


MGH & BWH CENTER FOR  
**CLINICAL DATA SCIENCE**

**Quantitative Imaging in Artificial Intelligence Applications**

Katherine P. Andriole  
July 30, 2018



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**Disclosures**

*Katherine P. Andriole is the Director of Research Strategy and Operations at the MGH & BWH Center for Clinical Data Science (CCDS).*

*The CCDS is funded in part by monies and resources from Nvidia Corporation, General Electric Healthcare and Nuance.*

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**OUTLINE**

- **MACHINE LEARNING – CLINICAL & RESEARCH USES**
  - ENABLING FACTORS & EXISTING LIMITATIONS
- **TOOLS NEEDED FOR MACHINE LEARNING**
  - PROCESSING PIPELINE – EXAMPLE TOOLS
- **QI AND MACHINE LEARNING EXAMPLES**
- **CURRENT STATE SUMMARY**

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## Deep Learning in Imaging

- $DL \subseteq ML \subseteq AI$
- CNN based upon the human brain / Neurons
- DL algorithms “learn” discriminatory features that best predict an outcome
  - Detect (Tumor Present / Absent)
  - Classify/Localize/Predict (Benign / Malignant)
  - Data-Driven versus CAD (Human-Defined Features)
- Requires large amounts of Data
- Computationally Intensive

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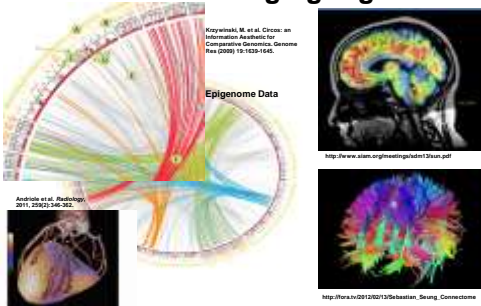
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## Biomedical Imaging Big Data



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## Healthcare Big Data

- Structured EHR Data
- Unstructured Clinical Notes & Reports
- Medical Imaging Data
- Genetic Data
- Behavioral & Social Data
- Epidemiological & Evidence-Based Practice Data
- Mobile Transducers

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## Enabling Factors: Compute Infrastructure



Nvidia 8-GPU DGX1  
1960 TFLOPS and 1Memory 128GB

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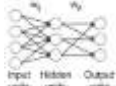
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## Enabling Factors: Algorithms

Deep = Many Hidden Layers



Activation Functions converts weighted sum of inputs into output value that is passed to next layer nodes



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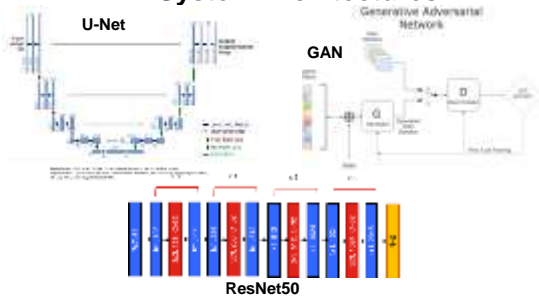
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## DL System Architectures




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~~You work at a healthcare institution,  
you have compute,  
now just build a model, right?~~




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## Steps Involved in Machine Learning Algorithm Development & Translation into the Clinical Arena

- Clinically Relevant Question
- Data Cohort Definition
- Dataset Collection / Acquisition
- Data Cleaning, Normalization and De-Identification
- Dataset Annotation: Report and Pixel Labeling
- Model Building, Training, Validation and Testing
- ML Result Integration into the Clinical Workflow
- Continuous Learning

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## Limitations: Data Issues

- Data Access
- Patient Privacy
- Data Security
- Patient Cohort Makeup
  - Dataset Heterogeneity
  - Range of Severity
- Integrity, Curation, Normalization

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## Limitations: Data Issues

- Missing/Sparse Data
- Unstructured Data
- Multi-Scale Data
- Complex Data
- Longitudinal Data
- Noisy Data

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## Other Challenges for Imaging

### •Lack of

-Standard Image Acquisition Protocols (e.g., slice thickness, reconstruction kernel, tube current, with contrast)

-Standard Training Data Sets

-Uniformity Across Different Algorithms

-Uniformity Across Vendors, Models, Versions

•Imaging or Device Artifacts

•Is the Data Rendered or Raw, Pre-processed, Compressed, Filtered or Thresholded?

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## Healthcare Big Data Special Issues

- Data File Size
- Raw Data often discarded FIFO
- Images are Not Labeled / Annotated and this is a difficult task
- Non-image Metadata

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## Annotating Medical Images

- Even “easy” annotations such as entire organs are subjective
  - Intra- and Inter-reader Variability
- Unclear, non-objective Gold Standard
- Tools often manual & time consuming

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## Study Annotation via NLP of Report

- Natural Language Processing (NLP)
- Largely Unstructured Free Text
- Variable in Format, Prose
- Qualitative versus Quantitative
- Often ambiguous terms and tone

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## How Much Data is Required?

### It Depends!

- How variable is your data
- Supervised versus Unsupervised ML
- How “good” are your annotations
- What is the task

### Mitigation

- Data Augmentation
- Transfer Learning

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## Things to Watch

### Overfitting

- Network learns the specific examples in the training set

### Mitigation Methods

- **Data Cohort Selection**
- **Holdout Test Set:** Train-Validate-Test Sets
- **Model Development (# features, # layers)**
- **Dropout Regularization:** Randomly remove subset of network nodes during each training epoch
- **Batch Normalization and Data Augmentation:** to boost the size/variability of training set

BJ Erickson, et al. Deep Learning In Radiology: Does One Size Fit All? JACR 2017.

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## Delivery of ML Output to Clinical Arena

- **Need Standards for**
  - Label Formats (eg, Binary, ROI Masks, Quantitative Metric)
  - Machine Learning Output Formats
  - Result Delivery to Point-of-Care Systems
  - Integration into Clinical Systems
  - Visualization and GUI
  - Machine Learning Output Archival (or regenerate on the fly)
- **DICOM, FHIR, HL7, but...**

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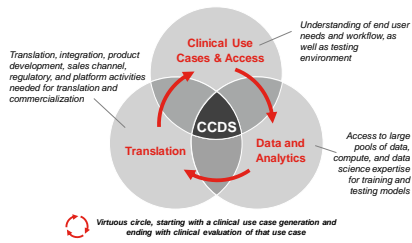
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## Multi-Disciplinary Core Capabilities




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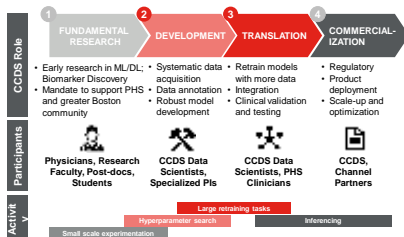
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## The Research & Development Pipeline




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## Large Datasets Require Infrastructure Investment

State-of-the-art Machine Learning algorithms require massive datasets

### Required Tooling

- **Identify Cases** – Queryable Report Storage
- **Label Reports** – NLP, Annotation Pipeline
- **Collect Image Data** – Research VNA
- **Label Images** – Visualization / Annotation Tools
- **Normalize Data** – Normalization Tooling
- **Train Models** – GPU Cluster
- **Deliver Results** – Integration / Visualization Tools



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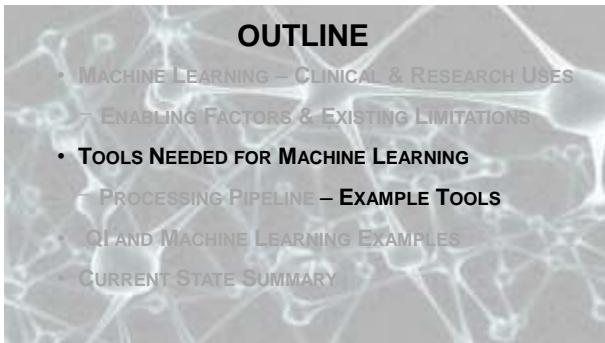
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## Report Annotation Tool



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## Image Annotation Tool




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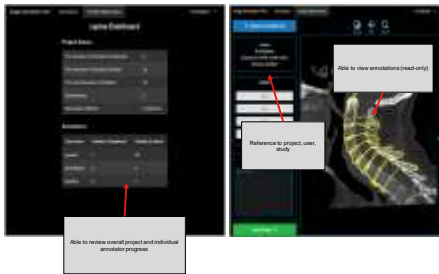
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## User Management / Project Supervision




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## Automated MRI Brain Sequence Selection

Why is it challenging? Today we have to deal with this...

The diagram illustrates the challenge of automated MRI brain sequence selection. On the left, a stack of 'MRI exam' icons is linked to a grid of 'MRI series' images. These series are then linked to a 'Series Description list' which contains various technical parameters and sequence names. Below this, there is a snippet of code or a list of sequence names, such as 'Axial T1-weighted', 'Sagittal T2-weighted', etc., demonstrating the complexity and variability of the data.

- Protocol-related description that can be modified as free text by the technologist
- Mixes information of very different nature
- Very variable, Not reliable (changes over time, over technicians, vendors, hospitals, typos, for different MR sequence types, acronyms, abbreviations)

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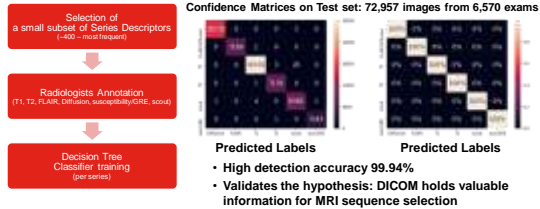
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## Use Machine Learning to Solve the Problem

Information from DICOM Header

Preliminary Experiment on Dataset of 32,000 Exams

Results



Transferable to other anatomies with minimum adaptation

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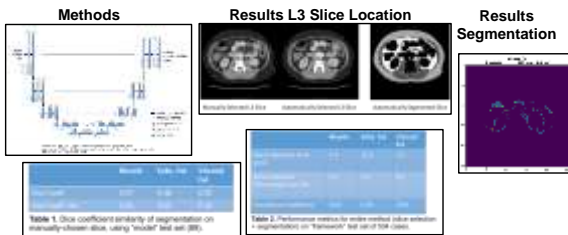
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## Body Comp: Measuring Muscle and Fat Segmentation in CT

**Team:** Chris Bridge, Brad Wright, Gopal Kotecha, Michael Rosenthal, Florian Fintelmann, Katherine Andriole

**Objective:** Develop ML to locate L3 slice in CT CAP; segment muscle and fat; measure volume of each

**Background:** Amount/Distribution of muscle mass and subcutaneous/visceral fat is a health Biomarker; Enable Population Health Research and Precision




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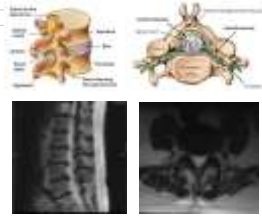
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# Project Demonstration: DeepSPINE

Objective	Automated vertebral segmentation, disk level labeling, and level-by-level stenosis grading for MRI of lumbar spine performed for degenerative disease
Data Scientists	Jen-Tang Lu, Stefano Pedemonte, Brad Wright, Chris Bridge
Software Engineers	Sean Doyle, Mark Walters
Clinical Fellow	Bernardo Bizzo
Clinical Champion	Stuart R. Pomerantz



## Background – lumbar spinal stenosis

- Major cause of low back pain (global prevalence can be as high as 42% according to WHO).
- Prevalent diagnostic tool: MRI
- Time consuming, costly, and high inter-reader variability

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## Cohort Creation and Annotation




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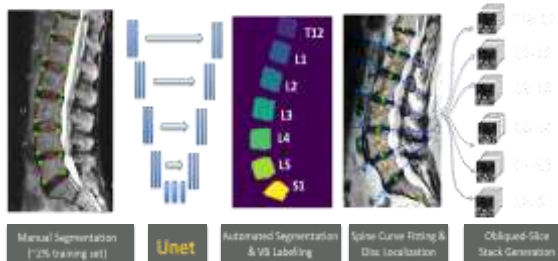
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## Vertebral Labeling and Disk-oriented Stack Generation




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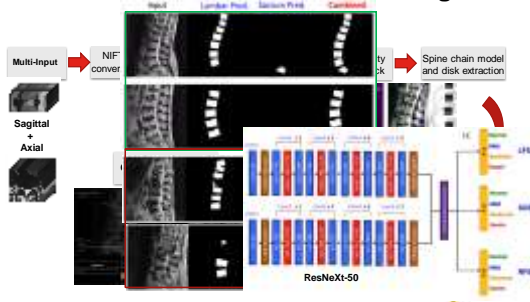
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## Model Deployment: End-to-End Program




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## Metrics and Published Work

Type of scan	Zhang et al. (2017)	Jamaludin et al. (2017a)	CCDS
	Axial	Sagittal	Axial + Sagittal
<b>Spinal canal stenosis (% mean ± std)</b>			
L3-L4	87.2 ± 3.2	94.7	94.5 ± 0.7
L4-L5	85.1 ± 3.4	85.9	95.3 ± 0.2
L5-S1	87.5 ± 3.3	93.7	99.1 ± 0.5
<b>Foraminal stenosis (% mean ± std)</b>			
L3-L4	84.3 ± 3.9	N/A	94.0 ± 0.7
L4-L5	84.0 ± 4.0	N/A	89.0 ± 1.4
L5-S1	87.1 ± 3.4	N/A	91.2 ± 1.6

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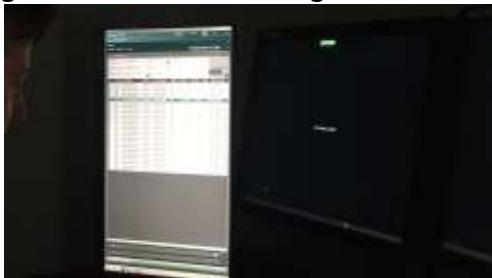
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## Integration into the Radiologist's Workstation




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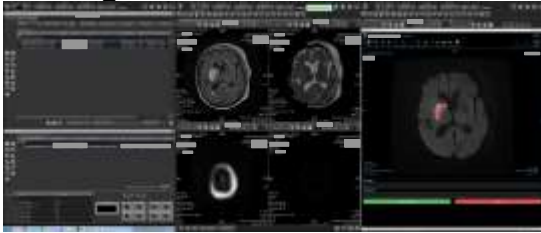
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## Integration Into Clinical Platforms



- Real-time Inference
- GUI Feedback
- Continuous Learning

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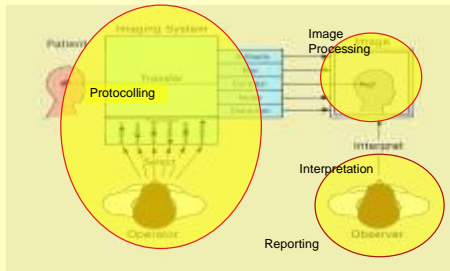
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## Medical Imaging Chain



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**Current State**

- Data Access, Patient Privacy
- Data Cohort Selection
- Data Cleaning, Preprocessing, Data Annotation
- Clinical Relevance
- Lack of Standards for Data Acquisition, Annotation Labels, ML Output, Clinical Workflow Integration
- Narrow AI

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