

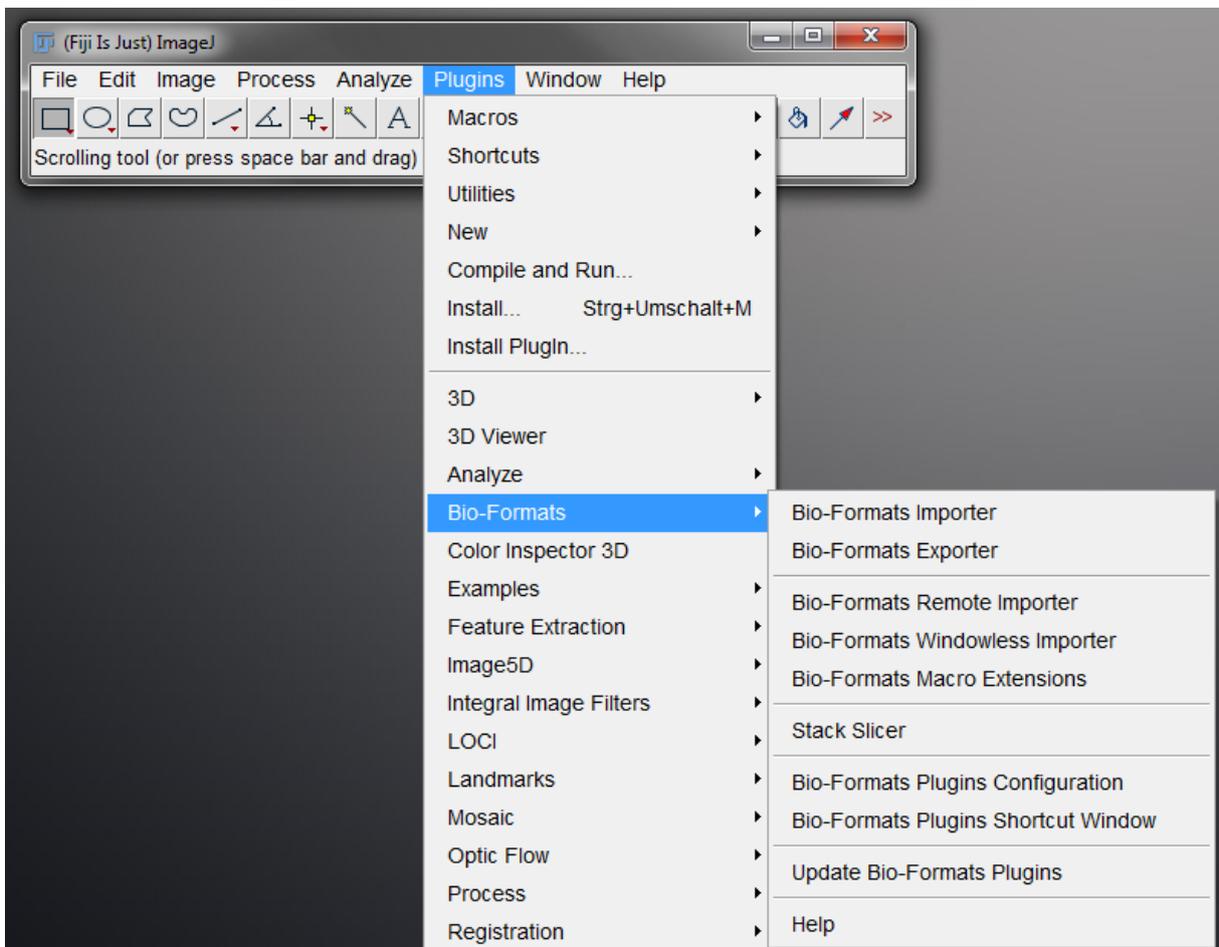
Importing VisiView images in ImageJ



The VisiView acquisition software stores channels, time points and stage positions of multi-dimensional image sequences in separate files (either as single-plane MetaMorph .tif format or as stacks with the extension .stk). Importing them into ImageJ can be tedious. We recommend to let the VisiView software save image sequences automatically to disk. It will create file names according to a naming convention and create a file with the extension .nd for each experiment. This file contains meta-information which can be interpreted by an ImageJ plugin (Bio-Formats/LOCI Tools) and used to automatically re-assemble the entire experiment in a single ImageJ hyperstack.

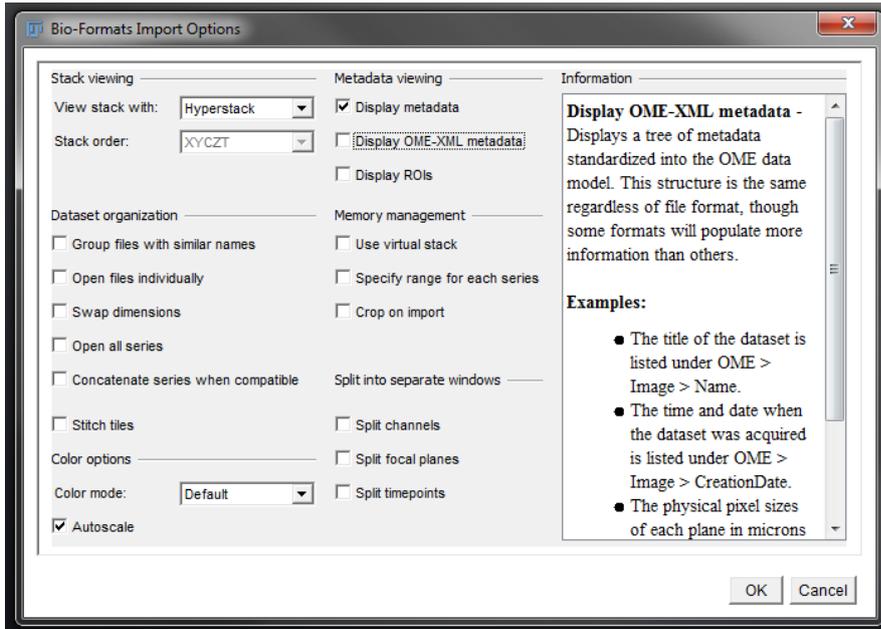
Installation of Bio-Formats/LOCI Tools

Download the plugin from <http://loci.wisc.edu/software/bio-formats> and copy it into the plugins folder of ImageJ. In the Fiji distribution of ImageJ (<http://fiji.sc/Fiji>), the plugin is pre-installed and automatically updated. The following menu commands will be available:

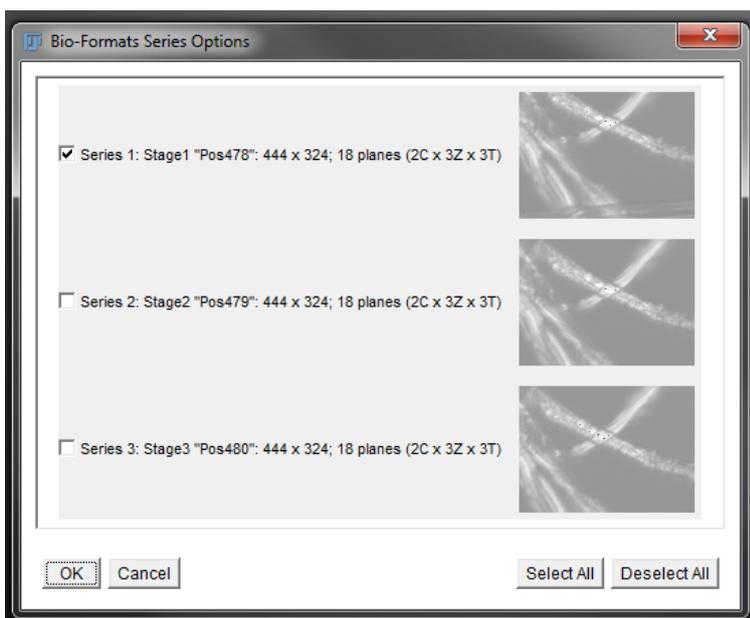


Importing data

Data can be imported either using the menu command 'Bio-Formats Importer' (select the .nd file as target), or simply by dragging the .nd file from a file manager (Windows Explorer) onto the main ImageJ window. A window with options will appear. Click 'OK'.

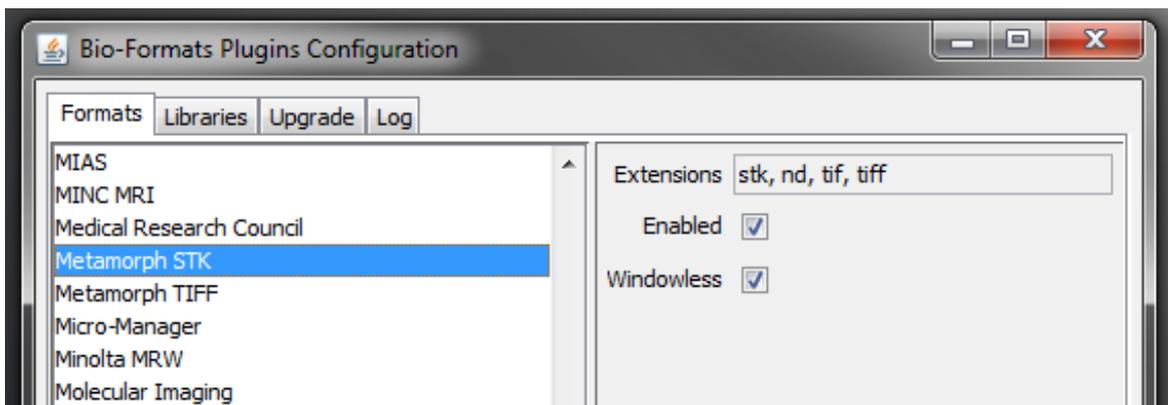


If one or more options in the sections 'Dataset organization' or 'Memory management' are checked, more popups will appear upon clicking 'OK', allowing to re-organize imports or loading subsets (in any dimension). If the files contain multiple stage positions, a list with all of them will be shown:



Windowless import

The import options dialog can be disabled via the command 'Bio-Formats Plugins Configuration'. In the 'Formats' tab of the window appearing, select 'Metamorph STK' and check the option 'Windowless'. From now on, files are imported with the options used last (*Note: windowless import cannot be used if the experiments contains multiple stage positions. The stage positions list is also disabled. Only the first stage position will be imported*).



Importing single .stk files

Individual .stk stacks can be imported by drag and drop onto the main ImageJ window. Drag and drop, however, always passes the file to ImageJ's default file reader, which does not correctly read the voxel dimensions of VisiView files. To force ImageJ to use the Bio-Formats plugin (which reads all metadata properly) and still use drag and drop, open the shortcut window of the plugin (menu command 'Bio-Formats Plugins Shortcut Window'). This window is drag and drop enabled and will open any dropped file with Bio-Formats. This option works with any of over 130 image formats currently supported by Bio-Formats.

