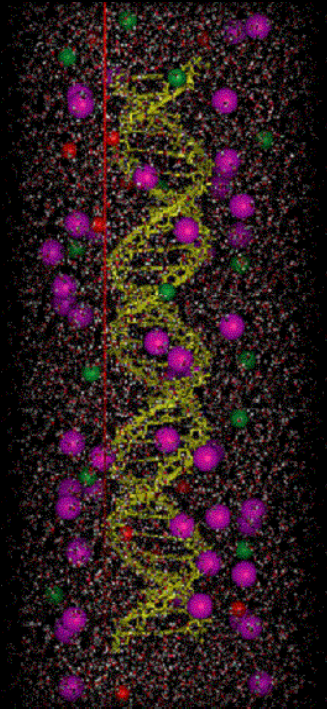


## DNA

predicts certain possible future health issues



### Entire genome sequence

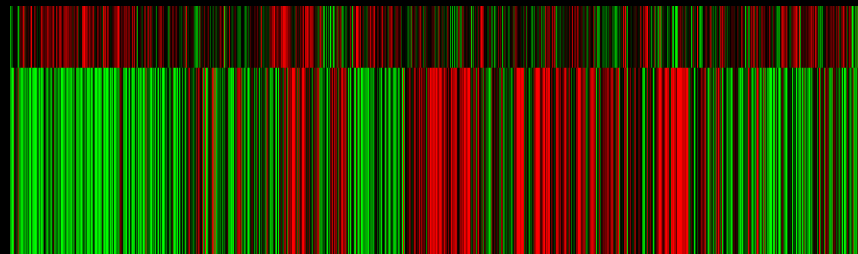
~\$50,000 today per patient

~\$1k in 5 yrs or so

(next-generation, non-PCR technologies)

## mRNA

Limited info concerning evolving health; advanced measurement technologies



### 100 element mRNA panels (Genomic Health breast cancer)

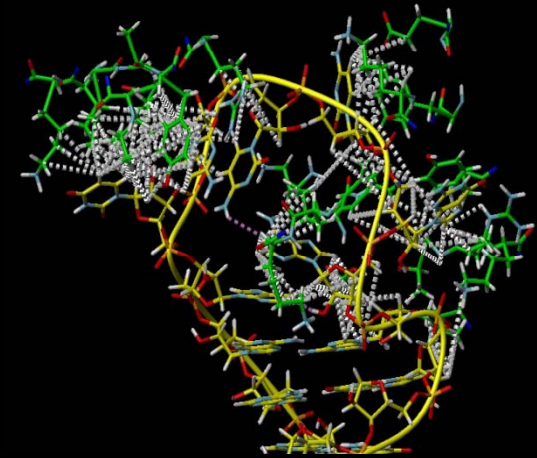
~\$2k for patient

Actual cost ~20 cents / mRNA  
(PCR based)

qPCR (quantitative) costs more

## proteins

Potentially comprehensive information concerning evolving health;



### Pauciparameter

PSA, CA125, troponins

\$50 per protein for patient

Actual cost ~\$25

(antibody based)



# Strategy # III:

## Measure Biological Function

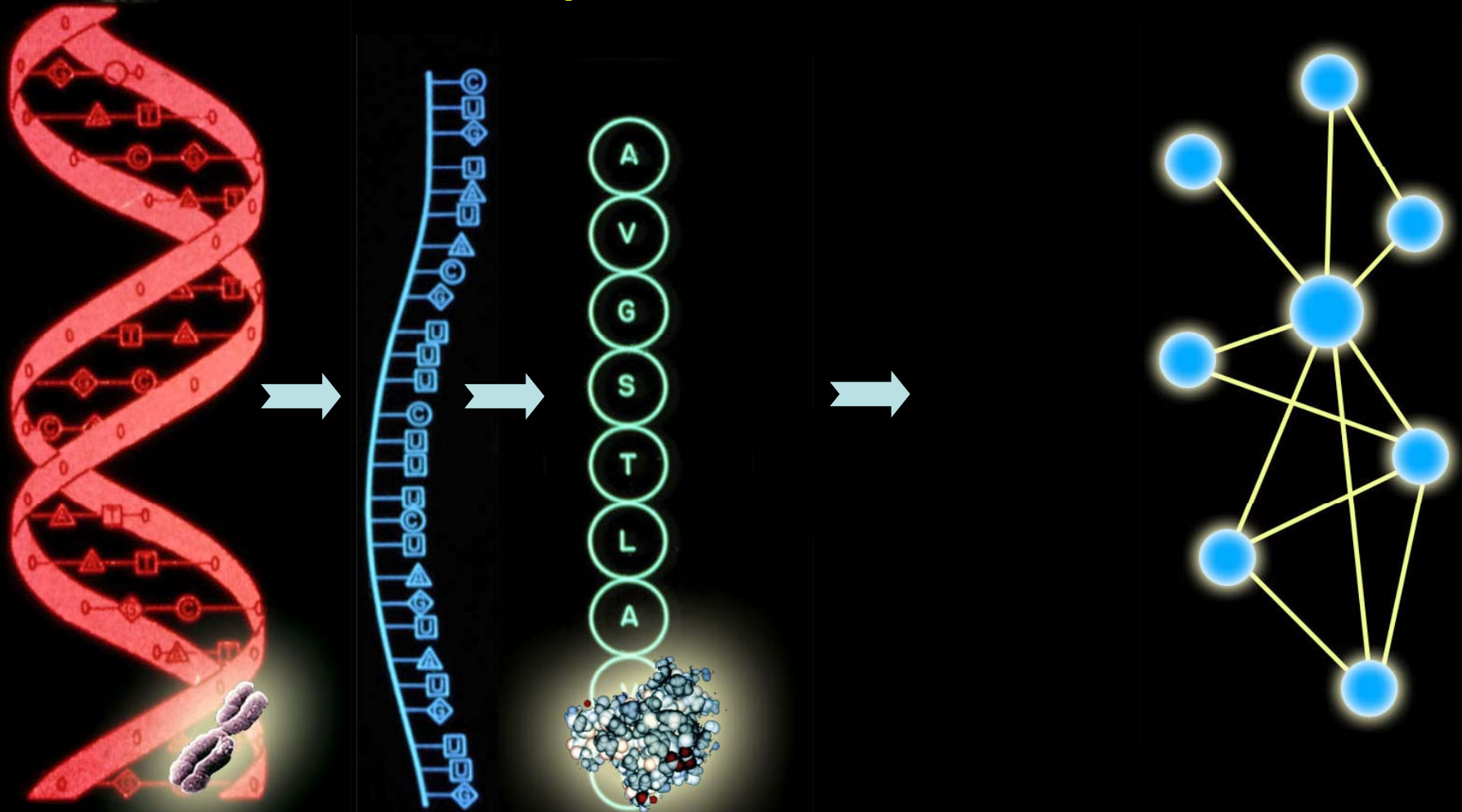
(this is the hardest)

DNA

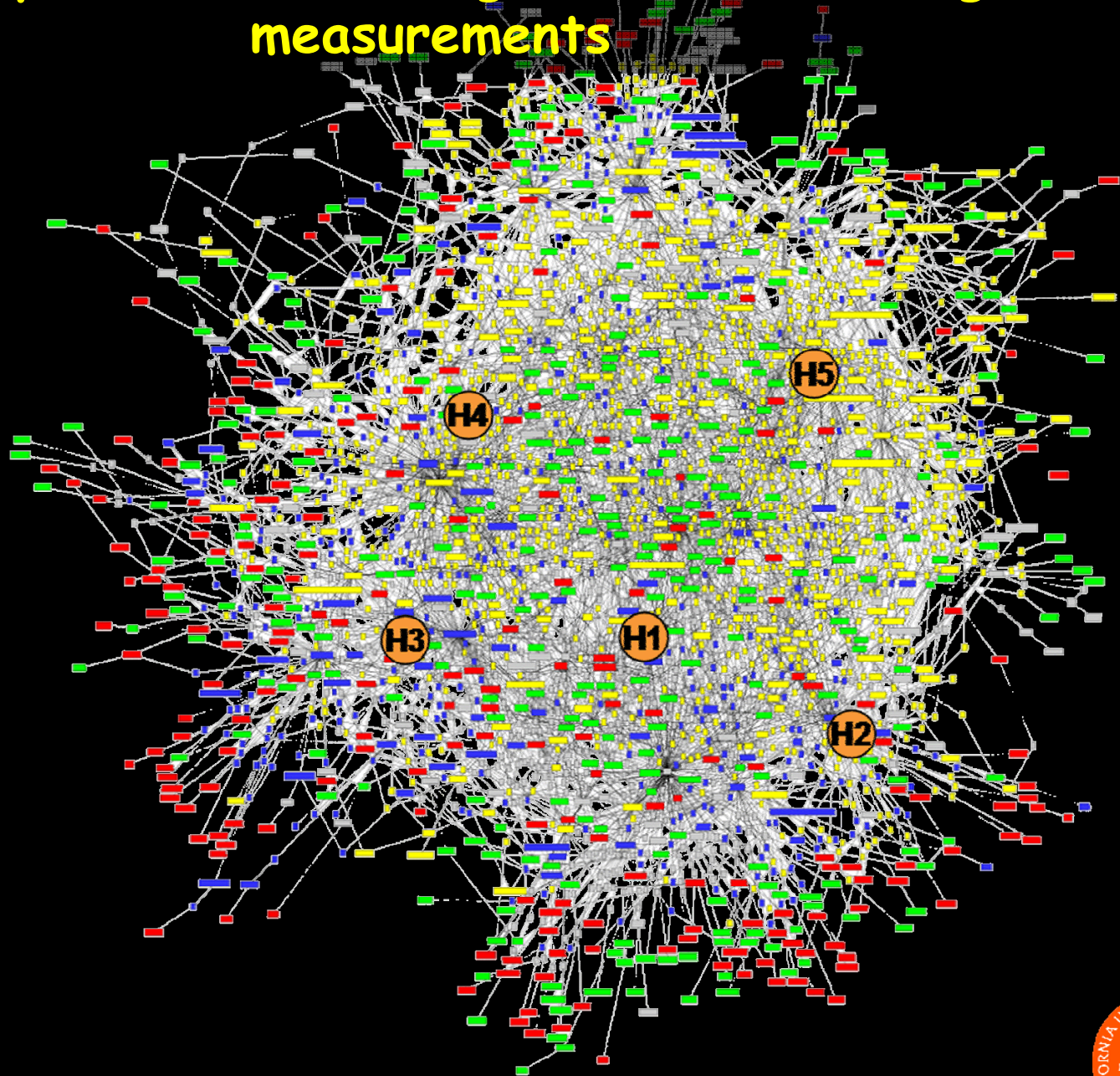
mRNA

protein

Network



# Network Hypotheses from large-scale mRNA & genomic measurements







Can we reduce representations like this into a few (<100) proteins worth measuring to achieve a diagnosis?



# The blood proteome: The richest window into health & disease

~100,000 different proteins  
(including post-translational modifications)  
Concentrations range from  
 $10^{-3}\text{M}$  to  $10^{-17}\text{M}$

How we use this is evolving  
into a very high technology,  
with design automation  
playing roles in many  
aspects



# Conventional Blood protein measurement

Extract ~5 ml blood

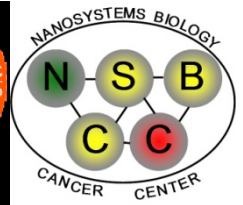


Centrifuge to separate plasma or serum

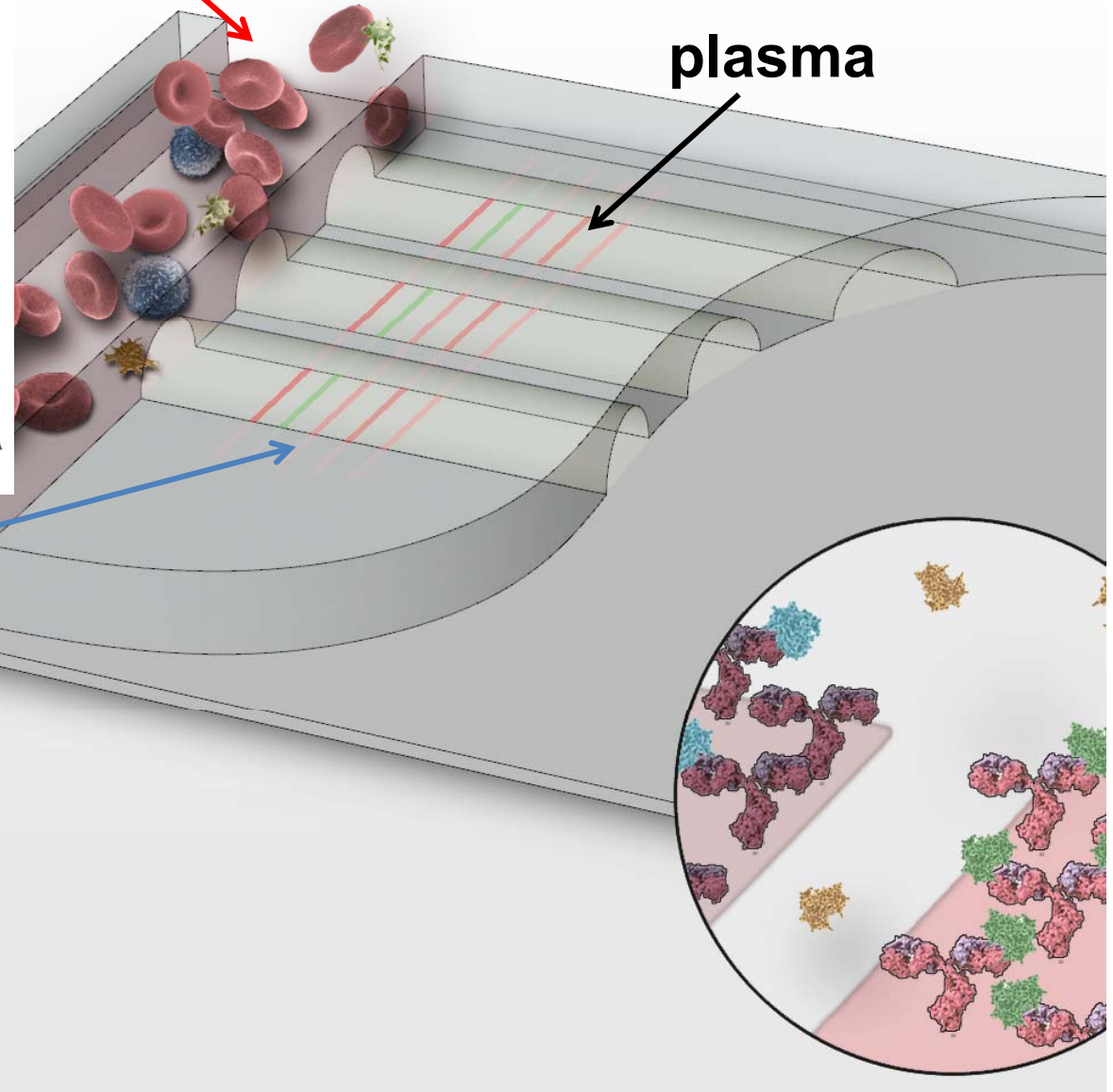
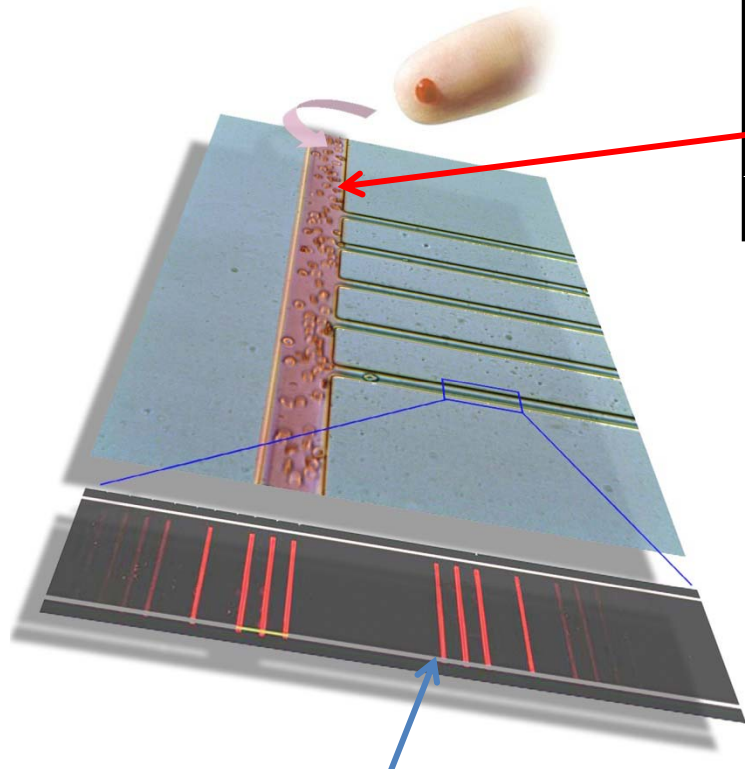
Measure proteins in 96 well plate



- *Slow (few hours);*
- *human intervention (costly)*
- *not comfortable for patient*
- *Doesn't scale to lots of proteins*
- *Lacks sensitivity & dynamic range*



**Whole-blood**



**Antibody-barcode**

**Heath group;  
Nature Biotech; 2008**



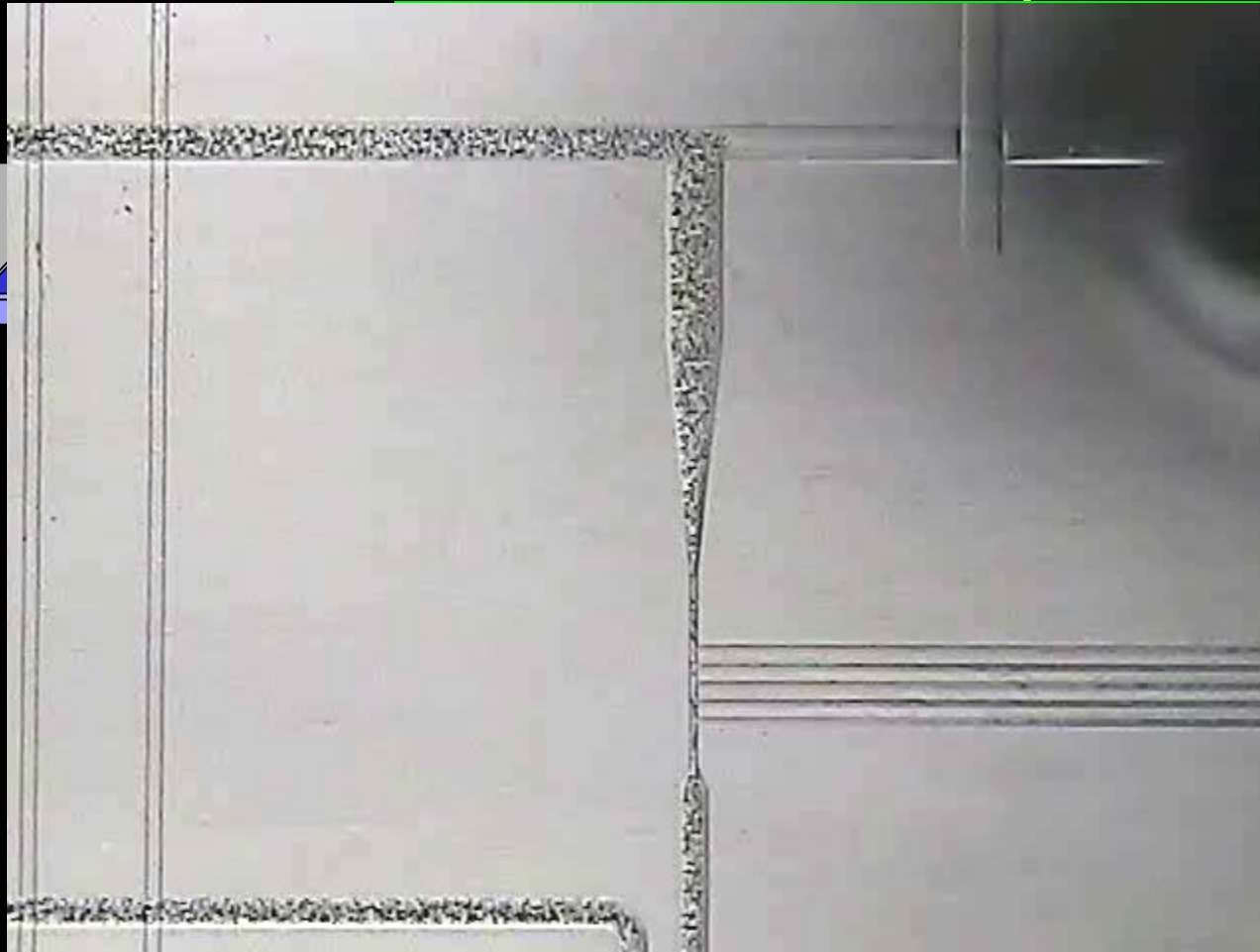
# Separating Plasma from whole blood



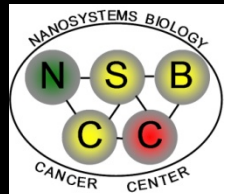
Dr. Brian Yen & Ophir Vermesh



Blood  
& tissue  
handling

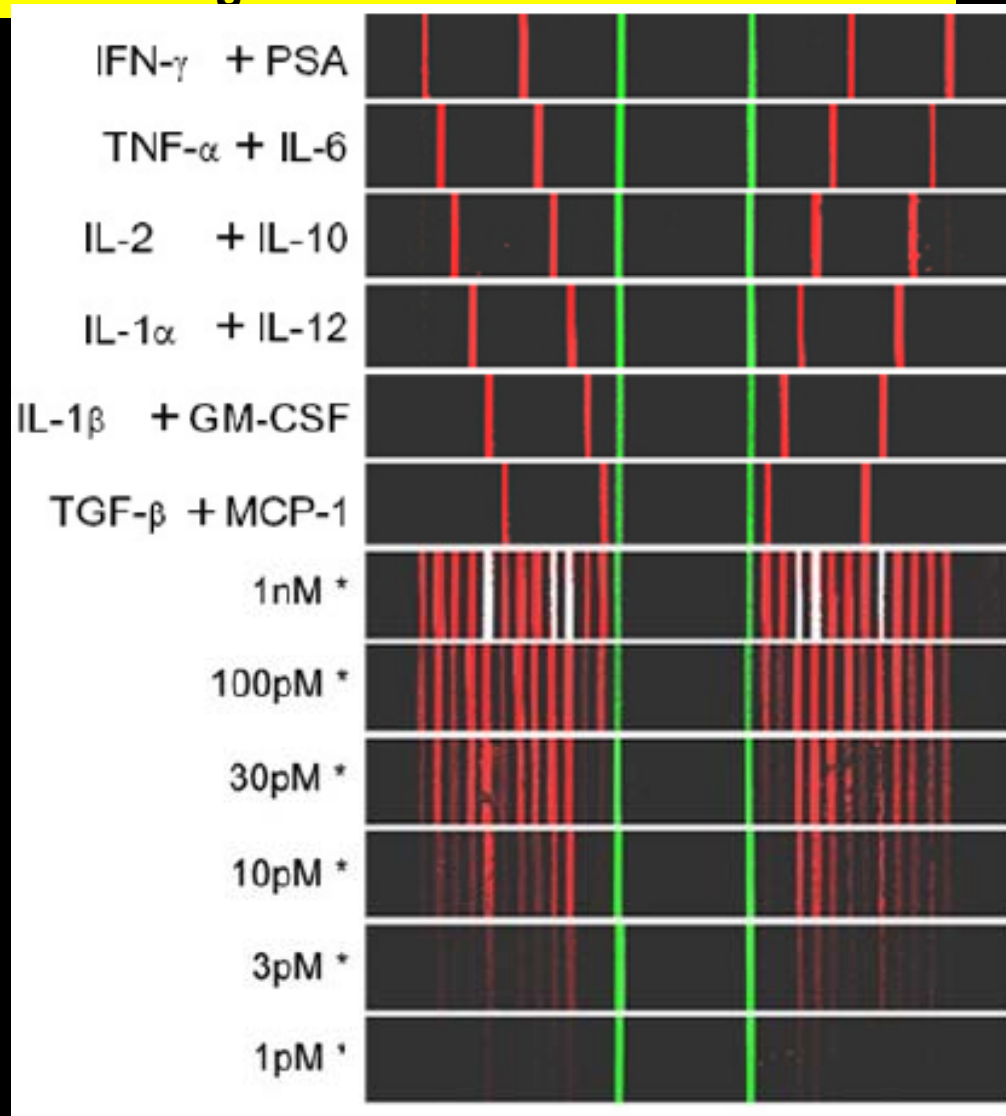


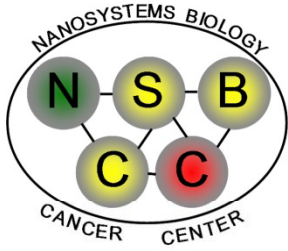
Assay region



Technology must be simple, robust, quantitative and accurate to 10% on a log scale

Required for commercialization  
AND for using devices in clinical trials  
AND for using devices to learn new science





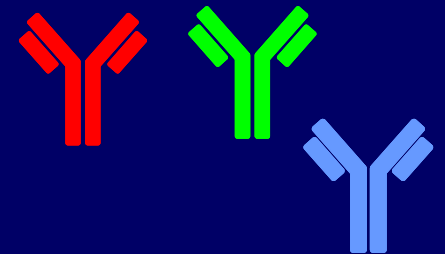
## Robotics for chip manufacture 2<sup>nd</sup> installations (one at UCLA to support clinical trials)



Habib Amad

40 chips per day  
6 fingerpricks per chip  
20 proteins per fingerprick  
\$500 total cost  
Or 10 cents/protein

Cost is limited by  
antibodies

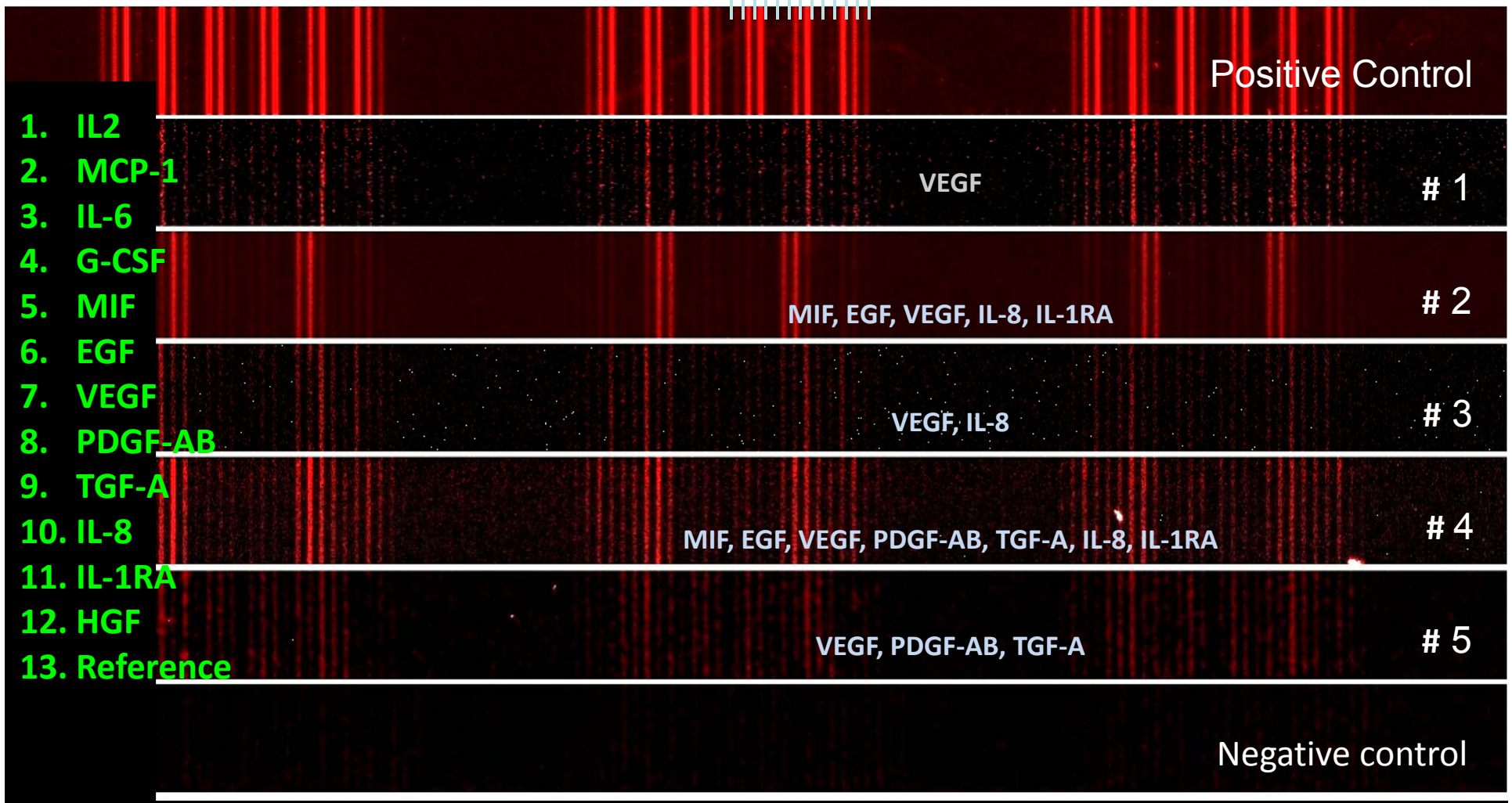




# Glioblastoma Patient Trial

Biomarkers 1 to 12

Patient ID



## Electronic Design Automation

What is the basis for the panels of biomarkers?

1. Literature: provides 4 or 5 potential protein biomarkers
2. Deep transcriptome analysis to identify genes that are expressed only in the brain: provides ~100 protein biomarkers
3. As many (or more than) 100,000 measurements carried out on specific patient's tissue (surgically resected): provides ~ 20 protein biomarkers

Measurements carried out as a function of time, cell type, molecular (drug) perturbation, etc., on proteins, mRNAs, genes, etc.

The ideal panel may vary from patient to patient, and putting it together can be beyond an individual's capacity to mine data.

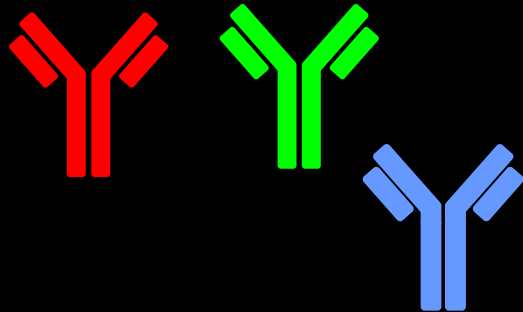
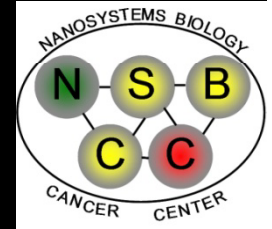




We need algorithms that can take many (perhaps  $10^8$ ), diverse experimental measurements and utilize them to back out:

- A hypothesis for how the system works
- How the system has been perturbed by disease
- A few measurements we can make that will reflect the state of the system

# The biggest protein-measurement bottleneck: Protein Capture Agents



Antibodies can cost ~\$500 per milligram

They are chemically, biochemically, and physically unstable

Can cost ~\$10<sup>4</sup>-\$10<sup>5</sup> to develop

Keeping a panel of ~20 antibody pairs stable for a 20 protein blood assay can cost as much as the antibodies themselves

A 100 protein (antibody) assay would be almost impossibly expensive to maintain



# Pasadena test for a Protein Capture Agent



**Rosemary Rohde &  
Heather Agnew**

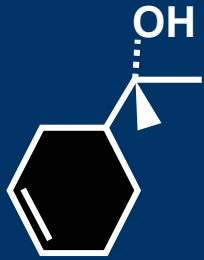
**Store, as a powder, in your car trunk on an August day in Pasadena  
Retrieve one year later  
Capture agent still exhibits antibody-like selectivity and sensitivity**

**Technology must be adaptable to high throughput manufacturing**



# Protein Capture Agents

## Chemically prepared libraries



**chemical space & molecular size are trade-offs** – e.g. a comprehensive 6-mer (short) peptide library constructed from 18 artificial amino acids is >30M compounds – a barely manageable number

**Stability, solubility, etc., can be built in**

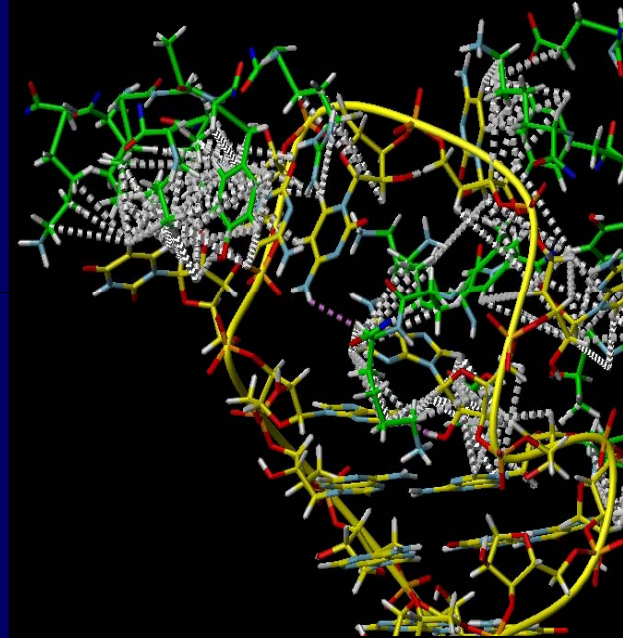
## Biologics



**chemical space & molecular size are both achievable**

**Stability, solubility, etc., are generally not achieved**

**Antibody-like affinities and selectivities (from artificial peptide-like capture agents) requires the sampling of comprehensive chemical space for a 25-30-mer peptide constructed from 18-22 amino acids, over multiple generations**



# Manufacturable & Stable Protein Capture Agents

## Requirements of a good strategy

- Simple & robust chemistry
- **Comprehensive chemical space & high molecular weight**
- Capture agent stability built-in at the start
- **Prior knowledge about protein target IS NOT required**
- **Entire scheme may be automated**

And..

**Antibodies: start → finish 24 – 36 weeks**

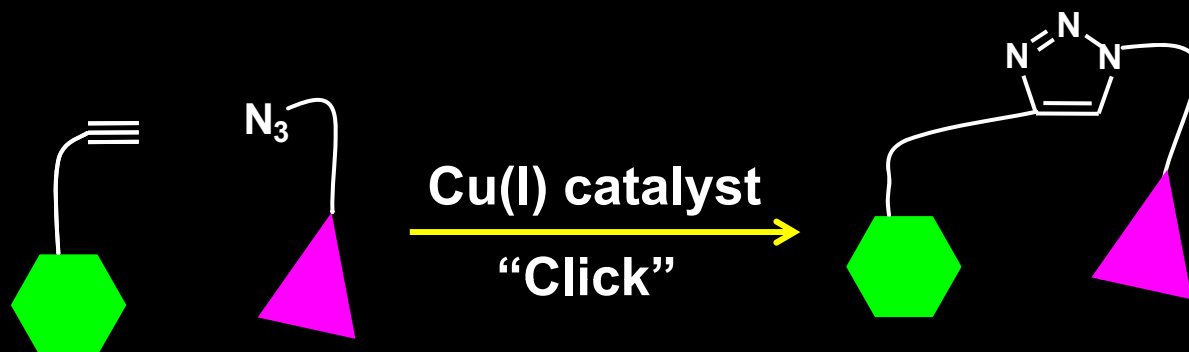
**Capture agents: start → finish 2-3 weeks**

# A novel approach to Small Molecule Inhibitors



Very reliable chemistry (Huisgen 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition)

R. Huisgen, G. Szeimies, L. Möbius, *Chem. Ber.* **1967**, *100*, 2494–2507.



**K. Barry  
Sharpless**



H. C. Kolb, M. G. Finn, K. B. Sharpless, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed.* **2001**, *40*, 2004–2021.




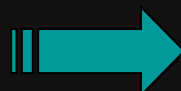
# A novel approach to Small Molecule Inhibitors

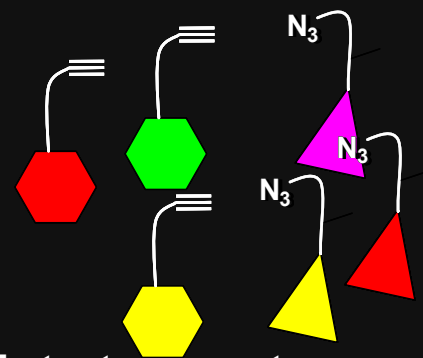


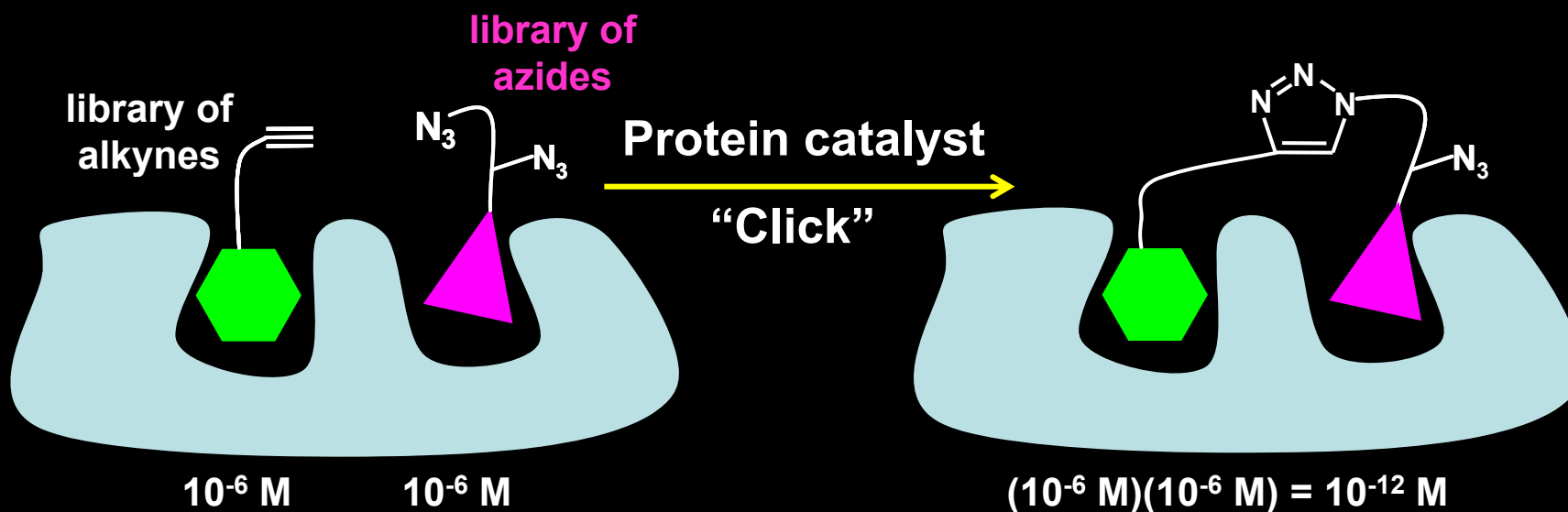
K. Barry Sharpless



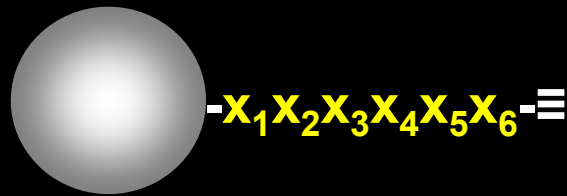
  
a small molecule drug



  
Split into two parts  
Make a library of each part

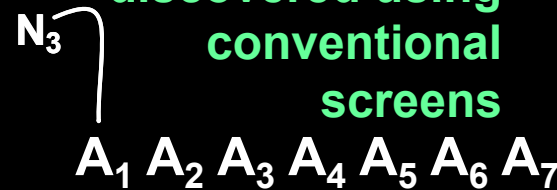


**10<sup>8</sup> element** bead-based  
6-mer peptide library built  
from artificial and non-  
natural amino acids



$x_i$  = artificial or non-  
natural amino acid  
 $i=1-18$

An azide terminated  
7-mer peptide  
anchor ligand  
discovered using  
conventional  
screens



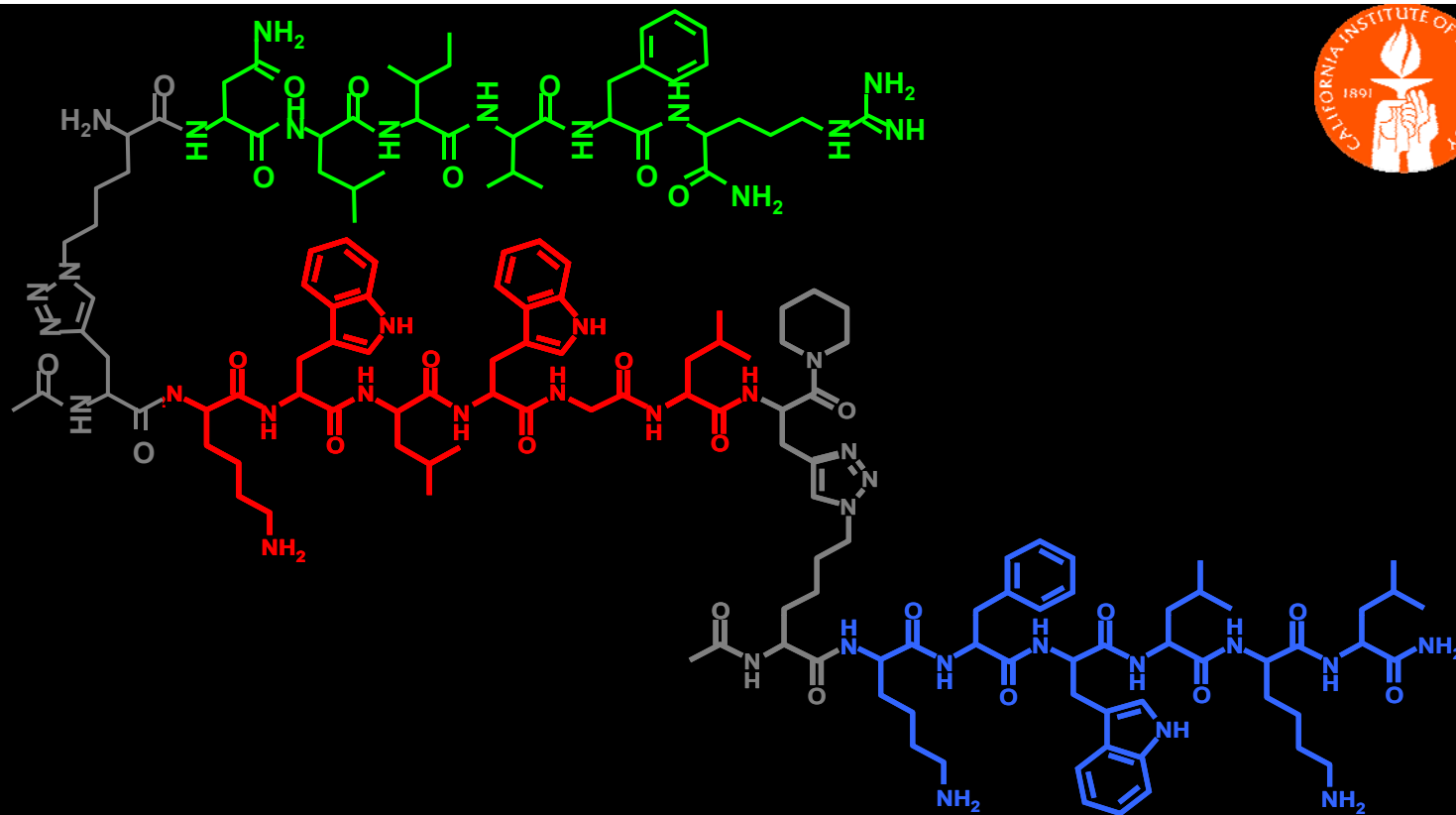
Protein target



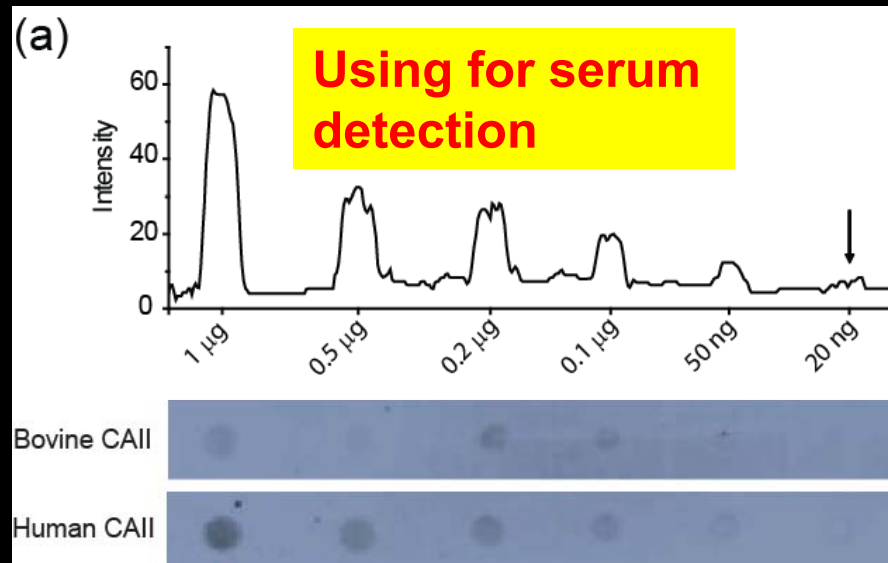
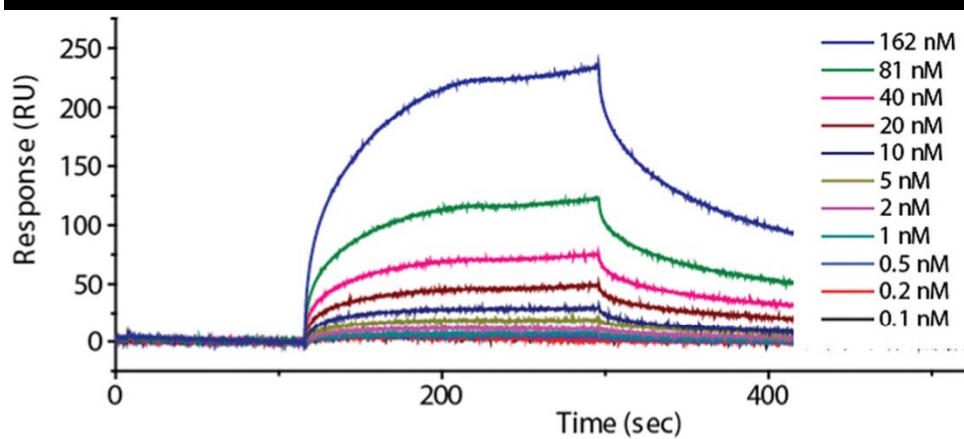
Protein + anchor ligand incubated with large peptide (bead) library

Protein couples best library peptides with anchor ligand by  
catalyzing formation of triazole

A biligand is formed. That biligand may be used to form a  
triligand, which can be used to form a tetraligand, etc...



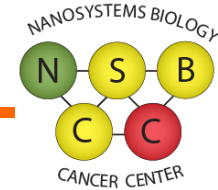
## Human CAII (40 nM affinity)



1) 150



# Making the approach high throughput

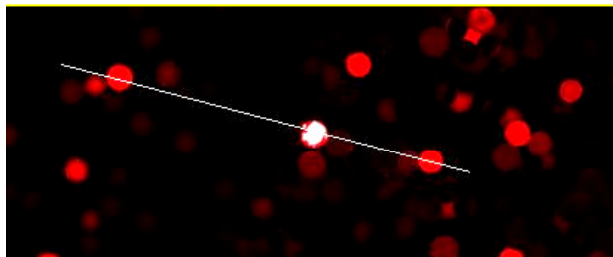


1. Make 34 million peptides, one peptide per bead

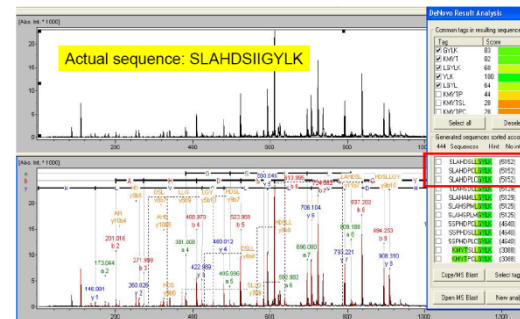
24 hr = 1 library (only make once)



2. Incubate with fluorescently labeled protein: 4 hours



3. Identify 100 hit beads: 4 hours



5. Make focused peptide library, and repeat 2-4  
26 hrs

~2-3 days to identify an anchor peptide

4. Single bead peptide sequencing to identify hits: MALDI TOF/TOF  
~4 hours

protein → multi-ligand → 1-2 weeks



