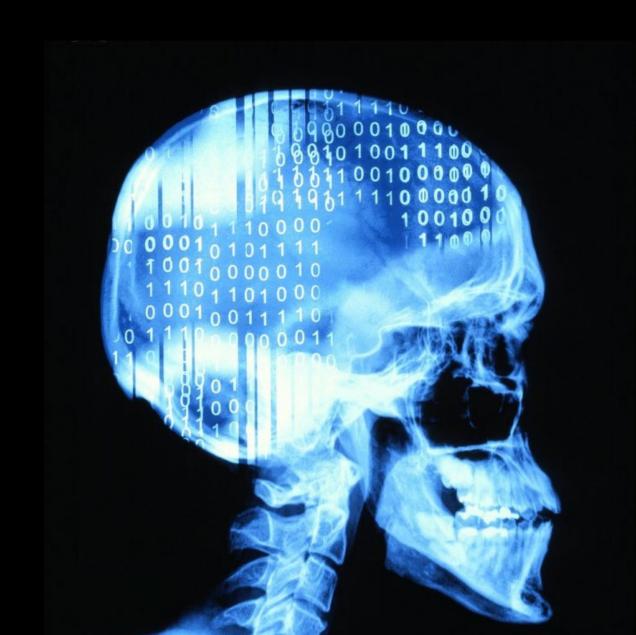
# Al research in practice

## Sonja Aits

20250924



# Managing an Al project

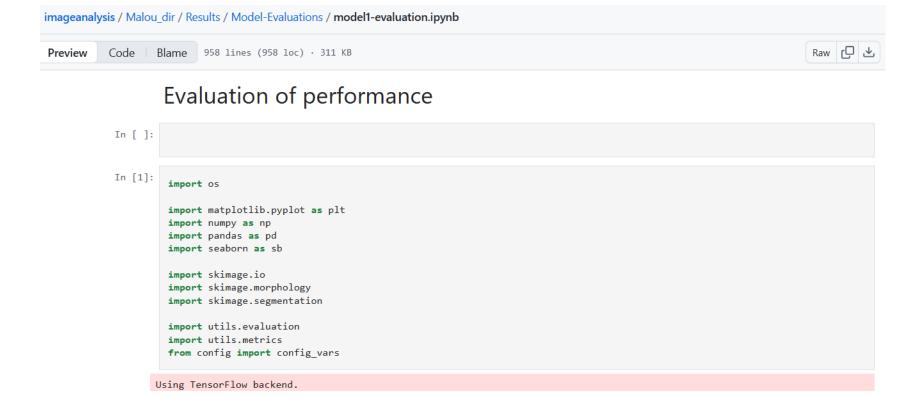
# Take inspiration from Agile project management

- Actively involve stakeholders from the start
- Interact with other team members
- Regularly reflect and recalibrate work processes
- Start small and then improve in small increments
- Welcome change

#### Keep track of important things

- Write a brief project plan and update it often
- Document data science experiments as thoroughly as laboratory experiments
- Store metadata, documentation and other relevant info together with models, data and code
- Use version control systems
- Use GitHub or similar tools to keep track of open/solved issues
- Standardize naming and file locations Model1 is NOT a good model name

#### Invest time in automating recurrent tasks



#### Configuration

```
In [2]: # Partition of the data to make predictions (test or validation)
config_vars['path_files_training'] = '/home/maloua/Malou_Master/5_Models/2_Final_Models/data/4_filelists/1-2_training.txt'
config_vars['path_files_validation'] = '/home/maloua/Malou_Master/5_Models/2_Final_Models/data/4_filelists/VALIDATION.txt'
config_vars['path_files_test'] = '/home/maloua/Malou_Master/5_Models/2_Final_Models/data/4_filelists/TEST.txt'
```

#### Make use of other people's work...

- Data
- Models
- Code
- Visualizations
- Workflows
- Notebooks

• But always give credit!

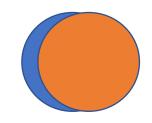
#### Share your own work

- Release models in model zoos
- Release code/notebooks with articles and on platforms like GitHub
- Release data in repositories get DOIs
- Write articles about the methodology/data
- Share training material

- Don't forget a license!
- Use FAIR principles: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable

# Remember: Success criteria depend on the goal – don't loose yourself in pointless optimization

Overlap	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.95
Model 1	92.1	91.0	87.5	84.7	68.8	13.6
Model 2	89.7	88.5	86.7	81.3	65.2	20.9

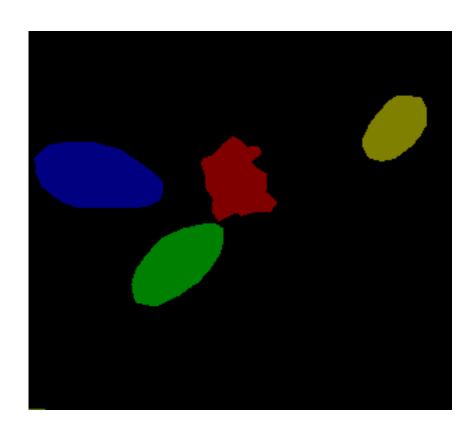


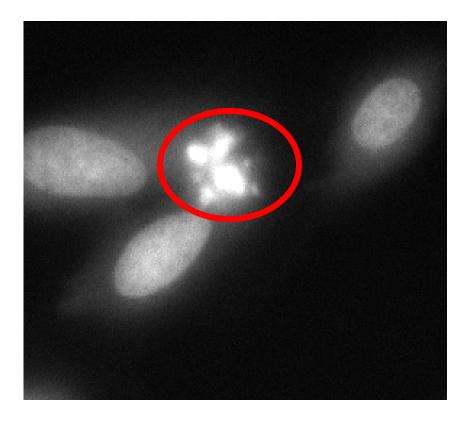
# Common problems

#### Every Al project has problems!

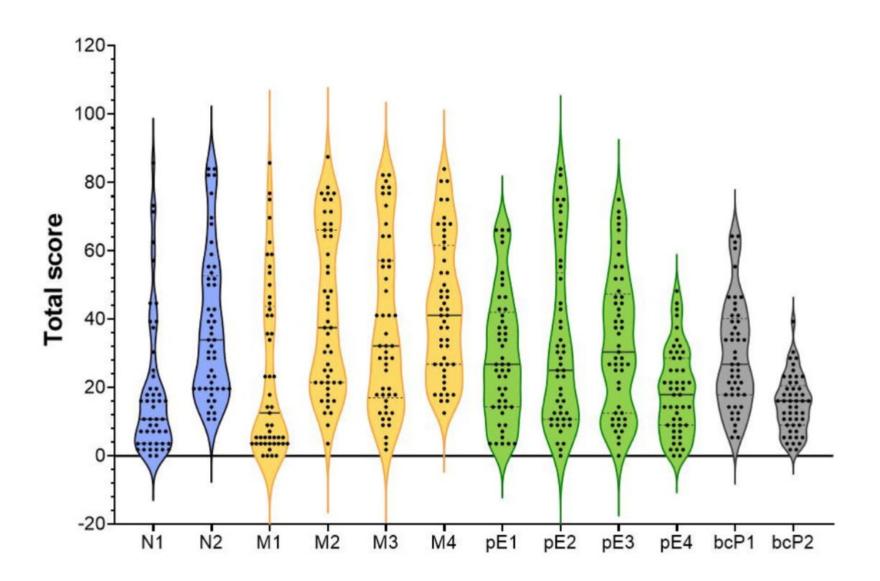
- Problems with data access and handling
- Limited dataset size
- High dimensionality
- Biased data
- Poor annotation quality

### Annotations are subjective

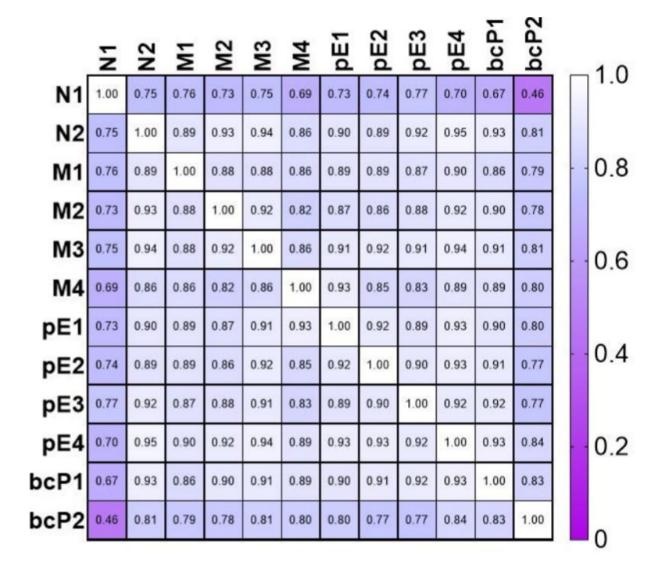




#### Annotations can be unreliable



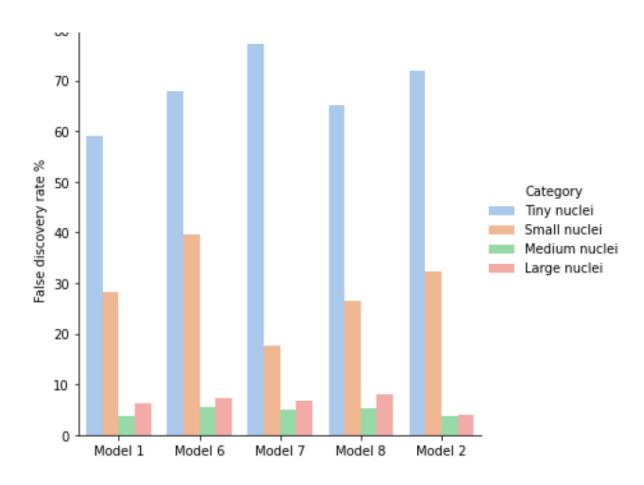
#### Annotations can be unreliable



#### Every Al project has problems!

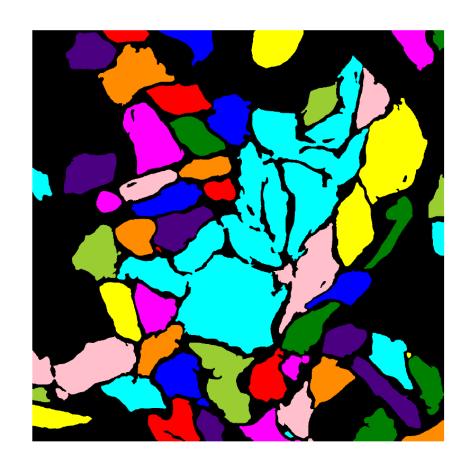
- Problems with data access and handling
- Limited dataset size
- High dimensionality
- Biased data
- Poor annotation quality
- Missing values
- Unsuccessful model training
- The "Black Box" issue
- Deployment obstacles
- Interdisciplinary barriers

#### Look beyond the primary metrics!



→ Guidance for model improvement

#### Look beyond the primary metrics!



→ Some problems may be solved with postprocessing

## Next steps

#### Connect with others

- Stay in touch with course mates
- Go to events
  - Al Lund
  - COMPUTE
  - LU/LTH profile areas
- Reach out to colleagues at LU and elsewhere

#### What to learn next

- Python Pandas and Matplotlib for EDA
- ML/DL library (PyTorch, HuggingFace, Scikit-Learn)
- Version control with Git
- Infrastucture: NAISS and Colab
- Data/project management
  - Documentation with Jupyter notebooks
- Explainable Al
- Small projects in your domain of interest