# User's Manual Hyperpolarized <sup>129</sup>Xenon MRI Analysis App

For Research Use Only





# User's Manual HP <sup>129</sup>Xe MRI Analysis App

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Center for Pulmonary Imaging Research
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# 1 | Installation

- 1- Visit <a href="https://github.com/aboodbdaiwi/HP129Xe\_Analysis\_App.">https://github.com/aboodbdaiwi/HP129Xe\_Analysis\_App.</a>
- 2- Clone or download the folder to your local directory.
- 3- Download the MATLAB runtime compatible with the application's MATLAB version (R2022b) from here: <a href="https://www.mathworks.com/products/compiler/matlab-runtime.html">https://www.mathworks.com/products/compiler/matlab-runtime.html</a>
- 4- You can launch the compiled application (**HPXeAnalysisApp.exe**) independently, without requiring MATLAB.
- 5- For customization, include the local folder in the MATLAB path and execute the **HPXeAnalysis.mlapp** file using MATLAB version R2022b or newer.





# 2 | Overview

#### Main Menus:

**About:** Provides an insightful overview of the application and its functionalities.

**Start Fresh:** Restores the app to its default settings and eliminates all variables. This feature proves beneficial when handling numerous subjects consecutively.

**Screenshot:** Captures the entire app window and saves it as a high-quality PNG file.

**Help:** Guides you to the comprehensive user manual, offering assistance and clarification.

**Exit:** Safely shuts down the application, concluding the user's session.

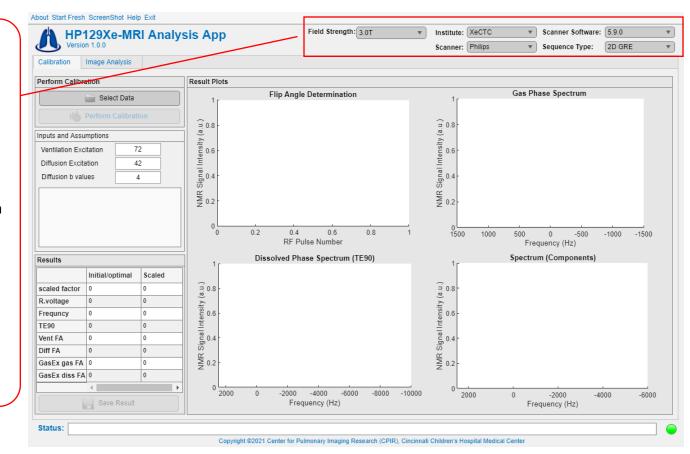






# Institutes and Scanner Options:

These exceptional features allow for seamless customization of the application according to your specific requirements. They prove particularly valuable when working with multiple scanners, scanner software versions, and sequences.





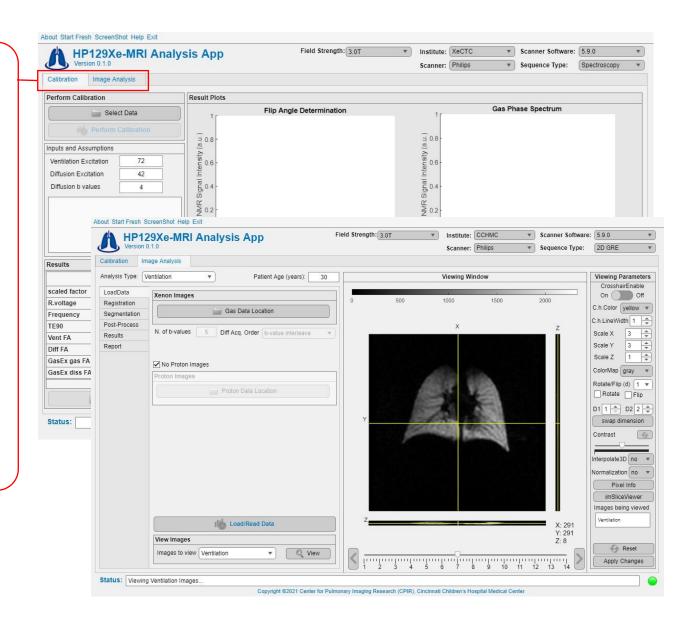


#### Main Tabs:

**Calibrations:** Manages flip angles and frequency calibration, ensuring precise adjustments for optimal acquisitions.

Image Analysis: Facilitates image reconstruction and conducts comprehensive post-processing analysis, enabling in-depth examination and evaluation.

Note: These two tabs operate independently from each other, maintaining separate sets of parameters. There is no parameter sharing between them, ensuring complete autonomy and flexibility.







#### **Status Window:**

The status window presents a text box that provides real-time updates on tasks and displays error messages when necessary. It serves as a valuable tool for tracking progress and promptly addressing any issues that may arise.



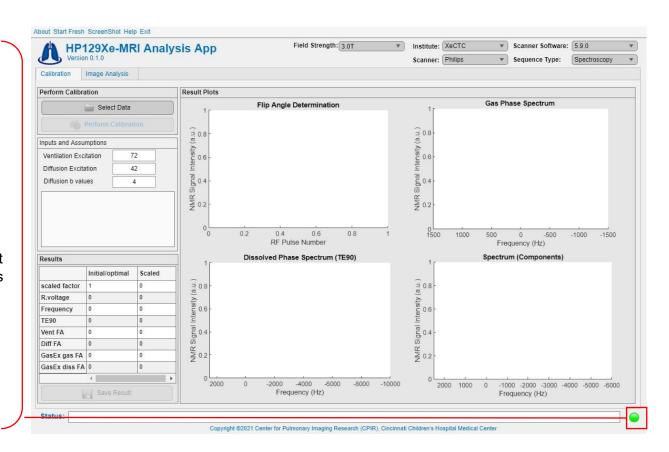




#### Lamp:

Green: Signals that the app is ready for execution, indicating availability for use.

Red: Indicates that the app is currently unable to process tasks. It's important to note that if a bug occurs and the process halts midway, the lamp will not turn green until another task is initiated.







# 3 | Flip Angle and Frequency Calibration

# 3.1 | Input

# **1- Select Data:** Choose the flip angle calibration data from the available options (refer to Table

2.1 for supported data types).

**Perform Calibration Analysis:** 

2 – Perform Calibration: Read in the selected data and conduct essential fittings and calculations to obtain the results. The determined optimal flip angles and frequency parameters are subsequently entered prior to image acquisition.

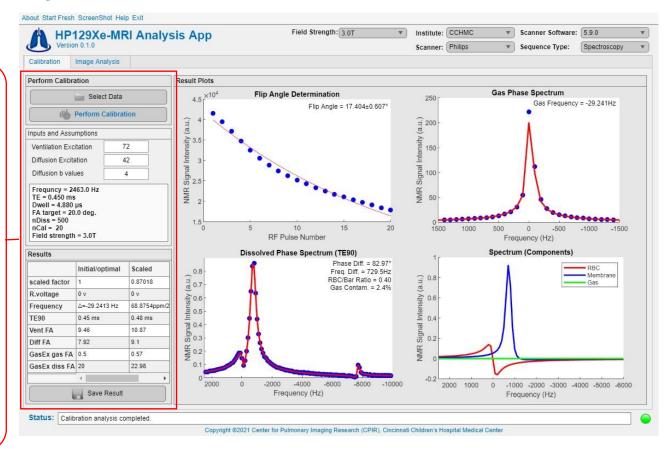


Table 2.1: Supported data type for Calibration analysis

Scanner	Philips	Siemens	GE
Data Type	.data*/.list	.dat*	-

<sup>\*</sup> The data that needs to be selected!

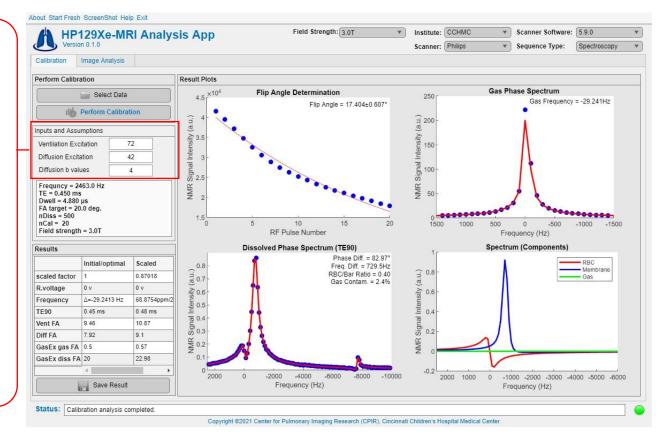




# 3.2 | Adjusting Parameters

#### **Perform Calibration Analysis:**

The calibration analysis allows for flexibility in adjusting parameters both before and after the analysis. These input parameters possess a dynamic property, meaning that any changes made to their values will automatically update the calculations. This enables effortless refinement and adaptation of the analysis based on parameter modifications.



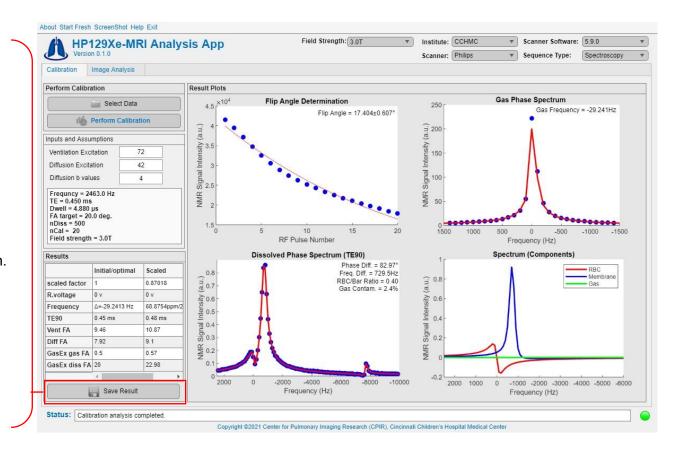




# 3.3 | Save Results

#### Save Results:

Saves a screenshot of the entire app window as a PNG and PDF files in the data path.







# 4 | Image Analysis

## 4.1 | Inputs

#### Load Data:

- 1- Select scan and sequence type.
- 2- Choose Analysis Type: Select the desired type of analysis from the available options.
- 3- Gas Data Selection: Choose the data file/s for analysis. If raw data is selected, reconstruction functions will be invoked to process the data.
- 4- Proton Data Selection: If proton data is available, select the corresponding data. Otherwise, check the "No Proton Images" box.
- 5- Load Data: Load the selected data for further processing and analysis.
- 6- Image Selection: Select the specific type of images to view.

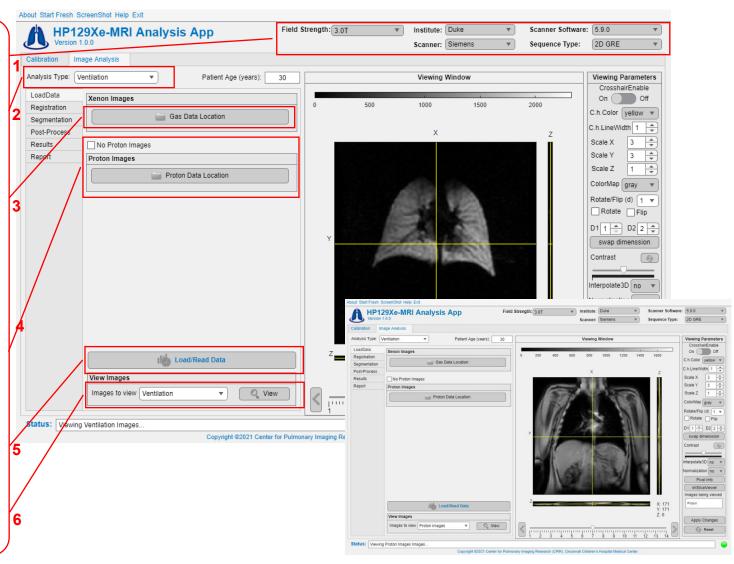






Table 3.1: Supported data type for image analysis

	DICOM (.dcm)		MATLAB (.mat)			lifti r .nii.gz)	Raw data																	
Data Type	single	multiple	single	multiple	single	multiple	Philips			Siemens					GE									
	_	-	_		_		GRE (.data) NC (.data)			GRE (.data) NC (.data)		NC		NC NC			NC			NC				
							V	D	G	V	D	G	V	D	O	V	D	G	V	D	G	٧	D	G
Supported?	yes	yes	yes	no	yes	no	yes	yes	no	no	no	yes	no	no	on	no	no	no	no	on	no	no	no	no

GRE: Gradient Recall Echo, V: Ventilation, D: Diffusion, G: Gas Exchange, NC: Non-Cartesian

Table 3.2 Supported data formats.

Imaging Type	Supported Data Type										
	General Image Formats	Raw Data									
		Philips	Siemens	GE	ISMRMD						
Calibration	-	.data/.list	.dat	-	-						
Ventilation	<ul> <li>.dcm (single or multiple files).</li> <li>.mat (single): one 3D variable size (x,y,slices).</li> <li>.nii or .gz (single): one 3D variable size (x,y,slices).</li> </ul>	.data/.list	-	-	.mrd or .h5 (2D GRE only)						
Diffusion	<ul> <li>.dcm (single or multiple files): have to specify the number of b-values and acquisition order.</li> <li>.mat (single): one 4D variable (x,y,slices,b-values)</li> <li>.nii or .gz (single): one 4D variable size (x,y,slices,b-values)</li> </ul>	.data/.list	-	-	.mrd or .h5 (2D GRE only)						
Gas Exchange	.mat (single): Not recommended.	.data/.list/.sin	-	-	-						
Anatomical	<ul> <li>.dcm (single or multiple files).</li> <li>.mat (single): one 3D variable size (x,y,slices).</li> <li>.nii or .gz (single): one 3D variable size (x,y,slices).</li> <li>See below for gas exchange data.</li> </ul>	.data/.list .data/.lab/.sin	-	-	.mrd or .h5 (2D GRE only)						





For gas exchange, the following list of variables are needed if .mat file is selected for gas data:

UncorrectedVentImage

VentImage

GasImage

DissolvedImage

CorrDissolvedImage

AppendedDissolvedNMRFit

RBC2Bar\_struct

RBCOsc\_High\_Image

RBCOsc\_Low\_Image

RBCOsc\_Normalization

ActTE90

DisFlipAngle

PixelShift

DissolvedNMR

SigDynamics

and the following list of variables are needed if .mat file is selected for proton data:

ProtonImage

file\_name

**HDataLocation** 

H RecMatrix

ProtonMax





## 4.2 | Registration

#### **Perform Registration:**

- 1. Registration Type Selection: Choose the desired registration type, with "affine" being the recommended option for optimal results.
- 2. Image Resolution: If the two images have different voxel sizes, it is advisable to specify the image resolution for accurate registration. The ratio of the image sizes can also be used as a reference.
- 3. Slice Selection: In case the slices of the images do not align, you can specify the starting and ending slices of the matched region. Linear interpolation will be employed to adjust the number of slices accordingly.
- 4. Registration Process: Initiate the registration process for multimodal 3D medical images.
- 5. Image Selection: Select image type to view.



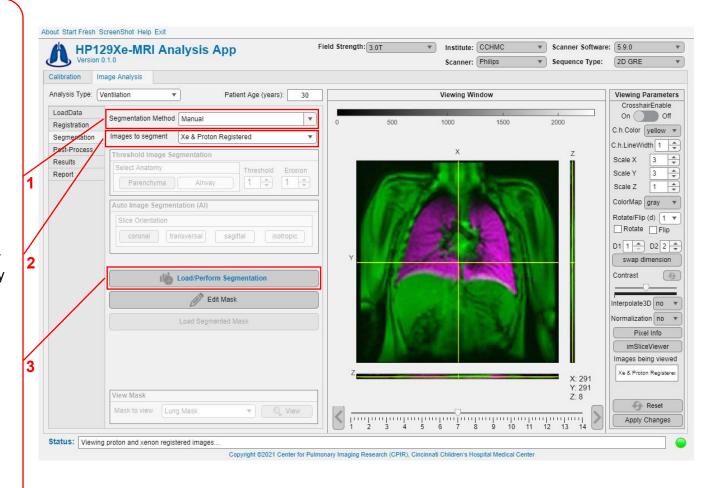




# 4.3 | Segmentation

#### **Manual Segmentation:**

- 1-Select "Manual Segmentation" from the dropdown menu.
- 2-Specify the image type for segmentation. Note that only grayscale images are accepted for freehand segmentation.
- 3-Initiate the segmentation process.



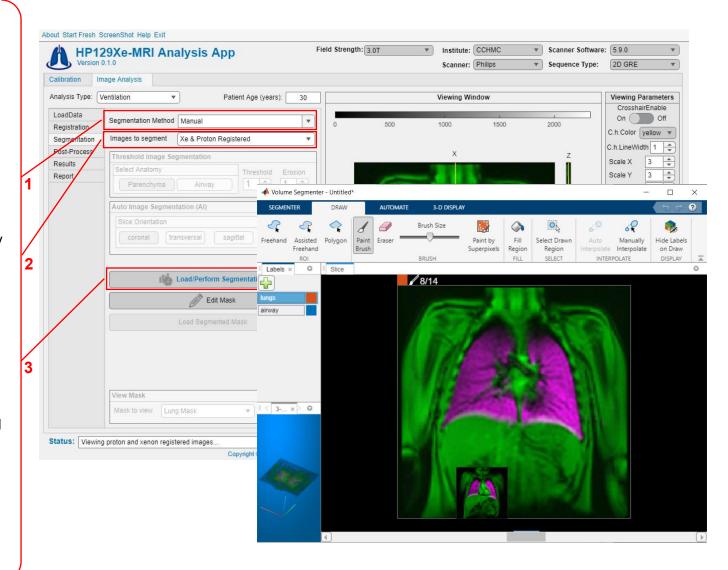




#### **Manual Segmentation:**

- 1-Select "Manual Segmentation" from the dropdown menu.
- 2-Specify the image type for segmentation. Note that only grayscale images are accepted for freehand segmentation.
- 3-Initiate the segmentation process.

Manual segmentation utilizes MATLAB's built-in App Volume Segmenter which offers many advanced segmentation tools.



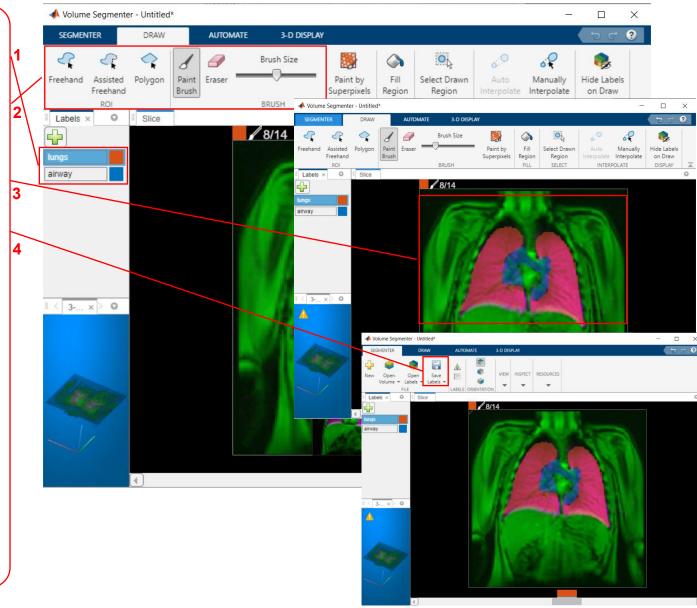




### **Manual Segmentation:**

- 1-Create two labels for the lungs and airways.
- 2-Choose a drawing method such as Freehand, Paintbrush, etc.
- 3-Draw masks for the lungs and airways using the selected method.
- 4-After completing the masks, save them in the Xenon data folder with the filename "mask". Please ensure that the name of the mask is either "mask," "MASK," or "Mask," as any other name will not be uploadable.

Note: There are several segmentation tools available, including thresholding and the option to add your own functions. Feel free to explore and find the most suitable tool for your needs. MATLAB's builtin App Volume Segmenter

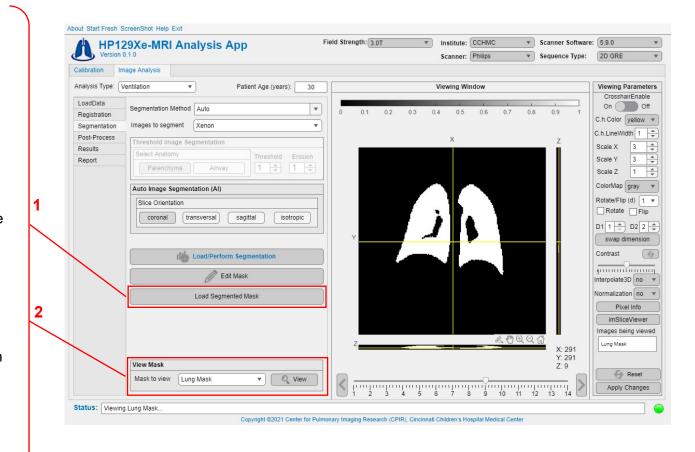






#### **Manual Segmentation:**

- 1-Once you have saved the mask, click on "Load Segmented Mask" to automatically upload the mask.
- 2-You can view the lungs and airway mask by selecting the desired option from the "Viewing Mask" dropdown menu.



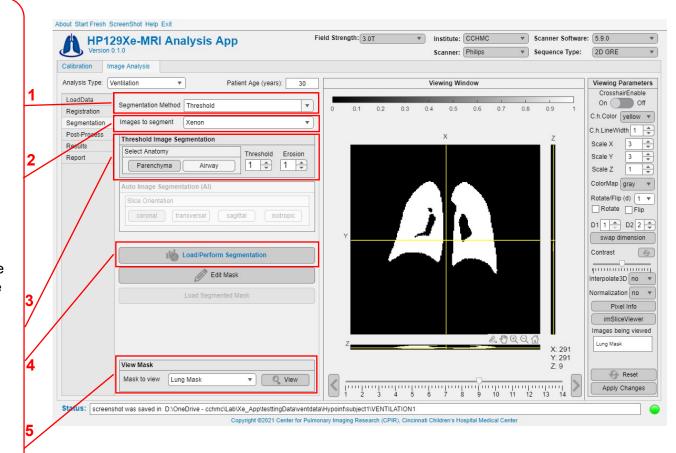




#### **Threshold Segmentation:**

- 1-Select "Threshold Segmentation" from the dropdown menu.
- 2-Choose the images to be segmented. For the Threshold method, only grayscale images are accepted. Please note that the airway mask can only be drawn manually (refer to the next page for instructions).
- 3-Select the desired anatomy, threshold level, and erosion level.
- 4-Initiate the segmentation process.

5Image Selection: Choose the image type you want to view.







#### **Threshold Segmentation:**

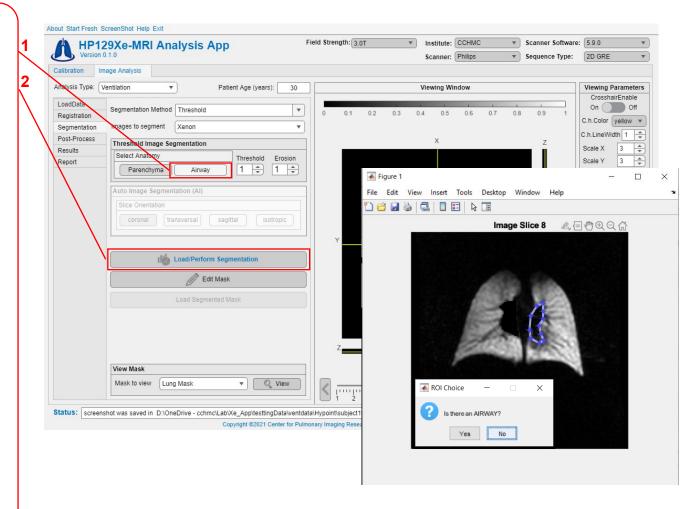
1-Select "Airway"

2- Initiate the segmentation process. The airway mask can only be drawn manually.

Begin drawing the boundaries of the airways by clicking and moving the mouse. You can adjust the points by holding the click and dragging them inward or outward. You can also move the entire region of interest (ROI) by click-holding and moving it. Once finished, double-click in the middle of the ROI.

From prompted, select "Yes" to segment another airway, or select "No" to proceed to the next slice.

Note: The analyst must possess sufficient knowledge about lung anatomy to accurately draw masks.







#### **Set-up Auto Segmentation:**

1-If the pretrained models are not existed in the Segmentation folder, copy them into your local directory. Refer to the GitHub instructions for downloading these models

2-Install Python 3.10.

3- Create CPython

Name

AutoSegment\_2DVent\_Xe\_axial\_2000e.hdf5

AutoSegment\_2DVent\_Xe\_coronal\_2000e.hdf5

AutoSegment\_2DVent\_Xe\_H\_coronal\_1000e.hdf5

AutoSegment\_3DGasExchange\_Xe\_200e.hdf5

AutoSegment\_3DGasExchange\_Xe\_H\_1000e.hdf5

### Python 3.10

In MATLAB, run the following commands (only one time for setting it up).

terminate(pyenv)

% add the local path

pyenv('Version','C:\Users\bda5ik\AppData\Local\Programs\Python\Python310\pythonw. exe'); %Call Python 3.10

% install the necessary packages

system('pip install numpy')

system('pip install keras')

system('pip install tensorflow')

system('pip install nibabel')

system('pip install scipy')

terminate(pyenv)

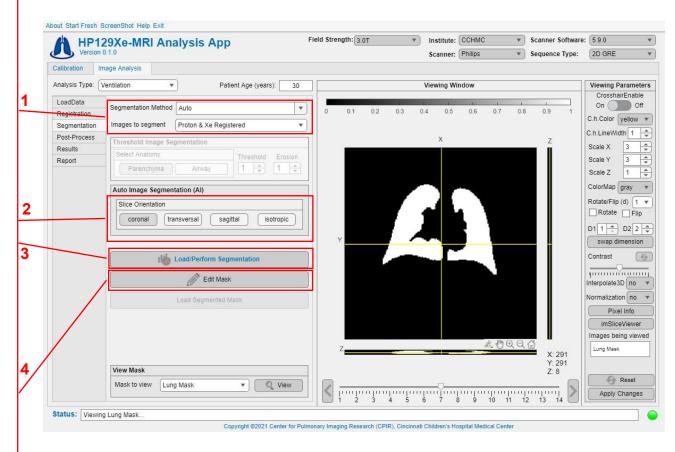
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#### **Auto Segmentation:**

- 1-Choose "Auto" from the dropdown menu. Please note that Auto segmentation is not supported for Diffusion analysis.
- 2-Select the slice orientation.
- 3-Initiate the segmentation process. This will take a few seconds. Mask will be automatically saved in the local folder and in MATLAB workspace for the subsequent analysis steps.
- 4- If the mask isn't optimal, click on "Edit Mask". This will launch the manual segmentation, explained above. Follow the same steps for manual segmentation.



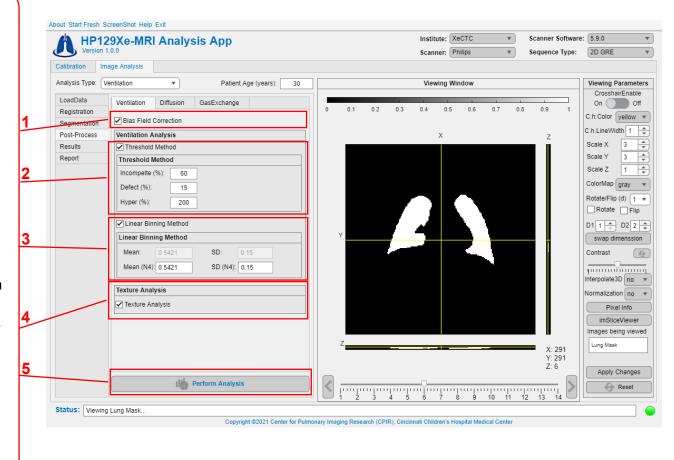




# 4.4 | post-Processing

# Post-Processing: Ventilation

- 1- Choose "Bias Field Correction" if required.
- 2-Specify threshold values. The default values are recommended.
- 3-Specify the means and standard deviations of the healthy reference distribution for linear binning analysis.
- 4-Select "Texture Analysis" if desired.
- 5-Initiate the analysis.

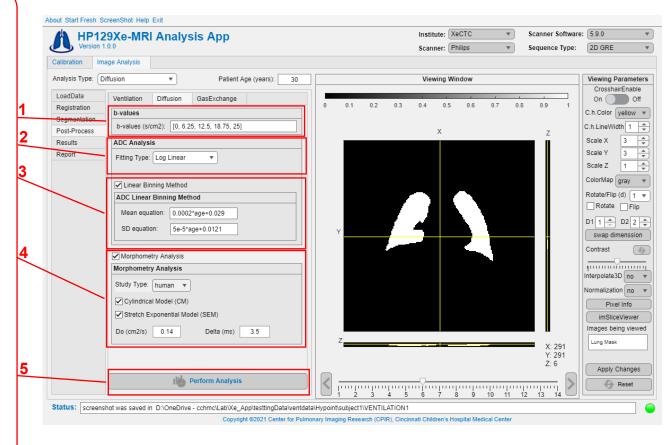






#### **Post-Processing: Diffusion**

- 1-Enter the b-values.
- 2-Choose the type of fitting.
- 3-Specify the means and standard deviations of the healthy reference distribution for linear binning analysis.
- 4-Select the desired morphometry settings. Please note that morphometry analysis requires a minimum of 4 b-values.
- 5-Initiate the analysis.





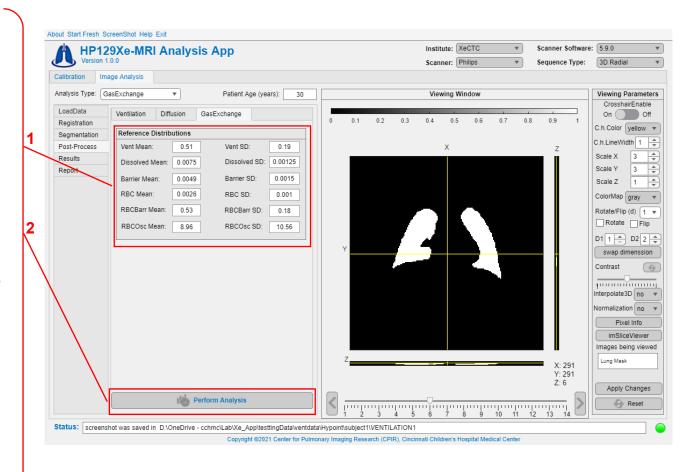


# Post-Processing: Gas Exchange

1-Provide the means and standard deviations of the healthy reference distribution.

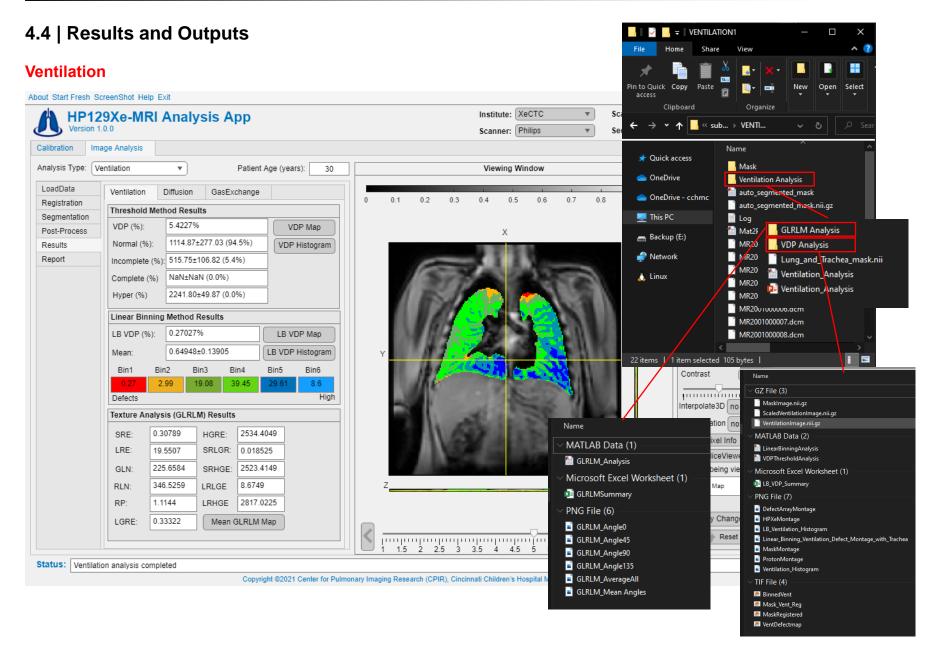
2-Initiate the analysis.

Note: The gas exchange analysis is complex and has been specifically coded for the CCHMC institute. We recommend implementing your own analysis pipeline using our analysis pipeline as a reference to meet your specific needs.



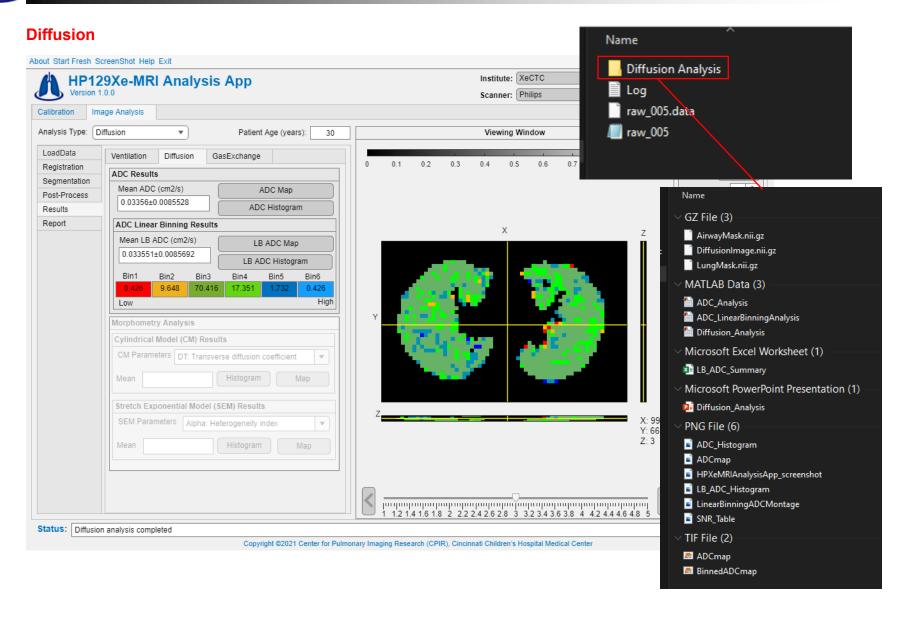
















#### **Gas Exchange**







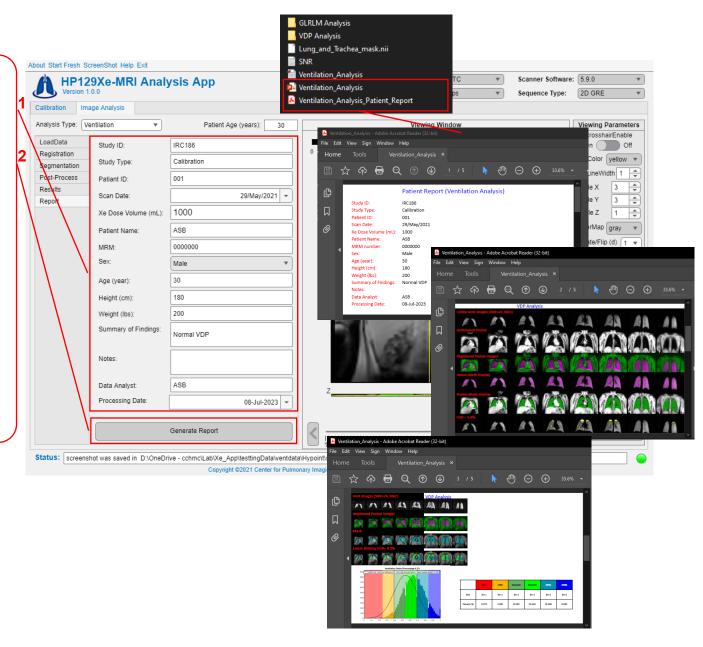
# 4.6 | Patient Report

#### **Patient Report**

- 1-Complete the patient report information.
- 2-Generate the report.

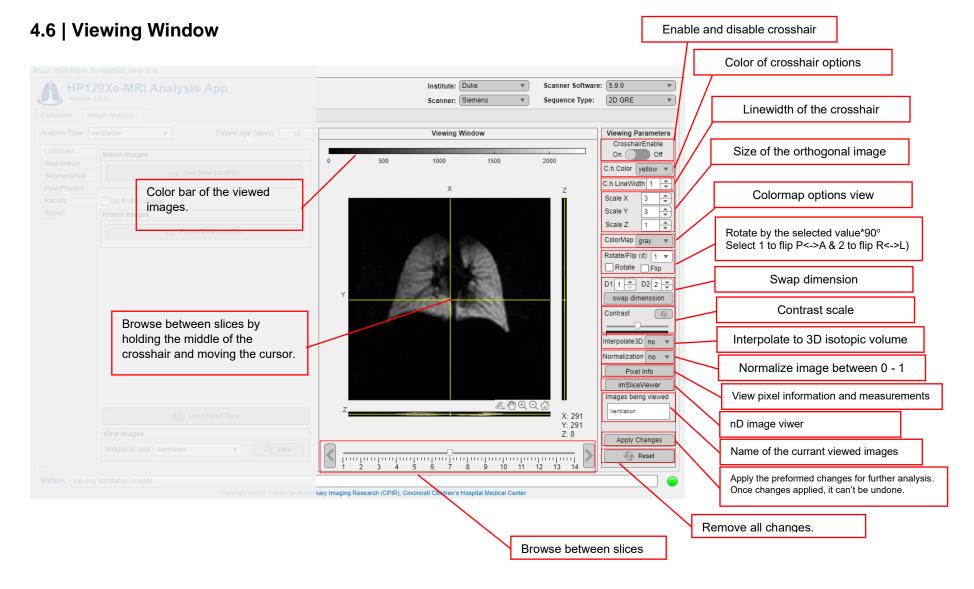
This will generate .ppt and .pdf files containing all patient information and a summary of the findings.

Additionally, we recommend opening the analysis PowerPoint file to address any misalignments or make any desired additions before generating the report.







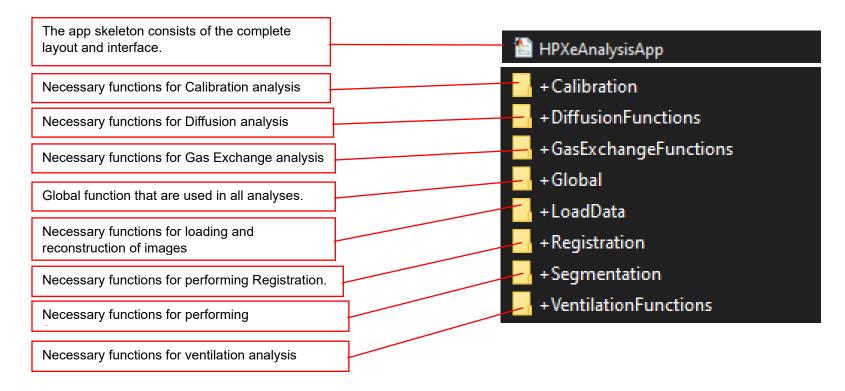






# **5 | Code Structure**

# 5.1 | Folders







# 5.2 | Code Hierarchy

Here are the main and submain functions:

```
Calibration analysis: StartCalibrationAnalysis()-
                                               Calibration.XeCTC_Calibration()
Calibration.Xe_duke_UVA_calibration()
Load Data: LoadData.LoadReadData()
                                     → (.dcm) LoadData.DICOM_Load()
→ (.mat) load()
                                     → (.nii or .nii.gz) LoadData.load_nii()
                                     → (Philips/.data) LoadData.LoadData_Gas_VentDiff_Philips_GRE()
                                     Registration: Registration.PerformRegistration()—
                                                Registration.GeneralRegisterProton_to_Xenon()
                                                  Registration.GasExchange_RegisterProton_to_Xenon()
Segmentation: Segmentation.PerformSegmentation() -
                                                 Segmentation.PerformManualThresholdSegmentation()
                                                  Segmentation.preprocess_images_for_auto_segmentation()
Analysis:
           VentilationFunctions.Ventilation_Analysis()
           DiffusionFunctions.Diffusion_Analysis()
           GasExchangeFunctions.GasExchange Analysis()
```





### 5.2 | Implement Your Own Functions

The application is entirely open source, allowing users to fully customize and modify it according to their needs. Although the built-in features offer essential functionality for a comprehensive analysis pipeline, they should be adequate. However, users who already have in-house code for HP 129Xe analysis can easily integrate their existing functions into the application framework. They have the option to duplicate and modify the existing functions or introduce their own. Let's consider an example of adding a new function:





# 6 | Debugging

As the application is entirely developed in MATLAB, the debugging procedure remains consistent with debugging any other MATLAB code. However, we additionally offer a script specifically designed for debugging the functions outside the application framework. This script serves multiple purposes, including function development, adding new features, and testing, allowing users to evaluate new functions before integrating them into the application.

# 7 | Report Issues

If you encounter any problems, kindly create an issue on our GitHub account (<a href="https://github.com/aboodbdaiwi/HP129Xe">https://github.com/aboodbdaiwi/HP129Xe</a> Analysis App), and our team of authors will collaborate with you to address and resolve the issue promptly.



