

Fourth anniversary  
Gold Open Access  
in the field of AI

[Open for submissions >](#)



## Thomas Hartung & team

### Toward ToxAlcology

Slides  
available:





 **frontiers** Field Chief Editor  
in Artificial Intelligence

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in Big Data & Public Health




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 **ATCC**  **AxoSim** *insphero* **Apellis**  
Human Data, Faster.  
VP, shareholder

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 **Green Chemistry  
Advisory Panel**

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In preparation: Insilica LLC

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## Recent



## Philanthropic



...and individuals





Future Directions  
Workshop: Advancing  
the Next Scientific  
Revolution in  
Toxicology

April 28-29, 2022  
Thomas Hartung, Johns Hopkins University, University of Kentucky,  
and Georgetown University  
Ava Hansen-Akers, Columbia University  
Wolfgang Chu, Texas A&M University

Presented by  
Karin Broome, Oregon Health Division Research Corporation  
Matthew Myers, Virginia Tech Applied Research Corporation  
Shawn Scharberg, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense  
Research & Engineering, Base Research Office  
Future Directions Workshop on an  
Arlington sponsored by the Base Research Office, Office of  
the Under Secretary of Defense for Research & Engineering



Approved by the US Government (DoD and DoC Contract) (Mandatory)

# Future Directions Workshop: Advancing the Next Scientific Revolution in Toxicology

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering OUSD(R&E)

April 28-29, 2022

Arlington, VA

## Call for a Human Exposome Project, in press

Food for Thought ...

ALTEX 2023

# A Call for a Human Exposome Project



*Thomas Hartung<sup>1,2</sup>*



DATA



COMPUTING POWER

AI MODELS

Together increase  
>1 billion-fold  
over last 60 years

**Data:** +60% per year  
= 90% in last two years

**Computer:** +40% per year  
(Moore's law)

**AI:** +700% per year since 2010

**R.E.M.**

**IT'S THE END  
OF THE WORLD  
AS WE KNOW IT  
(AND I FEEL FINE)**



**WHY, SOMETIMES  
I'VE BELIEVED  
AS MANY AS  
SIX IMPOSSIBLE  
THINGS BEFORE  
BREAKFAST.**

*Lewis Carroll*

Through the Looking-Glass

1. **There is a better way to play chess**  
[2022 DeepMind: AlphaZero](#)
2. **The structure of all proteins can be predicted from gene sequence**  
[2022 DeepMind: AlphaFold](#)
3. **A computer is better than (most) lawyers**  
[2023 OpenAI: GPT-4](#)
4. **A computer exceeds computational capacity of a human brain**  
[2022 Frontier Computer exceeds 1 exaflop](#)
5. **AI can design drugs**  
[2022 – 18 AI-first drugs in clinical trials](#)
6. **AI wins art contests**  
[2022 Midjourney](#)



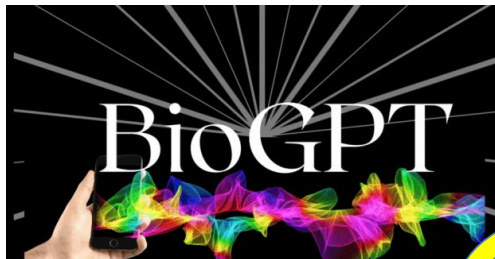


# GPT-4 VS HUMAN TESTS (APR/2023)



Selected highlights only. Percentiles; 50 refers to the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile as average, and may not be the testing average for some tests. Alan D. Thompson. April 2023. <https://life architect.ai/iq-testing-ai/>





# BioGPT and human annotator have comparable performance in biomedical research test

Selected performances on PubMedQA, which tests biomedical language processing

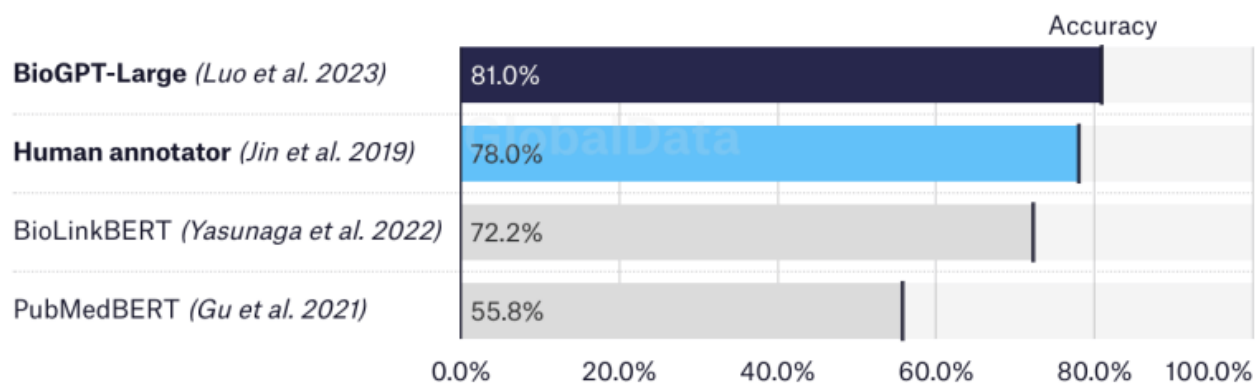
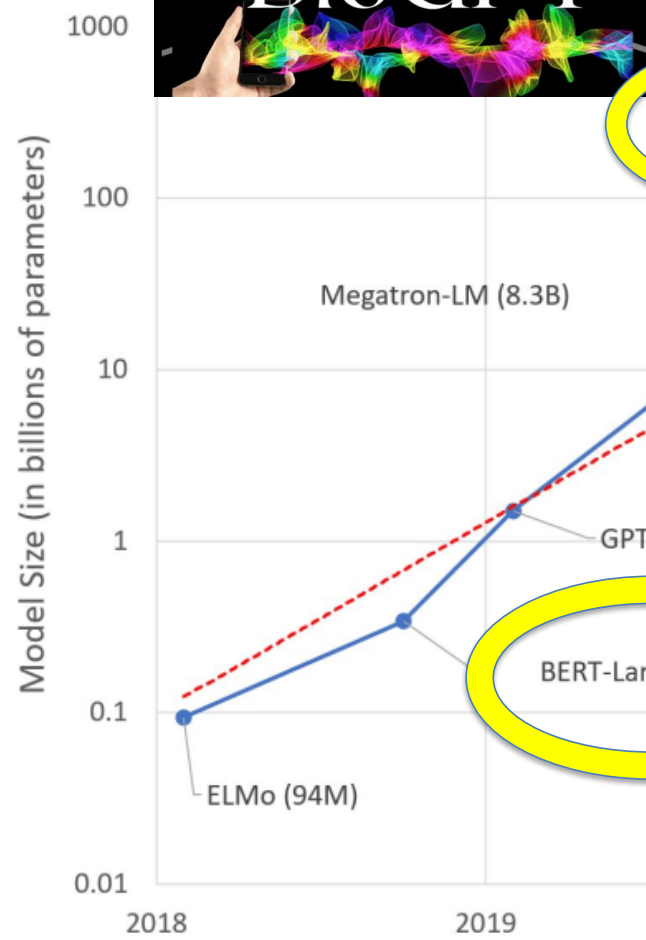
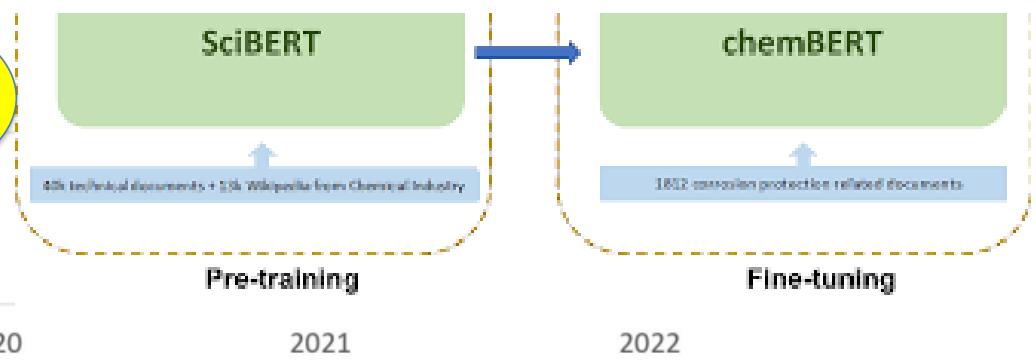


Chart: GlobalData • Source: PubMedQA



	PRE - 2020	2020	2022	2023?	2025?	2030?
TEXT	Spam detection Translation Basic Q&A	Basic copy writing First drafts	Longer form Second drafts	Vertical fine tuning gets good (scientific papers, etc)	Final drafts better than the human average	Final drafts better than professional writers
CODE	1-line auto-complete	Multi-line generation	Longer form Better accuracy	More languages More verticals	Text to product (draft)	Text to product (final), better than full-time developers
IMAGES			Art Logos	Mock-ups (product design, architecture, etc.)	Final drafts (product design, architecture, etc.)	Final drafts better than professional artists, designers, photographers)
				Second drafts	AI Roblox Video games and movies are personalized dreams	

A personal take on science and society

Nature 20 Apr 2023

# World view

## Open generative AI models are a way forward for science



By Arthur Spirling

Researchers should stop using proprietary large language models and develop transparent ones to ensure reproducibility.



be the same, or even whether the technology will still be supported? GPT-3, released last November by OpenAI in San Francisco, California, has already been supplanted by GPT-4, and presumably supporting the older LLM will soon

● Almost there    ● Ready for prime time



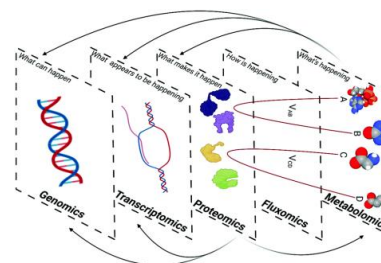
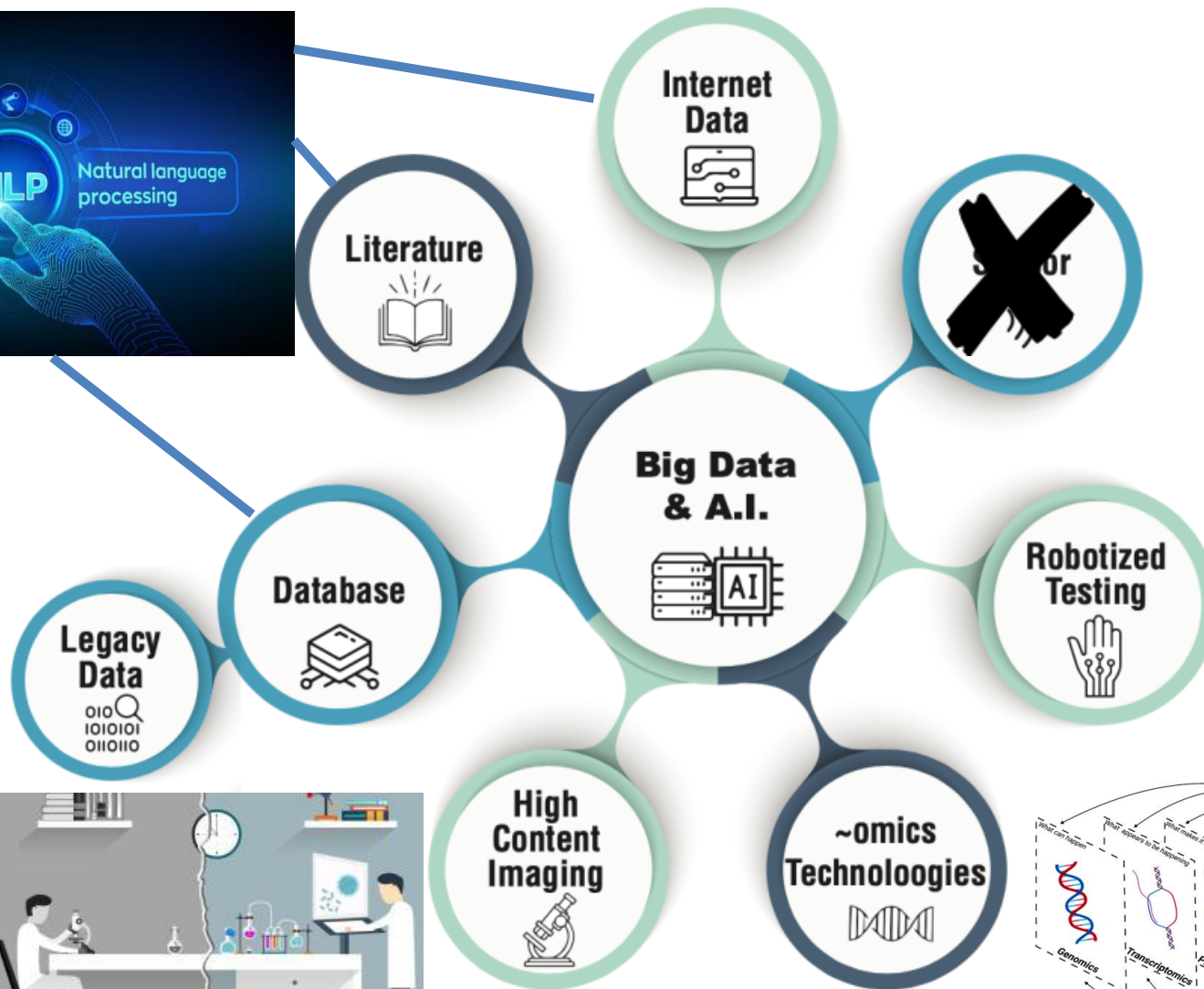
**EU ONTOX project (\$20 million, 2021-2026) to address liver, kidney and developing brain**

1. The largest toxicological database ever
2. Automatic paper selection and information extraction
3. Automatic extension of AOPs and Physiological Maps
4. Estimation of internal dose from exposure
5. Probability of hazard from chemical structure and perturbation of biology
6. Probability of risk enabling information economy

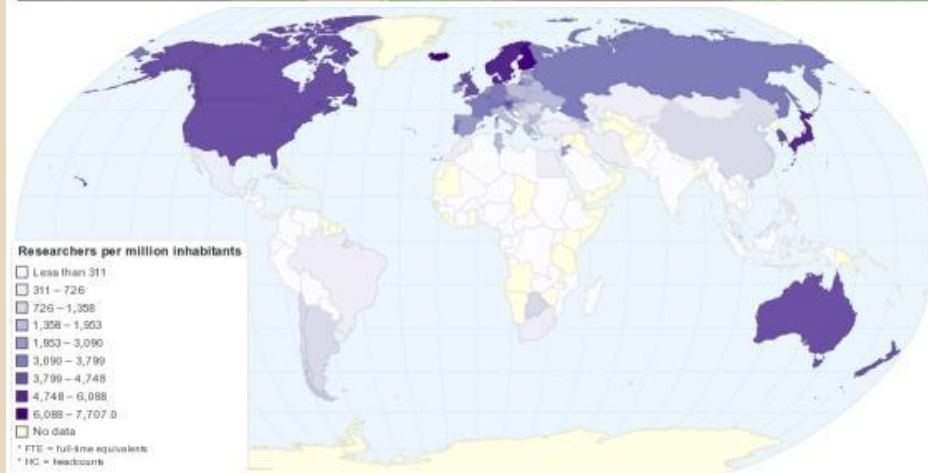
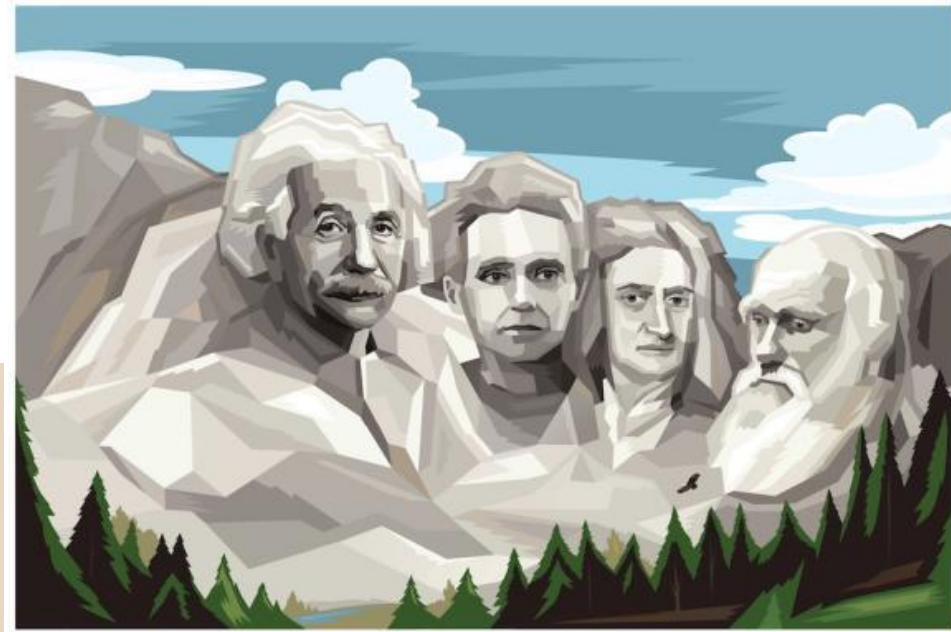
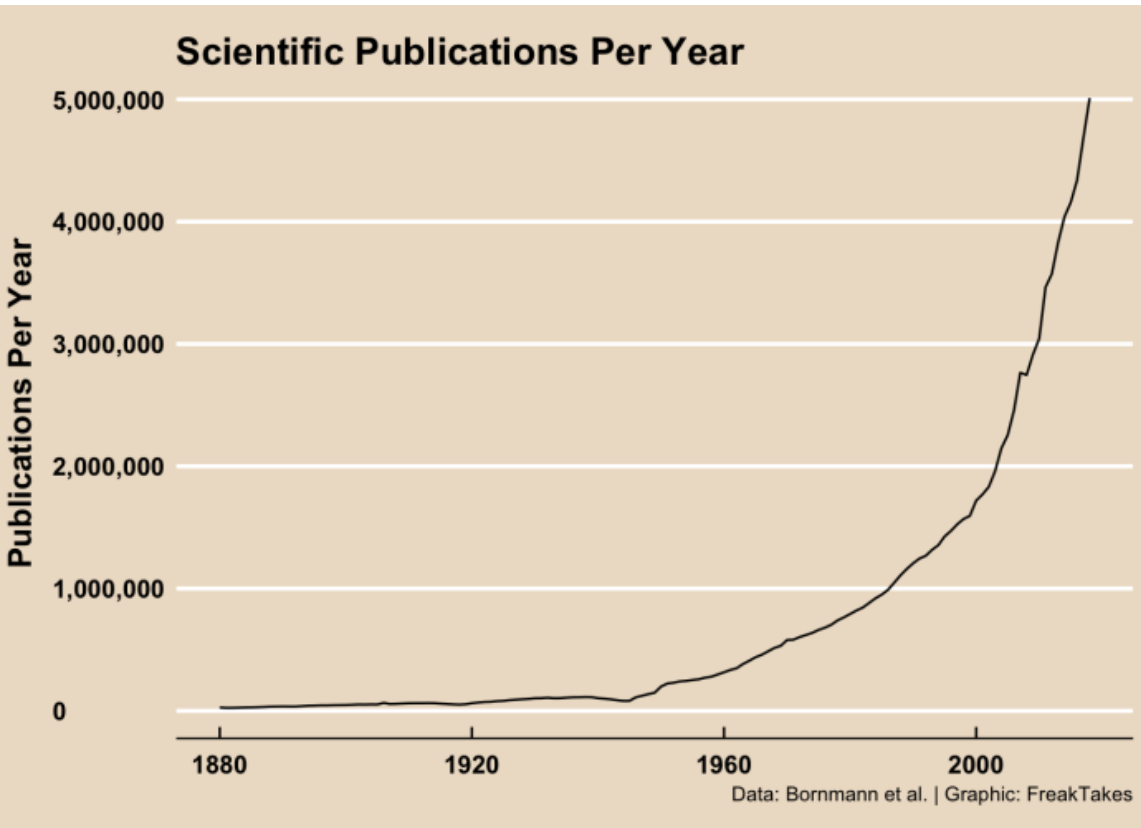


**Six impossible things  
I believe ONTOX will deliver**





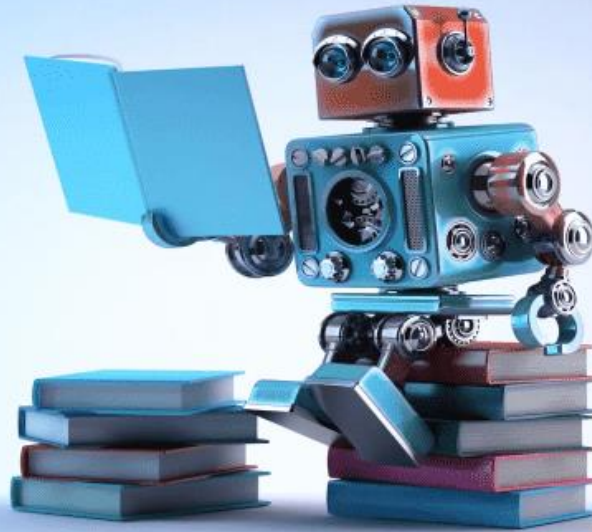
# 8.8 million researchers world-wide



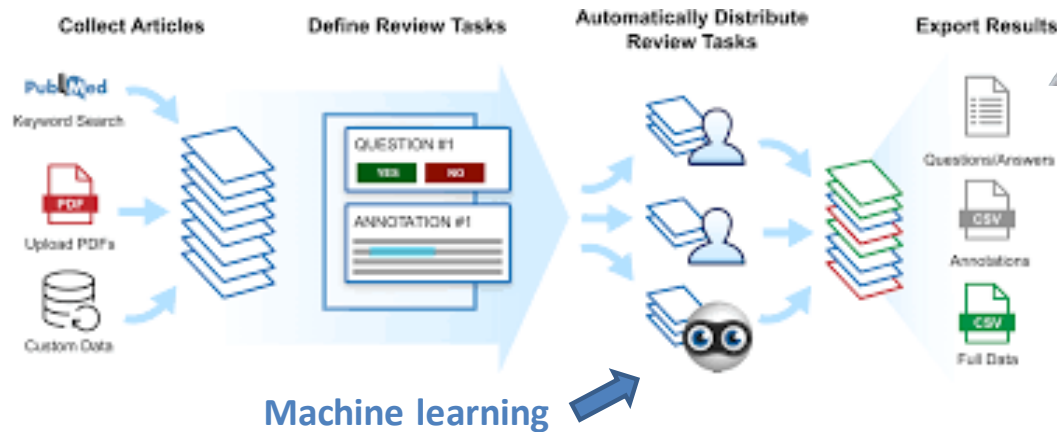
**Researchers per million inhabitants**



**Data extraction from literature, reports & databases**



# ToxTrack



## Semi-automated systematic review:

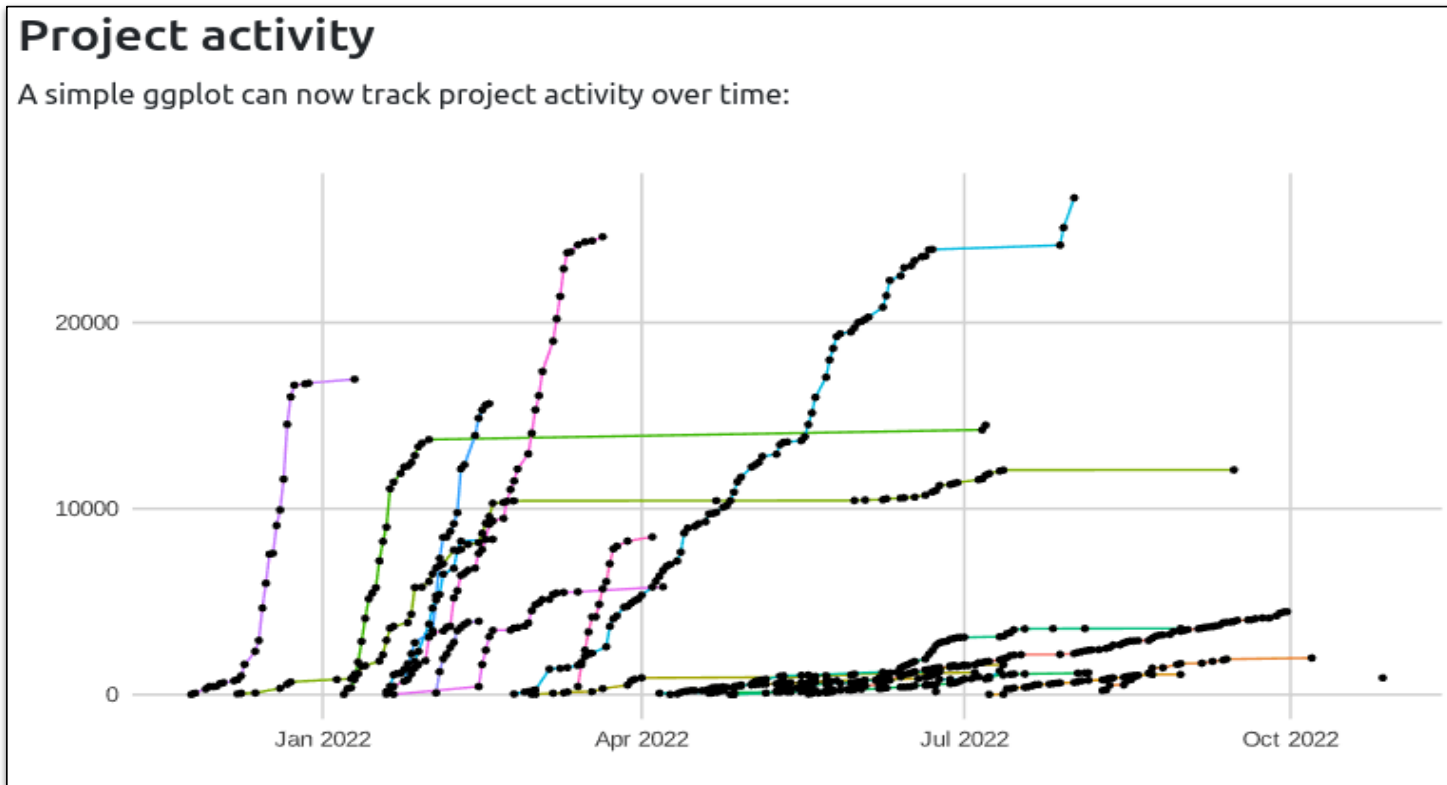
- Auto-extract /annotate papers
- Auto-analyze clustering of papers
- Learn from manual inclusion / exclusion
- Automated inclusion / exclusion suggestions
- Natural Entity Recognition & Causal Relationship Extraction
- Feed into ontologies and AI
- chatGPT -> bioGPT -> toxGPT (?)



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoUbMAvxBSZpOlqKjOkxNzQ/videos>



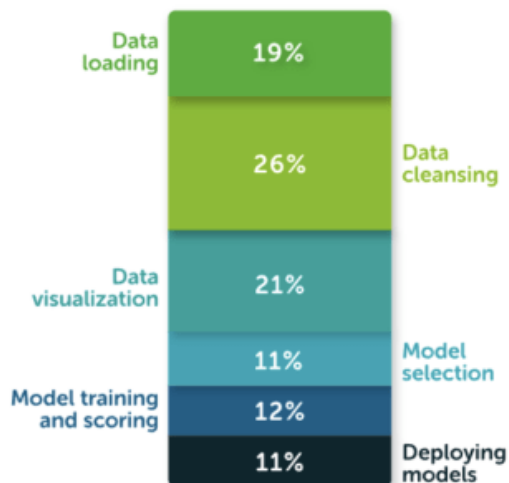
# Data Mining for Ontologies & AI



Progress Dashboard Visualization: Number of *labels* in each ONTOX project over time

THINKING ABOUT YOUR CURRENT JOB, HOW MUCH OF YOUR TIME IS SPENT IN EACH OF THE FOLLOWING TASKS?

Anaconda.com - State of Data Science 2020



45% of time of data analysts is spent loading and cleaning data

BioBricks do this with one-line command

## BioBricks.ai Faster Informatics

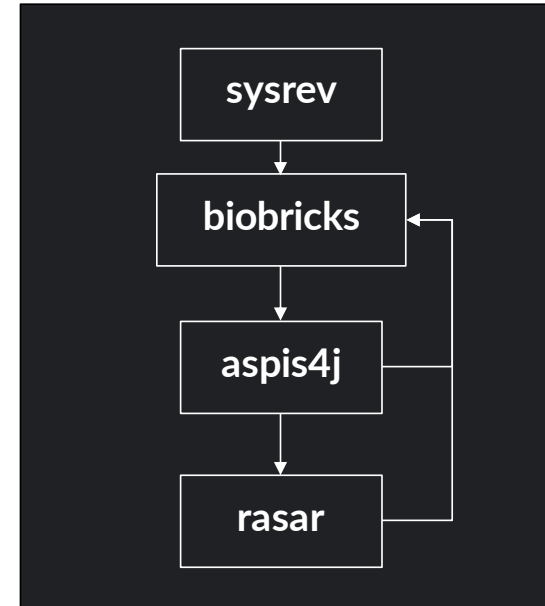
```
$ biobricks install tox21  
$ python  
>>> import biobricks, pandas  
>>> tx21 = biobricks.load('tox21')  
>>> tx21.tox21.read().load()
```

```
#      SAMPLE_ID  PROTOCOL_NAME ...      SMILES ...  
# NCGC00256074-01  tox21-ache-p3 ...      OCC(=O)OCCCC ...  
# NCGC00255047-01  tox21-ache-p3 ... Nc1ccc(cc1)C(=O)OCC ...  
# [2075022 rows x 19 columns]
```



## Establishment of a big data platform and data gap filling for integration of collected data

- **Biobricks will provide a toolset for hosting, querying, and distributing ONTOX big data.**
- **Biobricks.ai serves sysrev.com data**
- **Biobricks.ai allows brick integrations**
- **~50 BioBricks constructed to date**
- **ChemHarmony:**  
integrates chembl, pubchem, ctdbase etc.:  
200 million triplets of substance/property/result
- **Building querying functionality**
- **Public release of toxicology BioBricks**



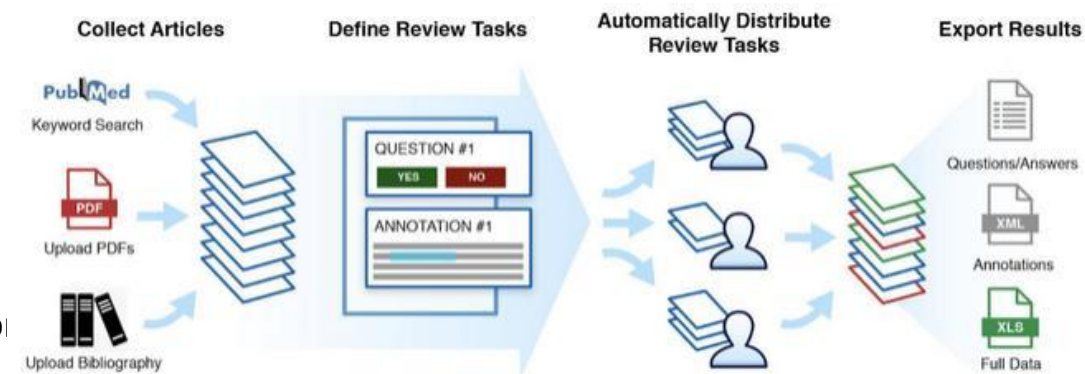
**Figure 5.1: Construction and Distribution of ONTOX Data Assets**



## Literature



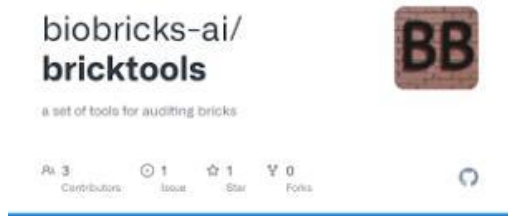
<https://www.youtube.com/c/SysRev?app=desktop>



Graphic showing the document review workflow on Sysrev.com



## Databases



<https://www.biopharmatrend.com/post/103-introducing-sysrev-the-intelligent-platform-for-document-review-and-automated-data-extraction/>



## Internet

 **Chemchart**

<http://chemchart.com>

# DATA



# Establishment of a big data platform and data gap filling for integration of collected data

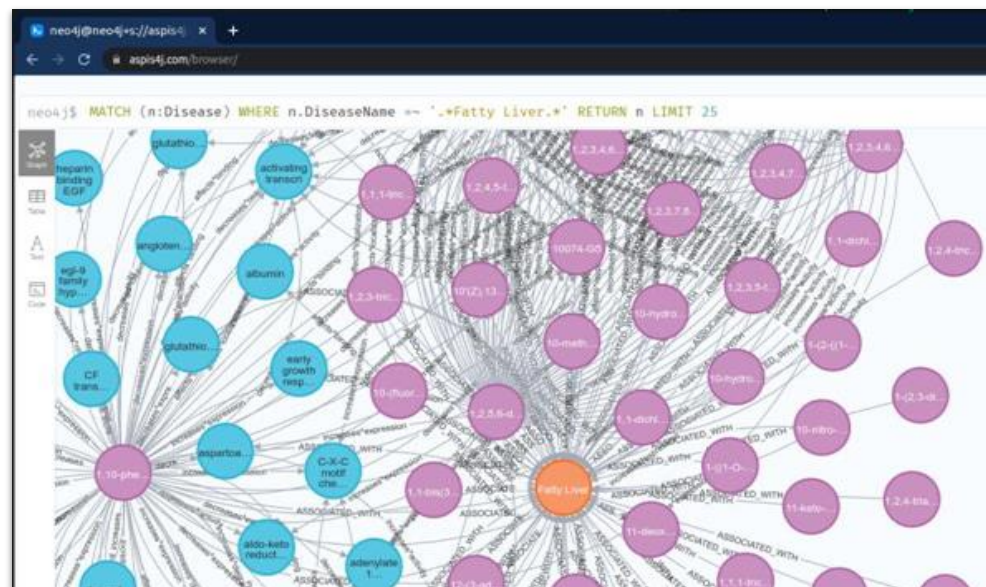


Data integration **interoperability**

**Combine Information** obtained by mining literature, public sources, and QSAR predictions

The **aspis4j database** associates chemicals, proteins, genes, diseases, pathways and other bioinformatics-based entities.

This database will be used to create 'graph embeddings' for predictive, explainable, models.



➔ **Physiological Maps**

# DATA

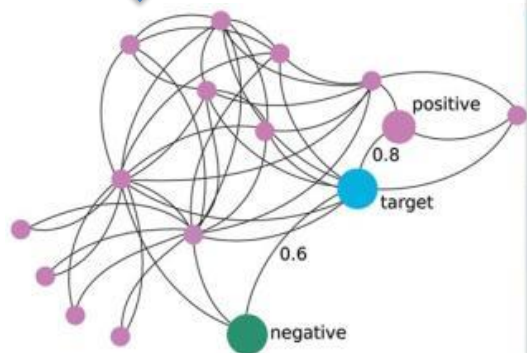
# PMDEP App

<https://youtu.be/YG0gjm&GD5K>



Systems Biology  
Markup Language

CellDesigner™



From perturbation of physiology

# Probability of hazard

RASAR  
+ QSAR



From chemical structure and properties

# Animal Replacement

**2018: Nine most used animal tests**

**AI predicted 190,000 chemicals 87% correctly**

**Animal reproducibility 81%**

**2020: Human Skin Sensitization**

**AI predicted 506 chemicals 80% correctly**

**Animal 74% correct**

**2022: Nine most used animal tests predicted by AI**

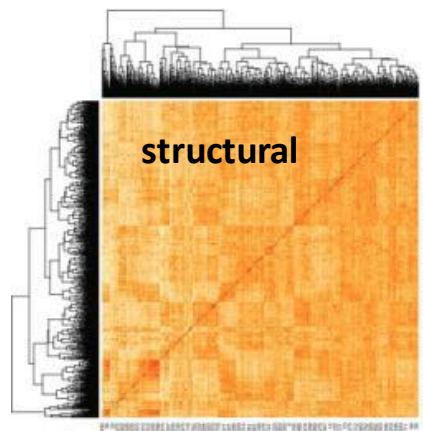
**AI predicted 4700+ food chemicals 83% correctly in 1h  
= 38,000 animal studies at \$250+ million**

**2023: Systemic toxicities**

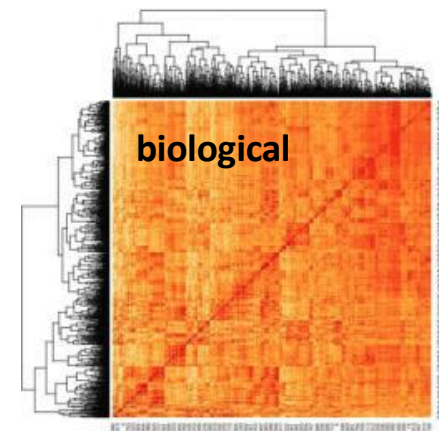
**AI predicted 75% cancer risk of 950 chemicals and 82% reproductive tox of 1152 chemicals correctly**

# Set-up and application of machine learning/deep learning approaches to predict probability of chemical hazard and potency

We can do 1 trillion comparisons per hour on a “normal” computer!

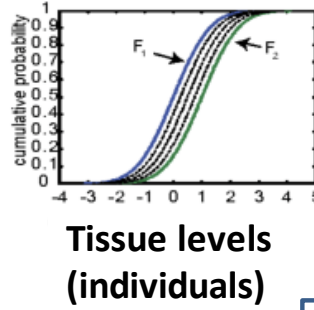
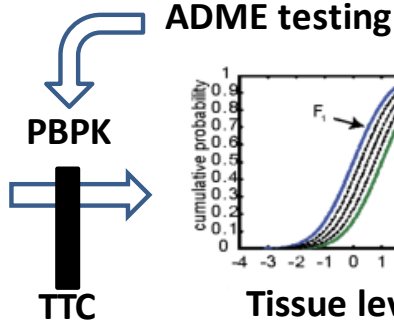
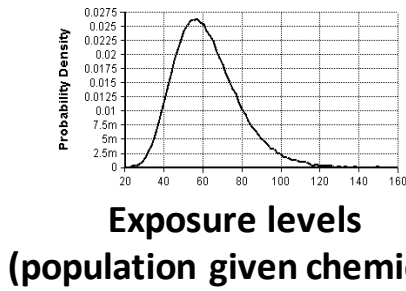


**Figure 5.2A. Similarity heatmap for chembert embeddings on 1k chembl compounds**  
Dark red = highly similar,  
White = not similar



**Figure 5.2B. Heatmap for inhibition assay supervised embedding**  
Dark red = highly similar,  
White = not similar

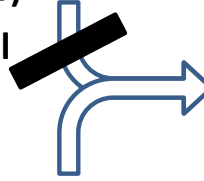




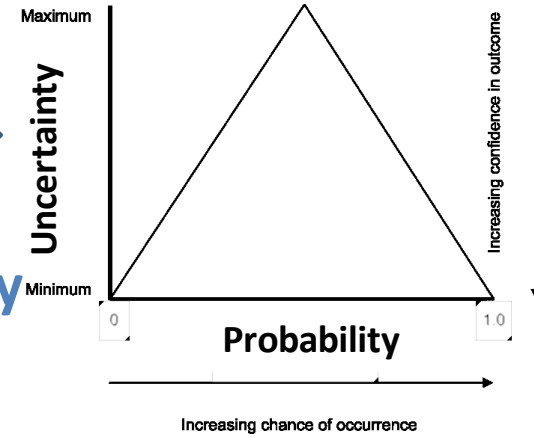
Hartung and Leist, 2008

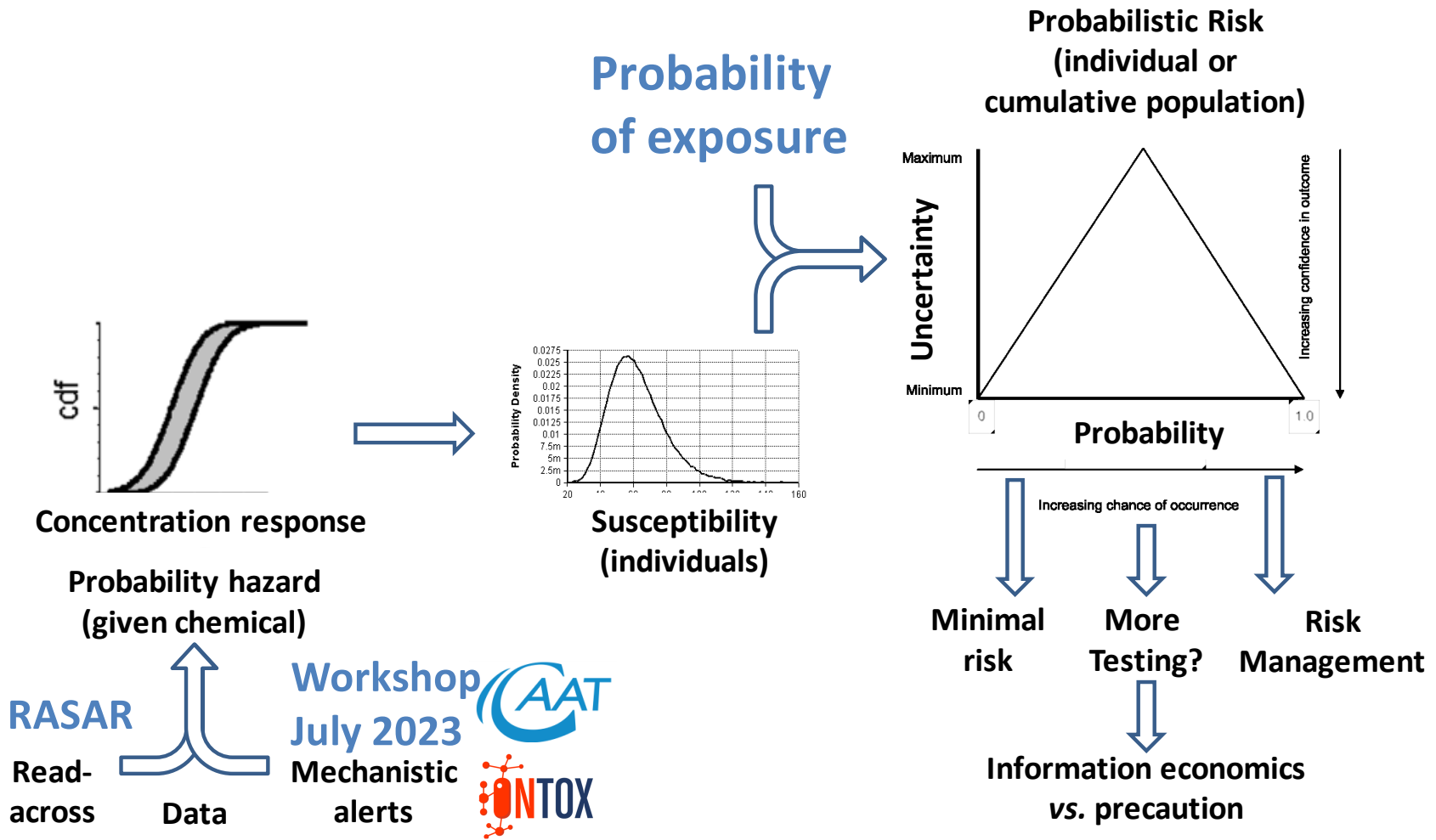
internal  
TTC

**Probability  
of hazard**



**Probabilistic Risk  
(individual or  
cumulative population)**





1. The largest toxicological database ever ✓
2. Automatic paper selection and information extraction ✓
3. Automatic extension of AOPs and Physiological Maps ✓
4. Estimation of internal dose from exposure **TBD**
5. Probability of hazard from chemical structure and perturbation of biology **TBD**
6. Probability of risk enabling information economy **TBD**



**Six impossible things  
I believe ONTOX will deliver**



Fenna Sillé

# AI & exposure



ALTEX 2020, 37, 3-23

*“Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything.”*  
George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950)

*“If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.”*  
Wayne Dyer (1940-2015)



**Exposome  
& AI  
= EI  
(Exposome  
Intelligence)**

Food for Thought ...

## The Exposome – a New Approach for Risk Assessment

*Fenna Sillé<sup>1</sup>, Spyros Karakitsios<sup>2</sup>, Andre Kleensang<sup>1</sup>, Kirsten Koehler<sup>1</sup>, Alexandra Maertens<sup>1</sup>, Gary W. Miller<sup>3</sup>, Carsten Prasse<sup>1</sup>, Lesliam Quiros-Alcala<sup>1</sup>, Gurumurthy Ramachandran<sup>1</sup>, Stephen M. Rappaport<sup>4</sup>, Ana M. Rule<sup>1</sup>, Denis Sarigiannis<sup>2,5</sup>, Lena Smirnova<sup>1</sup> and Thomas Hartung<sup>1,6</sup>*

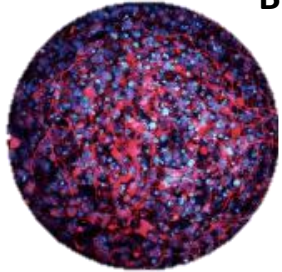


# AI & *in vitro*

## Organoid Intelligence

(O.I.)

- Physiology of learning
- Tox & Drug Development
- Biological Computing



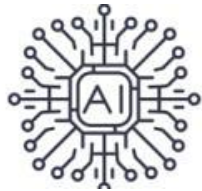
Brain Organoid

O.I.

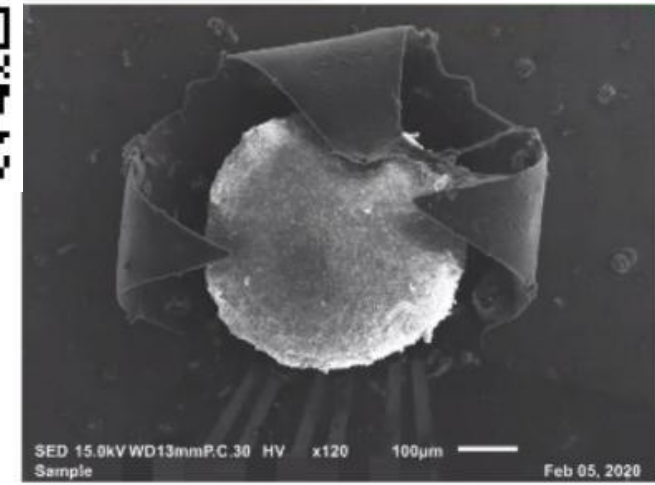


Input

Output



A.I.



Human brain organoid caged in shell electrodes



Check for updates

OPEN ACCESS

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 Arti Ahluwalia,  
 University of Pisa, Italy

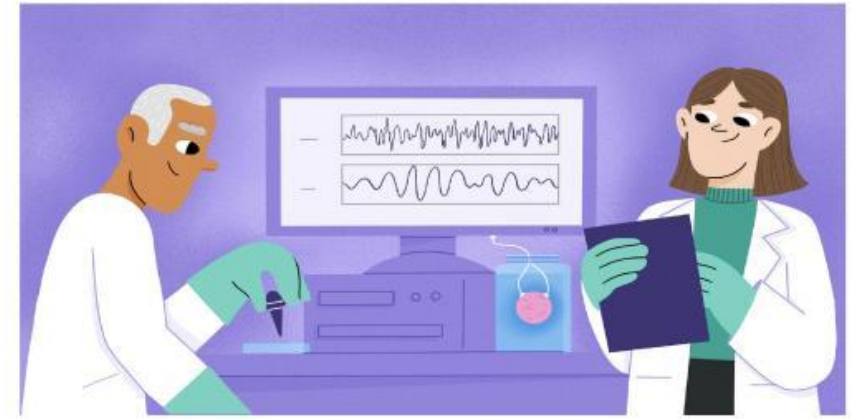
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# Organoid intelligence (OI): the new frontier in biocomputing and intelligence-in-a-dish

Lena Smirnova<sup>1</sup>, Brian S. Caffo<sup>2</sup>, David H. Gracias<sup>3,4,5,6,7,8</sup>, Qi Huang<sup>3</sup>, Itzy E. Morales Pantoja<sup>1</sup>, Bohao Tang<sup>2</sup>, Donald J. Zack<sup>9</sup>, Cynthia A. Berlinicke<sup>10</sup>, J. Lomax Boyd<sup>11</sup>, Timothy D. Harris<sup>12,13</sup>, Erik C. Johnson<sup>14</sup>, Brett J. Kagan<sup>15</sup>, Jeffrey Kahn<sup>16</sup>, Alysson R. Muotri<sup>17,18</sup>, Barton L. Paulhamus<sup>19</sup>, Jens C. Schwamborn<sup>20</sup>, Jesse Plotkin<sup>1</sup>, Alexander S. Szalay<sup>21,22,23</sup>, Joshua T. Vogelstein<sup>12</sup>, Paul F. Worley<sup>24</sup> and Thomas Hartung<sup>1,25\*</sup>



## BRAIN-CELL CULTURES: THE FUTURE OF COMPUTERS AND MORE?

Lena Smirnova<sup>\*</sup>, Itzy Erin Morales Pantoja and Thomas Hartung

 <b>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE EDITORIAL</b> Published on 28 Feb 2023 <b>Brain organoids: are they for real?</b> Guest Editor Karl Friston and President of IBCO, Prof. Itzy Morales Pantoja, call on practitioners, funding bodies, scientists, pharmaceutical companies, and the public to assess the innovative approach of organoid intelligence.	 <b>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE VIEWPOINT</b> Published on 28 Feb 2023 <b>The sentient organoid?</b> Theoretical neuroscientist Prof. Paul H. Pashler of University College London discusses the potential for organoids as sentient entities with artificial general intelligence, an experimental model in new strategies, and its in vitro culture.
 <b>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE</b> Published on 28 Feb 2023 <b>Organoid intelligence: smarter than the average cat culture</b> Molecular microbiologist Dr. Paul S. Kim of California University conducts whether complex brain cell cultures organoids can be used to assess intelligence, and the potential of organoids to store and engineer information within their DNA.	 <b>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE</b> Published on 28 Feb 2023 <b>To brain or not to brain organoids</b> Prof. Ari Mambretti and Dr. Chiara Pignatelli from the University of Pisa discuss potential challenges of brain organoids as supercomputers in the future.
 <b>FRONTIERS IN SCIENCE</b> Published on 28 Feb 2023 <b>The Kottwitz's Theorem: toward the exploration of organoid intelligence</b> Researchers, including from James Hoggan University, the University of California, and East University, set out a proposal for the mathematical scientific community to establish on the ever-changing landscape of organoid intelligence.	 <b>POLICY OUTLOOK</b> Published on 27 Feb 2023 <b>Organoid intelligence: society must engage in the ethics</b> Prof. John D. Boeckmann, of the University of Cape Town and past President of the European Group for Ethics in Human Brain Research (EHC), emphasizes ethical and legal issues around the use of brain organoids that may develop cognitive properties, such as human rights and rights of individuals, and organoids.



Lay summary

Front.Sci., 27 Feb 2023  
 10.3389/fsci.2023.1017235  
 This is part of an article hub

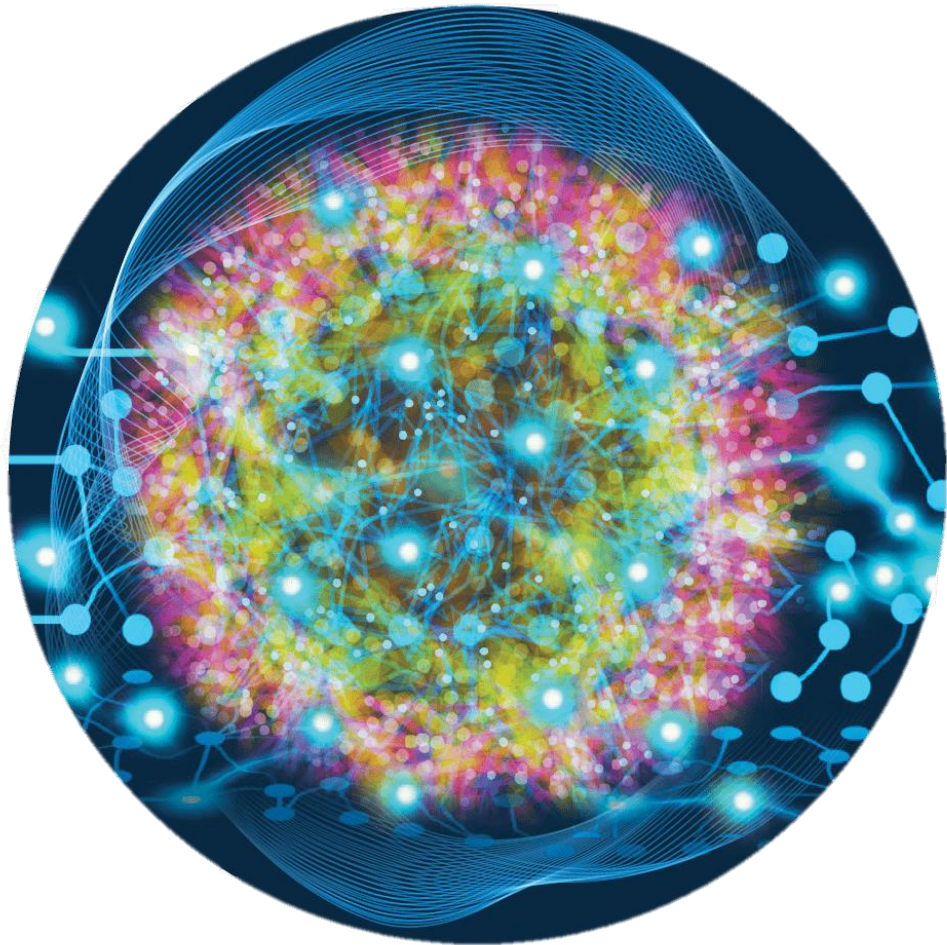
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Read lead article



Powering up the next generation of biocomputers with brain organoids

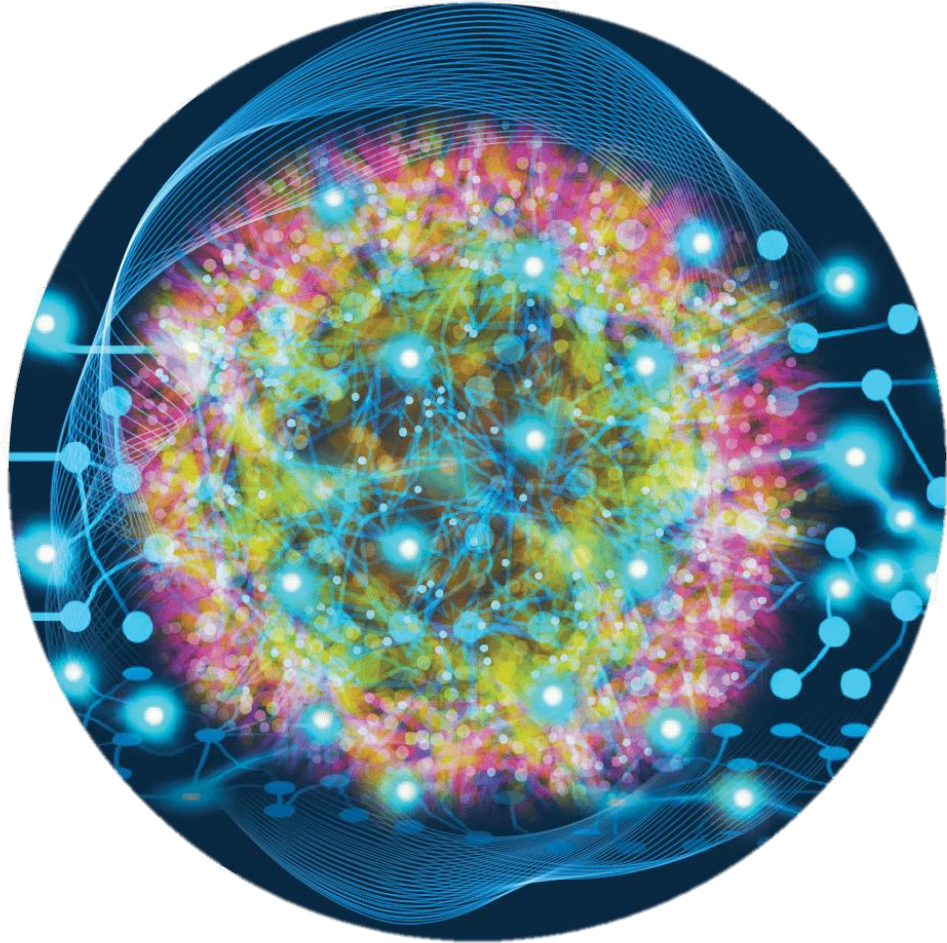


# ToxAlcology

**ALTERNATIVES  
TO ANIMAL  
TESTING**



# ToxAlcology



**A**<sub>LTERNAT</sub> **I**<sub>VES</sub>

**O**<sub>T</sub> **I**<sub>AN</sub> **MAL**

**E**<sub>T</sub> **I**<sub>ST</sub> **NG**