

imbio

LUNG TEXTURE ANALYSIS™

IMBIO CT LUNG TEXTURE ANALYSIS™ USER MANUAL

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1 Introduction

1.1 Scope of Manual

This user manual was written for the Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ (LTA) Software.

Guidance for using the Imbio Core Computing Platform (CCP) is not included in this document. The Imbio CCP includes a cloud platform which is a subscription-based, scalable software-as-a-service product which allows customers to run computationally-intensive image algorithms in the cloud, on infrastructure maintained by Imbio. The Imbio CCP is also available as an on-premise hosted product, targeted at those organizations which desire to keep their image data in-house. This enterprise version of CCP provides a system by which customers can still benefit from image processing job automation, while integrating with native DICOM tools and workflows. The Imbio CCP with cloud and enterprise options is a separate product developed by Imbio.

1.2 Product Overview

Imbio's CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software is a set of image post-processing algorithms for the characterization and quantification of lung parenchymal patterns on CT scans. It segments and classifies the lung tissues and produces a report consisting of glyphs. The glyphs represent relative volumes of each lung and lobe and color codes each region with the relative volumes of the five parenchymal classifications. The LTA Software runs automatically on the input CT series, with no user input or intervention.

The purpose of the segmentation algorithm is to automatically identify and separate the two lungs from the rest of the body. The purpose of the classification algorithm is to identify each lung pixel as one of the five lung parenchymal pattern classifications.

The Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software utilizes DICOM format high resolution CT lung inspiration series as input to the software. The specific requirements are given in the Scan Protocol section of this document (Section 2.2).

The DICOM outputs provided by the Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software are two RGB overlay image series (Secondary Capture Image Storage SOP Class) and a summary report (Encapsulated PDF Storage SOP Class or Secondary Capture Image Storage SOP Class).

1.3 Contact Imbio



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1.4 Translation

Imbio typically creates labelling including user manuals in English to satisfy the regulatory requirements. If requested by purchasers, a French translated version of this user manual shall be made available to the requester within the earliest possible timeframe.

2 Indications for Use and Requirements

The Imbio CT LTA Software uses CT density values of pulmonary tissue to provide quantitation and visualization in support of diagnosis. The Imbio CT LTA Software performs three-dimensional segmentation and classifies the lung voxels into typical radiological categories intended to inform clinical management in the diagnosis and documentation of pulmonary tissue images (e.g., abnormalities) from CT thoracic datasets. Automated reports and color overlays of the analysis are provided to support diagnosis when abnormal lung parenchymal densities are present.

2.1 Intended Users

The intended user base for the Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis Software is Pulmonologists, Radiologists, and Radiology Technicians under the supervision of a Pulmonologist or Radiologist.

2.2 Scan Protocol Requirements

The ability to segment a scan is dependent on the resolution; therefore, it is important to analyze the scan resolution. The resolution can be determined by assessing the acquisition protocols from the DICOM data as well as visually assessing the images themselves. The DICOM data provides information on the basic acquisition parameters used and can be compared with Imbio's required parameters. The scan should also be visually assessed to ensure that there are no contraindications or missing information.

2.2.1 Imbio Acquisition Parameters

The Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software will not generate outputs for scans with acquisition parameters that do not meet the requirements as outlined in the table below.

DICOM Tag	Name	Required Value
(0008,0060)	Modality	CT
(0028,0030)	Pixel Spacing	$\leq 2.0 \times 2.0 \text{ mm}^2$
(0018,9305)	Revolution Time	$\leq 1.0 \text{ s}$ (if present)
N/A	Slice Spacing	$\leq 2.0 \text{ mm}$
(0018,0050)	Slice Thickness	$\leq 2.0 \text{ mm}$
N/A	Field of View	$\geq 10.0 \times 10.0 \times 20.0 \text{ cm}^3$

2_INDICATIONS FOR USE AND REQUIREMENTS

2.2.2 Imbio Recommended Protocol

For the Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software, Imbio recommends a 3D volumetric acquisition with pixel spacing less than 1 mm and slice thickness less than 2 mm for the input inspiration scan. Imbio also recommends that the patient lies in the supine position. Imbio does not recommend a contrast enhanced acquisition. Example protocols are listed in the table below. The protocols accepted by Imbio CT LTA Software are not limited to the scanners and protocols in the table, but the acquisition parameters should be similar. The Imbio CT LTA Software has not been characterized on iterative reconstruction methods. Failure to observe the recommended scan protocol could limit the software's ability to properly segment lungs.

Scanner Make	GE	SIEMENS	PHILIPS	TOSHIBA
Scanner Model	VCT 64	Sensation-64	64 Slice	Aq64
Scan Type	Helical	Spiral	Helical	Helical
Rotation Time (s)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
Det. Configuration	64 x 0.625	64 x 0.6	64 x 0.625	64 x 0.5
Pitch	0.984	1.0	1.0	0.828
kVp	120	120	120	120
mA	200	200	200	150
Reconstruction				
Kernel	Standard†	B35f†	B†	FC13†
Thickness (mm)	0.625	0.75	0.67	1
Interval (mm)	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5
DFOV(cm)	Lungs*	Lungs*	Lungs*	Lungs*

†More reconstruction kernels are considered acceptable than the kernels listed in this table. See table below listing all recommended and not recommended reconstruction kernels.

*Reconstruction field of view should encompass the widest diameter of the lung.

Recommended Reconstruction Kernels

Imbio does not provide an exhaustive list of acceptable reconstruction kernels due to the large number of reconstruction kernels available and the implementation of new kernels. However, Imbio recommends using the table below as a guide to the choice of reconstruction kernel. If an image with a higher degree of edge enhancement is desired for a human reader, then Imbio recommends performing two reconstructions: one reconstruction for a human reader and a second reconstruction with one of the recommended kernels for LTA analysis.

2_INDICATIONS FOR USE AND REQUIREMENTS

Scanner Manufacturer	Recommended 1st Preference	Recommended 2nd Preference	Not Recommended
GE	Bone, Standard	Soft	Bone+, Lung
SIEMENS	B31f, B35f, B45f, B46f	B20, B40	B18, B19, B25, B30, B50, B60, B70, B75, B80
PHILIPS	B, C	L	A, D
TOSHIBA	FC01, FC13, FC14, FC19	FC05, FC18	FC35, FC50, FC51, FC52, FC56, FC85

2.2.3 Breathing Instructions

The patient should be coached to achieve and hold full inspiration, with several practice attempts prior to scan acquisition. If the patient is unable to hold their breath for the scan period, such as the case for a severely ill patient, a faster scanner needs to be utilized. Below is a suggested script of how to coach a patient for the inspiratory scan.

Breathing Instructions Script

Inspiratory CT

For the first part of this scan, I am going to ask you to take a deep breath in and hold it

First let's practice:

Take a deep breath in

Hold it - do not breathe

Breathe and relax

Take a deep breath in

Let it out

Take a deep breath in

Let it out

Breathe all the way IN...IN...IN...

Keep holding your breath - DO NOT BREATHE!

At end of scan: *Breathe and relax*

Start scan at bottom of lungs; end at top of lungs

3 Quality Assessment

The scan quality and possible contraindications must be assessed before executing the Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software.

3.1 Scan Quality

Lung density values from a CT scan may vary due to different acquisition parameters thus causing variation in LTA results. Sources of variation include but not limited to dose, reconstruction kernel, slice thickness, scanner calibration and respiratory cycle. Users should not compare LTA results across acquisitions with different acquisition parameters.

Imbio may generate errors in the following instances:

Scan Quality Component	Result
Noise	The airway segmentation in a noisy scan may fail if the lung tissue is not distinguishable from other tissue.
Missing slices	If slices within the tissue containing lung are missing, the resultant Lung Texture Analysis™ map and summary report could be inaccurate.
Entire lung not included	If scan does not fully contain the lungs, segmentation of the lungs will fail.
Intubation	If the patient is intubated during the scan, the lung segmentation will fail.

3.2 Contraindications

This software is designed to run on any input data that satisfies the criteria in Section 2.2.1 and it does not perform any additional quality checking. **It is the responsibility of the medical professional who is using the application (i.e., the Radiologist, Pulmonologist or Radiology Technologist) to ensure that the input data is of adequate quality.** If the input data is not of adequate quality, the application’s results should be disregarded. Imbio’s CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software is not intended for use as a primary tool for disease detection and/or diagnosis.

Areas of the lung where comorbidities or anomalous pathologies are present may give unpredictable results, and the Lung Texture Analysis™ results should be interpreted with a knowledge of the location and extent of any comorbidities or anomalous pathologies.

Lung Texture Analysis™ was designed and validated on adult lungs and has not been validated on children. Lung Texture Analysis™ should not be used on patients with only one lung.

4 Lung Texture Analysis

4.1 Input

The Lung Texture Analysis™ Software takes an inspiration scan as input.

4.2 Outputs

The LTA Software generates three outputs: the Lung Texture Analysis Map, the Lung Texture Analysis Summary Report, and the LTA Lung Labels.

LTA Output	DICOM Series Description
LTA Map	LTA RGB v1.4.1
LTA Summary Report	LTA Report v1.4.1
LTA Lung Labels	LTA Lung Labels v1.4.1

4.2.1 Lung Texture Analysis Map

The LTA Map is a DICOM Secondary Capture Image with voxel data that is the original inspiration image with an RGB overlay. The RGB overlay colors each lung tissue voxel as one of five colors which correspond to the lung parenchyma pattern classifications.

Below is the list of the default colors for each lung parenchyma pattern classification. The colors can be customized upon installation of the software.

	NORMAL
	HYPERLUCENT
	GROUND GLASS
	RETICULAR
	HONEYCOMB

Example axial slices from the Lung Texture Analysis Map is shown below in Figure 1.

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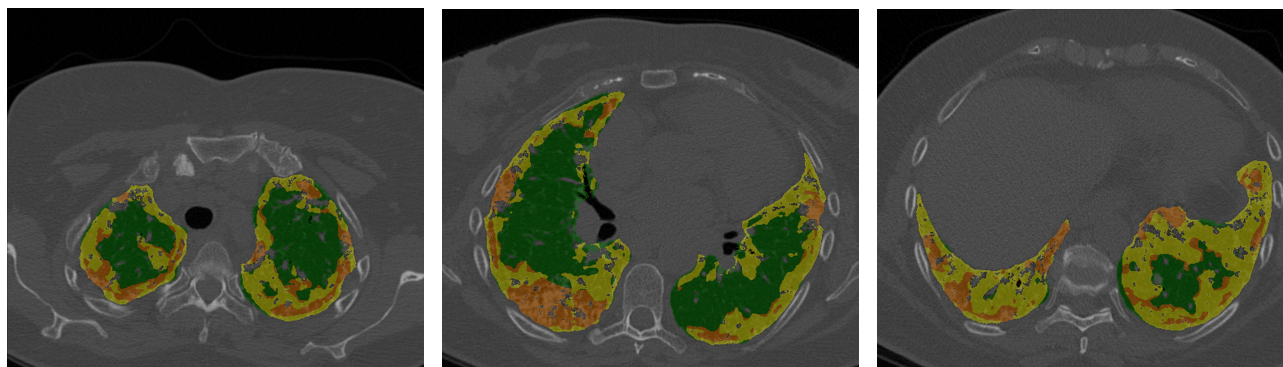


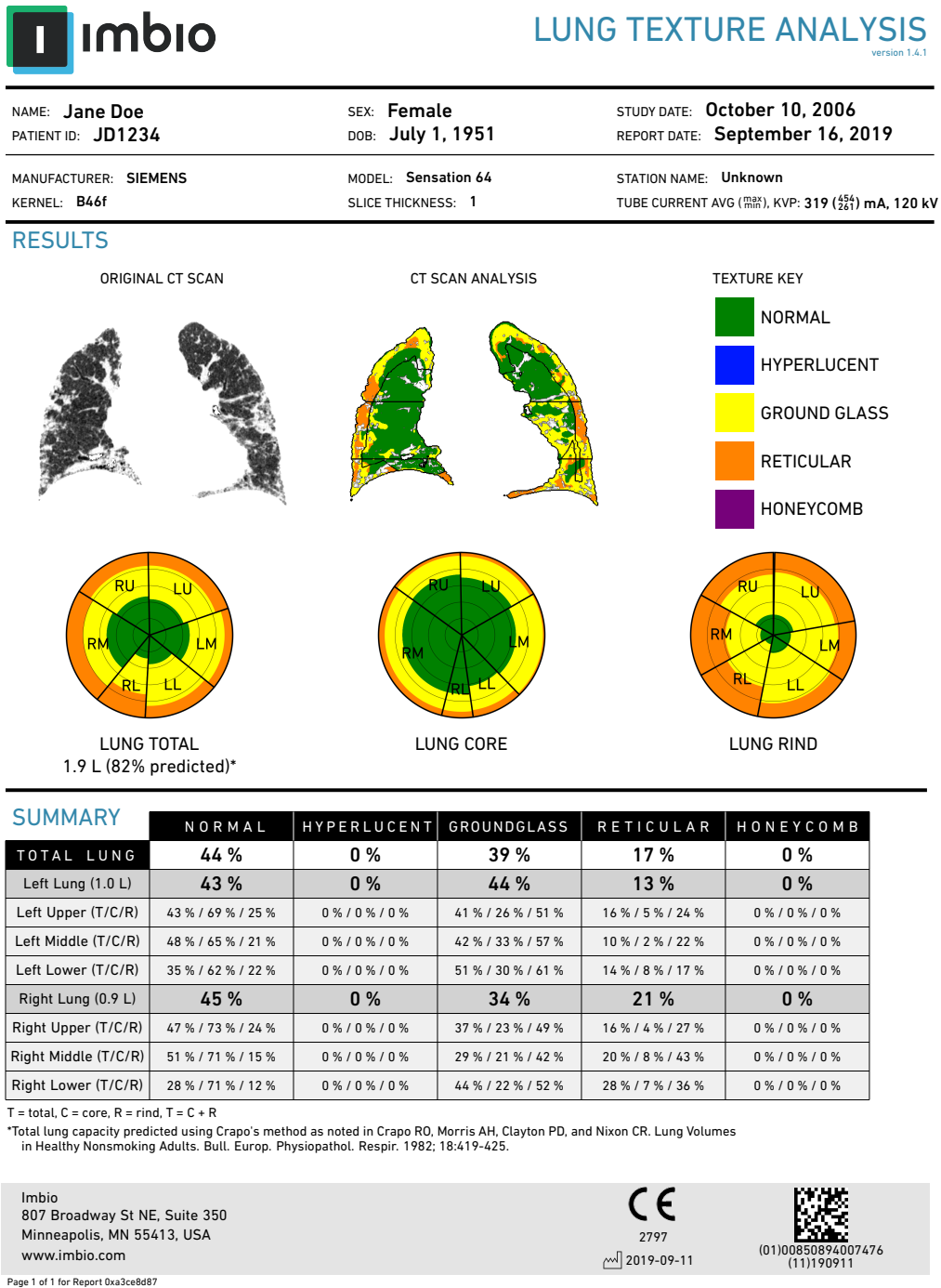
Figure 1: Axial slices of Lung Texture Analysis Map

4.2.2 Lung Texture Analysis Summary Report

The LTA Summary Report is a DICOM compatible format file containing results from the Lung Texture Analysis™ Software. The SOP Class can be Encapsulated PDF Storage or Secondary Capture Image Storage. The report summarizes the results of the Lung Texture Analysis Map. It contains patient information, lung slice images, glyphs and a table displaying percentages of each lung parenchyma pattern classification. An example report is shown below in Figure 2.

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The percentages for each lung parenchyma pattern classification are given for the right, left and total lungs. Percentages are also broken down for upper, middle and lower thirds for the right and the left lung. These percentages are broken down even further into core and rind sections. The lung core is defined as the region of lung parenchyma centered around the centroid of the lung that is comprised of about half of the lung volume. The lung rind is defined as the region of lung parenchyma of the exterior of the lung that is comprised of about half of the lung volume.

The total lung, left lung and right lung volumes of the segmented inspiration lungs is reported. Also, if the required DICOM attributes are present, a total lung capacity is predicted using Crapo's method.¹ The following DICOM attributes are required to calculate the predicted total lung capacity.

DICOM Tag	Name
(0010,0040)	PatientSex
(0010,1020)	PatientSize
(0010,0030)	PatientBirthDate*

*PatientBirthDate required only if PatientSex is Male.

Report Graphics

The report displays an image of the mid coronal slice of the Lung Texture Analysis Map. Below is an example of the lung images found in the report.

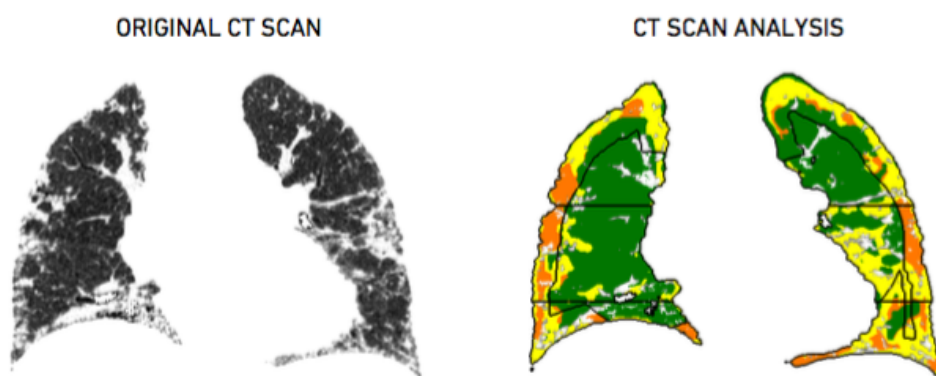


Figure 3: Example of lung images in LTA Summary Report

¹Crapo RO, Morris AH, Clayton PD, and Nixon CR. Lung Volumes in Healthy Nonsmoking Adults. Bull. Europ. Physiopathol. Respir. 1982; 18:419-425.

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The other graphic in the report is a glyph. A glyph is divided into 6 sections corresponding to the thirds of the lungs (RU = Right Upper, RM = Right Middle, RL = Right Lower, LU = Left Upper, LM = Left Middle, LL = Left Lower, etc.). The angle of each region in the glyph is proportional to the volume of each lung third. Each third is filled with the colors corresponding to the lung parenchyma pattern classification, where the radius of each color section is proportional to the percentage of the lung parenchyma pattern classification.

The report contains three different glyphs: Lung Total Glyph, Lung Core Glyph, and Lung Rind Glyph. The Lung Total Glyph is a summary of the pattern classifications for the total lung. The Lung Core Glyph summarizes the lung parenchyma of the lung core which is defined as the region of lung parenchyma centered around the centroid of the lung that is comprised of about half of the lung volume. The Lung Rind Glyph summarizes the lung rind which is defined as the region of lung parenchyma of the exterior of the lung that is comprised of about half of the lung volume.

Below is an example of the three glyphs found in the report.

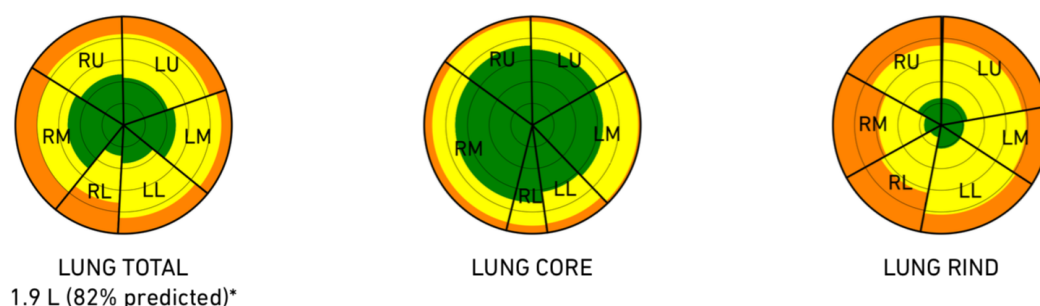


Figure 4: Example of Lung Total, Lung Core and Lung Rind Glyphs in LTA Summary Report

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4.2.3 Lung Texture Analysis Lung Labels

The LTA Lung Labels image series is a DICOM Secondary Capture Image with voxel data that is the original inspiration image with an RGB overlay. The RGB overlay shows the results of LTA's segmentation algorithm in accordance with the list of colors below:



Example axial slices from the LTA Lung Labels image series is shown below in Figure 5.



Figure 5: Axial slices of LTA Lung Labels image series

5_POSSIBLE ENCOUNTERED EXCEPTIONS

5 Possible Encountered Exceptions

The Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software produces notifications and errors when an exception is encountered within the algorithm. Below are possible errors generated by the software with further descriptions and probable causes of the exceptions.

5.1 Input Errors

`ERROR: Input data invalid:: [EXPLANATION]`

This error occurs if one or more acquisition parameters do not meet Imbio's requirements, as listed in the EXPLANATION. For the details on each required parameter, see Section 2.2.1.

`ERROR: [DIRECTORY] contains more than one series`

This error occurs if the input directory contains more than one images series.

`ERROR: User-supplied mask data invalid: [EXPLANATION]`

This error occurs if the user-supplied segmentation mask fails to meet one of the following requirements, which would be written in the EXPLANATION of the error:

1. Mask data must be either signed or unsigned integer data type.
2. Mask values must be 0, 1, 2 or 3.
3. Mask must have the same shape as input data.

5.2 Segmentation and Classification Errors

`ERROR: LTA executable failed`

This error indicates an exception has occurred during the segmentation or classification algorithm. Possible causes include the input image does not contain lungs, the input image is noisy or the image only has one lung present.

`ERROR: Lung rind volume percentage [VALUE] not in expected range`

`ERROR: Lung core volume percentage [VALUE] not in expected range`

Theses errors indicate a failure of the segmentation produced by Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ to pass an internal Quality Assurance check. This check expects that segmented lung rind and core be between 30% and 70% of the total lung volume.

6 Considerations to Reduce Risk

6.1 Protocol

Users must follow CT protocol as outlined in Section 2.2.

6.2 Algorithm Limitations

6.2.1 Segmentation Errors

The Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software uses advanced image processing techniques to segment the lungs from thoracic CT images so that texture analysis can be performed. The software checks input parameters and notifies users with warnings or error messages when there is a suspected issue. Even so, there are a small number of cases where no warning or error is given and the output report is generated with potentially misleading results. Below are examples of possible cases. Users of the software should inspect outputs of the software for these or similar issues. If present, users should proceed with caution. The Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software should only be used by intended users as specified in Section 2.1.

- Over-segmentation of the lung. This includes but is not limited to the following:
 - Air outside of the body is categorized as lung.
 - Air in the gut is categorized as lung.
 - Peripheral non-lung tissue categorized as lung
- Under-segmentation of the lung. This includes but is not limited to the following:
 - Part of the lung is categorized as belonging to the airway tree, removing that part of the lung from the analysis.
 - High-density areas of the lung parenchyma being excluded from the segmentation. This is usually caused by the presence of dependent atelectasis or lung nodules.
- Left/right lung labeling error.
 - Part of the left lung is incorrectly classified as belonging to the right lung, or vice versa.

6_CONSIDERATIONS TO REDUCE RISK

6.2.2 Examples of segmentation errors

Outside air classified as lung. During segmentation, the air outside of the body may be misidentified as lung parenchyma. This will lead to a portion of non-lung tissue to be included in the statistical analysis. This error can be identified by viewing either the LTA Map or the Lung Label series. Figure 6 shows Lung Label (left) and LTA Map (right) images for a case that exhibits this type of error. The red arrows highlight the area of outside air that is included in the lung.

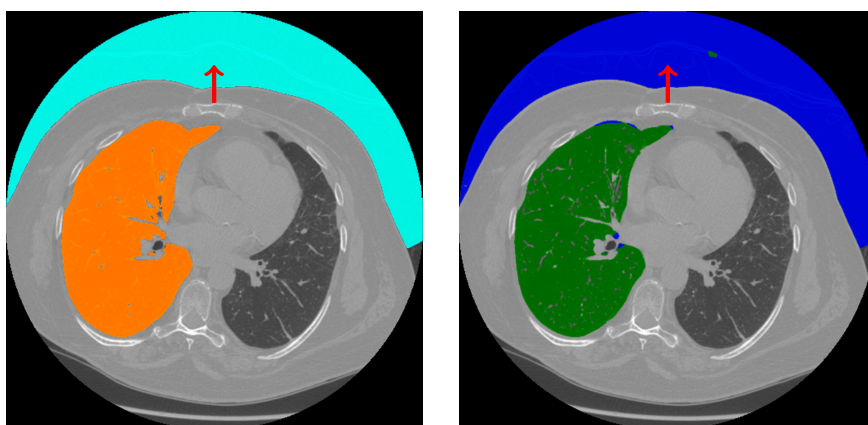


Figure 6

Air in the bowel is classified as lung. The segmentation algorithm may misidentify air in the bowel as lung parenchyma. This will cause non-lung tissue to be included in the statistical analysis. This error can be identified by viewing either the LTA Map or the Lung Label series. Figure 7 shows Lung Label (left) and LTA Map (right) images for a case that exhibits this type of error. The red arrows highlight the area of bowel inclusion.

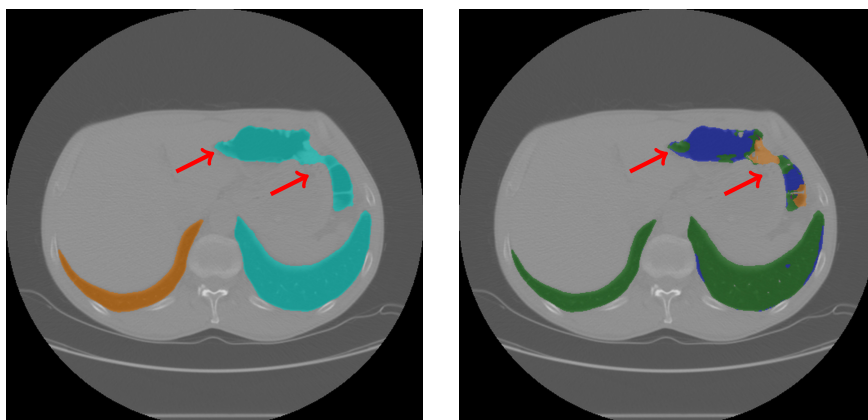


Figure 7

6_CONSIDERATIONS TO REDUCE RISK

Peripheral non-lung tissue included as lung. The segmentation algorithm may result in a slight overestimation of the lung region by including a small amount of non-lung tissue around the periphery. This over segmentation error is estimated to be about 1 to 2 voxels thick. This non-lung tissue is typically identified as one of the five textures thus affecting the texture percentages. This error can be identified by viewing either the LTA Map or the Lung Label series. Figure 8 shows Lung Label (left) and LTA Map (right) images for a case that exhibits this type of error. The red arrows highlight the area of non-lung inclusion.

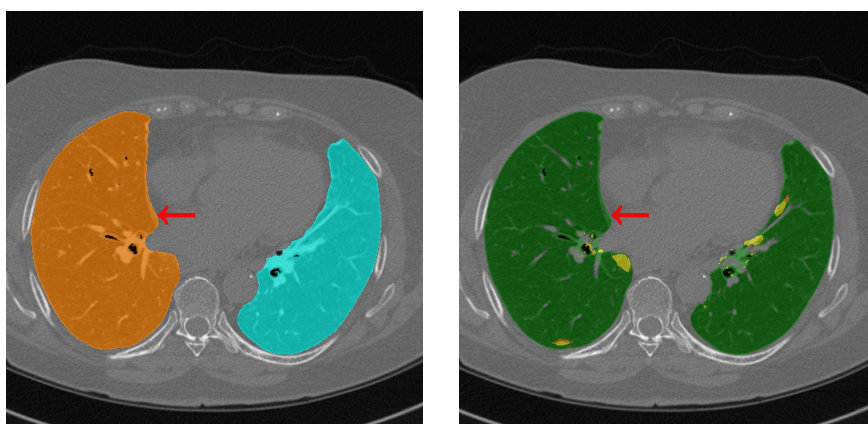


Figure 8

Airway segmentation leak into the lung parenchyma. The segmentation of the airways may leak into the lung parenchyma. This error will result in patches of lung parenchyma being excluded from the analysis. Figure 9 shows Lung Label (left) and LTA Map (right) images for a case exhibiting this error. The red arrows highlight the area of airway leakage.

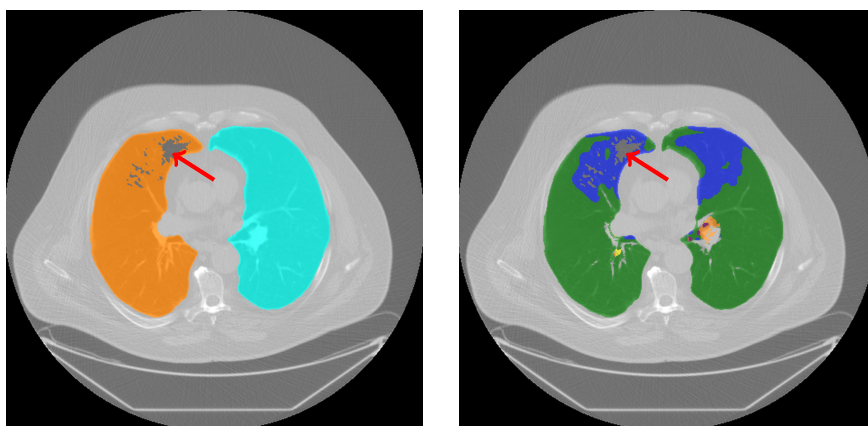


Figure 9

6_CONSIDERATIONS TO REDUCE RISK

Exclusion of the lung due to high density parenchyma. The segmentation step of LTA may not identify all lung tissue. This may be due to highly fibrotic tissue or anomalous anatomy. This error may cause a portion of the lung to be excluded from statistical analysis. This error can be identified by viewing either the LTA Map or the Lung Label series. Figure 10 shows Lung Label (left) and LTA Map (right) images for a case that exhibits this type of error. The red arrows highlight the area of lung exclusion.

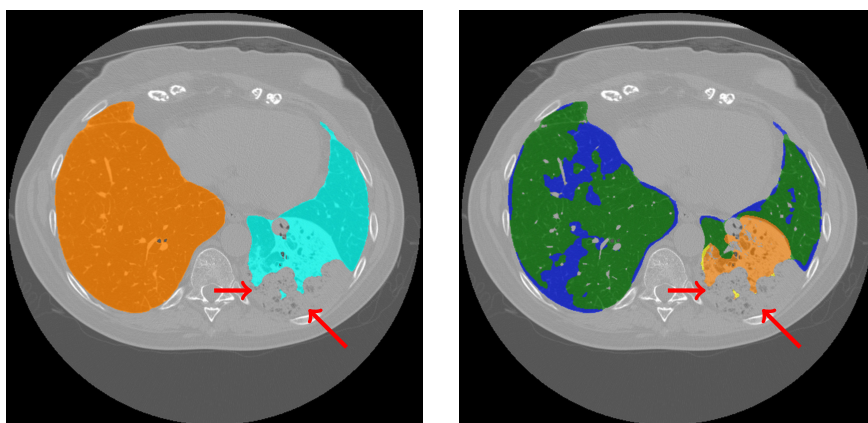


Figure 10

Left/right lung labeling error. The segmentation step of LTA may misidentify the boundaries between right and left lung. This error will cause the statistical analysis to be inaccurate. *This error can be identified only by viewing the Lung Label series.* Figure 11 shows Lung Label (left) and LTA Map (right) images for a case that exhibits this error. The red ellipse highlights the area of error.

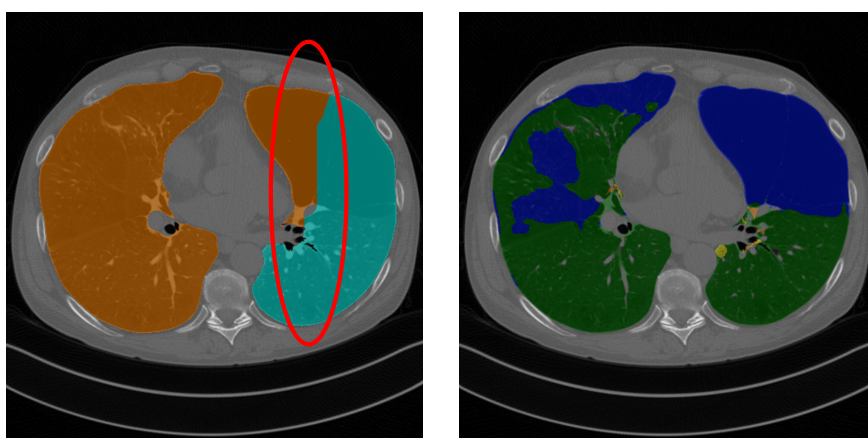


Figure 11

6_CONSIDERATIONS TO REDUCE RISK

6.2.3 Classification Errors

Misidentified textures due to atelectasis. If atelectasis is present in the CT lung scan, the algorithm may misclassify the lung tissue as a texture that is not normal. This error can be identified by viewing the LTA Map in addition to the original CT scan for the presence of atelectasis. Figure 12 gives an example of this type of error.

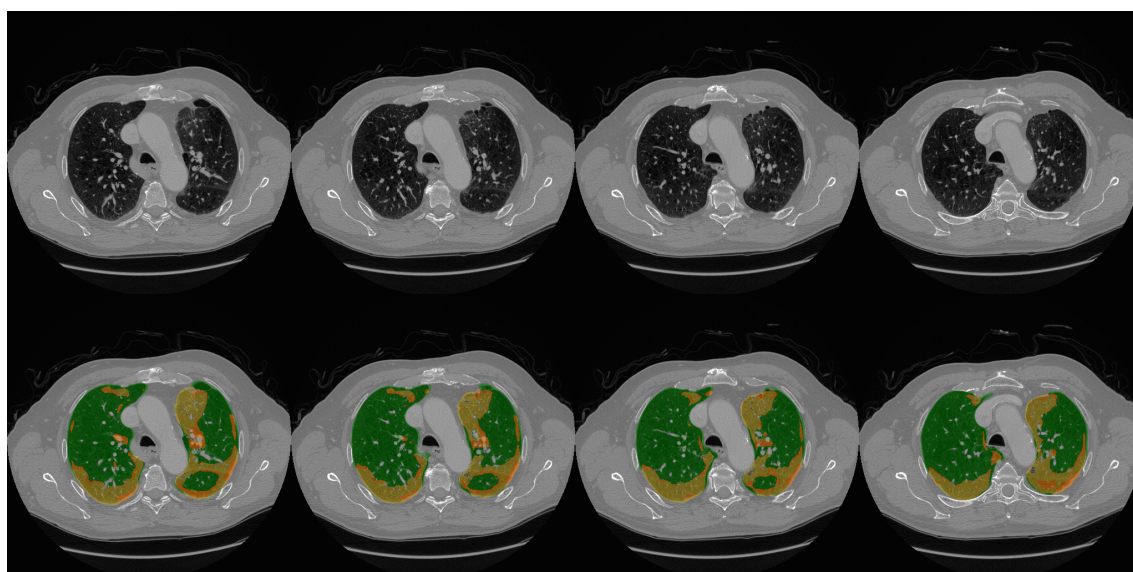


Figure 12: Slices of LTA Map displaying misidentified texture due to atelectasis. First row displays the original CT lung image and second row displays LTA Map of corresponding slices.

7 Command Line Commands

If Imbio CT Lung Texture Analysis™ Software is installed without the Imbio Core Computing Platform (cloud or enterprise options), the Imbio LTA software is executed using the command line. The command line commands needed to run Imbio LTA are found in the Imbio LTA Installation and Quick Start Guide (Document Number: DES-7046).

8 Software Label



CT Lung Texture Analysis Software
LTA 1.4.1



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