

Synthetic biology in the foundry era

Jake Wintermute

Developer Evangelist, Ginkgo Bioworks

Paris Bioconvergence November 2023

Property of Ginkgo Bioworks







My short biography in the US and France



2011 Harvard Medical School



2022-2023 Ginkgo Bioworks

2011 - 2022

Centre de Récherches Interdisciplinaire





SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY IN THE FOUNDRY ERA



The world needs more biology

Image created with the assistance of DALL-E 3



Property of Ginkgo Bioworks – 3





Biology needs more developers





The bioconvergence changes everything about how we build with biology.

How Ginkgo Bioworks works

Insights from a commercial foundry

What developers can build

Examples of foundry-powered projects

How we design R&D projects

Al makes data more valuable and reusable

Who can build with biology

The next generation of synbio startups

Where innovation happens

The case for Paris as a global synbio hub



SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY IN THE FOUNDRY ERA



How Ginkgo Bioworks works



Lessons from a commercial foundry







A horizontal platform for cell programming and biotech R&D

Since 2008, building integrated automation, software, and biological tools

In 2021, began trading publicly (\$DNA) after raising \$1.6 billion

~1200 bioworkers including 100s of synthetic biologists, process engineers & data scientists







Over 100 programs across industries Our partners select us to address challenges from discovery through manufacturing

THERAPEUTICS & VACCINES

Pharmaceutical manufacturing

Development of production hosts and processes for the production of a range of products and reagents

Gene Therapy Platform

Optimize recombinant adenoassociated virus (AAV)-based vectors.

Living Therapeutics

Engineering metabolic pathways in microbes towards therapeutic candidates for metabolic disorders





Textiles & Colors

Optimize and scale the production of fibers and colors traditionally obtained from rare sources



Industrial Enzymes

Create a fast and more effective way to create enzymes for the food industry

KERRY

Cargill

Materials

Develop sustainable bio-based chemicals in multiple industries





SYNTHETIC BIOLOGY IN THE FOUNDRY ERA



CCTTCAGCTAGTGGAAGATATT GTTTAGTCGAGAGAGTTGCACA CTTCACTGAAGTTCTGCAAATT ATACATGAGCTGTACCCTGATT TGCAACTTCCAGAGAAATGTTC GGATGATAAACCTTTTGTGCCA ACATATCAGGTGTCCAAAGAAA AGGCAAAGAGCTTGGGGAATTGA GTTTATTCCATTAGACATTAGC CTCAAGGAAACAATTGAAAGCT TGAAGGAAAAGAGTATCGTCAG CTTCTGAATGAGCAACAAGGTG GTCTGCGTCACGGGTGCCTCCG GCTACATTGCTTCATGGCTCGT CAAGCTCCTCCTCCAACGCGGC TACACTGTCAAGGCCTCTGTTC GCAACCCAAATGATCCAACAAA GACGGAGCACTTGCTCGCACTT GATGGAGCTAAGGAGAGACTTC AACTTTTCAAAGCAGATCTATT AGAAGAAGGTTCTTTGACTCT GCTGTTGAGGGCTGTGAGGGTG TTTTCCACACTGCATCCACTGC

Biology is fundamentally programmable





roperty of Ginkgo Bioworks – 9





The Foundry is our automation infrastructure in both hardware and software

















Platform scale economics mean more customers, which leads to a better service and more biotech products going to market











Services make it easy for developers to access our platform











What developers can build



Examples of foundry-powered R&D

Many emerging therapeutic modalities are programmable



Cell Therapy

Emily Whitehead, first pediatric CAR-T patient. Cancer free nearly 11 years later.



AAV Therapy

Jack Hogan, one of the first patients to receive AAV gene therapy to correct progressive blindness.

We need to increase efficacy, safety and access to these remarkable medicines Making biology easier to engineer is the way

CRISPR Therapy

Victoria Gray, first recipient of CRISPR-edited blood cells to correct her sickle cell disease.

Stem Cell Therapy

Brian Shelton, first recipient of insulin producing pancreatic cells generated from stem cells.

FIRST IN HUMAN







Mammalian cell engineering at Ginkgo is a platform of platforms

OUR THREE THERAPEUTIC SERVICE AREAS











Combinatorially screening CAR libraries at foundry scale





















CAR-T POOLED SCREENING WORKFLOW



Serially challenge with tumor cells to induce T cell exhaustion over weeks

3

Isolate DNA and sequence barcodes of enriched T cells to identify better ICD combinations

4

THE COLOR

Pooled screening

WAYS TO WORK TOGETHER

Pooled ICD screening with your CAR binder in 6 months

Validation testing

Testing our validated hits in your CAR format

Bespoke work

Bespoke library and assay design for your context

Functional CAR-T tests in one screening campaign

>100M

T cells transduced









10,000 2-ICD library screen identifies ICDs that outperform standard 28z and BBz

Enrichment of barcodes at Day 20 of tumor stimulation 55 clones >30-fold enrichment 10 **BBz CAR** BBz CAR Log₂FC_ 28z CAR 10 15 10 -10 0 15 -5 Log₂FC_Rep1



High affinity scFv to solid tumor antigen

Low affinity scFv to solid tumor antigen







How we design R&D projects



AI makes data more valuable and reusable



Data from Codebase is used to build and enhance foundation models and fine-tune applications that allow us to design better Foundry experiments







Ginkgo invests in data resources and expansive data-generating capacity, making it available to our developers



Functional assays 10,000+ Enzyme screens per week

Mass spectrometry **10,000+** Metabolomics profiles per day

Fermentation process data 8,000+ small-scale fermentations annually

Cell Therapy

10,000+ combinatorial library of characterized CAR designs

RNA Therapeutics & Vaccines

Structural and regulatory elements for mRNA and circRNA







The hardest problems in biotech require multi-modal data

The Ginkgo foundry is integrated facility for producing high quality and interoperable data

Biological Data Types

70+ million strain tests annually



Application Areas

Across biopharmaceutical & industrial biotech







We've collected roughly 2 billion wild-type gene sequences

Available for use in metagenomic discovery projects or training sequenced-based foundation models



~2 billion genes

Including novel industrial enzyme, novel natural product, and novel protein

Our library 2018



Our library 2023







Our experience with

We have covered a lo

Arrayed experimental sample tests, color coded by program

>5M

total arrayed experimental assay tests

>200

.

The Article and the second state state

COMPANY & STREET, STREET, ST

In the second state of the second

The local data and the

NAME AND ADDRESS OF TAXABLE PARTY.

unique customer programs with enzyme campaigns

enzymes	s bro	ad	
of functional sp	ace		
			-
			 _
	-		
			-



total multiplexed experimental assay tests



unique enzyme improvement campaigns







Al is transforming how businesses operate

As an example, chat-based apps are quickly revolutionizing day-to-day business operations



Can you help me write a presentation on protein design at Ginkgo Bioworks?

View other drafts v

Sure, here is a possible outline for a presentation on protein design at Ginkgo Bioworks:

Introduction

- What is protein design?
- Why is protein design important?
- What is Ginkgo Bioworks and what do they do?
- Ginkgo Bioworks' approach to protein design

Protein design workflow at Ginkgo Bioworks

- Define the desired protein function. This can be done by working with customers to understand their needs or by identifying unmet needs in the market.
- 2. Design the protein sequence. This can be done using a variety of computational methods, including rational design and machine learning.
- 3. Synthesize the protein. Ginkgo Bioworks has a proprietary platform for high-throughput protein synthesis.
- 4. Test and optimize the protein. Ginkgo Bioworks has a variety of experimental methods for testing and optimizing protein function.
- 5. Scale up the protein production process. Once a protein has been optimized, Ginkgo Bioworks can scale up the production process to meet customer needs.

Case studies of protein design projects at Ginkgo Bioworks

- Designing enzymes for new applications, such as biofuels production or food processing
- Developing new therapeutic proteins for diseases such as cancer and Alzheimer's







Al is revolutionizing protein science and design

Transformative machine learning research coupled with the existence of the PDB and public sequence databases have led to disruptive developments in our field



Image credit: DeepMind

T1037 / 6vr4 90.7 GDT (RNA polymerase domain) T1049 / 6y4f 93.3 GDT (adhesin tip)

Experimental result

Computational prediction























Data-guided AI with Owl produces consistently high performance



Large experimental datasets coupled with Owl ML-guided design yield more variants with improved performance as compared to traditional methods.







Google's Vertex AI enables us to build foundation models & apps across applications

Stability in vivo



Seeking pharma innovation partners in therapeutic modalities including:













Who can build with biology



The next generation of synbio startups

Source: Wikimedia Commons

Early-stage biotech won't look like this forever.



















Physical lab space is optional for a synthetic biology startup

Startups can avoid spending on overpriced lab space and overpriced lab equipment



Jasmina Aganovic — Arcaea Chief Executive Officer

"Arcaea was able to begin lab work in weeks without building out our own biotech capabilities but more importantly, we were also able to access high throughput automation within Ginkgo's Foundry. That meant our team could access an enormous amount of data that helped us move quickly and stay focused on what we do best in personal care product development. This is a driver to why we were able to launch a compelling, differentiated product in less than two years. Had we not worked with Ginkgo, we would never have been able to move this fast or deliver as great of a product."







Where innovation happens



The case for Paris as a global synbio hub city





iGEM is the global heart of synthetic biology

(and it's right here in Paris)

400 teams in 2023 66 countries ~5000 participants

















42



Q



The world needs more biology

Image created with the assistance of DALL-E 3



²roperty of Ginkgo Bioworks – 44





FoundryTheory.substack.com







Foundry Theory

What is a Foundry for Biology?



nurv Theor id to End with ular RNA A01

End to End with Circular RNA RNA therapeutics are programmable... OCT 20 · JAKE WINTERMUTE



Is Machine Learning the Language of Biology?

We explore why biology is hard to grasp ...

OCT 16 · JAKE WINTERMUTE







Foundry Theory

Making biology easier to understand