Accessing and Manipulating Life-Sciences Ontologies using Web Services

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W3C Workshop on Semantic Web for Life Sciences - oct. 2004

# Context: Semantic needs for Life Sciences

- Huge  $\exists$  corpus of distributed data and kn.
  - automate access
  - automate retrieval
  - automate processing
- Syntactic and semantic heterogeneity
  - explicit and formalized representation of kn.
- Applications need to cooperate
  - automate as much as possible

# Context: Overlap with the SW approach

- Limitations are common with other domains
  - sharing D, sharing K, enhance interop.
- Web Technologies = promising approach
  - some are already mainstream
- $\exists$  efforts for representing and formalizing K
  - GO, OMIM, MGED, Galen, FMA
- However:
  - under exploited
  - not inter-connected

### Hypothesis

- Life Sciences = interesting test case for a Semantic Web killer app
- Some of the outcome could be generalized to other domains

## Objectives

- Identify ontology manipulation functions
  - application and domain-independant
- Implement them as Web Services: OWS
  - scenario of need for OWS in LS context
  - can be implemented with current technologies
- OWS are also necessary to SW framework
  - processing semantic descr. of regular WS
  - automatic retrieval, composition

## **OWS Categories**

- Queries
- Views
- Translations
- Mapping
- Versioning
- Merging
- Reasoning



### **OWS** Implementation scenario

- Retrieve the clinical trials relevant to a patient with lung tumor
  - stage the patient's tumor
  - query to NCI clinical trials online DB

## **OWS Implementation scenario**

🕗 ClinicalTrials.gov -	nformation on Clinical Trials and Human Research Studies: Browse: Lung Neoplasms - Mozilla Firefox				
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Home   Search	I Browse I Resources I Help I What's New I About				
Browse : By Condition : By Disease Heading : Cancers and other Neoplasms : Lung Neoplasms					
Include trials that are no longer recruiting patients. Search-within-Results Query Details Map of locations					
130 studies were found. Here are studies 1 to 50. Next 50					
1. 🗌 Recruiting	1. Recruiting Study of Motexafin Gadolinium and Docetaxel for Advanced Solid Tumors Conditions: Breast Neoplasms; Ovarian Neoplasms; Prostatic Neoplasms; Lung Neoplasms				
2. C Recruiting	Tariquidar and Docetaxel to Treat Patients with Lung, Ovarian, and Cervical Cancer Conditions: Lung Neoplasms; Ovarian Neoplasms; Cervix Neoplasms				
3. 🗌 Recruiting	ecruiting Phase I Dose-finding Study of E7070 in Combination with Irinotecan Conditions: Colorectal Cancer; Colorectal Carcinoma; Colorectal Tumors; Pulmonary Neoplasms; Pulmonary Cancer				



Hak Choy, MD, Principal Investigator

## **TNM classification**

#### • TNM:

- T0 T4: primary tumor
- N0 N3: metastasis in lymph nodes
- M0 M1: distant metastasis
- Stage 0 IV: derived from the TxNyMz score

#### Requires:

- Representation TxNyMz criteria + stages
- Taxonomy of tumors + pathologies
- Taxonomy + partonomy of anatomy

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NCI FMA



📅 tnm-lung-Simple Protégé 2.1.2 (file:/h	ome/dameron/projects/ontology/owl/tnm/lung/tn	m-lung-Simple.pprj,	OWL Files)
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## OWS for the Semantic Web

- Automating usage of WS
  - discovery
  - execution
  - composition
- Requires explicit description
  - syntactically valid communication: SOAP, WSDL
  - semantic aspect: OWL-S
- How do apps automatically access and process semantic descriptions ? OWS

### OWS for assessing WS relevance



## OWS for assessing WS relevance



## OWS for assessing WS relevance



# OWS for semantic interoperability



# OWS for semantic interoperability



# OWS for semantic interoperability



### Conclusion

- Life Sciences: priviledged domain
  - ∃ ontologies
  - ∃ application needs
  - commercial opportunities
- Use of OWS for linking isolated resources
- OWS also play a role in the SW development

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