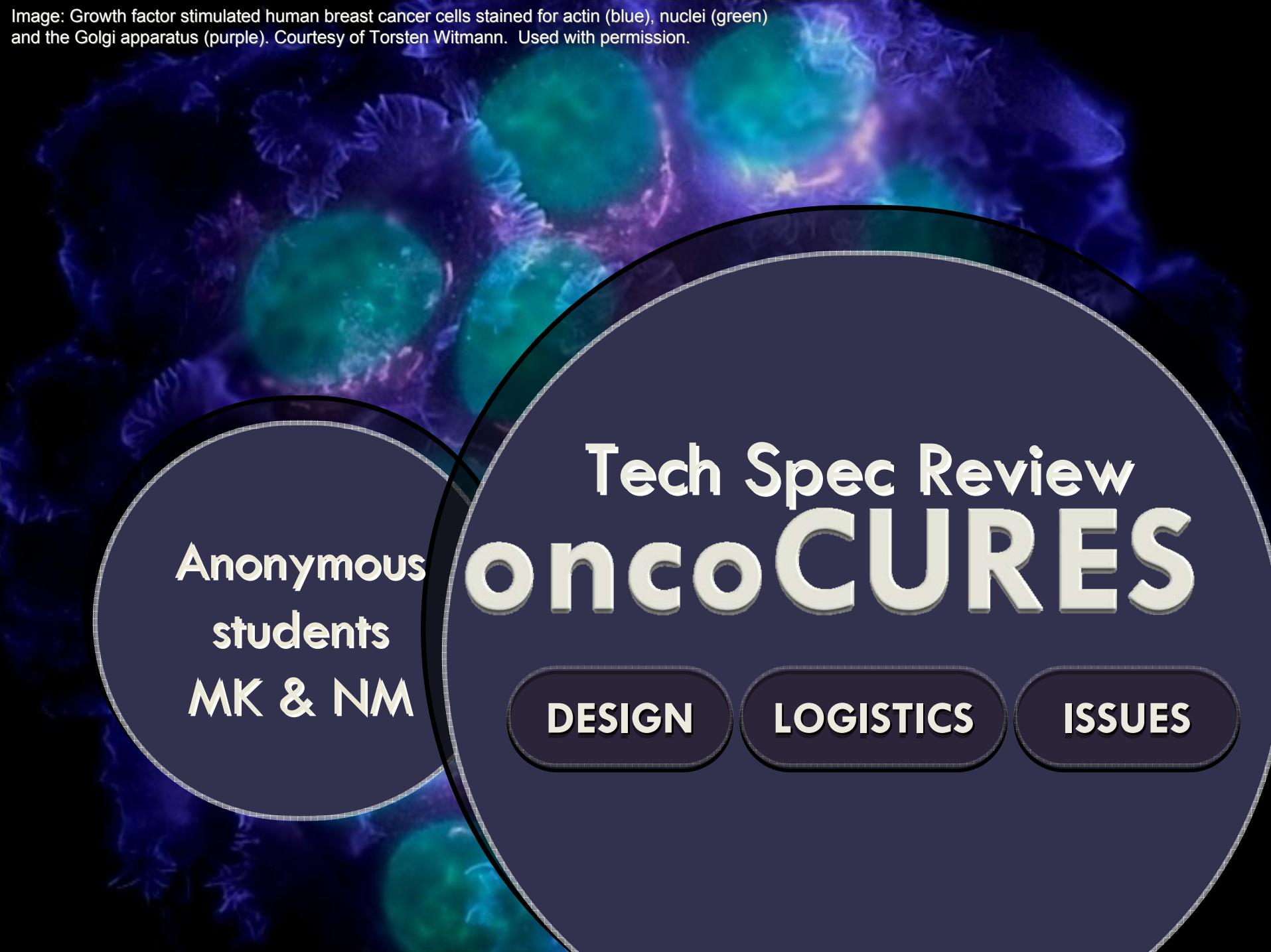


Image: Growth factor stimulated human breast cancer cells stained for actin (blue), nuclei (green) and the Golgi apparatus (purple). Courtesy of Torsten Witmann. Used with permission.

The background of the slide features a detailed fluorescence micrograph of human breast cancer cells. The image is dominated by shades of blue, green, and purple, representing actin filaments, nuclei, and the Golgi apparatus respectively. The cells are shown in various stages of division and growth, creating a complex and organic pattern.

Anonymous  
students  
MK & NM

# Tech Spec Review **oncoCURES**

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

# oncoCURES

## Tech Spec Review

### The “What?”

- added cells mark cancer in metastasis
- lights up near tumors

### The “How?”

- use dual signaling to indicate metastasis
- signals production of light
- shows tumor cells moving

### The “Why?”

- main cause of death
- possibility of killing tumor cells

# SYSTEM OVERVIEW

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

DEVICE-LEVEL DIAGRAM:  
PATIENT T-CELL CHASSIS

“DEBRIS”

MMP-1 → MMP SENSOR

COX-2 → COX SENSOR

PROSTANOID

C1+ PRODUCTS  
“AND”, SIGNAL PRODUCER

LUCIFERIN  
PHOSPHORYLATION

LIGHT PRODUCER

LIGHT

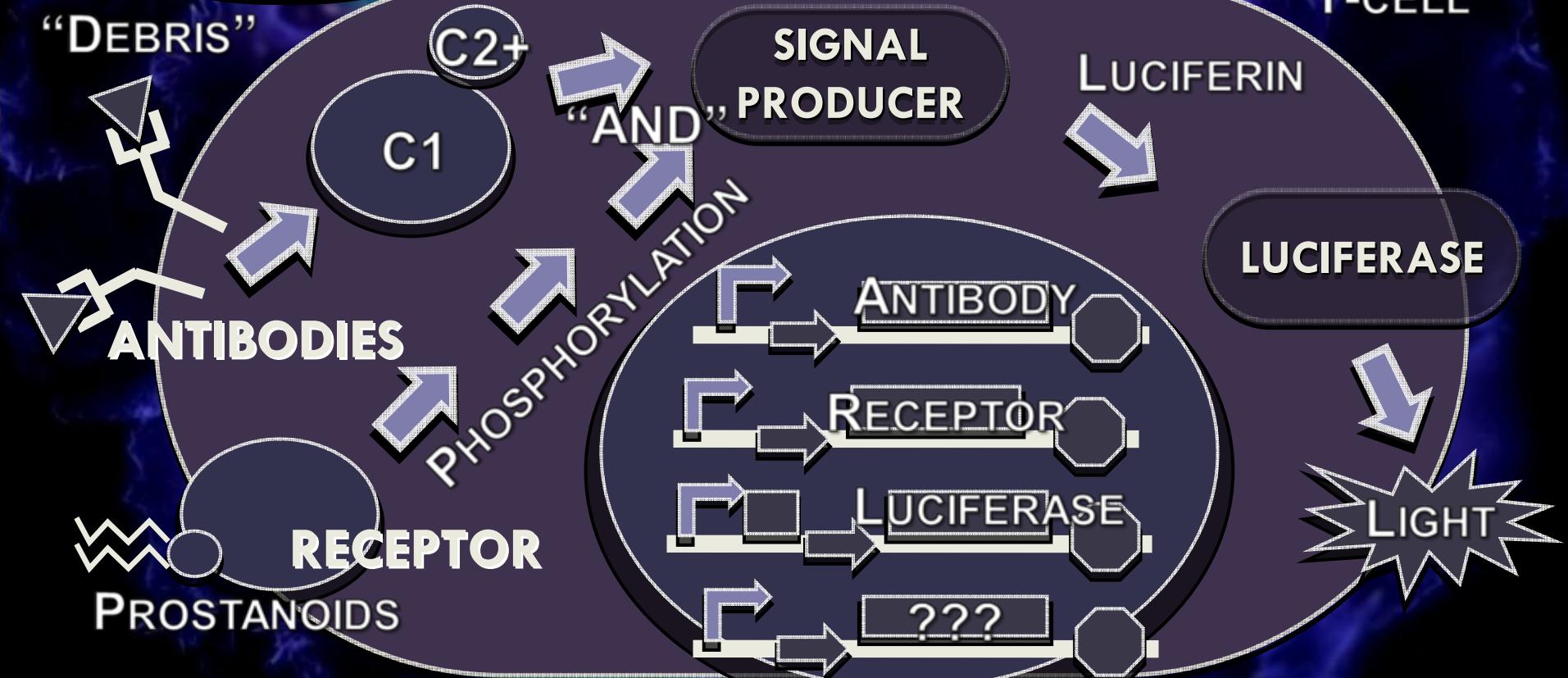
# SYSTEM OVERVIEW

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

## PARTS-LEVEL DIAGRAM:



# MMP SENSOR

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

“DEBRIS”

MMP-1

MMP  
SENSOR

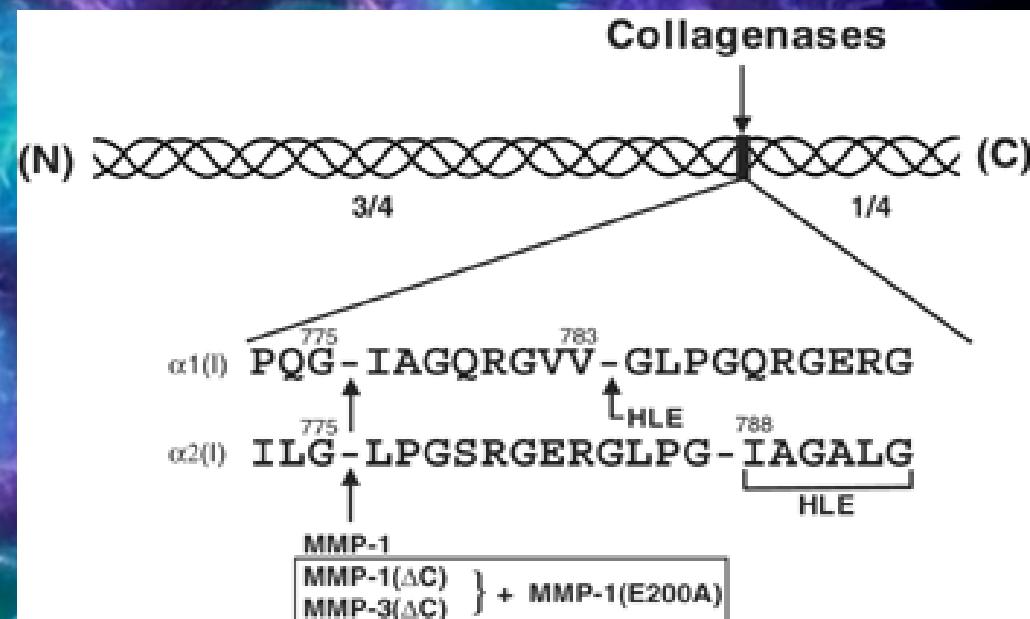
“DEBRIS”

C1+ PRODUCTS

MMP-1



Courtesy of RCSB.org



Source: Chung, L., et al. "Collagenase unwinds triple-helical collagen prior to peptide bond hydrolysis." *The EMBO Journal* 23 (2004): 3020-3030.

Courtesy of Hideaki Nagase. Used with permission.

# MMP SENSOR

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES



## PARTS:

- GENE REGULATION
- ANTIBODIES, C1



## FUNCTION:

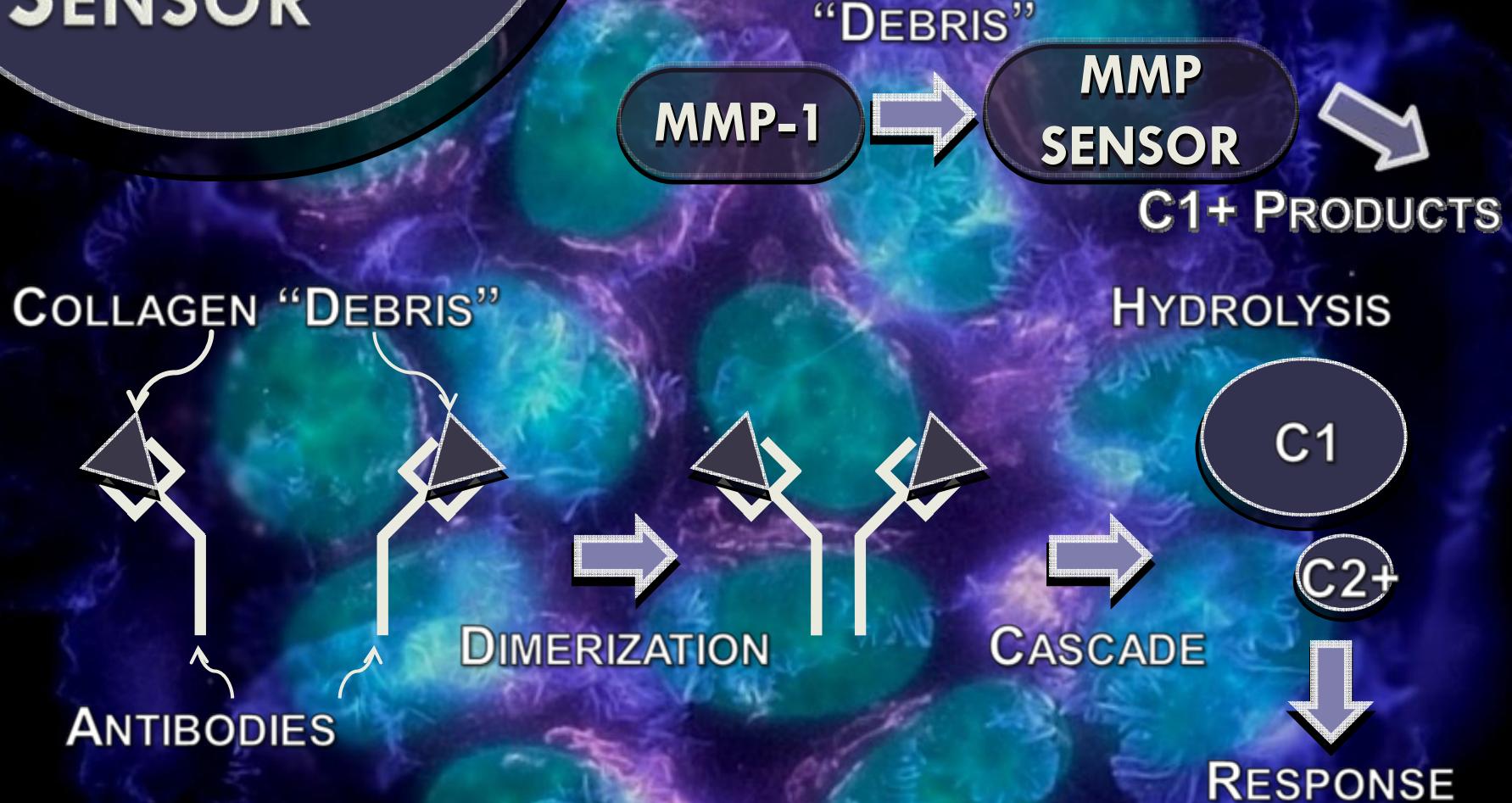
- STRONG PROMOTER, GENE, TERMINATOR
- SURFACE ANTIBODIES BIND MMP PRODUCTS
- DETECT MMP-1 ENZYME IN AREA (METASTASIS)

# MMP SENSOR

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES



# COX SENSOR

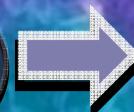
DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

COX-2

COX  
SENSOR



PROSTANOID

PHOSPHORYLATION



Image removed due to copyright restrictions.

# COX SENSOR

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

COX-2

COX  
SENSOR

PROSTANOID

## PARTS:

- GENE REGULATION
- RECEPTOR

## FUNCTION:

- STRONG PROMOTER, GENE, TERMINATOR
- RECEPTORS BIND COX PRODUCTS
- DETECT COX-2 ENZYME IN AREA (METASTASIS)



# SIGNAL PRODUCER

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES



## PARTS:

- GENE REGULATION
- BLACK BOX



## FUNCTION:

- MODERATELY STRONG PROMOTER, TERMINATOR, GENE?
- MAKES LUCIFERIN FOR LUCIFERASE
- “AND” GATE ENSURES TUMOR PROXIMITY

# LIGHT PRODUCER

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

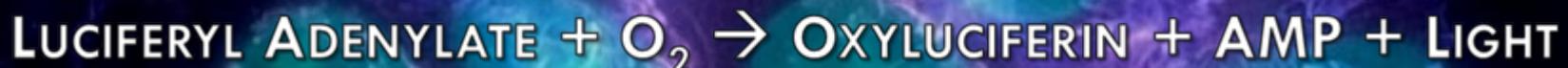
LUCIFERIN



LIGHT  
PRODUCER



LIGHT



## SUBSTRATES:

- ATP PRESENT
- O<sub>2</sub> AFFECTED BY TUMOR, INVERTER?
- LUCIFERIN FROM SIGNAL PRODUCER

Image removed due to  
copyright restrictions.  
Photo of a glowing insect.

# LIGHT PRODUCER

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

LUCIFERIN

LIGHT  
PRODUCER

LIGHT

## PARTS:

- GENE REGULATION
- LUCIFERASE



## FUNCTION:

- STRONGER PROMOTER, ENHANCER, GENE, TERMINATOR
- EXCESSIVE PRODUCTION OF LIGHT
- HIGHLIGHTS TROUBLED AREAS

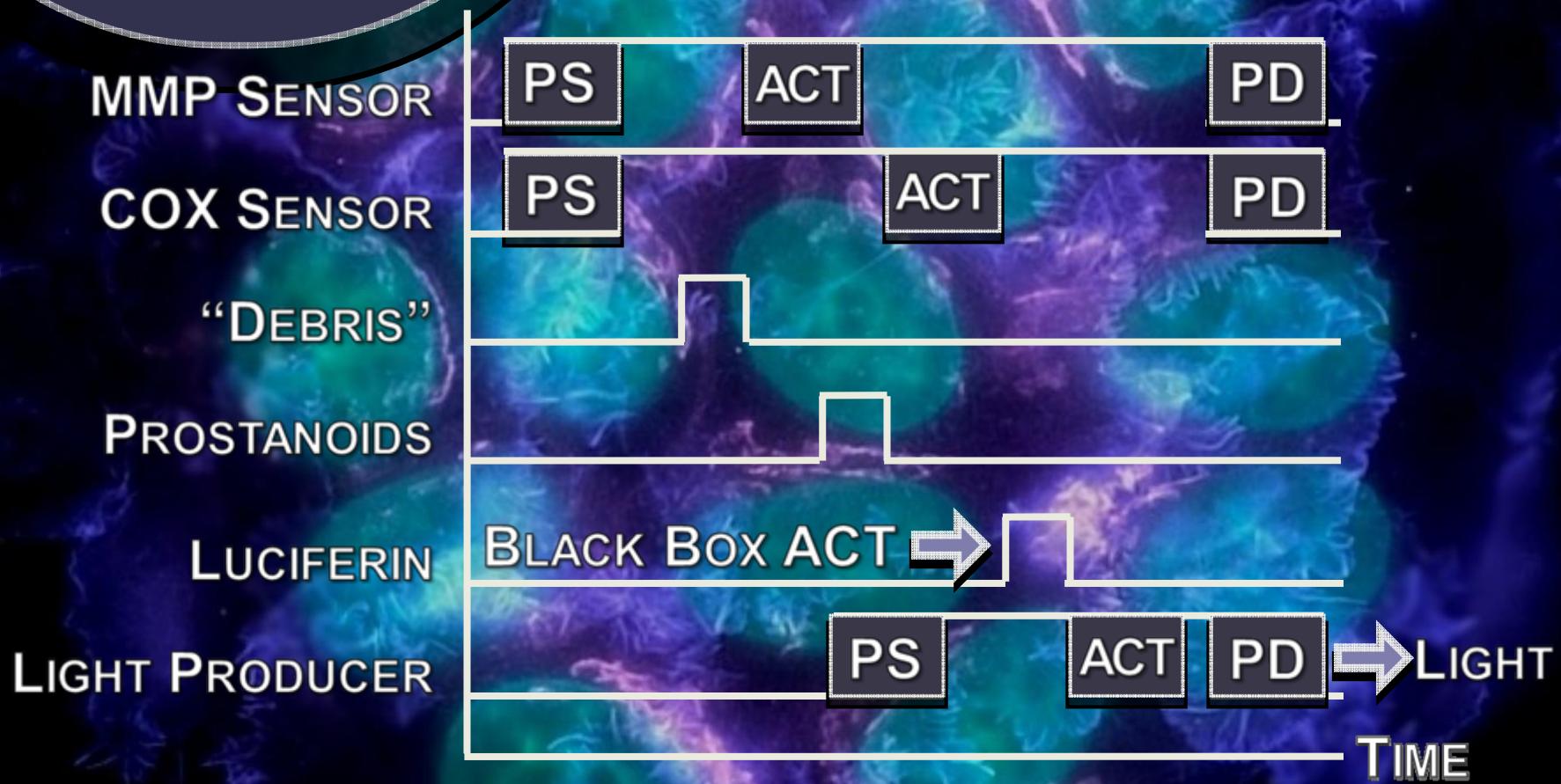
# TIMING DIAGRAM

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

PS = SYNTHESIS   ACT = ACTIVATION  
PD = DEGRADATION



# MAKING IT WORK

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

## TESTING:

- MEMBRANE PRESENCE, CELL FREEZE-FRACTURE
- EXTRACELLULAR BINDING

## DEBUGGING:

- REPORTERS USING INTERMEDIATES
- IN VITRO, BBA\_I13522, GFP FOR

## DEVICE PRODUCTION

- LUCIFERIN REACTION

Image removed due to copyright restrictions.

Diagram with caption “freeze-fracture splits membrane.”



DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

# QUESTIONS

## BUILDABLE?

- USED IN OTHER RESEARCH
- IMITATES DEVELOPING MEDICAL TREATMENTS

## COST?

- PRODUCTION OF ANTIBODIES, RECEPTOR EVOLUTION, ETC.

## TIME?

- EXPERIMENTATION AND TESTING
- SEVERAL PARTS TO DEVELOP

# QUESTIONS

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

## SAFETY?

- POSSIBLE TRIGGERING AT WRONG TIMES
- FOREIGN BODY, MUST BE TEMPORARY

## SECURITY?

- ABUSE OF TECHNOLOGY IN HUMANS
- TAKING ADVANTAGE OF EXCEPTION TO IMMUNE RESPONSE

A close-up, microscopic view of breast cancer metastasis cells. The cells are spherical and have a translucent, glowing quality with internal structures visible. They are surrounded by a dense, textured matrix of fibers and smaller cellular components, all set against a dark, almost black background.

DESIGN

LOGISTICS

ISSUES

# BENEFITS

## IMPACT:

- DETECT BEGINNING OF METASTASIS
- UNDERSTAND CAUSES
- PATTERN IN MOVEMENT
- SENSE OF TIMING FOR DIAGNOSIS

Image removed due to copyright restrictions. Artist's rendering of breast cancer metastasis at  
<http://www.topcancernews.com/news/2073/breast-cancer-metastasis-could-be-predicted.html>

# oncoCURES

## Tech Spec Review

### Final Decision?

- several uncertainties
- however, experimentation leads to insight on workings of metastasis
- worth exploring

**YES!**

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- [HTTP://WWW.NATURE.COM/EMBOJ/JOURNAL/V23/N15/FIG\\_TAB/7600318FT.HTML](HTTP://WWW.NATURE.COM/EMBOJ/JOURNAL/V23/N15/FIG_TAB/7600318FT.HTML)
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