Netherlands eScience Center

ICT Synergy Hub, Amsterdam

Research & Innovation in the Big Data Era

CWI in Bedrijf Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica Op 5 oktober 2012

Prof. dr. Jacob de Vlieg 12

- 1. CEO & Scientific Director of Netherlands eScience Center, NWO-SURF
- 2. Head Computational Design & Discovery, Group, CMBI, Radboud University, Medical Center, Nijmegen, Netherlands

eScience center

Science itself is changing ... We need to change with it...

Agenda presentation

- Netherlands eScience Center (NLeSC)
 - Bridging Research and ICT
- Public-private basic research projects in the life sciences

Outsourcing basic discovery (pharma, biotech, other)



The Global Pharmaceutical Dilemma



R&D Productivity in Big Pharma is falling

- Increasing cost of drug development (~\$1.7 billion/per approved drug)
- Patient safety and effectiveness remains a major concern

Reasons for lack of output and increased R&D cost

- Increased regulatory requirements
- Complexity of human biology not recognized
- Model systems in preclinical insufficiently predictive for efficacy and safety in man





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New opportunities & challenges

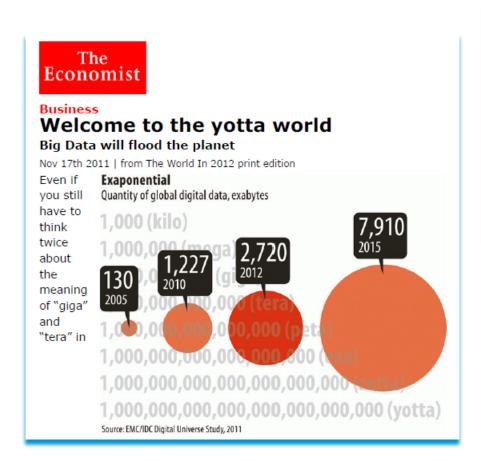
- Biobanking: availability of patient samples
- New technologies: omics, imaging, simulations, etc
- Difficulties to realize full potential of new technologies due to data problem; Data-Data-Data

Not the generation but the management of data has become the central challenge

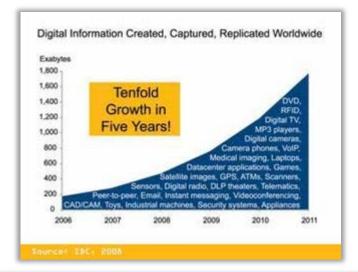




The recent World Economic Forum has deemed 'data to be a new form of currency'











eScience: enhanced Science

- 1. Huge amounts of data produced in all scientific disciplines
- 2. Cross-seeding of technologies inspired by new collaborations
- New techniques needed to explore & connect massive datasets
 - Cross-type data integration
 - Data-driven & multi-models simulations
 - Visualization & analytics
 - Extreme computing: connected computers & fast networks.
 - Any combinations thereof

Reinventing science: new ways to do science not possible without computing





Netherlands eScience Center



Netherlands organization for scientific research:



Principal Dutch body for ICT innovation for research & business processes





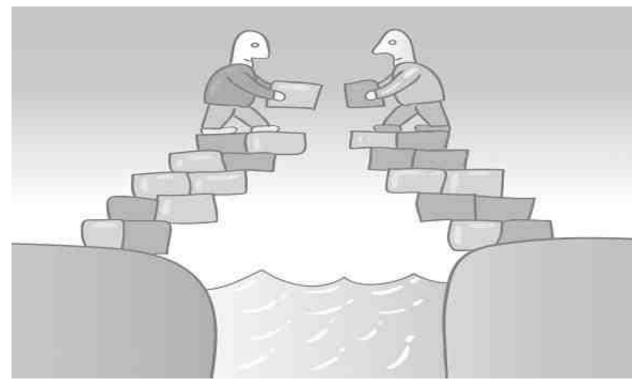
Synergy ICT hub for research; SARA, EGI

Network organisation:

CWI, UvA, VU, Radboud, ,KNAW, CTMM, NBIC, companies, etc`, etc

Expert Centre for Big Data Analysis

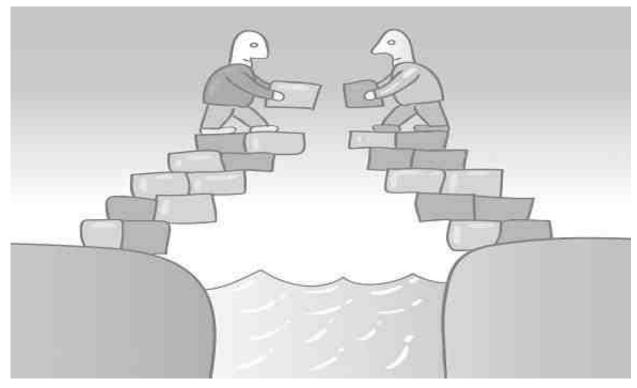
NLeSC: Innovation with ICT



Deliver output in terms of science & business value



NLeSC: Innovation with ICT



Deliver output in terms of science & business value

Valorization is a fundamental component of the vision of the NLeSC

e.g. sustainable solutions, hotel functions; eScience engineers, collaboratorium, etc.

Cyber-common: a facility for 21st century datadriven research and multidisciplinary team work

To link minds and information





Cyber-common: a facilitation of the common o

Connect Demand and Supply

To lin





NLeSC themes: research projects inspired by new collaborations

- Sustainability & Environment
- Climate
- Water management
- -Energy
- -Ecology
- Chemistry & Materials
- -Chemistry
- Humanities & Social Sciences
- Humanities
- -Social Sciences

- Life Sciences
- Green Genetics
- Translational Research IT
- Foods
- Cognition/Neuroscience
- •eScience Methodology & 'Big Data'
- eScience Methodology
- Astronomy



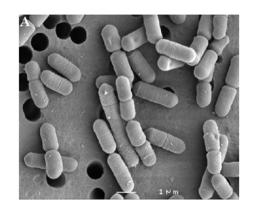
NLeSC Project Portfolio: Can scientists from digital humanities help food researchers?

Food Research: Food Specific Ontologies for Food Focused Text Mining

Project Leader: Wynand Alkema



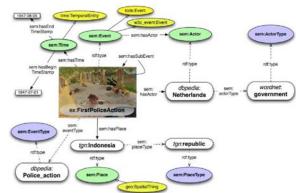
Addressing absence of domain specific structured vocabularies which limits the use of data mining & knowledge management methods in food research.



eHumanities: BiographyNED

Project Leader: Guus Schreiber

Will improve current version of the Biography Portal by incorporating analytical tools to show interconnections, trends, geographical maps and time lines.



NLeSC Project Portfolio

Life Sciences: TraIT (Translational Research IT)

Project Leader: Jan Willem Boiten



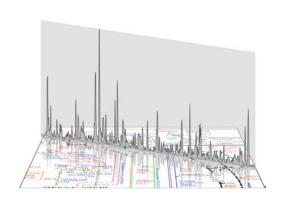
Adapting existing software solutions to provide the Netherlands with an IT infrastructure to facilitate translational research.



eChemistry: Integrative Chemical Metabolomics Data Analysis

Project Leader: Lars Ridder

Developing a computational workflow to improve and accelerate metabolite identification and biochemical pathway reconstruction for metabolomics.





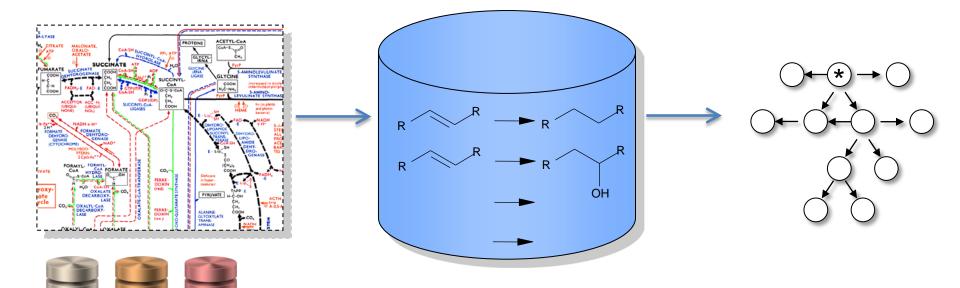


Bridging chemistry & biology in the computer

Biochemical knowledge

Derive generic biochemical rules

Generate "biochemically feasible" molecules







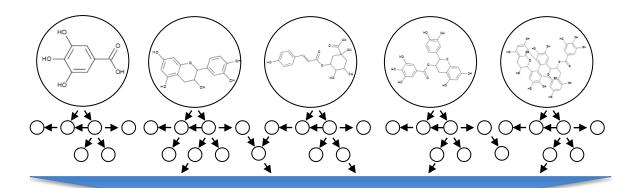




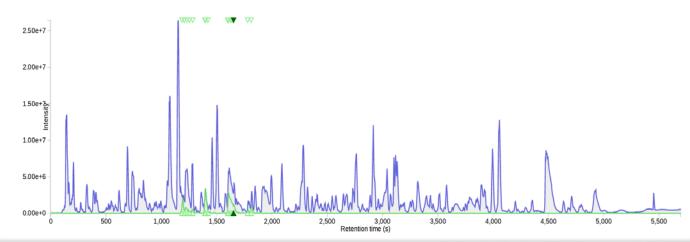


Example: urine of a tea-drinker

- Start with >50 known components of tea
- Apply human biotransformation rules
- > 19000 candidate metabolites
- Match metabolites with LC-MS peaks from urine

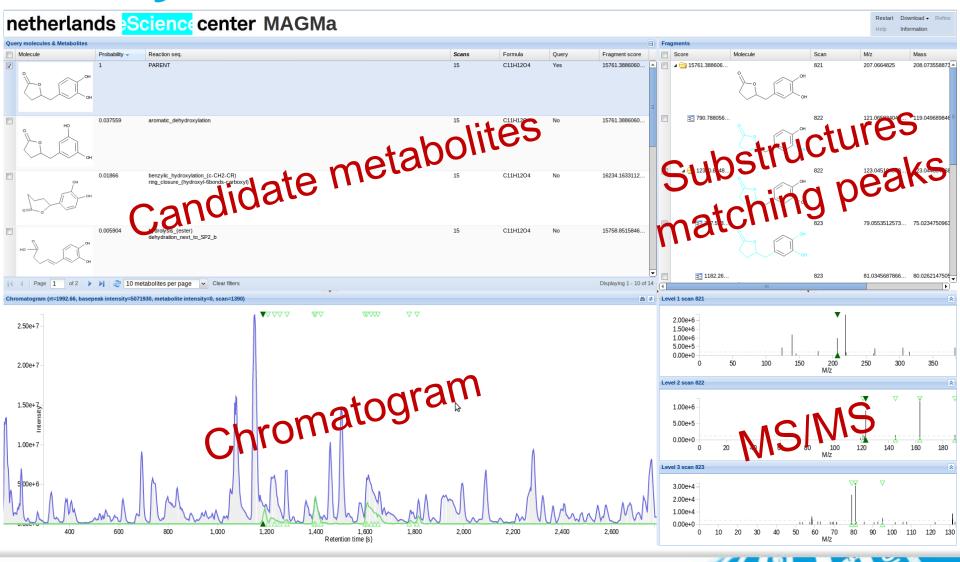








Easy to use web interface

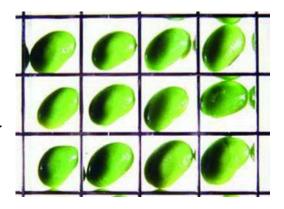


NLeSC Project Portfolio; Life Sciences

Green genetics: Virtual Lab for Plant Breeding

Project Leader: Bernard de Geus

Developing a virtual lab for plant breeding based on nextgeneration sequencing technology to support storage, integration and exploration of plant-genome data.



eScience & NGS are disruptive technologies for plant breeding sector

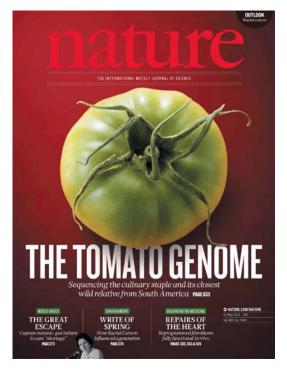
- Plant Breeding in the Netherlands is a healthy and innovative sector
- 4 plant breeding companies in top 25 of R&D investments
- Until 2000: plant breeding "trial & error"
- Insight into core genomes (tomato, rice, etc) may reverse the traditional breeding workflows
- First in silico mining for relevant genes -> data-driven crossing
- Opportunity to develop commercially interesting varieties faster





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- ➤ Big Data Challenge: Amount of sequence data coming towards the sector far too much for individual companies to cope with
- >Acute need for effective eScience platform securing innovation power

Unique collaboration between between 6 breeding companies, 3 academic institutes, 1 HBO, TTI-GG and NLeSC to develop a *pre-competitive* eScience platform



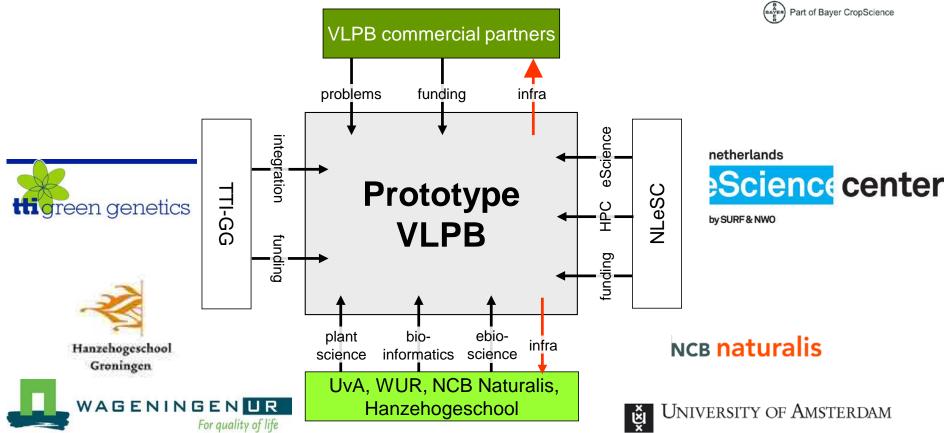




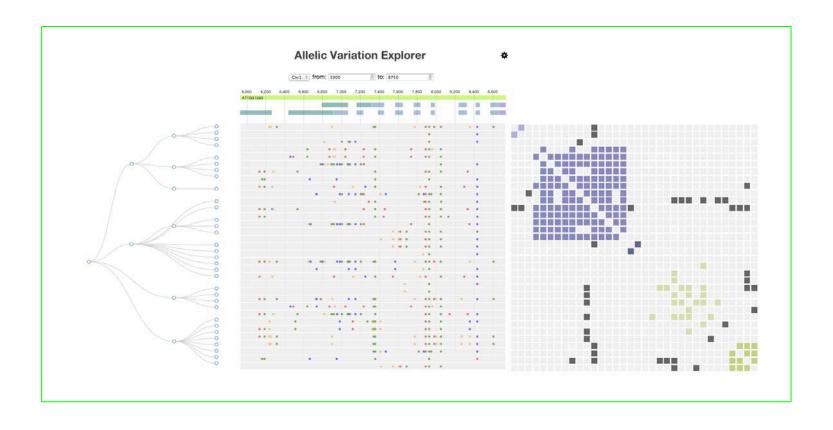






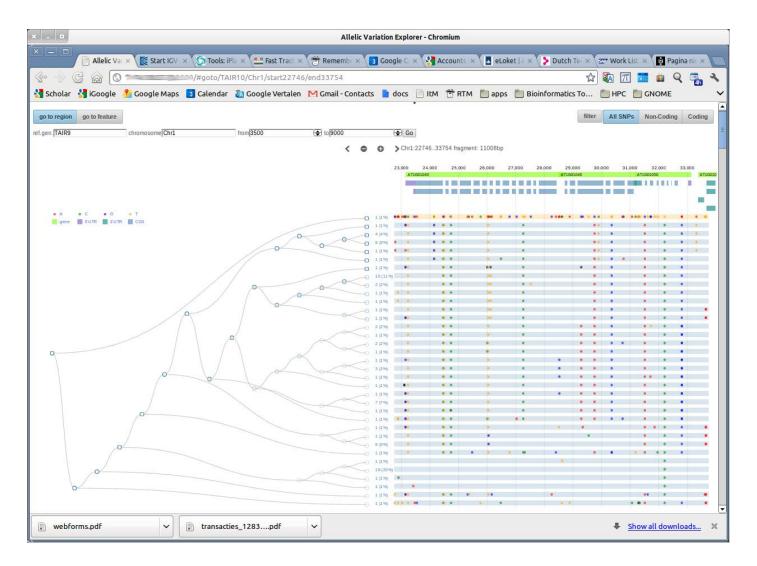


Easy to use interface: visualization of SNPs as haplotype blocks



optimal dialogue between scientists from public and private sectors needed to ensure eScience is applied in business process

Application in the cloud



eScience technologies for multidisciplinary and remote collaboration

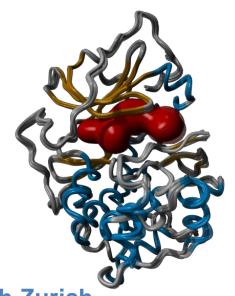
Unique pre-competitive publicprivate partnership

 Results available to all commercial and academic partners on a 'freedom to use' policy

 Only precompetitive or public Data, Information & Knowledge will be introduced in the public VLPB eScience platform

The Protein Flexibility Challenge

- Drug targets are flexible biomolecules
- Insight in protein receptor flexibility valuable for drug design & development



Research Collaboration Organon NV and IBM Research Zurich

Collaboration Schering/MSD and Radboud University

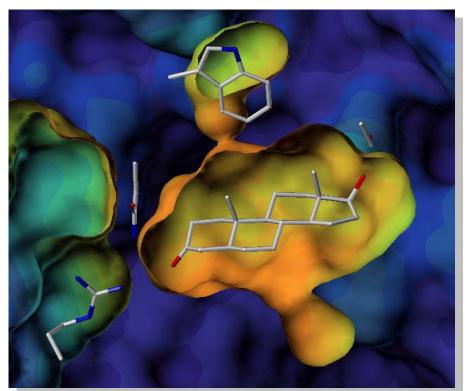


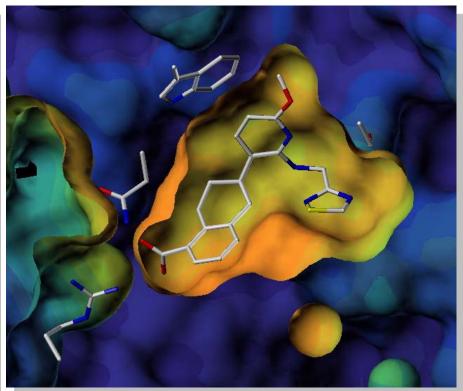






Induced conformational change in binding pocket of Target Receptor





Dihydrotestosterone (DHT)

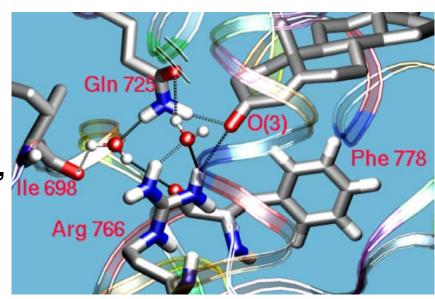
Compound X



Case study: IBM-Organon Molecular Dynamics computer simulations

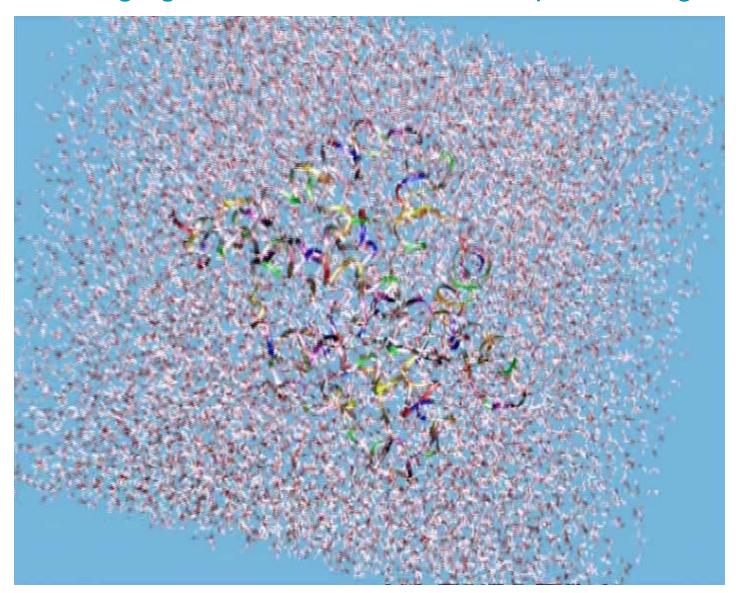
- To study the highly specific progesterone-receptor interaction
- In collaboration with Prof Andreoni,
 IBM Research Zurich, Switzerland





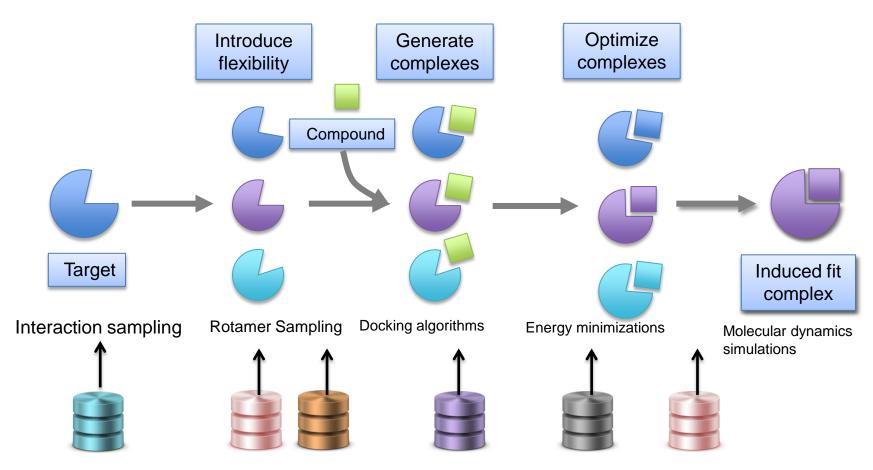


Water bridging interaction between receptor and ligand





Combining the best: data-driven simulations and integrated workflow solutions



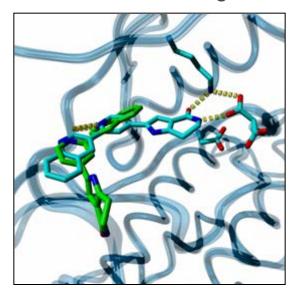
Radboud University Nijmegen / Medical Centre and Schering/MSD collaboration





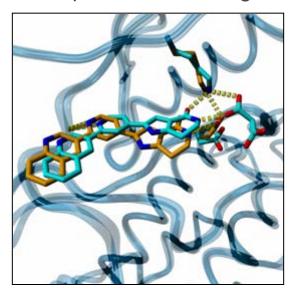
Docking compound x into flexible kinase protein target

standard docking



 $RMSD_{xray} = 8.0 \text{ Å}$

eScience protocol: combing the best



 $RMSD_{xray} = 1.2 \text{ Å}$

Binding mode confirmed by inhouse protein Xray

eScience Hero

Fights for medical innovation

- Pattern recognition
- Machine learning
- Big Data
- Social Media



Andy Grove (ex-CEO Intel)





Voice algorithms spot Parkinson's disease

 Machine learning algorithms that analyse voice recordings to detect Parkinson's symptoms early on (Little at al. @ Media Lab, MIT)



The technology works partly by tracking the motion of vocal cords

Social Media:



Looking for volunteers to contribute to the database to improve pattern recognition

Success factors for precompetitive public-private partnerships

- Long-term & challenging scientific problem
- Validation of new scientific approach by industry partner
- Intensive dialogue between academic and industry scientists:
 - To create shared responsibility
 - to ask the correct scientific questions
- Sustainable solutions & community building

It is all about people: trust & respect

Thank you & Acknowledgements





























