

### What is a Proteome?

Oxford English Dictionary: [< prote-(in PROTEIN n.) + - ome (in GENOME n.).]

The entire complement of proteins that is (or can be) expressed by a cell, tissue, or organism.

1995 V. C. WASINGER et al. in *Electrophoresis* 16 1090. 2000 *New Scientist* 15 July 67 (*advt*.) We have the unique ability to select disease relevant targets from the proteome.

(1994 - Marc Wilkins - PhD student - Siena)

### What is a "Biomarker"?

WebSearch: the webpages from Ireland: Results 1 - 10 of about  $\bf 591,000$  for  $\bf Biomarker$  [definition]. (0.14 seconds)

"A specific physical trait used to measure or indicate the effects or progress of a disease or condition:

Biomarkers of aging include thinning of the hair and diminished elasticity of the skin."

Oxford English Dictionary: [< BIO- + MARKER n.]

A substance used as an indicator of the presence of material of biological origin, of a specific organism, or a physiological condition or process; *spec.* a diagnostic indicator of (predisposition to) a medical condition.

### What is Proteomics?

Static - identification of all the proteins produced from a genome identification characterisation

Dynamic - analysis of (up to) several thousand proteins at a time

Numbers again - Human proteome: 30,000 genes? - 250,000 proteins?

### What is Proteomics?

Measurement of protein expression: *expression proteomics* (1-D, 2-DE, LC, ICAT, iTRAQ etc..)

Measurement of protein composition of cellular organelles (spliceosome, phagosome, speckles etc.): cell map proteomics

Analysis of post-translational modifications; of protein:protein interactions; of protein:drug interactions:

Ultimately these will lead to new diagnostic protein biomarkers, new drug targets

And... the determination of protein function and a more detailed understanding of biological systems

### A general Proteomics workflow

- Sample acquisition and preparation
  - Biological fluids
  - Tissues biopsies (disease vs normal)
  - Cells
  - Sub-cellular components (membranes/mitochondria/nuclei etc...)
- · Protein/peptide separation
- Protein/peptide detection
- Protein/peptide identification
- Sounds easy!

Validation and functional analysis

### Proteomics .... is not easy

- Proteins have diverse physico-chemical properties
- There are large numbers of them
- They are very dynamic
- Methods for their analysis are complex and still evolving (rapidly)
- Interested in *protein function* ....

### **Protein function**

- How is the function (activity) of a protein regulated?
  - Expression Folding

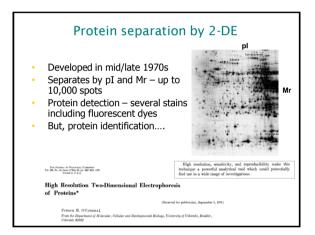
  - Processing
  - Post-translational modifications
  - Interaction with other proteins
  - Sub-cellular localisation (cf. NFkB)
  - Degradation
  - Others (cf. StAR)
- How is the function of a protein determined?

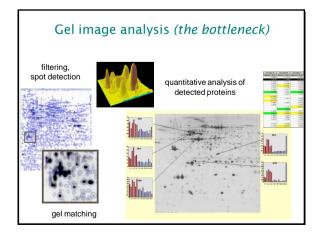
With (great) difficulty ....

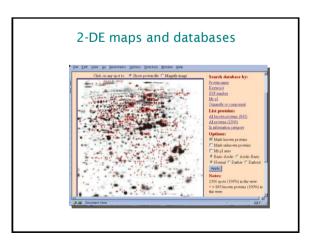
## So - why do Proteomics?

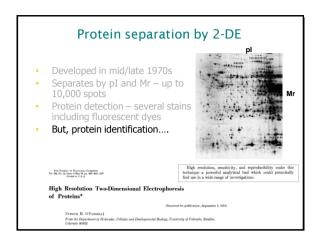
- mRNA expression analysis (transcript profiling) does not always reflect the expression level of proteins
- Biological samples such as CSF, serum, urine etc. are often not suitable for mRNA expression analysis
- It focuses on gene products the active agents in cells/tissues/organisms
- Supports the analysis of the modification of proteins that are not apparent from DNA sequence i.e. posttranslational modifications

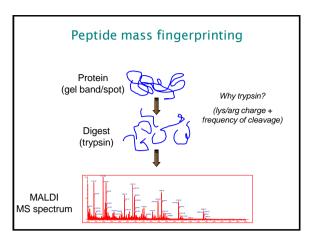
## Protein separation by SDS-PAGE

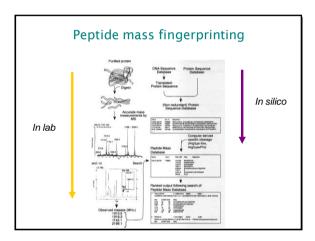


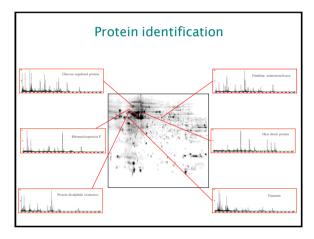




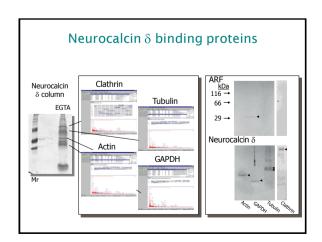


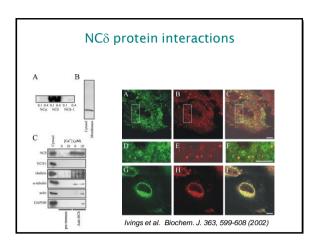


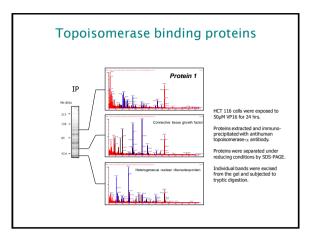


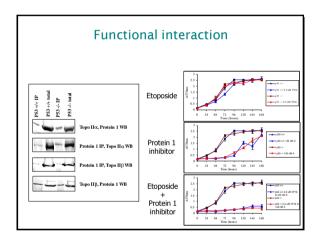


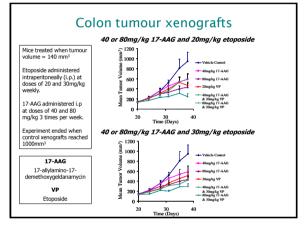
# Can proteomics deliver? Benchmark Pharma example – Novartis (van Oostrum) Bengamide – inhibitor of tumour growth Unknown mode of action Transcript profiling reveals no transcriptional response 2-DE protein expression profiling (15-20,000 protein features) Novel spot change in 14-3-3 protein Detailed (painstaking and slow) analysis and validation leads to identification of protein modification and target for bengamide Methionine aminopeptidases (24 including novel enzymes) New compounds (1 in clinical trial – others to follow) Benchmark biomedical example – many emerging (phagosome proteome) Answer – yes Can you believe everything you read?

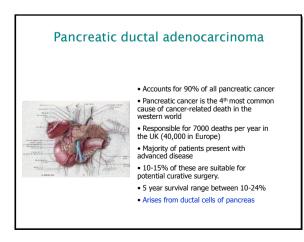


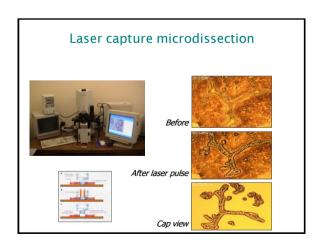


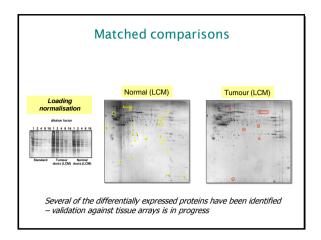


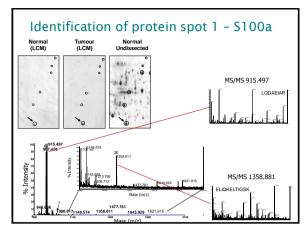


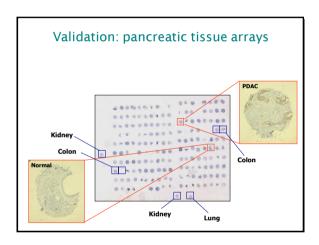


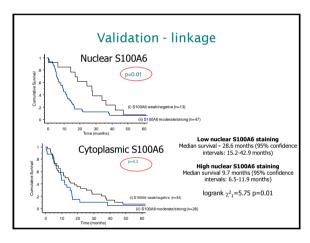


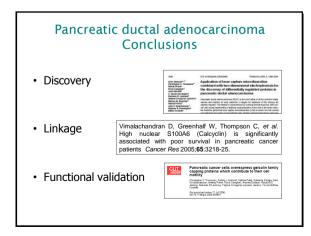


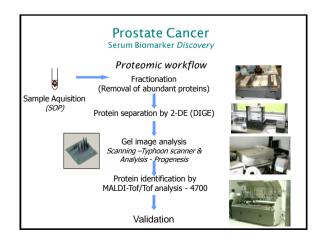


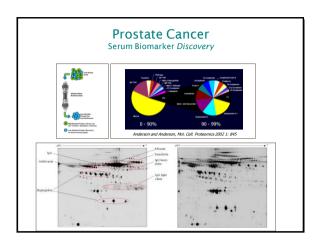


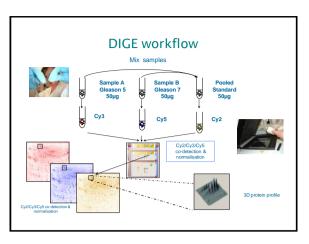


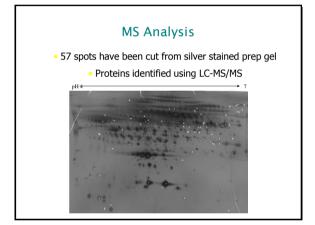


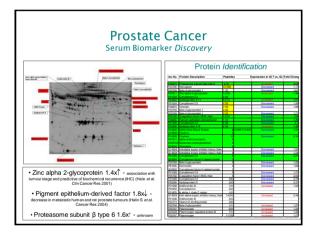


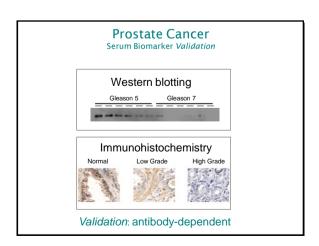


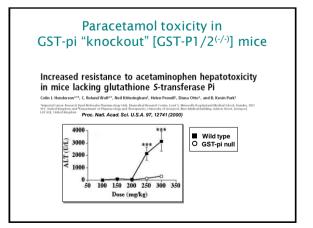


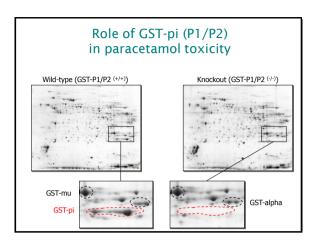


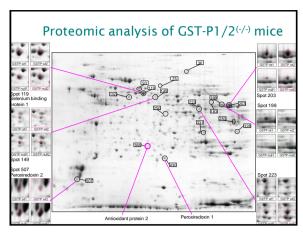


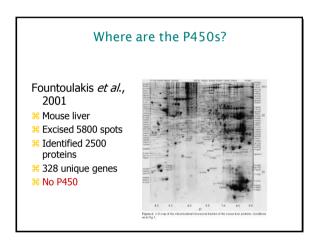


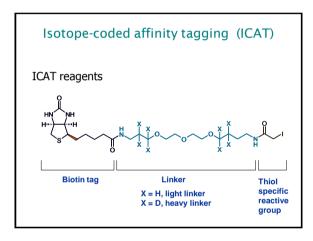


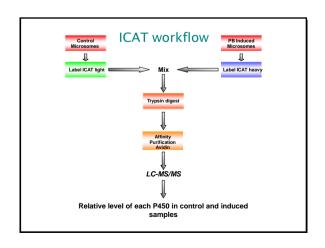


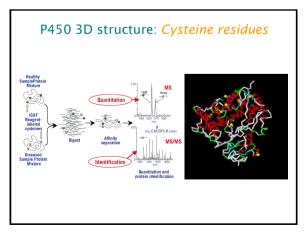


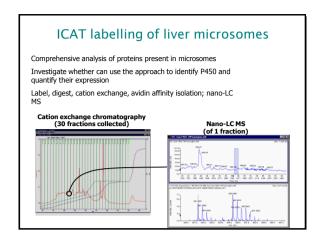


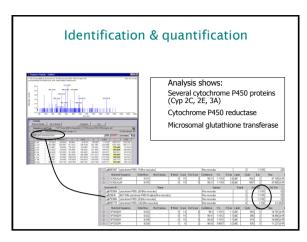


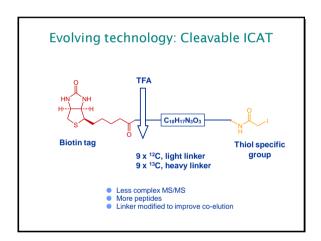


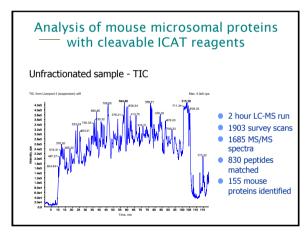


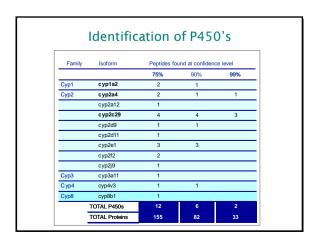


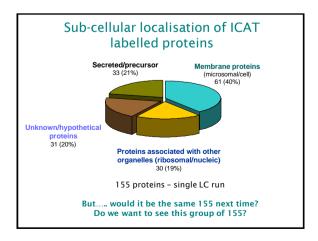


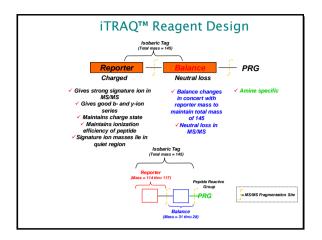


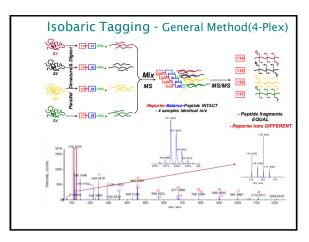


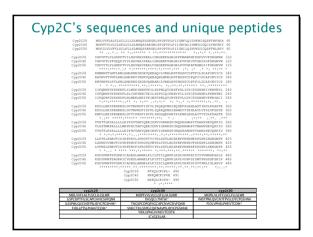


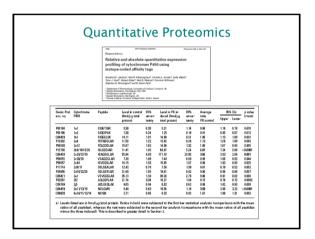












## Proteomics workflows are evolving...

- 2-DE introduction of fluorescent dyes DIGE
  - Multiple (3) samples on a single gel
  - Easier image analysis
  - Minimal labelling (less interference, lower sensitivity)
  - Saturation labelling (?)
- iTRAQ reagents
  - Multiple (4) samples in a single LC run soon 8 Improved fragmentation

  - Requires MS/MS for quantification
- Off-line LC-MALDI
- MS-imaging
- MS instrumentation

### Conclusions

## What is the question/hypothesis?

- Teamwork is essential proteins work in teams so why not us?
- Discovery requires subsequent 'validation'
- Proteomic biomarker discovery is only as good as the samples and the experimental design
- Proteomics does not 'stand-alone' but need to be integrated with other datasets from other sources and technologies (clinical/metabolomic/genomic etc.)
- Are antibody-based assays the future of validation or routine measurement?
- What considerations are there for taking biomarkers into clinical practice?