

# Franz Allegro Common Lisp Meets Demand for High Performance Artificial Intelligence in Big Data Applications

*Allegro CL 10 Gains Parallel Memory Management to Power  
Complex, Mission-critical Applications that are Robust,  
Extensible and Easy to Evolve*

**OAKLAND, Calif. – October 7, 2015** – Franz, Inc., an early innovator in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and leading supplier of Common Lisp (CL) development tools and Semantic Graph Database technology, today announced Allegro CL 10, which includes key performance enhancements now available within the most effective system for developing and deploying applications to solve the problems in the field of Artificial Intelligence.

“Demand for faster, more intelligent and scalable applications is increasing with the Big Data onslaught that is impacting applications in traditional AI industries like National Defense, but also in Life Sciences, Manufacturing and Financial Analytics,” said Dr. Jans Aasman, CEO of Franz Inc. “The complexity of today’s software applications and the explosion of data size is pervasive. With Allegro CL 10, machine intelligence developers now have a high performance tool to scale their applications and deliver innovative products to market.”

Interest in Artificial Intelligence has surged recently. According to CB Insights data, venture capital investments in companies developing and commercializing AI-related products

and technology have exceeded \$2 billion since 2011.

“Common Lisp remains one of the best languages for Artificial Intelligence applications, its flexibility enables rapid experimentation and deployment”, said Professor Ken Forbus, Walter P. Murphy Professor of Computer Science at Northwestern University. “Today’s Lisp compilers are robust and flexible allowing development entirely within Lisp or in combination with other languages. For example, our CyclePad system for helping engineering students learn thermodynamics is written entirely in Allegro CL. Similarly, our sketch understanding system, CogSketch, which is a novel platform for both cognitive science research and education is primarily written in Allegro CL with two modules in C.”

Allegro CL is a powerful, dynamic Artificial Intelligence development system that is especially well-suited for enterprise-wide, machine intelligence development. Now applications with billions of objects are made easy with Allegro CL 10, the industry’s leading Common Lisp based development environment. Allegro CL 10 delivers parallel memory management capabilities including parallel garbage collection and fast memory recycling.

“Allegro CL 10 confirms Franz’s commitment to providing a leading Common Lisp platform,” said Jason Cornez, CTO, RavenPack. “The upgrade path is completely smooth and the under-the-hood improvements, especially in the garbage collector, make it a worthy successor to what remains one of the best environments for developing and delivering amazing software.”

“Financial professionals rely on RavenPack for its speed and accuracy in analyzing large amounts of unstructured content. RavenPack’s clients use news analytics to enhance returns, reduce risk or increase efficiency by systematically incorporating the effects of public information in their models or workflows.” stated Dr. Aasman. “Allegro CL’s new

capabilities will continue to facilitate Ravenpack's low latency text and sentiment analysis that they deliver as a real-time data feed."

"Allegro CL 10 with AllegroCache continues to deliver performance improvements that facilitate the success of our products with the U.S. Dept of Defense," said Glenn D. House Sr., President 2Is Inc., "Lisp is the ideal implementation vehicle for our machine learning algorithms and large scale, parallelized stochastic simulation product sets. We are delighted with the Garbage Collection enhancements in Allegro CL 10."

"2Is is the leader in logistics decision support and price analytics enterprise systems that have demonstrated tens of millions of dollars in reduced total cost of inventory ownership for the military and OEM supply chain," added Dr. Aasman. "2Is applications have been repeatedly proven under multiple DOD Test and Evaluation contracts and Allegro CL 10 will continue to facilitate 2Is successful deliveries."

New Key Features and updates in Allegro CL 10:

- Parallel Global Garbage Collection
- New Payback Analysis for optimized Global Garbage Collection
- Precise Garbage Collection of stack slots for fast memory recycling
- Touchscreen and Alpha blending on Windows in Common Graphics
- API generator builds Lisp interface functions from information in Java class libraries
- Various Source Level debugging improvements
- Plus over 700 enhancements and updates, see the Release Notes for the details

## About Lisp

Lisp is one of the first high-level programming languages and still in widespread use today. Lisp was originally created as a practical mathematical notation for computer programs and quickly became the favored programming language for artificial intelligence (AI) research. The most widely known general-purpose Lisp dialects are Common Lisp and Scheme. Allegro CL is the Common Lisp language developed and sold by Franz Inc.

## About Franz Inc.

Franz Inc. is an innovative technology company with expert knowledge in developing and deploying Graph Search solutions. AllegroGraph, Franz's flagship, high-performance, transactional, and scalable Graph Database, provides the solid storage layer for powerful Enterprise grade NoSQL solutions. AllegroGraph's Activity Recognition capabilities provides a powerful means to aggregate and analyze data about individual and organizational behaviors, preferences, relationships, plus spatial and temporal linkages between individuals and groups.

For additional Franz Inc customer success stories please visit:

- AllegroGraph – <http://franz.com/agraph/success/>
- Allegro CL – <http://franz.com/success/>

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Franz, an American owned company based in Oakland, California, is committed to market-driven product development, the highest levels of product quality and responsive customer support and service. Franz customers include Fortune 500 companies in the government, life sciences and telecommunications industries.

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# **AllegroGraph Named as Leading Database Solution by CIOReview**

## ***Graph Database Market Continues Explosive Growth***

**OAKLAND, Calif. – September 15, 2015** – Franz, Inc., the leading supplier of Semantic Graph Database technology has been named CIOReview Magazine's Top 20 Most Promising Database Technology Solution providers. The award comes on the heels of Franz's recent announcement of the first Semantic Data Lake (SDL) for Healthcare, which was created in collaboration with Montefiore Medical Center (the eighth largest hospital group in the U.S.), Intel, Cloudera and Cisco. The SDL for Healthcare is a scalable and extensible Healthcare platform designed for Accountable Care and Personalized Medicine initiatives.

"Franz has been leading the burgeoning Graph Database revolution with a highly sophisticated, yet elegant Semantic Graph database solution," said Harvi Sachar, Publisher & Founder, CIO Review. "Franz's AllegroGraph continues to break new ground in predictive analytics and visual graph discovery capabilities- benefiting organizations around the globe within Healthcare, Intelligence/National Security, Life Sciences and Financial Services. We're excited to include Franz as one of

our 20 Most Promising Database Solution Providers.”

CIORReview is a technology magazine that showcases enterprise solutions capable of redefining the business goals of enterprises. It is a neutral source of information for technology decision makers that constantly endeavors to identify “The Best” in a variety of areas important to the technology industry.

“Since our inception, we have always been in the business of ‘solving complexity’ through our Semantic Graph technologies,” said Dr. Jans Aasman, CEO, Franz Inc.. “From our origins in the Artificial Intelligence boom, through our advanced capabilities in Graph search and now as part of our Semantic Data Lake project, we provide powerful solution to complex challenges in the Enterprise.”

The popularity of Graph databases has skyrocketed – growing nearly 400% in the past two years, according to a DBMS ranking by DB-Engines.

A recent Forrester Research report stated, “Graph databases are a powerful optimized technology that link billions of pieces of connected data to help create new sources of value for customers and increase operational agility for customer service. Because graph databases track connections among entities and offer links to get more detailed information, they are well-suited for scenarios in which relationships are important, such as cybersecurity, social network analysis, eCommerce recommendations, dependence analysis, and predictive analytics.” (Source: Forrester Research, Market Overview: Graph Databases, May 28, 2015)

During the recent Smart Data Conference, Dr. Parsa Mirhaji MD. PhD., Montefiore Medical Center and Dr. Jans Aasman, CEO of Franz Inc., introduced the AllegroGraph powered Semantic Data Lake. The need for semantic consistency within Data Lakes is a driving force for the Semantic Data Lake Healthcare platform.

Adding semantics to a Data Lake dramatically eases the transformation and integration of multi-source, heterogeneous unstructured and structured data including free text clinical narratives.

‘Data Lakes’ have become one of the most discussed information management approaches over the past few years. According to Gartner Research Director Nick Heudecker, “Data Lakes typically begin as ungoverned data stores. Meeting the needs of wider audiences require curated repositories with governance, semantic consistency and access controls...” (Source: Press Release, Gartner Says Beware of the Data Lake Fallacy, July 28, 2014)

## **About AllegroGraph**

Unlike traditional relational databases or Property Graph Databases, AllegroGraph employs semantic graph technologies that process data with contextual and conceptual intelligence. AllegroGraph is able run queries of unprecedented complexity to support predictive analytics that help organizations make more informed, real-time decisions. AllegroGraph is the first Graph Database to support analysis across N-dimensions – any conceivable measurement of an object, property or operation. For example, AllegroGraph can analyze temporal (time) and geospatial (location) dimensions relative to any ‘event,’ such as a disease, drug interaction, genetic combination, biomarkers, observations, image or physical sensors.

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**Franz's Vice President of  
Corporate Development to  
Keynote at The 8th**

# **International Conference on Knowledge Science, Engineering and Management (KSEM 2015)**

**OAKLAND, Calif. – August 26, 2015** – Franz Inc.'s Vice President of Corporate Development, Dr. Sheng-Chuan Wu, will be a keynote speaker at The 8th International Conference on Knowledge Science, Engineering and Management (KSEM 2015) this October in Chongqing, China. The aim of this interdisciplinary conference is to provide a forum for researchers in the broad areas of Knowledge Science, Knowledge Engineering, and Knowledge Management to exchange ideas and to report state of the art research results.

## **Separating the Reality from the Hypes of Big Data**

The world is drowning in data. Modern technologies and digital devices have made it very easy to generate, collect and store mammoth data that gives rise to the term, "Big Data". In 2009, Google published Flu Trends based on analyzing gazillions of flu-related searches to detect the spread of flu even before CDC could, demonstrating how to use Big Data to address societal needs. Since then, everyone wants to collect, analyze, invest in and make money from Big Data. Market research firms predict an exciting business opportunity of US\$50 billion by 2017. Industrial experts promise Big Data to solve virtually any problem we encounter.

Is Big Data really what all the market hypes allege to be?

There is no doubt that, by combining the enormous modern and inexpensive computing power and sophisticated Data Mining programs, we are able to process the zettabytes of digital data produced every minute. However, several challenges,

namely heterogeneous data sources, convolute data relations and complex queries inherent to predictive analytics besides the sheer size, make it difficult to extract the essential value from big data.

In this talk, Dr. Wu will describe a new analytic architecture, combining the popular big data Hadoop platform, semantic index and distributed query to extract actionable business insight from big data in nearly real-time. He will show the power of this new architecture with real-world examples in Customer Relation Management (CRM) and Healthcare.

### **About Dr. Wu**

Dr. Sheng-Chuan Wu received his Ph.D. in Scientific Computing and Computer Graphics from Cornell University in the US. He has, since graduation, been involved in several software companies, including the founding of the first integrated CAD/CAM/CAE company. He has in the last 20 years worked as a senior corporate executive at the leading Artificial Intelligence and Semantic Technology company, Franz Inc in Silicon Valley, with responsibility in application development, marketing, consulting and new business development. Dr. Wu has also in many occasions collaborated with Bioinformatics experts from Harvard Medical School, Stanford University and Astra Zeneca, working with massive biological data.

Dr. Wu has been focusing on Semantic Technology over the last 7 years. He has routinely lectured on AI and Semantic Technology at conferences. He has, since 2007, conducted more than 20 week-long workshops on Semantic Technology and Artificial Intelligence in Malaysia, China, India and other Asian countries. Additionally, Dr. Wu has consulted on several Big Data and Semantic Technology projects in the US and Asia.

### **About Franz Inc.**

Franz's semantic technology solutions help bring Web 3.0 ideas

to reality. The company is the leading supplier of commercial, persistent and scalable Graph Database products. AllegroGraph is a high-performance database capable of storing and querying billions of RDF statements. The product provides solutions for customers to combine unstructured and structured data using W3C standard RDF for creating new Web 3.0 applications as well as identifying new opportunities for Business Intelligence in the Enterprise. AllegroGraph's Activity Recognition package provides a powerful means to aggregate and analyze data about individual and organizational behaviors, preferences, relationships, plus spatial and temporal linkages between individuals and groups. Franz customers include Fortune 500 companies in the government, life sciences and telecommunications industries. For more information, visit [www.franz.com](http://www.franz.com).

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# **Franz Delivers First Real-time N-Dimensional Analysis for Big Data**

***Doors Open to New Life-Saving Applications in Personalized Medicine and Public Safety***

**OAKLAND, Calif. – July 13, 2015** – Franz Inc., the leading supplier of Semantic Graph Database technology, today announced that the company has added patented N-dimensional analysis capabilities to its flagship product, AllegroGraph, marking the first time data scientists can answer complex SPARQL queries across multiple dimensions

over billions of records in sub-second time. This technologic breakthrough is propelling new applications in areas such as Personalized Medicine, Insider Threat Detection, National Intelligence, Defense, Cyber Security and Law Enforcement.

AllegroGraph is the first Graph Database to support analysis across N-dimensions – any conceivable measurement of an object, property or operation. For example, AllegroGraph can analyze temporal (time) and geospatial (location) dimensions relative to any ‘event,’ such as a disease, drug interaction, genetic combination, sound, temperature, image, social media post or physical sensor.

“You can capture event data, even multi-dimensional event data, in any data store,” stated Robin Bloor, co-founder and Chief Analyst of The Bloor Group. “The real need is to store and manage the data in an intelligent way and to build applications on top of it. This is where AllegroGraph (from Franz Inc.) shines. It is an RDF Graph database – although in my view, it is best thought of as a platform that is particularly suited for building apps that process event data.” (Source: Inside Analysis, Events that Change the World, June 8, 2015)

“Expanding the number of dimensions in data also grows the number of interrelationships among data,” said Dr. Jans Aasman, CEO, Franz Inc. “In the past, multi-dimensional analysis has required ‘supercomputing’ techniques and technologies, which has deterred many important types of analysis in healthcare, public safety, agriculture and other areas. But by leveraging the unique ‘many-to-many’ attribute of graph database technology with the semantic query capabilities possible with AllegroGraph, we were able to overcome the historic performance issues that have plagued high-dimensional data analysis for event processing.”

AllegroGraph is a high performance Semantic Graph Database that enables analytics by leveraging the W3C industry

standards and enables businesses to extract sophisticated decision insights and predictive analytics from highly complex, distributed data that cannot be uncovered with conventional databases.

“Because it (AllegroGraph) is a Graph database, it can store pretty much any kind of data and query it, not just in the time-worn relational fashion, but also in a graphical manner – carving out graphical maps of relationships. And on top of that, it can apply semantics to deduce as-yet-undiscovered knowledge from the data. Its capabilities are very broad, and they provide a glimpse of the shape of things to come,” added Bloor.

Unlike traditional relational databases or Property Graph Databases, AllegroGraph employs semantic graph technologies that process data with contextual and conceptual intelligence. AllegroGraph is able run queries of unprecedented complexity to support predictive analytics that help organizations make more informed, real-time decisions.

“Previous technology supported searching and reasoning over two-dimensional geospatial data, whereas more recent technology supports three-dimensional geospatial data,” according to David Frankel, a 30 year technology industry veteran, technical strategist, architect and programmer. “But AllegroGraph can search and reason over an open-ended number of additional dimensions. Thus these new facilities are not merely three-dimensional, because there is no restriction to three dimensions. It is more accurate to use the term N-dimensional to describe the nature of graph databases and related applications that use these new facilities.” (Source: Datanami, Multidimensional Graph Data Open the Door to New Applications, June 2, 2015)

Franz is working with partners and customers to apply AllegroGraph’s N-dimensional analysis in the areas of Personalized Medicine, Insider Threat Detection and National

Intelligence/Defense. Given there is no restriction to the number of dimensions, this powerful technology can help predict, prevent and mitigate the impact of high-risk events.

## **Personalized Medicine**

Healthcare generates and processes huge volumes of information. The ability to access all this data interactively and in real-time is key to making Personalized Medicine a reality. Using AllegroGraph Semantic Graph databases that enable N-dimensional graphical analysis over new combinations of data – including individual patient information, genetic data, medical device images, clinical trials, drug information and public health data – will fuel discoveries, significantly improve efficiencies and personalize care.

## **Insider Threat Detection**

There is growing risk that nations, companies and organizations face from insider threats. In most tragedies that involve an insider, there were strong signals that the person was at high risk for erratic or violent behavior beforehand. AllegroGraph's N-dimensional analysis can empower organizations to predict high-risk events or aid in crisis situations by bringing together knowledge dispersed within documents, spreadsheets and relational databases with data from social media posts, online searches, texts and telephony data from company-owned devices.

## **Intelligence, National Defense & Law Enforcement**

National intelligence, defense and law enforcement officers need to stay a step ahead of those who would do great harm by analyzing massive-scale data across geographically dispersed locations, while simultaneously collaborating with diverse disciplines and respecting privacy, civil liberties and data

handling policies. AllegroGraph's N-dimensional analysis empowers data analysts to anticipate emerging threats through timely access to highly granular data from disparate systems that contain a broad array of data, such as: unstructured message data, structured identity data, charts, spreadsheets, telephony data, documents, network data, sensor data, social media posts and images. Analysts can investigate incidents and discover connections between seemingly unrelated events to quickly uncover and predict terrorism threats, cyber attacks, national security threats and other types of hostile attacks.

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# **Franz's CEO, Jans Aasman to participate on a panel for a "Conversation on Data Privacy in a Rapidly Growing Connected World of Intelligent Machines"**

**OAKLAND, Calif. – June 1, 2015 –** Franz Inc.'s CEO, Dr. Jans Aasman, will participate on a panel for a "Conversation on Data Privacy in a Rapidly Growing Connected World of Intelligent Machines" being organized by the Netherlands Office for Science & Technology (NOST) June 23rd at the offices of the Consulate General of the Netherlands in San Francisco.

For everyone of us, the implications of sharing private information on social media are pretty much clear cut, be it perhaps for the lack of clarity of the user agreements and privacy statements that go with those social media. What many people don't realize is how much of our data is floating around as we use our devices, ranging from cell phones to

cars. And this situation will become more complex rapidly as those devices are becoming more intelligent and interconnected. At the same time, having all this data floating around provides great opportunity, for example for diagnosing illnesses, detecting fraud and making educated infrastructure decisions. So the timing is right for having a balanced Conversation on Data Privacy.

## **About NOST**

The Network of Science and Technology Attachès (Innovatie Attachè Network in Dutch) was founded in 1952 by the Dutch Ministry of Economic Affairs to provide quality information on technology and scientific developments in key innovation ecosystems around the world to Dutch businesses, knowledge institutes and the government. The Science and Technology Attachès are well informed about local science, technology and innovation developments as well as in the Netherlands. The organization is mandated to establish contacts and foster collaboration between the innovation community in the Netherlands and, in this case, the United States and Canada. The Attachès have developed extensive networks and provide introductions for Dutch businesses and researchers at an appropriate level in a variety of organizations. General technology intelligence is made available regularly to Dutch organizations and science community.

## **About Dr. Aasman**

Jans Aasman started his career as an experimental and cognitive psychologist, earning his PhD in cognitive science with a detailed model of car driver behavior using Lisp and Soar. He has spent most of his professional life in telecommunications research, specializing in intelligent user interfaces and applied artificial intelligence projects. From 1995 to 2004, he was also a part-time professor in the Industrial Design department of the Technical University of Delft. Jans is currently the CEO of Franz Inc., the leading

supplier of commercial, persistent, and scalable RDF database products that provide the storage layer for powerful reasoning and ontology modeling capabilities for Semantic Web applications.

#### Accomplishments:

Dr. Aasman has gained notoriety as a conference speaker at such events as Semantic Technologies Conference, International Semantic Web Conference, Java One, Enterprise Data World, Semantics in Healthcare and Life Sciences, Linked Data Planet, INSA, GeoWeb, AAAI, NoSQLNow, Graph Data Management, RuleML, IEEE conferences, and DEBS to name a few.

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# **Franz's CEO, Jans Aasman to Present at the 2015 NOSQL NOW! Conference in San Jose**

**OAKLAND, Calif. – May 22, 2015** – Franz Inc.'s CEO, Dr. Jans Aasman, will present at the 2015 NoQL Now! conference this August in San Jose, CA. The fifth annual NoSQL Now! Conference is the largest vendor-neutral forum focused on NoSQL (Not Only SQL) technologies. The conference is intended for every enterprise looking for better, faster and cheaper solutions to manage its growing databases and data stores.

## **Spark and SPARQL for the Intelligent Data Lake**

'Data Lake' refers to the new practice in large enterprises to store all potentially relevant data in a Hadoop infrastructure for later analytics. Data Lakes promise to play a vital role in data analytics and numerous vendors are marketing Data Lakes as an essential part of a comprehensive Big Data strategy. Gartner recently noted that this approach is susceptible to problems with governance, provenance, curation, access control and that it would be very helpful if the data was self describing. So Gartner recommended strategies to add semantic consistency to a Data Lake.

We will present a Semantic Data Lake project, architected on top of Hadoop, that takes as input any data type (i.e. csv files, json, json-ld, XML, unstructured text, etc). The project includes a semantic layer that leverages a distributed parallel semantic indexing engine. This semantically indexed Data Lake can be accessed via map-reduce, Apache SPARK and SPARQL.

The project use case was developed for a hospital chain that already adheres to the Accountable Care Act (ACA) but needed a Data Lake that could provide (predictive) analytics for population research and personalized medicine. The resulting Data Lake contains internal data, data from other hospitals in the same region and publicly available data such as a drug database, clinical trials, etc. All data in the Semantic Data Lake has been curated and transformed to fit ontologies and vocabularies like Mesh, Snomed and UMLS. In addition, all temporal relationships in the hospital data are preserved to provide causal analytics.

## **About Dr. Aasman**

Jans Aasman started his career as an experimental and cognitive psychologist, earning his PhD in cognitive science with a detailed model of car driver behavior using Lisp and Soar. He has spent most of his professional life in telecommunications research, specializing in intelligent user interfaces and applied artificial intelligence projects. From 1995 to 2004, he was also a part-time professor in the Industrial Design department of the Technical University of Delft. Jans is currently the CEO of Franz Inc., the leading supplier of commercial, persistent, and scalable RDF database products that provide the storage layer for powerful reasoning and ontology modeling capabilities for Semantic Web applications.

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# **New York Times Article – Is There a Smarter Path to Artificial Intelligence?**

From the New York Times – June 20, 2018

**This article caught our attention because they featured a startup that was using Prolog for AI. We have been strong proponents of Prolog for Semantic Graph solutions for many years.**

*For the past five years, the hottest thing in artificial intelligence has been a branch known as deep learning. The grandly named statistical technique, put simply, gives computers a way to learn by processing vast amounts of data. Thanks to deep learning, computers can easily identify faces and recognize spoken words, making other forms of humanlike intelligence suddenly seem within reach.*

*Companies like Google, Facebook and Microsoft have poured money into deep learning. Start-ups pursuing everything from cancer cures to back-office automation trumpet their deep learning expertise. And the technology's perception and pattern-matching abilities are being applied to improve progress in fields such as drug discovery and self-driving cars.*

*But now some scientists are asking whether deep learning is really so deep after all.....*

*.....Those other, non-deep learning tools are often old techniques employed in new ways. At Kyndi, a Silicon Valley start-up, computer scientists are writing code in Prolog, a programming language that dates to the 1970s. It was designed for the reasoning and knowledge representation side of A.I., which processes facts and concepts, and tries to complete tasks that are not always well defined. Deep learning comes from the statistical side of A.I. known as machine learning.*

**Our Tweet with links to AllegroGraph Prolog documenation and the full article:**

**nytimestech** “computer scientists are writing code in **#Prolog**... It was designed for the reasoning and knowledge representation side of **#AI** ...” <https://buff.ly/2lmYwkv> – **#AllegroGraph** is the only **#GraphDatabase** to include **#Prolog** for your AI apps. <https://buff.ly/2yv0IzF>

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# How Cognitive Probability Graphs Can Save Lives

**Franz's CEO, Jans Aasman, recently wrote the following article for Health IT Outcomes:**

*'In the near future, it will be possible for patients throughout the healthcare industry to understand the probability of susceptibilities based on their genes, medical records, family history, and current medical condition. By combining artificial intelligence, semantic technologies, Big Data, graph databases, and dynamic visualizations – cognitive probability graphs can determine the likelihood of future medical events.'*

*'The power of cognitive probability graphs stems from the capability to combine the probability space – statistical patient data – with a knowledge base of comprehensive medical codes and a unified terminology system. Integrating these into a semantic graph enables a dynamic querying profundity that is otherwise not possible.'*

**Read the full Article at [Health IT Outcomes](#)**