

Histological validation and reconstruction

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Probabilistic atlases combining *in vivo* and *ex vivo* MRI Each has its own advantages

- In vivo:
 - Complete FOV.
 - Faster to label.
 - Negligible geometric distortions.

• Ex vivo:

- Higher resolution and / or contrast (no motion, dedicated coils).
- Enables more detailed delineations

• We have a framework to combine both!









Example: atlas of hippocampal subfields



Example: atlas of hippocampal subfields Represented as sparse, adaptive, tetrahedral mesh





(Iglesias et al., Neuroimage, 2015)

However, *ex vivo* is MRI not always enough Some boundaries are only visible in histology



Histology reconstruction: Blockface photos

Block-face photographs to assist reconstruction





Example: Thalamic atlas

Block-face to MRI registration (rigid = easy!)





Thalamic atlas

Resampled MRI to histology





Thalamic atlas

Reconstructing segmentations with "smart" interpolation (Gaussian mixture model + Markov random field)



Atlas construction and image segmentation In vivo segmentations to learn surrounding structures





Thalamic atlas

Comparison with Krauth, Morel, et al. (also based on histology)



(Iglesias et al., SfN 2017, OHBM 2017)

How about the 2D inter-modality registration? Synthesis and multimodal registration





Iglesias et al., MICCAI, 2013.

How about the 2D inter-modality registration? Synthesis and multimodality registration

Synthesis:

- Can improve multimodality registration
- Requires aligned training data

Multimodality-registration:

Aligns (multimodality) data

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Histology reconstruction Probabilistic model





Uncertainty in registration (BigBrain)







Uncertainty in registration (Allen)



Quantitative evaluation of registration Simulated deformations on ADNI T1-T2 data (2D)

- 1 mm isotropic T1, 0.4x0.4x2.0mm T2 (coronal, resampled to 1mm)
- 1000 randomly selected coronal planes.
- Diffeomorphic random deformations, recovered with control points + Bsplines







T2 (floating)





T1 (reference)





Real T2





Synthetic T2





T1 (reference)





Registered with MI (spacing: 6 mm)



Joint registration / synthesis T1-T2 MRI with known correspondence



Registered with synthesis (spacing: 6 mm)



Joint registration / synthesis T1-T2 MRI with known correspondence



Synthetic T2



Allen atlas

Publicly available at brain-map.org

- 106 coronal slices (histology) with manual segmentation of 806 structures
- Whole hemisphere microtome, but major cracks present on many sections.
- Manually placed ~200 landmarks.

Problems:

- No blockface images available.
- Pixel dimensions are wrong for many sections.
- Section thickness not consistent.
- Spacing between coronal slices very uneven.

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Qualitative evaluation of registration (Allen)





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Qualitative evaluation of registration (Allen)





Qualitative evaluation of registration (Allen)





Extensions

And open questions

- Integration of multiple blocks (jigsaw puzzle) into probabilistic model.
- Make model robust when no blockface images and/or landmarks are given.
- Exploring smarter ways of interpolating segmentations*
- Smoothness priors in probabilistic model to make reconstructions visually more pleasant in orthogonal view.
- How do bridge (large) resolution gaps in Bayesian segmentation?
 Forward model is simple, but inference is complex (especially in multimodal).

* Iglesias, IPMI, 2017

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Thank you for your attention!

Questions?