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Brainomics - A management system for exploring and merging heterogeneous brain mapping data

V. Michel¹, Y. Schwartz², P. Pinel³, O. Cayrol¹, A. Moreno³, JB. Poline⁴, V. Frouin⁴, D. Papadopoulos Orfanos⁴

¹Logilab, Paris, France, ²INRIA Saclay Parietal Team, Paris, France, ³Unicog, INSERM-CEA, Neurospin, Gif-sur-Yvette, France, ⁴CEA, Neurospin, Gif-sur-Yvette, France

Introduction

- Number of large datasets for brain mapping have been released [1, 2].
- Neuroimaging datasets more routinely include clinical or genetics data.
- Exploitation requires:
  - An efficient organization to integrate all the measures
  - An easy access to the relevant information.

Conclusion

✔ Open source solution to manage brain imaging datasets and associated meta data.
✔ Powerful querying and reporting tool, customized for emerging imaging-genetics field.

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Contact: brainomics@logilab.fr

Data model

✔ Described in Python, using reusable modules called "cubes".
✔ Modelisation of Scans, Questionnaires, Genomics results, Behavioral results, Subjects and Studies information.
✔ Data model optimized for large volumes (> 2000 subjects).
✔ Tested with several publicly available datasets [1, 2].

Query using RQL

✔ Similar to the W3C’s SPARQL [6].
✔ Supports the basic operations (selection, insertion, etc.).
✔ Subquerying, ordering, counting, ...

Query all the female subjects of the database, with an age greater than 30

Any S WHERE S is Subject, S age > 30, S gender "female"

Query all the Cmap scans of subjects with an age greater than 25, and that have a score greater than 4.0 for the "algebre" question

Any SA WHERE S is Subject, S age > 25, X is QuestionnaireRun, X concerns S, A is Answer, A questionnaire_run X, A question Q, Q text "algebre", A value > 4, SA is Scan, SA concerns S, SA type "c map"

Views

✔ Each query result can be seen using different views.
✔ HTML pages, ZIP files, spreadsheets, XCEDE XML, ...
✔ May include processing (stat. maps computed on the fly).