LOCALIZE_FIBERS MATLAB App README

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Howe Lab members: for compatibility with legacy code and formatting, please see Howe Lab Specifics on the last page.

Fiber location table

The purpose of this sequence of steps is to find the locations of your fibers, and match them to the grid. An output struct with crucial information will be generated, and has the following fields.

- info: the size, and location of your CT scan
- fiber_tops: intermediate information from the steps for localization of the fiber tops
- fiber_bottoms: intermediate information from the steps for localization of the fiber bottoms
- fiber_table_orig: same as below, with the information before manual editing
- fiber_table: this is the main output table. This will have a row for each fiber, and contains information about the coordinates for each fiber top and fiber bottom, as well as atlas labels

Before you begin

If you have a grid arrangement, and you want to map your recording locations to locations on the grid, you will want a matlab (.mat) file, which, when loaded, contains one field which provides the grid mapping of your fibers. There are 2 ways to do this:

1. One is a coordinate system. This is a matrix, where each row represents a fiber, and the columns represent row coordinates, column coordinates, and (optional) ID#. In this example to my right, column 1 contains the column# for each fiber. Column 2 contains the row#. Column 3 contains an ID# that I assigned ahead of time.

ans =

Before you begin (cont'd)

2. The other options is a matrix that represents the layout of the grid. The values in the matrix are the ID# (you can use 1s if you don't have ID#s), and the locations are the actual row/column location in the grid arrangement. In my example below, fiber#64 is in row 1, column 2. Fiber#10 is in row 7, column 3.

ans =													
_		_				_	_	_	_	_	_	_	
0		0	69	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
73	0	70	0	59	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	38	0	11	0	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	0	36	0	67	0	66	0	58	0	0	0	0	0
0	39	0	37	0	68	0	63	0	60	0	0	0	0
0	0	10	0	40	0	62	0	61	0	54	0	0	0
0	0	42	13	0	57	0	56	0	48	0	55	0	0
0	0	41	0	35	0	9	0	46	0	71	0	53	0
0	0	0	5	0	7	0	8	0	29	0	51	0	0
0	0	0	0	1	0	15	0	47	0	52	0	32	0
0	0	0	0	0	3	0	6	0	34	0	50	0	49
0	0	0	0	2	0	33	0	72	0	27	0	45	0
0	0	0	0	0	4	0	14	0	17	0	28	0	31
0	0	0	0	0	0	18	0	16	0	19	0	43	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	0	26	0	44
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	24	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22	0	30
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25

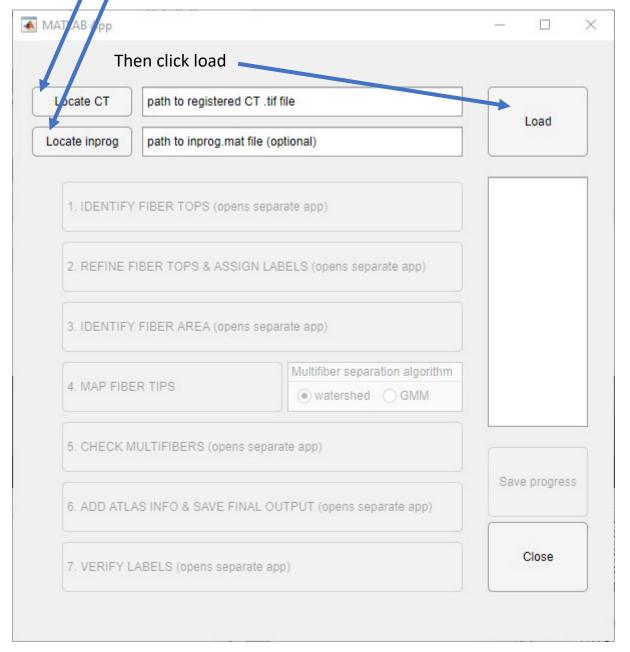
Before you begin (cont'd)

Note: If you don't have a grid arrangement, but you have some reference of what the grid tops should look like (a coordinate file like #1) or just an image you want to use, you can use that too.

LOCALIZE FIBERS

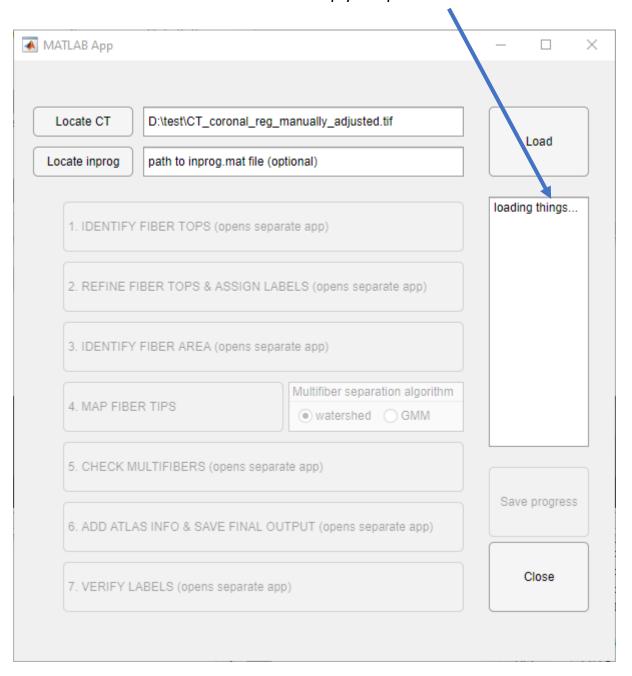
Click to locate your CT.

This button would be for to locate the in-progress localization file if you want to resume an unfinished localization.



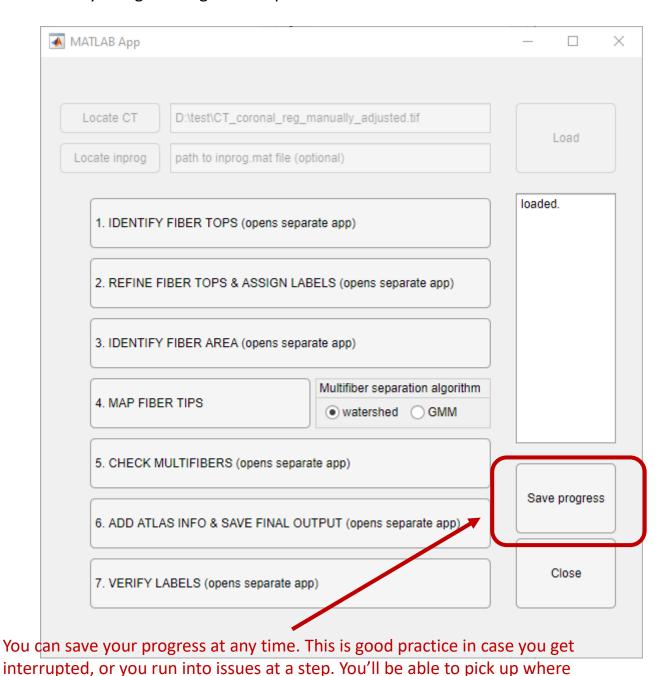
LOCALIZE_FIBERS

This text window will keep you updated.



LOCALIZE_FIBERS

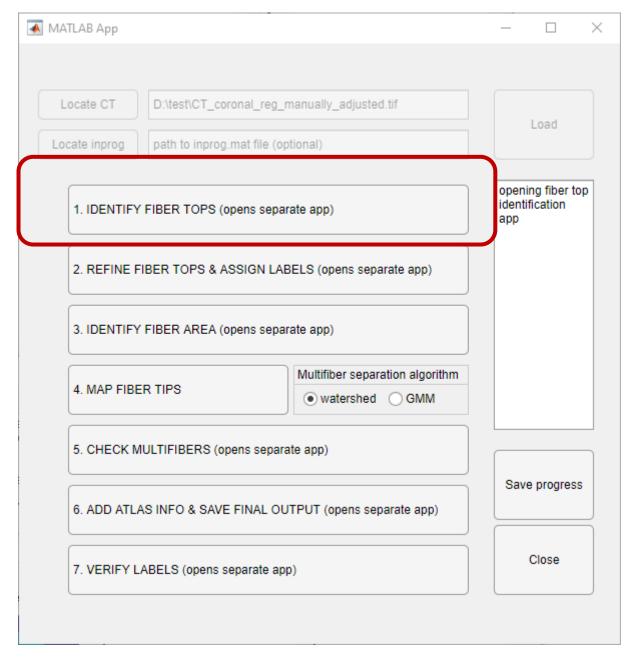
Now you'll go through the steps in order.



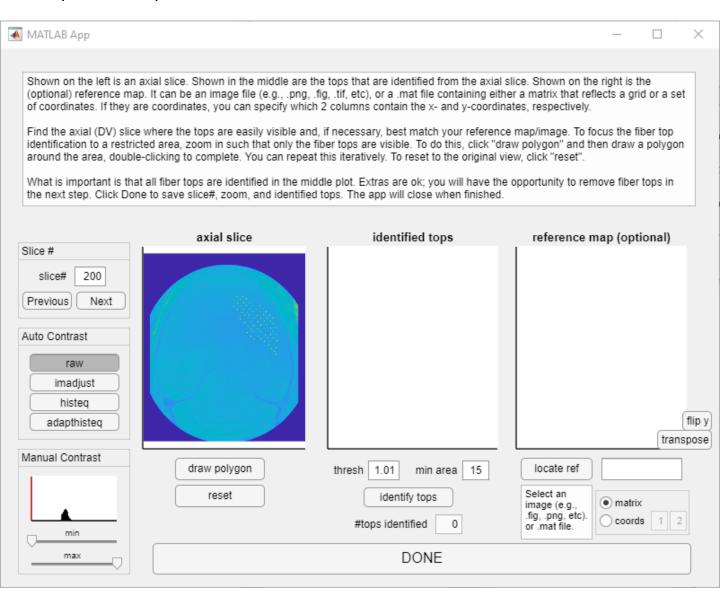
you left off. This will be name something like ___in_prog.mat, and after step

6, it will be named localized fibers.mat

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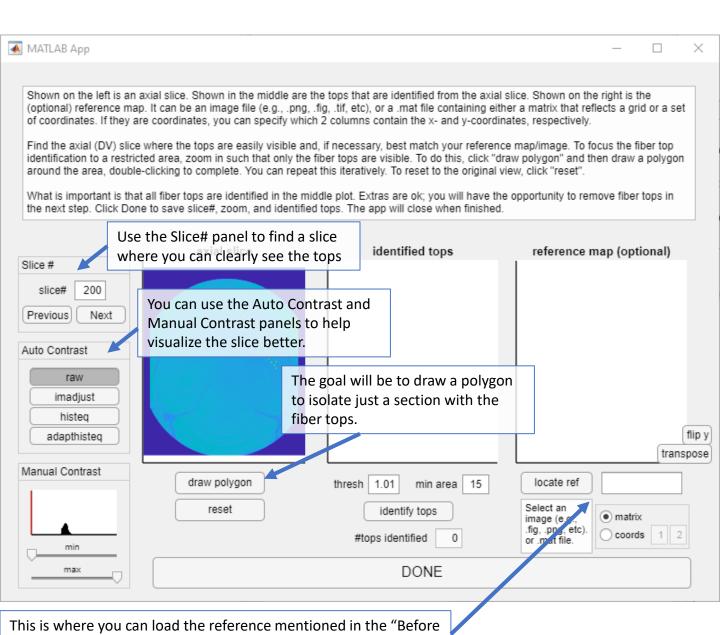


Eventually, we'll map each fiber top to each fiber bottom. The objective of this app is to locate your fiber tops.

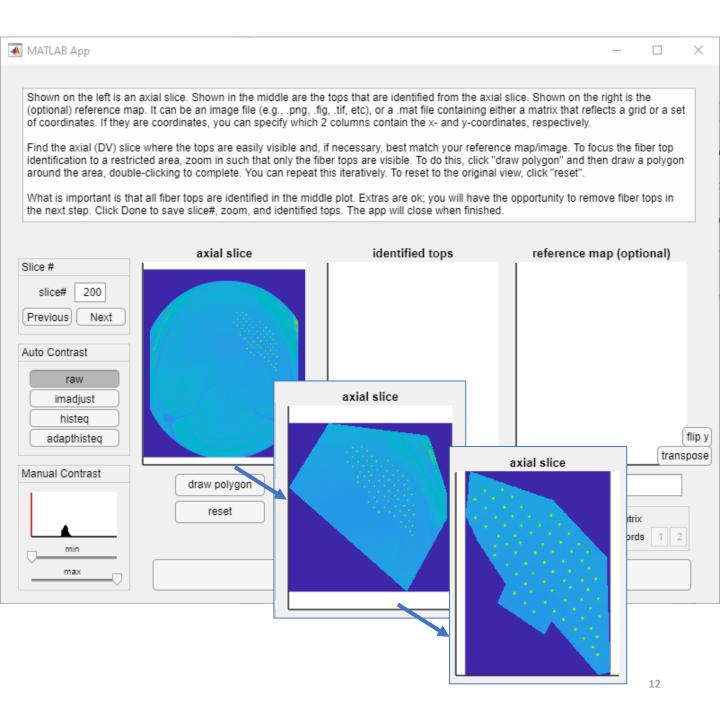


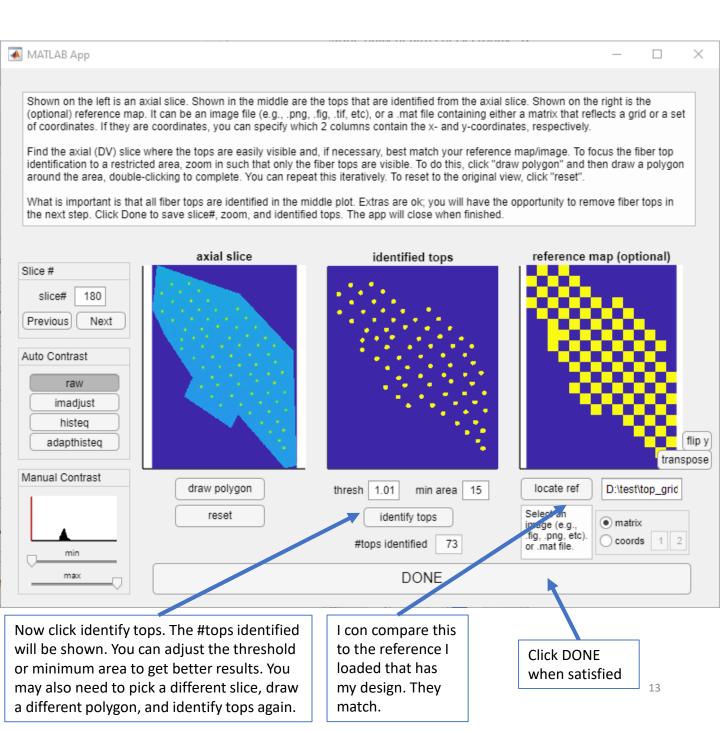
you begin" section. If it's an image file, it'll automatically display. If it's a .mat file, specify if it's a matrix arrangement or a coordinate file. You can specify which columns of the coordinate file contain

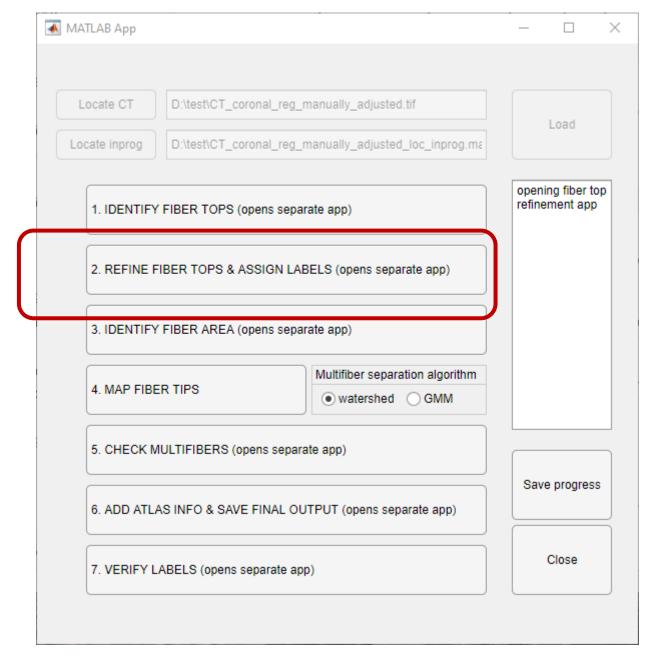
the x-, and y-coordinates, respectively.



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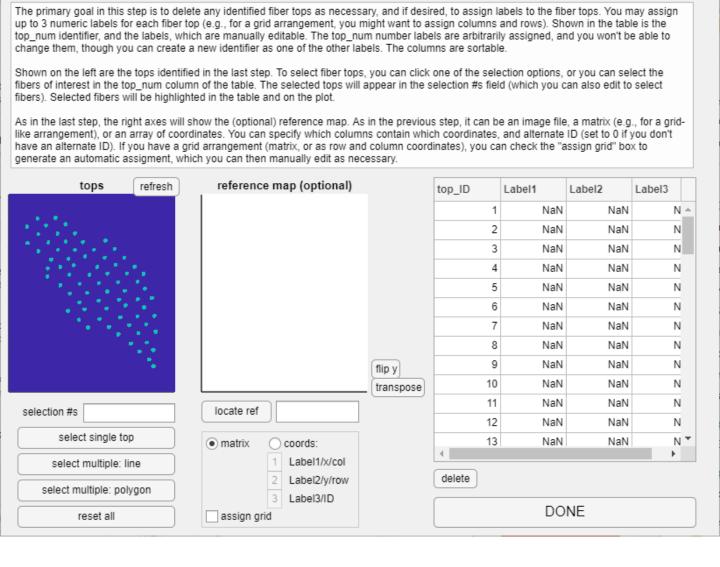




Here you can refine the tops. You cannot add tops, but you can delete tops.

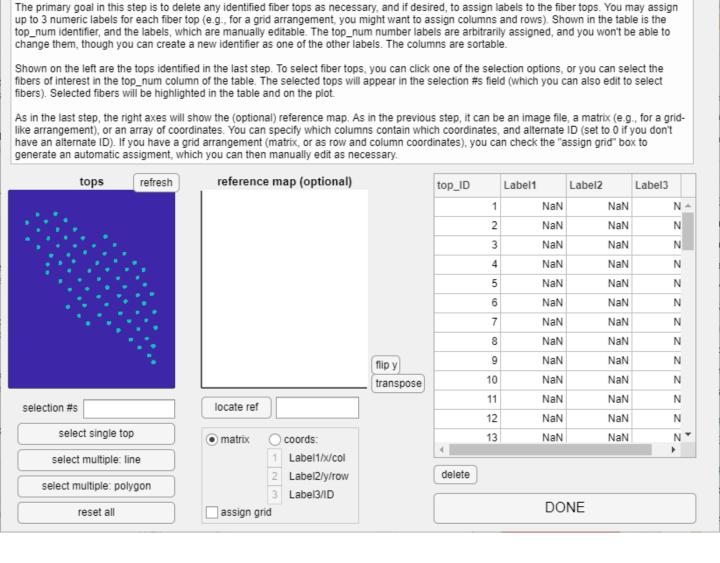
MATLAB App

If you have your fibers arranged in a grid, and want to assign each fiber top to a grid location, you can do that too.



MATLAB App

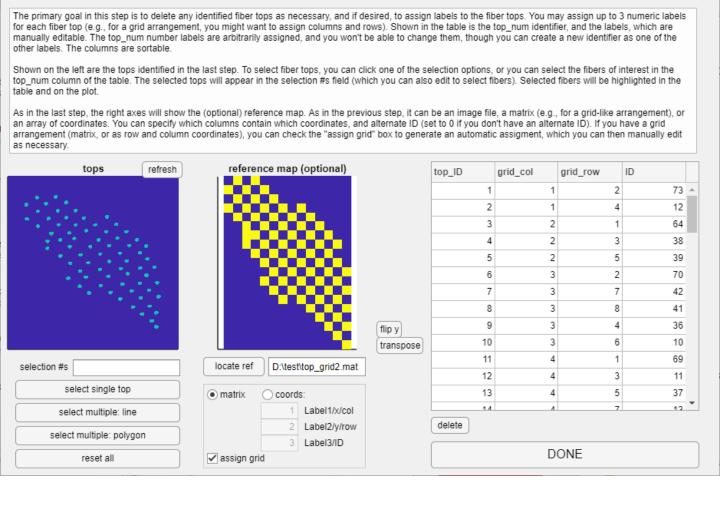
There are 3 ways to select fiber(s). You can enter numbers in the selection #s window. You can click a button to select a single top, multiple tops by drawing a line through them, or multiple tops by drawing a polygon around them. You can also select tops by clicking the numbers in the top_ID column. The whole row will be selected



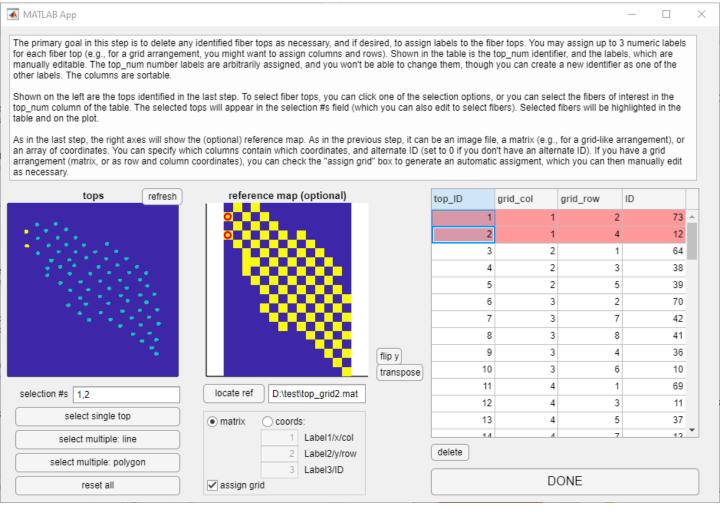
Here in this example, I've loaded my reference, and specified that it is a matrix (see slide 4). Note that "flip y" and "transpose" just apply to the display, and don't change the grid assignment.

To generate first-pass automatic grid location assignments, check the "assign grid" box. You'll see that the columns for grid_col, grid_row, and ID automatically populate.

MATLAB App

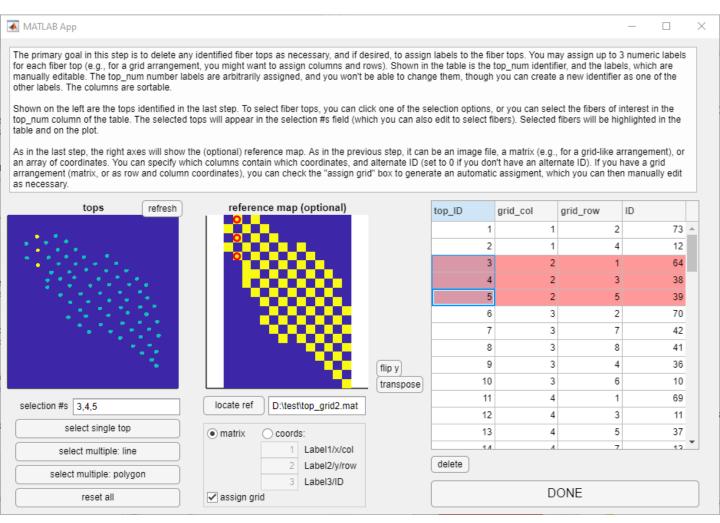


Now you need to manually verify that these are correct. In this example, I start with the grid columns but sorting the grid_col column (click the heading). Now I select the rows (remember: click in the top_ID column to make a selection) that correspond with column 1. The fibers will be highlighted in the identified tops (first image), and if applicable, the reference map will display the columns/rows highlighted.

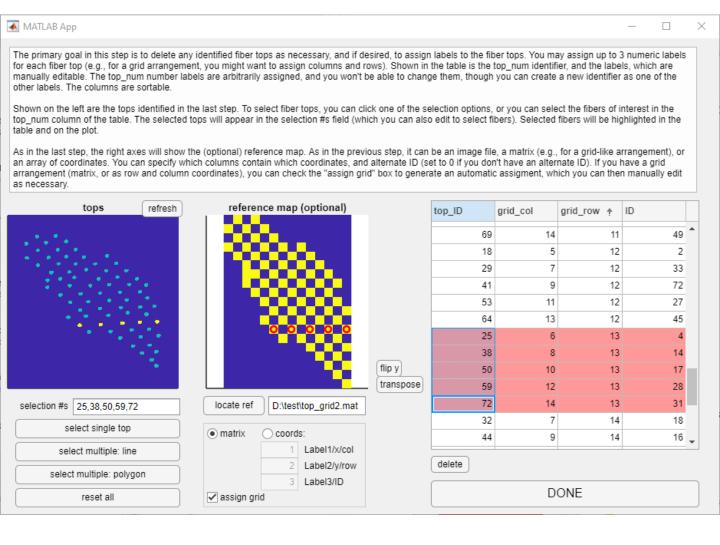


If you want to change the column or row assignment of any of the fibers, click in the grid_col or grid_row box you want to change, and edit the number. Clicking delete will delete the tops corresponding to the highlighted rows.

Go through all the columns

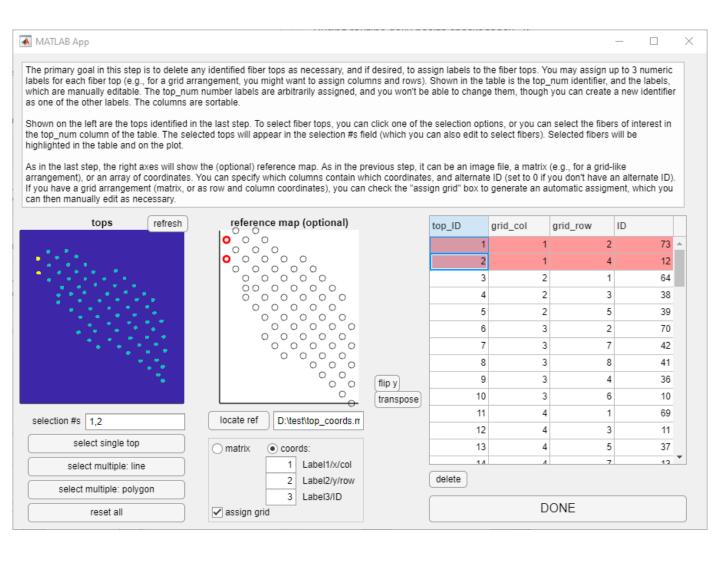


And also the rows. To easily look at rows, sort the grid_row column.

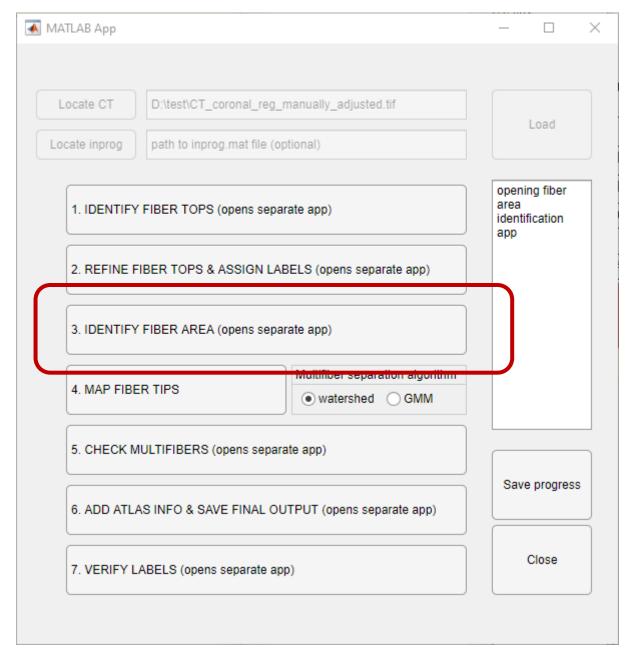


Click done when you are satisfied.

Here's an example of what the reference map would look like if you loaded a set of coordinates instead.

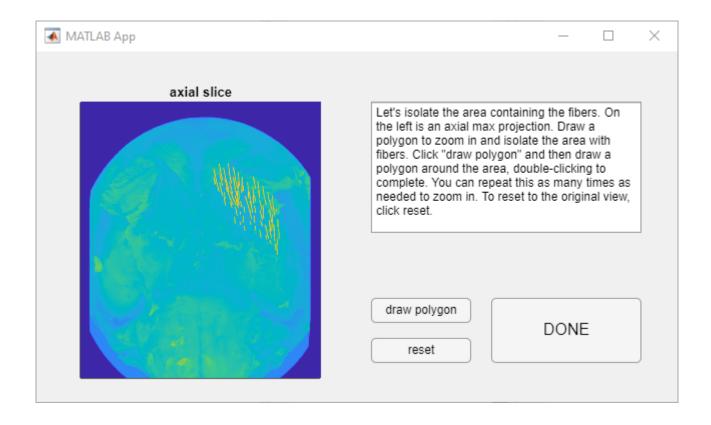


IDENTIFY FIBER AREA



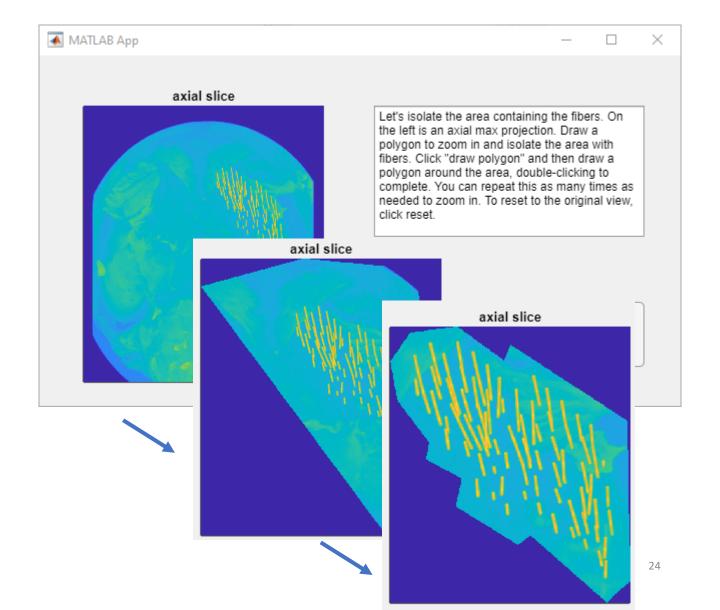
IDENTIFY FIBER AREA

We will eventually be automatically detecting fibers based on brightness. To make that search easier, we will restrict the detection area axially based on where we know fibers are, based on the maximum projection. Use the draw polygon button to isolate this area. Repeat as necessary. You can reset. Click done when you are satisfied



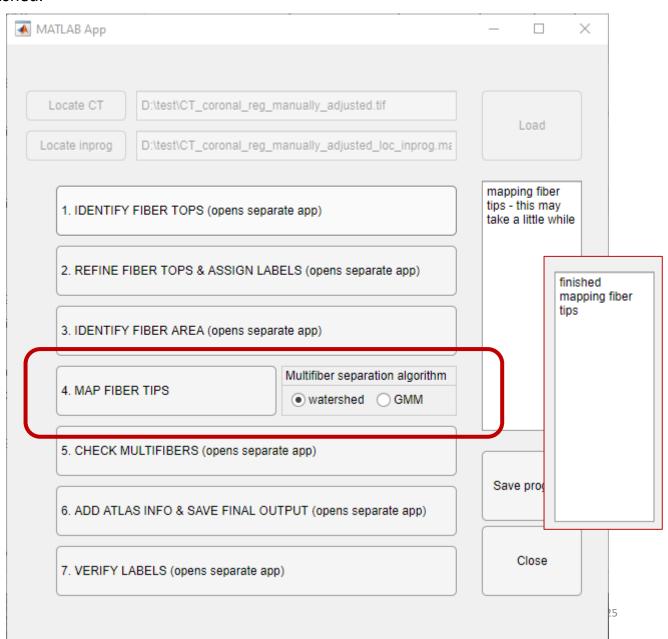
IDENTIFY FIBER AREA

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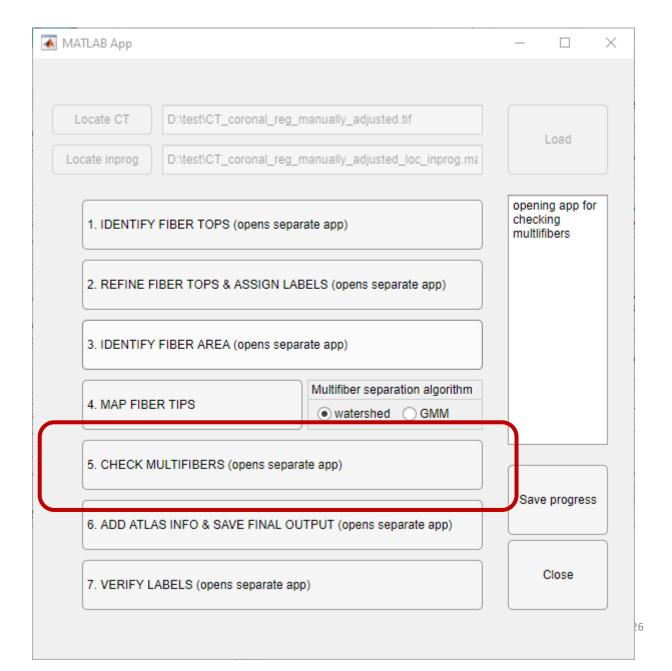


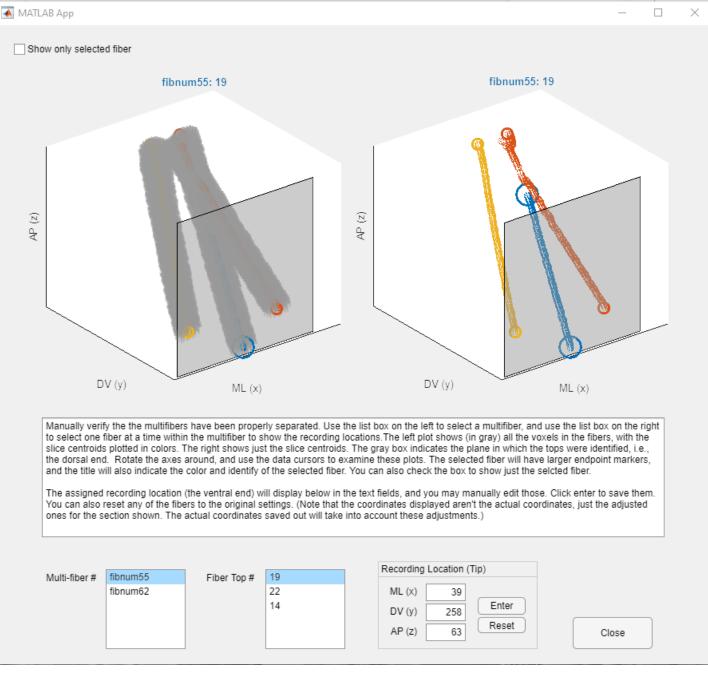
MAP FIBER TIPS

Now it's time to automatically detect the fibers and map them to your identified tops. For separating any fibers that are touching ("multifibers"), you can choose between the watershed (see Vu et al., 2024) and gaussian mixture models (this might entail some trial and error). This does not open a separate app. You will be notified when it is finished.

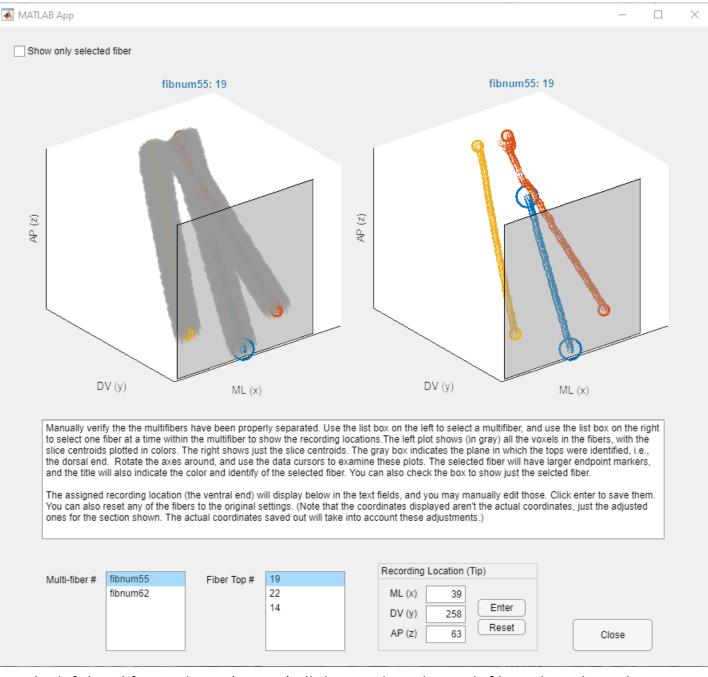


Fibers that are touching get initially lumped together as a single fiber. The mapping step includes an automatic separation of them, but it's not perfect and you'll need to manually check the separation, and refine as necessary.

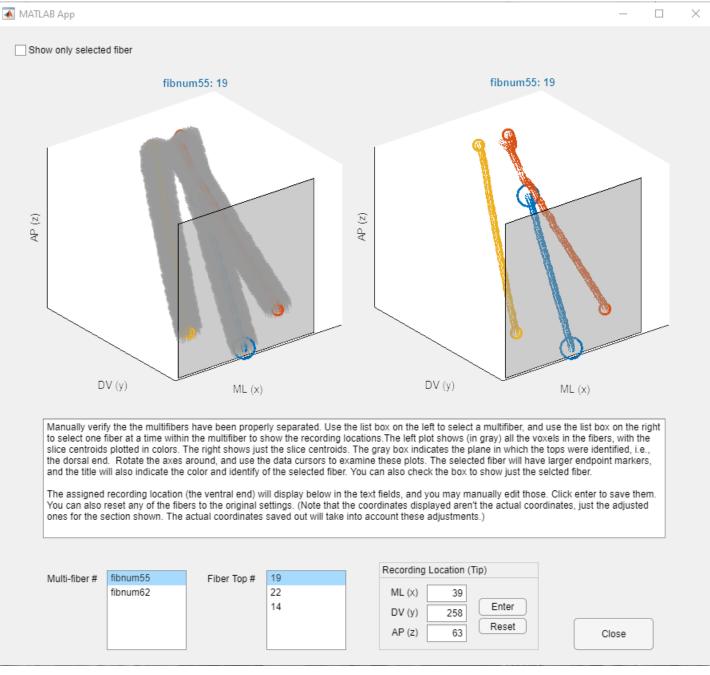




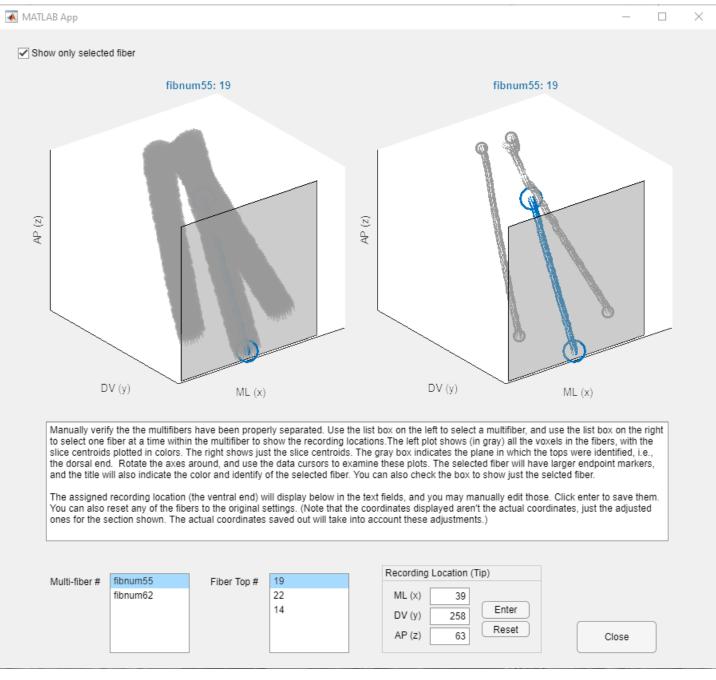
The left menu contains the multifibers (fiber bottom #), and the right menu contains the fiber top #s that belong in this multifiber (these identification numbers themselves are automatically assigned in previous steps).



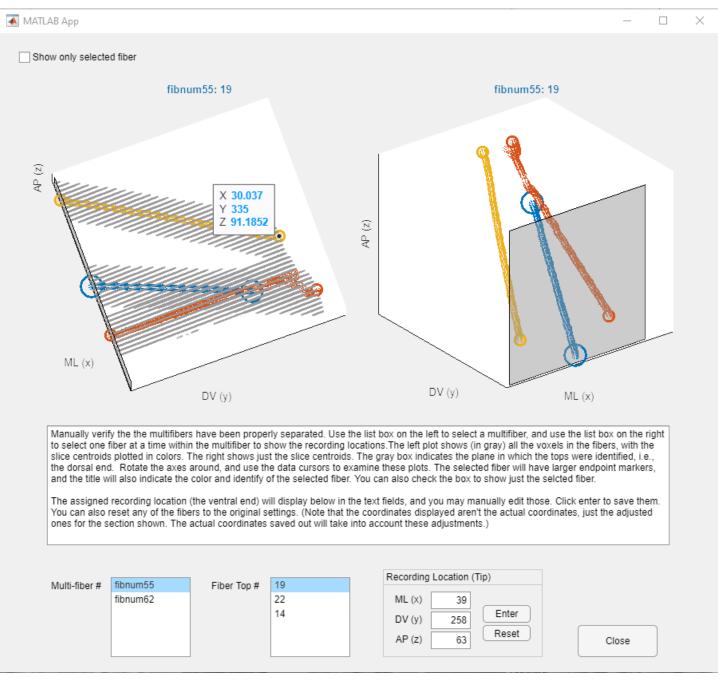
The left hand figure shows (in gray) all the voxels in this multifiber. Plotted in color (both plots) are what was automatically identified as the centroids of those cross sections.



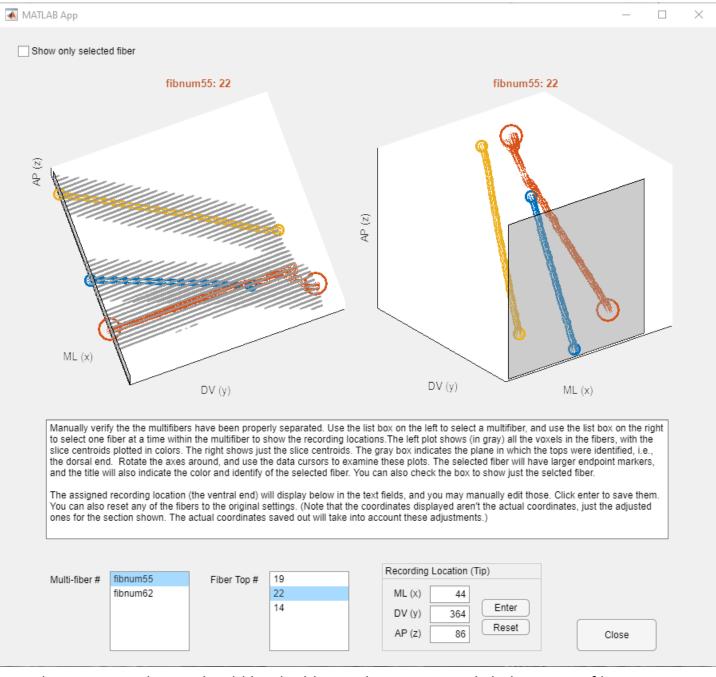
The selected fiber will have larger circles at the endpoints, and the coordinates of the location are displayed. The title of the plots show the selection and its corresponding color.



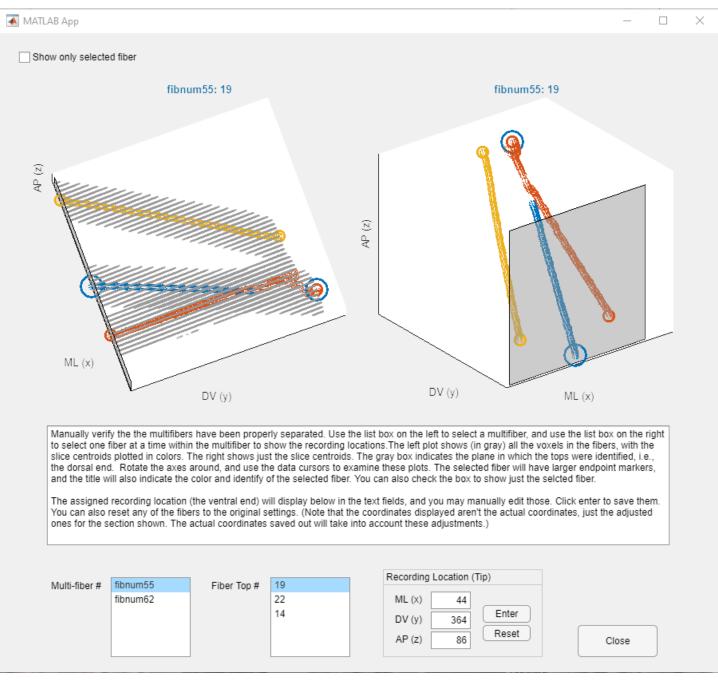
Checking the box allows you to just display the selected fiber



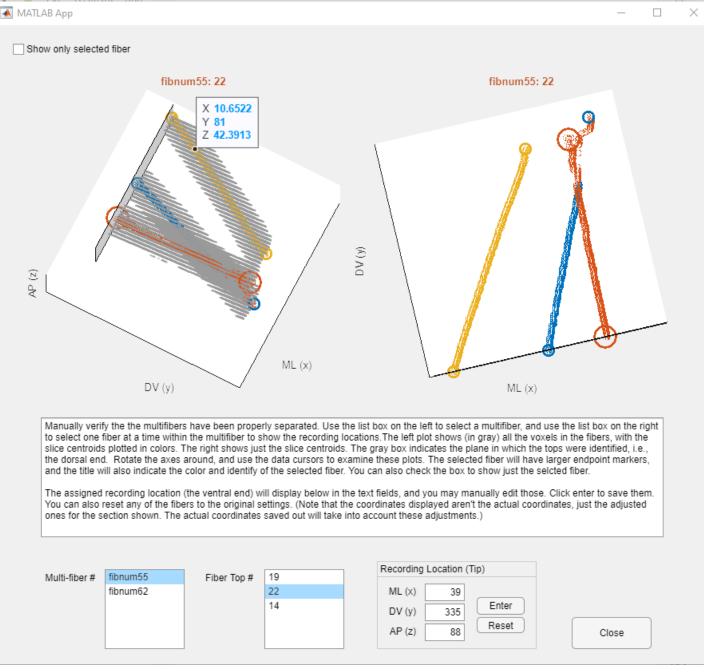
Use the plot tools (however near the title to see tools to rotate, pan, zoom, or reset the view. Swivel the plots around to see whether you agree. Clicking will display coordinates of your clicked point. In this case, we see that the blue and orange endpoints where incorrectly identified.



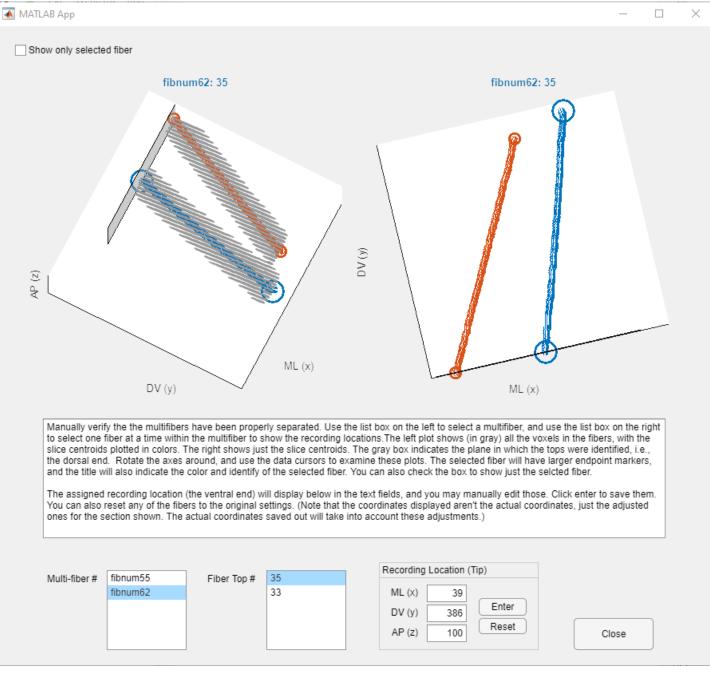
The orange endpoint should be the blue endpoint, so we click the orange fiber to note those coordinates.



Now we go back to the blue fiber, enter those coordinates, and click "Enter". The plot is updated.



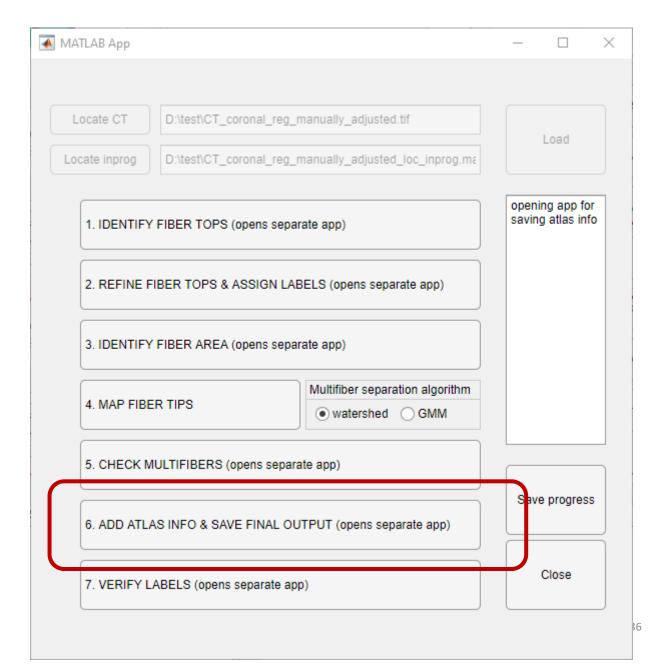
Now we want to change the orange endpoint. Click around in the left plot until you find what is the endpoint (I moved the data cursor here so as not to occlude the end). Enter those coordinates, and click Enter.



We can see here the second multifiber was properly separated. Once you're finished, click Close to return to the main fiber localization app.

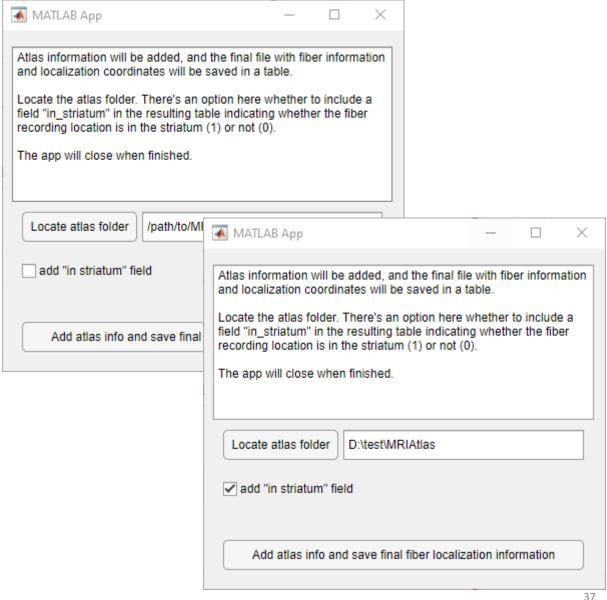
ADD ATLAS INFO & SAVE

Now that you're satisfied with the identification and mapping of fiber tops and bottoms, it's time to assign them to the atlas (see Vu et al., 2024 for atlas references).

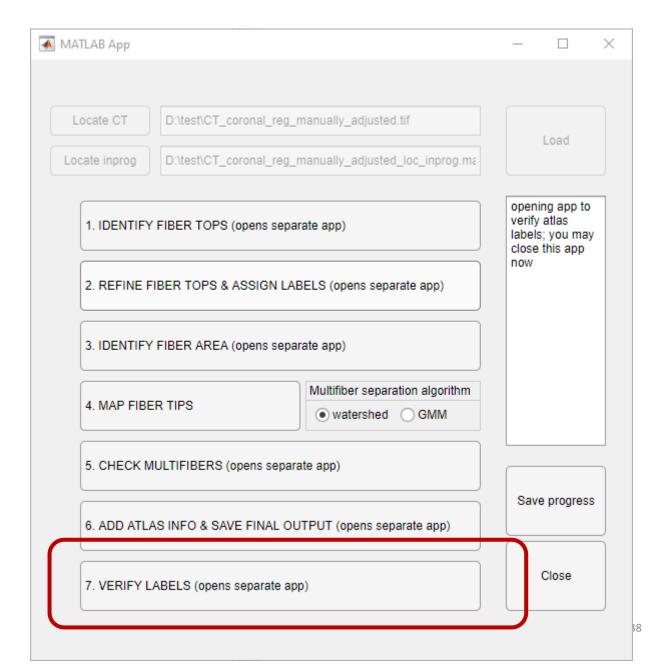


ADD ATLAS INFO & SAVE

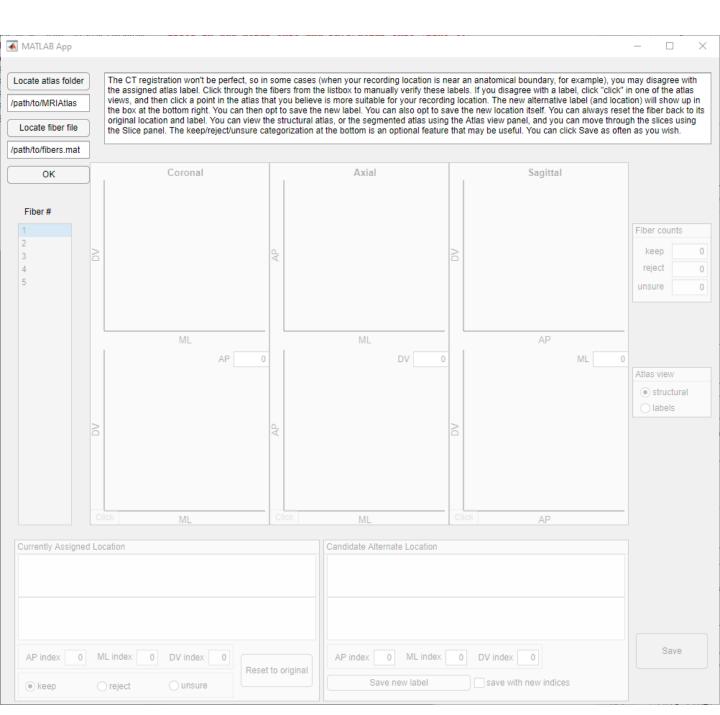
Locate your atlas folder. In Vu et al., 2024, we were only looking in striatum, so built in is a filter for that, which will output a column in the resulting table with 1 and 0 indicating whether the recording location is in the striatum. You may opt into that as well. This app saves and closes automatically when finished. Note that it may take a while.



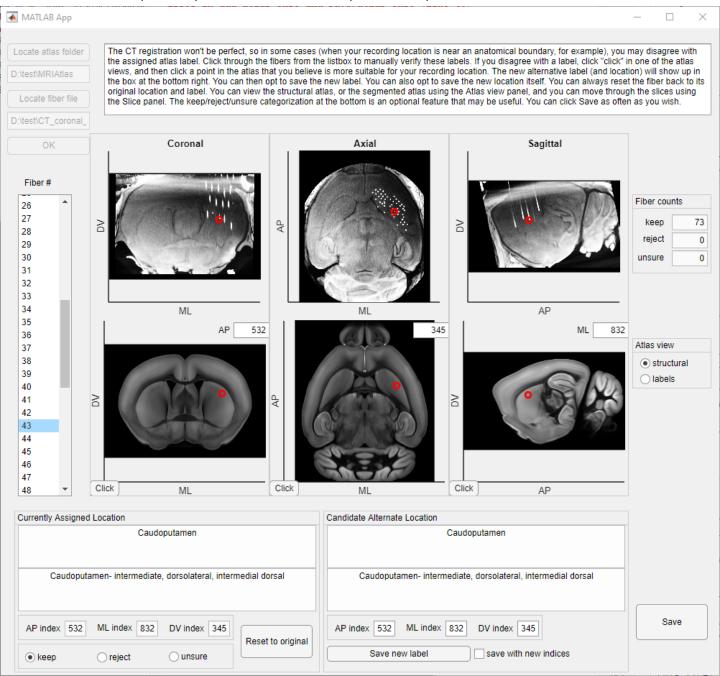
Now it's time to manually verify that assigned labels. This will open a separate app **verify_atlas_labels.mlapp**. You can run this externally as well and don't need to go through this LOCALIZE_FIBERS app. You can close this app now.



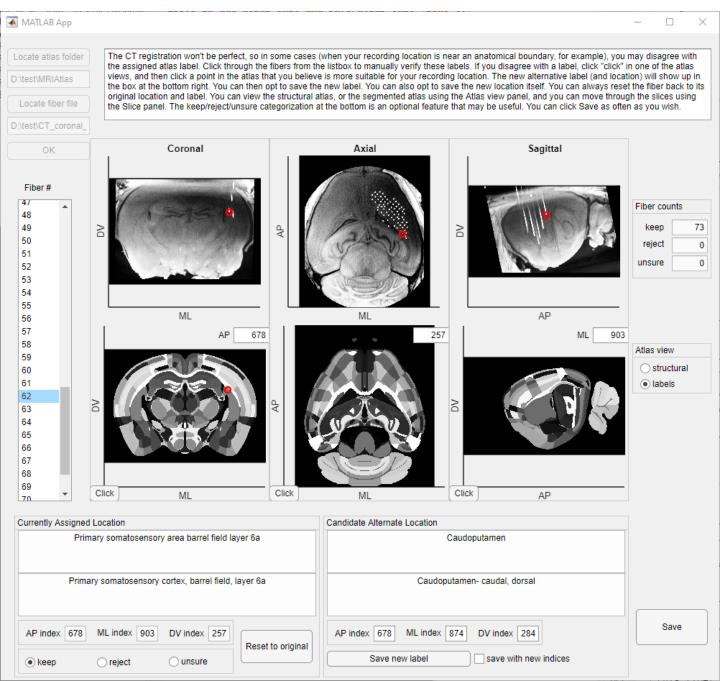
Locate the atlas folder, as well as the fiber file that was saved in the previous step. The loading may take a little while



When the files are loaded, the Fiber # menu will populate (use this menu to select fibers), and some images will pop up. The top row shows the CT with your selected fiber tip highlighted. The bottom row shows the atlas, and you can toggle between the structural view (shown) and the label view (next slide)



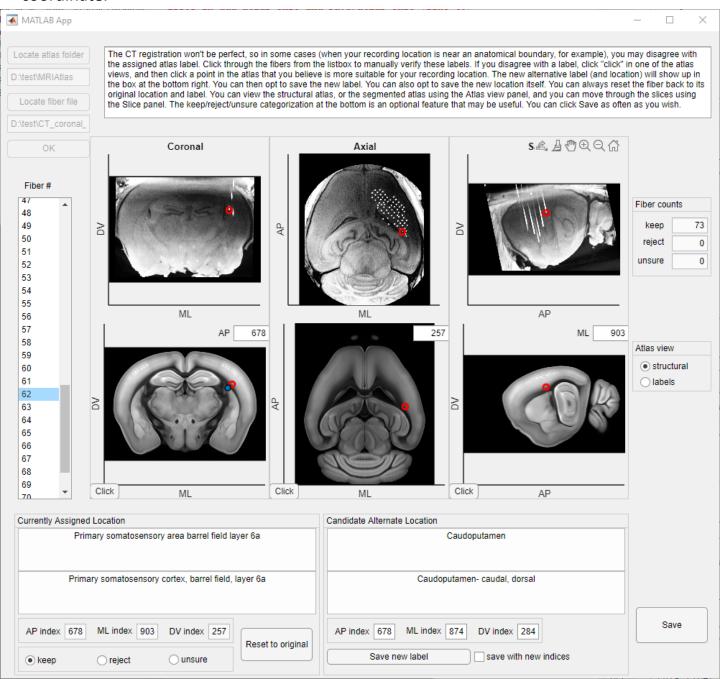
Atlas label view



The bottom left panel shows the currently assigned location. You'll see atlas labels as well as the location. There is also an optional feature that lets you decide whether to keep or reject each fiber. This will add a column to the output table where 1 means keep, 0 means reject, and 0.5 means you're unsure. Running totals are shown in the Fiber counts panel.



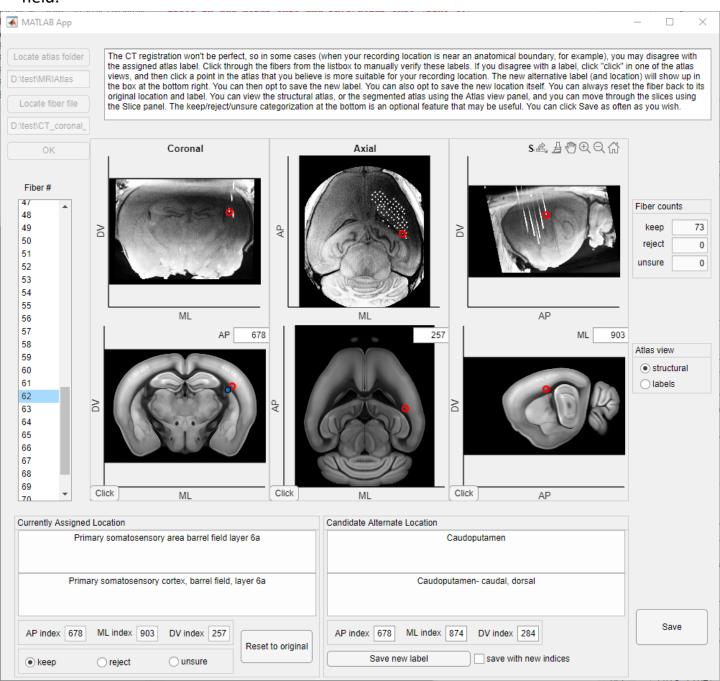
Let's say in this example, you disagree with the original label. Here I clicked "Click" in the Coronal view on the atlas slice, and clicked what I think more accurately captures my fiber location. You can see in the bottom right panel the new labels and coordinate.



If you agree with the new label, you can save the new label. You can also opt to save the new coordinates too. If you want to preserve the spatial relationships of these fiber locations (note: in this registered atlas space) but want to just edit the anatomical label (as may be appropriate just due to individual differences in brain morphology), you can opt out of saving the new indices, and just save the label itself.



Save as often as you wish. Close the app when finished. Note that the original fiber table generated in the prior step is saved in the output in a field called fiber_table_orig. Any changes you've done in this app are reflected in the fiber_table field.



HOWE LAB SPECIFICS

What's different?	What to do?
The naming convention of the fields in the output localized fiber table is different.	To create a version of the fiber table with the same naming conventions as before, see howelab_table_labels.m. Note: there will be some additional fields that we did not used to have.
The "in_striatum" field doesn't automatically get populated unless you specify.	Enable the "add in striatum field" option in the ADD ATLAS INFO & SAVE step. In the VERIFY LABELS step, use the "keep/reject/unsure" fields. This used to be "in striatum? yes/no/maybe". Then during analysis, you can use a conjunction of the "in_striatum" and "keep" fields as applicable.