

# Informatics in Drug Discovery

Workshop on a “Drug Discovery” Approach to Breakthroughs in  
Batteries

September 8-9, Cambridge

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Group Leader / Senior Information Consultant, Eli Lilly and Company

The logo for Eli Lilly, featuring the word "Lilly" in a red, cursive script font.

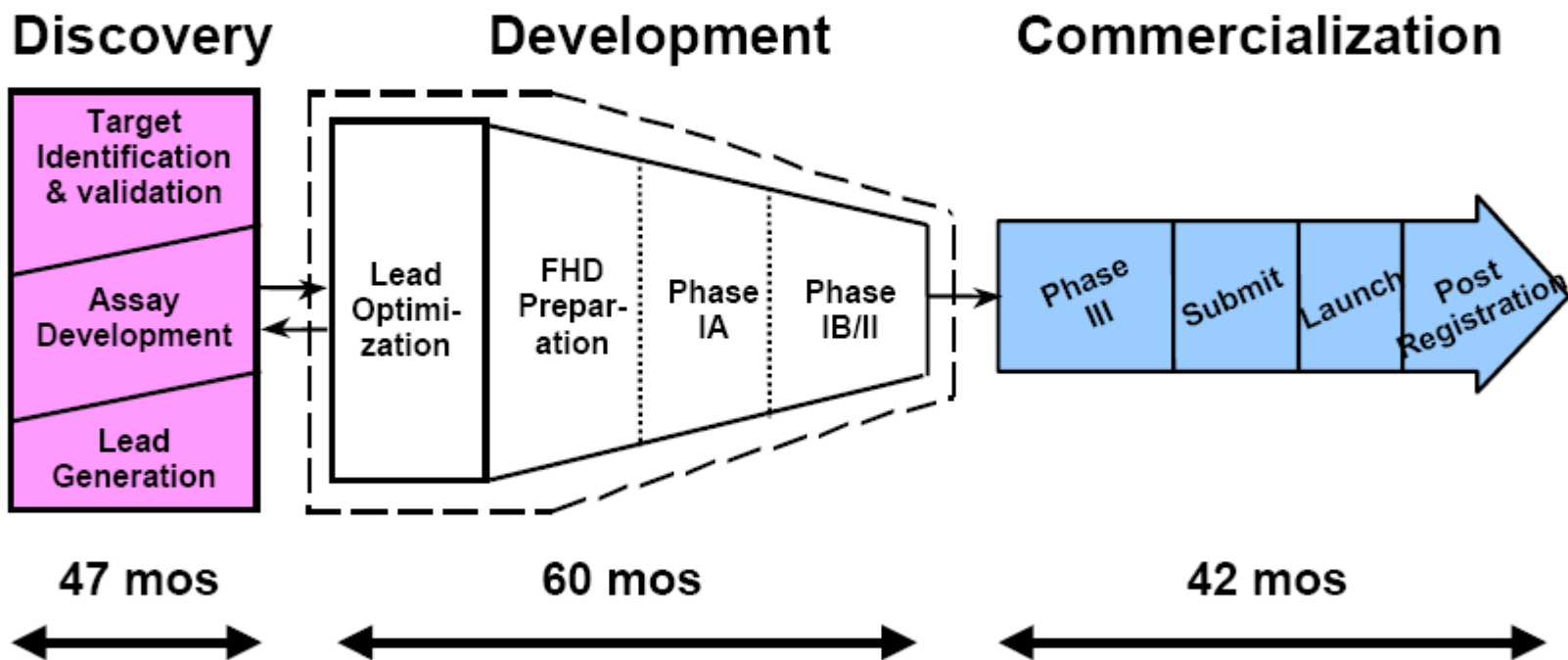
Answers That Matter.

# Overview

- Brief overview of drug development
- QSAR – quantitative structure activity relationships
- Combinatorial synthesis
- Microarrays
- Data integration
- Phenotypic screening
- Managing research

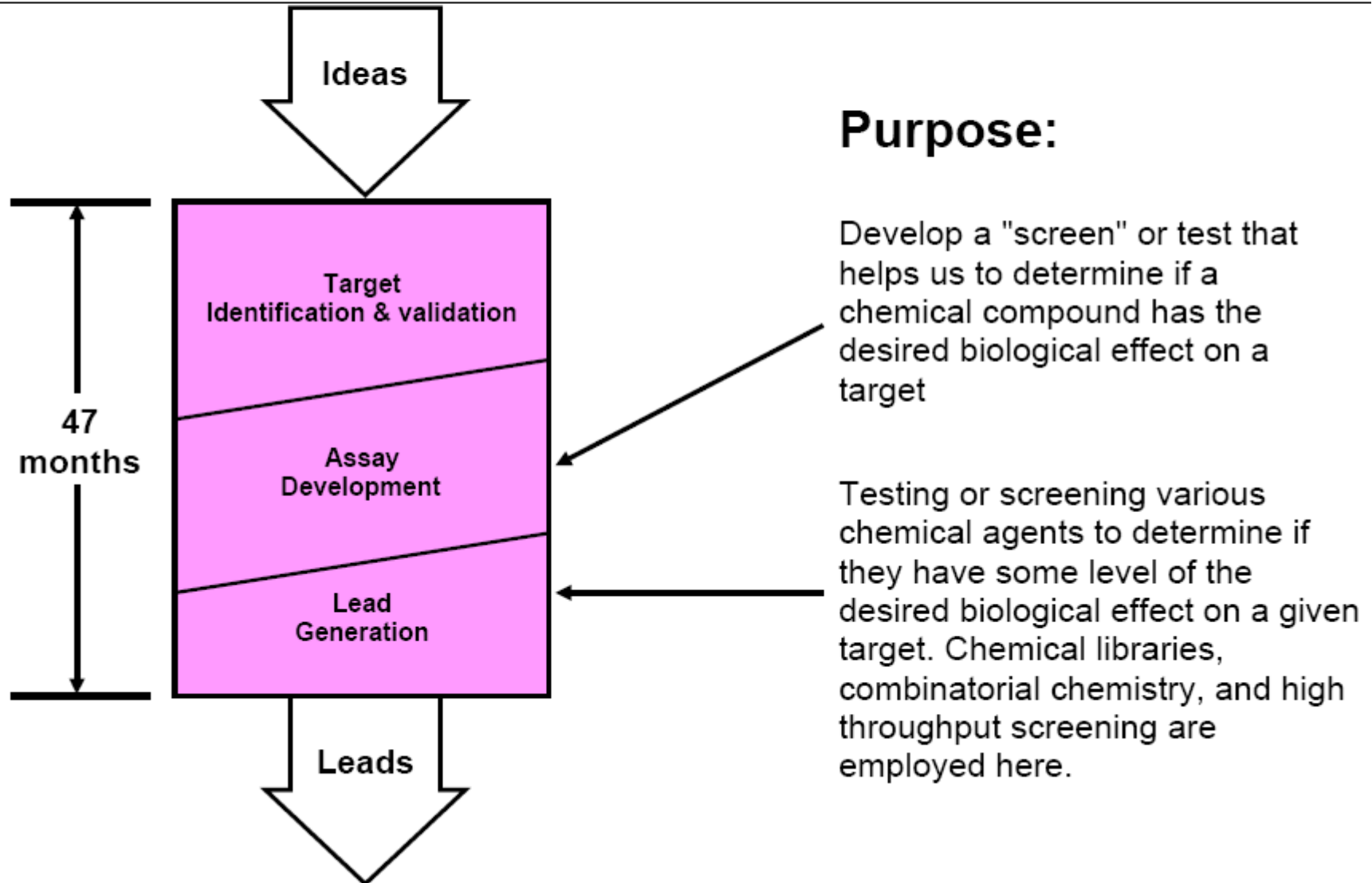
# Our Development Process – The "Rocketship"

## From Targets to Products

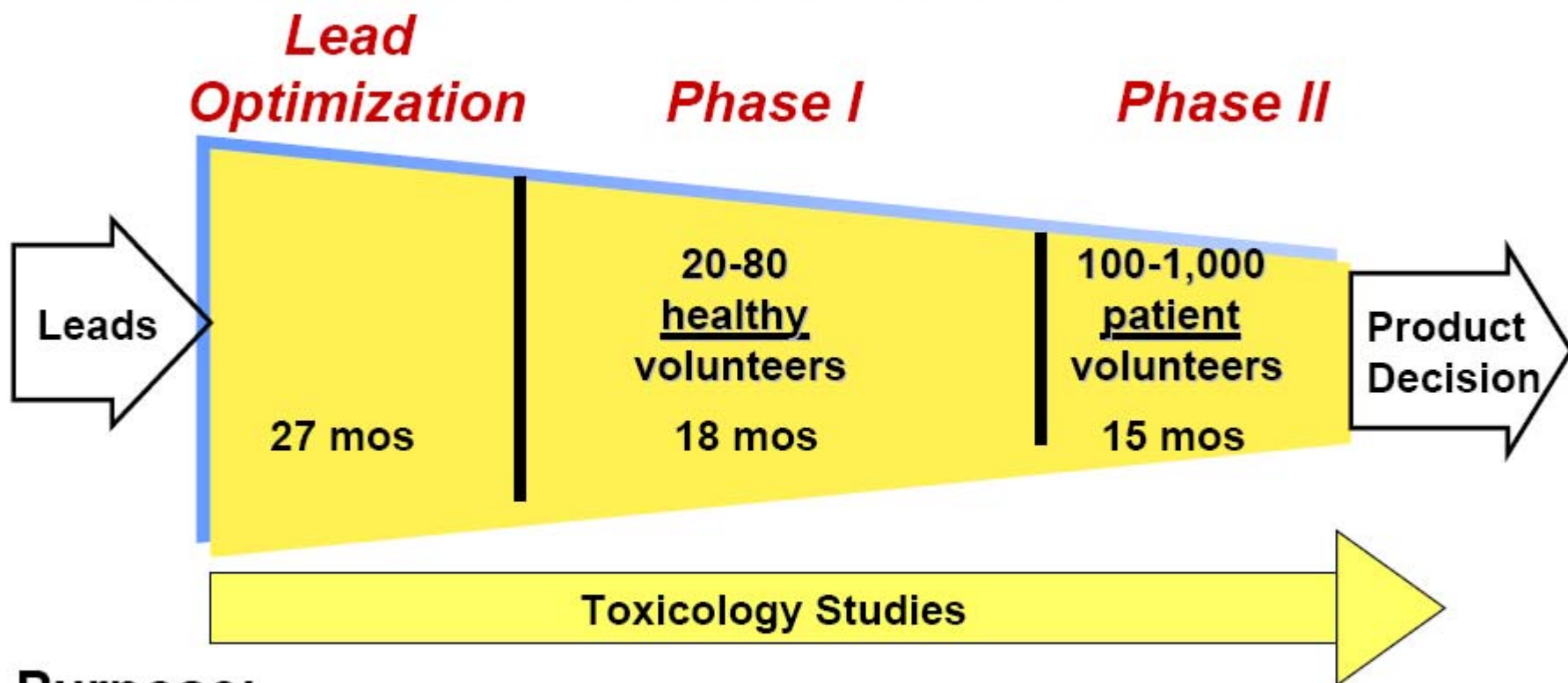


Our development process takes on average about 12 years to go from targets to products with an overall probability of success of about 2%

# Discovery - Targets to Leads



# Development – Leads to Product Decision



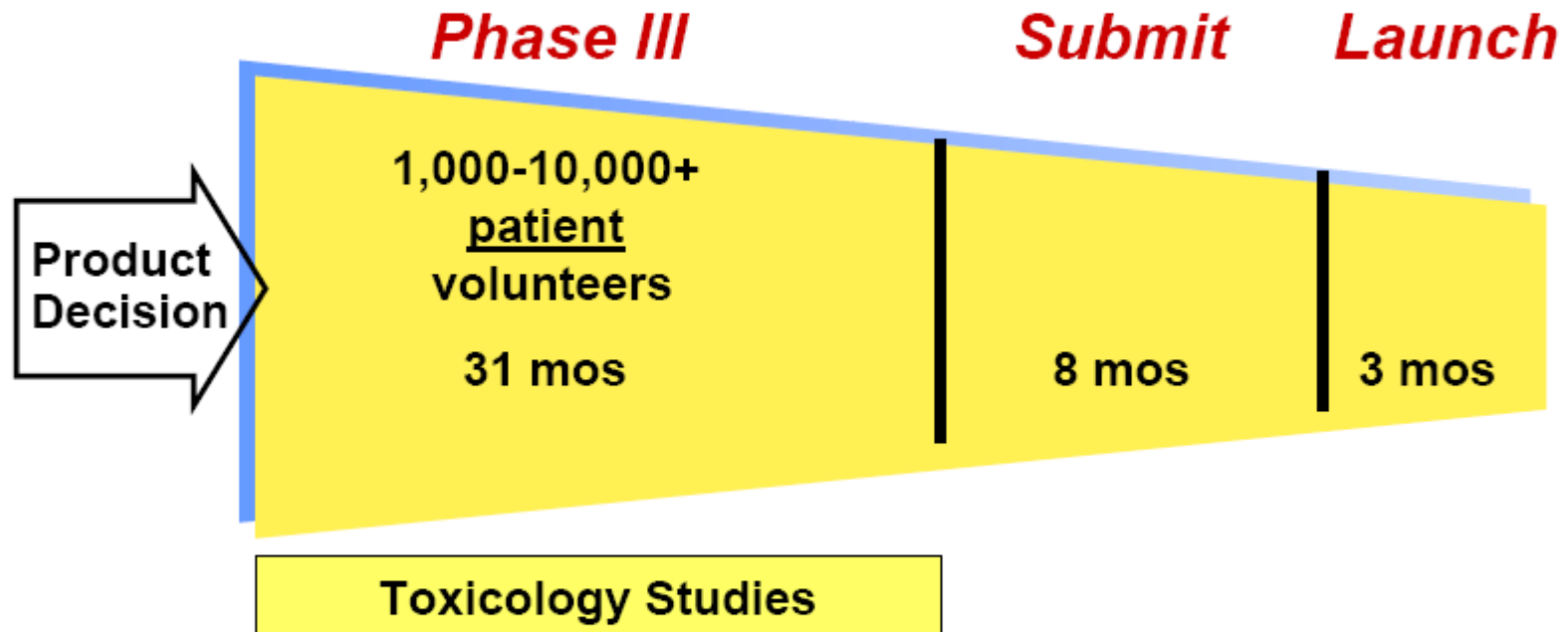
## Purpose:

Lead compounds refined and optimized to give a **drug candidate** prior to going into humans. Tox, ADME, and PK studies begin.

First human dose is administered. Small doses given to healthy volunteers to test tolerance, safety, and dosing.

First efficacy dose given. Looking for therapeutic response and possible side effects. Most perilous time - approx. 75% will fail in Phase II.

# Commercialization – Product Decision to Launch



## Purpose:

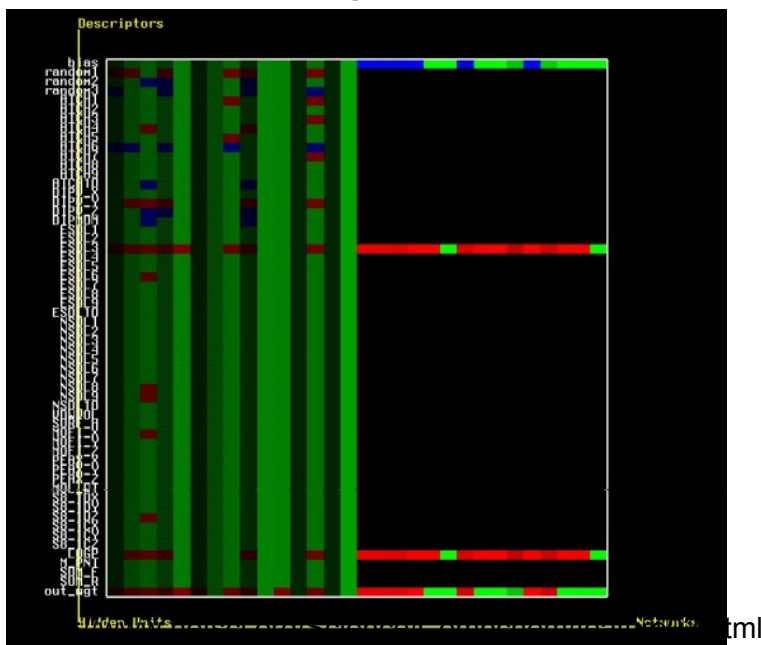
Biggest dollar spend as we study efficacy in thousands of patients worldwide to support a launch. Performance is often evaluated versus competitive drugs. Registration documents are prepared and submitted.

Dialogue with FDA during regulatory review process.

First approval and launch. Followed quickly by approval and launch in many other countries.

# QSAR: Quantitative Structure Activity Relationship

- ~1990 – Have a set (10s) of molecules with an activity measure against an assay. Chemically intuitive descriptors are used to describe the molecules. Linear models used to find relationship between descriptors and activity.
- Could not realistically predict activity in new chemical spaces, but chemists could learn which descriptors would drive changes in activity and synthesize new
- Chemists would focus on synthesizing molecules that would vary those descriptors the most since they would presumably have the most effect on activity and the understanding of the chemical space.



This figure shows using an artificial neural network for variable selection in QSAR. The weights of a different neural network are shown in each column, with the descriptors that were included in the reduced set on the right hand side. Green colors indicate weights near 0 and red or blue indicate positive or negative values. Note that several random inputs were used and these were then used to filter (prune) other inputs to build the smaller set of descriptors.

There are now companies that specialize in the model building, e.g. <http://www.leadscope.com>

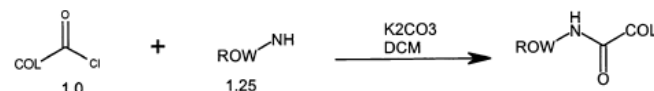
# High Throughput Screening

- Mid 90's – large pharma gets involved in HTS
- Assumptions:
  - If we screen enough compounds, we will find new drugs.
  - *In vitro* assay is a good measure for affecting the target.
  - We understand biology enough to know that modifying the target will have the desired effect on human disease.
- Reality:
  - Too many “hits”.
  - Hits were often not drug-like molecules.
  - Too many of the “hits” were false positives.
  - Impurities could cause the activity.
- Currently:
  - Don't screen blindly.
  - Save screening until once there is a starting point.
  - Informatics used to select a diverse library of compounds.



# Combinatorial Synthesis: chemical reactions in plates

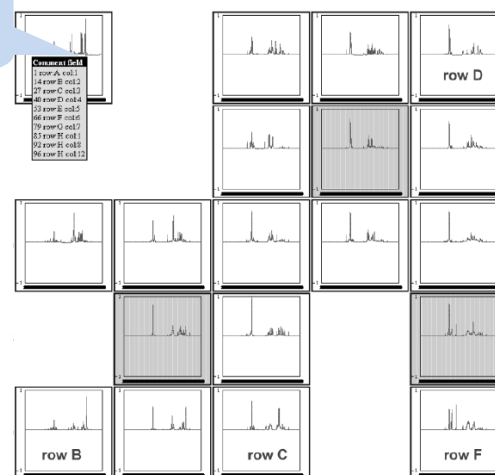
- Rapidly generate novel compounds with defined chemistry for screening
- Each row and each column has 1 compound
  - 8 + 12 starting compounds produce 96 new compounds
- Use flow NMR to verify structure each well
  - Identifies outlier spectra to show undesired products, impurities, etc.
  - Many of these can be generated and it takes a trained NMR spectroscopist to interpret the spectra.
  - Tedious
- Informatics used to speed up and simplify the interpretation of NMR spectra by grouping similar spectra
  - outliers to go corners



Doped impurities

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A												
B												
C												
D												
E												
F												
G												
H												

Spectra with impurities cluster together



# Microarrays / Gene Chips

## What are Microarrays?

- Measure the expression level of essentially all the genes in a single sample
- Each chip has 30,000-50,000 probes: each can be a separate experiment
- Compare normal sample to treated sample
- Cannot simply use a pvalue for filtering: 10,000 experiments with a pvalue of 0.01 → 100 false positives

## How to interpret so many results?

- Biologists are the experts in their therapeutic area – not informatics
- Often very familiar with a handful of genes and pathways
- 1000s of probesets changing
  - Easy to generate 1000s of hypotheses!
- Hypotheses can change based on arbitrary filtering criteria – much subjectivity
- Subjectivity makes it hard to know when one is done analyzing the data







# Incorporating biology can change assumptions about filtering

We know biological changes are occurring, therefore, a good selection of genes should yield more significant biological groups.

## Ranking

pvalue : fold change : signal change

standard method (~2005):

pvalue (False discovery rate) < x

|fc| > 1.2

|signal change| > 250

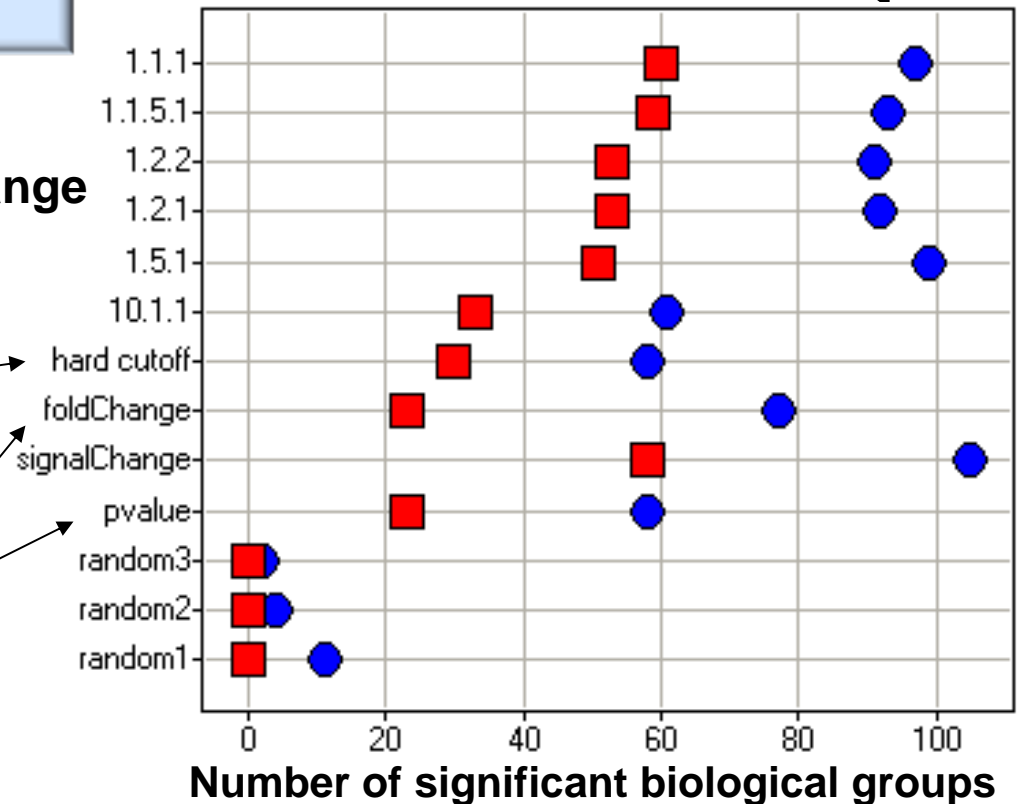
standard method (~2000):

pvalue < ~0.01

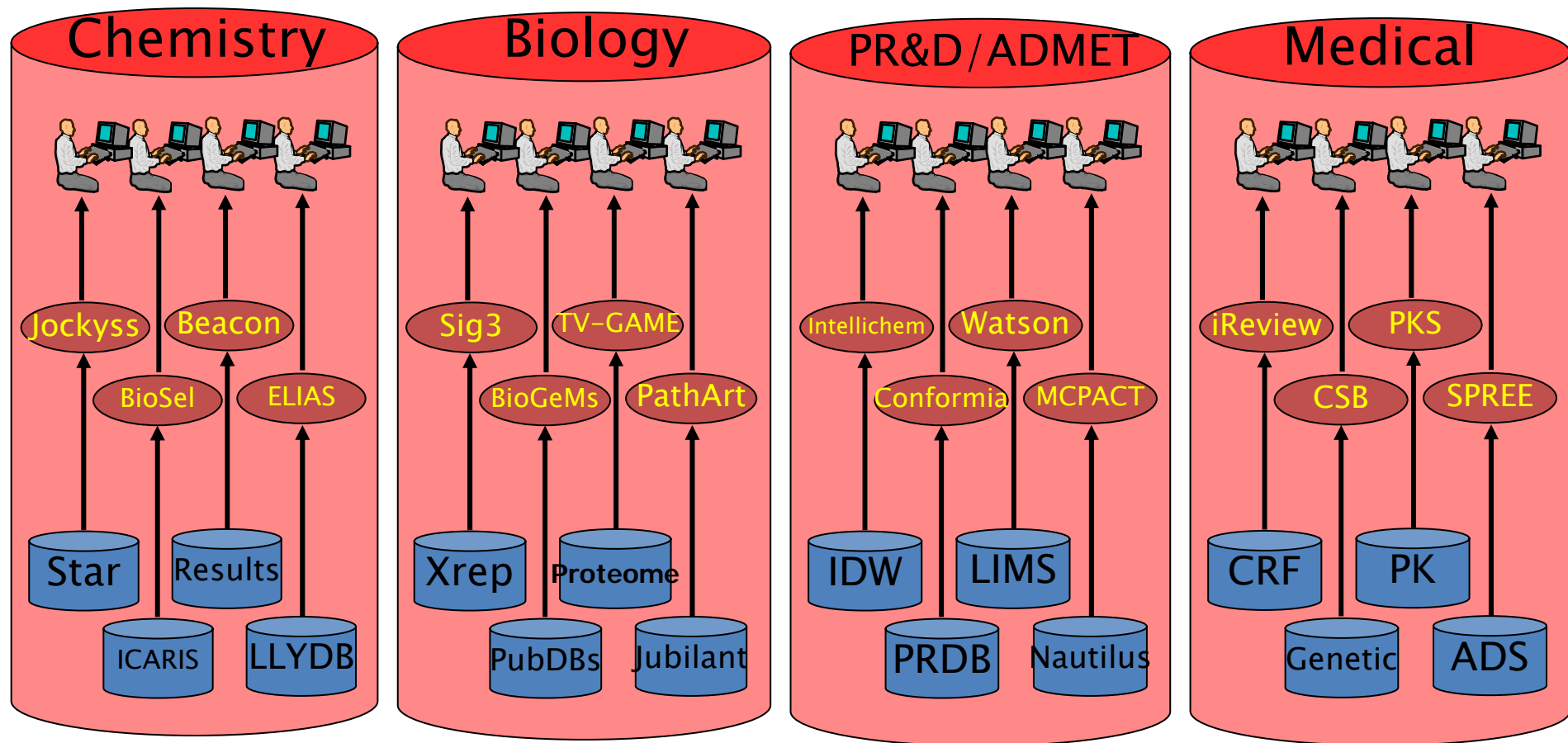
|fc| > 2

Family wise error < 0.05

fwe < 0.9



# Where are Internal Data? Silos of Silos



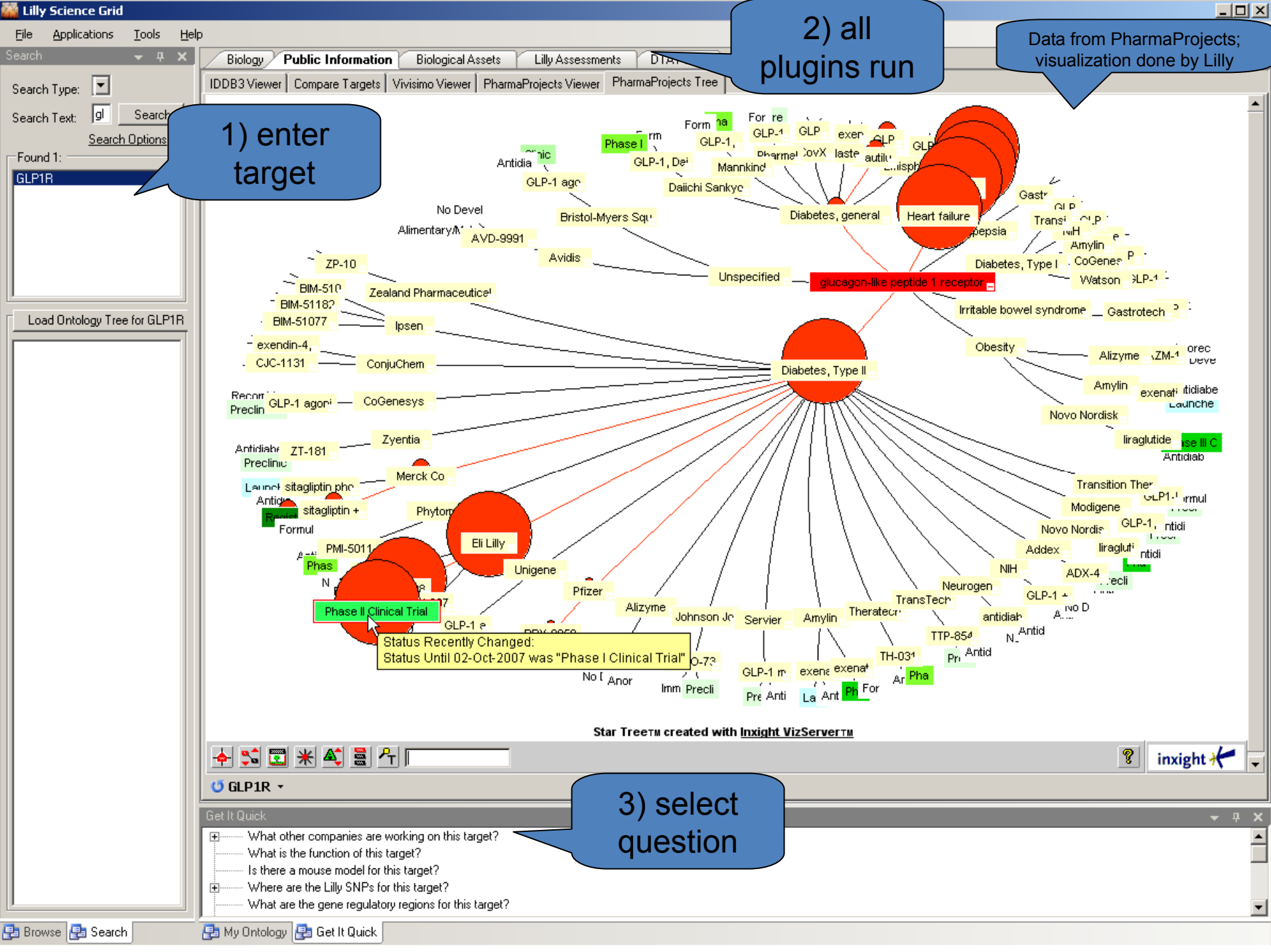
- Tools, application, and data are standalone with limited interaction
- Scientists have great difficulty finding their data and associated tools
- Asking cross-domain questions ( e.g. Discovery + Medical ) very difficult
- Support becoming very impractical – estimated **400+** individual tools across silos

• Larger problem in older companies and regulated industries

# How do we address?

- Use Discovery Target Assessment Tool (DTAT)
  - *DTAT allows scientists to evaluate drug targets. DTAT allows scientists to select the scientific question of interest and returns data that is in the appropriate context.*
- Built upon Life Science Grid: LSG available on <http://www.sourceforge.net>
- Uses RDF (resource description format) to store information about targets, pharmacology, internal development, disease
- Plugins use “listeners” to respond to appropriate data type and serve information
- Question framework allows scientists to learn how each data source provides relevant data
  - Questions stay relatively constant, data and sources change.
  - If informatics is doing proper job, we are providing the best answers for the questions.

Show DTAT





**Lilly Search Grid**

File Applications Tools Help

Search

Search Type: [v]  
 Search Text: gl Search  
 Search Options [v]

Found 1:  
 GLP1R

Load Ontology Tree for GLP1R  
 GLP1R

Biology Public Information Biological Assets Lilly Assessments DTAT Help

IDDB3 Viewer Compare Targets Vivisimo Viewer PharmaProjects Viewer PharmaProjects Tree

Back Forward Home Respond to Outside Events: Yes

Topics Sources URLs

**Clustered Results**

- ▶ **safety GLP1R OR "glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor"** (264)
  - ▶ **Obesity, Antagonists** (39)
  - ▶ **Modulators** (43)
  - ▶ **Activity** (31)
  - ▶ **GLP** (28)
  - ▶ **Related disorders** (23)
  - ▶ **Cells** (19)
  - ▶ **Diabetes** (21)
  - ▶ **Agonists** (25)
  - ▶ **Receptor ligands** (12)
  - ▶ **Inhibitors** (20)
  - ▶ **Encoding** (13)
  - ▶ **Pharmaceutical** (12)
    - ▶ **Gene, Expression** (7)
  - ▶ **Binding** (6)
  - ▶ **G Protein Coupled Receptor** (7)
    - ▶ **GPCR** (6)
  - ▶ **Quinoline** (6)
  - ▶ **Amino Acids** (5)
  - ▶ **Analogs Thereof** (3)
  - ▶ **Cancer, Breast** (5)
- ▶ **More**

**Lilly** Web News

Top 264 results retrieved for the query **safety GLP1R OR "glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor"** (Details)

Select/deselect all on this page Selected results: 0 View Email Export as Text

- [Advisory Committee Briefing Document](#) [new window] [frame] [preview] [clusters]  
 Page 1. Advisory Committee Briefing Document Cardiovascular **Safety** of Rosiglitazone ... Drug **Safety** and Risk Management Advisory Committee Meeting on July 30, 2007 ...  
**Date:** 2007-07-26  
[www.fda.gov/.../2007-4308b1-01-sponsor-background.pdf](http://www.fda.gov/.../2007-4308b1-01-sponsor-background.pdf) - FDA: CDER 1
- [Exendin\(9-39\)Amide as a Glucagon-Like Peptide-1 \(GLP-1\) Receptor Antagonist in Humans](#) [new window] [frame] [preview] [clusters]  
**Changed:** July 24, 2007  
**Condition:** Hyperglycemia  
**Status:** Completed  
[clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT00393445](http://clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT00393445) - ClinicalTrials.gov 1
- [Proteins and nucleic acids encoding same](#) [new window] [frame] [preview] [clusters]  
**Applicant:** 002 CuraGen Corporation  
**Category:** C07H  
**Date:** -20-104  
**Patent:** US7276593B2  
[www.micropat.com/...hlight=&forward\\_url=&patnum=US7276593B2&](http://www.micropat.com/...hlight=&forward_url=&patnum=US7276593B2&) - MicroPatent 1, MicroPatent 315
- [Clinical Assessment of GSK716155 for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus](#) [new window] [frame] [preview] [clusters]  
**Changed:** September 14, 2007  
**Condition:** Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus  
**Status:** Recruiting  
[clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT00530309](http://clinicaltrials.gov/show/NCT00530309) - ClinicalTrials.gov 2
- [Exendin improves  \$\beta\$ -cell response in subjects with impaired glucose tolerance](#) [new window] [frame] [preview] [clusters]  
**Applicant:** 904 AMYLIN PHARMACEUTICALS INC  
**Category:** A61K  
**Date:** 20 800

GLP1R http://kama.am.lilly.com/vivisimo/cgi-bin/query-meta?v%3aproject=query-meta?v%3afile=viv\_YEaGMvv%3aframe=list%3astate=%28root%29%7crootid=N760action=list\_

Get It Quick

- What are text mining results for this target?
- What are the changes in the past month?
- What are the toxicology results for this target?
- What are the safety results for this target?**
- What are the biomarker results for this target?

Browse Search My Ontology Get It Quick

Search

Search Type: Search Text:  [Search Options](#)

Found 4:

glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor (GLP1R)  
 glucagon-like peptide 2 receptor (GLP2R)  
 glucagon (GCG)  
 glucagon receptor (GCCGR)

Load Ontology Tree for glucagon-like peptide 1 receptor (GLP1R)

- GLP1R
  - Competitors
  - Competitors Stage
  - DHTs
  - IDDB3\_Pharmacology
    - Gastrointestinal system agent
      - Gastrointestinal hormone modulator
        - Gastrointestinal hormone agonist
        - Gastrointestinal hormone antagonist
        - Glucagon-like peptide modulator
    - Hormone modulator
      - Non-steroid hormone modulator
    - Protein target
  - MESH
    - Diseases
      - Endocrine System Diseases
      - Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases
    - Pathways
      - Diabetes Type II
    - Phenotype
      - digestive/alimentary phenotype
      - endocrine/exocrine gland phenotype
      - homeostasis/metabolism phenotype
    - Platforms
      - GPCR
        - B
          - Glucagon

Public Information **Biology** Biological Assets Lilly Assessments Wiki DTAT Help

Array Based Expression Literature Expression Ensembl Viewer XRep Gene Correlation Biomarkers Isoform Viewer General

   Current Locale: Corporate

**e!PGI/Ensembl@Lilly Human Contigview**

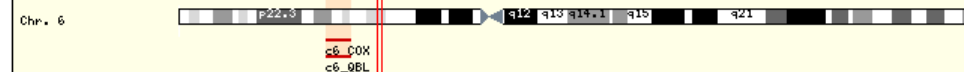
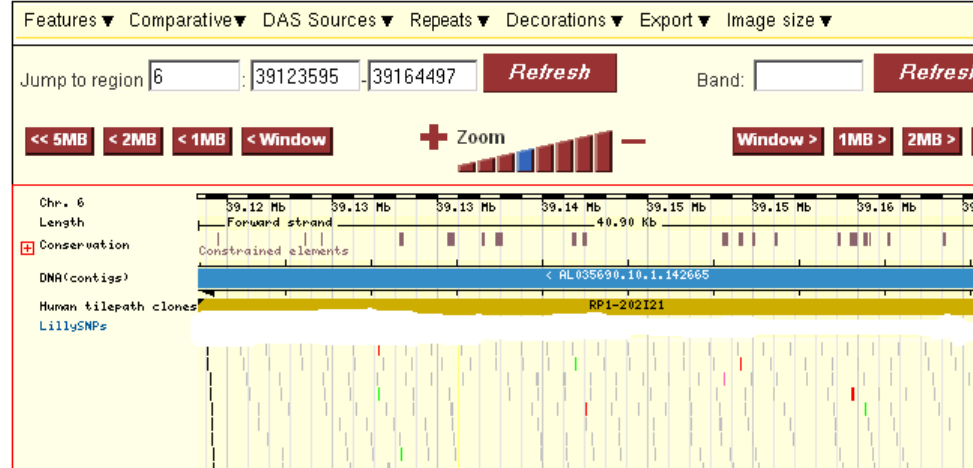
e.g. [AL138722.15.1.44776](#), [AL355340.17.1.112442](#)

PGI/Ensembl@Lilly release 48 - Dec 2007

[HOME](#) · [BLAST](#) · [SITEMAP](#) 
**Your Ensembl**

**Chromosome 6**  
 39,123,595 - 39,164,497

- 
- 
- 
- 
- ... 7 eutherian mammals
  - Pecan*
  - ... 10 amniota vertebrates
  - Pecan*
  - ... *Rattus norvegicus*
  - ... *Macaca mulatta*
  - ... *Loxodonta africana*
  - ... *Echinops telfairi*
  - ... *Oryctolagus cuniculus*
  - ... *Dasyurus novemcinctus*
  - ... *Canis familiaris*
  - ... *Pan troglodytes*
  - ... *Gallus gallus*
  - ... *Ornithorhynchus anatinus*
  - ... *Bos taurus*
  - ... *Felis catus*
  - ... *Tupaia belangeri*
  - ... *Erinaceus europaeus*
  - ... *Cavia porcellus*

**Chromosome 6****Overview****Detailed view**

Search Type: Target

Search Text: ins Search

Search Options

- Found 78:
- INS
  - INS-1 (FOXM1)
  - INS-1FKHL16 (FOXM1)
  - INSAF
  - INSC
  - INSIG1
  - INSIG2
  - INSIGF (IGF2)
  - INSL

Tree:

- INS
  - KEGG Pathways
    - Dentatorubropallidolysian atroph
    - Insulin signaling pathway
    - Maturity onset diabetes of the you
    - mTOR signaling pathway
    - Prostate cancer
    - Regulation of actin cytoskeleton
    - Regulation of autophagy
    - Type I diabetes mellitus
    - Type II diabetes mellitus
  - Landscapes
  - MESH
  - Phenotype
  - Platforms
  - DHT

Visivimo Viewer PharmaProjects Viewer PharmaProjects Tree Landscape Designer

Clear Landscape Save Landscape Uncheck Selected

Landscape Name: type II diabetes

Name	Type	As
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INS	Entrez	Nc
<input type="checkbox"/> Insulin signaling pathway	KEGG.Pathway	ac
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Type II diabetes mellitus	KEGG.Pathway	ca

### type II diabetes Landscape Map

This map reflects raw data supplied by IDDB3, which has not been checked for accuracy.

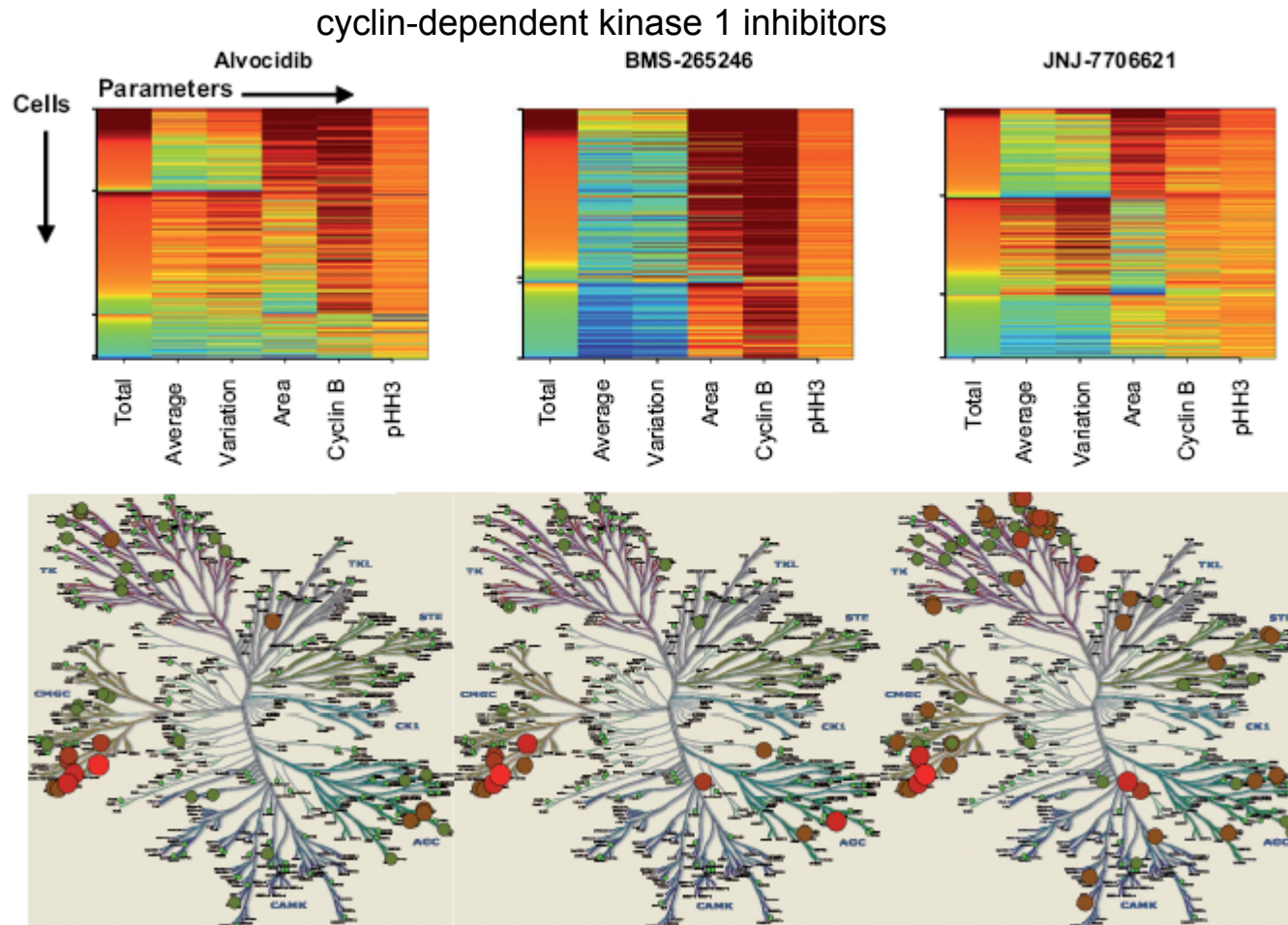
Criteria: INS, Type II diabetes mellitus

Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3
15 92 AEW-541	10 23 32 2PX	1 33 101 (R)-verapamil (oral control release, IBS), AGI Therape
15 92 AVE-1642	15 92 AMG-479	64 77 90 124 balaglitazone
2 7 33 104 106 BGC-20-1259	68 70 93 ARX-201	11 23 32 56 63 83 120 clotrimazole (gastrointestin inflammatory Effective Pharmaceutical
15 92 BIIB-022	15 92 AXL-1717	15 23 92 CP-751871
15 88 92 BMS-754807	11 15 23 27 81 107 147 bardoxolone methyl	11 15 102 142 deforolimus (oral), AR & Co
15 23 45 119 CAL-101	15 117 BEZ-235	32 155 diltiazem cream (anal fissures Pharma/Ventrus Biosciences
72 77 87 fast-acting insulin (sublingual, VIAdel), Biodel	77 90 105 bezafibrate + diflunisal (diabetes), CombinatoRx	72 77 87 fast-acting insulin (injectable Biodel
74 87 FT-105	40 44 90 114 136 BGP-15	77 87 insulin (inhaled, Technosphere)
15 23 102 118 GDC-0941	20 90 121 123 124 CS-038	11 15 32 L-651582
15 80 107 GRO-29A	11 15 102 142 deforolimus (intravenous), ARIAD/Merck & Co	77 90 125 metaglidasen
13 32 157 158 HBI-3000	77 87 113 DiabeCell	29 77 90 mirabegron
10 91 110 149 HF-0299	90 DM-71	12 21 32 olmesartan + azelnidipine, D Sankyo
15 23 79 108 IMD-0354 (ointment, atopic dermatitis)	77 90 DM-83	26 36 59 62 PD-332334
72 77 87 insulin (inhaled microspheres, ProMaxx), Epic	32 104 143 enecadin	74 77 84 87 recombinant human insu (oral capsule, type I diab National Institutes of Hea
73 77 87 insulin (inhaled), Coremed	90 124 140 farglitazar	20 77 90 124 rivoglitazone
72 77 87 insulin (inhaled), QDose	23 77 85 90 96 107 HE-3286	65 77 90 124 rosiglitazone + metform (extended-release table diabetes), GlaxoSmithK
87 insulin (inhaled), Translational Research	89 90 ID-1101	
77 87 insulin (rectal, suppository), Gramed	15 92 IMC-A12	
	23 79 108 139 IMD-1041 (oral, COPD)	
	77 87 IN-105	
	8 15 23 27 53 54 97 146 148 INCB-18424 (oral, inflammation/cancer), Incyte	

Target → Pathway(s) → Set of Drugs → chemistry, side effects, unmet medical needs

10 128 130 151 KAI-1678	Diabetology	32 115 TM injection solution, Shinpoor
77 87 MAP-0001	87 insulin (inhaled), Kos	
30 77 90 metformin (oral controlled release, Micropump), Flamel	77 87 insulin (intranasal), MDRNA	
23 79 MLN-0415	74 77 87 insulin (nanotechnology, oral, diabetes) Diasome Pharmaceuticals	
77 90 121 123 124 netoglitazone	73 77 87 insulin (oral, eligen), Emisphere	
77 87 NN-344	73 77 87 insulin (oral, gel capsule), Oramed	
	74 77 87 insulin (patch, PassPort, diabetes), Altea	

# Phenotypic Drug Discovery



- In vivo (cell based assays), use imaging techniques to measure variety of biological parameters
- No need to choose a target - and possibly be wrong!
- **Current Opinion in Drug Discovery & Development 2008 11(3):338-345** Jonathan

# Managing research

- Part of the challenge is how to manage the research, When development costs are high and failure is common, companies should structure research to seek truth first, success second.
- Project champions can often marshal resources to keep a project moving – may not be sufficiently motivated to do the experiment that could kill their idea
- Advocate early stages of research for “Truth Seekers”. Evaluate many projects and rewarded for objectivity
- Since most molecules in the early stage fail, manage to assume failure of the asset instead of creating infrastructure to ramp up production early. This may delay a successful molecule, but otherwise there is a large opportunity cost as fewer early stage assets may be pursued.
- Clean up this page...
- “A More Rational Approach to New-Product Development”, by Eric Bonabeau, Neil Bodick, and Robert W. Armstrong *Harv Bus Rev.* 2008 Mar;86(3):96-102

# Summary

- Target focused research – assumes we know enough biology to optimize the right things
  - Initially optimized one parameter: activity (optimize only the cathode)
    - Must also optimize side effects, safety margin, population effects, dosing, etc.
  - Adjust design parameters to gain the most information
  - Help interpret the results
  - Adding background information can improve quality of results (optimize entire battery)
  - Integrating many data sources can improve the decision quality
- Phenotypic screening (measure performance of the car which is made up of a set of batteries with powertrain etc.)
  - Advances in technology allows higher throughput cell based assays that measure biology
  - Can skip the target stage
- How to reward scientists to remove molecules from the pipeline?

# Backups

# Life Science Grid

- LSG – an asynchronous web services (message oriented) “smart” client-side application deployed using Microsoft ClickOnce deployment strategy.
- Software Development: Microsoft Visual Studio 2005
- Client: Windows XP SP2, .NET Framework 2.0, WSE 3.0
- Server: Windows 2003 Enterprise Edition, SP1, .NET Framework 2.0 and IIS 6
- Databases Supported:
  - MySQL 5.0
  - Microsoft SQL Server 2005 Express Edition
  - Oracle Database 10g Express Edition



- Available on <http://www.sourceforge.net>  
. Search for LSG
- Framework will include sample public domain plugins
- Documentation “how to” for software developers



# Data is being generated at an increasing rate – how to get relevant data?

- Difficult or impossible for any scientist to know all the sources – scientists asked to work more outside their own areas
- Nucleic Acids Research, DB issue
  - 1078 databases, 110 more than last year
  - links to more than 80 databases have been updated
  - only 25 obsolete databases have been removed
- Multiple ways of describing the same or similar data (same or similar depends on point of view)
  - MESH, PathArt disease, PharmaProjects indications, gene ontology, IDDB3 Pharmacology
  - Intelligent people can disagree, e.g., gene x causes cancer or gene x does not cancer. Both could have the same numerical results and have a different arbitrary cutoff.
  - How does one query across overlapping data?

# Data are generated faster than they can be understood

- Must find data that are relevant
  - Tremendous duplication
  - What is the current answer?
  - wheat from chaff
- Find connections in data
  - visualization
  - words
  - Statistics
- Difficulty measuring value of data, e.g. compare to compute speed
  - database quality
    - database 1 vs. database 2
    - agreement
    - quality measure of each element
- Data curation is expensive
- More than just having the data: ability to retrieve relevant decision-making information must be part of the value metric

# Informatics in Drug Discovery

This talk will begin with a brief overview of the various stages of drug development. Model building and chemical methods will initially be described from the early 90s. These will serve as a basis for comparison for later methods such as high throughput screening, medium throughput screening, and phenotypic drug discovery. Microarrays, with their ability to measure gene changes across the entire genome, will be described as a means of interrogating biological systems with the associated challenges of understanding the results. Recent work using the Life Science Grid will be covered as a means of integrating relevant information from many sources. Finally, other organizational shifts will be discussed that may facilitate more efficient breakthroughs.