AI in Medical Imaging

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How many of you use AI clinically?

What is AI?

"All the impressive achievements of deep learning amount to just curve fitting"

–Judea Pearl



What is AI?



Figure: Linear regression = line fitting

What is AI?

Whatever your problem, the key is to phrase it as 'curve' fitting.



Figure: Neural network training = function fitting

Al in medical imaging: Diagnosis/Risk scoring/anomaly detection/decision support



Al in medical imaging: Image processing - Registration



Al in medical imaging: Image processing - Segmentation



Figure: Left: Ronneberger et al, 2015. Right: Arnavaz et al, 2020

Al in medical imaging: Image processing – Tractography, microstructural properties

Learn to Track: Deep Learning for Tractography

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(a) predicted



(b) ground truth



(c) overlap



(d) overreach

AI in medical imaging: Image synthesis - CT from MR



Al in medical imaging: Image processing: Denoising; high quality from low quality; movement removal



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Training shortest-path tractography: Automatic learning of spatial priors

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The sky is the limit!

The sky is the limit! Alas – There are still issues..

Uncertainty quantification. Predictions are good, certain predictions are better, knowing how certain is best









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- Diagnosing with good accuracy is great, but knowing what caused the diagnosis is even better



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- Understanding mistakes are yet even better...
- Model communication, visualization, interaction important, nontrivial open problems





Sources of bias in ML algorithms:

- Discrimination embedded in training data
- Imbalanced training data

A computer assisted diagnosis example

- State-of-the-art CNN diagnosing thoracic diseases from X-ray¹
- ▶ Increased % females \Rightarrow improved female test diagnosis
- ▶ Increased % females \Rightarrow decreased male test diagnosis
- Predictor trained only on females performs better on men



Figure: Diagnostic accuracy of Pneumothorax for female (left) and male (right) test subjects as a function of % females in training set

¹Larrazabal et al, PNAS 2020

Sources of bias in ML algorithms;

- Discrimination embedded in training data
- Imbalanced training data
- Different levels of label noise (diagnosis errors) give different training conditions for different groups
- Different feature distributions in different groups (different disease patterns and/or anatomical features) give different training conditions for different groups



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- Is AI just glorified curve fitting? Yes! But if you have a great curve fitter, everything looks like a curve!
- At this point, AI is all over in the scanner, in the processing, in the analysis – working quite well!
- But there are still pitfalls (and they are very interesting!)
 - Uncertainty modelling/quantification
 - Interpretability/transparency
 - Bias, fairness, ethics detecting and fixing