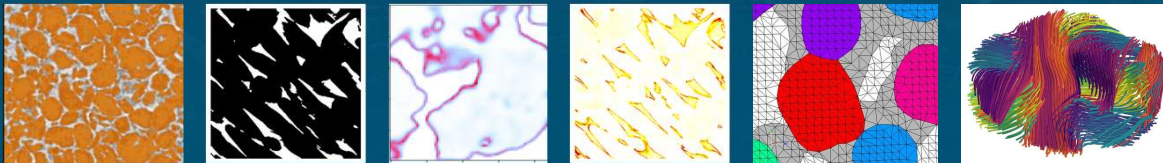
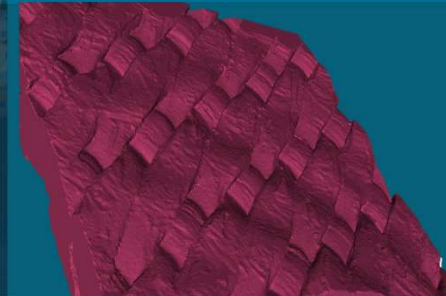


CT segmentation of woven composite materials over shifted domains via deep learning



Carianne Martinez, Brendan Donohoe, Matthew D. Smith,
Scott A. Roberts



Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

Can we predict the behavior of as-built parts with error bars?

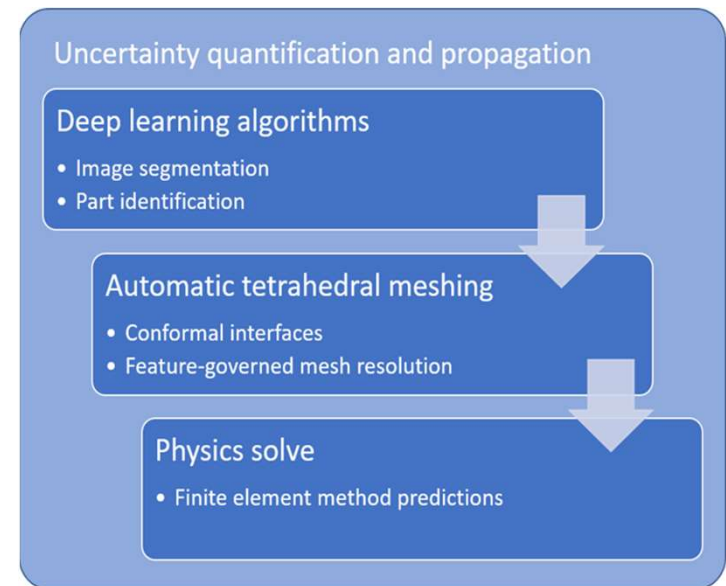
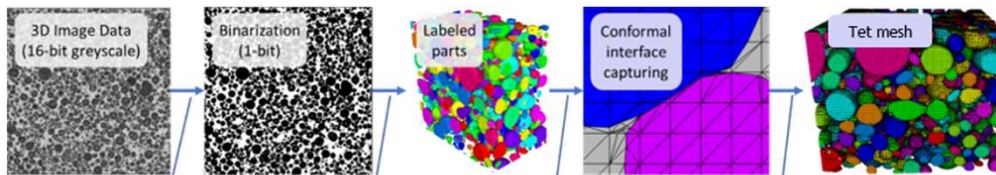


Hypothesis: We can develop an automated and credible image-to-mesh technology that can demonstrate the physics impact of per-unit variability on material, component, or system performance

Objective: We seek to develop a methodology for **automatically, efficiently, and reproducibly** creating **conformal** finite element meshes from **3D tomography** with **quantified uncertainty**.

Research thrusts – primary science questions:

1. Automatic CT segmentation via Deep Learning (DL)
2. Automatic conformal tetrahedral mesh creation (ATM)
3. Uncertainty quantification and propagation (UQ)



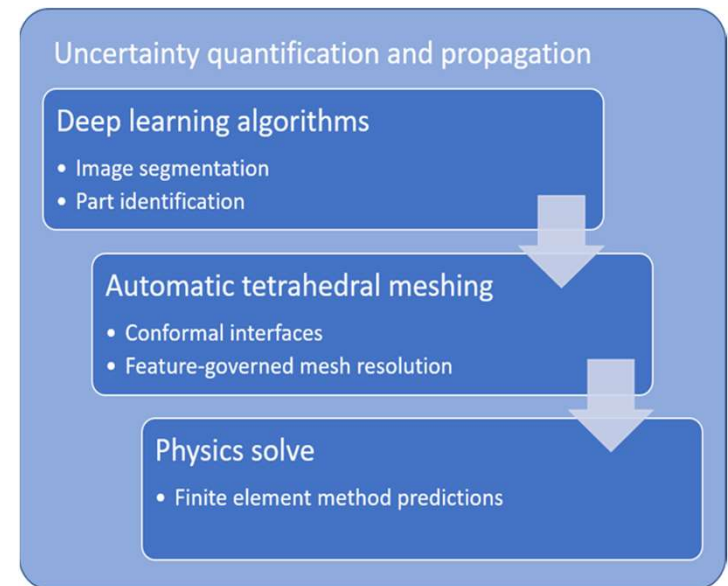
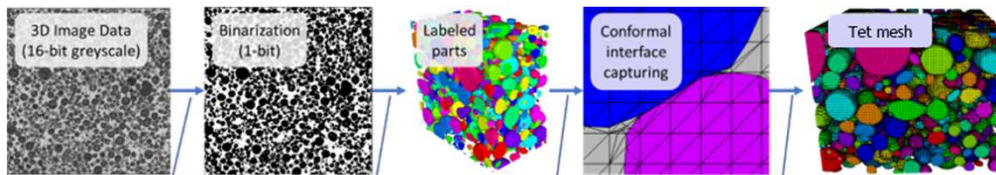
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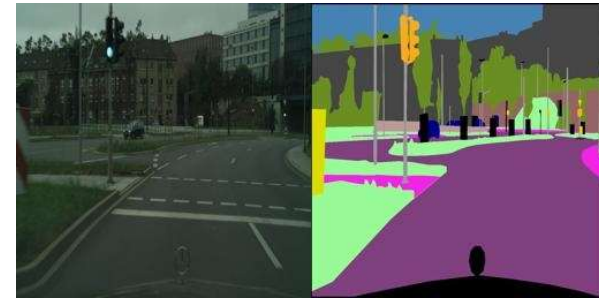
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Segmentation is a classic computer vision problem

Image segmentation is well studied

- Small files
- Large training sets

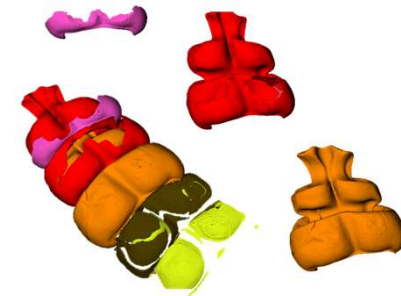


<https://www.cityscapes-dataset.com/>

Cityscape
($\sim 1e5$ pixels)

CT segmentation is different

- Volumetric; larger files
- Class imbalance (lots of background)
- Noise/artifacts in scans
- Small training sets with “bad” human labels
- Inconsistent scan quality (domain shift)



Rattlesnake Tail
($\sim 1e9$ voxels)

Medical researchers are leading this work toward Deep Learning solutions.

Segmentation is a classic computer vision problem

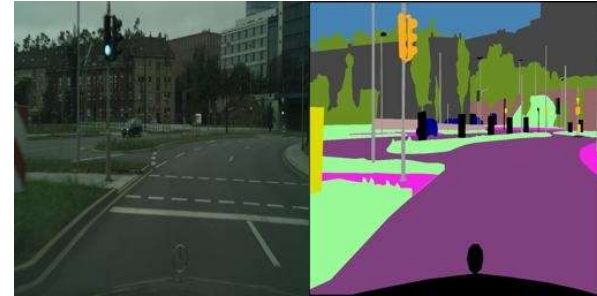
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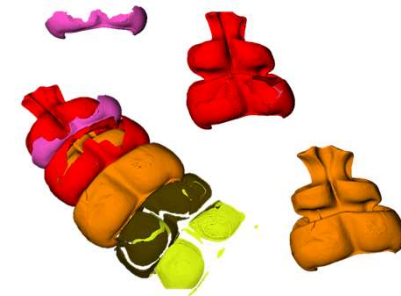
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Encoder-decoder network with skip connections

Encoder learns features at different resolutions.

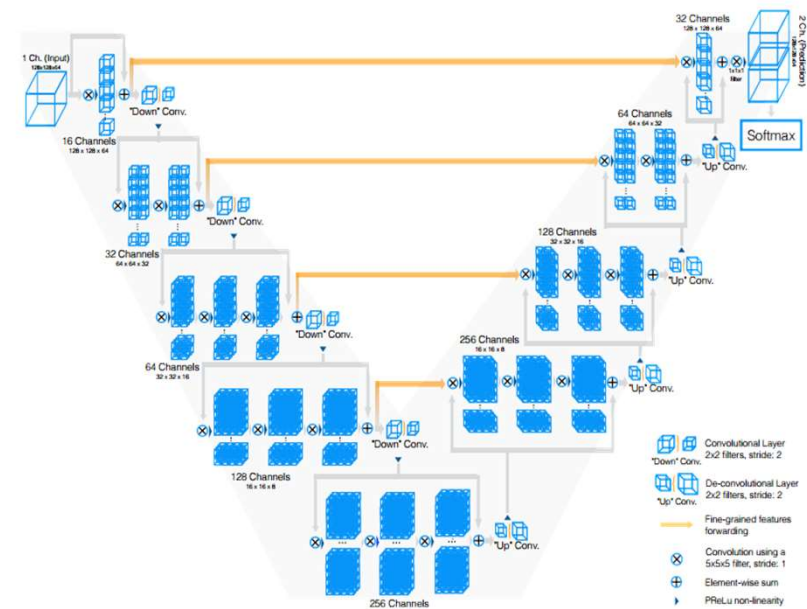
Decoder uses encoded features passed via skip connections for segmentation.

U-net: significant advance for biomedical segmentation

- Olaf Ronneberger, Philipp Fischer, Thomas Brox, “U-Net: Convolutional Networks for Biomedical Image Segmentation”, in Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention (MICCAI), Springer, LNCS, Vol.9351: 234–241, 2015

V-net follows as a natural extension to handle 3D images.

- F. Milletari, N. Navab, and S. A. Ahmadi, “V-net: Fully convolutional neural networks for volumetric medical image segmentation,” in 2016 Fourth International Conference on 3D Vision (3DV), Oct 2016, pp.565–571



V-Net architecture for segmenting volumetric data
(Image from Milletari, et al. 2016)

Geometric uncertainty is characterized with dropout layers



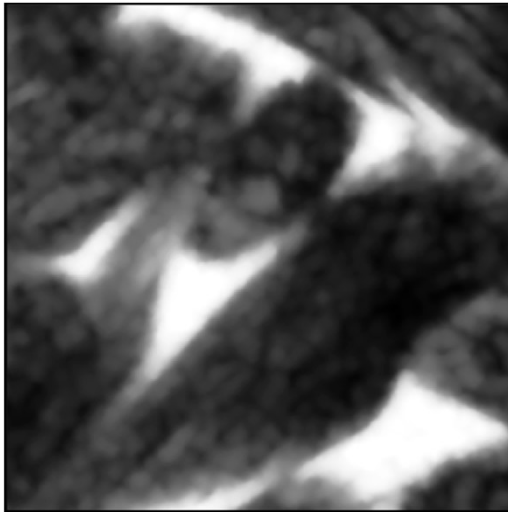
Dropout layers can be used to add stochasticity in DL model predictions.

- Typically used for regularization during training
- Gal, et al. [1] introduced active dropout layers during inference

Variance over several DL binary segmentation predictions is an indication of uncertainty.

[1] Y. Gal and Z. Ghahramani, Dropout as a bayesian approximation: Representing model uncertainty in deep learning, in Proceedings of the 33rd International Conference on Machine Learning, 2016.

CT scan slice



Geometric uncertainty is characterized with dropout layers



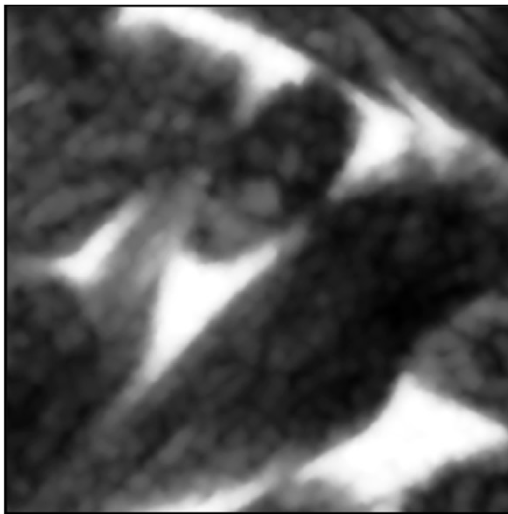
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CT scan slice



Expert label



9 | Geometric uncertainty is characterized with dropout layers

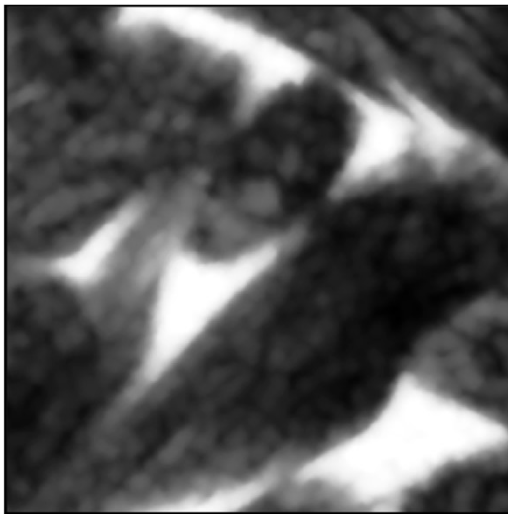
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CT scan slice



Expert label



DL label with uncertainty map



In the training domain, the DL model is accurate and exhibits little uncertainty about predictions.

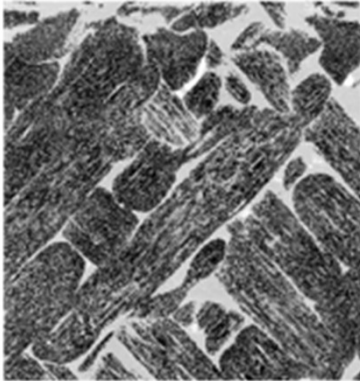
DL model trained and ready for deployment

Woven composite
example 1



CT scan slice

Woven composite
example 2



Once the model is trained using an expert label, we use the model to predict segmentations for new CT scans.

DL model trained and ready for deployment: the bad news

Woven composite
example 1

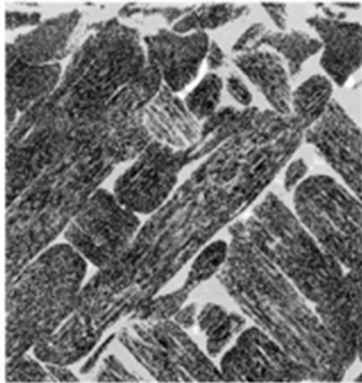


CT scan slice



Poor DL segmentation

Woven composite
example 2



DL model trained and ready for deployment: the bad news

Woven composite
example 1

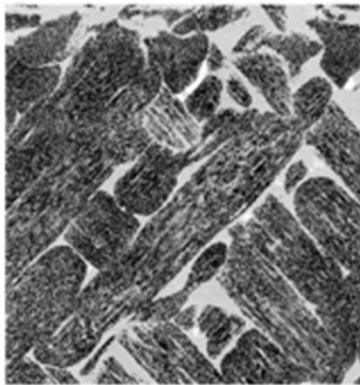


CT scan slice

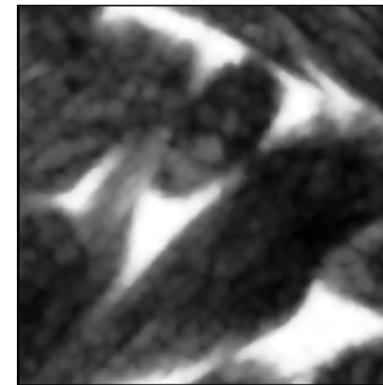


Poor DL segmentation

Woven composite
example 2



Recall our training example:



The new examples are different:

- Scanning equipment
- Resolution
- Material composition

DL notoriously fails to generalize under domain shift.

DL model trained and ready for deployment: the good news

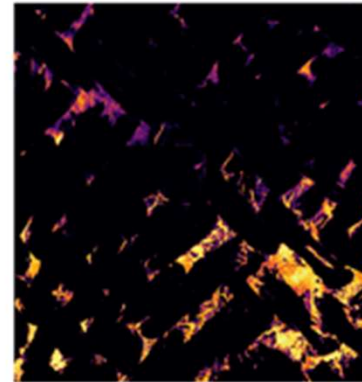
Woven composite
example 1



CT scan slice

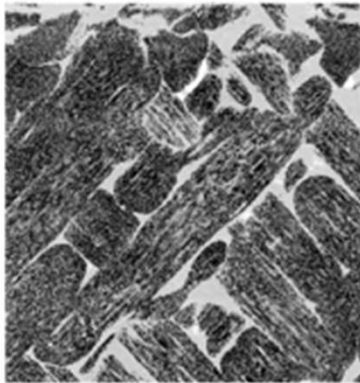


Poor DL segmentation

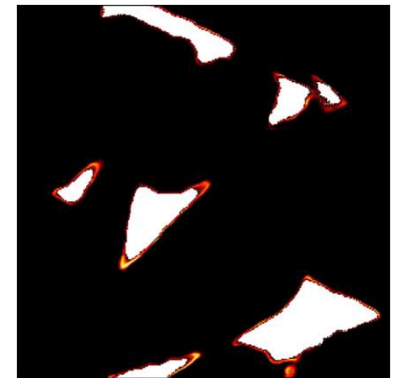


Uncertainty Map

Woven composite
example 2



DL prediction is incorrect, but with high uncertainty compared with the training domain:



DL model trained and ready for deployment: the good news

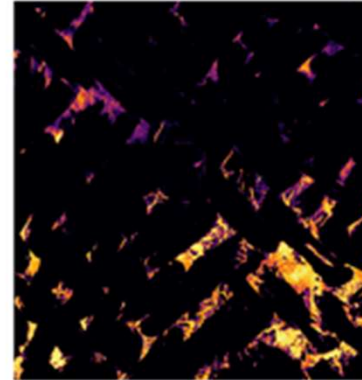
Woven composite
example 1



CT scan slice



Poor DL segmentation

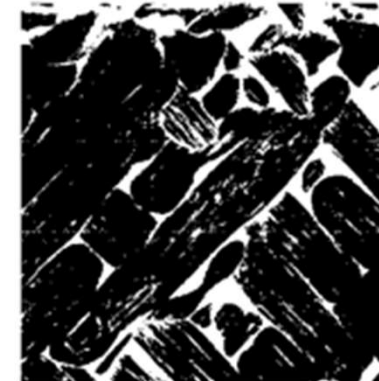
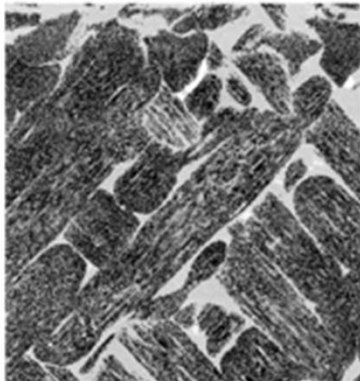


Uncertainty Map



Refined segmentation

Woven composite
example 2



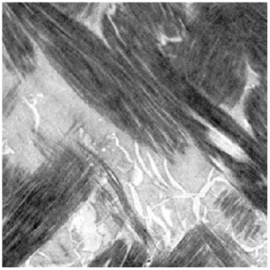
We can refine our predictions using uncertainty maps.

Uncertainty can be used to inform segmentation



We leverage uncertainty maps to enable generalization of a trained model to shifted domains

CT slice from shifted domain

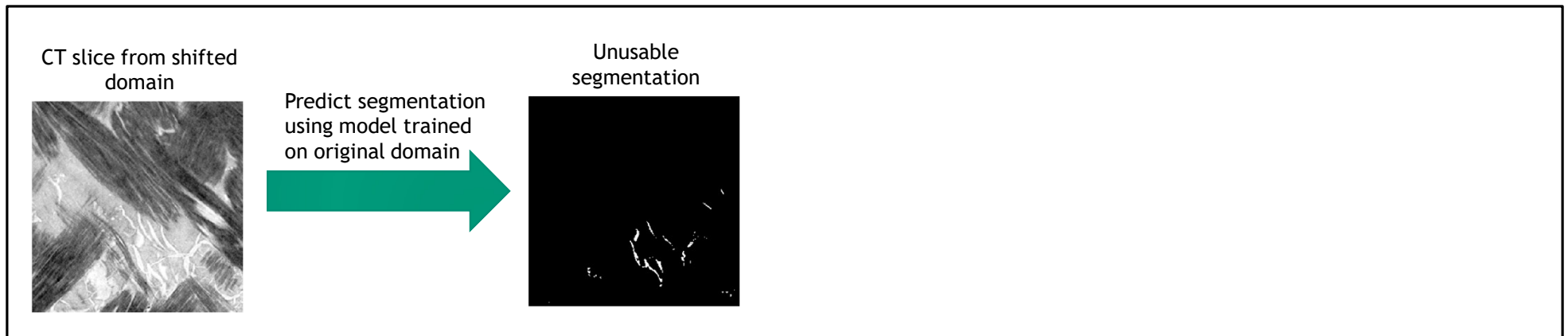


C. Martinez, K. M. Potter, M. D. Smith, E. A. Donahue, L. Collins, J. P. Korbin, and S. A. Roberts, Segmentation certainty through uncertainty: Uncertainty-refined binary volumetric segmentation under multifactor domain shift, in Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Workshops, 2019.

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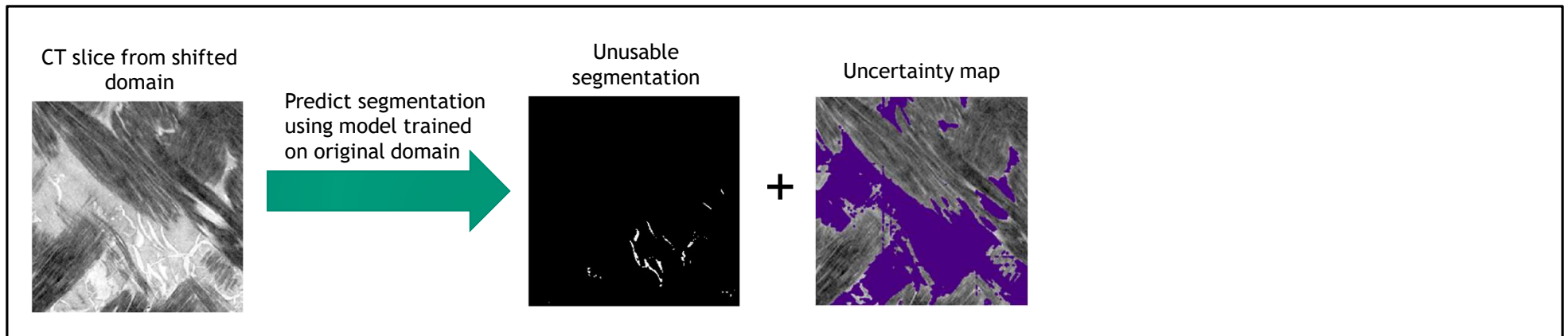


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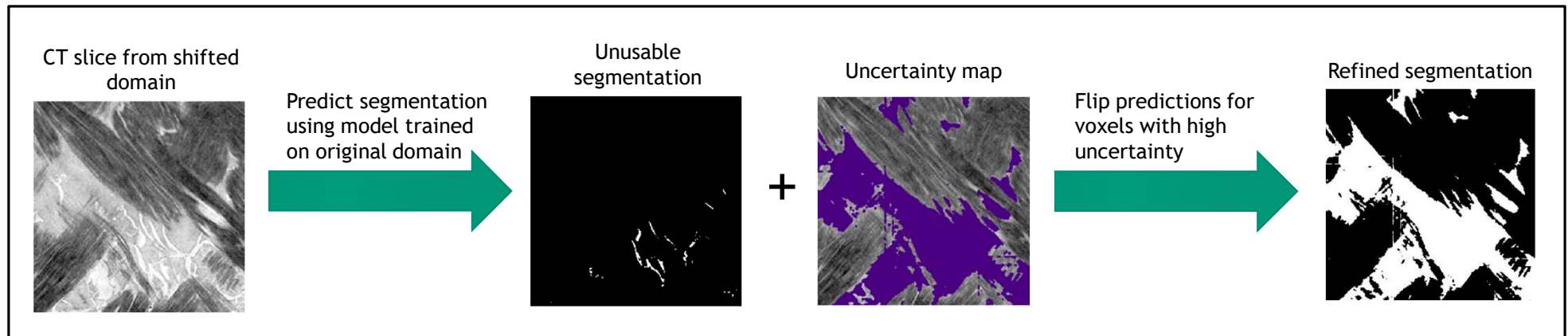


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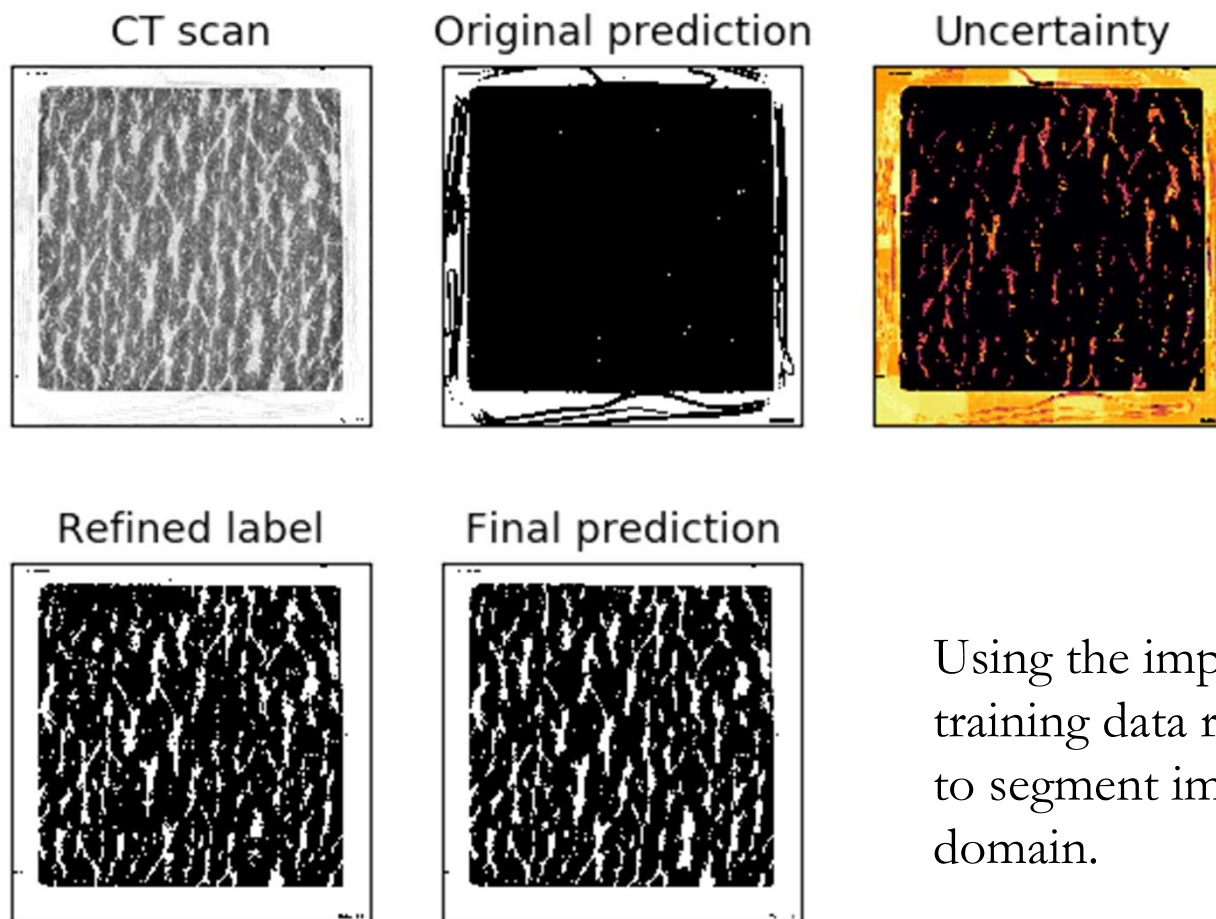


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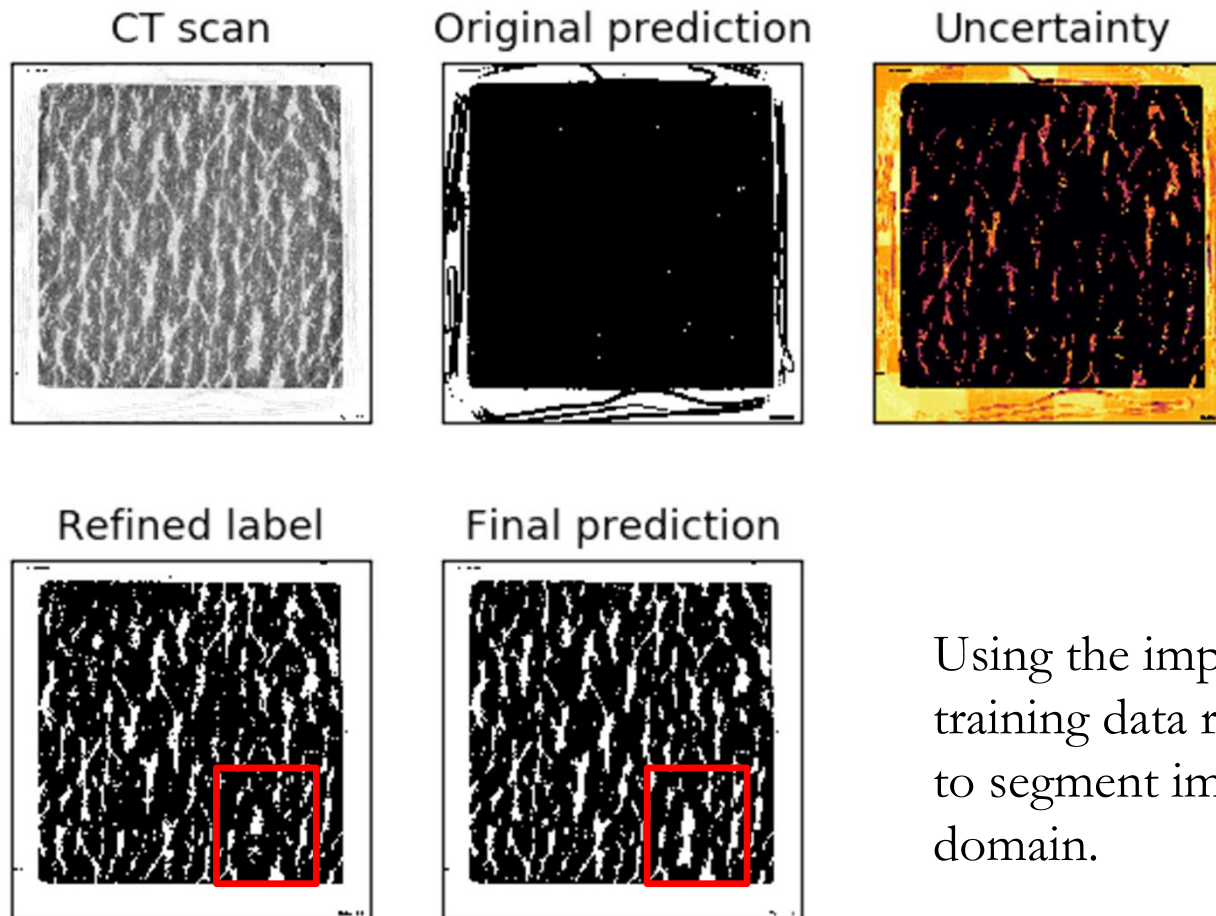
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Key idea: Use imperfect refined results as training data



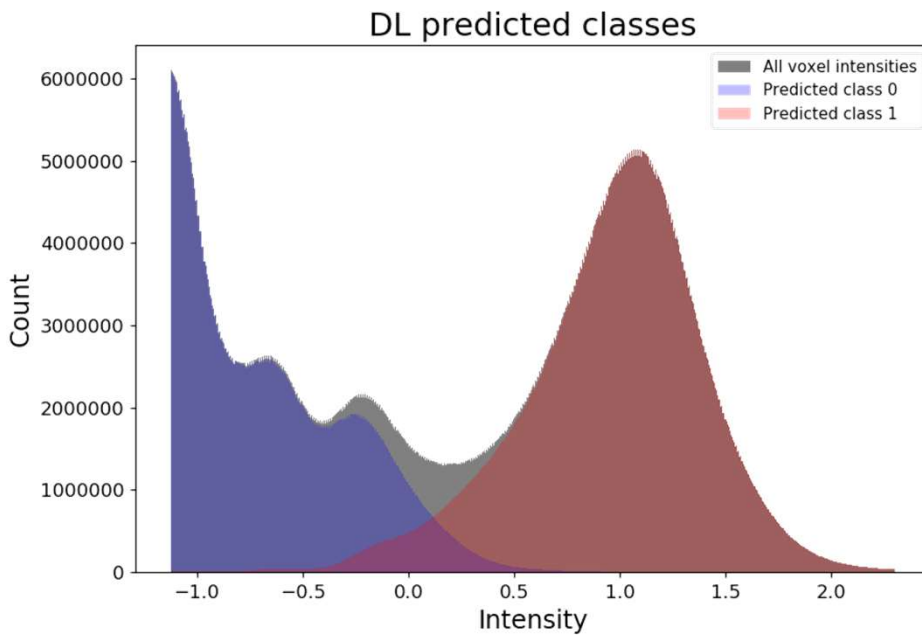
Using the imperfect refined label as training data results in a model able to segment images from the shifted domain.

Key idea: Use imperfect refined results as training data



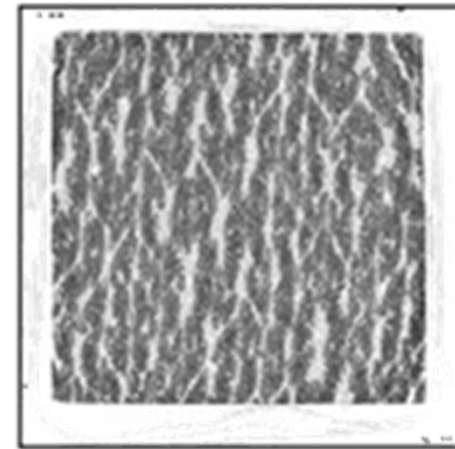
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Deep learning is not thresholding.

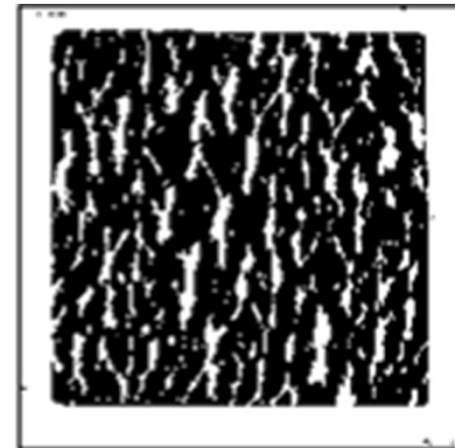


The coarseness of the prediction is at the level of the expert label from the original training domain and does not separate individual fibers.

CT scan slice



Final prediction





- CT segmentation can be automated with DL.
- Supervised learning with expert labels is best.
- Limitations in training data availability can be overcome by leveraging uncertainty maps to refine predictions.
- Qualitative results indicate that imperfect labels can be used as training data to produce a new DL model that overcomes domain shift.



Thank you!

