# Explainable AI in medical imaging

#### Bas van der Velden, PhD

Head of Data Science Wageningen Food Safety Research





#### Black boxes



This is a horse!

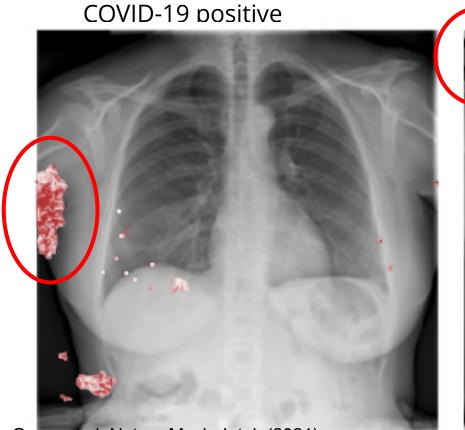
This is a horse!

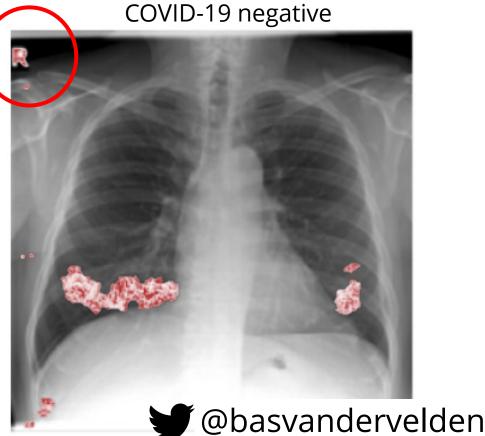
This is NOT a horse!

This is NOT a horse!



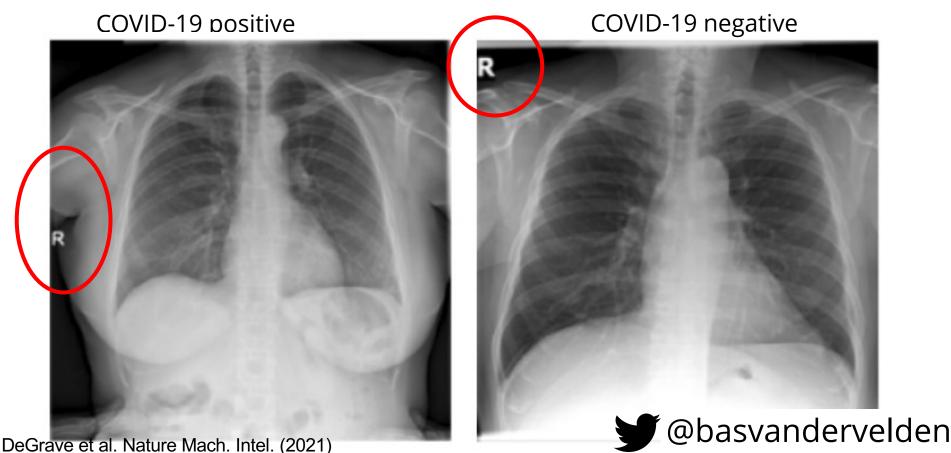
### Black boxes in medicine



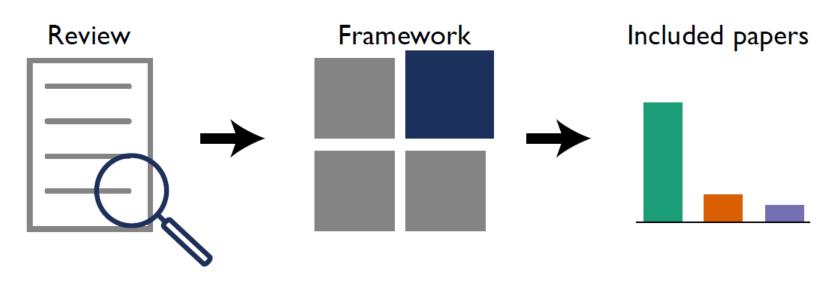


DeGrave et al. Nature Mach. Intel. (2021)

#### Black boxes in medicine

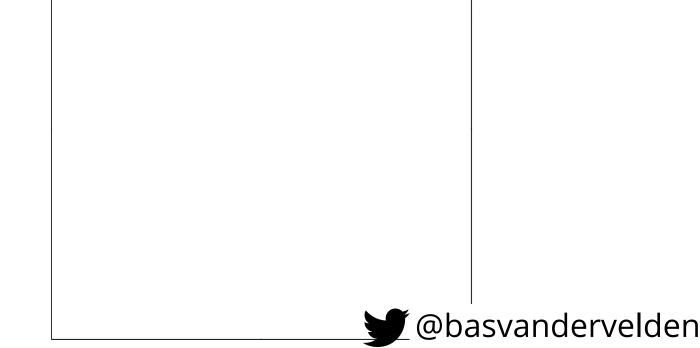


### Survey XAI in medical imaging

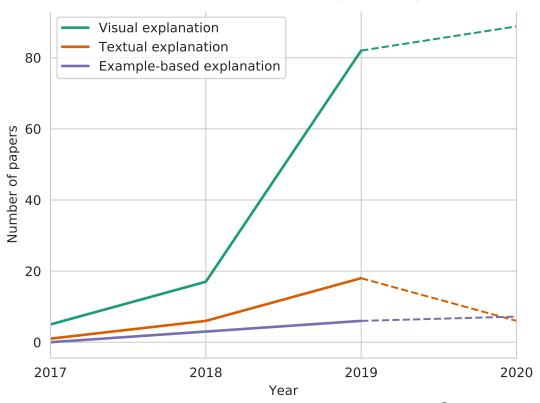


Van der Velden et al. Medical Image Analysis 2022





#### XAI in medical imaging





#### Classified to XAI framework

Technique	Section	Authors	Model- based	Post	Model- specific	Model- agnostic	Global	Loca
	3.1.					_		
	3.1.1							
		Simonyan et al. (2013)		1	1			1
		Zeiler and Fergus (2014)		1	1			1
	3.1.1.1.	Springenberg et al. (2014)		1	1			1
	3.1.1.2.	Zhou et al. (2016)		1	1			1
	3.1.1.3.	Selvaraju et al. (2017)		1	1			1
	3.1.1.4.	Bach et al. (2015)		1	1			1
	3.1.1.5.	Lundberg and Lee (2017)		1	1	/*	1*	1
	3.1.1.6.	Jetley et al. (2018)	1		1			1
	3.1.2							
	3.1.2.1.	Zeiler and Fergus (2014)		1		1		~
	3.1.2.2.	Ribeiro et al. (2016)		1		1		1
	3.1.2.3.	Fong and Vedaldi (2017)		1		1		1
	3.1.2.4.	Zintgraf et al. (2017)		1		1		1
	3.2.							
	3.2.1.	Vinyals et al. (2015)	1		1			1
	3.2.2.	Zhang et al. (2017a)	1		1			~
	3.2.3.	Kim et al. (2018)		1		1	1	1
	3.3.							
	3.3.1.	Hoffer and Ailon (2015)	1		1		1	1
	3.3.2.	Wei Koh and Liang (2017)		1		1	1	¥
	3.3.3	C. Chen et al. (2019)	1		1		1	1

Visual explainable Al

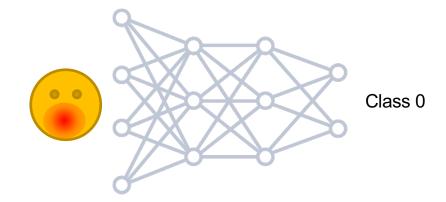
#### Øbasvandervelden

#### Visual explanation

Backpropagation-based

Perturbation-based





#### scientific reports



# OPEN Volumetric breast density estimation on MRI using explainable deep learning regression

Bas H. M. van der Velden¹™, Markus H. A. Janse¹, Max A. A. Ragusi¹, Claudette E. Loo² & Kenneth G. A. Gilhuijs¹

To purpose of this paper was to assess the feasibility of volumetric breast density estimations on MRI without segmentations accompanied with an explainability step. A total of 615 patients with breast cancer were included for volumetric breast density estimation. A 3-dimensional regression convolutional neural network (CNN) was used to estimate the volumetric breast density. Patients were split in training (N=400), validation (N=50), and hold-out test set (N=165). Hyperparameters were optimized using Neural Network Intelligence and augmentations consisted of translations and rotations. The estimated densities were evaluated to the ground truth using Spearman's correlation and Bland-Altman plots. The output of the CNN was visually analyzed using SHapley Additive exPlanations (SHAP). Spearman's correlation between estimated and ground truth density was p=0.81 (N=165, P<0.001) in the hold-out test set. The estimated density had a median bias of 0.70% (95% limits of agreement=-6.8% to 5.0%) to the ground truth. SHAP showed that in correct density estimations, the algorithm based its decision on fibroglandular and fatty tissue. In incorrect estimations, other structures such as the pectoral muscle or the heart were included. To conclude, it is feasible to automatically estimate volumetric breast density on MRI without segmentations, and to provide accompanying explanations.

Breast density refers to the amount of fibroglandular tissue with respect to the fatty tissue. It is a well-known risk factor for the development of breast cancer<sup>1</sup>, and is incorporated in several breast cancer risk models<sup>2,3</sup>. Most states in the United States of America require reporting of breast density<sup>4</sup>.

Breast density can be assessed on imaging such as mammography and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). In clinical practice, radiologists score breast density in one of four incremental categories: almost entirely fatty.

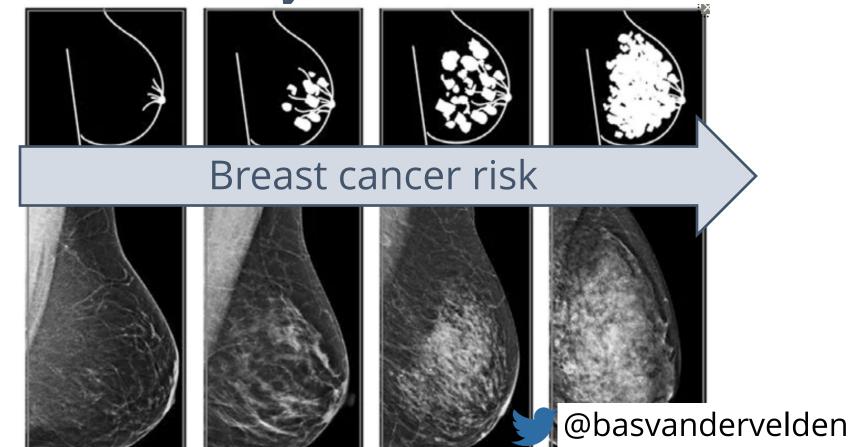
Breast density can be assessed on imaging such as mammography and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Breast density can be assessed on imaging such as mammography and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

Breast density can also be quantified using computer algorithms. Such algorithms both for mammography and MRI, and show strong correlation between the two methods typically consist of 3-dimensional segmentation of the breast region and The volumetric density is then defined as the volume of the fibroglandular tissue.

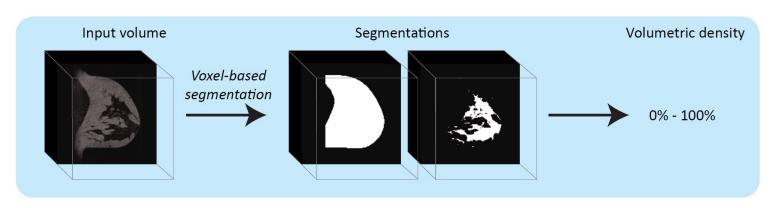
@basvandervelden

### Breast density

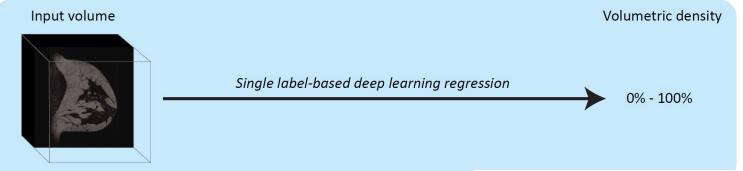


### Regression

Commonly used approaches



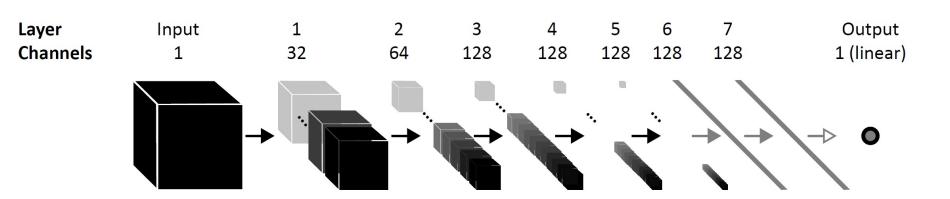
Our approach



Van der Velden et al. Nature Sci Rep 2020



### Regression CNN

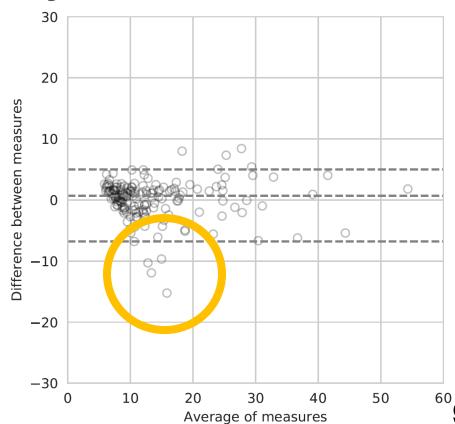


#### Legend

- → 3×3×3 convolution, 2×2×2 strides, PReLu activation
- Fully connected, PReLu activation
- → Fully connected, Linear activation

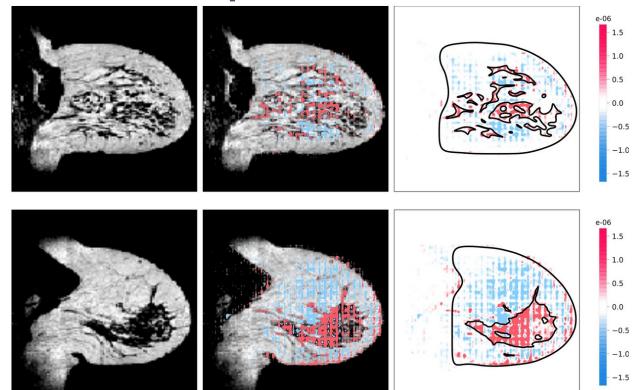


#### Density estimations





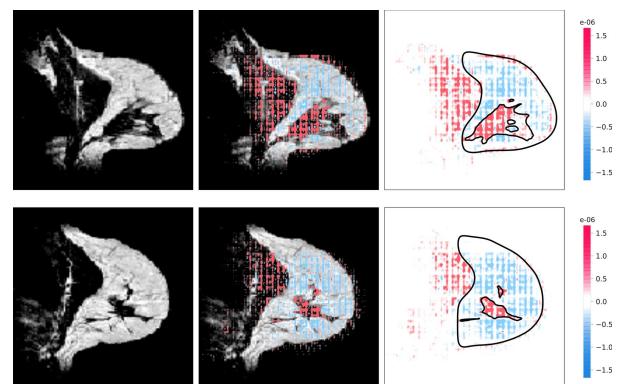
#### XAI: Deep SHAP



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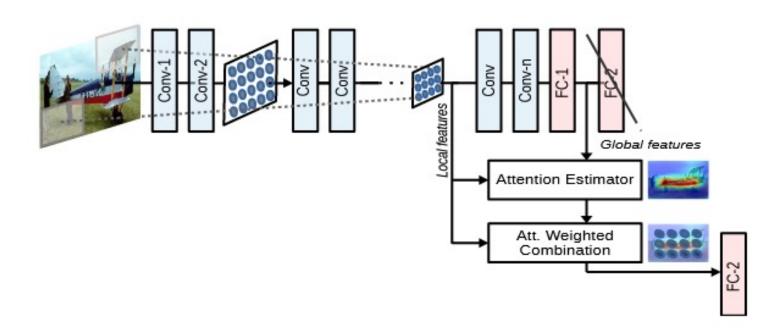
### Wrong predictions? XAI!



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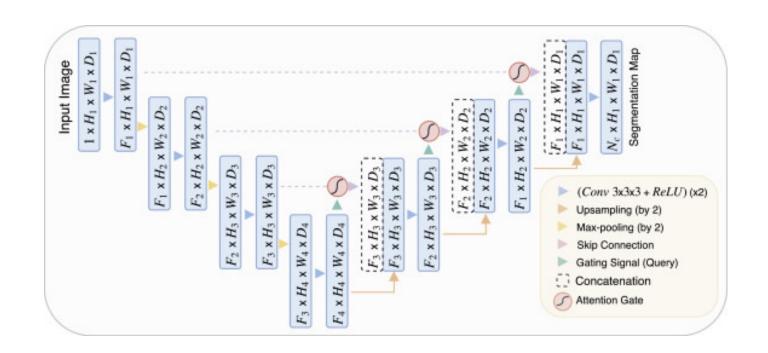


#### Trainable attention



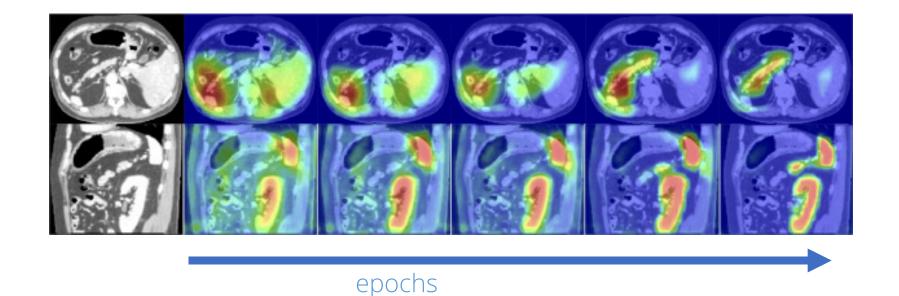


#### Trainable attention in MedIA





#### Trainable attention

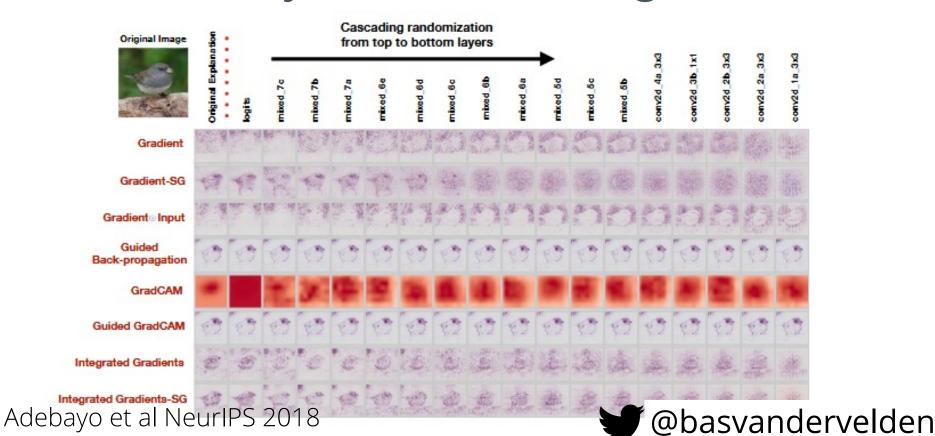


#### Visual may be misleading

	Test Image	Evidence for Animal Being a Siberian Husky	Evidence for Animal Being a Transverse Flute		
Explanations Using Attention Maps					

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#### Visual may focus on edges

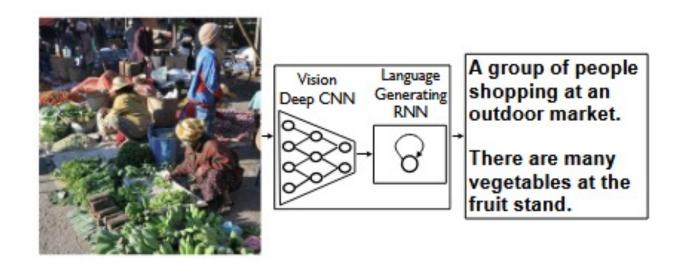


# Textual explainable Al

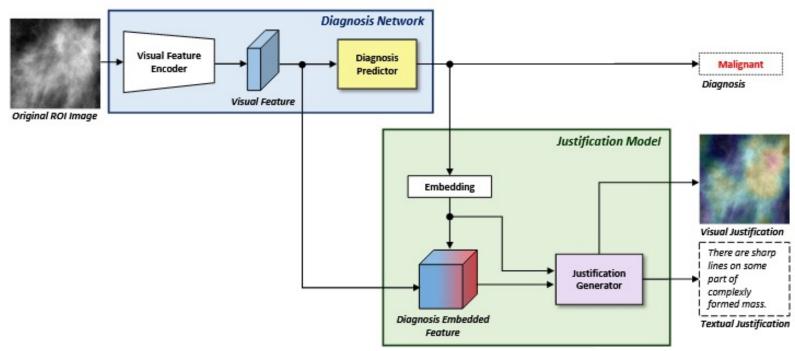




### Image captioning



### Image captioning with visual XAI



#### Example-based explainable Al

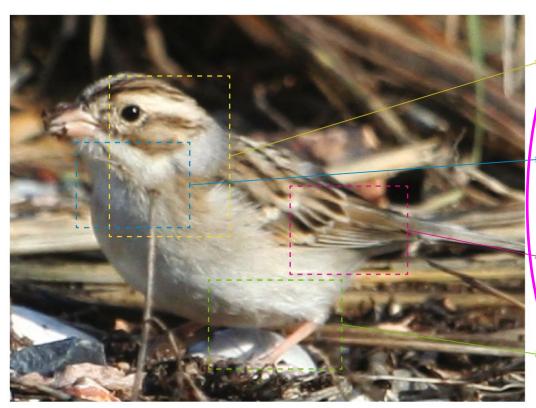


#### Case-based reasoning



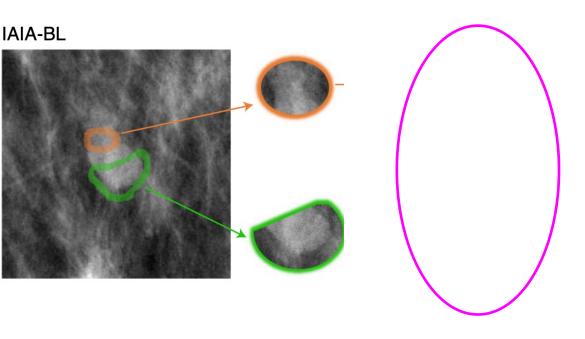


Case-based reasoning





### Case-based reasoning





# Explainable AI to improve learning





#### ENB NPS LINE Self-Supervised Generalized Zero Shot Learning For Medical Image Classification Using Novel Interpretable Saliency Maps

Dwarikanath Mahapatra, Zongyuan Ge, Mauricio Reyes

Abstract-In many real world medical image classification settings, access to samples of all disease classes is not feasible, affecting the robustness of a system expected to have high performance in analyzing novel test data. This is a case of generalized zero shot learning (GZSL) aiming to recognize seen and unseen classes. We propose a GZSL method that uses self supervised learning (SSL) for: 1) selecting representative vectors of disease classes; and 2) synthesizing features of unseen classes. We also propose a novel approach to generate GradCAM saliency maps that highlight diseased regions with greater accuracy. We exploit information from the novel saliency maps to improve the clustering process by: 1) Enforcing the saliency maps of different classes to be different; and 2) Ensuring that clusters in the space of image and saliency features should yield class centroids having similar semantic information. This ensures the anchor vectors are representative of each class. Different from previous approaches, our proposed approach does not require class attribute vectors which are essential part of GZSL methods for natural images but are not available for medical images. Using a simple architecture the proposed method outperforms state of the art SSL based GZSL performance for natural images as well as multiple types of medical images. We also conduct many ablation studies to investigate the influence of different loss terms in our method.

Index Terms— Generalized zero shot learning, self supervised learning, saliency, classification, X-ray, pathology

#### I. INTRODUCTION

In the present era, deep learning methods have achieved state of the art performance for many medical image classification tasks such as diabetic retinopathy grading [22], digital pathology image classification [36] and chest X-ray diagnosis [26], [62], to name a few. State of the art (SOTA) fully supervised methods have access to both the 'seen' and 'unseen' class labels, and trained models learn the characteristics of all classes. However many real-world scenarios do not provide access to samples of all possible diseases. As a result, unseen classes are generally classified into one of the seen classes, resulting in wrong diagnosis. For deployment in clinical settings, it is therefore essential that a machine learning model

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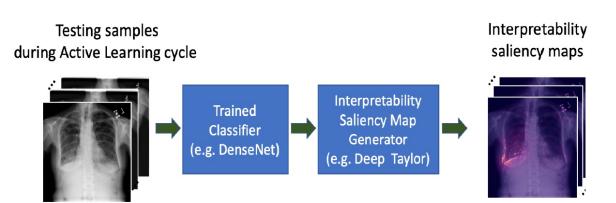
have an acceptable level of accuracy in recognizing novel test

In Few Shot Learning a model learns class characteristics from very few labeled samples. In Zero Shot Learning (ZSL) the aim is to learn plausible representations of unseen classes without having access to their labels, and recognize them during test time only from features learned through labeled data of seen classes. Hence, ZSL is a specific case of few shot learning and much more challenging due to the absence of labeled samples of unseen classes. In a more generalized setting we expect to encounter both seen and unseen classes during the test phase, where a reliable model should accurately predict both classes. This is a case of generalized zero shot learning (GZSL) and is challenging since predicting unseen classes as one of the seen classes can lead to incorrect diagnosis. In this work we propose a GZSL method for medical image classification using self supervised learning (SSL) and knowledge derived from saliency maps, and demonstrate its effectiveness across multiple medical image datasets.

GZSL is a widely explored topic for natural images [61], [67] where seen and unseen classes are characterized by class attribute vectors. A model learns to correlate between class attribute vectors and corresponding feature representations. This gives a strong reference point in synthesizing features of both seen and unseen classes, since by inputting the attribute vector of the desired class the corresponding feature representation can be generated. However medical images do not have such well defined class attributes since it requires high clinical expertise and time to define unambiguous attribute vectors for different disease classes. Hence it is not a trivial task to apply state of the art GZSL methods from natural image applications to medical image classification. For example, in the case of lung X-ray diagnosis many conditions co-occur frequently such as Atelectasis, Effusion, and Infiltration. An effective class attribute vector should be able to precisely identify the attribute categories and the corresponding entries, which is very challenging. Solving the GZSL problem for medical images without using attribute vectors is a challenging task but essential nevertheless due to the potentially immense benefits of reducing annotation effort of clinicians. It also helps to alleviate the critical issue of data shortage for ma



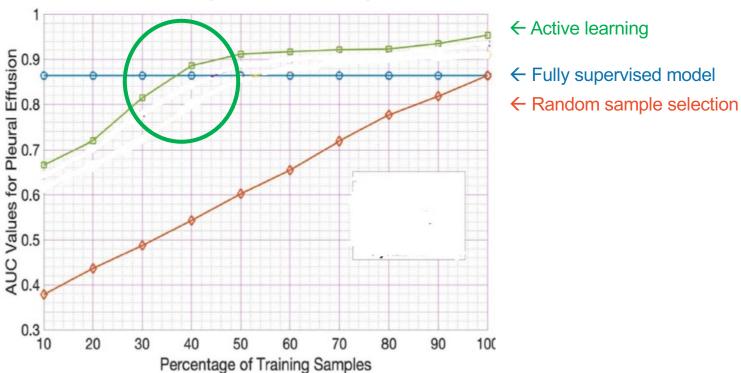
## Active learning using XAI



Slide courtesy prof Reyes Mahapatra et al. IEEE TMI 2022



### Active learning using XAI



Slide courtesy prof Reyes

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# Holistic explainable Al



#### Radiology

#### Radiogenomic Analysis of Breast Cancer by Linking MRI Phenotypes with Tumor Gene Expression

Tycho Bismeijer, PhD • Bas H. M. van der Velden, PhD • Sander Canisius, PhD • Esther H. Lips, PhD • Claudette E. Loo, MD, PhD • Max A. Viergever, PhD • Jelle Wesseling, MD, PhD • Kenneth G. A. Gilhuijs, PhD • Lodewyk F. A. Wessels, PhD

From the Division of Molecular Carcinogenesis, Oncode Institute (T.B., S.C., L.F.A.W.), Division of Molecular Pathology (S.C., E.H.L., J.W.), Department of Radiology (C.E.L.), and Department of Pathology (J.W.), the Netherlands Cancer Institute, Plesmanlaan 121, 1066 CX Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Image Sciences Institute, University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands (B.H.M.v.d.V., M.A.V., K.G.A.G.); and Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mathematics, and Computer Sci-University Medical Center Utrecht, Utrecht, the Netherlands (B.H.M.v.d.V., M.A.V., K.G.A.G.); ence, Delft University of Technology, Delft, the Netherlands (L.F.A.W.). Received July 8, 2019; revision requested September 11; final revision received March 13, 2020; accepted March 27. Address correspondence to L.F.A.W. (e-mail: l.wessels@nki.nl).

This research is part of the STW Perspectief Population Imaging Genetics (ImaGene) program and supported by the Dutch Technology Foundation STW, which is part of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO), and partly funded by the Ministry of Economic Affairs.

Conflicts of interest are listed at the end of this article.

See also the editorial by Cho in this issue.

Radiology 2020; 296:277-287 • https://doi.org/10.1148/radiol.2020191453 • Content codes: BR MR

Better understanding of the molecular biology associated with MRI phenotypes may aid in the diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer.

Purpose: To discover the associations between MRI phenotypes of breast cancer and their underlying molecular biology derived from gene expression data.

Materials and Methods: This is a secondary analysis of the Multimodality Analysis and Radiologic Guidance in Breast-Conserving Therapy, or MARGINS, study. MARGINS included patients eligible for breast-conserving therapy between November 2000 and December 2008 for preoperative breast MRI. Tumor RNA was collected for sequencing from surgical specimen. Twenty-one computer-generated MRI features of tumors were condensed into seven MRI factors related to tumor size, shape, initial enhancement, late enhancement, smoothness of enhancement, sharpness, and sharpness variation. These factors were associated with gene expression levels from RNA sequencing by using gene set enrichment analysis. Statistical significance of these associations was evaluated by using a sample permutation test and the false discovery rate.

Results: Gene expression and MRI data were obtained for 295 patients (mean age, 56 years ± 10.3 [standard deviation]). Larger and more irregular tumors showed increased expression of cell cycle and DNA damage checkpoint genes (false discovery rate <0.25; normalized enrichment statistic [NES], 2.15). Enhancement and sharpness of the tumor margin were associated with expression of ribosomal proteins (false discovery rate < 0.25; NES, 1.95). Smoothness of enhancement, tumor size, and tumor shape were associated with expression of genes involved in the extracellular matrix (false discovery rate <0.25; NES, 2.25).

Condusion: Breast cancer MRI phenotypes were related to their underlying molecular biology revealed by using RNA sequencing. The association between enhancements and sharpness of the tumor margin with the ribosome suggests that these MRI features may be imaging biomarkers for drugs targeting the ribosome. ©RSNA, 2020

Online supplemental material is available for this article

The Breast 60 (2021) 230-237



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### The Breast





Contralateral parenchymal enhancement on MRI is associated with tumor proteasome pathway gene expression and overall survival of early ER+/HER2-breast cancer patients



Max A.A. Ragusi <sup>a, G, \*</sup>, Tycho Bismeijer <sup>b</sup>, Bas H.M. van der Velden <sup>a</sup>, Claudette E. Loo <sup>c</sup>, Sander Canisius b, d, Jelle Wesseling d, e, Lodewyk F.A. Wessels b, f, Sjoerd G. Elias g, Kenneth G.A. Gilhuijs a

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Keywords:

Breast neoplasm Magnetic resonance imaging Gene expression

Proteasome endopeptidase complex Parenchymal tissue

#### ABSTRACT

Purpose: To assess whether contralateral parenchymal enhancement (CPE) on MRI is associated with gene expression pathways in ER+/HER2-breast cancer, and if so, whether such pathways are related to

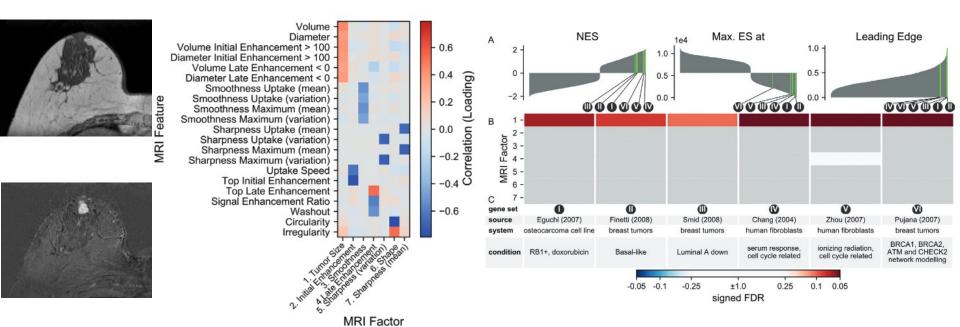
Methods: Preoperative breast MRIs were analyzed of early ER+/HER2-breast cancer patients eligible for breast-conserving surgery included in a prospective observational cohort study (MARGINS). The contralateral parenchyma was segmented and CPE was calculated as the average of the top-10% delayed enhancement. Total tumor RNA sequencing was performed and gene set enrichment analysis was used to reveal gene expression pathways associated with CPE (N = 226) and related to overall survival (OS) and invasive disease-free survival (IDFS) in multivariable survival analysis. The latter was also done for the METABRIC cohort (N = 1355).

Results: CPE was most strongly correlated with proteasome pathways (normalized enrichment statistic = 2.04, false discovery rate = .11). Patients with high CPE showed lower tumor protessorms cons



**a** @basvandervelden

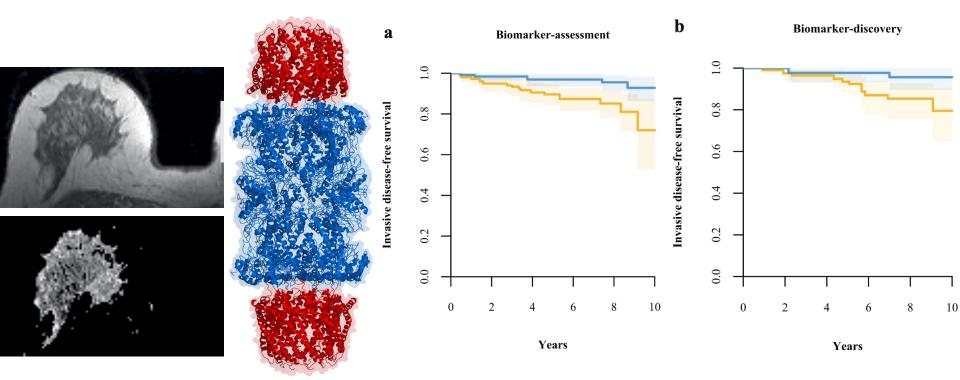
### Explain imaging using genotype



Gilhuijs et al, Med Phys 1998 Bismeijer et al. Radiology 2020



## Explain imaging using genotype



Van der Velden et al. Radiology 2015, Clin Can Res 2017, Eur Rad 2018; Ragusi et al. The Breast 2021



#### Take home messages

- XAI adds confidence to decisions
- XAI can improve performance
- Holistic XAI: more than images

