

ROBUST SCIENCE WORKSHOP  
FEBRUARY 17, 2021



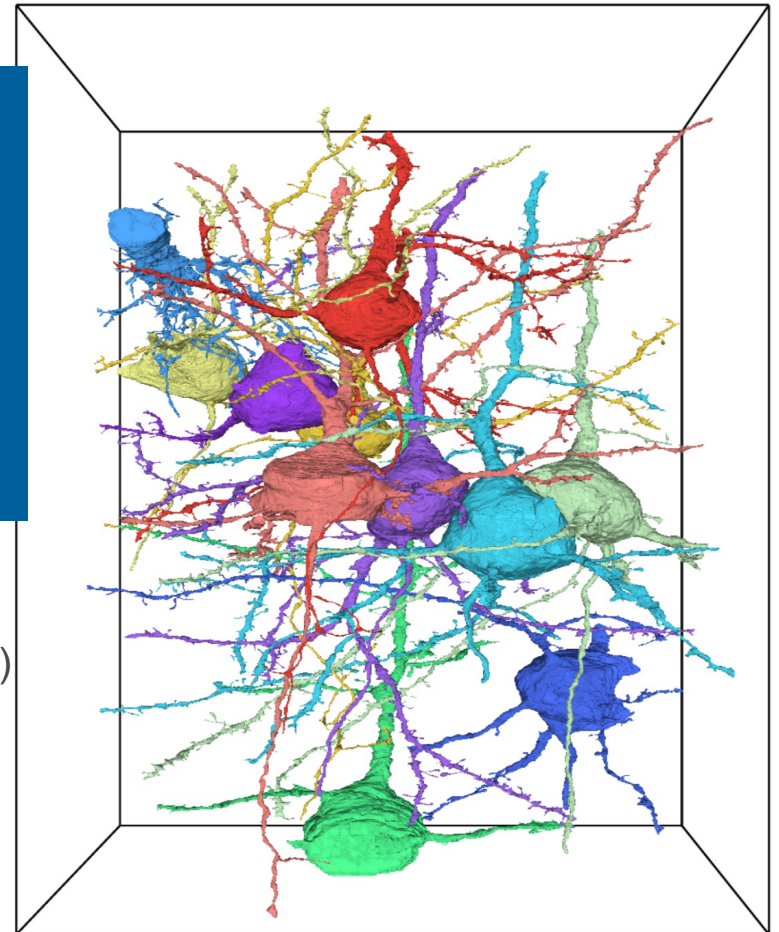
# TOWARDS AN HPC AUTOMATED PIPELINE FOR CONNECTOMICS

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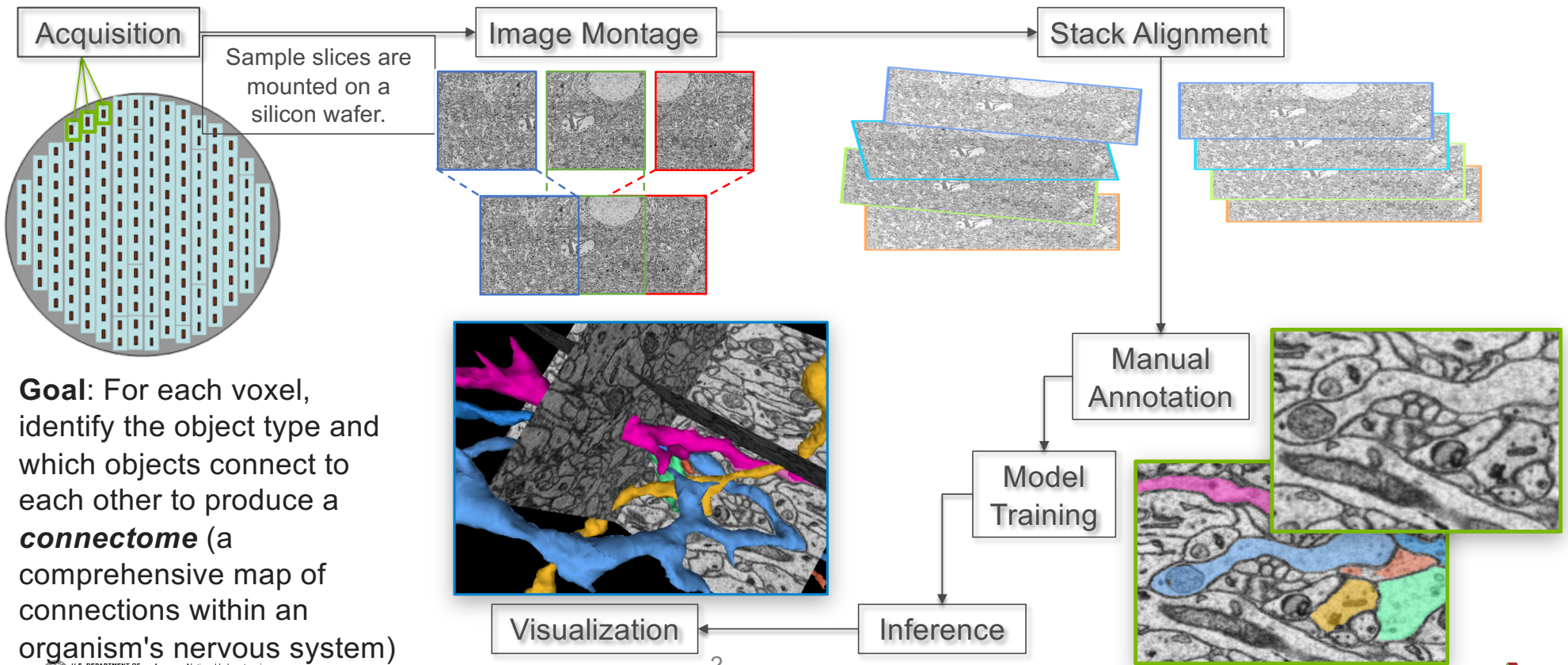
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02/17/2021



# SERIAL ELECTRON MICROSCOPY ACQUISITION AND ANALYSIS STEPS FOR CONNECTOMICS

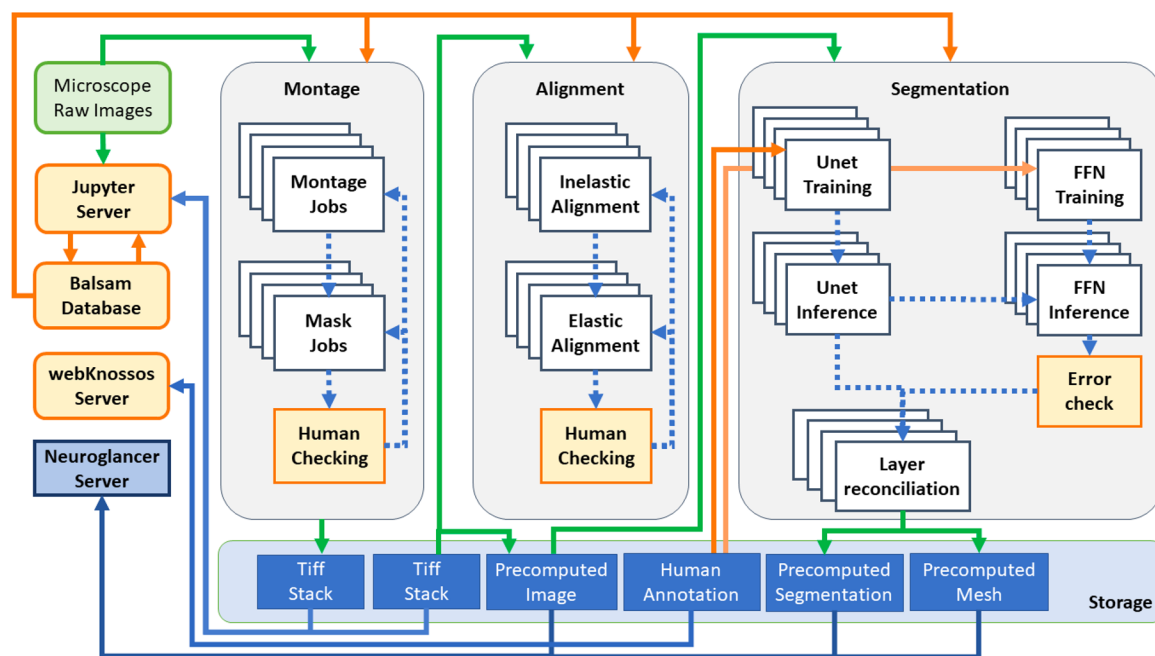


**Goal:** For each voxel, identify the object type and which objects connect to each other to produce a **connectome** (a comprehensive map of connections within an organism's nervous system)

# Scalable, trustworthy, and reproducible

## Our experience: EM PIPELINE @ ARGONNE

- **Optimizing codes** for montage, alignment, and segmentation to run on Argonne supercomputers with natural concurrency (tens to thousands of compute nodes)
- Assembling codes into a pipeline
  - Respect (and exploit) concurrency of individual applications
- **Reduce human-intensive aspects of large-scale computing**
  - Schedule jobs in a more optimal/efficient fashion
- Support user interaction with data throughout pipeline (orange boxes)



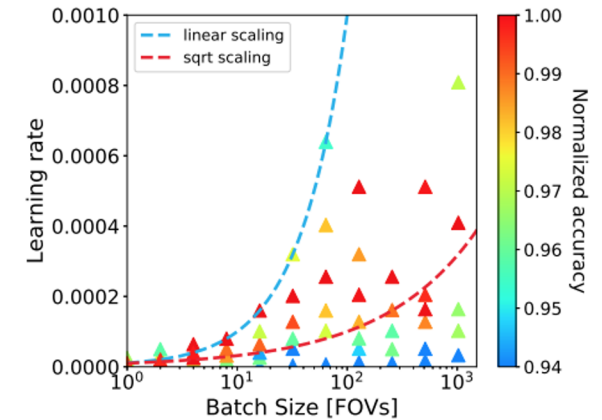
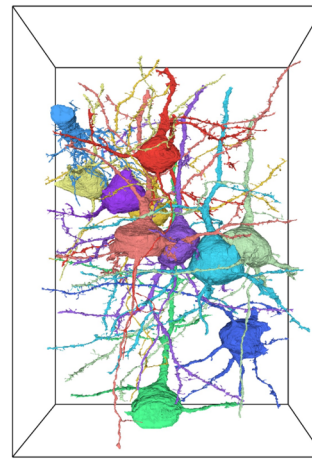
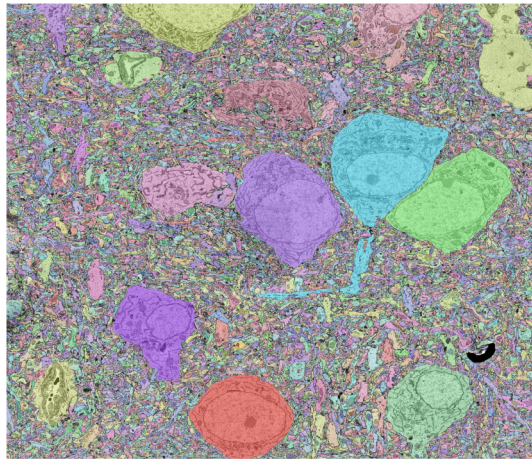
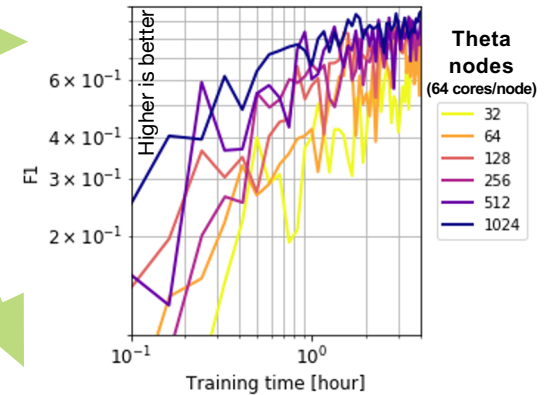
# LARGE-SCALE FLOOD FILLING NETWORKS (FFN)

## ■ Scaled training of Google's FFN to thousands of nodes on ALCF's Theta

- Large-scale training achieves greater accuracy faster
- Faster training opens opportunity to make many runs to reach optimal model (hyperparameter optimization)

## ■ FFN Segmentation rate on Theta: ~350M voxels/nodehour

- Distributed inference on many nodes allows us to reconstruct larger volumes faster (weak scaling)



# WORKSHOP QUESTION

Can publishing/dissemination/sharing standard practices and procedures contribute to achieving or encouraging scalability, trust, and reproducibility in the applications results?

- Neuroscience computational community shares procedures, practices, data
- Scalability being addressed by *some*
- Trust – from human evaluation – bottleneck!

Main challenges:

- Reducing human effort (proof reading)
  - Develop better metrics for intermediate steps

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