BioFrontiers Institute
Advanced Light Microscopy Core
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

Innovation without boundaries

Importing .vsi files (from VS200 slide scanner) into different analysis programs

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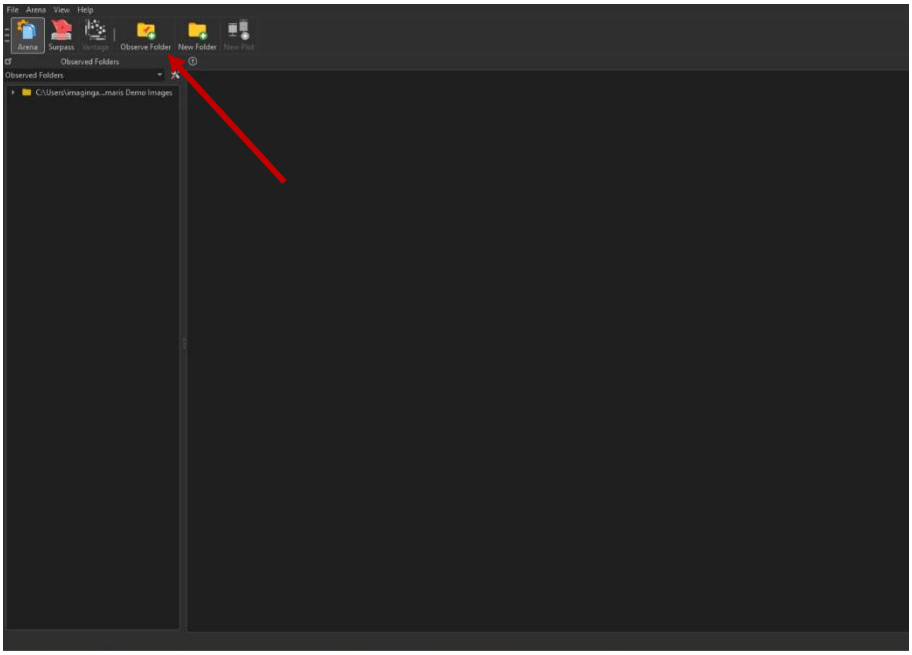
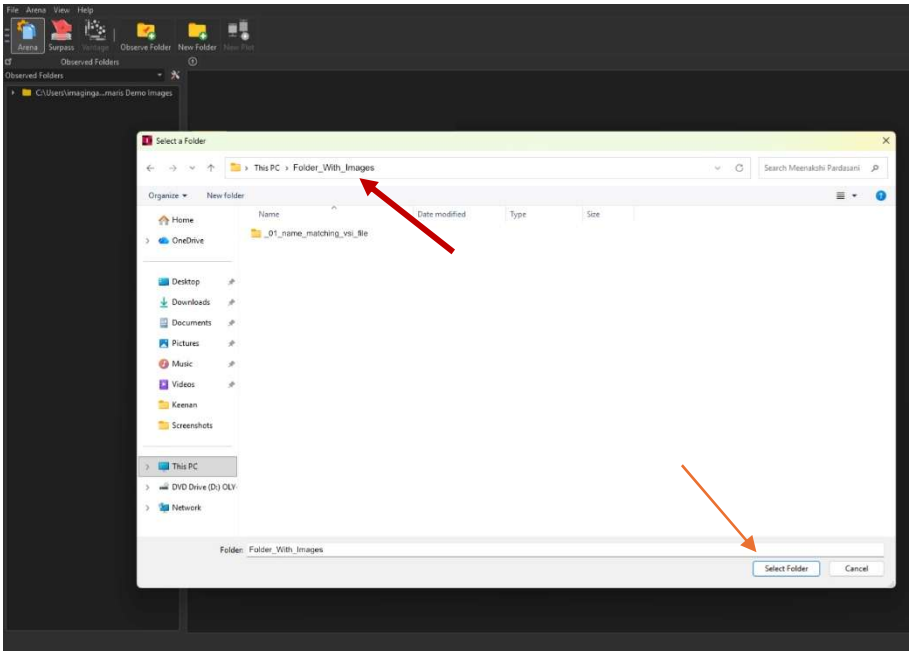
Batch exporting .vsi files to .tif files

1. Transfer your data to the Imaris Analysis Workstation (or a computer that has the VS200 software with the CONV package).
2. In the VS200 software, click *File* → *Convert Virtual Slide Images*...
    a. In the pop-up, select your .vsi files.
    b. Select the folder that you want your new .tif files saved to.
    c. Select the file type that you want your images saved as (.tif).
    d. Select which layers you want in these final .tif files.
        i. All layers will export the label, the overview, and any detail areas (e.g. 20x BF) to separate .tif files.
        ii. The other options will only export either the overview or the detail areas to .tif files.
    e. Select which resolution you would like to export these images at. We recommend keeping the full resolution.
    f. Select whether you would like to separate your image z-planes or channels, separate some of these, or separate none into separate .tif files.
3. Click *Convert* to begin converting your files.

Importing .vsi files into Imaris

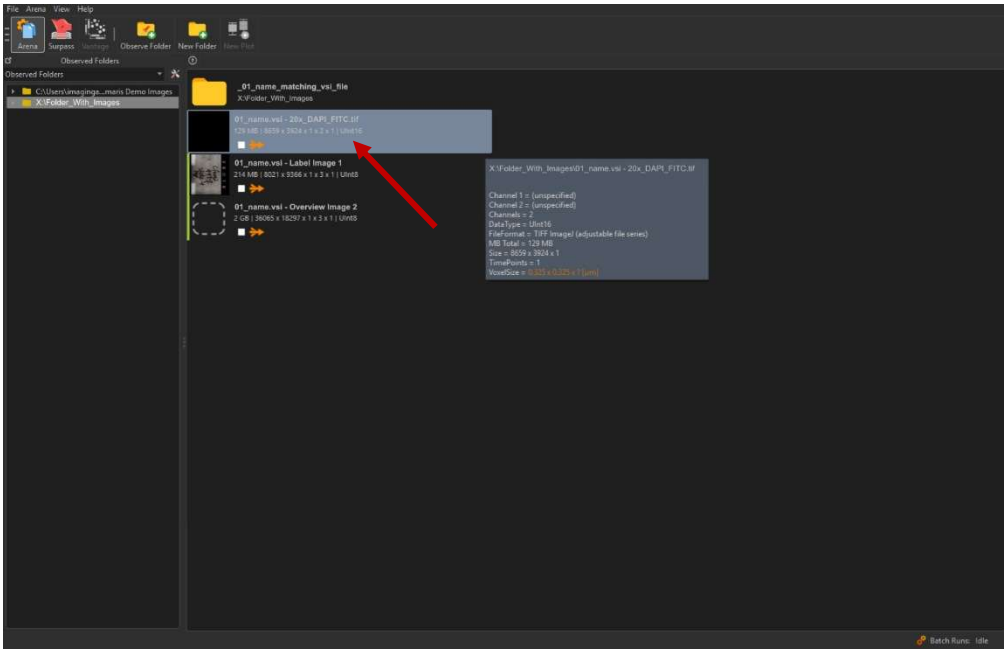
1. In Imaris, click the *Observe Folder* button and select your folder.
    a. Make sure that this folder contains the .vsi file and the associated same-name folder with more images.





2. After selecting the folder with your images in it, the image files should show up in the Imaris app with small thumbnails showing the images. Find the image file whose thumbnail and/or name

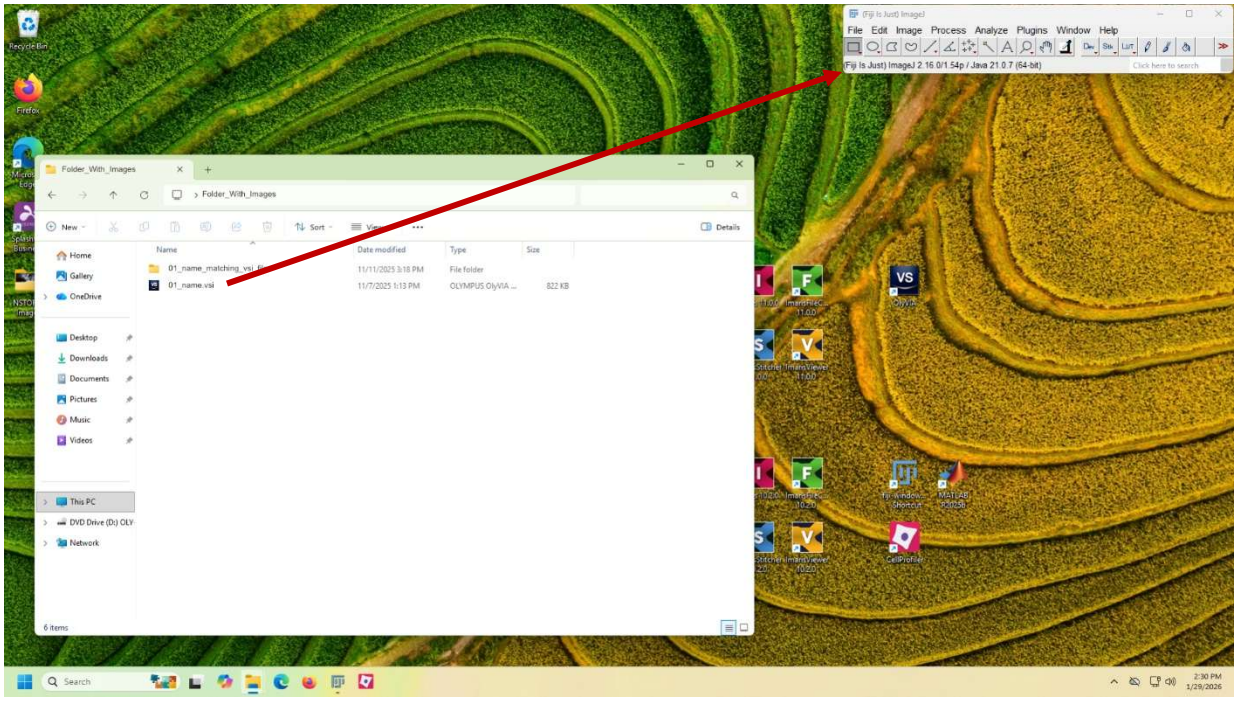
matches your desired image (*i.e.*, 01_name.vsi – 20x_DAPI_FITC). Double-click this file to copy the file and convert it to the Imaris (.*ims*) format.



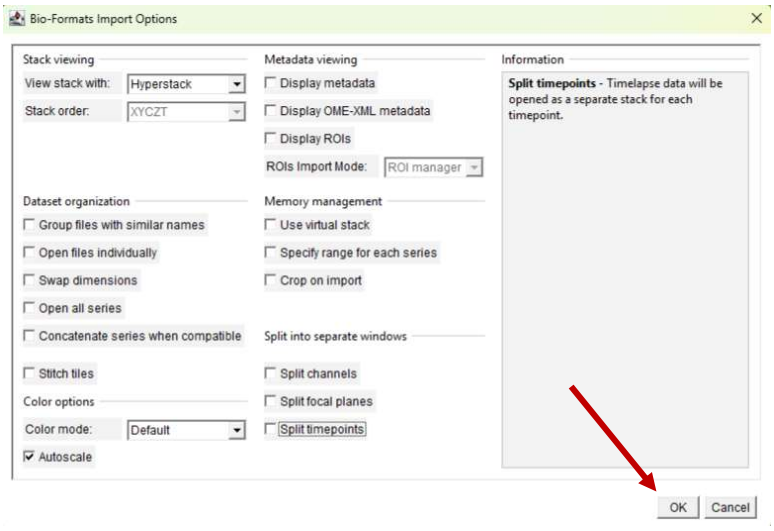
3. Once the file has copied and converted, you can double-click it again to open the image for viewing or analysis.

Importing .vsi files into Aivia

1. Open FIJI/ImageJ. Drag and drop your .vsi image file into the FIJI/ImageJ bar.
    a. Note: This will only work if your version of ImageJ has the Bio-Formats Importer plug-in. This plug-in comes with the FIJI version of the software.

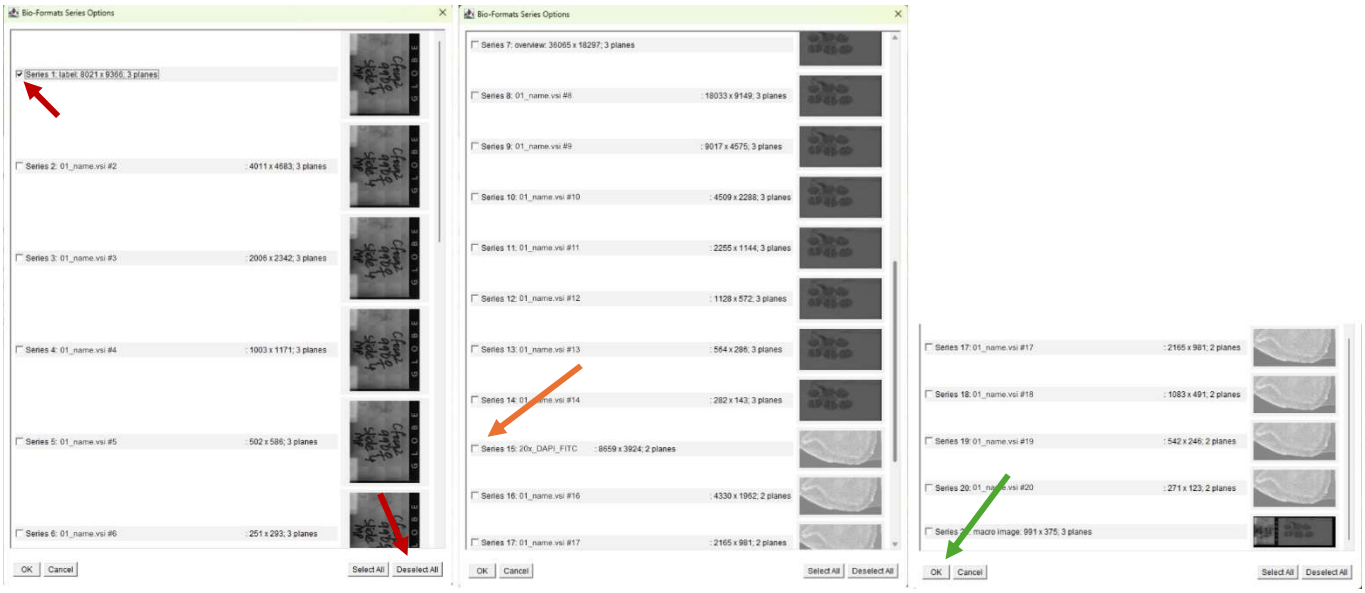


2. This should cause a *Bio-Formats Importer Options* window to open. Click *OK*.

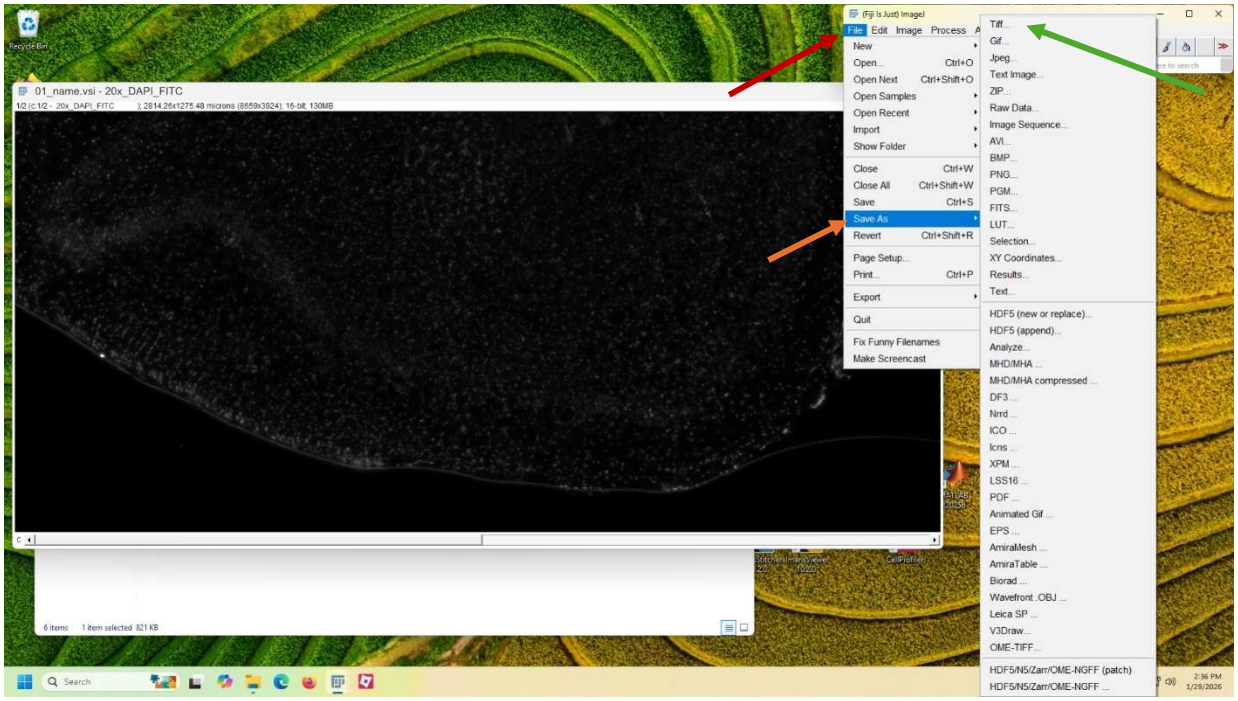


3. A new *Bio-Formats Series Options* window will ask you to choose which images from the .vsi "stack" you would like to open.

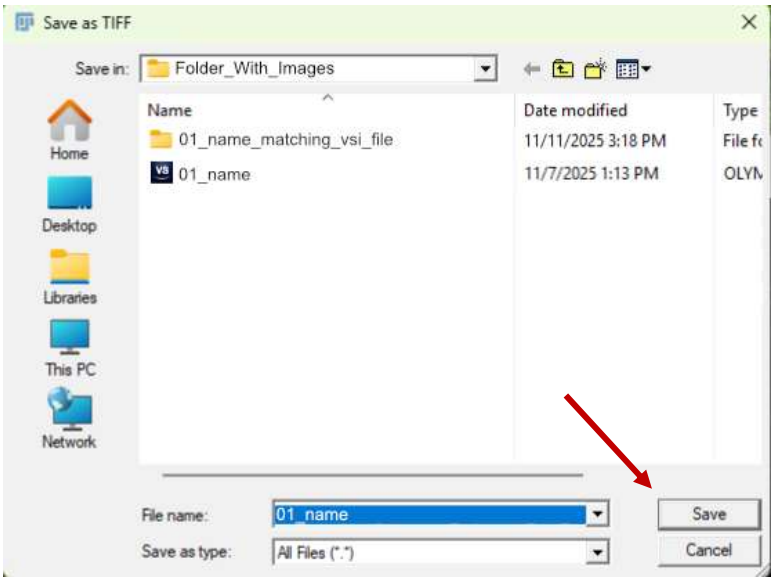
a. This will include the label images, the overview image, the focus map, and also your fluorescent/brightfield images. Next to each image name, you will see resolution information in parentheses.
b. Uncheck the first box (always selected by default) or click *Deselect All* and check the box next to the highest resolution fluorescent/brightfield image.
c. Click *OK*.



4. It may take the image a long time to open, so be patient. Once it opens, click *File* → *Save As* → *Tiff*... to save this image as a multistack TIFF.



5. In the *Save as TIFF* pop-up window, name your new TIFF file and click *Save*.



6. In Aivia, click *Open File* and select your new TIFF file.