

# Advanced Decision Analytics via Deep Reasoning on Diverse Data: For Health Care and More

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Coherent Knowledge\*



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# Bio



- AI researcher, turned entrepreneur
- CTO, CEO, Co-Founder, of Coherent Knowledge
  - AI software platform component startup
- Previously:
  - Directed advanced AI research program for Paul Allen
    - Developed Rulelog KRR theory, algorithms, UI approach
  - MIT Sloan professor and DARPA PI
    - Co-Founder of RuleML, key contributor to W3C OWL-RL and RIF standards
  - IBM Research, creator IBM Common Rules
    - 1<sup>st</sup> successful semantic rules product in industry
  - Stanford AI PhD, combining ML with logical and probabilistic reasoning
- <http://www.linkedin.com/in/benjaminGrosof>
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# Outline

- Intro: Textual Rulelog is a next step on semantic approach to analytics for “complex” knowledge
- Case Study with Demo
  - Health care: treatment guidance
  - Decision automation + query answering with full explanation
- Technology for Textual Rulelog: Coherent’s Ergo
  - Human-machine logic: combining English and logic syntax
  - Virtualization of diverse knowledge sources, via “connectors”
- Discussion & Conclusions

A woman with short dark hair, wearing a light-colored long-sleeved top and dark pants, stands in a library. She is positioned in front of tall white bookshelves filled with books. Her right hand is resting on one of the shelves. The background is a dense wall of books.

# Problem: Analytics for *Complex Knowledge*

*Examples: policies, regulations, contracts; terminology mappings; science, causality*

## Existing *Non-Semantic* Technologies tend to be:

- Shallow
- Siloed
- Costly, and Slow
- Patchily automated
- Opaque
- Inaccurate
- End users not empowered to modify

*Based on:*

- *Conventional programming languages*
- *Production/ECA rules*
- *Prolog*

# The Semantic Approach

- Modeling, declaratively, rather than programming
- E.g., via DMN-based Decision Tables
  - That’s “a first step”
- Benefits:
  - Greater integration and reusability
  - More transparent, i.e., explainable
  - Easier to modify, end users\* more empowered
  - More cost-effective and agile

\* esp. subject matter experts (SMEs)

# Ergo is a Next Step on Semantic

- Compared to decision tables:
  - Deeper in reasoning & knowledge
    - Support many-step inferencing
    - Model complex sentences with high fidelity, via high expressiveness, e.g., higher-order, existentials
    - Map to/from natural language
    - Map between ontologies, schemas, terminologies
    - Principled defeasibility (exceptions)
  - Fuller, more understandable explanations
  - Greater scope of automation
- ➔ Extends the benefits of the semantic approach

*Based on Rulelog*

*Rulelog summary:*

- *Semantic rules and ontologies*
- *Very flexibly expressive, yet querying is poly-time*

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# Health Care Case Study: Task Domain

- Task: Treatment Guidance for
  - Delivery of care, e.g., by medical staff or self-service
  - Insurance
  - Oversight of quality (e.g., “care measurement”)
- Guidance takes form of policies
  - Portions are often based closely on clinical studies
  - Top ~100 diseases have “protocols” written up in considerable detail



# Kinds of Domain Knowledge & Reasoning

- Knowledge & reasoning about:
  - Patient characteristics and history
  - Symptoms
  - Diseases and diagnoses
  - Drug treatments
  - Non-drug treatments
  - Medical tests
  - Intended effects
  - Side effects
  - Interactions between treatments, e.g., drug-drug
  - Risks
  - Interactions between risks; aggravation and severity of risks

# Challenges & Requirements

- Challenge: personalization
- Patients undergo multiple diseases and treatments, but protocols are developed, based on clinical studies, for
  - One disease (e.g., diagnosis) at a time
  - One treatment (e.g., drug) at a time
- Requirements, both beforehand and post-play, for
  - Correctness / competence
    - Maximize benefit to patient
    - Minimize harm to patient, incl. avoid potential treatment errors
    - Minimize costs
  - Verifiability, therefore
  - Explainability to:
    - Medical staff performing care delivery – e.g., combat “alert fatigue”
    - Patients – e.g., improve compliance by knowing why to avoid an easy-to-obtain drug
    - Insurers
    - Oversight staff, incl. for audits

# Treatment Scenario

- A busy intern encounters an elderly woman in a rehabilitation facility complaining of knee pain.
- What treatment should be given -- or not given – and why?
- EHR records show:
  - The elderly woman is currently taking Coumadin to treat the pre-existing condition of atrial fibrillation which increases the risk of blood clot and stroke.



- *Automatically gives both alerts and educates.*

# DEMO GOES HERE

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# Textual Rulelog Approach in *ERGO*

- Rulelog knowledge representation and reasoning (KRR).
- + Natural language processing
  - Maps text syntax  $\leftarrow$   $\rightarrow$  logic syntax, using logic
- + Explanations that are fully detailed, SME-understandable
- + Connectors to most kinds of enterprise knowledge:
  - Relational DB
  - Graph DB
  - Spreadsheets
  - ...

Analyze

Explain

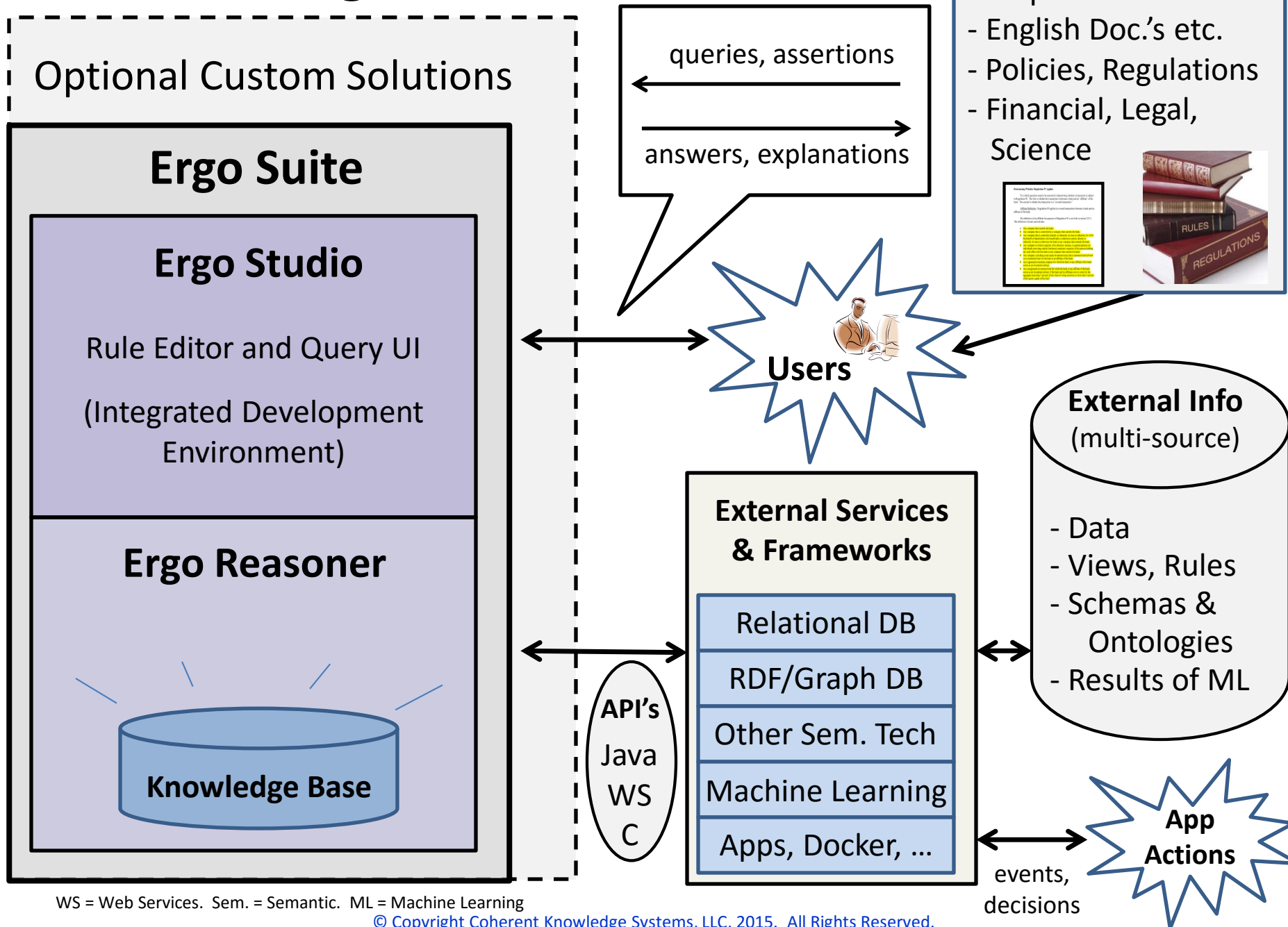
Make  
Decisions

Monitor &  
Alert

Answer  
Questions



# Ergo Architecture



# Textual Rulelog is Ergo's KRR basis

- *Rulelog*: a major research advance in KRR theory & algorithms, which culminated in 2012
- Ergo is the most complete & optimized implementation available of Rulelog
- Rulelog features very high/flexible expressiveness: logical chaining, higher-order, general quantified formulas, defeasibility/exceptions, provenance, probabilistic, restraint bounded rationality, and more
- Yet Rulelog scales well: reasoning is polynomial time (as in databases)
- *Textual Rulelog* extends Rulelog with natural language processing (NLP)
  - Logic itself is utilized to map between logic syntax and English syntax
- ErgoText templates aid knowledge authoring and explanation generation
- *More background*: Rulelog adds “full meta” expressiveness to *Datalog*
  - Datalog is the logic of databases, business rule systems (production/ECA/Prolog), semantic web ontologies, and earlier-generation semantic web rules (e.g., SWRL and RIF-BLD)
  - Rulelog extends also declarative logic programs (LP)



# Ergo Suite: Reasoner, Studio, Connectors

- Ergo Reasoner has sophisticated algorithms & data structures
  - Smart cacheing with dependency-aware updating. Leverages LP & DBMS techniques.
  - Transformation, compilation, reordering, indexing, modularization, dependency/loop analysis, performance monitoring/analysis, pausing, virtual machine, programming kernel, external import/querying
  - Java API. Other interfaces: command line, web, C.
  - Scales well: Millions of sentences on 1 processor; Trillions on distributed nodes
- Ergo Studio is a graphical Integrated Development Environment
  - Interactive editing, querying, explanation, visualization of knowledge
  - Fast edit-test loop with award-winning advanced knowledge debugging/monitoring
- Ergo Connectors federate knowledge & reasoning
  - Import/query dynamically via: SPARQL, OWL, RDF; SQL; DSV; XML; and more
  - Federation distributes reasoning (i.e., its processing) across multiple nodes
- Open, standards-based approach; a portion is open source
  - Rulelog is draft industry standard from RuleML (submission to W3C & Oasis)

# Concept: Humagic Knowledge

- Humagic = human-machine logic
- A humagic KB consists of a set of linked sentences
  - Assertions, queries, conclusions (answers & explanations)
- NL-syntax sentence may have 1 or more logic-syntax sentences associated with it
  - E.g., that encode it, or give its provenance
- Logic-syntax sentence may have 1 or more NL-syntax sentences associated with it
  - E.g., that result from text generation on it
- Other sentences can be in a mix of NL-syntax and logic-syntax
  - ErgoText: templates used for text interpretation and text generation

# *Textual* extension of Rulelog (I)

- Leverage Rulelog to much more simply and closely map between natural language (NL) and logic
- Textual terminology
  - English phrase  $\leftrightarrow$  logical term in Rulelog
  - English word  $\leftrightarrow$  logical functor in Rulelog
  - Leverages the higher-order feature of Rulelog
- Textual templates

# ErgoText

- ErgoText:

```
\(The proposed transaction ?Id by ?Bank with ?Affiliate of $?Amount is a RegW covered transaction\)
```

- ErgoText Template:

```
template(headbody,  
  \((The proposed transaction ?Id by ?Bank with ?Affiliate of $?Amount  
    is a RegW covered transaction\),  
  
  covered(proposed(transaction))(by(?Bank))(with(?Affiliate))  
    (of(amount(?Amount)))(having(id(?Id)))  
  ).
```

- The templates are self-documenting

# Textual Rulelog (II)

- Almost any NL sentence can be represented as a logical sentence
  - Leverages the logical quantifiers feature of Rulelog
  - Ex.: “each large company has some talented CEO”
    - forall(?x)^( (?x \isa \((large company\)) ==>  
exists(?y)^( (\?x has ?y\ ) \and  
(?y \isa \((talented CEO\)) ) ).

DEMO Cont.'d GOES HERE

# Concept: Virtual Rulelog

- Ergo orchestrates overall federated reasoning by sub-goaling dynamically
- A variety of other structured information systems are virtualized as Rulelog via Ergo federation connectors, which import/query and translate

# Kinds of Virtual Ergo

- Graph databases: via SPARQL/RDF connector
  - Description logic ontologies: via OWL connector
- Relational databases: via SQL connector
- Spreadsheets and web logs: via DSV connector
- Web services: via XML connector (JSON is under dev)
- Extensible to almost any kind of (semi-)structured info
  - E.g., Machine Learning (ML) and NLP systems
    - Represent `prob(content_sentence, lower_bound, upper_bound, confidence_level, statistical_procedure)` as an Ergo sentence
  - E.g., legacy applications in Java
    - Get method is treated like a query





# Importing RDF & OWL knowledge into Ergo

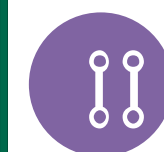
- Screenshot of Ergo OWL connector part of Ergo Studio



Translates RDF & OWL to Ergo



Define IRIs in Ergo Studio



N-triples and N-quads



RDF/OWL XML, JSON-LD, or Turtle as input. Predicate or Frame syntax output.

Ergo RDF/OWL

Help

Import RDF & OWL

**Status: Done translating WorldBank.ttl**

Select input:

- Import RDF/OWL N-triples or N-quads file (.nq, .nt)
- Import RDF/OWL N-triples or N-quads directory
- Import RDF/OWL XML file (.rdf, .owl, .xml)
- Import RDF/OWL XML directory
- Import JSON-LD file (.jsonld)
- Import JSON-LD directory
- Import JSON-LD Turtle file (.ttl)
- Import RDF/OWL Turtle directory

Input file: WorldBank.ttl

---

Output predicate arity (n-quads or n-triples):

- n-triples
- n-quads

Output quad's graph name ('main' is the default)

---

Output format (fastload .P or .ergo):

- fastload format
- predicate syntax: p(s,o) or p(s,o,g)
- frame syntax: s[p->o]

---

Manage IRIs:

```

xsd = http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#
rdf = http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#
rdfs = http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#
owl = http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#

```

Import RDF/OWL

Ergo RDF&OWL Import Tool

Original RDF/OWL file: WorldBank.ttl

```

@prefix void: <http://rdfs.org/ns/void#> .
@prefix rdf: <http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#> .
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
@prefix owl: <http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#> .
@prefix xsd: <http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#> .
@prefix dcterms: <http://purl.org/dc/terms/> .
@prefix foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/> .
@prefix qb: <http://purl.org/linked-data/cube> .
@prefix skos: <http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#> .
@prefix sd: <http://www.w3.org/ns/sparql-service-description#> .
@prefix : <http://worldbank.270a.info/void.ttl#> .
@prefix worldbank-graph: <http://worldbank.270a.info/graph/> .
@prefix oecd-dataset: <http://oecd.270a.info/dataset/> .
@prefix bfs-dataset: <http://bfs.270a.info/dataset/> .
@prefix fao-dataset: <http://fao.270a.info/dataset/> .
@prefix ecb-dataset: <http://ecb.270a.info/dataset/> .
@prefix imf-dataset: <http://imf.270a.info/dataset/> .
@prefix uis-dataset: <http://uis.270a.info/dataset/> .
@prefix frb-dataset: <http://frb.270a.info/dataset/> .
@prefix worldbank-dataset: <http://worldbank.270a.info/dataset/> .
@prefix transparency-dataset: <http://transparency.270a.info/dataset/>

```

Ergo file: WorldBank.ttl.ergo

```

#deffast xsd http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#
#deffast rdf http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#
#deffast rdfs http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#
#deffast owl http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#

% imported OWL axioms
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#entities'('_:Bb38eba1f27de68147b4ed800deeca630')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#class'('_:Bb38eba1f27de68147b4ed800deeca630')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#triples'('_:Bd43452bbb1eb87dc80d56d1c001f106')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#property'('_:Bd43452bbb1eb87dc80d56d1c001f106')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctSubjects'('_:Bd43452bbb1eb87dc80d56d1c001f106')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctObjects'('_:Bd43452bbb1eb87dc80d56d1c001f106')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#triples'('_:Bf7753516cd20cb7f77df061010915387')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#property'('_:Bf7753516cd20cb7f77df061010915387')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctSubjects'('_:Bf7753516cd20cb7f77df061010915387')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctObjects'('_:Bf7753516cd20cb7f77df061010915387')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#triples'('_:Bcf6bcafdc90833f622e5bb10c95d4d14')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#property'('_:Bcf6bcafdc90833f622e5bb10c95d4d14')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctSubjects'('_:Bcf6bcafdc90833f622e5bb10c95d4d14')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctObjects'('_:Bcf6bcafdc90833f622e5bb10c95d4d14')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#triples'('_:B3eef943acdd45aecbebacdd21158b10f06101')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#property'('_:B3eef943acdd45aecbebacdd21158b10f06101')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctSubjects'('_:B3eef943acdd45aecbebacdd21158b10f06101')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctObjects'('_:B3eef943acdd45aecbebacdd21158b10f06101')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#triples'('_:Be8f34857a86f0bce3671e0fb6acb0f7d')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#property'('_:Be8f34857a86f0bce3671e0fb6acb0f7d')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctSubjects'('_:Be8f34857a86f0bce3671e0fb6acb0f7d')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctObjects'('_:Be8f34857a86f0bce3671e0fb6acb0f7d')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#triples'('_:Bd81143ffc178de642750be48bdfa8ad3')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#property'('_:Bd81143ffc178de642750be48bdfa8ad3')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctSubjects'('_:Bd81143ffc178de642750be48bdfa8ad3')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#distinctObjects'('_:Bd81143ffc178de642750be48bdfa8ad3')
'http://rdfs.org/ns/void#triples'('_:B71e4380c4b52f4b64169b767fbcaf48')

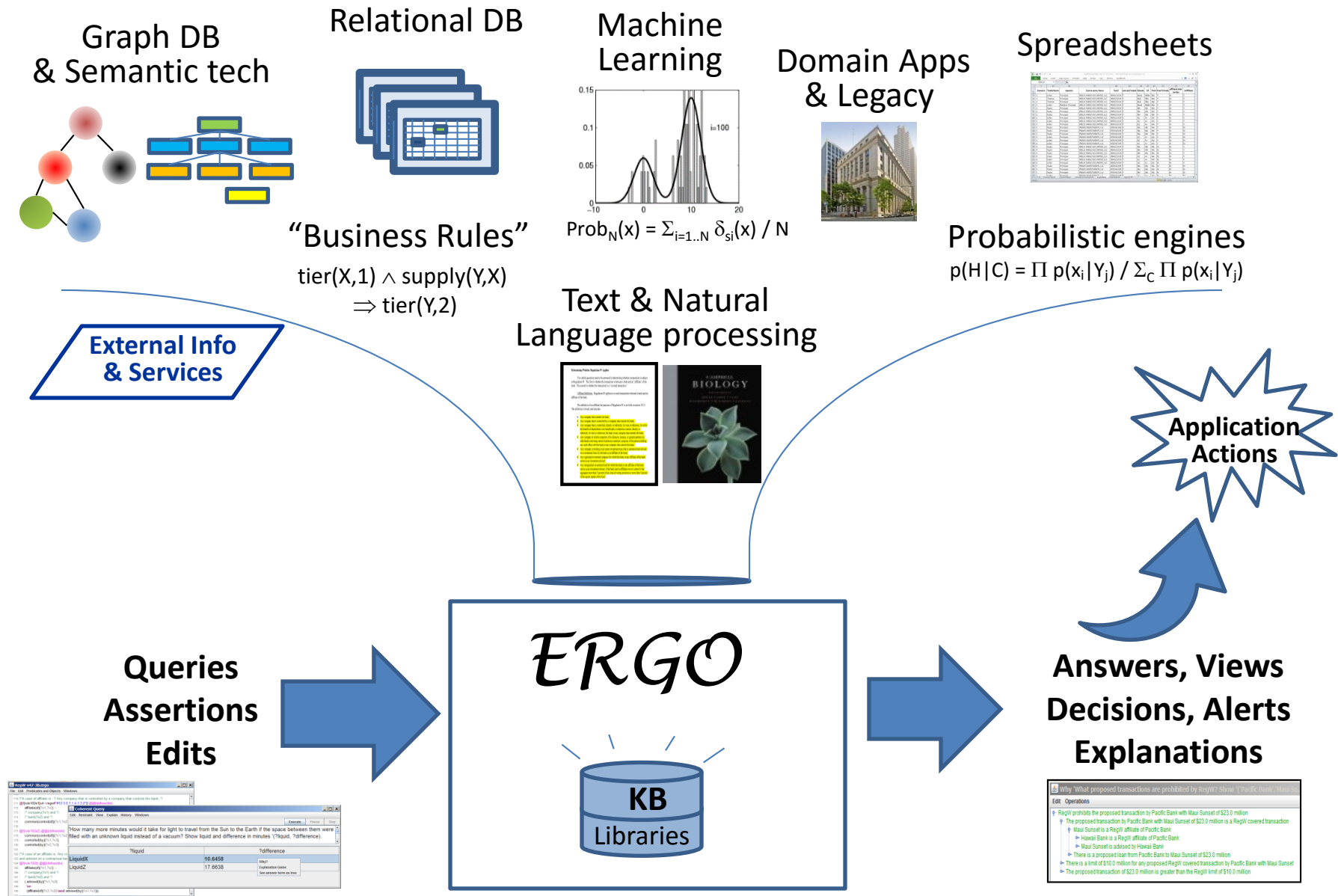
```

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Coherent Knowledge Systems, 2015

# Actively Reason over Today's Gamut of Knowledge



# Other Ergo Features

- Advanced knowledge base debugging: pause/resume, performance monitor, analysis of attempted infinite loops ("terminyzer")
- Probabilistic reasoning, e.g., evidential
- Longer-term directions, already under dev:
  - Semantically augmented NL parsing, for authoring
  - Optimize restricted cases of probabilistic
  - Complement ML via:
    - feed derived data to ML, query ML, supply features to ML

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# Other Case Studies

- Financial regulatory compliance decisions:  
with databases/ontologies
- Defense intelligence analysis:  
with text extraction, databases/ontologies
- Personalized tutoring in continuing/higher ed:  
answering science questions
- E-commerce marketing:  
with product databases/ontologies, promotion/pricing policies

# Lessons Learned from Case Studies

Customers in these multiple domains benefited from:

- Agility: Flexibility and ease of authoring, fast updating
- High accuracy and transparency
  - Explanations and provenance
  - Lower risk of non-compliance or confusion
- More Cost Effectiveness – less labor, SMEs in closer loop
- Leveraging investment in semantic tech: RDF, SPARQL, OWL

# Thank you.



***Deep Reasoning for Advanced Analytics***

<http://coherentknowledge.com>

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# Coherent Knowledge: Company Overview

- Fundamentally new kind of logic/rule based AI software platform component for advanced analytics: flexible deep reasoning + natural language processing
- Radical business benefits: accuracy/competence, cost, agility, transparency
- Company offers: software product Ergo + professional services for custom solution dev
  - Capabilities: engine + development environment, for executable knowledge bases (logic/rules) embedded in apps
- World-class founder team: created many industry-leading logic systems & standards
  - Extensive experience applying logic systems to financial, regulation/policy, and other domains
  - Former/current professors at Stony Brook University and MIT



**Michael Kifer, PhD**  
**Principal Engineer**  
*Prof., Stonybrook Univ.*  
*Winner, 3 ACM & ALP*  
*test-of-time research awards.*



**Benjamin Grosf, PhD**  
**CTO & CEO**  
*Prof., MIT Sloan. DARPA PI.*  
*Advanced AI Prog. Mger.*  
*for Paul Allen.*  
*Creator, IBM Common Rules.*



**Theresa Swift, PhD**  
**Principal Engineer**  
*Co-lead dev, mission-*  
*critical rules system,*  
*US Customs.*  
*Co-Architect, XSB Prolog.*



**Paul Fodor, PhD**  
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*Prof., Stonybrook Univ.*  
*IBM Watson team.*



**Janine Bloomfield, PhD**  
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*Environmental Defense Fund.*  
*Data Science at Yale, US Forest Service.*