Handling Complexity when Simulating Biological Networks

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Who we are

- Founded in 1994 by Physics Nobel Laureate Prof. Dr. Gerd Binnig
- 1994 1999: Government-funded Think Tank
 - Developed "Cognition Network Technology"
 - First prototype for automated image analysis
- Since 2000: Commercialization of technology
 - June 2000: eCognition (Geo)
 - March 2002: Proteomweaver (LSI)
 - March 2003: Cellenger (LSI)
 - October 2003: Polymind (LSI)
- Ongoing research
 - Knowledge integration
 - Simulation



What we do

- Definiens develops and markets software for automated pattern recognition.
- Definiens software automatically finds patterns in images and texts which no other software can find.
- These patterns may be spots in gels, objects of interest in images or facts in text documents.



Cognition Machines or what?

- New technologies produce increasing amounts of data
- Key knowledge is hidden in in unstructured formats
- Images and texts are predominant sources
- Human-like cognitive skills are needed to unravel this knowledge
- Furthermore, this knowledge needs to be personalized
- Knowledge at your fingertips





Example 1: Inhibition of Vascular cell growth

Original Images







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Control

Compound 1



In-vitro Angiogenesis:

Multiparameter Analysis

- Sprout area/length/width
- Relational sprout and nuclei count
- Sprout branching factor

Tasks:

- Combat Diversity
- Understand Morphology
- Find sprouts and nuclei!

Image variety with inconsistent contrast and threshold!

Image data courtesy Novartis Pharma AG

Cellenger Result: Sprouts and Nuclei







Cellenger Result: Sprout Branching



Get quantified answers to physiological screening !

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In-vitro Angiogenesis:

Multiparameter Analysis

- Sprout area/length/width
- Relational sprout and nuclei count
- Sprout branching factor

DEFINIENS

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17969	Sprout	1	540	10.137	53.271	4	
17970	Sprout	1	363	6.331	57.336	4	
17971	Sprout	1	388	10.928	35.504	4	
17972	Sprout	1	614	6.3334	96.946	4	
17973	Sprout	1	594	7.6023	78.134	4	
17974	Sprout	1	814	6.6226	122.91	4	
17975	Sprout	1	344	5.7025	60.324	4	
17976	Sprout	1	1216	7.7495	156.91	4	
17977	Sprout	1	581	6.1119	95.06	4	
17978	Sprout	1	251	4.9848	50.353	4	
17979	Sprout	1	180	4.4445	40.499	4	
17980	Sprout	1	340	10.351	32.846	4	
17981	Sprout	1	217	6.355	34.146	4	
17982	Sprout	1	848	8.4036	100.91	4	
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17997	Sprout	1	1159	10.786	107.46	6	
11/998	Sprout		2416	15.03	160.74	2	
11/999	Sprout	1	2611	11.695	223.26	8	
18000	Sprout	1	2858	15.353	1/5.39	10	
18001	Sprout		3190	14.0/4	226.66	12	
18002	Sprout	1	2403	13.307	050.10	12	
18003	Sprout	1	13114	37.451	300.16	14	1
18004	Sprout	1	12356	22.251	555.31	23	



DEF NIENS creating real world intelligence



DEF NIENS creating real world intelligence

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Min Length

Max Length

1,87

245,68

creating real world intelligence



Example 2: Proliferation Index in Jejunum



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Image data courtesy Novartis Pharma AG

Pathology/Toxicology: Proliferation Index in Jejunum Finiens



Example 3: Knowledge Extraction from Literature



Polymind PPI provides the same familiar search box...

- Automatically extracted database of protein-protein interactions
- Derived from over 12 Mio Medline abstracts
- Contains 50,000+ interactions
- Textual and graphical representation of knowledge



creating real world intelligence

...and returns detailed information about the term...



...and a comprehensive list of interactions...



...which can be displayed as a navigable network.



Network elements provide useful information



Concept nodes

- Full name of the selected protein node
- Names of all superclasses of the protein

Interaction nodes

- Type of interaction (different colors for binding, phosphorylation, acetylation etc.)
- Modality of the interaction (positiv-negative, definitive-possible); different size/border
- Contextual information

Node connectors

- Arrows for chemical reactions
- Role of each interaction partner



Predication: The Semantic Primitive



MAPKK phosphorylates MAPK. MAPK is phosphorylated by MAPKK. MAPKK-phosphorylated MAPK ... MAPK-phosphorylating MAPKK ... The phosphorylation of MAPK by MAPKK ... MAPK phosphorylation by MAPKK ... MAPKK phosphorylation of MAPK ...

From Templates to Knowledge – Match This!



Creating real world intelligence

From Templates to Knowledge – Save that Fact!

References to the respective entries in the ontology are stored in a relational fact database.



In summary...

Cellenger is the only product capable of automating the analysis of complex images, such as cell-based assays or histopathological slides.

Polymind automatically extracts facts out of text documents, for example protein-protein interactions or pathway information from Medline.





What are Cognition Networks?



What are Cognition Machines?

□ A Network of

- Descriptive knowledgeProcedural knowledgeFractal structure
- Capable of automatically performing a cognitive task
 - Image analysisText understanding

Created rapidly

- Next-generation programming language
- Developer Studio



Why Cognition Machines for Simulation?

Data

- Initialization at t=0
- Extract structured data points from experiments, literature, ...
- Cellenger and Polymind provide structured format (CN)
- Model
 - Capture objects, relations, properties, dynamics (t \rightarrow t+1)
 - Extract from theory, experimental evidence, literature, ...
 - Integrate data into model
 - Cognition Networks allow such modeling and data integration

Simulate

Run and observe networked system

Address complexity (no system of PDEs, but local dynamics)

Work done in the past - eSight

Goal:

Modelling and simulation of complex economical and ecological systems

- Hierarchical modelling
- Object-oriented
- □ 2D geometry
- Automatic data acquisition
- Heterogeneous data
- User-defined functions
- Time-series









Cognition Networks and Cognition Machines: Bringing Human Like Understanding to Computers

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