

IM Series

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

Model
IM-3LD

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Warning

This microscope is a scientific precision instrument designed to last for many years with a minimum of maintenance. It is built to high optical and mechanical standards and to withstand daily use. We remind you that this manual contains important information on safety and maintenance, and that it must therefore be made accessible to the instrument users. We decline any responsibility deriving from incorrect instrument use that does not comply with this manual.

Symbols and conventions

The following chart is an illustrated glossary of the symbols that are used in this manual.



CAUTION

This symbol indicates a potential risk and alerts you to proceed with caution.



ELECTRICAL SHOCK

This symbol indicates a risk of electrical shock.

Safety Information



Avoiding Electrical Shock

Before plugging in the power supply, make sure that the supplying voltage of your region matches with the operation voltage of the equipment and that the lamp switch is in off position. Users should observe all safety regulations of the region. The equipment has acquired the CE safety label. However, users have full responsibility to use this equipment safely. Please follow the guidelines below, and read this manual in its entirety to ensure safe operation of the unit.

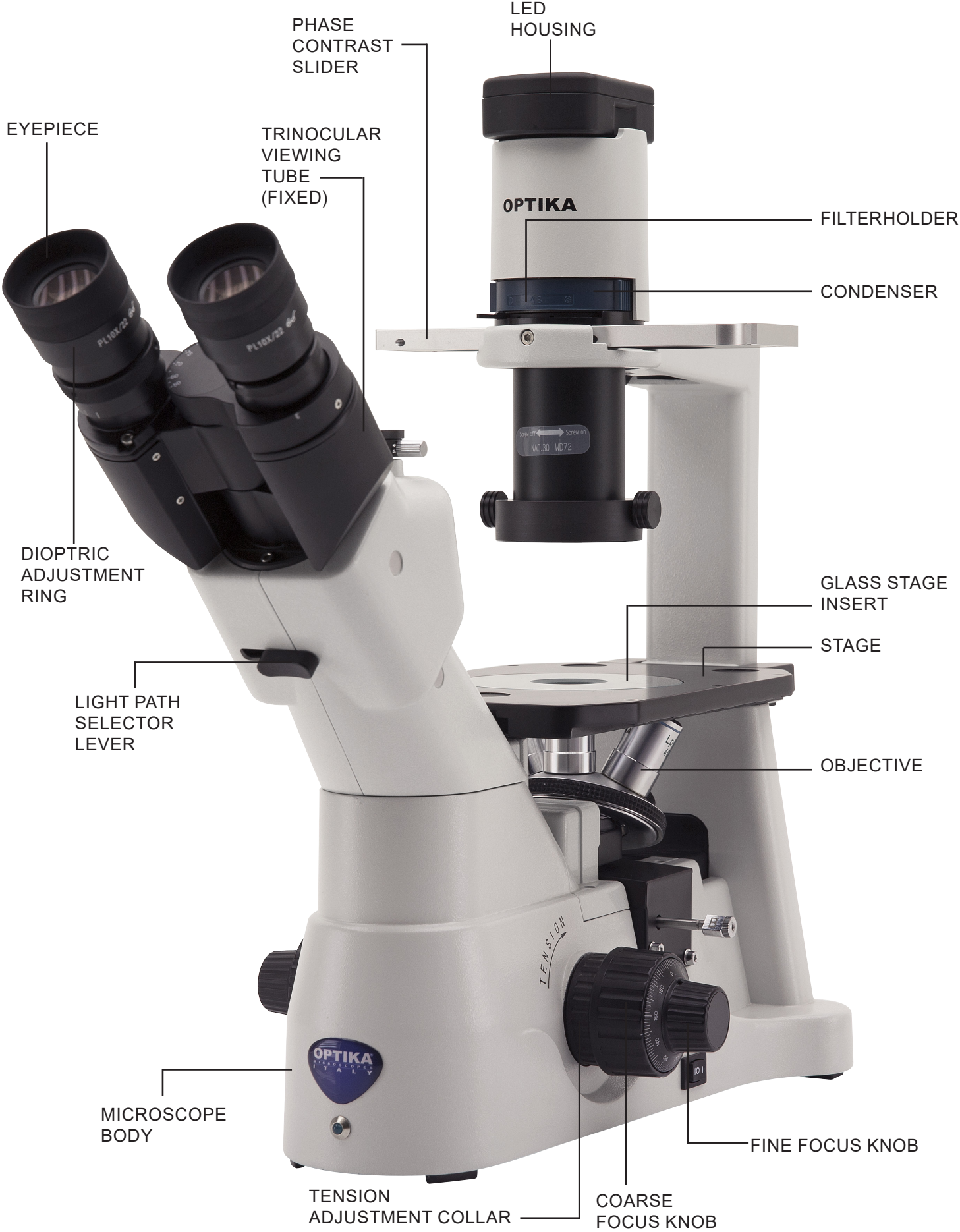
Intended use

For research and teaching use only. Not intended for any animal or human therapeutic or diagnostic use.

List of accessories and spare parts

CAT. NO.	DESCRIPTION
M-780	Eyepiece EWF10x/22mm.
M-781	Eyepiece micrometer EWF10x/22mm.
M-005	26x76 mm micrometric slide. Range 1 mm, div. 0,01 mm.
M-782	Objective IOS LWD PLAN Achromatic 4x/0,10 (w.d. 22mm).
M-782.1	Objective IOS LWD PLAN Achromatic for phase contrast 4x/0.13 (w.d. 16.9mm).
M-783N	Objective IOS LWD PLAN Achromatic for phase contrast 10x/0,25 (w.d. 7,94mm).
M-784N	Objective IOS LWD PLAN Achromatic for phase contrast 20x/0,40 (w.d. 7,66mm).
M-785	Objective IOS LWD PLAN Achromatic for phase contrast 40x/0,60 (w.d. 3,71mm).
M-786	Objective IOS LWD PLAN Achromatic 60x/0,70 (w.d. 2,50mm).
M-801	Objective IOS LWD FLUOR PLAN Achromatic 10x/0,30 (w.d. 10mm)
M-802	Objective IOS LWD FLUOR PLAN Achromatic 20x/0,45 (w.d. 5,1mm)
M-803	Objective IOS LWD FLUOR PLAN Achromatic 40x/0,65 (w.d. 2,6mm)
M-804	Objective IOS LWD FLUOR PLAN Achromatic 60x/0,7
M-783.1N	Mounted phase ring for 4x/10x
M-785.1N	Mounted phase ring for 20x/40x
M-788	Photo adapter for REFLEX camera with FULL FRAME sensor.
M-789	Focusable C-Mount adapter for 1/3" sensor.
M-789.1	Focusable C-Mount adapter for 1/2" sensor.
M-789.2	Focusable C-Mount adapter for 2/3" sensor.
M-699	Universal adapter for M-114, M-115, M-116, M-173 and eyepiece cameras.
M-036	Dust cover type 7.
M-792	Mechanical stage for IM-3 series, with side extension.
M-793.1	Holder for Petri diameter 38mm (M-793.2 needed).
M-793.2	Holder for Terasaki and Petri diameter 65mm.
M-793.3	Holder for slide and Petri diameter 54mm.
M-793.4	Holder for 2+2 slides.
M-793.6	Holder for Utermöhl-Chamber (M-793.3 needed).
M-793.7	Load-bearing side extension for IM-3 series.
M-173	Photo adapter for APS-C and Full Frame Reflex cameras.
M-114	C-Mount adapter for 1/2" sensor.
M-116	C-Mount adapter for 2/3" sensor.
VP-IM	IQ/OQ/PQ Validation Protocols.

Overview



Unpacking

The microscope is housed in a moulded Styrofoam container. Remove the tape from the edge of the container and lift the top half of the container. Take some care to avoid that the optical items (objectives and eyepieces) fall out and get damaged. Using both hands (one around the arm and one around the base), lift the microscope from the container and put it on a stable desk.

Assembling

Once you open the box, these are the microscope's components:



- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ① Microscope body | ⑦ Glass insert for stage |
| ② Condenser | ⑧ Fluorescence filters |
| ③ LED illuminator | ⑨ Objectives |
| ④ Filter protection covers | ⑩ Eyepieces |
| ⑤ Anti-glow cap | ⑪ Power supply |
| ⑥ Filter holder | |

Installing the objectives

1. Turning the coarse focusing knob ① till the nosepiece reaches its lowest position.
 - **For a safe transport, the nosepiece is placed in the lowest position and the tension adjustment collar ② is adjusted to the appropriate tension when the microscope leaves the factory. (Fig.1)**
2. Screw the lowest magnification objective on to the turret from the right side, then turn the turret clockwise. Mount the other objectives in the same way, following the sequence from low to high.
 - **Note: the objectives can also be installed through the stage opening. (Fig.2)**
 - Clean the objectives regularly. In inverted microscopes, the objectives are very sensitive to dust.
 - To prevent dust and contamination from entering the microscope, cover all the unused holes with dust caps ③. (Fig.3)
 - When operating, use the low magnification objective (10X) to search and focus the specimen, then switch to higher magnifications.
 - When switching between objectives, slowly turn the nosepiece until it clicks. The click means that the objective is in the right position, in the center of the light path.

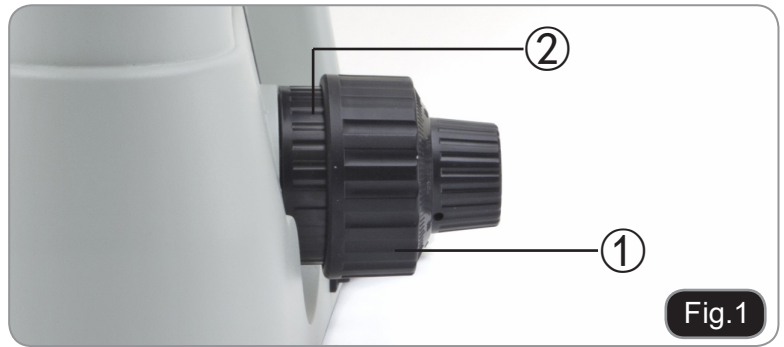


Fig.1



Fig.2

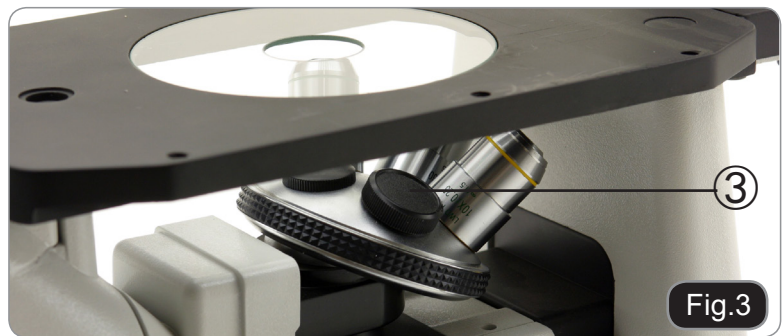


Fig.3

Installing the stage extension and the mechanical stage (OPTIONAL)

The stage extension can be installed on either side of the stage to enlarge the working surface. The mechanical stage must be installed on the side opposite the extension.

For right-handed operators, the mechanical stage is normally installed on the right side.

1. Installing the stage extension: Screw the bolts on to the extension, then mount the extension from below the stage. (Fig.4)
2. Installing the mechanical stage: As for the extension, the mechanical stage is fixed with two bolts under the stage. (Fig.5)



Fig.4



Fig.5

Installing the stage insert

1. When using the glass stage, make sure that the insert is horizontal.
2. Install the stage insert in the stage opening. (Fig.6)



Installing the eyepieces

Insert both eyepieces into the tubes of the optical head. (Fig.7)



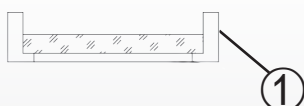
Installing the condenser illumination unit and the LED housing

1. Insert the condenser illumination unit into the bracket. (Fig.8)
2. Turn the condenser illumination unit clockwise about 90°, with the "AS" mark of filter holder facing forwards. Align the screw of the condenser illumination unit and the hole of the holder, then screw the bolt in the hole with the supplied allen wrench. (Fig.9)
3. Insert the connector plug into the connector jack.
4. Push the LED housing gently into the holes of the illumination unit. (Fig.10)



Installing the color filters

- ▶ **Remove the filter holder, then install the color filters you need.** (Fig.11, Fig.12) Mount the color filter flat as shown in ①, verifying that they are not tilted.
- ▶ **If the color filter is tilted or otherwise out of place ②, it may fall.**



The color filters can be stacked in the holder. This allows to install as many filters as needed, as long as the whole thickness is less than 11 mm.



Installing the fluorescence

- When using the epifluorescence, you can mount the anti-glow cap on the bottom of the condenser, in order to increase the contrast of the image. (Fig.13)
- Unscrew the protection cover on the left side of the microscope, with the provided allen wrench. (Fig.14)
- Slide the green filter inside the dovetail guide, after screwing the filter lever into the threaded hole of the filter. Mount the protection cover back in its position. (Fig.15)
- On top of the filter lever, screw the terminal with the etched **G**. Repeat the same steps for the right side, mounting the Blue filterset. (Fig.16)
- Connect the external power supply to the input jack on the rear. (Fig.17)



- **Please use the standard power cable provided by our company. Select suitable one when missing or damaged.**
- **Connect the power supply correctly, be sure to have a good earth connection.**

Using the microscope

INITIAL SETUP

Turning on the LED

Connect the power, turn on the main switch ①. (Fig.18)

Position ①: BF

Position ②: Epifluorescence

Adjusting the brightness

Turn the brightness adjustment knob ② to increase and decrease the brightness. (Fig.19)

Adjusting the tension

- The coarse focusing knob ① is pre adjusted to a tight tension upon leaving the factory.

If the nosepiece drops down by itself, or the specimen defocuses while adjusting the fine focus knob ③, the coarse focus knob is too loose. Turning the tension adjustment collar ② in clockwise direction tightens the coarse focus tension ①. Rotate in the opposite direction to decrease the tension. (Fig.20)

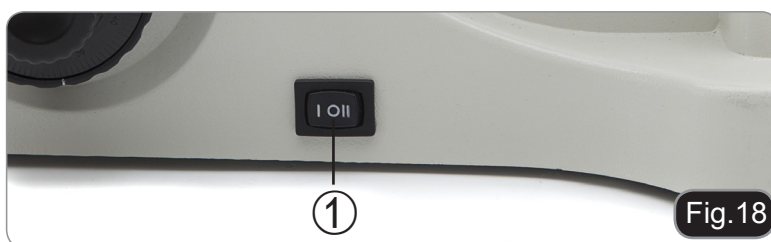


Fig.18

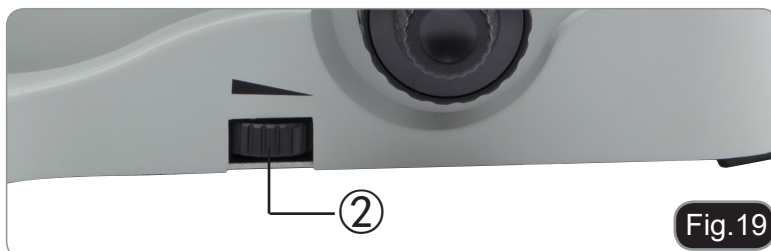


Fig.19

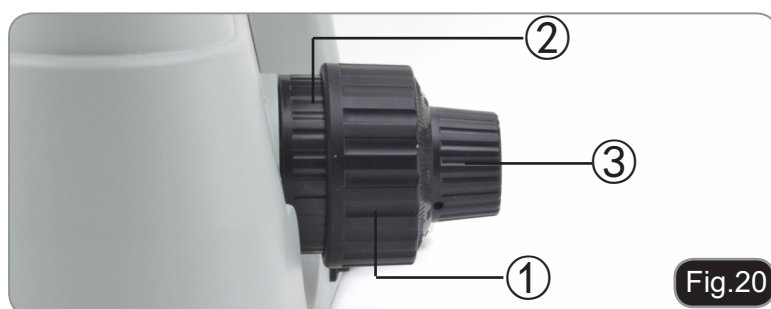


Fig.20

STAGE (OPTIONAL)

Setting the specimen

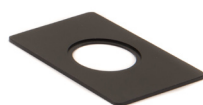
- For the best image quality, use flasks, Petri dishes and slides with a 1.2 mm thickness.

1. Place the proper insert for your specimen (according to the table on the right) on the stage, and fix it with the stage clip.
2. Turning the X and Y knobs, move the specimen to the required position. (Movement Range: 120 (width) × 78 (length) mm).

Moving the specimen

Move the specimen to the desired position by freehand or by turning the knobs of the mechanical stage.

- When switching objectives, take care not to touch the adaptor plates with the objectives, as their weight may damage the front lens.



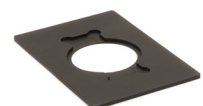
M-793.1

Holder for Petri diameter 38mm (M-793.2 needed)



M-793.2

Holder for Terasaki and Petri diameter 65mm.



M-793.3

Holder for slide and Petri diameter 54mm.



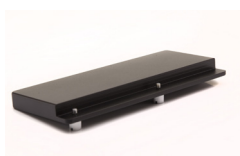
M-793.4

Holder for 2+2 slides.



M-793.6

Holder for Utermöhl-Chamber (M-793.3 needed).



M-793.7

Load-bearing side extension for IM-3 series.



M-792

Mechanical stage for IM-3 series.

VIEWING TUBE

Dioptric adjustment

1. Look into the right eyepiece with your right eye only, and focus on the specimen.
2. Look into the left eyepiece with your left eye only. If the image is not sharp, use the dioptric adjustment ring ① to compensate. (Fig.21)

- The adjustment range is ± 5 diopter. The number indicated on the adjustment ring graduation should correspond to the operator's dioptric correction.



Fig.21

Adjusting the interpupillary distance

Observing with both eyes, hold the two eyepiece prism assemblies. Rotate them around their common axis until the fields of view coincide.

- The graduation on the interpupillary distance indicator ②, pointed by the spot “.” on the eyepiece holder, shows the distance between the operator's eyes. (Fig.22)

The range of the interpupillary distance is 48-75mm.



Fig.22

Selecting the light path

Pull the light path selector lever ③ sideways using your thumb, selecting the light path you need. (Fig.23)



Fig.23

LIGHT PATH SELECTOR LEVER	BRIGHTNESS	APPLICATION
In	20% used for binocular observation, and 80% used for video or photography	Binocular observation, television, and micrography or video can be operated simultaneously
Out	100% used for binocular observation	Binocular observation

ILLUMINATION UNIT

Using color filters

Selecting the appropriate color filters according to your need. (Fig.24)

You can stack a group of color filters in the filter holder, if you ensure that they are level and that the whole thickness is less than 11mm.

Using the aperture diaphragm

When in brightfield observation, the aperture diaphragm controls the numerical aperture of the illumination system. When the numerical aperture of the objective and the aperture of the illumination system match, the highest resolution is achieved.

The aperture can be changed by moving the aperture adjustment lever. ① is the image of the aperture diaphragm, ② is the edge of the objective).

Generally, when observing a fully chromatic specimen, you need to set the size of the condenser to 70-80% of the aperture of the objective. When observing unstained samples (e.g. bacteria), start from 70% and slowly turn the aperture diaphragm lever clockwise. (Fig.25)



Fig.24

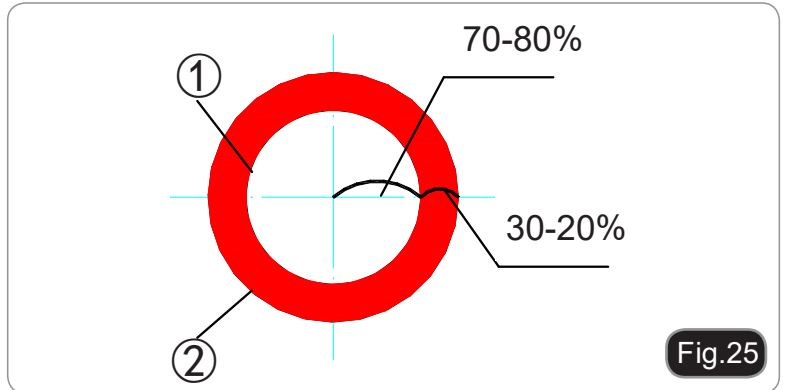


Fig.25

COLOR FILTER	USE
Green	Single contrast color filter used for phase contrast microscopy
Blue	Color temperature compensation color filter blue used for bright field observation and microphotography

PHASE CONTRAST

Phase contrast slider

Adjustable phase slider.

- The light ring is pre-centered when the microscope leaves the factory. It should therefore need no further adjustment. If a recentering is needed, it can be performed via the two side bolts.
- The 4X/10X light ring ① must be used with 4X and 10X phase contrast objectives, the 20x/40x light ring ② with the 20x and 40x and the opening ③ is used for bright field. (Fig.26)

Installing the phase contrast slider

1. Insert the slider into the illumination system, printed face up.
2. Pull the slider into the desired position, to the click stop.
3. When in phase contrast observation, keep the aperture diaphragm adjustment lever on the "O" (open) position. (Fig.27)

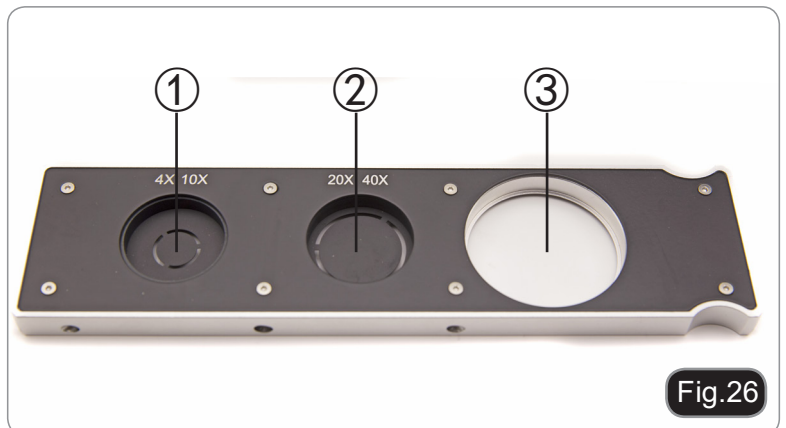


Fig.26



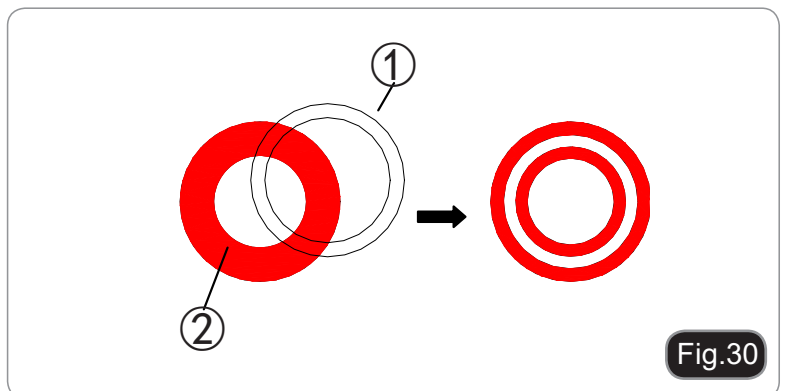
Fig.27

Centering the ring

► Usually this operation is not needed. If necessary, please proceed with the following steps:

1. Place a specimen on the stage and focus it.
2. Take out the eyepiece from the tube without the dioptic adjustment, and replace it with the centering telescope (CT). (Fig.28)
3. Check that the phase ring and the objective correspond, and that both are steadily set on a click stop.
4. Use the CT to focus on the light ring's image ① and the phase contrast ring's image ②. If the light ring's image is not sharp, adjust the CT's eyepiece until you can see a clear image of the light ring.
5. Adjust the bolts of the two centering holes in the phase contrast slider using a screwdriver until the light ring center and the phase contrast ring center coincide.
6. The 10X and the 20X phase contrast objectives use the same ring on the phase contrast slider. The coincidence of the light ring center and the phase contrast center must be verified with both objectives. (Fig.29; Fig.30)

- If the light ring is centered incorrectly, the contrast will be severely impaired.
- The phase ring may need recentering during and after observation of very thick specimens.
- The phase ring may show an apparent misalignment if the cover glass is not flat.



MICROPHOTOGRAPHY

Installing the photography adapter

1. To activate the video port, pull the light path selector lever to “In” position. (Fig.31)
 2. Loosen the locking bolt ① on the trinocular viewing tube, and take out the dust cap ②.
 3. Install the photography adapter into the trinocular port according to its instructions, and screw down the locking bolt ①.
 4. Attach the camera ring (if any) to the adapter.
 5. Attach the camera to the ring.
 - Warning: for some cameras (mainly reflex) the ring is not included with the microscope, and it should be supplied by the user.
 - For the photography of dark specimens, obscure the eyepieces and the viewfinder with a dark cloth in order to reduce stray light.
 - The camera magnification can be calculated as objective magnification × camera + lens magnification.
- **When shooting with a SLR, the mirror movement may cause camera movement. Please lift the mirror, use long exposure times and use an extension cord. (Fig.32)**



Maintenance

Microscopy environment

This microscope is recommended to be used in a clean, dry and shock free environment with a temperature of 5°-40°C and a maximum relative humidity of 75 % (non condensing). Use a dehumidifier if needed.

To think about when and after using the microscope



- The microscope should always be kept vertically when moving it and be careful so that no moving parts, such as the eyepieces, fall out.
- Never mishandle or impose unnecessary force on the microscope.
- Never attempt to service the microscope yourself.
- After use, turn off the light immediately, cover the microscope with the included dust-cover, and keep it in a dry and clean place.

Electrical safety precautions



- Before plugging in the power supply, make sure that the supplying voltage of your region matches with the operation voltage of the equipment and that the lamp switch is in off-position.
- Users should observe all safety regulations of the region. The equipment has acquired the CE safety label. However, users do have full responsibility to use this equipment safely.

Cleaning the optics

- If the optical parts need to be cleaned try first to: use compressed air.
- If that is not sufficient: use a soft lint-free piece of cloth with water and a mild detergent.
- And as a final option: use the piece of cloth moistened with a 3:7 mixture of ethanol and ether.
Note: ethanol and ether are highly flammable liquids. Do not use them near a heat source, near sparks or near electric equipment. Use these chemicals in a well ventilated room.
- Remember to never wipe the surface of any optical items with your hands. Fingerprints can damage the optics.
- Do not disassemble objectives or eyepieces in attempt to clean them.

For the best results, use the OPTIKA cleaning kit (see catalogue).

If you need to send the microscope to Optika for maintenance, please use the original packaging.

Troubleshooting

Review the information in the table below to troubleshoot operating problems.

PROBLEM	CAUSE	SOLUTION
I. Optical Section:		
The illumination is open, but the field of view is dark.	The plug of the LED holder is not connected to the illumination set	Connect them
	The brightness is too low	Adjust to a proper setting
	Too many colour filters have been stacked	Minimize the number of the filters
The edge of the field of view is vignetted or the brightness is asymmetric.	The nosepiece is not in the correct position	Turn the nosepiece to a click stop
	The color filter is partially inserted	Insert the filter to full depth
	The phase contrast slider is not in the proper position	Move the slider to a click stop
Dust and stains can be seen in the field of view.	There are stains and dust on the specimen	Clean the specimen
	There are stains and dust on the eyepiece	Clean the eyepiece
There is an apparent double image.	The size of the aperture diaphragm is too small	Open the aperture diaphragm
Poor image quality: The image is not sharp The contrast is not high The details are not clear The phase contrast is low.	The nosepiece is not in the center of the light path	Turn the nosepiece to a click stop
	The aperture diaphragm in the view of field is opened too much or too little	Adjust the aperture diaphragm
	The lenses (condenser, objective, eyepieces are culture dish) is dirty	Thoroughly clean all the optical system
	In phase contrast observation, the bottom thickness of the sample is more than 1.2mm	Use a sample holder whose bottom thickness is less than 1.2mm
	A bright field objective is used for phase contrast observation	Switch to a phase contrast objective
	The condenser ring is not aligned with the objective phase ring	Adjust the condenser ring to match the objective phase ring
	The light ring and/or the phase contrast ring is not centered	Adjust the bolts to center them
	The objective used is not compatible with the phase ring	Please use a compatible objective
	The phase contrast depends on the sample position	The sample holder is not flat. Move the sample around until a compatible area is found.

One side of the image is out of focus.	The nosepiece is not in the center of the light path	Turn the nosepiece to a click stop
	The specimen is out of place (tilted)	Place the specimen flat on the stage.
	The optical performance of the sample cover glass is poor	Use a cover glass of better quality
II. Mechanical Section:		
The coarse focus knob is hard to turn.	The tension adjustment collar is too tight	Loosen the tension adjustment collar
The focus is unstable.	The tension adjustment collar is too loose	Tighten the tension adjustment collar
III. Electric section		
The LED doesn't turn on.	No power supply	Check the power cord connection
The brightness is not enough	The brightness adjustment is low	Adjust the brightness
The light blinks	The power cord is poorly connected	Check the power cord
IV. Viewing tube assembly		
The field of view of the two eyes is different	The interpupillar distance is not correct	Adjust the interpupillar distance
	The dioptric correction is not right	Adjust the dioptric correction
	The viewing technique is not correct, and the operator is straining the eyesight	When look into the objective, do not stare at the specimen but look at the whole field of view. Periodically, move the eyes away to look at a distant object, then back into the objective
V. Microphotography and video		
The image is unfocused	Incorrect focussing	Adjusting the focus system as in the present manual
The edge of the image is unfocussed	To some degree, it is inherent to the nature of achromatic objectives	The problem can be minimized by a correct setting of the aperture diaphragm
Bright patches appear on the image	Stray light is entering the microscope through the eyepieces and through the camera viewfinder	Cover the eyepieces and the viewfinder with a dark cloth

Equipment disposal

Art.13 Dlsg 25 july 2005 N°151. "According to directives 2002/95/EC, 2002/96/EC and 2003/108/EC relating to the reduction in the use of hazardous substances in electrical and electronic equipment and waste disposal."



The basket symbol on equipment or on its box indicates that the product at the end of its useful life should be collected separately from other waste.

The separate collection of this equipment at the end of its lifetime is organized and managed by the producer. The user will have to contact the manufacturer and follow the rules that he adopted for end-of-life equipment collection.

The collection of the equipment for recycling, treatment and environmentally compatible disposal, helps to prevent possible adverse effects on the environment and health and promotes reuse and/or recycling of materials of the equipment.

Improper disposal of the product involves the application of administrative penalties as provided by the laws in force.

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