

# Innovative solutions to improve fish health in aquaculture: from diagnostics to vaccines

ParaFishControl Final Conference

"Innovative Strategies to Control Parasites in Aquaculture Farms"

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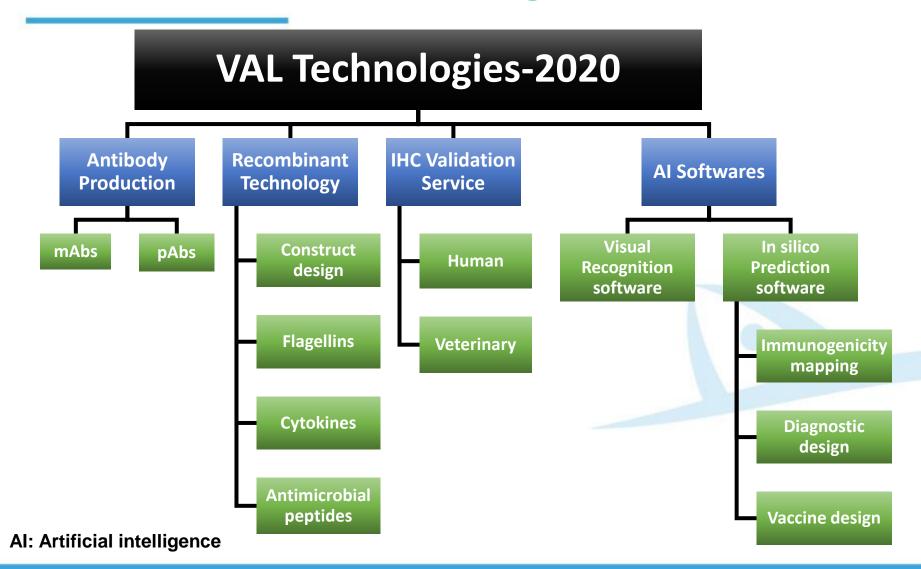
#### **Outline**



- 1. Overview of VAL technologies
- 2. VAL antibody technology
  - Solution 1: develop antibodies to commercial species
- 3. Development of Al software
  - Applications of Al software
  - Solution 2: Diagnostic design
  - Solution 3: Vaccine design
- 4. VAL Recombinant Technology
  - Recombinants applications
  - Solution 4: Develop recombinant proteins
  - Solution 5: 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> generations of adjuvants & immunostimulants

#### Overview of VAL technologies









VERTEBRATE

#### VAL antibody technology

# VAL utilises short synthetic peptides technology

"This is believed to be the shortest length for an immunogen currently in

- Advantages:
  - Highest specificity
  - Can target one amino acid change -(BRAF V600E)
  - Time, cost effective & high throughput



Vertebrate Antibodies Limited (VAL) is a spinout company of the University of Aberdeen, which produces highly specifi

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## Solution 1– develop antibodies to commercial species



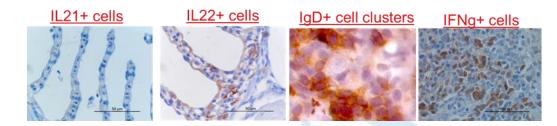


Pathogen Detection:

Tilapia Lake virus Iridovirus, Extra small virus-like particles (XSV) Infectious pancreatic necrosis virus Betanodavirus

Overall Health:
Serum amyloid A
C-reactive protein
Tumour Necrosis Factor alpha
Alanine aminotransferase
Ghrelin, Orexin, leptin, Irisin

Vaccines, Adjuvants & Immunostimulants: IgM, IgT, IFNg, IL4, IL22, IL17, IL21



**Basic Research:** 

Mx, CD3, TIMP2a, MMP9, RYK, CCT2

#### **Peptide Technology**



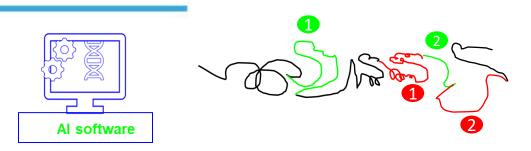
Peptide	K & R	D&E	PI	Net charge	Hydropho kcal/mol	Molecular Weight	Immunogencity Score
KRPFPSILRF	3	0	12.49	3	9.27	1259.74	7
EDSQMVEMDR	1	4	3.53	-3	23.68	1238.48	0
KDPTSRTPVNQ	2	1	9.83	1	18.55	1241.63	0
GETVTLPRSK	2	1	9.8	1	16.68	1086.6	0
NEFKEVYQRA	2	2	6.91	0	19.01	1282.62	0
QYGTSDNNI	0	1	3.04	-1	14.04	1010.42	0
PIERKAIPQR	3	1	11.35	2	17.26	1206.71	0
KASNPEQTA	1	1	6.79	0	17.8	944.45	0
KAQLIDRGYP	2	1	10.1	1	15.63	1159.63	7
KEIPDDEQSD	1	5	3.4	-4	29.13	1174.49	7
KLIPRSHKEK	4	1	10.84	3	22.3	1234.74	7
TLEYKDENTNEY	1	4	3.57	-3	24.76	1517.64	7
TFLKDFCVHA	1	1	7.17	0	12.27	1179.57	7
LPYSILGTPY	0	0	5.47	0	5	1122.59	7
AQAIYSRPHP	1	0	10.35	1	12.72	1138.58	7

Generate a software to predict immunogenicity profile



#### Al software-learning capabilities





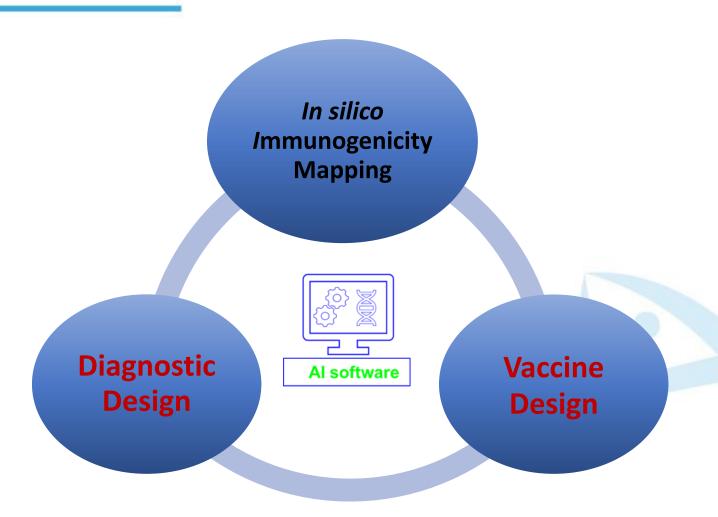
Green line is antigenic- able to elicit an immune response.
Red line is not antigenic- will not elicit immune response.
Black line is of medium antigenicity.

- Predict immunogenic/antigenic regions
- Software developed using experimental data
- The software has deep learning capabilities
  - A genetic Algorithm is incorporated into the software based on Darwin's theory of natural evolution and hybrid and crossover in order to improve prediction accuracy



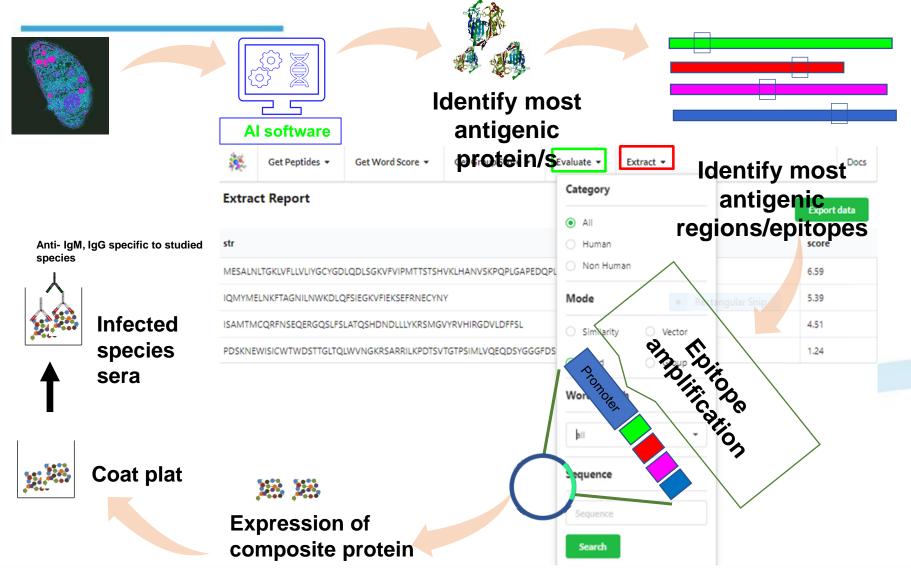
#### Al software applications





#### Solution 2: Diagnostic design



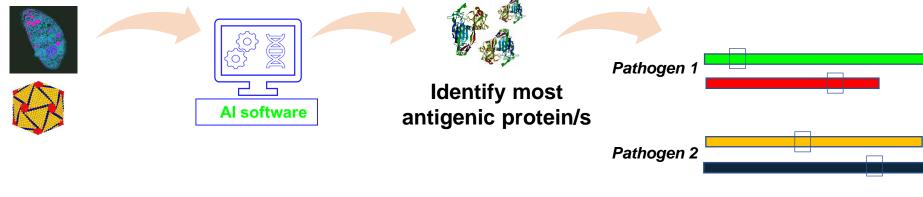




#### Solution 2: Diagnostic design



#### (multi-pathogen detection)

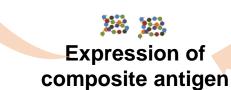


Anti- IgM, IgG specific to studied species

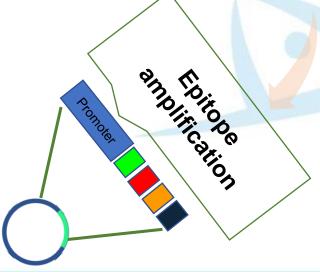
Infected species species sera



Coat plat



Identify most antigenic regions/epitopes

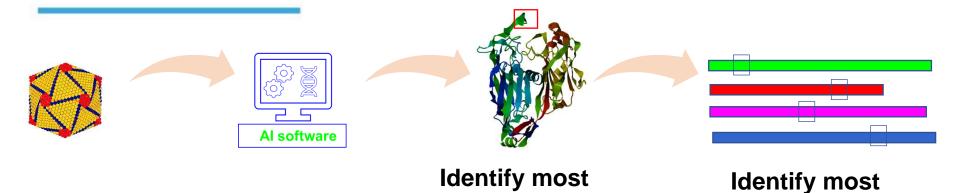




#### **Solution 3: Subunit vaccine Design**



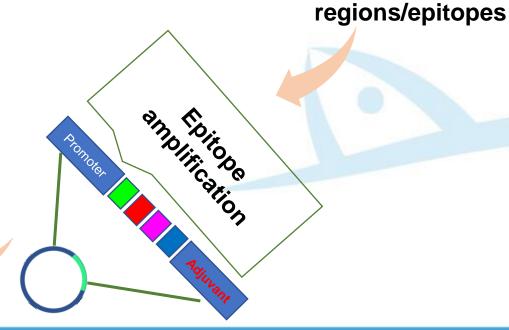
antigenic



antigenic protein/s



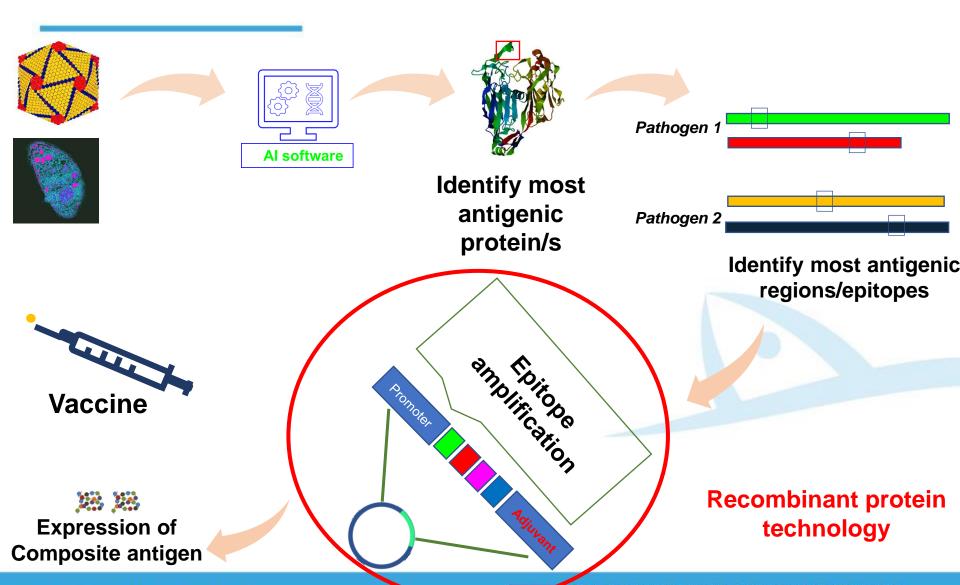






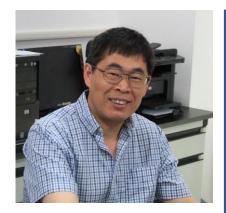
#### Solution 3: Multivalent vaccine





#### VAL recombinant technology





Tiehui Wang

Options for *E. coli* and eukaryotic expression systems.

Codon-optimisation for high-level expression.

Ligation-free rapid cloning system

Streamlined production and purification

Bio-modelling and bioengineering

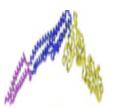
Flagellins

**Cytokines** 

**AMPs** 

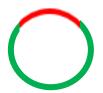
DNA construct

Disease markers













#### Solution 4: develop recombinant proteins



#### Recombinant proteins produced

30 recombinant flagellins from broad arrange of bacterial species:

Piscirickettsia salmonis Listeria monocytogenes Vibrio anguillarum Aeromonas hydrophila Pseudomonas putida Bacillus cereus

Edwardsiella tarda Pseudomonas putida Yersinia rucker Bordetella pertussis

Edwardsiella ictalurid Pseudomonas aeruginosa Salmonella typhimurium Aliivibrio salmonicida Pseudomonas syringae pv. pisi Legionella pneumophila

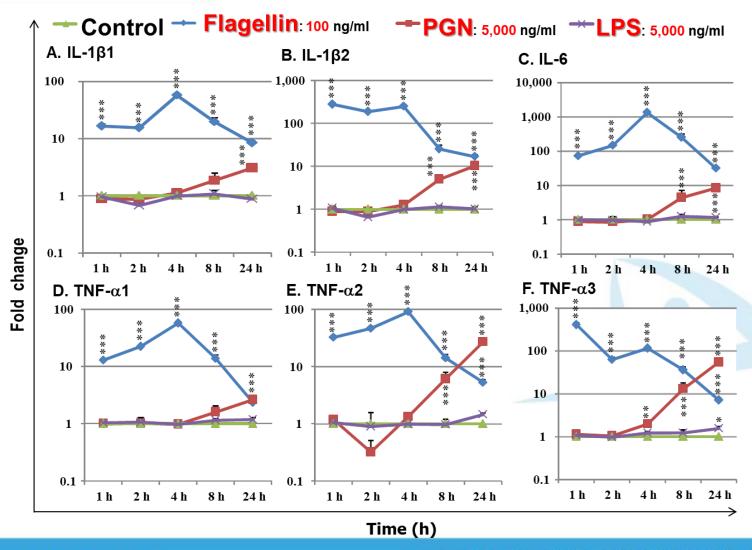
Bioactive recombinant cytokines from broad Atlantic salmon, tilapia and zebrafish.

Type I and II interferons, IL-1β, IFNγ, IL-2, IL-6, TNFα etc.

Recombinant proteins for health markers. SAA5, CRP, Leptin,



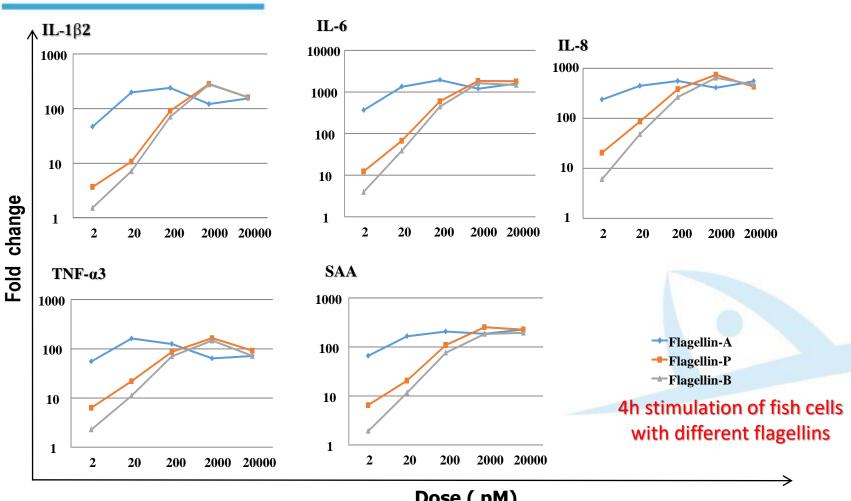
# Solution 5: Flagellins are the most potent immune stimulants in vitro in fish cells





#### Potency of flagellins





Dose (pM)

Different flagellins affect fish cells differently



#### **Summary**



- Develop urgent antibodies & recombinants- available for research
- Provide custom antibody & recombinant production services
- Provide IHC validation service
- Al software
  - Visual scanning (i.e. gill's health, skeletal muscle deformities)
  - Vaccine and diagnostic design
- Generation-1 of bioactive molecules
  - in vitro & in vivo research
- Generation-2 of Bioengineered molecules
  - vaccine adjuvants
  - immunostimulants



### Thank You



#### **ParaFishControl**

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Dr Ema Bello Gomez

**Prof. Chris Secombes** 

**Dr Jason Holland** 



