

Filed on behalf of: **Junior Party, Broad**

Paper No. _____

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

THE BROAD INSTITUTE, INC., MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY, and PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF
HARVARD COLLEGE,

Patents 8,697,359; 8,771,945; 8,795,965; 8,865,406; 8,871,445; 8,889,356;
8,889,418; 8,895,308; 8,906,616; 8,932,814; 8,945,839; 8,993,233; 8,999,641; and
9,840,713; and Applications 14/704,551 and 15/330,876,

Junior Party,

v.

SIGMA-ALDRICH CO., LLC,

Application 15/456,204,

Senior Party.

Patent Interference No. 106,133 (DK)
(Technology Center 1600)

BROAD MOTION 3
(to designate claims as not corresponding to Count 1)

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1 **I. PRECISE RELIEF REQUESTED**

2 Junior Party, The Broad Institute, Inc., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and
3 President and Fellows of Harvard College (collectively “Broad”), moves pursuant to 37 C.F.R.
4 §§ 41.121(a)(1)(i) and 41.207(b)(2) that the PTAB designate five categories of Broad’s claims
5 (Categories A-E) as not corresponding to Count 1:

6 **Category A:** *Staphylococcus aureus* Cas9 protein (“SaCas9”);

7 **Category B:** Cas9 chimeric CRISPR enzyme;

8 **Category C:** Cas9 with two or more nuclear localization signals (“NLSs”);

9 **Category D:** Cas9 fused to specified protein domains; and

10 **Category E:** Claims that are generic as to RNA and also do not specify integration of a
11 donor polynucleotide sequence (“Donor Template Integration” claims), i.e., the only claims that
12 should remain designated as corresponding to Count 1 are those that are either (i) limited to single
13 molecule RNA (“sgRNA”), or (ii) require Donor Template Integration and are not otherwise
14 separately patentable.

15 If this motion is granted and Broad Motion 1 is denied, the following claims would remain
16 designated as corresponding to Count 1: claims 4, 11 and 18 of U.S. Patent No. 8,697,359 (“359
17 patent”) (Ex. 2011), claim 5 of U.S. Patent No. 8,771,945 (“945 patent”) (Ex. 2015), all claims (1-
18 30) of U.S. Patent No. 8,795,965 (“965 patent”) (Ex. 2012), claims 2, 5 and 30 of U.S. Patent No.
19 8,906,616 (“616 patent”) (Ex. 2014), claims 8-9, 14, 16 and 27 of U.S. Patent No. 9,840,713 (“713
20 patent”) (Ex. 2043) and claims 14-16 of Application No. 14/704,551 (“551 application”) (Ex.
21 2051).

22 **II. DESCRIPTION OF APPENDICES**

23 Appendix A is an Exhibit List, Appendix B is the Statement of Material Facts, Appendix
24 C is a Summary Chart of Grounds and Claims, and Appendix D is a Claim Differentiation Chart.

1 **III. BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY**

2 **A. Count 1**

3 Count 1 is an “or” count drawn to (Broad half, Broad US Patent 8,697,359, claim 18) a
4 eukaryotic CRISPR-Cas9 system comprising Cas9 and sgRNA that comprises a guide sequence
5 fused to a tracr sequence that targets and hybridizes to a DNA target sequence in a eukaryotic cell
6 (Ex. 2011), or (Sigma half, Sigma application 15/456,204 (“the 204 application”), claim 31) a
7 method for using a CRISPR-Cas9 system in a eukaryotic cell to create a double-stranded break in
8 target DNA and integrate a donor template. Paper 1 at 11-13. The Sigma half of Count 1 requires
9 Donor Template Integration but is generic with regard to the RNA configuration encompassing
10 both sgRNA and dual-molecule RNA (“dualRNA”) configurations; the Broad half of Count 1
11 requires sgRNA but does not require Donor Template Integration. *Id.*; MF 1-2.

12 **B. Broad’s Currently Designated Claims Cover Many Different Inventions That**
13 **Are Separately Patentable From Count 1**

14 Broad’s claims currently designated as corresponding to Count 1 include many drawn to
15 inventions that are patentably distinct from the subject matter of Count 1. These separately
16 patentable inventions include four categories: use of (a) SaCas9, (b) chimeric Cas9 formed of two
17 fragments, each from a different Cas9 ortholog, (c) Cas9 having two or more NLSs, and (d) Cas9
18 with fused and heterologous protein domains. None of the claims directed to those improvements
19 and selections are anticipated by, or obvious in view of, Count 1 if considered as prior art alone or
20 in proper combination with the prior art. Notably, in the 106,132 Interference (“132 Interference”),
21 Sigma filed a declaration from Dr. Paula Cannon specifically opining that claims to a “chimeric
22 Cas9 protein,” “a Cas9 protein that includes a Protein Transduction Domain (‘PTD’)” such as an
23 NLS, and “one or more mutation(s) in the Cas9 RuvC/HNH domain(s)” would not have been
24 obvious to a POSA as of early December 2012 in view of 132 Interference Proposed Count 2. Ex.

1 2463 (132 Cannon Decl.) ¶ 35; MF 3. These categories correspond to categories (b)-(d) above, and
2 Proposed Count 2 in the 132 Interference and Count 1 (as well as Proposed Count 3) here are
3 materially the same with respect to the relevant Cas9 and NLS related limitations. Nothing in the
4 Broad half of Count 1 affects Sigma’s admissions regarding lack of claim correspondence of these
5 subject matters, as confirmed by Broad’s expert, Dr. Seeger. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 174.

6 **C. Broad’s Non-Limited/Generic RNA Claims Also Not Limited To Donor**
7 **Template Integration Should Be Designated As Not Corresponding**

8 In addition to those four categories, Broad’s claims that are both generic as to RNA and
9 not limited to Donor Template Integration should also be designated as not corresponding to Count
10 1. The only claims that should correspond to Count 1 are those that either are limited to use of
11 sgRNA (and so correspond to the Broad half of Count 1) or recite Donor Template Integration
12 (and so correspond to the Sigma half of Count 1). MF 27-48.

13 *First*, Broad’s half of Count 1 requires that the CRISPR-Cas9 system use sgRNA. But
14 Broad’s generic claims that do not limit the RNA configuration to sgRNA are currently designated
15 as corresponding to Count 1, even claims that do not use the term “guide RNA.” These claims are
16 indisputably not limited to sgRNA, and thus do not correspond to the Broad half of Count 1.

17 In addition, Broad submits that its claims that do use the term “guide RNA,” without
18 specifying a fused or chimeric RNA limitation, are also not limited to the sgRNA configuration.
19 Broad recognizes that in Interference No. 106,115 (“115 Interference”), the PTAB construed
20 “guide RNA” to be limited to a “single-molecule RNA configuration.” Ex. 2121, Paper No. 877,
21 at 44. Broad respectfully disagrees with that construction, especially given the accompanying
22 evidence that, at the relevant time, persons of ordinary skill in the art (“POSAs”) would have
23 understood the plain and ordinary meaning of the term “guide RNA,” in particular after publication
24 of Jinek 2012, to be generic and not limited to sgRNA. Ex. 2202, Jinek 2012.

1 For instance, Sigma’s 204 application, at issue here, uses the term “guide RNA” consistent
2 with its plain and ordinary meaning and exemplifies that POSAs understood the term “guide RNA”
3 as a generic term not limited to either the sgRNA or the dualRNA configuration. Sigma’s 204
4 specification explains that “[i]n other embodiments, the guide RNA comprises a single
5 molecule...” and “[i]n other embodiments, the guide RNA can comprise two separate molecules.”
6 Ex. 2074 (204 application) at [0077]. Moreover, ToolGen’s contemporaneous 14/685,510
7 application (“510 application”), at issue in Interference 106,126 (“the 126 Interference”), similarly
8 states that “guide RNA” can refer to either “single-chain RNA” or “two RNA.” Ex. 2068 ¶¶ [168]-
9 [170] (“In the present invention, the *guide RNA* may consist of *two RNA*, i.e., CRISPR RNA
10 (crRNA) and transactivating crRNA (tracrRNA) *or be a single-chain RNA* (sgRNA) produced by
11 fusion of an essential portion of crRNA and tracrRNA.”).

12 Neither Sigma nor ToolGen independently coined the term “guide RNA” or defined it in
13 their patent applications in a manner inconsistent with its plain and ordinary meaning. To the
14 contrary, both Sigma and ToolGen used the term “guide RNA” in accord with its plain and
15 ordinary meaning, consistent with Jinek 2012’s use of the term, to include both sgRNA and
16 dualRNA. For example, Jinek 2012 states: “In this ternary complex, the *dual tracrRNA:crRNA*
17 structure acts as *guide RNA* that directs the endonuclease Cas9 to the cognate target DNA.”¹ Ex.
18 2202, Jinek 2012, at Figure S1 description. Certainly, a POSA’s understanding of the term “guide
19 RNA” in the context of dualRNA and sgRNA CRISPR-Cas9 systems after June 2012 would be
20 guided by the disclosure of Jinek 2012, which proposed the use of sgRNA in CRISPR-Cas9
21 systems. Thus, the disclosures from Sigma and ToolGen, along with references available at the
22 time (including as detailed by Dr. Seeger (Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 146-83), show that a POSA

¹ All emphases in this brief are supplied unless otherwise noted.

1 in 2012 understood “guide RNA” had a plain and ordinary meaning that was generic to both
2 sgRNA and dualRNA CRISPR-Cas9 systems.

3 Broad’s specification did not redefine “guide RNA” in a manner contrary to this plain and
4 ordinary meaning. Indeed, the Broad half of Count 1 uses 359 patent dependent claim 18 that
5 specifically requires “a guide sequence fused to a tracr sequence,” rather than independent claim
6 15, which recites “guide RNA.” If “guide RNA” really meant sgRNA, there would be no need to
7 use the dependent claim as the Broad half of Count 1. The presumption raised by claim
8 differentiation of dependent claims directed to sgRNA shows that Broad did not provide a clear
9 and unambiguous redefinition of “guide RNA” different than the plain and ordinary meaning of
10 the term “guide RNA.” The broadest reasonable interpretation (“BRI”) of “guide RNA” is not
11 limited to sgRNA.

12 **Second**, Broad’s claims that do not require Donor Template Integration do not correspond
13 to Sigma’s half of Count 1. Sigma has argued persistently throughout the prosecution of its
14 applications that Donor Template Integration claims are patentably distinct from claims that are to
15 targeting and cleavage of DNA in a eukaryotic cell by a CRISPR-Cas9 system. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 2074
16 (April 9, 2018 Petition) at 7-9. Sigma has argued in particular that claims that do not recite
17 integration of a donor template do not correspond to a count that includes such a requirement, even
18 if they recite other forms of cleavage and editing/repair. Ex. 2074 (October 13, 2020 Suggestion
19 of Interference) at 7. Sigma has repeatedly argued that Donor Template Integration and other forms
20 of cleavage and repair were separately patentable inventions, and that a POSA would not have
21 reasonably expected success in integrating a donor template even if the art showed recognition of
22 successful cleavage in a eukaryotic cell. Ex. 2074 (April 9, 2018 Petition) at 9, 24-25; Ex. 2074
23 (April 29, 2019 Applicant Remarks) at 19 (citing Ex. 2465 April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl. ¶¶ 97-

1 98). Accordingly, Broad’s claims that require neither sgRNA nor Donor Template Integration
2 should be designated as not corresponding to Count 1.

3 **IV. ARGUMENT**

4 Broad now takes up each of the categories A-E set forth above in turn and shows for each
5 category why the claims in the category are separately patentable from, and should be designated
6 as not corresponding to, Count 1.

7 **A. Broad’s Claims Limited To SaCas9 Should Be Designated As Not**
8 **Corresponding To Count 1**

9 All of the Involved Claims of U.S. Patent No. 8,865,406 (“406 patent”) (Ex. 2017), U.S.
10 Patent No. 8,895,308 (“308 patent”) (Ex. 2013) and Application No. 15/330,876 (“876
11 application”) (Ex. 2064) are limited to using the *Staphylococcus aureus* Cas9 protein (“SaCas9”)
12 or a nucleotide sequence encoding SaCas9. As one example, claim 1 of the 406 patent recites: “a
13 second regulatory element operable in a eukaryotic cell operably linked to a nucleotide sequence
14 encoding a ***Staphylococcus aureus* Cas9 protein.**” Ex. 2017, 406 patent, claim 1. Thus, these
15 claims are directed to the selection of SaCas9 as the Cas9 component of the CRISPR-Cas9 system.

16 With respect to anticipation, Count 1 does not recite that the Cas9 be SaCas9 (or any
17 particular Cas9 protein). MF 4; Paper 1 at 12-13. Thus, Count 1 does not anticipate claims that
18 require SaCas9. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 175-77.

19 With respect to obviousness, there is no teaching or suggestion in Count 1 or the prior art
20 to use SaCas9 in CRISPR-Cas9 systems in eukaryotic cells. MF 5; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶
21 177-96. Moreover, CRISPR-Cas9 systems using SaCas9 possess a surprising combination of small
22 size and high efficacy in eukaryotes. MF 6; Ex. 2017, 406 patent at 83:1-25-84:1-23. These
23 features render CRISPR-SaCas9 systems advantageous for use in eukaryotic cell-based
24 applications, especially where vector delivery using the highly versatile adeno-associated virus

1 (AAV) is favored because AAV vectors are notoriously space-constrained. MF 7; Ex. 2464
2 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 193; Ex. 2017, 406 patent at 83:1-25-84:1-23.

3 As of 2012, there were more than 600 bacterial Cas9 orthologs that had been identified.
4 MF 8-9; Ex. 2226, Ran 2015; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 181. Although SaCas9 was known as one
5 of those orthologs, knowledge of SaCas9's existence would not have suggested the use of, or
6 provided a POSA any reasons for the selection of, SaCas9 for use in eukaryotes over any of the
7 other Cas9 orthologs. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 180-93. Where, as here, the prior art choices are
8 vast, the prior art must provide some reason to make the selection in order to find obviousness.
9 *Ortho-McNeil Pharm., Inc. v. Mylan Labs., Inc.*, 520 F.3d 1358, 1364 (Fed. Cir. 2008). Here, the
10 prior art failed to provide, or even suggest, a reason to select SaCas9 out of the vast choices of
11 Cas9 orthologs. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 180-93. Even if, as found in the 115 Interference, the
12 prior art does not teach away from SaCas9, a lack of a teaching away does not equate to
13 obviousness. *Rembrandt Wireless Tech., LP v. Samsung Elecs. Co., Ltd.*, 853 F.3d 1370, 1379-80
14 (Fed. Cir. 2017) (“[T]he absence of a formal teaching away in one reference does not automatically
15 establish a motivation to combine it with another reference in the same field.”). Rather, even
16 without a teaching away, an affirmative showing of motivation to select SaCas9 is required to
17 show that the selection would have been obvious. There is no evidence of such motivation here.

18 The small size of SaCas9 alone did not provide motivation to select that particular ortholog.
19 Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 185-93; MF 10. At the relevant time, the most commonly studied Cas9
20 ortholog was from *Streptococcus pyogenes* (“SpCas9”) (MF 8), which achieved high efficiencies
21 in eukaryotic cells, as shown by later disclosed indel formation tests. *Id.*; Ex. 2201, Cong 2013;
22 *see also* Ex. 2202, Jinek 2012, at 816. At 1368 amino acids in length, SpCas9 is substantially larger
23 than SaCas9 (1053 amino acids in length). MF 11; *see* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 178-92. Later

1 study of Cas9 proteins smaller than SpCas9 has not shown any improvement in efficiency as a
2 result of smaller size. At least one group of researchers studied *S. thermophilus* (StCas9), a smaller
3 ortholog of 1121 amino acids. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 185-92; *see also* Ex. 2239, Gasiunas
4 2012, at E2579. No benefit was demonstrated with the smaller StCas9 ortholog, and so that
5 provided no motivation for a POSA to look at even smaller orthologs or then to choose SaCas9
6 out of all those smaller orthologs. Even if a POSA would have been focused on reduced size (and
7 there is no contemporaneous evidence suggesting that was the case), there was nothing pointing
8 the POSA to SaCas9. MF 10.

9 A POSA also would not have been motivated to investigate SaCas9 because its amino acid
10 sequence was very different than previously characterized Cas9s. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 189.
11 As noted above, SpCas9 was the most commonly studied Cas9 ortholog in the prior art. *Id.* The
12 sequence identity between SaCas9 and SpCas9 is at 17%, particularly low for orthologous proteins.
13 *Id.*; Ex. 2227, Nishimasu 2015, at 1114. If a POSA considered sequence identity, it would have
14 steered the POSA away from selecting SaCas9 based on its lack of sequence homology with the
15 most efficient and most frequently used Cas9 ortholog, SpCas9. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 189.

16 In the 115 Interference, the PTAB noted that a SaCas9 system was one of a number of
17 “model systems” established to study CRISPR-Cas9 functionality, citing Ex. 2215, Sapranaukas
18 2011. Ex. 2121, 115 Interference, Paper 877 at 33. However, with regard to SaCas9 Sapranaukas
19 cites to other scientists who never reported any success in using SaCas9 systems in eukaryotes.
20 Additionally, research from Sapranaukas and others establishes that there was little to no
21 predictability as to which Cas9 orthologs could be used in systems that would be effective in
22 eukaryotes. Thus, Sapranaukas identifying SaCas9 as one of the “model systems” would not have
23 provided a POSA motivation to use the SaCas9 ortholog in eukaryotic cells. Under such

1 circumstances, the development of a eukaryotic CRISPR-SaCas9 system would not have been
2 obvious. *See* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 178. Sigma’s arguments made during prosecution of the
3 204 application about the unpredictability of nearly every aspect of the eukaryotic CRISPR-Cas9
4 system, including those associated with the Cas9 protein, confirm this lack of predictability and
5 lack of motivation to work with any different Cas9. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019 Applicant
6 Remarks) at 19, 27-28 (citing Ex. 2465 (April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶¶ 76-77); Ex. 2466
7 (October 17, 2017 Urnov Decl.) ¶¶ 15-17; MF 12.

8 In addition, the use of a CRISPR-SaCas9 system in eukaryotic cells has unexpected
9 attributes demonstrating non-obviousness. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 193; MF 13. For example,
10 Broad scientists demonstrated that CRISPR-SaCas9 systems produced indels *in vivo* with
11 efficiencies comparable to those achieved using SpCas9 ortholog, in stark contrast to the poorer
12 performance of other Cas9 orthologs. *Id.* The robust *in vivo* activity specific to SaCas9 was neither
13 expected nor predictable based on the state of the art. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 193. These
14 surprising advantages would not have been expected from Count , alone or in combination with
15 the prior art, thus, rendering the involved SaCas9 claims non-obvious. *Id.*; *In re Chupp*, 816 F. 2d
16 643, 646 (Fed. Cir. 1987) (superior, unexpected properties in one of a spectrum of common
17 properties can be sufficient to show nonobviousness); *Application of Albrecht*, 514 F. 2d 1389,
18 1396 (C.C.P.A. 1975).

19 Finally, the commercial success of systems using SaCas9 is powerful objective evidence.
20 SaCas9 has become an in-demand research tool for CRISPR-Cas9 systems and is used for more
21 therapeutic applications than any other Cas9 ortholog. MF 14; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 194.
22 Commercial success is a secondary indicia of non-obviousness that must be considered in an
23 obviousness inquiry. *Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. v. Teva Pharm. USA, Inc.*, 752 F.3d 967, 977 (Fed.

1 Cir. 2014) (“Secondary considerations of nonobviousness ‘must always when present be
2 considered,’ and can serve as an important check against hindsight bias.”); *Power Integrations,
3 Inc. v. Fairchild Semiconductor Intern., Inc.*, 711 F.3d 1348, 1368 (Fed. Cir. 2013) (“[O]bjective
4 considerations, which [are] sometimes refer[red] to as ‘secondary considerations,’ [are] essential
5 components of [an] obviousness analysis. Objective evidence of nonobviousness can include []
6 commercial success.”) (internal citations omitted).

7 For these reasons, and as set forth in detail in the Seeger Declaration, there is nothing in
8 Count 1 alone or in combination with the prior art that would have taught, suggested, or motivated
9 a POSA to use SaCas9, and certainly not in a eukaryotic cell. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 175-96.

10 **B. Broad’s Claims That Require A Chimeric Cas9 Should Be Designated As Not**
11 **Corresponding to Count 1**

12 All of the involved claims of Broad’s U.S. Patent No. 8,889,418 (“418 patent”) (Ex. 2060)
13 are limited to a Cas9 protein that is a chimeric enzyme comprising a first fragment and a second
14 fragment, wherein each of the first and second fragments are from a different Cas9 protein from
15 an enumerated list. MF 15. As one example, claim 1 of the 418 patent recites: “A modified
16 Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR) enzyme wherein the
17 enzyme is a **Cas9 protein that is a chimeric CRISPR enzyme** in that it **comprises a first**
18 **fragment and a second fragment**, wherein **each of the first and second fragments is from a**
19 **different Cas9 protein....**” Ex. 2060, 418 patent, claim 1. Thus, these claims are directed to the
20 improvement in which the Cas9 is not a wild type Cas9 from a single organism, but rather is a
21 chimeric Cas9 that includes fragments from different Cas9s. Claims 1-22 of the 418 patent are to
22 the Cas9, a nucleic acid encoding the Cas9, or a vector comprising such a nucleic acid; claims 23-
23 28 are to eukaryotic CRISPR-Cas9 systems/methods using such a chimeric Cas9 with RNA. Such

1 chimeric Cas9s can lead to enhanced or new functions. *See* Ex. 2060, col. 82; Ex. 2464 (Seeger
2 Decl.) ¶¶ 197-202.

3 With respect to anticipation, Count 1 does not recite that the Cas9 has any chimeric aspect.
4 Paper 1 at 12-13. Thus, Count 1 does not anticipate claims that require chimeric Cas9. Ex. 2464
5 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 200.

6 With respect to obviousness, nothing in Count 1 or in the prior art teaches, suggests, or
7 provides motivation to a POSA to design a chimeric Cas9 that is comprised of two fragments from
8 Cas9 proteins from different organisms. MF 16; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 200-08. As set forth
9 in the 418 patent, 4:21-25, “[t]hese chimeric Cas9 proteins may have a higher specificity or a
10 higher efficiency than the original specificity or efficiency of either of the individual Cas9 enzymes
11 from which the chimeric protein was generated.” MF 17; Ex. 2060. The 418 patent also outlines
12 unexpected benefits of a chimeric Cas9:

- 13 The benefits of making chimeric Cas9 include:
14 a. reduce toxicity;
15 b. improve expression in eukaryotic cells;
16 c. enhance specificity;
17 d. reduce molecular weight of protein, make protein smaller by combining the
18 smallest domains from different Cas9 homologs; and
19 e. Altering the PAM sequence requirement.

20 MF 18; Ex. 2060, 418 patent at 83:45-52; *see also* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 201-07.

21 Notably, in the 132 Interference Sigma has taken the position that claims to chimeric Cas9
22 are nonobvious over its Proposed Count 2 (Ex. 2124 (132 Sigma Mot. 1) at 27:11-28:2), which is
23 limited to Donor Template Integration, and which does not materially differ from Count 1 as to
24 the Cas9 limitation. Sigma submitted expert testimony from Dr. Paula Cannon who specifically
25 opined that claims to a “chimeric Cas9 protein” “would not have been obvious to a POSITA in
26 view of proposed Count 2 in early December 2012.” Ex. 2463 (132 Cannon Decl.) ¶ 35; MF 3.

1 Consistent with this position, during prosecution of the involved 204 application, Sigma
2 argued, again via its expert Dr. Cannon, that modifications to the Cas9 protein such as adding an
3 NLS could “affect Cas9 protein folding and the final protein structure” such that it “could interfere
4 with Cas9 function, for instance, by interfering with a binding site or catalytic domain.” Ex. 2465
5 (April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶¶ 59-60 (one could not “predict with any reasonable certainty
6 whether *any* functional domain... will be properly exposed when expressed as a fusion with
7 Cas9”); *id.* ¶¶ 59-60 (“Indeed, there was no reasonable expectation that the use and arrangement
8 of any functional domain.... in the CRISPR-Cas system, *e.g.* as a fusion to a Cas9 would be
9 operative...” because modifications to the protein could affect protein folding and structure.).
10 Sigma specifically argued that “[b]ecause a protein’s function is inextricably linked to its folded
11 structure, proper folding after (or during) translation is crucial” and that misfolded proteins would
12 be subject to degradation in the eukaryotic environment. Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019 Applicant
13 Remarks) at 30 (citing Ex. 2465 (April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶ 88). While Sigma offered these
14 arguments in support of the novelty of adding an NLS, a POSA would have expected a more
15 significant modification—such as use of a chimeric Cas9 with two fragments each from a different
16 Cas9 ortholog—to be even more likely to affect protein folding and structure, and so a POSA
17 would have understood that such a suggestion was less predictable as to what would happen to the
18 Cas9 than adding an NLS. There would have been no expectation of success with a chimeric Cas9
19 system for use for use in eukaryotic cells. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 180-93.

20 For these reasons, and as set forth in the Seeger Declaration, there is nothing in Count 1
21 alone or in combination with the prior art that would have taught, suggested, or motivated a POSA
22 to use a chimeric Cas9, and certainly not in a eukaryotic cell. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 197-208.

1 **C. Broad’s Claims To The Use Of A Cas9 With Two Or More NLSs Should Be**
2 **Designated As Not Corresponding To Count 1**

3 The next set of the Broad involved claims that should be designated as not corresponding
4 to Count 1 are those claims requiring the use of “two or more” nuclear localization signals
5 (“NLSs”). Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 209-32. These claims include all of the claims of the U.S.
6 Patent No. 8,871,445 (“445 patent”) (Ex. 2029) and U.S. Patent No. 8,932,814 (“814 patent”) (Ex.
7 2037) as well as claim 7 of the 233 patent (Ex. 2024), claims 9-11 of the 551 application (Ex.
8 2051), and claim 34 of the 876 application (Ex. 2064). One example of these claims is claim 1 of
9 the 445 patent, which recites “wherein the CRISPR-Cas system **comprises two or more nuclear**
10 **localization signals (NLSs).**” Ex. 2029, 445 patent, claim 1. These claims are directed to the
11 improvement in which the Cas9 has two or more NLSs. This invention provides for significantly
12 greater nuclear localization, unexpectedly without the potential negative consequences that can
13 arise from the engineering of a protein that must fold and undergo multiple configuration changes
14 in order to perform its function.

15 With respect to anticipation, the Sigma half of Count 1 specifically recites that the Cas9
16 has “only one NLS,” not two or more. MF 19; Paper 1 at 12-13. The Broad half of Count 1 does
17 not indicate anything about the Cas9 with regard to NLSs. Thus, Count 1 does not anticipate these
18 claims that require two or more NLSs.

19 With respect to obviousness, neither Count 1 nor the prior art provides any teaching or
20 suggestion to use two or more NLSs in a CRISPR-Cas system in a eukaryotic cell, nor was there
21 a reasonable expectation of success in using two or more NLSs. MF 20; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.)
22 ¶¶ 209-32. As an initial matter, the Sigma half of Count 1 expressly teaches away from more than
23 one NLS, stating that the Cas9 has “only one NLS.”

1 Additionally, a POSA would have understood that adding amino acids to a protein such as
2 Cas9 could alter its folding affecting its structure and function in ways that were not predictable.
3 MF 21-23, 25; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 216-17, 222-28. Indeed, throughout the prosecution of
4 its 204 application, Sigma argued that a POSA would not expect adding a single NLS to work, and
5 that a POSA would not expect the protein to be operative if one NLS was added, resulting in no
6 reasonable expectation of success. As Sigma stated, “when a protein is expressed as a fusion, such
7 as with an NLS or epitope or chimeric tag, there are unexpected results, further confirming that
8 there was no reasonable expectation of success as to a eukaryotic CRISPR-Cas9 system wherein
9 the Cas9 includes one or more NLSs.” Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019 Applicant Remarks) at 27 (citing
10 Ex. 2465 (April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶¶ 76-77); MF 21-23.

11 The POSA thus had no foreknowledge of whether fusing two or more NLSs to the Cas9
12 protein of Count 1 would disrupt its structure or function in a eukaryotic cell. This was so even
13 though the prior art contained publications that showed the use of multiple NLSs with other
14 proteins. There is no evidence, nor was there a reasonable expectation, that the use and
15 arrangement of any functional domain (*e.g.*, two or more NLSs), in the CRISPR-Cas system, *e.g.*,
16 as a fusion to a Cas9, would be operative because functional domains may be buried or shielded
17 during Cas9 protein folding, affecting the activity of the functional domains and the Cas9 protein
18 itself. *Id.*; Ex. 2264, Turner 1996 (abstract evidences that significant effects as to function,
19 including loss of function, can result from converting to fusion protein); *see also* Ex. 2263,
20 Brothers 2003 (abstract: “tags do have a significant effect on protein localization and function”).
21 Also, tagging a protein with two NLSs could interfere with function; for instance, by interfering
22 with a binding site or catalytic domain. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 222-28; Ex. 2258, Fieck 1992,
23 at 1785.

1 Notably, Sigma made this exact argument during prosecution of the 204 application as to
2 addition of a single NLS, eventually securing claims reciting “only one NLS.” Ex. 2465 (April 29,
3 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶¶ 59-60 (one could not “predict with any reasonable certainty whether *any*
4 functional domain... will be properly exposed when expressed as a fusion with Cas9”); *id.* ¶¶ 59-
5 60 (“Indeed, there was no reasonable expectation that the use and arrangement of any functional
6 domain.... in the CRISPR-Cas system, *e.g.*, as a fusion to a Cas9, would be operative...” because
7 modifications to the protein could affect protein folding and structure.). Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019
8 Applicant Remarks) at 30 (citing Ex. 2465 (April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶ 88 (arguing that
9 “[b]ecause a protein’s function is inextricably linked to its folded structure, proper folding after
10 (or during) translation is crucial” and that misfolded proteins would be subject to degradation in
11 the eukaryotic environment). Ex. 2074 (October 17, 2017 Applicant Remarks); MF 21-23.

12 Additionally, in the 132 Interference, Sigma has taken the position that claims to a Cas9
13 protein that includes a Protein Transduction Domain (PTD), such as an NLS, are nonobvious over
14 its Proposed Count 2. Ex. 2124 (132 Sigma Mot. 1) at 27:11-28:2; MF 3. Proposed Count 2 in the
15 132 Interference is limited to Donor Template Integration but does not materially differ from
16 Count 1 here as to the NLS limitation. Sigma also submitted expert testimony from Dr. Cannon
17 who specifically opined that claims to a “a Cas9 protein that includes a Protein Transduction
18 Domain (“PTD”)” “would not have been obvious to a POSITA in view of proposed Count 2 in
19 early December 2012.” Ex. 2463 (132 Cannon Declaration) ¶ 35.

20 Moreover, even if Count 1’s recitation of “only one NLS” is not considered as a teaching
21 away, Sigma’s arguments during prosecution of the 204 application make clear that just because
22 one NLS might function in the system, a POSA would not have had a reasonable expectation that
23 two or more NLSs would function based on that information about one NLS. Sigma filed a

1 declaration from Dr. Fyodor Urnov arguing that “protein functional domains are not mix-and-
2 match interchangeable....” Ex. 2466 (October 17, 2017 Urnov Decl.) ¶¶ 15-17; MF 21-23. He
3 explicitly testified that “you cannot, from a statement ‘domain A functions when fused to protein
4 B, which also retains its function,’ derive the statement ‘domain C will also function when fused
5 to that protein, which will function in that fusion as well.” *Id.* Thus, just because a single NLS
6 might function when fused to Cas9 does not mean that another domain “will also function when
7 fused to that protein, which will function in that fusion as well.”

8 Additionally, the Broad inventors demonstrated unexpected results, showing that using two
9 NLSs fused to Cas9 resulted in significantly greater co-localization of CRISPR-Cas9 components
10 in the nucleus of a eukaryotic cell than could be expected. MF 24. In a eukaryotic cell, expression
11 of a protein such as Cas9 is completed in the cytoplasm—outside of the nucleus. Ex. 2464 (Seeger
12 Decl.) ¶ 212. The Cas9 protein must then be localized to the nucleus in order to form a complex
13 with its RNA counterparts if the desire is to act on a genomic DNA target, also contained within
14 the nucleus. *Id.* Two or more NLSs unexpectedly aided in the localization of the CRISPR-Cas9
15 system to the nucleus of a eukaryotic cell *without* inhibiting functionality of the Cas9. Ex. 2464
16 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 202-21; Ex. 2001, Zhang B1, Figure 1B; Ex. 2201, Cong 2013, Figure 1A); Ex.
17 2793.

18 In the work detailed in their first provisional patent application, U.S. Application No.
19 61/736,527 (“Zhang B1”) (Ex. 2001), filed December 12, 2012, the Broad inventors tested systems
20 with a single NLS and systems with two NLSs for nuclear localization of both SpRNase III and
21 SpCas9. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 218-21. While a single NLS on the C-terminal end of SpRNase
22 III (but not the N-terminus) was sufficient to target that protein to the nucleus (*Id.*; Ex. 2001, Zhang
23 B1, ¶ 170), a version of SpCas9 with a NLS fused to each end of the protein exhibited a significantly

1 higher degree of nuclear localization, and was unexpectedly more efficient over and above what a
2 POSA may have expected from the prior art disclosures that in other systems use of more than one
3 NLS could increase nuclear localization. MF 24. For example, in an August 2012 update of key
4 data (Ex. 2793, Email from Le Cong RE: CRISPR Update - Mammalian System 20120829, dated
5 Aug. 29, 2012), one experiment showed a synergistic effect by using two NLSs resulting in nearly
6 four times the cleavage vs the best achieved with one NLS. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 221.

7 There is no teaching, suggestion, motivation, or reason in Count 1 or in other prior art that
8 would have caused a POSA to use two or more NLSs for eukaryotic CRISPR-Cas9 systems, nor
9 is there a showing that a POSA would have had a reasonable expectation that such a Cas9 would
10 have worked, let alone significantly enhanced nuclear localization. *See also* Ex. 2464 (Seeger
11 Decl.) ¶¶ 209-32.

12 **D. Broad's Claims That Are Limited To A Cas9 Fused To Specified Protein**
13 **Domains Or Including Heterologous Domains Should Be Designated As Not**
14 **Corresponding To Count 1**

15 These claims require that the Cas9 be fused to specified protein domains or include
16 heterologous domains and are thus patentably distinct. All of the claims (1-43) of Broad's 233
17 patent (Ex. 2024), all claims (1-28) of U.S. Patent No. 8,999,641 ("641 patent") (Ex. 2047), claims
18 18-19, 25, 29-30 and 36 of the 713 patent (Ex. 2043), and claim 21 of the 876 application (Ex.
19 2064) are in this category. As one example, claim 1 of the 641 patent recites that the Cas9 part of
20 the system comprises:

21 b) a second regulatory element operable in a eukaryotic cell operably linked to a
22 nucleotide sequence encoding **a fusion of a Type-II Cas9 protein and one or**
23 **more protein domains,**

24 wherein:

25 components (a) and (b) are located on same or different vectors of the system, **the**
26 **Cas9 protein comprises one or more mutations in a catalytic domain, the**

1 guide RNA comprises a tracr sequence which is 30 or more nucleotides in
2 length, the Cas9 protein and the guide RNA do not naturally occur together,

3 ..., and wherein

4 the **one or more protein domains comprises** an epitope tag, a reporter, or a
5 domain having transcription activation activity, transcription repression
6 activity, transcription release factor activity, histone modification activity,
7 RNA cleavage activity, nucleic acid or cellular molecule binding activity,
8 activity as a light-responsive cytochrome heterodimer, transposase activity,
9 integrase activity, recombinase activity, resolvase activity, invertase activity,
10 protease activity, nuclease activity, transcription-protein recruiting activity,
11 cellular uptake activity or antibody presentation activity.

12 Ex. 2047, 641 patent, claim 1. These claims are directed to the improvement in which the binding
13 function of the Cas9 is used and the Cas9 is fused to one or more of a set of enumerated functional
14 protein domains. This allows for a number of different mechanisms of action by the Cas9 and not
15 just the DSBs that occur with the use of wild type Cas9.

16 With respect to anticipation, neither half of Count 1 recites that the Cas9 is fused to
17 specified protein domains. MF 26; Paper 1 at 12-13. Thus, Count 1 does not anticipate these claims.

18 With respect to obviousness, there is no teaching or suggestion in Count 1 or the prior art directing
19 a POSA to modify the naturally occurring Cas9 protein sequences as set forth in these claims. MF
20 27; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 233-40. Both halves of Count 1 cover the use of Cas9 as part of the
21 CRISPR-Cas9 system and do not teach, suggest, or motivate a POSA to make these modifications
22 to Cas9 for use in eukaryotic cells. And, as noted above with regard to chimeric Cas9 and the use
23 of two or more NLSs, a POSA would have been hesitant to both blindly modify the Cas9 and fuse
24 it to protein domains, as it would have been expected that such engineering of the Cas9 could cause
25 a lack of function in a eukaryotic cell. *Id.*

26 There are unexpected benefits to fusing functional domains to Cas9 as doing so can “turn
27 the Cas9/gRNA CRISPR system into a generalized DNA binding system [which] can execute
28 functions beyond DNA cleavage.” MF 28; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 239; Ex. 2024, 233 patent at

1 73:22-29. The 233 patent notes, for example, that “fusing functional domains onto a catalytically
2 inactive Cas9, dCas9, ... can impart novel functions, such as transcriptional activation/repression,
3 methylation/demethylation, or chromatin modifications.” Ex. 2024, 233 patent at 73:22-29. These
4 unexpected benefits demonstrate the non-obviousness of Broad’s claims directed to fusing
5 functional domains to Cas9. *See generally*, Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 233-40.

6 Additionally, in the 132 Interference Sigma has taken the position that claims to “chimeric
7 and mutated Cas9 protein” are nonobvious over its Proposed Count 2 (Ex. 2124 (132 Sigma Mot.
8 1) at 27:11-28:2), which is limited to Donor Template Integration, but which does not materially
9 differ from Count 1 as to the Cas9 limitation. Sigma submitted expert testimony from Dr. Cannon
10 who specifically opined that claims to a “one or more mutation(s) in the Cas9 RuvC/HNH
11 domain(s)” “would not have been obvious to a POSITA in view of proposed Count 2 in early
12 December 2012.” Ex. 2463 (132 Cannon Decl.) ¶ 35. And, as noted above in Sections B and C,
13 during prosecution of the involved 204 application, Sigma argued and submitted expert testimony
14 that similar modifications of the Cas9 protein would produce unexpected results and that there was
15 no such expectation of success for modifications to a Cas9 protein. Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019
16 Applicant Remarks) at 30 (citing Ex. 2465 (April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶¶ 59-60, 88)). Indeed,
17 Sigma argued that “when a protein is expressed as a fusion, such as with an NLS or epitope or
18 chimeric tag, there are unexpected results, further confirming that there was no reasonable
19 expectation of success as to a eukaryotic CRISPR-Cas9 system wherein the Cas9 includes one or
20 more NLSs.” Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019 Applicant Remarks) at 29.

21 While Sigma directed these arguments to use of an NLS generally, they apply here as well
22 to the more significant modifications contemplated by these claims. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶
23 237-38. Indeed, Sigma submitted expert testimony that one could not “predict with any reasonable

1 certainty whether *any* functional domain... will be properly exposed when expressed as a fusion
2 with Cas9,” (Ex. 2465 (April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶¶ 59-60), and further that it was a “key
3 principle in protein biochemistry” that knowledge regarding the function of one domain fused to
4 a protein was not informative of whether domains will function. *Id.* ¶ 88; Ex. 2466 (October 17,
5 2017 Urnov Decl.) ¶¶ 15-17 (“[Y]ou cannot, from a statement ‘domain A functions when fused
6 to protein B, which also retains its function,’ derive the statement ‘domain C will also function
7 when fused to that protein, which will function in that fusion as well.”); *see also* Ex. 2464 (Seeger
8 Decl.) ¶ 229.

9 For these reasons, and as set forth in the Seeger Declaration, there is nothing in Count 1
10 alone or in combination with the prior art that would have taught, suggested, or motivated a POSA
11 to use a modified Cas9 including one being fused to one or more protein domains, and certainly
12 not in a eukaryotic cell. *See* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 233-40.

13 **E. Broad’s Non-Limited RNA Claims That Are Not Donor Template**
14 **Integration Claims Should Be Designated As Not Corresponding To Count 1**

15 As formulated, the Broad half of Count 1 is directed to eukaryotic CRISPR-Cas9 systems
16 that require sgRNA (also called “chimeric RNA”). And the Sigma half of Count 1 requires Donor
17 Template Integration.

18 Many of Broad’s involved claims are not limited to sgRNA systems and thus do not
19 correspond to the Broad half of Count 1. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 112-42. These claims fall into
20 one of three groups: 1) claims that do not require an RNA component at all; 2) claims that are
21 generic as to the RNA component and do not use the term “guide RNA”; and 3) claims that use
22 the term “guide RNA” but are still generic as to the RNA component under the proper construction
23 of “guide RNA.” Broad concedes that the term “guide RNA” was construed in the 115 Interference
24 as limited to the single-molecule RNA configuration. Ex. 2121, 115 Interference, Paper 877 at 33.

1 However, in light of the evidence presented herewith, it is submitted that the BRI of “guide RNA”
2 does not limit that term to single molecule RNA. *See also* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 112-42.

3 Additionally, of the generic claims that do not correspond to the Broad half of the Count,
4 only three recite Donor Template Integration and so correspond to the Sigma half of Count 1—
5 which is generic as to the RNA. These claims are claim 13 of the 445 patent; claim 30 of the 616
6 patent; and claim 14 of the 713 patent. As to the remainder of the generic claims not reciting Donor
7 Template Integration, as set out below, they should not be designated to Count 1 as they do not
8 correspond to either half of the Count. *See also* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 248-51. Notably, in the
9 132 Interference, Sigma argued that claims to “cleavage alone” are “patentably distinct” from
10 claims directed to Donor Template Integration. Ex. 2124 (132 Sigma Mot. 1) at 1:12-13, 2:18-30,
11 3:1-7, 4:14-23, 5:3-7 (“[U]sing a CRISPR-Cas9 system in a eukaryotic cell to cleave DNA and
12 thereafter to integrate a donor polynucleotide into that cleaved DNA via HDR is patentably distinct
13 from (not obvious in view of) simply using a CRISPR-Cas9 system in a eukaryotic cell to cleave
14 DNA.”) (emphasis in original).

15 Broad first identifies its claims that are generic as to RNA configuration, then those generic
16 claims that recite Donor Template Integration. Broad then addresses why the generic claims that
17 are not Donor Template Integration claims should be designated as not corresponding to Count 1.

18 **1. Broad’s Claims Not Limited To Single-Molecule RNA Designated To**
19 **The Current Count**

20 *a. Claims 15, 17-26, 28-41 Of The 713 Patent And Claims 1-24 Of*
21 *The 418 Patent Do Not Use The Term “Guide RNA” And*
22 *Therefore Are Indisputably Not Limited To Single-Molecule RNA*

23 In Broad’s 713 patent, independent Claims 15 and 26 (as well as most of the claims that
24 depend from 15 or 26) are directed to methods of genome editing using a CRISPR-Cas system and
25 those claims do not specify any particular configuration of the RNA components of the system;

1 moreover, these claims do not use the term “guide RNA.” MF 29; Ex. 2043, 713 patent; *see* App’x
2 C. In addition, independent claim 1 of the 418 patent does not recite (and neither do dependent
3 claims 2-24) an RNA component at all, let alone sgRNA. *See* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 114-18.

4 Claim 15 of the 713 patent is illustrative. In that claim, the method comprises delivering to
5 target sequences in the cell of a plant or animal a Cas9 protein and RNA that is simply described
6 as “a guide sequence linked to a tracr mate sequence; and a tracr sequence.” Ex. 2043, 713 patent,
7 claim 15; Paper No. 13 at 75-76. Thus, claim 15 (and likewise claim 26 with similar language)
8 does not specify whether the RNA is dualRNA or sgRNA; thus, these claims are generic with
9 respect to the RNA configuration. Additionally, these claims do not use the term “guide RNA,”
10 but merely set forth the three RNA sequences that are present. Dependent claims 17-25 and 28-41
11 of the 713 patent are similarly RNA construct-agnostic. *See* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 114-15.
12 Dependent claims 16 and 27, in contrast, specify that the RNA sequences are “within a chimeric
13 RNA.”

14 Claims 1-24 of the 418 patent (Ex. 2060) are directed to Cas9 and do not require RNA at
15 all, let alone indicating the configuration of any RNA that may be used with the claimed Cas9s.
16 MF 30. Thus, these claims too are not limited to the use of sgRNA as in the Broad half of Count
17 1. *See* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 116-17.

18 Claims 15, 17-26, and 28-41 of the 713 patent (Ex. 2043) and claims 1-24 of the 418 patent
19 (Ex. 2060) are non-limited RNA claims that do not correspond to the Broad half of Count 1 because
20 they are indisputably not limited to sgRNA.

21 *b. Broad’s Claims That Use The Term “Guide RNA” Also Cover*
22 *Both Single- And Dual-Molecule RNA Systems*

23 In addition to the claims in the 713 and 418 patents that do not specify the use of
24 sgRNA/chimeric RNA, a number of Broad’s other claims are also generic as to the RNA but use

1 the term “guide RNA.” In the 115 Interference Decision on Motions, the PTAB construed the term
2 “guide RNA” used in Broad’s claims as limited to sgRNA. Ex. 2121, 115 Interference, Paper 877
3 at 33. Broad respectfully disagrees with that prior decision and asserts that the evidence provided
4 herewith shows that the BRI of “guide RNA” in Broad’s claims is not so limited. *See also* Ex.
5 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 119-42.

6 The BRI standard applies in determining the meaning of “guide RNA” as set forth in
7 Broad’s involved claims for this Interference. *See Bamberger v. Cheruvu*, 55 U.S.P.Q.2d 1523, at
8 *2 (B.P.A.I. 1998) (BRI applies in interference proceedings). Respectfully, the BRI of “guide
9 RNA” is dictated by how the term was used generally in the art in 2012, including as it was used
10 in Jinek 2012, by Sigma in the involved 204 application and other related applications, by ToolGen
11 in its 510 application that is in the 126 Interference, and how it is used in Broad’s patents and
12 applications (including the doctrine of claim differentiation, if Broad is not using “guide RNA”
13 generically, several dependent claims are superfluous)—rather than being limited based on the
14 conclusion that there was no ordinary meaning but there was a purported “definition” of “guide
15 RNA” in a single sentence in Broad’s specification.

16 (1) *The Intrinsic Evidence Supports A Generic Understanding*
17 *Of “Guide RNA”*

18 The intrinsic record for Broad’s involved patents and applications indicates that “guide
19 RNA” includes both dualRNA and sgRNA. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 129-42. In reviewing
20 Broad’s Involved Claims, a clear pattern is established. An independent claim uses the term “guide
21 RNA.” A dependent claim then narrows guide RNA to an sgRNA guide RNA (*i.e.*, by describing
22 the guide RNA as a “fused” RNA or a “chimeric” RNA construct). *See* Ex. 2011, 359 patent at
23 Claims 1, 4, 8, 11, 15, and 18; Ex. 2015, 945 patent at Claims 1 and 5; Ex. 2013, 308 patent at

1 Claims 1, 6 and 10 and 25, 29, and 30; Ex. 2014, 616 patent at Claims 1, 2, and 5; and Ex. 2043,
2 713 patent at Claims 1, 8, and 9.

3 The doctrine of claim differentiation applies in this case: “The presence of a dependent
4 claim that adds a particular limitation gives rise to a presumption that the limitation in question is
5 not present in the independent claim.” *Ex Parte William M. Cresse*, Appeal No. 2008-4746, 2008
6 WL 5264251, at *4 (B.P.A.I. Dec. 16, 2008) (citing *Phillips v. AWH Corp.*, 415 F.3d 1303, 1315
7 (Fed. Cir. 2005)). While claim differentiation is a presumption, it is a strong presumption that is
8 not to be cast aside lightly. *InterDigital Communs., LLC v. ITC*, 690 F.3d 1318, 1324 (Fed. Cir.
9 2012).

10 And that is especially so here where there are many dependent claims that will be rendered
11 superfluous if “guide RNA” is construed as limited to sgRNA. In the hierarchy of claim
12 construction tenets, “[i]t is highly disfavored to construe terms in a way that renders them void,
13 meaningless, or superfluous.” *Wasica Fin. GmbH v. Cont'l Auto. Sys., Inc.*, 853 F.3d 1272, 1288
14 n.10 (Fed. Cir. 2017). Accordingly, “claim differentiation . . . is clearly applicable” when the only
15 meaningful difference between the two claims is eliminated by reading in a limitation of the
16 dependent claim into the independent claim. *Wenger Mfg., Inc. v. Coating Mach. Sys., Inc.*, 239
17 F.3d 1225, 1233 (Fed. Cir. 2001).

18 The below claim series indicate instances in addition to the 359 patent as already noted,
19 where claim differentiation is required so that a dependent claim does not become superfluous:²

- 20 • U.S. Patent No. 8,895,308: Claim 1 describes a method using CRISPR-Cas system
21 having “guide RNA” that hybridizes to the target sequence. Claim 6 covers the
22 “method of claim 1, wherein the guide RNA comprises a guide sequence and a tracr
23 sequence.” Claim 10 requires the “method of claim 6, wherein the guide sequence
24 and tracr sequence are chimeric.” If the “guide RNA” of Claim 1 is already defined

² The full text of each claim series is set forth in Appendix 4.

1 to be chimeric RNA (*i.e.*, a single-molecule RNA), Claim 10 is superfluous over
2 Claim 6. Ex. 2013; MF 31.

- 3 • U.S. Patent No. 8,906,616: Claim 1 describes a CRISPR-Cas system having a
4 “guide RNA” polynucleotide sequence comprising a guide sequence, a tracr mate
5 sequence, and a tracr sequence. Claim 2 covers the “composition of claim 1,
6 wherein the modified guide RNA comprises a chimeric guide sequence and a tracr
7 sequence.” Claim 5 covers the “composition of claim 1, wherein the modification
8 comprises fusing the tracr mate sequence and the tracr sequence through an
9 artificial loop.” If the “guide RNA” of Claim 1, which includes a guide sequence
10 and a tracr sequence, is already defined to be chimeric or fused, Claims 2 and 5 are
11 superfluous. Ex. 2014; MF 32.

12 Other Involved Claims also show that the term “guide RNA” should be interpreted
13 generically. Whenever Broad intended a chimeric guide RNA, the nature of the RNA is expressly
14 stated in the claim. For example, in the 965 patent, all of the claims explicitly require that the guide
15 RNA be “composed of a chimeric RNA.” Ex. 2012, 965 patent at independent claims 1, 10, 17,
16 and 26. Notably, in the 965 patent (Ex. 2012), none of the dependent claims include limitations
17 that the components of the guide RNA be fused or bound to one another (MF 33)—that
18 characteristic is already taught by the explicit use of the term “chimeric” in the independent claims.

19 That “guide RNA” is a generic term is also supported by the examples in the specifications.
20 Broad’s patents disclose preferred embodiments that are dual-molecule RNA systems. MF 34; Ex.
21 2011, 359 patent at 43:49-53, 44:5-8; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 138-41. If “guide RNA” were
22 limited to single-molecule RNA systems, however, such preferred embodiments would not be
23 covered by the patent claims. Such a result “is rarely, if ever, correct.” *Ex Parte Andrew Graham,*
24 *Ando Feyh, & Bernhard Gehl*, Appeal No. 2017-009616, 2018 WL 4356999, at *3 (P.T.A.B. Aug.
25 23, 2018); *MBO Labs., Inc. v. Becton, Dickinson & Co.*, 474 F.3d 1323, 1333 (Fed. Cir. 2007)
26 (“[A] claim interpretation that excludes a preferred embodiment from the scope of the claim is
27 rarely, if ever, correct.”) (citation omitted).

1 (2) *The Extrinsic Evidence Shows The Plain Meaning Of*
2 *“Guide RNA”*

3 A proper BRI claim construction analysis should evaluate evidence of how a POSA would
4 have understood the plain and ordinary meaning of the term “guide RNA” at the relevant time. *See*
5 Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 120-27. Broad submits that even prior to publication of Jinek 2012, a
6 POSA would have understood the plain meaning of “guide RNA” to be a generic term. However,
7 certainly after publication of Jinek 2012, a POSA would so conclude. Jinek 2012 proposed in June
8 2012 the use of sgRNA systems for CRISPR-Cas9 and also showed dualRNA systems. Thus, after
9 June 2012, a POSA would be guided by Jinek’s generic use of the term “guide RNA.”

10 Jinek 2012 very clearly states: “In this ternary complex, the *dual tracrRNA:crRNA*
11 structure acts as *guide RNA* that directs the endonuclease Cas9 to the cognate target DNA.” MF
12 41; Ex. 2202, Jinek 2012, at Figure S1, description. Thus, Jinek 2012 taught a POSA that “guide
13 RNA” was a generic term covering systems with either sgRNA or dualRNA. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 2202,
14 Jinek 2012, at Fig. S1, caption; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 121-23.

15 Consistent with Jinek 2012, Sigma’s 204 application shows that Sigma’s inventors
16 understood that “guide RNA” was a generic term. The 204 specification explains that “[i]n some
17 embodiments, *the guide RNA comprises a single molecule...*” and “[i]n other embodiments, *the*
18 *guide RNA can comprise two separate molecules.*” Ex. 2074 (204 application) at [0077]; MF 35.
19 Claim 31 uses the generic term “guide RNA,” while dependent claims 33 and 34 specify that the
20 “*guide RNA is a single molecule*” and “*the guide RNA is two molecules*” respectively. Paper 12
21 at 2; MF 36.

22 Similarly, in ToolGen’s 510 application at issue in the 126 Interference, the ToolGen
23 inventors state that “guide RNA” can refer to either “single-chain RNA” or “two RNA.” Ex. 2068,
24 ¶¶ [168]-[170] (“In the present invention, the guide RNA may consist of two RNA, i.e., CRISPR

1 RNA (crRNA) and transactivating crRNA (tracrRNA) or be a single-chain RNA (sgRNA)
2 produced by fusion of an essential portion of crRNA and tracrRNA.”). And in ToolGen’s 510
3 application original claim 1 used the generic term “guide RNA.” MF 37. Original dependent claims
4 3 and 4 narrowed the RNA to either the dual-molecule (claim 3) or single-molecule (claim 4) RNA
5 species within the generic “guide RNA” genus. MF 37-40; Ex. 2067, 2062, Claims 3 and 4; Ex.
6 2068, WO 2014/065596 (“WO 596”), Claims 3 and 4.

7 Sigma’s and ToolGen’s applications, when considered in view of Jinek 2012 and other
8 multiple references available at the time, provide substantial evidence that POSAs at the time of
9 the invention understood “guide RNA” to include systems with either sgRNA or dualRNA. Ex.
10 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 120-27.

11 (3) *Broad Did Not Act As Its Own Lexicographer Nor Redefine*
12 *“Guide RNA”*

13 In the 115 Interference, the PTAB limited the term “guide RNA” to single molecule RNA
14 primarily because of one sentence within the voluminous specification for Broad’s patents. While
15 a patentee may act as their own “lexicographer” and redefine a term contrary to its plain and
16 ordinary meaning, “a clear and unambiguous definition” limiting the term “contrary to its plain
17 and ordinary meaning” is required. *Bradium Techs. LLC v. Iancu*, 923 F.3d 1032, 1044 (Fed. Cir.
18 2019). Here, the sentence at issue is neither clear nor unambiguous.

19 In the detailed description of the invention, the Broad inventors state the following:

20 In aspects of the invention the terms “chimeric RNA”, “chimeric guide RNA”,
21 “guide RNA”, “single guide RNA” and “synthetic guide RNA” are used
22 interchangeably and refer to the polynucleotide sequence comprising the guide
23 sequence, the tracr sequence and the tracr mate sequence.

24 Ex. 2011, 359 patent at 12:6-16. This statement does not “clearly express an intent” to redefine the
25 plain and ordinary meaning of the generic term “guide RNA” to be single molecule RNA. *See Ex*
26 *Parte Charles John Berg, Jr. & John David Norcom*, Appeal No. 2010-004063, 2012 WL

1 1744485, at *2 (B.P.A.I. Apr. 25, 2012). Instead, it only relates to the use of the term “guide RNA”
2 “in aspects of the invention,” not in the overall context of the invention or in the specification as a
3 whole. As noted previously, multiple claims and the disclosures of preferred embodiments in the
4 specification indicate that guide RNA may also include a dual molecule RNA system. Thus, any
5 interpretation of this sentence to limit “guide RNA” conflicts with other aspects of the
6 specification, the claims and examples. Because there certainly is not a “clear and unambiguous”
7 definition provided as to “guide RNA,” the plain and ordinary meaning of the term should prevail.

8 Additionally, when definitions are presented in Broad’s patents, those definitions do not
9 use the “in aspects of the invention” language. Instead, as shown by one example in the very next
10 paragraph of the specification (and in multiple other paragraphs), when Broad’s patents define
11 terms they used express and non-limiting definitional language, stating that “as used herein the
12 term [term] means [definition].” Ex. 2011, 359 patent at 12:17-20; *see also id.* at 12:21-23. This is
13 a clear and unambiguous definition, completely unlike the qualified “aspects” language regarding
14 “guide RNA.” *See also* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 132-41.

15 Lastly, even if the cited specification language were definitional, the language does *not*
16 limit “guide RNA” to any specific RNA configuration. Rather, it recites that the term guide RNA
17 “*refers to*” “the polynucleotide sequence comprising the guide sequence, the tracr sequence and
18 the tracr mate sequence.” Ex. 2011, 359 patent at 12:6-10. That is, to the extent the sentence is
19 seen as definitional, it indicates “guide RNA” refers to three RNA sequences (the guide sequence,
20 the tracr sequence, and the tracr mate sequence). But the definition (assuming *arguendo* it is a
21 definition) indicates “guide RNA” refers to the sequences but is silent on and does not require that
22 the guide sequence and tracr mate sequence be fused to the tracr sequence or otherwise limit the
23 configuration of these three sequences within the “guide RNA.”

1 When the proper BRI of “guide RNA” is determined based on the intrinsic and extrinsic
2 evidence showing a plain and ordinary meaning and with no clear and unambiguous redefinition,
3 “guide RNA” as used in Broad’s Involved Claims includes both sgRNA and dualRNA systems.

4 **2. Of The Large Set of Claims Not Limited To sgRNA, Only Three**
5 **Require Donor Template Integration**

6 The Sigma half of Count 1, unlike the Broad half, is generic as to the RNA configuration,
7 but requires Donor Template Integration. Of the claims identified above as not requiring sgRNA—
8 and thus not corresponding to the Broad half of Count 1—only three claims require Donor
9 Template Integration as in the Sigma half of Count 1 and are not otherwise separately patentable:
10 445 patent, claim 13; 616 patent, claim 30; and 713 patent claim 14. *See also* Ex. 2464 (Seeger
11 Decl.) ¶ 250. These claims should remain designated as corresponding to Count 1.

12 The remainder of Broad’s generic claims—those that do not recite Donor Template
13 Integration—should be designated as not corresponding to Count 1.

14 **3. Broad’s Generic/Non-Limited RNA Claims That Do Not Recite**
15 **Integration Of A Donor Template Do Not Correspond To Either Half**
16 **Of The Count**

17 If this Interference is continued with Count 1, Broad’s “generic” non-limited RNA claims
18 that do not recite integration of a donor template should be designated as not corresponding to
19 Count 1 in the interests of fairness and efficiency.

20 It is presumed that a “claim corresponds to a count if the subject matter of the count, treated
21 as prior art to the claim, would have anticipated or rendered obvious the subject matter of the
22 claim.” 37 C.F.R. § 41.207(b)(2). This is not, however, a per se rule that must rigidly be applied,
23 even if doing so would work an inequitable outcome. Ex. 2305, Rules of Practice Before the Board
24 of Patent Appeals and Interferences, 69 FR 49960-01, at *49994 (Comment 186/Answer).

1 Should the Interference proceed with Count 1, failing to de-designate generic/non-limited
2 RNA claims that do not correspond with Sigma’s half of Count 1 would work an unfairness to
3 Broad and unfairly reward Sigma for limiting its claims in prosecution.

4 **First**, Sigma has made it clear that the invention captured by its claims, including the claim
5 representing its half of Count 1, is limited to Donor Template Integration.

6 In fact, in the 132 Interference, Sigma argued that claims to “cleavage alone” are
7 “patentably distinct” from its claims directed to Donor Template Integration: Ex. 2124 (132 Sigma
8 Mot. 1) at 1:12-13. Sigma specifically noted that there are three interferences currently pending
9 before the Board directed to “cleavage only in a eukaryotic cell,” and that

10 Sigma is *properly* not a party to those pending ‘cleavage only’ interferences
11 because all of Sigma’s involved claims are directed solely to the *patentably distinct*
12 ‘cleavage plus integration’ technological advance in the art.
13 *Id.* at 4:14-23; *id.* at 4:21-23 (“[A]ll of Sigma’s involved claims are directed solely to the patentably
14 distinct ‘cleavage plus integration’ technological advance in the art”). By stating Sigma is not
15 properly a party to interferences involving the generic eukaryotic invention, Sigma acknowledges
16 that it did not invent that subject matter. Sigma further argued that:

17 using a CRISPR-Cas9 system in a eukaryotic cell to cleave DNA and *thereafter to*
18 *integrate a donor polynucleotide into that cleaved DNA via HDR* is patentably
19 distinct from (not obvious in view of) simply using a CRISPR-Cas9 system in a
20 eukaryotic cell to cleave DNA.

21 *Id.* at 5:3-7 (emphasis in original); *see also id.* at 2:18-30, 3:1-7, 4:14-23, 5:4-7. Sigma is arguing
22 that the involved claims of both parties in the 132 Interference be limited only to those expressly
23 reciting Donor Template Integration. *Id.* at 27:1-8; MF 42-47.

24 Consistent with this position, throughout prosecution of Sigma’s 204 application, Sigma
25 argued that integration of a donor template via a CRISPR-Cas9 system in a eukaryotic cell is a
26 distinct invention from cleavage and repair of DNA by other means. *See, e.g.*, Ex. 2074 (October

1 13, 2020 Applicant Remarks) at 8-9. MF 48-50. Accordingly, Sigma’s claims involved in this
2 Interference are entirely limited to donor template integration claims.

3 For instance, during prosecution of the involved 204 application, Sigma’s claims requiring
4 integration of a donor sequence were indicated as allowable over CVC’s P1 and P2 during an
5 Interview. During the Interview, the Examiner also suggested that Sigma remove the limitation
6 requiring integration of a donor sequence to include cleavage only claims. Sigma responded it
7 would not because “the Applicant has concluded that CRISPR cleavage + donor sequence
8 integration claims, as more specifically recited in the new claims presented herein, *are patentably*
9 *distinct from CRISPR cleavage-only claims.*” Ex. 2074 (October 13, 2020 Applicant Remarks) at
10 8-9. Sigma thus recognized that it could not seek, in the same patent, claims to integration of a
11 donor sequence and claims directed only to cleavage and repair, as they were separately patentable.

12 Similarly, in suggesting an interference with CVC during the course of prosecuting the 204
13 application, Sigma made clear that only claims that explicitly recite Donor Template Integration
14 correspond to a count with such a requirement—and that claims to other forms of cleavage and
15 repair or editing did not correspond. Specifically, in October 2020, Sigma filed a suggestion of
16 Interference during prosecution of the 204 application, proposing a count that required Donor
17 Template Integration. Sigma argued that only claims from CVC’s applications that expressly recite
18 Donor Template Integration would correspond to its proposed count—not claims directed to more
19 generally “cleaving or editing” or “modulating transcription” of a gene product. Ex. 2074 (October
20 13, 2020 Suggestion of an Interference).

21 Having limited its claims to only those requiring Donor Template Integration in order to
22 secure allowance, Sigma should not be permitted to challenge Broad’s entitlement to generic RNA
23 claims that are not so limited.

1 **Second**, because Broad’s best proofs include *dual-molecule* RNA systems *without* a donor
2 template, they are excluded by Count 1. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 151-66; MF 51. Specifically,
3 if the PTAB proceeds with Count 1, Sigma will likely argue that Broad cannot rely on its early
4 dual-molecule RNA proofs to establish a reduction to practice for Broad’s half of the Count
5 because that half is limited to sgRNA—but that result would make no sense unless the genus and
6 species were separately patentable inventions. Sigma will also likely argue that Broad cannot rely
7 on those same early proofs to establish reduction to practice for Sigma’s half of the Count because
8 they do not involve Donor Template Integration. *Id.* Accordingly, Broad’s earliest proofs are not
9 covered by the first half of Count 1 because they are not single-molecule, and they are not covered
10 by the second half of Count 1 because they do not use a donor template. Thus, while prohibited
11 from relying on dual molecule work because of the awkward construction of Count 1, Broad’s
12 generic/non-limited and dual-molecule RNA claims still will be at risk. That should not happen.

13 To be clear, Broad believes that if this case proceeds to priority on Count 1, the evidence
14 will establish that the Broad invented the sgRNA eukaryotic CRISPR invention prior to Sigma,
15 and that it was the first to use a CRISPR-Cas9 system for Donor Template Integration into the
16 DNA in a eukaryotic cell as well. Proceeding with Count 1 in this case with all of the currently
17 designated claims, however, raises the specter of the potentially improper and inequitable result
18 that Broad could be denied generic claims solely because the two halves of Count 1 import separate
19 limitations (sgRNA; Donor Template Integration) that are not part of the fundamental
20 breakthrough of getting any CRISPR-Cas9 system to work in eukaryotic cells.

21 Designating Broad’s generic RNA claims as not corresponding to Count 1 is consistent
22 with the Federal Circuit’s decision in *Eli Lilly & Co. v. Bd. of Regents of Univ. of Wash.*, 334 F.
23 3d 1264, 1268 (Fed. Cir. 2003). There, the Federal Circuit upheld the PTAB’s decision to not apply

1 a one-way test for determining interference-in-fact, as that would be over-inclusive in determining
2 whether potentially interfering claims were to the “same patentable invention.” *Id.* Specifically,
3 the Federal Circuit explained, affirming the PTAB’s decision, that a “genus [that] was invented
4 before” a species is “separately patentable from, the species” for the purposes of determining an
5 interference-in-fact. *Id.* at 1270. The Federal Circuit found that the PTAB had the discretion to
6 adopt a two-way test to prevent “the proliferation of unnecessary, wasteful interference
7 proceedings concluding that both parties are entitled to patents in situations in which the claimed
8 inventions do not define the same patentable invention, but merely overlap in scope.” *Id.* at 1268.

9 The current case is critically similar to *Eli Lilly* in that, given the complexity and
10 unpredictability of the CRISPR-Cas9 art, the development of working species (the single molecule
11 RNA system; the integration of donor templates) should not grant rights to the genus where the
12 another working species (dual-molecule without integration of a donor template) was invented
13 first. The development of eukaryotic CRISPR technology was a breakthrough technological
14 advance for which there was no reasonable expectation of success regardless of whether the RNA
15 components were in one or two molecules, and regardless of the use of a donor template or any
16 other repair mechanism. In unpredictable arts, multiple species can be separately patentable.

17 For the foregoing reasons, if the Interference proceeds on Count 1, Broad requests that the
18 PTAB designate its generic/non-limited RNA eukaryotic CRISPR claims that do not recite Donor
19 Template Integration as not corresponding to Count 1.

20 **V. CONCLUSION**

21 For the foregoing reasons, Broad respectfully requests that the PTAB grant this motion.

22

1 Dated: December 3, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A: LIST OF EXHIBITS CITED

Ex.	Description
2001	U.S. Application 61/736,527, Zhang et al., December 12, 2012.
2011	U.S. Patent No. 8,697,359, issued on April 15, 2014, to Feng Zhang (“the 359 Patent”).
2012	U.S. Patent No. 8,795,965, issued on August 5, 2014, to Feng Zhang (“the 965 Patent”).
2013	U.S. Patent No. 8,895,308, issued on November 25, 2014, to Feng Zhang and Fei Ran (“the 308 Patent”)
2014	U.S. Patent No. 8,906,616, issued on December 9, 2014, to Feng Zhang et al. (“the 616 Patent”)
2015	U.S. Patent No. 8,771,945, issued on July 8, 2014, to Feng Zhang (“the 945 Patent”)
2017	U.S. Patent No. 8,865,406, issued on October 21, 2014, to Feng Zhang and Fei Ran (“the 406 Patent”)
2024	U.S. Patent No. 8,993,233, issued on March 31, 2015 to Feng Zhang et al. (“the 233 Patent”)
2029	U.S. Patent No. 8,871,445, issued on October 28, 2014, to Le Cong and Feng Zhang (“the 445 Patent”)
2037	U.S. Patent No. 8,932,814, issued on January 13, 2015, to Le Cong and Feng Zhang (“the 814 Patent”)
2043	U.S. Patent No. 9,840,713, issued on December 12, 2017 to Feng Zhang (“the 713 Patent”)
2047	U.S. Patent No. 8,999,641, issued on April 7, 2015 to Feng Zhang et al. (“the ‘641 Patent”)
2051	U.S. Patent Application No. 14/704,551, Ex. 22 to Sanjana Declaration (“NIH application”) (Ex. 2411)
2060	U.S. Patent No. 8,889,418 issued on November 18, 2014, to Feng Zhang, et al. (“the 418 Patent”)
2064	U.S. Application 15/330,876, Zhang, et al., November 7, 2016 (the ‘876 Application)
2067	International PCT Application PCT/KR2013/009488, filed on October 23, 2013
2068	International PCT Publication WO 2014/065596 A1, filed on October 23, 2013
2074	Excerpts of U.S. Patent Application 15/456,204, Chen et al., dated March 10, 2017
2121	Paper 877, Declaration of Interference, Interference 106,015, September 10, 2020.
2124	Paper 482, Sigma Motion 1 (to Substitute Proposed Count 2 for Count 1), Interference 106,132, November 19, 2021.

Ex.	Description
2201	Cong et al., <i>Multiplex Genome Engineering Using CRISPR/Cas Systems</i> , 339(6121) SCIENCE 819-823 (2013) with Supplemental Material.
2202	Jinek et al., <i>A programmable dual-RNA-guided DNA endonuclease in adaptive bacterial immunity</i> , 337(6096) SCIENCE 816-821 (2012) with Supplemental Material.
2215	Sapranauskas et al., <i>The Streptococcus thermophilus CRISPR/Cas system provides immunity in Escherichia coli</i> , 39(21) NUCL. ACIDS RES. 9275-9282 (2011).
2226	Ran et al., <i>In vivo genome editing using Staphylococcus aureus Cas9</i> , 520 Nature 186-191 (2015).
2227	Nishimasu et al., <i>Crystal Structure of Staphylococcus aureus Cas9</i> , 162 Cell 1113-1126 (2015).
2239	Gasiunas et al., <i>Cas9-crRNA ribonucleoprotein complex mediates specific DNA cleavage for adaptive immunity in bacteria</i> , 109(39) PNAS e2579-86 (2012).
2258	Fieck, A., et al., <i>Modifications of the E. coli Lac repressor for expression in eukaryotic cells: effects of nuclear signal sequences on protein activity and nuclear accumulation</i> , Nucleic Acids Res. 20(7) 1785-1791 (1992) (Ex. 1235)
2263	Brothers, S.H., et al., <i>Unexpected Effects of Epitope and Chimeric Tags on Gonadotropin-Releasing Hormone Receptors: Implications for Understanding the Molecular Etiology of Hypogonadotropic Hypogonadism</i> , The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism 88(12):6107–6112 (2003) (Ex. 2203)
2264	Turner, J.R., et al., <i>Carboxyl-terminal Vesicular Stomatitis Virus G Protein-tagged Intestinal Na⁺-dependent Glucose Cotransporter (SGLT1)</i> , J. Biol. Chem., 271(13): 7738–7744 (1996) (Ex. 2239)
2305	Rules of Practice Before the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, 69 Fed. Reg. 49960-01.
2454	Declaration of Christoph Seeger, Interference 106,126, executed May 28, 2021.
2463	Declaration of Paula M. Cannon, Ph.D., Interference 106,132, dated November 19, 2021.
2464	Declaration of Christoph Seeger, executed December 3, 2021.
2465	Declaration of Paula M. Cannon, Ph.D., Application No. 15/456,204 Prosecution History, dated April 29, 2019.
2466	Declaration of Fyodor Urnov, Application No. 15/456,204 Prosecution History, dated October 17, 2017.
2793	Email from Le Cong to Feng Zhang, Shuailiang Lin, David Cox, and Michael Yim, dated August 29, 2012, with 20 page attachment, 21 pages total

1 versatile adeno-associated virus (AAV) is favored because AAV vectors are space-constrained.
2 Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 193, 245; Ex. 2017, 406 patent, 83:1-25-84:1-23.

3 **8.** As of 2012, SpCas9 was the most commonly studied Cas9 ortholog. Ex. 2464
4 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 177; Ex. 2215.

5 **9.** As of 2012, more than 600 bacterial Cas9 orthologs that had been identified. Ex.
6 2226, Ran 2015; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶ 181.

7 **10.** As of 2012, there was nothing in the art pointing the POSA to use SaCas9 in
8 eukaryotic cells including nothing pointing to SaCas9 out of the many known “small” Cas9
9 orthologs that are similar in size to, or smaller than, SaCas9. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 185-93.

10 **11.** SpCas9 is larger than SaCas9. *Id.* ¶¶ 178-92.

11 **12.** During prosecution of the 204 application, Sigma argued that many aspects of the
12 eukaryotic CRISPR-Cas9 system, including those associated with the Cas9 protein, were
13 unpredictable. *See, e.g.,* Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019 Applicant Remarks) at 19, 27-28; Ex. 2466
14 (October 17, 2017 Urnov Decl.) ¶¶ 15-17.

15 **13.** Broad determined that using an CRISPR-SaCas9 system in a eukaryotic cell
16 provides a surprising combination of benefits not taught or suggested by the prior art, namely high
17 efficiency and small size. *See* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 193-94.

18 **14.** SaCas9 is used for more therapeutic applications than any other Cas9 ortholog. *Id.*
19 ¶ 194; *see* Ex. 2017, 406 Patent at 83:25-84:23; Exs. 2687, 2517, 2686.

20 **15.** All claims of Broad’s 418 patent (Ex. 2060) require that the Cas9 is not taken from
21 a single organism but rather is a chimeric Cas9 that includes two fragments from different Cas9.
22 Ex. 2060 at 83:45-52; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 197-202.

23 **16.** Count 1 and the prior art do not teach, suggest, or provide motivation to a POSA to

1 design a chimeric Cas9 that is comprised of two fragments from different organisms. Ex. 2464
2 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 197-202; Paper 1 at 12-13; Broad Motion 1 at 4.

3 **17.** Ex. 2060, 418 patent at 4:21-25 recites “[t]hese chimeric Cas9 proteins may have a
4 higher specificity or a higher efficiency than the original specificity or efficiency of either of the
5 individual Cas9 enzymes from which the chimeric protein was generated.”

6 **18.** The 418 patent (Ex. 2060 at 83:45-52) recites benefits of a chimeric Cas9. *See also*
7 Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 201-07.

8 **19.** The Sigma half of Count 1 specifically recites that the Cas9 has “only one NLS,”
9 while the Broad half of Count 1 does not indicate anything about the Cas9 with regard to NLSs.
10 Paper 1 at 12-13.

11 **20.** Neither Count 1 nor the prior art provides any teaching or suggestion to use two or
12 more NLSs in a CRISPR-Cas system in a eukaryotic cell, nor was there a reasonable expectation
13 of success in using two or more NLSs. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 209-32.

14 **21.** During prosecution of the 204 application, Sigma submitted expert testimony from
15 Dr. Cannon that modifications to the Cas9 protein such as adding an NLS could “affect Cas9
16 protein folding and the final protein structure” such that it “could interfere with Cas9 function; for
17 instance, by interfering with a binding site or catalytic domain.” Ex. 2465 (April 29, 2019 Cannon
18 Decl.) ¶¶ 59-60.

19 **22.** During prosecution of the 204 application, Sigma argued that “[b]ecause a protein’s
20 function is inextricably linked to its folded structure, proper folding after (or during) translation is
21 crucial” and that misfolded proteins would be subject to degradation in the eukaryotic
22 environment. Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019 Applicant Remarks) at 30.

23 **23.** During prosecution of the 204 application, Sigma argued that “when a protein is

1 expressed as a fusion, such as with an NLS or epitope or chimeric tag, there are unexpected results,
2 further confirming that there was no reasonable expectation of success as to a eukaryotic CRISPR-
3 Cas9 system wherein the Cas9 includes one or more NLSs.” Ex. 2074 (April 29, 2019 Applicant
4 Remarks) at 27 (citing Ex. 2465 (April 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶¶ 76-77).

5 **24.** Broad determined that, unexpectedly, the use of two or more NLSs resulted in
6 CRISPR-Cas9 systems with significantly improved localization to the nucleus, as compared to
7 systems lacking two or more NLSs. *See generally* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 202-21; Ex. 2001,
8 Zhang B1, Figure 1B; Ex. 2201, Cong 2013, Figure 1A; Ex. 2793.

9 **25.** A POSA would have understood that adding amino acids to a protein such as Cas9
10 could alter its folding affecting its structure and function in ways that were not predictable. Ex.
11 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 216-17, 222-28; Ex. 2258 at 1785-1790; Exs. 2263-2265; Ex. 2465 (April
12 29, 2019 Cannon Decl.) ¶¶ 59-60 (one could not “predict with any reasonable certainty whether
13 *any* functional domain... will be properly exposed when expressed as a fusion with Cas9”); *id.* ¶¶
14 59-60.

15 **26.** Count 1 does not recite that the Cas9 is fused to specified protein domains. Paper 1
16 at 12-13; Broad Motion 1 at 4.

17 **27.** There is no teaching or suggestion in Count 1 or the prior art to modify the naturally
18 occurring Cas9 to include protein domains. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 233-40.

19 **28.** The 233 patent notes that there is a benefit to fusing functional domains to Cas9, as
20 doing so can “to turn the Cas9/gRNA CRISPR system into a generalized DNA binding system
21 [which] can execute functions beyond DNA cleavage.” Ex. 2024 at 73:22-37; Ex. 2464, ¶ 239.

22 **29.** Broad’s 713 patent (Ex. 2043), includes claims, including claims 15-26 and 28-41,
23 that are not limited to single-molecule RNA and do not contain the term “guide RNA.” *See* Ex.

1 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 114-18.

2 **30.** Independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2-24 of Broad’s 418 patent (Ex. 2060)
3 do not recite any RNA component. *See* Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 116-17.

4 **31.** The 308 patent, claim 1 describes a method using CRISPR-Cas system having
5 “guide RNA” that hybridizes to the target sequence and claim 6 covers the “method of claim 1,
6 wherein the guide RNA comprises a guide sequence and a tracr sequence.” Ex. 2013.

7 **32.** The 616 patent, claim 1 describes a CRISPR-Cas system having a “guide RNA”
8 polynucleotide sequence comprising a guide sequence, a tracr mate sequence, and a tracr sequence,
9 claim 2 covers the “composition of claim 1, wherein the modified guide RNA comprises a chimeric
10 guide sequence and a tracr sequence,” and claim 5 covers the “composition of claim 1, wherein
11 the modification comprises fusing the tracr mate sequence and the tracr sequence through an
12 artificial loop.” Ex. 2014.

13 **33.** In the 965 patent (Ex. 2012), none of the dependent claims include limitations that
14 the components of the guide RNA be fused or bound to one another in a chimeric manner.

15 **34.** The Broad patents disclose preferred embodiments that are dual-molecule RNA
16 systems. Ex. 2011, 359 patent at 43:49-53, 44:5-8; Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 138-41.

17 **35.** Sigma’s 204 specification explains that “[i]n some embodiments, the guide RNA
18 comprises a single molecule...” and “[i]n other embodiments, the guide RNA can comprise two
19 separate molecules.” Ex. 2074 (204 specification) at [0077].

20 **36.** Sigma’s 204 application, claim 31 uses the generic term “guide RNA,” while
21 dependent claims 33 and 34 specify that the “guide RNA is a single molecule” and “the guide
22 RNA is two molecules” respectively. Paper 12 at 2.

23 **37.** ToolGen’s patent applications explicitly define “guide RNA” to encompass both

1 dual- and single-molecule RNA configurations:

2 In the present invention, *the guide RNA may consist of two RNA*, i.e., CRISPR
3 RNA (crRNA) and transactivating crRNA (tracrRNA) *or be a single-chain RNA*
4 (sgRNA) produced by fusion of an essential portion of crRNA and tracrRNA.

5 Ex. 2068, ¶¶ [168]-[170]; Ex. 2067, ToolGen PCT, ¶¶ [0168]-[0169]; Ex. 2062, 510 application,
6 ¶¶ [0094]-[0095].

7 **38.** In the original claims of the ToolGen PCT application and the 510 application, the
8 inventors included claims reciting “guide RNA,” without any restriction as to RNA configuration.
9 Ex. 2067, ToolGen PCT; Ex. 2062, 510 application original claims.

10 **39.** In the original claims of the ToolGen PCT application and the 510 application, the
11 inventors included claims 3 and 4, which respectively limited that “guide RNA” to a dualRNA (a
12 dual molecule RNA) and a “single-chain” guide RNA (a single molecule RNA). *Id.*

13 **40.** In the disclosures from Ex. 2067 and 2062 referenced in MFs 36 and 37, ToolGen
14 used the term “guide RNA” consistent with Jinek 2012’s use of the term to include both sgRNA
15 and dualRNA.

16 **41.** Jinek 2012 states: “In this ternary complex, the dual tracrRNA:crRNA structure
17 acts as guide RNA that directs the endonuclease Cas9 to the cognate target DNA.” Ex. 2202, Jinek
18 2012, at Figure S1 description.

19 **42.** Sigma moved to change the count in the 132 Interference. Ex. 2124.

20 **43.** In the 132 Interference, the current count is an “or” count directed on one hand (the
21 Sigma half) to Donor Template Integration, and on the other hand (the CVC half), to Non-
22 Template activity. *Id.*

23 **44.** Sigma stated in Motion 1 in the 132 Interference that “using a CRISPR-Cas9 system
24 in a eukaryotic cell to cleave DNA and thereafter to integrate a donor polynucleotide into that

1 cleaved DNA via HDR is patentably distinct from (not obvious in view of) simply using a
2 CRISPR-Cas9 system in a eukaryotic cell to cleave DNA.” *Id.* at 5:3-7.

3 **45.** Sigma stated in Motion 1 in the 132 Interference that “in early December 2012 a
4 POSITA would not have had a reasonable expectation that such a process in a CRISPR-Cas9
5 system would be successful in eukaryotic cells.” *Id.* at 6:23-29.

6 **46.** In Motion 1 in the 132 Interference, Sigma identified Donor Template Integration
7 claims as the only involved claims corresponding to 132 Interference Proposed Count 2. *Id.* at
8 27:1-8.

9 **47.** In Motion 1 in the 132 Interference, Sigma stated that there are three interferences
10 pending before the PTAB directed to Non-Template CRISPR-Cas9 activity in a eukaryotic cell,
11 but that “Sigma is *properly* not a party to those pending ‘cleavage only’ interferences because all
12 of Sigma’s involved claims are directed solely to the patentably distinct ‘cleavage plus integration’
13 technological advance in the art.” *Id.* at 4:14-23.

14 **48.** Sigma has argued that integration of a donor template via a CRISPR-Cas9 system
15 in a eukaryotic cell is a distinct invention from cleavage and repair of DNA by other means. *See,*
16 *e.g.,* Ex. 2074 (October 13, 2020 Applicant Remarks) at 8-9.

17 **49.** In October 2020, Sigma filed a suggestion of Interference during prosecution of the
18 204 application for CVC’s 680 application, proposing a Count that required integration of a donor
19 template. Ex. 2074 (October 13, 2020 Suggestion of an Interference).

20 **50.** Sigma argued that only claims from CVC’s applications that expressly recite donor
21 template integration would correspond to its proposed Count. *Id.*

22 **51.** Broad’s best proofs include dual-molecule RNA systems without a donor
23 polynucleotide. Ex. 2464 (Seeger Decl.) ¶¶ 20, 151-66.

APPENDIX C: CHART OF GROUNDS AND CLAIMS

Patent	Claims Currently Designated	SaCas9	Chimeric Cas9	Two or more NLSs	Cas9 Domains	No RNA at all	Generic RNA	sgRNA or donor template remaining designated	Donor template
8,867,359	1-20						1-3, 5-10, 12-17, 19-20	4, 11, 18	
8,771,945	1-29						1-4, 6-29	5	
8,795,965	1-30							ALL 1-30	
8,865,406	1-30	ALL					ALL		
8,871,445	1-30			ALL			1-12, 14-30		13
8,889,356	1-30						ALL		2, 4
8,889,418	1-28		ALL			1-24	25-28		24, 26-28
8,895,308	1-30	ALL					1-9, 11-28		15, 26
8,906,616	1-30						1, 3-4, 6-29	2, 5, 30	30
8,932,814	1-30			ALL			ALL		2, 14
8,945,839	1-28						ALL		
8,993,233	1-43			7	ALL		ALL		
8,999,641	1-28				ALL		ALL		
9,840,713	1-41				18-19, 25, 29-30, 36		1-7, 10-13, 15, 17-26, 28-41	8-9, 14, 16, 27	14
14/704,551	2, 4-18			9-11			2, 4-13, 17-18	14-16	14-16
15/330,876	1, 16-21, 30-40	ALL		34	21		1, 16-21, 30-39		

APPENDIX D: CLAIM DIFFERENTIATION EXAMPLES

U.S. Patent 8,895,308

Claim 1: Describes method using CRISPR-Cas system having “a CRISPR-Cas system guide RNA that hybridizes with the target sequence”

1. A method of altering expression of at least one gene product in a eukaryotic cell containing and expressing a DNA molecule having a target sequence and encoding said gene product comprising introducing into said eukaryotic cell an engineered, non-naturally occurring Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR)-CRISPR associated (Cas) system comprising one or more vectors comprising:

- a) a first regulatory element operable in a eukaryotic cell operably linked to at least one nucleotide sequence encoding a CRISPR-Cas system guide RNA that hybridizes with the target sequence, and
- b) a second regulatory element operable in a eukaryotic cell operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a *Staphylococcus aureus* Cas9 protein, wherein the CRISPR-Cas system further comprises one or more nuclear localization signal(s) (NLS(s)), and components (a) and (b) are located on same or different vectors of the system,

whereby the guide RNA targets the target sequence and the Cas9 protein cleaves the DNA molecule; the method further comprising inserting DNA into a cleaved strand of the DNA molecule; whereby expression of the at least one gene product is altered; and, wherein the Cas9 protein and the guide RNA do not naturally occur together.

Claim 6:

The method of claim 1, wherein the guide RNA comprises a guide sequence and a tracr sequence.

Claim 10.

The method of claim 6, wherein the guide sequence and tracr sequence are chimeric.

U.S. Patent 8,906,616

Claim 1: Claim 1 describes a CRISPR-Cas system having a “guide RNA” polynucleotide sequence comprising a guide sequence, a tracr mate sequence, and a tracr sequence.

1. An engineered, non-naturally occurring composition comprising a Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR)-CRISPR associated (Cas) (CRISPR-Cas) system having a guide RNA polynucleotide sequence, wherein the polynucleotide sequence comprises

- (a) a guide sequence capable of hybridizing to a target sequence in a eukaryotic cell,
- (b) a tracr mate sequence, and
- (c) a tracr sequence

wherein (a), (b) and (c) are arranged in a 5' to 3' orientation,

wherein when transcribed, the tracr mate sequence hybridizes to the tracr sequence and the guide sequence directs sequence-specific binding of a CRISPR complex to the target sequence,

wherein the CRISPR complex comprises a Type II Cas9 protein complexed with (1) the guide sequence that is hybridized to the target sequence, and (2) the tracr mate sequence that is hybridized to the tracr sequence,

wherein in the polynucleotide sequence, one or more of the guide, tracr and tracr mate sequences are modified.

Claim 2:

The composition of claim 1, wherein the modified guide RNA comprises a chimeric guide sequence and a tracr sequence.

Claim 5:

The composition of claim 1, wherein the modification comprises fusing the tracr mate sequence and the tracr sequence through an artificial loop.

U.S. Patent 8,697,359

Claim 1: Claim a method using CRISPR-Cas system having a “guide RNA RNA that hybridizes with the target sequence.”

A method of altering expression of at least one gene product comprising introducing into a eukaryotic cell containing and expressing a DNA molecule having a target sequence and encoding the gene product an engineered, non-naturally occurring Clustered Regularly Interspaced Short Palindromic Repeats (CRISPR)--CRISPR associated (Cas) (CRISPR-Cas) system comprising one or more vectors comprising:

- a) a first regulatory element operable in a eukaryotic cell operably linked to at least one nucleotide sequence encoding a CRISPR-Cas system guide RNA that hybridizes with the target sequence, and
- b) a second regulatory element operable in a eukaryotic cell operably linked to a nucleotide sequence encoding a Type-II Cas9 protein,

wherein components (a) and (b) are located on same or different vectors of the system, whereby the guide RNA targets the target sequence and the Cas9 protein cleaves the DNA molecule, whereby expression of the at least one gene product is altered; and, wherein the Cas9 protein and the guide RNA do not naturally occur together.

Claim 4:

The method of claim 1, wherein the guide RNAs comprise a guide sequence fused to a trans-activating cr (tracr) sequence.

CERTIFICATE OF FILING AND SERVICE

I hereby certify that on December 3, 2021, a true and complete copy of the foregoing **BROAD MOTION 3** (to designate claims as not corresponding to Count 1) is being filed and served by 8:00 pm ET via the Interference Web Portal (SO ¶ 105.3; Paper 27 at 11). Service copies are being sent by email by 11:00 pm ET to counsel for Senior Party as follows:

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