



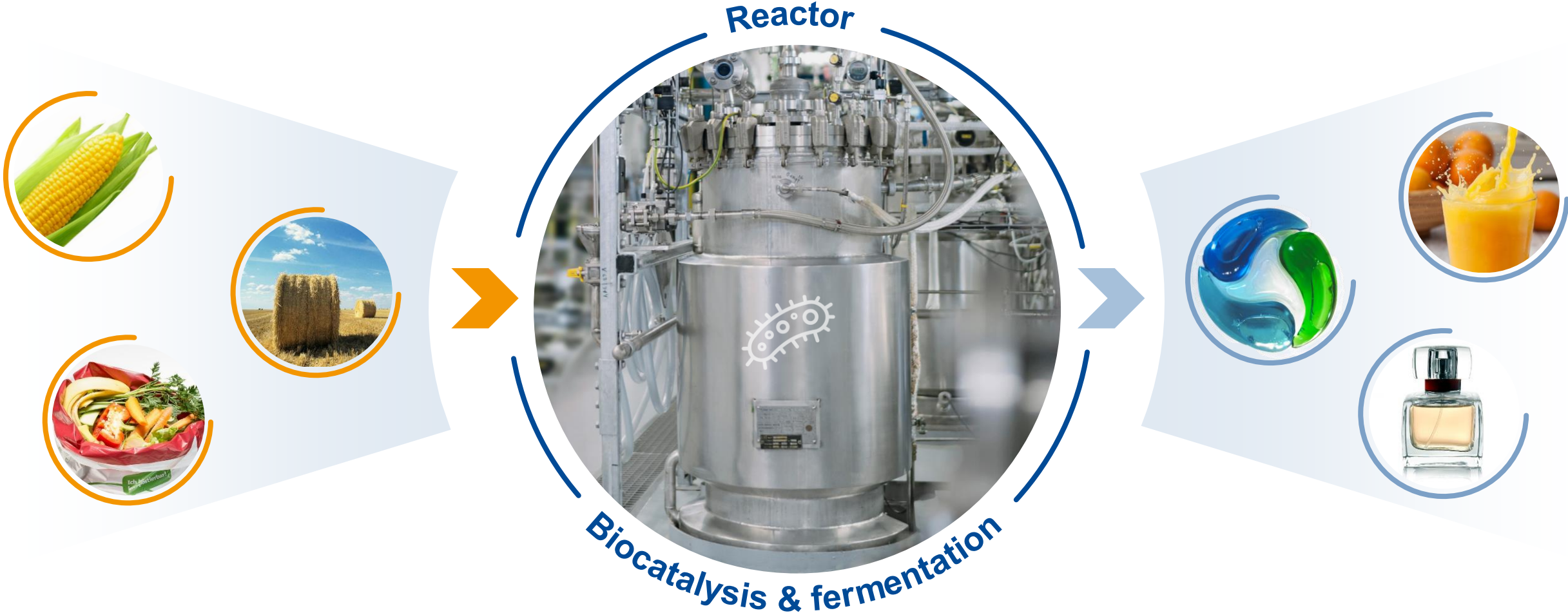
  
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# White biotechnology as one key element of BASF's toolbox

**Dr. Doreen Schachtschabel**  
Vice President, White Biotechnology Research

BASF Research Press Conference, November 17, 2022

# Microbial cell factory

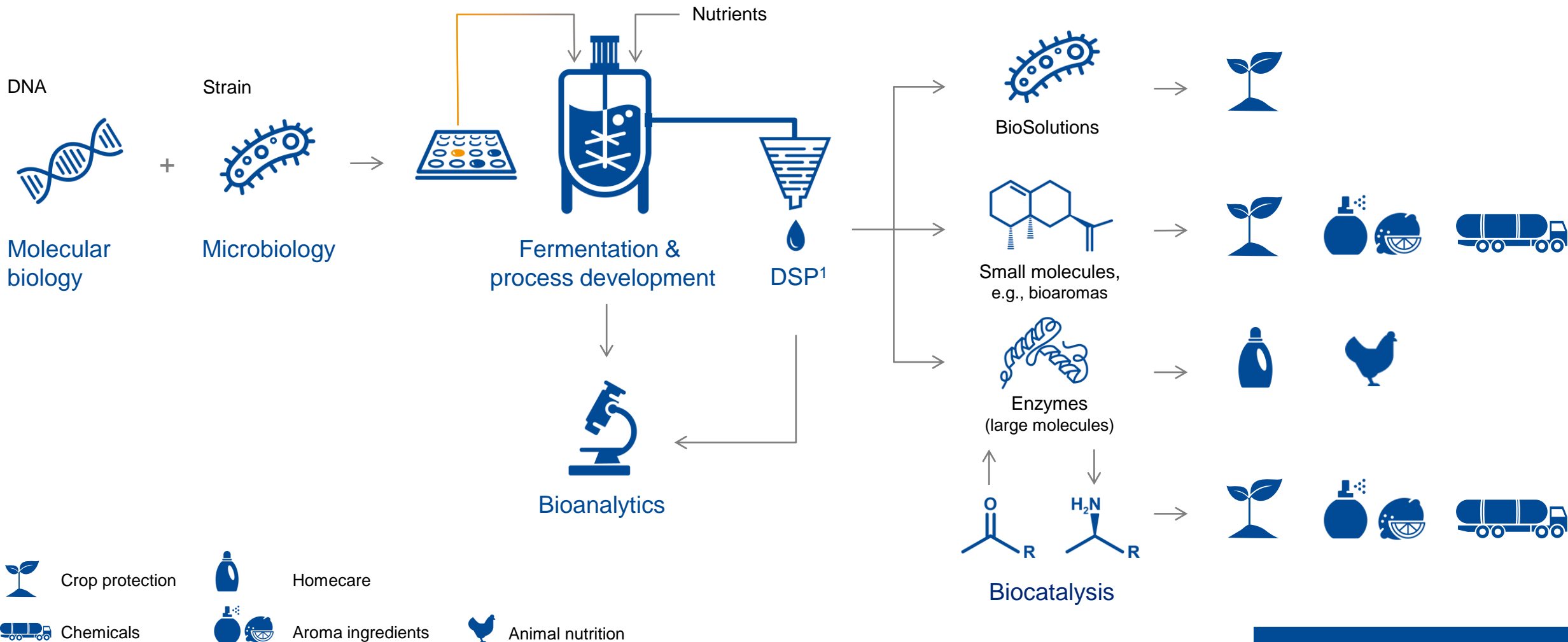


# White biotech enables a plethora of different products

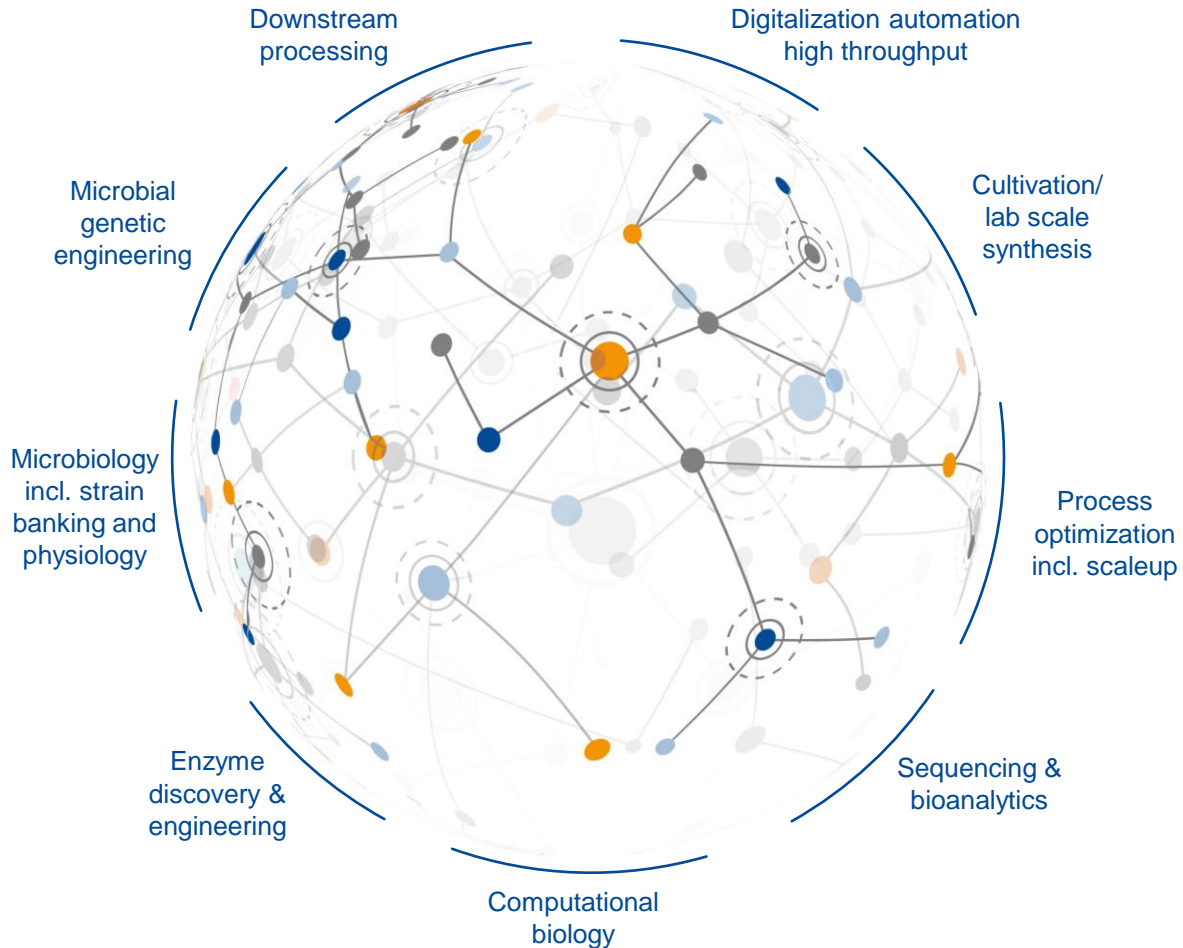
Examples of launches and production startups



# White biotechnology at BASF – covering the whole development chain



# White biotechnology research competencies are offered in early collaboration with other units and professions<sup>1</sup>



**~10** External service providers  
(e.g., gene synthesis, sequencing)

**~10** Scientific collaborations  
worldwide (companies)

**>30** Scientific collaborations  
worldwide (academic)

# Digitalization: A prerequisite for our work

## Data management

- Enhance data quality and FAIR<sup>1</sup> data
- Ensure legal and regulatory compliance (incl. Nagoya protocol)

## Systems biology

- Targeted strain design
- Metabolic engineering
- Pathway optimization

## Computational protein engineering

- Targeted optimization of proteins
- Protein structure predictions
- Molecular simulations

## Bioinformatics

- Identification of genes and enzymes
- Searching in metagenome libraries
- Check sequence integrity

# BioSolutions by BASF: A complement to conventional crop protection



**Bio fungicides**  
**Serifel<sup>®</sup>**

beneficial bacterium  
*Bacillus amyloliquefaciens*  
forms a strong shield of protection around plants



**Bio insecticides**  
**Velifer<sup>®</sup>**

works by releasing the spores of the beneficial fungus *Beauveria bassiana*, controlling various pests



**Bio seed treatment**  
**Nodulator<sup>®</sup>**

seed-applied inoculants help legumes fix more nitrogen



**Beneficial nematodes**  
**Nemaslug<sup>®</sup> 2.0, Nemasys<sup>®</sup>**

microscopic worms which control a wide range of pests

# Beneficial nematodes: Farmers' little helpers



Tiny natural worms for advanced biological pest control



Grown by fermentation technology

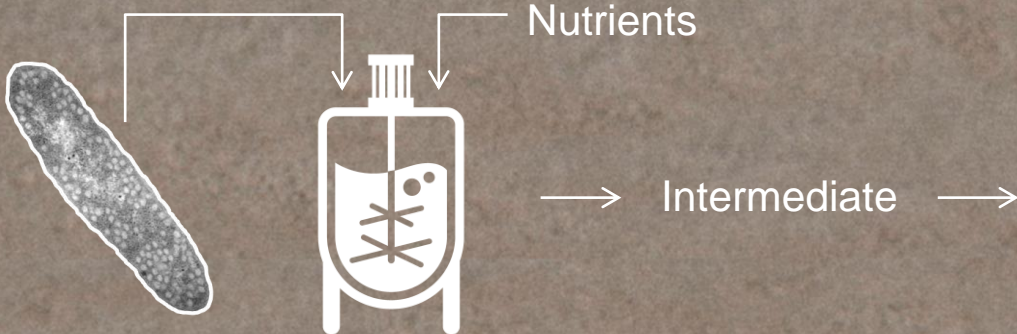
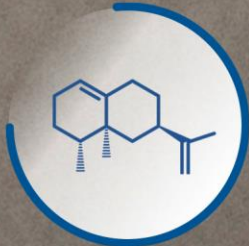
Can provide both preventative and curative control

**Nemaslug® 2.0** launched in 2022 in Europe<sup>1</sup>

More reliable isolate for increased production capacity and supply security



# Fermentative production of flavors and fragrances



## Rhodobacter

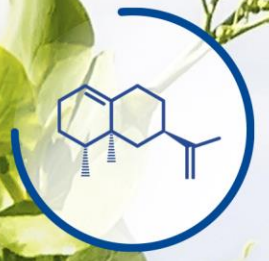
- ✓ Natural isoprenoid producer
- ✓ High product tolerance
- ✓ Scalable and robust
- ✓ No off-odors

## Sustainability facts Santalol

- ✓ 100% free of endangered sandalwood trees
- ✓ Based on renewable resources
- ✓ Starting material is corn grown in Europe

**Isobionics®**

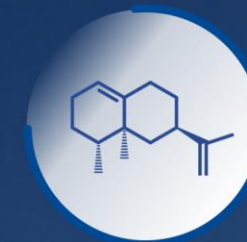
# Inscalis® – a new insecticide based on fermentation



- **Inscalis®** for the control of piercing and sucking insects
- **Targets high-value crops:** fruits and vegetables, soybeans, cotton
- Co-developed with Meiji<sup>1</sup>, Japan
  - ✓ First and only product in the pyropene class
  - ✓ Favorable regulatory profile
  - ✓ First regulatory approval in Australia in April 2018



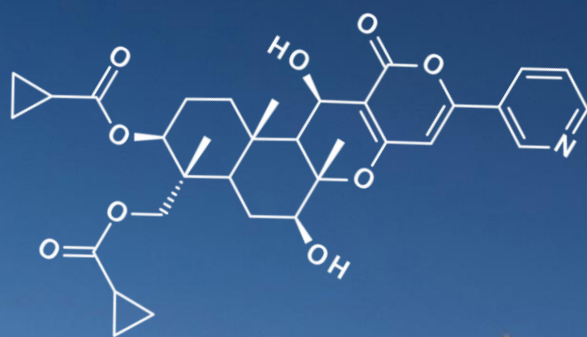
# Inscalis® – chemistry and biotechnology joining forces



Step 1:  
Fermentation



Step 2:  
Chemical synthesis



- ✓ Production strain:  
*Penicillium coprobium*
- ✓ Fermentation optimized:  
High productivity, low by-products
- ✓ Penicillium strain improved by  
metabolic engineering
- ✓ Chemical modification boosts  
activity



# Detergent enzymes: Excellent washing performers, even at low temperatures



- **Detergent enzymes:** e.g., protease, amylase, cellulase, mannanase, lipase
- **Production process:** based on bacterial and fungal hosts

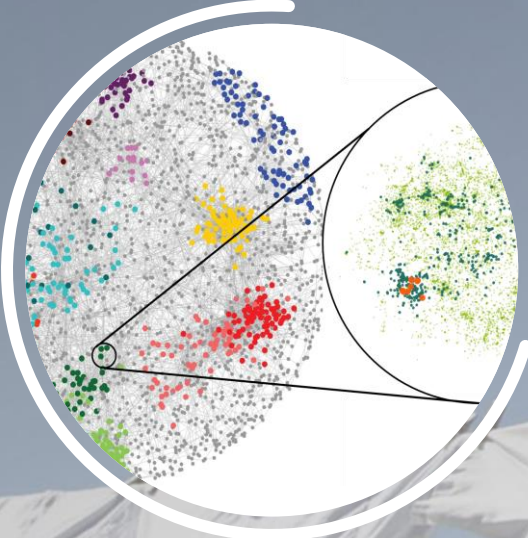
## Benefits

- ✓ Lavergy® Pro series engineered and formulated proteases that remove tough stains at ambient temperatures
- ✓ Energy savings with lower wash temperatures
- ✓ Garment protection via Lavergy® C Bright (anti-greying protection)
- ✓ Bio-based and readily biodegradable

# Detergent enzymes: Stages of development



Discovery, screening and directed evolution of enzymes



Strain design by selection, genome editing and metabolic engineering



Process development and scaleup of fermentation and DSP<sup>1</sup>



# White biotechnology: One key element of BASF's toolbox

**1** White biotechnology is gaining impact in the chemical industry as an **alternative/complementing technology**.

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**2** **Speed and power** offered by genetic engineering, directed evolution and computational biology **enable competitive production processes**.

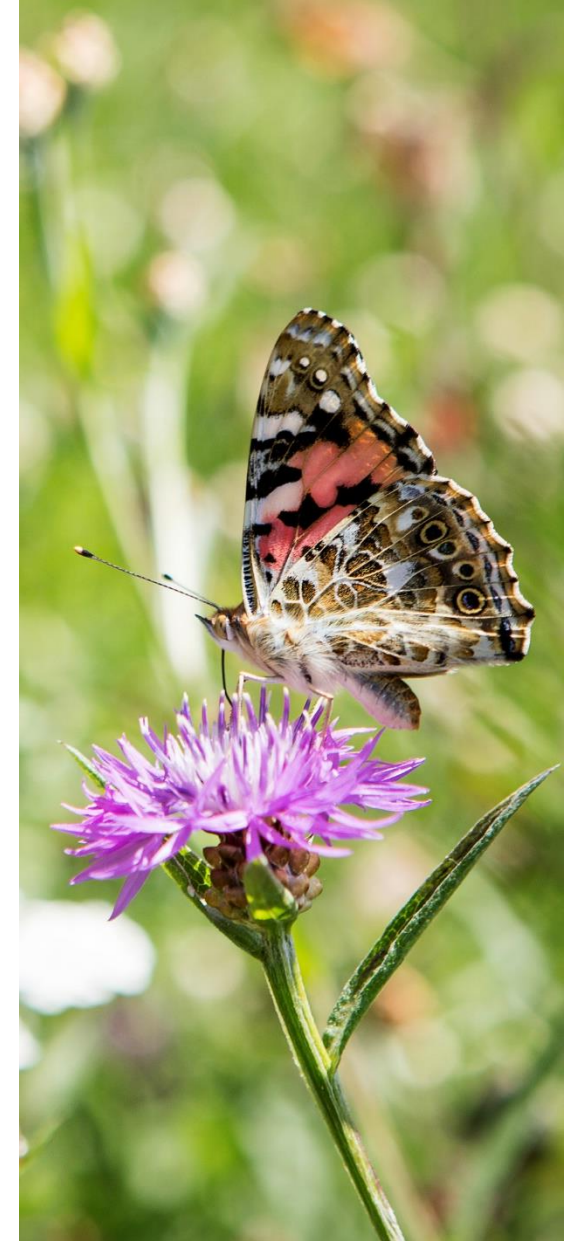
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**3** **From lab to market:** BASF has **successfully launched** numerous products based on white biotechnology in recent years.

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**4** **Increased market demand** for “green” and biodegradable products and the trend towards sustainability are **opportunities** for the field.

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