



# Exploring Peritumoral White Matter Fibers for Neurosurgical Planning

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# Clinical Goal

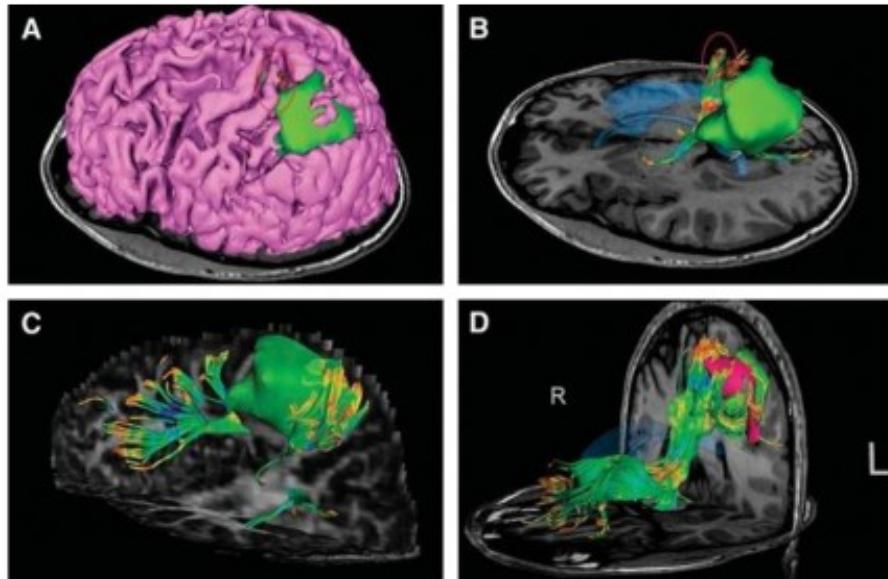
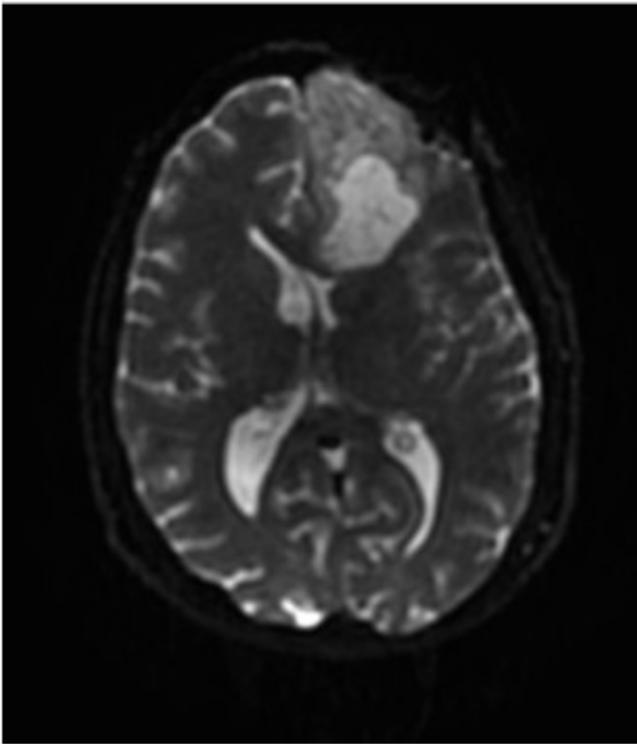


Image Courtesy of Dr. Alexandra Golby, Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA..

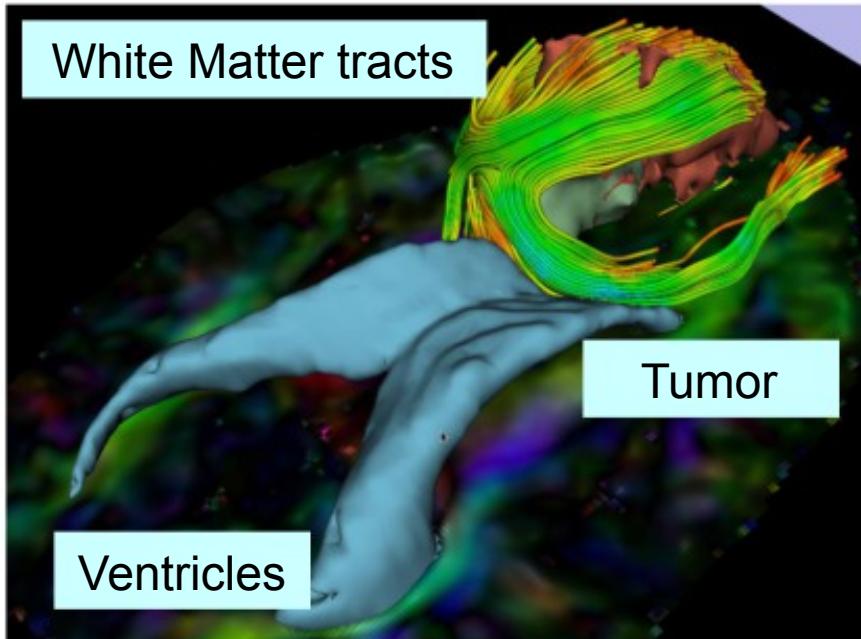
Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) Tractography has the potential to bring valuable spatial information on tumor infiltration and tract displacement for neurosurgical planning of tumor resection.

# Clinical Case



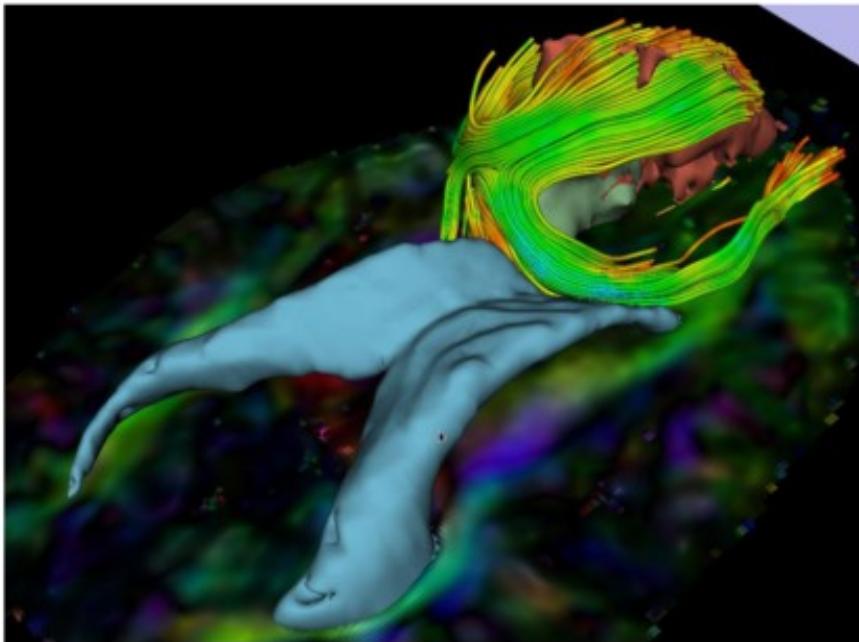
- 35 year-old male diagnosed with **Glioblastoma multiform (GBM)**
- Diffusion Weighted Imaging (DWI) acquisition for neurosurgical planning

# Clinical Goal



The goal of this tutorial is to explore white matter fibers surrounding a tumor using Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) Tractography.

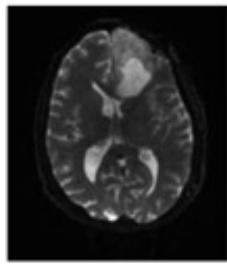
# Image Analysis Pipeline



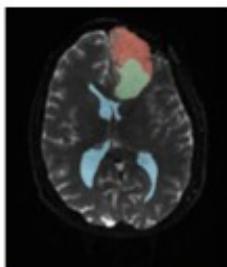
The image analysis pipeline described in this tutorial uses three different algorithms:

- 1) Grow Cut algorithm for segmentation of the tumor parts
- 2) Marching Cube algorithm for surface modeling
- 3) Single tensor streamline tractography algorithm for tract generation.

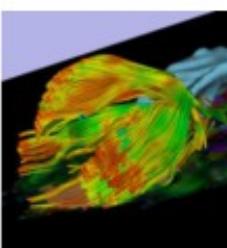
# Overview of the analysis pipeline



Part 1: Loading & Visualization of Diffusion Data



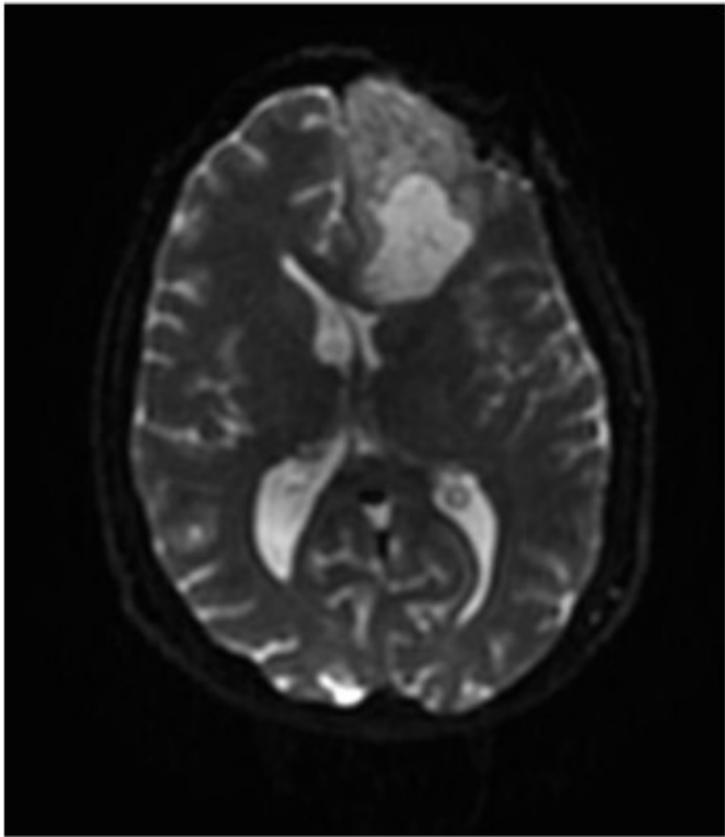
Part 2: Segmentation of lat. ventricles, and solid and cystic parts of the tumor



Part 3: Tractography reconstruction of white matter fibers in the peri-tumoral volume

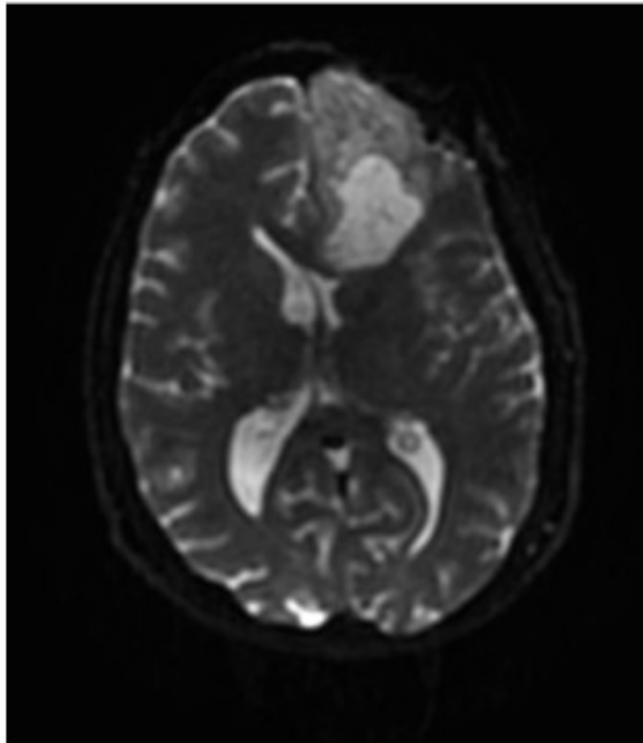


Part 4: Tractography exploration of the ipsilateral and contralateral side



# Part 1: Loading and Visualization of Diffusion Data

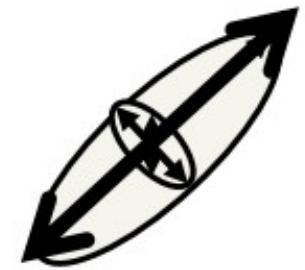
# Diffusion Tensor Imaging



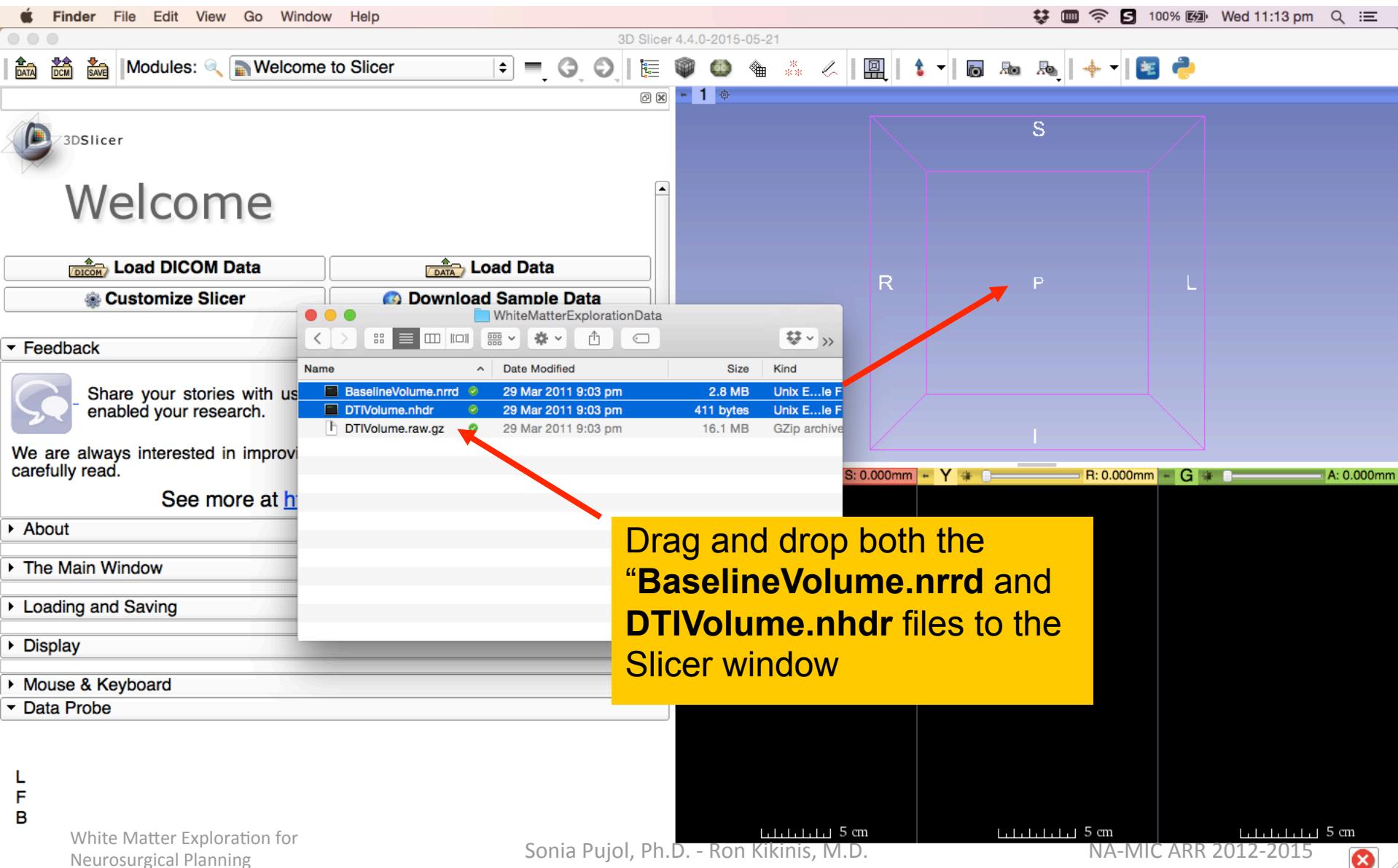
$$S_i = S_0 e^{-b \hat{g}_i^T D \hat{g}_i}$$

(Stejskal and Tanner 1965, Basser 1994 )

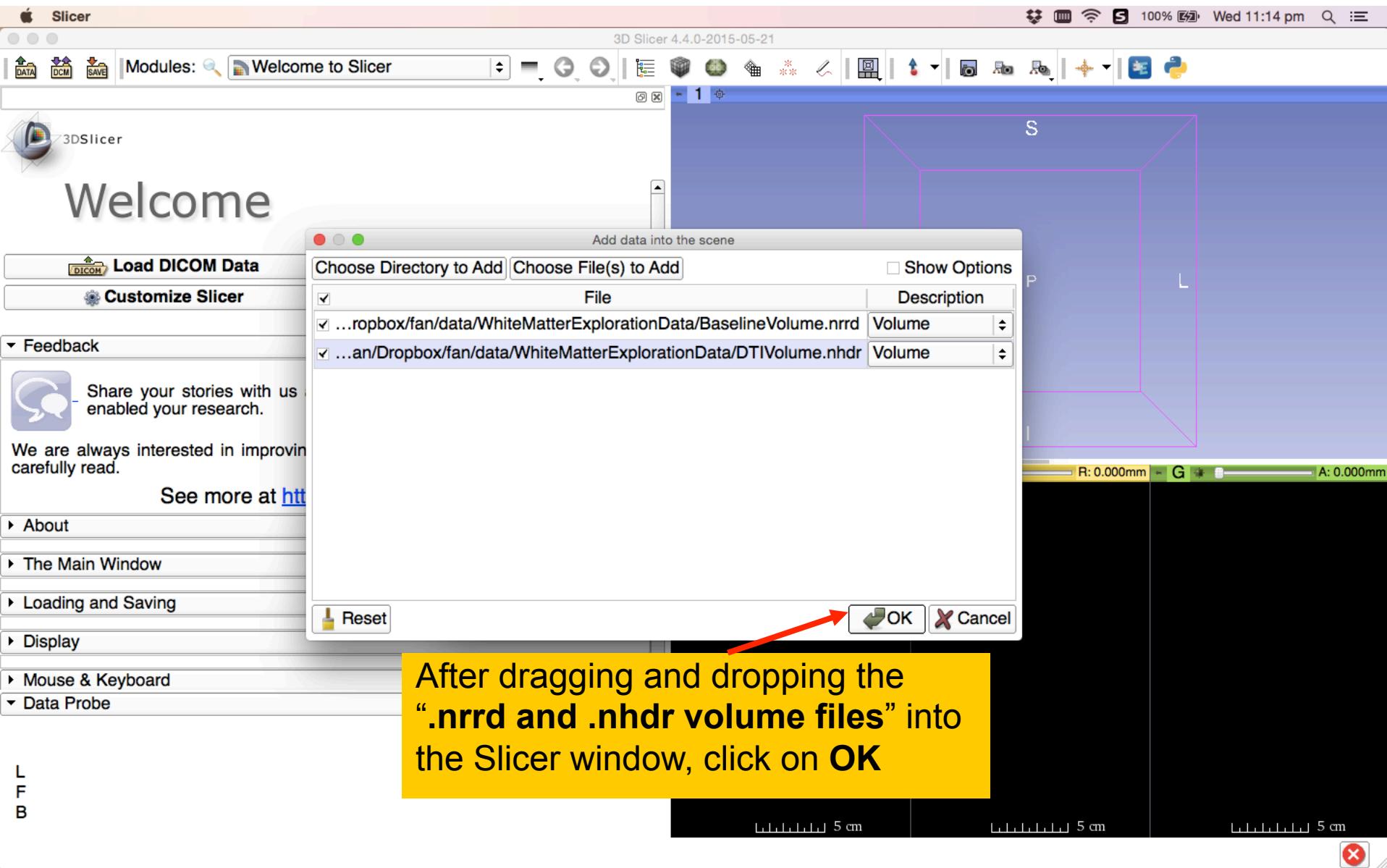
$$\underline{\mathbf{D}} = \begin{bmatrix} D_{xx} & D_{xy} & D_{xz} \\ D_{yx} & D_{yy} & D_{yz} \\ D_{zx} & D_{zy} & D_{zz} \end{bmatrix}$$



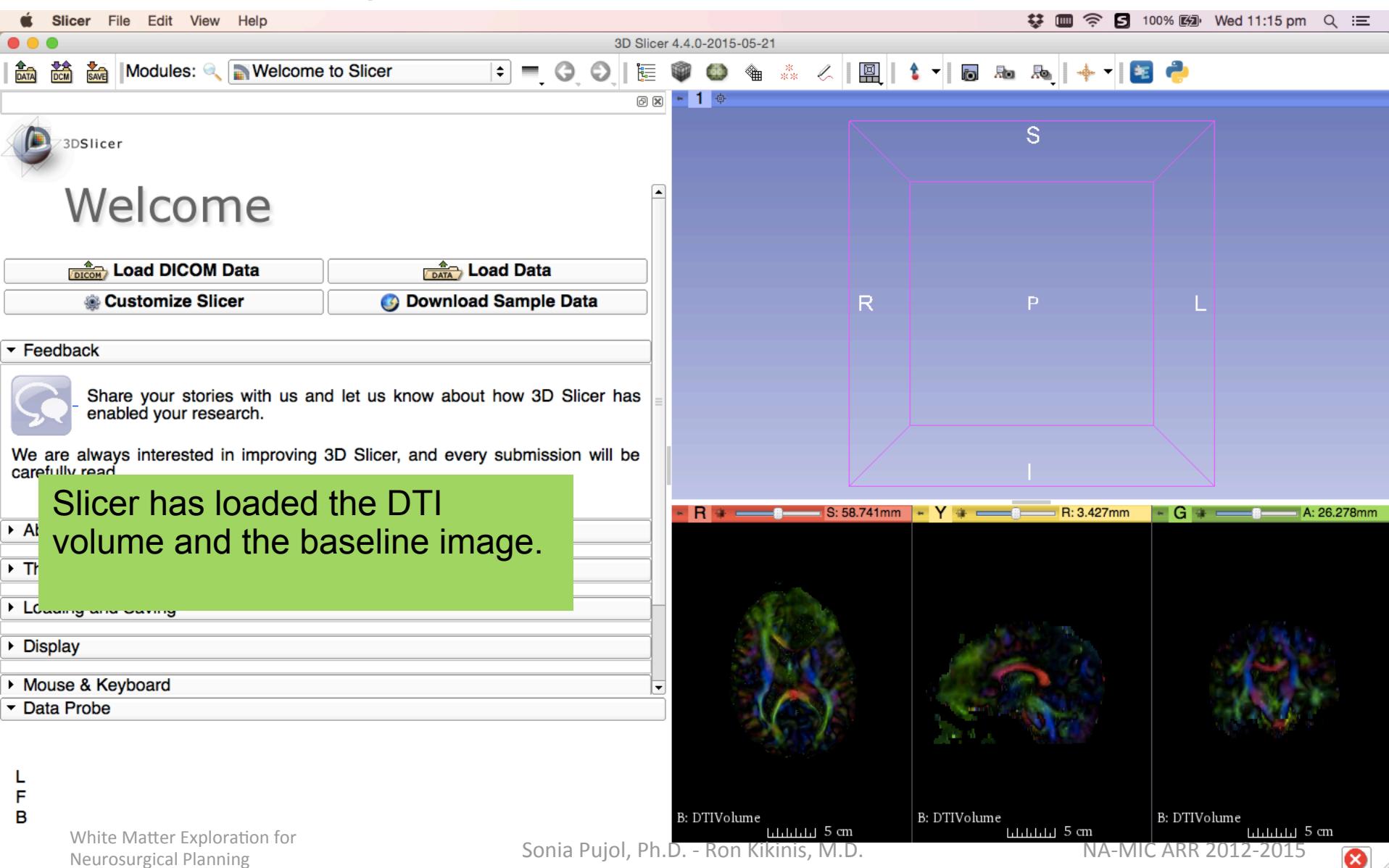
# Loading DTI and Baseline Data



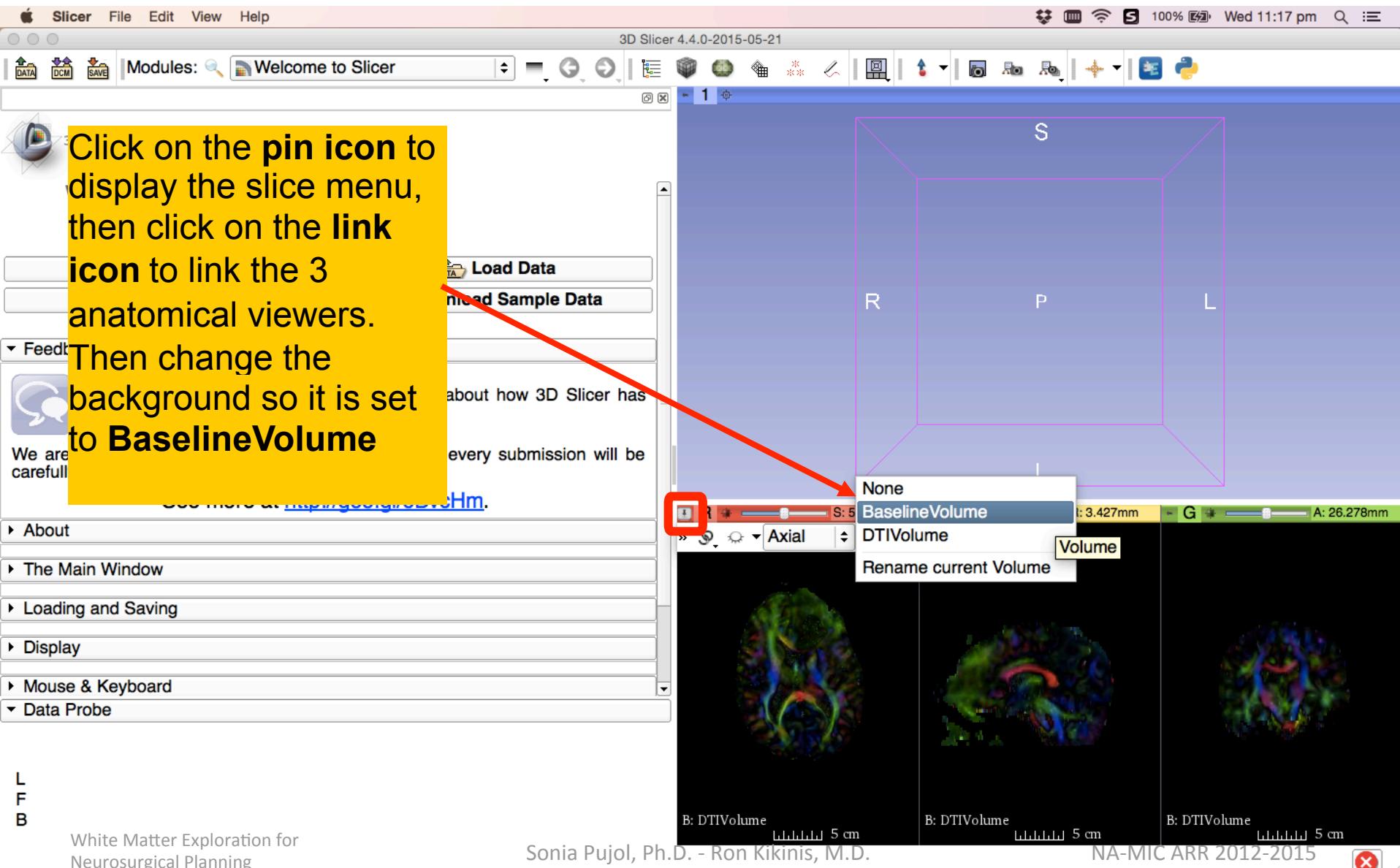
# Loading DTI and Baseline Data



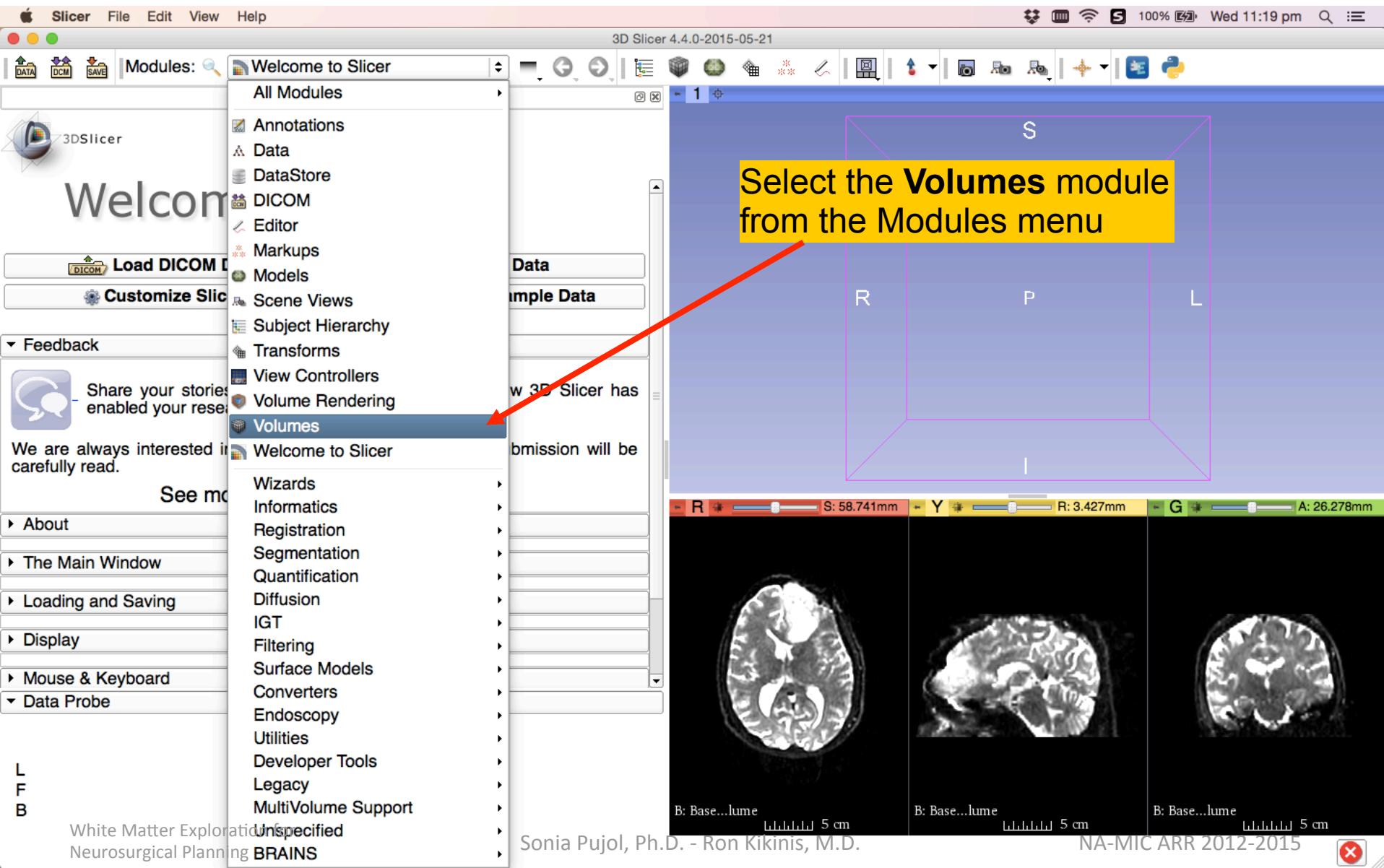
# Loading DTI and Baseline Data



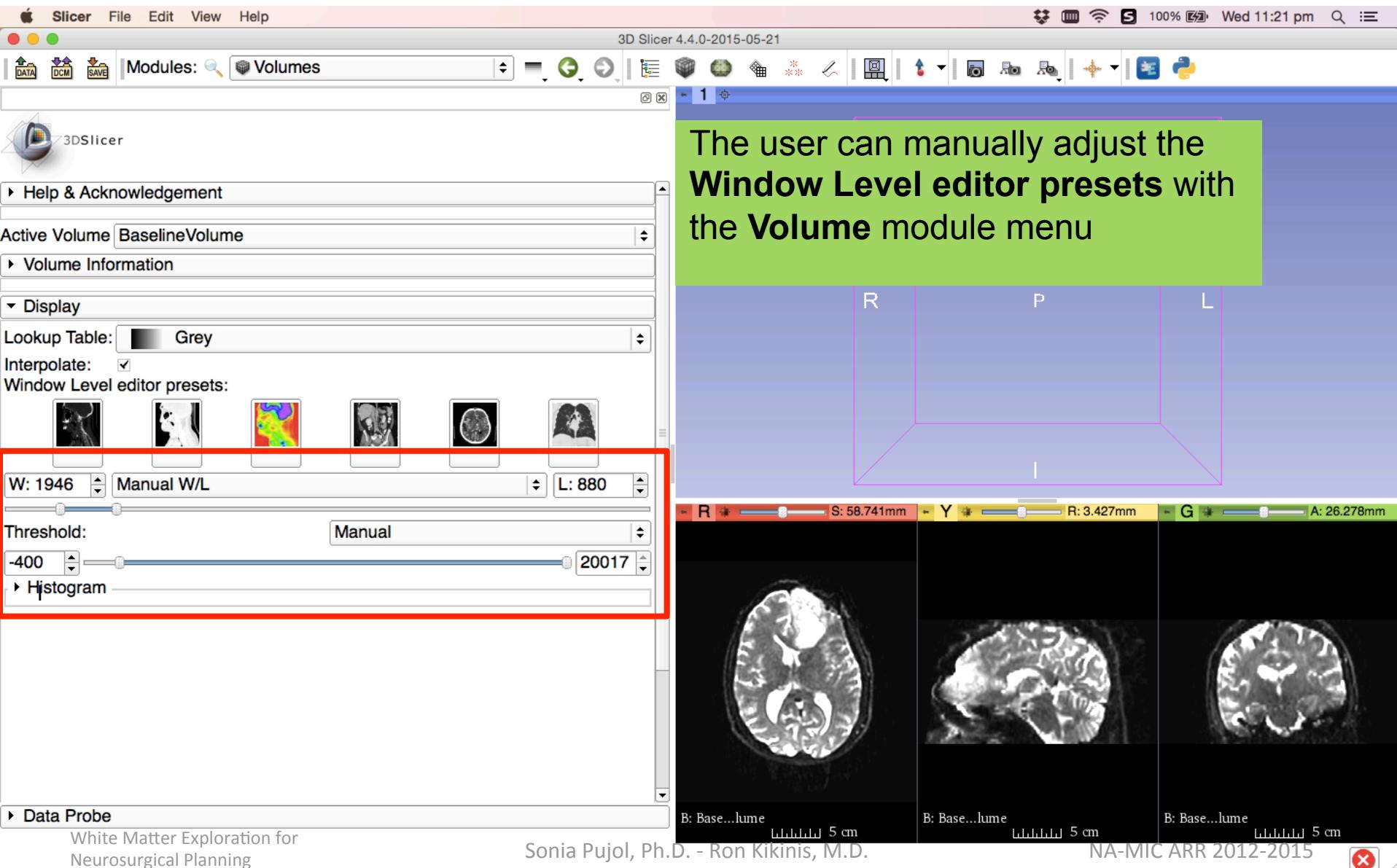
# Loading DTI and Baseline Data



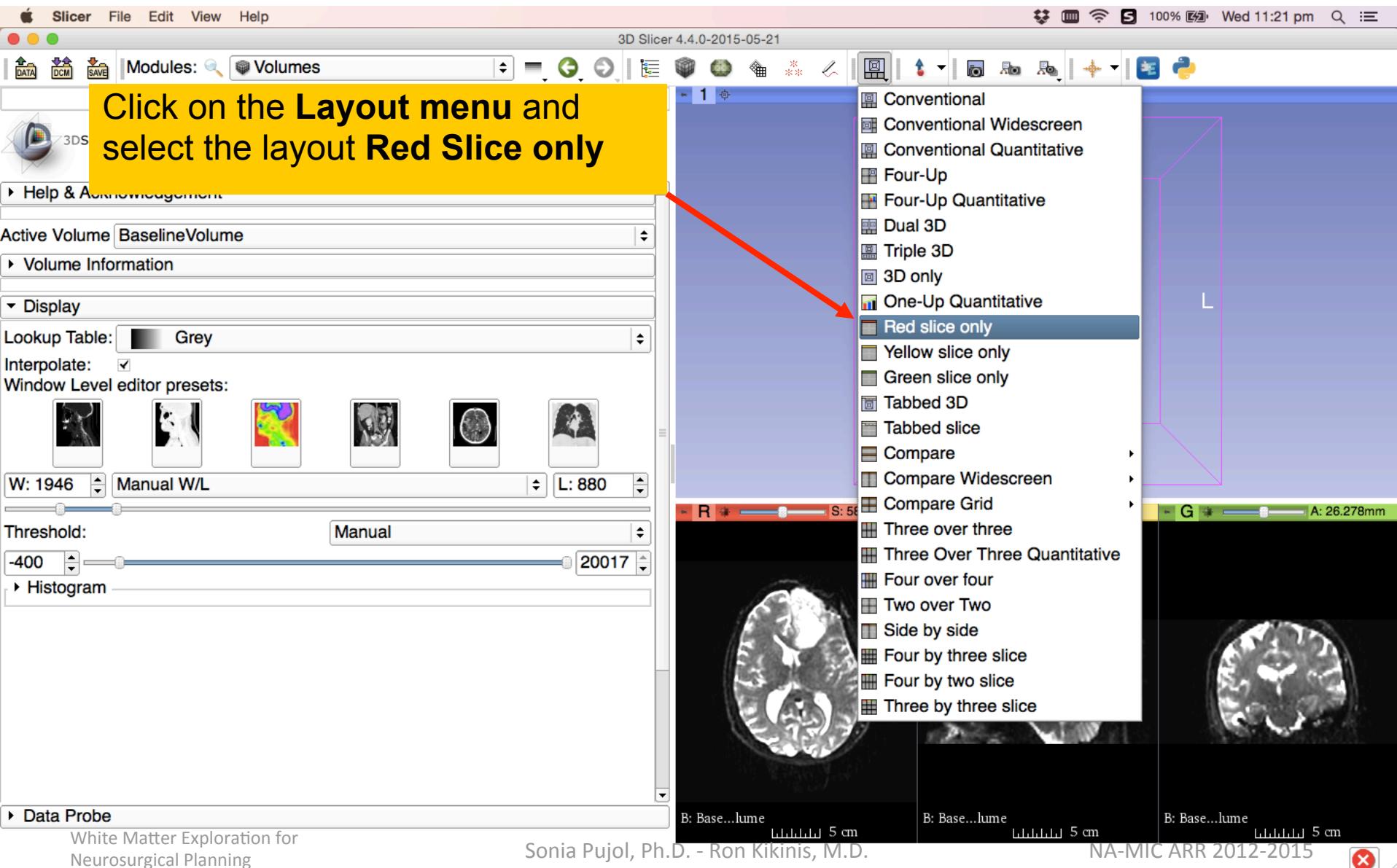
# Loading DTI and Baseline Data

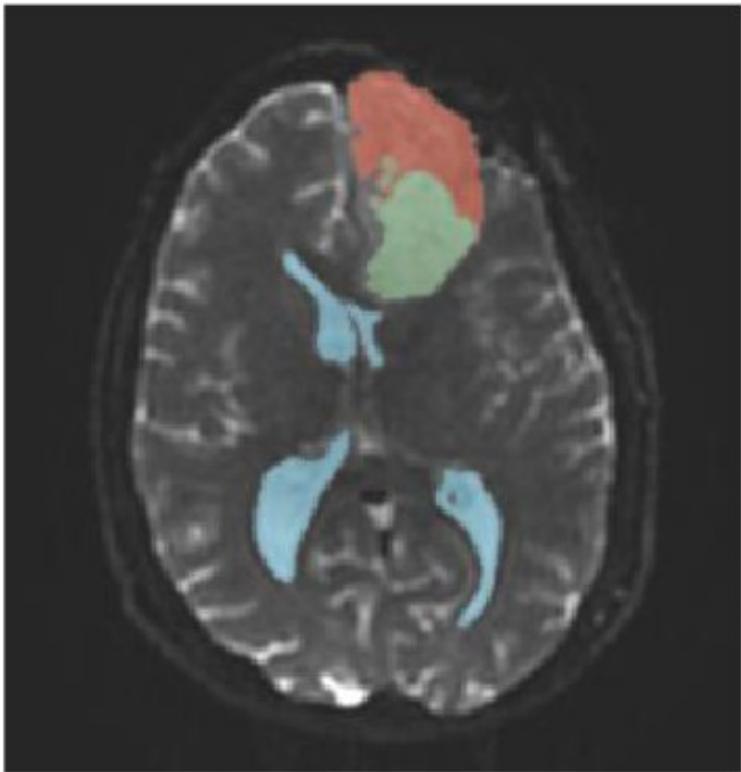


# Loading DTI and Baseline Data



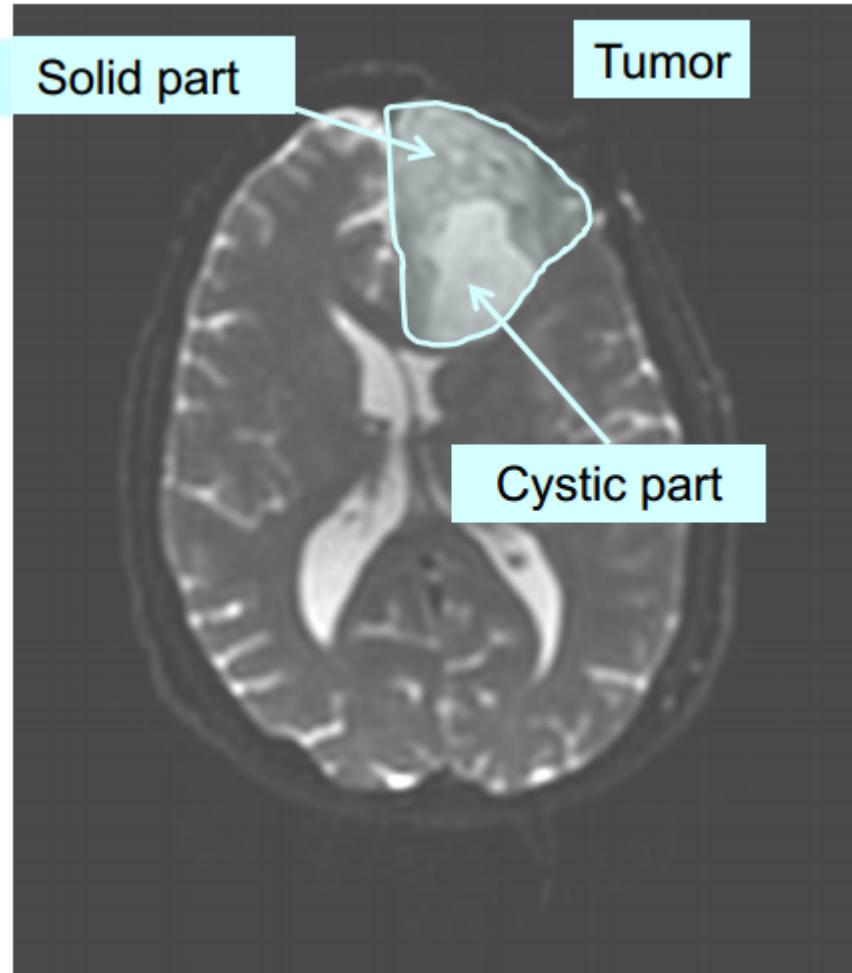
# Loading DTI and Baseline Data





# Part 1: Segmenting the tumor and ventricles

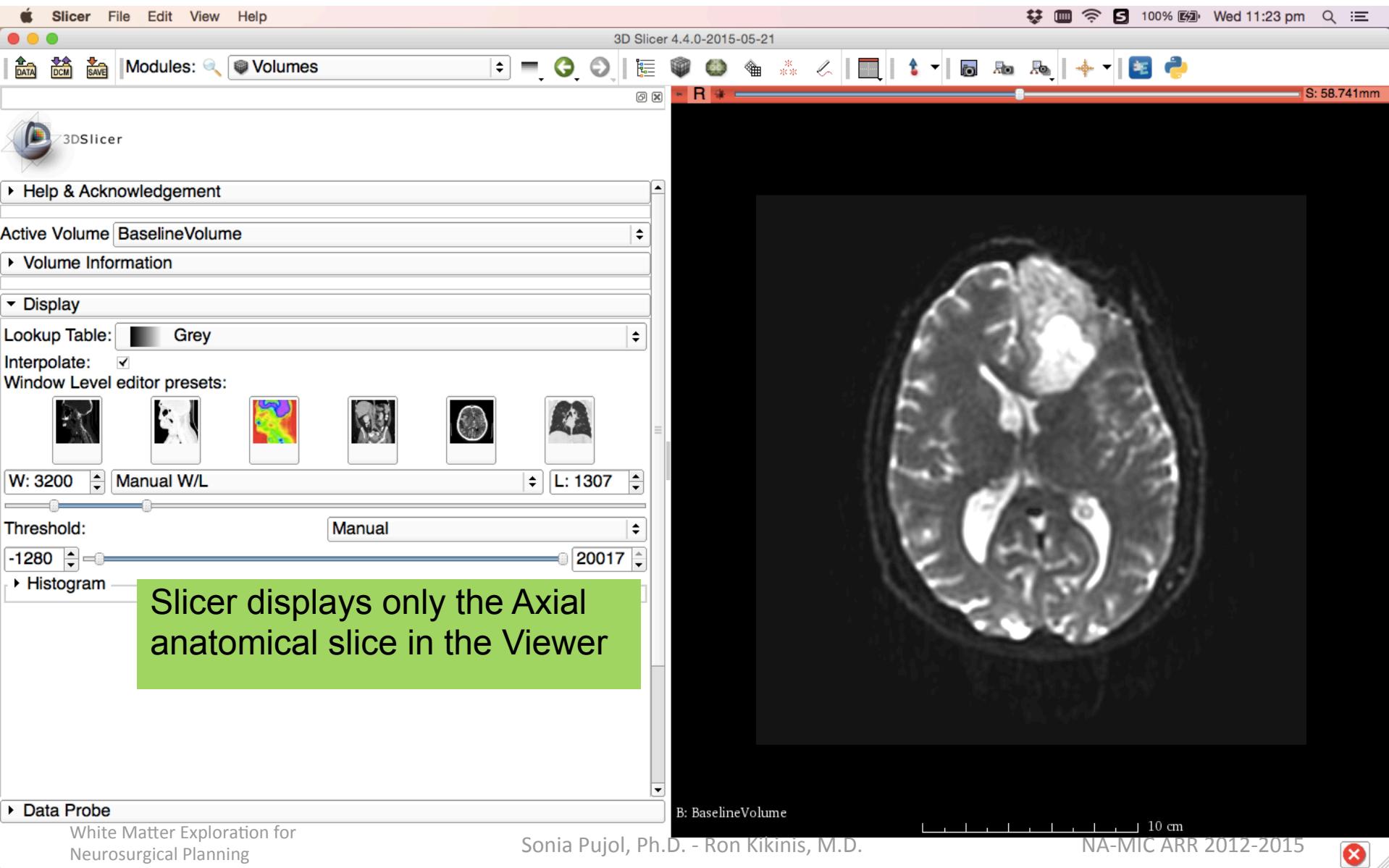
# Tumor Segmentation



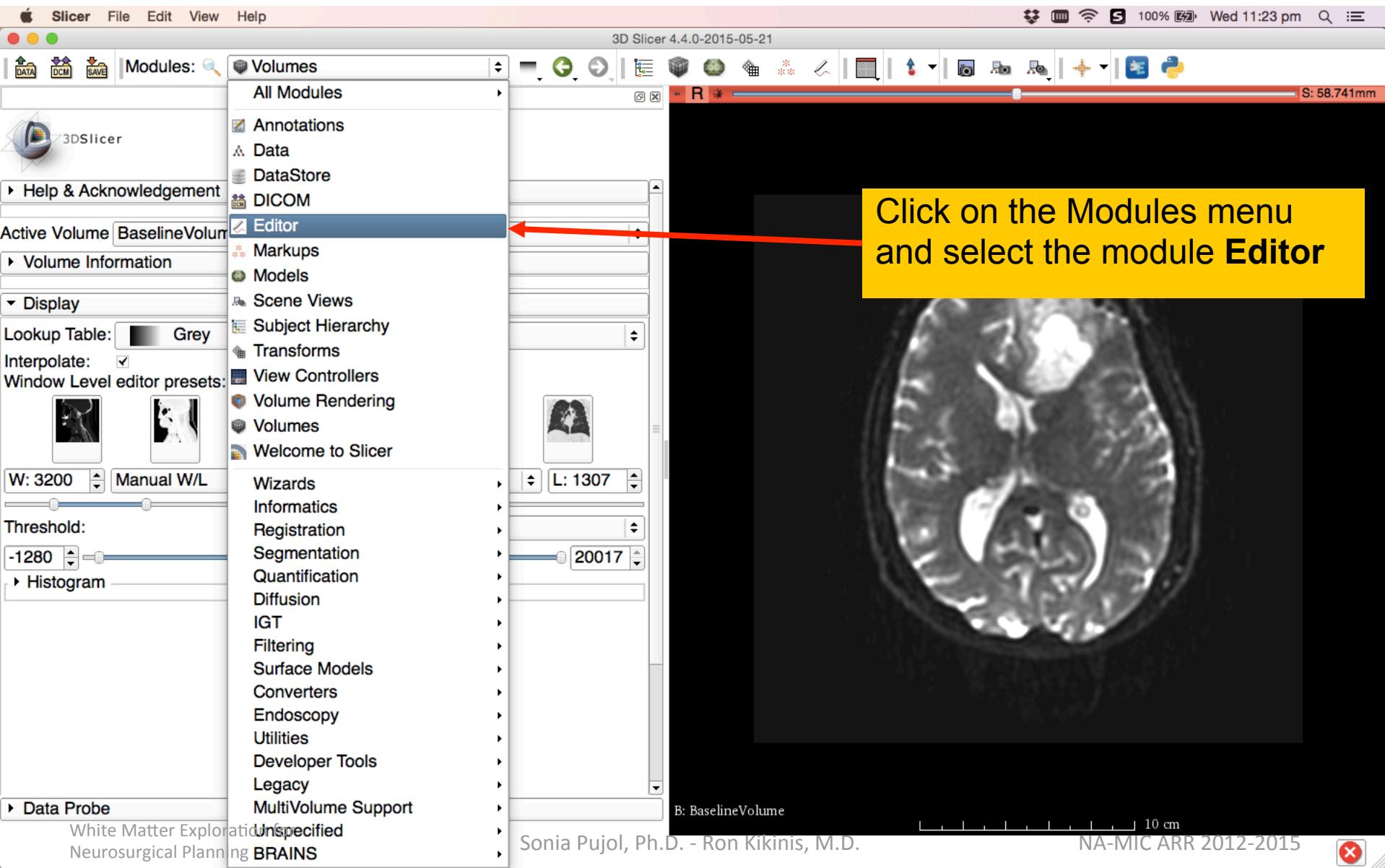
The tumor in this clinical case is composed of two parts: a solid part, and a cystic part.

In this section, we will segment the different parts of the tumor using a Grow Cut Segmentation algorithm.

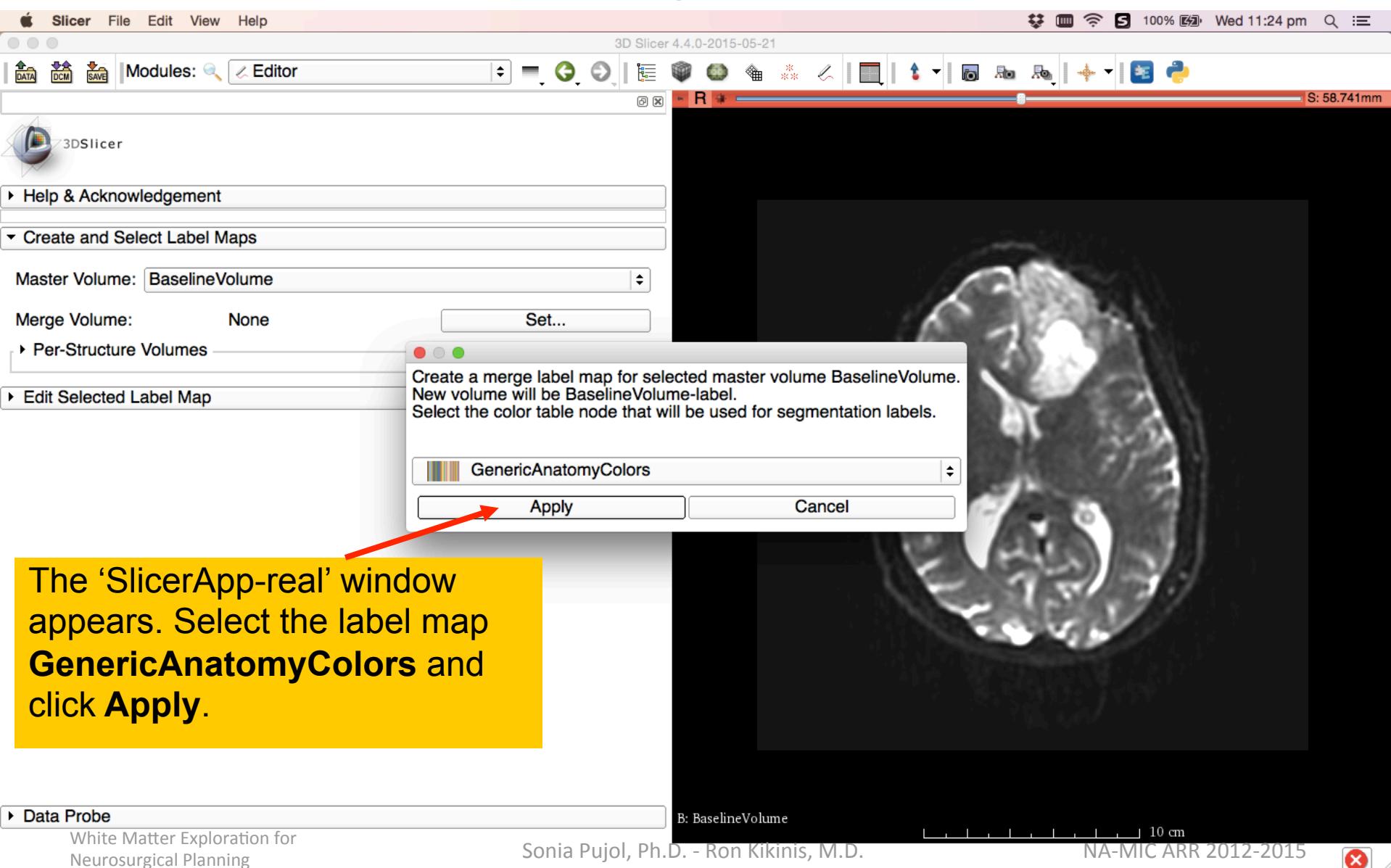
# Tumor Segmentation



# Tumor Segmentation



# Tumor Segmentation



# Tumor Segmentation

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

S: 58.741mm

Select the PaintEffect

The screenshot shows the 3D Slicer application window. On the left, the 'Edit' module is active, displaying controls for 'Master Volume' (BaselineVolume), 'Merge Volume' (BaselineVolume-label), and 'Edit Selected Label Map'. A red arrow points from the text 'Select the PaintEffect' to the brush icon in the tool palette. The main canvas displays a grayscale axial MRI slice of a brain, with a large white tumor visible. At the bottom, a status bar shows 'L: BaselineVolume-label (100%)' and 'B: BaselineVolume', along with a scale bar indicating 10 cm. The bottom right corner features the text 'NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015'.

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Editor

3D Slicer

Help & Acknowledgement

Create and Select Label Maps

Master Volume: BaselineVolume

Merge Volume: BaselineVolume-label Set...

Per-Structure Volumes

Edit Selected Label Map

Tools: (brush icon highlighted with a red arrow)

WS marker

Undo/Redo:

Active Tool: DefaultTool

Label: tissue 1

Data Probe

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10 cm

NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015

# Tumor Segmentation

Slicer File Edit View Help

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Editor

R S: 58.741mm

Merge Volume: BaselineVolume-label Set...

Per-Structure Volumes

Edit Selected Label Map

Tools: Selection, Paint, Smudge, Sphere, Pixel Mode, WS marker, Undo/Redo

Active Tool: PaintEffect

Label: region 1 Color: #293  
Paint Over  
Threshold Paint  
Radius: 4.000mm px: 2 3 4 5 10 20  
Sphere Smudge Pixel Mode ?

Region 1 settings highlighted with a red box.

Yellow box instructions: Scroll down the **Editor** module. Set color **#293** and **radius 4** for the region 1 label.

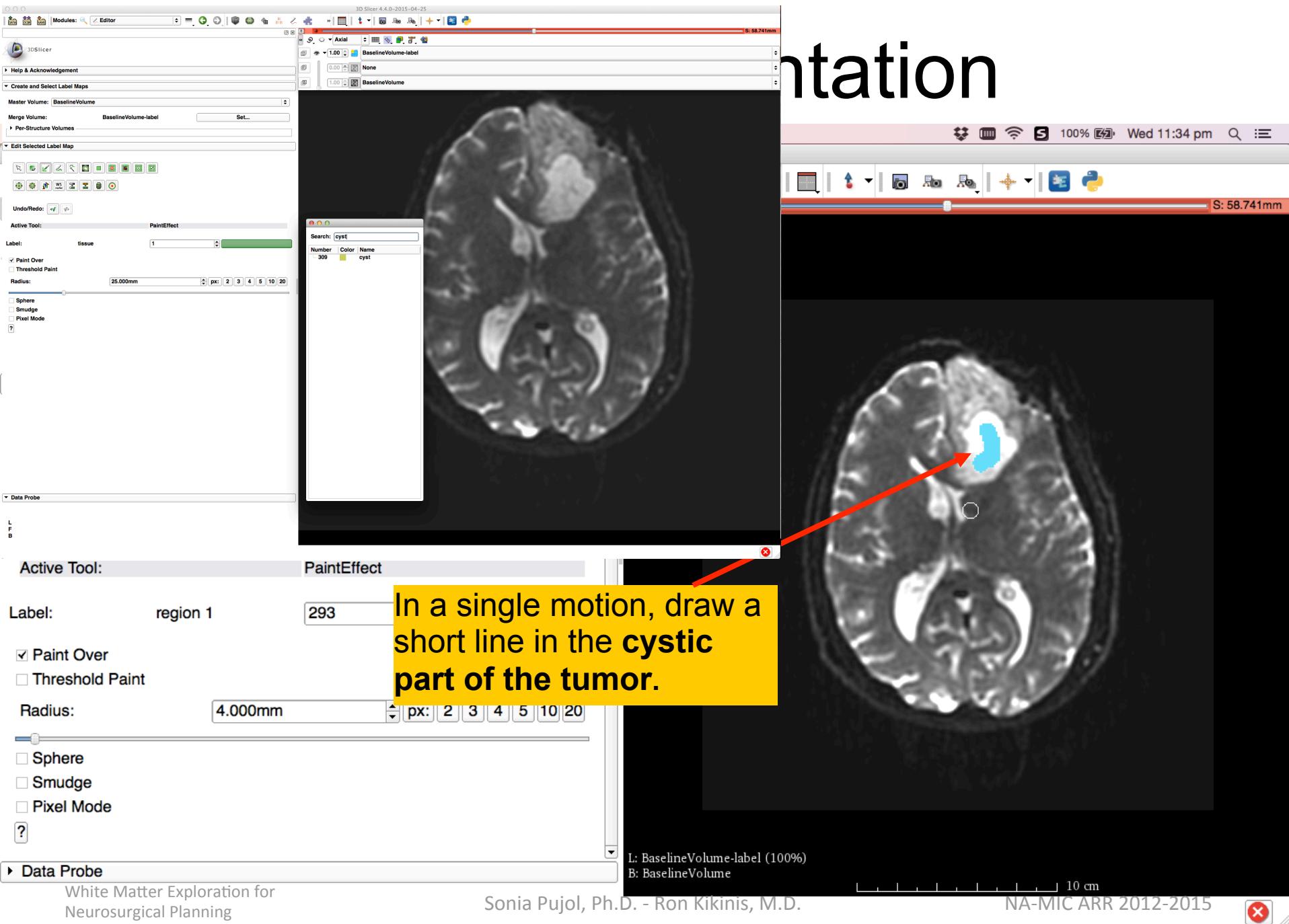
L: BaselineVolume-label (100%)  
B: BaselineVolume

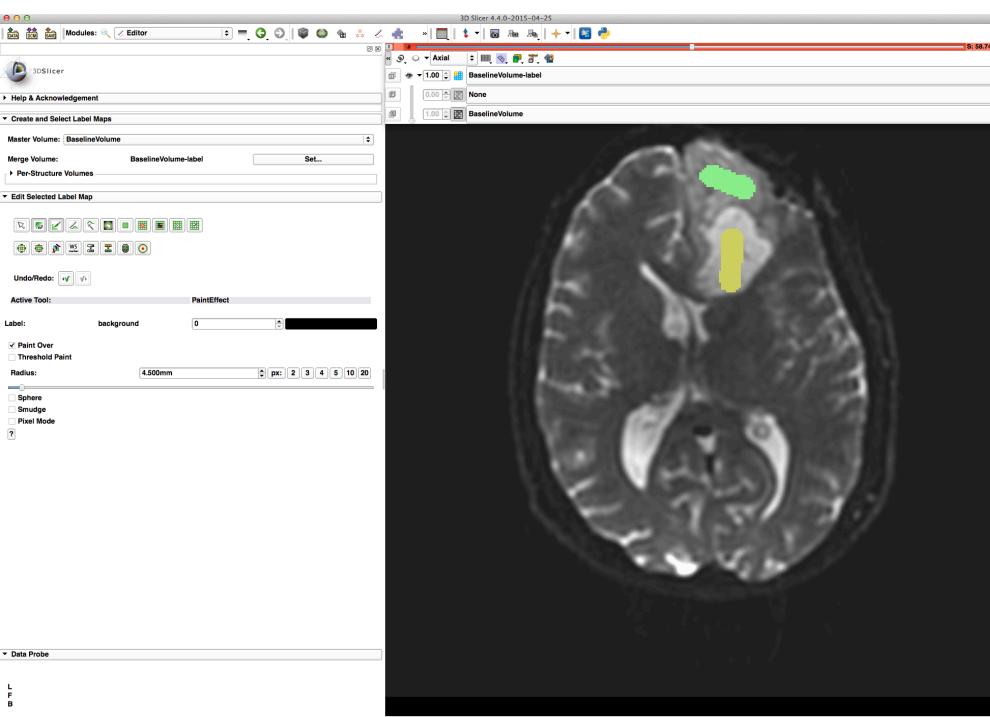
10 cm

NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015

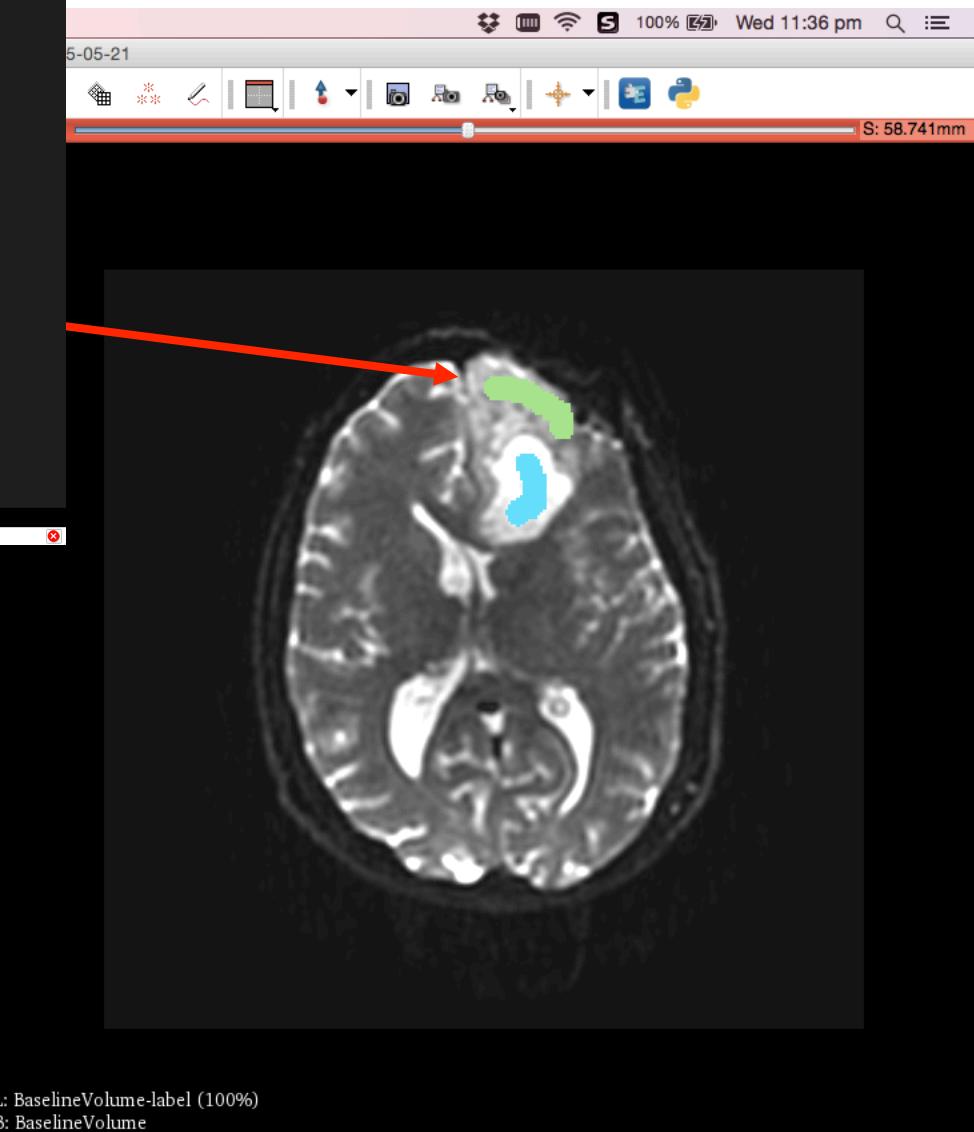
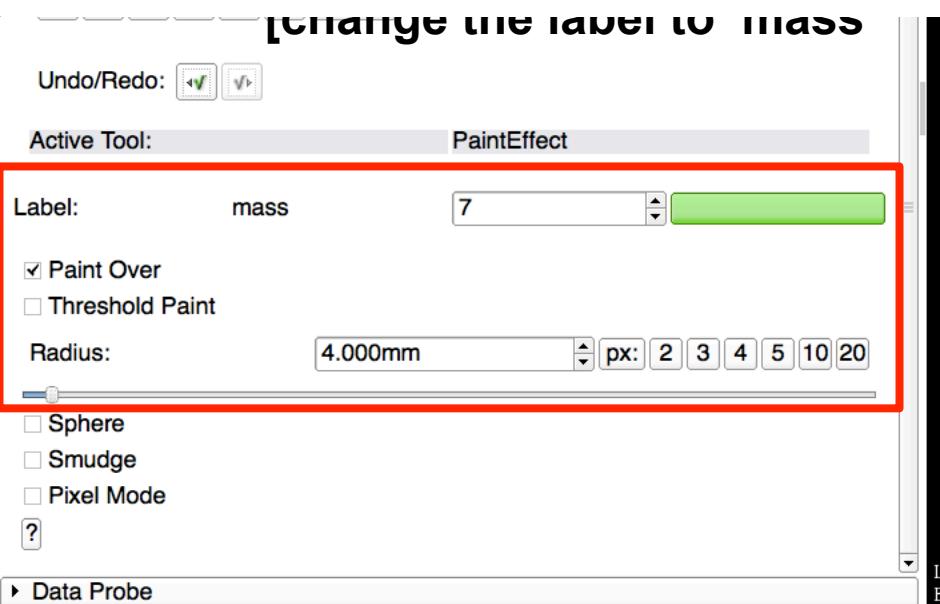
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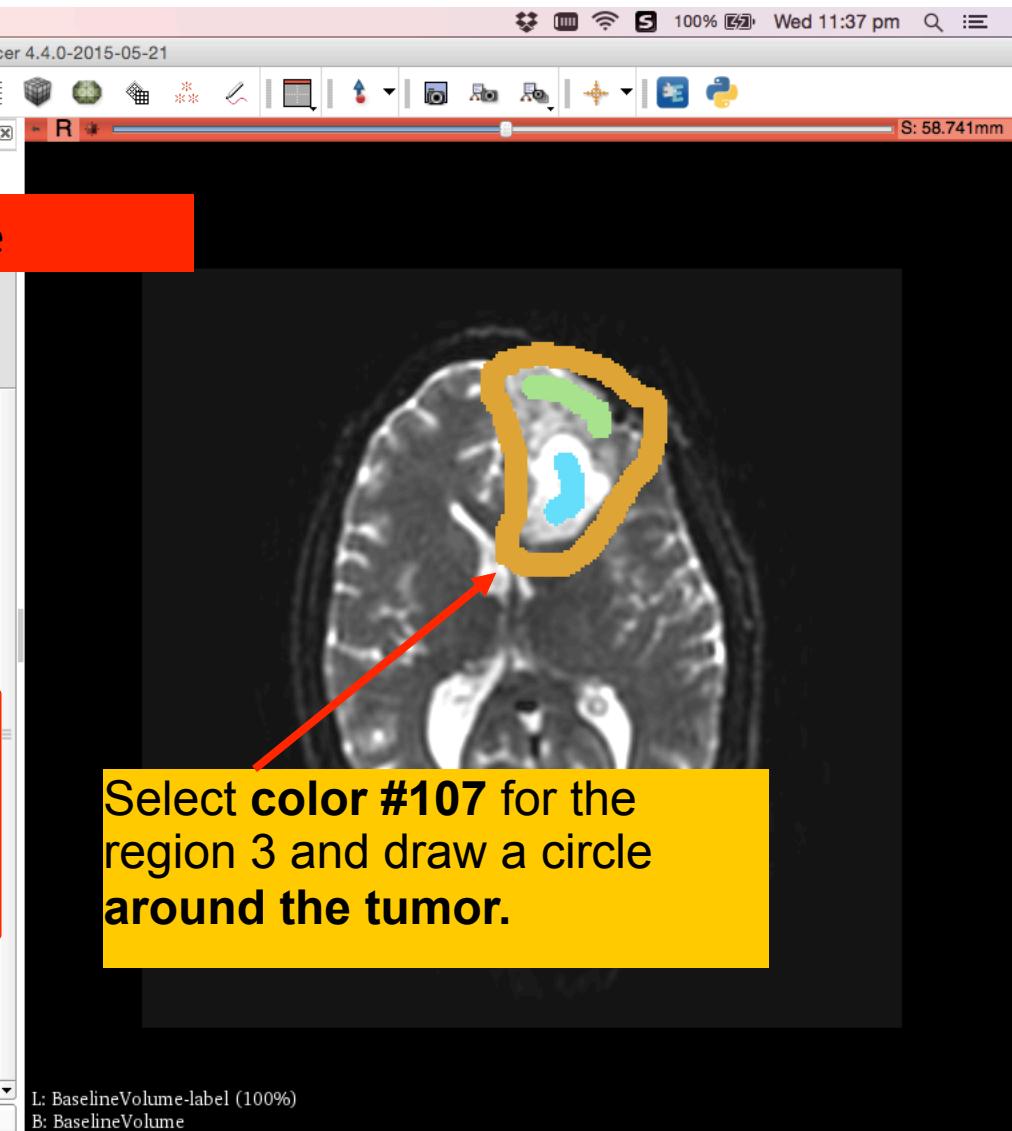
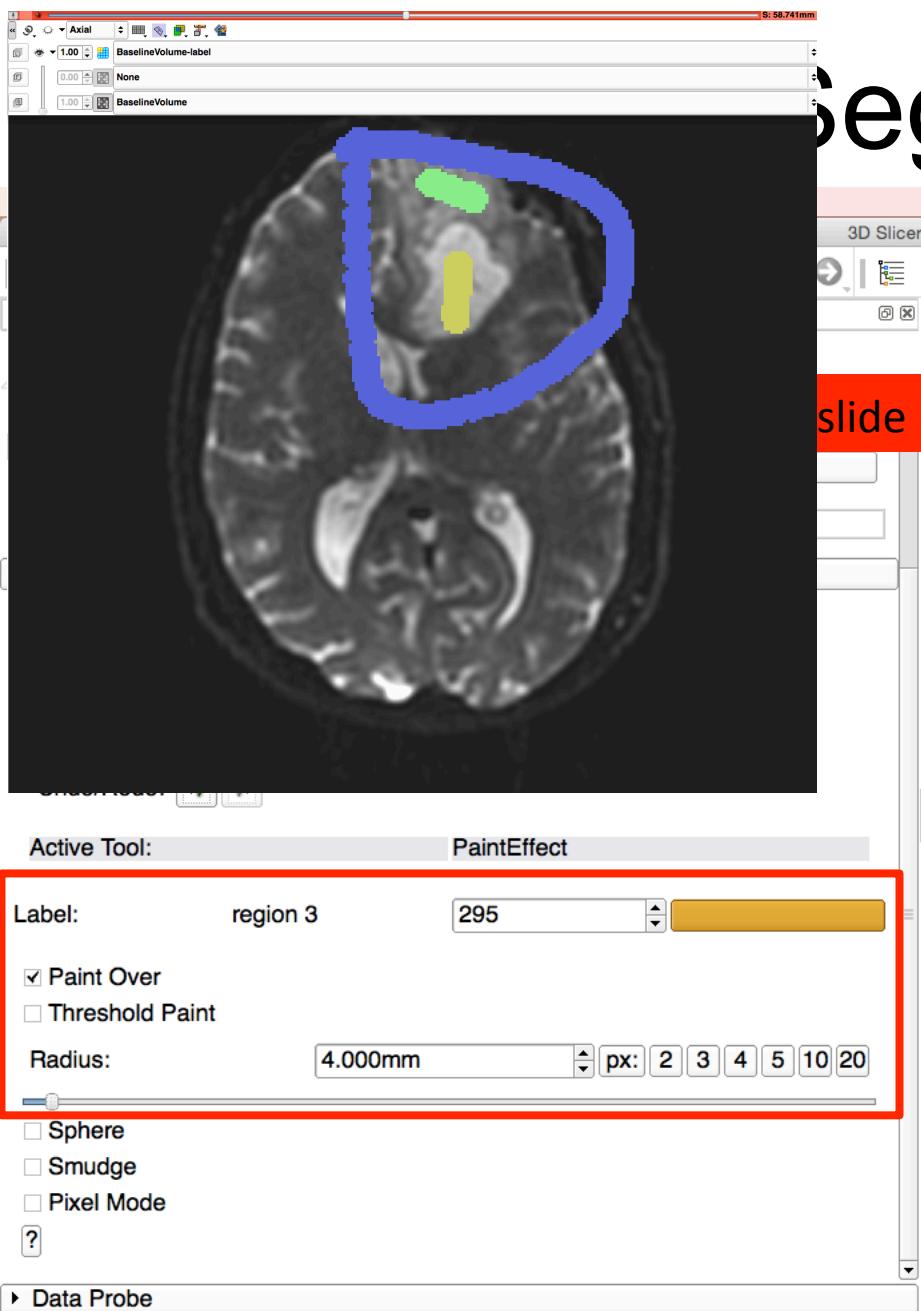




# Segmentation



# Segmentation



# Tumor Segmentation

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

Select the **GrowCutEffect** tool.

Active Tool: GrowCutEffect

Label: region 3 295

Run the GrowCut segmentation on the current label map.  
This will use your current segmentation as an example  
to fill in the rest of the volume.

Apply

3D Slicer

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Editor

R S: 58.741mm

L: BaselineVolume-label (100%)  
B: BaselineVolume

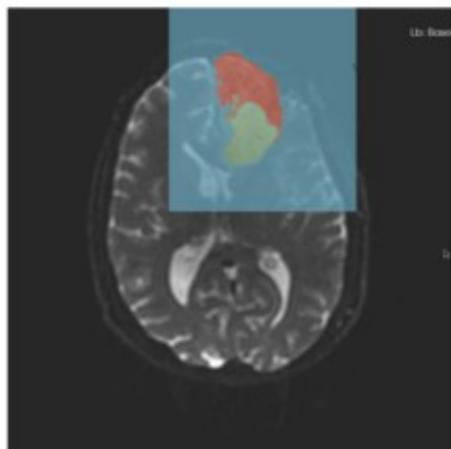
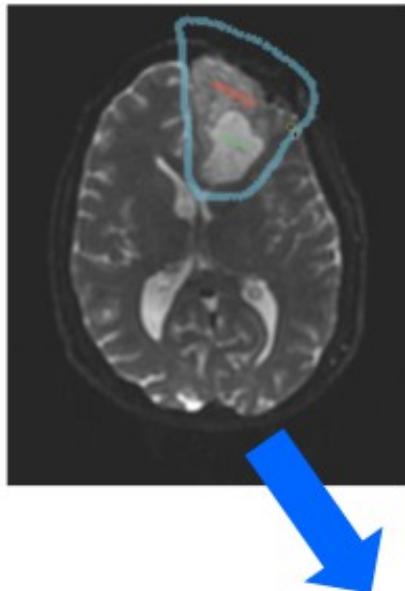
10 cm

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Neurosurgical Planning

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# Grow Cut Segmentation



- The Grow Cut Segmentation method is a competitive region growing algorithm using Cellular Automata.
- The algorithm performs multi-label image segmentation using a set of user input scribbles.
- V. Vezhnevets, V. Konouchine. "Grow-Cut" - Interactive Multi-Label N-D Image Segmentation". Proc. Graphicon. 2005 . pp. 150-156.

# Tumor Segmentation

Slicer File Edit View Help

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Editor R S: 58.741mm

3DSlicer

Help & Acknowledgement

Create and Select Label Maps

Edit Selected Label Map

Undo/Redo:

Active Tool: GrowCutEffect

Label: region 3 295

Run the GrowCut segmentation on the current label map.  
This will use your current segmentation as an example  
to fill in the rest of the volume.

Apply

Click **Apply** to apply the **GrowCutEffect**  
segmentation algorithm.

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for  
Neurosurgical Planning

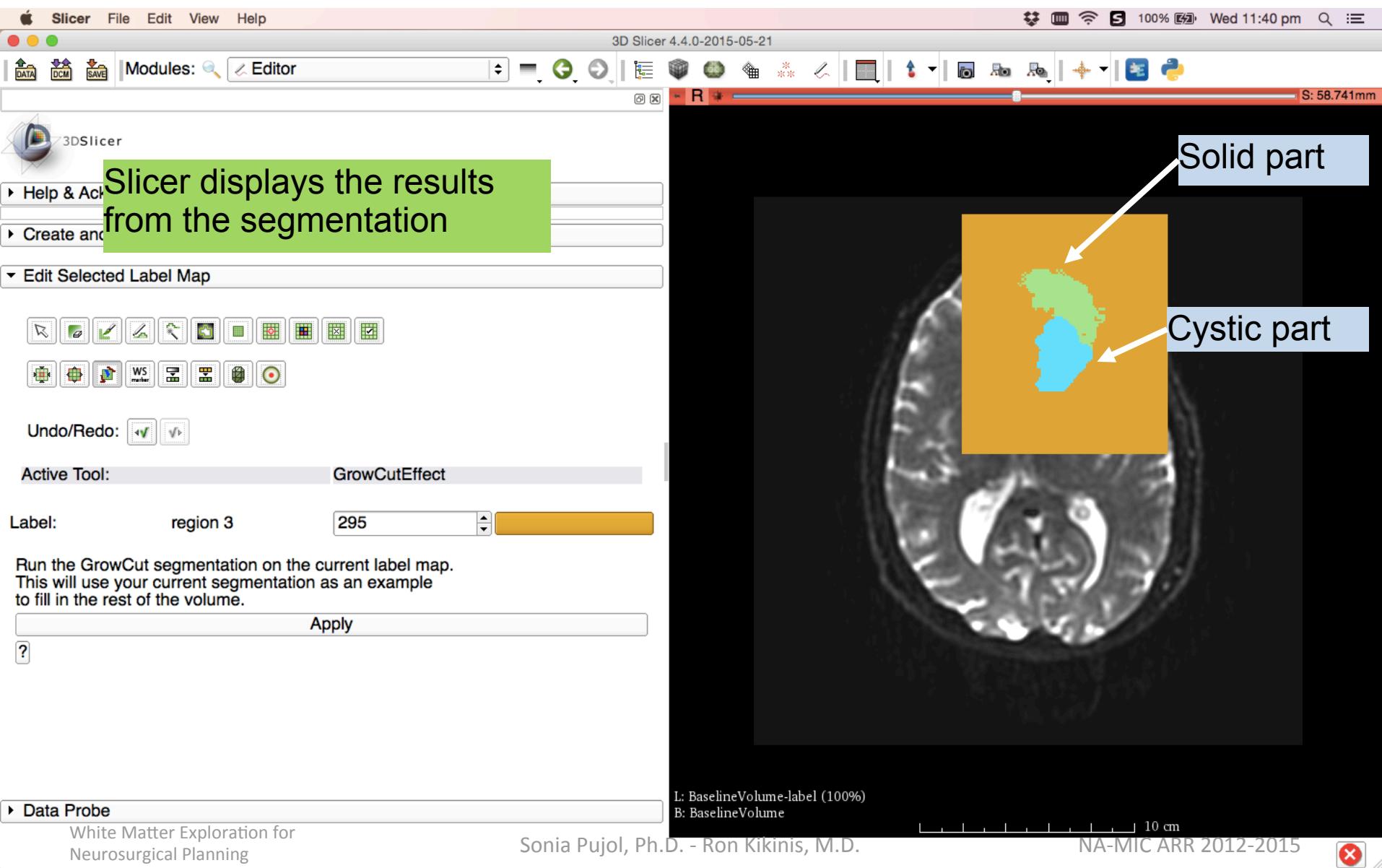
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L: BaselineVolume-label (100%)  
B: BaselineVolume

10 cm

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# Tumor Segmentation



# Tumor Segmentation

Scroll up the **Editor** menu and select the tab **Per-Structure Volumes**. Then click **Split Merge Volume**.

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

Master Volume: BaselineVolume

Merge Volume: BaselineVolume-label Set...

Per-Structure Volumes

Add Structure Split Merge Volume

Delete All Delete Selected Merge All Merge And Build

Replace Models

Edit Selected Label Map

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

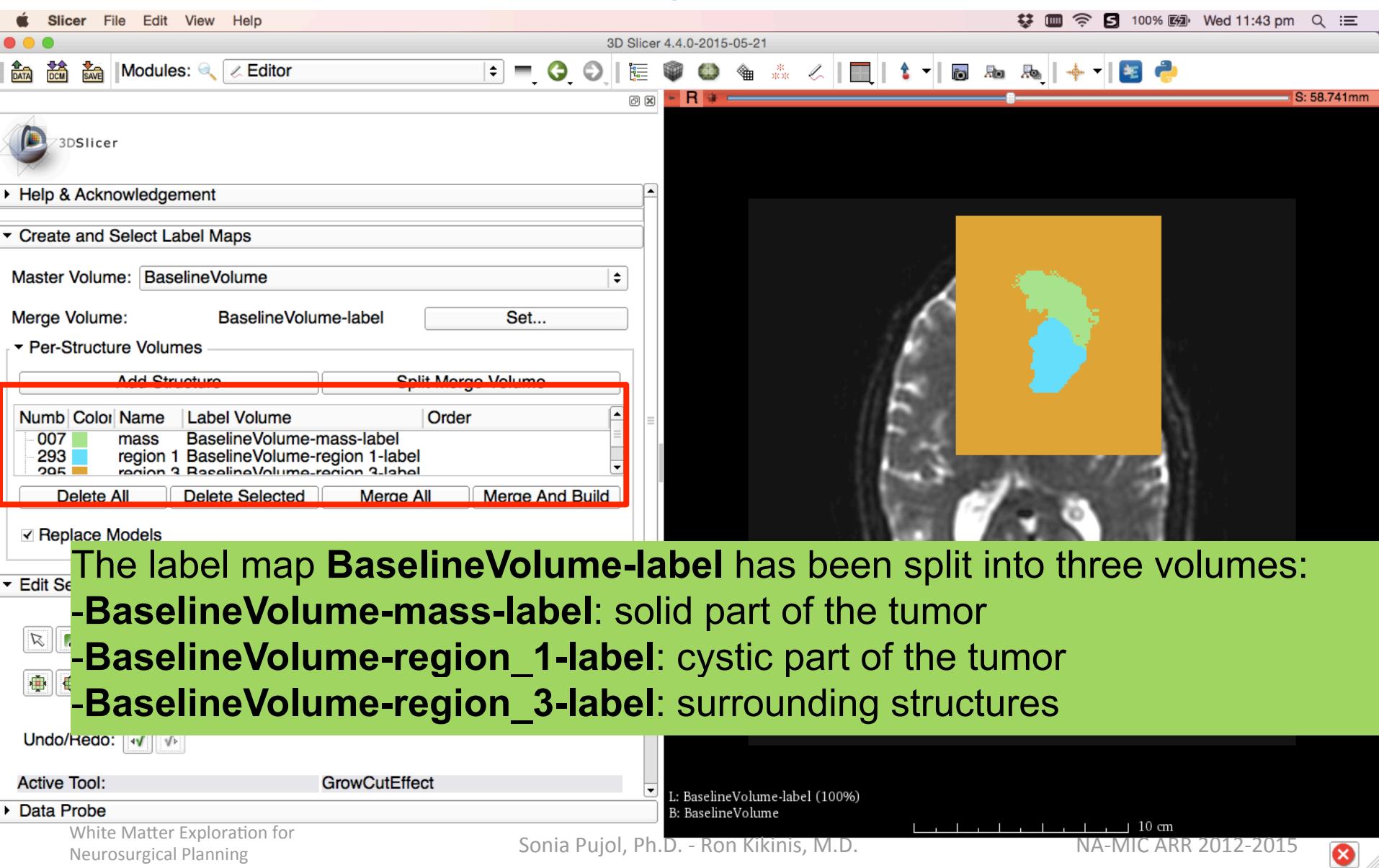
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L: BaselineVolume-label (100%)  
B: BaselineVolume

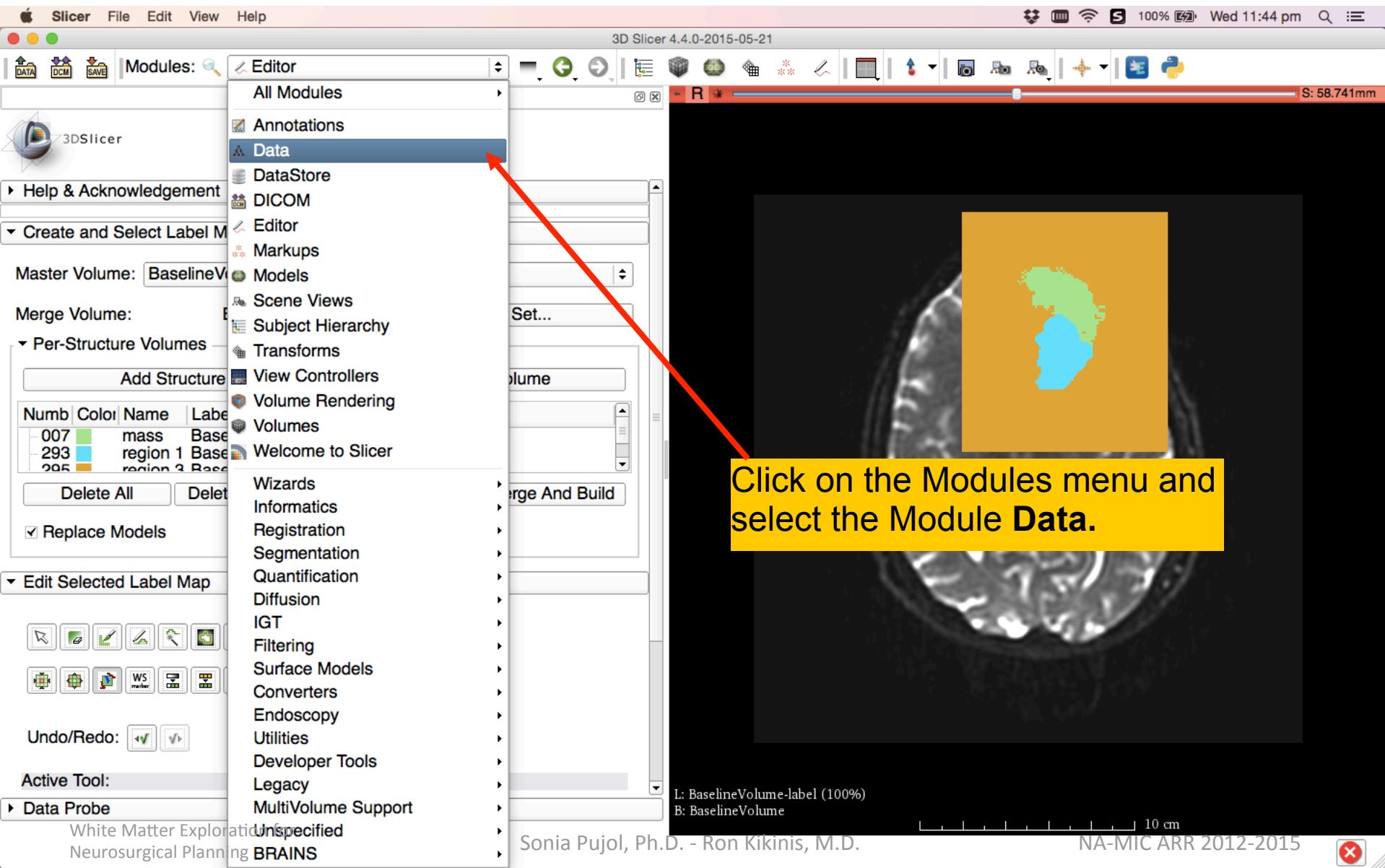
10 cm

NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015

# Tumor Segmentation



# Tumor Segmentation



# Tumor Segmentation

Slicer File Edit View Help

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

R S: 58.741mm

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Data

3DSlicer

Help & Acknowledgement

Display & Modify Scene

Nodes

- Scene
  - View1
  - Red
  - Yellow
  - Green
  - Default Scene Camera
  - BaselineVolume
  - DTIVolume
  - BaselineVolume-label
  - BaselineVolume-mass-label
  - BaselineVolume-region 1-label
  - BaselineVolume-region 3-label

The different label maps have been generated.

Display MRML ID's  
 Show Hidden nodes

Filter:

MRML Node Inspector

Data Probe

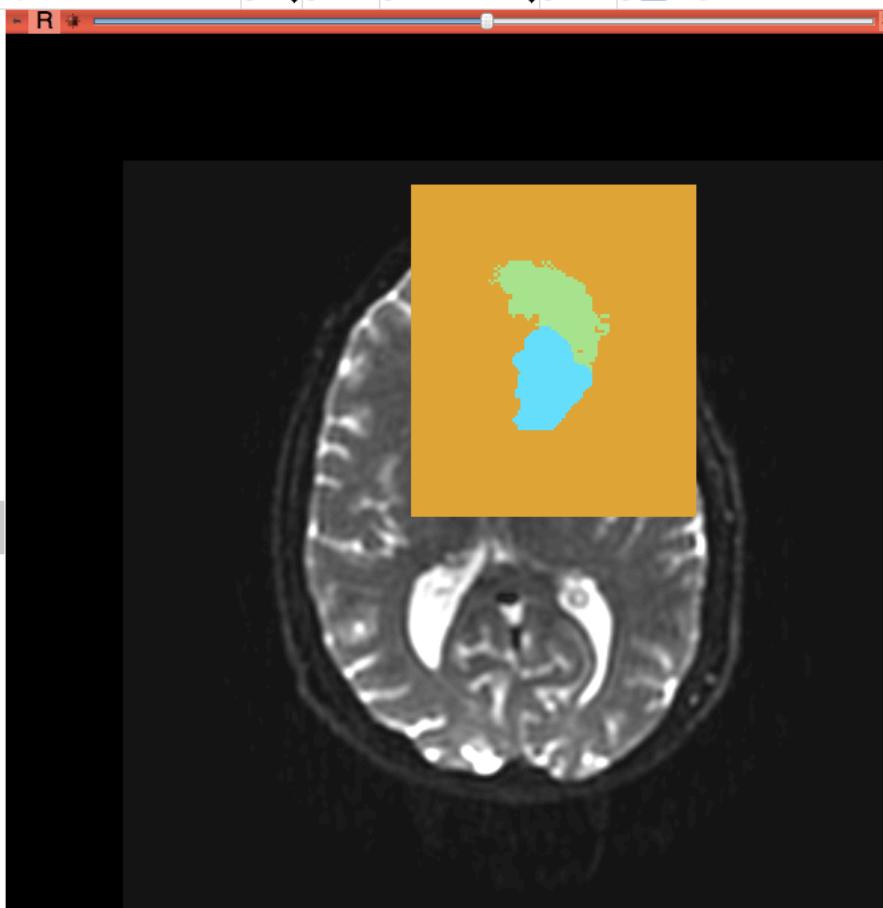
White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

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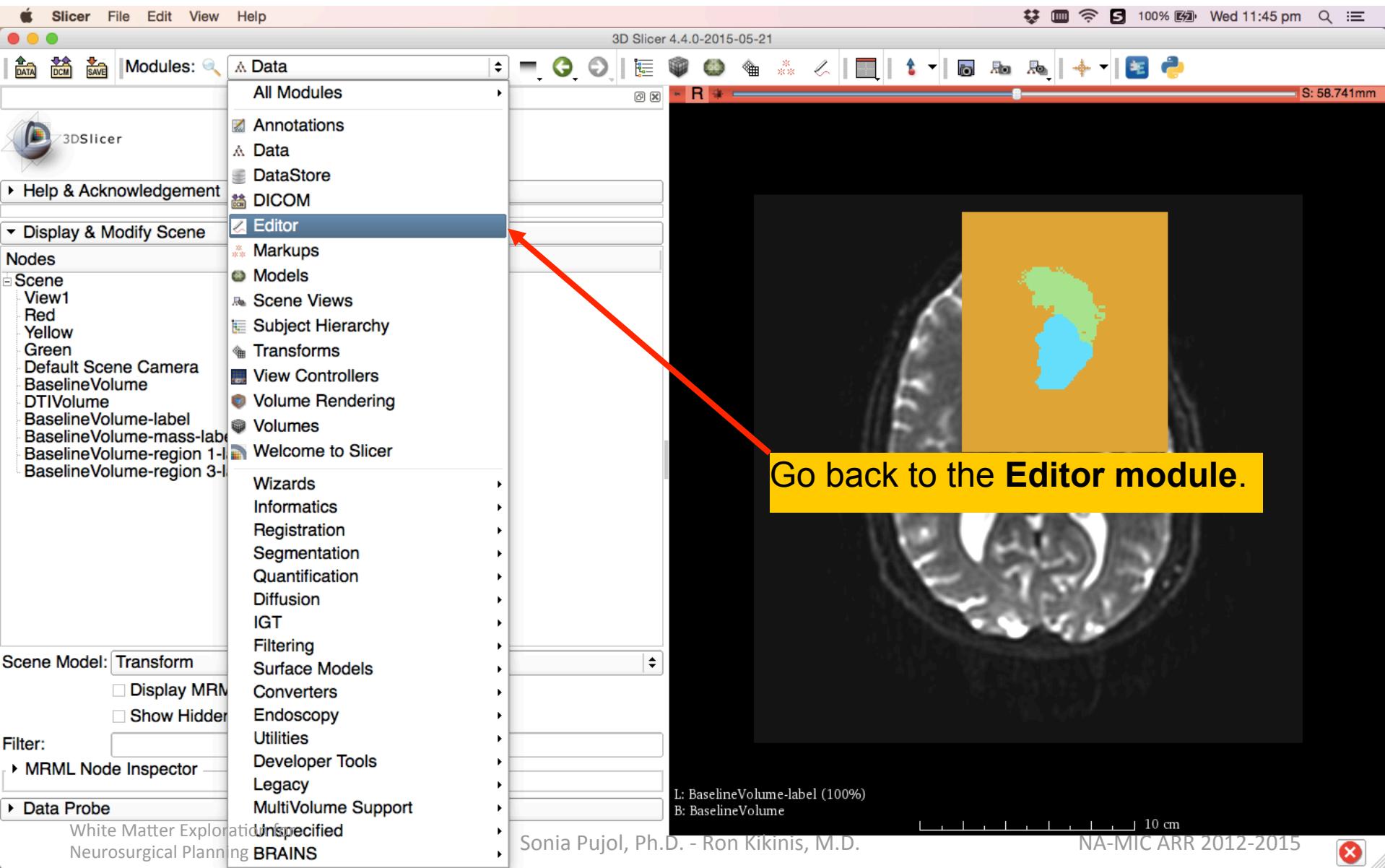
L: BaselineVolume-label (100%)  
B: BaselineVolume

10 cm

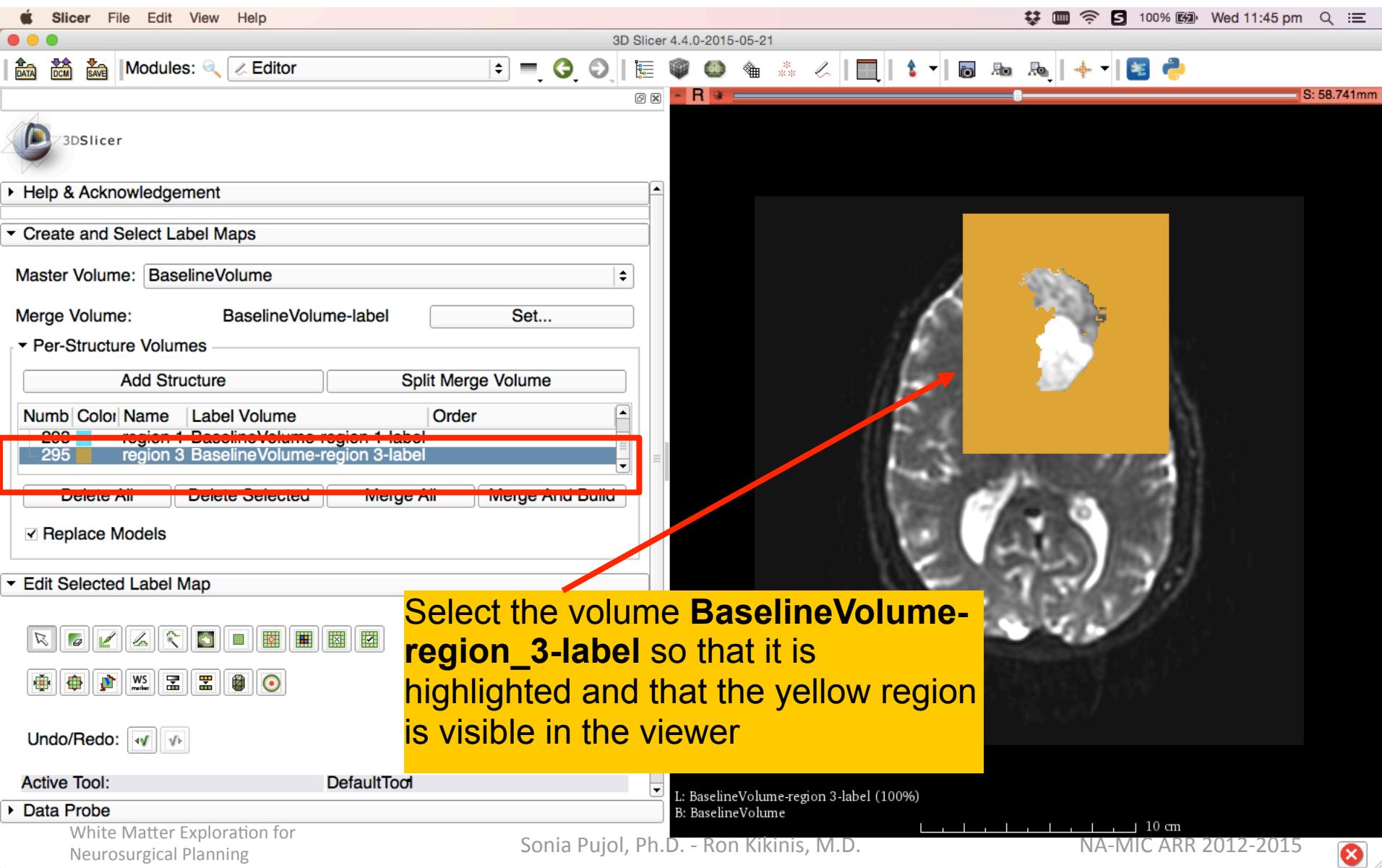
NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015



# Ventricles Segmentation



# Ventricles Segmentation



# Ventricles Segmentation

Slicer File Edit View Help

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Editor R S: 58.741mm

3DSlicer

Help & Acknowledgement

Create and Select Label Maps

Master Volume: BaselineVolume

Merge Volume: BaselineVolume-label Set...

Per-Structure Volumes

Numb	Color	Name	Label Volume	Order
293	Blue	region 1	BaselineVolume-region 1-label	
295	Yellow	region 3	BaselineVolume-	

Add Structure Split Merge Volume

Delete All Delete Selected

Replace Models

Edit Selected Label Map

ThresholdEffect

Undo/Redo:

Active Tool: DefaultTool

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

L: BaselineVolume-region 3-label (100%)  
B: BaselineVolume

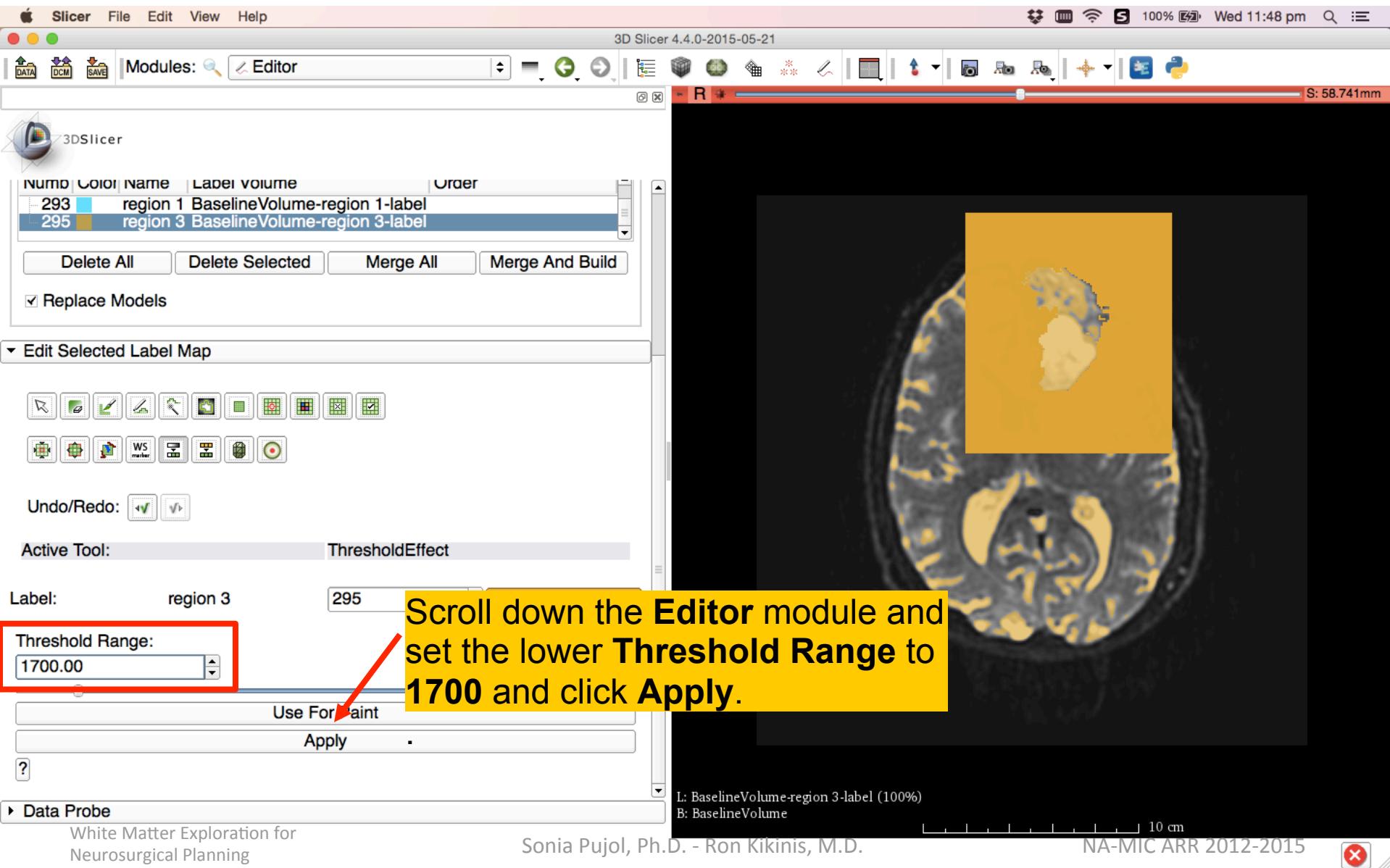
10 cm

NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015

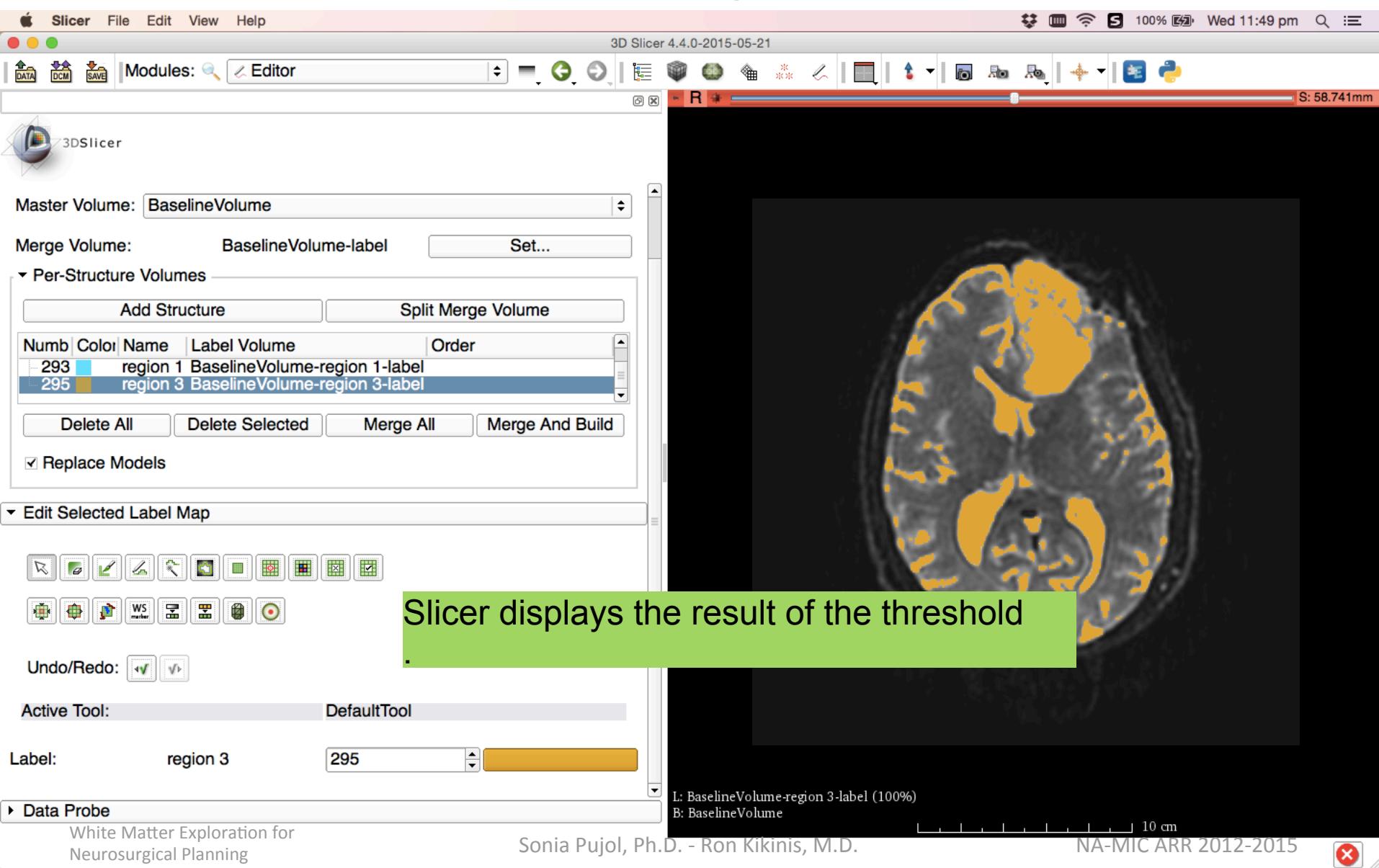
Select the ThresholdEffect tool.

The screenshot shows the 3D Slicer interface with the 'Create and Select Label Maps' module active. On the left, the 'Per-Structure Volumes' table lists two regions: 'region 1' (blue) and 'region 3' (yellow). The 'Edit Selected Label Map' section has the 'ThresholdEffect' tool selected, indicated by a yellow box and a red arrow pointing to it. The main window displays a grayscale MRI slice with a yellow label map overlay highlighting the ventricles. The status bar at the bottom right shows the slice number 'S: 58.741mm' and the date 'Wed 11:47 pm'. A callout box with the text 'Select the ThresholdEffect tool.' is overlaid on the interface.

# Ventricles Segmentation



# Ventricles Segmentation



# Ventricles Segmentation

Slicer File Edit View Help

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Editor

R S: 58.741mm

3DSlicer

Master Volume: BaselineVolume

Merge Volume: BaselineVolume-label Set...

Per-Structure Volumes

Numb	Color	Name	Label Volume	Order
293	Blue	region 1	BaselineVolume-region 1-label	
295	Yellow	region 3	BaselineVolume-region 3-label	

Add Structure Split Merge Volume  
Delete All Delete Selected Merge All  
 Replace Models

Edit Selected Label Map

SaveslandEffect

Undo/Redo:

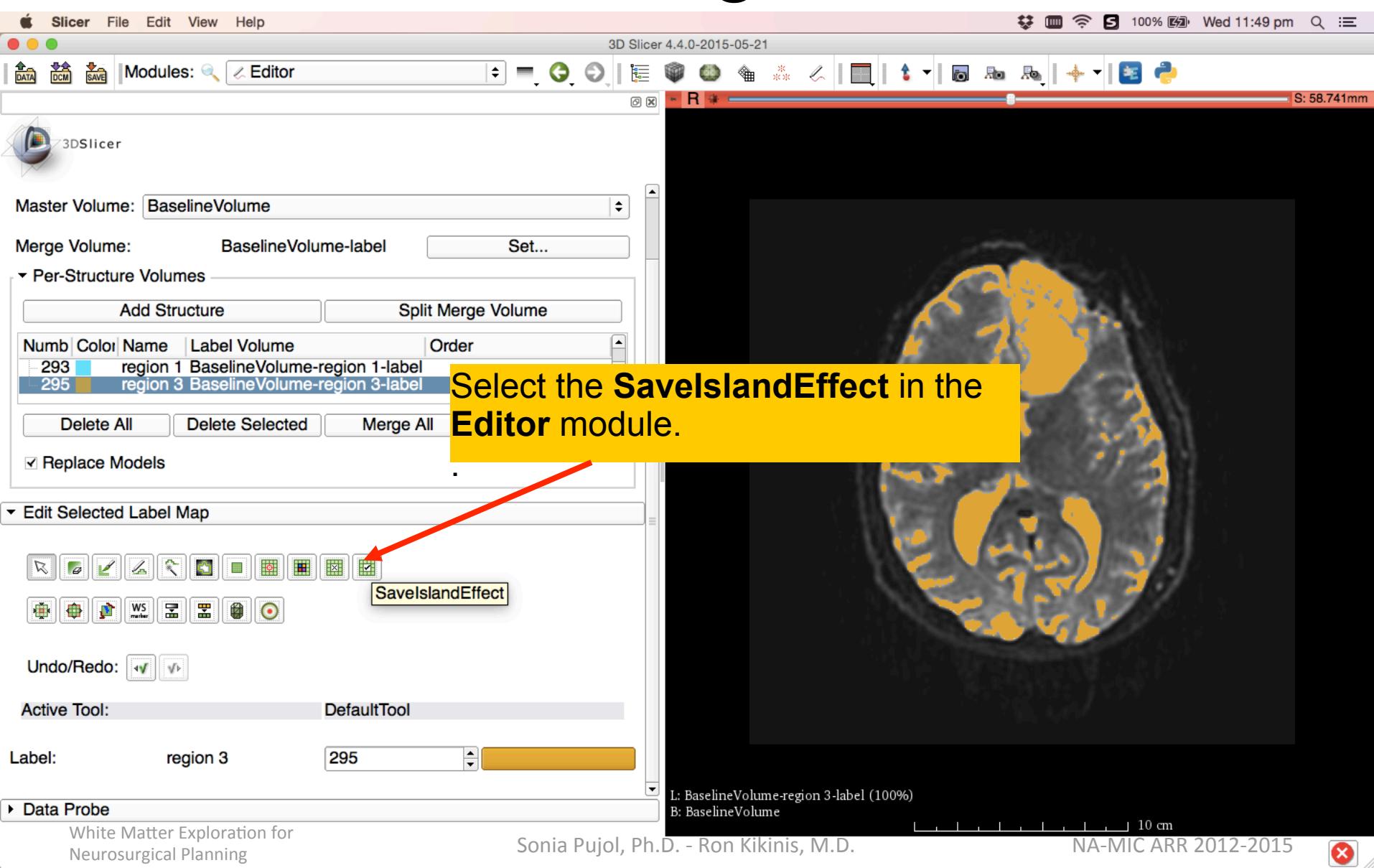
Active Tool: DefaultTool

Label: region 3 295

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

Select the **SaveslandEffect** in the **Editor** module.

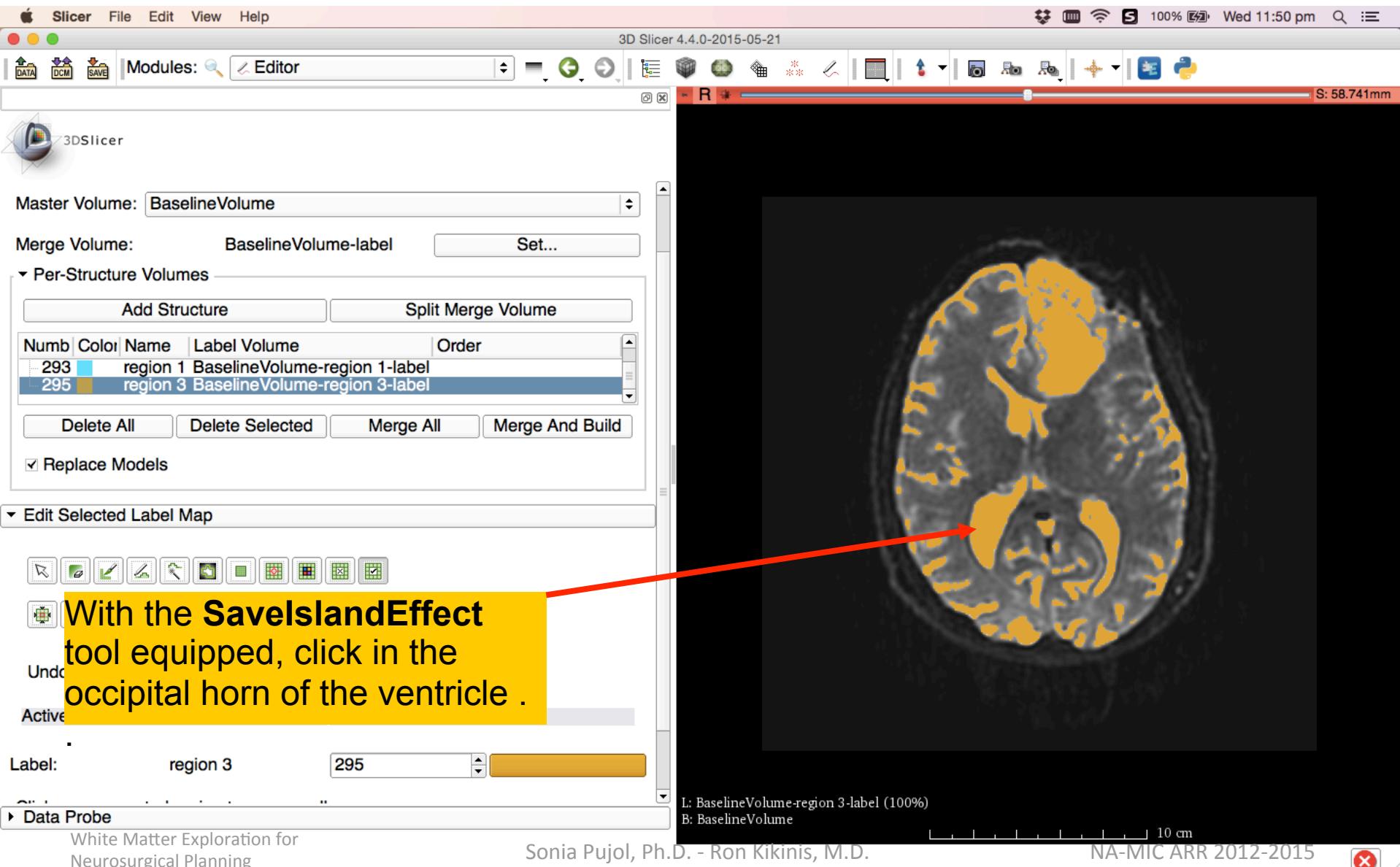


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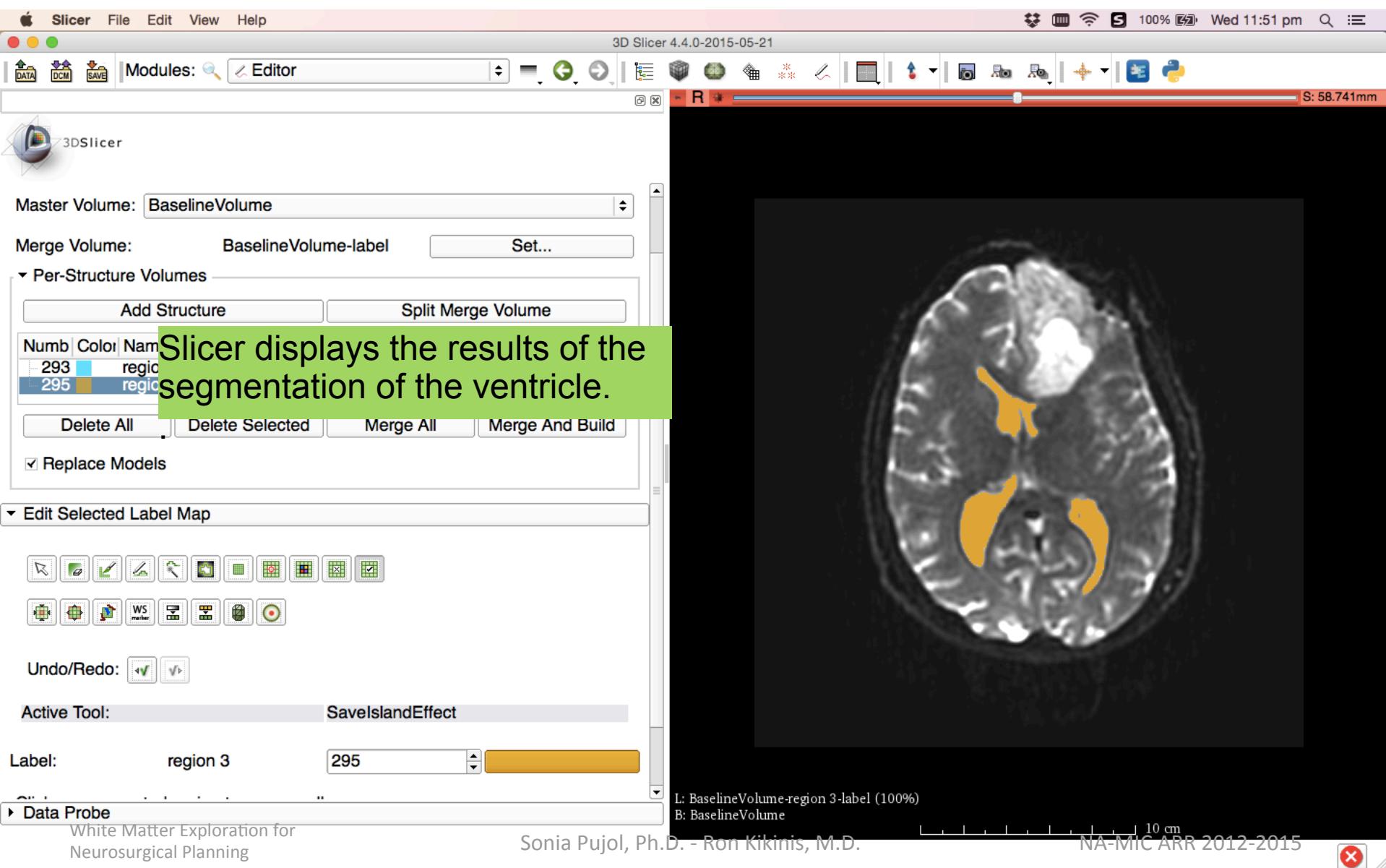
10 cm

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# Ventricles Segmentation



# Final Result of Segmentation



# Final Result of Segmentation

Scatter back up and click on Merge and Build to merge the different label maps, and generate the 3D models of the tumor and ventricles using a Marching Cubes algorithm.

Master Volume: BaselineVolume

Merge Volume: BaselineVolume-label

Per-Structure Volumes

Numb	Color	Name	Label Volume	Order
293	Blue	region 1	BaselineVolume-region 1-label	
295	Yellow	region 3	BaselineVolume-region 3-label	

Add Structure    Split Merge Volume

Delete All    Delete Selected    Merge All    Merge And Build

Replace Models

Edit Selected Label Map

Undo/Redo:

Active Tool: SavelslandEffect

Label: region 3    295

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

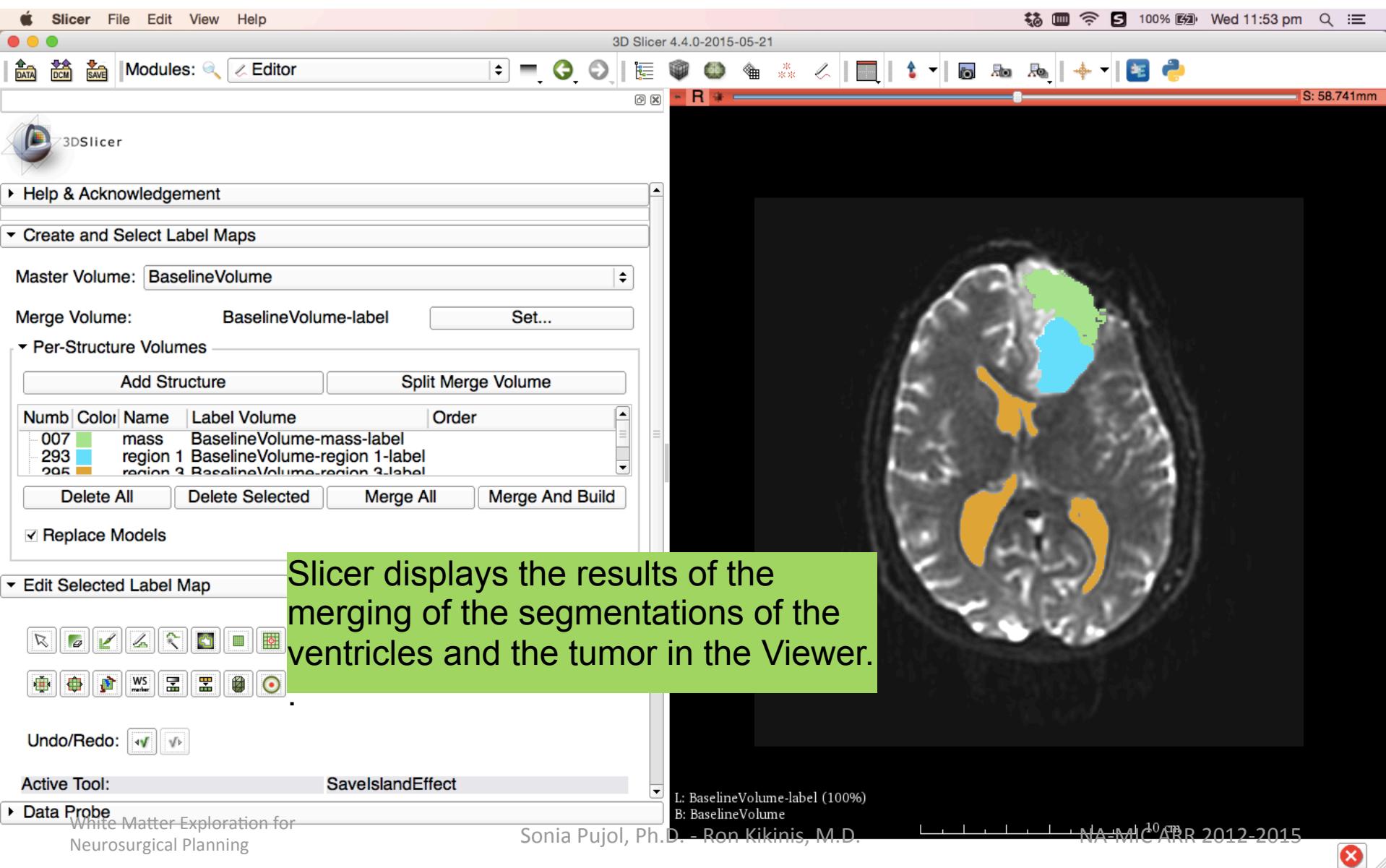
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L: BaselineVolume-region 3-label (100%)  
B: BaselineVolume

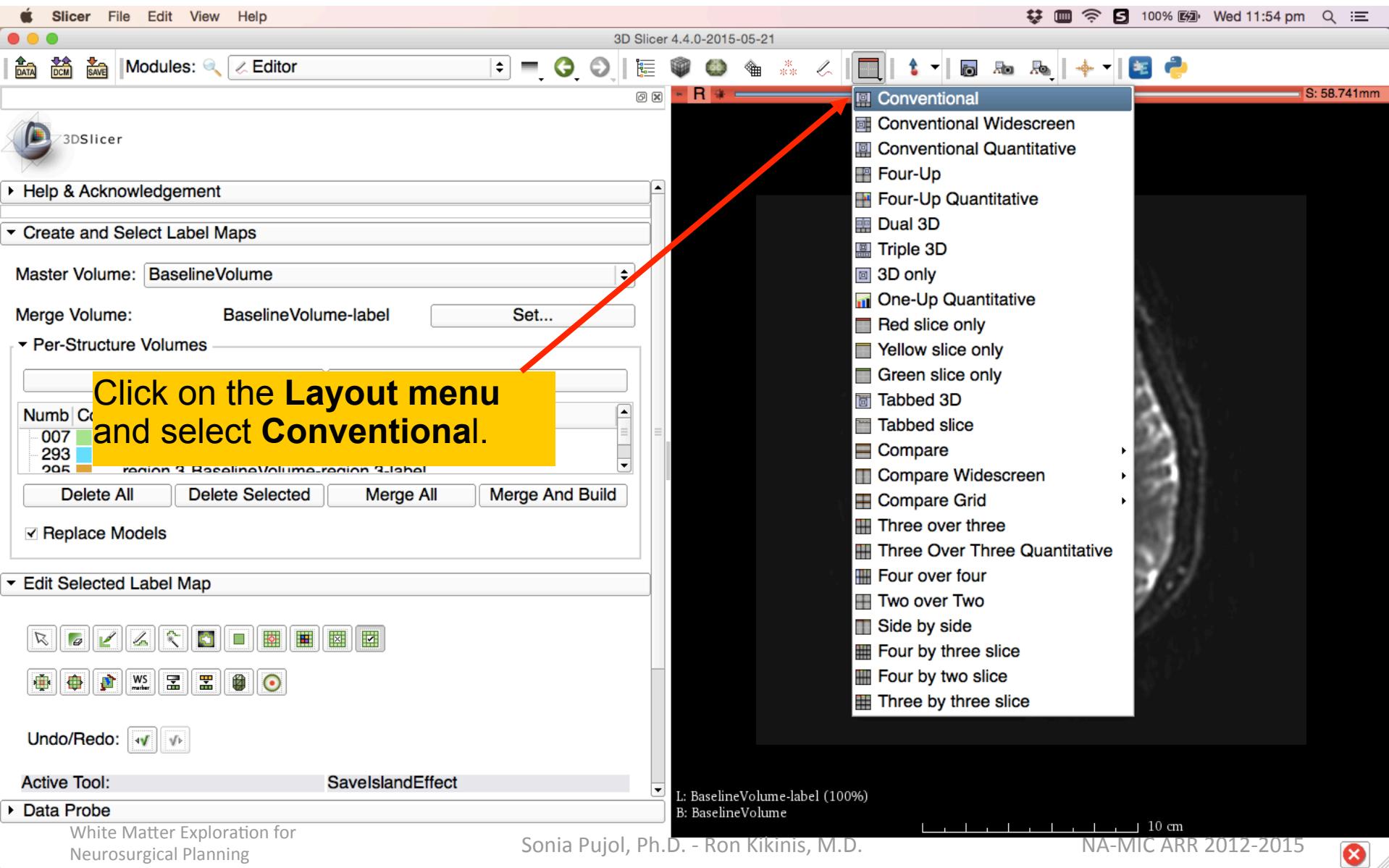
10 cm

NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015

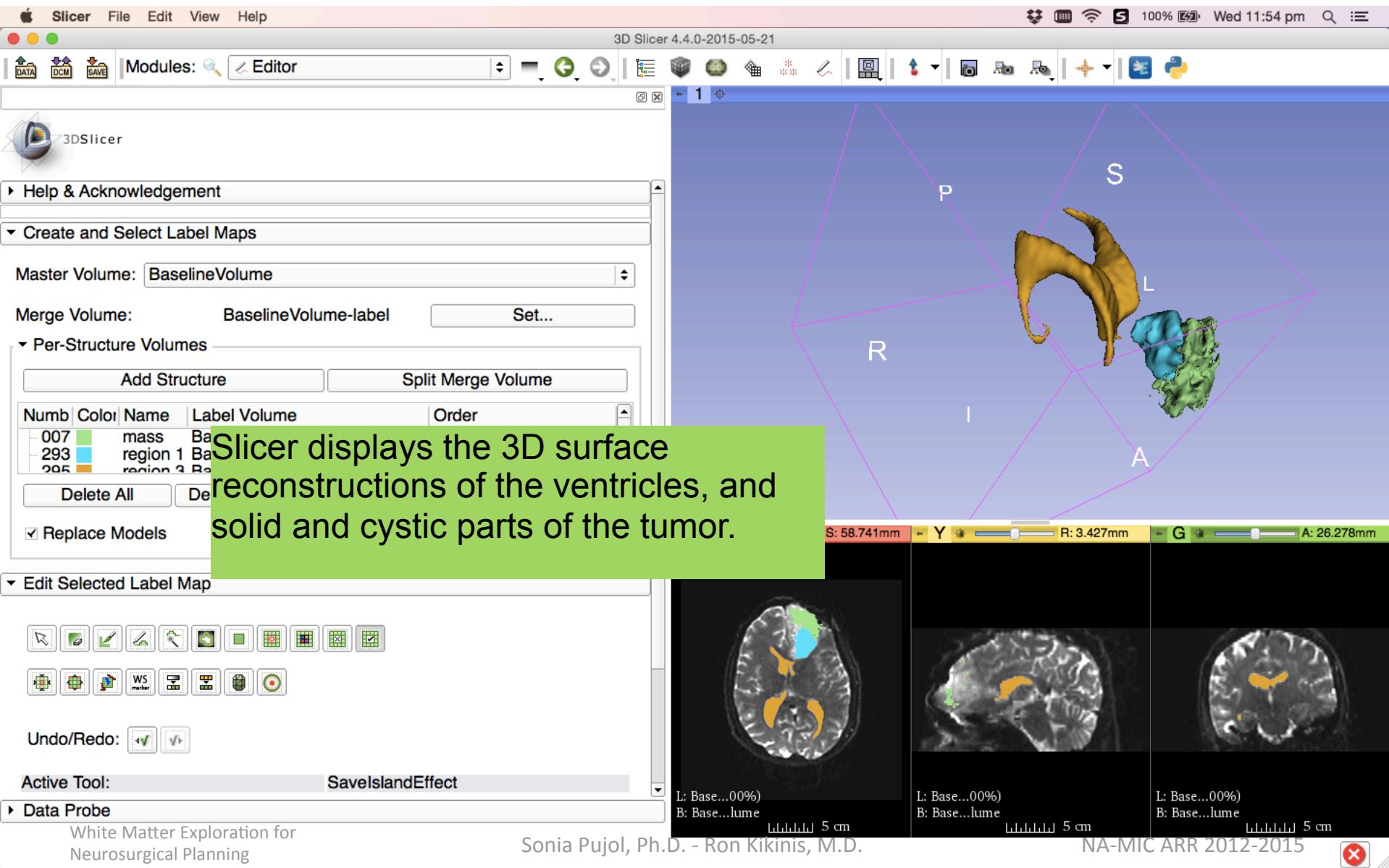
# Final Result of Segmentation



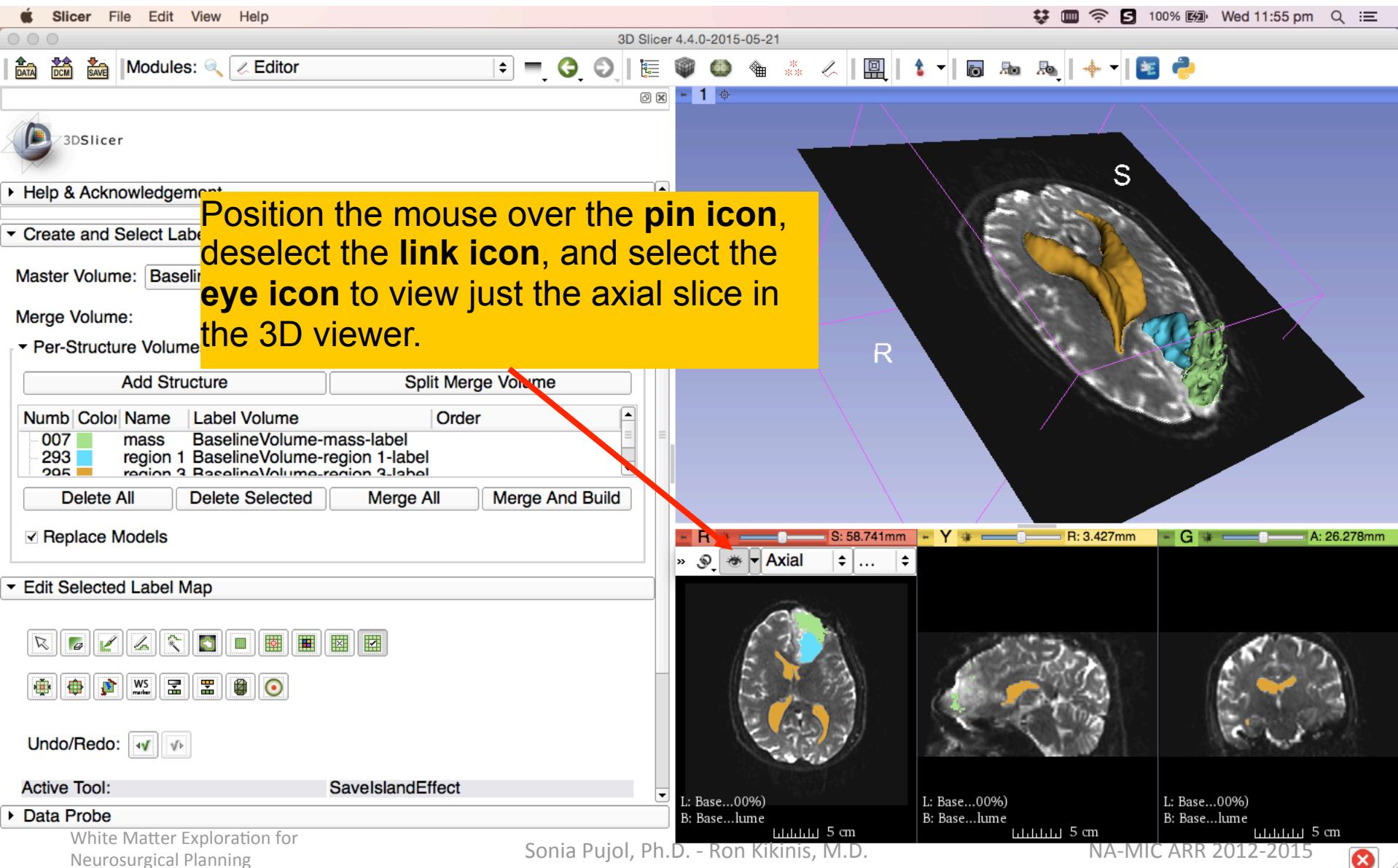
# Final Result of Segmentation



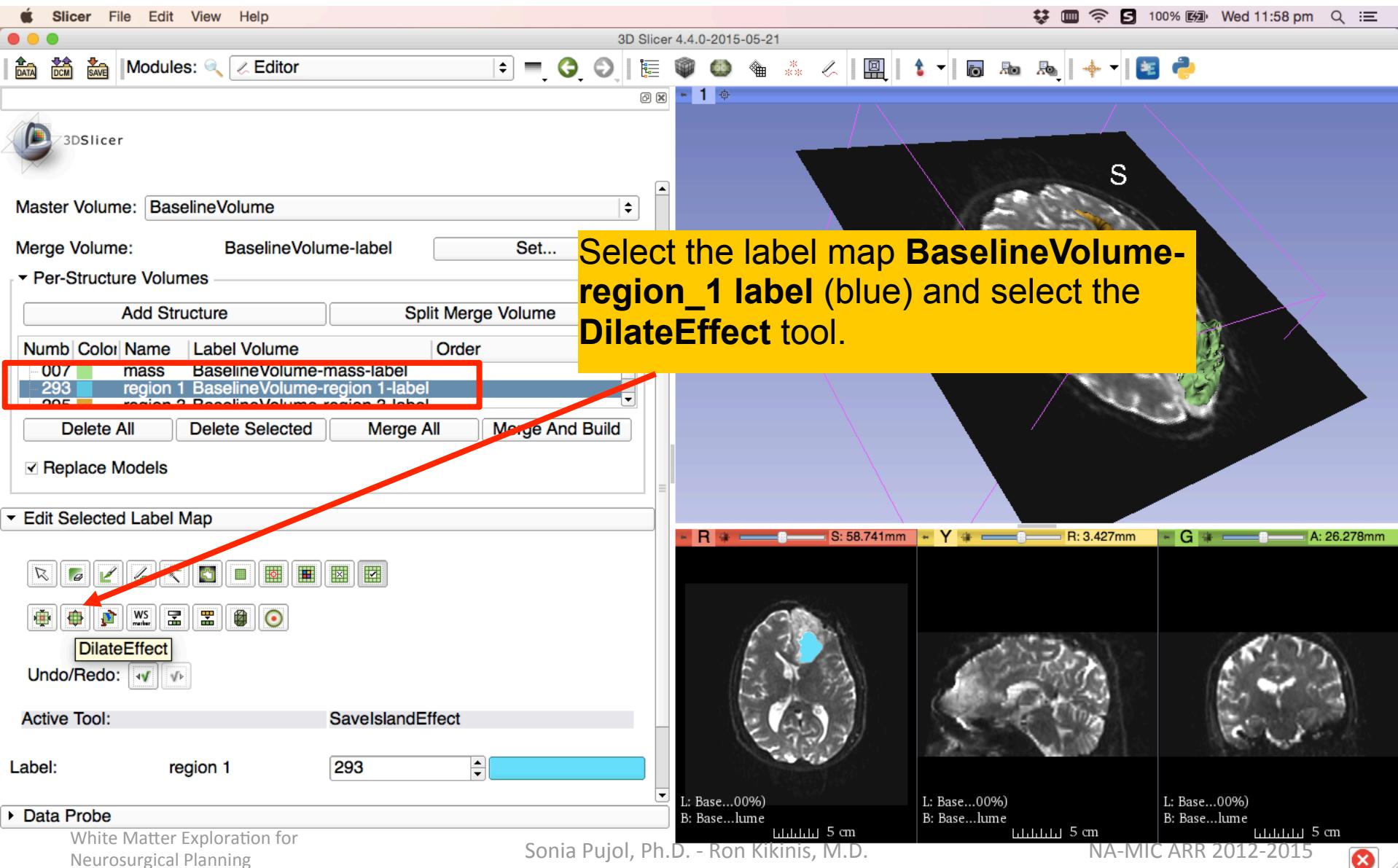
# Final Result of Segmentation

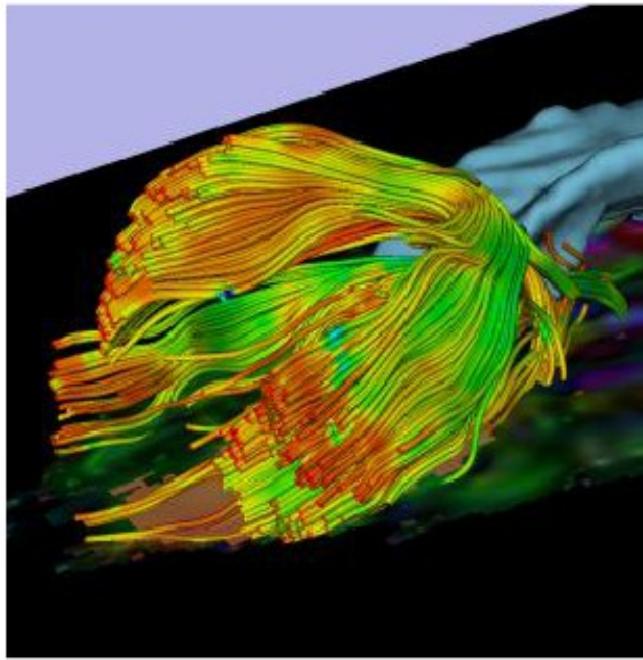


# Definition of peri-tumoral volume



# Definition of peri-tumoral volume





## Part 2: Tractography exploration of peri- tumoral white matter fibers

# Definition of peri-tumoral volume

With the **DilateEffect** tool equipped, click on the cystic part of the tumor in the axial slice viewer once, then select **Apply** 3 times to generate the peritumoral volume

The screenshot shows the 3D Slicer interface. On the left, the '3DSlicer' panel displays a list of structures with labels like 'mass' and 'region 1'. The 'Active Tool' is set to 'DilateEffect'. A red arrow points from the 'Apply' button in the tool settings to the 'Edit Selected Label Map' section. In the center, a 3D rendering of a brain with a yellow and blue segmented tumor is shown. The right side features three axial MRI slices. The top slice shows the tumor with labels 'S' (superior) and 'R' (right). The bottom slices show the tumor's location in the brain. The bottom right corner contains the text 'NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015'.

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Editor

3DSlicer

Add Structure

Numb	Color	Name	L
007	green	mass	E
293	blue	region 1	B
295	orange	region 2	F

Delete All Delete Selected Merge All Merge And Build

Replace Models

Edit Selected Label Map

Undo/Redo:

Active Tool: DilateEffect

Label: region 1 293

Eight Neighbors  
 Four Neighbors

?

Data Probe

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NA-MIC ARR 2012-2015

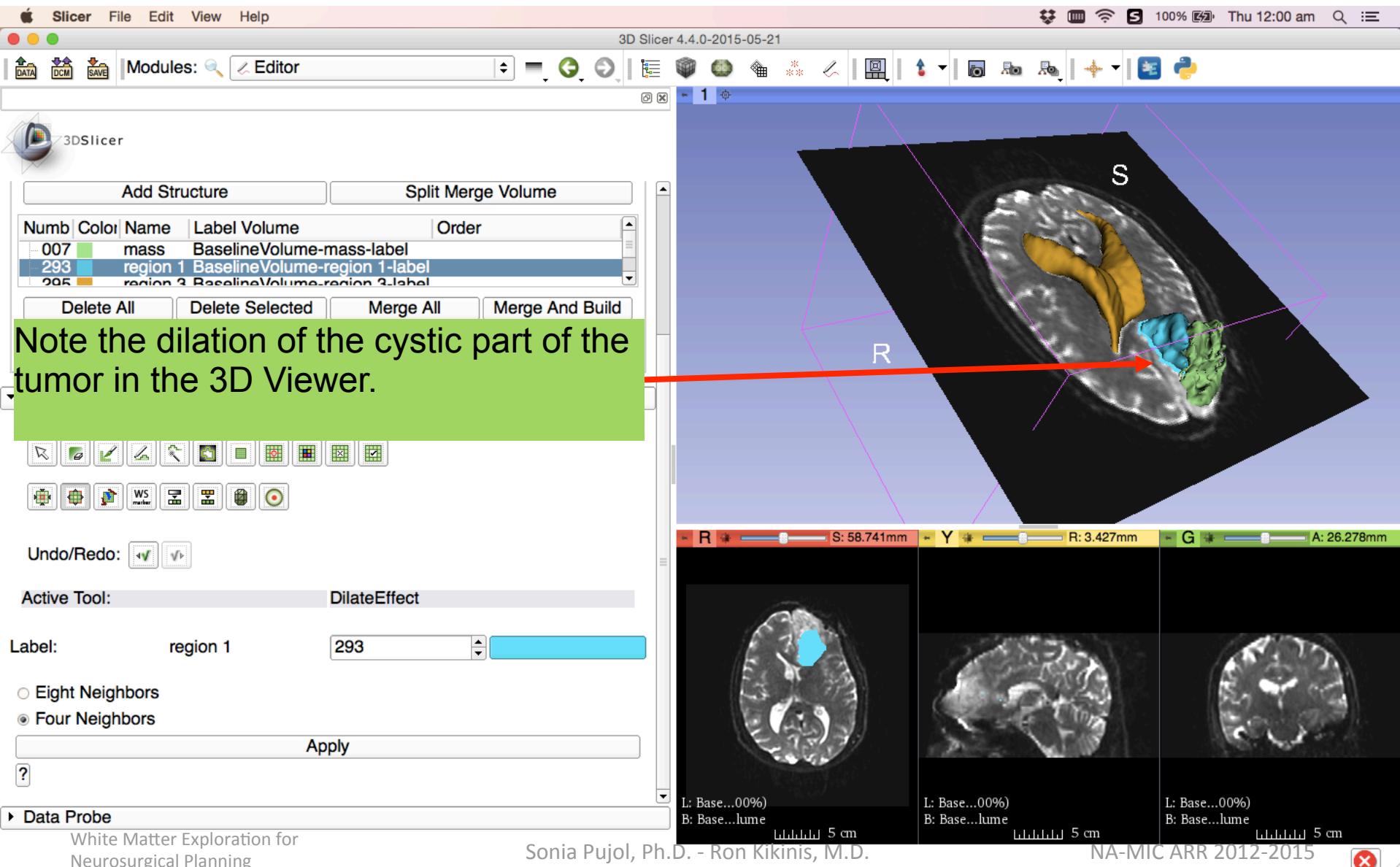
R S Y G A: 26.278mm

L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm

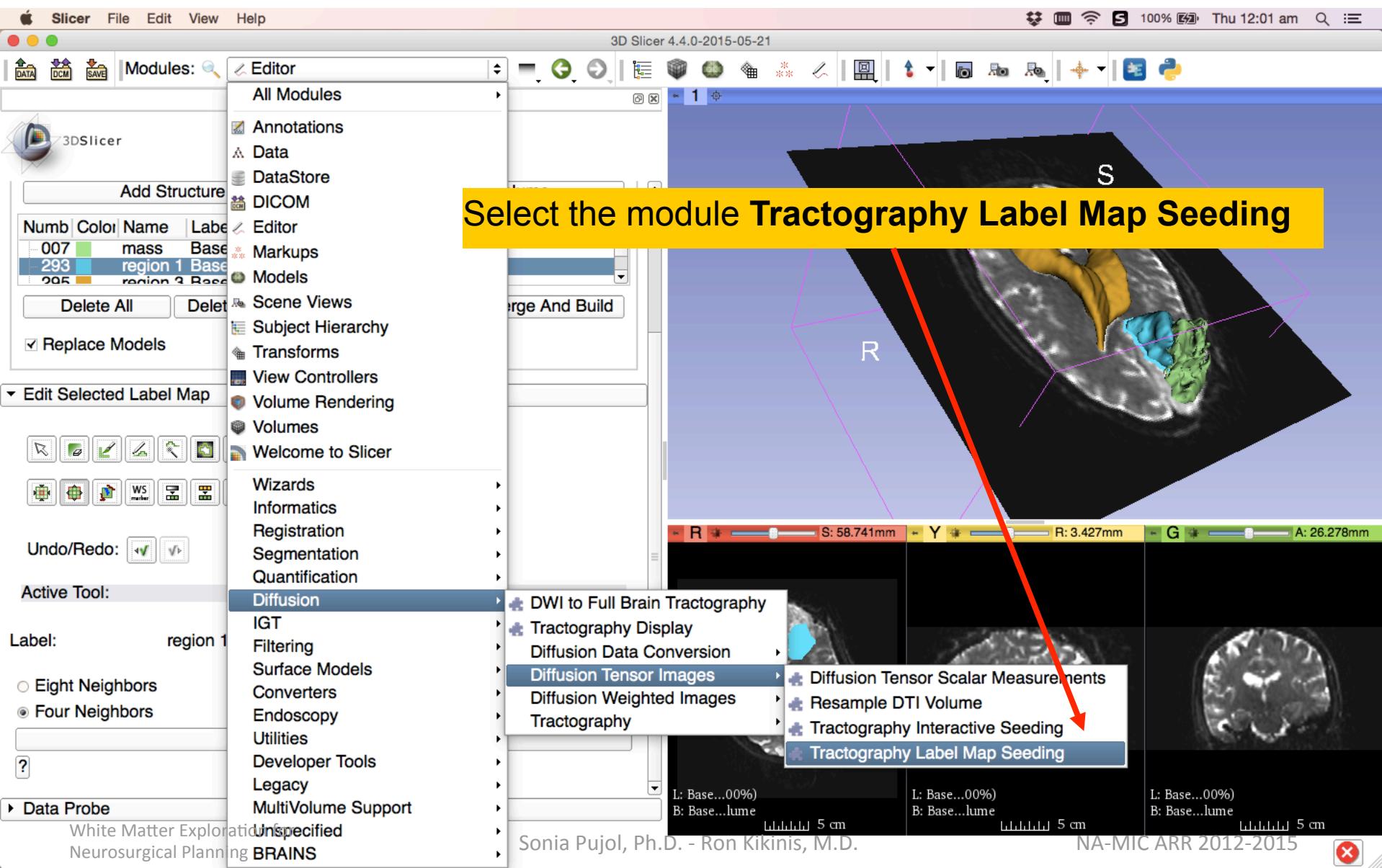
L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm

L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm

# Definition of peritumoral volume



# Final Result of Segmentation



# Final Result of Segmentation

Slicer File Edit View Help

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Tractography Label Map Seeding

3DSlicer

Help & Acknowledgement

Tractography Label Map Seeding

Parameter set: Tractography Label Map Seeding

IO

Input DTI Volume: DTIVolume  
Input Label Map: BaselineVolume-region\_1-label  
Output Fiber Bundle: newFiberBundle

Seed Placement Options

Use Index Space:   
Seed Spacing: 2.00  
Random Grid:   
Linear Measure Start Threshold: 0.3

Tractography Seeding Parameters

Minimum Path Length: 20.00  
Maximum Length: 800.00  
Stopping Criteria:  LinearMeasure  FractionalAnisotropy  
Stopping Value: 0.25  
Stopping Track Curvature: 0.7  
Integration Step Length(mm): 0.5

Label definition

Status: Idle

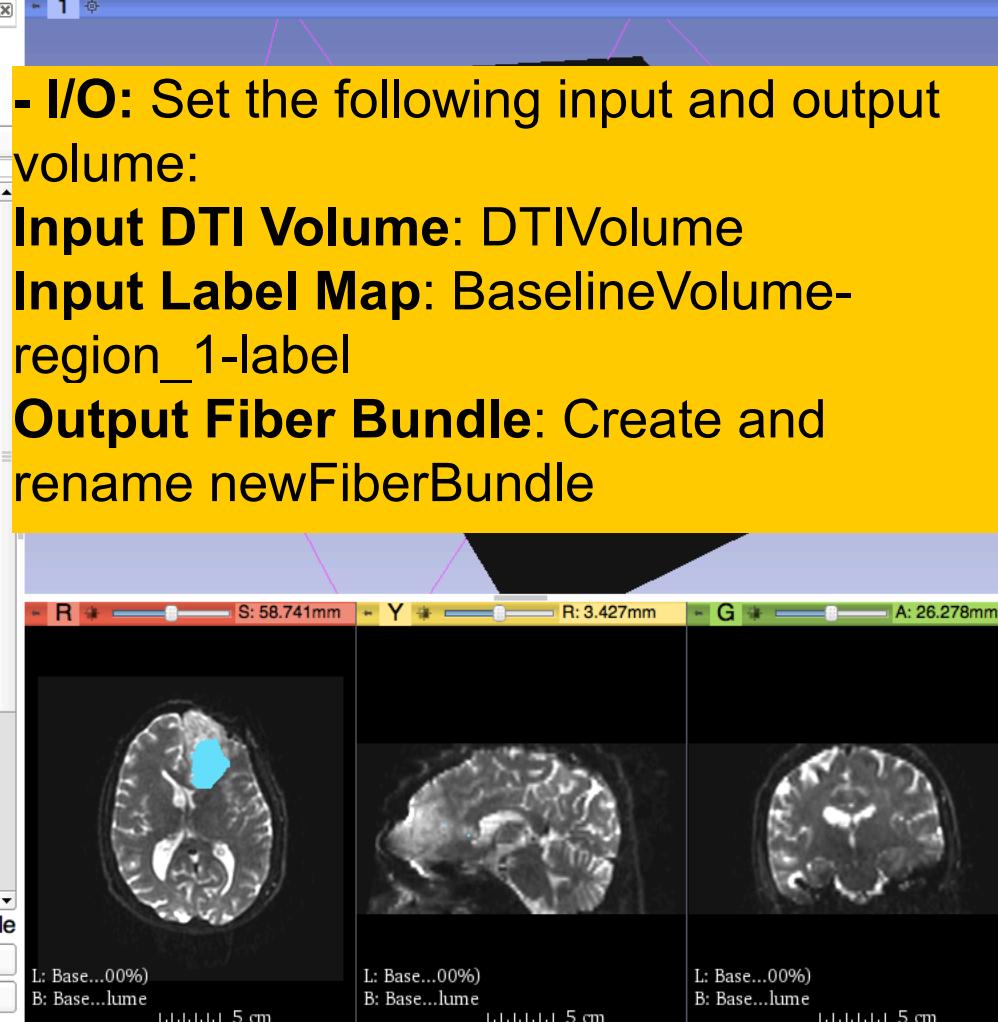
Cancel Apply

Restore Defaults AutoRun

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

- I/O: Set the following input and output volume:  
**Input DTI Volume:** DTIVolume  
**Input Label Map:** BaselineVolume-region\_1-label  
**Output Fiber Bundle:** Create and rename newFiberBundle



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# Final Result of Segmentation

Slicer File Edit View Help

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Tractography Label Map Seeding

3DSlicer

Help & Acknowledgement

Tractography Label Map Seeding

Parameter set: Tractography Label Map Seeding

IO

Input DTI Volume: DTIVolume

Input Label Map: BaselineVolume-region 1-label

Output Fiber Bundle: newFiberBundle

Seed Placement Options

Use Index Space

Seed Spacing: 2.00

Random Grid:

Linear Measure Start Threshold: 0.3

Tractography Seeding Parameters

Minimum Path Length: 20.00

Maximum Length: 800.00

Stopping Criteria:  LinearMeasure  FractionalAnisotropy

Stopping Value: 0.25

Stopping Track Curvature: 0.7

Integration Step Length(mm): 0.5

Label definition

Status: Idle

Restore Defaults AutoRun

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

1

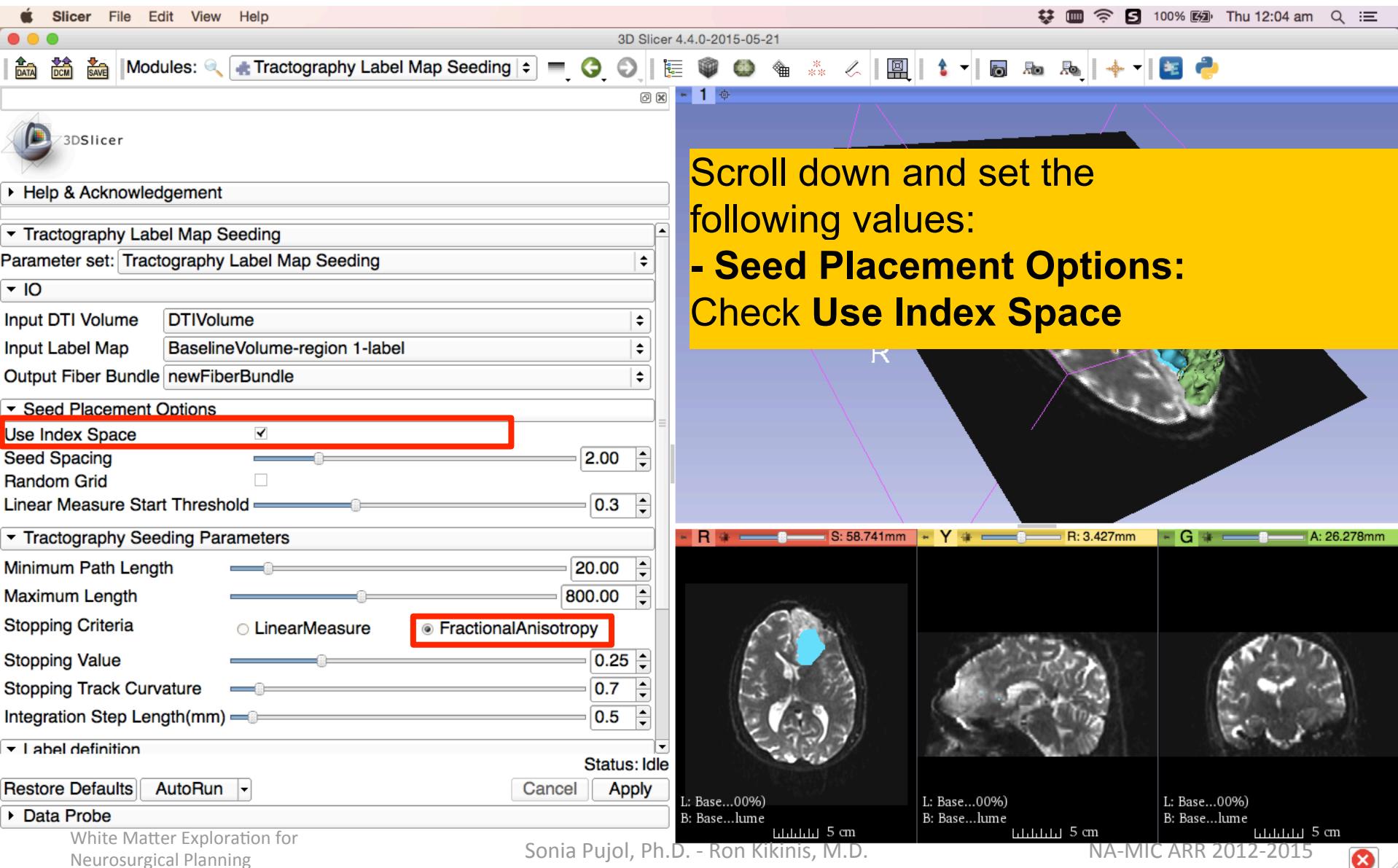
Scroll down and set the following values:  
**- Seed Placement Options:**  
**Check Use Index Space**

R S: 58.741mm Y R: 3.427mm G A: 26.278mm

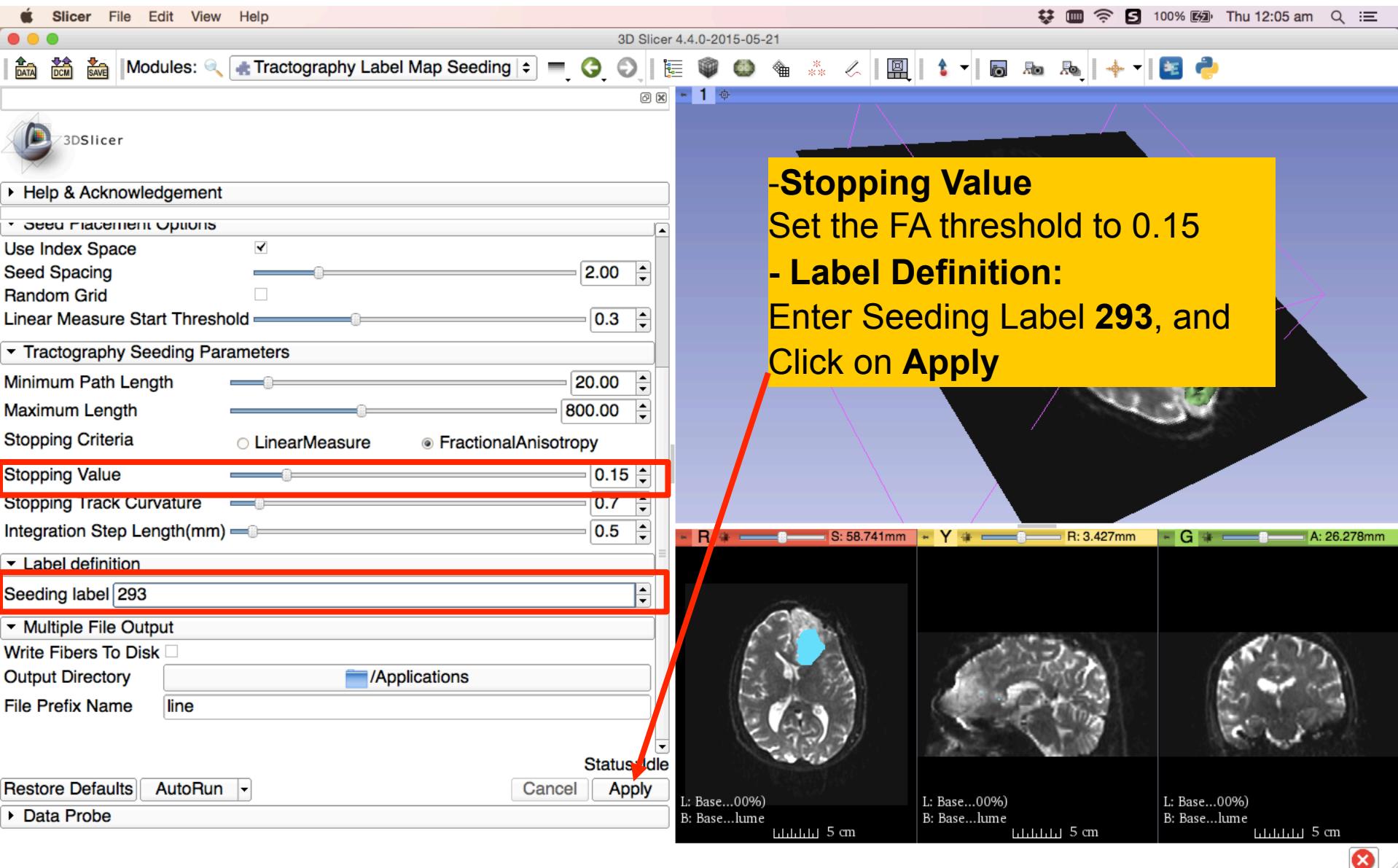
L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm

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# Final Result of Segmentation



# Final Result of Segmentation

Slicer displays the white matter fibers surrounding the tumor

The fibers are colored according the fractional anisotropy values (red = low FA; blue,green=high FA)

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Tractography Label Map Seeding

3DSlicer Help & Acknowledgments Seed Placement

Use Index Space  Seed Spacing 2.00 Random Grid Linear Measure Start Threshold 0.3

Tractography Seeding Parameters Minimum Path Length 20.00 Maximum Length Stopping Criteria Stopping Value Stopping Track Integration Step

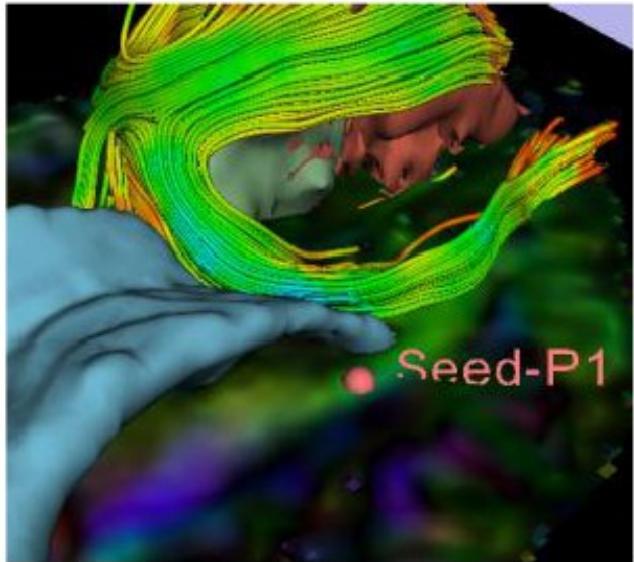
Label definition Seeding label 293

Multiple File Output Write Fibers To Disk  Output Directory /Applications File Prefix Name line

Status: Completed 100% Restore Defaults AutoRun Cancel Apply

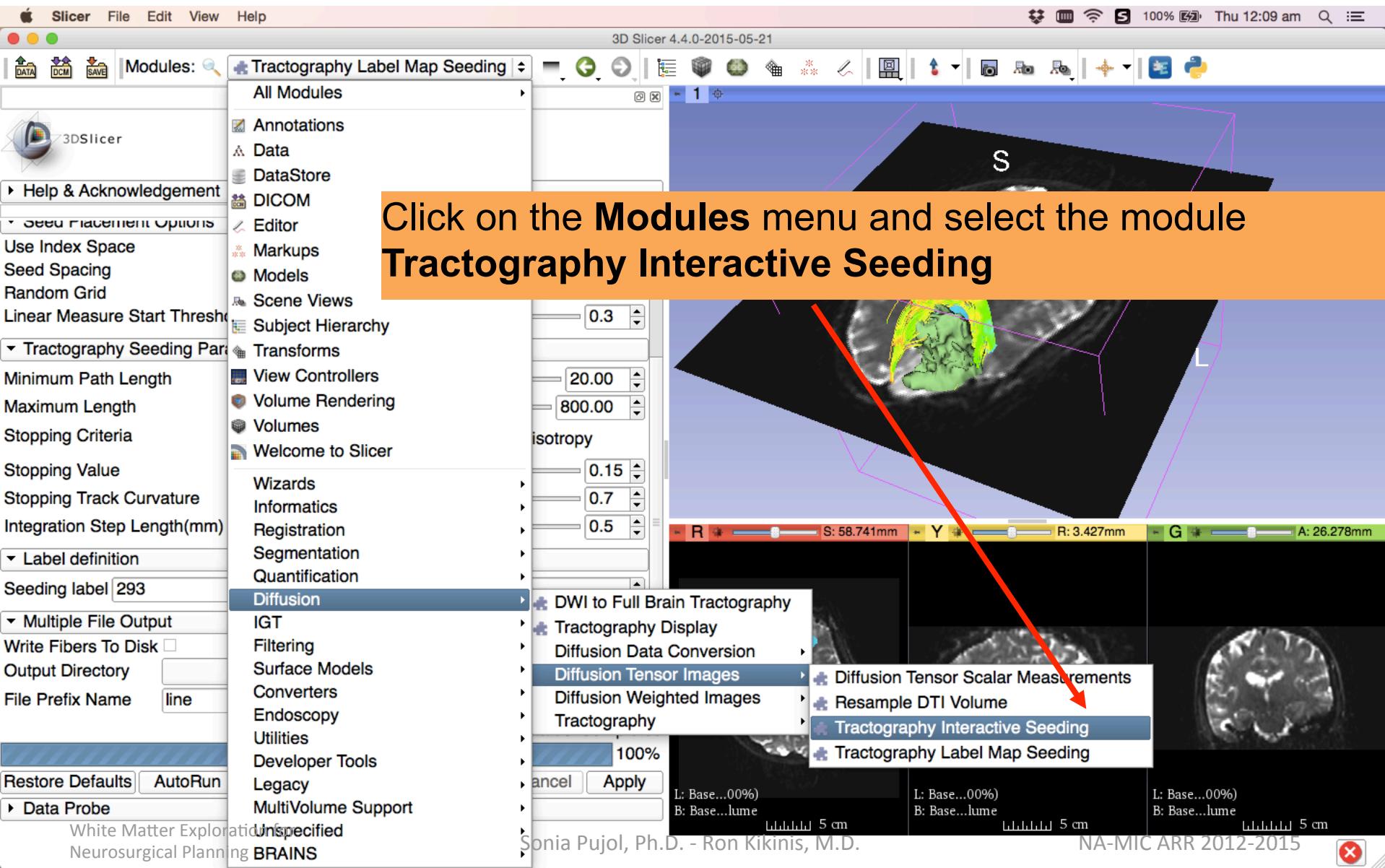
L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm L: Base...00% B: Base...lume 5 cm

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## Part 4: Tractography exploration of the ipsilateral and contralateral side

# Tractography on-the-fly



# Tractography on-the-fly

Position the mouse over the pin icon in the axial slice viewer and change the volume to DTIVolume

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

Modules: Tractography Interactive Seeding

3DSlicer

Help & Acknowledgement

IO

Parameters FiducialSeedingParameters

Presets Slicer4 Interctive Seeding Defaults

Input DTI Volume DTIVolume

Input Fiducials, Model or Label Map Select a MarkupsFiducial

Output Fiber Bundle Select a FiberBundle

Enable Seeding Tracts

Seed Placement Options

Fiducial Region Size 2.50mm

Fiducial Seeding Step Size 1.00mm

Seed Selected Fiducials

Max Number of Seeds 100

Tractography Seeding Parameters

Minimum Path Length 20.000mm

Maximum Path Length 800.000mm

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

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# Tractography on-the-fly

Select the **Fiducial icon**, and position it next to the cystic part of the tumor by clicking near it in the 3D viewer

The screenshot shows the 3D Slicer interface with the following details:

- Top Bar:** Slicer, File, Edit, View, Help, 3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21, 100%, Thu 12:16 am.
- Modules:** Tractography Interactive Seeding is selected.
- Left Panel (3DSlicer):**
  - Help & About, IO, Parameters, Presets.
  - Input DTI Volume: DTIVolume.
  - Input Fiducials, Model or Label Map: Select a MarkupsFiducial.
  - Output Fiber Bundle: Select a FiberBundle.
  - Enable Seeding Tracts: checked.
  - Seed Placement Options:**
    - Fiducial Region Size: 2.50mm.
    - Fiducial Seeding Step Size: 1.00mm.
    - Seed Selected Fiducials: unchecked.
    - Max Number of Seeds: 100.
  - Tractography Seeding Parameters:**
    - Minimum Path Length: 20.000mm.
    - Maximum Path Length: 800.000mm.
  - Data Probe:** White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning.
- 3D Viewer:** Shows a brain with a multi-colored fiber bundle tractography overlay and a yellow seed point labeled "F-1". A red arrow points from the text box to this seed point.
- Bottom Row:** Three axial MRI slices showing the tractography results.

# Tractography on-the-fly

Slicer File Edit View Help

3D Slicer 4.4.0-2015-05-21

DATA DCM SAVE Modules: Tractography Interactive Seeding

3DSlicer

Help & Acknowledgement

IO

Parameters FiducialSeedingParameters

Presets Slicer4 Interctive Seeding Defaults

Input DTI Volume DTIVolume

Input Fiducials, Model or Label Map F

Output Fiber Bundle FiberBundle\_F

Enable Seeding Tracts

Seed Placement Options

Fiducial Region Size 2.50mm

Fiducial Seeding Step Size 1.00mm

Seed Selected Fiducials

Max Number of Seeds 100

Tractography Seeding Parameters

Minimum Path Length 20.000mm

Maximum Path Length 800.000mm

Data Probe

White Matter Exploration for Neurosurgical Planning

1

Fiber束

DTI Volume

Output Fiber Bundle

Seeding Tracts

Seed Placement Options

DTI Volume

F

FiberBundle\_F

2.50mm

1.00mm

100

20.000mm

800.000mm

5 cm

5 cm

5 cm

Set Input DTI Volume to **DTIVolume**  
Set Fiducial List or Model to **F**  
Set Output Fiber Bundle to **Create new Fiber Bundle**

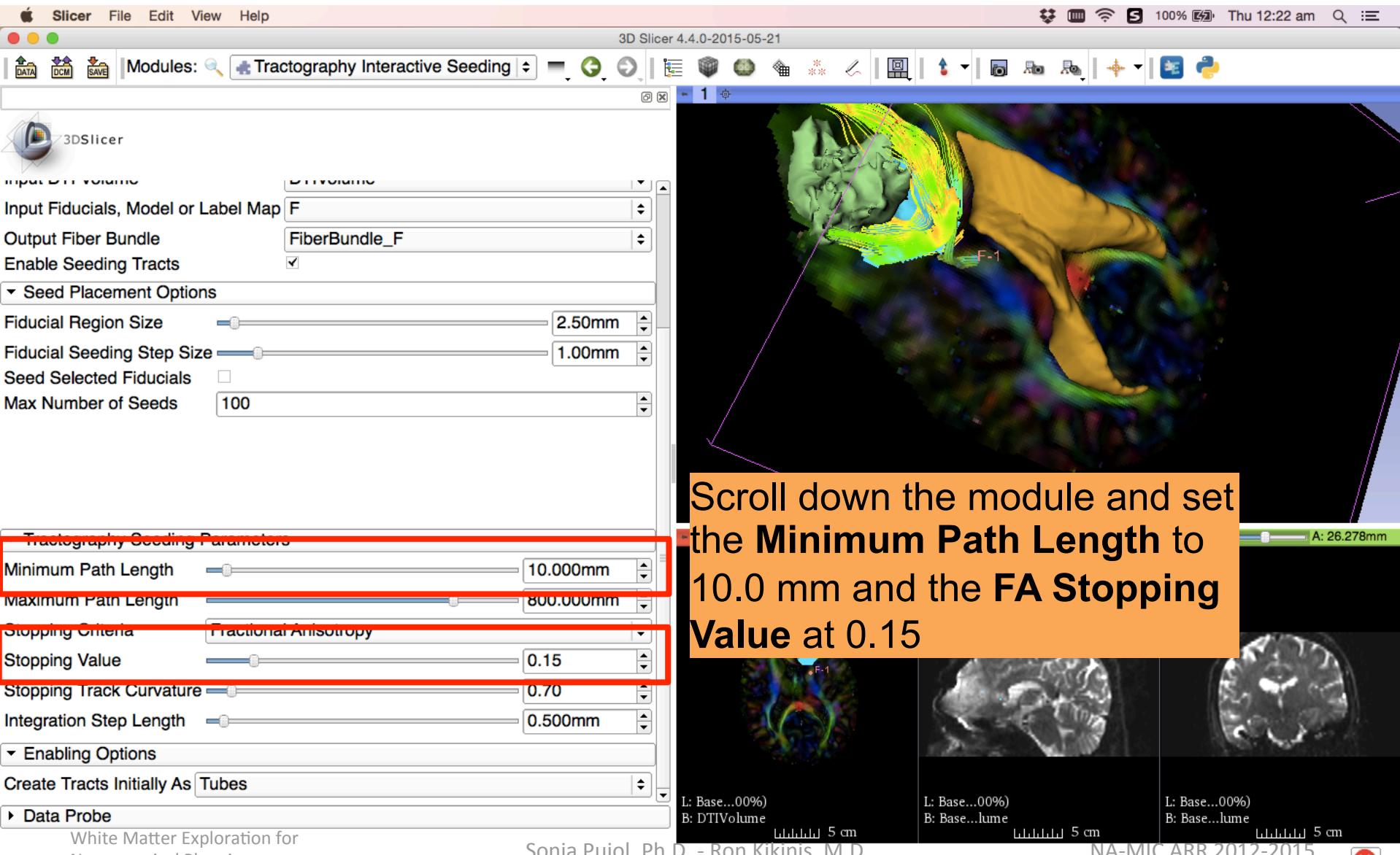
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100% 12:17 am

R S: 58.741mm Y R: 3.427mm G A: 26.278mm

# Tractography on-the-fly



Scroll down the module and set the **Minimum Path Length** to 10.0 mm and the **FA Stopping Value** at 0.15

# Acknowledgments

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NIH U54EB005149



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Fan Zhang, University of Sydney