

## **Breakout Session 7: Track A**

# **Developing Computational Tools to Analyze the Structure of Nerve Cells in the Bowel to Better Understand Digestive Disease**

Dr. David Linden

*Associate Professor of Physiology, Mayo Clinic*



# Neurobiology of Intrinsic Afferent Neurons

Developing computational tools to analyze the structure of nerve cells in the bowel to better understand digestive disease

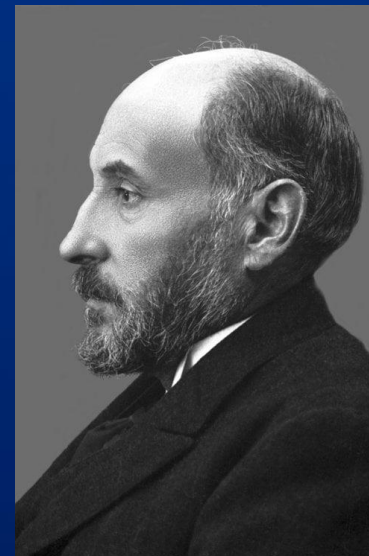
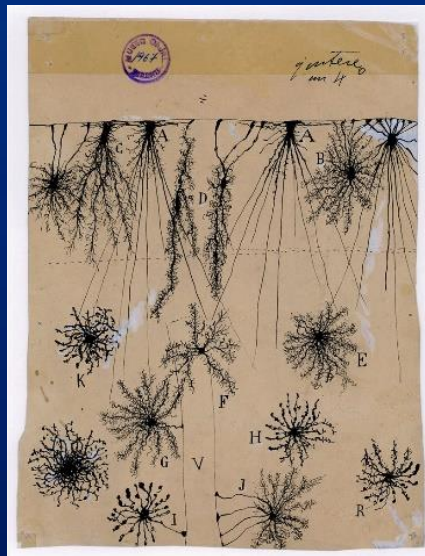
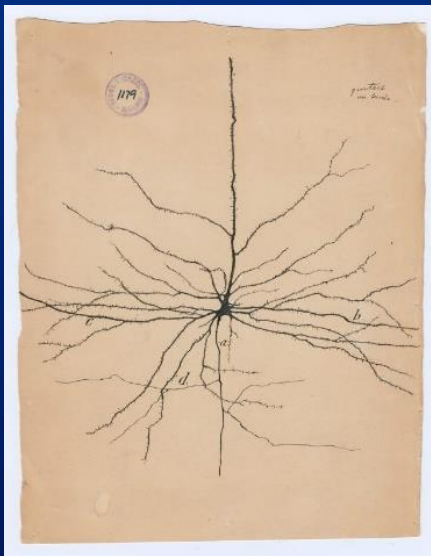
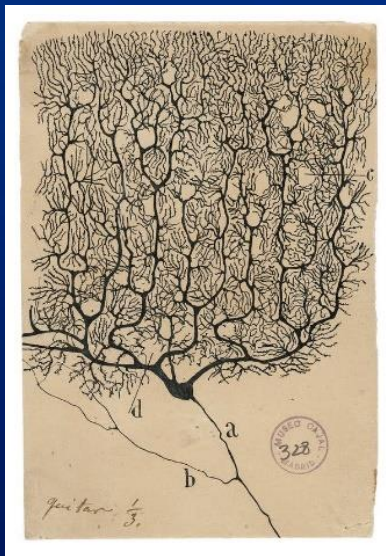
5R01DK129315-03



David R. Linden

2024 NIH ODSS AI Supplement Program Virtual PI Meeting, March 28, 2024

# Structure-Function in Neuroscience



Images Courtesy of the Cajal Institute, Spanish National Research Council and the Nobel Prize Museum, Stockholm

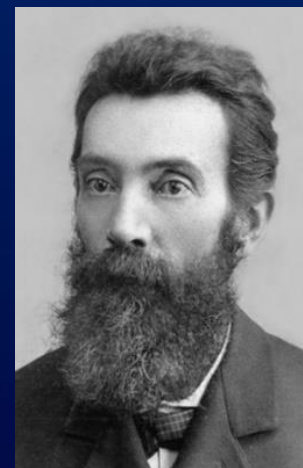
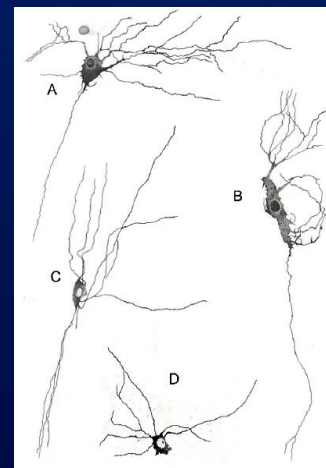
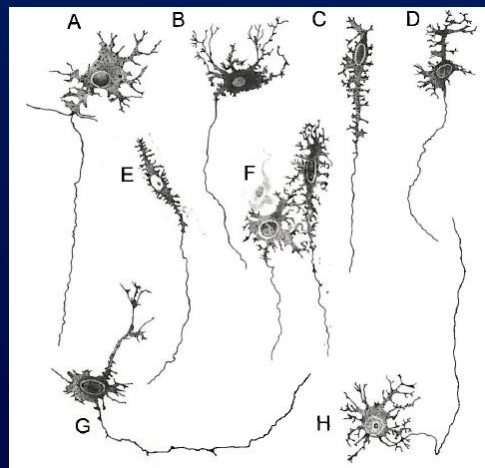
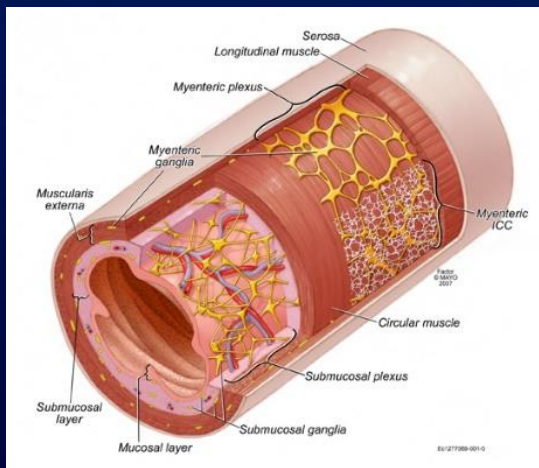
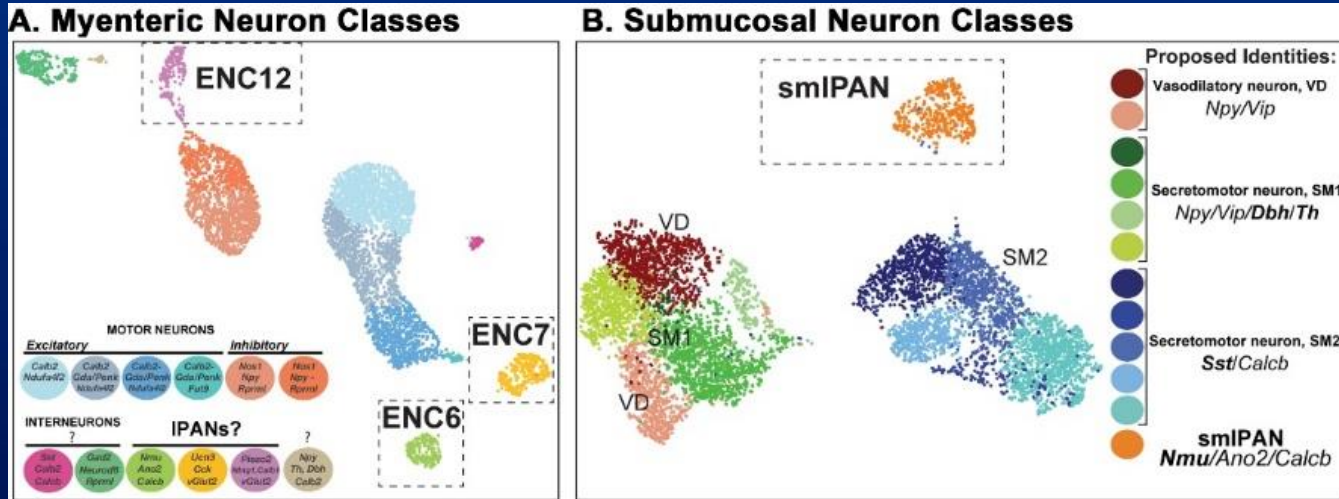


Figure From: Linden and Farrugia In: *Disorders of the Autonomic Nervous System 3rd Ed.*

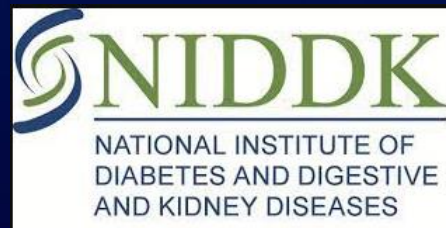
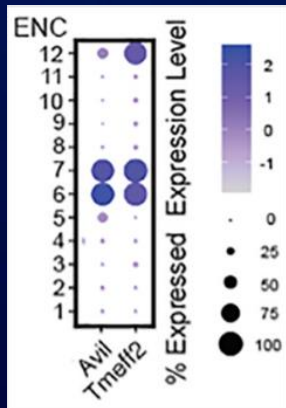
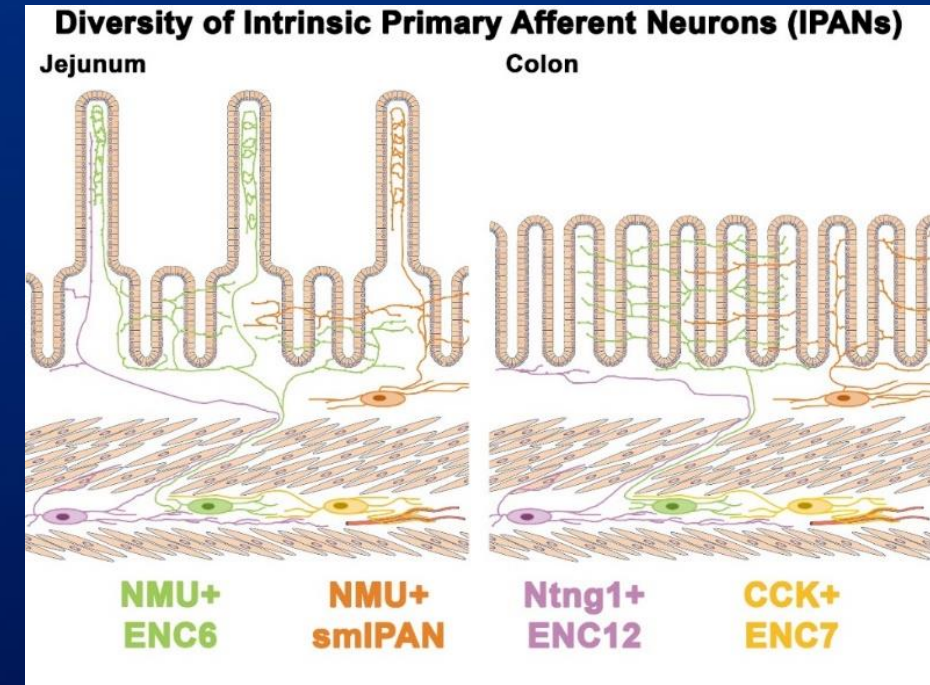
Images from Dogiel, 1899 Republished in Furness, 2004, *The Enteric Nervous System* and Courtesy of Tomsk State University

# Single Cell Enteric Neuron Analysis



Morarach et al., 2021 *Nat. Neurosci.* 24:34-46

Melo et al., 2020 *Neurogastroenterol Motil* 32:e13989



Ulrika Marklund

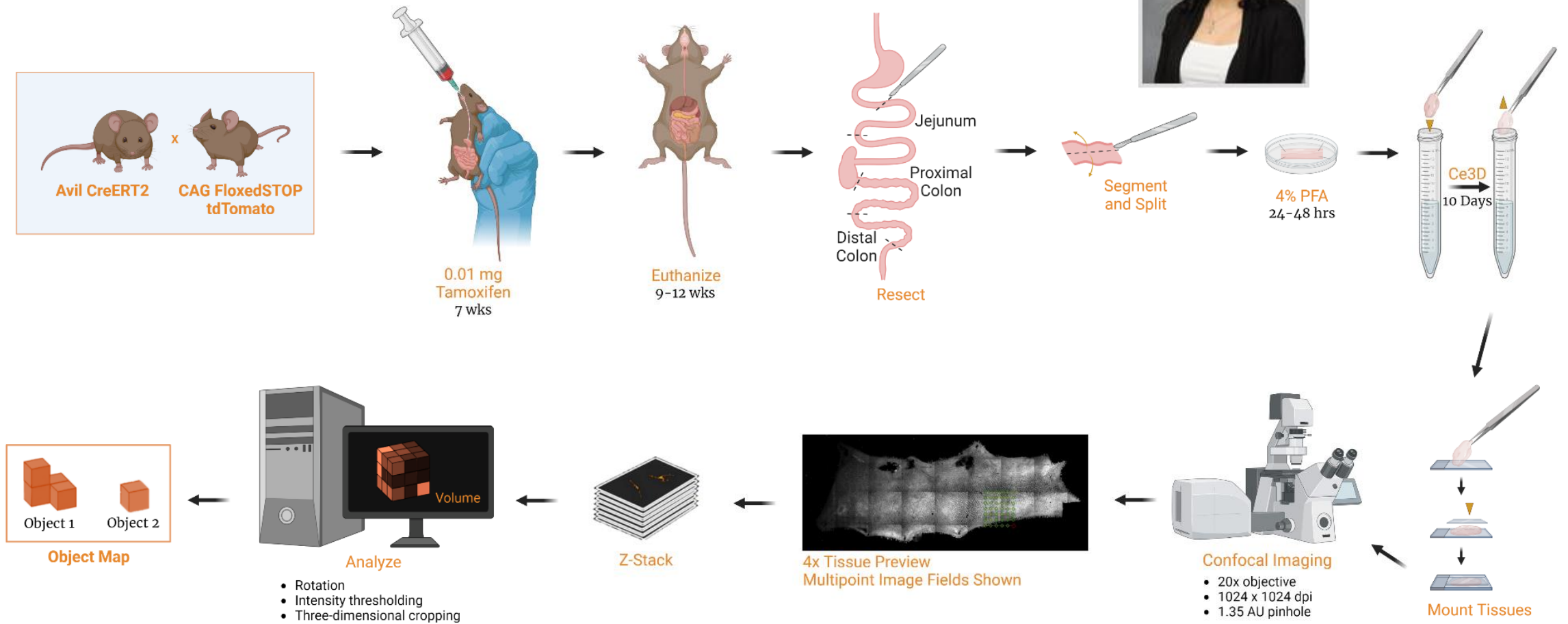
Different classes of IPANs possess morphologies and physiology that uniquely contribute to intestinal function

# Model and Methods

## Mouse IPAN Project

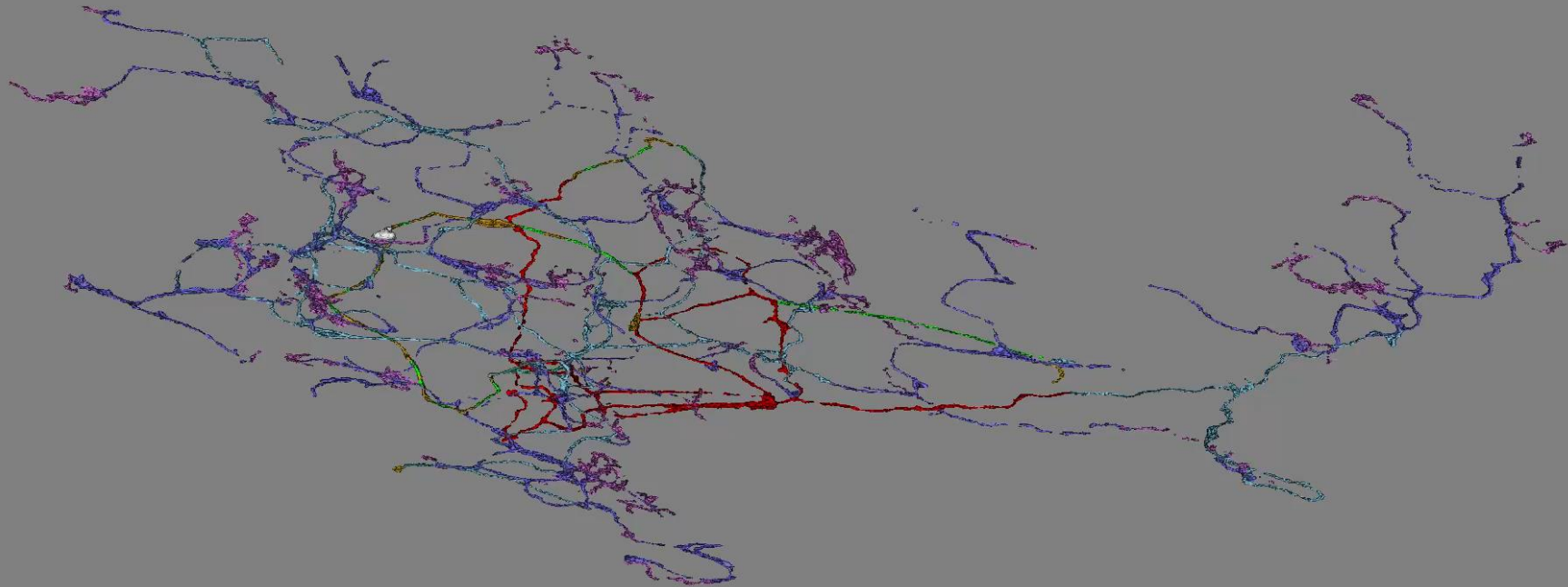


Ashley Harb



# Single Cell 3D Reconstruction

CELL 7: SUBMUCOSAL NEURON - JEJUNUM



Soma

Submucosal Fiber

Submucosal Ending

Pericryptal Fiber

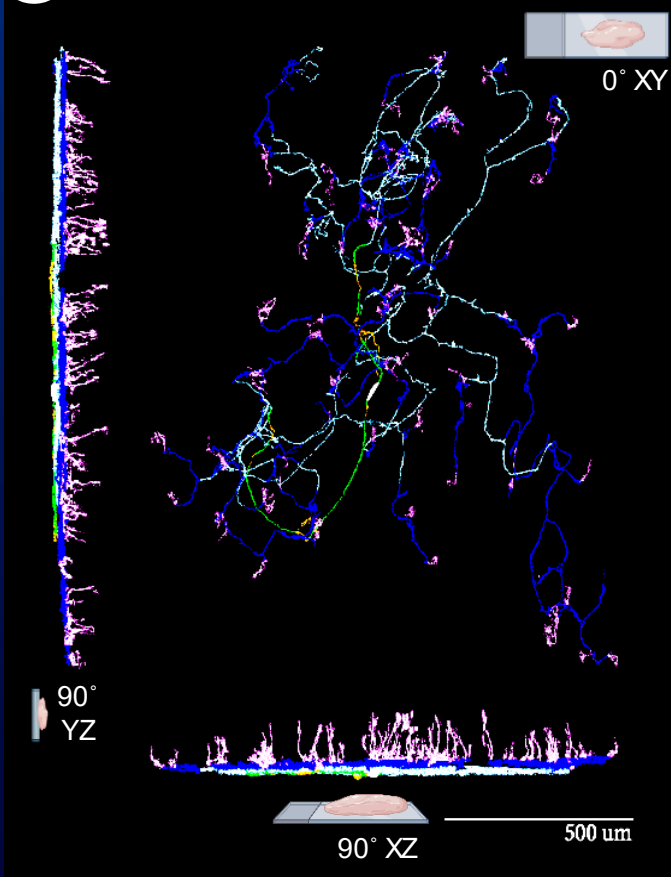
Glandular Fiber

Villus Fiber

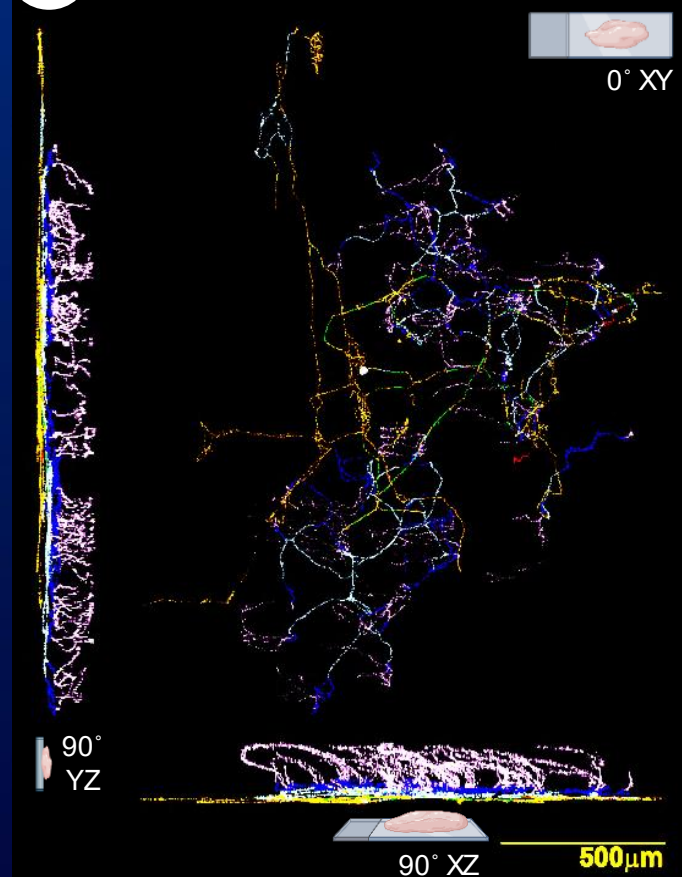
Vascular Fiber

# Three Cell Morphologies Based on Soma Location and Branching Pattern

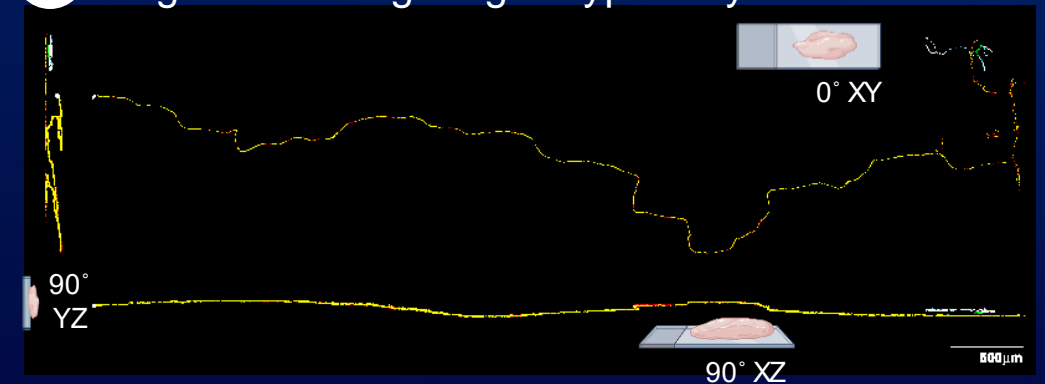
## 1 Submucosal Cells



## 2 Highly-Branching Myenteric Cells



## 3 Long Descending Dogiel Type I Myenteric Cells



Myenteric Cells



Ashley Harb

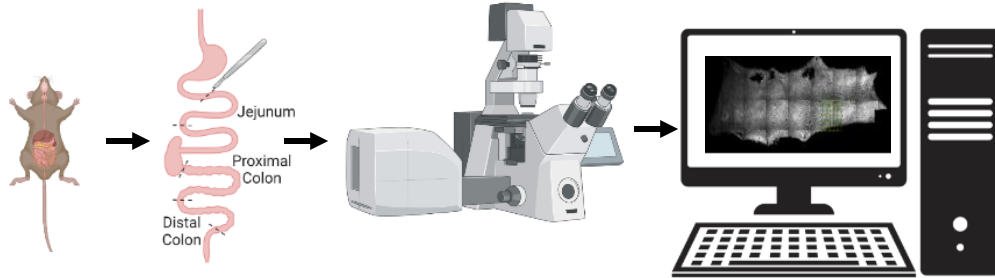
# AI/ML Collaboration



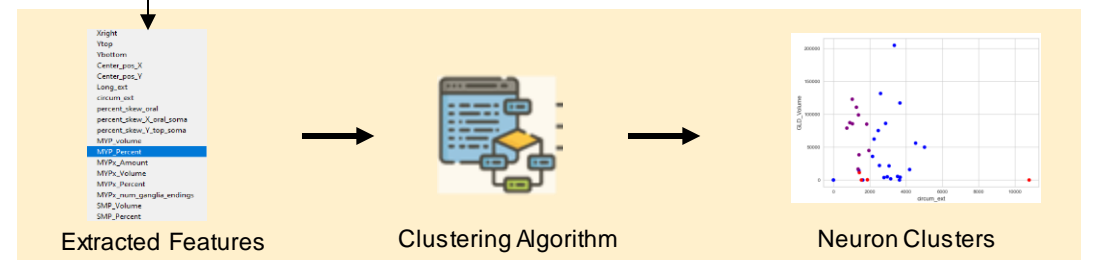
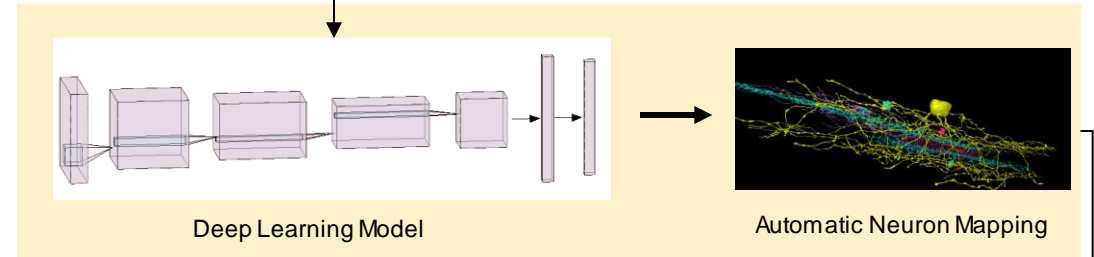
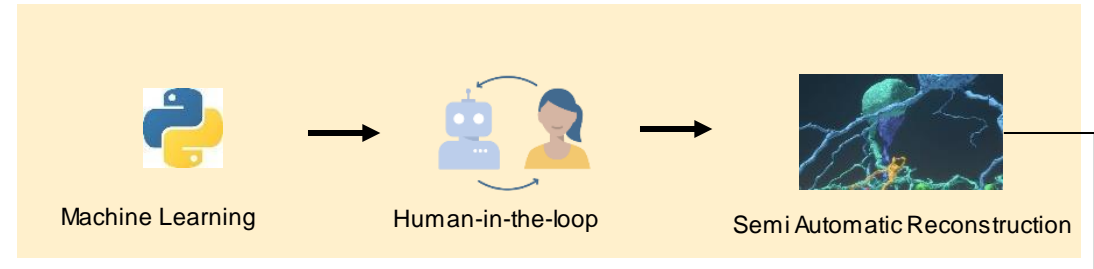
Shivaram Poigai Arunachalam



Kamrul Foysal

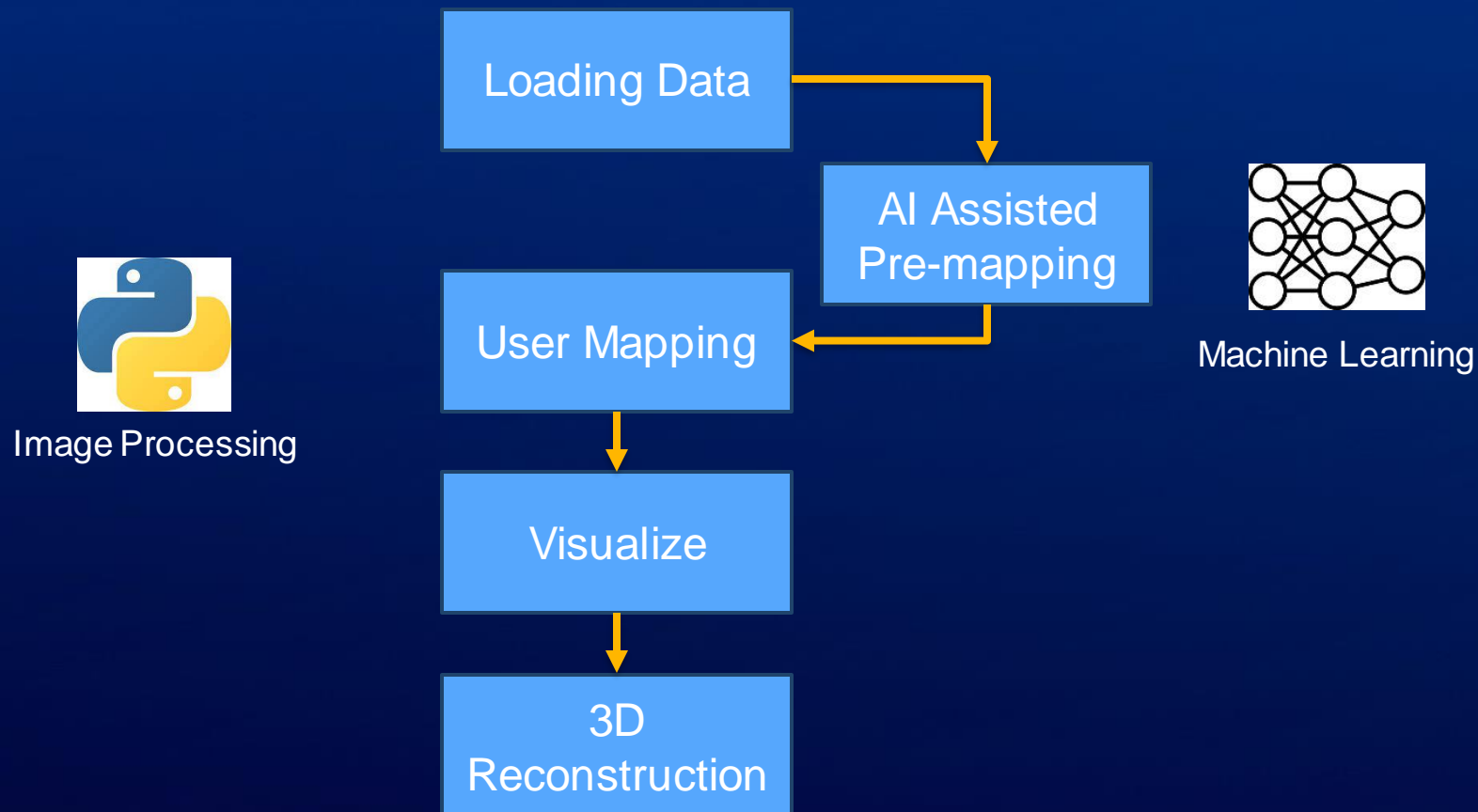


Data Acquisition



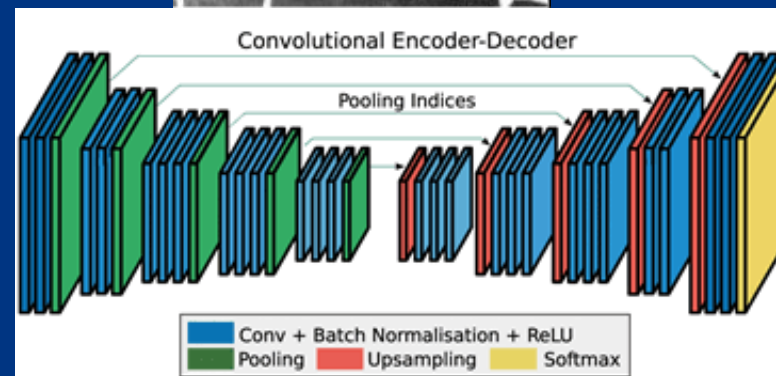
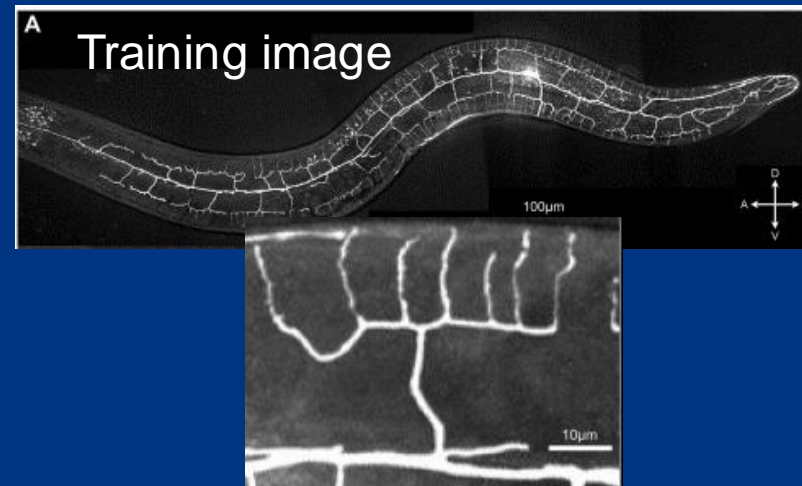


# Semi-Automated Human-in-the-Loop AI Assisted Mapping

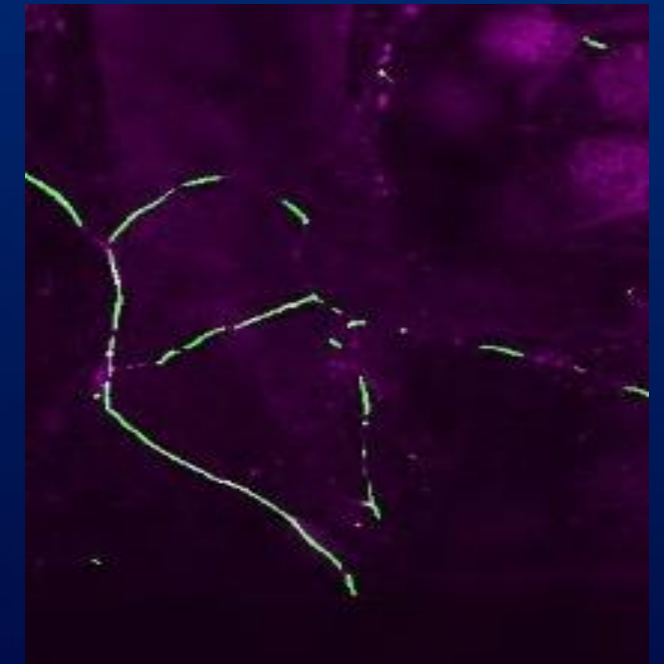


# AI Assisted Pre-Mapping

- Dataset Trained on *C. elegans* neuron
- Connect 3D Shapes, Cleans Data
- Suppress Background



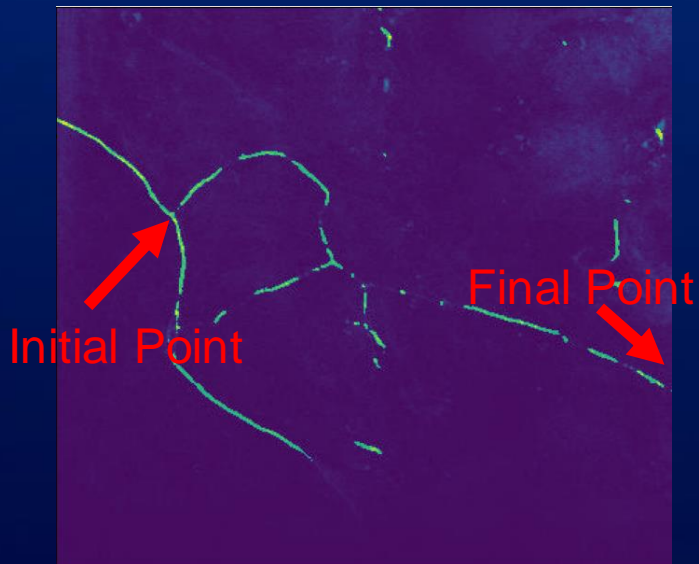
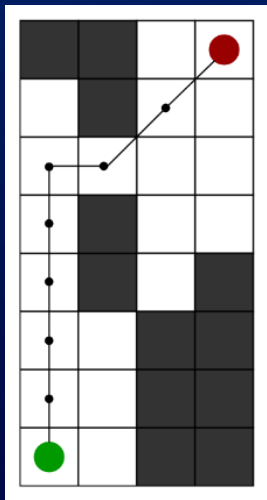
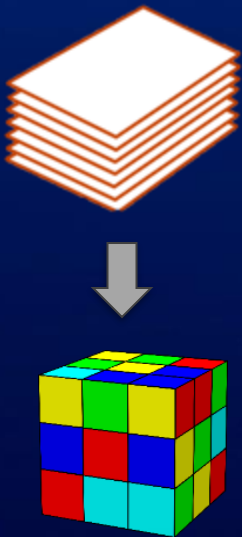
CNN Model



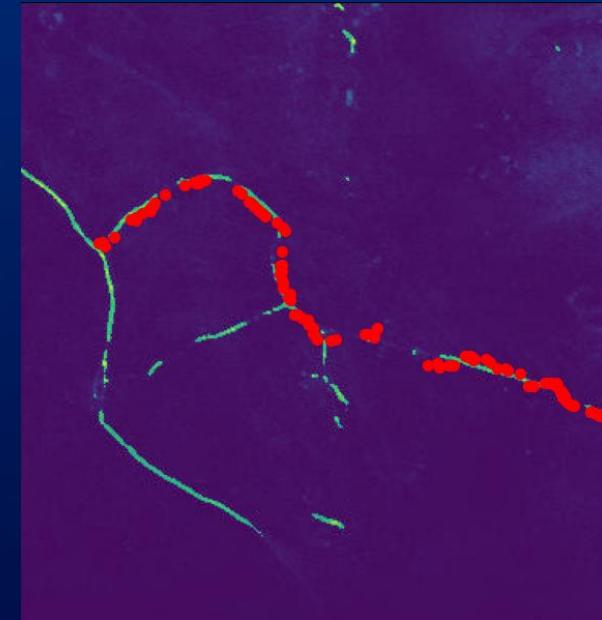
Enteric NeuroScience Program

# User Mapping Function

- 3D Graph Search
  - Dijkstra's Algorithm
  - A Star Search Algorithm

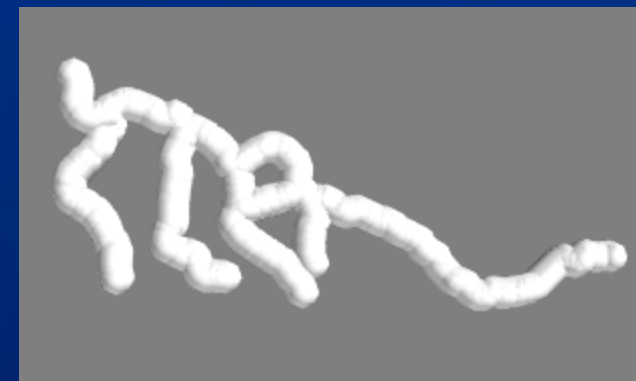


- Broken paths can be connected.
- User defines the Start and the End of the Neurite Branch.
- The mapping is performed in 3D.

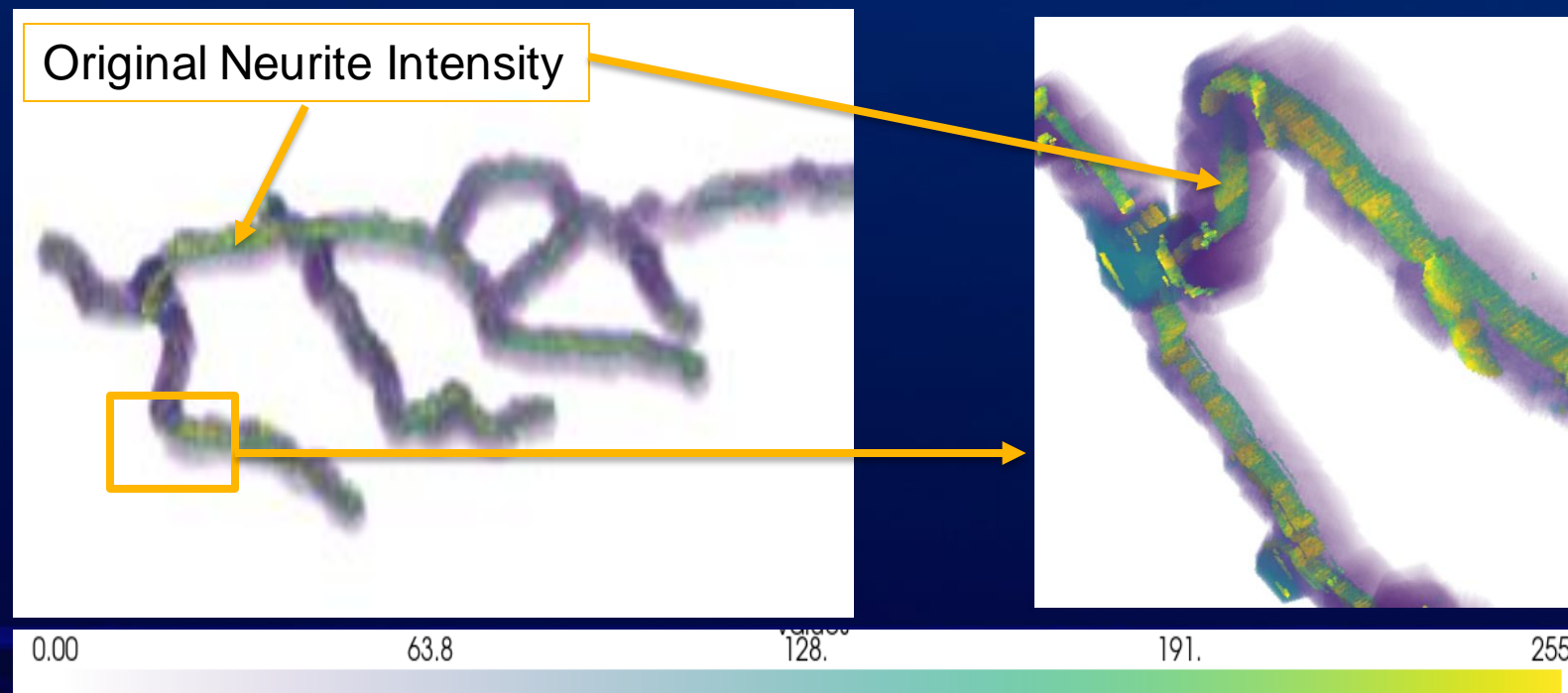


# Mapping Function: Neurite Extraction

- Traced 3D Voxels act as 3D Volumetric Mask
- Intensity Variation is captured within mask
- Adaptive histogram equalization extracts the neuron structure
- The whole neuron is one single connected object



3D Volumetric Mask

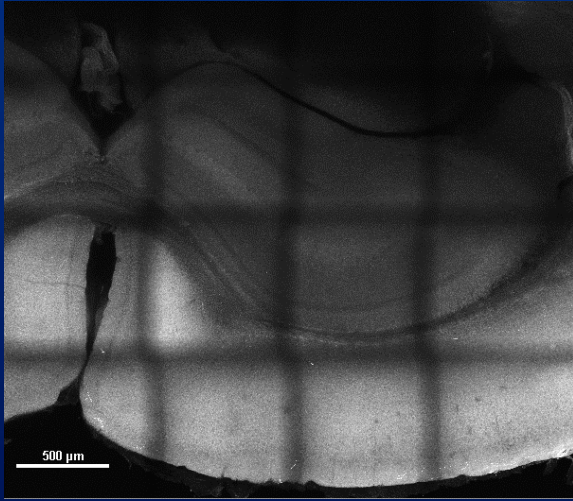


Original Neurite Intensity

0.00 63.8 128. 191. 255.

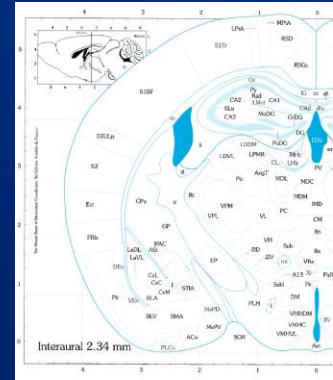
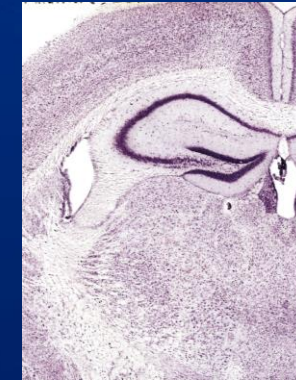
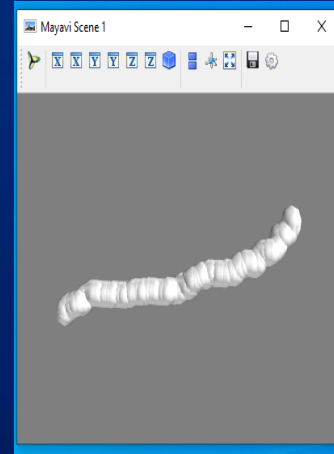
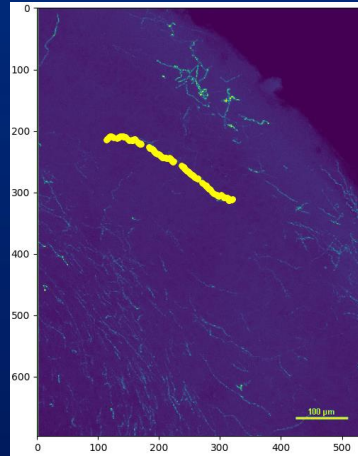
Neurite Strand

# Application to Broad Neuroscience Field



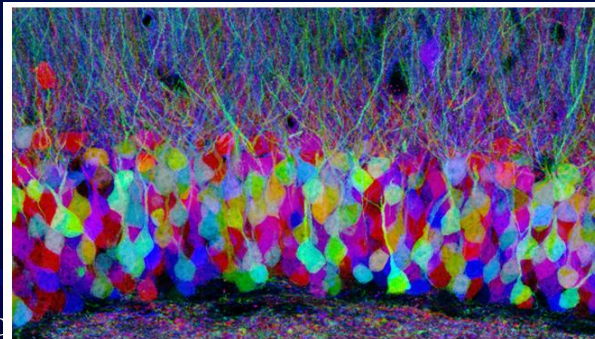
Mapped Neuron

Neuron Mask in 3D



Franklin and Paxinos *The Mouse Brain In Stereotaxic Coordinates 3<sup>rd</sup> Ed. 2008.*

NIH National Institutes of Health  
The BRAIN Initiative



Chuck Howe



Ben Clarkson



Maria Westphal



Kamrul Foysal

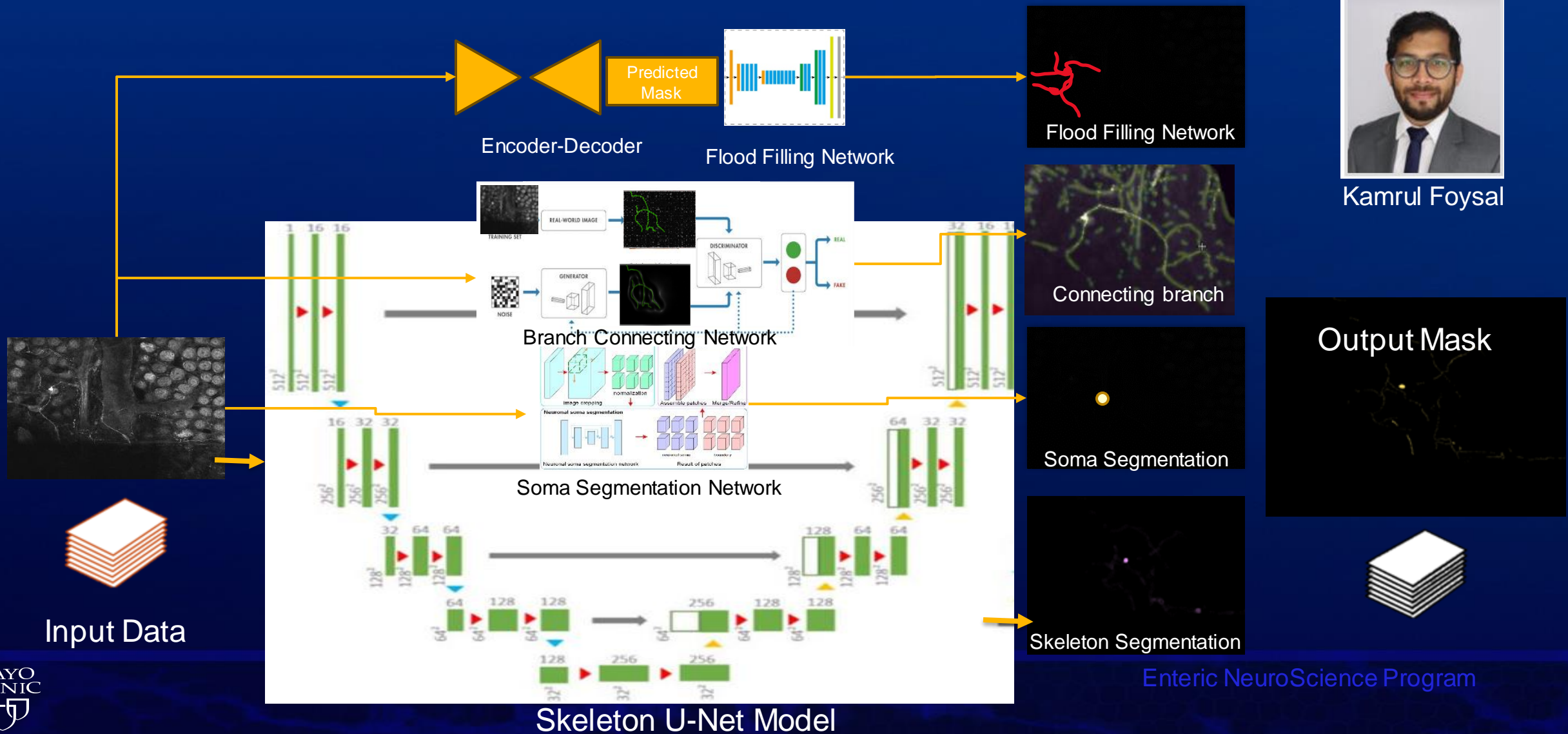


Tim Kline



George Cao

# Hybrid Automated Enteric Neuron Mapping Model



Kamrul Foysal

# Conclusions

- AI / ML Supports Aims of Parent R01
  - Enhanced Throughput
  - Enhanced Objectivity
- Creation of Neuron Morphology Datasets for Future AI / ML
  - Ground Truth to Improve Fully Automated AI/ML Models
  - Applicability to Broad Neuroscience Community

