

Text-mining strategies to support computational research in chemical toxicity

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Leidos, contractor to US EPA

ACS National Meeting, San Francisco

April 4, 2017

DISCLAIMER: The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Acknowledgements

- Tom Knudsen
- Kevin Crofton
- Antony Williams
- EPA's National Center for Computational Toxicology (NCCT)



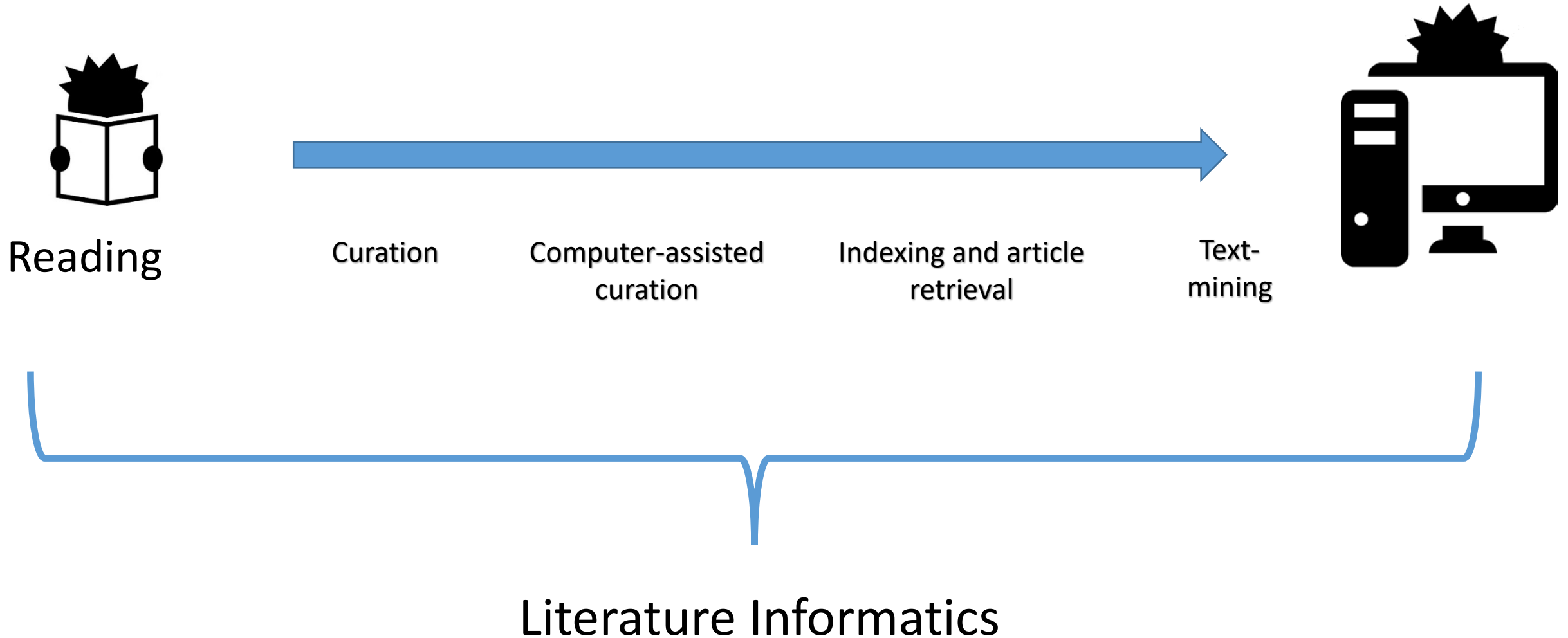
Goal today

- Literature informatics in a scientific organization
 - Five years of experience at NCCT
- Outline
 - Context, definitions, and motivation
 - Our work

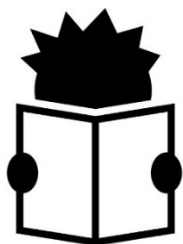
Why literature informatics?

- Use the literature more effectively
- Find things you couldn't find otherwise
- Fun

Approaches to Textual Information



Approaches to Text



Reading



Text-mining

Literature Informatics

PubMed
Abstract Sifter

Extraction of
chemical
properties
from patents

High-throughput
Text Mining
(HTTM) :
EPA LitDB

We're presenting more of this work in other sessions!

Text-mining

My definition: turning unstructured text into structured data

AND

Using that data to answer a question

NIH Public Access
Author Manuscript
Published in final edited form as:
J Biomater Inform. 2010 August ; 43(4): 510-519. doi:10.1016/j.jbi.2010.03.008.

Mining connections between chemicals, proteins, and diseases extracted from Medline annotations

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Abstract
The biomedical literature is an ever-growing source of information. We present a new repository called ChemText, which integrates research by using discovery of a connection between chemicals and diseases. We then by calculating precision and recall in chemical annotations, that zinc and nitric oxide as a data source for de

Keywords
Literature-based discovery; De

1. Introduction
A central endocrine chemical, from human body, from these experiments. PubChem [1], but is recorded only in terms which indicate they can be analyzed early development.

Reproductive Toxicology
Volume 41, September 2014, Pages 51-61
42nd Annual Conference of the European Toxicology Society

Immediate and long-term consequences of vascular toxicity during zebrafish development

T.J. Tan¹, C.W. McCullough¹, P.S. Hameed¹, J. Chen¹, N. Khandanlou¹, C.E. Stout¹, C. Hameed¹, S. Hameed¹, F.A. Muehleisen¹, M. Bondehusen¹, T.B. Klotzsch¹, S. Pradit¹, M.J. Hemminger¹
¹ Show more
doi:10.1016/j.reprotox.2014.05.013

Highlights
• Developmental exposure to the VEGFR2 inhibitor PTK787 produces concentration-dependent, vascular-specific toxicity in embryonic zebrafish.
• Exposure to the EGFR inhibitor AG1478 triggers caudal and pectoral fin malformations at lower concentrations than those that induce abnormal intersegmental vessel development.
• Embryonic vascular malformations persist in 5-day post fertilization (dpf) larvae developmentally exposed to PTK787 or AG1478.
• Severe vascular toxicity during embryogenesis is accompanied by overt malformations that result in increased mortality at the transition to independent feeding.

Abstract
Proper formation of the vascular system is necessary for embryogenesis, and chemical disruption of vascular development may be a key event driving developmental toxicity. In order to test the effect of environmental chemicals on this critical process, we evaluated a quantitative assay in transgenic zebrafish using angiogenesis inhibitors that target



Why?

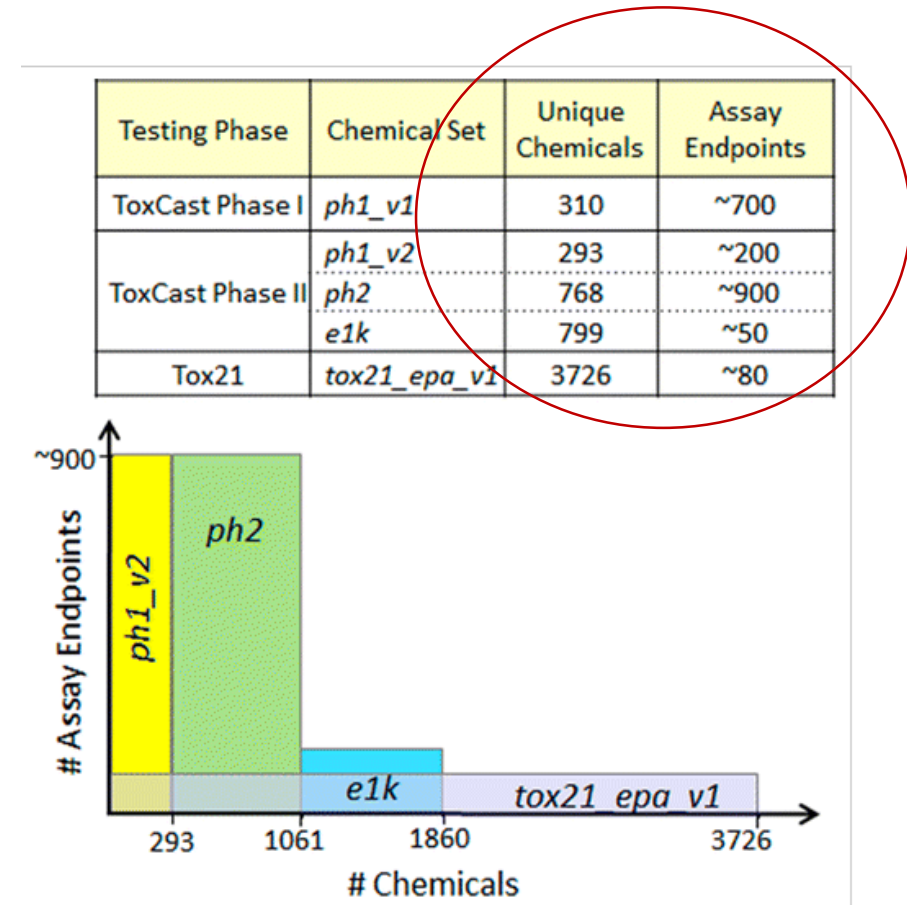
	Amphibian_Binding Proteins	Amphibian_Deiodinases	Amphibian_Hepatic Catabolism	Amphibian_Hormones	Amphibian_Metamorphosis	Amphibian_Sodium iodide symporter	Amphibian_Synthesis	Amphibian_Thyroid Gland	Amphibian_Thyroid Hormone Receptors	Amphibian_Thyrotropin releasing hormone receptor	Amphibian_TR Controlled Genes	Amphibian_Transporters	Bird_Binding Proteins	Bird_Deiodinases	Bird_Energy	Bird_Hepatic Catabolism
Chemical																
Iodine	1	0	0	22	27	0	12	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amiodarone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Methimazole	0	0	0	19	11	0	12	2	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	0
Propylthiouracil	0	0	0	53	45	0	37	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	6	0
Lithium	0	0	0	2	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0
Propranolol	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	0
Carbimazole	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calcium	1	0	0	22	118	0	11	6	5	25	0	2	0	2	0	12

Integrate it
Measure it
Formalize it
Analyze it
Compare it
Visualize it

Read it.

First steps – analyze the needs

- Let's talk about our needs at the National Center for Computational Toxicology
- In response to NRC “Toxicity Testing in the 21st Century”
 - screen large sets of chemicals using in vitro assay with the goal of improving toxicity testing and prioritizing for testing the thousands of chemicals in commerce
- ToxCast and Tox21

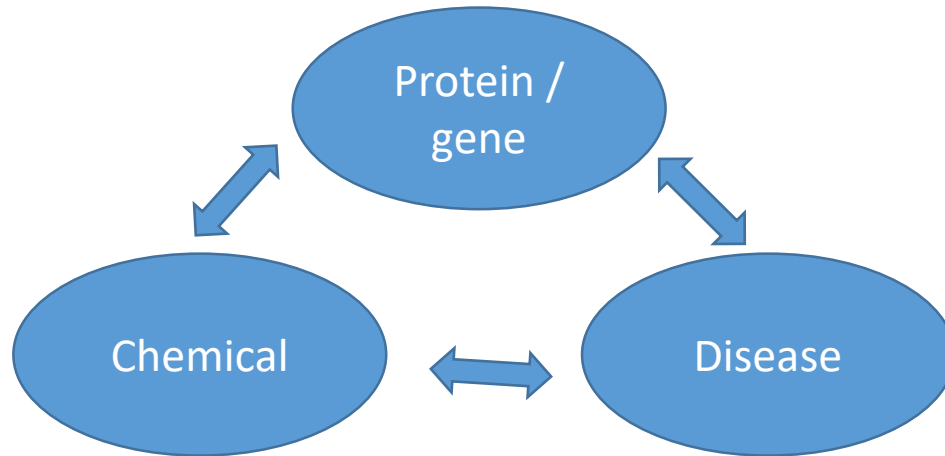


Text-mining requirements – sample questions

- These 700 chemicals are all hits in this assay. What do these chemicals do?
- Generate a list of 30 chemicals that are kidney toxicants ...
- What chemicals are described as 5-alpha reductase inhibitors in the literature?
- What genes are associated with this list of chemicals that cause liver cancer?
- What are the genes and proteins involved in the development of the embryonic heart?

Over 5 years ... more than 150 such questions ...

What we need – in a nutshell



Context

- Species
- Life stage
- Type of observation
- When

Methods

- Corpus – PubMed
- Strategy – take advantage of MeSH terms assigned to articles by NLM annotators
- Turn these annotations into data

MeSH indexing terms become data

NCBI Resources How To

PubMed.gov
US National Library of Medicine
National Institutes of Health

PubMed

Advanced

Format: Abstract

Send to

Biochem Pharmacol. 1993 Oct 19;46(8):1385-91.

Hexachlorobenzene-induced hypothyroidism. Involvement of different mechanisms by parent compound and metabolite.

van Raaij JA¹, Frijters CM, van den Berg KJ.

Author information

Abstract

Rats received repeated oral treatment with different doses of hexachlorobenzene (HCB) (0-3.5 mmol/kg) for 2 or 4 weeks. Measurements of thyroid hormone status after 2 weeks showed a dose-dependent decrease of total thyroxine (TT4) levels, decreased free thyroxine (FT4) levels and little change of total triiodothyronine (TT3) levels. The effects on thyroid hormone status were more pronounced after 4 weeks and also included increased thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) levels. These conditions suggest that HCB had induced hypothyroidism in these animals. Indications for occupation of thyroid hormone binding proteins were found in serum of exposed animals. The major metabolite pentachlorophenol (PCP) also caused, by competitive interactions with thyroid hormone binding proteins in serum, a rapid and dose-dependent decrease of TT4 and FT4 levels, but not of TT3 levels in serum. The decrease of serum TT4 levels by repeated dosing with 3.5 mmol HCB/kg for 4 weeks could be attributed to competitive interactions of PCP with hormone serum binding proteins and to increased metabolism induced by HCB to an equal degree. At lower dose levels or with shorter dosing periods, increased metabolism of T4 is the main cause of decreased TT4 serum levels. This is the first indication that a similar effect is caused simultaneously by the parent compound and its metabolite through different and independent mechanisms.

PMID: 8240387

[PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]



Publication Types, MeSH Terms, Substances

Publication Types, MeSH Terms, Substances

Publication Types

[Research Support, Non-U.S. Gov't](#)

MeSH Terms

[Animals](#)

[Binding, Competitive](#)

[Blood Proteins/metabolism](#)

★★ [Body Temperature/drug effects](#)

[Dose-Response Relationship, Drug](#)

[Hexachlorobenzene/blood](#)

[Hexachlorobenzene/metabolism](#)

★★ [Hexachlorobenzene/toxicity*](#)

★★ [Hypothyroidism/chemically induced*](#)

[Hypothyroidism/metabolism](#)

[Male](#)

[Pentachlorophenol/administration & dosage](#)

[Pentachlorophenol/blood](#)

[Rats](#)

[Rats, Wistar](#)

★ [Thyroid Hormones/metabolism](#)

★ [Thyroxine/blood](#)

National Library of
Medicine Indexers

Indexing terms → data

PubMed ID	MeSH heading	Qualifier / subheading	Major topic?
8240387	Hexachlorobenzene	Toxicity	Y

PubMed ID	MeSH heading	Qualifier / subheading	Major topic?	Score
8240387	Hypothyroidism	Chemically induced	Y	2
8240387	Body Temperature	Drug effects	N	2
8240387	Thyroid Hormones	Metabolism	N	1
8240387	Thyroxine	Blood	N	1

Score
reflects
confidence.

We call this High-throughput text-mining (HTTM): a few readouts per article, but it adds up ...

Hexachlorobenzene – 1485 articles

348 biological processes

Biological processes	Article Count
Organ Size	73
Body Weight	62
Enzyme Induction	36
Reproduction	17
Immunity	11
Birth Weight	6
Oxygen Consumption	5
Phagocytosis	5
Overweight	5
Motor Activity	4
Weight Gain	4
Cell Proliferation	4
Oxidative Stress	4
Oxidative Phosphorylation	4
Phosphorylation	4
Gluconeogenesis	4
Fertility	4
Apoptosis	4
Child Development	3
Obesity	3
Homeostasis	3
Lipid Peroxidation	3
Gene Expression	3

269 Proteins / genes

Protein / gene	Article Count
Cytochrome P-450 Enzyme System	81
Uroporphyrinogen Decarboxylase	54
Carboxy-Lyases	39
Cytochrome P-450 CYP1A1	24
5-Aminolevulinate Synthetase	21
porphyrinogen carboxy-lyase	18
Glutathione	17
Thyroxine	16
Mixed Function Oxygenases	15
Aryl Hydrocarbon Hydroxylases	15
Receptors, Aryl Hydrocarbon	15
Glutathione Transferase	12
Oxygenases	11
Aminolevulinic Acid	11
Aminopyrine N-Demethylase	11
Triiodothyronine	11
Immunoglobulin M	11
Ferrochelatase	9
Immunoglobulin G	9
Receptors, Estrogen	8
Aniline Hydroxylase	8
7-Alkoxy coumarin O-Dealkylase	8
gamma-Glutamyltransferase	8
Alanine Transaminase	6

180 Diseases / conditions

Diseases	Article Count
Porphyrias	184
Body Weight	87
Drug-Induced Liver Injury	36
Prenatal Exposure Delayed Effects	30
Disease Models, Animal	27
es	26
asms, Experimental	22
es	21
cutanea Tarda	16
asms	14
nt	12
plasms	11
, Experimental	10
enesis	8
us Conditions	7
Hepatocellular	6
	6
t	5
ning	5
	5
Hepatic	5
al Diseases	5
	5
eases	5
ies, Drug-Induced	5
n	5
ontaneous	5
Diseases	4
neoplasms	4
	3
Tract Infections	3

185 Anatomical terms

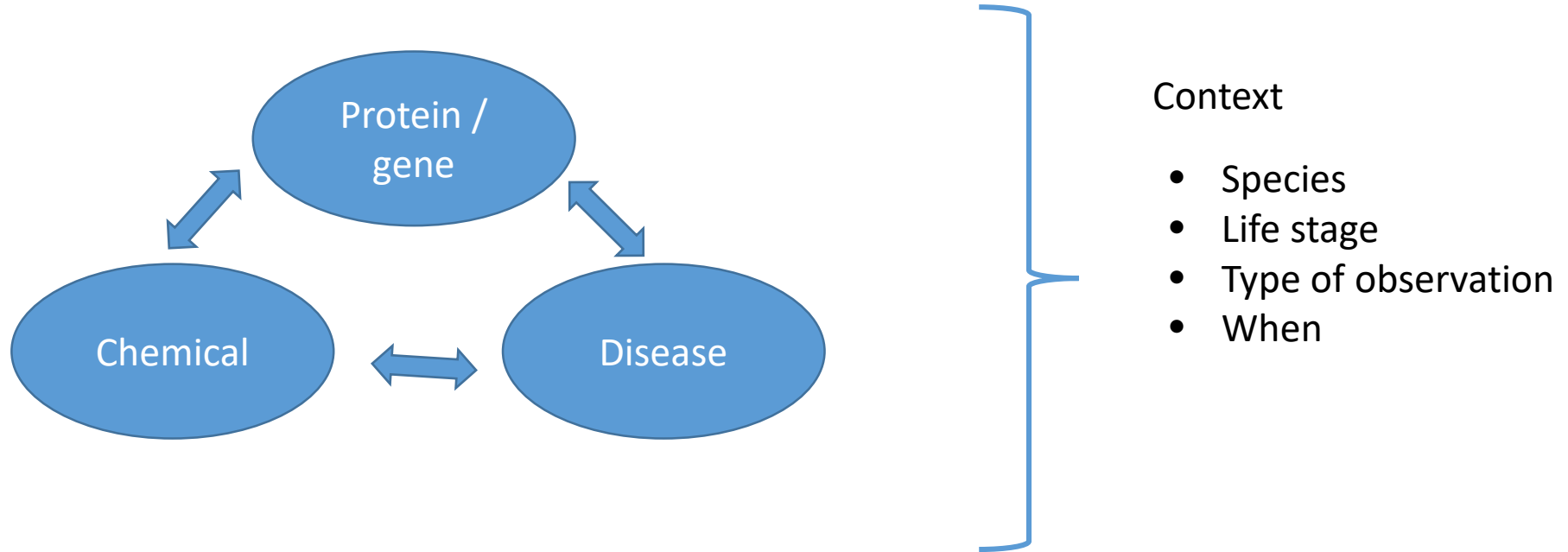
Anatomy Terms	Article Count
Liver	286
Adipose Tissue	124
Milk, Human	74
Microsomes, Liver	67
Feces	45
Kidney	39
Milk	27
Thyroid Gland	23
Skin	23
Brain	22
Lung	21
Fetal Blood	20
Muscles	19
Spleen	19
Mitochondria, Liver	17
Fetus	14
Bile	14
Ovary	12
Ovum	11
Chick Embryo	11
Placenta	11
T-Lymphocytes	11
Macrophages	10
Erythrocytes	10
Thymus Gland	9
Intestines	9
Lymph Nodes	8
Myocardium	8

How big is the data?

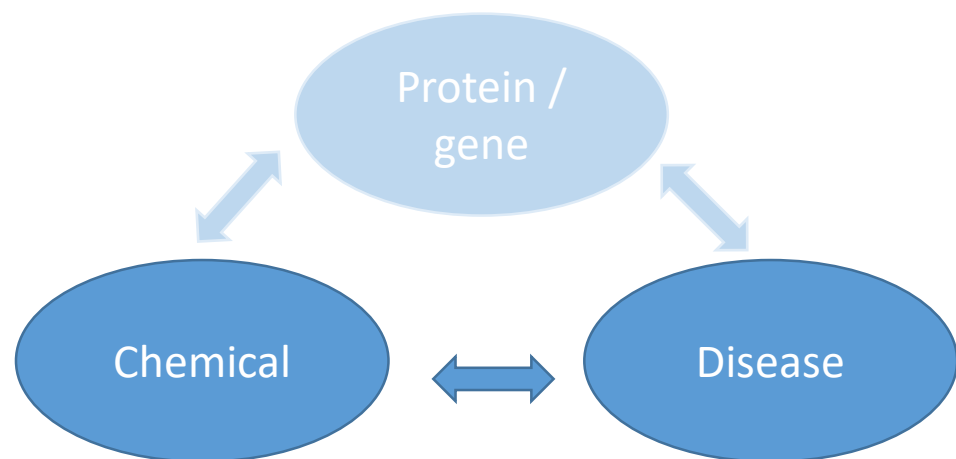
- 26 million articles in PubMed
- 12+ million articles have chemical annotations
- 200 million MeSH annotations
- Growth rate: 1 million / month
- ~238K chemicals
- ~141K small molecule chemicals

How we use the data

- Simple queries – simple lists – binary relationships

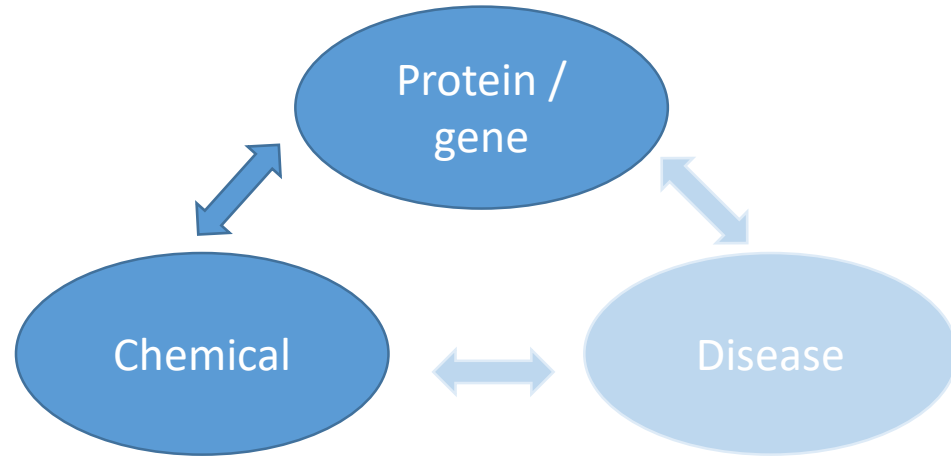


Example 1.



	A	T	AN
1	Chemicals associated with causing infertility		
5	Chemical	Article Ct	
6	Sulfasalazine	168	
7	Lead	152	
8	Cyclophosphamide	88	
9	Propane	88	
10	Cadmium	80	
11	Diethylstilbestrol	74	
12	1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane	68	
13	Gossypol	48	
14	Testosterone	42	
15	Ethanol	40	
16	Cisplatin	38	
17	Finasteride	36	
18	bisphenol A	32	
19	Clomiphene	28	
20	Mercury	24	
21	Endosulfan	24	
22	Estradiol	24	
23	EthylNitrosourea	22	
24	Colchicine	20	
25	Methotrexate	20	
26	Diethylhexyl Phthalate	20	
27	Doxorubicin	20	
28	Sirolimus	20	
29	Busulfan	19	
30	Valproic Acid	16	
31	Chlorambucil	16	
32	alpha-Chlorohydrin	16	
33	Cottonseed Oil	16	
34	DDT	16	
35	Methoxychlor	16	

Example 2.

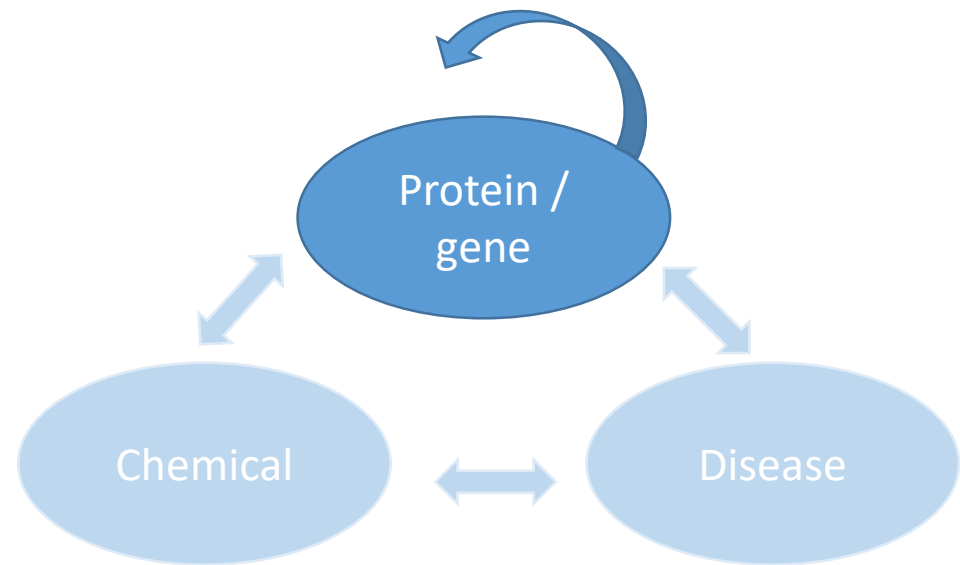


	A	AE
1	Chemicals associated with sodium iodide symporter	
5	Chemical	Article Ct
6	Iodine	81
7	perchlorate	21
8	Tretinoin	18
9	Sodium Iodide	14
10	Sodium	12
11	Astatine	10
12	Sodium Pertechnetate Tc 99m	9
13	Technetium	8
14	Rhenium	8
15	thiocyanate	5
16	resveratrol	4
17	Valproic Acid	3
18	Amiodarone	3
19	sunitinib	3
20	Potassium Iodide	3
21	Water	3
22	sodium perchlorate	3
23	tetrafluoroboric acid	3
24	Doxorubicin	2
25	Hydrocortisone	2
26	Metformin	2
27	2,3',4,4',5-pentachlorobiphenyl	2
28	Dexamethasone	2
29	Nevirapine	2
30	Hydrogen Peroxide	2
31	Oxygen	2
32	(6-(4-(2-piperidin-1-ylethoxy)phenyl))-3-p	2
33	3-amino-1-methyl-5H-pyrido(4,3-b)indole	2
34	4,4'-Diisothiocyanostilbene-2,2'-Disulfonic	2
35	AZD 6244	2
36	Harmaline	2
37	Measles Vaccine	2
38	N-(oxo-5,6-dihydrophenanthridin-2-yl)-N,	2

- What chemicals are associated with kidney toxicity?

[illegible]

Relationships in context



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	P	Q	AI	AJ	AK	AL	AM	AN	AO
Overview	Action Potentials	Adipogenesis	Anaphase	Apoptosis	Asymmetric Cell Division	Autocrine Communication	Autophagy	Calcium Signaling	Cell Adhesion	Cell Aggregation	Cell Aging	Cell Communication	Cell Compartmentation	Cell Cycle	Cell Cycle Checkpoints	Cell Size	Cell Survival	Cell Transdifferentiation	Cellular Microenvironment	Cellular Reprogramming	Chemotaxis	Chemotaxis, Leukocyte
Gene - gene																						
MAPK3_EGR1	0	0	0	6	0	1	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	7	0	0	0	0	0
MAPK3_MAPK1	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	8	0	0	0	0	0
AKT2_AKT1	0	0	0	9	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	6	0	0	2	0	0
AKT3_AKT1	0	0	0	9	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	6	0	0	2	0	0
AKT3_AKT2	0	0	0	9	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	6	0	0	2	0	0
EGR1_CREB3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
PRKCZ_EGR1	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
EGR1_EGFR	0	0	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0
NFKB1_EGR1	0	0	0	9	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0
JUN_EGR1	1	0	0	7	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
MAPK3_EGFR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PPARG_EGR1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0

Text-mining for inference

- In earlier examples, somebody wrote it down. But what about when people haven't written it down?
- Don Swanson – undiscovered public knowledge
- Inference for hypothesis generation

Thyroid disruptors – very complex pathway

- If we could pull together observations on different species, we may have insight into what chemicals are true thyroid disruptors.
- Evidence
 - Over many years
 - Over wide variety of disciplines
 - Collected for many different reasons
- Mining that undiscovered public knowledge

Thyroid disruption – the inference framework

[illegible]

Inference process

If a chemical is associated with changes in amphibian metamorphoses ...

		Amph					
		Amphibian_Binding Proteins Amphibian_Deiodinases Amphibian_Hepatic Catabolism Amphibian_Hormones Amphibian_Metamorphosis Amphibian_Sodium iodide symporter					
Chemical							
7	methylparaben	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	methylselenic acid	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	methylxanthine	0	0	0	0	2	0
0	Methysergide	0	0	0	0	2	0
1	Metiamide	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	metocurine	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	metolachlor	0	0	0	0	2	0
4	Metolazone	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	metomidate	0	0	0	0	1	0
6	metralindole	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	metrenperone	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Metribolone	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	metribuzin	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	Metrizamide	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	Metrizoate	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	metculfuron methyl	0	0	0	0	0	0

If the same chemical is associated with thyroid activity in mammals ...

[illegible]

If a chemical is associated with changes in amphibian metamorphoses

AND

If the same chemical is associated with thyroid activity in mammals

AND

If the same chemical is associated with energy / cognition effects in humans ...

MAYBE

It is a thyroid pathway disruptor.

Overview				
		Human		
		Human_Energy	Human_Cognition_IQ	Human_Clinical Conditions
Chemical				
7	methylparaben	0	2	0
3	methylselenic acid	0	0	0
9	methylxanthine	5	3	0
0	Methysergide	2	0	0
1	Metiamide	0	0	0
2	metocurine	2	0	0
3	metolachlor	0	0	0
4	Metolazone	0	0	0
5	metomidate	0	0	0
5	metralindole	2	0	0
7	metrenperone	0	0	0
3	Metribolone	0	0	0
9	metribuzin	0	0	0
0	Metrizamide	8	21	0
1	Metrizoate	3	0	0
2	metsulfuron methyl	0	0	0
3	metylperon	0	2	0

Review the goals

- Use the literature more effectively
- Find things you couldn't find otherwise
- Fun
- *People are asking questions they wouldn't have asked before.*

Thank you!

... and if you want to hear more

- Tony Williams: EPA CompTox chemistry dashboard: An online resource for environmental chemists
 - Division of Chemical Health and Safety
 - Tuesday, April 4, 3:05-3:30 PM
- Drug repurposing: A bibliometric analysis by text-mining PubMed
 - Division of the History of Chemistry
 - Wednesday, April 5, 10:15, session from 8:30 – 11:45
- Supporting Read-across predictions of chemical toxicity using high-throughput text-mining
 - Division of Environmental Chemistry
 - Thursday, April 6, 10:50 (session from 8 – 12)