MINT a Molecular INTeraction database - (session: Database: Ontology and Integration)

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MINT is a public protein interaction database focused on collection of experimentally verified data disseminated in the scientific literature. MINT entries are extracted by expert curators assisted by "MINT Assistant", a software that targets abstracts containing interaction information and presents them to the curator in a user friendly format. Furthermore MINT aims at being exhaustive in the description of the interaction and, whenever available, information about kinetic and binding constants and about the domains participating in the interaction are included in the entry. All information is collected in a computer readable form and stored on a web accessible database where interaction data can be easily extracted and viewed graphically through "MINT Viewer". Presently MINT contains 2098 manually curated interactions, 1516 of which are interactions among mammalian proteins. MINT is accessible at http://cbm.bio.uniroma2.it/mint/. To facilitate the inclusion in MINT of unpublished interaction data, we are starting a new online peer-reviewed journal specifically aimed at the publication of rigorously documented molecular interactions not suitable for standalone publication on other journals. The "MINT journal for Molecular Interactions" will also publish focused reviews on selected molecular interaction networks or pathways. A preliminary version of the MINT journal is available online.