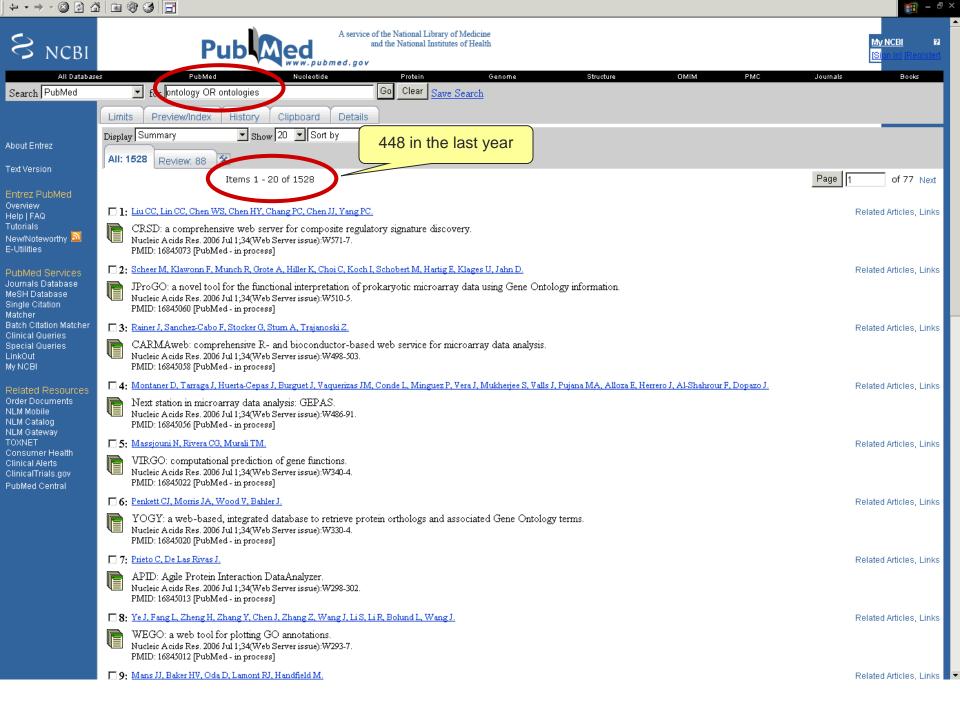
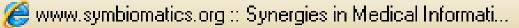
The Relevance of Ontologies in Biology and Medicine

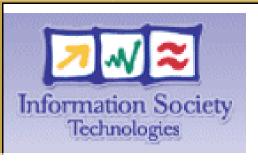


Stefan Schulz
Freiburg University Hospital
Medical Language and Ontology Group (MediLOG)
Department of Medical Informatics









Synergies in Medical Informatics and Bioinformatics

White Paper, June 2006

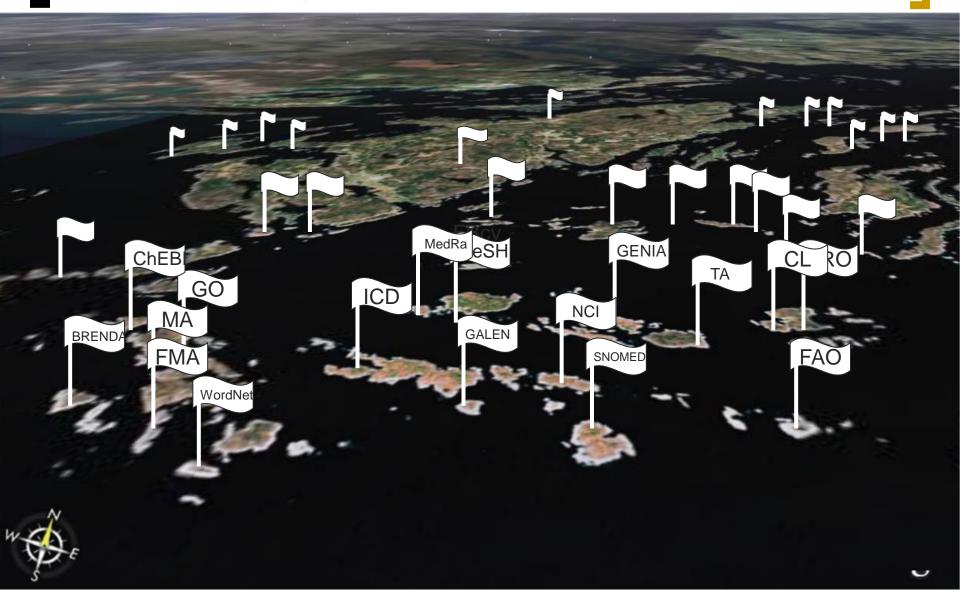
Identification of the "Thirteen most highly prioritised areas":

- Medical Genetics Databases and Initiatives
- Gene Expression Information in Medical Diagnostics & Prognostics
- Modelling & Simulation of Biological Structures & Processes/Diseases
- Data Integration from Biosensors & Med. Devices with clinical information systems
- Integration of patient molecular data in Electronic Health Records
- Systems for Clinical Decision Making
- Semantic Interoperability and Ontologies in Biomedicine 7.
- Technologies for Biomedical Information Integration
- Data Interoperability & Standards
- Connecting Biobanks to large scale databases to enable data mining 10.
- Patient Risk Profiling and Lifestyle Management 11.
- Applied Pharmaceutical Research 12.
- Clinical and Ethical Issues related to biomedical data processing 13.

Content

- A cruise through the O-Space
- The "O-word": Terminological Clarification
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 - How is it represented
- Practice of Good Ontology

A cruise through the archipelago of ontologies







∭ – ♂ ×

MeSH Tree Structures - 2006

Return to Entry Page

- 1. 🖪 Anatomy [A]
- 2. Organisms [B]
 - Animals [B01] +
 Algae [B02] +
 - o Bacteria [B03] +
 - o Viruses [B04] +
 - o <u>Fungi [B05] +</u>
 - o Plants [B06] +
 - o Archaea [B07] +
 - o Mesomycetozoea [B08] +
- 3. 🛨 Diseases [C]
- 4. Chemicals and Drugs [D]
- 5. Analytical, Diagnostic and Therapeutic Techniques and Equipment [E]
- 6. Psychiatry and Psychology [F]
- 7. Biological Sciences [G]
- 8. Physical Sciences [H]
- 9. Anthropology, Education, Sociology and Social Phenomena [I]
- 10.

 Technology and Food and Beverages [J]
- 11. Humanities [K]
- 12. Information Science [L]
- 13. Persons [M]
- 14. Health Care [N]
- 15.

 Publication Characteristics [V]

Return to Entry Page



Return to Entry Page

Link to NLM Cataloging Classification

∭ – ₽ ×





Bacteria [B03]

Gram-Positive Bacteria [B03.510]

Gram-Positive Cocci [B03.510.400]

Staphylococcaceae [B03.510.400.790]

➤ Staphylococcus [B03.510.400.790.750]

Staphylococcus aureus [B03.510.400.790.750.100]

Staphylococcus epidermidis [B03.510.400.790.750.343]

Staphylococcus haemolyticus [B03.510.400.790.750.400]

Staphylococcus hominis [B03.510.400.790.750.425]

Return to Entry Page

Link to NLM Cataloging Classification





National Library of Medicine - Medical Subject Headings

$2006~\mathrm{MeSH}$

MeSH Descriptor Data

Return to Entry Page

MeSH Heading	Staphylococcus aureus
Tree Number	<u>B03.510.400.790.750.100</u>
Annotation	infection = STAPHYLOCOCCAL INFECTIONS & do not bother to coord with S. aureus unless particularly discussed (index IM); DF: STAPH AUREUS
Scope Note	Potentially pathogenic bacteria found in nasal membranes, skin, hair follicles, and perineum of warm-blooded animals. They may cause a wide range of infections and intoxications.
Allowable Qualifiers	CH CL CY DE EN GD GE IM IP ME PH PY RE UL VI
Entry Version	STAPH AUREUS
Previous Indexing	Staphylococcus (1966-1974)
Online Note	use STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS to search MICROCOCCUS PYOGENES 1975-91; use STAPHYLOCOCCUS 1966-74
History Note	76; was MICROCOCCUS PYOGENES see under STAPHYLOCOCCUS 1963-75; MICROCOCCUS PYOGENES was see STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS 1976-91
Unique ID	D013211

MeSH Tree Structures

Bacteria [B03]

Gram-Positive Bacteria [B03.510]

Gram-Positive Cocci [B03.510.400]

Staphylococcaceae [B03.510.400.790]

Staphylococcus [B03.510.400.790.750]

tapitytococcus [D03.510.400.750.750]

► Staphylococcus aureus [B03.510.400.790.750.100]

Staphylococcus epidermidis [B03.510.400.790.750.343]

Staphylococcus haemolyticus [B03.510.400.790.750.400]

Staphylococcus hominis [B03.510.400.790.750.425]

Return to Entry Page

Link to NLM Cataloging Classification







```
    Ø GO:0043204 : perikaryon (1)

■ © GO:0030312: external encapsulating structure (834).

■ OGO:0044462: external encapsulating structure part (380)

    • • • • GO:0031255 : lateral part of motile cell ( 0 )

□ 0 GO:0016020 : membrane (21224) •

    © GO:0030673 : axolemma (4)

■ GO:0012505 : endomembrane system (1706)

    ⊕ GO:0044425 : membrane part ( 15359 )

   □ 0 GO:0031090 : organelle membrane (3785) •

■ OGO:0005789: endoplasmic reticulum membrane (606)

■ GO:0031312: extrinsic to organelle membrane (19)

    OGO:0046860 : glycosome membrane (4)

       □ 0 GO:0000139 : Golgi membrane (310) •
          □ GO:0030660 : Golgi-associated vesicle membrane (78) •

    O GO:0012509: inter-Golgi transport vesicle membrane (0)

■ OGO:0012510: trans-Golgi network transport vesicle membrane (45).

□ Ø GO:0031228: intrinsic to Golgi membrane (77) ◆

    OGO:0030173: integral to Golgi membrane (66)

    O GO:0046859 : hydrogenosomal membrane ( 0 )

■ GO:0031300: intrinsic to organelle membrane (311)

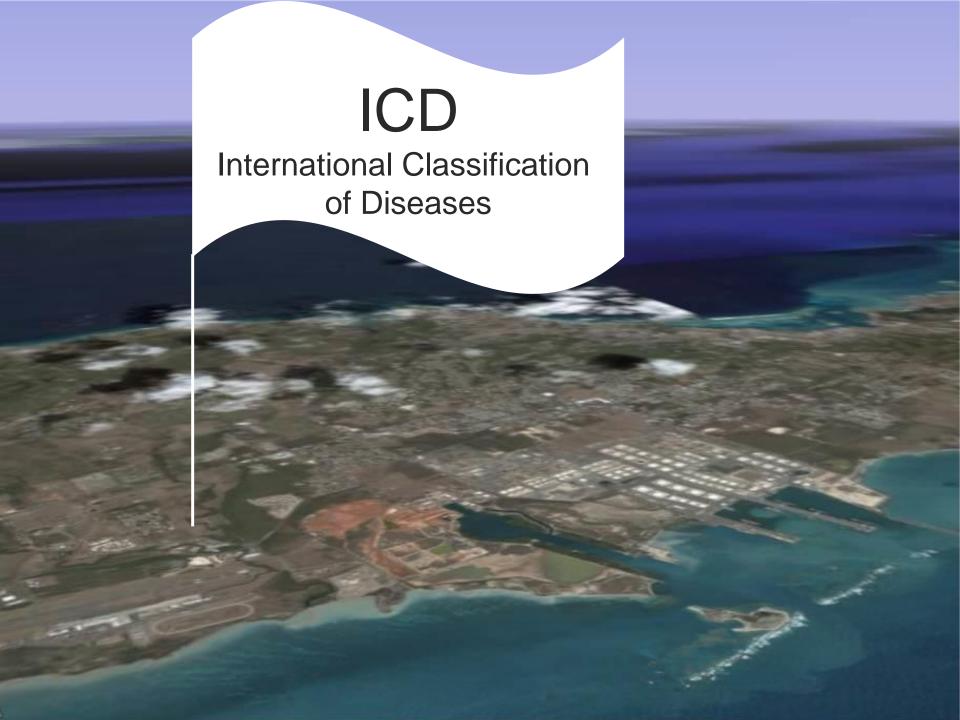
■ GO:0031966: mitochondrial membrane (1447)

■ © GO:0019866 : organelle inner membrane (1296)

■ © GO:0031968 : organelle outer membrane ( 260 )

    OGO:0031095 : platelet dense tubular network membrane ( 0 )

       ■ CO:0005774 : vacualar mombrano / 204 )
```





Code-Suche:

Dreisteller-Eingabe:

OK!

ICD-10 Homepage

Internationale Statistische Klassifikation der Krankheiten und verwandter Gesundheitsprobleme 10. Revision

German Modification

Version 2006

Vierstellige Ausführliche Systematik

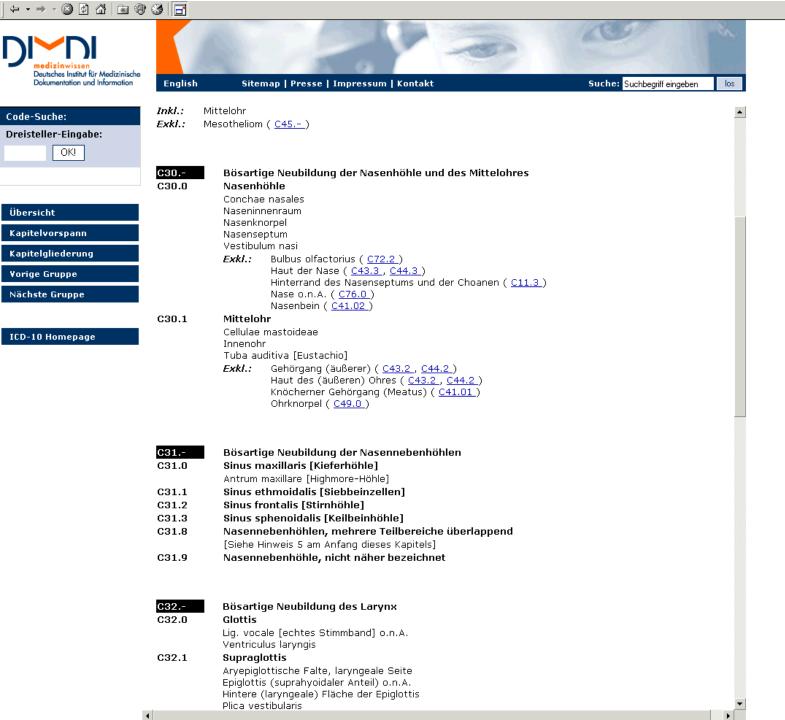
Kapitelübersicht

Kapitel	Gliederung	Titel
Ī	A00-B99	Bestimmte infektiöse und parasitäre Krankheiten
<u>II</u>	C00-D48	Neubildungen
III	D50-D90	Krankheiten des Blutes und der blutbildenden Organe sowie bestimmte Störungen mit Beteiligung des Immunsystems
<u>IV</u>	E00-E90	Endokrine, Ernährungs- und Stoffwechselkrankheiten
<u>V</u>	F00-F99	Psychische und Verhaltensstörungen
<u>VI</u>	G00-G99	Krankheiten des Nervensystems
<u> </u>	H00-H59	Krankheiten des Auges und der Augenanhangsgebilde
<u>∨III</u>	H60-H95	Krankheiten des Ohres und des Warzenfortsatzes
<u>IX</u>	<u> 100-199</u>	Krankheiten des Kreislaufsystems
×	<u> </u>	Krankheiten des Atmungssystems
<u>×I</u>	K00-K93	Krankheiten des Verdauungssystems
\times II	L00-L99	Krankheiten der Haut und der Unterhaut
\times III	M00-M99	Krankheiten des Muskel-Skelett-Systems und des Bindegewebes
\times IV	N00-N99	Krankheiten des Urogenitalsystems
<u>XV</u>	<u>000-099</u>	Schwangerschaft, Geburt und Wochenbett
$\times VI$	P00-P96	Bestimmte Zustände, die ihren Ursprung in der Perinatalperiode haben
\times VII	Q00-Q99	Angeborene Fehlbildungen, Deformitäten und Chromosomenanomalien
\times VIII	R00-R99	Symptome und abnorme klinische und Laborbefunde, die anderenorts nicht klassifiziert sir
$\times I \times$	S00-T98	Verletzungen, Vergiftungen und bestimmte andere Folgen äußerer Ursachen
<u> </u>	<u>V01-Y98</u>	Äußere Ursachen von Morbidität und Mortalität
<u> </u>	<u>200-299</u>	Faktoren, die den Gesundheitszustand beeinflussen und zur Inanspruchnahme des Gesundheitswesens führen
XXII	<u>U00-U99</u>	Schlüsselnummern für besondere Zwecke

Kapitel I:

Bestimmte infektiöse und parasitäre Krankheiten (A00-B99)









WordNet Search - 2.1

Return to WordNet Home

Glossary - Help

SEARCH DISPLAY OPTIONS: (Select option to	change)	V	Change
Enter a word to search for: longue	Search WordNet		

WARNING: The search exceeded the result limit, so the following list is valid but incomplete. Only the top levels of the list are displayed.

KEY: "S:" = Show Synset (semantic) relations, "W:" = Show Word (lexical) relations

Noun

- S: (n) tongue, lingua, glossa, clapper (a mobile mass of muscular tissue covered with mucous membrane and located in the oral cavity)
- S: (n) natural language, tongue (a human written or spoken language used by a community; opposed to e.g. a computer language)
- S: (n) tongue, knife (any long thin projection that is transient) "tongues of flame licked at the walls"; "rifles exploded quick knives of fire into the dark"
- S: (n) tongue (a manner of speaking) "he spoke with a thick tongue"; "she has a glib tongue"
- S: (n) spit, tongue (a narrow strip of land that juts out into the sea)
- S: (n) tongue (the tongue of certain animals used as meat)
- S: (n) tongue (the flap of material under the laces of a shoe or boot)
- S: (n) clapper, tongue (metal striker that hangs inside a bell and makes a sound by hitting the side)

Verb

- S: (v) tongue (articulate by tonguing, as when playing wind instruments)
- S: (v) tongue (lick or explore with the tongue)

Return to WordNet Home



WordNet Search - 2.1

Return to WordNet Home

Glossary - Help

SEARCH DISPLAY OPTIONS: (Select option to change)

Change

Enter a word to search for: | lingua | Search WordNet

WARNING: The search exceeded the result limit, so the following list is valid but incomplete. Only the top levels of the list are displayed.

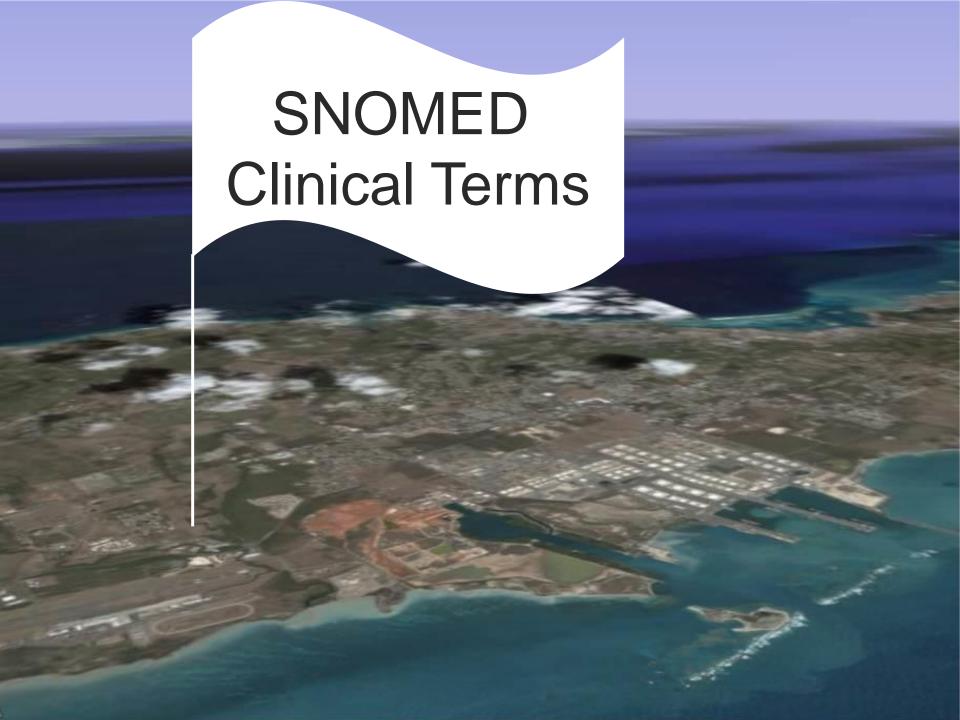
KEY: "S:" = Show Synset (semantic) relations, "W:" = Show Word (lexical) relations

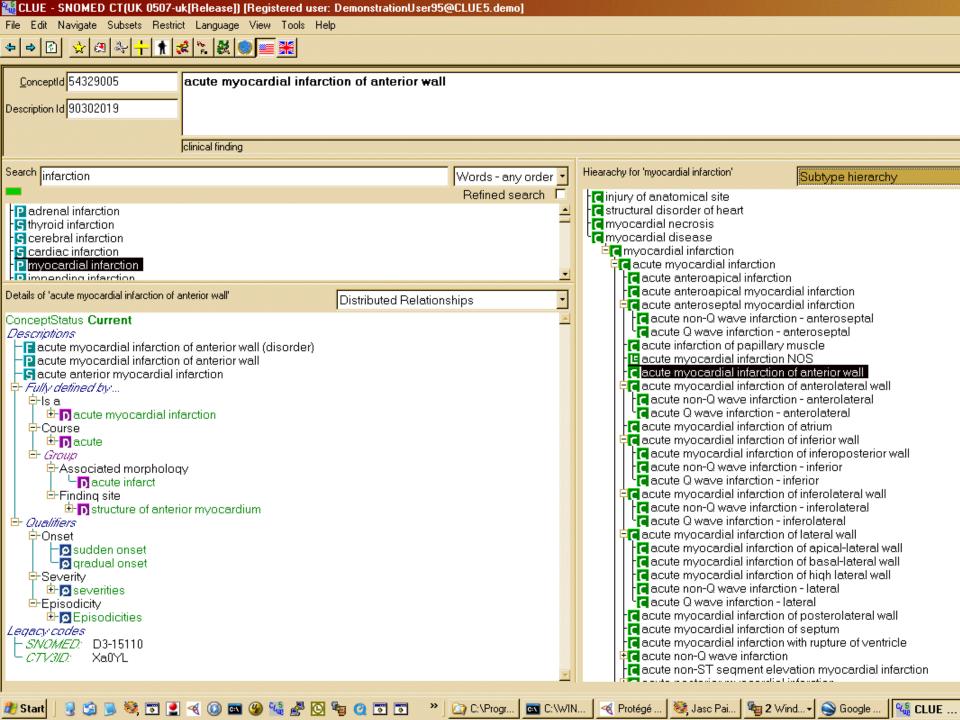
Noun

- S. (n) tongue, lingua, glossa, clapper (a mobile mass of muscular tissue covered with mucous membrane and located in the oral cavity)
 - o part meronym
 - S: (n) tastebud, taste bud, gustatory organ (an oval sensory end organ on the surface of the tongue)
 - o direct hypernym I inherited hypernym I sister term
 - S: (n) organ (a fully differentiated structural and functional unit in an animal that is specialized for some particular function)
 - S: (n) articulator (a movable speech organ)
 - o part holonym
 - S: (n) mouth, oral cavity, oral fissure, rima oris (the opening through which food is taken in and vocalizations emerge) "he stuffed his mouth with candy"
 - S: (n) throat, pharynx (the passage to the stomach and lungs; in the front part of the neck below the chin and above the collarbone)
 - o derivationally related form

 - o W: (adj) lingual [Related to: lingua] (pertaining to or resembling or lying near the tongue) "lingual inflammation"; "the lingual surface of the teeth"
 - o W: (adj) lingual [Related to: lingua] (consisting of or related to language) "linguistic behavior"; "a linguistic atlas"; "lingual diversity"

Return to WordNet Home





Content

- A cruise through the O-Space
- The "O-word": Terminological Clarification
- Purposes of Ontologies
- Mapping the O-Space
 - What is represented
 - How is it represented
- Practice of Good Ontology

 Artifacts for ordering domain entities, relating word meanings or providing semantic reference

- Vocabularies
- Terminologies
- Thesauri
- Concept Systems
- Classifications
- Ontologies



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 Artifacts for ordering domain entities, relating word meanings or providing semantic reference

- Vocabularies
- Terminologies
- Thesauri
- Concept Systems
- Classifications



。Ontologies

Different scientific traditions:
 Biology, Medicine, Philosophy, Logic,
 Linguistics, Library and Information
 Science, Computer Science, Cognitive
 Science



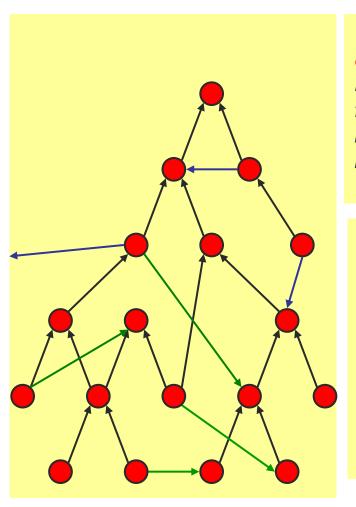
 Different philosophical schools of thinking: Platonism, Aristotelian Realism, Conceptualism, Relativism, Idealism, Postmodernism, Constructivism, Nominalism, Tropism,...



Ontologies / Terminological Systems come in different flavors

Nodes and Links

(In)formal Definitions



domain or region of DNA [GENIA]: A substructure of DNA molecule which is supposed to have a particular function, such as a gene, e.g., c-jun gene, promoter region, Sp1 site, CA repeat. This class also includes a base sequence that has a particular function.

ExtractionOfForeignBodyFromStomachByIncision ≡
RemovalOfForeignBodyFromDigestiveSystem ∏

RemovalOfForeignBodyFromStomach []

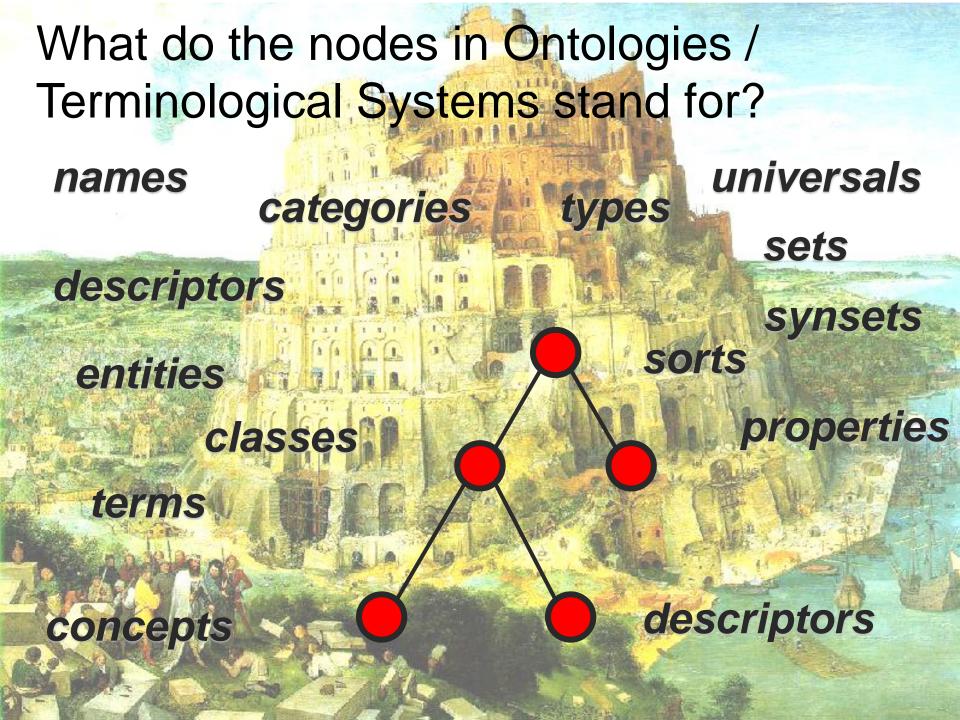
IncisionOfStomach ∏

∃ has-part.(∃ Method.RemovalAction ∏

∃ DirectMorphology.ForeignBody) []

∃ has-part.(∃ Method.IncisionAction ∏

∃ ProcedureSite.stomachStructure)



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Purposes of Ontologies: General

- Semantic Interoperability
- Terminology control
- Knowledge extraction
- Knowledge management
- Natural Language Processing
- Document retrieval
- Formal reasoning about knowledge structures

Purposes of Ontologies: Medicine

- Support of clinical coding (diagnoses, procedures):
 - Accounting
 - Health Statistics
- Support of Biomedical Science:
 - Interoperability between heterogeneous databases
 - Indexing of biomedical literature

Purposes of Ontologies: Biology

- Data and information retrieval and analysis
- Semantic Annotation of Genes, Proteins in terms of localization, pathways, functions...
- Intelligent text mining of literature abstracts: "Bibliomics"

Content

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Mapping the space of Ontology

instead of providing a definition...

Mapping the space of Ontology

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ConceptsandOntologies



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy Glossary Catalog

Content

- A cruise through the O-Space
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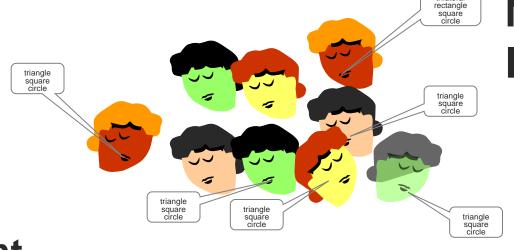
Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ConceptsandOntologies



Intelligent **Minds Natural** trilateral rectangle square Language square Mind triangle square square Independent Reality

Individual Entities (Instances, Particulars)

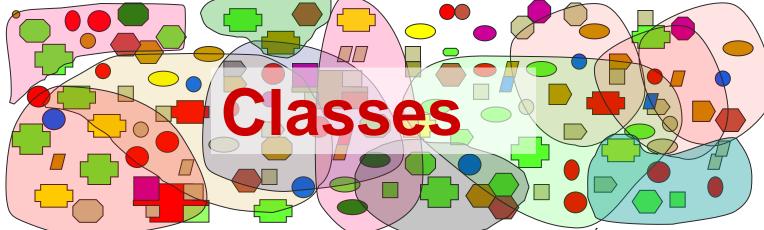
Intelligent Minds



Natural Language

Mind Independent

Reality



Individual Entities (Instances, Particulars)

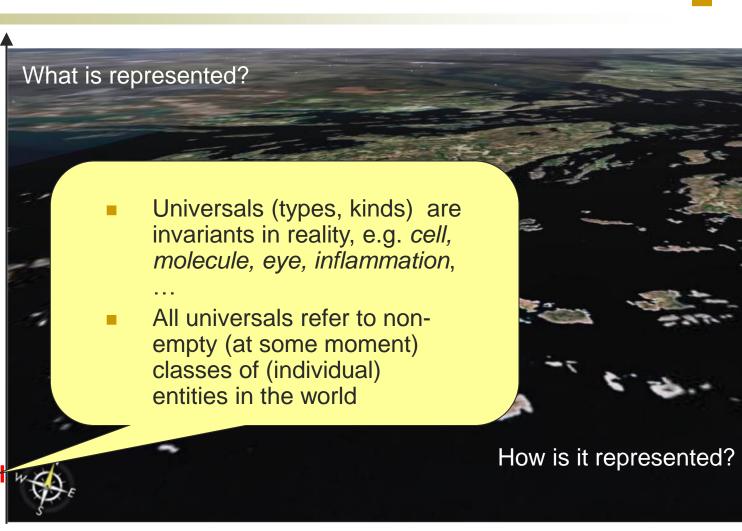
Mapping the space of Ontology: Realist perspective

Representation of arbitrary propositions

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Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies



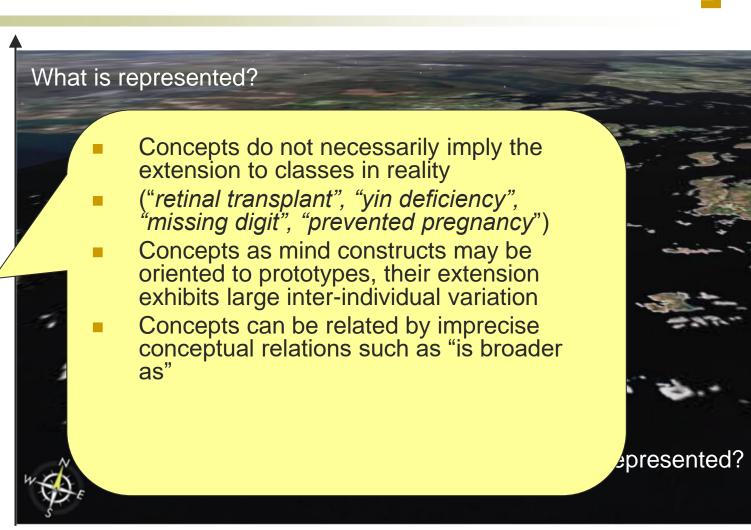
Mapping the space of Ontology Conceptualist perspective

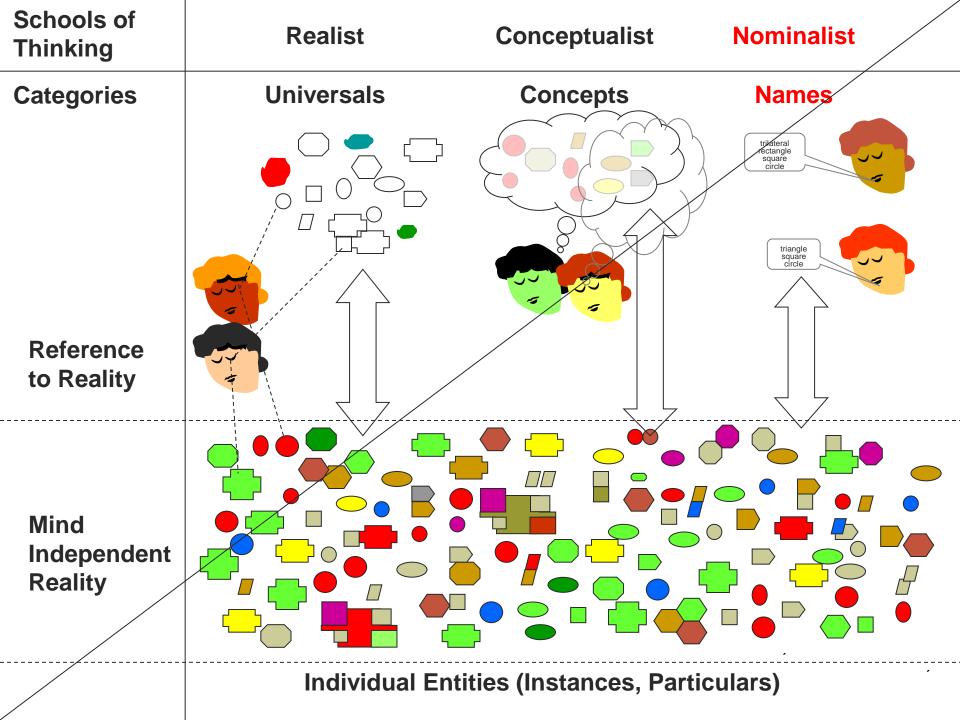
Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term / meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies





Mapping the space of Ontology Nominalist perspective

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Whe Names are are created in an ad hoc fashion from linguistic predicates.

Examples:

"People in SR 1048 at 7pm today"

- "Nontraffic accident involving other off-road motor vehicle" (ICD9-CM: E821)
- Tuberculosis of lung, bacteriological and histological examination not done (ICD-10: A16.1)
- "Follow-up inpatient consultation for an established patient which requires at least two of these three key components: a detailed interval history; a detailed examination; medical decision making of high complexity. Counseling and/or coordination of care with other providers or agencies are provided consistent with the nature of the problem(s) and the patient's and/or family's needs. Usually, the patient is unstable or has developed a significant complication or a significant new problem. Physicians typically spend 30 minutes at the bedside and on the patient's hospital floor or unit."

1?

(Current Procedural Terminology Code: HCPT06)

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies

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Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy Glossary Catalog

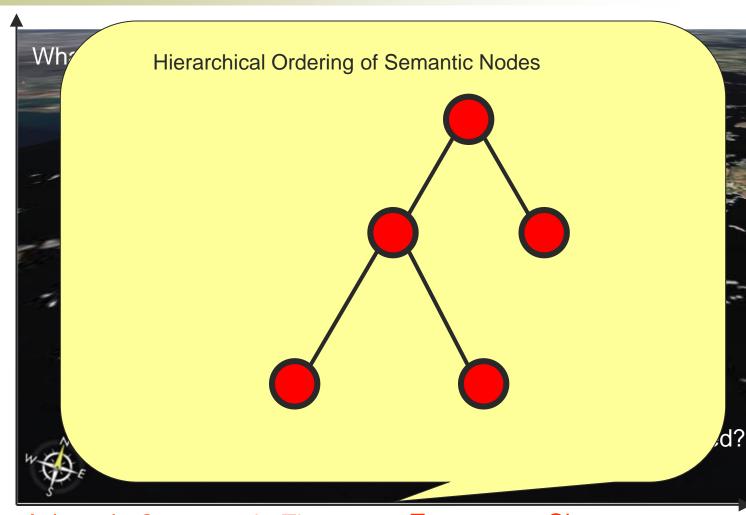
Mapping the space of Ontology Catalogs

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

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Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy

Glossary

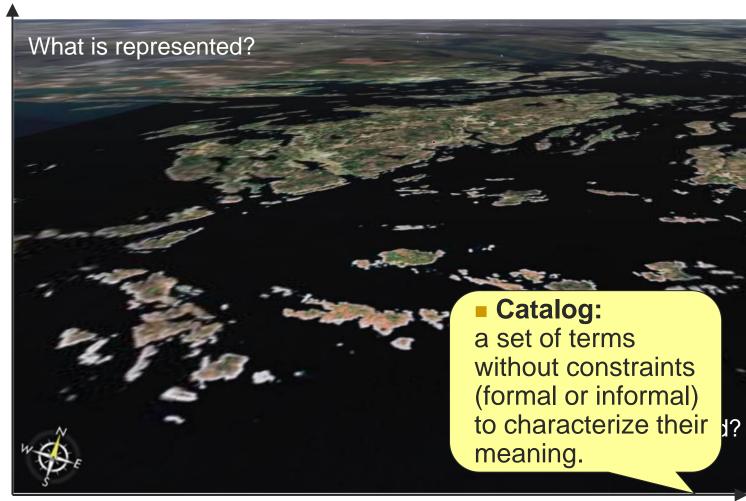
Mapping the space of Ontology Catalogs

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Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy

Glossary

Mapping the space of Ontology Glossary

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

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Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy

Glossåry

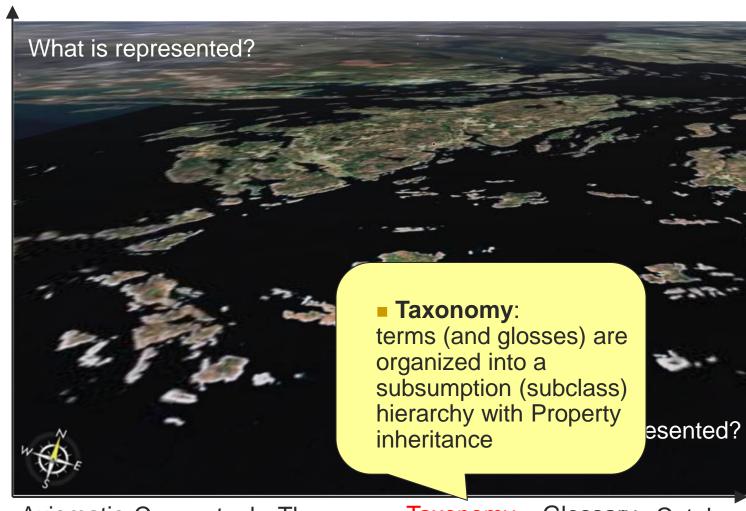
Mapping the space of Ontology Taxonomy

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy

Glossary

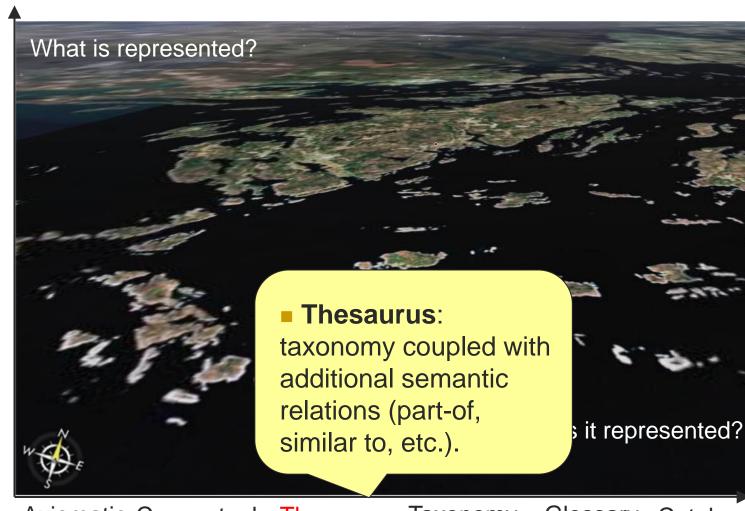
Mapping the space of Ontology Thesaurus

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy

Glossary Catalog

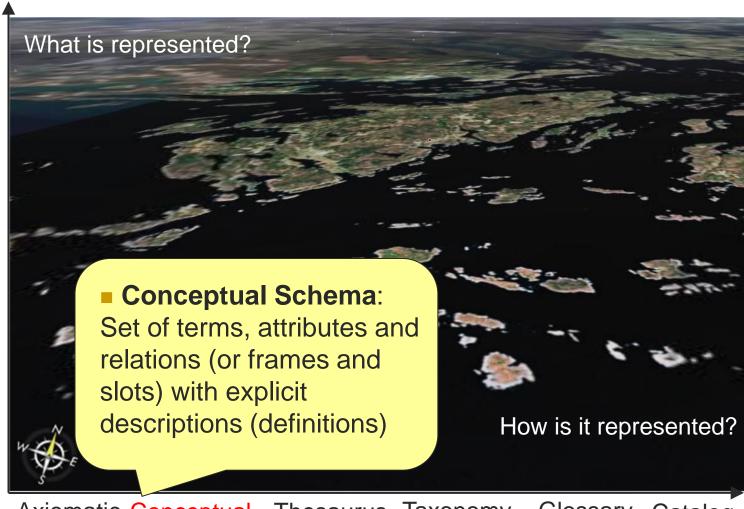
Mapping the space of Ontology Conceptual Schemas

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy Glossary Catalog

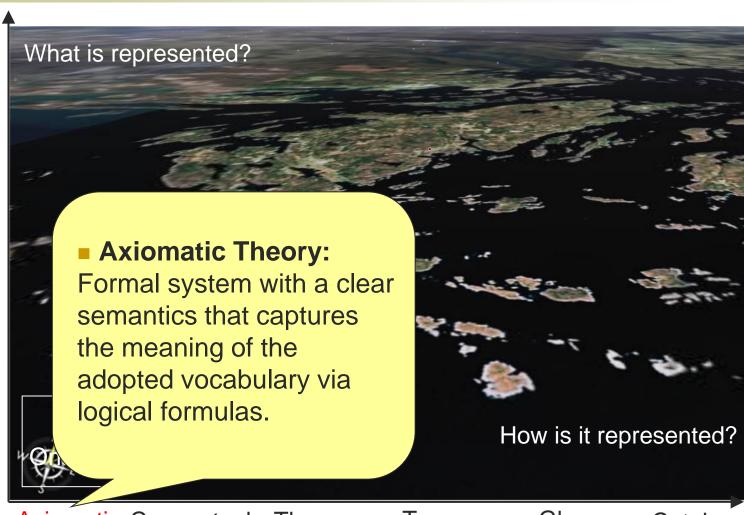
Mapping the space of Ontology Axiomatic Theories

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy Glossary

Glossary Catalog

Mapping the space of Ontology: Notions of Ontology

Representation of arbitrary propositions

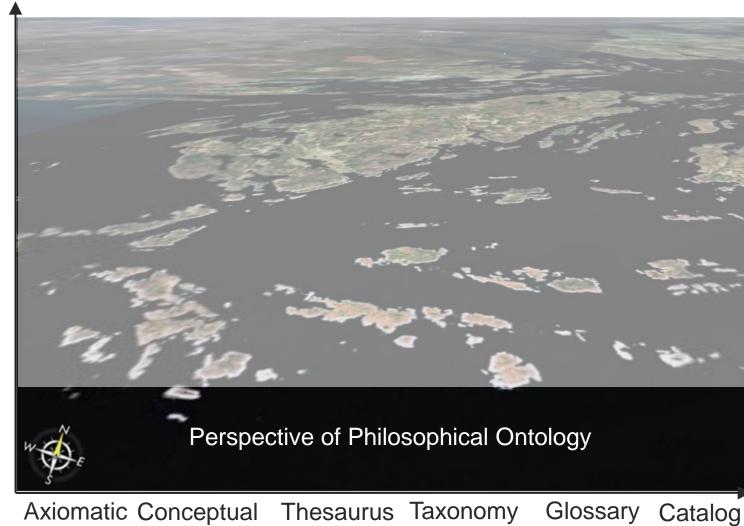
Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

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Theory

Schema



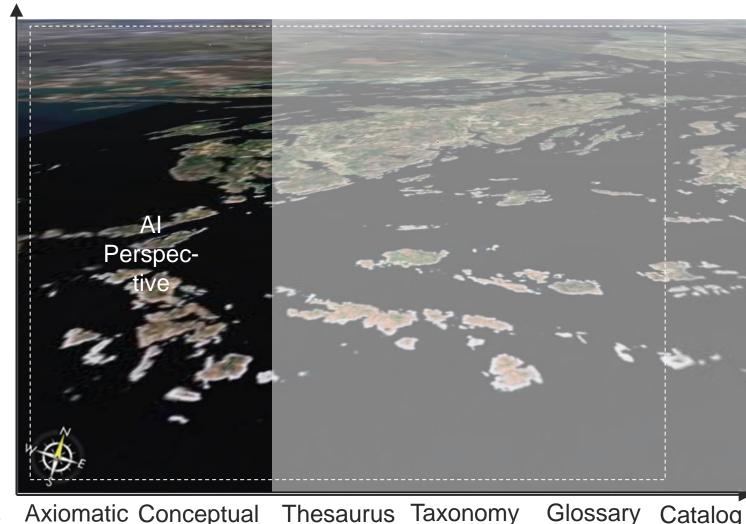
Mapping the space of Ontology: **Notions of Ontology**

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy Glossary

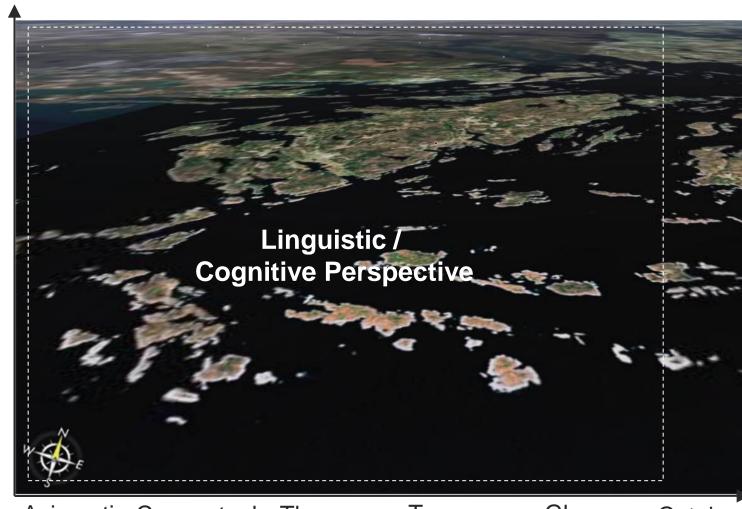
Mapping the space of Ontology: Notions of Ontology

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities

Gunnar Klein & Barry Smith: ontology.buffalo.edu/concepts/ ConceptsandOntologies



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

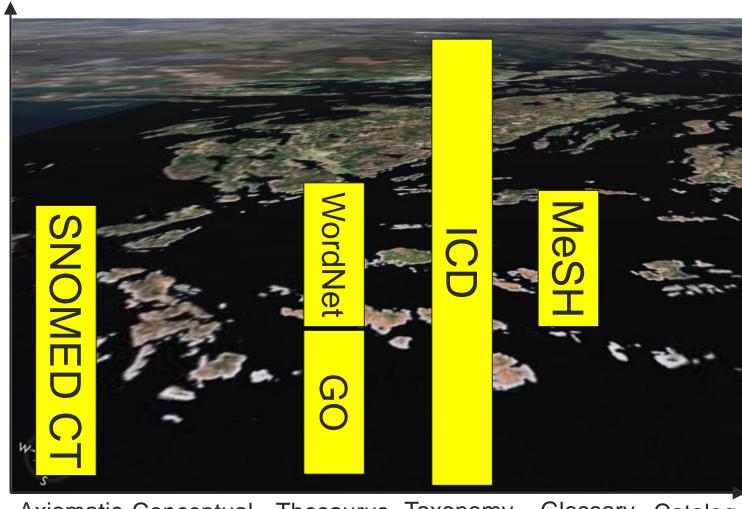
Thesaurus Taxonomy Glossary Catalo

Mapping the space of Ontology: Biomedical Vocabularies

Representation of arbitrary propositions

Representation of term meanings

Representation restricted to real world entities



Axiomatic Conceptual Theory Schema

Thesaurus Taxonomy

Glossary Cata

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Don't mix up universals (Concepts, Classes) with individuals (Instances)



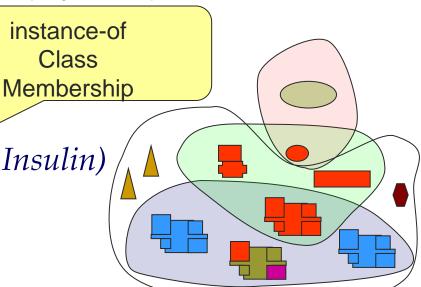
- subclass-of (Motor New Yon, Neuron) (FMA, OpenGALEN)
- is-a (Motor Neuron, Neuron)
- instance-of (Motor Neuron, Neuron) (FlyBase)

But:

- instance-of (my Hand, Hand)
- instance-of (this amount of insulin, Insulin)
- instance-of (Germany, Country)
- not: instance of (Heart, Organ)
- *not*: instance of (Insulin, Protein)

is-a = subclass-of:

Taxonomic Subsumption



Don't use superclasses to express roles

- is-a (Fish, Animal)
- is-a (Fish, Food) ??

- is-a (Acetylsalicylic Acid, Salicylate)
- is-a (Acetylsalicylic Acid, Analgetic Drug) ??

Be aware of the "rigidity" of classes

Partition the ontology by principled upper level categories

Example: DOLCE's Upper Ontology

```
Endurant (Continuant)
                                      Quality
       Physical
                                              Physical Qualities
                                                      Spatial location
                Amount of matter
                Physical object
                                              Temporal Qualities
               Feature
       Non-Physical
                                                      Temporal location
               Mental object
                Social object
                                              Abstract Qualities
Perdurant (Occurrent)
       Static
                                      Abstract
                                              Quality region
               State
                                                      Time region
               Process
                                                      Space region
       Dynamic
                Achievement
                                                      Color region
                Accomplishment
                                                        Source: S. Borgo ISTC-CNR
```

Be aware of ambiguities

- "Institution" (NCIT) may refer to
 - 1. (abstract) institutional rules
 - 2. (concrete) things instituted
 - act of instituting sth.
- "Tumor"
 - evolution of a tumor as a disease process
 - 2. having a tumor as a pathological state
 - 3. tumor as a physical object
- "Gene"
 - 1. a (physical) sequence of nucleotides on a DNA chain
 - 2. a collection of (1)
 - 3. A piece of information conveyed by (1)

Use semantically precise Basic Relations

First version of the OBO Relation Ontology

Foundational relations

is_a

part_of

Spatial relations (connecting one entity to another in terms of relations between the spatial regions they occupy)

located_in

contained_in

adjacent_to

Temporal relations (connecting entities existing at different times)

transformation of

derives from

preceded_by

Participation relations (connecting processes to their bearers)

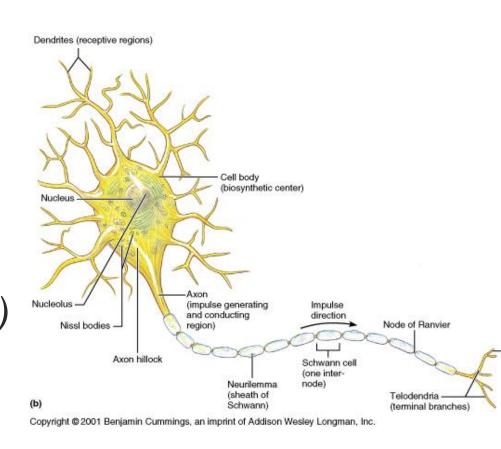
has_participant

has_agent

Barry Smith, Werner Ceusters, Bert Klagges, Jacob Köhler, Anand Kumar, Jane Lomax, Chris Mungall, Fabian Neuhaus, Alan L Rector and Cornelius Rosse. Relations in biomedical ontologies. *Genome Biology*, 6(5), 2005.

Nontaxonomic Relations between Classes are ambiguous!

- has-part(Cell, Axon)(Gene Ontology)
 - Do cells without axons exist?
 - Do axons without cells exist?
- has-part(Neuron, Axon)(FMA)
 - Does every neuron has an axon?



Nontaxonomic Relations between Classes are ambiguous!

A, B are classes, inst-of = class membership rel: relation between instances Rel: relation between classes

Rel
$$(A, B) =_{def}$$

 $\exists x: inst-of(x, A) \land inst-of(y, B) \land rel(x, y)$ **OR**
 $\forall x: inst-of(x, A) \rightarrow \exists y: inst-of(y, B) \land rel(x, y)$ **OR**

 $\forall x: inst-of(x, A) \rightarrow \exists y: inst-of(y, B) \land rel(x, y) \land AND$ $\forall y: inst-of(y, B) \rightarrow \exists x: inst-of(x, A) \land rel(x, y)$

Nontaxonomic Relations between Classes are ambiguous!

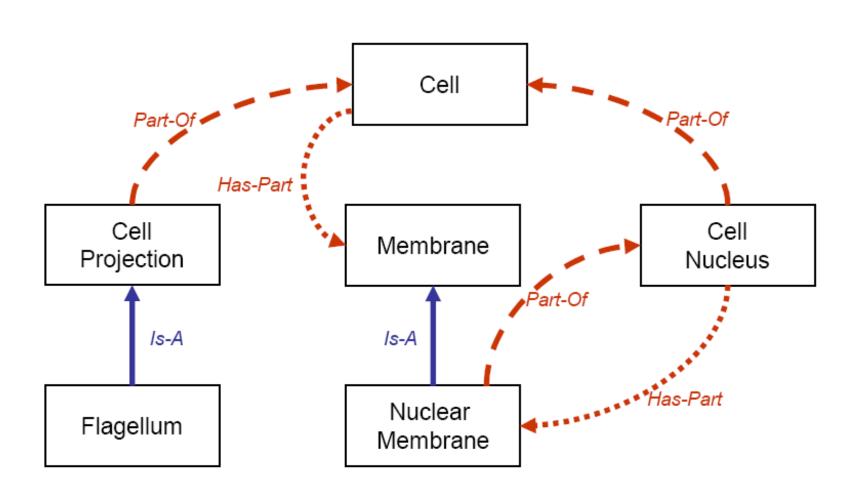
A, B are classes, inst-of = class membership rel: relation between instances Rel: relation between classes

Rel
$$(A, B) =_{def}$$

 $\exists x: inst-of(x, A) \land inst-of(y, B) \land rel(x, y)$ OR
 $\forall x: inst-of(x, A) \rightarrow \exists y: inst-of(y, B) \land rel(x, y)$ OR

 $\forall x: inst-of(x, A) \rightarrow \exists y: inst-of(y, B) \land rel(x, y)$ **AND** $\forall y: inst-of(y, B) \rightarrow \exists x: inst-of(x, A) \land rel(x, y)$

Example: Part-of and Has-Part between Classes



MediLOG: Ontology activities

- Three EU projects
 - SemanticMining: Semantic Interoperability and Data Mining in Biomedicine
 - @neurist: Integrated decision support system to assess the risk of aneurysm rupture in patients and to optimize their treatments.
 - BootSTREP: Integration of biological fact databases and terminological repositories to implement a text analysis system which continuously increases their coverage by analyzing biological documents.

Health statistics



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SemanticMining - A Network of Excellence in the Field of **Biomedical Informatics**

by Hans Ahlfeldt

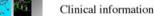
The objective of the Network of Excellence entitled Semantic Interoperability and Data Mining in Biomedicine [SemanticMning] funded by the European Sixth Framework Programme, is to establish Europe as the international scientific leader in medical and biomedical informatics.

The long-term goal of the network will be the development of generic methods and tools supporting the critical tasks of the field; data mining, knowledge discovery, knowledge representation, abstraction and indexing of information, semantic-based information retrieval in a complex and high-dimensional information space, and knowledge-based adaptive systems for provision of decision support for dissemination of evidence based medicine.

The general objective of a Network of Excellence (NoE) is to bridge gaps in the European research infrastructure and to facilitate cross-fertilisation between scientific disciplines. Traditionally academic departments in the domain have their roots either in computer science, system engineering (including a variety of engineering disciplines) or in a medical or clinical context. The proposed network is composed of partners from these scientific areas, all bringing their experience and in-depths knowledge together into a common framework. An important aspect of this is the merging of medical or clinical informatics and bioinformatics including the new fields of genomics and proteomics.

Another bridging activity addressed by this NoE is knowledge transfer and co-operation between academia and organisations and SMEs in the health and welfare sector, including standardisation bodies and the different public and private institutions involved in health care delivery and management. The national institutes and organisations responsible for policy making and quality management with a regulatory and normative function will have an important role to play in the network. We believe that co-operation between these organisations and those involved in research departments needs to be strengthen, both in the early phase of research programme identification and in the later phases of implementation and large-scale evaluation of results and impact. The bridging activities between different levels of the health care system are exemplified in the figure.





Bioinformatics

The network addresses research issues on three levels; on the preclinical level of bioinformatics (functional genomics, proteomics etc.), on the clinical level of primary and secondary health care (hospital information systems, electronic health records etc.), and on the level of health statistics (population-based statistics, epidemiological surveying etc.). The identified areas of research share the basic problem of semantic interoperability, which means that semantics is preserved in

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

- Summary
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- Benefits

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

- · @neuLink
- @neuFuse
- · @neuRisk
- @neuEndo
- @neuInfo
- @neuCompute

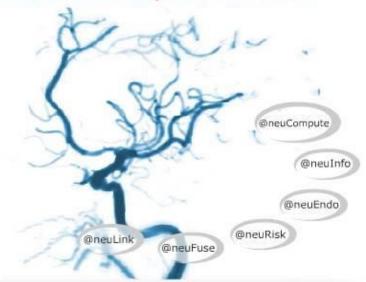
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Welcome to @neurIST, a European initiative to integrate biomedical informatics in the management of cerebral aneurysms



LATEST NEWS

- @neurIST website officially launched (July 7, 2006)
- ANSYS officially announced joining european @neurIST project (June 15, 2006) [+]
- An outstanding project: @neurIST, published in Pulsations (June 2006) [+]
- @neurlST Project Board meets in Bonn (May 31, 2006)
- More News [+]



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Intern







BOOTStrep (Bootstrapping Of Ontologies and Terminologies STrategic REsearch Project) is funded in the EC's 6th Framework Programme. The project will pull together already existing biological fact databases as well as various terminological repositories and implement a text analysis system which continuously increases their coverage by analysing biological documents.

Impact

Biological knowledge, up until now, is scattered in heterogeneous database formats and locked in unstructured natural language documents. The intended integration of biological knowledge in a homogeneous conceptual framework will ease access to this fragmented knowledge and substantially increase its usability for R & D purposes, e.g., in the European bio-tech and pharmaceutical industry.

BOOTStrep's main innovations

Knowledge integration and reuse in the biology domain are the main goals of the BOOTStrep project. The resources and text mining tools developed within the project are expected to boost the performance in various bio application tasks. In particular, BOOTStrep aims at:

- exploiting already existing terminological resources (thesauri, classification systems, etc.) and combining them within a common, standardized conceptual
 representation framework,. Based on this domain-specific background knowledge advanced natural language technologies are employed for the analysis of biological
 documents in order to fill conceptual gaps in these resources by automatically acquiring new terms, concepts and relations,
- creating, incrementally maintaining and continuously updating a repository of biological facts based on employing a comprehensive bio-lexicon and a standards-based formal bio-ontology for text analysis. Facts are extracted from biological documents in a fully automatic way, they are subsequently filtered and validated for novelty, redundancy, contradiction, etc.,
- developing resources and resource-building NLP tools for text-based knowledge harvesting in order to support information extraction and text mining in the biology domain.
- · allowing multilingual public access to continuously updated and validated biological fact repositories.

Administrative details

BOOTStrep (FP6 - 028099) is a Specific Targeted Research Project (STREP) of the European Union's 6th Framework Programme, Thematic Priority 2 (Information Society Technologies) within the fourth call of the programme. It addresses the strategic objective "Semantic-based Knowledge and Content Systems".

The project started on April 1, 2006 and will end on March 21, 2009. The overall budget is 3.6 million euro. Six partners from four European countries (Cormany, U.K., Ital

The project started on April 1, 2006 and will end on March 31, 2009. The overall budget is 3.6 million euro. Six partners from four European countries (Germany, U.K., Italy, France) and one Asian partner from Singapore are involved in the project.

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