





NUTEII:

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Pre- and post- processing toolbox for histological rodent brain section images

TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

Nutil is a pre- and post- processing toolbox for analysis of large collections of histological images of rodent brain sections. The software is open access, with a simple graphical user interface for specifying the input and output parameters. Nutil includes a transformation tool for automated scaling, rotation, mirroring and renaming of image files; a file format convertor; a simple resize tool; and a post-processing method for quantifying and localizing labelled features based on a reference atlas of the brain (mouse or rat). The quantification method requires input from customized brain atlas maps generated with the QuickNII software, and segmentations generated with *ilastik* or another image analysis tool. It generates reports, point cloud coordinate files, and atlas map images superimposed with colour-coded objects.

Nutil enables transformations of the high-resolution image output of microscope scanners.

Nutil is a key component of the QUINT workflow for quantification and spatial analysis of labelled features in histological rodent brain section images.

AREAS Image Analysis | Quantification









COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES

- Nutil enables comparative studies of whole rodent brains.
- It is user-friendly, with a simple GUI and inbuilt user manual.
- No coding knowledge required to operate in contrast with other tools or scripts freely available.
- Nutil is currently compatible with the following reference atlases:
- Allen Mouse Brain Atlas (CCFv3, 2015 and 2017)
- Waxholm Atlas of the Spraque Dawley rat (v2 and v3)
- other atlases may be added in future releases





Nutil is user friendly with a simple graphical user interface

APPLICATION & MARKET POTENTIAL

- Nutil is tailored specifically for the needs of biological researchers (500-1000 estimated in Europe) working with histological rodent brain section images.
- Nutil is open-access and is being tested by users in the Human Brain Project and the Kaczorowski Lab at The Jackson Laboratory (Bar Harbor).

TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL



REFERENCES

Yates SC, Groeneboom NE, Coello C, et al. & Bjaalie JG (2019) QUINT: Workflow for Quantification and Spatial Analysis of Features in Histological Images From Rodent Brain. Front. Neuroinform. 13:75. doi: 10.3389/fninf.2019.00075

https://www.nitrc.org/projects/nutil/

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