



ISBI 2025

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Melanoma Detection with Uncertainty Quantification

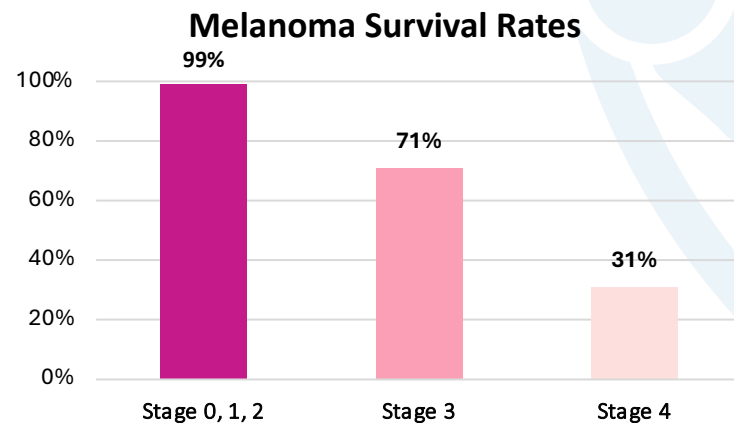
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¹University of Massachusetts Boston

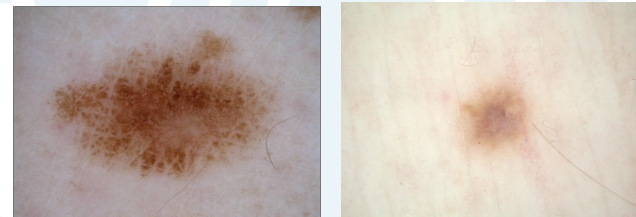
²SRI International

Importance of Early Detection

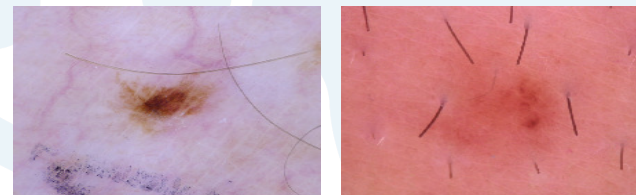
- Melanoma is the most aggressive skin cancer, causing 55,000 deaths annually¹.
- Early detection saves lives.
- Late detection increases mortality.
- Early detection is crucial as melanoma can mimic benign lesions.



Melanoma



Non-Melanoma

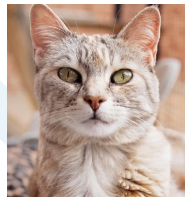
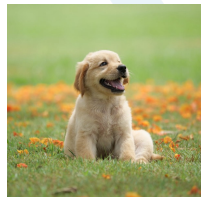


¹Schadendorf, D., et al. *Lancet*. 2018.

AI/ML in Melanoma Detection & Challenges

AI/ML improves diagnosis but has challenges:

- **No universal benchmark** – direct comparisons are challenging.
- **Lack of dataset combination studies** – limited data diversity.
- **Risk of misdiagnoses** – errors can occur.



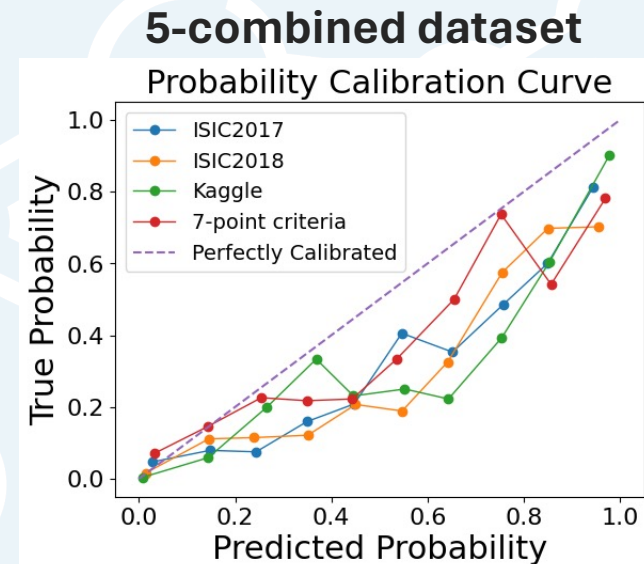
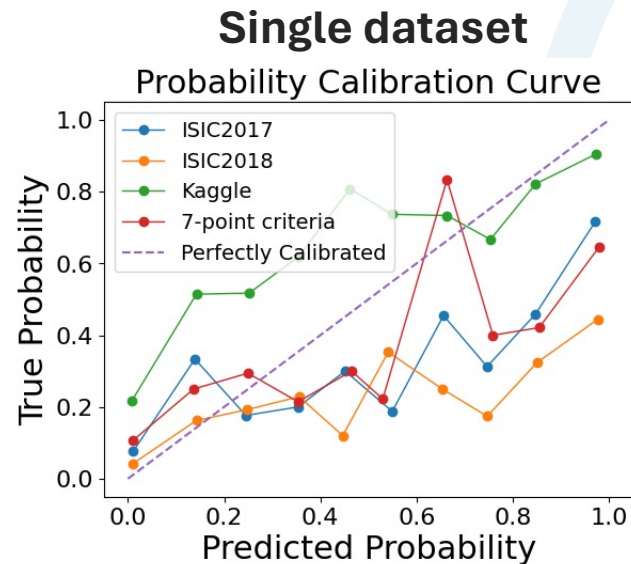
DOG (0.97) CAT (0.99) DOG (0.87)

Our Method

- Combine up to 10 datasets for data diversity.
- Evaluate classification, calibration, and uncertainty.
 - 1000+ model comparison
- Reject unreliable diagnoses.

Data Combining

Data combination improves accuracy and calibration.



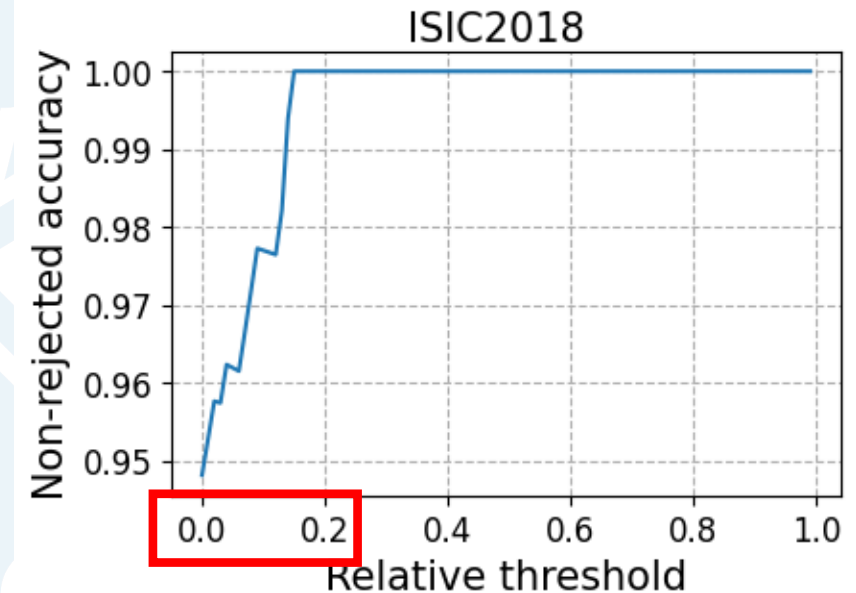
- 93.2% (5-combined dataset) Vs. 71.5% (single dataset) accuracy
 - **21.7%** improvement
- Better calibration: \uparrow reliability, \downarrow overconfidence.

“Some predictions still remain uncertain”

Uncertainty Evaluation & Rejection

Rejection Improves Accuracy.

- Shannon entropy² quantifies diagnosis uncertainty.
- Rejecting uncertain diagnoses improves accuracy.
- Find an optimal threshold (0-20%) from the best calibration^{3,4} scores.



“How much does rejection reduce misdiagnoses?”

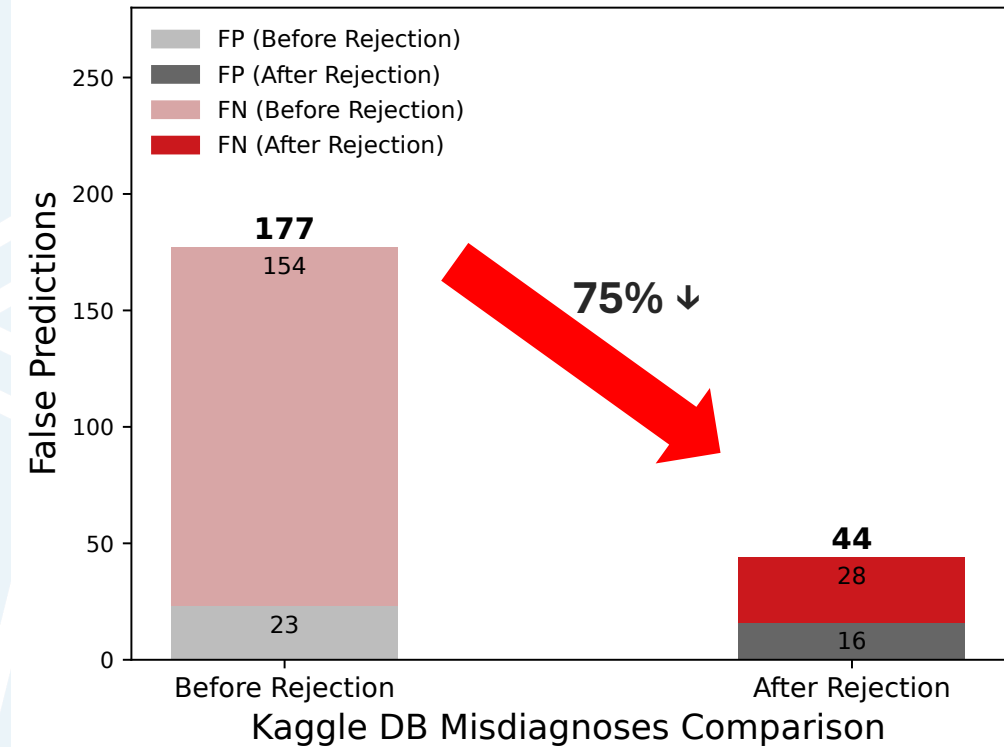
²Rudnicki, Łukasz. J. Russ. Laser Res. 2011.

³Expected Calibration Error (ECE), C Guo, et al. PMLR. 2017.

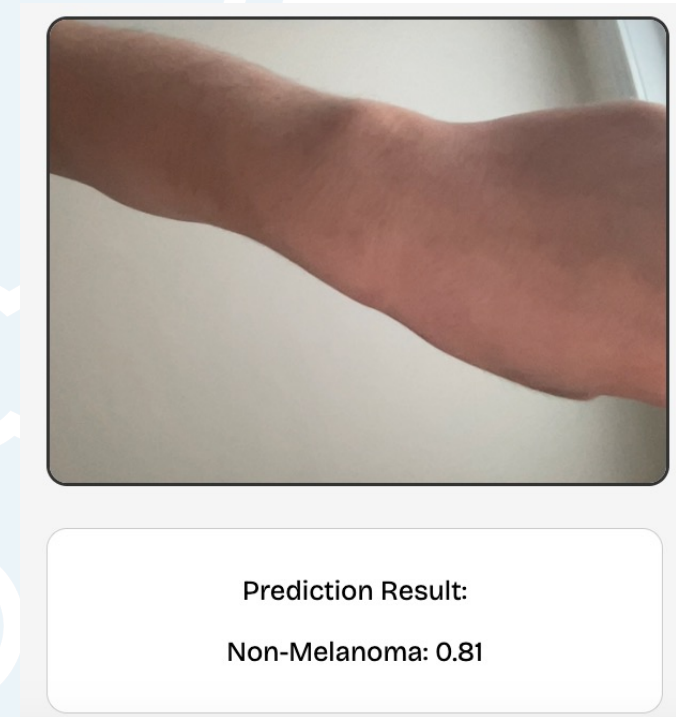
⁴Brier, Glenn W. Mon. Weather Rev. 1950.

Misdiagnoses Reduction

- **40.5%** reduction across all benchmarks.
 - 593 to 240 (↓ 353 reduction).
 - 52% FPs, 48% FNs
- Kaggle benchmark benefits the most (**75% reduction**)



Web-based Melanoma Detector



- <https://mpsyach.github.io/melanoma/>
 - Instant melanoma detection with a smartphone
 - We utilize our trained model for web deployment.



Try it!

Takeaways

- Combining datasets improves accuracy and calibration.
- Rejecting uncertain cases reduces misdiagnoses.
- Deeper networks (e.g., ResNet152) and Kaggle benchmark benefit the most from rejection.

Our work is open source.

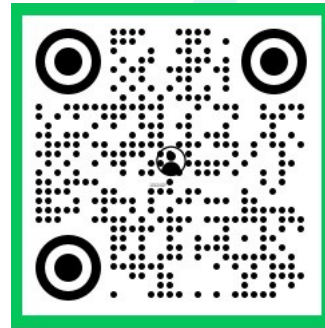
**- Actively seeking internship opportunities -
Let's connect!**

GitHub



Code

Website



Author



**Melanoma
Detector**

Try it!



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