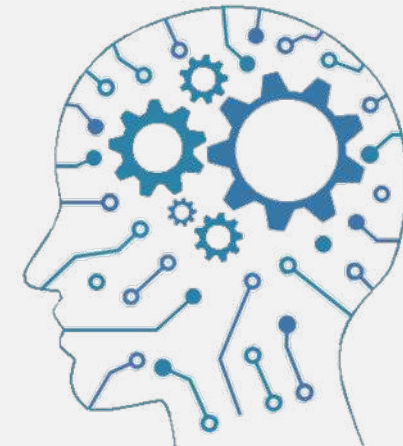
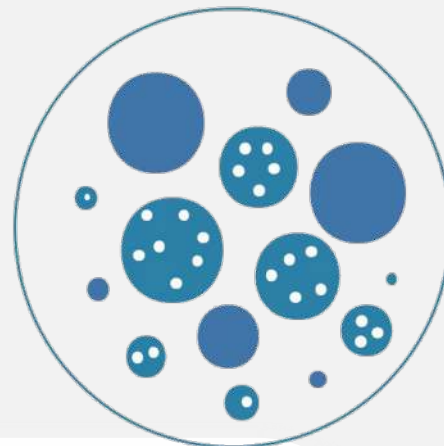
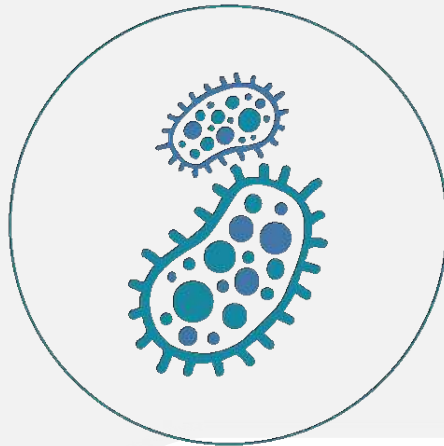
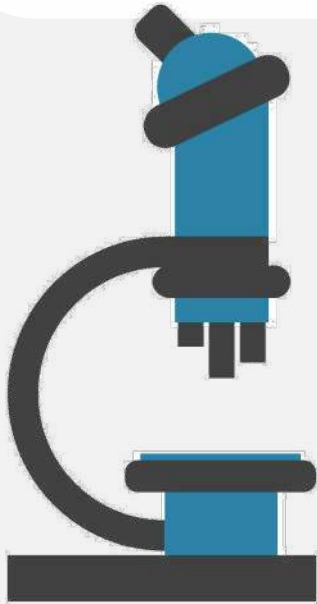


A survey of cryoET software and workflows



Alex J. Noble
CryoEM Course – Tomo!

3-6-24



Today's goals

You should:

- Become familiar with capabilities of existing cryoET software
- Gain realistic expectations for cryoET projects



Background

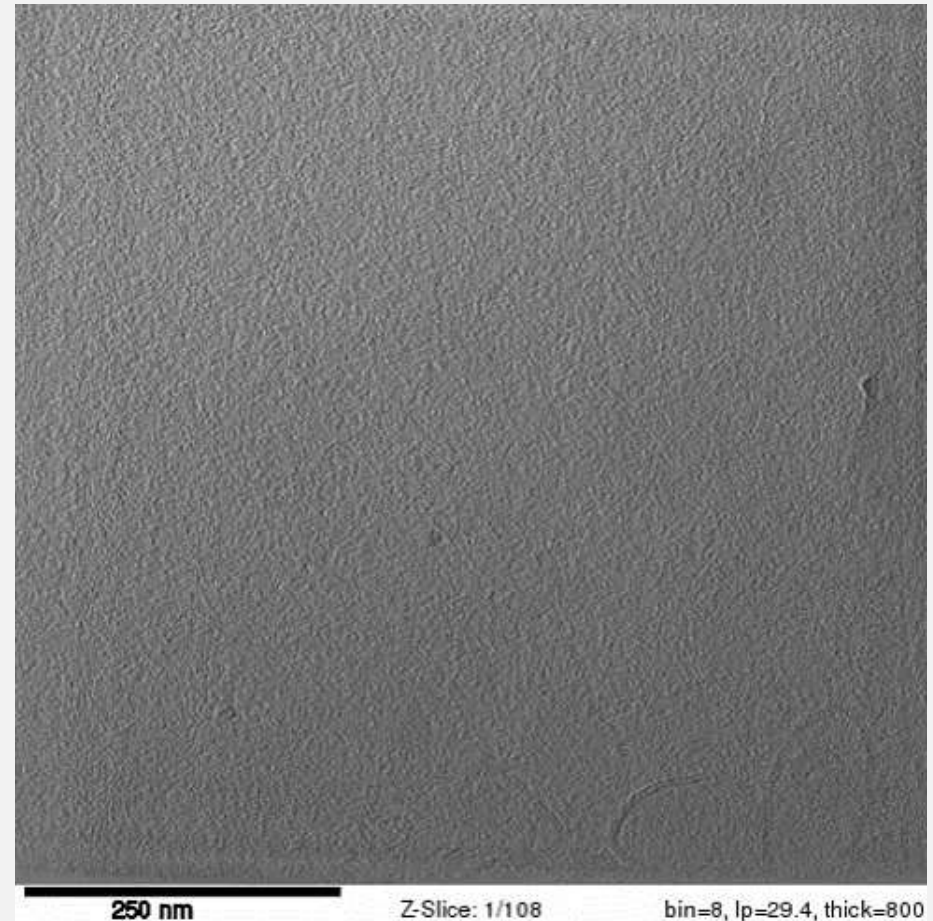
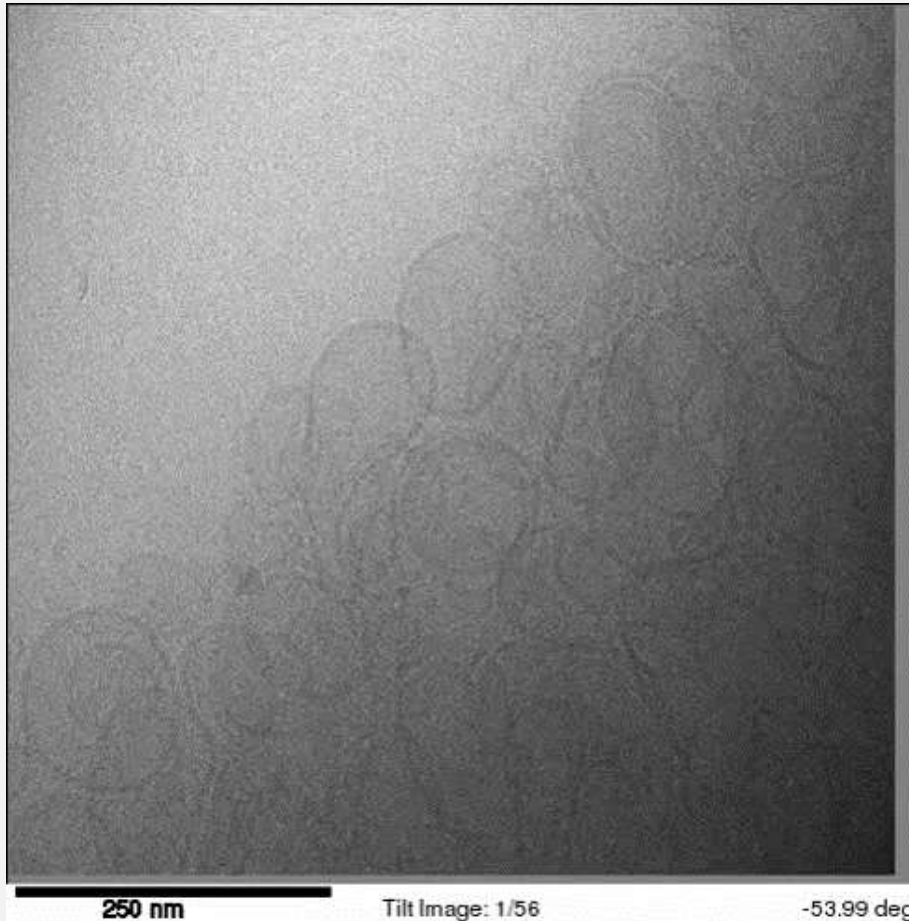
Learned last time from Wei Dai:



Background

Learned last time from Wei Dai:

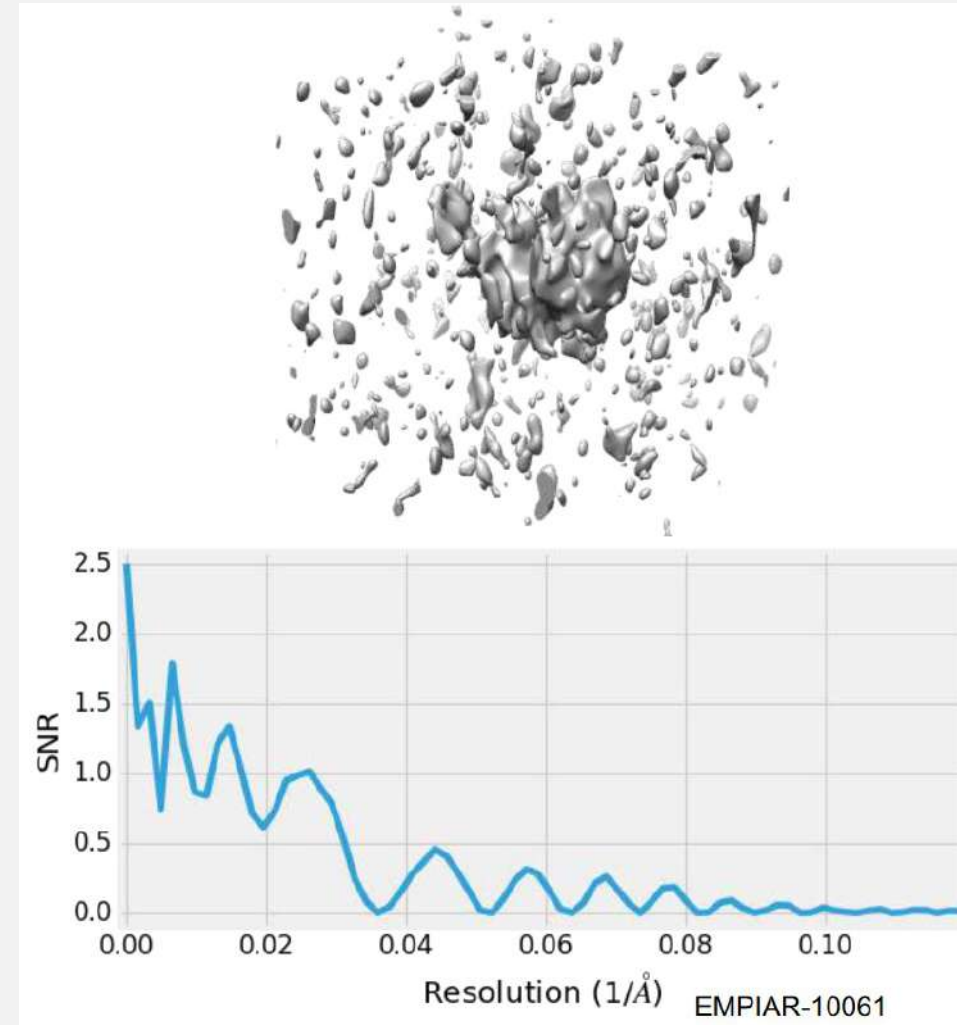
- Tilt-series > align > tomogram



Background

Learned last time from Wei Dai:

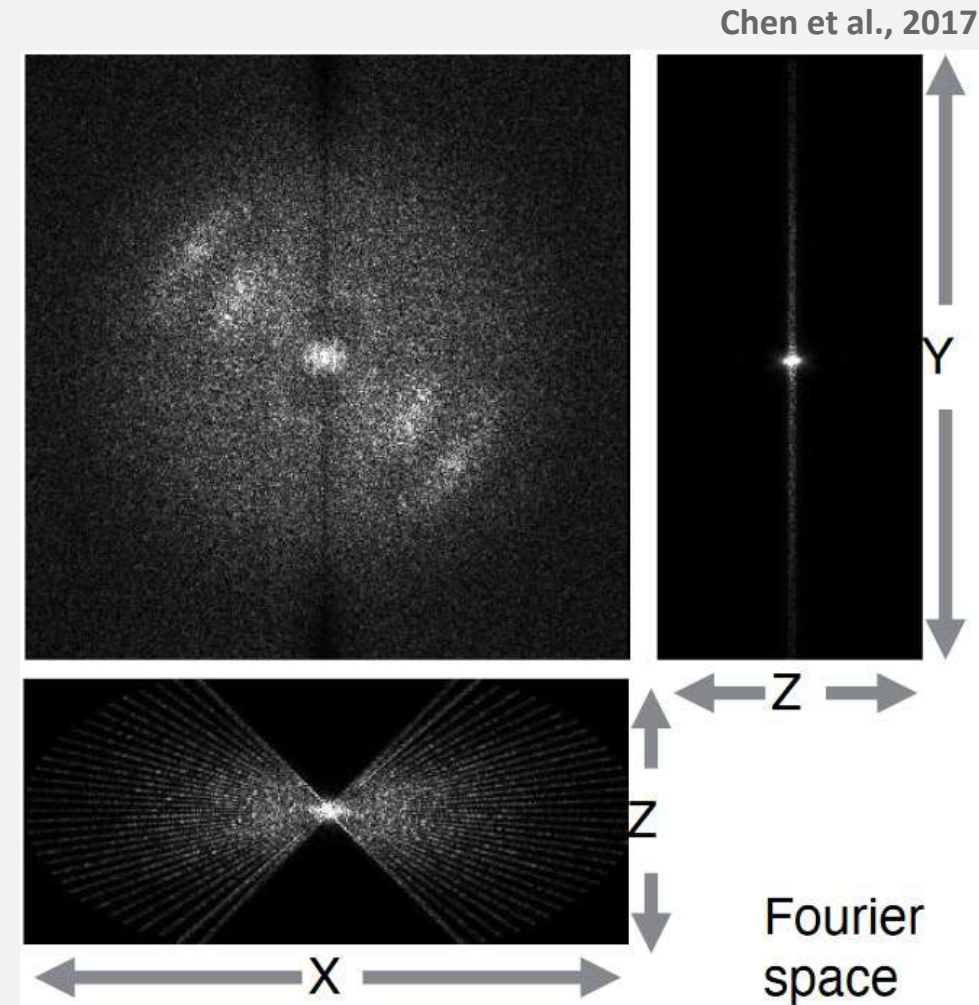
- Tilt-series > align > tomogram
- Beam damage & low SNR



Background

Learned last time from Wei Dai:

- Tilt-series > align > tomogram
 - Beam damage & low SNR
 - Missing wedge

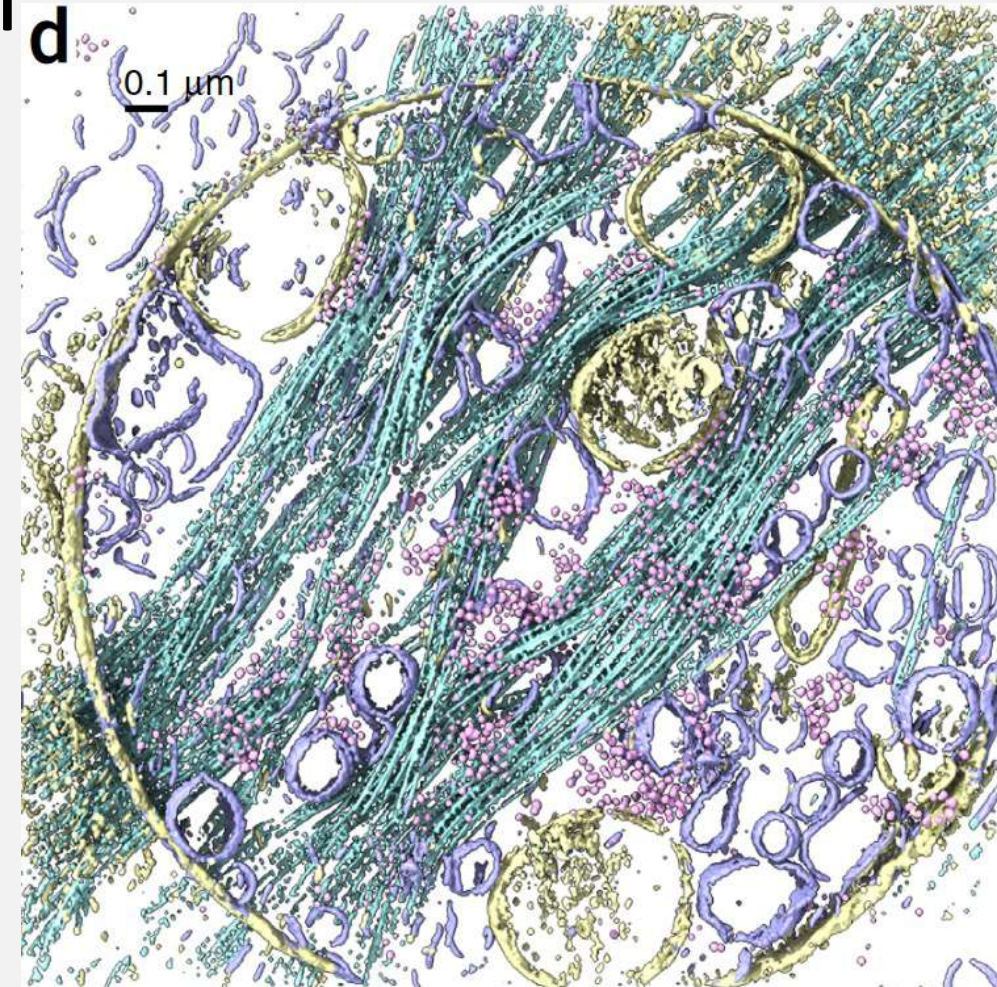


Background

Learned last time from Wei Dai:

- Tilt-series > align > tomogram
 - Beam damage & low SNR
 - Missing wedge
 - Segmentation

Chen et al., 2017

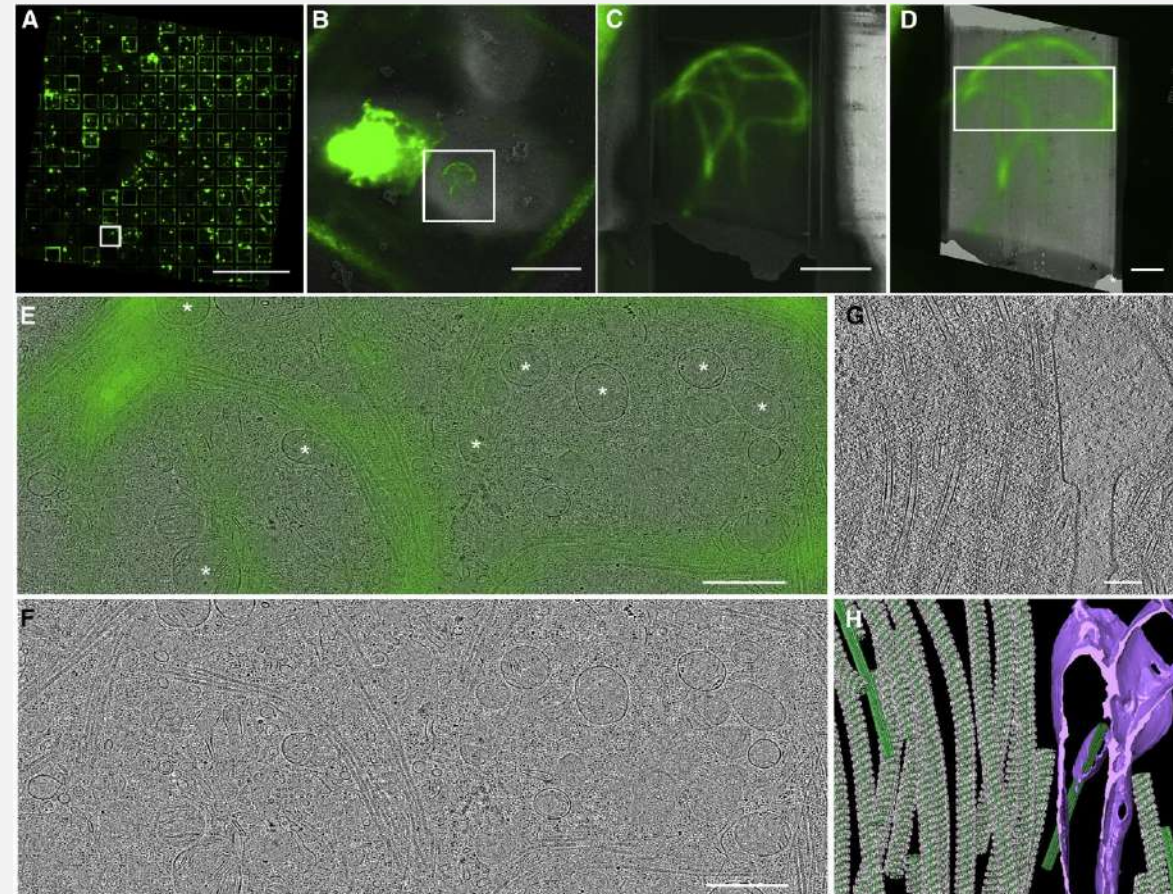


Background

Learned last time from Wei Dai:

- Tilt-series > align > tomogram
- Beam damage & low SNR
- Missing wedge
- Segmentation
- Visualize in (thin) cells

Watanabe et al., 2020

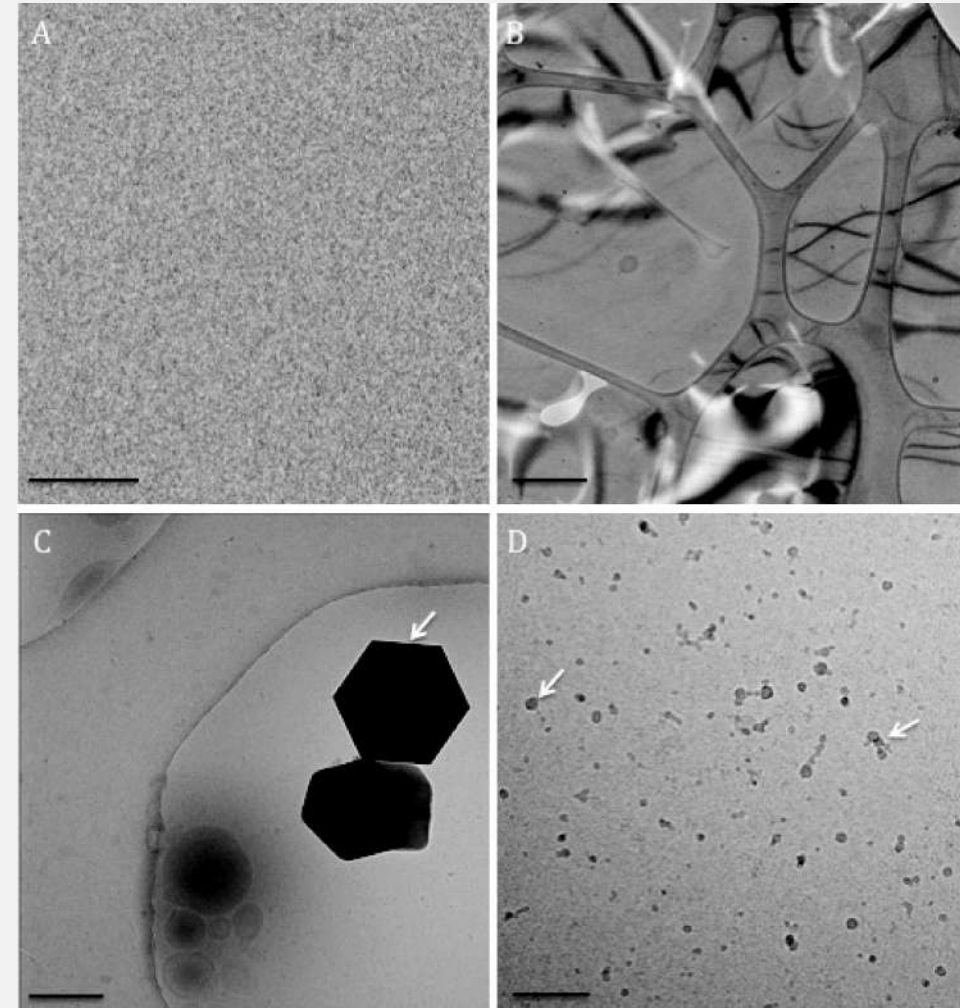


Background

Learned last time from Wei Dai:

- Tilt-series > align > tomogram
 - Beam damage & low SNR
 - Missing wedge
 - Segmentation
- Visualize in (thin) cells
- Good/bad ice

Thompson et al., 2016



Background

Learned last time from Wei Dai:

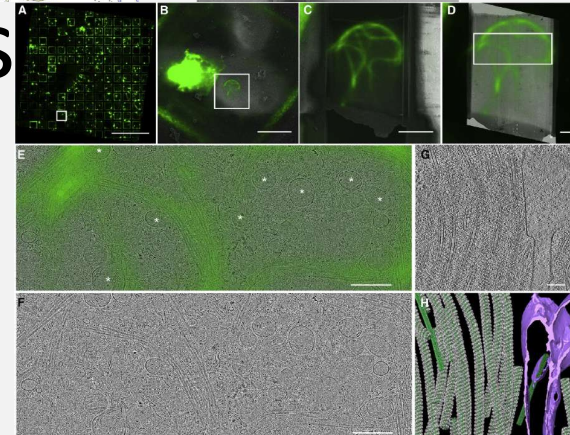
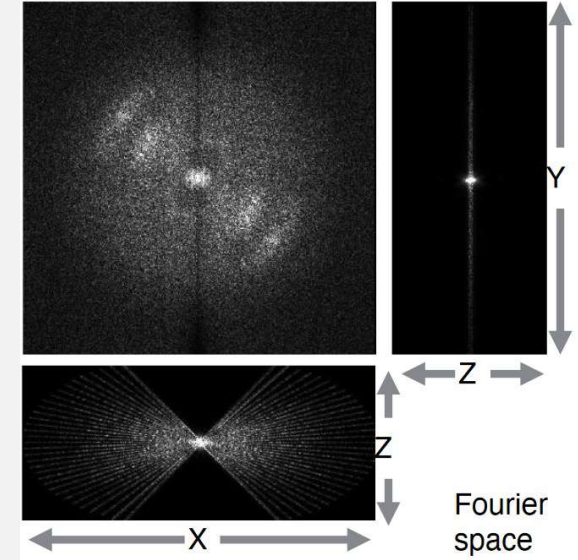
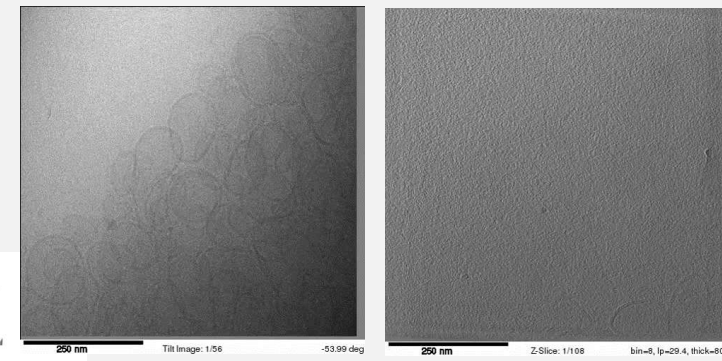
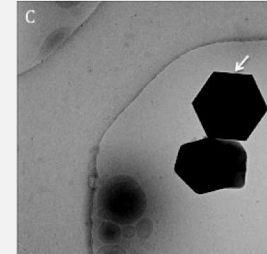
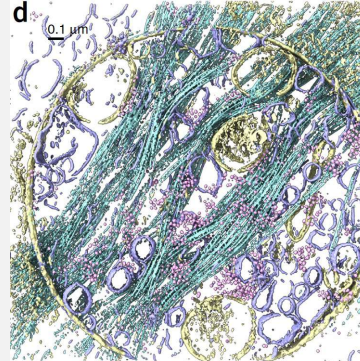
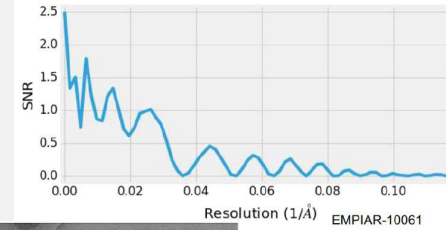
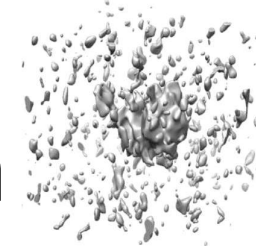
- Tilt-series > align > tomogram
 - Beam damage & low SNR
 - Missing wedge
 - Segmentation
- Visualize in (thin) cells
- Good/bad ice
- CLEM, labeling



Background

Learned last time from Wei Dai:

- Tilt-series > align > tomogram
- Beam damage & low SNR
- Missing wedge
- Segmentation
- Visualize in (thin) cells
- Good/bad ice
- CLEM, labeling

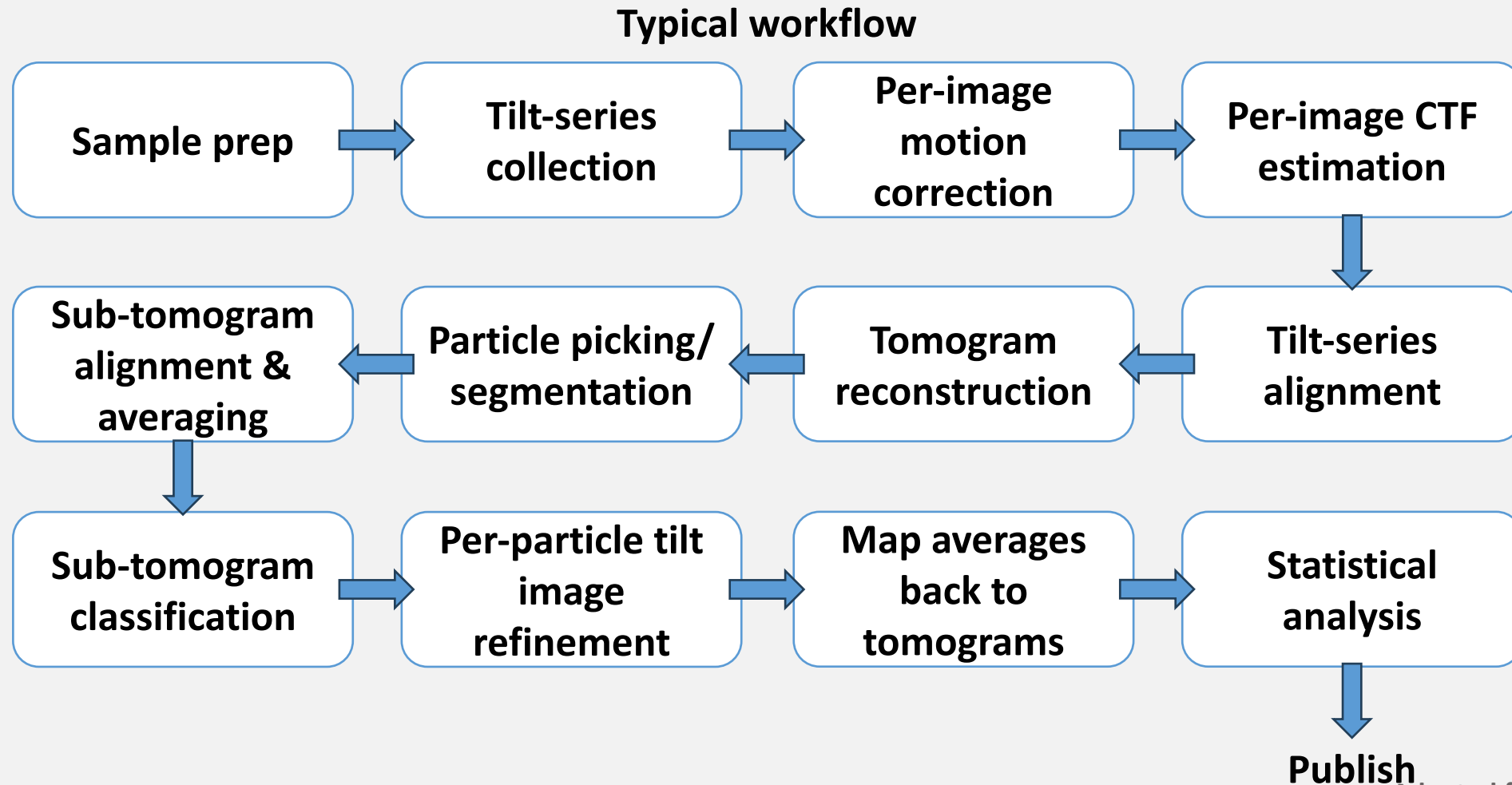


Today's plan



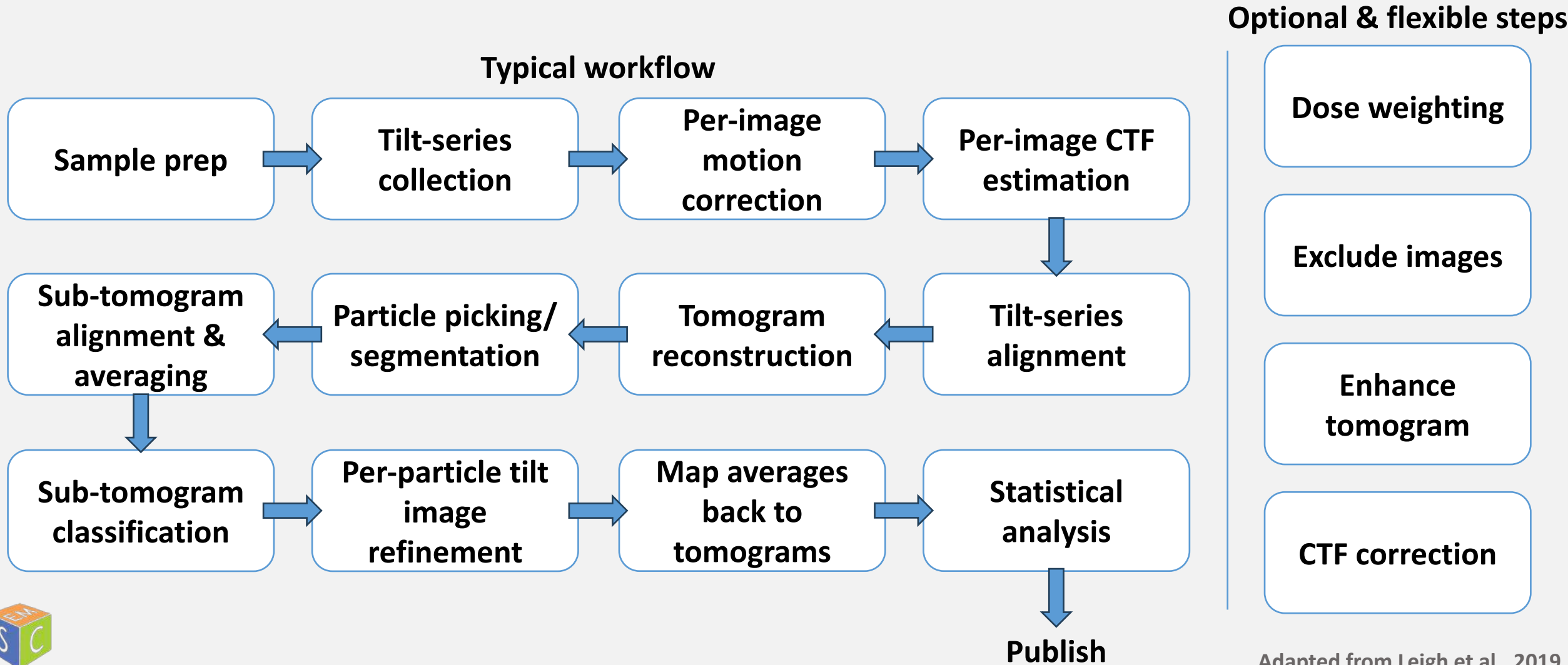
Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



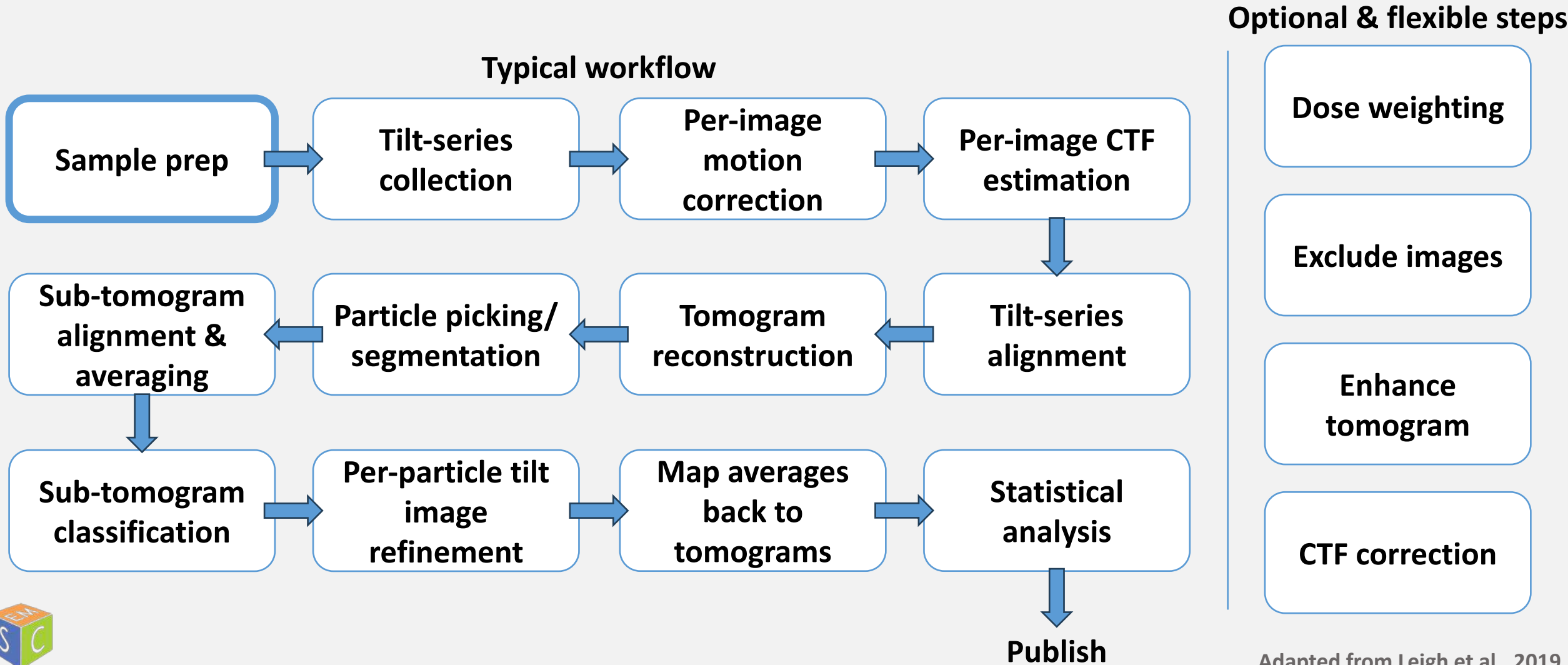
Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



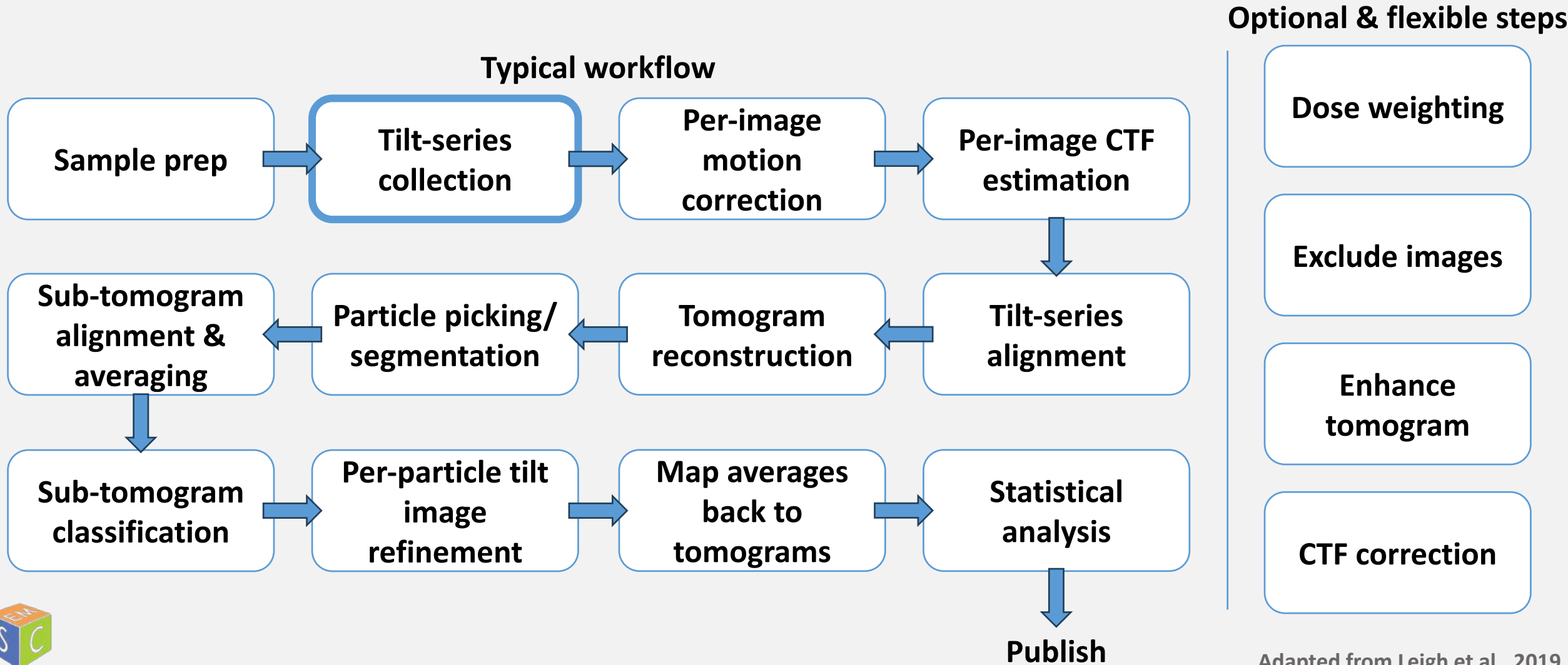
Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Tilt-series
collection

What to look for:

- Accurate tracking: $<10\%$ error
- Dose-symmetric collection
- Minimal frame drift: <3 angstroms
- Collection speed: Range is 2-30 minutes per tilt-series

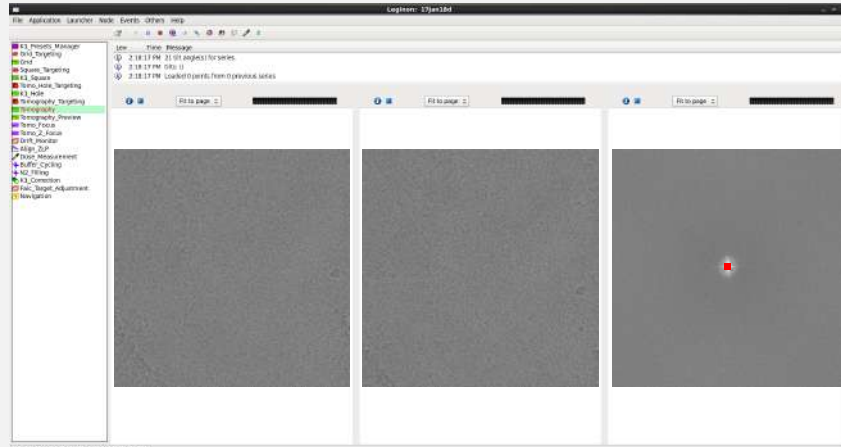


Software for

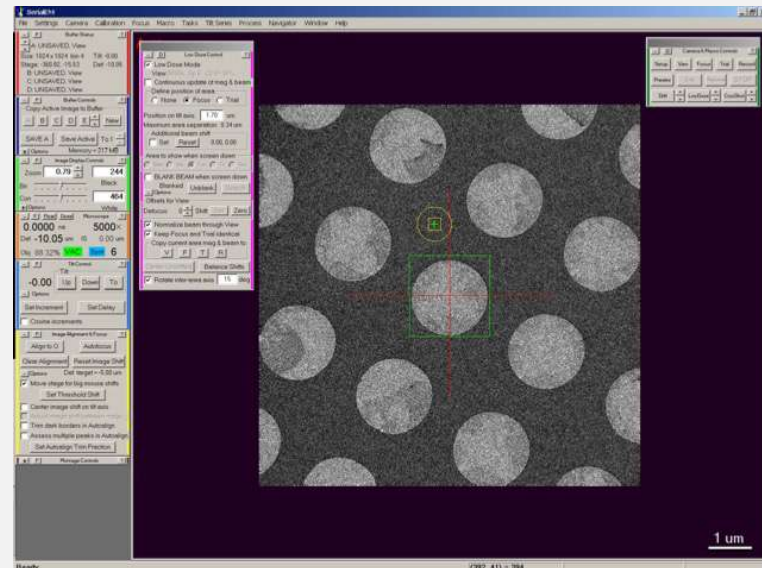
Tilt-series
collection

EPU

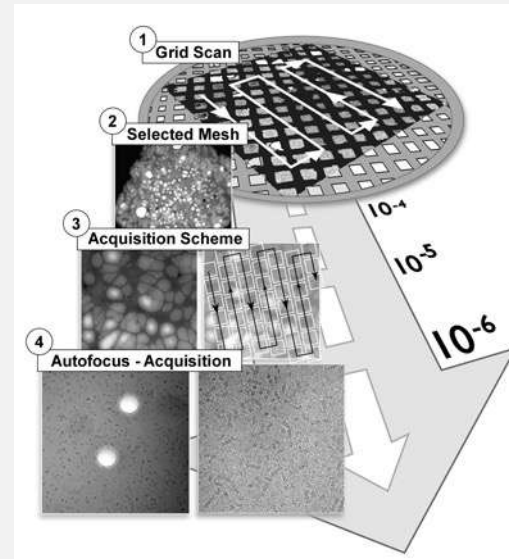
Leginon



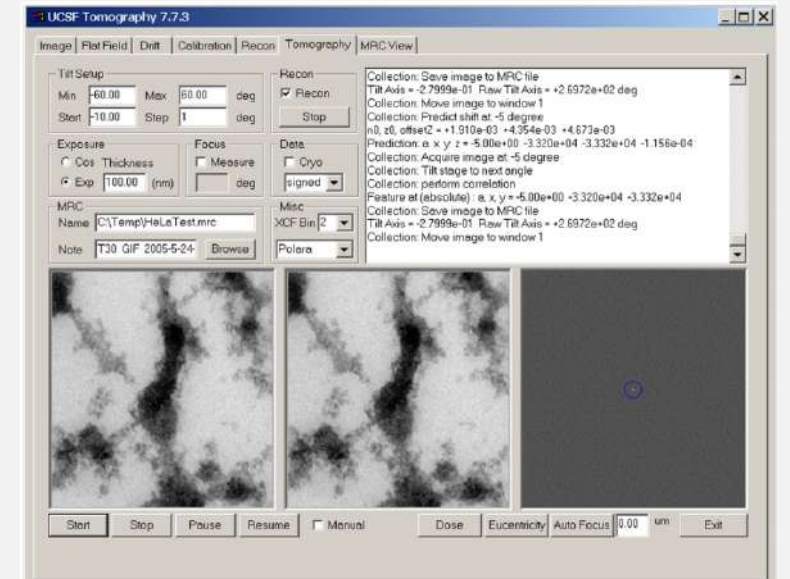
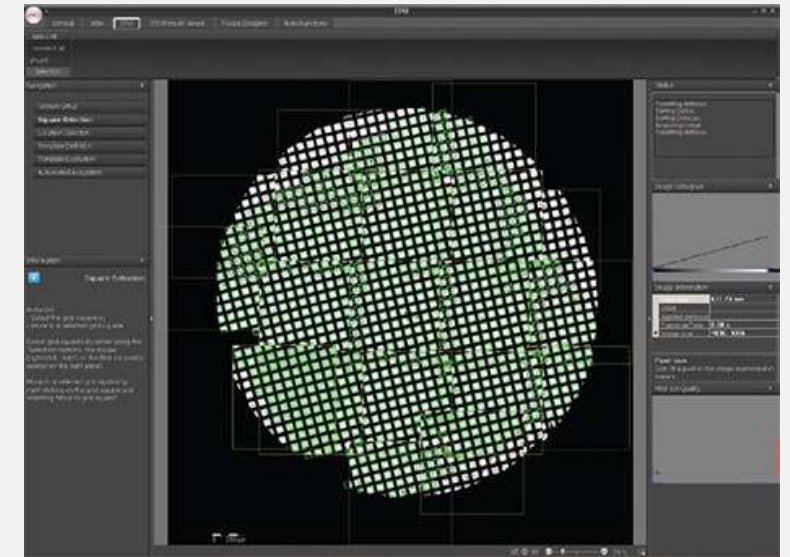
Application Model: MSO-Tomography (3.2) loaded



SerialEM



TOM Toolbox



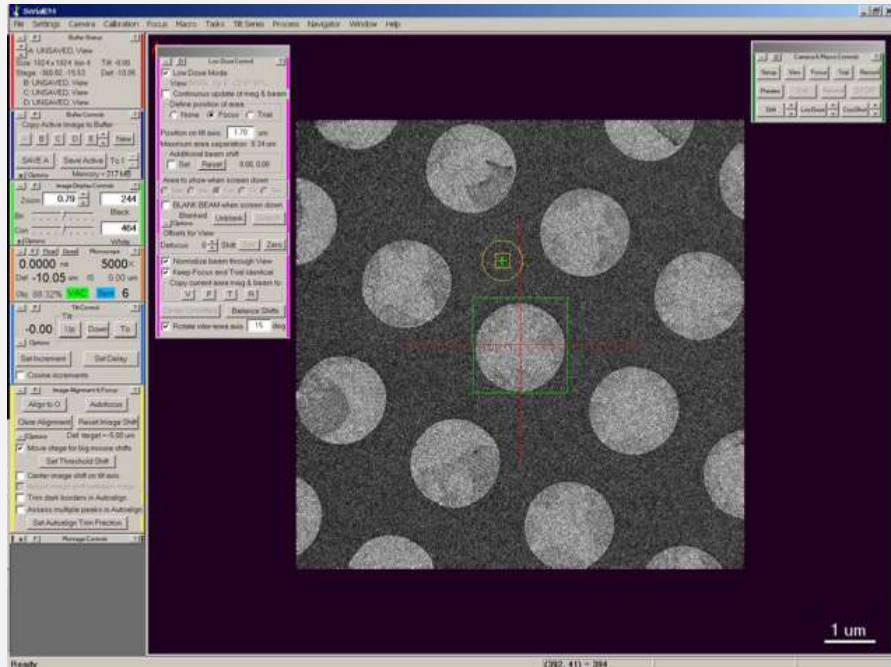
UCSF Tomography



Software for

Tilt-series
collection

SerialEM



Mastrorarde et al., 2003, 2005

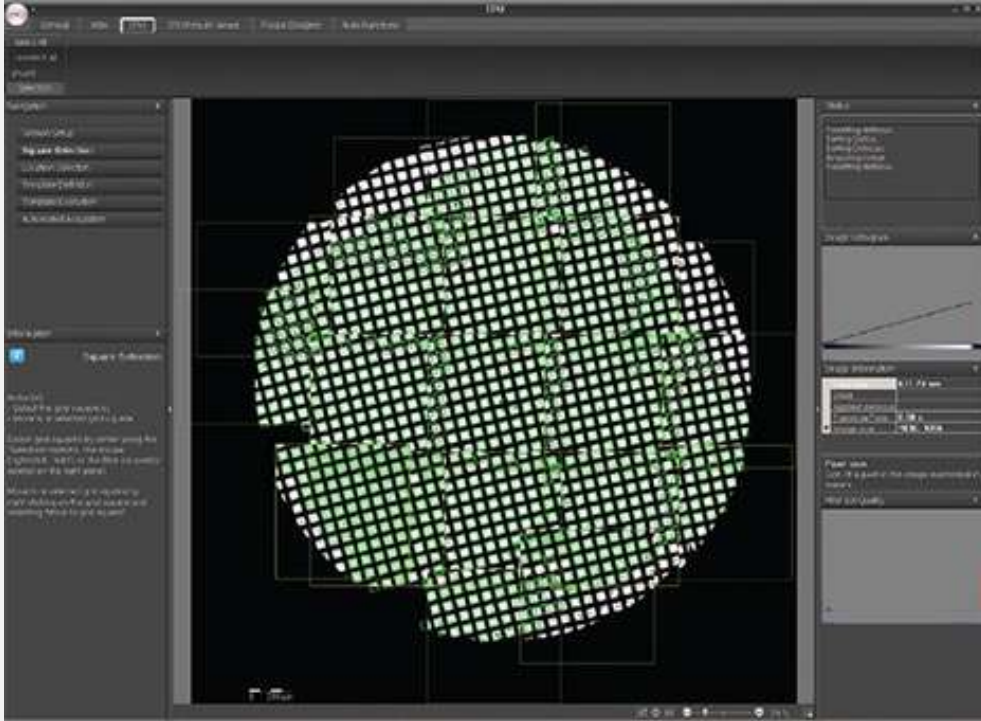
- Fully customizable collection with scripting
- Existing scripts allow for very accurate tracking
- 15+ minutes per tilt-series
- Learning curve



Software for

Tilt-series
collection

EPU Tomo 5



- Multi-site batch collection
- Auto multi-grid atlas
- Tomo Live – tomogram reconstruction and analysis in near-real time
- Commercial software

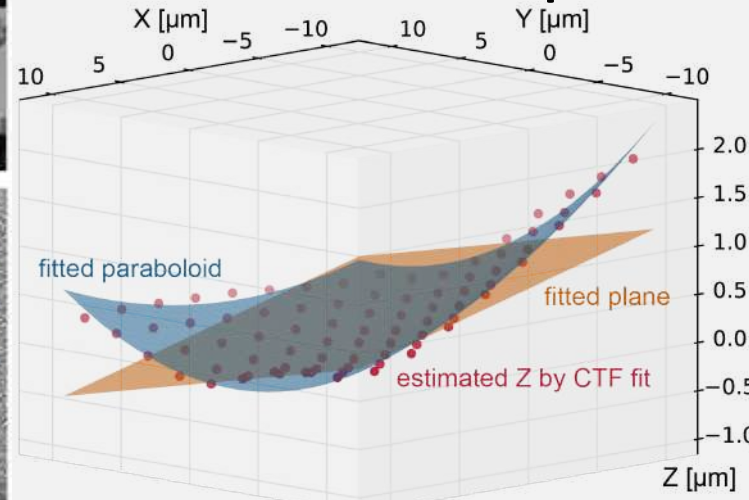
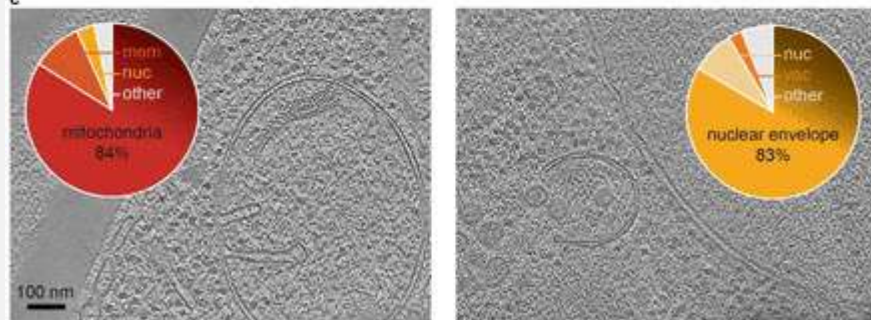
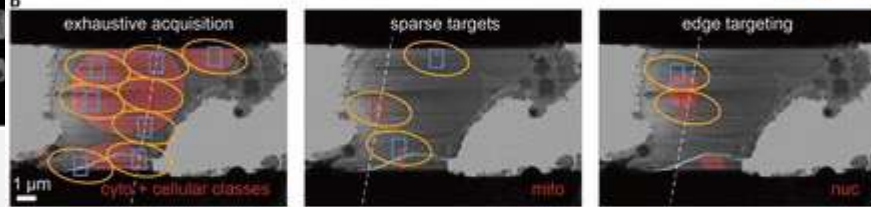
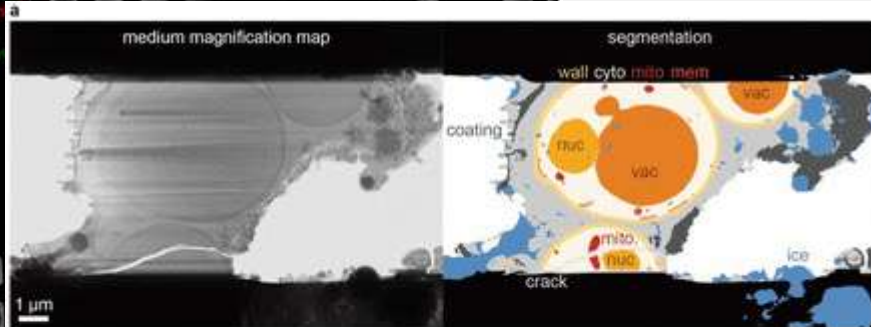
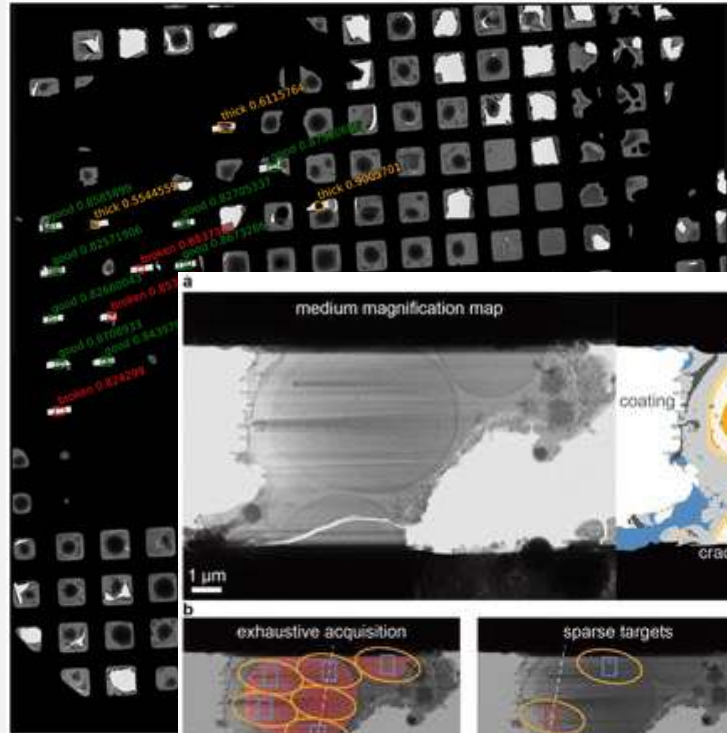


Software for

Tilt-series
collection

SPACE-Tomo

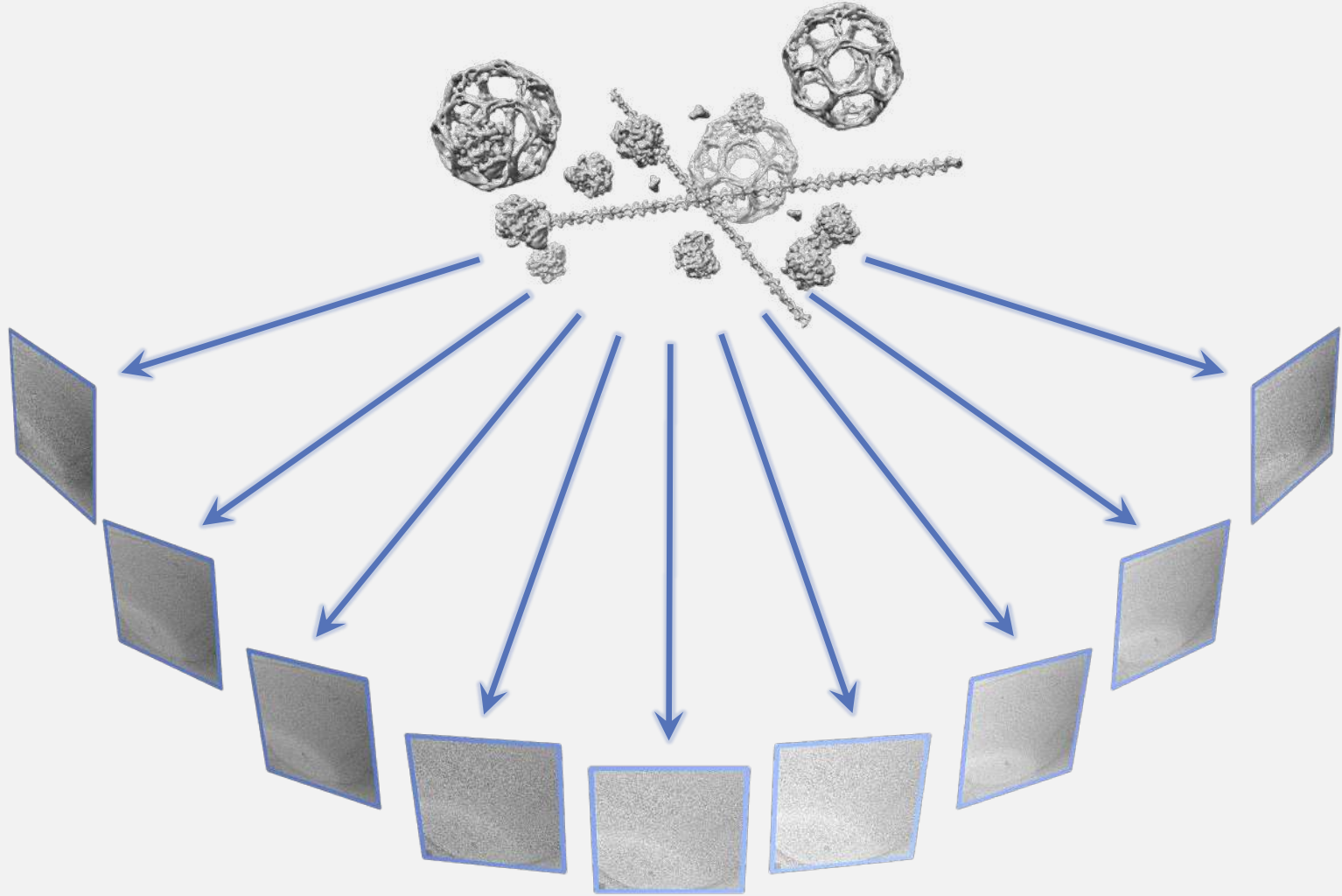
- Built on SerialEM
- Auto grid and lamellae targeting
- Uses machine learning
- Parallel collection
- 2+ minutes per tilt-series



Eisenstein
et al., 2023

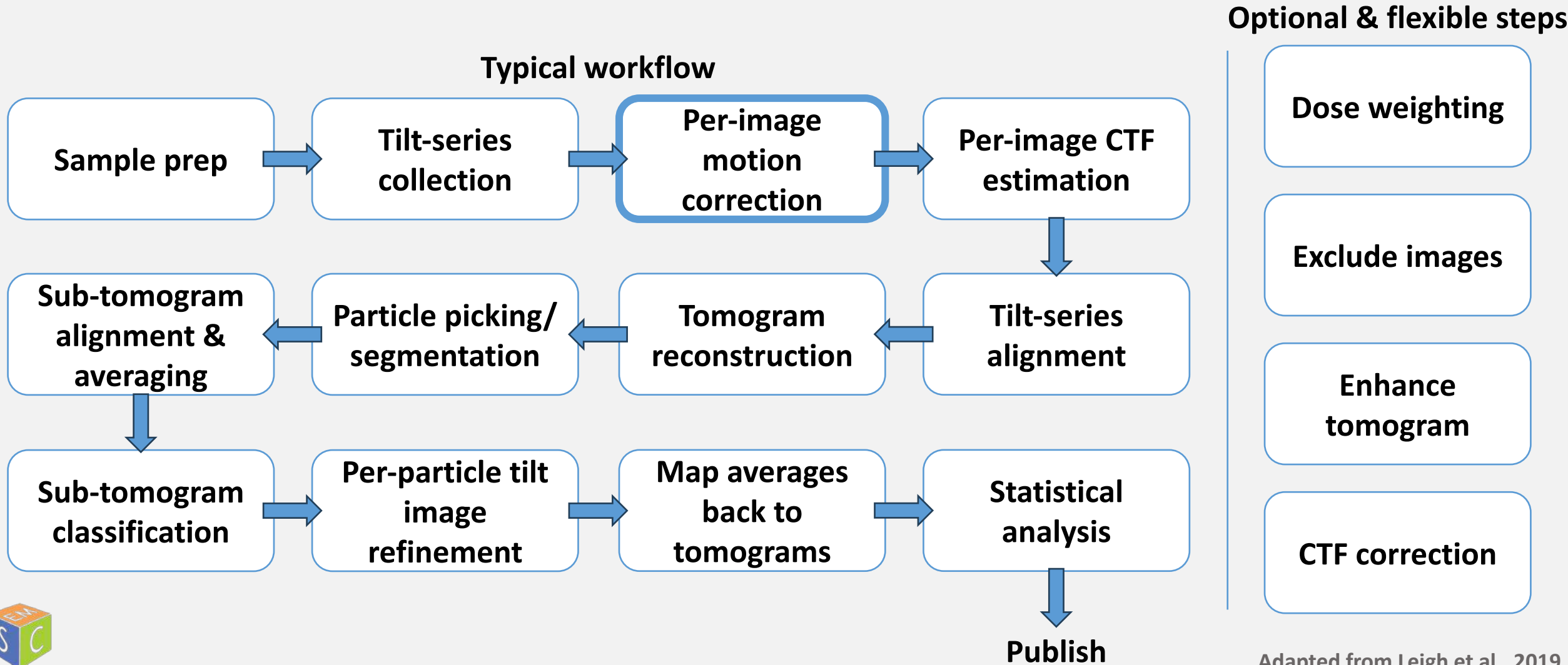


Now you have a tilt-series of frames



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Per-image
motion
correction

What to look for:

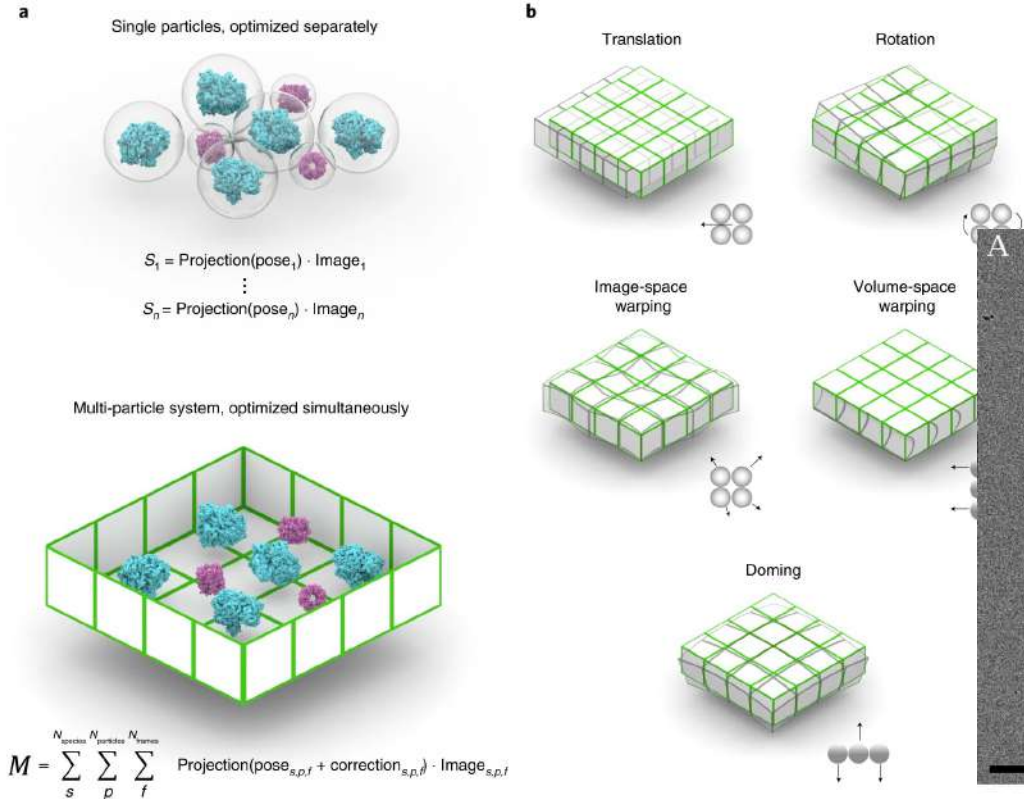
- Full-image and local frame alignment
- Many options for controlling parameters
 - Dose weighting
 - Ignore first frames
- Able to process low-dose cryoET images
- GPU support



Software for

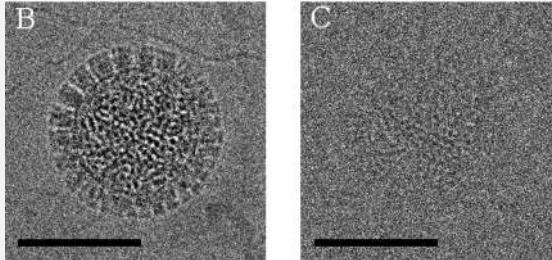
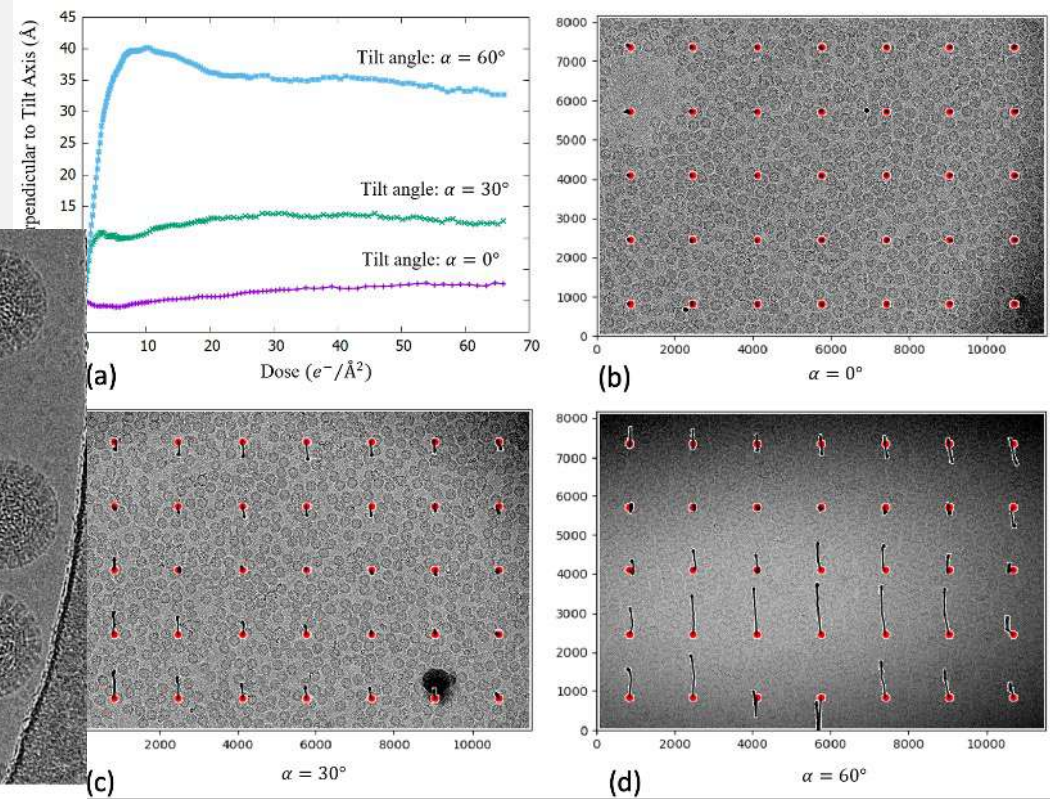
Per-image motion correction

Warp



Motioncor2/3

Unblur



Software for

Per-image
motion
correction

All:

- Global and local
- Near real-time with collection
- Dose weighting

Motioncor & Warp:

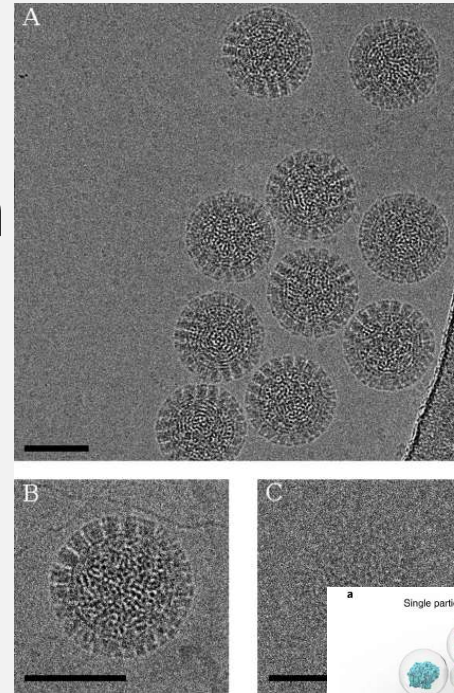
- GPU
- CTF estimation

Warp:

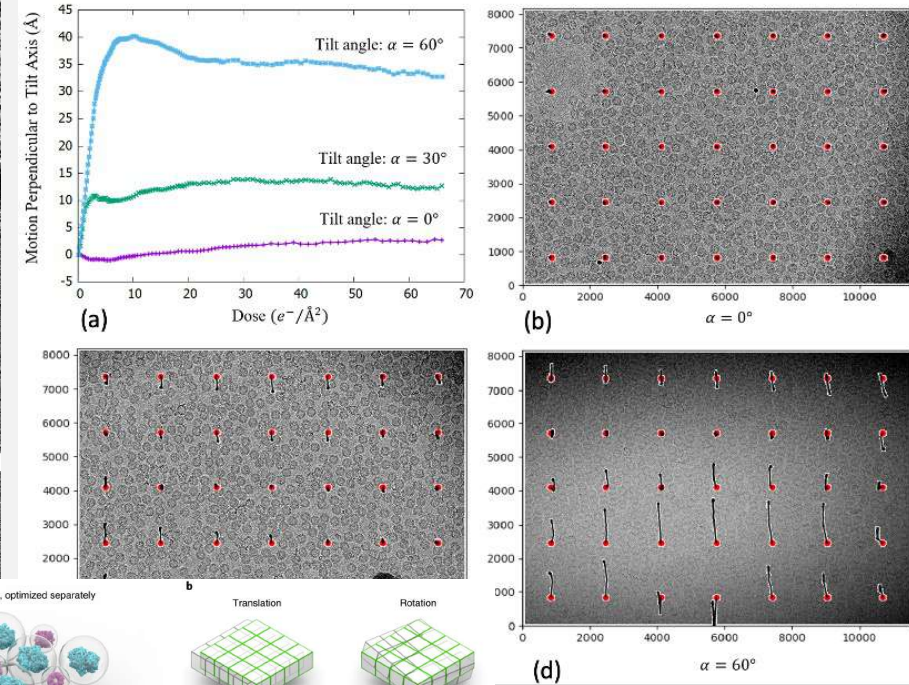
- 3D modeling



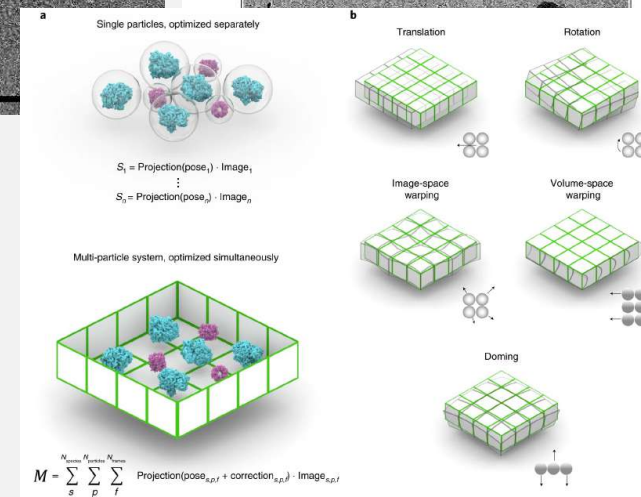
Unblur



Motioncor2/3

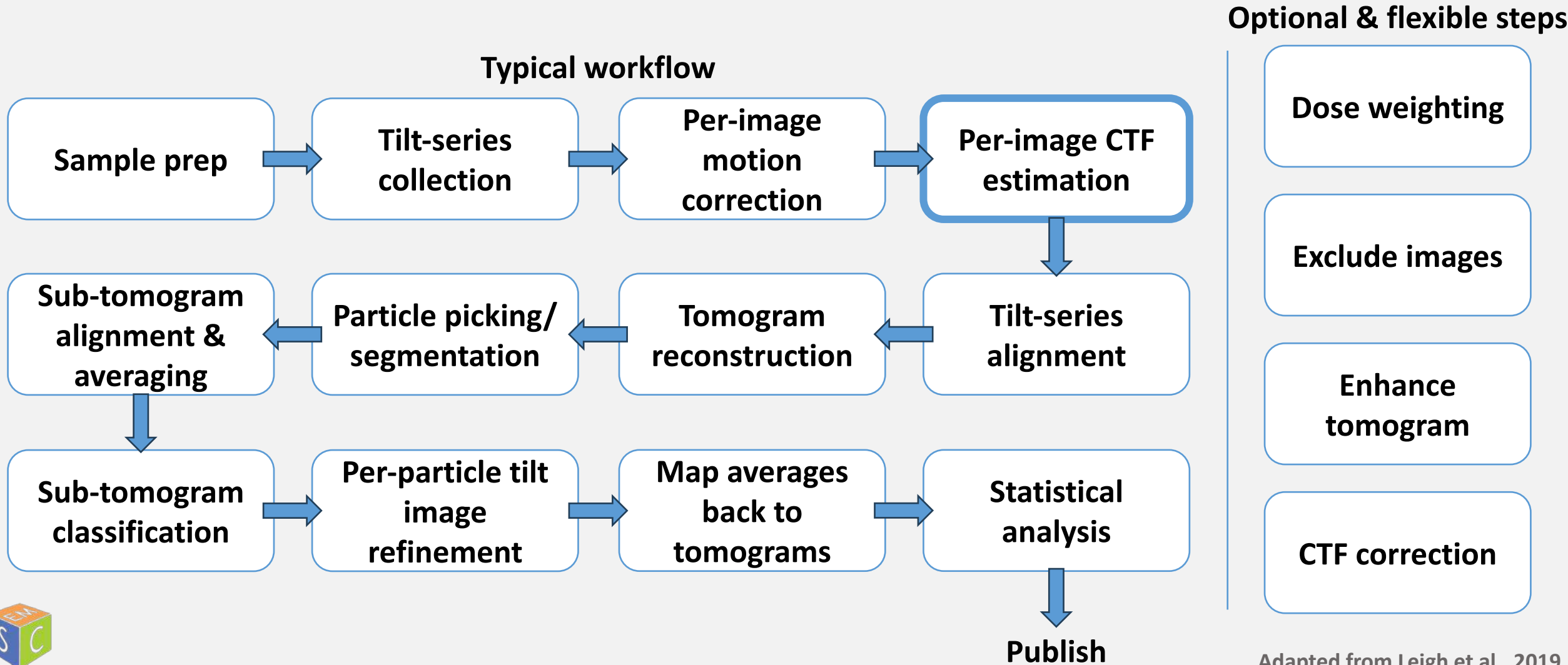


Warp



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Per-image CTF
estimation

What to look for:

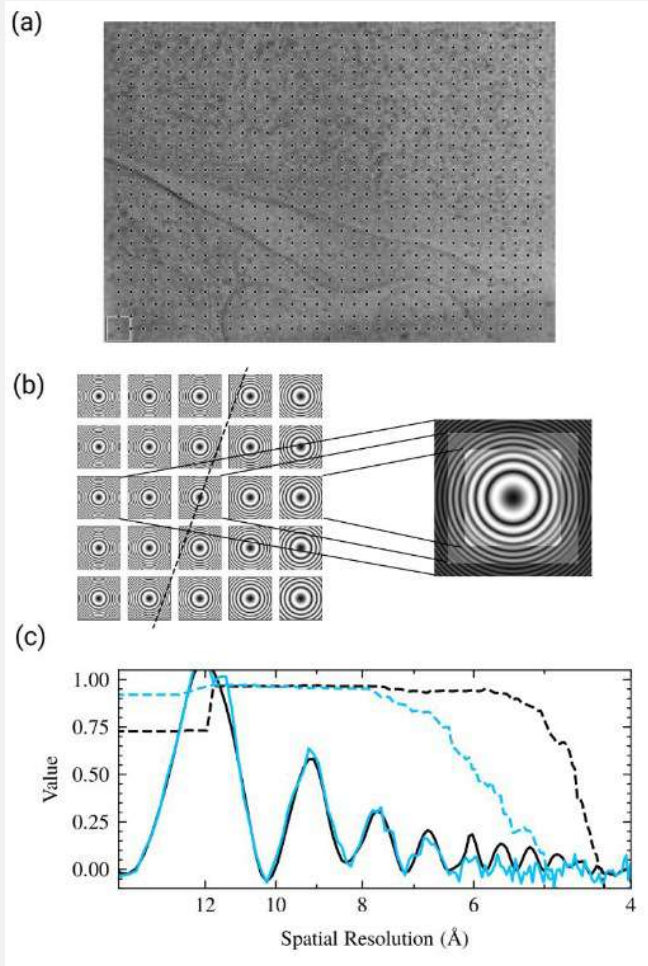
- Accurate high-resolution estimation (3-4 angstroms)
- Local CTF estimation (defocus gradient)
- Refines based on whole tilt-series



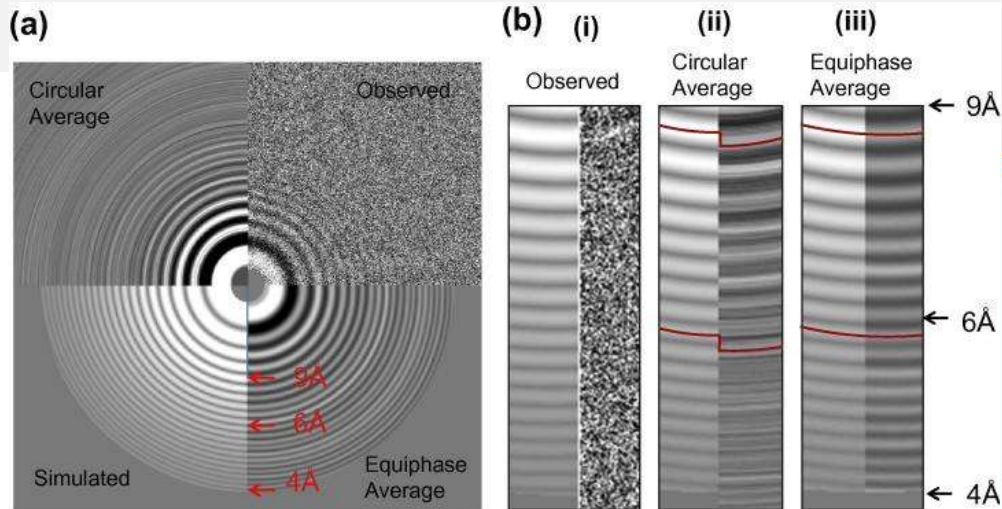
Software for

Per-image CTF estimation

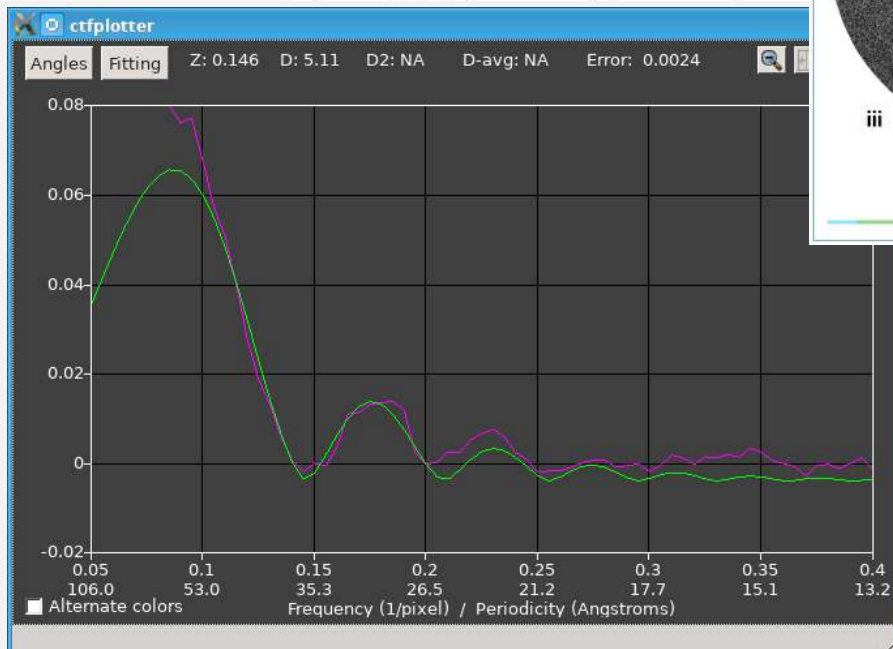
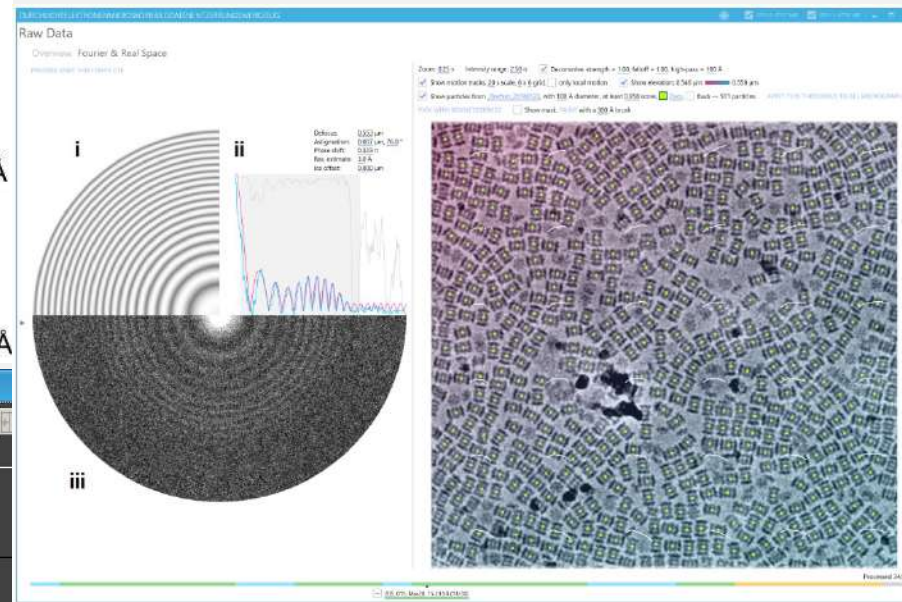
CTFFIND 4/5



GCTF



Warp



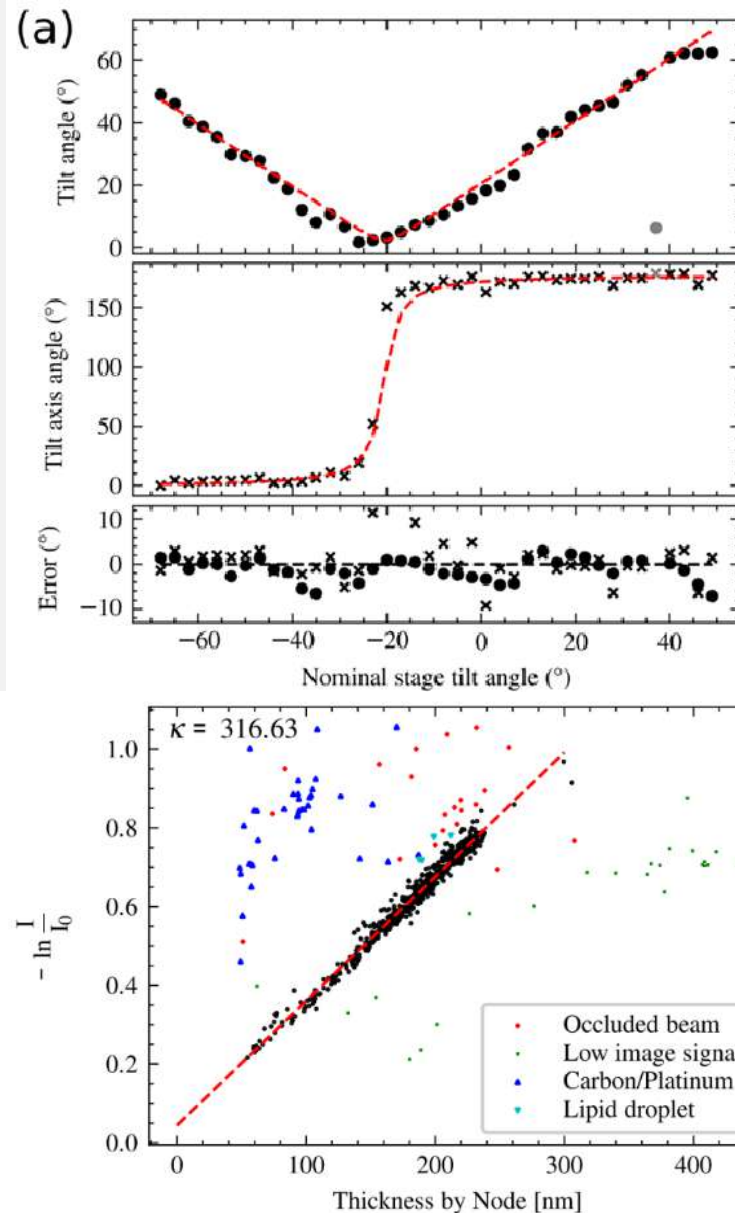
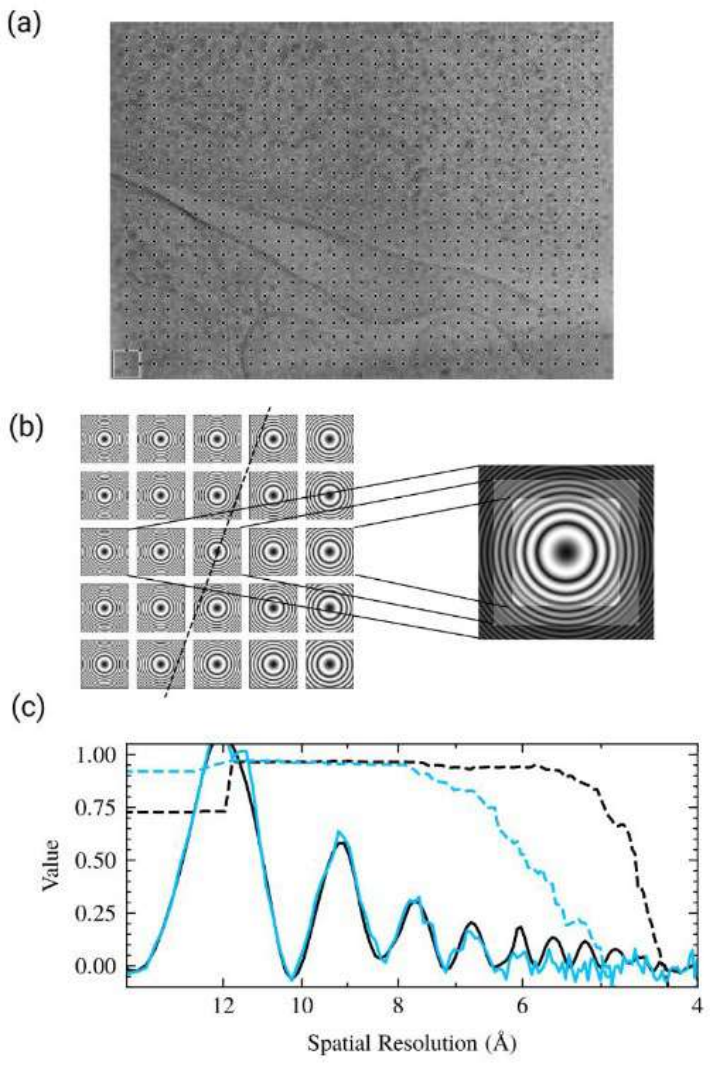
CTFPlotter



Software for

Per-image CTF estimation

CTFFIND 4/5



- Local CTF estimation
- Estimates tilt axis angle per image
- Estimates local ice thickness
- Corrects for CTF

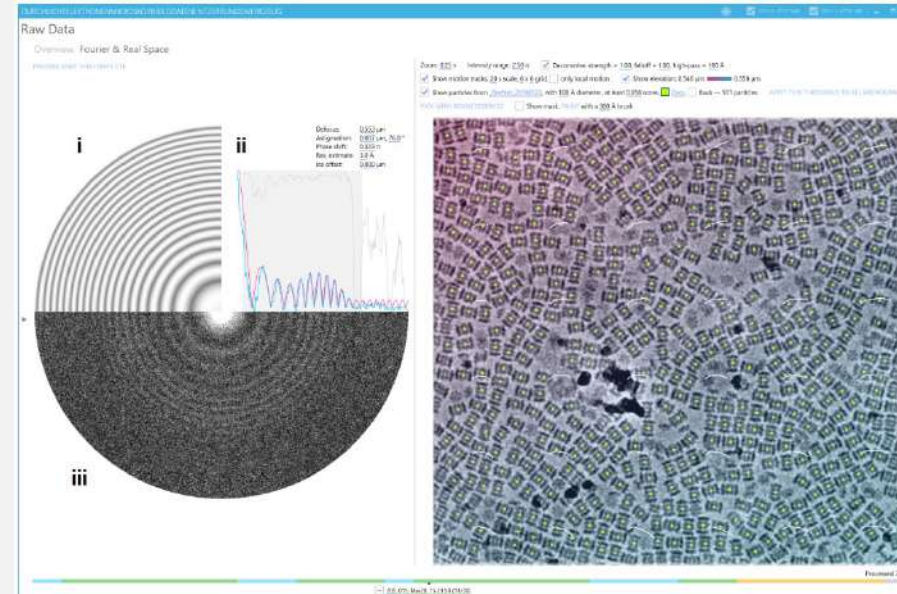
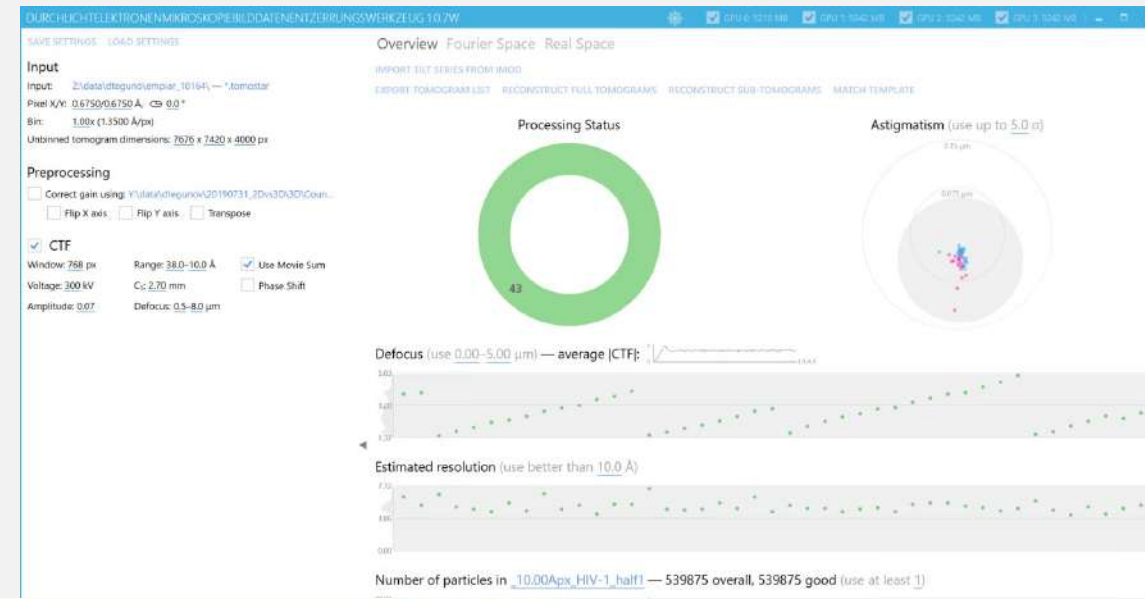


Software for

Per-image CTF estimation

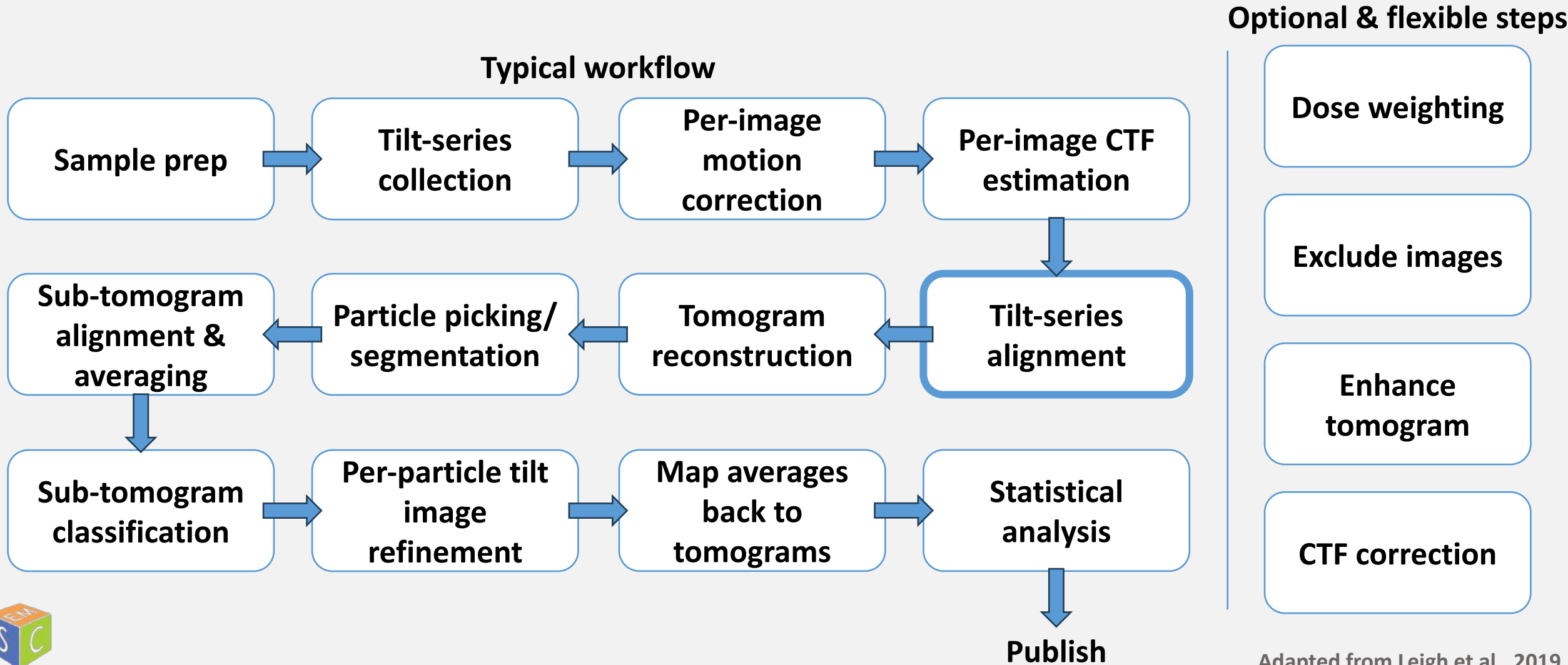
- Local CTF estimation
- Estimates tilt axis angle per image
- Determines handedness
- Refines based on whole tilt-series
- Corrects for CTF
- Local CTF refinement

Warp



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Tilt-series
alignment

What to look for:

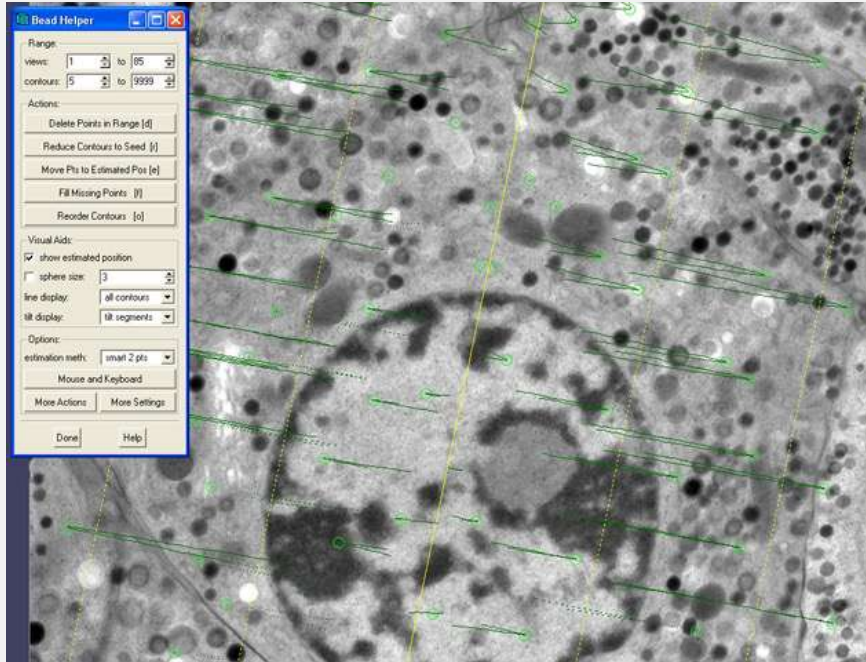
- Robustness and accuracy for your sample
- Number of parameters that need to be played with
- Speed – can it keep up with data collection?



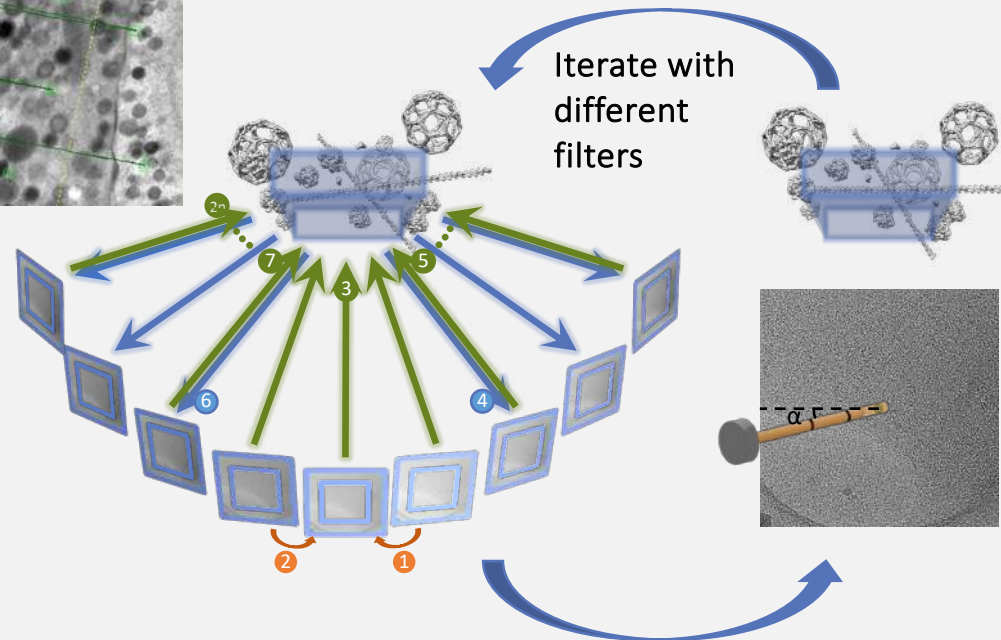
Software for

Tilt-series
alignment

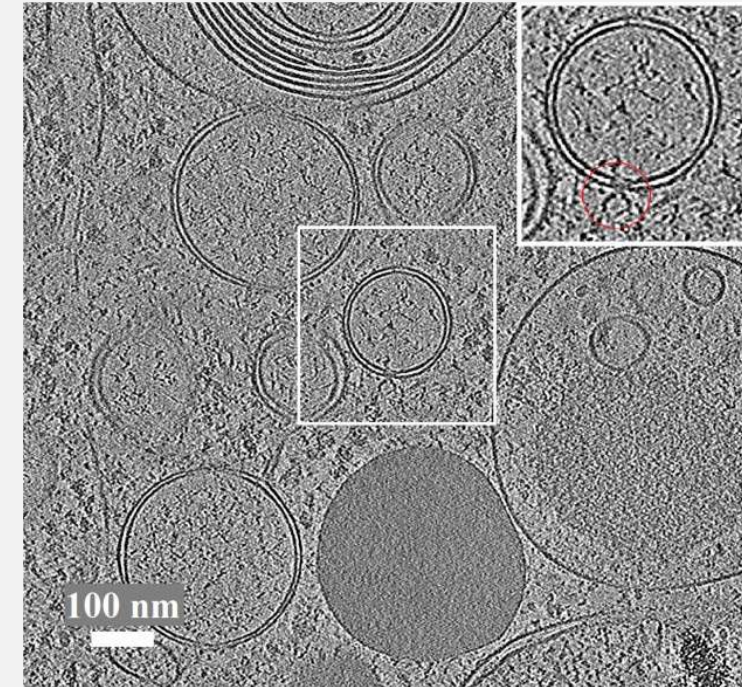
IMOD



Protomo



Aretomo

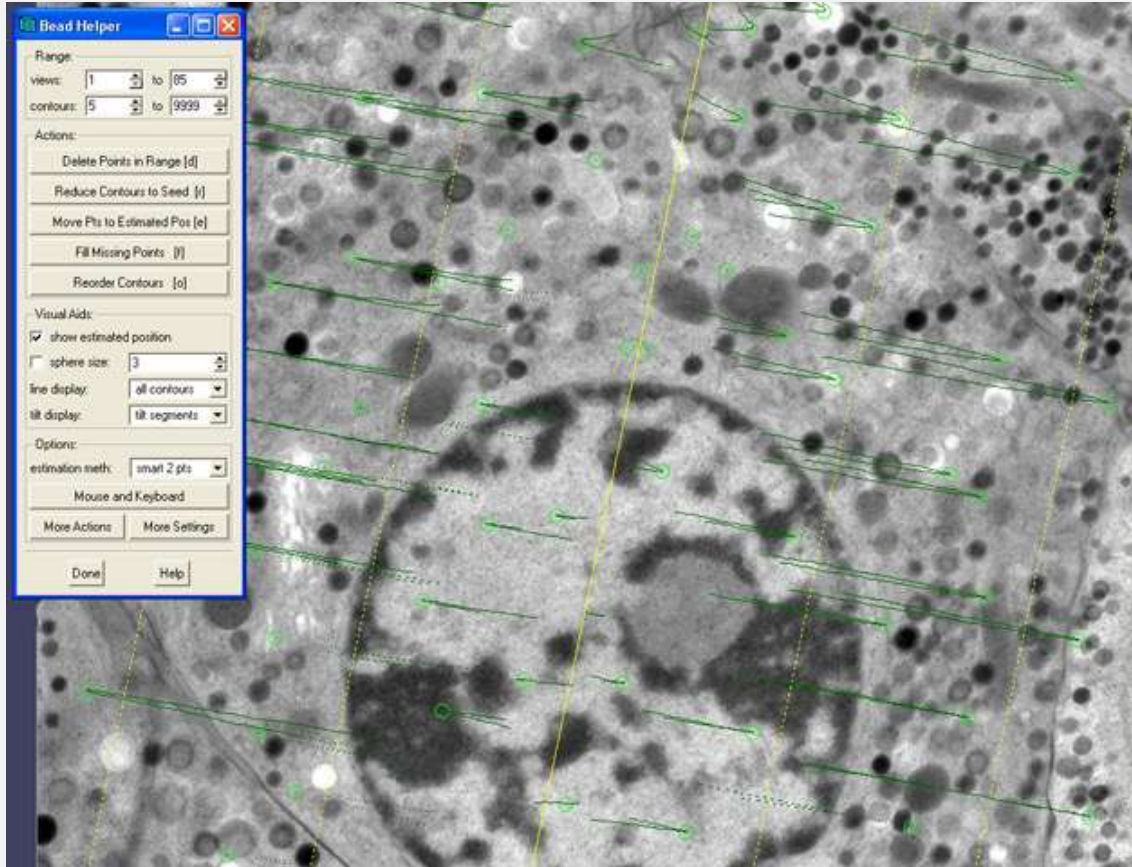


Software for

Tilt-series
alignment

IMOD (and other gold bead tracking software)

- Requires a sufficient number of well-behaved gold beads
 - Sample prep optimization
- Semi-automated in IMOD
- Automated in other workflows



David Mastronarde



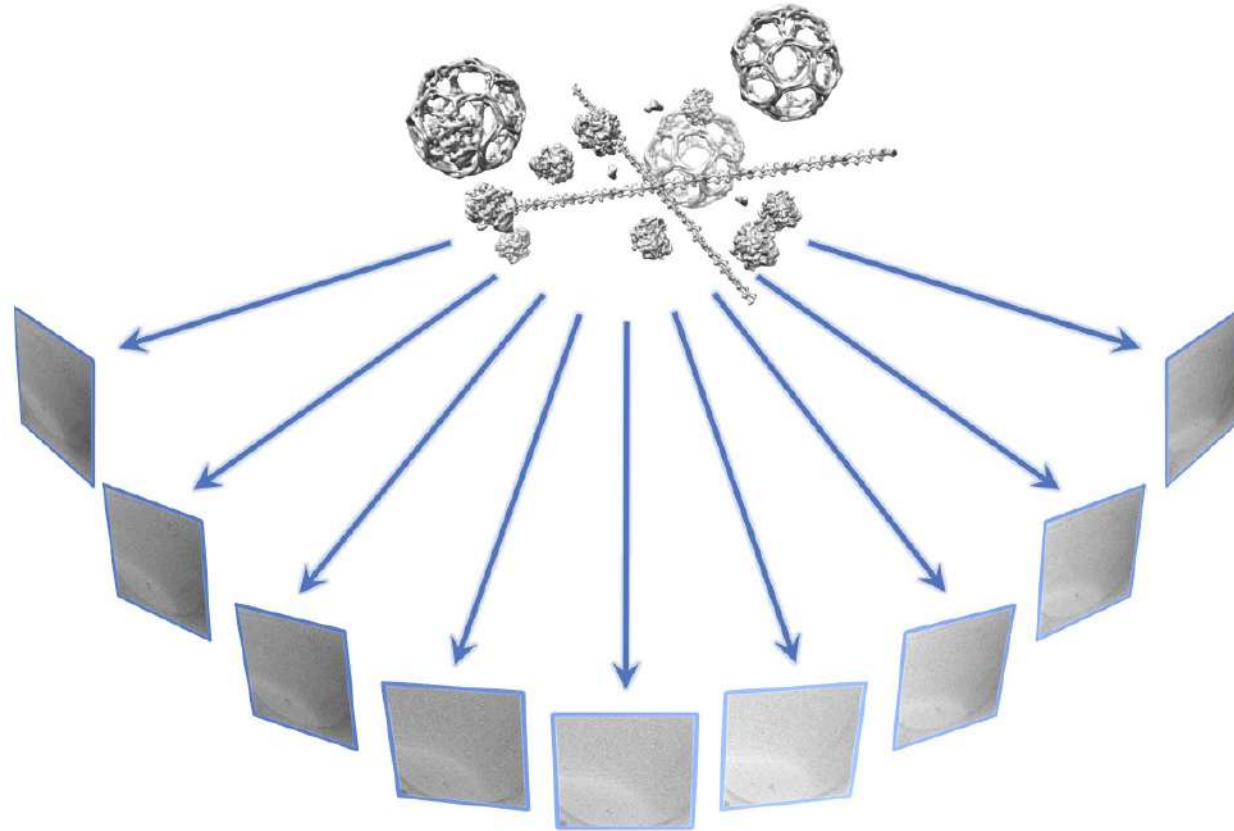
Software for

Tilt-series
alignment

Protomo



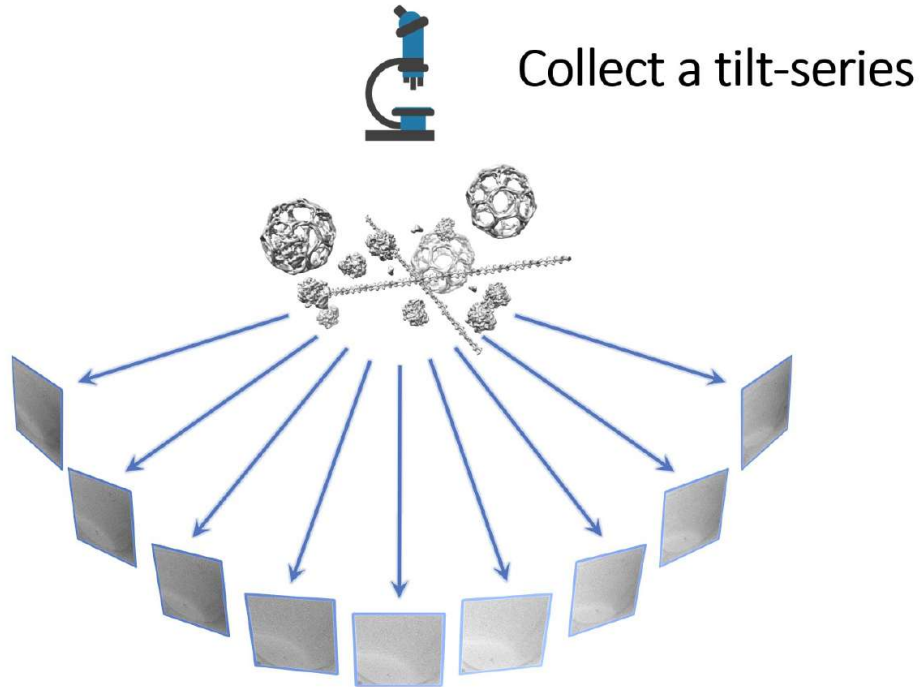
Collect a tilt-series



Software for

Tilt-series
alignment

Protomo

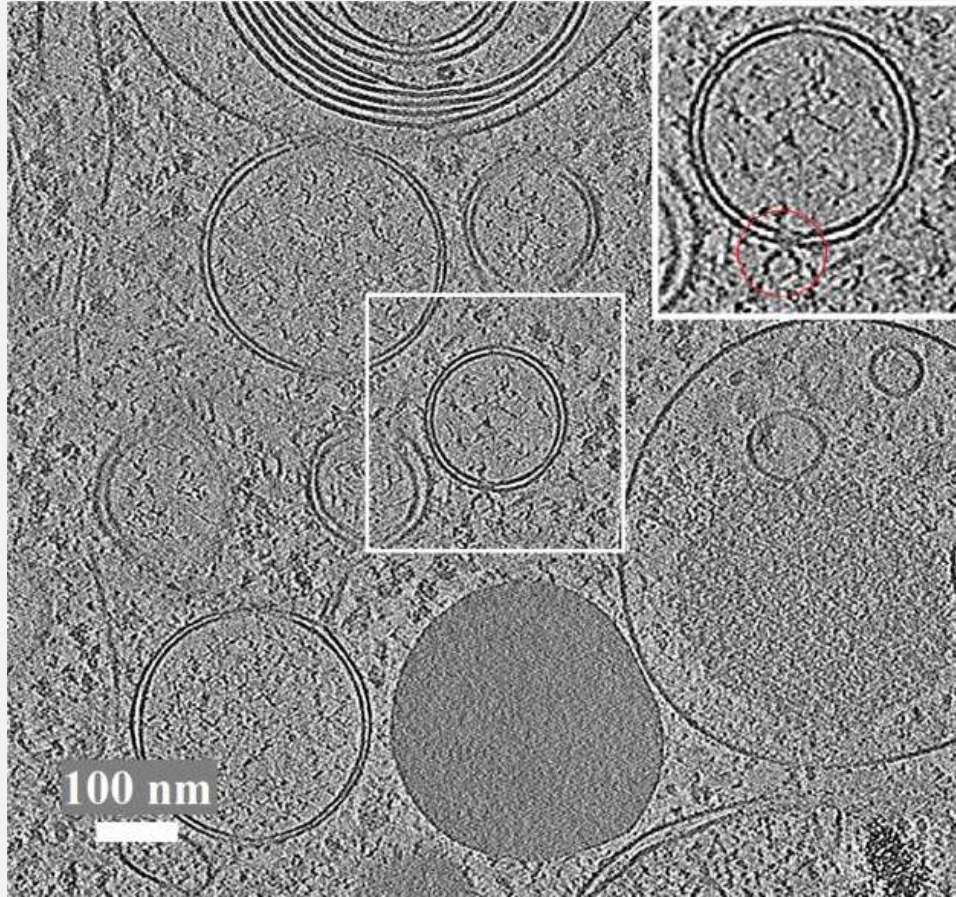


- No gold beads
- One of the most accurate methods
- Slow – hours to days
- Only thing it doesn't refine are nominal tilt angles

Software for

Tilt-series
alignment

Aretomo



Zheng et al., 2022

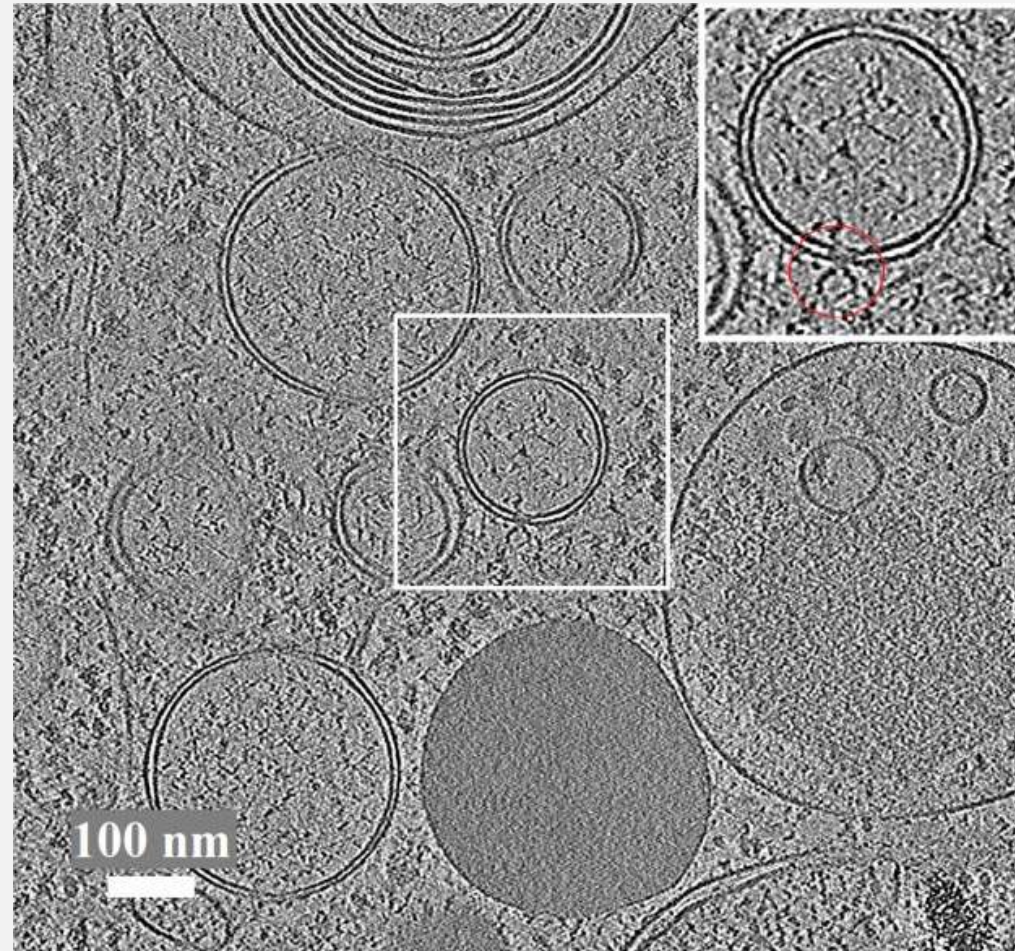
- No gold beads
- Similar method as Protomo
- Local alignment
- Aretomo2 includes CTF estimation
- Fast – a couple minutes



Software for

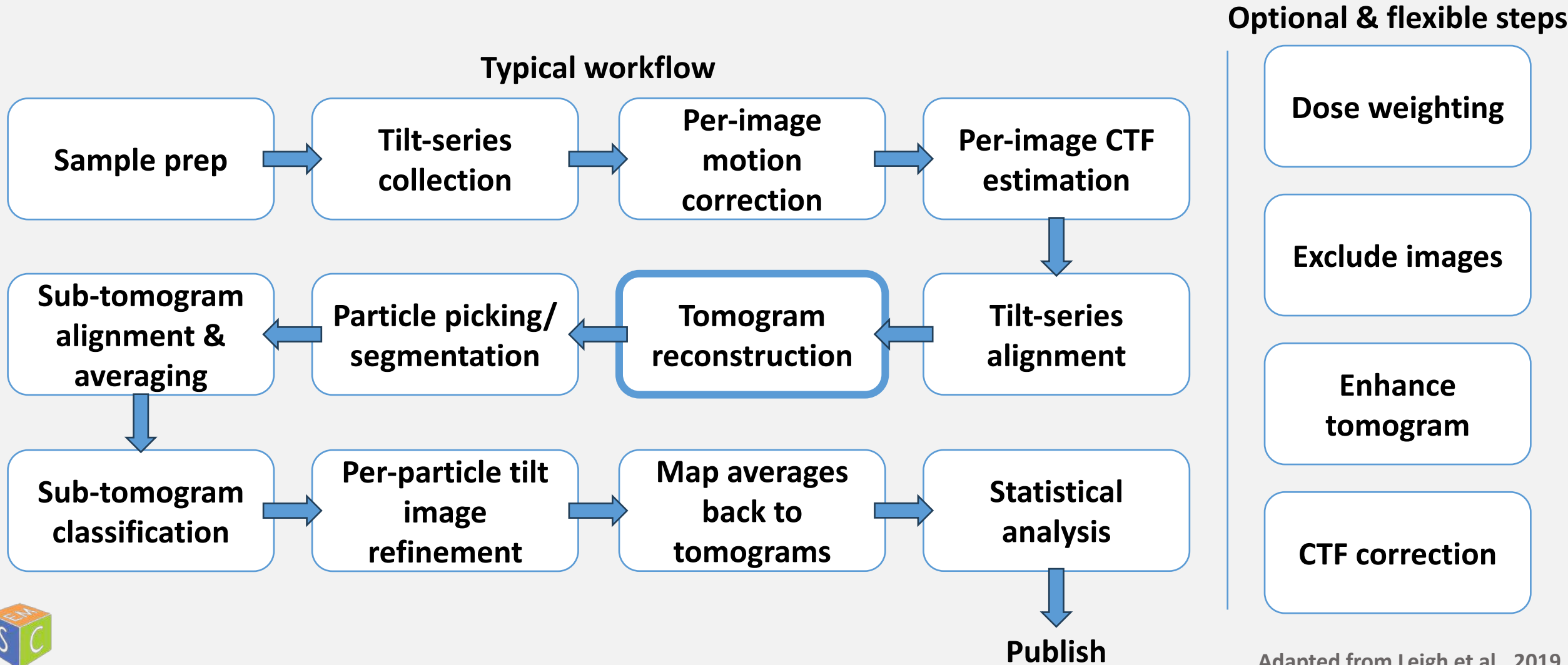
Tilt-series
alignment

- Best workflow is Aretomo



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Tomogram
reconstruction

What to look for:

- Fidelity to original data
- How missing wedge is treated
- Is the resulting tomogram useful for visualization/segmentation or sub-tmogram processing?



Software for

Tomogram
reconstruction

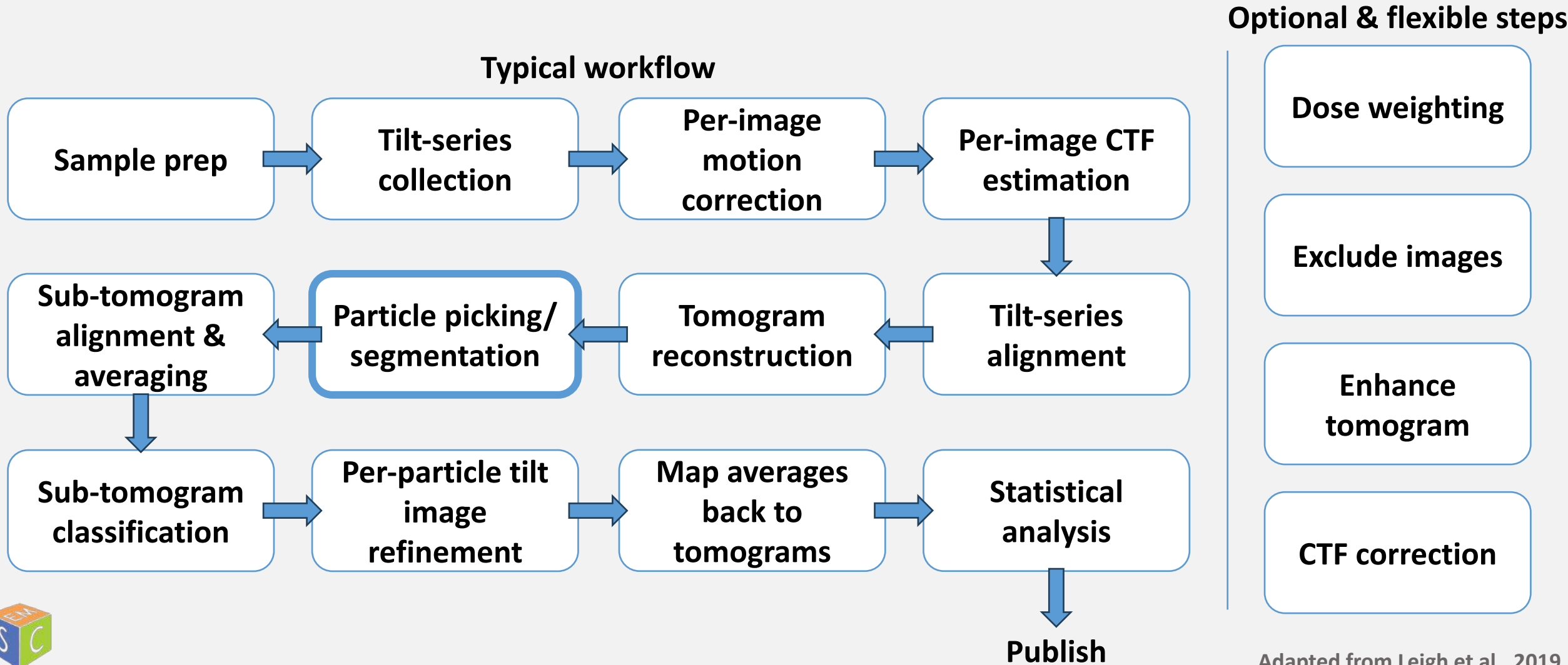
Many, many algorithms and software:

- Algorithms: Weighted Back-Projection (WBP), SIRT, ART, SART, FIRT, MBIR, ...
- IMOD
- Aretomo
- Protomo
- Warp
- TomoAlign
- Tomo3D
- EMAN2



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Particle picking/
segmentation

What to look for:

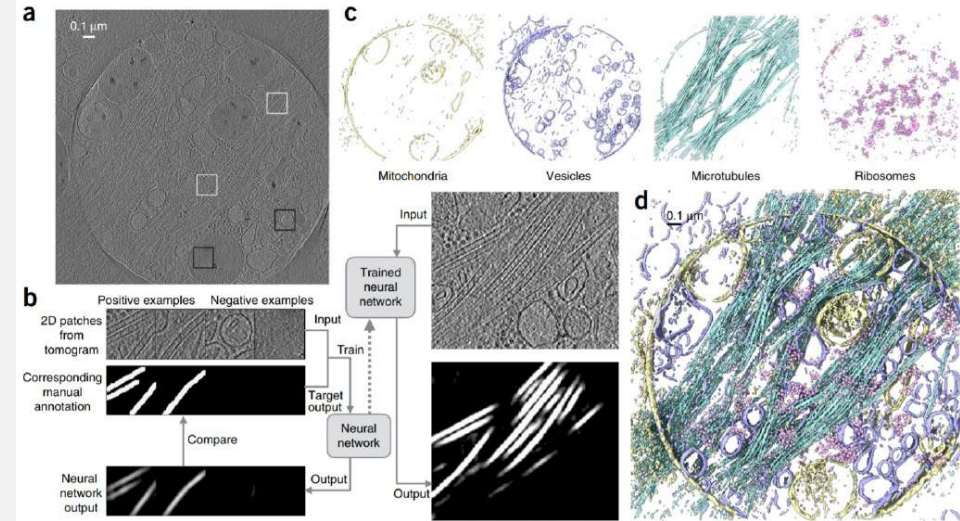
- Are my objects of interest picked?
- How much error is there?
- Reproducibility
- Is there an iterative workflow (e.g. retraining)?



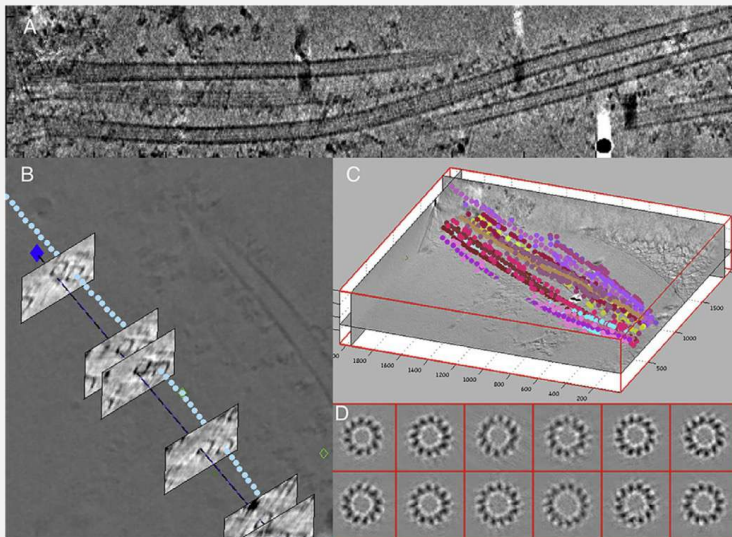
Software for

Particle picking/
segmentation

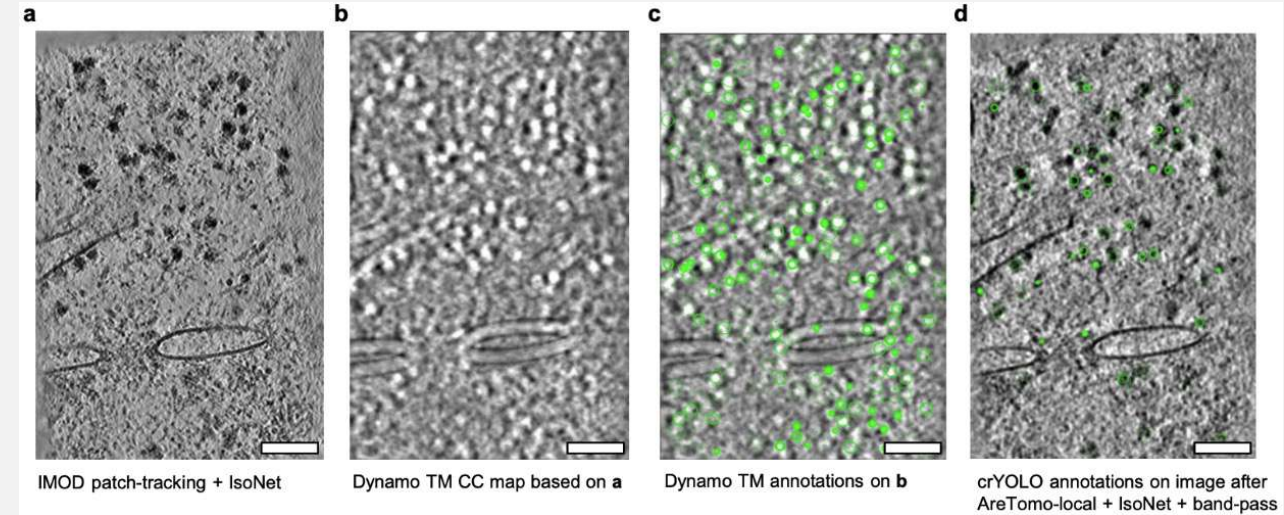
EMAN2



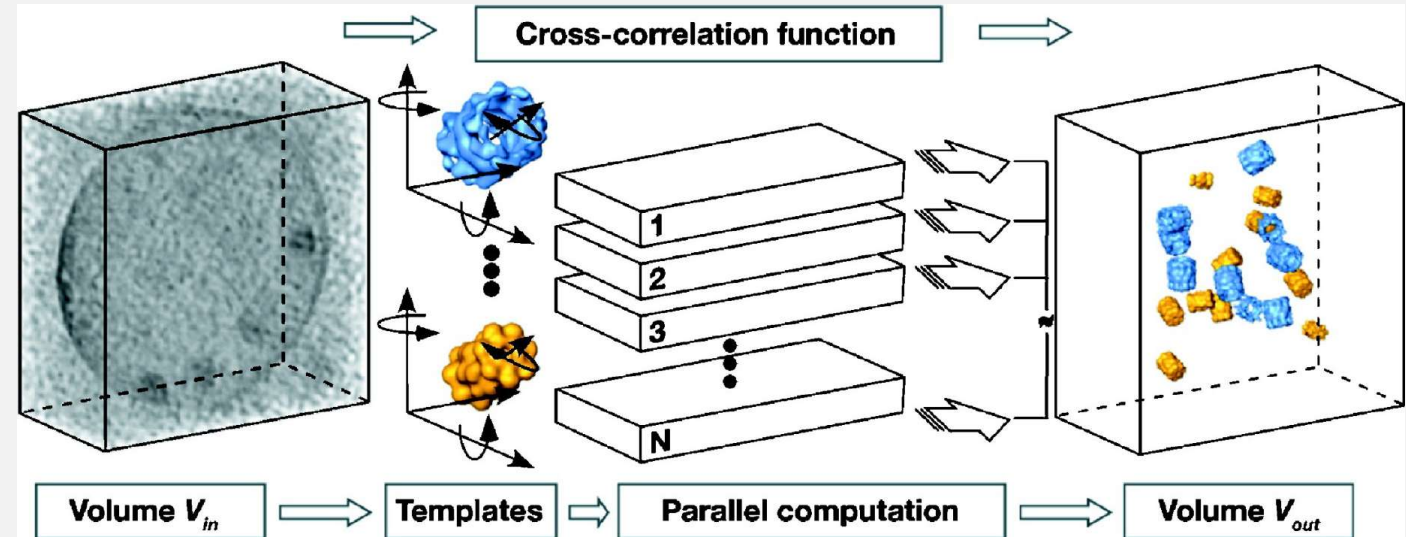
Dynamo



CrYOLO



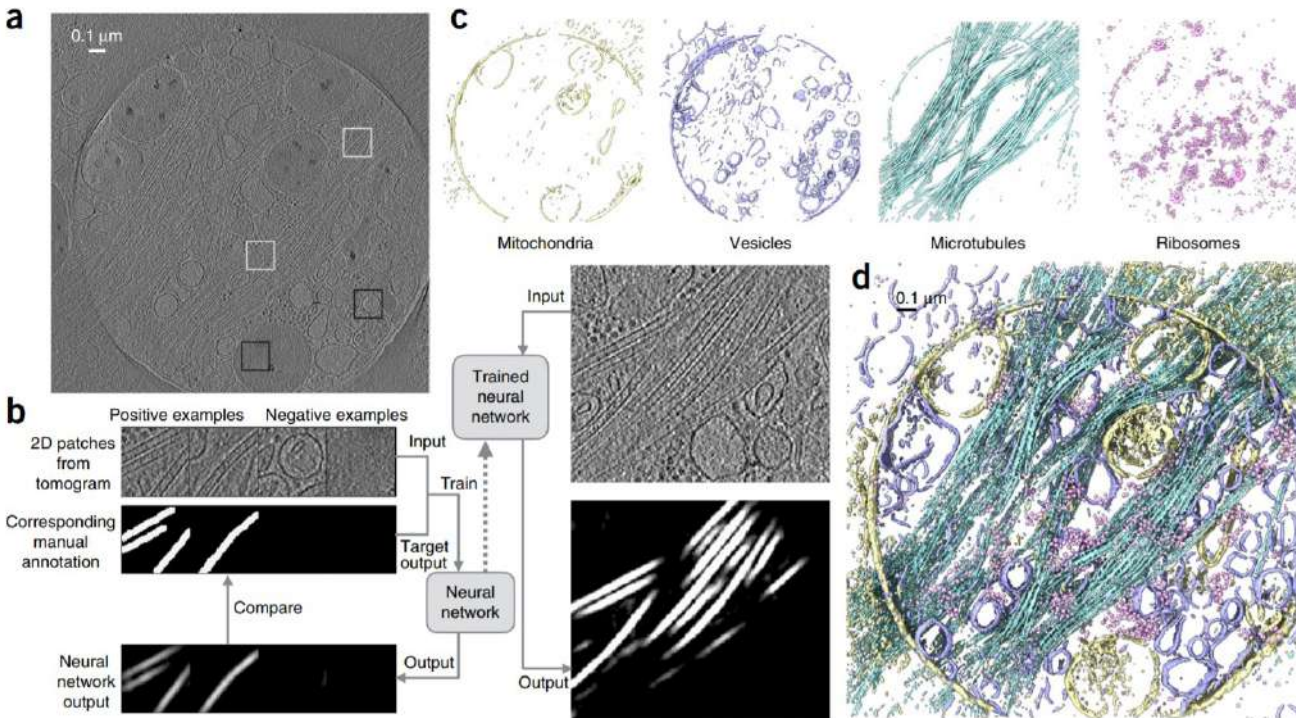
Template matching



Software for

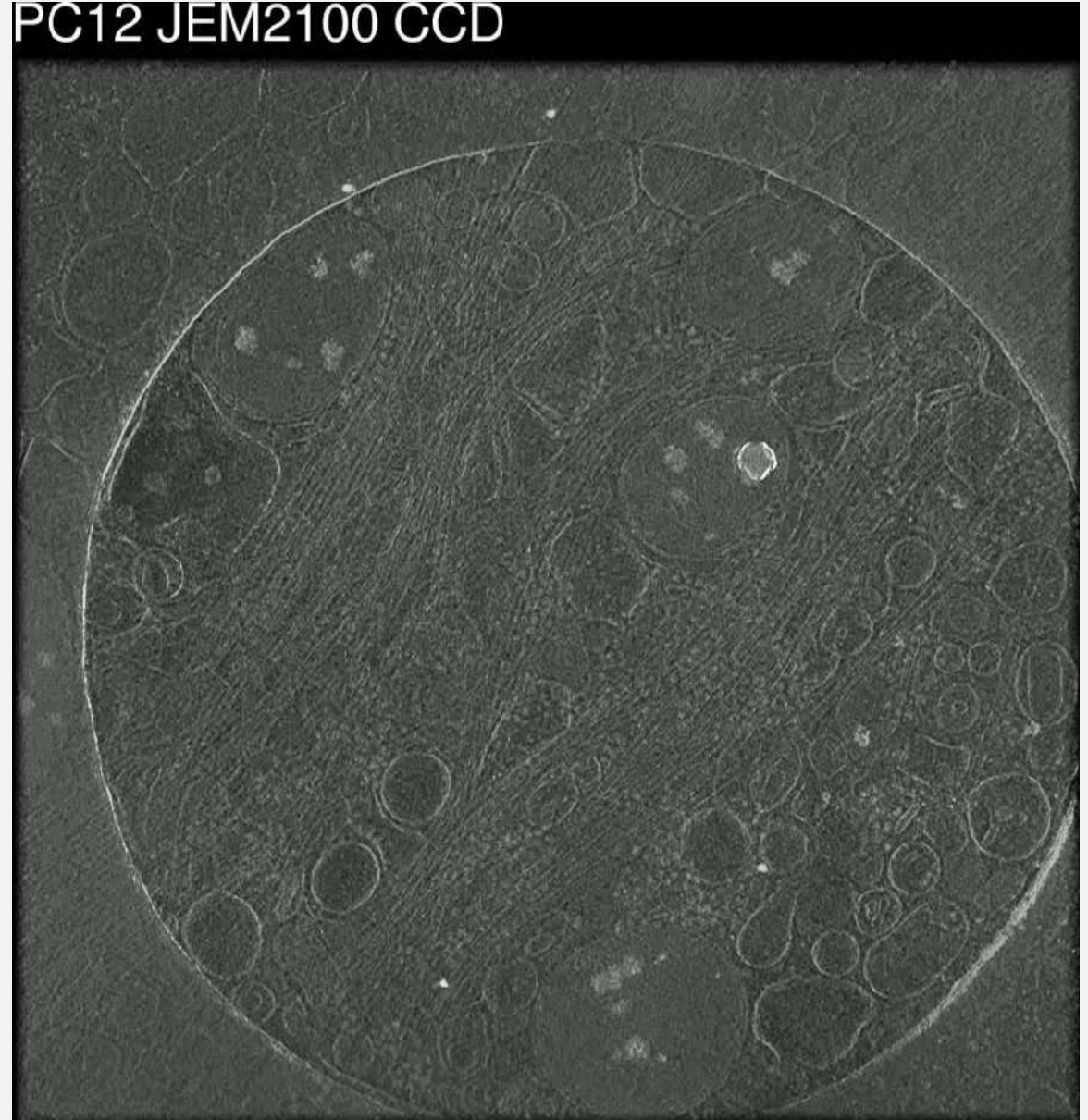
Particle picking/
segmentation

EMAN2



- Machine learning
- Train with positives and negatives

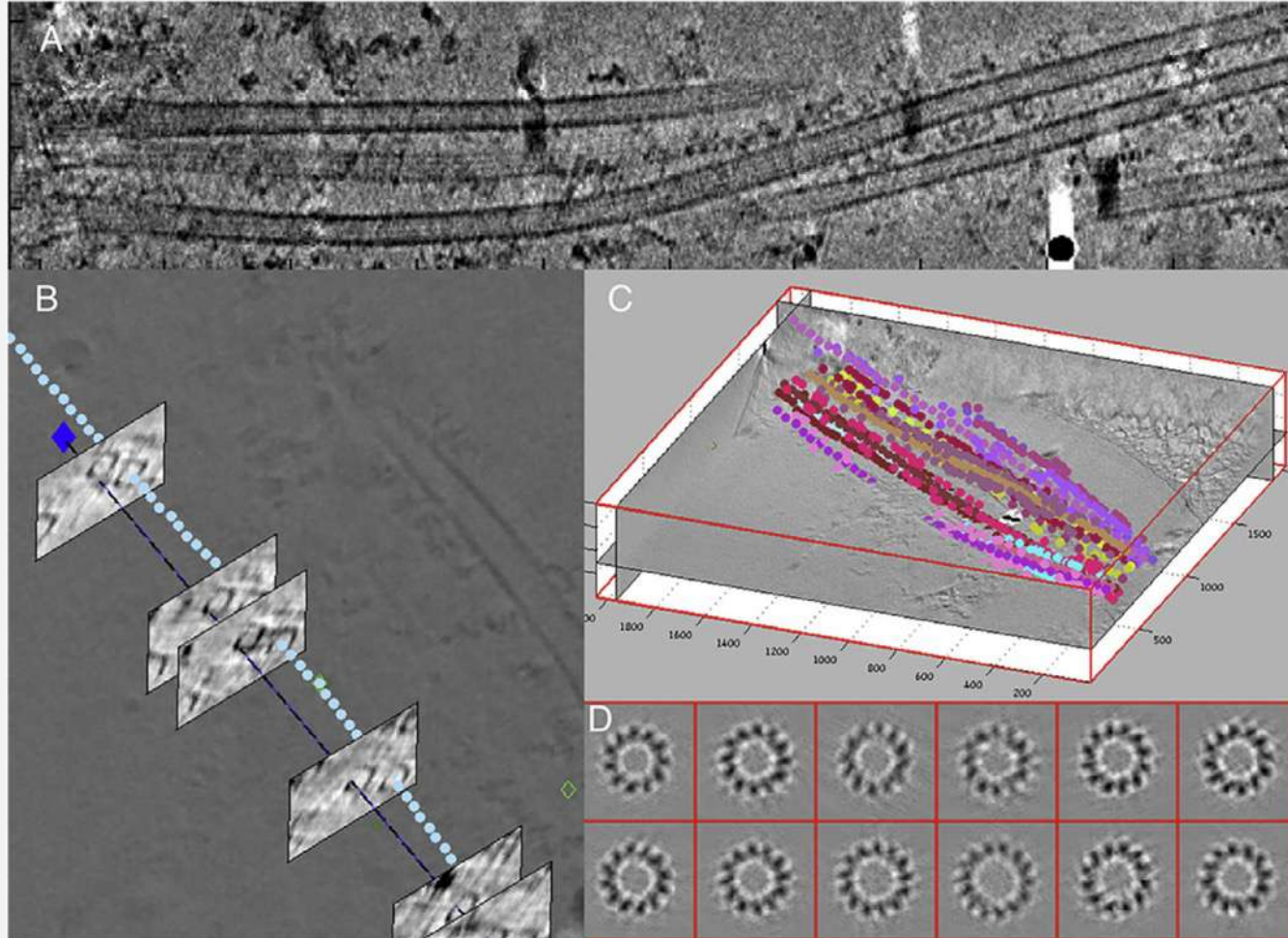
PC12 JEM2100 CCD



Software for

Particle picking/
segmentation

Dynamo



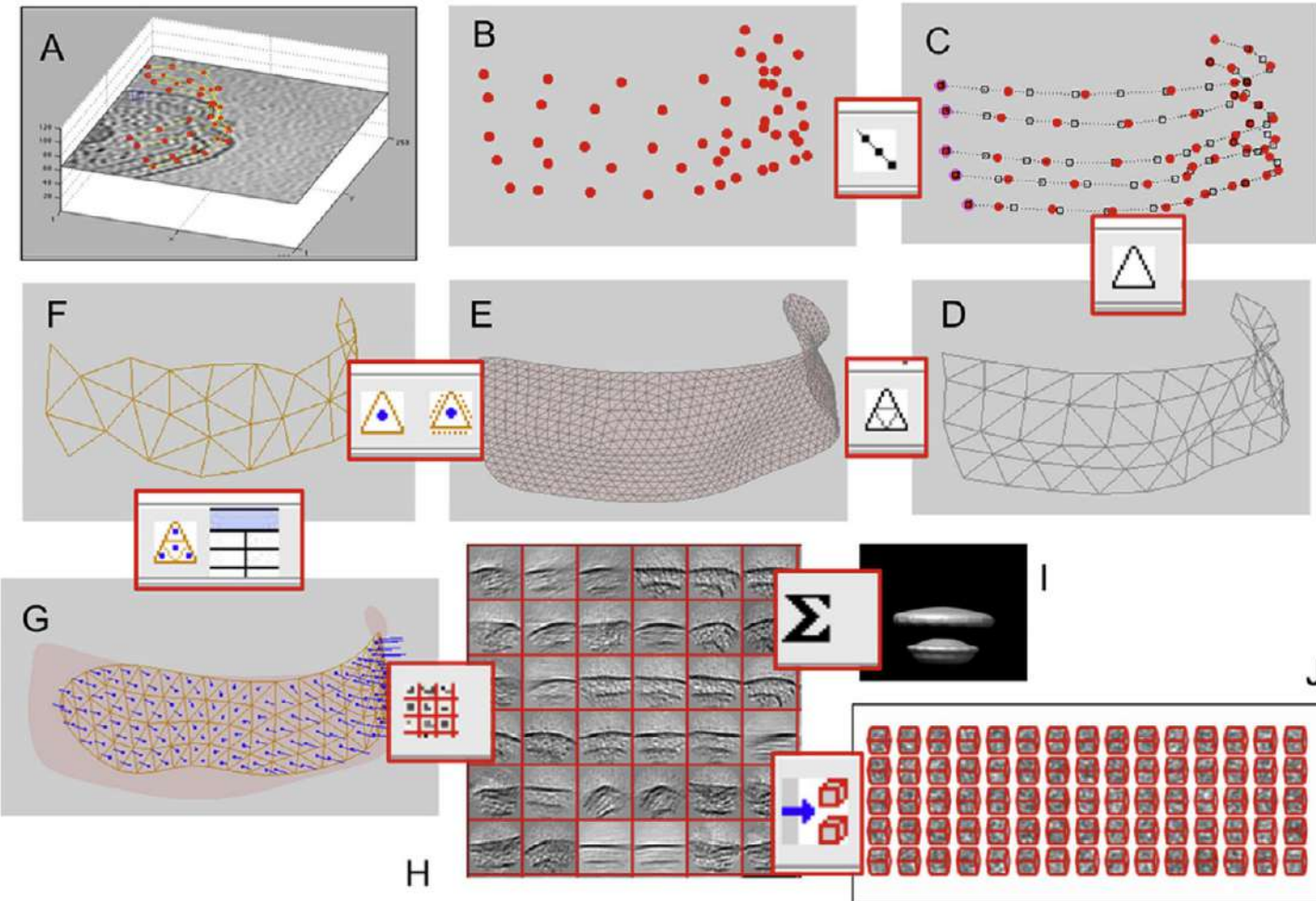
- Semi-automated
- Backbone, helical, and circumferential picking
- Helical symmetry determination



Software for

Particle picking/
segmentation

Dynamo

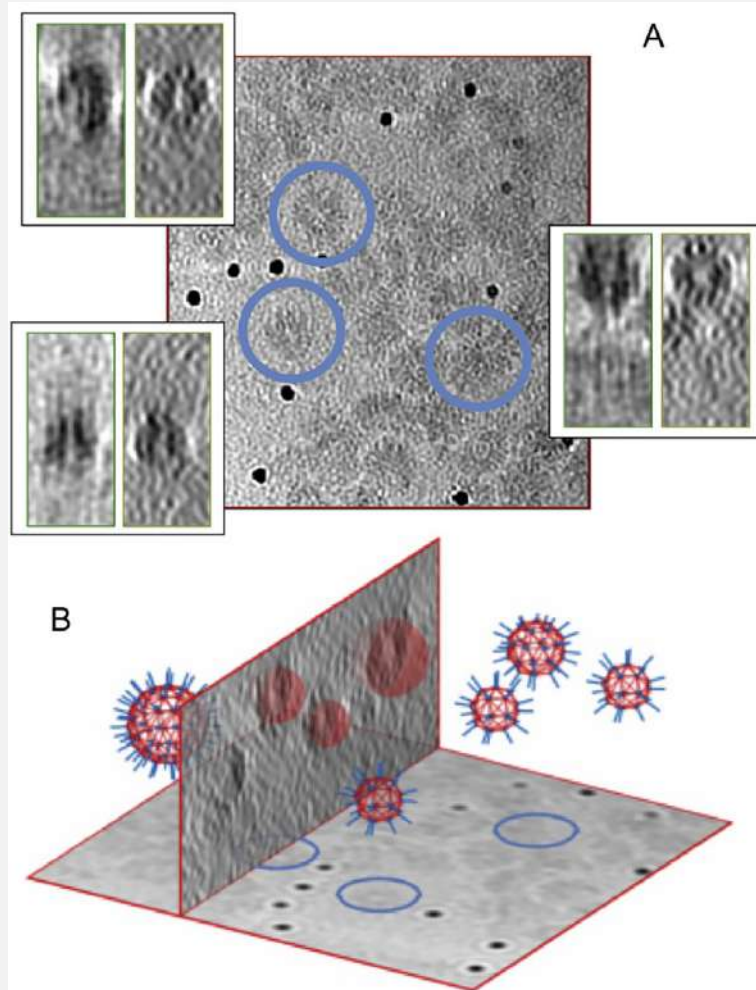


- Create meshes to pick on any shape membrane

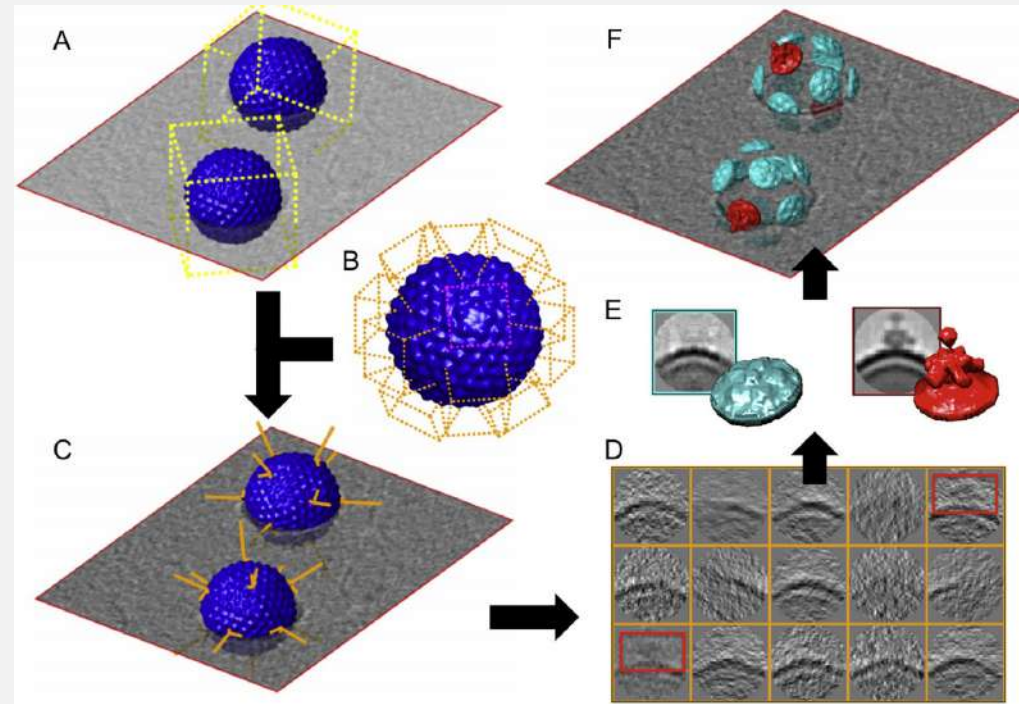
Software for

Particle picking/
segmentation

Dynamo



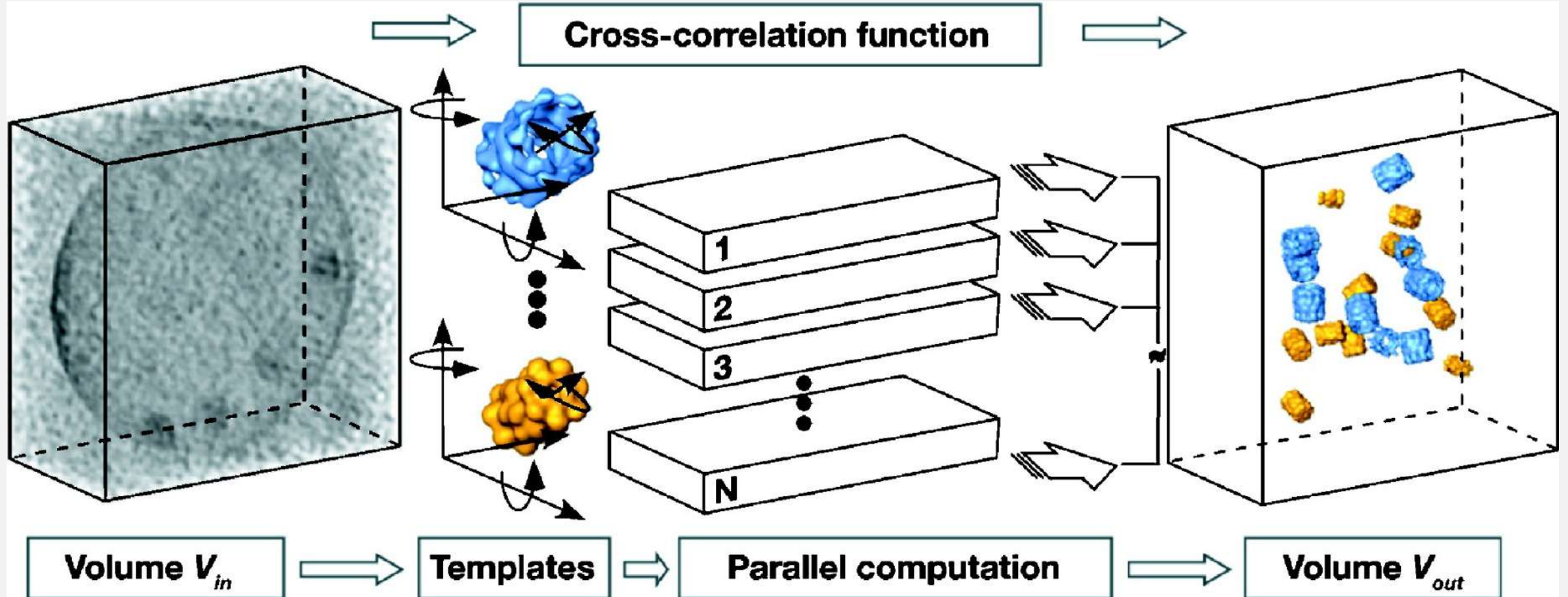
- Pick vesicles and pick around vesicles



Software for

Particle picking/
segmentation

Template matching



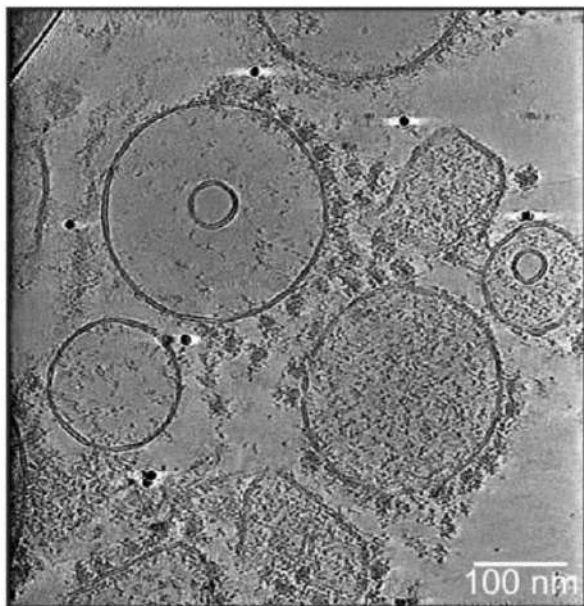
- Pick based on size and shape

Software for

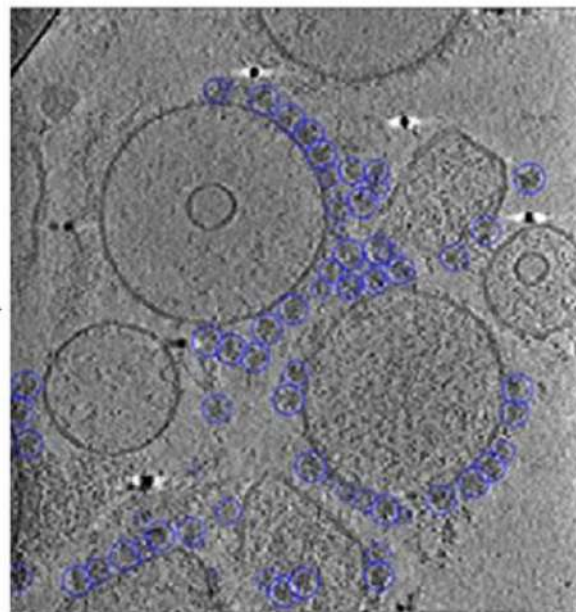
Particle picking/
segmentation

Template matching in PyTOM

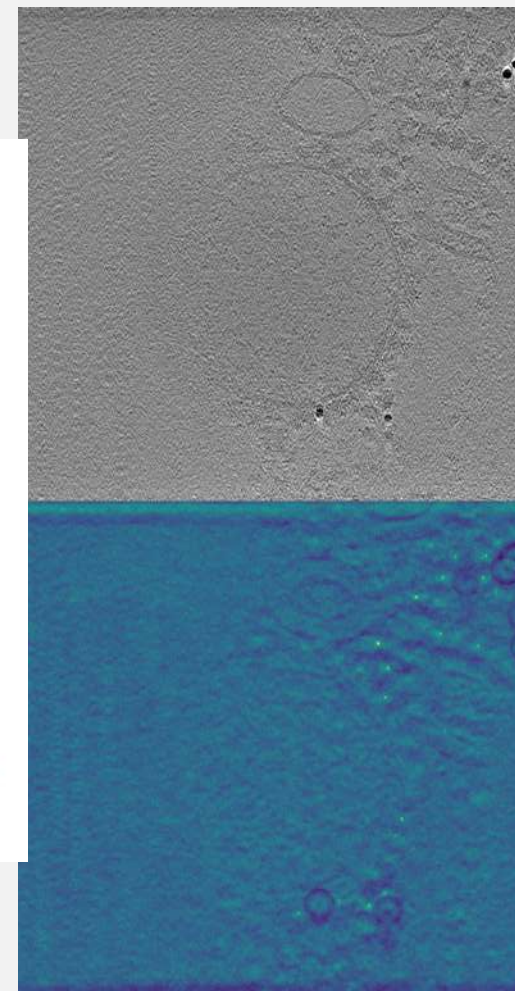
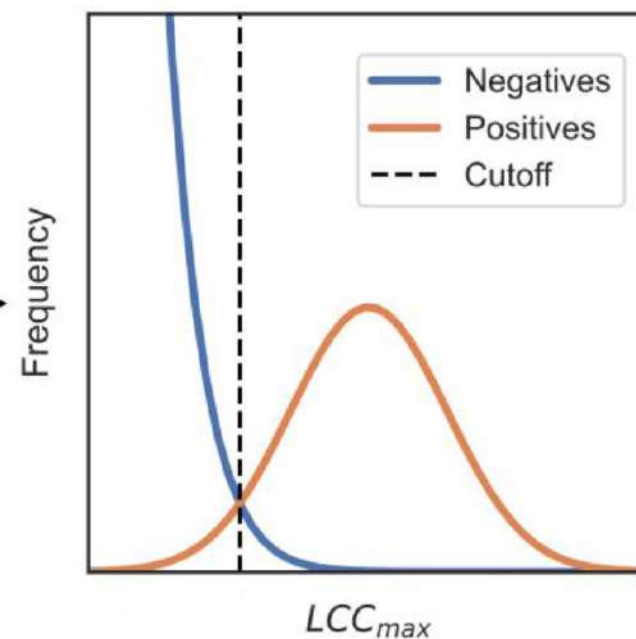
Tomogram



TM Candidates



Histogram fit



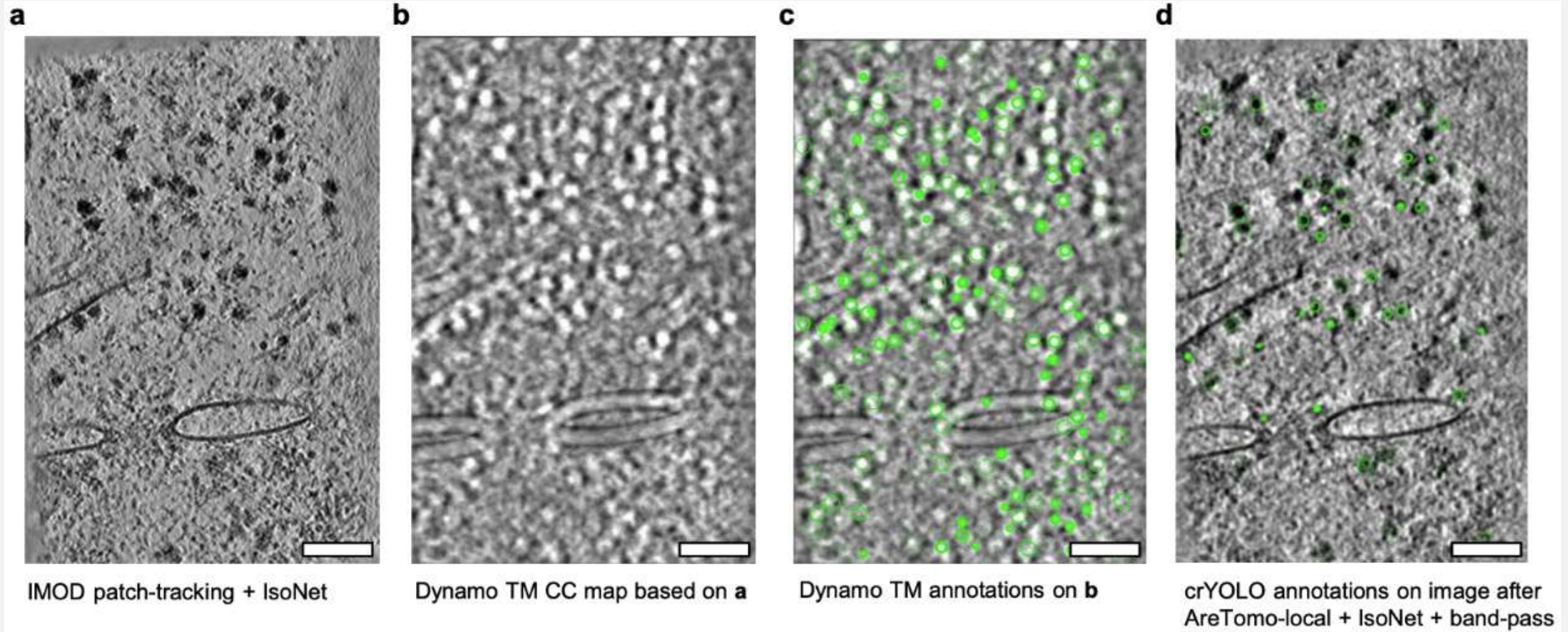
- GPU-accelerated, refines positions and angles



Software for

Particle picking/
segmentation

CrYOLO

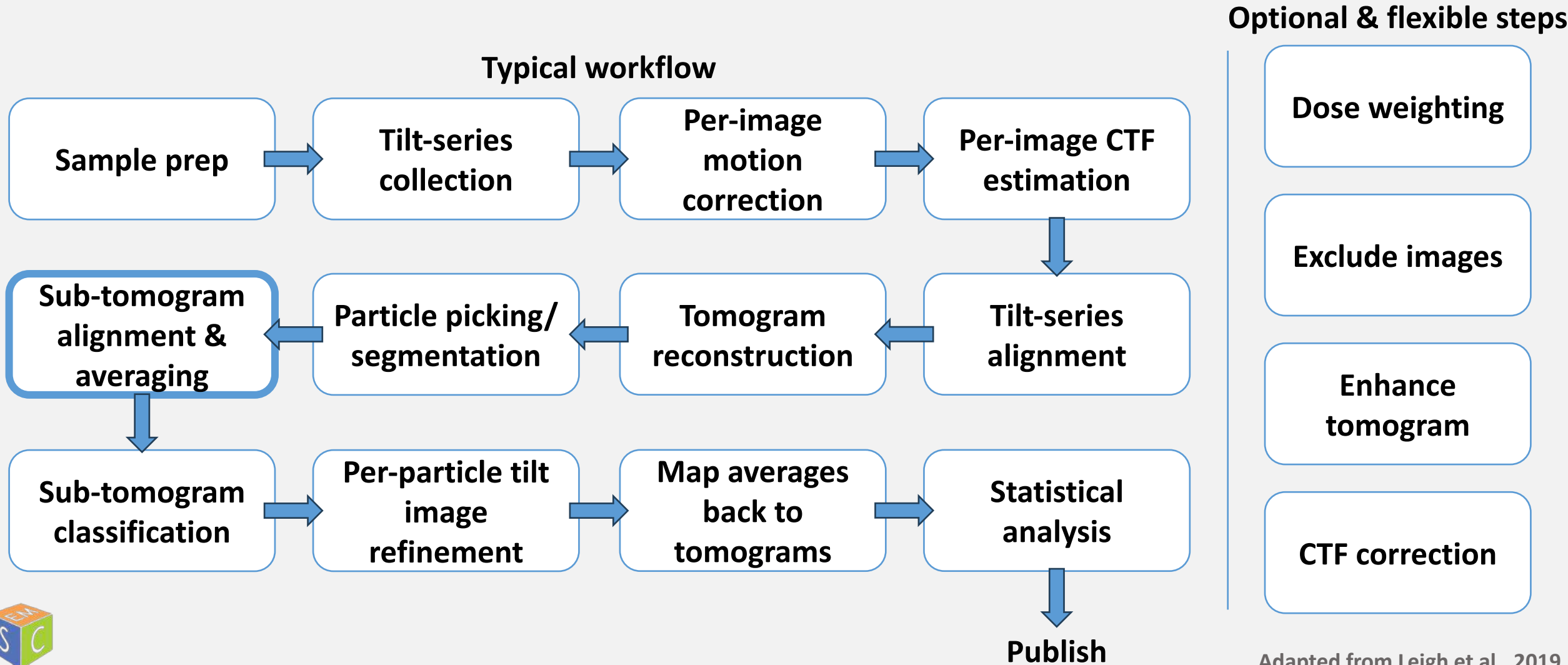


- Machine learning
- Requires many positive and negative labels



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Sub-tomogram
alignment &
averaging

What to look for:

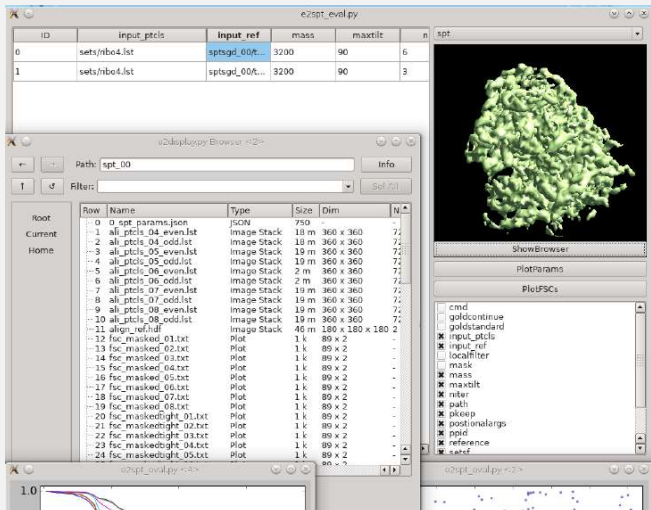
- Is it aligning in 3D or 2D?
 - If 3D, can it be moved to 2D easily?
- Is the angular search reasonable? (most are not automated like in cryoEM)
- Pay attention to binning – start with very binned data
- Use GPUs if you can



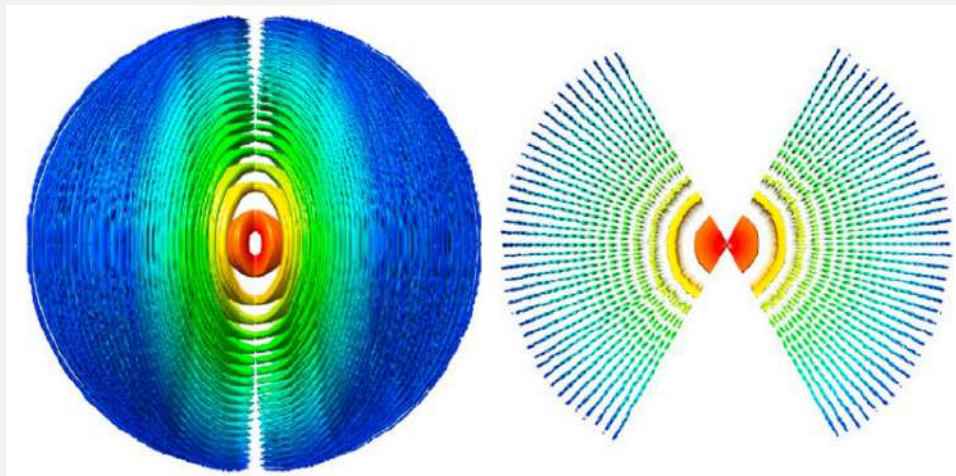
Software for

Sub-tomogram alignment & averaging

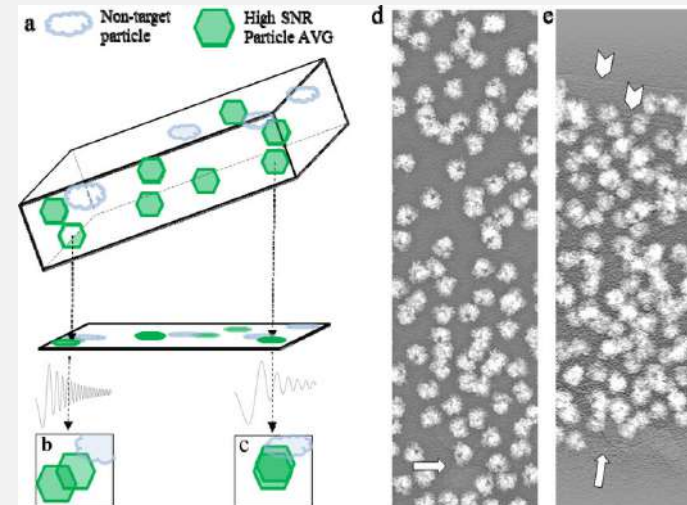
EMAN2



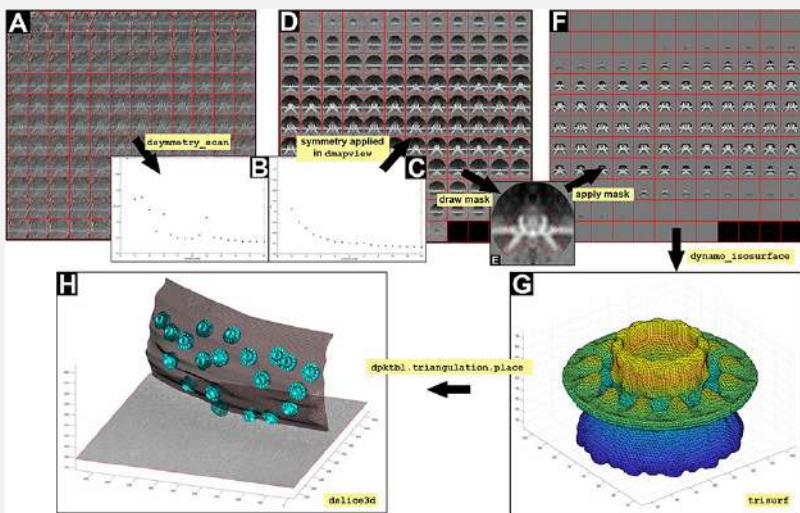
Relion



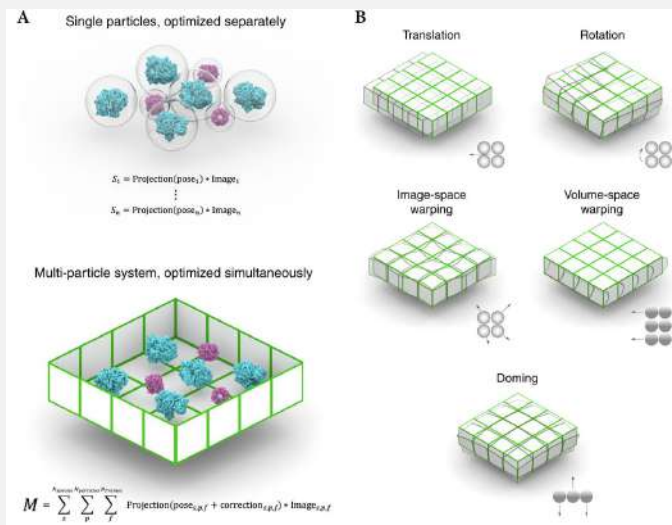
EMClarity



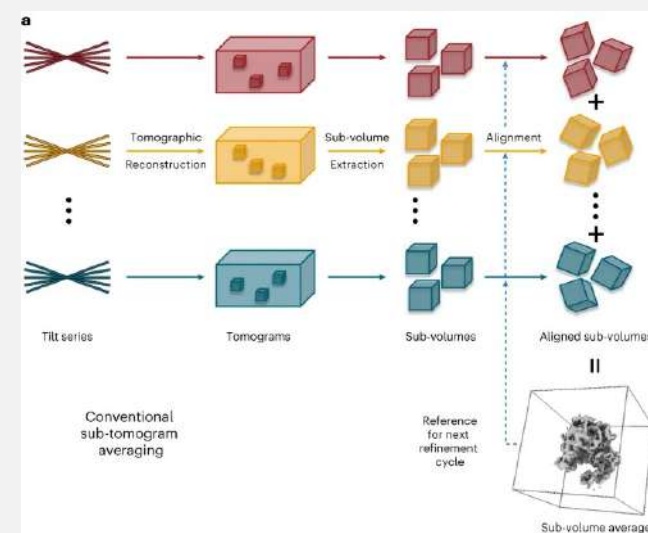
Dynamo



Warp



NextPYP



Software for

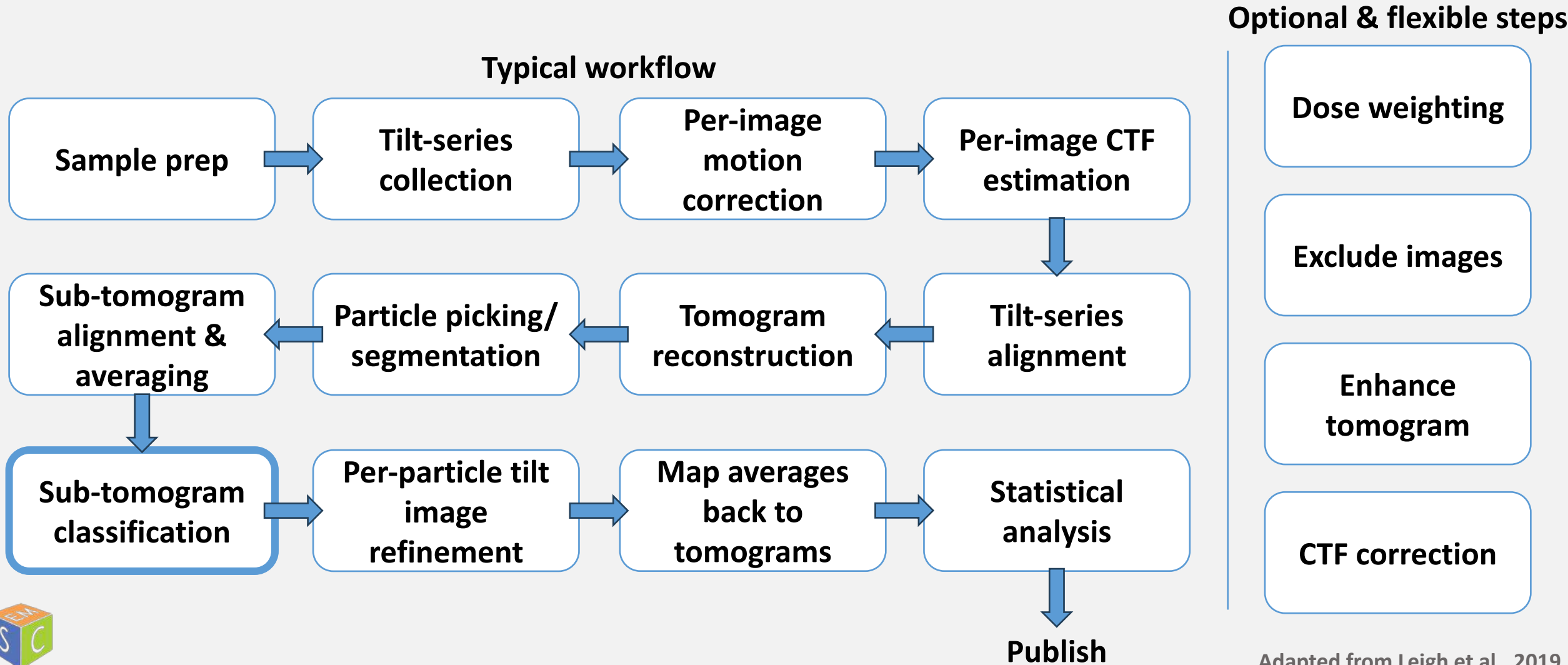
Sub-tomogram
alignment &
averaging

- 3D alignment: Can't refine image angles
- 2D alignment: Can refine image angles – higher resolution
- Common workflow: Start with 3D alignment and high binning (account for missing wedges properly), then go to 2D refinement



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Sub-tomogram
classification

What to look for:

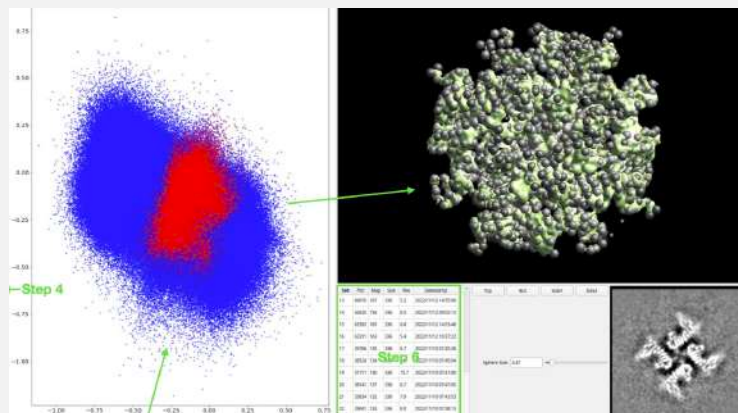
- Can the software separate real features?
- Watch out not to classify by missing wedge or defocus or ice thickness
- Speed is often an issue – 3D data takes long to process



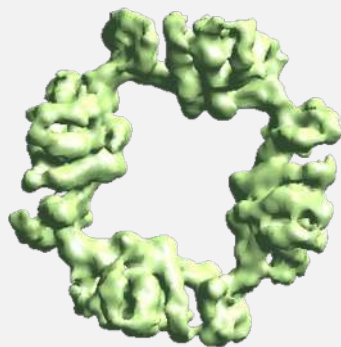
Software for

Sub-tomogram
classification

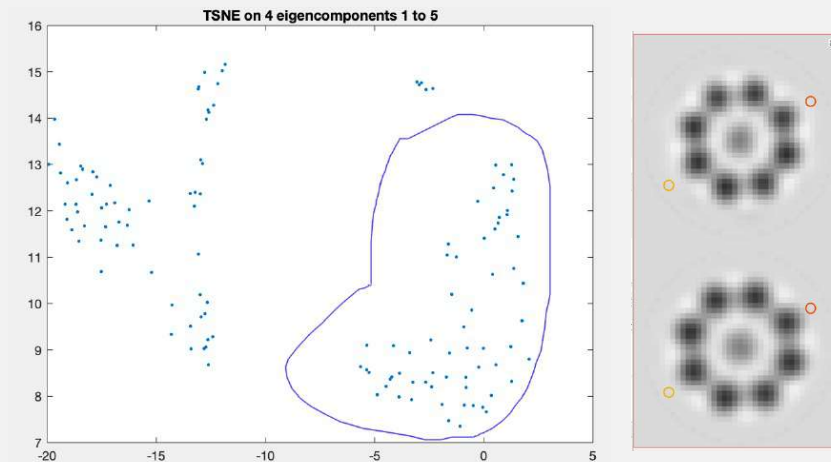
EMAN2



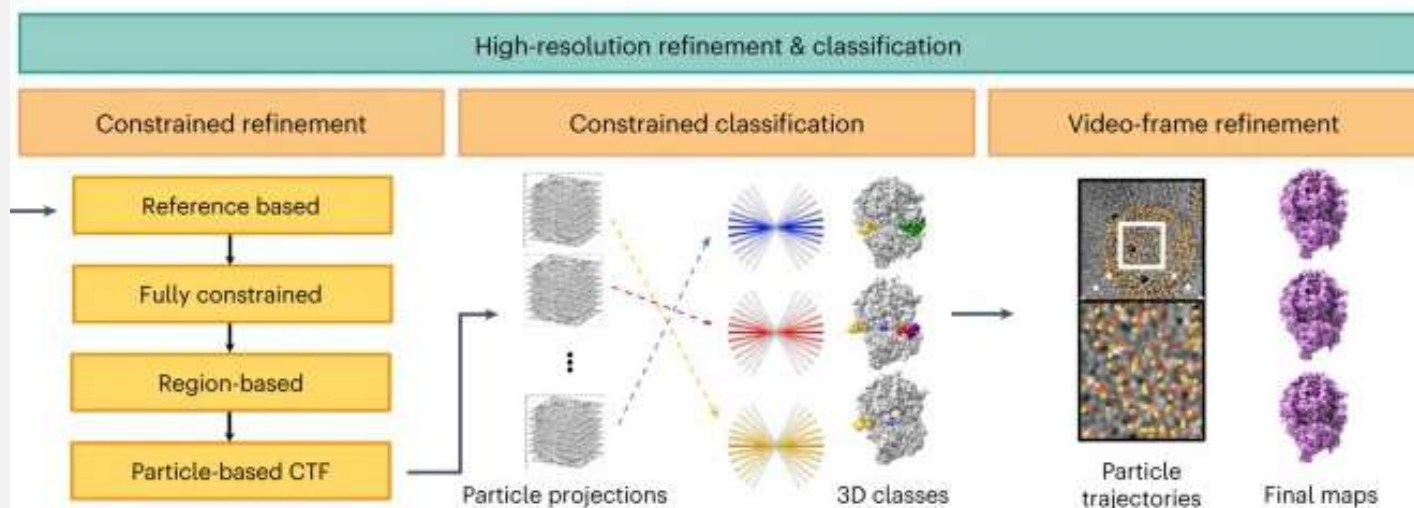
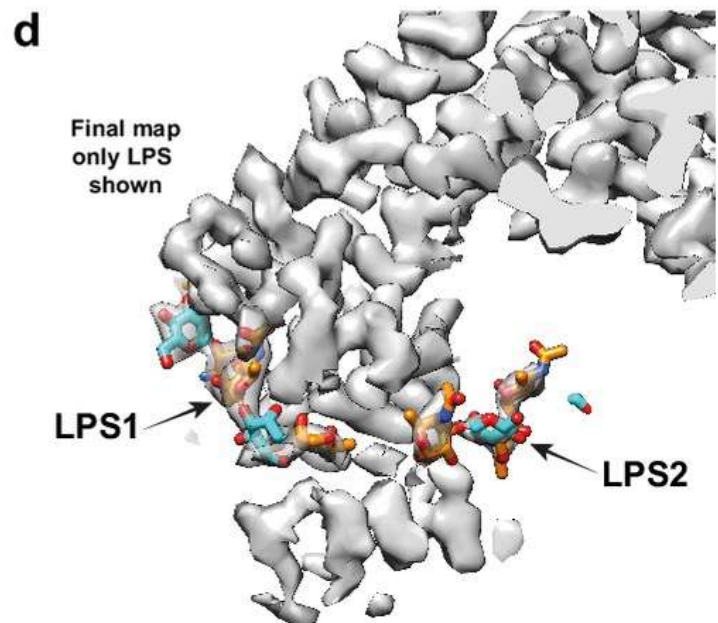
Relion



Dynamo



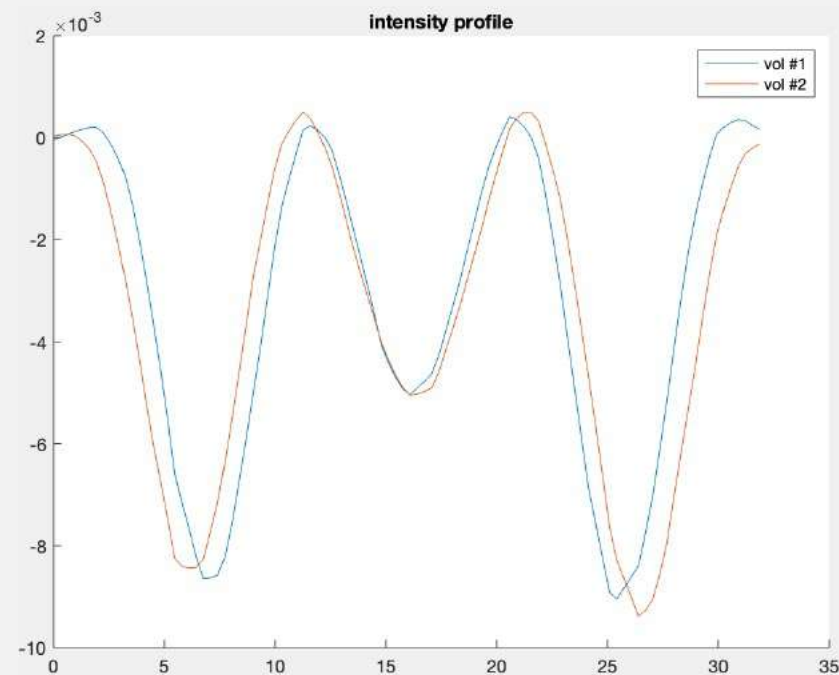
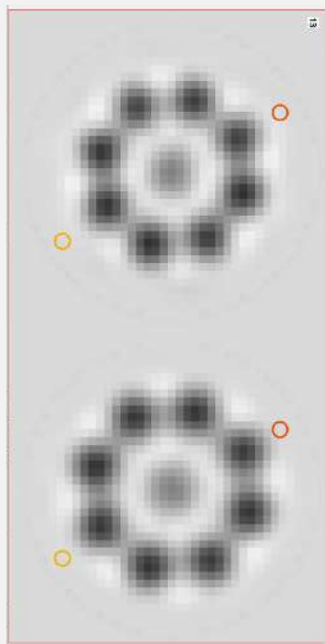
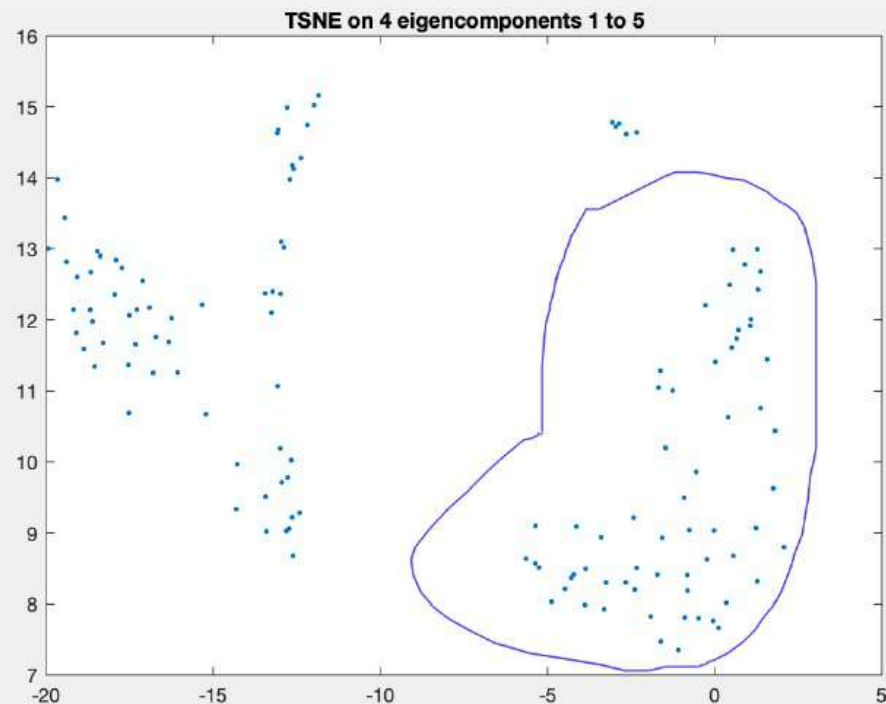
NextPYP



Software for

Sub-tomogram
classification

Dynamo



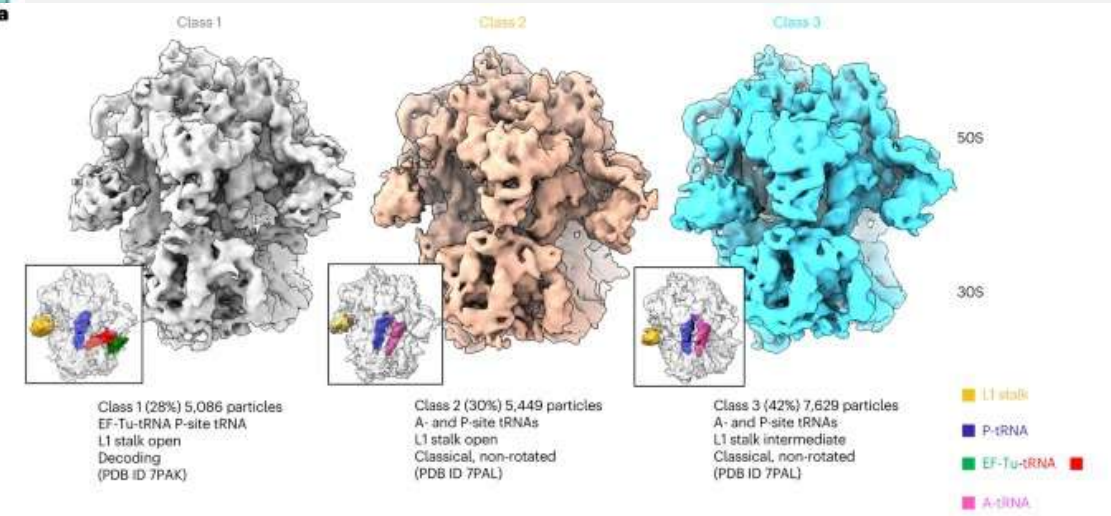
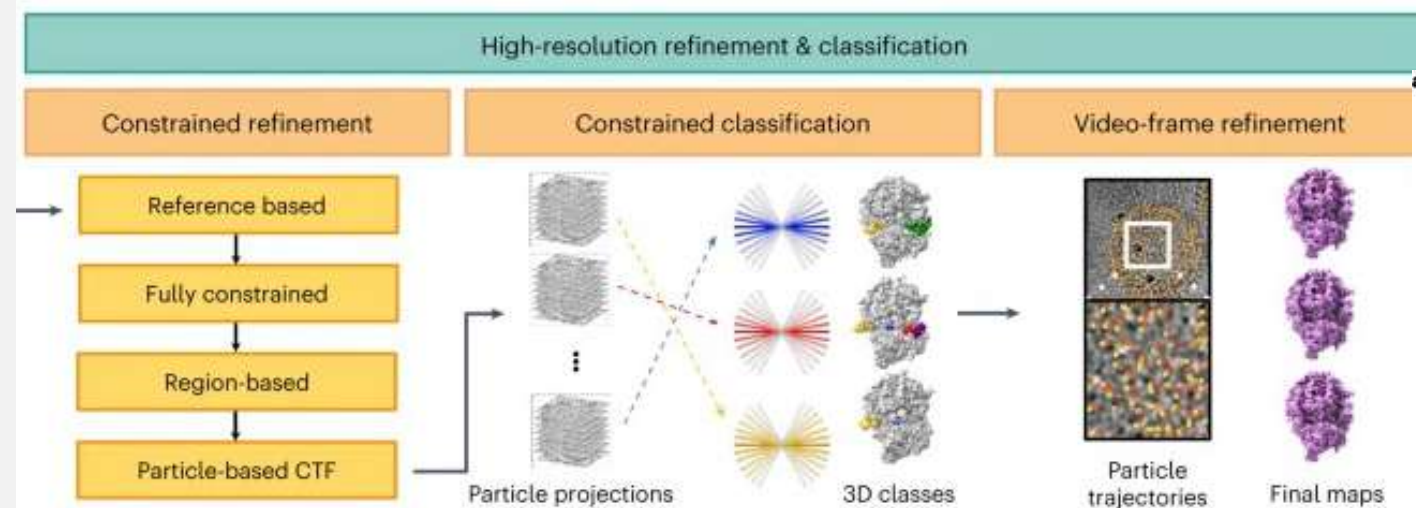
- 3D classification using PCA and k-means clustering
- Easy to ignore missing wedge classification



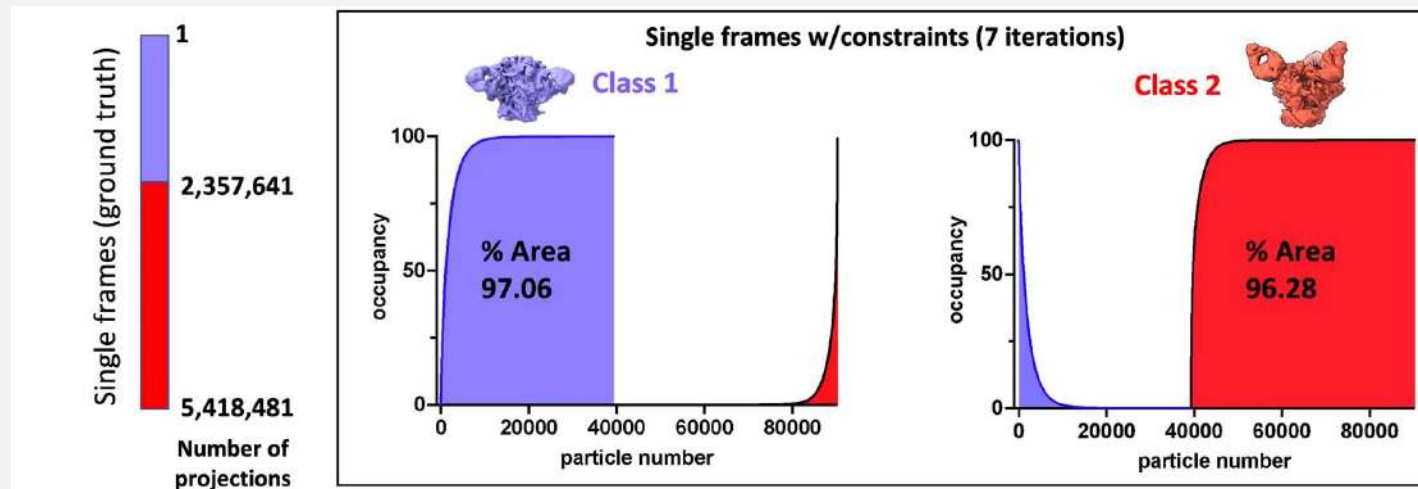
Software for

Sub-tomogram
classification

NextPYP

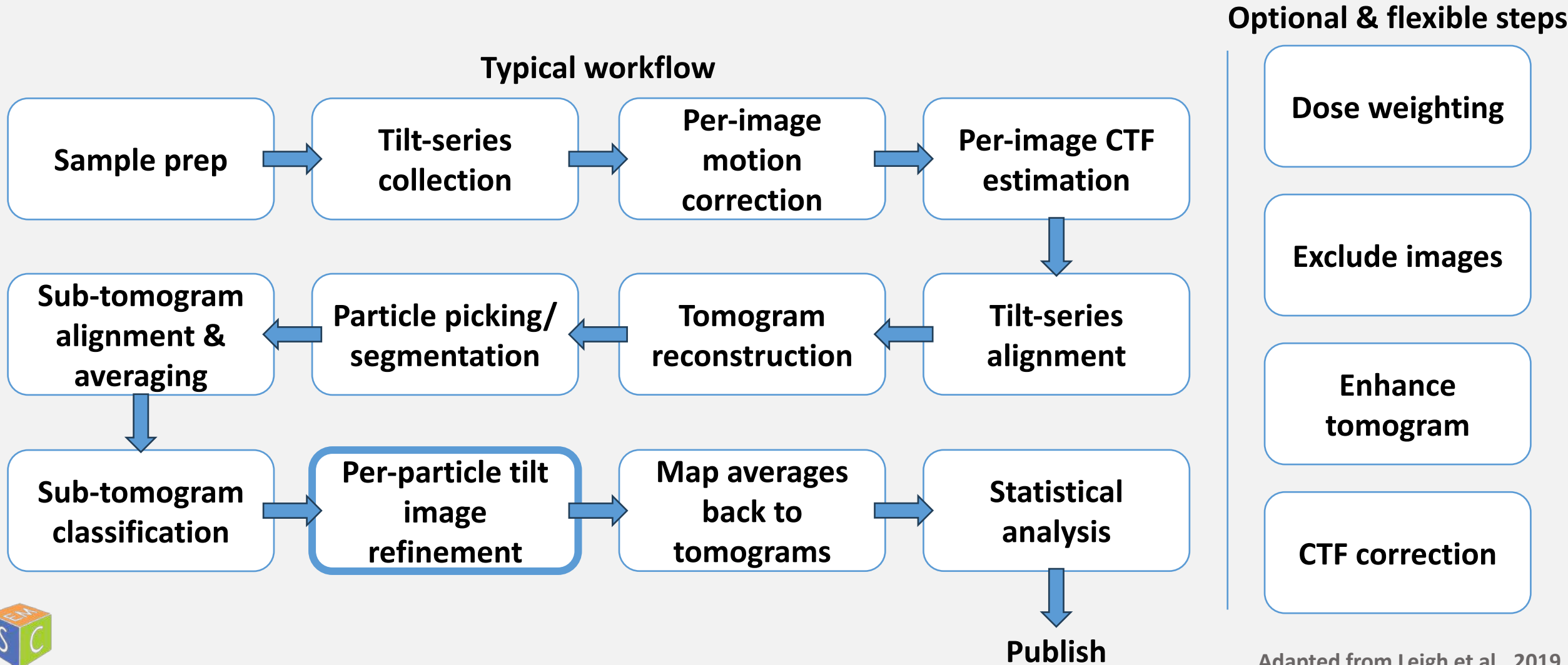


- Classification based on 2D particle images and frames



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Per-particle tilt
image
refinement

What to look for:

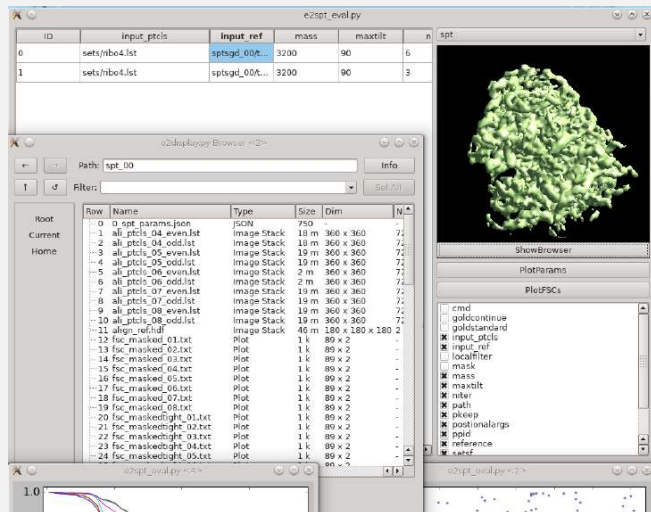
- Can you remove high tilts?
- Does the software feed back into the rest of your workflow well?
- Can you refine frames and other high-resolution corrections if needed?



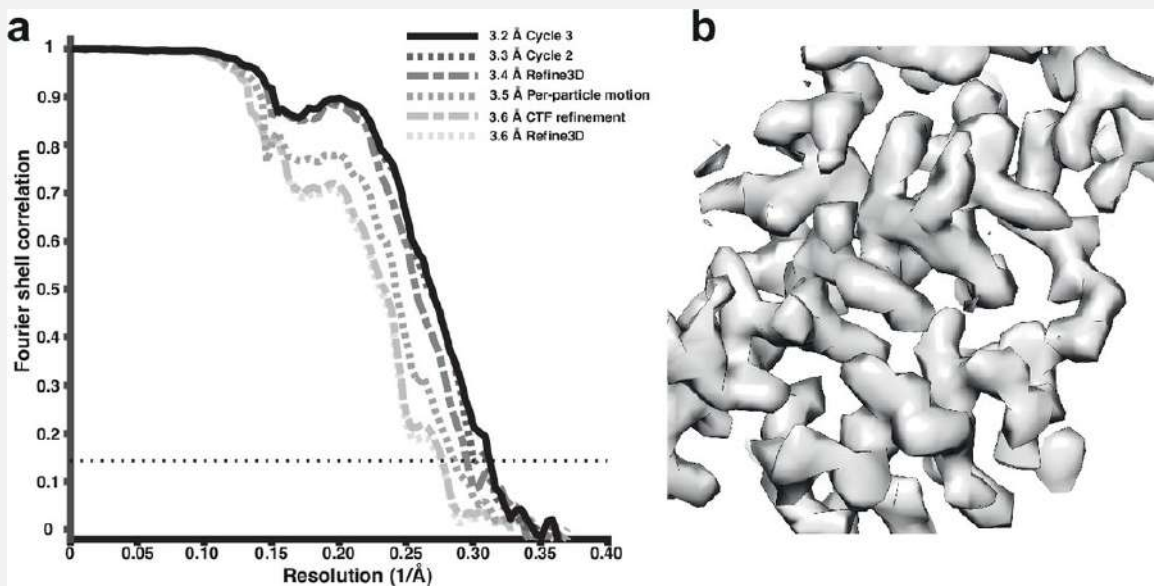
Software for

Per-particle tilt
image
refinement

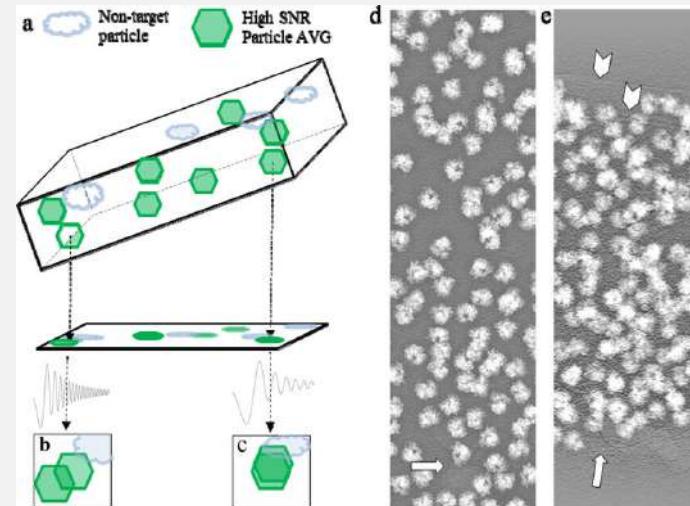
EMAN2



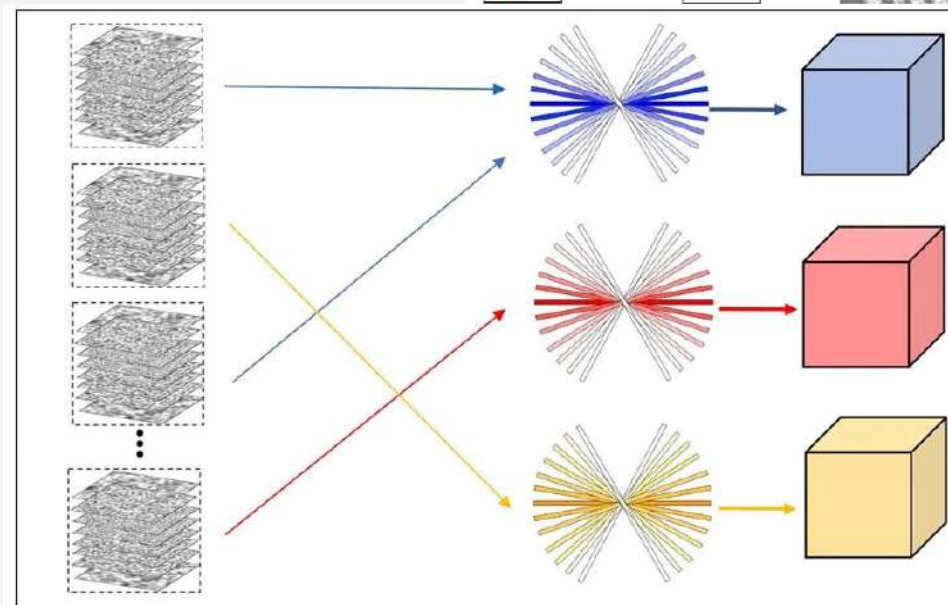
Relion



EMClarity

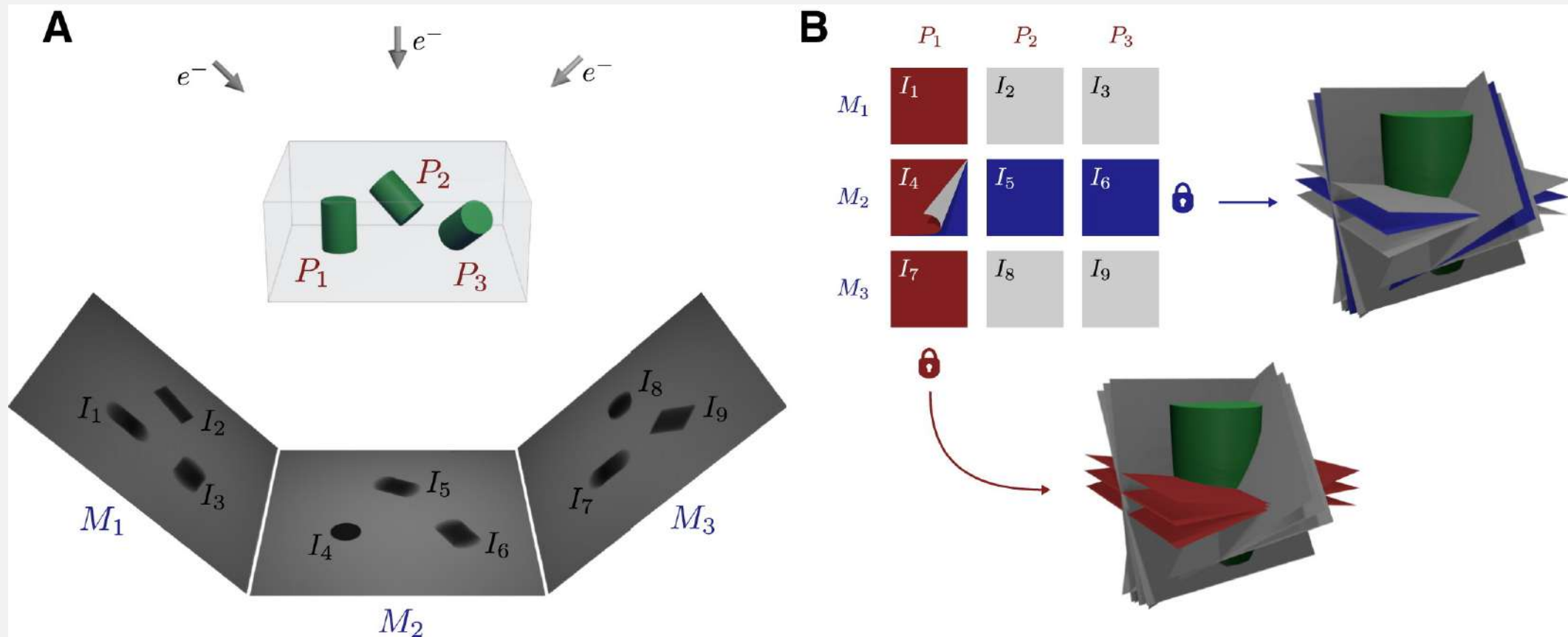


NextPYP



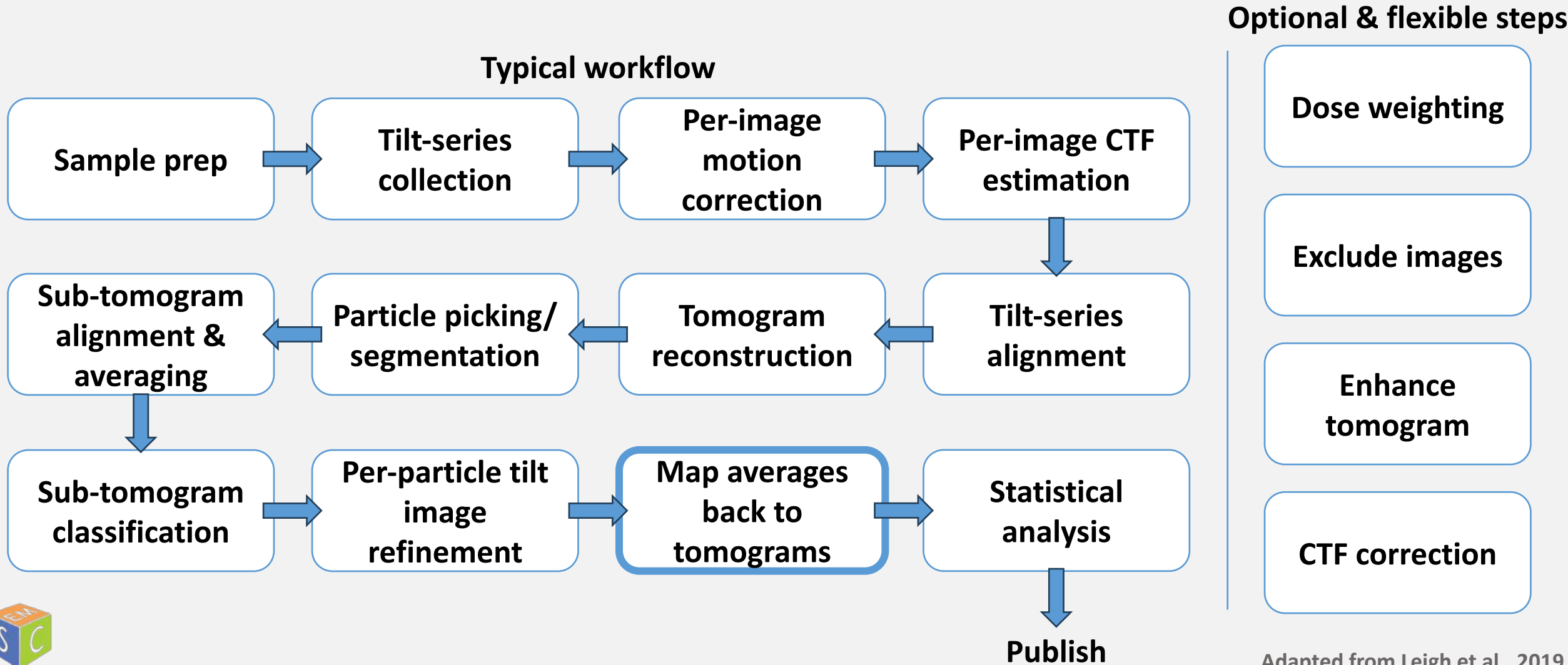
Software for

Per-particle tilt
image
refinement



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Software for

Map averages
back to
tomograms

What to look for:

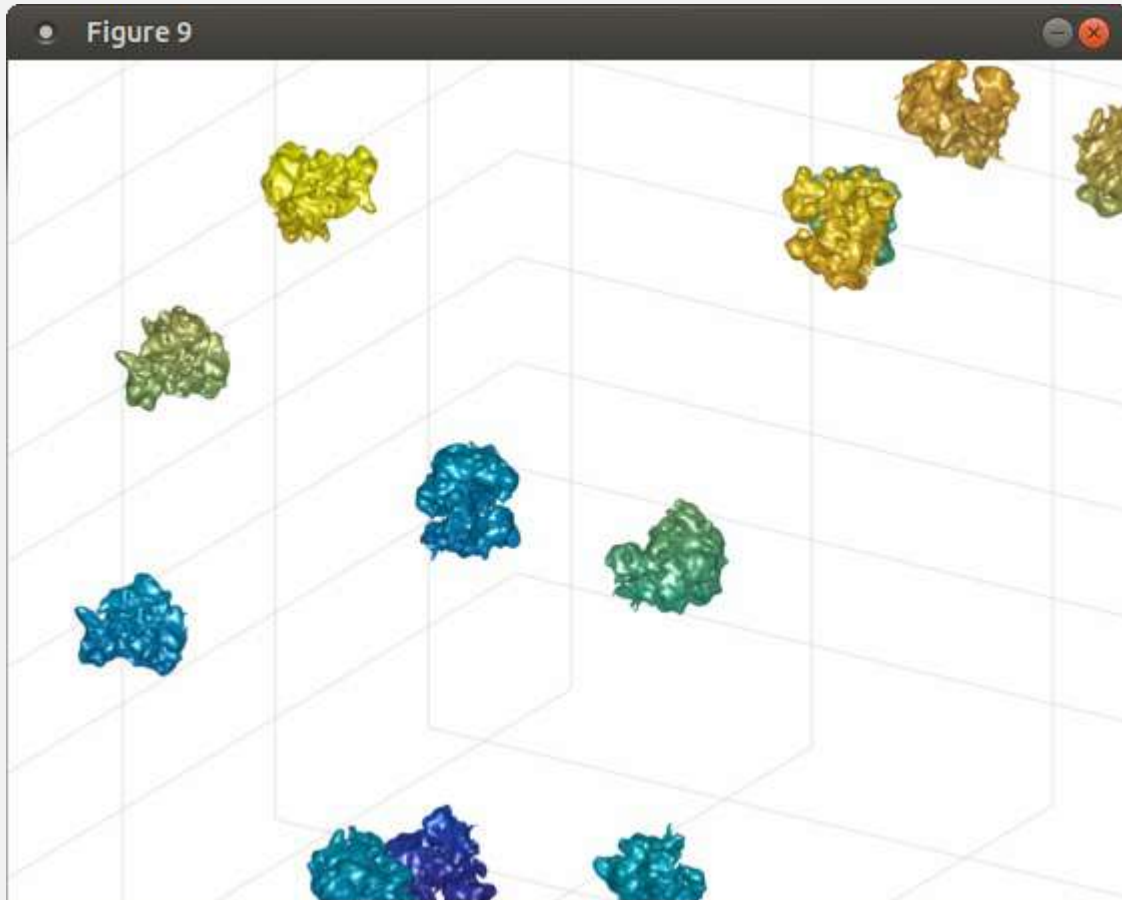
- Does it place it into an existing scene or make a new tomogram?
- Is it overlaid on the original tomogram?
- Can you map your classes back easily?
- This is for visual analysis, so it should be user-friendly



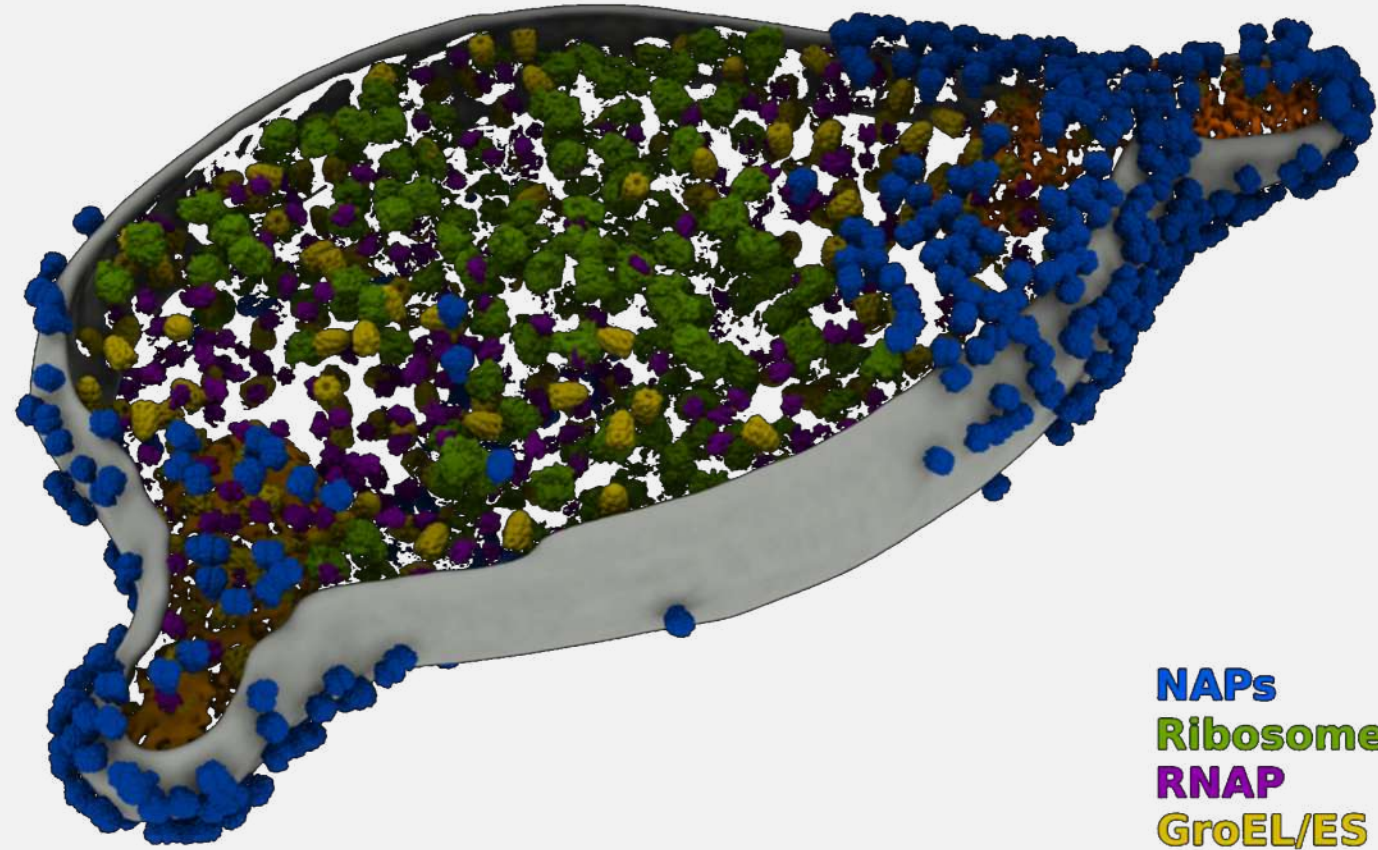
Software for

Map averages
back to
tomograms

Dynamo



ArtiaX

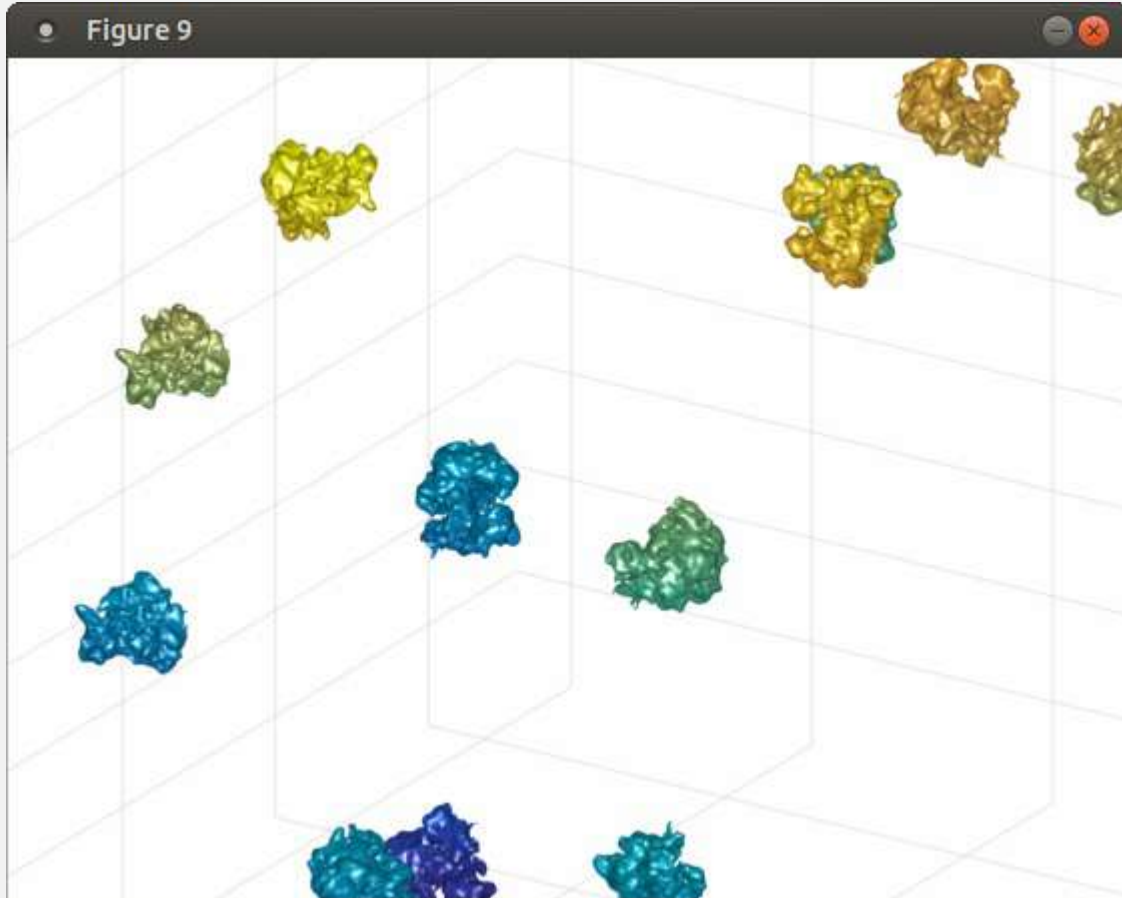


NAPs
Ribosome
RNAP
GroEL/ES

Software for

Map averages
back to
tomograms

Dynamo



dynamo-em.org

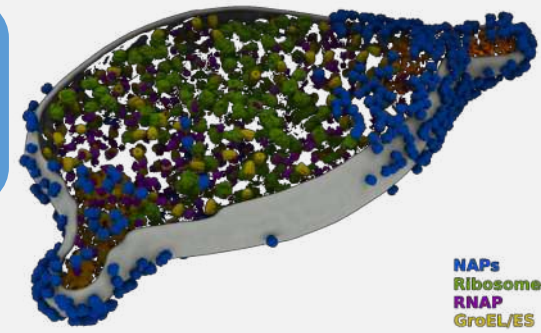
- Takes a Dynamo .tbl alignment file with classes and re-builds a fake tomogram with only those objects
- Can open the fake tomogram in normal viewing software (Dynamo, 3dmod, ChimeraX, EMAN2)
- Scriptable in Matlab



Software for

Map averages
back to
tomograms

ArtiaX

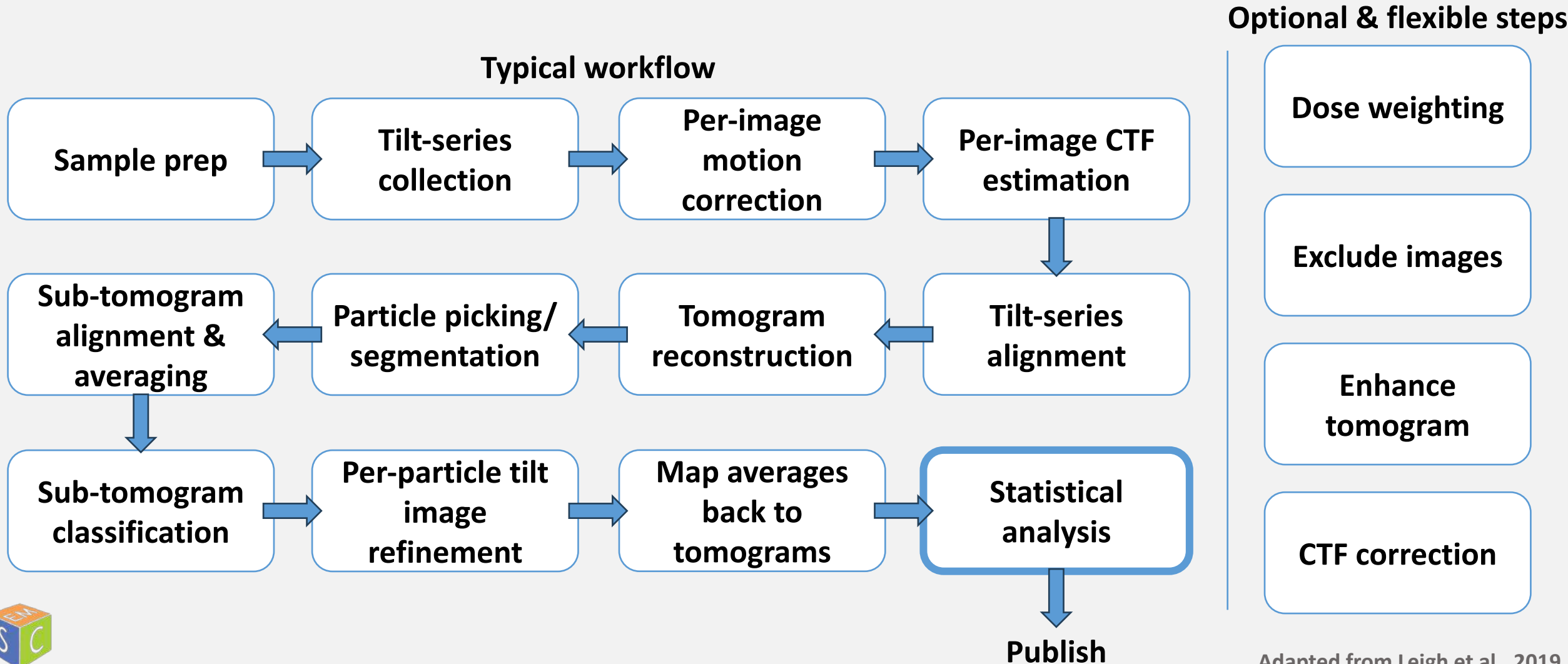


- Takes alignment/segmentation files from various software, imports the averages in a point cloud in ChimeraX
- Only viewable in ChimeraX
- Can overlay with the tomogram
- Can manipulate objects in real-time and in VR
- Scriptable in ChimeraX



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



What to look for:

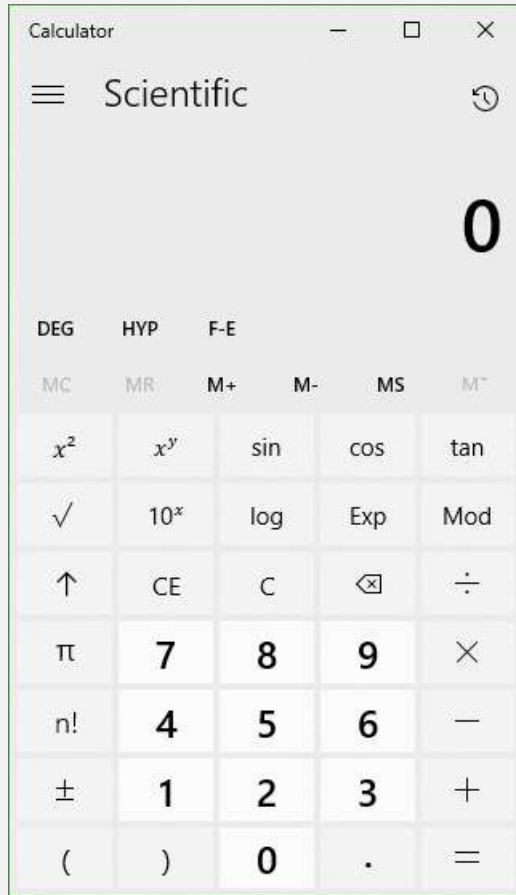
- Use the standard scientific method
 - Does all of your data support your hypothesis?
 - Perform proper statistics



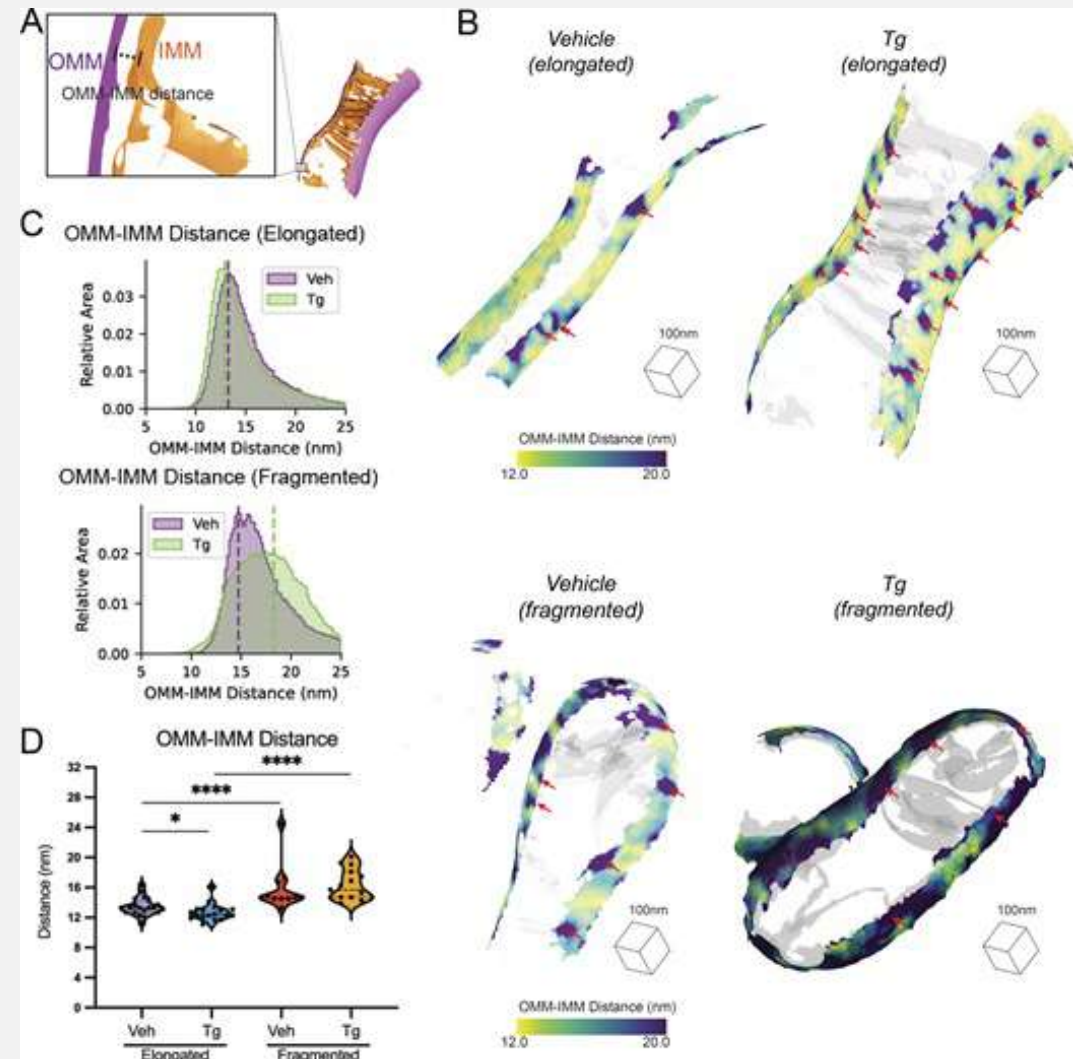
Software for

Statistical
analysis

calculator.exe



Surface Morphometrics



Quantifying organellar ultrastructure in cryo-electron tomography using a surface morphometrics pipeline

Benjamin A. Barad^{1,†}, Michaela Medina^{1,†}, Daniel Fuentes^{1,2}, R. Luke Wiseman², and Danielle A Grotjahn^{1,*}

¹Department of Integrative Structural and Computational Biology, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA 92037

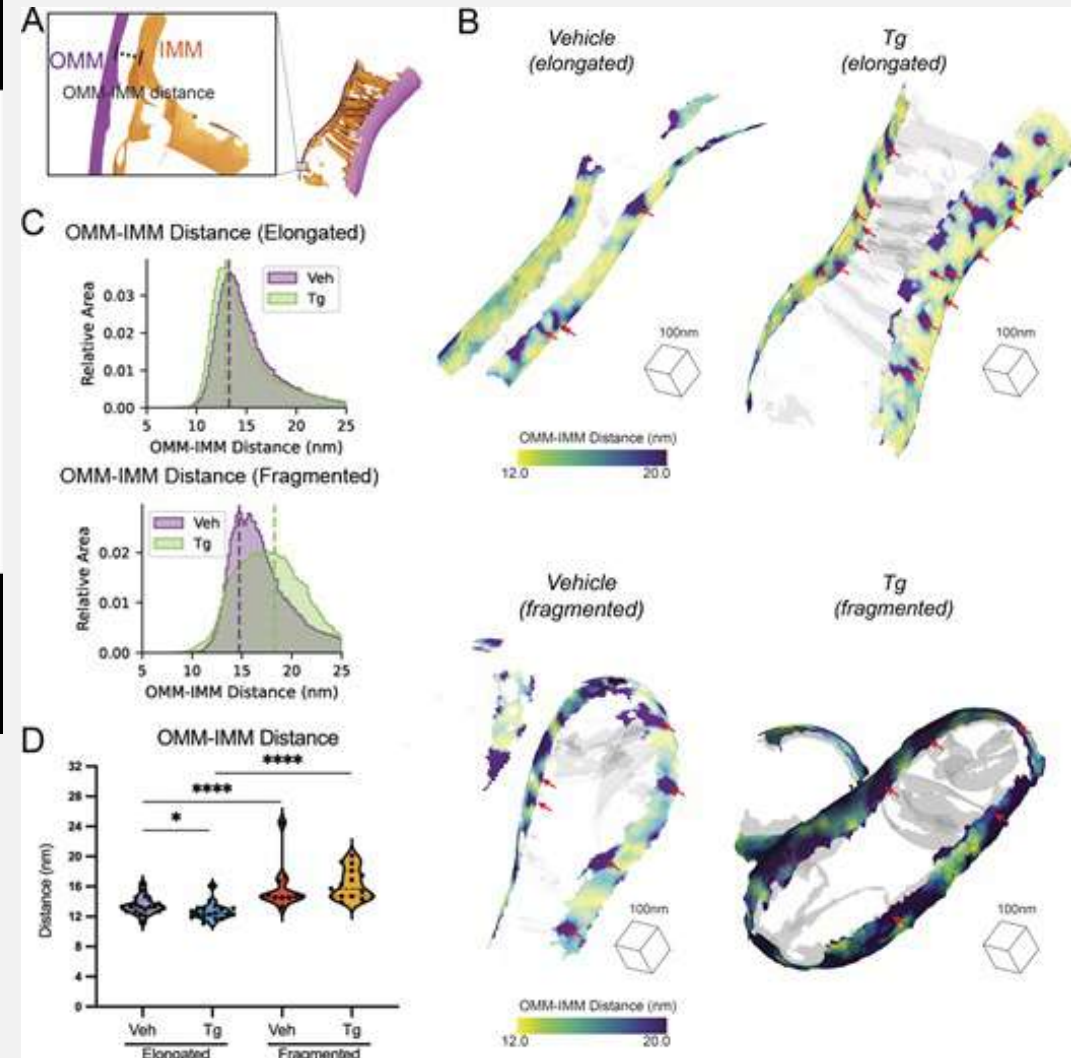
²Department of Molecular Medicine, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA 92037

[†]These authors contributed equally.

*Corresponding Author

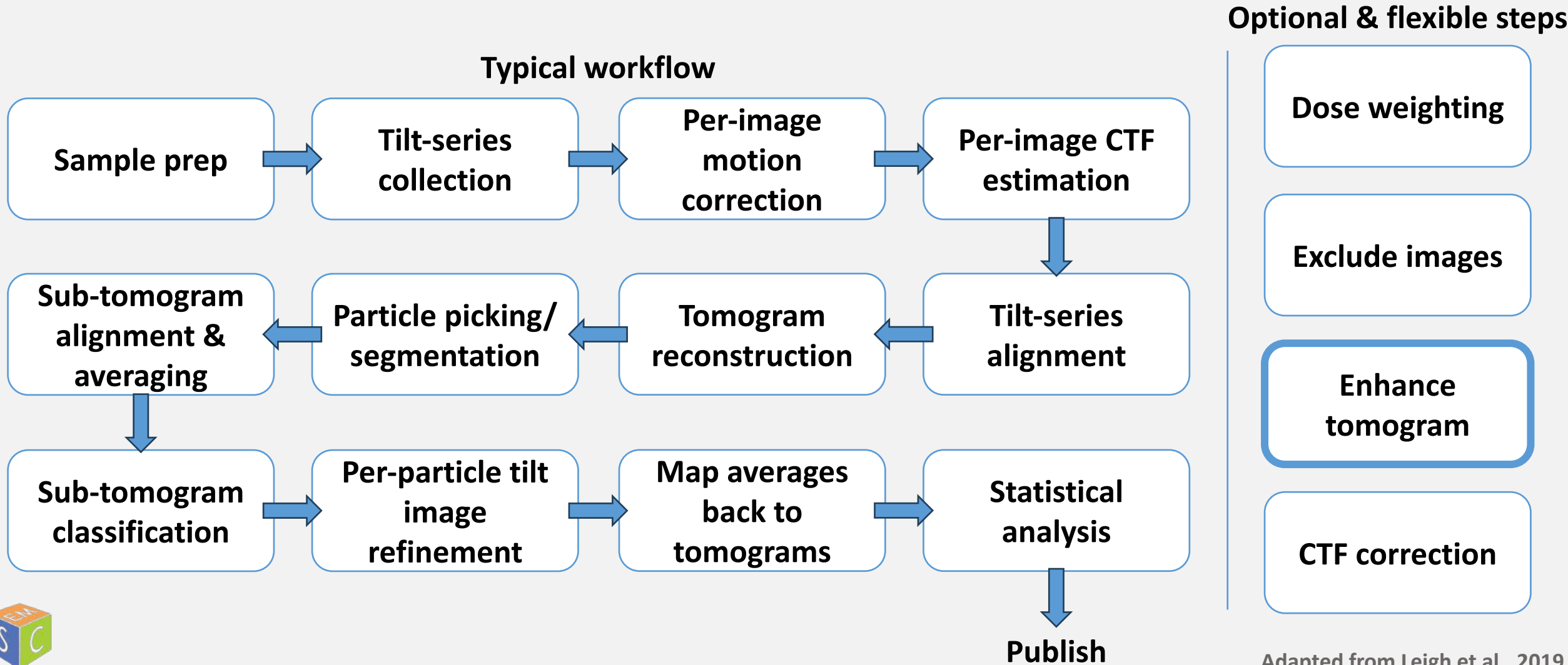
- Helps model membranes
- Helps perform statistics on membrane spacings

Surface Morphometrics



Today's plan

- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



What to look for:

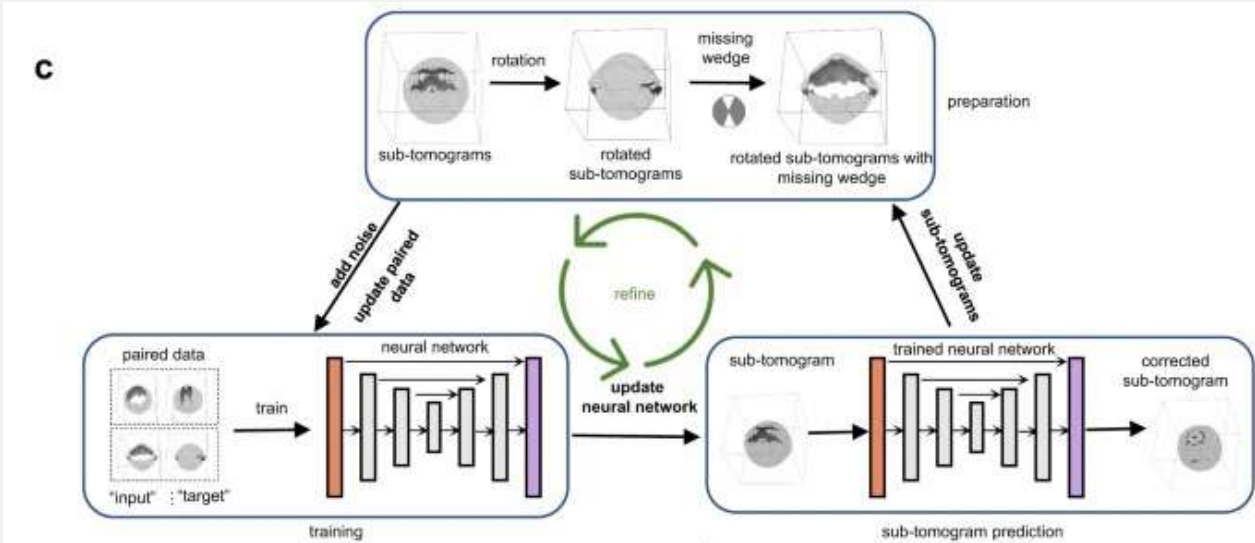
- Is it just bandpass filtering?
- If it's machine learning, watch out for hallucinations
- Do not use enhanced tomograms for downstream processing



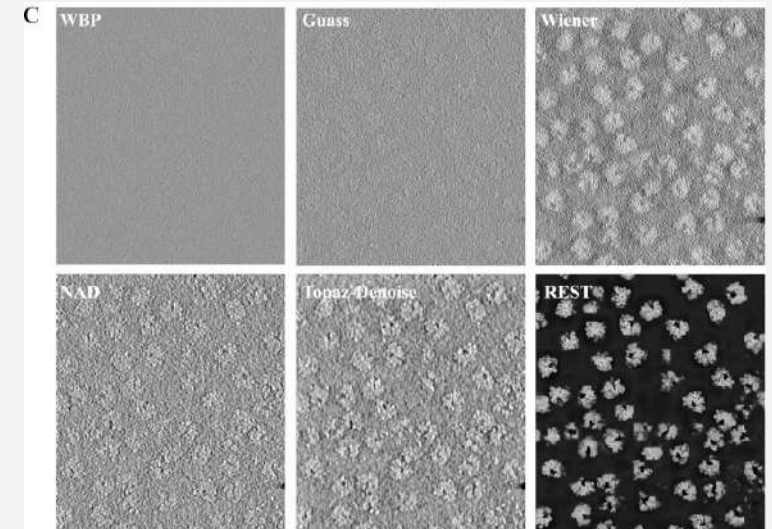
Software for

Enhance
tomogram

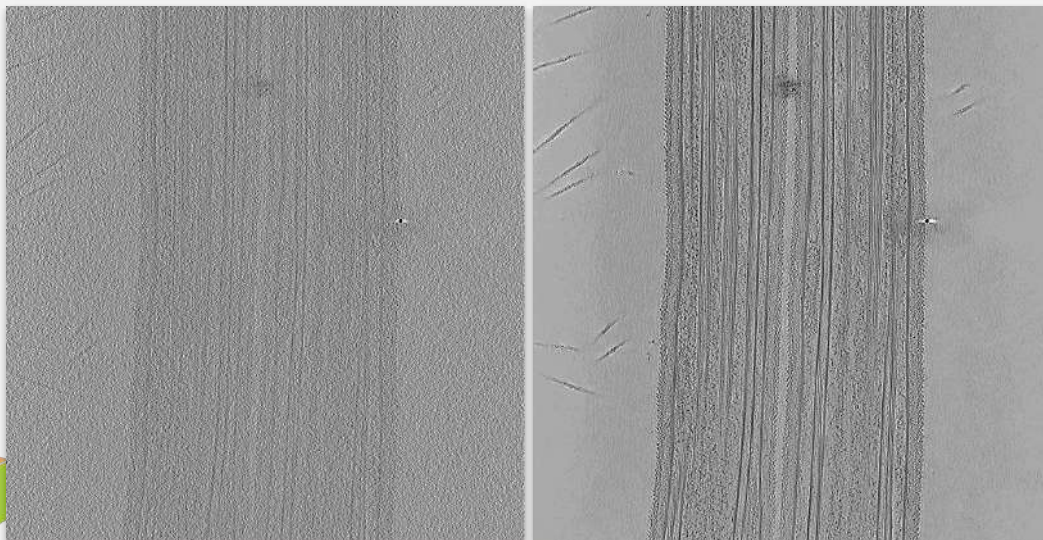
IsoNet



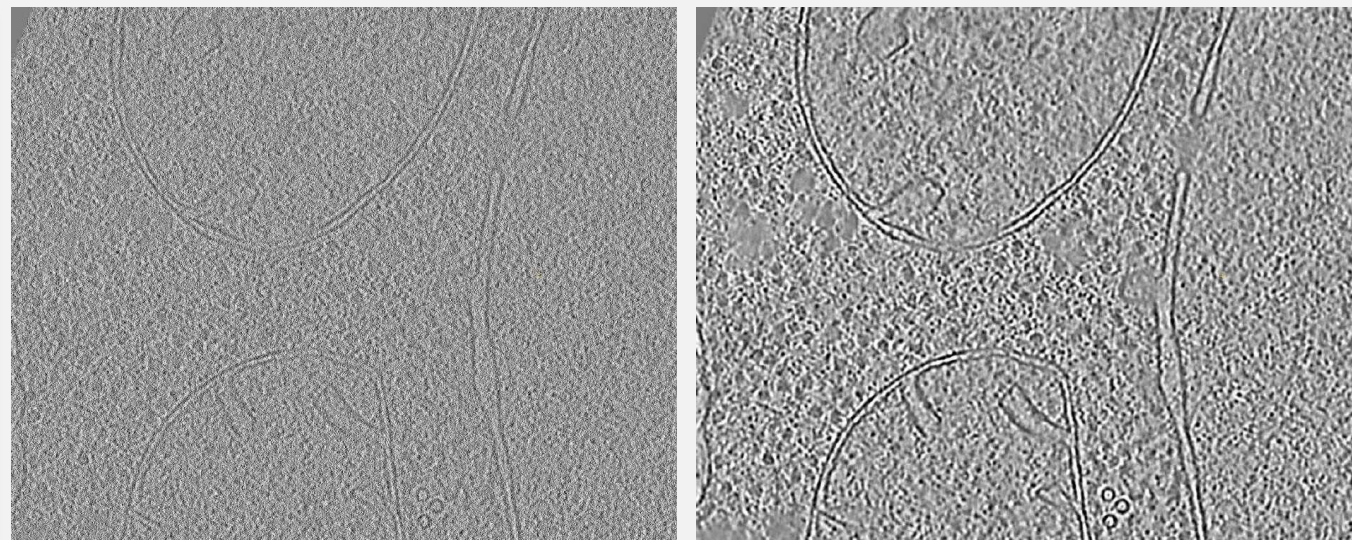
REST



Cryo-CARE



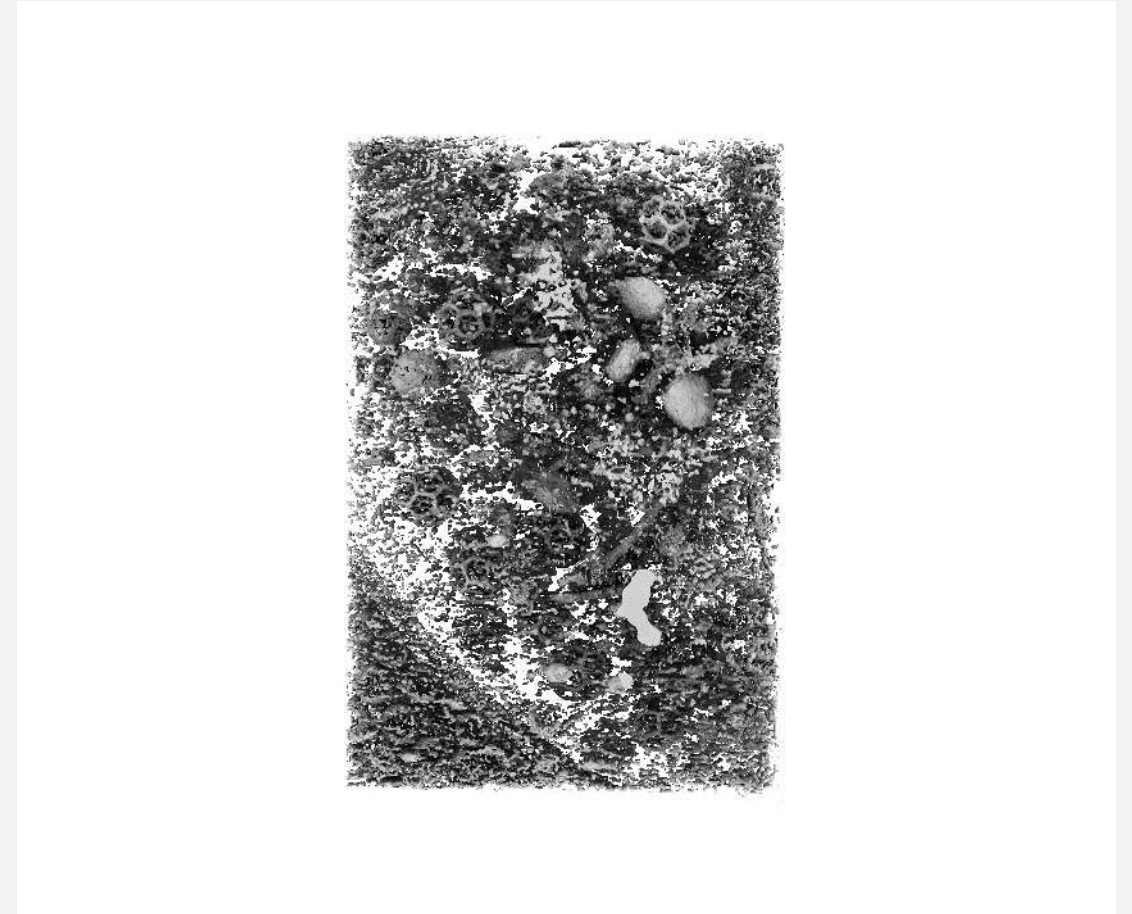
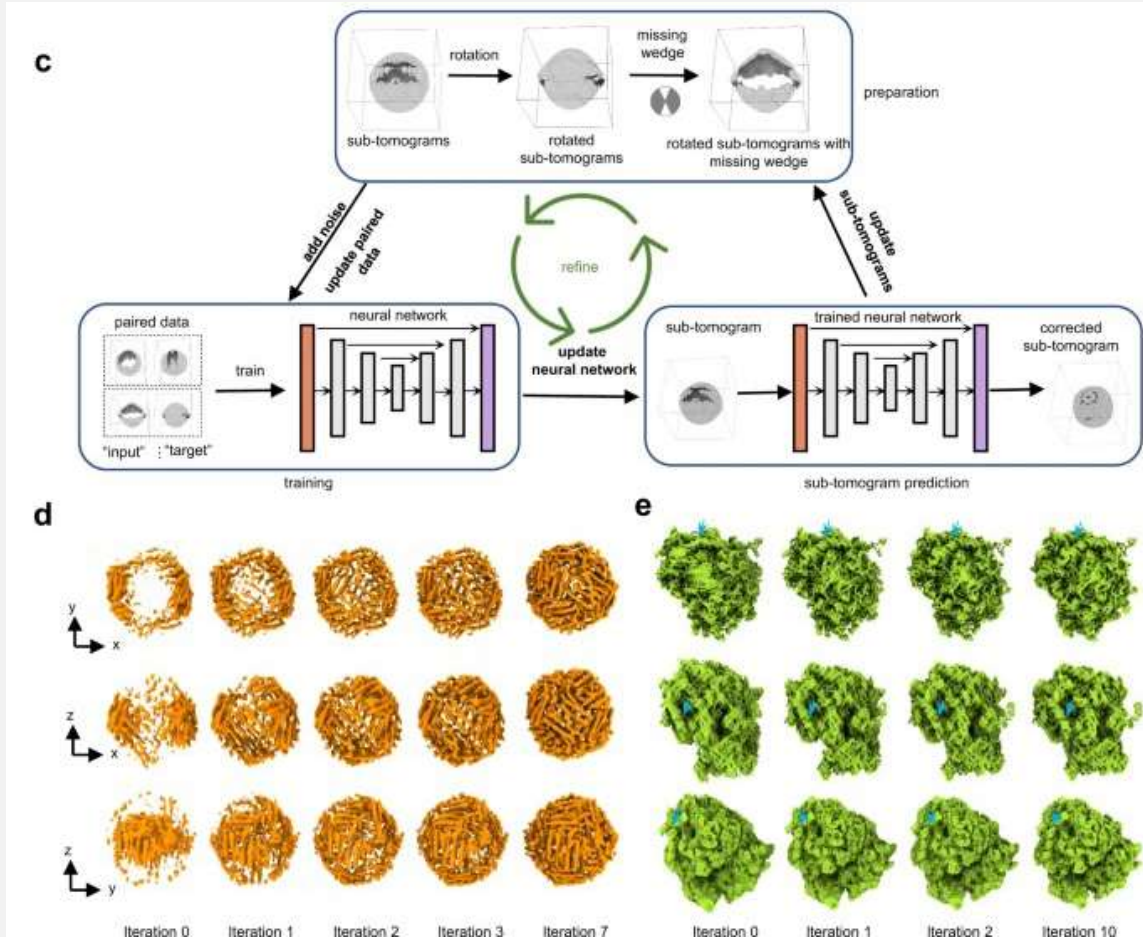
Topaz-Denoise



Software for

Enhance
tomogram

IsoNet



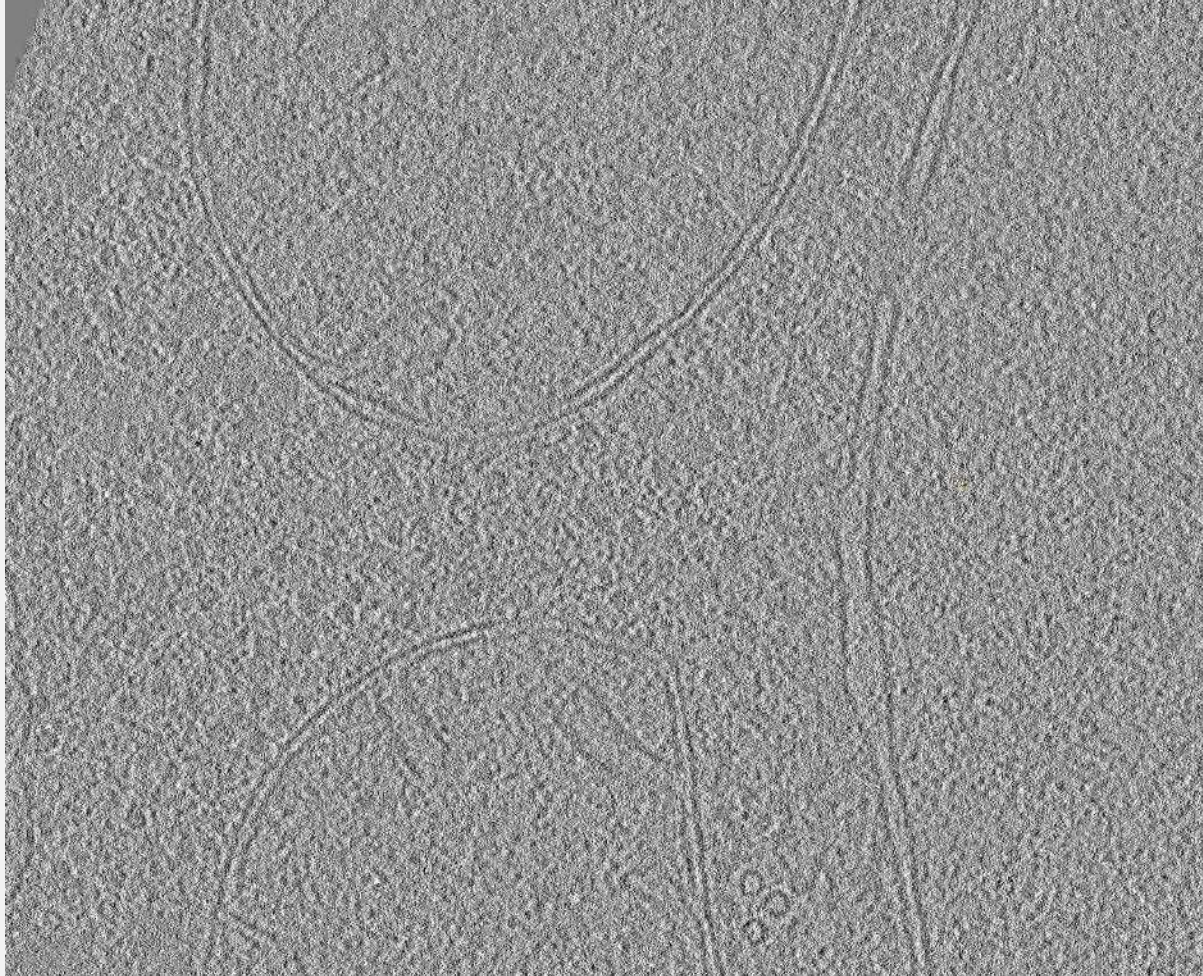
- Machine learning to fill in missing wedge – be careful!
- Additional filtering and contrast enhancement



Software for

Enhance
tomogram

Topaz-Denoise



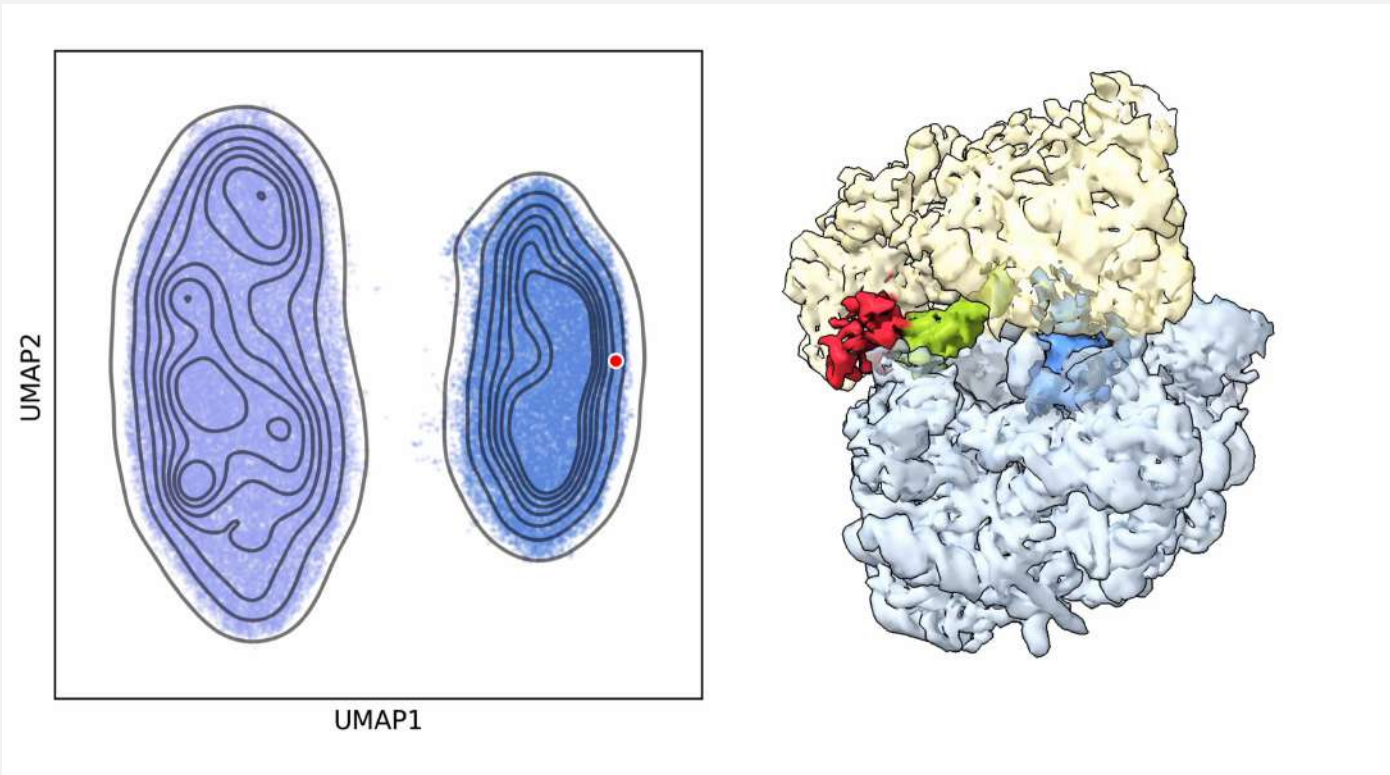
- Machine learning noise2noise to learn+remove cryoET noise



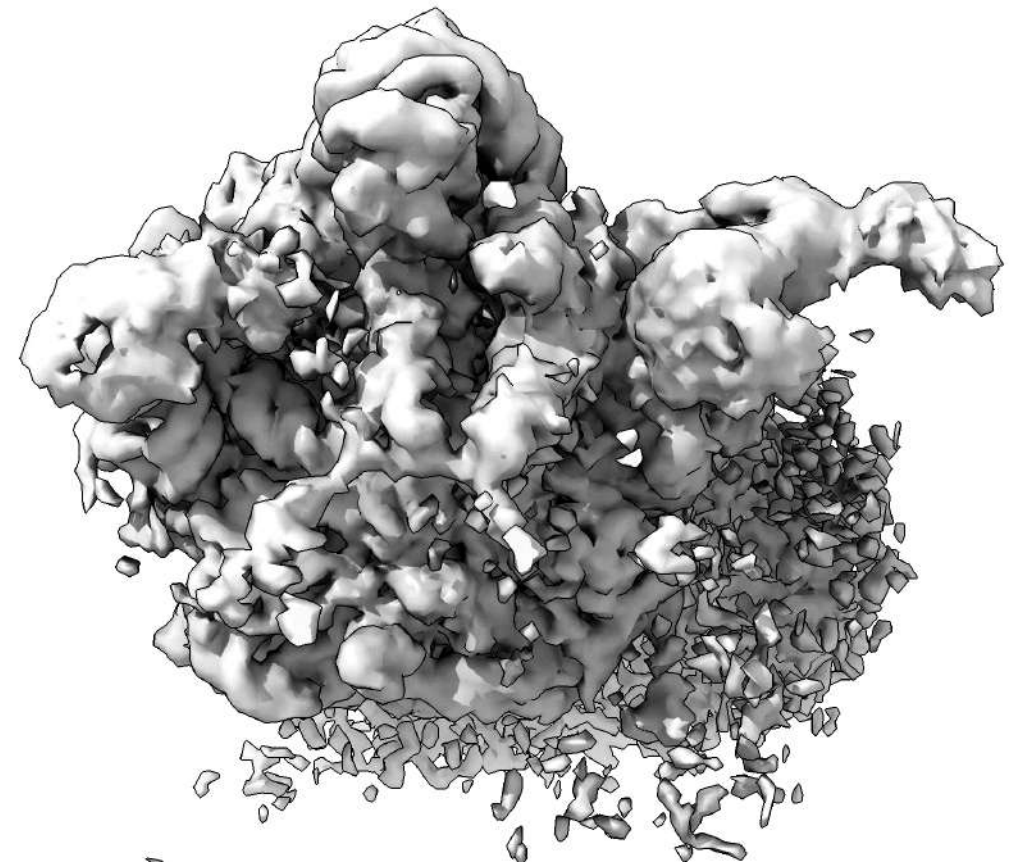
Additional tools

- Flexibility analysis

CryoDRGN-ET



TomoDRGN



- Machine learning VAEs to detangle flexibility



Additional tools



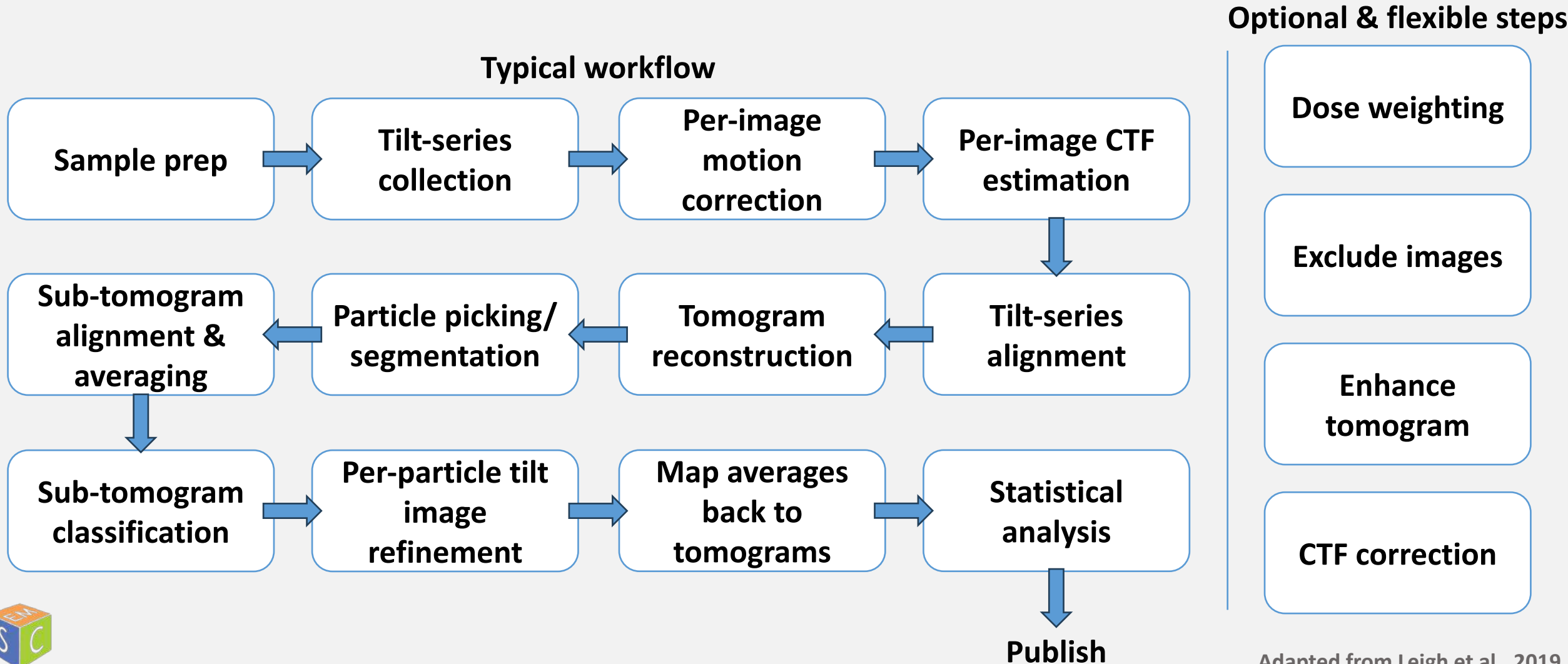
Additional tools

- Perseverance
- Coding skills
- I recommend understanding terminal and Python
- Necessary for scripting between software and analyzing results
- Use GPT to help learn coding and to help code



Multi-step packages

What softwares provide chunks of the workflow?



Multi-step packages

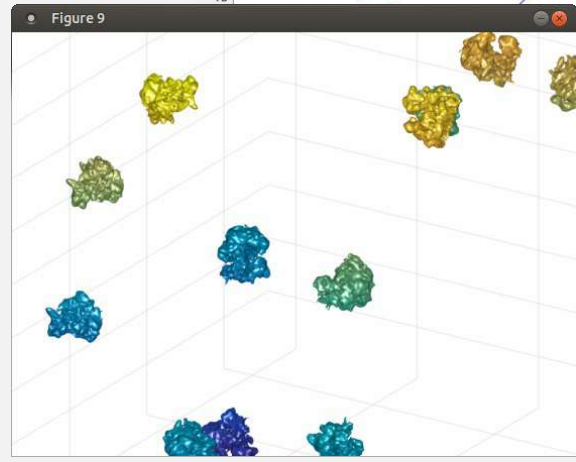
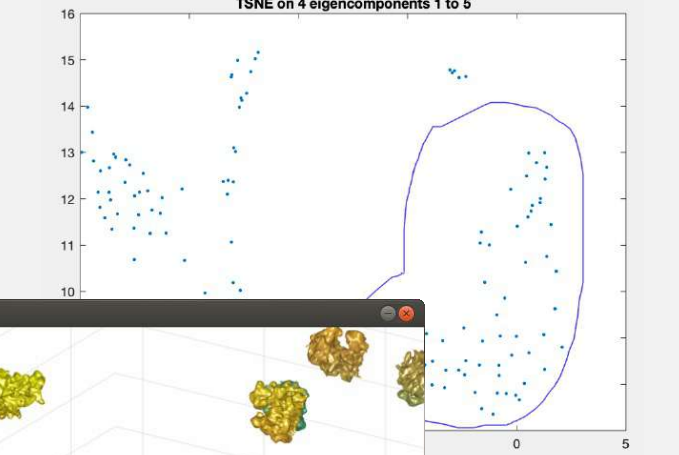
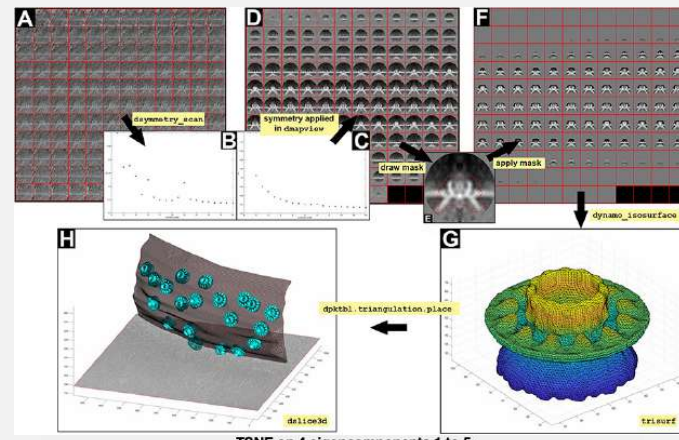
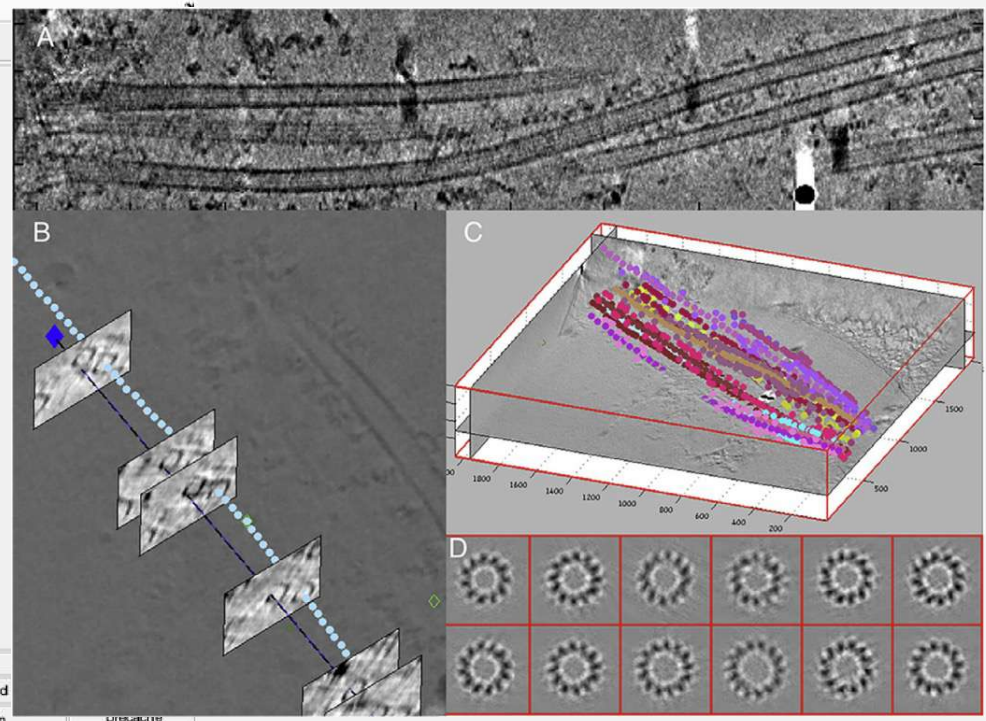
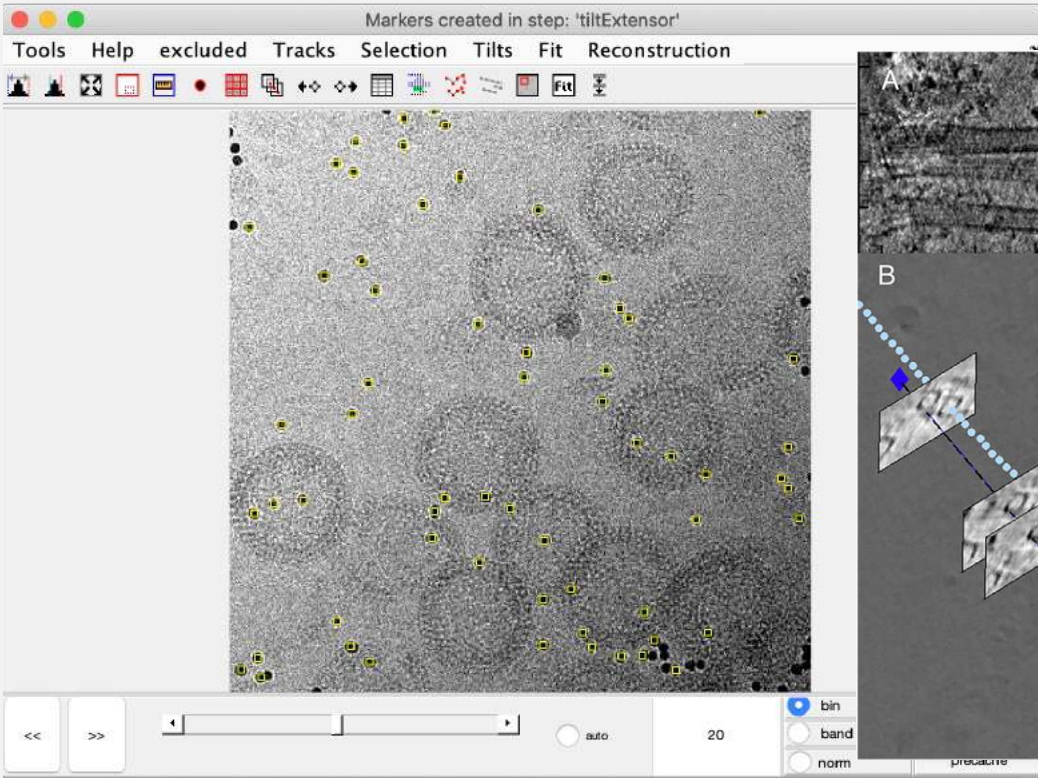
What softwares provide chunks of the workflow?

- Dynamo – Tomogram bookkeeping, segmentation, 3D alignment & classification, no CTF
- EMAN2 – Most of the workflow with some limitations
- TomoBEAR – Workflow mostly automated with some limitations
- Relion 4/5 – Most of the workflow (missing tomogram bookkeeping)
- teamtomo.org workflow – Relion 3, Warp, Dynamo, requires Windows+Linux, scripting
- NextPYP – Most of the workflow with some limitations, nice GUI



Multi-step packages

Dynamo



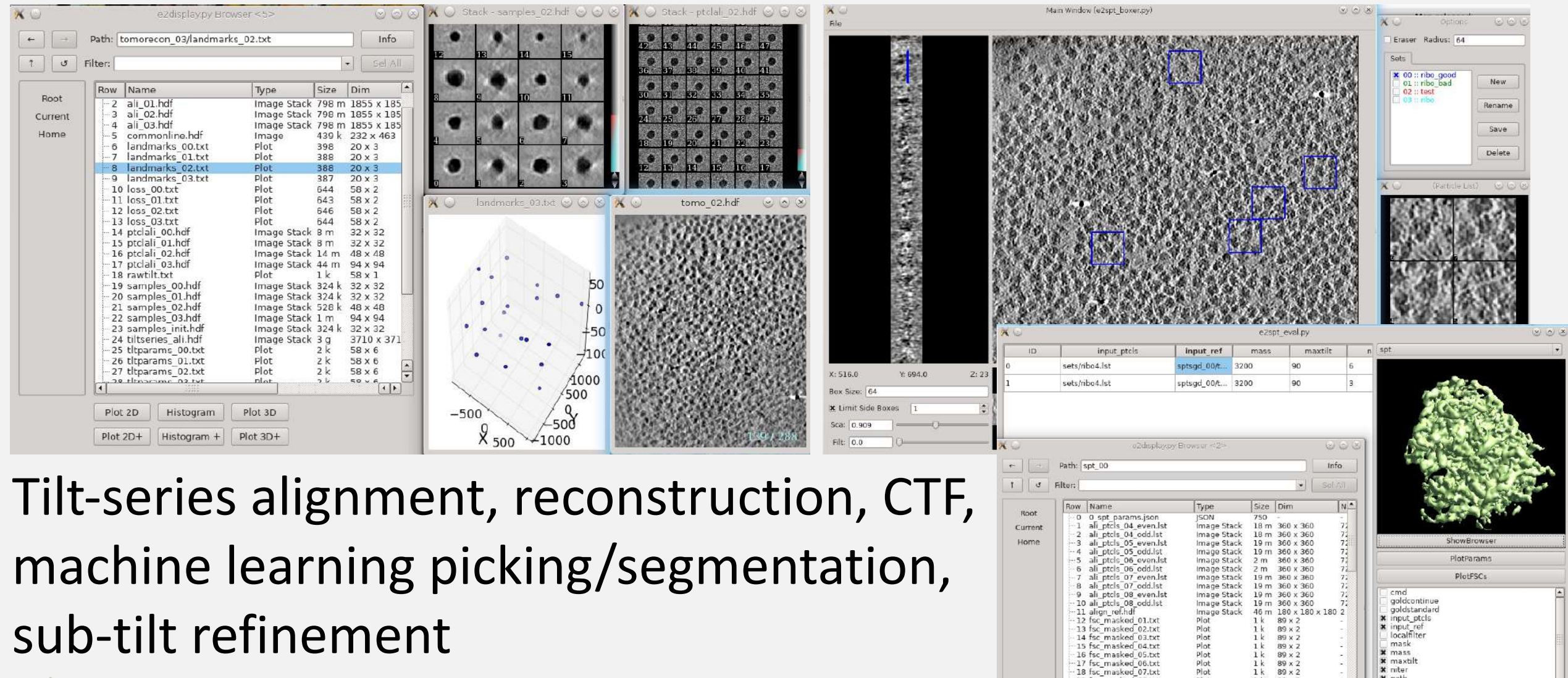
Tilt-series alignment, semi-automated picking/segmentation, 3D sub-tomogram alignment & classification, map to tomograms



- Full tutorials at dynamo-em.org

Multi-step packages

EMAN2



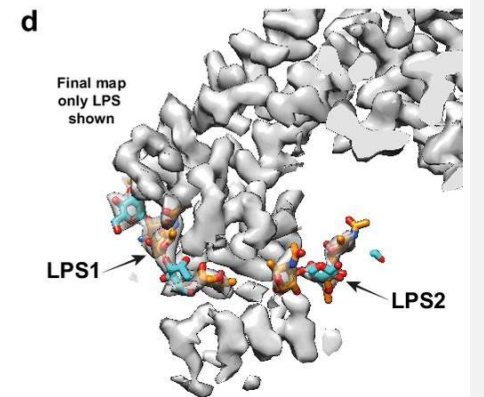
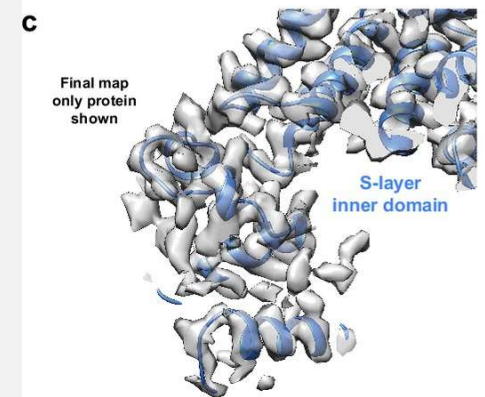
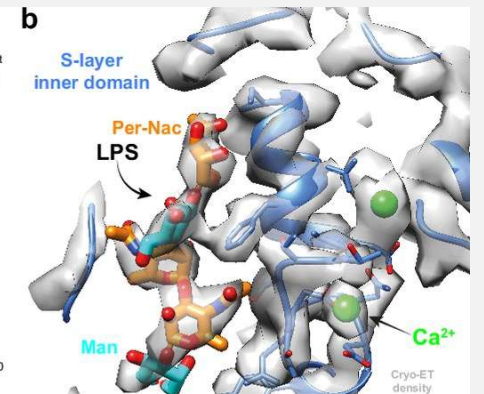
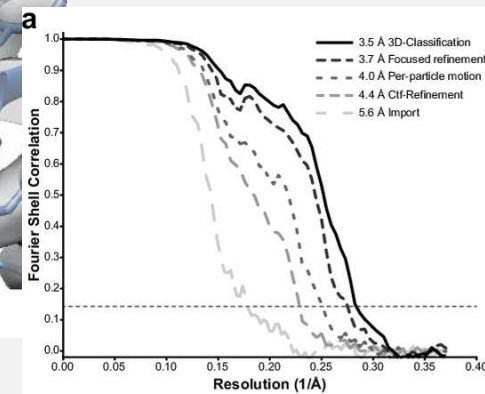
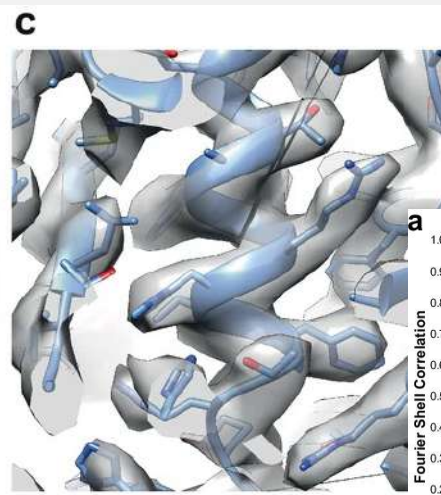
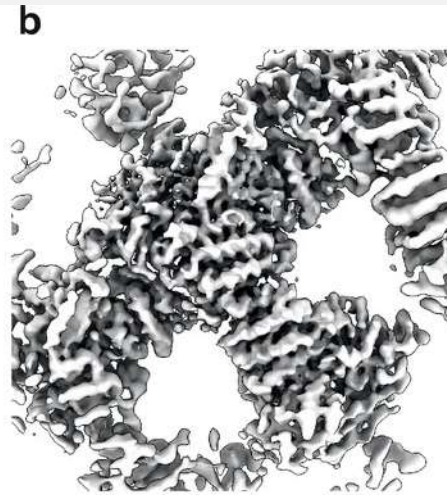
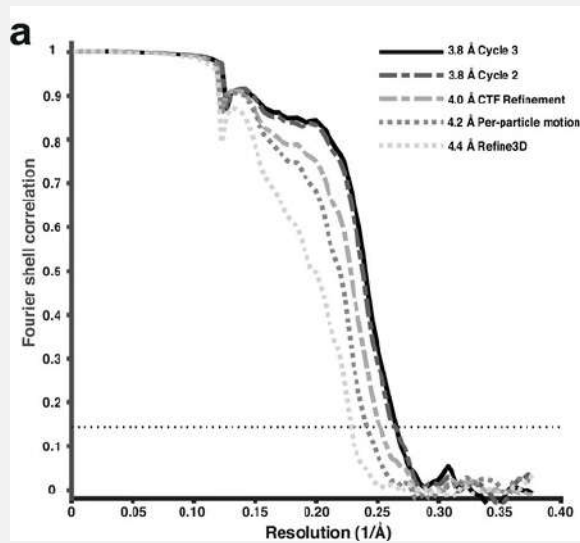
Tilt-series alignment, reconstruction, CTF, machine learning picking/segmentation, sub-tilt refinement

- Full tutorials at blake.bcm.edu/emanwiki/EMAN2/e2tomo



Multi-step packages

Relion4/5



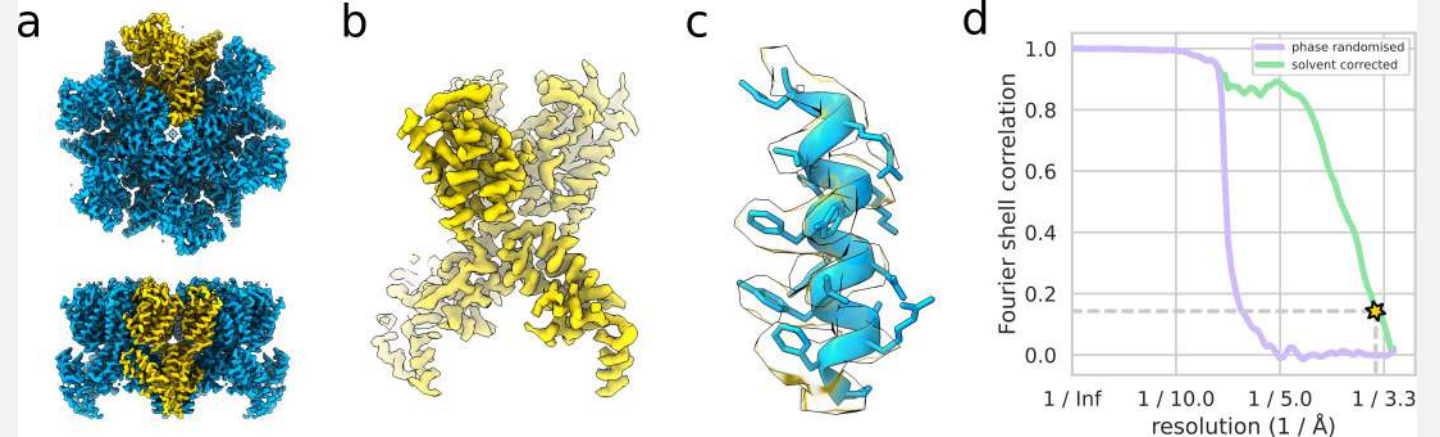
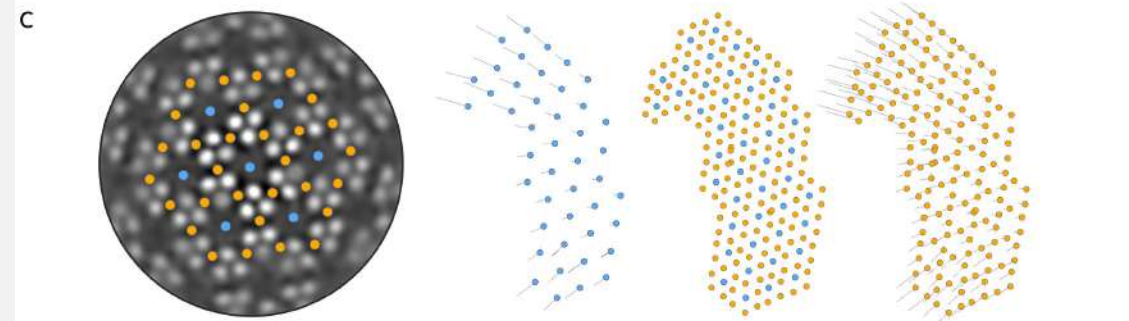
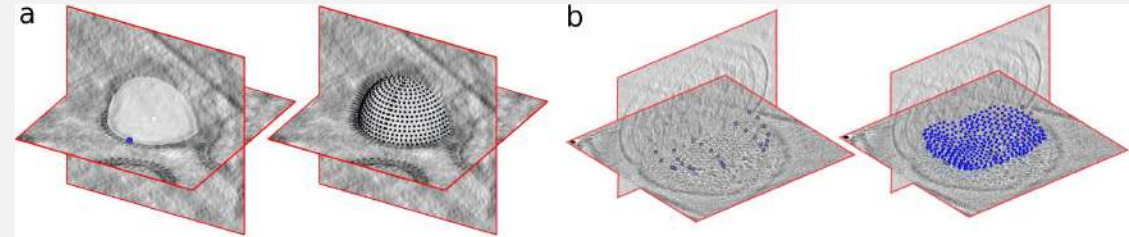
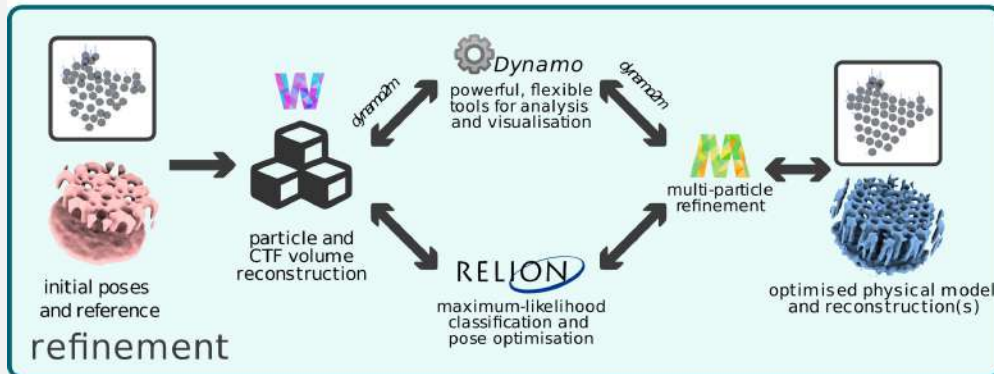
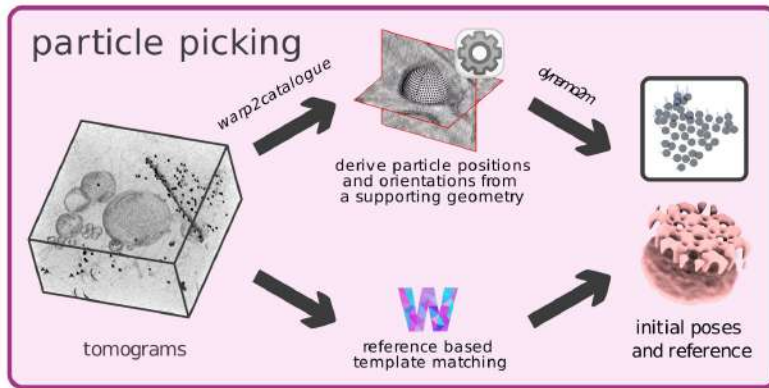
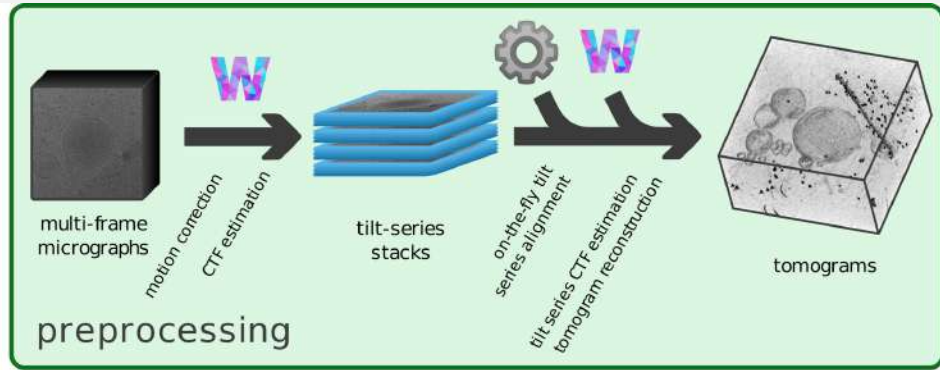
3D alignment, 2D sub-tilt refinement, CTF refinement, Bayesian 3D classification, most other Relion tools



- Full tutorials at relion.readthedocs.io

Multi-step packages

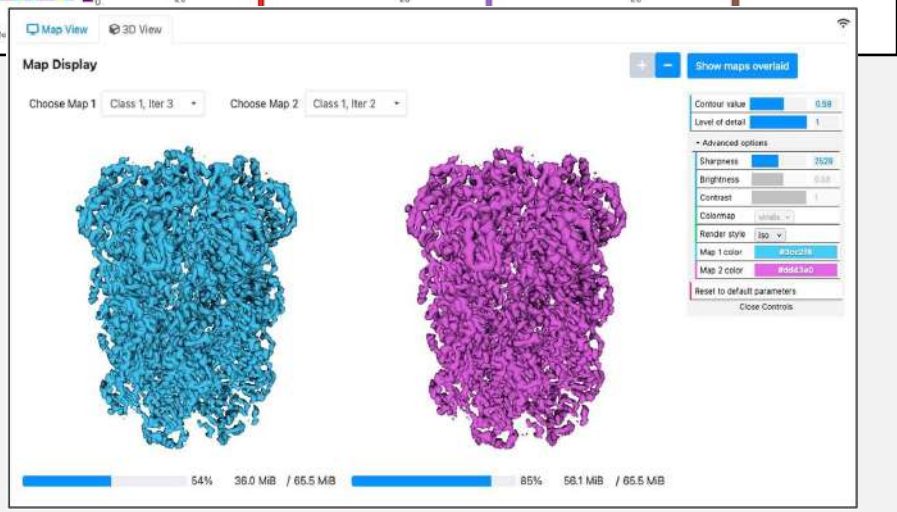
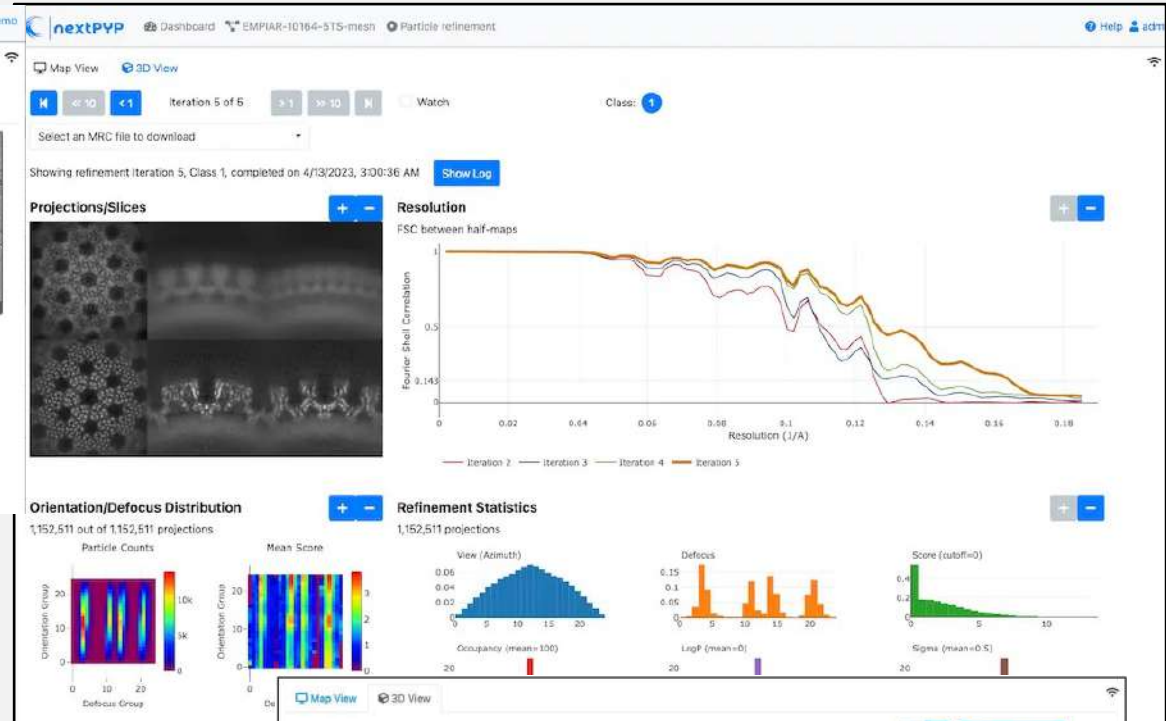
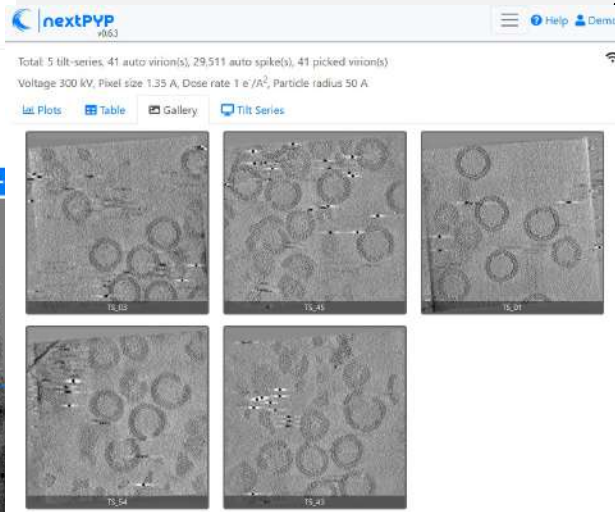
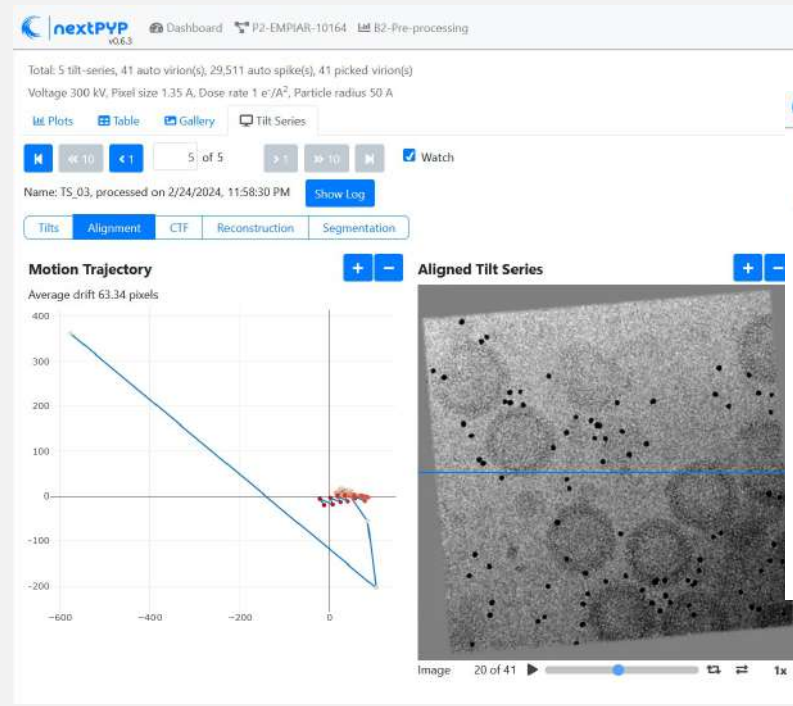
teamtomo.org



• Full tutorial at teamtomo.org

Multi-step packages

NextPYP



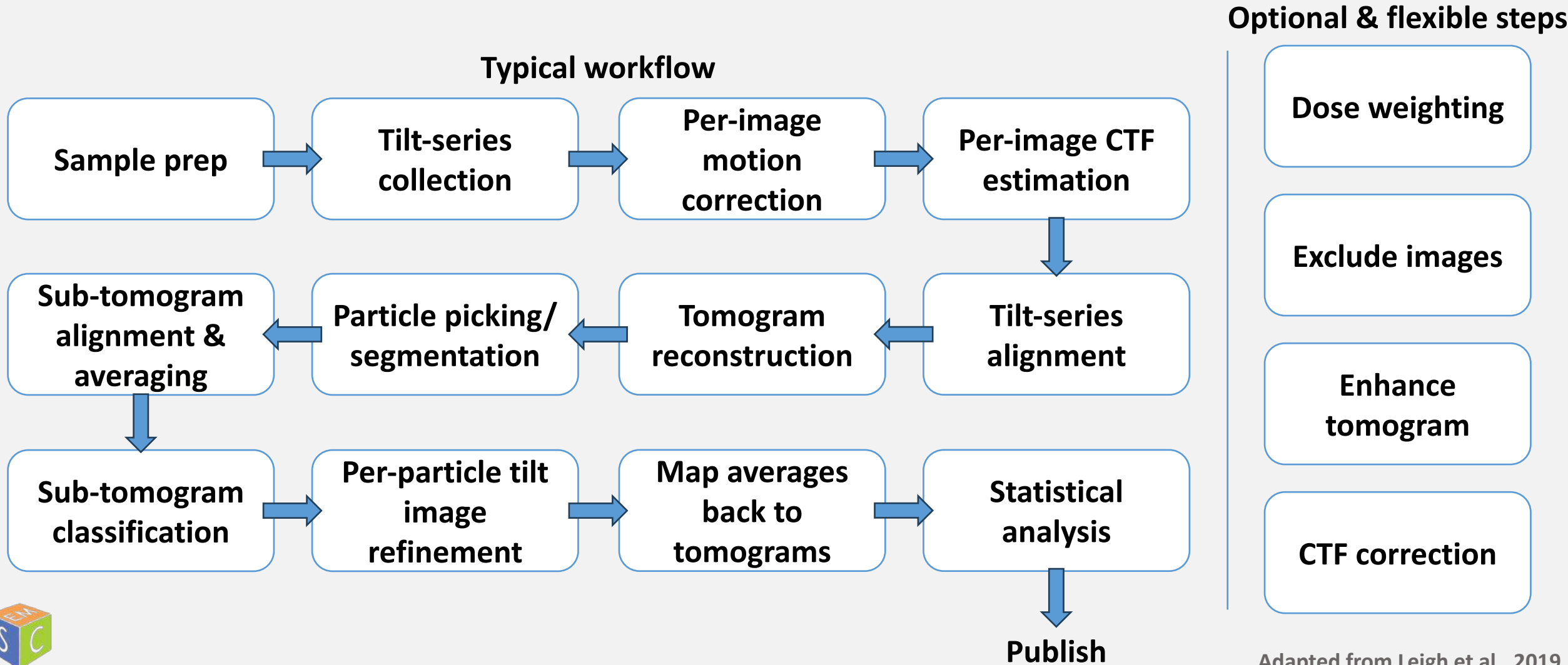
Frame+tilt-series alignment, CTF, reconstruction, denoise, machine learning picking/segmentation, sub-tilt refinement, map to tomogram (ArtiaX)



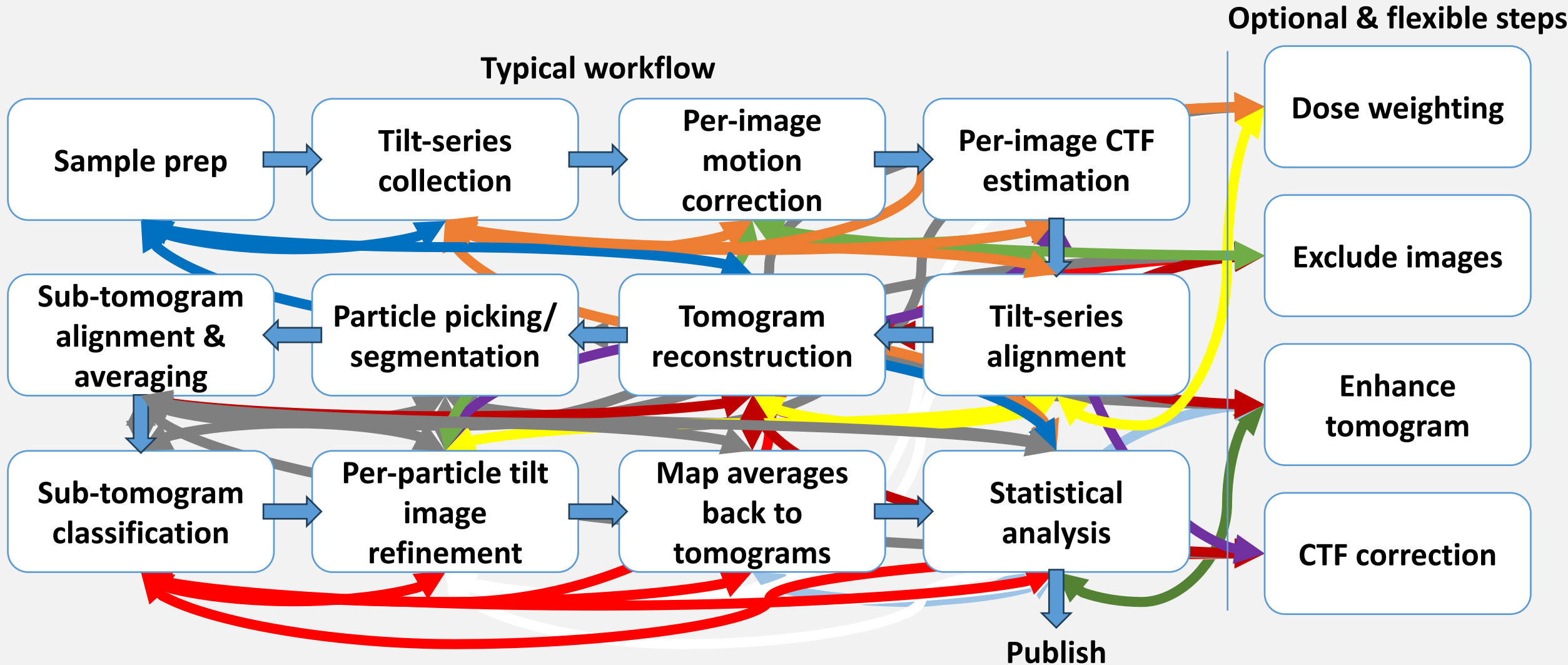
• Full tutorials at nextpyp.app

Today's plan

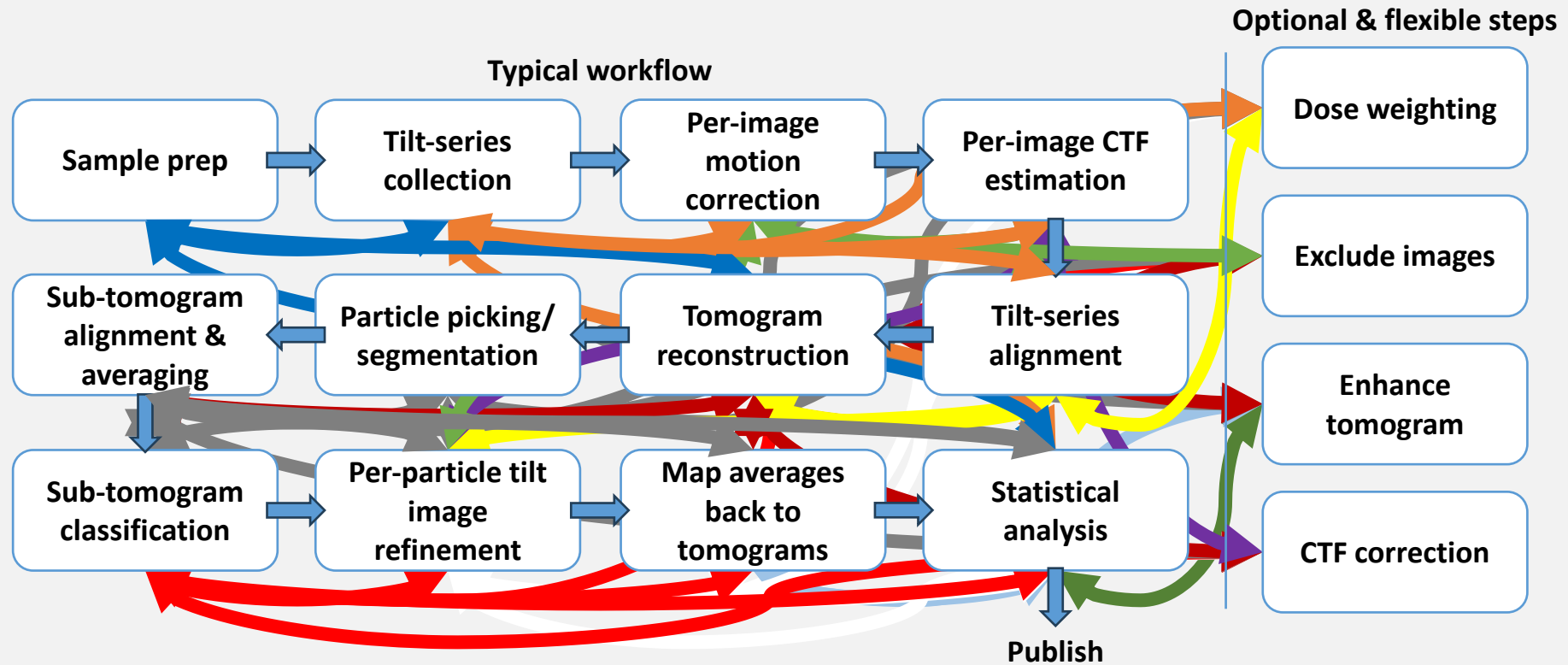
- Analyze software in every step of the workflow



Real workflow



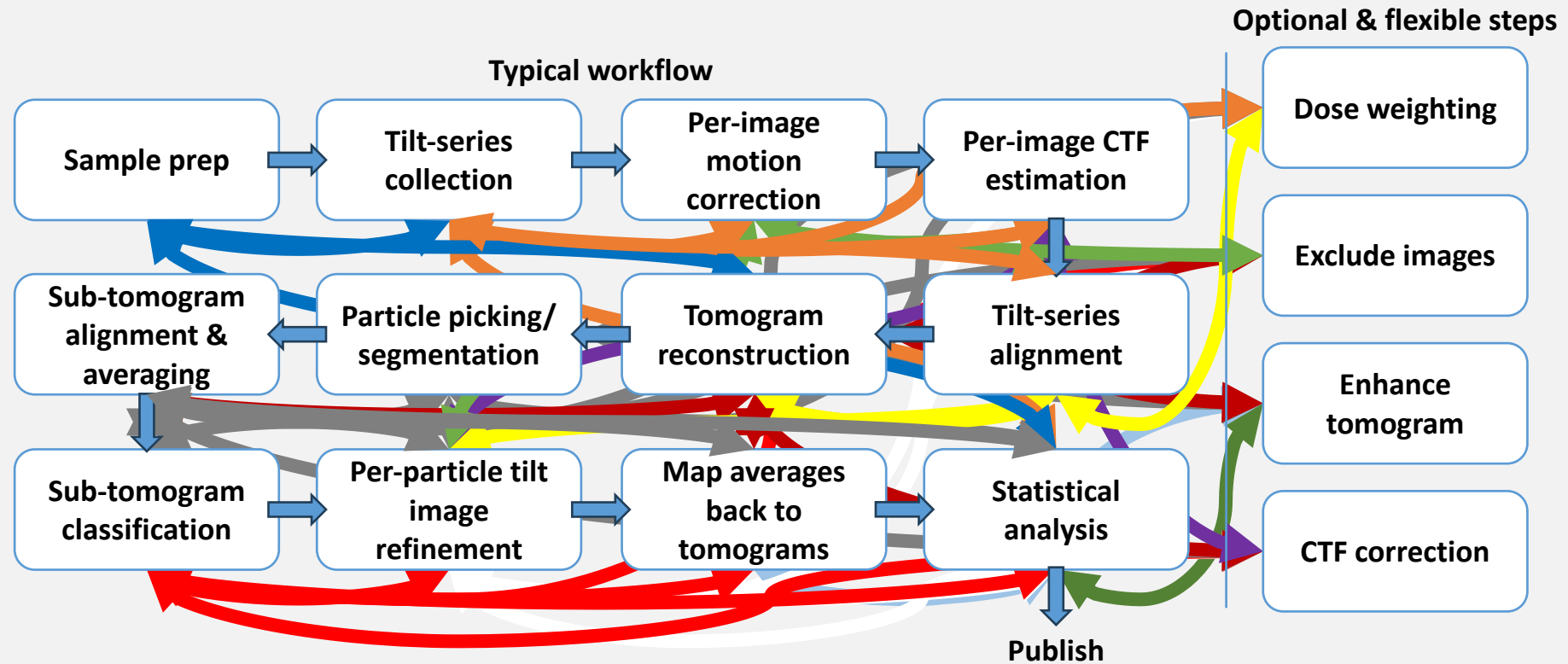
Real workflow



- Most cryoET projects take **years**
- Most projects target **large proteins** that are **everywhere**
- There are **as many** cryoET software **workflows** as there are cryoET **labs**



Real workflow

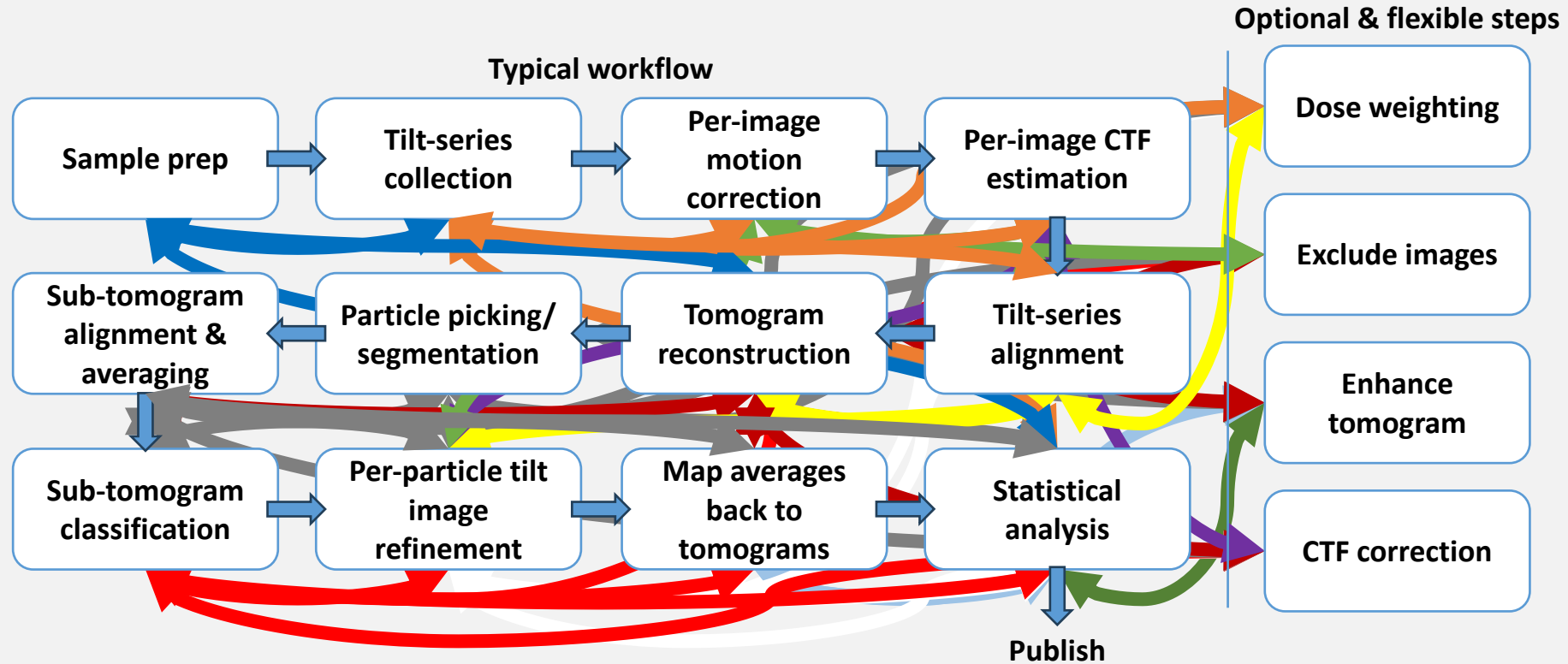


Main areas that require improvement:

- Automated object identification & classification
- How to deal with overlapping proteins
- Fully automated workflows



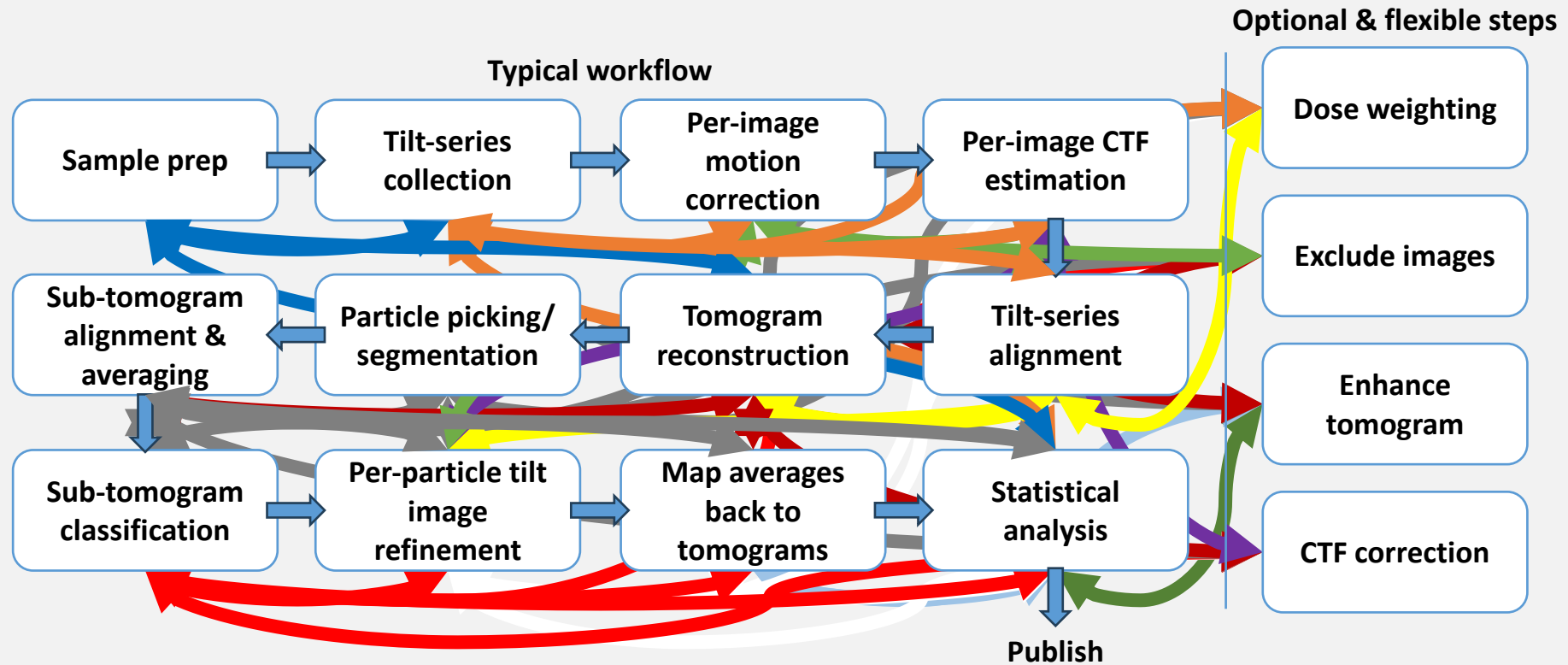
Real workflow



- Many **softwares** are **missing** from this presentation
- **Workshops** exist and take **1-5 days** to learn large portions of the workflow
- The **best way** to learn is to **work on a cryoET project!**



Real workflow



Last points:

- Always **look at your data** at every step to make sure it makes sense
- CryoET can be complicated, but it's worth it to see **native biology**=)





Thank you!

**Questions/
Discussion?**

