# Genetic research: Long-term innovative potential & its suppression

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## Scientific revolution











Refs: http://en.chinaculture.org https://www.britannica.com https://www.worldhistory.org https://www.heritage-print.com

#### Fitness landscape



Centralized: Rapid climbing, but near the local peak

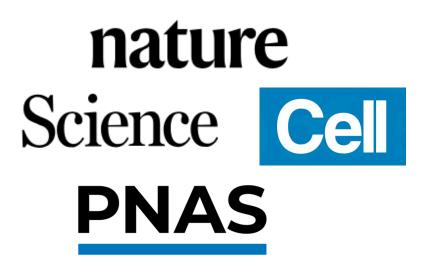
Diversity-driven: Suboptimal exploration, but to the global peak

#### These days ...





Research Grants Council 研究資助局



# Commercial pressure: Short-term returns & risk aversion

The Review of Financial Studies



#### Missing Novelty in Drug Development\*

Joshua Krieger

Harvard Business School

Danielle Li

MIT Sloan and NBER



**ENVIRONMENT** 

Dimitris Papanikolaou Kellogg School of Management BP cuts funding for 'most promising' biofuel

# Commercial pressure: Short-term returns & risk aversion

#### How about the case of genetic research?



Ref: Depositphotos

#### Paper vs. Patent

Paper: Only few % company-funded for each gene

Patent: >70% company-assigned for each gene

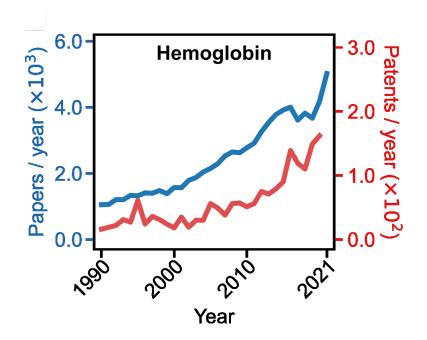
→ Mostly driven by industry

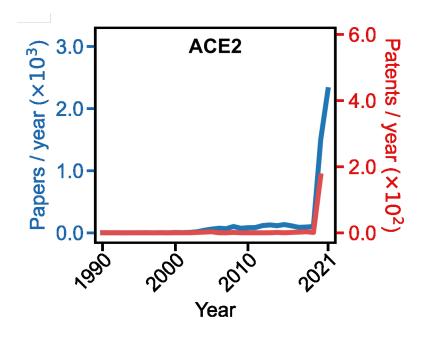
#### **Datasets**

Various bio- and medical areas, about 20 M papers and patent families (US, China, Europe).

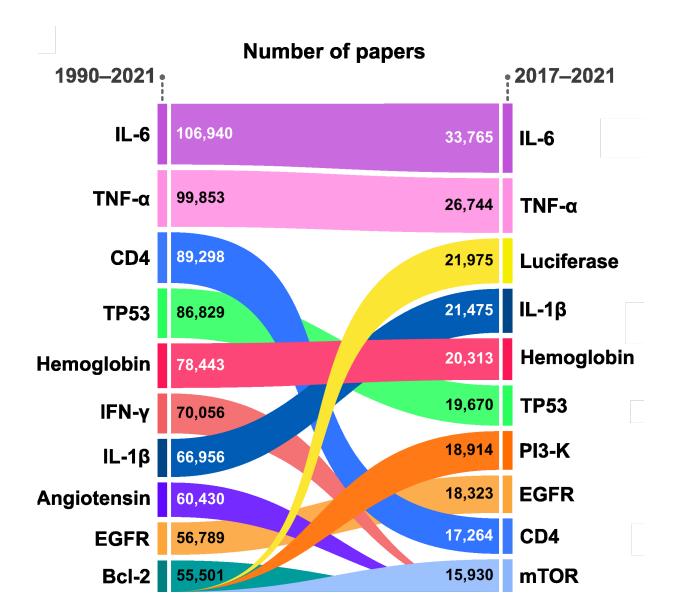
Genes for protein production (UniProtKB/Swiss-Prot)

#### Paper vs. Patent

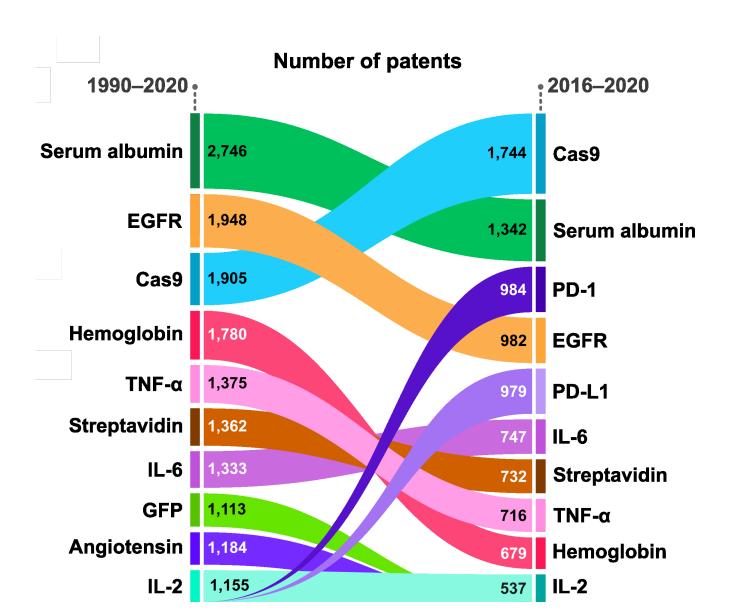




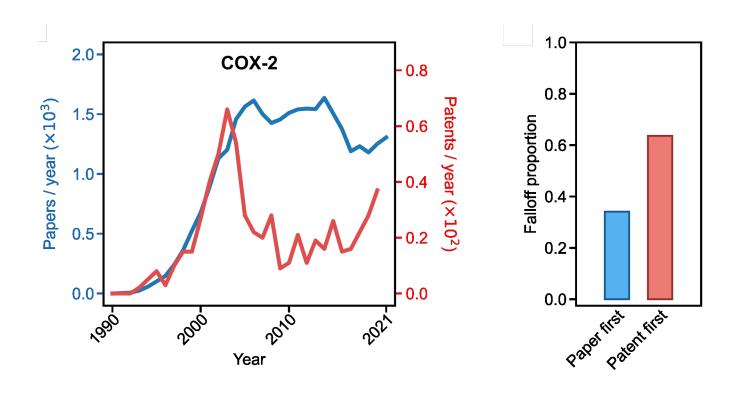
#### Top 10 genes in papers



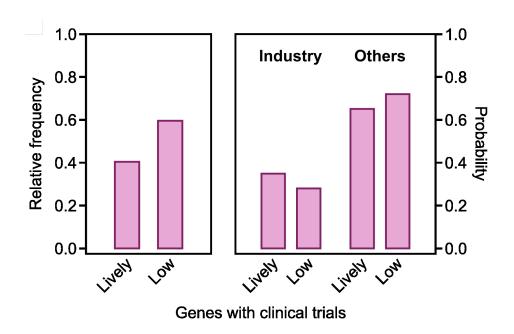
## Top 10 genes in patents



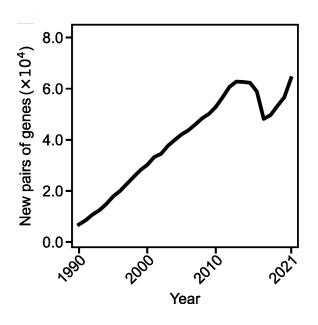
#### Industry interests vs. scientific research



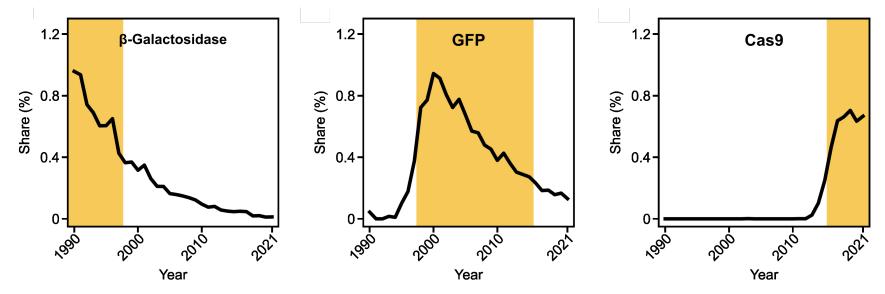
#### Industry interests vs. scientific research

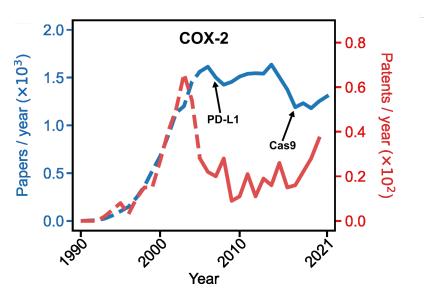


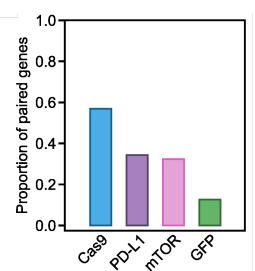
Genes with clinical trials: Example of the pursuit of impactful works



## New combinations of genes → Innovative attempts.



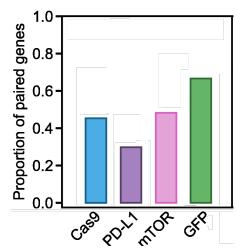




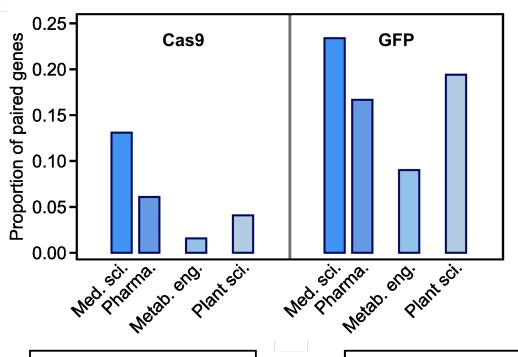
Long-term exploration continues after the patent falloff.

What if commercial pressure propagates from industry to scientific activities outside?

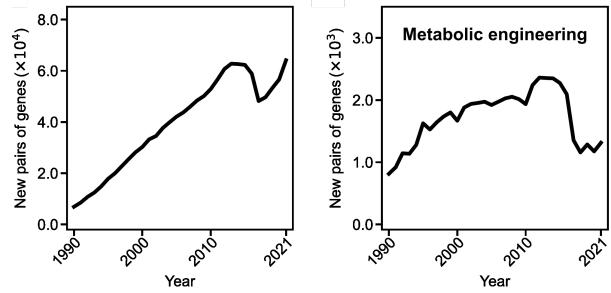
- → Movel gene pairs lost.
- → Cost of over-reliance on commercially-driven research.



#### Fields of highly commercial focus



Proportion of genes in each thematic category, paired in the early stage



New pairs of all genes

→ Warning for low innovation vitality

## Despite the perceived positive role of commercial pressure in technology progress ...

#### POLICY FORUM

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

## The growing influence of industry in Al research

Any implications?

Industry is gaining control over the technology's future

By Nur Ahmed<sup>1,2</sup>, Muntasir Wahed<sup>3</sup>, Neil C. Thompson<sup>1,2</sup>

of talent, we see that industry is winnin contest. Data on North American uni

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