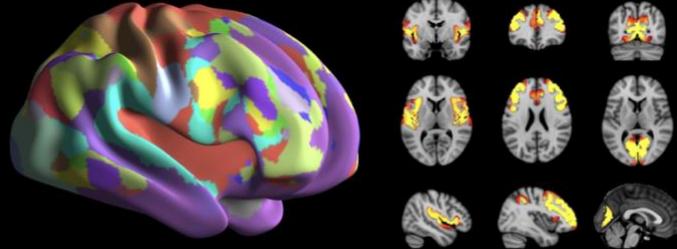


pNet

(Personalized Functional Network Modeling)



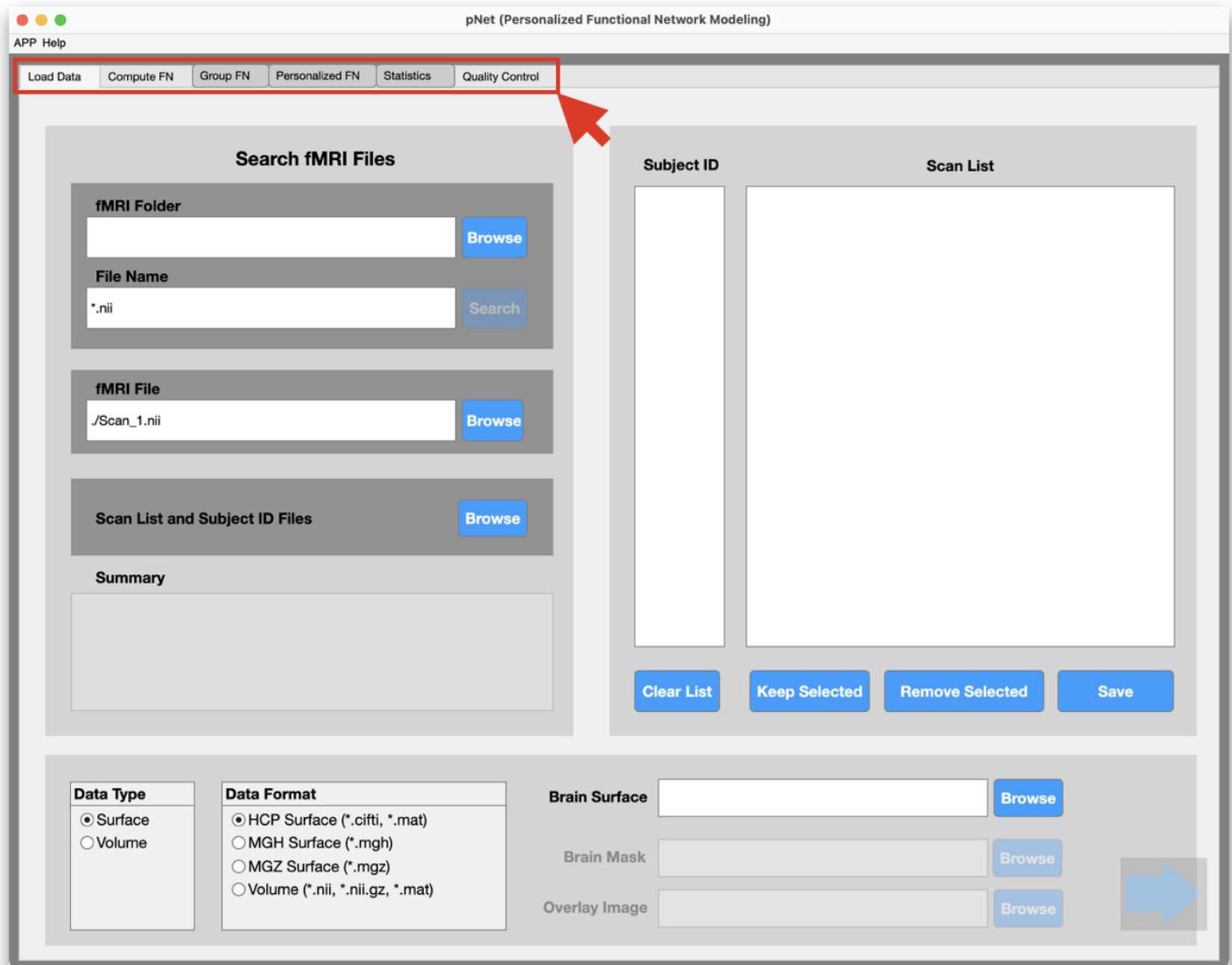
Help Document

A guideline for pNet

Yuncong Ma

Toolbox Overview

This toolbox is designed to provide a user-friendly interface to organize fMRI files. It allows flexible data search for fMRI scans, and support for different data formats. This toolbox has supported several widely used fMRI data formats. To initialize the computation of personalized FNs (pFN), this toolbox users to compute a new gFN based on the data availability, or load a precomputed gFN using this toolbox, or from other methods, including group-ICA and GIGICA. It provides several simple statistical analysis methods to investigate the correlation between the topology of pFNs to behavior data. In addition, quality control is integrated to ensure the spatial correspondence of pFNs with respect to the corresponding gFNS.



Tabs (highlighted in the red box) for different modules to search data, setup FN computation, check results of gFN and pFN, conduct statistics, and quality control.

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App Installation

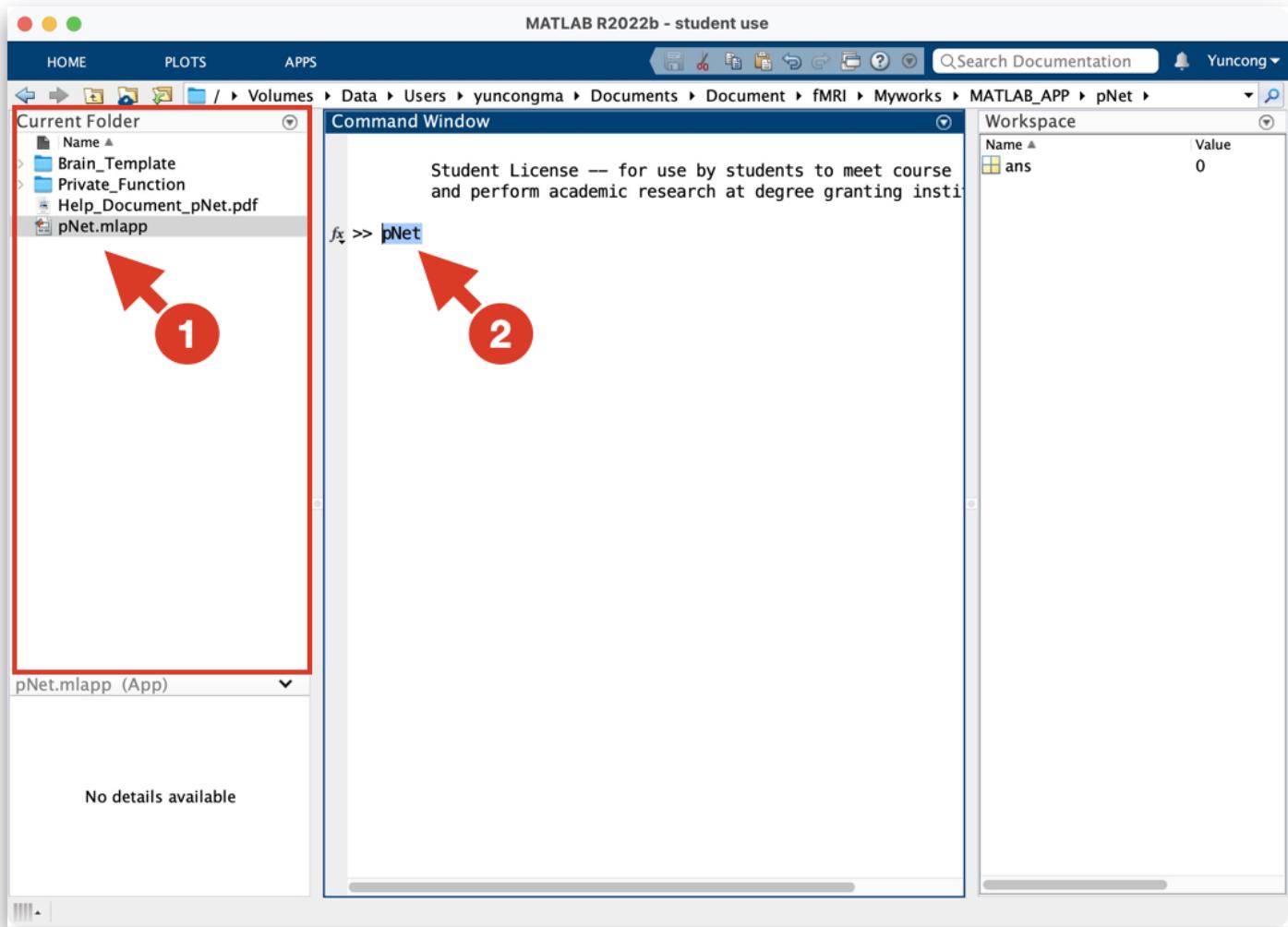
This chapter provides guidelines about ways to run this toolbox.

Users can use the toolbox in several ways as shown below:

1. Run from the MATLAB command window.
2. Install pNet as a MATLAB app.

Run in MATLAB.

Change the current folder to the pNet app, or add it to the path. Right click the file “pNet.mlapp” and select run option to run this toolbox. Alternatively, type “pNet” in the command window and hit the enter key to run the app.

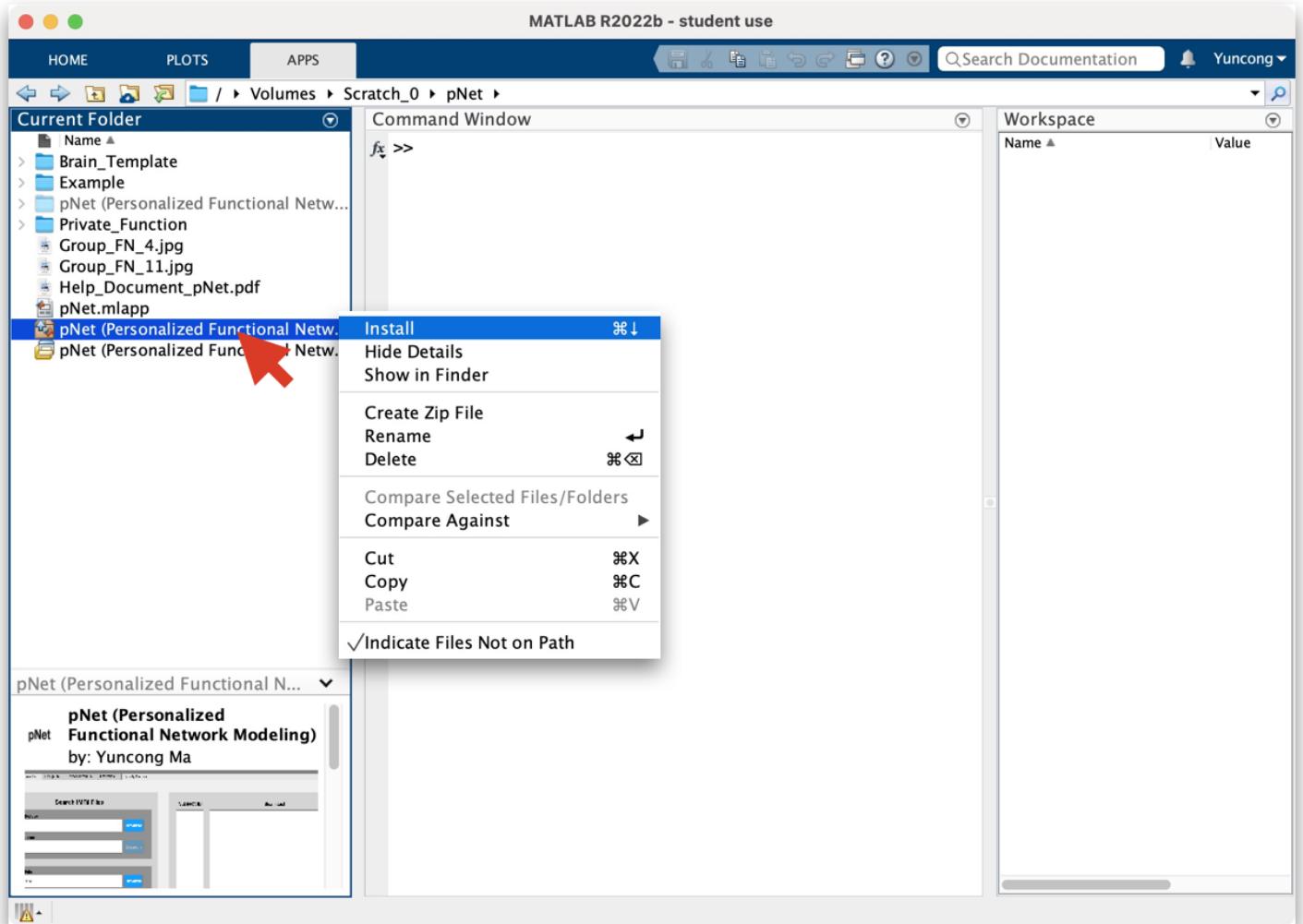


Run pNet in the command window.

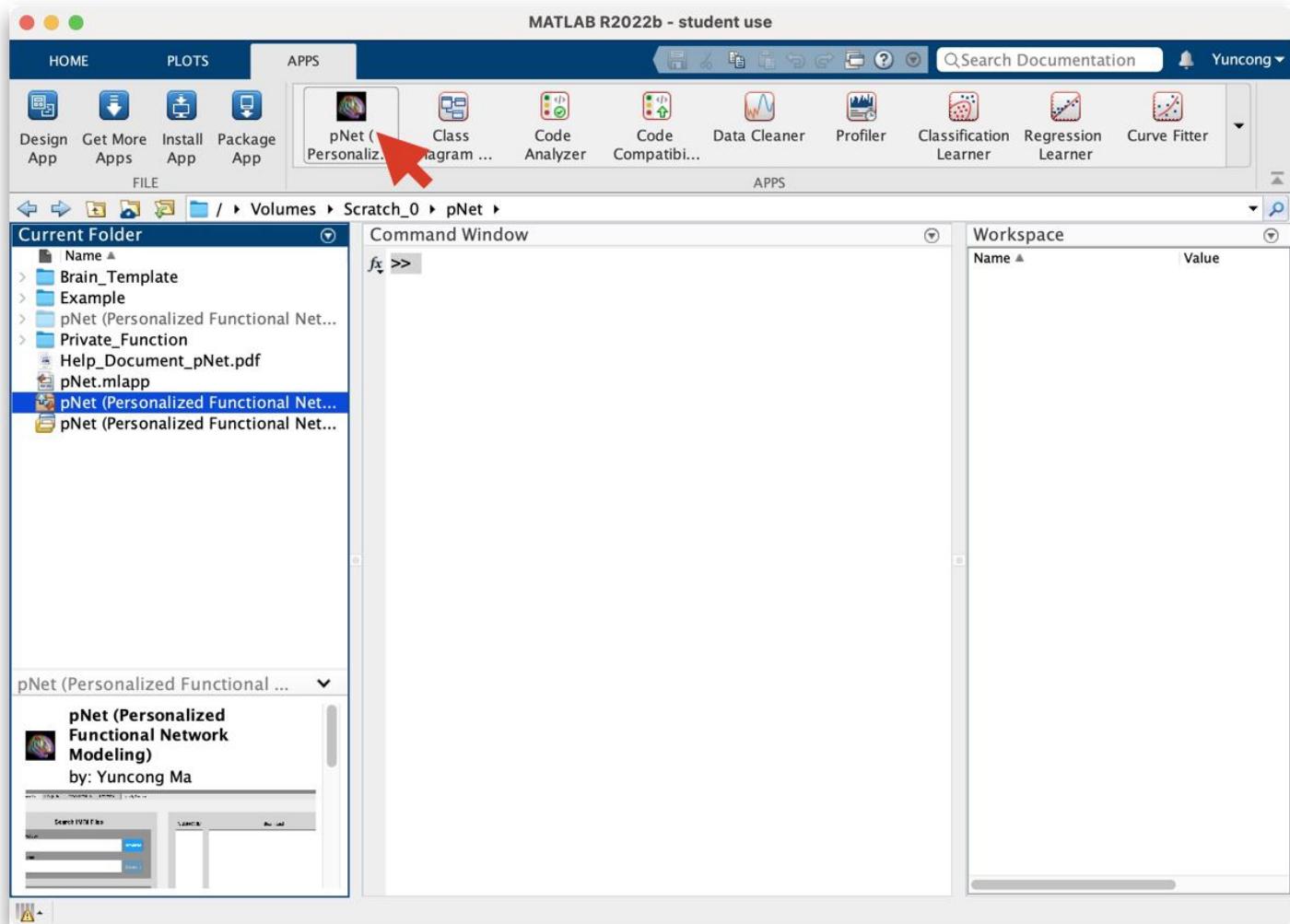
- (1) Find the pNet.mlapp file in the left module “Current Folder” (highlighted in the red box).
- (2) Type in “pNet” in the middle module “Command Window”. And hit the entry key to run this toolbox.

Install pNet as a MATLAB app.

This way will allow users to use the app without navigating to the app folder, or adding the app folder to the path.

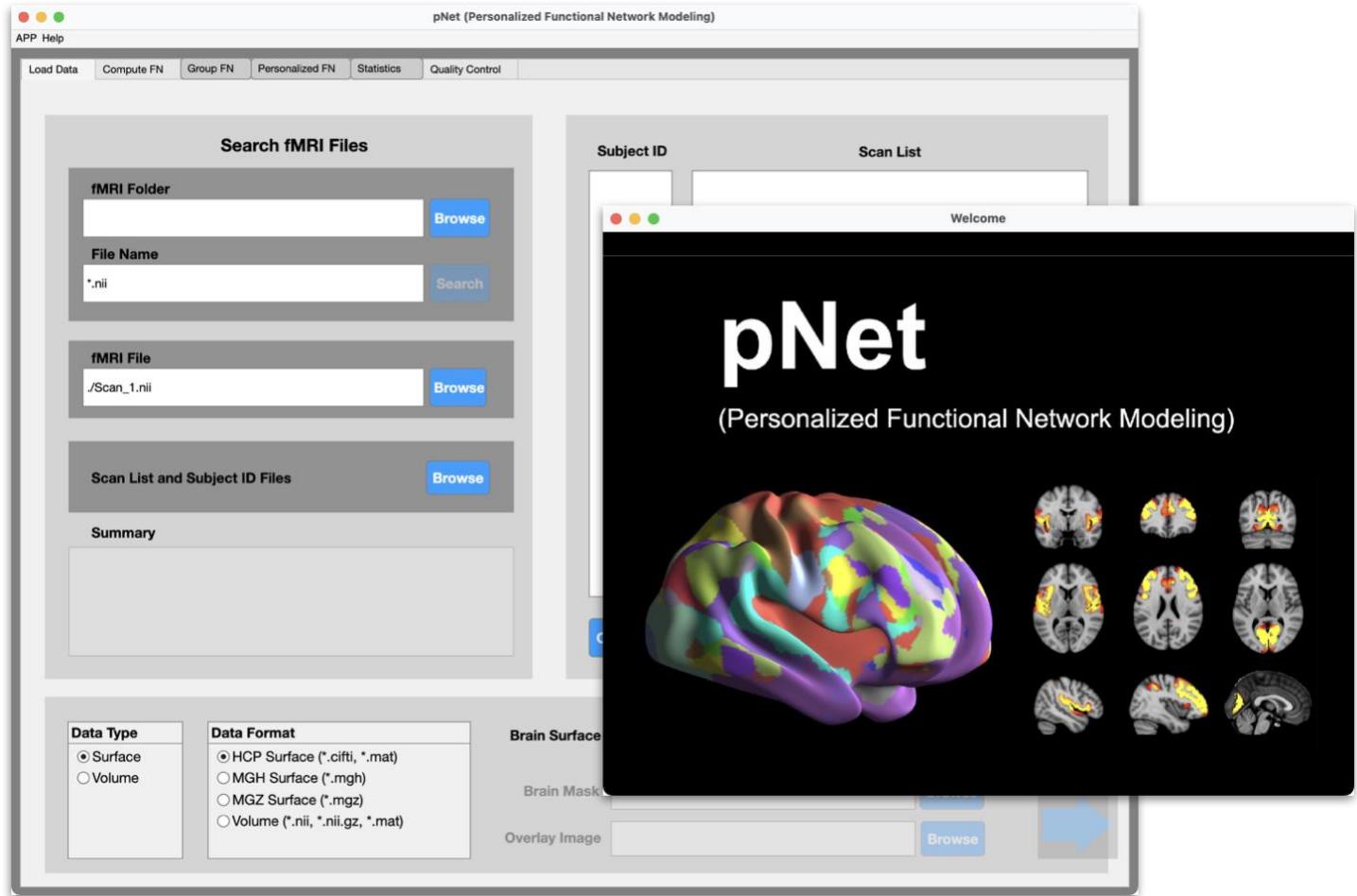


Install the pNet app UI. Double click or right click on the file “pNet (Personalized Functional Network Modeling).mlappinstall” to install the software on MATLAB.



Run the pNet app from the APPS menu. Open the APPS menu option, and click on the pNet app.

Users will see a welcome page, and a main user interface (UI). The main UI contains multiple tabs on the top for different modules to setup the computation and visualization. Users could simply use the order from left to right to follow the workflow of this toolbox.



The app welcome page (right window with black background) and the main UI.

Data Loading

This chapter provides guidelines to search and organize fMRI can files, load brain template files.

Search for fMRI files

Users need to firstly select the data type and data format.

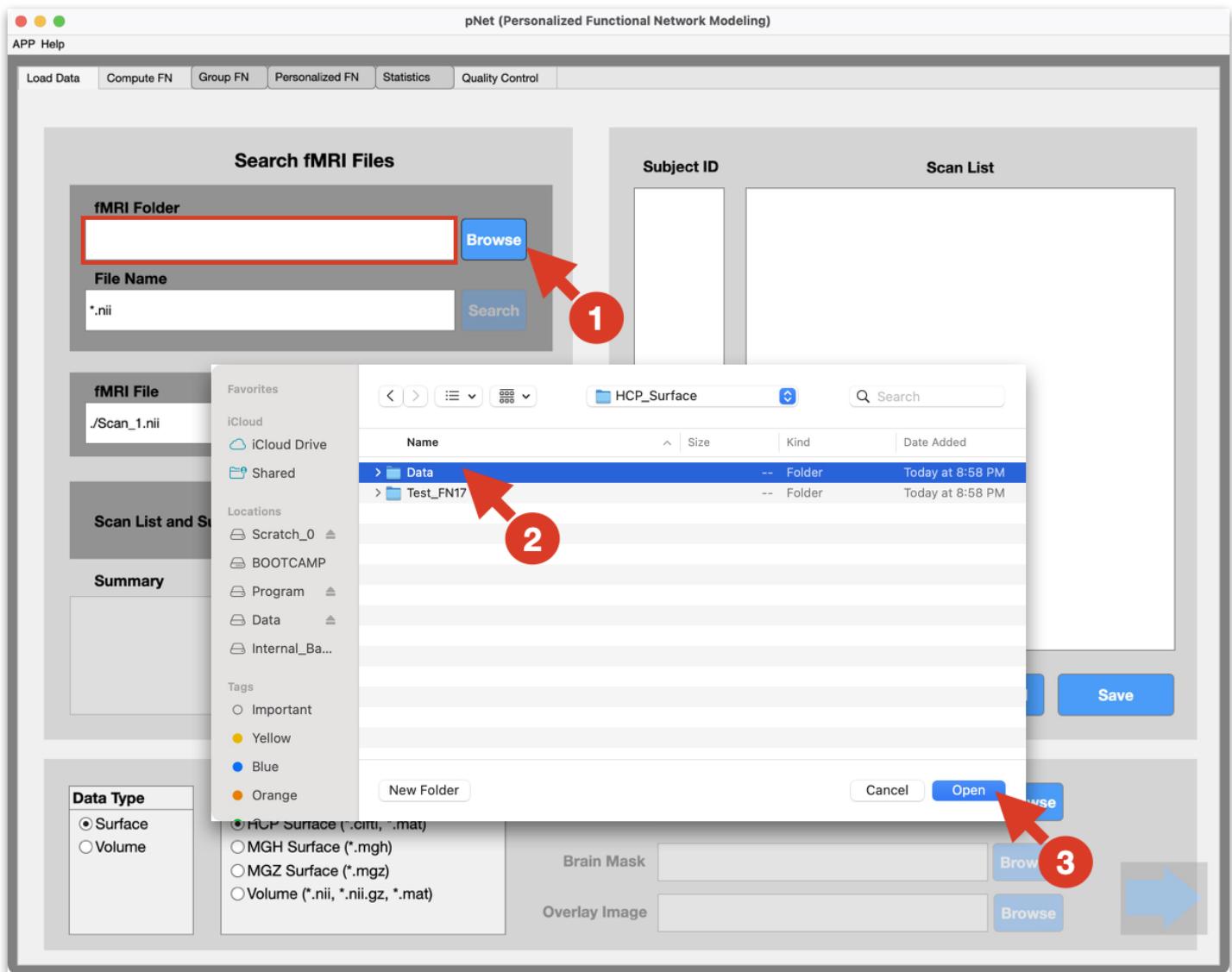
The screenshot shows the 'Search fMRI Files' section of the pNet application. On the left, there are three main input fields: 'fMRI Folder' (with a 'Browse' button), 'File Name' (containing '.nii' with a 'Search' button), and 'fMRI File' (containing '/Scan_1.nii' with a 'Browse' button). Below these is a 'Scan List and Subject ID Files' field with a 'Browse' button. To the right, there are two columns: 'Subject ID' and 'Scan List'. At the bottom are four buttons: 'Clear List', 'Keep Selected', 'Remove Selected', and 'Save'. At the very bottom, there are two dropdown menus: 'Data Type' (with 'Surface' checked) and 'Data Format' (with 'HCP Surface (*.cifti, *.mat)' checked). Red arrows point from the numbers 1 and 2 to the 'Data Type' and 'Data Format' dropdowns respectively. To the right of these dropdowns are three more input fields: 'Brain Surface' (with a 'Browse' button), 'Brain Mask' (with a 'Browse' button), and 'Overlay Image' (with a 'Browse' button). A large blue arrow points to the right at the bottom right of the screen.

Select the data type and format.

- (1) Select the data type.
- (2) Select the data format.

The toolbox offers three ways to find fMRI scan files.

1. Search fMRI files based on their extension in a folder.

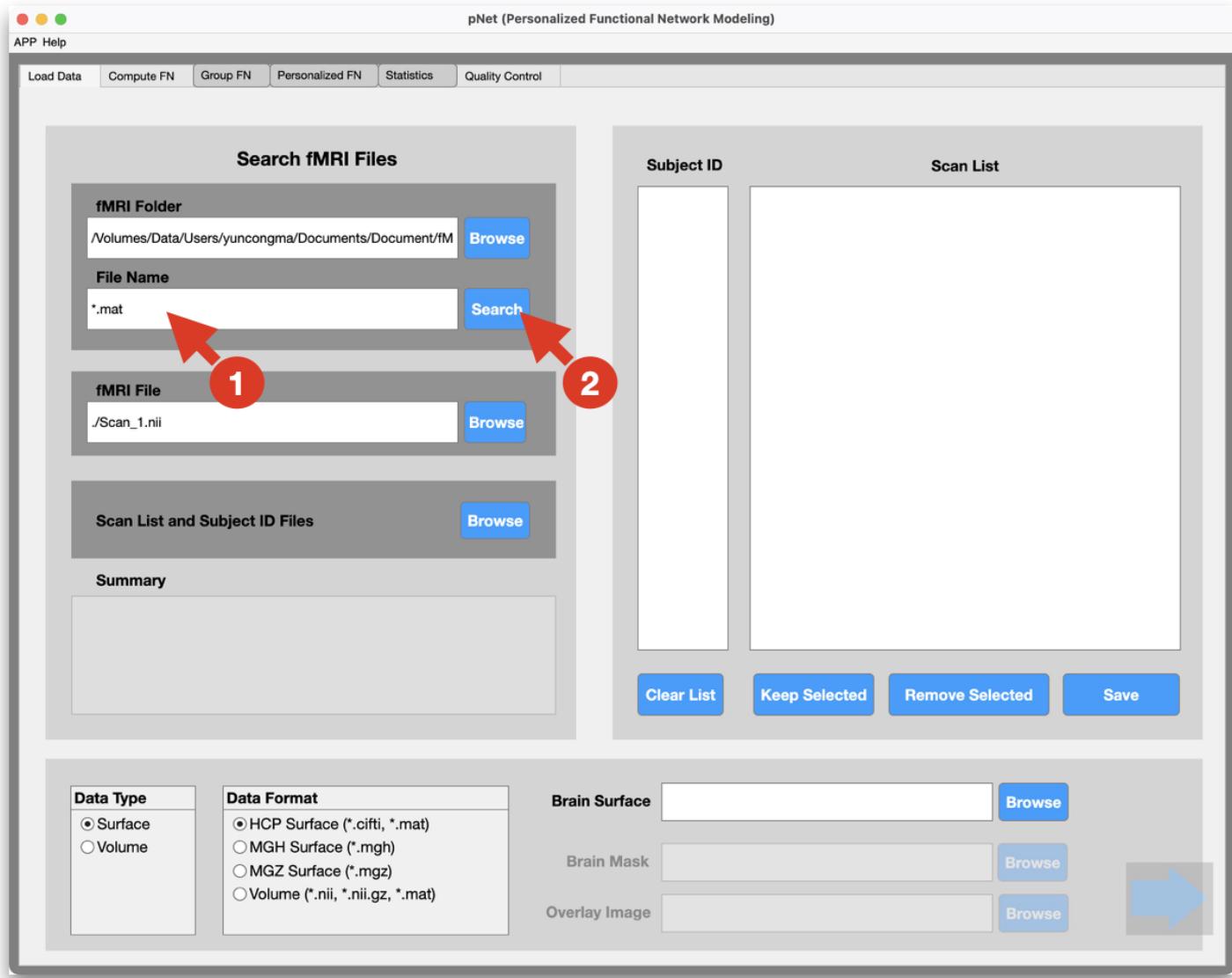


Select the data folder.

(1) Click browse button to open the folder selection window.

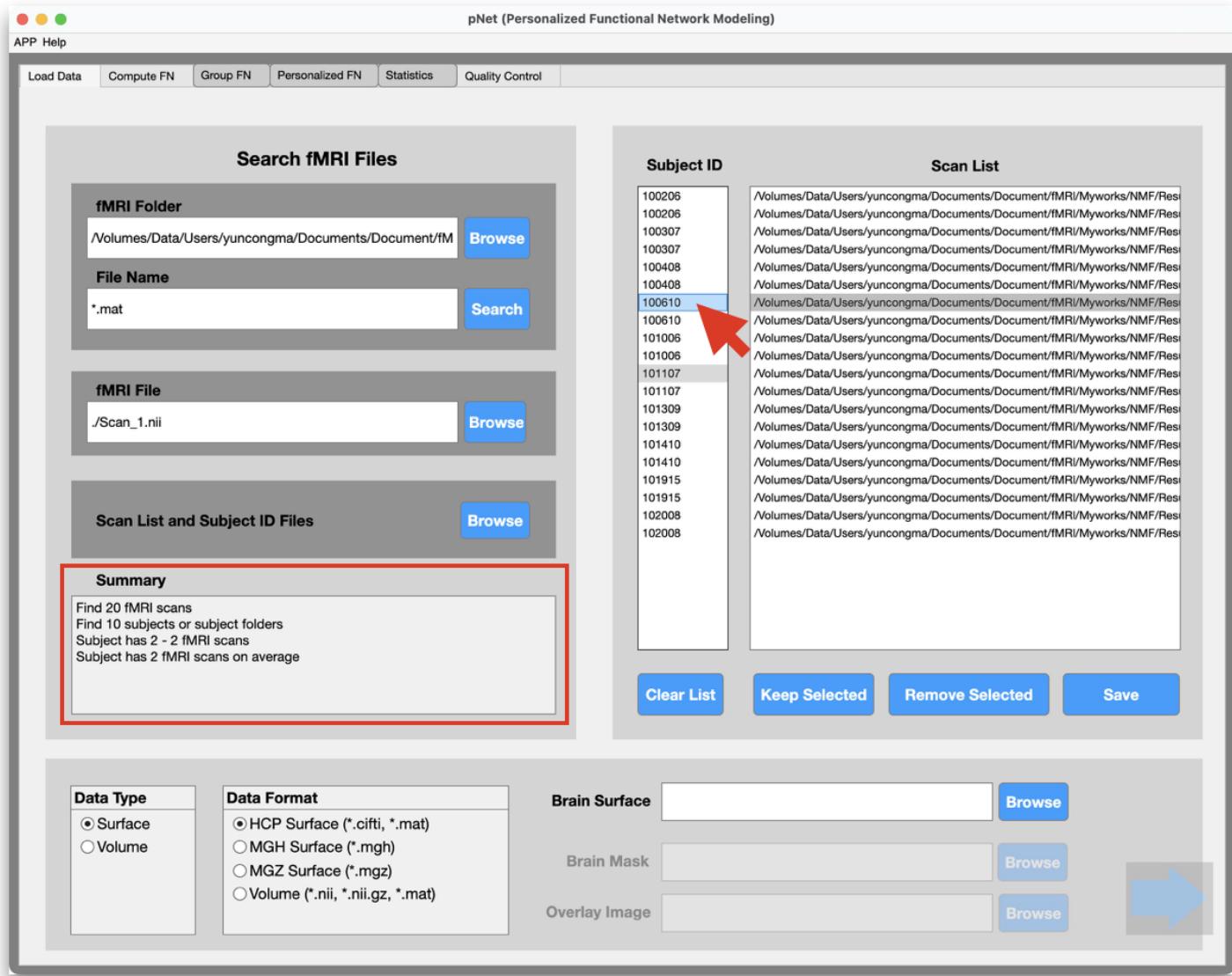
(2) Select the folder, and click the open button

(3) to finish the folder selection. The full folder directory information will appear in the white input field (highlighted in the red box). Users can also type in the full folder directory into the white input field (highlighted in the red box).



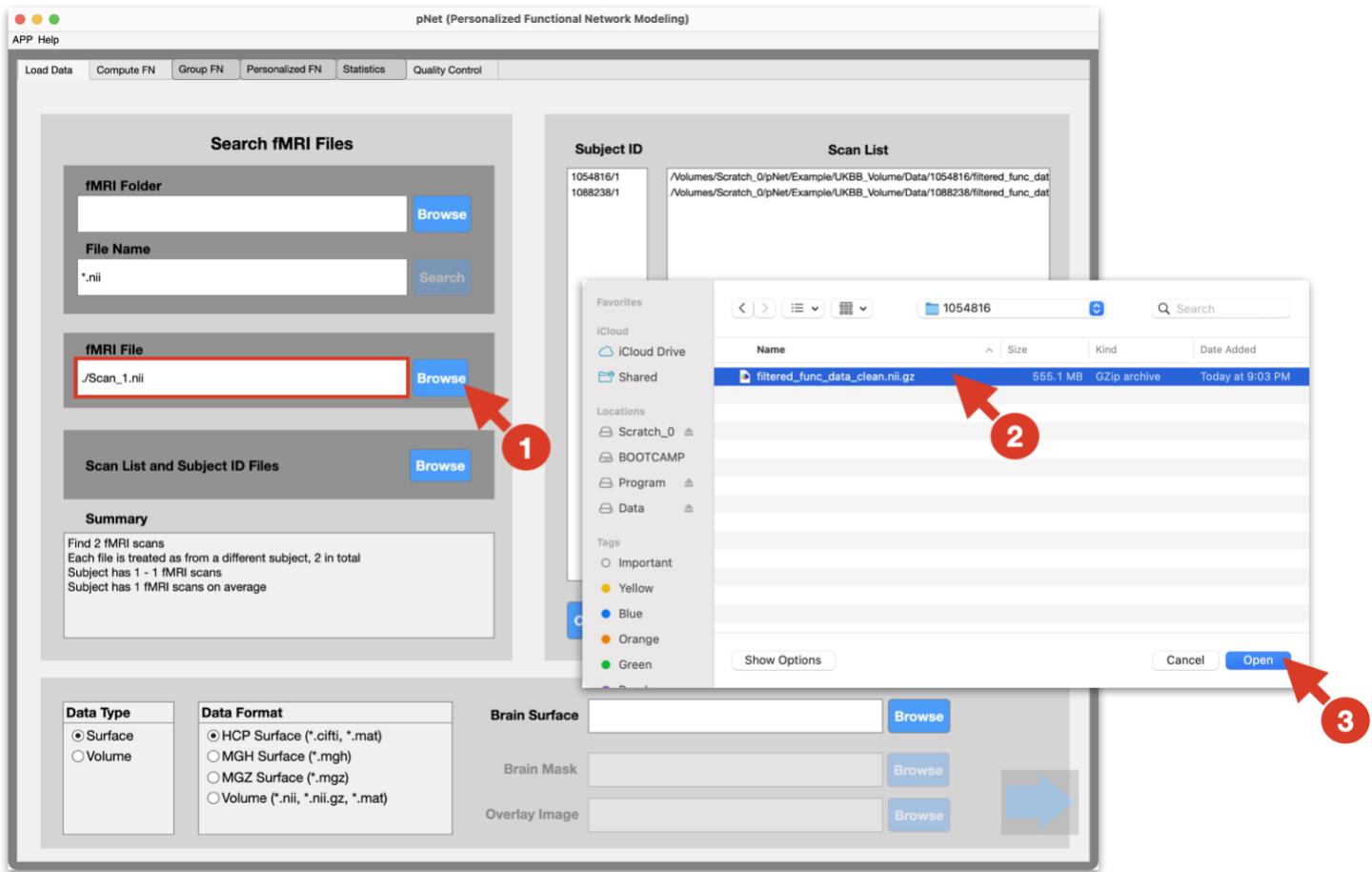
Setup the file extension information.

- (1) Specify the file extension, such as `*.mat` or `*.nii.gz`.
- (2) Click search button to perform file searching function.



Check the summary and navigate through the extracted subject ID and corresponding file directory. Summary module highlighted in the red box shows the total number of files, the range of file number per subject, average file number per subject. Error messages will also be shown if there is any.

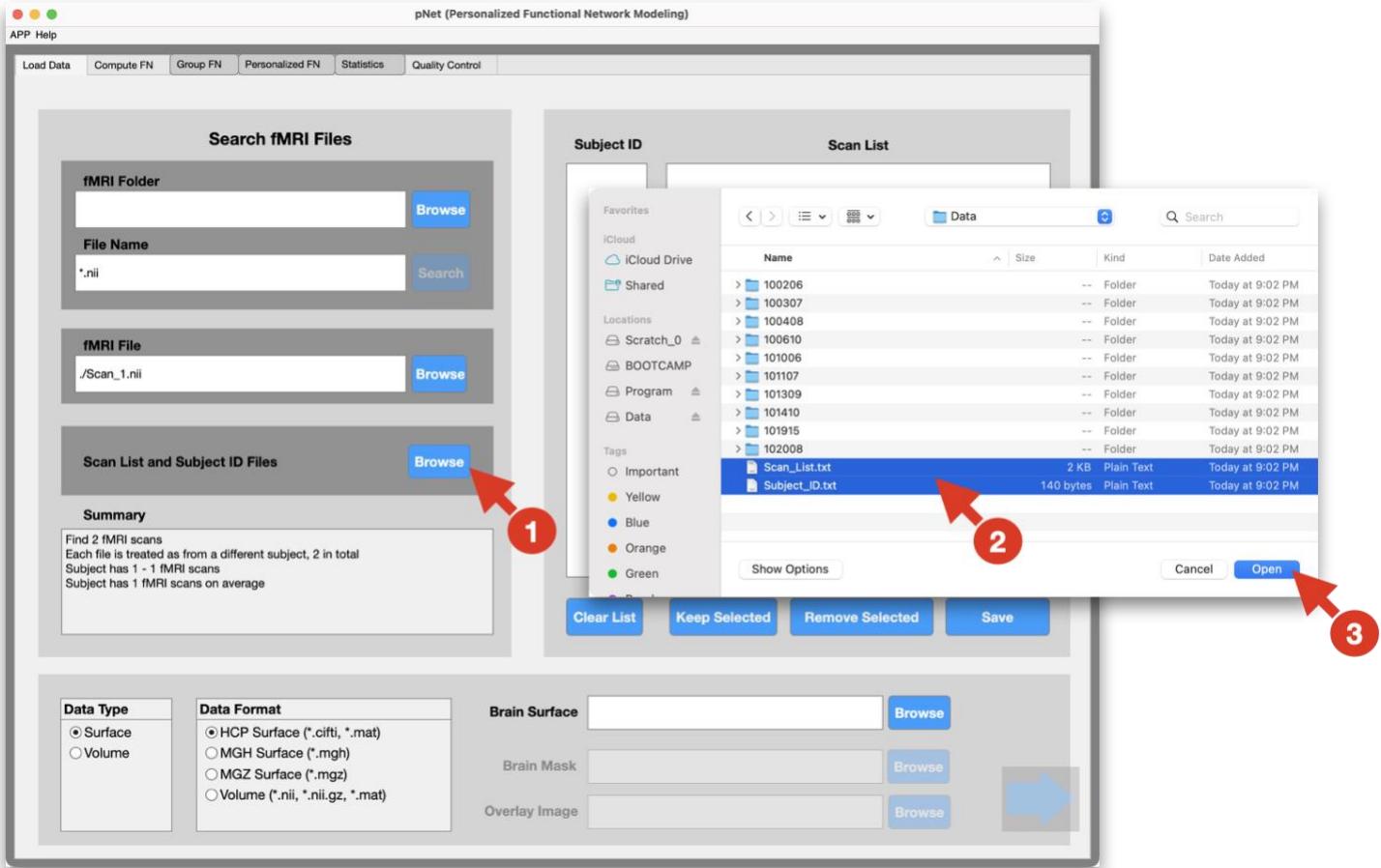
2. Select fMRI files



Select fMRI files.

- (1) Click the browse button.
- (2) Manually select one or multiple fMRI files with supported extensions, and click the open button
- (3) to load the full file directories. Users can also use the input field (highlighted in the red box) to type in the full file directories.

3. Load prepared file list information in txt format.

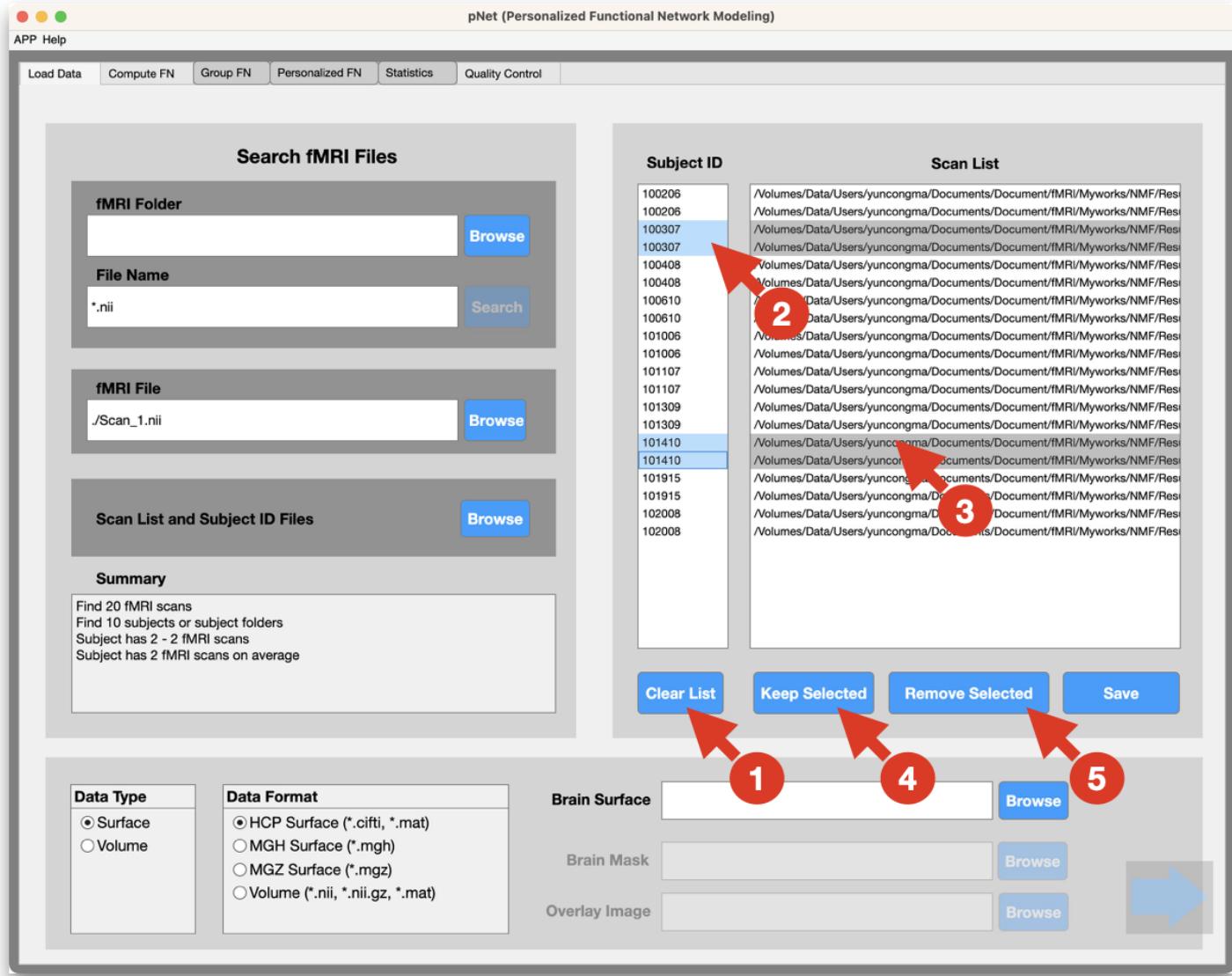


Load fMRI scan list and subject ID files.

- (1) Click the browse button.
- (2) Choose the text file containing full directories of fMRI scan files, and another text file containing subject ID information for each corresponding fMRI scan. The subject ID information file is not necessary. When it is not provided, automatic subject ID information will be extracted.
- (3) Click the open button to read those files.

Organized fMRI scan files

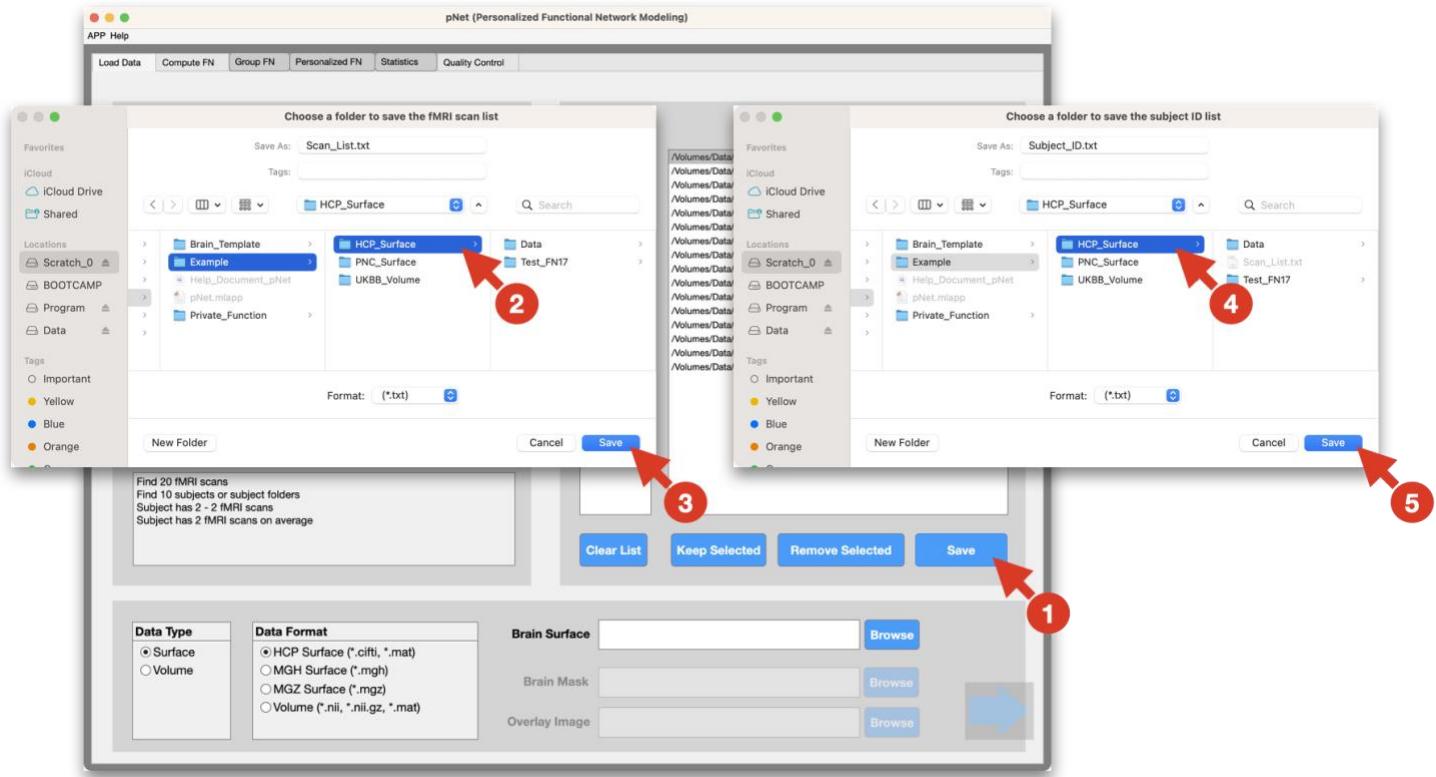
1. Clear, select or remove fMRI scan files



Remove, select or remove fMRI scan files.

- (1) Click the clear list button to empty the subject ID and scan list.
- (2-3) Select one or multiple files (hold command key in macOS, or hold control key in Windows and Linux) based on their subject ID or scan list.
- (4) Keep the selected fMRI scan files.
- (5) Remove selected fMRI scan files.

2. Save the fMRI scan list and subject ID information into text files



Save the subject ID and scan list information into text files.

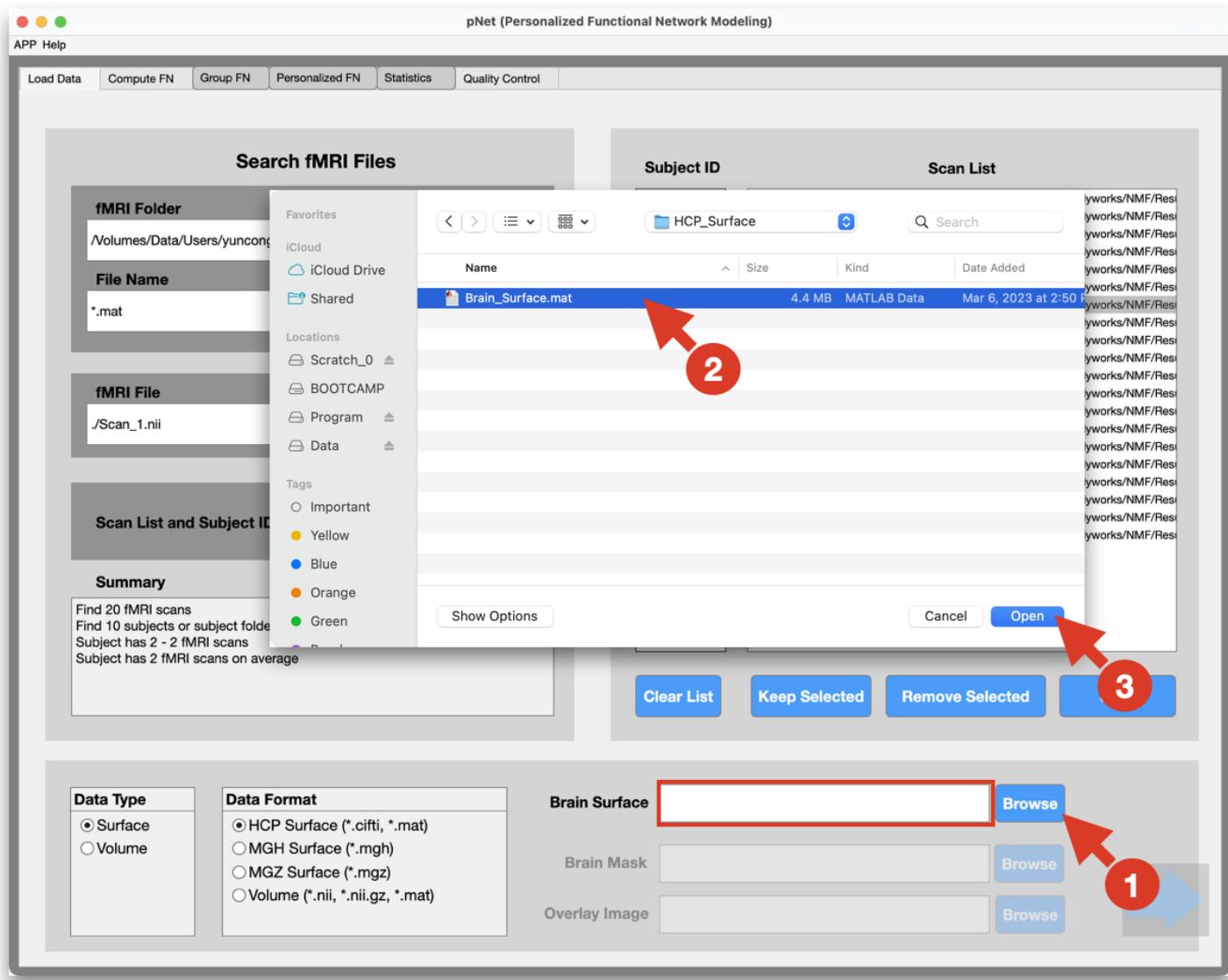
- (1) Click the save button. A new window will be promoted for saving the scan list.
- (2) Select the folder to store the scan list file with the name “Scan_List.txt” in default.
- (3) Click the save button to save the scan list file.
- (4) Select the folder to store the scan list file with the name “Subject_ID.txt” in default.
- (5) Click the save button to save the subject ID file.

Load brain template

Surface and volume data types require different brain template files for both computation and visualization of gFNs and pFNs.

1. Surface data type.

It requires to load a file called “Brain_Surface.mat”. This file a variable named as “Brain_Surface” with three fields: “Shape”, “Shape_Inflated”, “MW”.

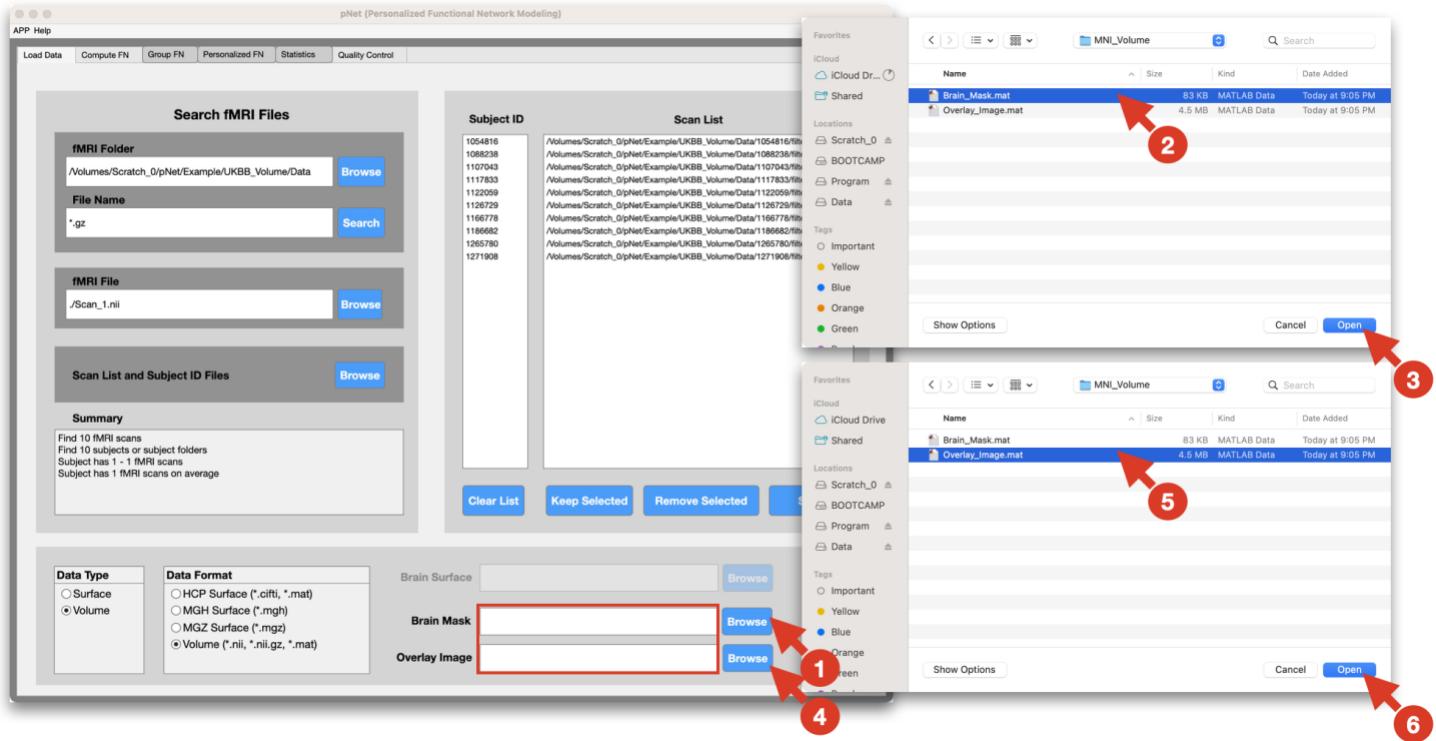


Load the brain surface file for surface data type.

- (1) Click the browse button.
- (2) Select the file “Brain_Surface.mat”.
- (3) Click open or double click the file to load it. Full file directory of the brain surface file will appear in the input field (highlighted in the red box). Users can also type in this information directly into the input field.

2. Volume data type.

It requires to load two files: “Brain_Mask.mat” and “Overlay_Image.mat”. The brain mask file is a binarized 3D mask to specify voxels to contain useful fMRI signals. The overlay image is a 3D image file that will be used as a background for overlaying gFNs and pFNs.



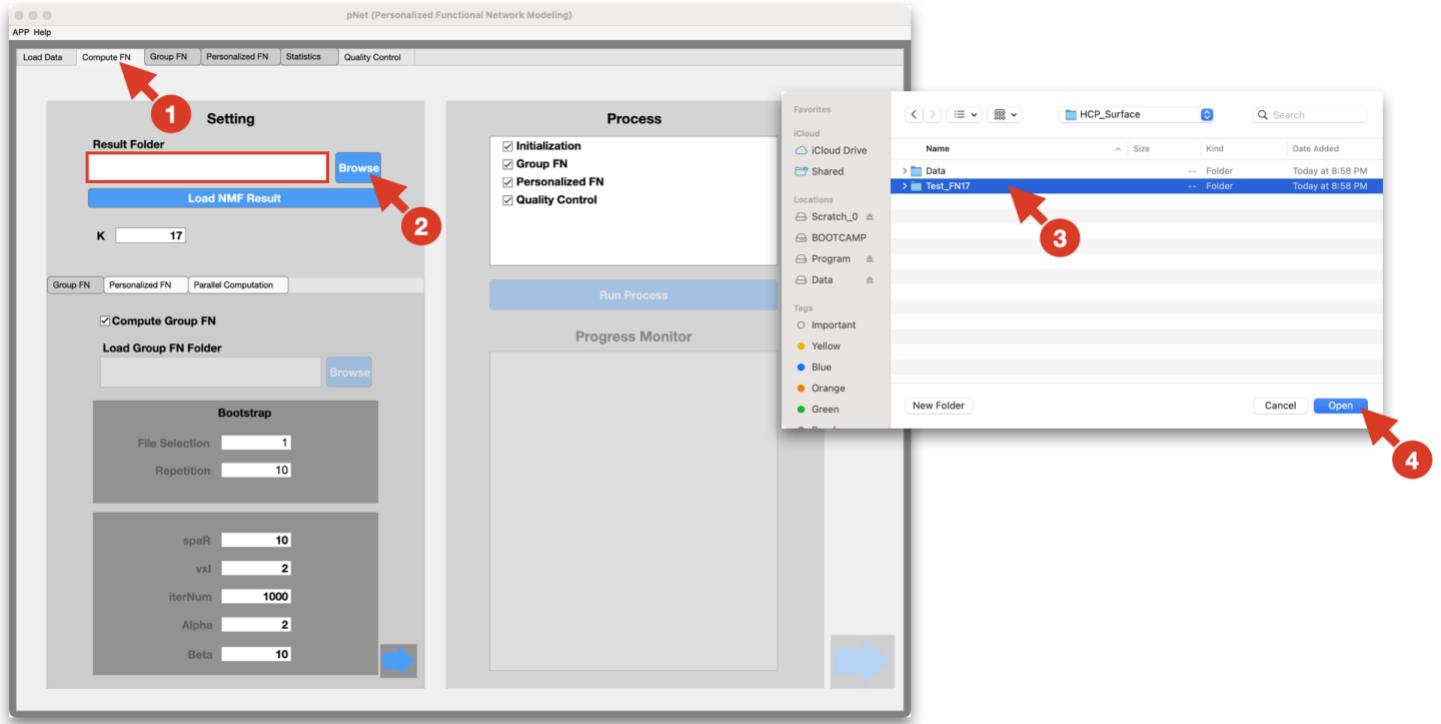
Load brain templates for the volume data type.

- (1) Click the browse button to load brain mask file, or use the input field (highlighted in the red box) to type in the full directory of the brain mask file. Example files can be found in the toolbox subfolder “/Brain_Template/MNI_Volume/Brain_Mask.mat”.
- (2-3) Select the brain mask file, and click open button to load.
- (4) Click the browse button to load the overlay image file, or use the input field (highlighted in the red box) to type in the full directory of the overlay image file. Example files can be found in the toolbox subfolder “/Brain_Template/MNI_Volume/Overlay_Image.mat”.
- (5-6) Select the overlay image file, and click open button to load.

Setup FN Computation

Setup result folder

The toolbox store all the fMRI file information, brain template files, results and figures of gFN and pFN, and other files in one result folder. The fMRI files will not be stored in the result folder to save storage space.

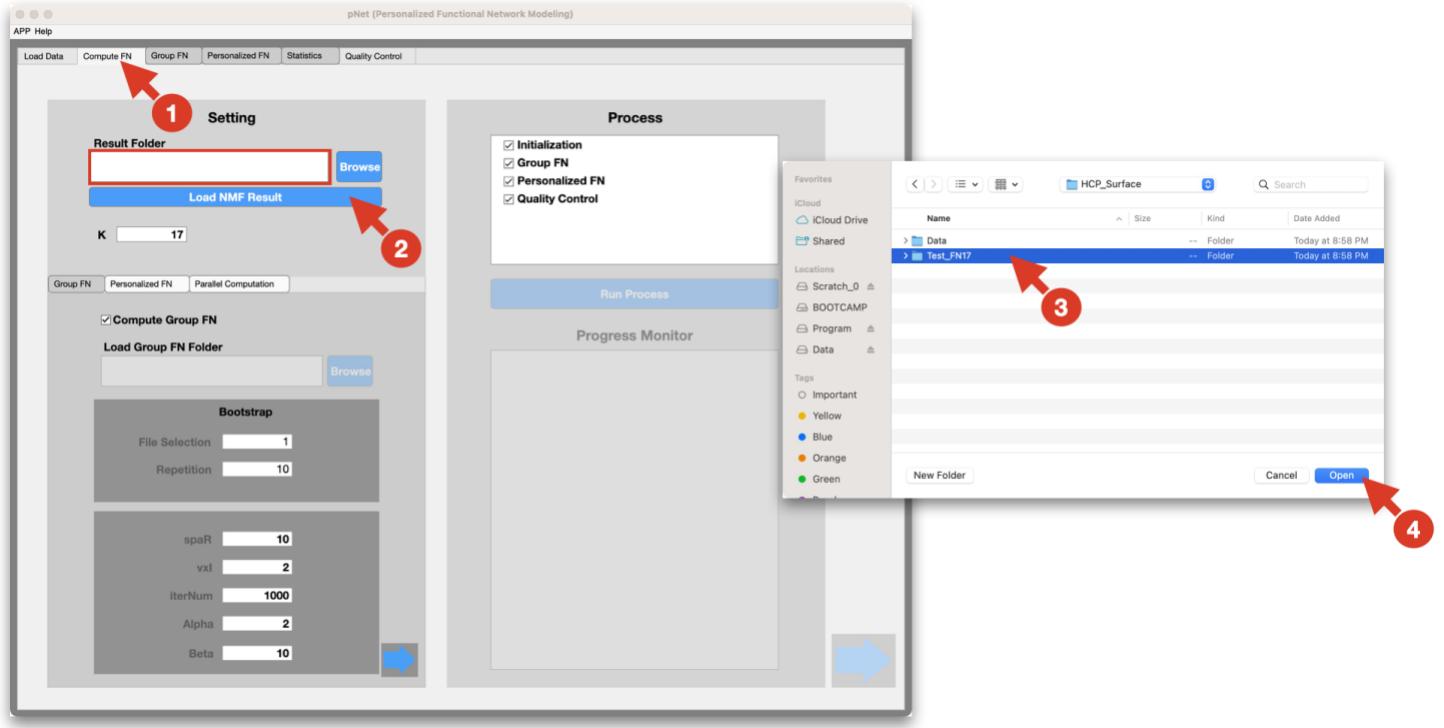


Select the result folder.

- (1) Navigate to the module “Compute FN”.
- (2) Click the browse button to select the result folder, or type in the full directory of the desired result folder.
- (3-4) Select the folder to store result, and click open button.

Load pre-computed results

The toolbox can automatically load pre-computed results for convenience. Users just need to simply select the result folder, all the information including fMRI scan file and subject ID, number of FNs, parameters of pFN computation will appear on the user interface.



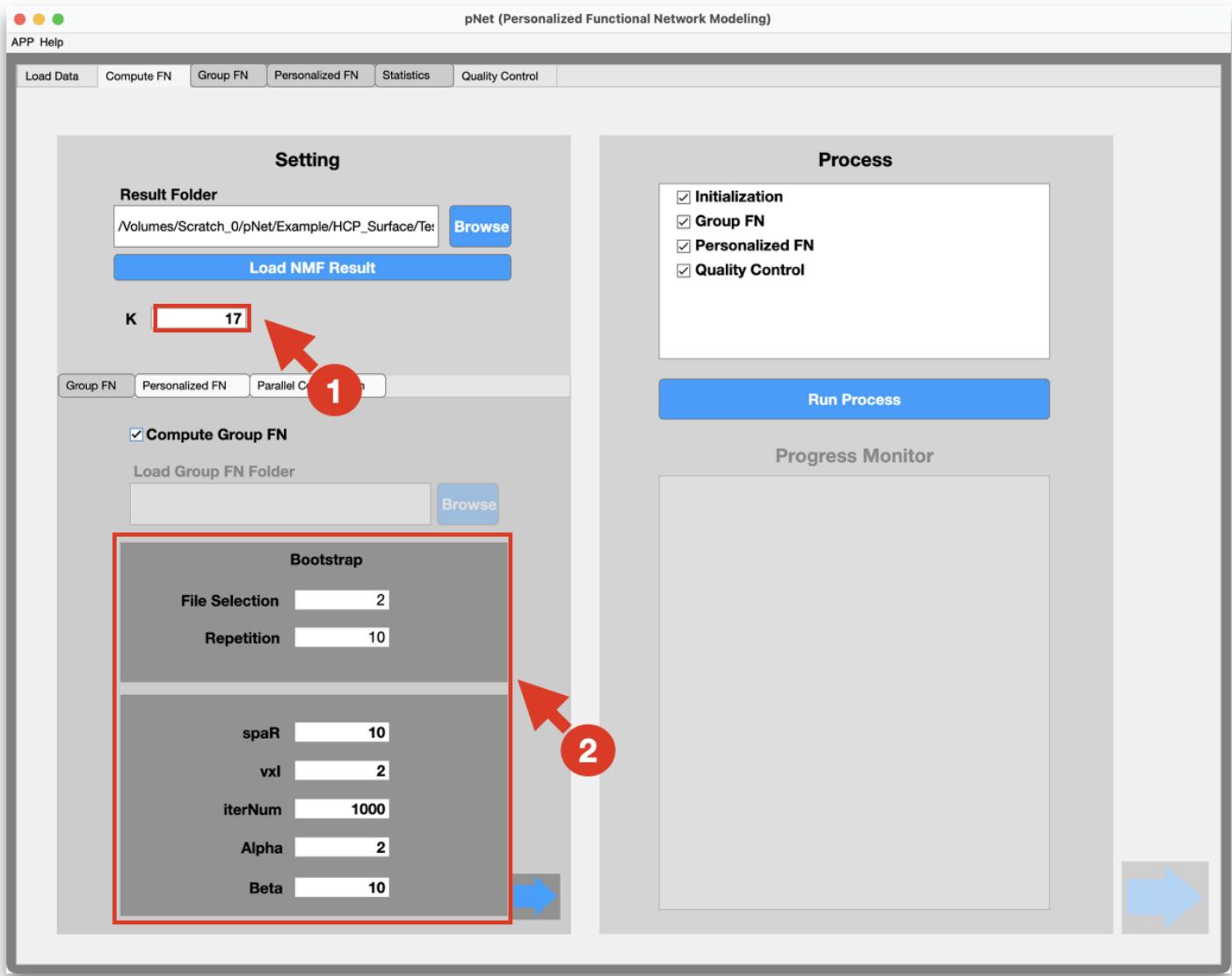
Select the folder containing precomputed results.

- (1) Navigate to the module “Compute FN”.
- (2) Click the browse button to select the result folder, or type in the full directory of the desired result folder (highlighted in the red box).
- (3-4) Select the folder to store result, and click open button. The toolbox will automatically check the integrity of the result folder. Then it will load results and jump to the group FN module to show precomputed group FN figures.

Setup gFN

The toolbox allows users to either load a precomputed gFN or perform the gFN computation using the data available.

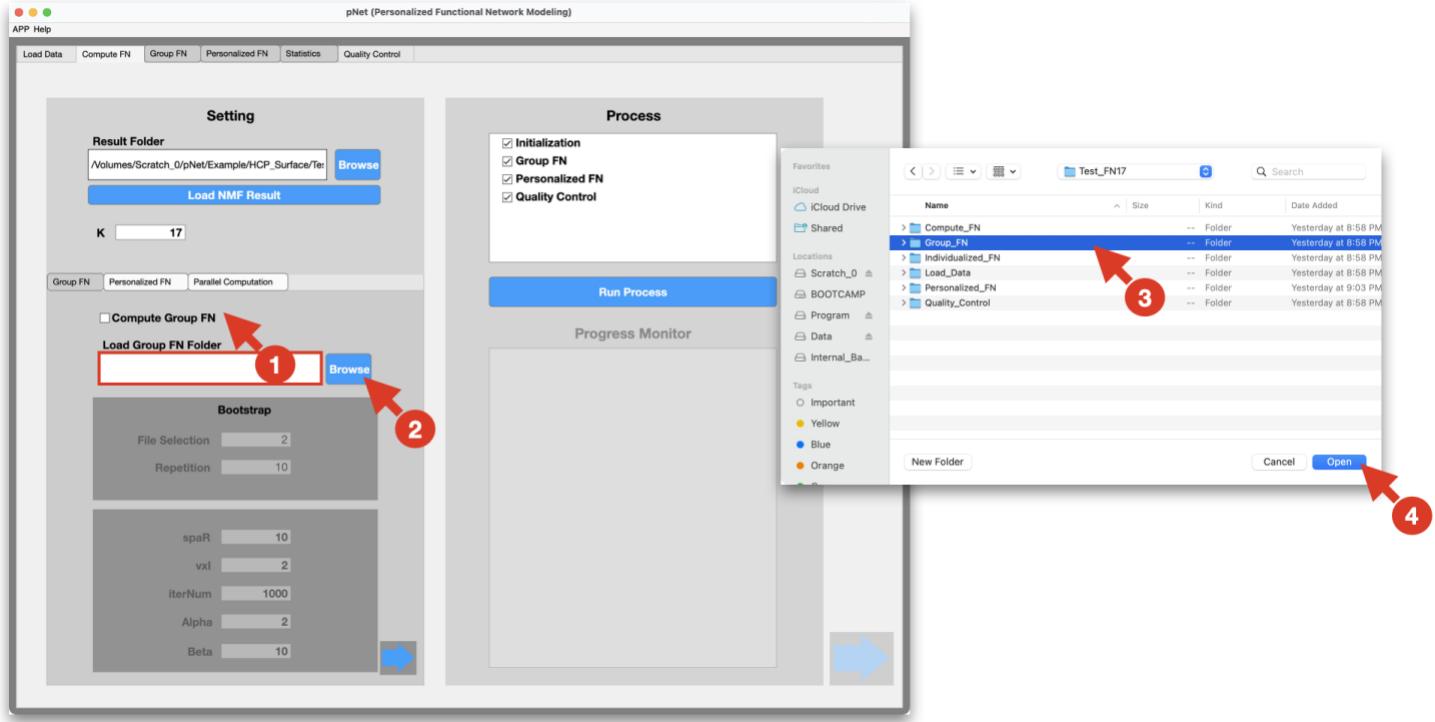
1. Setup the gFN computation



Setup the gFN computation parameters.

- (1) Set a desired number of FNs. 7 and 17 have been widely used to get large scale FNs.
- (2) Set additional parameters if preferred. The bootstrap section has two parameters that affect how the fMRI scans will be randomly sampled. The parameter “File Selection” is the number of fMRI scans will be selected as a subset to compute gFNs. The parameter “Repetition” is the number of runs to randomly sample a small subset and get multiple different versions gFN to fuse into a robust estimation of gFNs. Other parameters are for advanced users. Their details can be found in the manuscript.

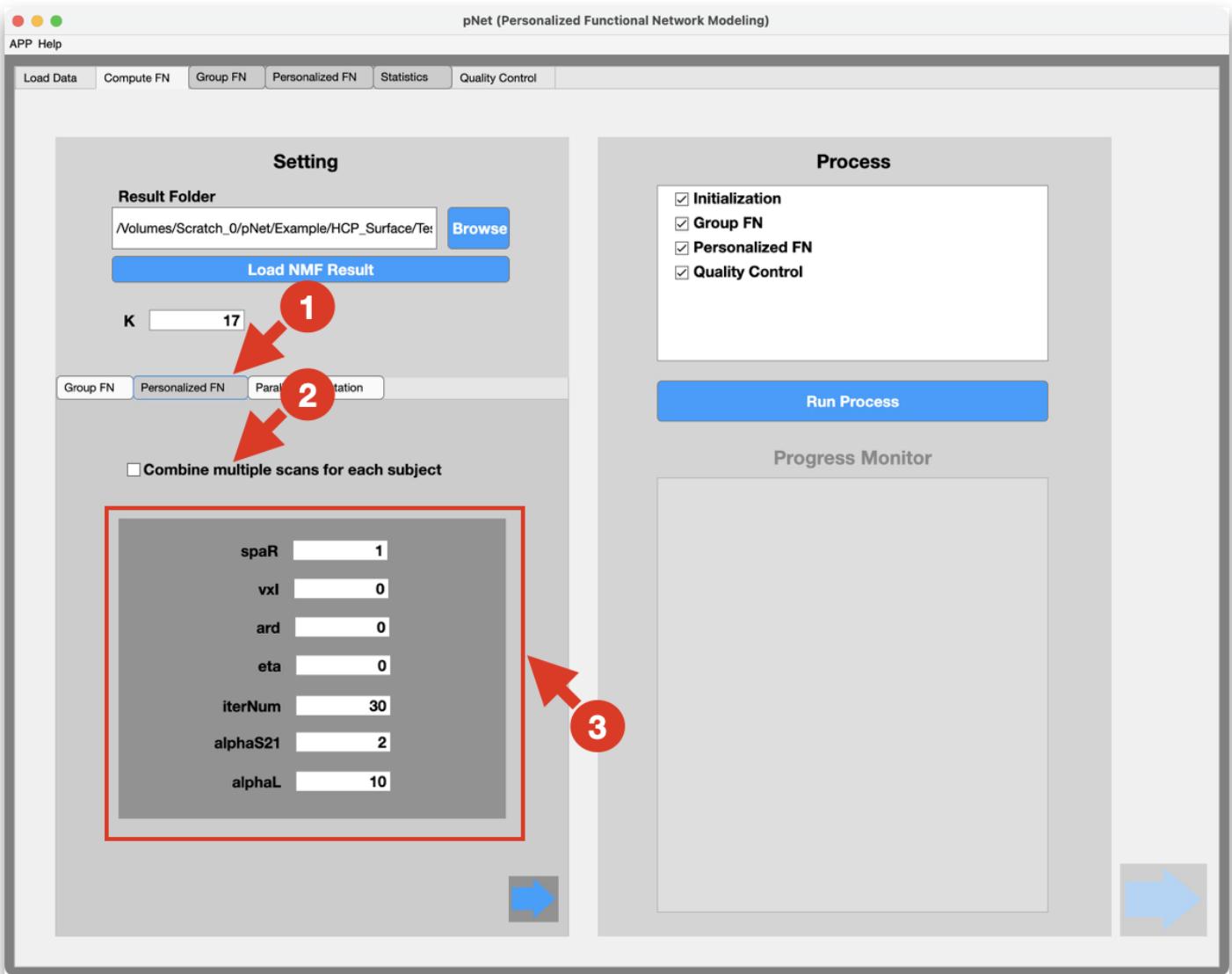
2. Load a precomputed gFN file



Load precomputed gFN results in a folder.

- (1) Click the check box “Compute Group FN” to disable the gFN computation.
- (2) Click the browse button or type in the directory of the folder containing group FN results in the input field (highlighted in the red box).
- (3-4) Select the gFN folder, and click open button to load the result.

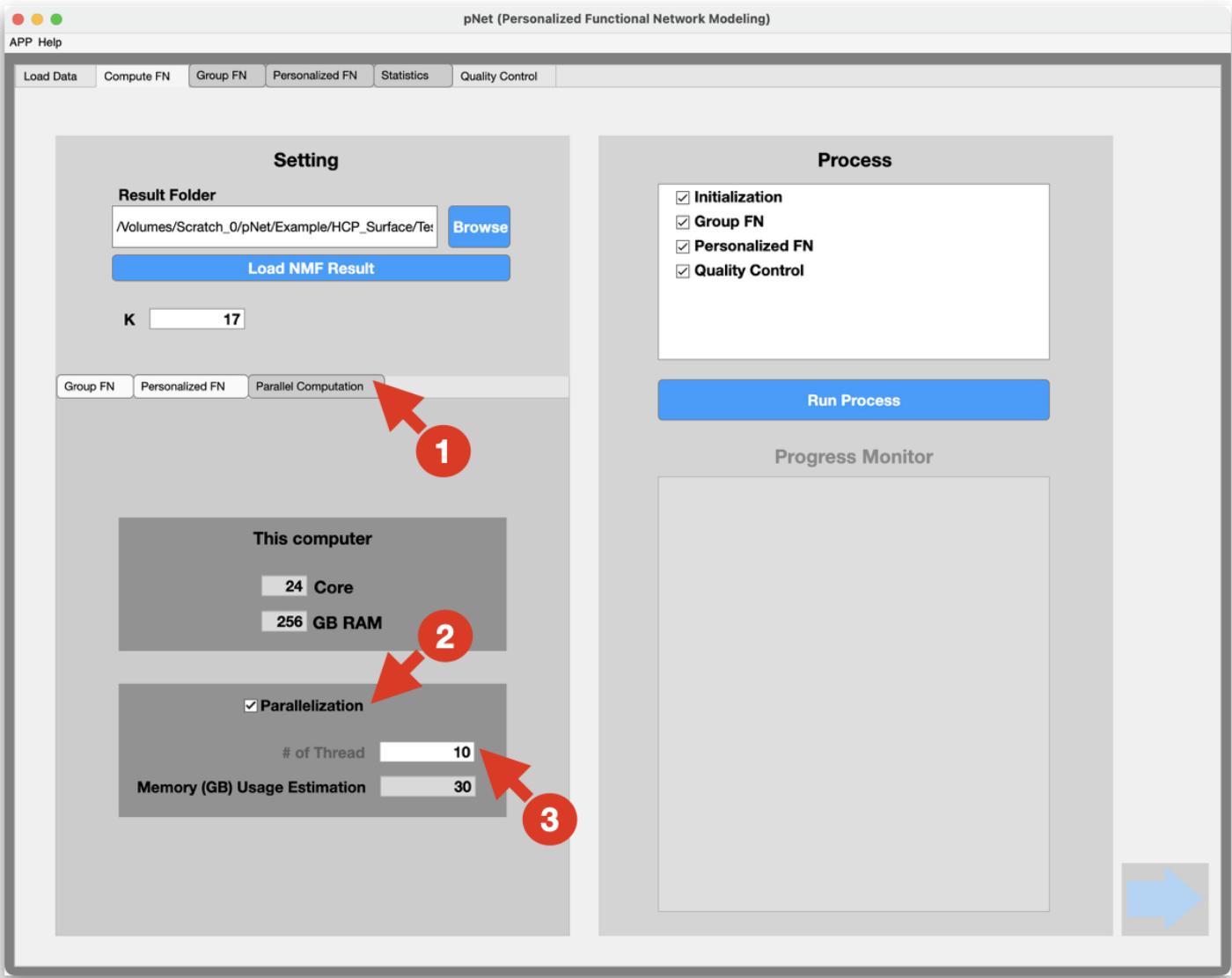
Setup pFN computation



Setup parameters for pFN computation.

- (1) Navigate to the module “Personalized FN”.
- (2) Click the check box to combine multiple fMRI scans for each subject, if preferred.
- (3) Additional parameters for pFN computation, only intended for advanced users.

Setup parallel computation

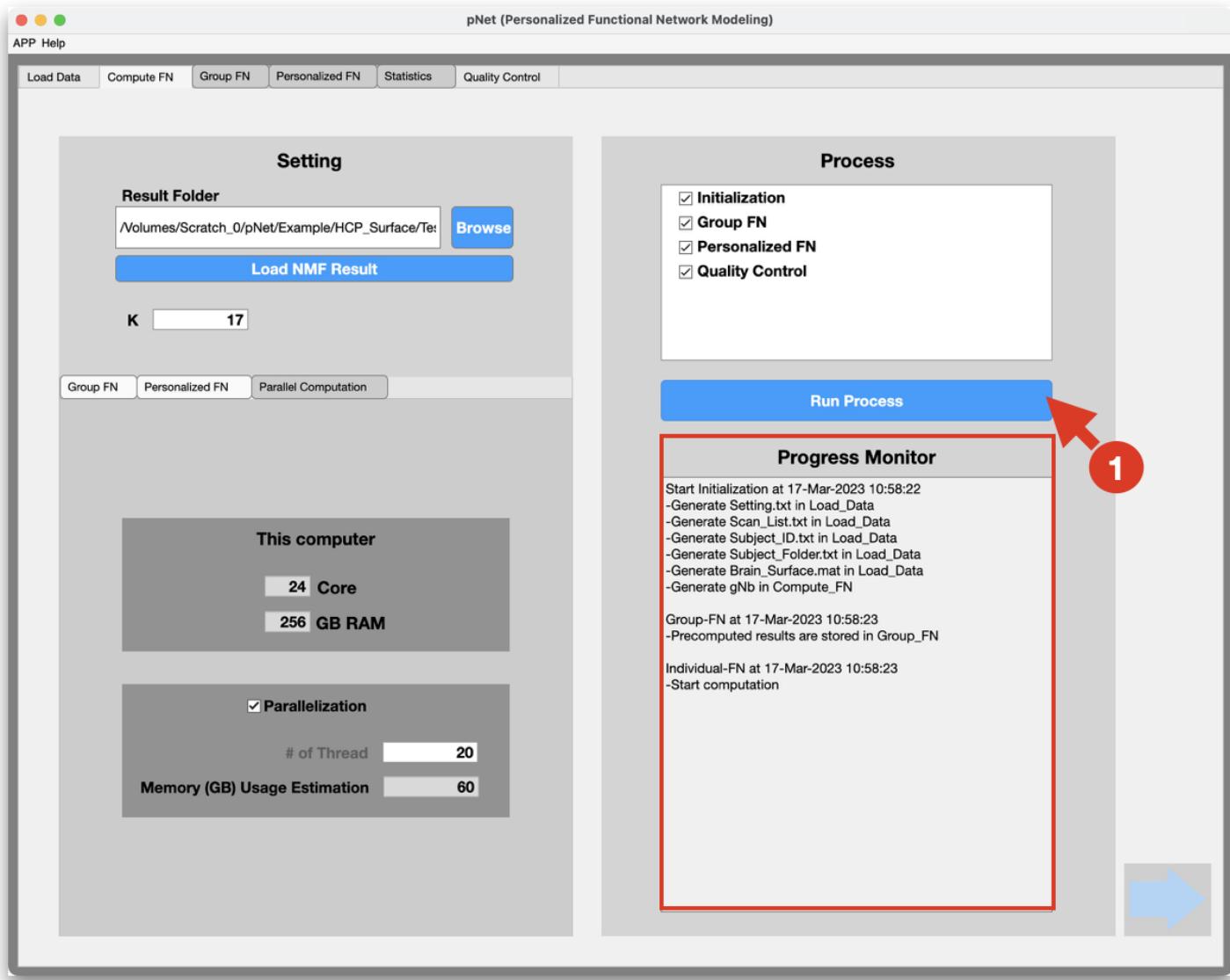


Setup parameters for parallel computation.

- (1) Navigate to the parallel computation module.
- (2) Enable parallelization by clicking the check box.
- (3) Set a desired number of threads for parallel computation. Please make sure that the estimated memory usage is within the hardware limit, which is displayed in the above section "This computer".

Run the FN computation

Once all the required settings are done, the button "Run Process" on the right of the "Compute FN" module will be enabled. Simply click it run all the computation and visualization for pFNs.



Run the pFN computation.

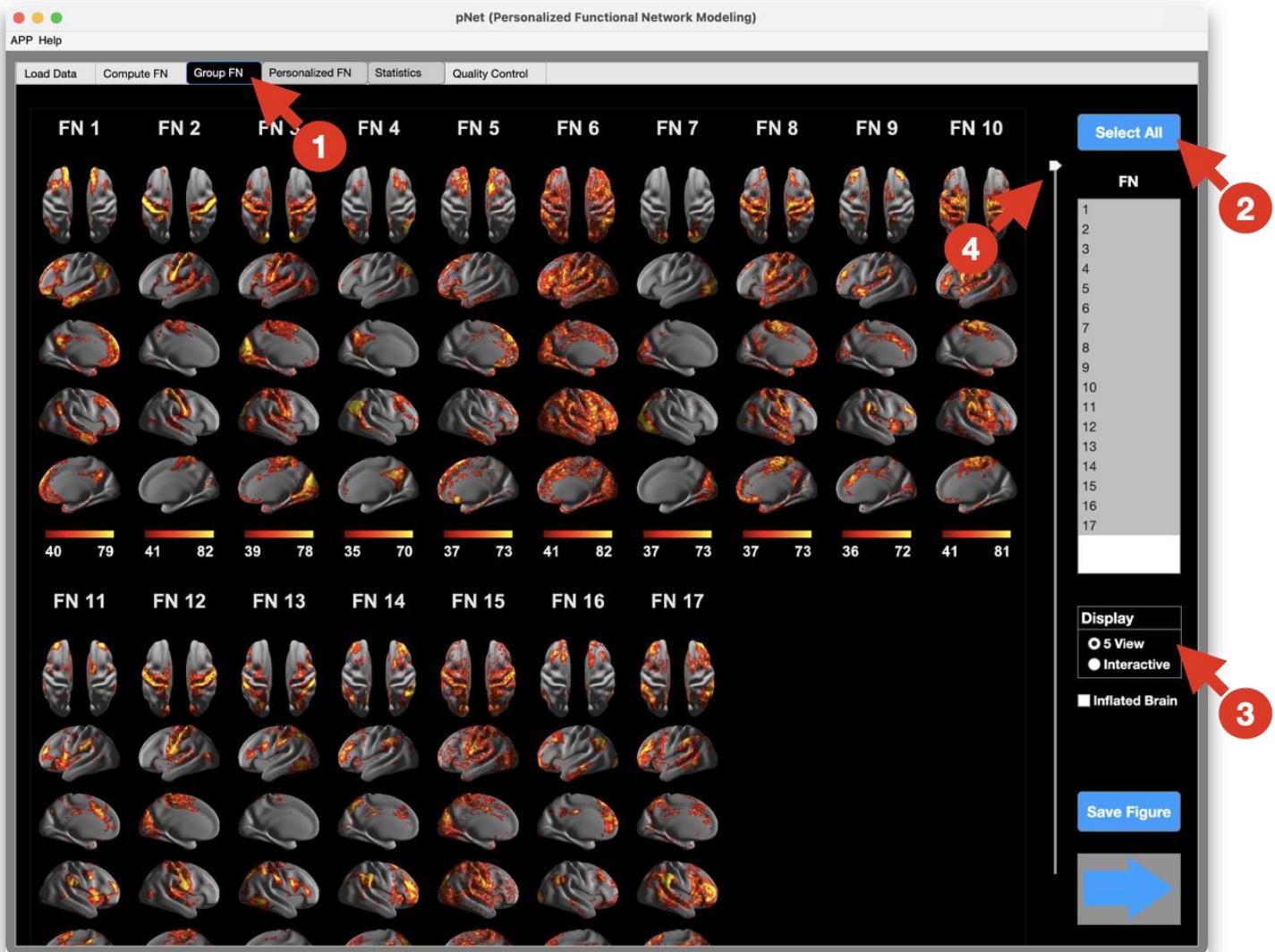
- (1) Click the button “Run Process”.
- (2) Progress monitor (highlighted in the red box) will show the progress of each major steps of initialization, gFN computation, pFN computation and visualization. The UI will automatically jump to the next module “Group FN” to show gFN results.

Check gFN

This toolbox provides precomputed figures of gFNs for fast navigation, and interactive display to check results according to users' preference.

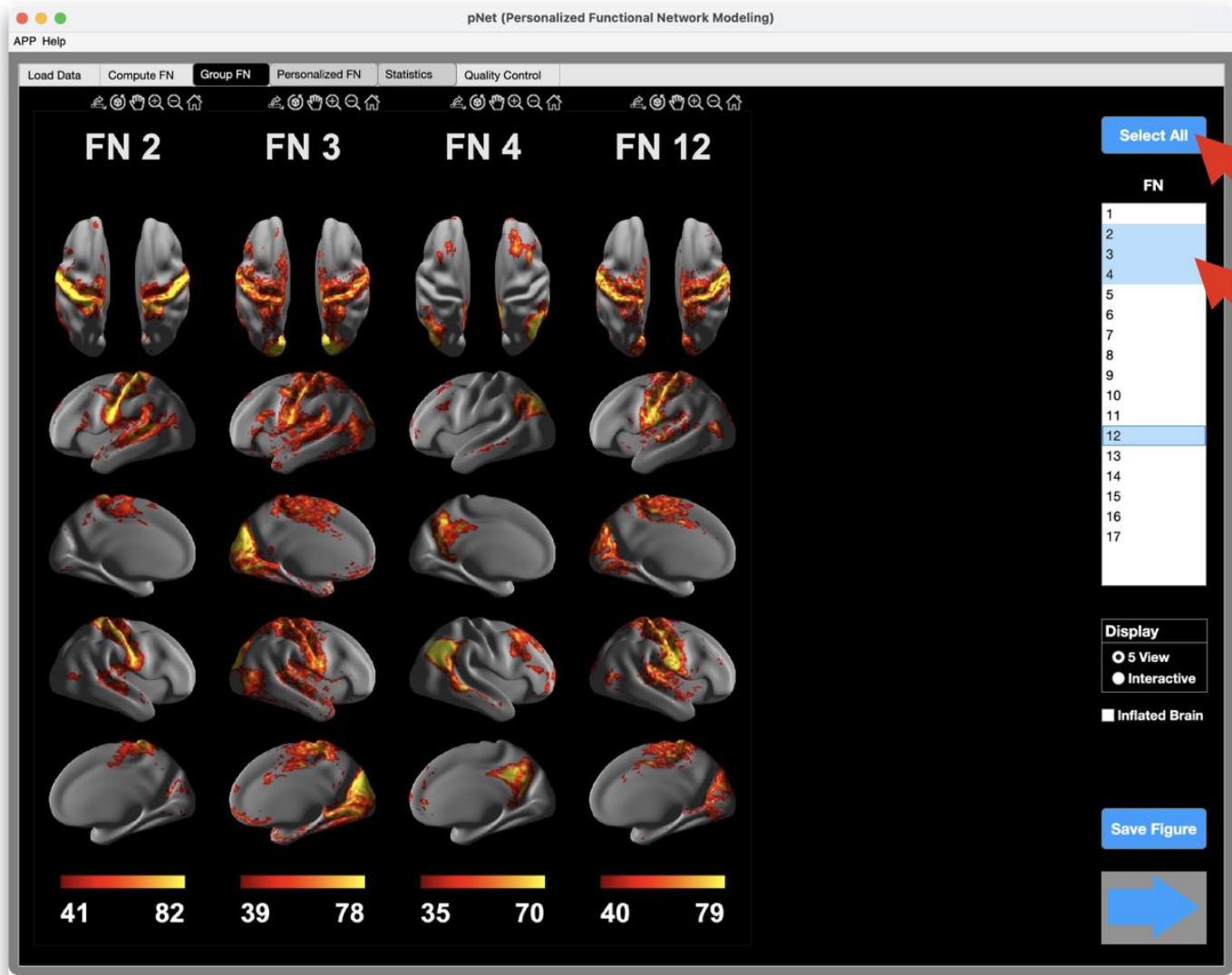
Surface data

1. Precomputed visualization



Check all gFNs.

- (1) Navigate to group FN module. In default, all gFNs will be displayed in one large figure.
- (2) Click the select all button, if needed.
- (3) Select the 5 view display option, if needed.
- (4) Drag the scroll bar to navigate through the entire figure.

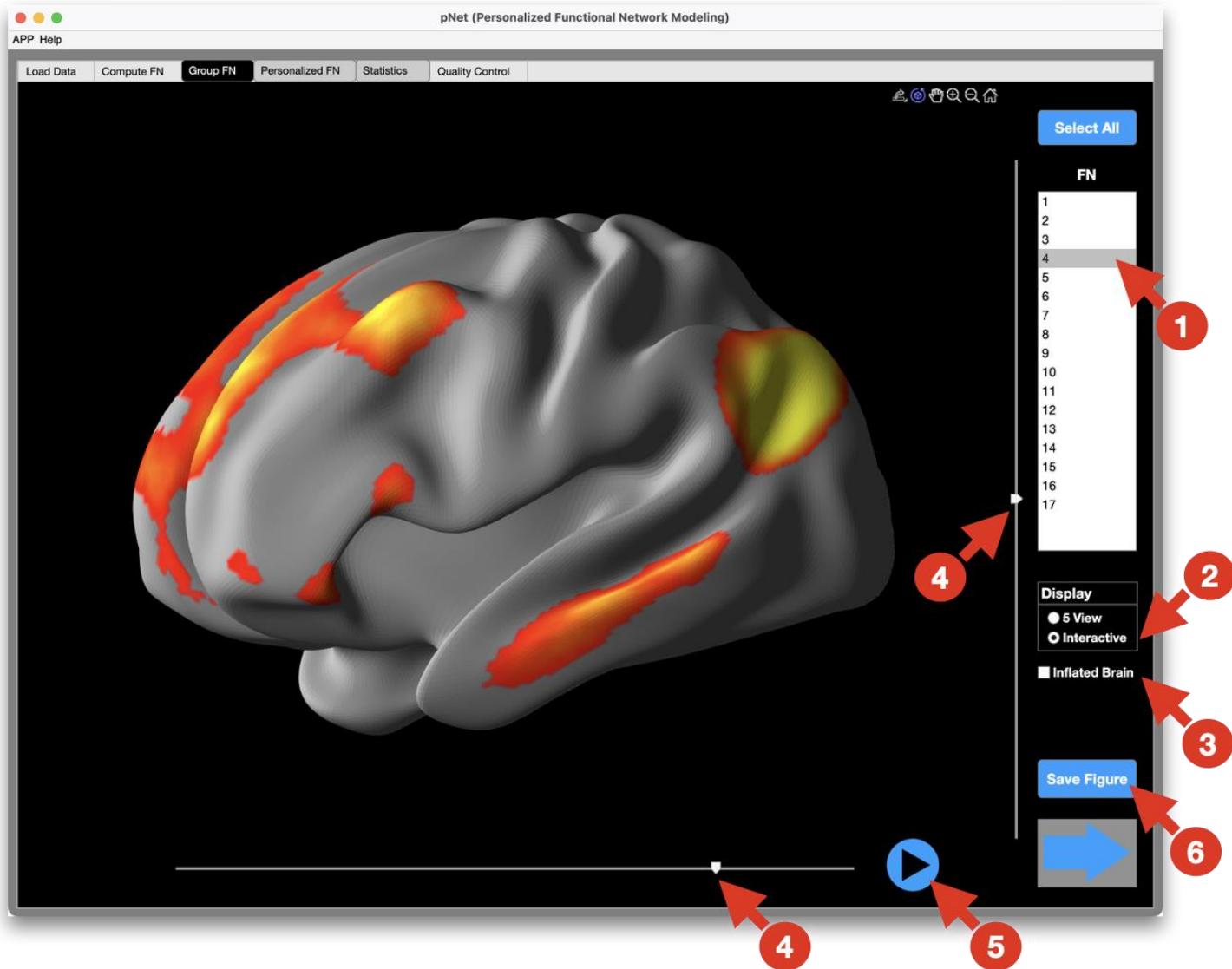


Check selected gFNs.

- (1) Select one or multiple gFNs. Hold command key in macOS, or hold control key in Windows or Linux to select multiple gFNs.
- (2) Click select all button to go back to the default view of all gFNs selected.

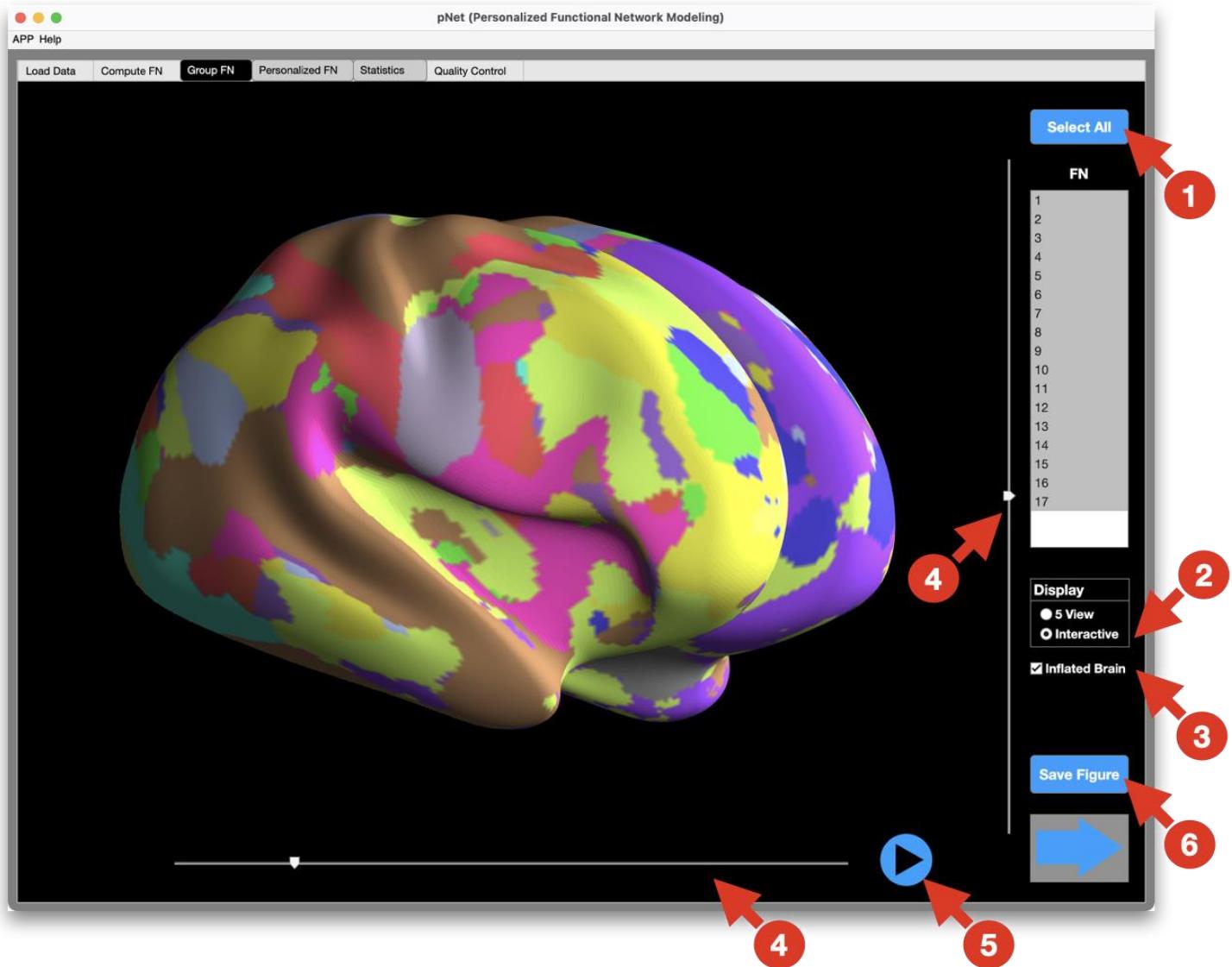
2. Interactive visualization

This interactive visualization allows the user check the gFN from different view angles.



Check a single gFN on the brain surface.

- (1) Select one gFN.
- (2) Select the interactive display option.
- (3) Click the check box to overlay results on an inflated brain surface, if the inflated brain surface is available.
- (4) Drag the vertical or horizontal scroll bar to change the view angle.
- (5) Start automatic change of the horizontal scroll bar to have a constantly rotating view of the brain.
- (6) Save this figure.

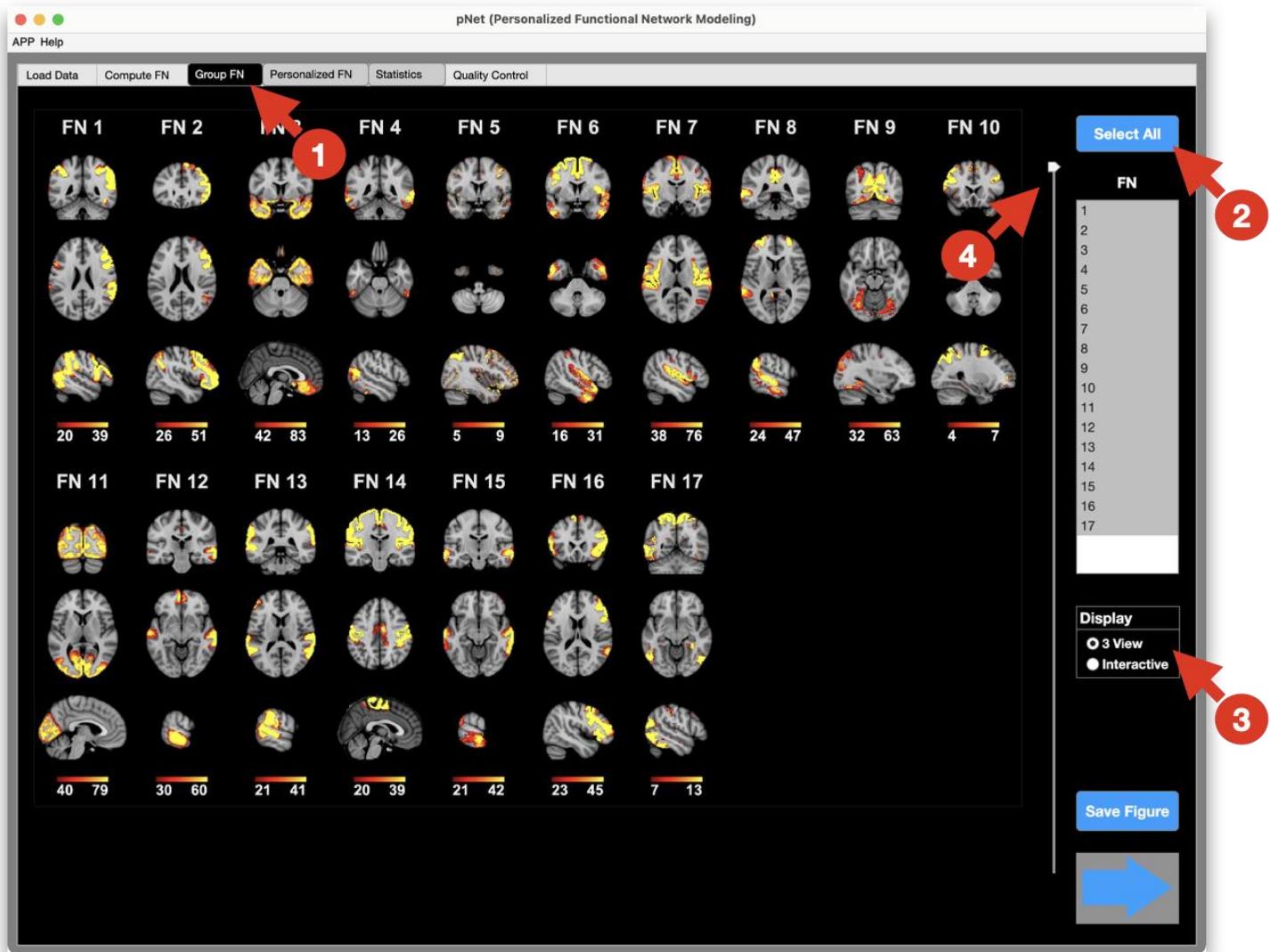


Check the functional atlas for binarized gFNs.

- (1) Click the select all button to include all gFNs.
- (2) Select the interactive display option.
- (3) Click the check box to overlay results on an inflated brain surface, if the inflated brain surface is available.
- (4) Drag the vertical or horizontal scroll bar to change the view angle.
- (5) Start automatic change of the horizontal scroll bar to have a constantly rotating view of the brain.
- (6) Save this figure.

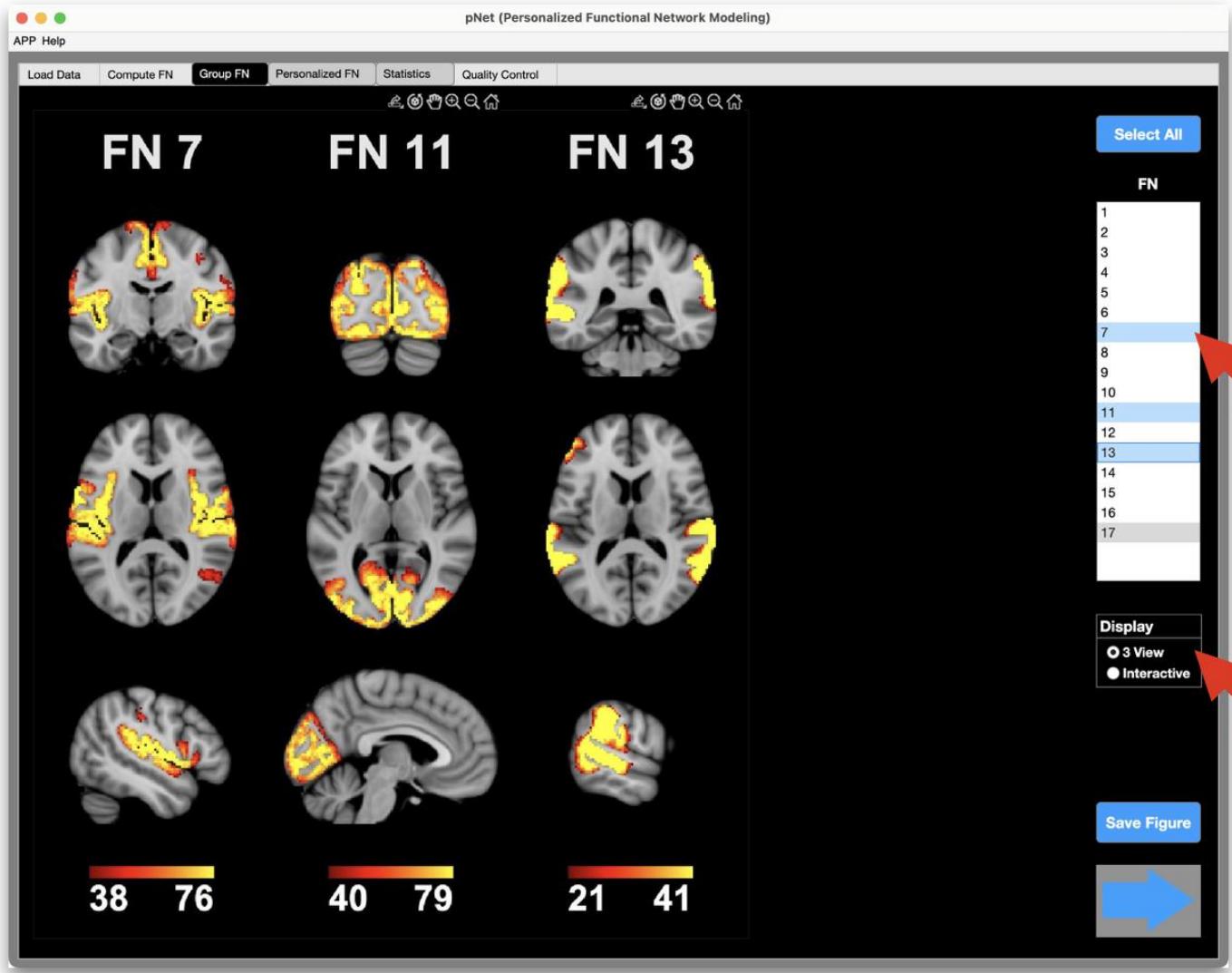
Volume data

1. Precomputed visualization



Check all gFNs.

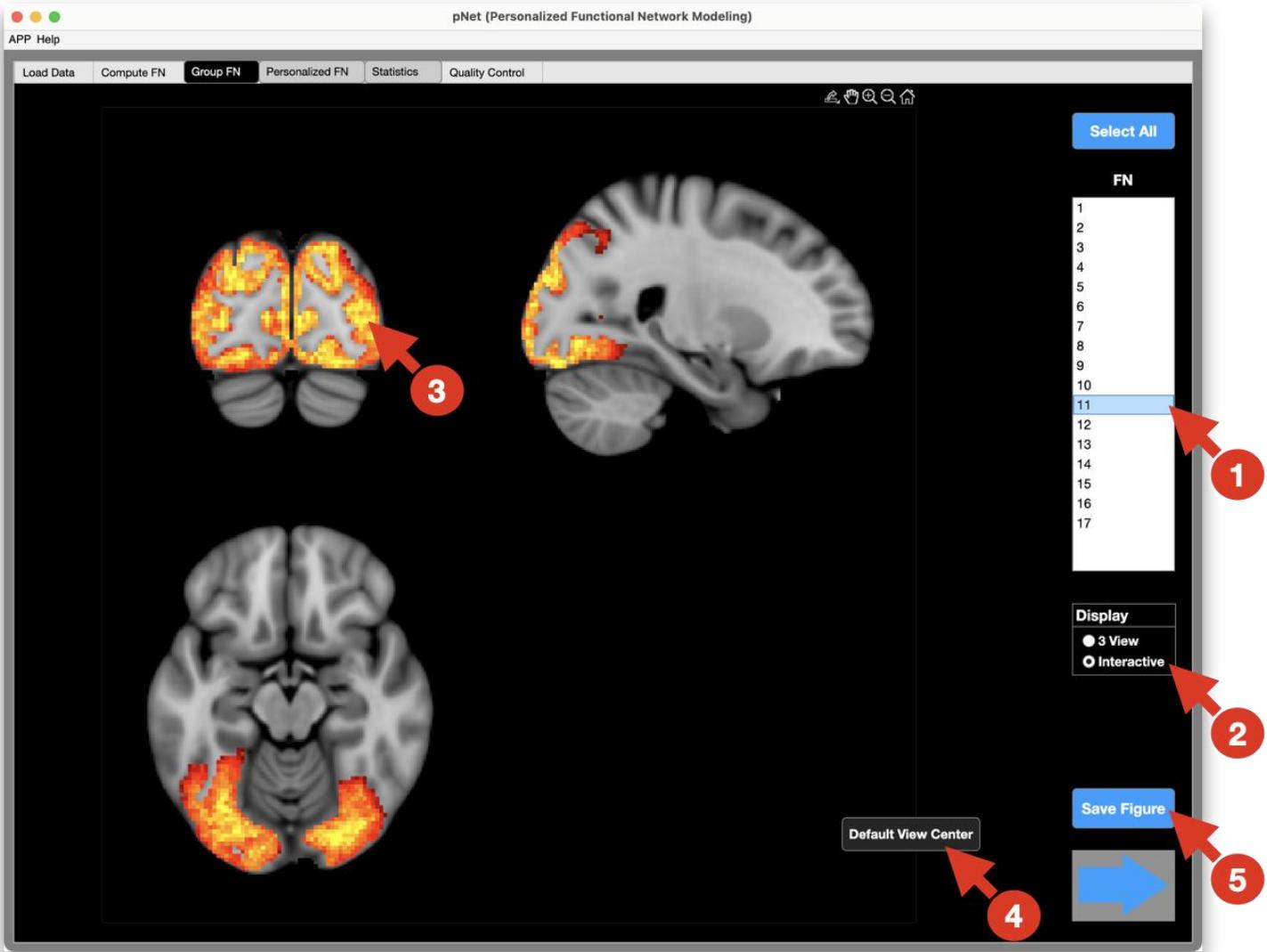
- (1) Navigate to group FN module. In default, all gFNs will be displayed in one large figure.
- (2) Click the select all button, if needed.
- (3) Select the 3 view display option, if needed.
- (4) Drag the scroll bar to navigate through the entire figure.



Check selected gFNs.

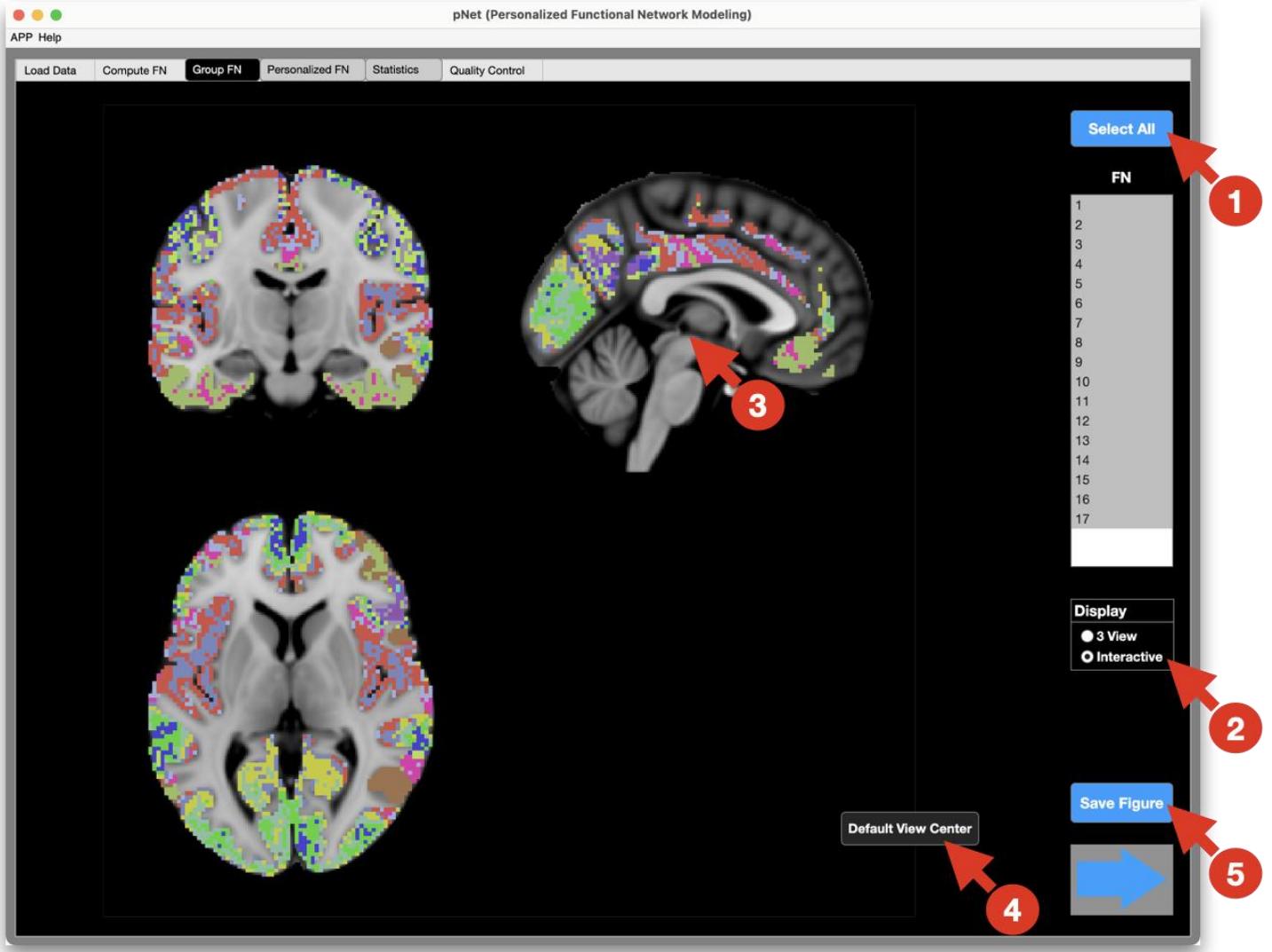
- (1) Select one or multiple gFNs. Hold command key in macOS, or hold control key in Windows or Linux to select multiple gFNs.
- (2) Click select all button to go back to the default view of all gFNs selected.

2. Interactive visualization



Check a single gFN

- (1) Select one gFN.
- (2) Select the interactive display option.
- (3) Click on the display to change the view center.
- (4) Click the default view center button to go back to the default view center.
- (5) Save this figure.



Check functional atlas using binarized gFN results

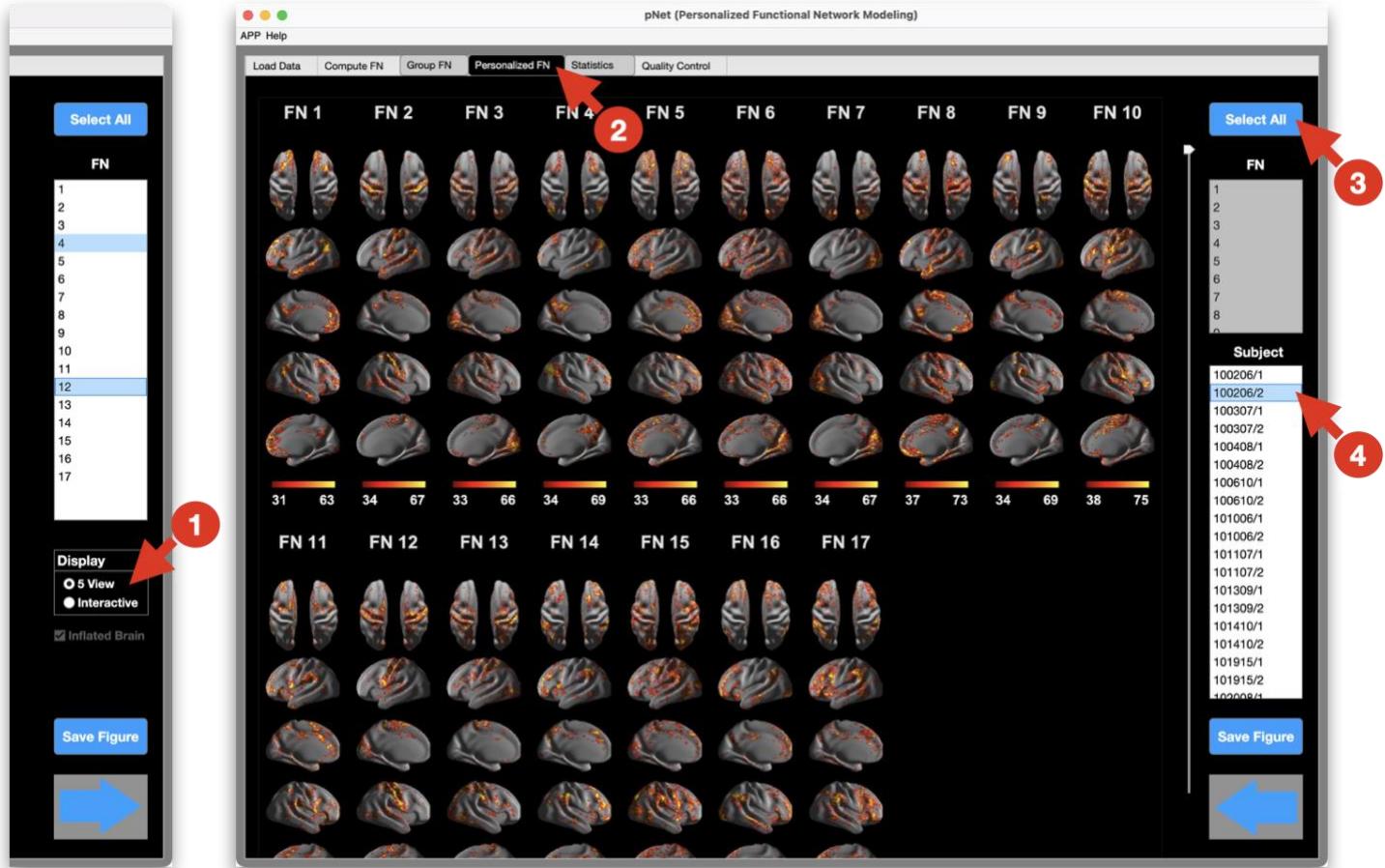
- (1) Click the select all button to include all gFNs.
- (2) Select the interactive display option.
- (3) Click on the display to change the view center.
- (4) Click the default view center button to go back to the default view center.
- (5) Save this figure.

Check pFN

This toolbox provides precomputed figures of pFNs for fast navigation, and interactive display to check results according to users' preference.

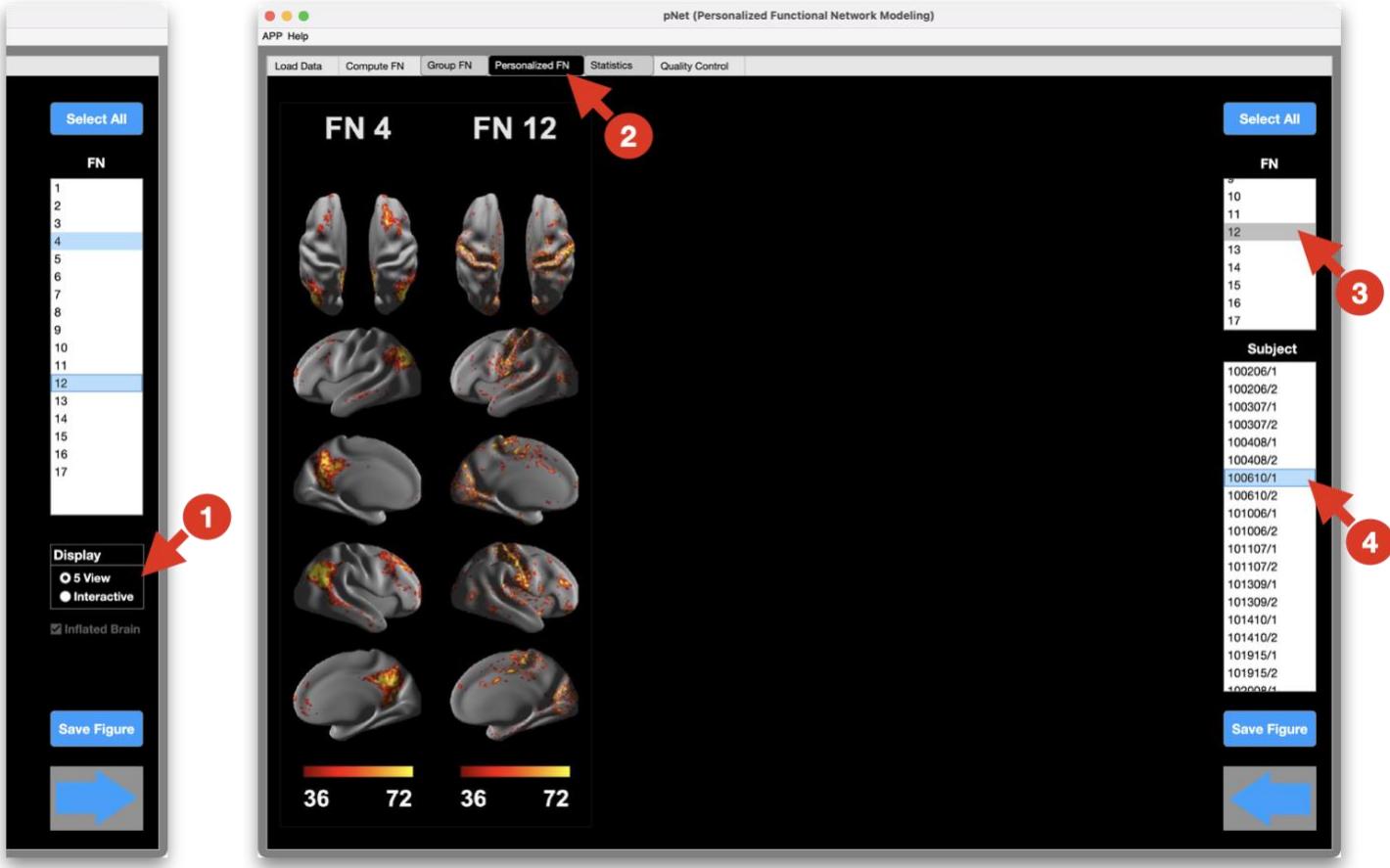
Surface data

1. Precomputed visualization



Check precomputed figures for pFNs.

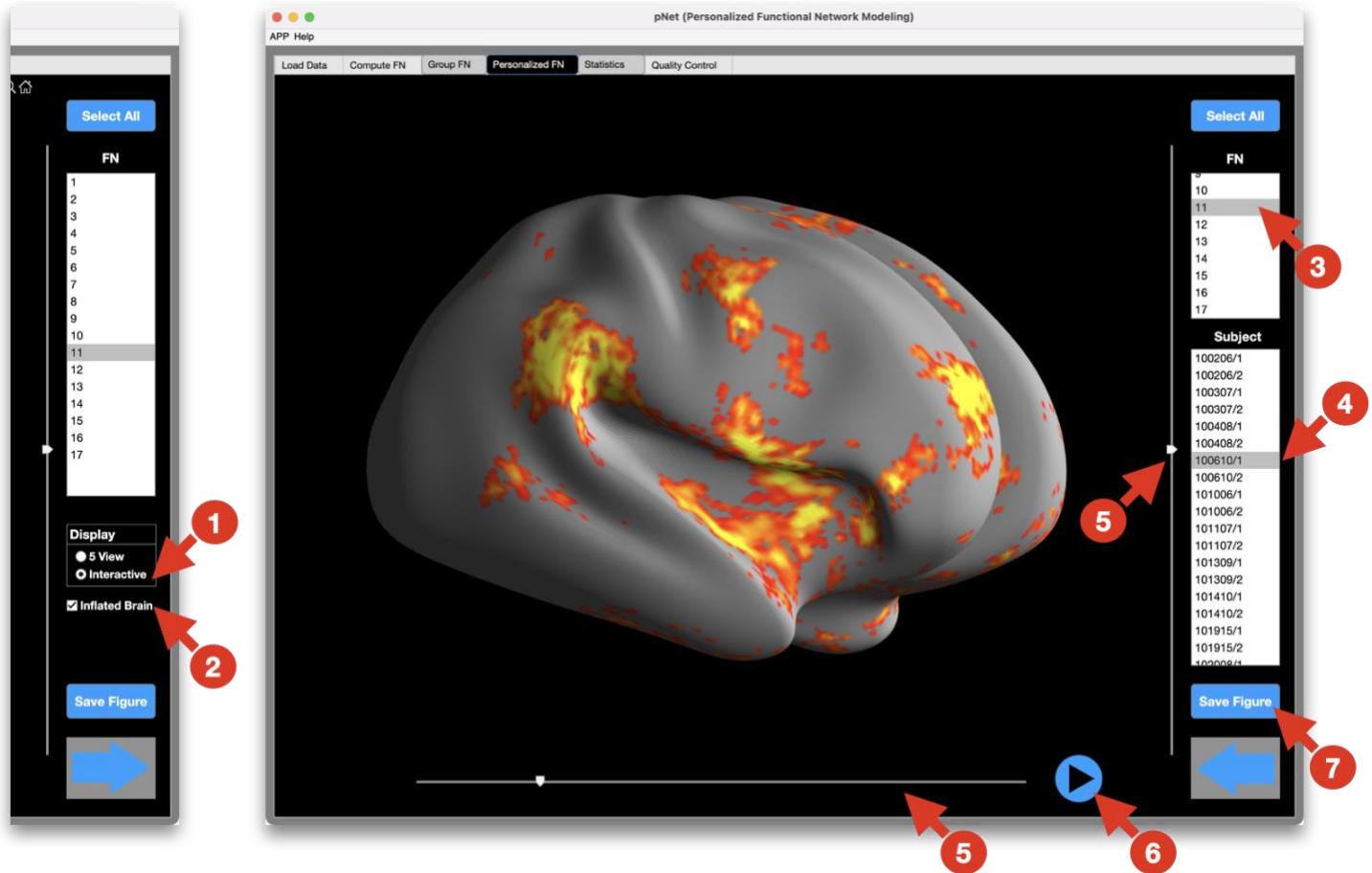
- (1) Navigate to the group FN module. Choose the 5 view display mode.
- (2) Navigate to the personalized FN module.
- (3) Click the select all button.
- (4) Select another subject. Users can also use the up or down arrow key to select the subject above or below.



Check selected pFNs.

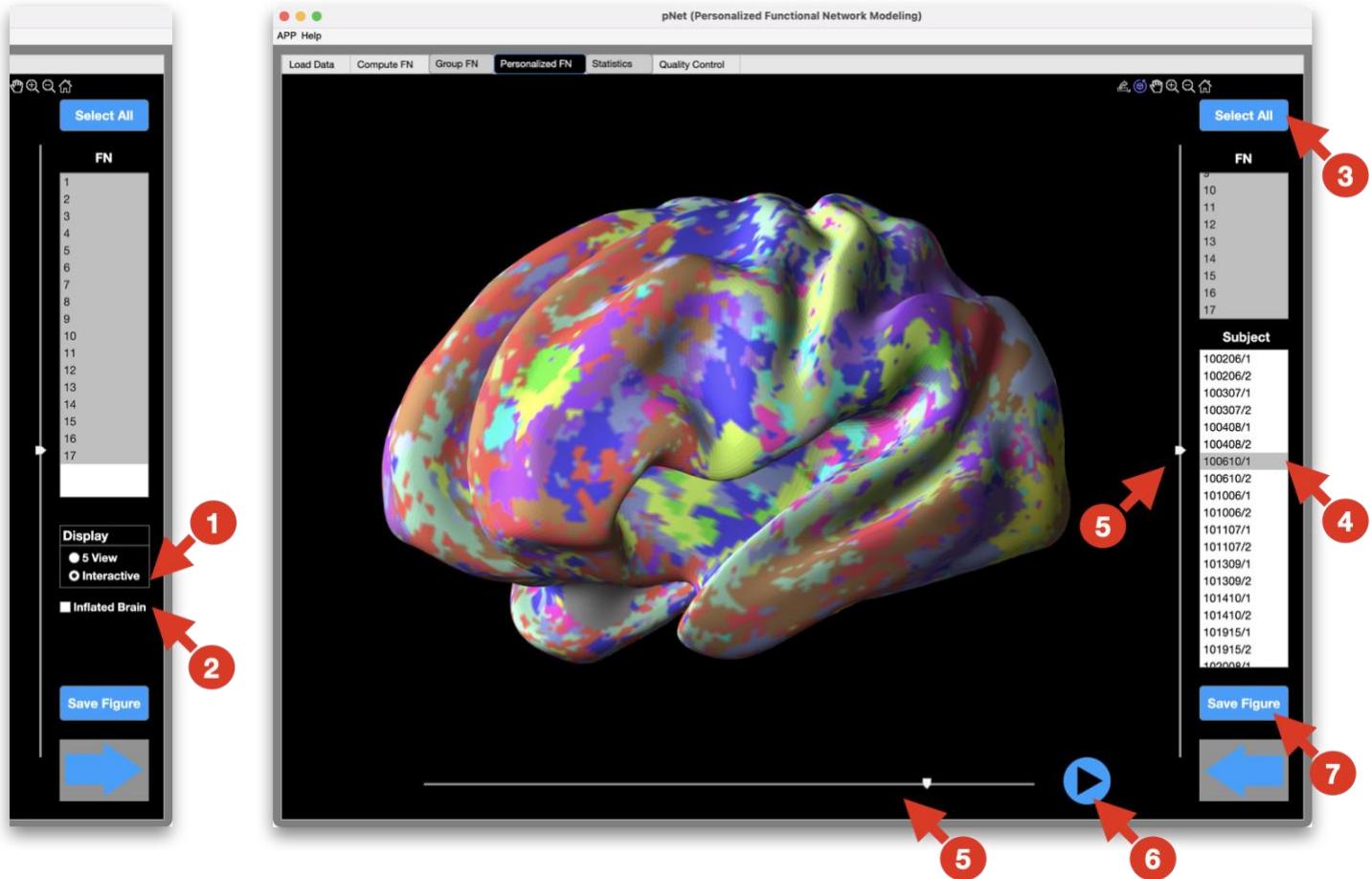
- (1) Navigate to the group FN module, and select the 5 view display option.
- (2) Navigate to the personalized FN module.
- (3) Select one or multiple pFNs. Hold command key in macOS, or hold control key in Windows or Linux to select multiple pFNs.
- (4) Select another subject. Users can also use the up or down arrow key to select the subject above or below.

2. Interactive visualization



Check a single pFN on the brain surface.

- (1) Navigate to the group FN module, and select the interactive display option.
- (2) Select the inflated brain if desired.
- (3) Navigate to the personalized FN module, select one desired pFN for display.
- (4) Select another subject. Users can also use the up or down arrow key to select the subject above or below.
- (5) Drag the vertical or horizontal scroll bar to change the view angle.
- (6) Start automatic change of the horizontal scroll bar to have a constantly rotating view of the brain.
- (7) Save this figure.

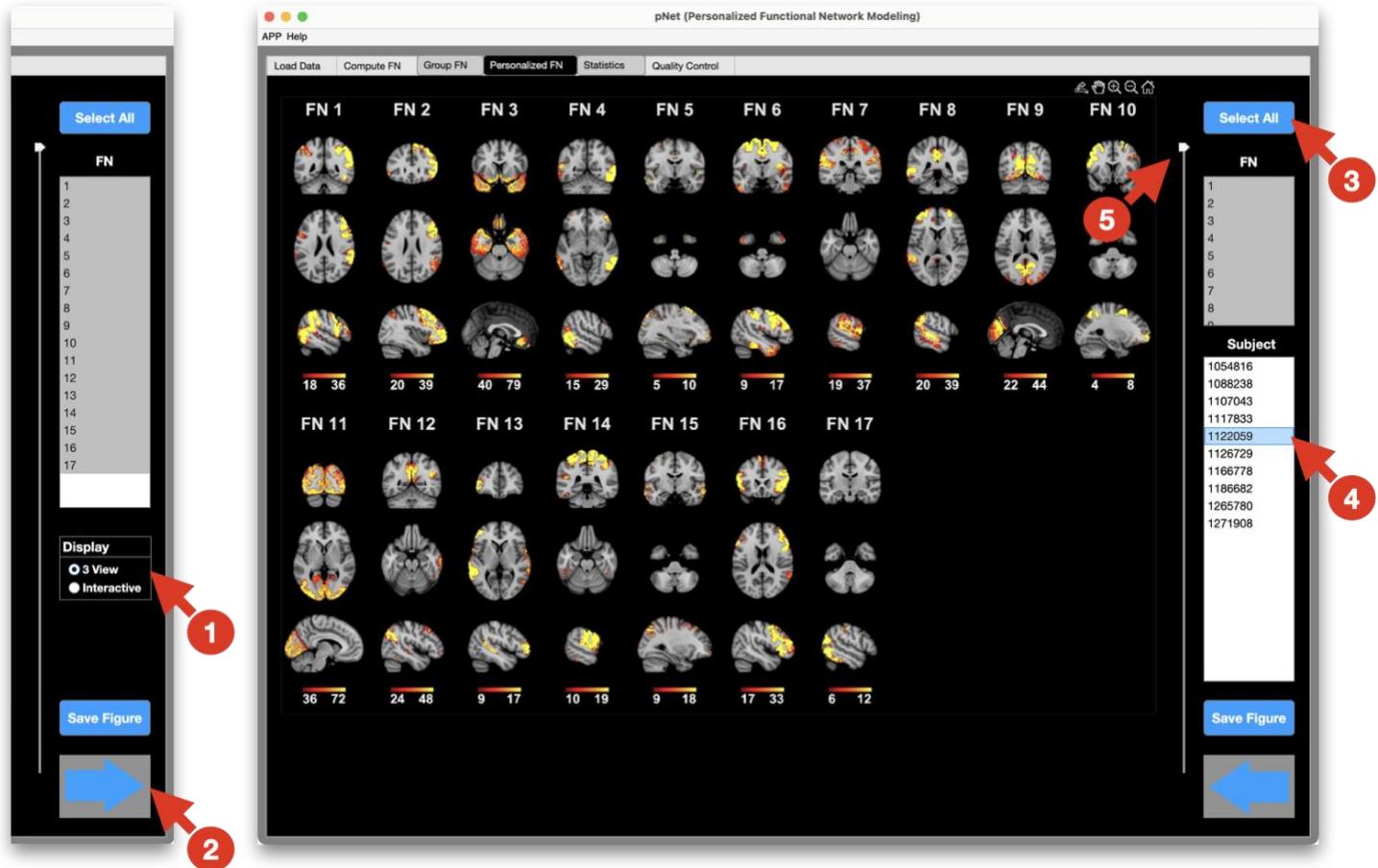


Check the functional atlas of a single subject.

- (1) Navigate to the group FN module, and select the interactive display option.
- (2) Select the inflated brain if desired.
- (3) Navigate to the personalized FN module, click the select all button if needed.
- (4) Select another subject. Users can also use the up or down arrow key to select the subject above or below.
- (5) Drag the vertical or horizontal scroll bar to change the view angle.
- (6) Start automatic change of the horizontal scroll bar to have a constantly rotating view of the brain.
- (7) Save this figure.

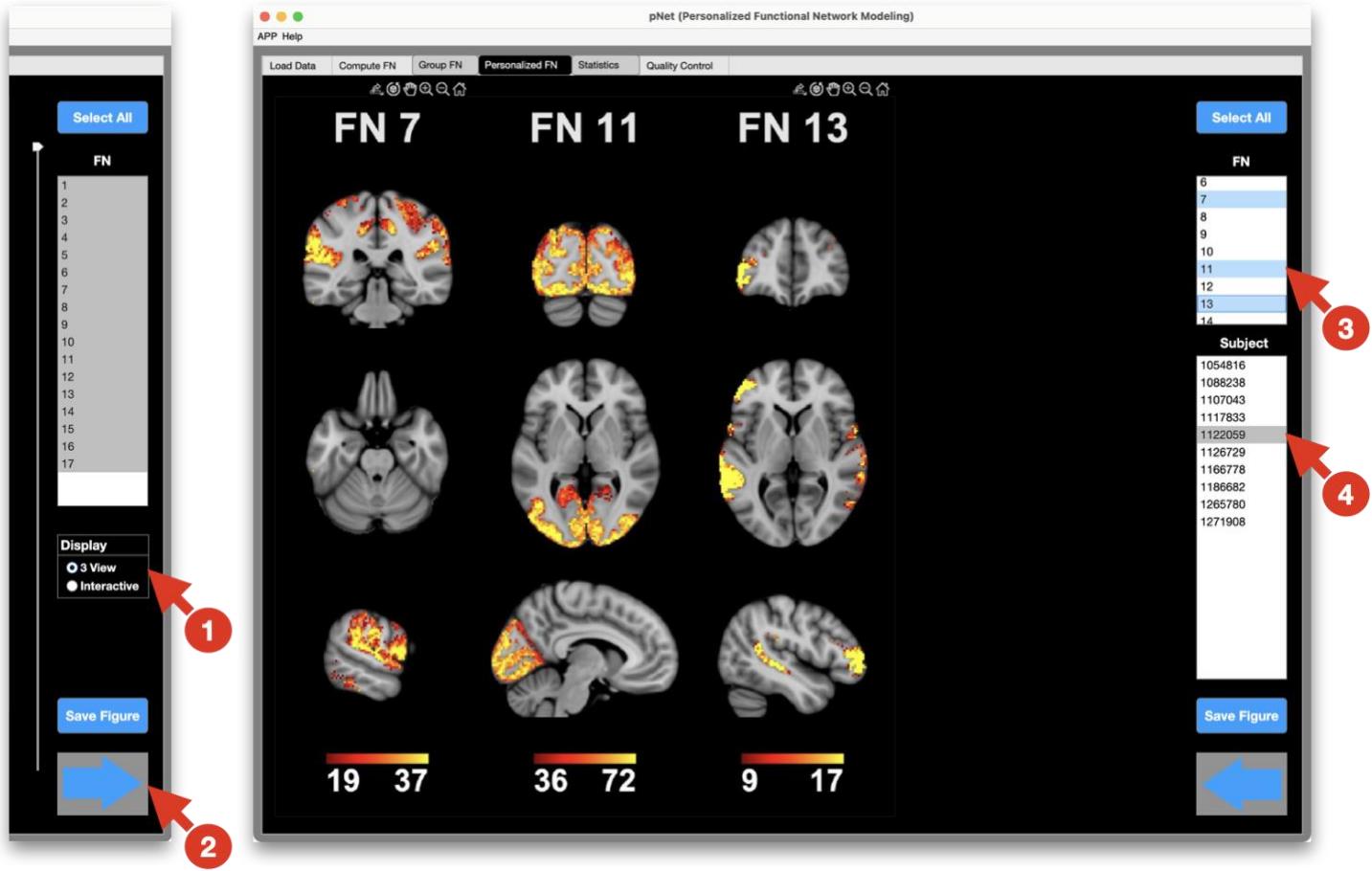
Volume data

1. Precomputed visualization



Check precomputed figures for pFNs.

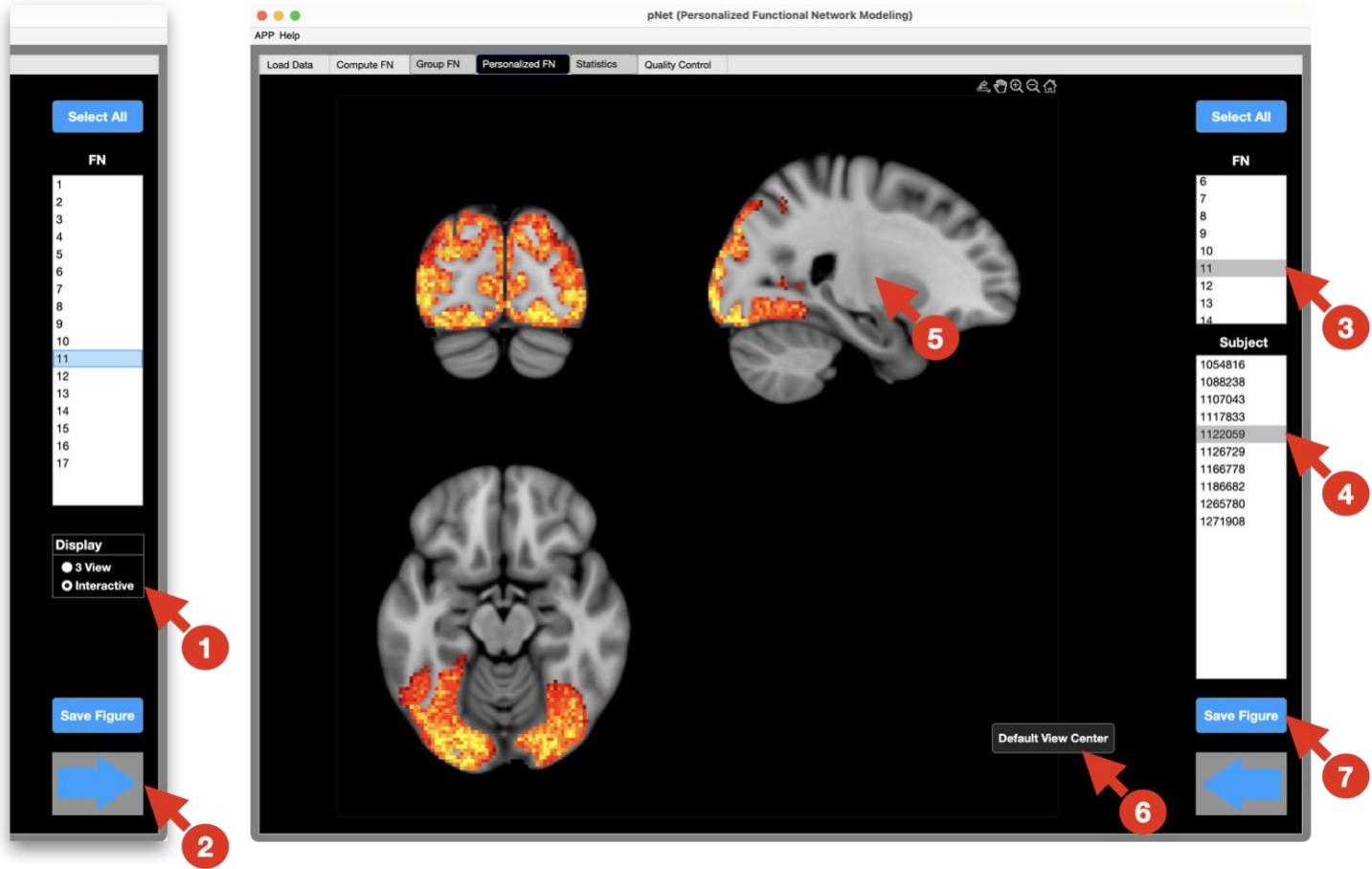
- (1) Navigate to the group FN module. Choose the 3 view display mode.
- (2) Navigate to the personalized FN module.
- (3) Click the select all button, if needed.
- (4) Select another subject. Users can also use the up or down arrow key to select the subject above or below.
- (5) Drag the vertical scroll bar, if needed.



Check selected pFNs.

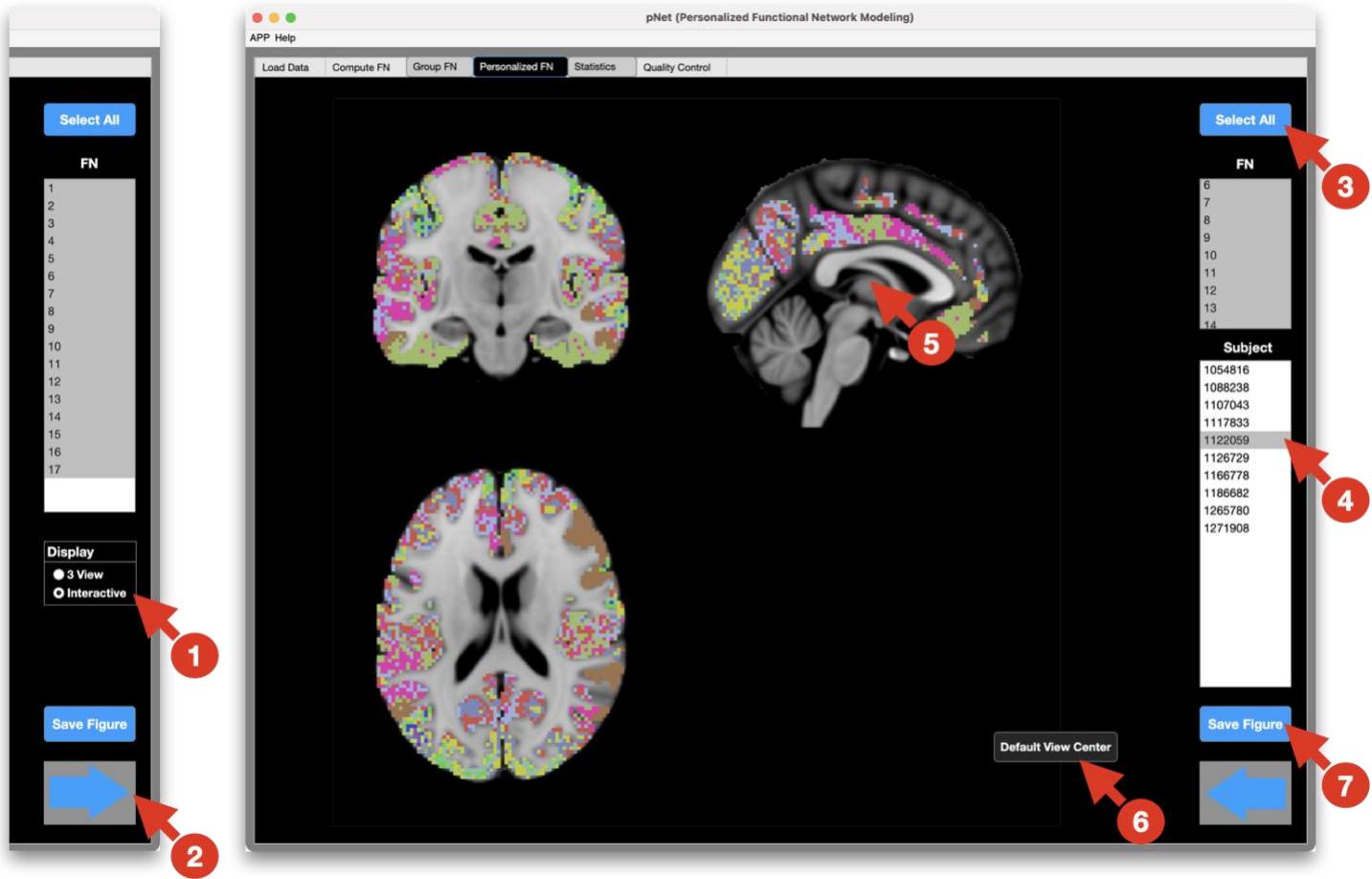
- (1) Navigate to the group FN module, and select the 3 view display option.
- (2) Navigate to the personalized FN module.
- (3) Select one or multiple pFNs. Hold command key in macOS, or hold control key in Windows or Linux to select multiple pFNs.
- (4) Select another subject. Users can also use the up or down arrow key to select the subject above or below.

2. Interactive visualization



Check a single pFN.

- (1) Navigate to the group FN module, and select the interactive display option.
- (2) Navigate to the personalized FN module
- (3) Select one desired pFN for display.
- (4) Select another subject. Users can also use the up or down arrow key to select the subject above or below.
- (5) Click on the display to change the view center.
- (6) Click the default view center button to go back to the default view center.
- (7) Save this figure.



Check the functional atlas of a single subject.

- (1) Navigate to the group FN module, and select the interactive display option.
- (2) Navigate to the personalized FN module.
- (3) Click select all button, if needed.
- (4) Select another subject. Users can also use the up or down arrow key to select the subject above or below.
- (5) Click on the display to change the view center.
- (6) Click the default view center button to go back to the default view center.
- (7) Save this figure.

Compare gFN and pFN

Users can easily compare the gFNs and pFNs using the fast navigation buttons on the right bottom of the gFN and pFN modules. The display settings for gFNs and pFNs are synchronized automatically for convenience.



Fast navigation between gFN and pFN modules.

- (1) The right arrow button on the gFN module navigates to the pFN module.
- (2) The left arrow button on the pFN module navigates to the gFN module.

Statistical Analysis

Quality Control