



# HIGH-THROUGHPUT 3D WHOLE-BRAIN QUANTITATIVE HISTOPATOLOGY IN RODENTS

GdR – ISIS : Analyse de tissu biologique  
et histopathologie numérique

Michel Vandenberghe, Anne-Sophie Hérard,  
Zhenzen You, Nicolas Souedet, Philippe Hantraye,  
Marc Dhenain, Thierry Delzescaux

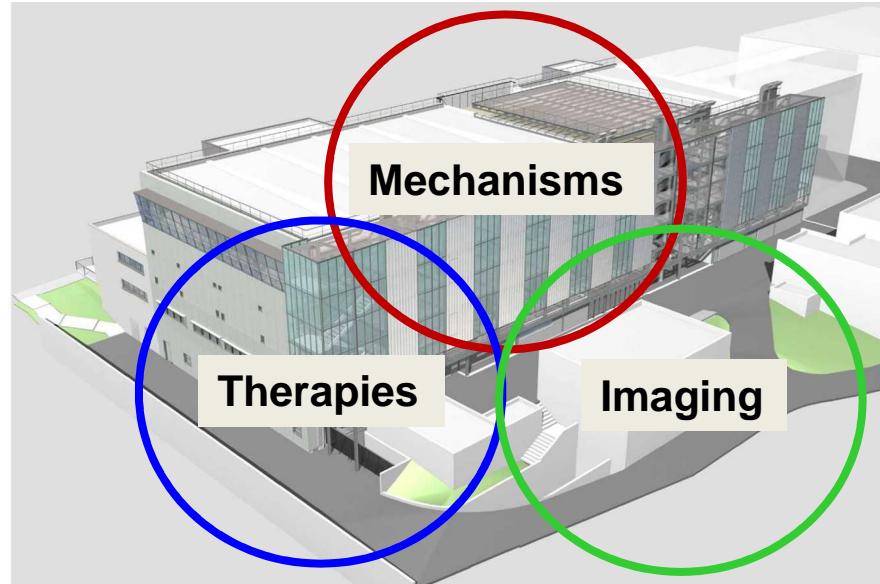
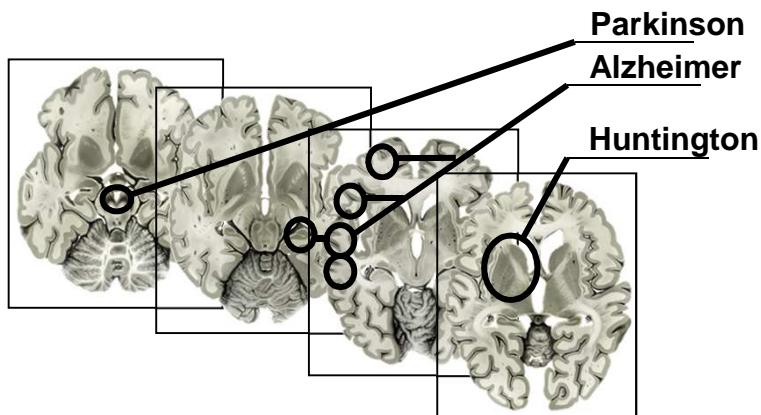
[thierry.delzescaux@cea.fr](mailto:thierry.delzescaux@cea.fr)

CEA-MIRCen Molecular Imaging Research Centre  
UMR 9199, CNRS/CEA  
Laboratoire des Maladies Neurodégénératives

# Molecular Imaging Research Centre - CEA



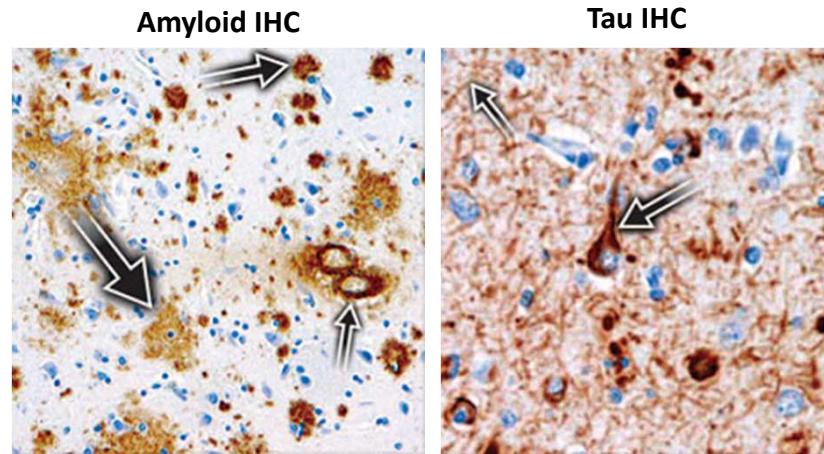
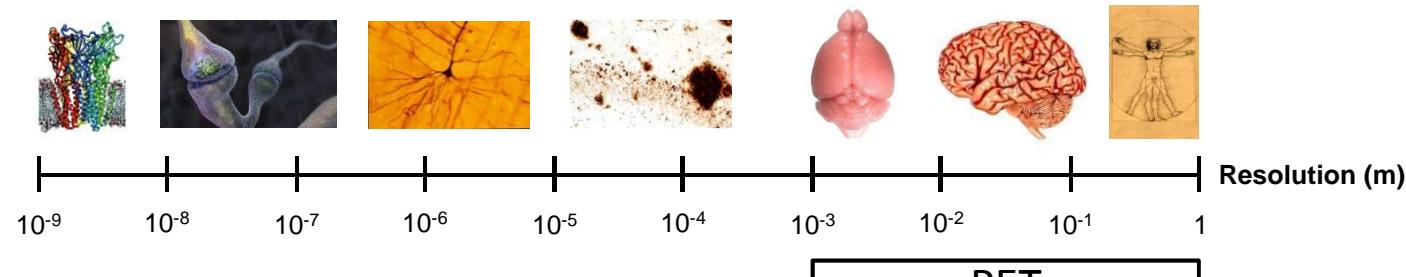
**bio**PICSEL



## An integrated platform:

- Housing and experimentation A1/A2/A3
- MRI – MRS
- PET
- Histology
- Microscopy
- Image analysis

# Histopathology in Alzheimer's Disease (AD)



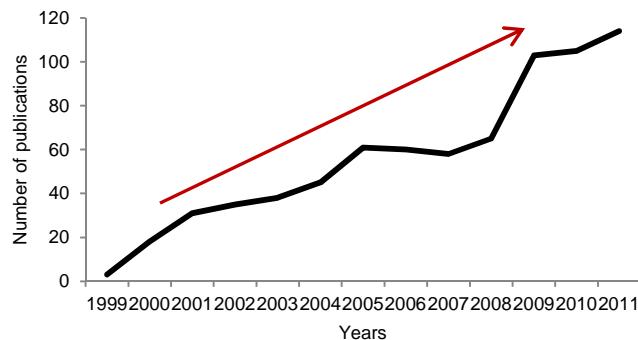
- High-specificity
- High-resolution
- *Post mortem*
- Two-dimensional

+

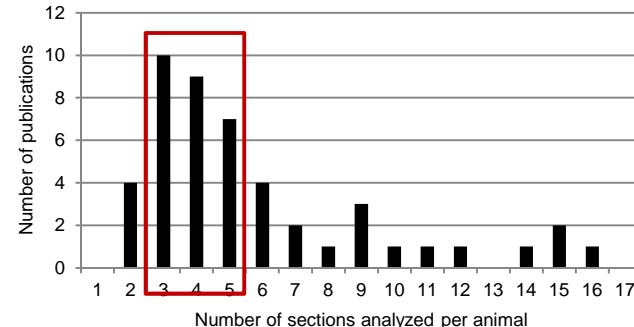
-

# Literature survey: amyloid load quantification

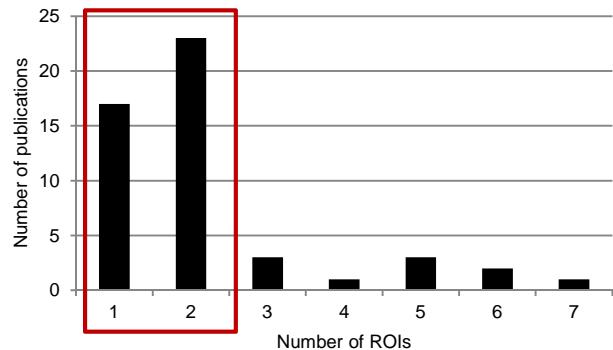
**Publications with amyloid load quantification**



**How many sections ?**

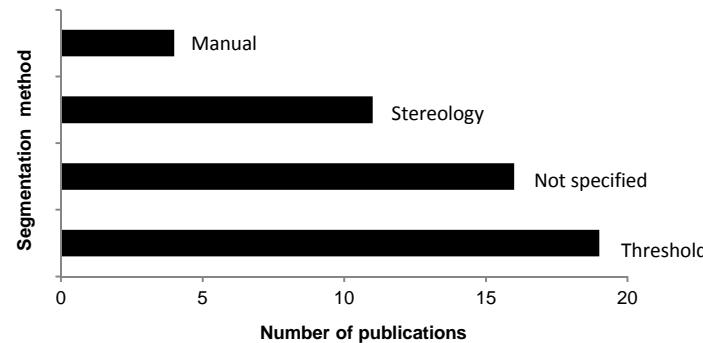


**How many ROIs ?**



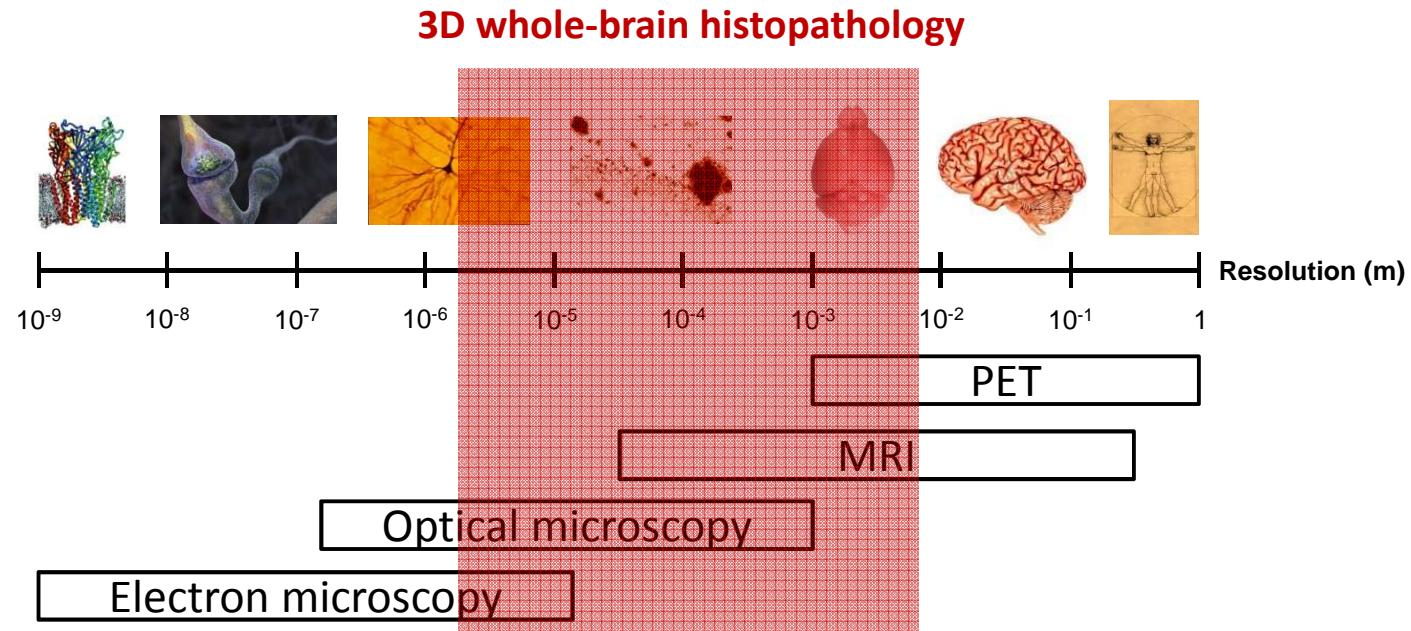
→ Cerebral cortex & hippocampus

**How are amyloid plaques segmented ?**



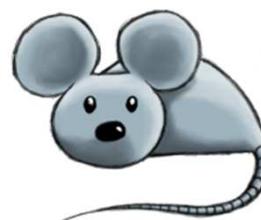
**Interest to extend the analysis to 3D ?**

# 3D whole-brain histopathology: amyloid load



## Applications of brain-wide quantitative histopathology at the mesoscopic scale:

- Mouse model characterization
- Preclinical evaluation of drug candidates
- Gene effect on amyloidosis
- *In vivo* imaging validation



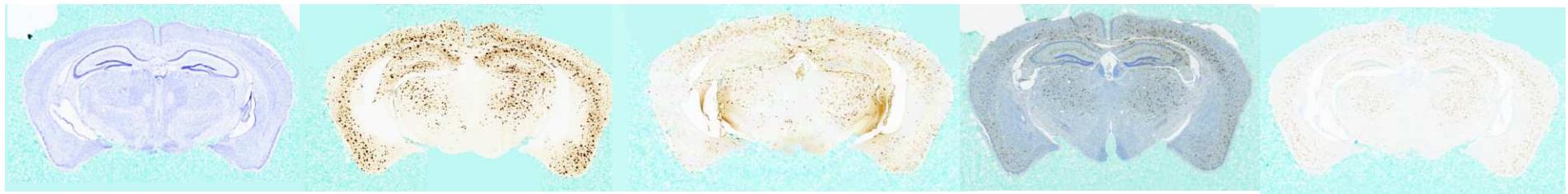
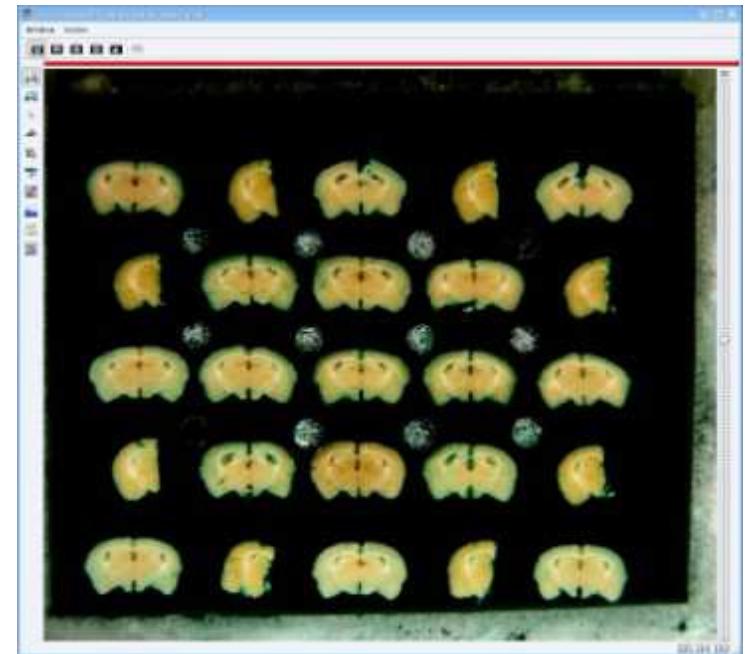
# *Material and methods*

# *Experimental designs*

- **First study:**
  - 13.5 months old APP/PS1dE9 mice (n=6)
  - Model characterization
  
- **Second study:**
  - 12 APP/PS1 mice:
    - 8 were treated with 13C3a
    - 4 were treated with DM4 (treatment control group)
  - 4 PS1 mice (amyloid plaque free mice).
  - Mice were imaged by MRI for amyloid plaques before euthanasia (Marc Dhenain, Mathieu Santin).
    - Method validation and comparison with classical quantification approach
    - 13C3a immunotherapy evaluation
    - Spatial correlation of pathological and cellular markers
    - *in vivo - post mortem* confrontation
  
- **Third study:**
  - APPswe mice (n=5), APPswe-ADAM30 mice (n=5),  
APPswe-ADAM30-Cre (n=10), other groups...
  - What is the effect of ADAM30 expression on amyloid load?



- Block-face photographs were taken during brain cutting (lateral resolution: 33 µm)
- Sections were stained for :
  - Anatomy (Nissl staining)
  - A<sub>β</sub> plaques (6E10 IHC)
  - Mouse IgG1 (GAM IHC)
  - Microglia (Iba-1 IHC)
  - Activated microglia (CD-68 IHC)
- Images are acquired at 21 µm/pixel for Nissl series and at 5 µm/pixel for the other series.



Nissl

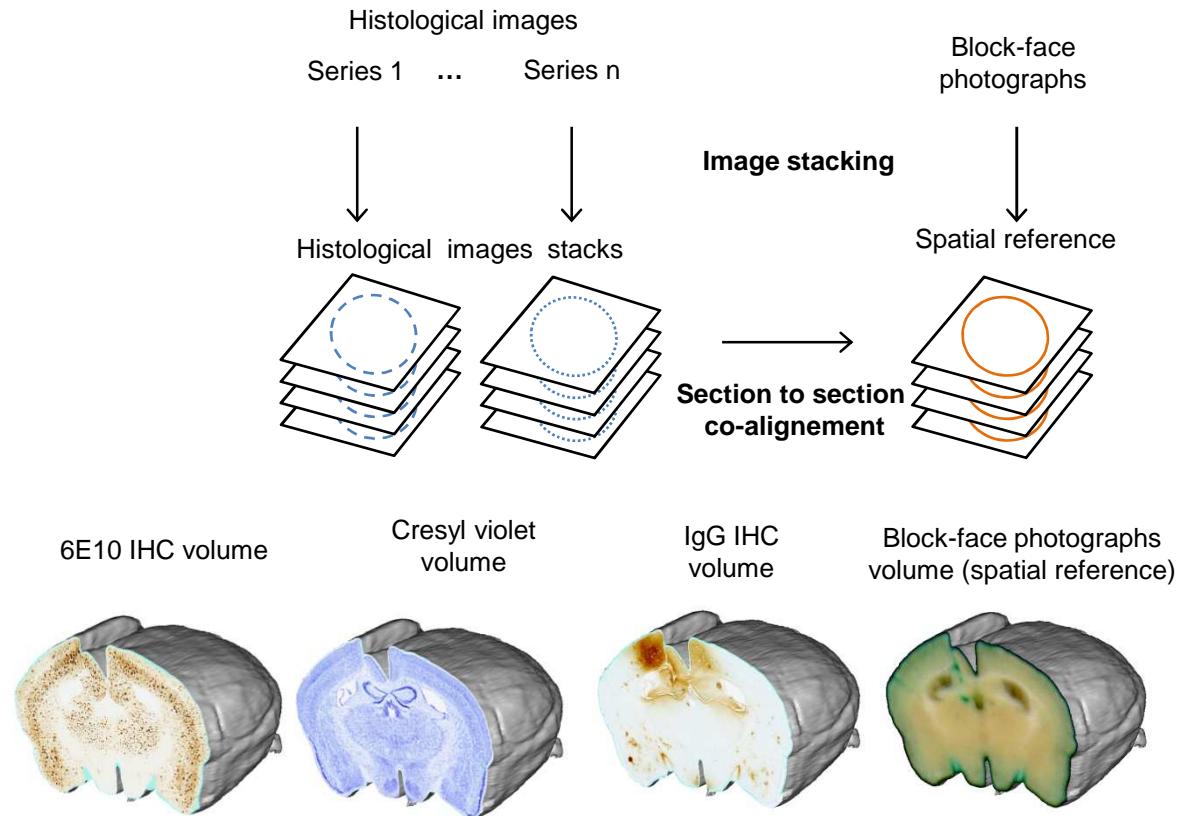
6E10

IgG1

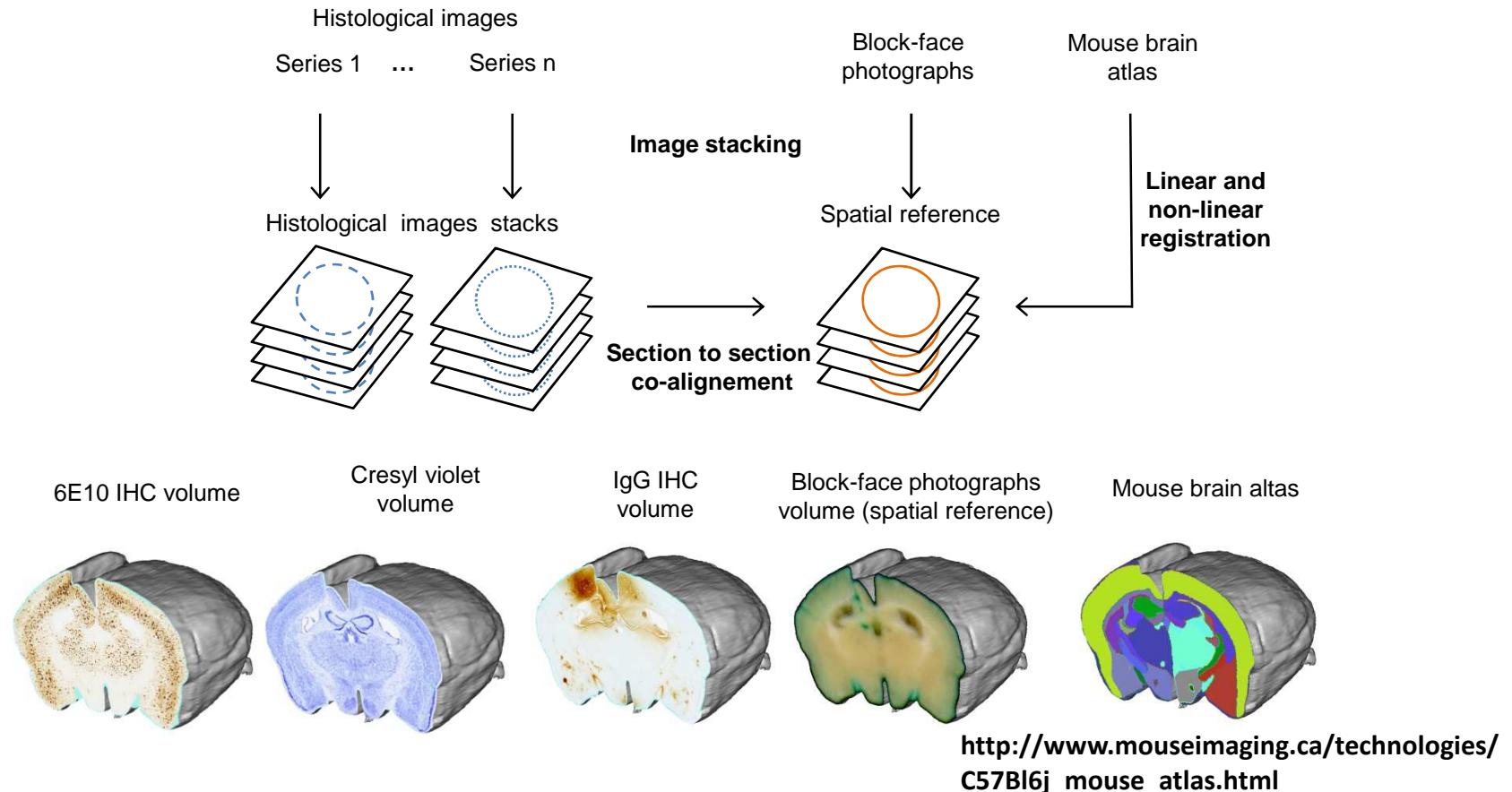
Iba-1

CD-68

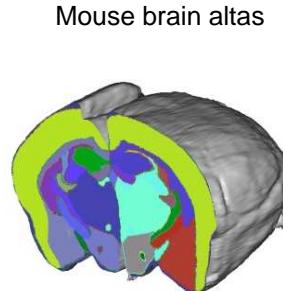
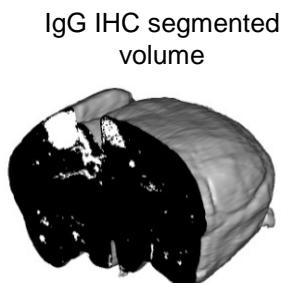
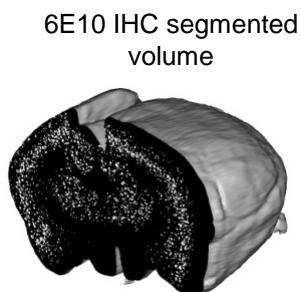
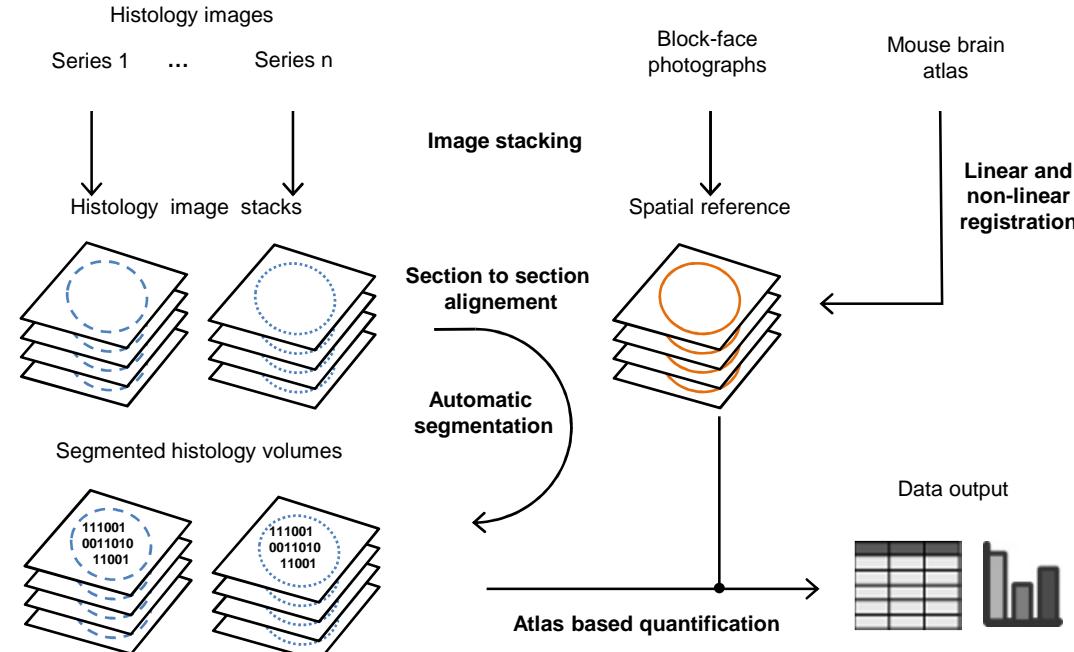
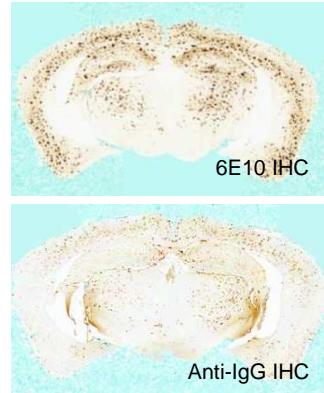
# 3D reconstruction



# Atlas based analysis (1/3)



# Quantification of histological markers

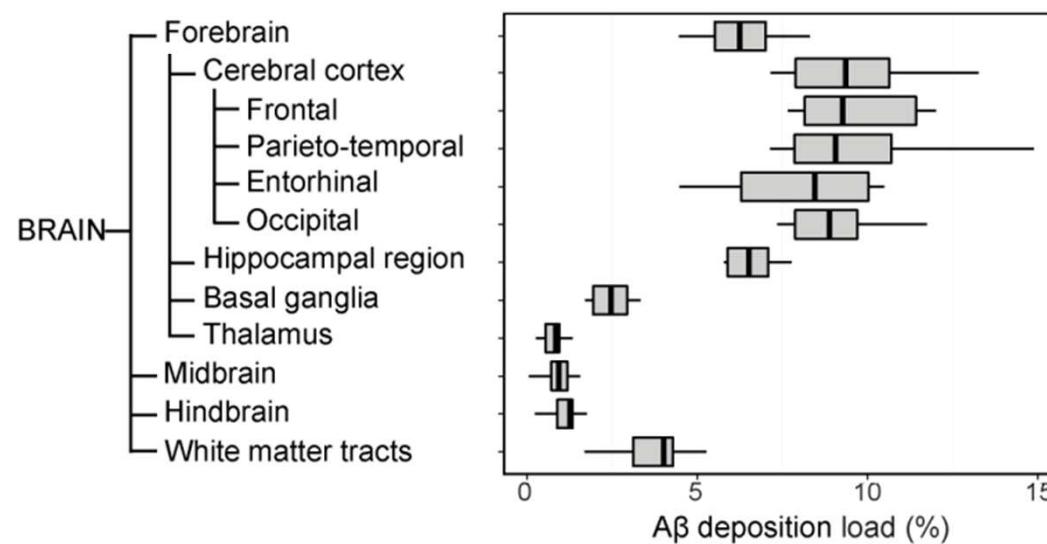
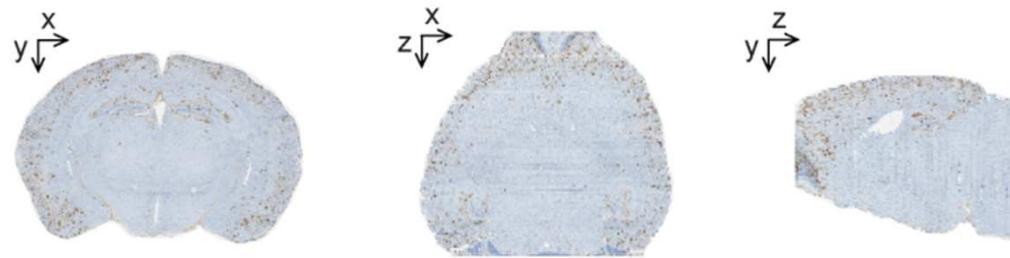


→ Histological volumes are segmented

→ Segmented volumes are in the spatial reference

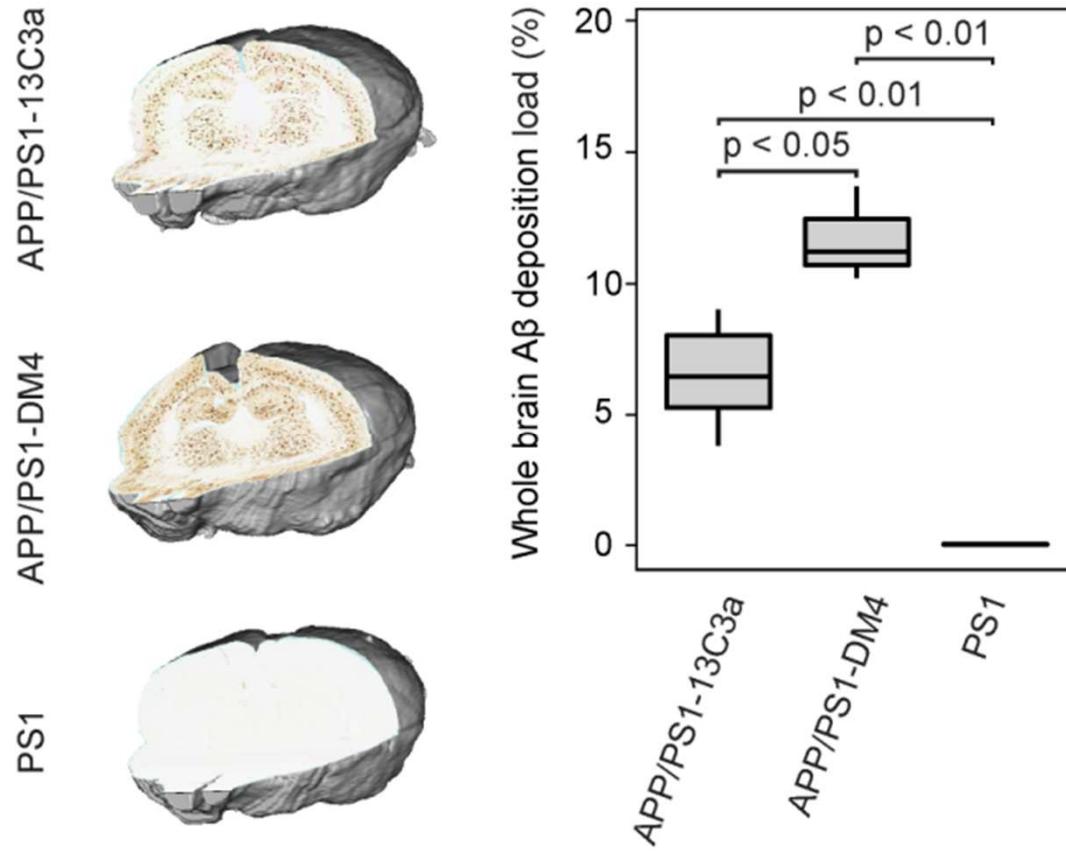
→ Data output compatible with statistical software (Statistica, R...)

# Applications



- Amyloid load deposition +++ in cerebral cortex and hippocampal region  
 → Amyloid deposition detected in basal ganglia and white matter tracts

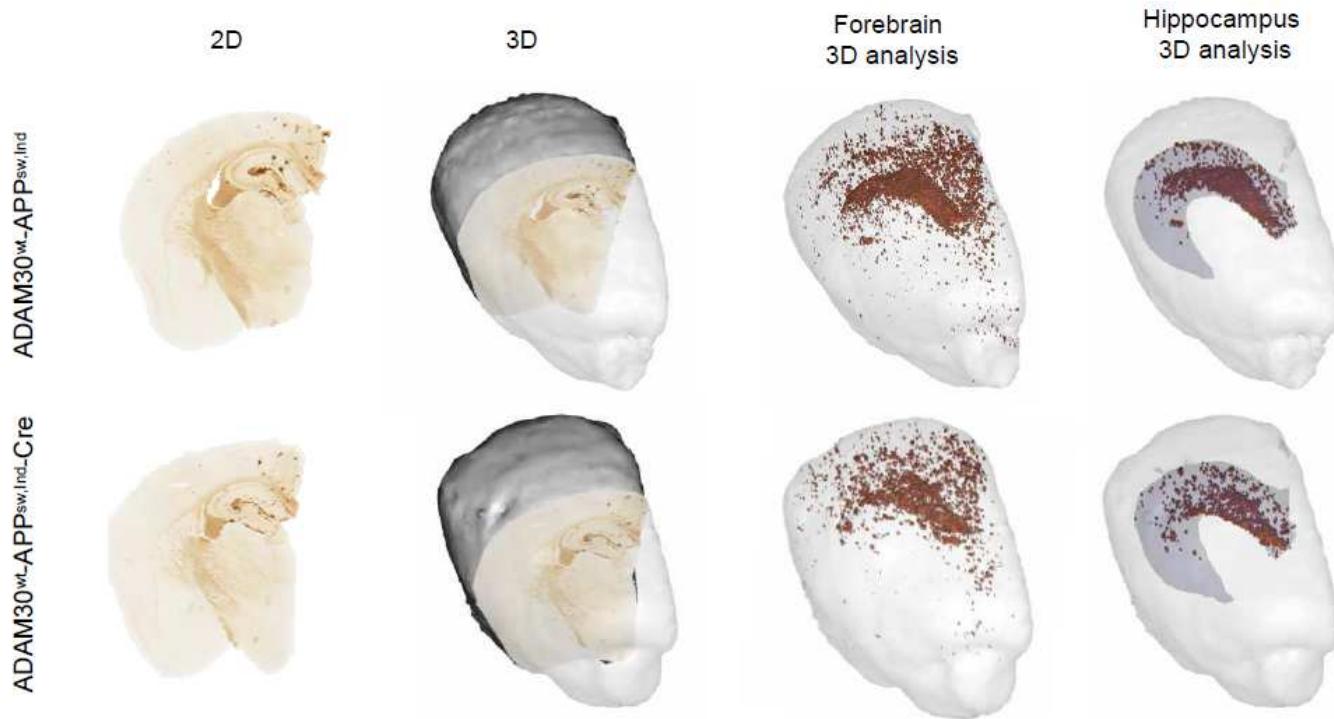
# Immunotherapy evaluation



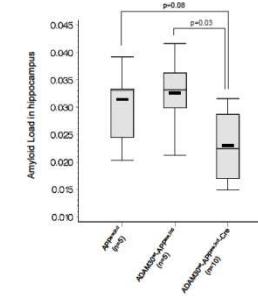
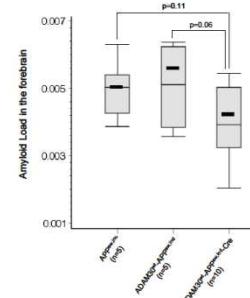
Vandenberghé *et al.*,  
in revision.

- Amyloid load is close to none in PS1 mice
- 13C3a lowered amyloid load in APP/PS1 mice.

# *ADAM30 overexpression effect on amyloid load*



Letronne *et al.*, in preparation  
 Vandenbergh *et al.*, in preparation.

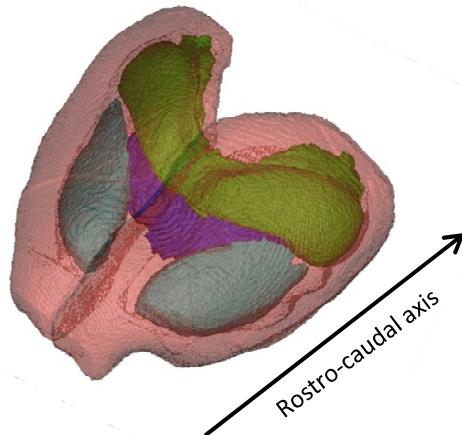


Atlas-based analysis

*Validation and comparison  
with  
current standards*

# Validation and comparison with current standards

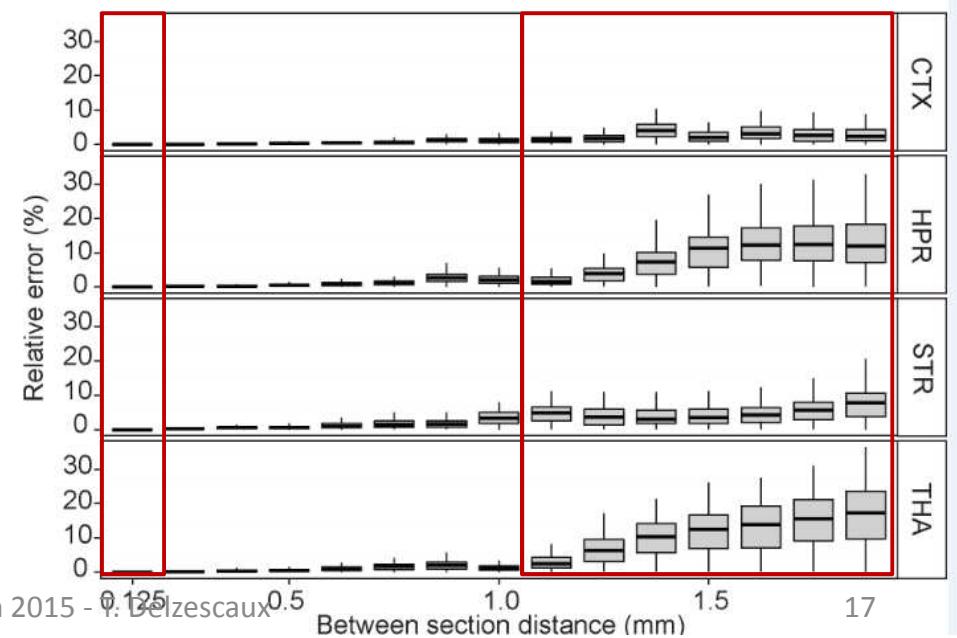
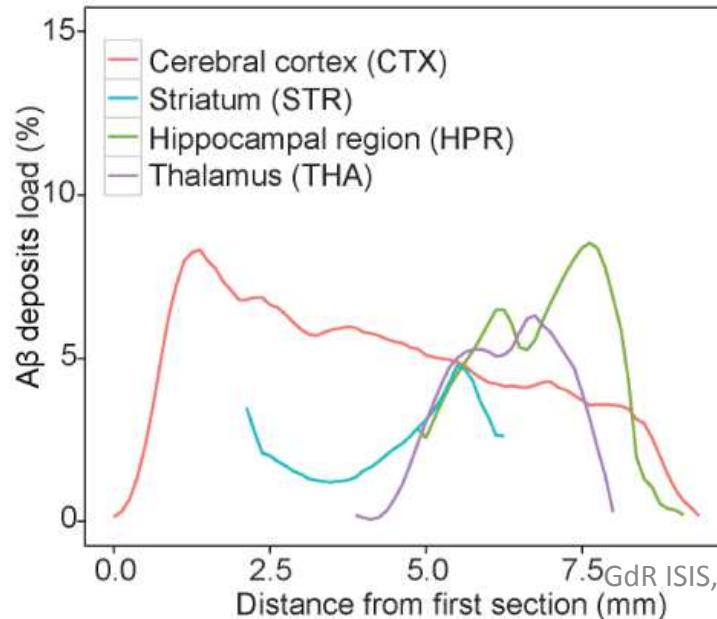
Mouse brain ROIs in 3D



Amyloid load variation along the rostro-caudal axis  
(n=12 APP/PS1 mice)

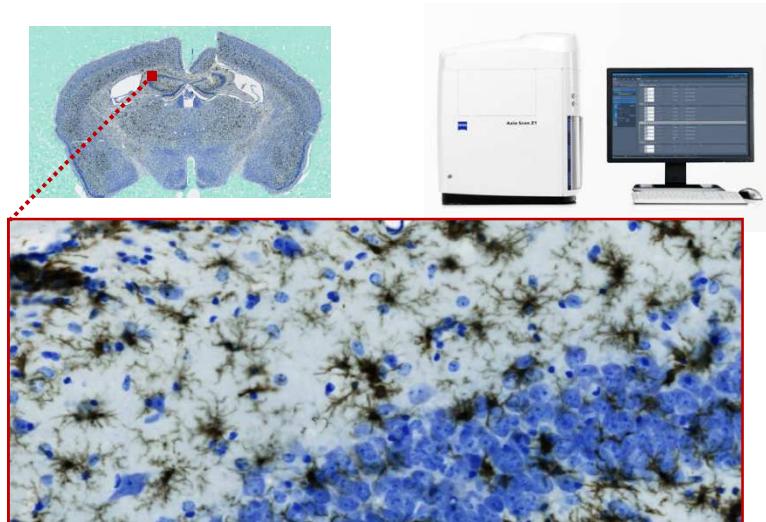
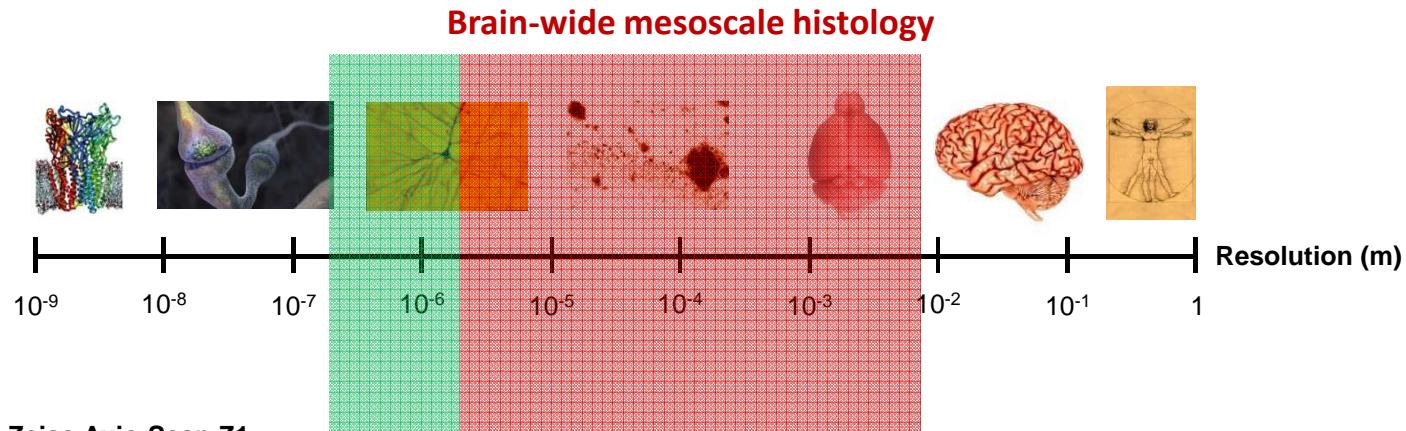
ROI	Mean coefficient of variation (n=11)
Cerebral cortex	0.39
Hippocampal region	0.44
Striatum	0.38
Thalamus	0.55

Profiling amyloid load distribution along the rostro-caudal axis



# **Perspectives and preliminary results**

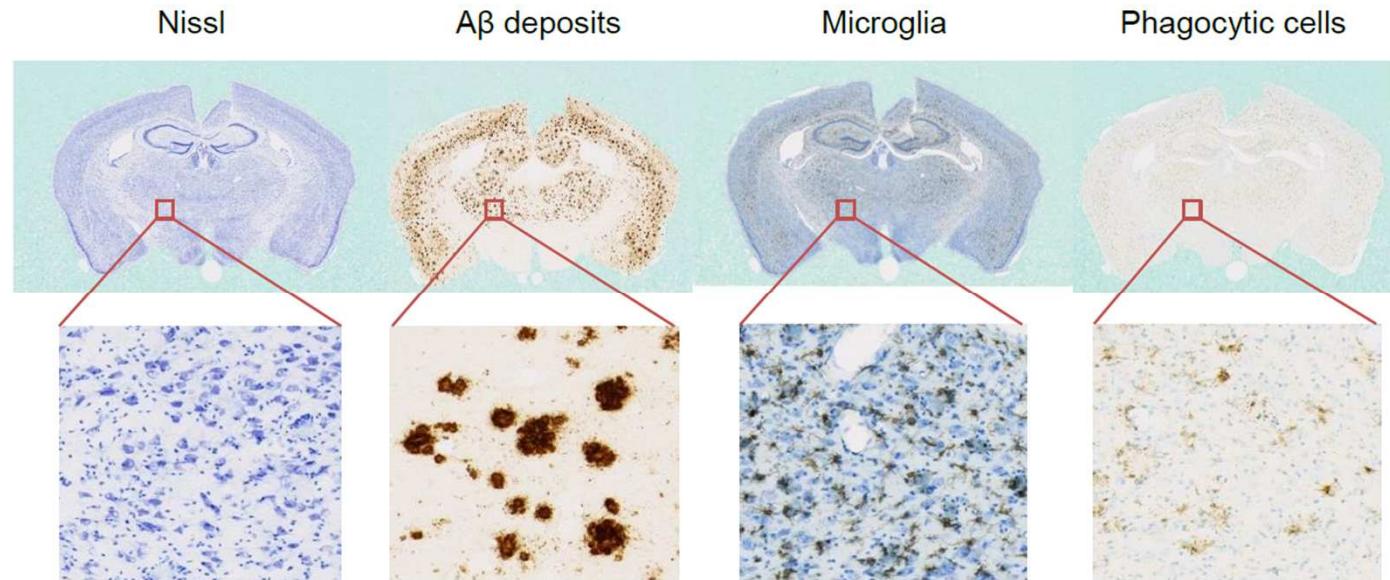
# Perspective: microscopic image analysis



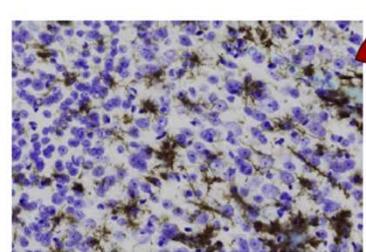
Images	Resolution (xyz, $\mu\text{m}$ )	Approximate number of voxels	Approximate file size (gigabytes)
7T mouse brain MRI scan	30 30 30	$10^7$	0.02
Block-face photography volume (100 sections)	30 30 120	$10^7$	0.02
Mesoscopic IHC volume (100 sections)	5 5 120	$10^8$	1
Microscopic IHC volume (100 sections)	0.20 0.20 120	$10^{11}$	500

# *From mesoscopic to microscopic scale (1/4)*

Information  
acquired at  
cellular level

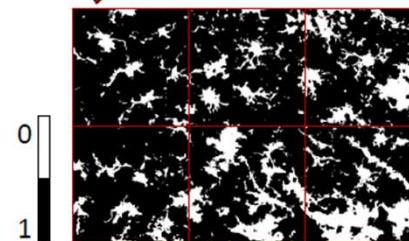


Analysis



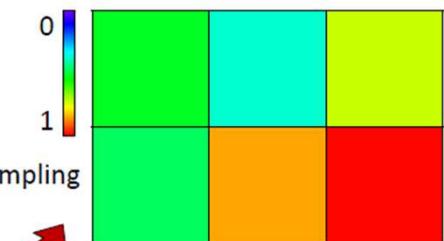
RGB Histology image  
with microglial staining (black)  
and thionine counter-stain (blue)  
High resolution (0.25 µm)

Segmentation



Binary image  
with segmented microglial cells  
High resolution (0.25 µm)

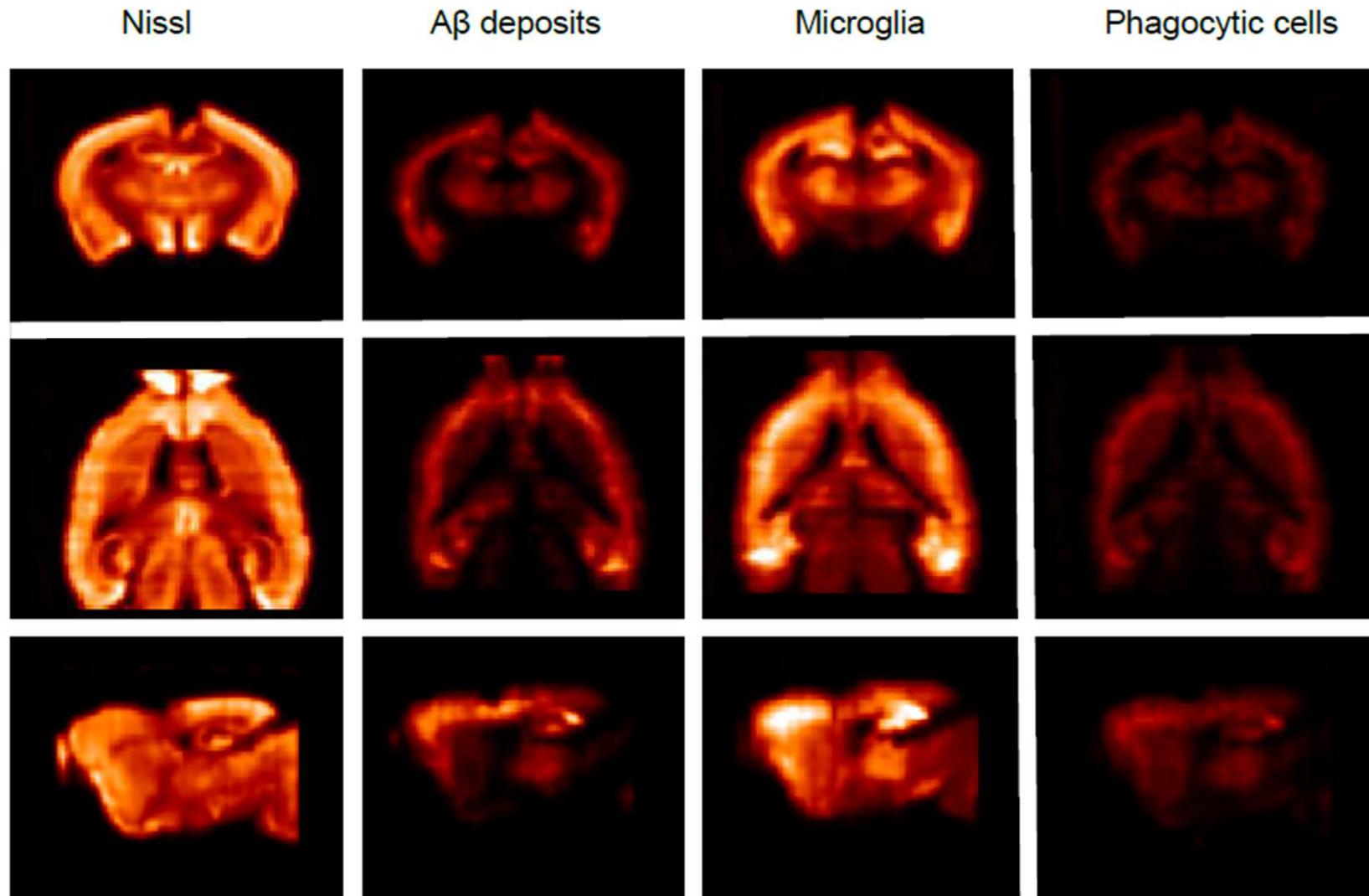
Parametric heat map  
Arbitrary lower resolution  
(100 µm in the exemple below)



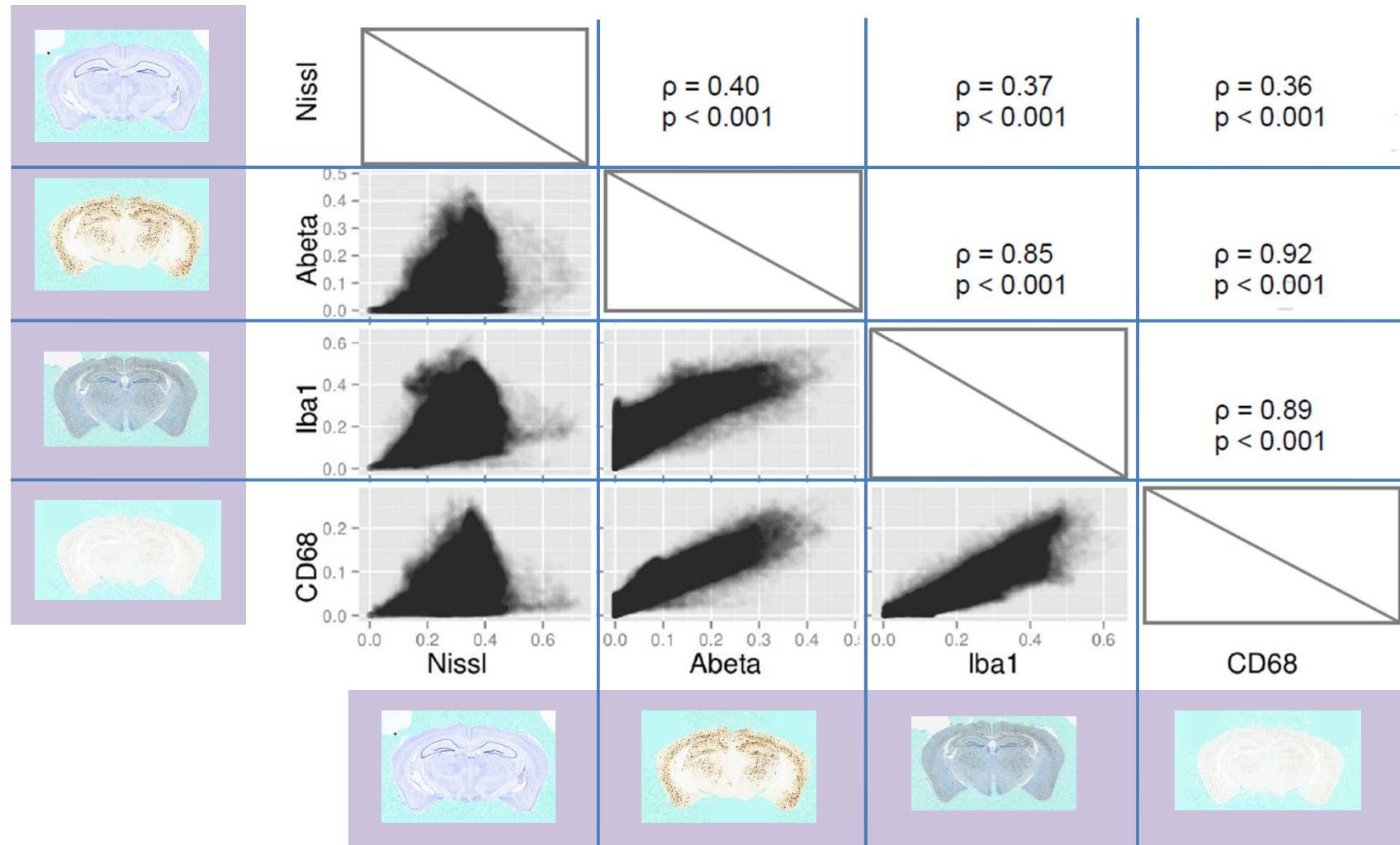
Down-sampling

*Deriving mesoscopic quantitative information from high-resolution histology images.*

# *From mesoscopic to microscopic scale (2/4)*

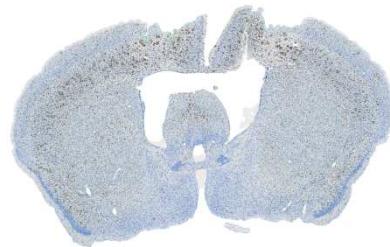


# *From mesoscopic to microscopic scale (3/4)*

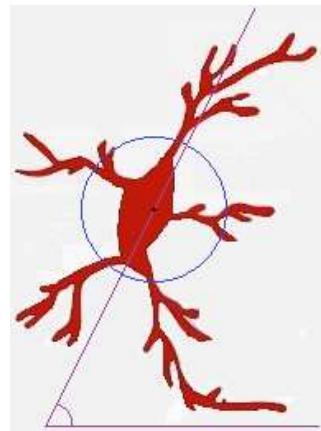


# *From mesoscopic to microscopic scale (4/4)*

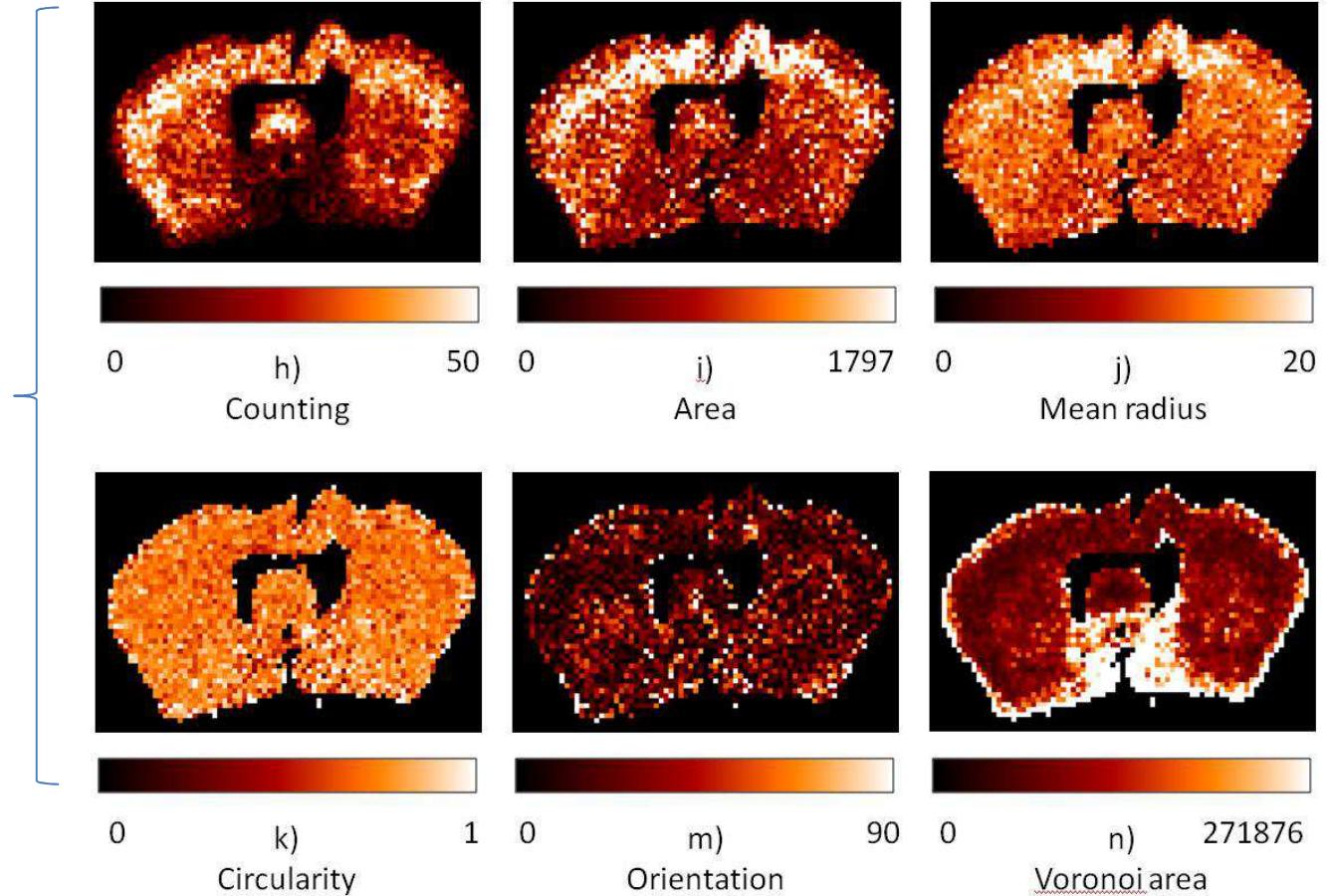
## *(Zhenzen YOU)*



*Mouse brain section (Iba1)*



*Microglia cell*



**New challenges to address:** cell individualization, big data processing, etc...



Thierry Delzescaux  
Anne-Sophie Hérard  
Nicolas Souedet  
Elmahdi Sadouni  
Yaël Balbastre  
Zhenzhen You

Marc Dhenain  
Caroline Jean  
Fanny Petit  
Mathieu Santin  
Didier Thenadey  
Kelly Herbert



Frédérique Frouin



Laurent Pradier  
Tom Rooney  
Thomas Debeir  
Véronique Blanchard  
Dominique Briet



Pierre Etienne Chabrier  
Michel Auguet  
Sylvie Cornet  
Brigitte Spinnewyn  
Denis Carré  
Jocelyne Schultz



Jean-Charles Lambert



Bob Switzer  
Robert Switzer

## Programme Technologie Santé – Programme Irtelis

Commissariat à l'énergie atomique et aux énergies alternatives

Centre de Fontenay-Aux-Roses | 92265 Fontenay-Aux-Roses Cedex

T. +33 (0)1 46 54 84 11 | CRC-MIRCEN@cea.fr

Etablissement public à caractère industriel et commercial | RCS Paris B 775 685 019

GdR ISIS, 23 juin 2015 - T. Delzescaux

Direction des Sciences du Vivant  
I2BM  
MIRCEN