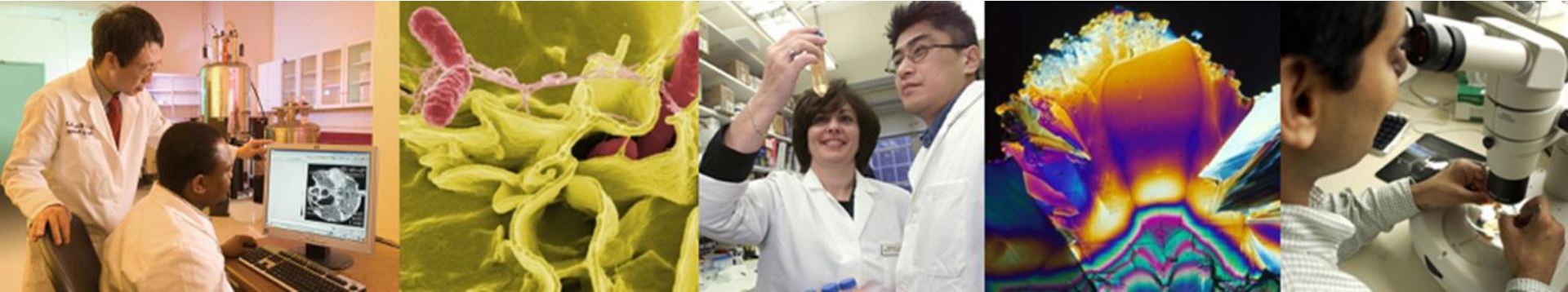


# Artificial Intelligence Working Group Update

118th Meeting of the Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD)  
*June 13, 2019*



**David Glazer**

Engineering Director, Verily

**Lawrence A. Tabak, DDS, PhD**

Principal Deputy Director, NIH  
Department of Health and Human Services



# Agenda

- refresher on [our charge](#)
- interim progress report
- next steps

# We Generate Enormous Volumes of Data Daily



# Data Science at NIH: A Snapshot

- CIT supports a 100GB Network moving 4PB of data per day
- Datasets and resources
  - List of extramural programs generating datasets (only a subset)
  - Datasets supported across IC and topic area
  - Range in size from several hundred terabytes to several petabytes
    - SRA and dbGaP, ~15 PB of genomic sequence data
      - Controlled access ~8 PB
      - Open access ~6 PB
    - GTEx, ~200 TB

DATASET	Primary IC
ABCD (Adolescent Brain Cognitive Development)	MH
Accelerating Medicine Partnership - Parkinson's Disease (AMP PD)	NS
Age-Related Eye Disease Study (AREDS2)	EY
All of Us Research Program	OD
BRAIN Initiative	many
Biomedical Translational Research Information System (BTRIS)	CC
dbGAP	NL
Framingham Studies	HL
Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program	CF/HL
Genotype-Tissue Expression (GTEx)	CF/HG
Cancer Genome Characterization Initiative (CGCI)	NCI
Analysis, Visualization, and Informatics Lab-space (AnVIL)	HG
Chest and Cardiac Image Archive	HL
Genetics of Alzheimer's Disease Project (NIAGADS)	NIA
RSNA Radiology Image Share	EB
The Cancer Genome Atlas Project (TCGA)	NCI
TOPMed	HL
Alliance for Genome Resources Model Organism Databases (MODs)	HG
ClinVar	NL
dbSNP	NL
ENCODE	HG
Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO)	NL
MACS/WIHS Longitudinal AIDS Data	AI
Neuroimaging Tools & Resources (NITRC)	EB
SRA	NL
UniProt	HG/GM

# Every Day Artificial Intelligence Applications



# ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

A program that can sense, reason,  
act, and adapt

## MACHINE LEARNING

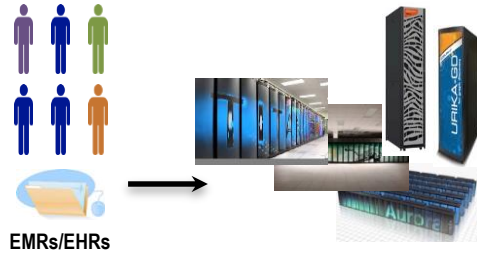
Algorithms whose performance improve  
as they are exposed to more data over time

### DEEP LEARNING

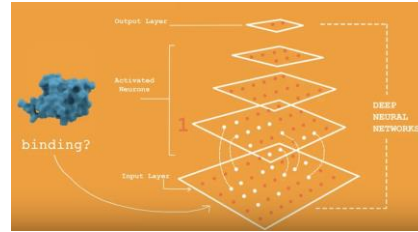
Subset of machine learning in  
which multilayered neural  
networks learn from  
vast amounts of data



# AI in Biomedicine: Opportunities



Extract medical information from text in EMRs/EHRs



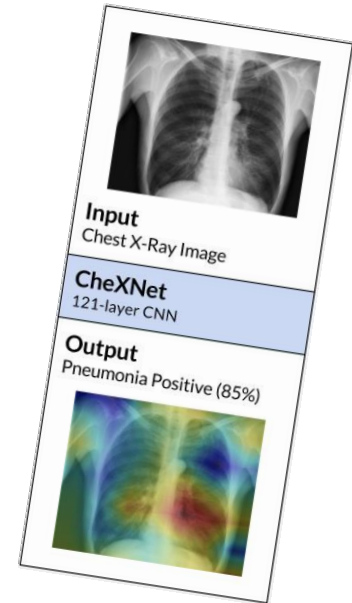
Interpret genomic sequence data to understand impact of mutations on protein function

Monitor sleep and vitals to send information about health at home to doctors



Determine which calls to child welfare systems warrant deployment of family support and prevention resources to protect at-risk children

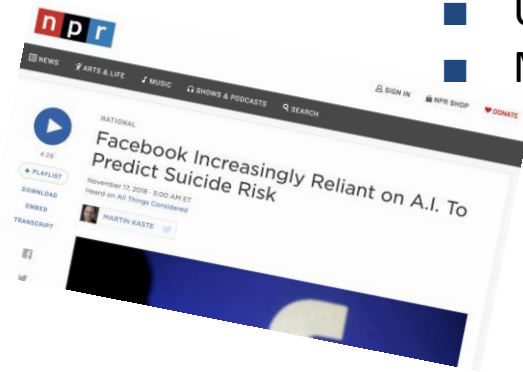
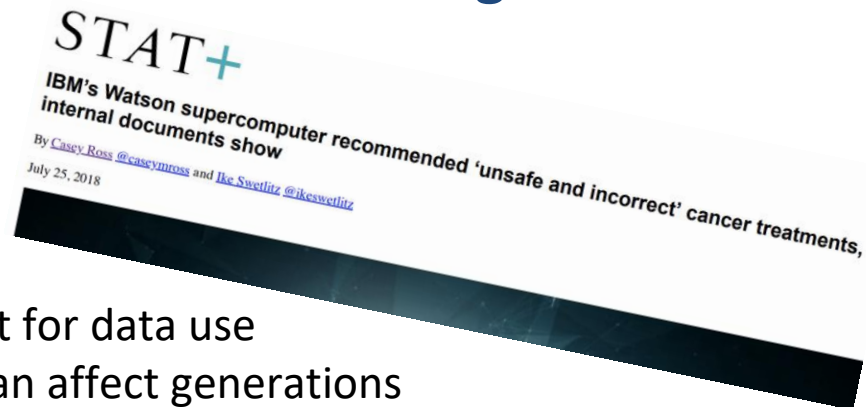
Read medical images and help diagnose diseases like pneumonia and cancer



# AI in Biomedicine: Legal and Ethical Challenges



- No clear rules on consent for data use
- Threats to privacy that can affect generations
- How can people opt out? at the beginning or later on?
- Potential for bias and discrimination
- Use of incomplete or selective data
- Misuse of data



Controversy at MSK Cancer Center Regarding the Pathology Archive and Database



## Charge to the AI Working Group (December 14, 2018)

- Are there opportunities for cross-NIH effort in AI? How could these efforts reach broadly across biomedical topics and have positive effects across many diverse fields?
- How can NIH help build a bridge between the computer science community and the biomedical community?
- What can NIH do to facilitate training that marries biomedical research with computer science?
  - Computational and biomedical expertise are both necessary, but careers may not look like traditional tenure track positions that follow the path from PhD to post-doc to faculty
- Identify the major ethical considerations as they relate to biomedical research and using AI/ML/DL for health-related research and care, and suggest ways that NIH can build these considerations into its AI-related programs and activities

# ACD Artificial Intelligence Working Group Members



Rediet Abebe  
Cornell



Greg Corrado,  
PhD  
Google



Kate Crawford,  
PhD  
AI Now Institute



Barbara  
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David Glazer  
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MIT Computer  
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Jennifer  
Listgarten, PhD  
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Michael  
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Intel



Lawrence Tabak,  
DDS, PhD  
NIH (Co-Chair)



Serena  
Yeung, PhD  
Harvard

# Agenda

- refresher on our charge
- **interim progress report**
- next steps

# Themes

1. more AI-ready **data**
2. more **multilingual** researchers
3. **ELSI**: ethical, legal, and social implications
4. important areas to **apply** AI
5. important areas to **advance** AI

For each theme:

- Opportunity -- why this area is important
- Do Now -- recommendations for action in H2 2019
- Questions -- what we'll be drilling into next

# more AI-ready data

## Opportunity

- Creation and stewardship of data sets to enable machine learning may be the NIH's single greatest lever to accelerate the application of AI within biomedicine.
- Such datasets must be deliberately constructed to be useful, representative, and ethical. The responsible distribution and maintenance of these data sets is as important as their creation.

*“Show me the data.”*

*- every ML researcher ever*

# more AI-ready data

## Do Now

- Begin cataloging existing datasets, tracking attributes relevant for AI-readiness.

## Questions to answer next

- What are the attributes of AI-ready data?
  - e.g. rich -- multi-modal, longitudinal, well-labeled
  - e.g. usable -- friendly data access, harmonized with other datasets
  - e.g. beyond observation -- includes perturbation data
- How can NIH accelerate existence of and promote access to AI-ready data?
- How can NIH nurture novel sources of health data?
  - e.g. by expanding the use of sensors to create training datasets
  - e.g. by building libraries of genomic and other molecular data
  - e.g. by enabling sharing of data derived from care delivery
  - e.g. by applying aggressive identity-protecting techniques to real data



# more multilingual researchers

## Opportunity

- Increase the pool of people who are “bilingual,” meaning they have experience in both biomedicine and computer science, expertise in at least one, and can bridge the two worlds.
- Broaden the tent further, to rigorously address representation and equity. Include social and behavioral scientists who study health disparities and other issues in populations that are underrepresented in biomedical research.

*More perspectives ⇒ better results*

# more multilingual researchers

## Do Now

- Co-sponsor workshop proposal on *Learning Meaningful Representations of Life at [NeurIPS](#)* (leading ML conference) in December 2019
  - goal is deeper NIH connections to ML community; perhaps keynote by Francis Collins?
- Allocate at least one third of this year's fellows slots to AI projects
  - in the NIH Civic Digital Fellows and the OD's National Service Sabbatical data program

## Questions to answer next

- What are the attributes of multilingual researchers?
- How can NIH upgrade curricula to train multilingual researchers?
  - all levels of education -- secondary, undergrad, graduate, professional
- How can NIH catalyze an active community of multilingual researchers?

# ELSI: ethical, legal, and social implications

## Opportunity

- This is one of the biggest challenge areas for biomedical applications of AI, since inappropriate use can present real harms, especially to under-represented and marginalized populations.
- Much more work is needed on building the guardrails to ensure safety, ethical deployment, and non-discriminatory impacts. NIH can set the quality standard, develop more rigorous frameworks around potential harms and challenges, and create the world's best safeguards.
- Above all, NIH can take a leadership position in building strong oversight and accountability mechanisms for the use of AI in biomedicine.

*These tools have sharp edges -- let's "do no harm".*

# ELSI: ethical, legal, and social implications

## Do Now

- Draft a charter for an NIH governance / advisory body on AI standards and ethics

## Questions to answer next

- How can NIH set standards for labeling training data? (see [datasheets](#) paper)
  - like Rx labels: “here’s what you should know before taking this data”
  - e.g. data sourcing, relevant ethical/legal topics, (in)appropriate use
- How can NIH set standards for labeling ML models? (see [model cards](#) paper)
  - e.g. where should / shouldn’t it be used?
  - a model’s label should include the labels of its training data
- How can NIH update/improve ethical review processes to guide suitable use of AI in biomedical research?
- How can NIH help educate the community on the social and legal risks of AI?

# important areas to apply AI

## Opportunity

- There are numerous directions in biomedical research, public health, and healthcare management where advances in AI are underutilized, yet if they are integrated with these fields, they could potentially lead to transformative impact.
- NIH can encourage the exploration of the above AI applications, and facilitate interactions between AI experts and researchers in the fields of biomedical research, public health, and healthcare delivery and management.

*The tech community doesn't know where to help --  
let's tell them.*

# important areas to apply AI

## Do Now

- Create a “top 10” catalog of success stories in this space, and use to inspire future investment and creativity.
  - e.g. recent [FDA AI approvals](#)

## Questions to answer next

- How do we recognize the biomedical and public health opportunities that would benefit most from the application of AI?
  - E.g. specific disease or diagnostic areas
  - E.g. reduce health disparities
- How do we raise awareness of those opportunities, and catalyze problem-solving collaborations between MDs and AI experts?
  - E.g. workshops on specific subareas, such as impact on minority populations
  - E.g. well-defined problems and ways to measure success vs. state of the art



# important areas to advance AI

## Opportunity

- Realizing the full potential of AI in biology, medicine and healthcare requires advancing AI beyond current capabilities, and solving some of the biggest challenges and open problems in AI. Biomedicine and healthcare are therefore valuable domains for motivating and grounding fundamental research in AI.

*New hard problems need new powerful tools.*

# important areas to advance AI

## Do Now

- n/a

## Questions to answer next

- How can NIH support the development of methods that:
  - can learn effectively in unlabeled, weakly labeled, and semi-supervised regimes
  - can perform challenging tasks beyond pattern recognition and supervised learning
  - can generalize predictions to real-world scenarios not reflected in training datasets
- How can NIH support the development of algorithms that:
  - are interpretable and safe
  - can effectively integrate with large, real-world systems

# Agenda

- refresher on our charge
- interim progress report
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## “Do Now” recommendations

AI-ready data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Begin cataloging existing datasets, tracking attributes relevant for AI-readiness.</li></ul>
multilingual researchers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Co-sponsor workshop proposal on <i>Learning Meaningful Representations of Life</i> at NeurIPS.</li><li>▪ Allocate at least one third of this year’s fellows slots to AI projects.</li></ul>
ELSI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Draft a charter for an NIH governance / advisory body on AI standards and ethics.</li></ul>
areas to apply AI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Create a “top 10” catalog of success stories in this space, and use to inspire future investment and creativity.</li></ul>

# Questions to answer next

AI-ready data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ What are the attributes of AI-ready data?</li><li>▪ How can NIH accelerate existence of and promote access to AI-ready data?</li><li>▪ How can NIH nurture novel sources of health data?</li></ul>
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areas to advance AI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ How can NIH support the development of novel methods?</li><li>▪ How can NIH support the development of novel algorithms?</li></ul>

# Timeline

- Feb 2019: kickoff meeting
- **June 2019: Interim report to ACD**
- Dec 2019: final recommendations to ACD
- beyond 2019: the group will convene intermittently, as needed but infrequently, for updates and continued guidance







# NIH...

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## Turning Discovery Into Health

