

Imperial College London



DIAL-A-MOLECULE
An EPSRC Grand Challenge Network

EPSRC

Pioneering research
and skills

syngenta

Dr.Reddy's

gsk
GlaxoSmithKline

AstraZeneca

abbvie

jmp
Statistical Discovery™ From SAS.



Agilent Technologies

domainex
the faster route to drug discovery

P&G

**Poly
material**

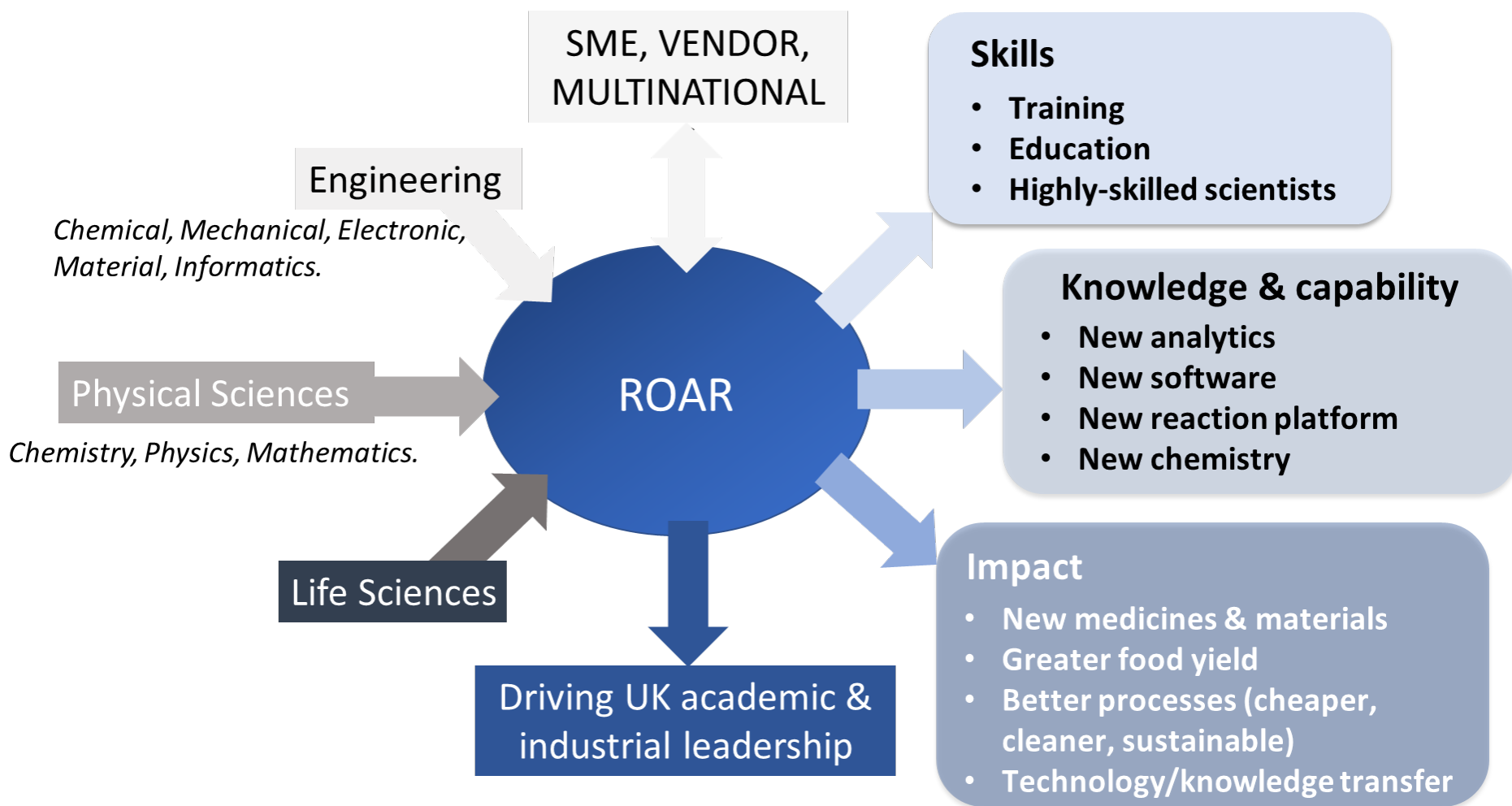
METTLER
TOLEDO

Centre for
Rapid, Online Analysis of Reactions
(ROAR)

Dial-A-Molecule Institute @ Imperial College London

UK's Flagship Facility for Synthetic Chemistry

Centre for Rapid Online Analysis of Reactions (ROAR)



ROAR: Our Mission



- An infrastructure project – **equipment AND expertise**
- **Training in key skills** that are not currently provided in academic education
- Develop/discover the **next generation** of **synthesis & analytics**
- From **fundamental studies** to **industrially-relevant problems**
- Enables UK Academia and industry to take **leadership in Molecular Sciences** research

Who we are, and what we do



Prof. Mimi Hii
Director



Dr. Ben Deadman
Facility Manager



Dr. Paola Ferrini
Research Technician



TBA
Research Technician

- Provide access to state-of-the-art facilities
- Organise Training
- Showcase Technology

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Reaction Automation: Hardware

- First robot: automatic dispensing of solid/liquids
 - Mounted in a purge box
 - Ability to handle plates/vials
 - Powder dispense from vials and hoppers
 - Powder dispense from vials and hoppers
 - Positive displacement liquid dispense (10 μ L – 10 mL)
 - Analytical balance with integrated camera for dispensing mass up to 1200 g (0.1 mg resolution)
 - Ionizer to minimize static



freeslate jr. configured for solid dispense



freeslate jr. delivering a plate from shoulder hotel to balance



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 Waste bin | 4 Vial/plate gripper |
| 2 Powder dispense hopper rack | 5 Tip rack |
| 3 Viscous liquid and solid dispenser | 6 Balance with integrated camera |
| | 7 Vertical plate hotel |



Reaction Automation: Hardware

- Second robot: High-Throughput Screening
 - Liquid dispense and aspiration
 - ca. 1,000 serial operations per day
 - 1 mL vials (96-well plate spacing) to 125 mL jars



PolyView
Review and report all info
from experimental design,
execution and analytics



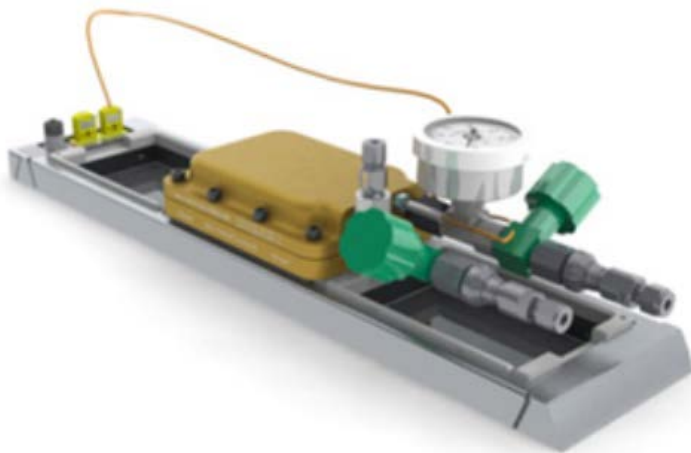
Library Studio
Design complex, high-throughput
experiments in an array-based
format



Automation Studio
Execute designed experiments
and integrated analytics

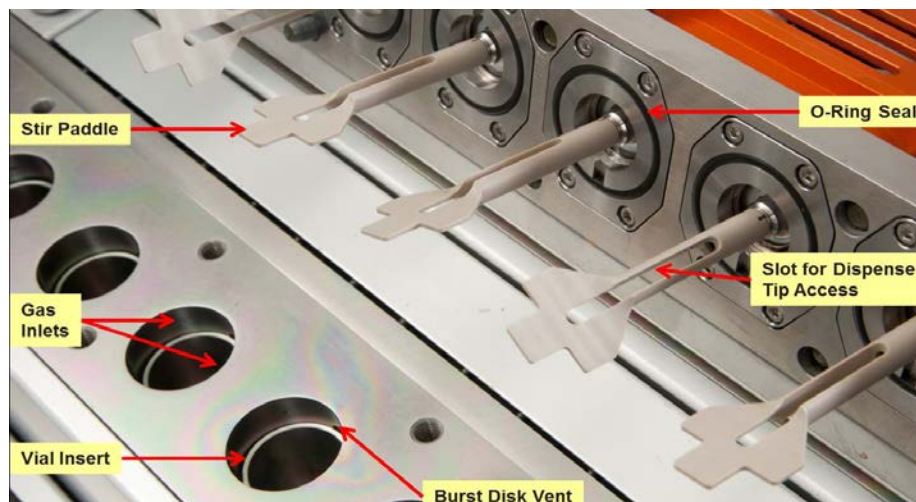
Reaction Automation: Hardware

- Key features
 - Magnetic tumble stirring
 - Excellent mixing even in 96-well plate format
 - Will place additional tumble stirrers off-robot
 - -20 to 180 °C in 6 zones
 - Deck-Screening Pressure Reactor
 - 48 wells with magnetic stirring
 - Up to 200 psi (14 bar) at 180 °C (300 psi at 24 °C)



Reaction Automation: Hardware

- Third robot: Optimizing Sapling Reactor (OSR) module
 - 8 parallel reactors, 5-25 mL working volume
 - Additional heating/cooling/stirring plate/vial positions for screening
 - Overhead mechanical stirring
 - Independent temperature controls (-20 → 200 °C)
 - Independent pressure controls (30-400 psi @ 150 °C)
 - Gas manifolds.
 - Sampling while under pressurized atmosphere, including suspensions



Analytical Support: Chromatography

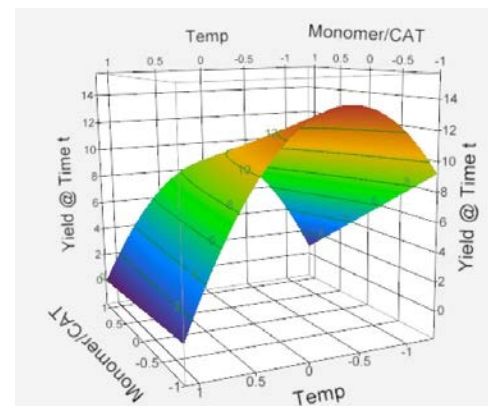
- Agilent 1290II/6530-DAD-QTOF
 - Binary pump
 - Multisampler (holds up to $16 \times 384 = 6144$ samples, vials, 96- or 384 well plates)
 - Sample cooler
 - Multicolumn thermostat (up to 8 columns)
 - Diode-array detector
 - QTOF
- Agilent 1260II SFC/hybrid-DAD-MS
 - Quaternary pump
 - Multisampler (up to 6144)
 - Sampler cooler
 - DAD
 - Valve for SFC/uHPLC switching



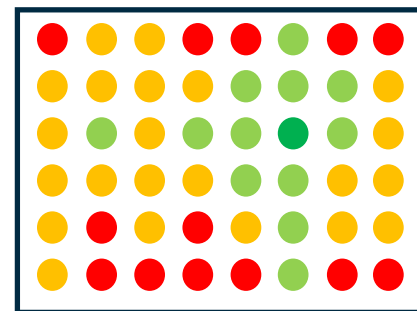
Note: This is in addition to the £4M Agilent Measurement Suite

Reaction Automation: Applications

- Optimisation of Continuous Variables
 - Multivariate optimization using Design of Experiments (DoE)
 - JMP providing licenses for DOE software
 - Solubility studies (possible)
 - For recrystallization
 - For formulation
 - Automate other testing protocols

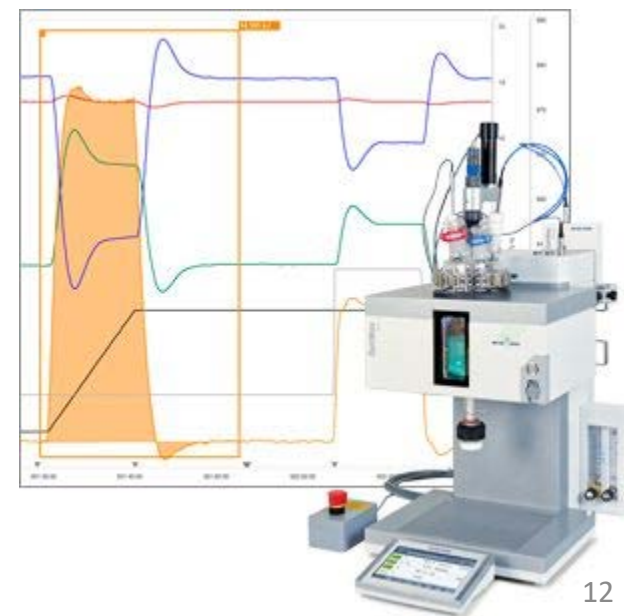


- Categorical Variable Screening
 - *e.g.* Ligand, solvent, and additive screens
 - Full factorial screens
 - 9 heated and stirred positions
 - Each position can hold 96 vials or 384 well plates
 - Potentially > 3,000 conditions screened at once!



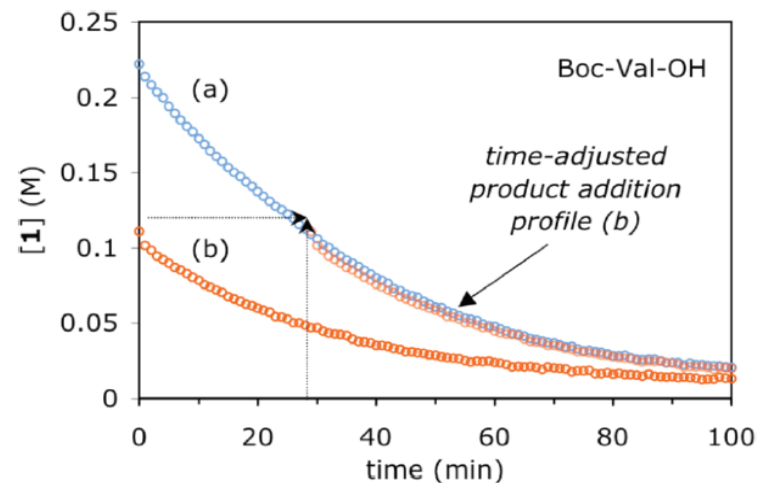
Reaction Kinetics: Reactors

- Mettler-Toledo EasyMax station
 - 2-Position (25 mL – 100 mL)
 - or 6-position (3 mL – 25 mL)
 - Alloy C22 stirrer
 - or magnetic stirring
- OptiMax HFCal
 - Single Position (50 mL – 1,000 mL)
 - Automated dosing
 - Alloy C22 stirrer
- Automated dosing
- Multiple temperature control regimes
- PC Control and full data collection
- Reaction studies across scales



Reaction Kinetics: Analytics

- ReactIR
 - Batch probe
 - Temperature controlled flow-cell
- EasySampler
 - Automated sample collection and dilution for offline analysis (e.g. HPLC)
- Heat Flow Calorimetry
- PAT Control Box
 - Can take feed from other sensors (e.g. pH)
- Data is synchronised
- High-quality reaction data



Continuous Flow: Hardware

- Thalesnano: H-Cube Pro, Phoenix, Cat Cart Changer
- MT ReactIR-flow cell



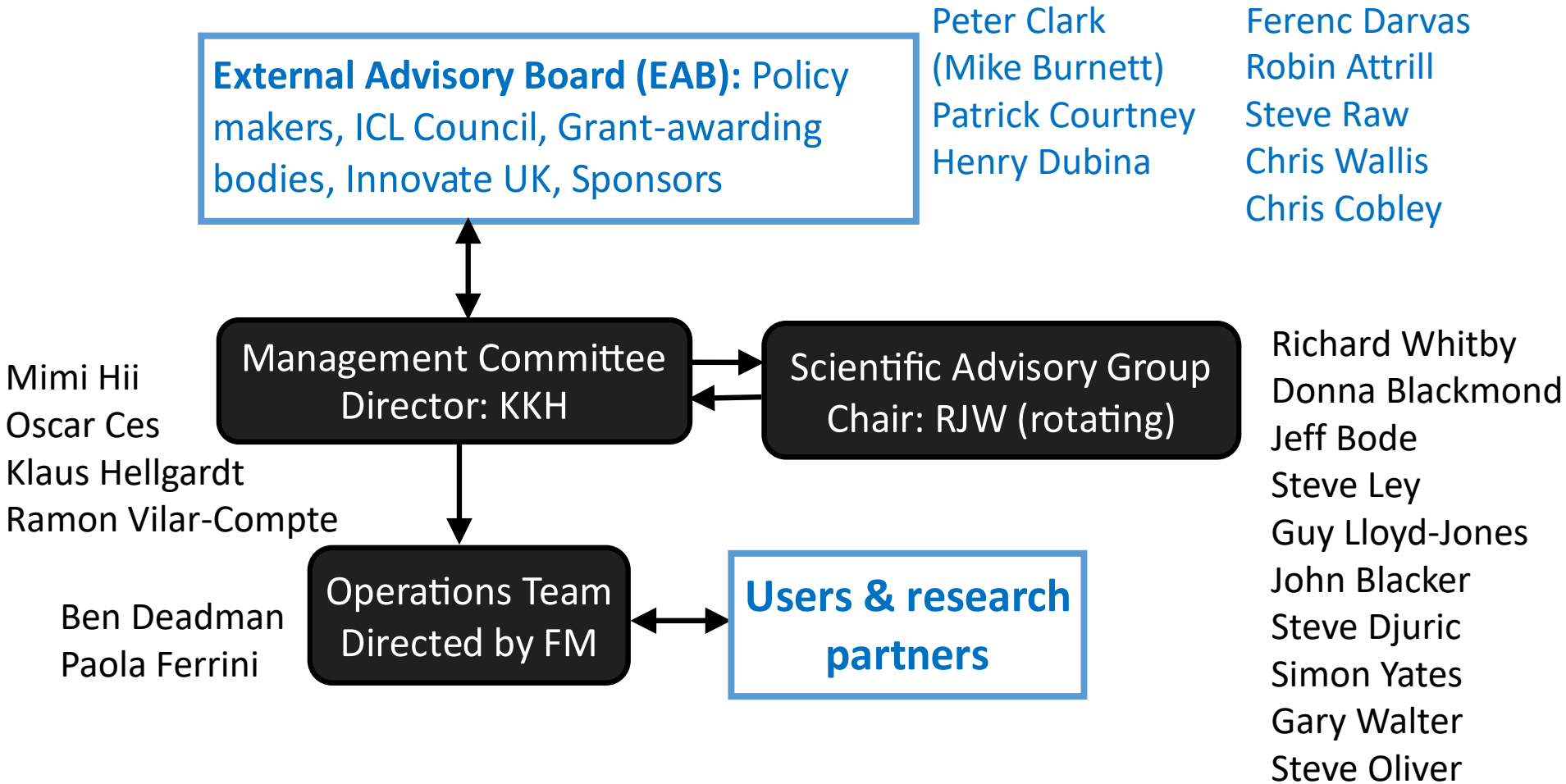
- CF hydrogenation reactor with H_2 -generator (up to 60 mL/min)
- 10-150 °C
- 1-100 bar
- 0.3-3 mL/min



- Standalone unit with BPR, HPLC pump, gas module and g-l mixer
- r.t. to 450 °C
- 1-200 bar
- 30/70 mm cartridges or 8 mL SS loop

Additional flow reactors being acquired through tender.

Organisation of ROAR



- Up to 50% for external users: 2171.5 h (290 days)/yr
- **Academic access is subsidised up to end of 2020**
- Commercial projects considered on a case-by-case basis

ROAR Access Process

1. Call for proposals

- Join the ROAR mailing list
- Calls released as facilities are commissioned
- First calls expected Q4 2018

2. Contact us (ROAR@imperial.ac.uk) to discuss your requirements

3. Proposals evaluated by the Scientific Advisory Group

4. During your ROAR visit

- We will provide support
- All data is collected (ELN)

5. After your ROAR visit

- Help with interpretation of your results.
- Feedback
- (For academic projects): Data deposited in an open access repository.

More Information

ROAR website

www.imperial.ac.uk/rapid-online-analysis-of-reactions/



ROAR website

ROAR mailing list

<http://eepurl.com/duaxZf>



Contact us

ROAR@imperial.ac.uk