Polarization Adjustment

1. Ensure that the microscope is properly adjusted for Köhler illumination, and set it to brightfield mode.

2. Install the fixed or rotating polarizing element, ensuring that the polarizer is correctly secured into position, either permanently fixed into its holder or placed in the zero position. The polarizer transmission vibration axis must be set to the East-West orientation in this step.

3. Insert the analyzer into the microscope nosepiece or intermediate tube.

4. Rotate the analyzer until the transmission axes of the analyzer and polarizer are crossed at a 90-degree angle. The image should appear as a very dark cross in the field of view (see Figure 1).

5. The final step in polarized-light microscope alignment is to adjust the condenser aperture diaphragm so the bright outer regions of the polarization cross that are visible at the edge of the objective aperture are blocked (see Figure 2).

Figure 1

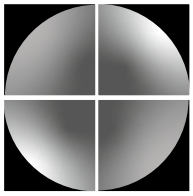
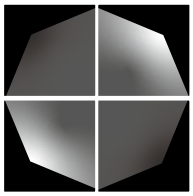


Figure 2



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