

Background and current position

Jean-Pierre Bellier

Shiga University of Medical Science

国立大学法人滋賀医科大学

Molecular Neuroscience Research Center

神経難病研究センター

Contact: bellier@belle.shiga-med.ac.jp

Neuroscientist

Biochemistry (Université Paris-Diderot, Paris, France).

Neurosciences (Université Pierre-et-Marie-Curie, Paris, France).

1998: *Joined* Molecular Neuroscience Research Center
at Shiga University of Medical Science (**SUMS**).

2007: Ph.D *and* assistant professor (助教).

Main research experience in Japan.

Research interests

- Sensory/pain mechanisms;
- how they have evolved in higher invertebrates and in vertebrates.

- Development of new therapeutic strategy against pain.

Experience with Kakenhi as principal investigator (研究代表者)

Type of Grant | Domain | Host institution | Failure/success

2015	Kiban C Biomedical SUMS (滋賀医大) Secured
2012	Kiban C Biomedical SUMS (滋賀医大) Secured
2010	Wakate B Biomedical SUMS (滋賀医大) Secured
2008	Wakate B Biomedical SUMS (滋賀医大) Secured
2007	Wakate B Biomedical SUMS (滋賀医大) Failed
2006	Wakate B Biology SUMS (滋賀医大) Failed
2005	Wakate B Biomedical SUMS (滋賀医大) Failed

Failed Kakenhi



A project different
from the previous.
(more originality and
significance)

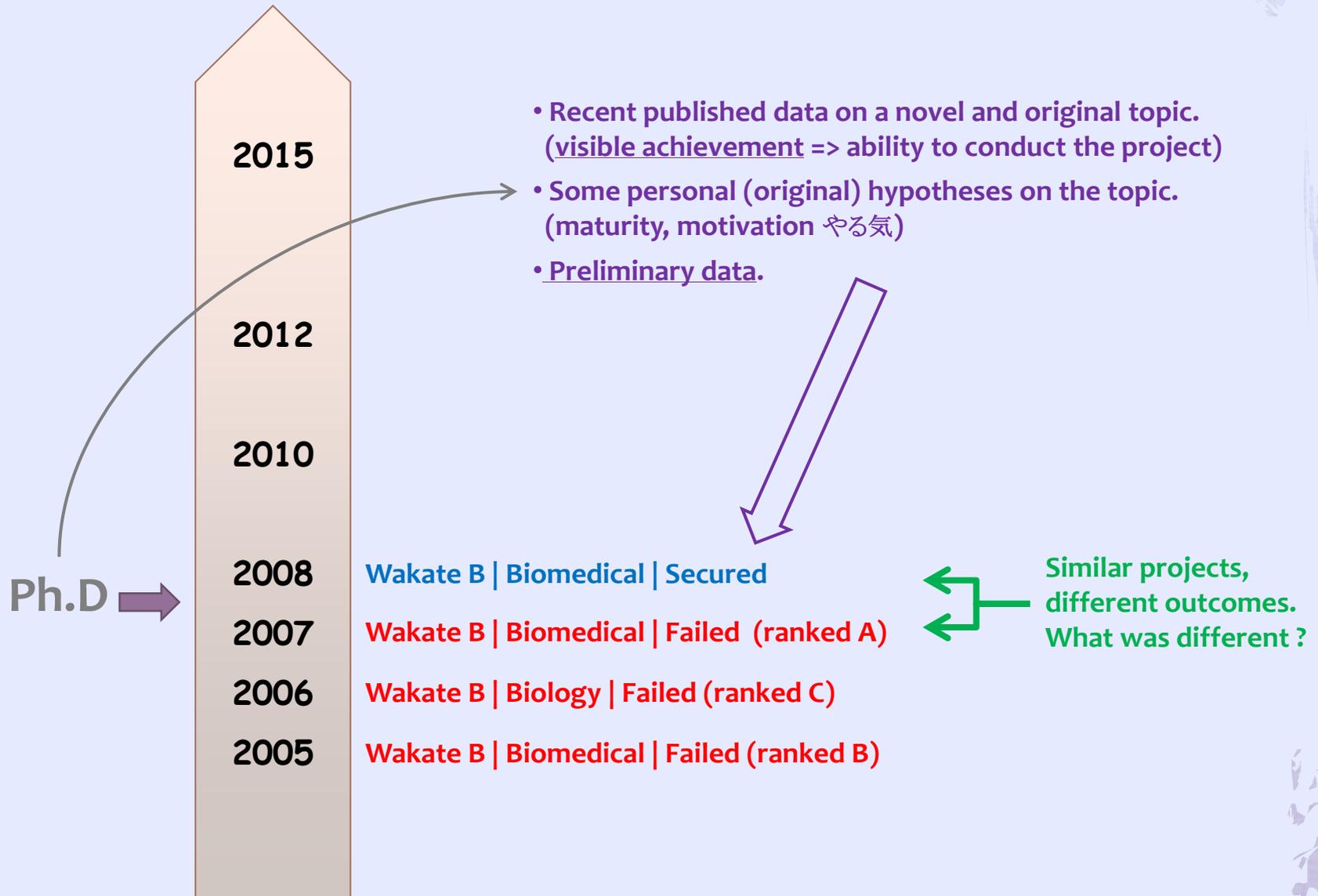
Similar projects but applied
in different research fields.
→ *Different ranking.*
Importance of correctly
choosing the “Discipline”
and “Research fields”.

Wakate B | Biomedical | Failed (ranked A)

Wakate B | Biology | Failed (ranked C)

Wakate B | Biomedical | Failed (ranked B)

First secured Kakenhi



Kakenhi 2007 (failed) vs Kakenhi 2008 (secured)

Similar projects, different outcomes. What was different ?

2007



2008



- **Recent published data on a novel and original topic.**
*Visible achievement (ability to conduct the project).
Maturity (relevant question).*
- **Preliminary data.**
Proof of feasibility/concept.
- **An original (personal) clear hypothesis on the topic.**
- **Clearly defined objectives.**

Subsequent secured Kakenhi

2015	Kiban C Biomedical Secured
2012	Kiban C Biomedical Secured
2010	Wakate B Biomedical Secured
2008	Wakate B Biomedical Secured
2007	Wakate B Biomedical Failed
2006	Wakate B Biology Failed
2005	Wakate B Biomedical Failed

All secured Kakenhi were in continuity with the previous accepted project.

Kakenhi – Current design process

Project design:

- Long before the writing. (*maturation and preliminary data*)
- Originality and relevance.
- Continuity with previous works.
- Keep trends with recent advances in the field. (*technology and theory*)
- Try to stay realistic. (yet, ambitious)

Failure can be anticipated...

If new technology is intended to be used, there is possibility of technical trouble, then the use of well established methods should be proposed as alternative.

...and risk pondered.

Whenever or not the experimental result support the hypothesis, new data always bring new information in the field.

Kakenhi – Current writing process

Language:

- English (International English).

Writing:

- First draft is rapid. However, polishing may required several weeks.
- No long sentences, just try to keep it clear and concise.
 - Hypothesis (one sentence).*
 - Objectives (one line/objective).*
- Use of simple schematic rather than long explanation.
- The general aesthetic of the application. (*Font size, organization of drawing and schematic*)
 - Neat appearance.*
- “Common sense”: Try to read as a referee.
 - Understandable to all (even not directly in the field).*
 - Keep in mind the evaluation criteria during the writing.*

- 1) Significance/relevance of the project
- 2) Originality
- 3) Feasibility/ability to conduct the research
- 4) Soundness of the methods
- 5) Outcomes (article, patent)

Co-investigator:

- Depending on project requirement, usually one.

Effort percentage: 30%

Experience with Kakenhi

- **Originality and relevance**

- **Continuity**

- **Preliminary data, proof of concept**

Unpublished work that challenge the actual knowledge and justify your hypotheses. It also demonstrate your expertise to conduct proposed experiments

- **Clarity of the writing**