

Sample metadata extraction

Add Samples Extraction table - RegEx to AcqKey / Type / Dose.

When you **Add samples**, Quanto fills **AcqKey**, **SmpKey**, **SampleType**, **Dose**, and **Dilution** from a table of rules on the method. Open it with **Add samples** → **Extraction table ...** (title: **Sample metadata extraction**).

Sample metadata extraction

Each Use row fills one Add Samples column. First match per Target wins (Order, low first).

1 Source text

FileName, path,
Sample name, dose,
instrument, AcqKey...
A1_CAL_002.D

→

2 RegEx match

.NET regex, ignore case
(.+?)
Groups = \$1, \$2, ...

→

3 Value

Empty = join groups
Or template \$1-\$2
Or constant text
Empty RegEx = copy

→

4 Target column

AcqKey · SmpKey
SampleType · Dose
Dilution
SmpKey = CAL

Open from Add samples → Extraction table ... The table is stored on the method. Apply runs it on the current Add Samples list.

Example FileName A1_CAL_002: AcqKey from ^(.); SmpKey from _(.+?); SampleType RegEx _CAL_ with Value Calibration.

Append default turns Use off on existing rows and adds copy-through rows (Source → same Target via (.+)).

Unused rows are skipped. Later rows for the same Target never overwrite an earlier successful match.

Source text through RegEx and Value into Target columns

What each row does

Column	Meaning
Use	Off = skip this row
Order	Low first. First successful match per Target wins
Target	Add Samples column to fill: AcqKey, SmpKey, SampleType, Dose, Dilution
Source	Text to read: FileName, RelativePath, Data folder, Sample name, Dose, SampleType, Dilution, instrument fields, or the method AcqKey
RegEx	.NET regular expression (ignore case). Empty = copy Source, or use Value as a constant
Value	Template with \$1 , \$2 , ... Empty = concatenate capturing groups

A method with no rows yet gets **copy-through** defaults (AcqKey←AcqKey, SmpKey←RelativePath, SampleType←SampleType, Dose←Dose, Dilution←Dilution) using RegEx (.+) .

Worked example

File names:

- A1_CAL_002
- A1_A0001_001_1
- A1_BlankMP_1

Target	Source	RegEx	Value	Result
AcqKey	FileName	<code>^..</code>	(empty)	A1 , A1 , A1
SmpKey	FileName	<code>_(.+?)_</code>	(empty)	CAL , A0001 , BlankMP
SampleType	FileName	<code>_CAL_</code>	Calibration	Calibration on A1_CAL_002 only

Empty **RegEx** with a filled **Value** writes that constant when the row runs. Empty **RegEx** and empty **Value** copies the Source text as-is.

Buttons

Button	Effect
Add row	Duplicate the current row (or last row) and bump Order
Append default	Turn Use off on existing rows; append the five copy-through defaults with Use on
Delete row	Remove the selected rows
Apply	Store the table on the method and run it on the current Add Samples list
Close	Close the dialog (layout is saved)

You need a loaded or imported method first — the table lives on the method, not only on the batch.

Tips

- Prefer **FileName** or **RelativePath** when folders encode AcqKey / instrument.
- For SampleType, match a token (`_CAL_`, `_QC_`, `_Blank_`) and set **Value** to `Calibration`, `QC`, `Blank`, or `Sample`.
- Fix leftovers on the Add Samples grid (or Samples grid after import) when a bottle is special.
- Regex help: the dialog links to the Microsoft .NET regular expression language reference.

Related

- [Set up an analysis](#) — Add samples in the full workflow
- [Key Review](#) — several AcqKeys or SmpKeys for the same bottle
- [Grids](#) — fill, sort, freeze on the extraction grid