

# Entorhinal Cortex Projections to Neocortex

Atene Jonauskite, Mentor: Rafael Lemarchand Supervisor: Sürmeli Gulsen  
Sürmeli Lab, The University of Edinburgh, Centre for Discovery Brain Sciences

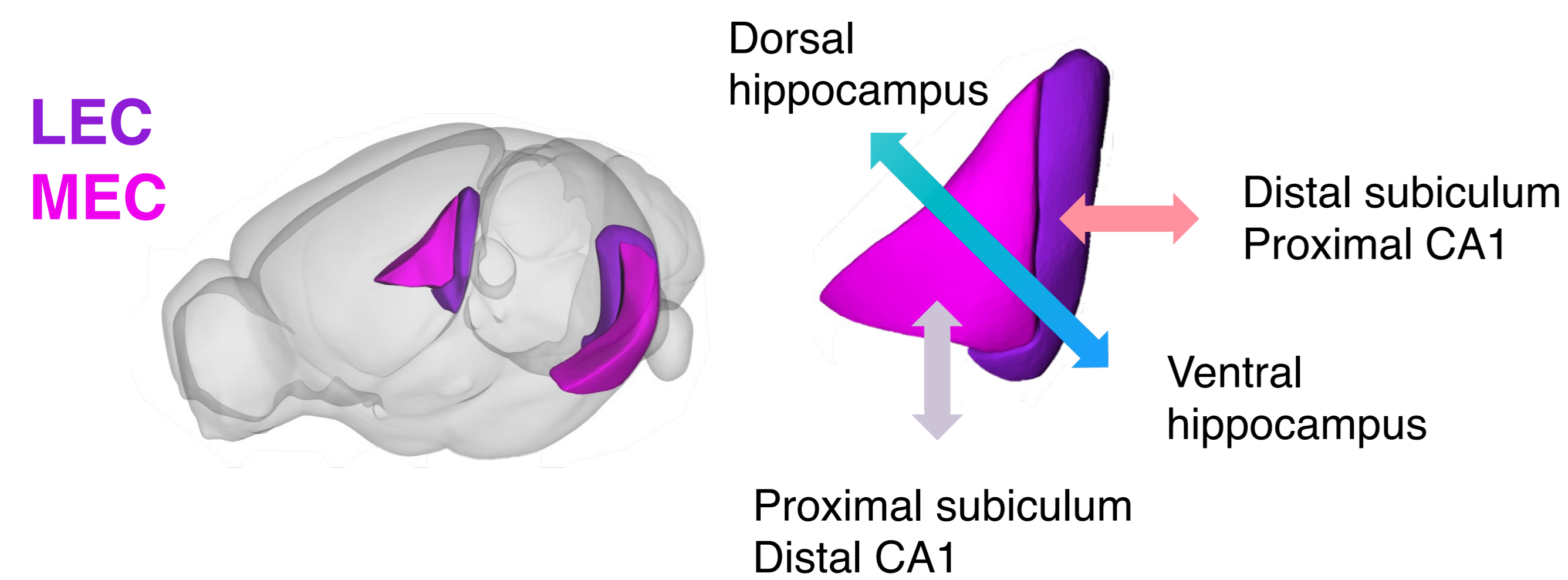


THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH  
Edinburgh Medical School

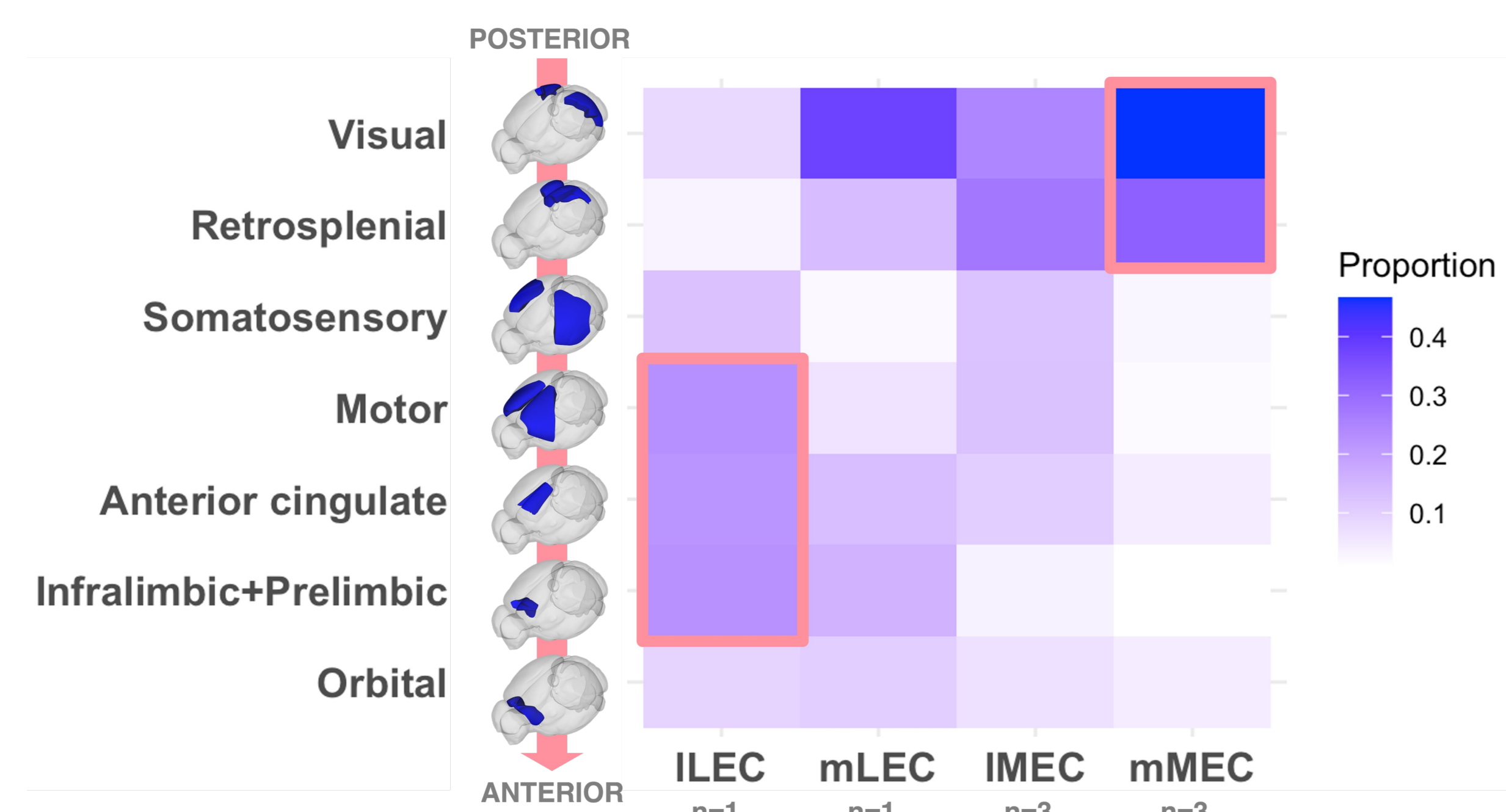
Biomedical Sciences

## Entorhinal Cortex Topography

- Entorhinal cortex (EC) can be divided into two main parts – medial (MEC) and lateral (LEC).
- LEC and MEC are responsible for contextual episodic and spatial memory, respectively <sup>1</sup>.
- EC and hippocampus have topography along the dorsoventral axis and MEC and LEC are connected to different parts of the hippocampal formation along its distal - proximal axis <sup>2</sup>.
- Layer 5a neurons project to other cortical areas <sup>3</sup>.

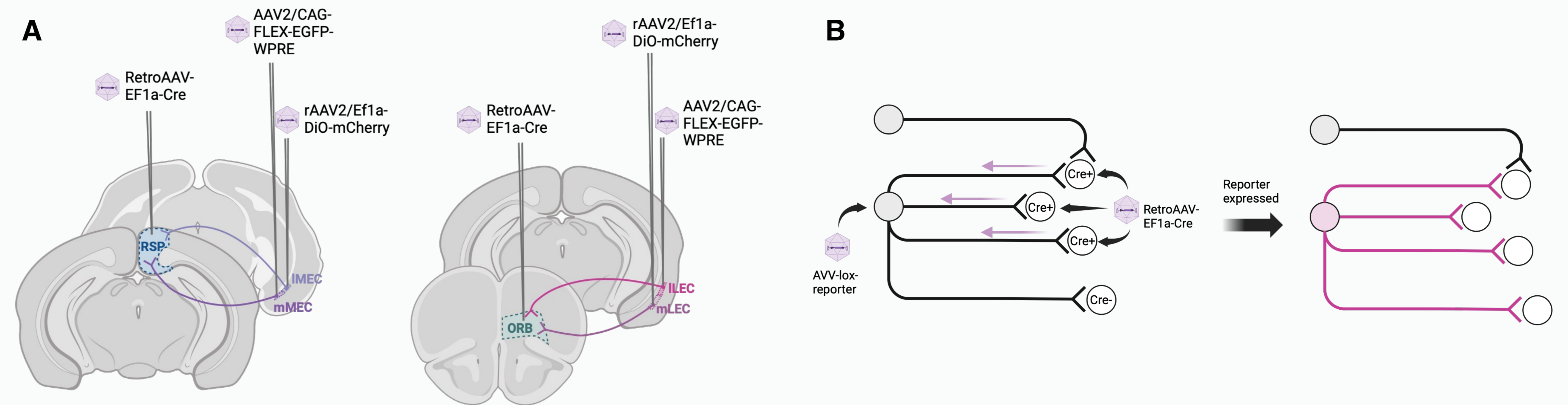


## Distribution of Axon Pixels from 4 Injection Sites Across Cortical Areas

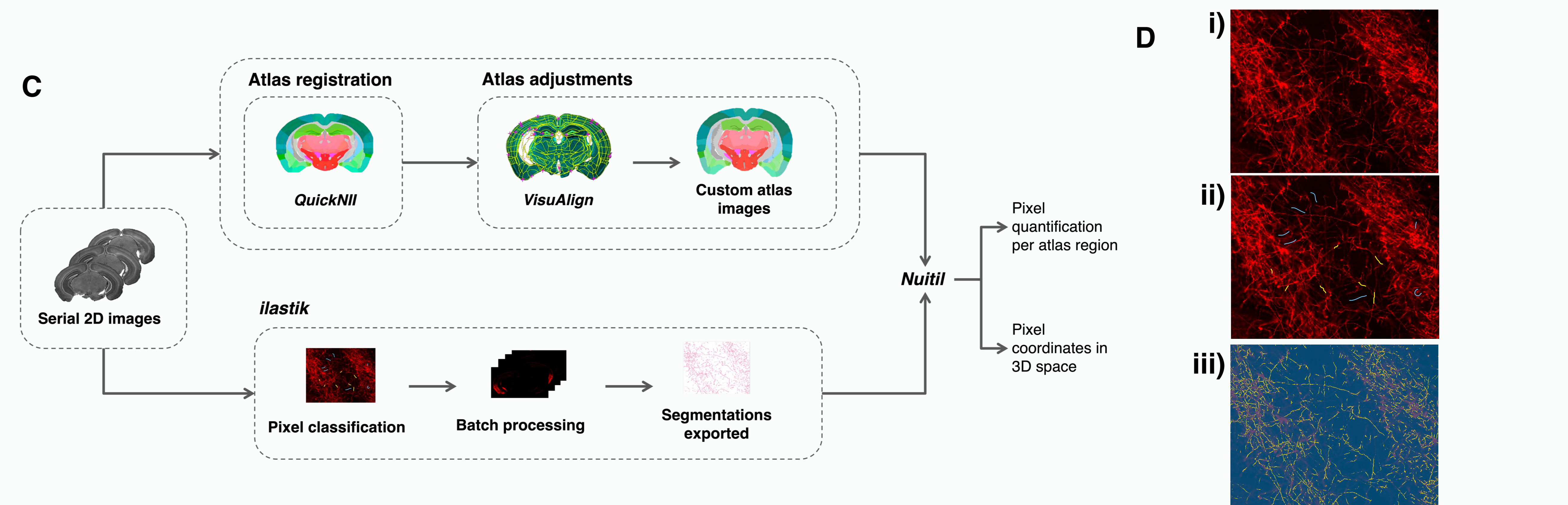


Lateral LEC (ILEC) projects mainly to decision-making and motor control regions, while medial MEC (mMEC) targets visual areas. The area in between appears less specialised. Anteroposterior topography can be seen.

## Injection Procedure and Image Analysis Using QUINT



**A)** Cre recombinase-carrying retrovirus is injected into the orbital or retrosplenial area. The selected EC band Layer 5a is injected with a Cre-dependent reporter-carrying virus. **B)** When the Cre recombinase gene is expressed, the reporter gene starts to be expressed in axons, labelling them. Thus, the projections of different EC parts are labelled.



**C) QUINT workflow** <sup>4</sup>. It allows registering the brain images to a customised atlas. Meanwhile, *ilastik* is trained to recognise axons in the fluorescence channel. After batch processing, custom atlas images and axon segmentations are processed together to extract information in 3D space. **D) *ilastik* processing.** i & ii) *ilastik* is trained to recognise axon and background pixels, iii) *ilastik* generates segmentations based on training

## Acknowledgements & References

This project was funded by the School of Biomedical Sciences.

- Wilson DJ, Watanabe S, Milner H, Ainge JA. Lateral entorhinal cortex is necessary for associative but not nonassociative recognition memory. *Hippocampus*. 2013 Dec;23(12):1280-90. doi: 10.1002/hipo.22165. Epub 2013 Aug 9. PMID: 23836525; PMCID: PMC4030623.
- Canto CB, Wouterlood FG, Witter MP. What does the anatomical organization of the entorhinal cortex tell us? *Neural Plast*. 2008;2008:381243. doi: 10.1155/2008/381243. PMID: 18769556; PMCID: PMC2526269.
- Sürmeli G, Marcu DC, McClure C, Garden DLF, Pastoll H, Nolan MF. Molecularly Defined Circuitry Reveals Input-Output Segregation in Deep Layers of the Medial Entorhinal Cortex. *Neuron*. 2016 Nov 23;92(4):929. doi: 10.1016/j.neuron.2016.11.011. Erratum for: *Neuron*. 2015 Dec 2;88(5):1040-1053. doi: 10.1016/j.neuron.2015.10.041. PMID: 27883905; PMCID: PMC5652228.
- Yates SC, Groenboom NE, Coello C, Lichtenthaler SF, Kühn PH, Demuth HU, Hartlage-Rübsamen M, Roßner S, Leergaard T, Kreshuk A, Puchades MA, Bjaalie JG. QUINT: Workflow for Quantification and Spatial Analysis of Features in Histological Images From Rodent Brain. *Front Neuroinform*. 2019 Dec 3;13:75. doi: 10.3389/fninf.2019.00075. PMID: 31849633; PMCID: PMC6901597.