The proposed £7.1bn acquisition of Autonomy by Hewlett Packard is set to be one of the largest software acquisitions to date, and certainly the Cambridge cluster’s biggest yet, which set us at Cabume thinking, just which have been the city’s largest deals?

The result is the top 10 mergers and acquisitions of Cambridge cluster companies in terms of deal value plus seven other significant deals (though not necessarily the top 17).

Autonomy topped the list by a massive margin and with at least $1.8bn worth of its own acquisitions, is probably near the top of a list of largest Cambridge acquirers (were such a list to exist).

The second largest deal was the £870m merger of Virata with Globespan. It would have been UCB’s £1.5bn acquisition of Celltech, but the biotech company was by then predominantly based out of the region, though its £331m merger with Chiroscience does feature.