

# Investigating 'failed' galaxy classifications with machine learning

- The limits of visual classifications, new galaxy classes, and a pathway to unsupervised machine learning

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University of  
**Nottingham**

UK | CHINA | MALAYSIA

12 Sep 2018 Machine Learning Workshop  
@Nottingham



# Outline

**Introduction  
&  
Previous Work**

**Introduction**

**Previous work - Methods**

**Previous work - Data**

**Previous work - Results**

**Investigation  
of Failures**

**What are failures?**

**What cause failures?**

**Take away**

**Future Work**

**What can failures tell us?**

Reference	Methods	Input types	
Storrie-Lombardi+92	Neural Network	Parameter input	Surface brightness, colour, etc.
Naim et al.+95	Neural Network	Parameter input	Surface brightness, diameter of ellipses fit, etc.
Lahav et al.+96	Neural Network	Parameter input	Surface brightness, diameter of ellipses fit, etc.
de la Calleja & Fuentes+04	Neural Network	Pixel input	
Ball et al.+04	Neural Network	Parameter input	Surface brightness profile, colour, etc.
Huertas-Company et al.+08	Support Vector Machine	Parameter input	C-A-S systems
Banerji et al.+10	Neural Network	Parameter input	de Vaucouleurs, exponential profile, colour, etc.
Huertas-Company et al.+11	Support Vector Machine	Parameter input	C-A-S systems
Polsterer et al.+12	Support Vector Machine	Pixel input	
<b>Dieleman et al.+15</b>	<b>Convolutional Neural Network</b>	<b>Pixel input</b>	
Huertas-Company et al.+15	Convolutional Neural Network	Pixel input	
Domínguez Sánchez et al.+18	Convolutional Neural Network	Pixel input	
Sreejith et al.+18	Support Vector Machine, Neural Network, Classification Trees, CTRF	Parameter input	Stellar mass, mass-to-light ratio, colour, sersic index, etc.

Intro.

What-1

What-2

What-3

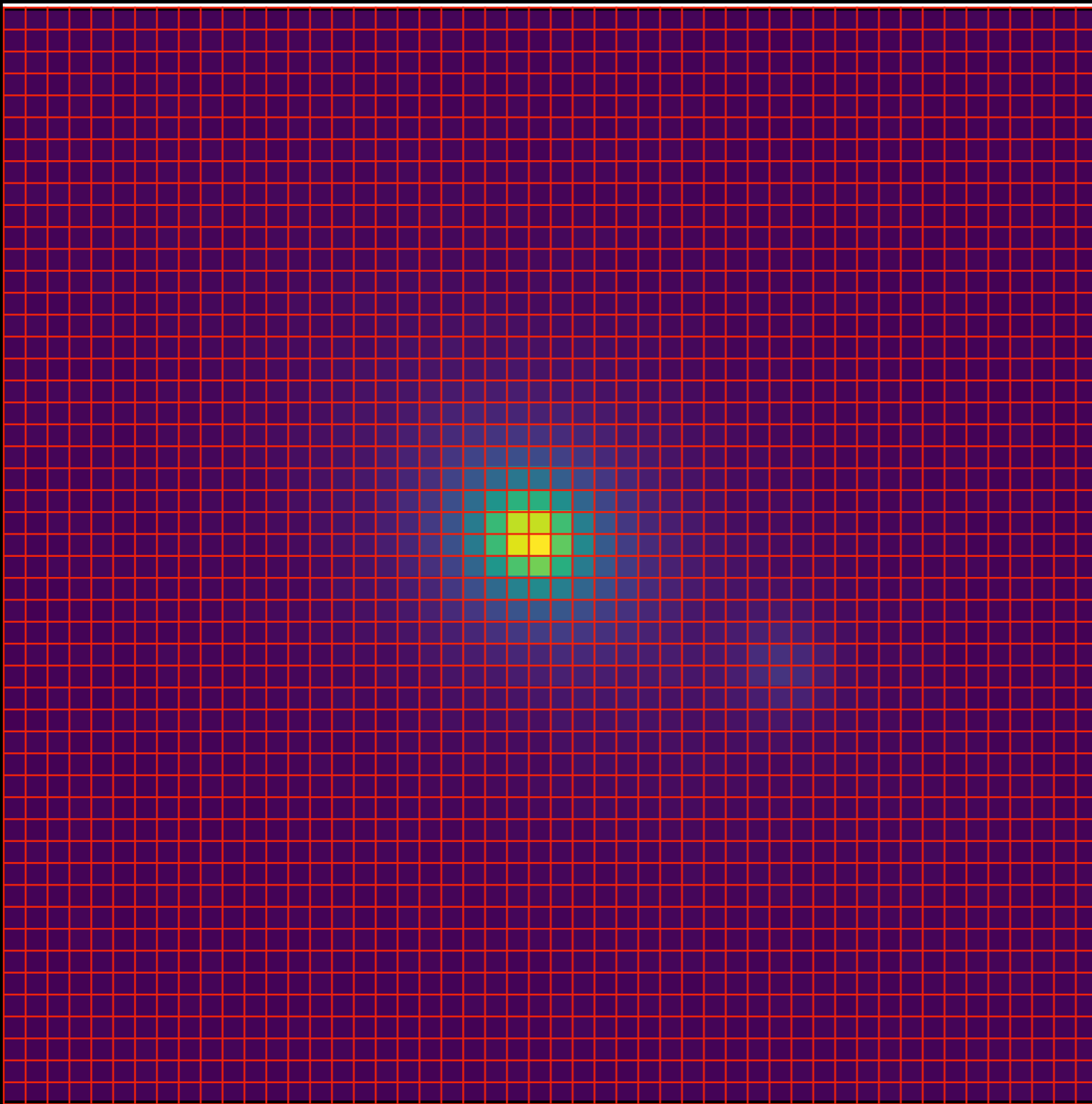
Take away

Future Work

50 pixels

= 2500 features

50 pixels



Intro.

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



Supervised Machine Learning

K-nearest neighbour  
(KNN)

Logistic Regression  
(LR)

LR+Restricted Boltzmann Machine  
(LR+rbm)

Support Vector Machine  
(SVM)

SVM+Restricted Boltzmann  
Machine

Supervised Deep Learning

Multiple-Layer Perceptron  
Classifier (MLPC)

Convolutional Neural Network  
(CNN)

Methods

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work

Supervised Machine Learning

K-nearest neighbour  
(KNN)

Logistic Regression  
(LR)

LR+Restricted Boltzmann Machine  
(LR+rbm)

Support Vector Machine  
(SVM)

SVM+Restricted Boltzmann  
Machine

Multiple-Layer Perceptron  
Classifier (MLPC)

Supervised Deep Learning

Convolutional Neural Network  
(CNN)

Methods

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

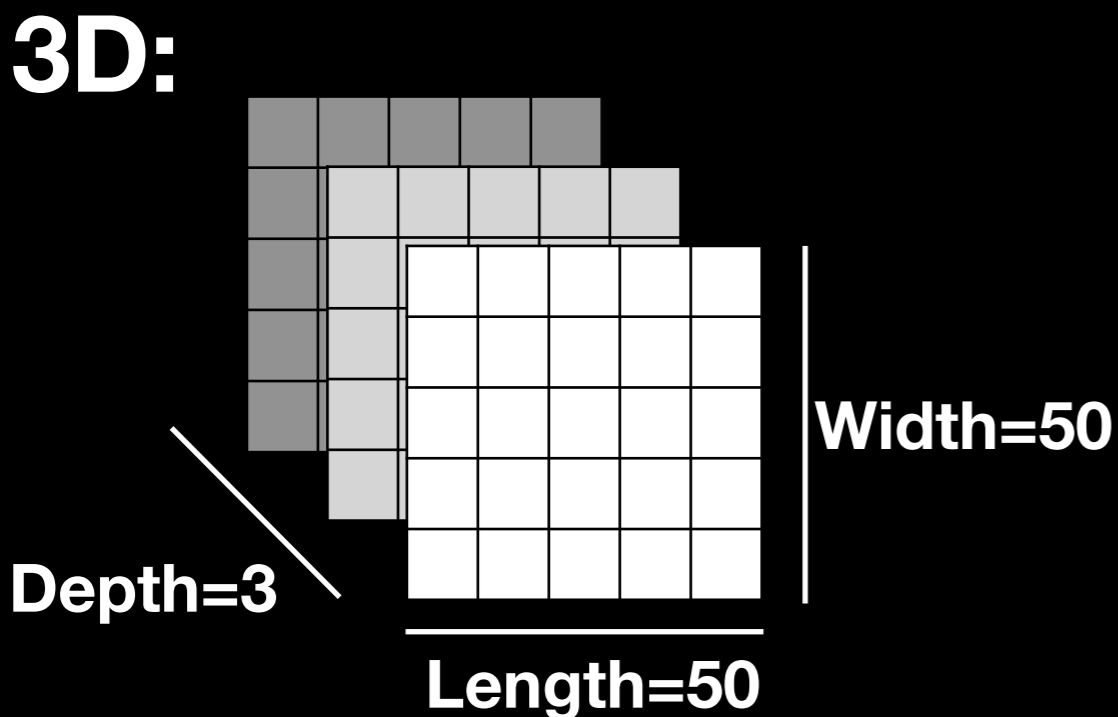
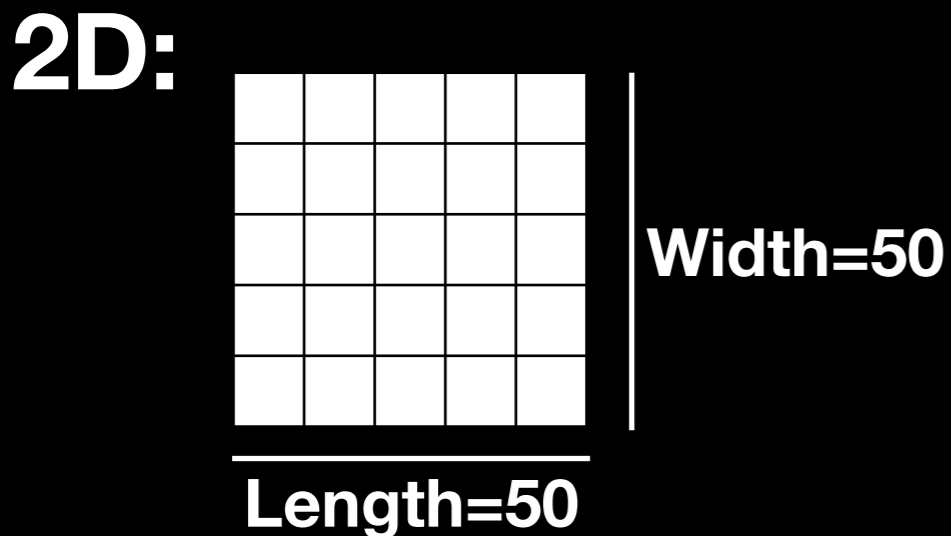
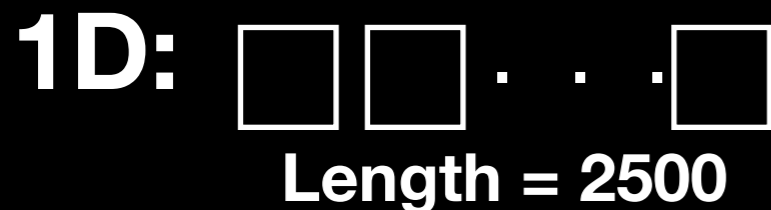
What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



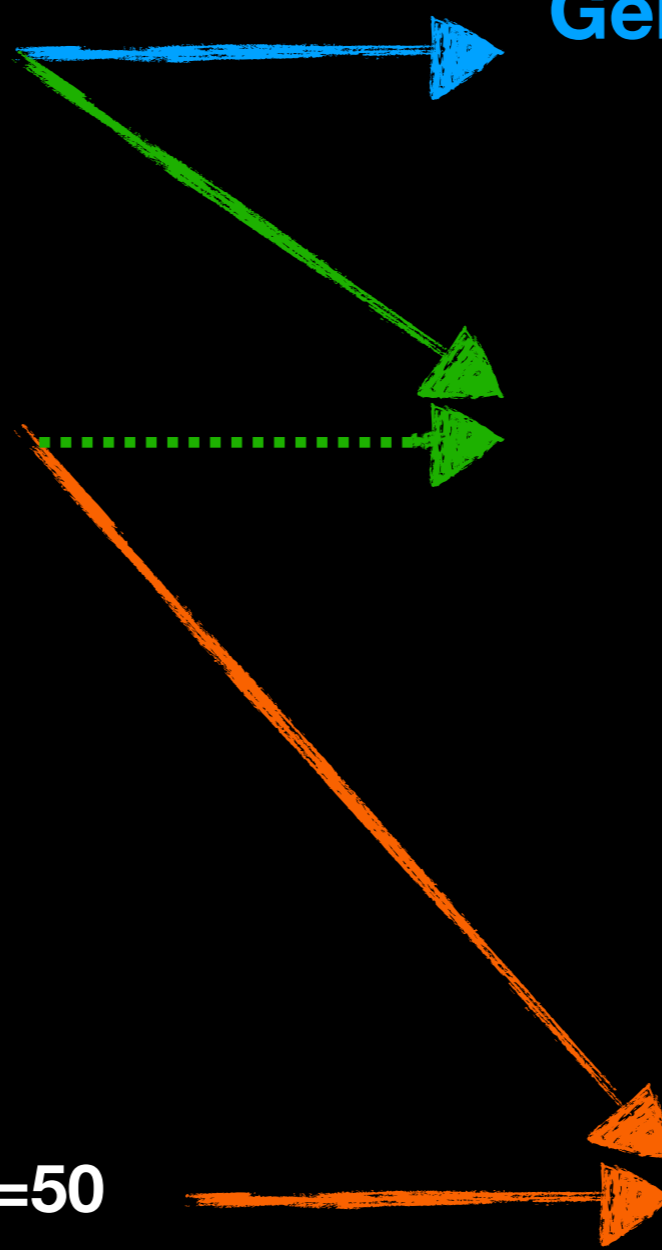
# Features



**General Machine Learning**  
(e.g KNN, LR, SVM)

**Neural Network**  
(e.g MLPC)

**Convolutional  
Neural Network**



Methods

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

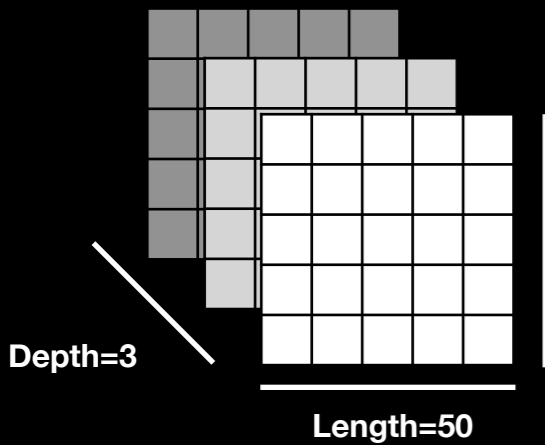
Future  
Work

# Feature extraction

# Connections & Classification

## Convolutional Layer (32, 3, 3)

Input (3, 50, 50)



Width=50

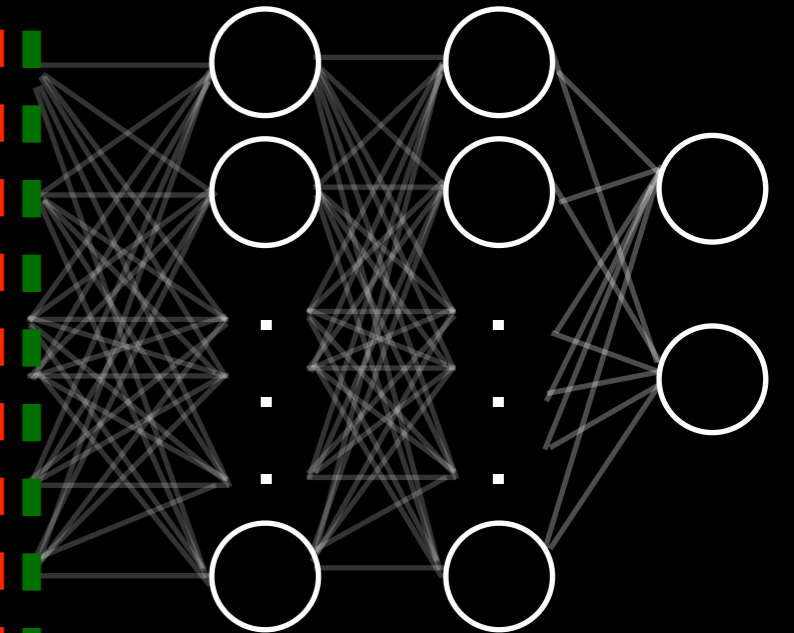


Depth=32

Width=3

Length=3

Hidden Layers (1024)    Hidden Layers (1024)    Output Layer



Methods

Previous Work

What-1

What-2

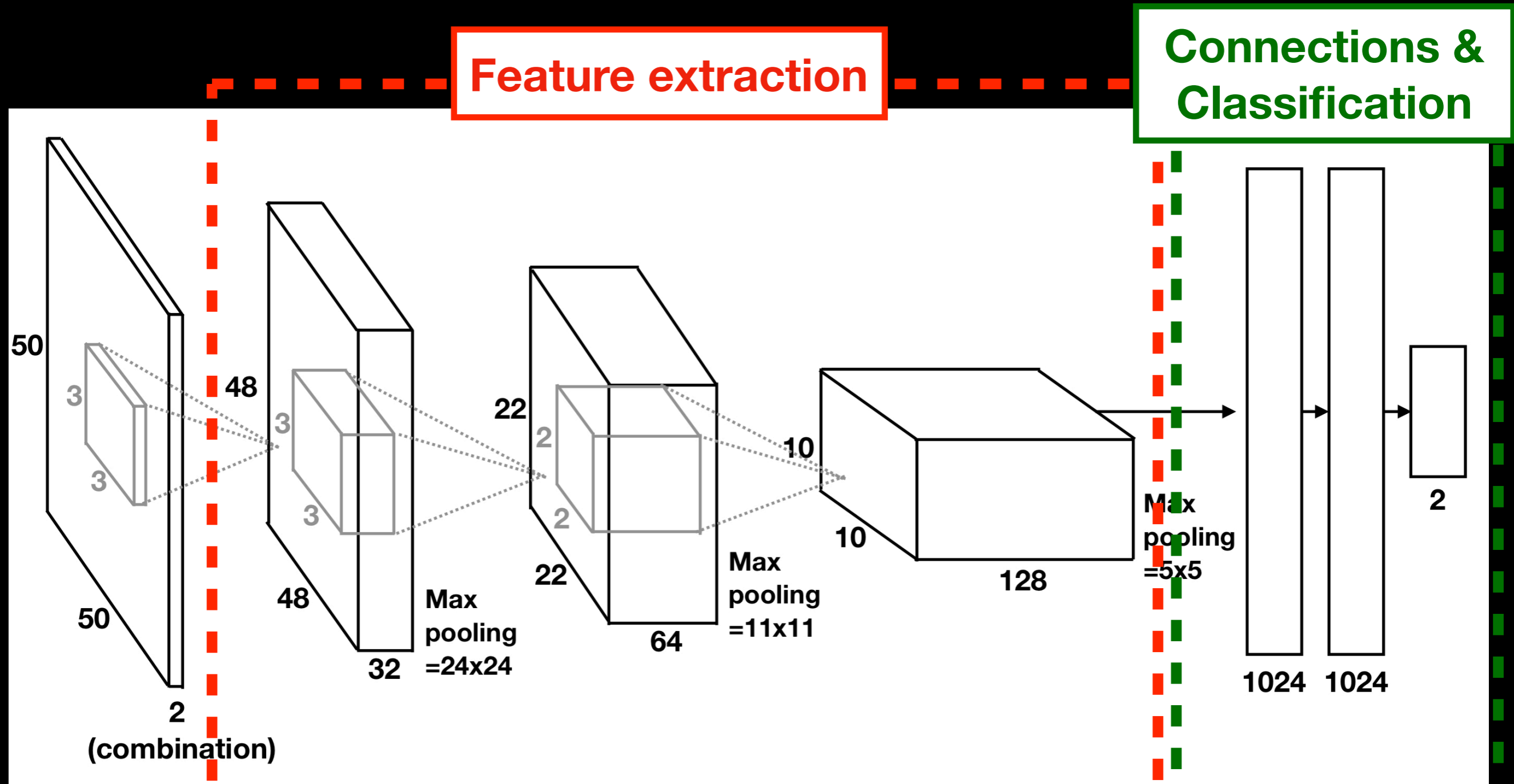
What-3

Take away

Future Work



# The architecture of our CNN



**Feature extraction**

**Connections & Classification**

**Methods**

**Previous Work**

**What-1**

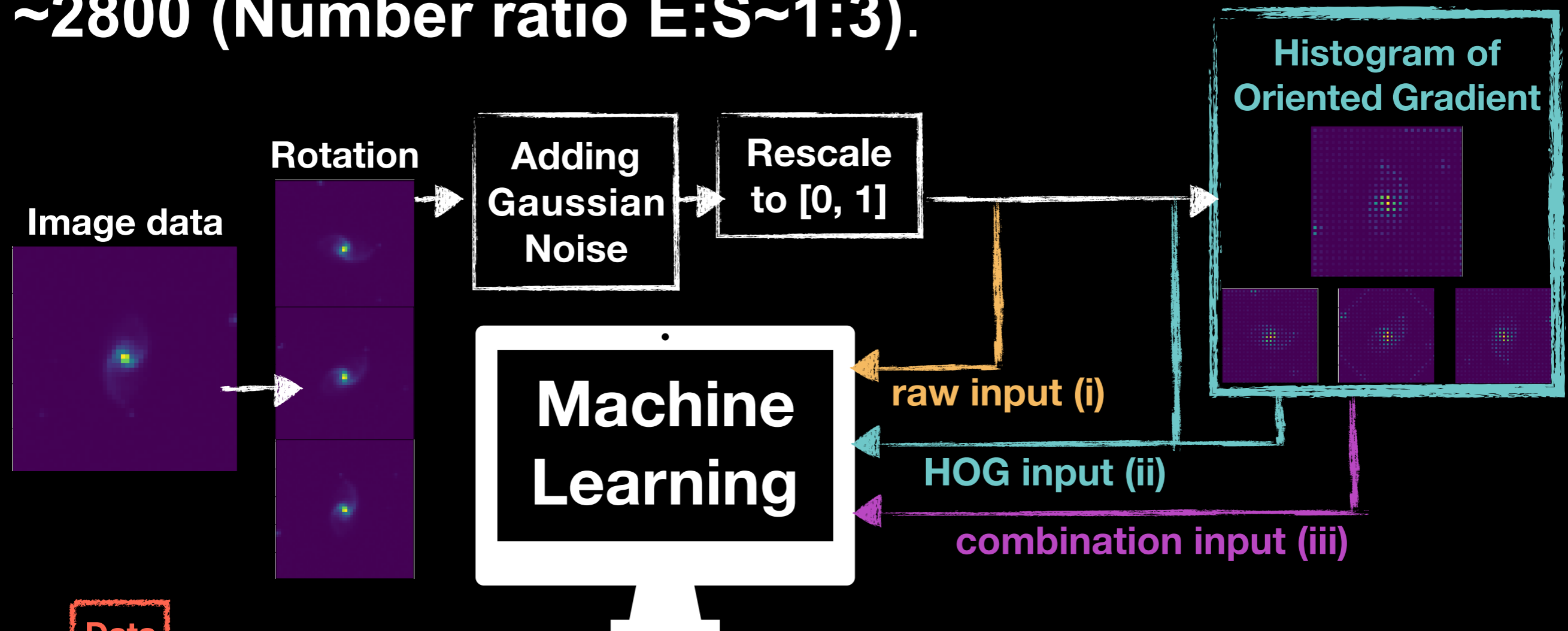
**What-2**

**What-3**

**Take away**

**Future Work**

- ★ Dark Energy Survey (DES) Y1 GOLD data
- ★ Visual classification is from Galaxy Zoo1 project  
(Classification with agreement > 80% for Ellipticals and Spirals)  
(Lintott 2008, 2011)
- ★ Total number of matching sample between them is ~2800 (Number ratio E:S~1:3).



Data

Previous Work

What-1

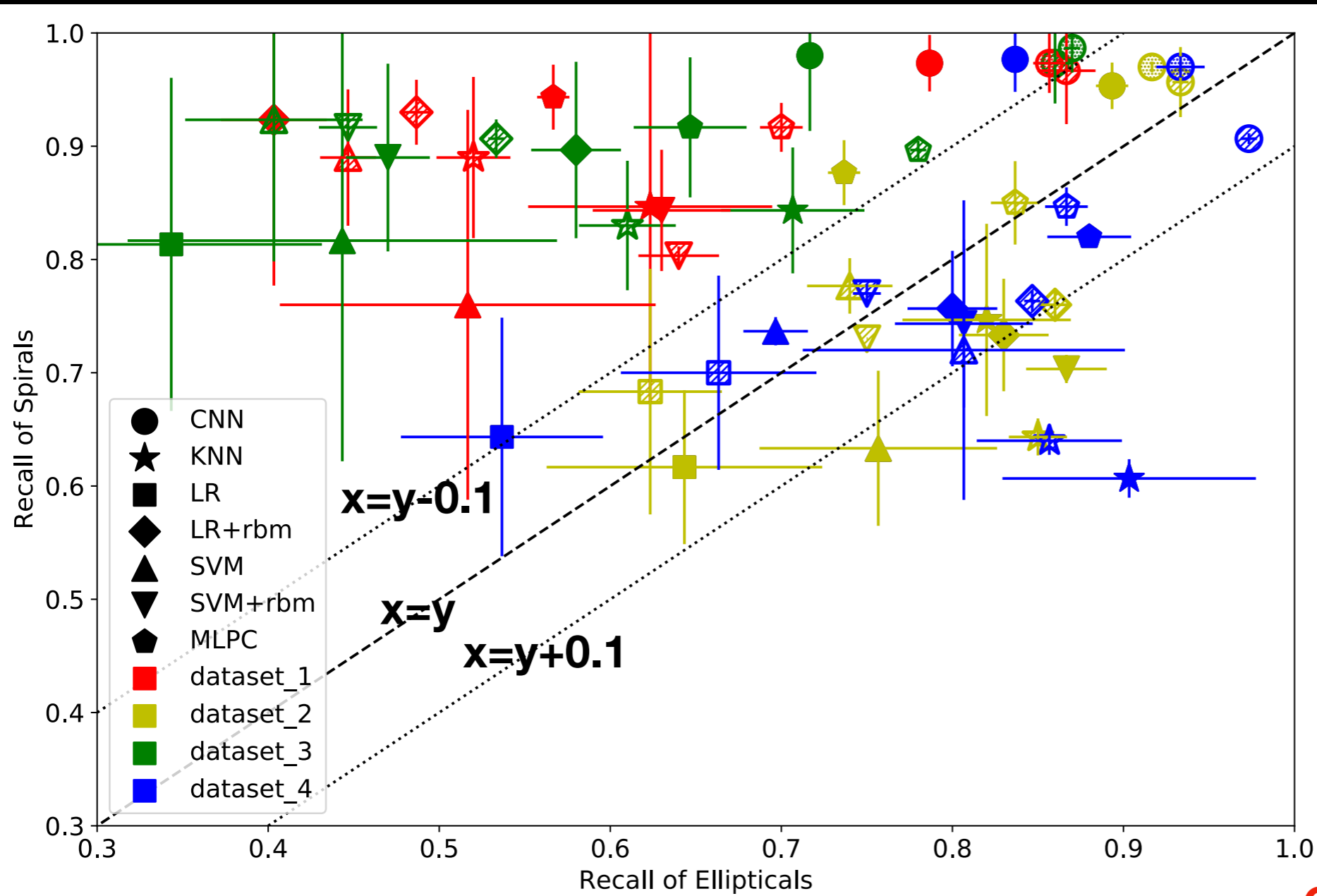
What-2

What-3

Take away

Future Work





$$Recall(E) = \frac{TN}{TN+FP}$$

$$Recall(S) = \frac{TP}{TP+FN}$$

**CNN** Predicted label

		CNN Predicted label	
		0	1
True label	0	True Negative (TN)	False Positive (FP)
	1	False Negative (FN)	True positive (TP)

**GZ**

Results

Previous Work

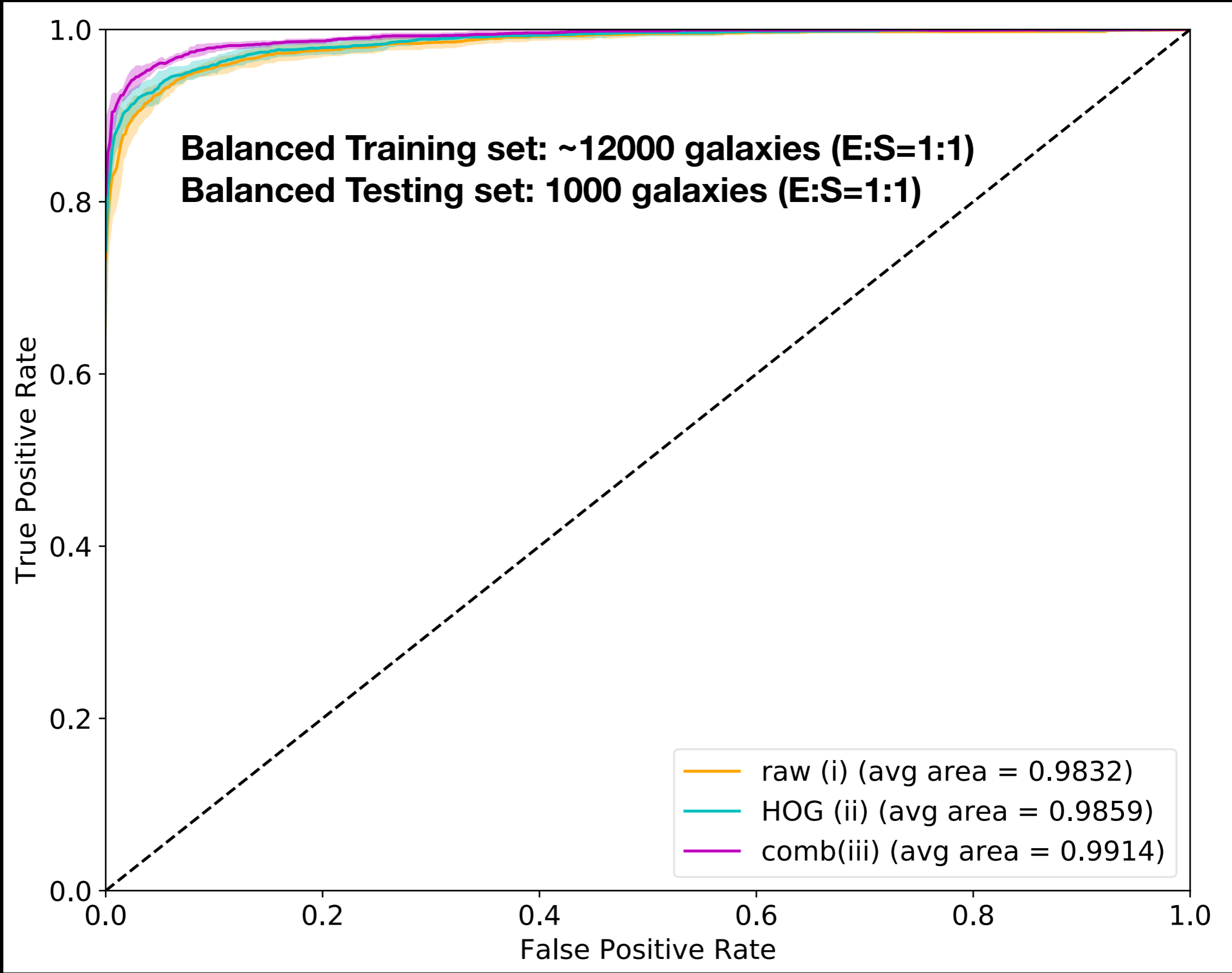
What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future Work



Results

Previous Work

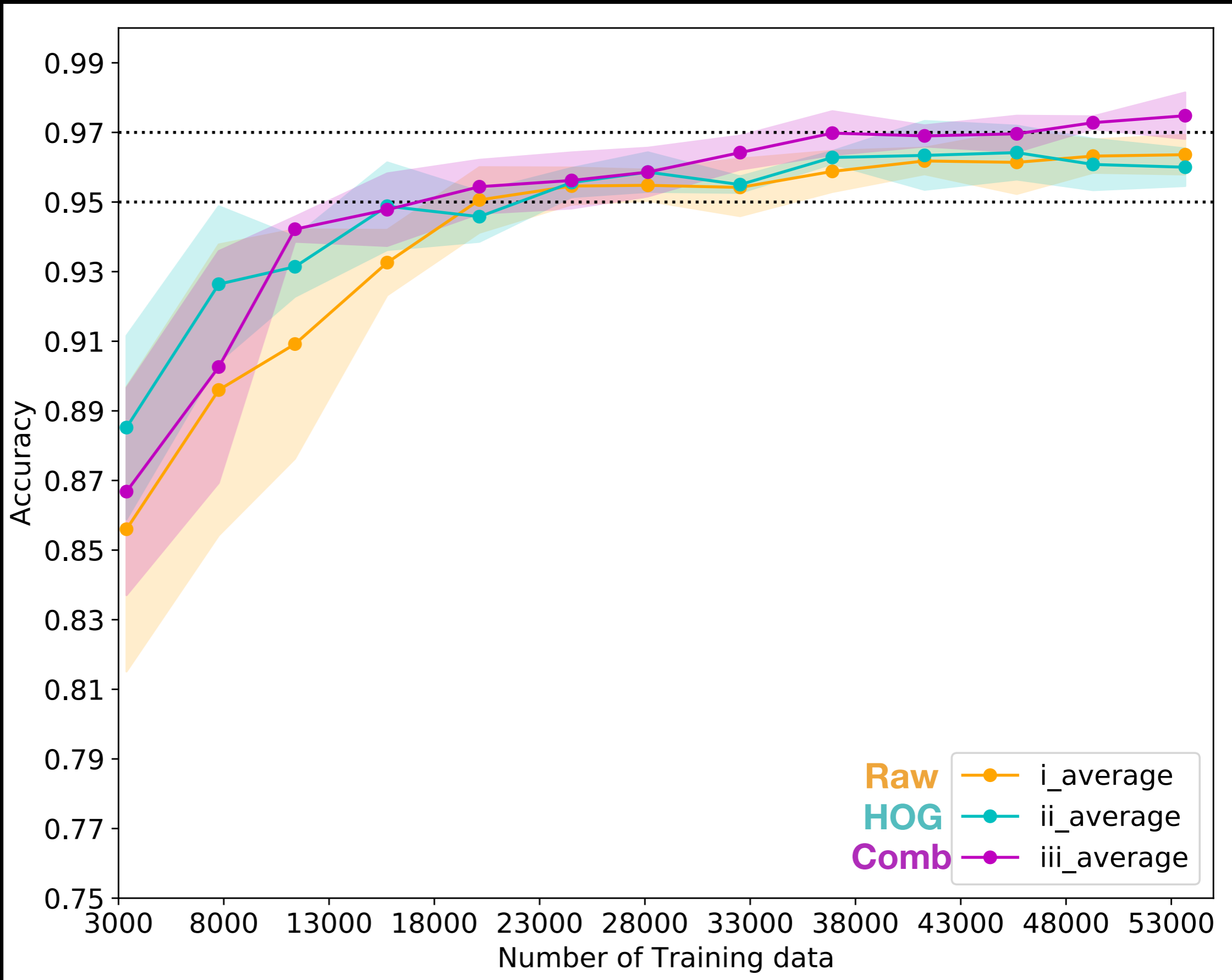
What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future Work



**Results**

**Previous Work**

**What-1**

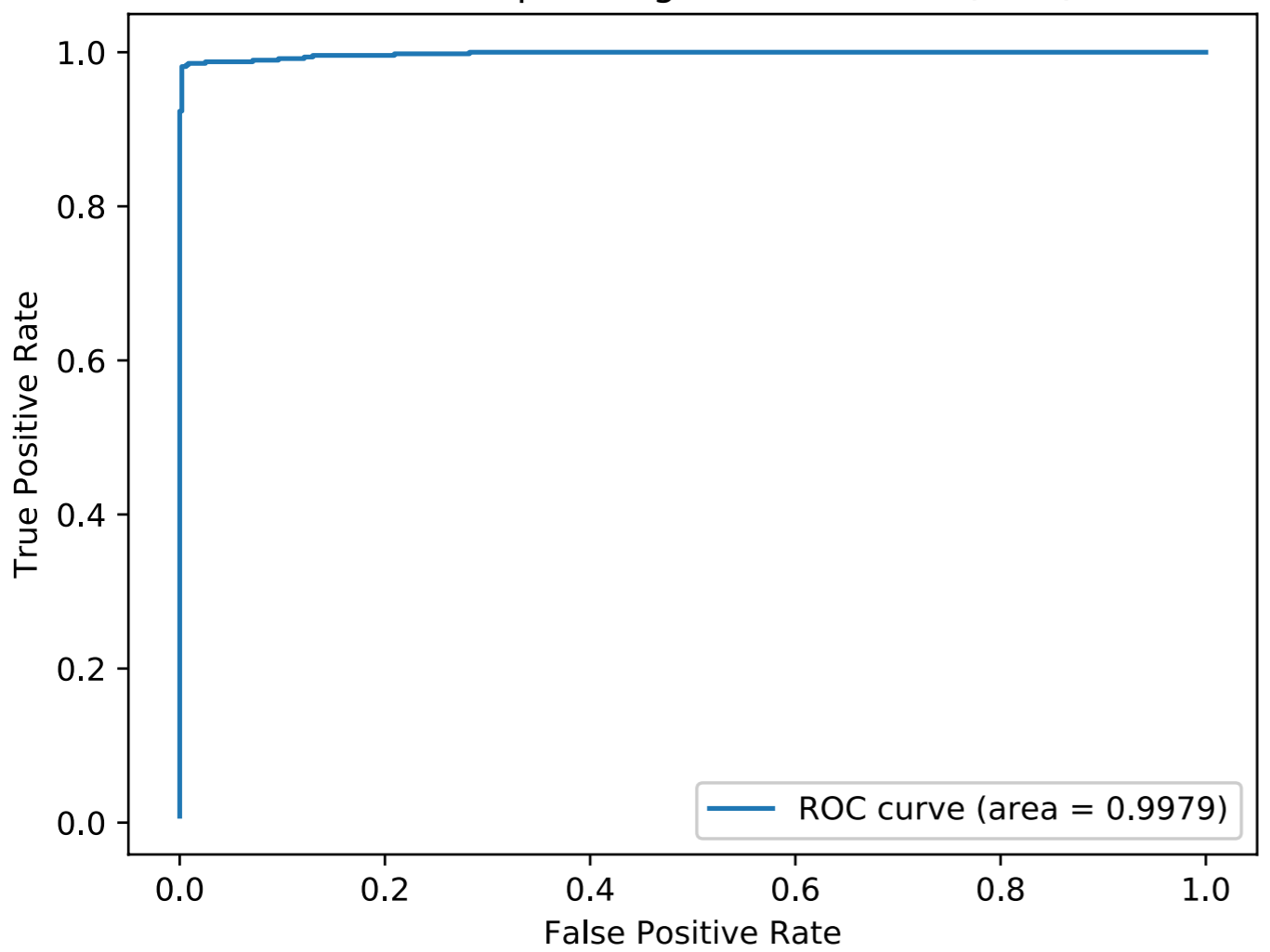
**What-2**

**What-3**

**Take away**

**Future Work**

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)



**Balanced Training set = 53663**

**Balanced Testing set = 1000**

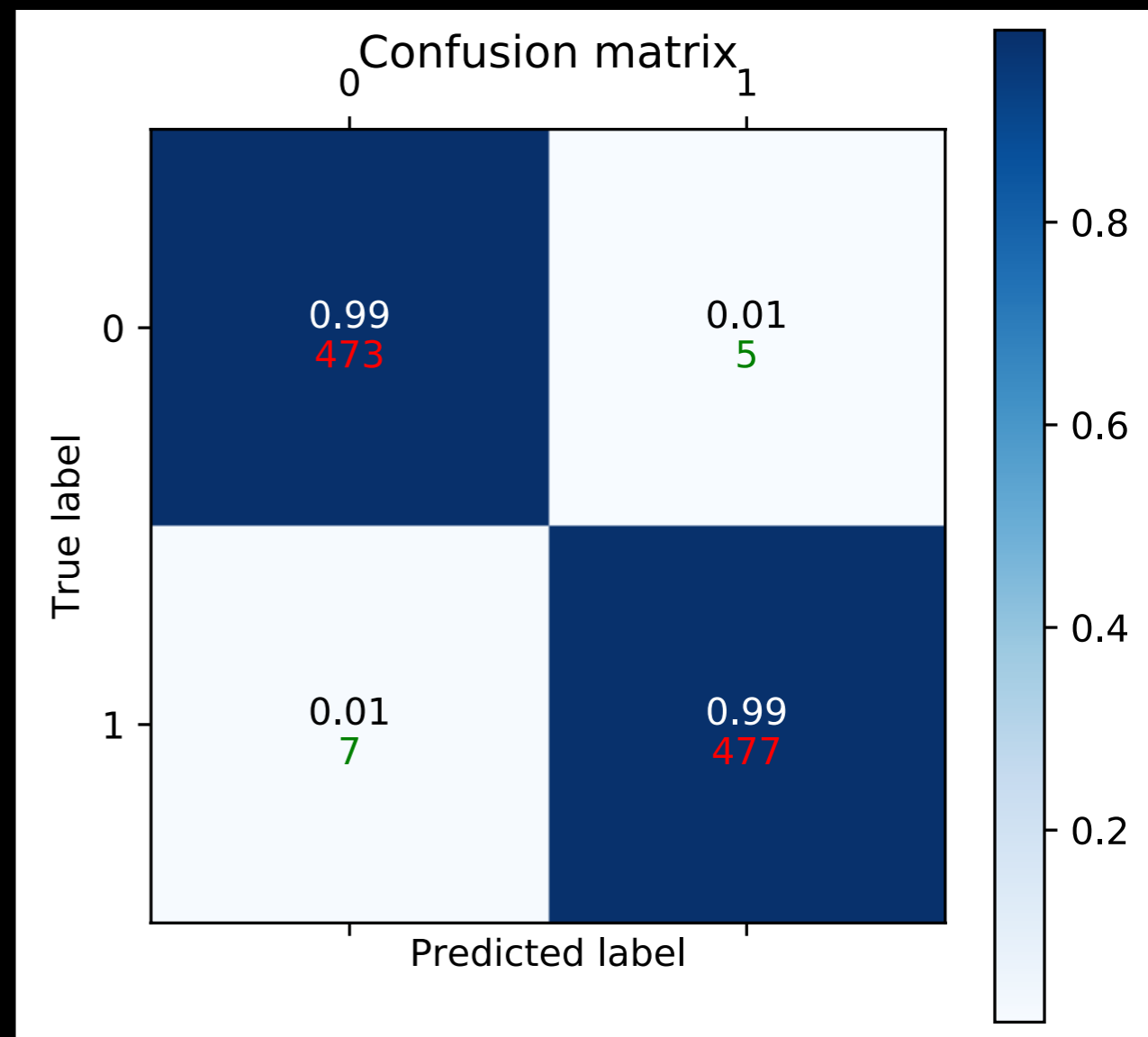
**Probability criterion:  $p=0.8$**

**Accuracy = 0.987**

**Classifiable galaxies = 96%**

**non-classifiable galaxies = 4%**

**(Uncertain type)**



**Results**

**Previous Work**

**What-1**

**What-2**

**What-3**

**Take away**

**Future Work**



# Why did I fail??



?

1. What are failures?

?

2. What cause failures?

?

3. What can failures tell us?

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work

## What are failures?

- ★ Low predicted probability ( $p < 0.8$ ) (Uncertain Type)
- ★ High predicted probability ( $p \geq 0.8$ ) but misclassified by our CNN

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

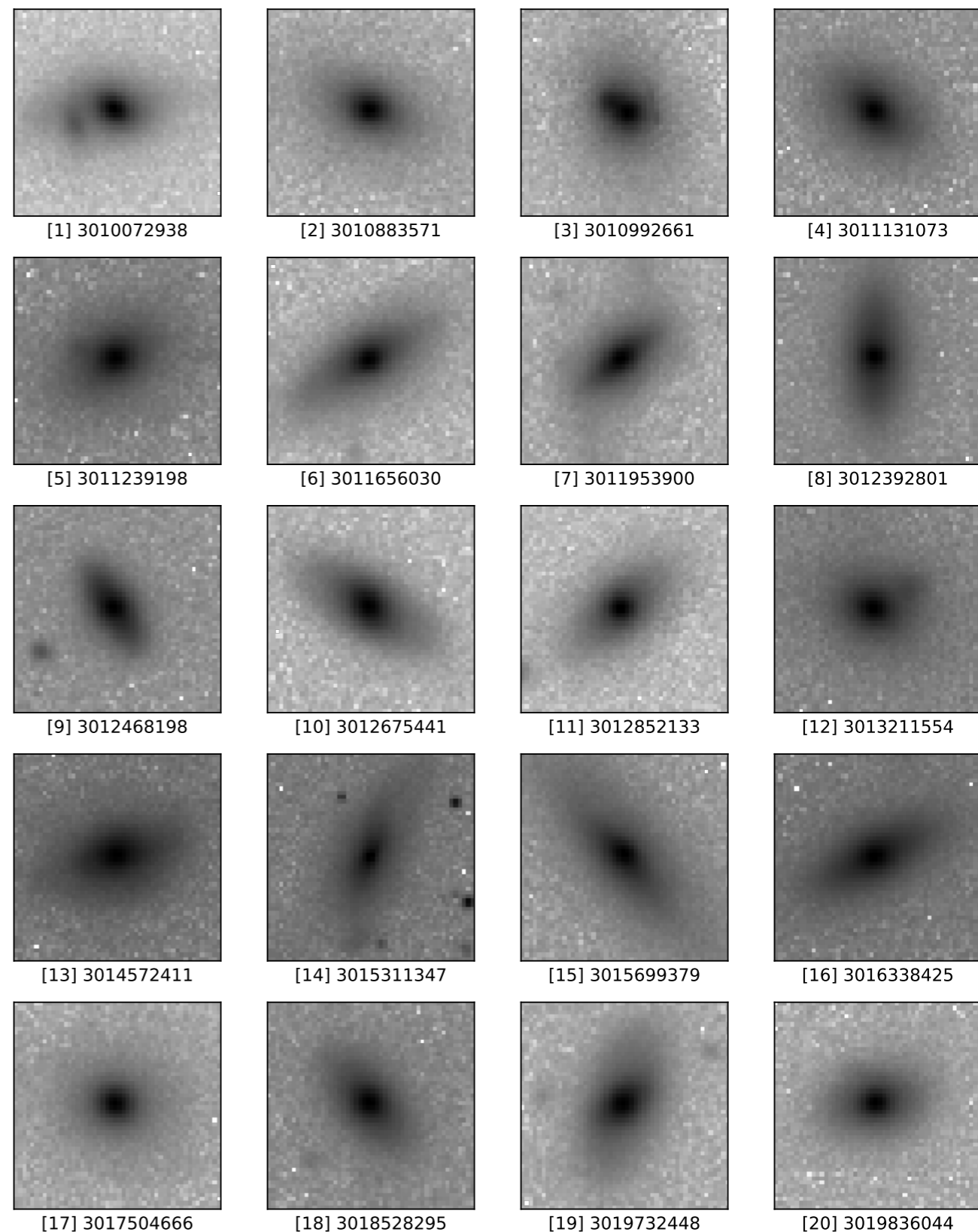
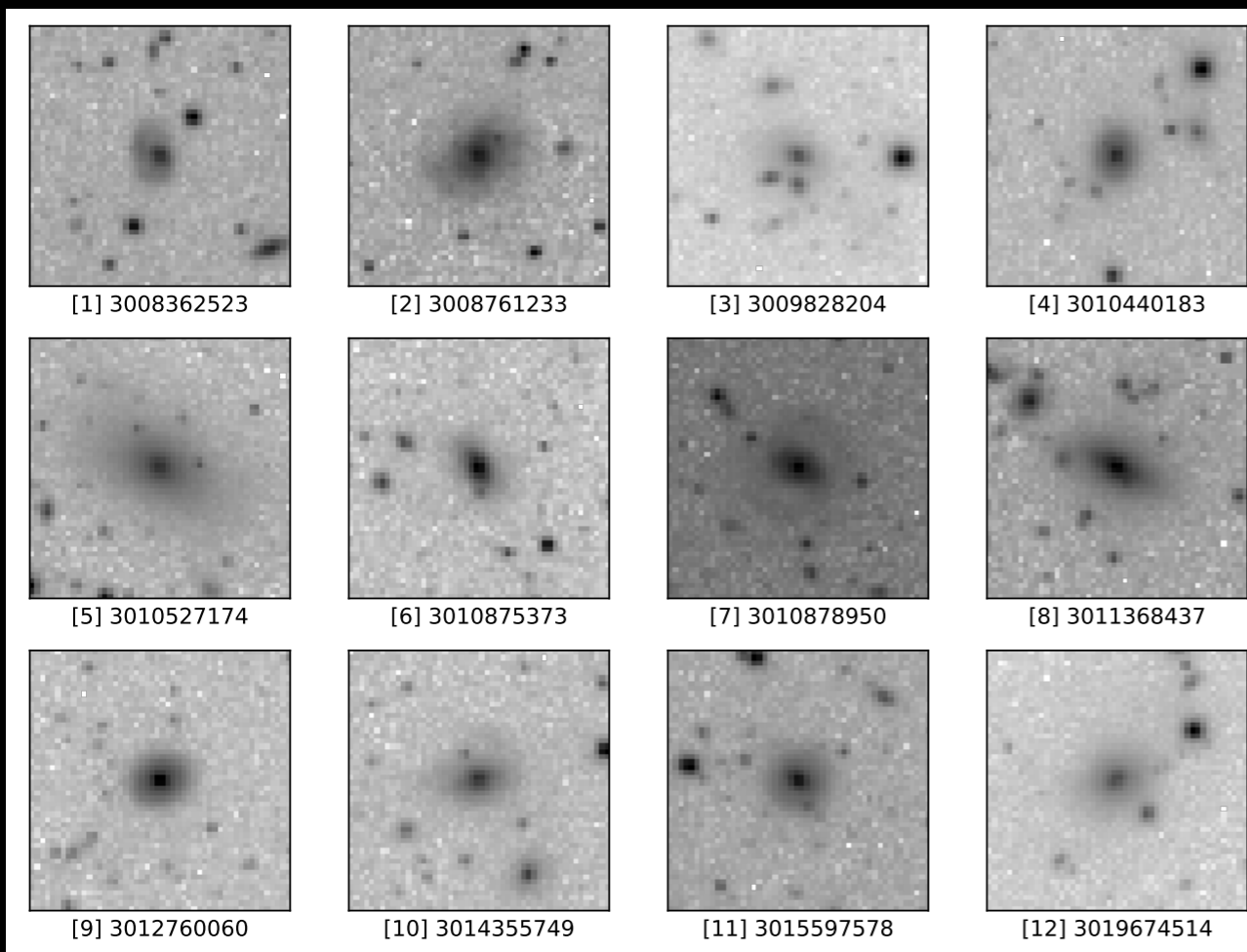
Take away

Future  
Work

# What are failures?

★ Low predicted probability ( $p < 0.8$ )  
(Uncertain Type)

★ High predicted probability ( $p \geq 0.8$ )  
but misclassified by our CNN



Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



# What cause these failures?



Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



There are three sources of the failures:

- ★ Difficult images
- ★ The problems from the initial labels
- ★ The problems from our CNN

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

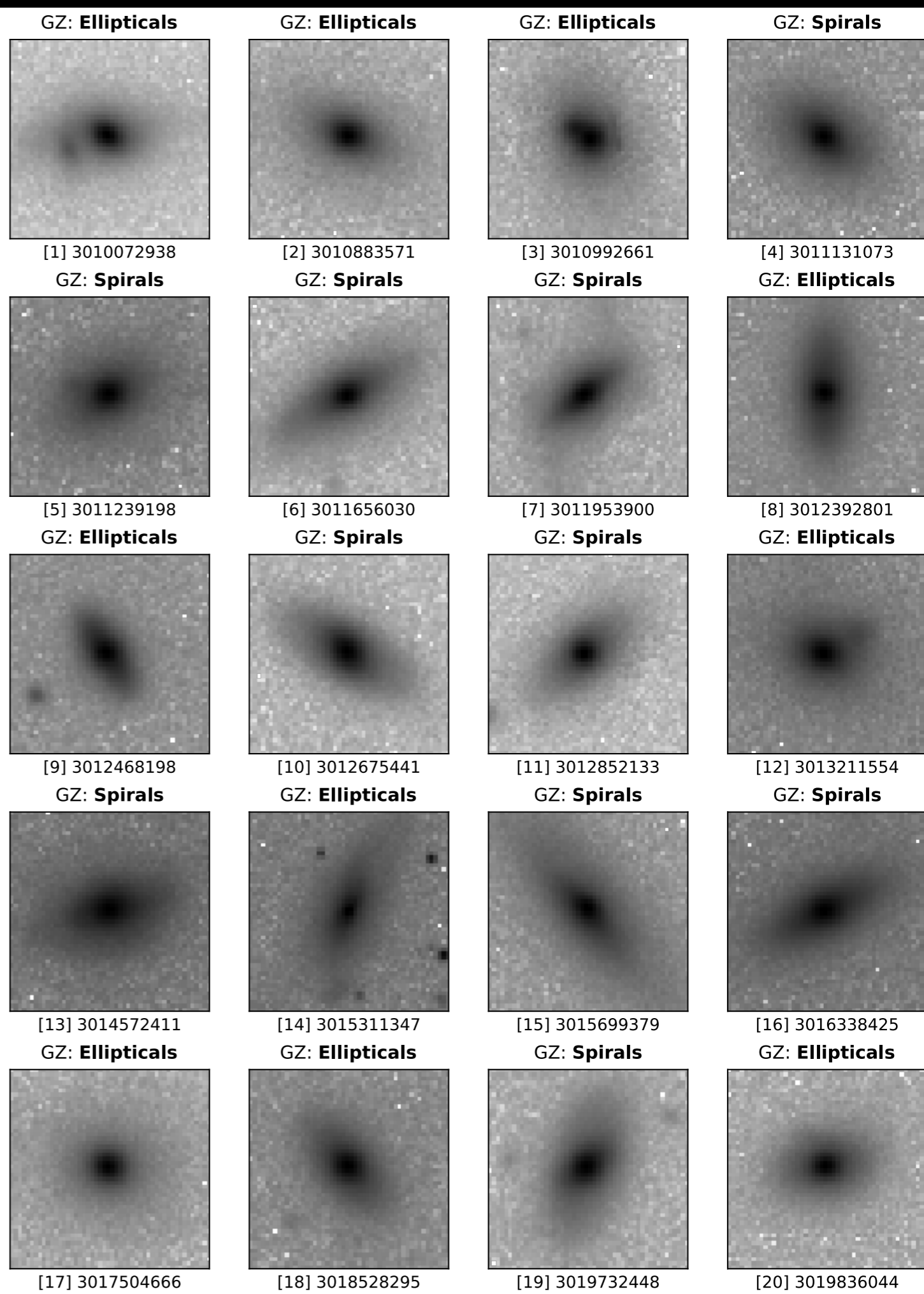
Future  
Work

# ★ Difficult images

Galaxy Zoo projects **DO NOT** have class for lenticular galaxies (S0).

Half of them are classified as **Ellipticals**, and half of them are **Spirals**.

(Examples: )



Previous Work

What-1

What-2

There are three sources of the failures:

- ★ Difficult images
- ★ The problems from the initial labels
  - The lack of the class of lenticular galaxy (S0)
  
- ★ The problems from our CNN

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

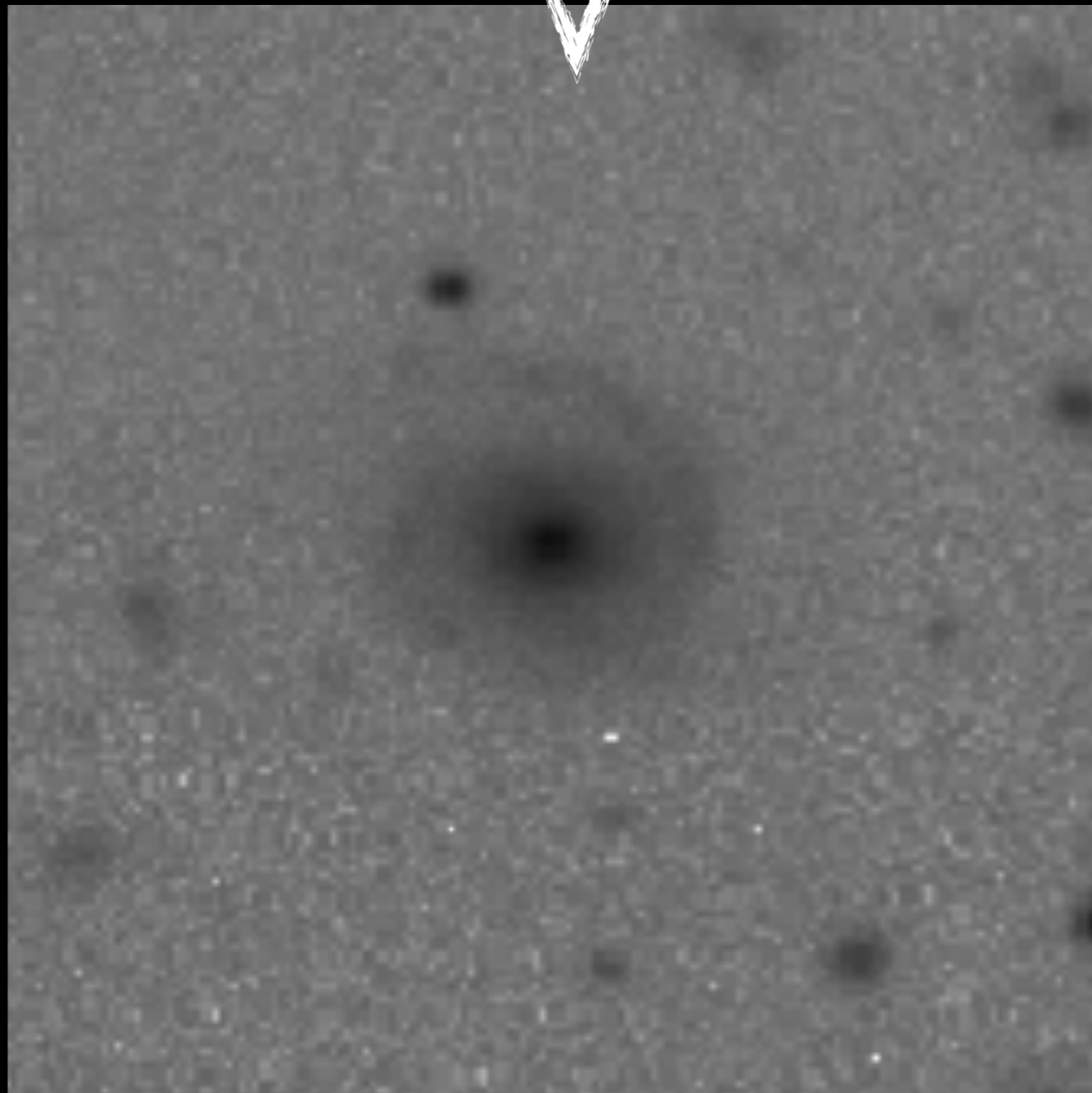
Future  
Work



# Who am I?



**How about me?**



Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



**Dark Energy Survey (DES)**  
**Classification: **Spirals****  
**(By our CNN)**

**Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS)**  
**Classification: **Ellipticals****  
**(By Galaxy Zoo)**

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work

There are three sources of the failures:

- ★ Difficult images
- ★ The problems from the initial labels
  - The lack of the class of lenticular galaxy (S0)
  - Better resolution of DES data reveals new features
- ★ The problems from our CNN

Previous  
Work

What-1

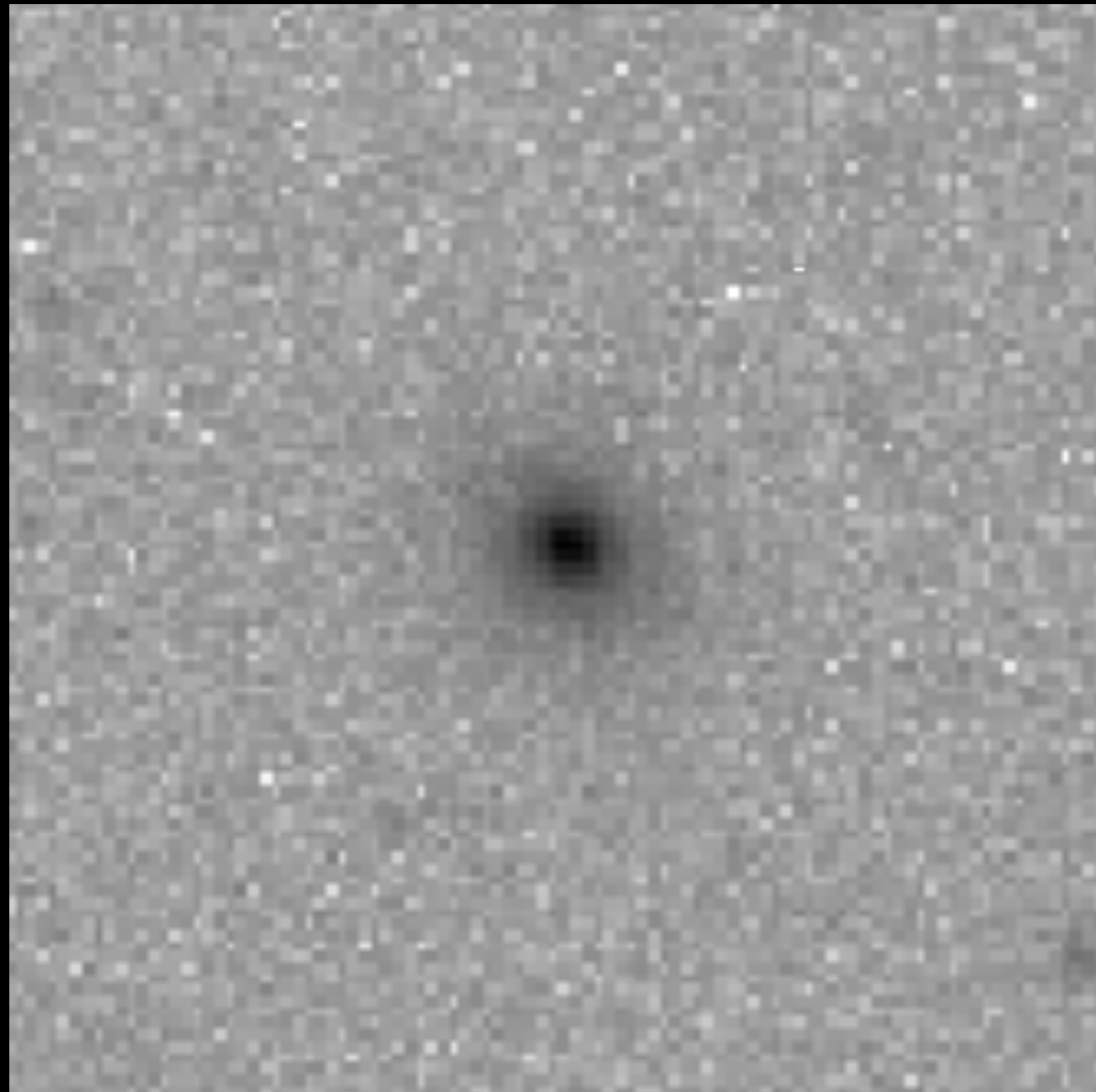
What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work





Previous  
Work

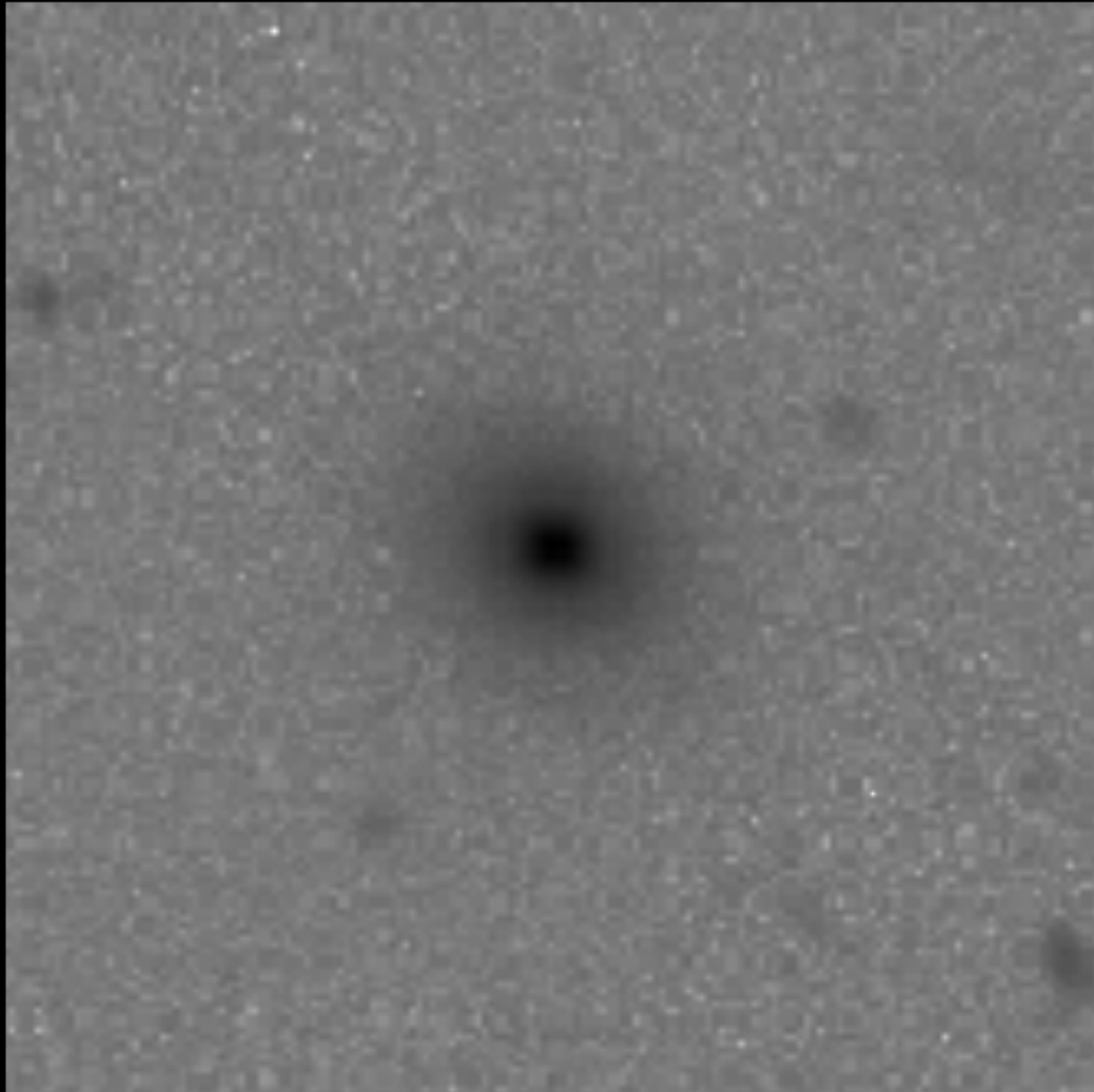
What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



Previous  
Work

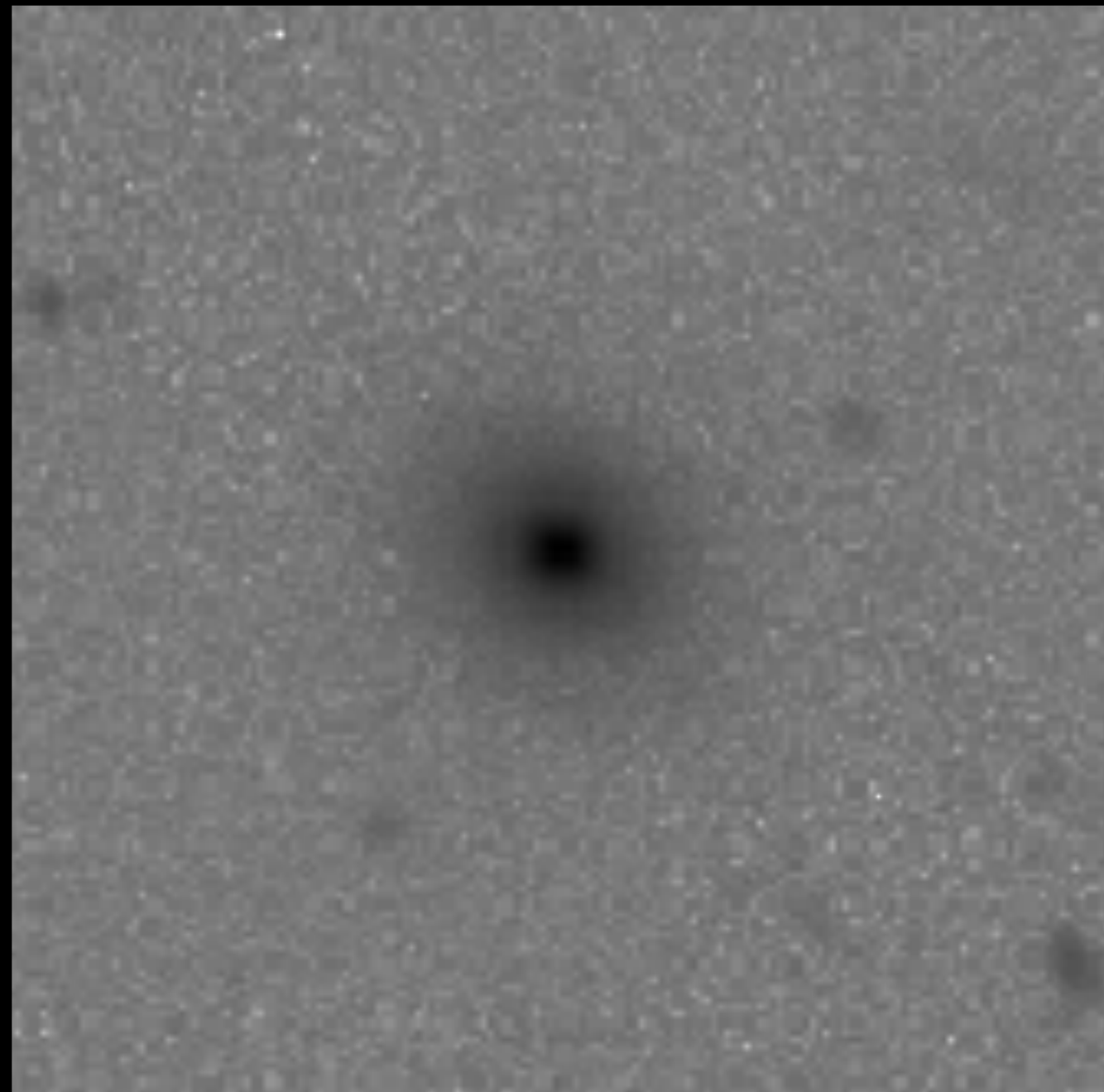
What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



**Dark Energy Survey (DES)**  
**Classification: Ellipticals**  
**(By our CNN)**

**Sloan Digital Sky Survey (SDSS)**  
**Classification: Spirals**  
**(By Galaxy Zoo)**

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

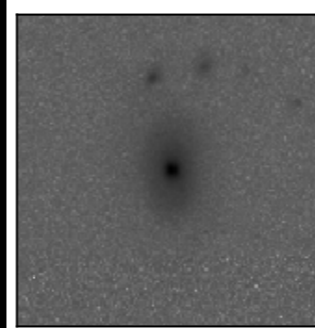
What-3

Take away

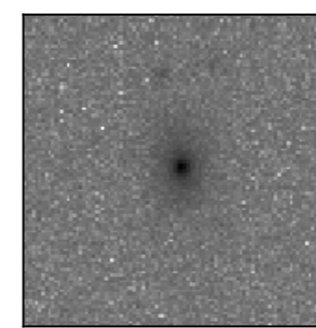
Future  
Work



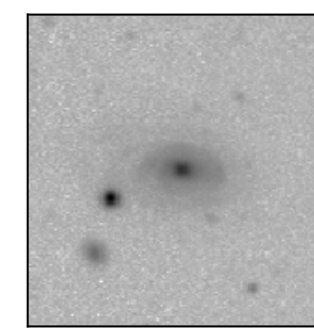
# Examples of the misclassification by Galaxy Zoo project :



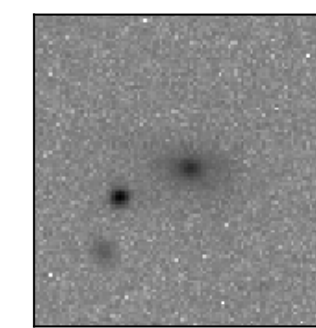
DES\_ID:  
3008598184  
CNN: **Spirals**



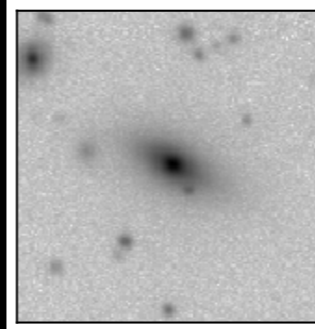
SDSS\_ID:  
587731185650041237  
GZ: **Ellipticals**



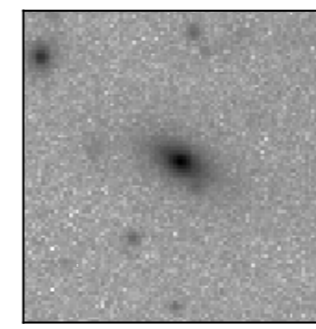
DES\_ID:  
3010424425  
CNN: **Spirals**



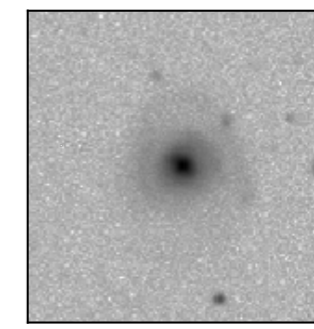
SDSS\_ID:  
587734303266308318  
GZ: **Ellipticals**



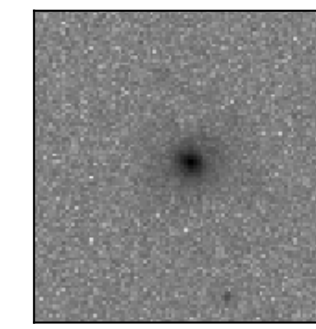
DES\_ID:  
3011368437  
CNN: **Spirals**



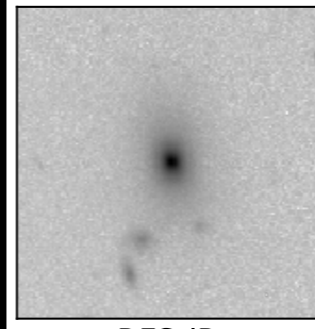
SDSS\_ID:  
587731187266748419  
GZ: **Ellipticals**



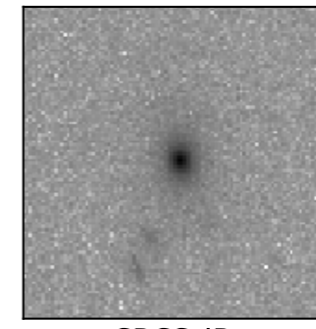
DES\_ID:  
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CNN: **Spirals**



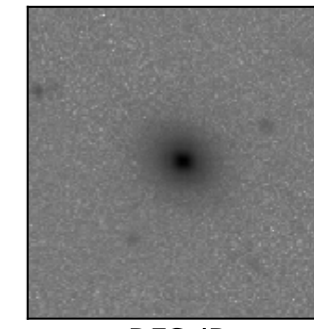
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GZ: **Ellipticals**



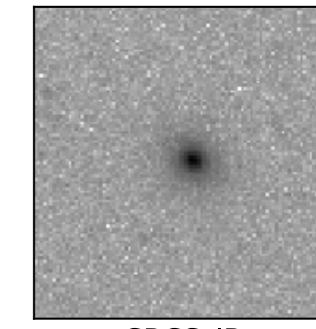
DES\_ID:  
3012872670  
CNN: **Ellipticals**



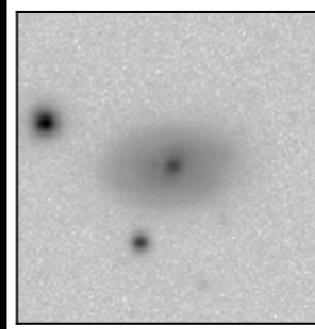
SDSS\_ID:  
587731186733940939  
GZ: **Spirals**



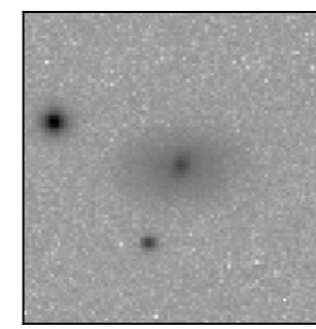
DES\_ID:  
3020308433  
CNN: **Ellipticals**



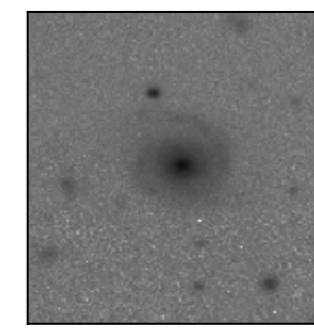
SDSS\_ID:  
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GZ: **Spirals**



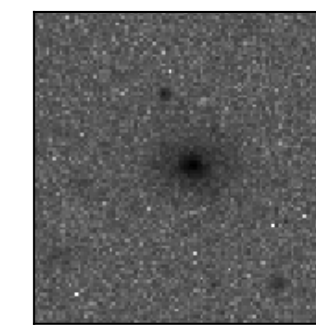
DES\_ID:  
3020747459  
CNN: **Spirals**



SDSS\_ID:  
587734305412874663  
GZ: **Ellipticals**



DES\_ID:  
3020878495  
CNN: **Spirals**



SDSS\_ID:  
587734305411957160  
GZ: **Ellipticals**

Previous Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future Work



There are three sources of the failures:

- ★ Difficult images
- ★ The problems from the initial labels
  - The lack of the class of lenticular galaxy (S0)
  - Better resolution of DES data reveals new features
  - The misclassification by the Galaxy Zoo project
- ★ The problems from our CNN
  - The contamination in training set
  - There is an uncertainty in CNN

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work

# What can we learn from these failures?



Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



# ★ The limits of human visual classification.

- Tiny detail detection to the appearance of galaxy



colonelmaggie

Update: Legolas' pupils are about 3.5 cm wide each.

Previous Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future Work

- ★ The limits of human visual classification.
  - Tiny detail detection to the appearance of galaxy
- What is the difference between human mistakes and machine mistakes?
  - Lenticular galaxy
- Can we use the failures to create the class for lenticular galaxy?  
(Make machine learn from the mistakes?)

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



★ To purify our training set

– Excluding the suspected misclassified galaxies by Galaxy Zoo project (both “resolution problem” and “error”), but keep potential lenticular galaxy.

– Retraining + retesting

Previous  
Work

What-1

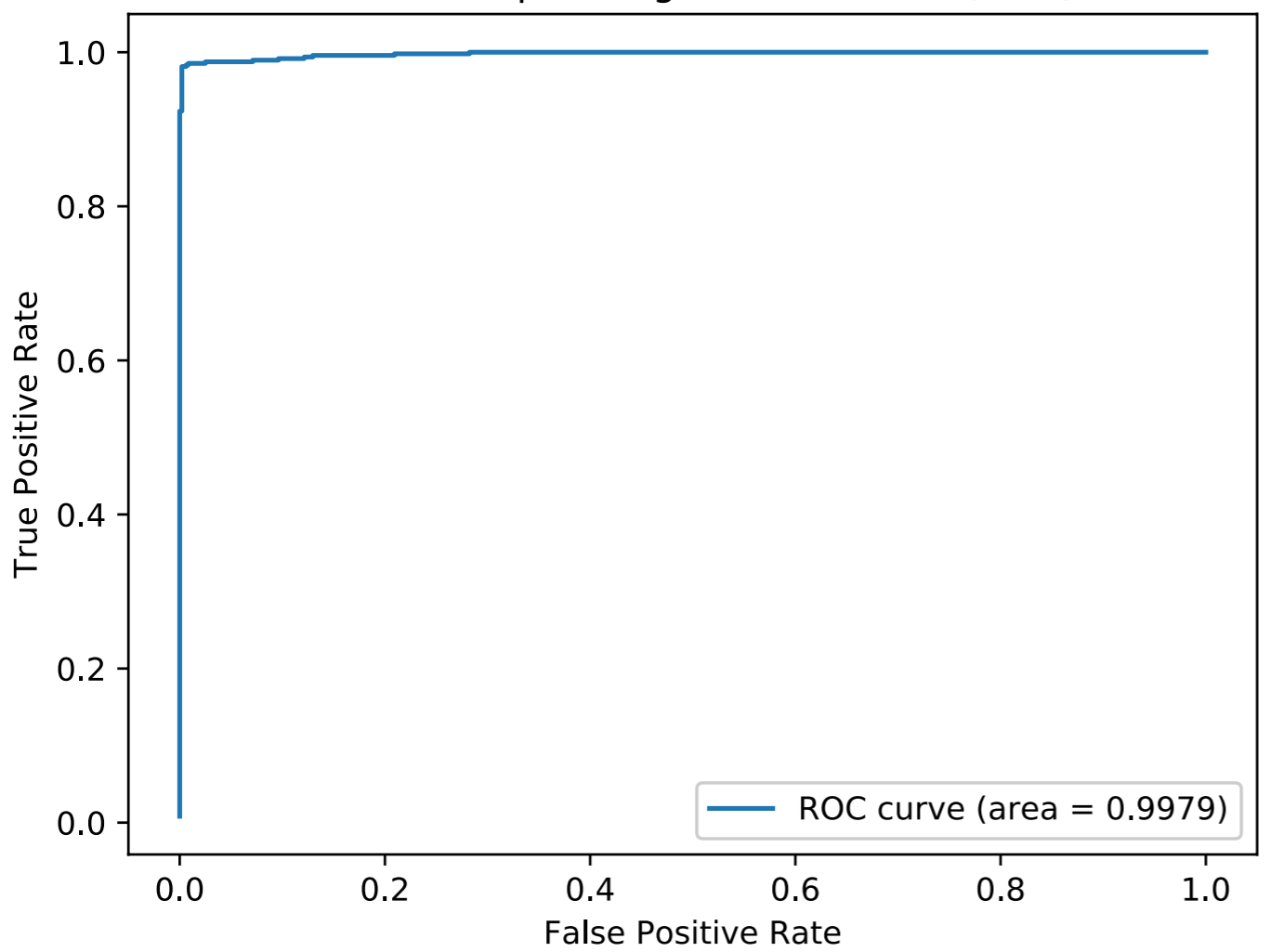
What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)



**Balanced Training set = 53663**

**Balanced Testing set = 1000**

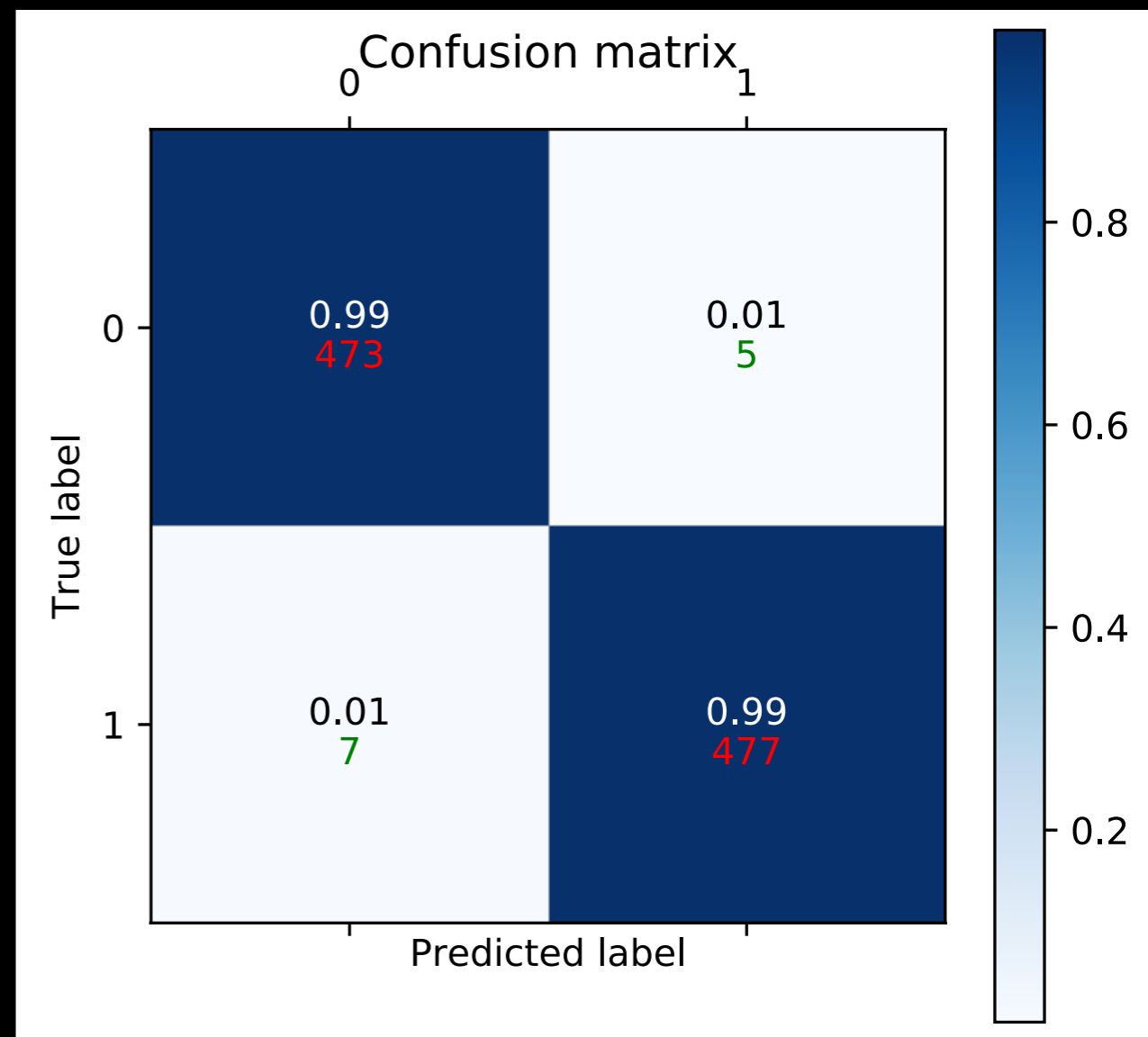
**Probability criterion:  $p=0.8$**

**Accuracy = 0.987**

**Classifiable galaxies = 96%**

**non-classifiable galaxies = 4%**

**(Uncertain type)**



**Results**

**Previous Work**

**What-1**

**What-2**

**What-3**

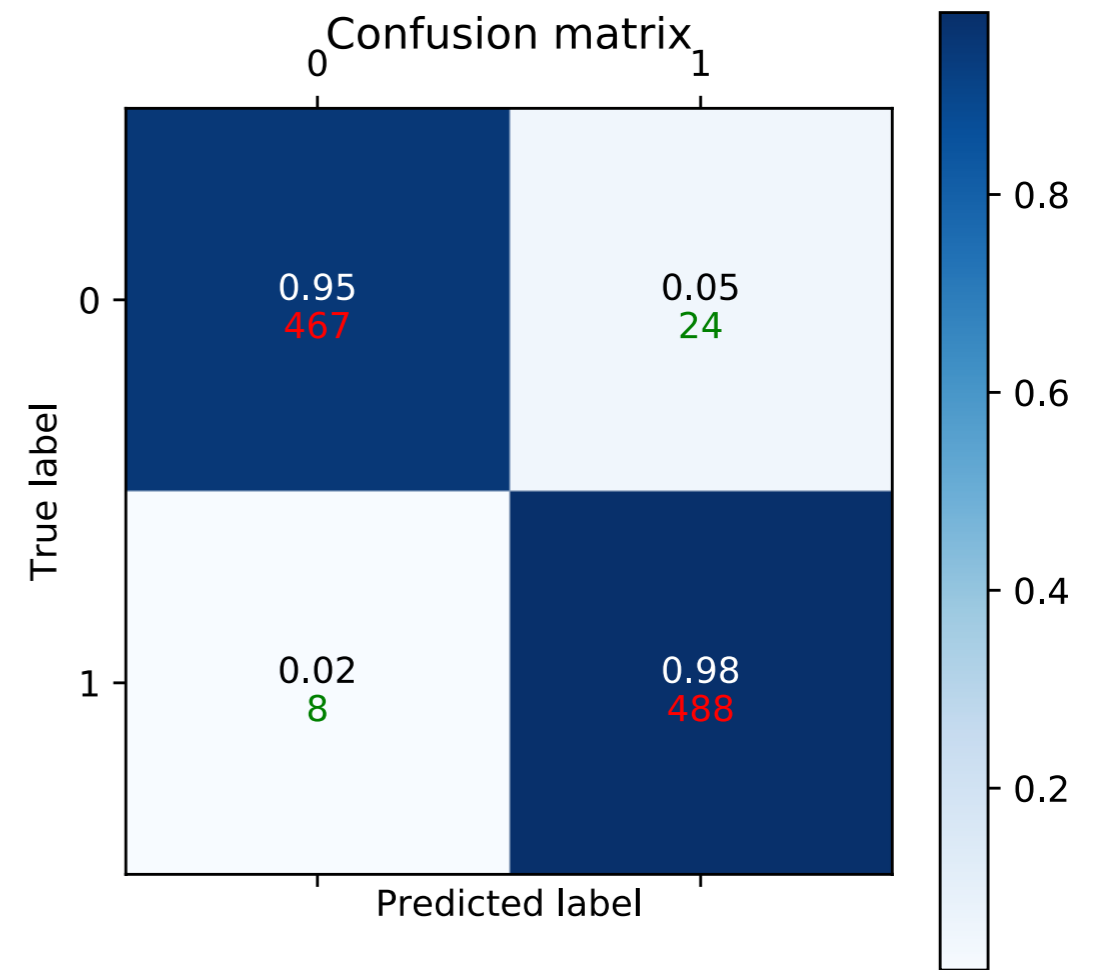
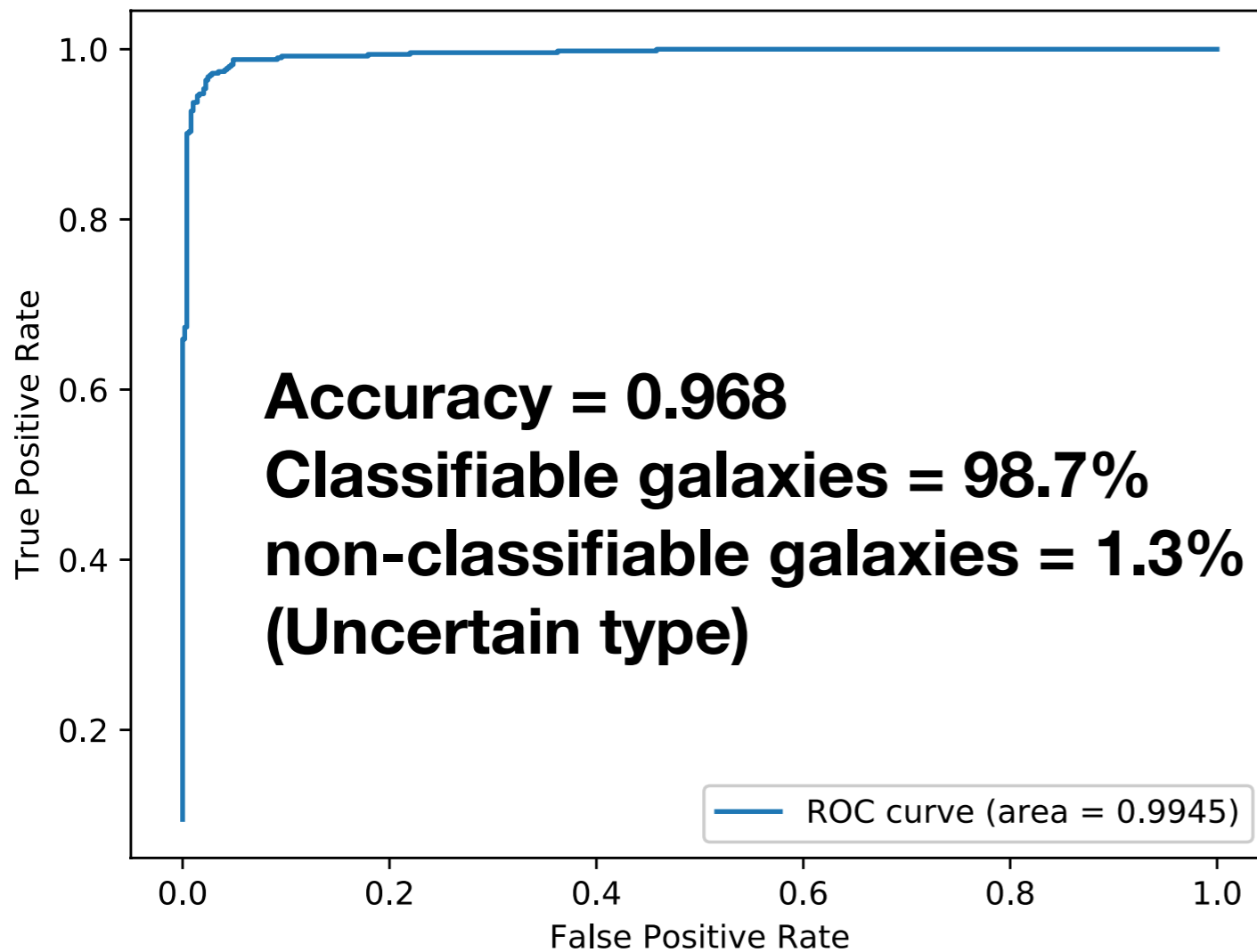
**Summary**

**Future Work**

# ★ To purify our training set

- Excluding the suspected misclassified galaxies by Galaxy Zoo project.
- Retraining + retesting

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)



Previous Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

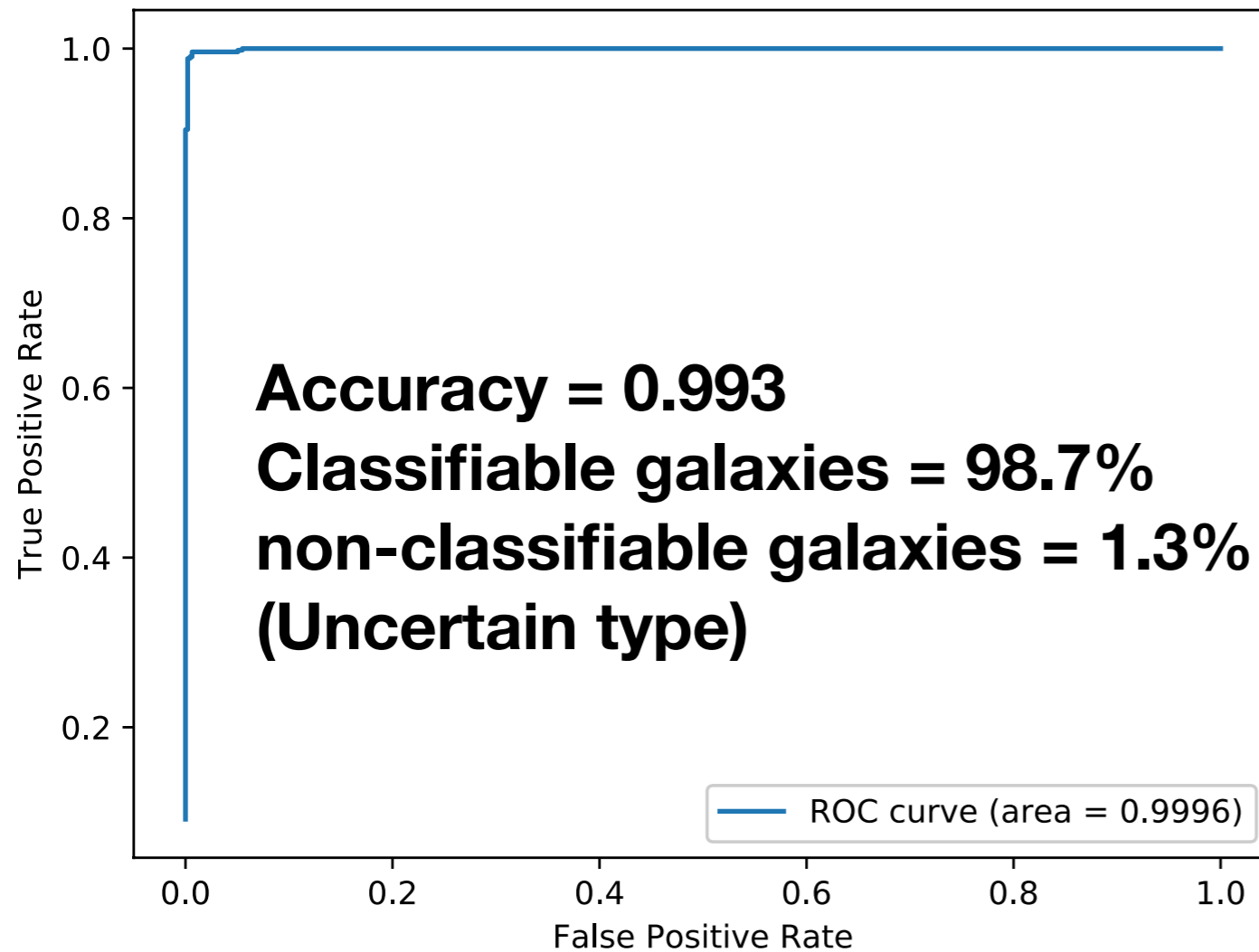
Take away

Future Work

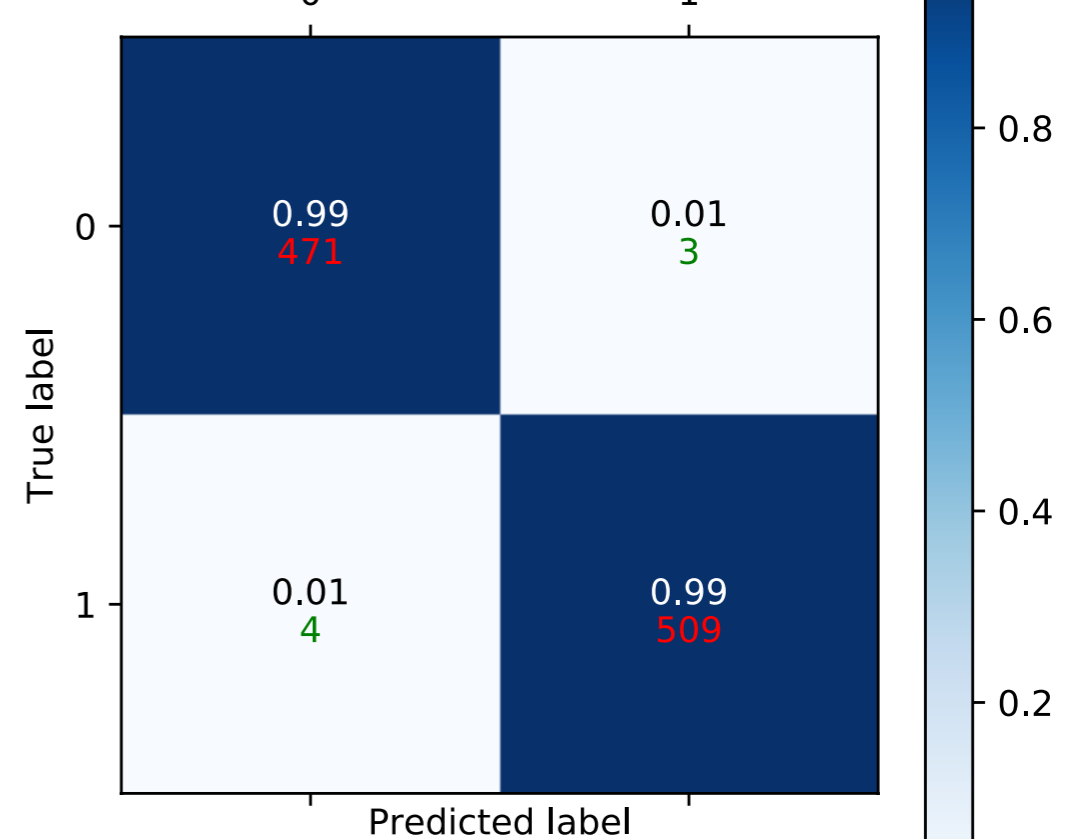
# ★ To purify our training set

- Excluding the suspected misclassified galaxies by Galaxy Zoo project.
- Retraining + retesting

Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC)



Confusion matrix



Previous Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future Work



★ To purify our training set

— Excluding the suspected misclassified galaxies by Galaxy Zoo project (both “resolution problem” and “error”), but keep potential lenticular galaxy.

— Retraining + retesting

— Showing up  $\geq 3$  times in failures with high probabilities within 5 reruns

→ **Misclassification (by GZ):**

**Testing set: ~42 (~4.2%)**

**Training set: ~54 (~2.9%)**

**Total: ~3.35%**

**(1.36% Spirals by GZ/ 1.99% Ellipticals by GZ)**

Previous  
Work

What-1

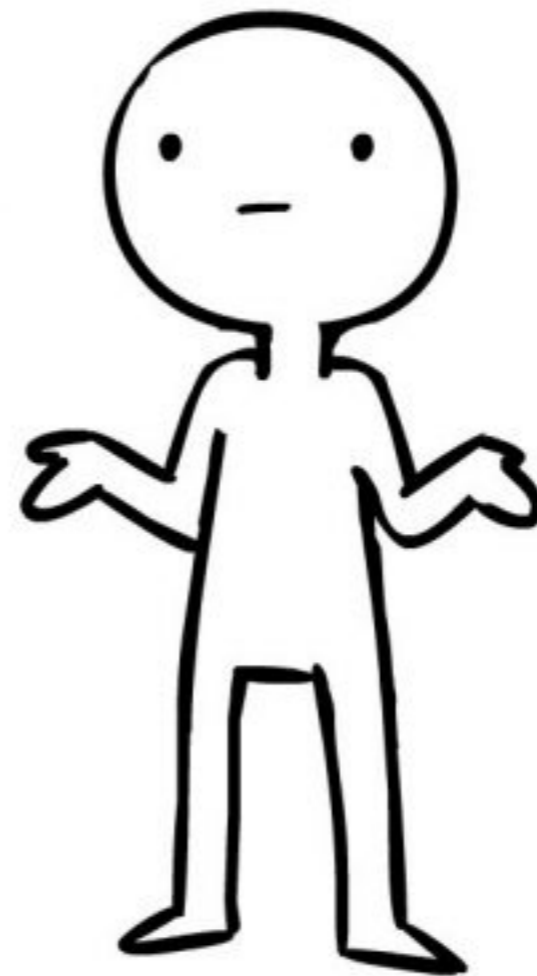
What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work

# lenticular galaxy?



Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work

★ After purifying our training set, it can improve our CNN results from accuracy  $\sim 0.987$  to  $\sim 0.993$ . The number of uncertain type decrease from 4% to 1.3%

★ We found some classifications from Galaxy Zoo project need to be updated.

— Can we use these failure investigation to modify them?

★ A class for lenticular galaxy

— The setting of classification system is of great importance.

— What do you want your machine learning to do?

— What does your machine learning actually do?

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work

➡ All the results and discussion will be published in my first paper! (**Cheng et al. in progress**)

(btw, my real name is Ting-Yun Cheng.)

➡ We are building on a catalogue of galaxy morphology for Dark Energy Survey images data by our CNN.

(I am still trying to find a way to separate a group of S0.)

➡ We are working on the Unsupervised Machine Learning, e.g. Fuzzy K-mean, Self-Organised Map, etc.

Previous  
Work

What-1

What-2

What-3

Take away

Future  
Work



**MACHINE LEARNING**



**Enjoy your trip in Machine Learning!  
Thank you for the listening.**