploid parthenogenetic <i>Artemia salina</i> irradiated over several genera	-1968	Att. Ass. Ge	13		342-345.
296	Baptist, J.P., Wolfe, D.A., and Colby, D.R.	Effects of chronic gamma radiation on the growth and survival of juvenile clams (<i>Mercenaria mercenaria</i>) and sca	-1976	Health phys	30		79-83.

Select QC data for each test
[series of data pairs for (species,
endpoint, exposure conditions)]



www.frederica-online.org

Copplestone et al., JER 2013
Garner-Laplace et al., JER 2010

Electronic annexes with the used data sets and references

File organisation (example for ChronicESD_class)

AllDataChronic

The screenshot shows a spreadsheet application window titled 'Enregistrement automatique' and 'DOI-Chronic_ESD_Class_ForConsultation-April2025-04-07-pm...'. The spreadsheet contains a large table with columns labeled A through AA. The data includes taxonomic information (Kingdom, Phylum, Class, Order, Family, Genus, Species), experimental details (Species, Sp_com, Sp_latri, Dose, sub_id, Radiati, Umbrel, Effect description, Model, ED, SE, Type, ED_unit, comment, re), and various biological endpoints. The table is filtered to show rows related to 'Marine' and 'Freshwater' environments.

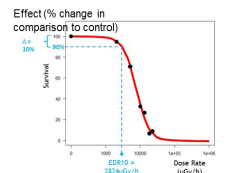
Select QC data for each test [series of data pairs for (species, endpoint, exposure conditions)]



www.frederica-online.org

Copplestone et al., JER 2013
Garnier-Laplace et al., JER 2010

Reconstruct dose(rate)-effect relationship for each test
Chronic lab test -- Observed EDR₁₀
Acute lab test -- Observed ED₅₀



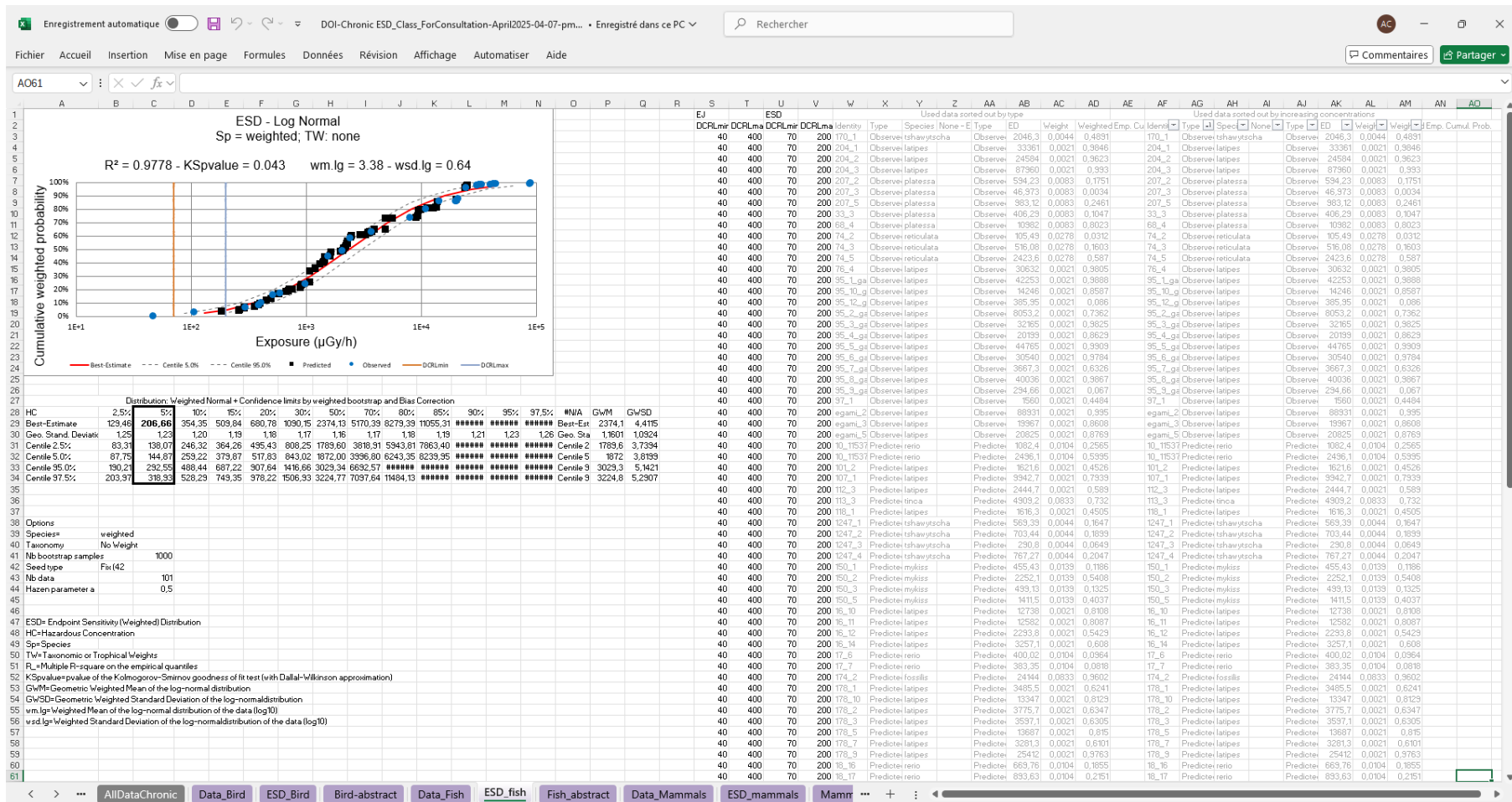
Develop the Acute-to-Chronic Transformation of Radiation effects (ACTR) model



Electronic annexes with the used data sets and references

File organisation (example for ChronicESD_class)

Endpoint
Sensitivity
Distributions
(ESD)



Establish Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution (ESD) per taxonomic group
Chronic ESD [EDR₁₀ observed and predicted]
Acute ESD [ED₅₀ observed]

Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution
An ASNR Software

Electronic annexes with the used data sets and references

File organisation (example for ChronicESD_class)

Abstract

n	min	max	HDR5	IC95% de HDR5	HDR50	IC95% de HDR50	Observed data proportion	Reproductive endpoints proportion	Nb data below 5 th	Number of species
101	46,97	88931,00	206,66	[139 ; 319]	2374,13	[1790 ; 3225]	0,28	0,63	3	12

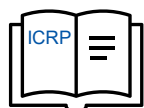


Table 4.1

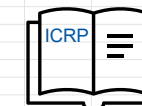


Table 4.3

Needed for the Extrapolation Factor

Criterion/level of uncertainty	low uncertainty	intermediate uncertainty	high uncertainty
Individual score per criterion	3	2	1
#1. Total number of data	>100	50-100	0-50
#2. Proportion of observed data in data set	0.7 to 1	0.3-0.7	0-0.3
#3. Proportion of reproductive endpoints	0.7 to 1	0.3-0.7	0-0.3
#4. Number of observed data below 5 th out of total data	0.7 to 1	0.3-0.7	0-0.3
#5. Number of species	>10	from 5 to 10	<5
TOTAL SCORE RANGE	15	10	5
EF RANGE*	1	3	5

RAP _{Class or Phylum} *	5 th percentile	EF	DCRL _{Class or Phylum} †	RAP _{Family} ‡	DCRL _{Family} ‡
Birds	313	3	100-300	duck	4-40
Fish	207	3	70-200	trout; flat fish	40-400
Mammals	60	3	20-60	deer; rat	4-40
Crustaceans*	456	4	100-400	crab	400-4000
Worms*	580	3	100-500	earthworm	400-4000
Conifers	379	5	70-300	pine tree	4-40
Grasses and Monocots	1020	4	200-1000	wild grass	40-400
Shrubs, Trees not coniferous, Dicots	664	3	200-600	none	none

Data processing – dev

Establish Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution (ESD) per taxonomic group

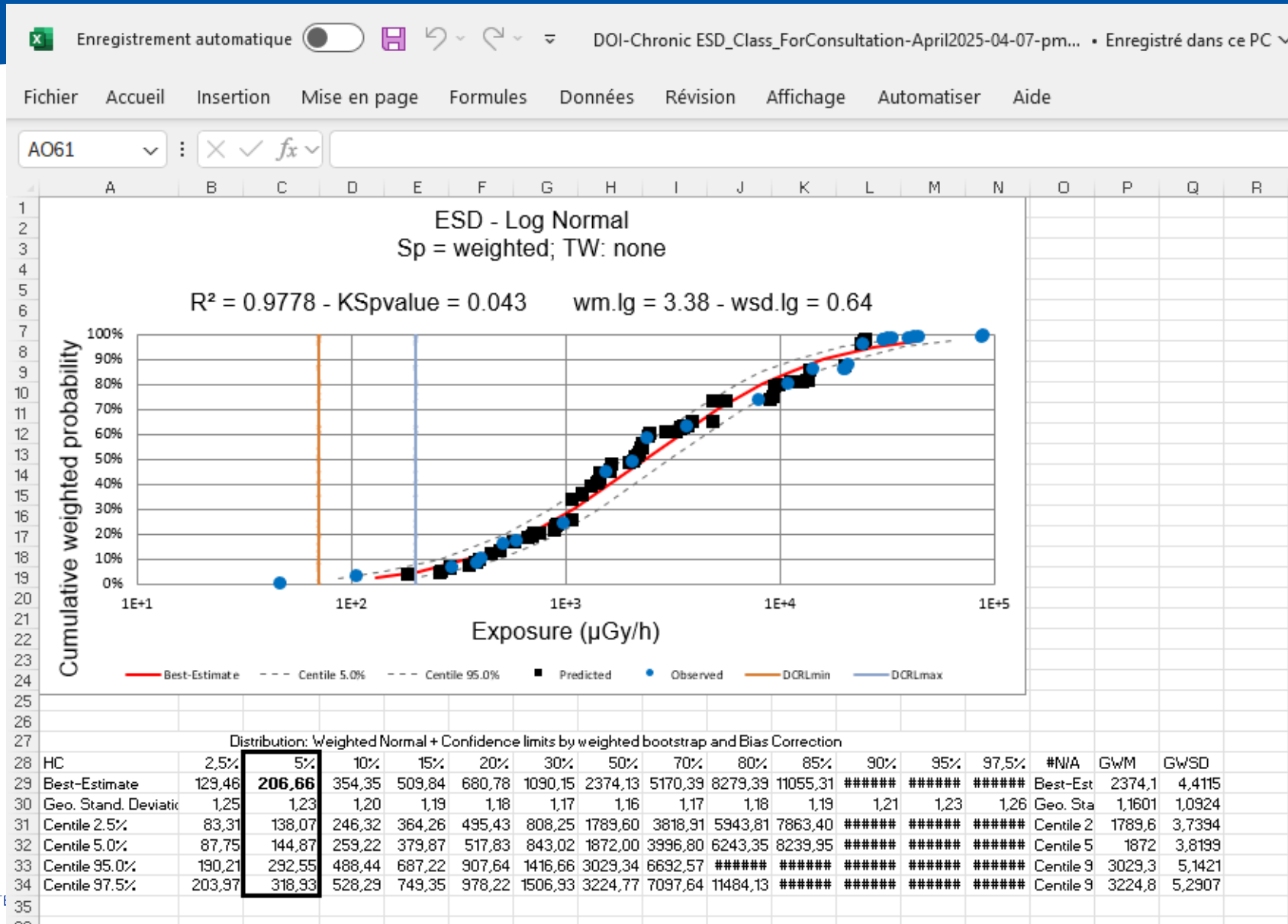
Chronic ESD [EDR_{10} observed and predicted]
Acute ESD [ED_{50} observed]



Tools developed for Windows are available on demand to Christelle Adam-Guillermin (christelle.adam-guillermin@asnr.fr)

The screenshot shows the ESD Generator software interface. It has a title bar 'ESD Generator' and standard window controls. The main area is divided into several sections: 'File management' with fields for 'Input file' (C:\Users\adam-chr\Documents\DOI-Chronic ESD_Class_ForConsultation-April2025-04-07-pm) and 'Output file' (DOI-Chronic ESD_Class_ForConsultation-April2025-04-07-pm_Data_Fish_sswd.xlsx); 'Data selection' with dropdowns for 'Taxonomic groups column' (Phylum), 'Species column' (Species), and 'Effect Dose column' (ED); 'Calculation options' with radio buttons for 'Taxonomic weighting' (No weight selected) and 'Species weighting' (weighted selected); 'Distribution to fit' with checkboxes for 'log-empirical' and 'log-normal' (both checked), and radio buttons for 'Quant. fitting' (selected) and 'Prob. fitting'; 'Advanced option' with a 'Hazen parameter' field (0.5), 'Bootstrap seed type' (Fix selected), and 'Number of bootstrap' field (1000); and 'Graphic parameters' with checkboxes for 'Species (label)', 'Taxon (color)', and 'Endpoints (symbol)'. At the bottom, there are 'Run' and 'Exit' buttons.

Data processing – developed Tools : ESD Generator



Establish Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution (ESD) per taxonomic group
Chronic ESD [EDR_{10} observed and predicted]
Acute ESD [ED_{10} observed]



Data processing – developed tools : ESD Viewer

Establish Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution (ESD) per taxonomic group
 Chronic ESD [EDR₁₀ observed and predicted]
 Acute ESD [ED₅₀ observed]

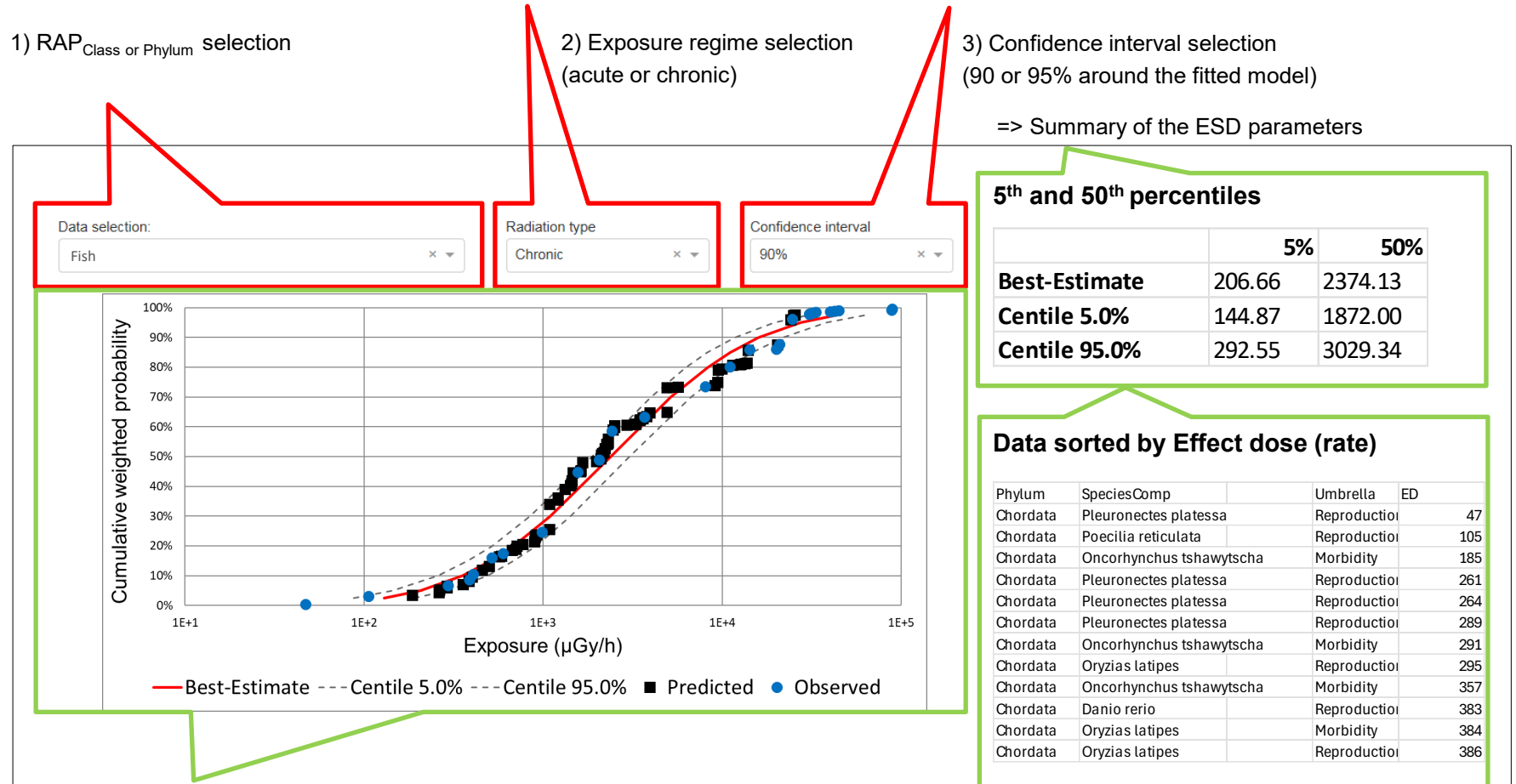


1) RAP_{Class or Phylum} selection

2) Exposure regime selection (acute or chronic)

3) Confidence interval selection (90 or 95% around the fitted model)

=> Summary of the ESD parameters



=> Resulting Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution (ESD)

Criteria : fish, chronic, 90%

Distinction between observed (round blue symbols) and predicted (from acute) data (black square symbols)

Data processing – developed tools : ESD Viewer

- By pointing on one symbol of the ESD => summary of the corresponding data (value, percentile, FREDERICA reference, predicted/observed, species)

Establish Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution (ESD) per taxonomic group

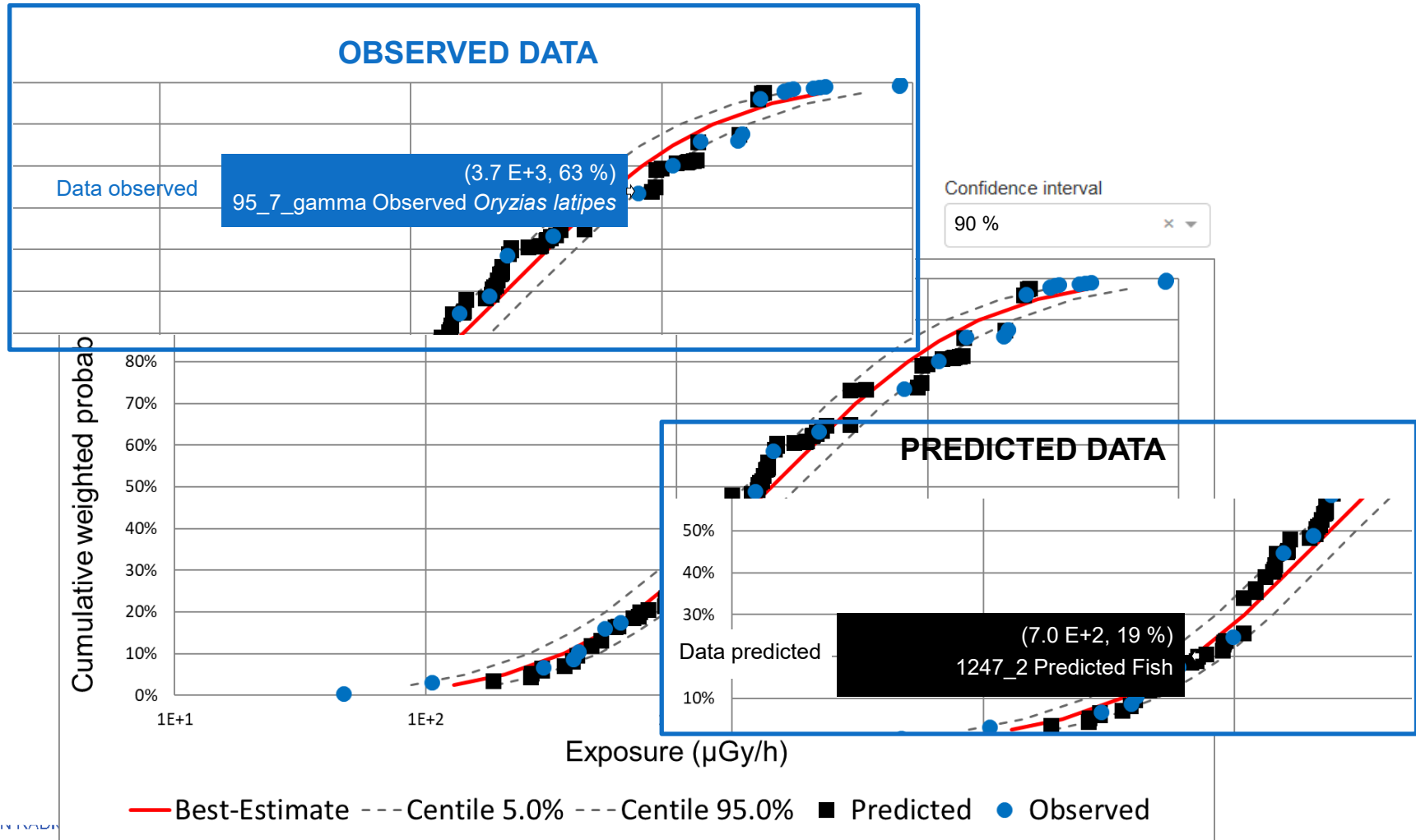
Chronic ESD [EDR₁₀ observed and predicted]
Acute ESD [ED₅₀ observed]

ESD Generator



Endpoint Sensitivity Distribution

An ASNR software
Developed & Designed by Zackary BEAUGÉLIN



How do lab data compare with DCRLs

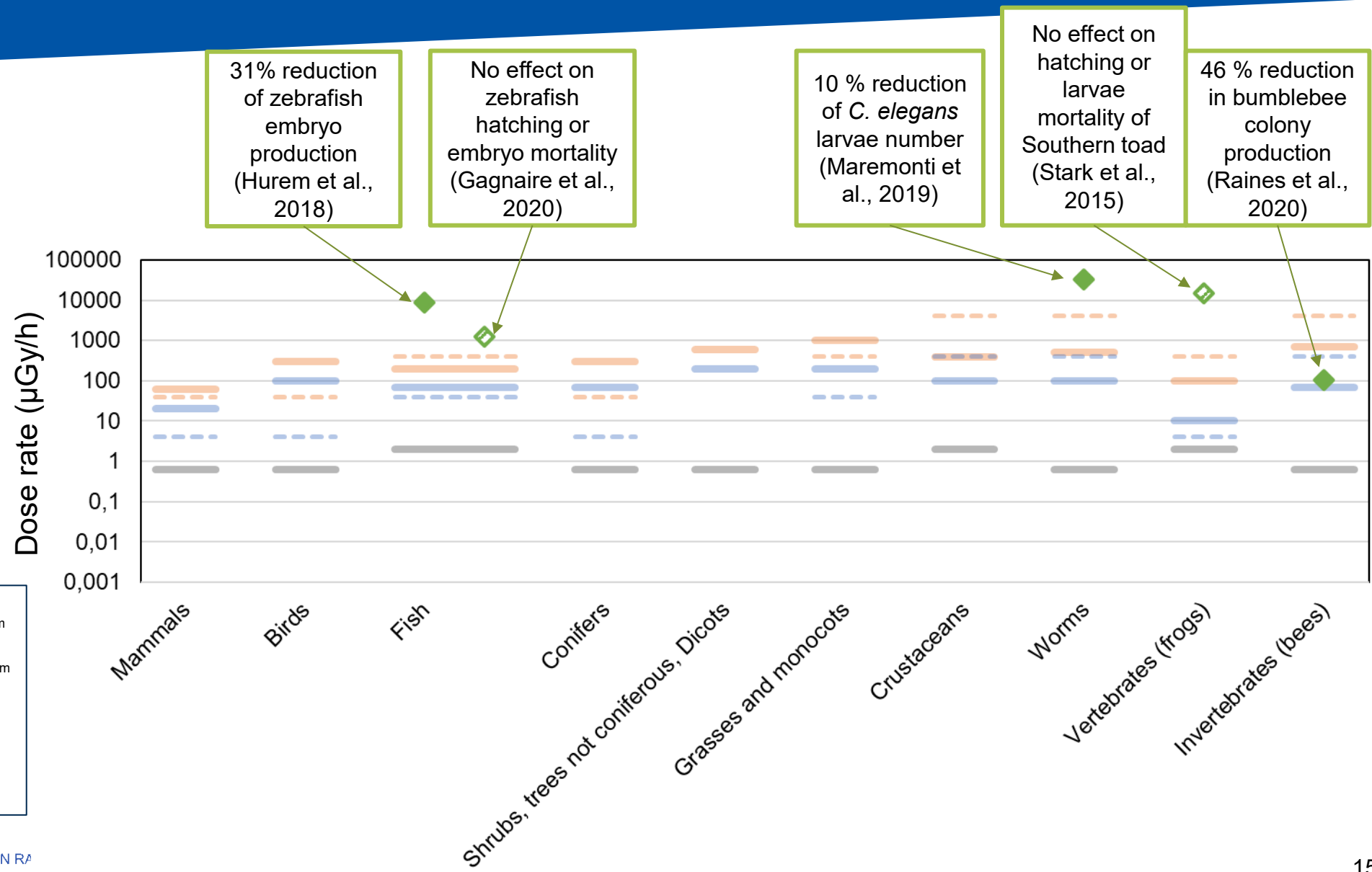


Chap 5

The data set used for DCRL_{Class or Phylum} derivation was extracted from the most recent (2010) version of the quality checked FREDERICA database. Since that date, several papers have been published

- **Meta-analysis of peer reviewed papers** on laboratory experiments and field studies on sites contaminated by radionuclides
- **For the laboratory studies** : focus on the effects of exposure to external X-ray or gamma irradiation that comply with the selection rules of data for reconstruction of Dose(rate) - Effect relationship (quality check)
- Due to a shift to novel molecular tools during the last decades, most of papers were only dealing with mechanistic understanding of radiation-induced effects. Even if they are generally more sensitive than the population-relevant endpoints used to derive DCRLs, the long-term consequences of such molecular responses are still difficult to causally link to population level changes.
- ~150 full-paper screening : some of them met the quality criteria for reconstruction of Dose(rate) - Effect relationship but not all were usable because the studied endpoints were not linked to population dynamics
- Finally, a few papers only could be directly used to compare these data with appropriate DCRLs

How do lab data compare with DCRLs



How do lab and field data compare with DCRLs

- These recent lab studies show that most of effect values are well above the $DCRL_{Class}$ or $Phylum$ and hence **do not substantively challenge them**
- For bumblebees, the effect value falls within the corresponding range for invertebrates $DCRL_{Class}$ or $Phylum$ of $70-700 \mu Gy h^{-1}$, and **support this more conservative (lower) range than the one for bee where $DCRL_{Family}$ is 400 to 4000 $\mu Gy h^{-1}$**
- **For the field studies** : difficult to use these data to compare to DCRLs
 - Molecular endpoints are often used to shed light on toxicity mechanisms or as early warning biomarkers of adverse effects.
 - Several confounding factors such as **dosimetry assessment, indirect effects, multiple exposure**



Conclusions and research needs

Several research needs to better address some uncertainty sources (e.g. [dose assessment](#), [impact of the life stages](#), [transgenerational effects](#) (see ICRP TG121))

[More studies are also needed](#) to link radiation effects at the molecular (e.g. DNA damage) and cellular (e.g. oxidative stress) levels, with potential effects at higher levels of organisation (individual, population, community or ecosystem) and to link individual responses to population ones.

Toward this, the application of [Adverse Outcome Pathway \(AOP\)](#) is a promising tool, which helps to identify gaps of knowledge by organising the scientific data in a systematic way, and to link toxic pathways at the subcellular level to a macroscopic endpoint such as reproduction

ICRP

www.icrp.org