

# Neurons ReUnited

First Periodic Report  
18.03.2021



FLAG-ERA

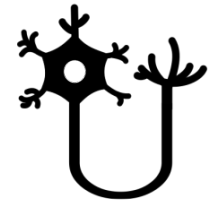


AGENCIA  
ESTATAL DE  
INVESTIGACIÓN



Human Brain Project

# Consortium NeuronsReunited



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Rembrandt Bakker  
Maria-Carla Piastra



Francisco Clasca  
María García-Amado  
Mario Rubio



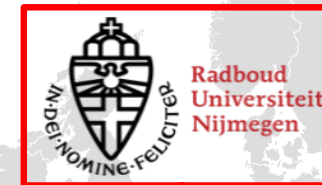
Sacha  
van Albada



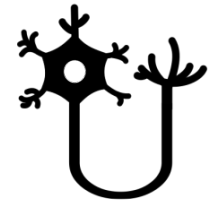
Michele  
Giuliano



Egidio  
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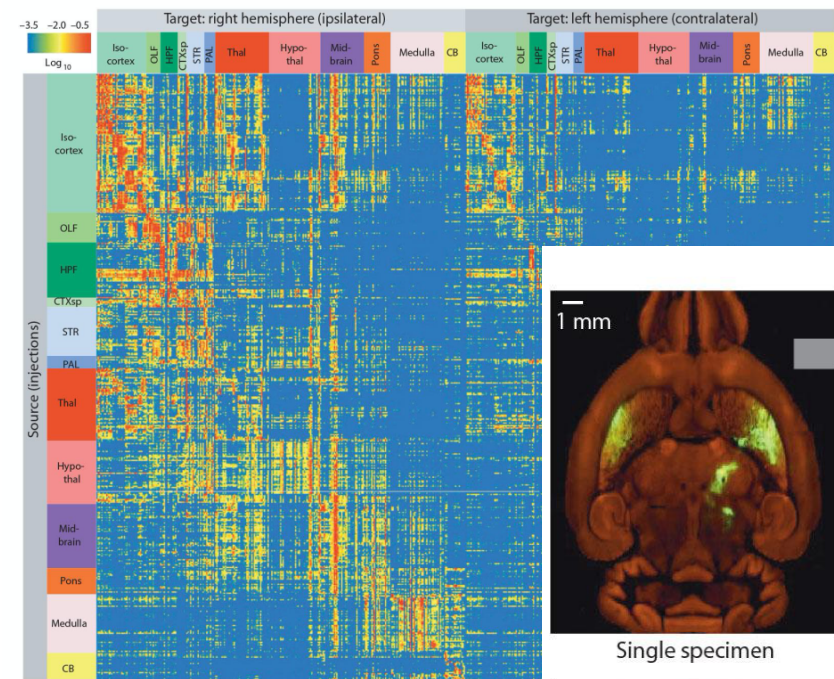


Recently published mesoconnectome is of tremendous importance for experimental and computational neuroscientists alike

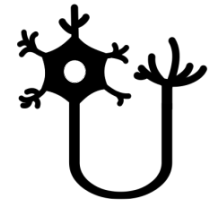


## A mesoscale connectome of the mouse brain

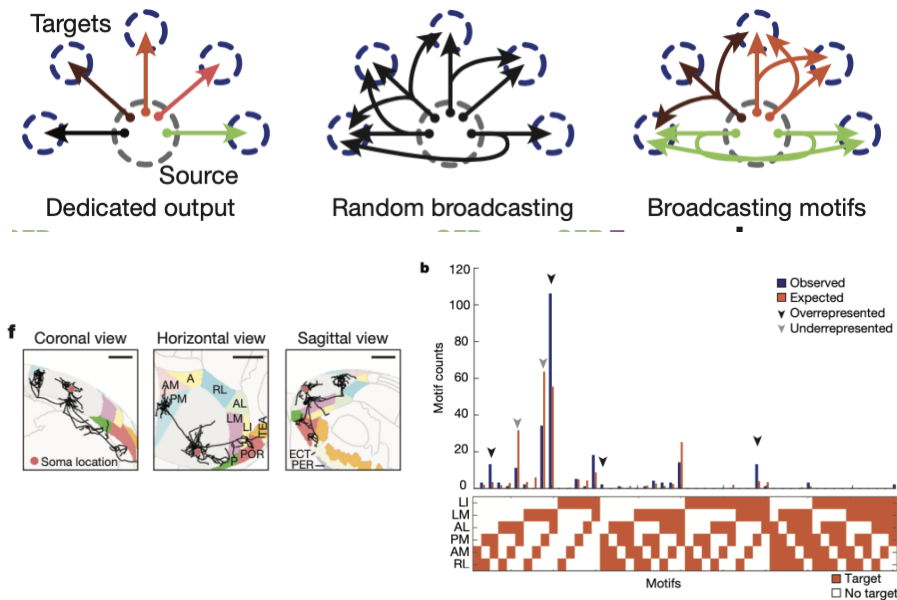
Seung Wook Oh<sup>1\*</sup>, Julie A. Harris<sup>1\*</sup>, Lydia Ng<sup>1\*</sup>, Brent Winslow<sup>1</sup>, Nicholas Cain<sup>1</sup>, Stefan Mihalas<sup>1</sup>, Quanxin Wang<sup>1</sup>, Chris Lau<sup>1</sup>, Leonard Kuan<sup>1</sup>, Alex M. Henry<sup>1</sup>, Marty T. Mortrud<sup>1</sup>, Benjamin Ouellette<sup>1</sup>, Thuc Nghi Nguyen<sup>1</sup>, Staci A. Sorensen<sup>1</sup>, Clifford R. Slaughterbeck<sup>1</sup>, Wayne Wakeman<sup>1</sup>, Yang Li<sup>1</sup>, David Feng<sup>1</sup>, Anh Ho<sup>1</sup>, Eric Nicholas<sup>1</sup>, Karla E. Hirokawa<sup>1</sup>, Phillip Bohn<sup>1</sup>, Kevin M. Joines<sup>1</sup>, Hanchuan Peng<sup>1</sup>, Michael J. Hawrylycz<sup>1</sup>, John W. Phillips<sup>1</sup>, John G. Hohmann<sup>1</sup>, Paul Wohnoutka<sup>1</sup>, Charles R. Gerfen<sup>2</sup>, Christof Koch<sup>1</sup>, Amy Bernard<sup>1</sup>, Chinh Dang<sup>1</sup>, Allan R. Jones<sup>1</sup> & Hongkui Zeng<sup>1</sup>



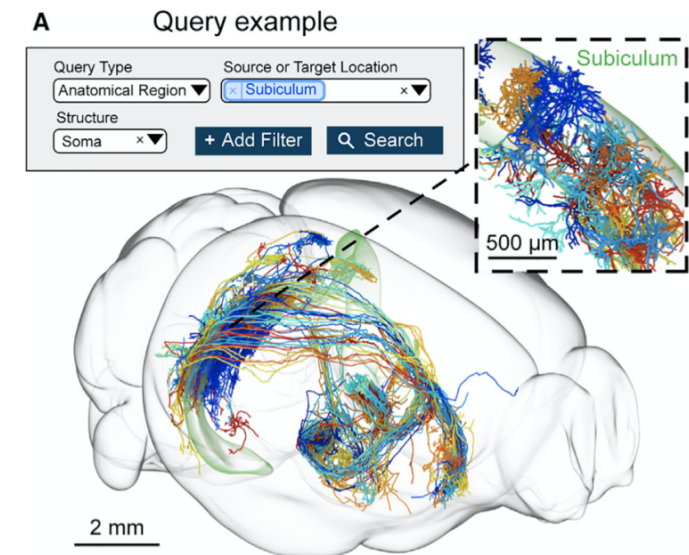
Bulk injection is not enough: need single cell resolution



## The logic of single-cell projections from visual cortex



## Reconstruction of 1,000 Projection Neurons Reveals New Cell Types and Organization of Long-Range Connectivity in the Mouse Brain

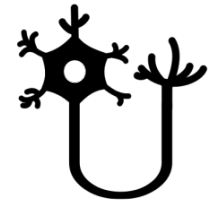


Winnubst et al 2019; Han et al 2018;



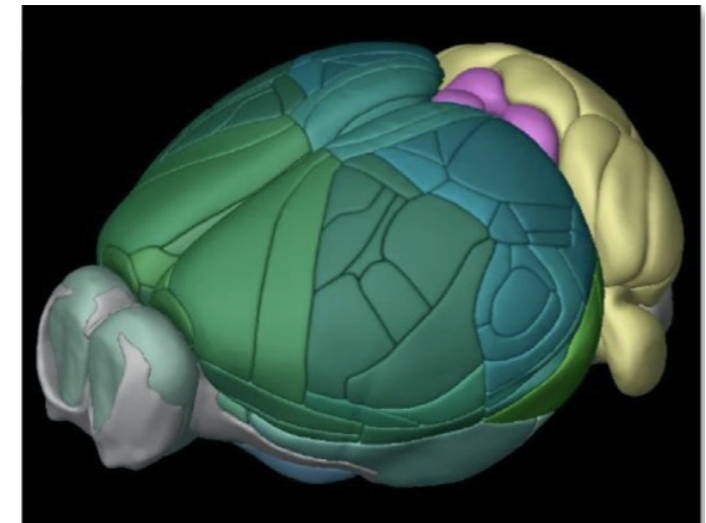
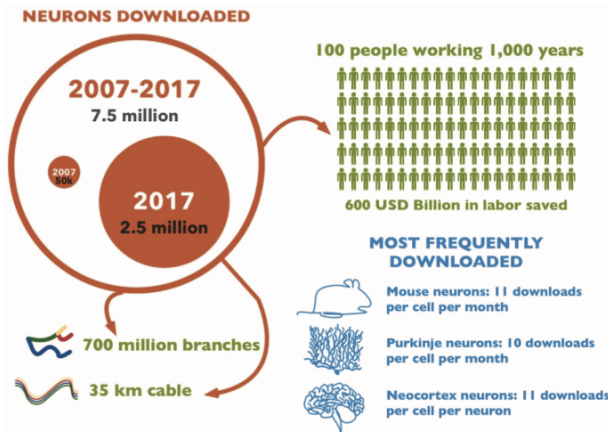
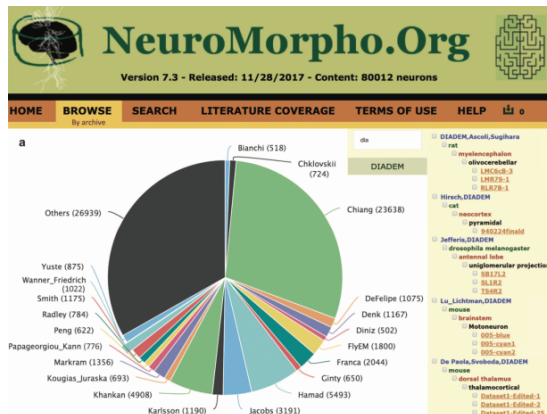
# Orphans: Neurons that need a home

Generate gold standard reconstruction, properly register them, to facilitate “crowd sourcing” neurons and computational studies



## An open repository for single-cell reconstructions of the brain forest

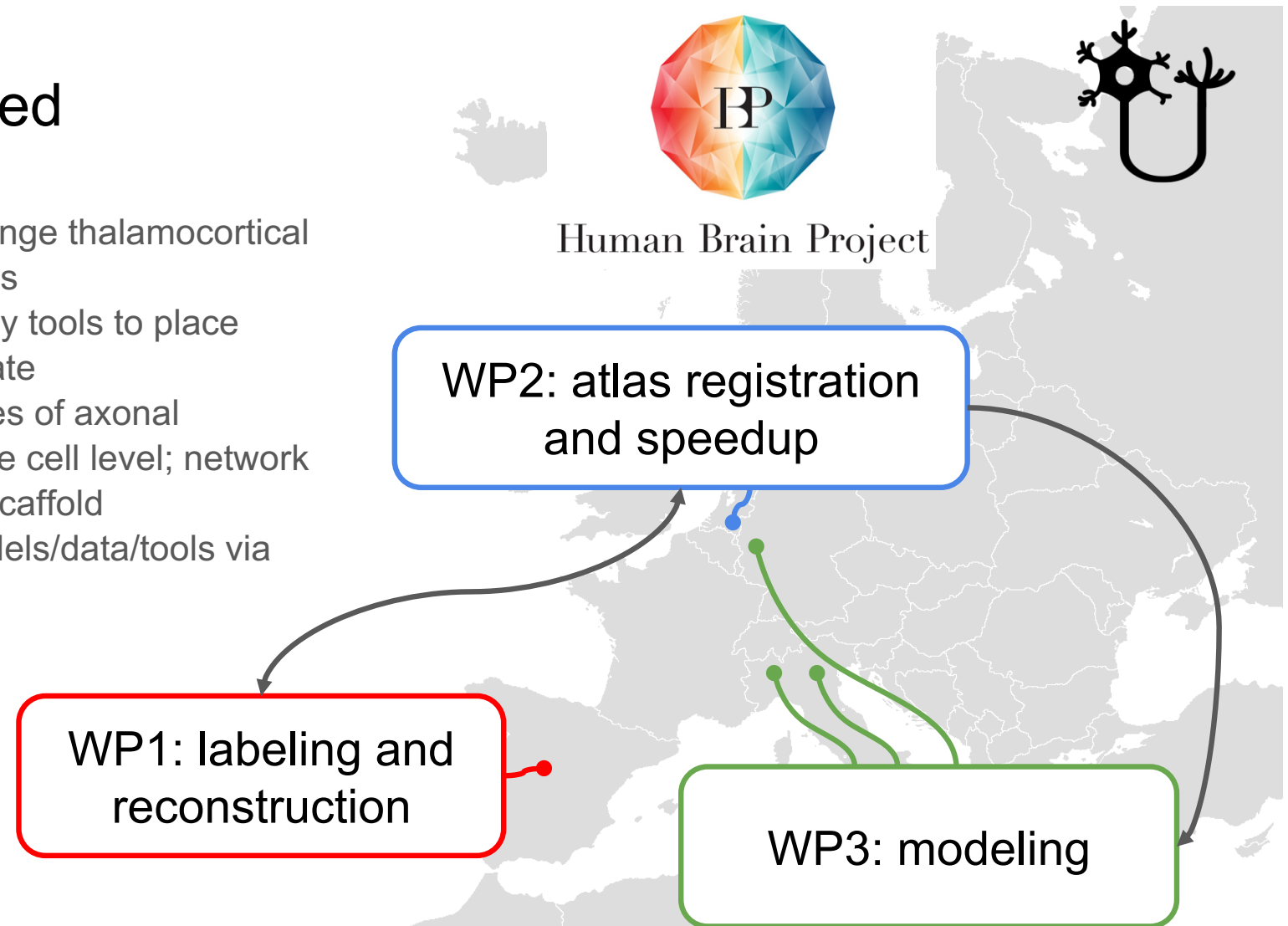
### The Allen Mouse Brain Common Coordinate Framework: A 3D Reference Atlas



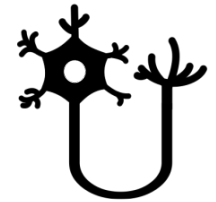
Wang et al 2020; Akram et al 2018

# NeuronsReunited

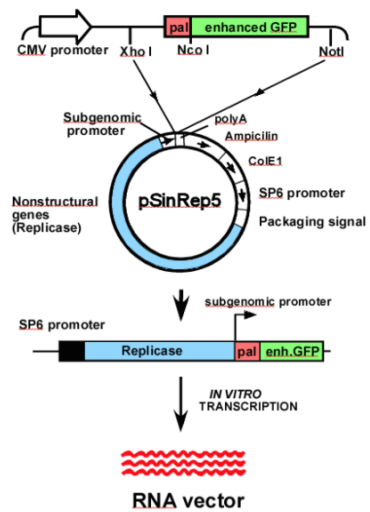
- Reconstruct long-range thalamocortical synaptic connections
- Implement and apply tools to place them in atlas template
- Model consequences of axonal morphology at single cell level; network level and for brain scaffold
- Make available models/data/tools via EBRAINS



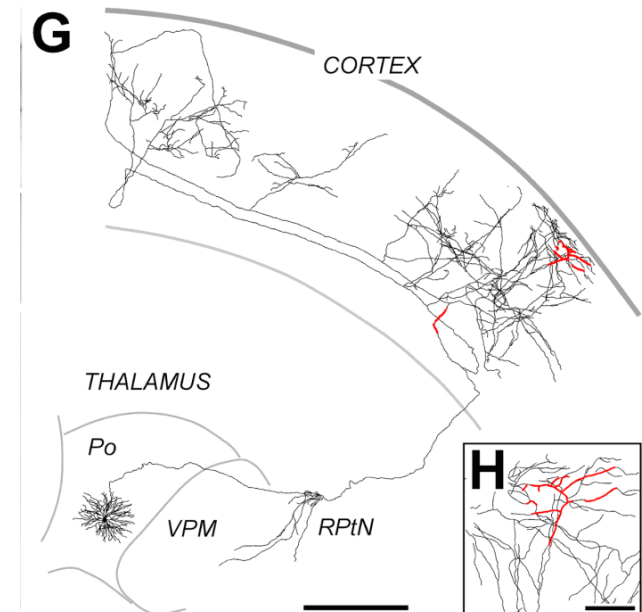
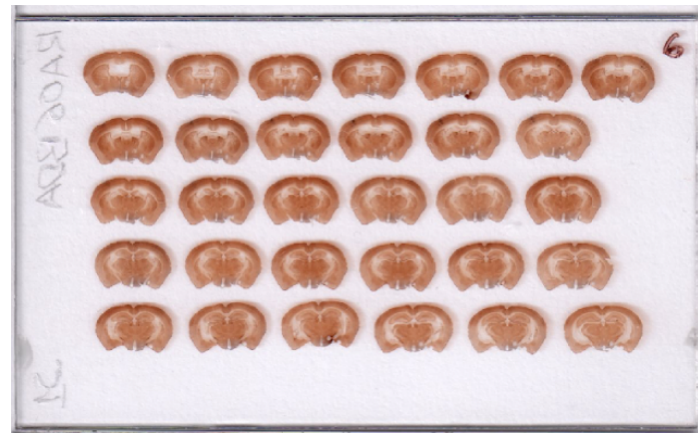
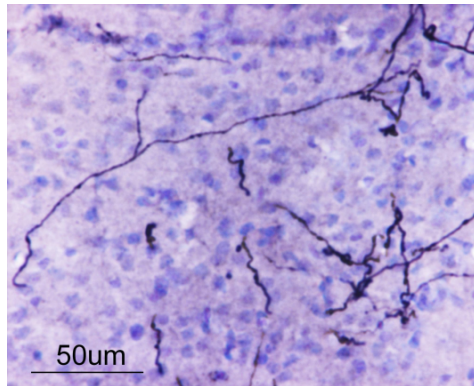
# WP1: Single-cell labeling in adult brains



Sindbis Pal-eGFP & RNA electroporation



Furuta et al. *Neuroscience* (2001)



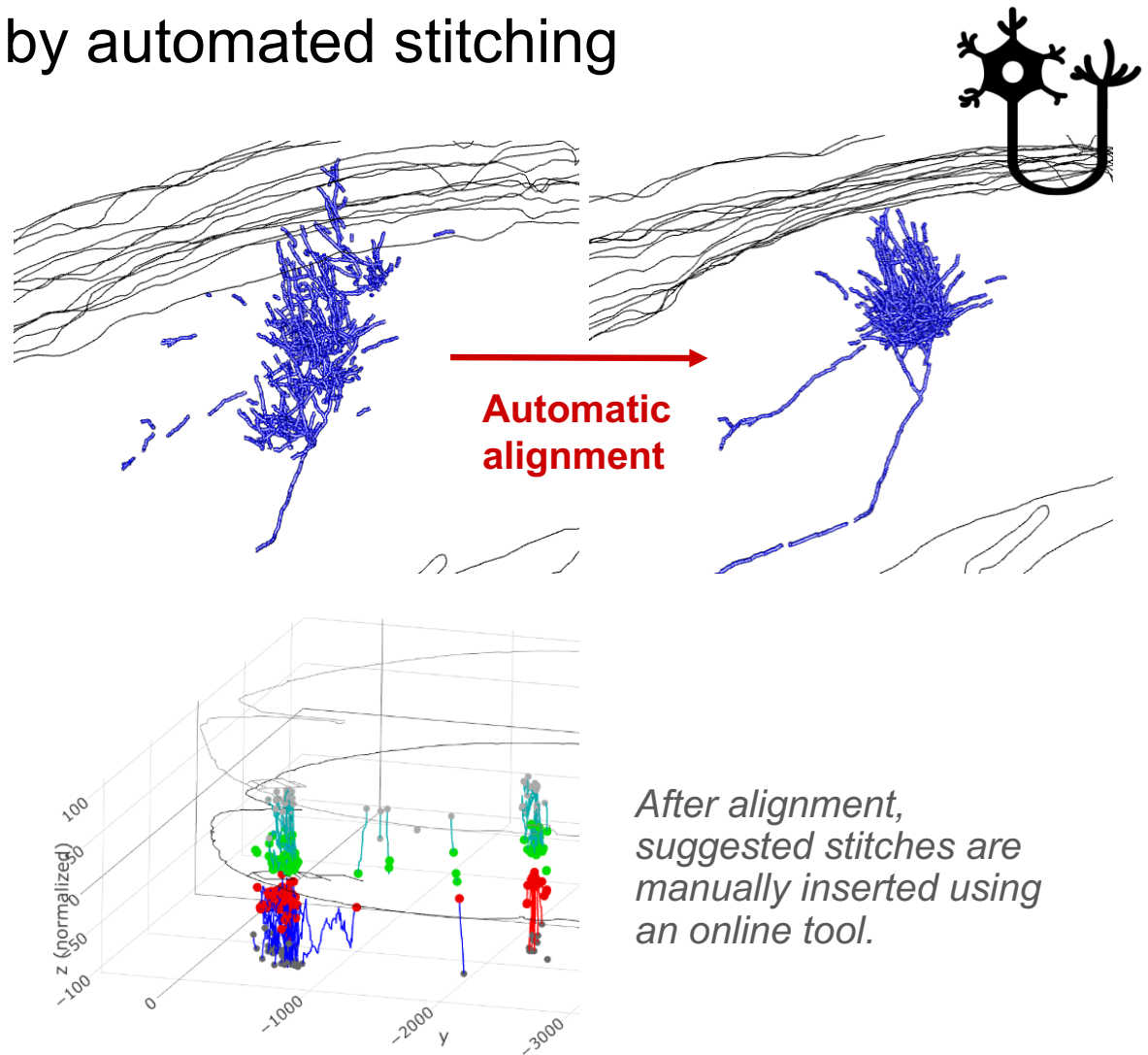
Porrero et al. *Front. Neurosci.* (2016)

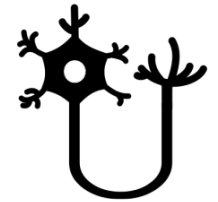
## WP2: Speeding up tracing by automated stitching

Manual tracing in Neurolucida takes **a week** per neuron:

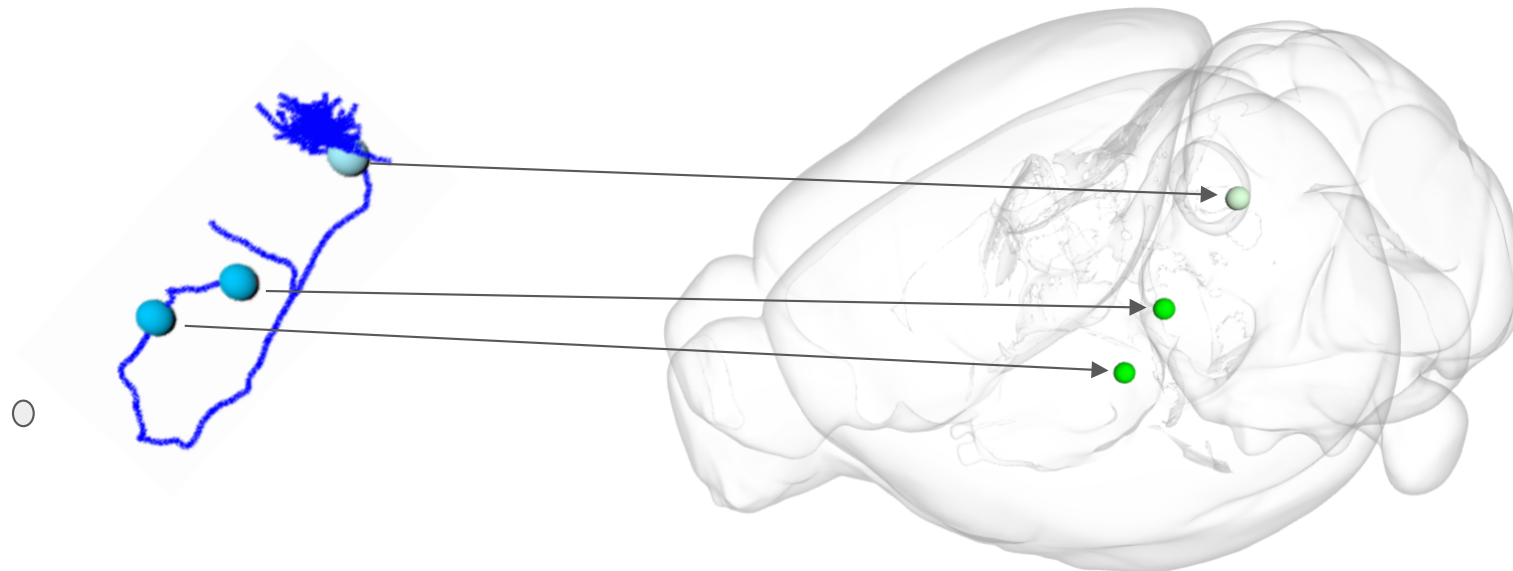
1. 1-2 days: trace all pieces of axon in every section.
2. 3-4 days: align and stitch pieces together.

We implemented a workflow that speeds up part 2, it matches the locations of axon-fragments in successive sections.





## WP2: Neuron alignment based on corresponding points



Basic corresponding points registration implemented as **online workflow**\*.

Placing the points requires expert anatomical knowledge.

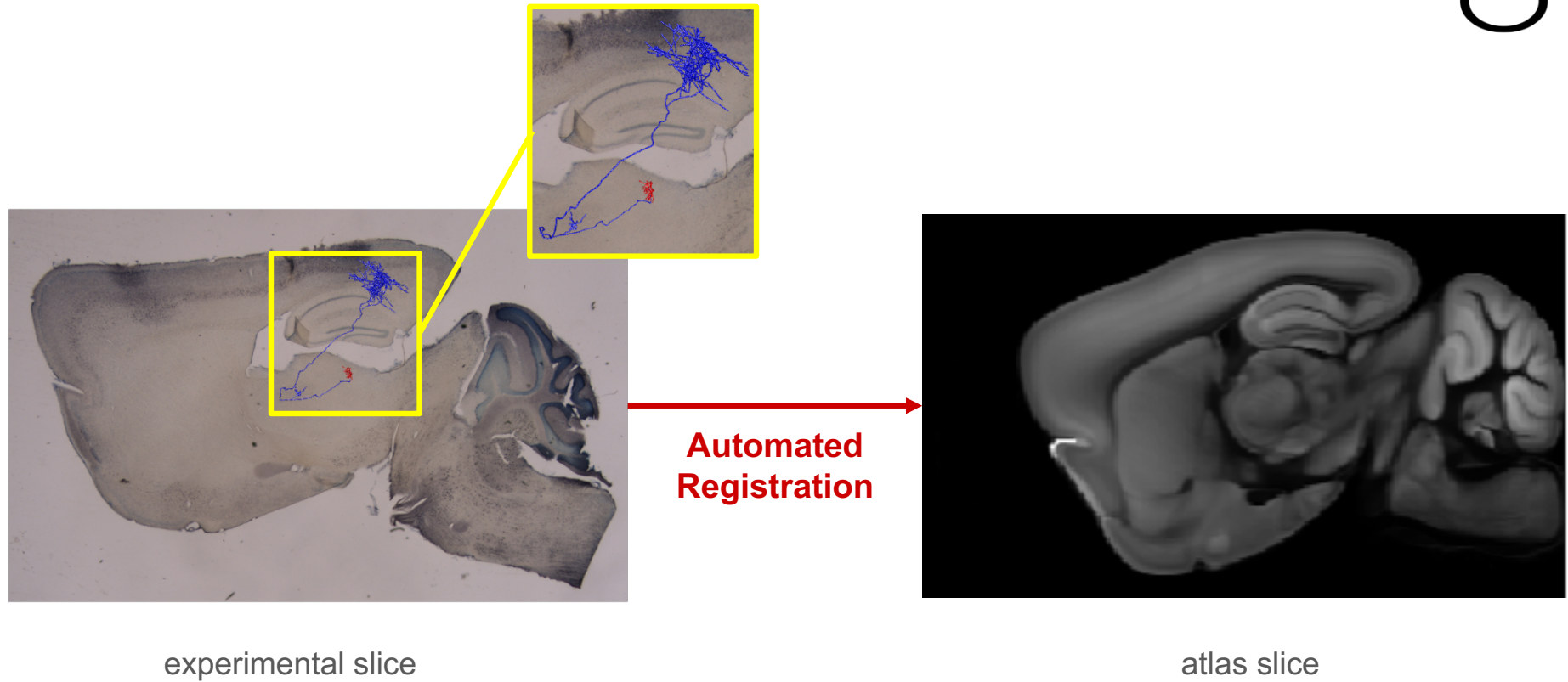
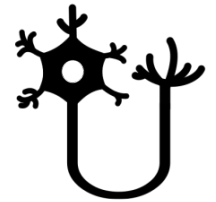
Next step:

- Add digital tissue images to the neuron and develop semi-automatic registration pipeline.

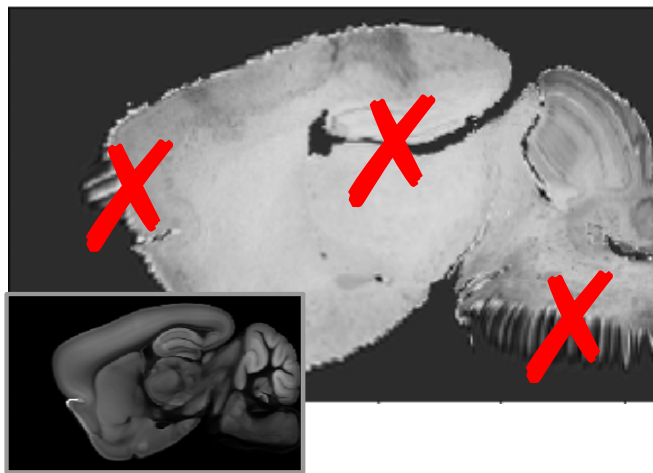
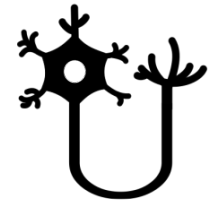
\*<https://neuroinformatics.nl/HBP/morphology-viewer> and <https://sba-dev.incf.org/composer>



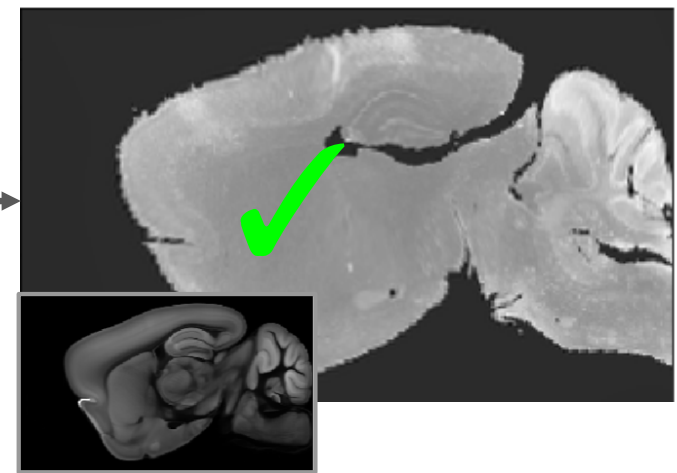
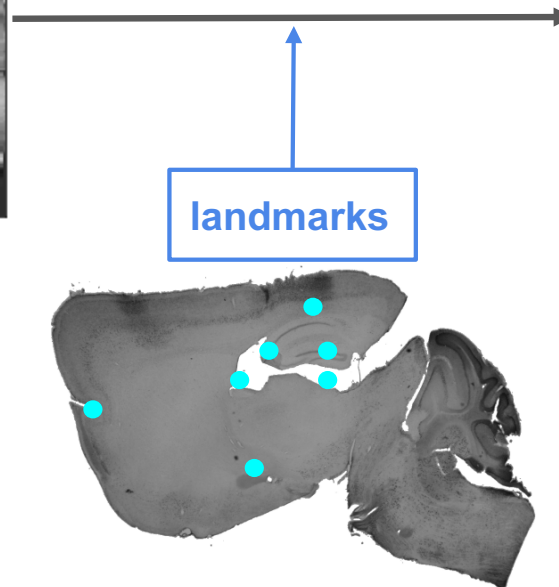
## WP2: Improved alignment with tissue images



# Challenge: dealing with large deformations

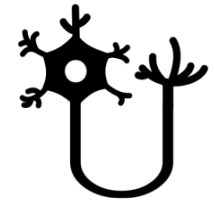


Test 1: Deformable registration, comes with huge artifacts.

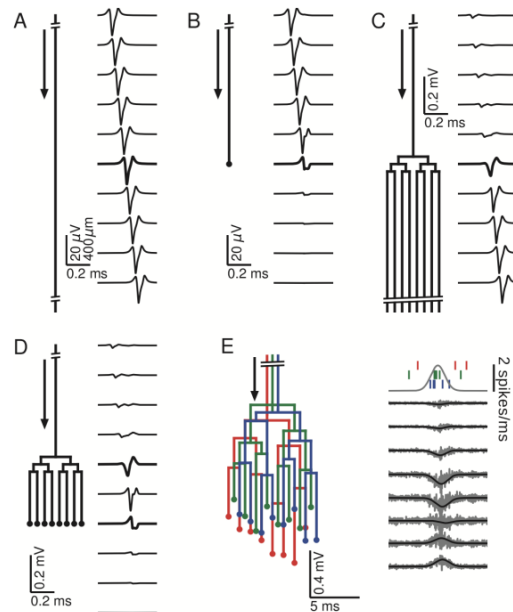


Test 2: Deformable registration, including a set of manually inserted landmarks.

# WP3: Modeling

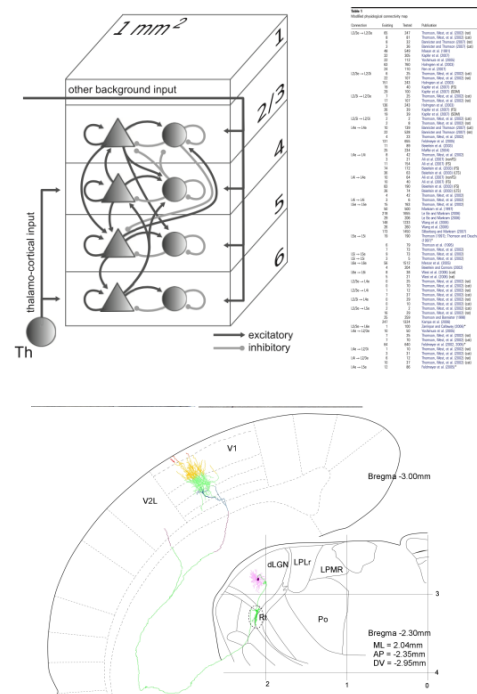


Consequences of realistic axons in multicompartamental models



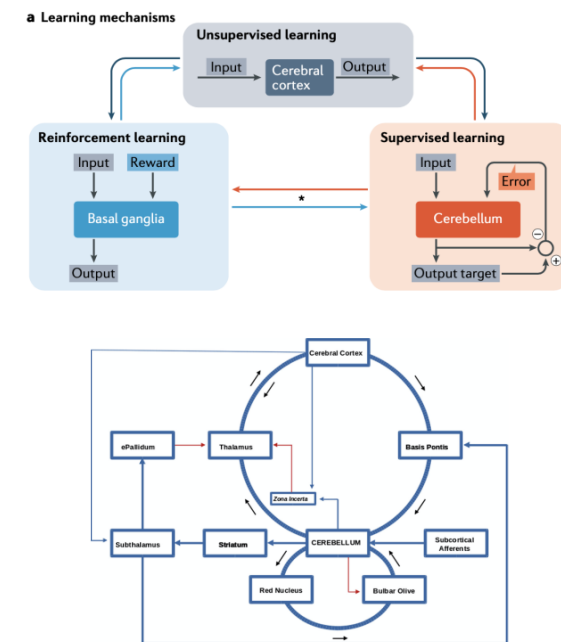
McColgan et al 2017

Adding proper thalamocortical projections to cortex model



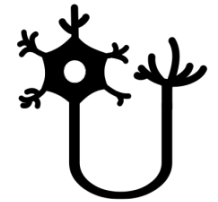
Potjans & Diesmann (2014)

Put the TC projection in the BG-CB-CTX scaffold model



Bostan & Strick (2016);  
Habas et al (2019)

# Responsible Research and Innovation



- Make available gold-standard, properly registered reconstruction
- Make available tools for other neuroscientists to do the same
- Contribute standards (Brain Addressing System, BIDS)
- Exemplify how to use new data in models

All data, tools & models will be available via EBRAINS as well as other public repositories (Scalable Brain Atlas, GitHub, Donders).

The screenshot shows the EBRAINS website interface. At the top, the EBRAINS logo is on the left, and 'Share data' and 'About' links are on the right. Below this is a yellow banner for a dataset titled '3D reconstruction and measurement of individual thalamocortical projection neuron axons of somatosensory and visual thalamic nuclei'. The authors listed are García-Amado, M.; Porrero, C.; Rubio, M.; Evangelio, M.; Clascá, F. Below the banner are two buttons: 'Cite dataset' and 'Data-descriptor'. At the bottom, the following information is displayed: DOI: 10.25493/AWS5-MZG, License: Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International, Project: 3D reconstruction of thalamocortical projection neurons, and Custodians: Clascá, Francisco.

EBRAINS

Share data About

DATASET

3D reconstruction and measurement of individual thalamocortical projection neuron axons of somatosensory and visual thalamic nuclei

García-Amado, M.; Porrero, C.; Rubio, M.; Evangelio, M.; Clascá, F.

Cite dataset Data-descriptor

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Project: 3D reconstruction of thalamocortical projection neurons

Custodians: Clascá, Francisco