

# Understanding PK/PD for Development of STAT3 Degraders in Oncology Indications

Chris De Savi, Ph.D. - VP, Head of Drug Discovery



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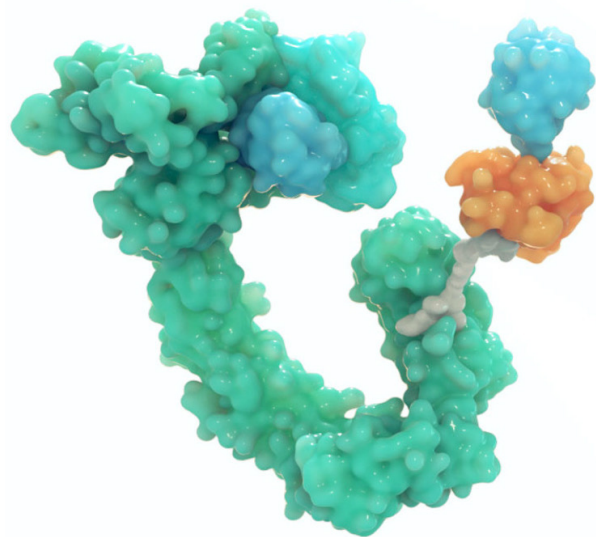
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# Outline

- Kymera – introduction and pipeline
- STAT3 – tumor intrinsic and tumor extrinsic function
- Characterization of STAT3 degrader KTX-201
- PK-PD/efficacy relationships in ALCL tumor intrinsic models
- Early activity in immuno-oncology tumor extrinsic models and PD
- Summary

# Kymera: A Leading TPD Company

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## VISION

Fully integrated, **disease agnostic** protein degrader medicine company

## KEY PARTNERSHIPS



## INITIAL FOCUS

**Immune inflammation (I/I)** and **oncology**

## FIRST-IN-CLASS

**First** to show **placebo-controlled** degrader **proof-of-mechanism**

## CLINICAL PIPELINE

**2** additional **INDs** and clinical initiations expected by end of **2021**

## PROOF-OF-BIOLOGY

To be established in humans in **2021**

## WELL-POSITIONED

**\$647M** cash balance\*



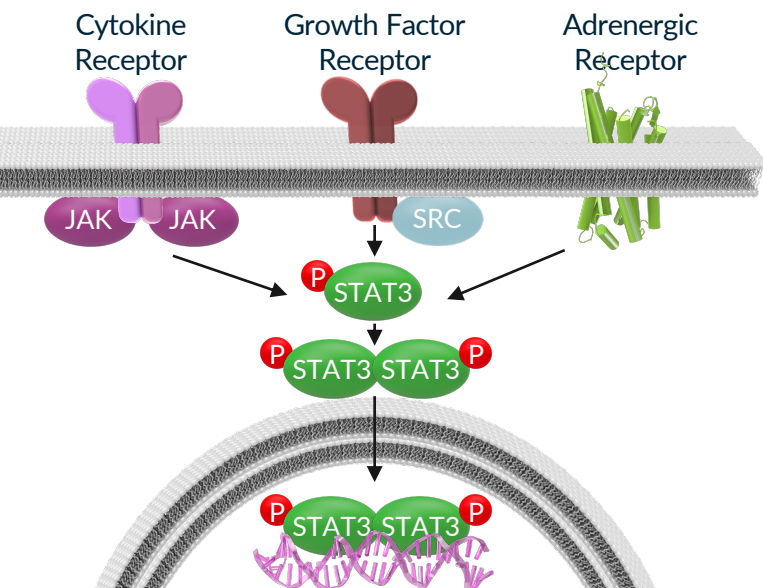
# Kymera's Pipeline of Novel Protein Degraders

Pathway	Program	Indication(s)	Discovery	Preclinical	Phase 1	Phases 2/3	Next Milestone	Rights <sup>1</sup>
IL-1R/TLR	IRAK4	Atopic Dermatitis, Hidradenitis Suppurativa, Rheumatoid Arthritis, others	KT-474 <sup>2</sup>				POB: 4Q21	KYMERASANOFI
			Next Gen. <sup>2</sup>					
	IRAKiMiD (IRAK4, Ikaros, Aiolos)	MYD88 <sup>MT</sup> DLBCL	KT-413				Ph1: 2H21	KYMERASANOFI
JAK/STAT	STAT3	Liquid & Solid Tumors	KT-333				Ph1: 4Q21	KYMERASANOFI
	STAT3	Autoimmune & Fibrotic Diseases						KYMERASANOFI
Discovery Pipeline	Several Discovery Programs			Multiple programs in immune-inflammatory and genetically-defined oncology indications				KYMERASANOFI
	1 Undisclosed Program			Research and development of degraders against a second undisclosed target with Sanofi				KYMERASANOFI
	6 Undisclosed Programs			6 targets in 5 disease areas outside of immunology-inflammation and oncology				KYMERASANOFI

● = Oncology ● = Immunology-Inflammation

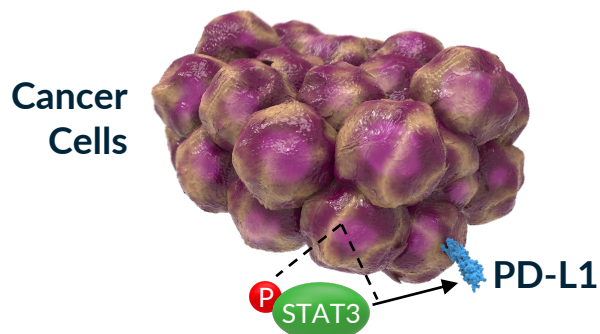
# Rationale for Targeting STAT3 in Oncology

## STAT3 as a Target

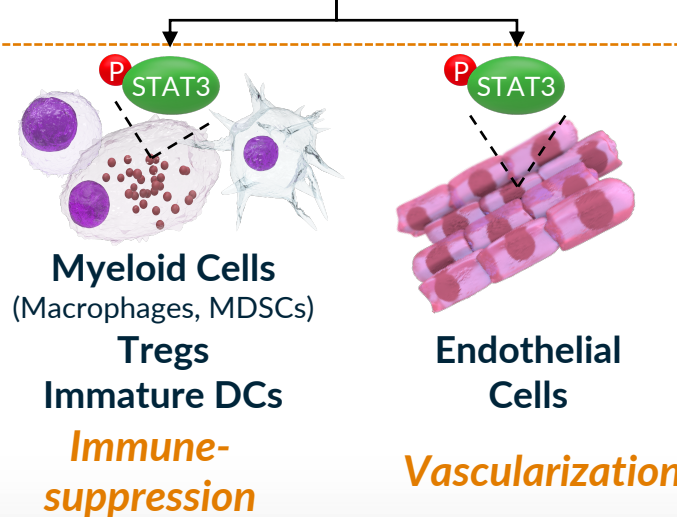


- High degree of validation of JAK-STAT pathway in oncology and immuno-oncology
- **Traditionally undruggable target**
- **First-in-class** opportunity to address STAT3 driven pathology across large and diverse indications

*Survival, proliferation, EMT, stemness*



**Cytokines**  
(e.g., IL-6, IL-10, VEGF)



## Tumor Cell Intrinsic

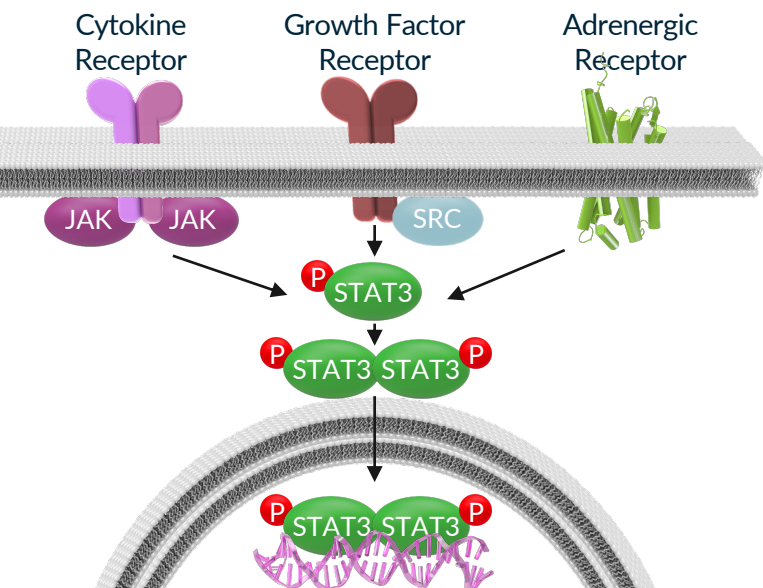
- STAT3 promotes gene expression programs involved with survival, proliferation, stemness and metastasis of tumor cells
- In PTCL, activated STAT3 (phospho-STAT3) is detected in many subtypes due to: STAT3 mutation (ALK-ALCL, T-LGCL, NKTCL, AITL, PTCL-NOS), upstream kinase activation (ALK+ALCL, ALK-ALCL), and elevated inflammatory mediators (CTCL)<sup>1-6</sup>

## Tumor Cell Extrinsic

- STAT3 promotes the differentiation and activity of immunosuppressive and endothelial cells, resulting in an immunosuppressive tumor microenvironment.
- Opportunities in multiple heme and solid tumor indications that are not responsive to immune checkpoint inhibitors.

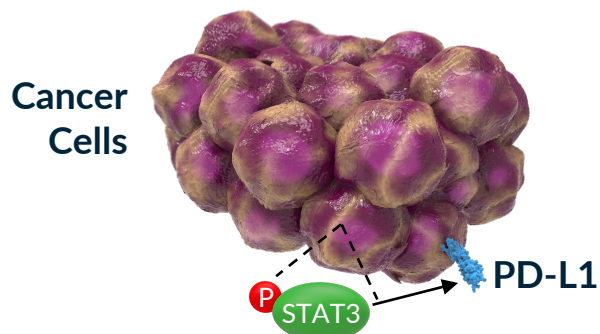
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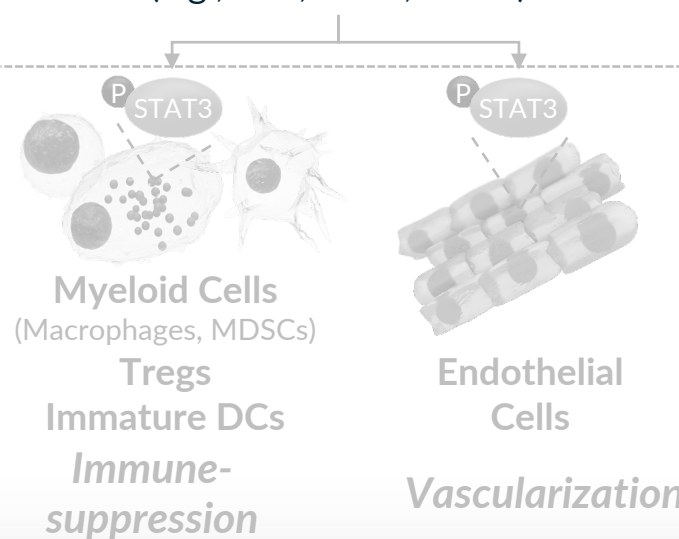


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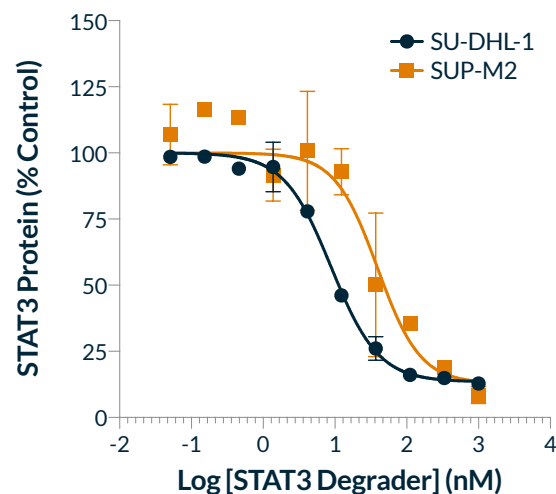
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# KTX-201 is a Highly Potent and Selective STAT3 degrader

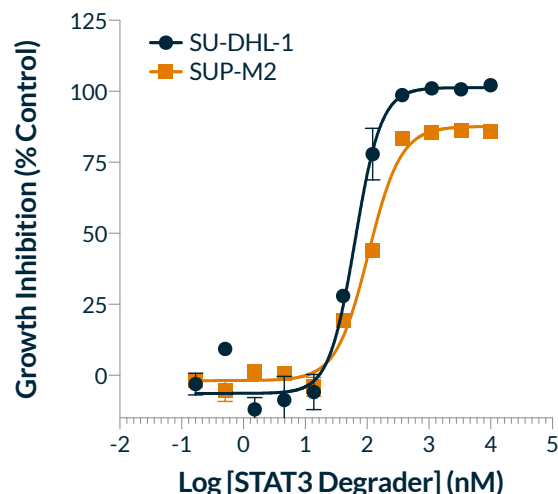
## High Potency in SU-DHL-1 and SUP-M2 Cell Lines (ALK+ ALCL)

### Degradation Potency



SU-DHL-1 24h DC<sub>50</sub> 15 nM  
SUP-M2 24h DC<sub>50</sub> 86 nM

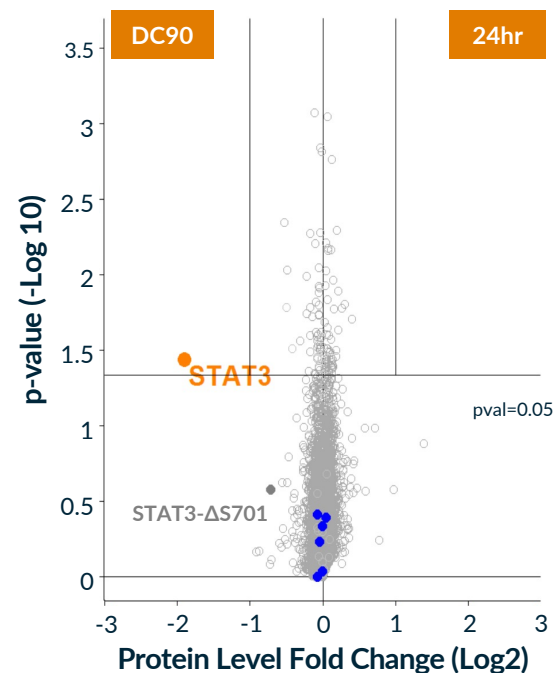
### Growth Inhibition Potency



SU-DHL-1 IC<sub>50</sub> 64 nM  
SUP-M2 IC<sub>50</sub> 105 nM

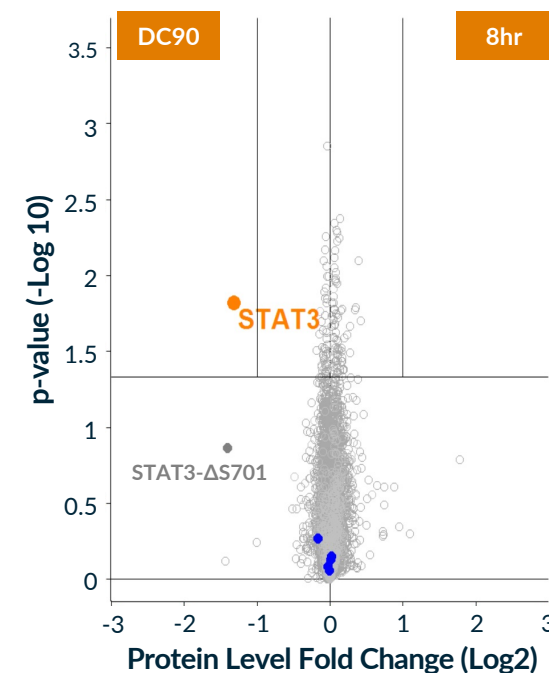
## High Selectivity in huPBMCs and SUDHL-1 (ALK+ ALCL)

### huPBMCs



● STAT Family Members: STAT1, STAT2, STAT4, STAT5A, STAT5B, STAT6

### SU-DHL-1

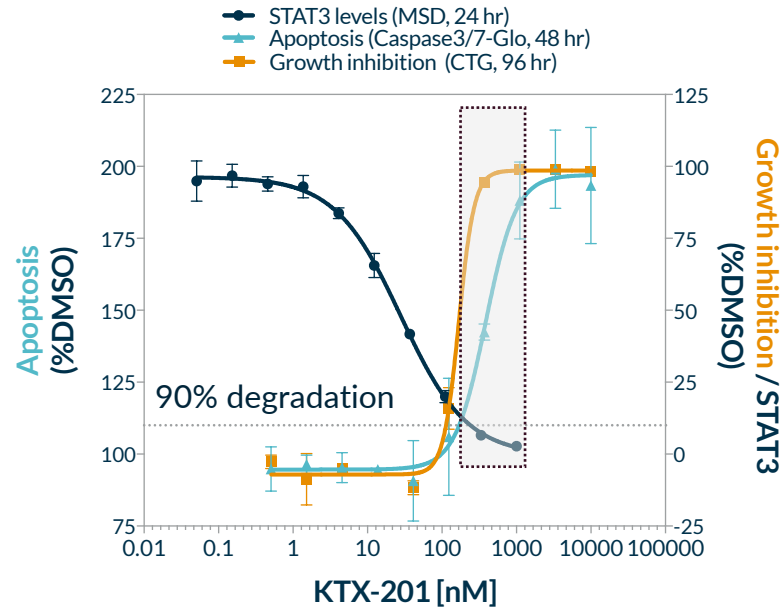


# KTX-201 is Highly Soluble and Has Low Clearance *in vivo*

Properties suitable for IV dosing route-of-administration (RoA)

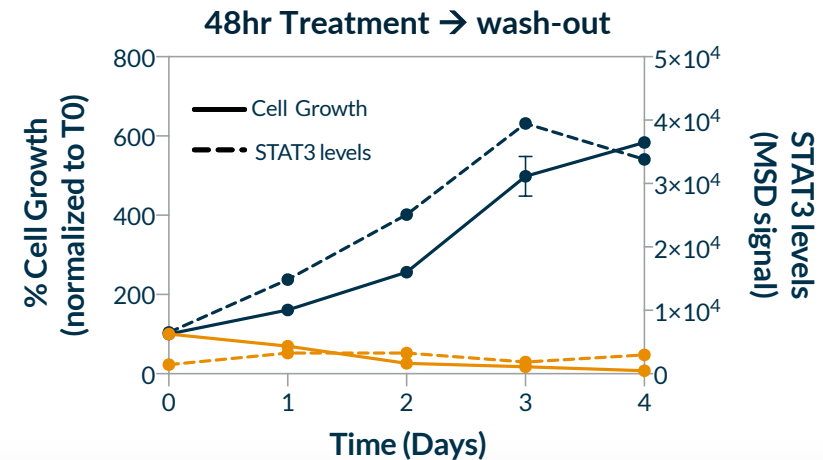
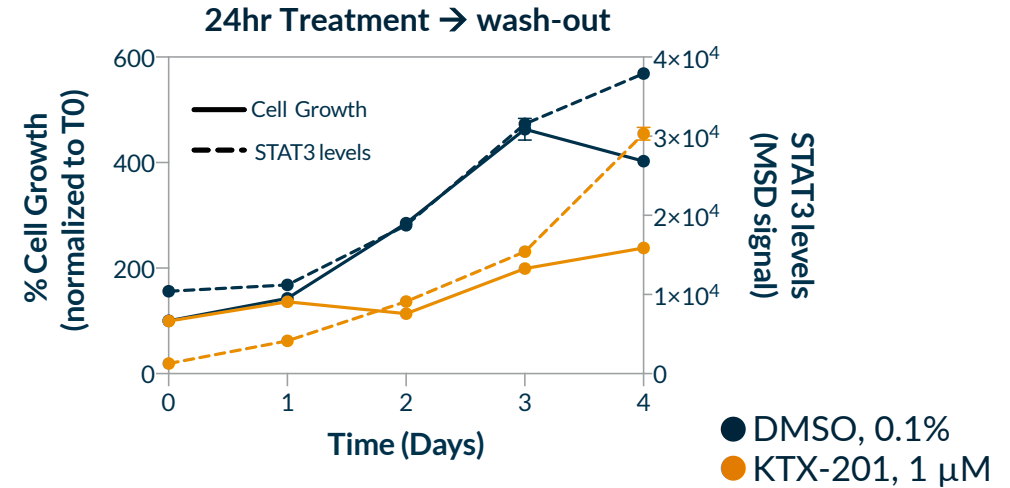
Physical and DMPK Properties	KTX-201
cLogD	-1.3
Solubility at pH 7.4 ( $\mu$ M)	259
Solubility in PBS pH 7.4 (mg/mL)	>28
HLM / RLM / DLM / MkLM ( $\mu$ L/min/mg)	3.4 / <1.4 / 4.6 / <1.4
PPB (hu / rat / dog / Mk)	95.8% / 99.1% / 97.1% / 97.3%
CYP3A4 / 2C9 / 2C19 / 2D6 inhibition ( $IC_{50}$ )	All > 50 $\mu$ M
Mouse Cl (mL/min/kg) / $V_{dss}$ / $t_{1/2}$ (hr)	2.4 / 0.39 / 4.1
Dog Cl (mL/min/kg) / $V_{dss}$ / $t_{1/2}$ (hr)	3.2 / 0.66 / 9.2
Monkey Cl (mL/min/kg) / $V_{dss}$ / $t_{1/2}$ (hr)	5.5 / 0.68 / 5.6

# Sustained and Robust Degradation of STAT3 with KTX-201 is Necessary to Induce SU-DHL-1 Apoptosis and Inhibit Cell Growth



Assay	SU-DHL-1
STAT3 levels, MSD DC <sub>90</sub> (μM) at 24 hr	0.15
Apoptosis, Caspase3/7-Glo IC <sub>50</sub> (μM) at 48hr	0.38
Growth inhibition, CTG IC <sub>50</sub> (μM) at 96 hr	0.167

- A decrease of STAT3 by 90% is necessary to induce SU-DHL-1 apoptosis and inhibit cell growth

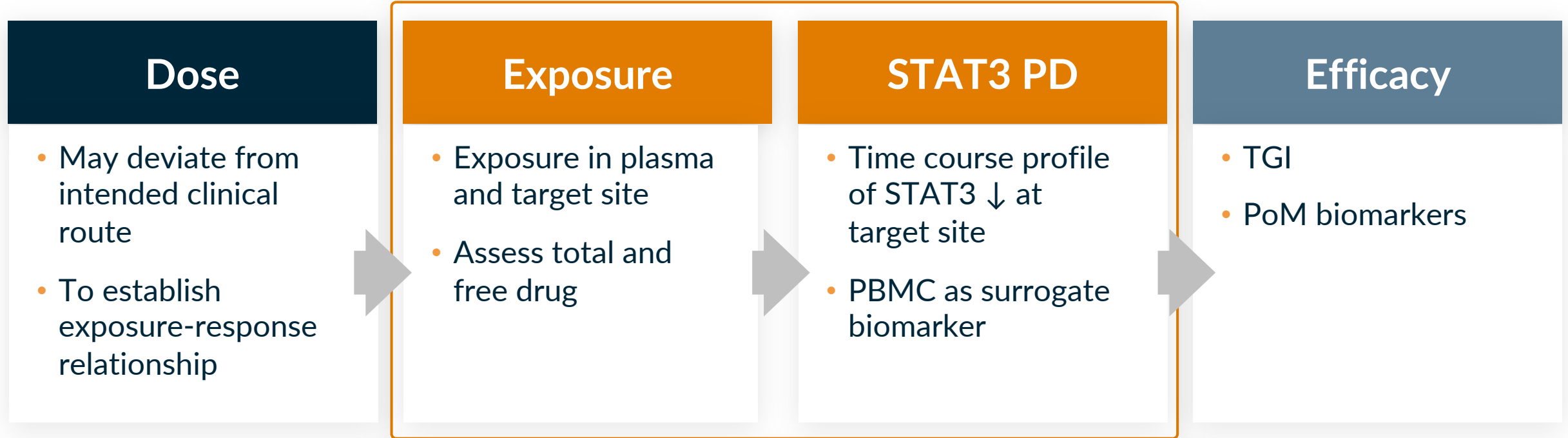


- Wash-out study demonstrates sustained degradation is required for SU-DHL-1 cells to commit to death



# Understanding PK/PD Relationship in ALK+ ALCL Xenograft Model to Enable Human Translation

## PK/PD Relationship in vivo

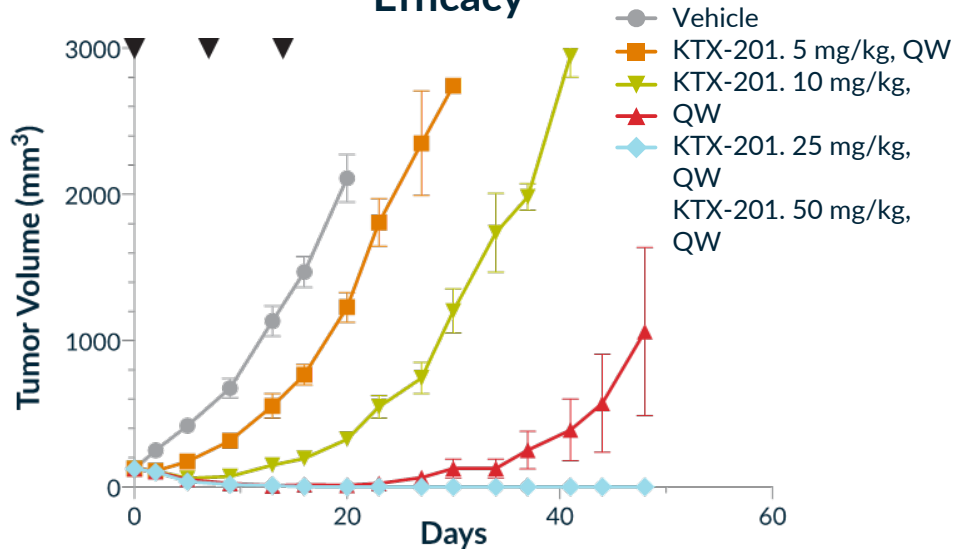


## Account for species difference in translation

- Pharmacokinetics: drug metabolism and disposition
- Drug distribution in tissues and its kinetics
- Target protein properties:
  - Turnover rate (synthesis and degradation)
  - Disease status

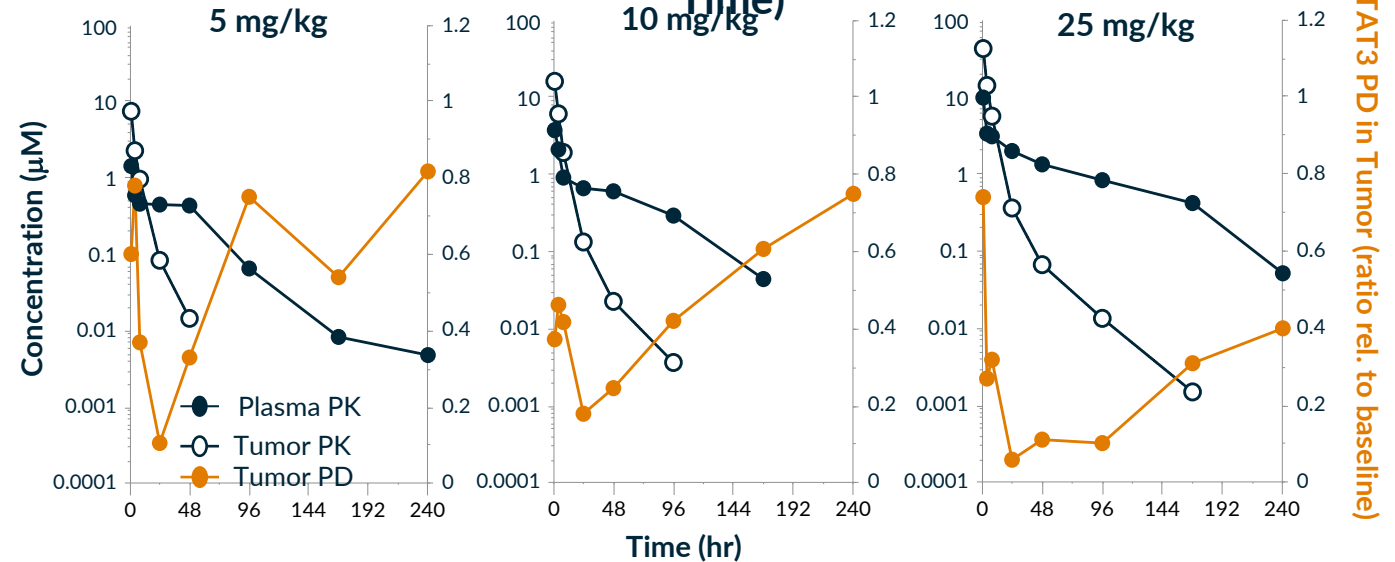
# Intermittent QW Dosing is Sufficient to Drive Efficacy in STAT3-Dependent ALK+ ALCL Models

SU-DHL-1 Mouse Xenograft Tumor Efficacy



- KTX-201 in SUDHL-1 XG mouse
  - IV bolus at 5 to 50 mg/kg
  - Weekly dosing
  - Treatment on D1, D8, D15
- The treatments were well tolerated, with no significant body weight loss

PK-PD Relationship (KTX-201 Concentration vs Time)



- Maximal STAT3 degradation occurred at 24 hr post dose for all doses
- Maximal degradation is >90% at 25 mg/kg
- Prolonged degradation in tumor is partially due to longer drug  $t_{1/2}$  in tumor
- $T_{1/2}$  of STAT3 return to baseline is dose-dependent → higher dose/higher exposure/prolonged degradation

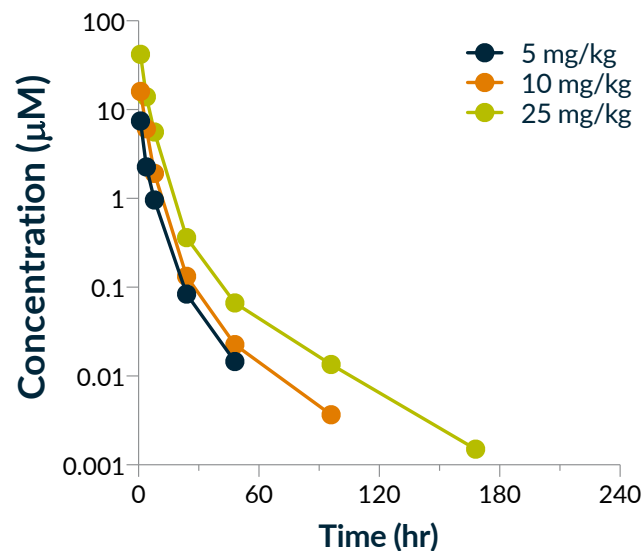
STAT3 PD in Tumor (ratio rel. to baseline)

# KTX-201 Exhibited Prolonged Half-life in Tumor

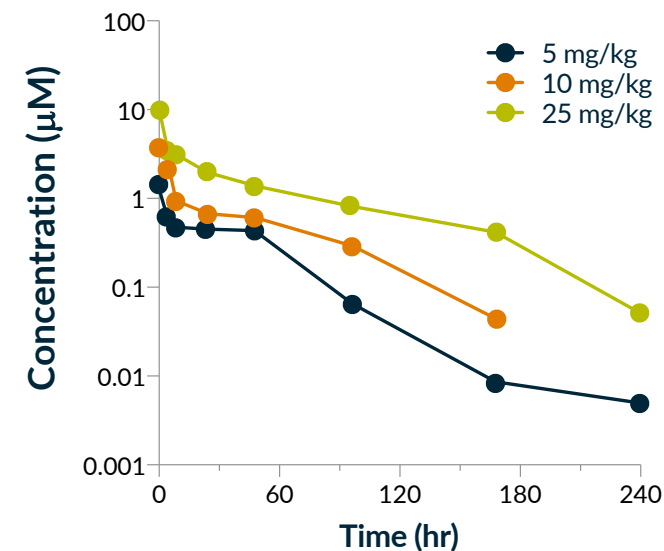
## PK in Plasma and Tumor

- Plasma and tumor exposure increase as increase of dose
- $T_{1/2}$  in tumor > plasma
- Tumor/Plasma AUC ratio  $K_p \sim 1$ ; consistent across 5 mg/kg to 25 mg/kg dose range

KTX-201 Plasma PK Profiles



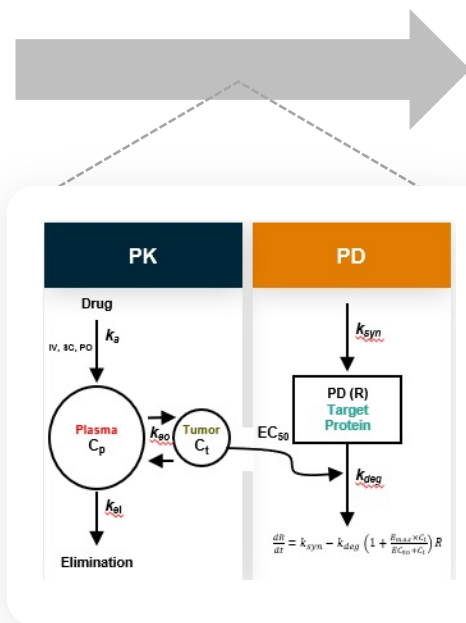
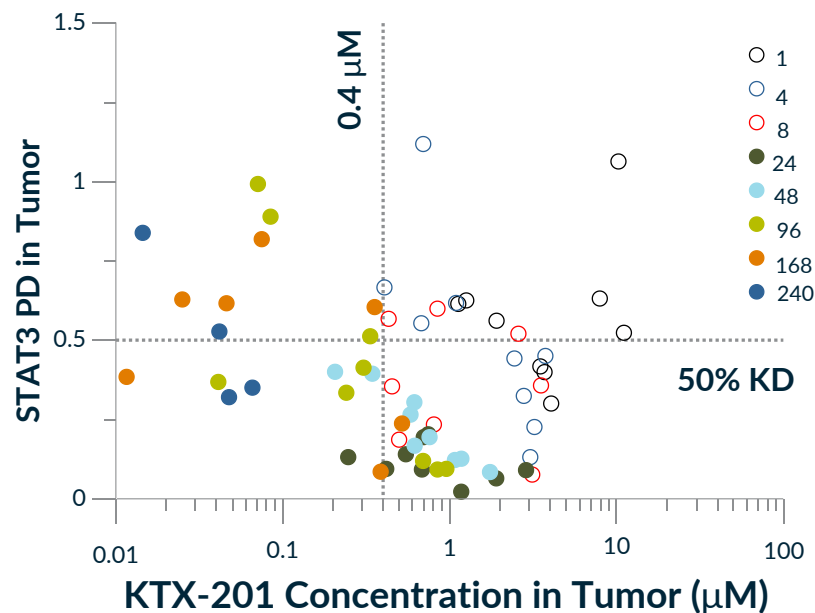
KTX-201 Tumor PK Profiles



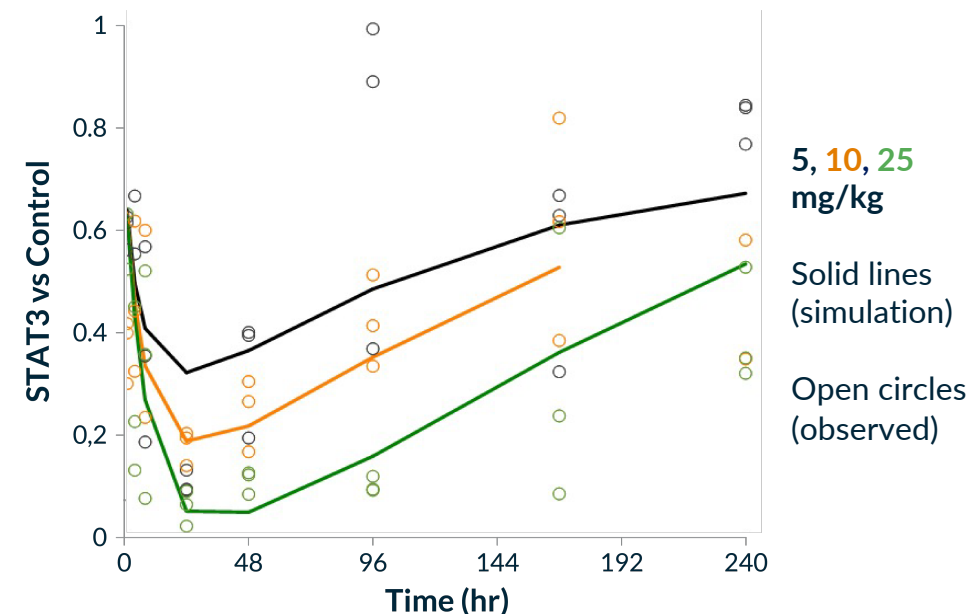
KTX-201		5 mg/kg		10 mg/kg		25 mg/kg	
PK Parameters	Unit	Plasma	Tumor	Plasma	Tumor	Plasma	Tumor
$T_{1/2}$	hr	6.8	24	16	31	16	36
$AUC_{last}$	$\mu M \cdot h$	40	36	87	78	229	231

# Important *in vivo* Parameters Can be Derived from PK/PD Modelling to Enable Human Dose Projections

KTX-201 Exposure-response in SU-DHL-1



KTX-201 PK/PD Model in SU-DHL-1



- Hysteresis observed
- $>0.4 \mu\text{M}$  [KTX-201]<sub>tumor</sub> leads to  $>50\%$  STAT3 degradation
- *in vivo* tumor  $\text{DC}_{50}$  is expected to be  $0.46 \mu\text{M}$  (using *in vitro*  $\text{DC}_{50}$  with PPB correction)

\*10% FBS  $f_u = 0.15$ ; SUDHL-1  $f_{u,t} = 0.0049$

PK/PD Parameters	Description	Estimate	CV
$k_{deg}$	Degradation Rate	$0.0356 \text{ hr}^{-1}$ ( $t_{1/2}$ 19 hr)	17%
$E_{max}$	<i>In vivo</i> max. effect	14	16%
$EC_{50}$	<i>In vivo</i> potency	$2.5 \mu\text{M}$	16%

These PK/PD parameters are used to project human degradation profiles

# Mechanistic Modeling to Project Tumor STAT3 Degradation in Human

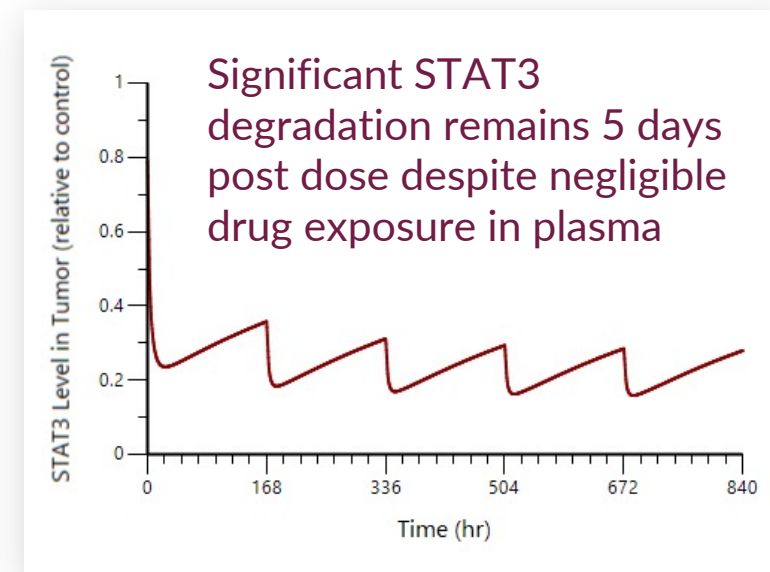
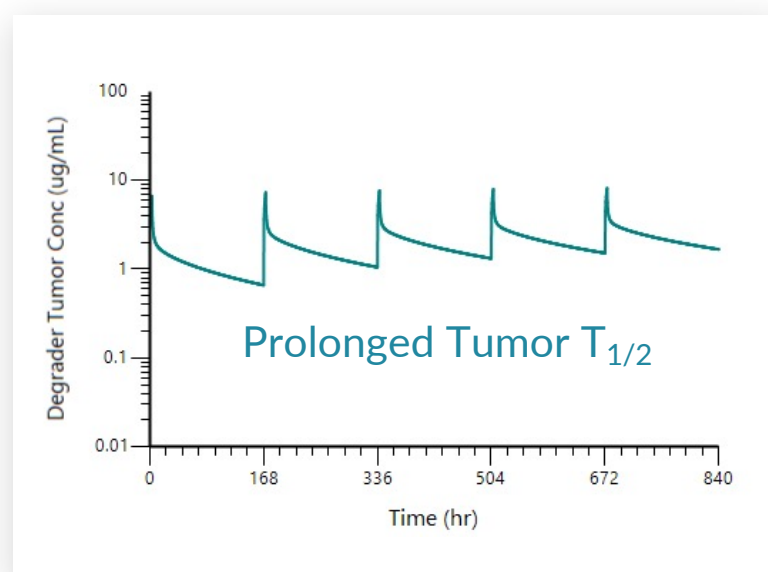
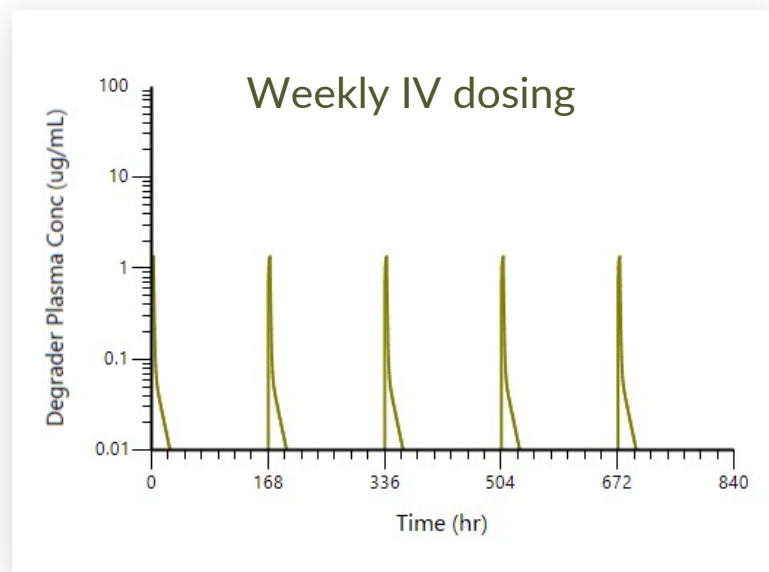
Simulated Plasma PK  
Profile in Human



Simulated Tumor PK  
Profile in Human



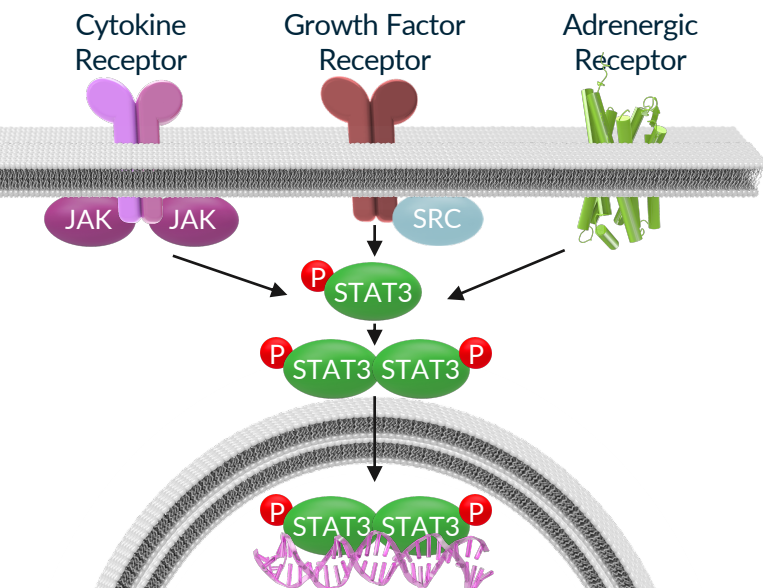
Simulated Tumor PD  
Profile in Human



Integration of human PK, tissue distribution, and *in vivo* degradation potency ( $EC_{50}$ ) and efficacy ( $E_{max}$ ) enables projection of target protein degradation in human for dose optimization in clinic.

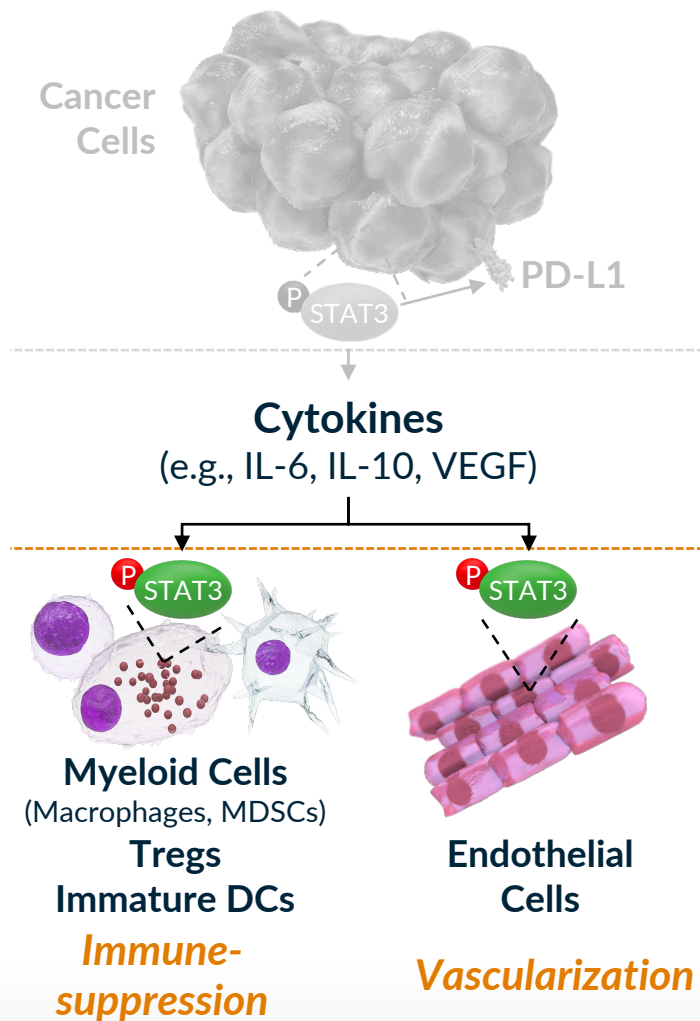
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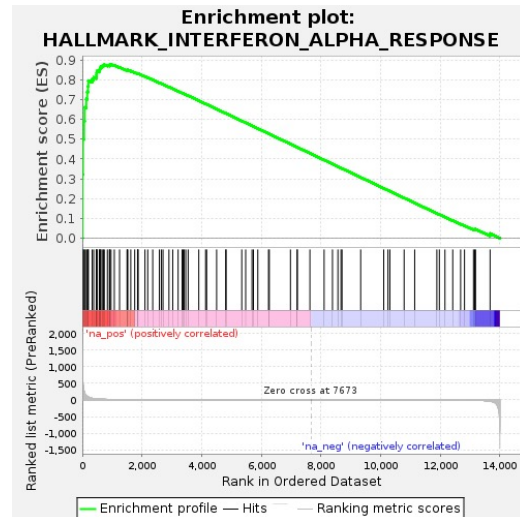
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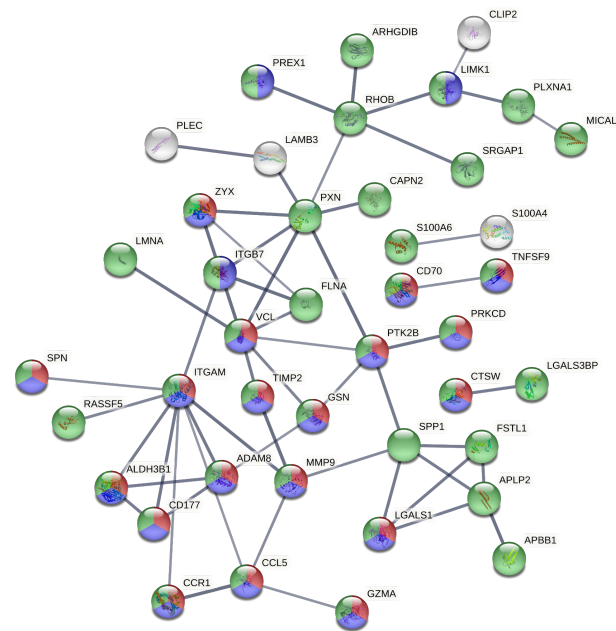
# STAT3 Degradation Modulates Proteins Involved with Immune Suppression in Both Immune and Tumor Cells

## STAT3 Degradation Upregulates Interferon Response and Immune Pathways in SUDHL-1 Cells

### RNAseq



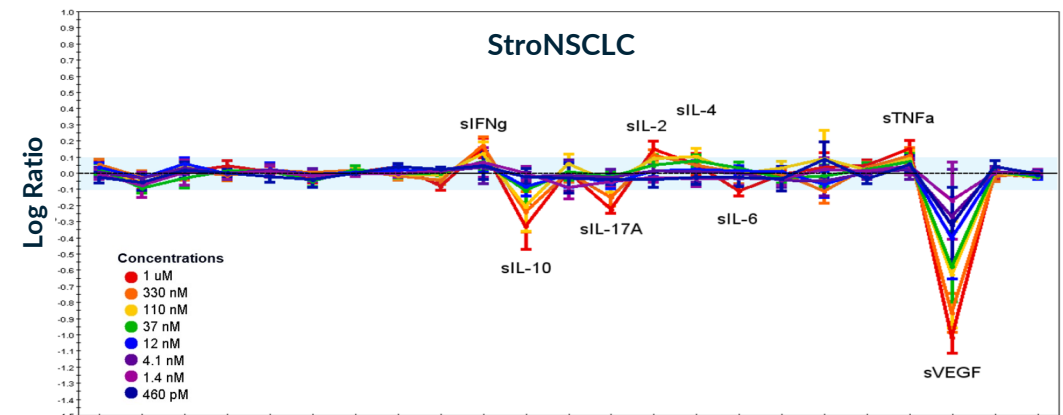
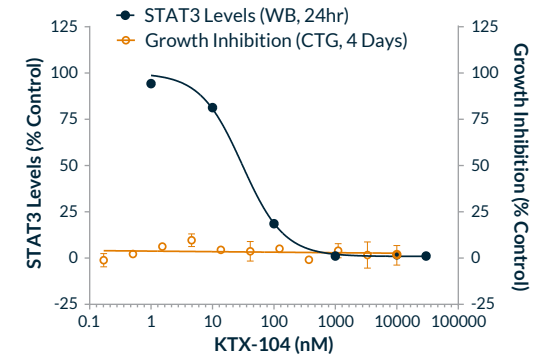
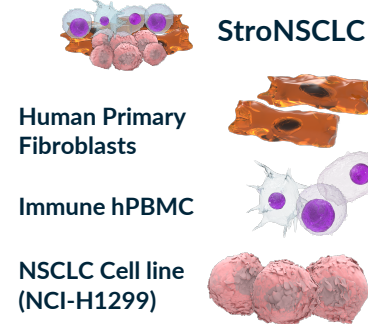
### Proteomics



Biological Process (Gene Ontology)				
GO-term	description	count in network	strength	false discovery rate
GO:0006955	immune response	32 of 1560	0.56	2.23e-07
GO:0002376	immune system process	40 of 2370	0.47	2.23e-07
GO:0050896	response to stimulus	77 of 7824	0.24	3.50e-07

## STAT3 Degradation Reverses Immune Suppression in the Biomap Co-culture Model of the TME

### BioMAP NSCLC Panel

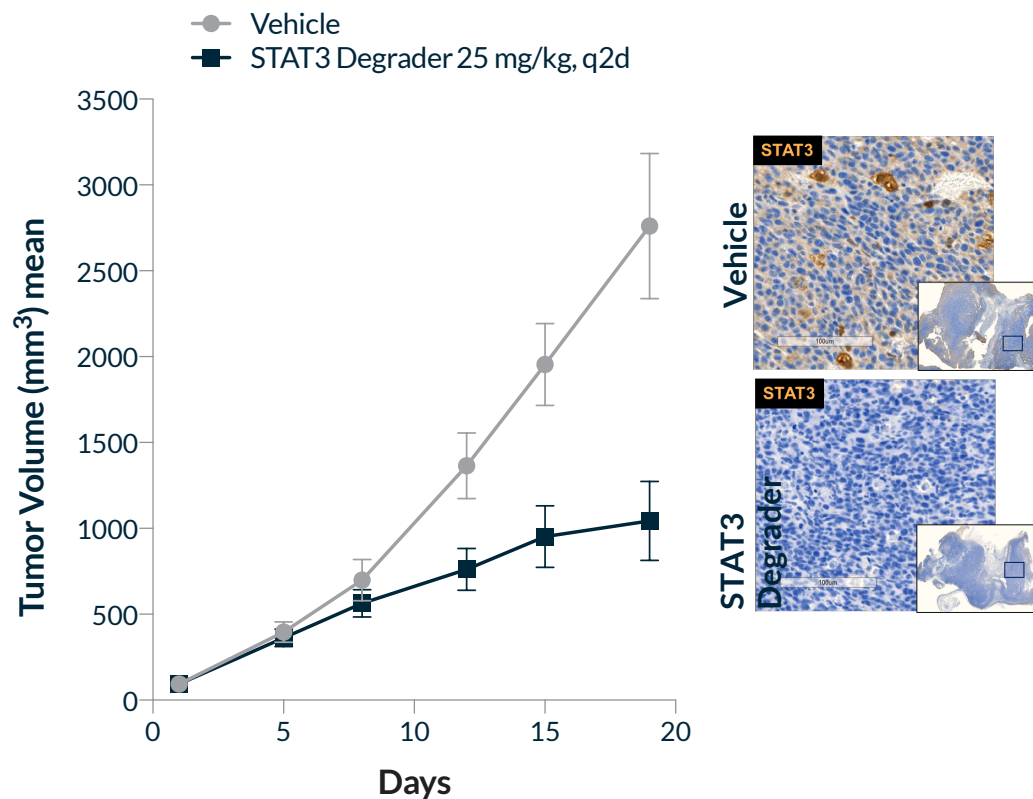


- KTX-104 induces anti-tumorigenic factor including IL-2, TNF $\alpha$  and IFN $\gamma$  while reducing immune suppressive and pro-tumorigenic factors IL-10, IL-6 and VEGF

# KTX-201 is Active in PD-1/L-1 Refractory Solid Tumor Model

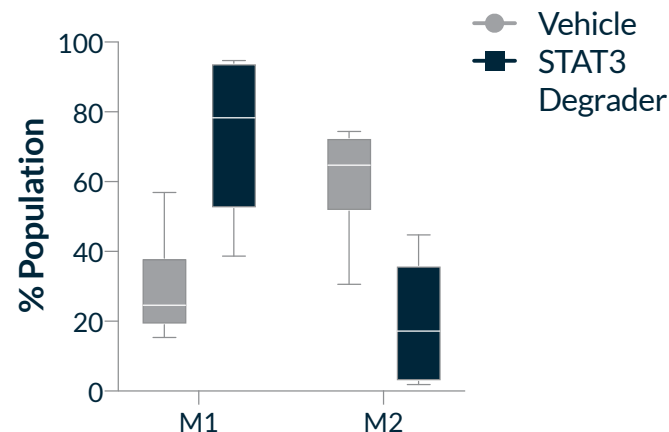
- KTX-201 assessed in solid tumor models (CT-26) known to be refractory to approved immunotherapies
- KTX-201 significantly reduced tumor growth
- STAT3 was degraded in tumor cells and TME
- STAT3 degradation in vitro did not impact CT-26 viability highlighting the TME's role in the anti-tumor response
- Analysis of tumors showed modulation of immune cells (M2/M1 and T cells) within TME to favor an anti-tumor response

## CT-26 Syngeneic Model

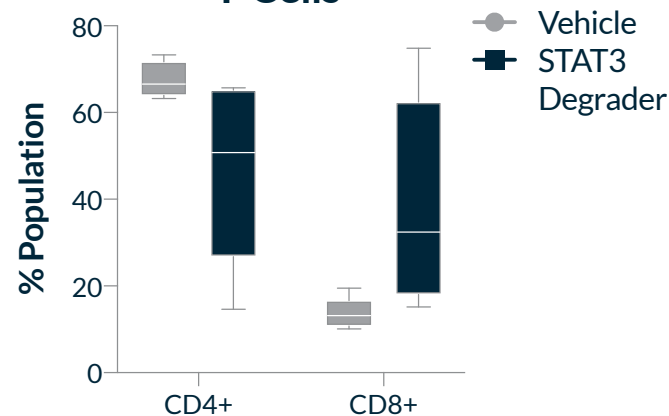


Combination data with anti-PD1 to be presented at Society for Immunotherapy of Cancer (SITC), November 10-14, 2021, Washington, D.C.

## Macrophages (M1/M2)



## T Cells

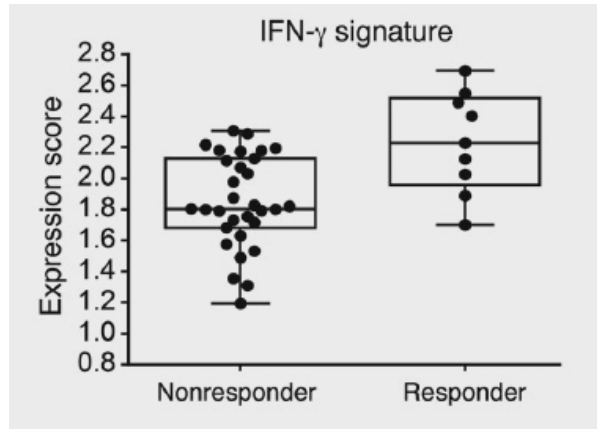


# STAT3 Degradation Remodels TME to Sensitize to PD-1 Inhibition

## IFN $\gamma$ Related Signature Predicts Clinical Response to PD-1 Blockade<sup>1</sup>

### IFN $\gamma$ Gene Signatures

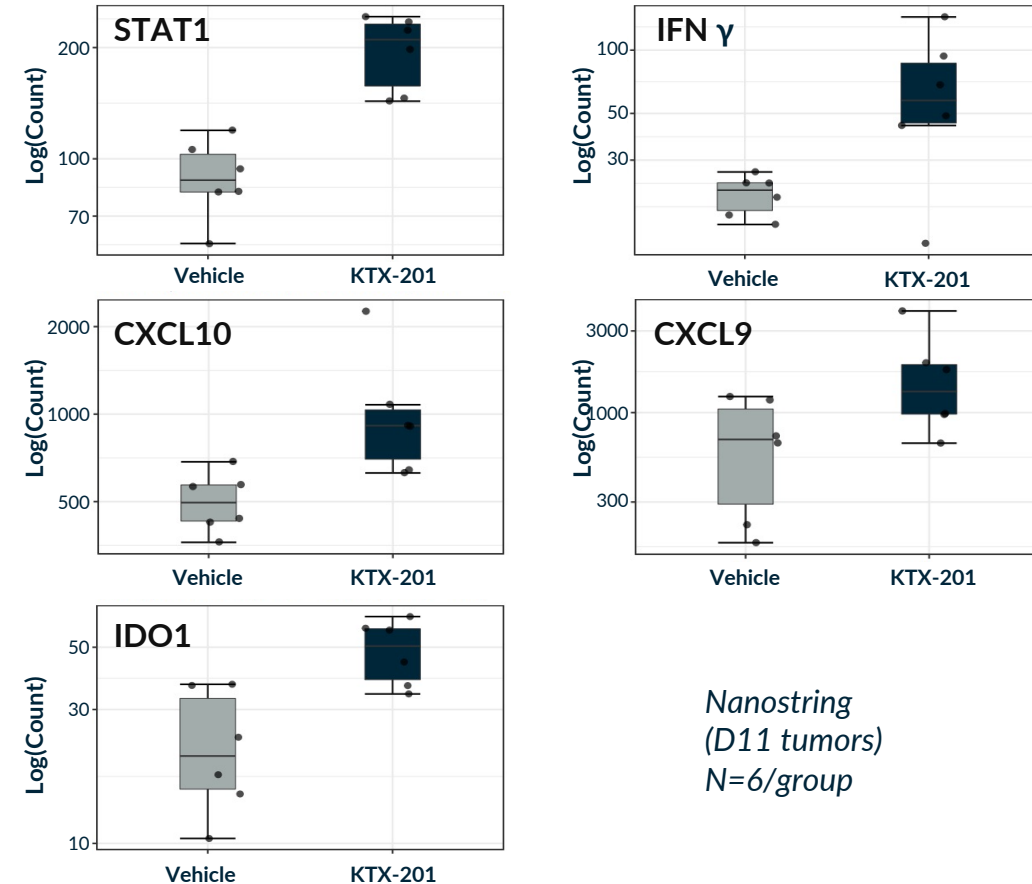
**IFN $\gamma$**   
IDO1  
CXCL10  
CXCL9  
HLA-DRA  
STAT1  
IFNG



220 patients, 9 cancer types from clinical studies of pembrolizumab

STAT3 ASO treatment leads to upregulation of IFN $\gamma$  signature in DLBCL patients<sup>2</sup>  
(IFN $\gamma$ , STAT1, CXCL10, CXCL9, IDO1)

## STAT3 Degradation-treated CT-26 Tumors Also Show Increased Expression of IFN $\gamma$ Signature Genes



Nanostring  
(D11 tumors)  
N=6/group

Ongoing work underway to elucidate PK/PD/efficacy relationships in TME

# Summary

- STAT3 is a transcription factor member of the STAT family and possesses both **tumor intrinsic** and **extrinsic** functions
- STAT3 promotes gene expression programs involved with **survival, proliferation, stemness and metastasis** of **tumor** cells and differentiation and **activity of immunosuppressive** and endothelial cells, resulting in pro-tumorigenic environment
- Kymera has developed potent and highly selective **STAT3 degraders** which are active in models of **heme malignancies and solid tumors** which support these as potential indications for clinical development
- Sustained STAT3 degradation of **90% or greater** leads to **apoptosis induction** and **cancer cell death** within 48 hr *in vitro* and *in vivo* in ALK+ ALCL models
- **PK/PD modeling** is a useful tool to understand STAT3 degradation and efficacy relationships and also allows projection of STAT3 degradation profiles in human
- STAT3 degradation **remodels TME** to sensitize to PD-1 inhibition and ongoing work is underway to understand **PK/PD/efficacy** relationships
- We expect to submit an **IND application** to evaluate **KT-333** in Ph I clinical trial in relapsed liquid and solid tumors this year





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THANK YOU