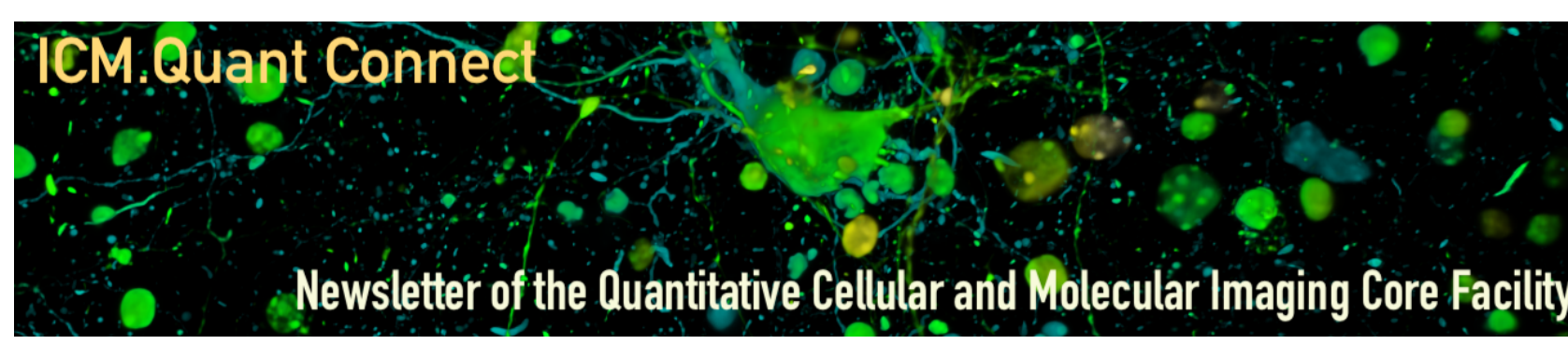


[View this email in your browser](#)



Introducing the April 2026 edition of the ICM.Quant Connect newsletter!

We are here to keep you informed with the latest updates on the ICM.Quant platform, your trusted ally for all things related to electron microscopy, photonics & Image Analysis projects.

Mini-symposium "Imaging the Brain: New Probes and Approaches"



The ICM.Quant platform, in partnership with Carl Zeiss, is pleased to announce a mini-symposium titled "Imaging the Brain: New Probes and Approaches."

This event marks the inauguration of the *labs@location* partnership between the platform and Zeiss.

The symposium will take place on **June 4th, 2026**, in the Paris Brain Institute auditorium. We are delighted to welcome presentations from **Jaime De Juan-Sanz (PBI)**, **Valentina Emiliani (Institut de la Vision)**, **Vincent Villette (ENS)**, and **Brice Bathellier (Institut de l'Audition)**.

Registration is free of charge but mandatory.

[Program & Free Registration](#)

Expanded Electron Microscopy Services Through New Collaborations

The **electron microscopy unit** has established close collaborations with the **IBPS electron microscopy platform**, which offers **complementary equipment** to our own. We can now provide **Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM)** and **High Pressure Freezing (HPF)** services.

For **Serial Block Face (SBF)** projects, we can also collaborate with the **Institut Jacques Monod platform**.

For more information, please contact quant-electron@icm-institute.org.



Welcome to Sara

We are pleased to welcome **Sara Rajabzadeh**, who is joining the **image analysis unit** for a 6-month internship, under the supervision of Gabriel Jimenez. The project will focus on **automating G-ratio measurements** from electron microscopy images.

Nikon AX NSPARC Confocal Microscope: Near-Infrared Capabilities



For your information, the **Nikon AX NSPARC confocal microscope**, available on the platform since **October 2025**, features not only a **resolution enhancement module** but also a **730 nm laser** with a **dedicated detector** for near-infrared fluorophores (em. 740-880nm).

If you are planning projects using **near-infrared dyes**, please contact quant-light@icm-institute.org.

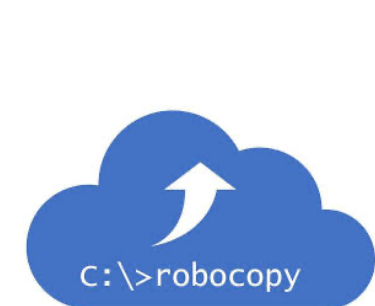
Imaris File Conversion Now Available on the Cluster

We are pleased to announce that you can now **convert your files to the Imapris format directly on the cluster**. This conversion step, which can be time-consuming on Imapris analysis workstations, can now be performed **faster and free of charge** on the cluster.

For access and instructions, please contact quant-analysis@icm-institute.org.



Faster Transfers for Large Files



When copying large datasets to or from the ISS on the ICM.Quant platform, we recommend using **Robocopy** from a Windows workstation (e.g. lightsheet or CD7 multi-well acquisitions). Thanks to **multithreaded copying**, Robocopy can improve transfer speed by **around 30%** when handling multiple large files.

Robocopy is available on all Windows computers. For small or standard files, regular copy methods remain sufficient.

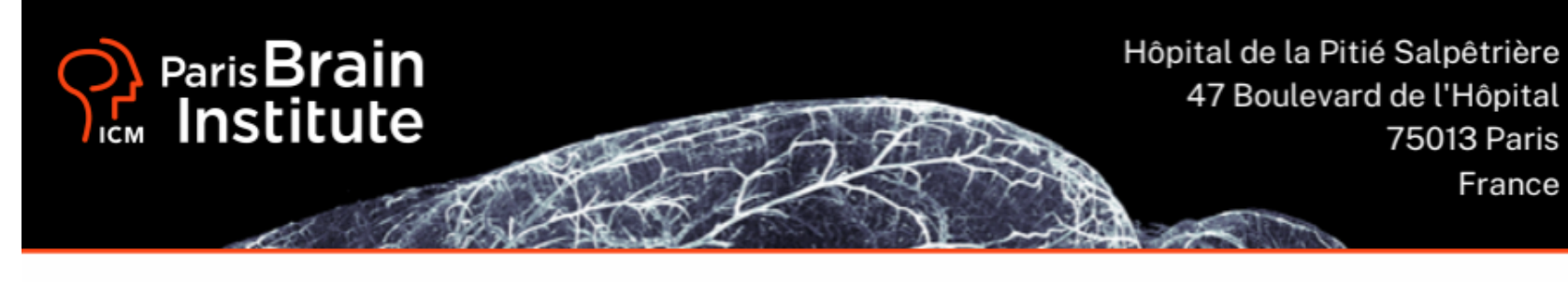
Migration to Windows 11 on Acquisition and Image Analysis PCs

As requested by the IT department, **most computers on the platform have been upgraded to Windows 11**. In some cases, particularly on acquisition workstations, this migration has led to **technical issues**.

We are currently working with the **hardware manufacturers** to resolve these problems as quickly as possible. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

Pricing Update – ICM.Quant Platform

The Institute's management has requested a review of platform pricing. Updated ICM.Quant pricing will be communicated after validation and will take effect on **October 1, 2026**. An official notice will follow.



TISSUE CLEARING & BRAIN MAPPING TECHNOLOGIES



Tissue Clearing & Brain Mapping Technologies Symposium (April 20, 2026)

The Paris Brain Institute will host an open symposium (April 20) with leading international speakers.

Contract Extension for Louise Mathé

We are pleased to announce that the Institute's management has approved the **extension of Louise Mathé's contract until the end of September 2026**. Louise, our **ClearMap image analysis expert**, is involved in numerous quantitative Lightsheet data analysis projects.

We hope to be able to **secure a long-term position** for her in the future.



ICM.Quant Users' Survey – Key Points

Thank you to all users who participated in the annual ICM.Quant / ROQ survey. Although the response rate was limited, your feedback was very helpful. We noted concerns regarding the **Lightsheet microscope repair time** last summer and have contacted **Miltenyi** to avoid similar situations. We are also working with **Zeiss** to address delays related to the transition from **Arrayscan to CellDiscoverer 7**. Due to the high demand for **image analysis** in 2025, delays may occur for custom developments, and major projects may require dedicated funding.

Please remember that **OpenIRIS sessions must be ended manually**, that **wearing a lab coat is mandatory**, and that **users are responsible for keeping their lab coat clean by using the laundry service** (disposable lab coats are available if needed).

Finally, thank you for your very positive feedback on the team and the platform—do not hesitate to contact us for more information.

Reporting Issues on Platform Equipment

Have you noticed a bug or malfunction on a platform instrument? Please **report the issue in OpenIRIS**. All incidents are tracked to ensure proper follow-up.

[How to report an issue](#)

Power Off Systems After Use



Please remember to **turn off the systems and light if you are the last user of the day**, both for environmental reasons and to allow system updates.

We have noticed that **many systems and computers remain powered on at the end of the day**. Thank you for your cooperation.

Reminder: User Data Responsibility on ICM.Quant Systems

ICM.Quant does not store or back up user data. Please transfer your files after each session—data on workstations and servers may be deleted at any time (analysis and microscope stations auto-delete monthly).

Back up your data immediately to avoid loss.



Tips & Tricks – Optimize Your Contrast by Adjusting Beam Intensity Wisely in TEM

When working in transmission electron microscopy (TEM), beam intensity is critical. A beam that is too intense can damage delicate samples or introduce artefacts (such as holes and/or section expansion), while a beam that is too weak reduces contrast and may obscure fine structural details.

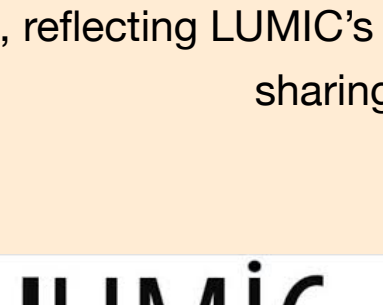
➡ **Start with a low intensity, then gradually increase it until you find the best compromise between contrast and sample preservation.**

A beautiful image is a grey image!

ICM.Quant and the LUMIC Network

The **ICM.Quant platform** is a long-standing member of **LUMIC**, the Sorbonne University network of **microscopy and cytometry platforms**. LUMIC organizes **training sessions, seminars, and workshops throughout the year** and is officially **IBISA-labelled**.

In this context, an **introduction course to microscopy and cytometry** was held on **2 & 3 April 2026** at Saint-Antoine Research Centre. The course was **open to all and free of charge**, reflecting LUMIC's commitment to broad access to training and knowledge sharing within the scientific community.

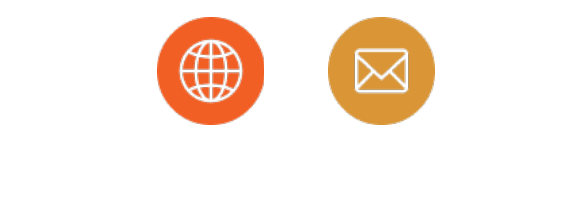
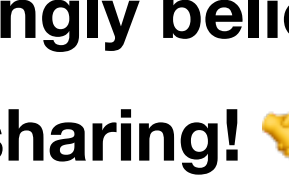


[LUMIC website](#)

Please cite: "We acknowledge the Paris Brain Institute Quantitative Cellular and Molecular Imaging Core Facility (RRID:SCR_026393) for access to imaging equipment and technical support."

Co-authorship of platform members who have made a significant scientific contribution to the work is strongly encouraged.

Thank you all for using the ICM.Quant platform. We strongly believe in the spirit of sharing!



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