

**Automated RT interpretation through Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

## Where we come from traditionally

- Highly manual acquisition processes that are hard to scale
- Usage of analog film requires manual evaluation and physical archiving
- High consumable costs and extensive use of chemicals
- NDT is a major bottleneck in most operations



# The transformation path in NDT



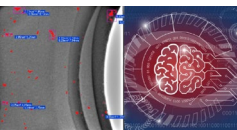
NDT 1.0



NDT 2.0



NDT 3.0

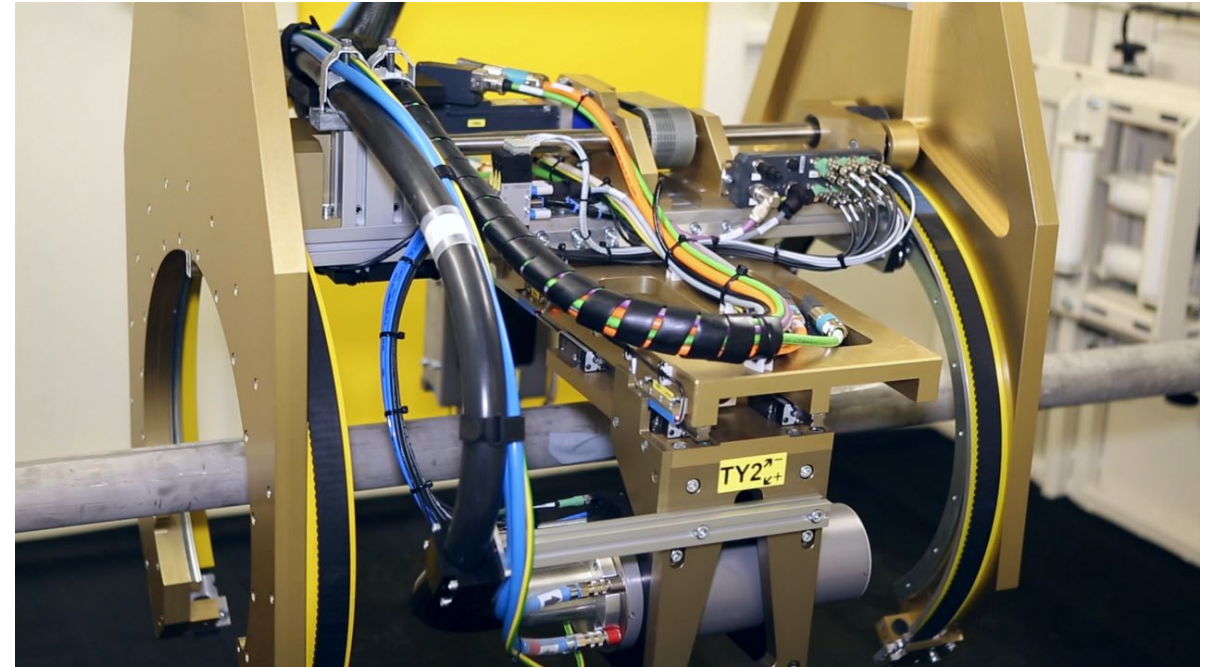
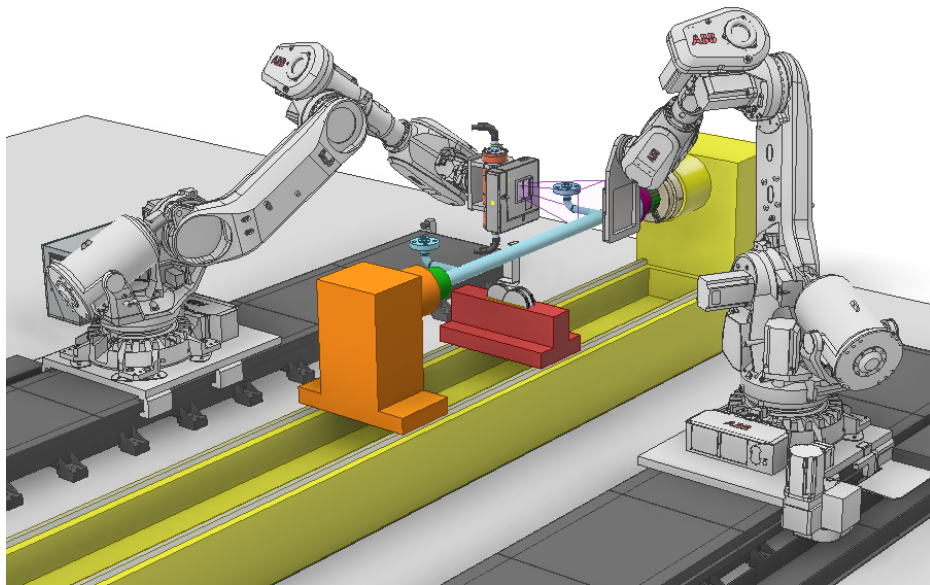


NDT 4.0



3 STEPS TO GREAT DIGITAL MIGRATION

## Highly automated inspection machines



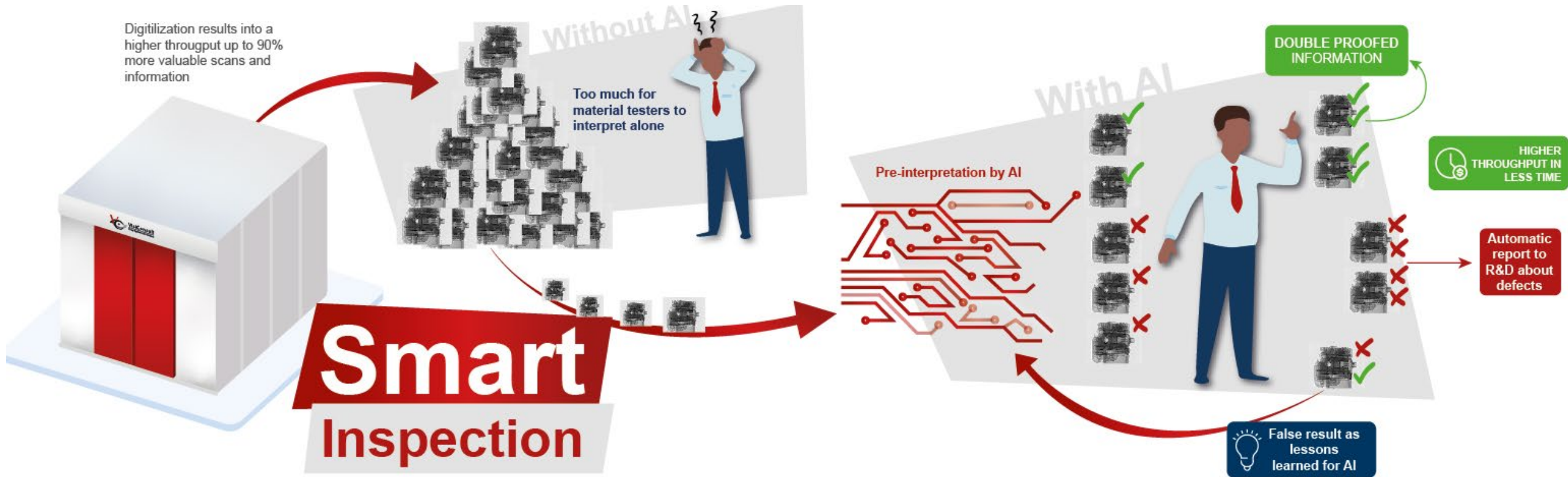
# Digitalization challenges

- Overwhelming amounts of data
- Information is covered by noise
- Lack of skilled personnell for interpretation



# Digitalization of decision making

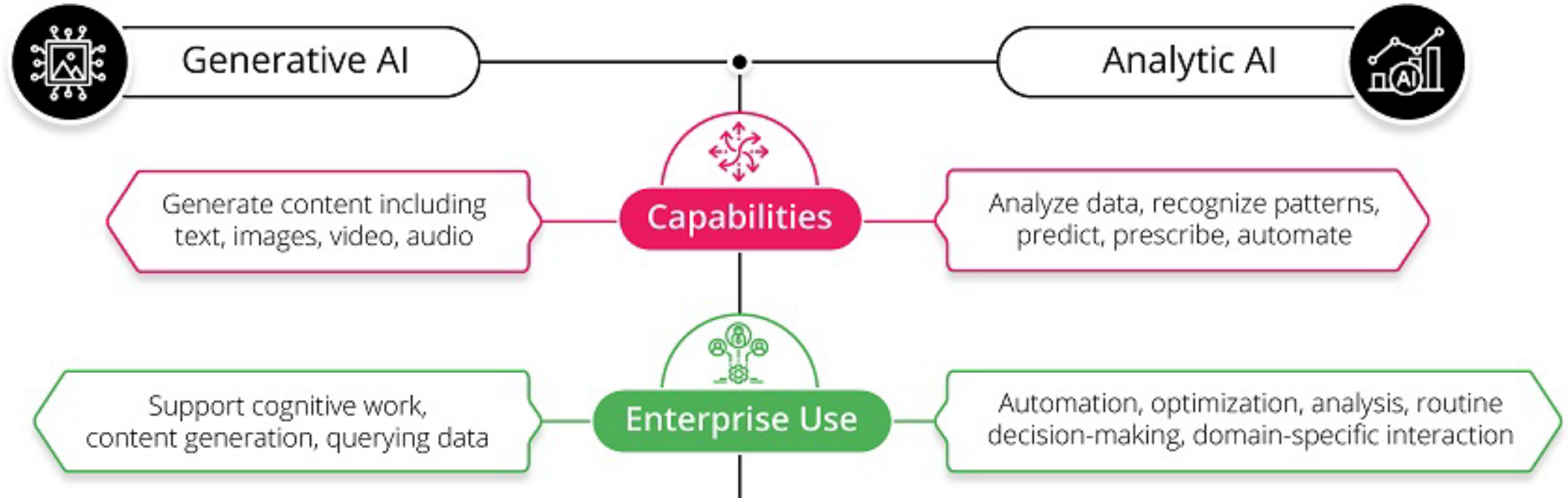
- Bottle neck shifted from the physical into the digital space
- Employees require smart tools to help with decision making
- Shorter delay until decision increases value



# Who has tried ChatGPT?

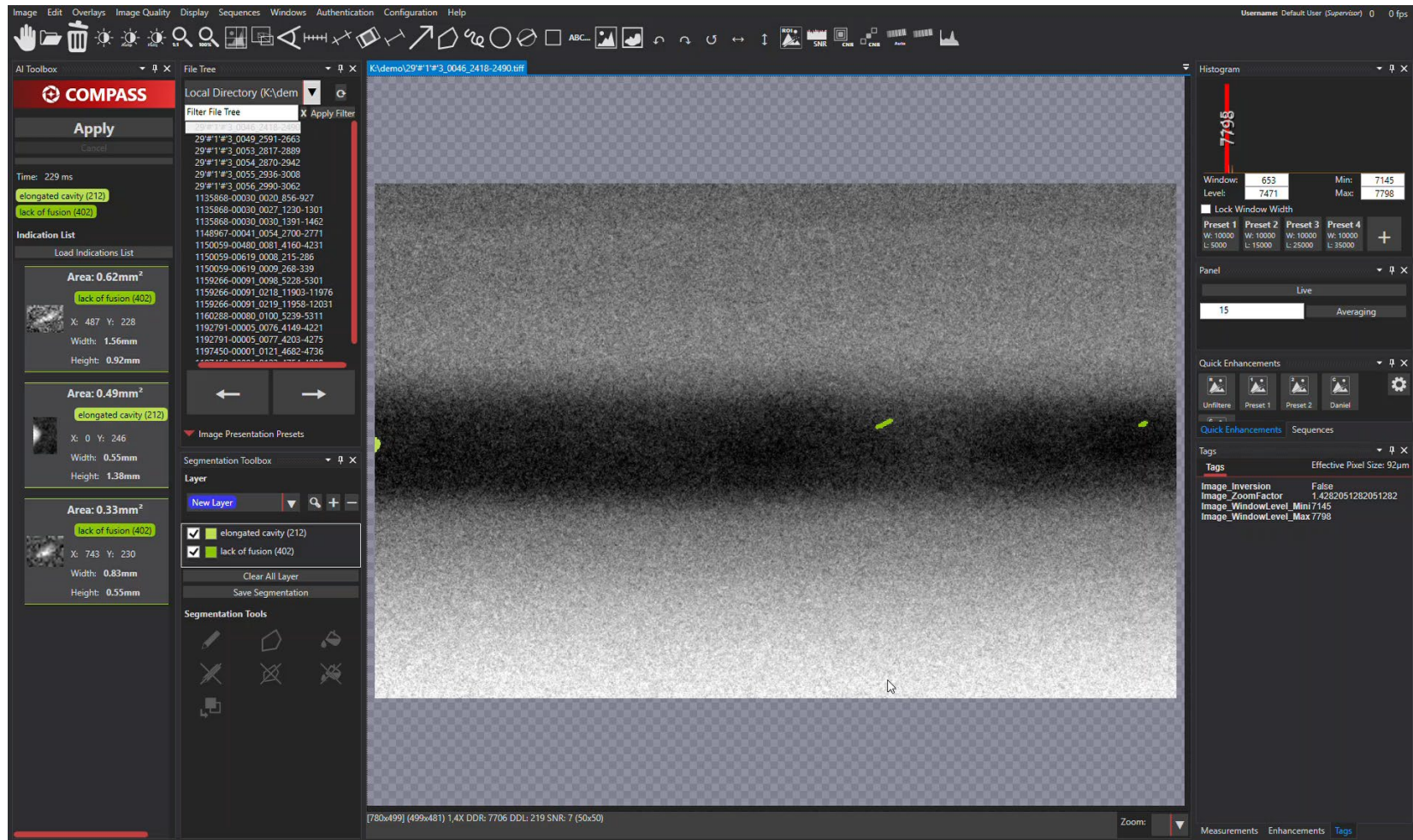


# That is not what we are talking about !









AI Toolbox

Model: CASTING

**Launch COMPASS**

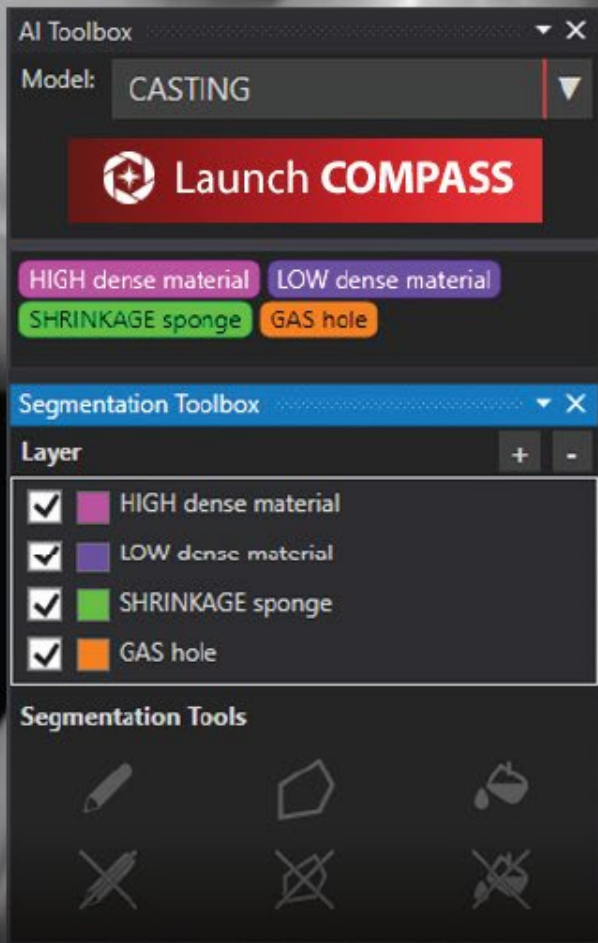
HIGH dense material   LOW dense material  
SHRINKAGE sponge   GAS hole

Segmentation Toolbox

Layer

- HIGH dense material
- LOW dense material
- SHRINKAGE sponge
- GAS hole

Segmentation Tools



# COMPASS

*The X-ray CO-PILOT*

Make better decisions faster!

# Drivers for AI in NDT

- „Leadership asks me to hire 100 new X-ray techs for all sites in the next months. We will be going to every single recruitment event in the respective areas, but I have no hopes that we will fill all positions“
  - A Level III of a major Tier 1 aerospace supplier

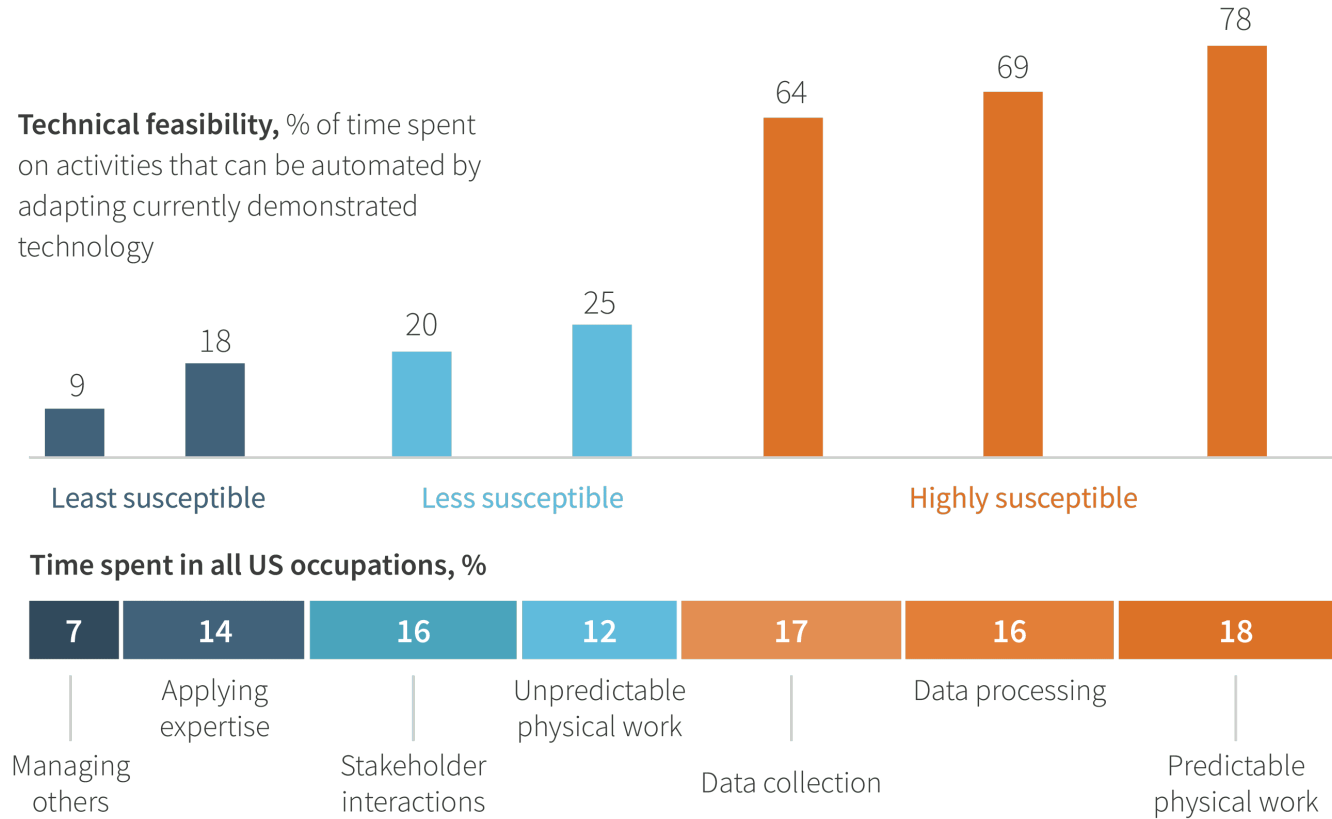
→ Lack of skilled labor
- Quality issues and customer complaints from escape parts

→ Need for increasingly higher quality standards
- Throughput increases due to volume increases

→ Efficiency and cycle time demands

# Why is AI/ADR worth to consider?

## Technical feasibility of automation for work activities

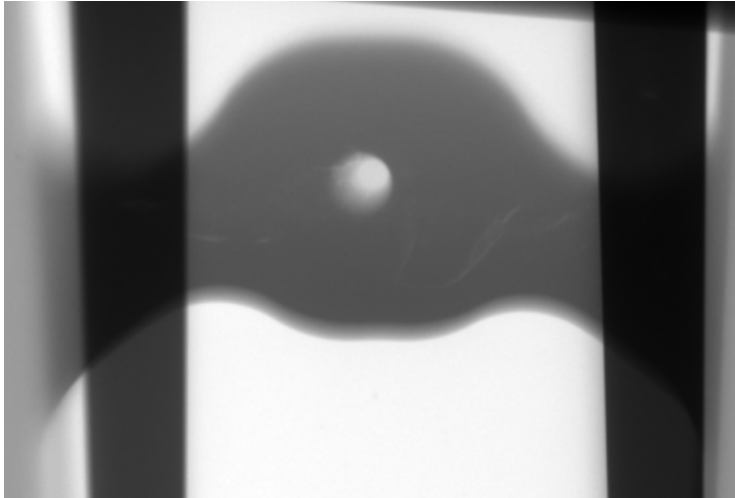


Source: <https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/people-and-organizational-performance/our-insights/the-moment-of-truth-in-customer-service>

# Why is AI/ADR worth to consider?

- Quality (based on studies)
  - Agreement rate of operators with themselves: 70% - 90%
  - Agreement rate of operators with each others: 60% - 85%
  
  - AI agreement rate with itself: 100%
  - Average AI accuracy > 98%
  
  - Human inspectors have fluctuating probability of detection (POD) depending on internal and external factors
  - Human POD decreases over time (Fatigue)
  - AI has constant POD
- Efficiency
  - Average human operators need 20s - 60s to evaluate a single X-ray image (depending on the part)
  - AI requires less than 0.2s to evaluate a single X-ray image
  - AI assisted operators require on average 7 seconds per image

# AI – Practical Example



Raw image

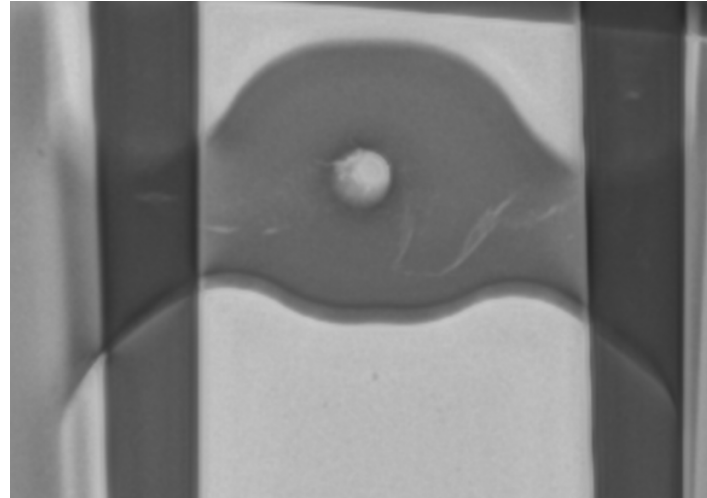
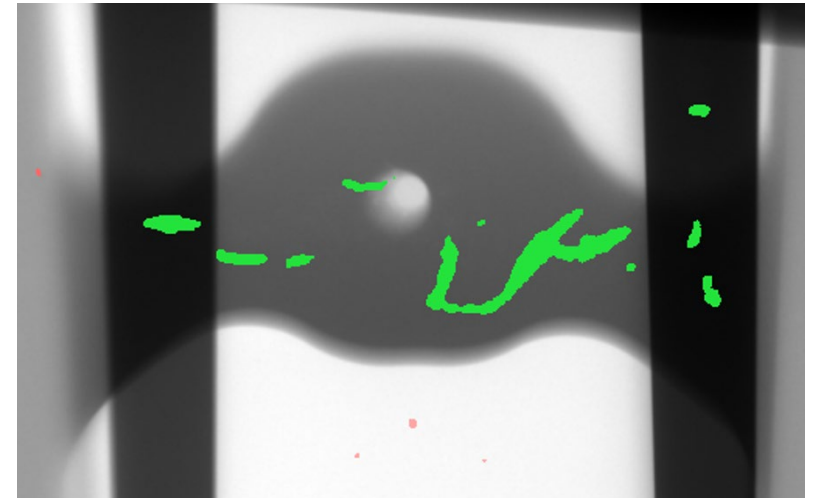


Image with filter



Result

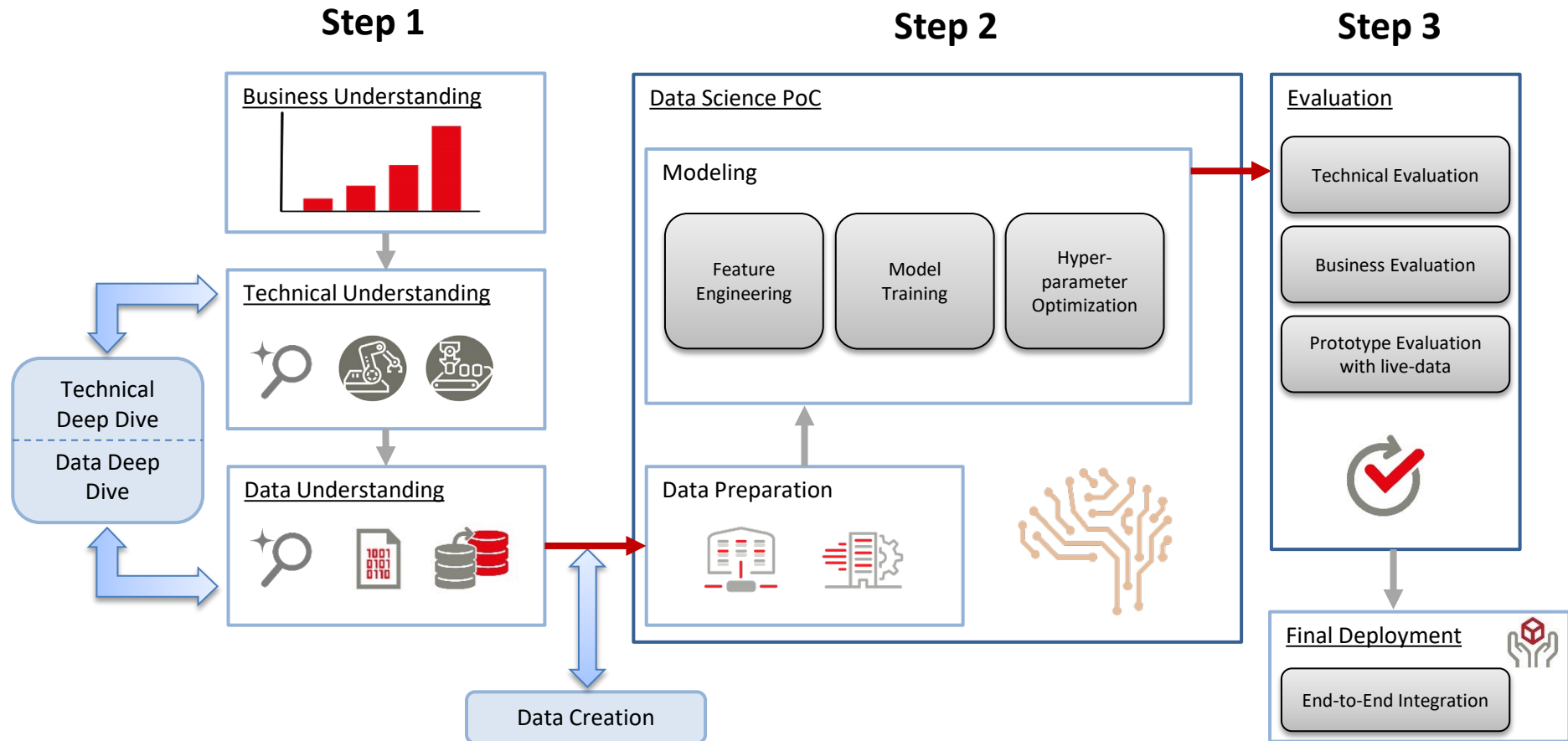
# Summary – tasks done by AI tool

- Indication localization
- Indication classification (defect type)
- Indication measurements (diameter, area, etc.)
- Probability for each indication
- Generation of sorted indication list

**→ 100 - 200 ms cycle time**

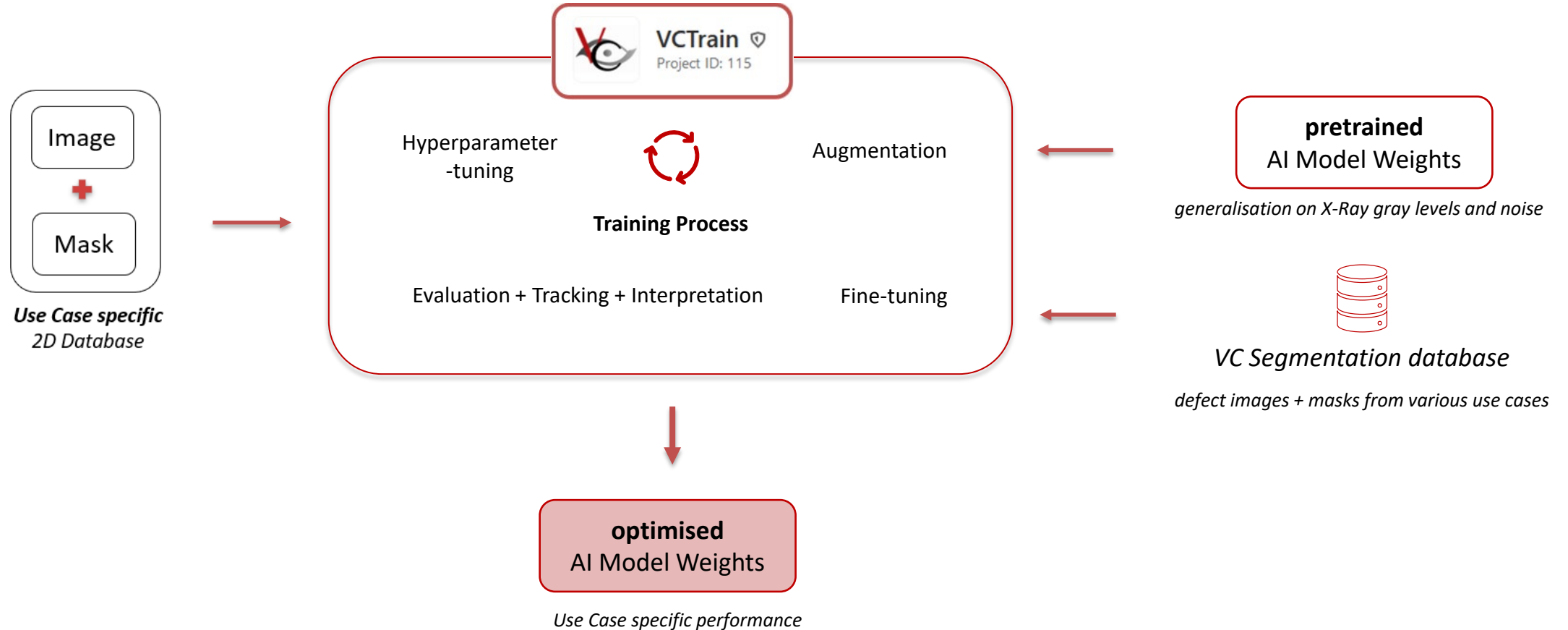


# Path to an AI Solution: Process for new cases



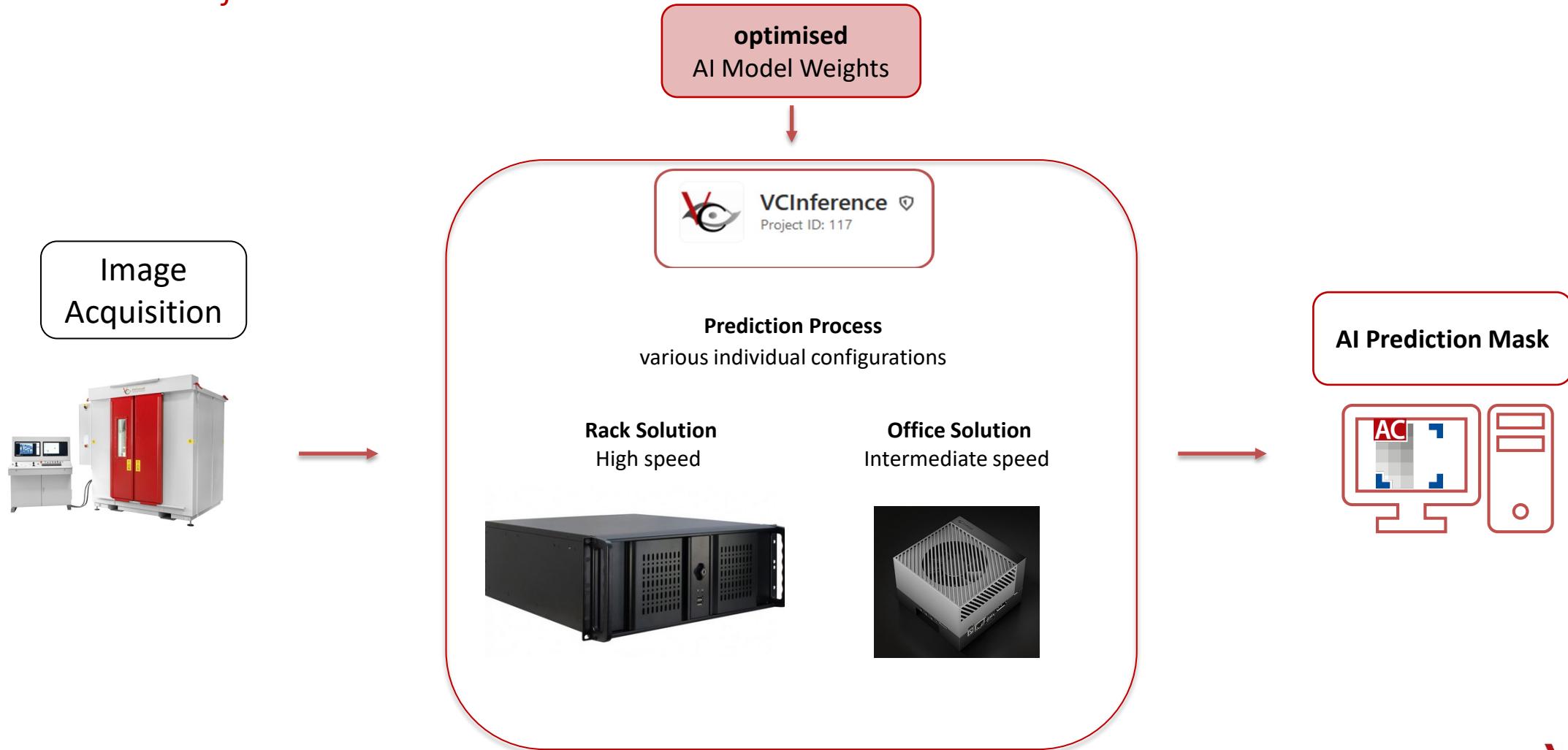
# General AI Workflow – Segmentation Framework

## Finetuning Training Process

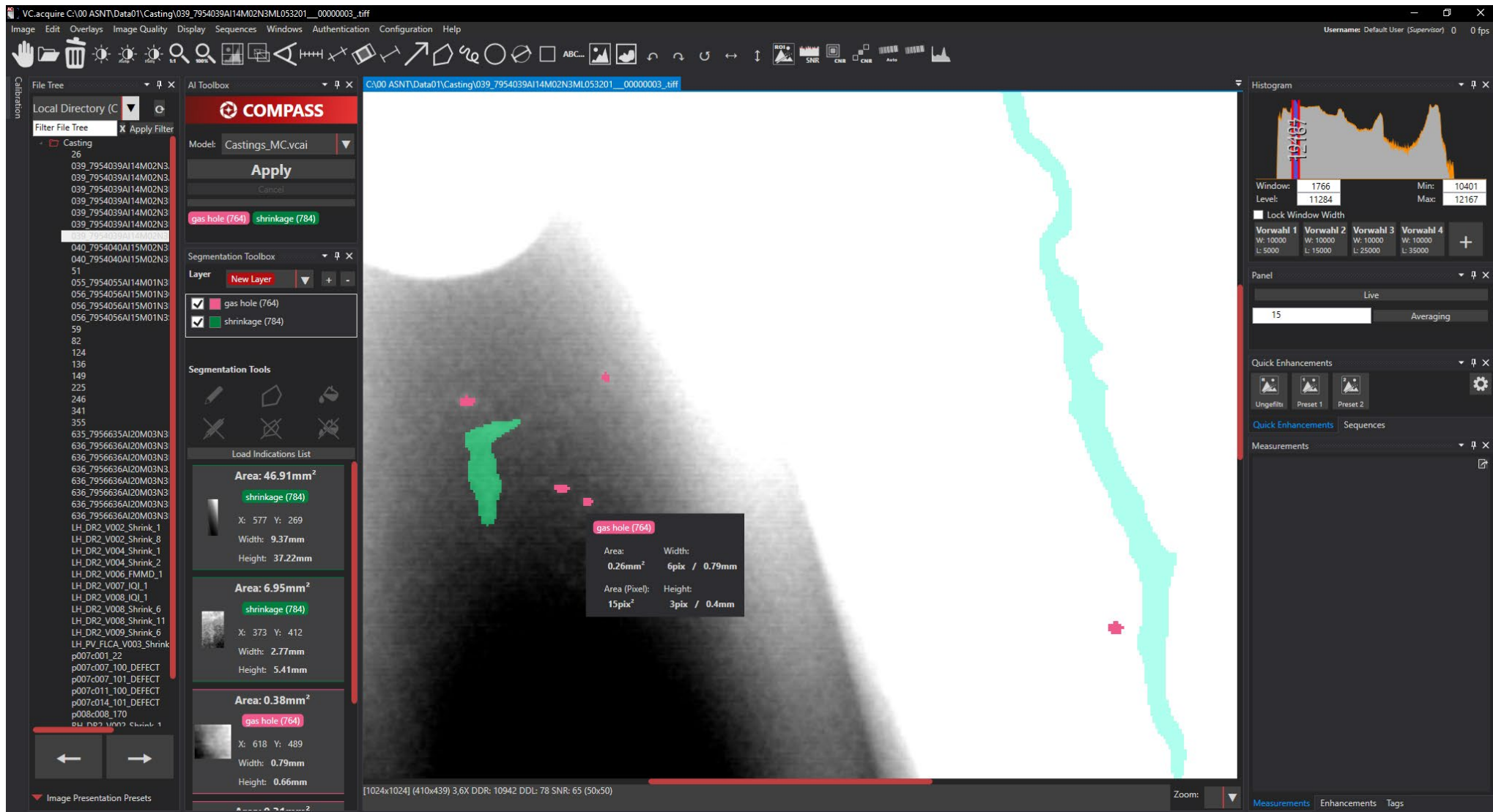


# General AI Workflow – Image Pipeline

## Prediction Interface Process



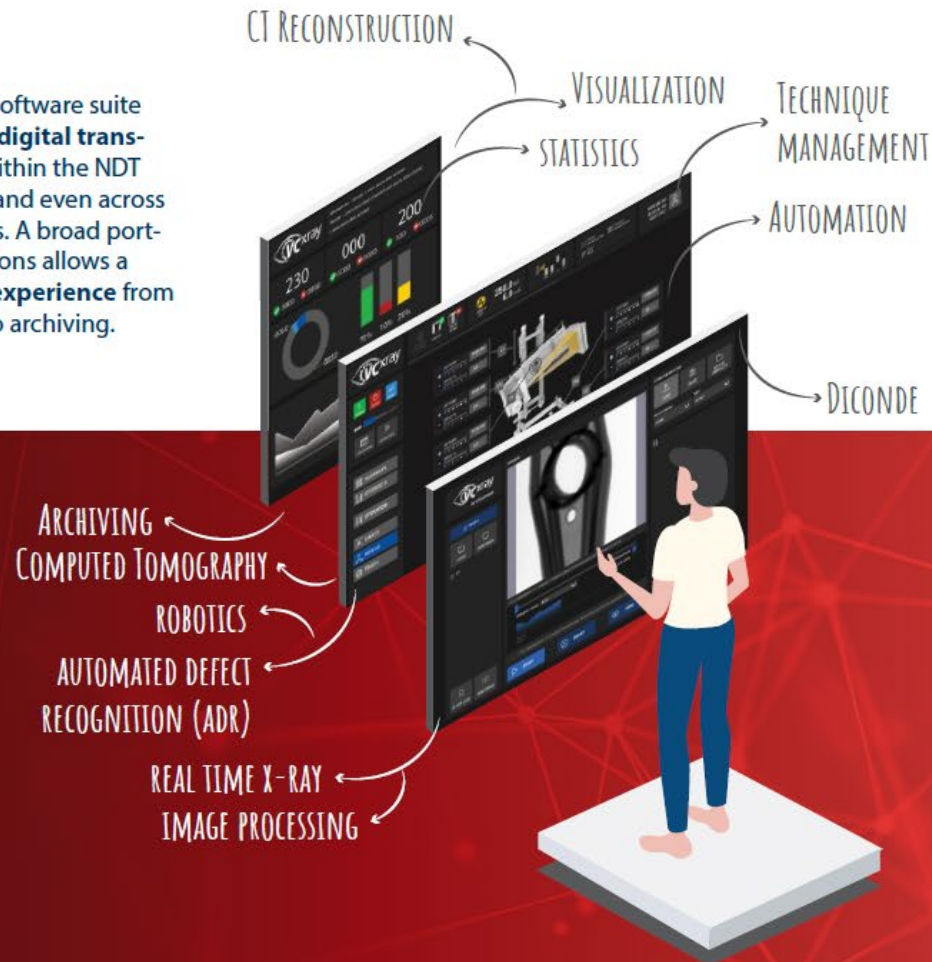
# The outcome



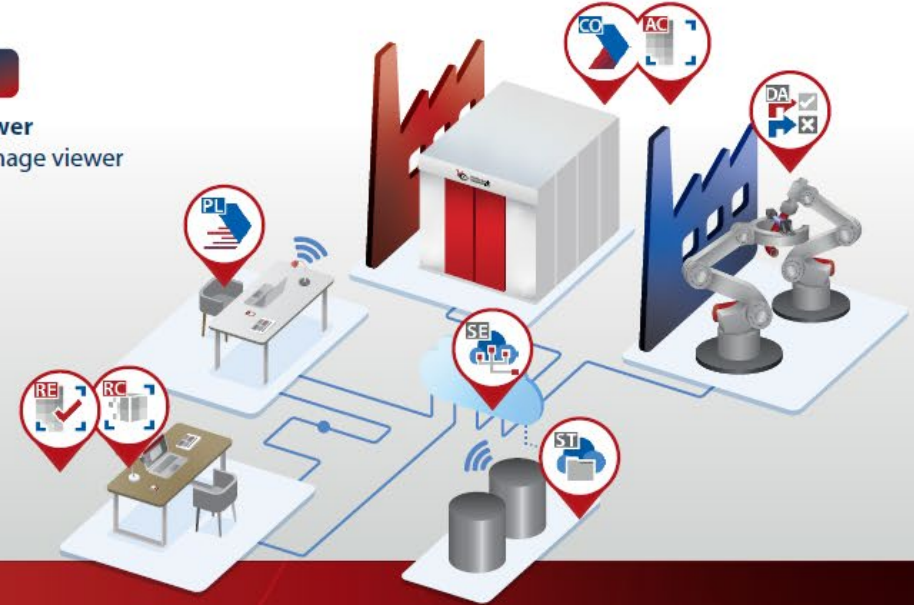
# The x.OS

## What is the x.OS?

The leading software suite that enables **digital transformation** within the NDT department and even across organizations. A broad portfolio of solutions allows a fully **digital experience** from acquisition to archiving.



**FREE**  
**VC.viewer**  
 X-ray image viewer



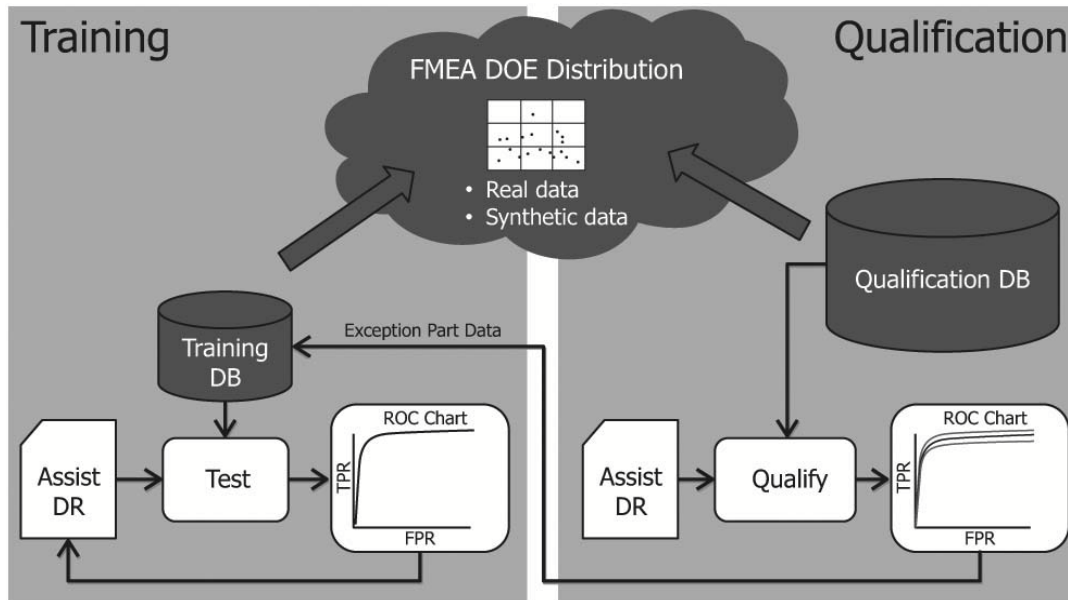
- VC.control**  
System control and automation software
- VC.planner**  
Offline programming solution for systems and techniques
- VC.acquire**  
Image acquisition and enhancement software
- VC.review**  
Image review and post processing software
- VC.server**  
Central management and connectivity server
- VC.storage**  
Long-term storage and X-ray image archive
- VC.recomanager**  
CT-scan reconstruction and management software
- VC.dashboard**  
Visualized status real-time visualisation of inspection status

# Qualification and Statistics

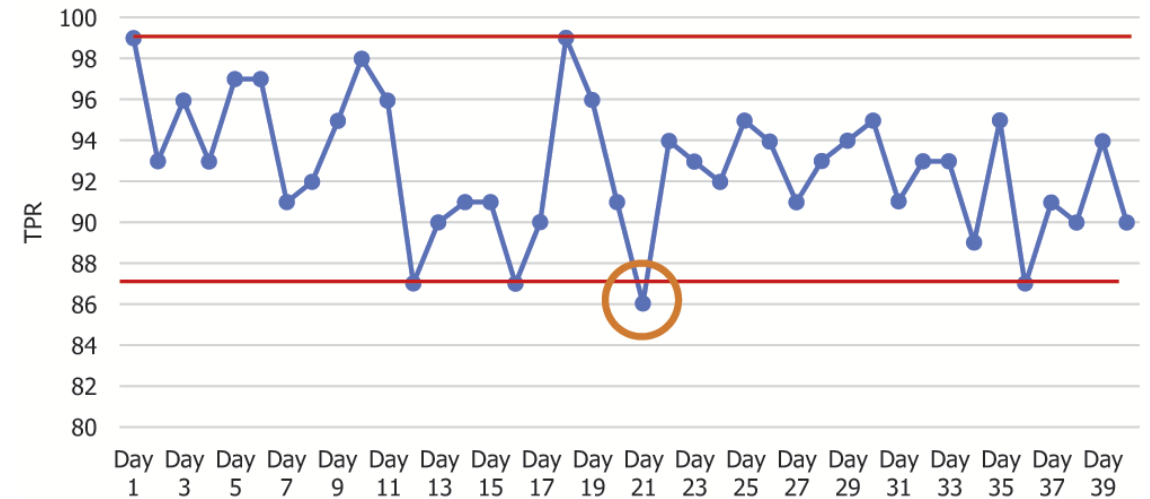


Designation: E3327/E3327M - 21

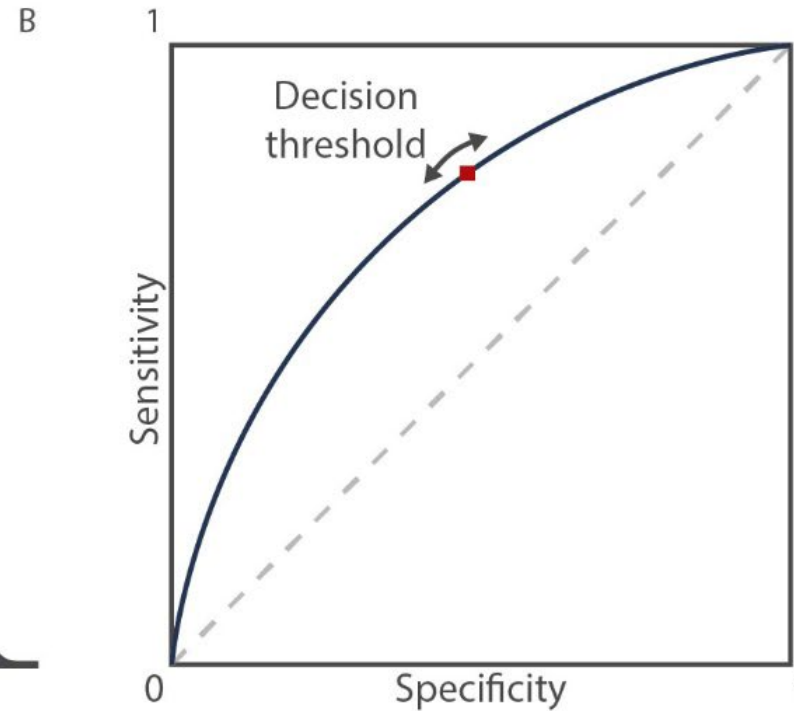
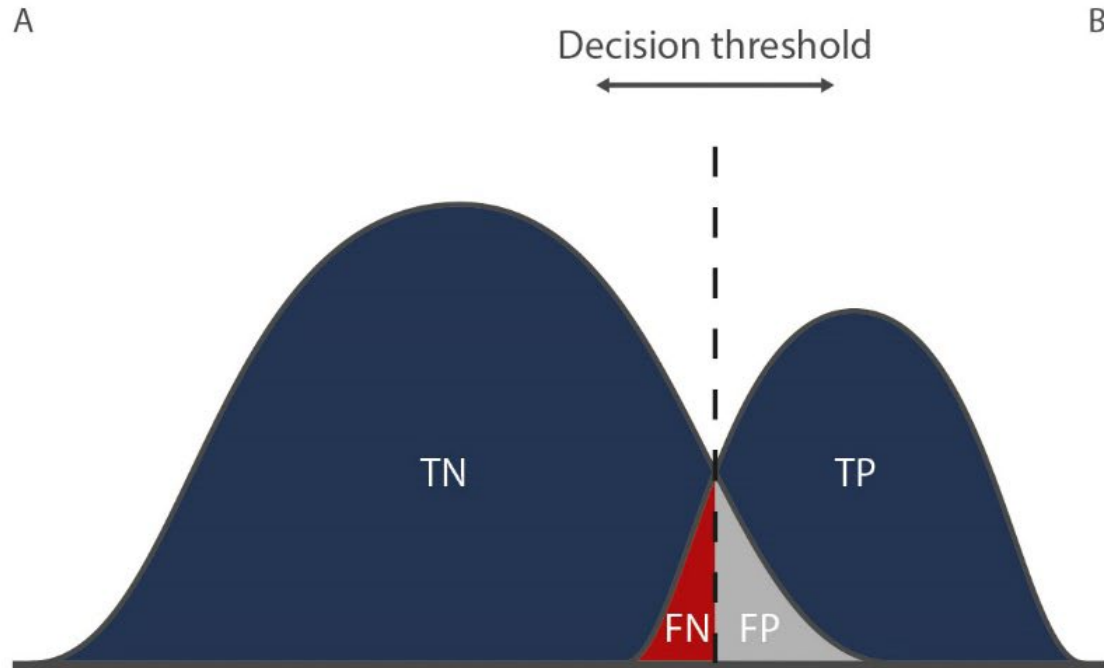
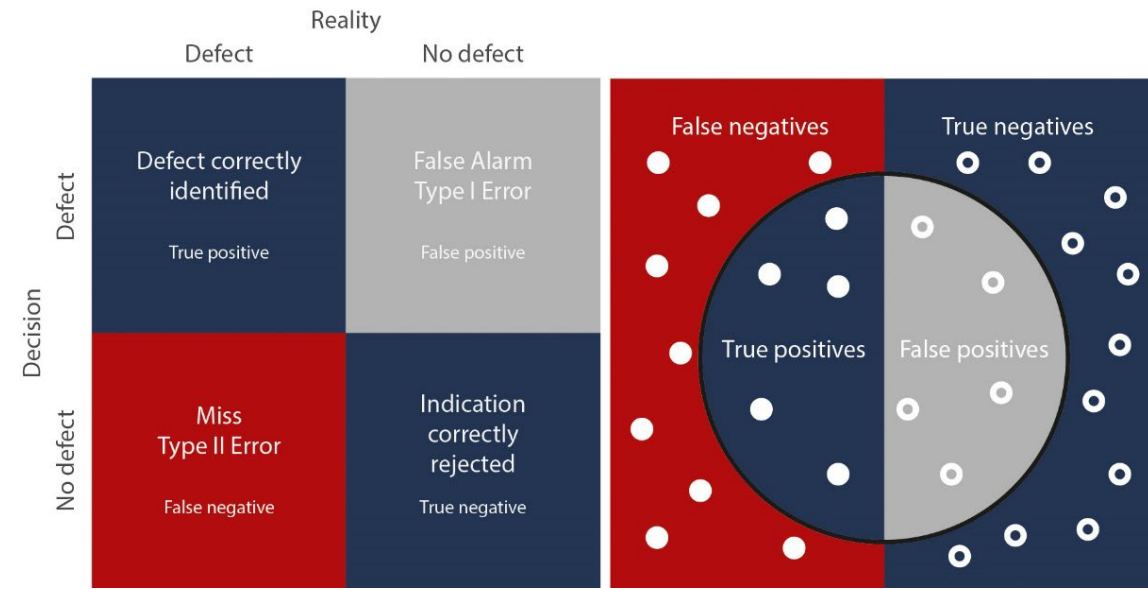
Standard Guide for  
the Qualification and Control of the Assisted Defect  
Recognition of Digital Radiographic Test Data<sup>1</sup>



TPR Control Chart

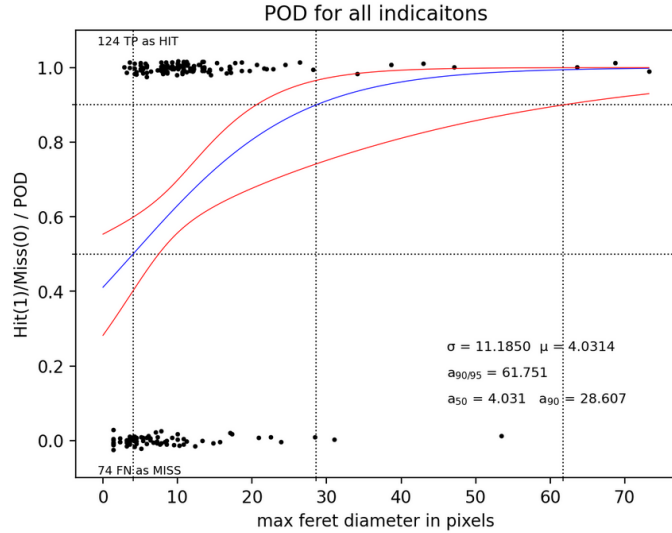


# Confusion matrix – proving quality

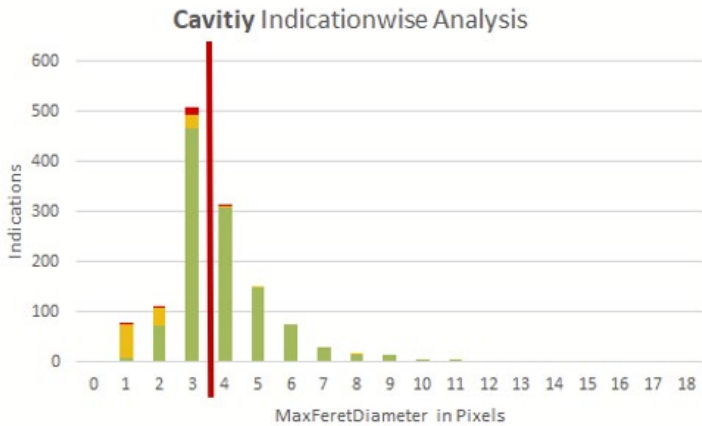


# Evaluation on Test DataSet

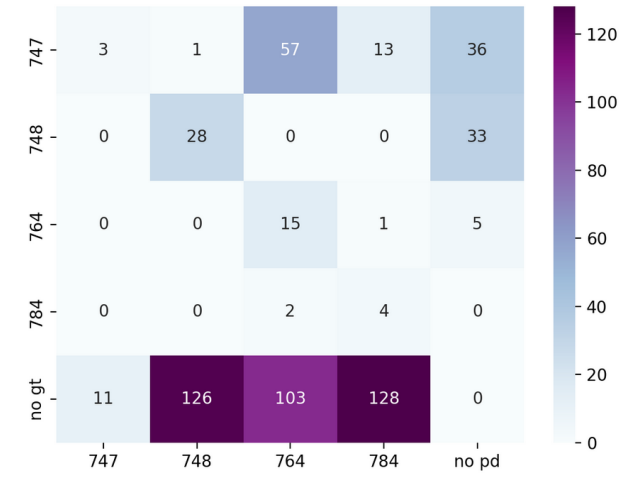
## Probability of Detection



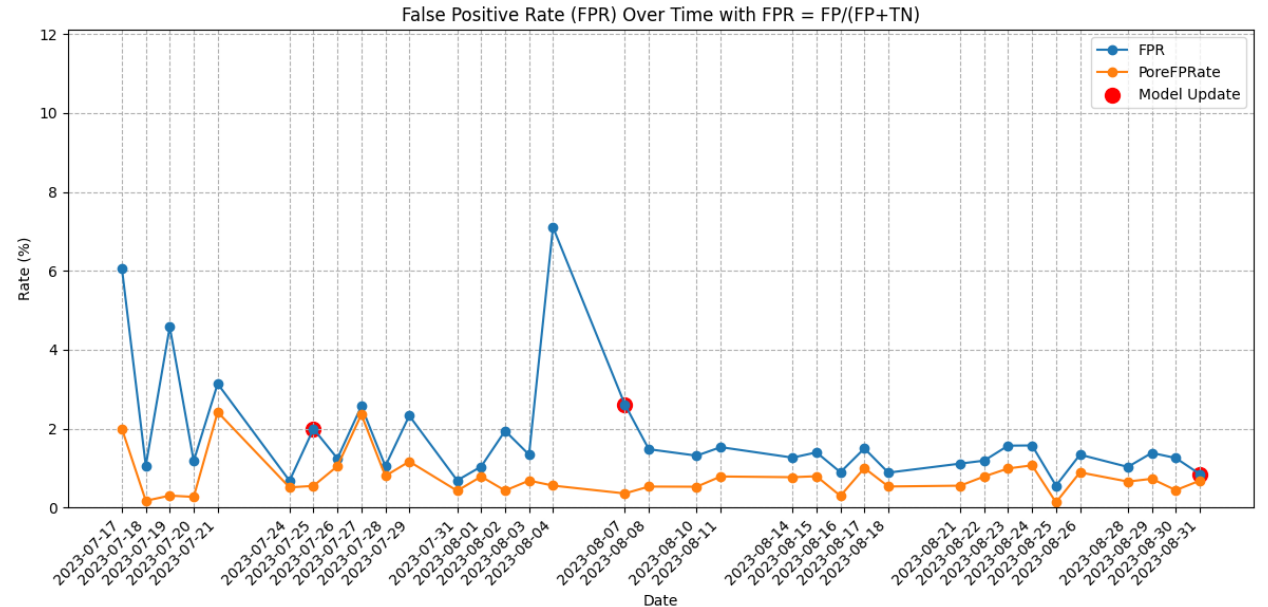
## Indication specific Performance



## Class Comparison Confusion Matrix



## Image wise Performance Tracking



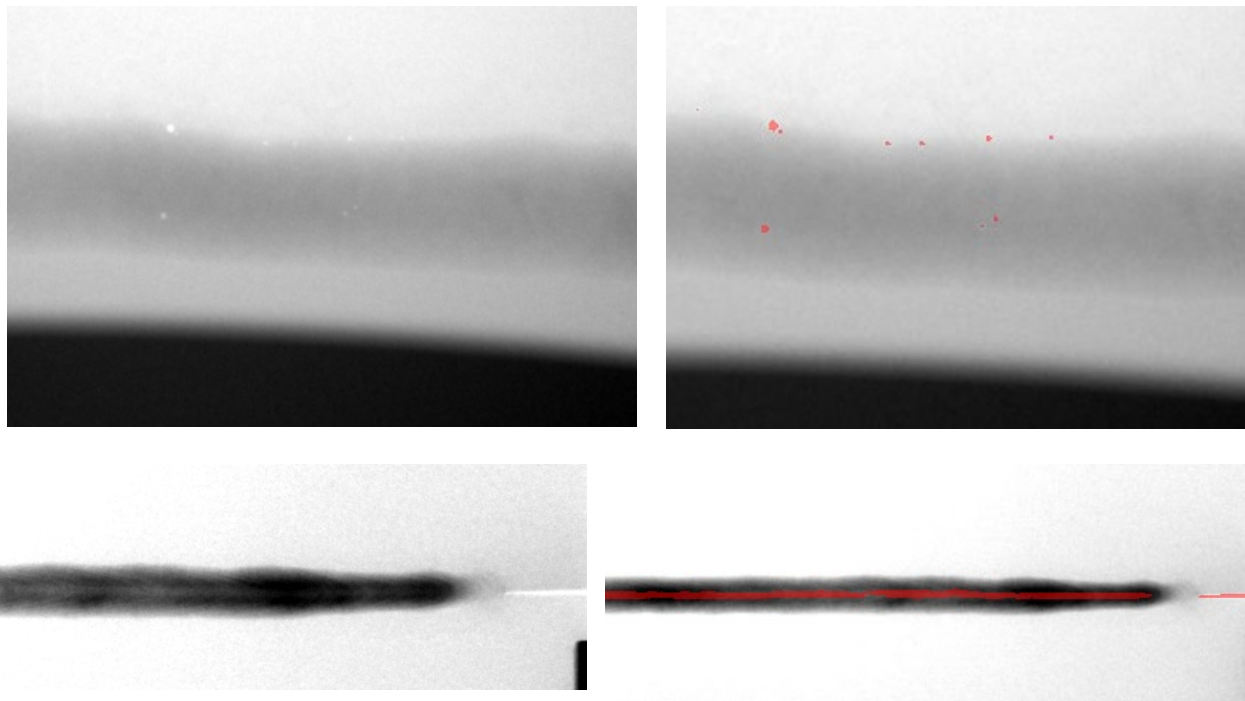


# Aerospace Welds

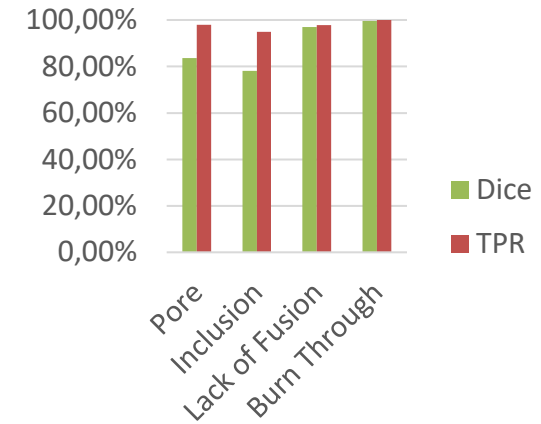
Multiclass defect segmentation on welds

4 customer-specific classes:

1. cavity,
2. foreign material,
3. burn through,
4. lack of fusion



Dice / TPR per class



Eval Data	Pore	Inclusion	Lack of Fusion	Burn Through
Indication TPR	97,94%	94,92%	97,88%	100%
∅ Dice-Score	83,6%	78,17%	96,98%	99,69%
No. Indications	1302	301	158	71
TP	1142	187	139	68
FN	24	10	3	0
FP	136	104	16	3

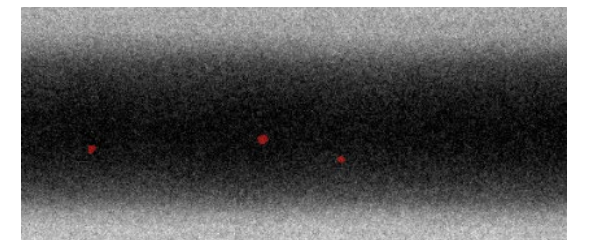
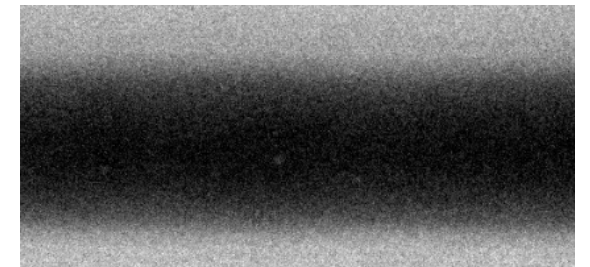
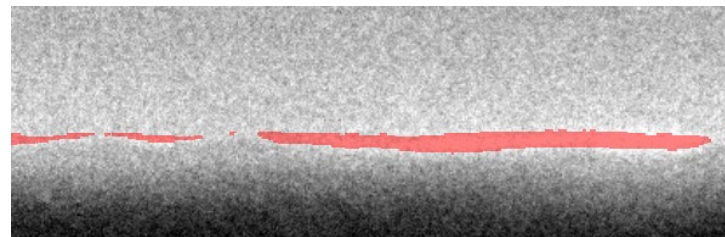
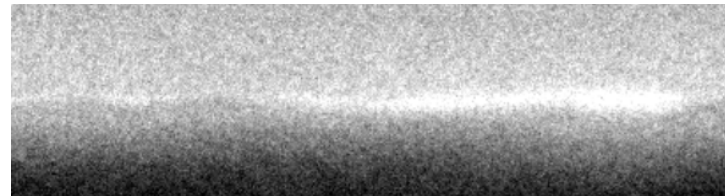
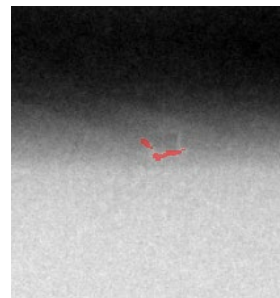
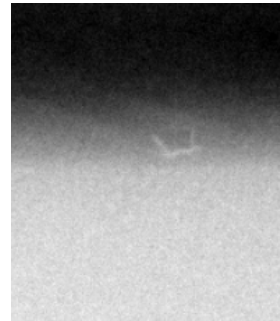
# Oil & Gas Welds

Multiclass defect segmentation on welds

Classes according to DIN EN ISO 6520-1:2007

Grouped to 12 "head"-classes:

1. Cracks,
2. Low density inclusions,
3. Elongated cavities,
4. Solid inclusions,
5. Lack of fusion,
6. Lack of penetration,
7. Imperfect shape and dimension,
8. Undercuts,
9. Excessive weld metal,
10. Burn-trough,
11. Incomplete filled groove,
12. Spatter



Groundtruth information

EI no.	Record carrier	IQI sensitivity location: S			Result references no. according to DIN EN ISO 6520-1 <sup>3</sup>	Remarks <sup>2</sup>	Result	Indications from - to (mm)	BK no. <sup>1</sup>	Date
01		W 15	H 5	10D	WIRR		a		85	12.06.21
01		W 15	H 5	10D	2011		na	1900 - 1920	85	12.06.21
01		W 15	H 5	10D	TNW		a		85	12.06.21
01		W 15	H 5	10D	2014		na	2520 - 2590	85	12.06.21

# Automotive Castings

Multiclass defect segmentation on castings

Classes: according to ASTM references

Clustered to 6 "head"-classes:

1. Foreign material,
2. Gas hole,
3. Gas porosity,
4. Cold fill,
5. Shrinkage cavity,
6. Shrinkage filament

**Database:**

Pretrained model weights

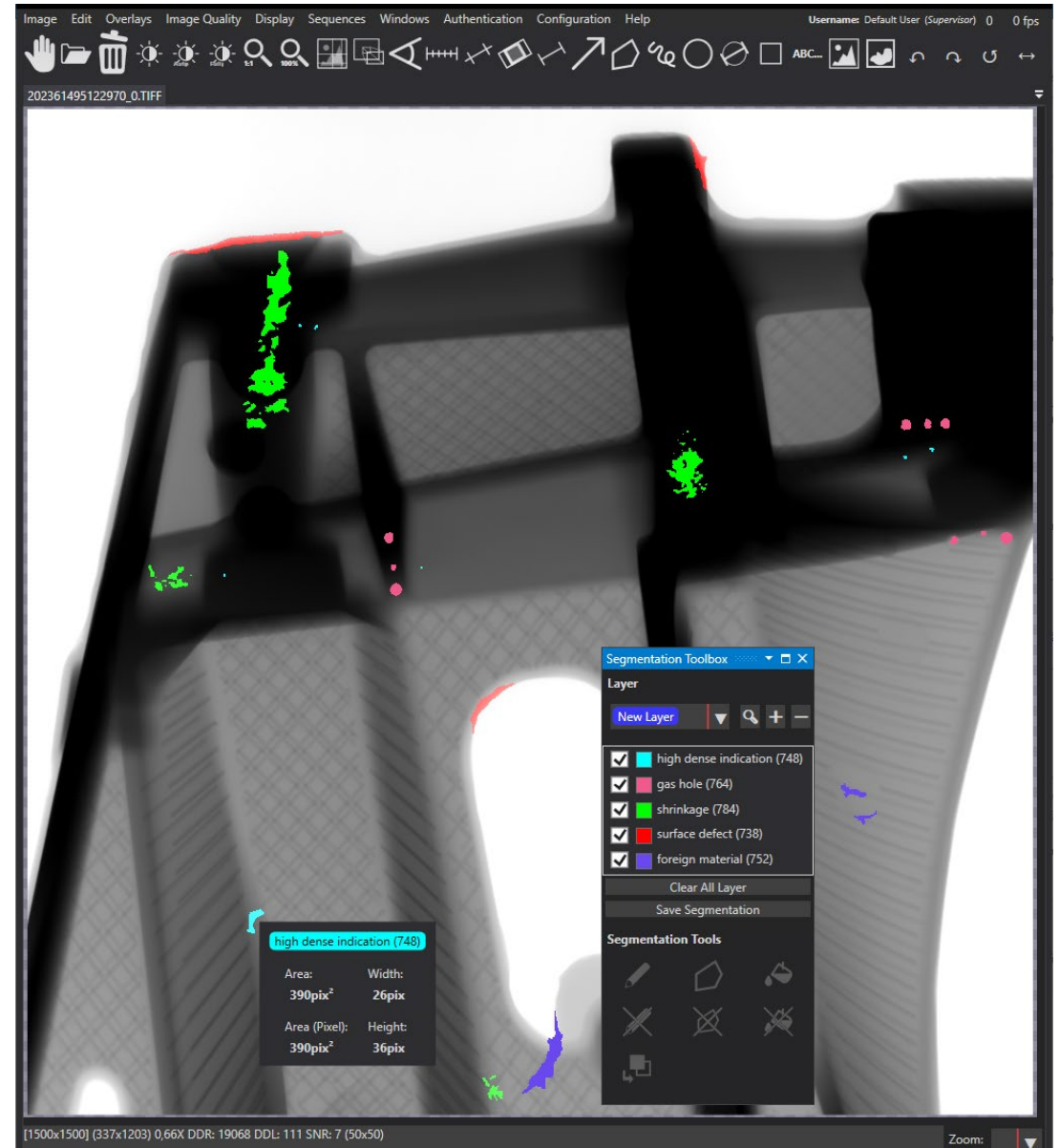
**In progress:**

Pretrained model weights  
+ 7945 **multiclass** images  
+ 7TB of data data

**Prediction speed:**

1024 x 1024 : 226ms

256 x 256: 120ms



# Food Industry

Binary fishbone segmentation on fillets

## Database:

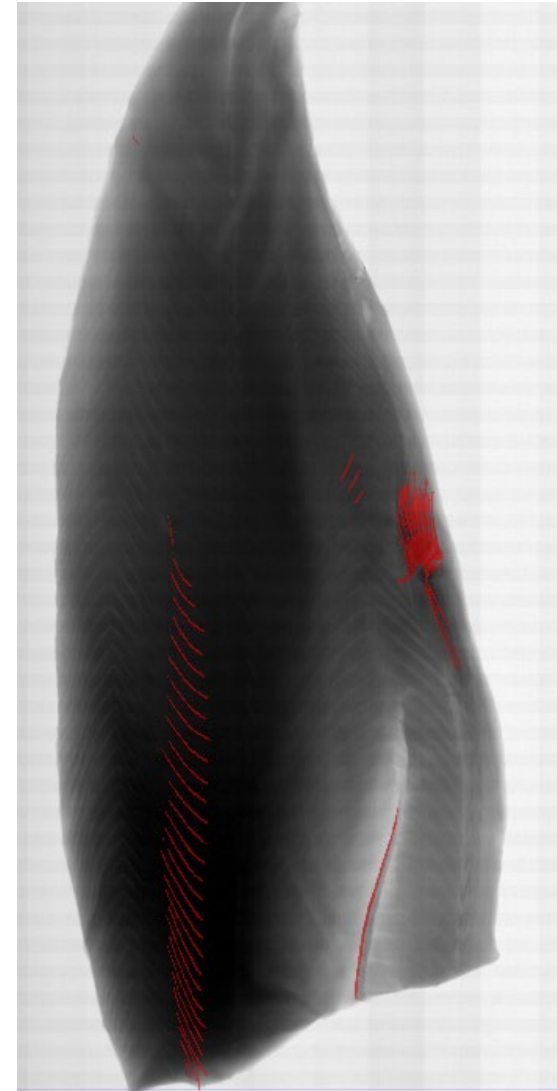
Pretrained model weights (of inclusion defects)  
5 high-res images with GT masks (4096 x 6144)

256 x 256 Tiles – size independant prediction

## Prediction speed:

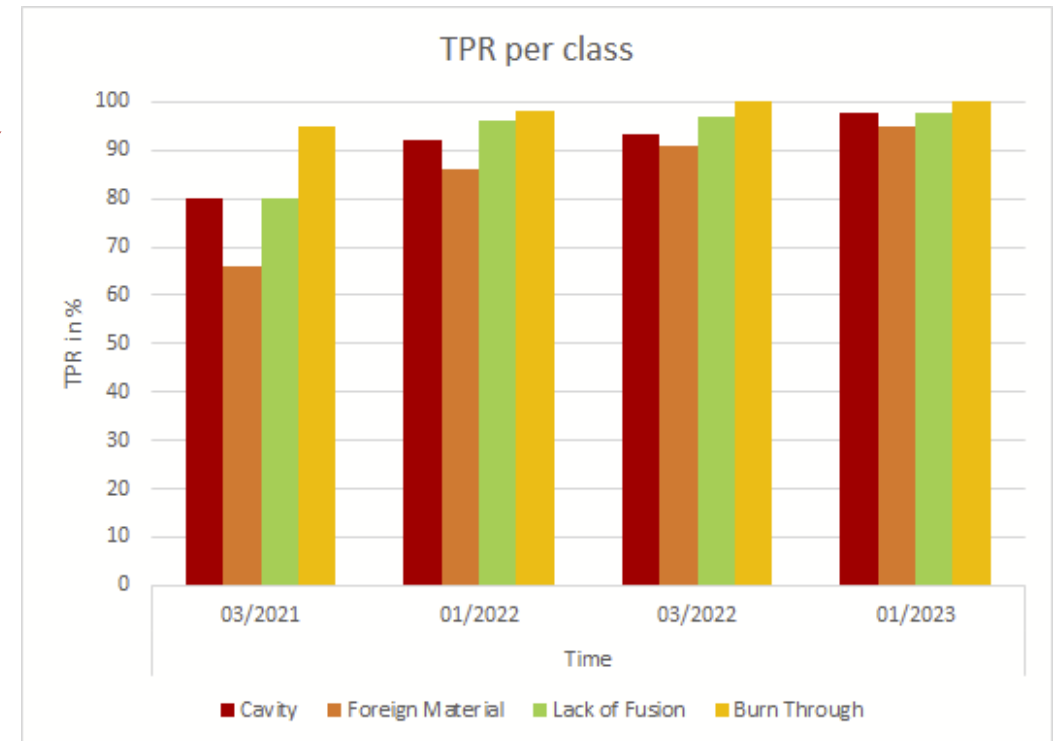
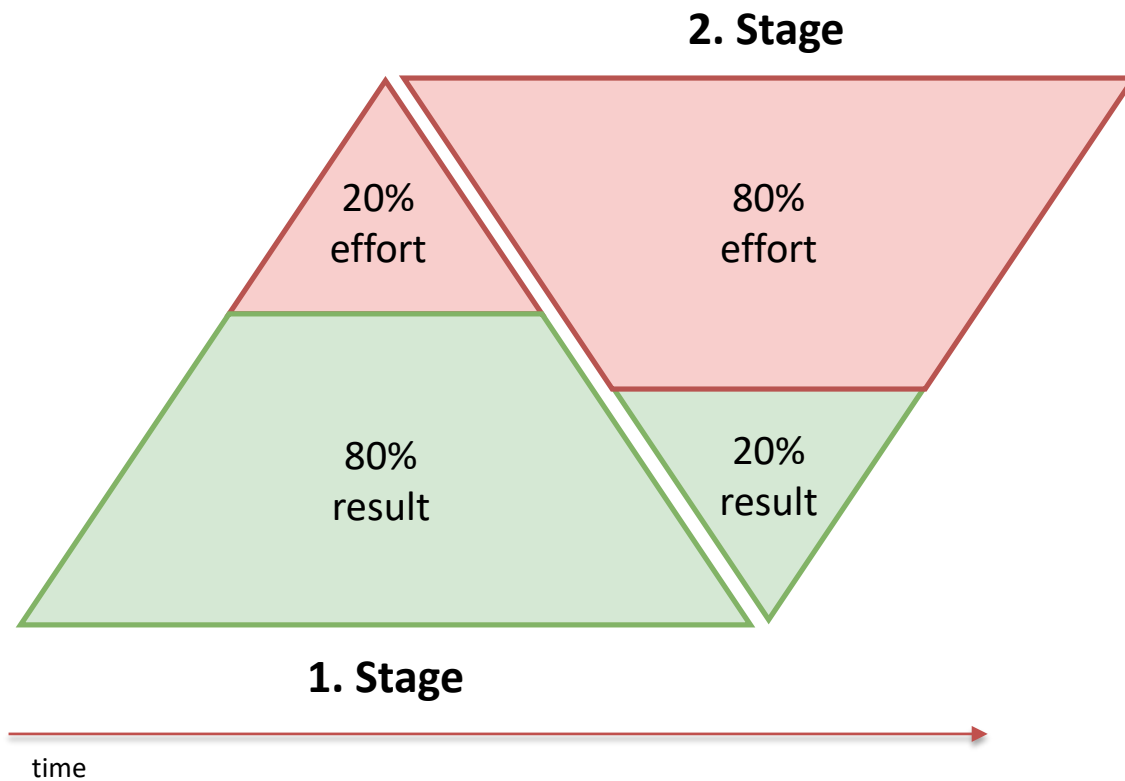
4096 x 6144 : 4000ms  
256 x 256: 120ms

> 99% detection accuracy



# It is a marathon, not a sprint ...

- 20% workload for 80% result
- 80% additional workload for additional 20% result



# Implementation phases



## Phase 1: Assisted AI

- AI supports decision making
- AI segments and measures all indications
- Operator performs final decision

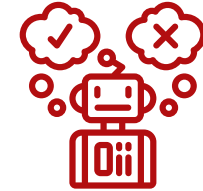
→ > 60% performance increase



## Phase 2: Assisted AI + Sorting

- AI supports decision making
- AI segments and measures all indications
- Operator performs final decision
- AI sorts out OK images (automatic OK)

→ 50% less images



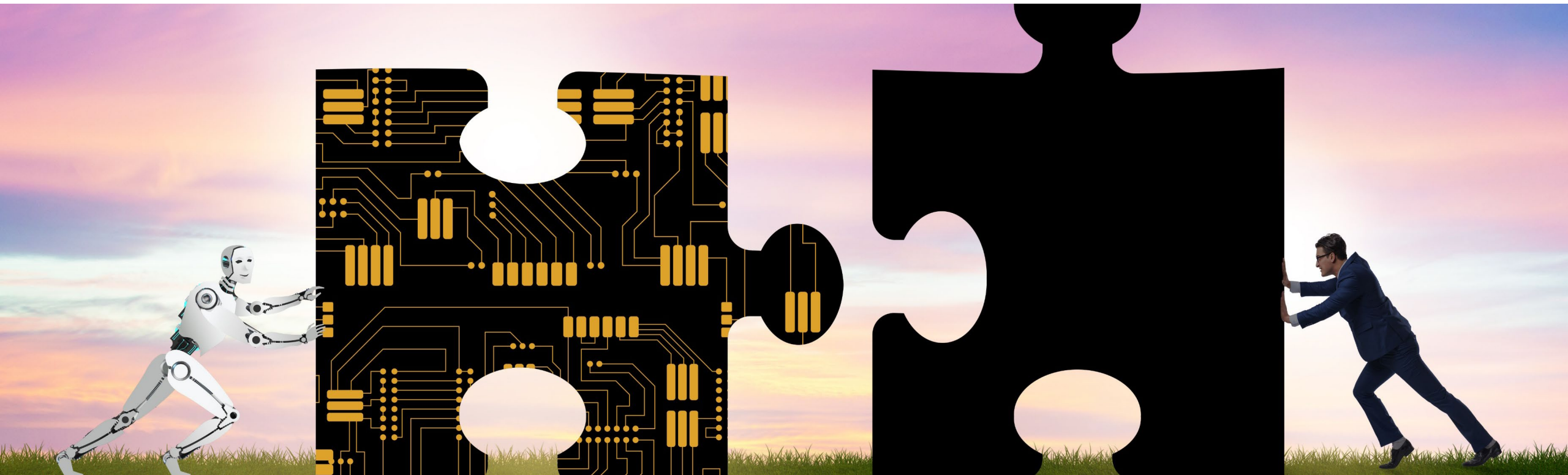
## Phase 3: Full AI

- AI performs decision making
- AI segments and measures all indications
- Operator only supervises and assists AI where necessary

→ Fully automated

## Human – Machine collaboration

- Smart usage of data to gain insights
- Application of AI to screen huge data pools
- Assisted application of AI to enhance human performance



# Quality, efficiency and satisfaction gain

Figure 1: Treatment Effects on Productivity

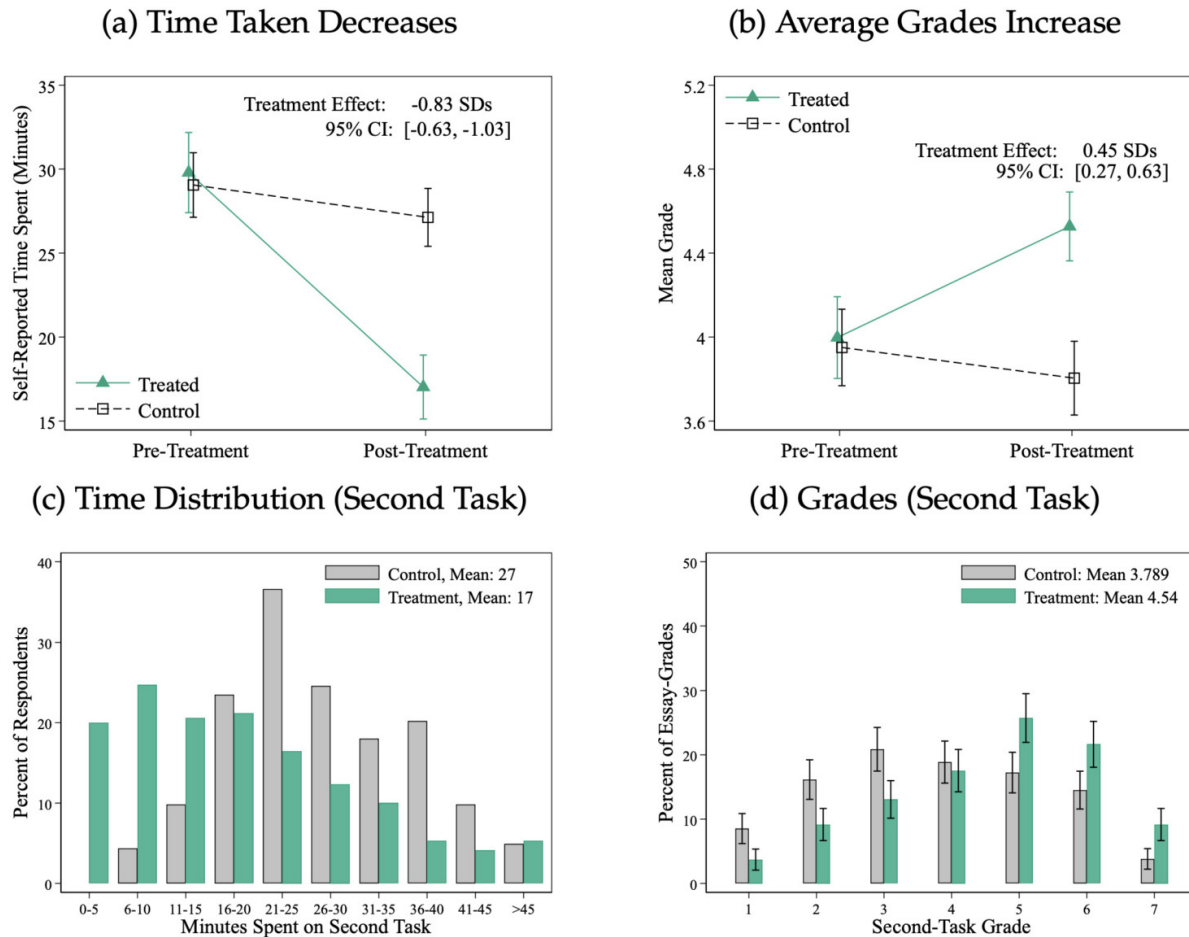
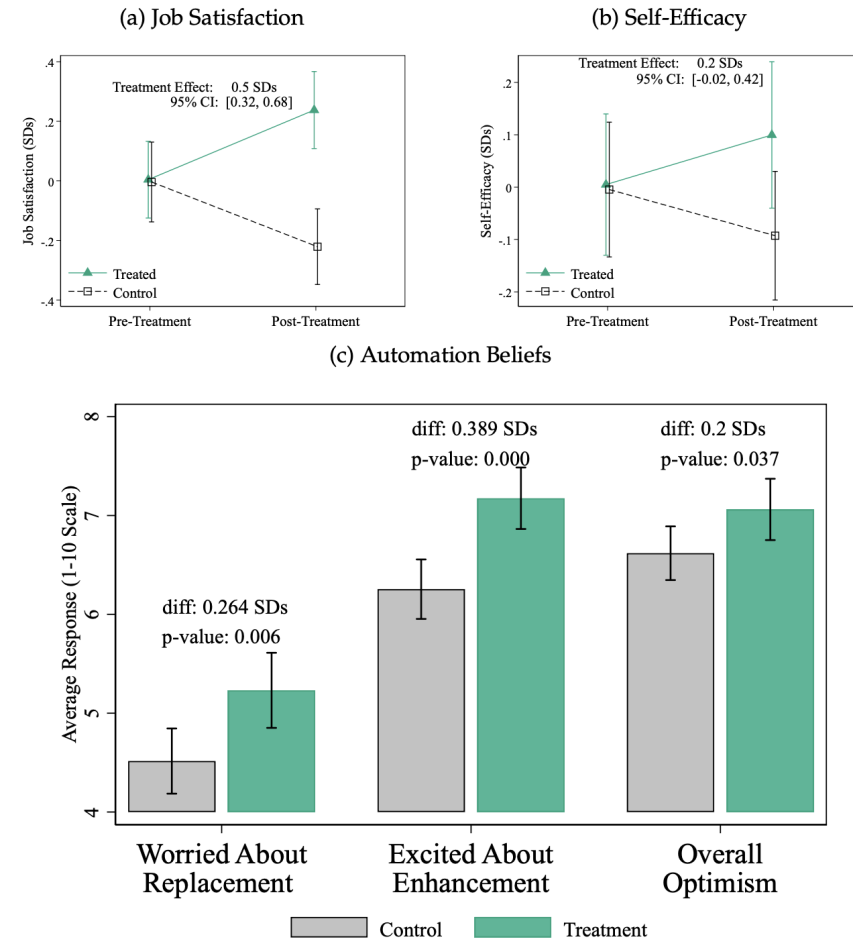
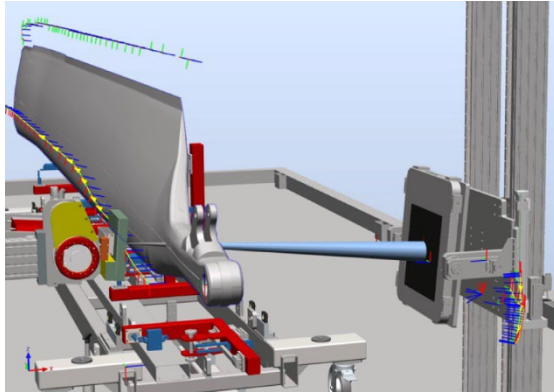
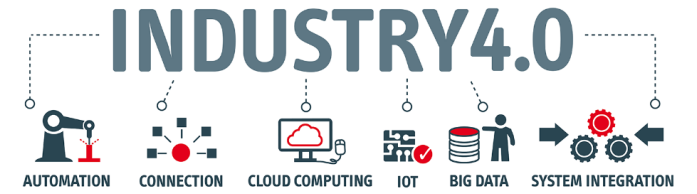


Figure 4: Effects on Subjective Outcomes

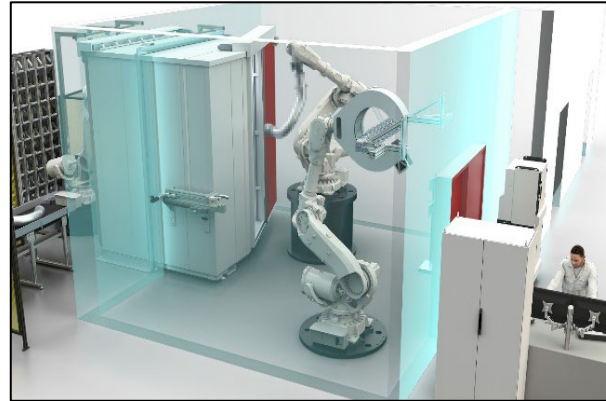




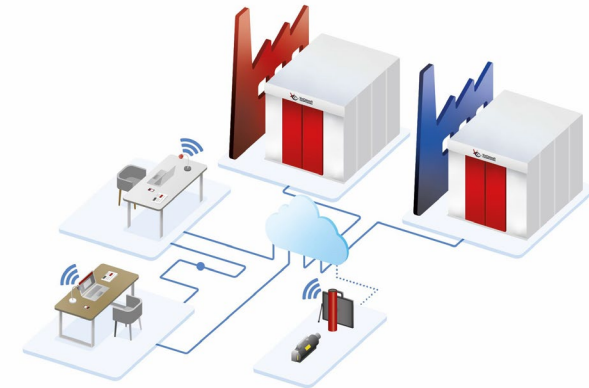
# VisiConsult NDT 4.0 strategy



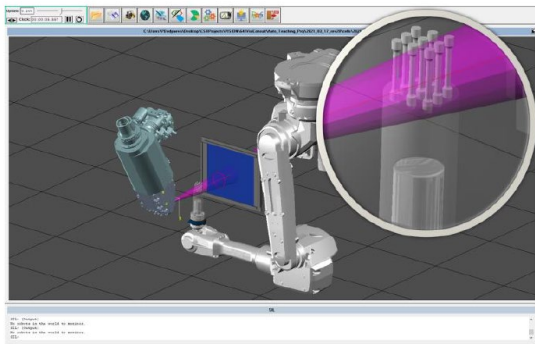
Automation



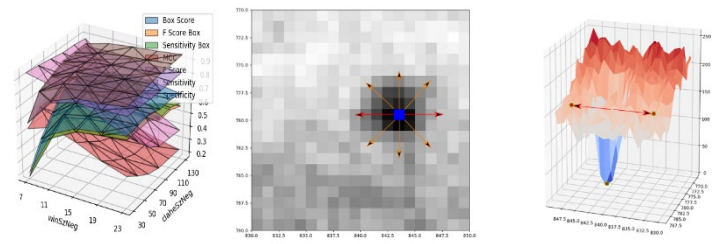
Robotics



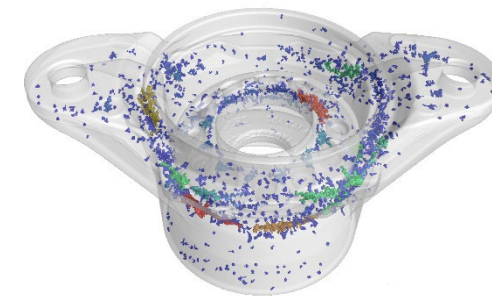
Cloud



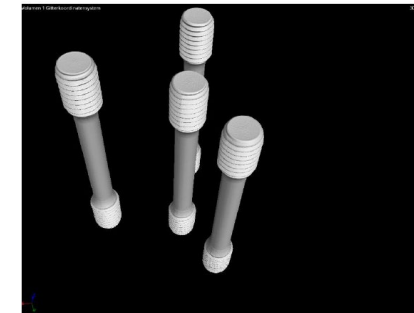
Simulation



Artificial Intelligence



Computed Tomography



# Thanks for your attention



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**NDT X-ray Toolbox**

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Extensive overview and explanations of common formulas and terms.

Any questions?