

GT Vision image acquisition, managing and processing software

GXCapture 8.1

Instruction Manual

- Contents of the Instruction Manual
 - GXC is the shortened name used for GXCapture
 - Square brackets are used to indicate items such as menu

names, button names and window names that appear on the computer screen.

• >> indicates the selection procedure of the menu. Example:

[Capture] >> [Main Control] >> [FlatFielding]

- Warks tips for using the software.
- ! Marks information that should be read before use.
- In the state of the state of
- Help
 - Refer to [Help] >> [About GXCapture] menu to get software information and technical support.
 - When contacting technical support, please try to list the below information:
 - ① Camera model and S/N (serial number);
 - 2 Software version number;
- ③ Description of the problem. If you have some screenshots of the problem, it will be much appreciated.

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Main Features of GXCapture 8.1

- Advanced camera control
- Ability to take still images and video. Available image types: JPEG, BMP, TIFF and RAW.
- Convenient fluorescence imaging settings
- Live image measurements
- Image management
- Extend depth of focus (Focus Stacking)
- Image Stitching
- Fluorescence combination function for still images
- High dynamic range (HDR) function.
- Still image measurements.

System requirement

os	Windows XP/ Vista/ 7/ 8 (32 & 64bit)	
СРИ	Intel processor (Core2 Duo or higher is recommended)	
Memory	2GB or More is recommended	
USB ports	USB2.0 Hi-Speed port	



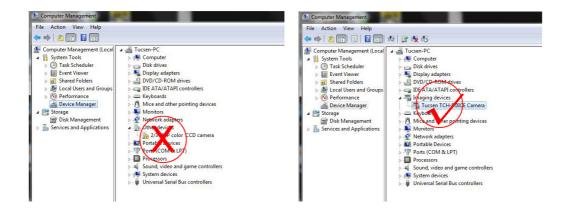
Chapter1: Getting Started

This chapter explains preparatory steps and basic GXCapture (GXC) operations.

What You Need

To use the GXCAM camera, you need to install the camera driver and application software GXCapture:

- 1. Find the GXCapture Setup.exe file from the CD, double-click on it to start the installation and hit "Next".
- 2. The installer package selects the "C:\Program Files\" as the default file destination.
- 3. After installing the software, please install driver setup file also.
- 4. After the installation is finished, please go to the Device Manager to check if the driver was installed properly. When the driver is installed correctly, there is no yellow mark with the camera under the Imaging Device in Device Manager. Please see below picture:



5.



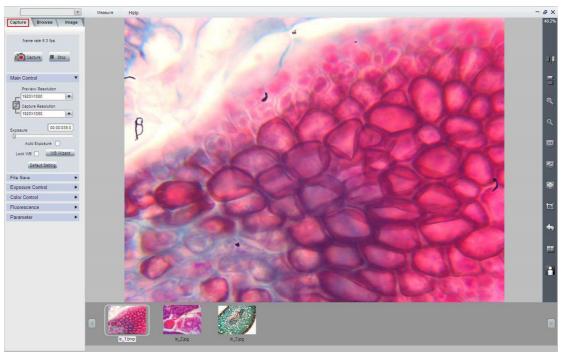
Starting up GXCAPTURE

After the installation, a software shortcut will be created on the desktop. Double-click on it to start GXCAPTURE (hereinafter, 'GXC').

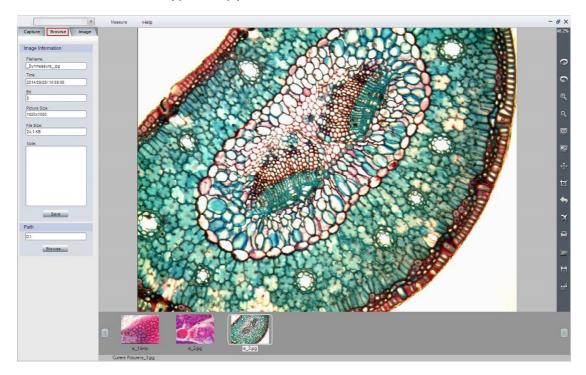
Note: Before starting the software, please connect the camera and turn on the power (if applicable) first.

When GXC starts up, the live image window appears. You can set up the parameters to get proper images, save still pictures or videos. The [Capture] window provides image acquisition settings. [Browse] windows allows you to manage all your images. And the [Image] window offers advanced image processing functions on captured images.

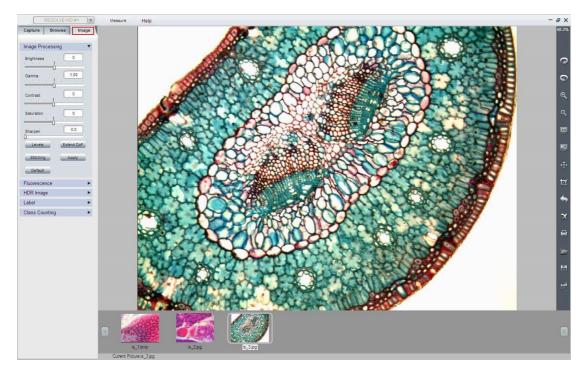
[Capture] window - typical appearance:



[Browse] window - typical appearance:

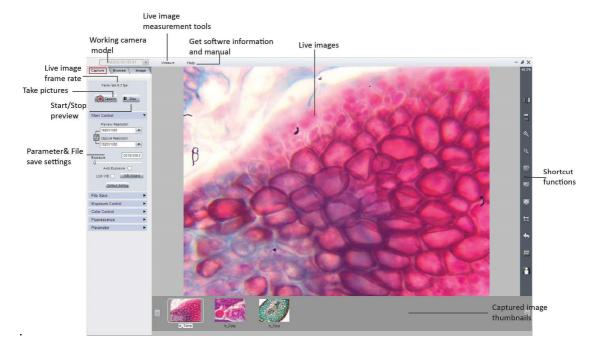


[Image] window - typical appearance:



Chapter 2: Image Acquisition

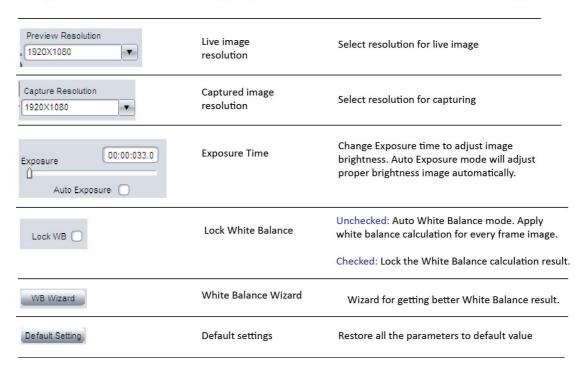
Adjust camera parameter settings to get the optimal live image; live image measurement and save still pictures and videos.



Basic Control



Provides the basic camera settings:

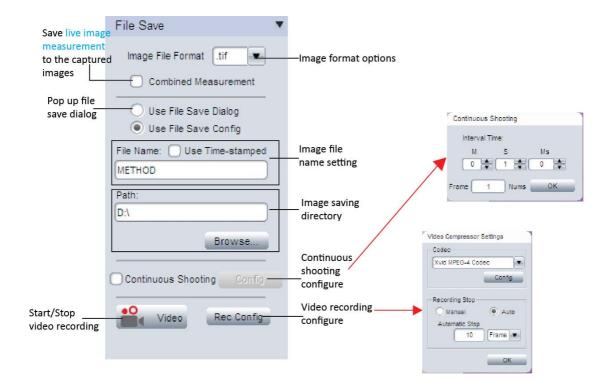


After you set the correct exposure for the live image, it is recommended to apply White Balance to correct the live image colour. To get better white balance effects, please follow below steps:

- 1. Move the sample to the blank area;
- Uncheck [Lock WB];
- 3. When the image appear the correct colour, check the [Lock WB] check box;
 - 4. Move the sample back.



Taking Still Images and Videos



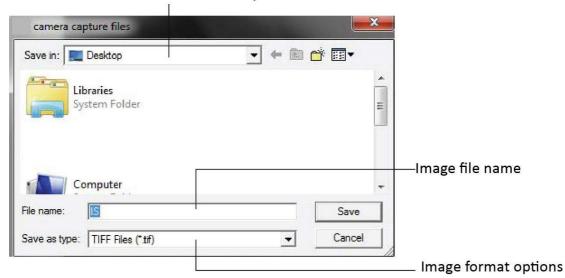
In the [File format] dropdown menu, 4 file formats are available: JPEG, BMP,
 TIFF and RAW.

Raw image file contains minimally processed data from the camera. It needs to be read in some special software for example Photoshop, ImagJ etc. If it is the colour camera raw file, colour information only can be seen after decoding the Bayer matrix

• In [Use File Save Dialog] mode use File Save Dialog, a file save configure window will pop up every time when you push [Capture] or [Video] button.
Enter the desired file name and directory path at this pop-up window.



File save directory



• In [Use File Save Config] Use File Save Config , you can pre-set the file saving name, format, image quantity, capturing interval time and saving directory.
After you push the [Capture] or [Video] button , GXC will save files as you have set.

Capturing and Saving Individual Images

Enter preferred name in the [File Name] field
 not key in anything, "GX" is used by default.

File Name: Use Time-stamped

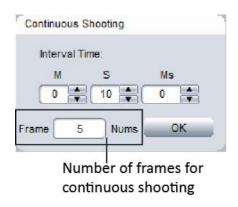
Select [Use Time-stamped] Use Time-stamped to name the image by the capture time automatically. The time-stamp file name will be in the form of "MMDDHHmmSS". Here "MM" indicates the month; "DD" indicates the day; "HH" indicates the hour; "mm" indicates the minutes; and "SS" indicates the seconds.



• Click [Capture] to take one image with the pre-set file name.

Capturing and Saving a set of Images

- Click [Config] to set continuous capturing image numbers and the interval time.



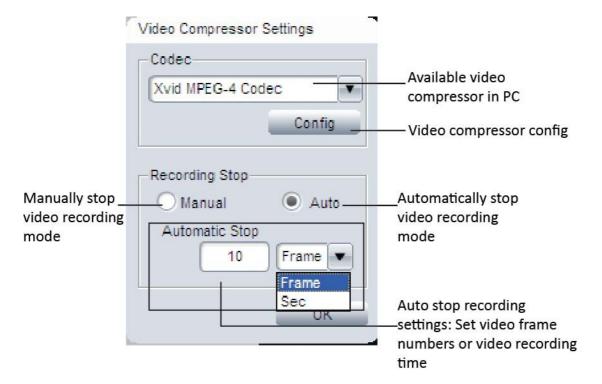
This set of image file names follows the same format as set for individual image capturing. If using [File Name], the image names will be in the form "X", "X-1", "X-2"... (where X is the character/s entered or "GX" by default).



Video recording

Click [Video] Video / Stop , start/ stop video recording.

Click [Rec Config] to get video recording configure window.



It provides [Manual] and [Auto] modes to stop the recording.

- In [Manual] mode, you need to click on [Video] button to start and stop the recording.
- In [Auto] mode, pre-set the number of frames or the time for videos and click on [Video], GXC will stop the recording automatically after save pre-set number of frames or pre-set time is up.
- [Rec Config]>>[Codec] will also list all the available video compressors on the PC.

The video taken without any compression will be a very large size. GX Will automatically search the installed video compressors installed on the PC.

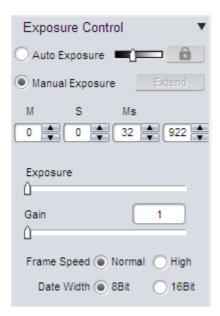
File Save Destination



Click [Browse...] to change the file save destination. The default path is the software installation folder. Usually it is "C:\Program Files\GXCAPTURE\".

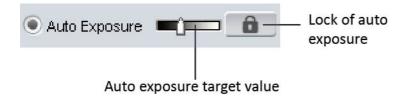
This default destination might NOT be allowed for storing any files if the user is not logged in as Administrator in Windows Vista, 7 or later. The image may not save if the default path is used. We recommend either to change the file save path or release this folder "Write" authority for other user accounts.

Exposure Control



Change the Exposure time, Gain to adjust the image brightness. Select frame speed to get different live image frame rate. Set 8-bit or 16-bit data width for captured images.

Auto Exposure



 Check [Auto Exposure] checkbox, software will adjust the exposure time automatically to get proper brightness for the live image.

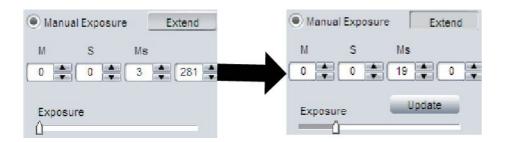
Auto exposure target value: Set the reference exposure time for auto exposure adjustment. It helps the auto exposure to find the proper exposure time faster.



For example, if the imaging target is quite bright, we set lower target value to tell the software it is not necessary to set exposure too long.

Lock: It will stop the auto exposure calculation. While auto exposure is working, it will keep on calculating the image brightness to get proper exposure time. During this, if you already see a good live image for you, you can push to lock it.

Manual Exposure



Adjust the exposure time manually. Two ways to change the exposure time:

- Key in the exposure time in the edit box directly ²⁰

 ✓, then click ✓ to confirm it.
- Pull the slide bar to change the exposure time.

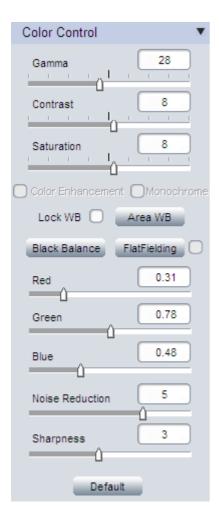
[Extend] Extend is used to get longer exposure time. This function is ONLY available for CCD cameras. For other cameras especially the CMOS camera, the maximum exposure time is shorter than 1 second, then [Extend] will be greyed out.

[Update] update appears after selecting [Extend]. Click on it to stop the previous exposure time and restart the new one immediately. In a long time exposure application, we strongly recommend to click [Update] to start the new setting. It will help to get the new exposed image earlier. If the exposure time is less than 2-3 seconds, it is not necessary to use it.

Gain, Frame Speed & Data Width

Gain		Increase the power of the image data. Higher gain gives brighter images, but also makes the noise signal more obvious.
Frame Speed	High Speed	Corresponding to high pixel clock. Gives faster frame rate.
rrame speed	Normal Speed	Offer lower frame rate than High Speed, but gives longer maximum exposure time.
Data Width	8-bit	8-bit images use 2^8 = 256 gray levels to represent image details.
	16-bit	16-bit images use 2^16 gray levels to represent image details. ONLY available for CCD & Discovery series cameras in .Tiff and .Raw formats.

Colour Control



Adjust image colour, gamma, contrast and saturations.

Flat Fielding Function

Flat fielding function is used to correct the uneven background brightness.

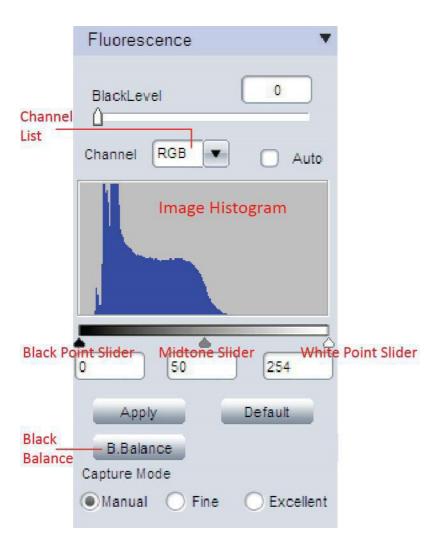
- Click on [FlatFielding] FlatFielding o start the flat fielding parameter calculation and apply to the live images.
- If you uncheck the check box FlatFielding , the calculated flat fielding parameter is NOT applied to the live images.

To get better flat fielding result, Move the sample to a blank area first, apply the flat fielding, then move the sample back.

When the lighting is changed, re-do the [FlatFielding] to correct the uneven brightness or when using a different objective.

Default Restore the parameter settings to the initial value and apply white balance		
Sharpness	Used to get sharper images. ONLY Available for HiChrome SII	
Noise Reduction	Reduce image noise, improve image quality. ONLY Available for HiChrome SII	
Blue	Adjust the intensity of Blue in the image. [Blue] = 1 means the original intensity of blue in the image.	
Green	Adjust the intensity of green in the image. [Green] = 1 means the original intensity of green in the image.	
Red	Adjust the intensity of red in the image. [Red] = 1 means the original intensity of red in the image.	
FlatFielding	Correct image uneven brightness. Uncheck the check box: cancle background brightness correction.	
Black Balance	Black Balance. Correct black color. Usually use in fluorescence application. Not Available for HiChrome SII	
Area WB	Manually select the white color area in the image as the white balance reference	
Lock WB	Lock White balance. When get good color preview, check the checkbox to lock the good white balance paremeters for the coming images.	
Monochrome	Check the checkbox to get a grayscale image. Not Available for HiChrome SII	
Color Enhancement	Used to make the image color more vivid. Before doing White Balance, it recommends to uncheck this function, then apply WB. Not Available for HiChrome SII	
Saturation	Adjust image saturation. Saturation is the intensity of color in the image.	
Contrast	Contrast is the difference between the brightness brights and the darkest darks in an image. Higher contrast will make the shadows become darker and the highlights brighter. High contrast will lost more image details. Default value (Contrast = 0) is recommended.	
Gamma is used to obtain correct reproduction of intensity. Default value (Gamma = 0) is recommended in most of cases.		

Fluorescence Settings



Included in our software are useful parameter settings for fluorescence or low light imaging. It helps to get better images easier and faster.

Black Level

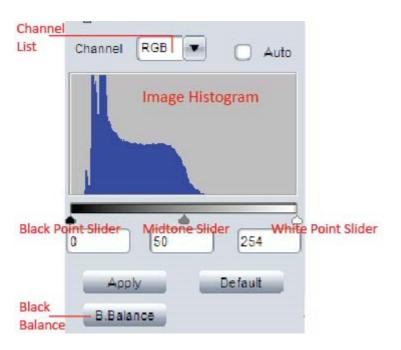


Black level function defines the brightness level at the darkest part of the image.

In low light imaging, it can help to see more details in the dark area.

In low light application, it usually needs quite a long exposure time to get proper images. If you set a long exposure time at the beginning, you might need quite a long time to find your target and get a proper image (wait for finishing a long exposure to get a new frame image, adjust, wait...). When searching for the imaging target at the beginning, we recommend to set a shorter exposure time, but make larger Gain and Black level first. After you find the target, then reduce the Gain and Black level, and increase the exposure time. This will aid in a better image acquisition.

Levels



The levels tool can move and stretch brightness levels in a histogram using three main components: a black point, white point and midtone slider.

Channel List: This allows the user to choose whether to edit the RGB channel



or one of the three individual colour channels (Red, Green and Blue).

[Auto] checkbox: Adjust the live image levels automatically.

Manual adjustments of image levels:

- <u>Black Point Slider</u>: It is used to set the black point or shadow values. Move
 the Black Point Slider towards right to darken the shadow areas in the
 image.
- <u>White Point Slider</u>: It is used to set the white point or highlight values. Move it towards left to brighten the highlights in the image.
- Midtone Slider: It is used to brighten or darken the midtones within an image. Movement to the left brightens the image by stretching out the shadows and compressing the highlight, whereas movement to the right performs the opposite.
- Move the White Point Slider towards left, it is able to reveal some information in dark area. If move Black Point Slider towards right, it will reveal bright area information.
- It is also allowed to key in the image levels directly to do the adjustment.

After adjusting the levels, click Apply to confirm the setting. If you need to go back to the original image, click Default to restore the image.

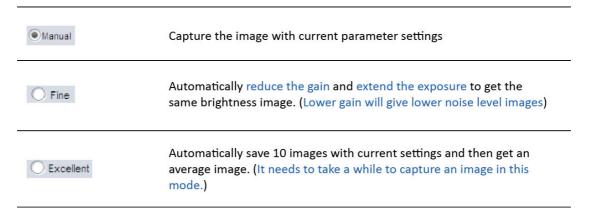
[Black Balance]: Gives camera a reference to "true black". ONLY needed in dark field imaging.



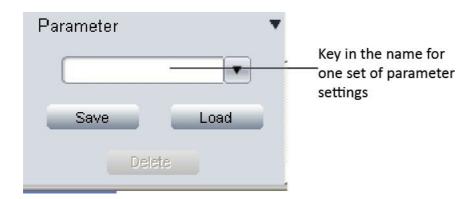
Capture Mode



Three capture modes are specially developed for fluorescence imaging.



Parameter Group

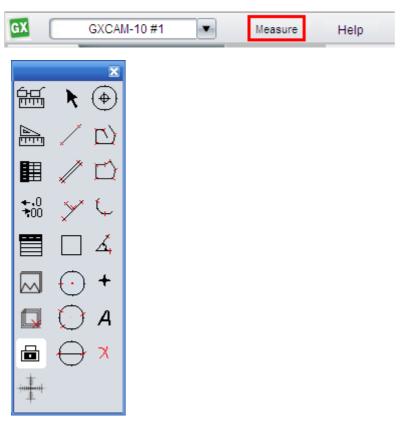


Save parameter sets for different applications. The saved parameters include exposure time, gain, frame speed, data width, gamma, contrast, saturation, colour enhancement status, monochrome, RGB gain and black level. It allows users to save 20 set parameters (available in Ver 3.6 or later).

- Save parameter function: Enter a name for current parameter settings, click
 Save to save it.
- Load parameter function: Click to open drop-down menu, click on preferred parameter name and then push to make selected parameters take effect on the live image.

Live Image Measurement

Click on [Measure] at the top of the GX to get the measurement tools



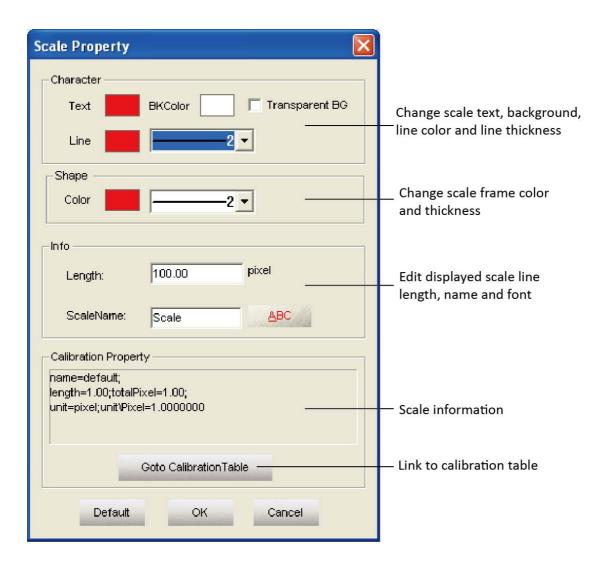
Show Scale Line	On/off the scale line on the picture
Calibrate	Create Calibration file
Calibrate Table	Available calibration file list. Allow to add, edit and delete calibration file.



←. 0 † 00	Decimal	Set measurement precision. Allowed decimal range is from 0
*00	Decimal	to 7
	Measurement List	List all the measurement data
	Layer	Create multiple layers to apply measurements and save layer information
	Delete All	Delete all the measurements and layers
	UnLock/Lock	Unlock/lock the measurement operation. Allow to do same measurement continually when LOCKED. It is locked by DEFAULT.
k	Select	Select to change measurement or the measurement data position
*	Line	Measure the length
1	Parallel	Measure the distance of parallel. Allow to do multiple parallels' distance measurement. Double clicking to end parallel measurement.
*	Perpendicular	Measure the perpendicular length. Allow to do multiple perpendiculars' length measurement. Double clicking to end perpendicular measurement.
	Rectangle	Measure rectangle height, width, area and perimeter.
\odot	2-points Circle	Use center point and point on the circle to draw a circle. Give the radius, area and perimeter of circle
\bigcirc	3-points Circle	Use 3 points on the circle to draw a circle. Give the radius, area and perimeter of circle
\ominus	Diameter Circle	Draw a circle according to the diameter. Give the radius, area and perimeter of circle
(Concentric Circle	Use center point and radius to draw concentric circles. Give concentric circles' radius, area and perimeter. Allow to do multiple concentric circles measurement. Double clicking to end concentric circles measurement
口	Polyline	Measure the polyline length.
\Box	Polygon	Measure polygon area and perimeter.
(Arc	Measure a curve angle, radius and length.
$\mathcal{L}_{\!\scriptscriptstyle{+}}$	Angle	Measure the angle
+	Point	Counter. Count the quantity.

A	Annotate	Add remarks on the images.
X	Delete	Delete previous measurement. Select it then click on the measurement to delete the measurement.
+	Cross-ruler	On or off cross-ruler on the images. The unit of the ruler depends on the applied calibration file.

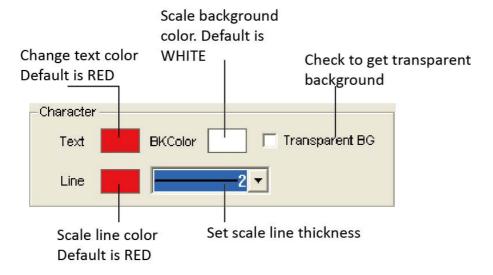
Edit Scale Line



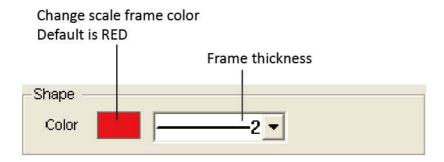
Double click on the scale to get its properties and make changes to it.

Edit scale character

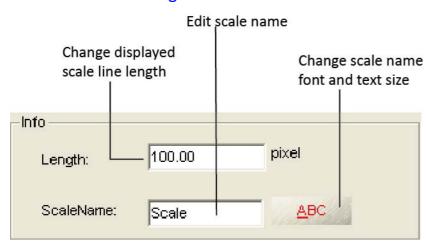




• Edit the frame of the scale



• Edit scale line length and name





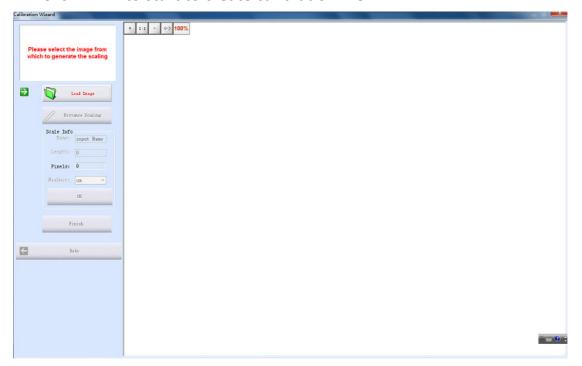
Create Calibration File

To measure the samples real size, the corresponding calibration file needs to be created first.

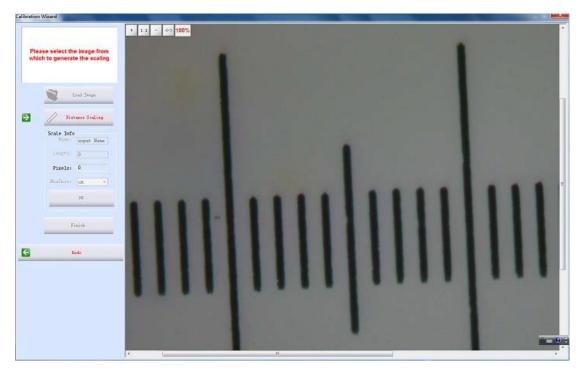
1. Take pictures of the calibration slide in all the required working objectives and resolution (if a reducing lens is also used in your application, it also requires you to take the calibration slide picture with the reduce lens attached).

If ONLY ONE objective and ONE resolution is used in the application, one calibration slide picture is enough. The calibration slide picture MUST be taken with exactly the same lens or microscope settings as the target image taken.

2. Click to start to create calibration file.

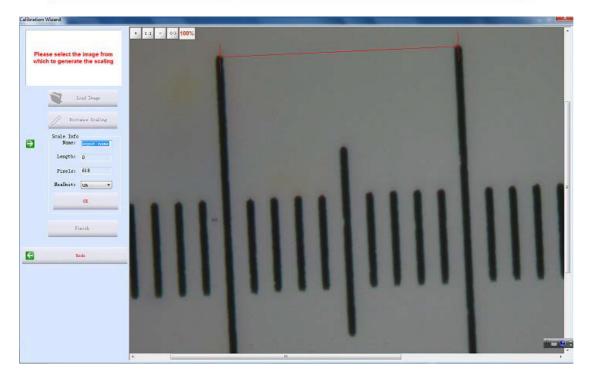


3. Click [Load Image] to load the calibration slide picture taken in Step1.



4. Click [Distance scaling] and move the cursor to the slide image, draw a line to get the reference length.

Using longer length as the reference length will give more accurate measurement results. For example, using 10 scale units as reference length will give more accurate result than using 1 scale unit.

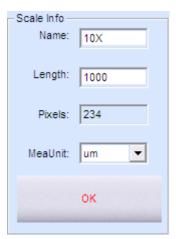


5. Enter the name for the calibration file and the length of the line you draw.

If you need more than one calibration file, using objective+reducing lens(if it is used)+resolution as the name of the calibration file is recommended. This can help to prevent using the wrong file to do the calibration.

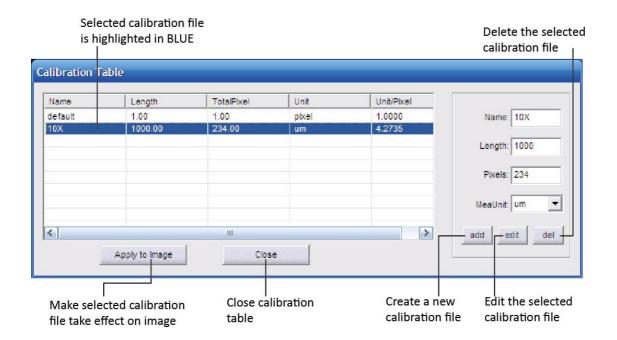
When keying in the length, please pay more attention to the calibration scale unit and the Measure Unit used here. For example, the calibration scale unit is 0.1mm; the Measure Unit is selected as μ m; and the reference length is 10 scale units, so the length should be 10 x 0.1mm = 1000 μ m.





6. Click [OK] to confirm the calibration. The new calibration file named "10X" is created in the [Calibrate Table].

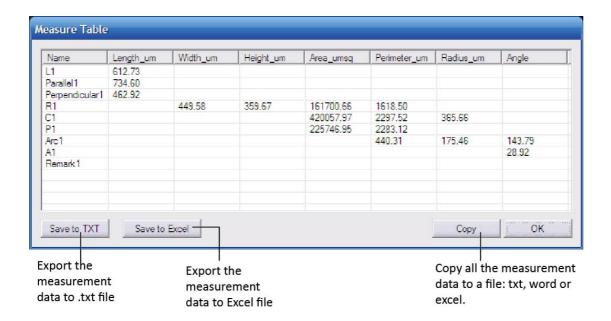
Calibration Table



- Click [Calibrate Table] to open the calibration table.
- Select the correct calibration file for current image measurement.
- Using the WRONG calibration file will make the measurement result

innacurate. Please make sure the calibration file is correctly corresponding to the current image. Hence, it is useful to name the calibration file with the capturing settings or objective name.

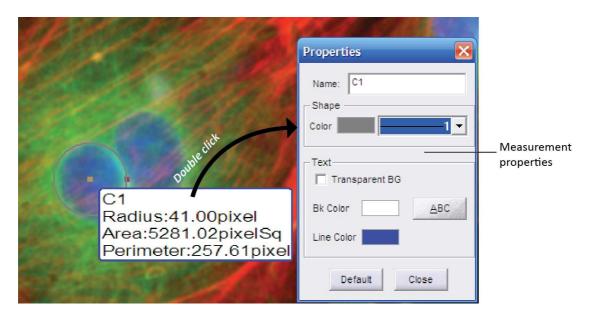
Measurement List



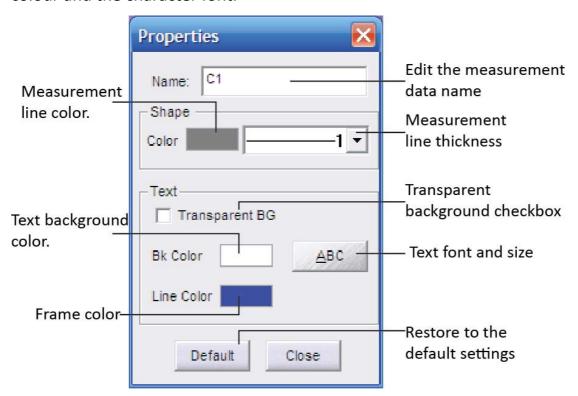
All the measurement data is listed in the [Measurement List]. The software allows you to export all the measurement data to TXT or Excel file.

Measurement

GX allows you to do line, parallel, perpendicular, rectangle, circle, polygon, arc and angle measurement. The [Count] function allows you to manually count the objects. And the [Annotate] function offers to add comments on the images.

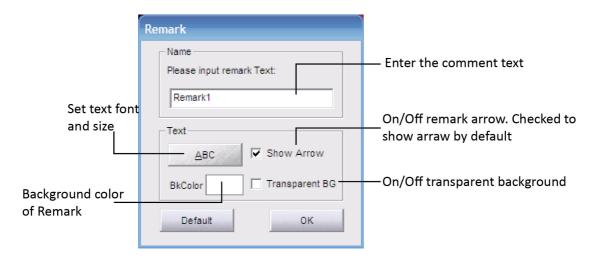


Double click on the measure data to get the measurement configure window. It allows you to change the measured data name, colour, thickness, background colour and the character font.



Annotaate

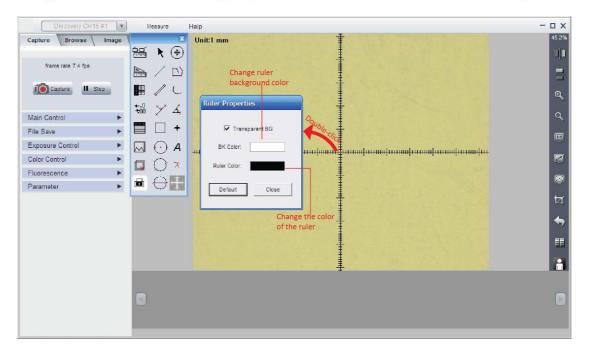
Select [Annotate] and click on the image area which you prefer to add a remark. It allows you to edit the comment, change the background colour and on/off the annotate arrow.



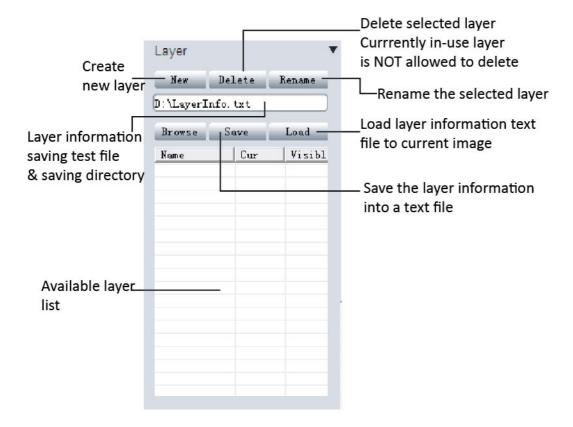
Ruler

Click on to show or cancel the cross-line on the images. The displayed ruler unit is determined by the selected calibration file. Double-click on the ruler to get the ruler property and change the ruler colour. The default colour is BLACK.





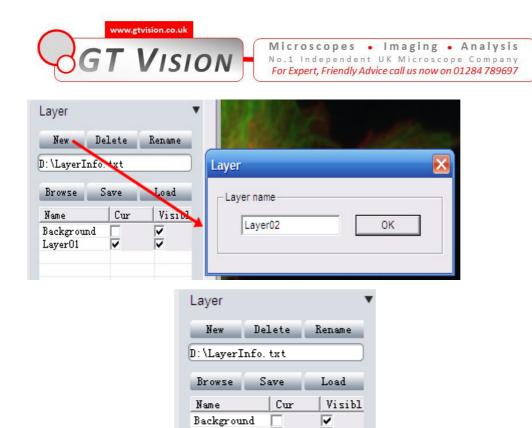
Layer



Create multiple layers for loads of measurements. The layer function makes adding a large number of measurements on the processed image review simple and easy.

If you have already applied some measurements on the image, the [Layer] function automatically creates "Background" and "Layer01" for the current image.

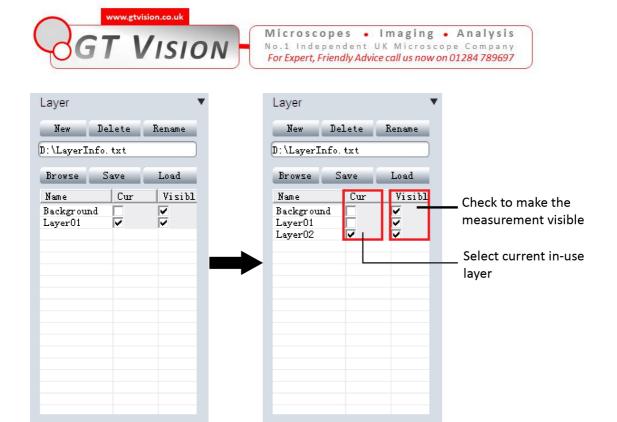
Click [New] to create a new layer. Allow to key in the preferred name for the new layer. It uses "Layer02", "Layer03"... etc as the layer name by default.

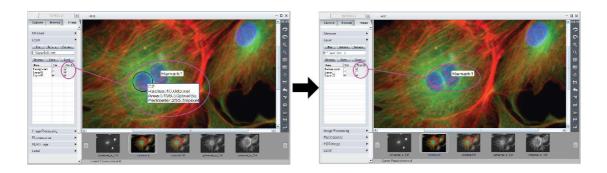


Laver01 Layer02

Now loads of measurements can be applied on different layers. It allows you to choose any layers to view.

Checked [Cur] means the corresponding layer is displayed currently. Select different [Cur] to switch between different layers. In the [Visible] column, the selected check box means all the measurements in the corresponding layers also display on the current layer. Uncheck the check box, and the corresponding measurement will be invisible in the current layer





The layer information is saved in a text file.

- Click [Browse] to choose the text file saving directory and enter file name.
 Then click [Save] to save the current layer information in the text file. The
 layer information will be saved as "LayerInfo.txt" in Disk D by default
- Click [Browse] to find the existed layer information text file. Click [Load] to load the layer information to the current image.



Live image shortcut

On the right hand side of the live image window, some shortcuts are provided to process the live image quickly.



^{**} Compare function: Live image will be displayed on the left side. Click on the taken image thumbnail to select it to compare with live images (Chosen compared image will be enhanced in gray-white frame).

Chapter3: Image management

View images in [Browse] panel, it displays the image File name, capturing time, colour depth (bit), picture resolution and image size. It also allows you to add comments to any individual image. When you view this image next time in the GX, it will show the image comment.

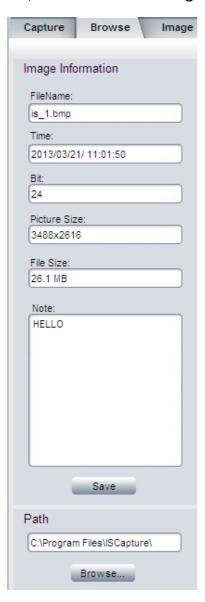
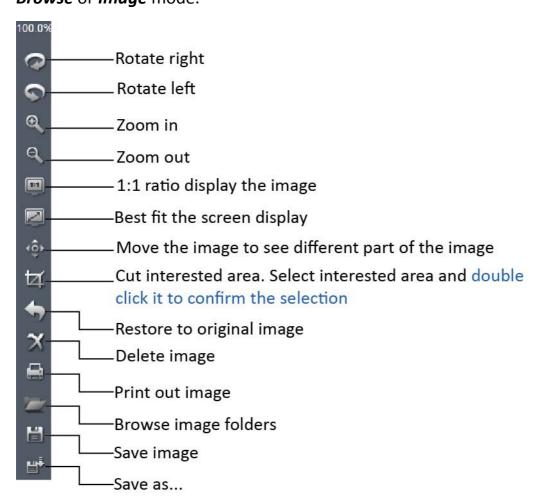


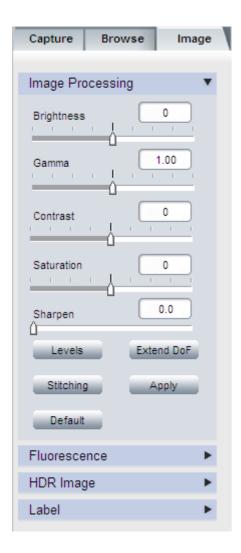


Image Management and Processing Shortcuts

GX provides some quick functions on the right hand side of the software in **Browse** or **Image** mode.



Chapter4: Image Processing



In this section, GX provides advanced image processing functions and also allows you to do the measurement on the still images.

Image Processing



Provide basic captured image processing functions and allows additional functions such as extended Depth of Focus and image stitching.

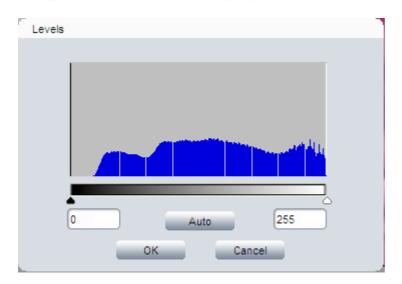


Brightness	Adjust captured image brightness. Default brightness = 0
Gamma	Adjust captured image gamma. Default gamma = 1.00
Contrast	Adjust contrast. Increase the contrast, the shadows become darker and the highlights brighter. Decrease the contrast, the highlights grow dim and the dark areas lighten up
Saturation	Adjust the color saturation. Fully-saturated colors are very bright, while low saturation are grayish.
Sharpen	Adjust the image sharpness. Sharpness is the contrast on the edges. Sharpening increases the bright and dark lines on edges.
Levels	Adjust image levels. Get more details in [Fluorescence]>>[Levels]
Extend DoF	Extend the Depth of Focus (DoF)
Stitching	Image stitching. Combine multiple images with overlapping fields of view to produce a segmented panorama or high-resolution image.
Default	Restore Brightness, Gamma, Saturation, Sharpen and levels back to the default value
Apply	Confirm to apply all the settings to the image.

After clicking [Apply], all the settings are applied to the image. Please note, once you choose this you can NOT revert to the original image.

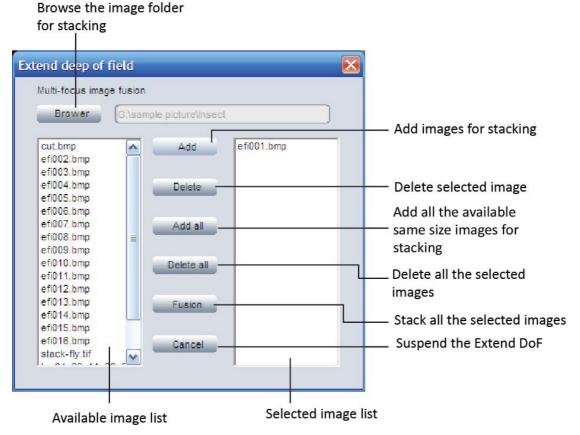
Level

Push [Levels] Levels to get the image histogram. It allows you to adjust the image levels. The level adjustment is the same as live image level adjustment. Get more detail in [Capture]-->> [Fluorescence].



Extend depth of focus

Push [Extend DoF] to get below dialog box. Select the corresponding images and apply the function. This function combines multiple images to create one focused image.



- Browse the image folder which you are going to do the stacking.
- All the images in the folder will be listed on the left hand side. Click on one image, the image will be highlighted in BLUE.
- Click [Add] to add the highlighted image to the right hand side (the selected source images for stacking).
- [Add all] button allows to add all the same size images in the left hand side to the right as stacking source images by just one click.
- Click [Fusion] to stack all the selected source images and get an image with an extended depth of field.

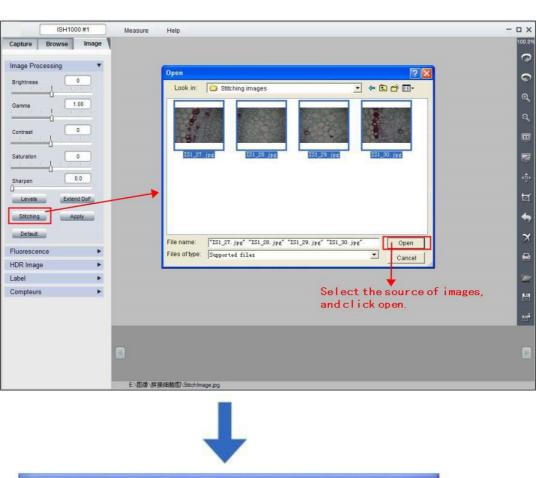
When selecting a wrong image as stacking source, just click on it and then click [Delete] to remove it. [Delete all] will remove all the selected images.

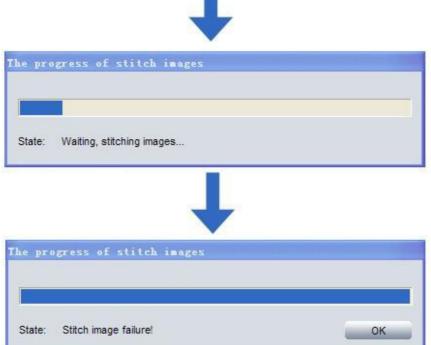
Image stitching

Click on stitching to get the image stitching configuration. It combines multiple images with overlapping fields of view to produce a large panorama or high-resolution image.

- 1) Click [Open] browse the stitching source images. Select all the source images and open them.
- 2) Click [Stitching] to start stitching all the source images.

3) Click [Save] to save the stitched image in the same directory as the source images with the name of date and time stamped.







If the source image did not meet the requirements, you will be prompted



image stitching failure!



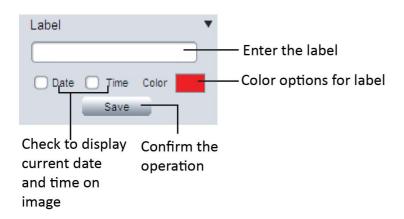
Measure

Click on [Measure] at the top of the GX to get the measurement tools.

Then select the corresponding tools to measure the still images (get more details in [Capture]>>[Live Measurement]).



Label

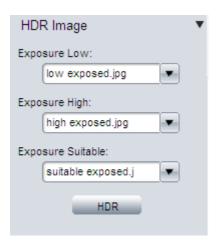


• The label text will be displayed on the lower right corner of the image.



- The date and time will be displayed on the top right corner of the image.
- After clicking [Save], the image with the label will be saved as image file name+ _bak. For example, the original image file name is "GX.jpg", then this image with a label will be saved as "GX_bak.jpg". So the original image is still kept.

HDR Image



High Dynamic Range (HDR) image is used to get greater dynamic range of an image.

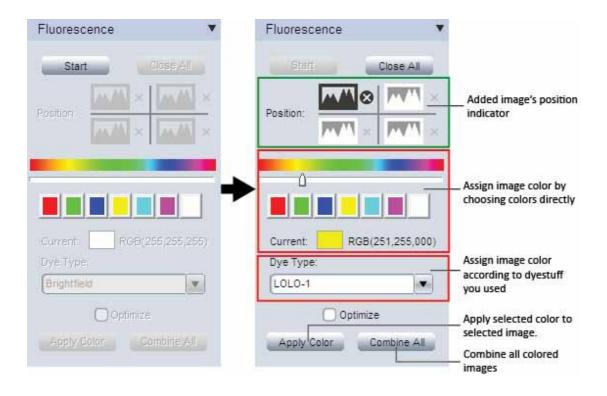
- Take pictures for one same scene with different exposure time and load them in the software.
- In the drop-down menu, select corresponding images for [Exposure Low],
 [Exposure High] and [Exposure Suitable].
- Push [HDR] button to combine different exposed images into one. The



generated HDR image will be named as "hdr_image".

If the different exposed images are not loaded in the GXCAPTURE yet, the shortcut on the right hand side of the GXCAPTURE allows you to browse any image simply.

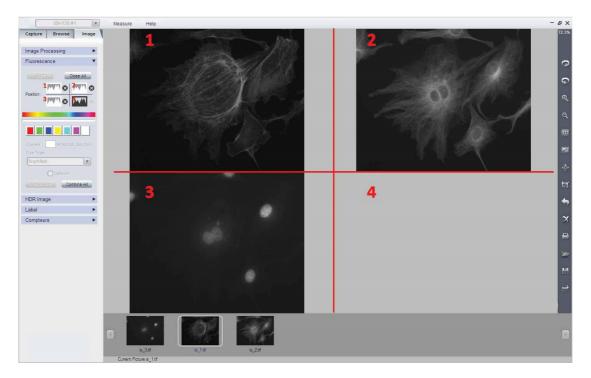
Fluorescence



This function is used to assign Black & White fluorescence images with different colours and combine them together into one image.

Step 1: Open the images which are used for combination in GX , then click on [Start] to start the fluorescence combination.

Step 2: Click on image thumbnails to add corresponding images. The image position indicator shows the added images' position. Maximum 4 frame images are allowed to add for fluorescence combination.



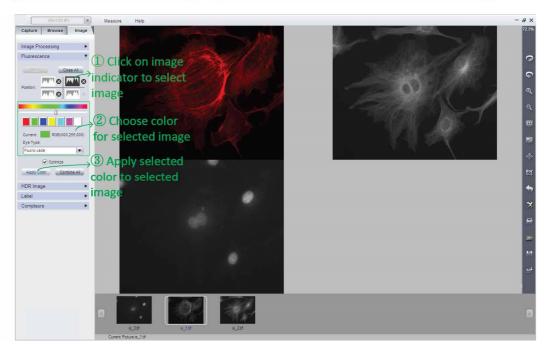
Step 3: Click on one added image indicator to start applying colour for it.

- ① Click on one image indicator to select it (The selected one will be in dark colour, unselected ones will be gray white).
 - ② Assign colour for selected image.

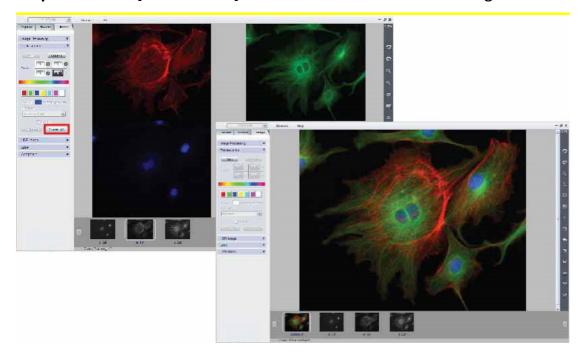
Two ways provided for colour assignment:

- a. Click on the preferred colour or slider to choose it.
- b. Assign the colour according to the fluorescence dye in the drop-down menu [Dye Type].
- ③ Click on [Apply Colour] button to add selected colour on the image.





Step 4: Click on [Combine All] to combine all the coloured images.



Optimize Checkbox is recommended to select during the combination. It will optimize image background to get a better image. If the optimize function is not selected, the created image will keep all the original information. No extra processing is applied to the image data.



After combining the fluorescence image,

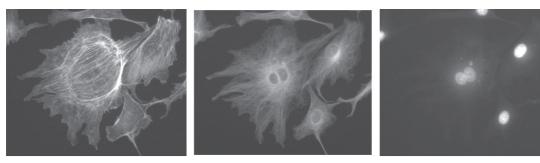


[Sharp] function in [Image Processing] can help to get

sharper images and see more image details.

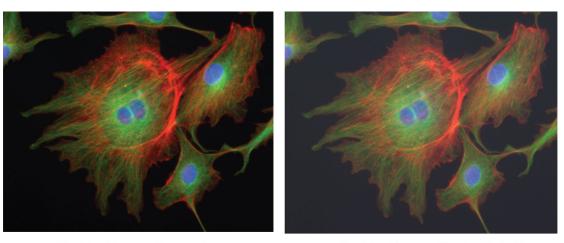
If you add the wrong image or wrong colour to selected image, just click on the tiny cross so beside each indicator to delete it. If you want to cancel the current combination, just click on [Close All] to cancel the combination.

Original images:



Original images

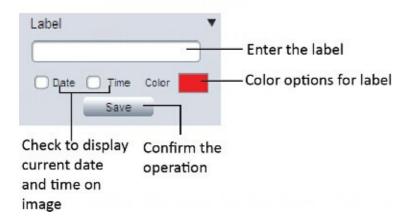
Combined image:



Combined image with optimization

Combined image without optimization

Label



- The label text will be displayed on the lower right corner of the image.
- The date and time will be displayed on the top right corner of the image.
- After clicking [Save], the image with the label will be saved as image file name+ _bak. For example, the original image file name is "GX.jpg", then this image with a label will be saved as "GX_bak.jpg". So the original image is still kept.

Class Counting



Class counting function allows to do 5 different types samples counting manually. Each type will be assigned with different colour dots.

