

# Storage Recommendations: CyTOF® Software 6.7 in Cell Suspension Mode

## Estimate Data Storage Requirements

**IMPORTANT Save data to the E: drive.** Do not save data to the C: drive, an external hard drive, or a network drive.

Estimate adequate storage space requirements to prevent acquisition interruption (sample loss) and IMD header issues due to insufficient hard drive space. Consider the following when you estimate the storage space required:

- An FCS file requires approximately 12 bytes per channel per event. For example, an FCS file containing 50,000 cell events and 17 channels requires 10 MB of disk space.
- A temporary IMD file requires 300 kb per channel per second. Therefore, for the FCS file in the example above, 5 minutes of data collection results in a 1.5 GB IMD file.
- Two temporary files are created during acquisition and deleted after FCS conversion. One file requires 5–6 bytes per channel per event and the other requires 12–14 bytes per channel per event.

## Manage Computer Resources

- **Preserve as much free space on the C: drive as possible.** Do not install software that is not required for the instrument.
- **Allow system resources for data acquisition.** Do not run additional software or perform data processing, such as FCS processing or debarcoding, during acquisition. These actions reduce the system resources available for acquisition.
- **Do not rename data storage folders.** If you do so, an error will occur and an IMD file named “acquisition\_<date of run – YYYYMMDD>\_<#>” will be saved without a header.

## Additional Recommendations

- Do not defragment the drives on the instrument workstation. Frequent defragmentation will decrease the lifespan of the drives.
- Do not map the E: drive to a network. This may compromise the read and write operations of the acquisition software.

### **For technical support visit [fluidigm.com/support](https://fluidigm.com/support).**

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