PathONE : from one thousand patients to one cell

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Published: 01/01/2017

Document Version
Accepted manuscript including changes made at the peer-review stage

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Citation for published version (APA):

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Download date: 07. Dec. 2018
Introduction

Digital Pathology is an image-based information environment, where tissue glasses are digitized by high-speed scanners. Whole-slide-images (WSIs) are generated and pathologists are empowered to analyze and diagnose them directly on a computer monitor. In coming years, the technology uptake will harmonize the flow of images, information from Electronic Health Records (EHRs) and image analysis results. However, integration of this heterogeneous data into a single application is still one of the challenges in the evolution of pathology to a digital practice.

Aim

- Provide a tool to facilitate simple queries in an EHRs database
- Directly link patients’ data to Whole-Slide-Images
- Introduce WSI-filtering by slides content and image analysis results
- Empower researchers tasks in one-single-screen solution

TASKS

Standard researchers’ tasks enabled by PATHONE, currently achieved by accessing separate services.

Task 1. Search a cohort that fits the research question in the clinical information system.

Task 2. Look for respective tissue slides in the archive

Task 3. Make a list of suitable images for image analysis or clinical studies.

Task 4. Pre-process images and run detection algorithms on digital slides

Future work

We implemented a visualization tool to enable researchers to perform the standard steps which they are used to go through before starting image analysis studies.

We collected informal feedback to assess the satisfaction of potential users.

We aim to extend the tool with machine learning techniques to enhance the explorative experience and to integrate more image analysis computations to enhance the slide filtering on more biological information.

This work is supported by:

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