

ML Ops Solution Accelerator Transformation Journey

# **Representation learning for the** BiolmageArchive

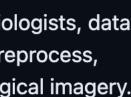
Craig Russell



### bioimage\_embed: Autoencoders for Biological Image Data

bioimage\_embed is an all-in-one Python package designed to cater to the needs of computational biologists, data scientists, and researchers working on biological image data. With specialized functions to handle, preprocess, and visualize microscopy datasets, this tool is tailored to streamline the embedding process for biological imagery.

build presing bythen 2.7. licence MIT



# **Outline and Aims of Biolmage Embed** Goal: Provide a model that can featurise bioimages

## Outline

- BIA
- Autoencoders
  - AE,VAE,VQVAE,MAE
- Pretraining
  - Scale
- BioImage Embed
- More biological applications

## Aims

- Large scale pretraining on EBI data
- Model fine tuning
- Flexible configuration with a BioImage Focus
- HPC and Cloud native
- Automated MLOps
  - Model selection, validation

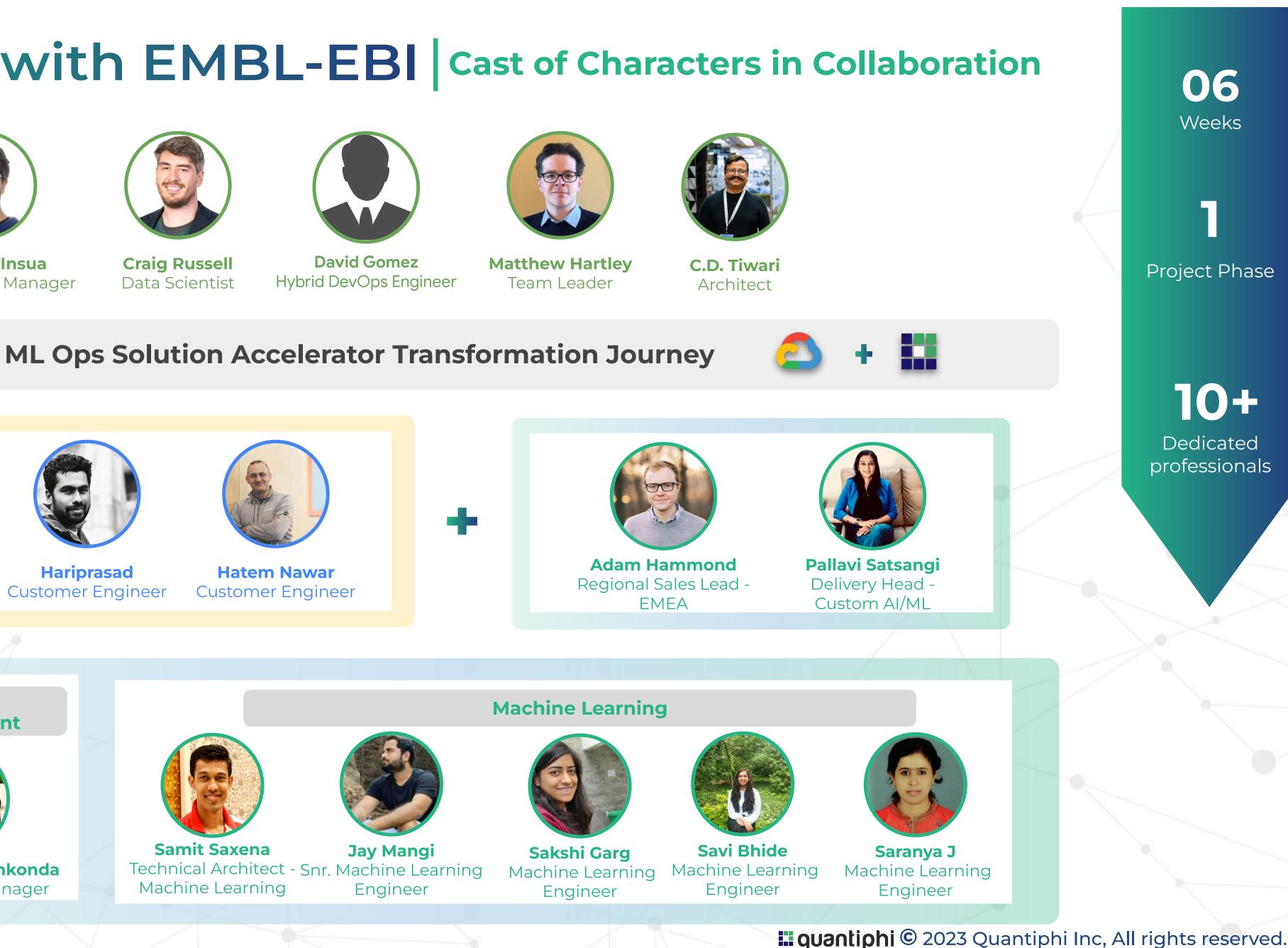
## Partnership with EMBL-EBI Cast of Characters in Collaboration



Santiago Insua Hybrid Cloud Manager



**Craig Russell** Data Scientist





Project Oversight



**Raymond Hounon** Account Director



Hariprasad Customer Engineer



**Hatem Nawar** Customer Engineer



#### Project Management



Saicharan Gurramkonda Engagement Manager



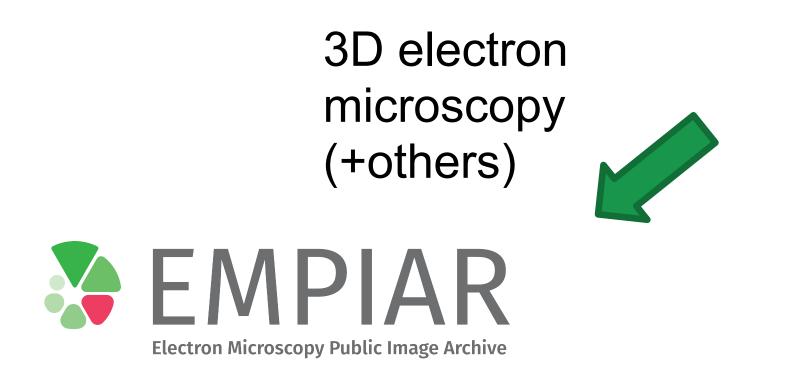


Samit Saxena Technical Architect - Snr. Machine Learning Machine Learning



# BiolmageArchive Summer 2019: Launch







## **Biolmage Archive**

All other imaging (e.g., light microscopy)



Selected reference datasets

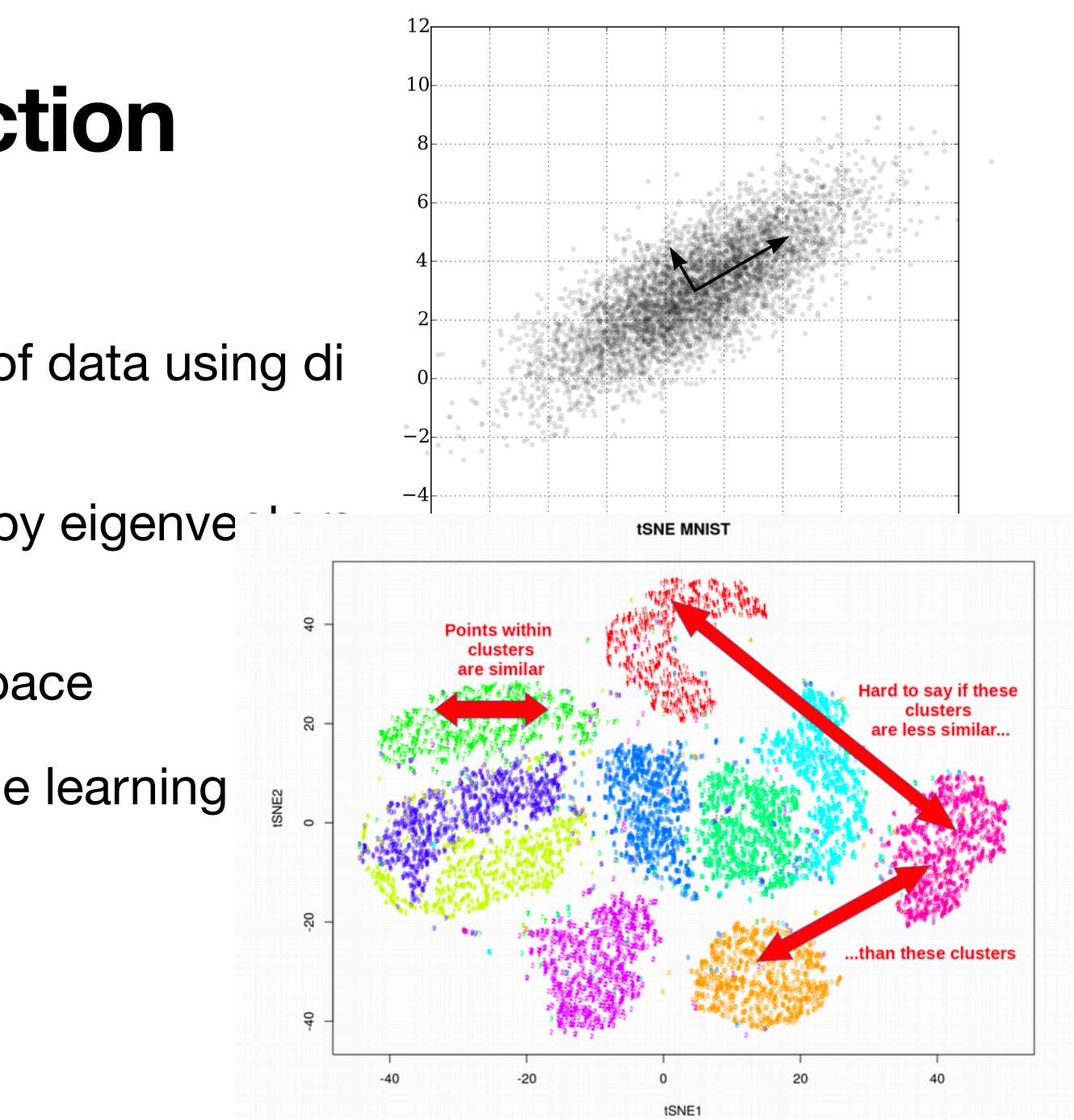






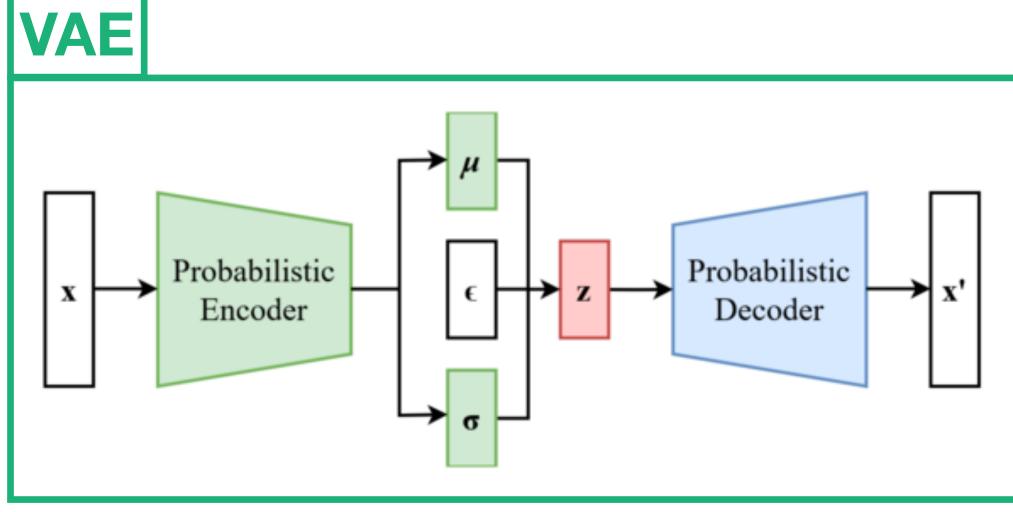
# **Dimensionality reduction**

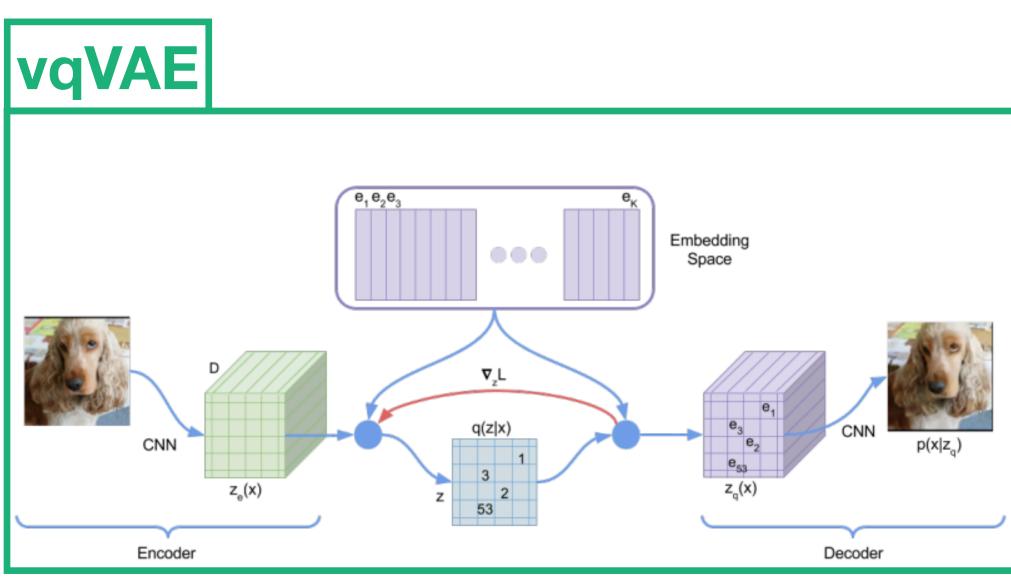
- We can represent the salient parts of data using di techniques
- PCA is a classical approach whereby eigenve axes of maximal variance
  - Rotation in higher dimensional space
- UMAP and t-SNE both use machine learning (manifold)



# Flavours of AutoEncoders

- AutoEncoders' latent space is usually
  - Sparse
  - Unstructured
  - Nonsense between points (posterior collapse)
- Variational AutoEncoders (VAE)
  - add a gaussian prior to latent (embedding) space
    - No longer **sparse** or **unstructured**
- Vector quantised VAEs (vqVAE)
  - discretise the latent space
    - No longer **sparse** or **unstructured**
    - Helps with **posterior collapse**





https://arxiv.org/abs/1312.6114



## Masked Autoencoders are Scalable Learners of Cellular Morphology

## **Oren Kraus\* Kian Kenyon-Dean\* Sabe**

Jess Leung Vasudev Sharma Ayla

Maciej Sypetkowski Chi Vicky Che

**Ben Mabey** 

er Saber	rian	Maryam F	allah	Peter McLean
la Khan	J	ia Balakrish	nan	Safiye Celik
eng	Kris	ten Morse	Ma	ureen Makes
	Be	rton Earnsh	aw	

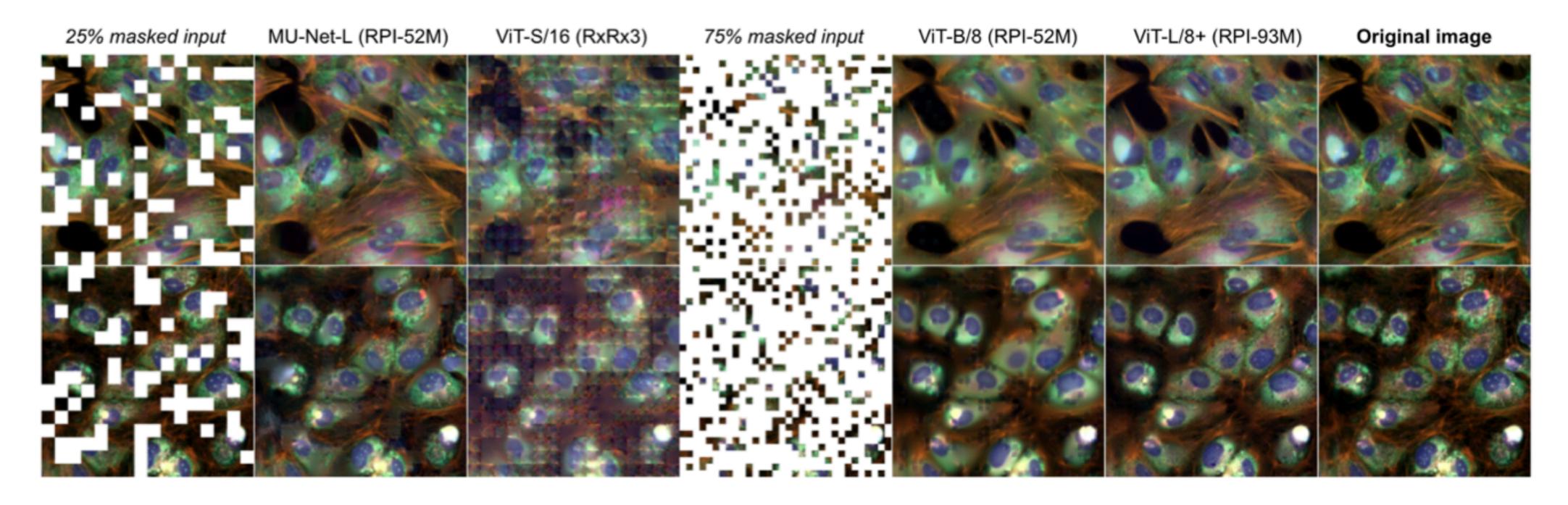


Figure 1: Visualizing reconstructions from masked random validation images for different MAEs.

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<u>nature > nature protocols > protocol update > article</u>

Protocol Update | Published: 21 June 2023

## **Optimizing the Cell Painting assay for image-based** profiling

Beth A. Cimini, Srinivas Niranj Chandrasekaran, Maria Kost-Alimova, Lisa Miller, Amy Goodale, Briana Fritchman, Patrick Byrne, Sakshi Garg, Nasim Jamali, David J. Logan, John B. Concannon, Charles-Hugues Lardeau, Elizabeth Mouchet, Shantanu Singh, Hamdah Shafqat Abbasi, Peter Aspesi Jr, Justin D. Boyd, Tamara Gilbert, David Gnutt, Santosh Hariharan, Desiree Hernandez, Gisela Hormel, Karolina Juhani, Michelle Melanson, ... Anne E. Carpenter 🗠 🔰 + Show authors

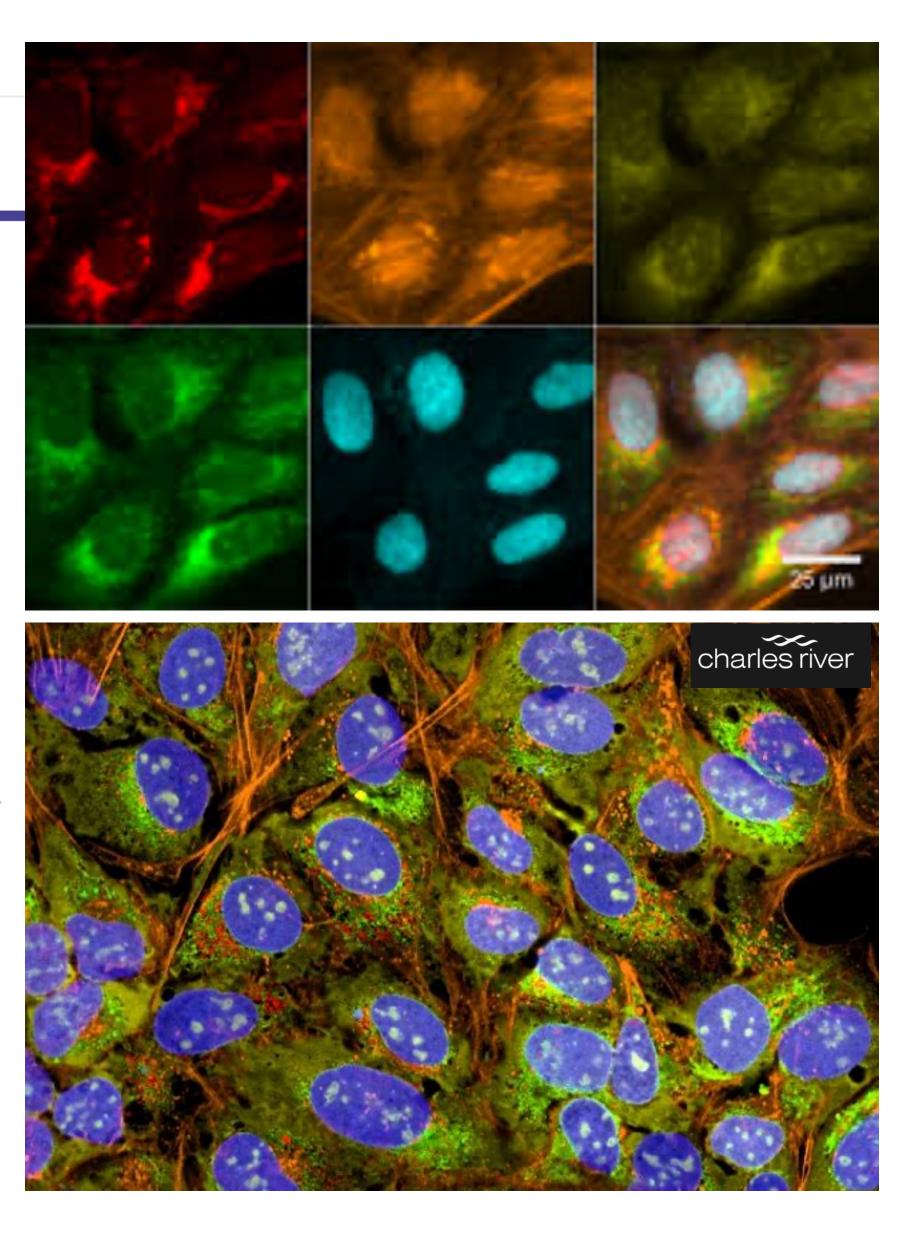
<u>Nature Protocols</u> **18**, 1981–2013 (2023) Cite this article

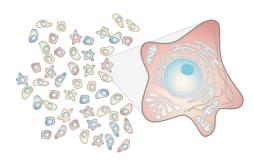
8825 Accesses | 13 Citations | 17 Altmetric | Metrics

## Abstract

In image-based profiling, software extracts thousands of morphological features of cells from multi-channel fluorescence microscopy images, yielding single-cell profiles that can be used

#### Subscribe





JUMP-Cell Painting Consortium Joint Undertaking in Morphological Profiling



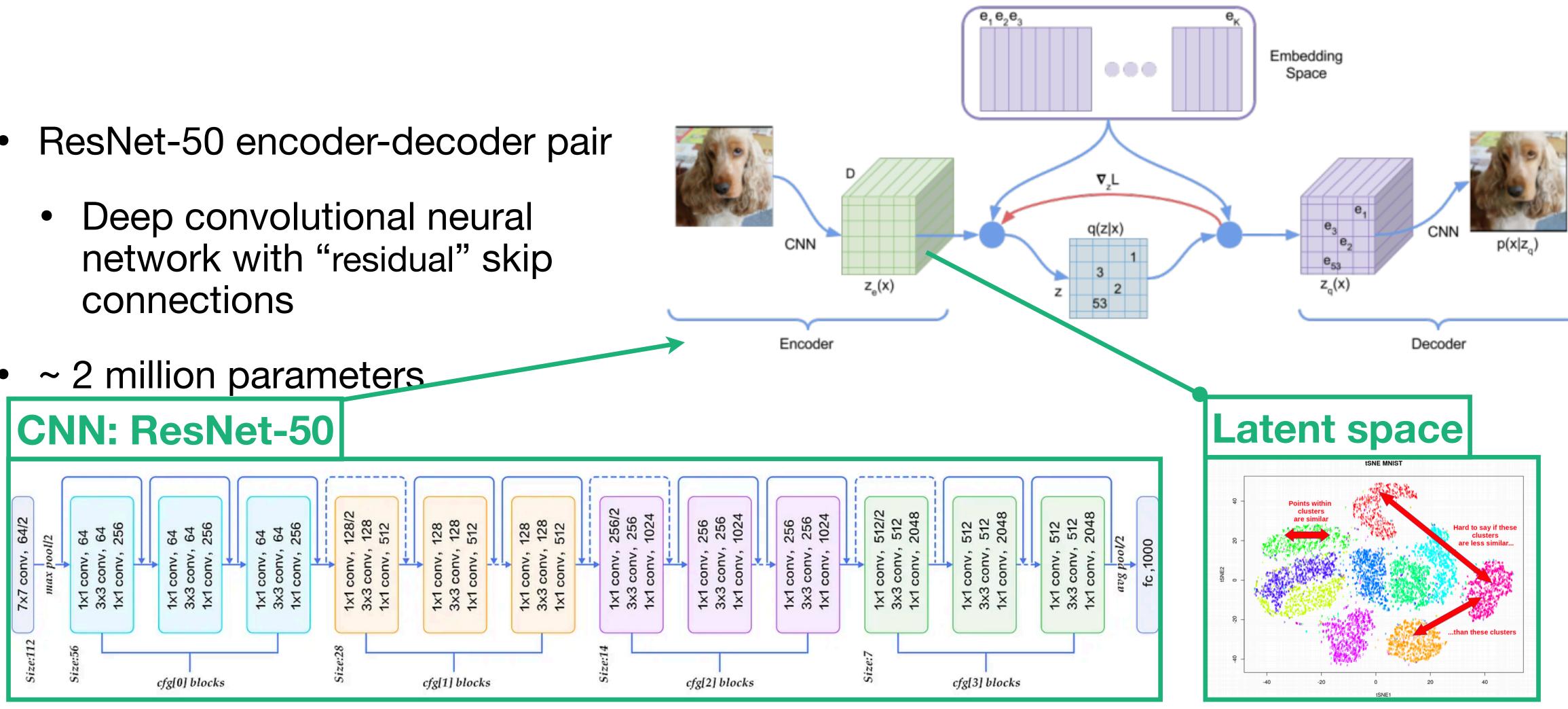
## Masked Autoencoders for Microscopy are Scalable Learners of Cellular Biology

Oren Kraus<sup>1</sup> Kian Kenyon-Dean<sup>1</sup> Saber Saberian<sup>1</sup> Maryam Fallah<sup>1</sup> Peter McLean<sup>1</sup> Jess Leung<sup>1</sup> Vasudev Sharma<sup>1</sup> Ayla Khan<sup>1</sup> Jia Balakrishnan<sup>1</sup> Safiye Celik<sup>1</sup> Dominique Beaini<sup>2</sup> Maciej Sypetkowski<sup>2</sup> Chi Vicky Cheng<sup>1</sup> Kristen Morse<sup>1</sup> Maureen Makes<sup>1</sup> Ben Mabey<sup>1</sup> Berton Earnshaw<sup>1,2</sup> <sup>1</sup>Recursion <sup>2</sup>Valence Labs



# Vector quantised variational AutoEncoder (vqVAE)

- ResNet-50 encoder-decoder pair
  - network with "residual" skip connections



https://arxiv.org/abs/1312.6114

# VQ-VAE loss

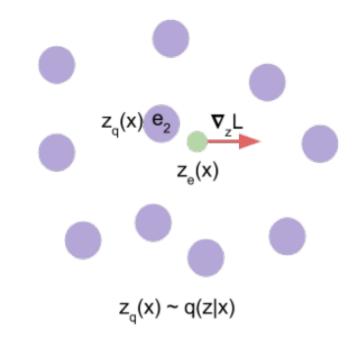
1. 
$$\mathscr{L}_{\text{recon}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - x'_i)^2$$

1/

Reconstruction loss

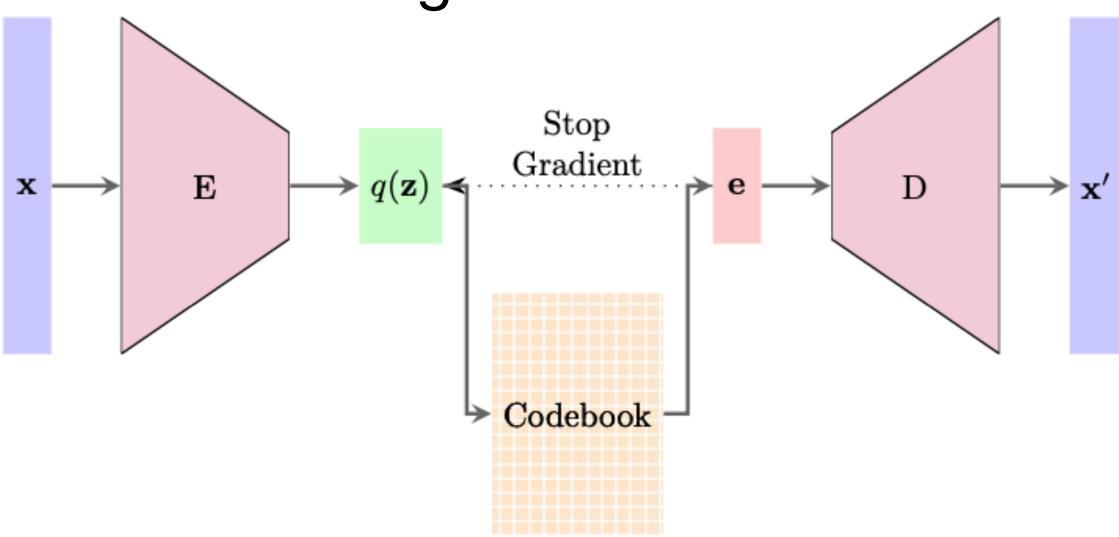
2. 
$$\mathscr{L}_{vq} = ||sg[\mathbf{z}_e] - \mathbf{e}||_2^2$$

 As the codebook does not have a gradient, the model cannot learn to use the codebook embeddings without a special loss term.



3. 
$$\mathscr{L}_{\text{commit}} = ||\mathbf{z}_e - sg[\mathbf{e}]||_2^2$$

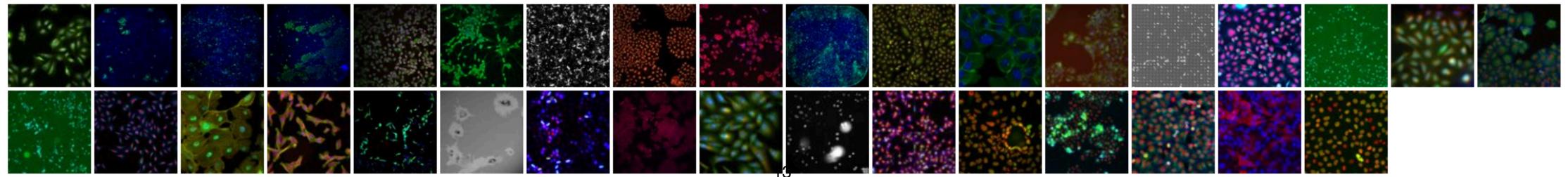
 The commitment loss enforces the encoder to tightly associate its outputs with the codebook embeddings

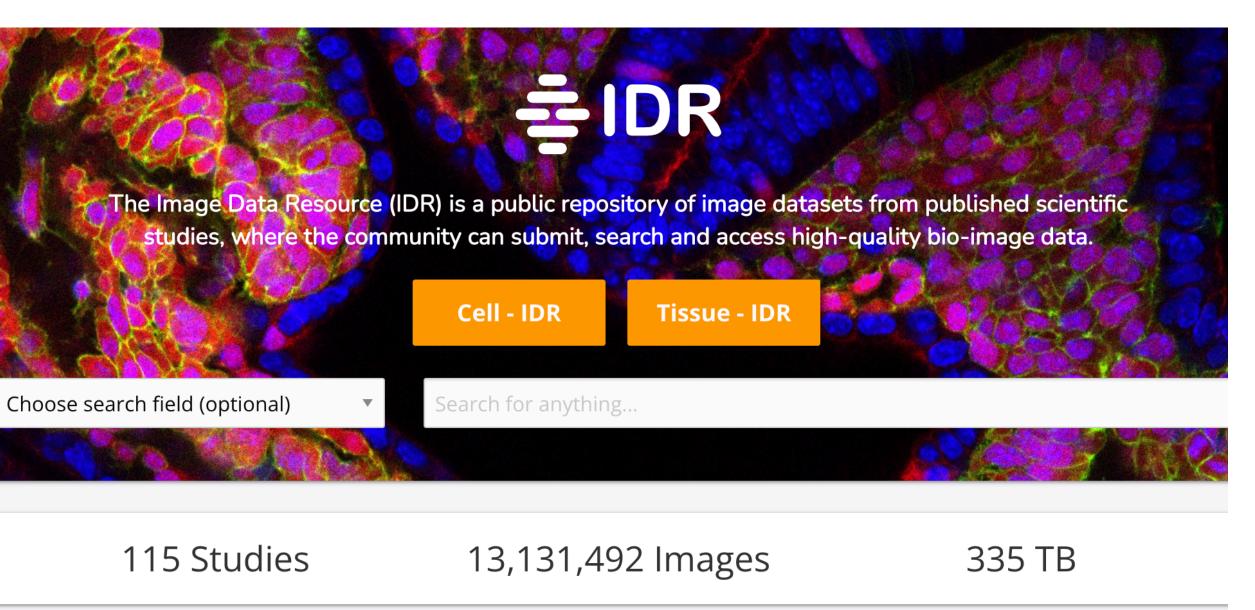


# BioImage Archive Image Data Resource (IDR) https://idr.openmicroscopy.org/

- Reference database of published microscopy data
- Contains ~ 13 million biological images across 115 studies
- Spans multiple organisms, tissues, cell types, disease states, treatment conditions etc.

High-content screening (human)







# **Initial Pretraining scope Selected datasets**

image classification problems

• Experiments	Image Dataset S
• IDR0006	[16.6 TB]
• IDR0036	[1.20 TB]
• IDR0093	[1.62 TB]
• IDR0094	[1.41 TB]

• Subset of human cell high-content screening IDR studies with interesting and simple

Size Associated metadata Genes (localisation) Cell states Genes (morphometric response) COVID Drug response



# **Technology stack**<br/>bioimage\_embed

timm

- bioimage\_embed generates the models
- Uses timm for optimiser+scheduler pair
- pydantic for configuration and configuration validation
- hydra for the CLI

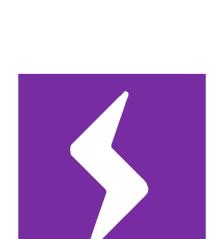
## Backbon

prod	ResNet18, ResNet50, ResI
beta	VIT-H, VIT-

## Ray for hyperparamter tuning

- Wraps this in pytorch lightning, handling
  - Data parallelisms, splitting
  - Checkpointing, logging
- Albumentations for augmentations

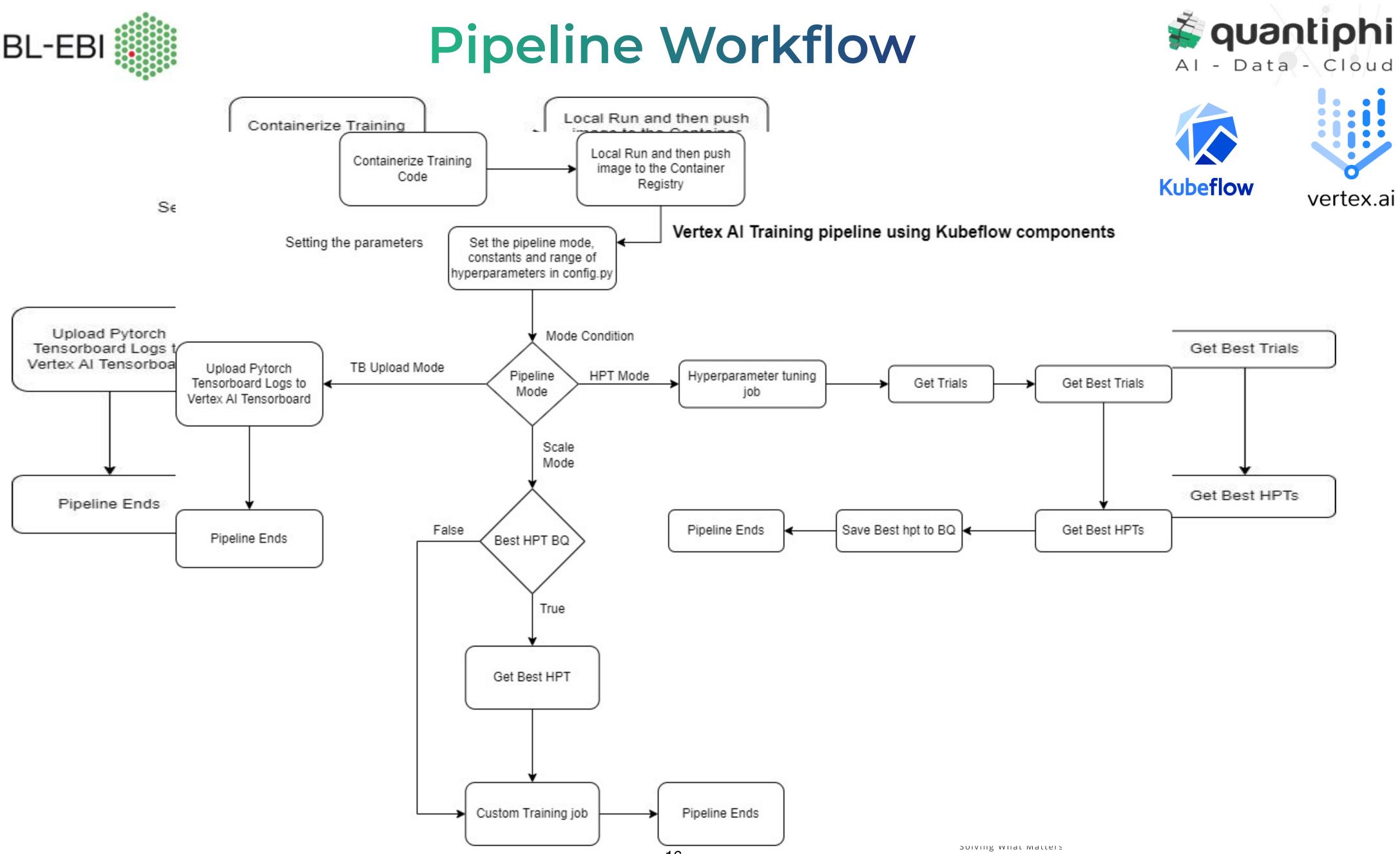
nes	Model
sNet101, ResNet152	VAE, VQVAE, AE
LL,	MAE

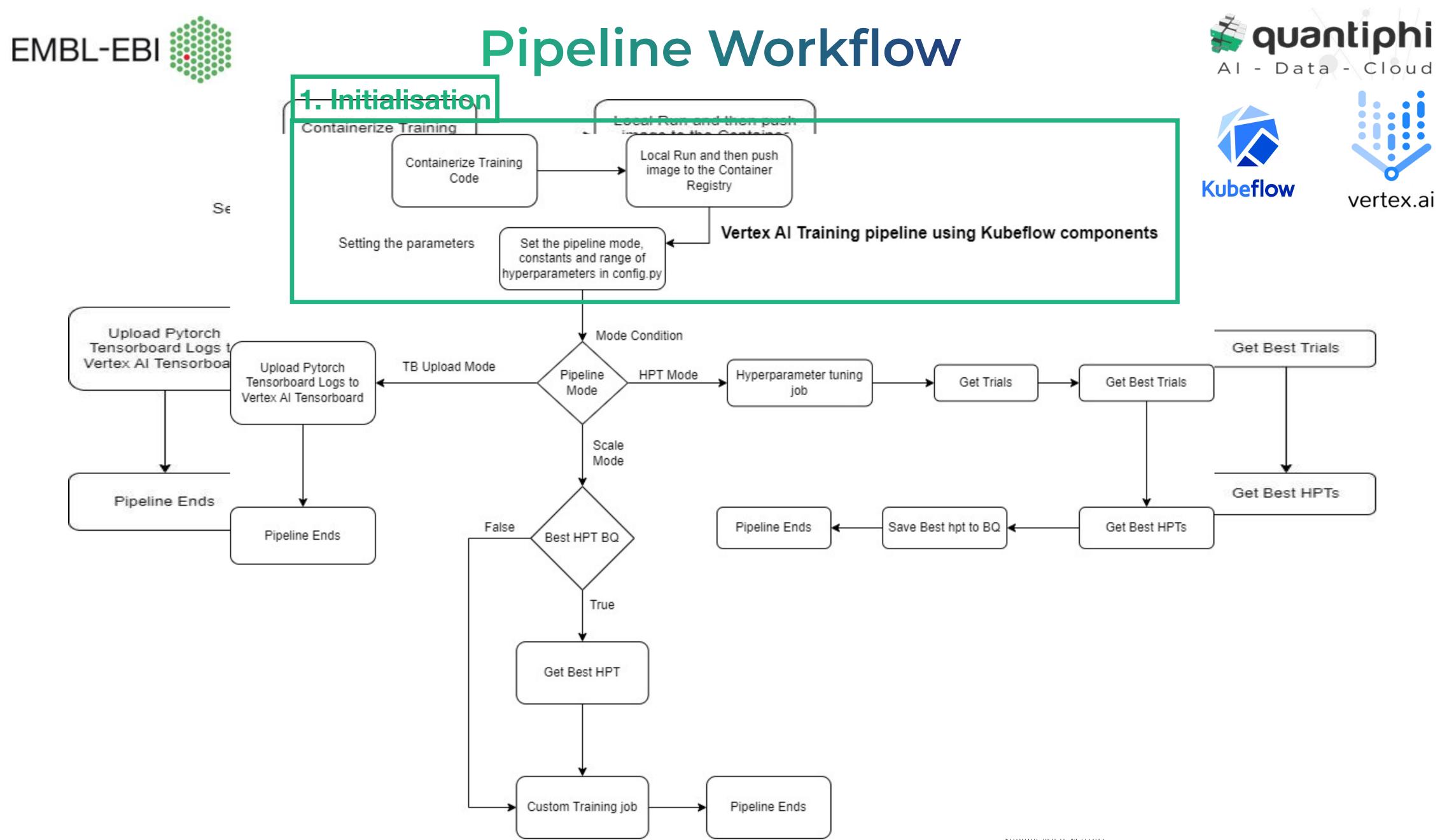




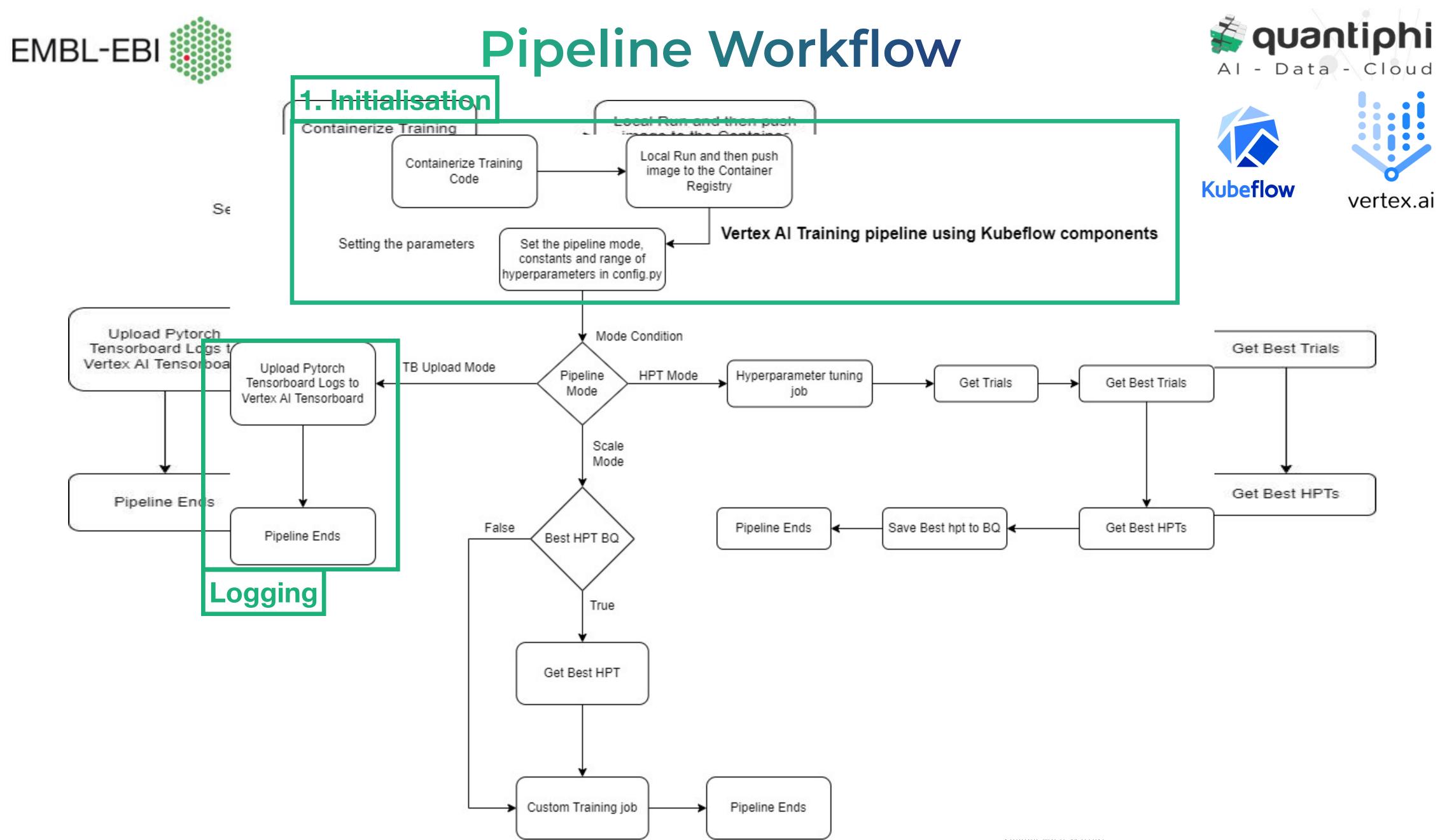




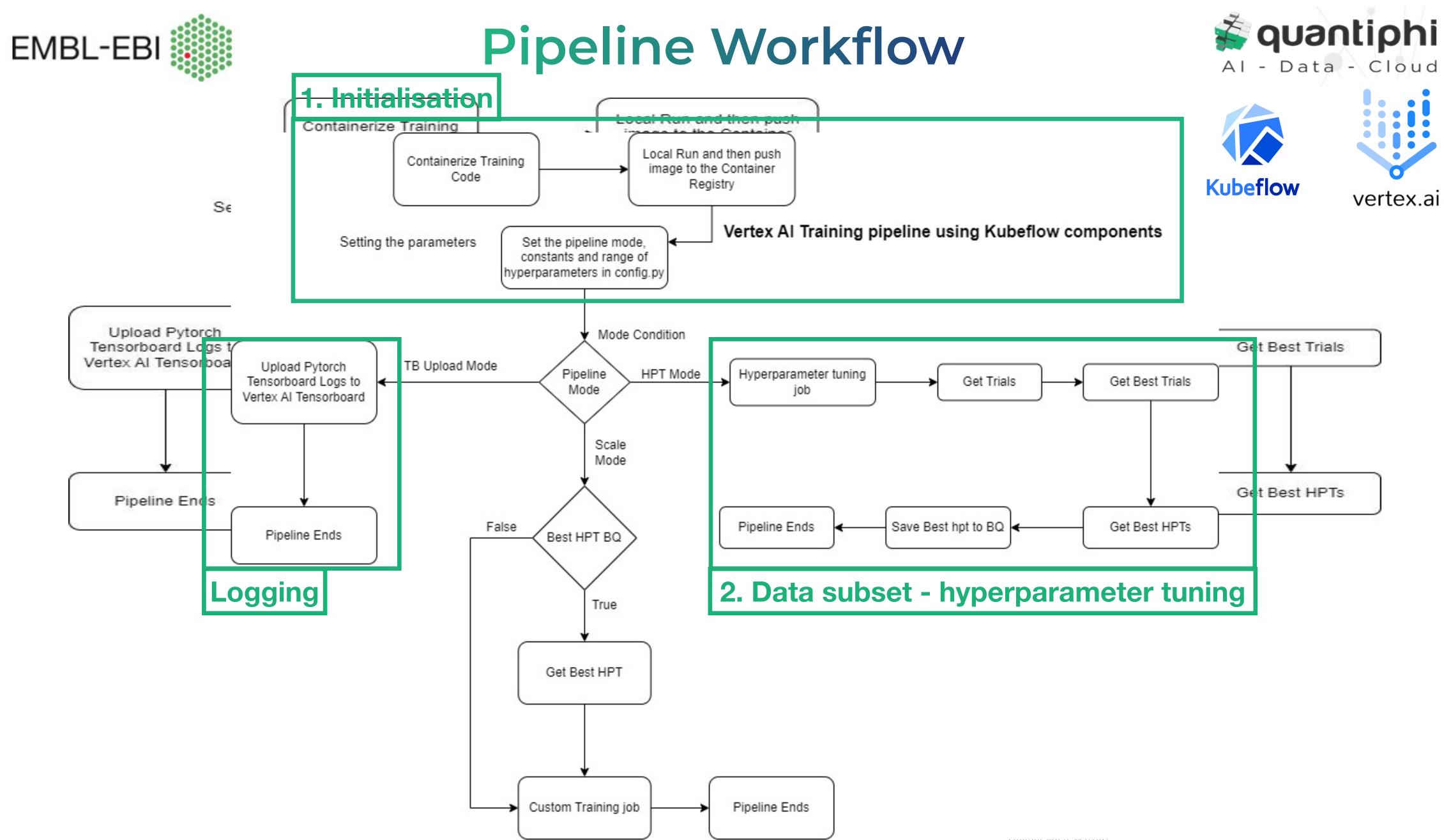




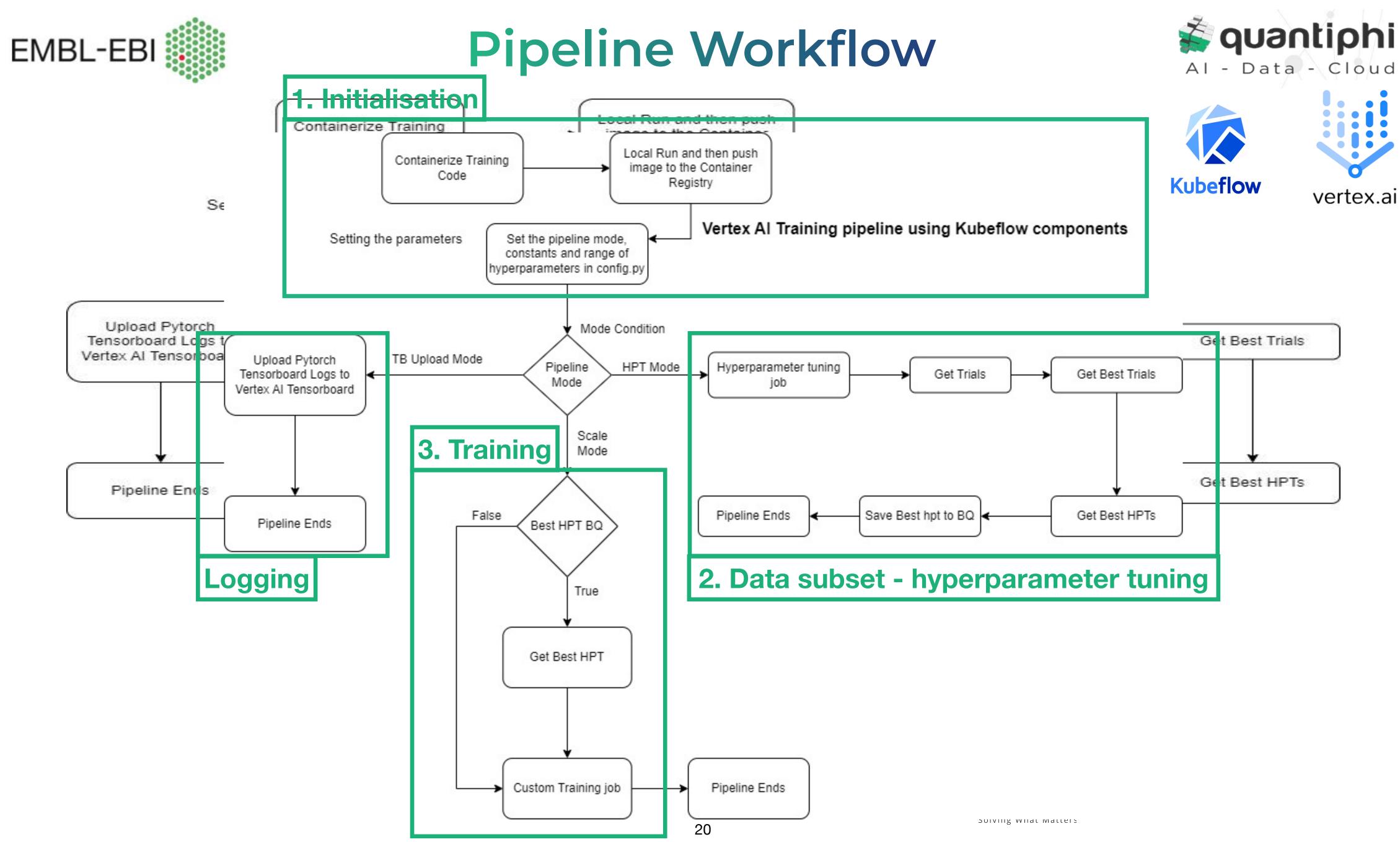
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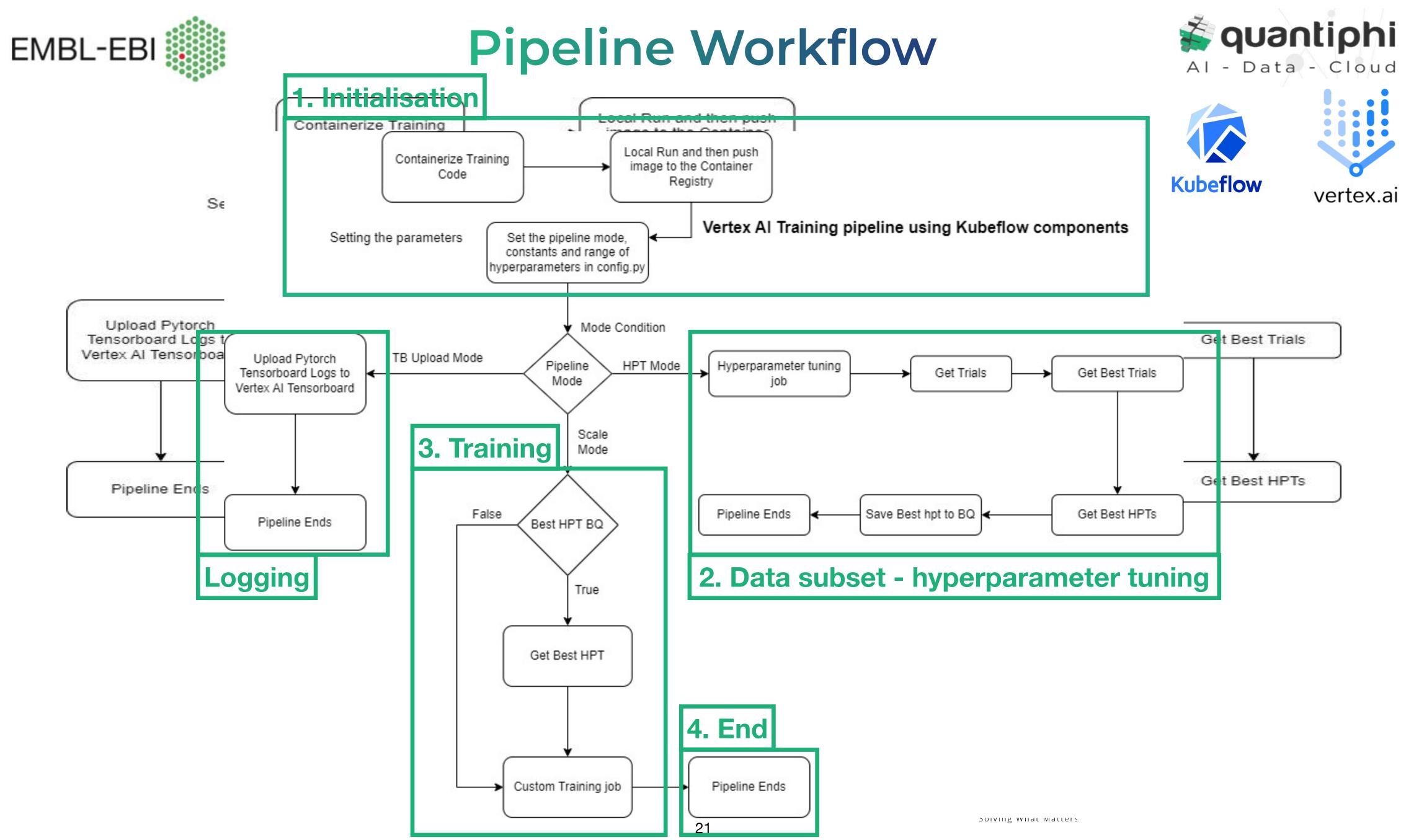


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128

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Create Sweep

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-       -       -       0       0.001       500       2         -       -       -       -       0       0.001       250       2         -       -       -       -       0       0.001       250       2         -       -       -       -       0       0.001       250       2         -       -       -       -       0       0.001       250       2	1.647	1.268	0.000004106	0.000004131	0	0.001	100	2
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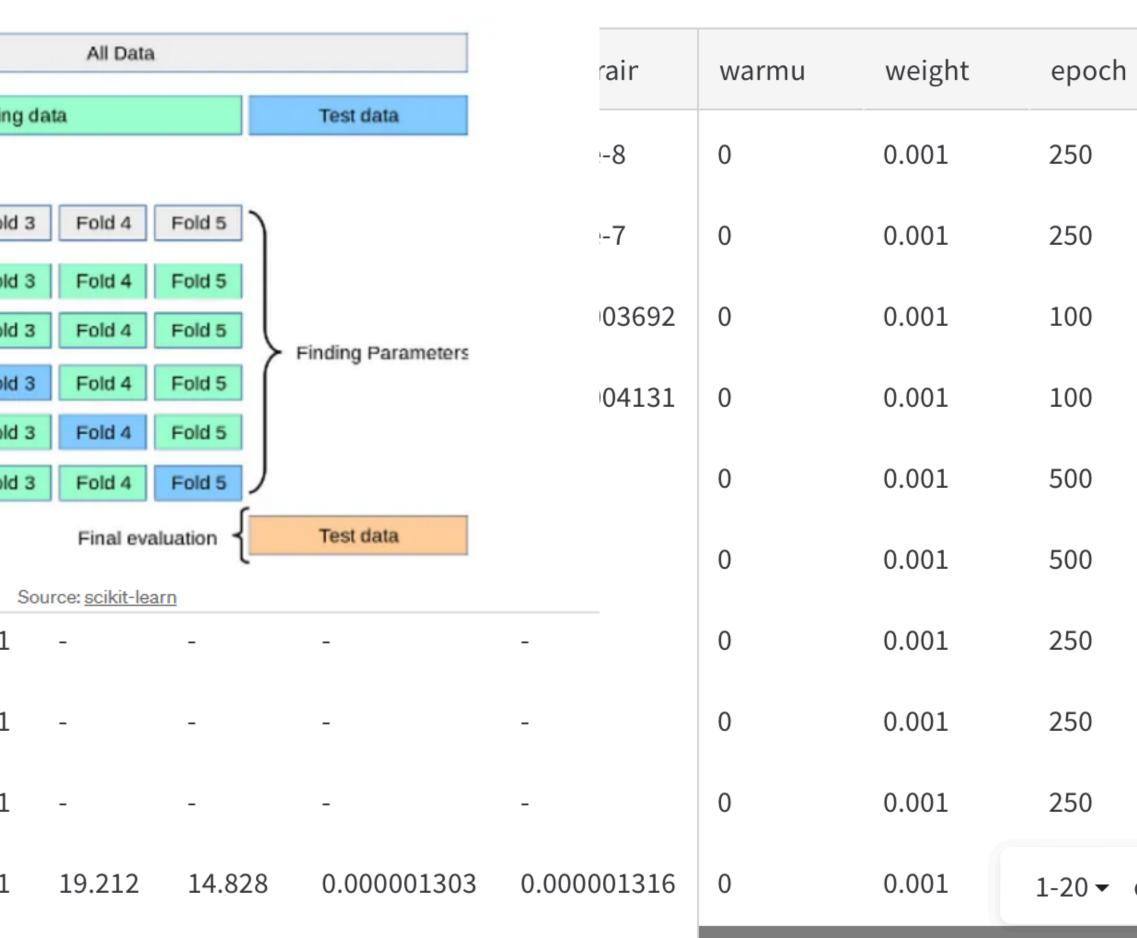


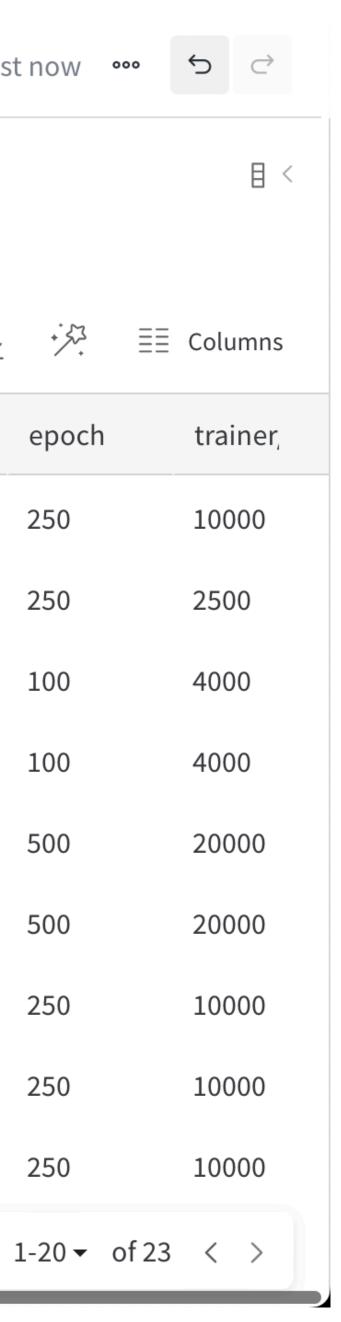
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#### Create Sweep

#### + 53 $\underline{\downarrow}$





# Model training bioimage\_embed

	Parameter	Value
Model	epochs	100
	batch_size	64
	latent_dim	16
	$num\_embeddings$	16
	num_hiddens	16
	num_residual_hiddens	32
	num_residual_layers	150
	$commitment\_cost$	0.25
	decay	0.99
Optimizer	opt	LAMB
	lr	0.001
	$weight\_decay$	0.0001
	momentum	0.9
LR scheduler	sched	cosine
	min_lr	1e-4
	$warmup_epochs$	5
	warmup_lr	1e-6
	$cooldown\_epochs$	10
	t_max	50
	$cycle\_momentum$	False

í Overview

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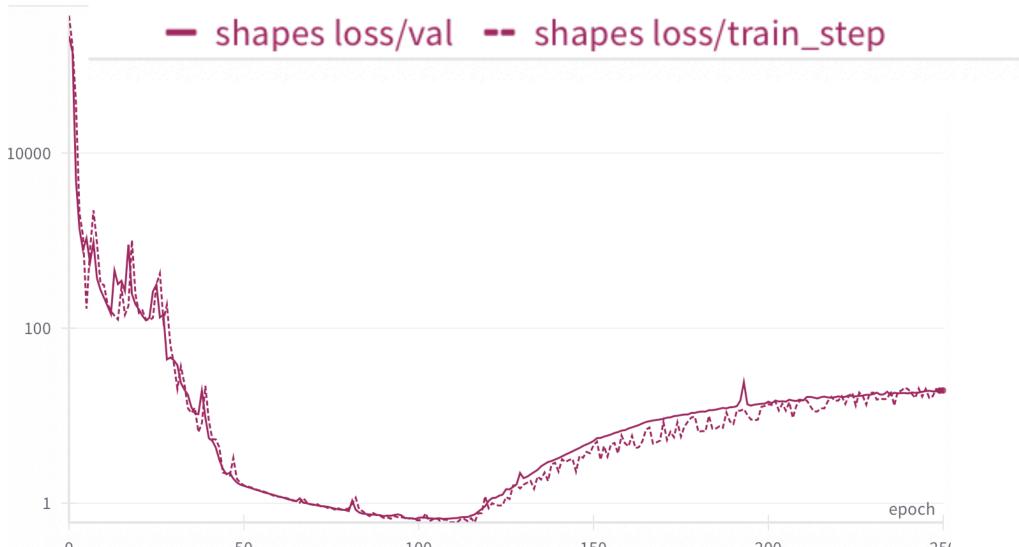
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• >~ 🛑	19.437	4	resnet50_vqvae	128	0.0001	-	-	-	-	0	0.001	250	10000
• >~ 🛑	19.437	4	resnet50_vqvae	128	0.0001	19.212	14.828	0.000001303	0.000001316	0	0.001	1-20 ▼ of 23	3 < >

## loss/val, loss/train\_step



50 100 150 25( 0 200

# **Experiments for scaling**

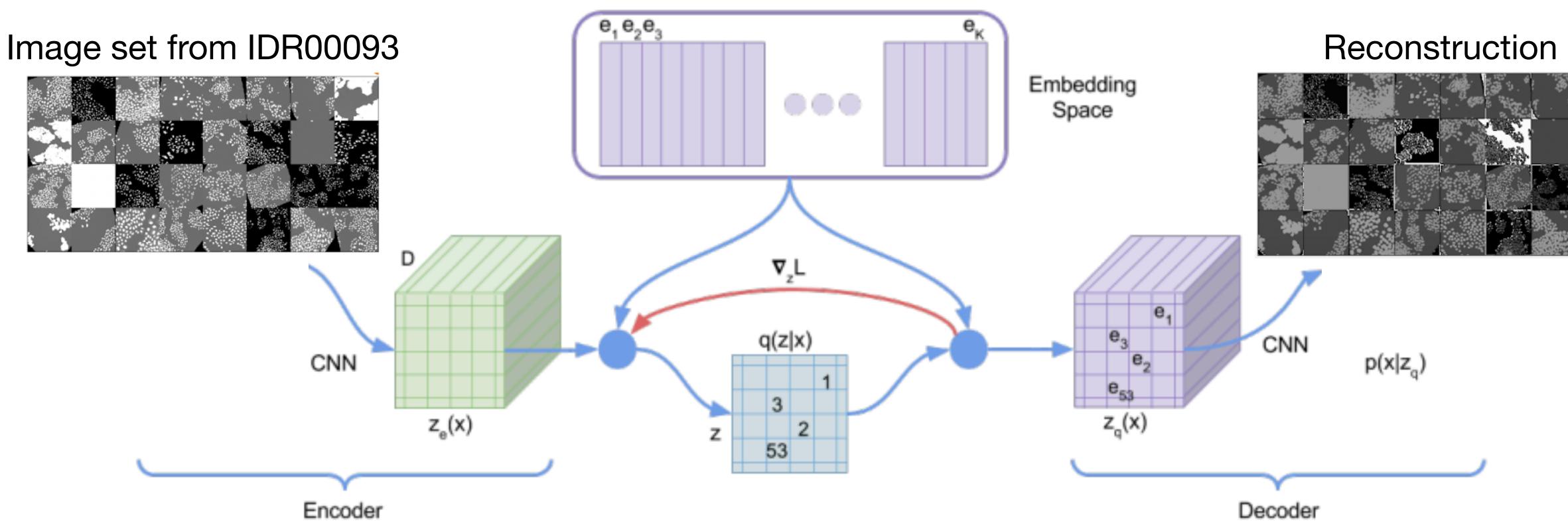
- CPU machine type used :n1-standard-16
- The accelerator used is **GPU**: NVIDIA\_TESLA\_T4
  - **50 concurrent GPUs**
  - Training time reduced due to early stopping
    - Training time is heavily reliant on hyperparameters
    - Decreasing learning rate yielded 7-fold improvement in training time
- Scale training of the model up to **110 000** lacksquare**images (1.2 TB)**, representing a large subset of study IDR00093.

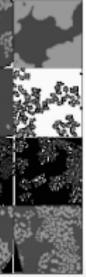
Training Data Size	Machine Configurations	GPU per Worker	Total GPUs	Total Training Time	Epochs	LR	Average Training time per epoch
<b>32</b> k	6(chief -1, worker-5)	1	6	5 hours 19 minutes	9	le-3	35.44min
1.1 TB (100k)	1 Chief 49 Workers	1	50	7 hours 16 minutes	34	le-3	12.82 min
1.21 TB (110k)	1 Chief 49 Workers	1	50	53 minutes	7	3e <sup>-5</sup>	7.5 min
Table 1 :Scaling experiments							





# Visual assessment of model image reconstruction Input and output of trained model





# Bioimage specific considerations and tricks

- 1. Tunable latent space size
  - Users want to choose how many features the model generates
- 2. ND Colour Channels
  - Most models by default are 3 colour channels
  - BioImages do not abide by this

- 3. Batch effects
  - Images from repeats should produce similar features
- 4. Mixed datasets
  - Variable size length of channels and dyes, time, depth

## **1. Tunable latent space size** VQVAE as an example

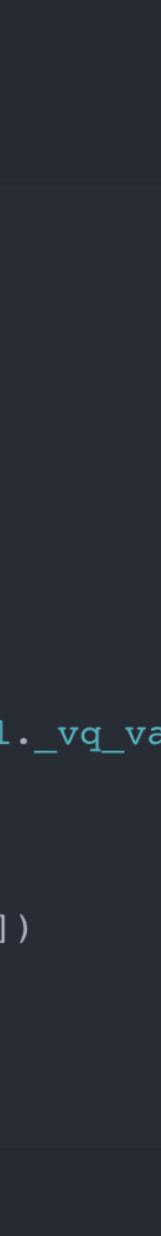
- Issue:
  - Encoders vary in their feature size
  - Decoders expect a specific tensor size in
  - ResNetXX sizes:
    - 18,34,50: 512
    - 101,152: 2048
- Trick:
  - Adaptive averaging from *encoder* output
  - Tensor repeat (torch.expand) back to what the *decoder* expects

## •••

```
def forward(self, x, epoch=None):
    z = self.model.encoder(x["data"])
    z = self.model._pre_vq_conv(z)
    proper_shape = z.shape
    z = self.avgpool(z)
    z = z.permute(0, 2, 3, 1)
    loss, quantized, perplexity, encodings = self.model._vq_va
    z = quantized.flatten(1)
```

```
quantized = quantized.permute(0, 3, 1, 2)
quantized = quantized.expand(-1, *proper_shape[-3:])
```

x\_recon = self.model.\_decoder(quantized)



# 2. ND Colour channels Expand channels into batch

- *Issue:* Most image models take inputs of x.shape
  - Bioimage datasets can be
    - [batch,c,y,x] where  $c \in \{n \in \mathbb{Z} \mid n \ge 1\}$
  - Most image models take inputs of x.shape
    - [batch,3,y,x]
- *Trick*: Put colour channels in batch\_dim, then expand c\_dim to 3
  - Possible because batch is allowed to vary during training

### •••

```
def expand_channels(self, tensor):
    b, c, *dims = tensor.shape
    tensor = tensor.unsqueeze(1)
    tensor = tensor.transpose(1, 2)
    tensor = tensor.reshape(b * c, 1, *dims)
    return tensor
```

## •••

```
def contract_channels(self, x,c):
    b_c, dims = x.shape
    x = x.reshape(b_c // c, c, *dims)
    x = x.transpose(1, 2)
    x = x.squeeze(1)
    return x
```

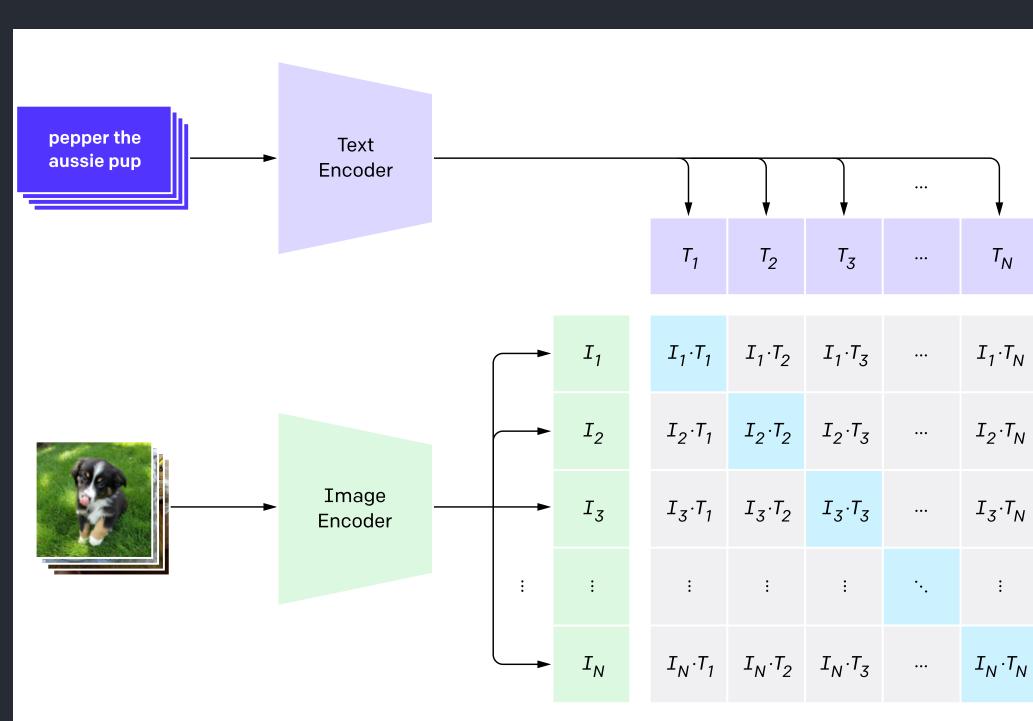
# 3. + 4. Mixed data Full process

- Issue: Due to previous tricks the model doesn't know that additional dimensions are related, (z,c,t,plate,well,batch etc)
- *Trick:* Use contrastive learning to make sure their latent representations are similar

### •••

```
def channel_loss(self, x):
    model_output = self.model(x)
    b,c,dims = x.shape
    z = model_output.z.mean(dim=1, keepdim=True)
    z = self.contract_channels(z,c)
    channel_loss = euclidean_z_channel(z)
    # TODO clever mean across batches with a larger were
```

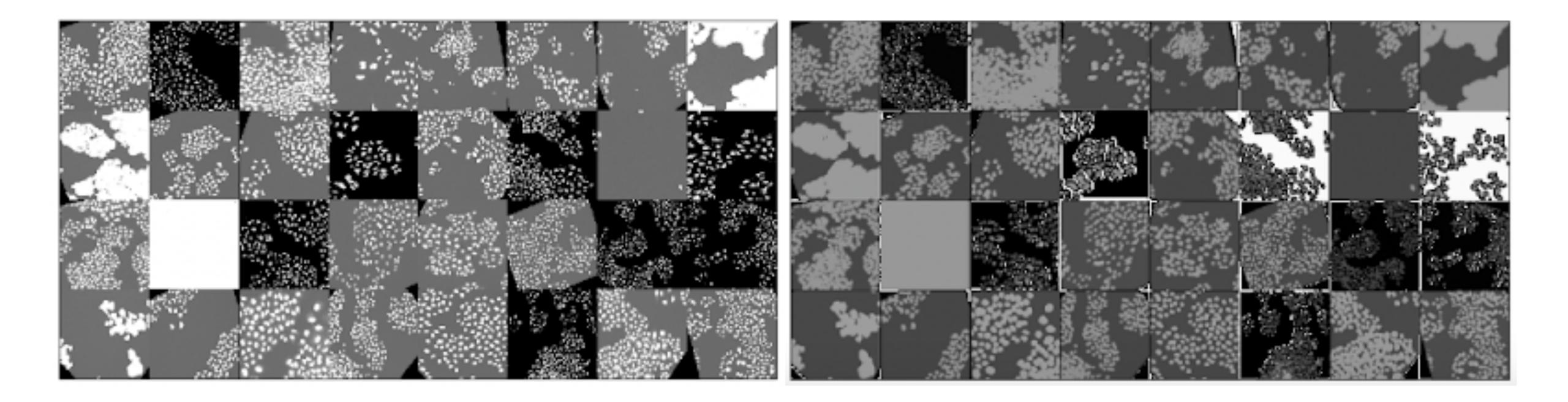
return channel\_loss.sum(dim=(1, 2)).mean(dim=0)





# Visual assessment of model image reconstruction Input and output of trained model

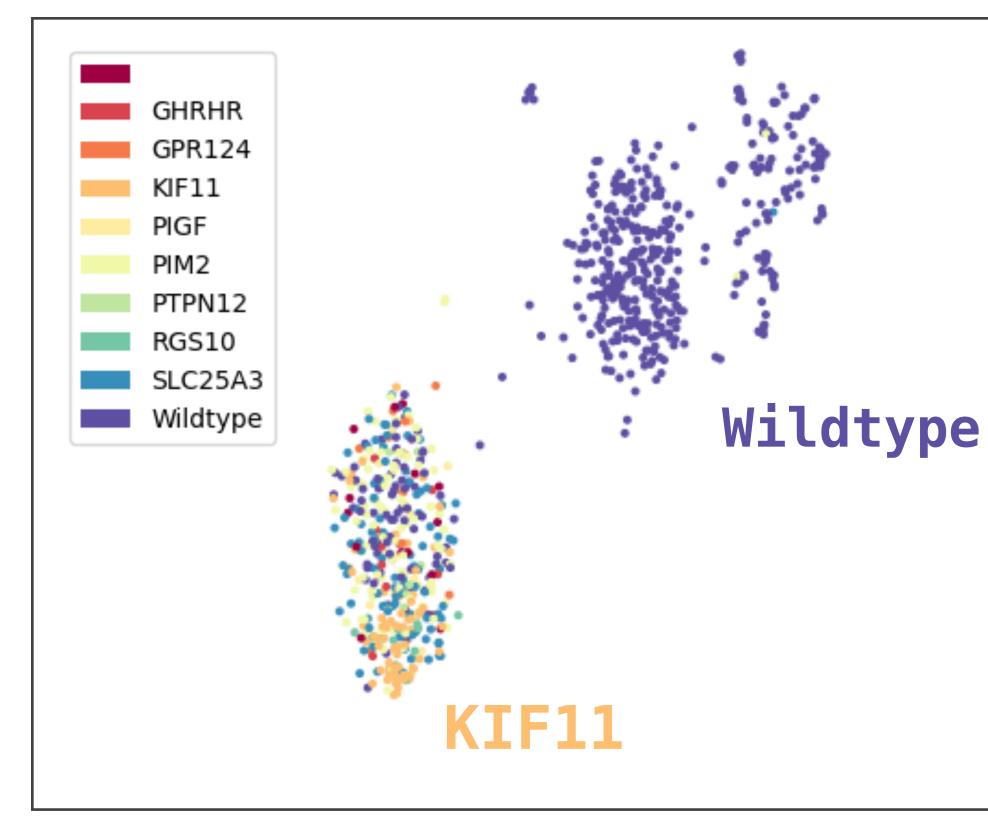
Image set from IDR00093



Reconstruction

# Model inference of gene labels in IDR00093 Using best model

UMAP of embeddings



Random forest label prediction scores from subset embeddings

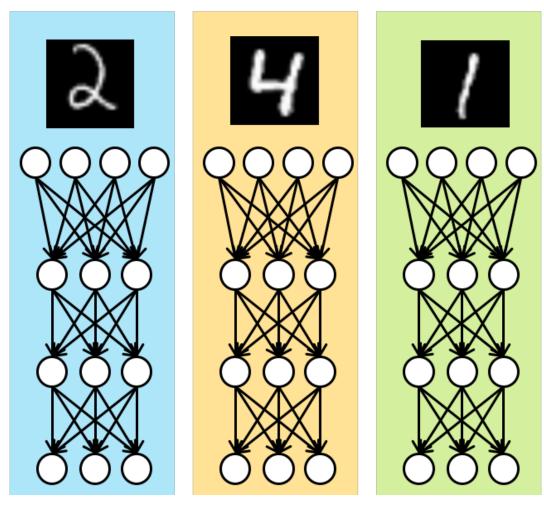
Gene	precision	recall	f1-score	support
	0 00	0 00	0 00	2
	0.00	0.00	0.00	3
GHRHR	0.00	0.00	0.00	1
KIF11	0.75	0.94	0.83	16
PIGF	0.00	0.00	0.00	1
PIM2	0.00	0.00	0.00	27
PTPN12	0.00	0.00	0.00	5
RGS10	0.00	0.00	0.00	2
SLC25A3	0.00	0.00	0.00	21
Wildtype	0.60	0.97	0.74	90
accuracy			0.61	166
macro avg	0.15	0.21	0.17	166
weighted avg	0.40	0.61	0.48	166

# Large model Training

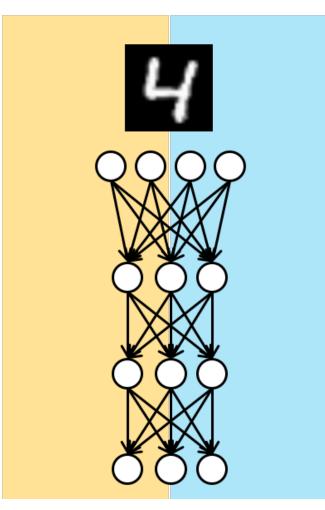
- Data parallelism
  - Dataset is split per training node  $\bullet$
  - Same model per node
  - Gradients can be accumulated  $\bullet$
- Model parallelism
  - Model is split per training node lacksquare
  - Gradients have to be synchronised quickly



## Data Parallel



## Model Parallel



# **Challenges + Tips**

- Larger batches are always better
  - They converge faster
  - Choose largest that fits in memory
- CPU bottlenecks lead to GPU bottlenecks
  - Raw tiffs are slow, pngs are faster, zarr loading also slow

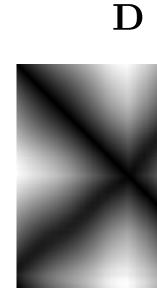
https://lightning.ai/docs/pytorch/stable/advanced/training\_tricks.html

- GPU bottlenecks
  - 1 device per node is bad for model parallelism
  - Generally we see diminishing returns on speed for model sharding and data parallelism
- Hyperparameter tuning is embarrassingly parallel

**Biological applications** 

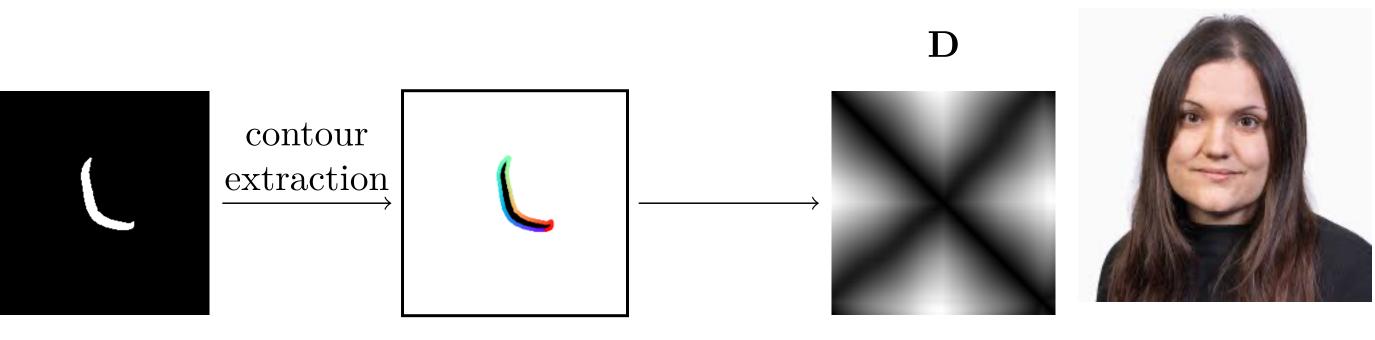
# shape\_embed

- Use distance matrix representation of masks/ contours
  - Agnostic to *rotation* and *translation*
- Feed those distance matrices into the model
- Generate shape representation

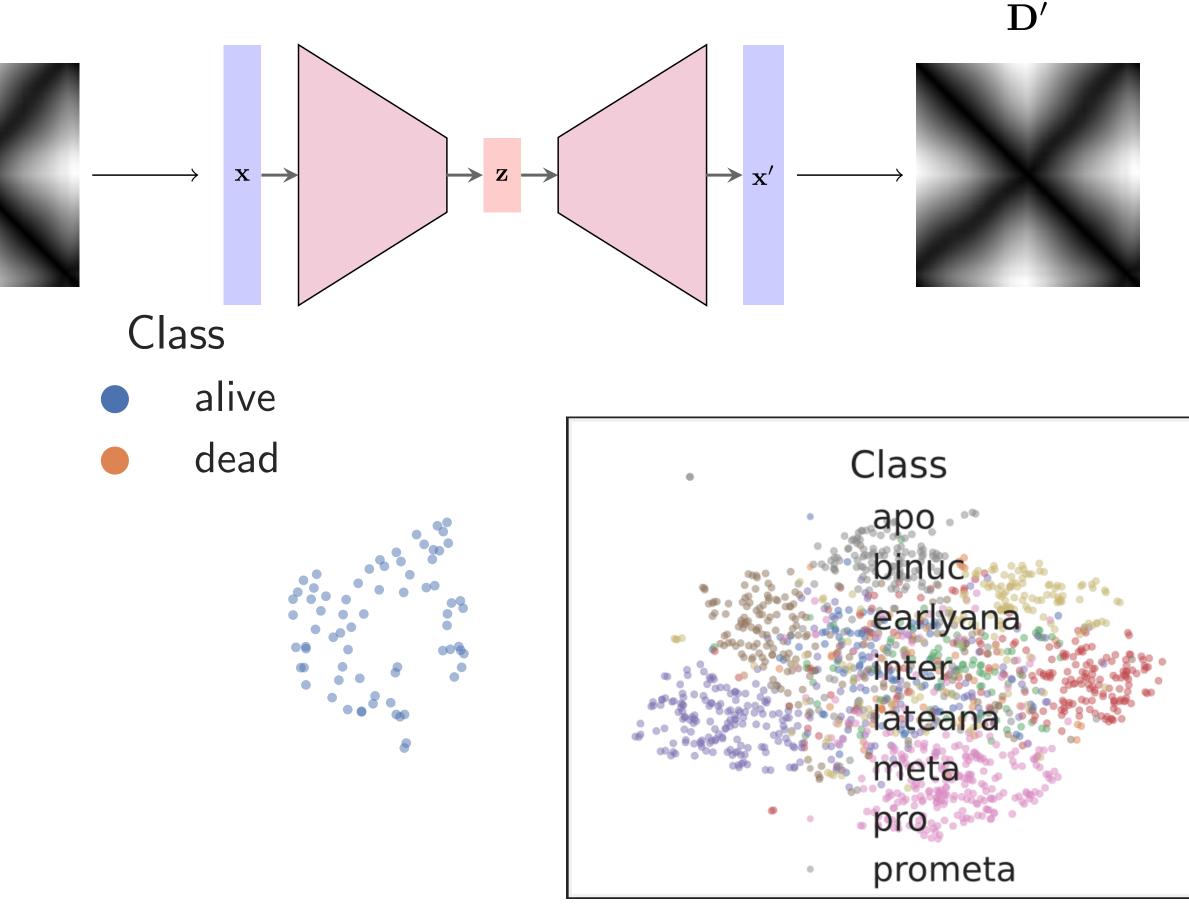




 $UMAP_1$ 

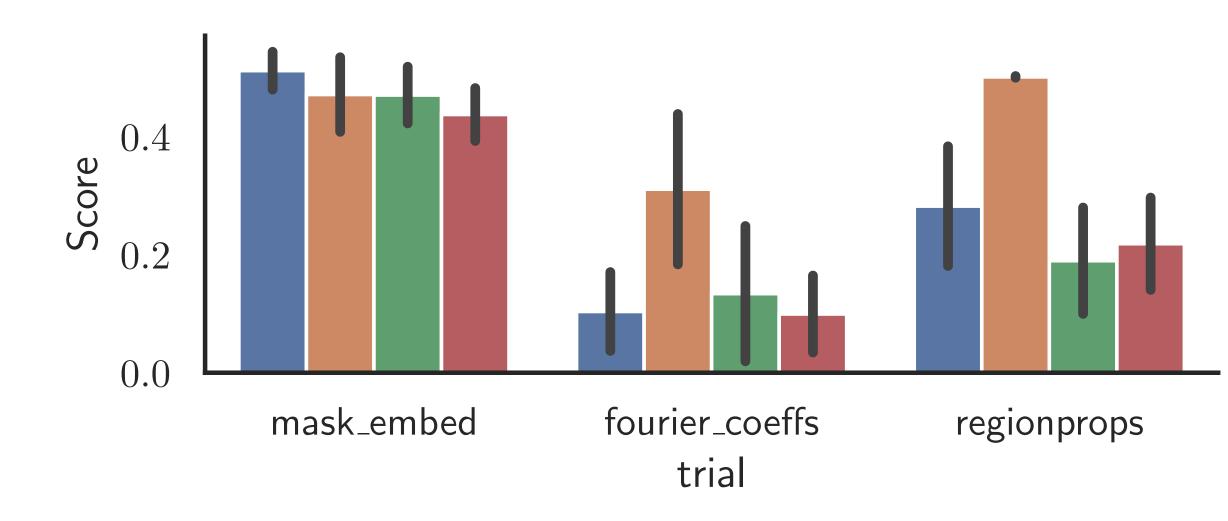


(a) Generation of distance matrix from a segmentation mask.



#### shape\_embed results **Classification power**

- Scoring with RandomForest
- Region props = [size, extent etc.]
- Broadly outperforms classical approaches



Metric test\_accuracy

test\_precision

test\_recall

test\_f1



skimage.measure.regionprops\_table(label\_image,

intensity\_image=None, properties=('label', 'bbox'), \*, cache=True,

separator='-', extra\_properties=None, spacing=None)

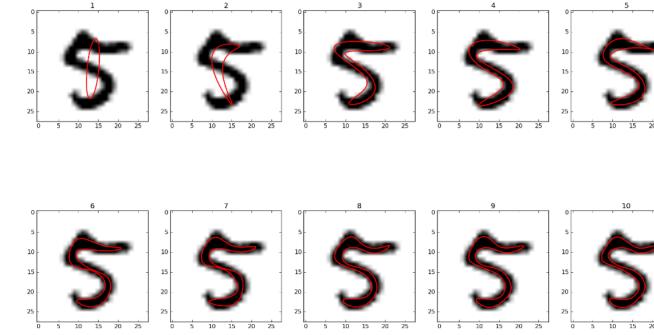
Compute image properties and return them as a pandas-compatible table.

The table is a dictionary mapping column names to value arrays. See Notes section below for details.

#### **PyEFD**

 Build and Test passing pypi v1.6.0 downloads 803/month license MIT coverage 100%

An Python/NumPy implementation of a method for approximating a contour with a Fourier series, as described in <sup>[1]</sup>.



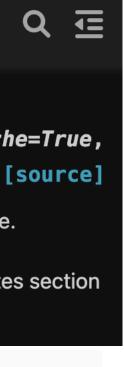
EFD representations of an MNIST<sup>[2]</sup> digit. Shows progressive improvement of approximation by order of Fourier series.

pyefd.elliptic\_fourier\_descriptors(contour, order=10, normalize=False, return\_transformation=False) [source]

Calculate elliptical Fourier descriptors for a contour.

Parameters:

- contour (numpy.ndarray) A contour array of size [M x 2].
- order (int) The order of Fourier coefficients to calculate.
- normalize (bool) If the coefficients should be normalized; see references for details.



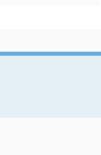






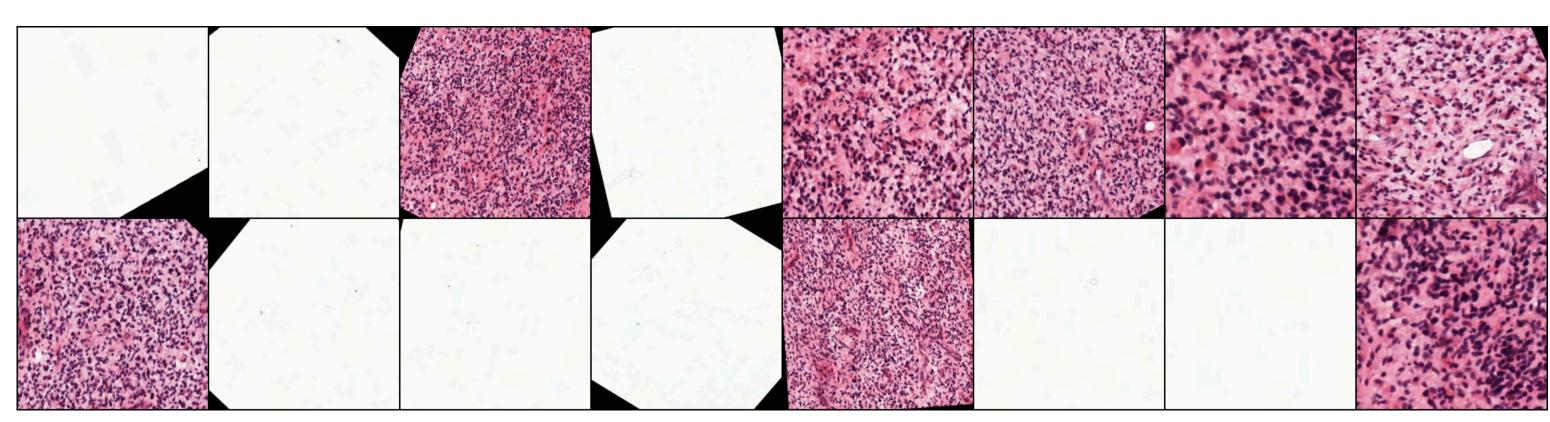


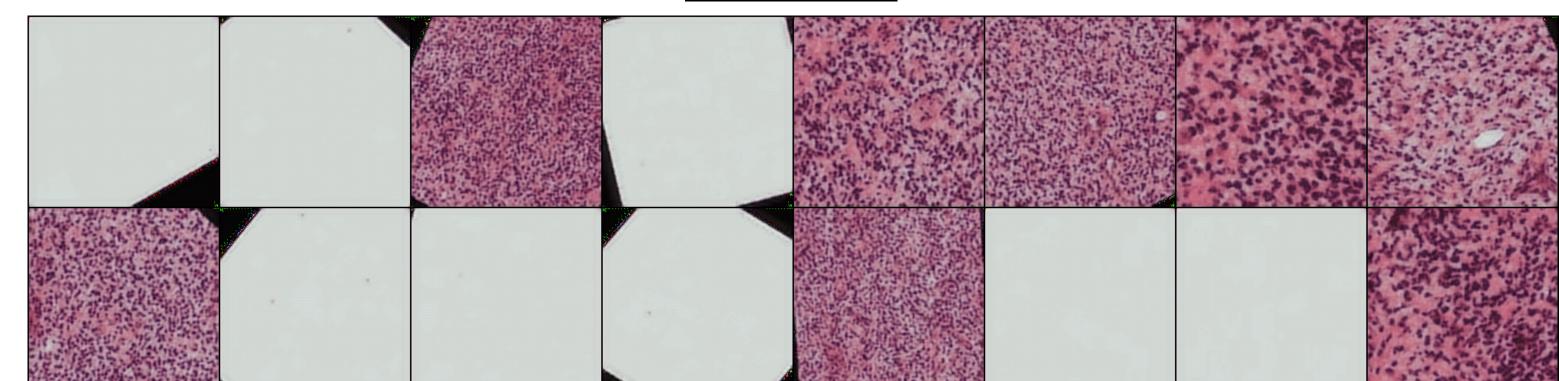


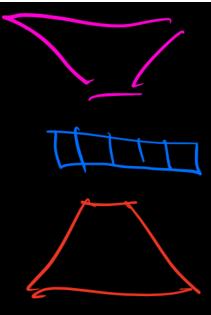


## Histopathology patch similarity

- Large histopathology image
- Autoencoder encodes patches to patches
- Use latent representation and euclidean distance to find similar patches





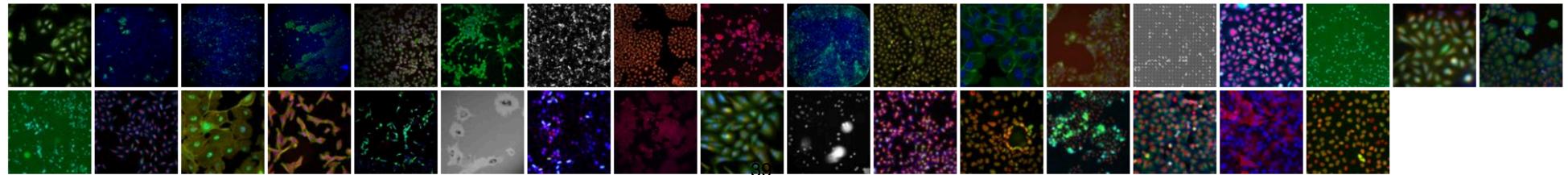




### Future work

- Release challenge datasets
  - Pre-training + labelled
- MultiModal learning
  - Text Dyes are extremely important
    - Metadata, papers etc
  - Shape segmentations exist for some data

High-content screening (human)



- More data Include BIA
  - Larger pretraining
- More contrastive learning
  - More useful in finetuning
- Beta user public release
- More backend models
  - Transformers, HuggingFace models

## Acknowledgements

#### Partnership with EMBL-EBI Cast of Characters in Collaboration



Santiago Insua Hybrid Cloud Manager



Craig Russell

Data Scientist



**David Gomez** 

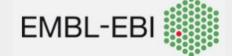
Hybrid DevOps Engineer





**Matthew Hartley** Team Leader

-00



ML Ops Solution Accelerator Transformation Journey





**Raymond Hounon** Account Director Customer Engineer Customer Engineer

Hariprasad

**Hatem Nawar** 

**Adam Hammond** Regional Sales Lead -EMEA

Delivery Team



Saicharan Gurramkonda Engagement Manager



Samit Saxena Jay Mangi Technical Architect - Snr. Machine Learning Machine Learning Machine Learning Machine Learning Machine Learning Engineer







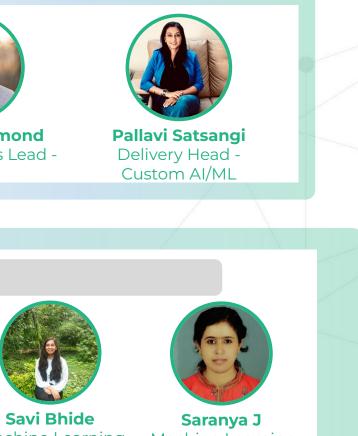


Sakshi Garg Engineer



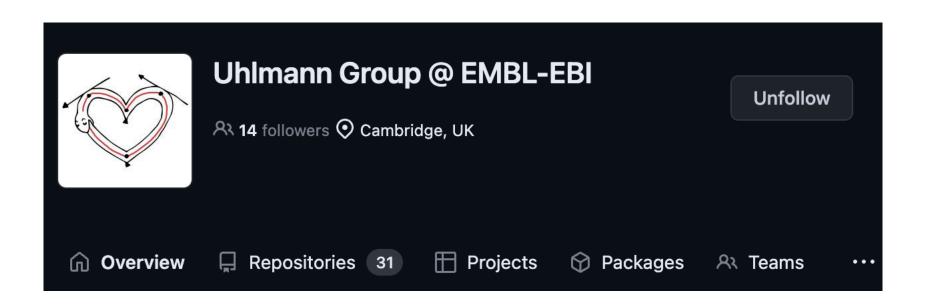
C.D. Tiwari Architect





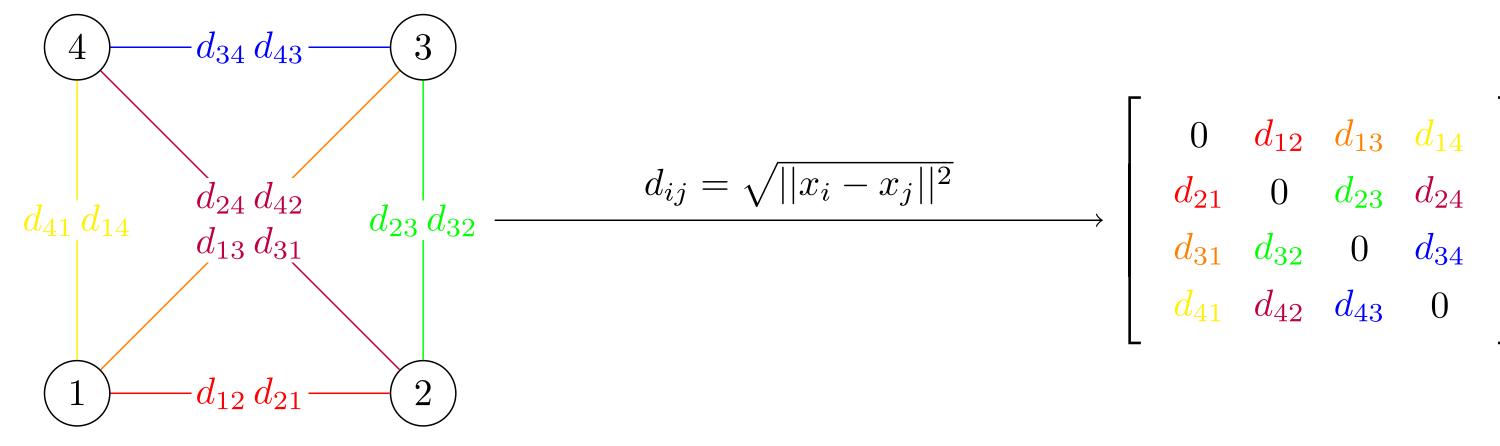
Engineer Engineer

**E quantiphi** © 2023 Quantiphi



### **Distance** matrices

- Invariant to:
  - Rotationally invariant
  - Scale invariant
    - With Frobenius norm
  - Translation invariance
  - Reflection invariance
  - Single shape prior





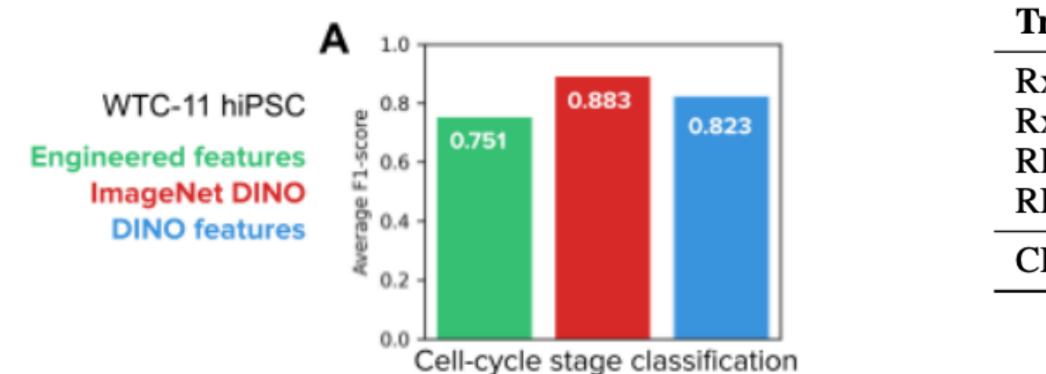
#### **Distance matrices** Indexation invariance

- Achieved through augmentation
- Possible number of augmentations
  - $\|\operatorname{diag}(\mathbf{D})\|$

# Unbiased single-cell morphology self-supervised vision transformer

Michael Doron<sup>1</sup>, Théo Moutakanni<sup>2</sup>, Zitong S. Chen<sup>1</sup>, Nikita Moshkov<sup>3</sup>, Mathilde Touvron<sup>2</sup>, Piotr Bojanowski<sup>2</sup>, Wolfgang M. Pernice<sup>4</sup>, Juan C. Caicedo<sup>1\*</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA, USA
- <sup>2</sup> Meta AI, Paris, France
- <sup>3</sup> Synthetic and Systems Biology Unit, Biological Research Centre (BRC), Szeg
- <sup>4</sup> Department of Neurology, Columbia University Medical Center, New York, NY, USA
- \* Corresponding author (jcaicedo@broadinstitute.org)



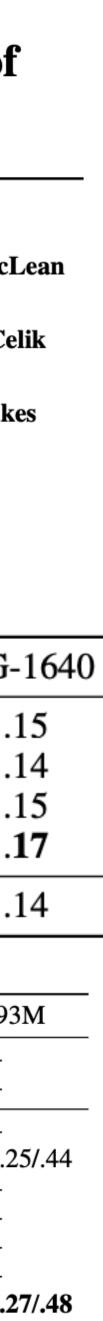
#### bioimage\_embed: Autoencoders for Biological Image Data

bioimage\_embed is an all-in-one Python package designed to cater to the needs of computational biologists, data scientists, and researchers working on biological image data. With specialized functions to handle, preprocess, and visualize microscopy datasets, this tool is tailored to streamline the embedding process for biological imagery.

with ers	Masked Autoencoders are Scalable Learners of Cellular Morphology						
e Caron <sup>2</sup> , Hugo	Oren Kraus*	Kian Ken	yon-Dean*	Saber Sabe	rian Maryam F	allah Peter McL	
	Jess Leung	Vasude	v Sharma	Ayla Khan	Jia Balakrish	nan Safiye Cel	
	Maciej Syp	etkowski	Chi Vicl	ky Cheng	Kristen Morse	Maureen Make	
ged, Hungary		Ben N	ſabey		<b>Berton Earnsh</b>	aw	

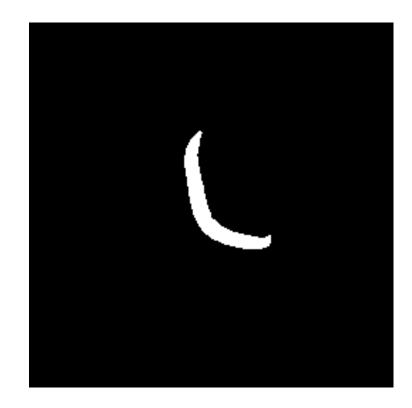
Fraining dataset	Model backbone	PoC-124	MoA-300	DG-
RxRx1 [49]	WSL DenseNet-161 w/ AdaBN	.79	.24	•
RxRx3 [19]	MAE ViT-S/16	.74	.19	•
RPI-52M	MU-Net-L	.79	.20	•
RPI-93M	MAE ViT-L/8+	.80	.23	•
CP-1640 [45]	DiNO ViT-S/8	.53	.12	•

Model backbone		RxRx1 [49]	RxRx3 [19]	RPI-52M	RPI-93
	DenseNet-161	.38/.31/.19/.33	.36/.27/.17/.32	_	_
	DenseNet-161 w/ AdaBN	.48/.35/.23/.42	.46/.30/.19/.38	-	_
	MU-Net-M	_	.56/.38/.23/.42	_	_
	MU-Net-L	_	.57/.37/.23/.43	.58/.39/.24/.44	.58/.39/.2
	MAE ViT-S/16	_	.52/.37/.23/.41	.51/.36/.22/.40	_
	MAE ViT-B/16	_	.57/.39/.23/.43	.54/.37/.23/.42	_
	MAE ViT-B/8	_	_	.60/.40/.25/.46	_
	MAE ViT-L/16	_	.56/.37/.23/.43	.61/.41/.26/.46	_
	MAE ViT-L/8+	-	_	.61/.42/ <b>.27</b> /.47	.62/.44/.27

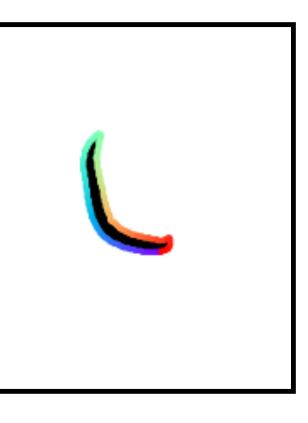


### **Contour extraction**

- Crop centroid
  - Window size hyperparam
- Marching squares
- Fit cubic spline
- Resample  $\bullet$ 
  - Currently uses a stardist style ray casting
  - Should use spline resampling



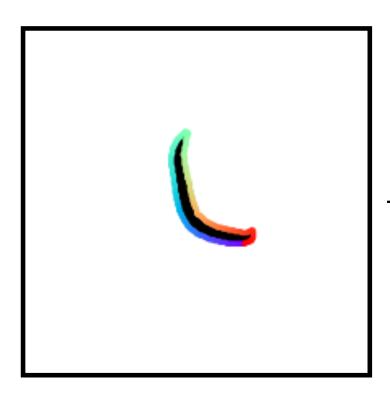
#### contour extraction

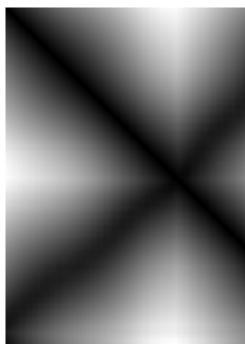


### **Contour to distance matrix**

- Resample to 256 points (hparam)
  - 256 is roughly 224 -> ImageNet size
  - Rainbow -> samples
- Normalise coords to window\_size [!]
- Run euclidean distance on contour points
  - Use euclidean because operation can be inverted

D





#### sklearn.metrics.pairwise.euclidean\_dist ances

sklearn.metrics.pairwise.euclidean\_distances(X, Y=None, \*, Y\_norm\_squared=None, squared=False, X\_norm\_squared=None)

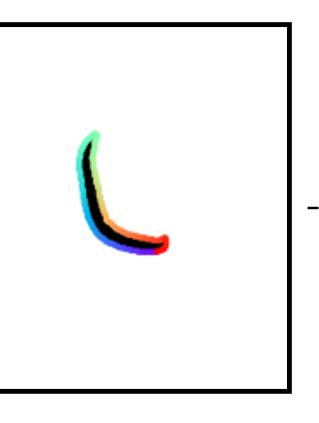
Compute the distance matrix between each pair from a vector array X and Y.





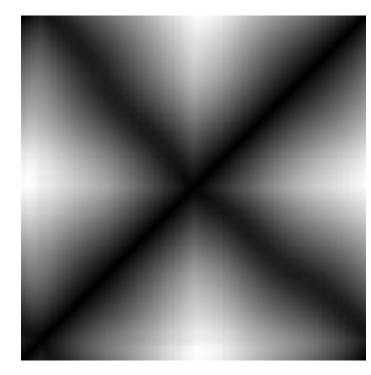


#### contour extraction

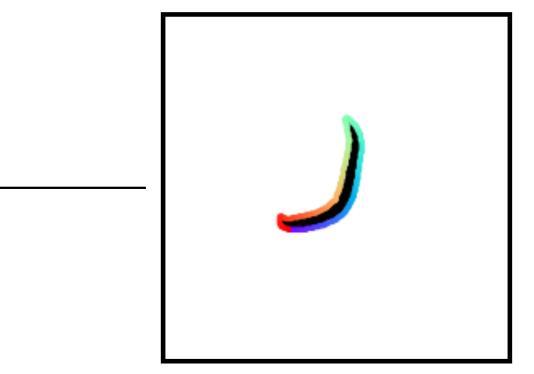


## **Distance matrix to contour**

- Multi-Dimensional-Scaling
  - Magically iterative algorithm
  - Does not get stuck in local minima
  - Will always converge
- The seed value essentially only randomly controls
  - The rotation
  - The indexation
- The essence of the shape is always recovered



Π

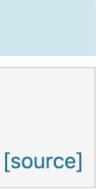


#### sklearn.manifold.MDS

class sklearn.manifold.MDS(n\_components=2, \*, metric=True, n\_init=4, max\_iter=300, verbose=0, eps=0.001, n\_jobs=None, random\_state=None, dissimilarity='euclidean', normalized\_stress='warn') ¶

Multidimensional scaling.

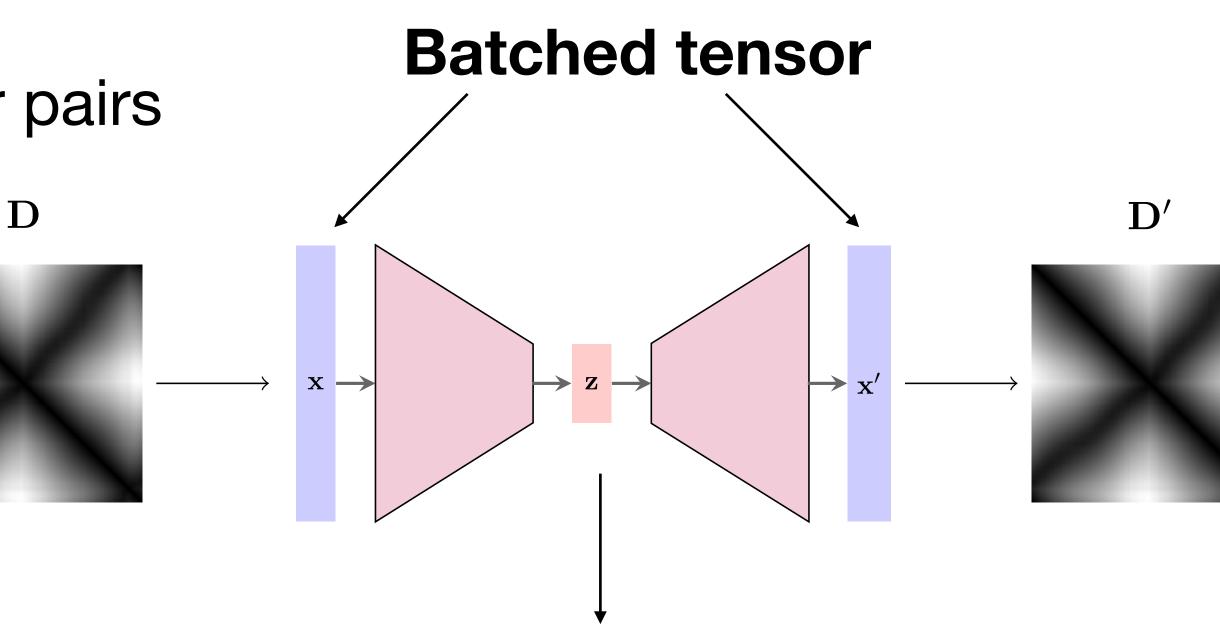
Read more in the User Guide.



## Autoencoding shapes

- We use matched encoder-decoder pairs
- Currently available
  - ResNet{18,50,110}
- **Future :** 
  - Segmentation anything encoder
  - Mask auto encoder
  - (These might be the same or similar)





Latent representation





### **Distance matrix losses**

- - All zero leading diagonal -> discourage deviation of diagonals from zero
- 2.  $\mathscr{L}_{non-negativity}(\mathbf{D},\mathbf{D}') = MSE(max(0,\mathbf{D}'-$ 
  - All off-diagonal values are positive.

#### 1. $\mathscr{L}_{diagonal}(\mathbf{D}') = MSE(diag(\mathbf{D}'), \mathbf{0})$ 3. $\mathscr{L}_{symmetry}(\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{D}') = MSE(\mathbf{D}', \mathbf{D}'^T)$

• Penalize any discrepancy between the matrix and its transpose

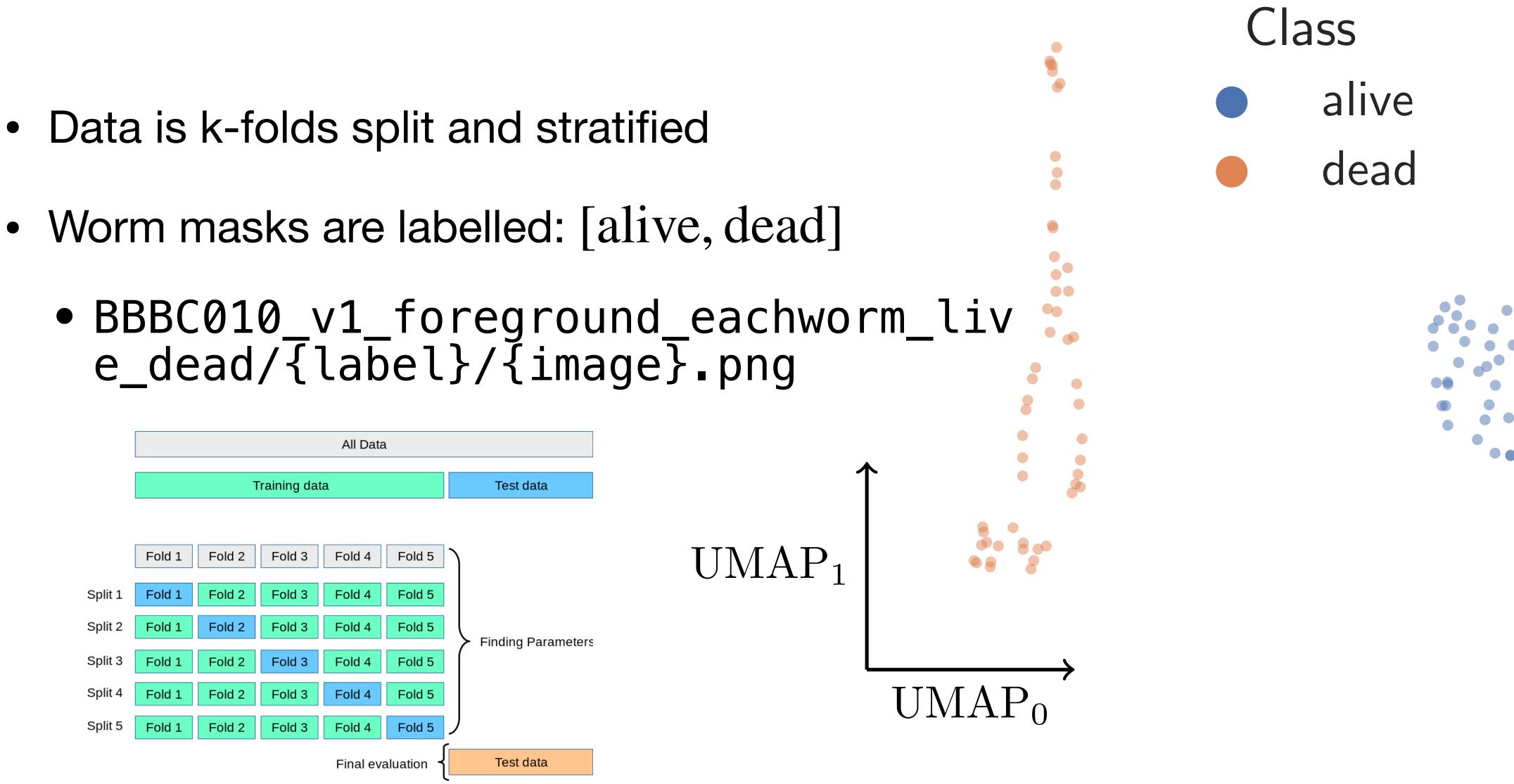
$$-\mathbf{D}) \Big) \quad \mathbf{4.} \quad \mathscr{L}_{\text{triangle}}(\mathbf{D}') = \text{ReLU}\left(\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left[d_{ij} + d_{jk} - d_{ij}\right]\right)$$

 Euclidean points mean triangle inequality is valid



### Results

- Data is k-folds split and stratified





### Conclusions

- Alternative shape representer that has useful shape priors and invariances baked-in
  - Rotation, translation, [opt.] scale
- Model agnostic -> No special invariant layers
- Information spread generally better through the image vs black

- Outperforms simple classical methods on biological shape data
- Complimentary to image features
   e.g. easy to concatenate D onto an image
- Tight control over latent space, useful for shape generation