

# Evaluation of oxetan-3-ol, thietan-3-ol, and derivatives thereof as bioisosteres of the carboxylic acid functional group

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ACS Med. Chem. Lett. **ASAP**

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Current Literature  
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# Isosteres in Medicinal Chemistry

- ▶ Recent definition:

“Similarities must exist between at least some of the properties of the isostere and those of the fragment being replaced, such that the new analogs retain the biological activities of the parent compound.”

“At the same time, however, the isosteric replacement must produce changes in the physicochemical properties or susceptibility to metabolism compared to the parent compound in order to lead to improved derivatives.”

- ▶ Lassalas et al. J. Med. Chem. **2016**, 59, 3183–3203.

# Carboxylic acid Isosteres

► Many reported in literature

| Class             | Cpd #           | Structure | Aq. Solub. <sup>a</sup><br>( $\mu M$ ) | $\log D_{7,4}^b$ | $\log D_{7,4}^c$<br>calc. <sup>c</sup> | PAMPA                     |                          |                  | $pK_a^g$    | $pK_a$ calc. <sup>e</sup> | PPB (% fu) <sup>b</sup> |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|--|------------------|--|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
|                   |                 |           |  |                  |  | $P_e$ (cm/s) <sup>d</sup> | % retention <sup>e</sup> | $\log P_{app}^f$ |             |                           |                         |
| Carboxylic acid   | 1 <sup>*</sup>  |           | 110.69 $\pm$ 3.04                      | -0.49 $\pm$ 0.19 | -0.56                                  | 1.66E-06 $\pm$ 0.35E-06   | -7 $\pm$ 11              | -5.79 $\pm$ 0.10 | 4.64        | 4.73                      | 9.5 $\pm$ 0.4           |
| Hydroxamic acids  | 2 <sup>*</sup>  |           | $\geq$ 200                             | 0.71             | 1.23                                   | 4.97E-06                  | 0.03                     | -5.30            | 8.18        | 8.90                      | 29 $\pm$ 2              |
|                   | 3 <sup>*</sup>  |           | $\geq$ 200                             | 1.52             | 1.16                                   | 4.53E-06                  | 1.1                      | -5.34            | 8.83        | 8.37                      | 37 $\pm$ 10             |
| Hydroxamic esters | 4               |           | $\geq$ 200                             | 1.16             | 1.59                                   | 7.28E-06                  | 5.3                      | -5.14            | 9.47        | 8.45                      | 68 $\pm$ 3              |
|                   | 5 <sup>*</sup>  |           | 199.88 $\pm$ 0.49                      | 1.18             | 1.35                                   | 4.60E-06                  | -2.9                     | -5.34            | 9.58        | 8.88                      | 64 $\pm$ 3              |
| Phosphonic acid   | 6 <sup>*</sup>  |           | 152.36 $\pm$ 1.18                      | -1.14            | -1.54                                  | 9.40E-08                  | -2.7                     | -7.03            | 2.34 (8.49) | 1.81                      | 31 $\pm$ 5              |
| Phosphinic acid   | 7               |           | 127.73 $\pm$ 1.96                      | -1.44            | -1.36                                  | 1.70E-08                  | -2.1                     | -7.77            | 1.98        | 2.24                      | 8.86 $\pm$ 0.06         |
| Sulfonic acid     | 8 <sup>*</sup>  |           | $\geq$ 200                             | -1.45            | -1.17                                  | 3.84E-08                  | -6.1                     | -7.42            | <2.0        | -0.81                     | 0.31 $\pm$ 0.08         |
| Sulfinic acid     | 9               |           | $\geq$ 200                             | -1.30            | -0.84                                  | ND <sup>f</sup>           | -6.8                     | ND <sup>f</sup>  | 2.1         | 2.00                      | 5.0 $\pm$ 0.7           |
| Sulfonamides      | 10 <sup>*</sup> |           | $\geq$ 200                             | 0.96             | 0.63                                   | 2.13E-06                  | 4.2                      | -5.67            | 10.04       | 11.38                     | 60.72 $\pm$ 0.04        |
|                   | 11 <sup>*</sup> |           | $\geq$ 200                             | 1.42             | 1.15                                   | 1.05E-05                  | 8.1                      | -4.98            | >12         | 12.06                     | 37.27 $\pm$ 0.06        |
| Acyl-sulfonamides | 12 <sup>*</sup> |           | 199.70 $\pm$ 0.30                      | -1.02            | -0.21                                  | 3.45E-07                  | 1.4                      | -6.46            | 4.94        | 4.08                      | 12.8 $\pm$ 0.2          |
|                   | 13 <sup>*</sup> |           | 199.03 $\pm$ 1.24                      | 0.17             | -0.22                                  | 1.53E-06                  | 2.2                      | -5.81            | 5.86        | 4.12                      | 8.1 $\pm$ 0.2           |
| Sulfonylurea      | 14 <sup>*</sup> |           | 197.76 $\pm$ 2.24                      | -1.23 $\pm$ 0.06 | -0.87                                  | 2.61E-07 $\pm$ 1.01E-07   | 3.0 $\pm$ 5.4            | -6.61 $\pm$ 0.20 | 5.04        | 4.14                      | 31 $\pm$ 2              |

Lassalas et al.  
*J. Med. Chem.* **2016**,  
59, 3183–3203.

# Carboxylic acid Isosteres

|                         |            |  |               |              |       |                     |           |              |      |       |              |
|-------------------------|------------|--|---------------|--------------|-------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|------|-------|--------------|
| Acyl-sulfonamides       | <b>12*</b> |  | 199.70 ± 0.30 | -1.02        | -0.21 | 3.45E-07            | 1.4       | -6.46        | 4.94 | 4.08  | 12.8 ± 0.2   |
|                         | <b>13*</b> |  | 199.03 ± 1.24 | 0.17         | -0.22 | 1.53E-06            | 2.2       | -5.81        | 5.86 | 4.12  | 8.1 ± 0.2    |
| Sulfonylurea            | <b>14*</b> |  | 197.76 ± 2.24 | -1.23 ± 0.06 | -0.87 | 2.61E-07 ± 1.01E-07 | 3.0 ± 5.4 | -6.61 ± 0.20 | 5.04 | 4.14  | 31 ± 2       |
| Acylurea                | <b>15*</b> |  | ≥ 200         | 1.42         | 0.57  | 1.63E-05            | -3.3      | -4.79        | >12  | 11.77 | 77 ± 1       |
| Tetrazole               | <b>16*</b> |  | ≥ 200         | -0.25 ± 0.10 | 0.10  | 4.83E-07 ± 1.48E-07 | 4.7 ± 2.8 | -6.33 ± 0.15 | 5.09 | 5.08  | 1.12 ± 0.12  |
| Thiazolidine dione      | <b>17*</b> |  | 200.41 ± 0.41 | 1.07 ± 0.03  | 1.12  | 8.77E-06 ± 1.32E-06 | 5.5 ± 1.7 | -5.06 ± 0.06 | 6.19 | 6.61  | 3.40 ± 0.11  |
| Oxazolidine dione       | <b>18*</b> |  | ≥ 200         | -0.16        | 0.70  | 2.46E-06            | -0.6      | -5.61        | 5.86 | 6.63  | 14 ± 1       |
| Oxadiazol-5(4H)-one     | <b>19*</b> |  | ≥ 200         | 0.32         | 1.26  | 1.22E-06            | -4.0      | -5.91        | 5.73 | 6.04  | 1.10 ± 0.12  |
| Thiadiazol-5(4H)-one    | <b>20*</b> |  | 200.47 ± 0.47 | 1.66         | 2.18  | 1.14E-05            | -0.7      | -4.94        | 6.50 | 7.19  | 1.17 ± 0.45  |
| Oxathiadiazole-2-oxide  | <b>21</b>  |  | 7.13 ± 0.74   | ND           | 0.95  | 1.10E-07†           | -1432     | -6.96†       | 5.23 | 6.41  | ND           |
| Oxadiazol-5(4H)-thione  | <b>22*</b> |  | ≥ 200         | -0.25        | 2.84  | 3.27E-07            | -3.4      | -6.49        | 3.58 | 7.77  | 0.65 ± 0.16  |
| Isoxazole               | <b>23</b>  |  | ≥ 200         | 0.46         | 1.34  | 4.65E-06            | -11       | -5.33        | 5.36 | 6.21  | 0.10 ± 0.10  |
| Tetramic acid           | <b>24</b>  |  | ≥ 200         | -0.35        | 1.34  | 2.50E-06            | 1.3       | -5.60        | 6.08 | 10.54 | ND           |
| Cyclopentane 1,3-diones | <b>25</b>  |  | 194.93 ± 1.01 | -0.70        | 2.32  | 2.12E-07            | -3.0      | -6.67        | 4.01 | 8.82  | 7.96 ± 0.35  |
|                         | <b>26*</b> |  | ≥ 200         | -0.33        | 2.71  | 2.60E-07            | -5.1      | -6.58        | 4.47 | 8.72  | 11.09 ± 0.14 |
|                         | <b>27</b>  |  | 199.04 ± 0.76 | -0.60        | 2.16  | 1.54E-07            | -8.8      | -6.81        | 4.44 | 8.65  | 14.3 ± 0.6   |

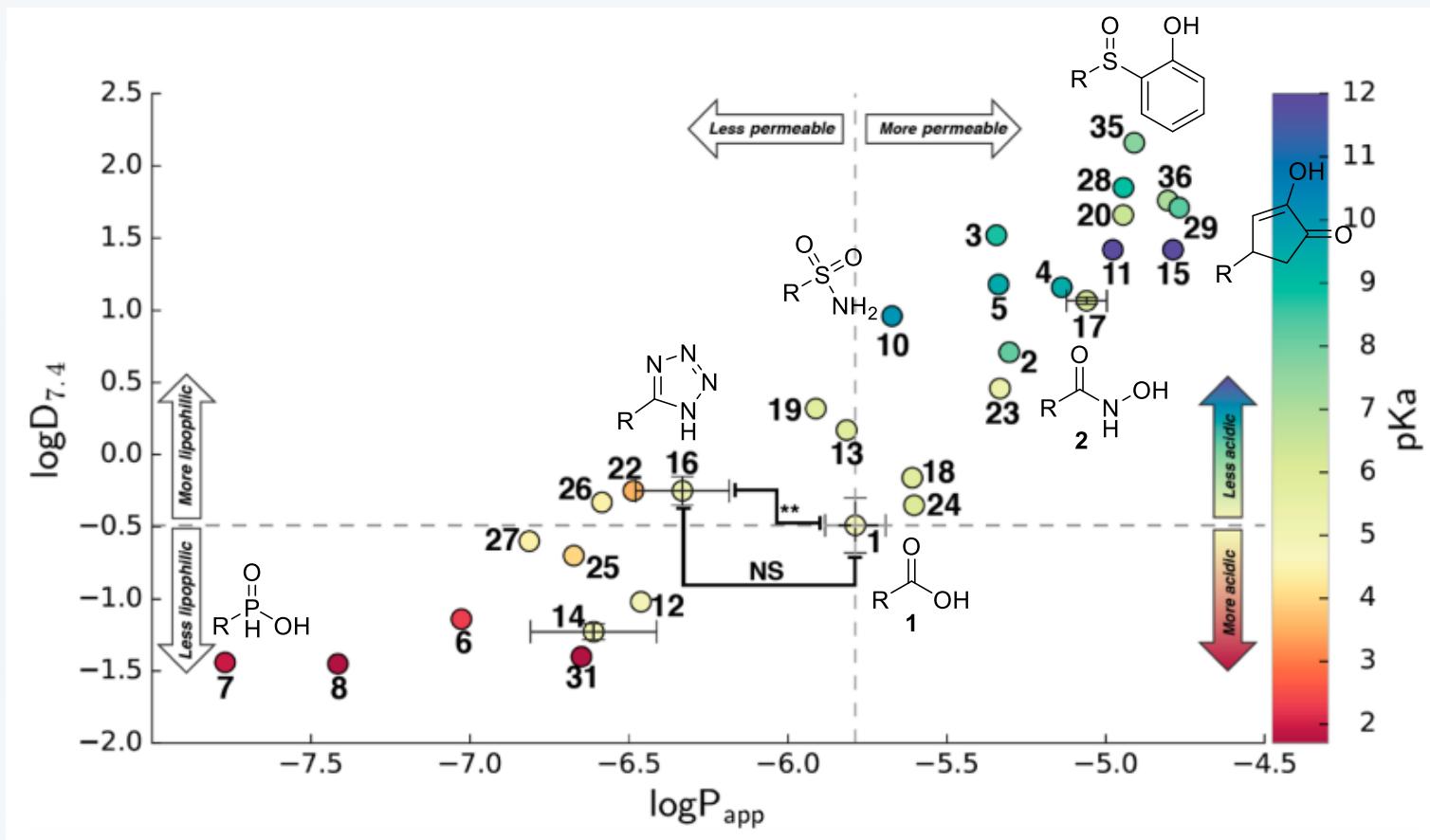
Lassalas et al.  
*J. Med. Chem.* **2016**,  
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# Carboxylic acid Isosteres

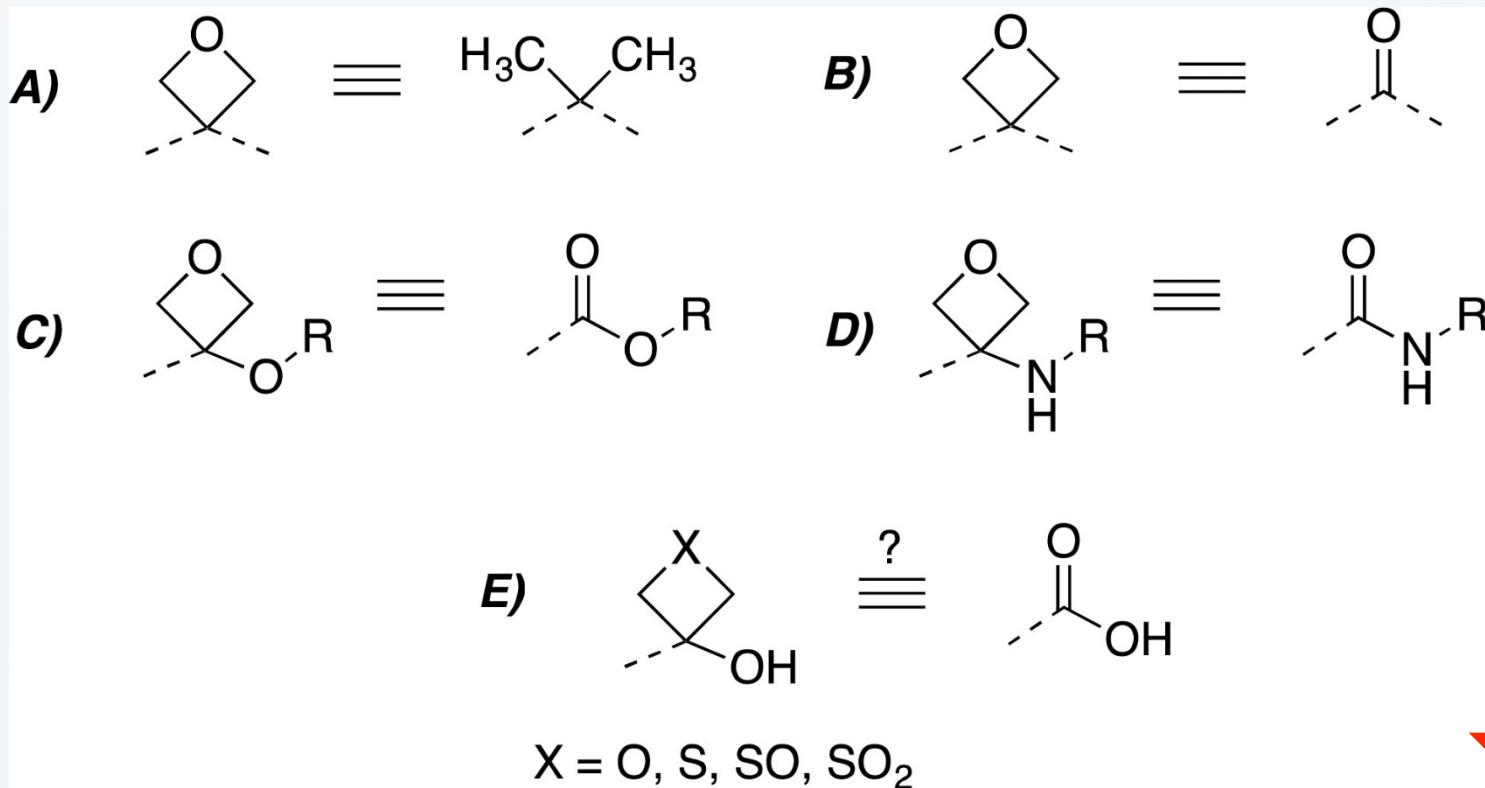
| Class                    | Cpd #           | Structure | Aq. Solub. <sup>a</sup><br>( $\mu$ M) | $\log D_{7,4}^b$ | $\log D_{7,4}$<br>calc. <sup>c</sup> | PAMPA                     |                          |                    | $pK_a^g$ | $pK_a$ calc. <sup>e</sup> | PPB (% fu) <sup>b</sup> |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------|---------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|----------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
|                          |                 |           |                                       |                  |                                      | $P_e$ (cm/s) <sup>d</sup> | % retention <sup>e</sup> | $\log P_{app}^f$   |          |                           |                         |
| Cyclopentane 1,2-diones  | 28 <sup>*</sup> |           | 195.03 $\pm$ 1.75                     | 1.85             | 2.34                                 | 1.14E-05                  | 1.5                      | -4.94              | 8.88     | 9.24                      | 16 $\pm$ 4              |
|                          | 29              |           | 192.44 $\pm$ 4.06                     | 1.71             | 1.94                                 | 1.70E-05                  | -8.6                     | -4.77              | 8.28     | 9.37                      | ND                      |
| Squaric acid derivatives | 30              |           | 165.79 $\pm$ 0.06                     | -0.84            | 1.36                                 | ND <sup>f</sup>           | -13                      | ND <sup>f</sup>    | <2.0     | 6.56                      | 8.19 $\pm$ 0.18         |
|                          | 31              |           | $\geq$ 200                            | -1.40            | 1.18                                 | 2.24E-07                  | -6.6                     | -6.65              | <2.0     | 7.97                      | 6.45 $\pm$ 0.34         |
| Substituted phenols      | 32 <sup>*</sup> |           | 109.17 $\pm$ 1.35                     | 3.34             | 3.88                                 | 7.05E-06                  | 49 <sup>g</sup>          | -5.15              | 7.19     | 7.74                      | 0.26 $\pm$ 0.08         |
|                          | 33              |           | 148.70 $\pm$ 3.91                     | 3.56             | 3.85                                 | 4.71E-06                  | -32                      | -5.33 <sup>g</sup> | 7.05     | 7.62                      | 0.52 $\pm$ 0.21         |
|                          | 34              |           | ND <sup>g</sup>                       | >3.78            | 3.91                                 | ND                        | ND                       | ND                 | 9.06     | 9.18                      | ND                      |
|                          | 35 <sup>*</sup> |           | $\geq$ 200                            | 2.16             | 2.55                                 | 1.23E-05                  | 1.1                      | -4.91              | 7.70     | 7.25                      | 12 $\pm$ 3              |
|                          | 36 <sup>*</sup> |           | 197.11 $\pm$ 0.29                     | 1.76             | 2.31                                 | 1.57E-05                  | 7.2                      | -4.80              | 7.12     | 6.74                      | 1.59 $\pm$ 0.03         |

# Carboxylic acid Isosteres

Celeste Alvarez @ Wipf Group  
8/5/2017



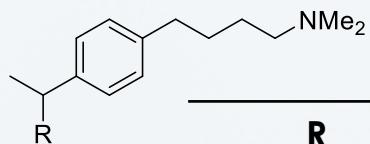
# Oxetanes as Isosteres



# Oxetanes in Medicinal Chemistry

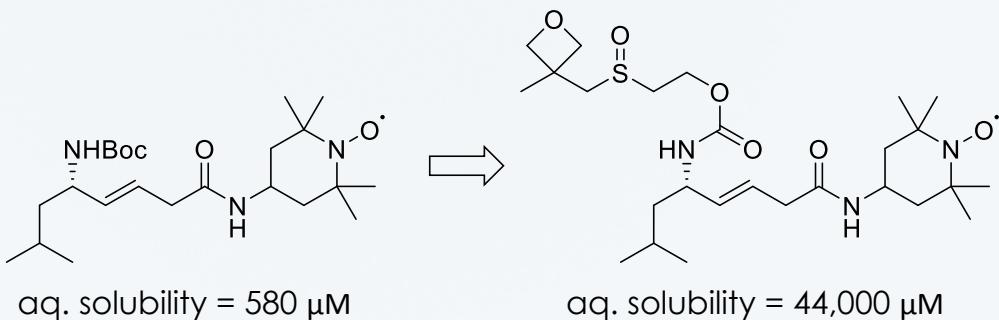
- ▶ Modulate lipophilicity
- ▶ Improve solubility, stability

Carreira et al. *J. Med. Chem.*, **2010**, 53, 3227.



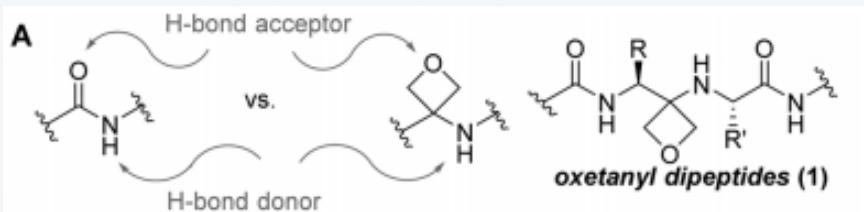
| R                   | logD | Solubility ( $\mu\text{M}$ ) | Cl <sub>int</sub> (h/m) | pK <sub>a</sub> |
|---------------------|------|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| CH <sub>2</sub>     | 1.8  | 250                          | 37/520                  | 9.9             |
| gem Me <sub>2</sub> | 2.5  | <4                           | 16/420                  | 9.9             |
| oxetane             | 0.8  | 18,000                       | 0/43                    | 9.9             |

Wipf et al. *ACS Med. Chem. Lett.* **2014**, 5, 900.



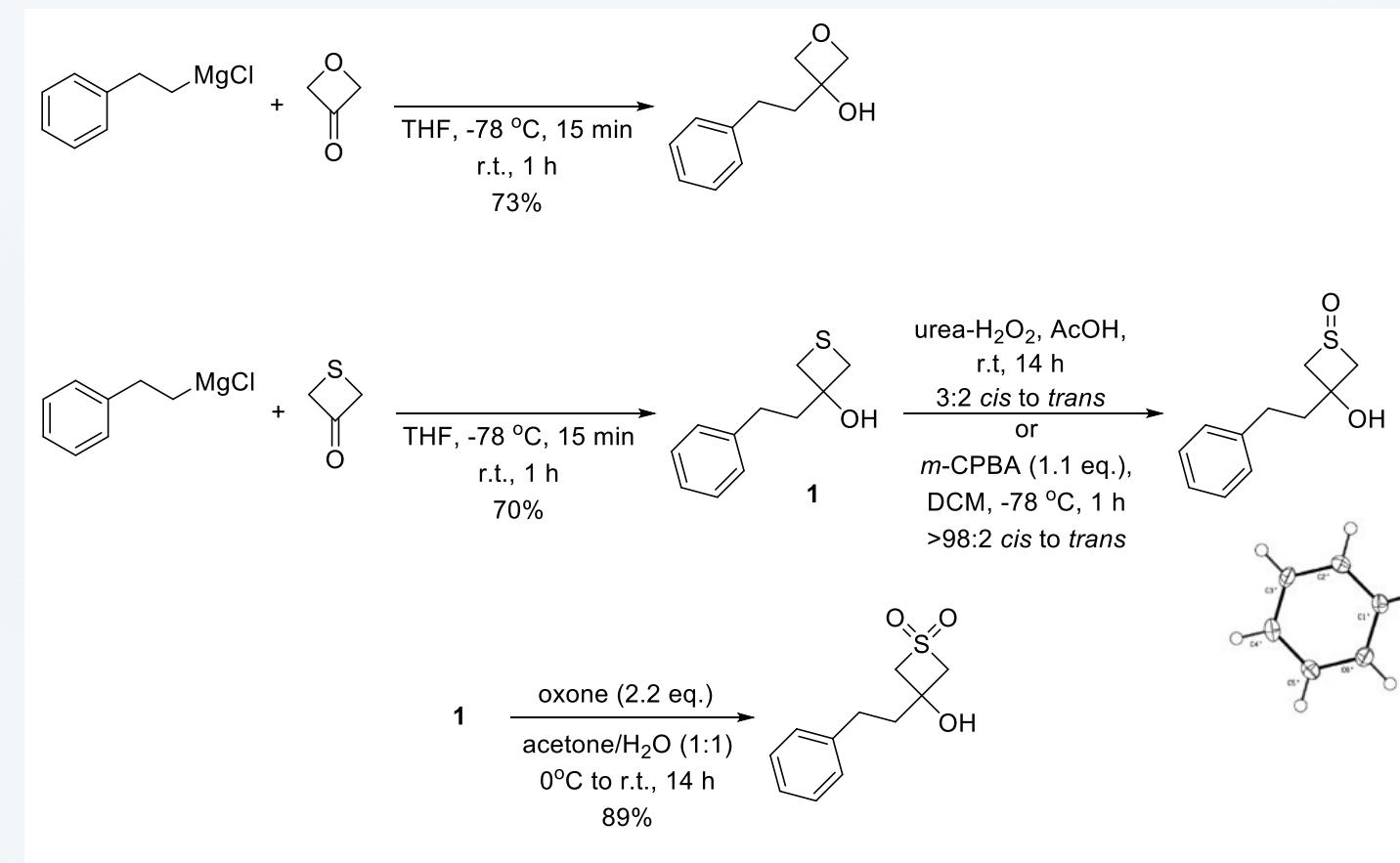
# Recent Uses of Oxetanes as non-classical Isosteres

- ▶ Recently Carreria and Shipman groups have utilized oxetanes to mimic amides and esters



**B**

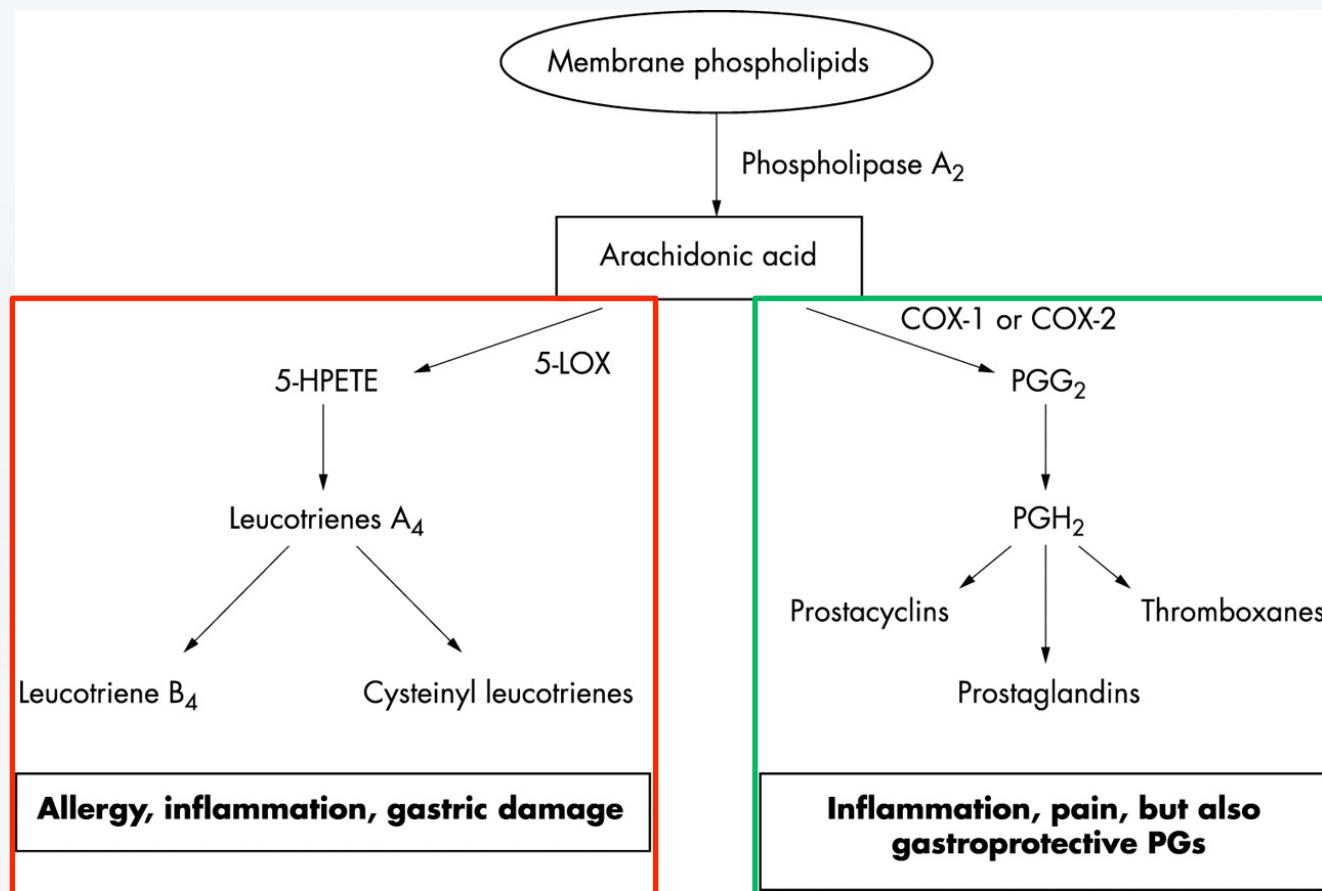
|  | A   | B   | C   | D   | Serum Half-life | Affinity |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|----------|
| <b>Leu-enkephalin (2a)</b>             | C=O | C=O | C=O | C=O | ≈ 10 min        | ✓        |
| <b>Tyr<sup>5</sup>(Ox) Analog (2b)</b> | Ox  | C=O | C=O | C=O | ≈ 3.2 h         | ✗        |
| <b>Gly<sup>4</sup>(Ox) Analog (2c)</b> | Ox  | Ox  | C=O | C=O | ≈ 18 h          | ✗        |
| <b>Gly<sup>3</sup>(Ox) Analog (2d)</b> | Ox  | C=O | Ox  | C=O | ≈ 15 min        | ✓        |
| <b>Phe<sup>2</sup>(Ox) Analog (2e)</b> | Ox  | C=O | C=O | Ox  | ≈ 26 min        | ✓        |

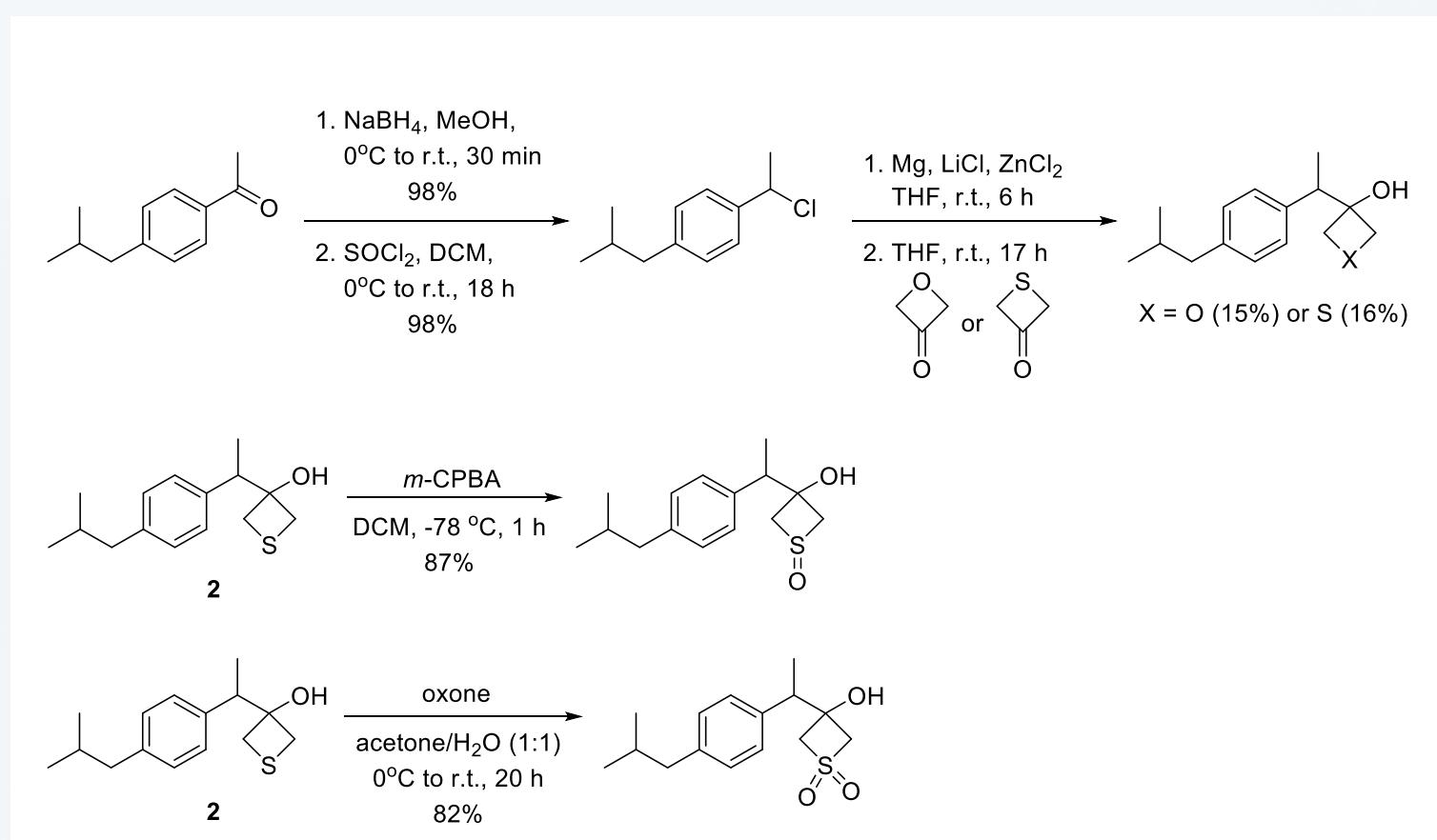


# Properties of 4-membered Heterocycle Isosteres

**Table 1. Calculated and Experimental Properties of Test Compounds**

| Cpd # | Structure | $\log D_{7.4}^a$ | $\log D_{7.4}$<br>calc. <sup>b</sup> | PAMPA                     |                          |                  | $pK_a^f$ | $pK_a$<br>calc. <sup>b</sup> | H bonding<br>$\ln(K_{eq})^g$ |
|-------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|----------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
|       |           |                  |                                      | $P_e$ (cm/s) <sup>c</sup> | % retention <sup>d</sup> | $\log P_{app}^e$ |          |                              |                              |
| 1     |           | -0.49<br>± 0.19* | -0.56*                               | 1.66E-06<br>± 3.48E-7*    | -6.8 ± 11*               | -5.79<br>± 0.10* | 4.64*    | 4.7*                         | 4.31*                        |
| 3     |           | 2.07             | 1.7                                  | 8.27E-06                  | -11.9                    | -5.08            | >12      | 13.5                         | 2.53                         |
| 4     |           | 2.99             | 2.28                                 | 1.32E-05                  | 11.4                     | -4.88            | >12      | 14.3                         | 2.40                         |
| 5     |           | 1.22             | 0.48                                 | 6.23E-06                  | 10.0                     | -5.21            | >12      | 14.2                         | 3.46                         |
| 6     |           | 1.24             | 0.58                                 | 1.22E-05                  | 10.7                     | -4.91            | 9.31     | 13.6                         | 3.76                         |
| 16    |           | ND               | 2.64                                 | ND                        | ND                       | ND               | ND       | 15.4                         | 1.62                         |

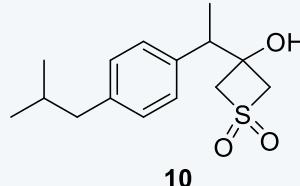
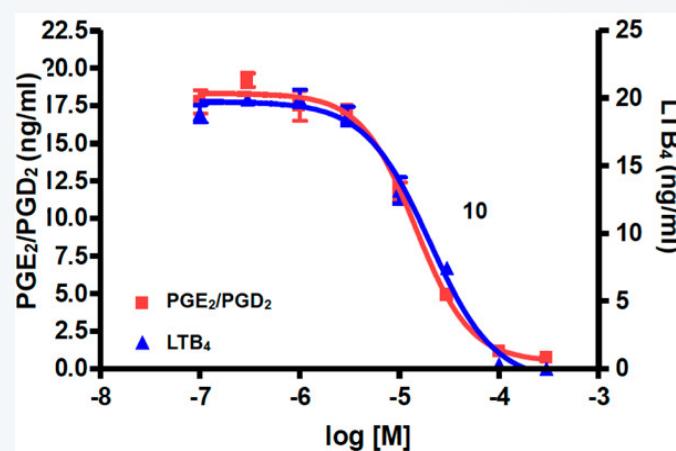
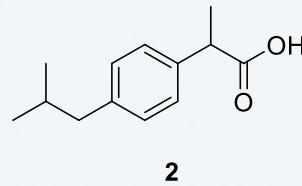
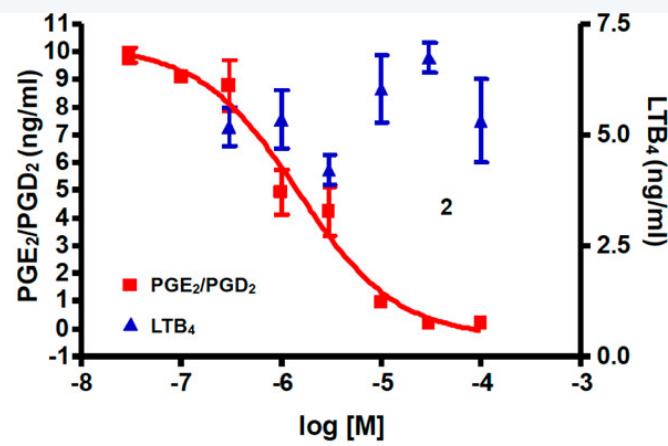




# 4-Membered Heterocycles in Ibuprofen Analogs

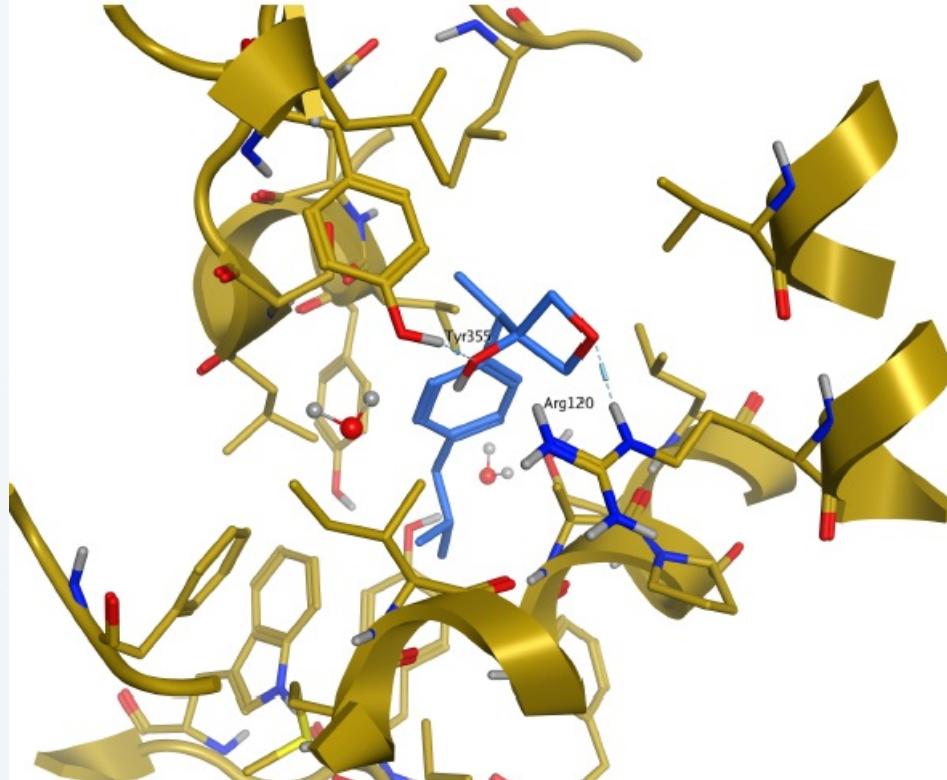
| Cmpd |  | PGE <sub>2</sub> /D <sub>2</sub> Assay IC <sub>50</sub> (μM) | LBT <sub>4</sub> Assay IC <sub>50</sub> (μM) |
|------|--|--|--|
| 2    |  | 0.6  | >100   |
| 17   |  | 31.8   | >100   |
| 18   |  | 28.1   | >100   |
| 7    |  | 34.1   | 8.4  |
| 8    |  | >100   | 7.6  |
| 9    |  | 17.4   | 11.7   |
| 10   |  | 14.6   | 20.2   |

# 4-Membered Heterocycles in Ibuprofen Analogs

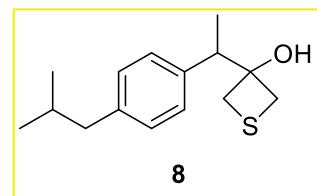
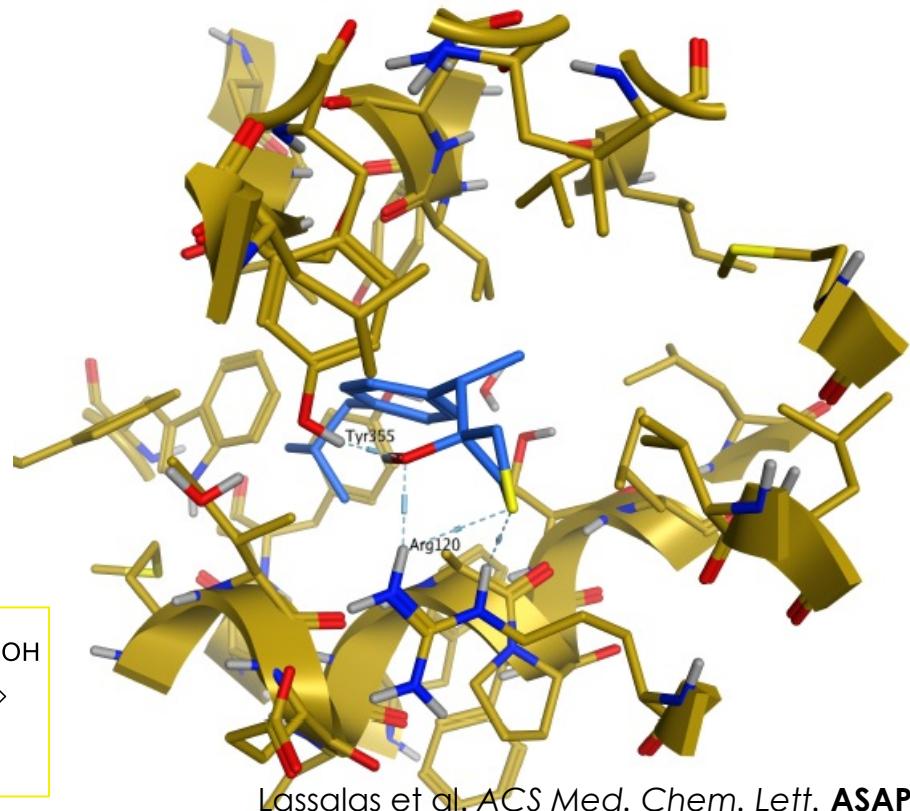
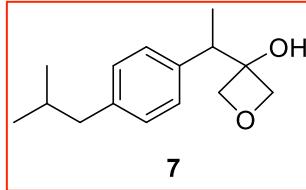


Concentration-response of inhibition of 5-LOX derived LTB<sub>4</sub> and COX-derived PGE<sub>2</sub>/PGD<sub>2</sub> by **2** (left) and **10** (right)

# Proposed binding modes

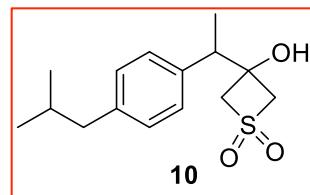
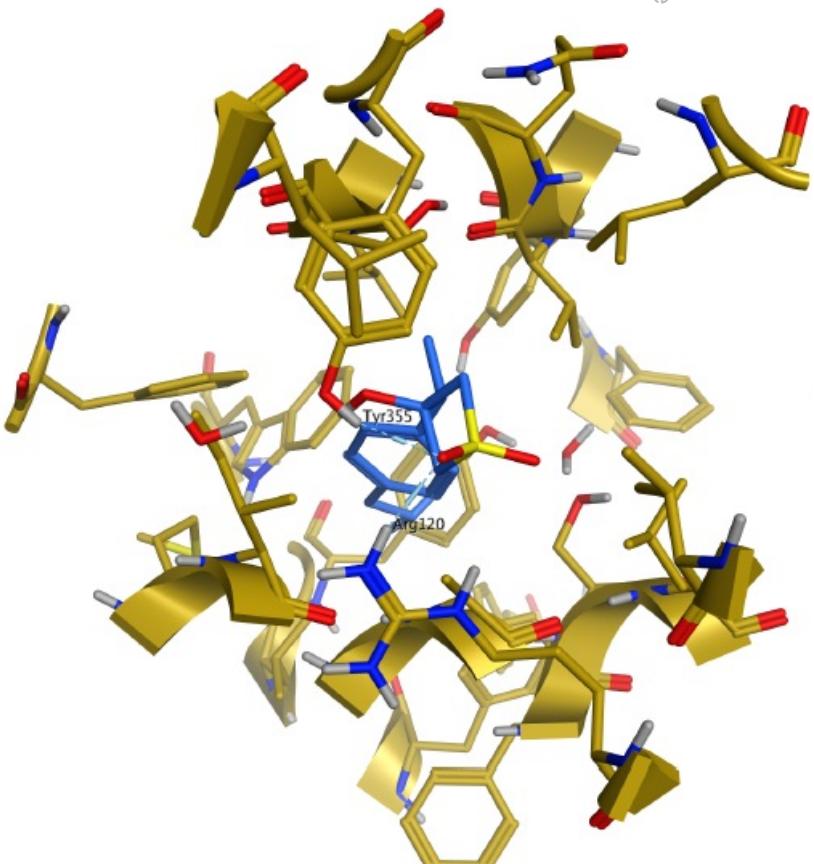
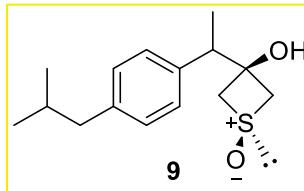
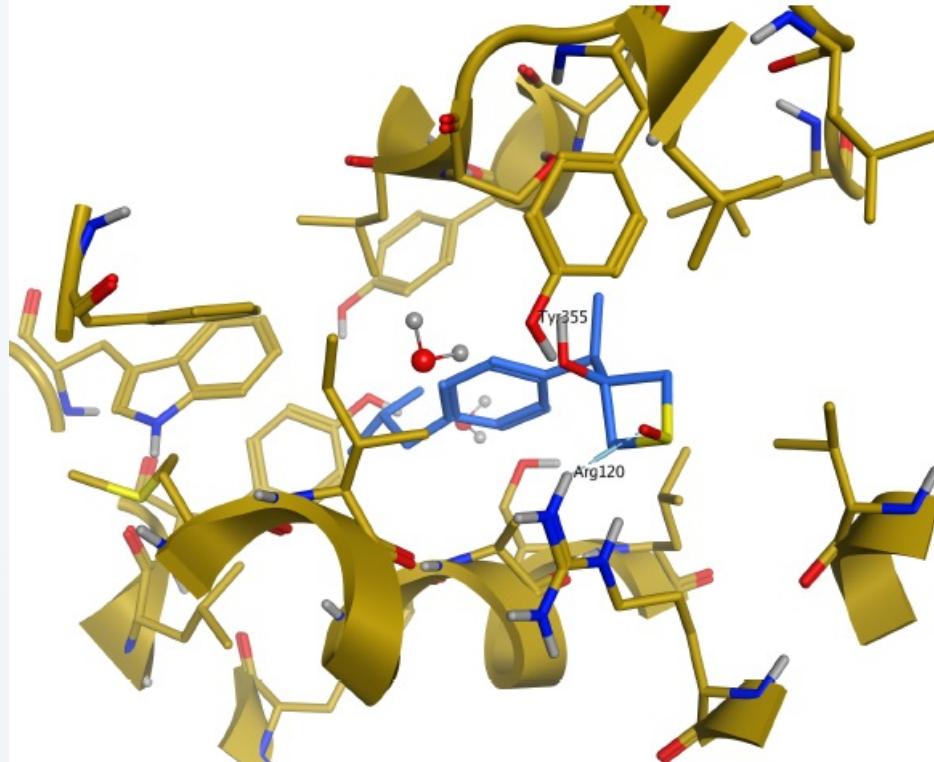


COX-1 crystal structure (PDB: 1EQG)



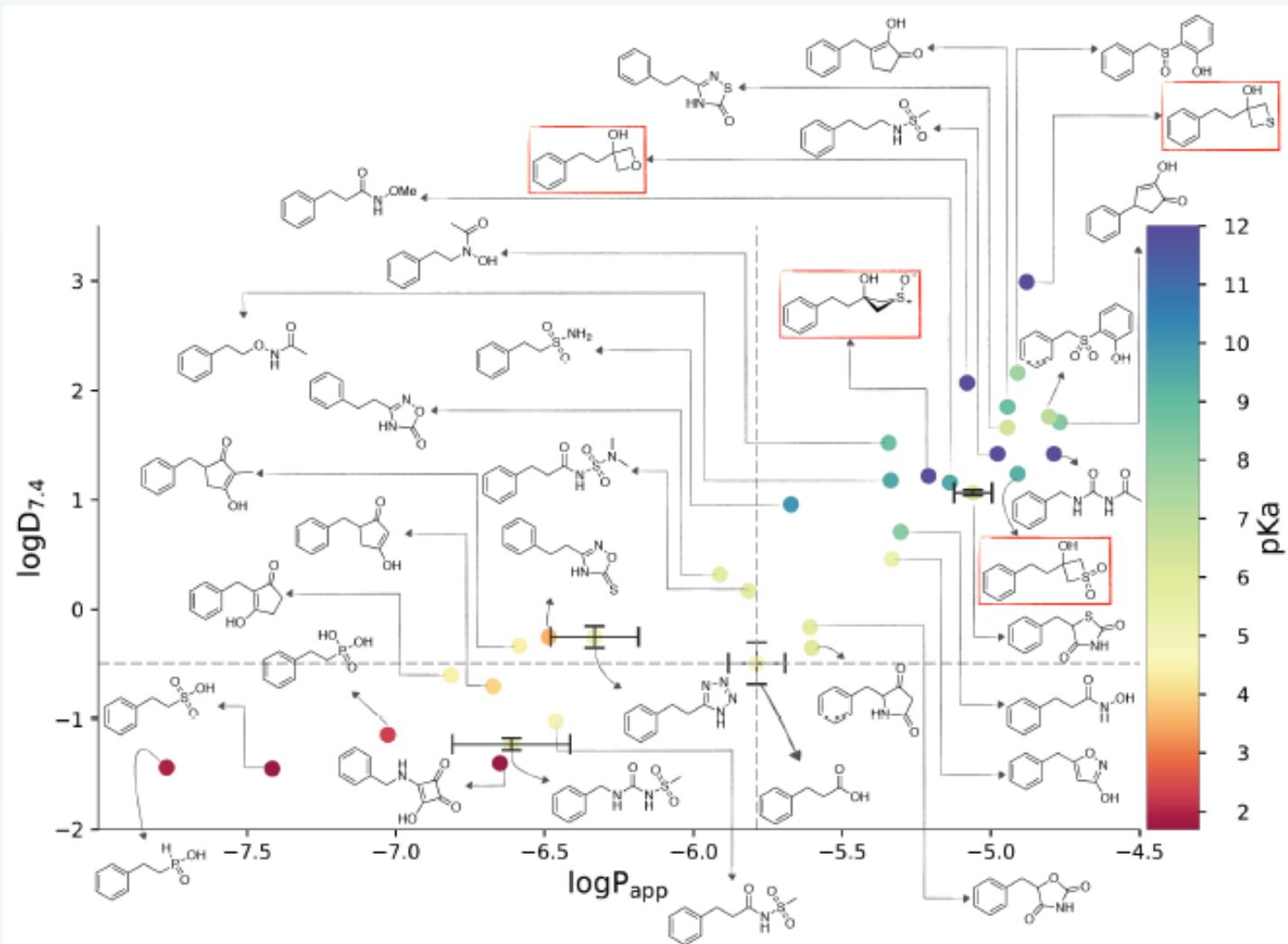
Lassalas et al. ACS Med. Chem. Lett. ASAP

# Proposed binding modes



COX-1 crystal structure (PDB: 1EQG)

# Isosteres of Carboxylic Acids



# Conclusions

- ▶ The 4-membered heterocyclic replacements of the carbonyl of carboxylic acids lead to improved lipophilicity and permeability
  - ▶ Decreased acidity
- ▶ All replacements show weaker H-bonding interactions
- ▶ Oxetan-3-ol and thietan-3-ol and related oxidized products can successfully act as bioisosteres of carboxylic acids
  - ▶ Potentially especially useful for CNS applications