
Challenges & Opportunities in Medical Big Data

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Experiences from EC Grid/Cloud Projects:

MammoGrid 2002-2005

Health-e-Child 2006-2010

NeuGRID & N4U 2008-2015

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- Generation of Big Data
 - Its management
 - The role of meta-data
 - Past, & present challenges
 - Future directions & concerns

Medicine is Data Driven

BIG (medical) DATA : Scale

- Google processes 100 PB a day (2015) 10^{17} bytes
- Facebook has >100 PB of user data + 20-25 TB/day (12/2014)
- eBay has >100 PB of user data + 100 TB/day (12/2013)
- CERN's Large Hadron Collider (LHC) generates 20-25 PB a year
- **US Healthcare data in 2011 150 exabytes ($1.5 * 10^{20}$ bytes) and by 2020 estimated to be of the order of yottabytes (10^{24} bytes)**
- Digitisation in medicine is producing a **tsunami of data**



640K ought to be enough for anybody.

Big data produced by...



- Development of **continuous monitoring and remote sensors**
- **Massively increased imaging data** (MRI, CAT, PET, US)
- **Genomics**, proteomics, NGS methods
- Data from **heterogeneous sources** in multiple places (electronic medical records, lab and imaging systems, physician notes, diagnoses / test results, correspondance)
- **Unstructured data & meta-data**
- So, new approaches needed for accessing, manipulating, visualizing
- Requires entirely **new perspective**

A photograph of a server room hallway. The hallway is lined with white server racks, some of which have yellow doors. A person in a dark suit is walking away from the camera on the left side of the hallway. The floor is light-colored with a grid pattern. The ceiling has recessed lighting. The text "So, What Can We Do With All This Data?" is overlaid in red with a white outline on the yellow server rack doors.

**So, What
Can We
Do With
All This
Data?**

We need good data management...

...helps research to be:

- Replicated and verified
- Preserved for future use
- Heterogeneously integrated
- Linked with other research products
- Shared and reused



...helps researchers:

- Meet funding requirements
- Increase visibility of research
- Save time and effort (avoid data loss)
- Deal with an ever-increasing amount of data

<http://www.healthcare-informatics.com/article/guest-blog-data-management-challenge-unlocking-value-clinical-data-many-times-requires-enter>

neuGRID for Users (N4U) : Services 4 Users

- EU Framework 7 Integrated Infrastructure Initiative, I3
- Started **July 2011**, 42 months, funded at €3.5M
- **To provide:** an e-Science environment by developing and deploying the **neuGRID infrastructure** to deliver a **Virtual Laboratory framework** to offer neuroscientists access to a wide range of datasets, algorithm applications, and access to computational resources, services, and support
- **Partners:**
 - IRCCS Fatebenefratelli, Italy; , University of West of England, Bristol, UK;, Maat G Knowledge Spain;
 - **Hospital University of Geneva, Swizerland. VUmc - Vrije Universitet Medical Center, Amsterdam, NL**
 - Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm, Sweden;, CNRS, France, CEA, France;
 - **CF consulting, Milano, Italy, MNI Montreal, Canada , UCLA, USA**

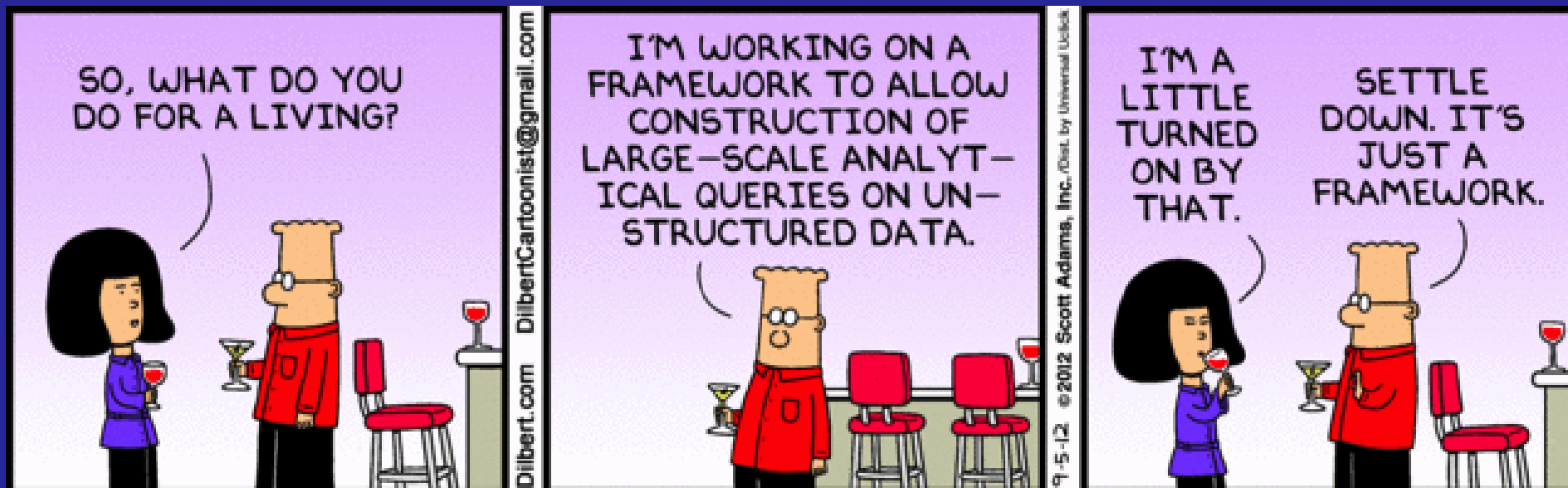
Past & Current example NeuGRID & N4U

neuGRID

neuGRID for
Users, N4U

		
<p>User services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cortical thickness pipeline • Core databasing • Web portal • LONI WMS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider multimodal software portfolio for researchers and diagnostic neuroscientific communities • Advanced Data Base Management system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More representative datasets • Data protection extension • Educational programs 	
<p>GRID services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Security Services • Medical Querying Services • Provenance Services (CRISTAL) • Grid Gluing abstraction Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowledge management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis services • Workflow authoring extension • Advanced querying extension 	
<p>Infrastructure services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enactment Services • Computing Services • Storage Services 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computational resources expansion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cloud compatibility development

It's a just a framework



Dilbert Sept 5, 2012

Data Management Challenges in Medicine

Challenge 1 : Early 2000s **Can we collate & curate ?**

HealthGrids, Databases, Infrastructures

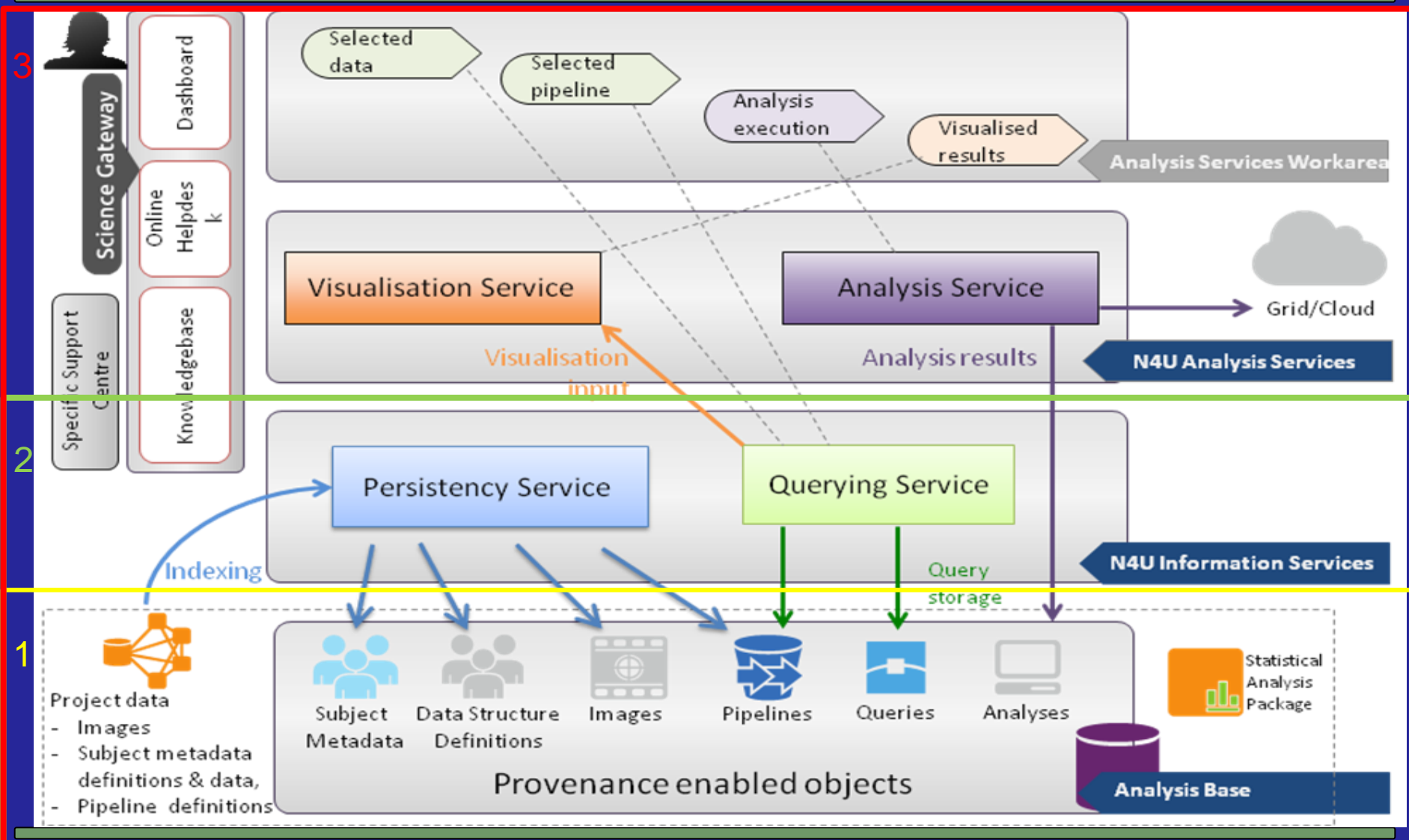
Challenge 2 : Late 2000s **Generate Information from data ?**

Data fusion, meta-data definition, service-oriented architectures, querying & workflow systems.

Challenge 3 : Early 2010s **Making information useful ?**

Adding semantics to data, portals & visualisation, knowledge management, analysis/provenance services

Example : N4U's Virtual Laboratory



The rise of meta-data in analyses

- Data about data : **get information from data**
- Data (and algorithm) **provenance - 7 W's**:
 - **who** ran an analysis (username, role, identifier),
 - for **what** purpose, **what** the analysis aimed to achieve,
 - **what** were its outcomes/results
 - **when** was it run
 - **where** it was run
 - **which** datasets and algorithms were used
 - **how** it was executed
 - and lastly **why** the analysis was run
- Meta-data may soon take more space than raw data....

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Where next ? : Late 2010s **Provide precision medicine**

Information -> Knowledge, Privacy & security frameworks, Standardised annotations & ontologies, Enhanced EHR, Transdisciplinary integration, Embedded decision support

Future : Ontologies & Semantics

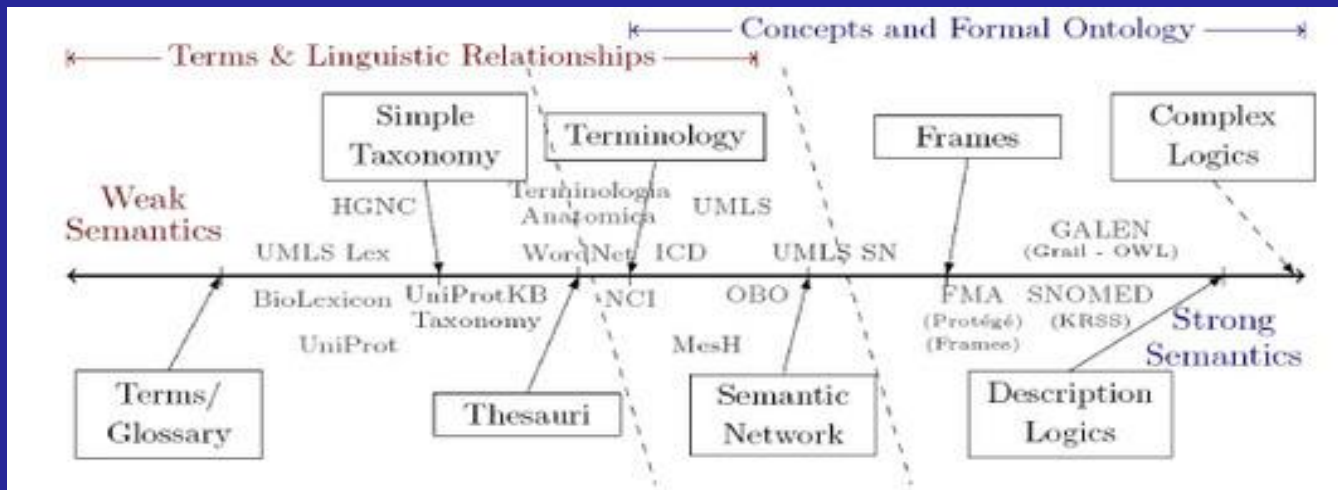
• Knowledge Management

- Annotate data (such as genomes)
- Access information (search, find, and retrieve)

• Data integration and exchange

- Model dynamic cellular processes
- Identify Drug Interactions

Many existing formalisms :



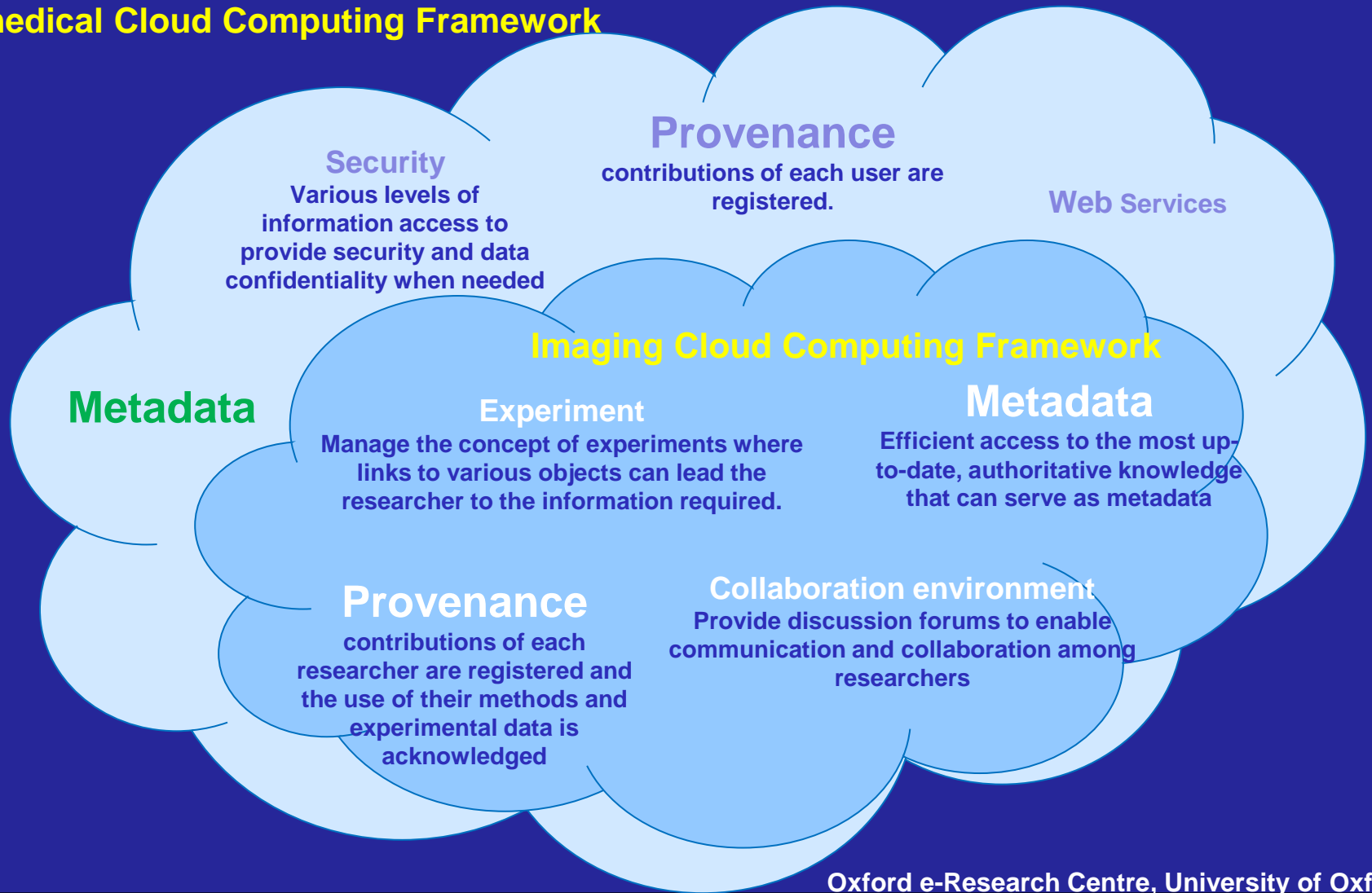
Weak Semantics

Strong Semantics

http://www.mkbergman.com/wp-content/themes/ai3v2/images/2007Posts/070501d_SemanticSpectrum.png

Future: Cloud Computing & Meta-data

Biomedical Cloud Computing Framework



Oxford e-Research Centre, University of Oxford, UK

Future : Transdisciplinary integration



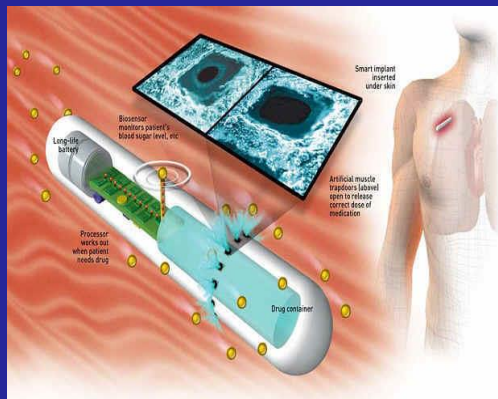
Materials, energy, IT



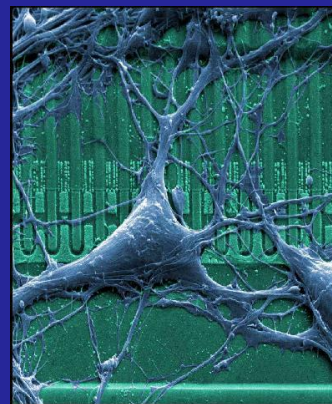
Ubiquitous computing



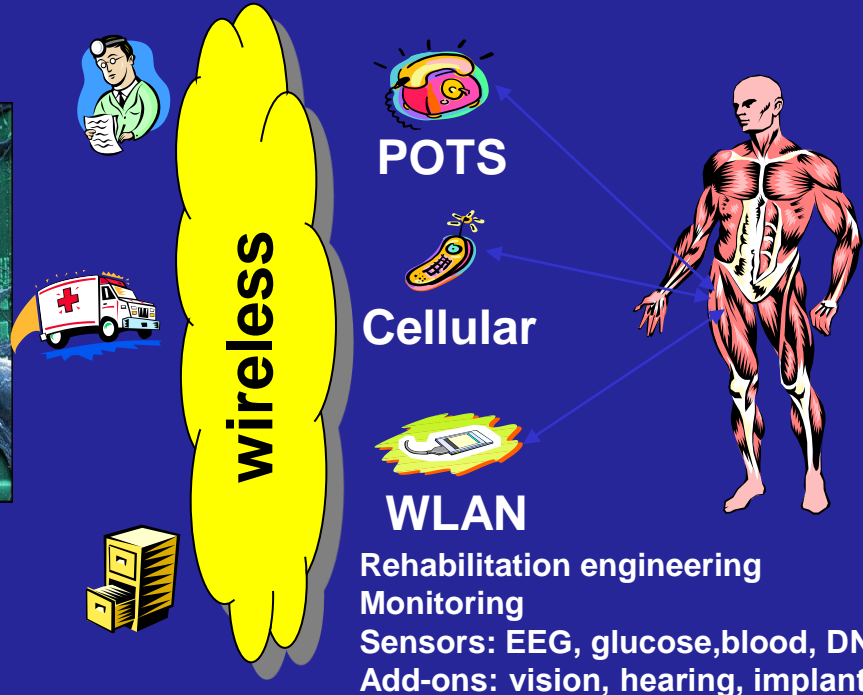
Ambient intelligence



Embedded intelligence
Smart pills



Neuron on chip



Prof. Dr. Ir. Bart De Moor ,ESAT-SCD K.U.Leuven / IBBT

Future: Embedded decision support systems

- Assistive health and wellness management systems
- Health telematics
- Intelligent environments, ambient intelligence, smart homes, home networks
- Home health monitoring and intervention
- Health vaults: personal medical data collection and processing
- Wearable sensor signal processing/wireless registration of physiological parameters

...and then there's ethics



Nicholas Anderson, PhD
NeuroDevNet, Toronto, Canada

Future : Information security concerns

- Multilateral security for **community-centric healthcare IT** platforms
- System and software security of **critical community** (e-health) infrastructures
- Enabling technologies for **collaborative work in the e-health sector**
- Policy negotiation, enforcement and compliance
- **Privacy preserving** data-mining and statistical databases
- Body Area Networks (implanted devices, **wearable devices**,...) and Personal Area Networks
- E-government : **identity management**, delegation, controlled data exchange

Not everyone agrees ...

Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) June 22nd 2015, Michael Joyner MD and Nigel Paneth MD :

“the assumptions underpinning personalized medicine have largely escaped questioning. In this Viewpoint, we seek to stimulate a more balanced debate by posing 7 questions for the advocates of personalized medicine”.

They conclude: “Even though personalized medicine will be useful to better understand rare diseases and identify novel therapeutic targets for some conditions, the promise of improved risk prediction, behavior change, lower costs, and gains in public health for common diseases seem unrealistic. Proponents of personalized medicine should consider tempering their narrative of transformative change and instead communicate a more realistic set of expectations to the public.”

