INSPR Toolbox User Guide

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

In situ point spread function retrieval (INSPR) toolbox is distributed as accompanying software for manuscript: 'Three dimensional nanoscopy of whole cells and tissues with *in situ* point spread function retrieval' by Fan Xu, Donghan Ma, Kathryn P. MacPherson, Sheng Liu, Ye Bu, Yu Wang, Yu Tang, Cheng Bi, Tim Kwok, Alexander A. Chubykin, Peng Yin, Sarah Calve, Gary E. Landreth, and Fang Huang.

INSPR toolbox is developed for biplane setup. It constructs an *in situ* 3D point spread function (PSF) directly from the obtained single molecule dataset and features an easy-to-use user interface including all steps of 3D single molecule localization from INSPR model generation, pupil-based 3D localization (supporting both GPU with cubic spline implementation and CPU versions), drift correction, volume alignment, to super-resolution image reconstruction. It also contains a small single molecule dataset for users to run as an example.

1.1 Installation environment

- Windows 7 or later, 64 bit.
- MATLAB R2016b, 64 bit (downloadable at http://www.mathworks.com).
- CUDA 7.5 compatible graphics driver (downloadable at https://developer.nvidia.com/cuda-75-downloads-archive).

1.2 Installation of INSPR toolbox

- 1) Un-ZIP the 'INSPR toolbox.zip' file including three folders: 'INSPR toolbox', 'Support', and 'Data'.
- 2) Go to the 'INSPR toolbox' folder and open the 'main.m' file.
- 3) Check the 'support_path' in the 'main.m' file to make sure that the path of the 'Support' folder is correct.
- 4) Run the 'main.m' file.

1.3 Update of INSPR toolbox

INSPR toolbox for *in situ* model estimation and 3D localization is available as **Supplementary Software**. Further updates will be made freely available at https://github.com/HuanglabPurdue/INSPR.

2. STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

2.1 User interface

The interface of INSPR toolbox includes seven modules: setup, data import, biplane registration, segmentation, INSPR model generation, 3D localization, and display modules (Figure 1). The brief introduction in each module is described as follows:

- 1) **Setup**: configure general setting parameters.
- 2) **Data import**: import the single molecule dataset from a biplane configuration.
- 3) **Biplane registration**: align the images of two detection planes into the same region of interest.
- 4) **Segmentation**: crop pairs of sub-regions from the single molecule dataset.
- 5) **INSPR model generation**: construct an *in situ* 3D PSF model directly from the single molecule dataset.
- 6) **3D localization**: reconstruct a 3D super-resolution image. This process includes segmentation, pupil-based 3D localization, 3D drift correction, and volume alignment.
- 7) **Display**: show the x-y view image of the reconstructed 3D volume with each molecule color-coded by its axial position.

The details in each module will be described in Sections 2.2 - 2.8.

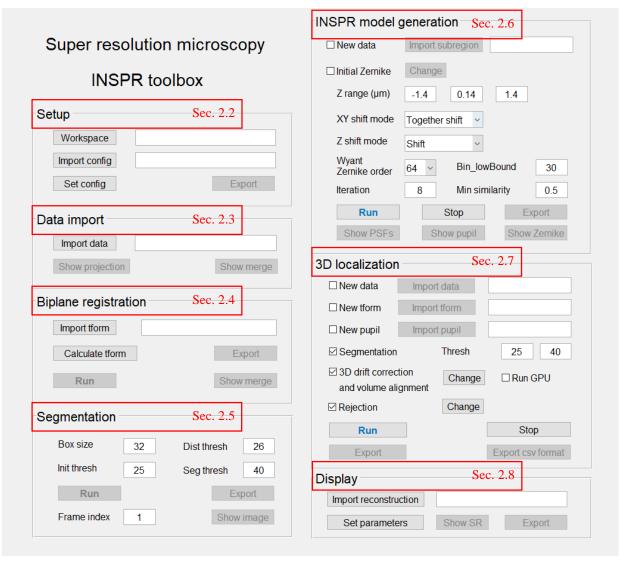


Figure 1. INSPR toolbox interface.

2.2 Setup module

Setup module is used to configure the workspace path and general setting parameters (Figure 2). The setting details in this module are described as follows:

- 'Workspace' button: configure default input and output paths.
- 'Import config' button: import general setting parameters.
- 'Set config' button: modify setting parameters by users.
- **'Export' button**: export setting parameters.



Figure 2. Setup module interface.

The setting parameters in 'Set config' button (Figure 3) include:

- **Biplane distance**: distance between two detection planes in a biplane configuration.
- **Pixel size**: effective pixel size on the camera.
- Refractive index of immersion medium: refractive index of the immersion medium of the
 objective lens.
- Refractive index of sample medium: refractive index of the imaging medium.
- Lambda: emission wavelength.
- NA: numerical aperture of the objective lens.
- **Camera offset**: offset on the camera.
- Camera gain: gain on the camera.
- sCMOS camera model: if this check box is selected, INSPR will carry out sCMOS calibration and enable 'Import calibration file' button. If not selected, INSPR will use EMCCD camera mode, which uses the same offset and gain for each pixel on the camera. By default, this option is not selected.
- **Import calibration file**: import sCMOS calibration file (e.g. 'sCMOS_calibration.mat' file in 'Data' folder).

Note: Protocols on how to characterize sCMOS camera's pixel-dependent offset, gain, and variance are described in **Supplementary Note 2.3**.

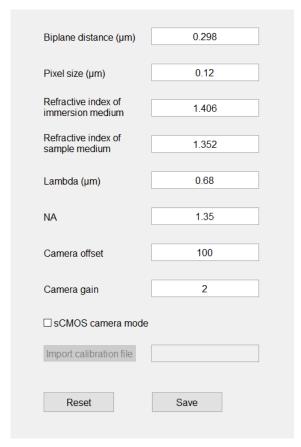


Figure 3. Setup parameters.

The workflow in setup module is as follows:

- Step 1. Click 'Workspace' button and choose 'Data' folder (described in Section 1.2).
- Step 2. Click 'Set config' button and modify setup parameters by users (or use the default parameters). If the users want to choose sCMOS camera mode, select 'sCMOS camera mode' check box and import the sCMOS calibration file (e.g. 'sCMOS_calibration.mat' file in 'Data' folder).
- Step 3. Click 'Export' button and save setup parameters.

Note: If you have a previously exported setup parameter file, you can click 'Import config' button to import this file (e.g. 'config.mat' file in 'Data' folder).

2.3 Data import module

Data import module is used to import the single molecule blinking dataset from two detection planes in a biplane configuration (Figure 4). Hereafter, the two detection planes are referred as plane 1 and plane 2. The setting details in this module are described as follows:

- 'Import data' button: import the single molecule blinking dataset.
- 'Show projection' button: display the projection images of the single molecule dataset.
- **'Show merge' button**: show the overlaid projection images from plane 1 (red) and plane 2 (green).

Note: After the single molecule blinking data is imported, 'Show projection' and 'Show merge' buttons will be enabled. Besides, 'Show merge' button in biplane registration module, as well as 'Run', 'Export' and 'Show image' buttons in segmentation module will be disabled.



Figure 4. Data import module interface.

The workflow in data import module is as follows:

- Step 1. Click 'Import data' button and choose 'rawData.mat' file in 'Data' folder.
- Step 2. Click 'Show projection' button to show the projection images of the single molecule dataset in a biplane configuration (Figures 5A and 5B).
- Step 3. Click 'Show merge' button to show the overlaid projection images from two detection planes (Figure 5C).

Note: The recommended image size is larger than 100×100 pixels.

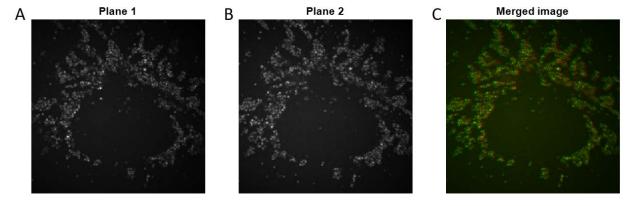


Figure 5. Biplane dataset. (A) Projection image of single-molecule image sequences in plane 1. (B) Projection image of single-molecule image sequences in plane 2. (C) Overlaid projection images from plane 1 (red) and plane 2 (green).

2.4 Biplane registration module

Biplane registration module is used to align the imported image stacks from two detection planes (Figure 6). The setting details in this module are described as follows:

- 'Import tform' button: import the alignment calibration file (representing the position relationship between two detection planes) to align the images from plane 2 to plane 1.
- 'Calculate tform' button: calculate the position relationship between two detection planes using affine transformation (as described in **Supplementary Note 2.6**).
- **'Export' button**: export the alignment calibration file.
- 'Run' button: align the images from plane 2 to plane 1 based on the alignment calibration file.
- 'Show merge' button: show the overlaid projection images from both planes after alignment calibration.

Note:

- After the position relationship between two detection planes is imported or calculated, 'Export' and 'Run' buttons will be enabled.
- After clicking 'Run' button to align the images from plane 2 to plane 1, 'Show merge' button in biplane registration module and 'Run' button in segmentation module will be enabled.

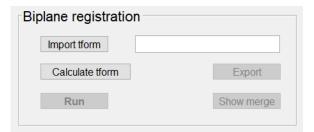


Figure 6. Biplane registration module interface.

The workflow in biplane registration module is as follows:

- Step 1. Click 'Calculate tform' button to calculate the position relationship between two detection planes.
- Step 2. Click 'Export' button and save the alignment calibration file.
- Step 3. Click 'Run' button to align the images from plane 2 to plane 1.
- Step 4. Click 'Show merge' button to show the overlaid projection images from two detection planes after alignment calibration (Figure 7).

Note: If you have a previously generated alignment calibration file, you can click 'Import tform' button to import this file (e.g. 'tform.mat' file in 'Data' folder).

Registrated image

Figure 7. Overlaid projection images from two detection planes after alignment calibration.

2.5 Segmentation module

Segmentation module is used to crop pairs of sub-regions containing single molecules (Figure 8). The setting details in this module are described as follows (explanations for setting parameters are described in **Supplementary Note 2.5**):

- **Box size**: sub-region size of the cropped sub-regions from the single molecule dataset.
- Dist thresh: distance threshold to make sure that each selected sub-region contains only one
 molecule.
- **Init thresh**: initial intensity threshold to obtain the candidate sub-regions.
- **Seg thresh**: segmentation threshold to select sub-regions with higher photon counts compared to initial candidate sub-regions.
- 'Run' button: crop sub-regions from the dataset.
- **Export' button:** export the cropped sub-regions.
- **Frame index:** frame index in the single-molecule dataset.
- **'Show image' button**: show the cropped sub-regions with the given frame index.

Note: After the segmentation process with 'Run' button is completed, 'Export' and 'Show image' buttons will be enabled.



Figure 8. Segmentation module interface.

The workflow in segmentation module is as follows:

- Step 1. Configure setting parameters including 'Box size', 'Dist thresh', 'Init thresh', and 'Seg thresh'.
- Step 2. Click 'Run' button to crop sub-regions.
- Step 3. Click 'Export' button and save the cropped sub-regions.
- Step 4. Set 'Frame index'.
- Step 5. Click 'Show image' button to show the cropped sub-regions.

Note:

- After segmentation is finished, the user can set 'Frame index' to show the cropped sub-regions in the single molecule dataset with green boxes.
- The user can adjust 'Dist thresh', 'Init thresh', and 'Seg thresh' parameters to make sure that the PSF library has enough number of selected sub-regions (more than 2000 sub-regions are recommended) and each selected sub-region only contains one molecule with enough brightness. In cases with high background, the user can increase 'Init thresh' and 'Seg thresh' simultaneously to reduce the influence of background. In cases with high-density molecules, the user can increase 'Dist thresh' to get rid of overlapped molecules. In cases with non-uniform illumination, the user can increase 'Seg thresh' to select brighter molecules. In cases with few detected molecules, the user can decrease 'Dist thresh', 'Init thresh', and 'Seg thresh', but some PSFs with low quality may be included.

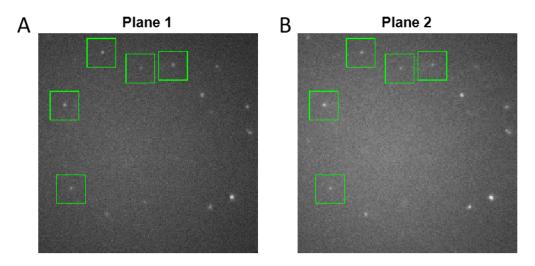


Figure 9. Cropped sub-regions in (A) plane 1 and (B) plane 2.

2.6 INSPR model generation module

INSPR model generation module is used to generate an *in situ* 3D PSF model directly from the cropped sub-regions of the single molecule dataset (Figure 10). INSPR starts with an ideal PSF (i.e. with a constant pupil) and then assigns each cropped sub-region to a temporary axial position through cross correlation with this ideal template. These axially assigned sub-regions are subsequently grouped, aligned, and averaged to form a 3D PSF stack which is used to retrieve a new pupil estimation through phase retrieval. This new pupil is then used to generate an updated template. This process iterates until good agreement between the cropped sub-regions and the retrieved model is reached. The setting details in this module are described as follows (additional explanations on how to optimize parameters are described in **Supplementary Note 2.5**):

- 'New data' check box: if this box is selected, 'Import subregion' button will be enabled, and the previous sub-regions can be imported. If not selected, INSPR uses the sub-regions from segmentation module. By default, this option is not selected.
- 'Import subregion' button: import the sub-regions by users.
- 'Initial Zernike' check box: if this box is selected, the users can modify the initial coefficients of 21 Zernike modes (Wyant order, from vertical astigmatism to tertiary spherical aberration, unit: λ/2π). By default, this option is not selected.
- **'Change' button**: modify the initial coefficients of 21 Zernike modes.
- **Z range**: three input texts from left to right are minimum axial position, axial step size, and maximum axial position.

- 'XY shift mode' popup menu: lateral alignment mode. (1) XY_shift_mode = 'Separate shift', meaning 2D alignment is carried out independently for each plane. (2) XY_shift_mode = 'Together shift', meaning 2D alignment is carried out for two planes together. The default option is 'Together shift'.
- **'Z shift mode' popup menu**: lateral and axial positions optimization mode for averaged subregions. (1) Z shift mode = 'Shift', meaning the lateral and axial positions are optimized. (2) Z shift mode = 'No shift', meaning the lateral and axial positions are not optimized. The default is set to 'Shift'.
- Wyant Zernike order: number of output Zernike modes (Wyant order).
- **Bin_lowBound**: number threshold to reject an axial position group which contains fewer subregions than this threshold.
- **Iteration**: iteration number of INSPR model generation.
- **Min similarity**: similarity threshold to reject a sub-region with similarity lower than this threshold (from 0 to 1).
- 'Run' button: carry out in situ 3D PSF model generation.
- **'Stop' button**: stop *in situ* 3D PSF model generation.
- **'Export' button**: export the *in situ* 3D PSF model.
- 'Show PSFs' button: show the retrieved PSFs along the axial direction.
- 'Show pupil' button: show the retrieved pupil (including its magnitude and phase).
- 'Show Zernike' button: show the decomposed Zernike coefficients from the retrieved phase.

Note: After an *in situ* 3D PSF model is generated, 'Export', 'Show PSFs', 'Show pupil', and 'Show Zernike' buttons will be enabled.

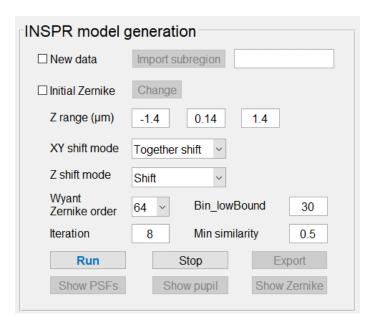


Figure 10. INSPR model generation module interface.

The workflow in INSPR model generation module is as follows:

- Step 1. Configure setting parameters including 'Z range', 'XY shift mode', 'Z shift mode', 'Wyant Zernike order', 'Bin_lowBound', 'Iteration', and 'Min similarity'.
- Step 2. Click 'Run' button to generate an in situ 3D PSF model.
- Step 3. Click 'Export' button and save the generated in situ 3D PSF model.
- Step 4. Click 'Show PSFs' button to show the retrieved PSFs along the axial direction (Figure 11A).
- Step 5. Click 'Show PSFs' button to show the retrieved pupil (Figure 11B).
- Step 6. Click 'Show Zernike' button to show the decomposed Zernike coefficients from the retrieved phase (Figure 11C).

Note:

- If you have a previously generated sub-region file, you can select 'New data' check box and click 'Import sub-regions' button to import this file (e.g. 'subregion.mat' file in 'Data' folder).
- If you want to stop INSPR model generation, you can click 'Stop' button, which requires a few minutes to stop the process.
- The target of INSPR is to deal with whole cell and tissue specimens. If the specimen is very thin (typically less than 1 μm), the range of localization may not be enough for reliable model generation. The better way is to use *in vitro* calibration, such as phase retrieval, cubic spline and Zola3D based on beads on the coverslip.

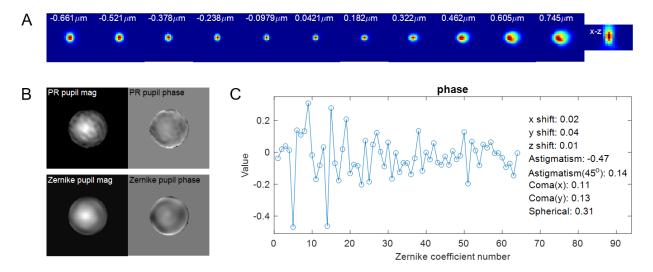


Figure 11. Estimated 3D PSF model, pupil, and its Zernike coefficients. (A) x-y and x-z views of the retrieved PSFs. (B) Magnitude and phase of the retrieved pupil (PR pupil) and its corresponding pupil generated from decomposed Zernike coefficients (Zernike pupil). (C) Decomposed Zernike coefficients from the phase of the retrieved pupil.

2.7 3D localization module

3D localization module is used to construct a 3D super-resolution image (Figure 12). This module includes segmentation, INSPR pupil-based 3D localization (supporting both CPU and GPU versions), 3D drift correction, and volume alignment. The setting details in this module are described as follows (explanations for setting parameters are described in **Supplementary Note 2.5**):

- 'New data' check box: if this box is selected, 'Import data' button will be enabled, and the single
 molecule dataset can be imported. If not selected, INSPR uses the dataset from data import module.
 By default, this option is not selected.
- 'Import data' button: import the single molecule dataset by users (described in Section 2.2 'data import module').
- 'New tform' check box: if this box is selected, 'Import tform' button will be enabled, and the alignment calibration file can be imported. If not selected, INSPR toolbox uses the calibration file from biplane registration module. By default, this option is not selected.
- 'Import tform' button: import the alignment calibration file by users (described in Section 2.3 'Biplane registration module').

- 'New pupil' check box: if this box is selected, 'Import pupil' button will be enabled, and the *in situ* 3D PSF model can be imported. If not selected, INSPR toolbox uses the *in situ* 3D PSF model from INSPR model generation module. By default, this option is not selected.
- 'Import pupil' button: import the *in situ* 3D PSF model by users (described in Section 2.6 'INSPR model generation module').
- **'Segmentation' check box**: if this box is selected, the threshold can be set to crop sub-regions. By default, this option is selected.
- Thresh: initial and segmentation thresholds (described in Section 2.5 'Segmentation module').
- '3D drift correction and volume alignment' check box: if this box is selected, INSPR will carry out 3D drift correction and volume alignment, and the corresponding setting parameters in this process can be modified. By default, this option is selected.
- **'Rejection' check box**: if this box is selected, INSPR will carry out the rejection process, and the corresponding setting parameters in this process can be modified. By default, this option is selected.
- 'Run GPU' check box: if this box is selected, INPSR will run the GPU version for pupil-based 3D localization, otherwise INSPR will run the CPU version. By default, this option is not selected.
- 'Run' button: carry out 3D super-resolution reconstruction.
- **'Stop' button**: stop 3D super-resolution reconstruction.
- **'Export' button**: export 3D super-resolution reconstruction results.
- **Export csv format' button**: export (x, y, z) positions of single molecules by using 'csv' format.

Notes:

- For importing data, INSPR allows to import multiple datasets.
- For importing pupils, INSPR allows importing multiple pupils for multi-section imaging, where the corresponding pupil is used in each optical section. These multiple pupils will be used for multiple sections in the order of their names. If you want to use one single pupil for multiple sections, you need to copy this pupil for multiple times and then import them together.
- For segmentation, INSPR transforms the identified sub-region centers from plane 1 to plane 2, and crops two sub-regions from two planes. The sub-region size of the cropped sub-regions is set to 16 × 16 pixels, and the distance threshold is set to 10 when the image size is larger than 100 × 100 pixels, otherwise this threshold is set to 6. The initial and segmentation thresholds should be the same with the thresholds described in Section 2.5 'Segmentation module'.
- For 3D localization, INSPR generates channel-specific PSF models to avoid imaging artifacts and localization imprecisions.

• INSPR supports both CPU and GPU versions for pupil-based 3D localization. If the user has the GPU environment (described in Section 1.1 'Installation environment'), we recommend using the GPU version for speeding up the calculation.

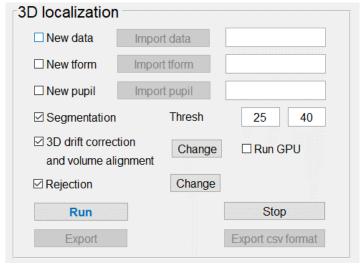


Figure 12. 3D localization module of INSPR interface.

The setting parameters in 3D drift correction and volume alignment (Figure 13) include:

- Frame bin: number of frames used to construct individual 3D volumes for 3D drift correction.
- **Initial Z offset**: axial position offset to avoid negative z positions during 3D volume reconstruction.
- **Step interval**: axial step size for multi-section imaging.

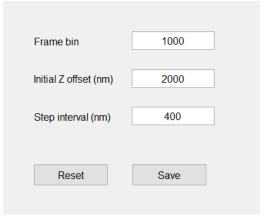


Figure 13. Setting parameters in 3D drift correction and volume alignment.

The setting parameters in rejection process (Figure 14) include:

• Min photon: photon threshold to reject single molecules with photon counts lower than this value.

- **LLR threshold**: log-likelihood ratio (LLR) threshold to reject single molecules with LLR higher than this value.
- Max Z uncertainty: localization uncertainty in the z dimension to reject single molecules with uncertainty higher than this value.
- **Z mask**: axial position mask to reject single molecules with axial positions beyond this range.

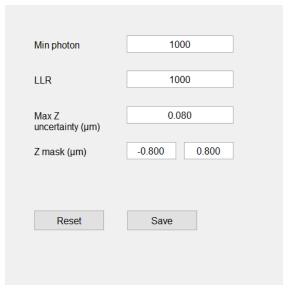


Figure 14. Setting parameters in rejection process.

The workflow in 3D localization module is as follows:

- Step 1. Configure 'Thresh' parameters in segmentation (related to initial and segmentation threshold in Section 2.5).
- Step 2. If the user has the GPU environment, we recommend that you select 'Run GPU' check box to run GPU version for pupil-based 3D localization.
- Step 3. Click 'Run' button to carry out 3D localization.
- Step 4. Click 'Export' button and export 3D super-resolution reconstruction results.
- Step 5. Click 'Export csv format' button and export (x, y, z) positions of single molecules by using 'csv' format.

Note:

• If you have previously generated single-molecule datasets, you can select 'New data' check box and click 'Import data' button to import one or multiple files (e.g. 'rawData.mat' file in 'Data' folder).

- If you have a previously generated alignment calibration file, you can select 'New tform' check box and click 'Import tform' button to import this file (e.g. 'tform.mat' file in 'Data' folder).
- If you have a previously generated *in situ* 3D PSF model, you can select 'New pupil' check box and click 'Import pupil' button to import this file (e.g. 'probj.mat' file in 'Data' folder).
- If you want to stop 3D localization, you can click 'Stop' button.
- The running time of the CPU version for pupil-based 3D localization is quite slow, so we recommend using the GPU version if you have the GPU environment.

2.8 Display module

Display module is used to generate the x-y view of the reconstructed super-resolution image with each molecule color-coded by its axial position (Figure 15). The setting details are listed as follows:

- 'Import reconstruction' button: import the 3D super-resolution reconstruction result by users (described in Section 2.7 '3D localization module').
- 'Set parameters' button: configure display parameters.
- 'Show SR' button: show the x-y view of the reconstructed super-resolution image with each molecule color-coded by its axial position.
- 'Export' button: export the super-resolution image.

Note:

- After running 3D localization module or importing the 3D super-resolution reconstruction result, 'Show SR' button will be enabled, and 'Export' button will be disabled.
- After clicking 'Show SR' button, 'Export' button will be enabled.



Figure 15. Display module interface.

The setting parameters in display module (Figure 16) include:

- SR image high bound: saturation intensity level of a reconstructed super-resolution image. Intensity above this bound will be set to saturation (255, in 'tiff' format).
- Zoom in: magnification in the reconstruction image. If we have a raw data frame with a size of 256 × 256 pixels and the 'Zoom in' value is set to 5, the reconstructed super-resolution image will have a size of 1280 × 1280 pixels.

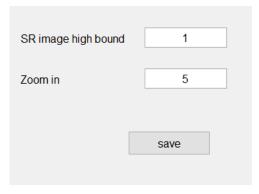


Figure 16. Setting parameters in display module.

The workflow in display module is as follows:

- Step 1. Click 'Set parameters' button and configure the setting parameters.
- Step 2. Click 'Show SR' button to show the super-resolution image.
- Step 3. Click 'Export' button and export display results.

Note: If you have a previously generated 3D super-resolution reconstruction result, you can click 'Import reconstruction' button to import this file (e.g. 'recon3D.mat' file in 'Data' folder).

3. DATASET AND SOURCE CODES

3.1 Demonstration dataset

Data\rawData.mat Single molecule dataset

Data\ config.mat General setting parameters

Data\tform.mat Alignment calibration file

Data\subregions.mat Cropped sub-regions

Data\probj.mat In situ 3D PSF model

Data\sCMOS_calibration.mat sCMOS calibration parameters

Data\recon3D.mat 3D super-resolution reconstruction results

3.2 INSPR source codes

'Main' folder

main.m Main script for running INSPR

INSPR_GUI.m Script for INSPR GUI

INSPR_GUI.fig INSPR GUI

default_cfg.mat Default configuration for INSPR GUI

genPupilfigs.m Script for generating figures of retrieved pupil

export2csv.m Script for exporting to 'csv' format

srhist_color.m Script for generating color-coded super-resolution image

'Biplane registration' folder

biplane_registration.m Script for biplane registration

'Segmentation' folder

crop_subregion.m Script for segmentation

cMakeSubregions.mexw64 Mex function for cropping sub-regions

'INSPR model generation' folder

INSPR_model_generation.m Script for estimating *in situ* 3D PSF

gen_initPupil.m Script for generating initial pupil

classify_twoPlanes_par.m Script for classification and 2D alignment, when

XY_shift_mode is 'Separate shift'

classify_twoPlanes_together_par.m Script for classification and 2D alignment, when

XY_shift_mode is 'Together shift'

registration_in_each_channel.m Script for 2D alignment, when XY_shift_mode is

'Separate shift'

registration_in_biplane.m Script for 2D alignment, when XY_shift_mode is

'Together shift'

cc2.m Script for calculating 2D cross correlation

PRPSF_aber_fromAveZ.m Script for estimating pupil

merge_Z_ave_img.m Script for merging same axial position realign_Z_ave_img.m Script for realigning axial position subregion normalization.m Script for normalizing sub-regions

'3D localization' folder

analysis3D_fromPupil.m Script for 3D reconstruction

loc channel specific model.m Script for pupil-based 3D localization

genIniguess.m Script for estimating initial lateral position

geniniBiplane_z_mat_parfor.m Script for estimating initial axial position

cal_model_affine.m Script for calculating affine matrix in model

gensamplepsf_biplane.m Script for pre-generating channel specific model

genpsf_biplane_real.m Script for generating model from pupil

cuda_channel_specific_model.mexw64 Mex function for 3D localization

CalDevBi.m Script for calculating image derivatives: CPU version

gen_calCRLB_bi.m Script for calling CRLB generation: CPU version

CalCRLB_bi.m Script for calculating CRLB: CPU version

gen_LLR_bi.m Script for calculating log-likelihood ratio: CPU version