

Stephen Croke ESR5 Fellow

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Group: BOOM Chemistry

Supervisor: Asier Unciti-Broceta

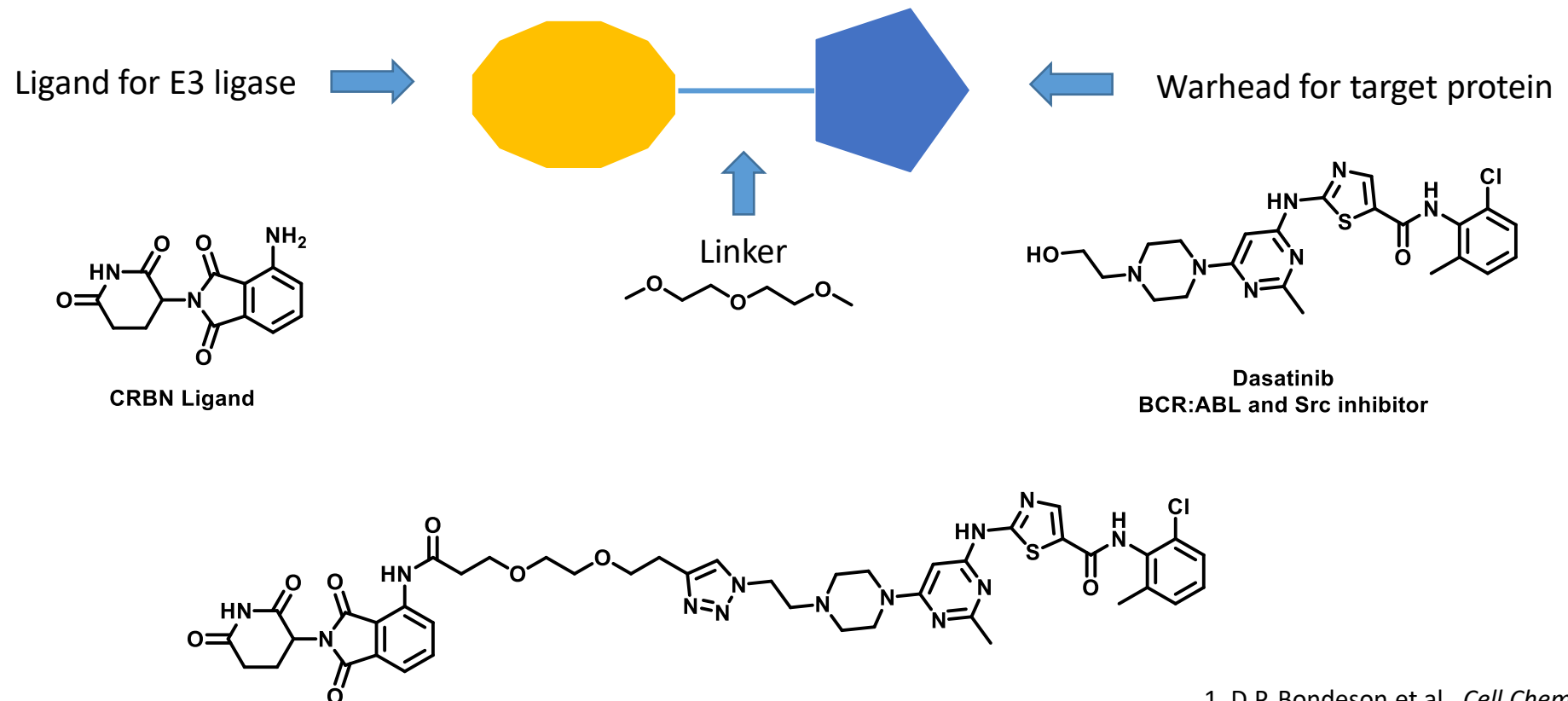
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Meeting 2

Edinburgh, 3rd February 2020

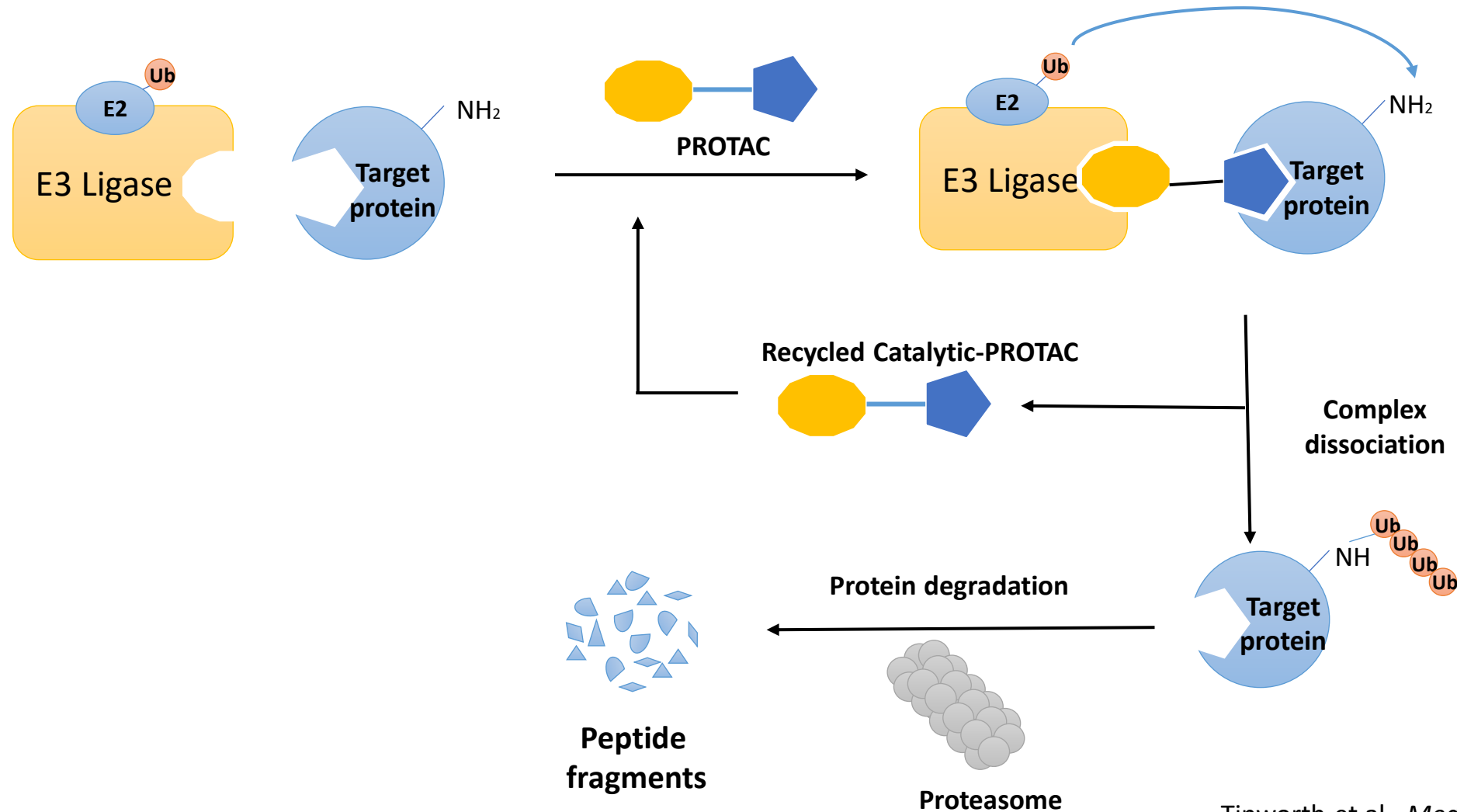
Key components of PROtein Targeting Chimera (PROTAC)

PROTACs are bivalent ligands that hijack normal cellular processes to mediate the degradation of a target protein



1. D.P. Bondeson et al., *Cell Chem. Biol.*, 2018, **25**, 78–87.

PROTAC induced protein degradation



Tinworth et al., *Med.Chem.Comm.* 2016, **7**, 2206.

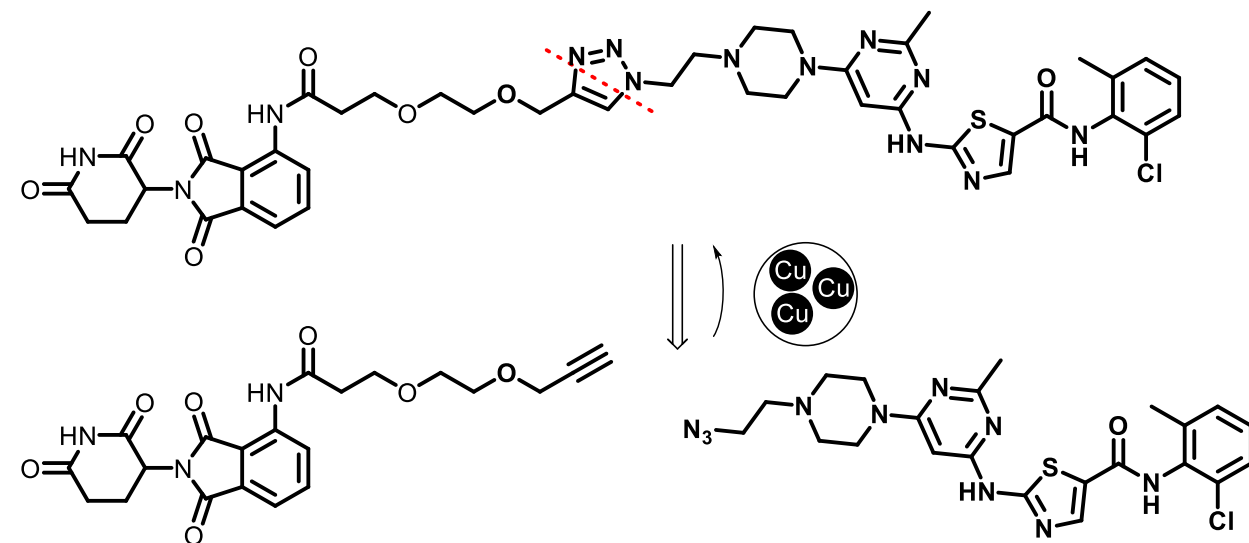
PROTACs as Therapeutics

Disadvantages of PROTACs

- Toxicity
- Poor PK



- Physiochemical properties determined by the structure of the drug dictates the PK profile of a drug
- Since their discovery in 2001 there has been no FDA approved PROTAC therapy



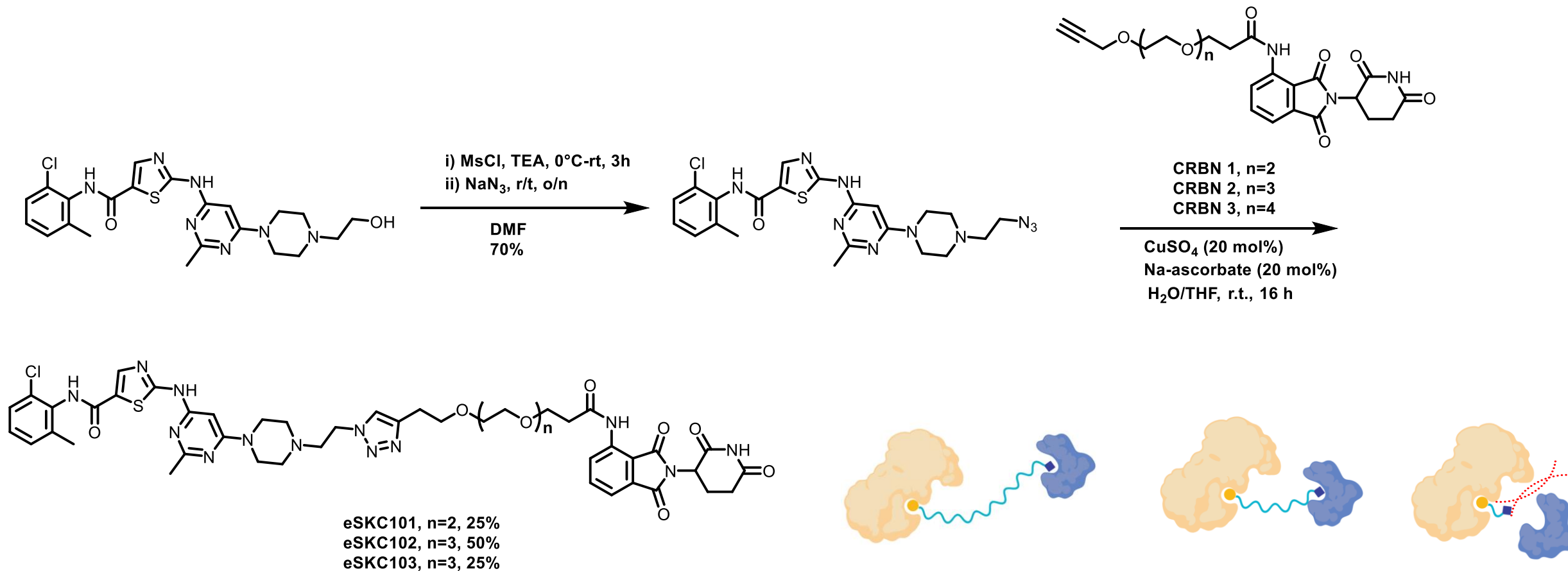
Inactive precursors

- Bio-orthogonal chemistry refers to any chemical reaction that can occur inside a living system without disrupting normal biochemical processes
- *In situ* drug synthesis allows for the controlled generation of a drug from inactive precursors inside an organism

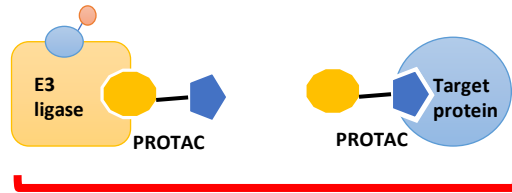
Objectives

1. Synthesise library of Cu assembled PROTACs
2. Investigate PROTAC assembly study in cell culture

Synthesis of dasatinib library

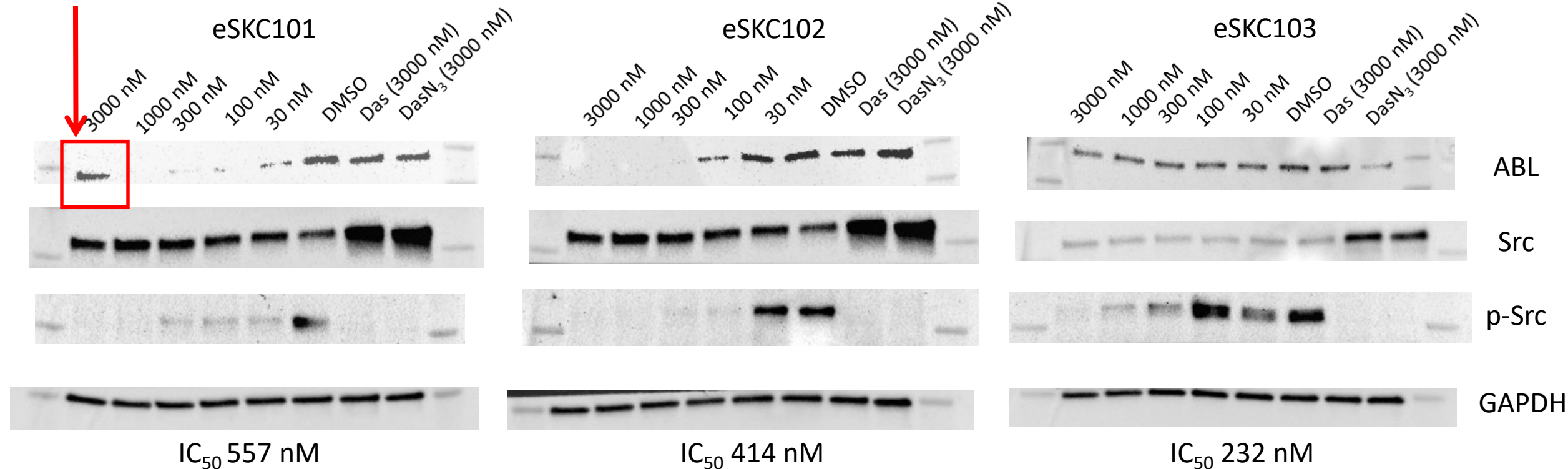


Dasatinib-based PROTACs induce degradation of ABL at low-nanomolar concentrations in MDA-MB-231



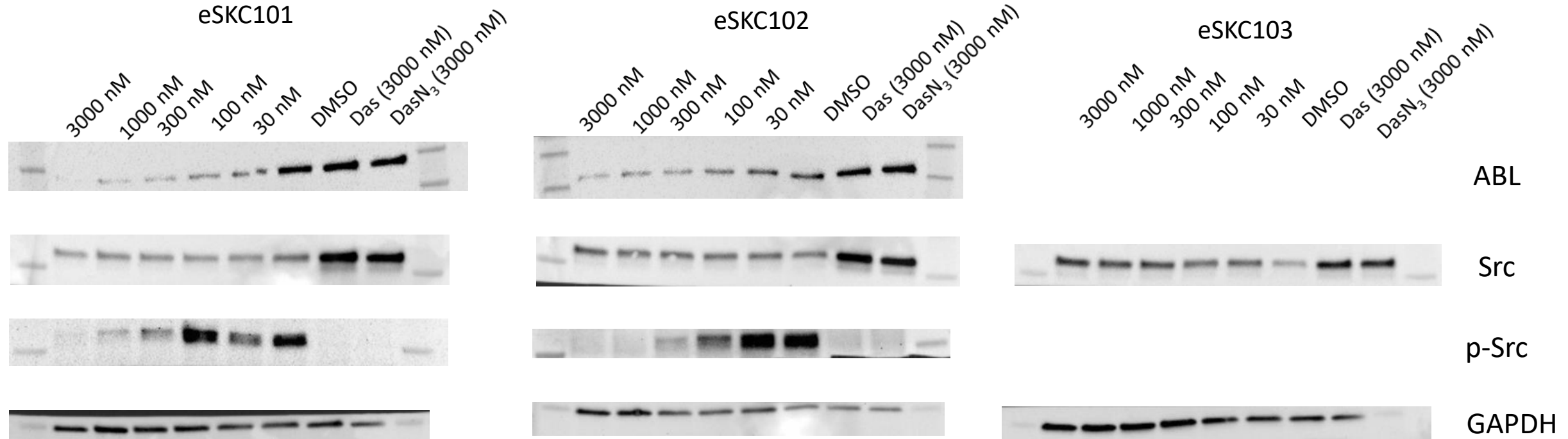
Cells were treated with increasing doses of the indicated compounds for 24 hr

Unproductive dimers

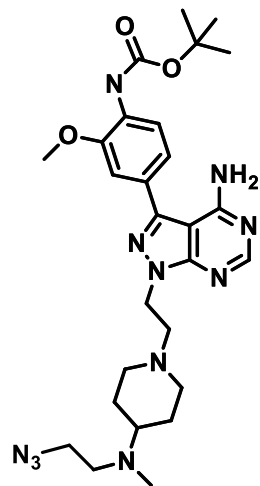


Dasatinib-based PROTACs induce degradation of ABL at low-nanomolar concentrations in MDA-MB-436

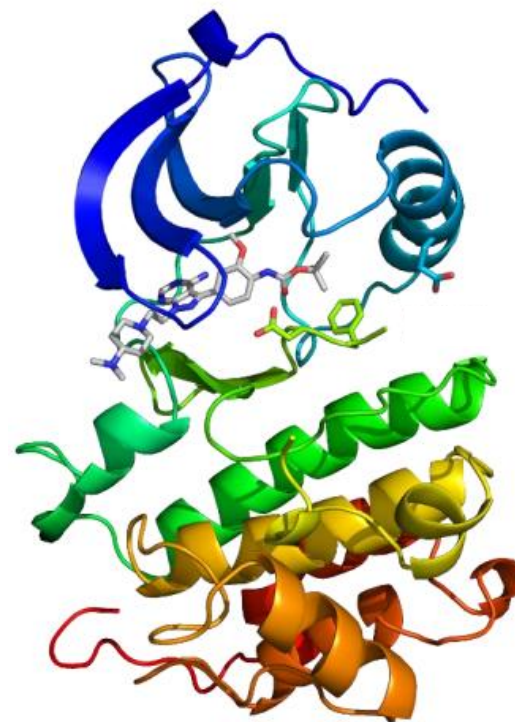
Cells were treated with increasing doses of the indicated compounds for 24 hr



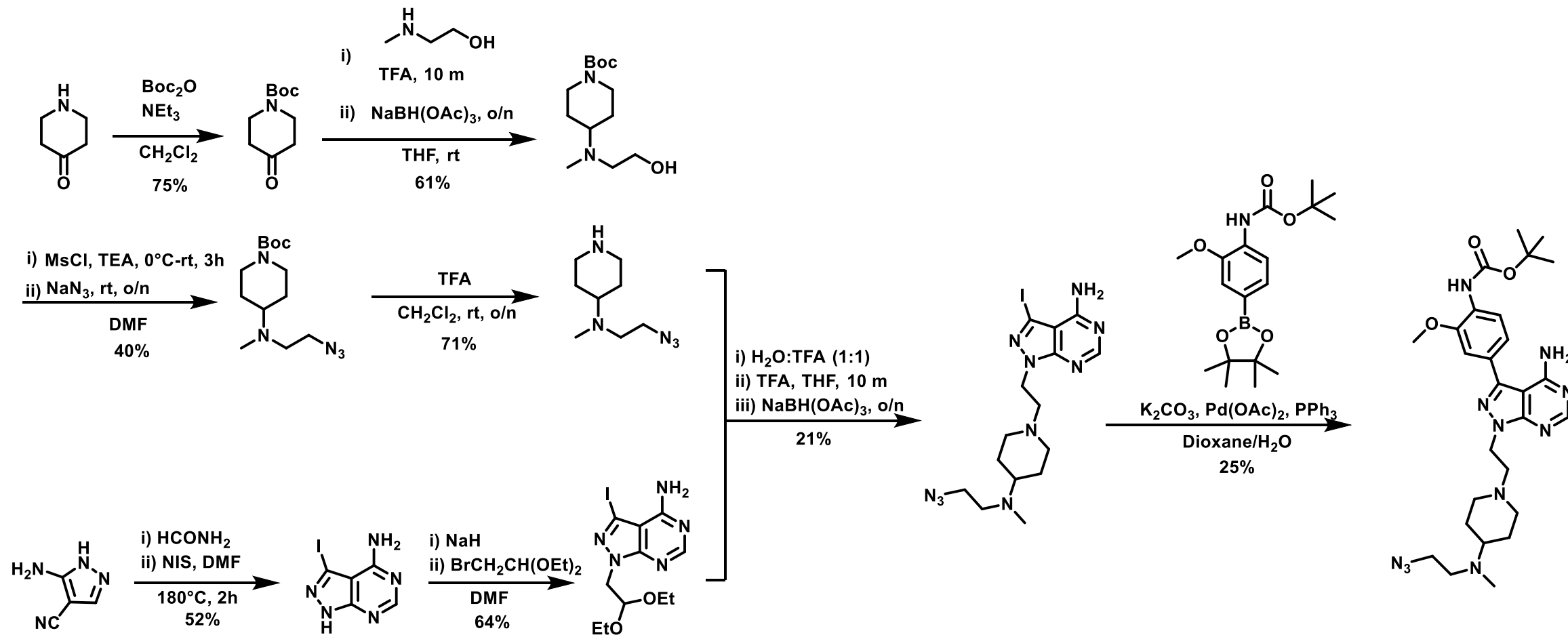
Design of eCF506 based PROTAC



eCF506: Src selective inhibitor



Synthesis of eCF506 library



CRBN 1, $n=2$
 CRBN 2, $n=3$
 CRBN 3, $n=4$

CuSO_4 (20 mol%)
 Na-ascorbate (20 mol%)
 $\text{H}_2\text{O}/\text{THF}$, r.t., 16 h

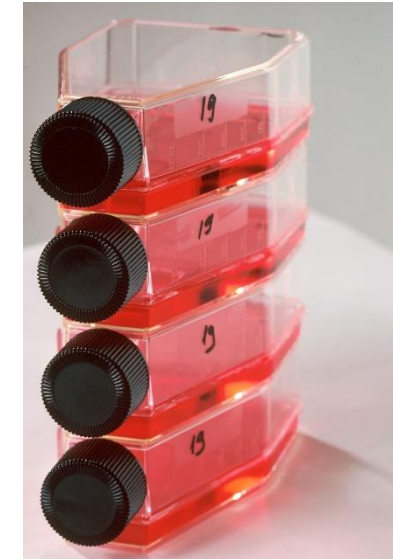
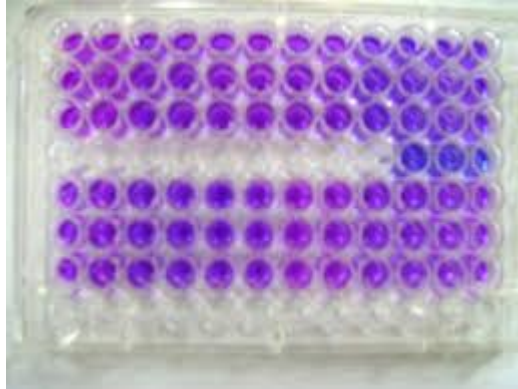
eSKC201, $n=2$, 19%

In summary

- Synthetic route established for dasatinib PROTAC series
- Synthetic route established for eCF506 PROTAC series
- Western blots and cell viability assays established
- ABL degradation observed for dasatinib PROTAC series at nanomolar concentrations
- Nanomolar IC_{50} observed for dasatinib PROTAC series in MDA-MB-231 cell line

Scientific and transversal skills training

Scientific skills



Transversal skills

1. Workshops
2. Network Training Events

Communication and dissemination

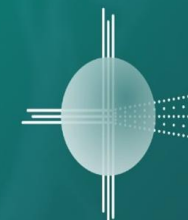
48th Scottish Regional Organic Division Meeting
University of St Andrews
9th January 2020



**Children's Brain Tumour
Drug Delivery Consortium**
Accelerating Progress in Drug Delivery



**BIOORTHOGONAL
& BIORESPONSIVE
2019**



Acknowledgements



Prof Asier Unciti-Broceta
BOOMChemistry Lab
Teresa Valero

Prof Val Bruton



Future work

Caged Drugs

