# Investigating Ontology Use in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for Biomedical Research

- A Preliminary Report from A Comprehensive Literature Review

Asiyah Yu Lin. ROBI workshop Sep. 25, 2022

## Acknowledgement

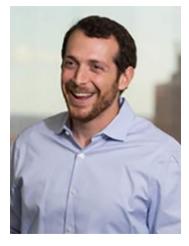
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The NIH ODSS DATA Scholar Program



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Machine learning, Artificial Intelligence, and Big Data in biomedical research

## Motivation



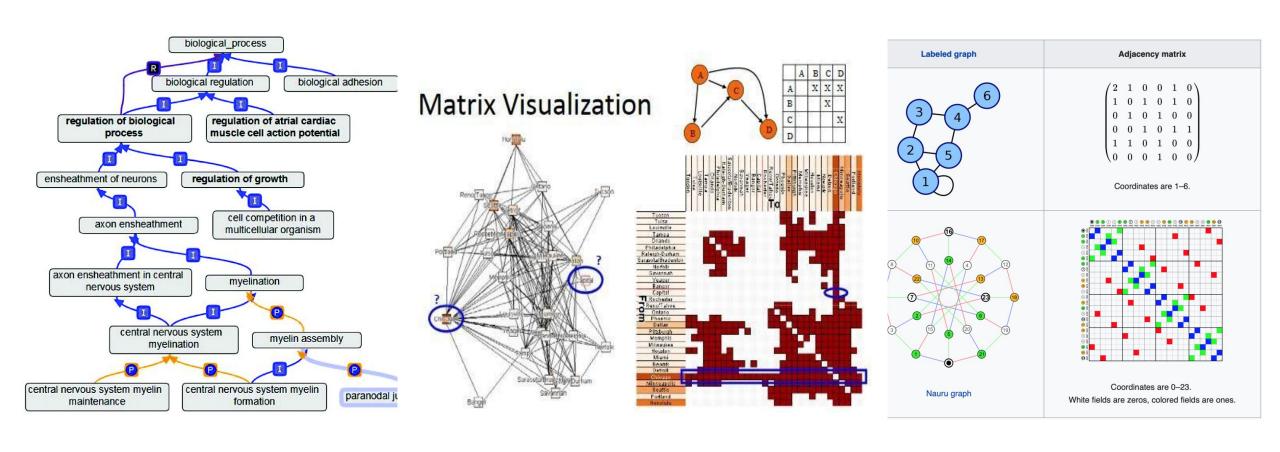
Founders and investors interest



Can mathematically grounded machine learn from semantically grounded ontologies? And how?

#### **Gene Ontology**

## Matrix, graph theory, and visualization



<sup>•</sup>https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/emerging-landscape-distributed-knowledge-ontology-semantic-figay/

#### Literature Review Method

Question: How was ontology used in AI/ML to solve biomedical problems?

• Database: PubMed Central

• Cut-off date: 9/4/2022



• **Filter**: within 5 years (2017-2022)

Search strategy:

"ontology" AND ("machine learning" OR "artificial intelligence" OR "deep learning" OR "neural network" OR "embedding") in Title and Abstract

- Result: 503 articles retrieved (ordered by relevance)
- Screening result: 108 papers included in this study.

# Highlights of the 6 Findings

- 1. The papers published shows **exponential growth** within recent 5 years, and it will continue growing.
- 2. The researchers in this field are **isolated** and separated in different countries:USA, China, Saudi&UK, Dr. Rob Hoehndorf is a hub, however within a niche of Saudi and UK group.

3. Gene Ontology (GO) dominated the research (57%)! A sum of disease/condition/phenotypes related ontologies made up to

4. Most papers solves limited biological, clinical problems. Top 1: protein/gene/function prediction.

5. ML methods: Neural Network, Deep Learning, Vector (?2Vec) related methods to numericize the semantics of ontologies.

6. Ontology is used as data category for training datasets and output target label. Or methods to reduce the dimensions of semantics. Methods using full power (logic, axioms, full structure) of ontology is still lacking!

### What we concluded so far?

- •More ROBI.
- Communicate, collaborate, and generate ideas and solutions.
- Build the communities.
- •Solve the real problems!.

