Instructions Manual for Integrated Localization Environment (ILE)

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Overview

Integrated Localization Environment (ILE) is a plug-in for Matlab to evaluate and process single molecule localization microscopy (SMLM) data. It is a running project, which means that further routines can be added in future. If you have suggestions or find any bugs, please let us know.

Requirements:

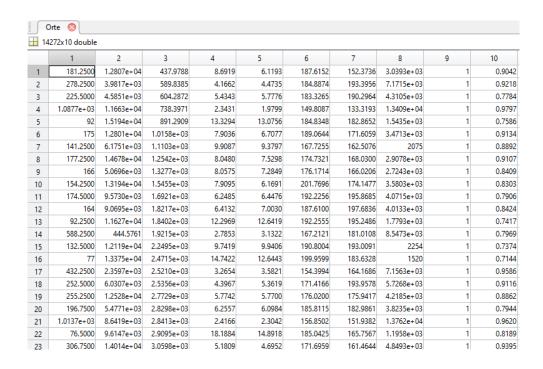
- Matlab 2012a or higher
- Image Processing Toolbox
- Statistics and Machine Learning Toolbox

Supported Input File Formats:

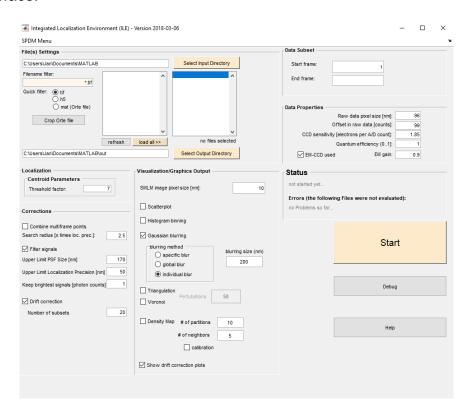
- Tagged Image File Format (.tiff)
- Hierarchical Data Format (.h5, as output by PYthon Microscopy Environment (PYME))
- MAT-file (list of localizations in *Orte* format)

Format of Orte file

- Column 1: Maximum of signal peak in photons
- Column 2: x-coordinate of signal
- Column 3: y-coordinate of signal
- Column 4: localization precision in x-direction
- Column 5: localization precision in y-direction
- Column 6: width of PSF in x-direction
- Column 7: width of PSF in y-direction
- Column 8: accumulated intensity in photons
- Column 9: frame number
- Column 10: accumulated intensity of signal after signal separation divided by intensity of signal before signal separation



User Interface:



Quick Start Guide

1. Open the input directory of the raw SMLM acquisitions by clicking on the Select Input Directory button.

- 2. Select the appropriate file type of your raw SMLM acquisition. If the correct file type is selected, files will occur in the file list. Furthermore, the list can be filtered by specific file names.
- To select files for evaluation just click on them and they will be added to the
 processing file list. If several files are selected they will be batch processed.
 To remove files from evaluation just click on their file names in the processing
 file list.
- 4. Next, select the directory, where you want to save the results of the SMLM evaluation (list of localization, here called *Orte*, reconstructed SMLM images etc.) by clicking on the *Select Output Directory* button.
- 5. Add the camera properties that were used to capture the data.
- 6. (Optional) To evaluate only a subset of each image stack, enter the start and end frame. If you want an evaluation until the last frame of each stack, let the field *End frame* empty.
- 7. In the *Centroid Parameters* panel enter the threshold value that should be used by the localization algorithm. A value of 3 is usually a good starting point.
- 8. (Optional) To apply correction procedures check or uncheck the corresponding routines (for details see section Components).
- 9. Finally, enter the pixel size of the reconstructed SMLM image and visualization method that should be used.
- 10. To start the evaluation, press the Start button.

Components

File Settings Panel:

Select Input Directory: Select directory which contains SMLM raw data

localization file directory.

Filename Filter: Filters data in the selected directory according to

filename and file type.

Quick Filter: Filters data in the selected directory according to

the file type. Currently .tif and .h5 file formats are

supported. Furthermore, list of localization

(following the specifications of *Orte* files with ending *.mat) can be selected and used for correction and

visualization routines.

Crop Orte File: Opens a dialog box, where an *Orte* file can be

selected. A SMLM visualization from the Orte file will be opened and the user can draw a rectangle

around a region he wants to crop.

Refresh: Refresh the input file list if a new directory or filter

name is entered.

Loads all files from the input file list into the

processing file list.

Select Output Directory: Select directory in which the results will be saved. If

no directory is entered, the program creates by default a folder called "out" in the directory selected

by input file directory.

Data Subset Panel:

Start Frame: Sets the frame number from where the evaluation

of the image data stack should start.

End Frame: Last frame for evaluation. If empty, the image data

stack will be evaluated until the end.

Data Properties Panel:

Raw data pixel size: Pixel size of the camera in nm. Offset in raw data: Offset of camera in counts.

CCD sensitivity: Conversion factor to convert from counts to

electrons.

Quantum efficiency: Quantum efficiency of camera [0..1]

EM-CCD used Check if EM-CCD with EM gain is used, uncheck

for conventional CCD.

EM gain of EM-CCD camera.

Localizations Panel:

Threshold factor: Sets the threshold value for signal extraction by the

localization algorithm. A value of 3 is usually a good

starting point.

Corrections Panel:

Combine multiframe points: Check if you want to remove points occurring in

consecutive frames. You can also specify the radius

for multiframe point search in multiples of the

localization precision.

Filter signals: Check if you want to filter the list of localizations.

Filtering can be done for PSF size, localization precision and maximum intensity of signals.

Drift correction: Check if you want to correct the list of localization

for drift. One can specify the number of subsets in

which the image data stack should be split.

Visualization/Graphics Output Panel:

SMLM image pixel size: Final pixel size of the reconstructed image in nm.

Scatterplot Scatterplot representation of point coordinates. Will

be saved as Matlab figure.

Histogram Binning Points are binned into a grid, where grid size is

specified by SMLM image pixel size.

Gaussian blurring Similar to histogram binning, but every point is

blurred by a Gaussian. Following blurring methods

can be selected:

Specific blur: Every point is blurred with a sigma specified by the user (blurring size in

nm).

Global blur: Every point is blurred with a sigma equally to the mean x- and y-localization precision of the data set.

Individual blur: Every point is blurred with a sigma corresponding to its mean x- and y-

localization precision. (Different localization precisions will be binned. Default number of bins between max. and min. localization

precision 100.)

Triangulation Visualization based on triangulation. Number of

perturbations describes the number of iterations, where a new set of localizations is created. In the new set of localizations points are randomly distributed within their corresponding localization precision to smooth the triangles. Resulting image

is the sum over all images.

Voronoi Similar to Triangulation, but with Voronoi cells.

Density map Every pixel in the reconstructed image represents

the local density (mean distance to next neighbours, where number of neighbours is specified). To save memory and accelerate processing, image can be partitioned (Number of points in one partition should be larger than number

of neighbours for calculation).

If calibration is checked local density is calibrated to

number of events per square nm.

Show drift correction plots: If checked the calculated drift will be plotted.

All reconstructed images will be saved as tif. – file, containing the pixel size of reconstruction as metadata. Scatterplots are saved as Matlab figures.

Status Panel:

Shows the status of evaluation and possible errors during runtime.

Latest settings in GUI are saved when closing figure.

Troubleshooting

Error occurs during runtime and start button is disabled:

Click on *SPDM Menu* in the upper left corner of the GUI and press *Enable Start Button*.