

SHER: Semantic Databases using ontologies

Julian Dolby, Achille Fokoue,
Aditya Kalyanpur, Aaron
Kershenbaum, Li Ma, Edith
Schonberg, Kavitha Srinivas
Watson/Hawthorne, China Research Lab

SHER – Semantic DB using ontologies

Breakthrough technology that:

- ✍ Is highly scalable -- reasons on 7.7M triples in 7.9 s on benchmarks, scales to 60M triples.
- ✍ Can cleanse inconsistencies in noisy data. Identifies thousands of logically inconsistent patterns in minutes.
- ✍ Provides explanations of the chain of semantic reasoning for a result set.

Who is interested in SHER?

Government:

- Ordnance survey, the British national mapping agency
- NSA

Healthcare and informatics:

- Mayo Clinic, Chris Chute, Chair of Biomedical Informatics
- Vanderbilt Medical Center (Dan Masys, Director of Biomedical Informatics),
- Ohio University Medical Center (Philip Payne)
- Columbia University Medical Center (Clinical and Translational Award Center)

Pharmaceutical industry:

- Pfizer

Telecom:

- DoCoMo, a mobile services client.

Software/Services Vendors:

- Clark-Parsia, a semantic consulting services company, interest in licensing/subcontracting to SHER.
- RacerPro (Franz Inc.) interest in licensing SHER.

When are semantic DBs useful?

Complex knowledge domains, where there is a **semantic gap** between data and queries

Example from **healthcare** domain -- matching patient records to clinical trials, clinical decision support:

Patient data:

Queries:

Patient on methotrexate
immunosuppresants

~~Patient tested positive for~~
tuberculosis
mycobacterium tuberculosis

Patients on

~~Patients with~~
meningitis.

Example from **pharmaceutical** domain (semantic querying of the metadata on microarray gene expression data):

Gene Expression data

GSE1402 is data about arthritis
data on disorders

Queries

Gene expression

Clinical trials matching case study (with Columbia Med)

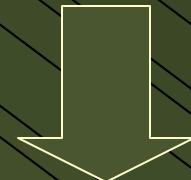
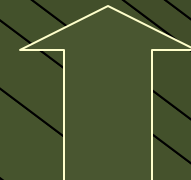
Patient JS is on Cerner:
WarfarinSodium10mg

SNOMED
Standard clinical
Ontology in
7 countries

Laboratory data →

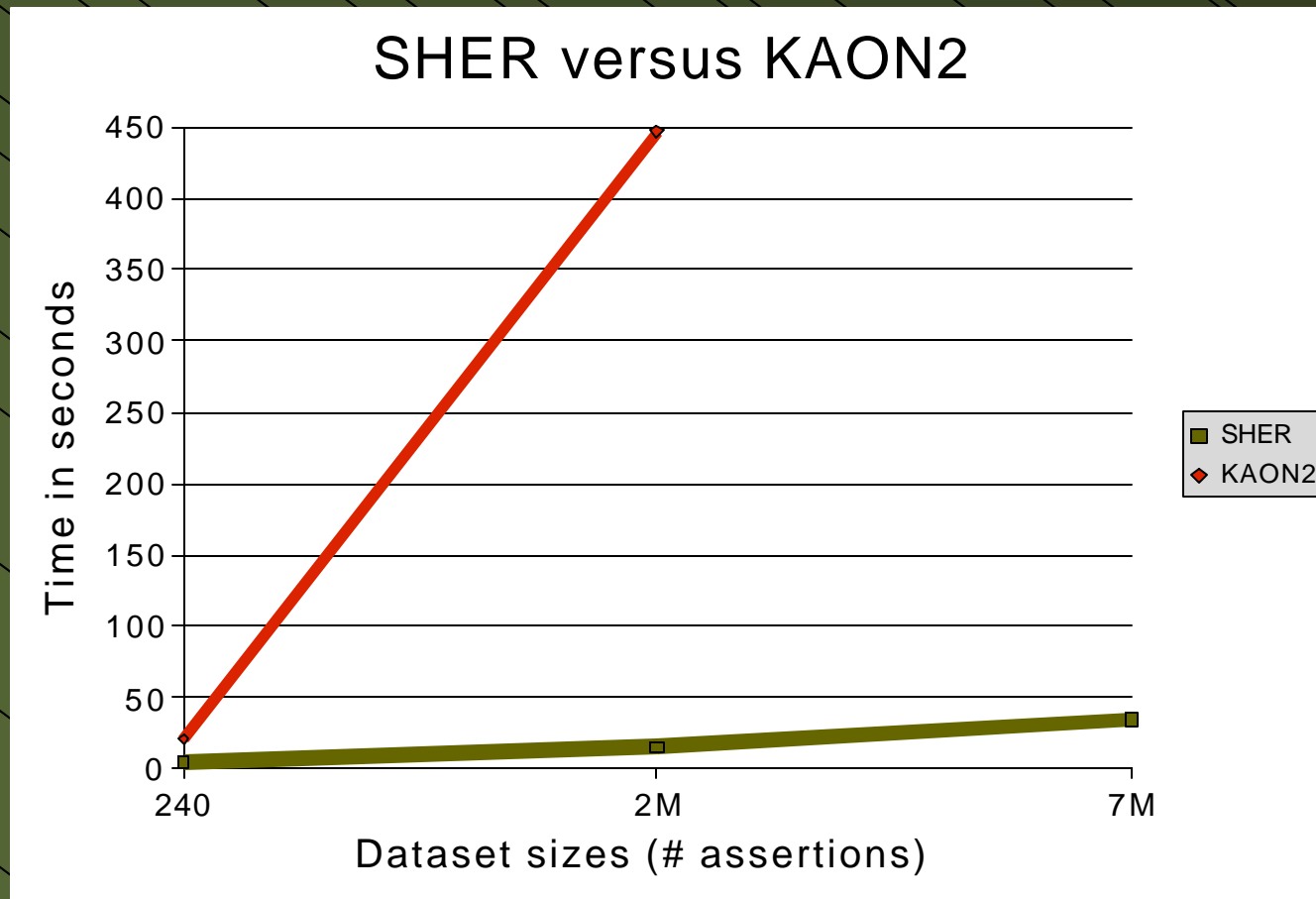
Pharmacy data →

Radiology data →



*Clinical trial queries in SNOMED:
Patients on drugs with active ingredient
of warfarin? JS*

SHER Scalability Results vs. state of the art



Performance of SHER vs state of the art (KAON2) on OWL benchmark – KAON2 fails on 7M (112 queries) – AAAI 2007.