

# Concatenate Invisibly

This Add-in allows the user to concatenate multiple files at one time saving RAM by not having all the files open in individual windows. This add-in allows users to utilize two different methods for opening and combining multiple files. The background of this add-in is the Multiple File Import (MFI) feature present in the File menu of JMP.

This platform allows for opening many files at once and supports multi-threading. CSVs are opened much faster, but at the expense of not being 100% read so users may notice changes in column types from opening previously.

There are two scripts within the Concatenate Invisibly add-in: **Concatenate Invisibly vX.y** and **Change Default vX.y**. Concatenate Invisibly is for obtaining/combining files and Change Default allows the user to update default settings.

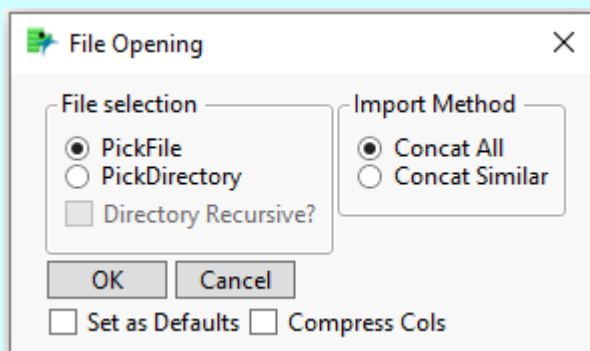
The first time the **Concatenate Invisibly** is run, a dialog box opens which allows the users to choose what kind of file opening procedure they wish to follow and if the chosen procedure should be used as the default.

## File Selection-

- 1) Pick File: Allows the user to navigate to a folder and select the specific files desired for concatenation.
  - a. Useful if there are several files in the folder, yet only a few are necessary to concatenate
- 2) Pick Directory: Allows the user to navigate to a folder where all files from said folder(s) will be concatenated together
  - a. Useful if all files are needed without the need to cherry-pick
- 3) Directory Recursive
  - a. Script now allows files to be opened recursively through all subfolders

## Import Method-

- 1) Concat All: Uses the MFI function to open and combine files, but forces all files to be concatenated
  - a. Concat Similar is the default method for MFI so this allows the user to force files to be concatenated together
    - i. Concat Similar is JMP's method of intelligently combining files. If files opened are "different" they will be opened in several files where 'like' will be combined with 'like'
  - b. In the event files are similar but enough differences exist that JMP deems the files different, Concat All allows the user to override the default of MFI to create a single file.
- 2) Concat Similar: Uses the MFI function to open and combine files, but allows JMP to match 'like' tables with 'like' tables



If the '**Set as Default**' checkbox is selected, the choices will be saved in a file stored in the AppData directory. Whenever the tool runs, it will use these variable choices and the File Opening dialog will not show.

If the '**Compress Cols**' checkbox is selected, the script will automatically compress all columns upon importing for each table.

NOTE – Compress Cols will save file space and time for saving/opening larger files, but will take more time to process at the time of import

Choices can be changed at any time by running the **Change Default** script.

Files concatenated will have a 'File Name' column which equates to the full filename of the file used to concatenate. This will include the file extension as well as file path if recursive is selected. If there were 503 files concatenated, there should be 503 unique 'File Name' items.

The final file(s) will have any duplicate rows selected. The user can choose to leave the rows in or delete them.

Please contact Nathan Clark ([nathan-clark@idexx.com](mailto:nathan-clark@idexx.com)) if any questions arise not answered by this document.