



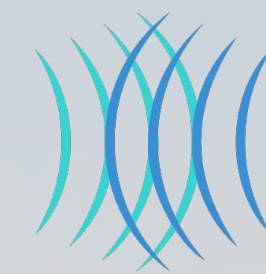
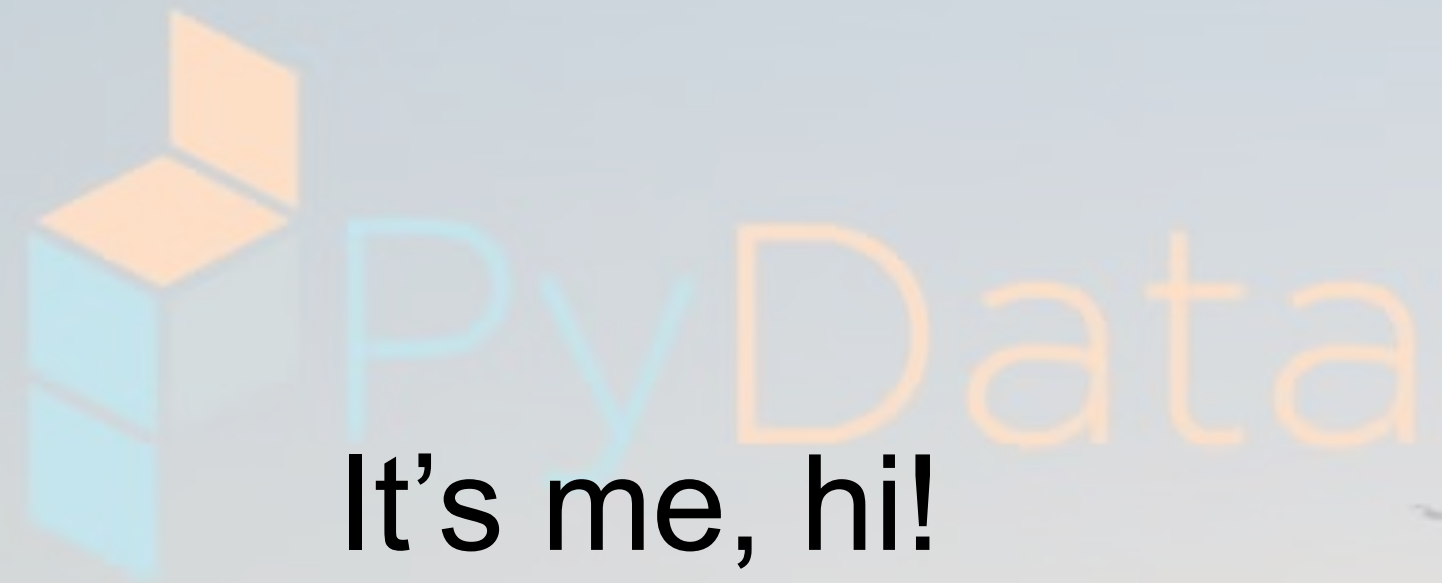
Venezia

12 DICEMBRE 2024

Conversations with an AI gynecologist: design of an explainable medical decision support tool

Rosilari Bellacosa
CTO @ SynDiag





It's me, hi!

Former neuroscientist 🐁

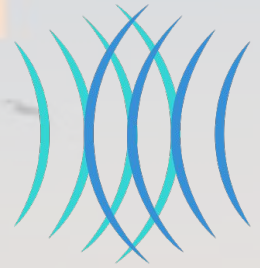
Former ML specialist

Former R&D in Computer Vision

Current CTO @ SynDiag



PyData

A few facts about  SynDiag:

Launched in 2018

3 founders

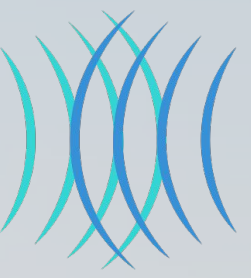
9 people

PoliTO Spin Off

5 IPs protected in 5+ countries

2 products

750K in sales in 2024



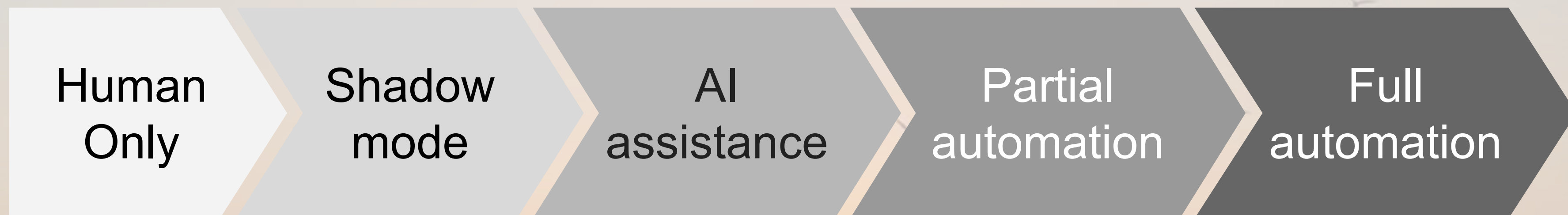
AI in Healthcare:

Imaging and Diagnostics
Predictive Analytics
Personalized Medicine
Virtual Health Assistants
Administrative Workflow
Remote Monitoring
Clinical Decision Support
...

Goals:

Efficacy and accuracy
Efficiency and costs reduction
Personalized care
Discovering new patterns
...

AI in Healthcare:





**United against
ovarian cancer.**

OvAi case study



OvAi X

Attenzione
OvAi X non è un dispositivo medicale per la diagnosi o il trattamento di qualsiasi condizione medica e non deve essere usato per finalità mediche.

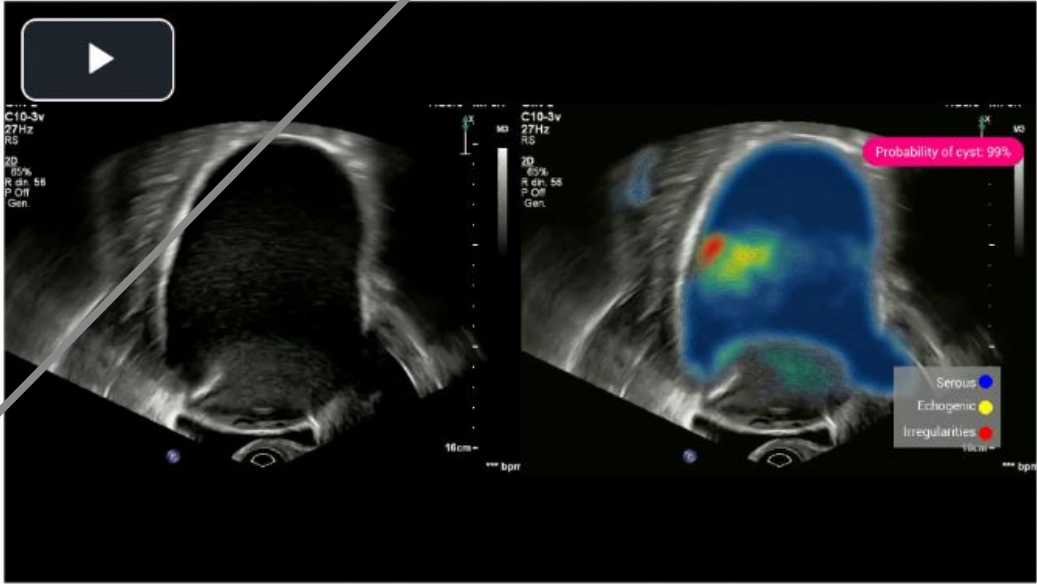
Diagnosi

Benigno

Biopsia Virtuale

serous_cystadenoma	41%
mucinous_cystadenoma	39%
dermoid	11%
tecoma-fibroma_group	5%
endometrioma	3%

Video completo



Salva immagine

Morfologia completa

Morfologia completa

Campi da compilare manualmente:

Tipo di lesione

Cistico

Classific

Unil

Col

1

Cor

No

Asc

No

Die

0

Diametro

0

Nume

0

Nume

1

Or

No

Et

Low

Mi

Reg

Bi

No

Chiudi

Calcola la biopsia virtuale

OvAi case study:

Diagnostic support for gynecological tumors



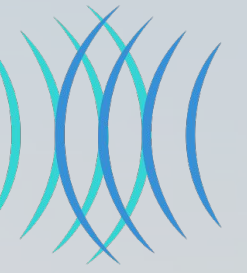
Visual tumor
description

Diagnostic
suggestion

Printable
ultrasound
report



PyData



Main features of OvAi:

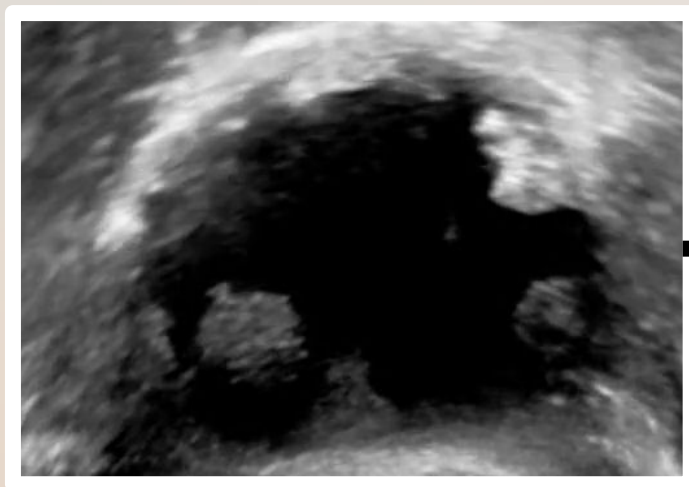
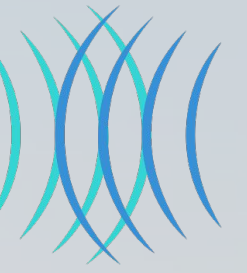
Transparency

Modularity

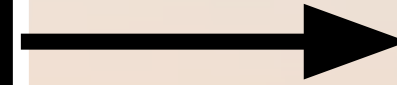


PyData

Transparency by design

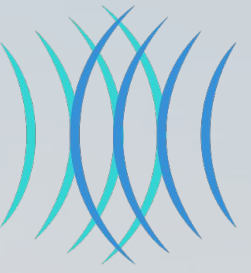


“AI”

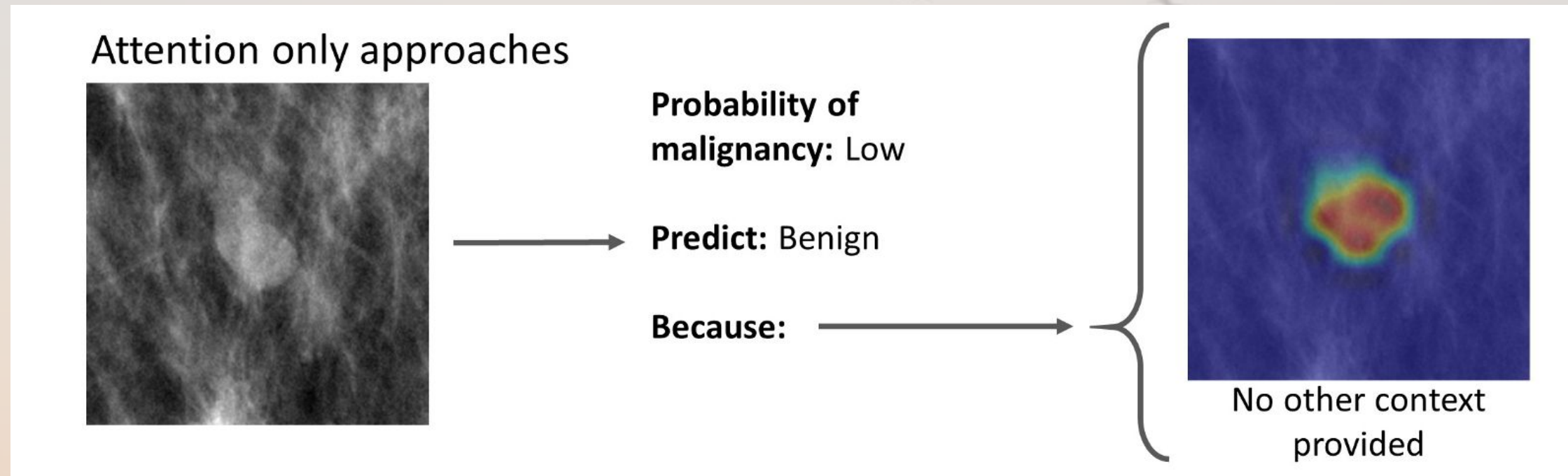


Malignant

Transparency by design



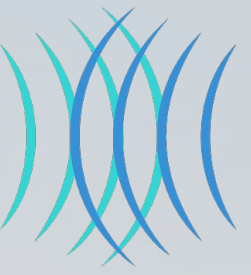
Limits of XAI





PyData

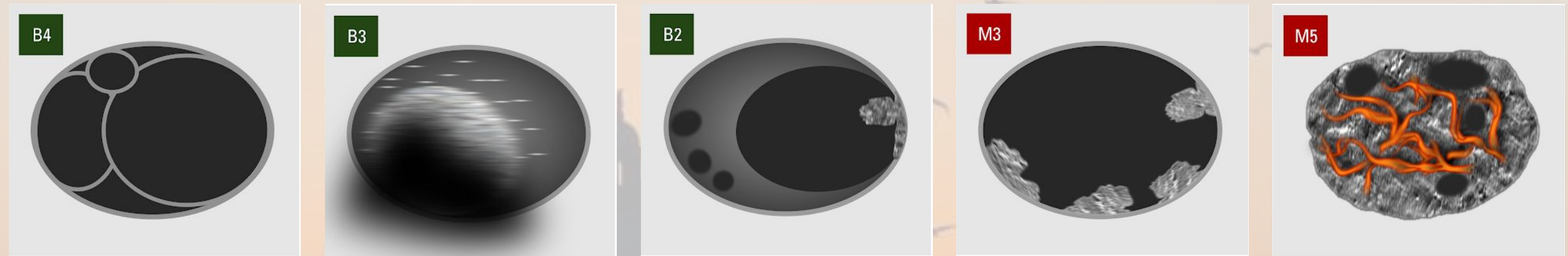
Transparency by design



Real
Data

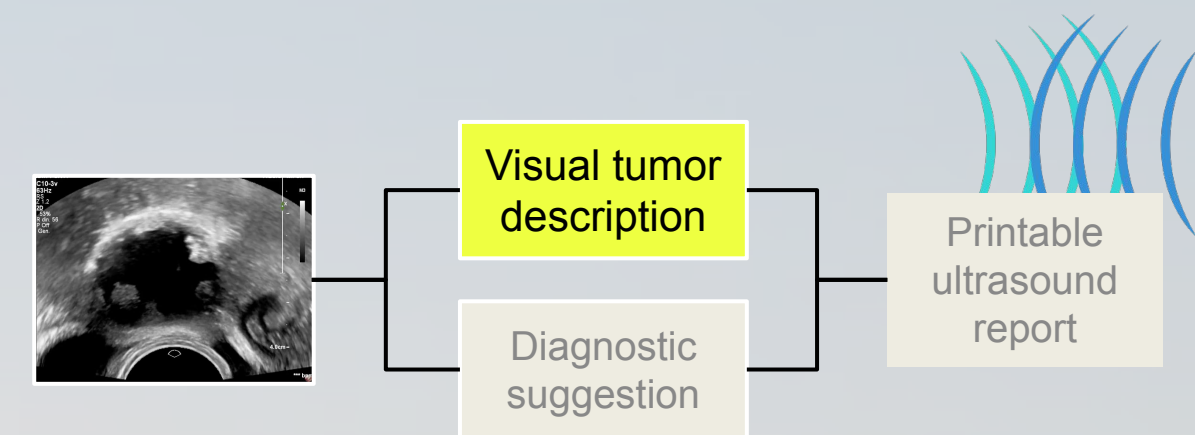


Official
diagnostic
guidelines



PyData

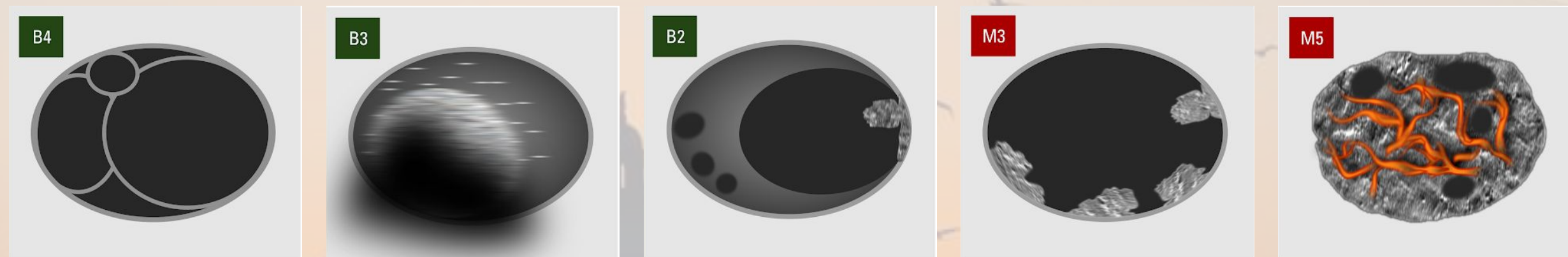
Transparency by design



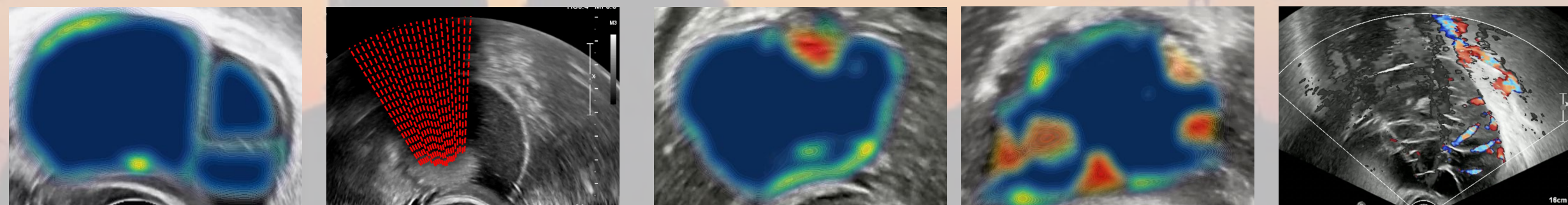
Real
Data



Official
diagnostic
guidelines

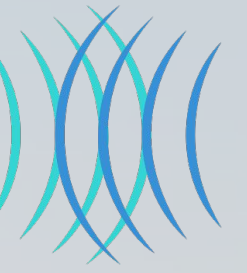


OvAi
Explainable
output





PyData

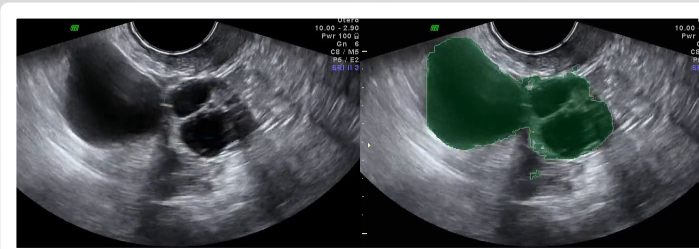


Pillars of responsible AI

- Privacy and security
- Fairness and inclusion
- Robustness and safety
- **Transparency** and control
- Accountability and governance

Summary from [Meta](#), [Microsoft](#), [Google](#), [IBM](#), [OpenAI](#), [AWS](#) resources

Modularity in OvAi



ROI detection
and navigation

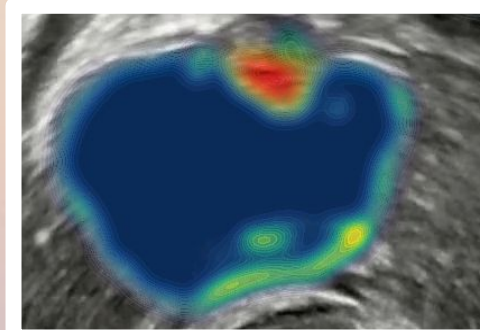
Diagnostic class
suggestion

Benign
vs
Malignant

Visual
description

Tumor
identification

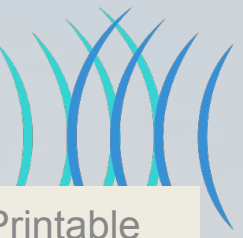
Mucinous
Cystadenoma



Visual tumor
description

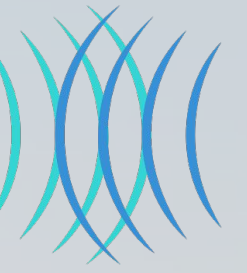
Diagnostic
suggestion

Printable
ultrasound
report





PvData



Modularity in OvAi

Pros:

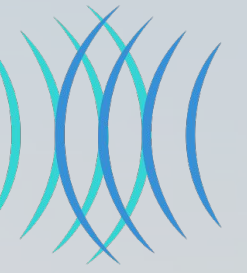
- Specific tasks and technologies
- Work with limited resources
- Reuse modules
- Regulatory requirements

Cons:

- Integration
- Overall performance
- Maintenance
- Coupling

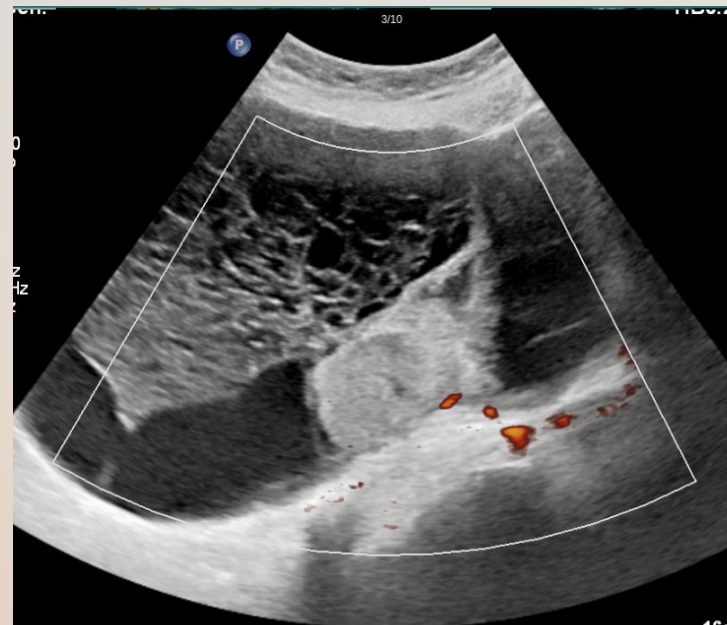


PvData

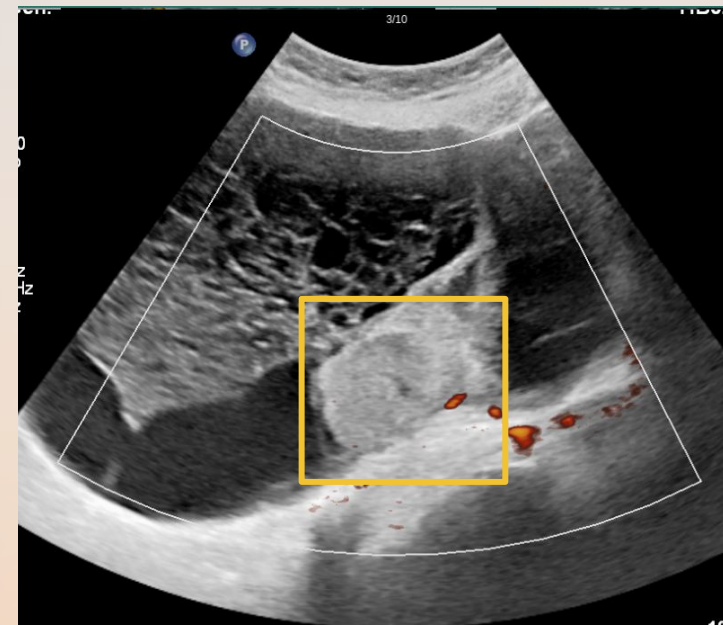


Module performance: segmentation

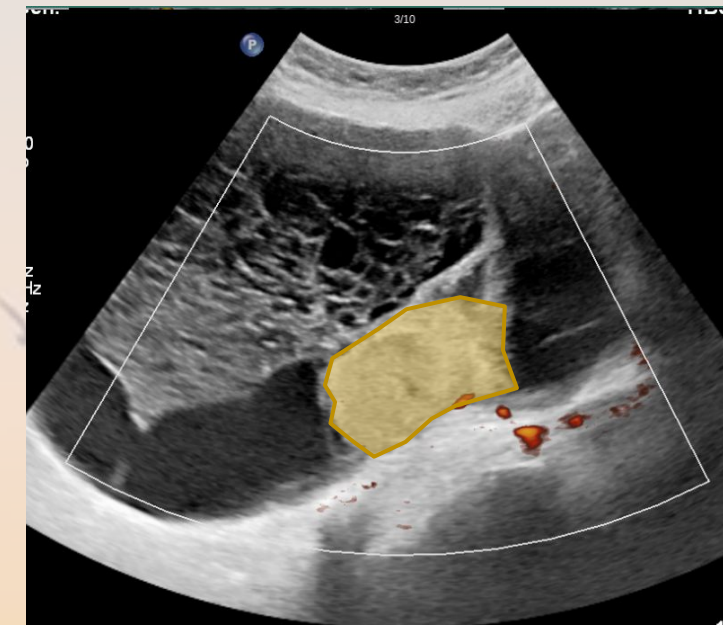
Do physicians really need pixel-level information?



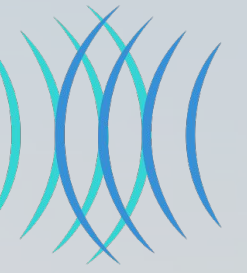
Classification
Is there a tumor
component?



Detection
classification +
where is it?

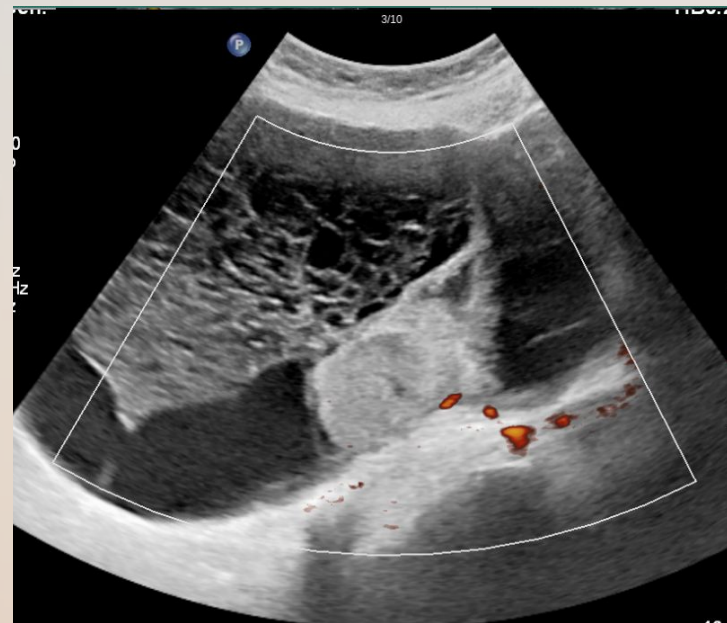


Segmentation
detection + object
boundaries

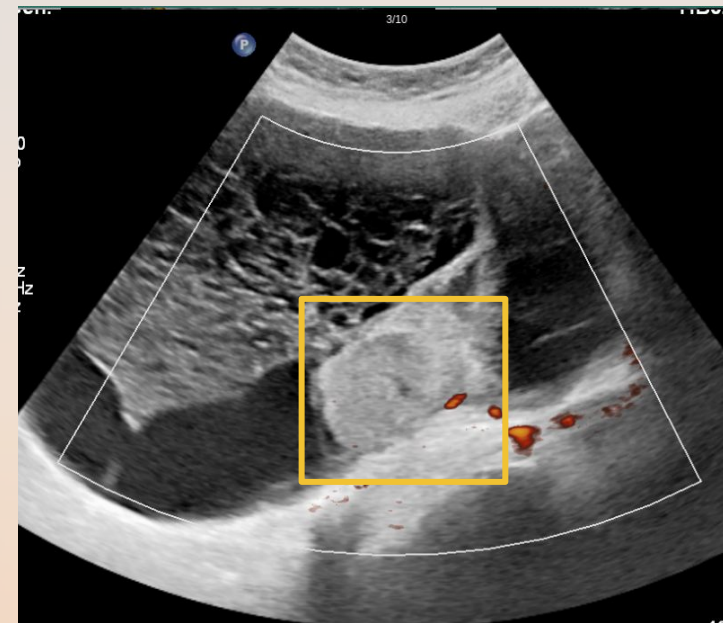


Module performance: segmentation

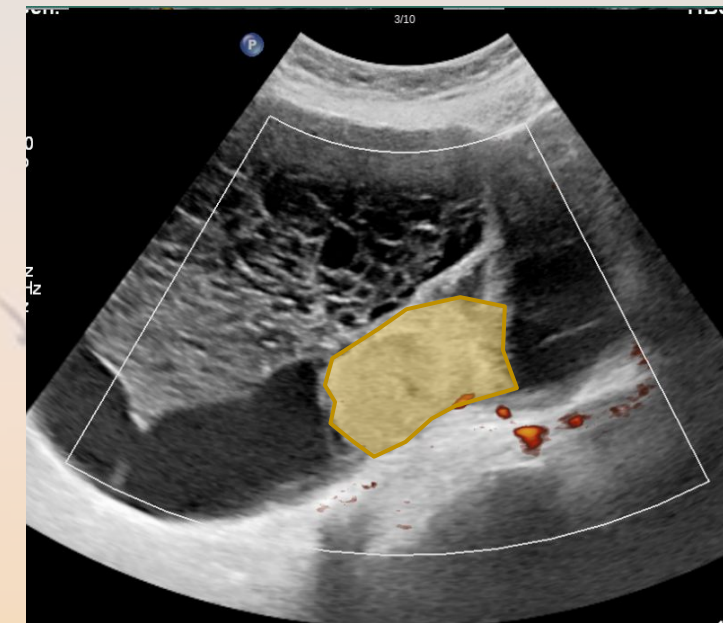
Do physicians really need pixel-level information?



Classification
NAVIGATION
(TUMOR Vs
NON TUMOR)



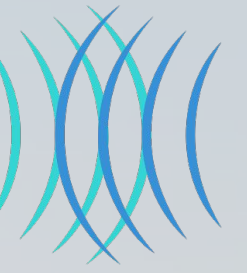
Detection
ROI (TUMOR)
DETECTION



Segmentation
TUMOR
FEATURE
EXTRACTION

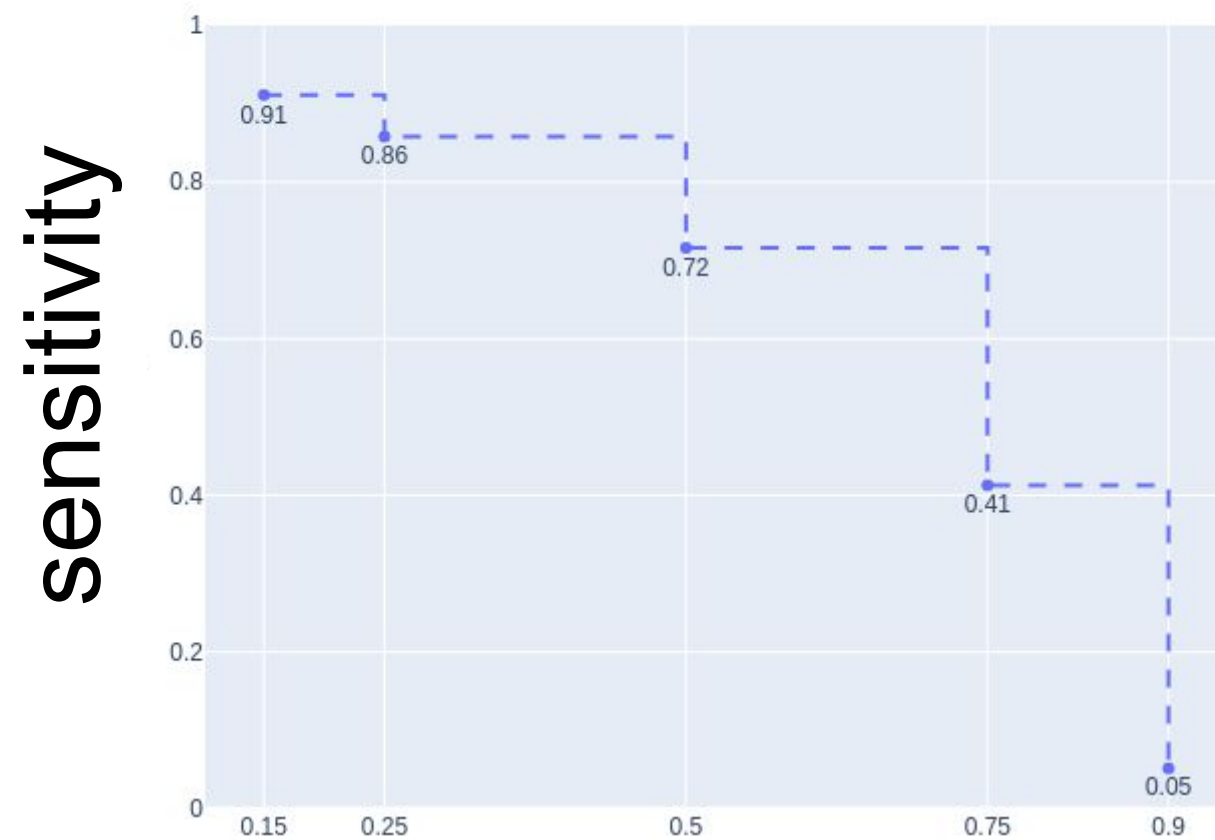


PyData

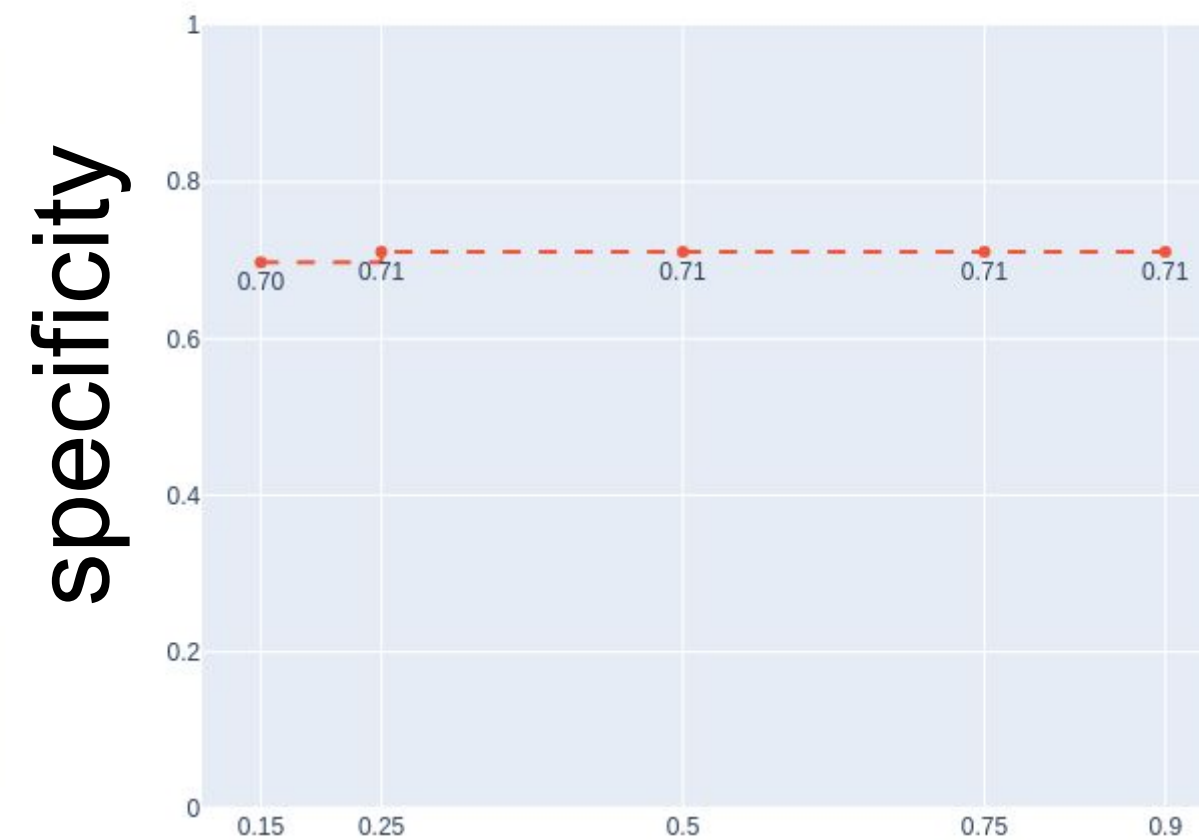


Module performance: segmentation

Classification x IoU (overlap)



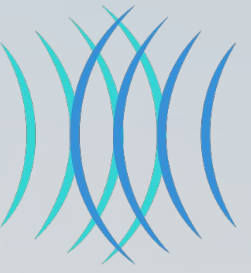
IoU threshold



IoU threshold

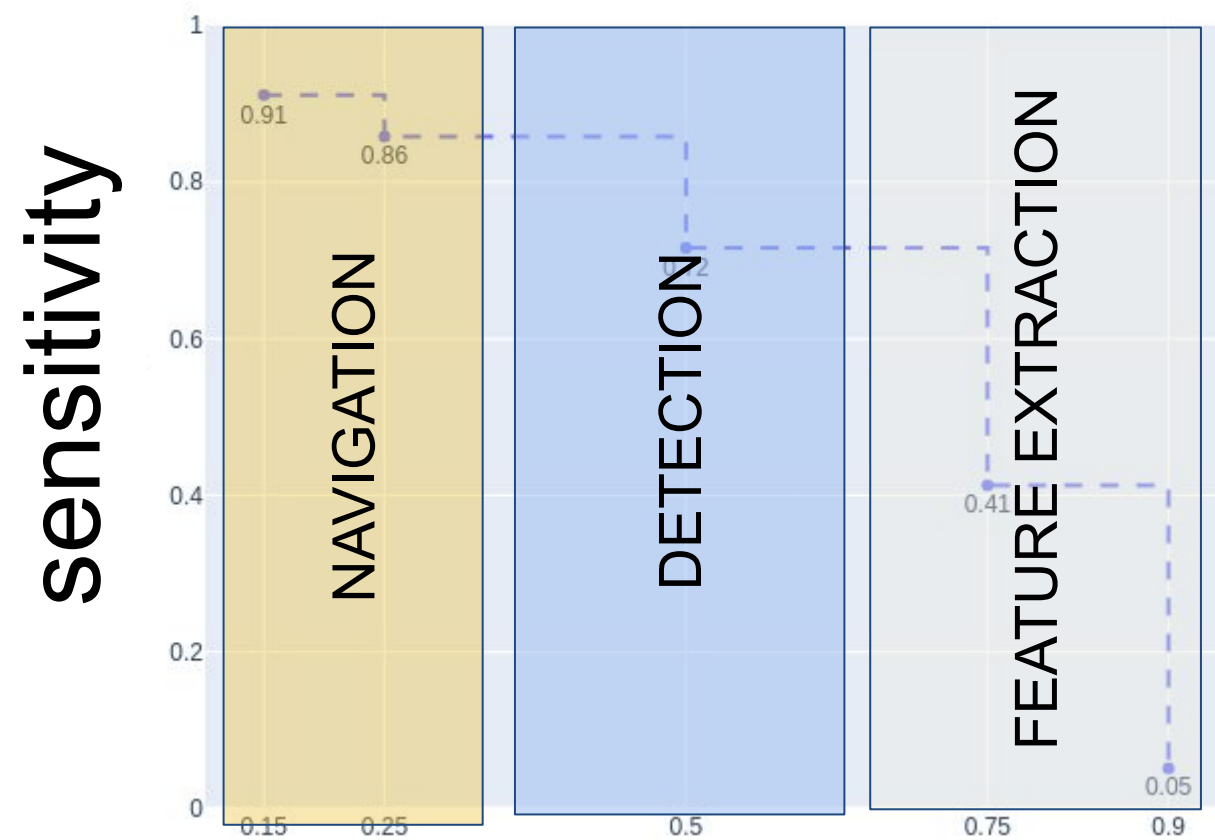


PyData

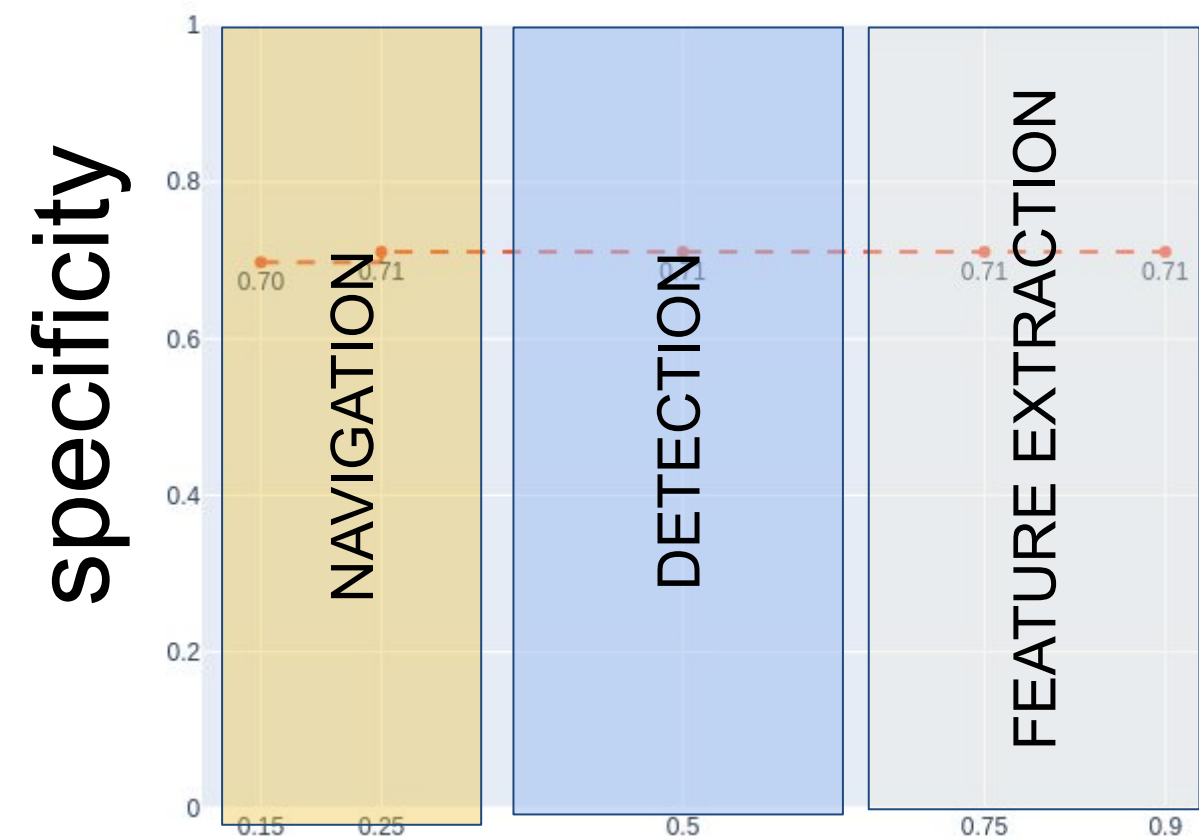


Module performance: segmentation

Classification x IoU (overlap)



IoU threshold



IoU threshold

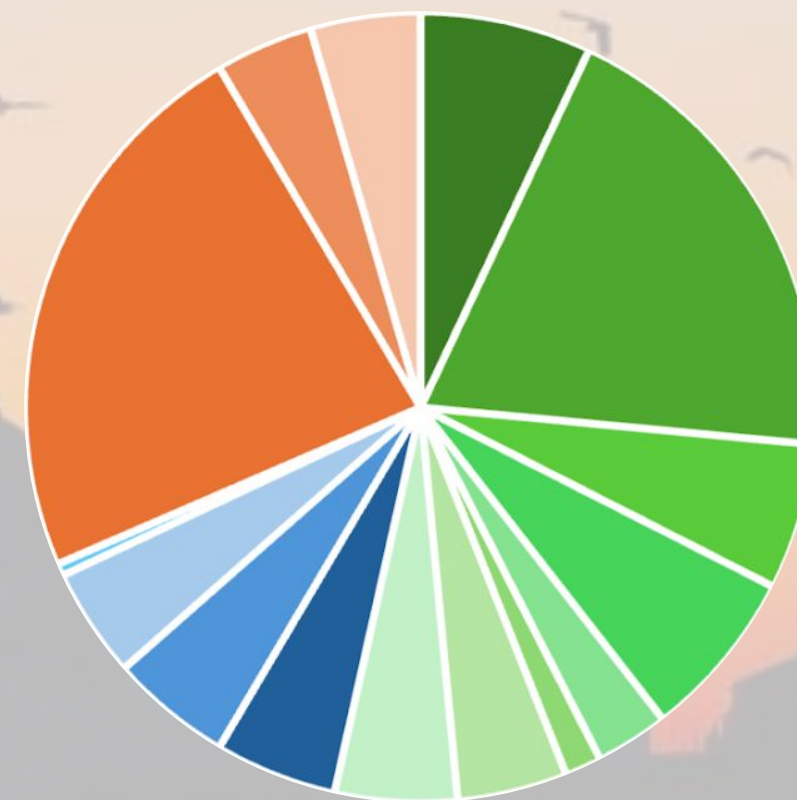
Used dataset:

~800 clinical cases from 7 hospital partners

55% benign, 33% malignant, 12% BOT cases

~5 videos, ~6 images per case

15 histotypes



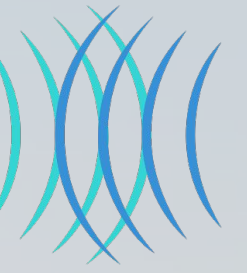
dermoid	cystadenoma-fibroma
simple_cyst-functional_cyst	hydrosalpinx
mucinous_borderline	serous_borderline
epithelial_invasive	nonepithelial_invasive
endometrioma	fibroma
other_non_ovarian	rare_benign_tumor
other_borderline	unknown_borderline
metastasis	



PyData

Solution development

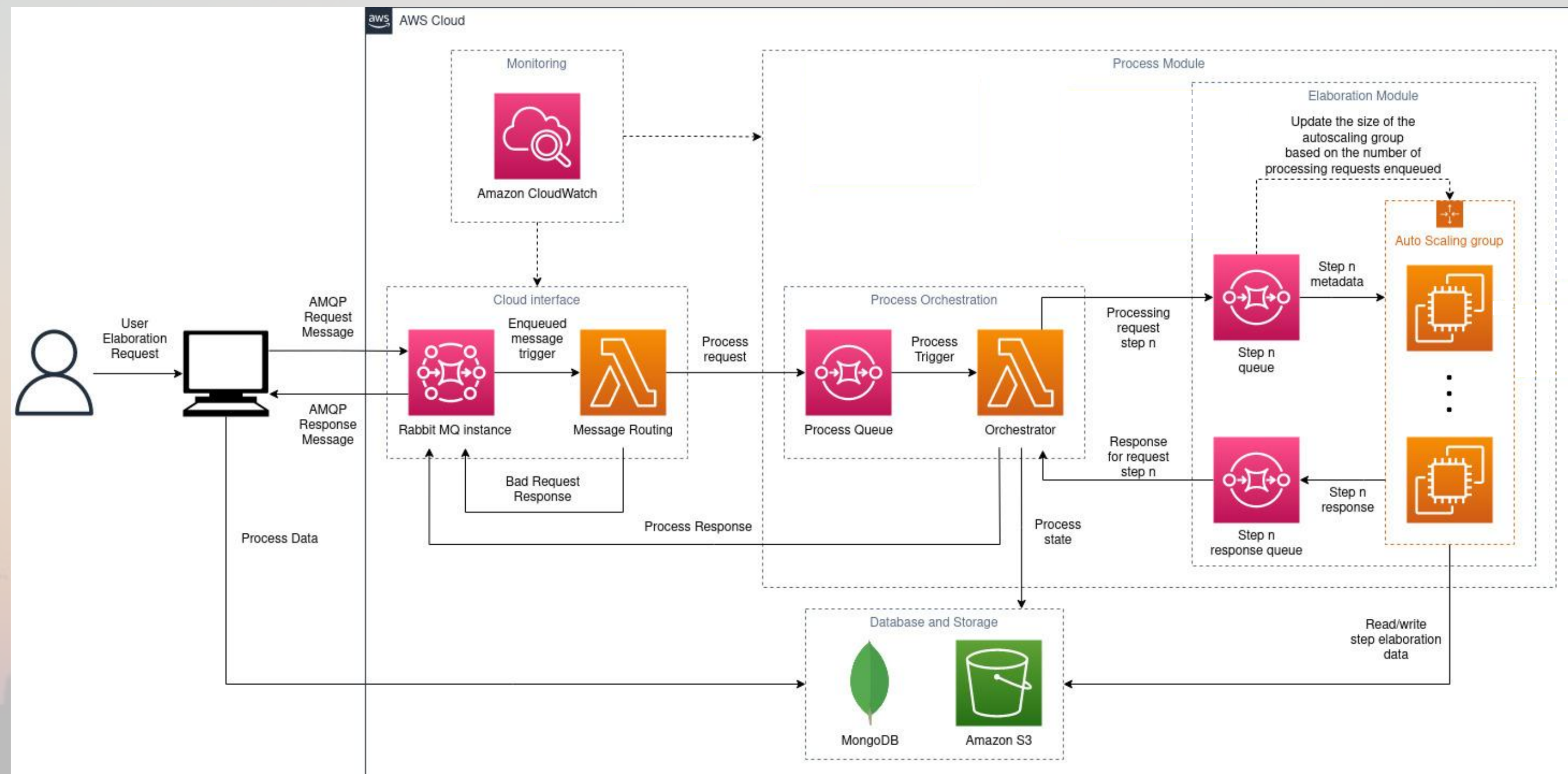
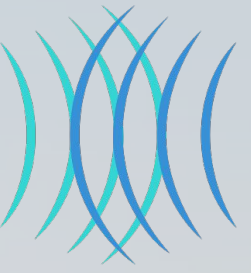
- Python/ TensorFlow, PyTorch, Scikit-learn
- Algorithms: UNet, CNN, random forest, ...
- Cross validation on AWS batch
- Gitlab, Weight&Biases





PyData

Product architecture





PvData

Modules performance

True Condition

Has Tumor = True

Has Tumor = False

TP

FP

$IoU \geq T$

FN

TN

$IoU < T1$



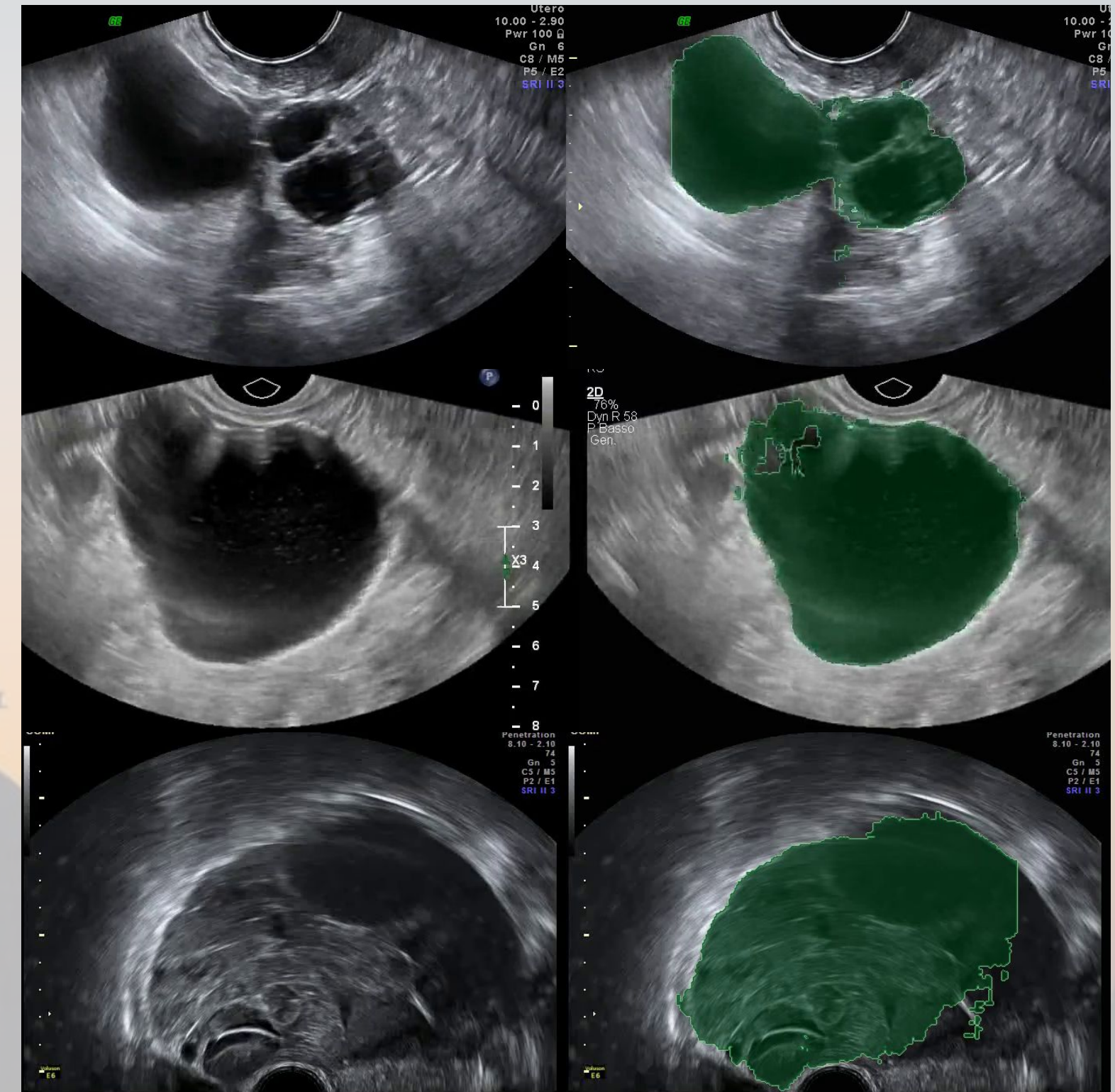
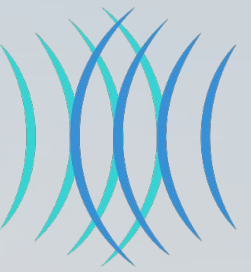


PyData

Modules performance

ROI detection

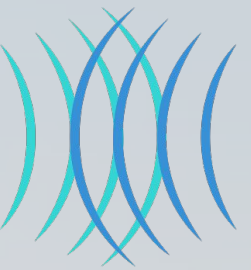
Segmentation of lesion
DICE: 85%
IoU: 77%
precision 85%, recall: 86%





PyData

Modules performance



Tumor identification

Accuracy: 77%
Sensitivity: 88%
Specificity: 95%

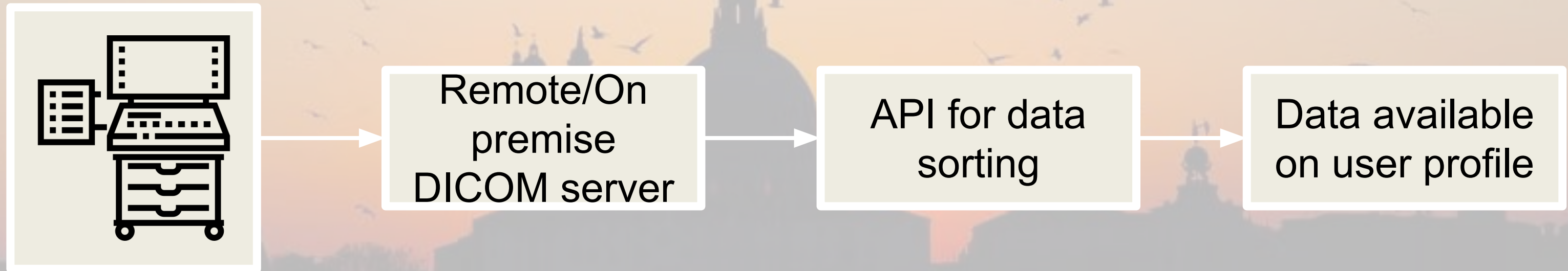
Table 2. Accuracy, sensitivity, specificity, positive and negative LR with regard to malignancy of subjective evaluation of static ultrasound images by observers with varying levels of ultrasound experience

Sonologist	AUC	Accuracy n (%)	95% CI	p	Sensitivity n (%)	95% CI	p	Specificity n (%)	95% CI	p	LR+ (95% CI)	LR- (95% CI)
Experts												
A	0.92247	89 (147/166)	83–93		86 (60/70)	76–92		91 (87/96)	83–95		9.14 (5.03–17.25)	0.16 (0.09–0.27)
B	0.86109	82 (136/166)	75–87		86 (60/70)	76–92		79 (76/96)	70–86		4.11 (2.81–6.23)	0.18 (0.10–0.31)
C	0.88199	83 (138/166)	77–88		80 (56/70)	69–88		85 (82/96)	77–91		5.49 (3.41–9.12)	0.23 (0.14–0.36)
Consensus opinion		85 (141/166)	79–90		83 (58/70)	72–90		86 (83/96)	78–92		6.12 (3.74–10.36)	0.20 (0.12–0.32)
Senior trainees												
D	0.84189	80 (133/166)	73–85	0.1441	84 (59/70)	74–91	0.7630	77 (74/96)	68–84	0.0389	3.68 (2.56–5.45)	0.20 (0.12–0.34)
E	0.85506	81 (134/166)	74–86	0.1779	70 (49/70)	58–79	0.0201	89 (85/96)	81–93	0.5637	6.11 (3.52–10.95)	0.34 (0.23–0.47)
Junior trainees												
F	0.78586	78 (129/166)	71–83	0.0455	70 (49/70)	58–79	0.0290	83 (80/96)	75–89	0.4913	4.20 (2.67–6.81)	0.36 (0.24–0.51)
G	0.72560	72 (120/166)	65–79	0.0014	74 (52/70)	63–83	0.1336	71 (68/96)	61–79	0.0039	2.55 (1.83–3.62)	0.36 (0.23–0.54)
H	0.72664	70 (117/166)	63–77	0.0004	86 (60/70)	76–92	0.6171	59 (57/96)	49–69	<0.0001	2.11 (1.65–2.77)	0.24 (0.12–0.47)
I	0.79464	75 (125/166)	68–81	0.0114	73 (51/70)	61–82	0.0896	77 (74/96)	68–84	0.0606	3.18 (2.18–4.77)	0.35 (0.23–0.51)

p value refers to the comparison with the consensus opinion. Consensus opinion is defined as the diagnosis suggested by at least 2 of the 3 experts.

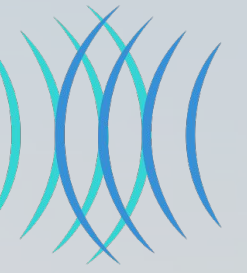
Deployment in clinical environment

- Access through a webapp
- Data can be dragged and drop or sent from the ultrasound machine





PyData



Challenges in AI in Healthcare:

Data quality and availability

Model biases

GDPR and data management

Regulatory requirements

Cost and resource requirements

Integration into existing systems (e.g. where will it be deployed)