

# Diabetic Foot Ulcers Grand Challenge 2021: Structured description of the challenge design

Remark: This challenge have been slightly modified. All changes are highlighted in red.

## CHALLENGE ORGANIZATION

### Title

Use the title to convey the essential information on the challenge mission.

Diabetic Foot Ulcers Grand Challenge 2021

### Challenge acronym

Preferable, provide a short acronym of the challenge (if any).

DFUC 2021

### Challenge abstract

Provide a summary of the challenge purpose. This should include a general introduction in the topic from both a biomedical as well as from a technical point of view and clearly state the envisioned technical and/or biomedical impact of the challenge.

Diabetes is a global epidemic affecting approximately 425 million people. This figure is expected to rise to 629 million people by 2045 [1]. Diabetic Foot Ulcers (DFU) are a serious condition that frequently results from the disease. The rapid rise of the condition over the last few decades is a major challenge for healthcare systems around the world. Cases of DFU frequently lead to more serious conditions, such as infection and ischaemia, that can significantly prolong treatment, and often result in limb amputation, with more serious cases leading to death. In an effort to improve patient care and reduce the strain on healthcare systems, recent research has focussed on the creation of detection algorithms that could be used as part of a mobile app that patients could use themselves (or a carer/partner) to monitor their condition and to detect the appearance of DFU [2][3]. To this end, the collaborative work between Manchester Metropolitan University, Lancashire Teaching Hospital and the Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust has created an international repository of 6000 DFU images with labelled infection and ischaemia cases for the purpose of supporting research toward more advanced methods of DFU pathology recognition. With joint effort from the lead scientists of the UK, US, India and New Zealand, this challenge will solicit the original works in DFU, promote interactions between researchers and interdisciplinary collaborations.

### Challenge keywords

List the primary keywords that characterize the challenge.

Diabetic foot ulcers, DFU pathology, ischemia, infection, machine learning

### Year

The challenge will take place in ...

2021

## **FURTHER INFORMATION FOR MICCAI ORGANIZERS**

### **Workshop**

If the challenge is part of a workshop, please indicate the workshop.

None

### **Duration**

How long does the challenge take?

Half day.

### **Expected number of participants**

Please explain the basis of your estimate (e.g. numbers from previous challenges) and/or provide a list of potential participants and indicate if they have already confirmed their willingness to contribute.

The expected number of participants is 50. We have received requests from researchers internationally to use our dataset. Our dataset is the first DFU dataset and it is unique. As a conservative estimation for the second challenge, we predict there will be at least 50 participants internationally.

We have just started to share a small subset of our datasets based on our recently publications (<http://www2.docm.mmu.ac.uk/STAFF/M.Yap/dataset.php>)[4][5]. We have received more than 15 enquiries on the datasets so far, and it is expected to increase in the next two months. A selection of institutions who contacted us so far are named below (individual participant names withheld for data protection purposes):

- 1) Dartmouth College, US
- 2) University of Toronto, Canada
- 3) Tripura University, India
- 4) University of Wah, Pakistan
- 5) Universidad de Malaga, Spain
- 6) University of Waikato, NZ
- 7) University of Auckland, NZ
- 8) CSIRO, Australia
- 9) Macquarie University, Australia
- 10) Manchester Metropolitan University, UK
- 11) University of Southwest, China
- 12) University of Monash, Malaysia
- 13) University of Applied Sciences and Arts Dortmund, Germany
- 14) Singapore Management University, Singapore

### **Publication and future plans**

Please indicate if you plan to coordinate a publication of the challenge results.

We will write at least a journal paper to summarize the challenge results. We will continue to make the dataset available for research use. Our future plan is to continue to collect and label the data. It is expected that the number will grow to 11,000 images for the DFUC 2022 Challenge.

### **Space and hardware requirements**

Organizers of on-site challenges must provide a fair computing environment for all participants. For instance, algorithms should run on the same computing platform provided to all.

We will be hosting our challenge on [grand-challenge.org](http://grand-challenge.org).

## **TASK: Analysis Towards Classification of Infection & Ischaemia of Diabetic Foot Ulcers**

### **SUMMARY**

#### **Abstract**

Provide a summary of the challenge purpose. This should include a general introduction in the topic from both a biomedical as well as from a technical point of view and clearly state the envisioned technical and/or biomedical impact of the challenge.

#### **Keywords**

List the primary keywords that characterize the task.

Diabetic foot ulcer, foot pathology, ischemia, infection, machine learning

### **ORGANIZATION**

#### **Organizers**

a) Provide information on the organizing team (names and affiliations).

Moi Hoon Yap, Manchester Metropolitan University

Neil Reeves, Manchester Metropolitan University

Andrew Boulton, University of Manchester and Manchester Royal Infirmary

Satyan Rajbhandari, Lancashire Teaching Hospital

David Armstrong, University of Southern California

Arun G. Maiya, Manipal College and Health Professions and Indian Podiatry Association

Bijan Najafi, Baylor College of Medicine in Texas

Eibe Frank, University of Waikato

Justina Wu, Waikato District Health Board

b) Provide information on the primary contact person.

Moi Hoon Yap, Manchester Metropolitan University

Email: M.Yap@mmu.ac.uk

#### **Life cycle type**

Define the intended submission cycle of the challenge. Include information on whether/how the challenge will be continued after the challenge has taken place. Not every challenge closes after the submission deadline (one-time event). Sometimes it is possible to submit results after the deadline (open call) or the challenge is repeated with some modifications (repeated event).

Examples:

- One-time event with fixed conference submission deadline
- Open call (challenge opens for new submissions after conference deadline)
- Repeated event with annual fixed conference submission deadline

Repeated annual event with different aspects of the challenge to address.

## Challenge venue and platform

a) Report the event (e.g. conference) that is associated with the challenge (if any).

MICCAI.

b) Report the platform (e.g. grand-challenge.org) used to run the challenge.

grand-challenge.org

(will setup once the proposal is accepted)

c) Provide the URL for the challenge website (if any).

<https://dfu-challenge.github.io/>

## Participation policies

a) Define the allowed user interaction of the algorithms assessed (e.g. only (semi-) automatic methods allowed).

**Fully automatic.**

b) Define the policy on the usage of training data. The data used to train algorithms may, for example, be restricted to the data provided by the challenge or to publicly available data including (open) pre-trained nets.

**Private data is allowed.**

c) Define the participation policy for members of the organizers' institutes. For example, members of the organizers' institutes may participate in the challenge but are not eligible for awards.

**Any organizations/companies affiliated with members of the organizing committee are not excluded from participation in the challenge, but must ensure that their submissions are completely independent of the members of the organizing committee.**

d) Define the award policy. In particular, provide details with respect to challenge prizes.

Certificates will be provided for the top 3 performing teams. We have been actively seeking sponsorship and we anticipate being able to provide generous cash prizes if we can confirm the challenge to our partners (e.g., Oracle, pharmaceutical company). Our co-chairs are very well connected and we are confident in being able to attain sponsorship for cash prizes. We will make a decision on the amount of the sponsorship before our website goes live.

e) Define the policy for result announcement.

Examples:

- Top 3 performing methods will be announced publicly.
- Participating teams can choose whether the performance results will be made public.

**All the results will be made available publicly and the top 3 performing methods will be invited to the challenge event to present their work.**

f) Define the publication policy. In particular, provide details on ...

- ... who of the participating teams/the participating teams' members qualifies as author
- ... whether the participating teams may publish their own results separately, and (if so)
- ... whether an embargo time is defined (so that challenge organizers can publish a challenge paper first).

**The challenge organizers will publish at least one challenge journal paper and potentially more. The authors may**

publish their papers separately and decisions on publication strategy will be made according to achieving publication in the highest ranking journals.

### Submission method

a) Describe the method used for result submission. Preferably, provide a link to the submission instructions.

Examples:

- Docker container on the Synapse platform. Link to submission instructions: <URL>
- Algorithm output was sent to organizers via e-mail. Submission instructions were sent by e-mail.

For the purpose of result verification and to encourage reproducibility and transparency, all entries must submit the following:

- An evaluation log file (.txt, or .csv) indicating image id, the predicted class in the format of probability of four columns: none, infection, ischaemia and both infection and ischaemia. This is to ensure that all submissions are fairly and correctly evaluated for comparisons.
- A paper highlighting the contribution of the submission, but not limited to, the method, experimental results and analysis, prepared according to the format stipulated by MICCAI 2021. All challenge entries should be accompanied by a description of the method.
- GitHub repository URL containing all source codes for their implemented method, and all other relevant files such as feature/parameter data. To help publicize our workshop and domain area, please do mention (or add relevant links to) DFUC 2021 and MICCAI 2021. The participants may provide this URL in a simple text file while submitting.

For all files, participants should submit a single zip file and upload to the submission system as supplementary material. The submission link will be made available from 15/07/2021.

b) Provide information on the possibility for participating teams to evaluate their algorithms before submitting final results. For example, many challenges allow submission of multiple results, and only the last run is officially counted to compute challenge results.

The participating teams will be able to validate their results based on the validation set provided by the organizers. Submissions to DFUC 2021 are issued a validation score. This is to provide a sanity check of the submission (ensure the submission is in the correct format) and it is not intended to be used for algorithm ranking or evaluation.

### Challenge schedule

Provide a timetable for the challenge. Preferably, this should include

- the release date(s) of the training cases (if any)
- the registration date/period
- the release date(s) of the test cases and validation cases (if any)
- the submission date(s)
- associated workshop days (if any)
- the release date(s) of the results

Training data release: 27/04/2021

Validation data release: 21/06/2021

Test images release: 01/07/2021

Submission deadline: 15/07/2021

Winner and invitation speakers: 15/08/2021

## Ethics approval

Indicate whether ethics approval is necessary for the data. If yes, provide details on the ethics approval, preferably institutional review board, location, date and number of the ethics approval (if applicable). Add the URL or a reference to the document of the ethics approval (if available).

We have received approval from the UK National Health Service (NHS) Research Ethics Committee (REC) to use these images for the purpose of research. The NHS REC reference number is 15/NW/0539.

## Data usage agreement

Clarify how the data can be used and distributed by the teams that participate in the challenge and by others during and after the challenge. This should include the explicit listing of the license applied.

Examples:

- CC BY (Attribution)
- CC BY-SA (Attribution-ShareAlike)
- CC BY-ND (Attribution-NoDerivs)
- CC BY-NC (Attribution-NonCommercial)
- CC BY-NC-SA (Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike)
- CC BY-NC-ND (Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs)

Prospective participants will need to request the dataset by completing a license agreement and email a formal request to the data owners.

Additional comments: The dataset consists of 5,955 labelled DFU patches available for training and 500 labelled DFU patches for validation (sanity check). Additionally, there will be 3,944 unlabelled DFU patches available for the users to use (optional, the users can use it for training or leave it out). The test dataset (planned release 01/07/2021) will contain an additional 5,734 DFU patches, comprising images of DFU with infection and ischaemia cases. To download the dataset, please visit: <http://www2.docm.mmu.ac.uk/STAFF/M.Yap/dataset.php> (to appear on 15/04/2021). Follow the instructions on the website to complete the licence agreement form.

Additional comments: The dataset consists of 5,955 labelled DFU patches available for training and 500 labelled DFU patches for validation (sanity check). Additionally, there will be 3,944 unlabelled DFU patches available for the users to use (optional, the users can use it for training or leave it out). The test dataset (planned release 01/07/2021) will contain an additional 5,734 DFU patches, comprising images of DFU with infection and ischaemia cases. To download the dataset, please visit: <http://www2.docm.mmu.ac.uk/STAFF/M.Yap/dataset.php> (to appear on 15/04/2021). Follow the instructions on the website to complete the licence agreement form.

## Code availability

a) Provide information on the accessibility of the organizers' evaluation software (e.g. code to produce rankings). Preferably, provide a link to the code and add information on the supported platforms.

We will provide an online platform to evaluate the results. For transparency, we will release the codes used for final score computations after the closing date of the challenge. We will continue to provide online evaluation to support a fair comparison.

b) In an analogous manner, provide information on the accessibility of the participating teams' code.

GitHub repository URL containing codes of their implemented method, and all other relevant files such as feature/parameter data. To help publicize our workshop and domain area, participants have to mention (or add

relevant links to) DFUC 2021 and MICCAI 2021. Participants may provide this URL in a simple text file while submitting.

### **Conflicts of interest**

Provide information related to conflicts of interest. In particular provide information related to sponsoring/funding of the challenge. Also, state explicitly who had/will have access to the test case labels and when.

None

## **MISSION OF THE CHALLENGE**

### **Field(s) of application**

State the main field(s) of application that the participating algorithms target.

Examples:

- Diagnosis
- Education
- Intervention assistance
- Intervention follow-up
- Intervention planning
- Prognosis
- Research
- Screening
- Training
- Cross-phase

Screening, Research.

### **Task category(ies)**

State the task category(ies).

Examples:

- Classification
- Detection
- Localization
- Modeling
- Prediction
- Reconstruction
- Registration
- Retrieval
- Segmentation
- Tracking

Classification.



## **Cohorts**

We distinguish between the target cohort and the challenge cohort. For example, a challenge could be designed around the task of medical instrument tracking in robotic kidney surgery. While the challenge could be based on ex vivo data obtained from a laparoscopic training environment with porcine organs (challenge cohort), the final biomedical application (i.e. robotic kidney surgery) would be targeted on real patients with certain characteristics defined by inclusion criteria such as restrictions regarding sex or age (target cohort).

a) Describe the target cohort, i.e. the subjects/objects from whom/which the data would be acquired in the final biomedical application.

**People with or at risk of diabetic foot ulcers, their caregivers (e.g., family member) and care providers (e.g., podiatrists, physicians and wound nurses).**

b) Describe the challenge cohort, i.e. the subject(s)/object(s) from whom/which the challenge data was acquired.

**People with diabetes who developed foot ulcers.**

## **Imaging modality(ies)**

Specify the imaging technique(s) applied in the challenge.

**Photography.**

## **Context information**

Provide additional information given along with the images. The information may correspond ...

a) ... directly to the image data (e.g. tumor volume).

**Foot images.**

b) ... to the patient in general (e.g. sex, medical history).

**People with diabetic foot ulcers.**

## **Target entity(ies)**

a) Describe the data origin, i.e. the region(s)/part(s) of subject(s)/object(s) from whom/which the image data would be acquired in the final biomedical application (e.g. brain shown in computed tomography (CT) data, abdomen shown in laparoscopic video data, operating room shown in video data, thorax shown in fluoroscopy video). If necessary, differentiate between target and challenge cohort.

**Diabetic foot shown in normal photography.**

b) Describe the algorithm target, i.e. the structure(s)/subject(s)/object(s)/component(s) that the participating algorithms have been designed to focus on (e.g. tumor in the brain, tip of a medical instrument, nurse in an operating theater, catheter in a fluoroscopy scan). If necessary, differentiate between target and challenge cohort.

**Ulcer/wound on a foot.**

## **Assessment aim(s)**

Identify the property(ies) of the algorithms to be optimized to perform well in the challenge. If multiple properties are assessed, prioritize them (if appropriate). The properties should then be reflected in the metrics applied (see below, parameter metric(s)), and the priorities should be reflected in the ranking when combining multiple metrics that assess different properties.

- Example 1: Find highly accurate liver segmentation algorithm for CT images.
- Example 2: Find lung tumor detection algorithm with high sensitivity and specificity for mammography images.

Corresponding metrics are listed below (parameter metric(s)).

**Accuracy, Specificity, Precision, Sensitivity.**

**Additional points:** Find highly accurate diabetic foot ulcer pathology classification algorithm for foot photographs.

## **DATA SETS**

### **Data source(s)**

a) Specify the device(s) used to acquire the challenge data. This includes details on the device(s) used to acquire the imaging data (e.g. manufacturer) as well as information on additional devices used for performance assessment (e.g. tracking system used in a surgical setting).

Three cameras were used for capturing the foot images, Kodak DX4530, Nikon D3300 and Nikon COOLPIX P100.

b) Describe relevant details on the imaging process/data acquisition for each acquisition device (e.g. image acquisition protocol(s)).

The images were acquired with close-ups of the full foot at a distance of around 30–40 cm with the parallel orientation to the plane of an ulcer. The use of flash as the primary light source was avoided, and instead, adequate room lights were used to get the consistent colors in images.

c) Specify the center(s)/institute(s) in which the data was acquired and/or the data providing platform/source (e.g. previous challenge). If this information is not provided (e.g. for anonymization reasons), specify why.

We have received approval from the UK National Health Service (NHS) Research Ethics Committee (REC) to use these images for the purpose of research. The NHS REC reference number is 15/NW/0539. Foot images with DFU were collected from the Lancashire Teaching Hospital over the past few years.

d) Describe relevant characteristics (e.g. level of expertise) of the subjects (e.g. surgeon)/objects (e.g. robot) involved in the data acquisition process (if any).

Images were acquired by a podiatrist and a consultant physician with specialization in the diabetic foot, both with more than 5 years professional experience.

### **Training and test case characteristics**

a) State what is meant by one case in this challenge. A case encompasses all data that is processed to produce one result that is compared to the corresponding reference result (i.e. the desired algorithm output).

Examples:

- Training and test cases both represent a CT image of a human brain. Training cases have a weak annotation (tumor present or not and tumor volume (if any)) while the test cases are annotated with the tumor contour (if any).
- A case refers to all information that is available for one particular patient in a specific study. This information always includes the image information as specified in data source(s) (see above) and may include context information (see above). Both training and test cases are annotated with survival (binary) 5 years after (first) image was taken.

**A case refers to one foot image. All training, validation and test cases are labelled with infection and/or ischemia.**

b) State the total number of training, validation and test cases.

**Training: 5,955 labelled DFU patches and 3,994 unlabelled DFU patches (all DFU)**

**Validation: 500 labelled DFU patches (all DFU)**

**Testing: 5,734 DFU patches**

c) Explain why a total number of cases and the specific proportion of training, validation and test cases was chosen.

For DFU classification, we follow a 50-50 split for training and testing set. Then 25% for validation set. We also have additional unlabeled images for training (this is optional, the users can decide if they want to include these into their experiment).

d) Mention further important characteristics of the training, validation and test cases (e.g. class distribution in classification tasks chosen according to real-world distribution vs. equal class distribution) and justify the choice.

For DFU classification, a previous study [5] showed good accuracy with less than 2000 training images. Hence, 2000 images are sufficient for machine learning in DFU classification.

### **Annotation characteristics**

a) Describe the method for determining the reference annotation, i.e. the desired algorithm output. Provide the information separately for the training, validation and test cases if necessary. Possible methods include manual image annotation, in silico ground truth generation and annotation by automatic methods.

If human annotation was involved, state the number of annotators.

**The ground truth was produced by two healthcare professionals (a podiatrist and a consultant physician) who specialize in diabetic wounds and ulcers.**

b) Provide the instructions given to the annotators (if any) prior to the annotation. This may include description of a training phase with the software. Provide the information separately for the training, validation and test cases if necessary. Preferably, provide a link to the annotation protocol.

**Since these are the expert annotators in DFU, the instruction for annotation is to label each ulcer with ischemia and/or infection, or none.**

c) Provide details on the subject(s)/algorithm(s) that annotated the cases (e.g. information on level of expertise such as number of years of professional experience, medically-trained or not). Provide the information separately for the training, validation and test cases if necessary.

**A podiatrist and a consultant physician with specialization in the diabetic foot, both with more than 5 years professional experience.**

d) Describe the method(s) used to merge multiple annotations for one case (if any). Provide the information separately for the training, validation and test cases if necessary.

There are multiple annotations from a podiatrist and a consultant physician with specialization in the diabetic foot. We average the bounding boxes to form a final bounding box. When there was disagreement, the final decision was mutually settled with the consent of both.

### **Data pre-processing method(s)**

Describe the method(s) used for pre-processing the raw training data before it is provided to the participating teams. Provide the information separately for the training, validation and test cases if necessary.

In this dataset, the size of images varies between  $1600 \times 1200$  and  $3648 \times 2736$ . We will resize all the images to  $640 \times 640$  to improve the performance and reduce the computational costs.

### **Sources of error**

a) Describe the most relevant possible error sources related to the image annotation. If possible, estimate the magnitude (range) of these errors, using inter-and intra-annotator variability, for example. Provide the information separately for the training, validation and test cases, if necessary.

For inter-annotator variability measure, we compute the agreement of the bounding boxes produced by our two expert annotators by using Intersect over Union (IoU). We observed high inter-annotator reliability of  $> 0.9$ . To produce the final bounding box, we average the bounding box areas where they do not precisely match. The position of resulting box would be the average between original boxes. In the case of disagreement, the final decision was mutually settled with the consent of both experts.

b) In an analogous manner, describe and quantify other relevant sources of error.

We have discarded photographs with out of focus and blurry artefacts. For diabetic foot pathology classification, we quantify the inter-annotator reliability by using macro-average F1 Score. To produce the final ground truth label, in the case of disagreement, a third specialist podiatrist will read the photograph. The final decision was mutually settled with the consent of three experts.

## **ASSESSMENT METHODS**

### **Metric(s)**

a) Define the metric(s) to assess a property of an algorithm. These metrics should reflect the desired algorithm properties described in assessment aim(s) (see above). State which metric(s) were used to compute the ranking(s) (if any).

- Example 1: Dice Similarity Coefficient (DSC)
- Example 2: Area under curve (AUC)

The composite database is clearly imbalanced in terms of its class distribution. To properly handle such class imbalances, the performance is to be reported with macro-averaged F1 Score.

b) Justify why the metric(s) was/were chosen, preferably with reference to the biomedical application.

The macro-averaged F1 score is a good choice in imbalanced multi-class settings for providing equal emphasis on rare classes.

## Ranking method(s)

a) Describe the method used to compute a performance rank for all submitted algorithms based on the generated metric results on the test cases. Typically the text will describe how results obtained per case and metric are aggregated to arrive at a final score/ranking.

Participants will be ranked according to macro-averaged F1 score. However, for the completeness of scientific assessment, other metrics will be used, i.e. Unweighted Average Recall (UAR) and generalized AUC. In the case of ties, UAR will be used to rank the performance, then followed by generalized AUC. In the case where all metrics are tied, the time stamp of the submission will be used for the ranking, and the earlier submission will have higher ranking.

b) Describe the method(s) used to manage submissions with missing results on test cases.

All the missing results, i.e. images with no labelled class, will be treated as no prediction on the image. Therefore, such cases will be treated as false negatives.

c) Justify why the described ranking scheme(s) was/were used.

These metrics provide a balanced judgement on whether an approach can predict all classes equally well, hence reducing the possibility that an approach could be well-fitted to only work for certain classes. Additionally, the speed in providing the solution will be used for the ranking. The time stamp on the submission system is used to reward the participants who provided the best solution in the shortest duration.

## Statistical analyses

a) Provide details for the statistical methods used in the scope of the challenge analysis. This may include

- description of the missing data handling,
- details about the assessment of variability of rankings,
- description of any method used to assess whether the data met the assumptions, required for the particular statistical approach, or
- indication of any software product that was used for all data analysis methods.

For statistical analysis, we will use Kendall's tau analysis to quantify the agreement of the metrics and methods. We will be reporting the results during the challenge event with transparency.

b) Justify why the described statistical method(s) was/were used.

The interpretation of Kendall's tau is very direct in observing the agreeable and non-agreeable pairs (in terms of probabilities). Additionally, bootstrapping will be used to analyze the variability of a ranking scheme will be applied. Bootstrapping allows estimation of the sampling distribution of almost any statistic using random sampling methods.

## Further analyses

Present further analyses to be performed (if applicable), e.g. related to

- combining algorithms via ensembling,
- inter-algorithm variability,
- common problems/biases of the submitted methods, or
- ranking variability.

## ADDITIONAL POINTS

## References

Please include any reference important for the challenge design, for example publications on the data, the annotation process or the chosen metrics as well as DOIs referring to data or code.

- [1] Cho, N., Shaw, J.E., Karuranga, S., Huang, Y., da Rocha Fernandes, J.D. et al. (2018). IDF Diabetes Atlas: Global estimates of diabetes prevalence for 2017 and projections for 2045. *Diabetes research and clinical practice*, 138(2018): 271-281.
- [2] Goyal, M., Reeves, N., Rajbhandari, S., & Yap, M. H. (2019). Robust Methods for Real-Time Diabetic Foot Ulcer Detection and Localization on Mobile Devices. *IEEE Journal of Biomedical and Health Informatics*. 23(4), 1730-1741, doi:10.1109/JBHI.2018.2868656
- [3] Yap, M. H., Chatwin, K. E., Ng, C. C., Abbott, C. A., Bowling, F. L., Rajbhandari, S., . . . Reeves, N. D. (2018). A New Mobile Application for Standardizing Diabetic Foot Images. *Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology*, 12(1), 169-173. doi:10.1177/1932296817713761
- [4] Goyal, M., Reeves, N. D., Davison, A. K., Rajbhandari, S., Spragg, J., & Yap, M. H. (2018). DFUNet: Convolutional Neural Networks for Diabetic Foot Ulcer Classification. *IEEE Transactions on Emerging Topics in Computational Intelligence*. doi: 10.1109/TETCI.2018.2866254.
- [5] Goyal, M., Reeves, N., Rajbhandari, S., Ahmad, N., Wang, C. and Yap, M.H., (2020). Recognition of Ischaemia and Infection in Diabetic Foot Ulcers: Dataset and Techniques. *Computers in Biology and Medicine*, p.103616.
- [6] Yap, M. H., Ng, C. C., Chatwin, K., Abbott, C. A., Bowling, F. L., Boulton, A. J. M., & Reeves, N. D. (2016). Computer Vision Algorithms in the Detection of Diabetic Foot Ulceration: A New Paradigm for Diabetic Foot Care?. *Journal of Diabetes Science and Technology*, 10(2), 612-613.

## Further comments

Further comments from the organizers.

The team has a strong track record in diabetes research (world leading researchers: Prof. Andrew Boulton, Prof. David Armstrong and Prof. Neil Reeves), computer vision and machine learning (Prof. Eibe Frank and Dr. Moi Hoon Yap), digital health and digital twin (Prof. Bijan Najafi).

Moi Hoon Yap has successfully conducted the following grand challenges in the past years:

<https://facial-micro-expressiongc.github.io/MEGC2019/>

<http://www2.docm.mmu.ac.uk/STAFF/m.yap/FG2018Workshop.htm>

The Third Facial Micro-expressions Grand Challenge: <http://megc2020.psych.ac.cn:81/>

The team has experiences in handling and sharing datasets to encourage reproducible research:

<http://www2.docm.mmu.ac.uk/STAFF/M.Yap/dataset.php>