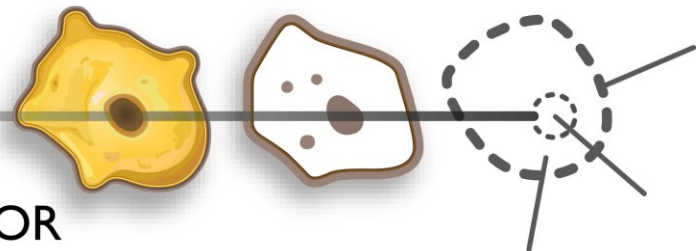


Biomedical Metamodels

Mark A. Musen
Stanford University



NATIONAL CENTER FOR

BIOMEDICAL ONTOLOGY

Nucleic Acids Research

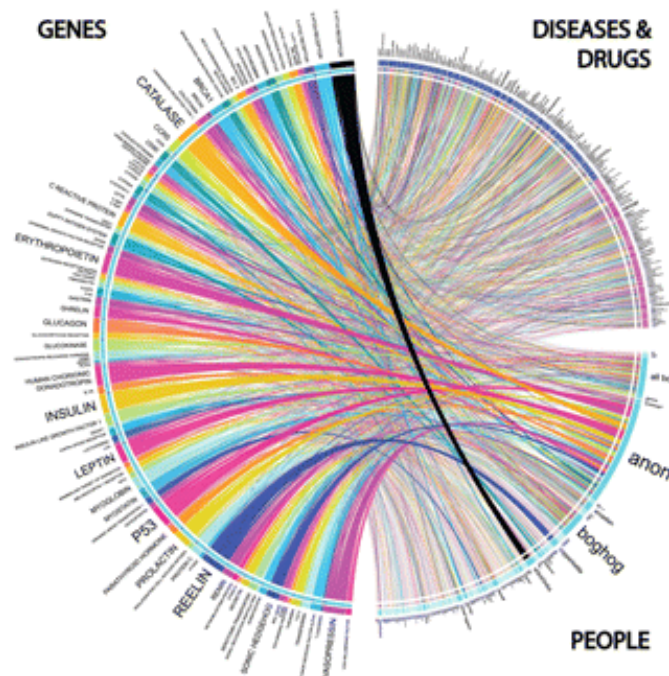
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Cover image



January 2012 40 (D1)

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Cover: Network of genes, concepts and people in the Gene Wiki. The left side of this diagram depicts 100 of the most well-developed articles on human genes in Wikipedia.

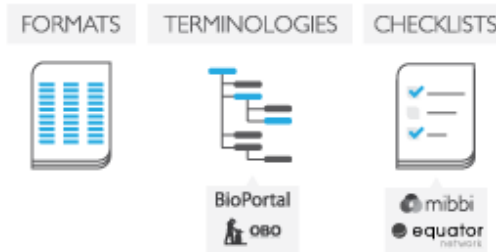
BioSharing Initiative attempts to provide a path through all the data—and all the metadata

POLICIES



A catalogue of data preservation, management and sharing policies from international funding agencies and regulators.

STANDARDS



A catalogue of reporting standards (minimum reporting guidelines, exchange formats and terminologies) and organizations that develop these.

DATABASES



A catalogue of databases, described according to the BioDBcore guidelines, along with the standards used within them; compiled in collaboration with NAR Database.

<http://biosharing.org>

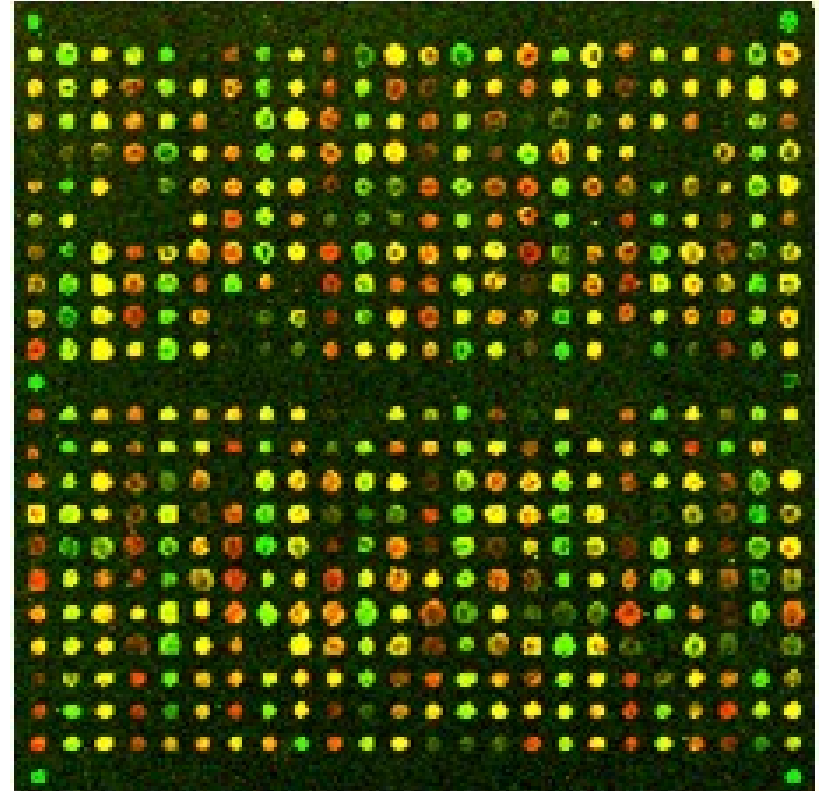
BioDBcore: Uniform descriptors of public biological databases

- Grass-roots effort to develop community-defined descriptions of the core attributes of biomedical databases
- Overseen by the International Society for Biocuration
- Goals are to
 - Overview the landscape of online data resources
 - Encourage consistency and interoperability
 - Promote use of standards



Microarrays produce tons of gene expression data

- Genes are expressed at different levels in different cells and tissues at different times
- Microarrays bind to specific nucleotide sequences expressed in cells
- Result: Vast amounts of gene-expression data



DNA Microarray

Minimum Information About a Microarray Experiment (MIAME)

- Just a checklist
- At level of detail of what is required in a journal article
- Does not commit to any particular format to enable computational validation or analysis of entries
- Adopted by Gene Expression Omnibus, ArrayExpress and other online databases

Moving beyond checklists

- The Functional Genomics Data Society (formerly the Microarray Gene Expression Data Society; MGED) was founded as the grass-roots effort that created MIAME
- The MicroArray Gene Expression (MAGE) initiative led to
 - **MAGE-ML**: An XML-based markup language
 - **MAGE-TAB**: An Excel-based version of MAGE-ML
 - **MAGE-OM**: A UML-based object language that informs all tags in MAGE-ML
 - **MGED Ontology**: An OWL-based ontology to provide standardized data values of MAGE-OM classes



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MIBBI portal

- [Registration form](#) for the MIBBI Portal (please return to [christftaylor\[@\]gmail.com](mailto:christftaylor@gmail.com))
- [Summary spreadsheet](#) of all registered projects
- [XML document](#) containing all registered projects (from [this schema](#), same information as the Excel spreadsheet)

Bioscience projects registered with MIBBI

CIMR	Core Information for M etabolomics R eporting
GIATE	Guidelines for Information A bout T herapy E xperiments
MIABE	Minimal Information A bout a B ioactive E ntity
MIABIE	Minimum Information A bout a B iofilm E xperiment
MIACA	Minimal Information A bout a C ellular A ssay
MIAME	Minimum Information A bout a M icroarray E xperiment
MIAPA	Minimum Information A bout a P hylogenetic A nalysis
MIAPAR	Minimum Information A bout a P rotein A ffinity R eagent
MIAPE	Minimum Information A bout a P roteomics E xperiment
MIAPepAE	Minimum Information A bout a P eptide A rray E xperiment
MIARE	Minimum Information A bout a R NAi E xperiment
MIASE	Minimum Information A bout a S imulation E xperiment
MIASPPE	Minimum Information A bout S ample P reparation for a P hosphoproteomics E xperiment
MIATA	Minimum Information A bout T Cell A ssays
MICEE	Minimum Information about a C ardiac E lectrophysiology E xperiment

The HL7 Organization

- ANSI-accredited Standards Development Organization for healthcare applications
- Initial work was applications-layer communication model for data interchange among HIS components
- Current work focuses on
 - Decision support (e.g., Arden Syntax, “Infobuttons”)
 - Enterprise modeling (e.g., Reference Information Model)
 - Clinical Document Architecture, Continuity of Care Documents
 - Clinical terminology



HL7 Version 2 Messaging Standard

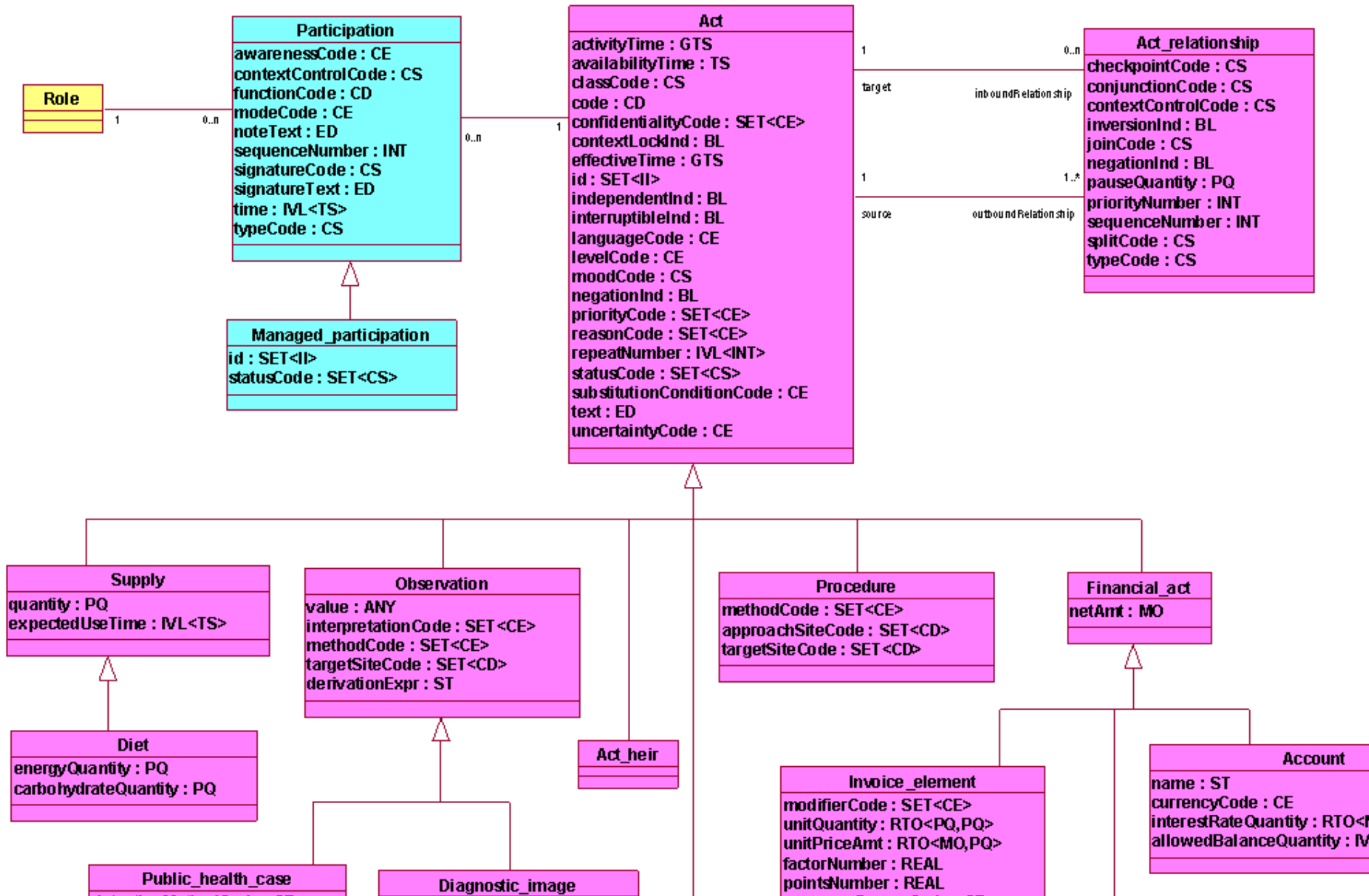
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D||56782445^^^UReg^PI||KLEINSAMPLE^BARRY^Q^JR||19620910|M||2028-
9^^HL70005^RA99113^^XYZ|260 GOODWIN CREST DRIVE^^BIRMINGHAM^AL^35
209^^M~NICKELL'S PICKLES^10000 W 100TH AVE^BIRMINGHAM^AL^35200^^O
|||||0105I30001^^^99DEF^AN PV1|||W^389^1^UABH^^^3||||12345^MORGAN^R
EX^J^^^MD^0010^UAMC^L||678
90^GRAINGER^LUCY^X^^^MD^0010^UAMC^L|MED||||A0||13579^POTTER^SHER
MAN^T^^^MD^0010^UAMC^L||||||||||||||||||||||200605290900 OBX|1|NM|
^Body Height||1.80|m^Meter^ISO+||||F OBX|2|NM|^Body
Weight||79|kg^Kilogram^ISO+||||F AL1|1|^ASPIRIN DG1|1||786.50^CHEST PAIN,
UNSPECIFIED^I9|||A

HL7 Version 3 Stated Goals

- Apply best practices of software engineering — a model-based methodology
- Adopt three semantic foundations
 1. A reference information model
 2. A robust set of data types
 3. A complete, carefully selected set of terminology domains
- Require all HL7 Version 3 standards to draw from these three common resources



HL-7 Reference Information Model (RIM)



The HL7 Response to v3 Woes

- Instituted the “Fresh Look” task force in January 2011
- New work on Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources (FHIR)
 - Still based on Version 3 RIM
 - Adopts “80/20” rule in attempt to simplify things
 - Goal is to make life simpler for implementers, rather than for modelers
 - A modular approach, based on XML

Clinical Document Architecture (CDA)

- First HL7 standard based on the RIM
- XML-based language for marking up narrative clinical reports
- Allows document text to be marked up with terms from the RIM and from controlled terminologies
- Facilitates exchange of clinical documents within and between health-care organizations

Continuity of Care Documents

- CCDs use a refinement of the CDA model that incorporates ideas from yet another standard— ASTM's Continuity of Care Record (CCR)
- CCD is also an HL7 standard
- Many HIEs use CCDs, as does Microsoft HealthVault
- ONCHIT promotes use of CCD model

REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT
REALIZING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF
HEALTH INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE
FOR AMERICANS:
THE PATH FORWARD

Executive Office of the President
President's Council of Advisors
on Science and Technology

PCAST Major Conclusions

- “Meaningful use” criteria are necessary first steps
- There must be accelerated progress toward “robust exchange of health information”
- There should be a “universal exchange language” to enable data sharing and an IT infrastructure to support data sharing
- All of this is technologically feasible
- ONC needs to move rapidly in this area

Conclusions

- Metadata initiatives in biomedicine reflect the practical problems of the data deluge
- In the life sciences, there are significant initiatives driven by groups of scientists at the grass roots
- In the clinical area, the principal driving forces have been IT vendors (HL7) and government (CMS, ONC)
- Metadata solutions in biomedicine have at best incomplete penetrance
- Many metadata solutions have been met by open hostility