

BioModels Database, a curated resource of annotated published models

Nicolas Le Novère, EMBL-EBI





What is a model? A simulation?

- A model is a mathematical description of the components of a system, their relationships, and the evolution of both.
 - ordinary differential equations (system evolution) dX/dt = f(X)
 - partial differential equation (system description) $\nabla X = g(X)$
 - \blacksquare algebraic equations (conservation laws) h(X) = 0
 - probability distributions PX = i(X)
 - \blacksquare master equation dPX/dt = j(PX)
 - cell automata/finite elements
 - **...**



ЕМВІ-ЕВІ

What is a model? A simulation?

- A simulation is the instantiation of a model over time, using a given algorithmic approach, and a particular software: A model can generate simulations giving different results!
 - Logical (boolean or discrete) approach
 - Deterministic approach
 - Stochastic approach
 - Fixed timesteps
 - Adaptative timesteps
 - · ...
- Plus ... range of simulations
 - parameter scan
 - parameter search/optimisation
 - phase-plane analysis
 - bifurcation analysis
 - ...



Systems Biology Markup Language

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The Systems Biology Markup Language (SBML) is a computer-readable format for representing **models of biochemical reaction networks**. SBML is applicable to metabolic networks, cell-signaling pathways, regulatory networks, and many others.

Internationally Supported and Widely Used

SBML has been evolving since mid-2000 through the efforts of an international group of software developers and users. Today, SBML is **supported by over 110 software systems**, including the following (where '*' indicates SBML support in development):

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CLEML	Meta-All	SBML ODE Solver	WebCell
COPASI	MetaFluxNet	SBML-PET	WinSCAMP
Cyto-Sim	MIRIAM	SBMLeditor	Xholon
Cytoscape	MMT2	SBMLmerge	XPPAUT
DBsolve	Modesto	SBMLR	

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(May 21, 2007) **COPASI** version 4.1 (build 21) has been released. COPASI is a free, general simulator for systems biology with a large number of features. read more

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and ⊨eri

- Proposed guidelines for curation of quantitative models
 - Specifically about encoding & annotation
 - Limited to models that can be simulated
- Effort arose from a meeting organized by Andrew Finney during ICSB 2004
- Not specific to SBML; applicable to any structured model format



_computationa

PERSPECTIVE

Minimum information requested in the annotation of biochemical models (MIRIAM)

Nicolas Le Novère^{1,15}, Andrew Finney^{2,15}, Michael Hucka³, Upinder S Bhalla⁴, Fabien Campagne⁵, Julio Collado-Vides⁶, Edmund J Crampin⁷, Matt Halstead⁷, Edda Klipp⁸, Pedro Mendes⁹, Poul Nielsen⁷, Herbert Sauro¹⁰, Bruce Shapiro¹¹, Jacky L Snoep¹², Hugh D Spence¹³ & Barry L Wanner¹⁴

Most of the published quantitative models in biology are lost for the community because they are either not made available or they are insufficiently characterized to allow them to be reused. The lack of a standard description format. lack of stringent reviewing and authors' carelessness are the main causes for incomplete model descriptions. With today's increased interest in detailed biochemical models. it is necessary to define a minimum quality standard for the encoding of those models. We propose a set of rules for curating quantitative models of biological systems. These rules define procedures for encoding and annotating models represented in machine-readable form. We believe their application will enable users to (i) have confidence that curated models are an accurate reflection of their associated reference descriptions, (ii) search collections of curated models with precision, (iii) quickly identify the biological phenomena that a given curated model or model constituent represents and (iv) facilitate model reuse and composition into large subcellular models.



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Institute of Technology, Pasadone, California 1917-19, USA, "Titler-J Group
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During the genomic era we have witnessed a vast increase in availability of large amounts of quantitative data. This is motivating a shift in the focus of molecular and cellular research from qualitative descriptions of biochemical interactions towards the quantification of such interactions and their dynamics. One of the tenets of systems biology is the use of quantitative models (see Box 1 for definitions) as a mechanism for capturing precise hypotheses and making predictions ¹³. Many specialized models exist that attempt to explain aspects of the cellular machinery. However, as has happened with other types of biological information, such as sequences, macromolecular structures or

Box 1 Glossary

Some terms are used in a very specific way throughout the article. We provide here a precise definition of each one.

Quantitative blochemical model. A formal model of a biological system, based on the mathematical description of its molecular and cellular components, and the interactions between those components.

Encoded model. A mathematical model written in a formal machine-readable language, such that it can be systematically parsed and employed by simulation and analysis software without further human translation.

MIRIAM-compliant model. A model that passes all the tests and fulfills all the conditions listed in MIRIAM.

Reference description. A unique document that describes, or references the description of the model, the structure of the model, the numerical values necessary to instantiate a simulation from the model, or to perform a mathematical analysis of the model, and the results one expects from such a simulation or analysis.

Curation process. The process by which the compliance of an encoded model with MIRIAM is achieved and/or verified. The curation process may encompass some or all of the following tasks: encoding of the model, verification of the reference correspondence and annotation of the model.

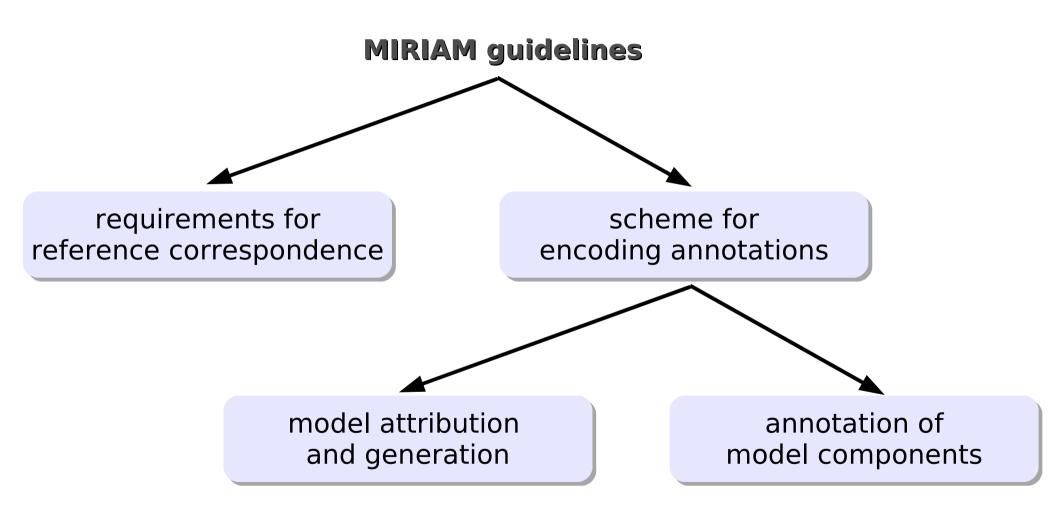
Reference correspondence. The fact that the structure of a model and the results of a simulation or an analysis match the information present in the reference description.

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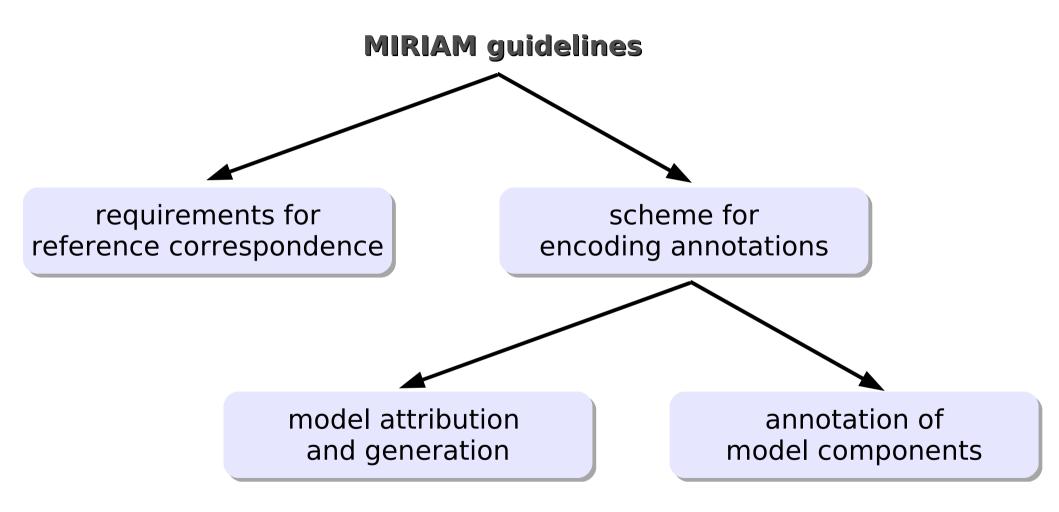








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BioModels Database



- Store and serve quantitative models of biological interest
- Only models described in the peer-reviewed scientific literature.
- Models are curated: computer software check the syntax, while human curators check the semantics.
- Models are simulated to check the reference correspondence
- Model components are annotated, to improve identification and retrieval.
- Models are accepted in several formats, and served in several others.
- Aims to be the "UniProt" of quantitative modelling.





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5 May 2005 Volume 435 Issue no 7038

In pursuit of systems

The study of functioning groups of molecules is an important frontier of biology at reductionist and holistic levels. Central to the long-term goals of scientific research, it brings its own challenges of infrastructure and evaluation.

hat is the difference between a live cat and a dead one? One scientific answer is 'systems biology'. A dead cat is a collection of its component parts. A live cat is the emergent behaviour of the system incorporating those parts. There is certainly a vast distance to go before we can fully encompass such a system within scientific description. So how is systems biology already moving us towards the fullest possible description of a live cat?

By focusing on the behaviour of individual proteins and other biomolecules, much of what gives life its unique properties can be missed. To a systems biologist, the network of interactions formed by these components is more important than the molecules themselves. Properties such as robustness and evolvability, essential characteristics of life, then emerge from the topology of biological networks, independent of the constituents from which they are built.

Such a holistic view may sound dangerously soft-edged. Far from it. Systems biology couples the acquisition of comprehensive, high-definition data sets to the construction of quantitative models and computer simulations. Indeed, it is an explicit aim of both the Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes and the Alliance for Cellular Signaling to construct a fully functioning computer model of a cell.

The present state of experimental systems biology is both tantalizing and frustrating. To provide the level of detail required for us to know what is going on in a cell, microarray technologies will need to be faster and require smaller samples; ways to label and follow more biological molecules within a cell must be discovered; new spectroscopic tools to non-invasively measure multiple metabolite levels will need to be developed, and so on. Nature is committed to publishing studies that push back the technological frontier of what it is possible to know about important biological systems.

But technical wizardry and large data sets are only part of the systems-biology approach — a system is not fully understood until a quantitative model can be built. The role of modelling in biological research is controversial and can spark heated debates. What is clear, though, is that the wealth of experimental data emerging from systems biology would be uninterpretable without detailed models against which they can be compared. Advances in modelling and simulation are thus no less important than data collection.

Every discipline generates community infrastructures, and systems biology is no exception. In the past five years, systems-biology institutes, departments and initiatives have been springing up across the globe. New journals have been launched, including The Institution of Electrical Engineers' Systems Biology and Nature Publishing Group's Molecular Systems Biology. The latter, an author-pays, online-only journal, is a joint venture with the European Molecular Biology Organization and went livelast month.

The exchange of models between researchers is imperative, so a welcome development last month was the launch of BioModels (www.ebi.ac.uk/biomodels), a curated database for the deposition of biological models. BioModels has built on the success of Systems Biology Markup Language (SBML) in providing a format for the presentation of models, allowing them to be implemented on different software platforms. Nature journals and Molecular Systems Biology support submissions involving SBML.

It is hoped that BioModels will form the basis of a universally accepted repository that can do for systems biology what GenBank and the Protein Data Bank have done for genetics and structural biology. Nature applauds such efforts and will encourage authors of papers containing suitable models to contribute them to BioModels.

Systems biology presents an intellectual challenge to scientists and journal editors alike. Papers in this field document a highly multidisciplinary endeavour. Reviewers of such papers are very good at dissecting the aspects that fall within their sphere of expertise, but are less insightful beyond. So it falls to editors to weigh their frequently conflicting opinions in taking balanced and clear-sighted decisions. As a multidisciplinary journal, Nature welcomes the particular challenges that systems biology presents.





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 - Molecular Systems Biology
 - all PLoS journals
 - all BMC Journals

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Correspondence

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Systems biology standards—the community speaks

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To the editor:

Your editorial 'Standard operating procedures" in the November issue (*Nat. Biotechnol.* **24**, 1299, 2006) highlights the impetus for standards development in biology. Such standards are particularly important in the area of systems biology, which aims to build models and quantitative simulations of complex biological systems. In particular, standards concerning modeling workflows, data formats and model publication are needed to facilitate collaboration and communication between modelers and experimenters from diverse scientific backgrounds. Various aspects of standardization have already been addressed, such as minimal requirements in the annotation of biochemical models (MIRIAM¹), compatibility of tools for kinetic modeling² and lessons that can be drawn from standards in high-throughput technologies³. Standardization is intensely debated in the systems biology community and plays a major role on the level of research politics: almost all systems biology projects that are currently funded by the European Commission (Brussels) promise to develop or define standards.

Here, we present the results of an online survey conducted to assess which *de facto* standards are already established in the community and whether scientists would appreciate the enforcement of further standards (<u>Supplementary Results</u> online). We



























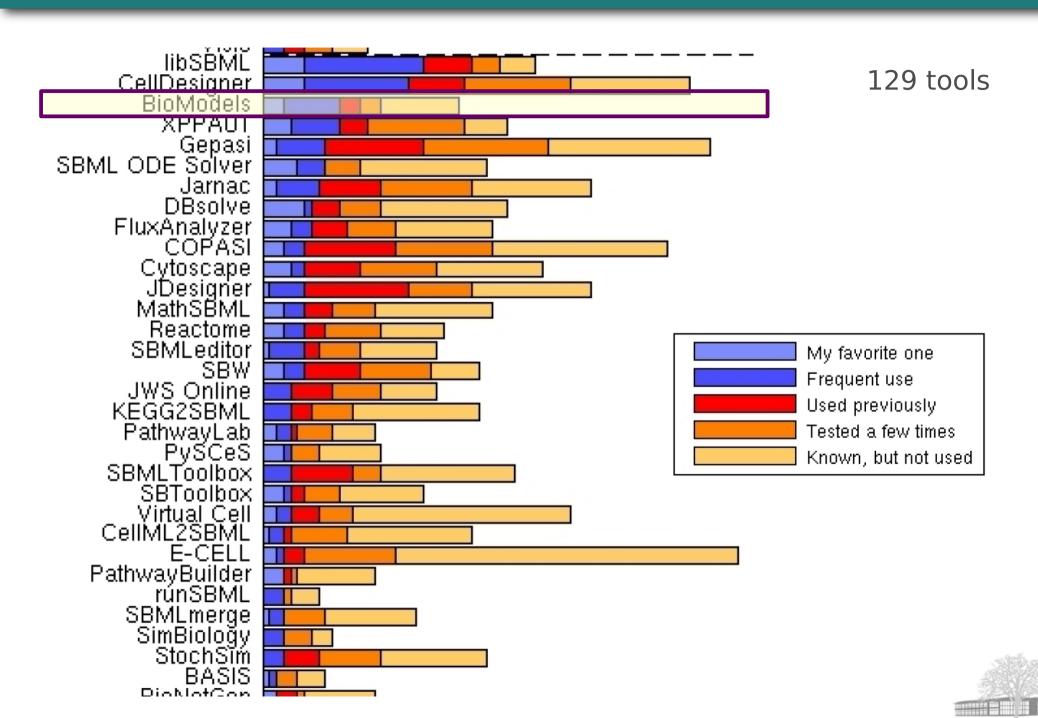






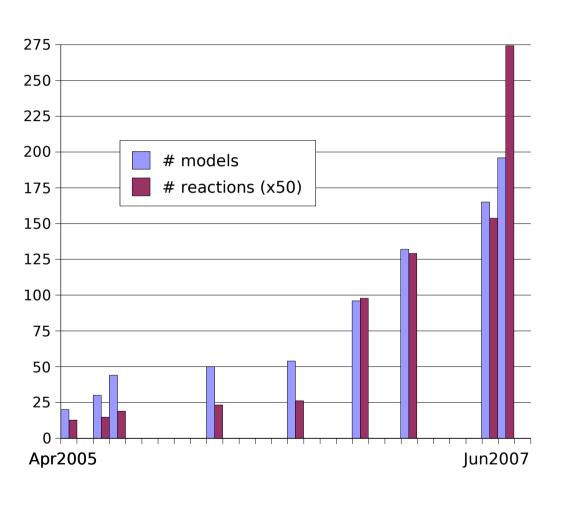


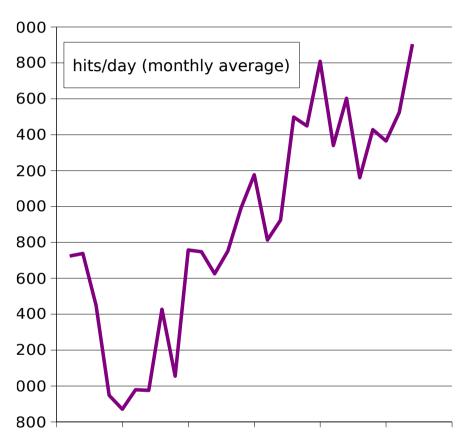
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Steady-increase of BioModels DB









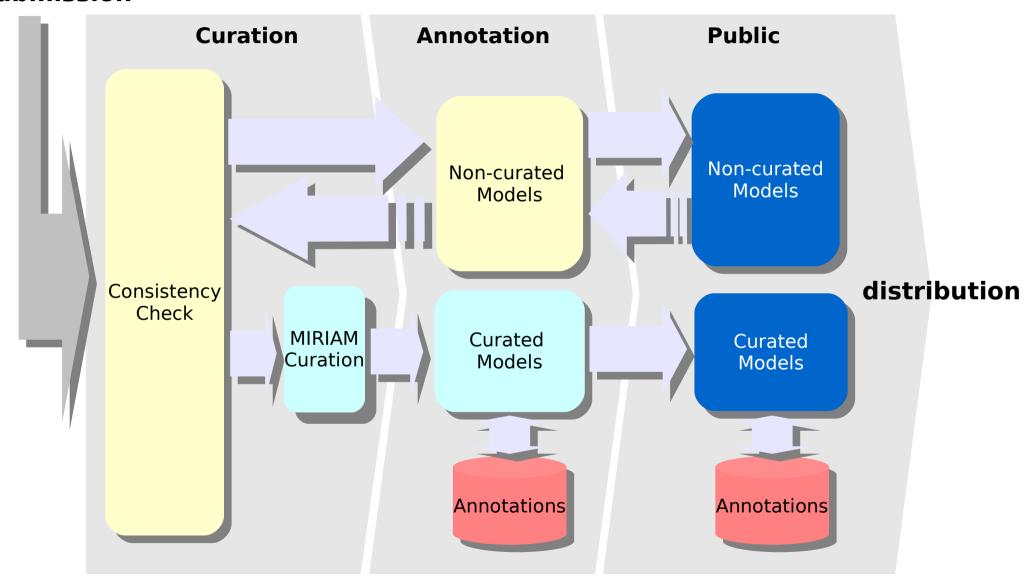
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 http://www.csml.org/models/imported-models/models-imported-from-biomodels/
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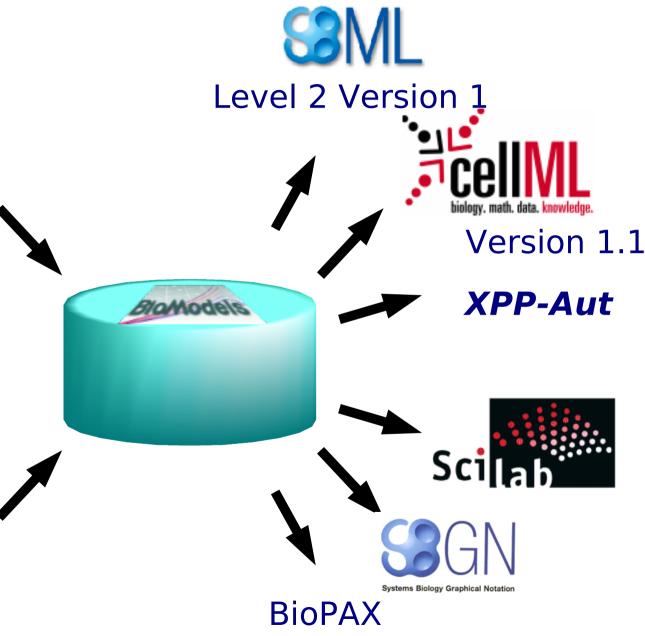
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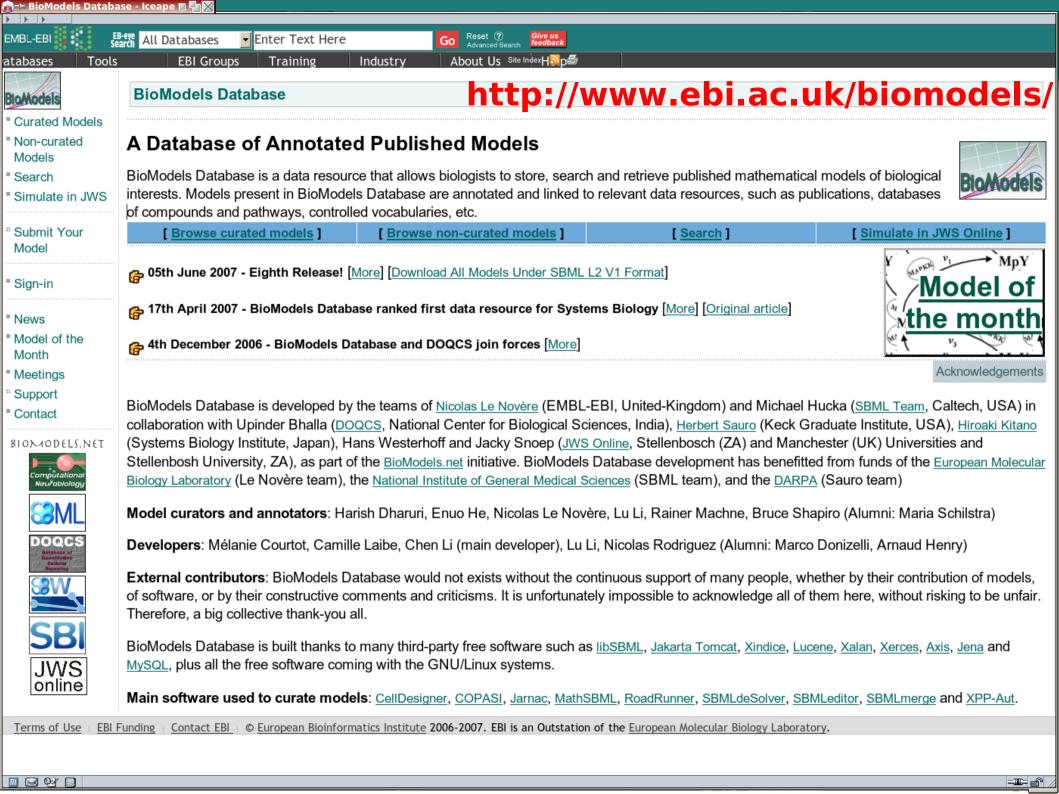
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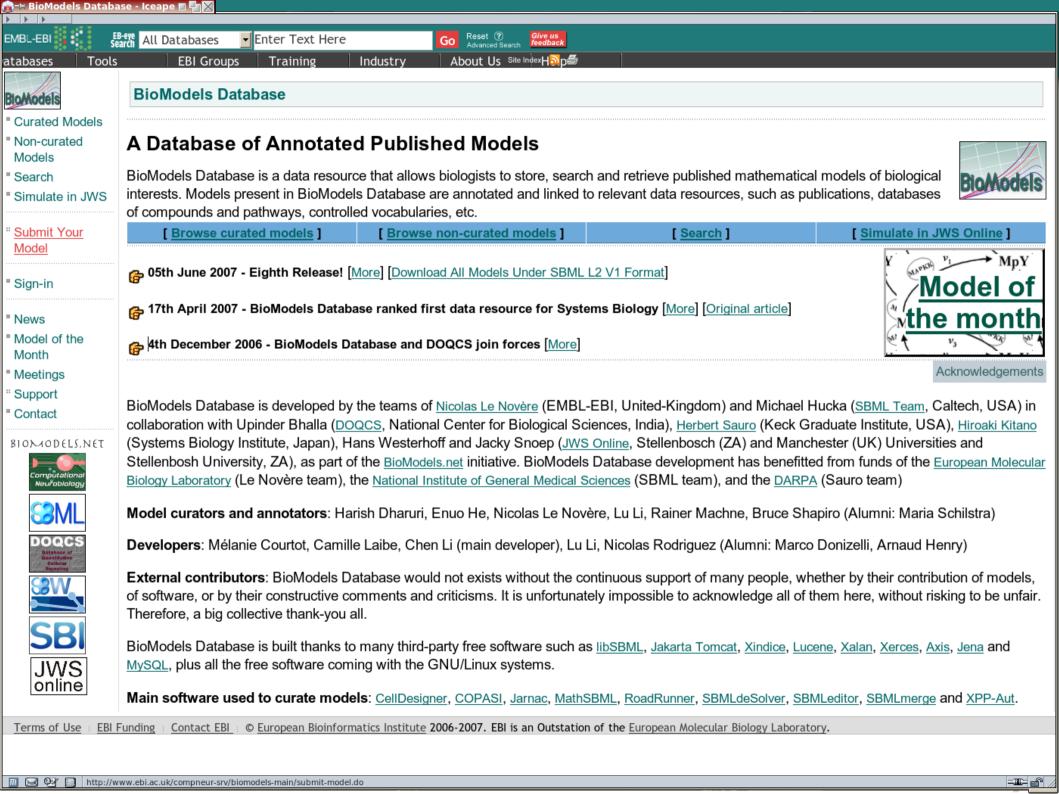


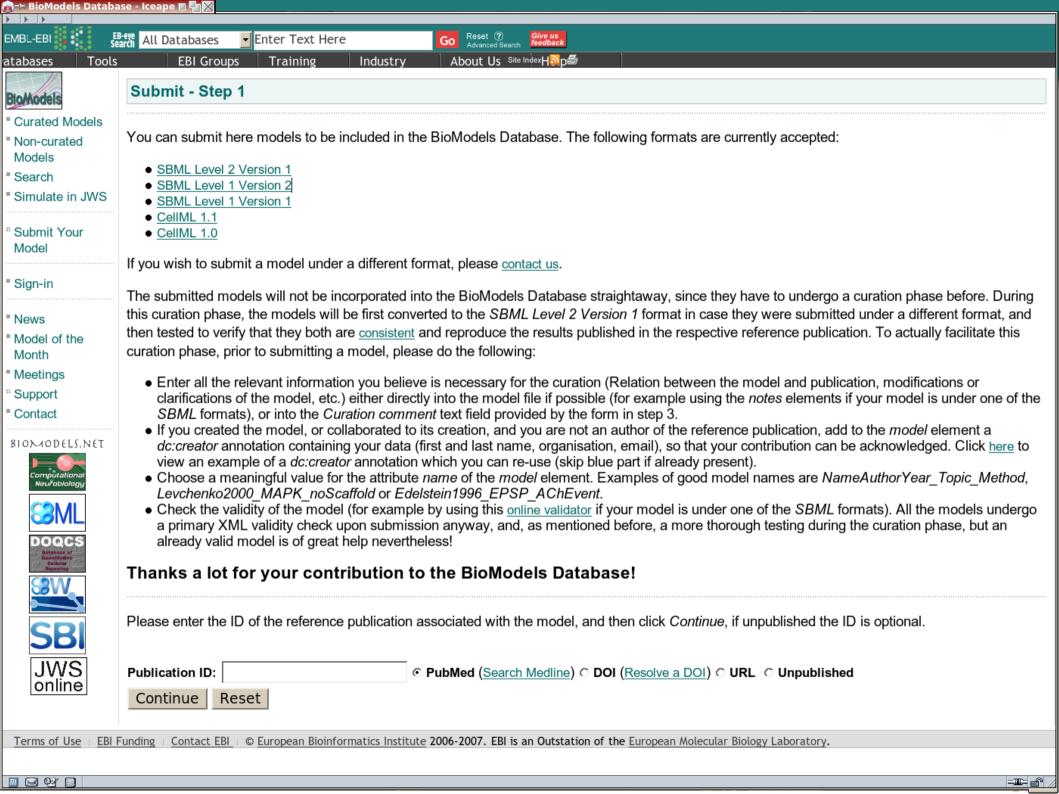
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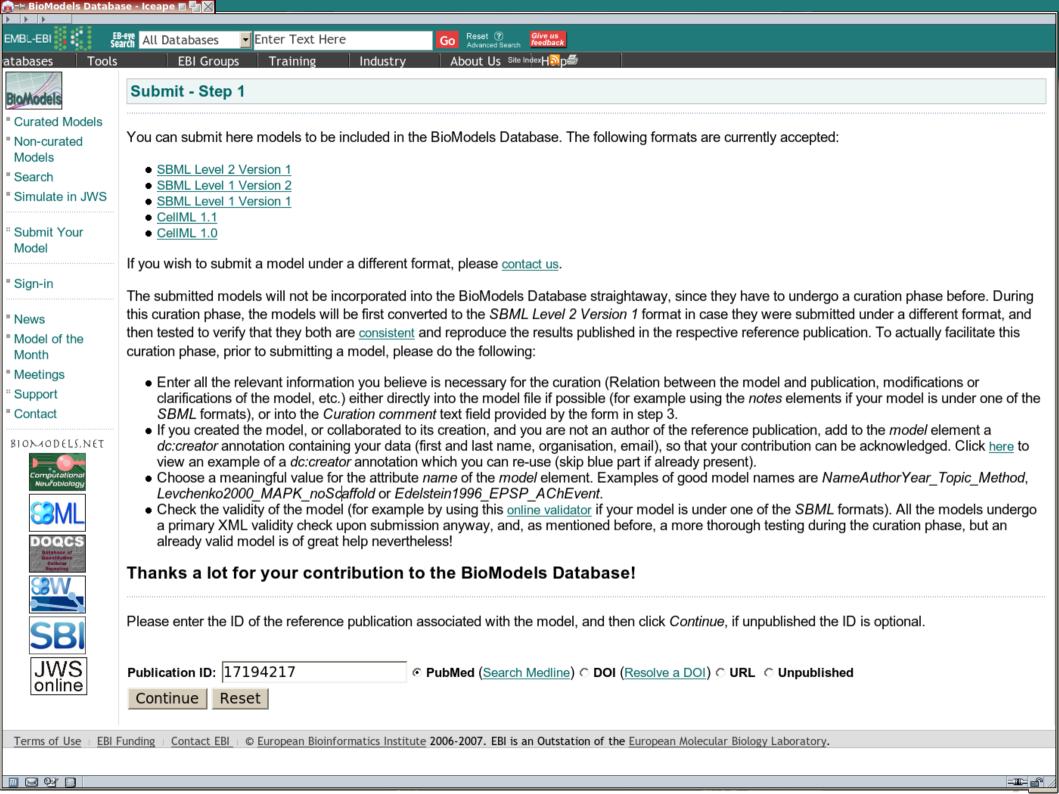


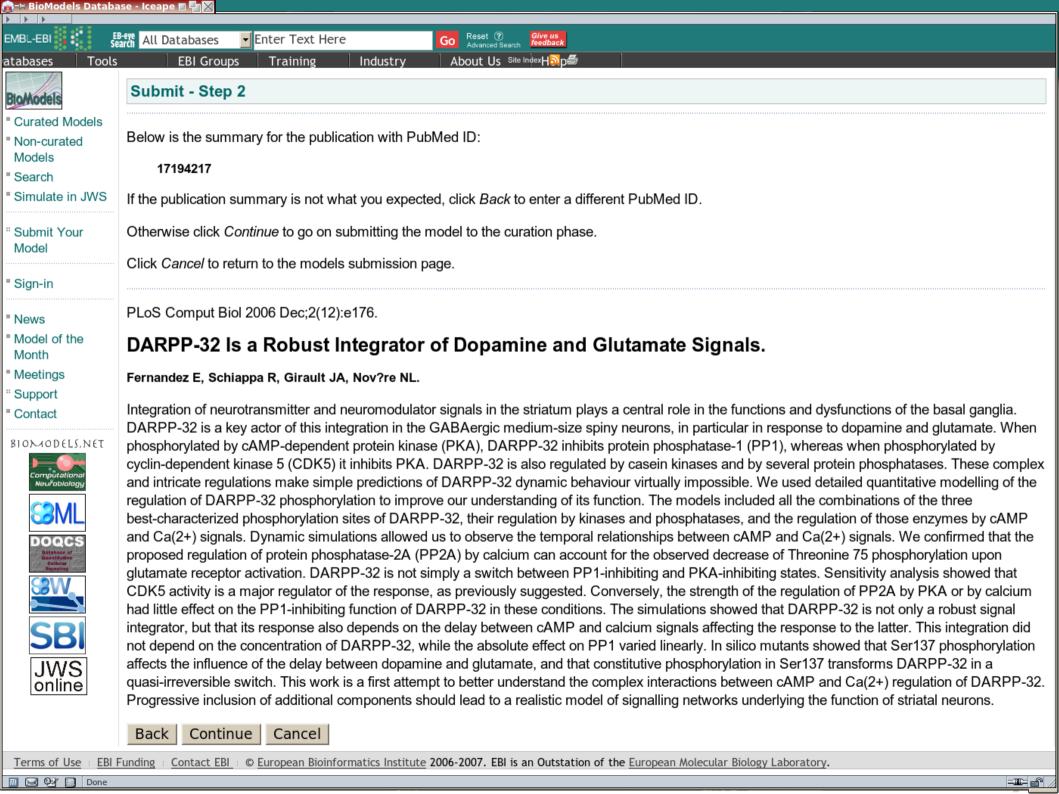


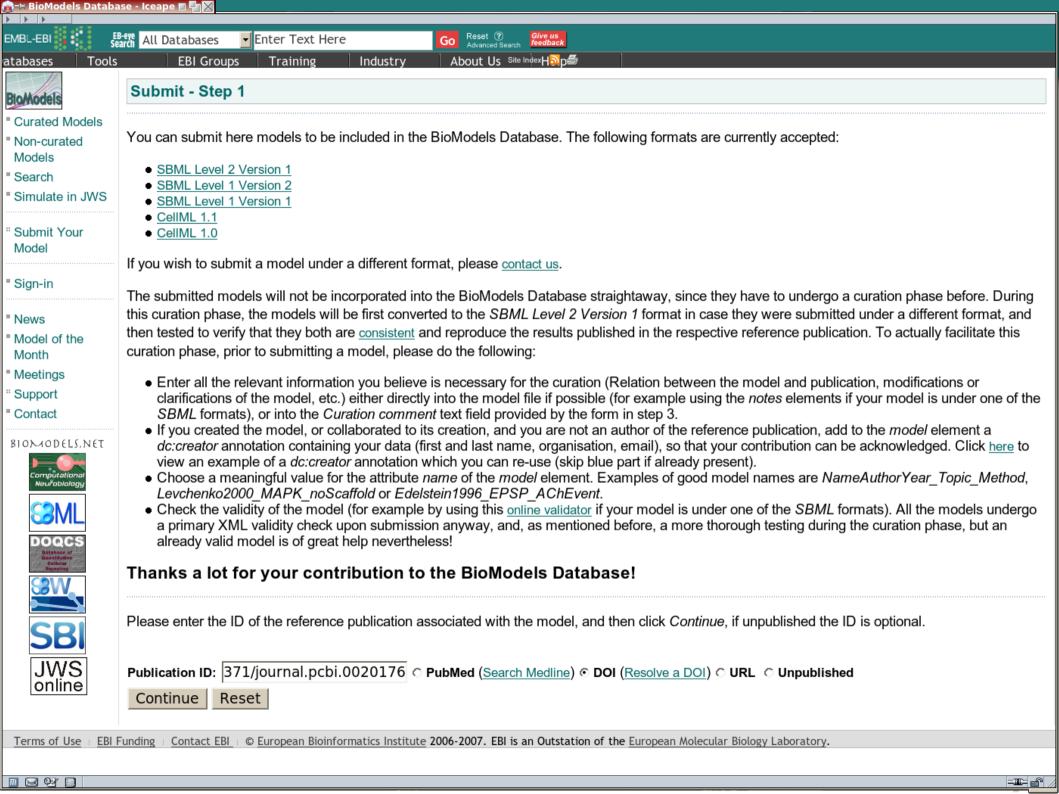


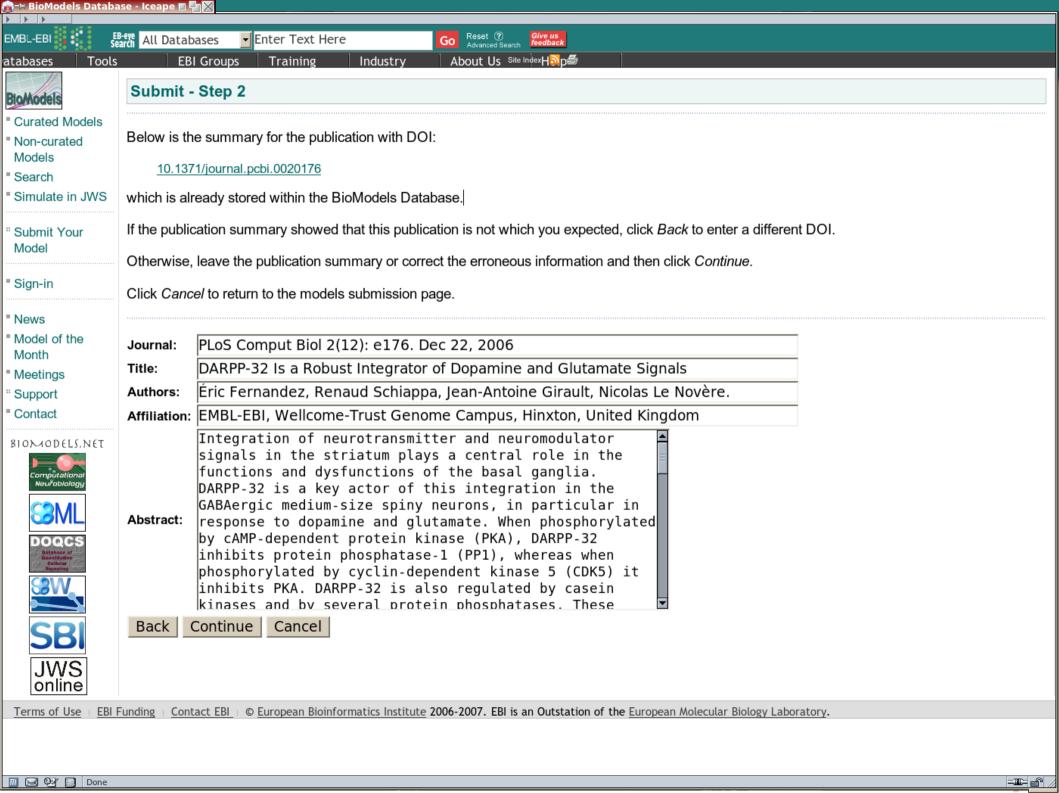


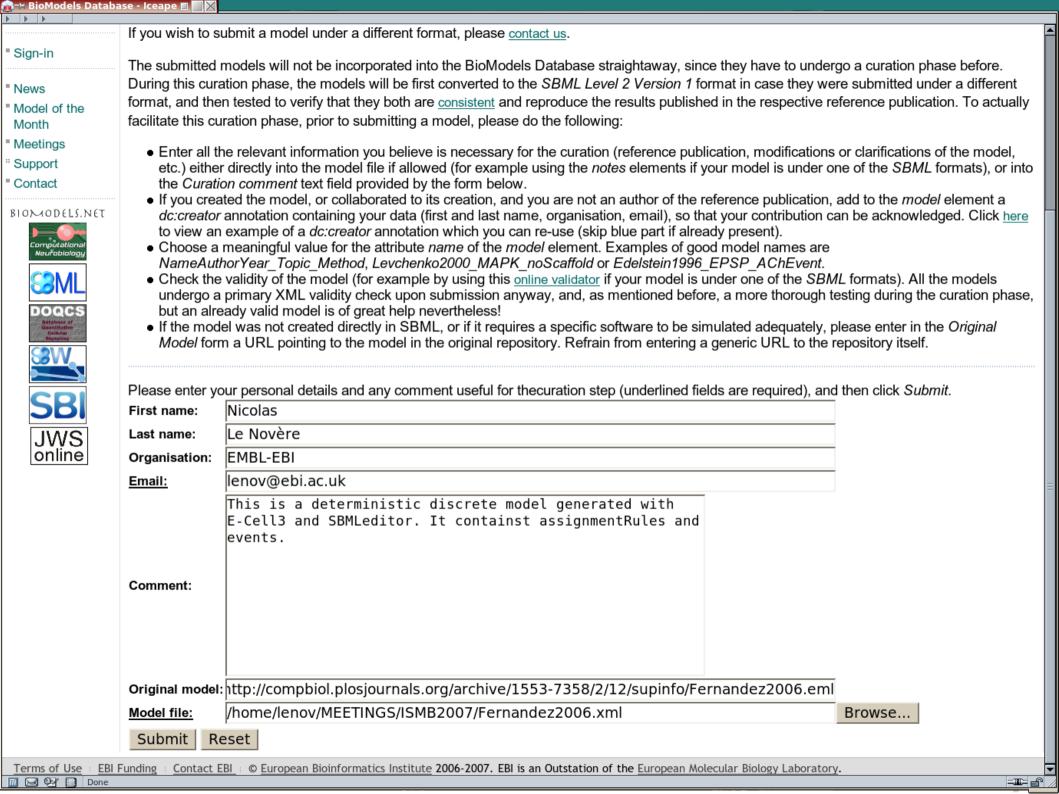


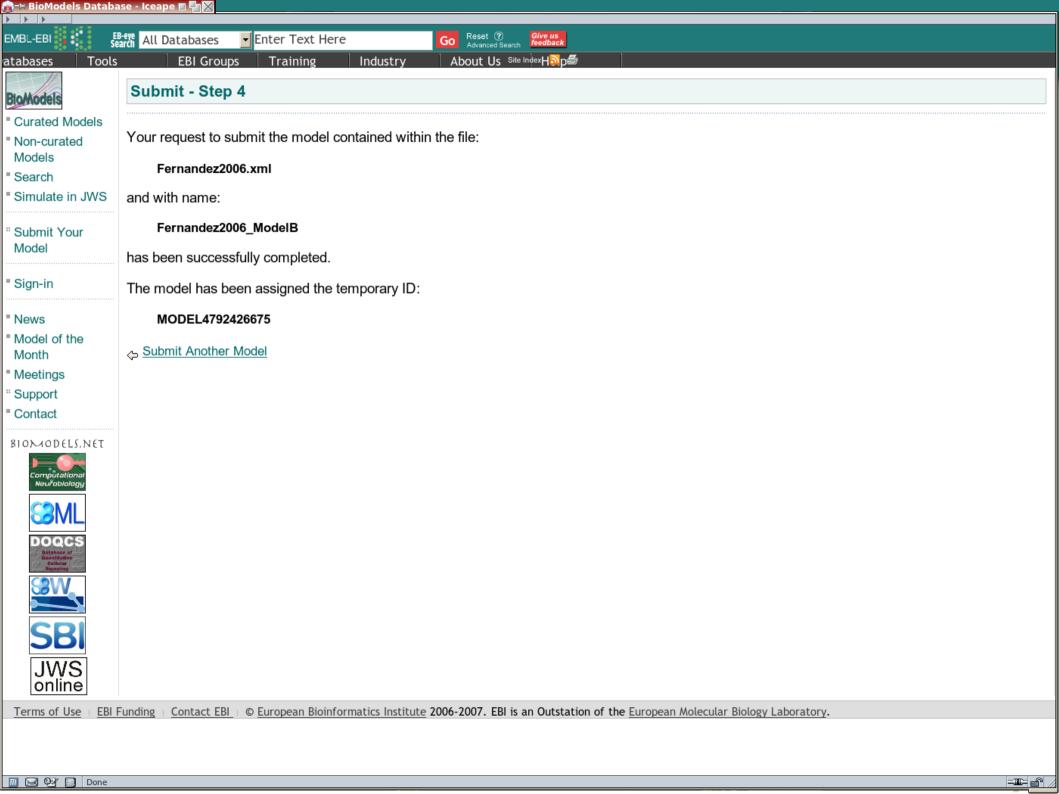


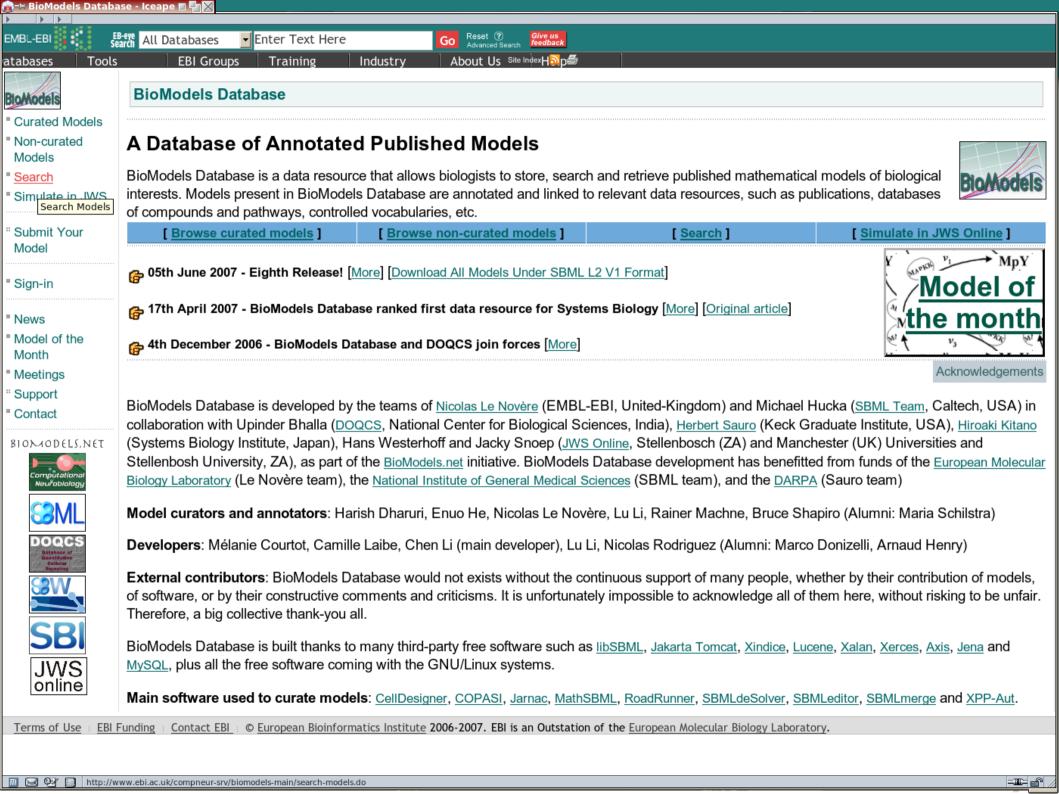


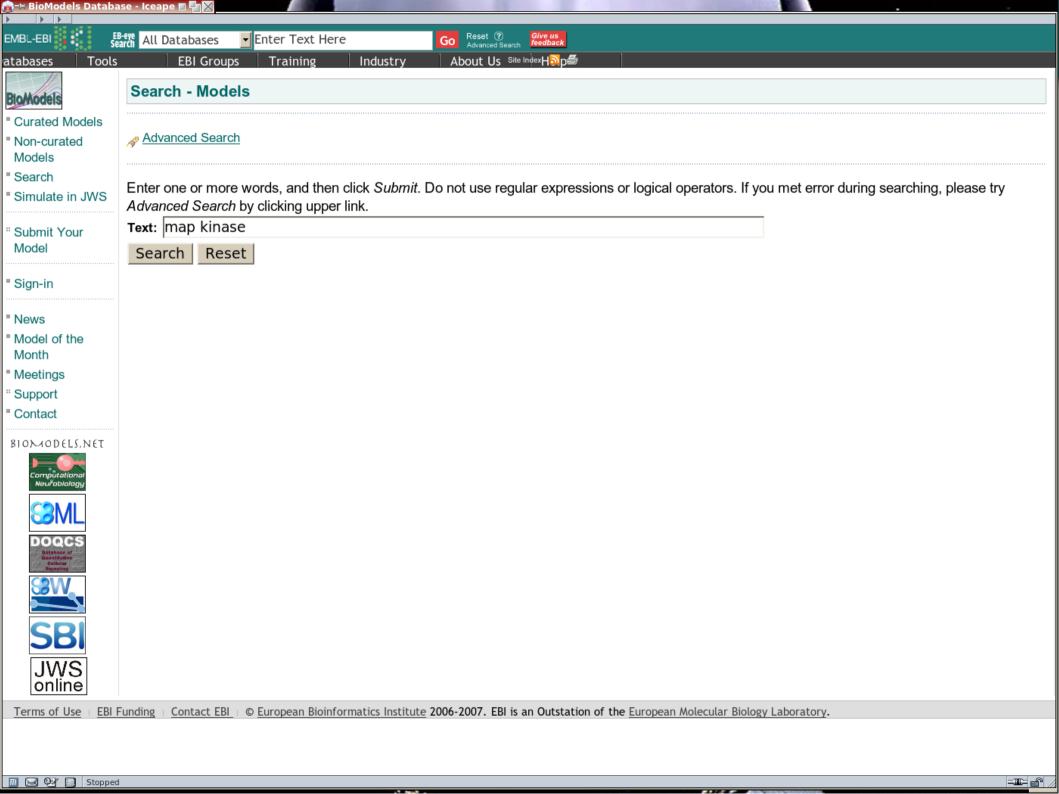


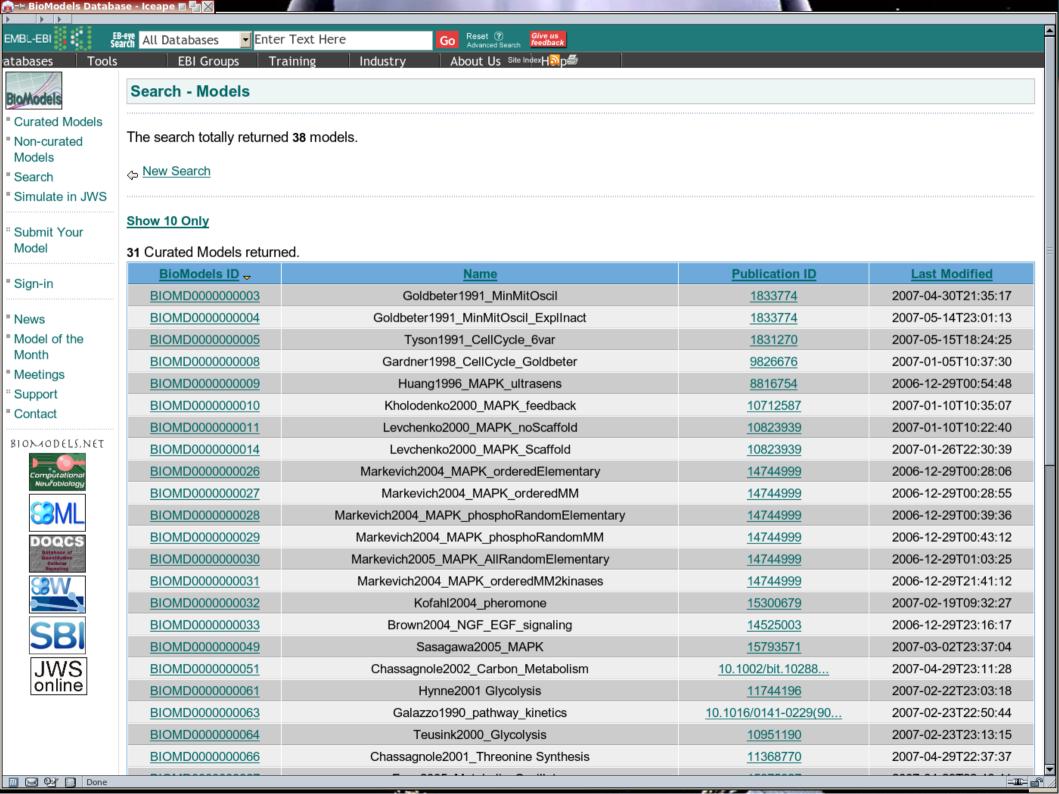


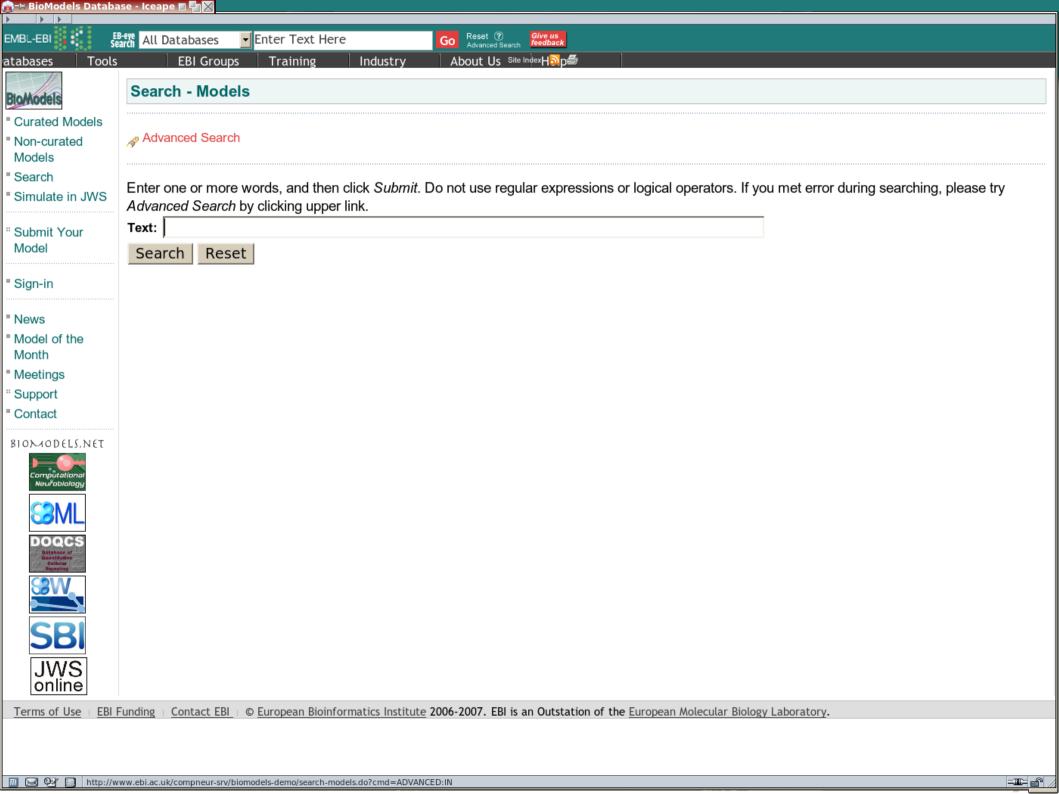


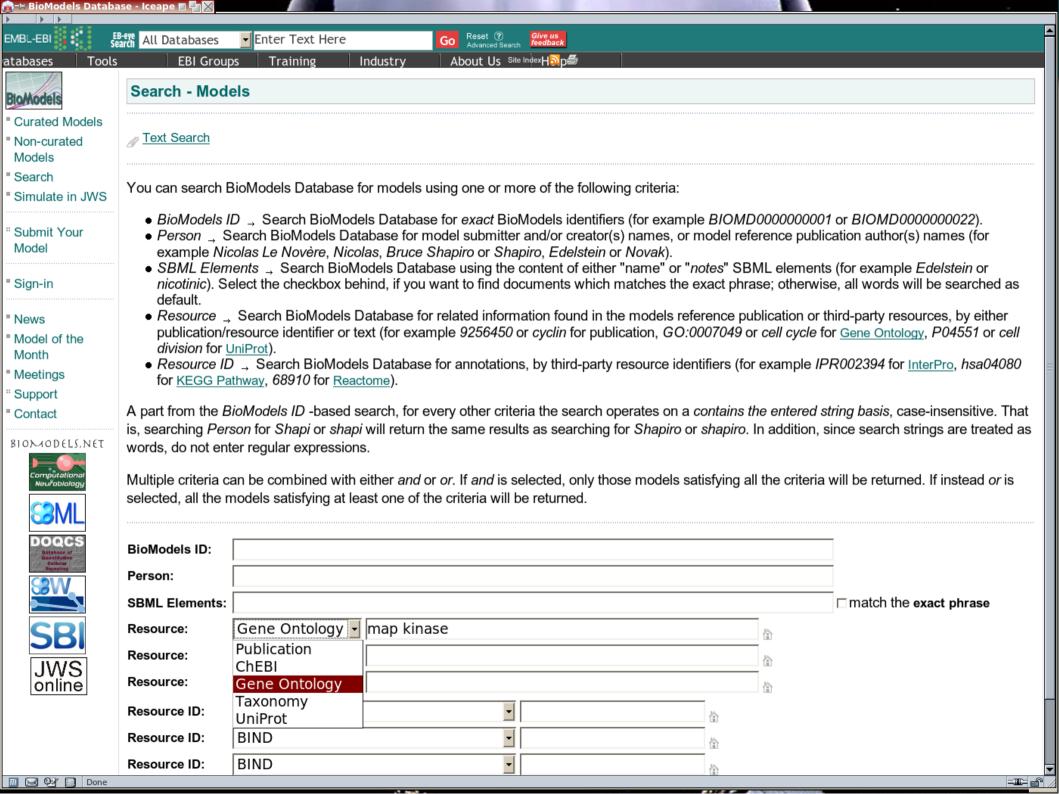


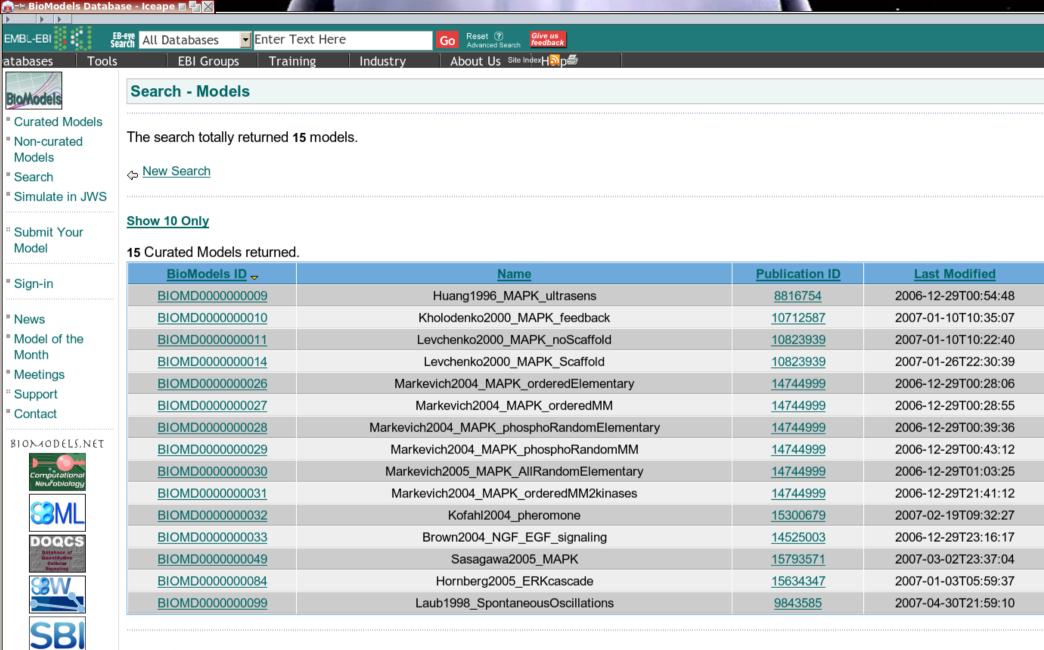










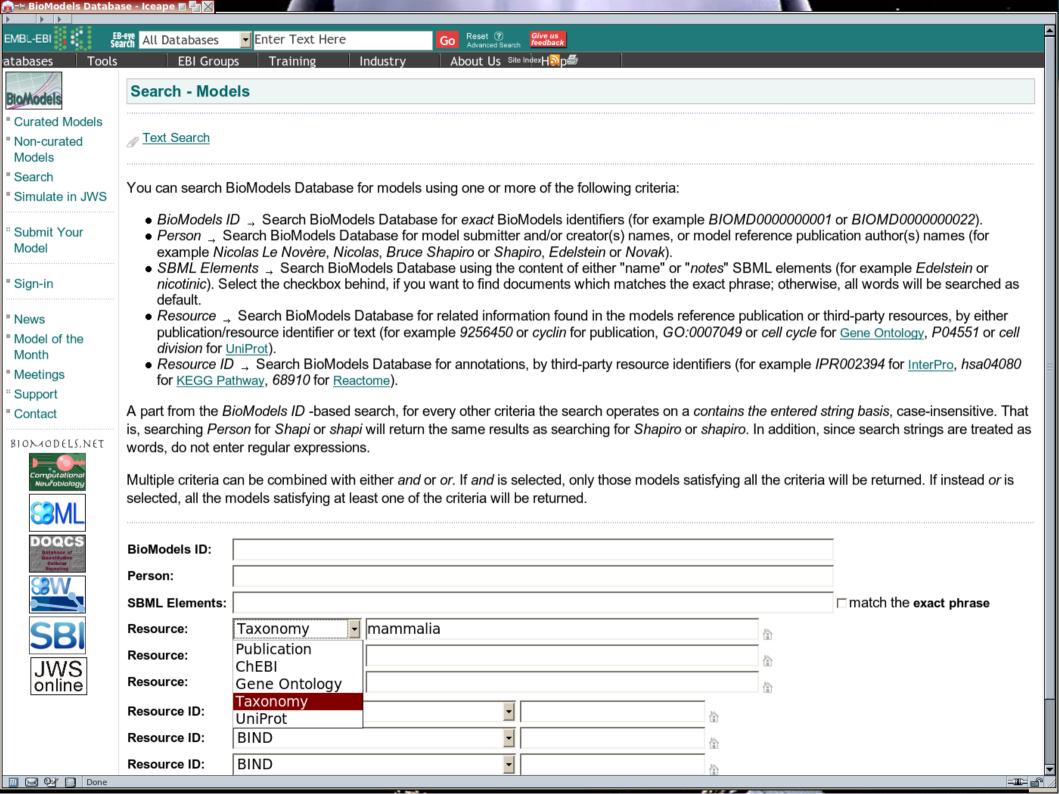


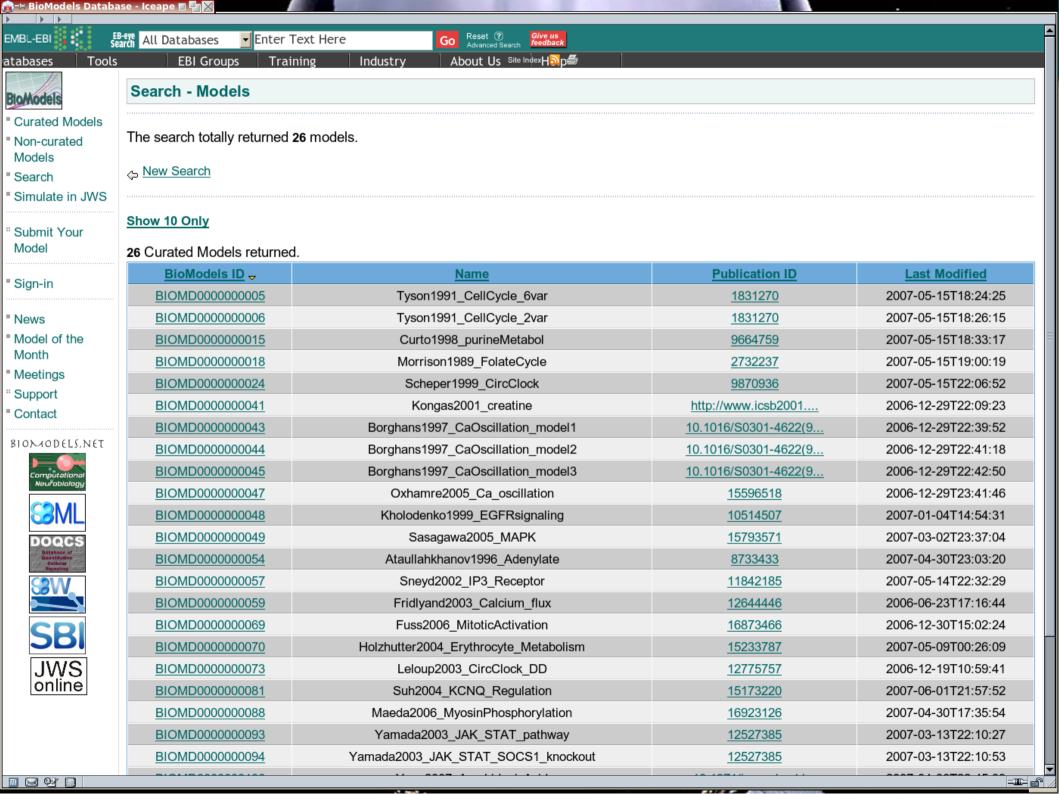
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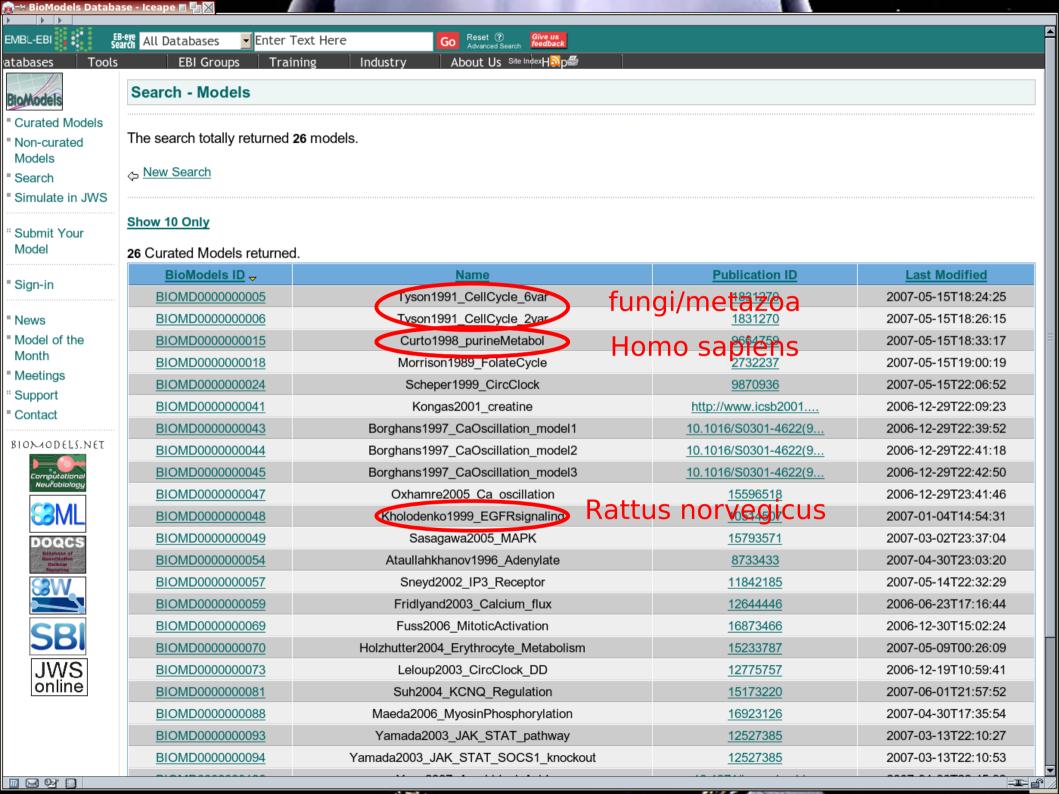
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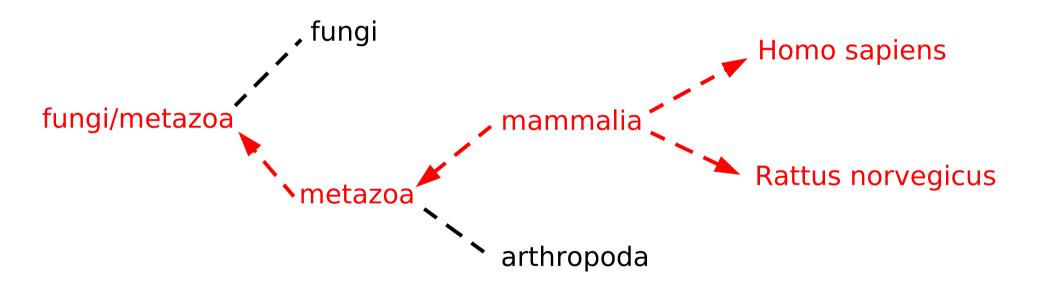
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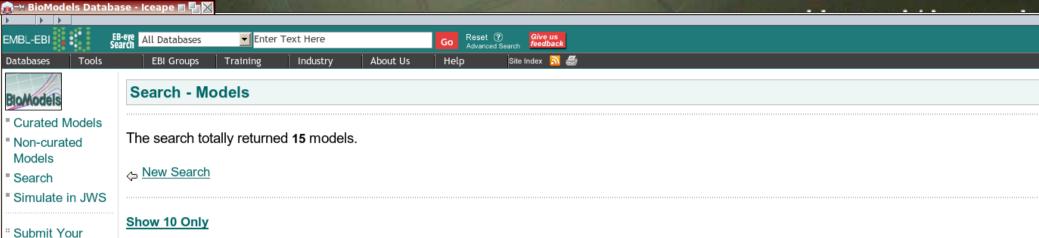












15 Curated Models returned

<u>BioModels ID</u> →	<u>Name</u>	Publication ID	<u>Last Modified</u>
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BIOMD000000010	Kholodenko2000_MAPK_feedback	10712587	2007-01-10T10:35:07
BIOMD000000011	Levchenko2000_MAPK_noScaffold	<u>10823939</u>	2007-01-10T10:22:40
BIOMD000000014	Levchenko2000_MAPK_Scaffold	10823939	2007-01-26T22:30:39
BIOMD000000026	Markevich2004_MAPK_orderedElementary	<u>14744999</u>	2006-12-29T00:28:06
BIOMD000000027	Markevich2004_MAPK_orderedMM	14744999	2006-12-29T00:28:55
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BIOMD0000000030	Markevich2005_MAPK_AllRandomElementary	<u>14744999</u>	2006-12-29T01:03:25
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BIOMD000000049	Sasagawa2005_MAPK	<u>15793571</u>	2007-03-02T23:37:04
BIOMD000000084	Hornberg2005_ERKcascade	15634347	2007-01-03T05:59:37
BIOMD000000099	BIOMD000000099 Laub1998_SpontaneousOscillations		2007-04-30T21:59:10

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Model

Sign-in

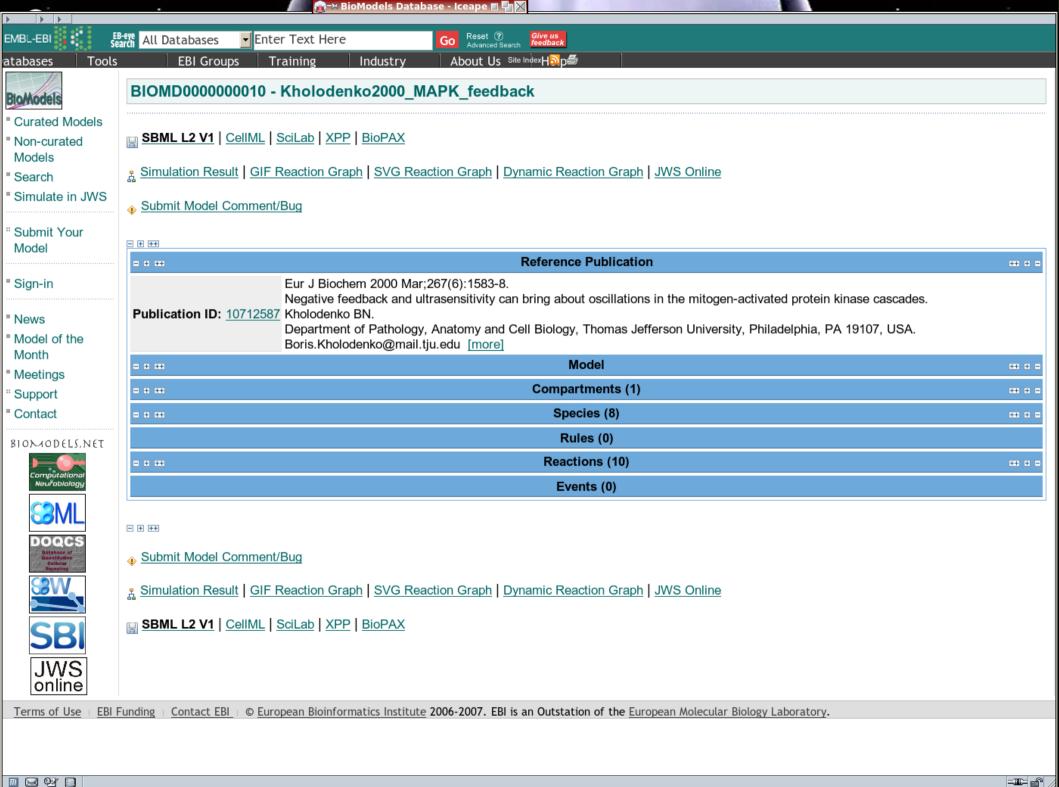
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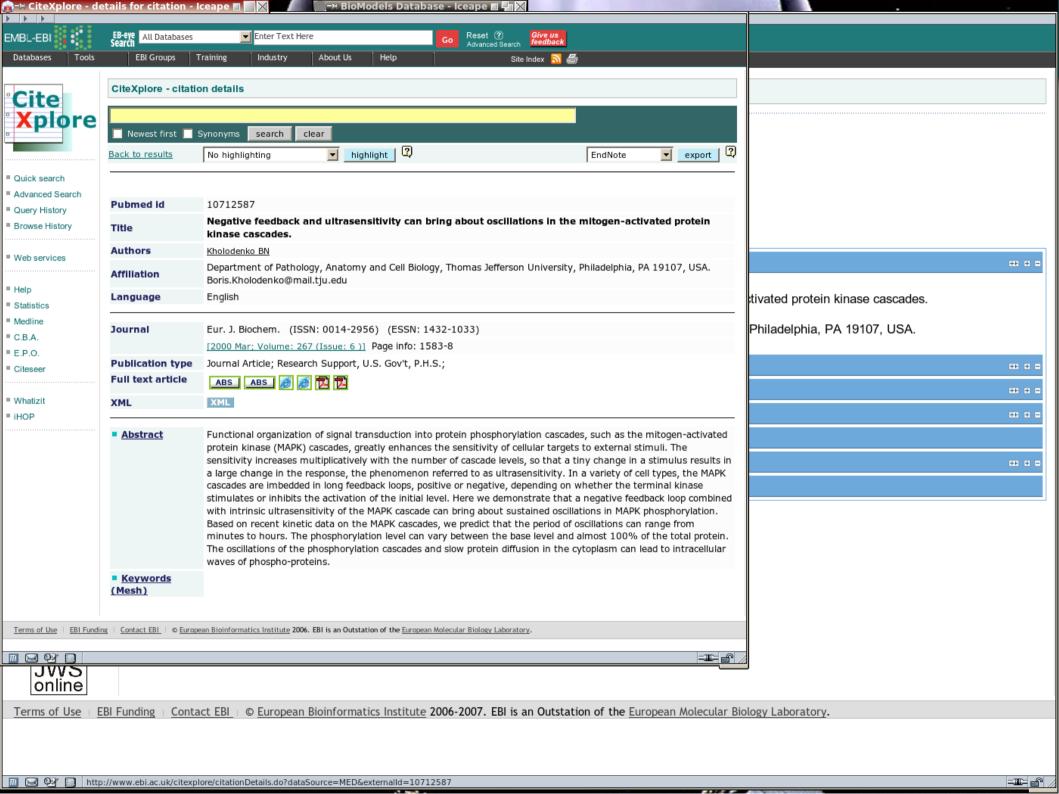
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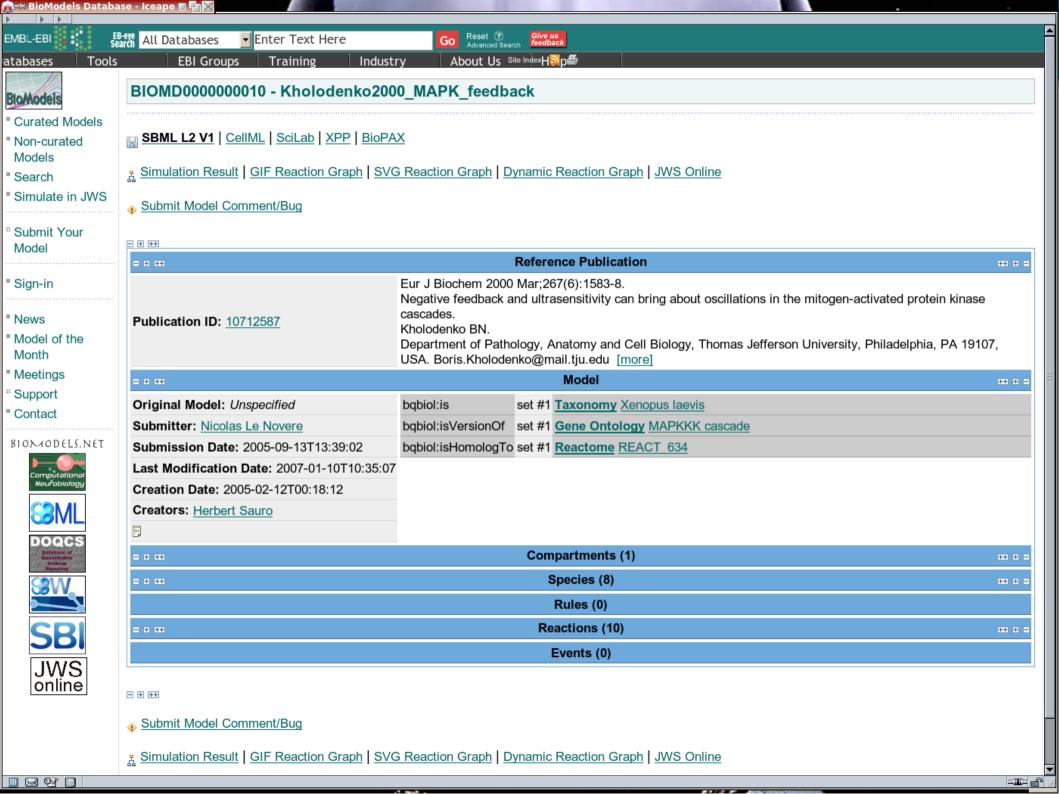
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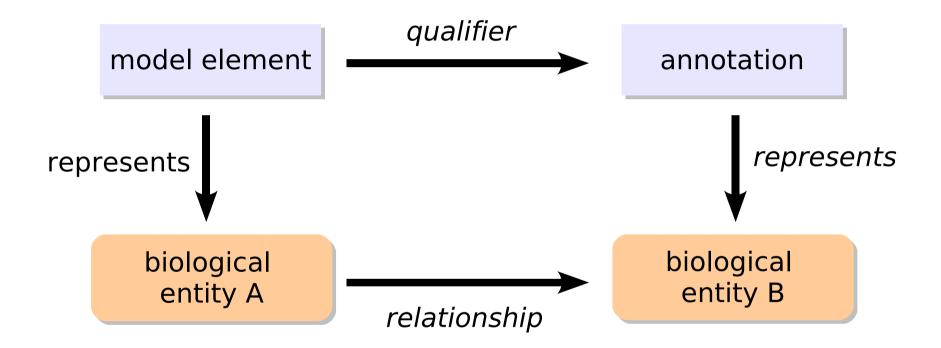








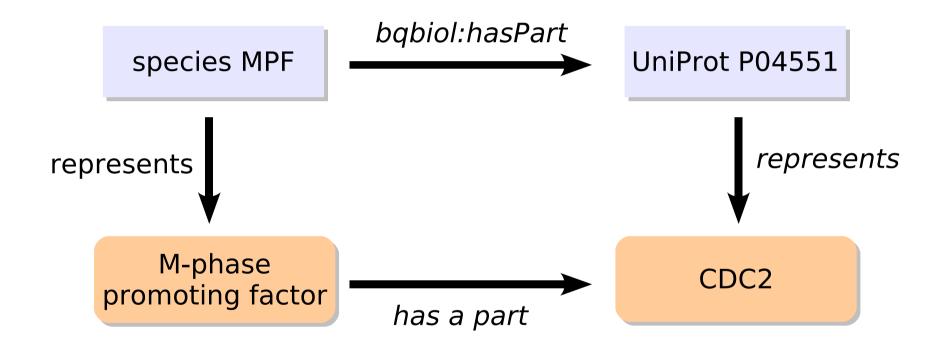
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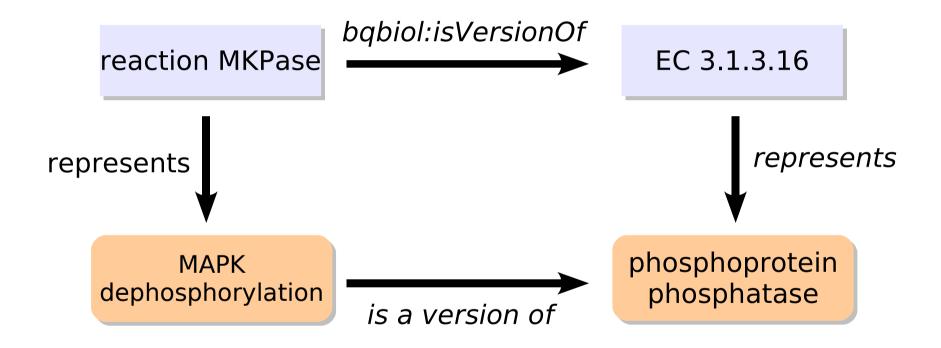
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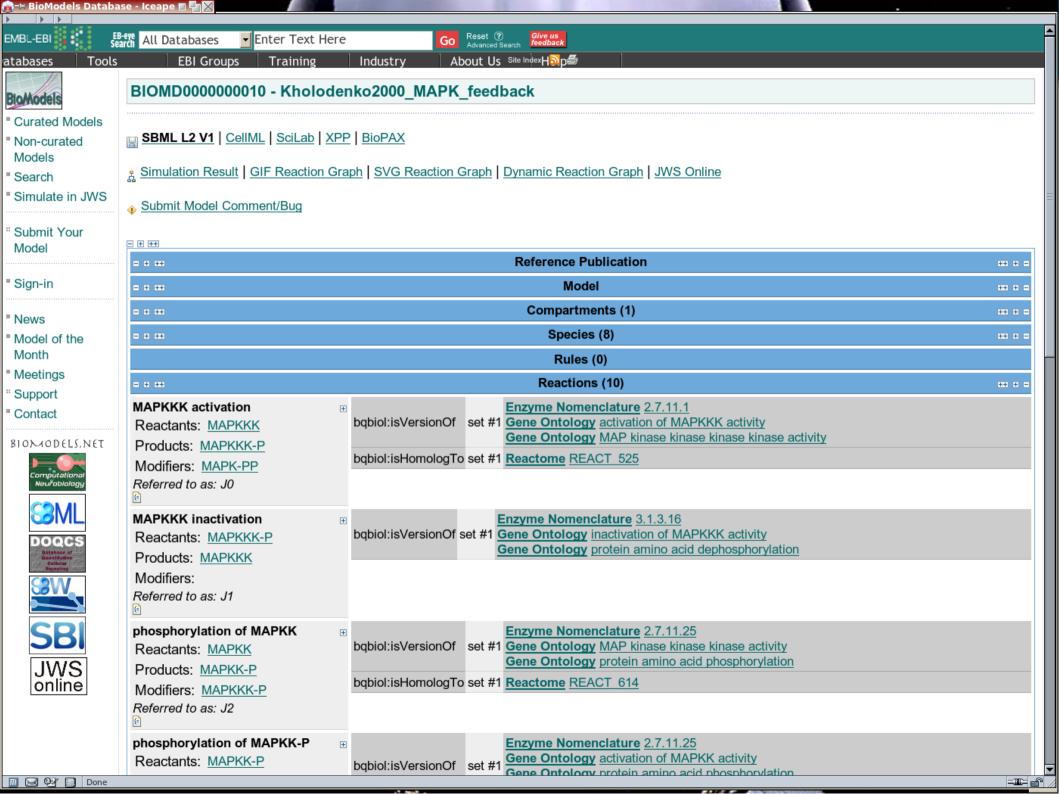


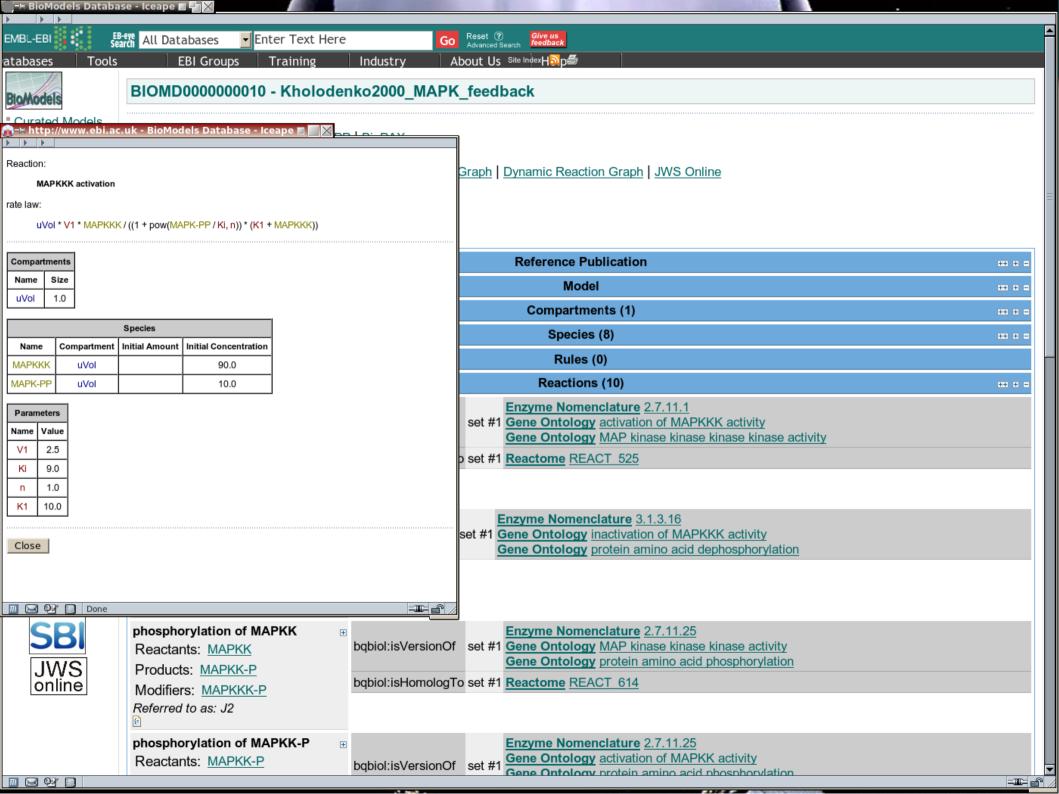
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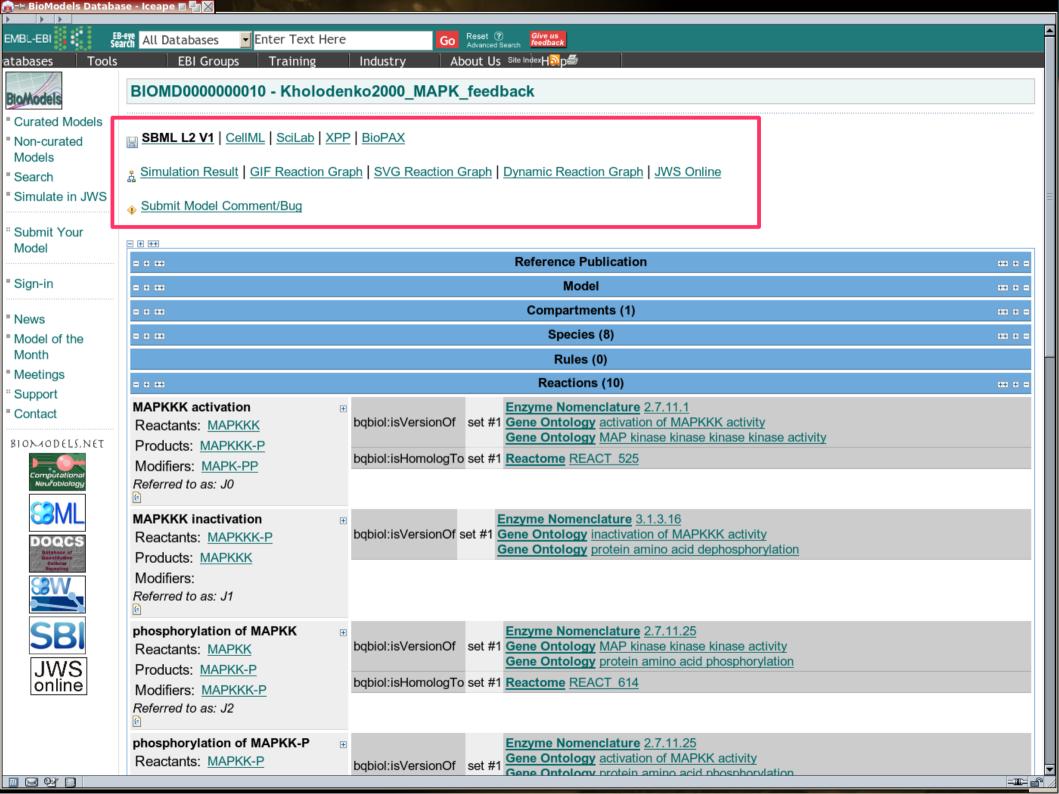


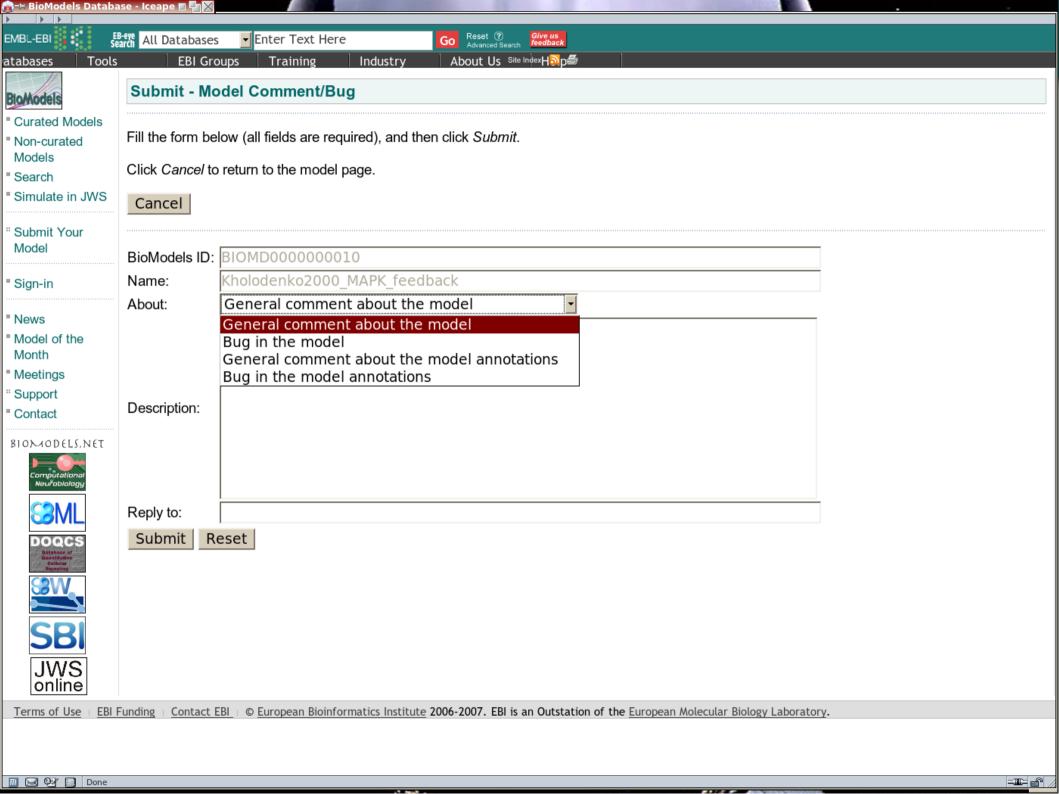


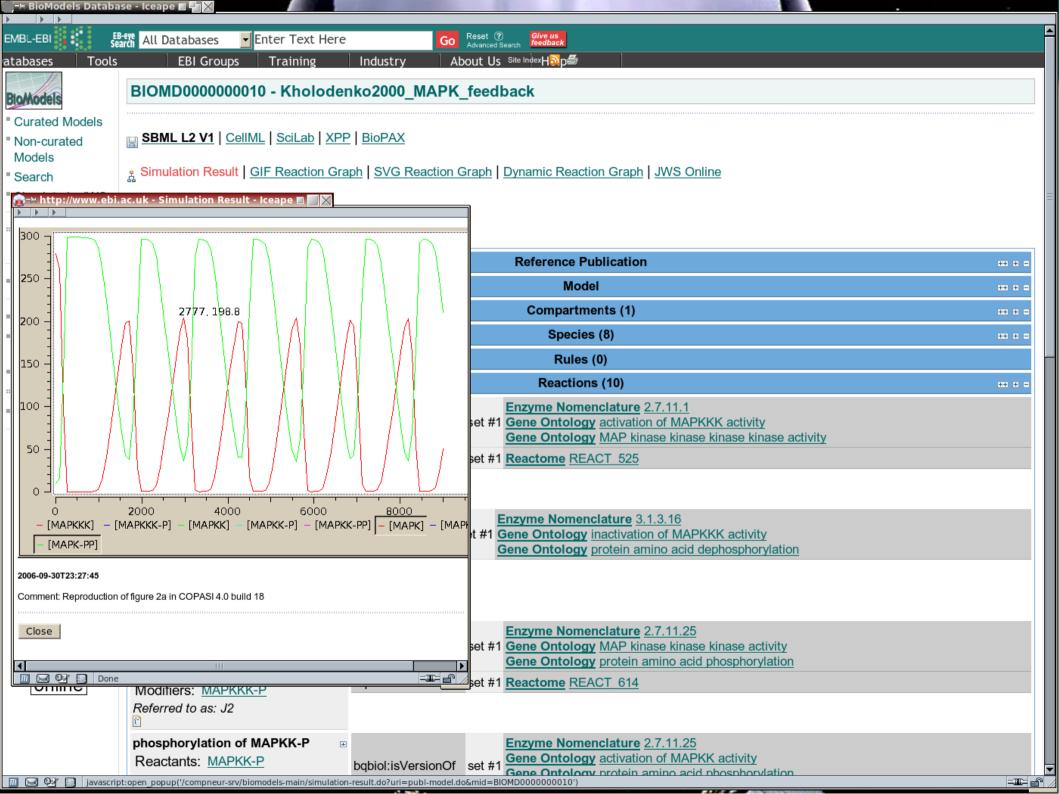
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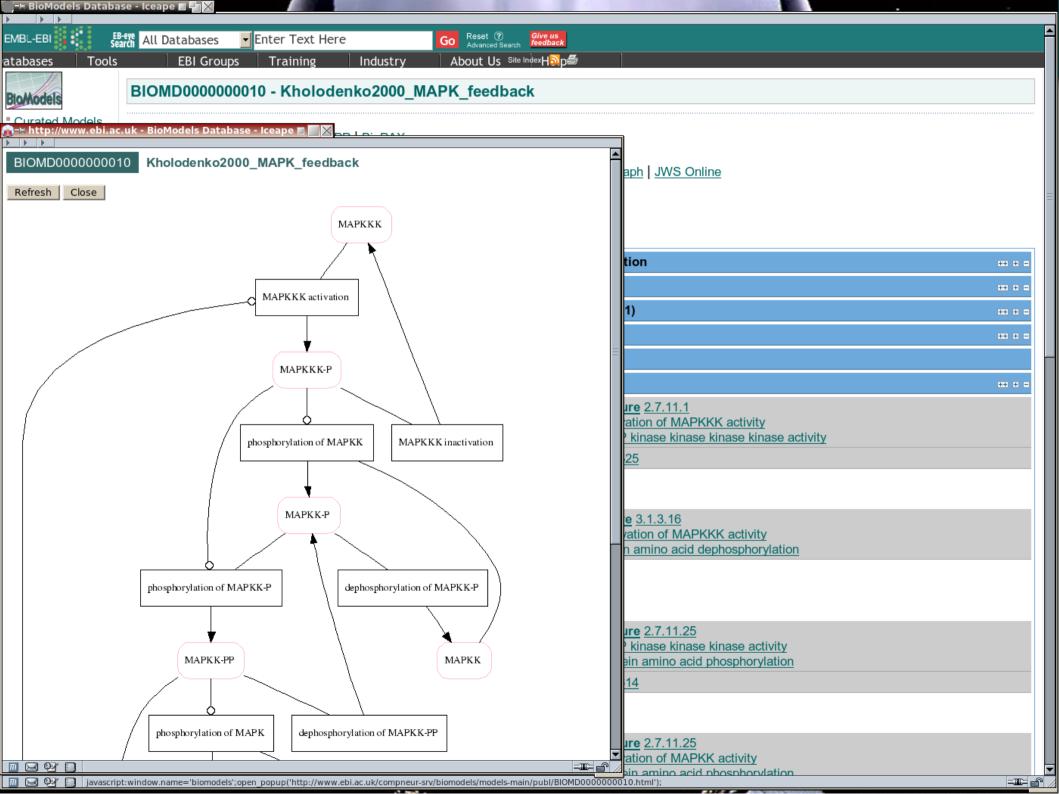


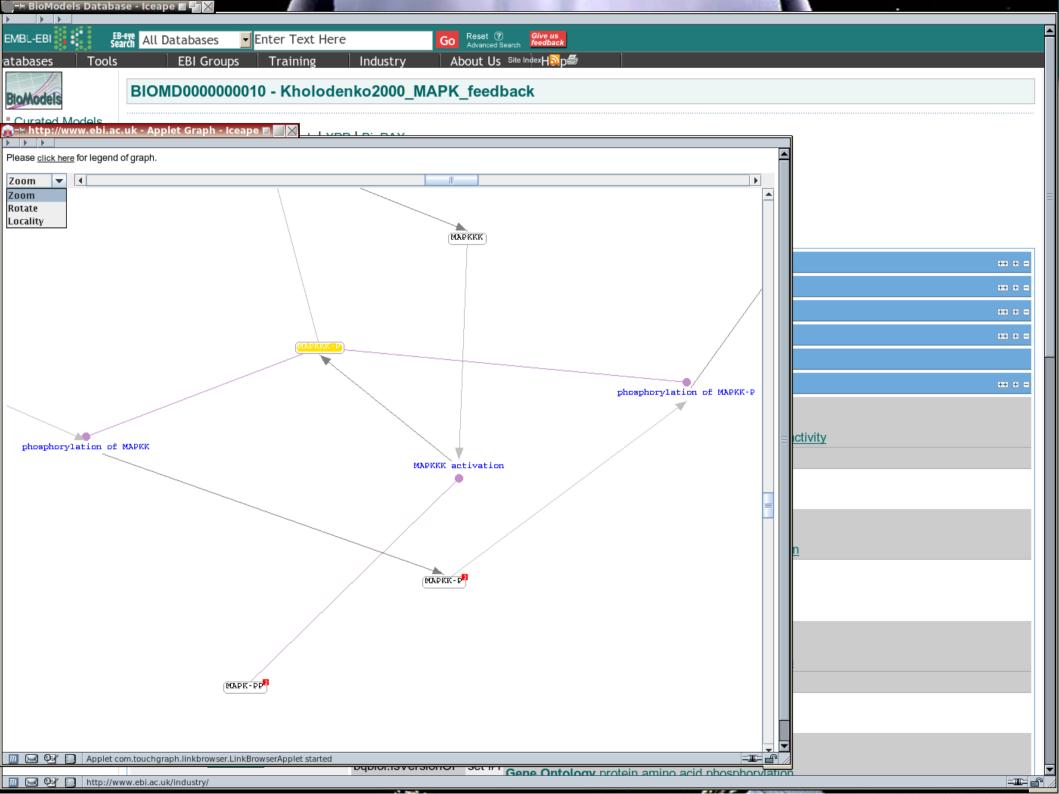


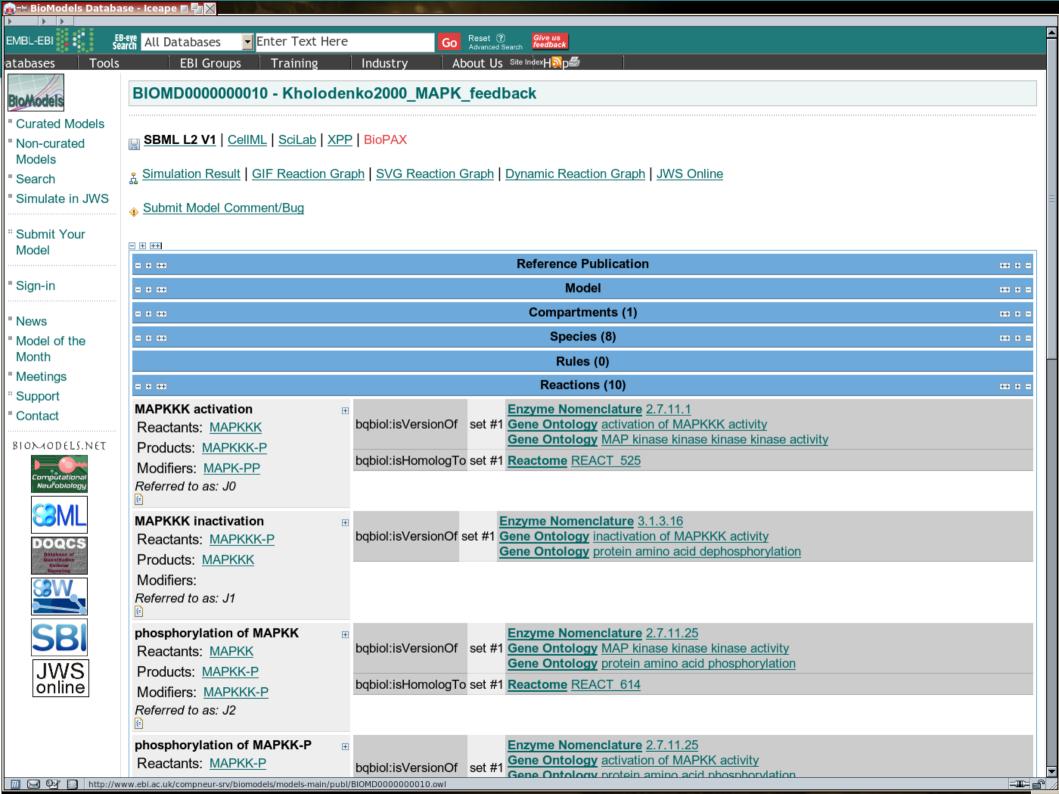


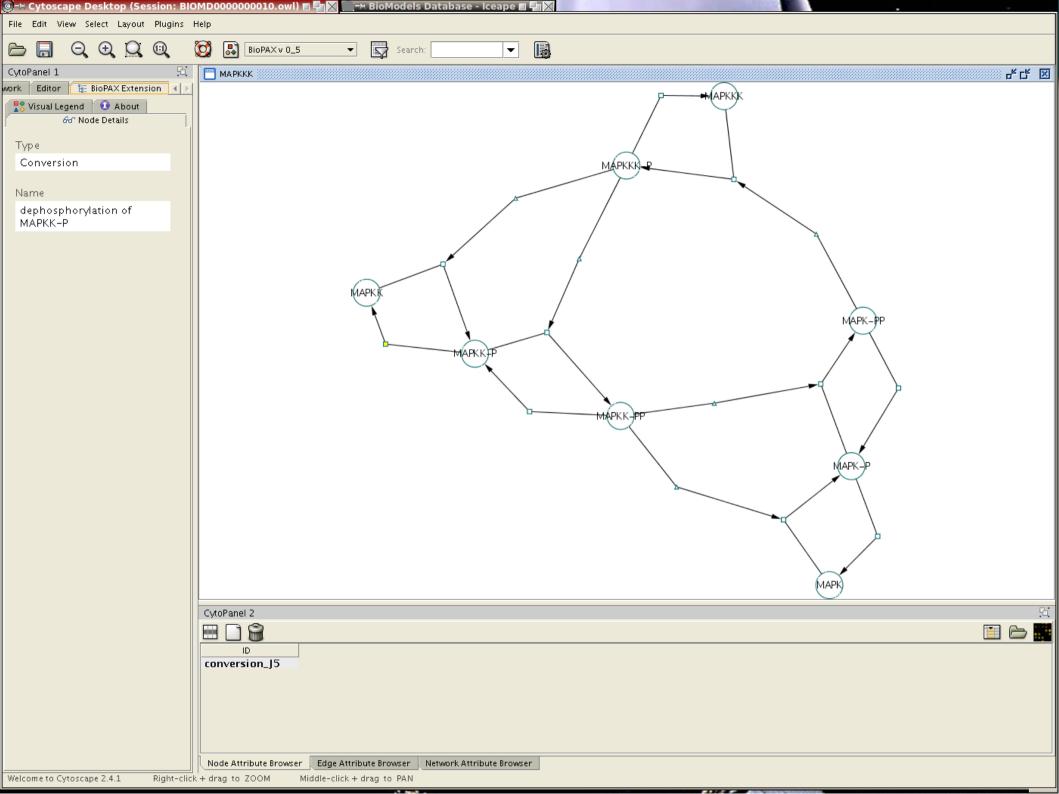


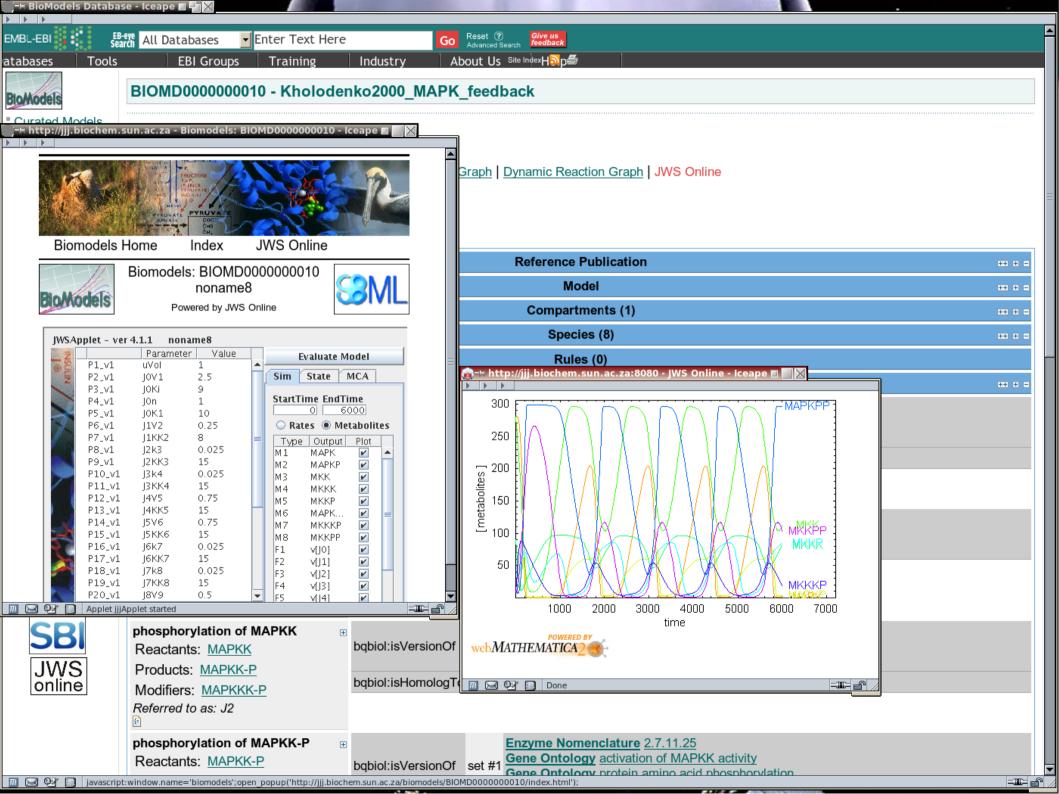




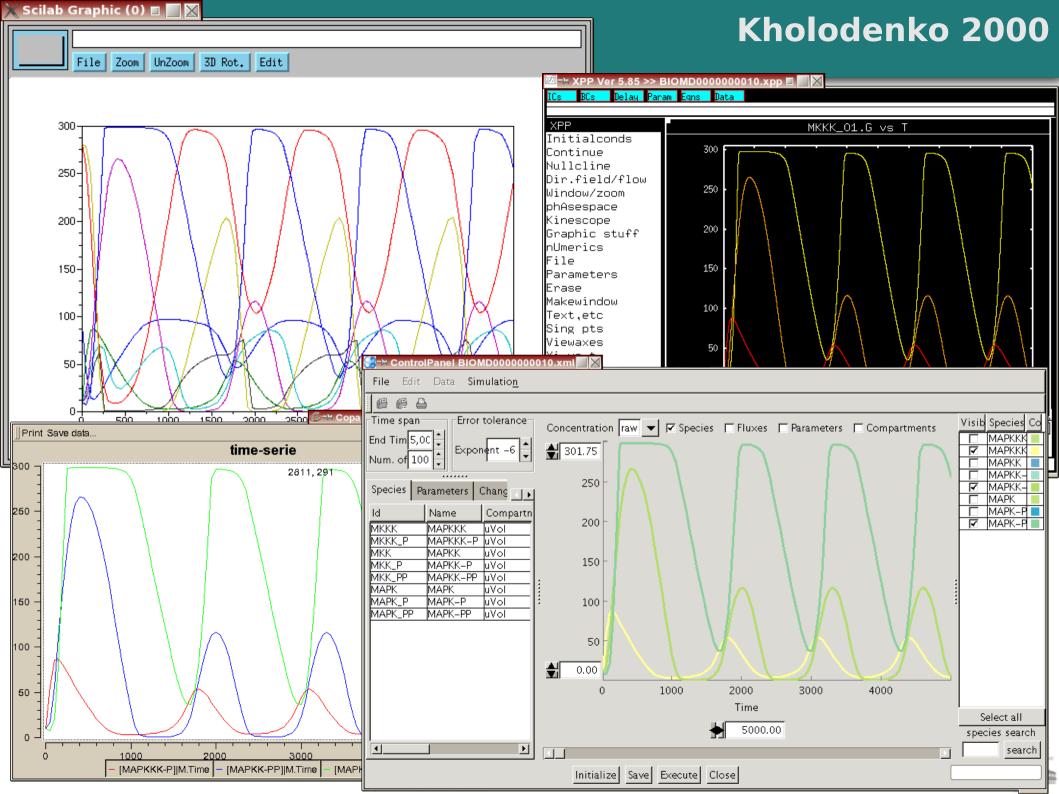


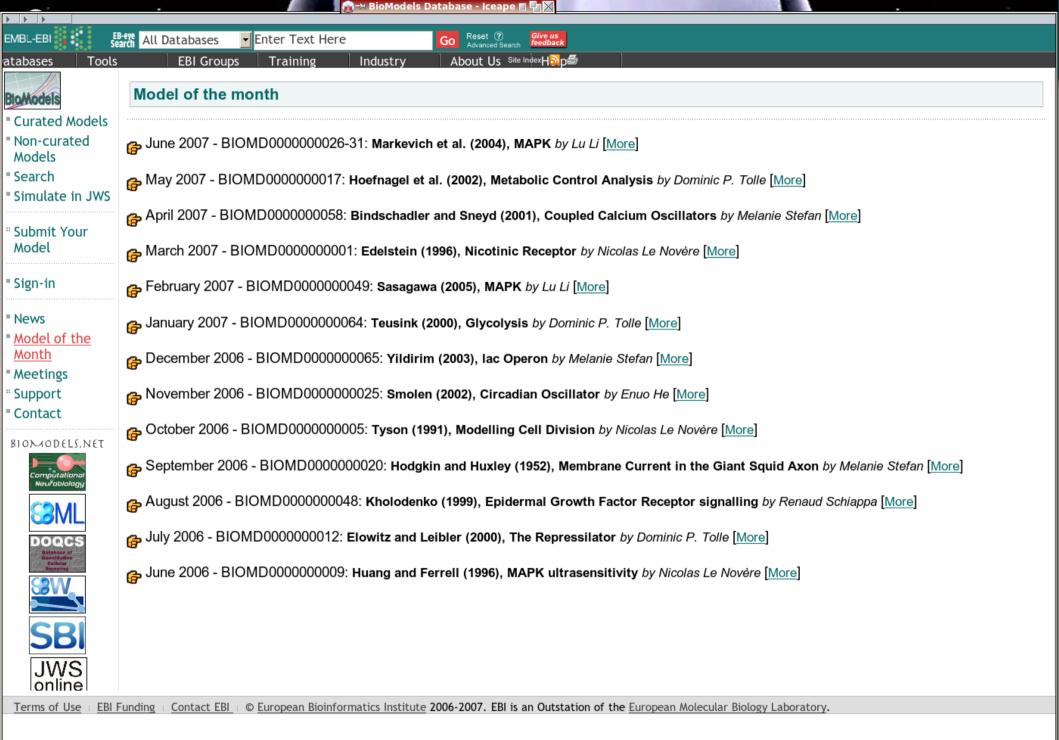






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BIOMD000000020 - Hodgkin and Huxley (1952), Membrane Current in the Giant Squid Axon

The mechanisms and rules that govern nervous impulses have been the focus of research and speculation throughout the centuries [1]. In the 1930. Alan Hodgkin and Andrew Huxley started a series of experiments and modelling to elucidate the flow of electric current through an axonal membrane. This lead to the formulation of the Hodgkin-Huxley model in 1952 [2], which has had a lasting influence on our understanding of neuronal function. Both were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1963.

Hodgkin and Huxley chose the giant squid axon as a model system for their experiments, since it is unusually large (around 0.5 mm in diameter) and therefore guite suitable for electrophysiological experiments [1]. In particular, it was possible to insert a micropipette into the axon and perform voltage-clamp experiments, a technique that had been devised in the 1930s by Cole and Curtis [3]. The experiments were combined with detailed quantitative modelling, which involved a considerable amount of work: Since the university computer in Cambridge was on a six-month downtime in 1951, the calculations were performed on a hand-operated machine [4]. The outcome was a sound mathematical description of the system's behaviour, now known as the Hodgkin-Huxley equations [2].

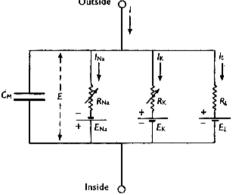


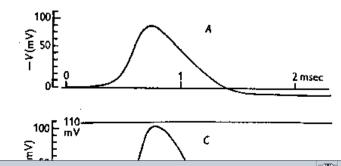
Figure 1: The membrane as an electrical circuit (from [2])

In the Hodgkin-Huxley model, the membrane can be represented as an electrical circuit, as shown in figure 1. Ionic current through the membrane can be divided into three components: potassium current (I_K) , sodium current (I_{Na}) , and a small leakage current (I_I) caused by other ions [2]. Each component can be expressed in terms of the cell's resting potential (E), the respective equilibrium potential for each component (E_K , E_{Na} , and E_I), constants reflecting the conductance of each component (G_K , G_{Na} , and G_I) and additional variables representing the activation of potassium transport (n), or the activation (m) or non-inhibition (h) of sodium transport. The equation for the total ionic current thus reads:

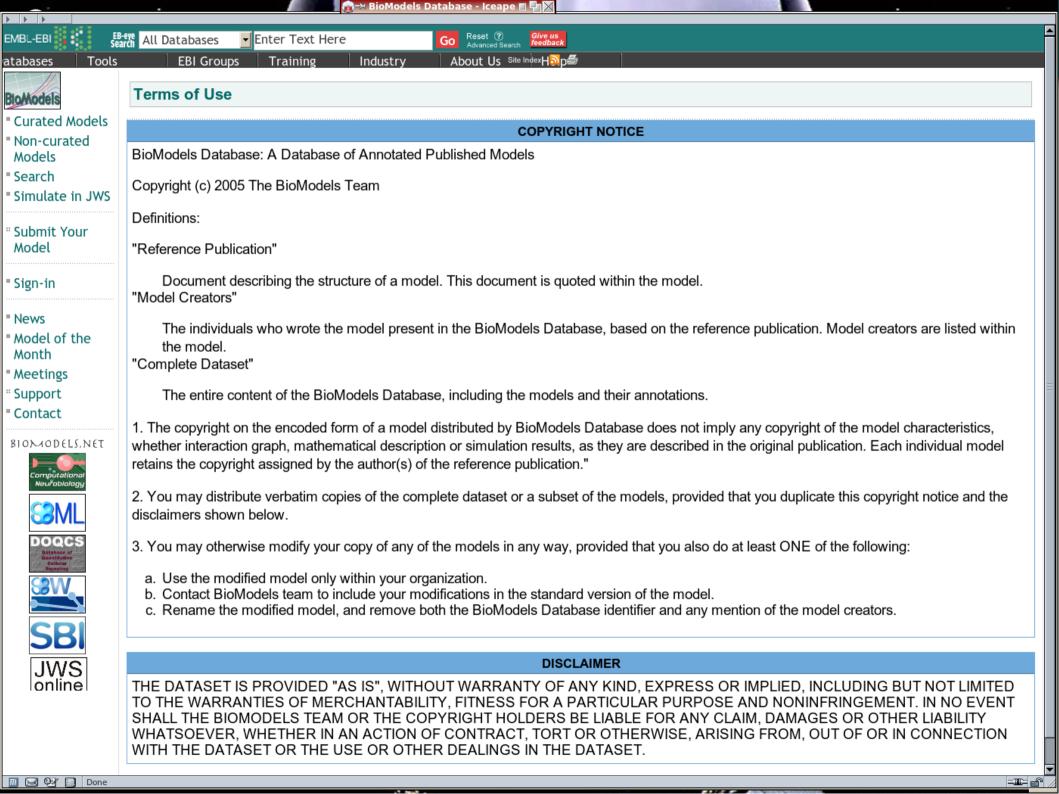
$$I = G_K n^4 (E-E_K) + G_{Na} m^3 h (E-E_{Na}) + G_I (E-E_I)$$

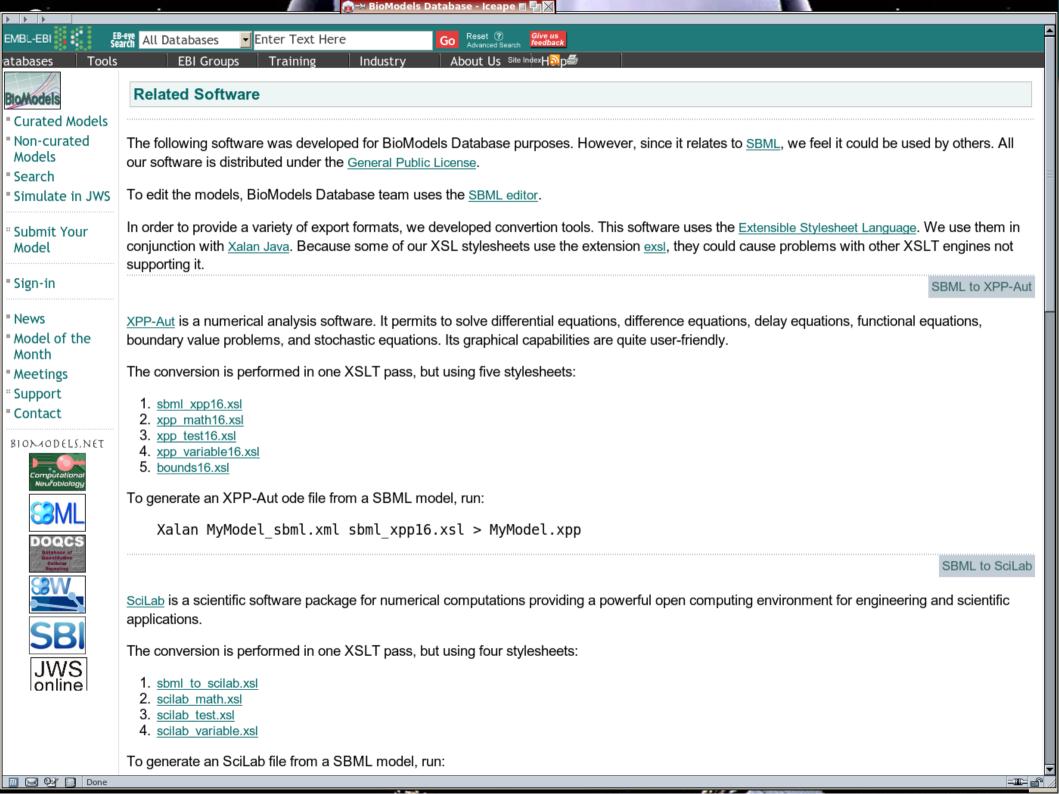
The model thus related changes in membrane potentials to conductance changes. It proved to be very powerful in describing, amongst other things, the form and amplitude of propagated action potentials, the total inward movement of sodium ions and the total outward movement of potassium ions associated with an impulse, the threshold and response during the refractory period following an axion potential and the form of subthreshold responses [2].

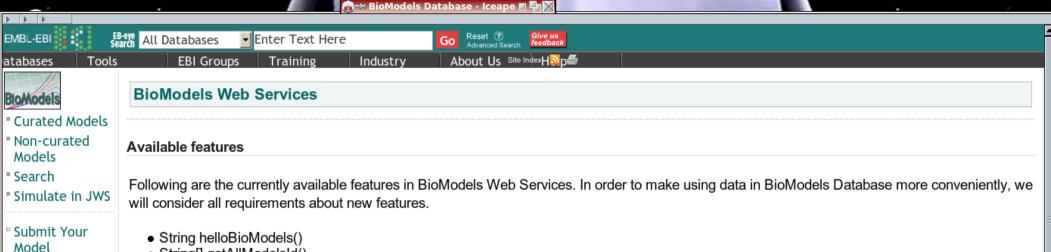
An example for the fit between calculated and observed action potentials is shown in figure



online







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- News
- Model of the Month
- Meetings
- " Support
- Contact

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- String[] getAllModelsId()
- String getModelById(String id)
- String getModelNameByld(String id)
- String[] getModelsIdByName(String modelName)
- String[] getModelsIdByPublication(String publicationIdOrText)
- String[] getModelsIdByPerson(String personName)

For more detail, please see javadoc or WSDL.

Download

According to different cases, we provide two kinds of libraries for using BioModels Web Services. For downloading, please right click on the link and "Save Target As" or "Save Link As".

Name	Description	Size Link
biomodelswslib-standalone.jar	standalone and includes all external dependencies and ready for use;	1.8M http://www.ebi.ac.uk/compneur-srv/biomodels/softwares/biomodelswslib-standalone.jar
biomodelswslib.jar	light-weight, but needs other dependencies to work togeter.	2.1K http://www.ebi.ac.uk/compneur-srv/biomodels/softwares/biomodelswslib.jar

These are the dependencies only needed by light-weight library.

- axis.jar
- jaxrpc.jar
- commons-logging-1.1.jar
- commons-discovery-0.2.jar
- saaj.jar
- wsdl4j-1.5.1.jar





- Uncoupling user's view and curator's view
 - Following biological processes structure and not SBML structure
 - Different views of the same model
 - Use of JSF and AJAX
- Enlargind BioModels DB coverage
 - Steady-state (FBA, MCA)
 - Multi-scale, multi-components, multi-states
 - Spatial models (finite elements, PDE)
 - Physiological models (not molecule-based)





The BioModels Database team

Nicolas Le Novère





Michael Hucka

Development

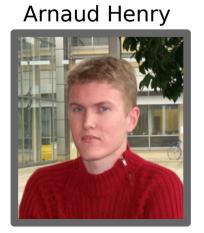
Marco Donizelli



Chen Li



Lu Li



Curation Harish Dharuri

Bruce Shapiro



Enuo He



Rainer Machne



ЕМВІ-ЕВІ

An international collaboration

- EBI
 - Nicolas Le Novère
 - Mélanie Courtot
 - Marco Donizelli
 - Arnaud Henry
 - Christian Knuepfer
 - Chen Li
 - Lu Li
 - Camille Laibe
 - Nicolas Rodriguez
 - Alexander Broicher
- SBML team (Caltech)
 - Michael Hucka
 - Andrew Finney
 - Benjamin Borstein
 - Harish Dharuri
 - Enuo He
 - Sarah Keating
 - Maria Schilstra
 - Bruce Shapiro

- NCBS (Bangalore)
 - Upinder Bhalla
 - Harsha Rani
- University of Washington
 - Herbert Sauro
- Vienna TBI
 - Rainer Machne
 - Christof Flamm
 - James Lu
- Systems Biology Institute (Tokyo)
 - Hiroaki Kitano
 - Akira Funahashi

- Journals supporting BioModels Database
 - Molecular Systems Biology
 - All PLoS Journals
 - All BioMedCentral Journals
- Programs used for curation
 - CellDesigner/SBMLodeSolver
 - COPASI
 - Jarnac/JDesigner
 - MathSBML
 - RoadRunner
 - SBMLeditor
 - XPP-Aut
- The community of Systems Biology for (Stellenbosh+Amsterdam) their contributions of models and comments.
 - Jacky Snoep
 - Hans Westerhoff









