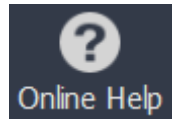


iQ-Analyzer-X V1.9 Manual

This is the original, not translated, manual. It will be updated with every release of iQ-Analyzer-X. If you need to save the current version for some reason, please use the “Export to PDF” button. If you find anything missing or have suggestions, please let us know (support@image-engineering.de). We are happy to help!

The software is linked to this online manual. Click on “Online Help” and move the mouse pointer over the graphical user interface.



When you hover over a linked section, a question mark appears on your mouse pointer. Click on the section to go to the corresponding section in this online manual.

What's new in iQ-Analyzer-X?

The iQ-Analyzer-X is an all-new development. The most significant changes are:

- Increased overall speed (start-up time, detection times, etc.) due to the C++ implementation
- A versatile and customizable user interface
- Automatic chart detection and custom chart support
- Database storage for storing and accessing all previous results
- Custom workflows for managing unique evaluation specifications
- Side-by-side comparison of analysis results

System Requirements

The iQ-Analyzer-X is compatible with Windows 10 and 11.

Windows 11 on ARM (Apple) is also supported.

Limitation:

The automated chart classification depends on hardware-accelerated GPU support.

If this is not available on the PC, the chart classification is disabled.

As you might work with large image data files, please consider a PC with reasonable performance standards.

The iQ-Analyzer-X uses the industry-standard OpenGL for some 3D plots. Please be aware that such plots are not visible if the graphics board of your PC does not support OpenGL.

UTT users only: To import UTT reference files (.xlsx) to the iQ-Analyzer-X database, you need an installation of MS Excel or MS Office on the PC.

Licensing

The latest release of iQ-Analyzer-X is available to download on the Image Engineering homepage. If no dongle is attached to your computer, iQ-Analyzer-X runs as the **Free Version** with limited functionality. With an active license (via USB Dongle), the software will start as the **Pro Version**. If you have an active maintenance package, you can use all updates released within your maintenance period.

Free Version

- Install on unlimited devices
- Configurable user interface
- Analysis templates
- Analyze RAW files
- Configurable test result tables
- Zoom function of the image
- ~~Use individual reference data~~
- ~~Save results to a database~~
- ~~Export results as XML or PDF~~
- ~~Maintenance Package and Priority Support~~

Pro Version

- Install on unlimited devices
- Configurable user interface
- Analysis templates
- Analyze RAW files
- Configurable test result tables
- Zoom function of the image
- Use individual reference data
- Save results to a database
- Export results as XML or PDF
- Maintenance Package and Priority Support

Installation and Database Setup

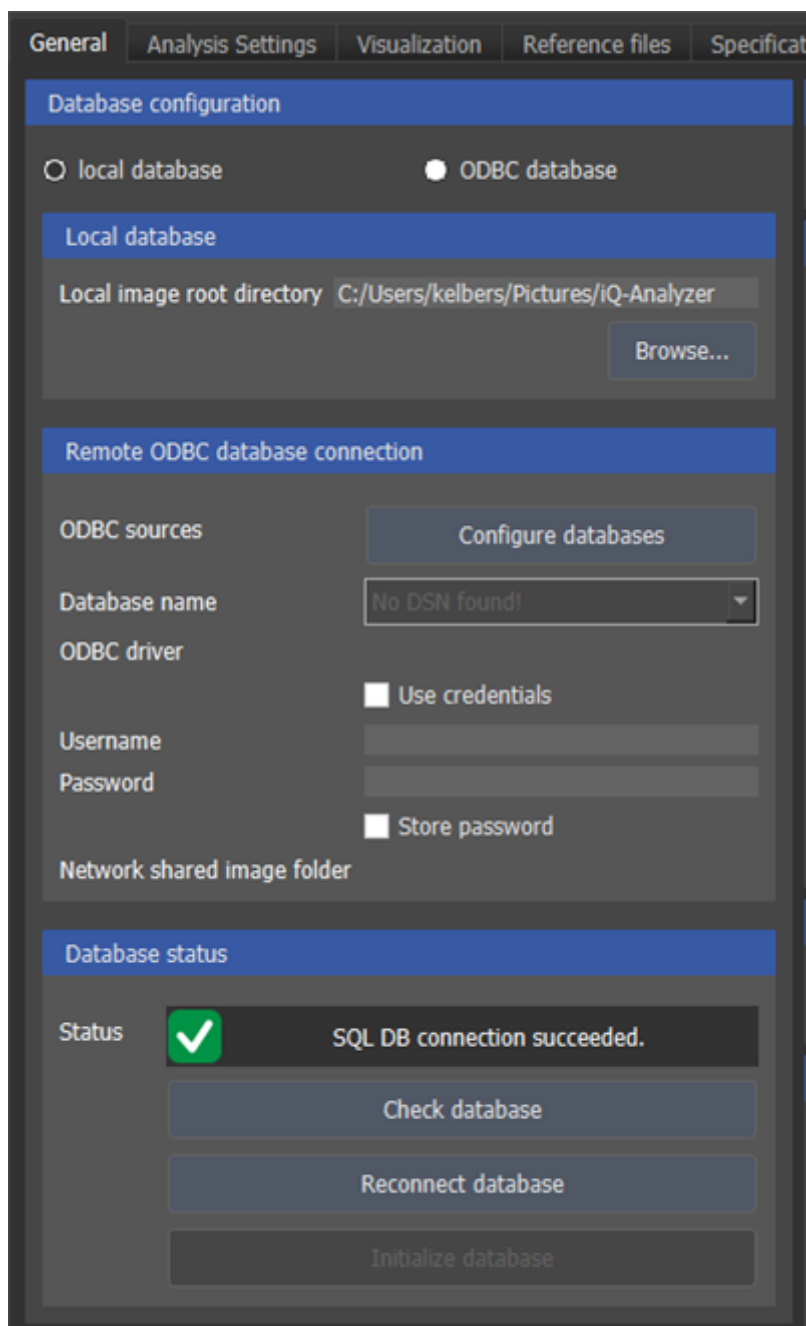
To install iQ-Analyzer-X, click on the executable and follow the instructions. If you launch iQ-Analyzer-X for the first time, a local database will initialize for your analysis results. The progress of initialization is displayed in a progress bar.

Note, that if you are considering using Open Database Connectivity (ODCB) in the future, you can use the “Database Migration Tool” to transfer the analysis data from a local to a remote server database. A migration from one to another remote database is also possible. The database migration tool can be started from the “Help” menu. It is explained in its own chapter.

Open Database Connectivity (ODBC)

iQ-Analyzer-X provides an interface for ODBC, enabling you to run a database on a remote server accessible from multiple PCs in different locations. To use ODBC, you need to create a database on your SQL server first. We have verified that MySQL, MSSQL, and MariaDB work well with the ODBC connectivity of iQ-Analyzer-X. Once you have created the database, you need to install the corresponding driver on your operating system. With the Windows “ODBC Datasources” tool, you need to set up the connection to the remote database.

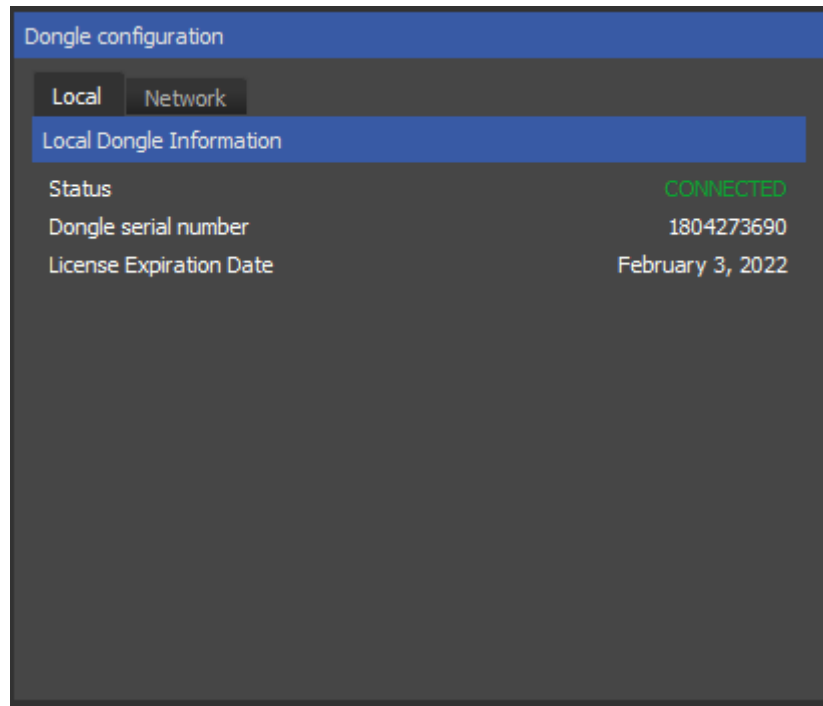
After successfully connecting to the remote database, start the iQ-Analyzer-X and open the “Configuration” dialog. In the “General” tab is a section for the database configuration. Activate the “ODBC database” option. Now the dropdown menu for “Database name” is accessible. Choose the database you created from the dropdown menu. The database tries to establish a connection immediately and asks for your credentials. If it's the first time you connect to the database, you are asked to provide a folder where all images are saved permanently. If everything worked correctly, the database status shows a green check symbol, and you are ready to use your database.



Dongle

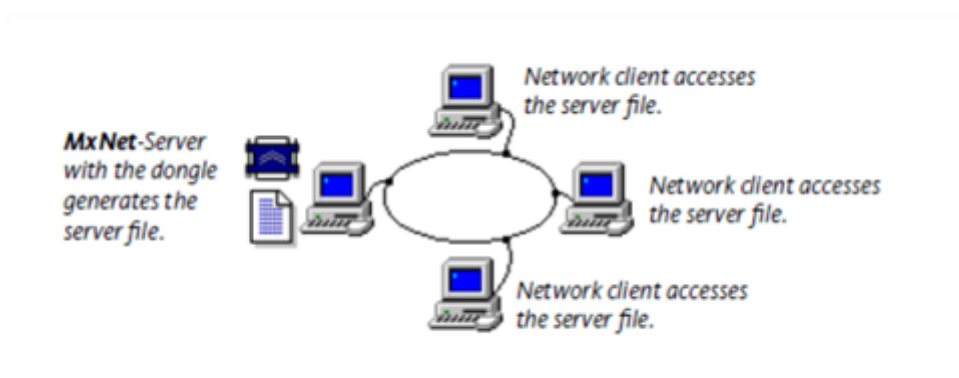
The USB dongle needs to be attached to your system to access the full functionality of iQ-Analyzer-X. The dongle keeps the information about your maintenance period, and the software shows a message before this period expires. Please contact our sales team if you want to extend the maintenance.

You can find general information about your dongle in the "General" tab under "Configure."



Network License

A USB Dongle needs to be connected to the PC to run the iQ-Analyzer-X Pro Version. Since version 1.4, iQ-Analyzer-X also provides a network license feature. The USB dongle can be attached to a server, and the local PC does not need to have physical access to the dongle. With one USB dongle, you can have multiple concurrent with the network license. The management of the simultaneously running versions of iQ-Analyzer-X is performed with the help of user slots in a server file generated by the "MATRIX-Net" server program from "TechnoData Interware GmbH."



The MATRIX-Net functional principle is shown in the diagram above. The server program running on a computer with the dongle generates an encoded server file. Each running version of the iQ-Analyzer-X "connects" with the server file and occupies a user slot released when the application is closed. The network protection via MATRIX-Net does not use network protocols and can thus be used in any network system.

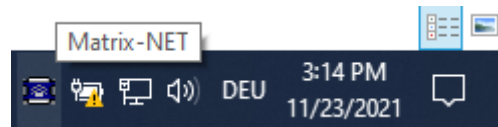
Installation of the Network License

When installing the network license, you need the mxnet32.exe, which is located in the installation

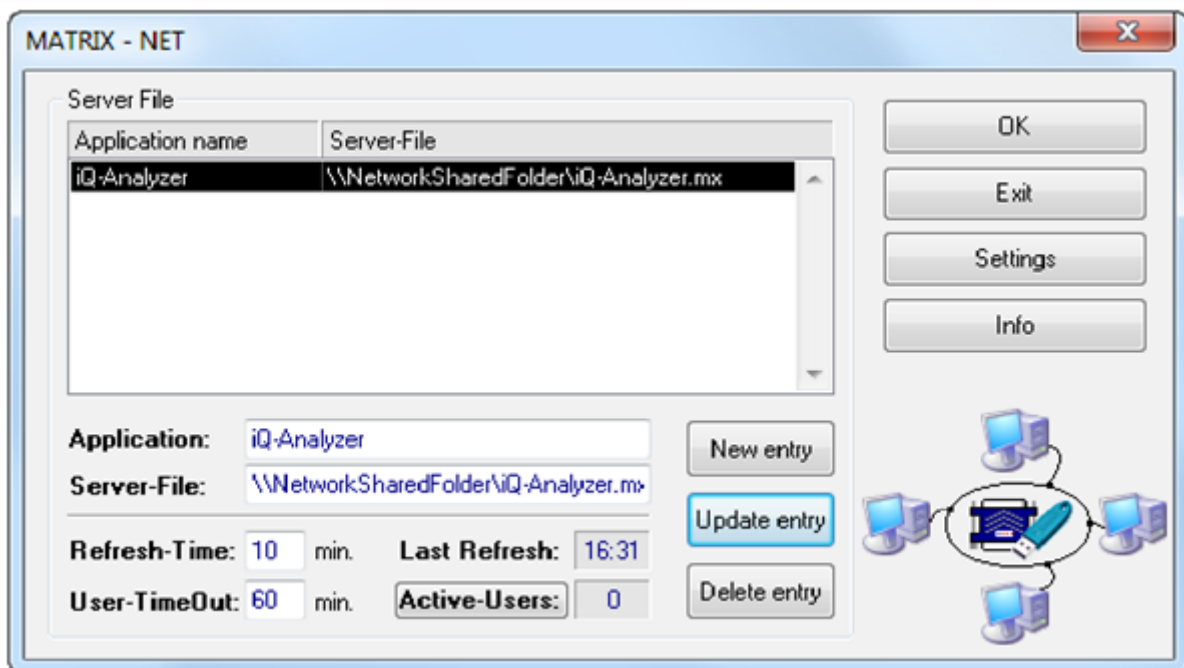
directory of your iQ-Analyzer-X version under “NetworkLicenseTool.” Connect the dongle to your dedicated server and run mxnet32.exe. This process opens the MATRIX-NET program (the MxNet server application) and must run on the server PC.

The MxNet server program can also be registered as a Windows service so that the program is started automatically during the boot-up of Windows. The advantage of a service over an Autostart entry is the ability to start even if there is no User-Login in Windows. You can directly register MxNet as a service by starting MxNet with the corresponding parameters. The following call-up parameters are available: mxnet32.exe -i (Install MxNET service) and mxnet32.exe -r (Uninstall MxNET service).

After starting the MATRIX-NET program, a dongle symbol is displayed in the taskbar.

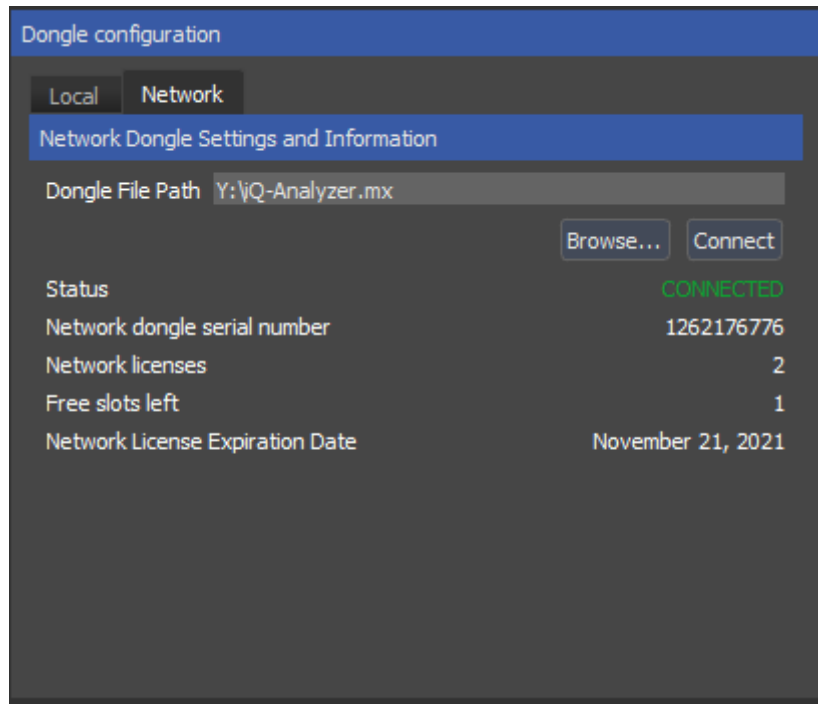


Clicking on this icon opens the MATRIX-NET dialog.



Create a new entry in the Server file list. Enter a name for the program in the field “Application name.” The name can be anything you like, and it does not need to match the actual application name. The network licenses are managed using a .mx server file. You can create the server file yourself and enter its path under “Server-File,” or you can enter a full path with a .mx file and click “New Entry.” The file is then automatically generated. The name of the server file must always be entered with the absolute path and correspond to the naming conventions of the operating system.

After setting up and running the MATRIX-NET server, install iQ-Analyzer-X on the client PCs. On each computer, you need to enter the server file you just created in the “Dongle File Path” field in the “General” tab under “Configure.” You can also browse for the file. After providing the path, click connect. If the connection was successful, the status is shown in green as “CONNECTED.”



The “Network” tab shows information about the dongle, the total number of licenses, and the free slots.

MATRIX-NET Settings

REFRESH-TIME

In this field, the time interval for the refresh of the server file is set. The last refresh carried out is displayed in the “Last Refresh” field. The refresh period should usually be selected to be between 5 and 10 minutes.

USER-TIMEOUT

The User-TimeOut is the time limit after which the user is automatically removed from the server file. In the event of abnormal termination of the application (crash) on a client, this function ensures the release of the user slot in the server file, as this would otherwise remain occupied.

ACTIVE-USERS

This field is continuously updated and shows the total number of active users for the selected application. The “Active-Users” button allows you to display a detailed list of the active users. A user entry can be manually removed from this list. If your application is terminated abnormally on any terminal, you can either remove the user slot from the list or wait for the time out. When the user time out is reached, the user slot is automatically removed when the server file is refreshed. It is unnecessary to delete the user slot before the abnormally terminated application is restarted. The existing user slot will be found and refreshed automatically.

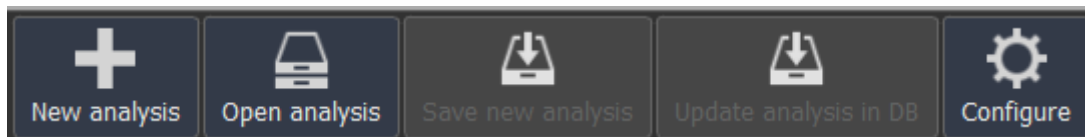
Important! Important! It is essential that the system time of the PC is synchronized in the network; otherwise, the “User-TimeOut” can not be correctly computed. The maximum allowed deviation of the system time between clients and server may not exceed the number of minutes selected in the MATRIX-NET server program in “Refresh-Time.” The following command can synchronize the clients’ system time with the server’s system time. This command can be implemented in the boot-up procedure of each client to make it an automatic function.

NET TIME \\<computername> /SET /YES

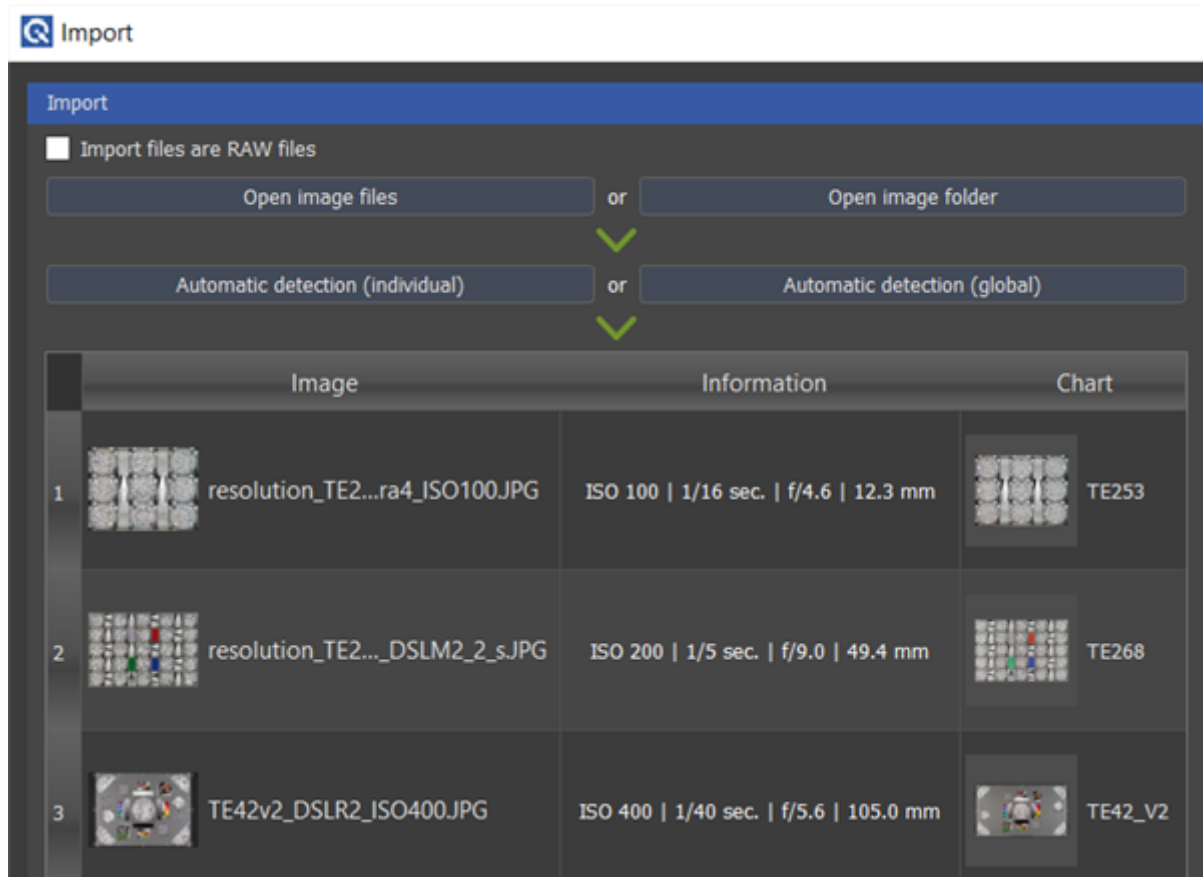
Getting started

This is a quick guide on how to run your first analysis in iQ-Analyzer-X. Example images are provided on the iQ-Analyzer-X [download page](#).

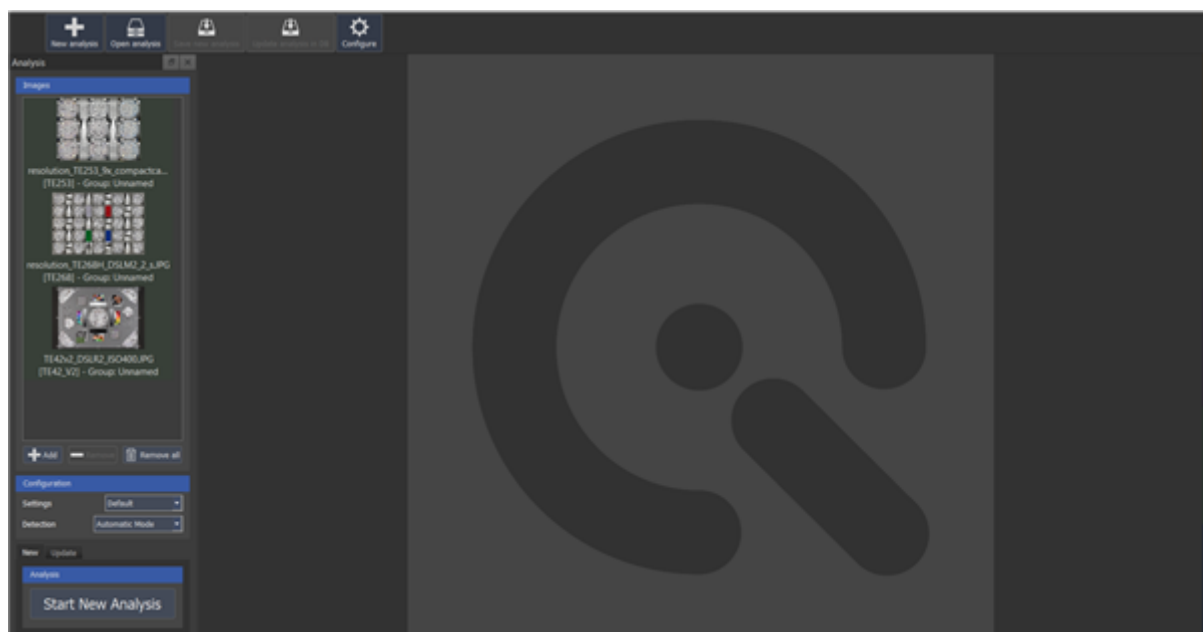
The first time you launch iQ-Analyzer-X it, takes a moment to initialize the local database in which the future analysis will be saved. After the initialization is done, click on “New Analysis.”



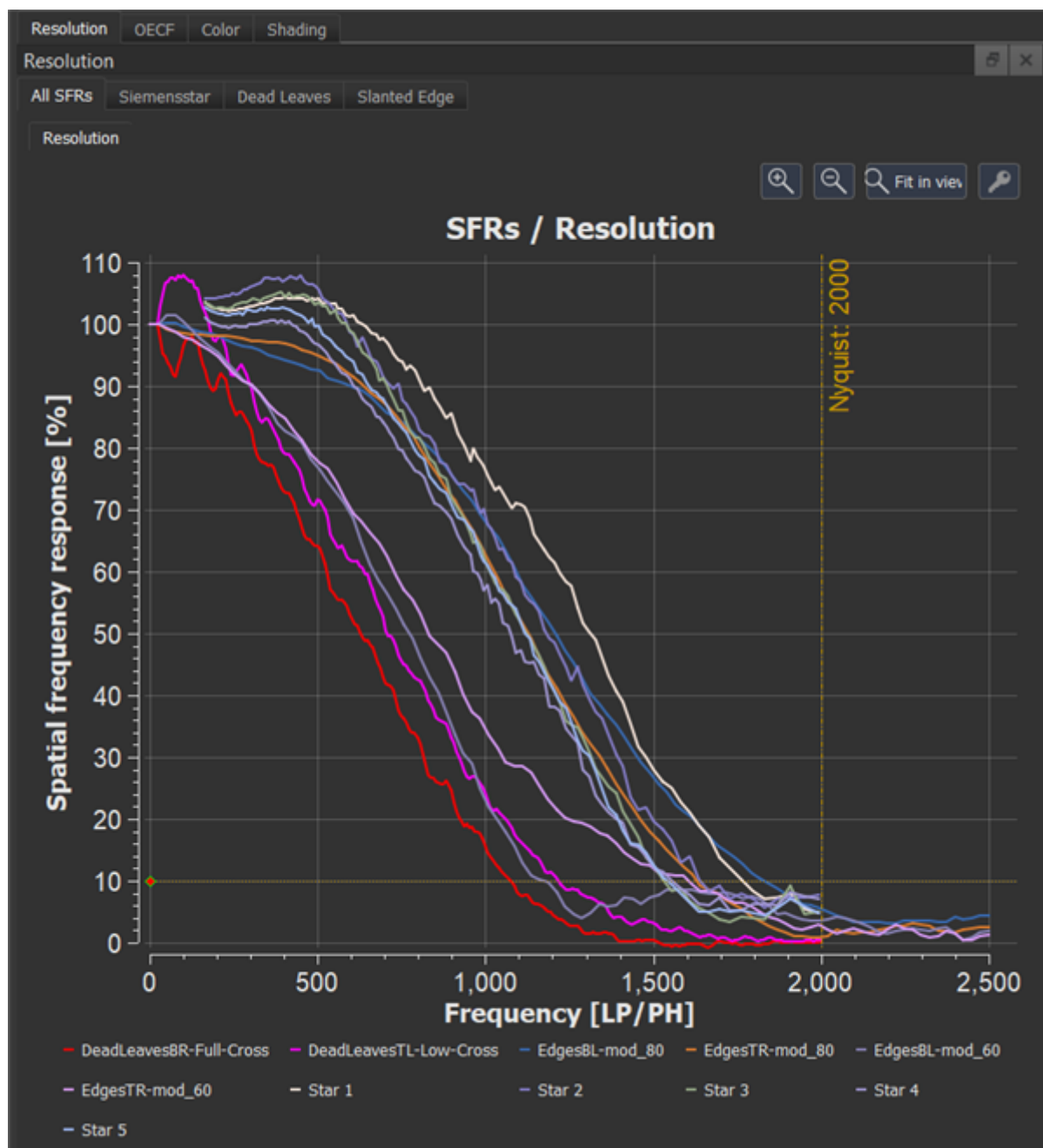
The “Import Images” dialog will appear. You can either load single images with “Open Image Files” or all the images in a folder with “Open Image Folder.” For now, please open a single image. The software detects the test chart automatically and shows it in the “Chart” column. If there are problems with the automatic detection, the chart can also be selected manually with the dropdown menu in the “Chart” column.



If all charts are detected, click “Import.” The main window will appear with the “Input” dock showing the imported images.

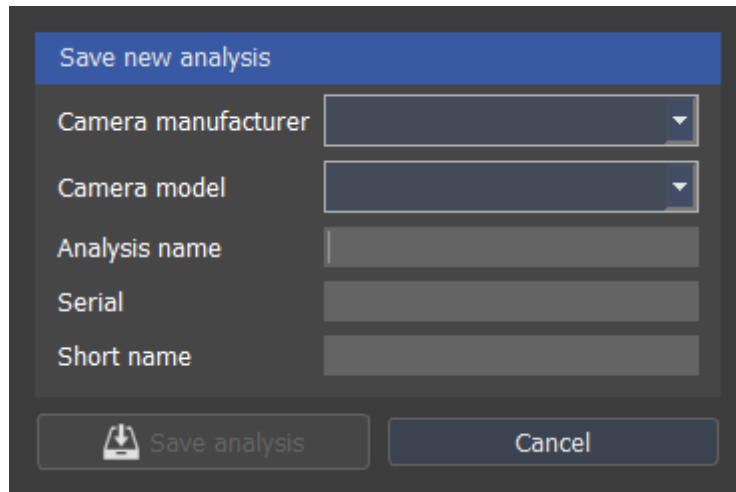


Apply your desired settings and the detection mode under “Configuration.” For your first analysis, the default values will be adequate. Click on “Start New Analysis” to launch the first image analysis. The results will be presented in the “Analysis results” tab when the analysis is completed. Switch through the different tabs to see the visualization of your measurements. You can also undock the tab from its container for a better view.



To save your analysis, click on "Save new analysis."

Enter the details of your analysis and click on "Save Analysis." A good description will help you find your analysis more quickly in the database.



Congratulations! You just performed your first image quality analysis with iQ-Analyzer-X.

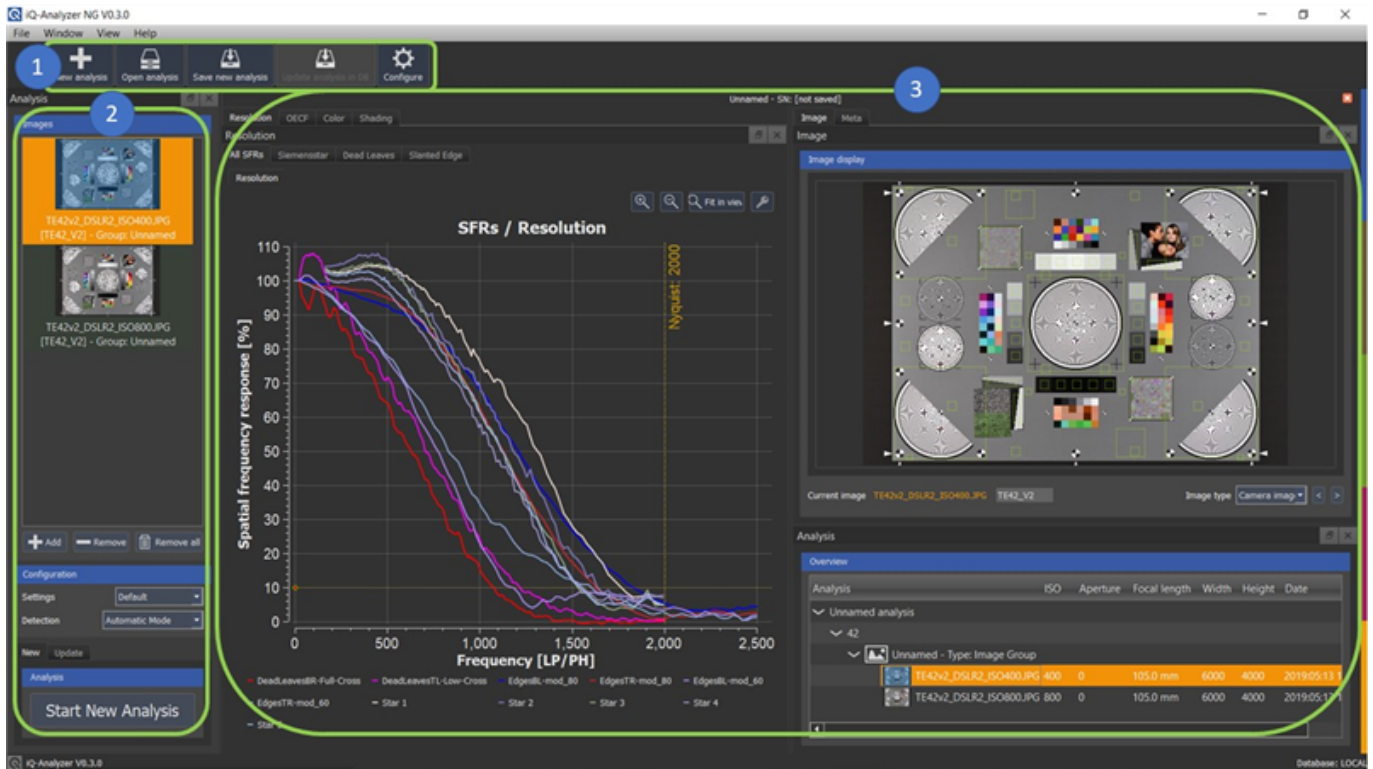
Image Quality Analysis

General Workflow

The iQ-Analyzer-X detects the type of test chart automatically and provides the results accordingly. The basic concept requires that each analysis is only for one specific camera make and model. The analysis will be stored in a database, and several results of different cameras can be opened simultaneously for comparison. All necessary analysis settings are now in one place, and you can create custom settings and store them in the database.

GUI Overview

The GUI consists of several docks and windows that can be individually placed on your screen by drag and drop. To change the position of a window, click into the top row and drag it to your desired position. If you drag it onto another window, it will show appear as a tab. You can always go back to the original state by selecting “restore view to default” in the “view” menu. Most result graphs and image overviews can be zoomed in and out with the mouse wheel or move positions with click and drag.



In the default view, the GUI shows the “Toolbar” dock (1), the “Input” dock (2), and the “Analysis Results” tab (3). The “Toolbar” provides a shortcut to a few basic functions. The “Input” dock shows all imported images and lets you define the settings for your image analysis. The “Analysis Results” tab contains all the results and information about the currently active test image. The currently active image is highlighted in orange.

Meta Tab

The meta information of the currently active image under test and analysis is displayed here.

Image Tab

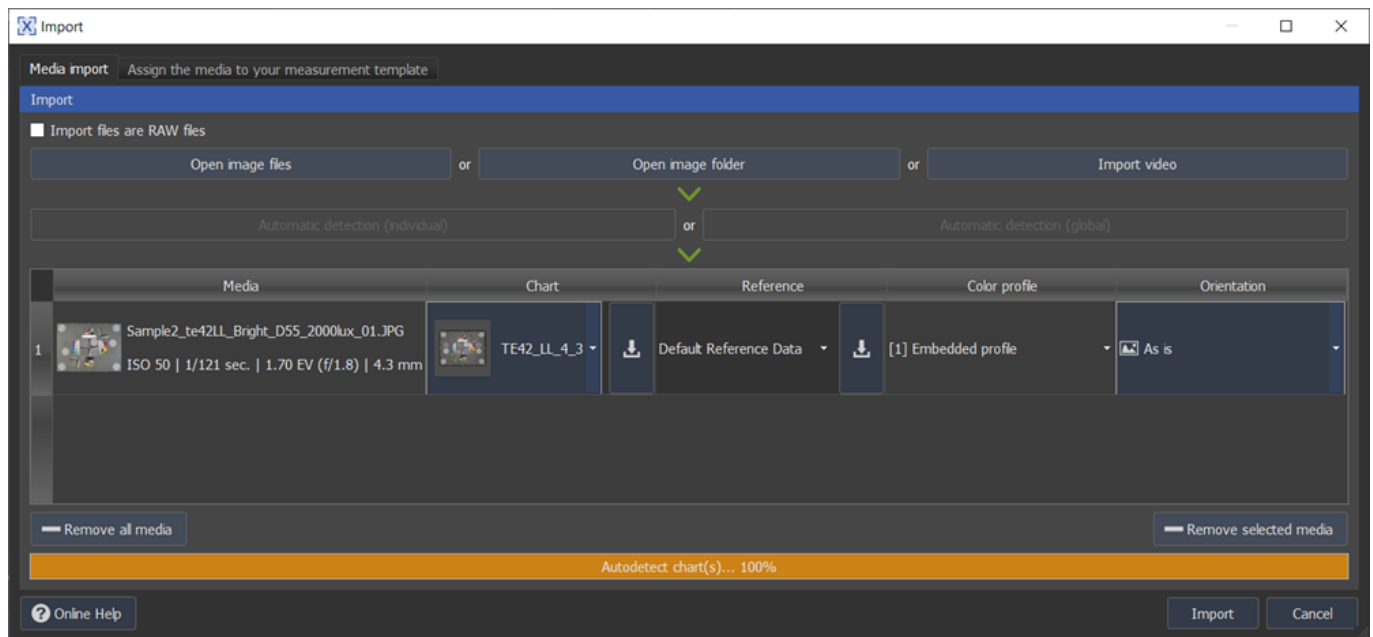
The current active test image with all ROIs detected is displayed here. This view is beneficial to check if the ROIs are in the correct location or any artifacts like reflections. It also highlights the corresponding targets when you hover over a line in its results plot. This feature makes it easy to see the target's connection and result. You can easily zoom in and out by using your mouse wheel, and the zoom will focus on the location of the pointer of your mouse.

Analysis Tab

This tab provides an overview of the images in your active analysis. If multiple analyses are open, the active analysis is the one with the highlighted text in the headline of its tab. The overview provides a simple way to switch between the test images.

Import Images

If you click on “New Analysis,” the “Import” dialog will pop up. You can either import multiple image files or an entire folder with images. iQ-Analyzer-X currently supports 8-bit RGB images in *.tif, *.bmp, *.jpg, *.png format. The images must not contain an alpha channel. Binary RAW files are currently supported with a bit depth of 8, 16 or 32 bit unsigned, but only for OECF and SNR measurements. If you check “Imported files are Raw files” only the available OECF charts show up in the “Please select chart” dropdown menu.



After opening the test images, they will appear in the “Import” dialog. If you have opened multiple image files, you can allocate the charts manually or automatically. Choose “Automatic detection” (individual) if the test images show different test charts and “global” if all images show the same test chart. To remove a test image, select it and click on “Remove selected images.”

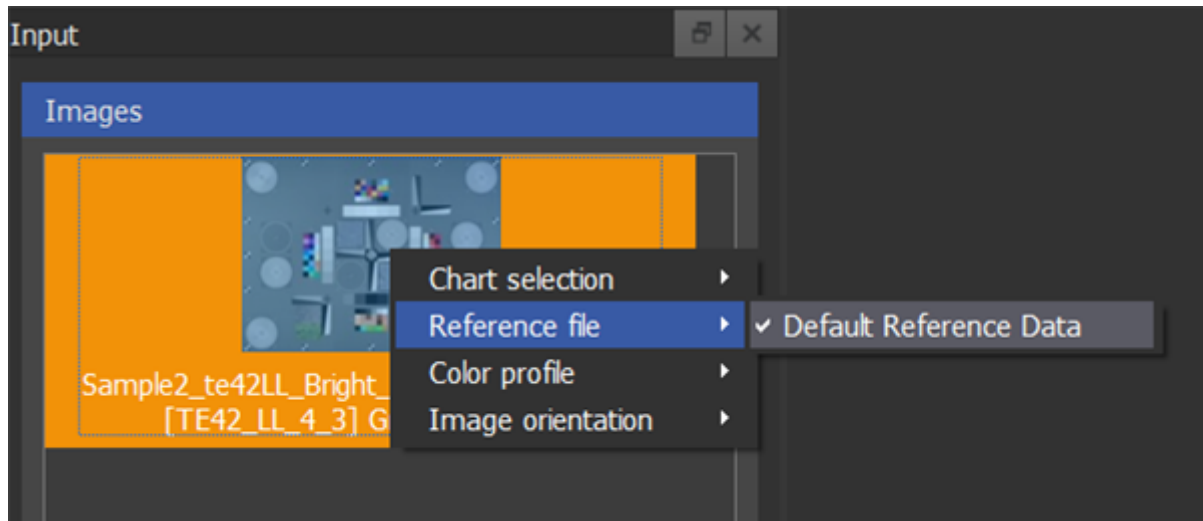
If the chart detection doesn't work, the software will ask you to select the chart manually from the dropdown menu. The dropdown menu also shows “unknown chart” if this is the case. **Note that if you want to analyze a custom chart, the automatic recognition won't work because it is not trained for custom charts. If this often happens, you can disable automatic chart classification in the “General” tab in the configuration dialog.**

In the “Reference” Column you can select your reference file if you have one. For more information about reference files, please refer to chapter ["reference files"](#). You can also assign a color profile and rotate the image in this dialog.

Use the “arrow” button to assign your selection to the following images in the list.

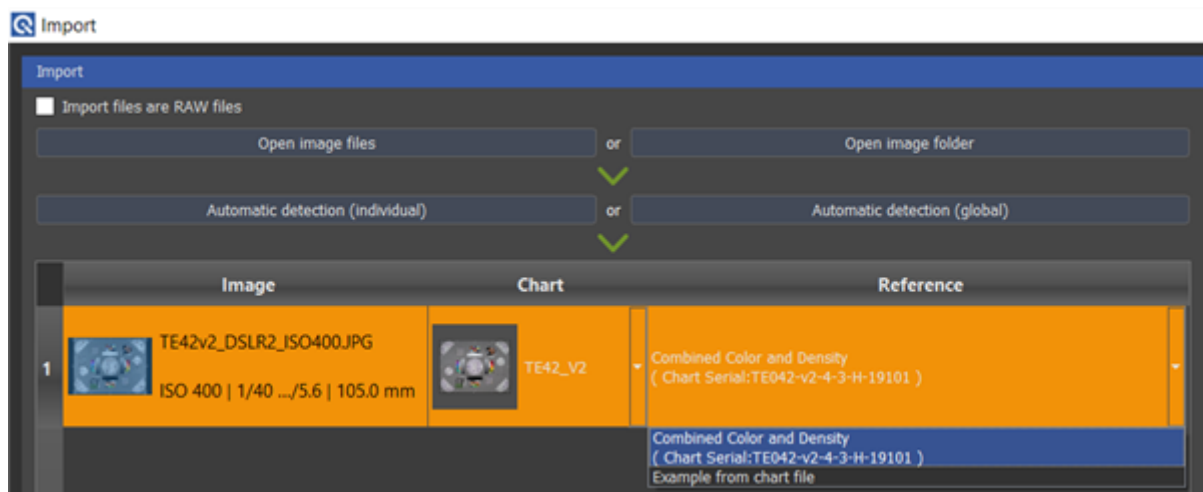


After the import you can still change these parameters for each image by right-clicking on the image in the input dock.



Note, that only specific test charts are supported by iQ-Analyzer-X. Please refer to <https://www.image-engineering.de/products/software/iq-analyzer-x> for details.

Most test charts will be delivered with a corresponding reference file (*.ref) or a *.pdf that contains your chart's individually measured data. The reference file can be imported in the "Reference files" tab from the "Configure" menu, and this reference file can be allocated in the column "Reference." If you do not have a reference file, you can also allocate the "Default Reference Data", which is less accurate and not recommended.



Please note, that if you have certain OECF charts, the software can only detect the layout and not the contrast or type of the chart. For example, if you import an image of the TE269 chart, the software cannot recognize whether it's a TE269A, TE269B or TE269C. All of them have different patch densities. Therefore, you need to address the chart version by choosing the corresponding reference files in the "Import" dialog. This sequence also applies to chart TE264 and TE270. To do so, you need to import the default reference data of your chart first. The default reference files are located in C:\Program Files\Image Engineering\iQ-Analyzer-X X.X.X\resources\references\templates. How to import reference files is explained in chapter ["reference files"](#). If you purchased your OECF chart in 2024 it most likely has an individual *.ref file, which you can download [here](#).

For greater accuracy, we recommend working with measured luminance when capturing transparent OECF charts. The reason for this is that when the chart is placed in the light source, it reflects into the light source, changing the output intensity.

Please refer to chapter "[reference files](#)" for information about creating and editing luminance reference files.

If all charts are adequately detected, and the reference files are also correct, click "Import." The images will appear in the "Input" dock.

Raw Images

If your images are raw files, activate the checkbox "Import files are RAW files" before clicking "Open...". In this instance, the following dialog for raw file import appears, where you can provide information about the raw file structure. **Note, that currently, RAW files are only supported for OECF measurement.** Data formats supported are unsigned integer 8, 16 and 32 bit.

RAW settings set

<Please enter a set name>

RAW settings

Enter all RAW file attributes

| | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| Width | 0 |
| Height | 0 |
| Bits per color | UNSIGNED_32 |
| Header bytes offset | 0 |
| Byte order | Little endian |
| Pixel pattern | CUSTOM_4 |
| Bit Offset | 0 |

Actions

? Online Help Save Save new Delete OK Cancel

Width and Height: Image width and height in pixels.

Bits per color: Data format of the pixel values.

Header bytes offset: The number of bytes until the actual image data starts. It is important to get the correct starting point of the image data, so that the channel order is interpreted in the right way.

Byte Order: Choose between little and big endian.

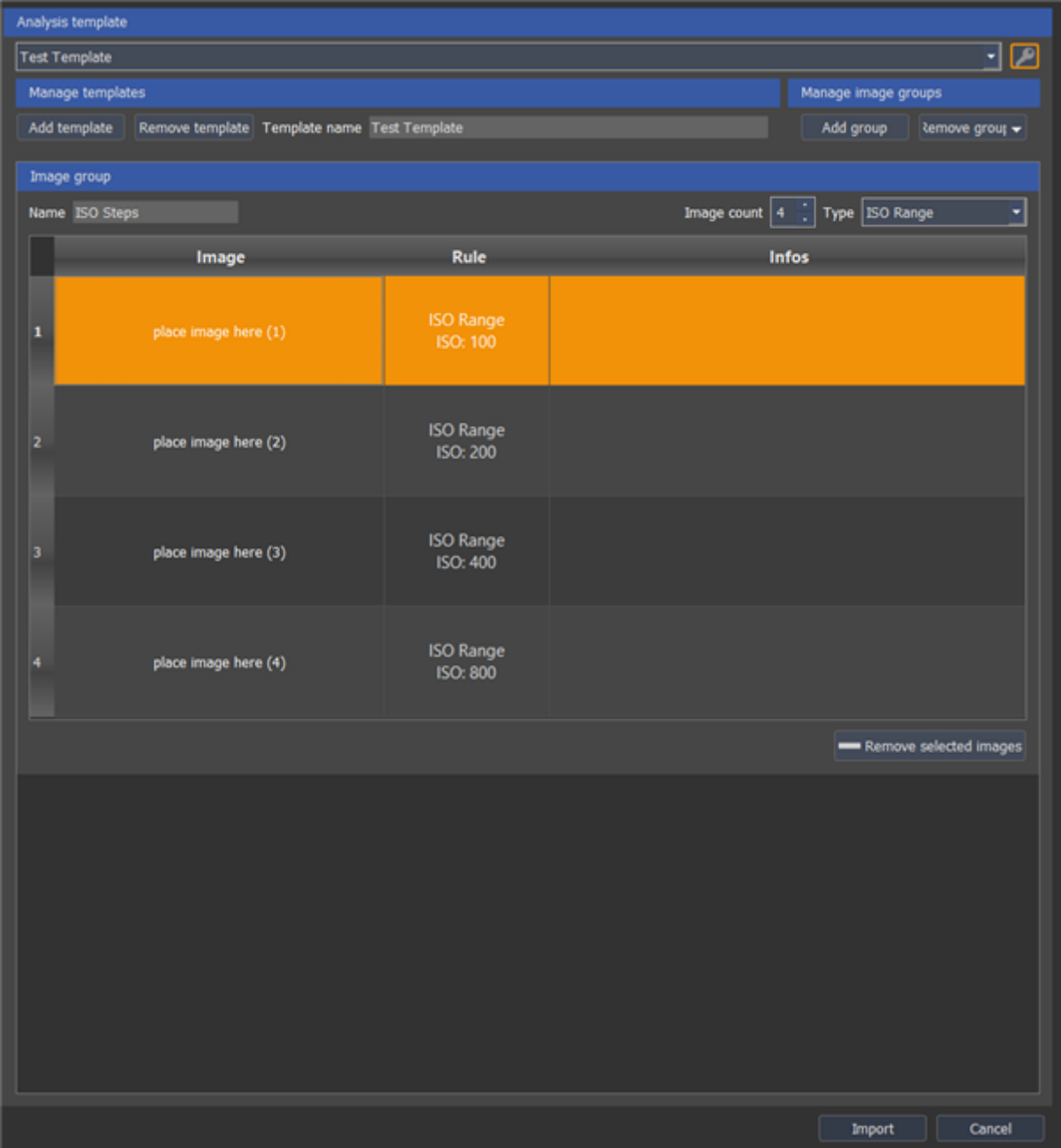
Pixel Pattern: Choose the bayer pattern of your raw data, or apply "CUSTOM_4".

Note, that the shown results depend on the pixel pattern. If you select “Custom_4” the OECF of all channels are shown, but no numerical results are calculated yet. However, you can export the results as .xml and in the .xml you can find the variance and the digital values for each channel and patch to do further calculations as, for example, SNR. If you choose a certain bayer pattern, a Y image is created. Y is a weighted sum of the channels and represents the perceived brightness. All numerical results are then based on this image. For RYCy-CFAs the channels are weighted equally. The Yellow channels are averaged before weighting. RGB-CFAs are weighted $R = 0.2125$, $G = 0.7154$ and $B = 0.0721$. The green channels are averaged before weighting.

Bit offset: Images with metadata in a certain bit range can be imported with a bit offset. The bit offset is subtracted from all DVs. For example, if you have metadata in the first 8 bit, you can subtract 256 to get the real pixel value.

If you have many differently structured raw files, you can save your settings for future analysis. To save a setting, you need to provide a name in the top dropdown menu. Once you have a name, the “Save” and “Save new” buttons are available. “Save” will overwrite your setting, while “Save new” will create a new setting in the database. You can access your saved settings via the dropdown menu.

Analysis Template (Image Sequence Analysis)

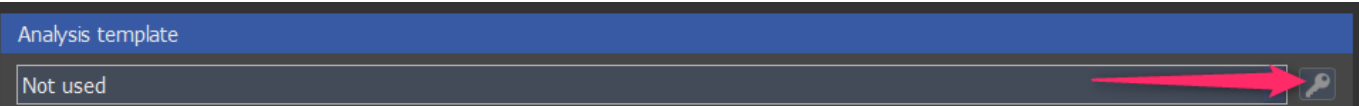


With analysis templates, image sequences with different apertures or ISO settings can be compared utilizing resolution evaluation. It is also possible to calculate the average of an image sequence or identify the image with the best resolution based on the MTF. You can create templates containing multiple groups, for example, one group for a range of ISO settings and one for a range of aperture settings. Templates are saved to the database and can be selected in the dropdown menu in the “Import” dialog.

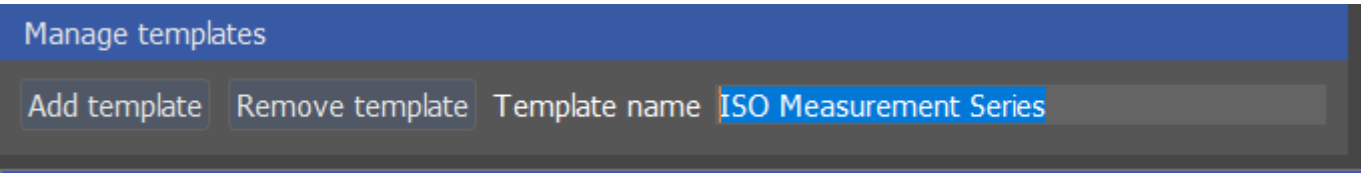
Example ISO Sequence with three images:

We create a template for three images captured with different ISO settings in this example.

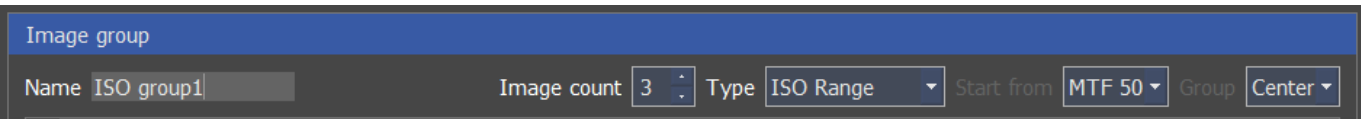
Click the key symbol to access the template settings.



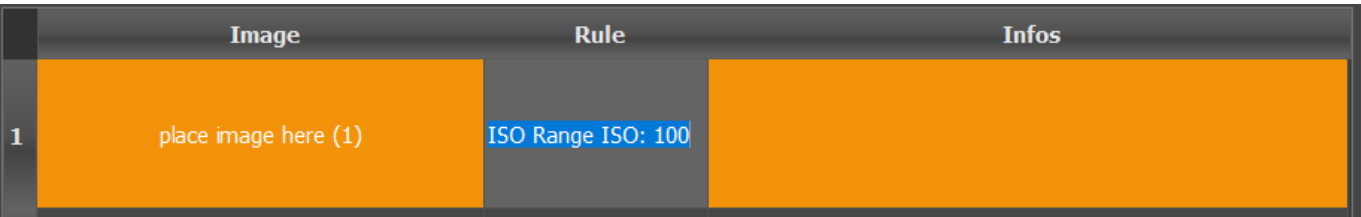
Add a new template. Change the template name to “ISO Measurement Series,” for example.



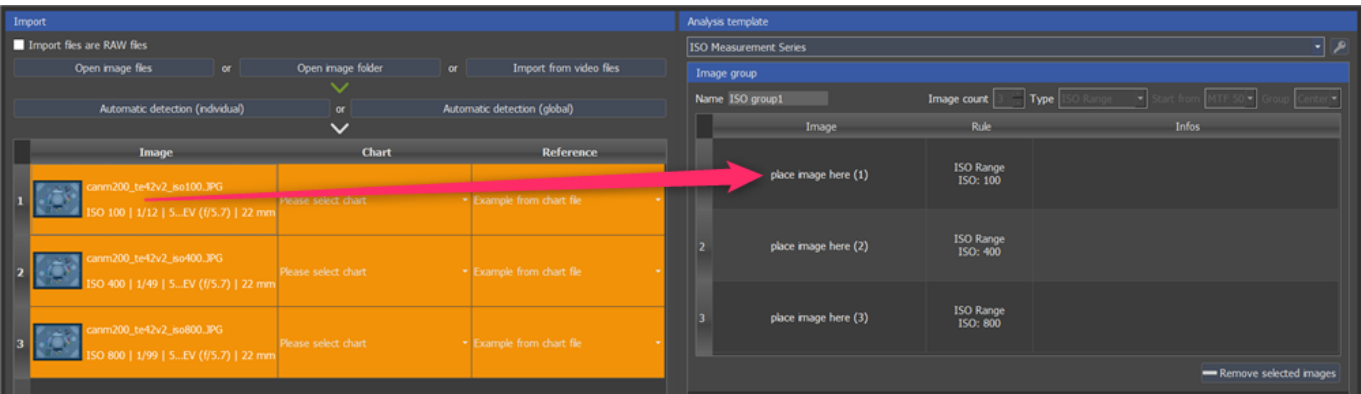
Name the Image Group “ISO group1.” Increase the image count to three. As “Type,” select “ISO Range.” Choose “MTF50” as measurement and “Center” as a group from the dropdown menu. The additional result plot then displays the MTF 50 values of the Siemens stars in the center over the ISO Range.



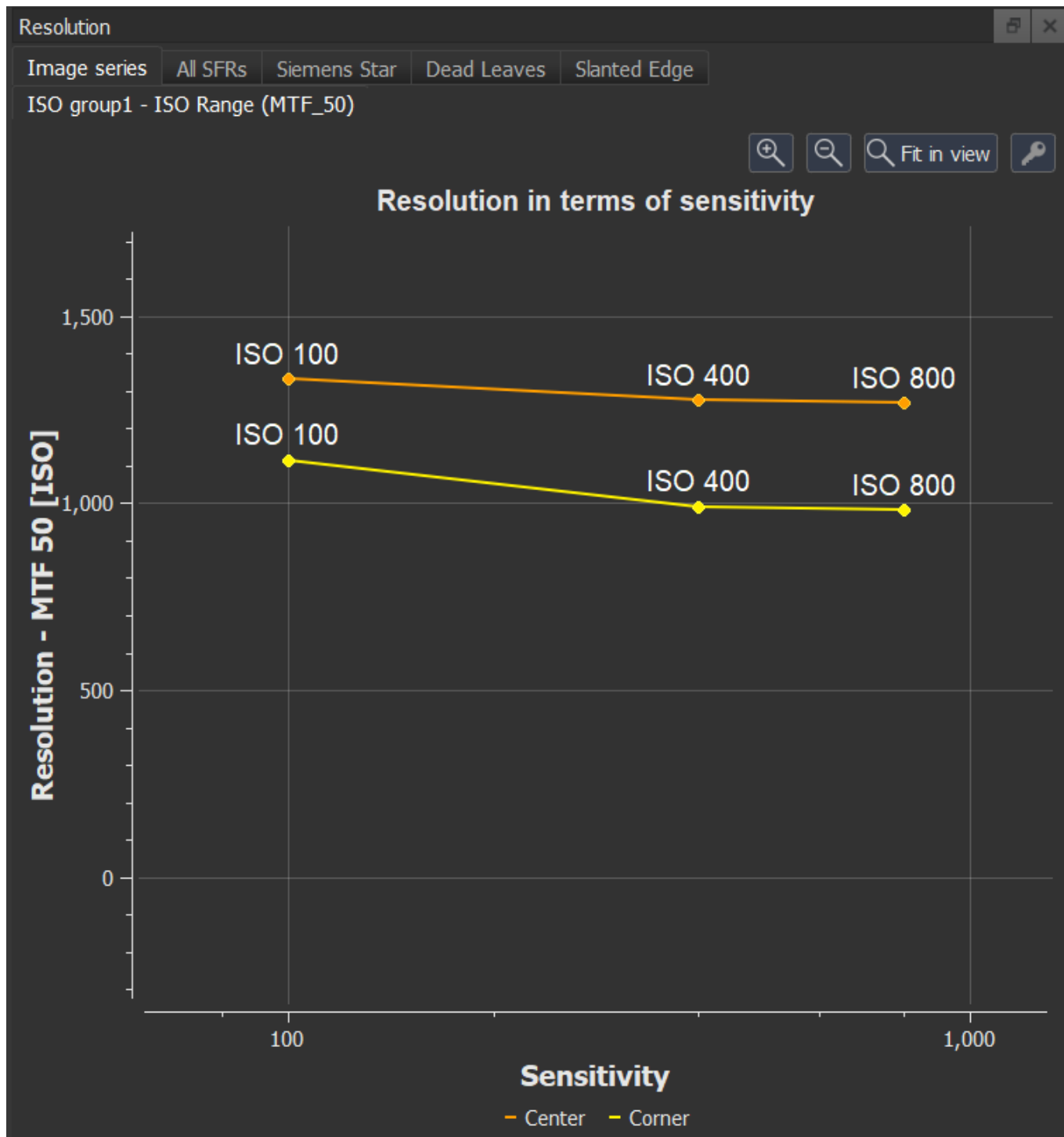
Change the ISO value in the column “Rule” to the corresponding properties of your images. In our case, it is 100, 400, and 800. You can change the value by double-clicking on the field and entering the ISO value.



After entering all ISO values, click on the key symbol again to leave the editing mode. Select the three images for analysis and move them to the placeholders.

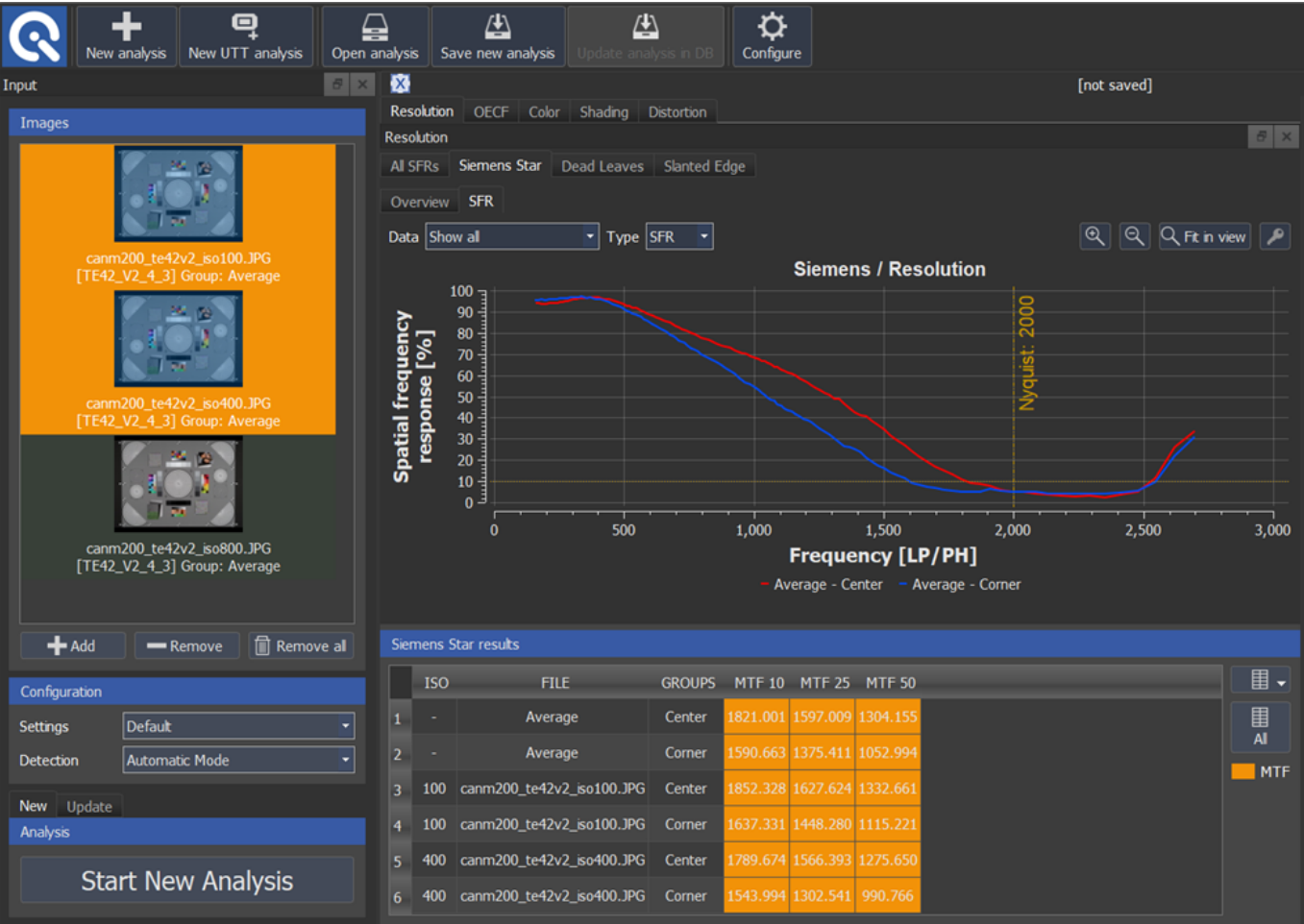


Click “Import” after finishing the allocation of the images and analyze the images. A new tab will be added to “Resolution” called “Image Series,” which shows the MTF over the ISO value.



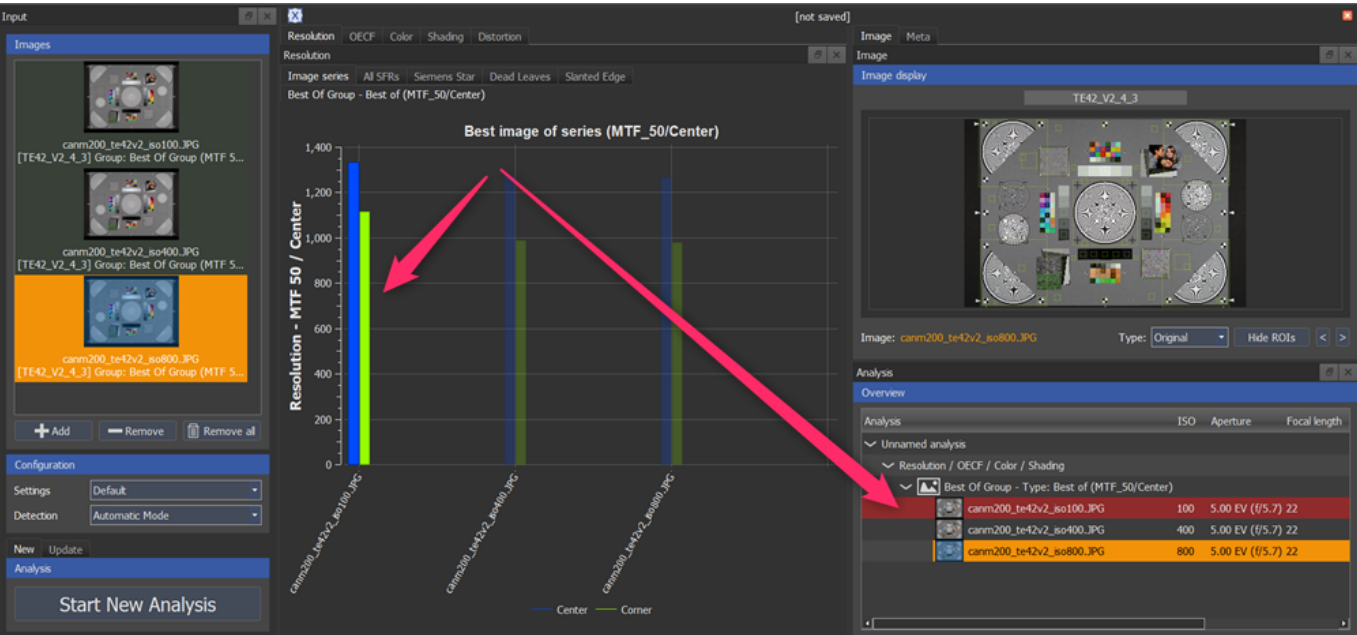
Average Measurement

Measurement type "Average" can be helpful for measurements that have a significant variance due to the measurement setup. With this option, the average values of the numerical results are calculated, and the plots are adjusted. You can calculate the average of the whole image sequence or only a few images by selecting them in the "Input Dock." In the following example, only two images are selected from the "Average" group, so the plots and numerical results show only the average of the MTF of these two images.



Best Of Measurement

The “Best of” measurement determines the image with the best resolution based on the MTF. An additional “Image Series” tab is displayed, highlighting the image with the best performance. The image is also highlighted in the “Overview” area.

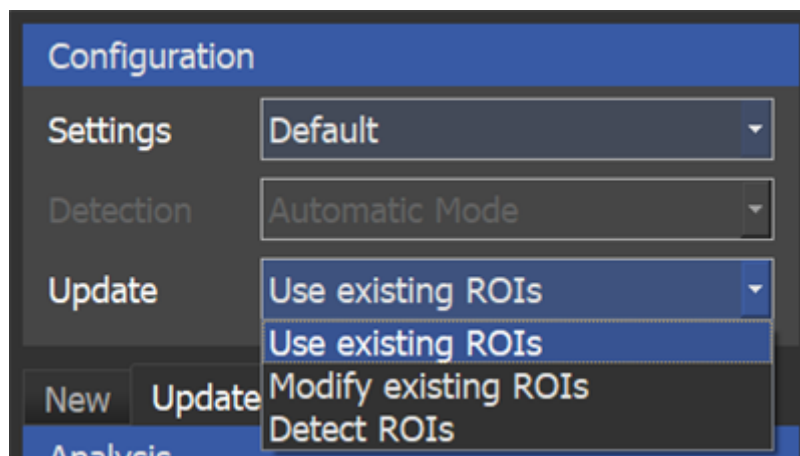


Analyze Images

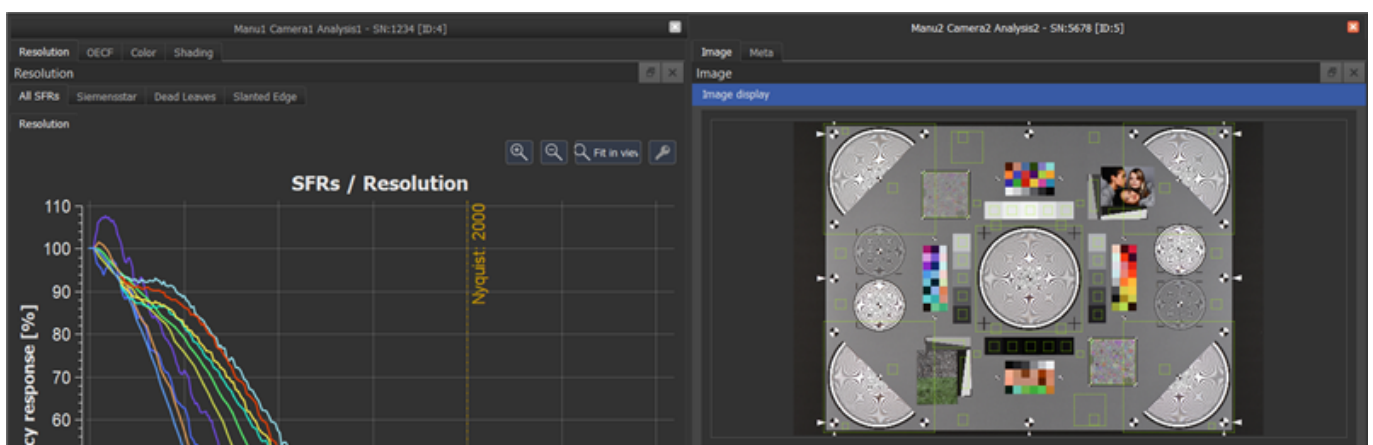
All imported images are listed in the “Input dock” under “Images.” You can either add, remove or remove all images by selecting the image and pressing the corresponding button.

Under “Settings,” you can define the settings you want to apply to your analysis. You can change and save your analysis settings in the configuration tab under “Configure.”

There are two options for running an analysis, “Start New Analysis” and “Update Analysis.” If you, for example, want to analyze the already imported images with different settings, you can update your analysis by pressing “Update Analysis.” You can also update the analysis with the already existing ROIs, modify the existing ROIs manually or start the automatic detection from scratch by selecting the appropriate item in the drop-down menu.



All results will be updated accordingly. Meanwhile, “Start Analysis” will create a new analysis in a separate tab. If you have two or more analyses opened simultaneously, the currently active analysis tab is highlighted with a brighter text.



ROI Detection

Under “Detection,” you can choose between three modes.

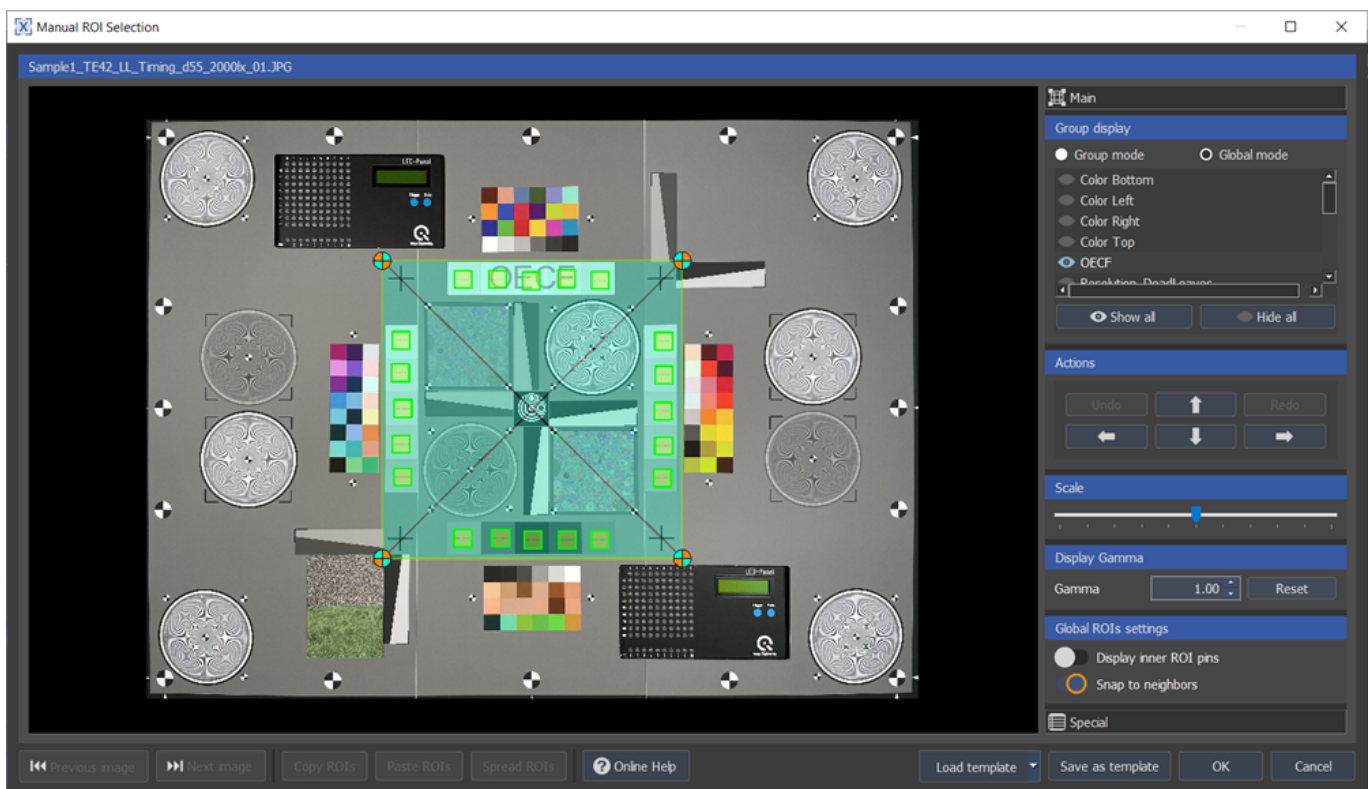
- Automatic Mode
- Semi-automatic Mode

- Manual Mode

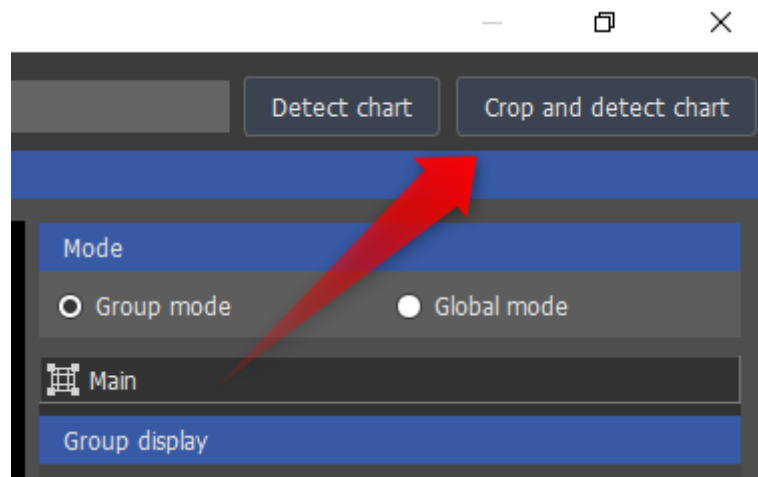
In “automatic mode”, the software tries to find all ROIs automatically and analyzes the image immediately. In “semi-automatic mode”, the software tries to find all ROIs automatically and opens the “Manual ROI Selection” dialog for further adjustments. In the “manual mode,” the ROIs are placed on the image independently of its content, and the ROI's sizes and positions depend on the principle layout of the assigned chart type.

Note, that automatic ROI detection relies on the image qualities like pixel count, noise, exposure, distortion, alignment of the chart,...

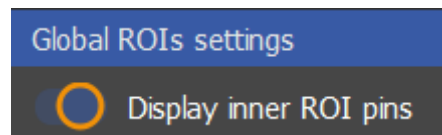
If not all ROIs were detected properly in “automatic mode”, the software asks you if you want to switch to “semi-automatic mode”, which opens the “Manual ROI Selection” dialog in which you can adjust the ROIs. The ROIs that need to be adjusted blink, to make it easier to find them. Note, that they keep blinking even if you changed their position.



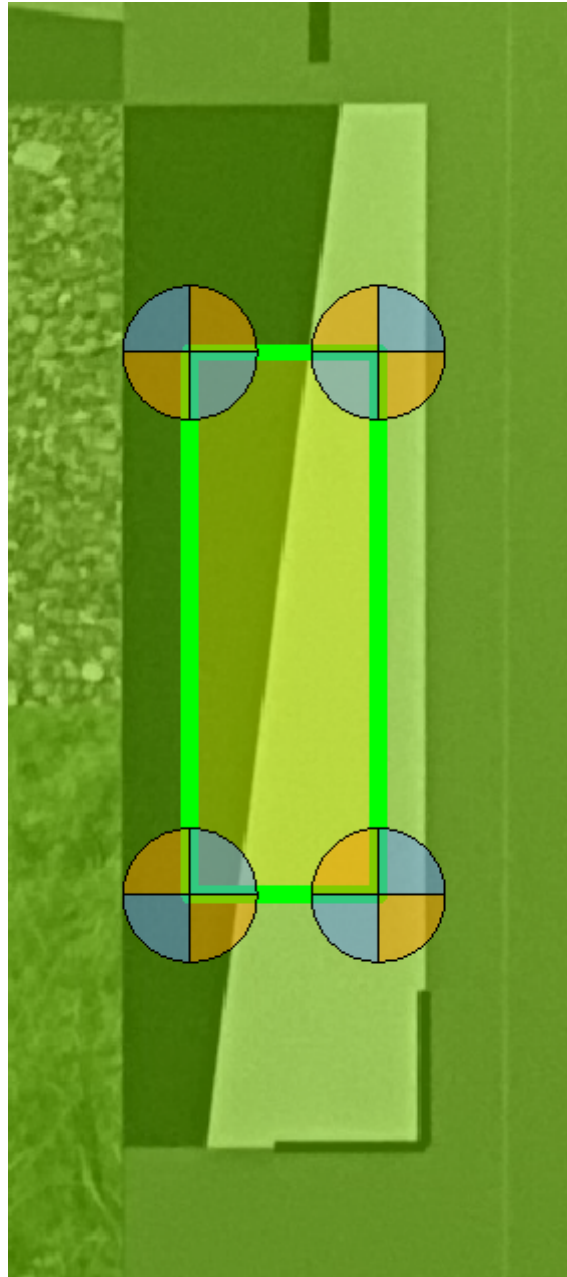
For captured images which do not show the chart full frame, you can use the “Crop and Detect” feature. The crop makes it easier for the software to find the ROIs in the image.



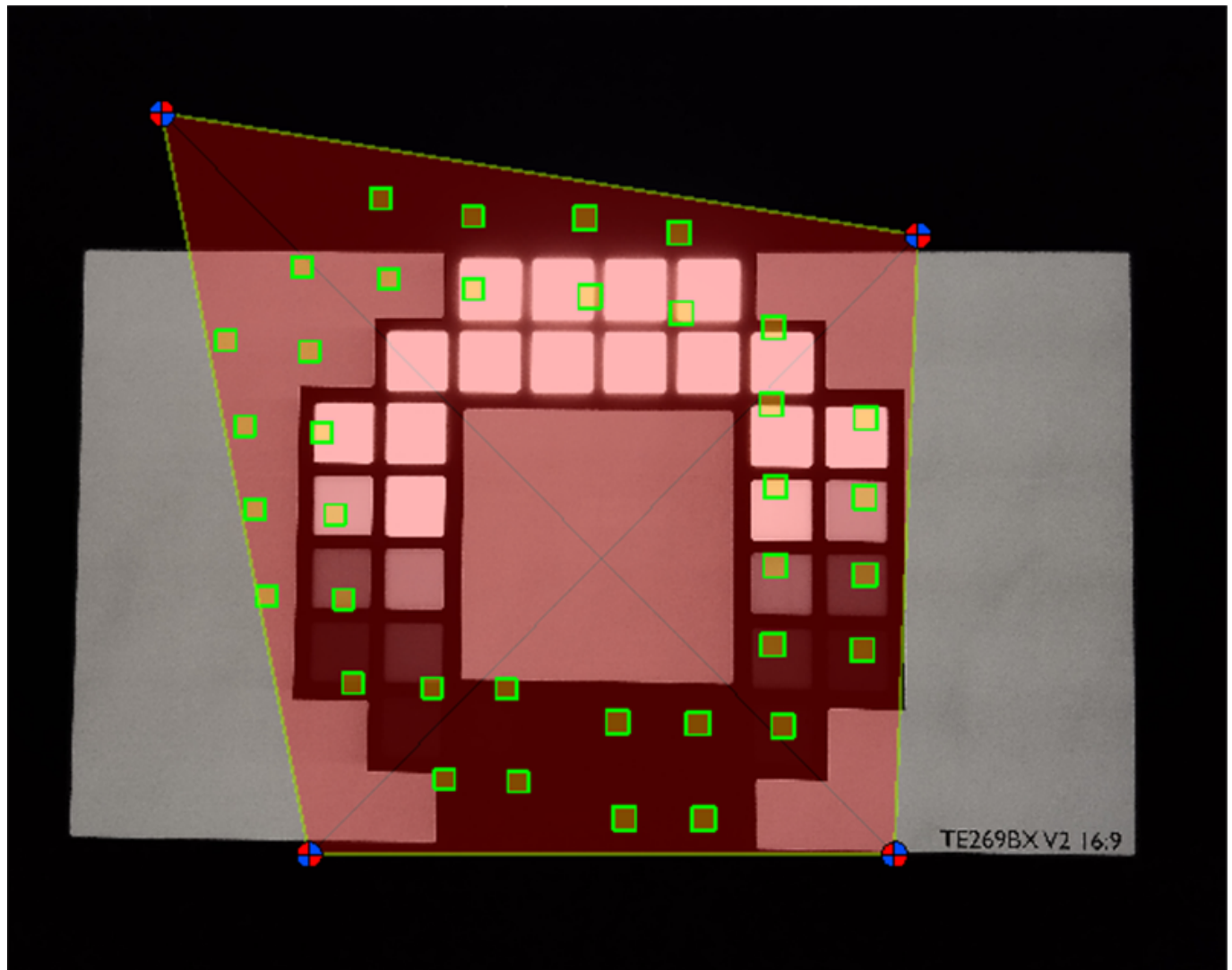
If you have a test image that contains multiple metrics, such as the TE42-LL, you can select the corresponding ROIs for one metric in the “Group Display” section. In “Group Mode” click on the entries in the list to turn them on or off. Once you have selected the desired ROIs, you can change their size and position. To change the size of a single ROI, for example, a color patch, activate “Display inner ROI pins”.

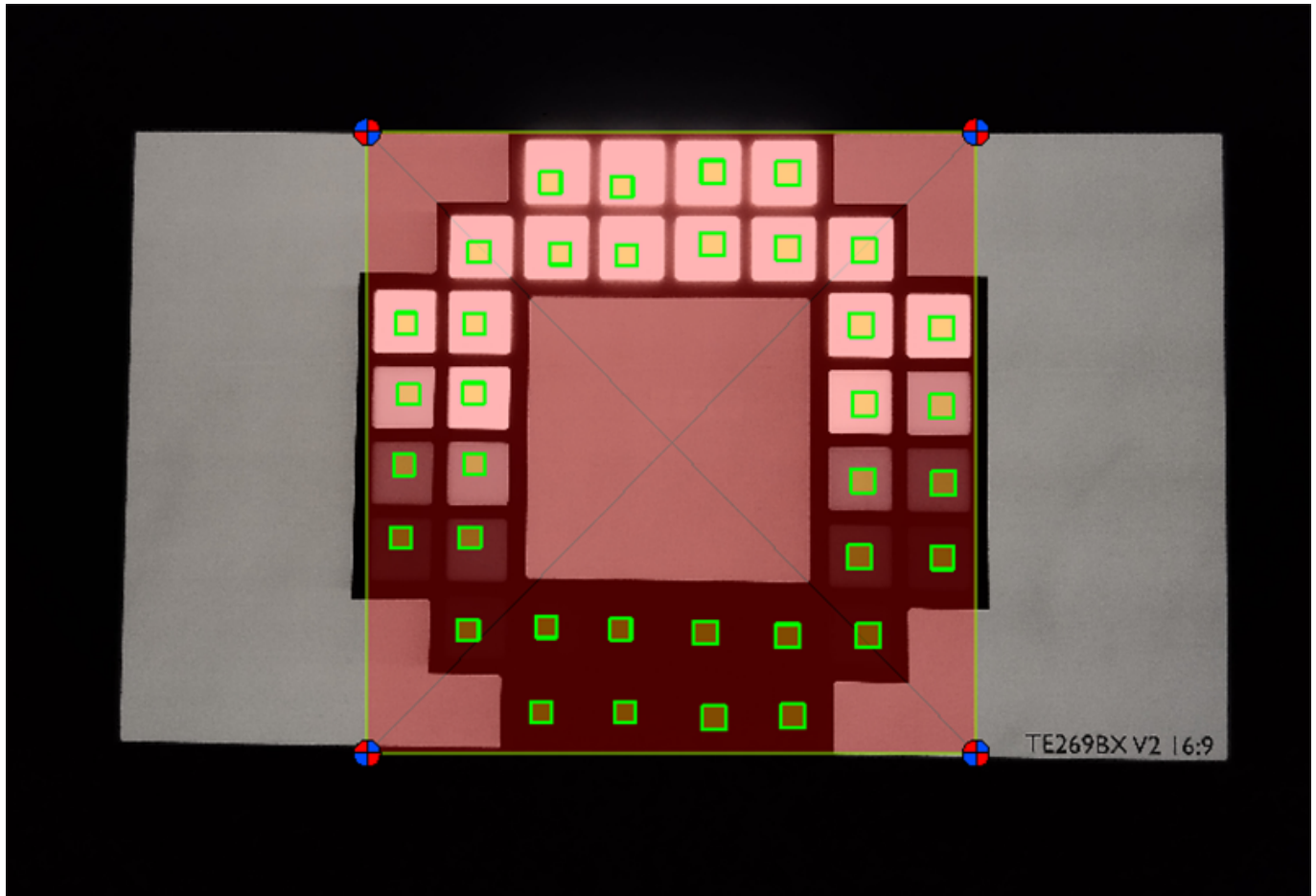


Then grab the ROI on its circle markers. Grab it in the center with a left mouse click and drag it to change its position.



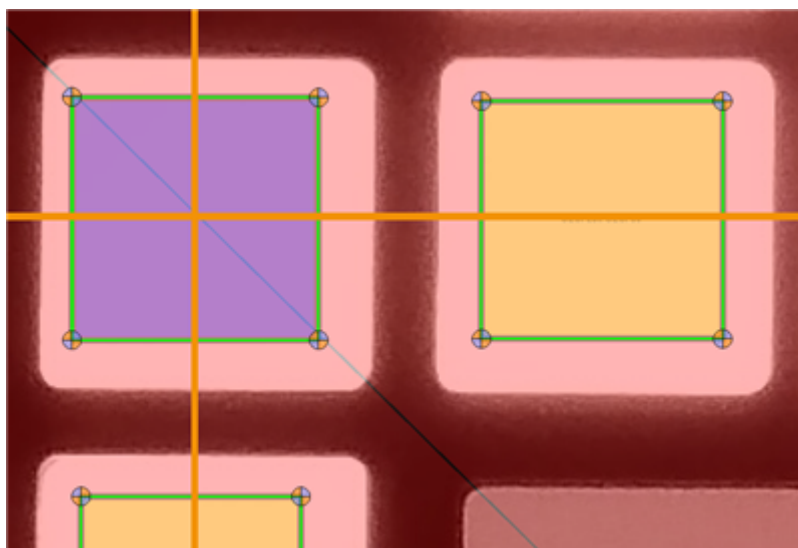
To change the position of all the ROIs of a single metric, you can use the pins at the edges of its surrounding container.



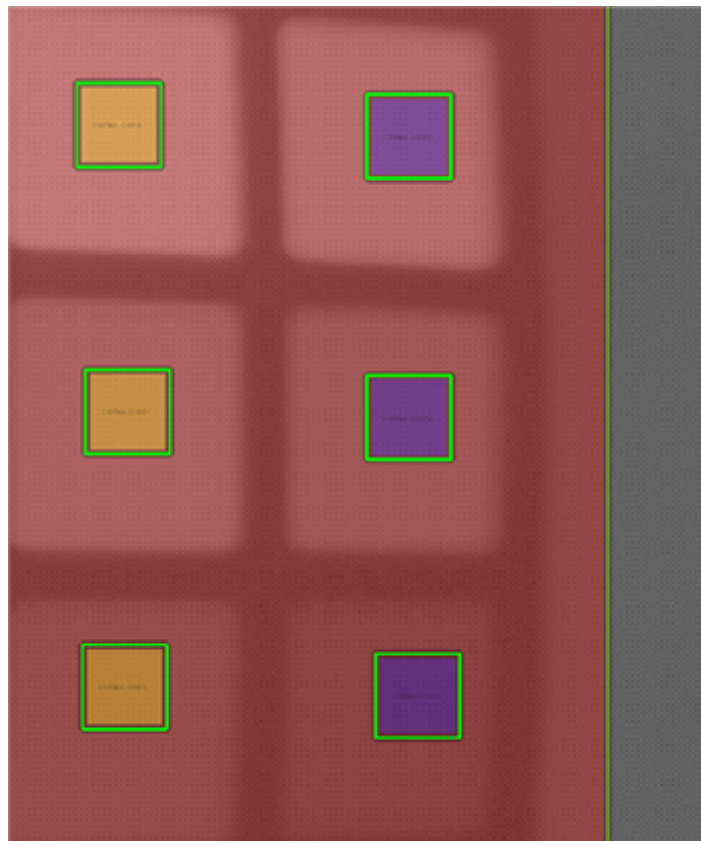


Use the “Global Mode” to change the position of all ROIs of all metrics in the chart at once. This adjustment moves all interior ROIs depending on their relative position to this box. It is useful if all the ROIs have an offset or are affected by distortion or misalignment.

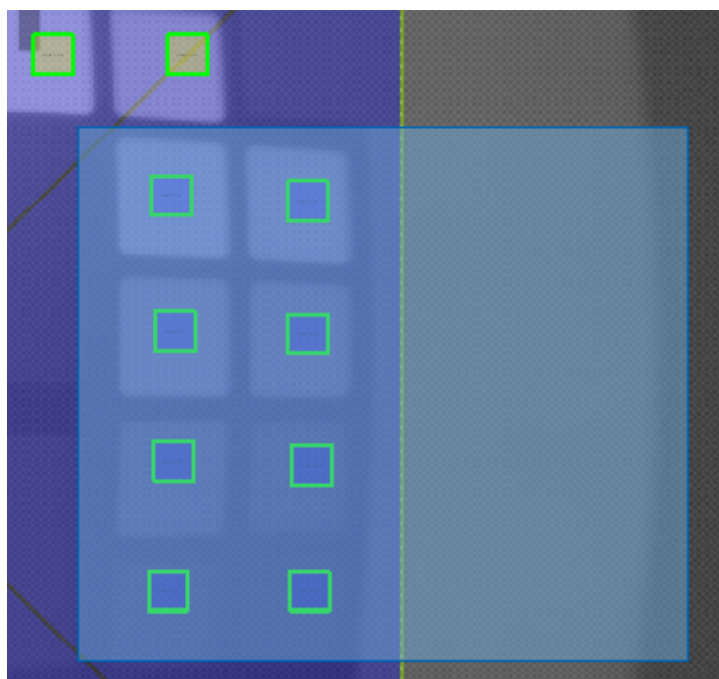
If you only want to change the position of the ROIs, disable the handles by deactivating “Display inner ROI pins.” This option gives you a better view, and it is easier to drag the ROIs. When you enable “Snap to Neighbors”, a cross appears when the ROI is aligned with the center of a neighboring ROI.



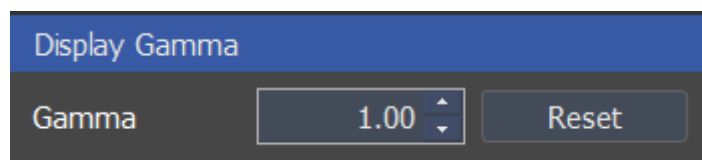
Select multiple ROIs with CTRL pressed.



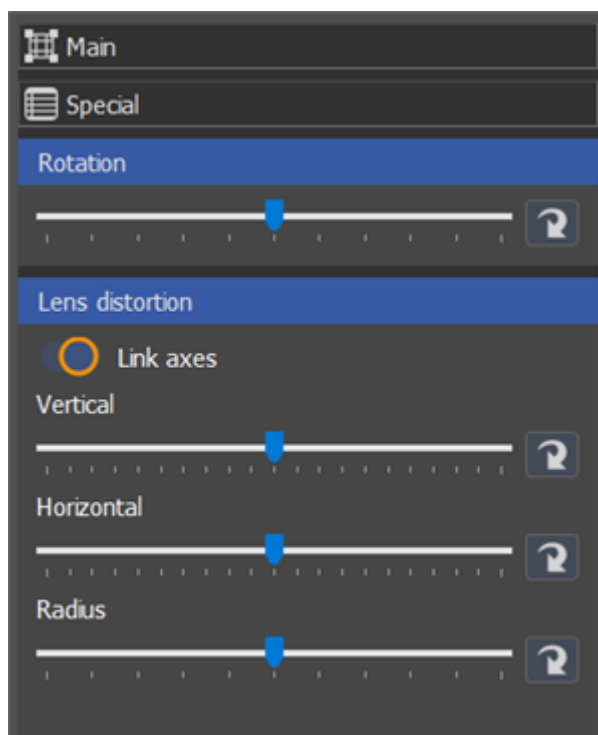
Or draw a rectangle to select multiple ROIs at once.



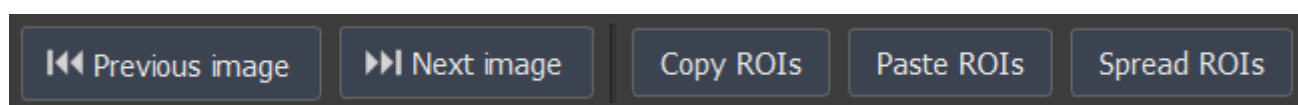
Especially if you work with HDR images, you might encounter that the images get very dark in the low light regions and the ROIs are not visible anymore. Change the gamma to make these parts brighter and adjust your ROIs.



In the “Special” section, rotation or lens distortion can be compensated with the sliders. The sliders are only accessible, if “Global Mode” is activated, as lens distortion typically applies to all ROIs.

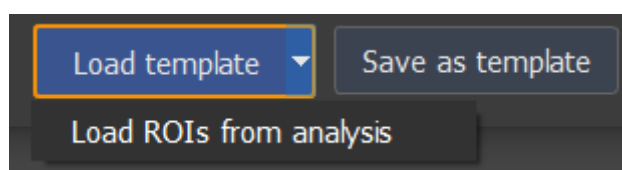


To get a better view, you can enlarge the size of the window or zoom in and out with the scroll wheel. If you have multiple test images with similar content, it's possible to copy the ROIs from one image to another. To do so, select the image which you want to copy the ROIs from with “Previous image” or “Next Image,” click on “Copy ROIs,” then select the image you want to paste the ROIs to and click on “Paste ROIs”.



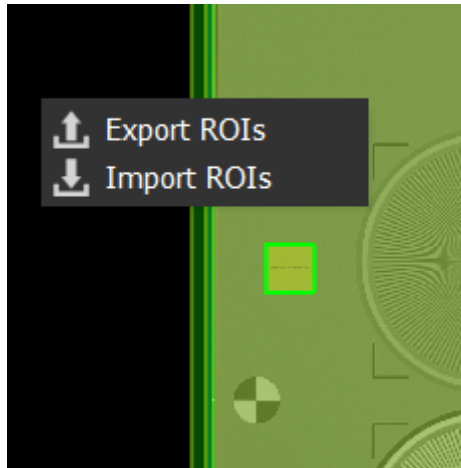
If you're going to apply your adjustments to all images in the stack, click on “Spread ROIs.” With “Save as template” you can save the ROIs for an analysis in a new iQ-Analyzer-X session. Only one template per chart type can be saved. It can be loaded in the next session with “Load template”.

Load ROIs from previous analysis in the database with “Load ROIs from analysis”.



Its also possible to import and export ROIs from an analysis. Right-Click on the background in the “ROI

selection” dialog to show both options.



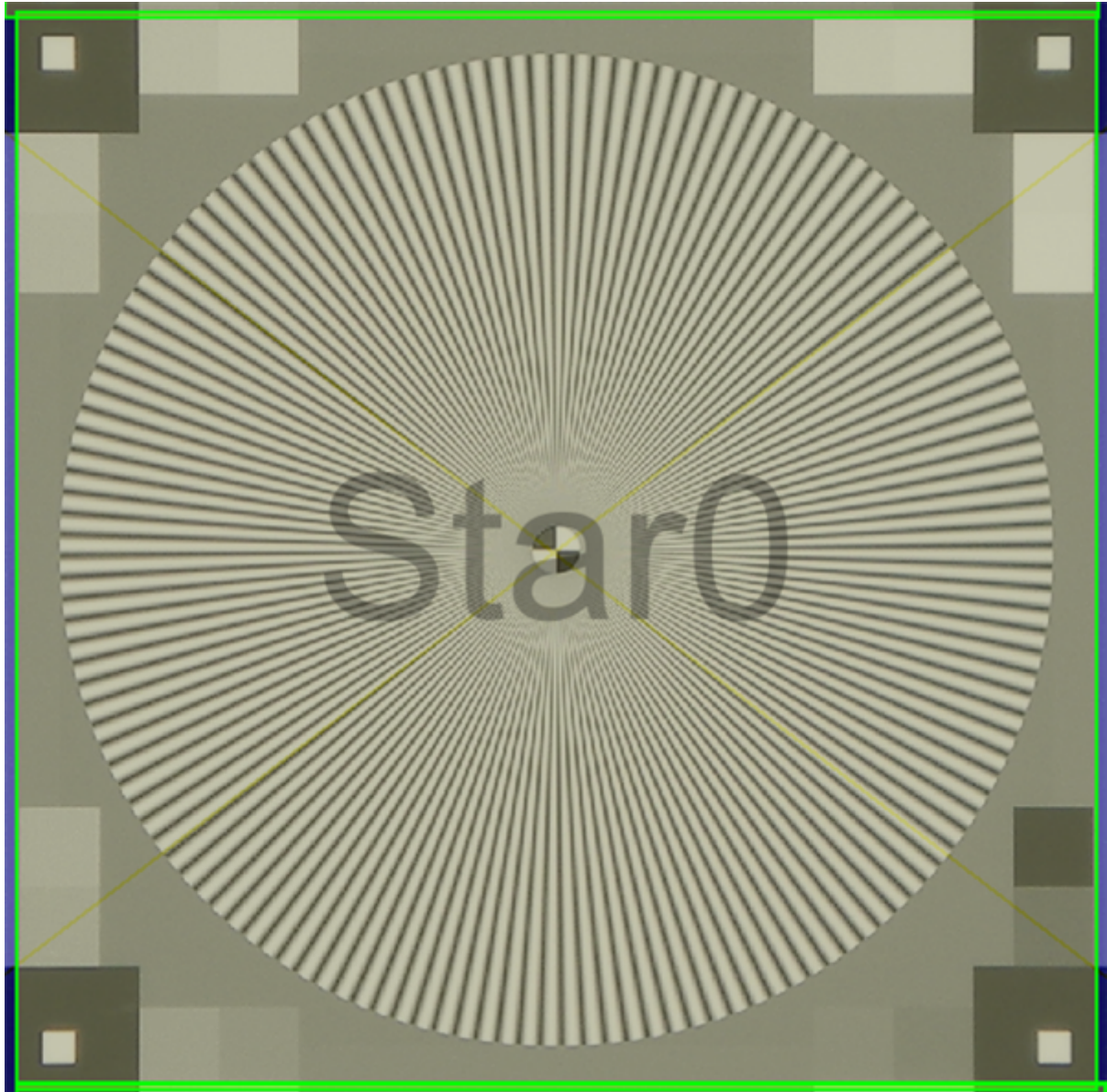
If all targets are correctly detected, press ok to start the analysis. The results show up in the “Analysis Results” Tab.

How to draw the ROI for your target

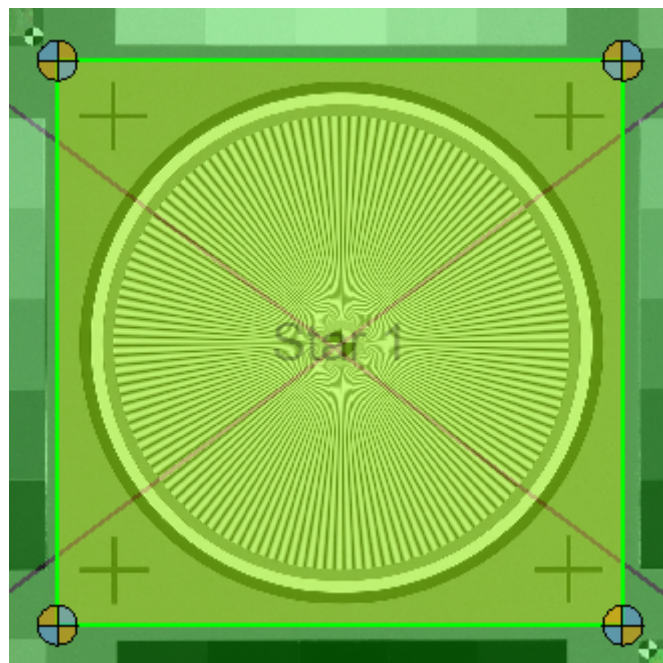
Siemens stars

For all siemens stars, the center b/w marker should be approximately in the middle of the ROI.

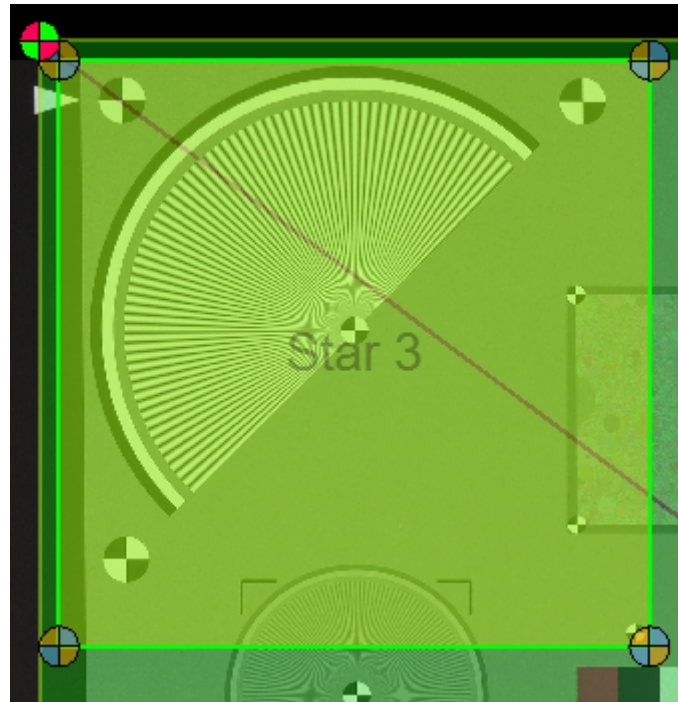
If you are working with TE253 or TE268 siemens stars, the inner ROI should cover the entire star plus the surrounding b/w markers or the OECF patches.



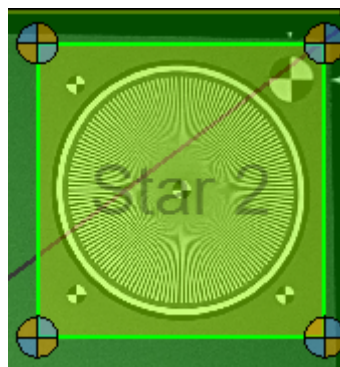
The ROI of the center star of the TE42V2 needs to cover the four black crosses surrounding it.



The ROI of the corner stars in the TE42V2 needs to cover the three big b/w marker.



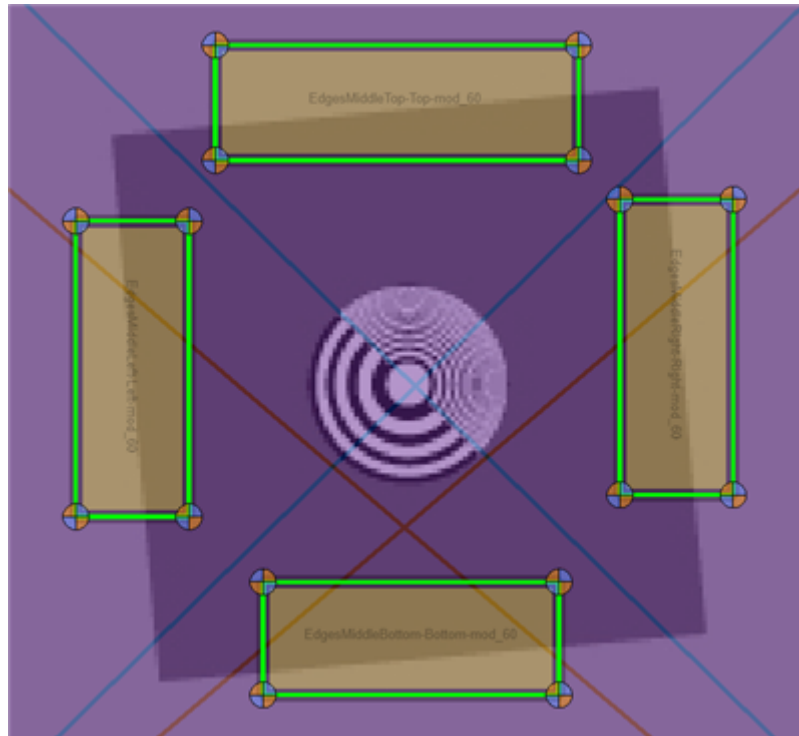
The ROI of the center and corner stars of the TE42LL needs to cover its surrounding four b/w marker.



Note, that the ROI you set is only one of the steps for a proper detection of the siemens stars. Although you might have set the ROI properly, it can still be the case, that the star is not analyzed and shows no results. The “Error log” might help you find the reason for the failure.

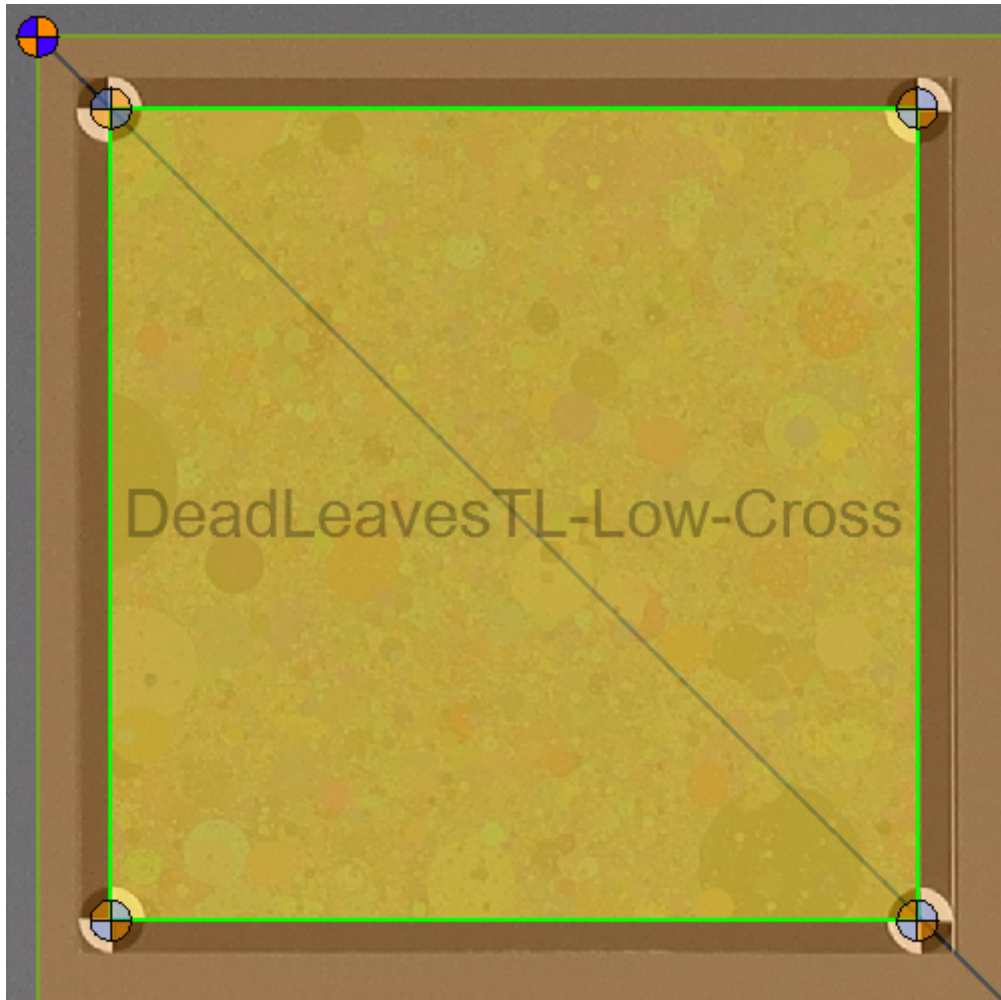
Slanted Edges

The bigger the ROI for a slanted edge, the better the results. Depending on the image quality, you might be able to go down to 50px along the edge. The corners of the ROIs must have some distance to the edge.



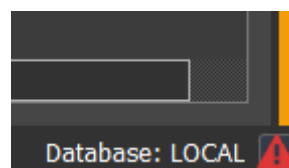
Dead Leaves

The edges of the Dead Leaves ROI needs to be approximately in the center of the four corner b/w markers.

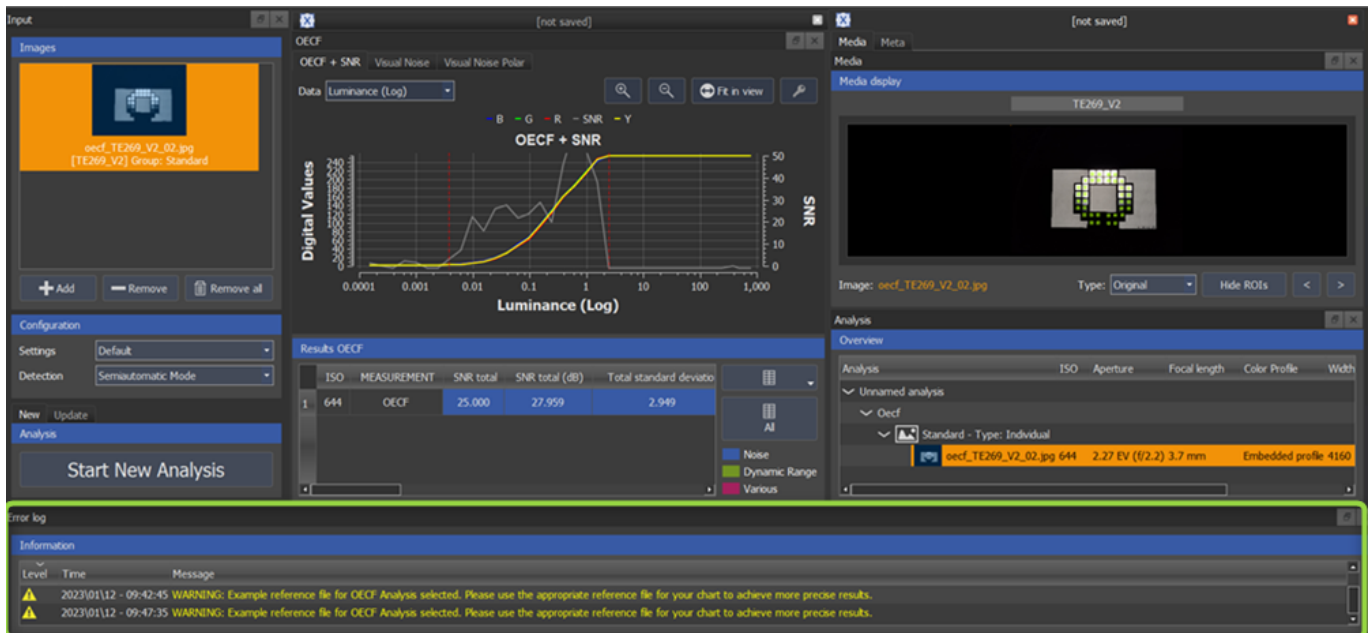


Error log

Warning and error messages regarding the analysis of the active session are logged in the "Information" dialog. You can open the log by pressing the red warning triangle on the bottom right. Once opened, the triangle will disappear, but you can always check the log under View→Show error log. Note, that the symbol only shows up in case there is important information for the user.



Tip: You can place the error log in the GUI to have it continuously present. Activate the "Error log" under "View→Docks". You can place it on top, bottom, left or right of the GUI. As some entries are quite long, placing it at the bottom is quite convenient.



A red message indicates a significant error, which might make the analysis or a part of it invalid. Yellow messages represent a warning. White messages contain general information.

Common Error Messages and Warnings

SFR Curve never falls below MTF

The SFR curve does not reach the required modulation before Nyquist frequency to calculate the desired MTF. This can, for example, happen, when a strong sharpening is applied or the resolution of the camera is much better than the resolution of the test chart. It might also appear, when the SFR results are too biased by noise or other artifacts. In this case, the MTF value reported is the Nyquist frequency with a negative sign.

ICC profile from image could not be loaded. Used default profile from settings

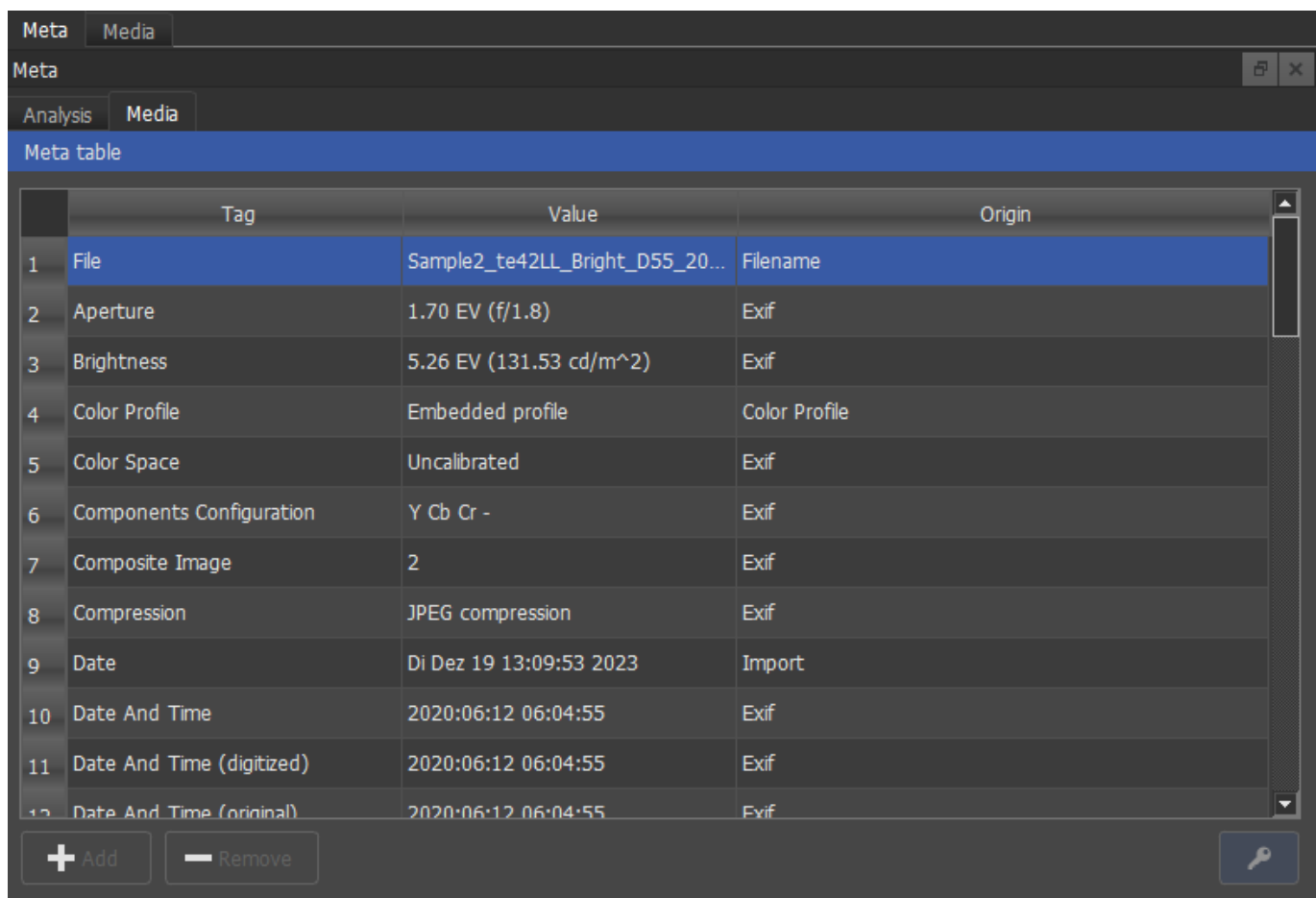
If iQ-Analyzer-X does not find a color profile in the metadata, it automatically applies the color profile, which is defined in the analysis settings.

WARNING: Example reference file for Color Analysis selected. Please use the appropriate reference file for your chart to achieve more precise results.

In this case, the default reference data has been assigned to the test chart. The default reference data is based on the target values, not the actual measured values. Depending on the type of analysis, it may make sense to work with measured color or density values, as they provide more accurate results.

Metadata

iQ-Analyzer-X automatically reads and displays metadata like exif data of the image if available. Under the media tab, the exif data is listed.



The screenshot shows the 'Meta' tab of the iQ-Analyzer-X interface. The 'Meta table' is displayed with columns for Tag, Value, and Origin. The table lists 12 items, including File, Aperture, Brightness, Color Profile, Color Space, Components Configuration, Composite Image, Compression, Date, Date And Time, Date And Time (digitized), and Date And Time (original). The 'Origin' column indicates the source of the data, such as 'Exif' or 'Import'. A key icon in the bottom right corner indicates that the data can be modified.

| | Tag | Value | Origin |
|----|---------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | File | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_20... | Filename |
| 2 | Aperture | 1.70 EV (f/1.8) | Exif |
| 3 | Brightness | 5.26 EV (131.53 cd/m^2) | Exif |
| 4 | Color Profile | Embedded profile | Color Profile |
| 5 | Color Space | Uncalibrated | Exif |
| 6 | Components Configuration | Y Cb Cr - | Exif |
| 7 | Composite Image | 2 | Exif |
| 8 | Compression | JPEG compression | Exif |
| 9 | Date | Di Dez 19 13:09:53 2023 | Import |
| 10 | Date And Time | 2020:06:12 06:04:55 | Exif |
| 11 | Date And Time (digitized) | 2020:06:12 06:04:55 | Exif |
| 12 | Date And Time (original) | 2020:06:12 06:04:55 | Exif |

By clicking on the key symbol, you are able to modify it. To modify the data, double-click on the cell which contains the value you want to change. The changes will be saved with the entire analysis in the database. This can be useful if your DUT doesn't generate Exif data, but you want to document the settings like aperture, exposure time, etc. Also, for some result plots, the exposure in lux-seconds is calculated based on aperture and exposure time stated in the exif data.

Meta

Analysis

Media

Meta table

| | Tag | Value | Origin |
|---|------------------|---------|----------|
| 1 | Manufacturer | Sample | Analysis |
| 2 | Model | Sample2 | Analysis |
| 3 | Analyzer Version | 1.8.1 | Analysis |

+ Add

— Remove

Under the “Analysis” tab you can add customized meta data like operator, test conditions, etc.

Save Analysis

Click on “Save new analysis” in the toolbar to save the results. Enter the information about the analysis in the dialog. All fields except “Short name” need to be filled out to make the “Save analysis” button available. Note: If you want to compare two different cameras, you need to analyze each camera, and it is not recommended to mix the results of other cameras in one analysis. Once the camera model and make are saved with the analysis, they are available in the dropdown menu for future evaluations.

Open Analysis

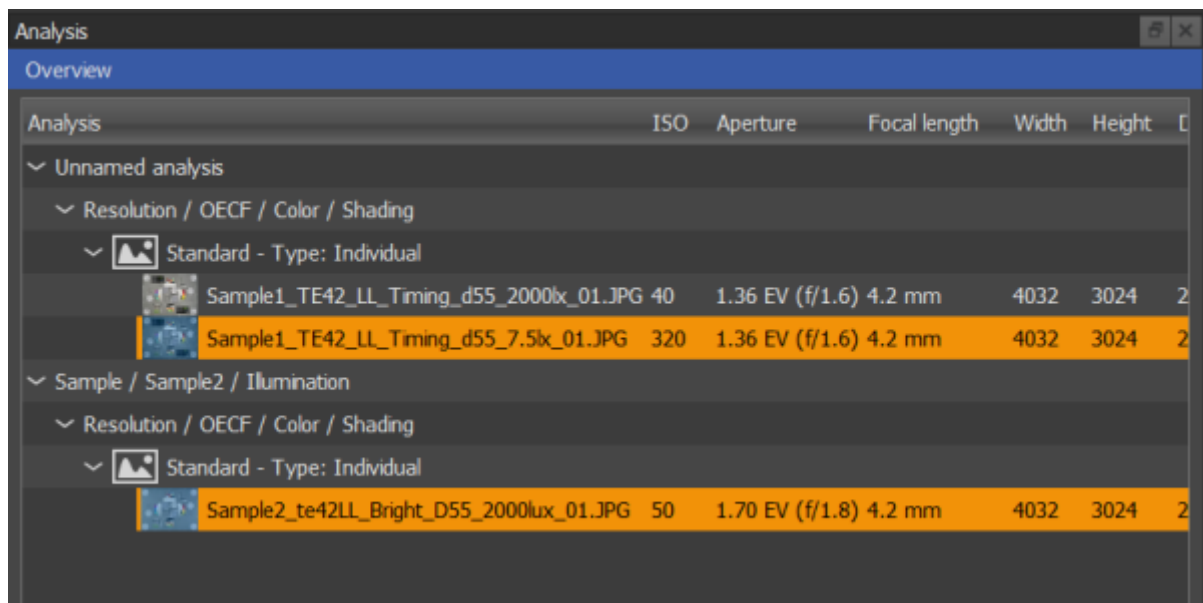
Click on “Open analysis” to load an already existing analysis. In the “Open analysis” dialog, several filters can be applied to help you find your desired evaluation.






Comparison of Analysis

To compare two analysis, you need to save at least one of them first into your database. With the button “Append to view” in the “Open Analysis” dialog you can then integrate the results of the selected analysis to the currently active one.

Both analysis show up in the “Analysis Overview”. To compare the results, mark the images you want

to compare with CTRL key and left-click. The plots and the numerical results now include these images.



| Analysis | ISO | Aperture | Focal length | Width | Height | ID |
|--|-----|-----------------|--------------|-------|--------|----|
| ▼ Unnamed analysis | | | | | | |
| ▼ Resolution / OECF / Color / Shading | | | | | | |
| ▼  Standard - Type: Individual | | | | | | |
|  Sample1_TE42_LL_Timing_d55_2000lx_01.JPG | 40 | 1.36 EV (f/1.6) | 4.2 mm | 4032 | 3024 | 2 |
|  Sample1_TE42_LL_Timing_d55_7.5lx_01.JPG | 320 | 1.36 EV (f/1.6) | 4.2 mm | 4032 | 3024 | 2 |
| ▼ Sample / Sample2 / Illumination | | | | | | |
| ▼ Resolution / OECF / Color / Shading | | | | | | |
| ▼  Standard - Type: Individual | | | | | | |
|  Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | 50 | 1.70 EV (f/1.8) | 4.2 mm | 4032 | 3024 | 2 |

In some cases, when there are many targets in the image, the results can become confusing. To get a better overview, use the sorting function in the results table by clicking on the table headline or use the advanced plot settings. To enter the advanced plot settings, click the key symbol at the top of the plot.

Update Analysis

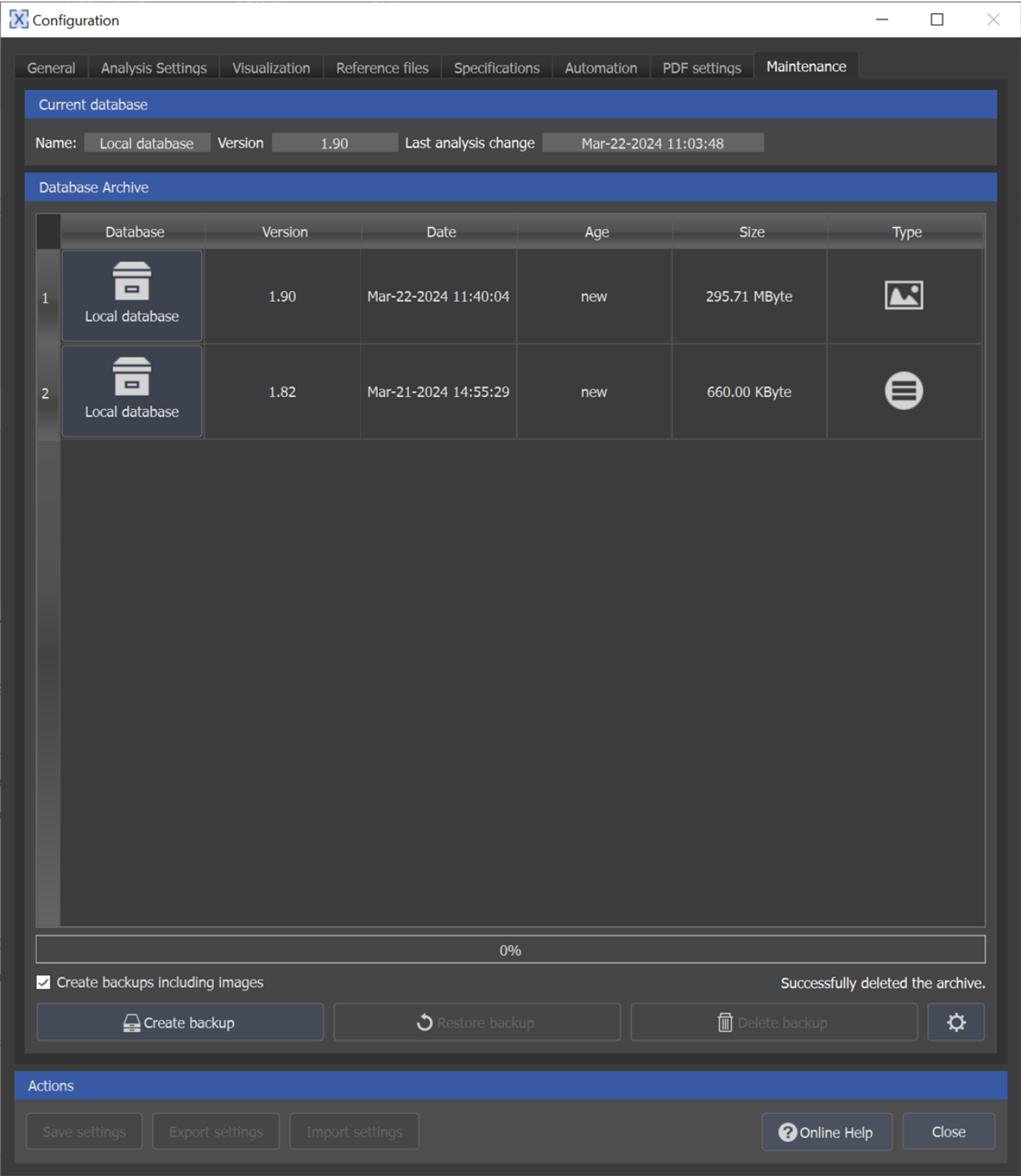
To save changes in an already existing analysis, press on “Update analysis in DB” in the toolbar. You can still change the analysis name, serial number, and the short name in the upcoming dialog.

Database

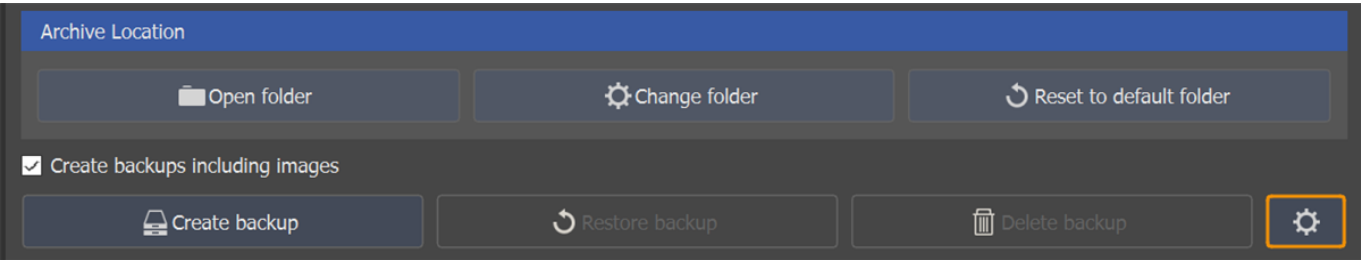
With the installation of the iQ-Analyzer-X, a local database is set up where all analysis results can be saved. You can also use a remote database, which is explained [in this previous chapter](#). The database allocates a specific ID to every newly saved analysis. The ID is the main criteria for the database to distinguish between your analysis results. There can be two analyses with the same name but having different IDs.

It might happen, that the database needs to be updated when you update iQ-Analyzer-X. If it is required, you will be asked at program start, if you want to update the database.

In the “Configuration” dialog under the “Maintenance” tab, you can see the currently used database and its version.



Here you can create or restore backups of your database and change the folder, where your database is located. To change the folder, click on the “Gear” symbol.

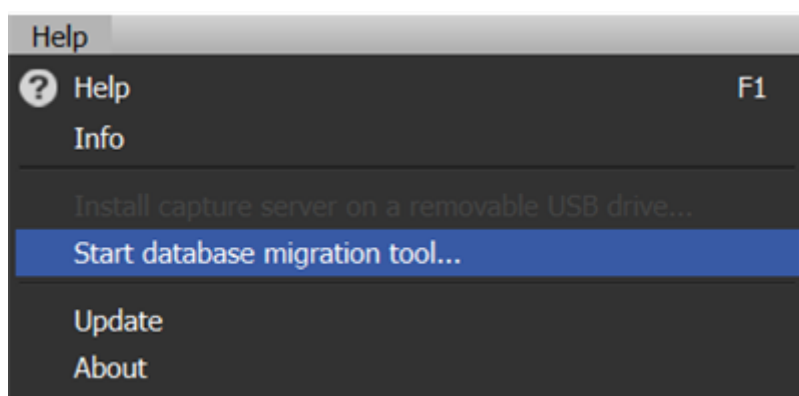


The database is a *.db file and by default the images are not stored in a backup. Check “Create backups including images” to include images. The symbol in the column “Type” shows, if images were included or not.

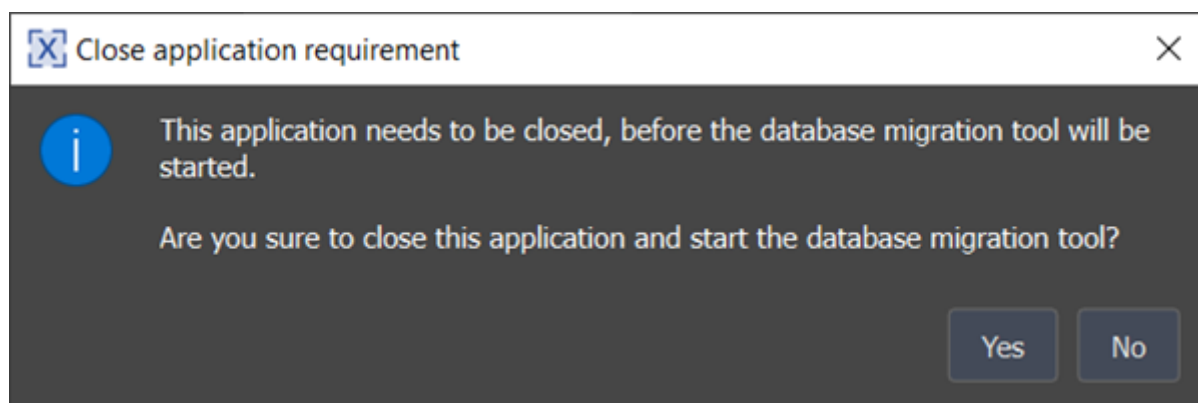
Database Migration Tool

If you started with a local database and want to copy your data to a remote ODBC or vice versa, you need the Database Migration Tool.

Start the Database Migration Tool from the “Help” menu.



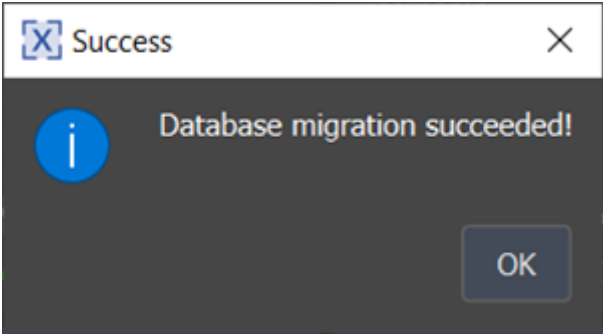
To start the tool, close iQ-Analyzer-X.



In the dialog box that appears, select the source database on the left and the target database on the right. Enter your credentials if necessary. Finally, click “Start database migration” to start the process.

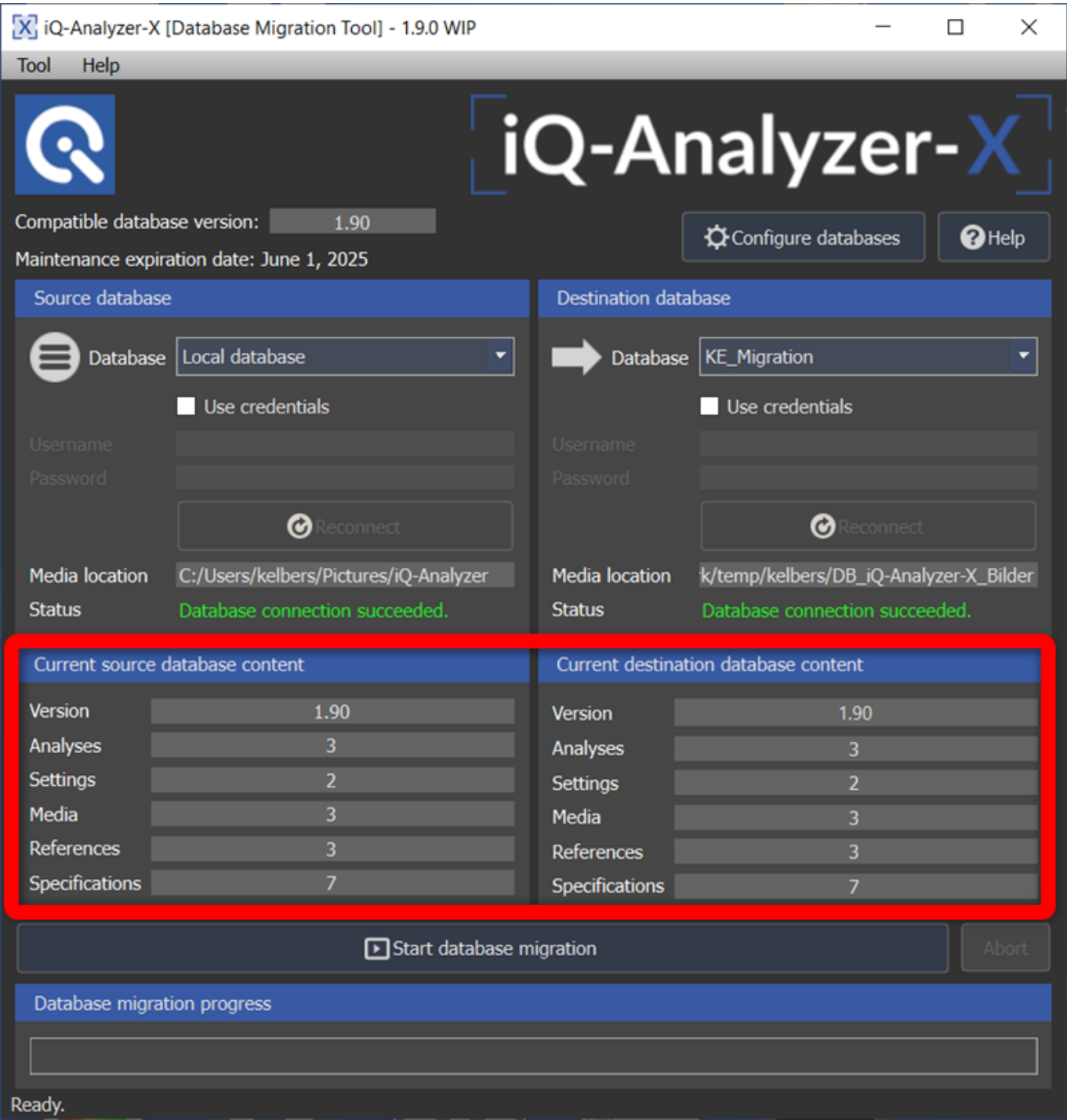


The progress is shown in the progress bar. When the migration is finished, a confirmation appears.



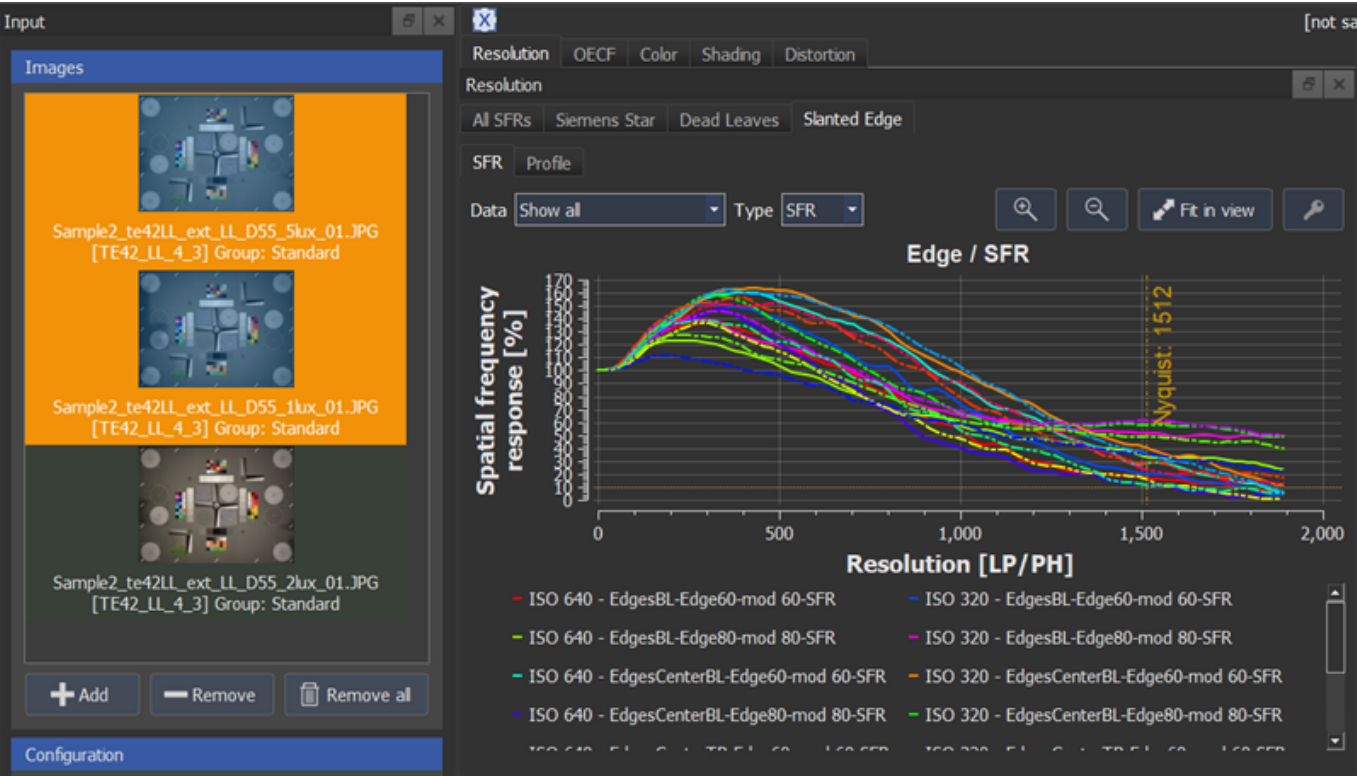
After confirmation, it still might take a few seconds to update the database information in the dialog with the new properties. At last the “Current source database content” and the “Current destination

database content” should be equal.

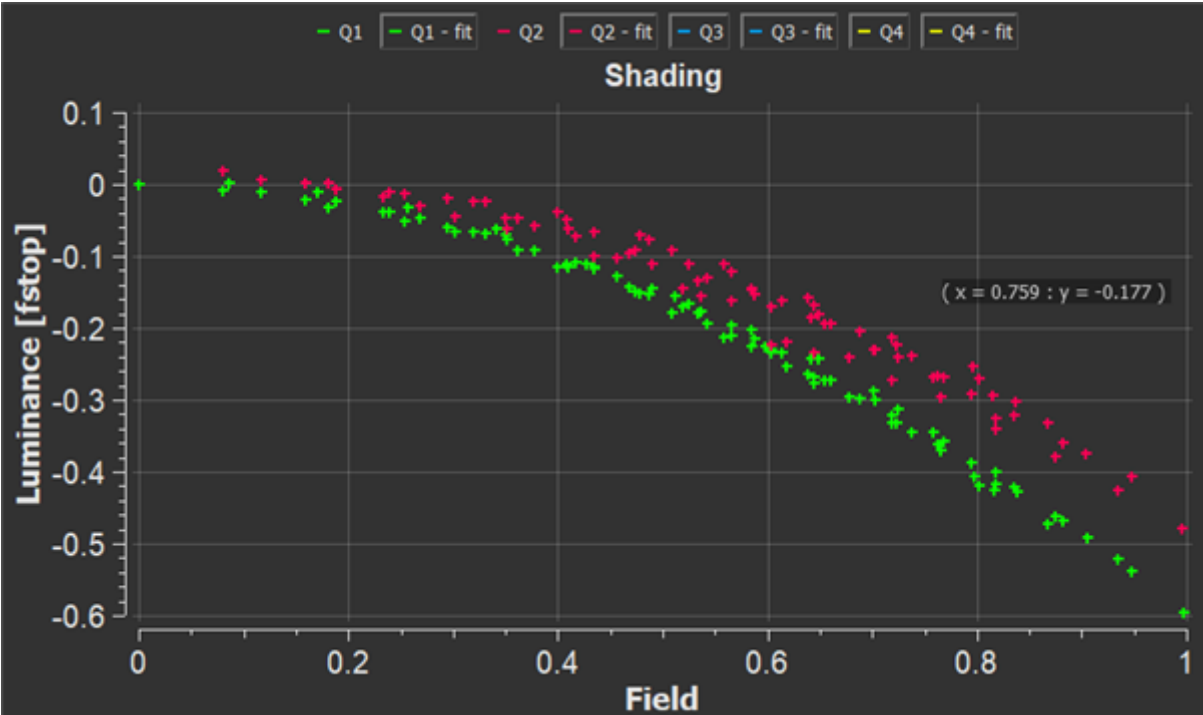


Results

The results are provided numerical and in graphical representations. The plots that appear depend on the chart you are using. If you analyzed multiple images, the plots and the numerical results show the results of the marked image. To display the results of more images at once, select them using the Ctrl key.

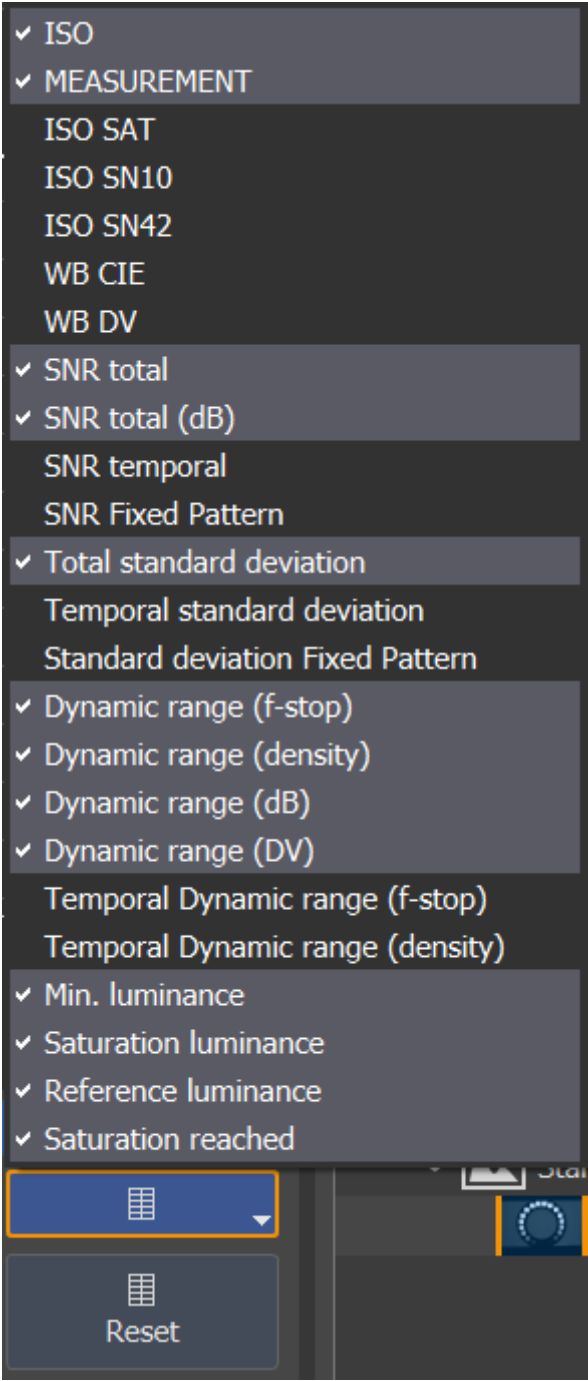


If a legend is shown with a plot, you can click on the legend to view or hide the legend's entries in the plot. Only Q1 and Q2 are shown in the graph in the example below, and all the other legend entries are hidden.



Zoom in or out of the plot using the mouse wheel. Change the plot's position by simply clicking and dragging.

The corresponding numerical results are shown in the table below the graphs. You can define the measurements you would like to include in the table by checking them in the dropdown menu on the right side.



Note, that not all parameters, shown in the list, are calculated. By default, the parameters, which are not calculated, are not checked in the list. These parameters do also not have any color coding. They have a gray background and show zero. Click on “Reset” to switch to the default measurements.

| Slanted Edge results | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|--|-----------------------------|--------|--------|----------|------------|------------|------------|
| | ISO | FILE | EDGES | MTF 10 | MTF 25 | MTF 50 | vMTF set 1 | vMTF set 2 | vMTF set 3 |
| 1 | 50 | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | EdgesBL-Edge60-mod_60 | | | 1423.247 | 134.721 | 122.125 | 133.401 |
| 2 | 50 | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | EdgesCenterBL-Edge60-mod_60 | | | 1518.757 | 135.972 | 122.708 | 133.164 |
| 3 | 50 | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | EdgesCenterTR-Edge60-mod_60 | | | 1371.614 | 122.254 | 116.659 | 124.677 |
| 4 | 50 | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | EdgesTR-Edge60-mod_60 | | | 1160.263 | 121.749 | 118.881 | 127.821 |
| 5 | 50 | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | EdgesBL-Edge80-mod_80 | | | 1690.923 | 141.024 | 122.171 | 135.837 |

The results that belong together are marked in the same color. You can easily copy and paste the

table to a spreadsheet software for further processing. Just select the cells you want to copy, or click on the top left square to select the entire table.



Or use the context menu which you can open by right-clicking a random cell.



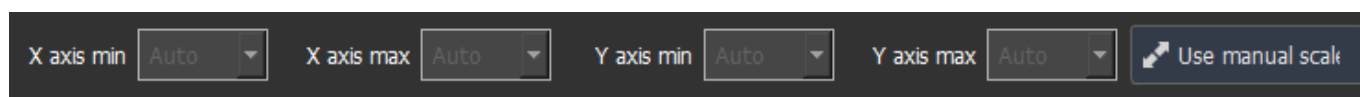
Tip: You can sort the results in the table alphabetically or numerically by clicking on its headline. This way you can, for example, find the best MTF10 or compare two images in the rows next to each other.

Advanced Plot Settings

Some of the result plots offer advanced settings. You can access these options with the “Key” button on the top of the plot.



In the advanced settings you can adjust the scale of the X and Y-axis. Click on “Use manual scale” to activate the dropdown menus.



On the bottom of the plot some more options appear.



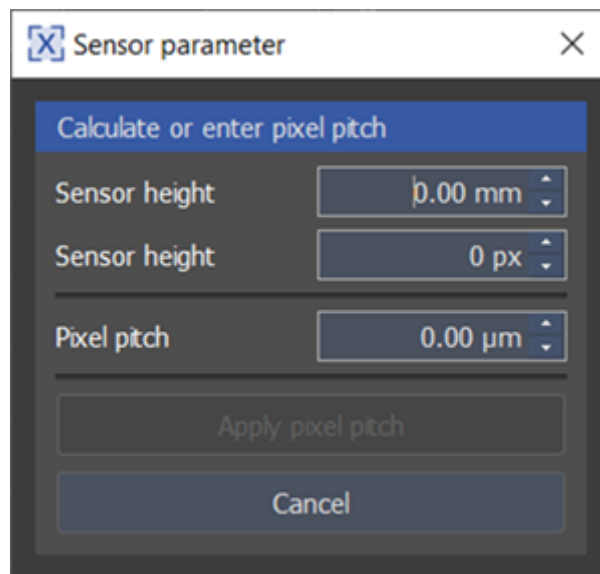
Channel: Depending on the chart and its metrics, you are able to choose between the R, G, B and Y channel.

Group by: Depending on the chart and the metric you are able to view the result of different groups. For example, Siemensstars on TE42 LL, if you choose the SFR Plot of the Siemens Stars, you can group the results by Segments, Stars, Groups or Image. Segments are parts of the Siemens Star, which is the smallest SFR measurement on a star. One segment is an eighth of a Siemens Star in a certain direction. “Stars” shows the SFR of the complete Siemens Star. “Groups” shows the center stars and the corner stars SFR separately. “Image” shows the average SFR of all Siemens Stars.

Tip: If you want to compare several images, mark them in the “Input Dock” and choose “Image” under “Group by”. Now you can see the average of all targets in each image in the plots and the results table.

Graphs: You can choose, if you want to see the “Mean of Selection” or each “Single Image”.

Unit: Choose the unit for the axis of the plot. For resolution you can choose between linepairs per picture height (LP/PH), linepairs per pixel (LP/PX) and linepairs per millimeter (LP/mm). For LP/mm you need to provide either the physical height of the sensor and its height in pixels or the pixel pitch. A dialog shows up when LP/mm is selected.

A screenshot of a software dialog box titled "Sensor parameter". The dialog has a close button (X) in the top right corner. Below the title bar is a blue header with the text "Calculate or enter pixel pitch". The main area contains three input fields: "Sensor height" with a value of "0.00 mm", "Sensor height" with a value of "0 px", and "Pixel pitch" with a value of "0.00 µm". Each field has a small up/down arrow icon. Below these fields are two buttons: "Apply pixel pitch" and "Cancel".

Legend: Define the position of the legend.

Resolution

Image resolution is the ability of a digital camera to reproduce the details of a scene. Resolution is an essential image quality attribute related to the overall image quality perceived by a human observer. Various factors influence image resolution, including the lens quality, alignment of the components, ideal focusing, exposure time, a sensor with optical components in front of it (low pass filter, IR filter, etc.), and aperture. All of these components are responsible for reproducing the details of objects within a scene.

iQ-Analyzer-X provides three methods, each with different characteristics, to measure resolution. These include Siemens Star, Slanted Edge, and Dead Leaves. The result in each case is a Spatial Frequency Response (SFR) or Modulation Transfer Function (MTF).

For more information about the methods, please visit our homepage.

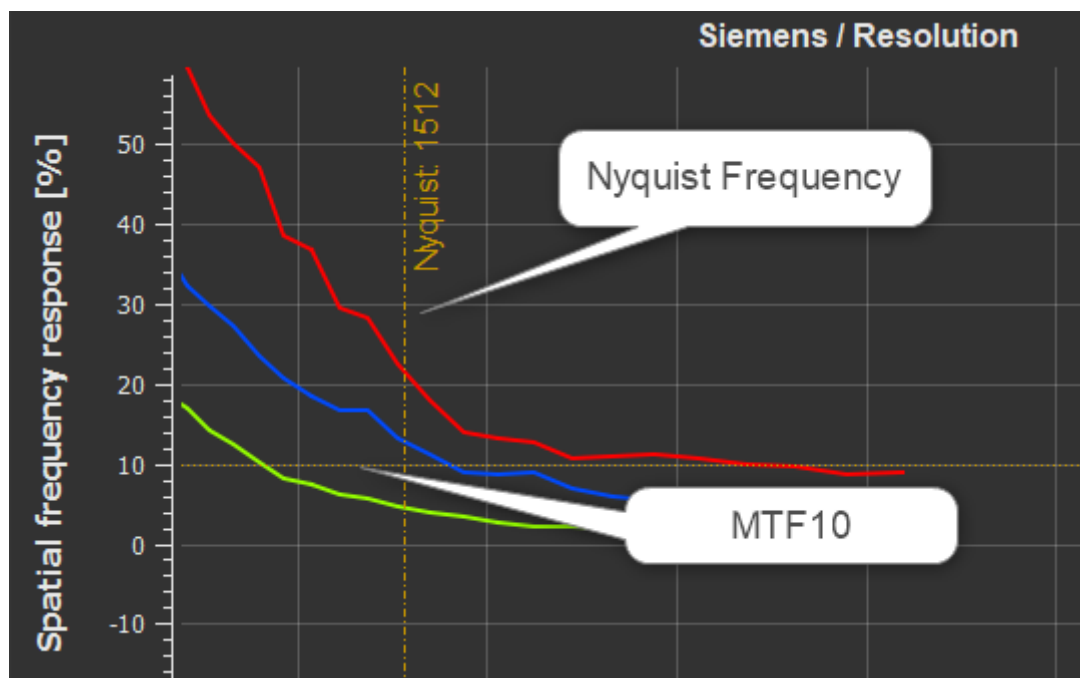
[Dead Leaves](#)

[Siemens Star](#)

[Slanted Edge](#)

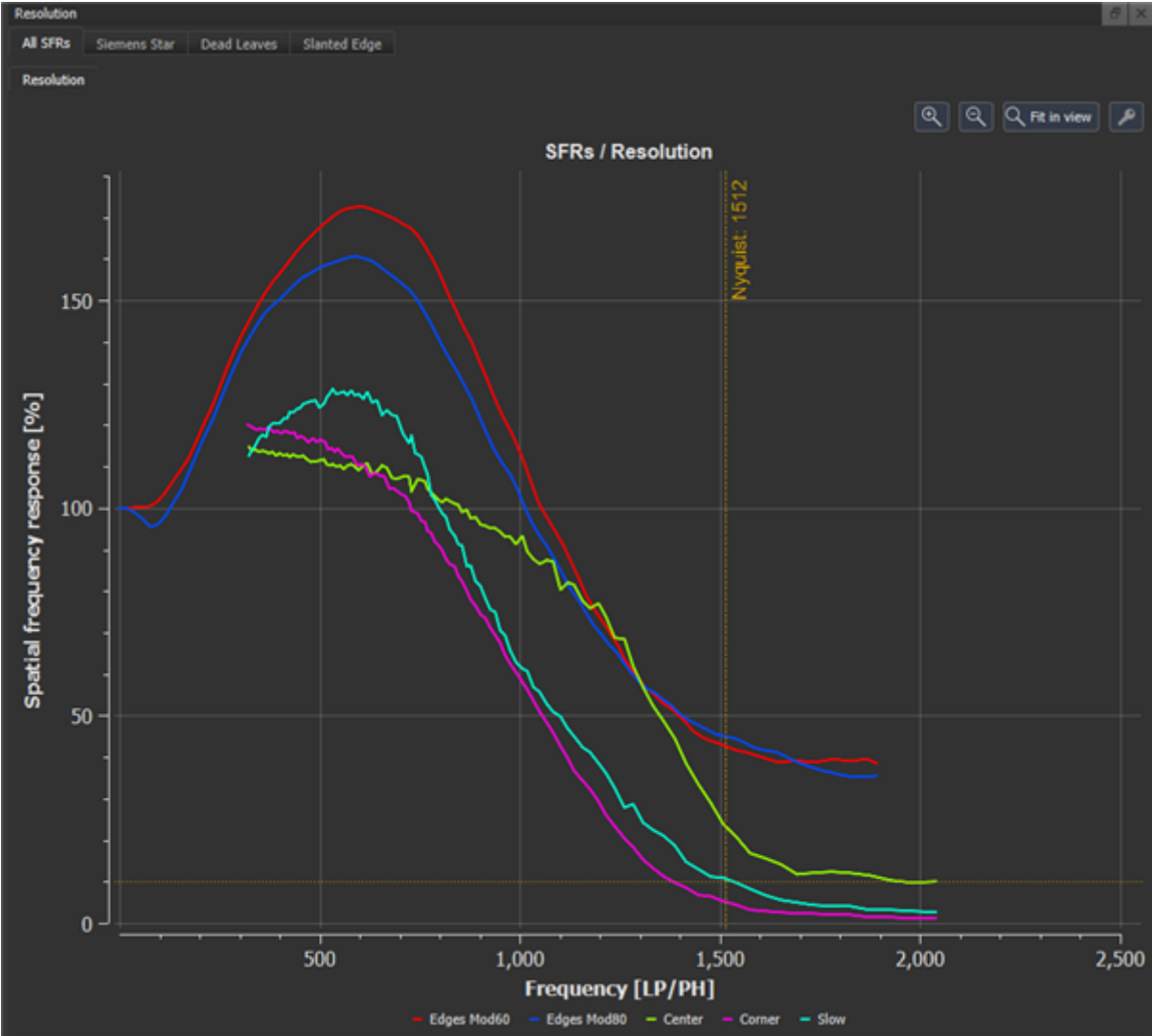
Graphical Results

The MTF10 and Nyquist frequency are represented with the orange dotted lines shown in the graphs.

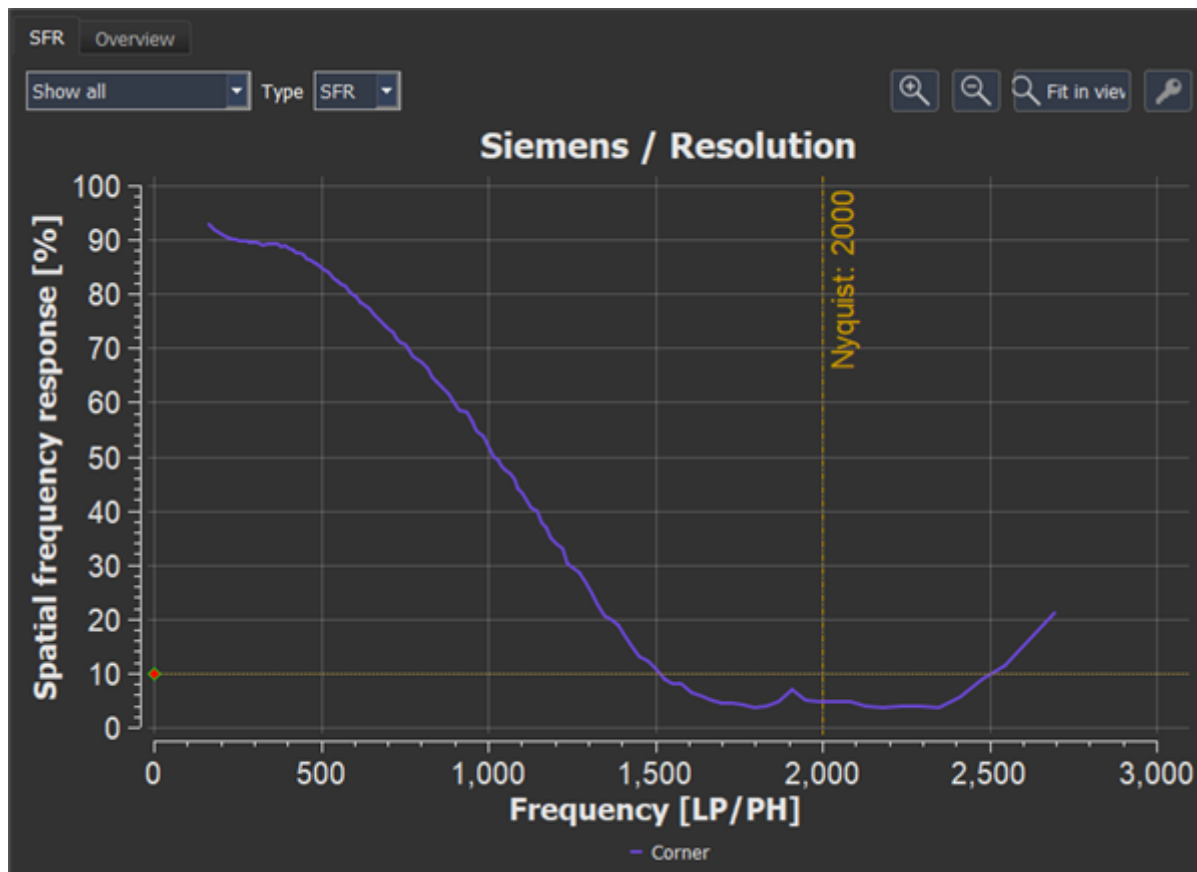


All SFRs

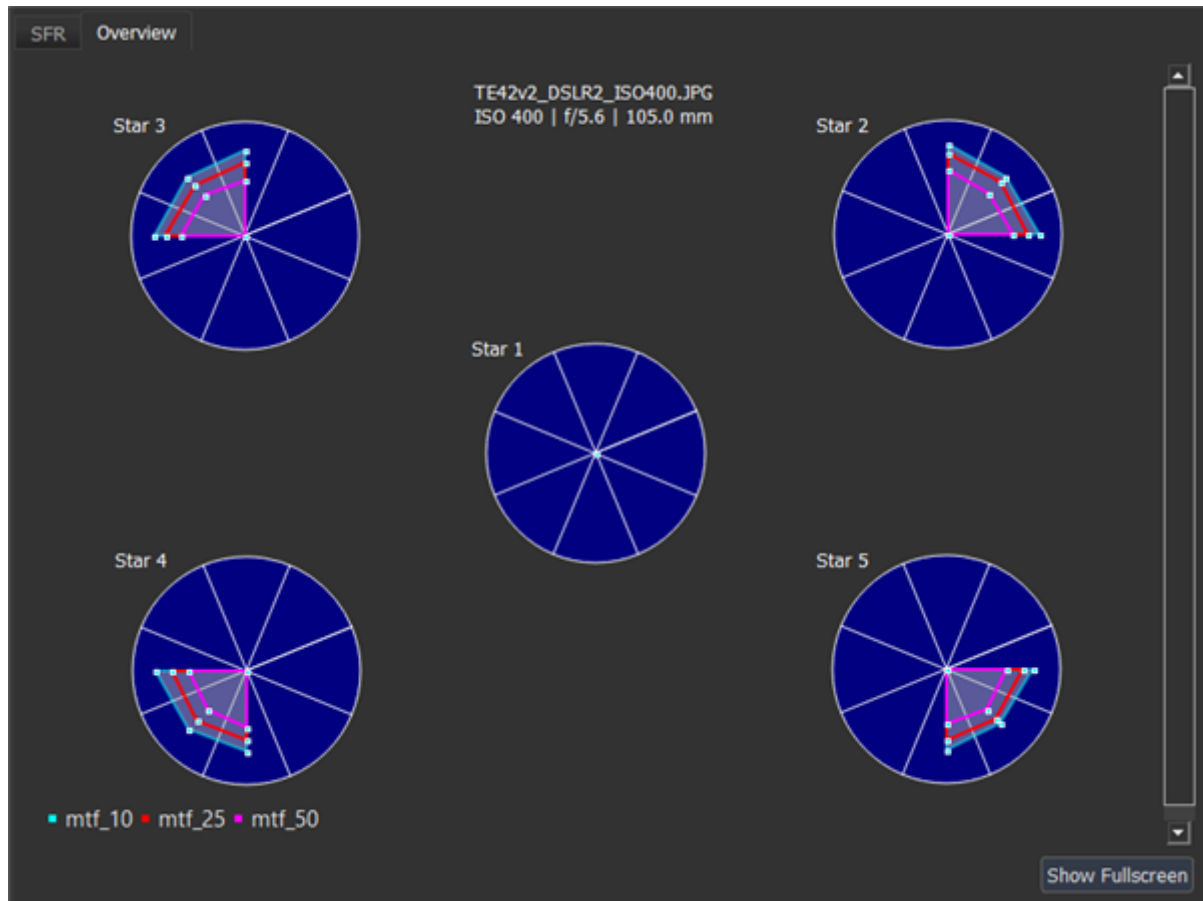
SFRs of all selected resolution measurements such as slanted edge, Siemens star, or Dead Leaves are shown in one graph in this tab. If there are multiple targets for one measurement in the chart, the average will be displayed. The targets used for the results will be highlighted orange in the "Image" tab.



Siemensstar

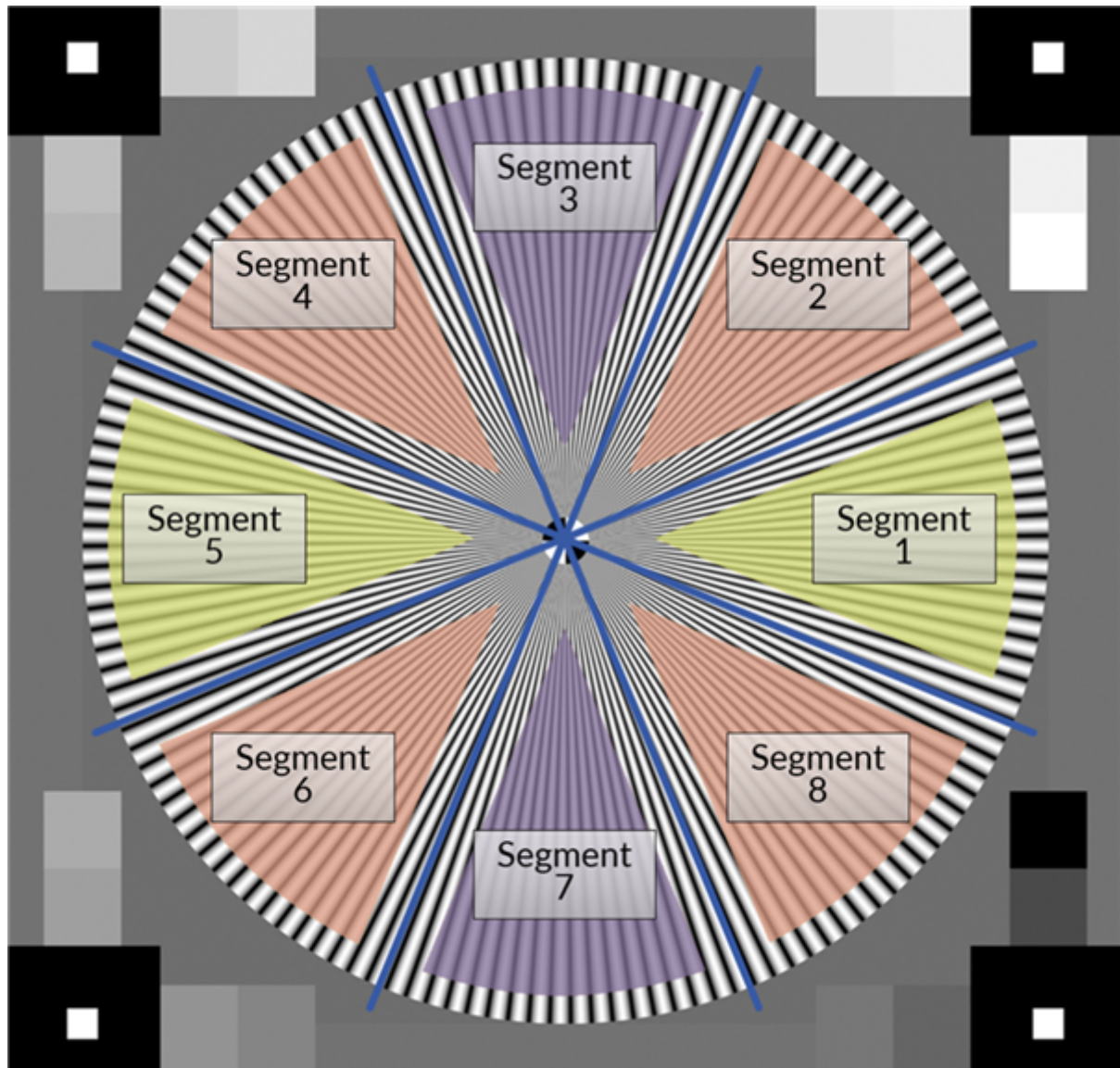


The SFR of a single Siemens star or all Siemens stars can be displayed in this plot. With “Type,” you can choose if the SFR is weighted with the viewing conditions to retrieve a vSFR and vMTF. The viewing conditions can be edited in the ["Viewing conditions"](#) tab. If you choose a vSFR, the graph's Contrast Sensitivity Function is added as a painted gray line.



The overview shows a circle for every Siemens star in the chart, divided into eight segments. The image below shows the segment IDs. Please refer to the [advanced plot settings](#) if you want to see the MTFs of the single segments. The MTF10, MTF25, or MTF50 are calculated for each segment, giving you an excellent look at the resolution differences depending on the direction. The single circles show the percentage of how close the MTF10, MTF25, and MTF50 are to the Nyquist frequency. The circle's outline represents 100 percent of the Nyquist frequency, whereas the center represents zero percent. So the closer the MTFx curve is to the outline, the better.

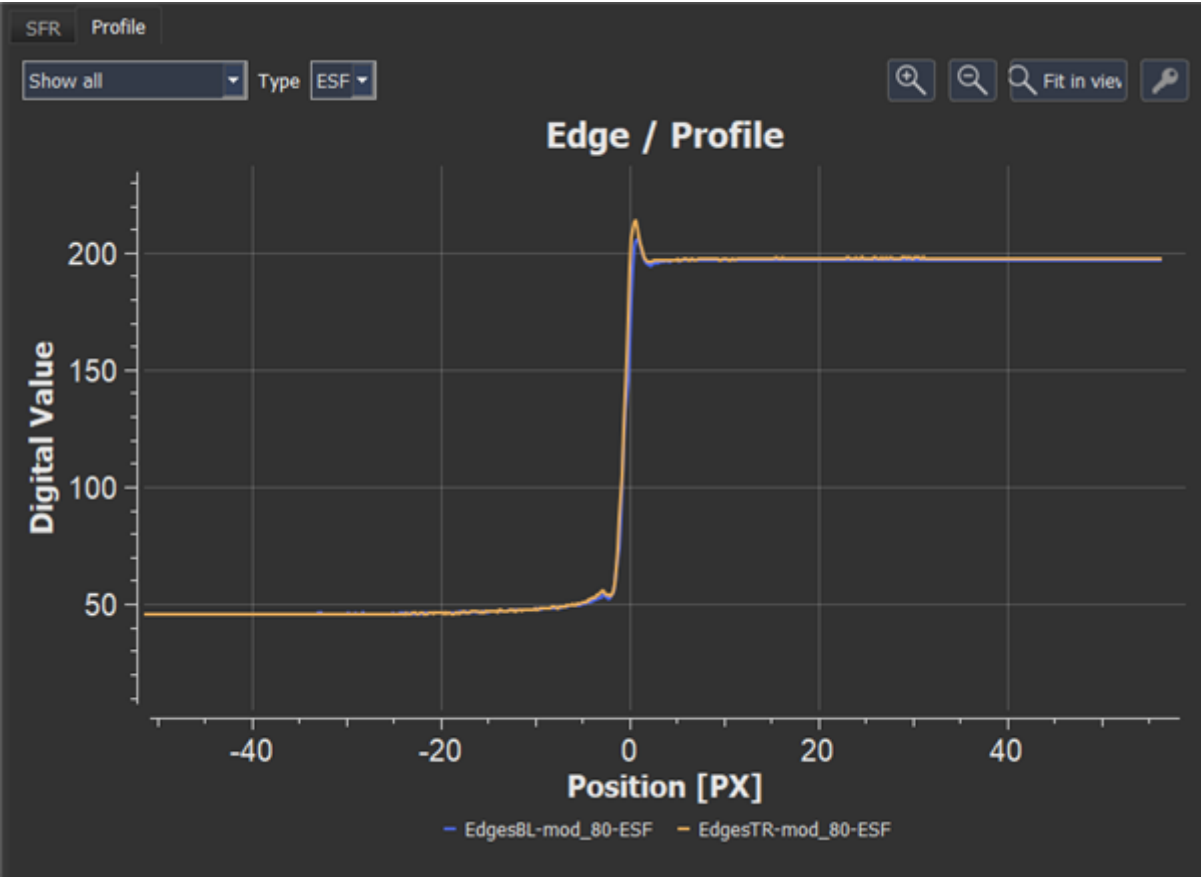
The image below shows the IDs of the different segments.

**Dead Leaves**

For the SFR plot, please refer to "[Siemensstar](#)".

Slanted Edge

For the SFR plot, please refer to "[Siemensstar](#)".



The “Profile” plot shows the edge spread function of the slanted edges in digital value over the position. The edge spread function plot is a valuable tool to identify sharpening in the image.

Numerical Results

| Siemens Star results | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|--|--------|----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|------------|
| | ISO | FILE | GROUPS | MTF 10 | MTF 25 | MTF 50 | vMTF set 1 | vMTF set 2 | vMTF set 3 |
| 1 | 50 | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | Center | 1949.380 | 1499.814 | 1350.084 | 102.074 | 112.040 | 110.347 |
| 2 | 50 | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | Corner | 1369.056 | 1207.940 | 1056.533 | 95.413 | 115.842 | 111.781 |
| 3 | 50 | Sample2_te42LL_Bright_D55_2000lux_01.JPG | Slow | 1534.556 | 1303.344 | 1096.548 | 103.378 | 119.841 | 117.867 |

ISO: Shows the ISO setting of the camera, if available.

FILE: Shows the Filename.

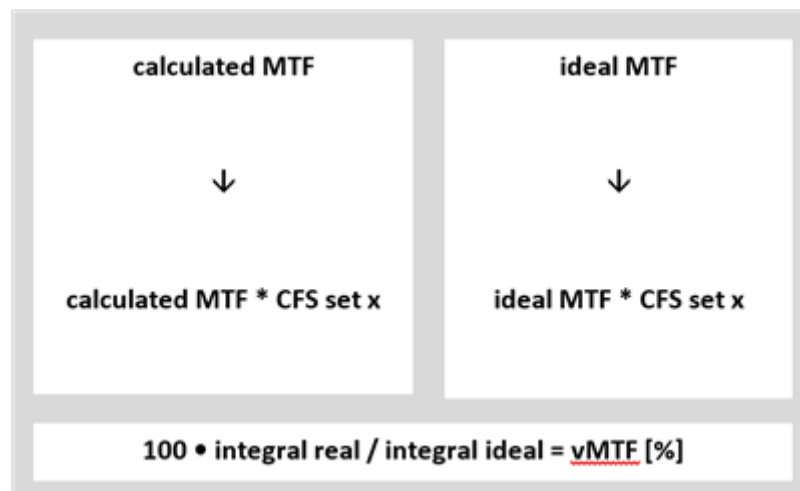
GROUPS: If you captured a test chart with multiple targets, for example, the TE42 LL, targets might be grouped, and the results will show the group's average if you select “Show All” under “Data” in the graph.

EDGES: The identifier of the slanted edge.

MTF 10, MTF 25, MTF 50: The MTF values refer to the spatial frequencies that reach a particular modulation. For example, the MTF10 shows the spatial frequency that still reaches a modulation of 10%, whereas the MTF25 shows the spatial frequency that reaches 25% modulation. **If the MTF**

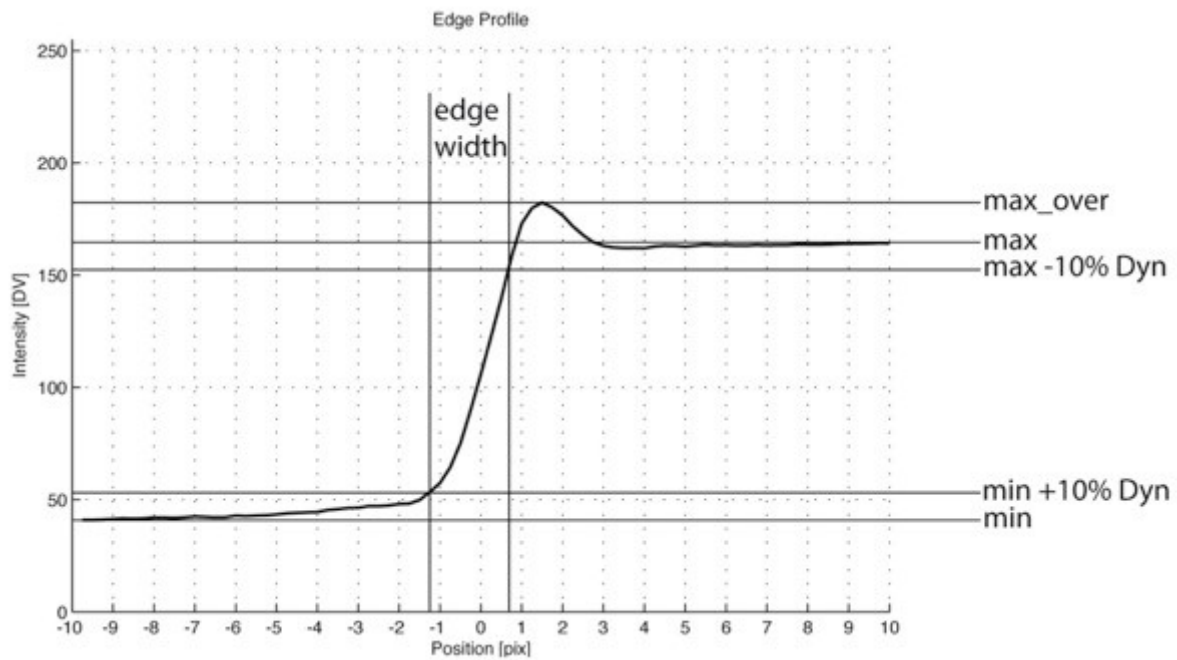
curve doesn't reach such modulation until the end of the MTF curve, the MTF result shows the Nyquist frequency with a negative sign. The frequency is expressed in LP/PH (line pairs/picture height) by default, but can be changed to line pairs per pixel or mm.

vMTF SET1-SET3: This measurement is similar to visual noise and quantifies how well a human observer can recognize noise. **The vMTF (visual MTF) is also referred to as acutance!** It implicates the three defined viewing condition sets. The calculated and the ideal MTF are multiplied with the contrast sensitivity function (CSF) and depend on the viewing condition sets for visual noise. The two integrals are divided. When multiplied by 100, you get the vMTF expressed in percentage.



Edge modulation: The modulation of the slanted edge in the linearized image. The value should be close but not necessarily equal to the modulation of the target.

Edge width (0-100%) and Edge width (10-90%) in px: The edge width is specified for 0-100% and 10-90% of the maximum modulation of the edge. It is the distance in pixel between two points in the edge profile with a certain modulation. The example below shows the edge width for 10 to 90%. The y-axis is the intensity in digital values for an 8-bit image from 0 to 255. The x-axis represents the position related to the edge. So, value 0 is the position of the maximum of the first derivative of the edge profile. For example, a value of 4 indicates that 4 pixels are right of the edge. Therefore, a value of -4 means 4 pixels are left of the edge. The left always represents the low intensity, and the right the high-intensity side of the edge.



Maximum digital value: Indicates the average DV of the bright part of the edge.

Minimum digital value: Indicates the average DV of the dark part of the edge.

Overshoot and Undershoot: These metrics are calculated based on the edge profile and specify the undershoot and overshoot resulting from sharpening in the image. It is defined as $(\text{max_over} - \text{max}) / \text{max} * 100$ for overshoot and the opposite way for undershooting.

Fit error (px): An ideal line along the edges has to be determined for the SFR-Edge approach. The fit error shows how well this line has been fitted into the real image data—the lower the value, the better the fit.

OECF

The Opto Electronic Conversion Function (OECF) can be determined with a grayscale target in a test chart. The OECF describes how a digital camera transfers the luminance of a scene into digital values in the image.

The test chart needs to be illuminated homogeneously to determine the OECF. In ISO 15739:2013, the digital value of the test chart background should be equal to 118. The OECF gray patches are also applied for Noise related and Dynamic Range measurements.

Most of the OECF plots have luminance, luminance(log) or exposure on the x-axis. Exposure requires the aperture and exposure time from the exif data to be calculated. If your plot shows only a vertical line, you may need to add these values to the Exif data in the Media tab under Meta. To do this, click on the key icon and then double-click on the corresponding entry.

AnalysisMedia

Meta table

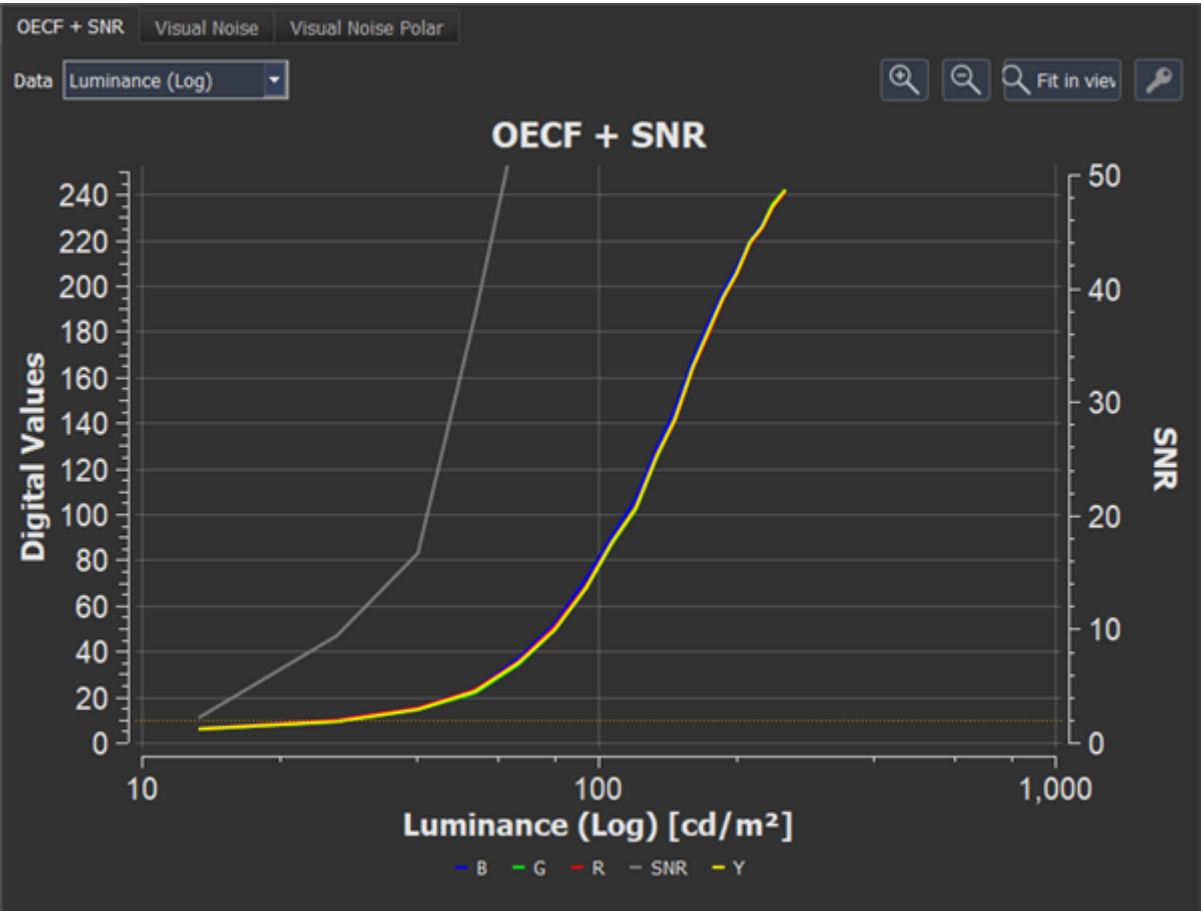
| | Tag | Value | Origin |
|----|------------------|---------------------------------|--------|
| 16 | Exif Version | Unknown Exif Version | Exif |
| 17 | Exposure Bias | 0.00 EV | Exif |
| 18 | Exposure Mode | Auto exposure | Exif |
| 19 | Exposure Program | Normal program | Exif |
| 20 | Exposure Time | 1/121 sec. | Exif |
| 21 | F-number | f/1.8 | Exif |
| 22 | Flash | Flash did not fire, compulso... | Exif |
| 22 | Flashpixversion | FlashPix Version 1.0 | Exif |

+ Add

- Remove

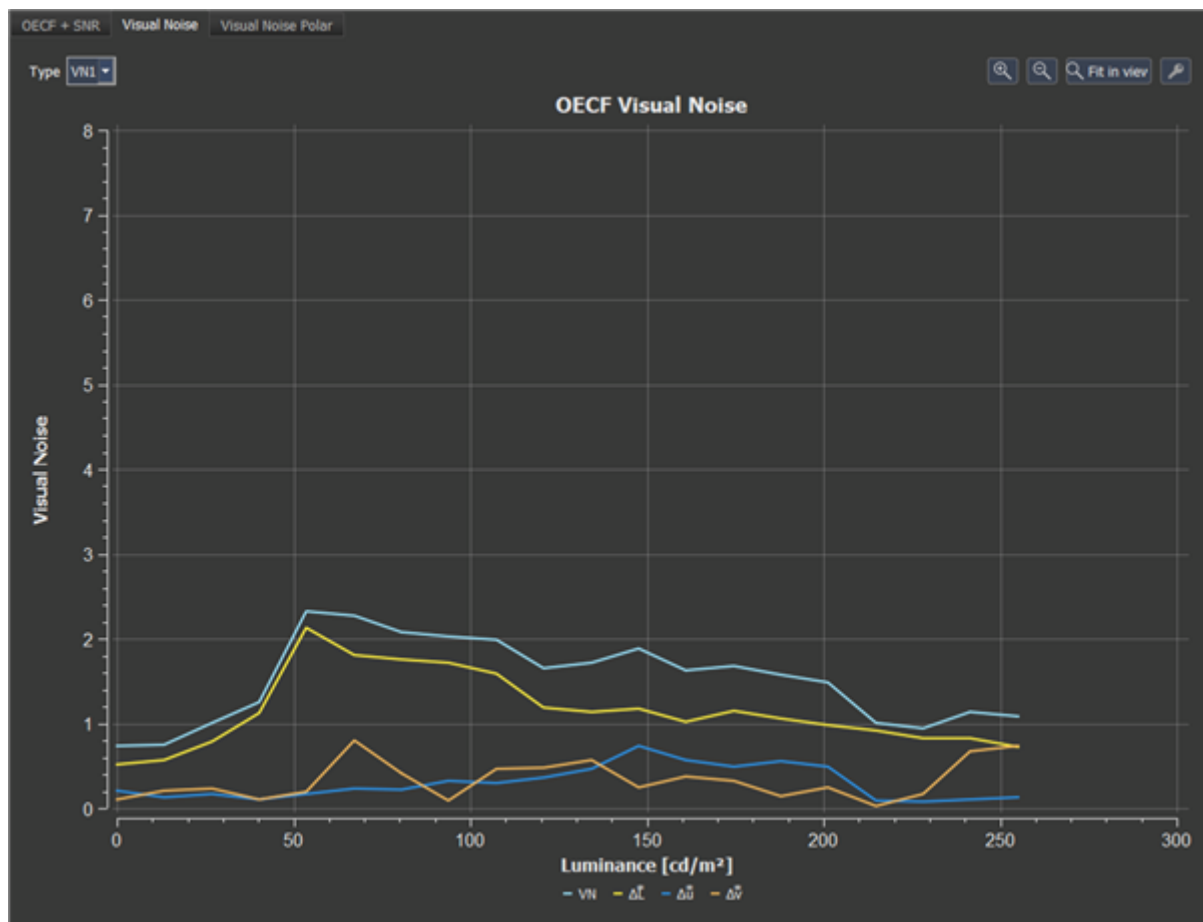
Graphical Results

OECF + SNR plot



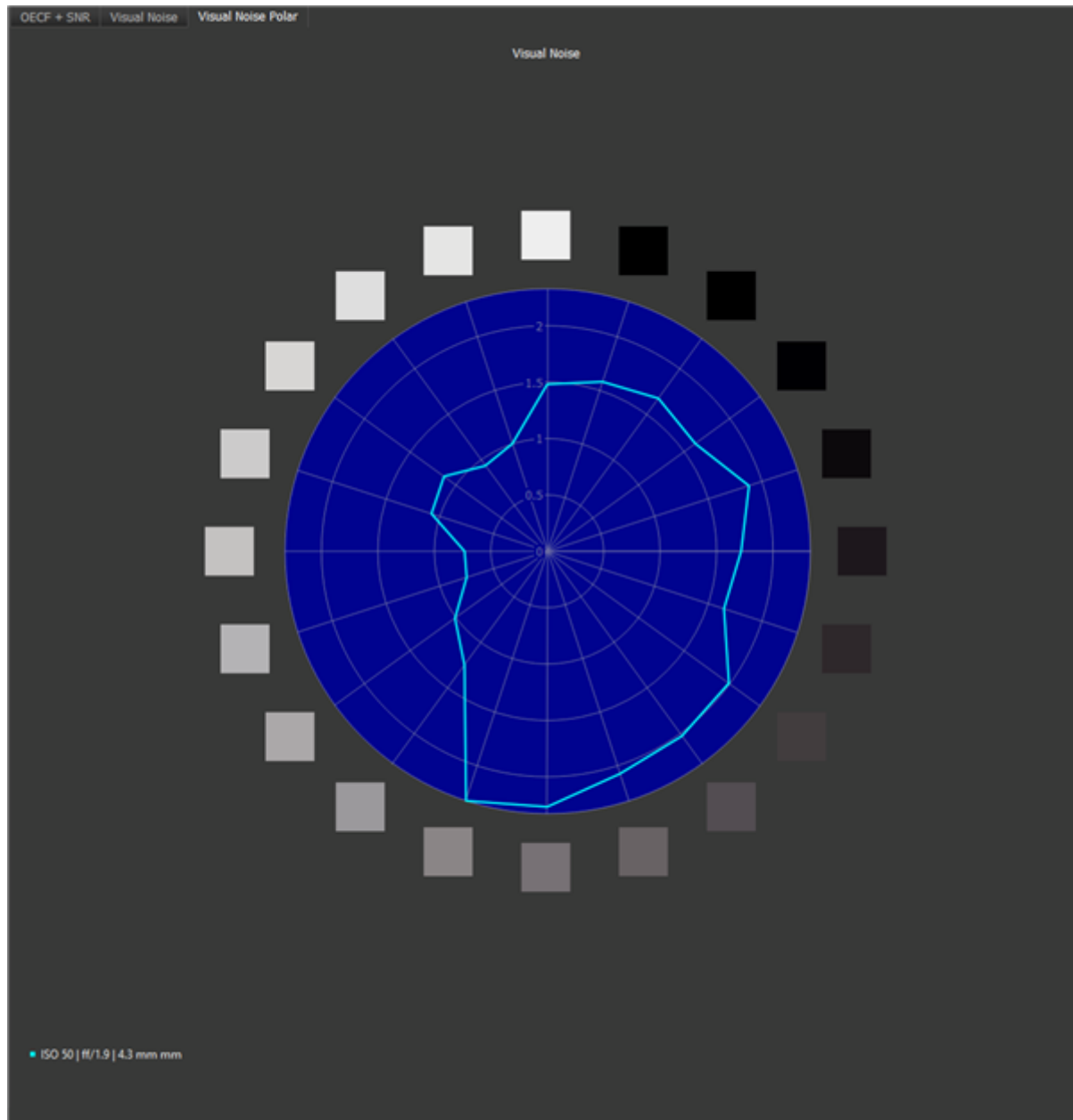
The OECF + SNR plot shows the optical-electronic transfer function and the SNR for the R, G, B channels, and Y. In the “Data” drop-down menu, you can define the parameter and scale for the x-axis.

Visual Noise



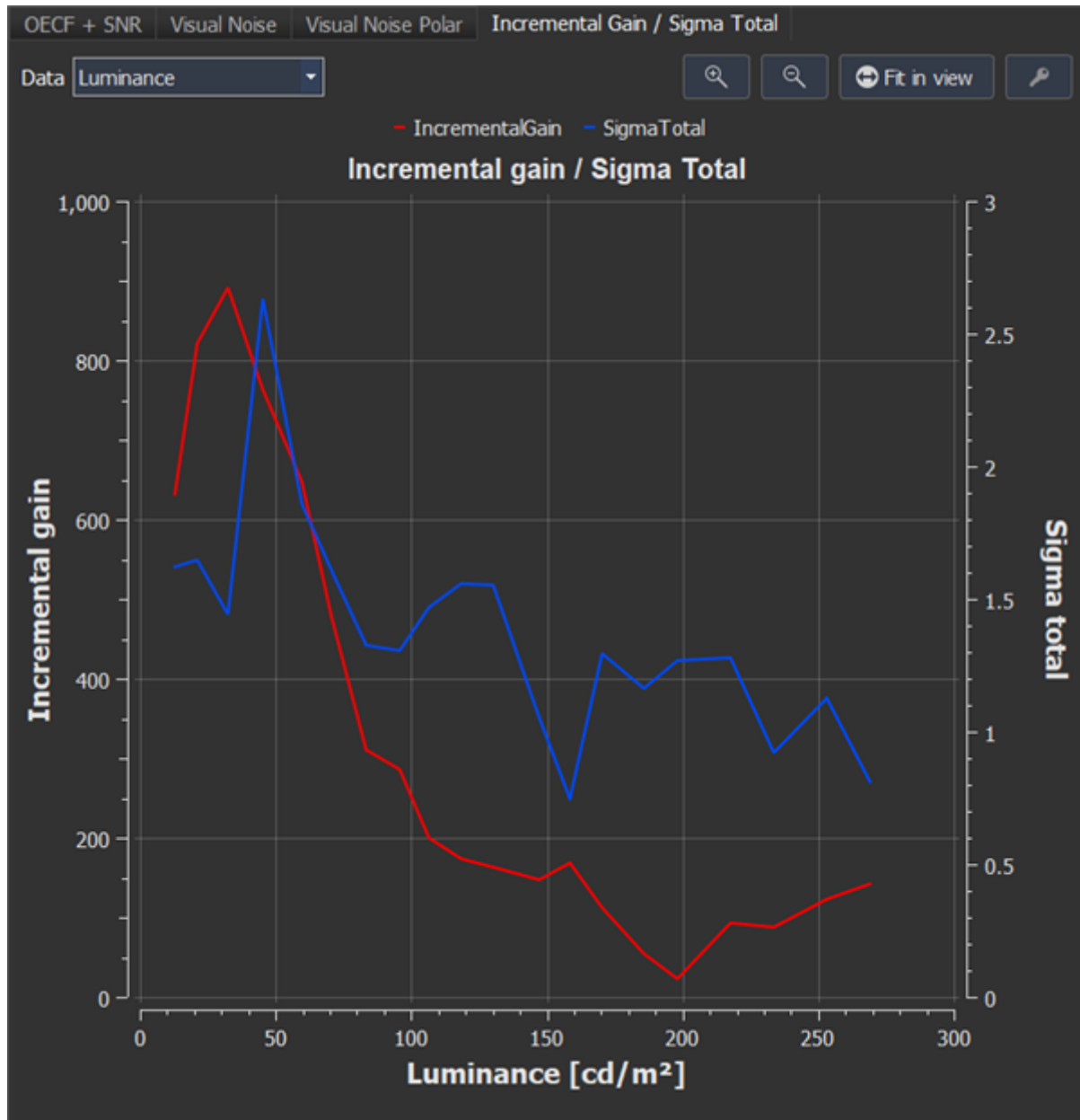
The visual noise graph shows the visual noise determined over the luminance values according to ISO 15739. The curves named Delta L*, Delta u*, and Delta v* show the share of the individual parameters to the overall visual noise. The visual noise depends on the viewing condition set in the configuration menu. You can exhibit visual noise for the three viewing conditions (VN1, VN2, VN3), with the "Type" drop-down menu in the upper left corner.

Visual Noise Polar



Visual Noise Polar: The polar plot shows the visual noise over the gray patches in circular arrangement. The patches are sorted by number, from first to last patch. The brightness of the patches is determined by their gray value in the test image.

Incremental Gain/Sigma Total



Displays the incremental gain and sigma total values for each OECF patch.

Numerical Results

OECF+SNR

SNR is defined as the ratio of the signal value to the standard deviation of the signal value. iQ-Analyzer-X calculates a Y (luminance) image and uses this for further calculations. The results are also indicated as digital values [DV]. The following calculations are based on ISO 15739:2013 which is currently applied in iQ-Analyzer-X. For the chart-based OECF, the reference luminance (L_{ref}) shall be determined as the luminance corresponding to a digital level of 245 (for sRGB 8 bit) on the OECF function. For a more detailed description, please refer to the ISO paper.

$$L_{SNR} = 0.13 \times L_{REF}$$

L_{REF} : Luminance corresponding to the digital value of 245

$$R_{REF} = S^{-1}(I)$$

R_{REF} : Log luminance value at the reference luminance.

S^{-1} : The inverse of the camera OECF curve, S

I : digital value = 245

SNR total: Total noise means all unwanted variations captured by a single exposure.

Total standard deviation: Standard deviation of the total noise for a single image and multiple images when analyzing “n” images.

The signal-to-noise ratio is determined by:

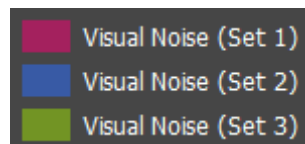
$$SNR_{total} = \frac{L_{SNR} \times gain_{incremental}}{\sigma_{total}}$$

$$\sigma_{total} = \sqrt{\sigma_y^2 + C_1 \sigma_{R-Y}^2 + C_2 \sigma_{B-Y}^2}$$

$$\sigma_{total} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_{total,i}^2}$$

SNR Total (dB): SNR TOTAL is specified in dB.

Mean Visual Noise: The numerical value for Visual Noise is a weighted sum of the standard deviation of each channel in the CIE-Luv color space. To give further insight into the noise characteristics, we also provide the visual noise metric for all three viewing conditions, which can be specified in the settings. In the results table the visual noise measurements are color coded.



Max Visual Noise: The maximum visual noise.

Mean ΔL^* : Mean standard deviation in CIE L^* .

Max ΔL^* : Maximum standard deviation in CIE L^* .

Mean Δu^* : Mean standard deviation in CIE u^* .

Max Δu^* : Maximum standard deviation in CIE u^* .

Mean Δv^* : Mean standard deviation in CIE v^* .

Max Δv^* : Maximum standard deviation in CIE v^* .

Dynamic range: The dynamic range is provided in f-stops, densities, and dB. It applies to ISO 15739:2013. The ISO DSC (Digital Still Camera) dynamic range is the ratio of the maximum unclipped luminance level L_{sat} to the minimum luminance level that can be reproduced with a signal-to-noise ratio of at least 1, L_{min} .

$$ISO.DSC.dynamicrange = \frac{L_{sat}}{L_{min}}$$

$$L_{min} = L_{(SNR=threshold)}$$

The default threshold is SNR=1.

If the threshold cannot be reached, a 2.0 density “black reference” calculates the dynamic range to avoid black level clipping problems.

The value for L_{min} shall be calculated as

$$L_{min} = \frac{\sigma_{total}(2.0)}{gain_{incremental}}$$

$$\sigma_{total}(2.0) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_{total,i}^2}$$

$\sigma_{total}(2.0)$: The black total noise measured at a density of 2.0.

Color

Camera color characterization is an essential step in the color image processing pipeline. It evaluates how the camera module translates RGB raw data from the sensor to the desired color space. Improper color calibration and characterization can lead to false-color reproduction, thereby hurting an image's overall image quality. The color reproduction is usually described with the Delta E metric, which represents the color difference of the color in the test image to its reference color. Note that there are different formulas for the calculation of Delta E. Therefore, you also need to state the applied formula.

Graphical Results

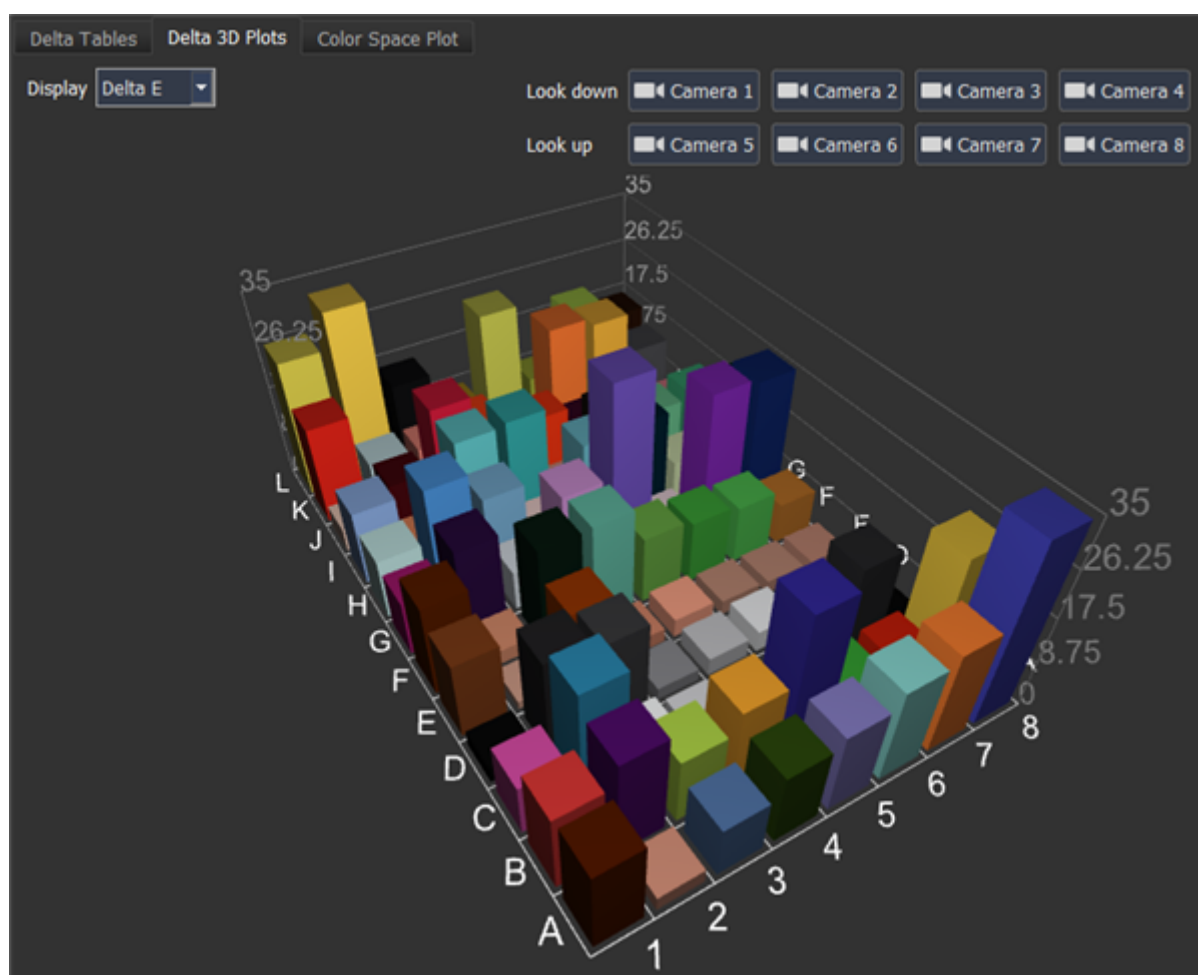
Delta Tables



The “Delta tables” tab shows a color-coded square for each color patch in the test image. These squares also exhibit the numerical parameter value selected in the drop-down menu. You can choose between Delta E, Delta E_{ab}, Delta L, Delta C, Delta H, and Visual Noise. The scaling of the color coding can be adjusted under “Visualization” in the “Configure” dialog.

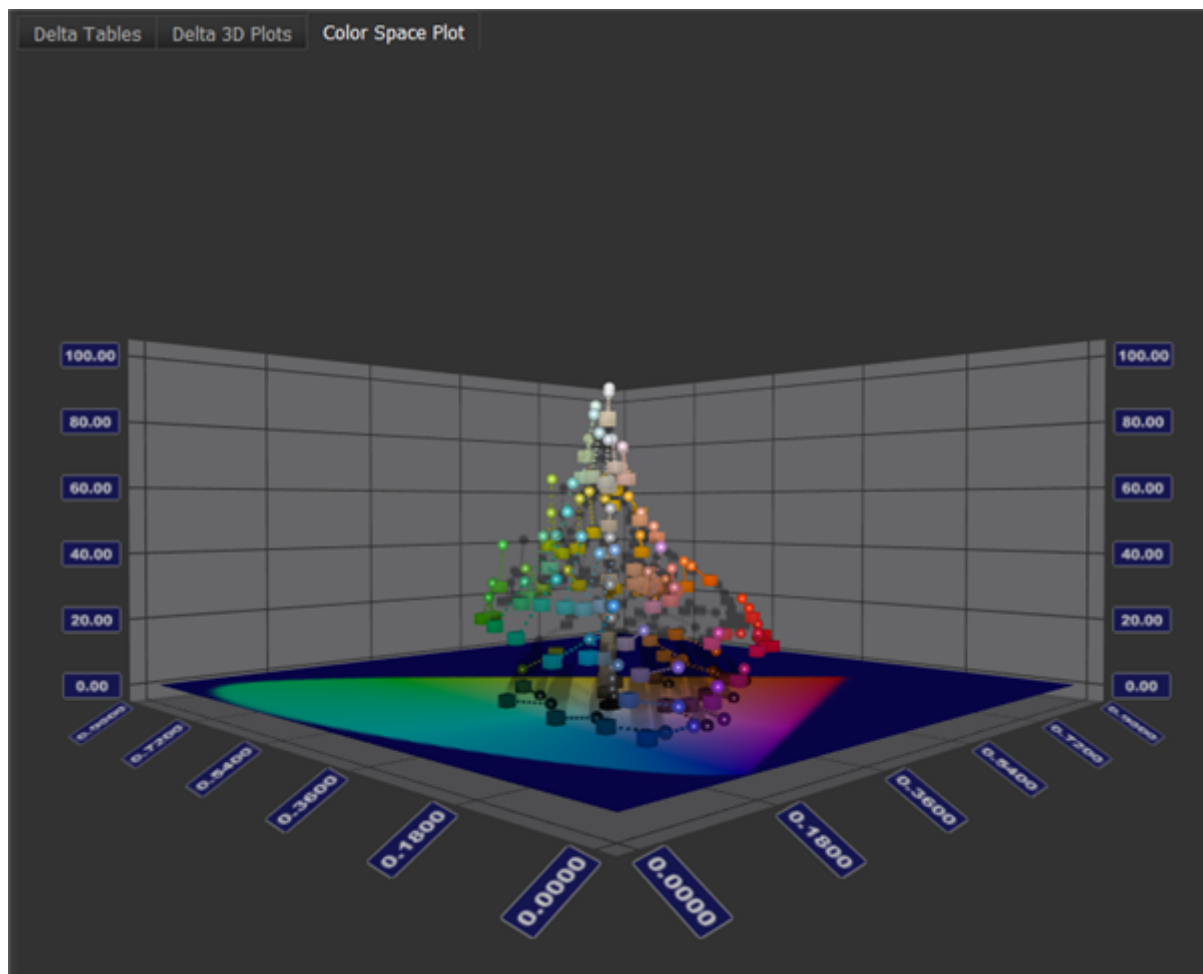
“Visual Comparison” compares the color in the test image and the color of your reference.

Delta 3D Plots



This plot shows the Delta values in 3D bars. You can change the perspective by using the different camera positions or dragging the plot with your mouse. In case of negative values, it makes sense to use the bottom camera views.

Color Space Plot



The calculated colors of the image and the reference are displayed in the CIE xyY color space, where x and y are the chromaticity coordinates, and Y is the luminance. The colors of the image under test are represented by a sphere and the reference colors by a cube. Click on the geometries to see its CIE x, y, and Y values.

Numerical Results

The mean and maximum values are stated for different groups, defined in the reference file. A group can, for example, contain only the skin, color, or neutral tones. "General" groups all patches.

Delta E: The iQ-Analyzer-X calculates Delta E from two Lab data sets, the reference, and the image sample set. You can choose between four Color Difference Formulas for calculating Delta E under "Analysis Settings," with the most common calculation being CIE1976.

CIE1976:

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{\Delta L^2 + \Delta a^2 + \Delta b^2}$$

$$\Delta L = L_{reference} - L_{sample}$$

$$\Delta a = a_{reference} - a_{sample}$$

$$\Delta b = b_{reference} - b_{sample}$$

If you express the Lab in polar coordinates, you get LCH, where L is the luminance, C the chrominance, and H the hue. Delta E indicates the overall difference between reference and sample. It might also be interesting to look at the difference between Luminance Delta L and Hue Delta H to get more detailed information about the deviation.

$$\Delta L = L_{reference} - L_{sample}$$

$$\Delta C = C_{reference} - C_{sample}$$

$$\Delta H = \sqrt{\Delta a^2 + \Delta b^2 - \Delta C^2}$$

CIE1994 is calculated based on the CIE LCH color space and includes weights for Luminance, Chroma and Hue to address perceptual differences.

CIE1994:

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta L}{K_L S_L}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta C}{K_C S_C}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta H}{K_H S_H}\right)^2}$$

In iQ-Analyzer-X, the following parameters for graphics and photography are used.

$$K_L = K_C = K_H = 1$$

$$S_L = 1$$

$$S_C = 1 + 0.045 C_{sample}$$

$$S_H = 1 + 0.015 C_{sample}$$

CIE2000:

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta L}{K_L S_L}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta C}{K_C S_C}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta H}{K_H S_H}\right)^2 + R_t \left(\frac{\Delta H}{K_H S_H}\right) \left(\frac{\Delta C}{K_C S_C}\right)}$$

Compared to CIE1994, the rotation term is added as the fourth element and only takes effect in the blue region.

CIE2000 SL1:

$$\Delta E = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\Delta L}{K_L S_L}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta C}{K_C S_C}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\Delta H}{K_H S_H}\right)^2 + R_t \left(\frac{\Delta H}{K_H S_H}\right) \left(\frac{\Delta C}{K_C S_C}\right)}$$

The same formula as CIE2000 with the factor SL set to 1.

Delta E_{ab}: Delta E_{ab} is similar to Delta E but doesn't take the Delta in luminance, into account.

Delta L*: Delta Luminance is based on CIE LCH color space and represents the difference in luminance.

Delta H*: Delta Hue is based on CIE LCH color space and represents the difference in color.

Delta C*: Delta Chrominance is based on CIE LCH color space and represents the difference in color saturation.

VN SET1-3: Visual Noise is described in ISO 15739. It correlates much better with the human perception of noise than a standard SNR measurement, and is stated for three viewing conditions.

Shading

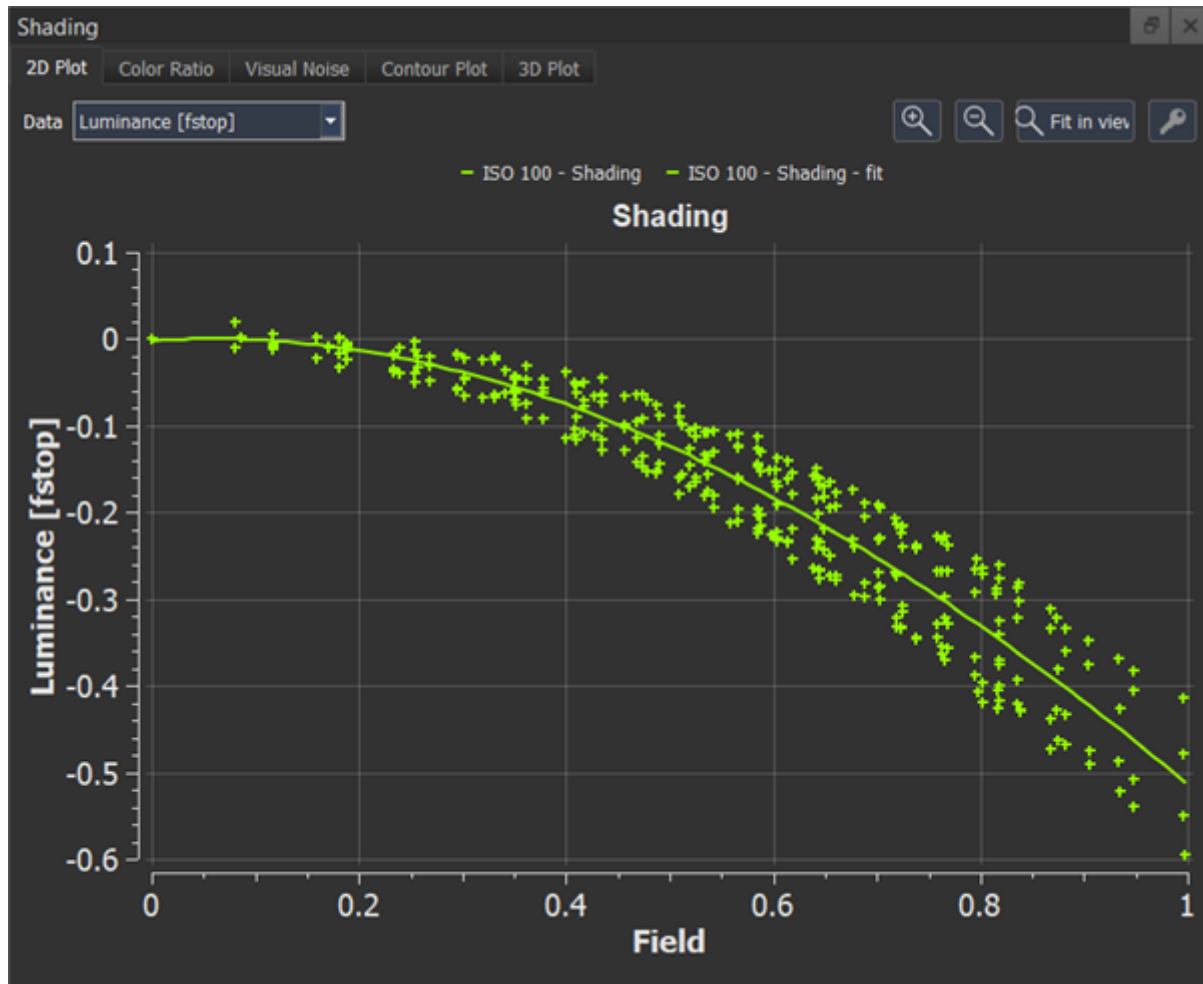
The shading results show how uniform a camera reproduces a test image of a flat field, meaning a surface with uniform intensity. This test can be an image of a uniform test chart like the TE255 or an image of a light source with a uniform opening like the CAL series.

Please note, that currently, no linearization is available for the shading analysis.

Graphical Results

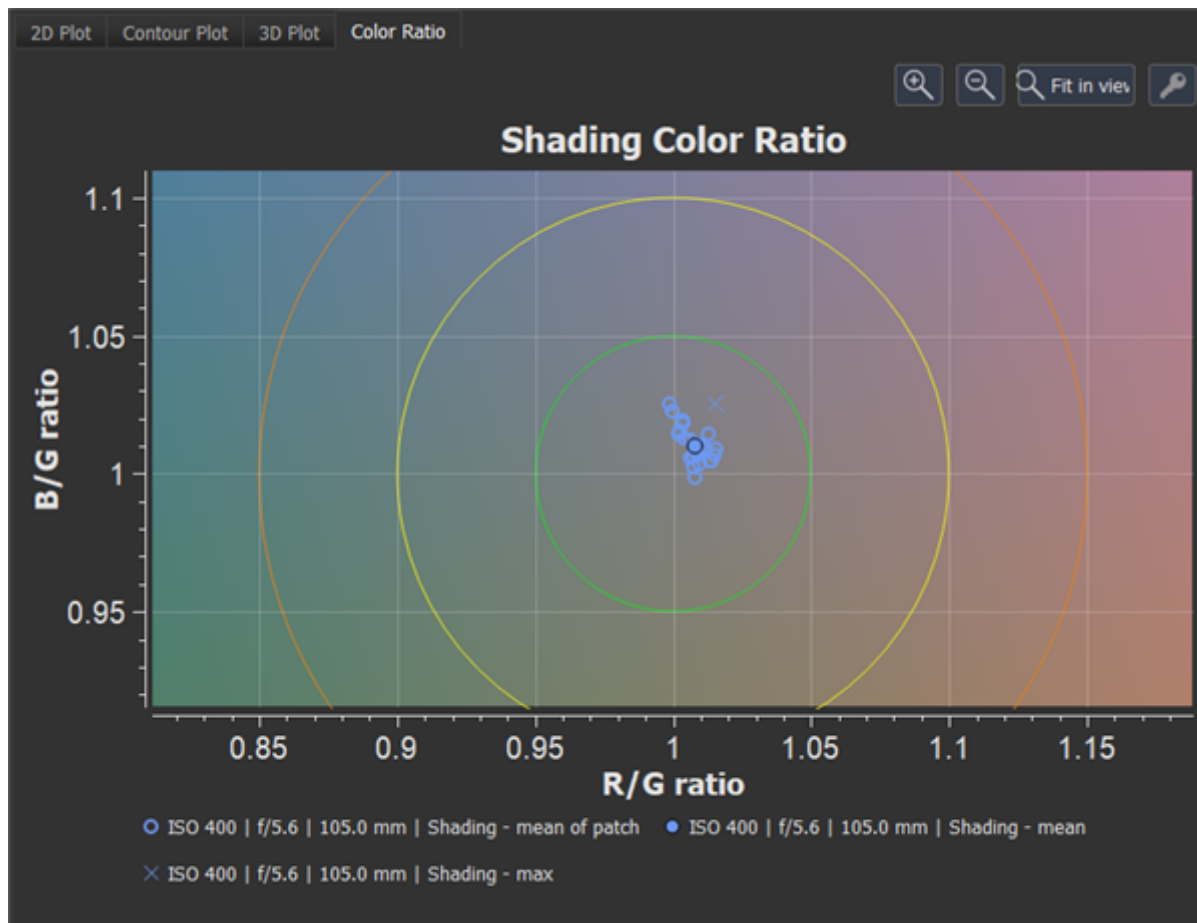
The plots offer different metrics for Shading, Color Shading and Noise which can be selected in the dropdown menu.

2D plot



The “2D plot” shows the shading measurements over the field of the test image. The field is a line drawn from the center of the test image to the corner, with the image center being field=0 and the corner being field=1. All shading ROIs are mapped to the field along their radius.

Color Ratio

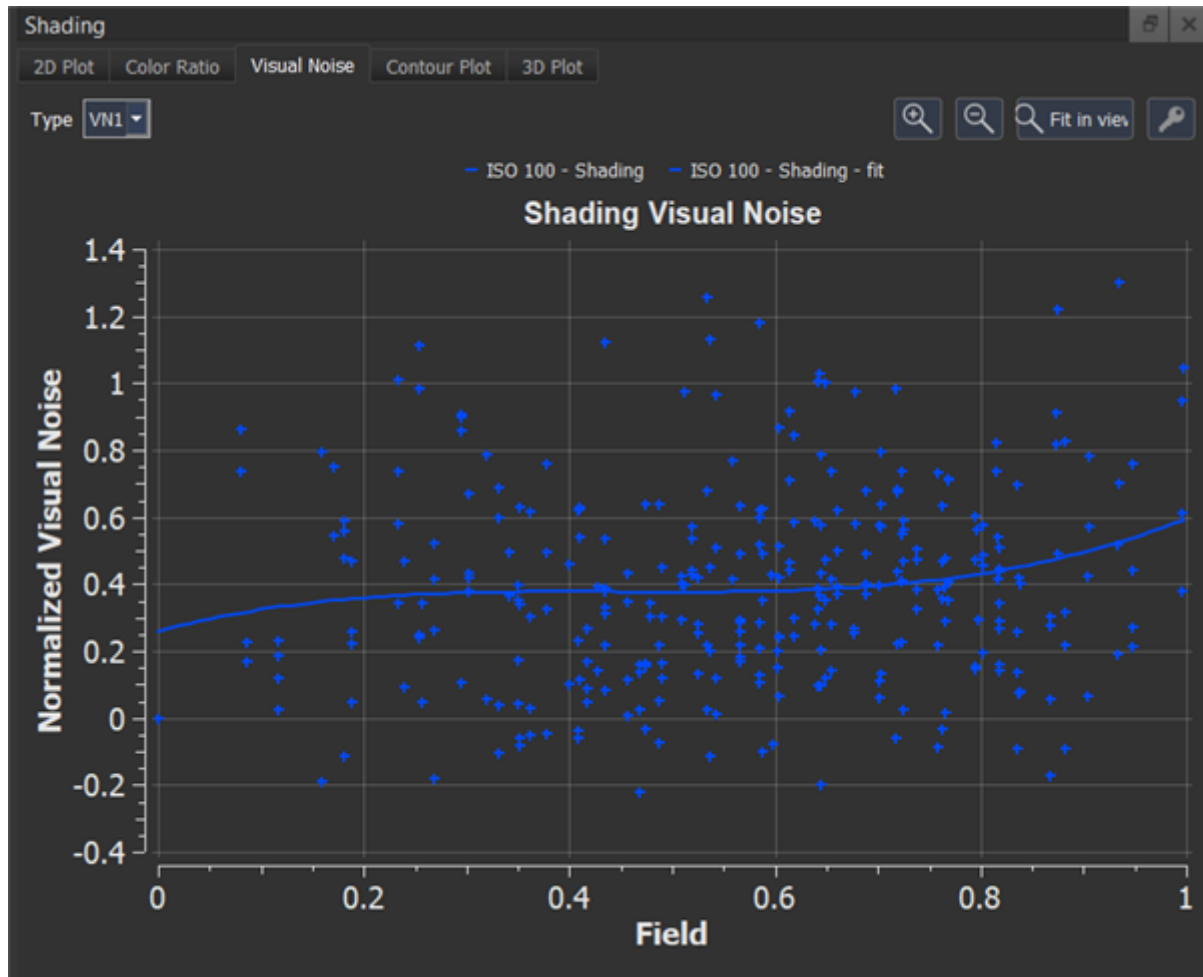


The "Color Ratio" plot shows the ratio of blue and red over the green channel and is, therefore, suitable to show color shading in the image.

- "Shading - mean of patch" is based on the average ratio in a single patch.
- "Shading - mean" is the average of all B/G and R/G ratios.
- "Shading - max" is the maximum of all B/G and R/G ratios.

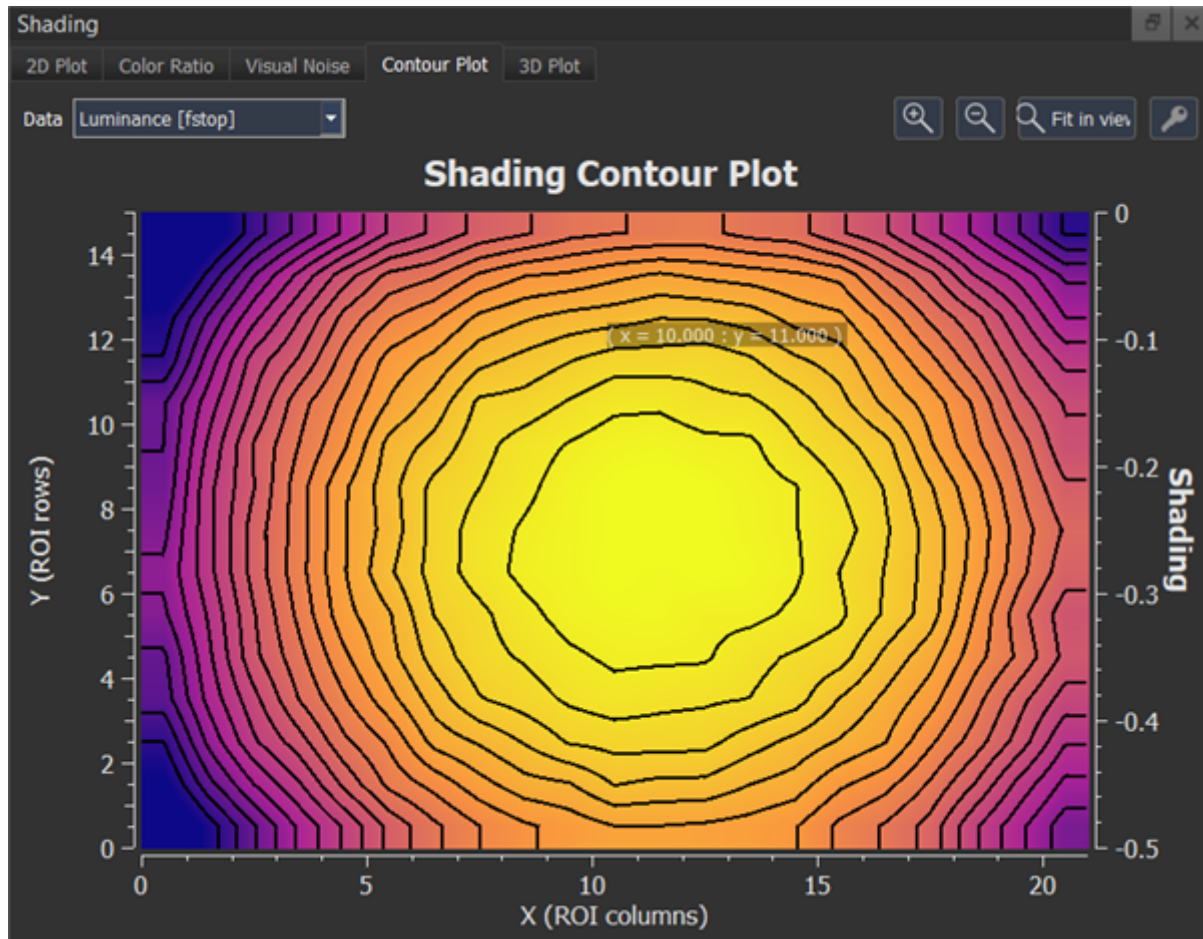
The green, yellow and red line circle do not refer to any standard and are only for orientation. They circle around the ideal color ratio of one in 0.05 steps.

Visual Noise



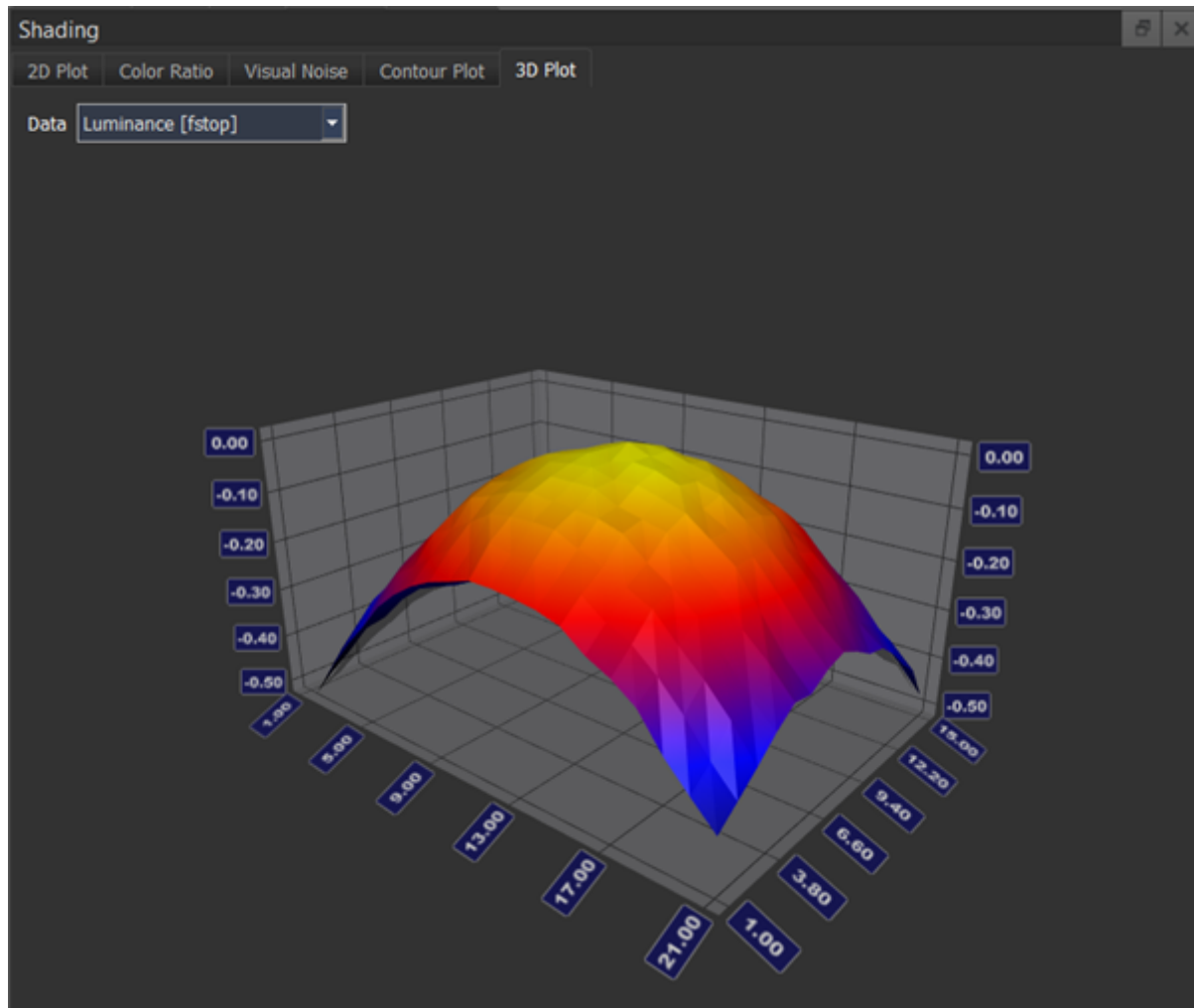
This plot shows the Visual Noise in the shading ROIs over the field for the viewing conditions which are defined in the analysis settings. You can change the viewing condition by selecting VN1, VN2,...from the dropdown menu.

Contour plot



The “Contour” plot shows the uniformity over the columns and rows of the ROIs as an interpolated color-coded image. The contour lines are automatically fitted between the “minimum value” and “maximum value,” these can be changed under “Visualization.” The scaling of the color coding can be changed in the “Visualization” settings.

3D Plot



The “3D Plot” shows the uniformity over the columns and rows of the ROIs as an interpolated color-coded 3D rendering. The scaling of the color coding can be changed in the “Visualization” settings.

Numerical Results

Shading(f-stop): The maximum shading of luminance Y in f-stops.

Shading(%): The maximum shading of luminance Y visible in the image. This value is calculated with Y as a weighted sum of R, G, and B, which is not affected by the linearization.

$$\text{Shading} [\%] = \left(\frac{Y_{\max} - Y_{\min}}{Y_{\max}} \right) \times 100$$

CIE ΔL : The absolute average shading of luminance based on CIE ΔL .

$$\Delta L = L_{\max} - L_{\min}$$

CIE ΔE_{ab} : CIE ΔE_{ab} expresses the maximum color shading over the image field as the maximum color difference. It conforms to the Chrominance Non-Uniformity defined in ISO 17957:2015 and the Color Uniformity defined in IEEE P1858 Standard for Camera Phone Image Quality (CPIQ). In contrast to the ΔE calculation used for color reproduction, the calculation of ΔE_{ab} is done without luminance L^* . So

you get information only about differences in colors, without luminance.

CIE ΔC : CIE ΔC is the maximum color shading related to a defined reference value.

R/G(DV): The average green and red channel ratio in digital values.

B/G(DV): The average ratio of a blue and green channel in digital values.

Delta SNR(dB): The maximum Delta of SNR over all ROIs.

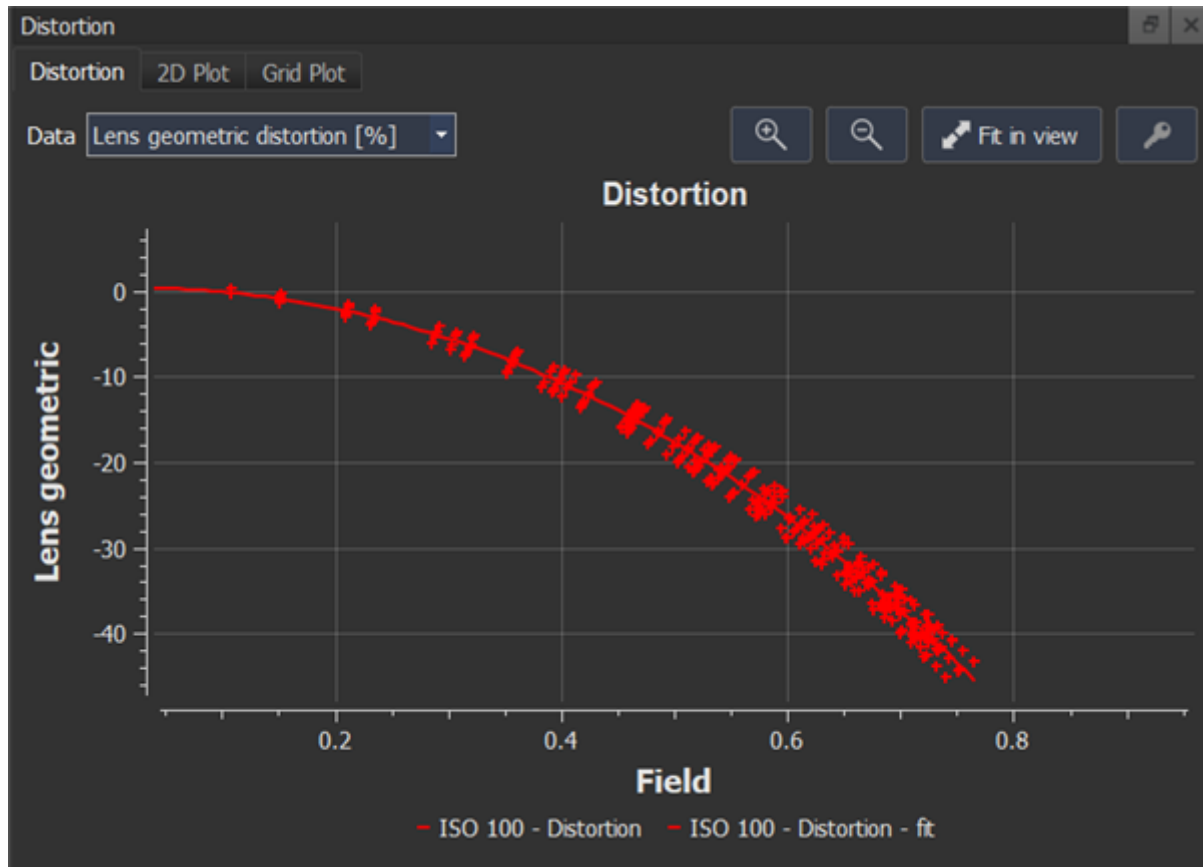
Delta VN Set1-3: The maximum Delta of Visual Noise overall ROIs.

Distortion

Image distortion occurs when the straight lines of a scene appear to be deformed or curved unnaturally in an image. There are three types of lens distortion called barrel, pincushion, and waveform, also known as mustache distortion. It is important to know that distortion occurs differently depending on the lens system and whether the lens can or cannot be removed from the camera. The iQ-Analyzer-X uses test patterns, crosses, or points distributed over the entire image field with a known position. The center location of the crosses or points is detected with sub-pixel precision and referred to as the target position.

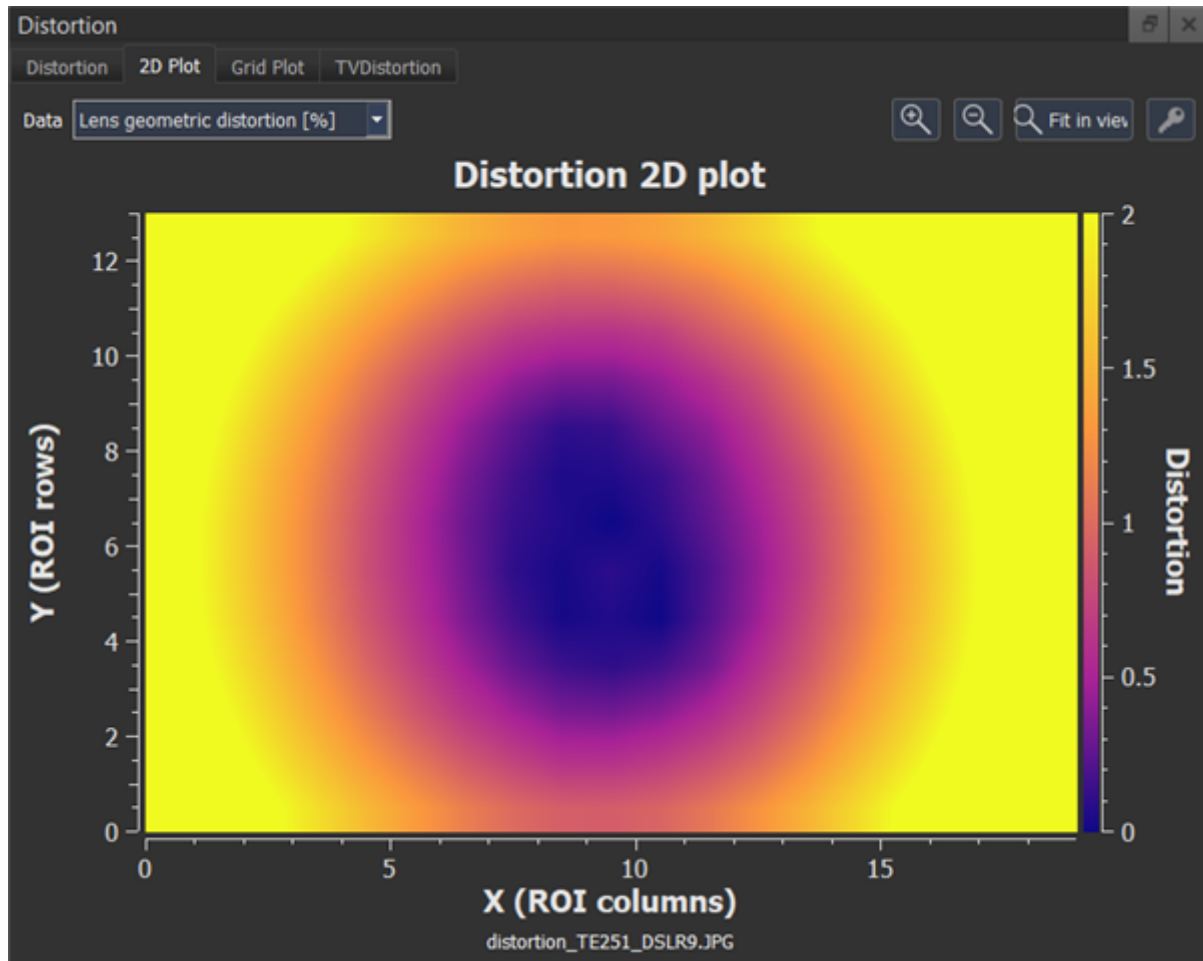
Graphical Results

Distortion



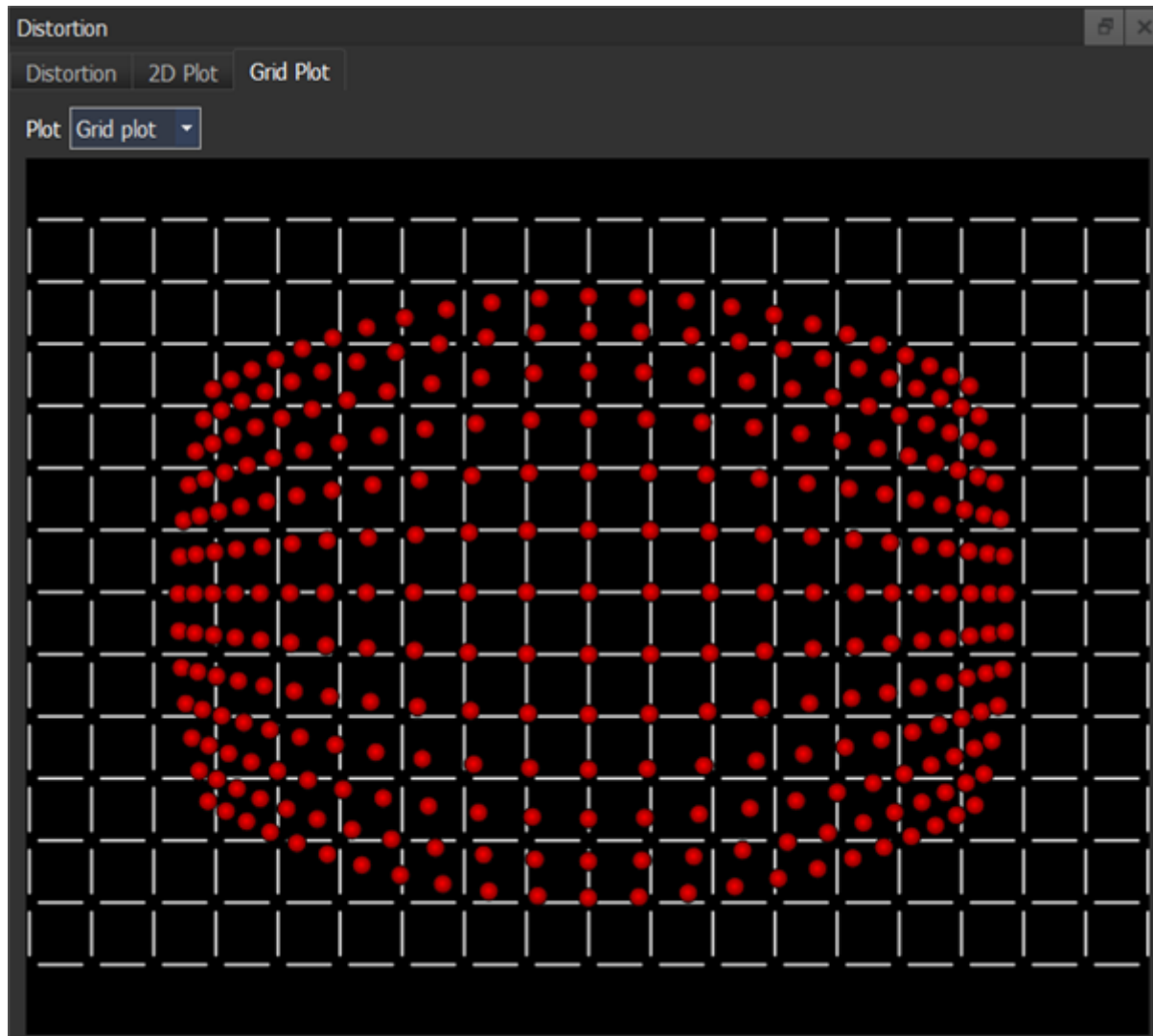
The "Distortion" plot shows the Lens Geometric Distortion or Chromatic Aberration over the image field. The image field is the radial distance from the image center to the image corner, mapped from zero to one. A detected point in the corner has a value near one and a detected point in the center near zero.

2D Plot



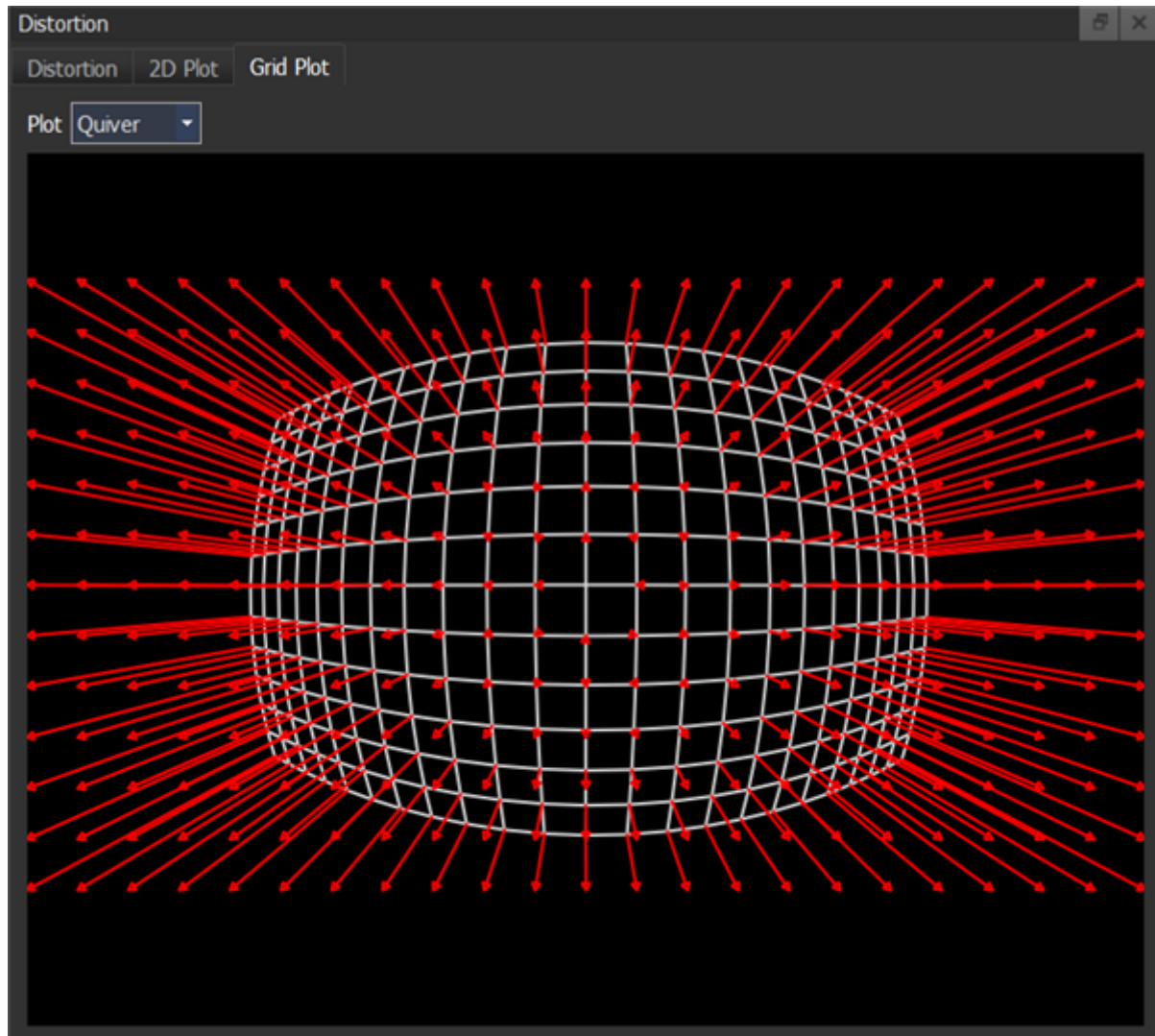
The "2D plot" shows the Lens Geometric Distortion or Chromatic Aberration over the rows and columns of the detected grid, typically crosses, points, or black and white markers. The color shows the intensity of the Lens Geometric Distortion or Chromatic Aberration in percent. The color map is shown on the right side of the graph; adjust its limits in the settings under visualization.

Grid plot



The “Grid plot” shows the detected ROIs as red spheres versus a grid with the expected locations. The farther the sphere is off from its location in the grid, the higher the distortion.

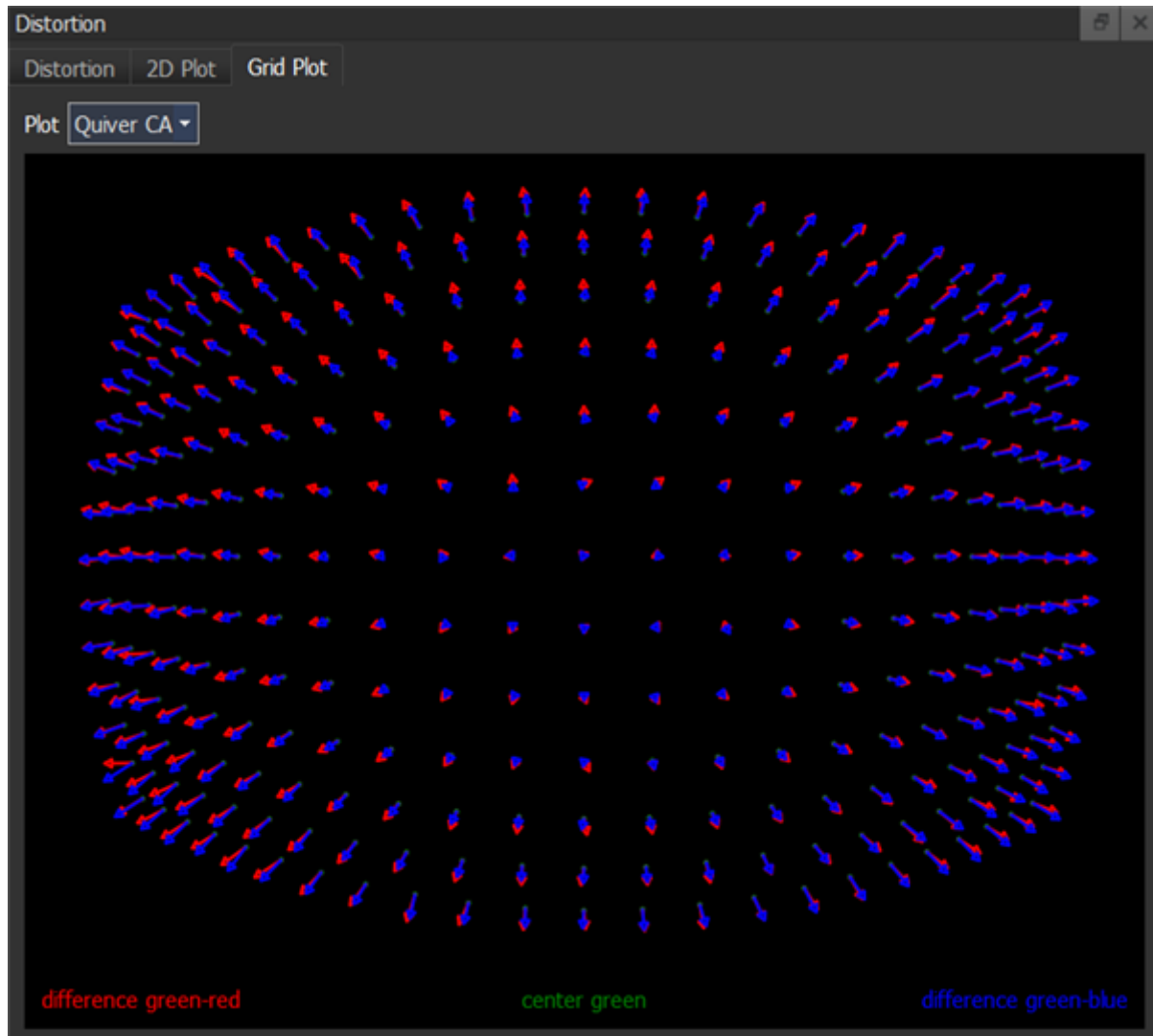
Quiver plot



The “Quiver” plot shows the distortion by a vector pointing to its direction.

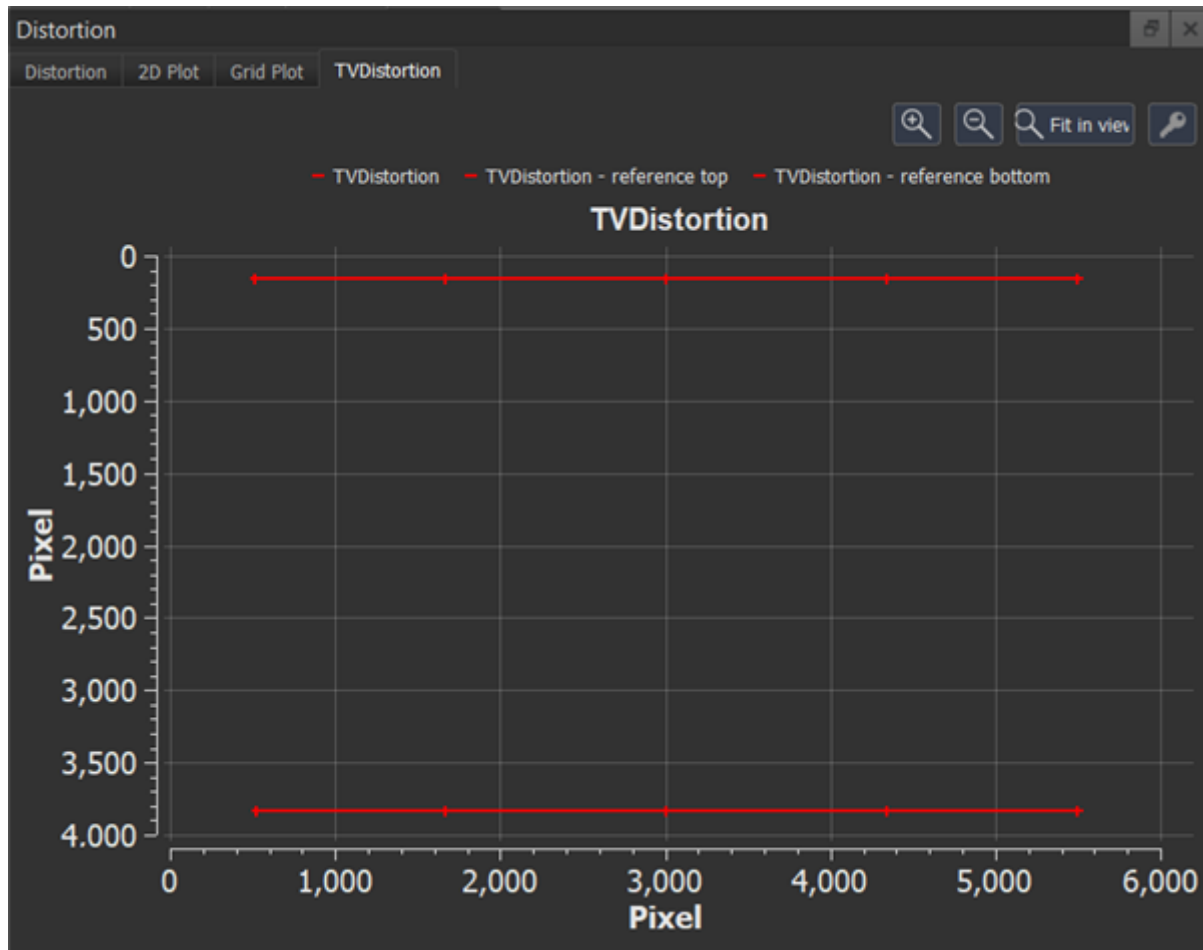
Note: In the “Quiver” plots, the length of the arrows does not reflect absolute and comparable values but only the directions. The arrows are scaled so that they can be seen clearly, and they only reflect the relative distortion or CA values to each other.

Quiver CA plot



The “Quiver CA” plot also shows vectors for the chromatic aberration of red and blue.

TV Distortion



The “TV Distortion” plot shows the pixel coordinates of the markers used to calculate the TV distortion.

Numerical Results

Line Geometric Distortion (LGD) according to ISO 17850

LGD is defined as below.

Line GD Horizontal:

$$LineGD \ h_i = \left(\frac{|B_i - A_i|}{2 \times V} \right) \times 100\%$$

LineGD h: Line Geometric Distortion in the horizontal direction

A: Maximum height of the line grid pattern of the output image in pixels

B: Minimum height of the line grid pattern of the output image in pixels

V: Number of pixels of the short side of the frame of the output image

i: Suffix presenting each picture height

Line GD Vertical:

$$LineGD \ v_i = \left(\frac{|\beta_i - \alpha_i|}{2 \times V} \right) \times 100\%$$

LineGD v: Line Geometric Distortion in the vertical direction

α : Maximum width of the line grid pattern of the output image in pixels

β : Minimum width of the line grid pattern of the output image in pixels

V: Number of pixels of the short side of the frame of the output image

i: Suffix presenting each picture width

Line GD Total:

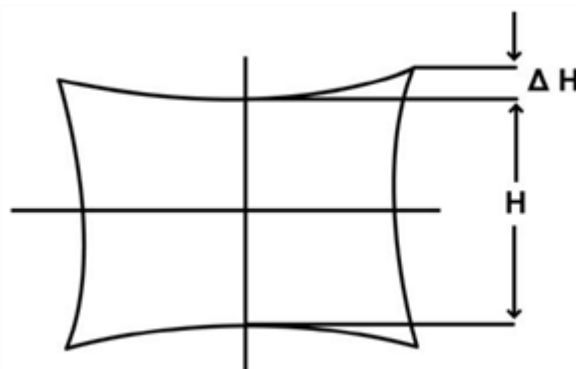
$$|LineGD \ total_i| = \sqrt{(LineGD \ v_i)^2 + (LineGD \ h_i)^2}$$

TV Distortion

The results of distortion calculation are shown as EBU-TV-Distortion and SMIA-TV-Distortion (SMIA = Standard Mobile Imaging Architecture). The SMIA definition has been widely adopted in the mobile imaging industry.

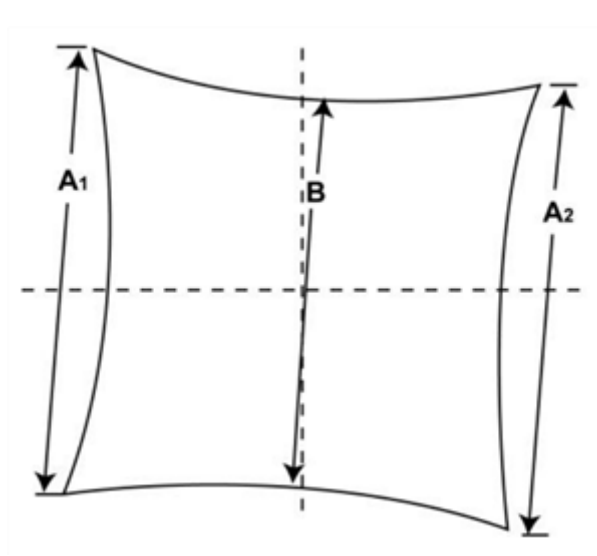
EBU(%): EBU TV distortion is the change of image height from the center to the edge of the image, expressed as a percentage of the actual height in the center.

$$EBU_{TVDistortion} = \frac{\Delta H}{H} \times 100$$



SMIA(%): SMIA defines distortion as the ratio of the absolute image height at the edges of the image

to the image height in the center.



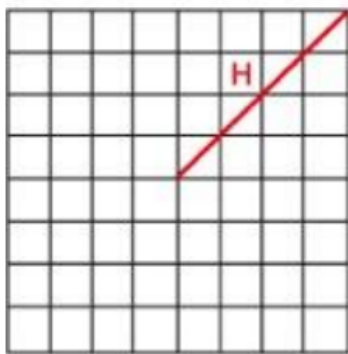
$$SMIA_{TVDistortion} = \frac{A-B}{B} \times 100$$

$$A = \frac{A_1 + A_2}{2}$$

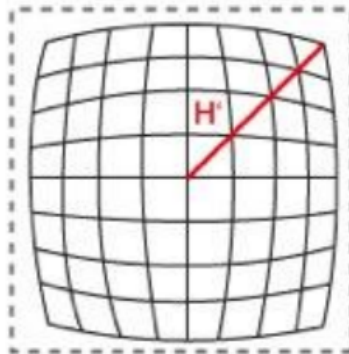
EBU-TV-Distortion and SMIA-TV-Distortion are similar measurements and contain the same information. SMIA-TV-Distortion is always double the EBU-TV-Distortion.

Lens Geometric Distortion (LGD) according to IEEE P1858, similar to Local Geometric Distortion in ISO 17850

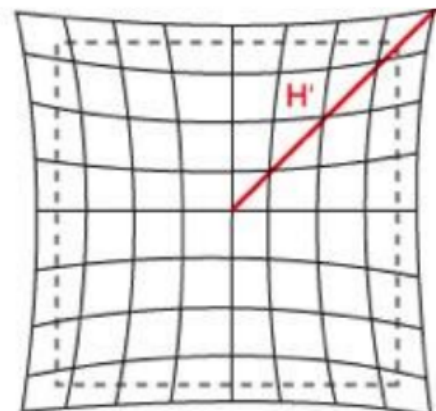
Undistorted Grid



Barrel Distortion (negative)



Pincushion Distortion (positiv)



LGD is defined as:

$$LGD = \frac{H' - H}{H} \times 100$$

H' = Actual dot distance from the center of the image

H = Expected dot position

The geometric distortion for a grid position is the delta between the radial distance of the actual grid position H' and the radial distance to the ideal grid position H, divided by the ideal grid position H.

For each detected point in the grid, the LGD is calculated.

H' < H indicates negative distortion → barrel distortion.

H' > H indicates positive distortion → pincushion distortion.

LGD mean: The average geometric lens distortion of all grid positions.

LGD worst: The maximum LGD of all grid positions.

LGD worst(fit): The worst LGD value fitted to a polynomial, which degree is defined in the “Distortion” settings.

Chromatic Aberration (CA)

CA G/R mean: The average pixel distance between the green and red channels.

CA G/R max: The mean value of the ten largest distances between green and red.

CA G/B mean: The average pixel distance between the green and blue channels.

CA G/B max: The mean value of the ten largest distances between green and blue.

LCD G/R [pix]: Lateral Chromatic Displacement in pixels between the green and red channel according to CPIQ. The distance between green and red channel is calculated based on polar coordinates. For the LCD G/R the maximum values for green and red channel are used.

LCD G/R [%]: Lateral Chromatic Displacement in percent of the picture height between the green and red channel according to CPIQ. The LCD G/R in pixels is set in relation to the image height in pixels.

LCD G/B [pix]: Lateral Chromatic Displacement in pixels between the green and red channel according to CPIQ. The distance between green and blue channel is calculated based on polar coordinates. For the LCD G/R the maximum values for green and red channel are used.

LCD G/B [%]: Lateral Chromatic Displacement in percent of the picture height between the green and red channel according to CPIQ. The LCD G/B in pixels is set in relation to the image height in pixels.

Longitudinal Chromatic Aberration (LCA)

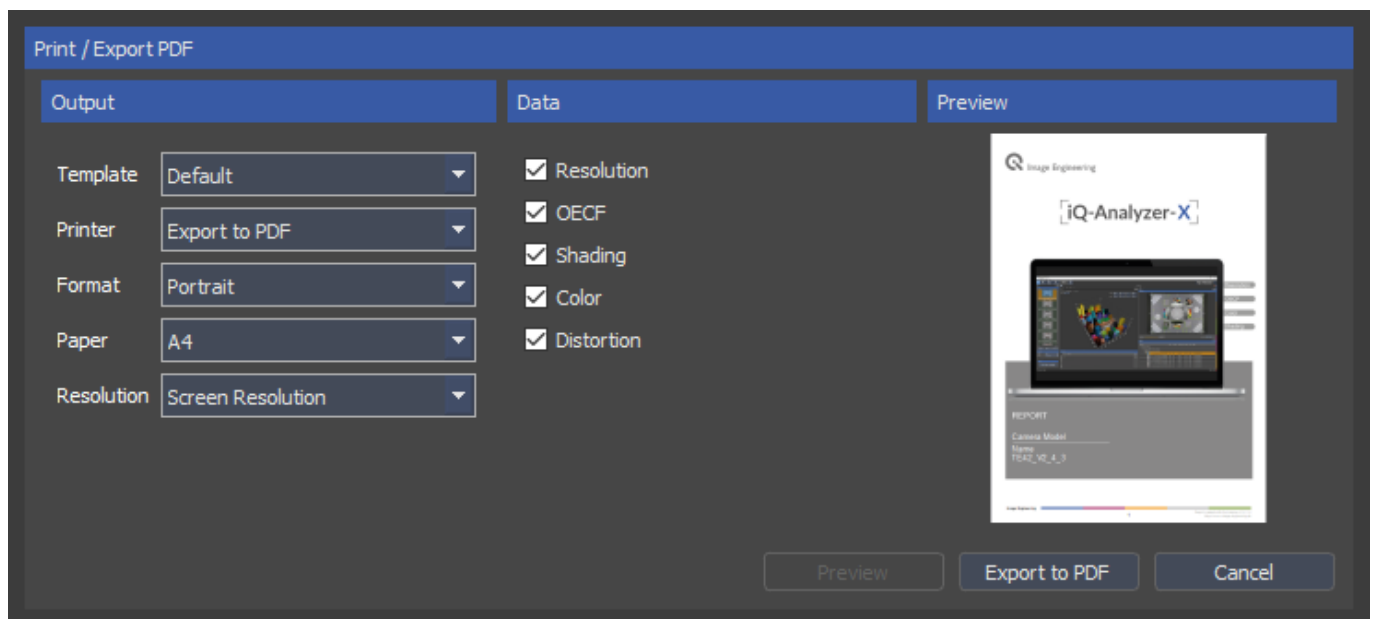
LCA Total: Mean value of the longitudinal chromatic aberration.

LCA Horizontal: Longitudinal chromatic aberration in the horizontal direction measured on the center cross (horizontal line of the cross).

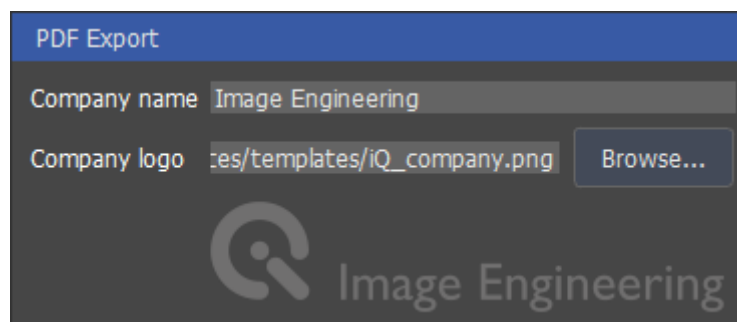
LCA Vertical: Longitudinal chromatic aberration in the vertical direction measured on the center cross (the vertical line of the cross).

Export Results

The results can be exported as a *.xml or *.pdf file from the “File” menu. In the *.xml file, all numerical results will be saved. You can use this file to create your custom report. The *.pdf export provides basic layout adjustments and an option for which measurements will be included.



In the “General” tab under “Configuration” a custom logo and your company name can be inserted to appear in the .pdf report.



In the “PDF Settings” tab under “Configuration” you can define, which metadata and results are added to the report.

Meta

AnalysisMedia

Meta table

| | Tag | Value | Origin |
|----|-------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1 | File | AXIS-F1004_Optik_Pinhole_720p_100... | Filename |
| 2 | Aperture | not available | Undefined |
| 3 | Color Profile | Embedded profile | Color Profile |
| 4 | Date | Di Dez 19 13:06:12 2023 | Import |
| 5 | Exposure Time | not available | Undefined |
| 6 | Focal Length | not available | Undefined |
| 7 | Focal Length Raw | not available | Undefined |
| 8 | Height | 720 | Image |
| 9 | Image Orientation | asIs | Orientation |
| 10 | Iso | not available | Undefined |
| 11 | Iso Speed Ratings | | Undefined |
| 12 | Modify Date | | Undefined |

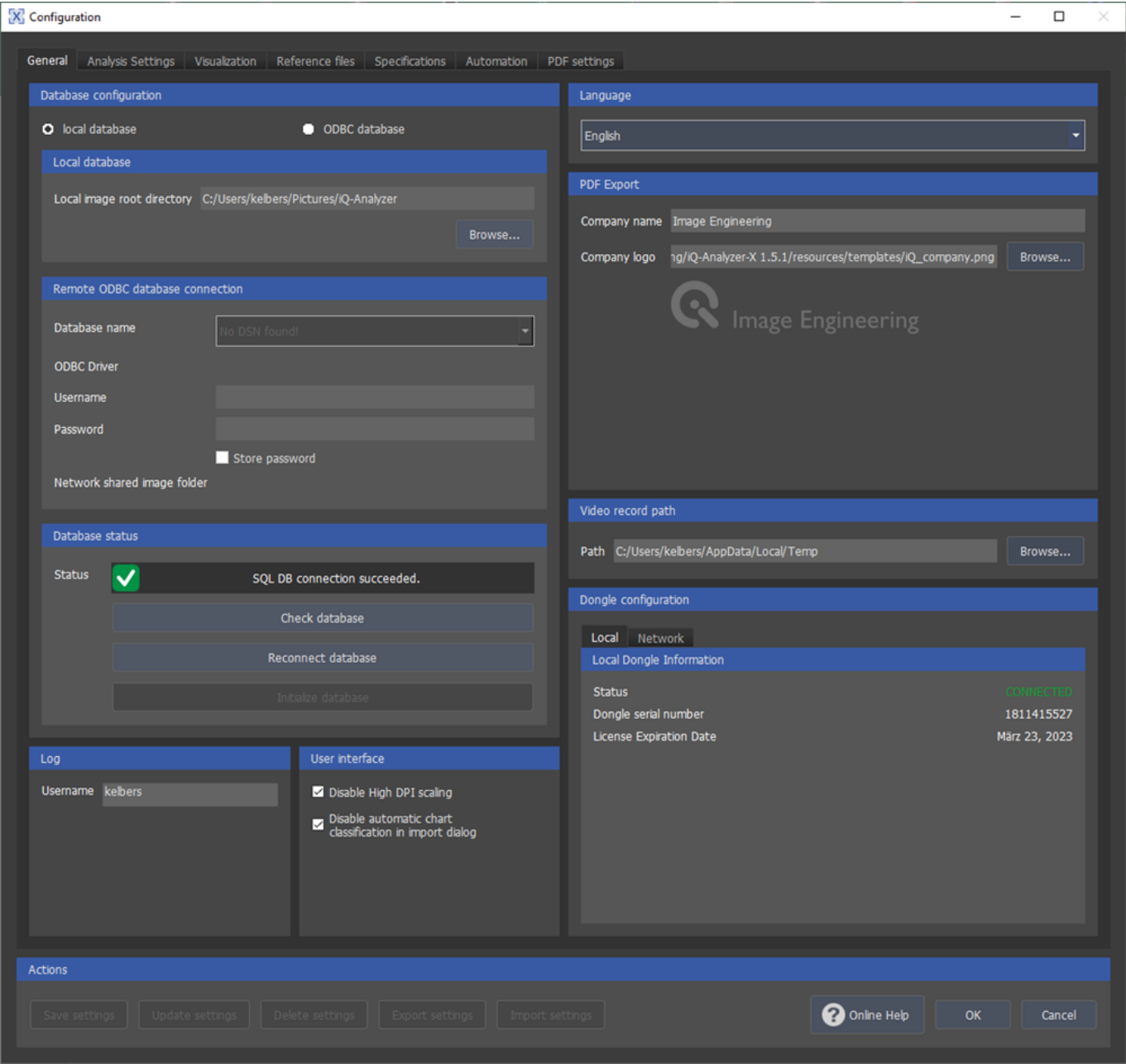
+ Add

— Remove

🔑

The generated report shows only the image(s), which are selected in the “Input dock”.

Configure



General

Database configuration

Select the database where you want to store your data. You can work with a local or remote database and switch between them.

Local image root directory

This is the path where the images of your analysis are stored. You can choose a different folder by clicking “Browse...”.

Remote ODBC database connection

Provide the required data to connect to your remote ODBC database.

Database status

You can check the database status and reconnect it in case of any changes.

User Interface

“Disable high DPI scaling” prevents font and window sizes in iQ-Analyzer-X from being scaled excessively large on certain screen sizes/pixel resolutions and the set scale factor in Windows. With the “disable check mark,” you can disable this excessive scaling and save screen space.

“Disable automatic chart classification in import dialog”- By activating this checkbox, you can prevent iQ-Analyzer-X from trying to find a suitable chart layout. It makes sense to activate this checkbox if you are working with custom charts that are not known to iQ-Analyzer, or if the recognition leads to a chart that has to be specified by the user anyway, such as the TE269V2.

Language

Set your preferred language here.

PDF Export

Set your company name and logo and include them in your exported *.pdf reports.

Log

Set the username that will appear in the log.

Dongle Configuration

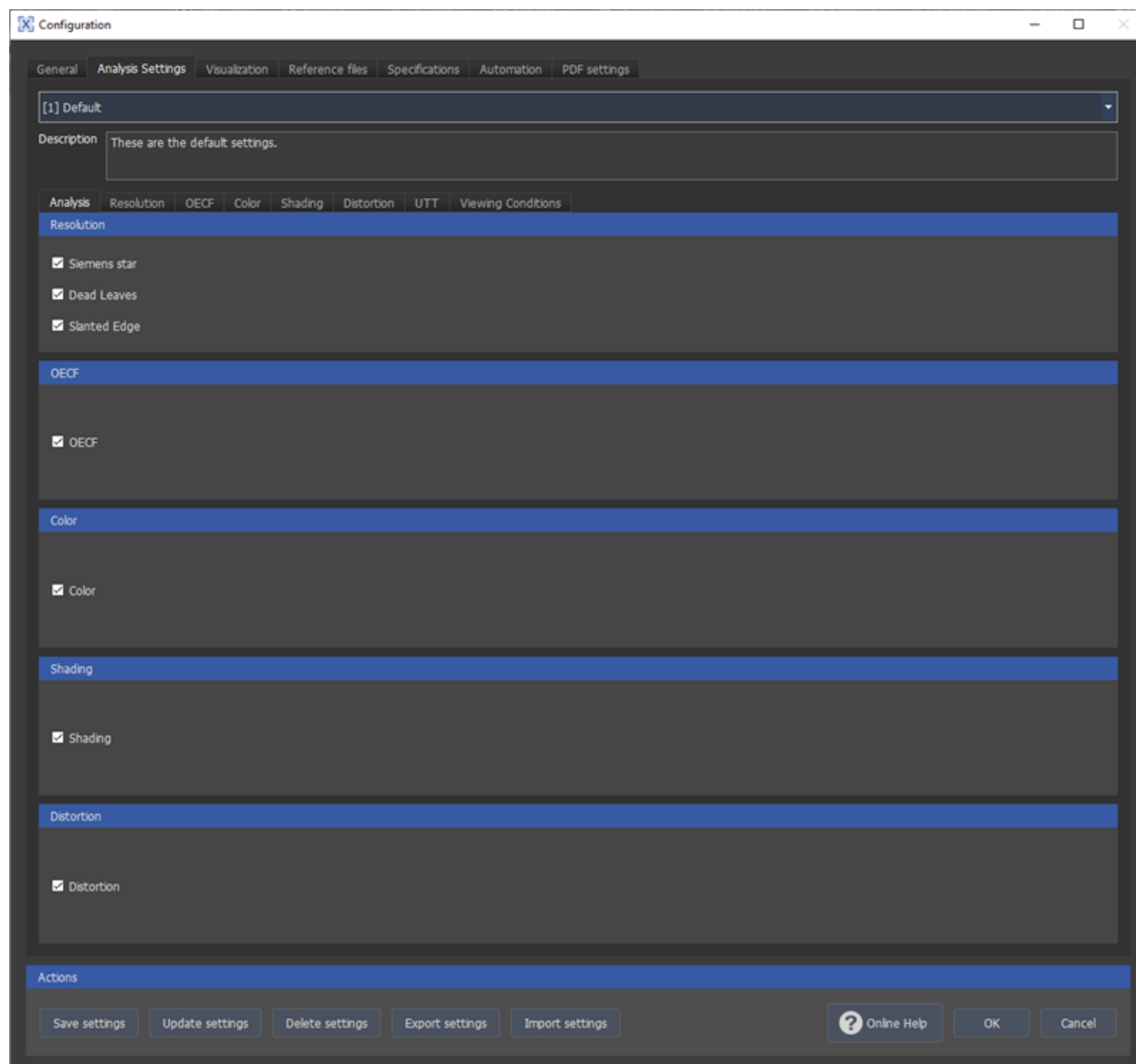
Displays information about the local or network dongle currently in use.

Analysis Settings

In the “Analysis Settings” menu, you can define the measurements and parameters for your image analysis. The settings can be saved to the database to make a repeating application easy. To apply the settings to your analysis, you need to select them in advance in the input dock.

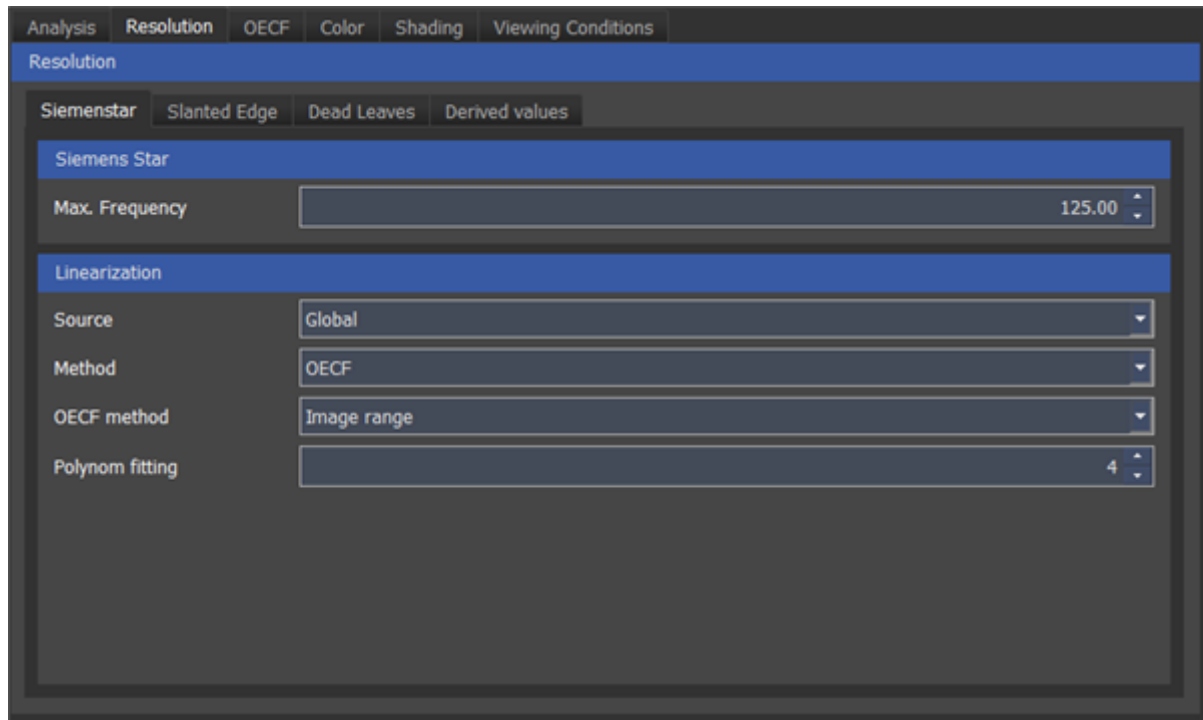
Note that you can also update your settings with new values. When you do this, the “ID” number of your settings will change. The old settings are still in the database under the old ID in case they were used for a previous analysis. This is important to know if you work with CLI scripts. You may need to change the IDs in your script as well.

Analysis tab



In this tab, you can define the measurements carried out when you start an analysis. Please note that some measurements might not be available, depending on your chart.

Resolution tab



Three different methods for measuring resolution can be applied with iQ-Analyzer-X - Siemens star, slanted edge, and dead leaves. All of the methods have the same options for linearization.

Source: Depending on your chart, you can choose between local, global, and no linearization.

- Local: The gray patches close to your measurement target are used. Example: In the TE268 (25 Siemens stars), each star is linearized with the local gray patches around each star.
- Global: A single set of gray patches is used for linearization. For example, in a TE42V2 or the TE268 target, the OECF patches in the center are used.

Method:

- Profile: If you choose "Profile," the image will be linearized based on the color space of your image (e.g., sRGB).
- The "OECF" setting takes the measured OECF into account.

OECF method:

- Data range: The entire data range is used for the calculation (e.g., 0...255 for 8bit images)
- Image range: The gray patches' minimum and maximum digital value is used.
- Normalized image range: If black and white reference patches are available, these are used to normalize the modulation.
- MTF: An older approach where the black value is subtracted from the image to achieve a de-facto normalization.

See this paper for details:

<https://www.image-engineering.de/library/conference-papers/862-linearization-and-normalization-in-spatial-frequency-response-measurement>

Polynomial fitting: Defines the degree of the polynomial fitting curve for the OECF.

Siemens Star

Maximum frequency: You can choose what frequency iQ-Analyzer-X calculates the modulation. The value is provided as a percentage of the Nyquist frequency. So if the Nyquist frequency is 1000 LP/PH and you set the maximum frequency to 125%, iQ-Analyzer-X will analyze the radii that equal frequencies lower than 1250 LP/PH. The edge of the Siemens star defines the lower frequency limit.

Slanted Edge

- Polynomial fitting: The degree of polynomial fit for linearization can be adjusted.
- Max. Frequency: See Siemens star.
- Edge Profile Source: You can choose between original or linearized data.
- Color Channel: You can choose if the SFR for RGBY or only Y should be measured.

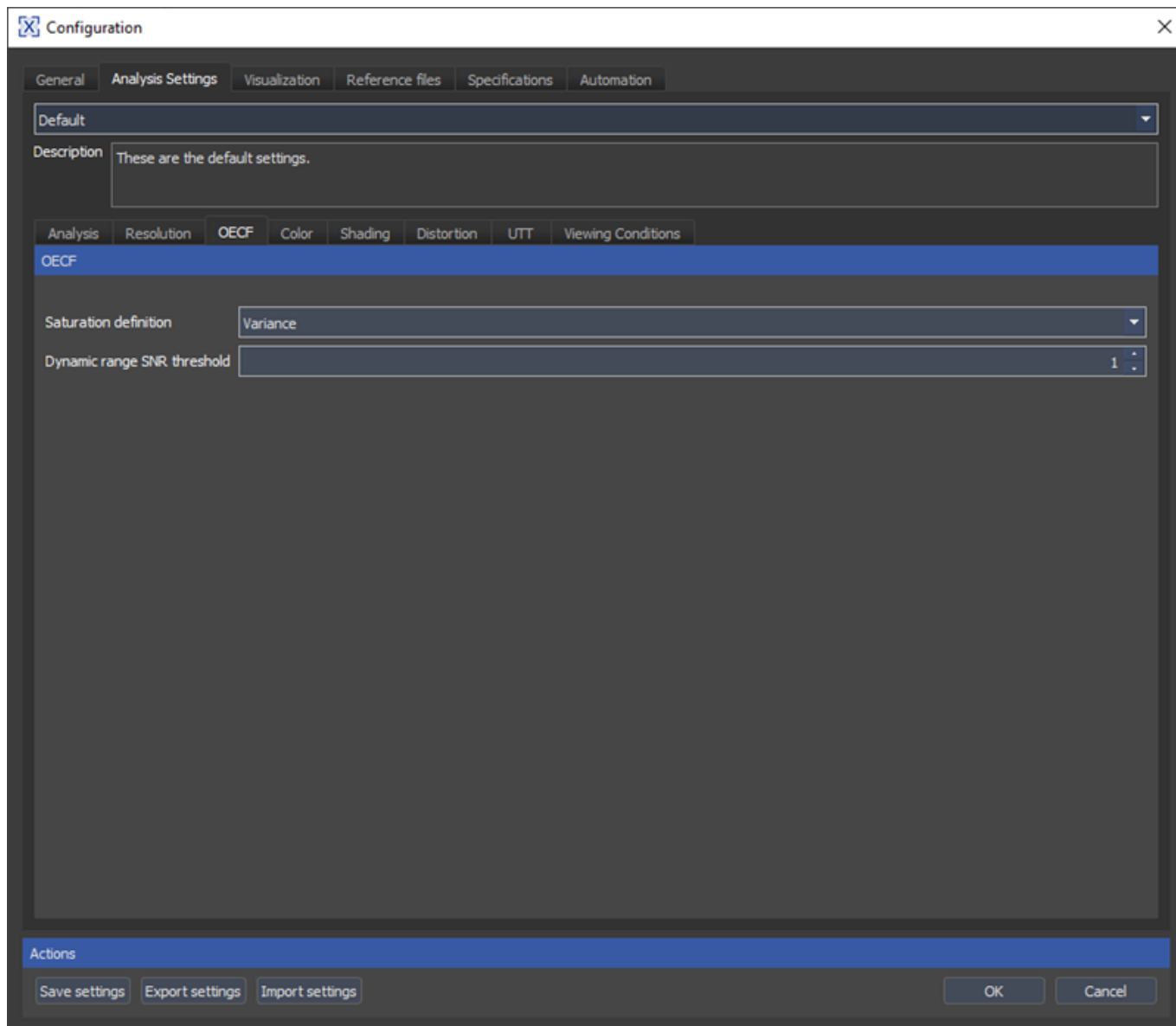
Dead Leaves

Analysis Method: You can choose between three different calculation methods for Dead Leaves - Core, Direct, and Cross. Cross is the recommended method as it is robust against noise's impact. Please refer to [this paper](#) on our website for more detailed information about the differences.

Derived values

Here you can specify the parameters you want to show in the results. These are values that are calculated based on an SFR.

OECF tab



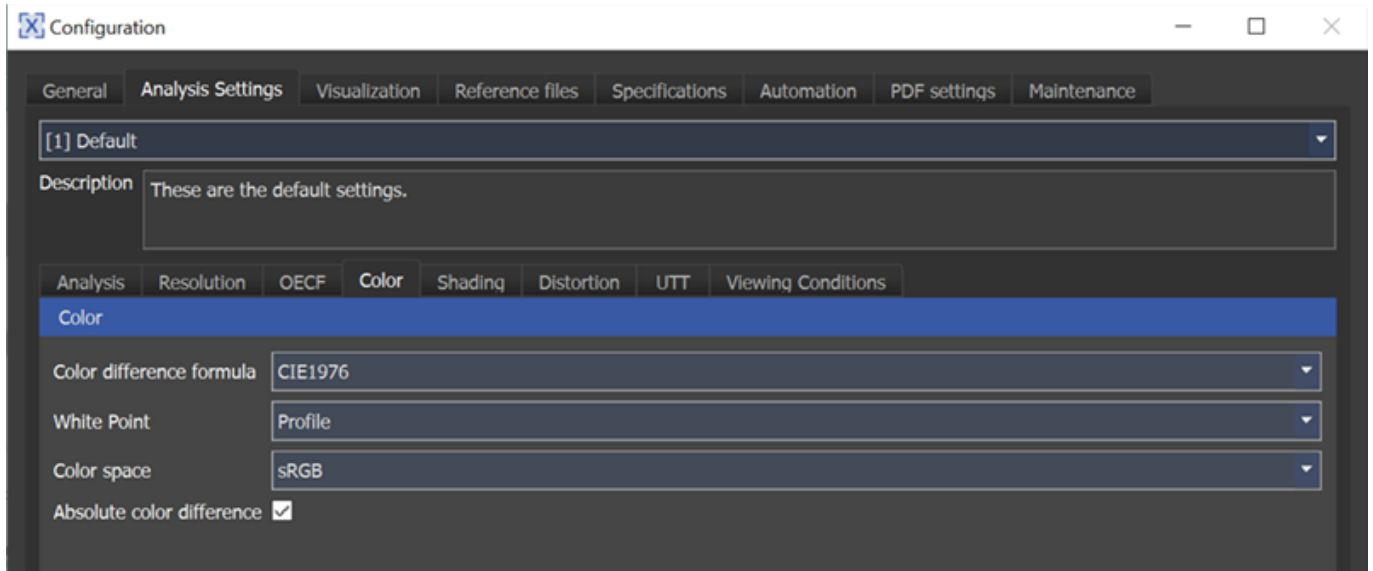
Saturation definition

Variance: Saturation calculation is based on the variance of the DVs.

Dynamic range SNR threshold

The dynamic range is the difference between the illumination needed to reach saturation and the minimum illumination defined by a specified SNR value. The standard value for ISO 15739 is $\text{SNR} = 1$. This value may lead to problems due to signal processing and noise reduction, as an SNR of 1 is never reached, and thus, the threshold might be increased. We have good experience using a threshold of three, and a threshold change should be reported if deviating from the ISO standard.

Color tab



Color difference formula

The iQ-Analyzer-X calculates Delta E from two Lab data sets, the reference, and the image sample set. You can choose between CIE1976, CIE1994, CIE2000 and CIE2000 SL1 formula for calculating Delta E, with the most common being CIE1976. A more detailed description of the details is in the "Results" section.

White Point

Currently, the only option is to take the white point from the image profile.

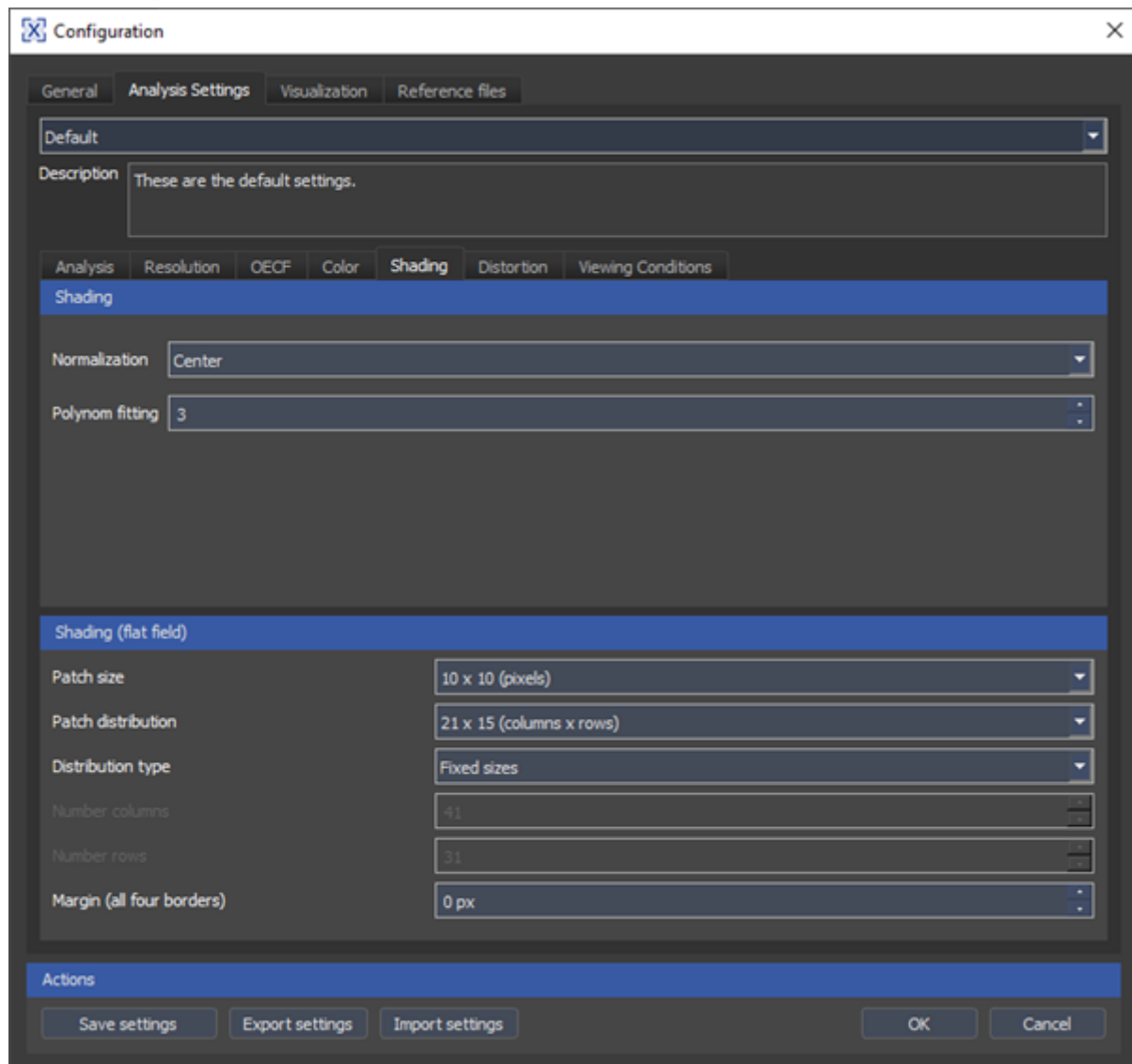
Color space

If the test image contains a color profile, the profile is automatically applied, otherwise the color space selected here is used.

Absolute color difference

Activate this check box if you want to get results with absolute values. Absolute values only represent the number of color differences but not the direction.

Shading tab



Normalization

“Brightest” sets the coordinates with the maximum luminance as a reference for normalization (reference = max. luminance = 0). This option makes sense if your brightest patch shows an offset to the image center due to misalignment of the lens to the sensor. “Center” applies to the center of the image for normalization (reference = center = 0).

Polynom fitting

“Polynom fitting” defines the polynomial degree that is fitted to the data.

Patch Size

“Patch Size” defines the size of the shading ROIs in pixels.

Patch distribution

“Patch distribution” defines the number of columns and rows of the shading measurements.

Distribution type

“Fixed Sizes” takes the “Patch Size” and the “Patch Distribution” value to generate the grid with the shading ROIs. “Seamless” creates a grid that leaves no empty spaces between the shading ROIs.

- “Number columns” defines the number of columns of the seamless grid.
- “Number rows” defines the number of rows of the seamless grid.

Margin (all four borders)

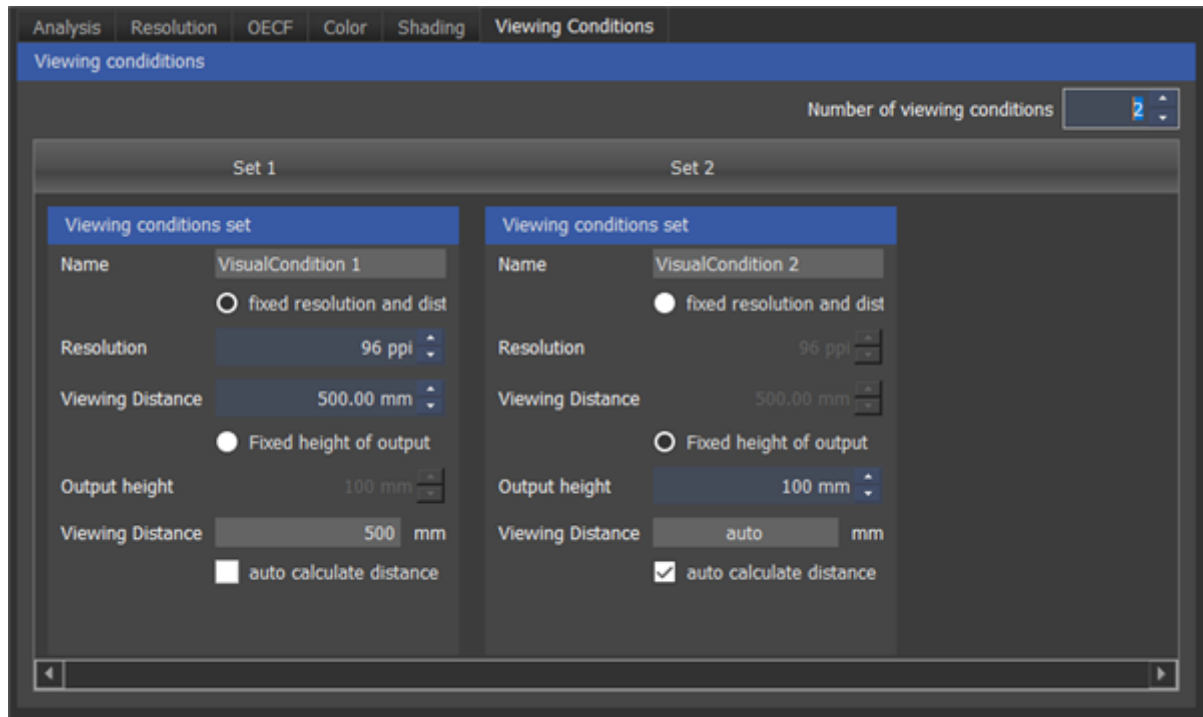
This value sets the size of a margin in pixels around the test image. Setting a margin makes sense if your image contains regions at the edge which you do not want to include in the shading measurement.

Note: As an ROI in the image center is required for shading measurements, only odd numbers are available for the rows and columns.

Distortion tab

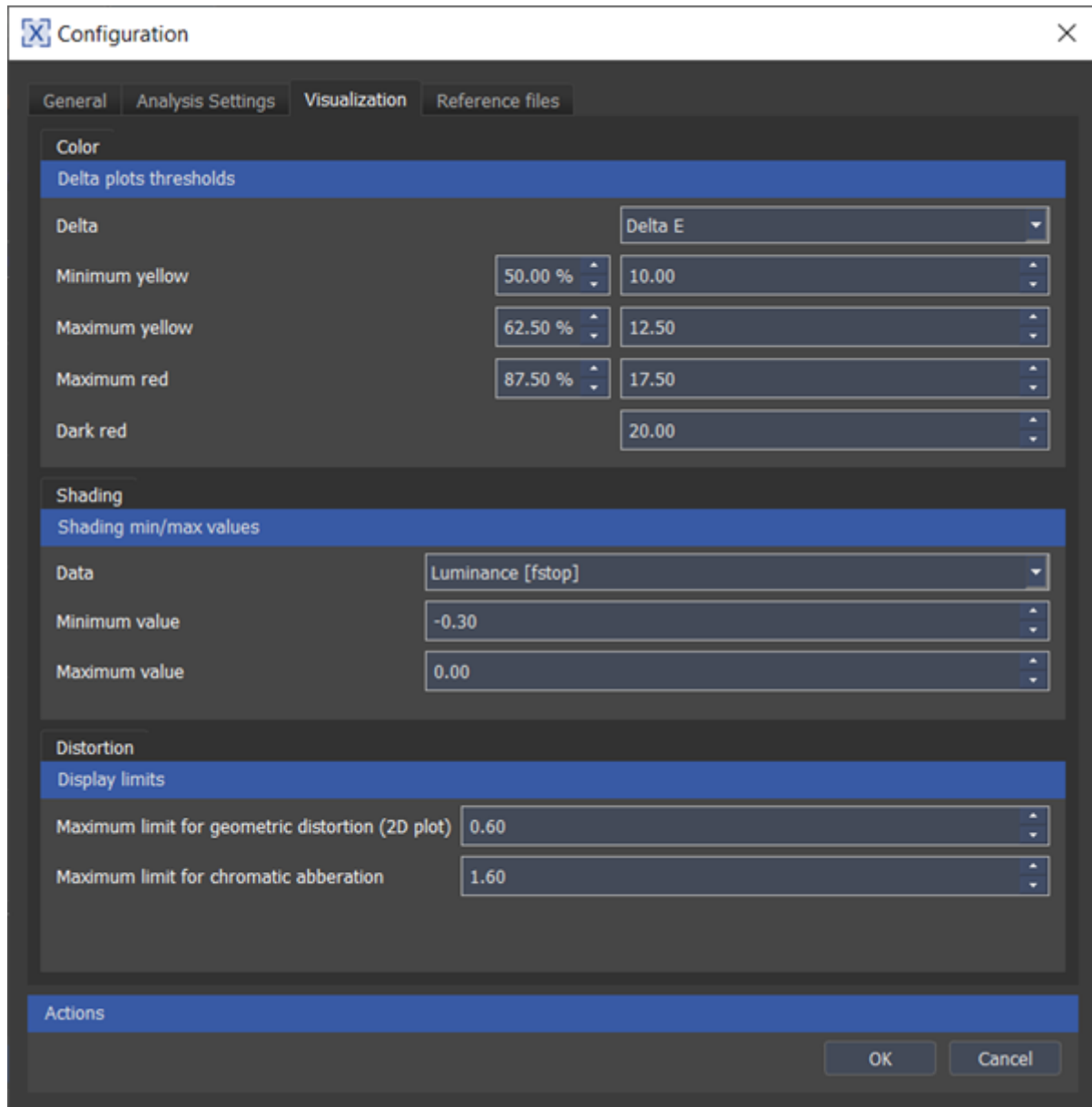
In “Polynom fitting,” you can define the degree of the polynomial of the fitting algorithm for distortion calculation.

Viewing conditions tab



As the visual perception of noise depends on the viewing conditions, they need to be specified for the measurement of Visual Noise. You can either select “Fixed resolution and distance” or “Fixed height of output” for each condition.

Visualization



In this tab, you can specify the color coding of the scaling bar in some of the result plots.

Color - Delta plots thresholds

You can scale the color mapping for the graphical results for delta E, L, C, H, and VN. Either enter a relative limit in percent from the maximum (dark red) or an absolute value.

- “Minimum Yellow” defines the lowest value that is still yellow.
- “Maximum Yellow” defines the highest value that is still yellow.
- “Maximum Red” defines the highest value that is still red.
- “Dark Red” defines the value from which the plot will be dark red.

Shading - Shading min/max values

Only the “Contour Plot” and the “3D Plot” are affected by these settings.

- “Data” defines the parameter for which you can change the minimum and maximum values.
- The “Minimum Value” is plotted in blue.
- The “Maximum Value” is plotted in yellow.

The plots update as soon as the minimum or maximum value is changed.

Distortion - Display limits

- “Maximum limit for geometric distortion (2D plot)” defines the maximum distortion value for the color map in the 2D plot.
- “Maximum limit for chromatic aberration” defines the maximum value of chromatic aberration for the color map in the 2D plot.

Reference Files

A reference file (*.ref,*.xlsx) or measurement data (.pdf) will be provided for most image engineering charts on our [download server](#) . It contains your chart's luminance, density and/or color measurements. In some cases, you need to create the reference file manually from the measurement data. Please refer to “Creating and Editing Reference Files” for instructions.

Note, that not all charts need a reference file to be analyzed properly. In some cases, the software already knows what to expect, and the measurement data in your acceptance protocol is only used for quality control. Also, some metrics as distortion or shading do not require reference data.

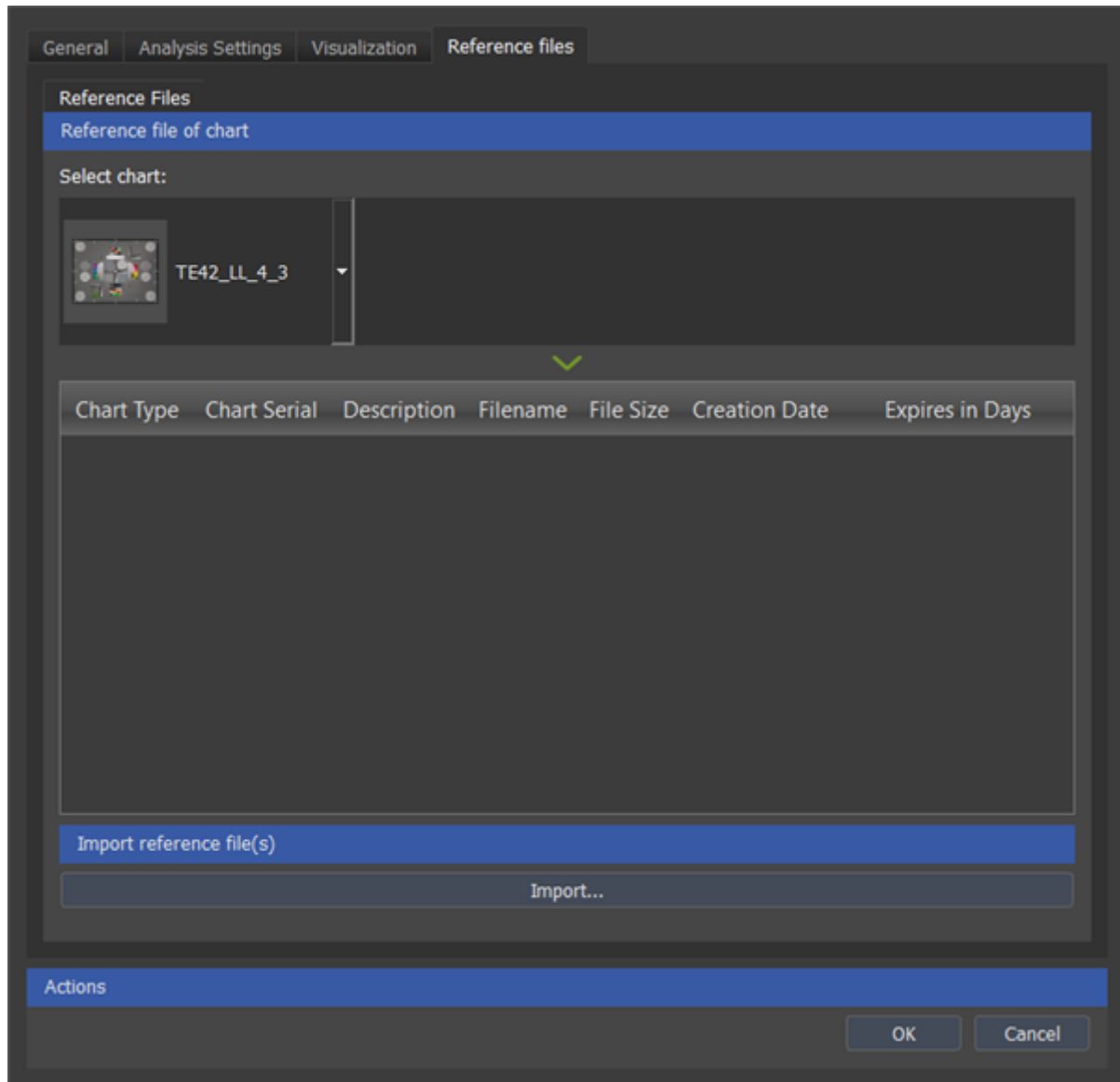
UTT users only: The UTT reference files are in *.xlsx format. Note, that an MS Excel Version needs to be installed for UTT reference files on your computer to import the file properly into the database!

Here is an overview about the availability of individual *.ref files or measurement data for the test charts currently supported by iQ-Analyzer-X.

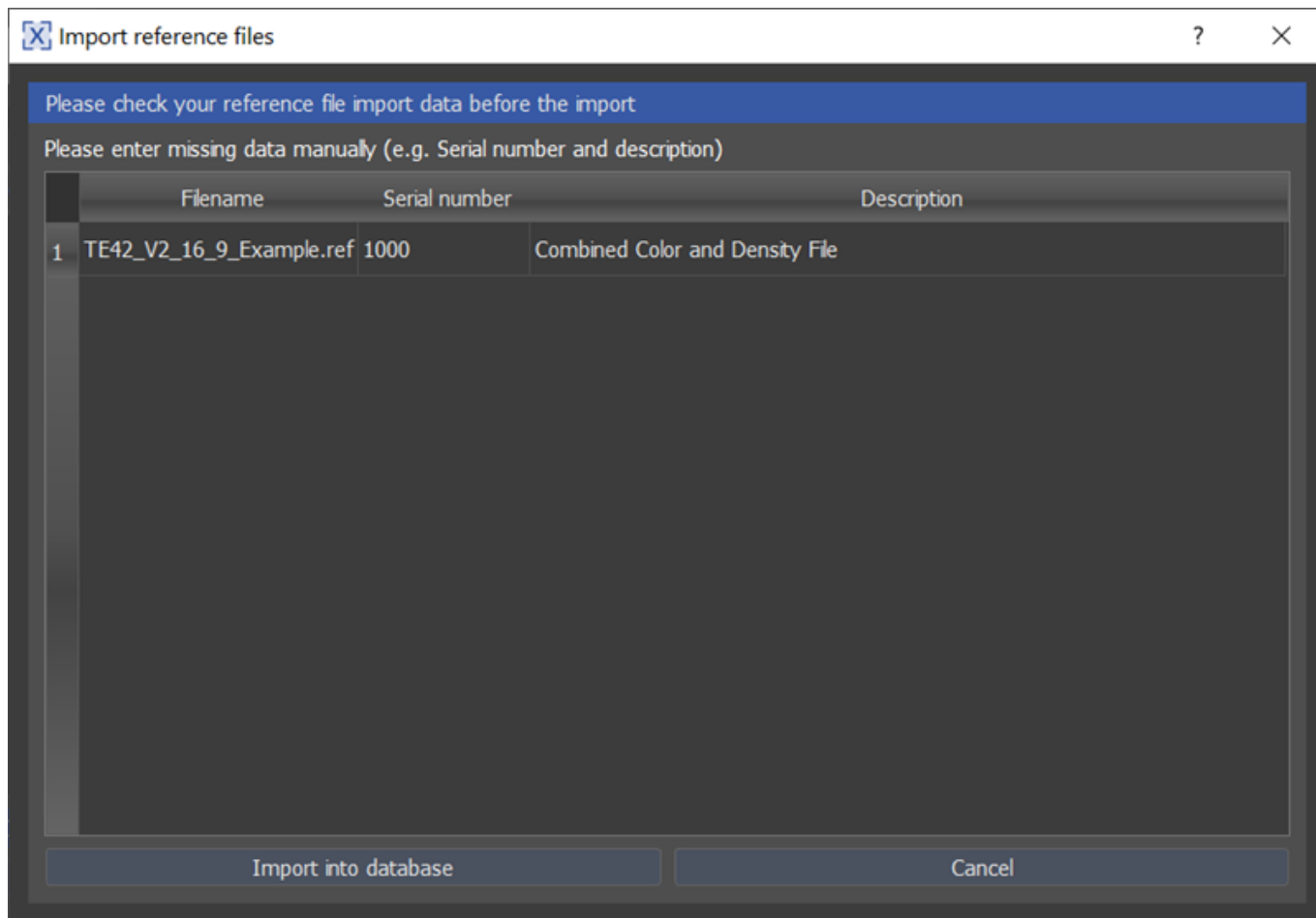
| Chart | before 2024 | from 2024 on | comment |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---|--|
| TE188 | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided | Additional *.ref file for placing test chart in scenes |
| TE230 | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided if ordered | Additional *.ref file for placing test chart in scenes |
| TE240 | Default Reference Data only | Default Reference Data only | - |
| TE251 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | - |
| TE253 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | - |
| TE255/Flatfield | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | |
| TE258 | *.txt file xxx | Individual *.ref file provided | - |
| TE260 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | - |
| TE261 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | - |
| TE262 - UTT | Individual *.xlsx file provided | Individual *.xlsx file provided | - |

| Chart | before 2024 | from 2024 on | comment |
|------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| TE264 | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided | - |
| TE268 | Not Applicable | Not Applicable | - |
| TE269 | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided | - |
| TE270 | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided | - |
| TE275 | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided | - |
| TE276 | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided | - |
| TE283C | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided | - |
| TE284 | *.pdf measurement data | *.pdf measurement data | - |
| TE295 | *.pdf measurement data | Individual *.ref file provided | Individual *.ref file for each head and siemens star |
| TE42 | Individual *.ref file provided | Individual *.ref file provided | - |
| Lenstester | Default Reference Data only | Default Reference Data only | |

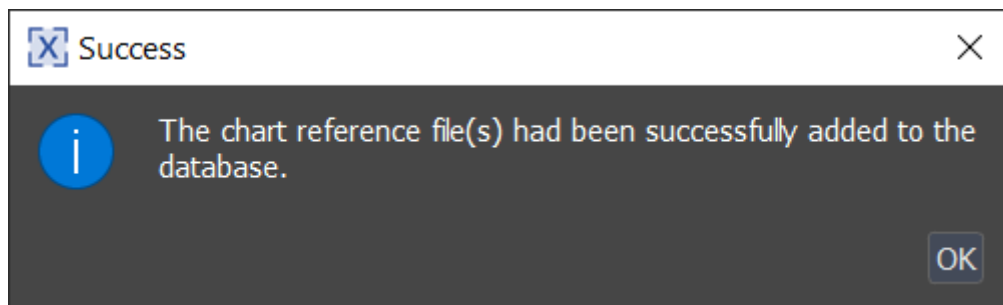
Import the reference file and add it to the database in the “Reference Files” tab in the “Configuration” dialog. If you do not have a reference file for some reason, you can also work with the default reference data. However, an individual reference file is more accurate as it compensates for variance in chart production.



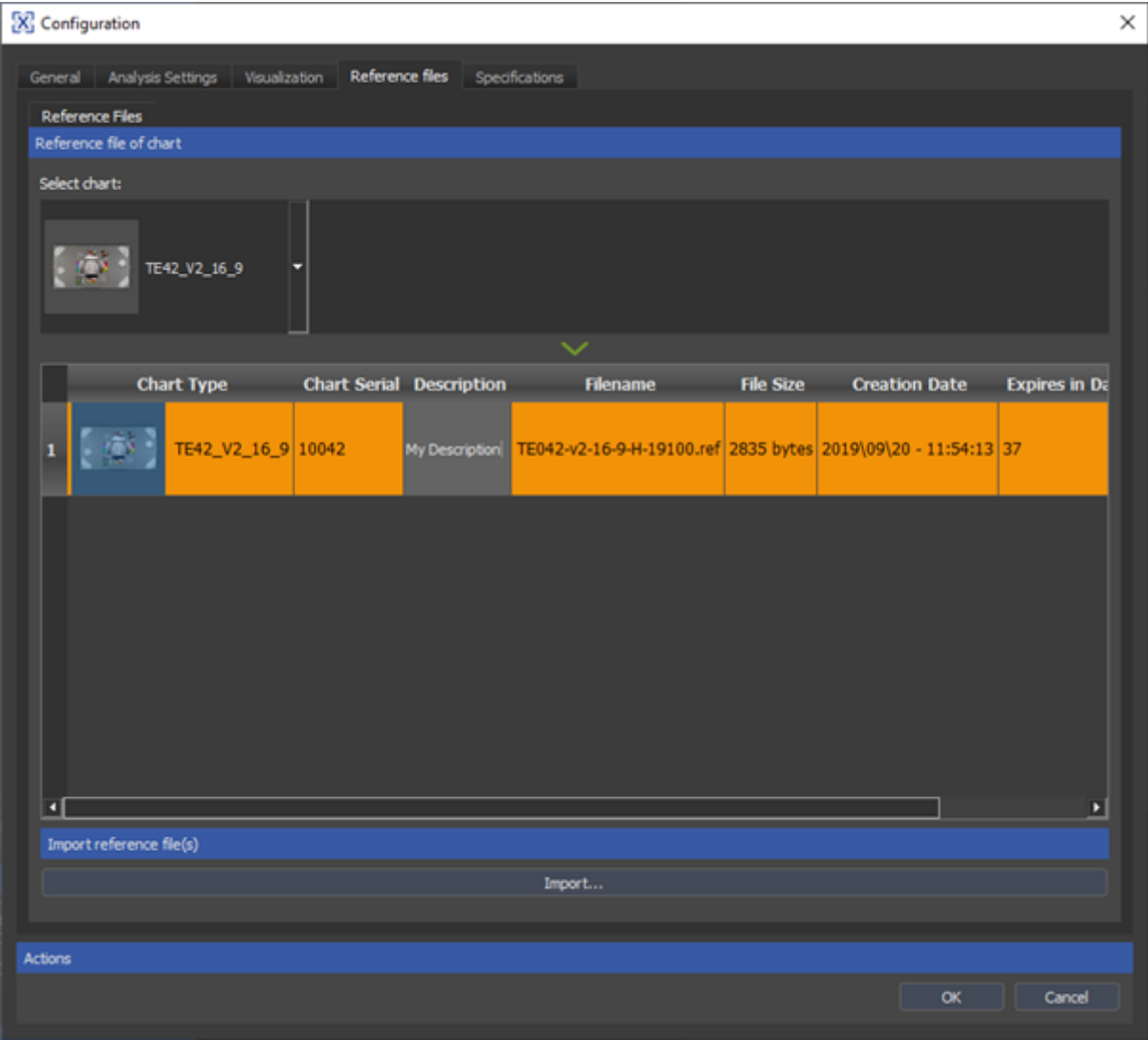
Click on “Import” and select the reference file you want to import. In the upcoming dialog, you can see information about the file and edit the serial number and description by double-clicking on it.



A successful import shows the message below.

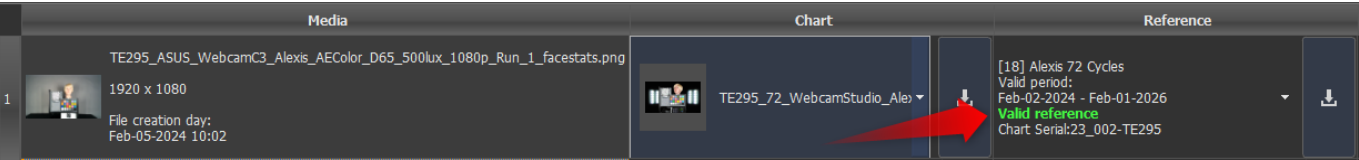


To review the reference files which have already been imported, select your chart in the dropdown menu. Note that you can still edit the serial number and the description of the reference file by double-clicking on the desired field. This feature makes assigning the reference to an image in the import dialog easier.



Right-click the entry and choose “Remove reference file from database” to remove it.

Reference files are only valid for a certain period of time, depending on the material of the test chart. In most cases, the service life is stated in the data sheet. You can see the expiration date of the reference data when you select it in the import dialog or in the “Reference files” tab under “Configure”.



The “valid period” is derived from the “Creation Date” and “Valid For” values stated in the *.ref file.

If your *.ref file is newer than the test image, you get a warning, as the reference data is expected to be created before the first test images.

After a successful import, you can allocate the reference file to your chart before your analysis in the "Import" dialog.

Creating and Editing Reference Files

Sometimes, you need to create the reference files yourself or update them with your measurements.

Currently, two file formats for reference files can be imported into iQ-Analyzer-X, Excel (.xlsx) and the proprietary format (.ref). The Excel format is exclusively for UTT, and .ref is for all other charts. If one of these files is provided with your chart, you can import them into the database without making any changes. Some of our charts are delivered with a .pdf acceptance protocol containing all measurements. In that case, you need to create the .ref file manually. Note that the .ref file is in YAML format, a standard markup language.

To create or update a reference file, you first need to copy the current example reference file from the reference folder.

C:\Program Files\Image Engineering\iQ-Analyzer-X 1.X.X\resources\references

Open the copied file and update it with the measurements of your chart. Depending on your chart, the reference file might contain color, density, luminance values, or multiple metrics. Note that it is crucial to keep the file's formatting as it is; otherwise, the software might not be able to read it. The best way to do that is to select the value you want to change and then type in the new value.

```
#####
#                                     #
#               IMAGE ENGINEERING    #
#             IQ-ANALYZER X REFERENCE FILE #
#   PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE THE CONTENTS OF THIS FILE   #
#   TAMPERED FILES ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO WORK PROPERLY #
#                                     #
#####

Container:
  Name: Luminance Values
  SerialNumber: 10
  ChartType: TE269_A
  FileType: Luminance
  CreationDate: 2021-02-08T15:55:00
  ValidFor: 365
  Description: Luminance File
  VectorCount: 1
  ValueCount: 36
  ValueNames: [Luminance]
  Values:
    - 1: 750
    - 2: 708
    - 3: 646
```

In addition to the color, density, or luminance values, you can edit the following entries in the file header:

Name: The name of the container. A reference file can contain multiple containers, which include all required information for a specific metric, such as OECF, Resolution, etc.

SerialNumber: Provide the serial of your chart to make it easier to find the relevant reference file during image import. After importing, you can still change the serial number in the "Reference Files" tab.

FileType: FileType can be Color, Density, or Luminance. In most cases, you do not need to change it; however, you may want to work with luminance instead of density or vice versa. In this case, change

the value accordingly.

CreationDate: The creation date of this reference file. Be sure to keep the formatting.

ValidFor: The validity of this reference file in days. "CreationDate" and "ValidFor" provide the required information for the iQ-Analyzer-X to calculate the expiration date of your reference data.

Description: Add a description. It makes it easier to find the relevant reference file during image import. After importing, you can still change the description in the "Reference Files" tab.

All other entries in the header of the file must not be changed!

Reference files for OECF charts can contain either densities or luminance. This is an example of a density .ref file for a TE269 V2.

```
Container:
  Name: Density Values
  SerialNumber: ThisIsYourChartSerialNumber
  ChartType: TE269_V2
  FileType: Density
  CreationDate: 2022-02-21T14:30:00
  ValidFor: 730
  Description: This is my density file
  VectorCount: 1
  ValueCount: 36
  ValueNames: [Density]
  Values:
    - 1: 0.11
    - 2: 0.15
    - 3: 0.19
    - 4: 0.21
    - 5: 0.26
    - 6: 0.30
    - 7: 0.36
    - 8: 0.39
    - 9: 0.44
    - 10: 0.48
    - 11: 0.54
    - 12: 0.60
    - 13: 0.65
    - 14: 0.71
    - 15: 0.76
    - 16: 0.82
    - 17: 0.88
    - 18: 0.96
    - 19: 1.04
    - 20: 1.10
    - 21: 1.2
    - 22: 1.29
    - 23: 1.37
    - 24: 1.46
    - 25: 1.58
    - 26: 1.72
    - 27: 1.81
    - 28: 1.98
    - 29: 2.13
    - 30: 2.33
    - 31: 2.54
    - 32: 2.81
    - 33: 3.16
    - 34: 3.63
    - 35: 4.34
    - 36: 6.11
```

This is an example of a luminance reference file for a TE269 V3, which you can find in the folder “references”.

Container:

Name: Luminance Values
SerialNumber: 1000
ChartType: TE269_V3
FileType: Luminance
CreationDate: 2023-09-09T15:55:00
ValidFor: 365
Description: Luminance File
VectorCount: 1
ValueCount: 36
ValueNames: [Luminance]
Values:

- 1: 776
- 2: 617
- 3: 490
- 4: 389
- 5: 245
- 6: 155
- 7: 97.7
- 8: 61.6
- 9: 38.9
- 10: 24.5
- 11: 15.5
- 12: 9.77
- 13: 6.17
- 14: 3.89
- 15: 2.45
- 16: 1.55
- 17: 0.977
- 18: 0.617
- 19: 0.389
- 20: 0.245
- 21: 0.155
- 22: 0.0977
- 23: 0.0616
- 24: 0.0389
- 25: 0.0245
- 26: 0.0155
- 27: 0.00977
- 28: 0.00616
- 29: 0.00389
- 30: 0.00245
- 31: 0.00155
- 32: 0.000977
- 33: 0.000617
- 34: 0.000389
- 35: 0.000245
- 36: 0.000155

After editing your reference file, save and import it into the database, as explained above.

Accuracy of reference data

Our densitometer uses directed light. Changing the illumination geometry to diffuse light can lead to a different contrast of the photographic film. This effect is known as the Callier effect. Please note, not every film material is affected in the same way. For the most accurate measurements, we recommend determining the luminance data with an appropriate luminance meter. Using the luminance reference data, if determined with light source of test setup, will prevent potential inaccuracy based on density data.

On high dynamic range OECF charts, the dark patches do have a very low intensity and are difficult to measure, especially when you do not have a powerful light source. As a workaround, you can also derive the luminances from the brightest patch and the densities from the acceptance protocol. Note, that transmissive charts also reflect into the light source and thus have an effect on the intensity. By measuring the brightest patch, this effect is taken into account.

More information about reference data accuracy you can find in [this document](#).

Video File and Webcam Video Analysis

To use this feature, your operating system needs to know the video codec to open video files and import frames from it. It might be necessary that you install the required codec first before using this function. If you are having trouble importing a video, please follow [this link](#).

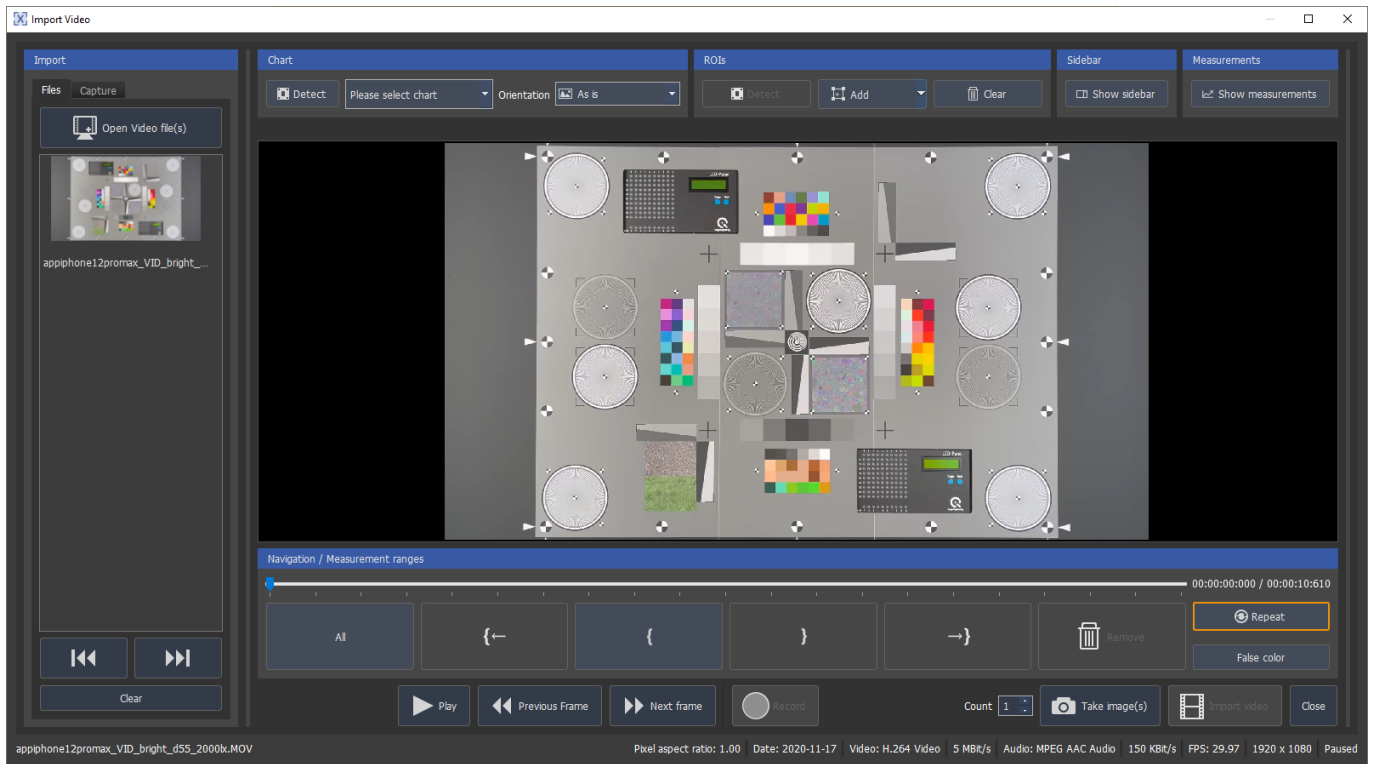
Click on “New Analysis” and start with opening the “Video Import” dialog by clicking the “Import Video” button.



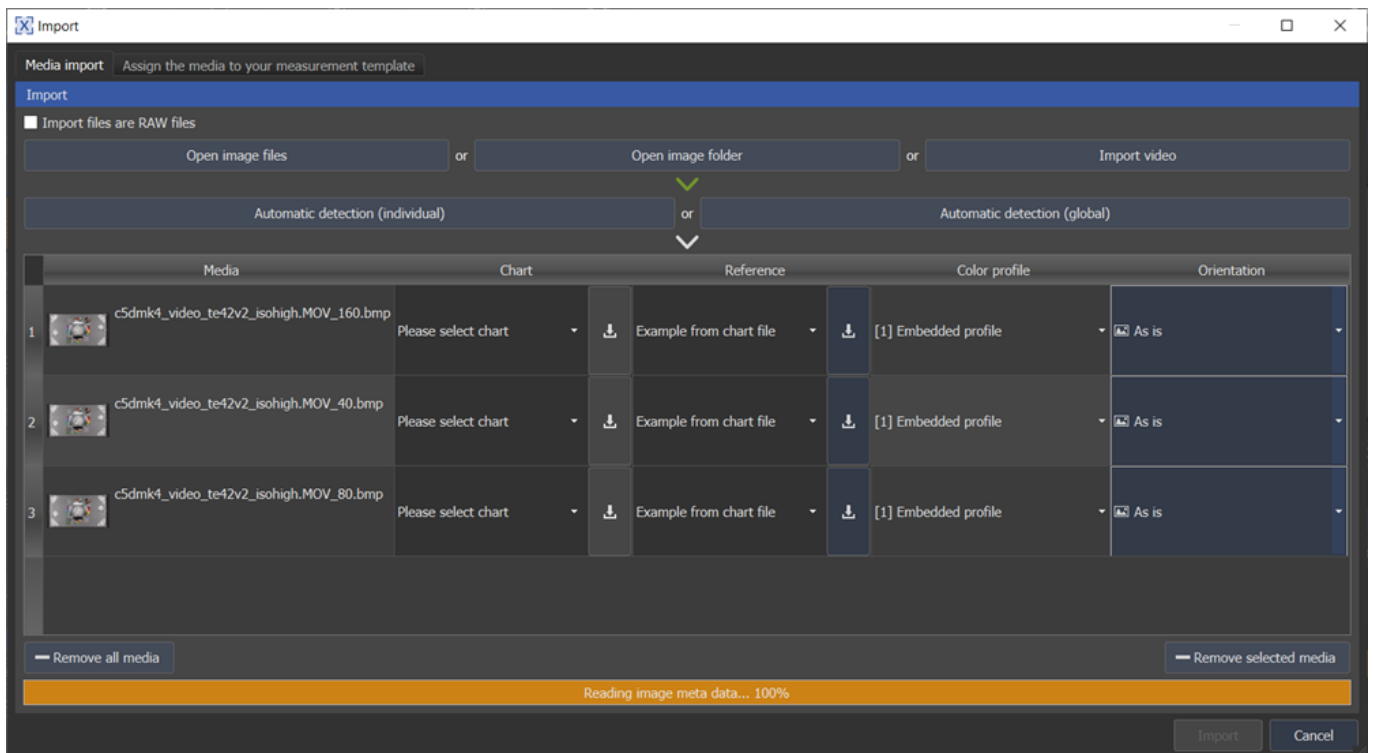
You can either take specific frames from a video and analyze them as explained under "[Analyze Images](#)", or you can import a specific part of the video as a video file and measure specific metrics over time. iQ-Analyzer-X is also capable of recording video files from connected or integrated webcams and measure webcam videos in real time.

Analyze Images from Video File

Click on “Open Video file(s)” under the tab “Files” in the “Import Video” dialog and open the videos from which you want to take frames. Click on the video file you wish to process in the “Import” section if you have chosen multiple videos. The selected video will be highlighted.



If you are already sure what frames you want to analyze, go to a frame you would like to import and click “Take image(s)”. With “Count” you can define the number of images you take from that position on forward. These images immediately appear in the “Import” dialog. You can repeat taking images from different positions in the video. When you have taken all the desired images, close the “Import Video” dialog. The “Import dialog” is still open and shows all the selected frames.



Assign a “Chart”, a “Reference”, a “Color Profile” and change the orientation of the images if necessary. With the “arrow down” button, you can assign your selection to all the images. Click on “Import”. Now the images are displayed in the “Input dock” and are ready for analysis.

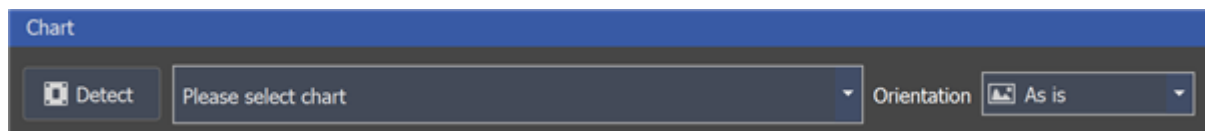
Analyze Video Files over time

This feature works with video files instead of single images and the results show the measurements over time. To get results it is required to define a ROI and assign a metric to it.

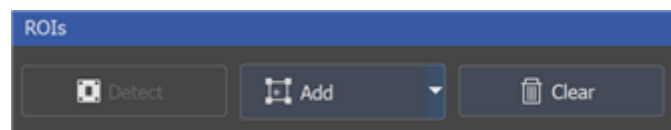
Open a Video File in the “Import Video” dialog. If applicable, define the chart layout either with auto-detection or manually using the dropdown menu. The classification will be kept the same for multiple videos, if you activate the paper clip button.



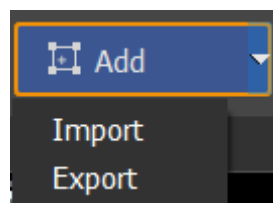
It might also be necessary to change the image orientation.



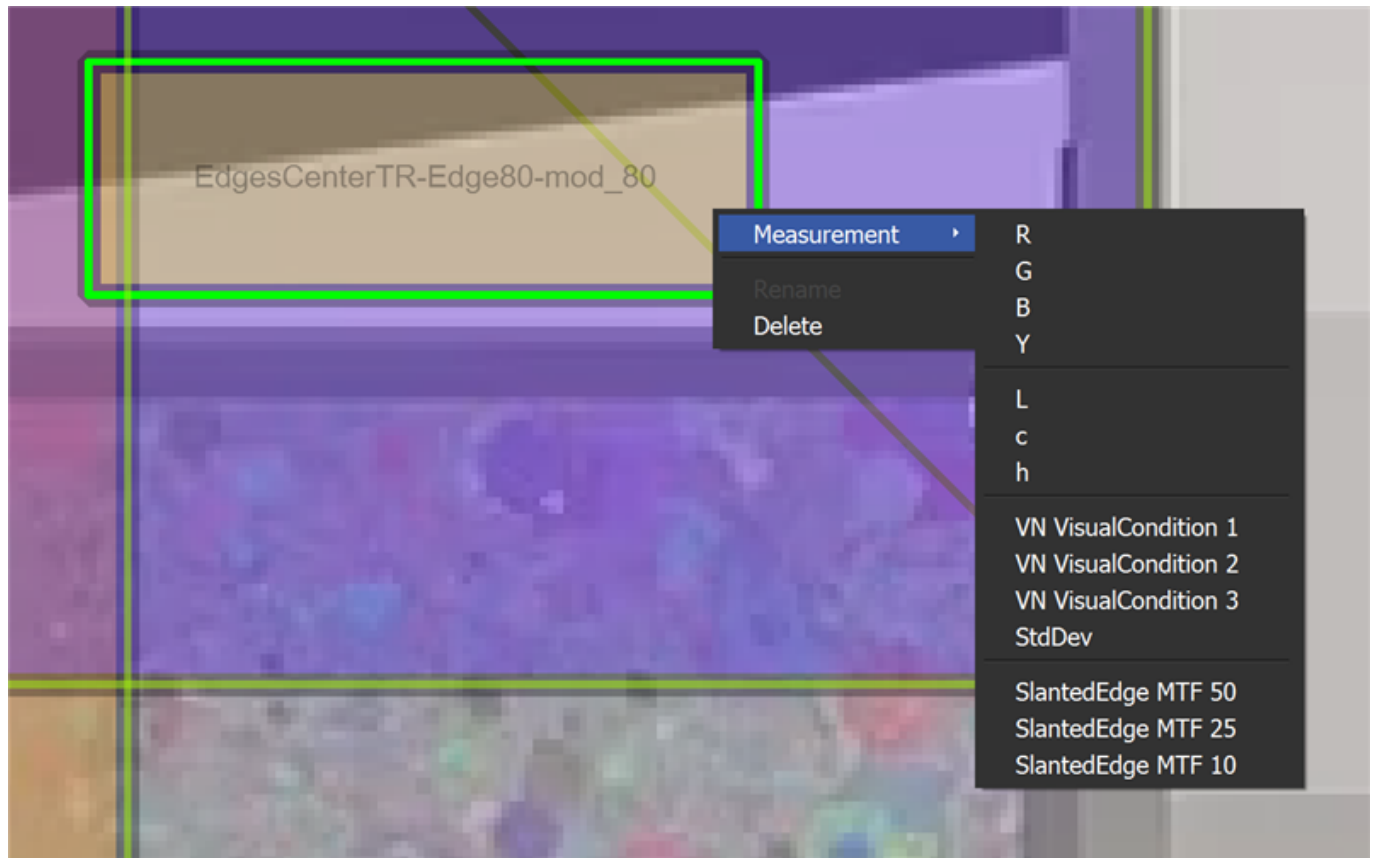
Detect the ROIs, or add your own ROI with “Add”. “Detect” performs an automatic detection of ROIs on the video file. It only works when a chart layout is defined. With “Add” you can add your own ROI. The size and position of the ROIs can be changed in the viewer. To edit a ROI, open its context menu with a right-click on the ROI and select “Rename” or “Delete”. If you have multiple videos in the “Import” section, the ROIs are applied to all of them.



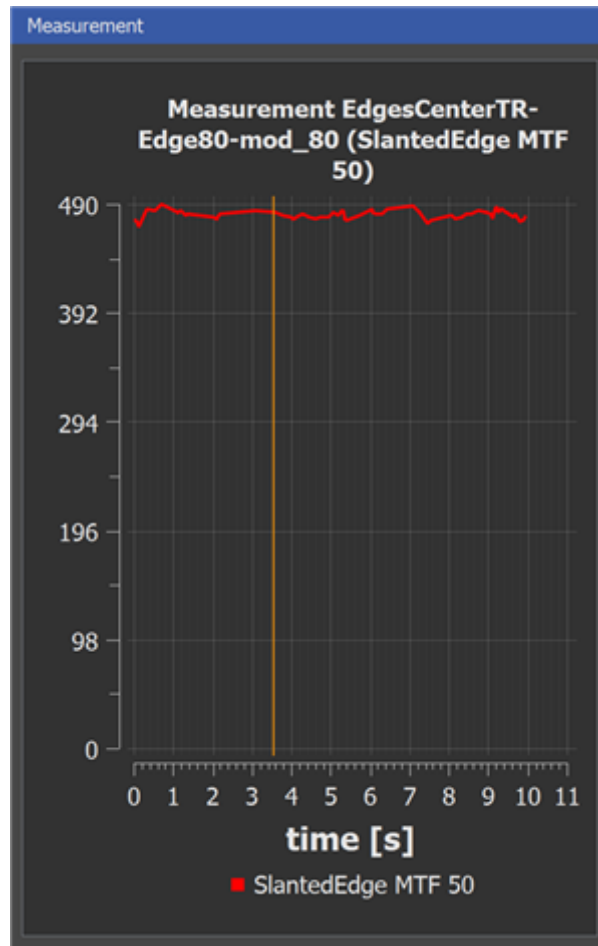
You can also import previous ROIs in .xml format or export your current ROIs.



Set the desired measurement for the ROI by right-clicking on it and selecting the metric. The following screenshot shows the currently available metrics.



The measurements show up on the right side of the dialog in a plot. If you now move the video slider from one frame to another, the measurement of the frames will be added to the plot. This makes it more convenient to find appropriate sections in the video.

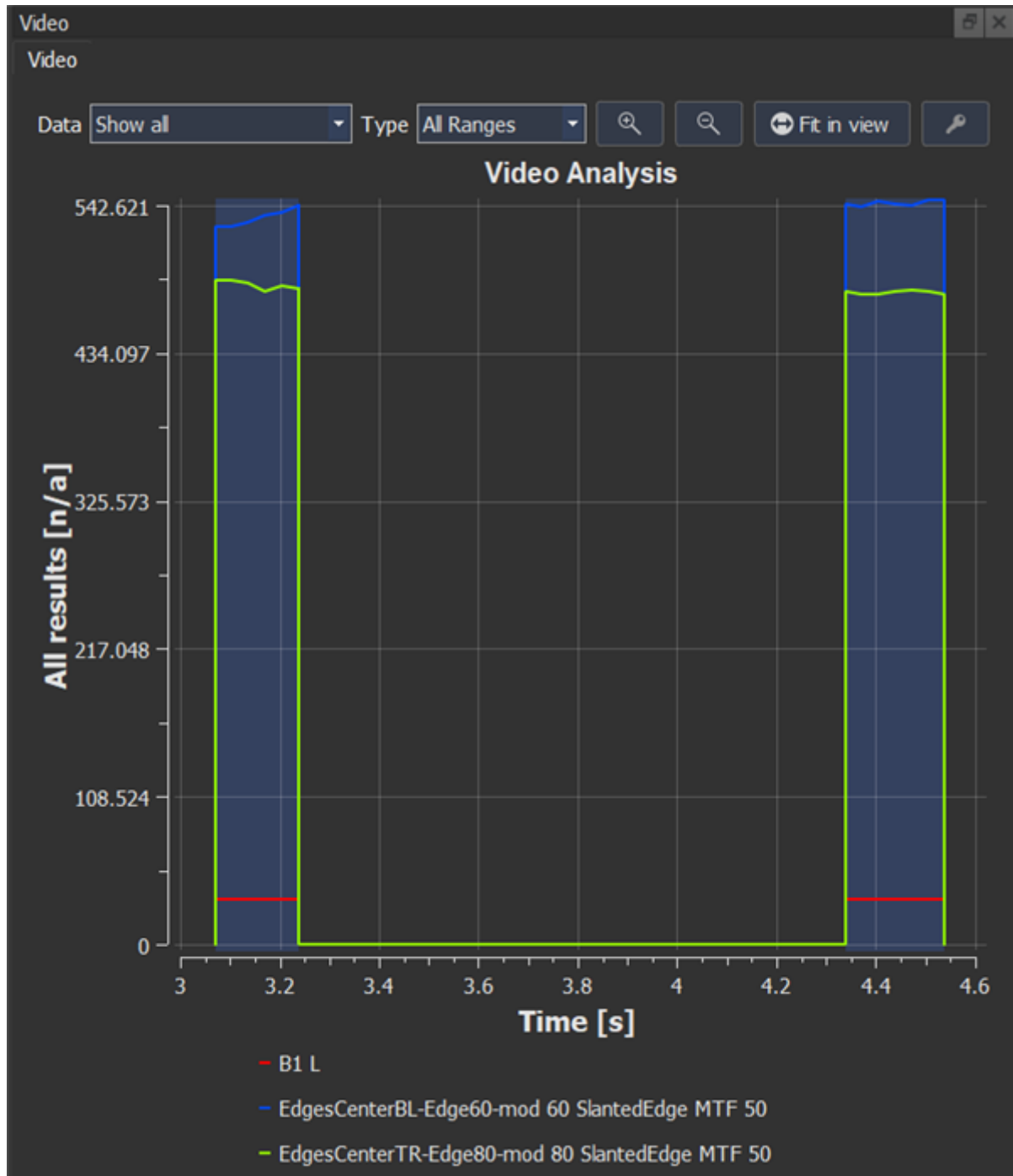


In the navigation section, you can now select a part or several parts of the video, which you want to import. If you want to import the entire video, click on "All" and then "Import Video". To import a specific range of the video, move the video slider to the desired start position and click "Set in Point". Now move the slider to the last frame you want to import and click "Set out Point". The selected range is now marked on the slider scale. Add another range by repeating the process. If you are done, click "Import Video" and close the "Import video" dialog.

Assign the "chart", "reference", "color profile" and "orientation" information to the video. **Note, that the dialog only shows one file, even if you have selected multiple parts of the video.**

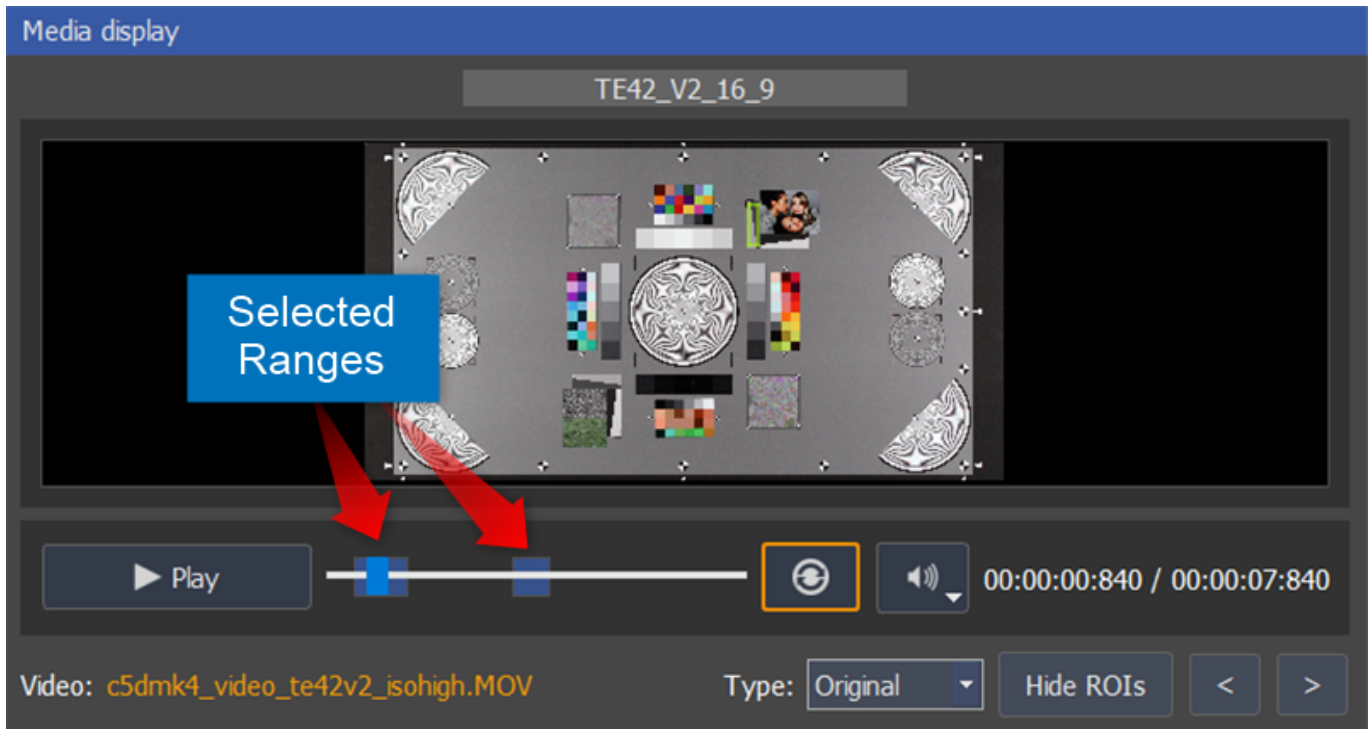
Analysis and Results

The video shows up in the "Input dock". Choose the "Settings", leave "Detection" on "Automatic Mode" and start a new analysis. The results, measurement over time, appear in one tab.



Select the measurement you want to see under “data”. Under “Type” you can select the range which you defined during video import. The selected view will be the one visible in the .pdf report.

The imported video with its selected ranges is shown in the “Media Display”.

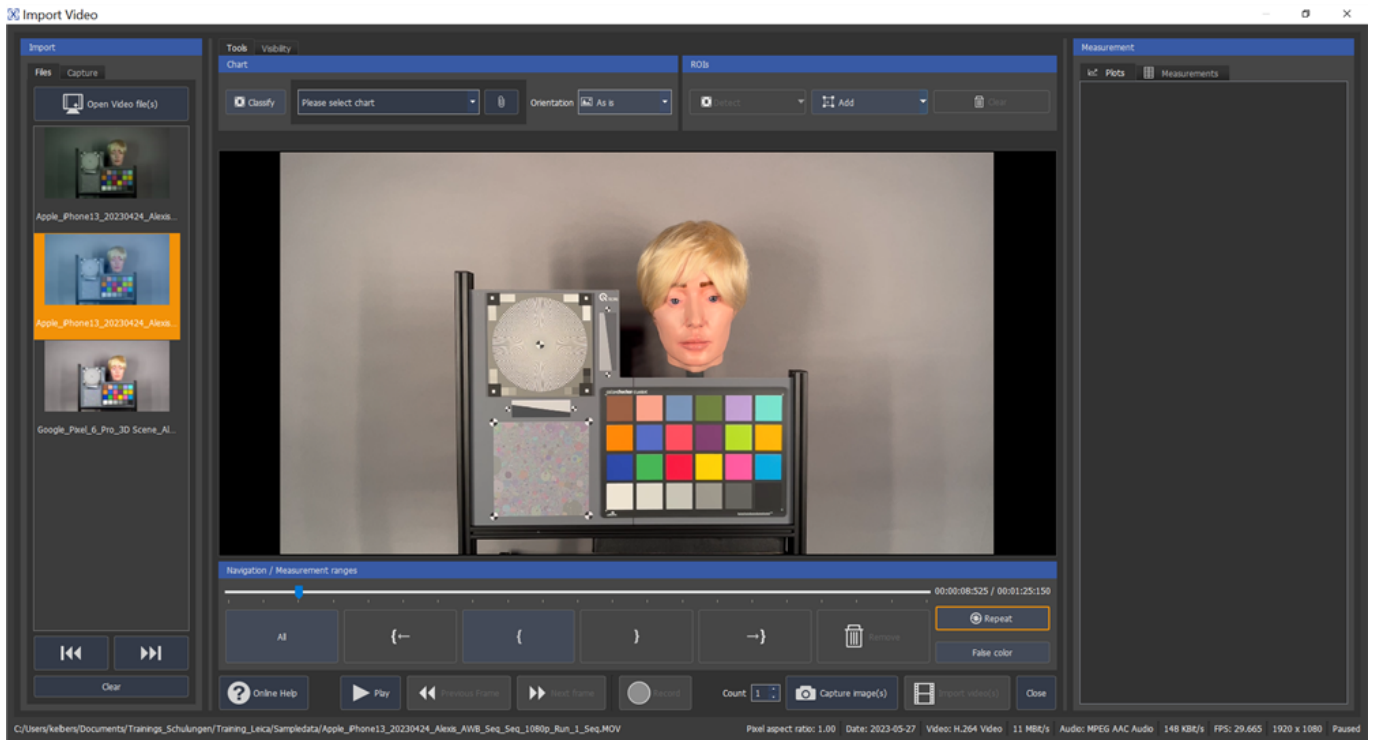


Import Images from Webcam

Open the "Import Video" dialog and select the "Capture" tab. All available cameras will be shown under this tab. Select the camera you want to take images from. Select your desired video format in the dropdown menu "Available Formats". You can either record a video which will then be shown under the "Files" tab, or you can also capture images from the live stream with "Take image(s)". The number of images you take is set with "Count".

VCX-WebCam Analysis

Click on "New Analysis" and open the "Import" dialog. In the "Import" dialog, click on "Import video" to open the "Import video" dialog. Open the desired video file(s). The videos are shown in the "Import" section. Click on the video you want to process. The selected video will be highlighted. Note, that you can also capture videos remotely from your DUT using the ["iQ-Analyzer-X Capture Server tool"](https://wiki.image-engineering.de/).



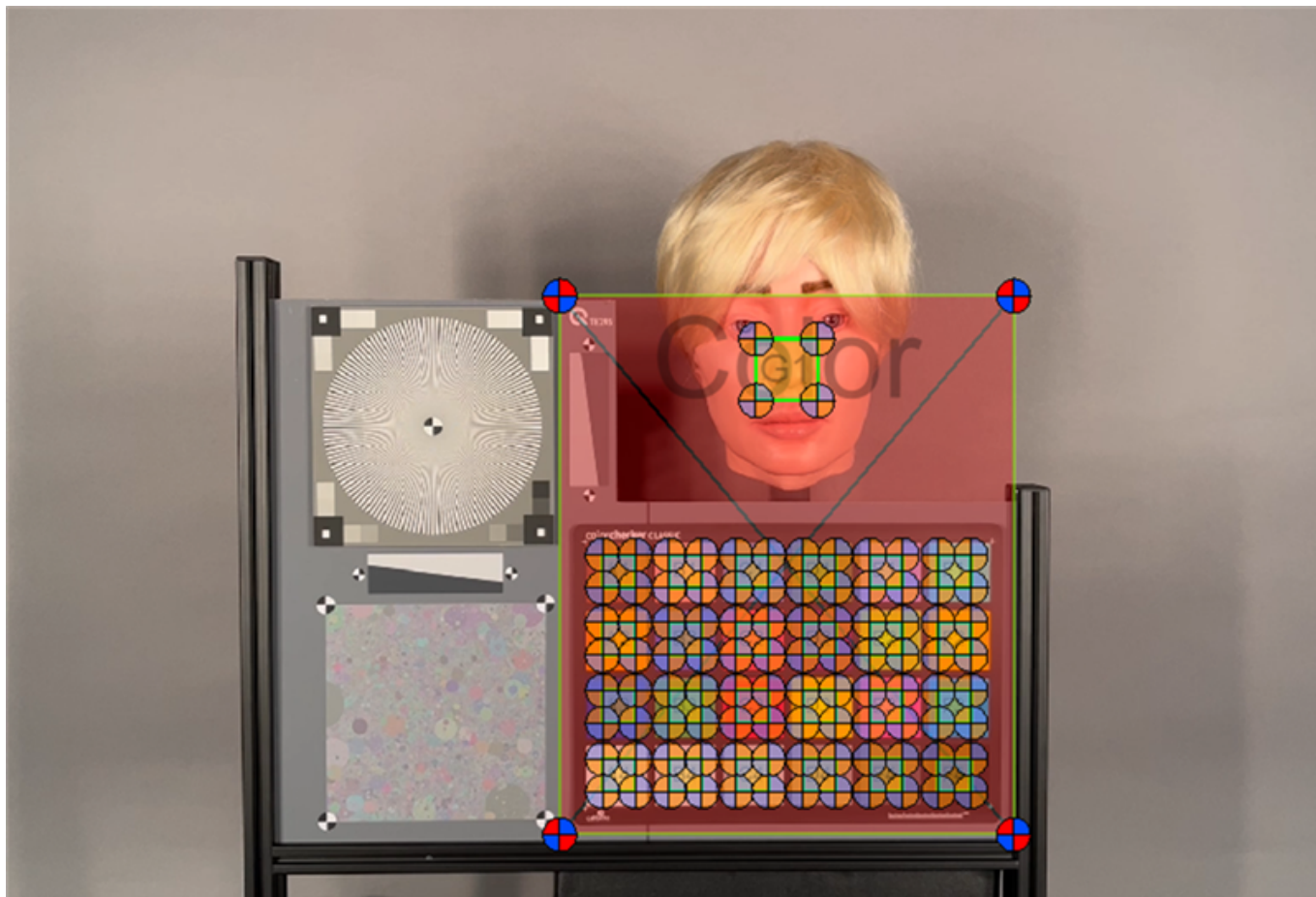
You can automatically assign the chart with “classify” or choose a chart in the “Please select chart” dropdown menu.

The classification will be kept the same for multiple videos, if you activate the paper clip button.



If the chart type is set properly, continue to the VCX metric you want to measure. Auto Exposure and Auto White Balance are available in the VCX dropdown menu. You can change the rotation of the image if necessary. If everything is ok, detect the ROIs by clicking “Detect”.

The detected ROIS are shown in the video viewer. If you have multiple videos in the “Import” section, the ROIs are applied to all of them.



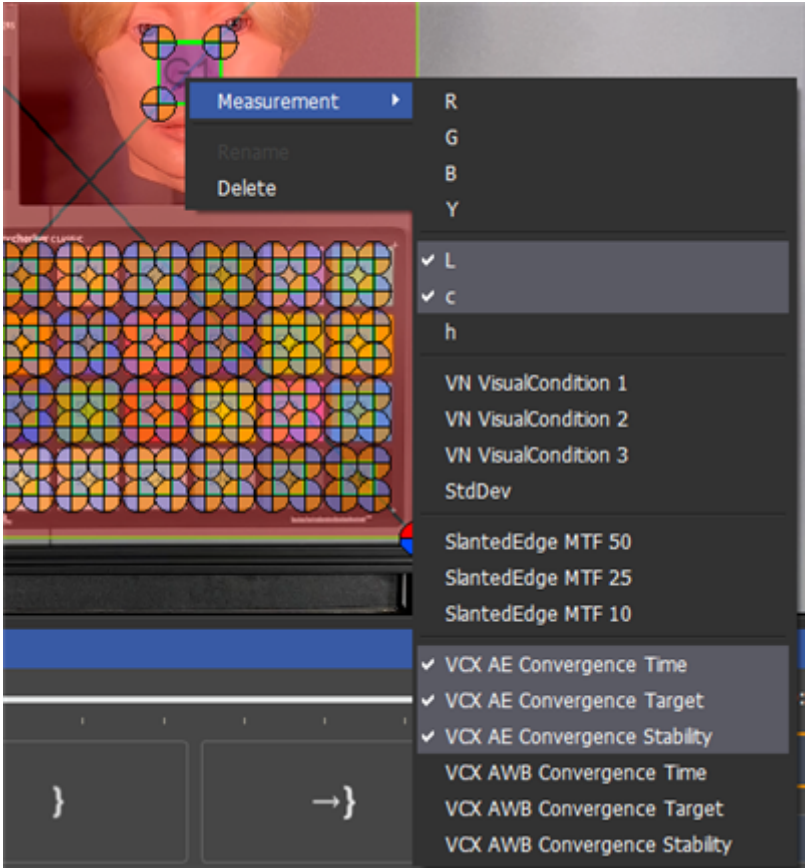
To import or export ROIs click on the small white arrow next to “Add”.



You can also load the default ROIs by clicking the white arrow next to the “Detect” button.

If you need to edit the ROIs for some reason, open the sidebar, to have more options. To do so, click the “Visibility” tab and click on “Show sidebar”. The same options are available as explained in chapter [ROI Detection](#). Note, that there are some useful tips to edit the ROIs in this chapter.

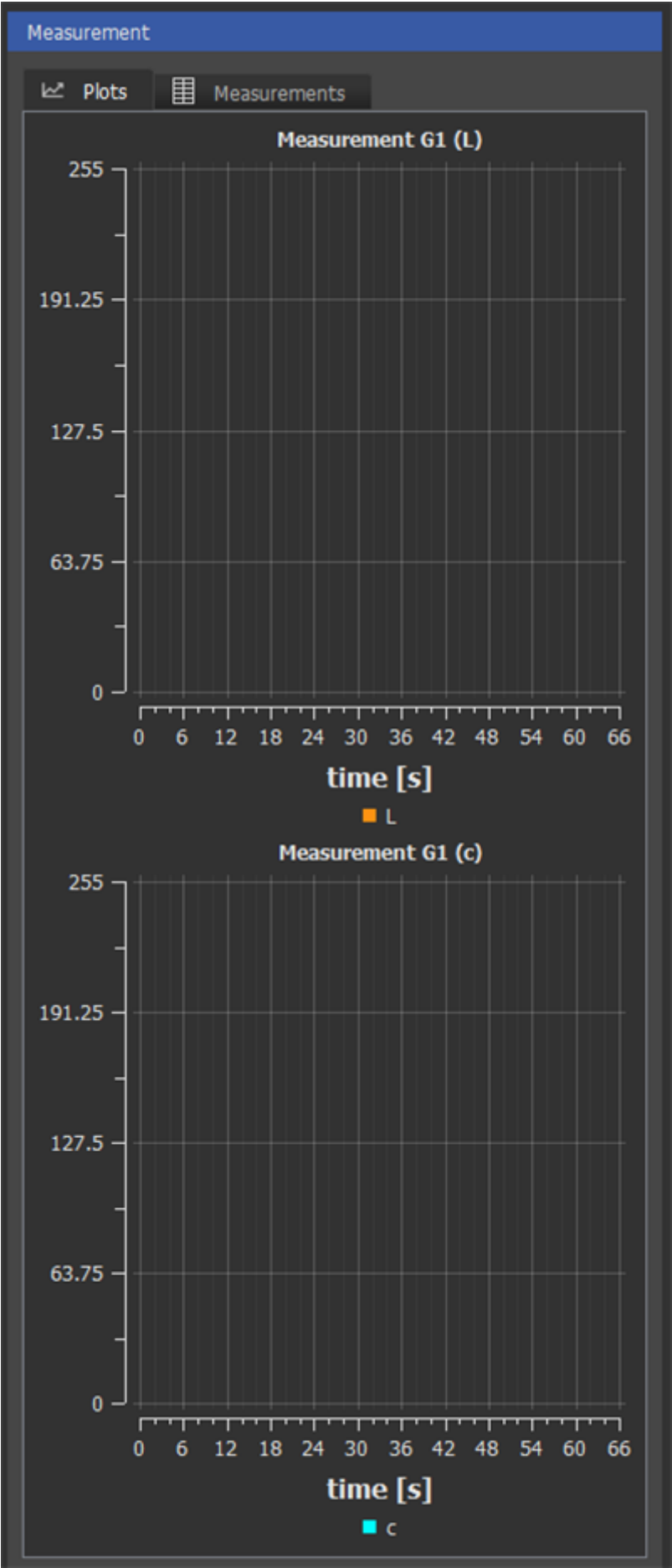
When all ROIs are properly adjusted, you can start to assign measurements to them. Currently, the required measurements are automatically added to the corresponding ROIs, by selecting “Auto White Balance” or “Auto Exposure”, but they show no plots. As a workaround, you can add the plots for L^* and C^* . Right-Click on the ROI and activate L^* and C^* .

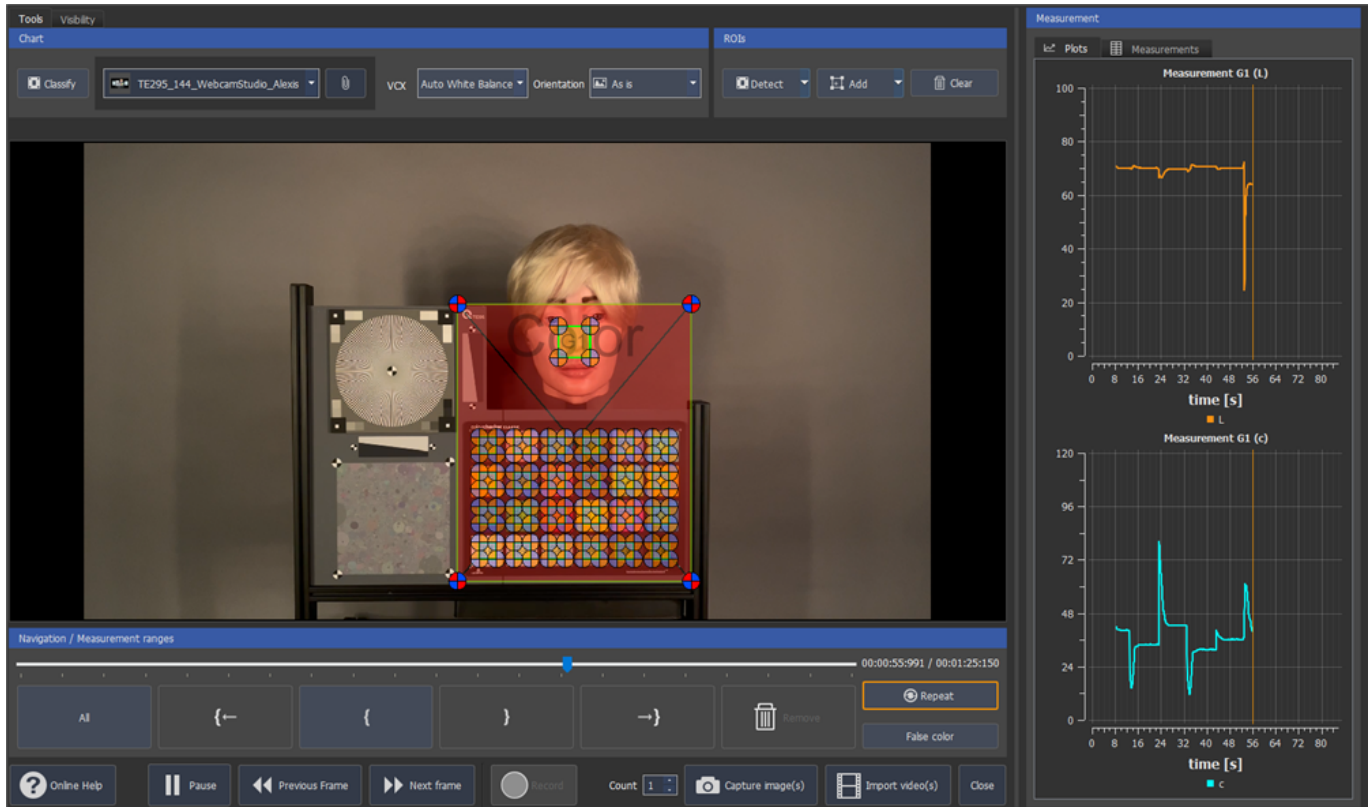


The selected measurement show up immediately under the “Measurements” tab.

| Measurement | | | | |
|-------------|--------|--------------|-------|-----------------------|
| | | Plots | | |
| | | Measurements | | |
| | Group | ROI | Type | Measurement |
| 1 | Global | C4 | VCX | Convergence Time |
| 2 | Global | C4 | VCX | Convergence Stability |
| 3 | Global | C4 | VCX | Convergence Target |
| 4 | Global | G1 | Color | L |
| 5 | Global | G1 | VCX | Convergence Time |
| 6 | Global | G1 | Color | c |
| 7 | Global | G1 | VCX | Convergence Stability |
| 8 | Global | G1 | VCX | Convergence Target |

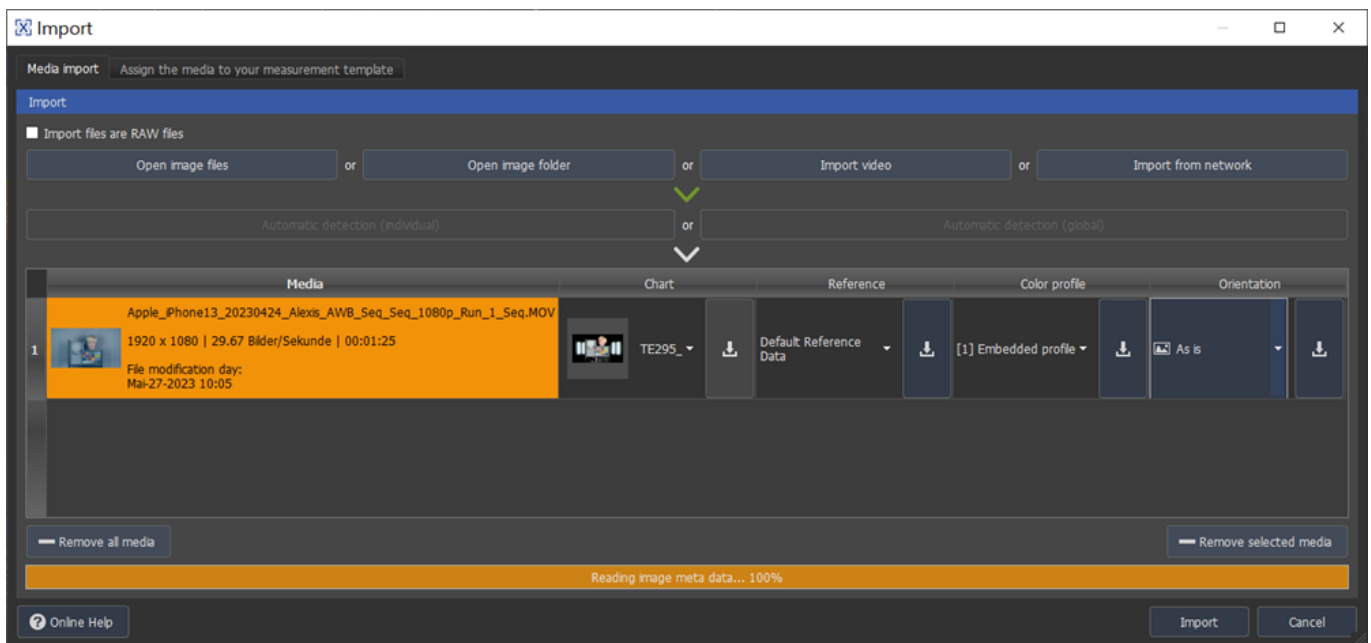
Play the video to see a live measurement of the metrics under the “Plots” tab.



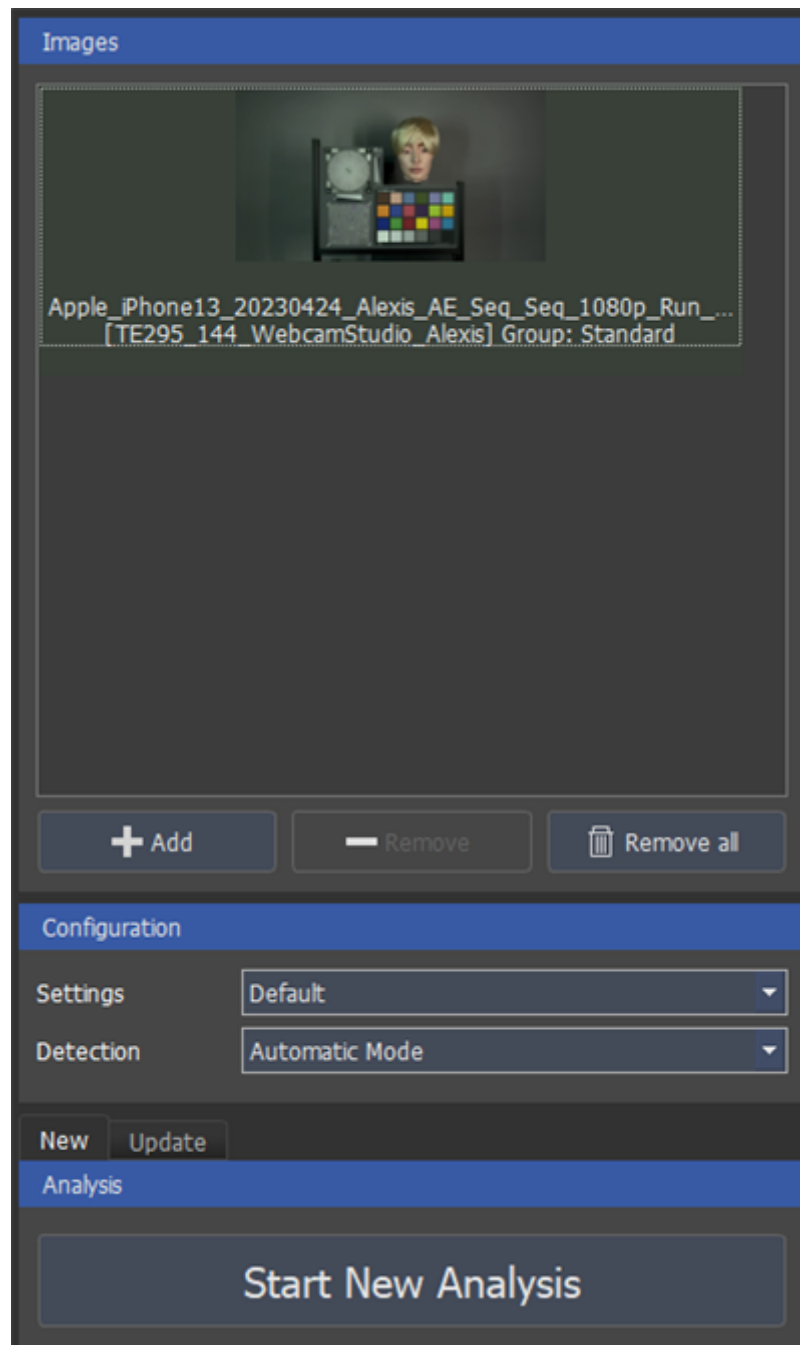


Click on “Import video(s)” to add the video to the “Import” dialog and close the window.

At last, assign the reference file and the color profile to the video and click on “Import”.



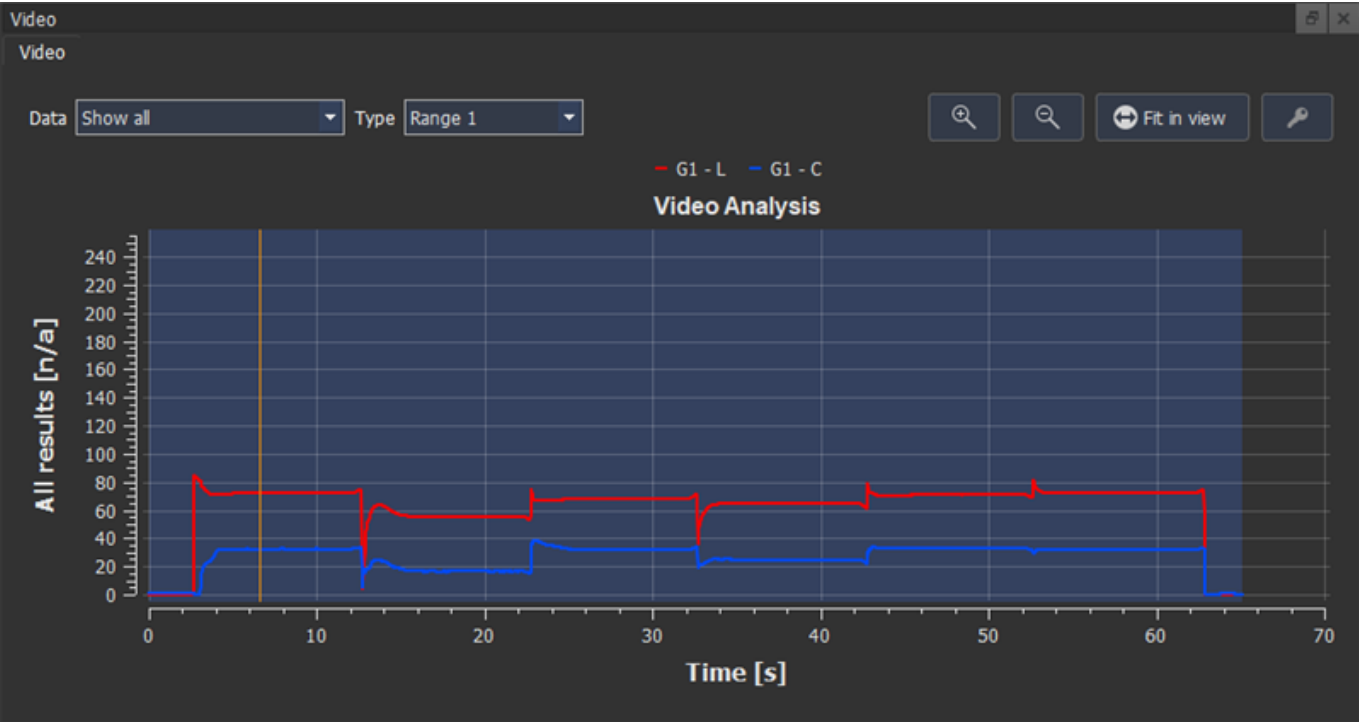
The video shows up in the “Input” section. You can now start the analysis by clicking “Start New Analysis”.



VCX-WebCam Results

Graphical results

Currently, for VCX-WebCam only numerical results are available. However, if you assigned additional measurements to the ROIs manually, the plot of this metrics shows up.



Numerical results

The numerical results of AWB convergence time, AWB convergence stability and AWB convergence target for each illumination step are shown in a result table.

| Results Video | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|------------------------|----------|--------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| | ISO | Illumination condition | ROI name | AWB time (s) | AWB stability (Std Dev DV) | AWB target (Mean DV) |
| 1 | -1 | 250 Lux (D56) | G1 | 0.775 | 0 | 35.706 |
| 2 | -1 | 80 Lux (CW) | G1 | 6.539 | 0 | 31.387 |
| 3 | -1 | 20 Lux (A) | G1 | 4.484 | 0.009 | 37.014 |
| 4 | -1 | 250 Lux (D50) | G1 | 1.888 | 0.017 | 36.323 |
| 5 | -1 | 250 Lux (CW) | G1 | 2.292 | 0.076 | 30.879 |
| 6 | -1 | 250 Lux (WW) | G1 | 3.269 | 0.011 | 42.540 |
| 7 | -1 | 250 Lux (D56) | G1 | 3 | 0.007 | 33.949 |
| 8 | -1 | 250 Lux (A) | G1 | 1.382 | 0.022 | 40.389 |
| 9 | -1 | 250 Lux (D56) | C4 | 0.910 | 0 | 5.658 |
| 10 | -1 | 80 Lux (CW) | C4 | 6.809 | 0 | 1.552 |
| 11 | -1 | 20 Lux (A) | C4 | 6.877 | 0 | 11.769 |
| 12 | -1 | 250 Lux (D50) | C4 | 2.764 | 0.013 | 4.807 |
| 13 | -1 | 250 Lux (CW) | C4 | 4.281 | 0.020 | 4.102 |
| 14 | -1 | 250 Lux (WW) | C4 | 4.449 | 0.014 | 12.531 |
| 15 | -1 | 250 Lux (D56) | C4 | 6.708 | 0 | 4.081 |
| 16 | -1 | 250 Lux (A) | C4 | 6.439 | 0 | 9.113 |

The numerical results of AE convergence time, AE convergence stability and AE convergence target for each illumination step are shown in a result table.

| Results Video | | | | | | |
|---------------|-----|------------------------|----------|-------------|---------------------------|---------------------|
| | ISO | Illumination condition | ROI name | AE time (s) | AE stability (Std Dev DV) | AE target (Mean DV) |
| 1 | -1 | 0 Lux | G1 | 0.067 | 0.000 | 0.011 |
| 2 | -1 | 500 Lux | G1 | 0.677 | 0.023 | 71.899 |
| 3 | -1 | 250 Lux | G1 | 0.203 | 0.114 | 70.216 |
| 4 | -1 | 20 Lux | G1 | 0.913 | 0.042 | 64.459 |
| 5 | -1 | 80 Lux | G1 | 0.236 | 0.188 | 66.547 |
| 6 | -1 | 10 Lux | G1 | 2.367 | 0.056 | 55.628 |
| 7 | -1 | 500 Lux | G1 | 1.015 | 0.099 | 71.148 |
| 8 | -1 | 0 Lux | C4 | 0.067 | 0.001 | 0.017 |
| 9 | -1 | 500 Lux | C4 | 0.643 | 0.014 | 82.275 |
| 10 | -1 | 250 Lux | C4 | 2.773 | 0.012 | 80.774 |
| 11 | -1 | 20 Lux | C4 | 6.089 | 0.012 | 72.314 |
| 12 | -1 | 80 Lux | C4 | 6.054 | 0.016 | 77.241 |
| 13 | -1 | 10 Lux | C4 | 2.164 | 0.104 | 64.604 |
| 14 | -1 | 500 Lux | C4 | 2.267 | 0.025 | 82.198 |

For a detailed description of the numerical results, please refer to the actual [VCX-WebCam paper](#).

Import Images from a remote Webcam using the iQ-Analyzer-X Capture Server tool

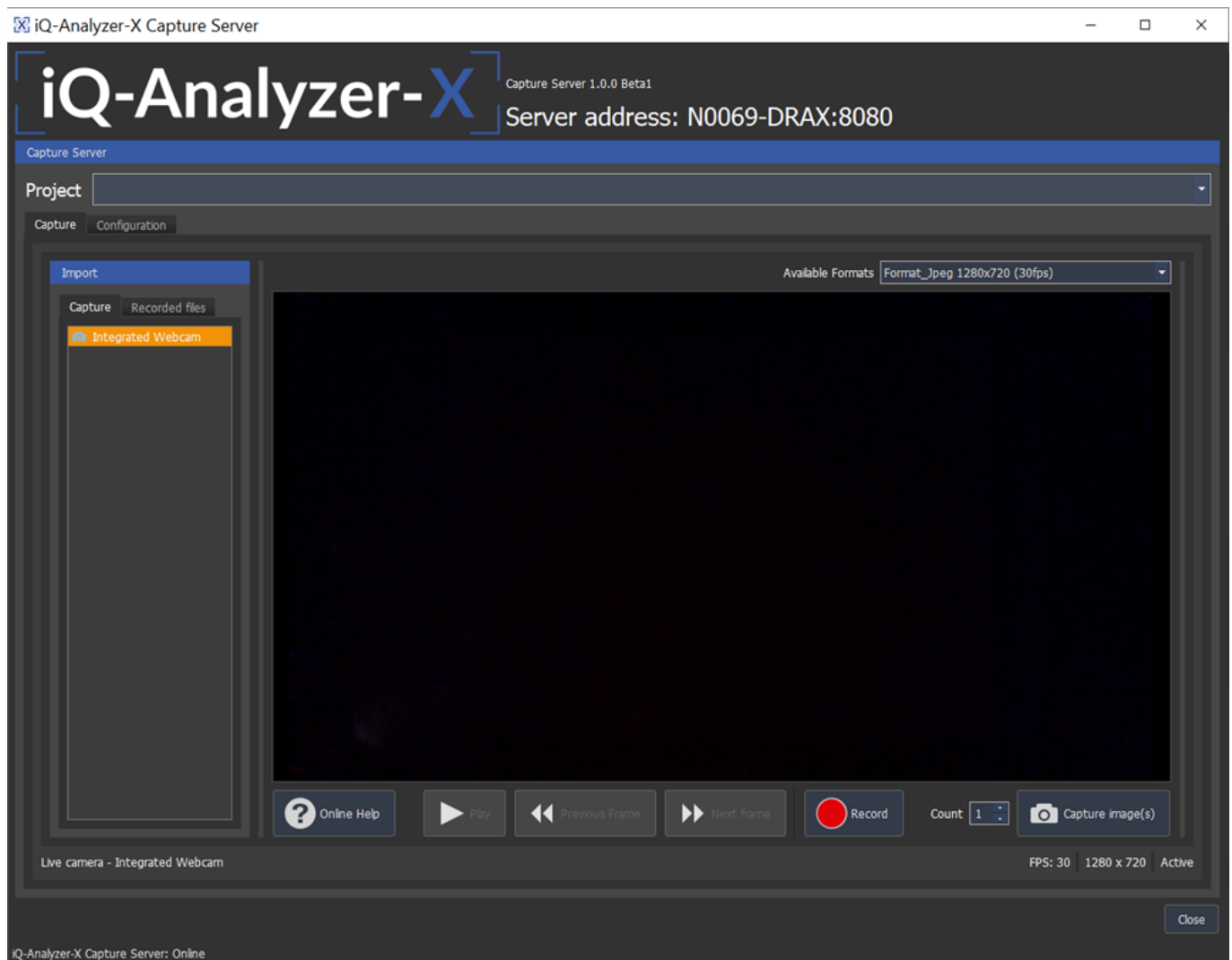
In the case you want to capture images from a webcam which is integrated in a laptop, it can be complicated to control the capture process and alignment as the test device is mounted in front of the test chart. You can use the iQ-Analyzer-X Capture Server tool to make things easier. The tool allows connecting to a network server located on the test device and capture videos or frames from its webcam. The two devices just need to be connected to the same network.

Follow these steps to establish a connection.

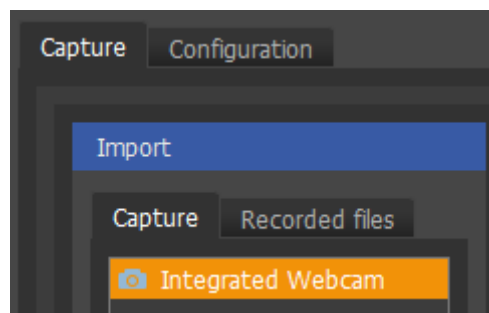
First, install the iQ-Analyzer-X Capture Server tool on the device under test and run the software.

The installer, iQ-Analyzer-X_CaptureServer_setup.exe, is located in the folder C:\Program Files\Image Engineering\iQ-Analyzer-X 1.8.0\install.

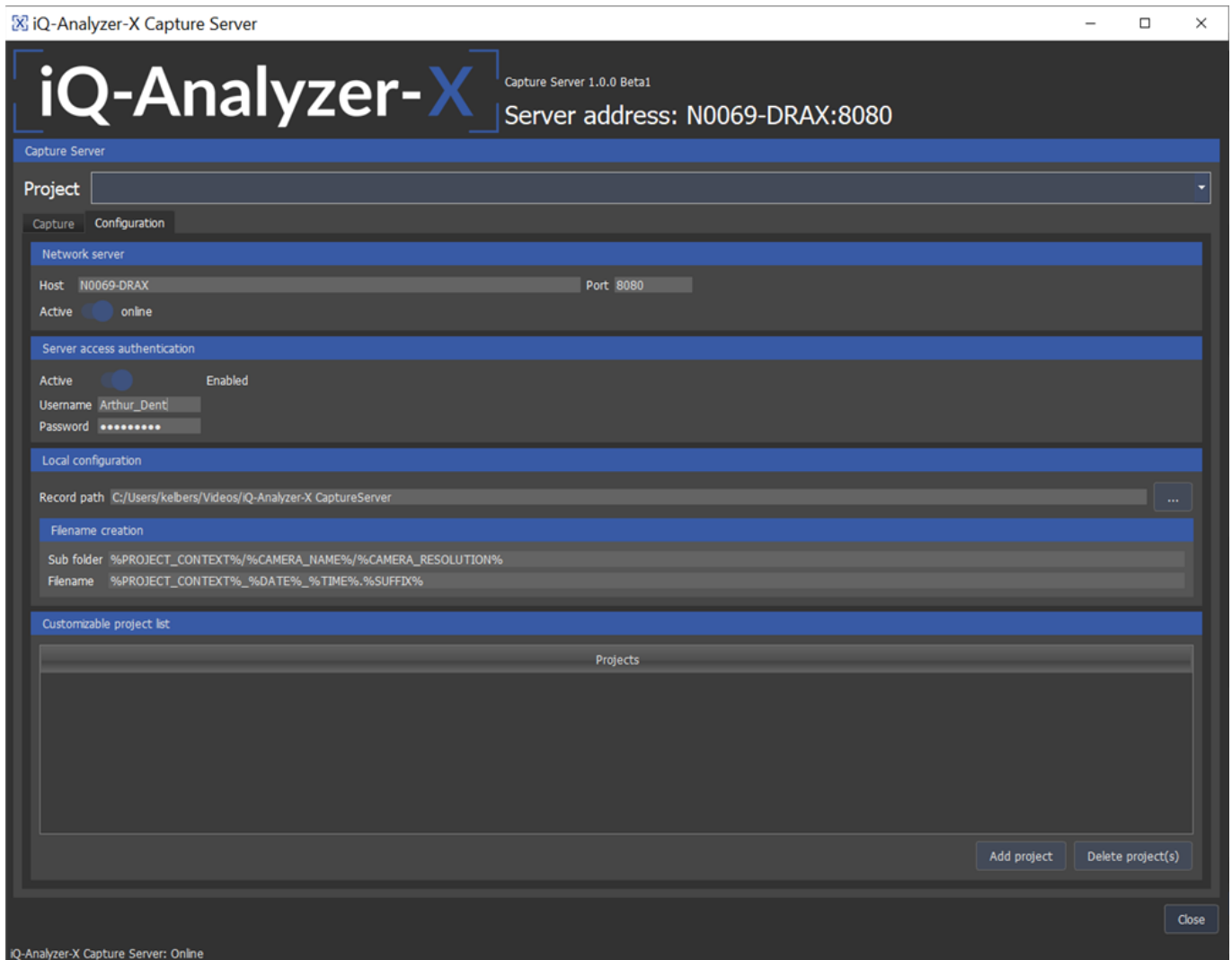
After installation, run the software.



Click on the webcam under test to activate it. The webcam image appears in the viewer.



Then switch to the configuration tab to set up your capture server.



Network server

Host: Enter a name for the capture server

Port: Provide a port number

Active: Activate the switch to make the server visible for the remote client.

Server access authentication

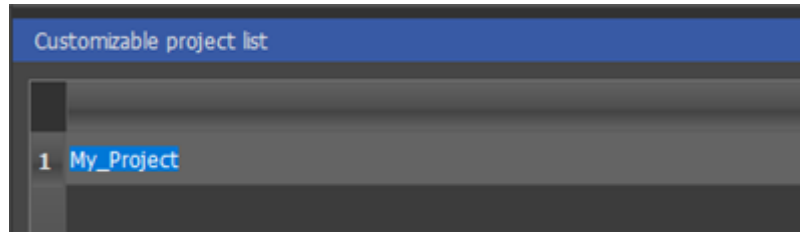
Active: Activates the server access authentication. The server will request a username and password to establish connection.

Provide a username and password for the login from your client.

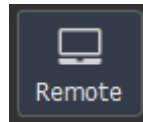
Local configuration

Provide a record path, where the captured videos will be stored, and a naming convention.

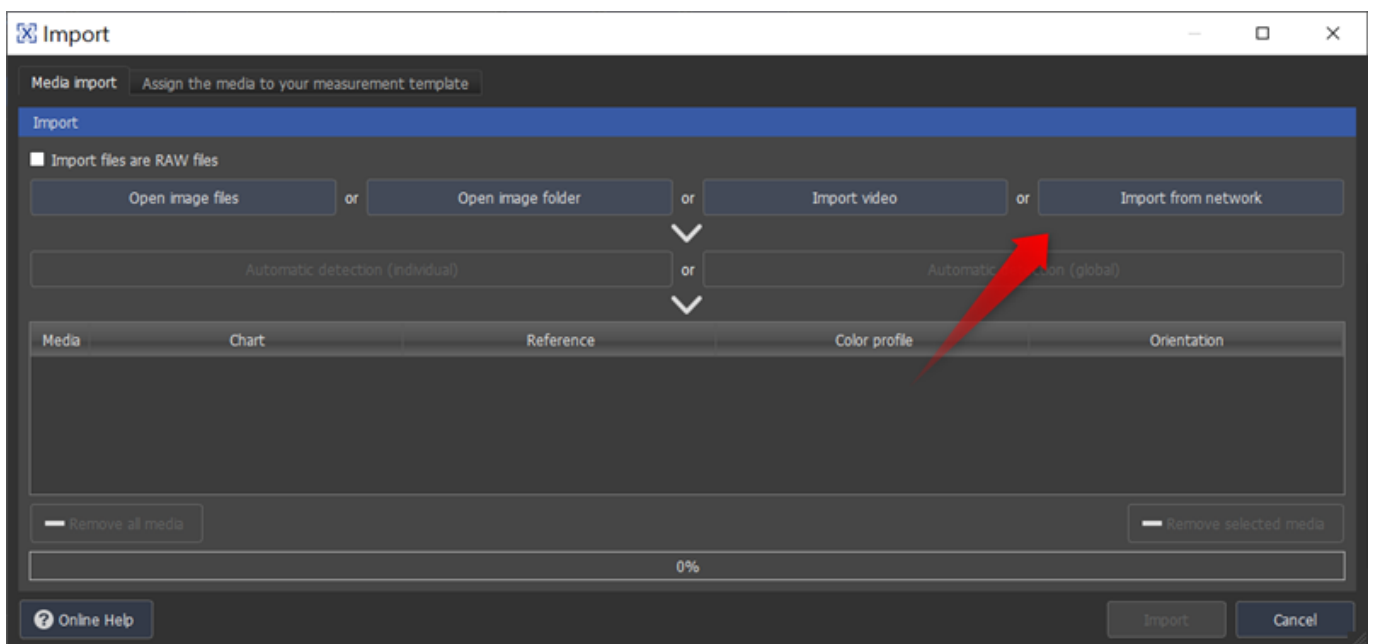
At last, add a project and enter a name in the project list.



Start iQ-Analyzer-X on your remote workstation. Click on “Remote” in the toolbar



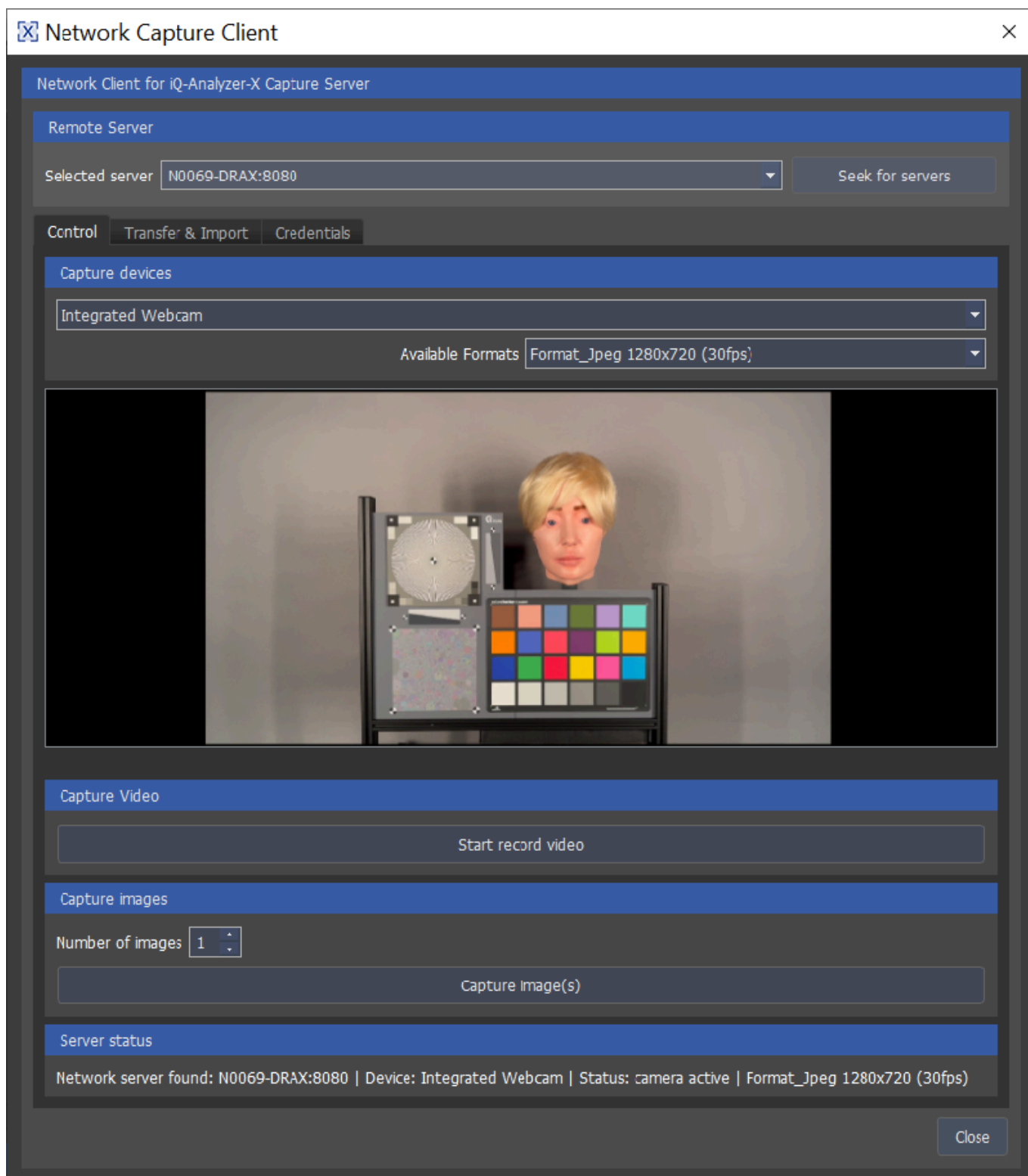
Or click “Import from network” in the “Import” dialog.



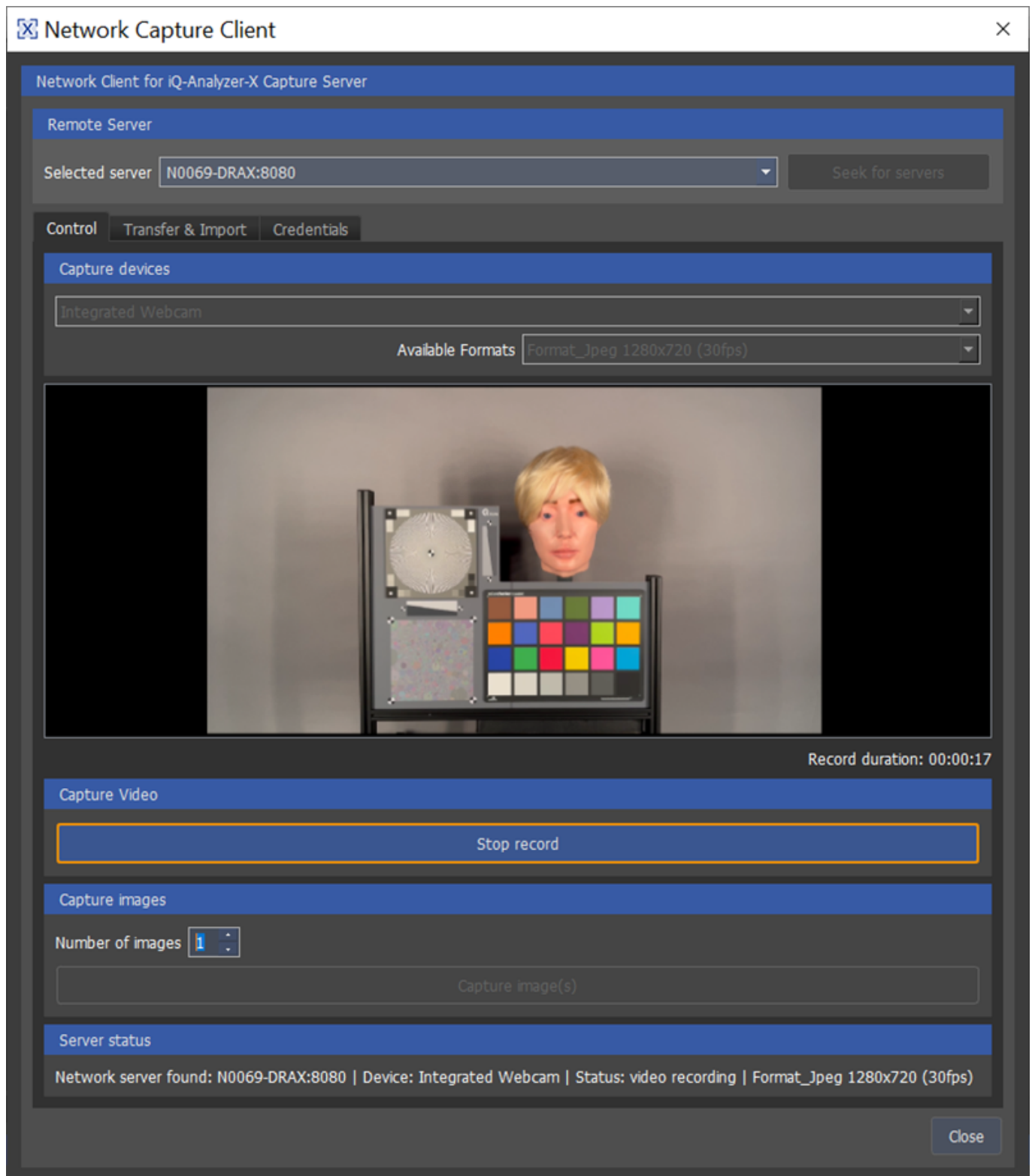
In any case, the “Network Capture Client” opens, but if you have chosen “Import from network”, you are able to add the images directly to the “Import” dialog.

If you have set the server “Online”, it will be listed in the “Selected Server” dropdown menu. Provide the username and password in the “Credentials” tab if you enabled the “server access authentication” on your capture server.

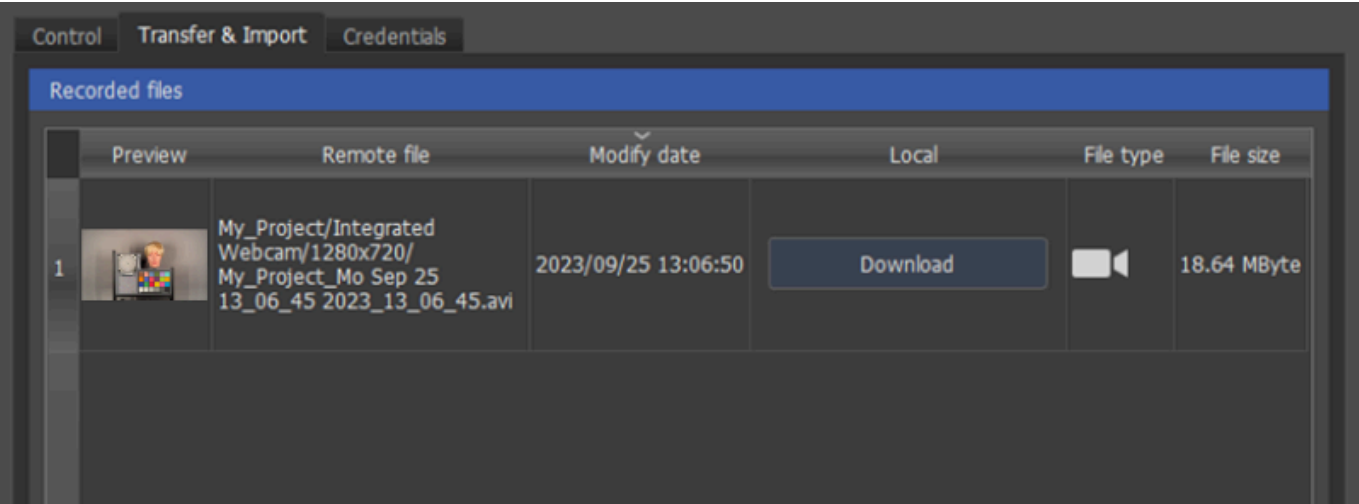
When your server is selected, the image of the webcam shows up in the view port.



You can now capture a video or images. If you capture a video, the record duration shows up under the view port. Click on “stop record” to finish your capture.



The captured videos are listed in the “Transfer&Import” tab and can be downloaded on the client from there.

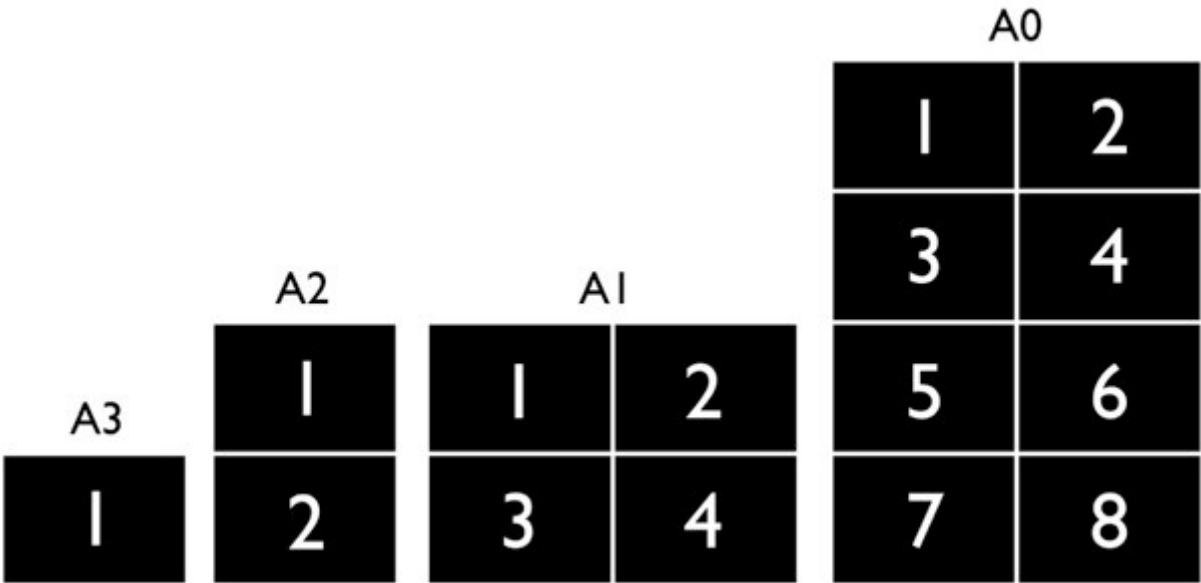


If you are experiencing any issues with the connection, please check your firewall settings or consult your IT.

UTT

The UTT version of iQ-Analyzer-X is designed to analyze the Universal Test Target (UTT) according to ISO 19264:2017 and the Metamorfoze Guideline. It provides insight into the complete image quality of all high-end cameras and scanners.

The UTT target is available in the DIN sizes A4 to A0. The formats A3 to A0 consist of tiles with the same layout. A3 is one tile, A2 consists of two tiles, A1 of four tiles, and A0 of eight tiles. The A4 format has a slightly modified design, with only two gray scales and one set of color patches.



ROIs on the UTT



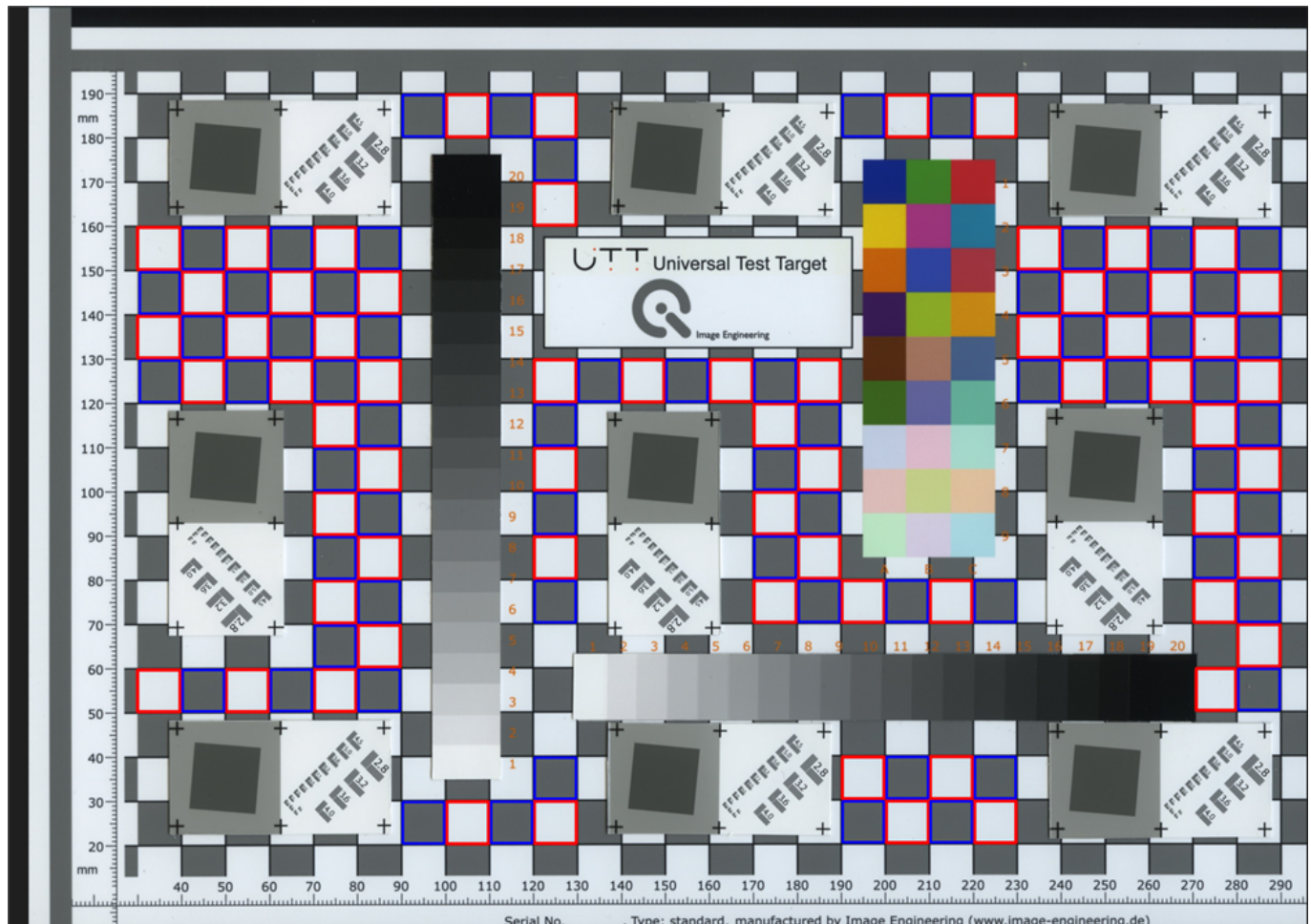
Lines: The yellow-marked areas are used to test for “dead lines” or banding that can occur during the scanning process.

Resolution: The nine red-marked areas with a slanted edge are used for resolution measurements.

Gray scales: The blue-marked areas are the four gray scales used for tonal reproduction, white balance, gain modulation, and noise measurement.

Color patches: The two black-marked areas are used for color measurements.

Shading + Distortion: All white and gray boxes in the green-marked background, which are fully visible and not hidden by a target, are considered for shading and distortion measurement. An example for a UTT DIN A4 is shown below. All the squares with red and blue frame are taken into account for the measurement.



Specification

The specification files define limits for acceptable results. The definition of the levels is based on different applications such as Artwork, Unique Library, Non-Unique Library, and others. iQ-Analyzer-X already contains several specifications as Metamorfoze and ISO19264, in different variations. Metamorfoze, Metamorfoze light, and Metamorfoze extra light are the three levels defined in Metamorfoze Guideline. Metamorfoze is the strictest level, and Metamorfoze extra light has the highest tolerances. For details, please also refer to Metamorfoze Preservation Imaging Guideline. ISO19264:2017 is present in Levels A, B, or C. For more information about the differences, please refer to the ISO Standard.

Another option is to create a custom specification. To do so, copy the UTT Tolerance Sample from C:\Program Files\Image Engineering\iQ-Analyzer-X 1.X.X\resources\specifications to a local folder. Open the file as a .txt file in a standard editor.

```

1 #####
2 #
3 #                               IMAGE ENGINEERING                               #
4 #                               IQ-ANALYZER X UTT SPECIFICATIONS FILE             #
5 #                               PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE THE CONTENTS OF THIS FILE    #
6 #                               TAMPERED FILES ARE NOT GUARANTEED TO WORK PROPERLY #
7 #
8 #####
9
10 General:
11   Name: Tolerance Sample
12   ChartType: UTT
13   ChartRevision: 1.0
14   Description: UTT Tolerance Sample
15   TargetProfile: eciRGBv2
16   Date: 2017-11-01T12:00:00
17
18 ---
19
20 Container:
21   Name: Tonal Reproduction
22   Group: TonalReproduction
23   Description: Specification limits and tolerances for delta L* in the OECF patches
24   AdditionalInfo:
25     Type: Shape
26     CalculationType: Relative
27     CalculationValue: Lab_L
28     ValueType: Unsigned
29   VectorCount: 4
30   ValueCount: 20
31   ValueNames: [UpperLimit, LowerLimit, UpperTolerance, LowerTolerance]
32   Values:
33     - P01: [3, -2, 4, -4]
34     - P02: [2, -2, 4, -4]
35     - P03: [2, -2, 4, -4]
36     - P04: [2, -2, 4, -4]
37     - P05: [2, -2, 4, -4]
38     - P06: [2, -2, 4, -4]
39     - P07: [2, -2, 4, -4]
40     - P08: [2, -2, 4, -4]
41     - P09: [2, -2, 4, -4]
42     - P10: [2, -2, 4, -4]
43     - P11: [2, -2, 4, -4]
44     - P12: [2, -2, 4, -4]
45     - P13: [2, -2, 4, -4]
46     - P14: [2, -2, 4, -4]
47     - P15: [2, -2, 4, -4]
48     - P16: [2, -2, 4, -4]
49     - P17: [2, -2, 4, -4]
50     - P18: [2, -2, 4, -4]
51     - P19: [2, -2, 4, -4]
52     - P20: [2, -2, 4, -4]
53

```

You can change the upper and lower limits and upper and lower tolerance for each measurement in the text file. It is important that you do not change the format and spacing in the file. The best practice is to select the limit/tolerance value you want to edit and type in the desired one. In the example above, we changed the upper limit in Tonal Reproduction for Delta L* in patch 01 from 2 to 3.

The tolerance values provide an additional classification. For example, your device under test can be outside the specification but still within the tolerance. The tolerance is displayed as a yellow area in the plots and results inside the tolerance. Devices outside of the specification are marked yellow in the overview. If you do not want to add a tolerance, assign the same values as the upper and lower limit. Please also change the current name and the description under "General," as this will be the information you see in the "Import" dialog. After editing the .txt file, save it and import it into the

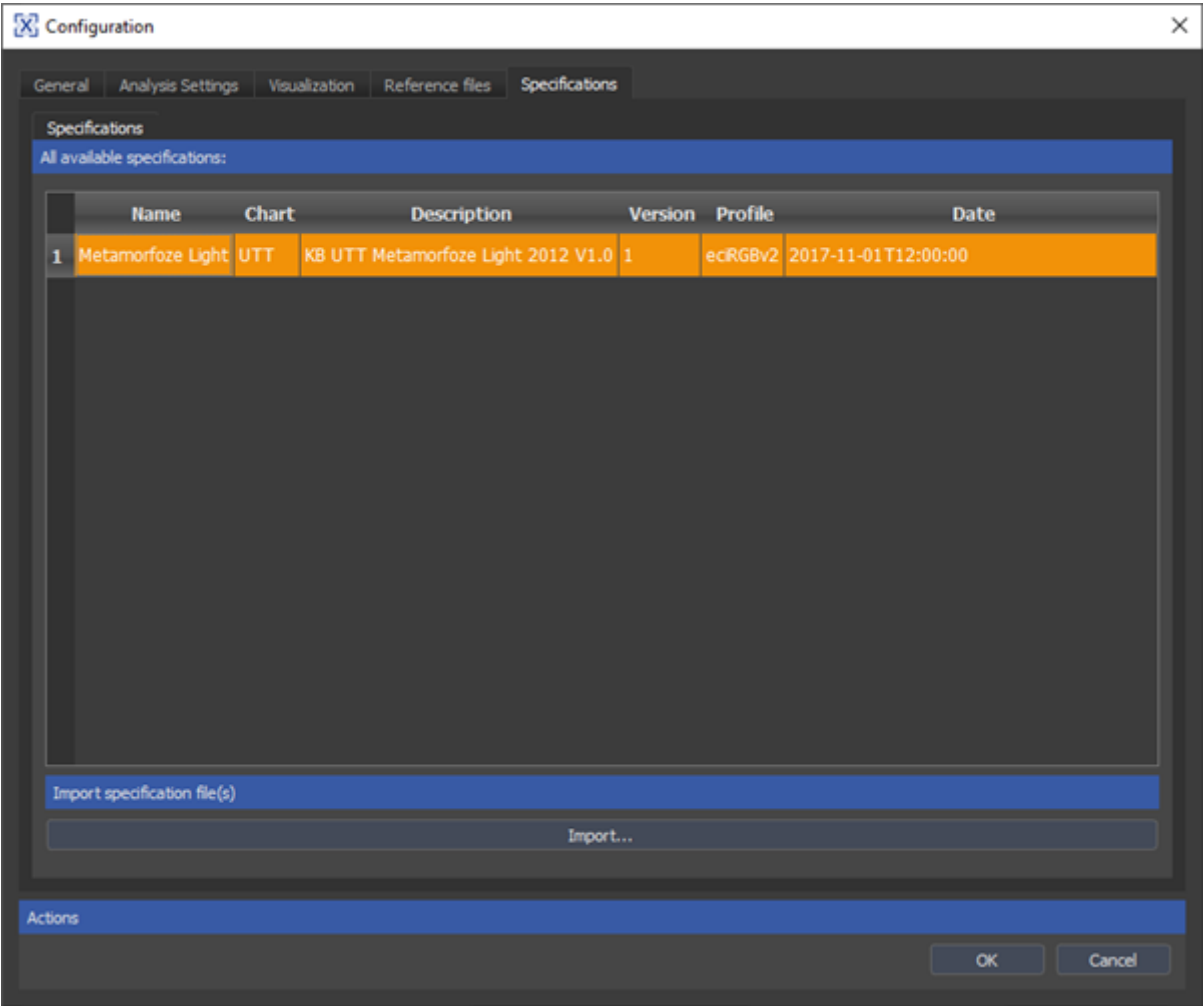
database in the “Specifications” tab under “Configure.” It is now available when you import your next UTT test image.

UTT Analysis

The UTT chart analysis works similarly to the image quality analysis described in the section Image Quality Analysis, but there are some differences. The reference file for your chart, which contains the measurement data, is provided in .xlsx format and will be automatically converted to a readable format for the software during import into the database. For this conversion, you need an installation of MS Excel or MS Office on the PC. Please contact our technical support team if you do not have the required software installed. The section Reference Files describes importing the reference file and changing the serial number and description. If you use an unmeasured chart, please select the “Default Reference Data” in the “UTT Import” dialog.

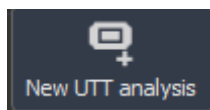
Note, that the reference file of your UTT is only valid for a certain period of time. You can find the expiration date of the reference data when you select it in the import dialog or in the “Reference files” tab under “Configure”.

In addition to the reference file of your chart, you need to select a specifications file that contains the specification you want to apply. Some specifications are already provided. If you want to add a specification to the database, open the “Configure” dialog and select the “Specifications” tab. Click “Import” and select the desired specification file.



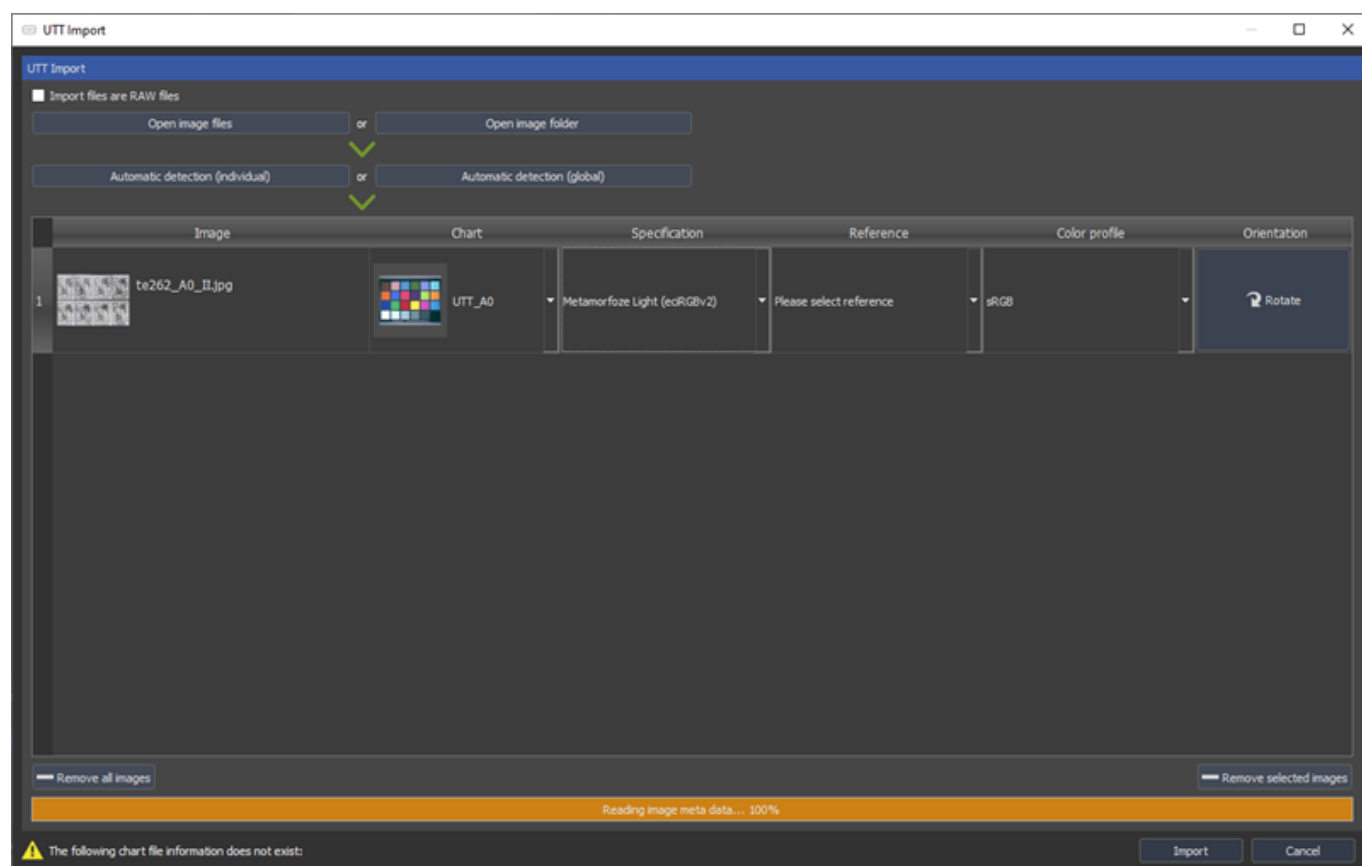
The specification file is now saved in the database and can be allocated in the “UTT Import” dialog.

To start a UTT analysis, click “New UTT Analysis” and open the “UTT Import” dialog.



In the “UTT Import” dialog, you can define the chart, specification, reference, color profile, and image rotation.

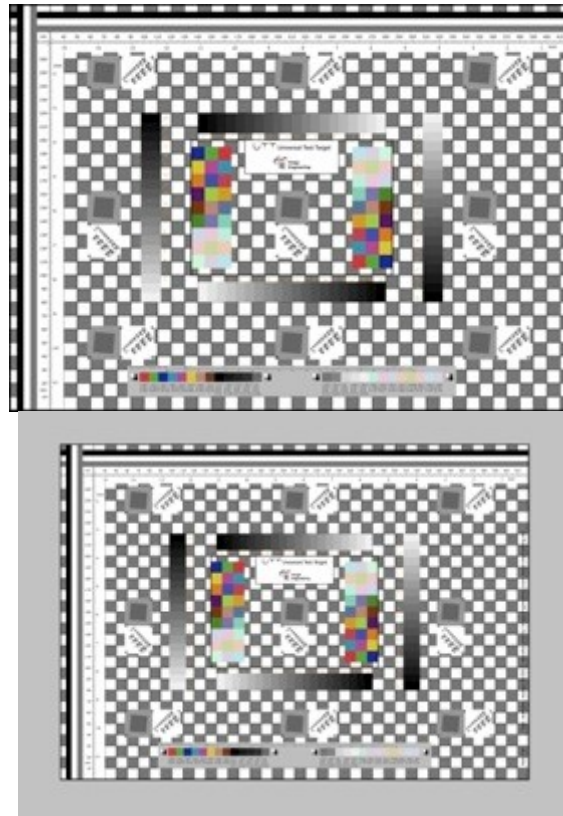
Note, that there is no autodetect for the chart layout, as the different UTT sizes, except A4, share the same layout. You need to assign the chart manually.



After the import, you can run the analysis as described in the [Analyze Images](#) section.

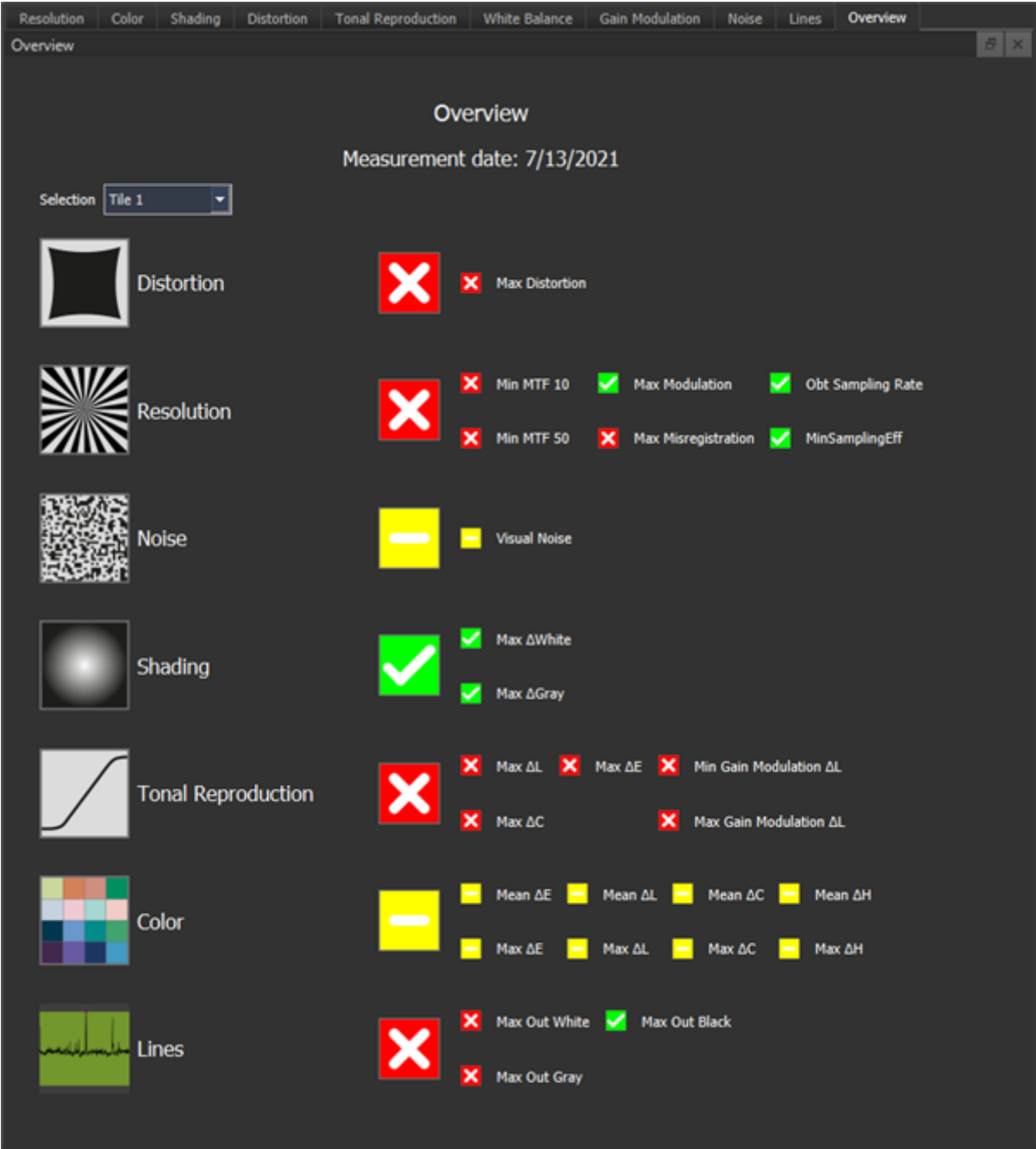
Note, that the semiautomatic ROI detection is not available for UTT charts.

The UTT chart must be cropped precisely, or the environment has to be nearly homogeneous. The most suitable is a homogeneous white, gray, or black background.



UTT Results

After the UTT Analysis is finished, the results and an overview are provided. This overview contains a classification of the analyzed parameters, e.g., Tonal Reproduction, Noise, Color, Resolution, Shading, Distortion, and Lines, based on the applied specifications.



The result is outside the limits specified in the selected specification (Metamorfoze, ISO 19264, etc.).



The result is within the specified specification's limits (Metamorfoze, ISO Level A, etc.).



The result is outside of the specification but within the tolerance.

The numerical results are displayed in the UTT Results tab. Results within the specification are white, results outside the specification are red, and results in which the specification is not applied are grayed out.

AnalysisUTT Results

UTT Results

TonalReproductionResolutionColorNoiseShadingDistortion

Resolution

| | TILE | SUB | MEASUREMENT | TL | TC | TR |
|---|--------|------------|-------------------------|-------|--------|--------|
| 3 | Tile 1 | Horizontal | Max_Misregistration | 1.35 | 0.43 | 0.41 |
| 4 | Tile 1 | Horizontal | Max_Modulation | 0.97 | 0.98 | 0.97 |
| 5 | Tile 1 | Horizontal | Min_Sampling_Efficiency | 69.80 | 88.50 | 90.88 |
| 6 | Tile 1 | Mean | MTF10 | 89.24 | 105.69 | 135.28 |
| 7 | Tile 1 | Mean | MTF50 | 29.68 | 42.65 | 37.26 |
| 8 | Tile 1 | Mean | Max_Misregistration | 1.35 | 0.43 | 0.63 |

You can easily copy and paste the table to a spreadsheet software for further processing. Just select the cells you want to copy, or click on the top left square to select the entire table. You can also use the context menu which you can open by right-clicking a random cell.



You can also sort the data alphabetically or numerically by clicking on the column header.

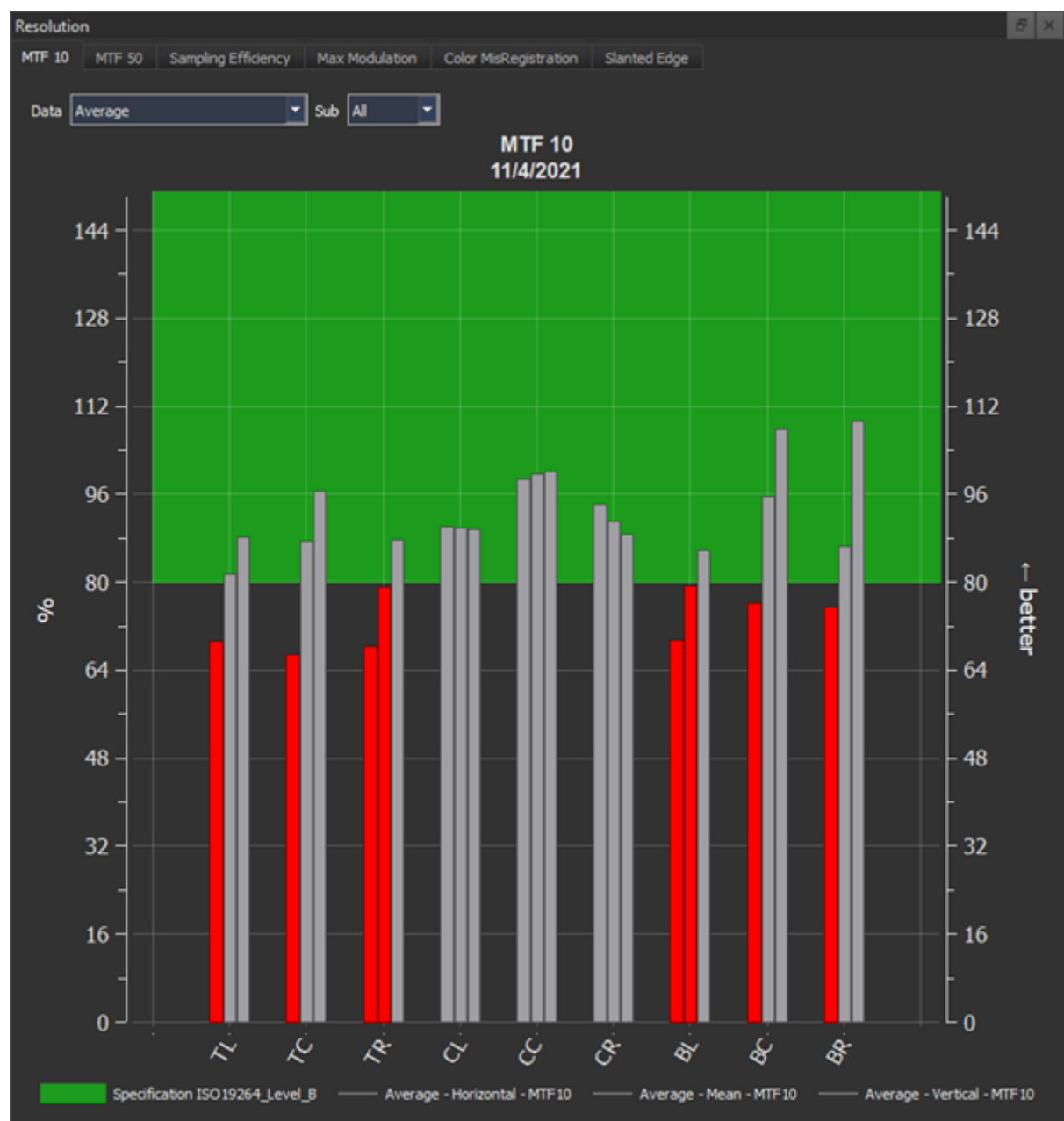
Resolution

Resolution is measured on the slanted edges of the UTT Chart. The slanted edges of the tiles have the following names.

| | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| TL - top left | TC - top center | TR - top right |
| CL - center left | CC - center center | CR - center right |
| BL - bottom left | BC - bottom center | BR - bottom right |

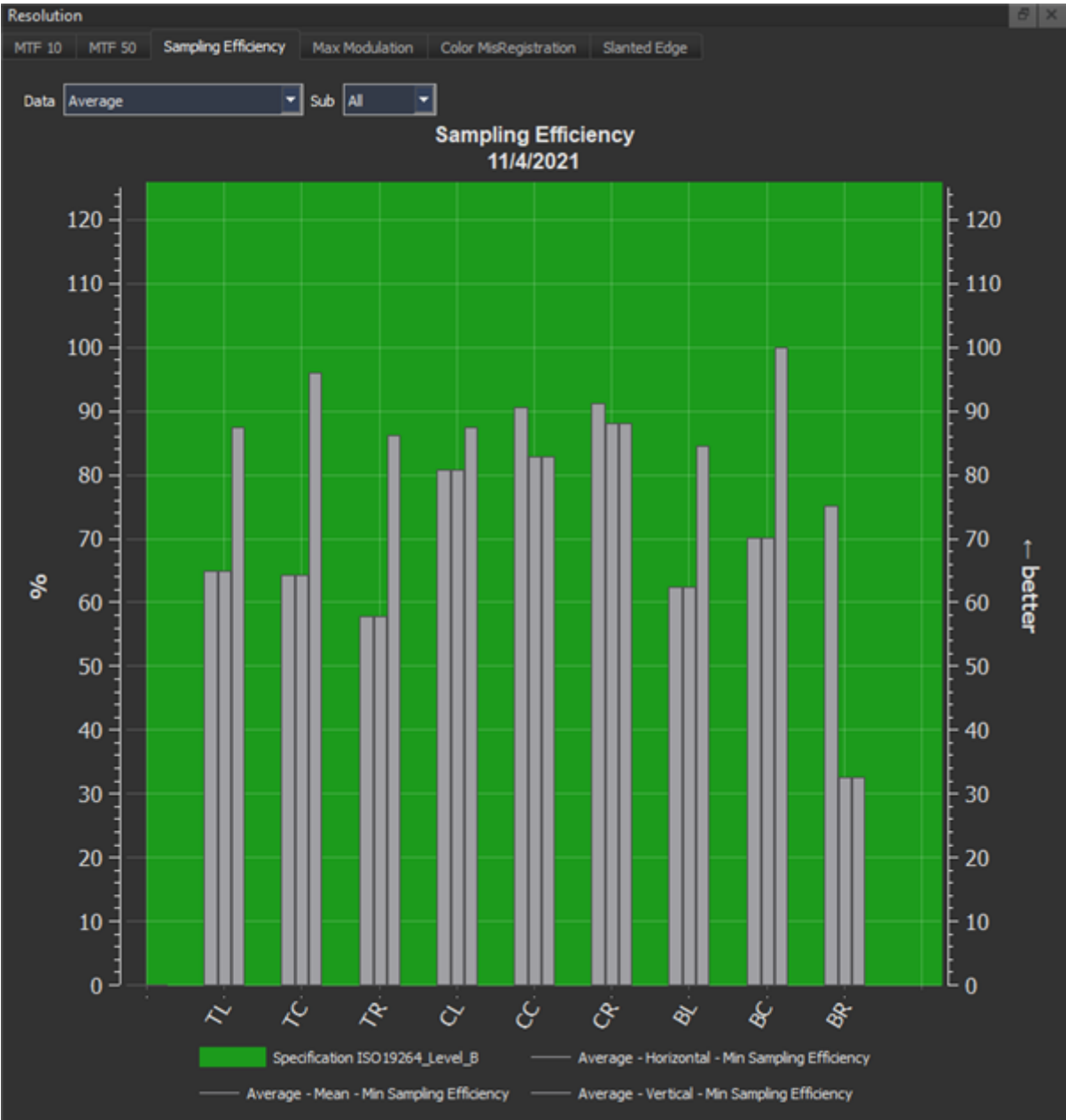
All graphs except SFR show a green area, illustrating the specification limits. The bars are within the specification if they are in the green area. Bars outside of the specification area are highlighted in red.

Graphical Results

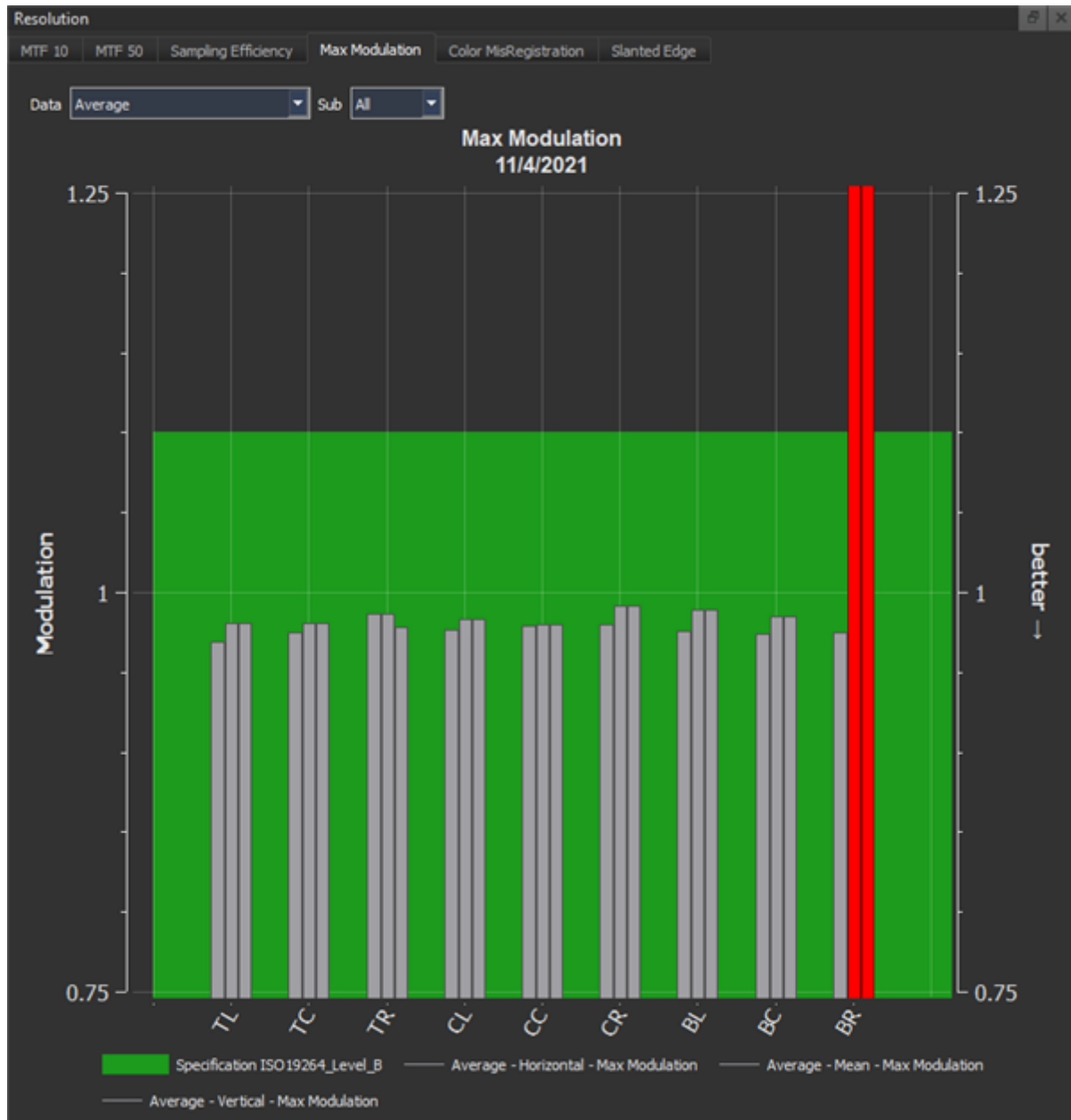


The MTF 10 and MTF 50 plots show each slanted edge's results. The percentage on the y-axis

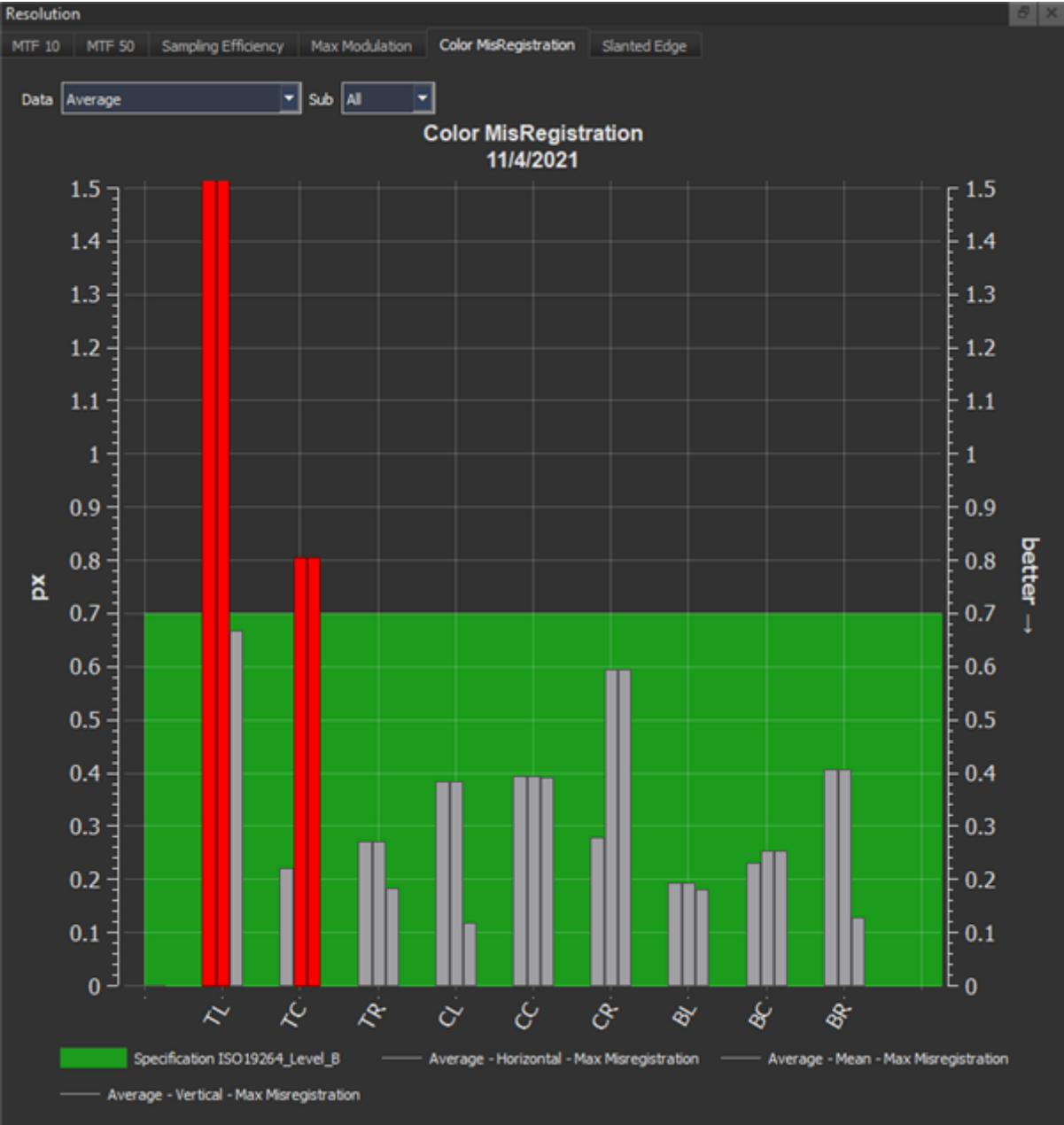
represents the Nyquist Frequency, the maximum frequency the device under test can properly capture. The Nyquist Frequency depends on the pixel resolution of your device. If the bar is not in the green area, meaning the specification, it changes its color to red. A bar can represent the average of the horizontal, vertical, or both edges.



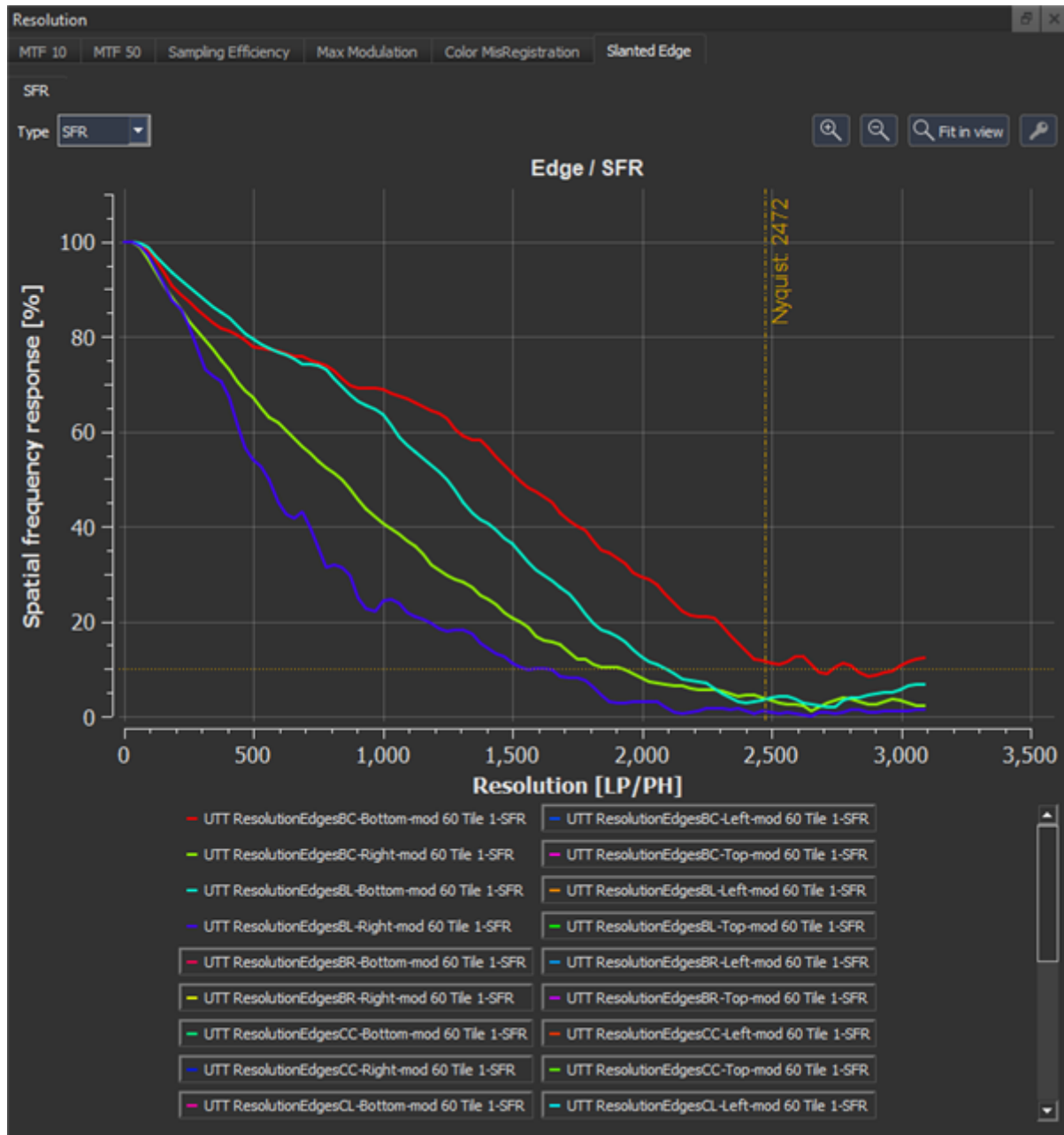
The Sampling Efficiency is the ratio of the limiting resolution, MTF10, and the Nyquist Frequency. If the MTF 10, the spatial frequency at 10% modulation, equals the Nyquist Frequency, the Sampling Efficiency is 100%.



The Max Modulation equals one in an unsharpened image. If sharpening is applied in the image processing of your device, the modulation might be higher; however, it should not exceed the limit defined in the specification.



Color Misregistration is the shift of the color channels to each other in px. This shift might be visible in the scan, causing a colored slanted edge. The graphs' bars show the highest Misregistration for horizontal, vertical, or all edges.



The SFR tab shows all the SFR curves obtained from the slanted edges. In the advanced graph settings, which you can access by clicking the key symbol, you can group the curves to get a better overview.

Numerical Results

MTF10: The spatial frequency ratio with a modulation greater than or equal to 10% to the Nyquist Frequency in percentage.

MTF50: The spatial frequency ratio with a modulation greater than or equal to 50% to the Nyquist Frequency in percentage.

Min_Sampling_Efficiency: If the limiting frequency at 10% modulation equals Nyquist frequency, the sampling efficiency is 100%. The Min_Sampling_Efficiency reflects the lowest Sampling Efficiency of the horizontal, vertical, or all edges.

Max_Modulation: Max_Modulation should be 1 for an unsharpened image. If sharpening is applied in the image processing, the modulation might be higher, but it should not exceed the limit defined in the specification.

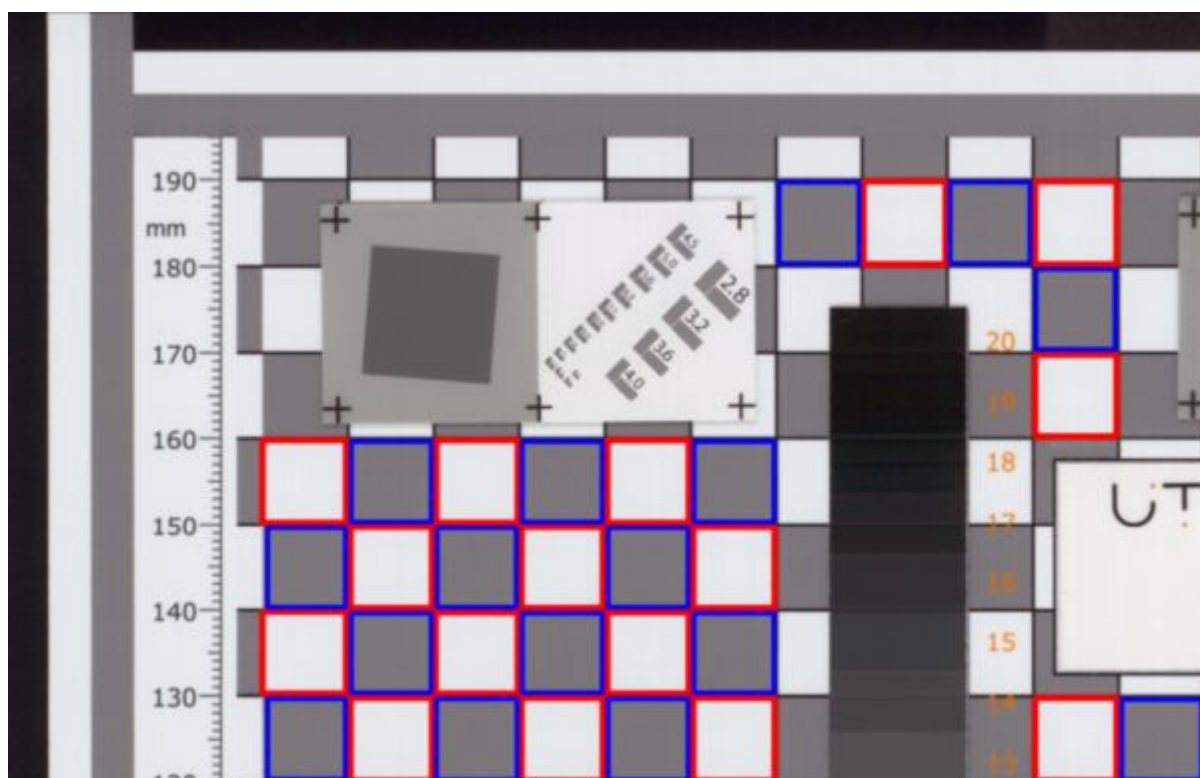
Max_MisRegistration: Color Misregistration is the shift of color channels to each other in px. All four edges of a slanted edge patch are analyzed, and the maximum value is taken as the result.

Color

For the Color results, please refer to the chapter [color](#).

Shading

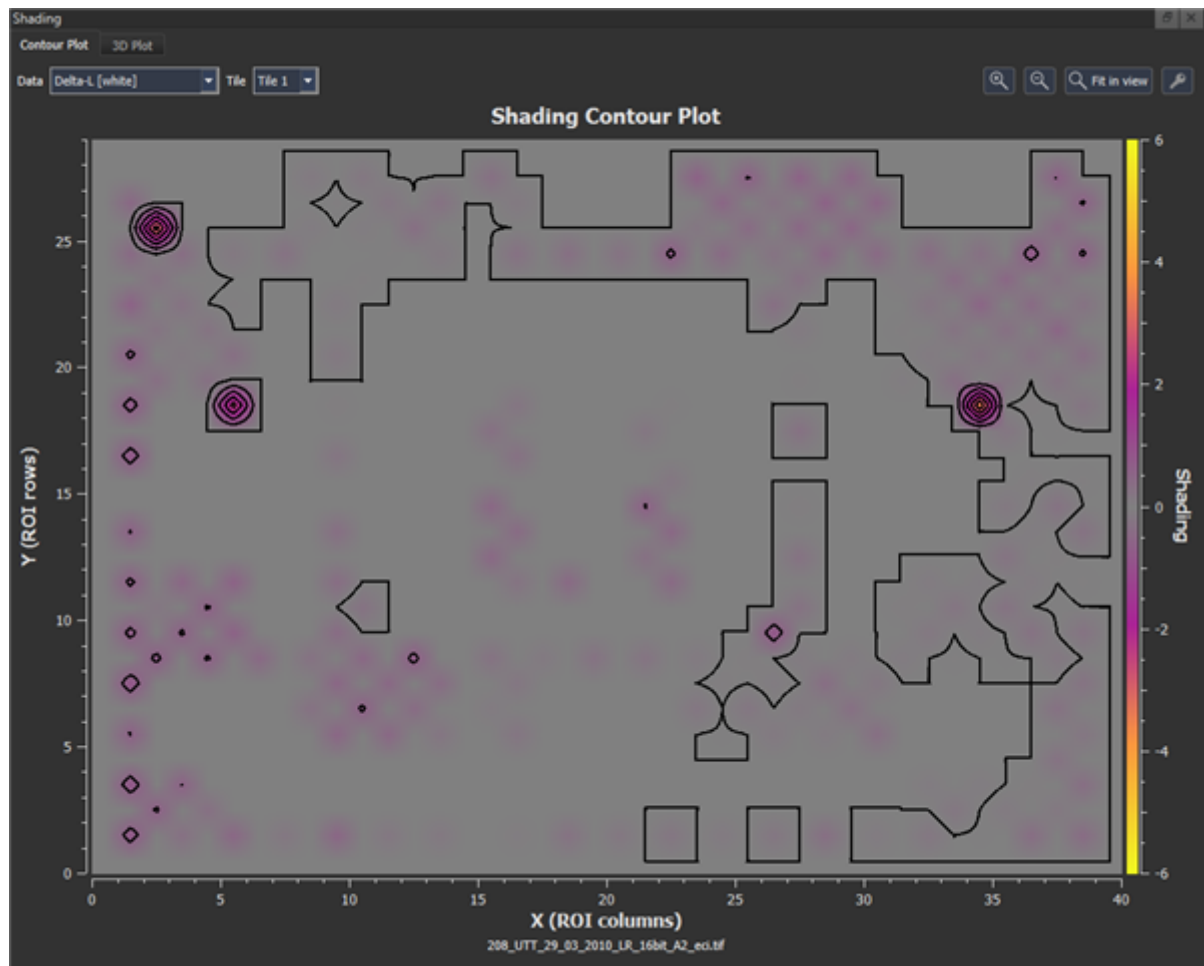
Shading describes the loss of intensity relative to a specified reference in the image. It is measured in all white and gray boxes that are entirely present and can be detected by the software. The detected boxes are marked with a red or blue edge in the image below. As you can see, some of the targets cover the boxes and thus prevent them from being detected.



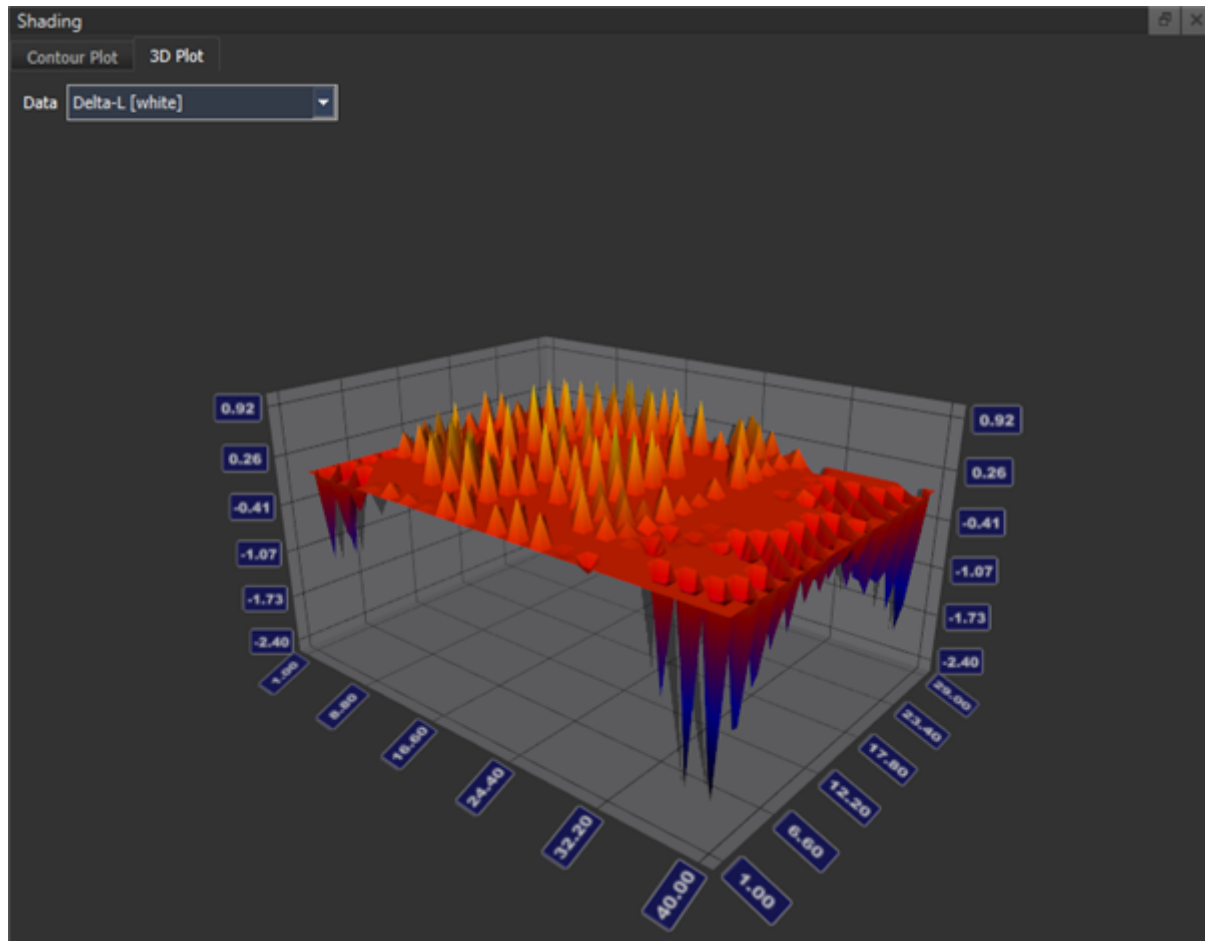
Shading is calculated as the Delta L* in deviation from the mean Delta L* for each box and white and gray boxes separately.

$$\Delta L = L - L_{average}$$

Graphical Results



The contour plot shows the Delta L* of the grid's white or gray boxes in the UTT chart. X(ROI rows) and Y(ROI columns) represent the rows and columns of the grid, and the color indicates the deviation value in Delta L*, which can be positive or negative. No deviation is shown in the color gray.



The 3D plot shows the Delta L* of the grid's white or gray boxes in the UTT chart in a three-dimensional view.

Numerical Results

Max_Delta_Gray is the maximum deviation in Delta L* of all gray boxes.

Max_Delta_White is the maximum deviation in Delta L* of all white boxes.

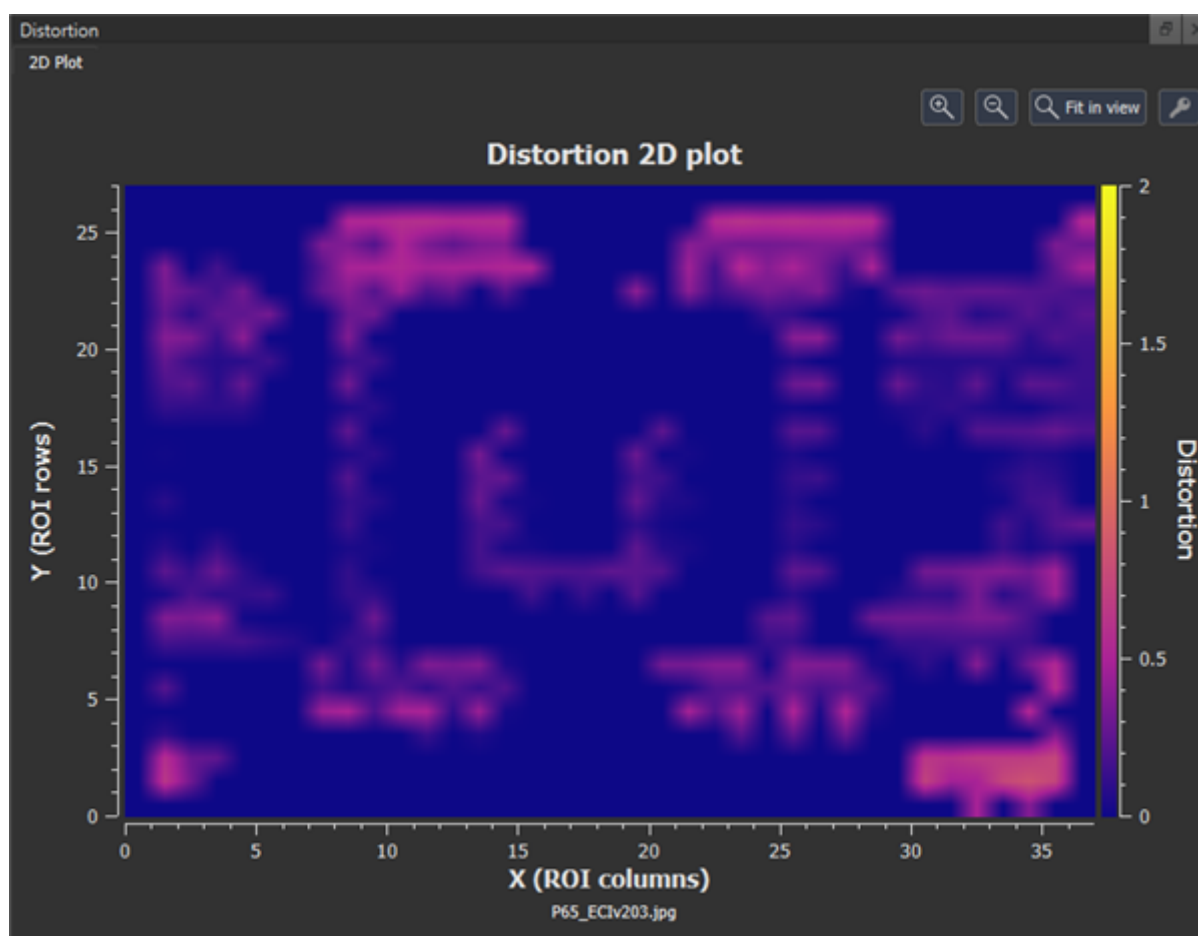
Distortion

Distortion is measured based on all white and gray boxes that are completely present and can be detected, like shading.

The in-between distance of the horizontal and vertical lines is measured in each box (Dist). From there, the average distance of all horizontal and vertical lines of the boxes is determined with sub-pixel accuracy (Dist_mean). The distortion is calculated as the ratio of the distance of each line to the mean distance in percent.

$$Distortion \left[\% \right] = 100 \times \left(\frac{Dist - Dist_{mean}}{Dist_{mean}} \right)$$

Graphical Results



The plot shows the distortion in a color-coded image. The scaling of the color coding can be adjusted in the “Visualization” tab in the “Configuration” dialog. The rows and columns on the Y- and X-Axis represent the white and gray boxes. Note that a distortion value can only be obtained for completely visible boxes.

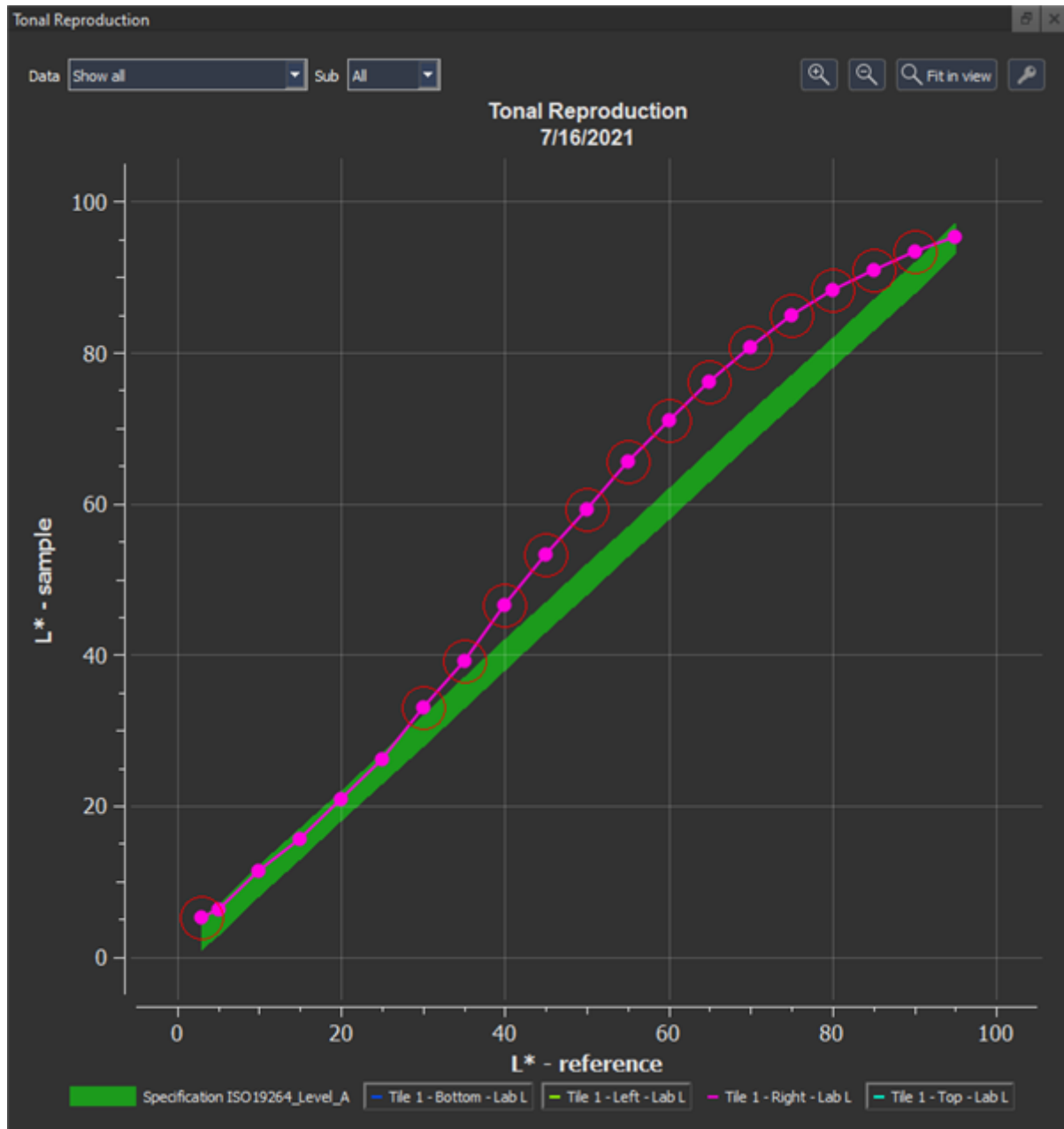
Numerical Results

Max_Distortion: Max_Distortion is the highest distortion found in all measurements.

Tonal Reproduction

The Tonal Reproduction (also referred to as the opto-electronic conversion function) is measured with the four grayscale targets on the chart. It describes the response of the device under test to the input signal. To achieve an accurate reproduction, the L^* values of the sample should be as close as possible to the L^* reference values.

Graphical Results



The plot displays the tonal reproduction of the grayscale targets in L^* of the sample over L^* of the reference. The tile and its four grayscale targets can be selected using the dropdown menus. The tolerance range, defined in the specifications, is displayed in green, and values outside the tolerance range are circled in red.

Numerical Results

Delta_C: The Delta C in between the sample and a specific gray patch reference.

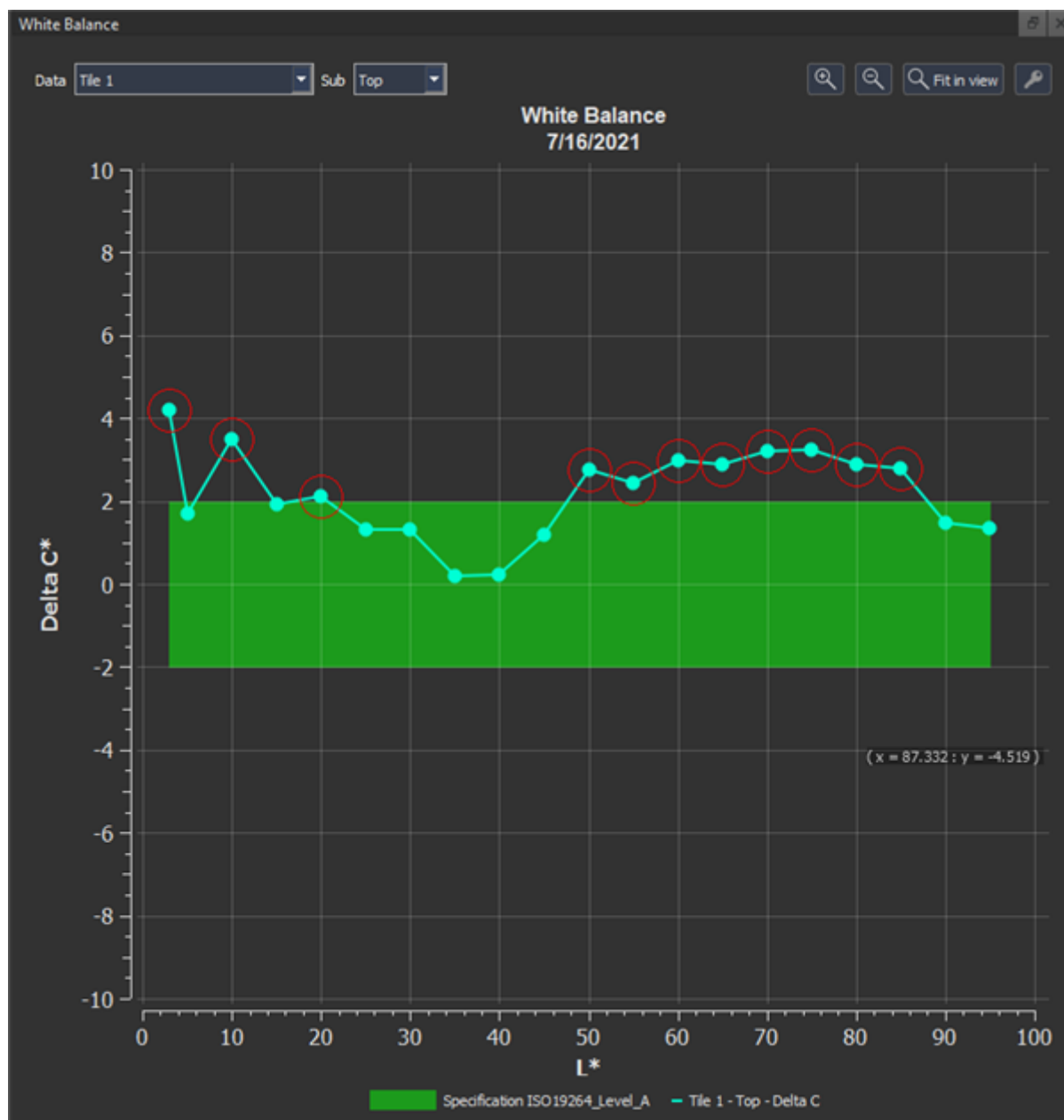
Delta_E: The Delta E in between the sample and a specific gray patch reference.

Lab_L: L^* value of the sample.

Additional information regarding $L^*a^*b^*$, LCh, Delta E, Delta L, Delta C, Delta H: If you express the $L^*a^*b^*$ color space in polar coordinates, you get the LCh space, where L is the luminance, C the chrominance (saturation), and H the hue (color tone). For each of these coordinates, a delta can be determined. The calculation method is defined in the specifications.

White Balance

White balancing is the adjustment of the color channel gains or image processing to achieve a visually neutral reproduction of the input image. It is measured as Delta C between the sample and reference on the UTT grayscale targets.



This plot shows the adjustment to keep the grayscale neutral. It shows Delta C over L* of the grayscale targets; at best, Delta C is 0. The tolerance range, defined in the specifications, is displayed in green, and values outside the tolerance range are outlined with a red circle.

Gain Modulation

Gain Modulation describes the reproduction of the tone values of the sample compared to the reference and is measured on the grayscale targets. If Delta L* of sample and reference is equal between two gray patches, the Gain Modulation equals 100%, meaning there is no modulation. A

typical example of Gain Modulation is an applied gamma curve.

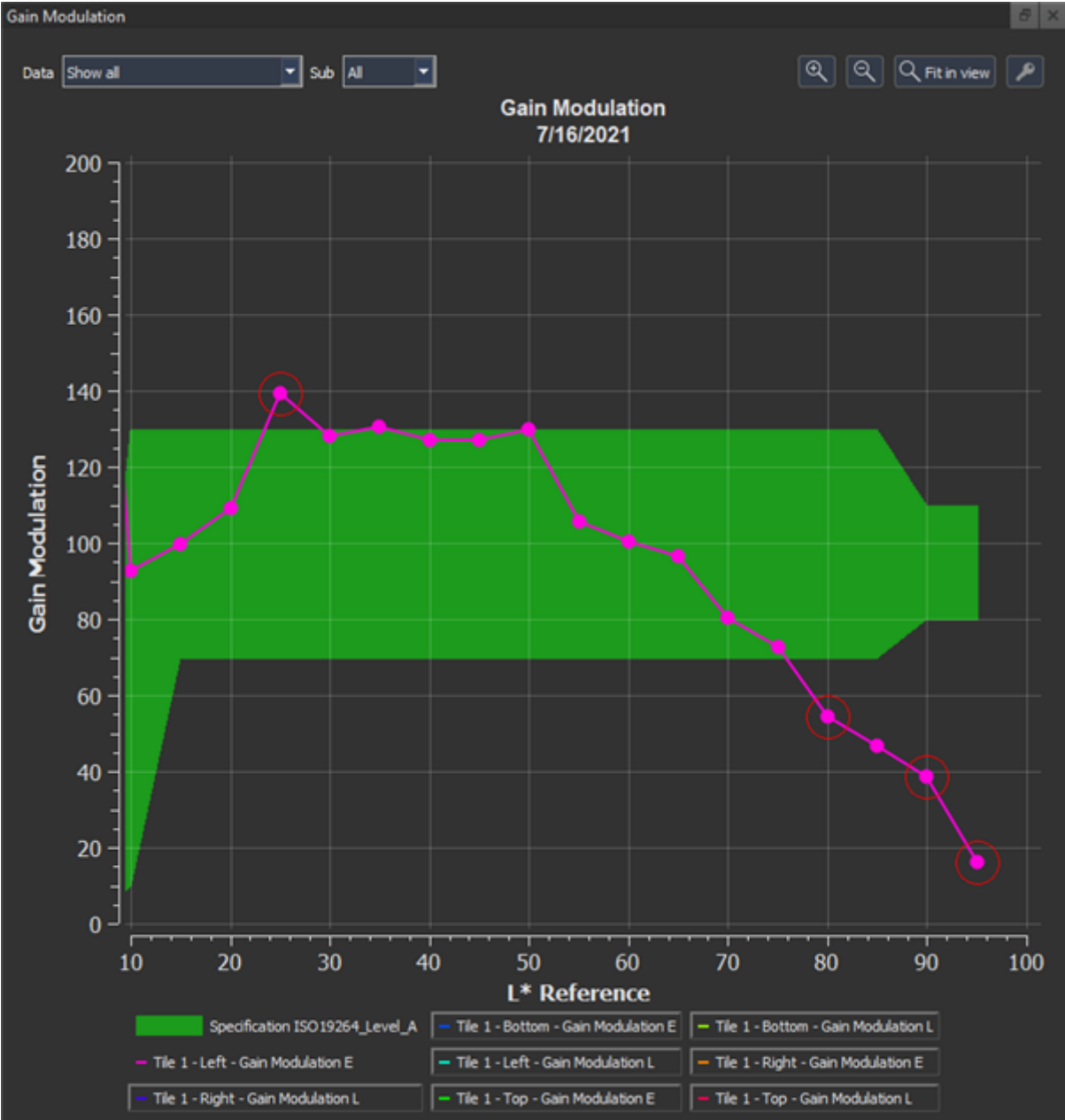
Example:

| UTT | L* | a* | b* | Delta L | Delta E |
|------------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------|---------|
| Sample gray patch 1 | 92.59 | -0.88 | -0.12 | | |
| Sample gray patch 2 | 89.82 | -0.74 | 0.82 | 2.77 | 2.93 |
| Reference gray patch 1 | 95 | 0 | 0 | | |
| Reference gray patch 2 | 92 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 |

Gain Modulation based on Delta L* is: $2.77 / 3.00 = 0.92 \rightarrow 92\%$ (OK)

Gain Modulation based on Delta E is: $2.93 / 3.00 = 0.98 \rightarrow 98\%$ (OK)

Graphical Results



The plot shows the gain modulation based on Delta E or Delta L*. The tolerance range defined in the specifications is displayed in green, and values outside the tolerance range are outlined with a red circle.

Numerical Results

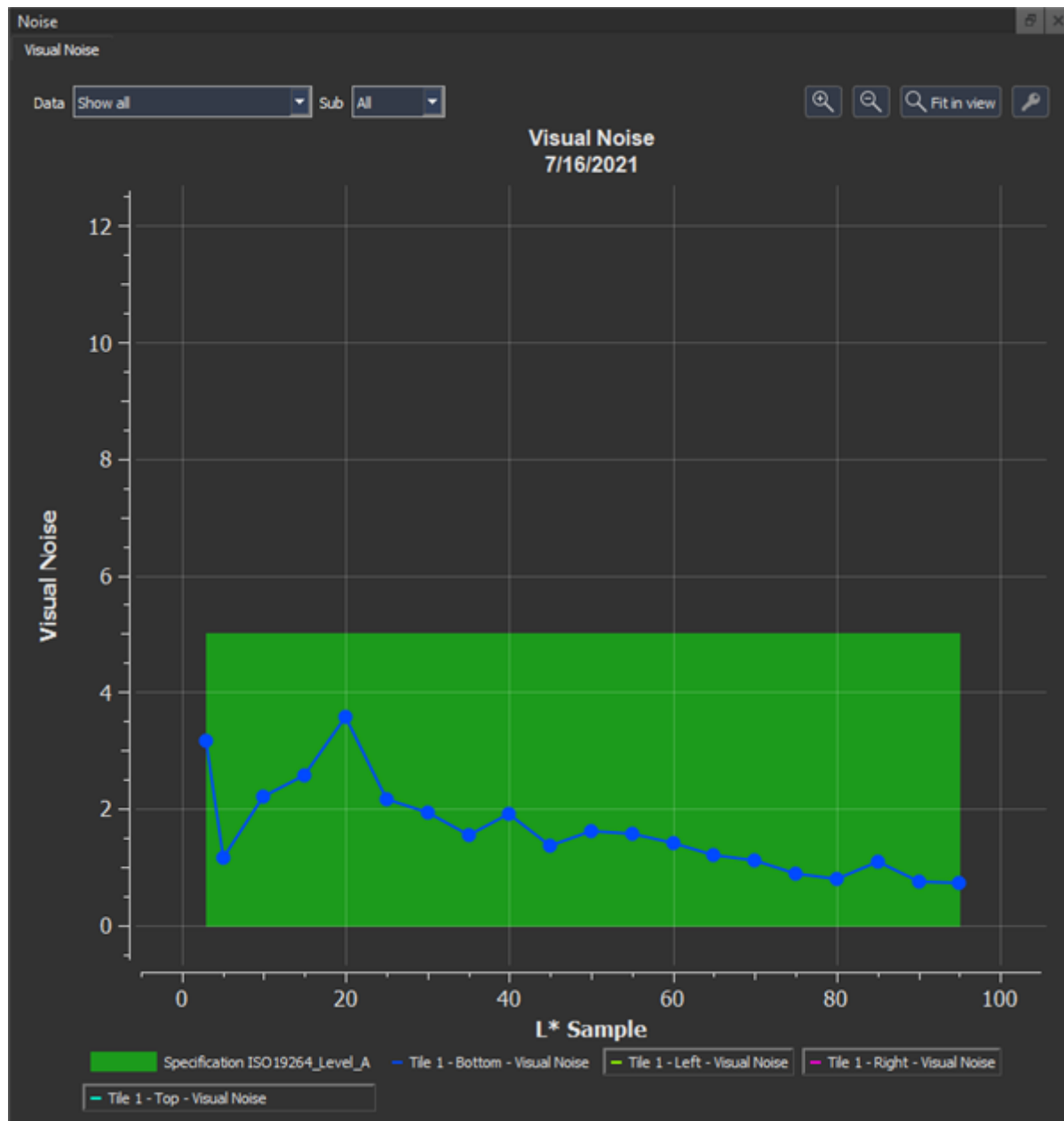
Gain_Modulation_E: Gain Modulation based on Delta E.

Gain_Modulation_L: Gain Modulation based on Delta L.

Noise

Noise is the degradation of a captured image caused by disturbances that are not related to the image signal's actual image content. It can be introduced to a system by the sensor, the quantization, or the image processing. Noise is measured on the single steps of the grayscale targets. The type of Noise measured depends on the specification you apply. In the case of the Metamorfoze specification, Noise equals the sample's standard deviation of L*. ISO19264:2017 contains Noise as "Visual Noise" and considers the Contrast Sensitivity Function and, thus, the human perception of Noise. For a proper noise measurement, the grayscales must be free from dust, dirt, or scratches.

Graphical Results



This plot shows the Visual Noise over L* of the gray patches of the sample.

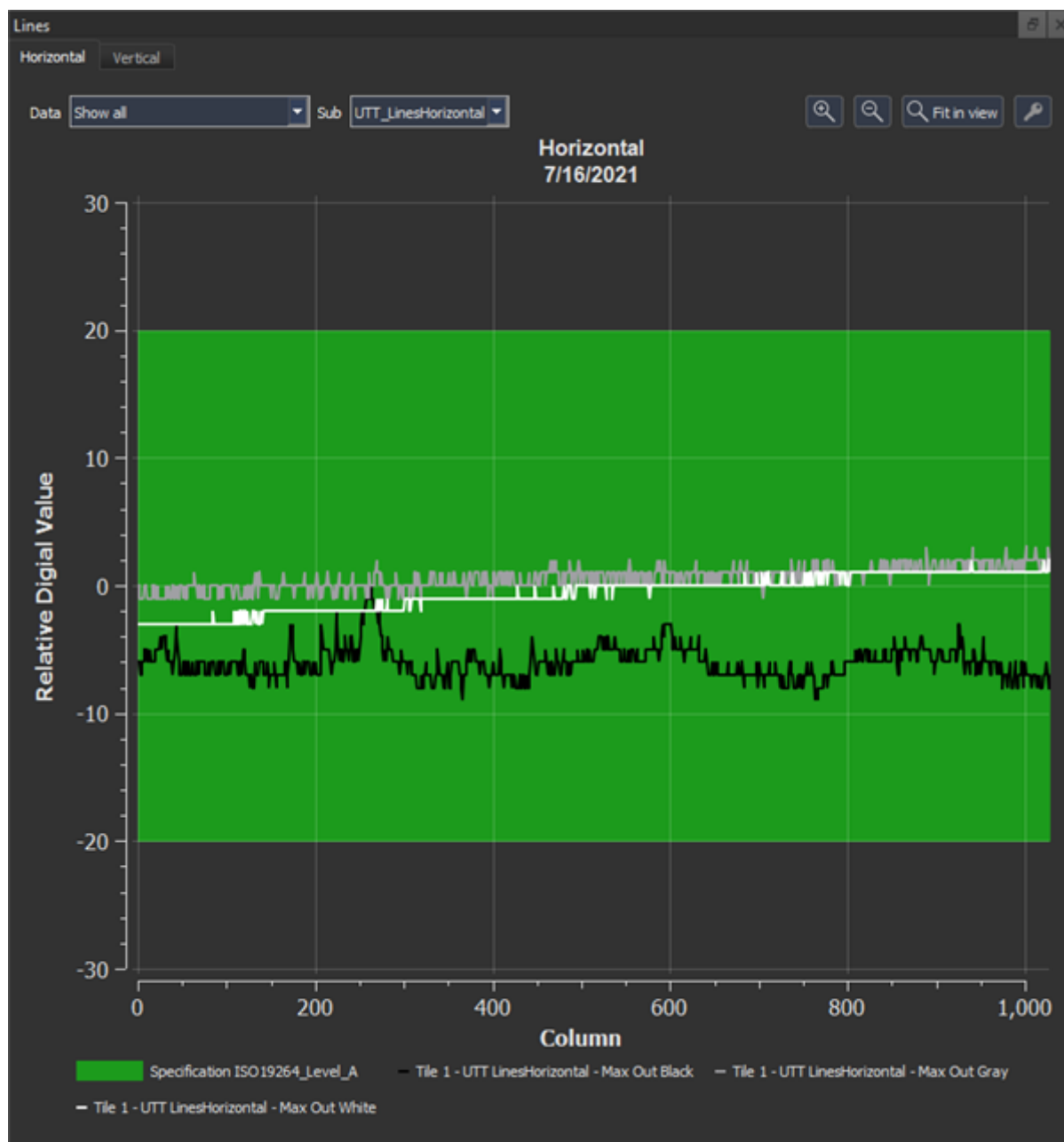
Numerical Results

STD_Dev_DV: This is the standard deviation of Y in digital values in a specific gray patch.

Visual_Noise: Visual Noise is described in ISO 15739. It correlates much better with the human perception of noise than a common SNR measurement.

Lines

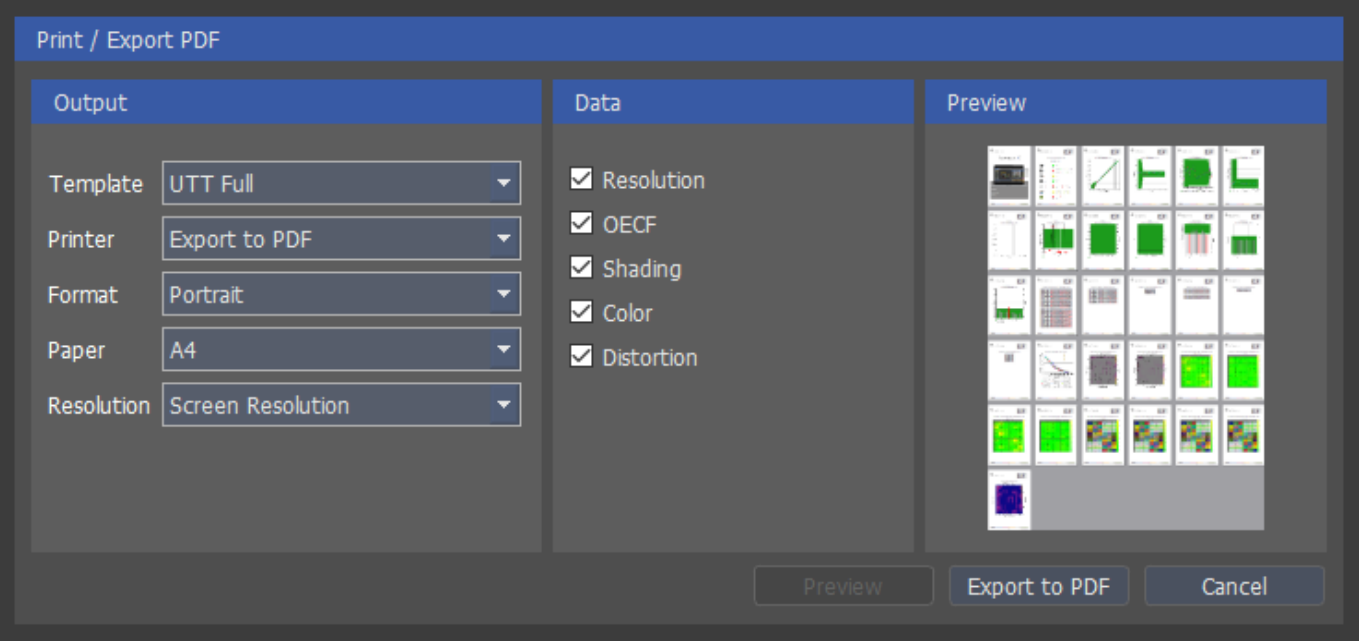
The Lines measurement helps identify unwanted stripe patterns or banding in an image. It is measured on the white, gray, and black horizontal and vertical lines, which are corrected for shading before the measurement.



The relative intensity of the white, black, and gray lines at the upper-horizontal and left-vertical border of each tile over its position is shown in this plot. The specified tolerance is displayed in green, and values out of specification are marked with a red circle.

Export of Results

You can export the results as a .xml file or a .pdf. If you select .pdf, choose “UTT Overview” as the template. If you only want to include the overview page in your report, choose “UTT Full” if you want to export the entire results.

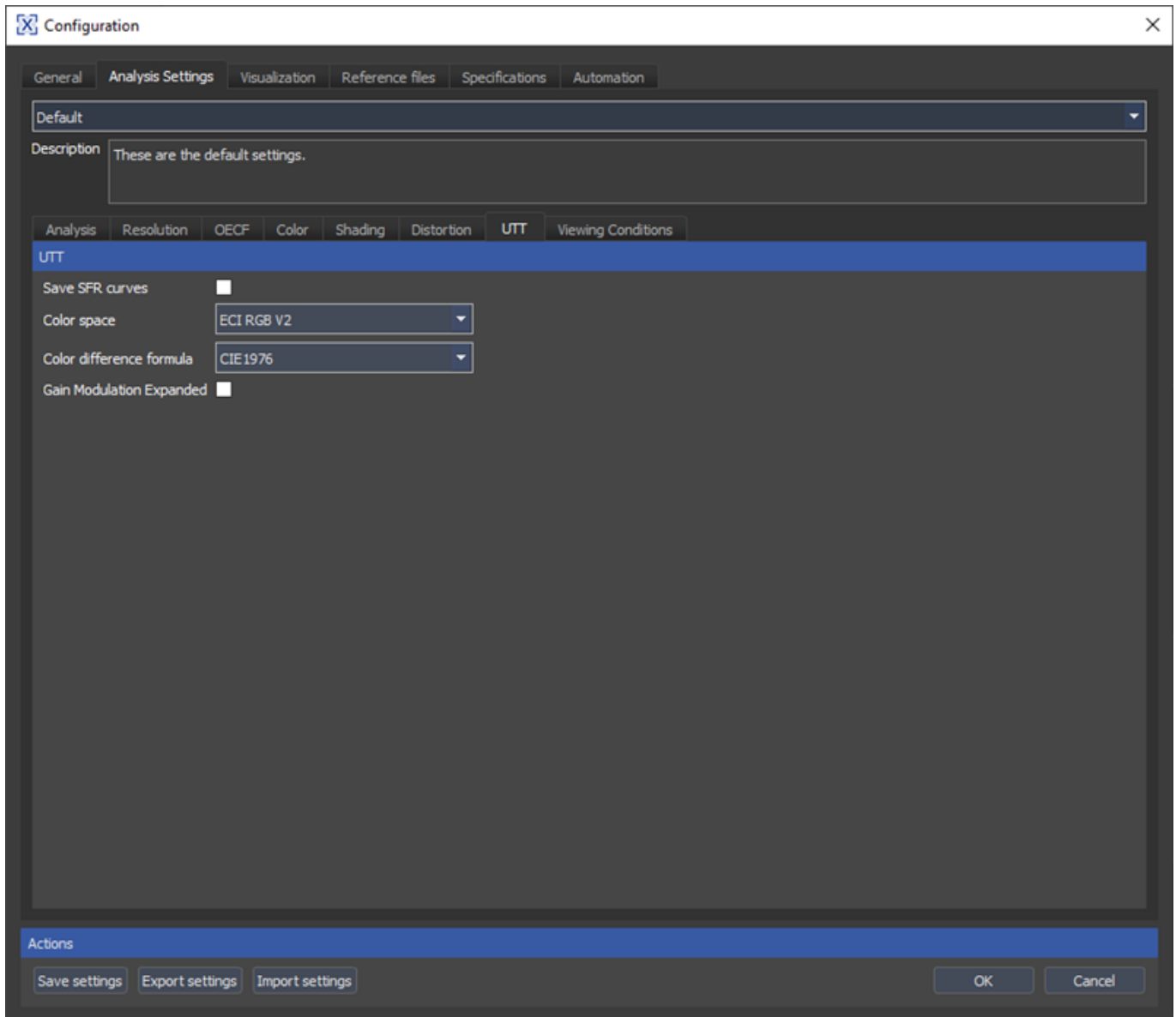


The .xml file includes all measurements as numerical values.

UTT Settings

You might need to change the UTT settings depending on the standard you want to apply. For example, the Metamorfoze standards require CIE 1976 as the color difference formula, and “Gain Modulation Expanded” has to be deactivated. For ISO19264, “Gain Modulation Expanded” has to be activated, and the color difference formula is CIE2000 SL1.

| Standard | Gain Modulation Expanded | Color Difference Formula |
|-------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| ISO19264 | on | CIE2000 SL1 |
| Metamorfoze | off | CIE 1976 |



Save SFR Curves

Activate this option to save all SFR curves to the database.

Color Difference Formula

Select the Color Difference Formula you want to apply for calculating Delta E, Delta L, and other metrics. More details about the formulas are stated in the [Color section](#).

Color Space

This setting only applies if you have selected “Embedded profile” as the color profile during image import, but the color profile cannot be read. In that case, the selected color space is used for the analysis.

Gain Modulation Expanded

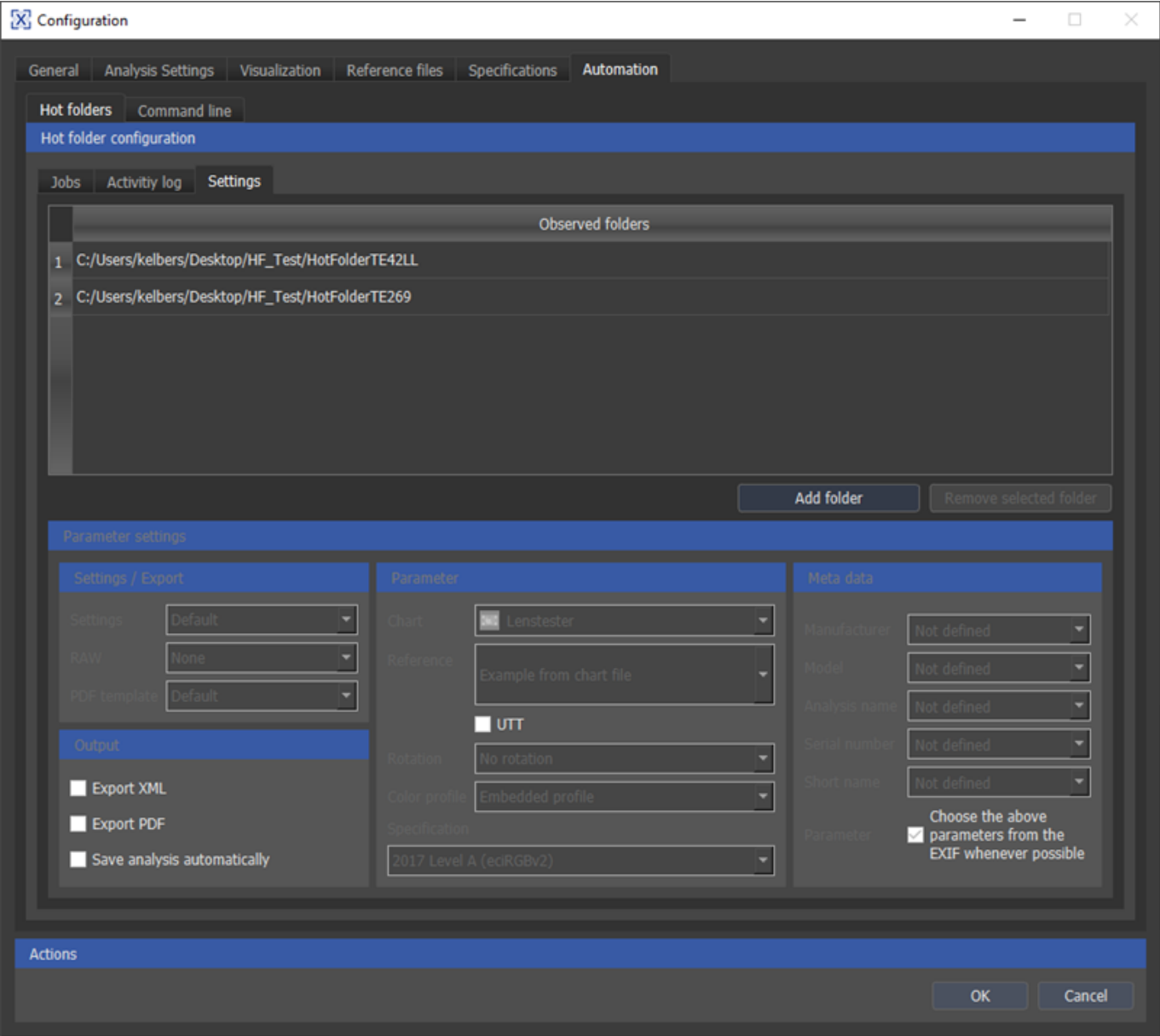
If selected, the L* spacing of two patches is used to calculate the gain modulation instead of a one-step spacing.

Automation

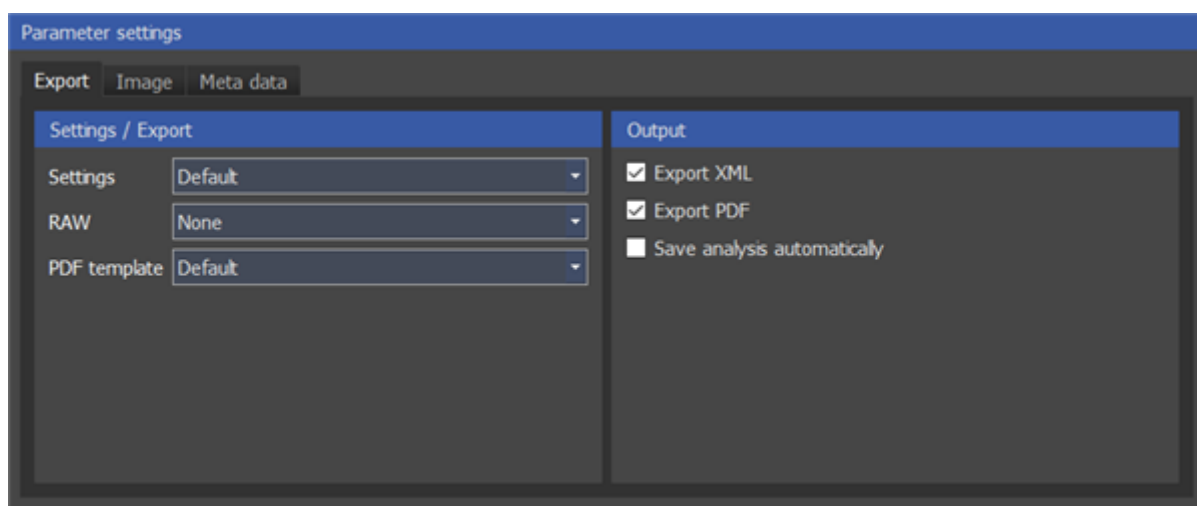
Two options are available to automate the image quality analysis, “Hot folders” or “Command Line.” A “Hot Folder” is a folder in which you can copy your test images for processing. All images in the folder are queued and then processed using the analysis settings you set for the folder. Use “Command Line” in the Windows Command Line Interface(CLI) to execute specific commands. A more convenient way to use command lines is to create a batch file. IQ-Analyzer-X provides a dialog to generate a simple batch file, so you do not need to start from scratch.

Hot Folders

To create a “Hot Folder,” go to the “Automation” tab in the “Configuration” dialog. Click on the “Hot folders” and then the “Settings” tab to show a list of the “Observed folders” and their settings.

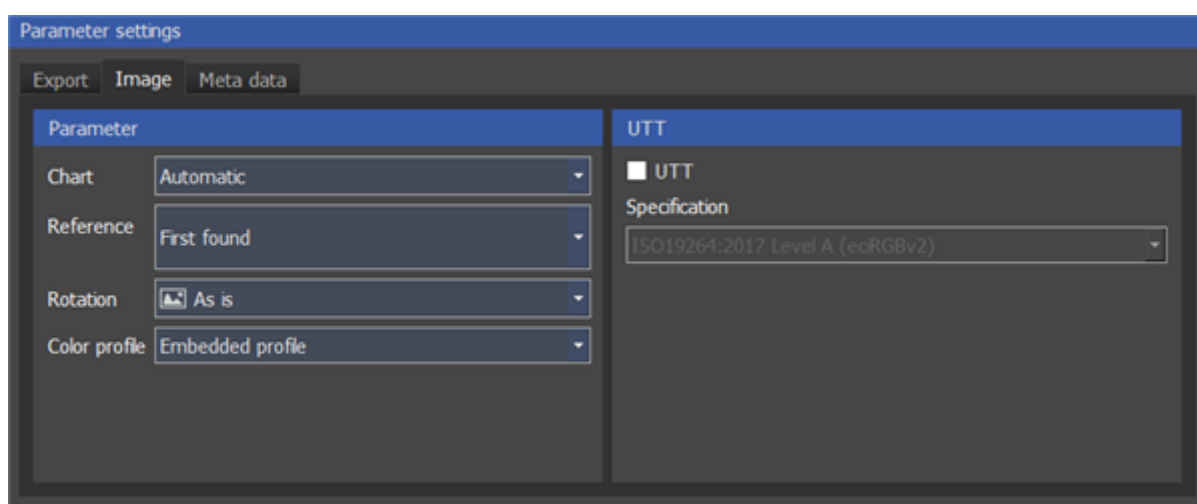


You can add and remove folders from the “Observed folders” list in the “Settings” tab. Each folder can have an individual configuration. For example, one folder could be for TE269 analysis and another for TE42LL, each with different analysis settings. To change the configuration of a folder, select it in the list; the selected folder will be highlighted. Note that you must first select an “Output” option to establish other settings. You can choose between “Export XML,” “Export PDF,” and “Save analysis automatically” as an output. “Save analysis automatically” saves the analysis in the connected database. All required settings are available once the checkbox is activated.

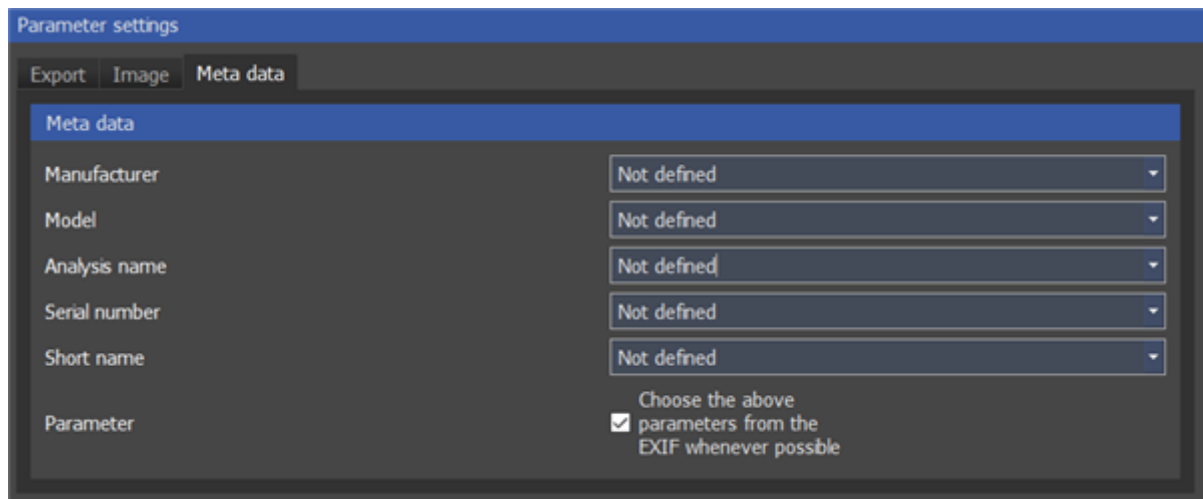


Under the “Image” tab you find all settings from the regular image import dialog. Check the UTT checkbox and select the desired specification in case you want to analyze a UTT.

If you set “Reference” to “automatic”, iQ-Analyzer-X will assign the most suitable reference file to the chart in terms of capture date and reference file validity. For example, if the capture date of the image is August 2023, it will choose the reference file valid in this period.

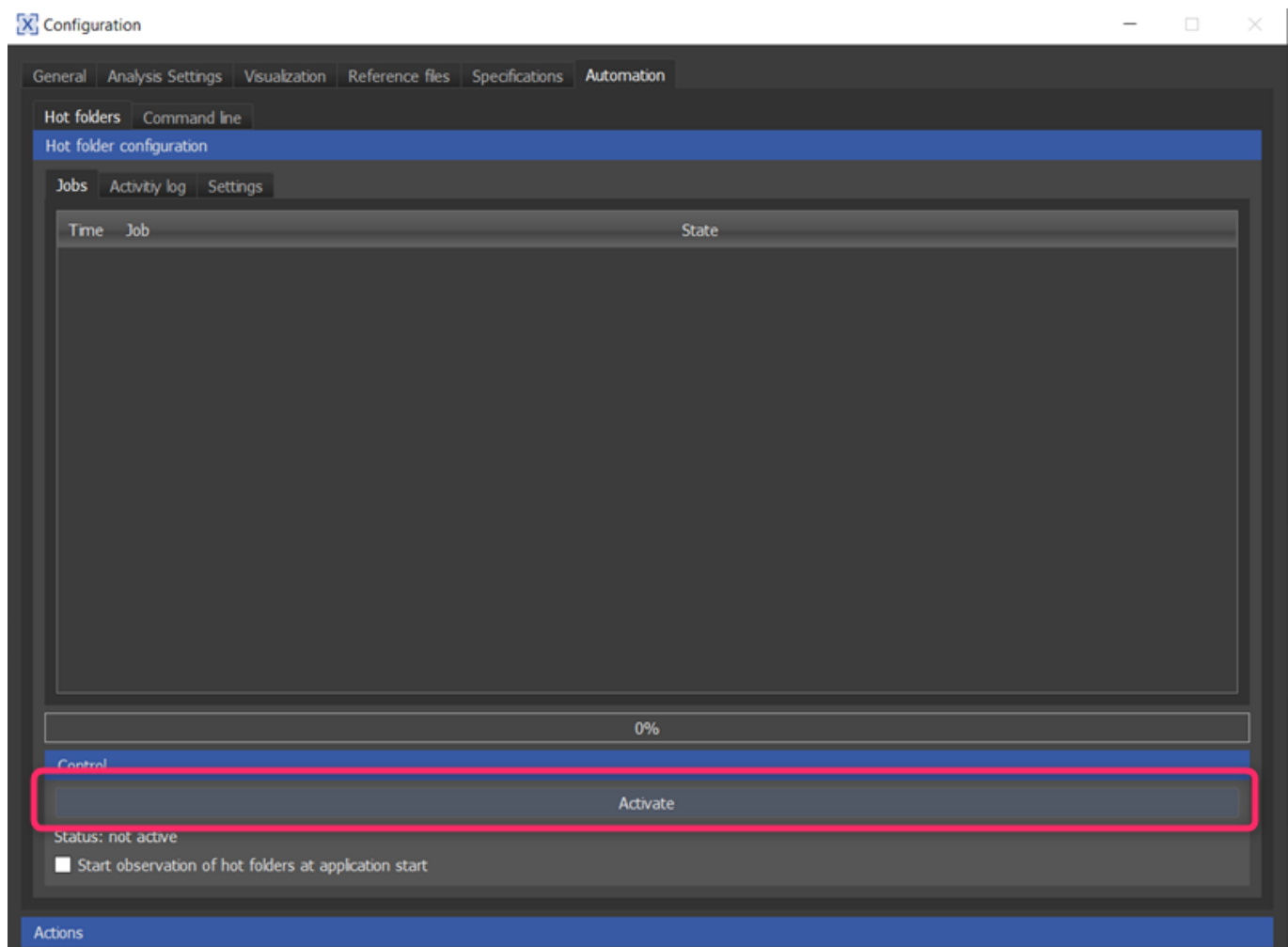


Provide information about the test images in the “Metadata” tab.



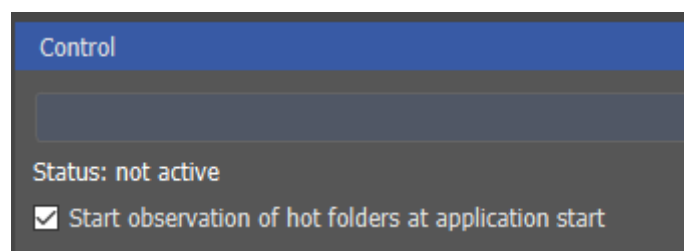
This information is used to save the analysis into the database or to name the PDF/XML file. Providing as much information as possible will help you find the analysis later in the database. Note that you do not need to enter an actual manufacturer or device model. You can also come up with names that fit your concept. If you check “Choose the above parameters from EXIF whenever possible,” the software uses EXIF data if available.

If all required information is provided, change to the “Activity log” or “Jobs” tab to activate the “Hot folder” with the “Activate” button.



Once the hot folder is activated, all images copied here are analyzed subsequently. The results are

saved either into your database if you have selected “Save analysis automatically” or in a subfolder called “output” if you selected “Export XML” or “Export PDF.” In the subfolder you can also find the “checkimages”, which show the detected ROIs. While the hot folder is activated, the software’s main window disappears and reappears as soon as it is deactivated. For convenience, activating the relevant checkbox can activate the “Hot folders” directly at the start-up of iQ-Analyzer-X.



During the next software start-up, only the “Automation” tab is seen, and the “Hot folder” is active immediately. Deactivate the “Hot Folder” to close the software after you finish.

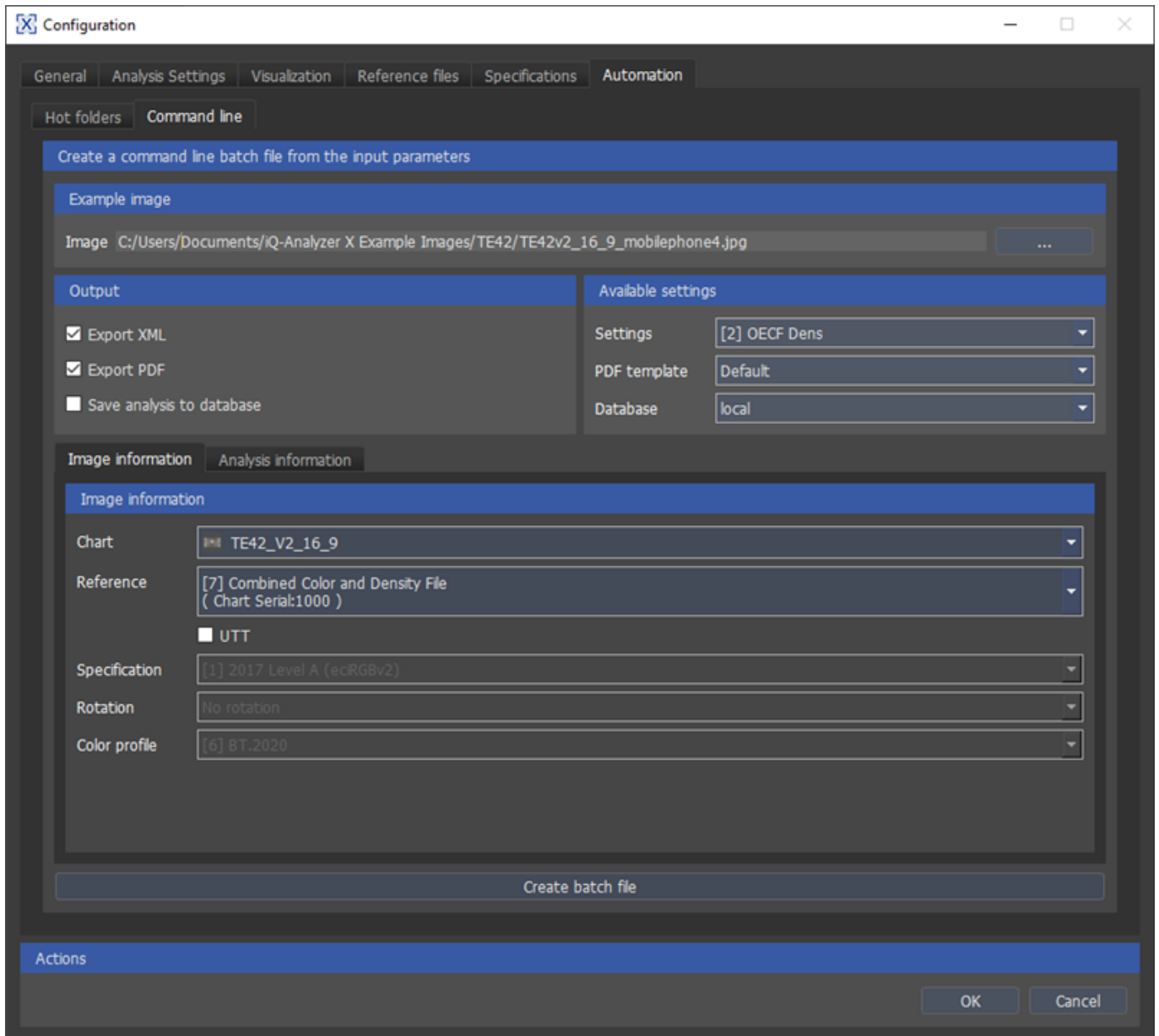
We recommend zipping the image files first if you have plenty of images to process. Copy this zip file to the hot folder to process all images in the container.

Command Line

Create a batch file

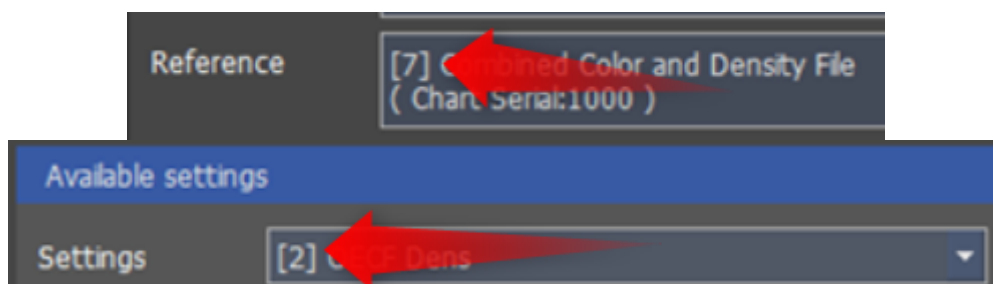
The advantage of creating a batch file is your ability to process multiple commands with a simple double-click. In the “Command Line” tab under “Automation,” you can create a batch file that you can use to develop more complex procedures. The batch file can be edited with a standard text editor.

Note that all commands must be in the same row to be processed correctly.



First, load an example image similar to the ones you want to process. Then enter all required information in the “Output” and “Available settings” sections and the “Analysis Information” and “Image Information” tabs. Once done, click on “Create batch file.” You can now save the file in your desired location.

The commands in the list below are available to extend the functionality of your batch file. You can use the regular command with “- -” or a short command with a single “-” before it. Some commands, e.g., “reference,” require an ID. The IDs are shown in brackets in the relevant dropdown menu entry of the command line tab.



| Command | Short command | Available Arguments | Description | Example |
|---------------|---------------|--|--|---|
| chart | c | "TheChartname" | The captured chart in all images | --chart="TE42_V2_16_9" |
| database | | "local", "YourDatabaseName" | The name of the database | --database="local" |
| enableMRE | - | - | Enable manual ROI editing in command line mode | --enableMRE |
| manufacturer | m | "YourManufacturer" or "Unknown" | The name of the camera manufacturer | --manufacturer="ExampleManufacturer" |
| model | - | "YourModel" | The model of the camera | --model="ExampleModel" |
| name | - | "YourAnalysisName" | The name of the analysis | --name="TE42LL_Lowlight_Test" |
| orientation | o | 0, 90, 180, 270 | The image orientation in degrees | --orientation=180 |
| pdf | p | "YourResultPDFPath+FileName" | Export result as PDF file | --pdf="C:/Users/Documents/TE42v2_16_9_mobilephone4_Report.pdf" |
| preferExif | i | - | Prefer EXIF meta data for analysis | --preferExif |
| profile | l | "Embedded profile", "Adobe RGB", "sRGB", "ECI RGB V2", "Display P3", "BT.2020" | The color profile | --profile="Adobe RGB" |
| reference | r | "YourReferenceID" | The ID of the reference file | --reference="5" |
| rois | - | "YourPathToROIs+FileName" | The path to the .xml file, which contains the ROIs | --rois="C:/Users/ADent/Desktop/MyROIs.xml" |
| save | v | - | Save analysis to database | --save |
| serial | - | "YourSerial" | The serial number of the camera | --serial="123456" |
| settingsID | s | settings ID as integer number | Defines the settings set used for this analysis by it's ID | --settingsID=1 |
| shortname | v | "YourShortName" | The short name of the analysis | --shortname="ExampleShortname" |
| specification | - | "YourSpecificationID" | The specification ID to be used with UTT charts | --specification="4" |
| template | t | "Default" | Define the template for PDF export | --template="Default" |
| utt | u | - | Make UTT analysis | --utt |
| xml | x | "YourResultXMLPath+FileName" | Export result as XML file | --xml="C:/Users/User/Documents/Images/TE42v2_16_9_mobilephone4_Results.xml" |

Example Batch Files

This is a simple batch file created with iQ-Analyzer-X that runs an analysis on a TE42 V2 .jpg image and saves a .xml and .pdf file with the results. Note, that the path to iQ-Analyzer-X.exe, the path to the image and the commands need to be in the same row. The format in this example is only for a better overview.

```
"C:/Program Files/Image Engineering/iQ-Analyzer-X 1.5.0/iQ-Analyzer-X.exe"
"C:/Users/User/Documents/TE42/TE42v2_16_9_mobilephone4.jpg"
--settingsID=1
--reference="7"
--template="Default"
--chart="TE42_V2_16_9"
```

```
--xml="C:/Users/User/Documents/TE42/TE42v2_16_9_mobilephone4.xml"
--pdf="C:/Users/User/Documents/TE42/TE42v2_16_9_mobilephone4.pdf"
--manufacturer="ExampleManufacturer"
--model="ExampleModel"
--name="ExampleName"
--serial="ExampleSerial"
--shortname="ExampleShortname"
--preferExif
```

This is a batch file that analyzes multiple .jpg images of a TE42 V2 and saves a .xml and .pdf file with the results.

```
"I:/iQ-Analyzer-NG/iQ-Anaylzer-src/iQ-AnalyzerNG/Analyzer_GUI/release/iQ-
Analyzer-X.exe"
"C:/Users/User/Documents/IE/iQ-Analyzer
Bilder/TE42/canm200_te42v2_iso100.JPG"
"C:/Users/User/Documents/IE/iQ-Analyzer
Bilder/TE42/canm200_te42v2_iso200.JPG"
"C:/Users/User/Documents/IE/iQ-Analyzer
Bilder/TE42/canm200_te42v2_iso400.JPG"
"C:/Users/User/Documents/IE/iQ-Analyzer
Bilder/TE42/canm200_te42v2_iso800.JPG"
"C:/Users/User/Documents/IE/iQ-Analyzer
Bilder/TE42/canm200_te42v2_iso1600.JPG"
"C:/Users/User/Documents/IE/iQ-Analyzer
Bilder/TE42/canm200_te42v2_iso3200.JPG"

--settingsID=1
--settingsID=2
--settingsID=3
--settingsID=2
--settingsID=2
--settingsID=1

--reference="-1"
--template="Default"
--xml="C:/Users/User/Documents/IE/iQ-Analyzer
Bilder/TE42/canm200_te42v2_iso1600.xml"
--pdf="C:/Users/User/Documents/IE/iQ-Analyzer
Bilder/TE42/canm200_te42v2_iso1600.pdf"
--manufacturer="Canon"
--model="EOS 200D"
--name="canm200_te42v2_iso1600.JPG"
--serial="56786543"
--shortname="Automationtest"
--preferExif
```

When you double-click a batch file, iQ-Analyzer-X starts from the command line and shows up in the taskbar. You can observe the processing of the images in the iQ-Analyzer-X window. When the analysis is finished, the CLI and the iQ-Analyzer-X window close automatically. If you do not save in the database, the .pdf or .xml results are saved in the provided path. A folder with the checkimages is

created in the folder of the analyzed image.

Custom Chart Layouts

If you have ordered a custom chart from Image Engineering that can be analyzed by iQ-Analyzer-X, you will receive a chart file (*.chart) and the corresponding reference file (*.ref). The *.chart file contains information about the layout with its targets, and the reference file contains the color and/or density values.

Copy the *.chart file into the "charts" folder of the iQ-Analyzer-X version you want to use.

C:\Program Files\Image Engineering\iQ-Analyzer-X...\resources\charts

Note, that it has to be copied again, if you update iQ-Analyzer-X.

Import the reference file as described in the chapter ["Reference Files"](#) .

The reference file will be imported in the database and is not affected by future updates.

Note that if you want to analyze a custom chart, the automatic recognition won't work because it is not trained for custom charts. If this happens often, you can disable automatic chart classification in the "General" tab in the configuration dialog.

Abbreviations

DUT - Device under Test

DV - Digital Value

GUI - Graphical User Interface

LCA - Longitudinal Chromatic Aberration

LGD - Lens Geometric Distortion

LP - Linepairs

MTF - Modulation Transfer Function

OECF - Opto Electronic Conversion Function

PH - Picture Height

PX - Pixel

ROI - Region of Interest

SFR - Spatial Frequency Response

SNR - Signal-to-Noise Ratio

Troubleshooting

In the event of any technical issues, please contact image engineering support.

Phone

+49 2273 99 99 1-60

Email

support@image-engineering.de

Please remember to provide your version number. If you are having trouble analyzing an image, please send the image of concern with the iQ-Analyzer.log file. The file is located here:

C:\Users\YourUserName\AppData\Roaming\Image Engineering\iQ-Analyzer-X

Thanks for your help!

Regulations

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End user license agreement (EULA)

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QsLog

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<https://github.com/victronenergy/QsLog>

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