

VALORISER SES DONNÉES DE RECHERCHE PAR LA « COOPÉTITION » INTERNATIONALE

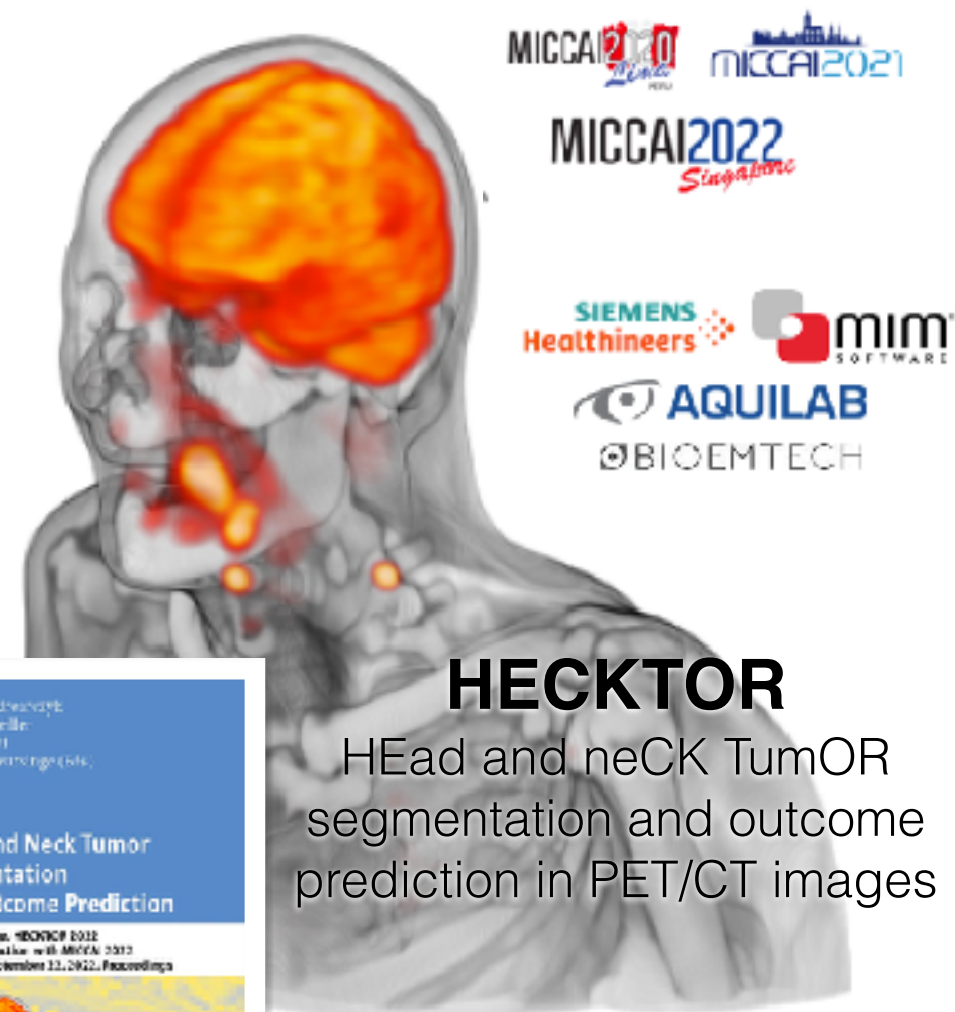
Henning Müller, Adrien Depeursinge, Open Science Days 2023, 9.5.2023

- *Scientific challenges: history, platforms, and perspectives*
Henning Müller (20min + 5min questions)
- *Organizing a data science competition: A checklist illustrated by the HECKTOR challenge*
Adrien Depeursinge (20min + 5min questions)
- Exercise: organizing a challenge based on **your dataset**
 - Reflexion by groups of 3 participants (20min)
 - Short presentations and discussions (20min)



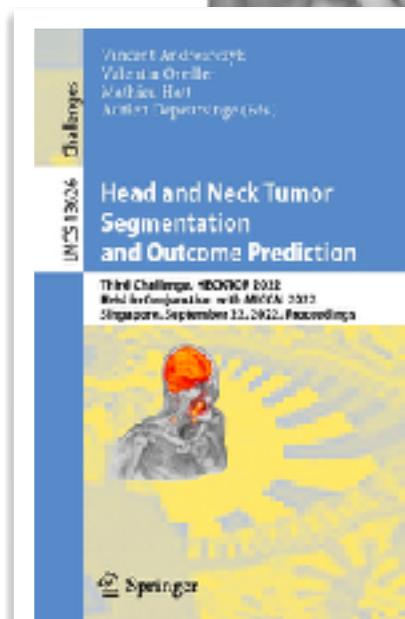
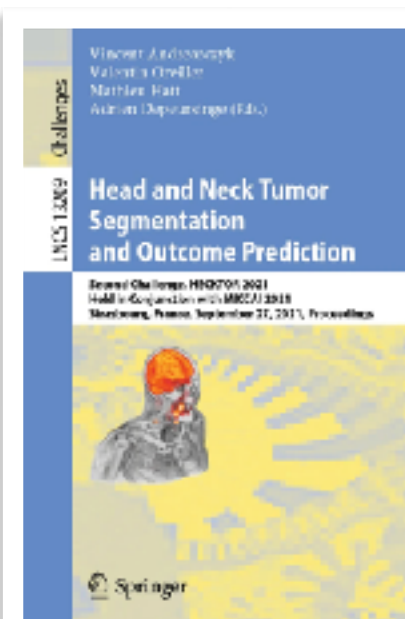
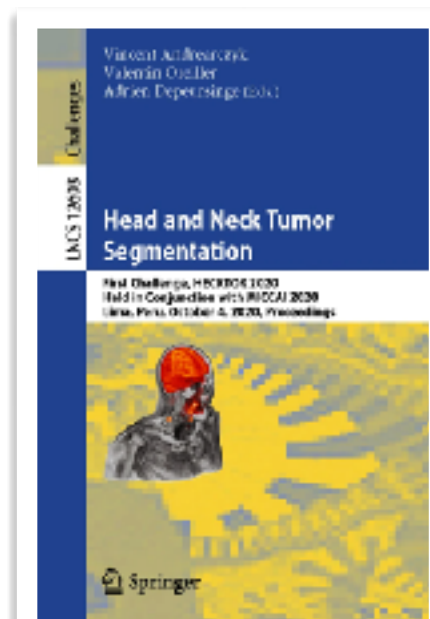
ORGANIZING A DATA SCIENCE COMPETITION: A CHECKLIST ILLUSTRATED BY THE HECKTOR CHALLENGE

Adrien Depeursinge, Open Science Days 2023, 9.5.2023



HECKTOR

HEAd and neCK TumOR
segmentation and outcome
prediction in PET/CT images



TODAY'S AGENDA AND OBJECTIVES

- Our starting point is a **dataset** that is either already available or you plan to collect/extend
- We present a generic **checklist** to assess the relevance and work involved in organizing a data science competition based on a given dataset
 - Exemplify how we addressed the points of the checklist via our experience in leading the organization of the HECKTOR challenge for three consecutive years
- In groups of 3 participants, analyse the potential of organizing a challenge based on an existing/imaginary dataset in terms of the provided checklist
 - 20min analysis
 - 20min presentations and discussions

A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

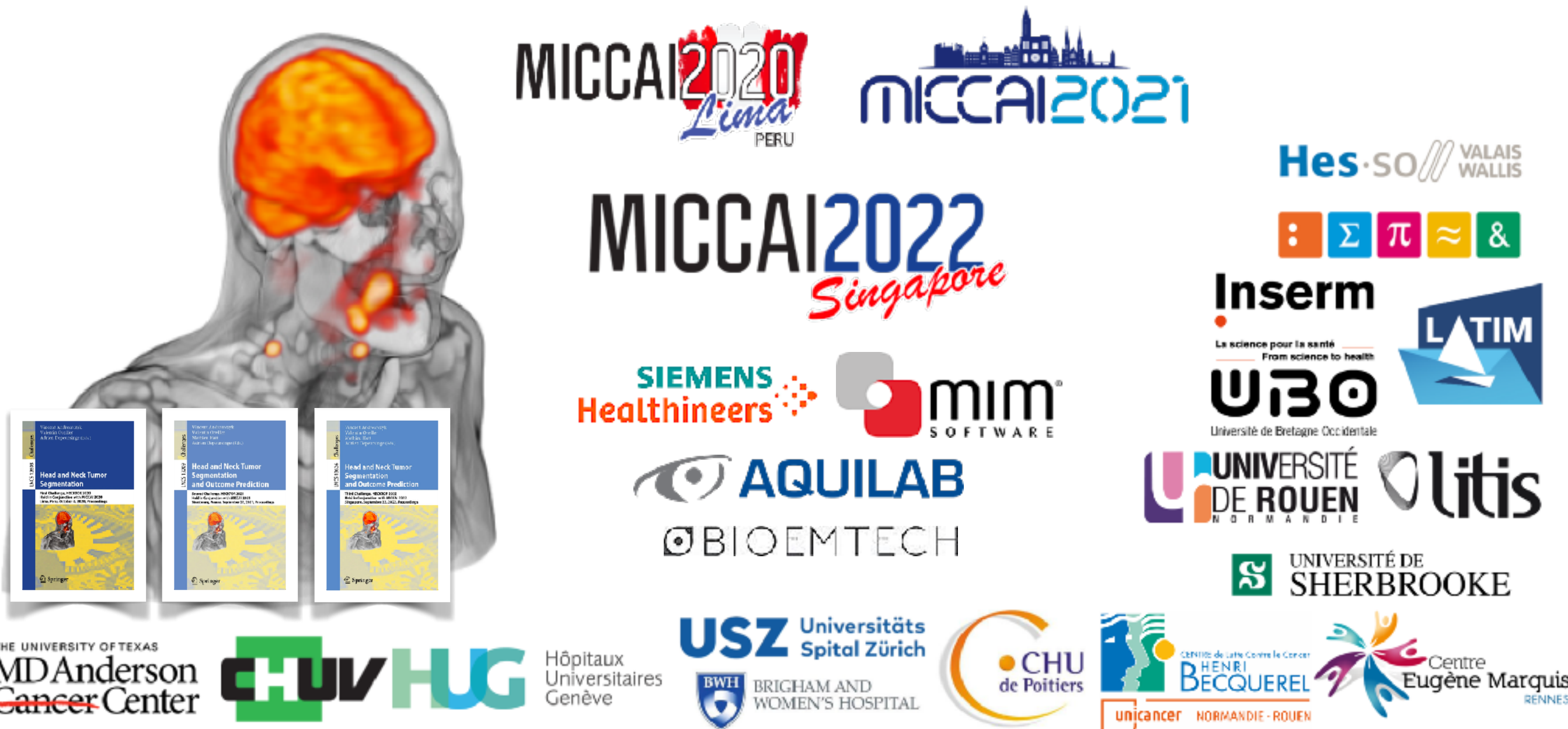
- Based on established guidelines¹ (Maier-Hein et al. 2020)
- Main categories of the checklist
 1. Domain and community
 2. Dataset and curation
 3. Ranking
 4. Challenge organization and implementation
 5. Impact and output

THE HECKTOR CHALLENGE

[HTTPS://HECKTOR.GRAND-CHALLENGE.ORG/](https://hecktor.grand-challenge.org/), AS OF MAY 2023

- HECKTOR 2020-2022: HEad and neCK TumOR **segmentation** and **outcome prediction** in PET/CT images

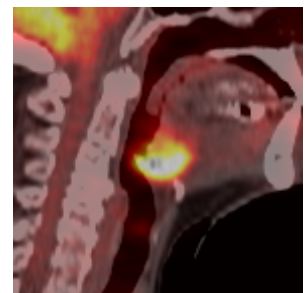
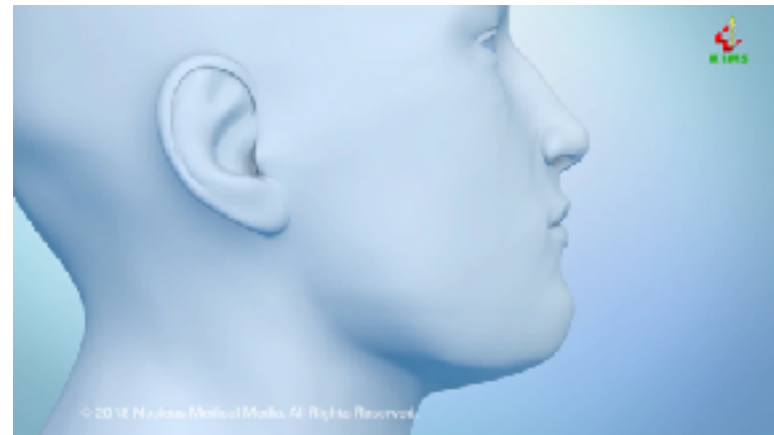
Oreiller, V et al. (2022) "Head and neck tumor segmentation in PET/CT: The HECKTOR challenge." Medical Image Analysis, 77(1).



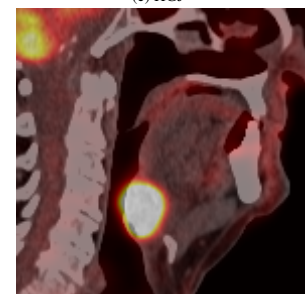
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- H&N cancer **5th leading cancer** by incidence (Parkin et al. 2005)
- High local failure: 40% in first 2 years after treatment (Chajon et al. 2013)
- Precision oncology: **finding optimal treatment for each patient**, crucial for patient outcome AND well-being
- FDG-PET/CT standard for staging and treatment planning
- **Can AI help predict the best treatment** based on PET/CT images and clinical data (Vallières et al. 2017, Bogowicz et al. 2017)
 - Correlate visual (lesion size, location and texture) and clinical (age, HPV status, smoking) features with response to treatment
 - **Automatic detection and segmentation** of the primary tumor and met. lymph nodes
 - **Performance is promising but not (yet?) clinically satisfactory**



(c) H&N



(f) CHUP

Parkin DM, et al. (2005) "Global cancer statistics, 2002." CA 55(2).

Chajon E, et al. (2013) "Salivary gland-sparing other than parotid-sparing in definitive head-and-neck intensity-modulated radiotherapy does not seem to jeopardize local control." Rad. Onc. 8(1).

Vallières M, et al. (2017) "Radiomics strategies for risk assessment of tumour failure in head-and-neck cancer." Nat. Sci. Rep. 7(1).

Bogowicz M, et al. (2017) "Comparison of PET and CT radiomics for prediction of local tumor control in head and neck squamous cell carcinoma." Acta Oncologica 56(11).

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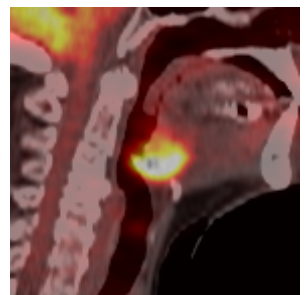
- Precision oncology **treatment for** patient outcome
- FDG-PET/CT treatment planning

Let's organize a **challenge** to solicit worldwide experts on medical image analysis !

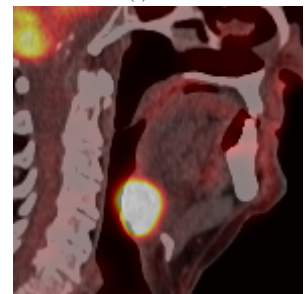
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- HECKTOR 2020-2024 challenges **comparison**

		HECKTOR 2020	HECKTOR 2021	HECKTOR 2022	HECKTOR 2024
Data	# Training subjects	201	224	524	886
	# Test subjects	53	101	362	695
	# centers	5	6	9	15
	Inputs	FDG PET/CT extended oropharyngeal bounding box	FDG PET/CT extended oropharyngeal bounding box	FDG PET/CT full images	FDG PET/CT RT dose maps full images
	Clinical data	✓	✓	✓	✓ ++
Tasks	<u>GTVp</u> segmentation	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Outcome prediction		✓ PFS	✓ RFS	✓ RFS
	<u>GTVn</u> segmentation			✓	✓
	HPV status prediction				✓
	Federated learning				✓
	Participant papers	10	31	22	?

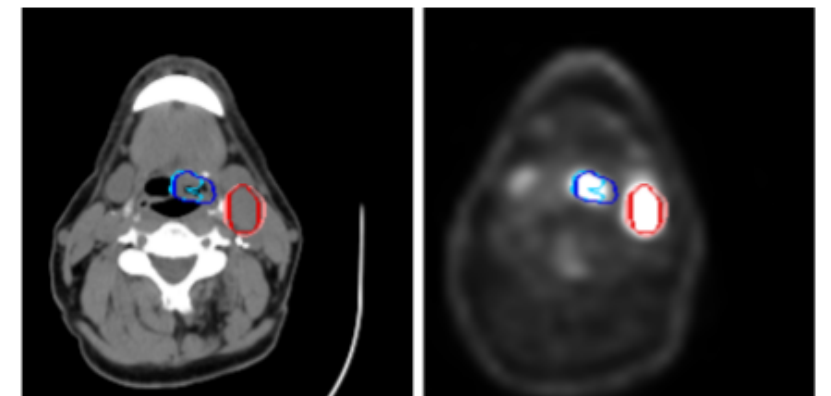
- HECKTOR 2020-2022: lessons learned
 - Segmentation of the primary tumor **GTVp** and lymph nodes **GTVn**

Team	DSC_{agg} GTVp	DSC_{agg} GTVn	mean DSC_{agg}	rank
NVAUTO [32]	0.80066	0.77539	0.78802	1
SJTU426 [41]	0.77960	0.77604	0.77782	2
NeuralRad [22]	0.77485	0.76938	0.77212	3
LITO [34]	0.77700	0.76269	0.76984	4
TheDLab [35]	0.77447	0.75865	0.76656	5
MAIA [45]	0.75738	0.77114	0.76426	6
AIRT [46]	0.76689	0.73392	0.75040	8
AIMers [21]	0.73738	0.73431	0.73584	9

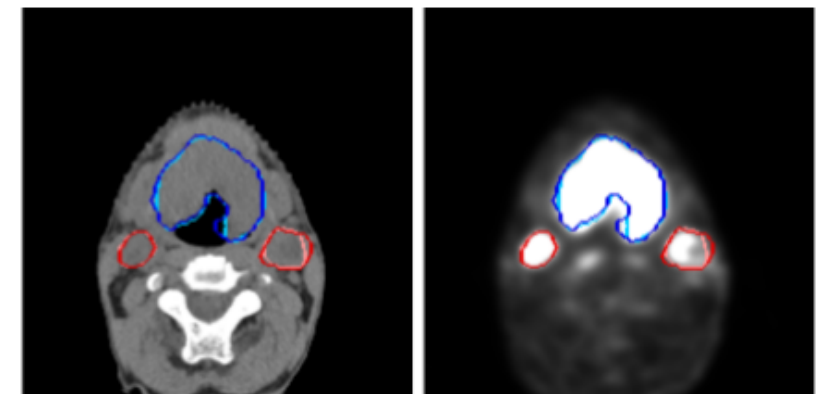
- On par with expert performance
- Simple methods work well
 - 3D U-Net always in top three

RT_UMCG [10]	0.73741	0.65059	0.69400	17
HPCAS [38]	0.69786	0.66730	0.68258	18
ALaGreca [24]	0.72329	0.61341	0.66835	19
Qurit [1]	0.69553	0.57343	0.63448	20
VokCow [30]	0.59424	0.54988	0.57206	21
MLC [43]	0.46587	0.53574	0.50080	22
M&H.lab_NU [40]	0.51342	0.46557	0.48949	23
Average	0.72351	0.68682	0.70517	

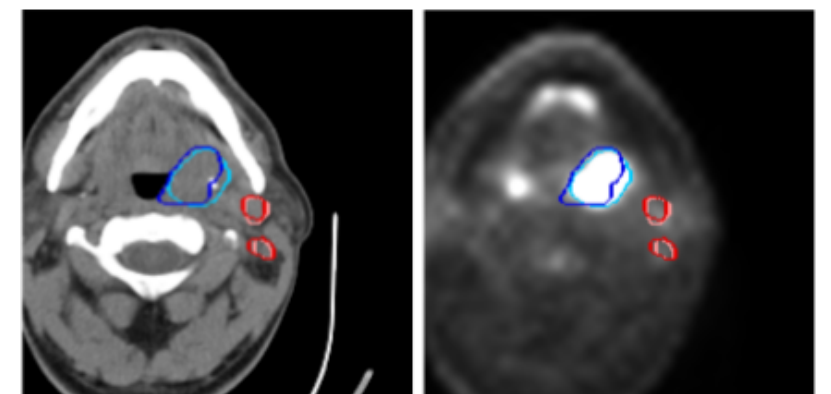
Table: Leaderboard segmentation 2022



(a) MDA-203



(b) CHB-001



(c) USZ-010

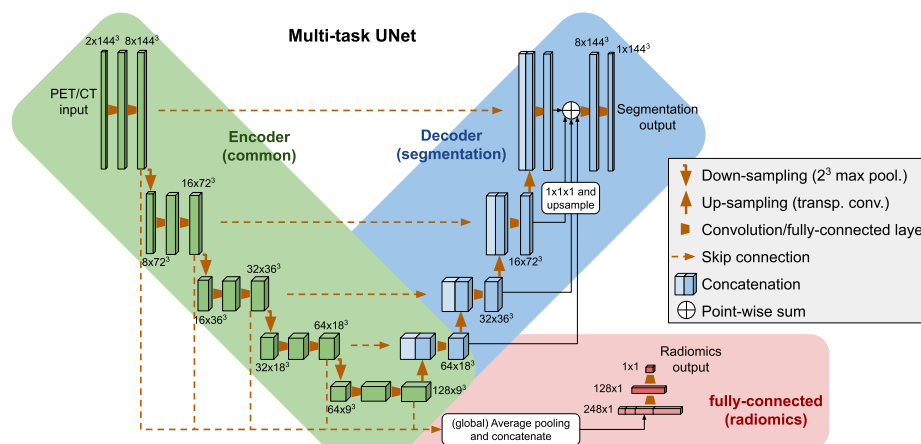
- HECKTOR 2020-2022: lessons learned
- Outcome prediction: Recurrence Free Survival (RFS)

Team	C-index	rank
LITO [34]	0.68152	1
BDAV_USYD [29]	0.68084	2
AIRT [46]	0.67257	3
RT_UMCG [26]	0.66834	4
RokieLab [49]	0.65817	5
MLC [43]	0.65598	6
VokCow [30]	0.64081	7
junma [25]	0.63896	8
LMU [47]	0.63536	9
TheDLab [35]	0.6305	10
SMIAL [9]	0.61877	11
TECVICO Corp [36]	0.59042	12
Average	0.64769	

Table: Leaderboard
RFS prediction 2022

- RFS prediction **not (yet?) ready** for clinical use
 - More data needed to better represent (and focus) on subpopulations, e.g. HPV positive only, specific image acquisition protocols, ...
- While 4/5 deep learning in top five, the winning team used a very **simple radiomics** approach

- Segmentation and outcome prediction tasks are **synergistic**
 - Learning to segment helps improving outcome prediction (Andrearczyk et al. 2021)



Andrearczyk V et al. (2021) "Multi-Task Deep Segmentation and Radiomics for Automatic Prognosis in Head and Neck Cancer." PRIME.

A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

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A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

1. Domain and community

- **Task(s)** to solve: motivation and objectives
 - Likely equivalent to the initial goal of the dataset, but not only (reutilization of the data)
 - Scientific (e.g. assess feasibility/maturity, publications as output)
 - Industrial (e.g. assess robustness, commercial product as output)
 - Targeted population
 - State of the art

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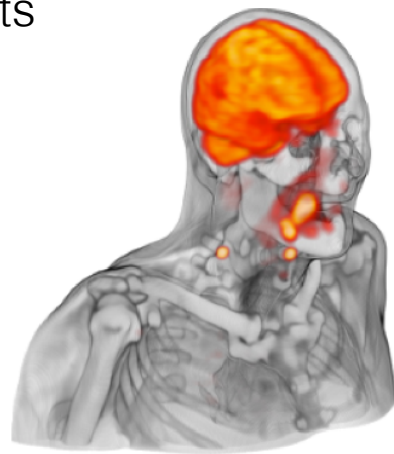
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 - Cover the expertise of all considered aspects for solving the task
 - Task definition, data collection and curation, technology, interpretation of the results

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Hes·SO VALAIS WALLIS



Inserm

La science pour la santé
From science to health

UBO

Université de Bretagne Occidentale



UNIVERSITÉ DE ROUEN
NORMANDIE

litis

UNIVERSITÉ DE SHERBROOKE

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS
MDAnderson
Cancer Center

CHUV HUG

Hôpitaux
Universitaires
Genève

USZ Universitäts
Spital Zürich
BWH BRIGHAM AND
WOMEN'S HOSPITAL

CHU
de Poitiers

CENTRE de lutte Contre le Cancer
HENRI BECQUEREL
unicancer NORMANDIE - ROUEN

Centre
Eugène Marquis
RENNES

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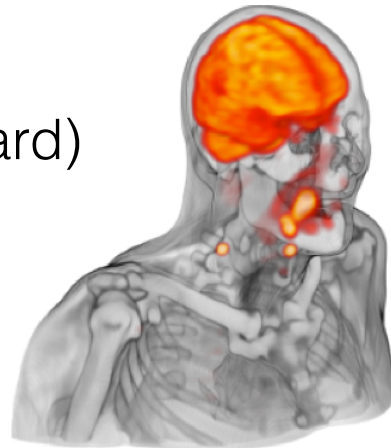
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- Choice of the **venue** and format: attract participants
 - International conference
 - Standalone event
 - other (asynchronous leaderboard)

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A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE


2. Dataset and curation (Wilkinson et al. 2016)

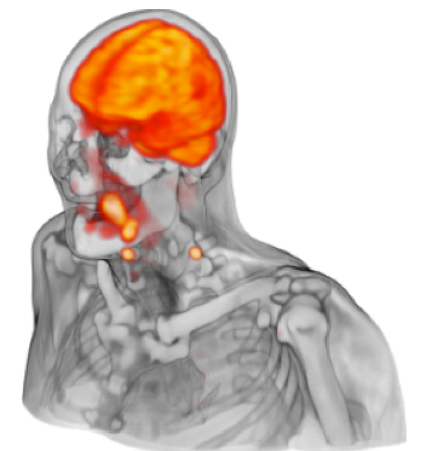
- **Size** and population
 - Statistical power, risk of overfit (e.g. max 10 features/observation)
 - Sampling the adequate population and representation (diversity)
- **Curation** level
 - Systematic Quality Control (QC), Outliers
 - Unification of the nomenclature (classes, variables, endpoints, metadata)
 - Preprocessing (imposed or free), open source code
 - Versioning and changelog
- Quality of **ground truth**
 - E.g. Single/multiple expert annotator(s), guidelines, crowdsourcing
 - Report potential sources of errors (intra- and inter- annotator variability)



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 - Report potential sources of errors (intra- and inter- annotator variability)
- HECKTOR 2022 : 9 centers, ~900 patients, partially public data
 - Huge effort! (>10 annotators)
 - cloud contouring platform sponsored by 
 - Contouring guidelines and outcome definition were missing and defined (output)



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 - E.g. Single/multiple expert annotator(s), guidelines, crowdsourcing
 - Report potential sources of errors (intra- and inter- annotator variability)
- Most often, the dataset itself constitutes the **main contribution** of a challenge!
 - Risk of misleading scientific outcomes



A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

2. Dataset and curation (cont'd)

- Sharing and **data protection**
 - Anonymization
 - Data Transfer and Use Agreement (DTUA)¹ or licences (e.g. CC-BY²)
 - Lifecycle
 - Public resources
- Volume and **storage** (e.g. Zenodo³, AWS Open Data Registry⁴)

¹ E.g. Swiss Personalized Health Network (SPHN) templates in Switzerland, <https://sphn.ch/services/dtua/>, as of May 2023.

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- HECKTOR 2022
 - End User Agreement (EUA) approved by all centers
 - Ethics Committees at center level
 - Switch Drive for sharing (~51GB)

EXHIBITS

Exhibit A: Training and Test collections of Head and Neck Cancer

Institutional Review Boards of all participating PROVIDER institutions permitted use of images and clinical data, either fully anonymized or coded, from all cases for research purposes only. Retrospective analyses were performed in accordance with the relevant guidelines and regulations as approved by the respective the institutional ethical committees with protocol numbers: MM-JGH-CR15-50 (HGJ, CHUS, HMR, CHUM) and CER-VD 2018-01513 (CHUV). All materials are copyrighted. You must request permission to re-publish any images. At the end of the license agreement the data need to be destroyed.

List of PROVIDERS:

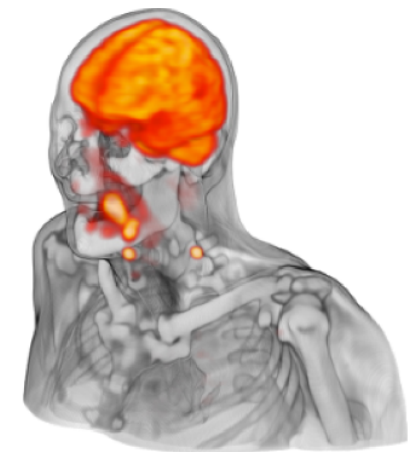
HGJ: Hôpital Général Juif, Montréal, CA

CHUS: Centre Hospitalier Universitaire de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, CA

HMR: Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont, Montréal, CA

CHUM: Centre Hospitalier de l'Université de Montréal, Montréal, CA

CHUV: Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Vaudois, CH



Name	Size	Modified
HECKTOR2022_training_connected_v2.zip	31.5 GB	9 months ago
HECKTOR2022_training_v0.10	26.5 GB	8 months ago
data_for_annotation.zip	6.3 GB	19 months ago
Hector: Intero: ParaglobSalempe	490 MB	8 months ago
data-downloader	326.5 MB	8 months ago
HECKTOR2022_training_only_connected_v2.zip	313.2 MB	8 months ago
HECKTOR2022_training_v0.10	10.1 MB	8 months ago
HECKTOR2022_training_v1	554 KB	8 months ago
HECKTOR2022_training_v2	30 KB	8 months ago

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- Challenge types
 - Type A: prediction submission where the data “moves” to the algorithm
 - Type B: algorithm submission where the algorithm “moves” to the data
- **Validation** strategy
 - Train, (validation,) test split(s)
 - Watch out for cheaters! The test set should remain strictly hidden

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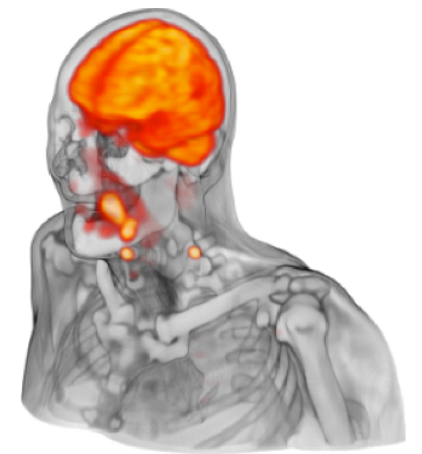
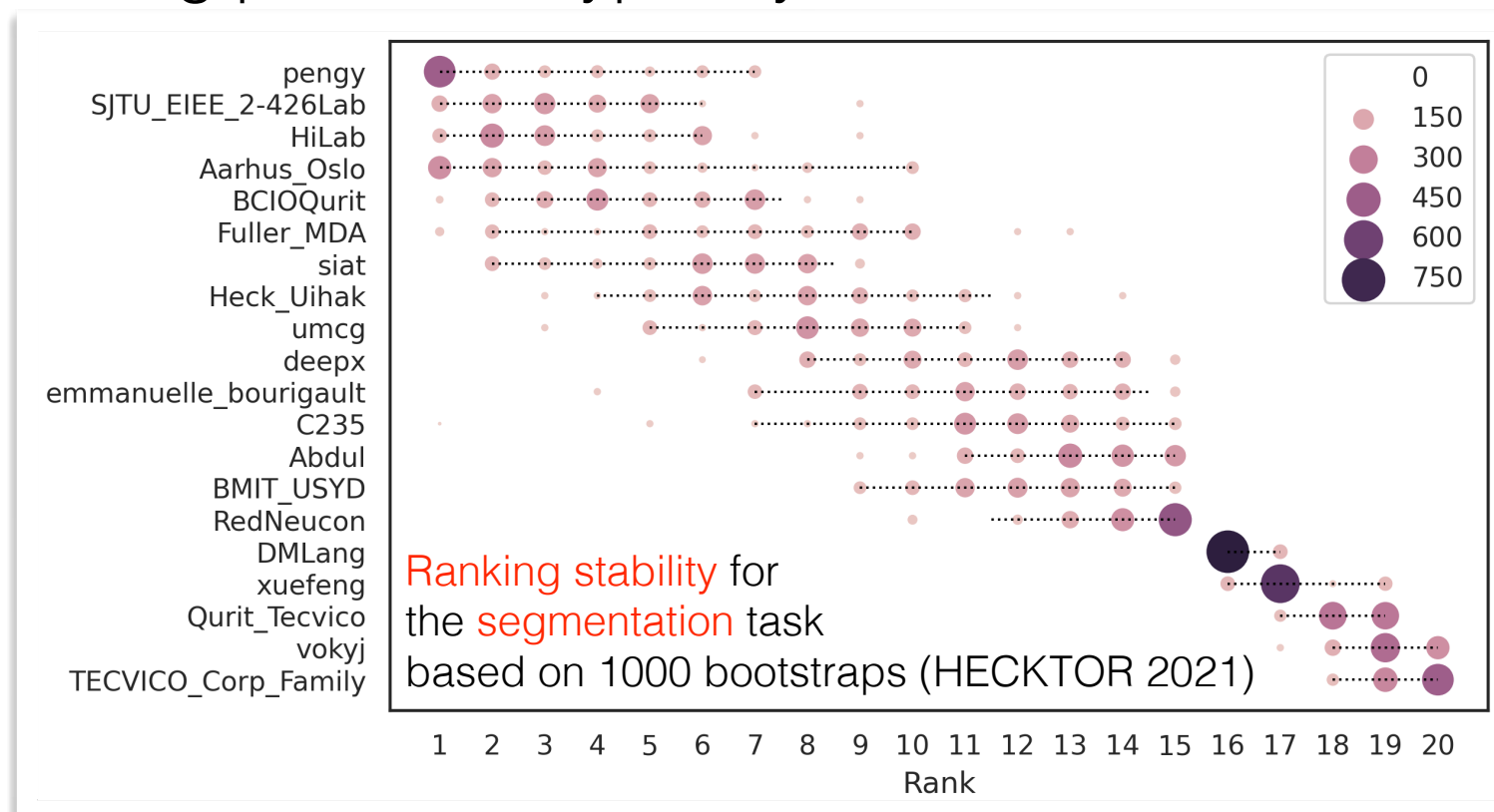
3. Ranking

- **Performance measure(s)** for the considered task(s)
 - Quantitative measures are needed to rank the participants' submissions
 - None are perfect (Maier-Hein et al. 2022)
 - A combination is possible (e.g. average, average rank, Borda-count)
 - Include variability estimation if possible, at a participant/method level
 - Provide evaluation code with example(s) as open source
- Statistical tests and ranking stability (Wiesenfarth et al. 2021)
- One ranking per task is typically considered

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A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

4. Challenge organization and implementation

- Rules
 - Number of submissions allowed
 - Keeping the best or average performance
 - Who/what is considered as submitting team
 - **Eligibility** criteria for prize and official ranking
 - Must submit a scientific paper describing the approach and/or open source code release
 - Members of the consortium not part of the official ranking
 - Permission to use additional data for training
 - Semi-automatic or fully automatic only
 - Intellectual property
- **Timeline** and phases
 - Training, test and algorithms/predictions submissions
 - Scientific session
 - Paper submission deadline and review phase

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- Number of submissions allowed
 - Keeping the best or average
 - Who/what is considered as
- **Eligibility** criteria for prize allocation
 - Must submit a scientific paper and/or open source code repository
 - Members of the consortium
 - Permission to use additional data
 - Semi-automatic or fully automatic only

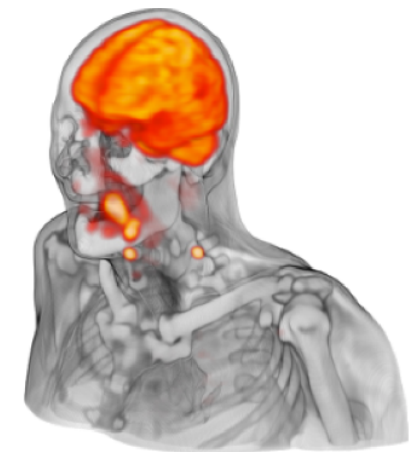
- Intellectual property

- **Timeline** and phases

- Training, test and algorithms/predictions submissions
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Timeline HECKTOR 2022:

- May 24th, 2022: **Registration** to the challenge opens
- ~~June 1st, 2022~~ June 7th, 2022: Release of the **training cases**.
- August 1st, 2022: Release of the **testing cases**.
- August 26th to ~~September 2nd~~ September 5th (23:59 PT), 2022: Challenge submissions.
- ~~September 2nd~~ September 5th (23:59 PT), 2022: Paper abstract submission deadline easychair. The abstract can be modified later for final submission).
- September 8th (23:59 PT), 2022: Full paper submission deadline.
- September 8th to October 28th, 2022: Paper review phase.
- September 22, 2022: MICCAI event and release of challenge ranking.



A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

4. Challenge organization and implementation (cont'd)

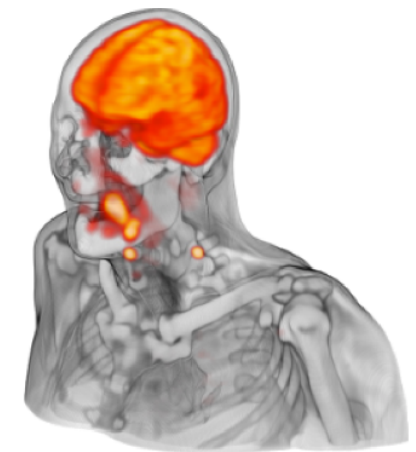
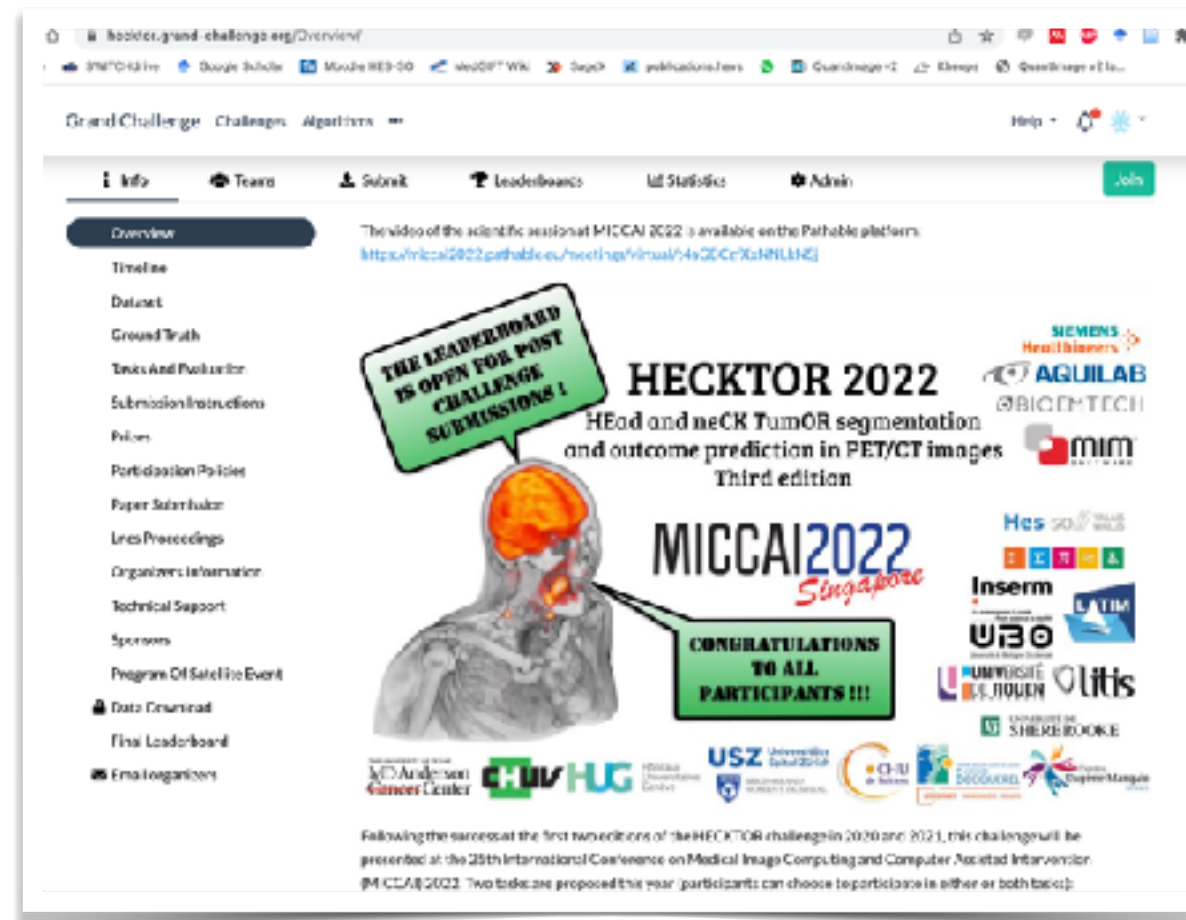
- Prize
 - Money via sponsoring
 - Authorship on the overview paper
- Choice of the hosting platform (e.g. Kaggle, Alcrowd)
 - Often not free, computing fees (evaluation code and/or algorithms for Type B)
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A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

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HECKTOR 2022
Platform/website:
grand-challenge.org



A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

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- Scientific session: attract attendants

- Introductory talk(s) by organizers
- Keynote speaker(s)
- Oral/poster presentations (e.g. top ranked, most innovative)
- Award ceremony

A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

4. Challenge organization and implementation

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Introductory talk by organizers

11:50 - 12:20: The HECKTOR 2022 challenge, Vincent Andrianczyk, Valentin Orefier, Martin Vallières, Clifton Davis, Su Ruan, Pierre Decazes, Pierre Vera, Leo Capricelli, Habib Zaidi, Stephanie Tanadini-Lang, Agustina La Graca, Pan Ofana Tankyevych, Dimitris Vassakis, Hesham Elhalawani, Joël Castelli, Ricardo Diaz-Correia, Sarah Bourghdaj, Mari

Oral Session 1: Automatic segmentation of primary tumors and lymph nodes (Task 1), chair: Kareem Wahid

12:20 - 12:35: A General Web-based Platform for Automatic Delineation of Head and Neck Gross Tumor Volumes in Weiguo Lu

12:35 - 12:50: A Coarse-to-Fine Aggregation Framework for Head and Neck Tumor and Lymph Segmentation in CT

12:50 - 13:05: Automated head and neck tumor segmentation from 3D PET/CT, Andriy Myronenko, Ad Mahfuzur R

Break

13:05 - 13:20

Keynote

13:20 - 14:05: Radiomics: History and To-Do List, Philippe Lambin

Oral Session 2: RFS outcome prediction (Task 2), chair: Stephanie Tanadini-Lang

14:05 - 14:20: Deep learning and radiomics based PET/CT feature extraction combined with automatic tumor segmentation, Baoqiang Ma, Yan Li, Hong Chu, Wei Tang, Luis Luis Ricardo De la O Arévalo, Jiapei Guo, Peter van Oort, Dijk and Nanna Maria Sijtsema

14:20 - 14:35: Radiomics-enhanced Deep Multi-task Learning for Outcome Prediction in Head and Neck Cancer, Min

14:35 - 14:50: Head and Neck Tumor and Lymph Node Segmentation and Outcome Prediction from 18F-FDG PET/CT, Escobar, Fahad Khalid, Kibrom Girum and Irène Buvat

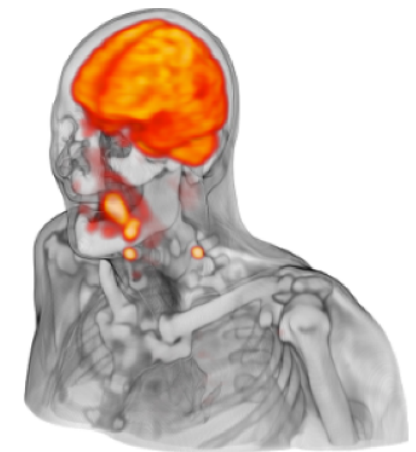
14:50 - 15:05: Recurrence-free Survival Prediction under the Guidance of Automatic Gross Tumor Volume Segmentation, Michael Dohopolski, Tao Peng, Weiguo Lu, You Zhang and Jing Wang

Winners and Awards

15:05 - 15:15: Valentin Orefier

Closing remarks: Feedback from participants / What next

15:15 - 15:20: Mathieu Hall



A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

4. Challenge organization and implementation (cont'd)

- Post-challenge activities
 - Post-analyses papers (e.g. inter-algorithm stability, subpopulation analysis)
 - Open leaderboard
 - Super ensembles
 - Open sharing of algorithms and/or predictions (outputs)
 - Preparing the future edition(s)
 - Notoriety: participants are likely to come back with new ideas
- Workforce
 - For all of the above, according to the timeline
 - Team of annotators, one person responsible per task, team of reviewers
 - Governance of the consortium, management

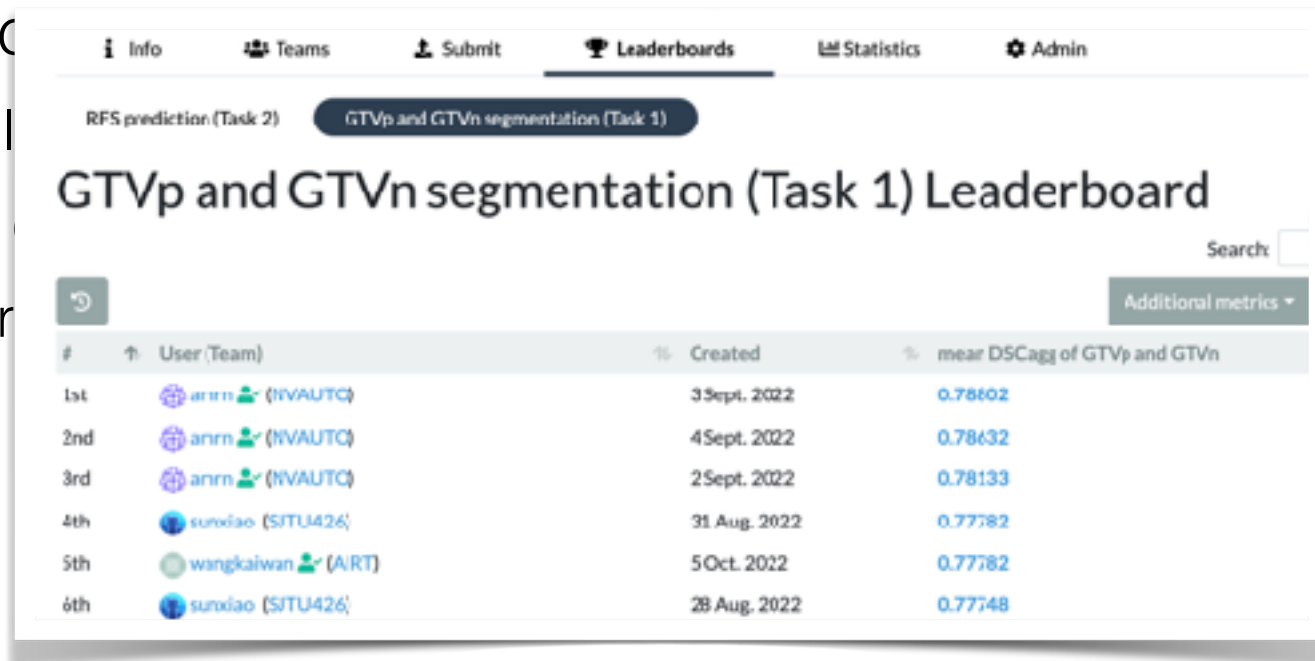
A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

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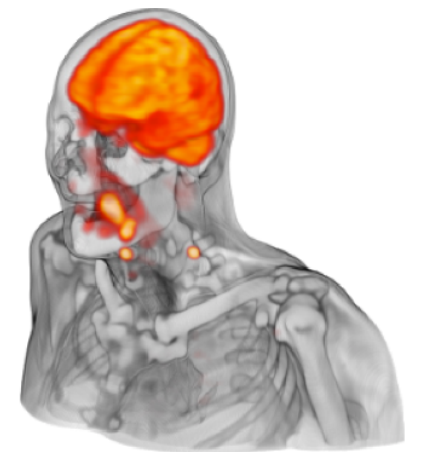
- For all
- Team
- Gover



The screenshot shows a web interface for a competition. The top navigation bar includes links for Info, Teams, Submit, Leaderboards (active), Statistics, and Admin. Below the navigation bar, there are tabs for 'RFS prediction (Task 2)' and 'GTVp and GTVn segmentation (Task 1)'. The main heading is 'GTVp and GTVn segmentation (Task 1) Leaderboard'. A search bar and a dropdown for 'Additional metrics' are on the right. The table below lists the top 6 teams with their rank, user/team name, creation date, and mean DSCagg score.

#	↑ User (Team)	% Created	% mean DSCagg of GTVp and GTVn
1st	anrm (NVAUTQ)	3 Sept. 2022	0.78602
2nd	anrm (NVAUTQ)	4 Sept. 2022	0.78632
3rd	anrm (NVAUTQ)	2 Sept. 2022	0.78133
4th	sunxiao (SITU426)	31 Aug. 2022	0.77782
5th	wangkaiwan (AIRT)	5 Oct. 2022	0.77782
6th	sunxiao (SITU426)	28 Aug. 2022	0.77748

of reviewers



A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

5. Impact and output

- For the community
 - Assess the feasibility and maturity of the task
 - Identify problems and potential solutions
 - Ideas for the next edition
 - Motivates the collection of additional data representing specific subpopulations
 - Define standards and guidelines
 - New metrics
 - New guidelines for establishing ground truth
 - Publication of the dataset itself as a resource E.g. (Gatidis et al. 2022)
 - Importance to **promote scientific excellence and innovation** instead of pure quantitative performance
- For the organizers
 - Strong **bibliometric impact** (citations)
 - Network and visibility (future projects and funding)
 - Fantastic adventure and unique learning process



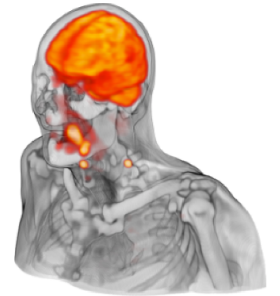
Gatidis, S. et al. (2022). A whole-body FDG-PET/CT Dataset with manually annotated Tumor Lesions. Scientific Data 2022 9:1, 9(1), 1–7.



A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

5. Impact and output

- For the community



- Importance to promote scientific excellence and innovation instead of pure quantitative performance

- For the organizers

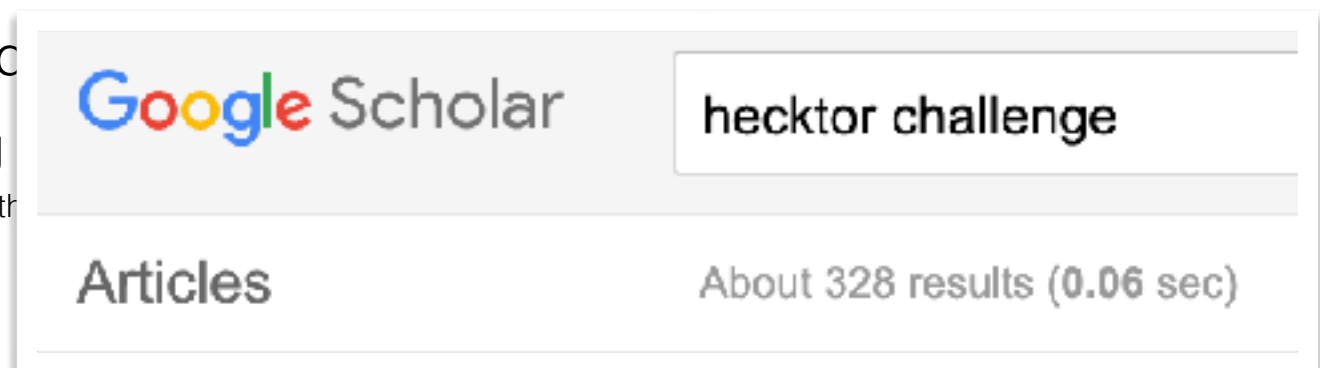
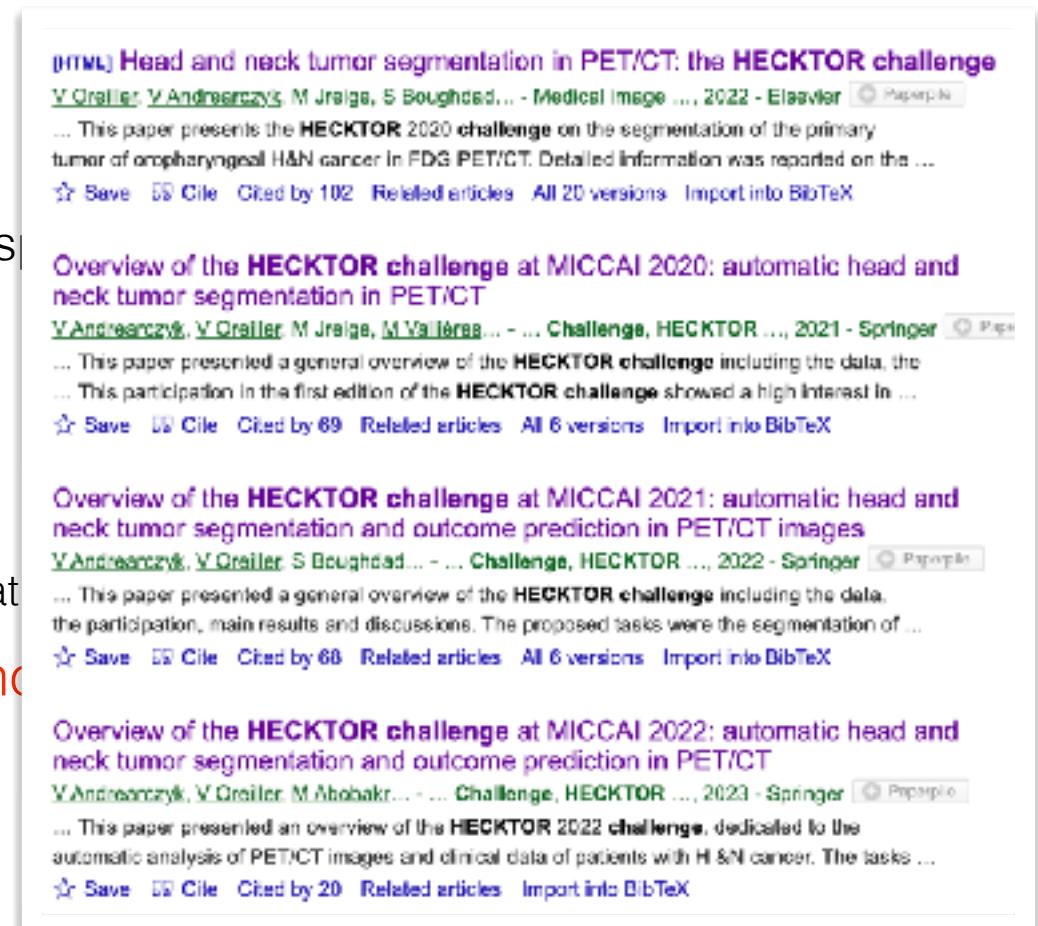
- Strong bibliometric impact (citations)

HECKTOR: 3 proceeding volumes, ~10 papers from us, ~300 citations as of May 2023

- Network

- Fantastic

Gatidis,
Scientific



A CHECKLIST FOR ORGANIZING A COMPETITION IN DATA SCIENCE

- Conclusions

- A challenge can have a **major impact on the scientific/technological maturity** of both the field and the researcher
 - Unique and exciting experience !
- The **dataset** often constitutes the most important outcome or resource of the challenge
 - A challenge can highly valorize an existing dataset
 - In the context of the HECKTOR challenge, **data curation** was among the top time consuming task
 - Starting out from an existing and highly curated dataset can be extremely valuable
- Organizing a challenge requires taking several decisions that will have a direct impact on the field
 - Poor decisions and data quality can lead to erroneous scientific conclusions
- Organizing the challenge in the right conference and for 2-3 consecutive years will likely lead to optimal impact

GROUP EXERCISE (3 PERS.): REFLEXION (20MIN), PRESENTATIONS

- Simple checklist for assessing efforts related to the organization of a challenge based on **your dataset (idea)**
 1. Domain and community
Task(s) to solve, disciplines involved, choice of the venue
 2. Dataset and curation
Size and population, curation level, availability/quality of ground truth, sharing, volume and storage, validation strategy
 3. Ranking
Performance measure(s) for the considered task(s)
 4. Challenge organization and implementation
Rules, timeline and phases, prize, scientific session, post-challenge activities, workforce
 5. Impact and output
For the community, for the organizers