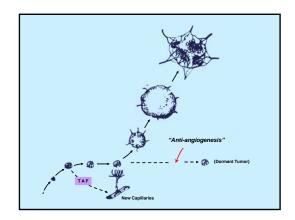
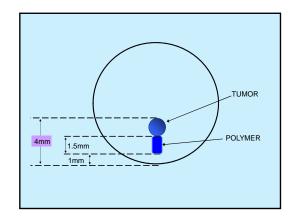
The Edison of Medicine:
Robert Langer's quest to solve global health challenges using biotechnology

Dr. Robert S. Langer, Sc.D. Institute Professor Massachusetts Institute of Technology

9 October 2020 | Worcester Polytechnic Institute | University Lecture Series





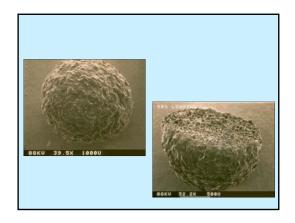
POLYPEPTIDE Mol. Wt. Half-Life **Growth Hormone** 22,600 < 25 minutes < 25 minutes Insulin 6,000 Oxytocin 1,007 2 minutes Parathyroid Hormone 9,500 < 15 minutes Vasopressin 1,200 4 minutes

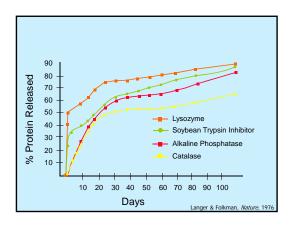
### This approach will not work because

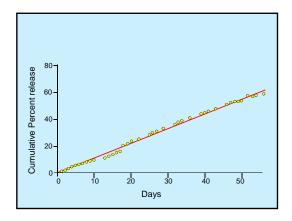
Large molecules cannot slowly diffuse through solid polymers

"The use of polymer matrices for slow release systems has been virtually restricted to small molecules."

Chemical and Engineering News, 1977





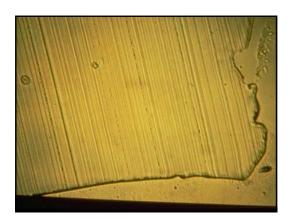


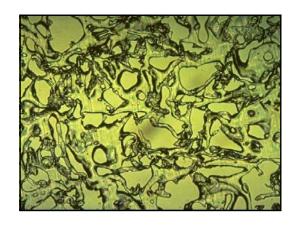
### This approach will not work because

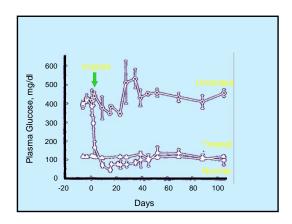
- Large molecules cannot slowly diffuse through solid polymers
- Organic solvents will denature peptides or proteins

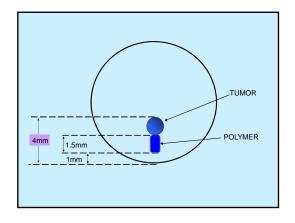
"One evening, I went to a faculty dinner at a Chinese restaurant with Bob Langer and some senior MIT professors. A senior scientist sat quizzing us while smoking a cigar. When the older scientist heard Langer's concepts for polymeric drug delivery, he blew a cloud of smoke in Langer's face and said, 'You better start looking for another job.' I thought I was in a Fellini movie."

Professor Michael Marletta CH and Annie Li Chair in the Molecular Biology of Diseases, University of California – Berke Member, National Academy of Sciences









# Angiogenesis inhibitors approved for clinical use Disea Approved February 2004 November 2004 November 2004 Maugun (Serafenib) December 2005 December 2005 December 2005 December 2006 May 2007 Torisel (CL779) November 2007 November 2007 November 2001 April 2008 May 2007 Torisel (CL779) November 2007 November 2007 November 2007 April 2008 May 2009 Avastin November 2011 January 2012 January 2012 January 2013 Author (Ag-013786) Author (Ag-013786) April 2014 Avastin (Revaciumab) April 2014 Avastin (Revaciumab) April 2014 Avastin (Revaciumab) Avastin November 2015 April 2014 Avastin December 2015 Avastin December 2015 Avastin December 2015 Avastin December 2015 Avastin December 2016 Avastin December 2

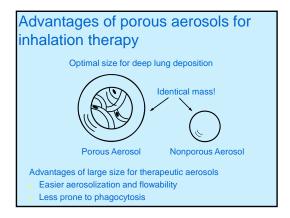
## U.S. Patent 4,391,797: Folkman and Langer

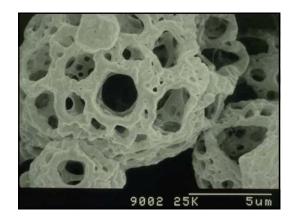
- Two phase system
- > 1st phase polymer with water sorbtivity not greater than 50%
- 2<sup>nd</sup> phase agglomerated macromolecular material of MW at least 1000

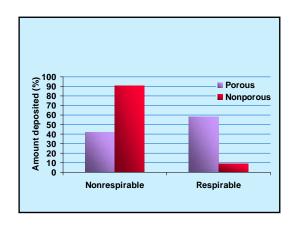


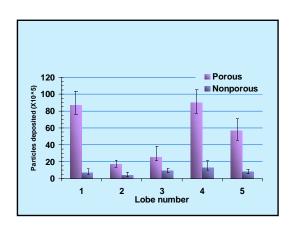
### Enzytech/Alkermes

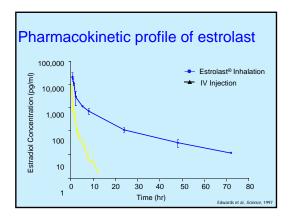
- > 1<sup>st</sup> 4 employees were former students
- Today, 25 products FDA approved or in clinical trials
- New treatments for schizophrenia, alcoholism, narcotic addiction, diabetes
- ~ 2000 employees











### U.S. Patent 5,874,064: Edwards, Langer, Lotan et al

- A particulate system for drug delivery to the pulmonary system
  - Particles have a density less than 0.4 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
  - Particles have a mean diameter between 5 and 30  $\mu m$
  - Agent is incorporated into or adsorbed into particles

### A brief history of AIR 1996 Initial studies 1997 Science publication AIR in Cambridge 1998 Deals with Lilly, Glaxo, Pfizer; 2 clinical 1998 1999 Merger (>1000% IRR for investors) 2000s Edwards spins off MEND – new treatments for this technology, Alkermes spins off Civitas; Civitas acquired by Acorda for \$525M



### Biomolecules

- Proteins Monodisperse
- Nucleic acid (e.g. DNA) Monodisperse
- Polysaccharides Polydisperse

### Our Discoveries

The 1st sequencing approach to complex polysaccharides (Sasisekharan, Venkataraman, *Science*, 1999) uses molecular scissors (Langer, *Science*, 1982)

### Potential products

- Heparins
- Other complex polymers
- New glycoproteins

### **Momenta**

2001 Started with 2 former students—Ram Sasisekharan & Ganesh Venkataraman

2004 Goes public

2020

2003 & 2006 Major investment by Novartis
2011 Major investment by Baxter
2016 Major investment by Mylan
2017 Major Investment by CSL

2018 Ist Lovenox biogeneric approved by FDA 7/23/201(1st

complex drug approved based on analytic data; largest syringe launch in history). Copaxone approved by FDA

2015.

Johnson & Johnson acquires Momenta for \$6.5 billion

dollars



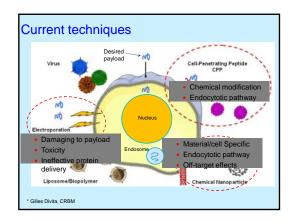


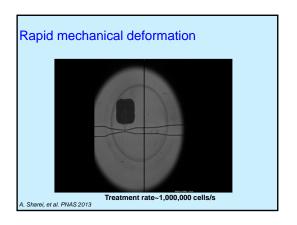
### Heparin crisis

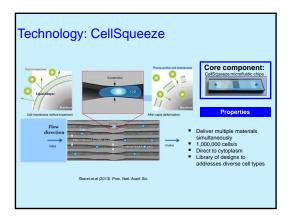
- •Problems found at Chinese heparin plant Seattle Times, February 29, 2008
- •More heparin recalled because of contamination Associated Press, March 22, 2008
- Heparin recall tally spreads to six countries
   MedPage, March 27, 2008
- Heparin is now suspected in 62 fatalities across U.S.
   New York Times, April 10, 2008
- •U.S. identifies tainted heparin in 11 countries New York Times, April 22, 2008

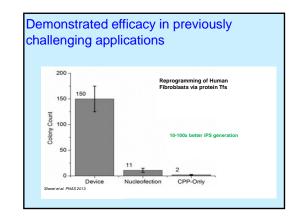
### Solving the Chinese heparin crisis

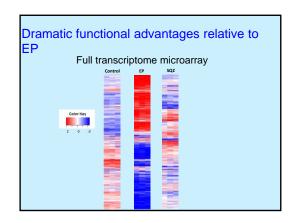
- Outbreak of adverse reactions associated with contaminated heparin, New England Journal of Medicine, 359: 2674-2684, 2008
- Contaminated Heparin Associated with Adverse Clinical Events and Activation of the Contact System, New England Journal of Medicine, 358: 2457-2467, 2008
- Oversulfated chondroitin sulfate is a contaminant in heparin associated with adverse clinical events, *Nature Biotechnology*, 26: 669-675, 2008





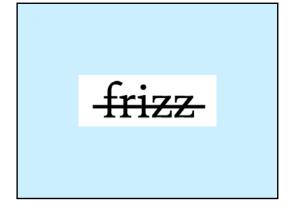


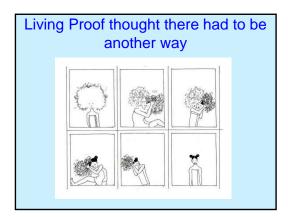






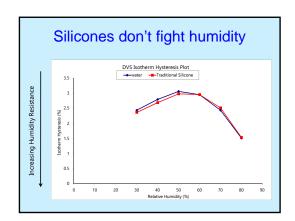


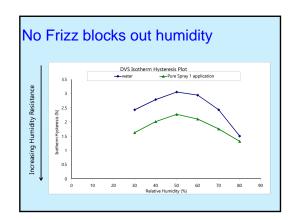






The problem – Humidity















Jennifer Aniston named spokesmodel and investor of Living Proof hair care

OTRO

### Companies

- 1987 Enzytech—Microsphere drug delivery (merged with Alkermes)
- 1987 Opta Foods—Food ingredients (originally part of Enzytech, acquired by Sun Foods)
- 1988 Neomorphics—Biocompatible materials for tissue growth (acquired by Advanced Tissue Sciences and Smith & Nephew)
- 1992 Focal—Biodegradable materials for prevention of surgical adhesion (acquired by Genzyme)
- 1993 Acusphere—Imaging agents with porous microsphere technology
- 1993 EnzyMed—Combinatorial pharmaceuticals (acquired by Albany Molecular Research)
- 1997 Advanced Inhalation Research—Pulmonary drug delivery (acquired by Alkermes)(Civitas acquired by Acorda)
- 1998 Reprogenesis—Scaffolds for tissue growth (merged with Creative Biomolecules and Ontogeny to form Curis)
- 1998 Sontra Medical—Transdermal drug delivery (acquired Echo Therapeutics)
- 1999 Transform Pharmaceuticals—Polymorph crystallization (acquired by Johnson & Johnson)
- 1999 MicroCHIPS—Silicon-chip-based drug delivery

	Companies
2000	Combinent Biomedical Systems—Transvaginal drug delivery (acquired by Juniper)
2001	Momenta Pharmaceuticals—Complex-sugar-based therapeutics
2003	Pulmatrix—Inhaled therapeutics
2004	Pervasis—Therapeutics for vascular healing (acquired by Shire)
2005	Living Proof—Hair care products (acquired by Unilever)
2005	Arsenal Medical—Bioresorbable scaffolds
2005	PureTech Health - New ways to treat GI and immune disorders
2005	In Vivo Therapeutics—Scaffolds for spinal cord therapy
2006	T2 Biosystems—Nanoparticle-based diagnostics
2006	Semprus BioSciences—Medical device coatings (acquired by Teleflex)
2006	BIND Biosciences—Targeted nanoparticle-based therapeutics
(acquired by Pfizer)	
2007	Selecta Biosciences—Targeted nanoparticles
2008	Seventh Sense Biosystems—Microneedle blood collection technology
2008	Taris BioMedical—Urological drug delivery (acquired by Johnson and Johnson)
2009	Kala Pharmaceuticals—Mucosal drug delivery
2011	ModeRNA—Modified messenger RNA delivery

## Companies 2011 Tarveda (Formerly "Blend Therapeutics")—Combination medicines 2013 SQZ – Delivery to cells 2013 Tissium (Formerly Gecko Biomedical) – Medical adhesives 2014 Arsia – Antibody formulations (acquired by Eagle Pharmaceuticals) 2015 Lyndra – Super long acting oral delivery 2015 Frequency Therapeutics – Molecules to restore hearing and other tissues 2015 Olivo Labs – Novel skin care (acquired by Shiseido) 2016 Sigilon– Super biocompatible materials/cell encapsulation 2017 Suono Bio – Gastrointestinal delivery 2018 Vivtex—Oral drug development 2019 Lyra Pharmaceuticals (Spun off Arsenal Medical)