# Leap In Transposase Platform

How's it going? Where we are going ...

#### Antibody Engineering & Therapeutics

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#### **Design of Experiment**





Machine Learning



GPS platform







Test

# The GPS Platform



# gene GPS

# vector GPS

# protein GPS

ORF codon optimization

Expression vector element optimization

Protein attribute optimization



Leap-In Transposase<sup>®</sup> Platform

# The life of a transposon-transposase pair



Perfect integration of elements between ITR's

1983 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine

# The life of a transposon-transposase pair



- Transient transposase = Stable insertion
- Single copy integrations at each site
- Multiple insertions (5 60+) across the genome
- Structural integrity maintained
- No size limitation





# Consistent, uniform presentation of Leap-In® transgenes





- In-silico designed expression construct maintained at every integration site
- On average, functionality of each integration is comparable
  - Expression and product quality

ÊATUM

# Transfection to RCB in ~10-12 weeks



# Leap-In Transposase CLD Platform

- Expression construct integrity maintained
  - No concatemers, scrambling, deletions, etc.
  - Design in silico = structure in chromosome
- Rapid and robust pool generation
  - High titer predictive of clones  $(5^+ g/L 10^+ g/L)$
  - Product quality predictive of clones (glycans, charge, etc.)
- Extremely stable clones
  - >90% of clones retain 100% of titer & copy number





# **Robust Market Adoption**

- Offered as a service by ATUM: >70 projects delivered
- >30 active licensees: 11 of top 20 pharma
- 10 IND's filed in less than two years:
  - Seven IND's filed and accepted in US
  - One IND filed and accepted in China
  - Two IND's filed and accepted in EU





# Moving Beyond the Routine

COVID-19 Response

• Chain ratio balancing for titer and product quality

• Reduction of target gene expression



# Antibodies For COVID 19 Treatment





- Eleven candidate therapeutic mAb's
- Desire to initiate human trials ASAP
- Rapid progress: sequence to Ph.I
- Use cell pools for GMP manufacturing



# Rapid Cell Line Development: Pools



- Two vector sets for each of 11 mAb's
- Create Leap-In Transposase<sup>®</sup> derived pools
- Freeze RCB's for transfer to CDMO
- Test expression in 10mL tube spin format





# Transfection to RCB in ~10-12 weeks



# **COVID 19: ATUM Accelerated Timeline: 1**



horizon



Selection in ~3 days



# COVID 19: ATUM Accelerated Timeline: 1





# COVID 19: ATUM Accelerated Timeline: 2



Rapid cGMP Manufacturing of COVID-19 monoclonal antibody using stable CHO cell pools

Rita Agostinetto<sup>1</sup>, Jessica Dawson<sup>2</sup>, Angela Lim<sup>2</sup>, Mirva Hejjaoui-simoneau<sup>3</sup>, Cyril Boucher<sup>3</sup>, Bernhard Valldorf<sup>4</sup>, Adin Ross-gillespie<sup>3</sup>, Joseph Jardine<sup>5</sup>, Devin Sok<sup>5</sup>, Dennis Burton<sup>5</sup>, Thomas Hassell <sup>6</sup>, Hervé Broly<sup>7</sup>, Wolf Palinsky<sup>3</sup>, Philippe Dupraz<sup>3</sup>, Mark Feinberg<sup>6</sup>, and Antu Dey<sup>8</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Merck Serono SpA <sup>2</sup>EMD Serono Biotech Center Inc <sup>3</sup>Ares Trading SA <sup>4</sup>Merck KGaA <sup>5</sup>The Scripps Research Institute <sup>6</sup>International Aids Vaccine Initiative <sup>7</sup>Merck Serono SA-Corsier-sur-Vevey <sup>8</sup>Greenlight Biosciences Inc Pools6.0 g/L↓Preclinical<br/>Safety↓Preclinical<br/>Safety↓Phase I

Preprint on Authorea.com



# "... Enabled manufacturing of early clinical trial material within 4.5 months ...."







# Beyond mAb's: 2-3 Chains and More

# The "zoo" of bispecifics

Chain ratio balancing is key

Brinkmann and Kontermann; 2017

# Considerations for chain ratio balancing

#### <u>Sequence</u>

- Codon choice
- mRNA 2° structure
- Poly-A signal
- 5'/3' UTR choice
- mRNA stability
- Ribosomal entry/processivity
- Splice site donor/acceptor
- Signal sequences
- Etc.



- Promoter choice
- Order of expression cassettes
- Number of expression cassettes
- Spacing of expression cassettes
- Directionality of expression cassettes
- Size of vectors
- Single vector or multiple vectors
- Choice of insulators
- Etc.





# Controlling ratios with construct design: 2 ORFs



Construct number







# Controlling ratios with construct design: 3 ORFs



Construct number







# Case Study: 3-Chain Bispecific mAb

- 14 vector configurations
  - Varying expression levels
  - Varying expression ratios
- Leap In Transposase based pool selection
- Analytical assessment
  - Total titer
  - Chain expression: Relative and Amount
  - % Bispecific





# Case Study: 3-Chain Bispecific mAb

Vector*	Expression Level [relative]		Expression Level
		(normalized)	
Α	comparable	1	med-low
В	comparable	1	low
С	significantly higher	1	low
D	moderately higher	1	high
E	comparable	1	high

\* Subset of 14 vectors screened



#### Screening vectors at pool stage enables ID of high value pools







# Case Study: 3-Chain BiSpecific mAb

#### Pool A





#### Pool and clone productivity

Pool*	derived clones*
0.9 [g/L]	up to 1.9 [g/L]

\*Day 12 standard fed-batch

#### Pool E





#### Pool and clone productivity

Pool*	derived clones*
1.9 [g/L]	up to 5.5 [g/L]

\*Day 12 standard fed-batch

#### Good pools predict good clones







# The miLPN platform

#### Use Leap In Transposase platform to reduce gene expression

#### <u>miCHO-GS</u>

- K1 derived
- GS deficient
- GMP Cell Bank

#### <u>miFuc</u>

- Vector based
- Host cell agnostic
- Modify existing
  expression cell line

#### <u>milPN</u>

• Custom projects





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# miFuc Platform: Overview

Transient:

#### Modified HEK host Modified CHO host

## Stable:

Vector based approach Unmodified cell host Engineer existing cell line

#### Proof of concept stage: seeking early access partners



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# miFuc Platform: Stable Pools





# miFuc Platform: Stable Pools



# miFuc Platform: ADCC enhancement

CD16 Signaling (ADCC)



[mAb] (µg/mL)





# miLPN Platform: Custom Project

#### <u>Overview</u>

Cytokine therapeutic Low expressor

Cytokine may inhibit expression/cell growth via interaction with endogenous CHO receptor

Use miLPN technology to reduce endogenous receptor expression on host cell





# Leap In Transposase Platform

- From shiny and new to tried and true
  - Robust market adoption
  - Ten IND's in 2 years, >30 licensees, >70 projects
- Rapid COVID 19 response
  - Bulk selected pools for IND filing
- Chain expression ratio balancing
  - Increased titer and product quality
- miLPN technology to reduce gene expression
  - miCHO-GS, miFuc, miLPN receptor knock down





# ATUM

- Gene synthesis, vectors
  - Large, complex, routine
  - 1000's to chose from
- Protein production
  - 96-well to multi-gram
  - mAbs to others
  - Mammalian, e. coli, other

- Protein analytics
  - MS, HPLC, other
  - Developability
- Cell based assays
  - FACS, signaling, other
  - Primary immune cells
- Protein Engineering



# **B**ATUM

# Thank You

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#### Partners:

Horizon Discovery Rentschler Biopharma Our Customers

Technology presented is protected by issued US patents 10435696, 10344285, 10287590, 10253321, 10233454, 10041077, 9771402, 9580697, 9574209, 9534234, 9428767, 9290552, 9102944, 9493521, 9206433, 8401798, 8975042, 8825411, 8635029, 8412461, 8158391, 8126653, 8005620, 7805252, 8323930, 7561973, 7561972 and pending applications



