

Big Data and AI Modeling for Drug Discovery

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Drug research and development has turned out to be a very complex process that tackles many challenges, especially in clinical studies due to high churn rate. With the evolution of use of **Artificial Intelligence**, in particular of **deep learning** in this case, a certain improvement was noticed in regard to advancements in rational drug discovery.

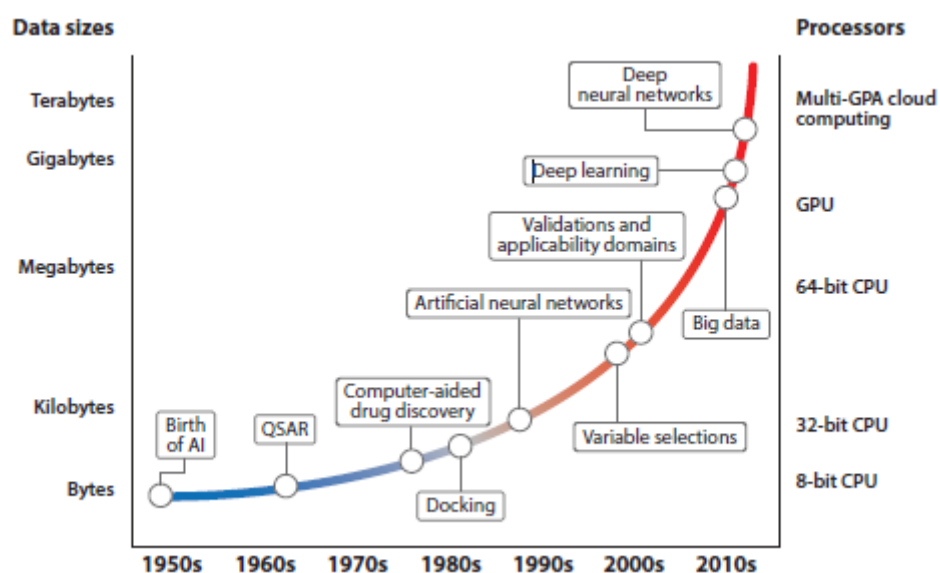
Even though revolutionizing of drug discovery was backed by the use of **Big Data**, the managing of vast data on compounds, targets, mechanisms, interactions and toxicity, that is generated by notable databases, such as **PubChem**, **ChEMBL**, **DrugBank**, **DrugMatrix**, and **BindingDB**, has arisen many difficulties. However, the adoption of cutting-edge hardware techniques as **cloud computation** and **GPUs** was imposed as solution to processing and analyzing these enormous data.

Among other issues generated by using big data for drug discoveries the fact that there are oftentimes **missing pieces of information**, which can cause **biased results** and therefore a disproportion of **active** and **inactive responses**¹. For example, well-known drugs like acetaminophen and aspirin show different numbers of effective and ineffective outcomes. In the past, in order to tackle the missing data issue, a singular solution was proposed for each test. Nonetheless, for handling such complex data, **advanced methods** are necessary, such

¹ **active** and **inactive responses** indicates that the tested drug or compound has demonstrated a desired (for active) and non-desired (for inactive) effect or activity.

as **machine learning** before-mentioned, particularly the recent advancements in **deep learning**, which helps to adjust the data to balance positive and negative results.

The following photo shows the **historical progression of artificial intelligence (AI) in drug discovery**, from early machine learning techniques to the emergence of deep learning in the 2010s.



There are other areas of computational modeling that use AI for drug discovery, such as **Rational Nanomaterials Design** that involves nanotechnology for drug delivery and the use of AI in modeling nanoparticle interactions. In terms of **Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)**, AI is used in clinical diagnoses and drug discovery, by recognizing molecular features and predicting cancer outcomes. Moreover, in the domain of **Personalized Medicine**, there is a significant importance of computational modeling's role in drug-target predictions and supporting precision medicine initiatives.