

How to create an open ecosystem for data-centric model development at ZEISS

ZEN blue / ZEN core + APEER-ML + Vision4D

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Our mission statement for AI @ZEISS Microscopy could be described as:

“Put the scientist back into the driver seat for Deep Learning”

One of our core messages when it comes to Image Analysis & AI solutions is:

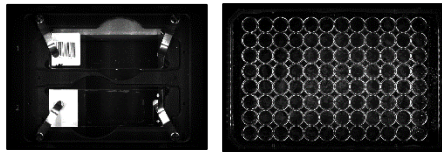
“Better data beat better models”

Focus of AI solutions @ZEISS microscopy

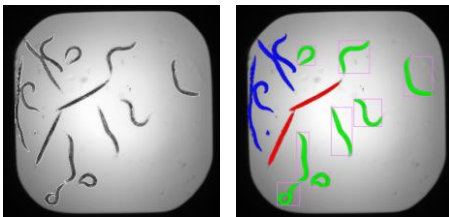
Image Analysis and Processing

Classification

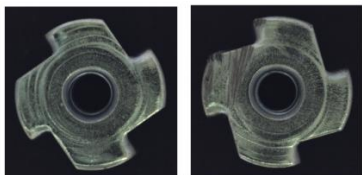
Classifying an entire image or individual objects



Recognize a Sample Carrier



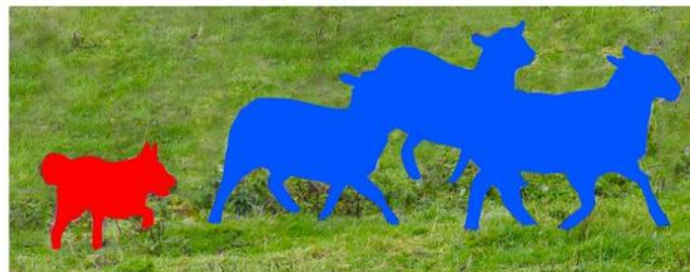
Classify objects in analyzed images



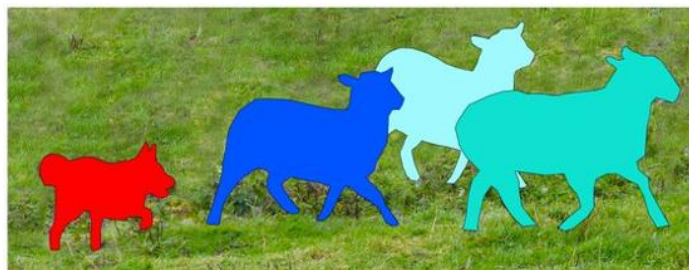
"Good" part vs "Anomaly"

Segmentation

Refers to classifying at a pixel level



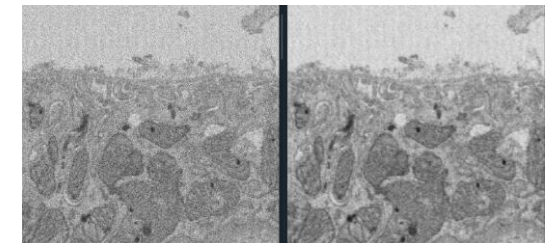
Semantic Segmentation



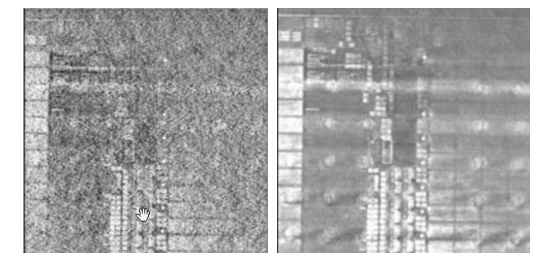
Instance Segmentation

Processing

Image corrections and enhancements



Denoising & Image2Image

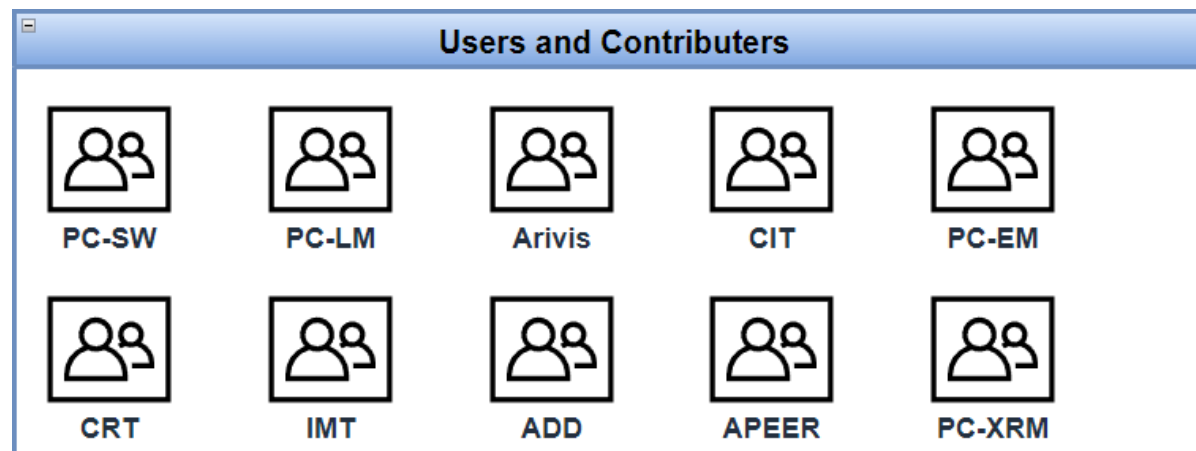


Reconstruction

Creating such AIs tools in a company is a bit complicated 😊

@ZEISS there are many AI stakeholders that need to be aligned ...

... and creating AI tools and solutions is fun (mostly) = everybody is tempted to create their own solutions 😊



- PC-SW/LM/EM/XRM = Product Center for Software, Light, Electron and X-ray Microscopy
- CRT = Corporate Research and Technology
- ADD = Advanced Development
- ... and more

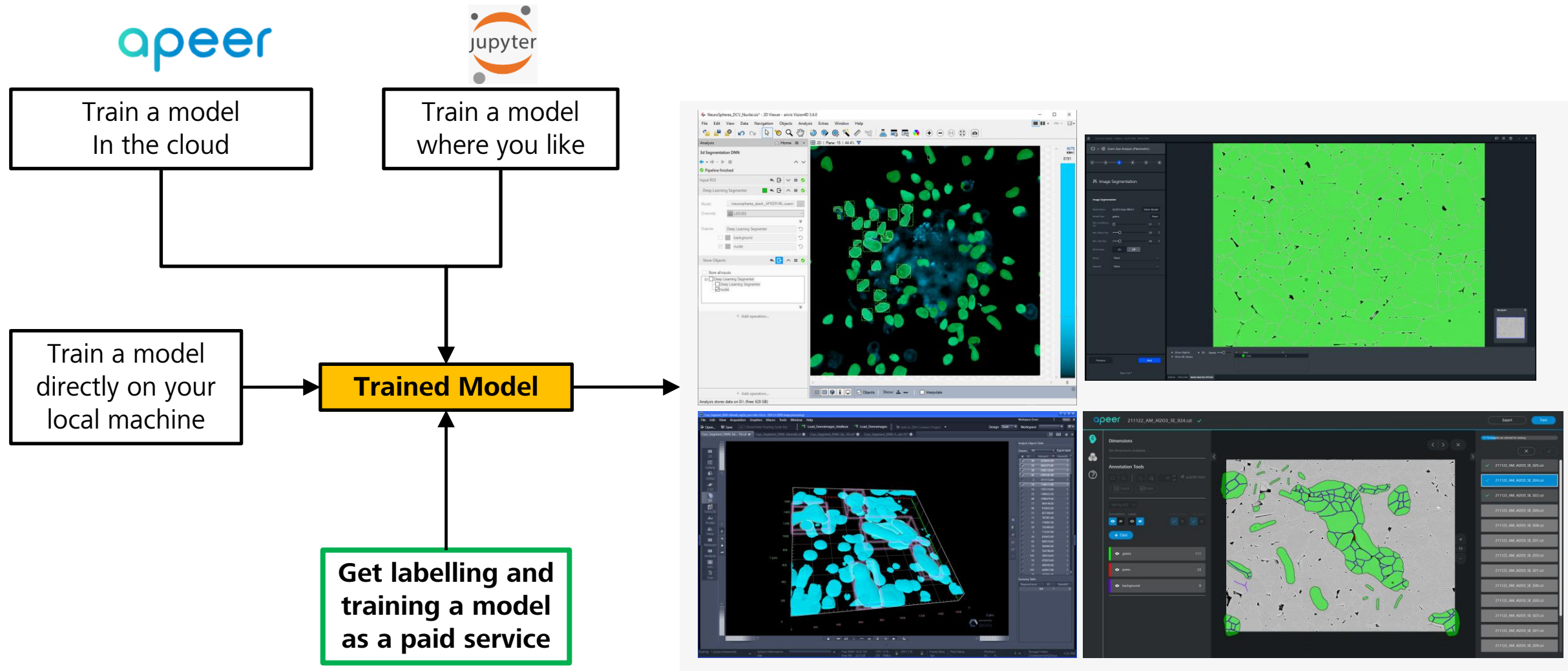
Align Requirements from Academia and Industry with Business Model



- Academia wants open and flexible solutions and does not like to be locked in
- Industry often wants “Streamlined and Integrated” tools and “one-Button-Solutions” for a specific task
- various of open-source software (OSS) tools that offer specific solutions → what is our business model
- “cloud-computing” is trending, but many users do not want / are not allowed use cloud yet
- What tools should a we use? Should we develop our own?



Concept: Train models “anywhere”



ZEN blue, ZEN core, vision4D and APEER

Train Segmentation models “anywhere” and use them in ZEN



How do we implement such an **Open Ecosystem** without driving everybody in R & D crazy?

What components & tools do we need for that?

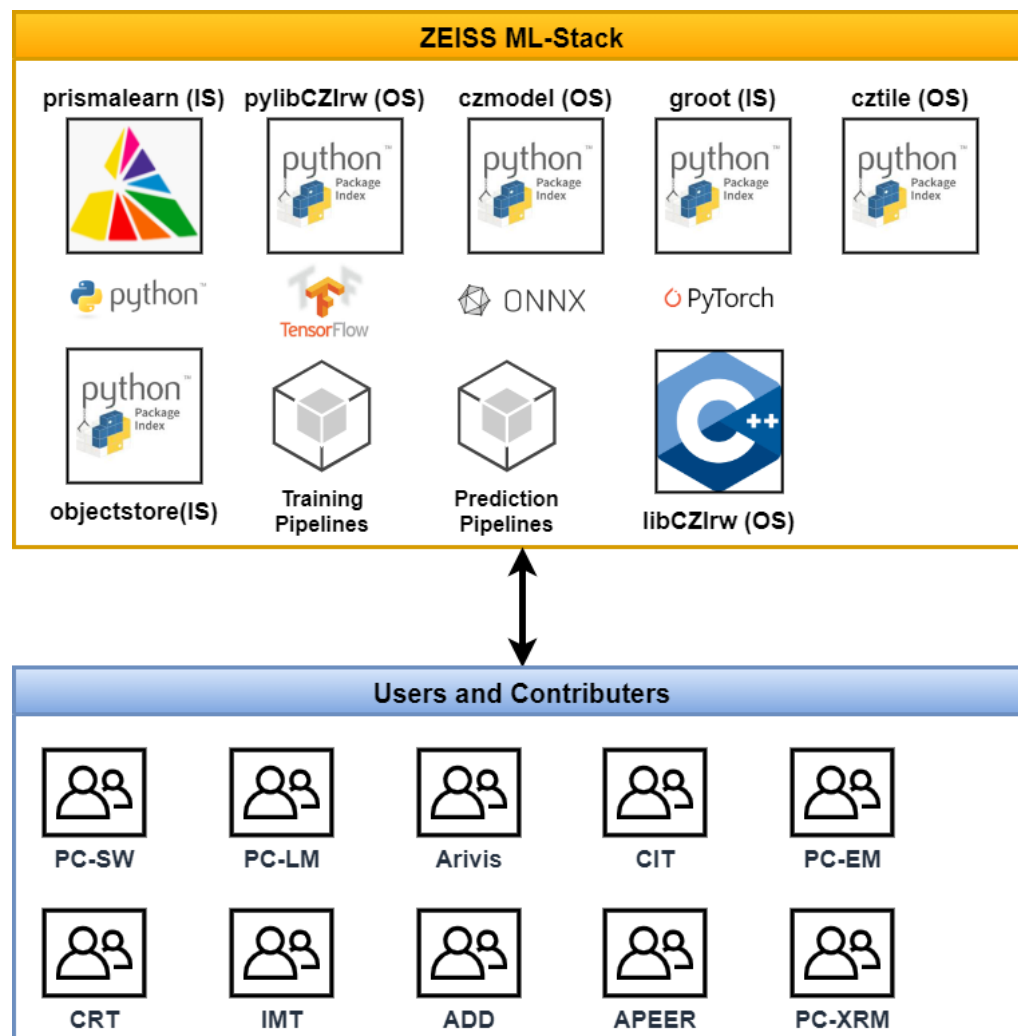
What is the best way to align everybody and create “maintainable” code and create real value?

One nice way to align different “parties” in SW development is ...

... to provide useful tools and APIs that make the life of people easier → then they will use it without telling them to do so 😊

This is especially true inside a companies and therefore we decided to create what we call the “ZEISS ML-Stack”

Our ecosystem - ZEISS Machine Learning Stack

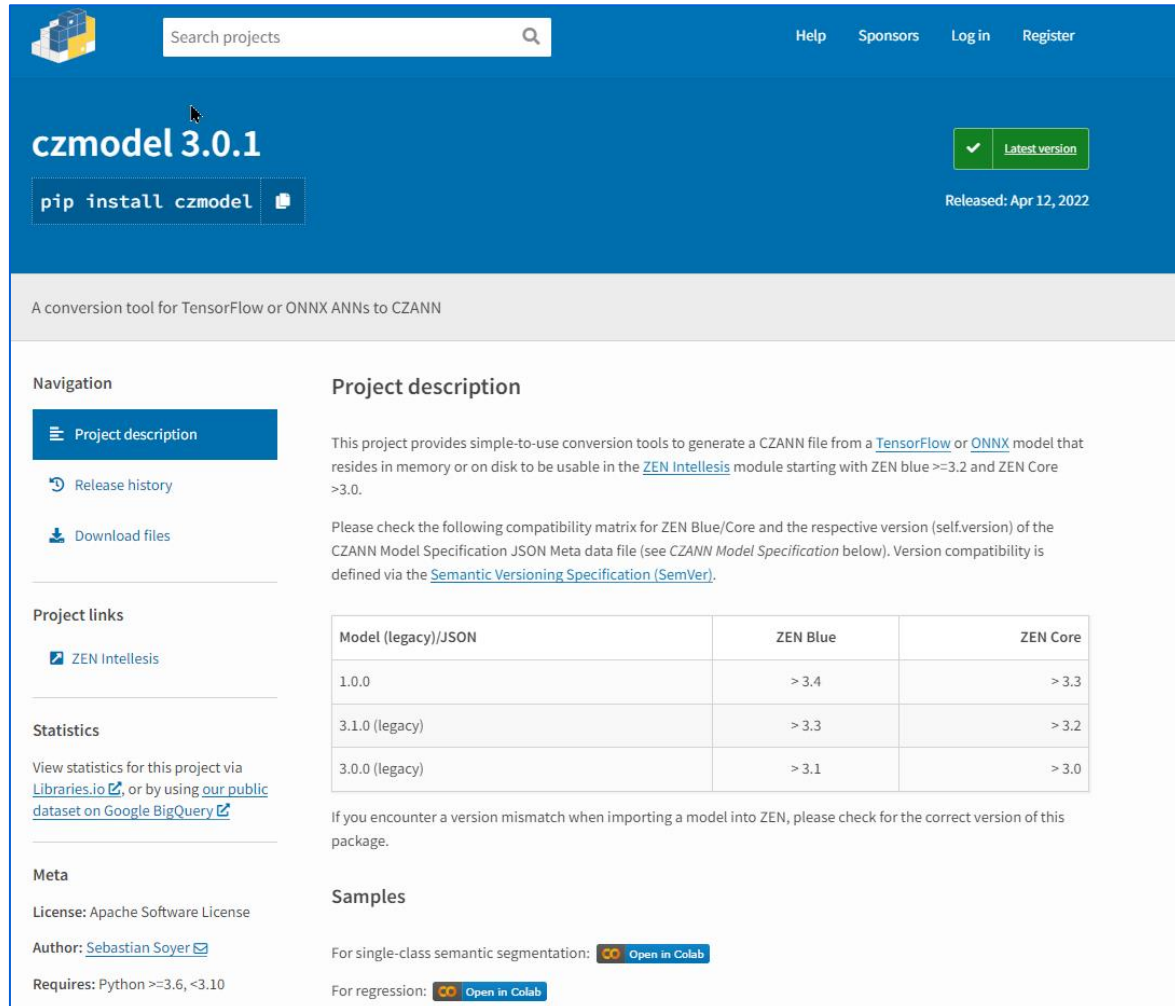


ZEISS ML Stack

- mainly Python-based internal (IS) and open-source (OS) packages
- easy to use via doing `pip install XYZ` in different development teams @ZEISS
- clear rules that those packages must be the 1st choice when starting new projects
- test coverage and code-quality standards cannot be just be “nice thing to have” but are crucial to make this fly 😊

Open-Source python package czmodel

Store model along with metadata



The screenshot shows the PyPI page for the **czmodel 3.0.1** package. The header includes a search bar, navigation links (Help, Sponsors, Log in, Register), and a green 'Latest version' badge. Below the header, there's a description: 'A conversion tool for TensorFlow or ONNX ANNs to CZANN'. The left sidebar contains navigation links: 'Project description' (selected), 'Release history', 'Download files', 'Project links' (with a link to 'ZEN Intellesis'), 'Statistics', and 'Meta' (showing license, author, and requirements). The main content area has a 'Project description' section with text about conversion tools and a compatibility matrix table.

Model (legacy)/JSON	ZEN Blue	ZEN Core
1.0.0	> 3.4	> 3.3
3.1.0 (legacy)	> 3.3	> 3.2
3.0.0 (legacy)	> 3.1	> 3.0

Below the table, it states: 'If you encounter a version mismatch when importing a model into ZEN, please check for the correct version of this package.'

The 'Samples' section provides links to 'Open in Colab' for 'single-class semantic segmentation' and 'regression'.

- Open and standardized “container” to store ML models and metadata
- is the “glue” between SW tools for Machine-Learning at ZEISS
- no new model format
- support for TF2.SavedModels (legacy) and ONNX models
- used by ZEN blue, ZEN core, APEER-ML and vision4D
- **allows external data scientists to integrate their own models our tools**

Open-Source python package pylibCZIrw

Read and write CZI images format in your python environment



pylibCZIrw 3.0.1

`pip install pylibCZIrw`

Released: Apr 12, 2022

A python wrapper around the libCZIrw C++ library with reading and writing functionality.

Navigation

- Project description
- Release history
- Download files

Project description

pylibCZIrw - Python wrapper for libCZIrw

This project provides a simple and easy-to-use Python wrapper for libCZIrw - a cross-platform C++ library intended for providing read and write access to CZI image documents.

Important Remarks

- At the moment, **pylibCZIrw** completely abstracts away the subblock concept, both in the reading and in the writing APIs.
- If pylibCZIrw is extended in the future to support subblock-based access (e.g. accessing acquisition tiles), this API must not be altered.
- The core concept of pylibCZIrw is focussing on reading and writing 2D image planes by specifying the dimension indices and its location in order to only read or write **what is really needed**.

Example Usage

The basic usage can be inferred from this sample notebook:

[Open in Colab](#)

For more detailed information refer to the `pylibCZIrw-documentation.html` shipped with the source distribution of this package (see the **Download files** section).

Statistics

View statistics for this project via [Libraries.io](#) or by using [our public dataset on Google BigQuery](#)

Meta

License: GNU Lesser General Public License v3 (LGPLv3)

Author: [Felix Scheffler](#)

Tags: `czi`, `imaging`

Requires: Python `>=3.7, <3.10`

Maintainers

- easily read and write CZIs from Python using a simple API
- based on libCZIrw (C++) library (to be published soon)
- focus on the real application code and not an DataIO ... 😊
- allows reading and writing parts of an CZI image
- ensure that the output works in ZEISS tools

Use a tiling method to process (big) arrays

Open-Source python package cztile

cztile 0.0.2

✓ Latest version

Released: Apr 6, 2022

`pip install cztile`

A set of tiling utilities

Navigation

- Project description
- Release history
- Download files

Project description

cztile - Python package to simplify the process of tiling arrays

This project provides simple-to-use tiling functionality for arrays. It is not linked directly to the CZI file format, but can be of use to process such images in an efficient and **tile-wise** manner, which is especially important when dealing with larger images.

Samples

The basic usage can be inferred from this sample notebook:

[Open in Colab](#)

System setup

The current version of this toolbox only requires a fresh Python 3.x installation. Being a pure Python wheel, it was tested with Python 3.9 on Windows.

Supported Tiling Strategies

This package features the following tiling strategies:

AlmostEqualBorderFixedTotalAreaStrategy2D

This covers a total area with a minimal number of tiles of constant total area such that:

- the image area is completely covered by tiles and is filled up with as few tiles as possible
- the overlap/border between tiles is as small as possible, but it is ensured that at least a minimum border size is

Statistics

View statistics for this project via [Libraries.io](#), or by using [our public dataset on Google BigQuery](#)


Meta

License: Apache Software License

Author: [Nuno Mesquita](#)

Requires: Python >3.6, <3.10

Maintainers

 [cz-rms](#)

Classifiers

Development Status

0.4 - Beta

- General library to create tiles with overlap for an array
- Is not limited to CZI images or any specific format
- Can be directly used together with **pylibCZlrw** to read and write tiles
- focus on the real application code and not on re-inventing “tiling” over and over ... 😊
- “unified” tiling algorithm gives consistent results

What does the user see?

APEER-ML – Data-Driven Model Development

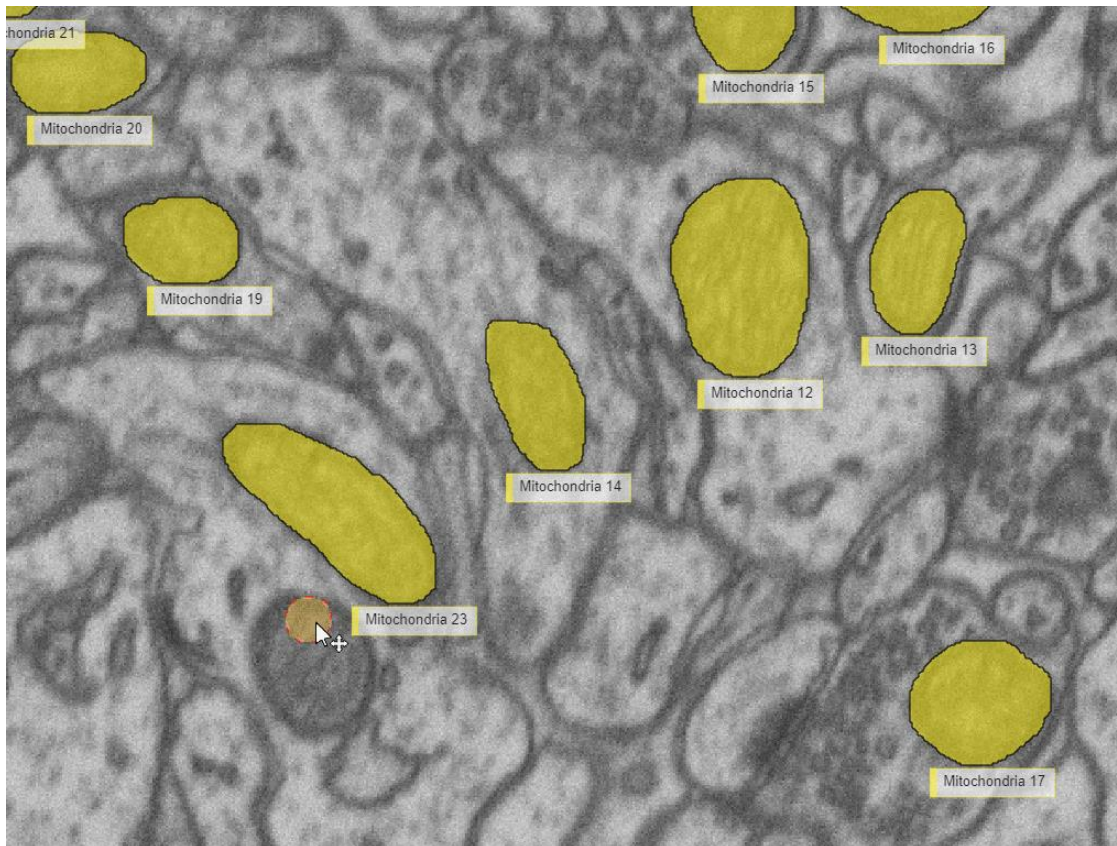
“Better Data beats better models”



Annotate on APEER

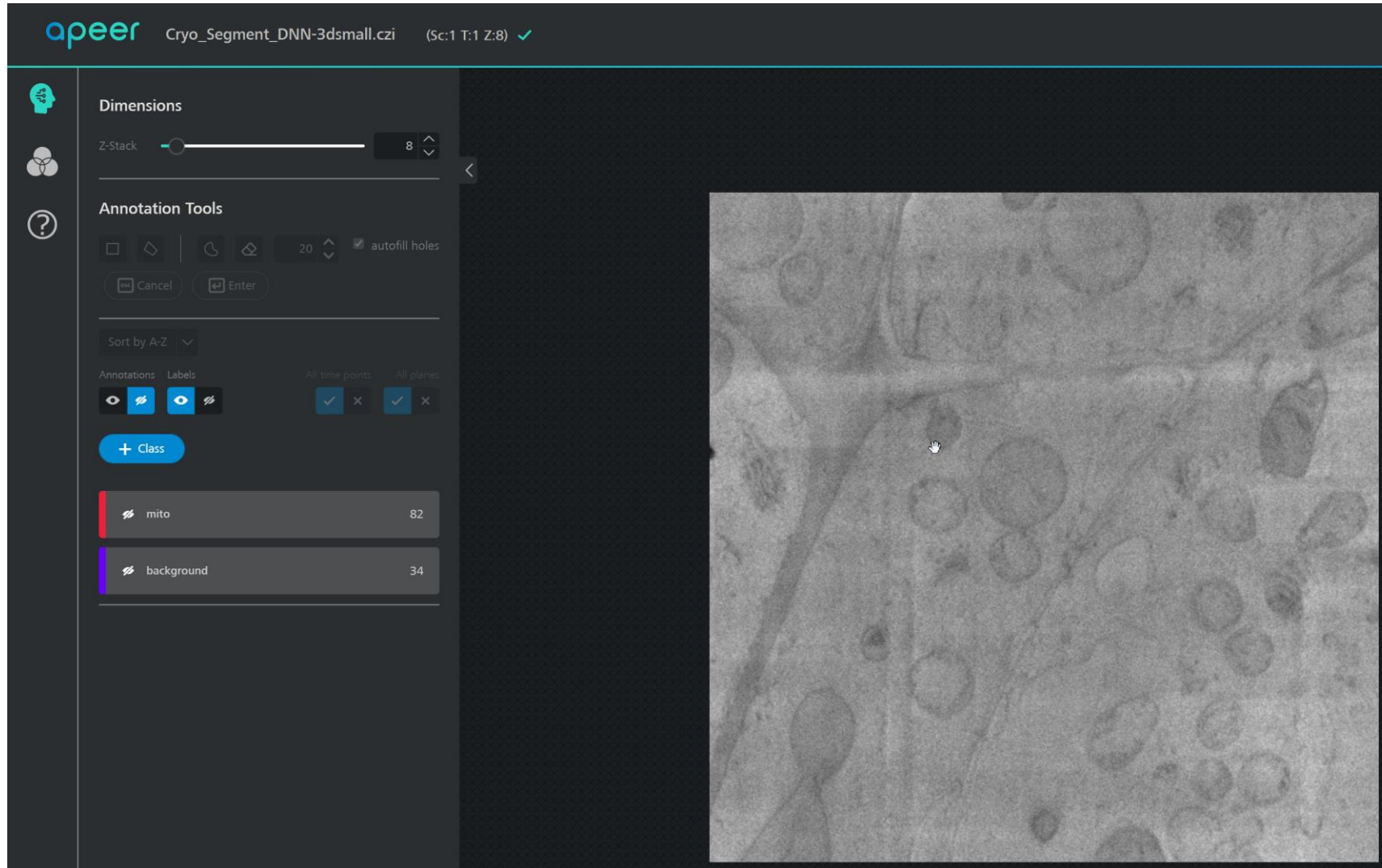
Train your specific U-net

Download the model and use
in ZEN Intellesis Segmentation



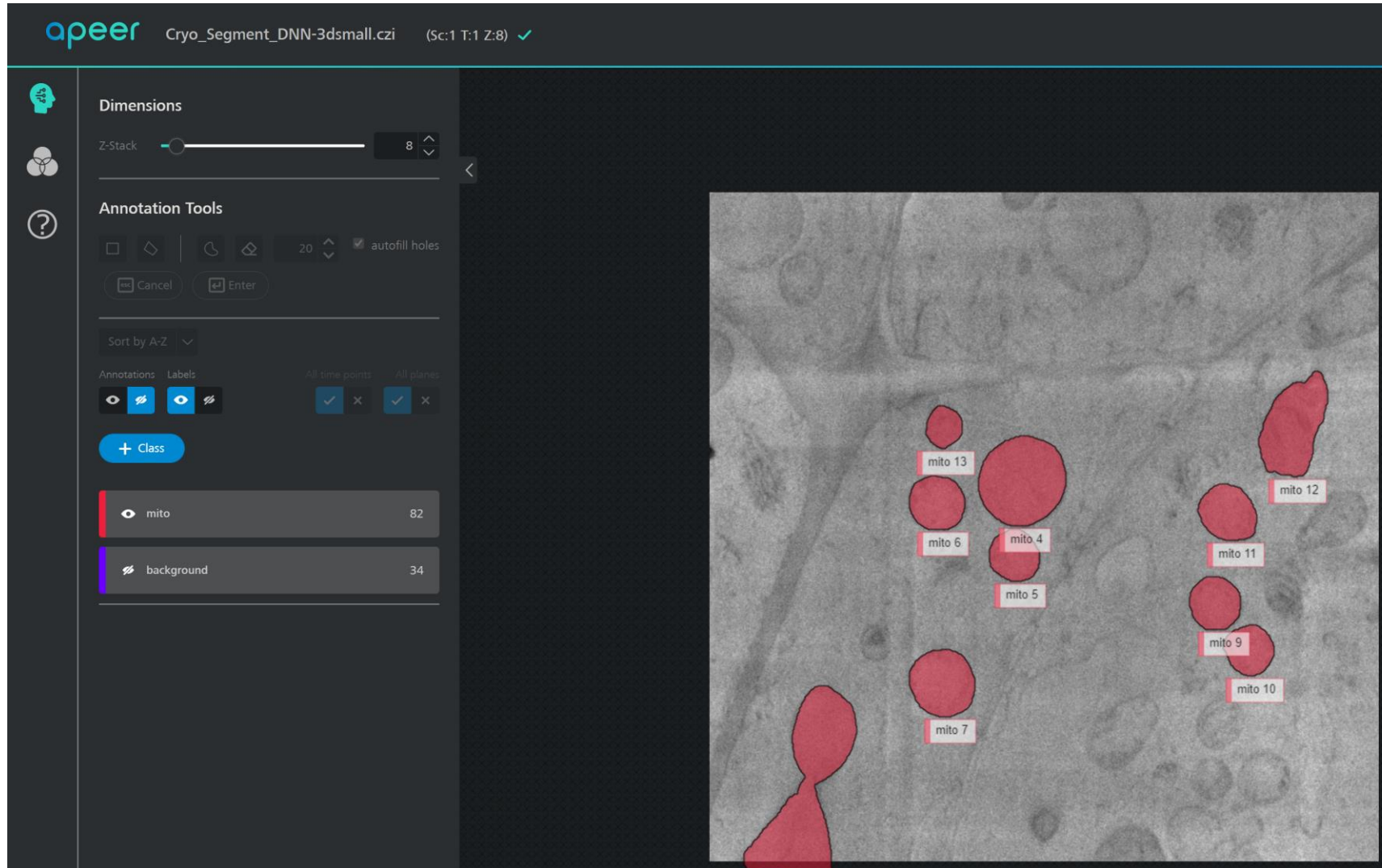
Partial Labeling is the key

Focus on areas where the model can “really learn new things”



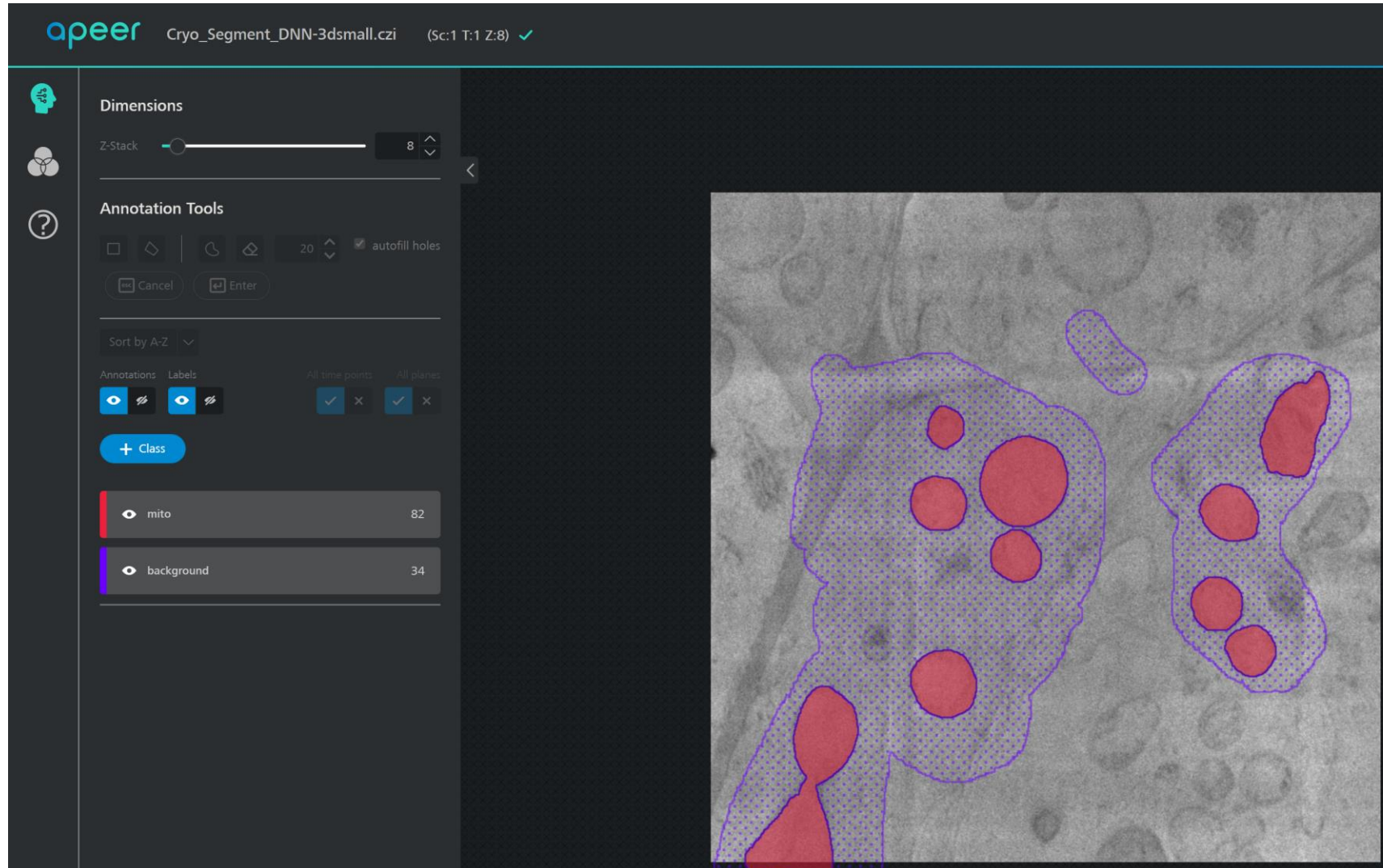
Partial Labeling is the key

Label a few objects – no need to label the complete frame



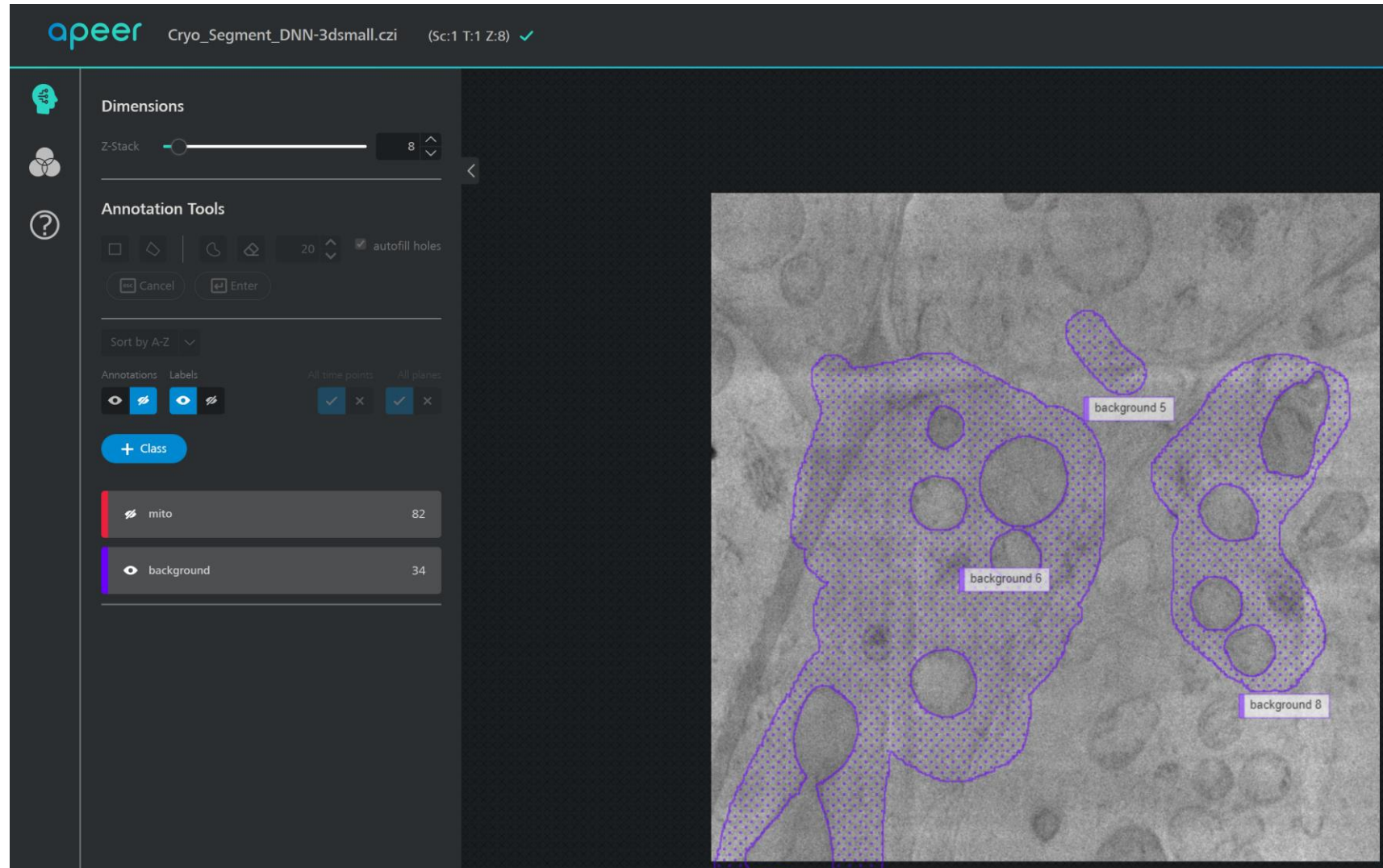
Partial Labeling is the key

Draw background around the objects



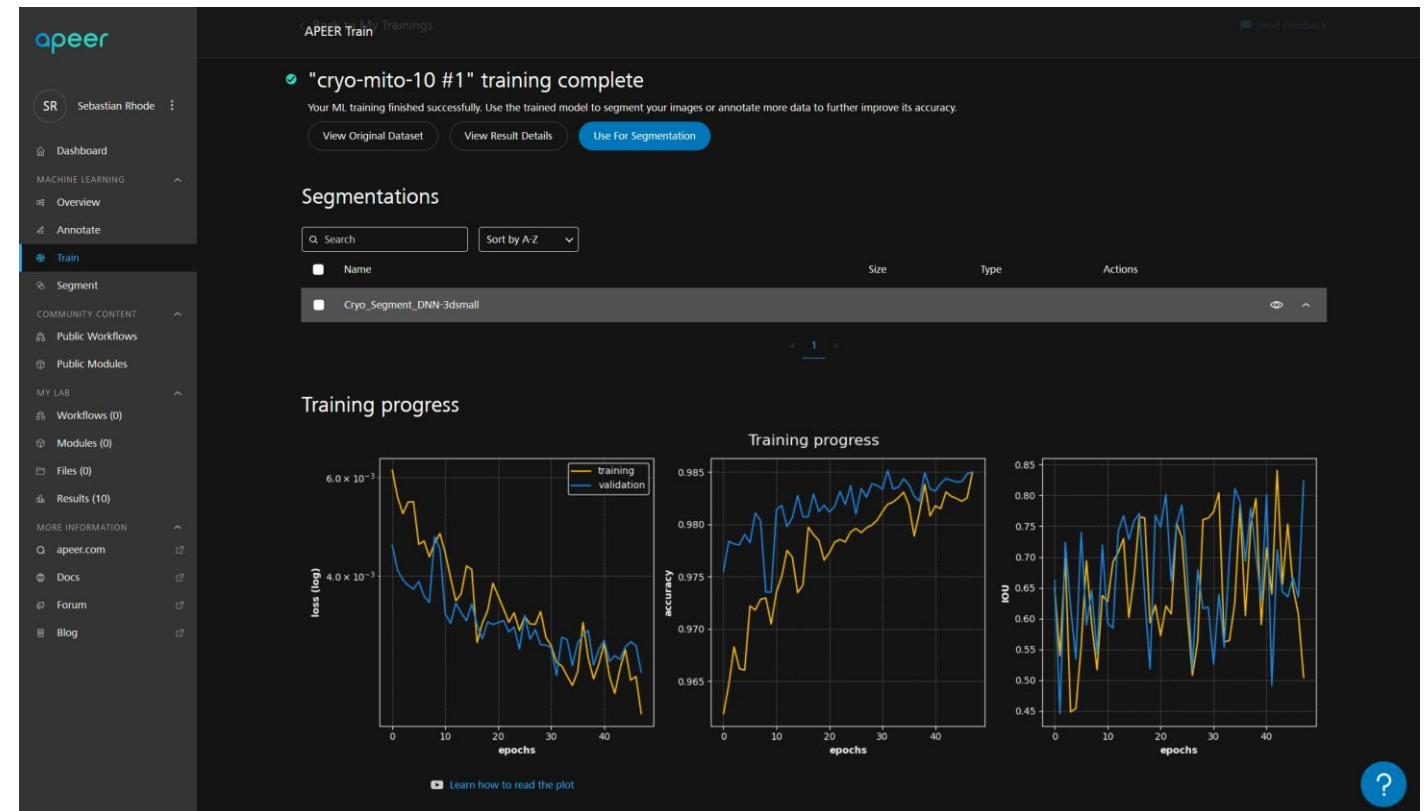
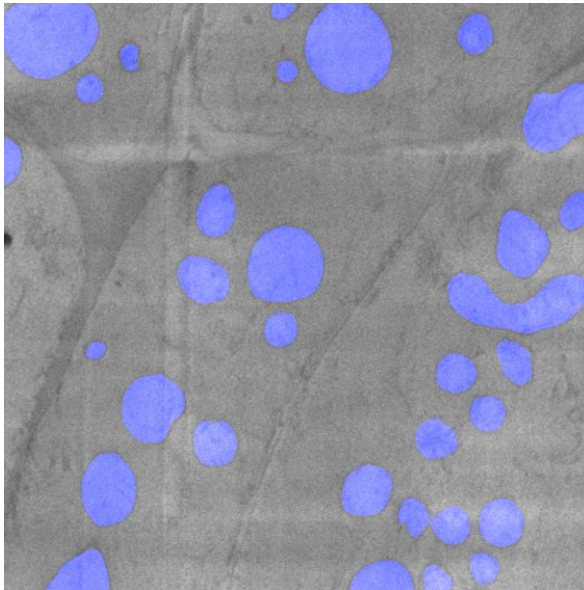
Partial Labeling is the key

Automatic cutout – edges are labeled precisely



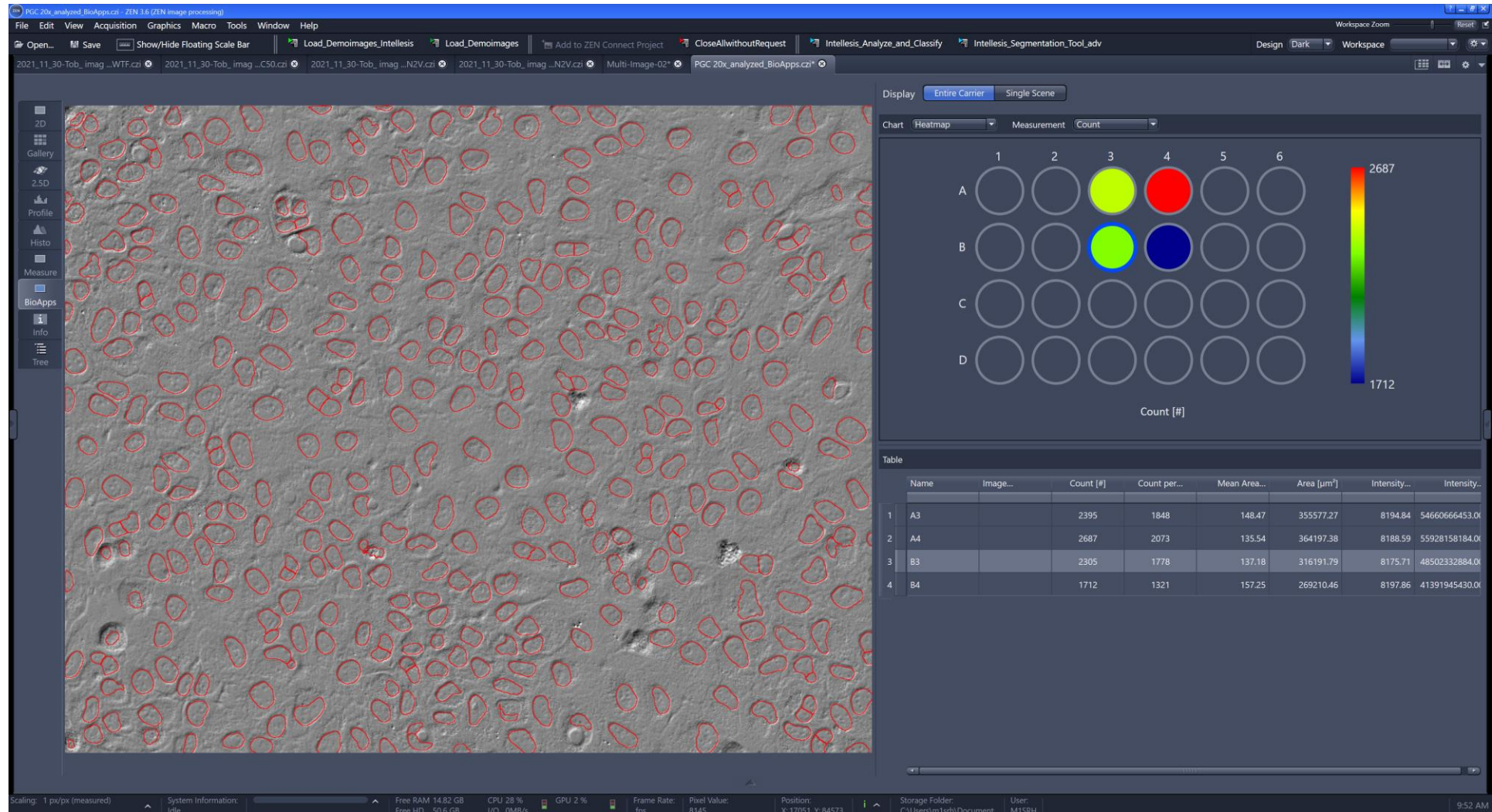
Make it easy to iterate a model with „better data“ is key

- U-Net (EfficientNet) trained on APEER-ML platform using partial annotations
- **Fully automated training process (no coding required)**
- Import of trained model and segmentation in ZEN incl. integration into Image Analysis



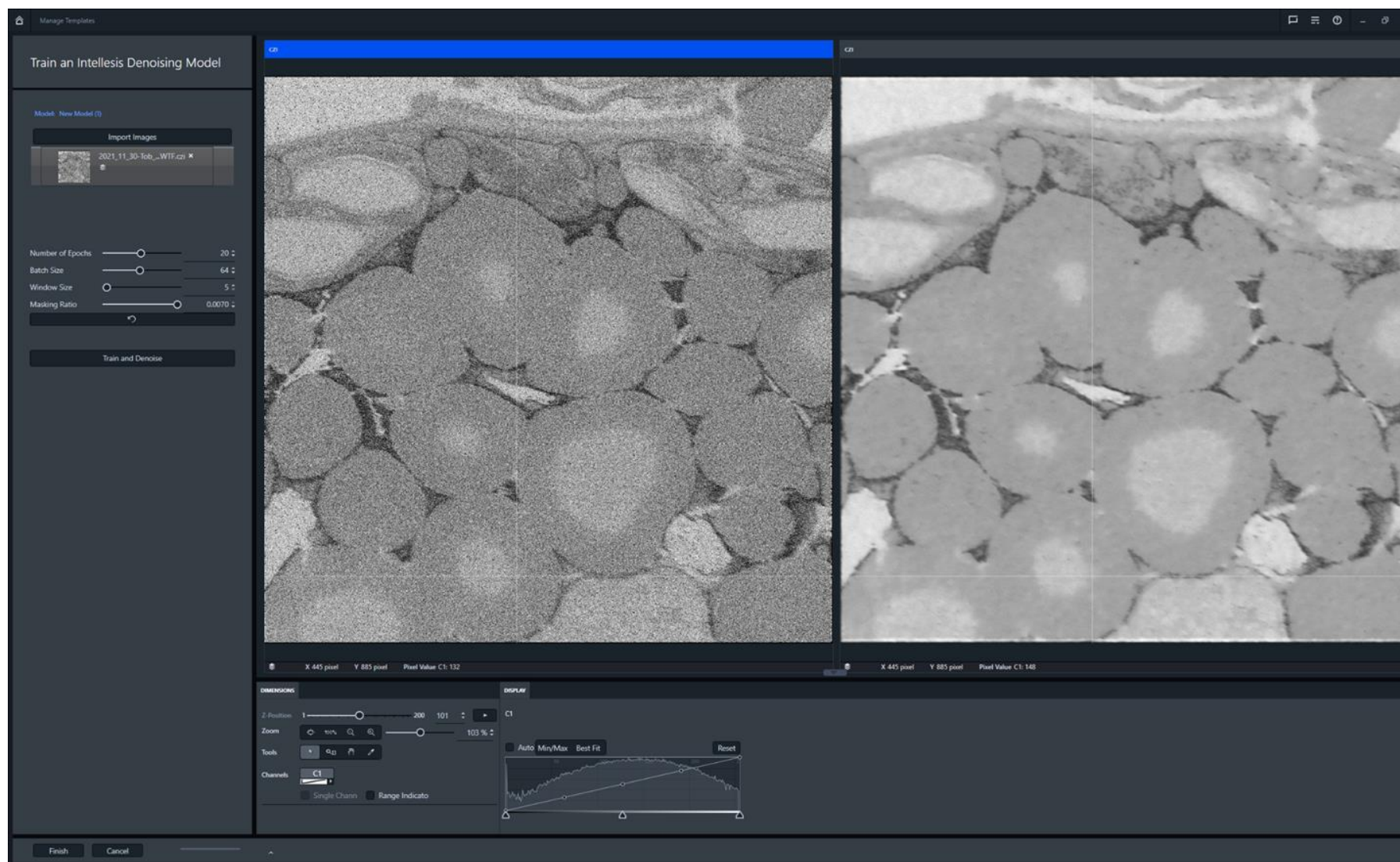
Application Examples – Life Science

Label-Free Segmentation inside a BioApp supercharged with a DNN



ZEN Intellesis Denoising based on Noise2Void

Simple training UI



Open ML Ecosystem - Summary



- Our ML ecosystem @ZEISS is build mainly on a python stack
- Many teams use and contribute to this stack
- A very good way to address the “alignment issues” is to incentivize the teams to create reusable python packages that make the life of others “easier”
- Our idea to keep our system as open as possible to make some of those packages public
- it “forces” ourselves @ZEISS to adhere to transparent software quality standards
- by staying “open” our ecosystem can also benefit more easily from new developments



Open Ecosystem for integrated Machine-Learning Workflows



<https://www.zeiss.com/microscopy/int/website/landingpages/zen-intellessis.html>

Get the trial license and try it out!

----- APEER -----

<https://www.apeer.com/app/machine-learning/overview>

<https://pypi.org/project/czmodel/>

----- ZEISS GITHUB -----

Additional Content on GitHub:

[https://github.com/zeiss-microscopy/OAD/tree/master/Machine Learning](https://github.com/zeiss-microscopy/OAD/tree/master/Machine_Learning)



We make it visible.