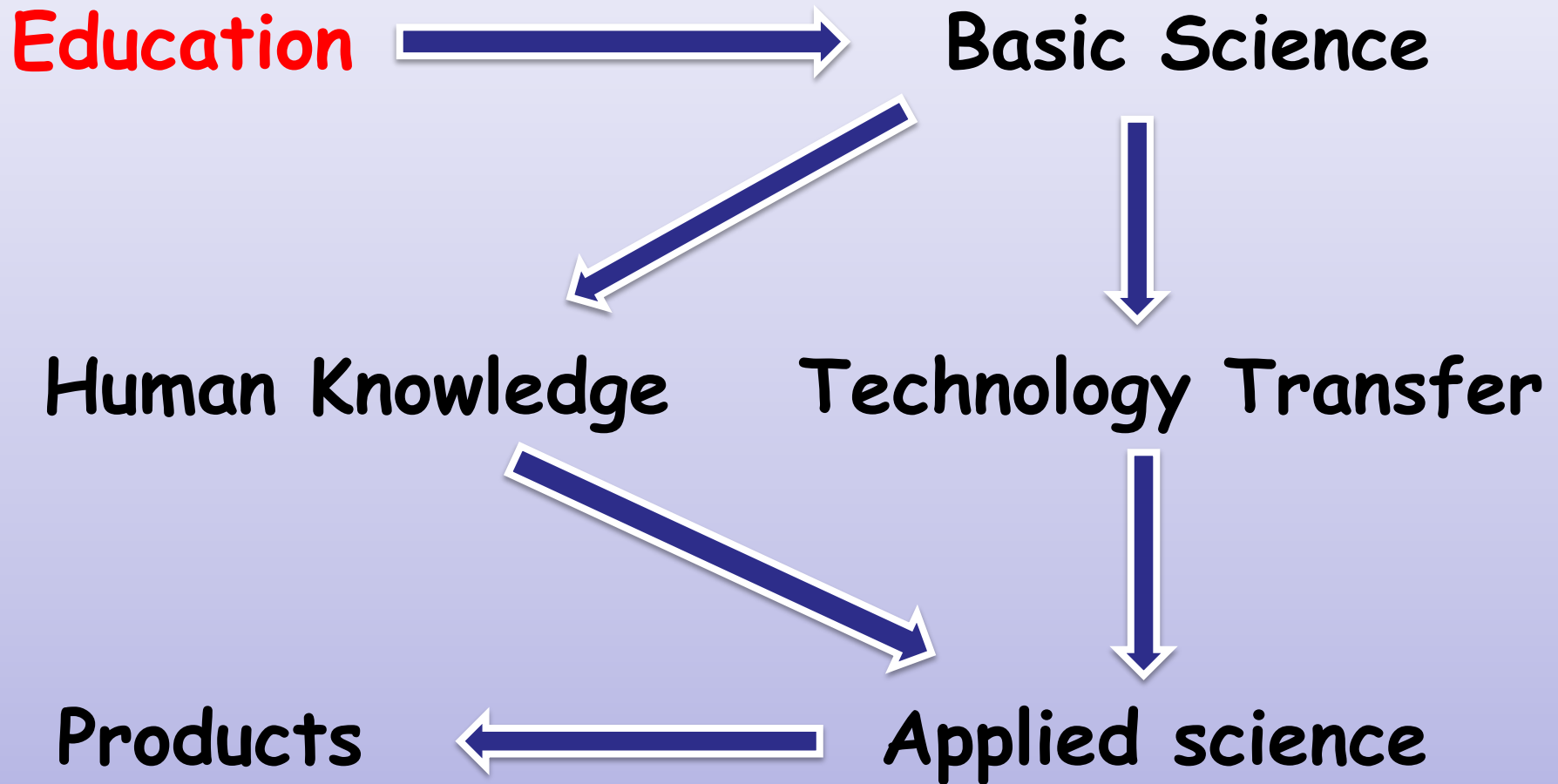


# The Weizmann Institute of Science for The Benefit of Society

Mudi Sheves, Vice President for  
Technology Transfer  
The Weizmann Institute, Israel

Conference NITT SK 2013 - Technology Transfer in  
Slovakia and Abroad -  
Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013

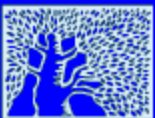
# "Innovation"-How?



# The Weizmann Institute of Science



Curiosity Driven Research



# Weizmann Approach: Basic Research Landscape

Basic Science only

Physics

Imbedded multidisciplinary  
approach

Mathematics

Graduate school and  
Public Education

Biology

Chemistry

High level education program

Technology transfer-  
**Yeda**



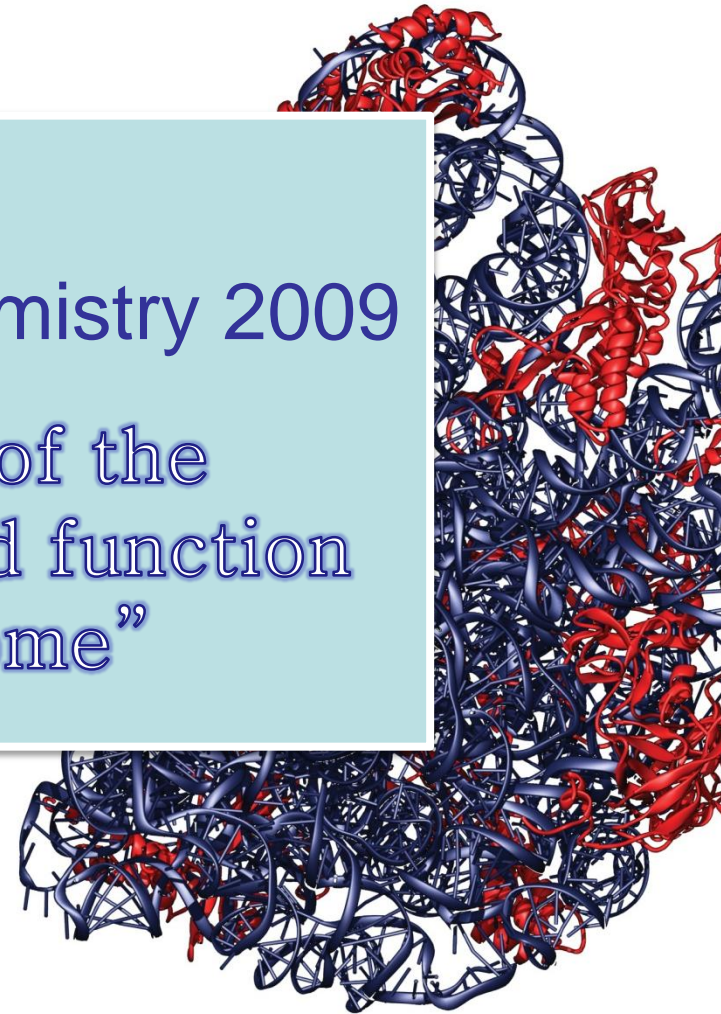
The next scientific revolution will be  
driven by scientists who  
Have:

**A multidisciplinary view of  
science,**  
the opportunity to take risks,  
**the infrastructure to work,**  
and the freedom to think.

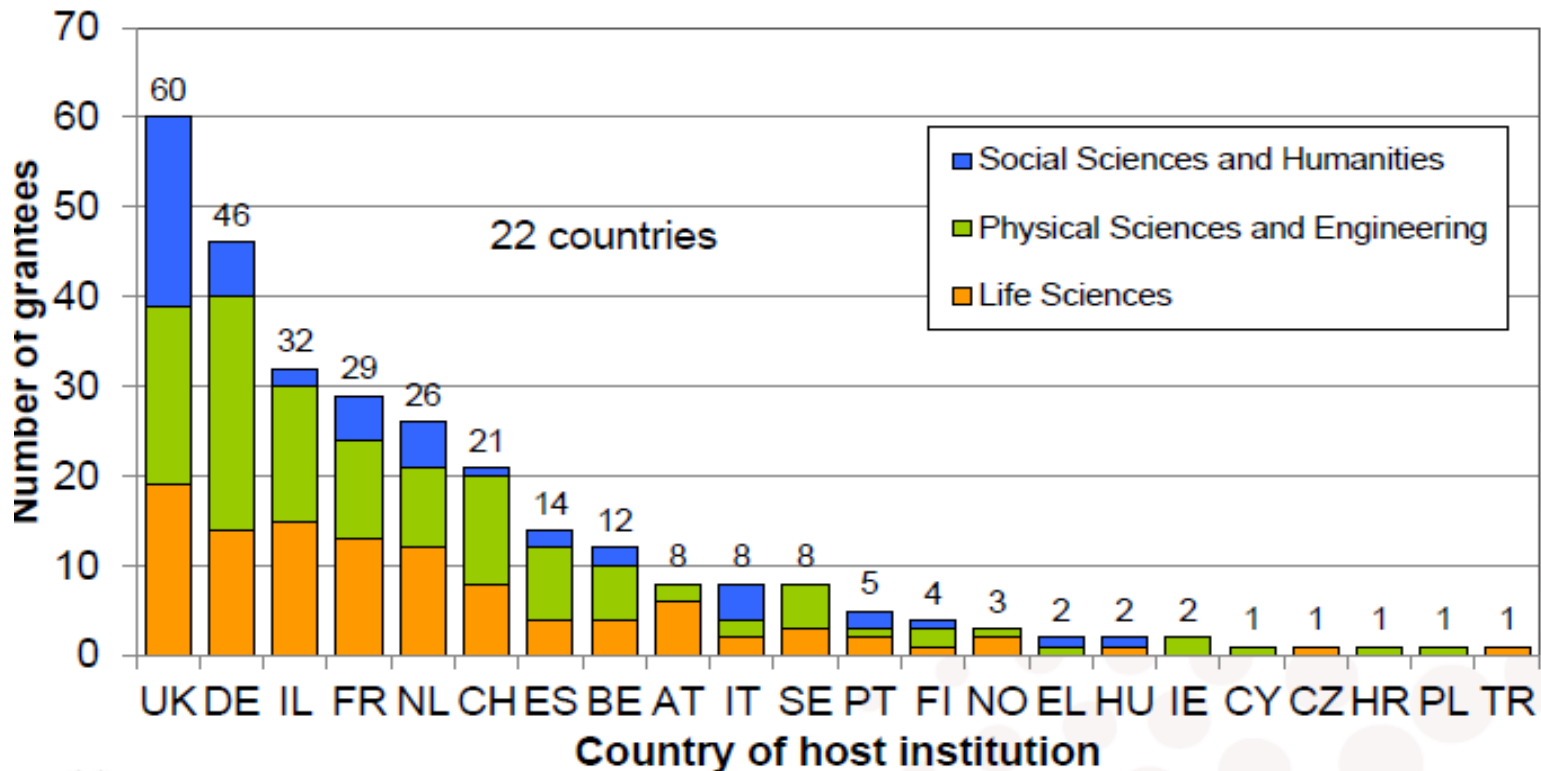


**Prof. Ada Yonath**  
Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2009

“for studies of the  
structure and function  
of the ribosome”



# ERC Starting grants-2013 call



# To succeed in science you need 3 **G's**

Paul Ehrlich (1902)

**G**edacht = Original Ideas

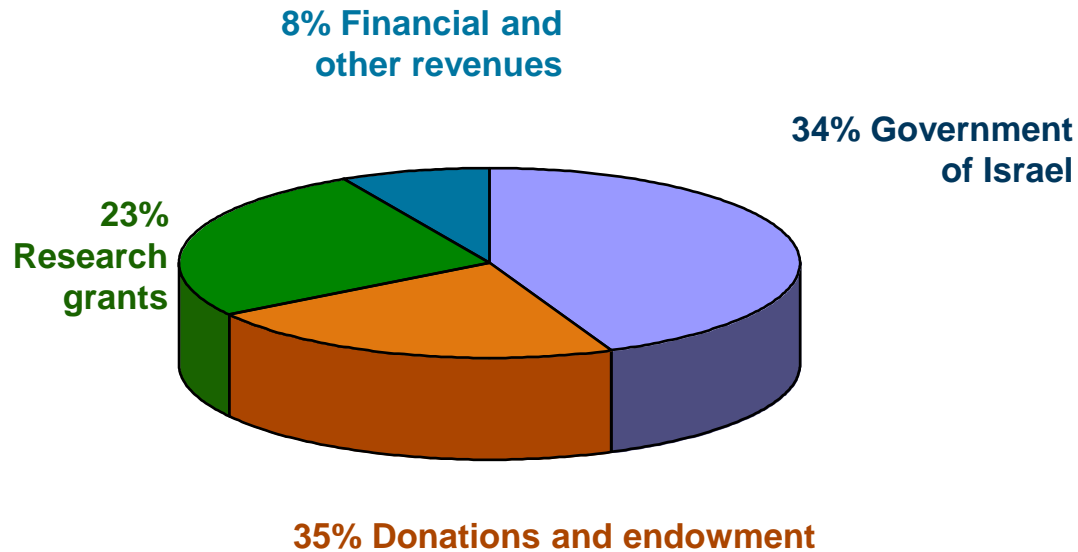
**G**eduld = Patience

**G**eld !! = **Money !!**



# Weizmann Budget

**Budget: ~\$300 M**



# Technology Transfer Tradition

**1915**

Professor Chaim Weizmann invented a new bio-technological method to produce **acetone from starch**.

**1916**

Weizmann (that **owned over 100 patents**) applied for a patent and transferred the technology to the British Navy.

**1917**

Navy Laboratories successfully mass produced acetone which was used to produce explosives during WWI.

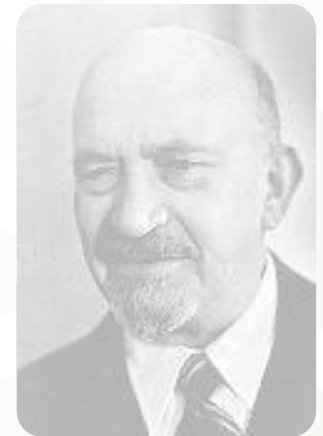
After the war, this became the common industrial method for **acetone production**.

**1934**

Weizmann Established the **Daniel Sieff Research Institute**, which later became the **Weizmann Institute of Science**.

**1948**

Weizmann became Israel's first **President**.

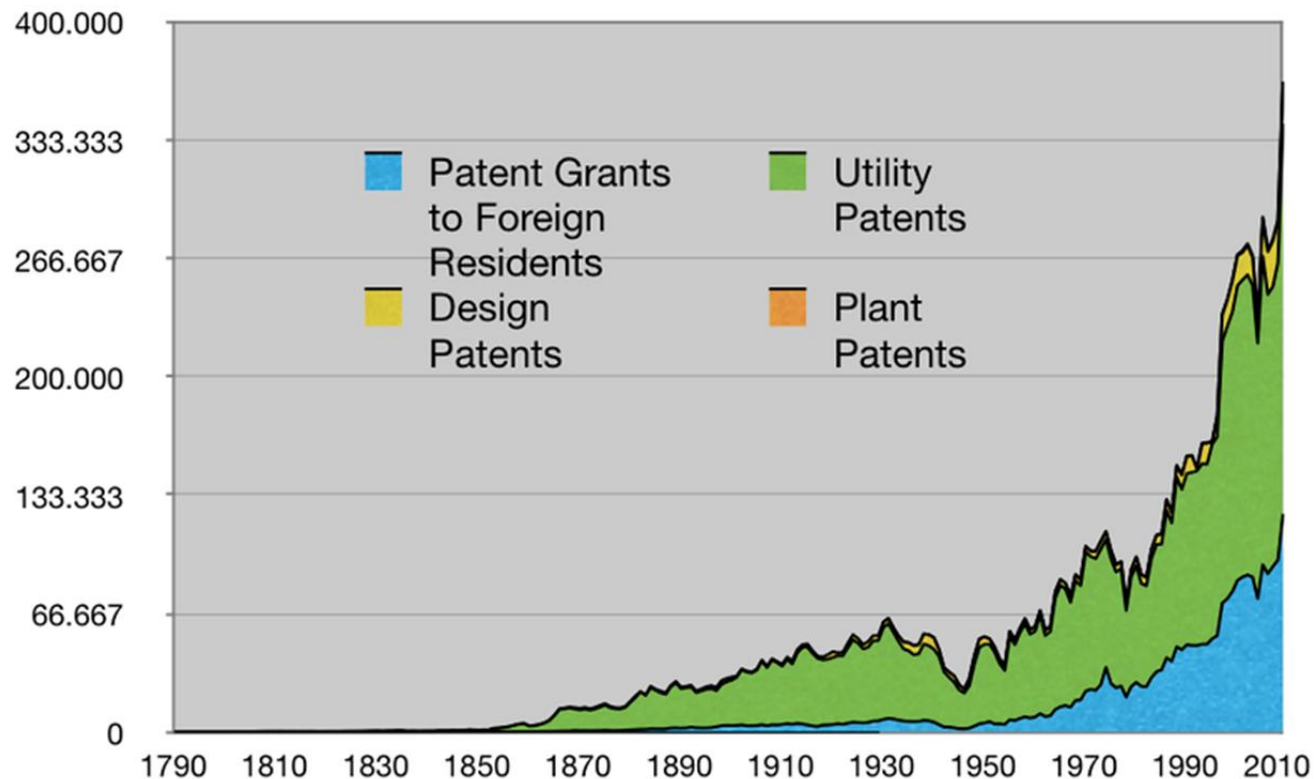


It is very difficult to make predictions-especially about the future...

Niels Bohr

**"Everything that can be invented has been invented"**

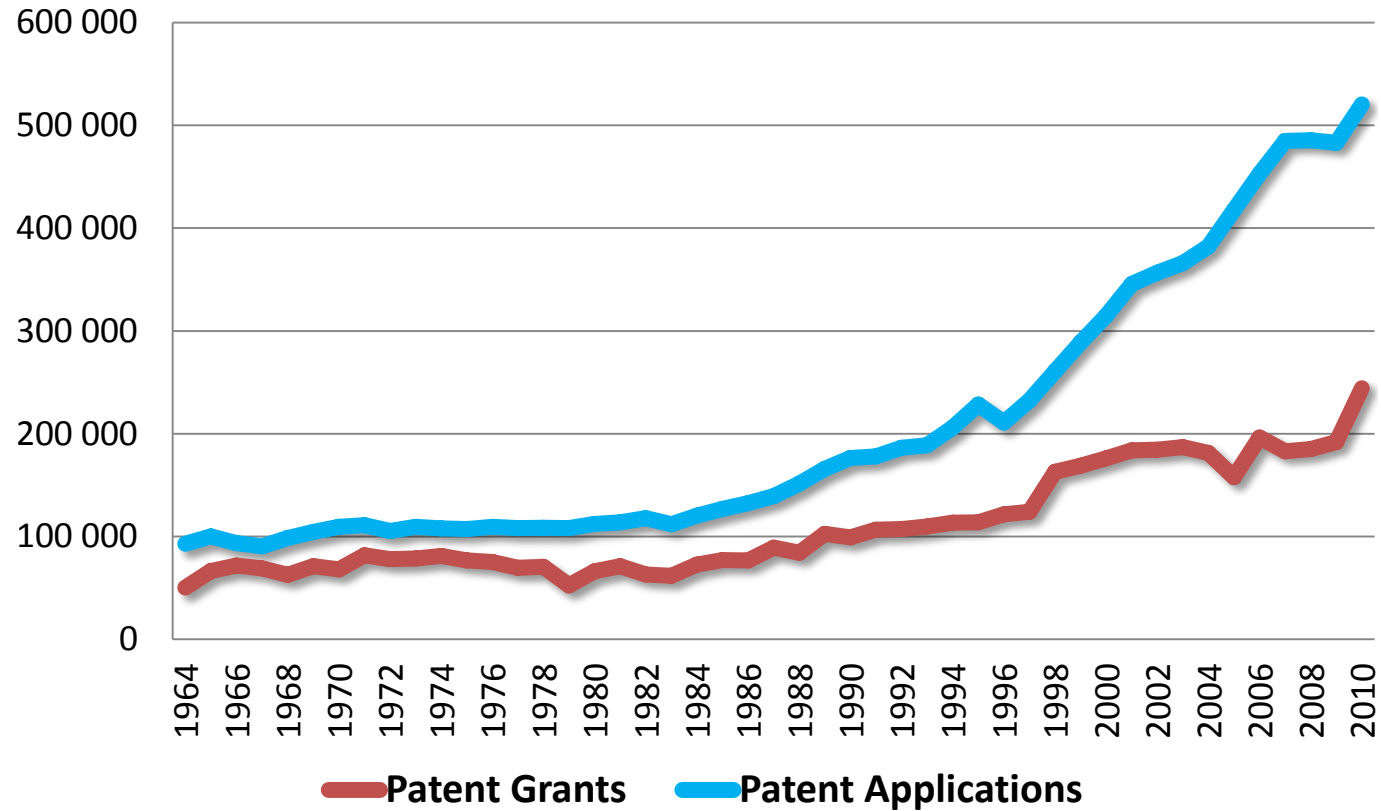
CHARLES H. DUELL, Commissioner US. Office of patents, **1899.**



U.S. patents granted, 1790–2010.

# U.S. Patent Statistics Chart

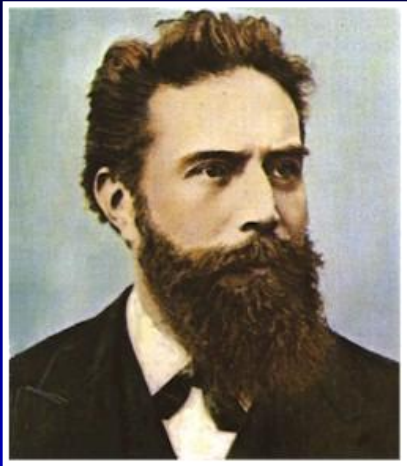
## Calendar Years 1963 - 2010



# Basic Science: The serendipity model X-ray

## Serendipity:

The faculty of making fortunate discoveries by accident.



Röntgen



Crookes tube

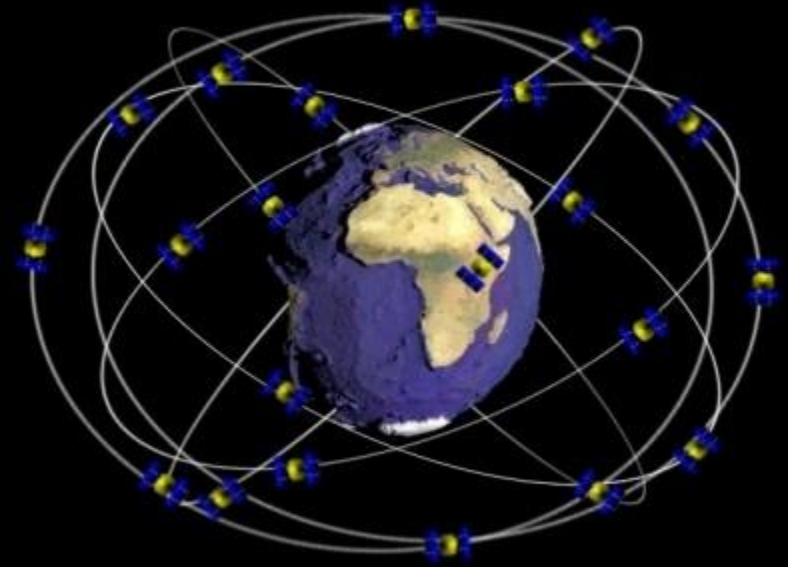
Röntgen was "playing" with a Crookes tube, and tried to understand the behavior of electric current in such a device.



Röntgen  
wife's hand

Basic science:  
The initially  
unknown applications

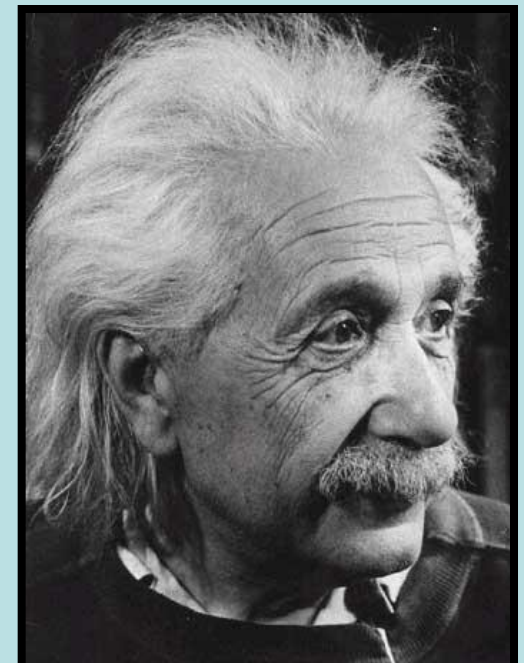
Atomic  
clock



GPS: Global Positioning System



Theory of  
relativity



- Technological developments are fueled by scientific innovations coming from academia.

“The guy who invented the first wheel was an idiot. The guy who invented the other three, he was a genius”.

Sid Caesar





# Yeda was established in 1959.

## Yeda's mission:

1. To allow society to benefit from discoveries made at Weizmann.
2. To create an additional source of income to the institute so that more independent research can be conducted.





**Academia**

**Industry**

**The death  
valley**

**BTG  
Funds**

**OCS tools  
Incubators  
Angels**

# Favorable Environmental Conditions for Technology Transfer

- ▼ **Legal structure similar to Bayh-Dole act**
  - ▶ IP owned by the Institution
  - ▶ Sharing royalty with the inventors
- ▼ **Government support programs**
  - ▶ Incubators
  - ▶ Direct tech transfer support programs
- ▼ **Developed VC community, Entrepreneurs**



# Internal Conditions for successful Tech Transfer

- Scientists' focus on excellence in **Basic Science**, not on commercialization.
- A **pro-active** tech transfer operation.
- Tech Transfer officers: background in **Business and Academia**.
- Clear **internal IP rules**, enforced by University management.



# Yeda/Weizmann Success Stories

## Selected Success Stories

### ▶ COPAXONE®

- ▶ Indicated for Multiple Sclerosis  
COPAXONE represents **a new class of drugs** for the treatment of the disease
- ▶ Copaxone is a synthetic copolymer acting as an immunomodulator
- ▶ 1971: First Patent filed by Yeda
- ▶ 1987: Licensed to Teva Pharmaceuticals Ltd.
- ▶ 2012 Sales: **\$US 4 Billion**  
**Share market: ca. 37%**



# Yeda/Weizmann Success Stories

## Selected Success Stories

### Rebif®

- Indicated for Multiple Sclerosis  
Rebif is a recombinant interferon beta 1a.
- Rebif is marketed worldwide by **Merck Serono**.
- 1982: Licensed to Interpharm.
- 2012 Sales: Euro 2.3 Billion**  
**2012 Market share: 32%**

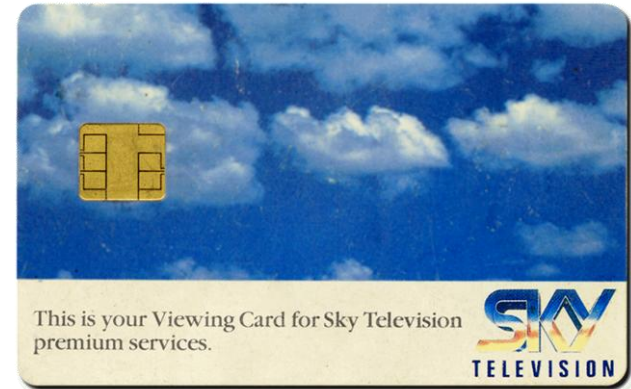


# Yeda/Weizmann Success Stories

## Selected Success Stories

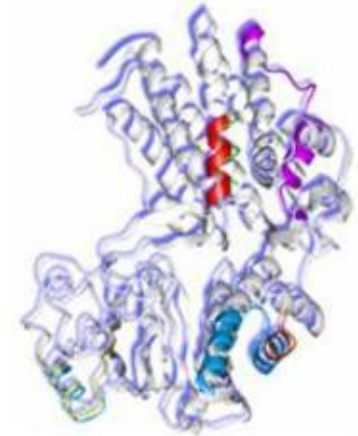
### Encryption Algorithm

- Technology developed by Prof. Adi Shamir and colleagues.
- Patent filed by Yeda in 1986.
- Licensed in the early 90's to a start up company in Jerusalem, later purchased by **NDS group**.
- 52 million TV set-top box smart-cards in use worldwide.
- 2012 Sales: \$US 1 B**



# A Drug for Type 1 Diabetes Developed by Prof. Irun Cohen – Phase III

- ▼ **DiaPep277<sup>®</sup>** is a **unique peptide**, containing **24 amino acids**, is derived from the sequence of the human heat shock protein 60 (Hsp60).
- ▼ The peptide acts by modulating the immune system, preventing the destruction of the pancreatic cells that secrete insulin.
- ▼ It appears that the patients treated with the drug for a year or more had **significantly higher pancreas function than those in the control group.**
- ▼ Licensed to Andromeda Biotech.



DiaPep277<sup>®</sup>

# Yeda Research & Development Co. Ltd.

## A World Leader in Technology Transfer

- ▼ Dozens of “Weizmann-Inside” products on the market.
- ▼ Total annual sales of Weizmann-based products in 2012: Over \$22 Billion.
- ▼ Over 50 new companies were established around Yeda's technologies.
- ▼ Yeda owns one of the largest portfolio of patents in Israel:  
**660 live patent families**, with more than 1,700 patent families filed since 1971.





# Favorable environment for innovation

- **Education**- Provide "tools" for learning and approach new problems; **Curiosity**.
- Create strong academic system; Provide "freedom" to young scientists;
- **Encourage taking risks.**
- Strengthen "technology transfer" and taking risks in industry.
- **Governmental wise support.**

# However!

Academy-Industry cooperation, as **love making** between **hedgehogs**, is a desired activity that has to be exercised with extreme caution.



*Thank you for your attention*