

AI4Imaging- Hackathon- 2024

CLASSIFICATION OF HEART DISEASE
BASED ON CINE MRI SCAN

- Marvin Leonard Simak -

Course project
Intermediate Machine Learning
[Opencampus.sh](https://www.opencampus.sh)



Introduction

○ Task

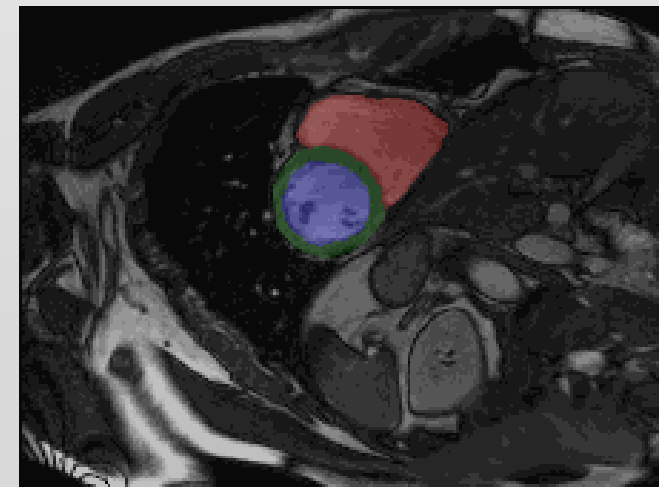
Multi-class classification deep learning or radiomics model to predict the category of heart disease using two frames of cardiac MRI

○ Dataset

- Shuffled version of the Automated Cardiac Diagnosis Challenge **ACDC**
- 150 MRI exams from patients (100 train + 50 test)
- MRI data (3D-voxel intensity) for two cardiac phases: diastolic and systolic
- Segmentation masks for region of interest (ROI)
- 5 different classes

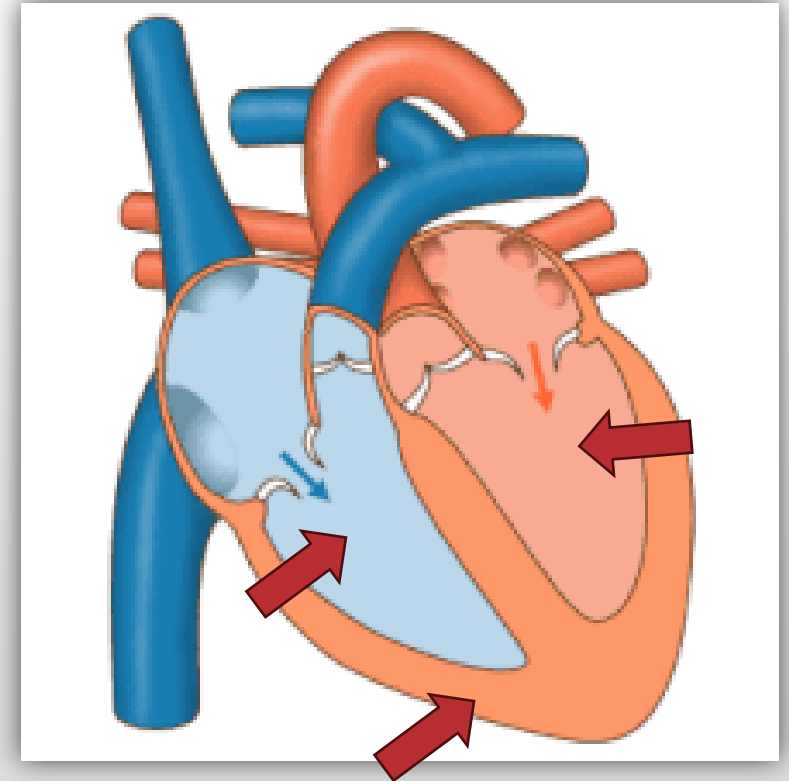
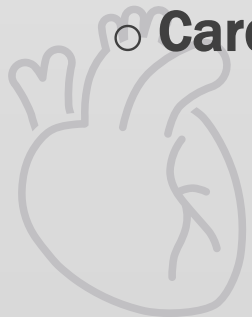
○ Evaluation

- Mean F1-Score
$$F1 = \frac{2 \times \text{Precision} \times \text{Recall}}{\text{Precision} + \text{Recall}}$$



Heart structure & physiology

- The heart functions as a pump, delivering oxygenated blood to the body and deoxygenated blood to the lungs
- **Myocardium:** Cardiac / heart muscle
Thick middle layer between the the pericardium and the endocardium
- **2 hearts / 4 chambers:**
Right heart: Body
right atrium, right ventricle, left atrium & left ventricle
- **Cardiac cycle:** Alternates between **Systole** (contraction) and **Diastole** (relaxation)

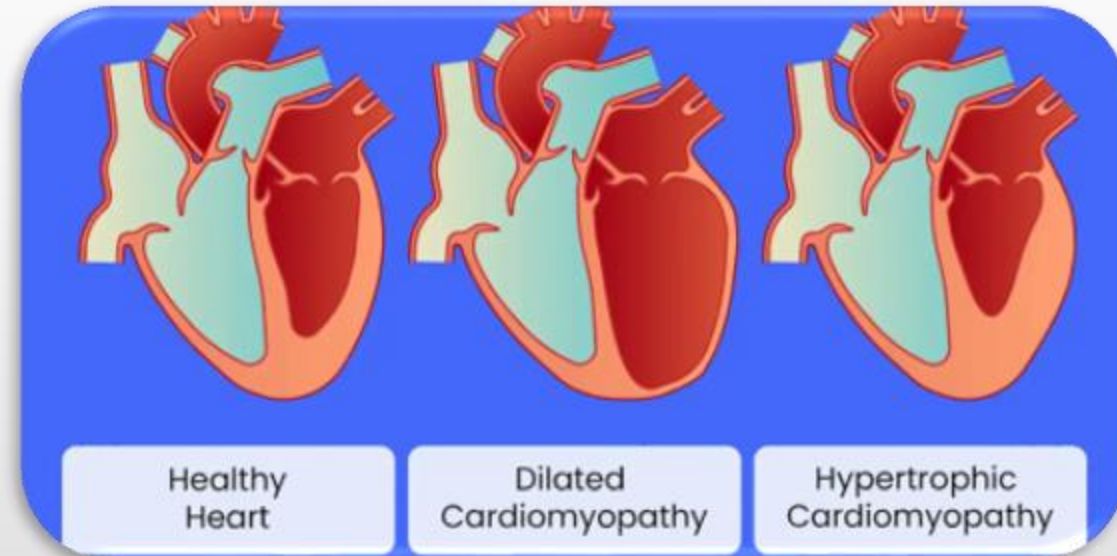


Cardiac cycle:

Body → Right Atrium → Right Ventricle (blue) → Lung → Left Atrium → Left Ventricle (red) → Body

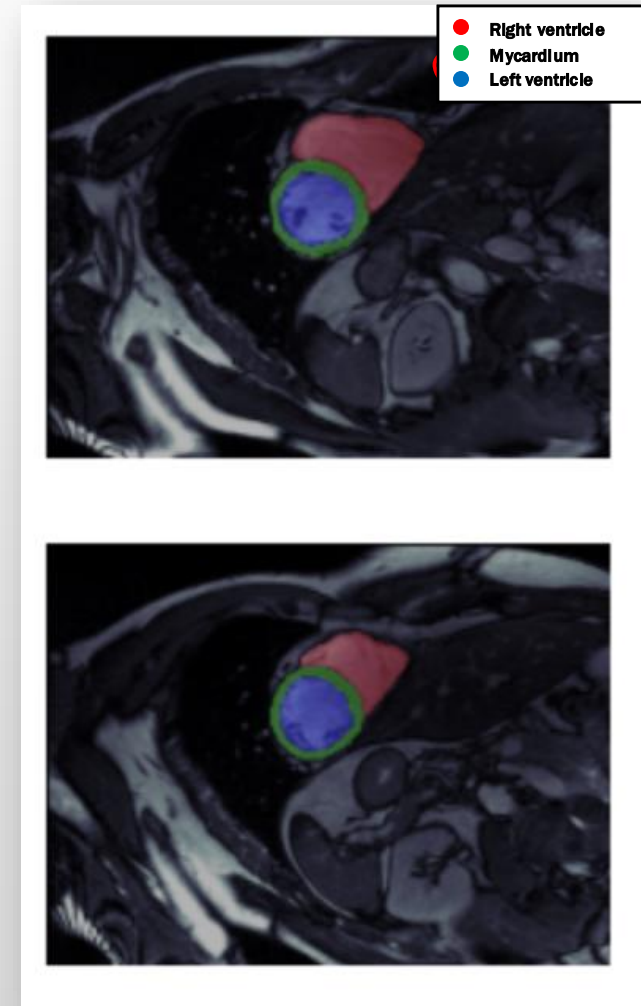
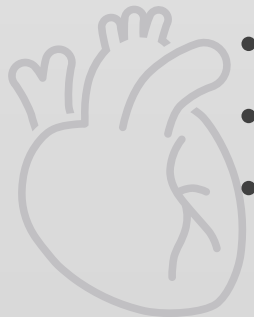
Structural heart diseases

- **Myocardial infarction (MINF):**
 - Blood flow decreases or stops in one of the coronary arteries of the heart, causing infarction (tissue death) to the heart muscle
- **Dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM):**
 - Heart muscle disease that causes the heart chambers (ventricles) to thin and stretch, growing larger. It typically starts in the heart's main pumping chamber (left ventricle)
- **Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy (HCM):**
 - A condition affecting the left ventricle, the main pumping chamber of the heart. The walls of the left ventricle become thick and stiff
- **Abnormal right ventricle (RV):**
 - Abnormal enlargement of the cardiac muscle surrounding the right ventricle




Dataset

- 3D cardiac MRI images and corresponding segmentation masks for diastolic and systolic phase each
- 100 patients for training (and 50 patients for testing)
- Multi-label segmentation mask:
 - 1 = right ventricle 3 = left ventricle 2 = myocardium
- 5 classes (with 20 samples each)
 - NOR: Normal subjects
 - MINF: Myocardial infarction
 - DCM: Dilated cardiomyopathy
 - HCM: Hypertrophic cardiomyopathy
 - RV: Abnormal right ventricle



Baseline: Calculate volumes & use a simple model

| | ESV _R | EDV _R | ESV _L | EDV _L | MV _{Sys} | MV _{Dia} |
|------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| NOR | 147.7 | 69.2 | 94.1 | 109.0 | 130.8 | 51.0 |
| MINF | 126.2 | 58.3 | 129.2 | 143.4 | 189.3 | 131.8 |
| DCM | 186.1 | 128.6 | 158.1 | 168.6 | 275.6 | 224.9 |
| HCM | 121.2 | 47.7 | 168.0 | 192.4 | 128.0 | 42.0 |
| RV | 220.6 | 139.6 | 81.63 | 91.02 | 125.5 | 54.0 |

- Voxel segmentation masks → Volume!
- Easily done with nibabel 
- Calculate volumes of both ventricles and the myocardium for both phases

Build a simple ML model:

- Sklearn pipeline
- StratifiedKFold & GridSearchCV
- SVM, RandomForest, GradientBoosting & MLPClassifier

→ SVM (C= 10, kernel = rbf, scaling='passthrough')



Best classifier: SVM

| | precision | recall | f1-score | support |
|--------------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|
| DCM | 0.60 | 0.75 | 0.67 | 4 |
| HCM | 1.00 | 0.75 | 0.86 | 4 |
| MINF | 0.67 | 0.50 | 0.57 | 4 |
| NOR | 0.67 | 1.00 | 0.80 | 4 |
| RV | 1.00 | 0.75 | 0.86 | 4 |
| accuracy | | | 0.75 | 20 |
| macro avg | 0.79 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 20 |
| weighted avg | 0.79 | 0.75 | 0.75 | 20 |





From the ACDC website:

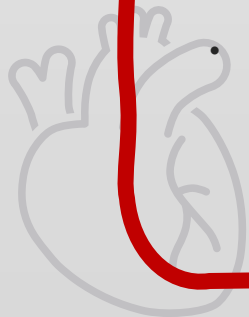


Classification rules

Each group was clearly defined according to **physiological parameter**, such as the **left or right diastolic volume** or **ejection fraction**, the local contraction of the LV, the LV mass and the **maximum thickness of the myocardium**.

Different possibilities of ambiguous cases are detailed here:

- Patients with hypertrophic cardiomyopathy have a left ventricular ejection fraction higher than 55 %. Otherwise, patient with a left ventricular ejection fraction less than 40 % and a local increase of the myocardial thickness (as an adaptation of the myocardium to the disease) must be classified as patients with previous myocardial infarction.
- Patients with abnormal high left ventricular diastolic volume, low left ventricular ejection fraction and only several myocardial segments with abnormal contraction must be classified as patients with previous myocardial infarction. Indeed, the increase of the volume of the left ventricle is an adaptation of the left ventricle due to a myocardial infarction.
- A patient with dilated left and right ventricles (with or without abnormal function of the right ventricle) must be classified as patients with dilated cardiomyopathy. Indeed, dilated cardiomyopathy of left ventricle could have impact on the right ventricle.
- Patients with borderline values should not be included in one particular class. For example, an ejection fraction of the right ventricle greater than 45 % is considered as normal (Mac Kenna criteria) but an ejection fraction of the right ventricle between 40% and 45 % do not allow to classify a case as patient with abnormal right ventricle.



Baseline: A few more features

| | ESV _R | EDV _R | ESV _L | EDV _L | MV _{Sys} | MV _{Dia} | MT _{Sys} , mean | MT _{Dia} , mean | MT _{Sys} , max | MT _{Dia} , max | SV | EF [%] |
|------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------|--------|
| DCM | 186.1 | 128.6 | 275.6 | 224.9 | 158.0 | 168.5 | 5.7 | 7.1 | 11.0 | 13.2 | 50.7 | 0.2 |
| HCM | 121.2 | 47.7 | 127.9 | 42.0 | 167.9 | 192.4 | 9.3 | 15.9 | 19.8 | 24.3 | 86.0 | 0.7 |
| MINF | 126.2 | 58.3 | 189.3 | 131.8 | 129.2 | 143.4 | 6.0 | 8.3 | 12.2 | 16.8 | 57.5 | 0.3 |
| NOR | 147.7 | 69.2 | 130.8 | 51.0 | 94.1 | 109.0 | 5.1 | 9.6 | 10.1 | 15.3 | 79.9 | 0.6 |
| RV | 220.6 | 139.6 | 125.5 | 54.0 | 81.6 | 91.0 | 4.5 | 8.0 | 9.7 | 14 | 71.5 | 0.6 |

Calculate more features:

- Volumes of RV & LV
- Myocard thickness (mean / max)
- Stroke Volume $SV = LV_{sys} - LV_{DIA}$
- Ejection fraction $EF = SV / LV_{sys}$
- Slight improvement 0.77



| Best classifier: SVM | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------|----------|---------|
| | precision | recall | f1-score | support |
| DCM | 0.57 | 1.00 | 0.73 | 4 |
| HCM | 1.00 | 0.75 | 0.86 | 4 |
| MINF | 1.00 | 0.25 | 0.40 | 4 |
| NOR | 0.80 | 1.00 | 0.89 | 4 |
| RV | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 4 |
| accuracy | | | 0.80 | 20 |
| macro avg | 0.87 | 0.80 | 0.77 | 20 |
| weighted avg | 0.87 | 0.80 | 0.77 | 20 |

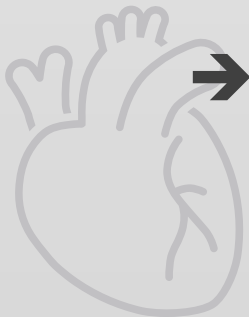
Published results for automatic cardiac diagnosis

- Khened et al. [46] used **11** features, 9 derived from their segmentation map in addition to the patient weight and height → Acc: 96%
- Isensee et al. [44] extracted a series of instants and dynamic features from the segmentation maps → Acc: 92%

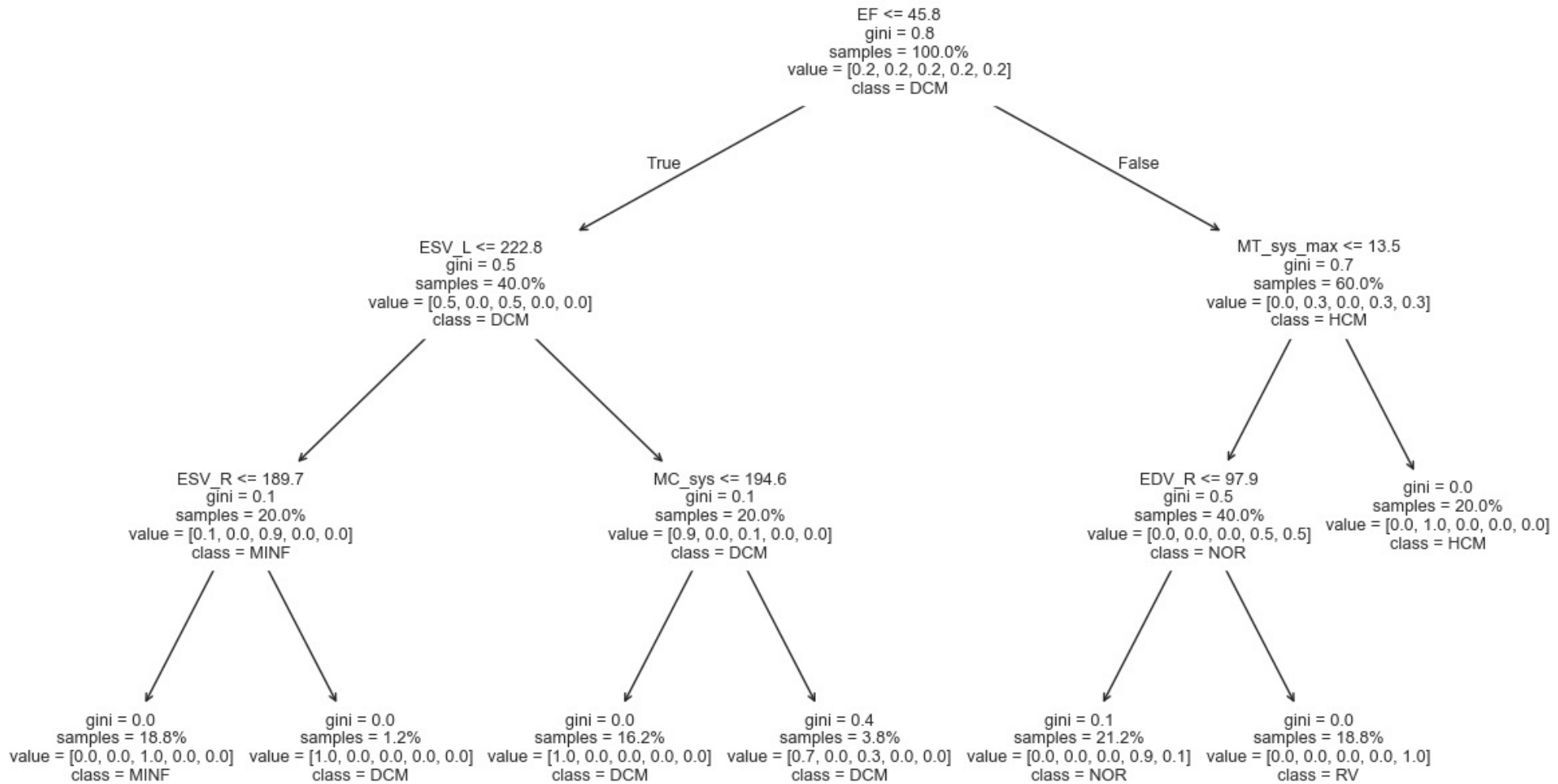
Similar approach but more features based on dynamics and anthropometrics (e.g. age, body mass, sex) – which are not available in the Kaggle dataset

➔ Calculating physiological features is close to medical practice and diagnostics

➔ Explainable / No black-box



Explainability



Baseline: Leaderboard

Prizes & Awards

Kudos

Does not award Points or Medals








Participation

8 Entrants

7 Participants

4 Teams

9 Submissions

| # | Team | Members | Score | Entries | Last | Solution |
|---|-----------------|---|---------|---------|------|----------|
| 1 | PixelPioneersss |  | 0.64772 | 1 | 7mo | |
| 2 | PixelPioneers |  | 0.53646 | 5 | 7mo | |
| 3 | PixelPioneersv1 |  | 0.26727 | 2 | 7mo | |
| 4 | CardioCoderz |     | 0.16000 | 1 | 7mo | |

- Not the most popular challenge – lets see if our baseline can beat that...



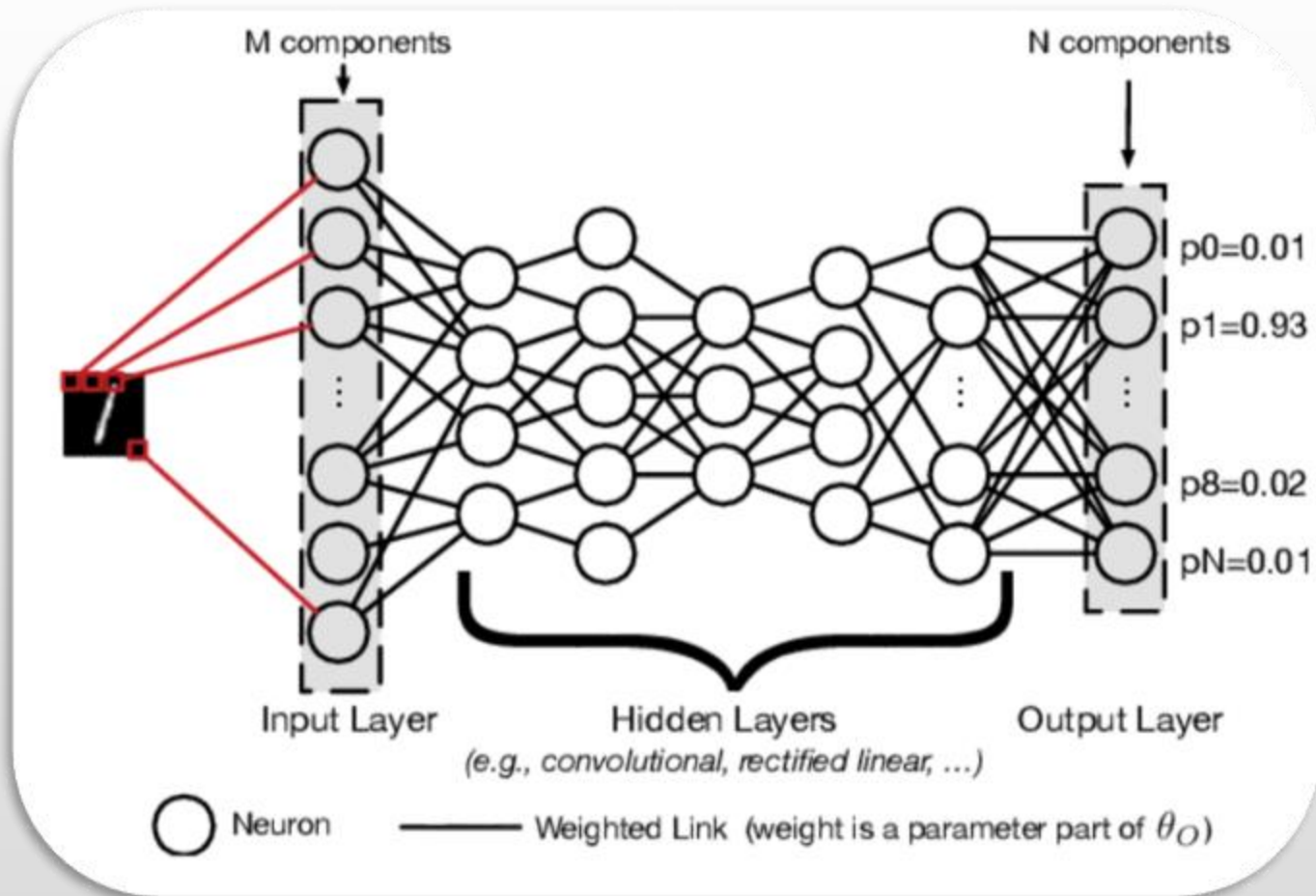
submission.csv

Complete (after deadline) · 2d ago · SVM & feature engineering

0.97994

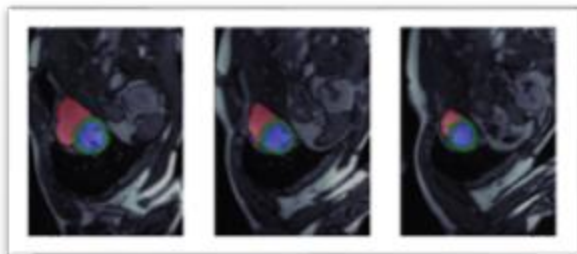
- That will be a hard to beat baseline ^^'



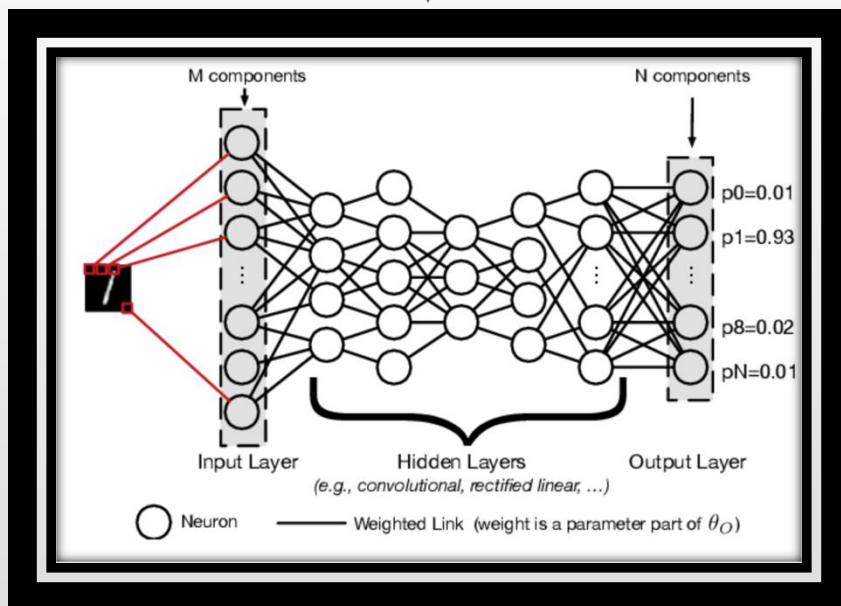


Deep Learning is
all your need... Or
is it?

Input Tensor
[B x C x D x W x H]



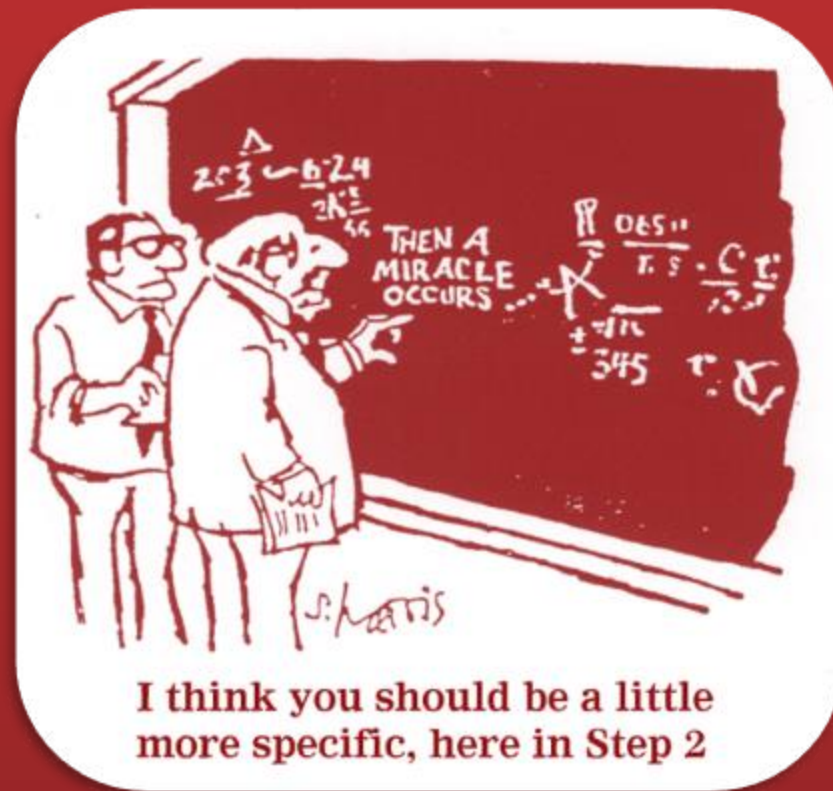
Magical black box
(aka DL model)



Success! eh,
Class prediction



NOR | MINF | DCM | HCM | RV



End-to-End Training
possible?



You don't ~~X~~ have to reinvent
the wheel.

Frameworks & Helpers



You do the research.
Lightning will do everything else.



Open-source framework built for
accelerating research and clinical
collaboration in Medical Imaging



Open Source Design



Standardized



User Friendly



Reproducible



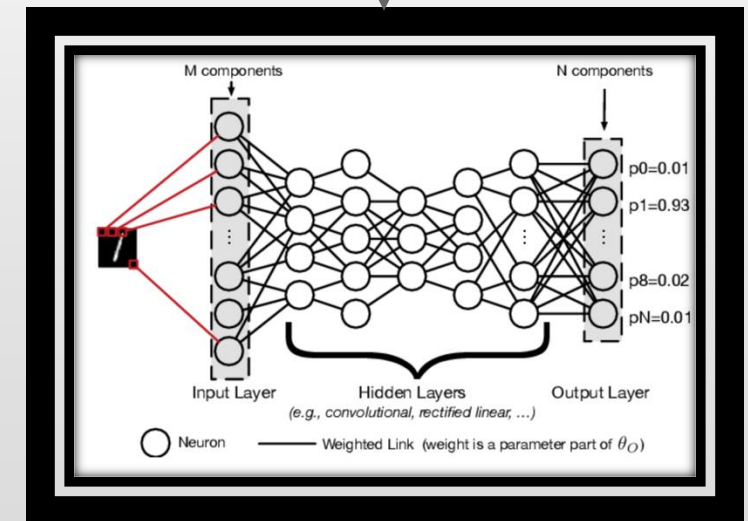
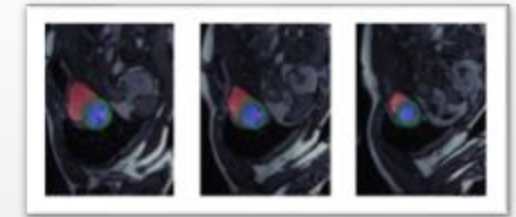
Easy Integration



High Quality

Easily done! Or is it...

- Just load the data, scale it and dump it into the model...
- Training:
 - PyTorch Lightning
 - Stratified 80/20 train-val-split
 - CNN (3D-ResNet18)
 - CrossEntropy-Loss
 - AdamW Optimizer
 - Batch Size 8
- Results:
 - F1-Score: **0.4** 🤔



NOR | MINF | DCM | HCM | RV

Let's have another look at the data

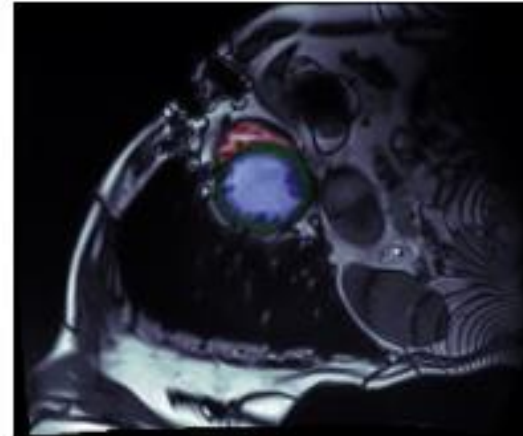
Problems:

- Different intensities
- Different orientation (wrong meta)
- Heart is small part of the picture

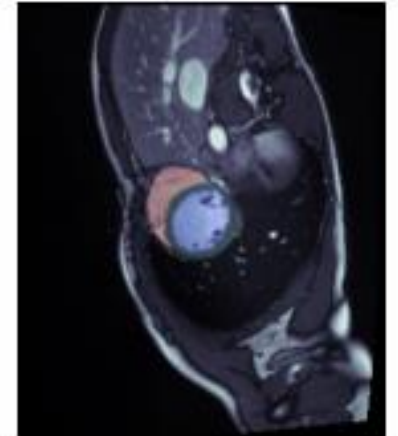
→ Preprocessing is mandatory!



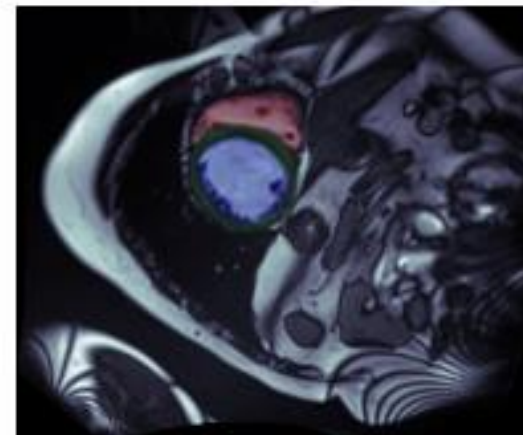
p0004 (MINF)



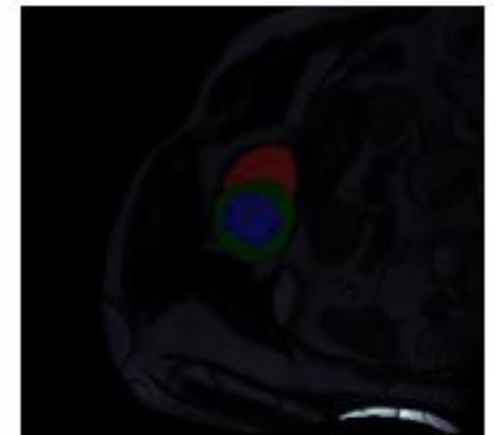
p0005 (NOR)



p0009 (DCM)

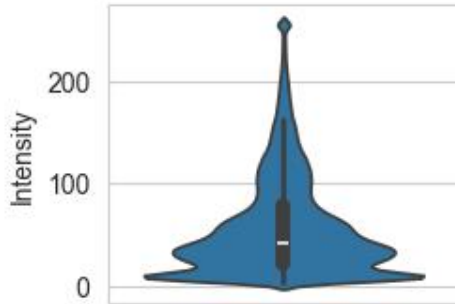
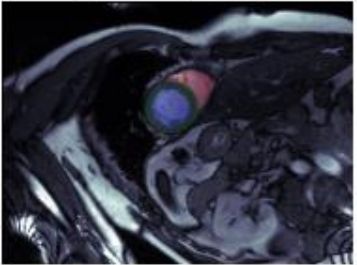


p0010 (HCM)

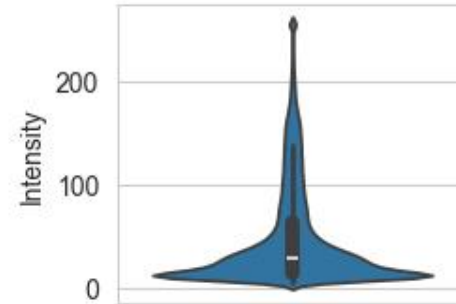
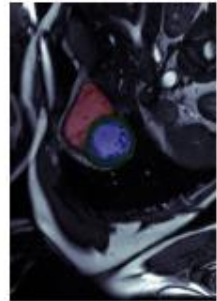


Intensity normalization

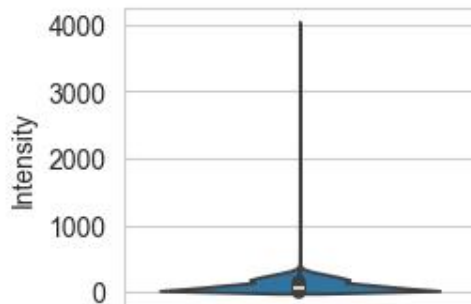
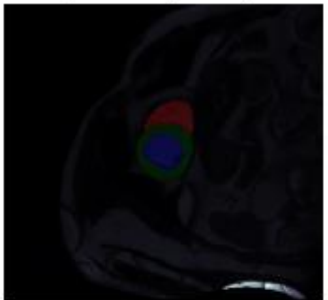
p0001 (NOR)



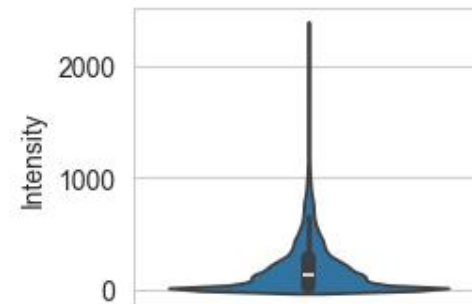
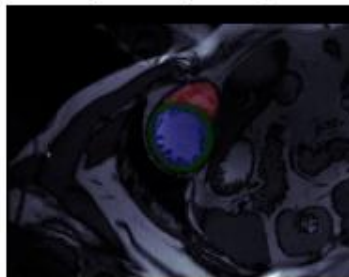
p0002 (RV)



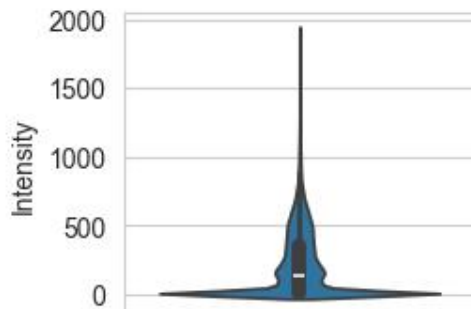
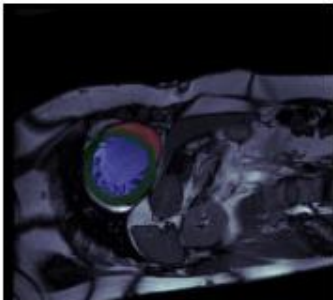
p0010 (HCM)



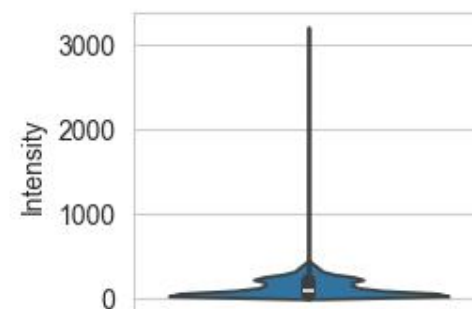
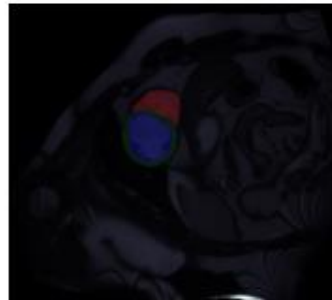
p0012 (DCM)



p0025 (DCM)



p0059 (MINF)



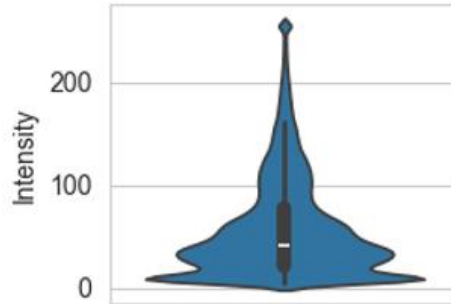
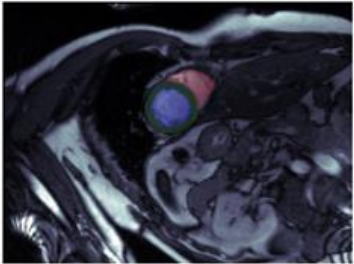
Problems:

- Completely different scales between patients
- Artefacts / Reflections

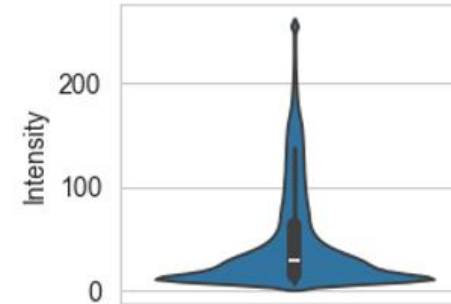
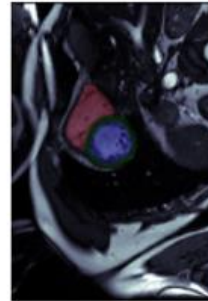
→ Clip outliers and scale intensity linearly

Intensity normalization

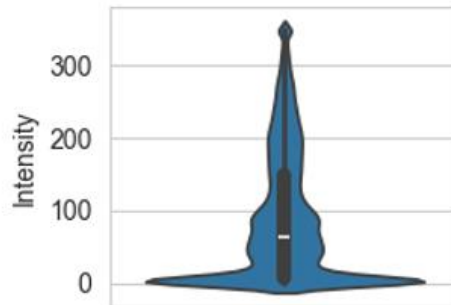
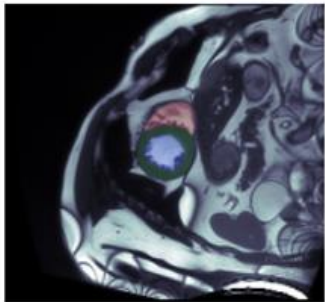
p0001 (NOR)



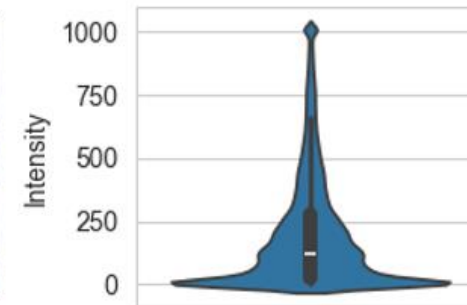
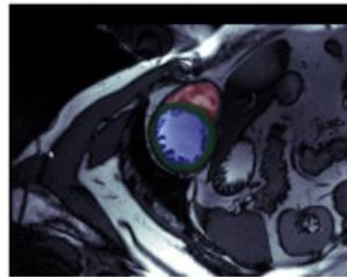
p0002 (RV)



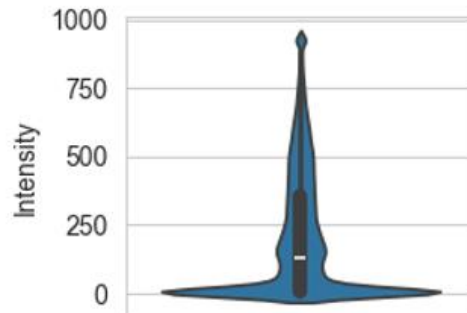
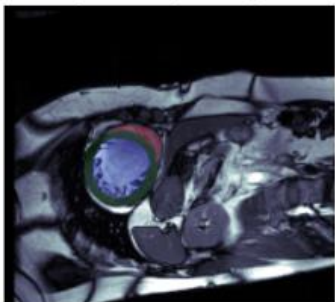
p0010 (HCM)



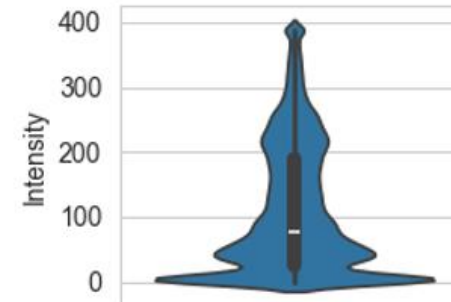
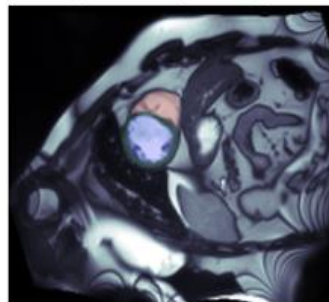
p0012 (DCM)



p0025 (DCM)



p0059 (MINF)



Result:

- Much better!

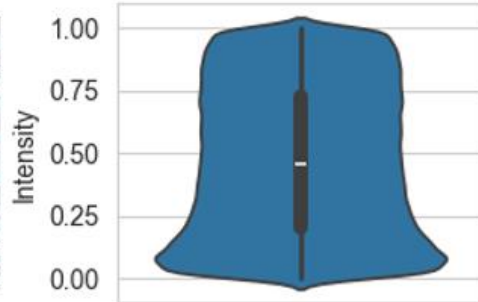
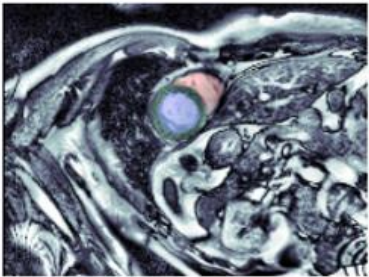
Further problems?

- Different contrast

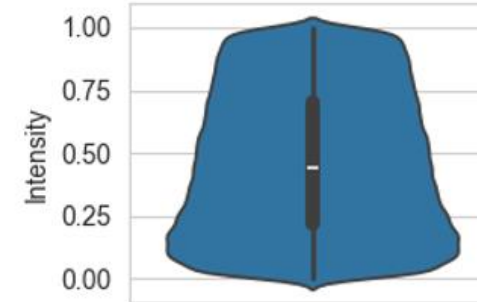
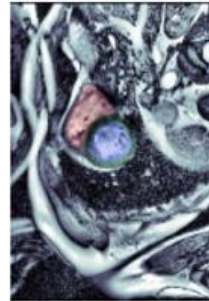
→ Histogram normalization

Intensity normalization

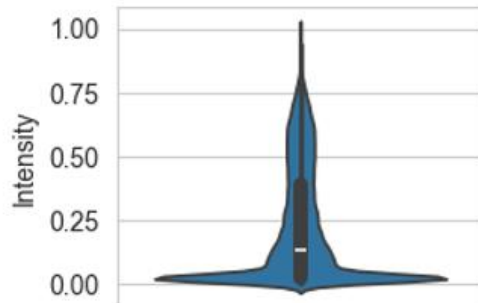
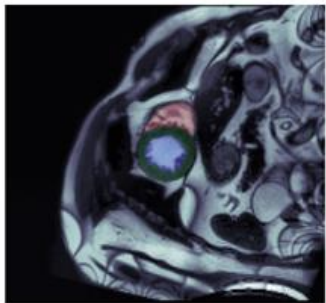
p0001 (NOR)



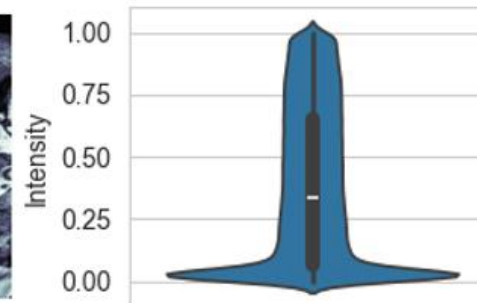
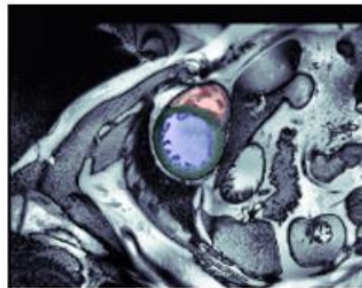
p0002 (RV)



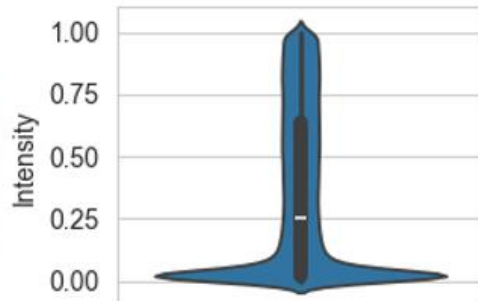
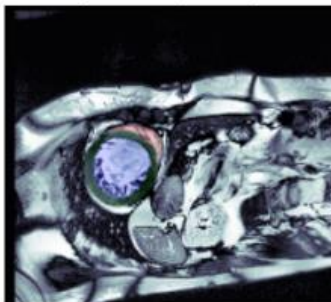
p0010 (HCM)



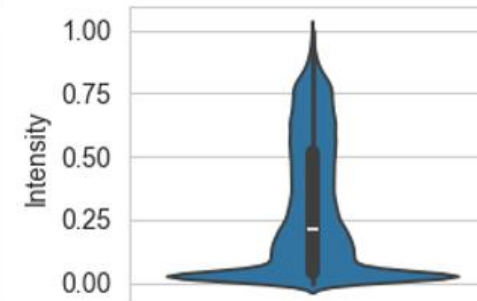
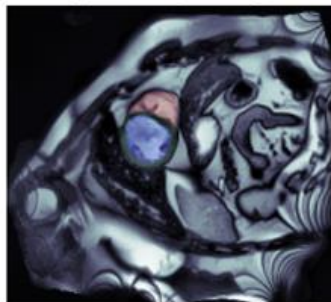
p0012 (DCM)



p0025 (DCM)



p0059 (MINF)

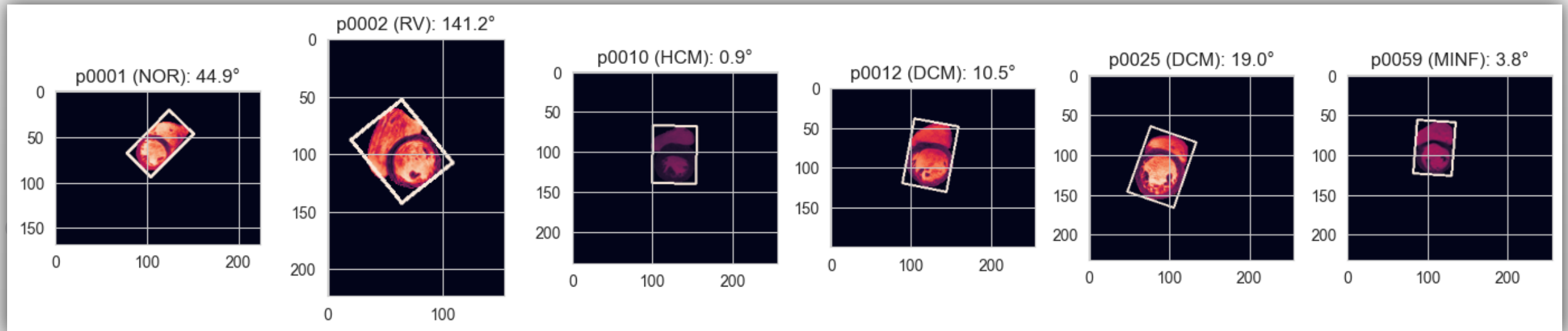


- Adaptive histogram normalization (CLAHE algorithm)
- Better contrast
- Less difference between subjects

Different Orientation

- Normally orientation is given in meta data
- Wrong meta data in some samples
- Ratio is unambiguous

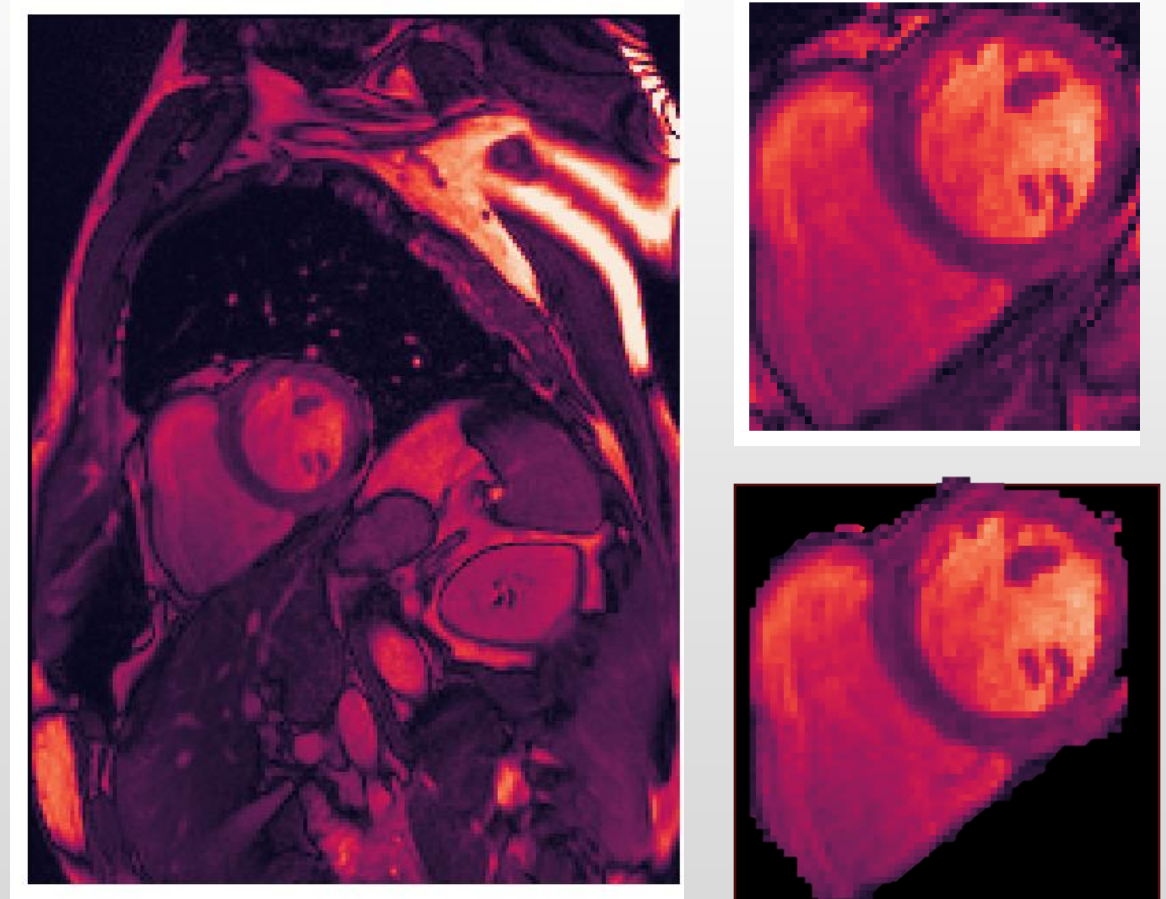
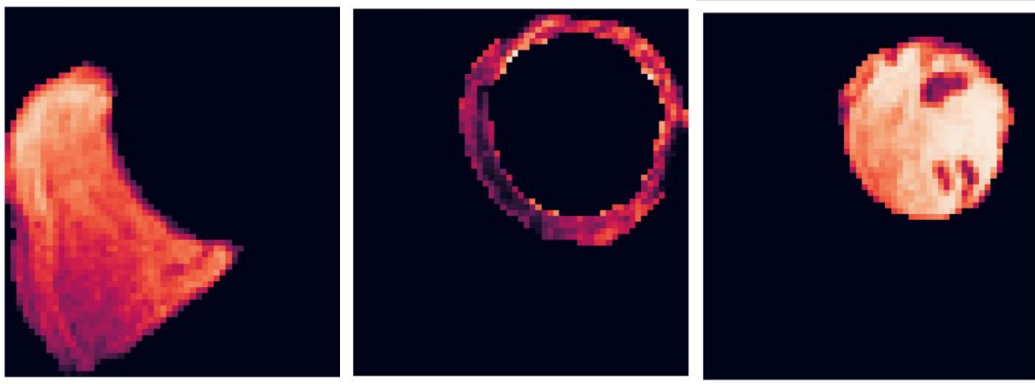
→ Solution use OpenCV to detect rotation of the heart (using the segmentation mask)



Cropping and masking

Options:

- Crop images to ROI area (bounding box around mask)
- Use the segmentations to mask the intensity
- Use the separate labels to mask different parts of the input

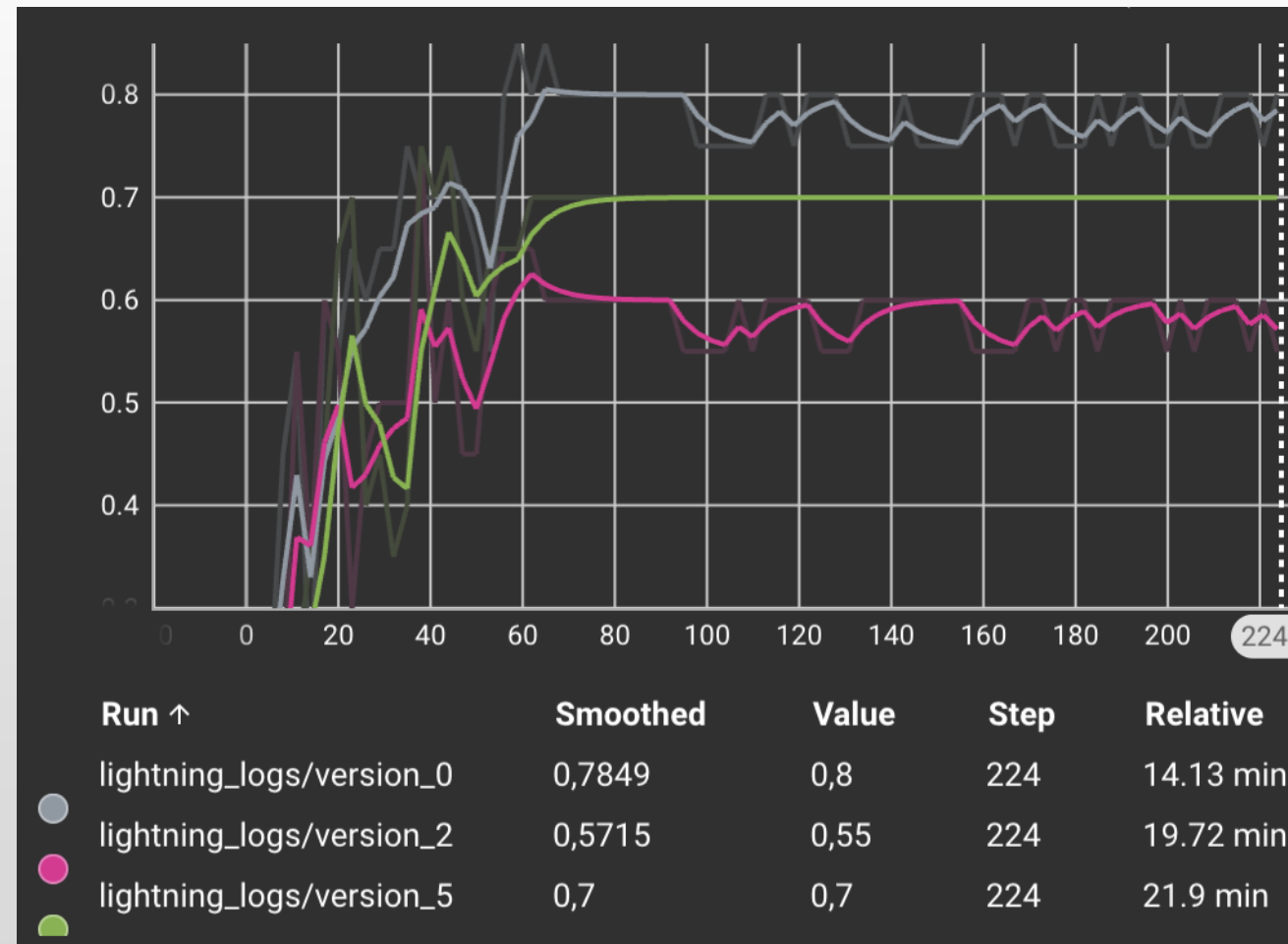


First results

- CNN trained with CrossEntropy using PyTorch Lightning
 - 3D-ResNet18
- ➔ **F1-Score: 0.7 - 0.8** (on valid)

What seemed to help:

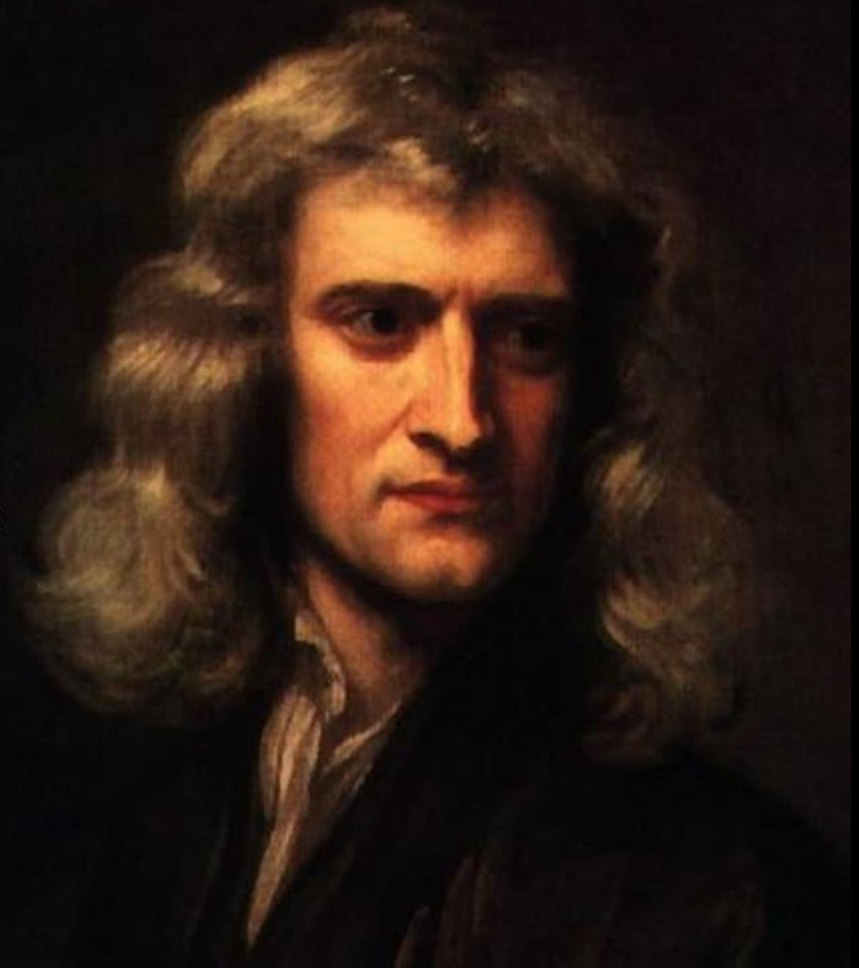
- Intensity normalization
- Cropping
- Masking intensity
- Bigger batches / Gradient accumulation



Frameworks and other resources

If I have seen further than others, it is
by standing upon the shoulders of giants.

Isaac Newton



Pretrained models?

- Med3D: Transfer Learning for 3D Medical Image Analysis

- Chen et al. (2009)

- Dataset with diverse modalities, target organs, and pathologies (MRI & CT)

- A series of 3D-ResNet pre-trained models



MedicalNet

- First results were not that great... F1: ~0.5-0.6

- Potential problems:

- Different normalization

- Domain shift

- Finetuning settings (frozen layers, LR, etc.)



Potential outlook

- **Systematic hyperparameter Testing with optuna**
- **Re-check normalization used in MedicalNet**
- **Train the model to approximate the features as well as the class**
- **(Pre-) Train the model on segmentation task first**
- **Test different input augmentations**
- **Check sensitivity map / gradCAM for plausibility**



Summary

- **KISS – Keep it stupid simple!**
- **Really hard to beat the feature-based baseline**
- **Performance & Interpretability**
- **Why actually?**
 - Except for learning ;-)
 - If you have domain knowledge, use it! (especially with small datasets)



Literature

- Bernard, O., Lalande, A., Zotti, C., et al. (2018). Deep learning techniques for automatic MRI cardiac multi-structures segmentation and diagnosis: Is the problem solved? *IEEE Transactions on Medical Imaging*, 37(11), 2514–2525. <https://doi.org/10.1109/tmi.2018.2837502>
- M. Khened, M., Alex, V., and Krishnamurthi, G. (2017). Densely connected fully convolutional network for short-axis cardiac cine mr image segmentation and heart diagnosis using random forest. *Proc. STACOM-MICCAI, LNCS, 10663*, 140–151.
- Isensee, F. , Jaeger, P., Full, P., et al. (2017), Automatic cardiac disease assessment on cine-mri via time-series segmentation and domain specific features. *Proc. STACOM-MICCAI, LNCS, 10663*, 120–129.

