

# The importance of domain-specific knowledge

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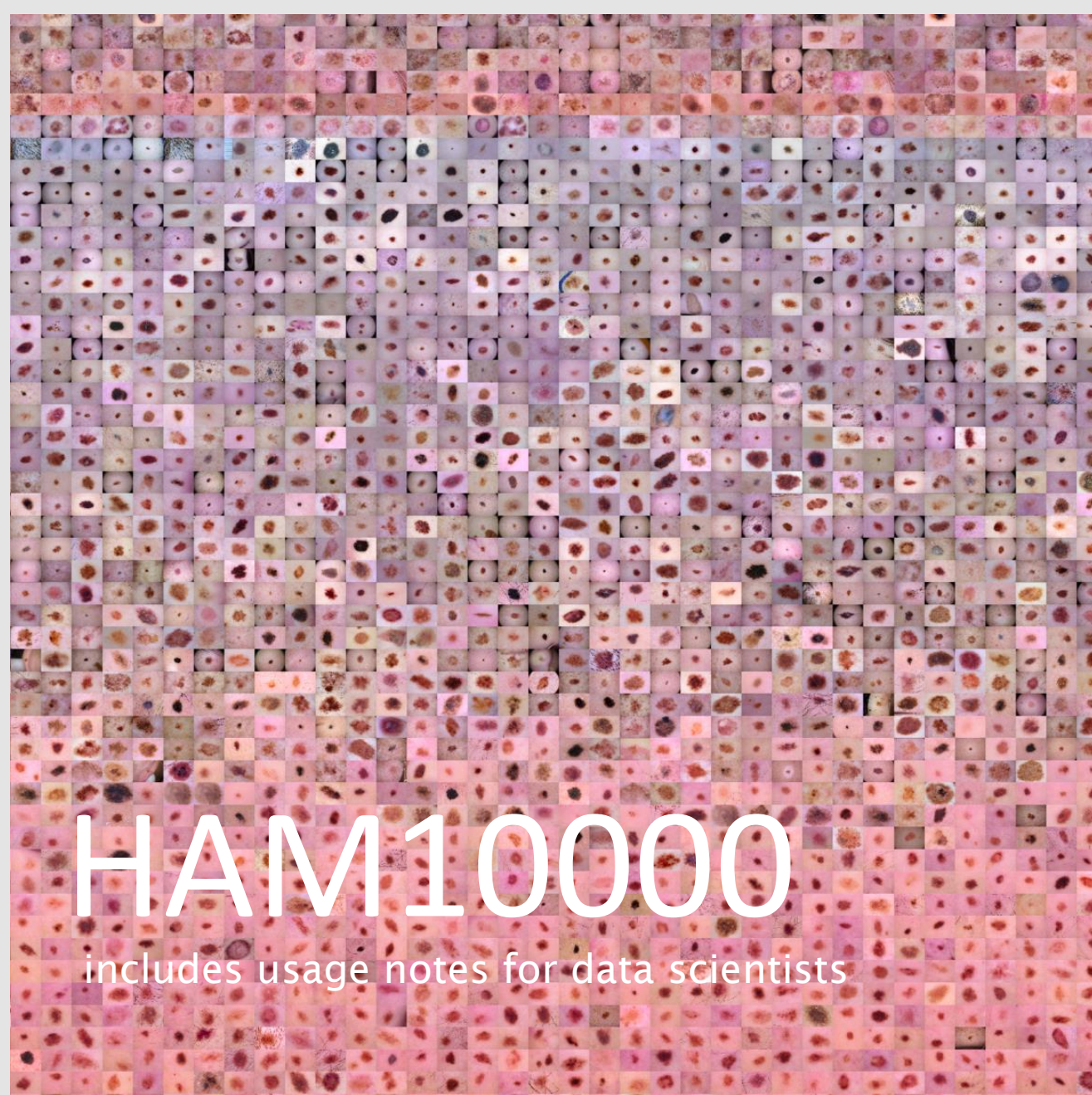
Medical University of Vienna, Austria

# Who am I? Who are we?

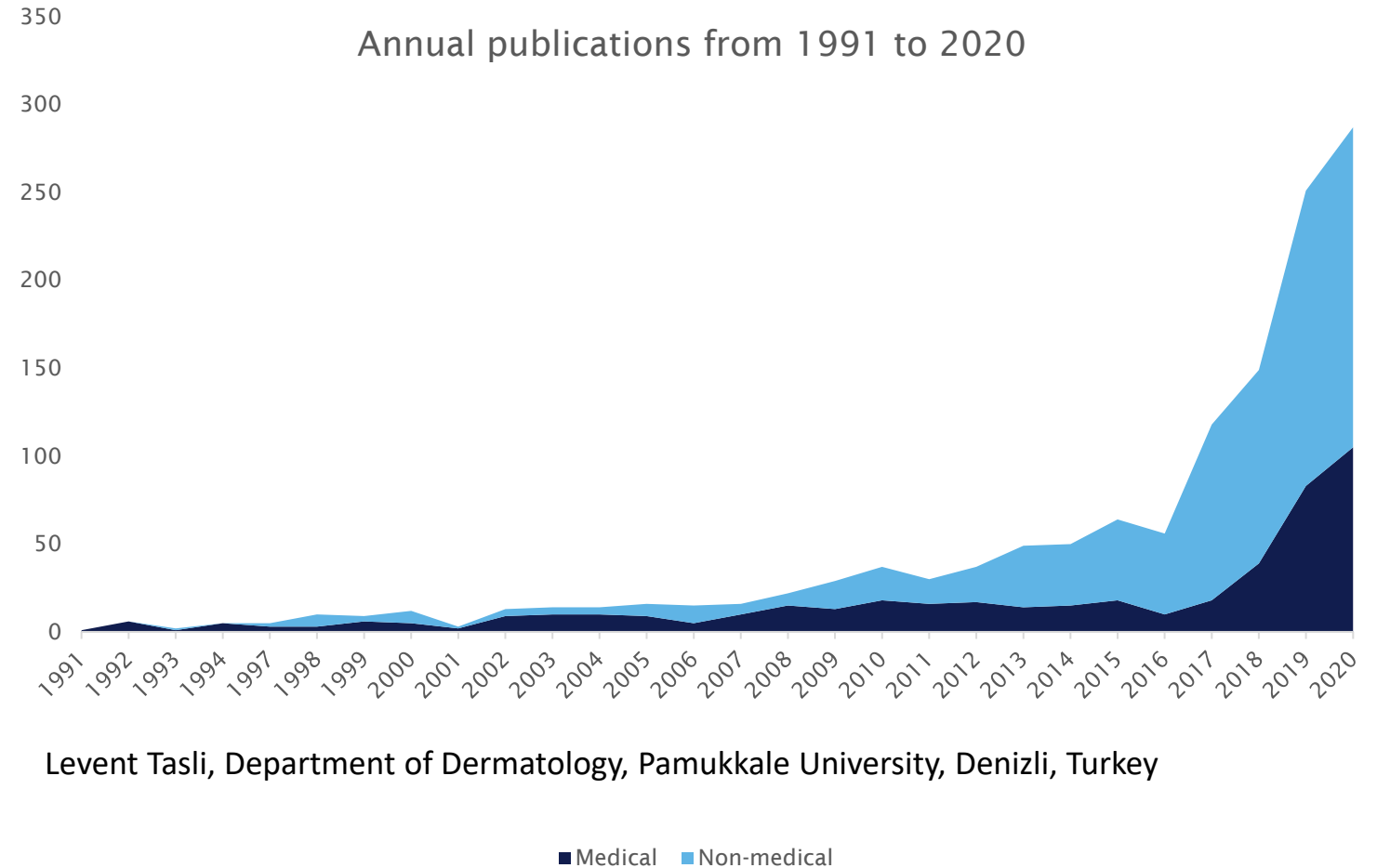


ViDIR - Vienna Dermatologic Imaging Research Group

Tschandl, P., Rosendahl, C. & Kittler, H. The HAM10000 dataset, a large collection of multi-source dermatoscopic images of common pigmented skin lesions. *Sci Data* 5, 180161 (2018). <https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2018.161>



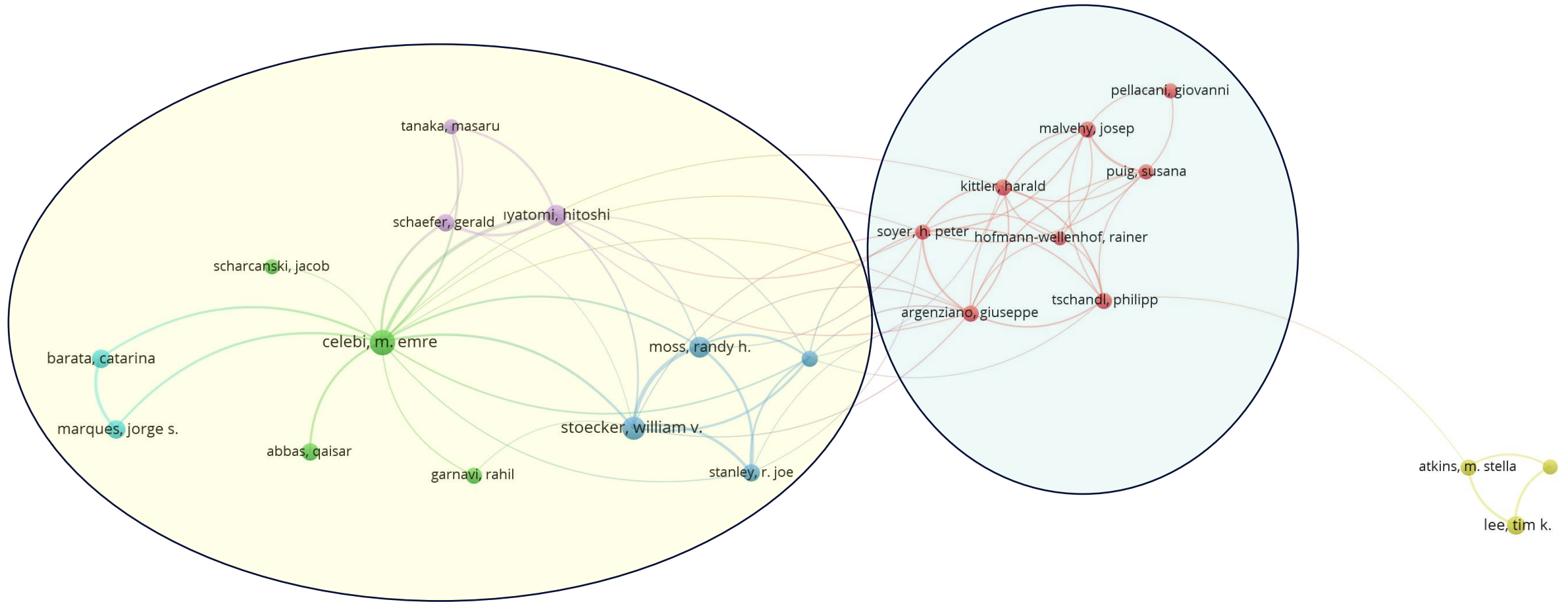
# Skin cancer diagnosis: The importance of domain-specific knowledge





# Co-authorship network of a subset of the most productive authors in the field

Levent Tasli, Department of Dermatology, Pamukkale University, Denizli, Turkey



House divided: Computer scientists versus physician scientists

# Skin cancer diagnosis: The importance of domain-specific knowledge

	Publications	Citations	Average citations per item	H index
Medical	463	14261	30.80	58
Dermatology	53	1090	20.57	16
Interdisciplinary	93	2261	24.31	26
<b>Multidisciplinary</b>	317	10910	34.42	46
Non-medical	867	8117	9.43	43

Levent Tasli, Department of Dermatology, Pamukkale University, Denizli, Turkey

**Multidisciplinary studies are most influential**

# The importance of domain-specific knowledge

“Skin disease, the most overwhelming kind of malignancy, manifests when skin cells lose control”

“Skin cancer disease can be classified into two groups: benign and malignant”

“Benign cancers are classified as basal cell carcinoma and squamous cell carcinoma”

“Computer science, the most important type of machine learning, manifests when computer scientists loose control”

“Artificial learning can be classified into two groups: supervised and unsupervised”

“Supervised learning can be classified into reinforcement learning and machine learning”.

# The importance of domain-specific knowledge:

Problem formulation

Data collection

Data preprocessing

Modeling

Interpretation of results

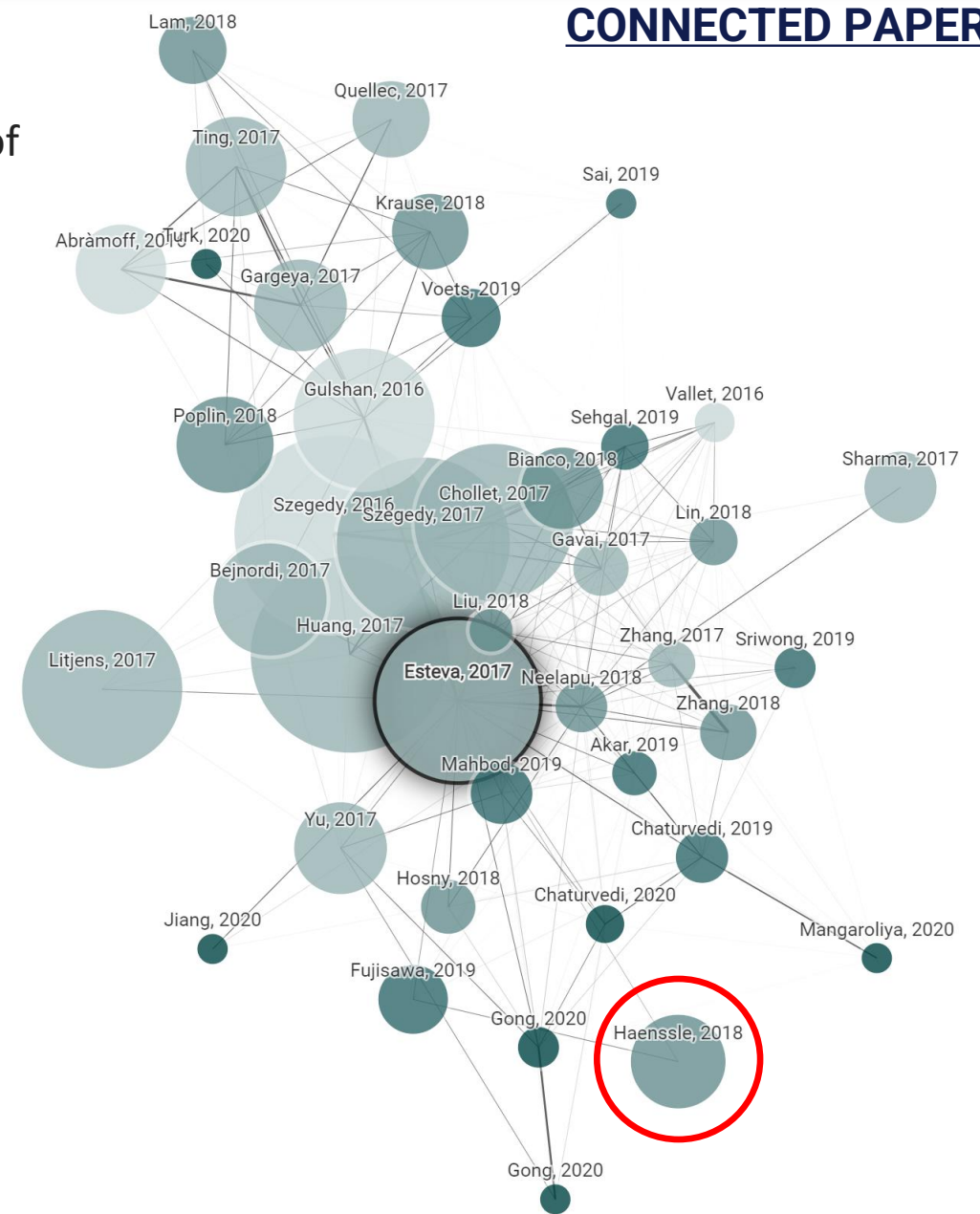
Understand and predict limitations and exceptions

Make the algorithm fit for intended use

**Applied computer science**

**nature**

Esteva, A., Kuprel, B., Novoa, R. *et al.* Dermatologist-level classification of skin cancer with deep neural networks. *Nature* **542**, 115–118 (2017)



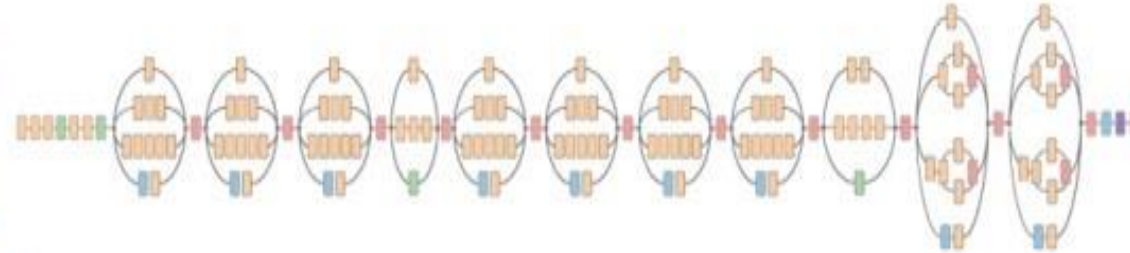


Esteva, A., Kuprel, B., Novoa, R. *et al.* Dermatologist-level classification of skin cancer with deep neural networks. *Nature* **542**, 115–118 (2017)

Skin lesion image



Deep convolutional neural network (Inception v3)



- Convolution
- AvgPool
- MaxPool
- Concat
- Dropout
- Fully connected
- Softmax

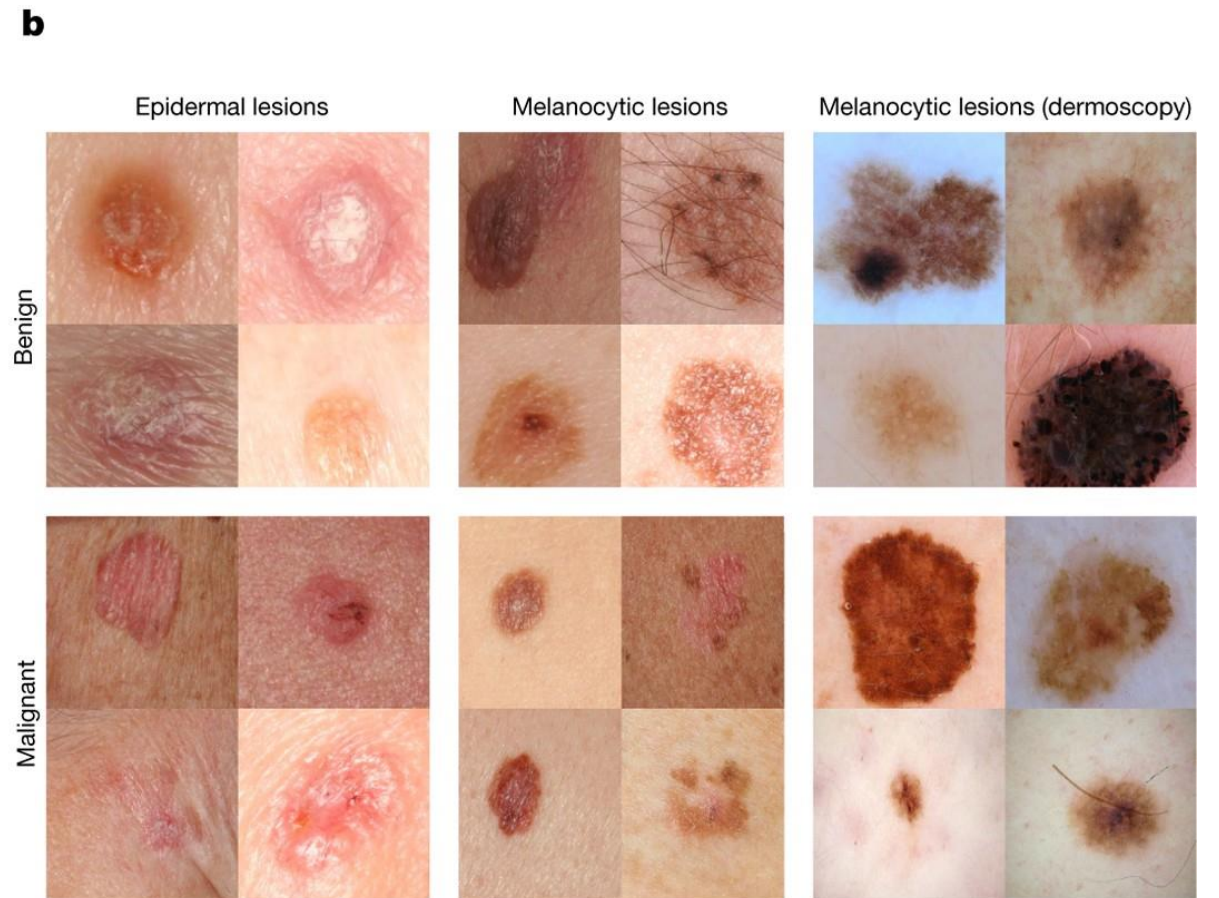
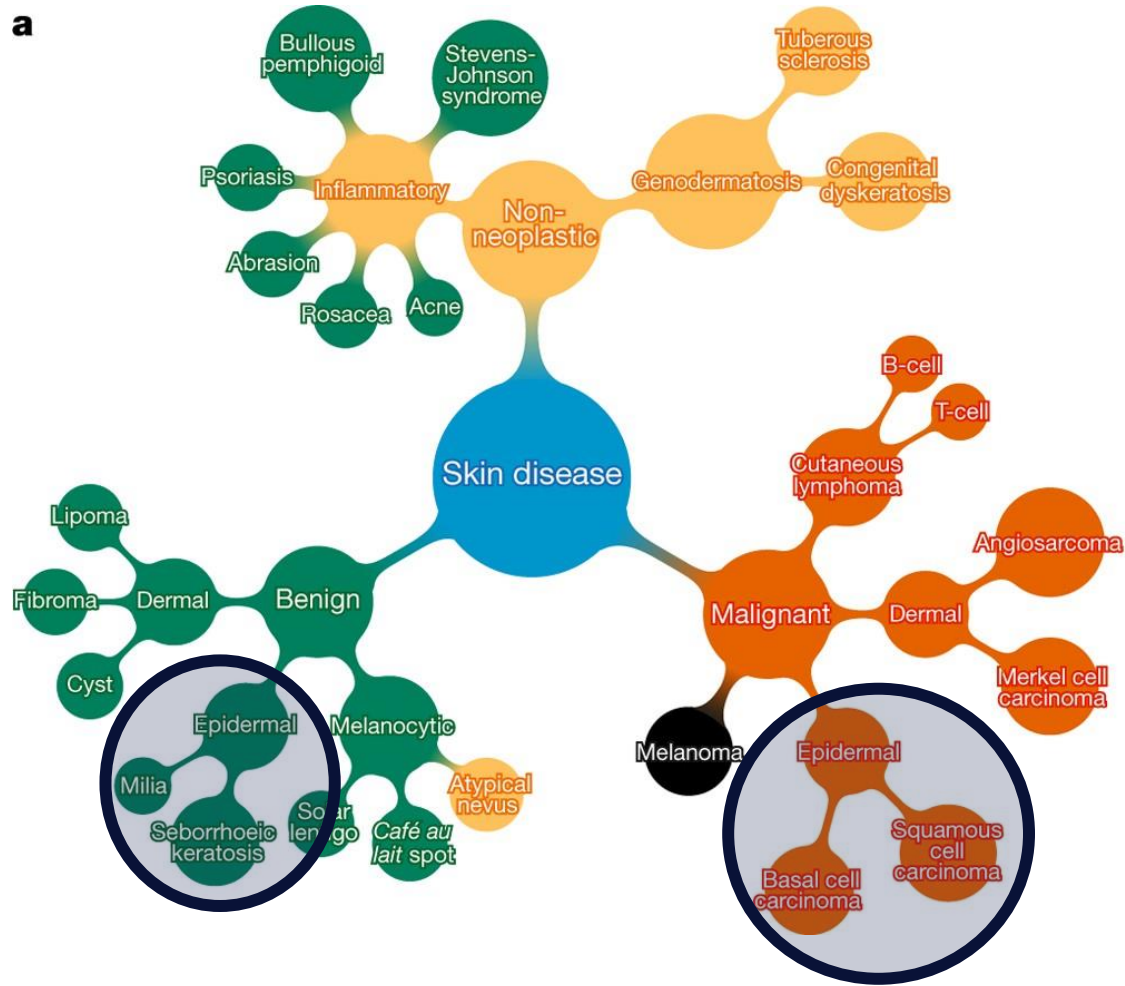
Training classes (757)

- Acral-lentiginous melanoma
- Amelanotic melanoma
- Lentigo melanoma
- ...
- Blue nevus
- Halo nevus
- Mongolian spot
- ...
- 
- 
- 

Inference classes (varies by task)

- ➔ ● 92% malignant melanocytic lesion
- ➔ ● 8% benign melanocytic lesion

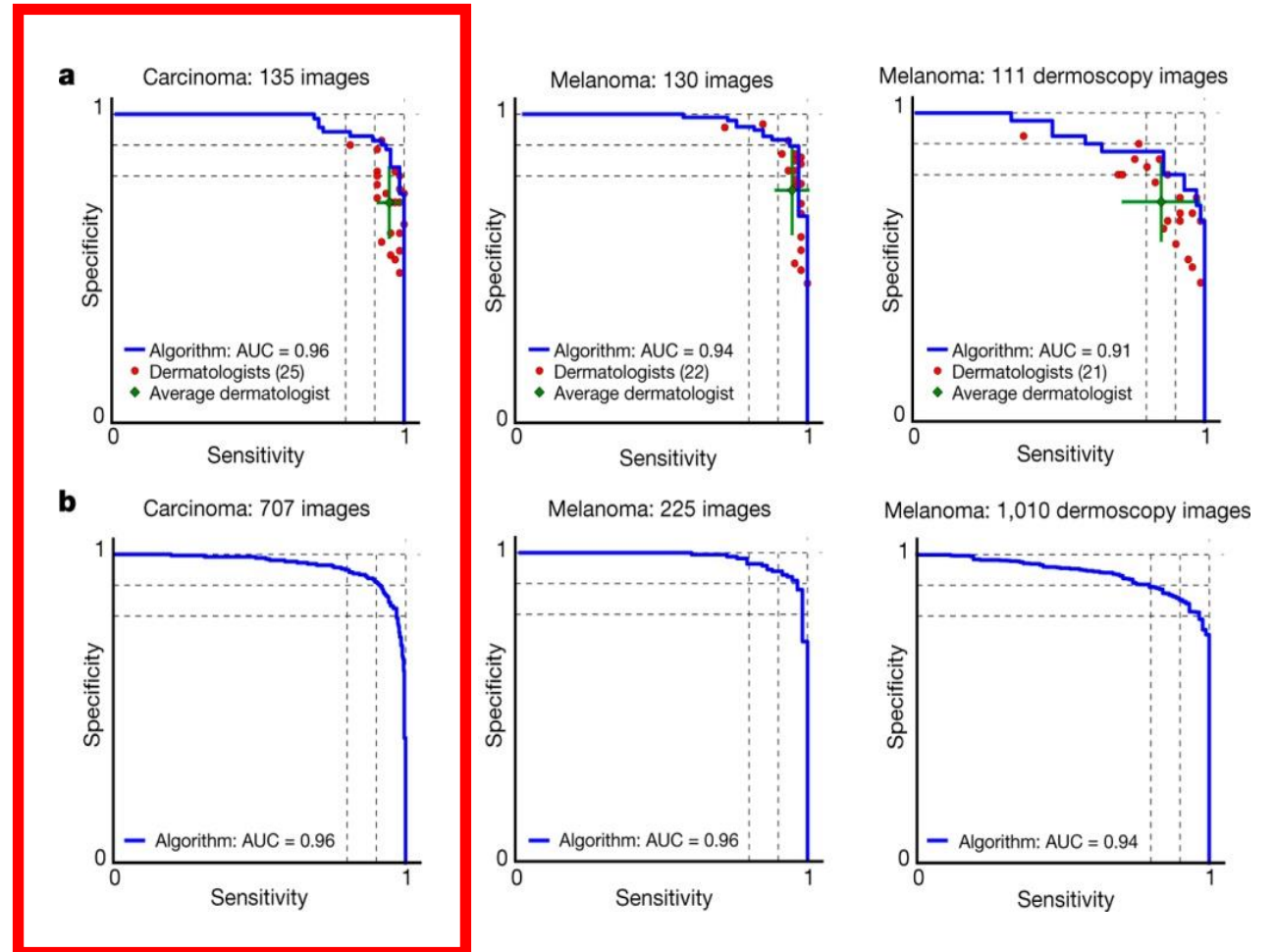
# Framing of the problem



A Esteva et al. Nature 1–4 (2017) doi:10.1038/nature21056

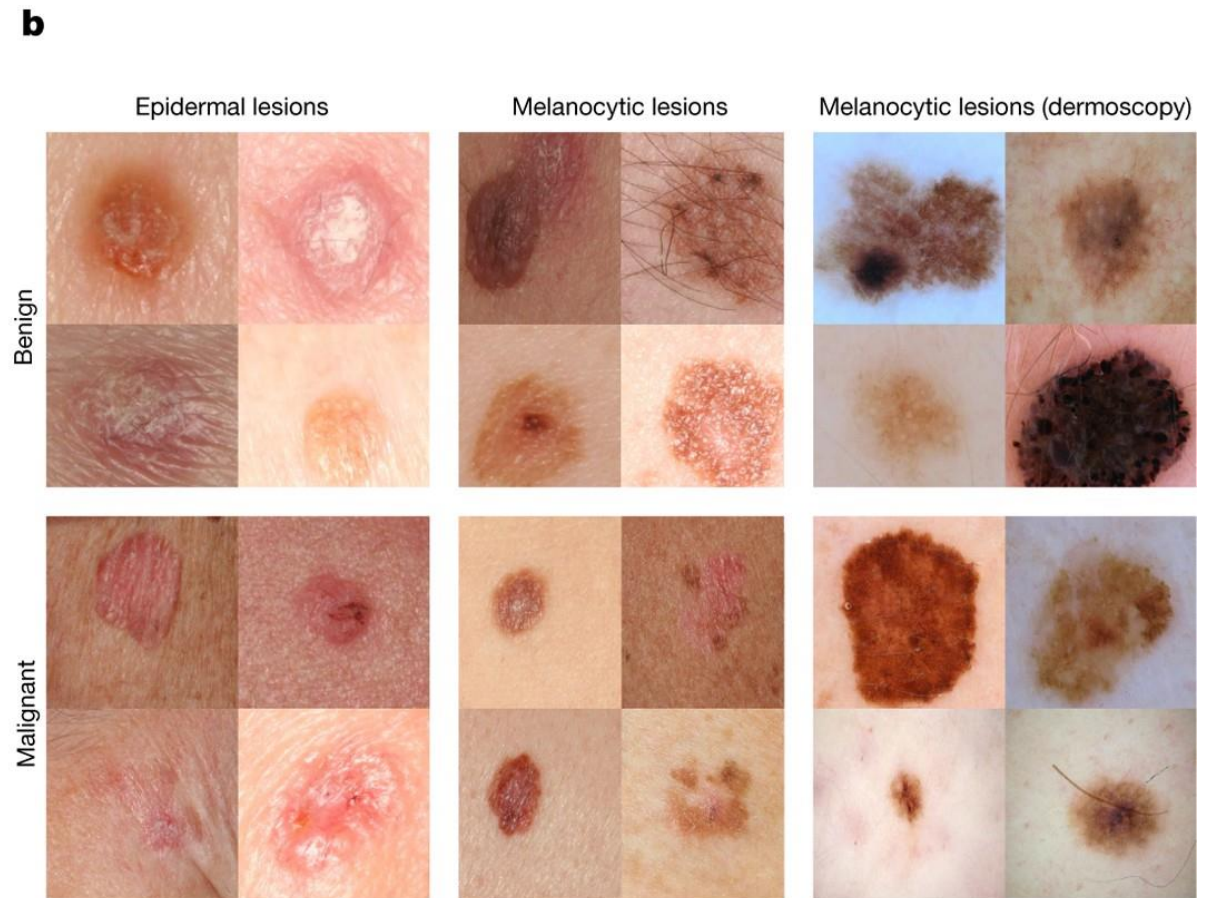
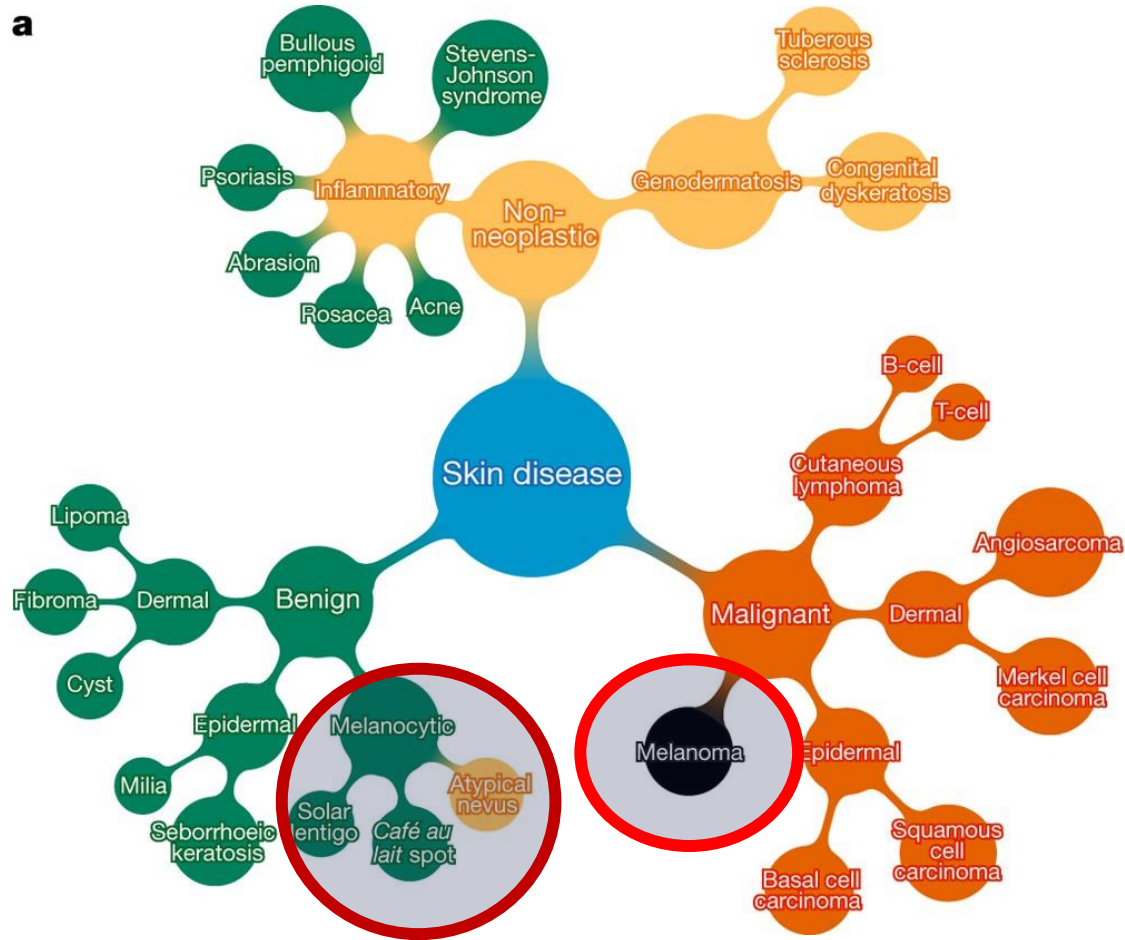
nature

Esteva, A., Kuprel, B., Novoa, R. *et al.* Dermatologist-level classification of skin cancer with deep neural networks. *Nature* **542**, 115–118 (2017)





# Framing of the problem



A Esteva et al. *Nature* 1–4 (2017) doi:10.1038/nature21056

nature

***“.....when people say Kaggle, I have done this competition, I kind of roll my eyes, because they’re focusing on sort of 10% of the problem”***

Ian Scott, Chief Science Officer at Omnia AI



# The importance of domain-specific knowledge:

Problem formulation

Data collection

Data preprocessing

Modeling

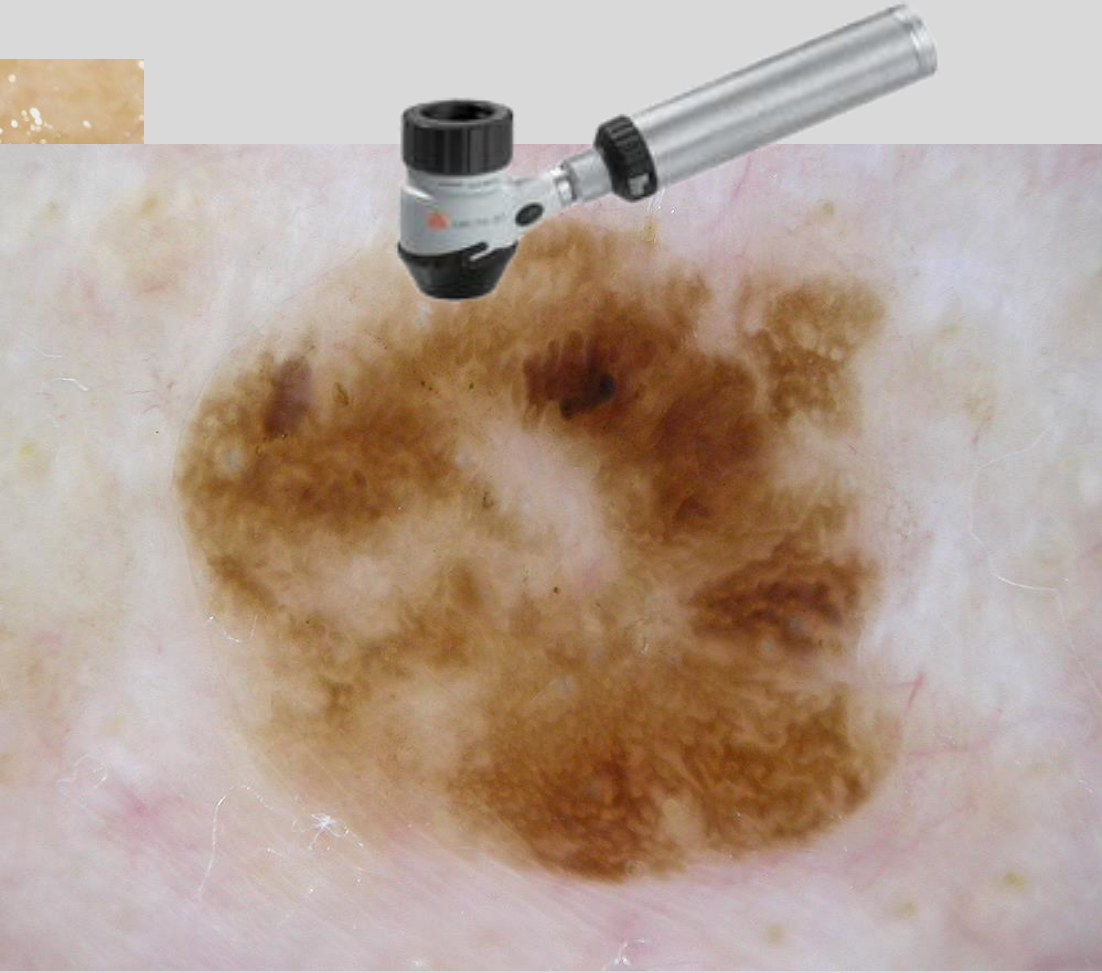
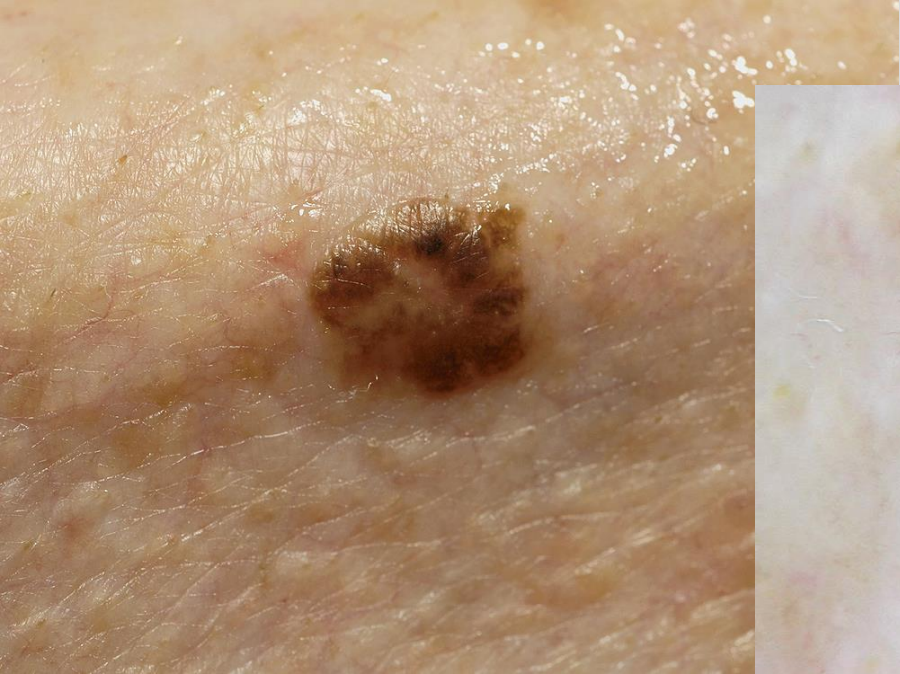
Interpretation of results

Understand and predict limitations and exceptions

Make the algorithm fit for intended use

**Applied computer science**

# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Data collection





Search by filters
  Search by name

**APPLIED FILTERS**
[Clear applied filters](#)

**DIAGNOSTIC ATTRIBUTES**

- ▶ BENIGN OR MALIGNANT
- ▶ LESION DIAGNOSIS

**CLINICAL ATTRIBUTES**

- ▶ APPROXIMATE AGE
- ▶ GENERAL ANATOMIC SITE
- ▶ CLINICAL SIZE - LONGEST DIAMETER (MM)
- ▶ TYPE OF DIAGNOSIS
- ▶ FAMILY HISTORY OF MELANOMA
- ▶ MELANOMA CLASS
- ▶ MELANOMA MITOTIC INDEX
- ▶ MELANOMA THICKNESS (MM)
- ▶ MELANOMA TYPE
- ▶ MELANOMA ULCERATION
- ▶ MELANOCYTIC
- ▶ NEVUS TYPE
- ▶ PERSONAL HISTORY OF MELANOMA
- ▶ SEX

**TECHNOLOGICAL ATTRIBUTES**

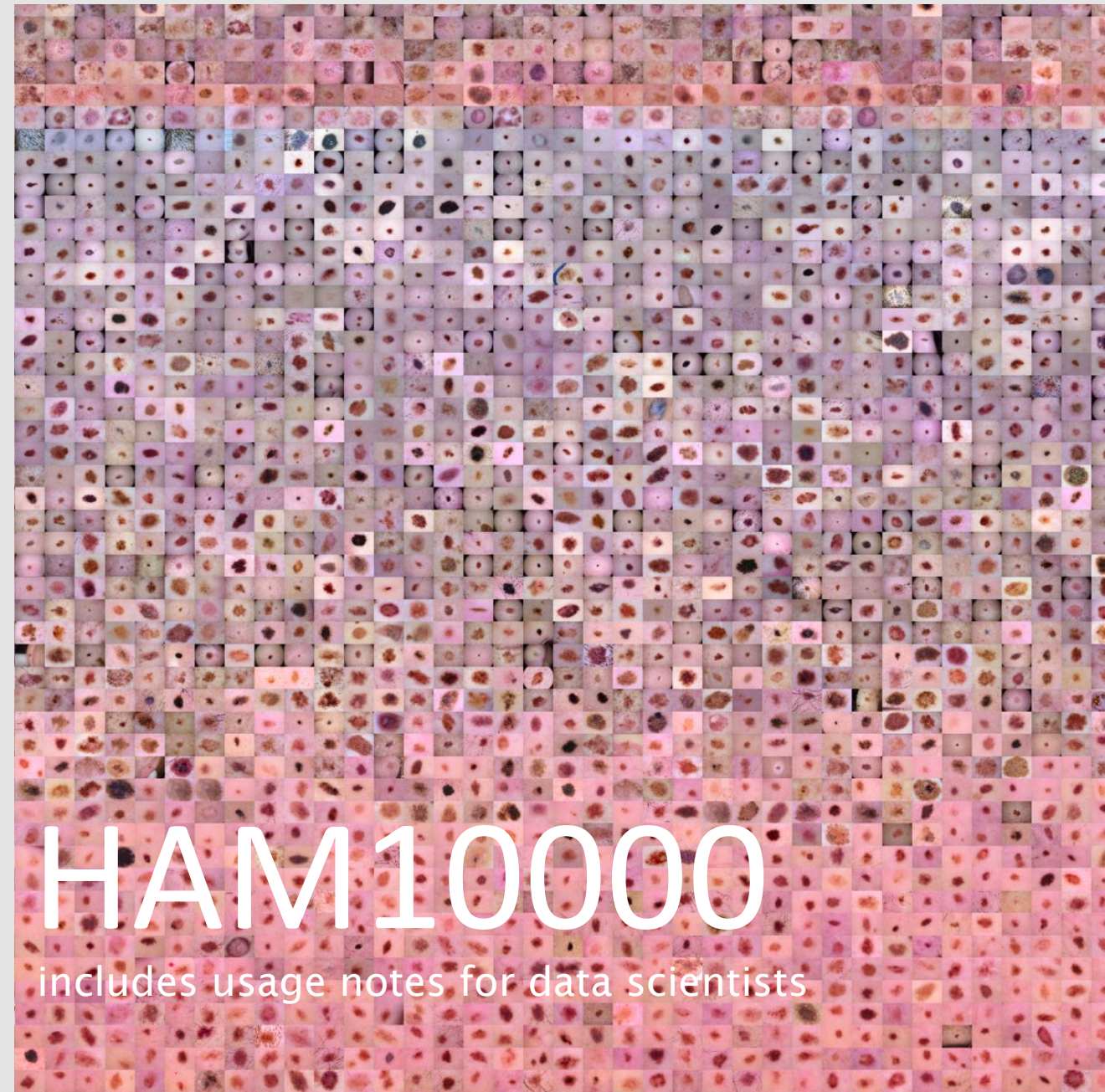
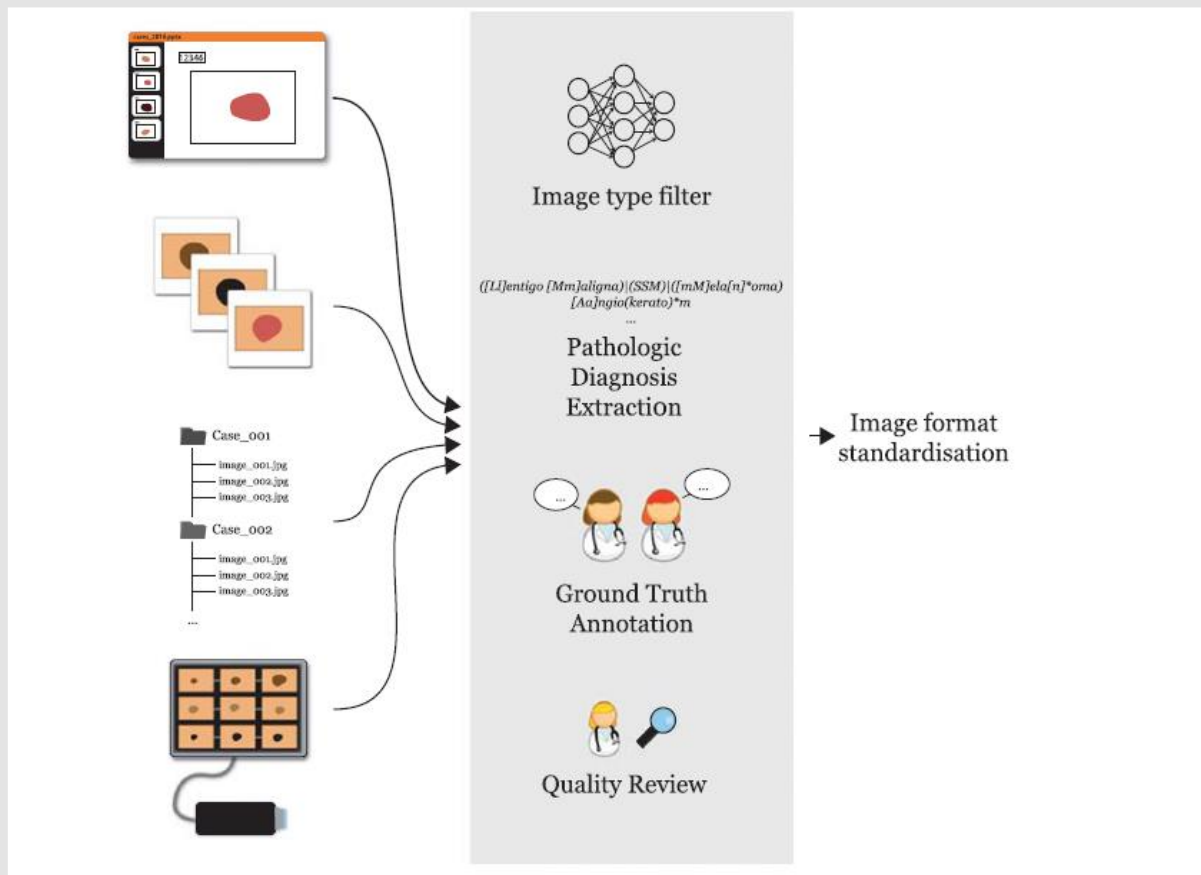
- ▶ DERMOSCOPIC TYPE

Shown images: 1-80. Total amount of images: 69445.

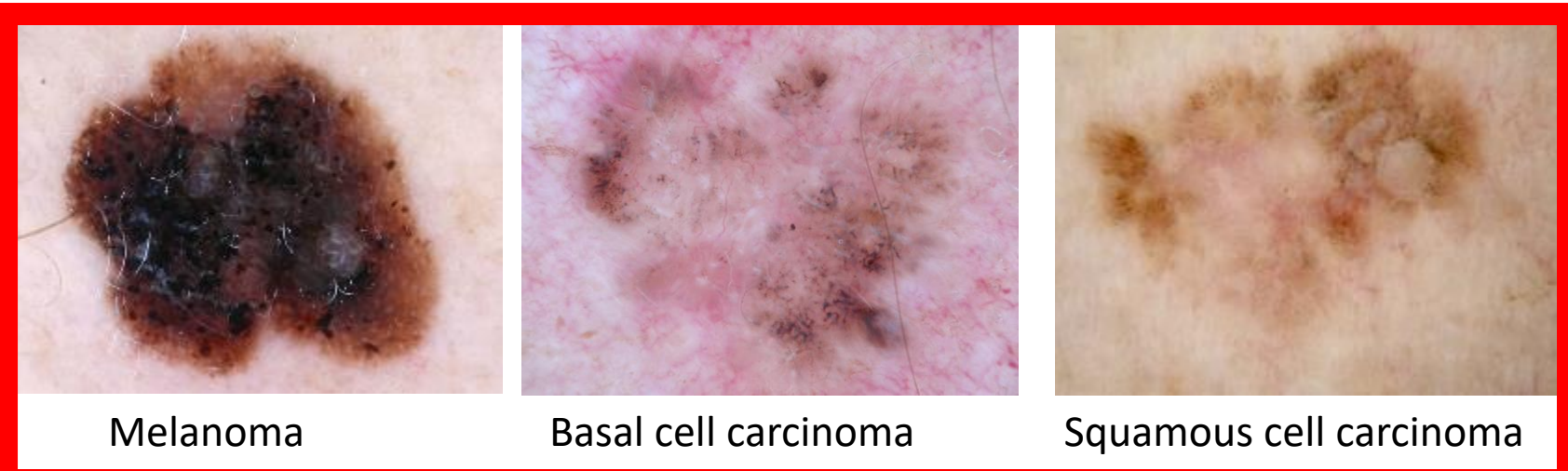
Select All on the Page for Download







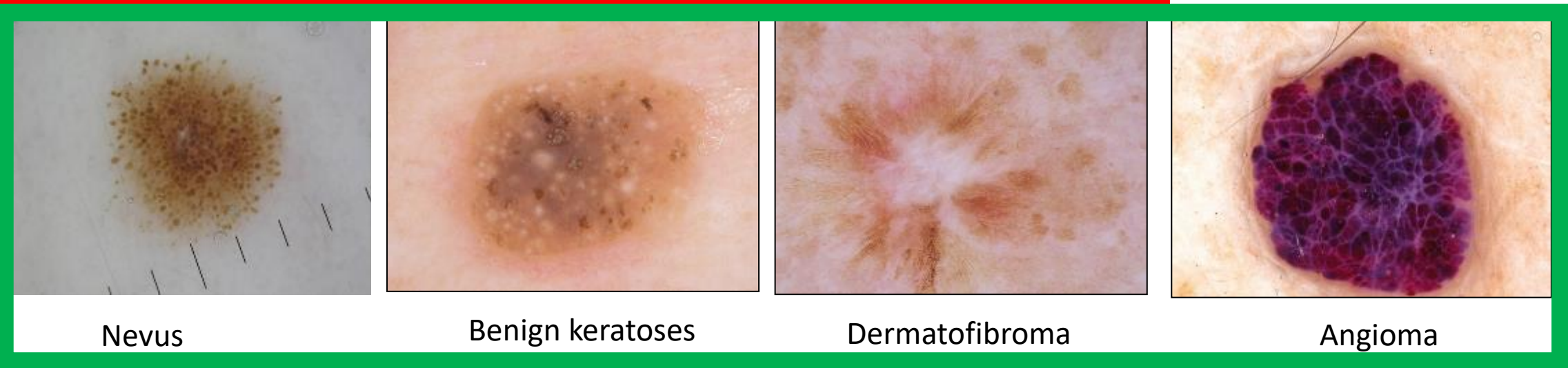




Melanoma

Basal cell carcinoma

Squamous cell carcinoma



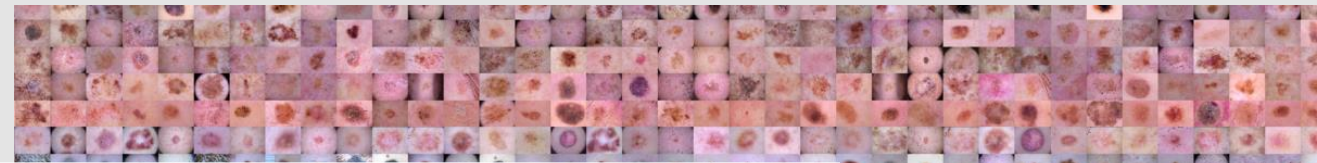
Nevus

Benign keratosis

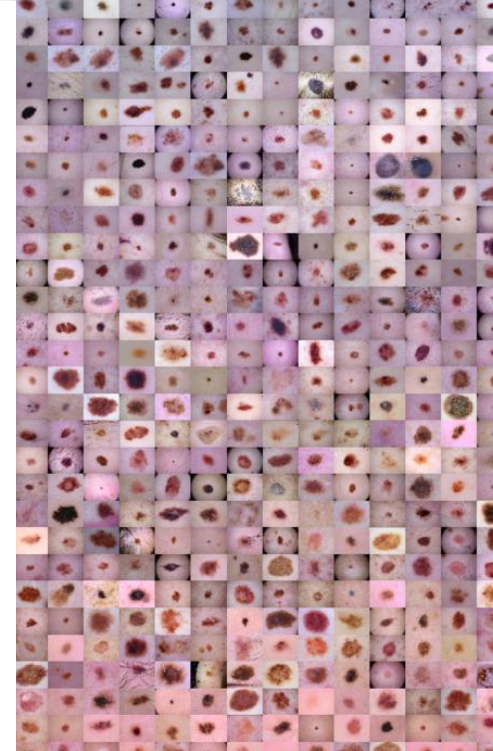
Dermatofibroma

Angioma



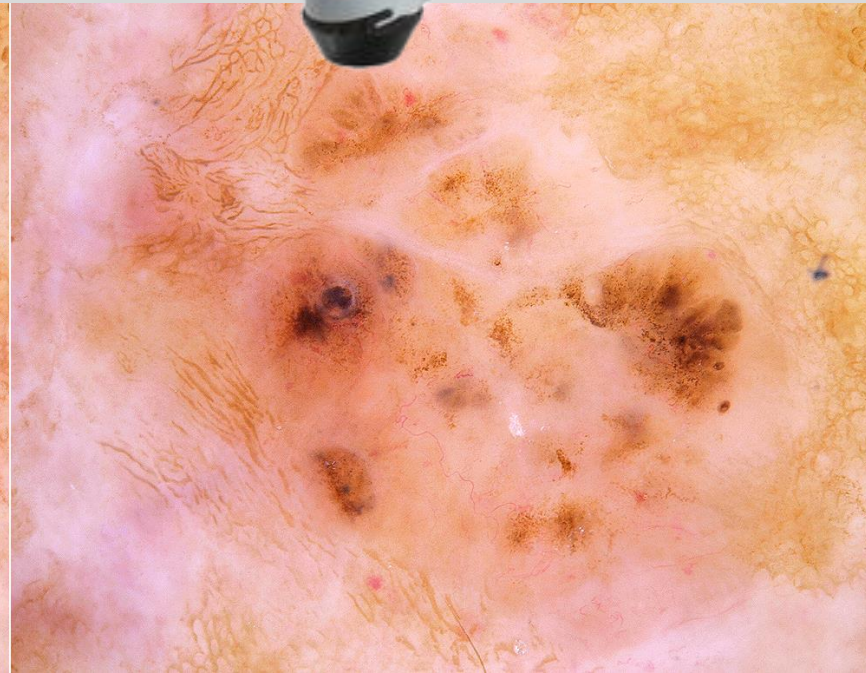
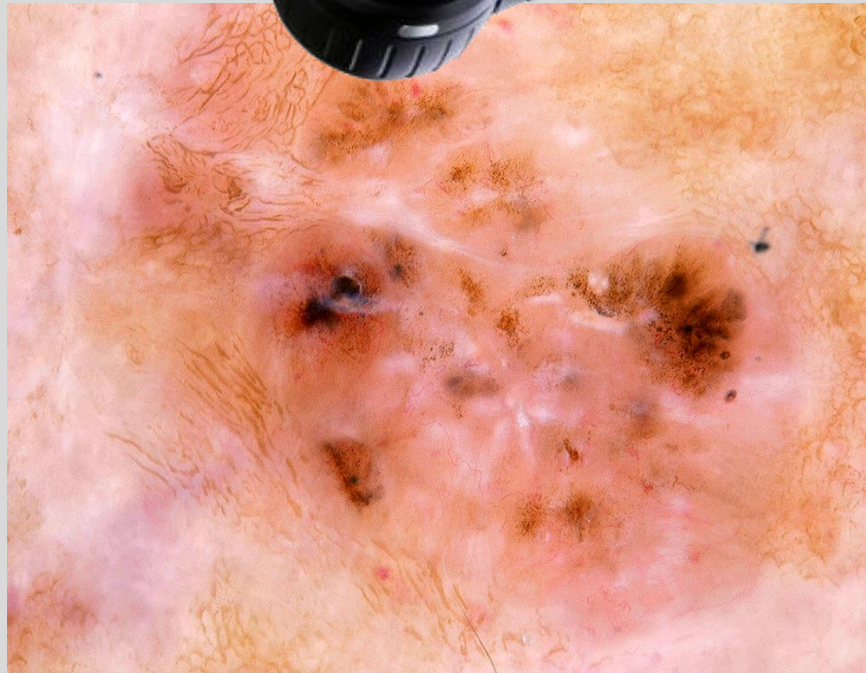
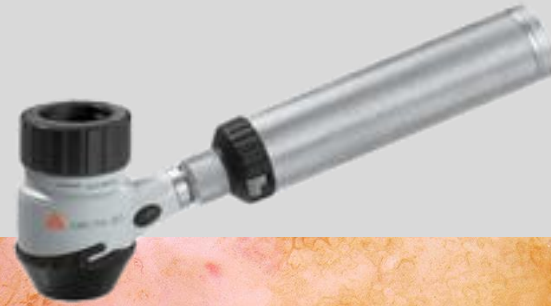


Dataset	License	Total images	Pathologic verification (%)	akiec	bcc	bkl	df	mel	nv	vasc
PH2	Research&Education <sup>a</sup>	200	20.5%	-	-	-	-	40	160	-
Atlas	No license	1024	unknown	5	42	70	20	275	582	30
ISIC 2017 <sup>b</sup>	CC-0	13786	26.3%	2	33	575	7	1019	11861	15
<i>Rosendahl</i>	CC BY-NC 4.0	2259	100%	295	296	490	30	342	803	3
<i>ViDIR Legacy</i>	CC BY-NC 4.0	439	100%	0	5	10	4	67	350	3
<i>ViDIR Current</i>	CC BY-NC 4.0	3363	77.1%	32	211	475	51	680	1832	82
<i>ViDIR MoleMax</i>	CC BY-NC 4.0	3954	1.2%	0	2	124	30	24	3720	54
<b>HAM10000</b>	CC BY-NC 4.0	<b>10015</b>	53.3%	327	514	1099	115	1113	6705	142



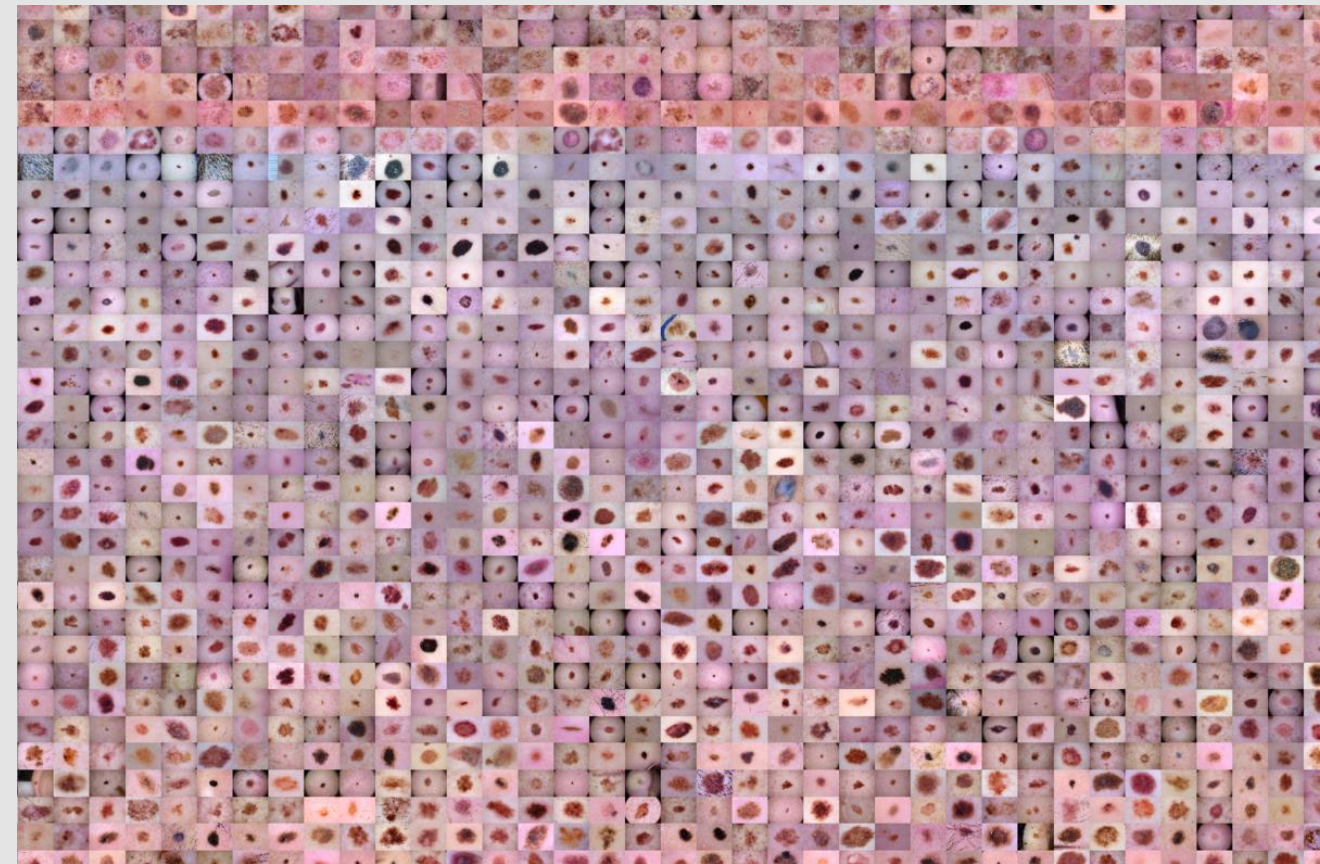
# HAM10000

includes usage notes for data scientists

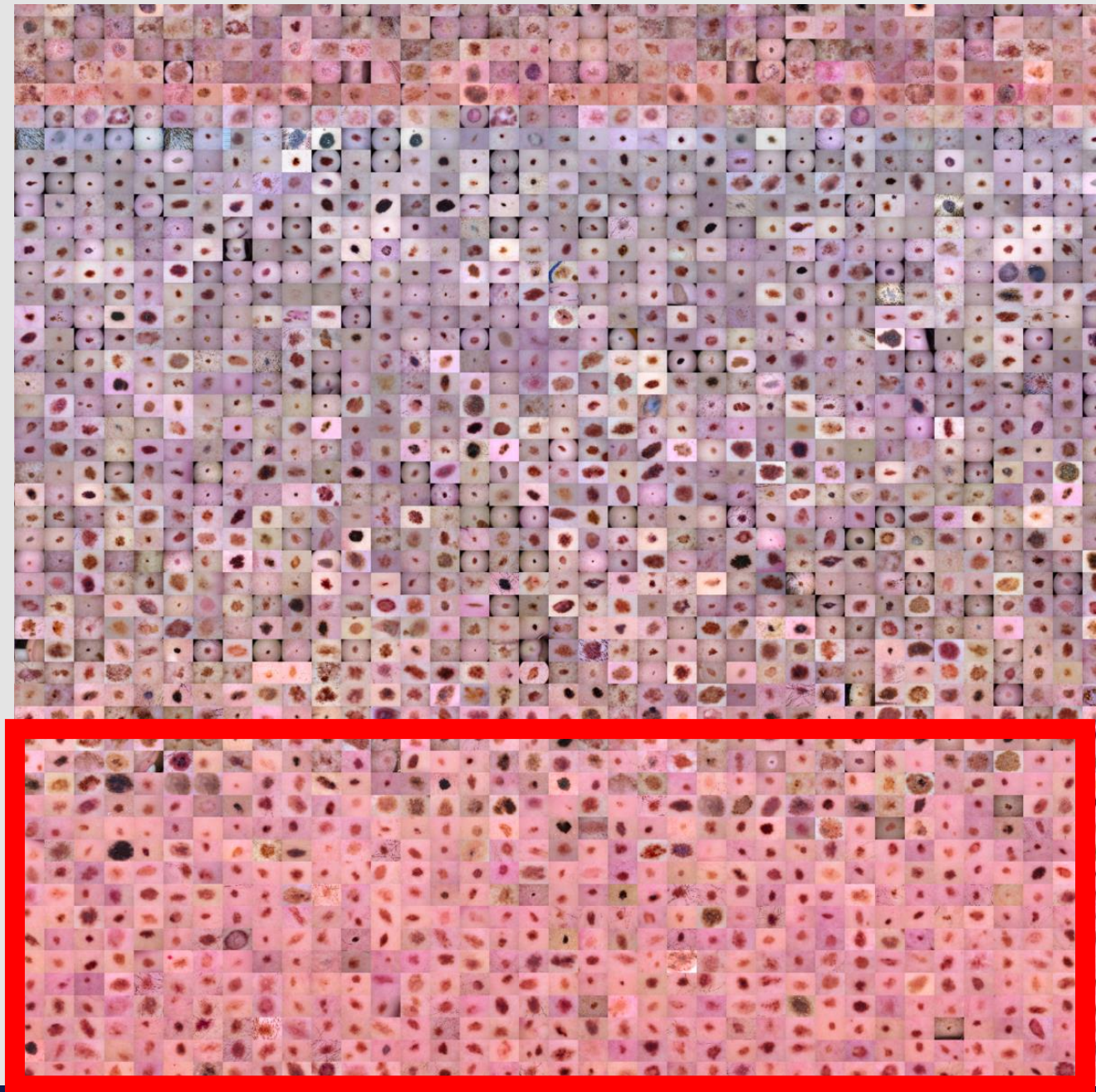
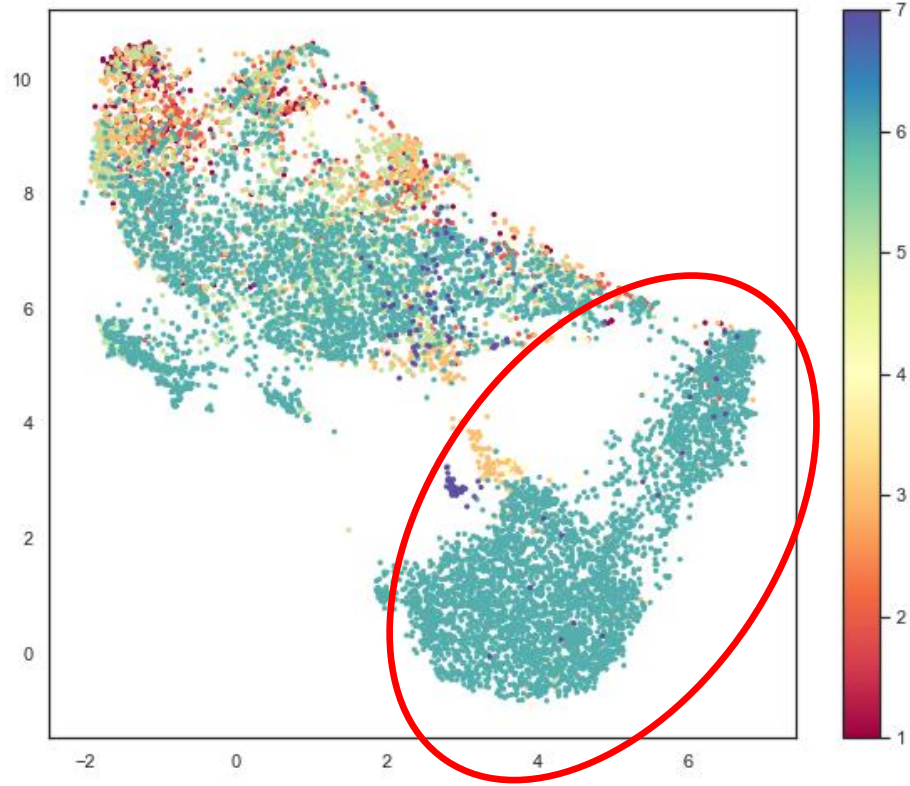




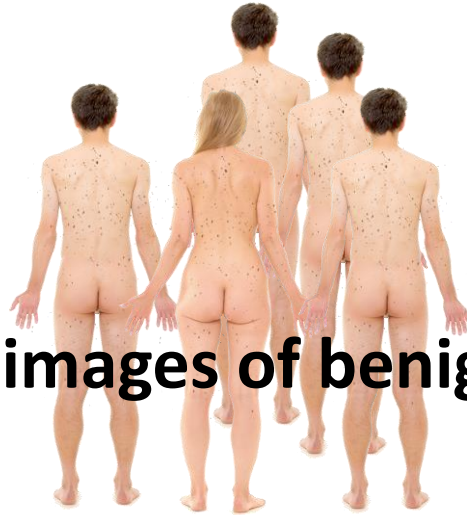
Tschandl, P., Rosendahl, C. & Kittler, H. The HAM10000 dataset, a large collection of multi-source dermatoscopic images of common pigmented skin lesions. *Sci Data* 5, 180161 (2018).  
<https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2018.161>







# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Collider bias



**Many images of benign lesions**

**Spurious correlation: Images taken with device X are probably benign**



**Only suspicious lesions**

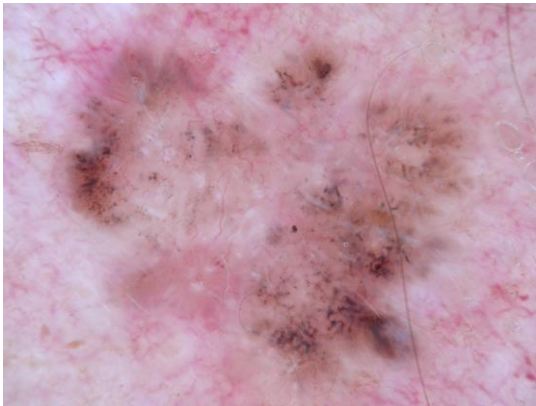
**There is no causal relation between images taken with device X and outcome**



# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Class imbalance



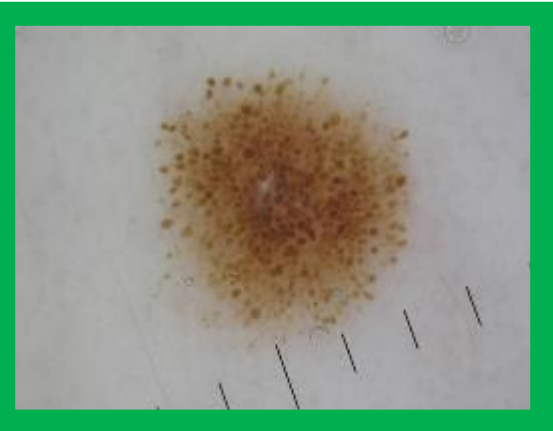
Melanoma



Basal cell carcinoma



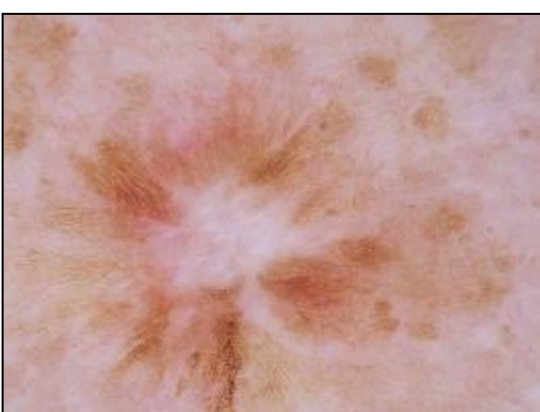
Squamous cell carcinoma



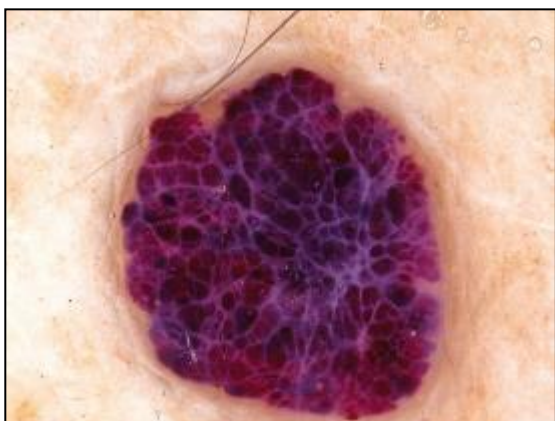
Nevus



Benign keratosis



Dermatofibroma



Angioma



# The importance of domain-specific knowledge:

## Class imbalance

### Data level methods

- Oversampling
- Undersampling

### Classifier level methods

- Thresholding
- Cost sensitive learning
- One-class classification
- Hybrid of methods



**Thresholds are problem-dependent**

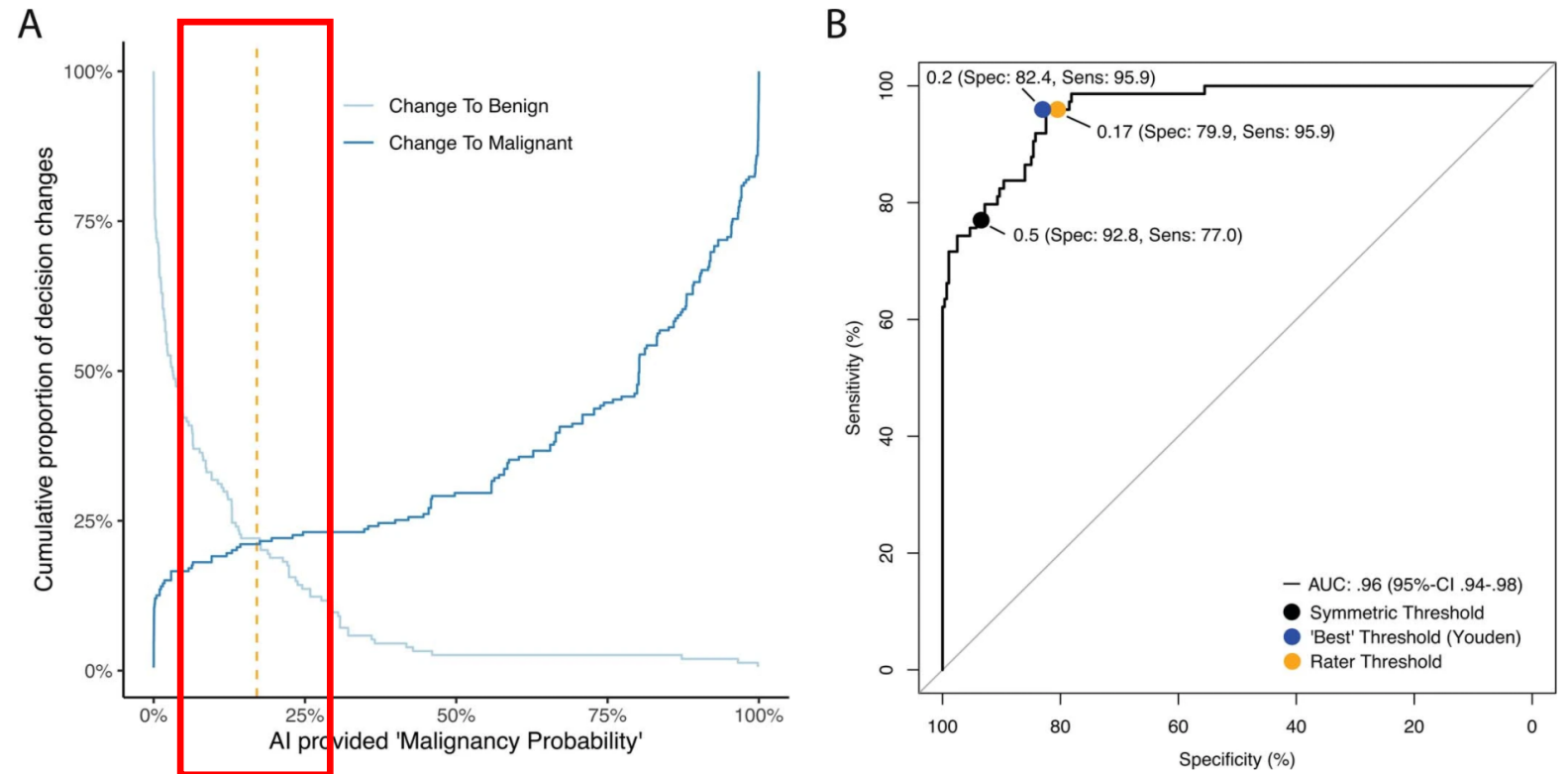
## Human-computer collaboration for skin cancer recognition

Philipp Tschandl<sup>1,7</sup>, Christoph Rinner<sup>2,17</sup>, Zoe Apalla<sup>3</sup>, Giuseppe Argenziano<sup>4</sup>, Noel Codella<sup>5</sup>, Allan Halpern<sup>6</sup>, Monika Janda<sup>7</sup>, Aimilios Lallas<sup>3</sup>, Caterina Longo<sup>8,9</sup>, Josep Malvehy<sup>10,11</sup>, John Paoli<sup>12,13</sup>, Susana Puig<sup>10,11</sup>, Cliff Rosendahl<sup>14</sup>, H. Peter Soyer<sup>15</sup>, Iris Zalaudek<sup>16</sup> and Harald Kittler<sup>1,23</sup>

To find optimal thresholds you need domain specific insight

### Extended Data Fig. 2: Raters choose an asymmetric decision cutoff for malignancy.

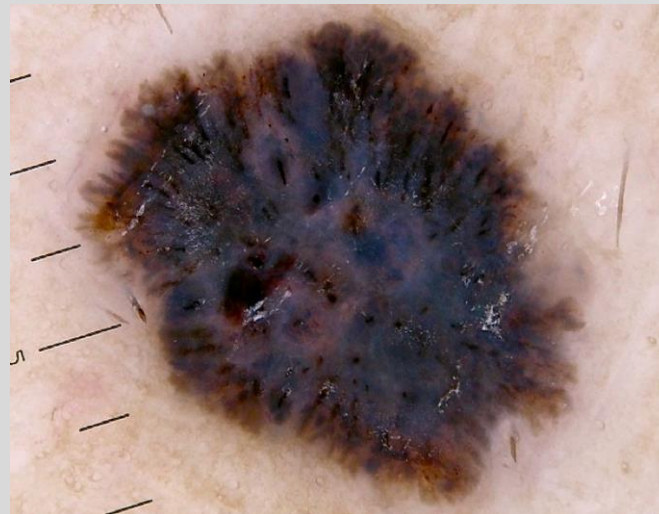
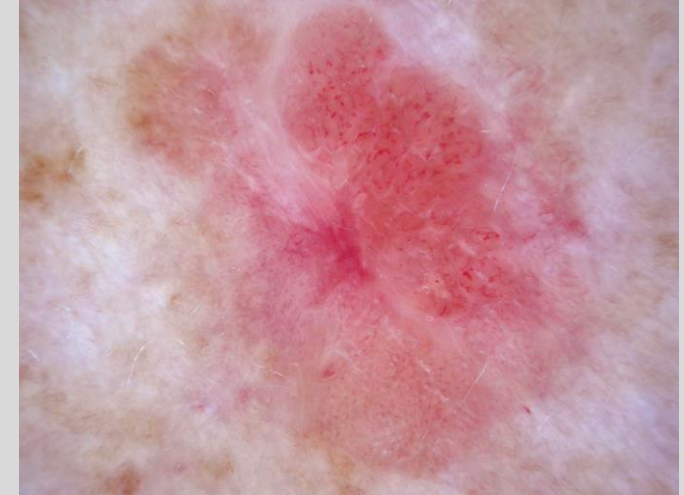
From: [Human-computer collaboration for skin cancer recognition](#)



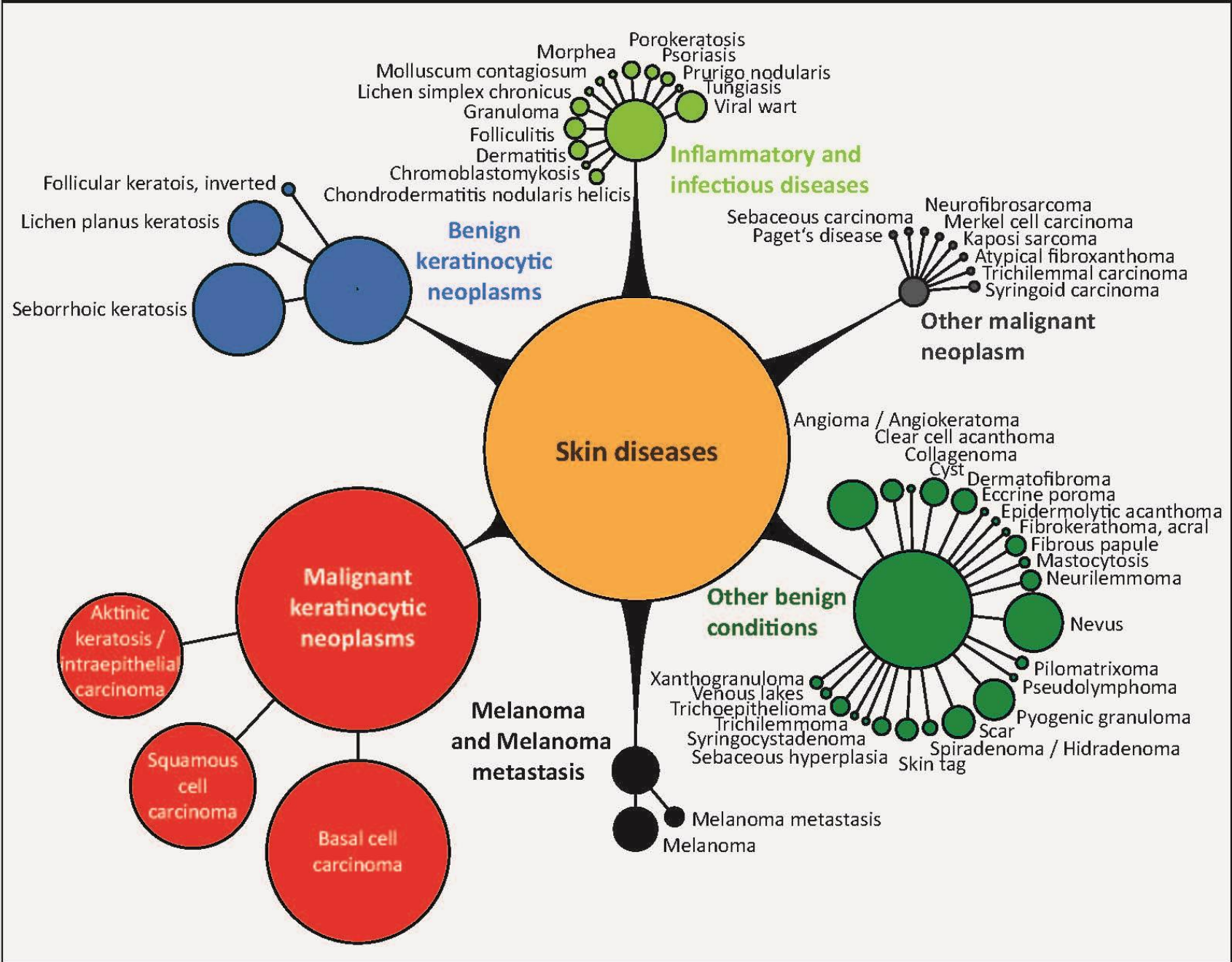
**a**, When changing answers from benign to malignant (dark blue) or malignant to benign (light blue) diagnoses, the average cutoff for the AI-provided malignancy-probability was not 50% but <25% (yellow dotted line). **b**, On the ROC-curve for detecting malignant cases of the underlying AI (black line), this cutoff chosen inherently by the users (yellow dot), that is without instructions or prior knowledge about the AI accuracy, had a higher sensitivity and was closer to the ideal cutoff (blue dot), as measured by Youden's index, than the 'symmetric' 50% cutoff (black dot).



# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Selection bias



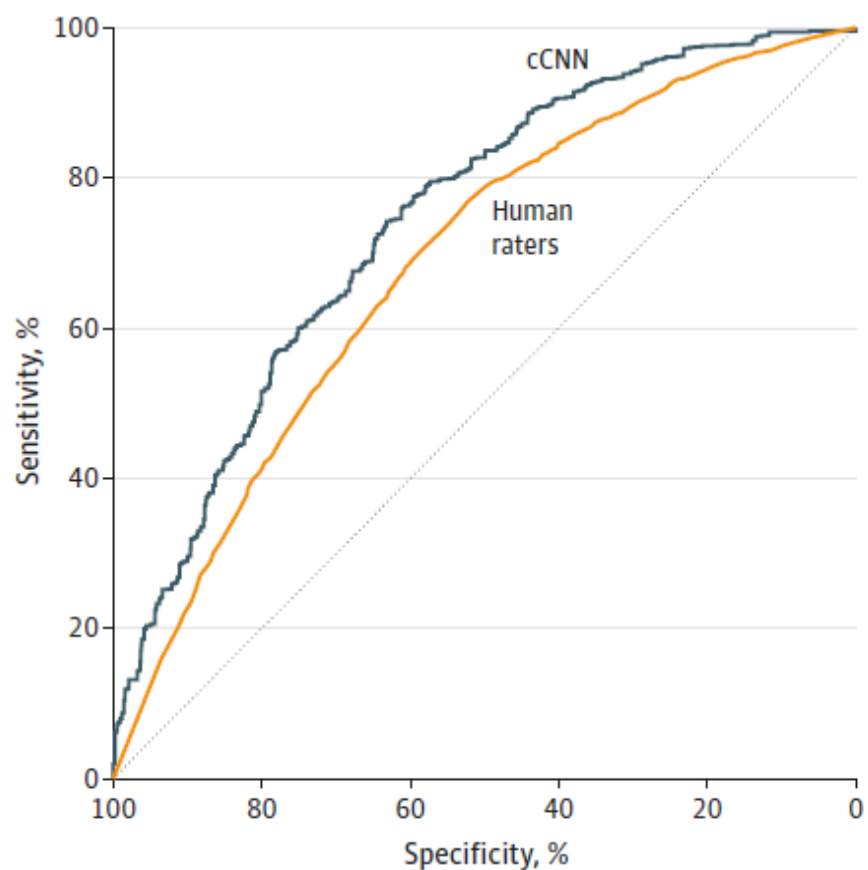




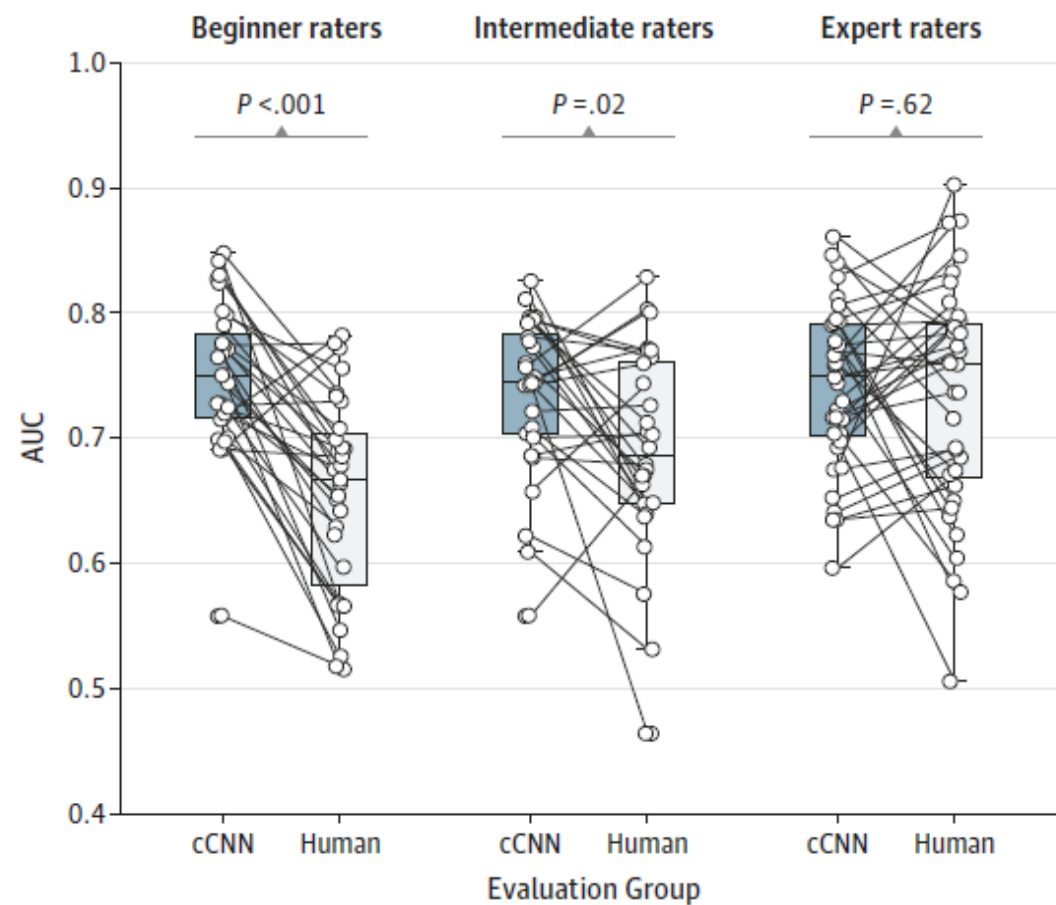
# Expert-Level Diagnosis of Nonpigmented Skin Cancer by Combined Convolutional Neural Networks

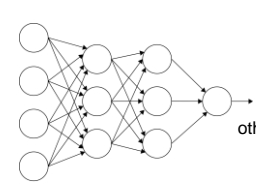
Figure 1. Comparison of Skin Cancer Detection on Digital Images Between Human Readers and a Neural Network-Based Classifier

**A** ROC curves of human ratings and cCNN ratings

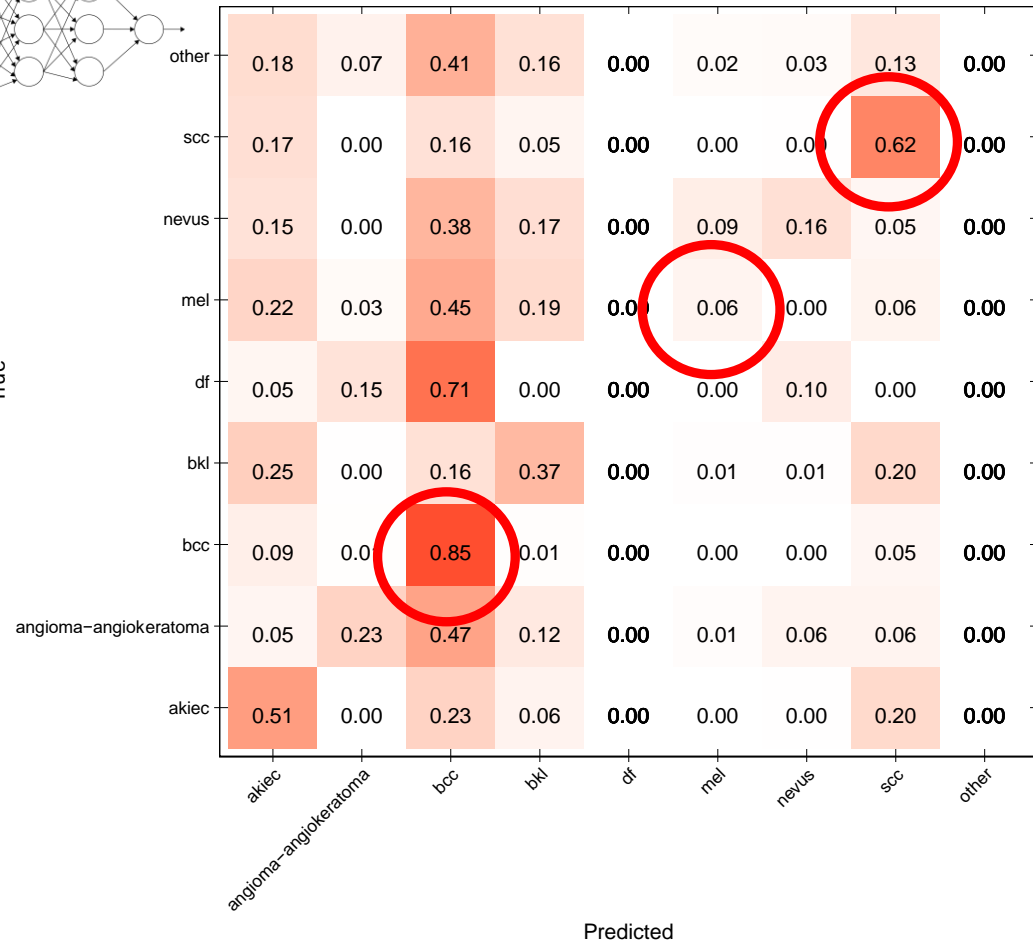


**B** AUC grouped by experience

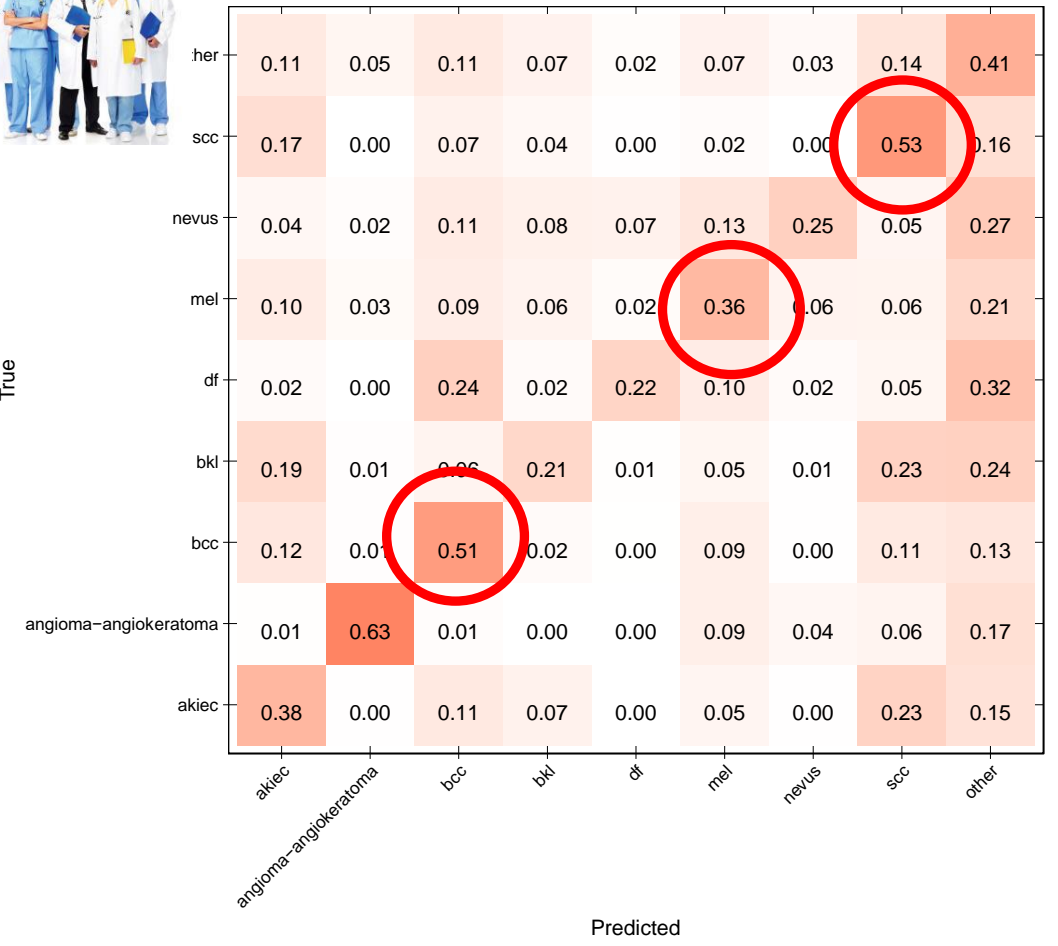




True



True





Model's Prediction :

R/O Dermatofibroma

Model's Output :

Actinic keratosis : 0.0000

Basal cell carcinoma : 0.0005

Intraepithelial carcinoma : 0.0001

Dermatofibroma : 0.0884

Hemangioma : 0.0000

Lentigo : 0.0008

Malignant melanoma : 0.0000

Melanocytic nevus : 0.0024

Pyogenic granuloma : 0.0001

Seborrheic keratosis : 0.0005

Squamous cell carcinoma : 0.0006

Wart : 0.0015



# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Verification bias and ground truth



Any algorithm will inherit and amplify the implicit values of the people who collected the lesions and who decided on the ground truth



# The importance of domain-specific knowledge:

Problem formulation

Data collection

Data preprocessing

Modeling

Interpretation of results

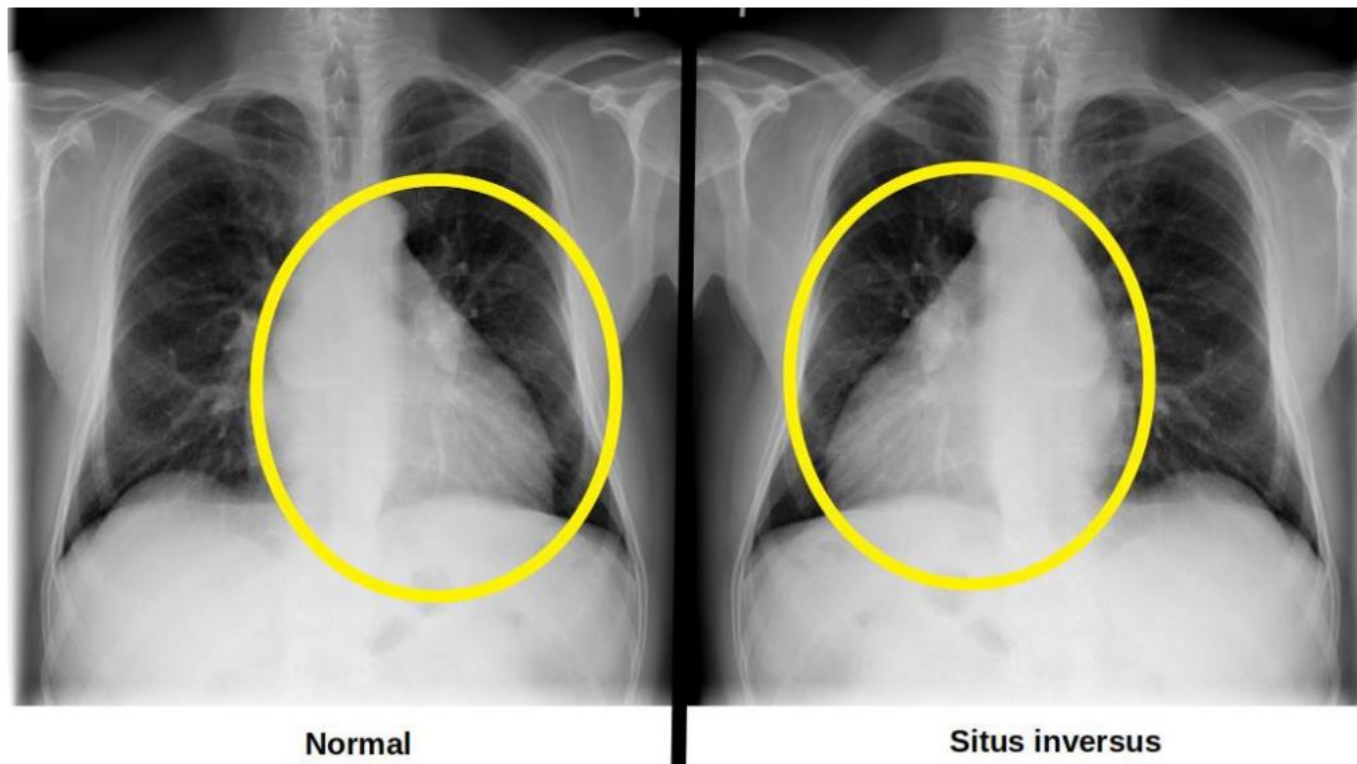
Understand and predict limitations and exceptions

Make the algorithm fit for intended use

**Applied computer science**

# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Image Augmentation

zooming in/out  
rotating along the axis  
vertical/horizontal flips  
adjusting the brightness and sheer intensity etc.



Data augmentation may create issues with class labels if position is important. The yellow circle highlights the heart. This is the same image horizontally flipped. Image by author.

Source: Cody Glickman, PhD, <https://towardsdatascience.com/>

# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Interpretation of results







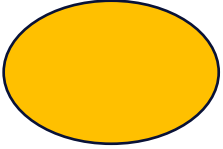
129 algorithms of  
77 computer labs



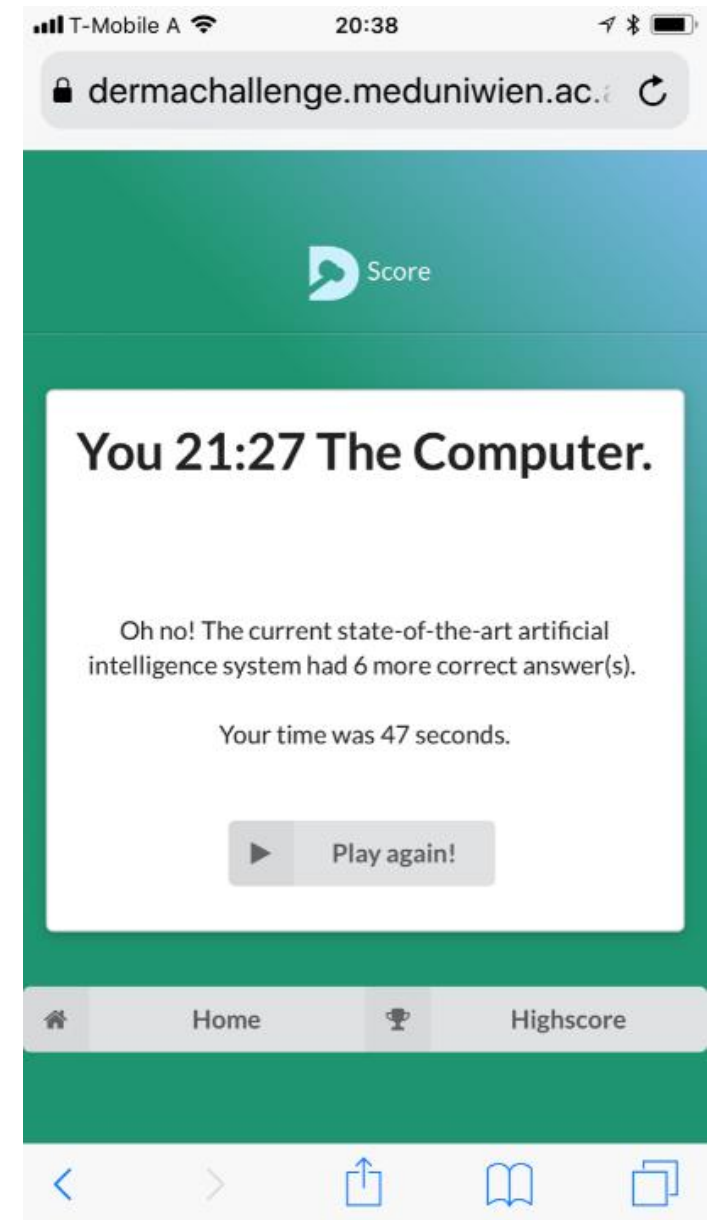
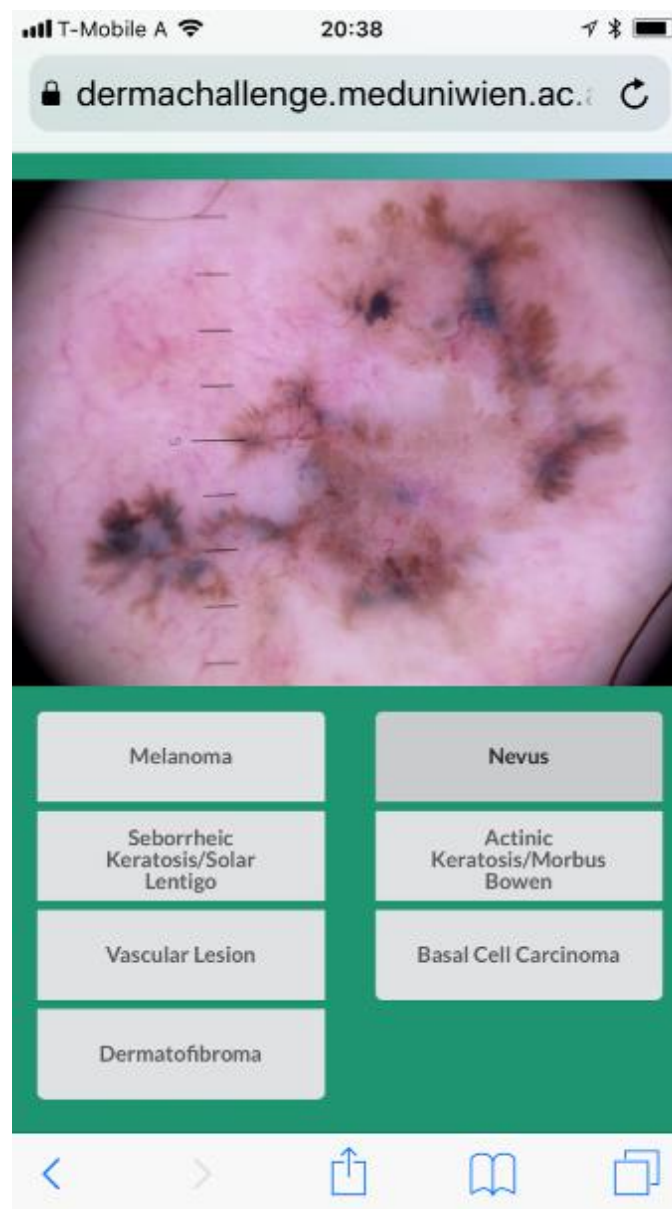
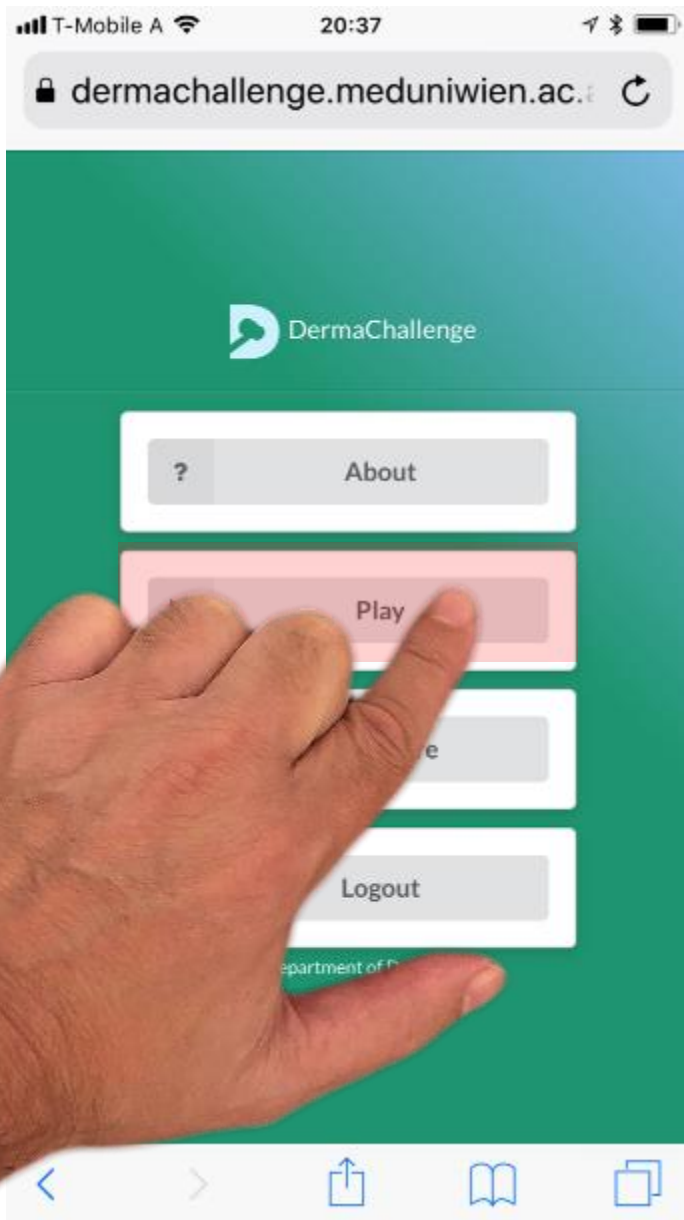
511 humans (with different  
level of experience)

Training set: 10015 images

Test set: 1512 images



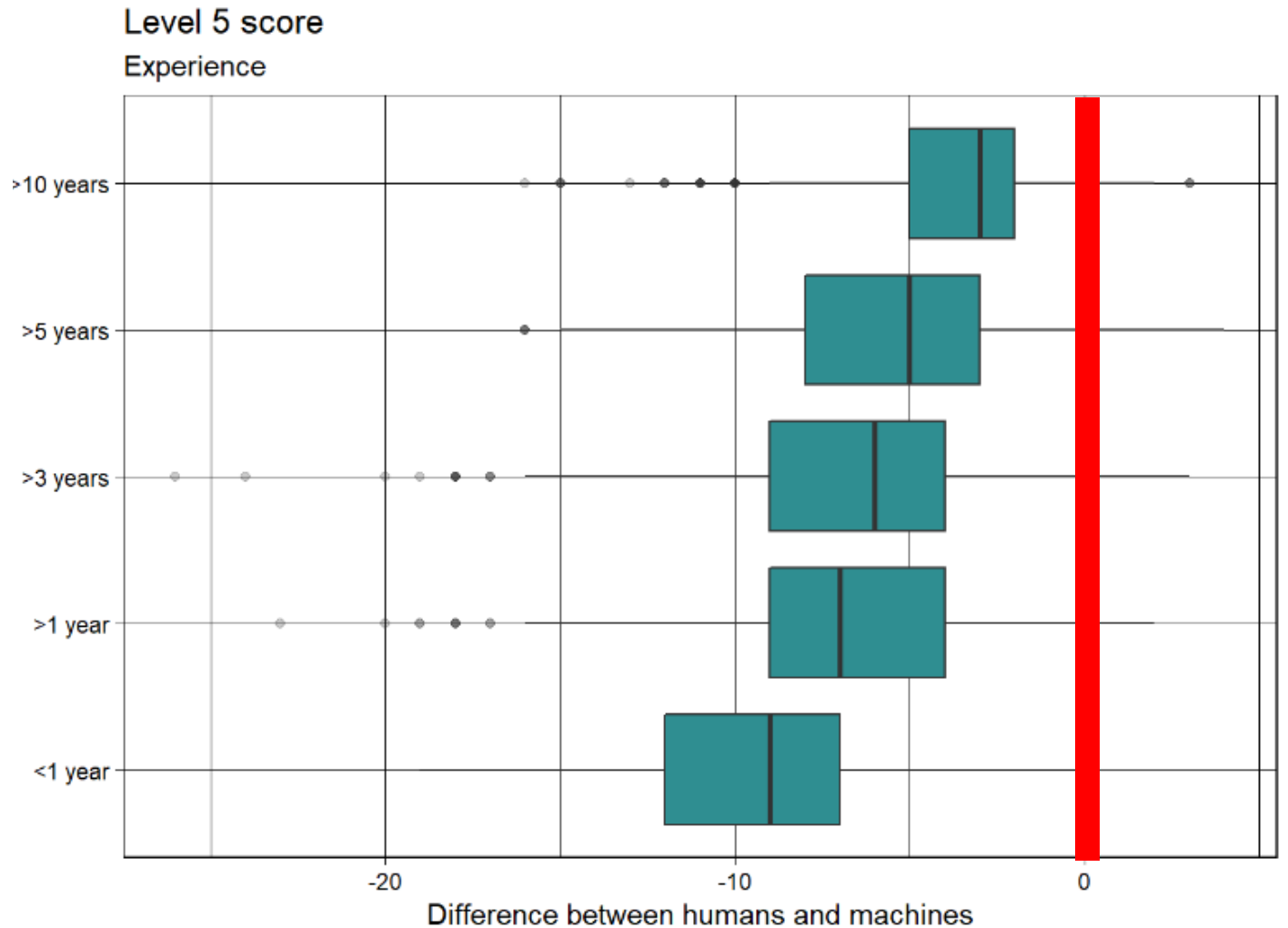
Batches of 30 lesions



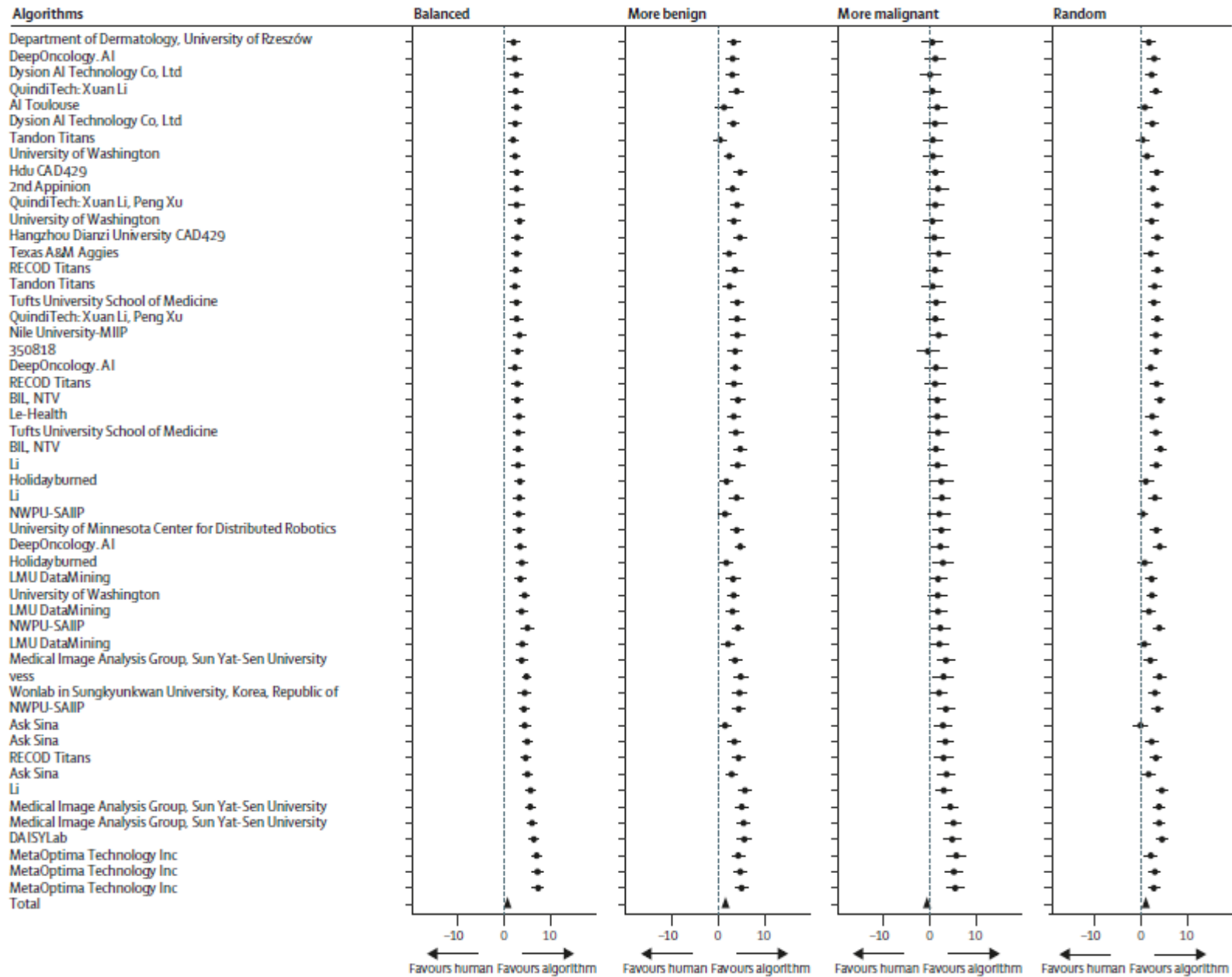
# THE LANCET Oncology

## Comparison of the accuracy of human readers versus machine-learning algorithms for pigmented skin lesion classification: an open, web-based, international, diagnostic study

*Philipp Tschandl, Noel Codella, Bengü Nisa Akay, Giuseppe Argenziano, Ralph P Braun, Horacio Cabo, David Gutman, Allan Halpern, Brian Helba, Rainer Hofmann-Wellenhopf, Aimilios Lallas, Jan Lapins, Caterina Longo, Josep Malvehy, Michael A Marchetti, Ashfaq Marghoob, Scott Menzies, Amanda Oakley, John Paoli, Susana Puig, Christoph Rinner, Cliff Rosendahl, Alon Scope, Christoph Sinz, H Peter Soyer, Luc Thomas, Iris Zalaudek, Harald Kittler*

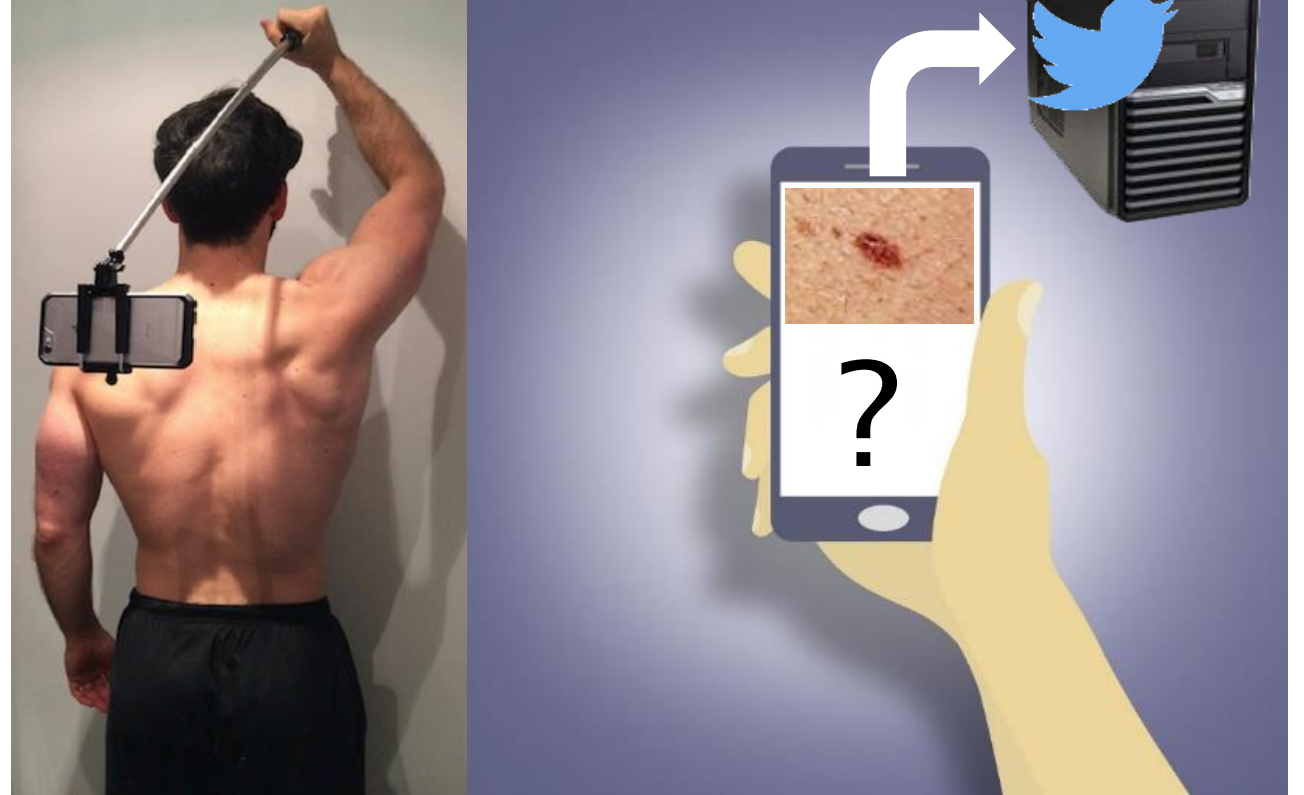


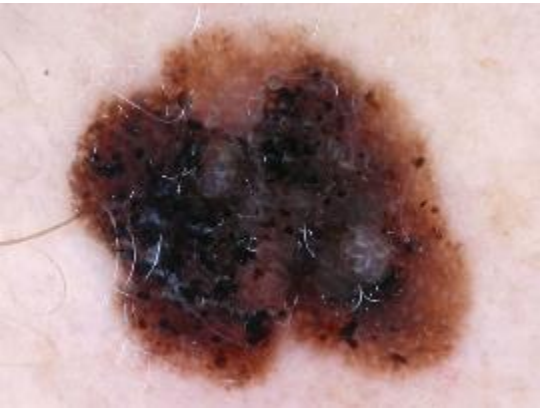




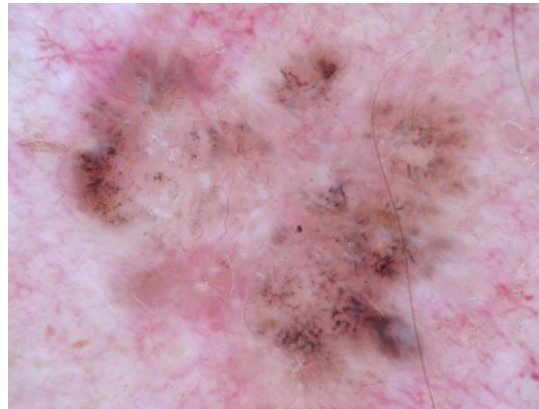
# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Human-assisted AI and AI-assisted humans

Personalized treatment decisions?  
This is an AI-hard problem





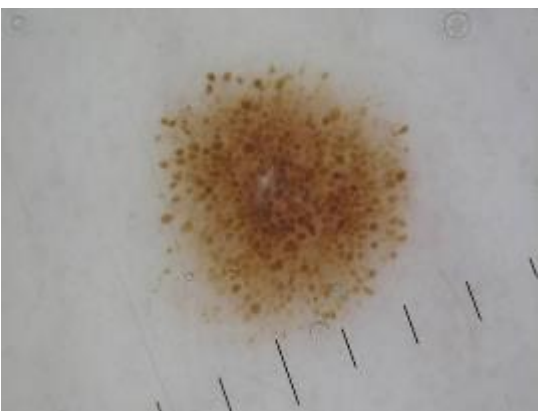
Melanoma



Basal cell carcinoma



Squamous cell carcinoma



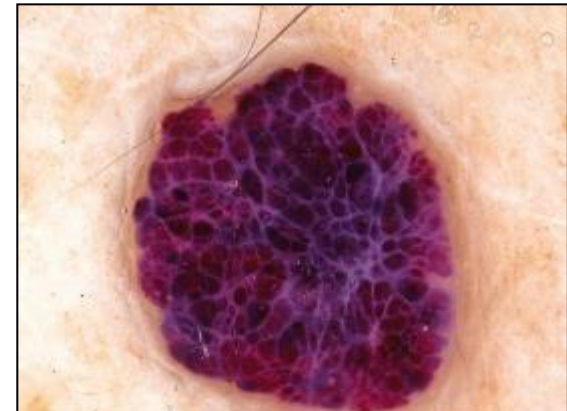
Nevus



Benign keratosis

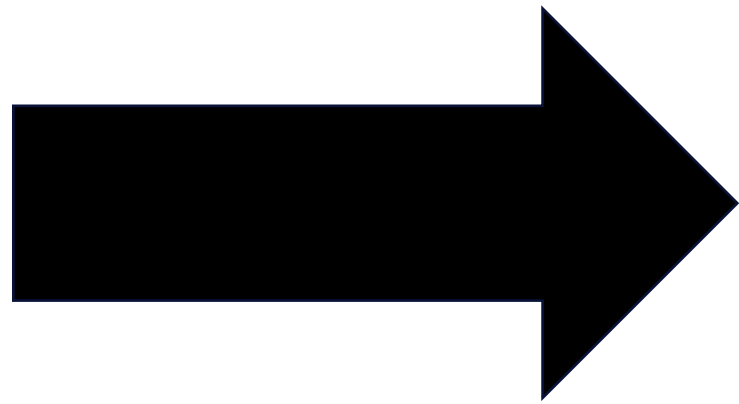
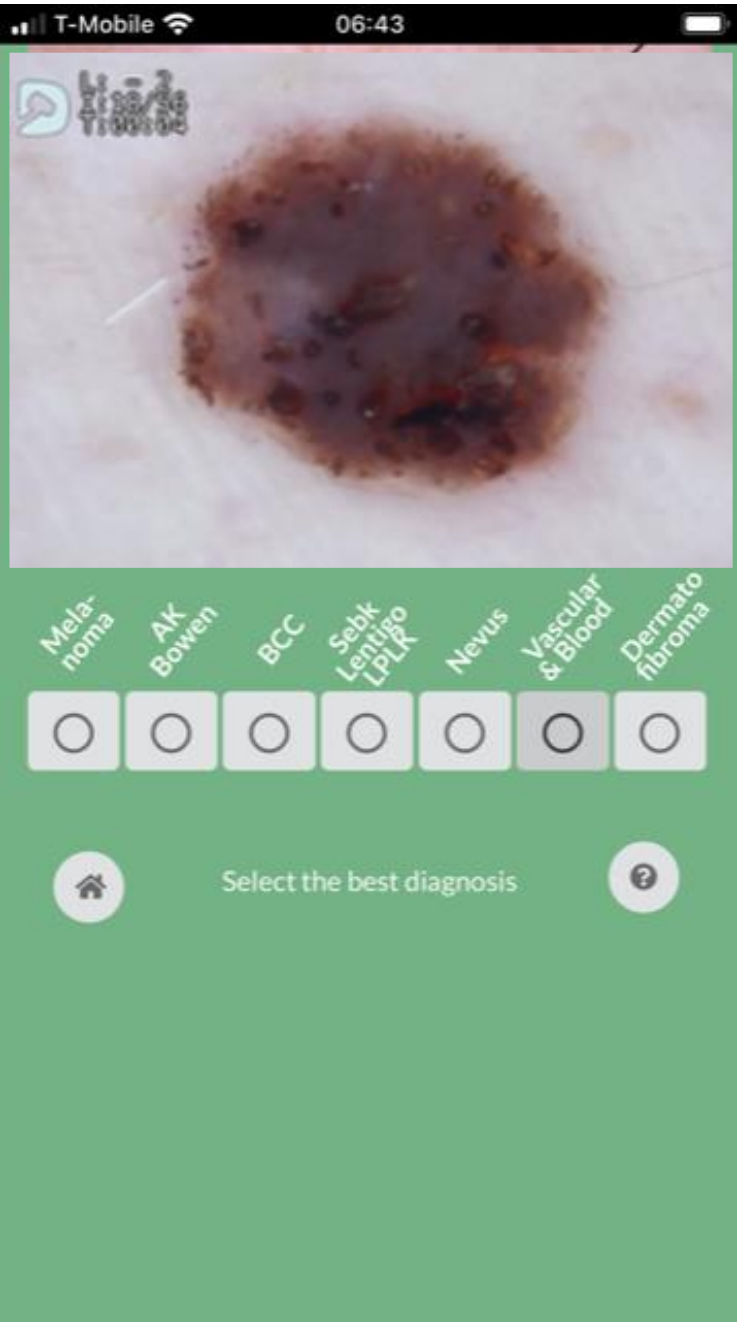


Dermatofibroma

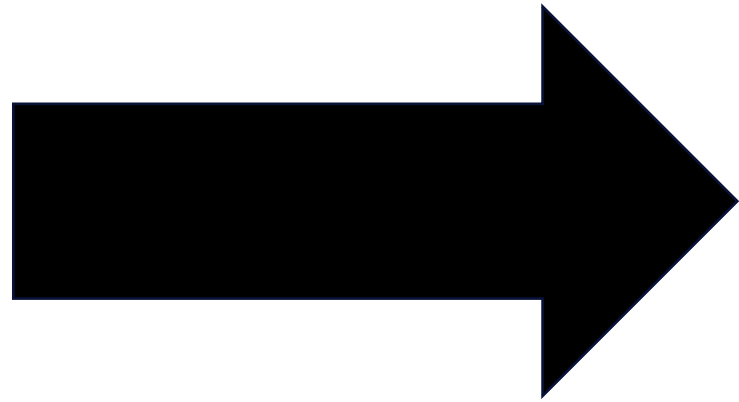
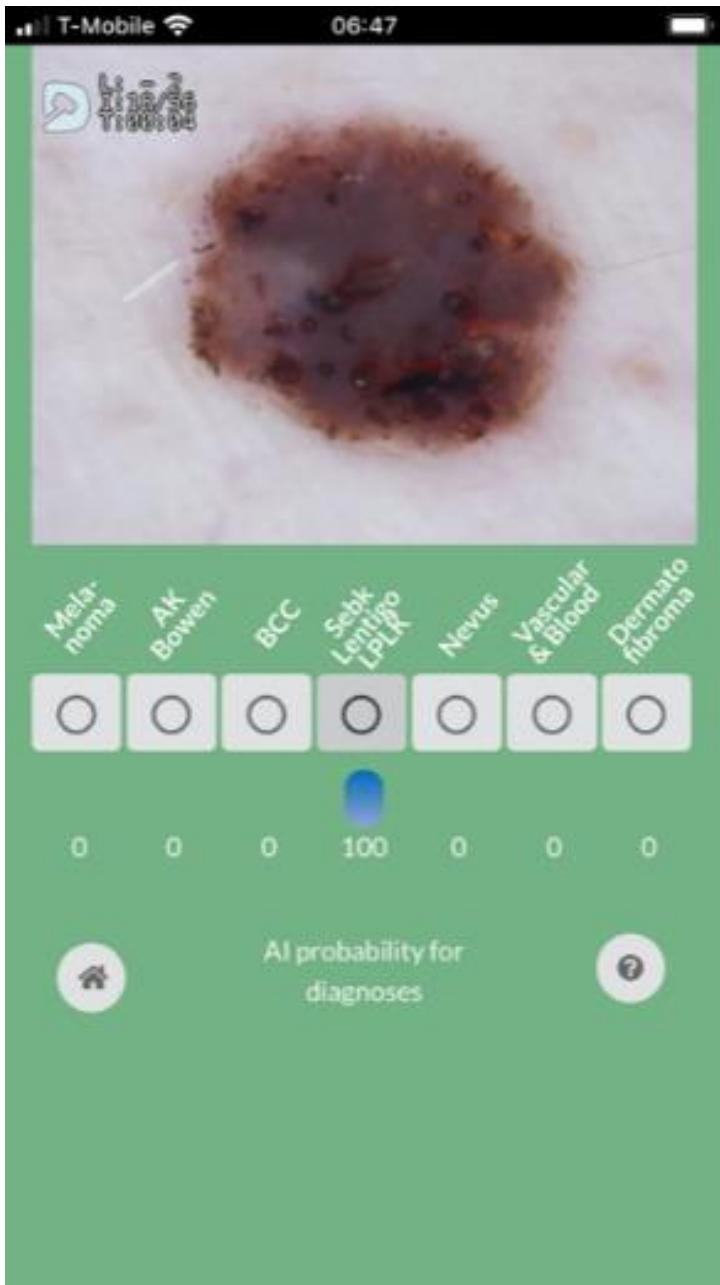


Angioma



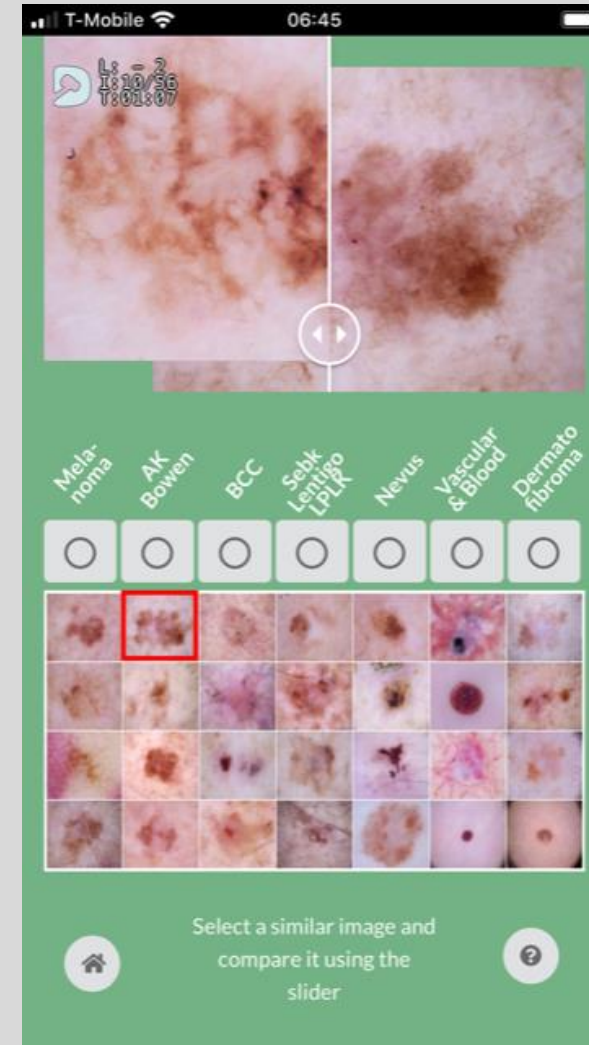
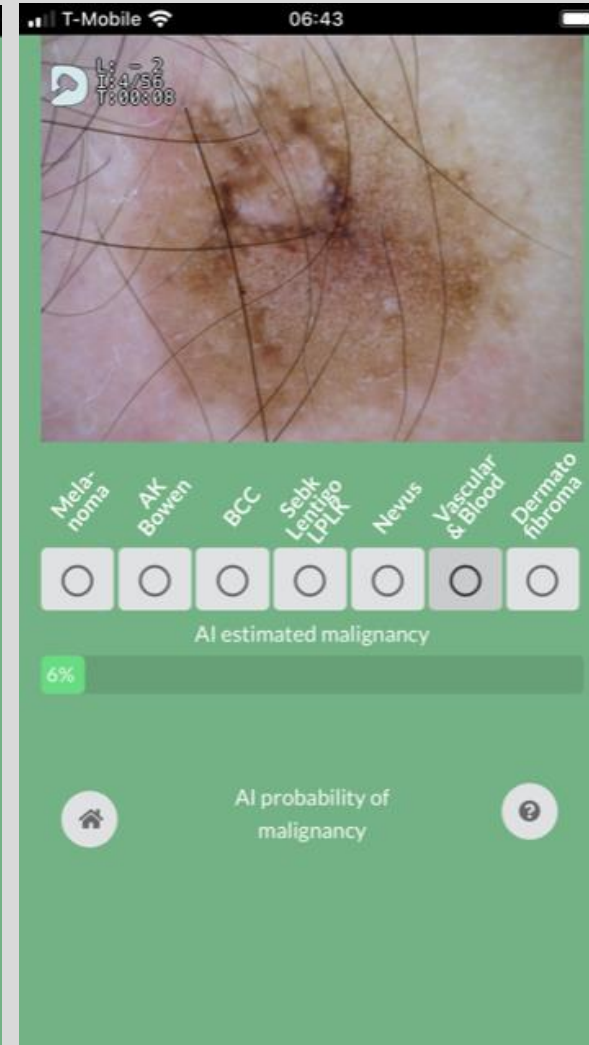
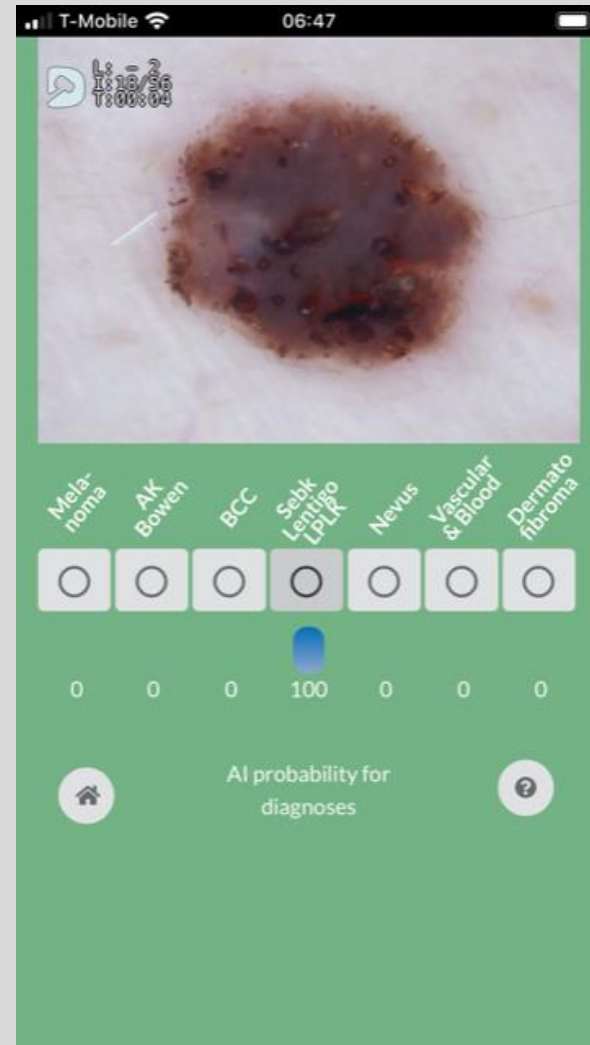


Without AI-support



With AI-support

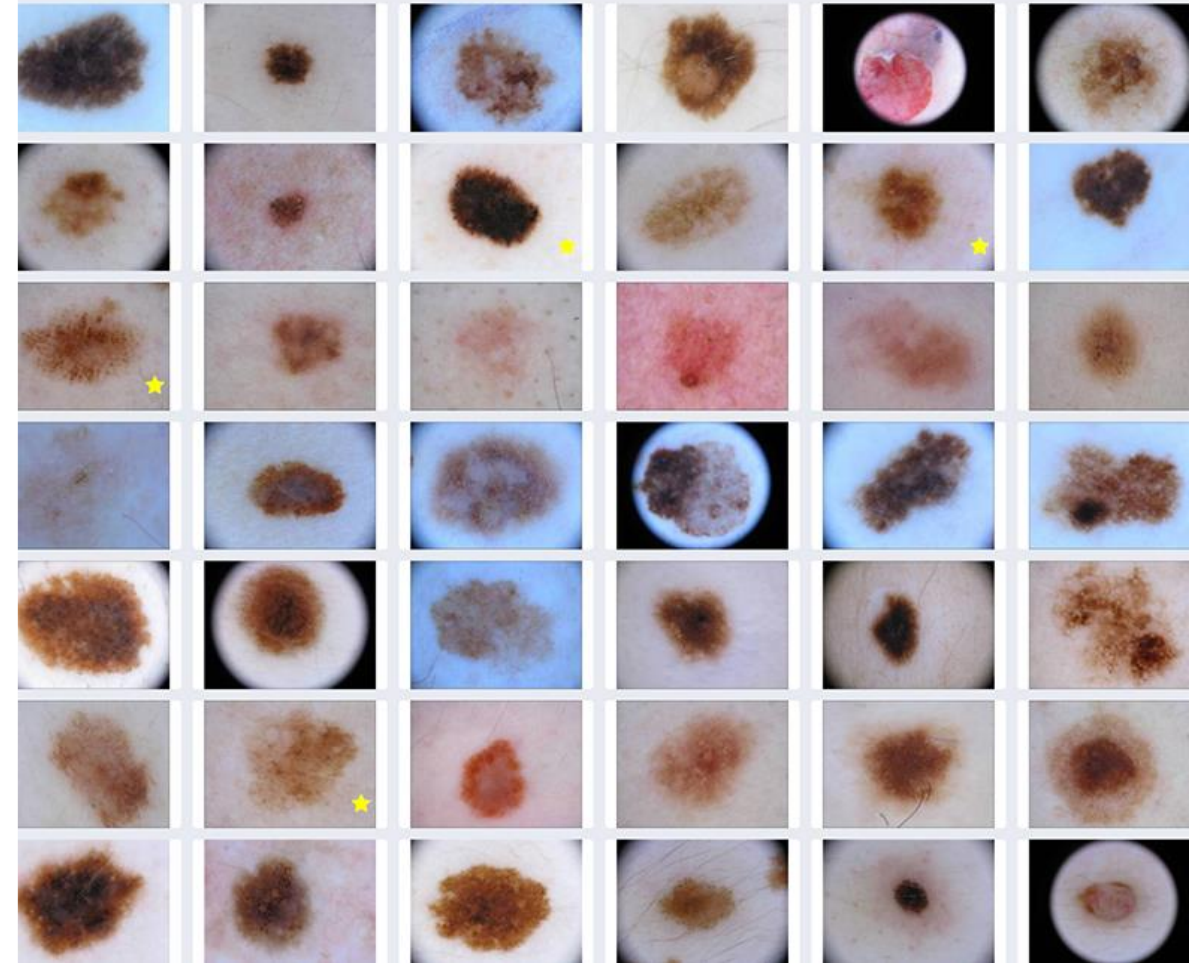
# The importance of domain-specific knowledge: Human-AI collaboration





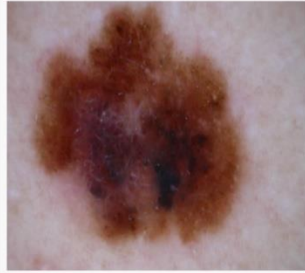
# Content based image retrieval:

*Tschandl et al, Br J Dermatol 2018, epub 2018 Sep 12*



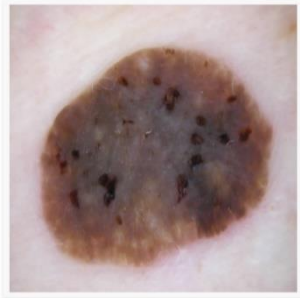
Upload a dermatoscopic image, and use our neural network to **search for similar images** in the HAM10000 dataset!

Choose a dermatoscopic image...



Upload a dermatoscopic image, and use our neural network to **search for similar images** in the HAM10000 dataset!

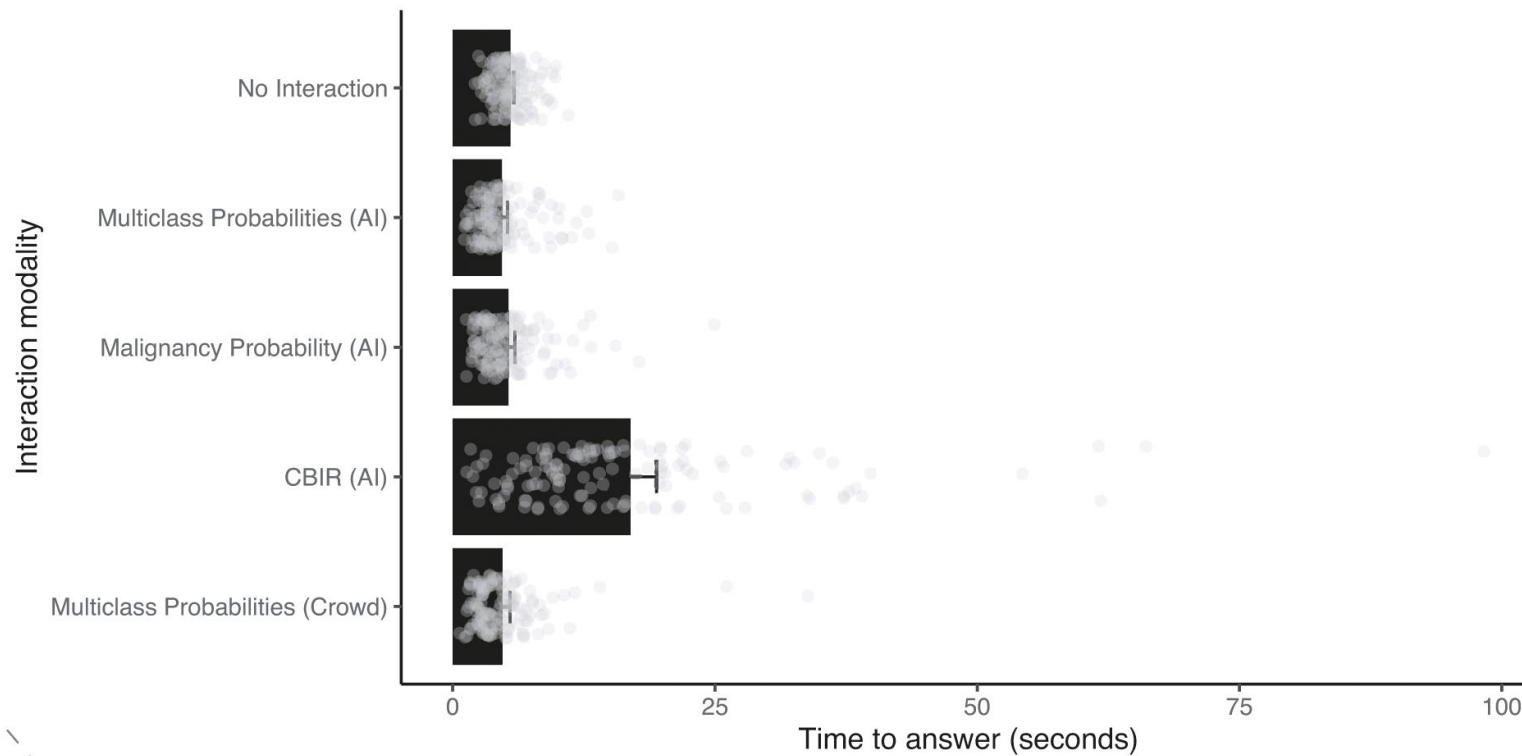
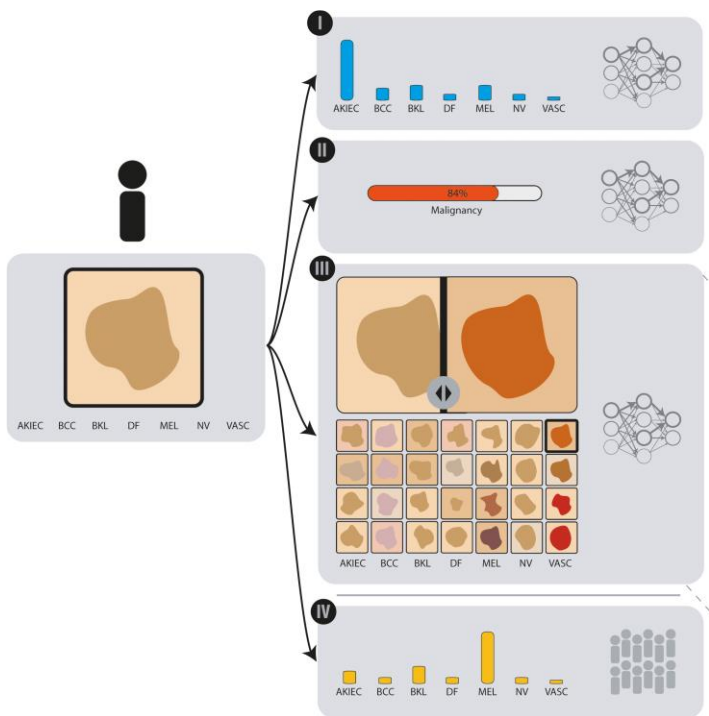
Choose a dermatoscopic image...





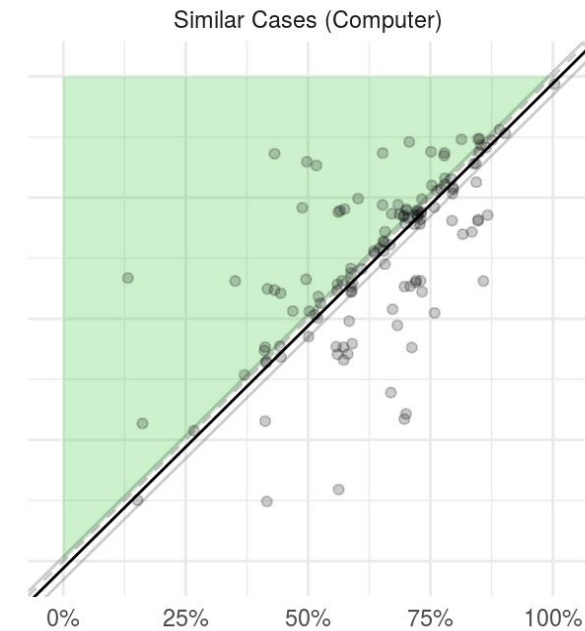
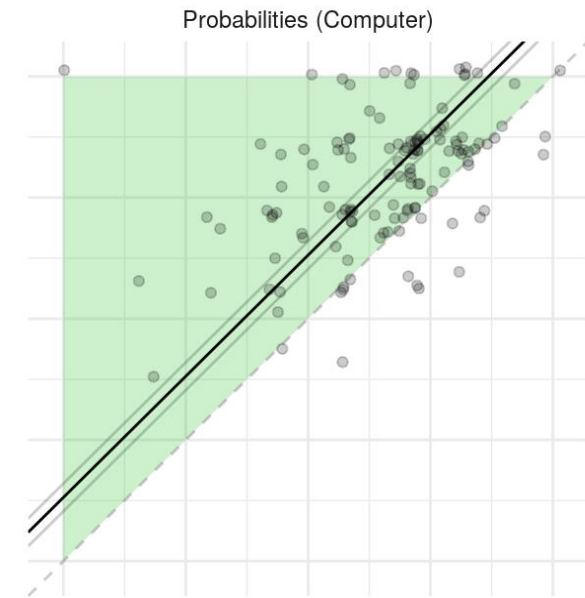
# Human-computer collaboration for skin cancer recognition

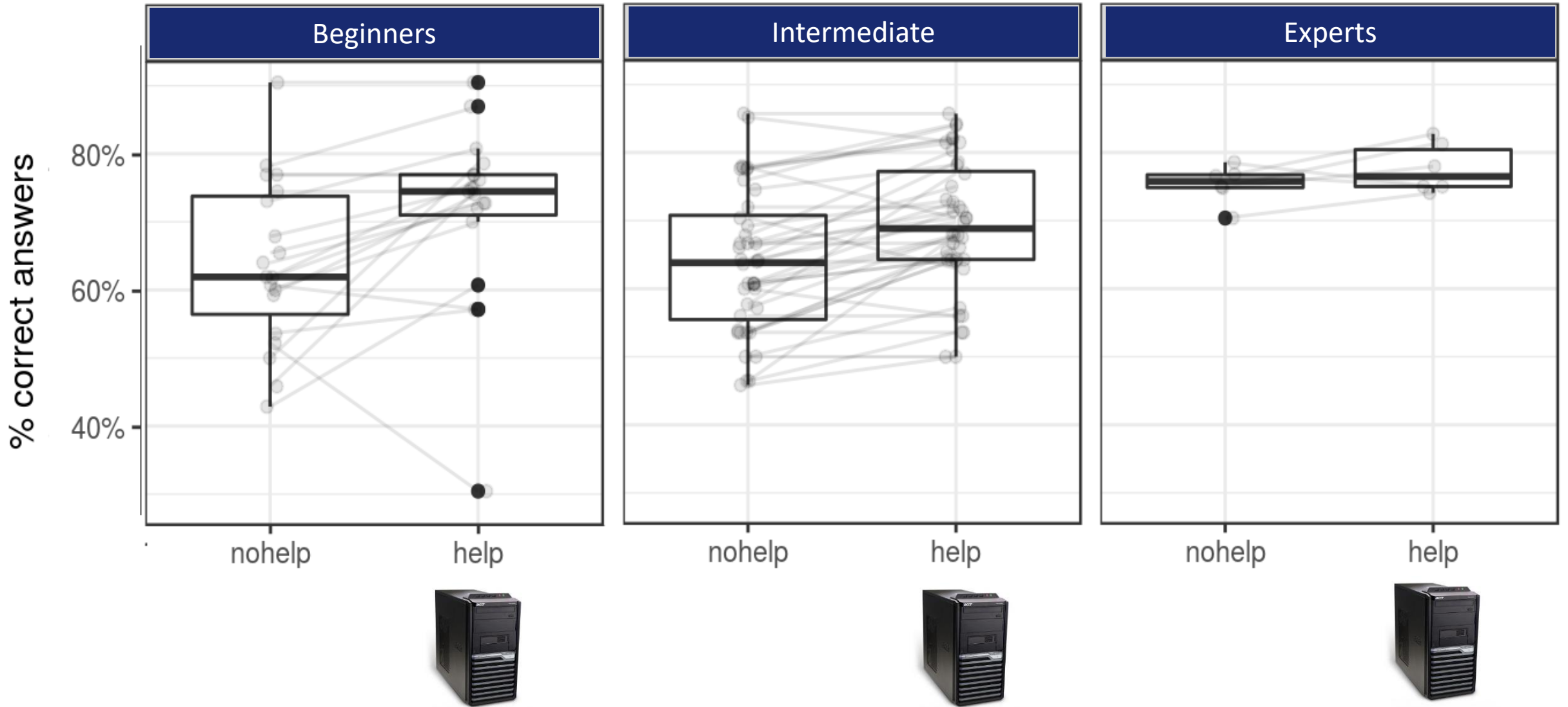
Philipp Tschandl<sup>1,17</sup>, Christoph Rinner<sup>2,17</sup>, Zoe Apalla<sup>3</sup>, Giuseppe Argenziano<sup>4</sup>, Noel Codella<sup>5</sup>, Allan Halpern<sup>6</sup>, Monika Janda<sup>7</sup>, Aimilios Lallas<sup>3</sup>, Caterina Longo<sup>8,9</sup>, Josep Malvehy<sup>10,11</sup>, John Paoli<sup>12,13</sup>, Susana Puig<sup>10,11</sup>, Cliff Rosendahl<sup>14</sup>, H. Peter Soyer<sup>15</sup>, Iris Zalaudek<sup>16</sup> and Harald Kittler<sup>1</sup>✉



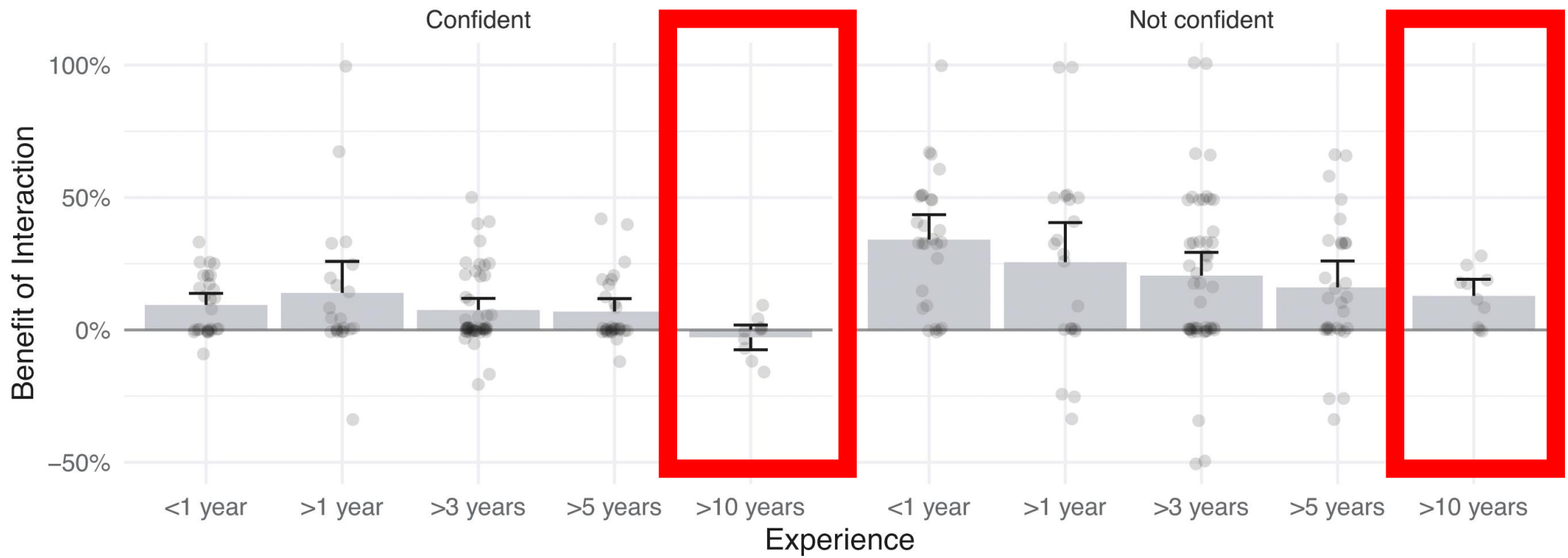
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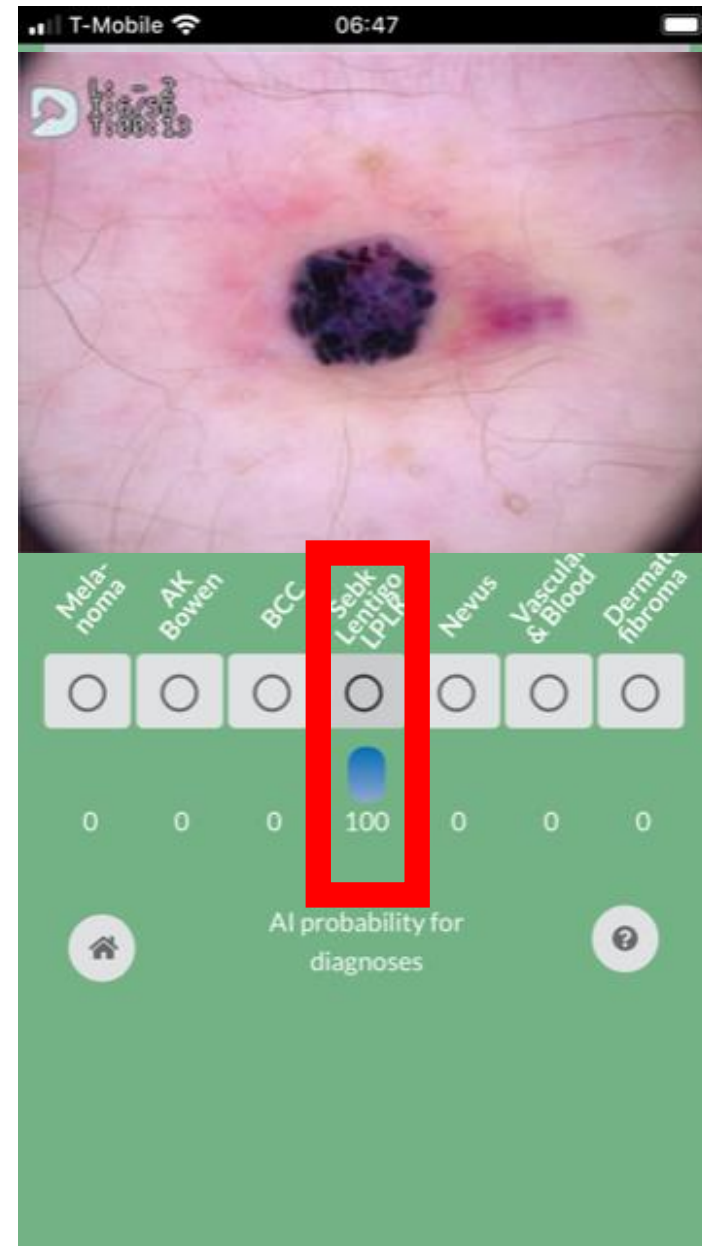






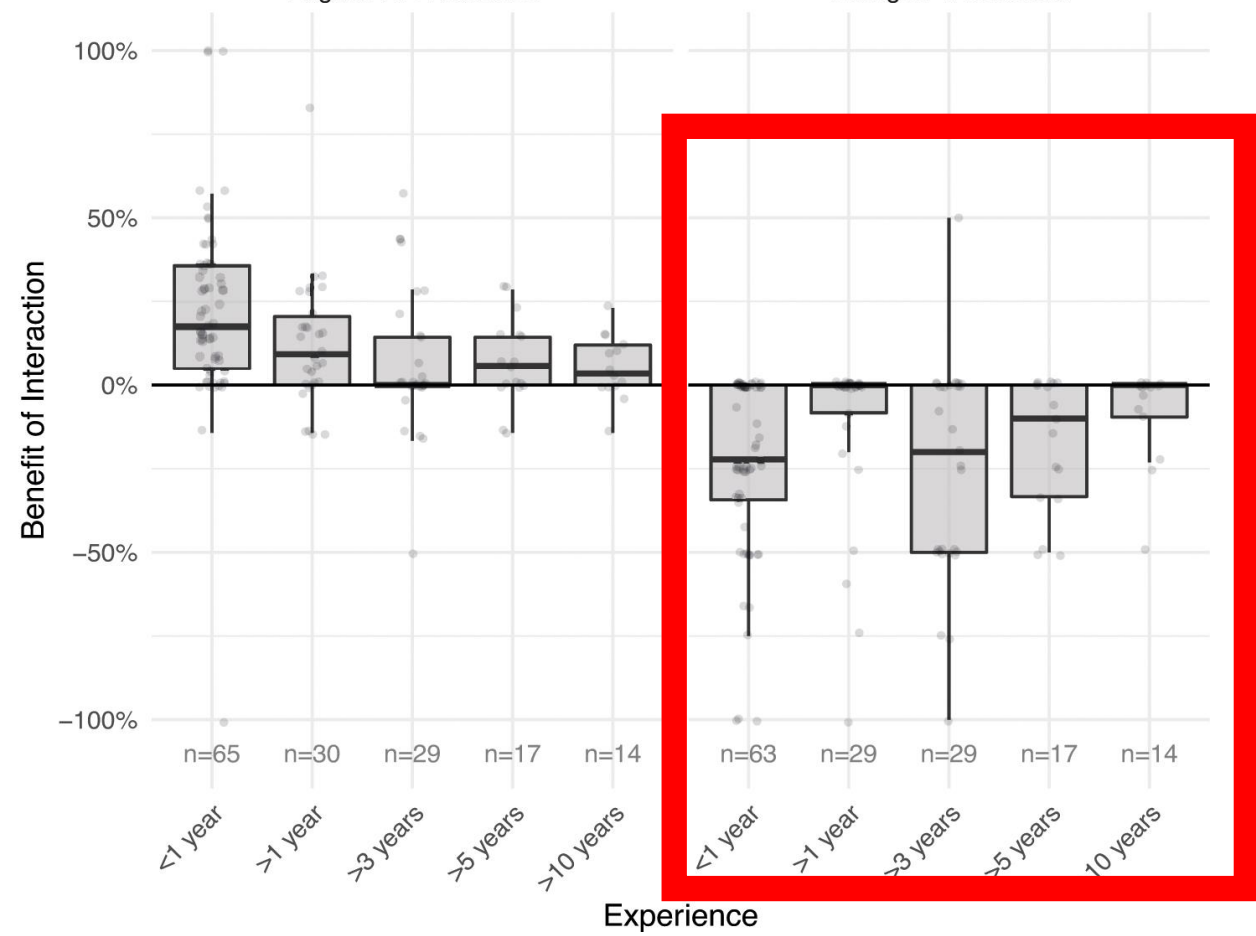
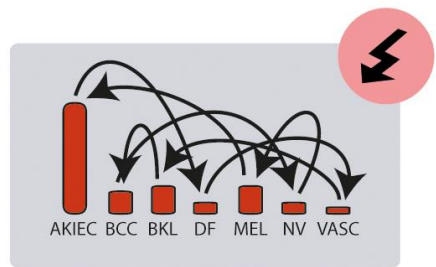
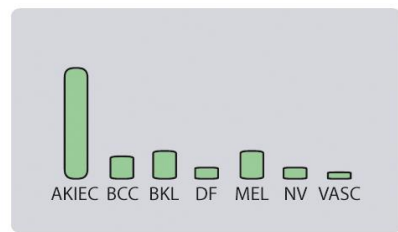
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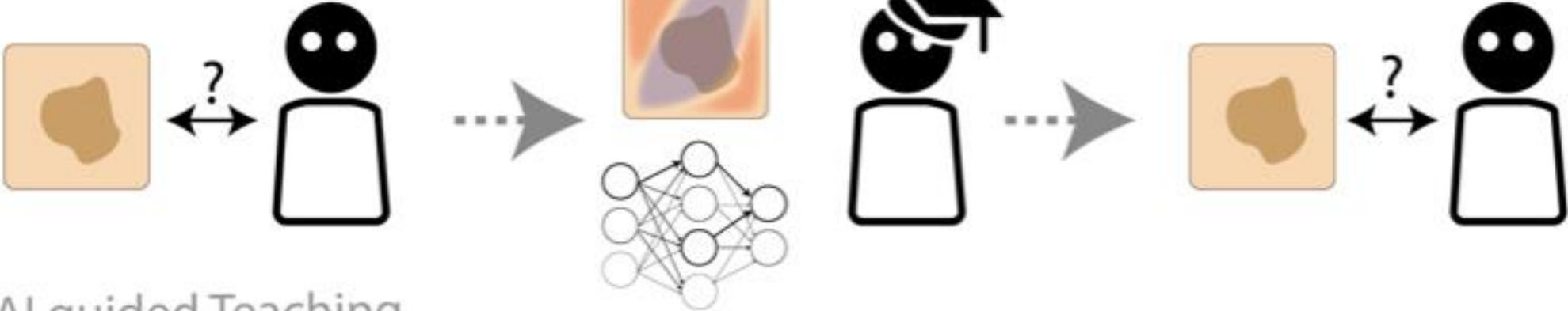
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# Knowledge Transfer

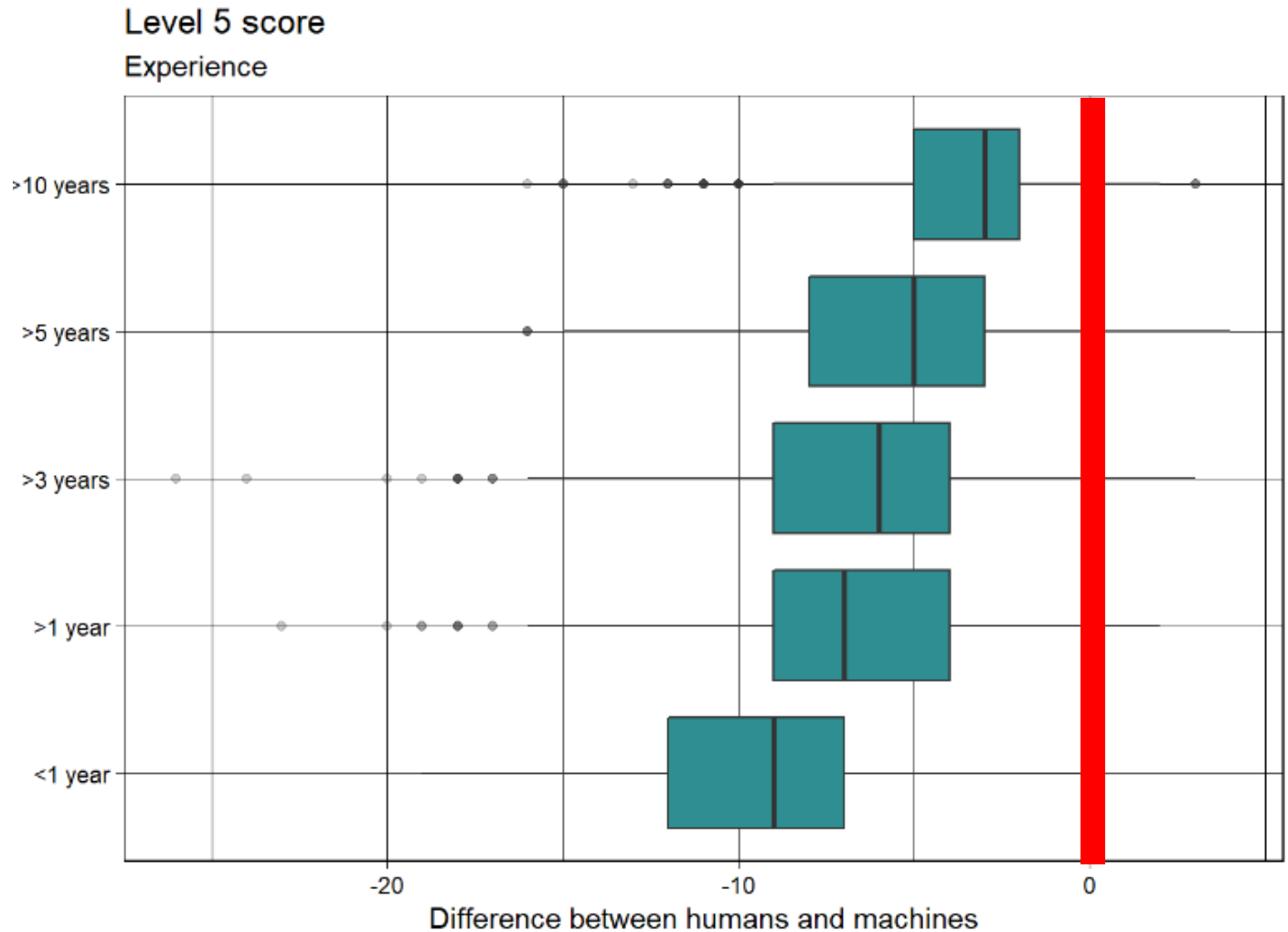


AI guided Teaching

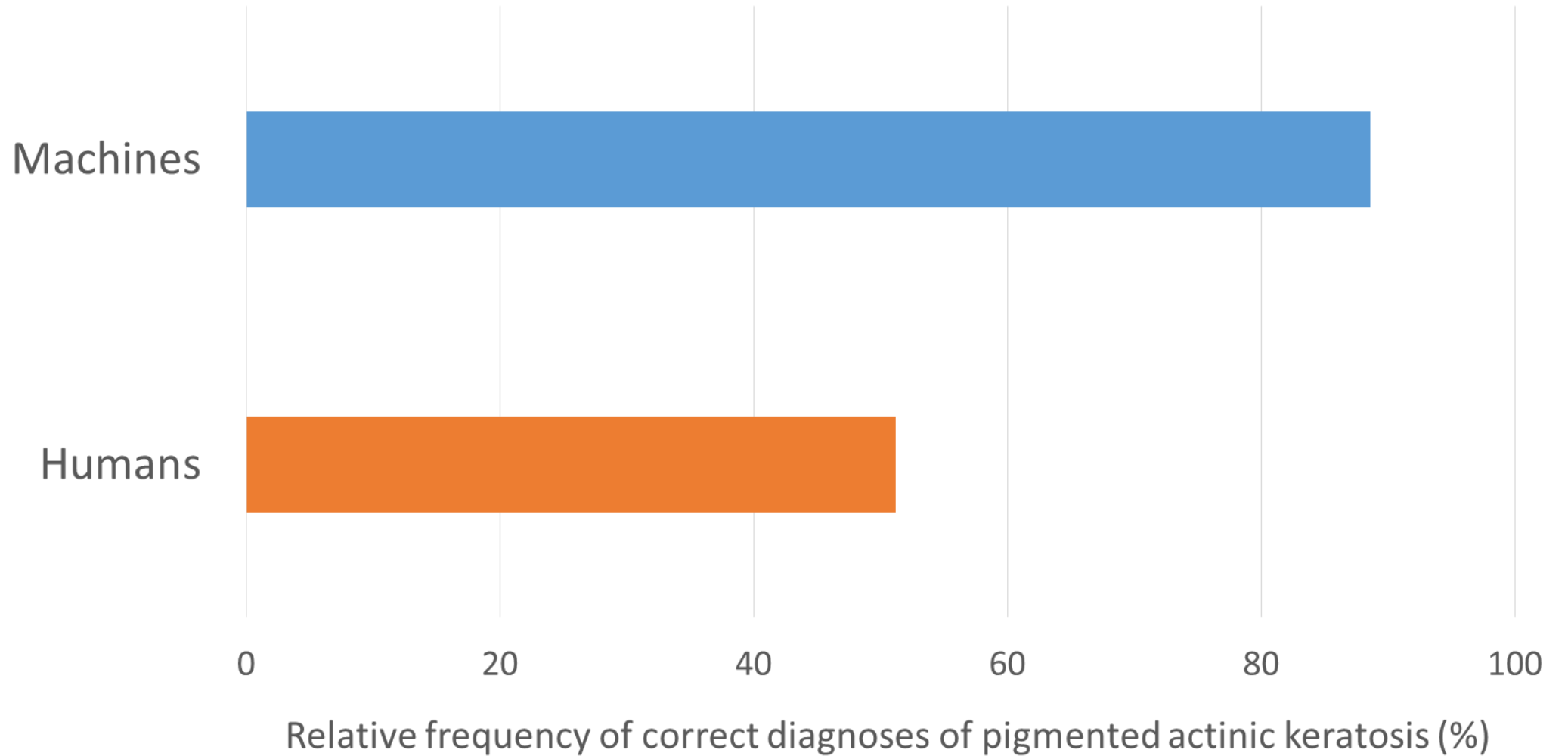
# THE LANCET Oncology

## Comparison of the accuracy of human readers versus machine-learning algorithms for pigmented skin lesion classification: an open, web-based, international, diagnostic study

*Philipp Tschandl, Noel Codella, Bengü Nisa Akay, Giuseppe Argenziano, Ralph P Braun, Horacio Cabo, David Gutman, Allan Halpern, Brian Helba, Rainer Hofmann-Wellenhopf, Aimilios Lallas, Jan Lapins, Caterina Longo, Josep Malvehy, Michael A Marchetti, Ashfaq Marghoob, Scott Menzies, Amanda Oakley, John Paoli, Susana Puig, Christoph Rinner, Cliff Rosendahl, Alon Scope, Christoph Sinz, H Peter Soyer, Luc Thomas, Iris Zalaudek, Harald Kittler*

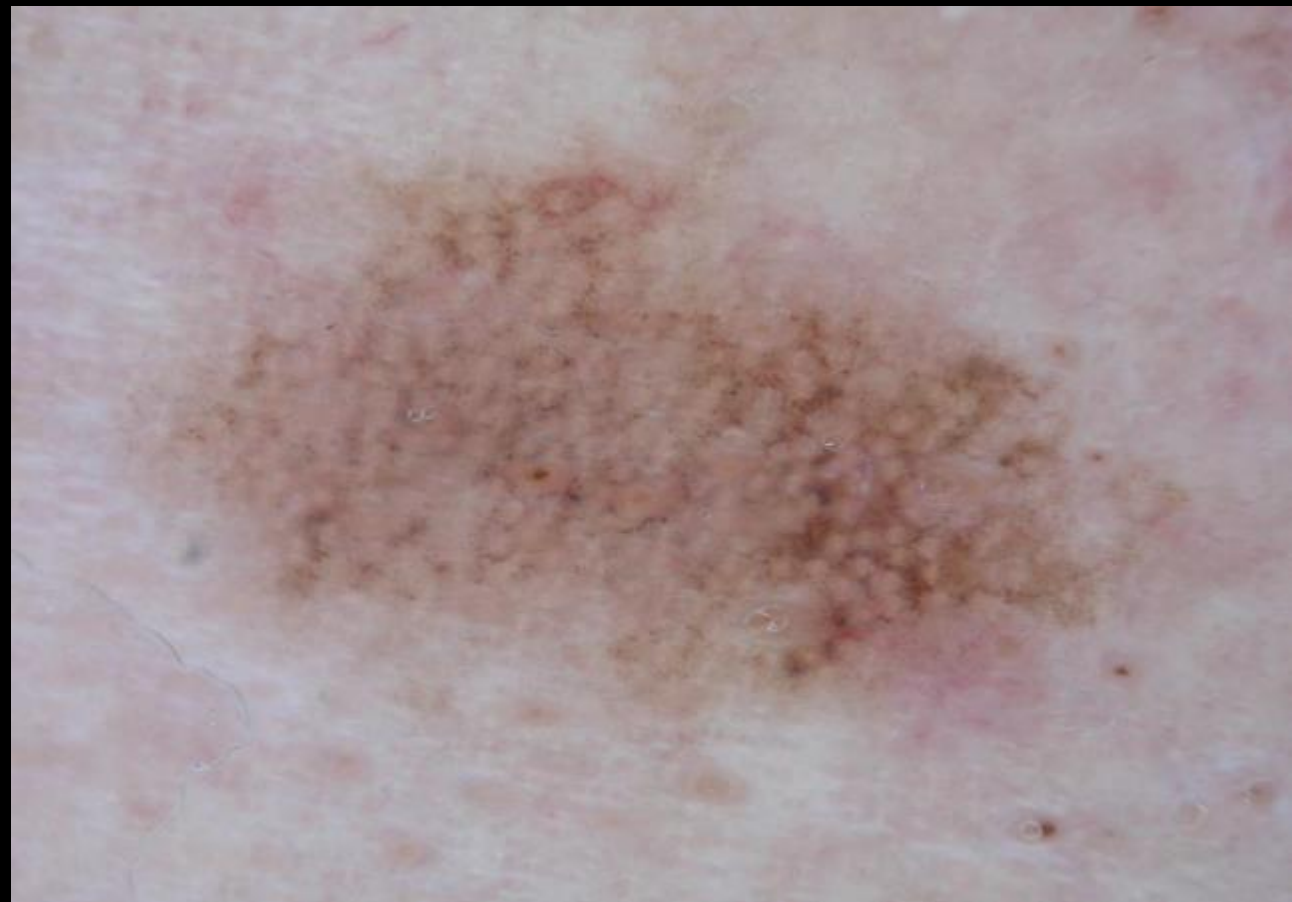


# Why did humans loose?



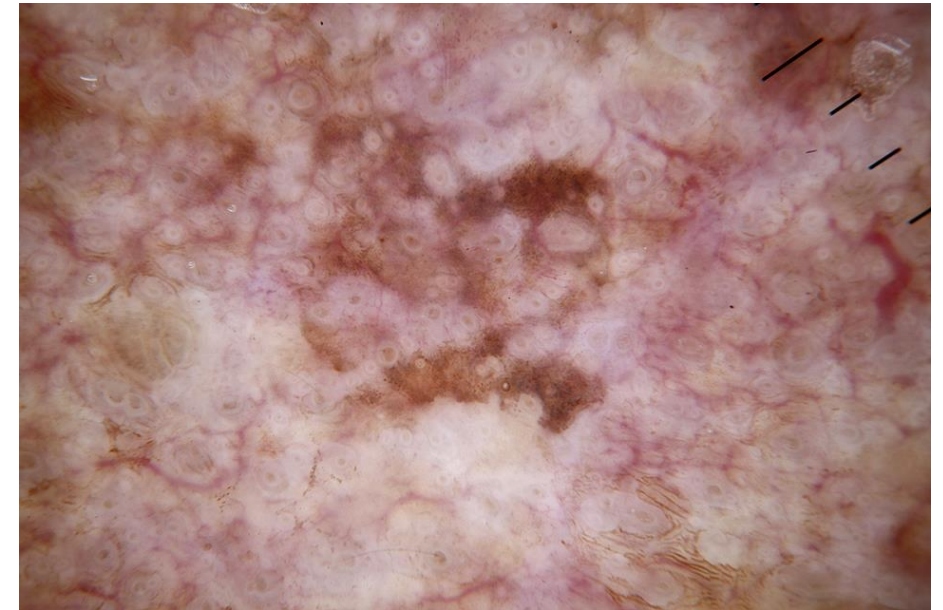
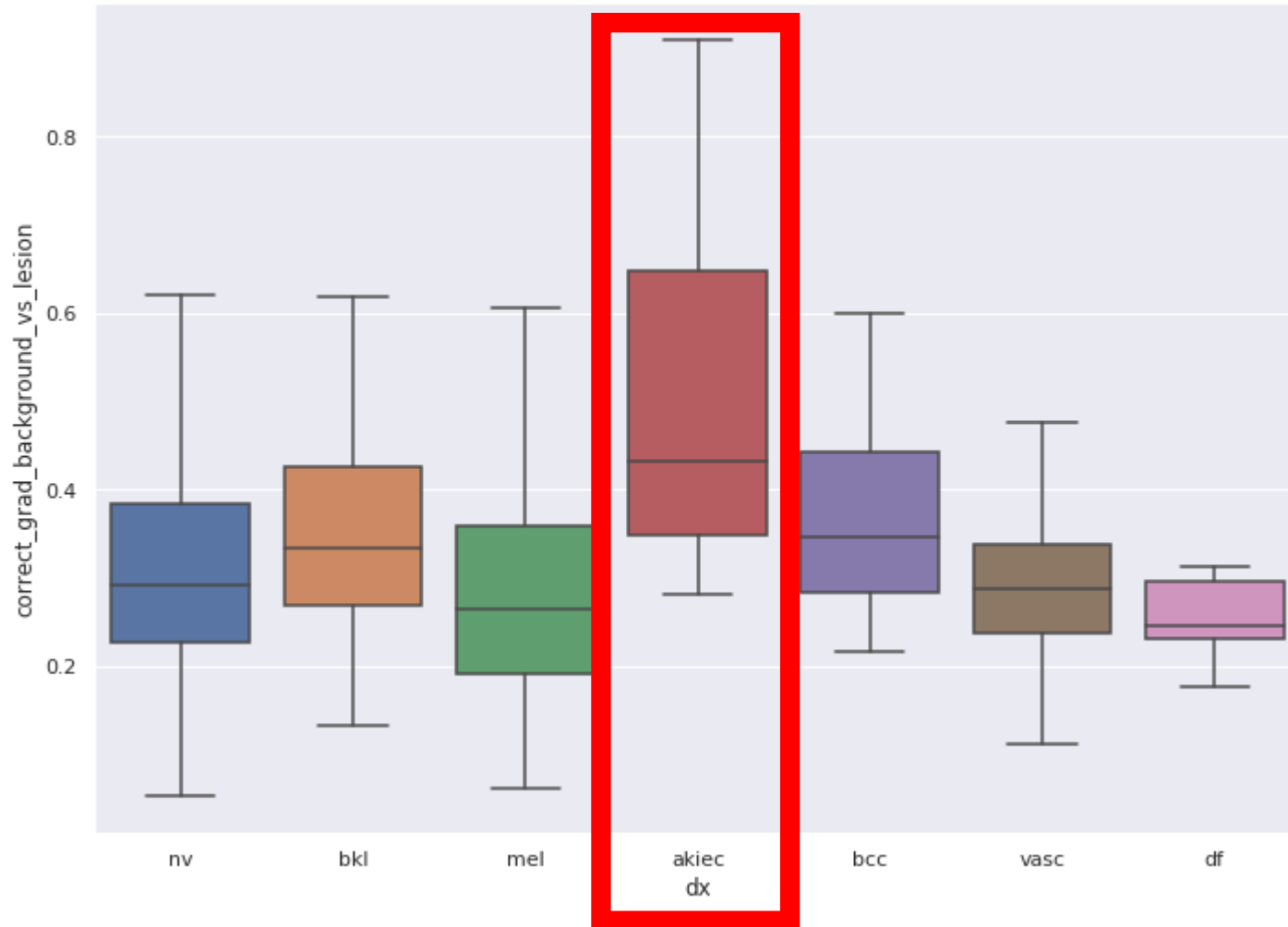




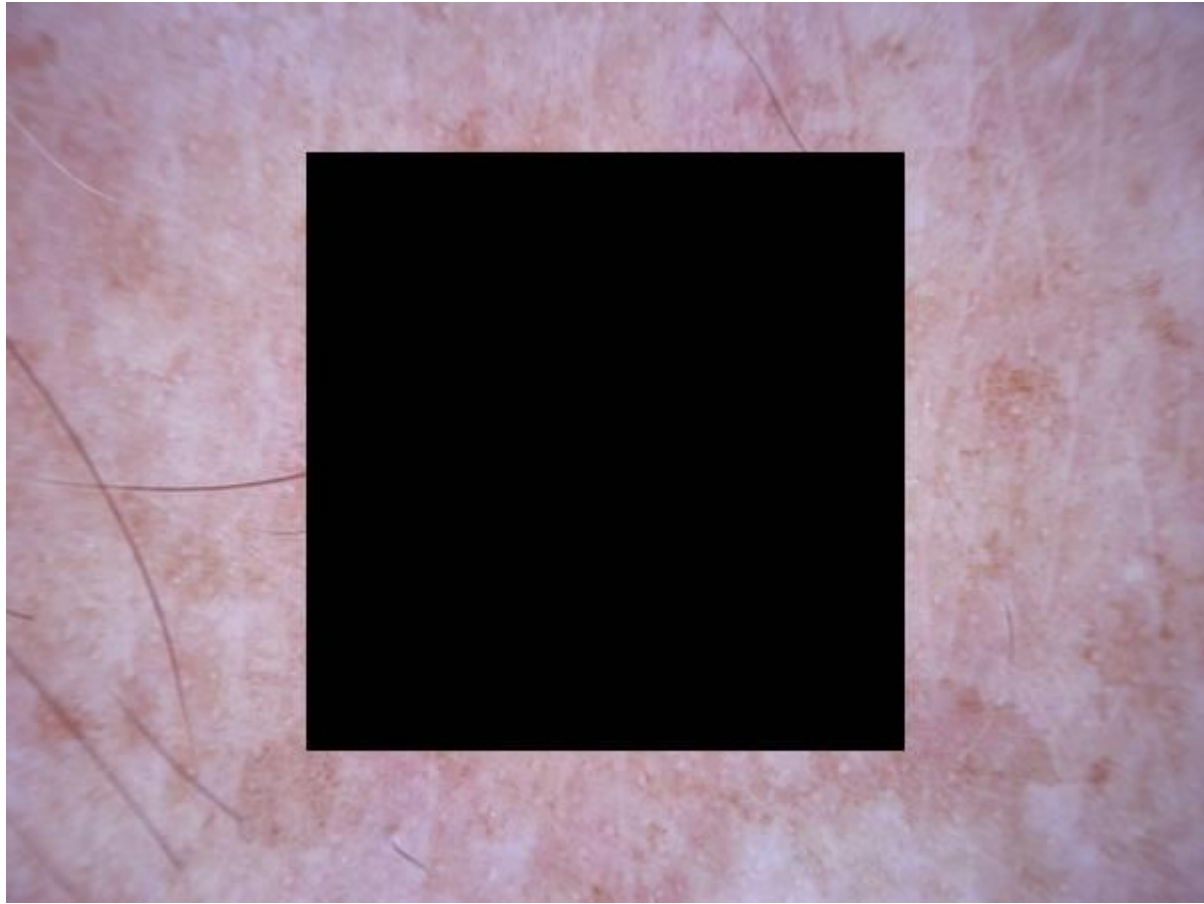


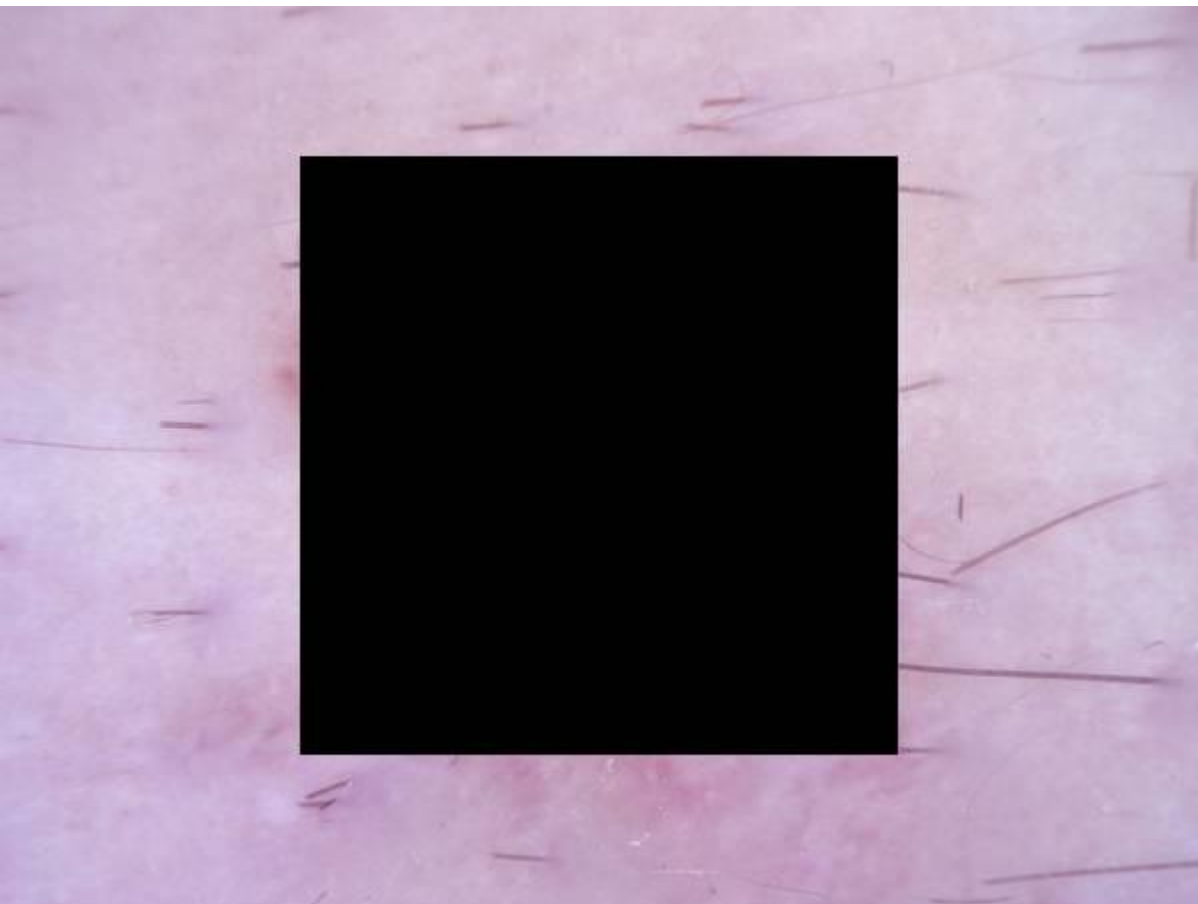


Activations of correct class per diagnoses (BACKGROUND:LESION)



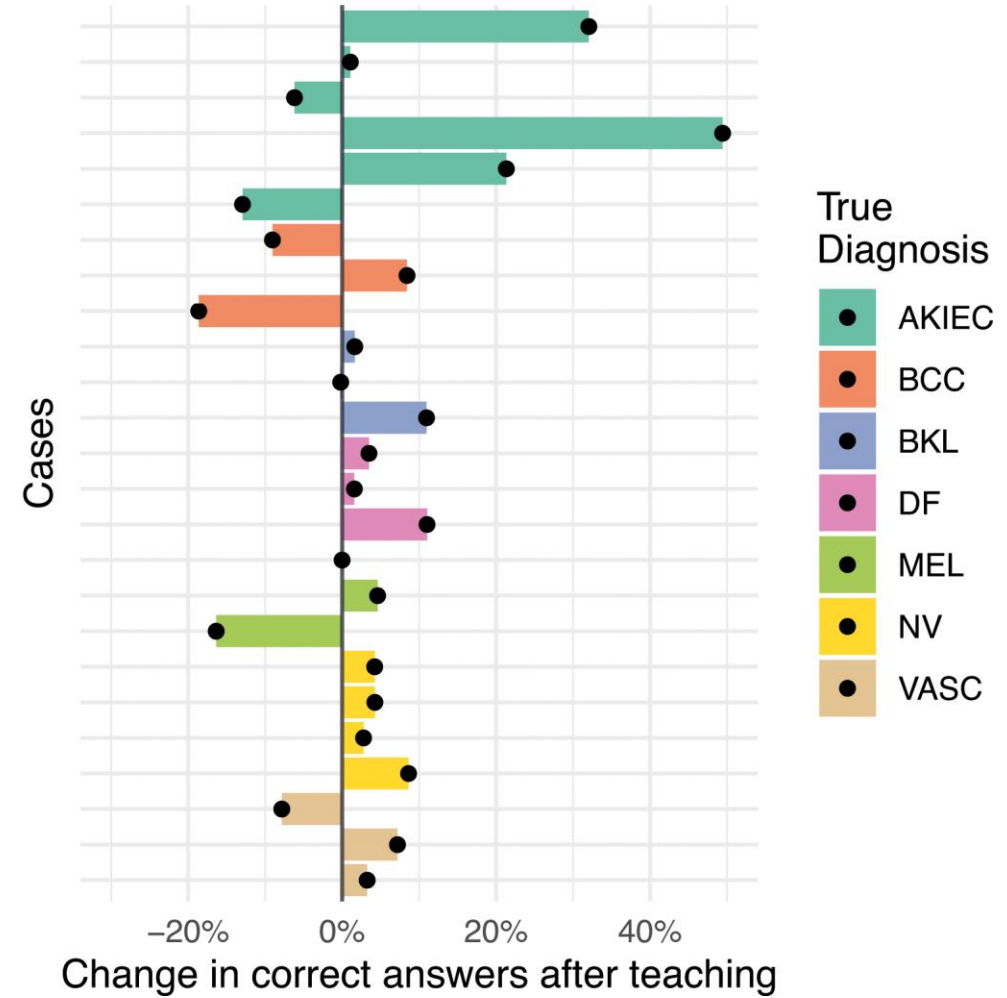
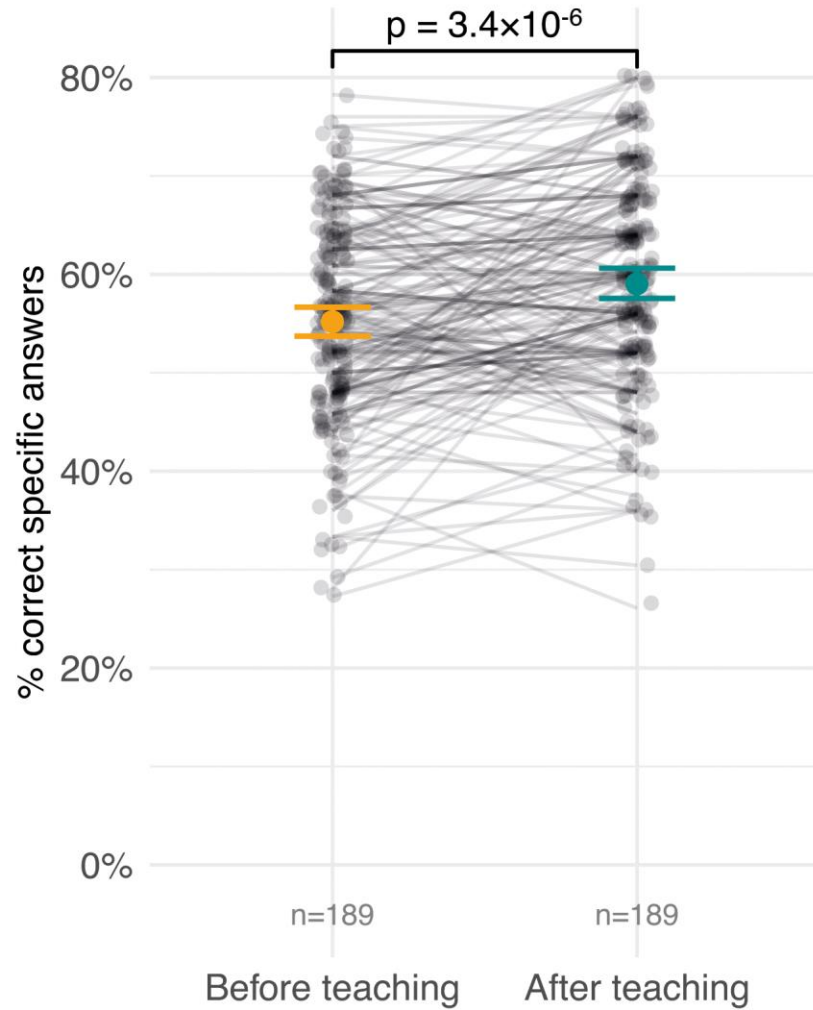






Do humans improve if we tell them?

## E | Explainable AI - Teaching







**Domain specific knowledge was necessary to translate the results of class activation maps into a human understandable concept**

# The importance of domain-specific knowledge:

Problem formulation

Data collection

Data preprocessing

Modeling

Interpretation of results

Understand and predict limitations and exceptions

Make the algorithm fit for intended use

Technical skills alone are not enough.

Important parts of the problem are not captured in the data.

**Applied computer science**



# The importance of domain-specific knowledge:

Visit a health care facility to get a feeling for the problem from the physician point of view  
(3 weeks is enough)



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[philipp.tschandl@meduniwien.ac.at](mailto:philipp.tschandl@meduniwien.ac.at)