Biomappings Supplementary Information

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1 Structure and summary of mappings

Biomappings contains four tab-separated values (TSV) files for predicted mappings and positive, negative, or unsure curated mappings. Each row in these files represents a single mapping. Each mapping represents a subject (i.e., source) and a target (i.e., object) for the mapping with a prefix, local unique identifier, and standard name for each in separate columns. Storing the prefix and the identifier in separate columns allows for convenient filtering by prefix in downstream usage, while storing the standard name - though redundant - facilitates human interpretability of mappings. In addition, each mapping represents a specific relation (i.e., predicate) as a compact URI (CURIE). Currently used predicates include skos:exactMatch for exact equivalence - this is the most common predicate in the current curated set - and skos:narrowMatch or skos:broadMatch for non-exact matches. Further, we use two other predicates for special relationships: speciesSpecific for relations where a subject is not an exact match but rather a species-specific variant of a non-species-specific object, and RO:HOM0000017 ("in orthology relationship with") to represent crossspecies orthologs of the same gene/protein. Biomappings is not limited to these predicates though, and future mappings can use other predicates as needed.

Predicted and curated mappings differ in what provenance columns are included. For curated mappings, each row includes a "type" to denote whether a mapping was predicted and then reviewed or manually curated de novo, as well as the curator's ORCID identifier. For predicted mappings a "type" column represents the method by which the mapping was predicted, e.g., "lexical", and a "source" column provides the URL to the script that created the mapping. The predictions file also includes a confidence score between 0 and 1, where a higher score represents a prediction more likely to be correct. When producing predictions, scores are ideally set to approximate the empirical precision associated with the predictions.

The Biomappings files can be accessed as follows:

- 1. Predicted mappings [https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/](https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/predictions.tsv) [blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/predictions.tsv](https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/predictions.tsv)
- 2. Curated correct mappings [https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomapp](https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/mappings.tsv)ings/ [blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/mappings.tsv](https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/mappings.tsv)
- 3. Curated incorrect mappings [https://github.com/biopragmatics/bioma](https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/incorrect.tsv)ppings/ [blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/incorrect.tsv](https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/incorrect.tsv)
- 4. Curated unsure mappings [https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomapp](https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/unsure.tsv)ings/ [blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/unsure.tsv](https://github.com/biopragmatics/biomappings/blob/master/src/biomappings/resources/unsure.tsv)

Figure [1](#page-1-1) shows several exemplar rows from the manually curated positive mappings file.

Figure [2](#page-2-0) provides a more detailed breakdown of which identifier resources have been covered by Biomappings curation. Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) [Rogers](#page-4-0) [\(1963\)](#page-4-0) appears on top, due to the fact that it doesn't provide mappings to several key external resources, therefore a large portion of the curation effort in Biomappings has focused on mapping MeSH to various chemical, protein, anatomical, and disease identifier resources.

Figure 1: A screenshot of the manually curated mappings table in the Biomappings version-controlled repository. This contains information about the source entity, the target entity, the predicate, the type of mapping, and the curator.

2 Additional Matching Methodologies

Rule-based Lexical Matching Methods Rule-based lexical matching methods rely on deterministic, data source-specific rules for generating high confidence predicted mappings. For example, because the MeSH supplement contains terms for human proteins whose names are generated based on the labels in UniProt [Bateman](#page-4-1) et al. [\(2021\)](#page-4-1), mappings can be generated with deterministic text processing and matching (e.g., AKT1 protein, human ([mesh:C494918](https://bioregistry.io/mesh:C494918)) maps to AKT1 ([uniprot:P31749](https://bioregistry.io/uniprot:P31749))). Similarly, WikiPathways [Martens](#page-4-2) et al. [\(2021\)](#page-4-2) labels for homologous pathways can be used to generate exact string matches after stripping the organism ellipses (e.g., Apoptosis (Homo sapiens) ([wikipathways:WP254](https://bioregistry.io/wikipathways:WP254)) maps to $Apoptosis$ (Mus musculus) ([wikipathways:WP1254](https://bioregistry.io/wikipathways:WP1254))).

Figure 2: A summary of curated positive mappings in Biomappings $(v0.3.0)$, broken down on the left by prefix and on the right by relation type.

Structural Matching Methods Structural matching draw from a combination of local properties of entities in identifier resources (e.g., their properties and relationships) as well as global properties (e.g., taxonomical structure, graph structure) to infer or predict mappings [\(Chauhan](#page-4-3) et al., [2018\)](#page-4-3). For example, graph homomorphism-based methods search for sub-graphs with similar struc-ture that can be used to infer mappings. [\(Chauhan](#page-4-3) *et al.*, [2018\)](#page-4-3). Constraintbased methods have a similar approach but alternate mathematical formulations (Mao [et al.](#page-4-4), [2010;](#page-4-4) [Algergawy](#page-3-0) et al., [2008\)](#page-3-0). Taxonomy-based matching algorithms focus on hierarchical information for matching [\(Nandi and Bern](#page-4-5)[stein, 2009\)](#page-4-5) while semantic similarity methods include additional features, e.g., from textual labels or descriptions [\(Essayeh and Abed, 2015;](#page-4-6) [Wang](#page-4-7) et al., [2010;](#page-4-7) [Xiang](#page-4-8) et al., [2015\)](#page-4-8) that are featurized in various ways. Several of these methods rely on machine learning approaches for inference while others are more classical procedural algorithms.

Knowledge Graph-based Matching Methods Knowledge graph-based entity alignment methods incorporate prior knowledge and data about concepts to predict mappings, often with knowledge graph embedding models [Berrendorf](#page-4-9) [et al.](#page-4-9) [\(2020\)](#page-4-9). These methods construct disjoint knowledge graphs with concepts and relations from each respective controlled vocabulary (typically ontologies), connect the graphs with triples corresponding to both primary and third-party mappings, then train a link prediction model to predict novel mappings. While these models promise to generate more interesting predicted mappings, they have the drawback that they are slower to train and lack explainability.

Chemical Structure Matching Methods Generating mappings based on chemical structure has been demonstrated in various cheminformatics efforts such as in the construction of large, integrative databases such as ExCAPEDB (Sun [et al.](#page-4-10), [2017\)](#page-4-10) and Papyrus [\(Béquignon](#page-4-11) et al., [2023\)](#page-4-11). These methods typically either involve the generation and matching of of fingerprints such as the MAACS fingerprint, the generation and matching of hashes such as the InChI key, or direct (though computationally complex) chemical graph matching.

While we were unable to employ such methods in the case study in the main text due to the fact that MeSH does not include chemical structures, this may be helpful for the variety of small- and medium-scale databases that cover drugs, lipids, and other specific chemical types. More complex methodology such as using name-to-structure generators such as OPSIN [\(Lowe](#page-4-12) et al., [2011\)](#page-4-12) followed by chemical structural mapping for MeSH terms using IUPAC-like labels could also present an avenue forwards.

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