Keynote: Powering Biomedical Artificial Intelligence with a Holistic Knowledge Graph

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Abstract

Biomedical AI applications increasingly rely on multi-domain and heterogeneous data, especially in areas such as personalised medicine and systems biology. Biomedical Ontologies are a golden opportunity in this area because they add meaning to the underlying data which can be used to support heterogeneous data integration, provide scientific context to the data augmenting AI performance, and afford explanatory mechanisms allowing the contextualization of AI predictions. In particular, ontologies and knowledge graphs support the computation of semantic similarity between objects, providing an understanding of why certain objects are considered similar or different. This is a basic aspect of explainability and is at the core of many machine learning applications. However, when data covers multiple domains, it may be necessary to integrate different ontologies to cover the full semantic landscape of the underlying data. The talk presented recent work on building an integrated knowledge graph that is based on the semantic annotation and interlinking of heterogeneous data into a holistic semantic landscape that supports semantic similarity assessments. The talk discussed the challenges in building the knowledge graph from public resources [1], the methodology we are using [2] and the road-ahead in biomedical ontology and knowledge graph alignment as AI becomes an integral part of biomedical research [3, 4, 5, 6].

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