



# GeneLab Strategic Plan: Perspectives and Thoughts

Todd M. Smith Ph.D. Digital World Biology  
Committee on Biological and Physical Sciences in  
Space, Washington DC, April 1, 2015

# Agenda

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- All about me
- Software experiences
- Initial thoughts
- Perspectives as a provider and user

# Profile



PhD – Medicinal Chemistry (Natural Products), P-Doc Genome Project (BRCA1)

Geospiza (GeneSifter – LIMS / Analysis) > PerkinElmer

Sanger, microarray, NGS

Bench > Software

Excel crunching

Began programming

Lab processing (QC)

Analysis automation

Visualization

Data annotation

Databases (using, building, mining)

Founder

CEO/CTO

Funding – Sales, Grants, Angels

SBIRS

Phrap reengineering

HDF (databases)

Variant discovery,  
annotation

w/ Dr. Christopher Mason

Digital World Biology

STEM education

Biotechnology training

Community development

Consulting –

Sr. Level Advising

Project development, business  
analysis, requirements

Grant development

Market/Business development

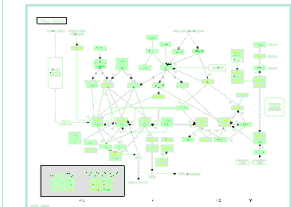
# GeneSifter Analysis Edition

## My-Seq

## Application-specific Data Analysis

# Standard algorithms

## Pipelines



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# Adoption (Sales)



GeneSifter Lab Edition ~200 of Labs – Enterprise \$10K's-\$100K's deals

Value propositions –

- Core lab directors** - business and scientific data production delivery

- ABRF community, presentations, research groups – still go!

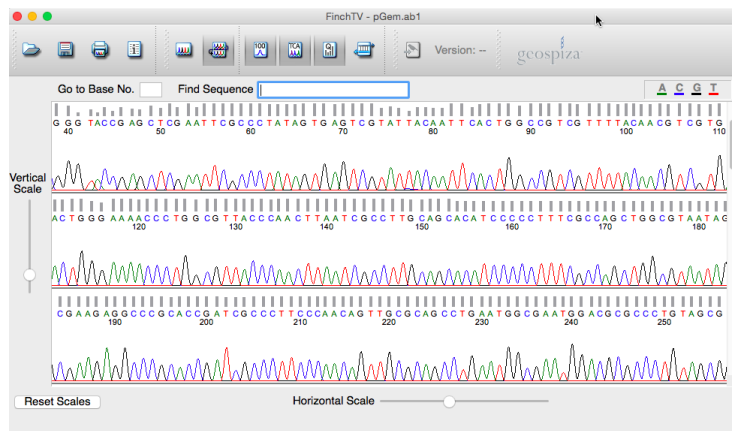
- Biotech (Pharma) scientist – integrated data processing (assembly, BLAST)

GeneSifter Analysis Edition ~500/1000 labs – Researchers, \$1K's-\$5K's

Value propositions

- Research scientists – ease of use, open source (verifiable) tools, cloud

- Supports common use cases very well – Microarray, RNA-Seq, Exome



FinchTV >300,000 users

Value propositions


- Anyone with a Sanger Sequence file** - Full

- page views, integrated BLAST, drag and drop UI, ease of use

- Market builder

# Digital World Biology: Education/Consulting

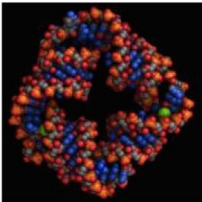




## Digital World Biology Courses

Welcome to Digital World Biology Courses

[View](#) [Unpublish](#)



Hi Austin Bioinformatics BITC2350 students! I've sent log in info to all of you. If you're having trouble logging in use the "Reset Password" link to have the site send you log in info. It uses your school email address and the user name I came up with (FirstnameFirstletterlastname, i.e. SandraP).

Email me if you have questions about logging in. sporter at austincc dot edu

Sandra


### Announcements

#### Learning Guide 3 is posted

Submitted by [SandraP](#) on Mon, 02/02/2015 - 23:12

This week we start learning about proteins and amino acids.

[Read more](#)




#### Tip of the day

Submitted by [SandraP](#) on Mon, 02/02/2015 - 01:10

Did you know that clicking the web site name takes you to the front page with all the new announcements? Give it a try!

[Read more](#)



#### The A2 quiz and review quiz one are ready.

Submitted by [SandraP](#) on Mon, 02/02/2015 - 01:08

Sorry for the delay. Both quizzes are ready to go. You can find the links in Learning Guide 2.

[Read more](#)

### User menu

- [My work](#)
- [My workspace](#)
- [My account](#)
- [Log out](#)

### Instructor tools

- [Students](#)
- [Unknowns](#)
- [Download work](#)
- [Quiz reports](#)
- [Notes](#)
- [Site documentation](#)

### BITC2350 Items

- [Announcements](#)
- [Learning guides](#)
- [Discussions](#)
- [Schedule & Syllabus](#)

### Questions?

- [Post Questions Here](#)

### Resources

- [Digital World Biology](#)
- [Get Molecule World](#)
- ▼ [NCBI](#)
  - [BLAST](#)
  - [ORF Finder](#)
- [Nucleic Acids Research Database Issue 2015](#)

Bioinformatics  
Education

Software / Databases

Cn3D | Molecule  
World

Excel

BLAST

Word

ORF finder

Image editing

NCBI resources

**Web browsers!!**

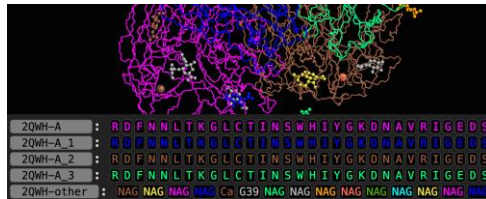
15-20  
activities

# Essential Computer Literacy

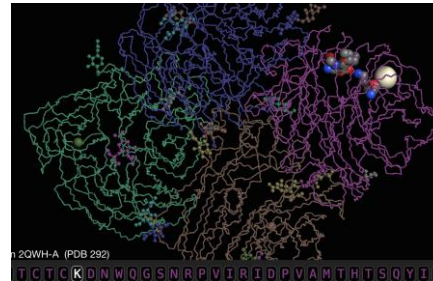


## 1 Sequence

Influenza Virus Neuraminidase

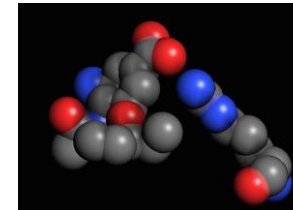


## Structure

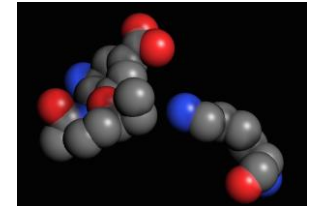


## Function

Tamiflu Resistance

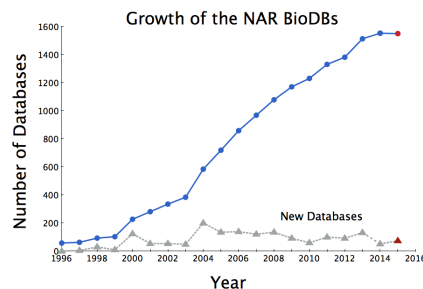


292R>K



## 2 Understand information resources

Data,  
Information,  
Knowledge



Search NCBI databases

HTT

About 144,289 search results for "HTT"

Literature	Genes
Books 176	books and reports 637
Books 1	collected information about gene loci 652
NAR Catalog 2	functional genomic studies 436
PubMed 3,338	gene expression and molecular abundance profiles 156,164
PubMed Central 4,885	HumanGene 3
	Protein 4
	UniProt 13
	children of expressed transcripts
Health 71	
Chloride 2	
dbSNP 3,230	
GTS 6	
MedGen 86	
OMIM 4	
PubMed Health 4	
Genomics 9	
Assembly 31	
BioProject 23	
Biological 2,354	
Cline 307	
dRear 5	
Exonization 3	
Genome 6	
Genomic 604	
Prote 1,080	
SNP 16,088	
SRA 31	
Transcript 5	

Proteins	Chemicals
Conserved Domains 9	Biocatalysis 564
Protein 425	PubChem BioAssay 883
Protein Structure 9	PubChem Compound 5
Structure 27	PubChem Substance 15

HTT @ NCBI  
144K results over  
39 DBs

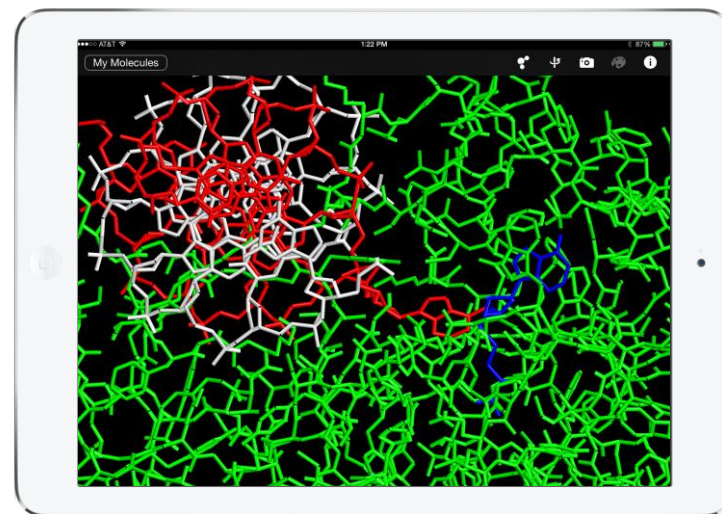
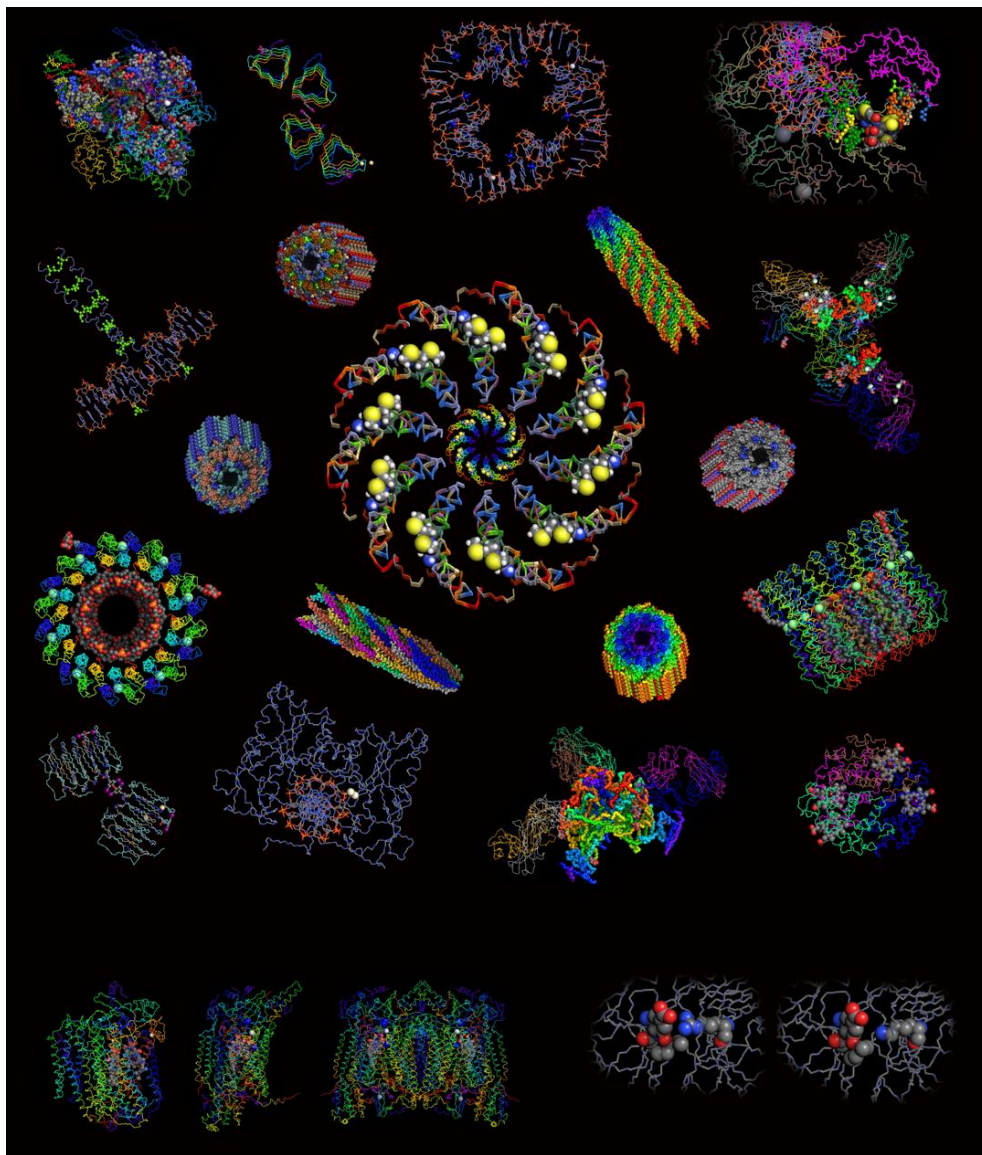
## 3 Work with data and software

Molecular sequences, data  
values, structures

Text, graphs, images

Computer programs,  
software interfaces





Blending art and science to  
explore the sequence, structure,  
function relationship







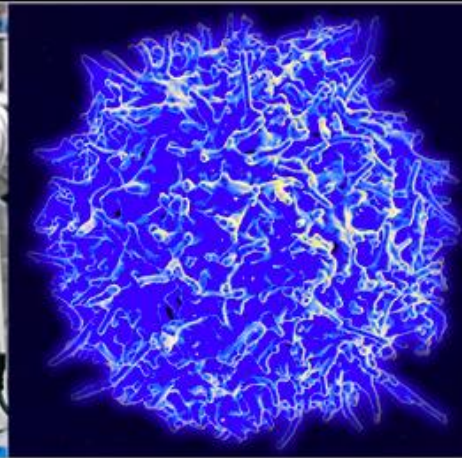
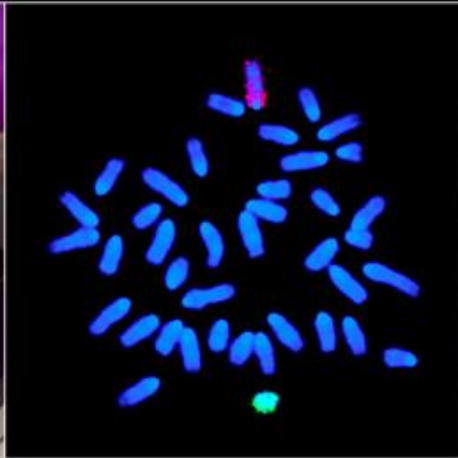
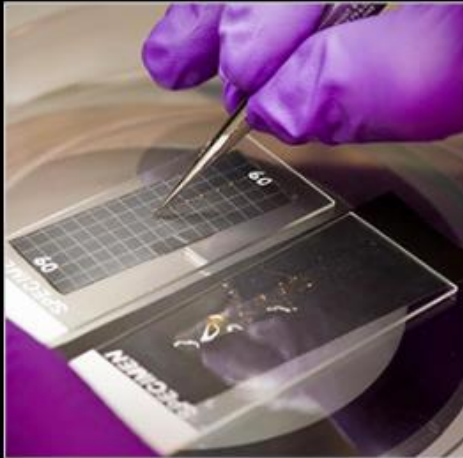
- Implementation is hard
  - Big visions become incremental advances
  - Complex technology, continuous change
  - Data is never analyzed as well/deeply as it could be
- Adoption is harder
  - Informatics, big solutions noise is high
  - Systems and tools are hard to use
  - Every step of the collection, reduction, analysis, discovery phase has 10's/100's of choices

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  - Solutions must be compelling, solve problems
  - Community is critical

# GeneLab

Expanding the Impact of Biological Research in Space





- Create a biorepository
  - Samples collected in space, over time, experiments
  - Samples collected from terrestrial controls
- Use samples for collecting a variety of “omics” data
- Metadata will be recorded for mining and analysis
- Data and information will be stored in a database
- Analysis will be performed with many tools
- Data and results will be made available for others
- People will be encouraged to utilize the resources to enhance knowledge and discovery

# Today's Questions

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- Mission/Vision
  - Value to scientific community?
  - Data or ways to work with the data?
- Implementation
  - Risks of lock in
  - Transitioning data
  - Interfaces
  - Longitudinal data
  - Data integration
  - Metadata (what kinds)
  - Standards
  - Legacy data
  - Experiment scale (research design)
  - .....

# All have a Single Answer

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- It depends ...



# Challenges

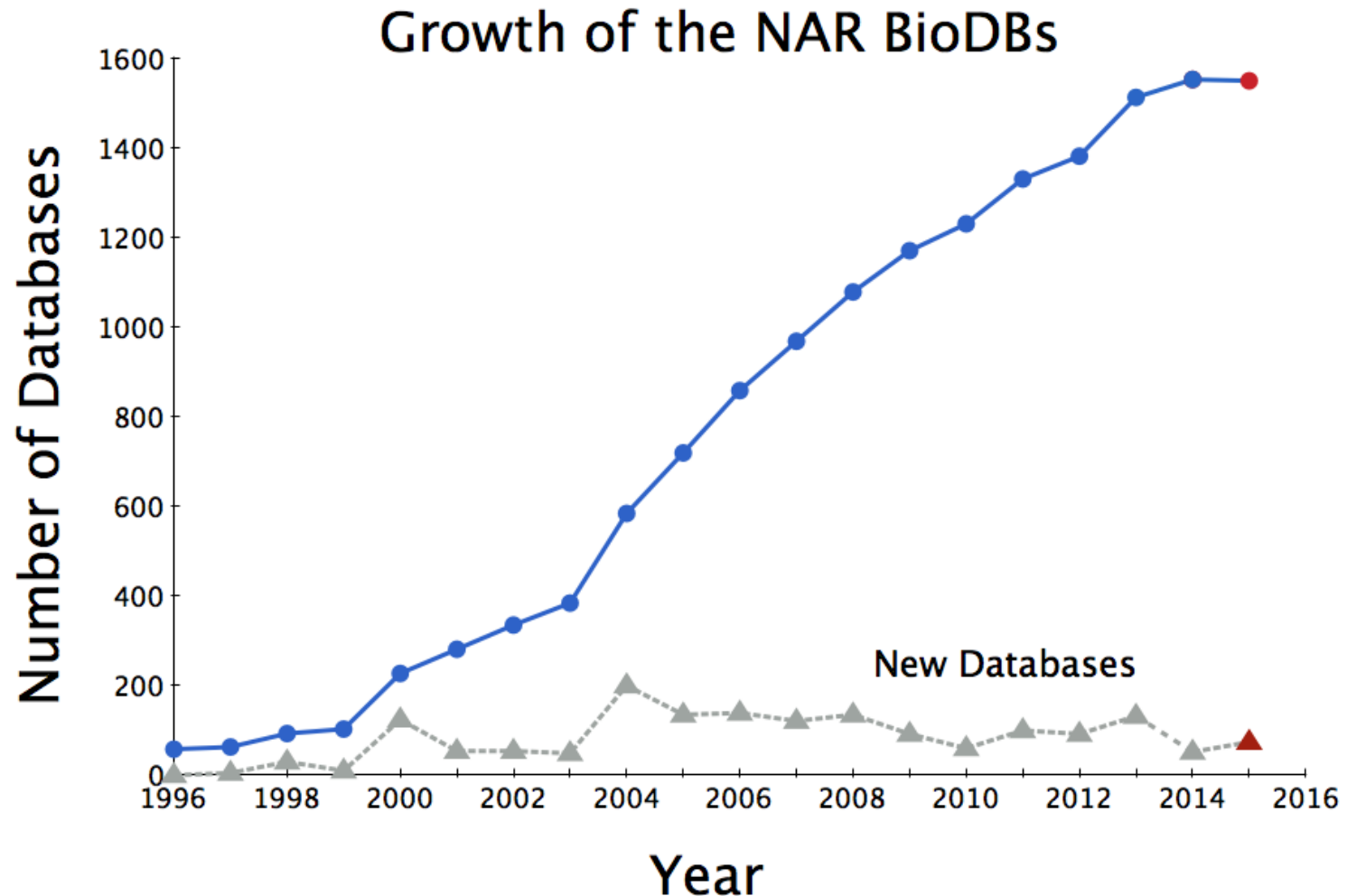
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- Clear use cases are lacking
  - What data will be collected?
  - Why is it collected? What is expected?
  - Who is expected to use it?
  - What is the initial market?
- A good example – STEM engagement activities at the K-12 and college levels to engage Americans in the NASA mission, attract and retain students in STEM disciplines, strengthen NASA/Nation's future workforce
- What will compels scientists?



# Scientists are Overwhelmed – Why More?



<http://scienceblogs.com/digitalbio/2015/01/30/bio-databases-2015/>

# Databases at NCBI



## Search NCBI databases

[Help](#)

### Results found in 14 databases for "nosiheptide"

#### Literature

<a href="#">Books</a>	1	books and reports
<a href="#">MeSH</a>	1	ontology used for PubMed indexing
<a href="#">NLM Catalog</a>	0	books, journals and more in the NLM Collections
<a href="#">PubMed</a>	61	scientific & medical abstracts/citations
<a href="#">PubMed Central</a>	84	full-text journal articles

#### Health

<a href="#">ClinVar</a>	0	human variations of clinical significance
<a href="#">dbGaP</a>	0	genotype/phenotype interaction studies
<a href="#">GTR</a>	0	genetic testing registry
<a href="#">MedGen</a>	1	medical genetics literature and links
<a href="#">OMIM</a>	0	online mendelian inheritance in man
<a href="#">PubMed Health</a>	0	clinical effectiveness, disease and drug reports

#### Genomes

<a href="#">Assembly</a>	0	genome assembly information
<a href="#">BioProject</a>	0	biological projects providing data to NCBI
<a href="#">BioSample</a>	0	descriptions of biological source materials
<a href="#">Clone</a>	0	genomic and cDNA clones
<a href="#">dbVar</a>	0	genome structural variation studies
<a href="#">Epigenomics</a>	0	epigenomic studies and display tools
<a href="#">Genome</a>	0	genome sequencing projects by organism
<a href="#">GSS</a>	0	genome survey sequences
<a href="#">Nucleotide</a>	398	DNA and RNA sequences
<a href="#">Probe</a>	0	sequence-based probes and primers
<a href="#">SNP</a>	0	short genetic variations
<a href="#">SRA</a>	0	high-throughput DNA and RNA sequence read archive
<a href="#">Taxonomy</a>	0	taxonomic classification and nomenclature catalog

#### Genes

<a href="#">EST</a>	0	expressed sequence tag sequences
<a href="#">Gene</a>	12	collected information about gene loci
<a href="#">GEO DataSets</a>	0	functional genomics studies
<a href="#">GEO Profiles</a>	0	gene expression and molecular abundance profiles
<a href="#">HomoloGene</a>	0	homologous gene sets for selected organisms
<a href="#">PopSet</a>	0	sequence sets from phylogenetic and population studies
<a href="#">UniGene</a>	0	clusters of expressed transcripts

#### Proteins

<a href="#">Conserved Domains</a>	0	conserved protein domains
<a href="#">Protein</a>	442	protein sequences
<a href="#">Protein Clusters</a>	1	sequence similarity-based protein clusters
<a href="#">Structure</a>	10	experimentally-determined biomolecular structures

#### Chemicals

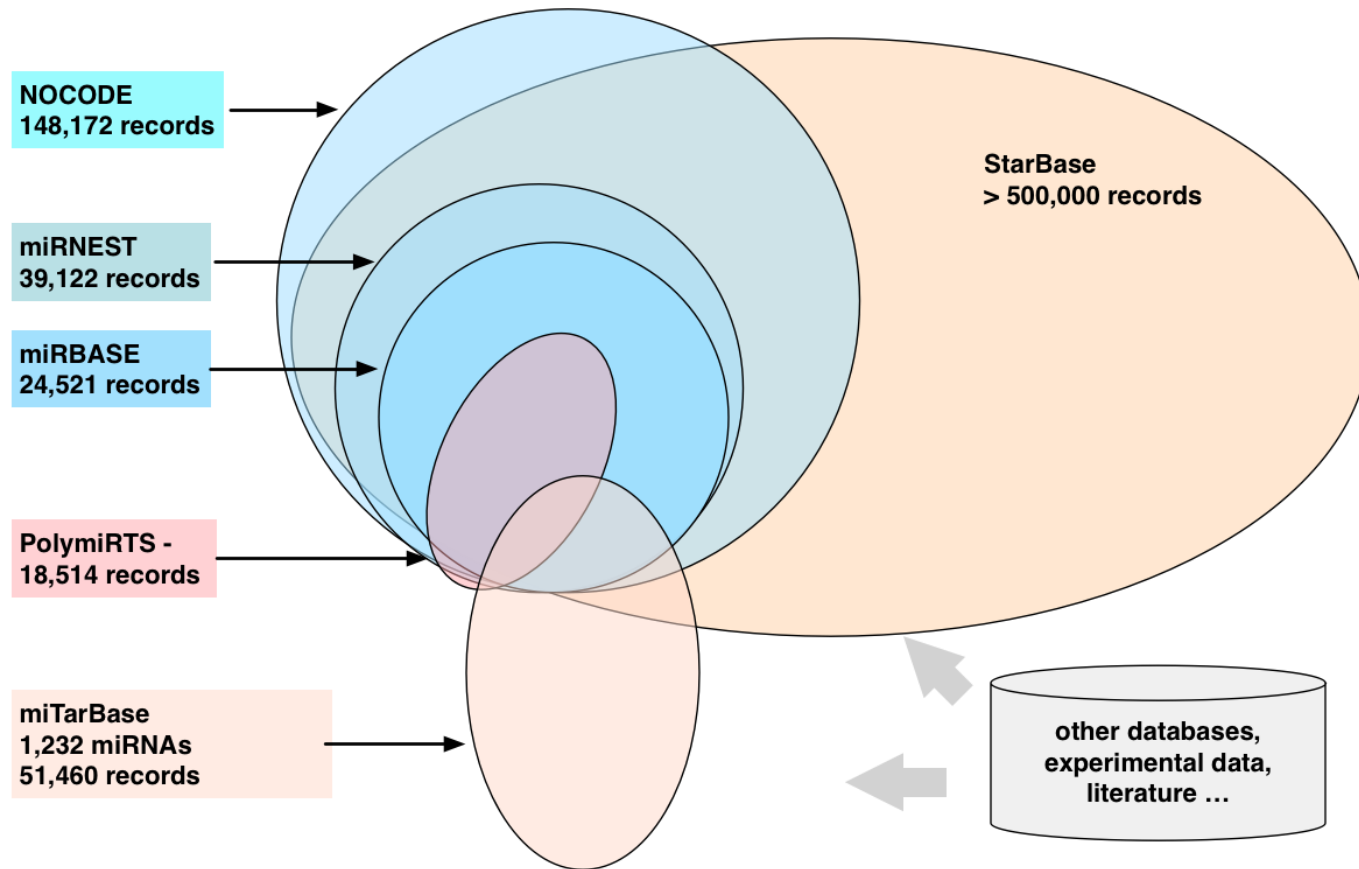
<a href="#">BioSystems</a>	53	molecular pathways with links to genes, proteins and chemicals
<a href="#">PubChem BioAssay</a>	10	bioactivity screening studies
<a href="#">PubChem Compound</a>	5	chemical information with structures, information and links
<a href="#">PubChem Substance</a>	13	deposited substance and chemical information

Lists, links, and tools  
Domain specific views and hidden  
gems – content and knowledge

# Specialized Databases Live in Ecosystems



Relative Content and Conjectured Overlaps



Data repositories are indicated by circles and blue tints, and integrative resources indicated by ellipses and orange tint. For each database the number of records is shown and possible (yet unknown) overlaps of information between the databases is suggested using a venn diagram.

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- Define applications to drive the requirements
- Stakeholders (people)– users, sponsors, agents ... need to be identified and described (business analysis, personas) and engaged
- Determine the initial collaborators, build on examples
- Relevance to the rest of us earthlings – understanding nutrition?