

With interest we read the article by Saraogi published in the International Journal of Trichology (*Int J Trichology. 2010 Jan;2(1):5-13.*)

We understand the criticisms made by Saraogi et al, but we do not understand why we see this as an article, instead of contacting us directly.

In all countries where TrichoScan is available our distributors are responsible for queries from TrichoScan users. In cases where this is not enough, we offer personal help, but for doing so we must see images. This did not happen in this case. The images we see in the manuscript are pretty dark and out of focus and the question appears, whether the ring light was switched off.

The major complaint, however, is the observation of Saraogi et al. that our software detects hairs where no hairs have been. We observed similar phenomena in some Asian people and therefore adjusted TrichoScan settings for those cases where such phenomena occur. In contrast to Caucasians, people in Asia have much darker hair ostia what results in a larger visible diameter of hair follicle ostia. As the TrichoScan software works by contrast, in some cases the diameter of a large and dark ostium is considered

as a hair. This is of course an artefact and with slight adjustment of TrichoScan settings it was very easy for us to solve this problem.

Fig. 1 Example: Original image with perfect image illumination but due to the nature of asian scalp with dark hair ostia.

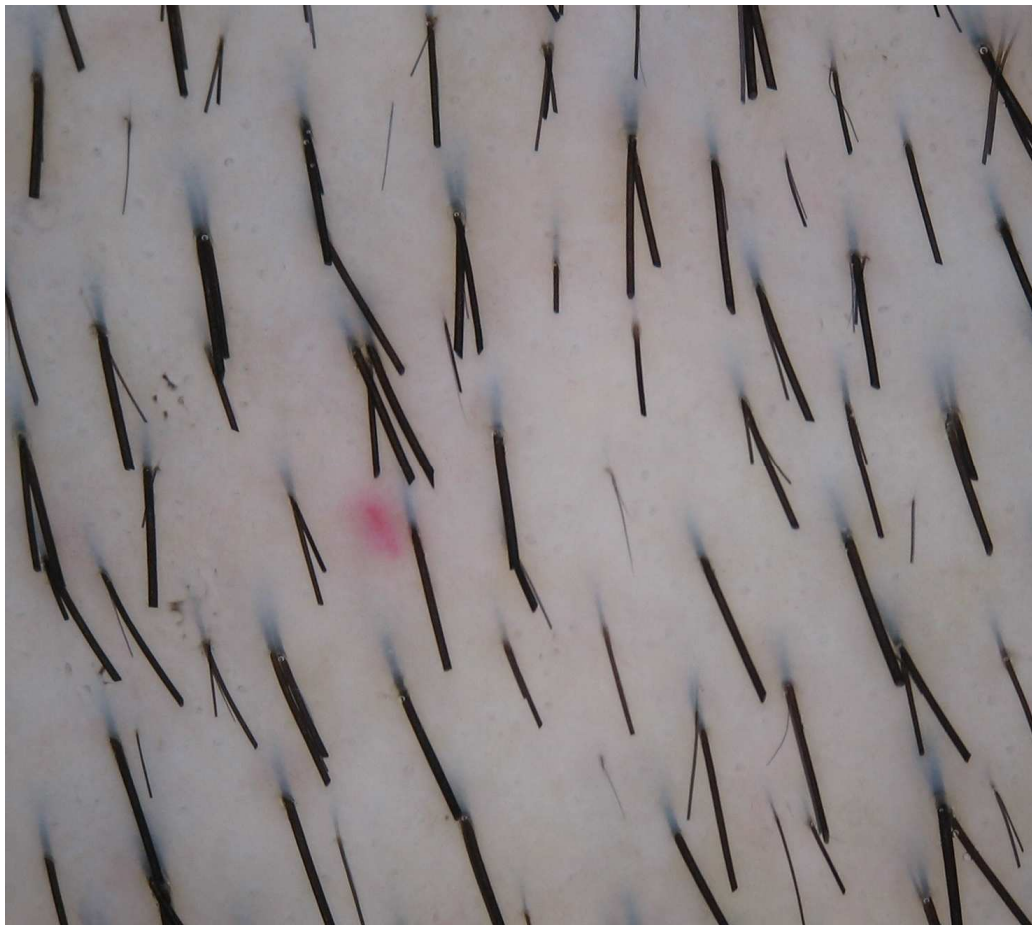


Fig. 2 Example: Raw results of original image. The red tattoo is not analysed.

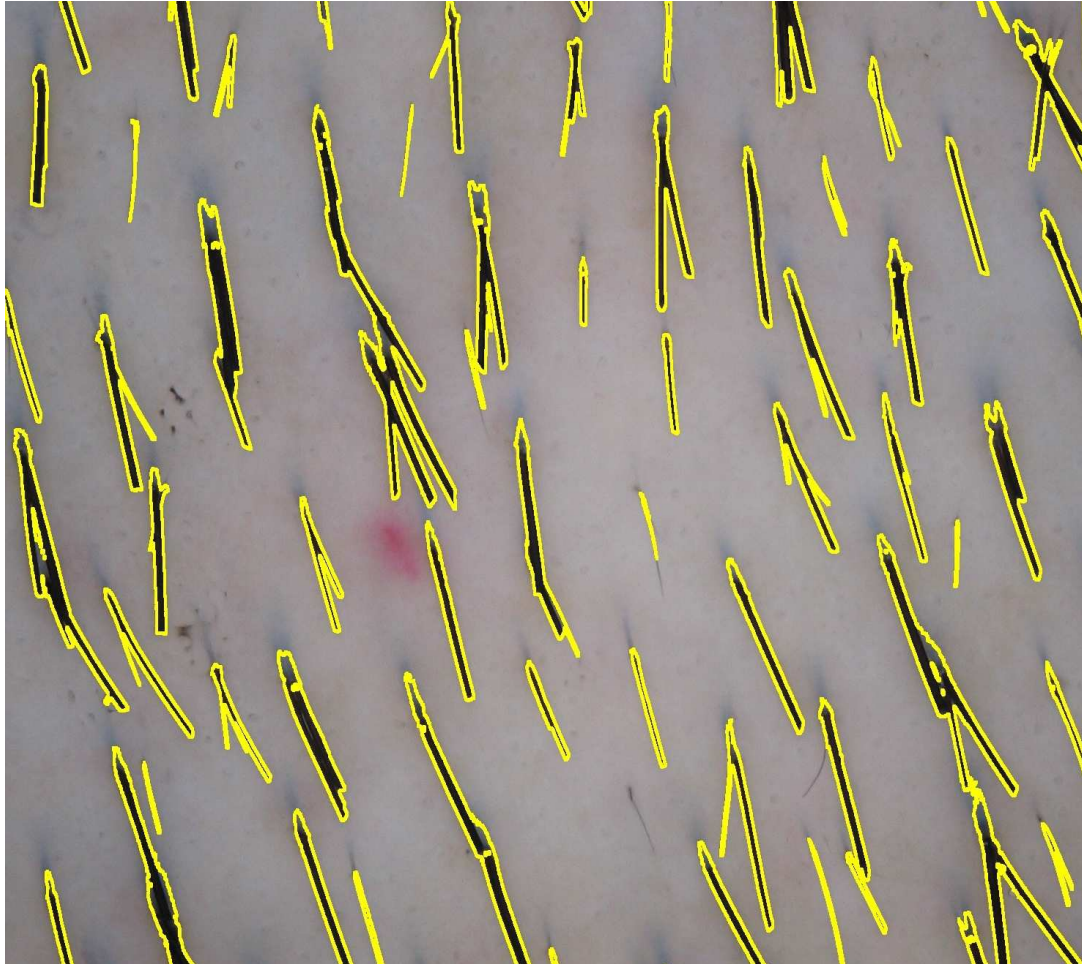


Fig. 3: TrichoScan algorithms for caucasian hairs and scalp result in this case in artefacts. Due to dark, translucent hair ostia TrichoScan detects hairs where no hairs have been.

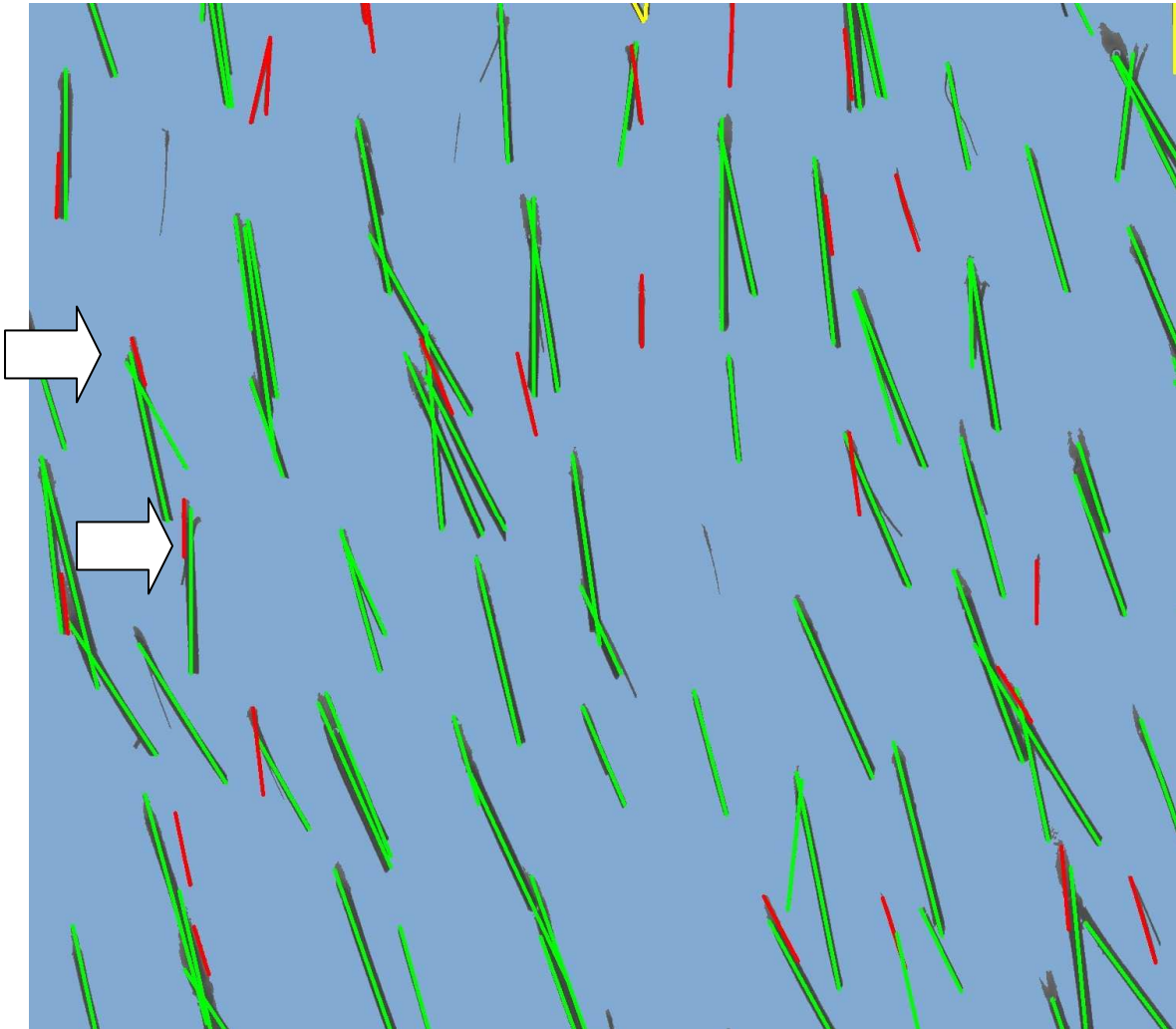
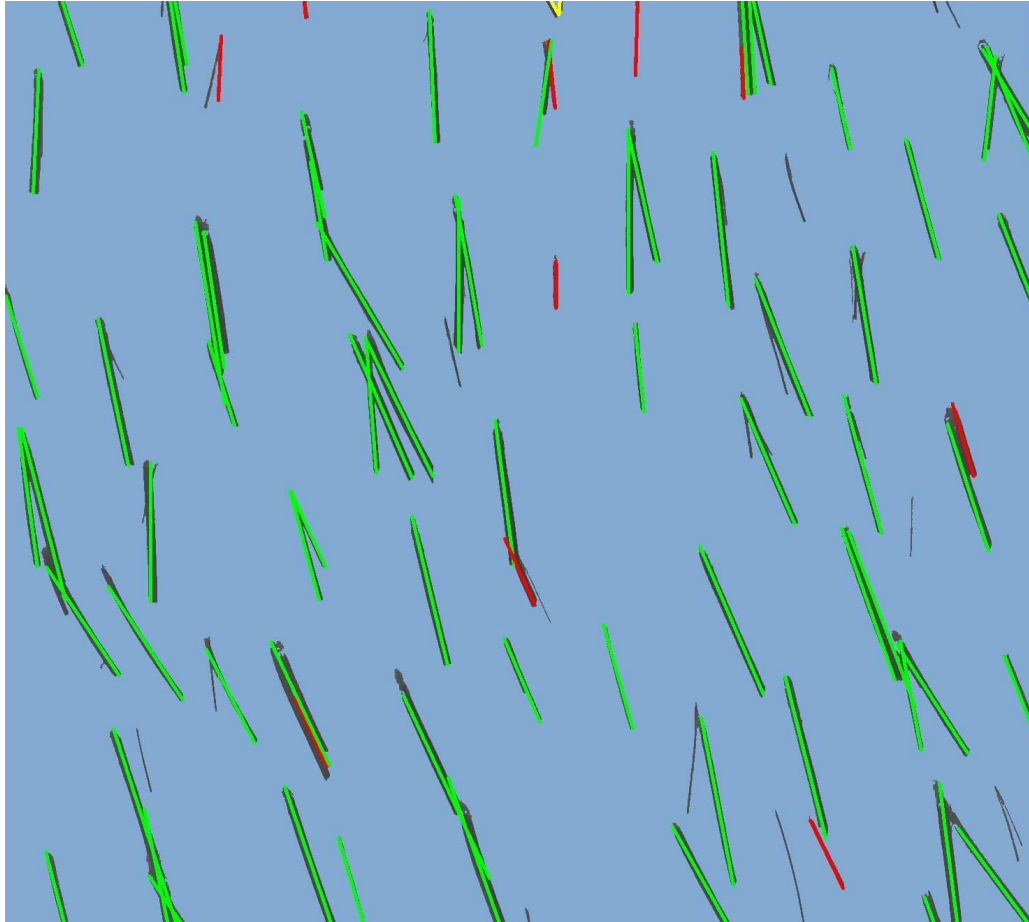


Fig 4: In contrast TrichoScan algorithms adjusted for asian hairs and scalp counts hairs correctly.



In summary, we see in the mentioned article avoidable artefacts, which are due to wrong handling of the device with bad image illumination and in addition the specific nature of human scalp in India, but not due to errors of the software itself.

One little email would have solved this problem.