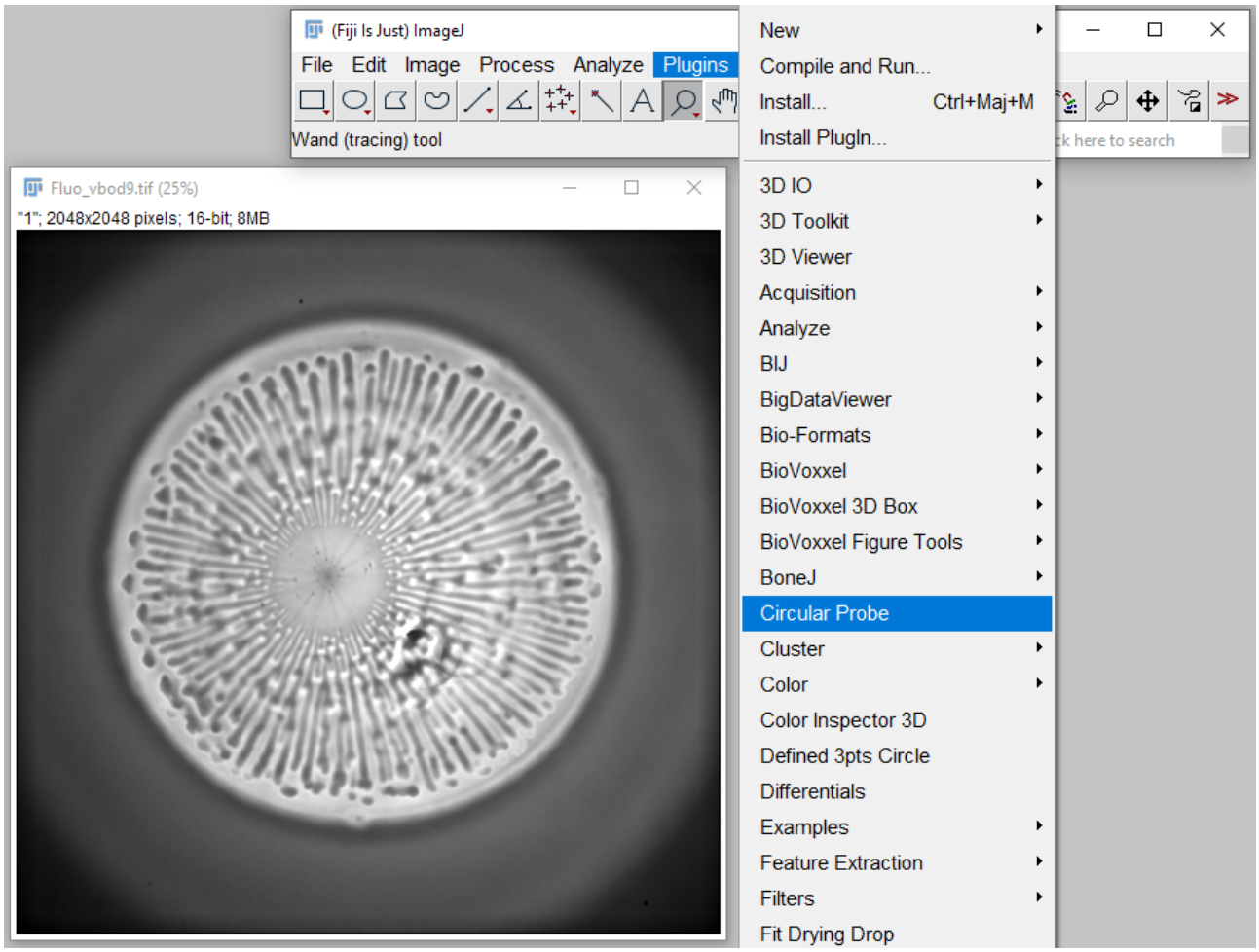
Tutorial: Circular Probe plugin (v1.0)

Description: to propose a tool able to probe, on an image, the grey values along the perimeter of a circle (previously drawn on the image by the user). As option, you can smooth the image and thus reduce its noise: image pre-processings can be selected and adjusted via parameters. Results: one data table and one graph.

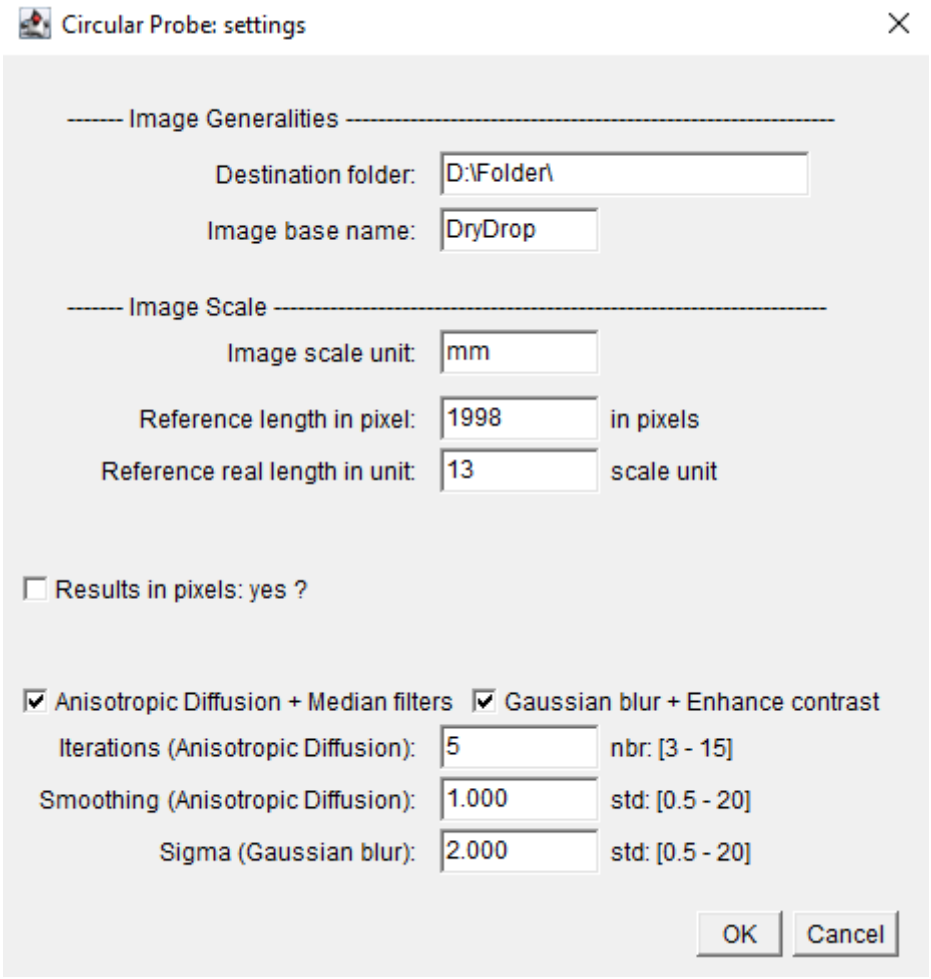
Step 1: import the plugin in ImageJ/FIJI. Restart ImageJ/FIJI.

Step 2: open the image and then select the Circular Probe plugin.



Note: image (fluorescence) of a dryed 0.5 µl deionized water + Bodipy ([C] = 1.0×10^{-6}) sessile drop acquired via a microscope (x10 objective, camera: 2048x2048 pixels)

Step 3: fill in the fields with the appropriate information, then click OK.



Results in pixels: check "yes" is equivalent to fill in 1.0 in both the Reference length and the Reference real length fields.

Anisotropic Diffusion: is a 2D edge preserving de-noising filter[1], plugin (v0.3) written by C. Rueden, J. Schindelin, M. Hiner and J-Y. Tinevez[2]. The user can set: the number of the iterations; the strength of the smoothing parameter; the strength of the Gaussian blur.

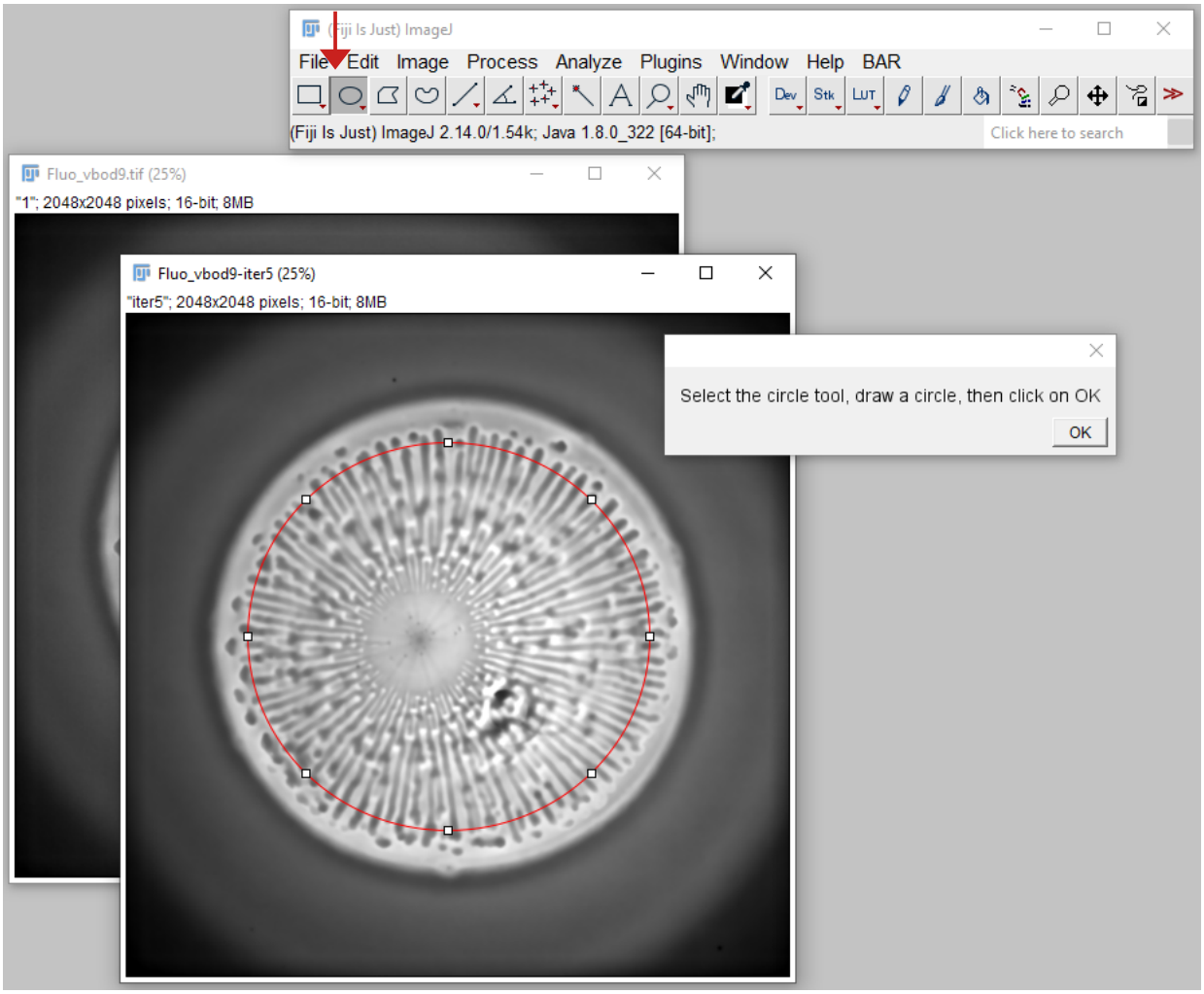
Median filter, Gaussian blur, Enhance contrast: are the image common processing tools proposed in the ImageJ's thumbnail Process.

Remark: the image processing generates a new image on which the probe circle must be drawn (see Step 4).

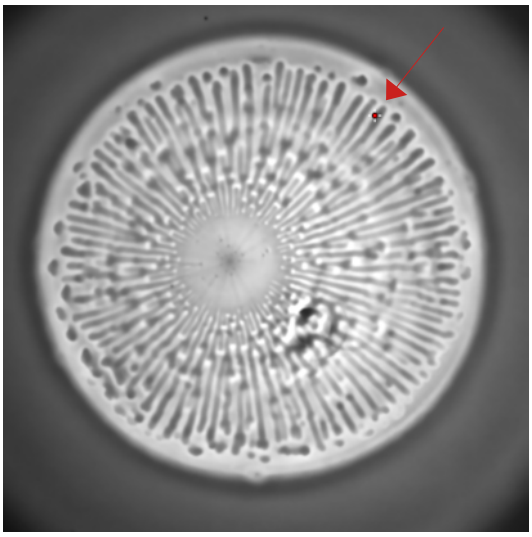
1 Tschumperle, D., & Deriche, R. (2005). Vector-valued image regularization with PDEs: a common framework for different applications. IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence, 27(4), 506–517. doi:10.1109/tpami.2005.87

2 https://github.com/fiji/Anisotropic_Diffusion_2D

Step 4: select the "Oval, Elliptical or Brush selections" tool on the ImageJ banner, draw a circle by hand on the new (processed) image, then click OK.



Remark: since the circle is drawn by hand, the minor and minor axes are slightly different → the radius of the circle, used for the probe, is equal to the average between the minor and the major axes.



On the image, the probe is embodied by a red spot. This spot scans the image along the circle.

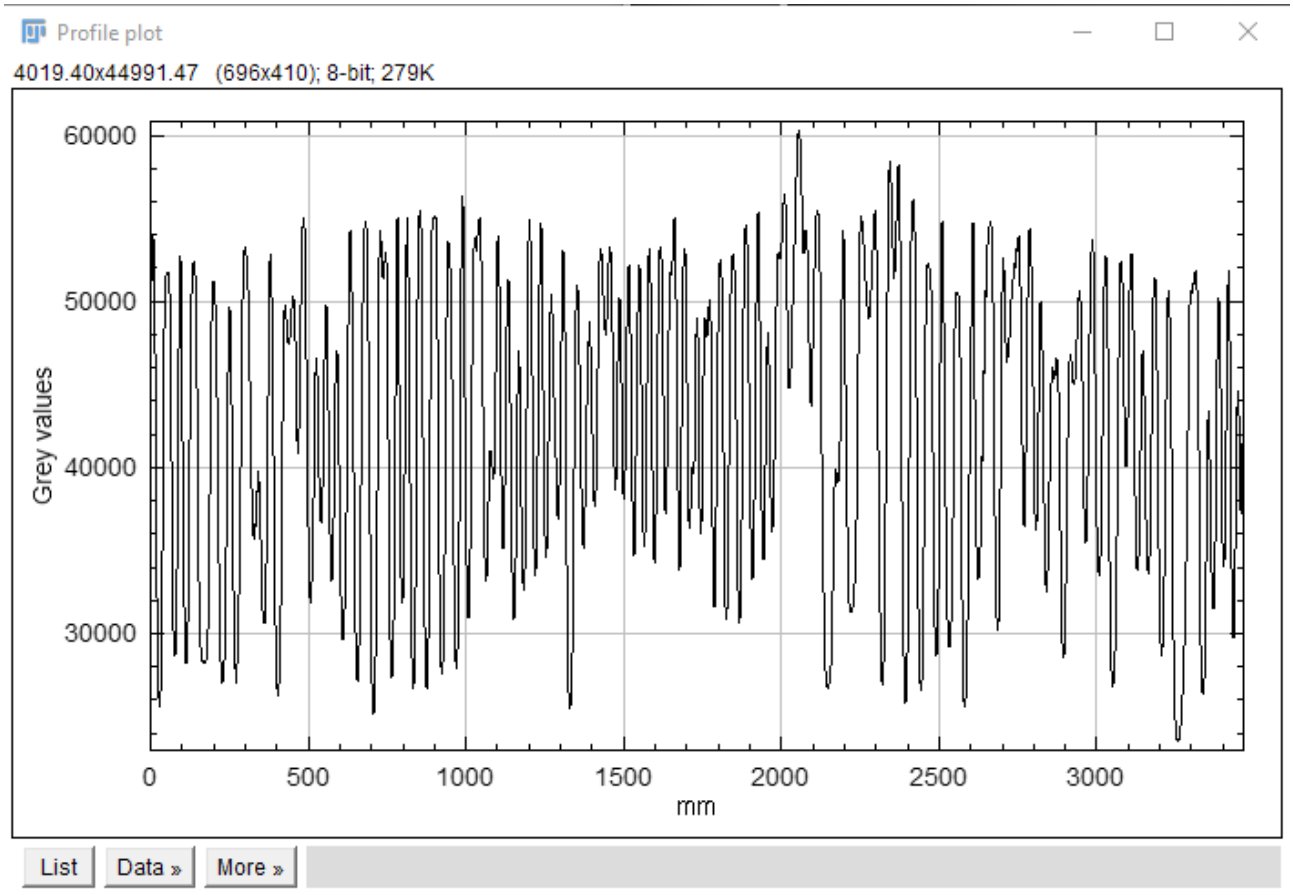
Results: one table and one graph are generated.

Grey values Table

File Edit Font

Increments	Abscissas in mm	Ordinates in mm	Grey values
0	3.650	3.678	46649
1	3.657	3.672	48724
2	3.663	3.665	50543
3	3.670	3.659	51959
4	3.676	3.653	52917
5	3.683	3.646	53478
6	3.689	3.640	53761
7	3.696	3.633	53864
8	3.702	3.627	53823

"Grey values Table" contains the coordinates (in the scale unit) for each point, probed along the circle, and its grey level value.



"Profile plot" shows the grey value probed along the circle's perimeter.

Plugin limitations: 8 or 16 bits grey image; developed on ImageJ 1.54 K (may not work properly on earlier version).

If this plugin is used in your application and research, please reference it in your paper.