

IDEAS Analysis and Data Management

Opening Data Files

There are three file types: Raw Image File (.rif), Compensated Image File (.cif), Data Analysis File (.daf).

To open a Raw Image File:

1. Launch **IDEAS**.
2. Select the appropriate analysis wizard for your application, or select **Open** from the **File** menu, select a data file to open and analyze manually.
3. When using the **automated analysis** IDEAS will walk you through each step of analyzing your data, simply follow the **wizard** and save your template when finished.
4. When manually opening data, apply spectral compensation to the images by navigating to a **compensation matrix** (.ctm file) or generate a new matrix by pressing **new matrix** (see the compensation QS guide). If no matrix is selected then only the brightfield will get compensated.
5. Select an analysis **template** (.ast file) or a file with the analysis you wish to apply (.daf file). If no template is chosen the default template will be used.
6. Select the number of objects to be processed.
7. To view the corrections that will be applied to the .rif file click **Advanced**. Most often, the defaults will be adequate. The **Change Alignment Offsets** and **Change Correction Offsets** (Camera Background/Dark Current) buttons allow you to use values from other .rif files if necessary.
8. Name the Compensated Image File and data analysis file that is created; generally the default names are adequate.
9. Click **OK**.

To open a Compensated Image File:

1. Select **Open** from the **File** menu and select a .cif file to open, or double click the icon from an explorer window.
2. Select the name for the Compensated Image File that is created.
3. Choose a template file (.ast) or a data analysis file (.daf) for the type of analysis being used.
4. Click **Open**.
5. **Save** the file as a Data Analysis File (.daf).
6. To create a standard template, go to **Guided Analysis** and select Wizards.
7. Choose the **wizard** appropriate for your experiment, and follow the steps to completion.

To open and save a Data Analysis File:

1. Select **Open** from the **File** menu and select a .daf file to open, or double click the icon from an explorer window.
2. Select **Save as Data Analysis File** from the File menu.
3. Enter a filename, and Click **Save**. Note that the default folder is where the .cif file is saved.



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To save a template file:

1. Select **Save As Template File (.ast)** from the **File** menu. A **Save File** screen appears.
2. Enter the name of the file to save and click **Save**.

To merge Raw Image Files:

1. Select **Merge .rif Files** from the **Tools** menu. The Merge .rif Files screen appears.
2. Click **Add Files**, and Ctrl-select the .rif files to merge.
3. Click **OK** and name the file with a unique file name.
4. Click **Save**.

To create a new data file from populations:

1. Select Create Data File from Population under the **Tools** menu.
2. Check the **Raw Image File (.rif)** box to create a .rif file and click the browse button to select a name. Check the **Compensated Image File (.cif)** box to create a .cif.
3. Check the desired populations in the **Select population** list, and hit OK.

To Export Image and Feature Data:

1. Under the **Tools** menu, select the type and format of the data to export.
2. To export **Feature data**, select export features.
3. Select the population and feature to export.
4. Chose the format and population of data to export (ie. **FCS**), and press OK.

File Structure Overview

