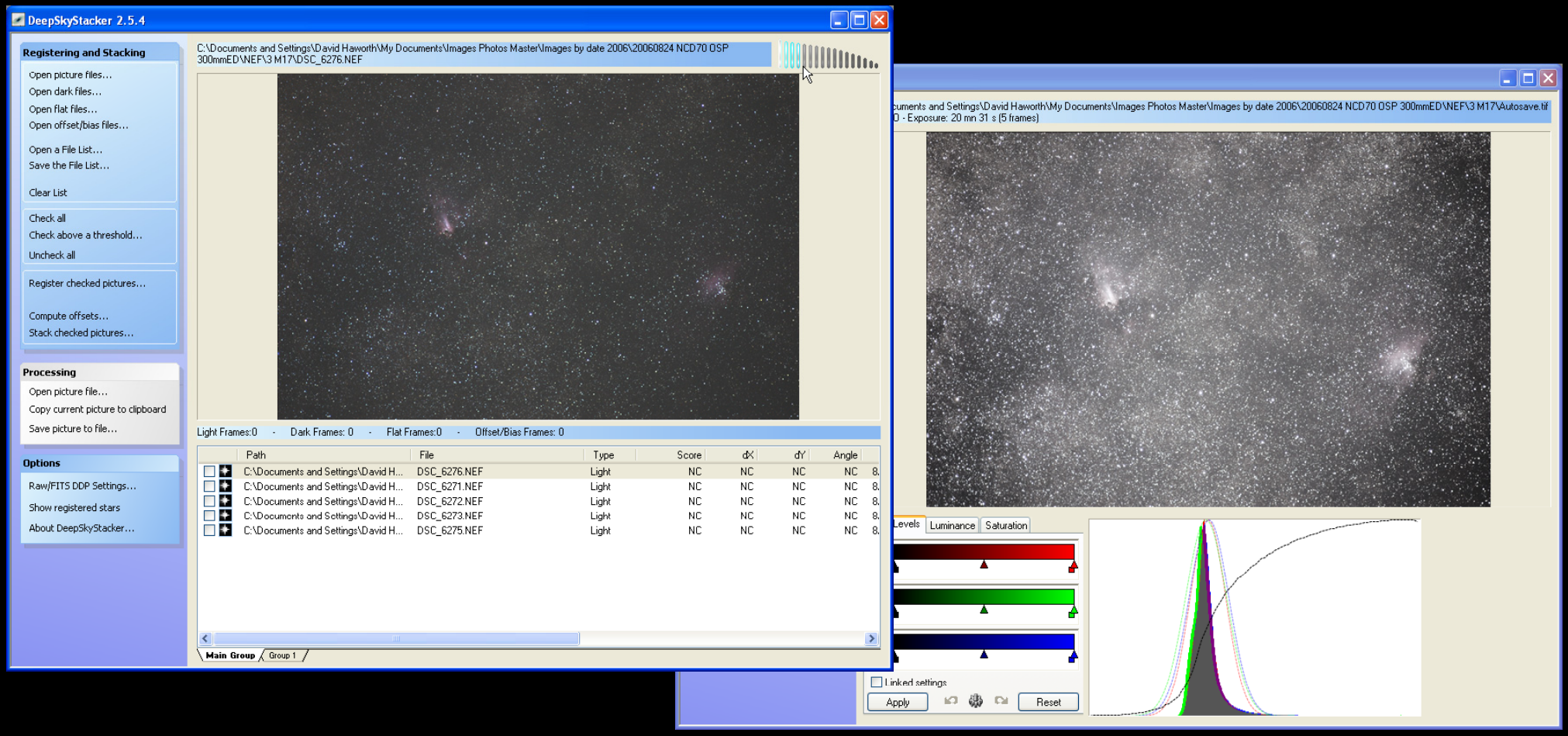
Using Deep Sky Stacker



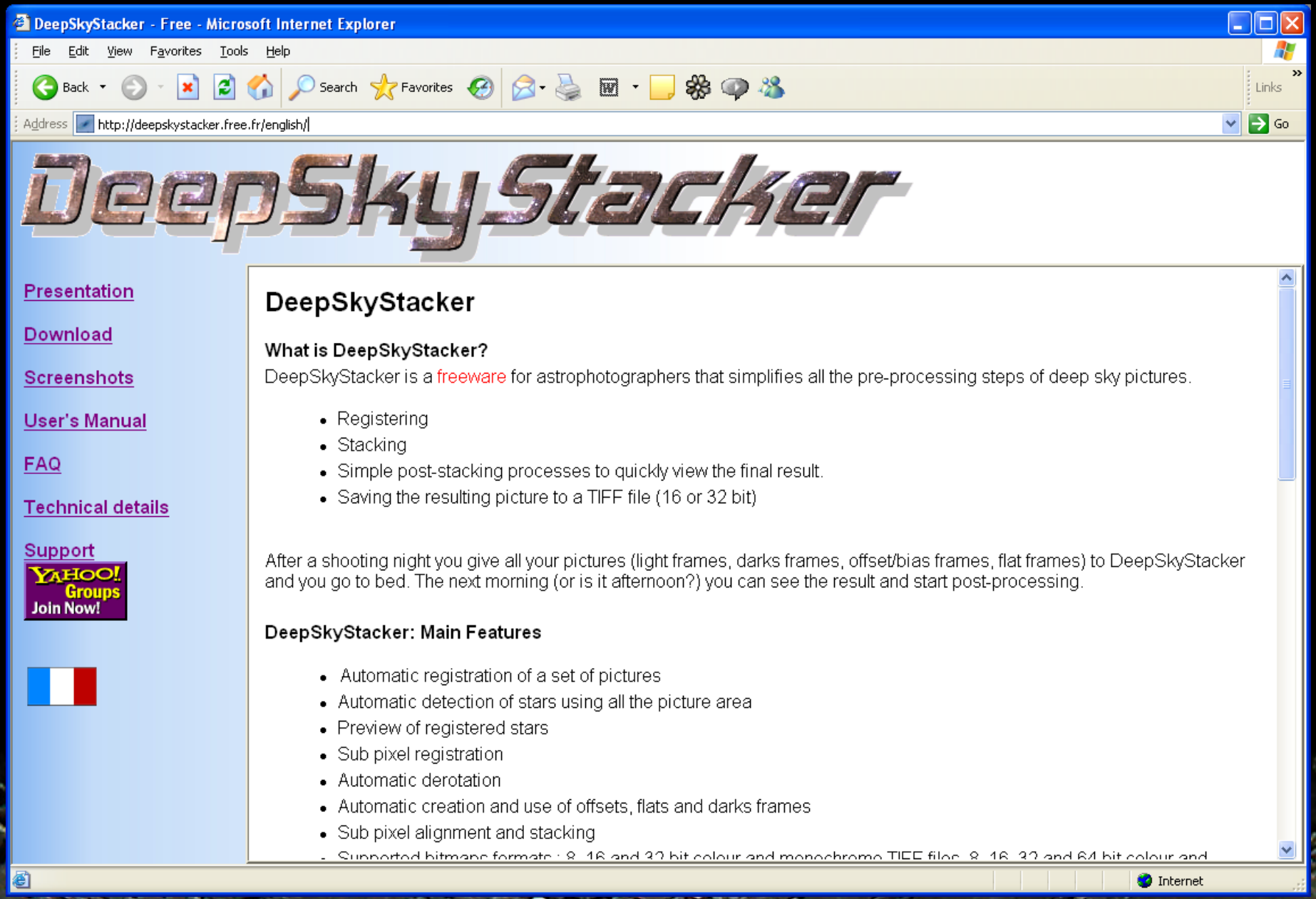
David Haworth

www.stargazing.net/david

Copyright 2006

Deep Sky Stacker by Luc Coiffier

http://deepskystacker.free.fr/english/



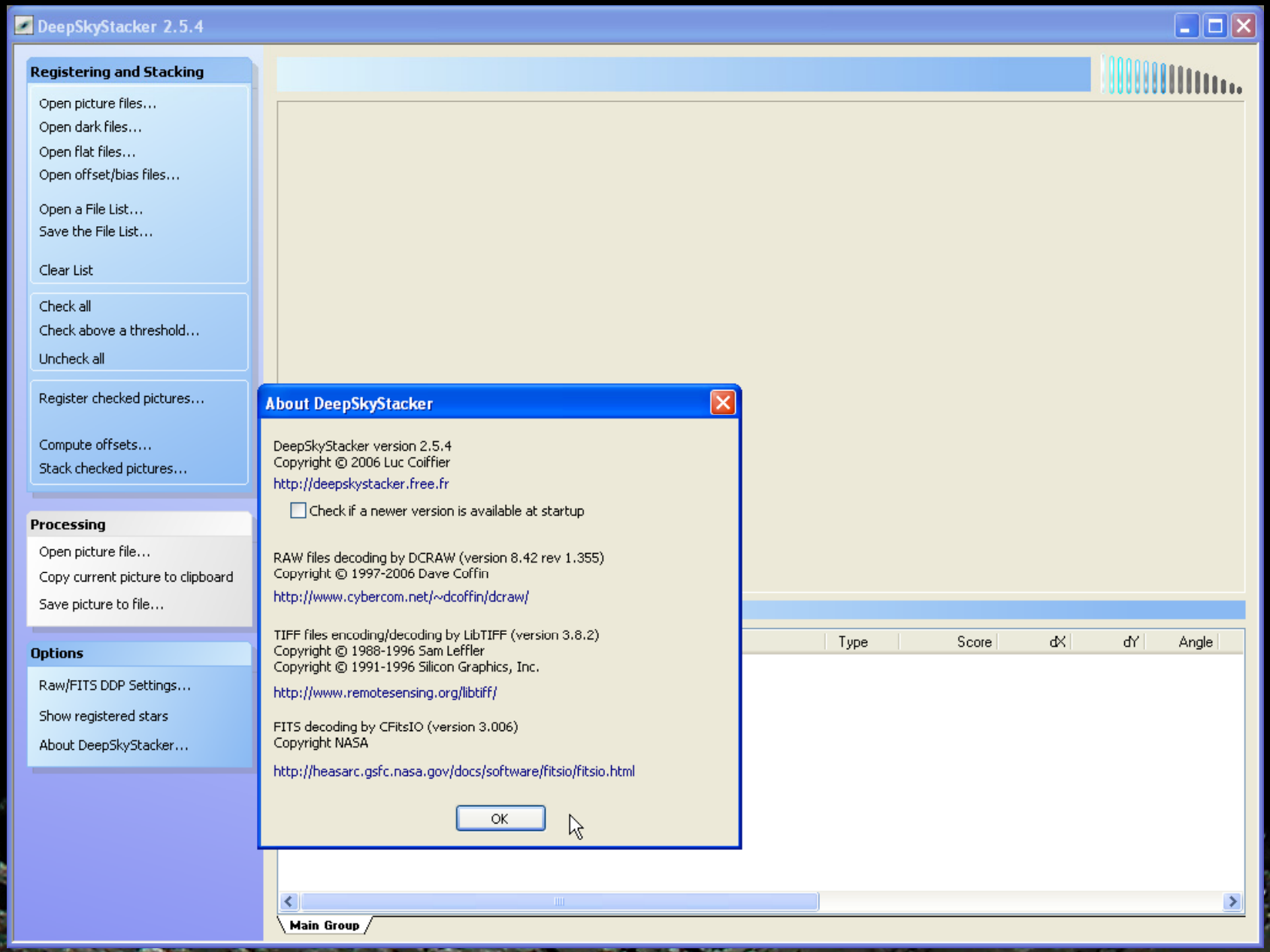
Simple Stacking Using Nikon RAW

Nikon D70 Digital SLR

- 4 to 5 exposures
- 8 to 4 minute per exposure
- Images taken with noise reduction on
  - No need for darks images
- No darks, flats or bias
  - Need to use Mode 3 for true calibration for Nikon

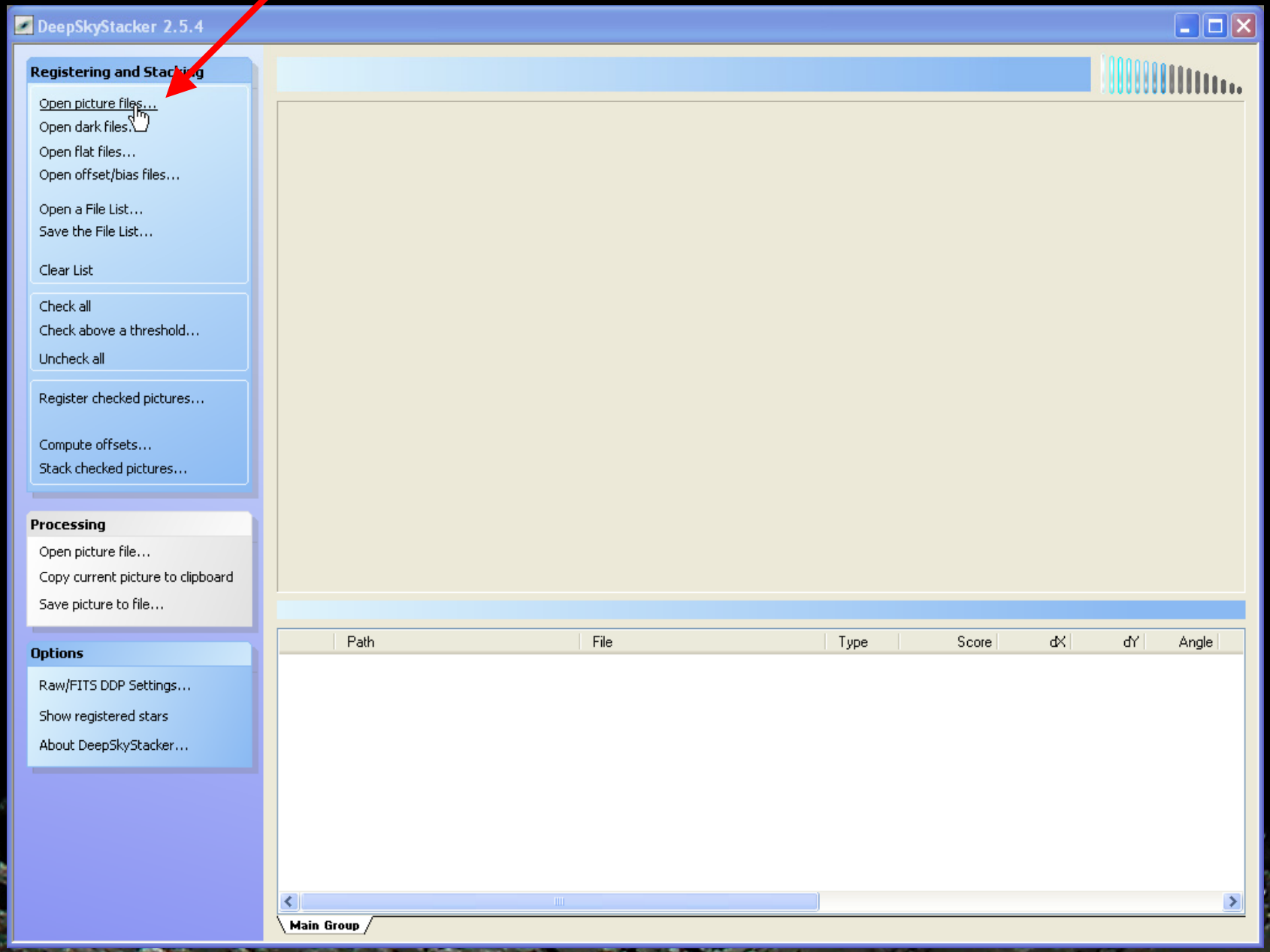
Deep Sky Stacker

Version 2.5.4



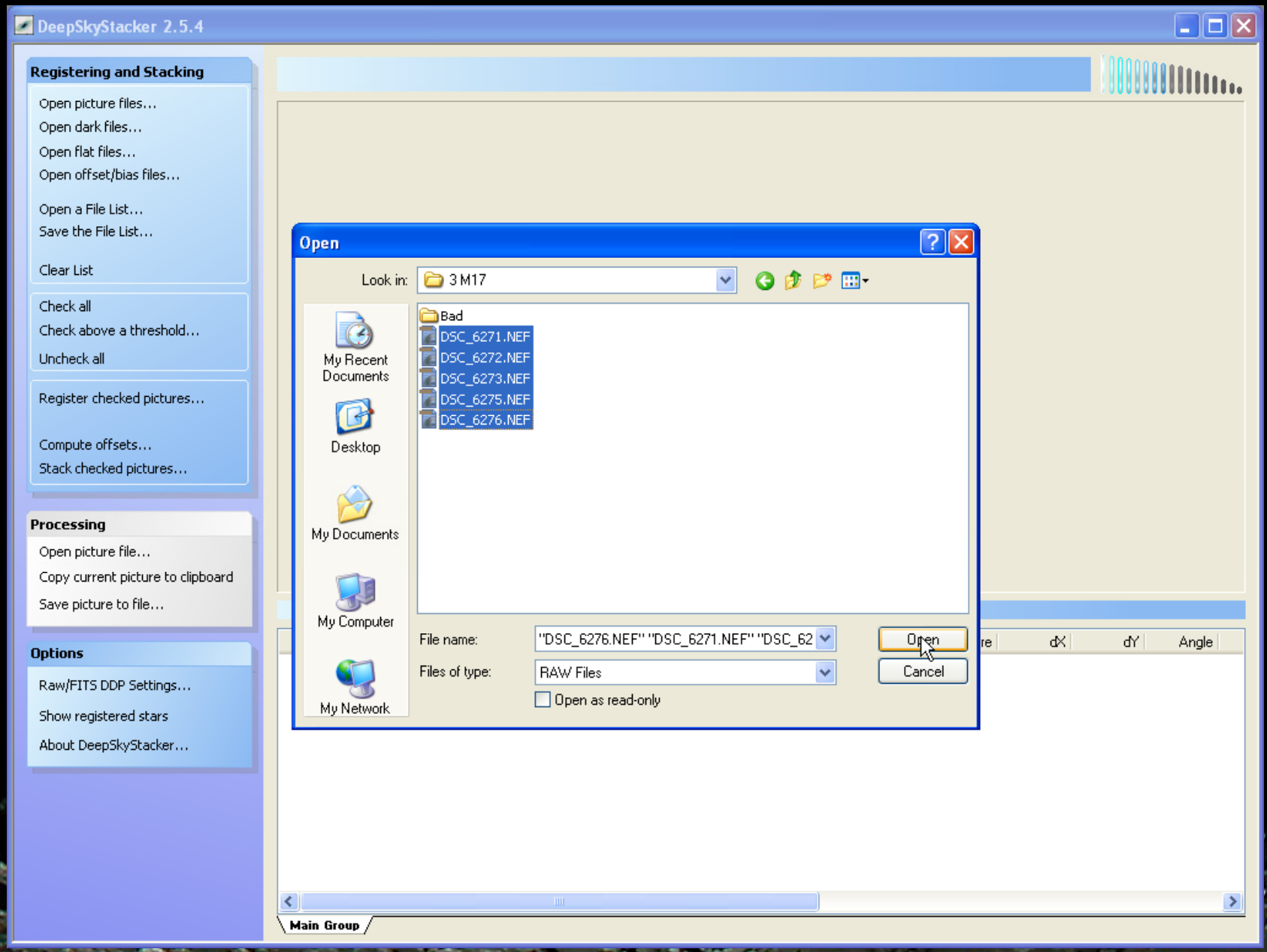
Open Picture files

First step



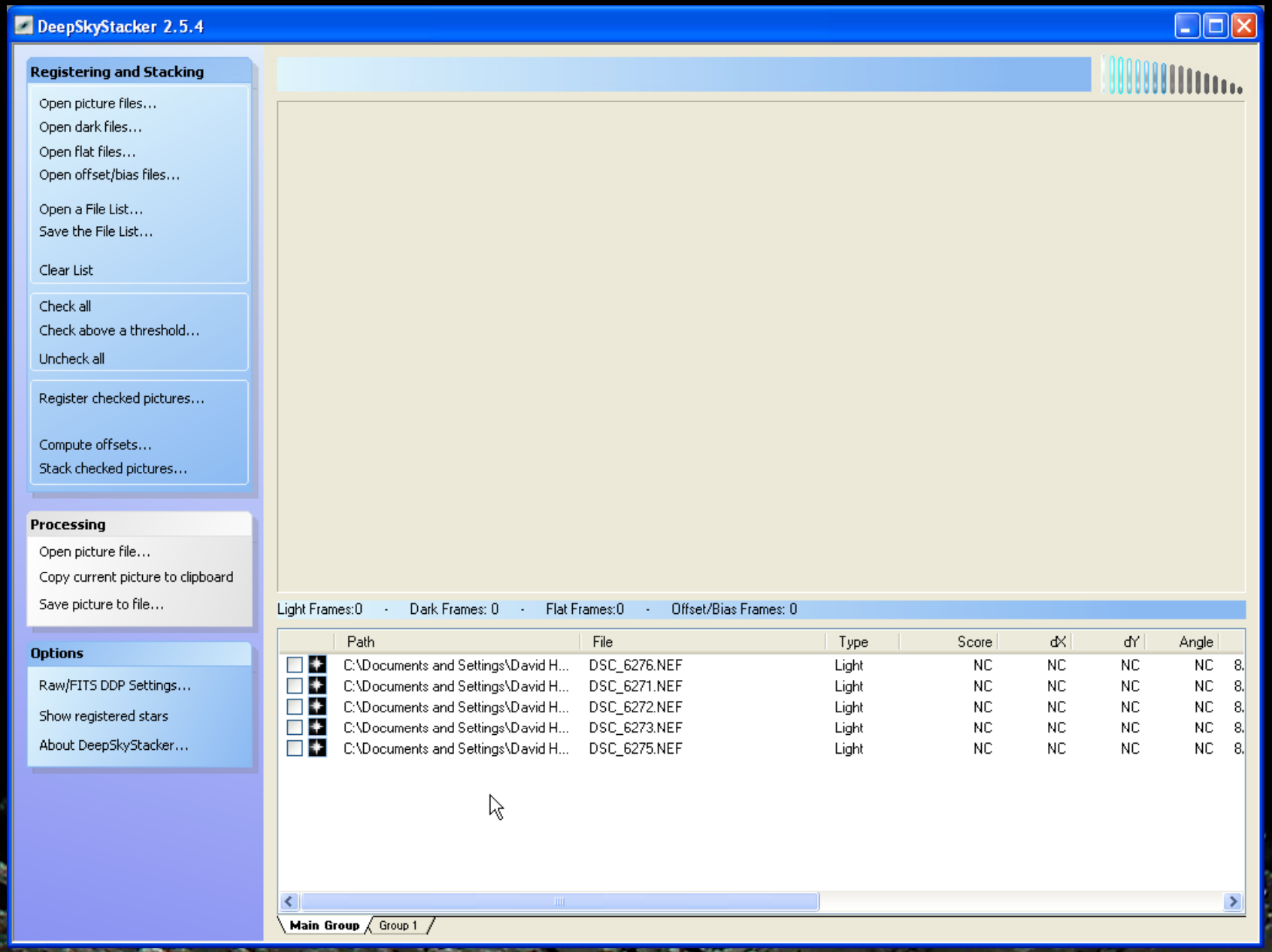
Open Picture files

Select 5 Nikon D70 NEF Files



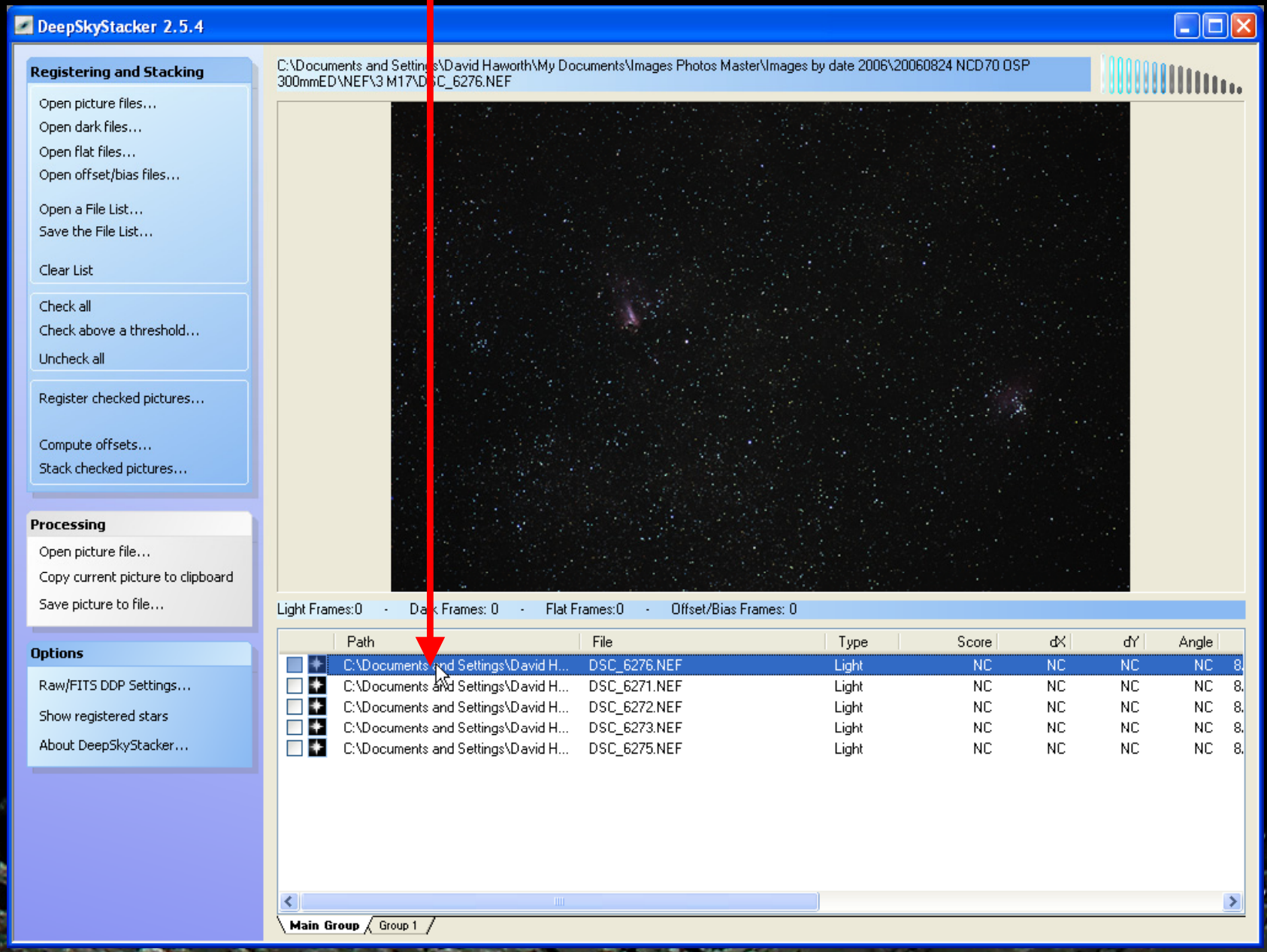
5 Image Files in Main Group

Nikon D70 Files: DSC_6271.NEF etc.



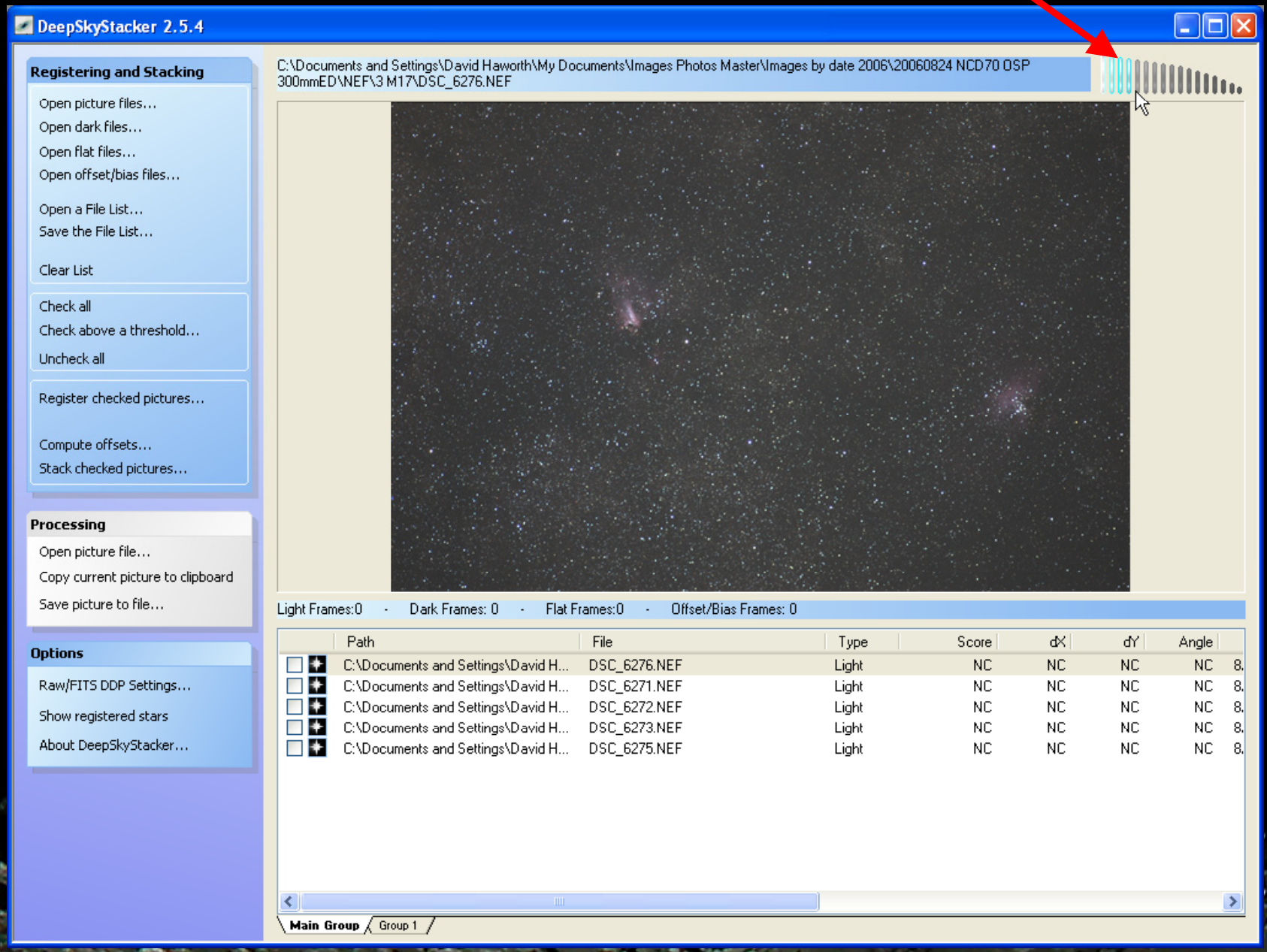
To Display Image

Click on image file line



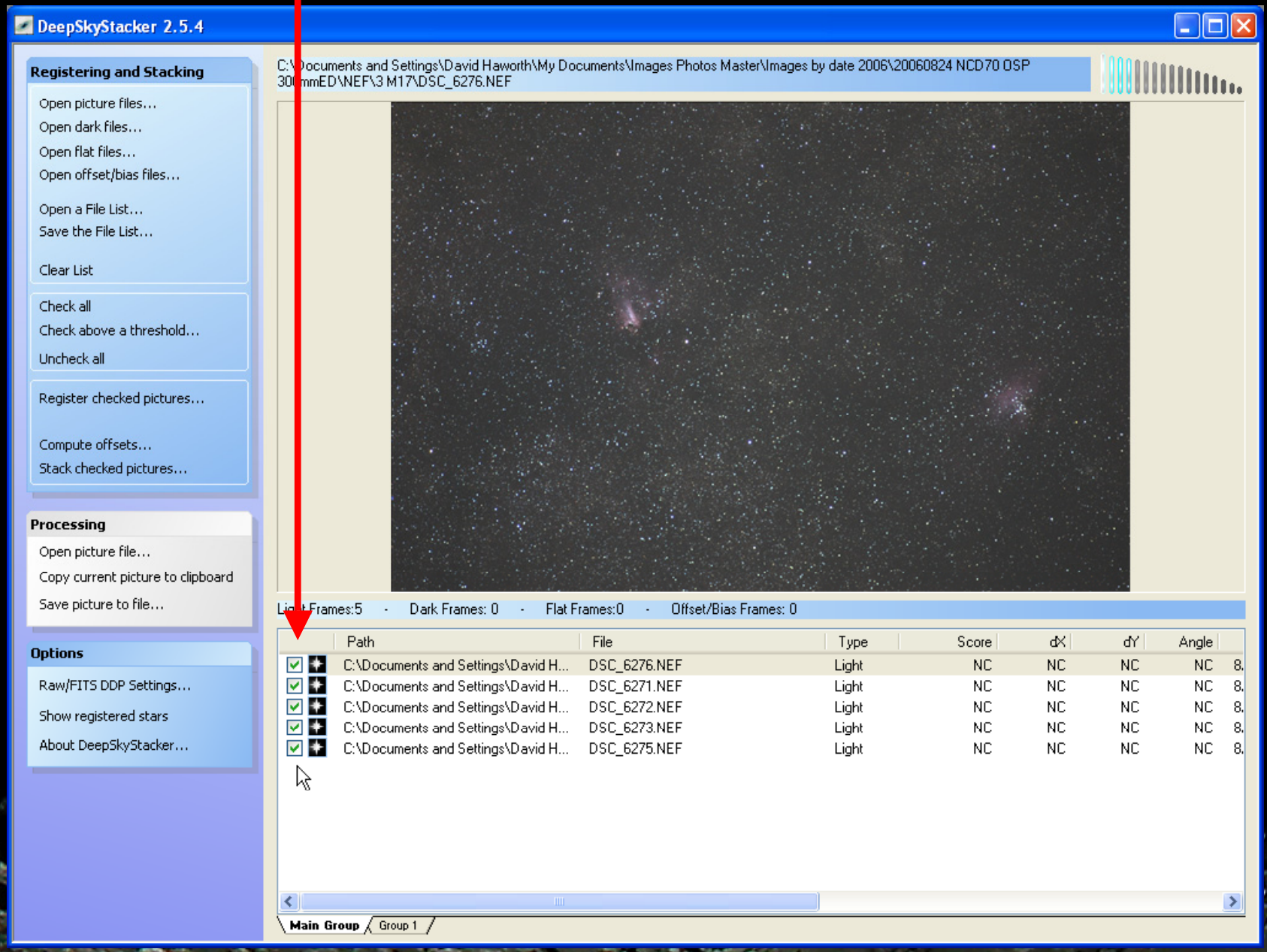
To Change Image Display

Click on vertical lines in upper right corner



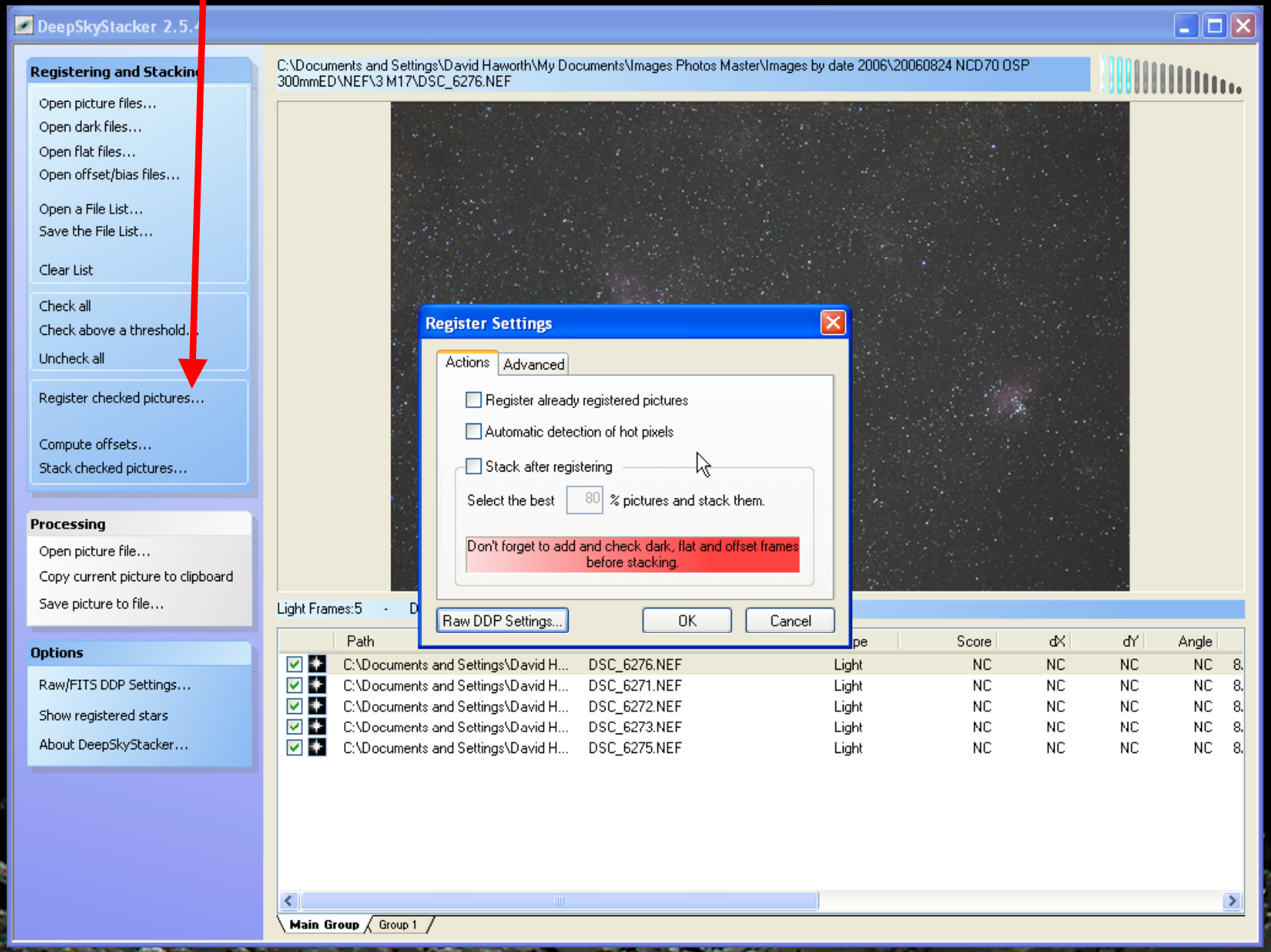
Select Light Frames to be Stacked

Click on boxes at beginning of line



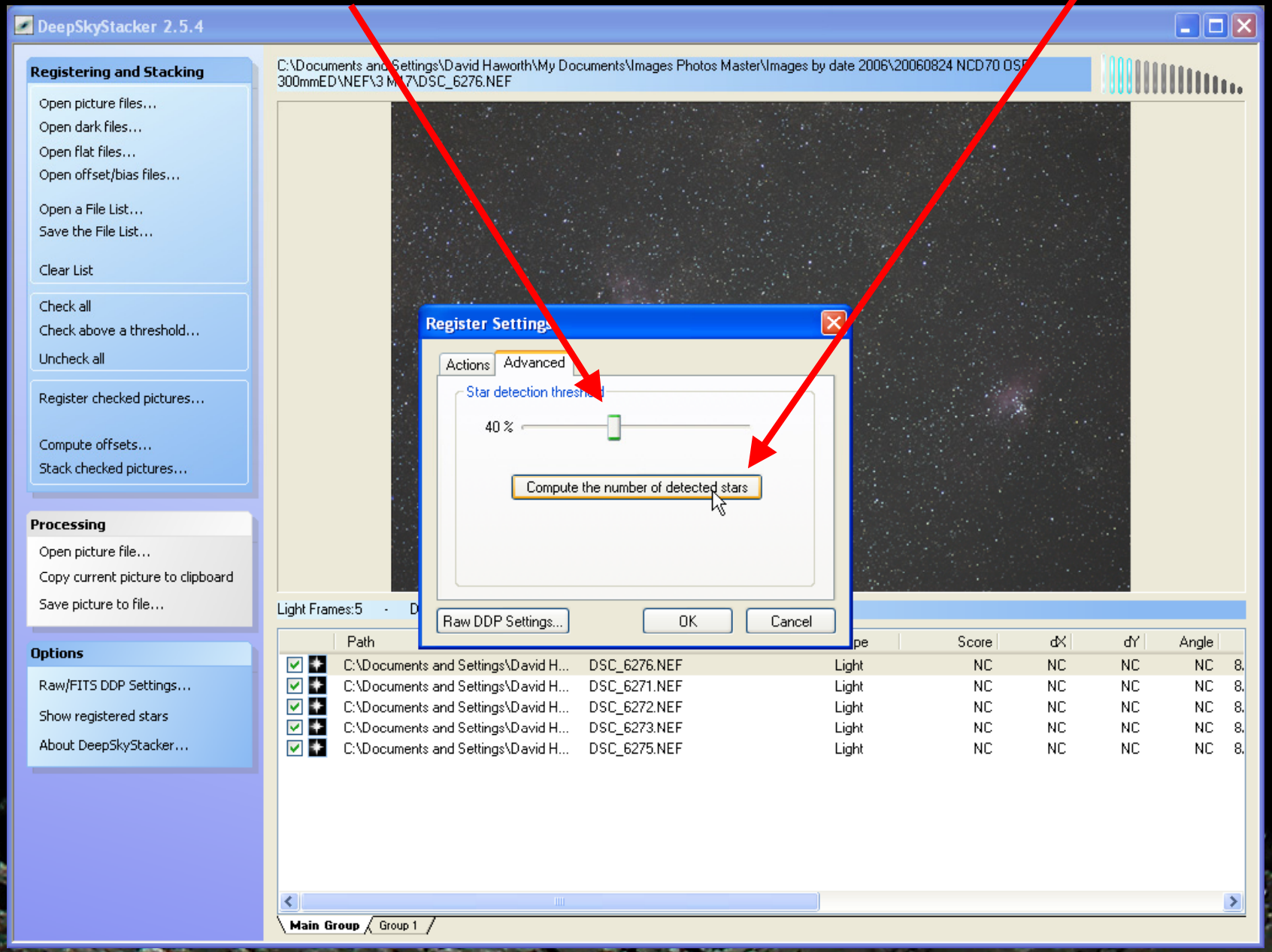
Register Checked Pictures

No boxes check in Register Settings: Actions



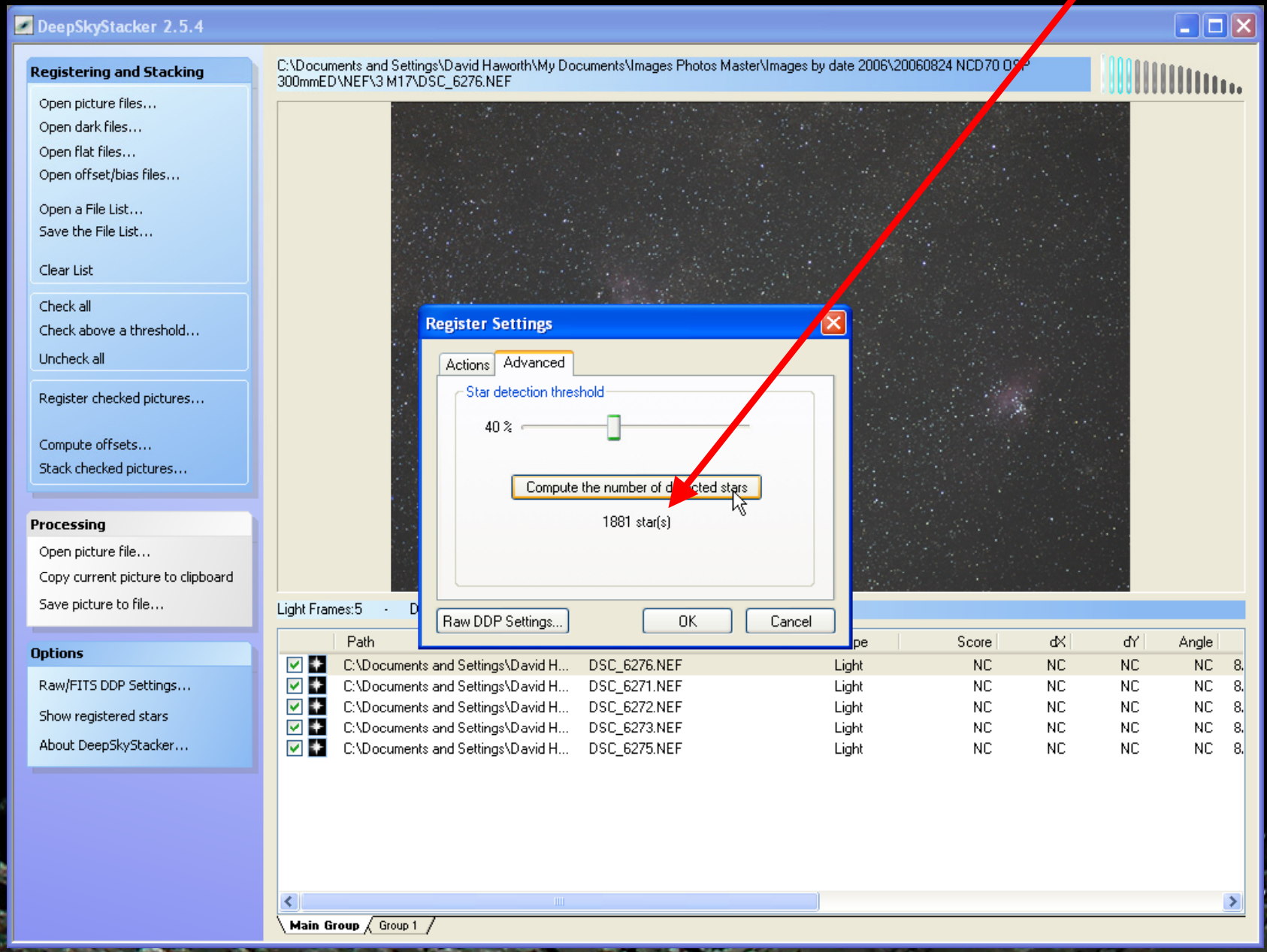
Register Settings: Advanced

Adjust Star detection threshold and compute



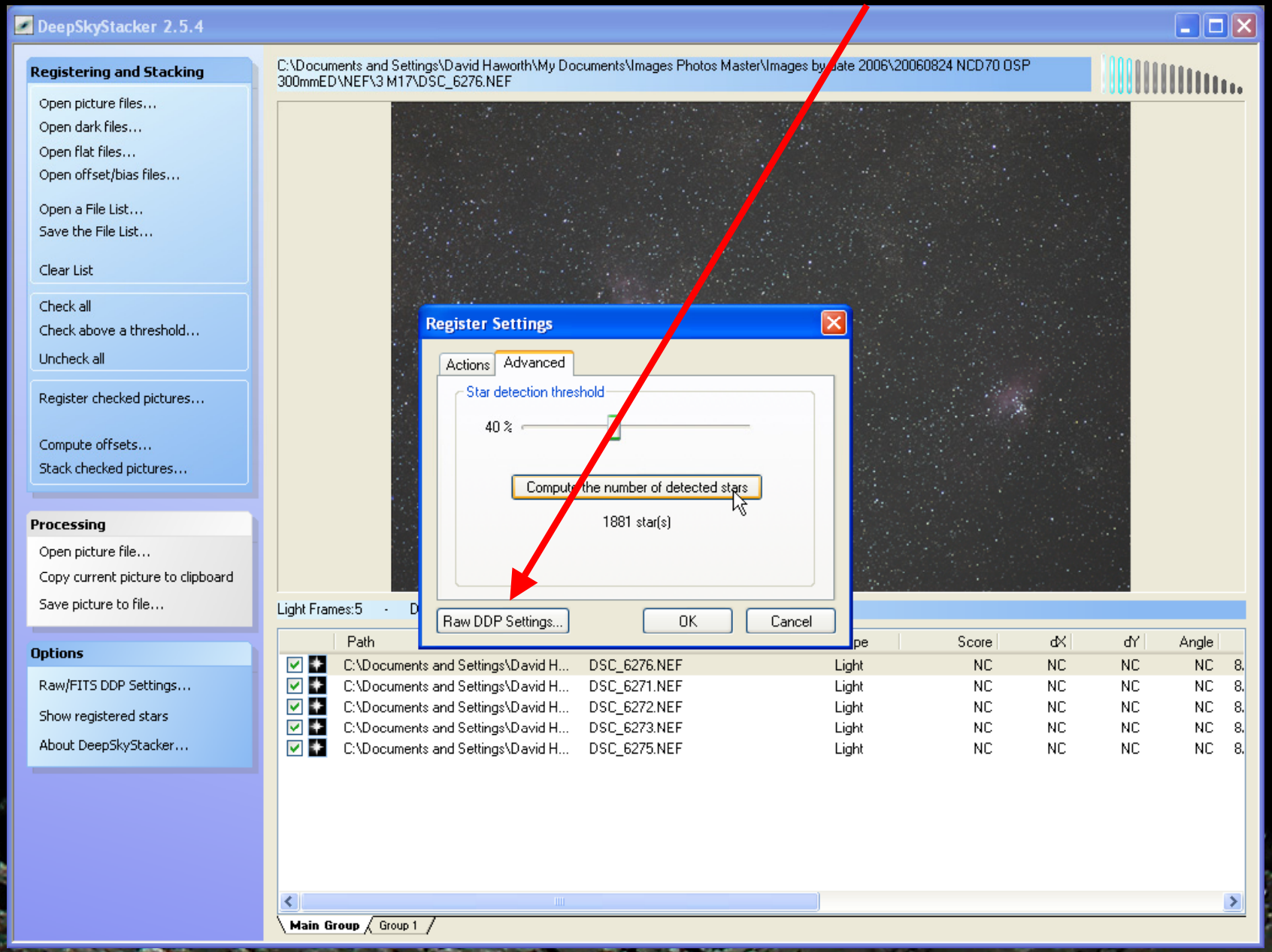
Register Settings: Advanced

1881 stars found, only 100 will be used for registration



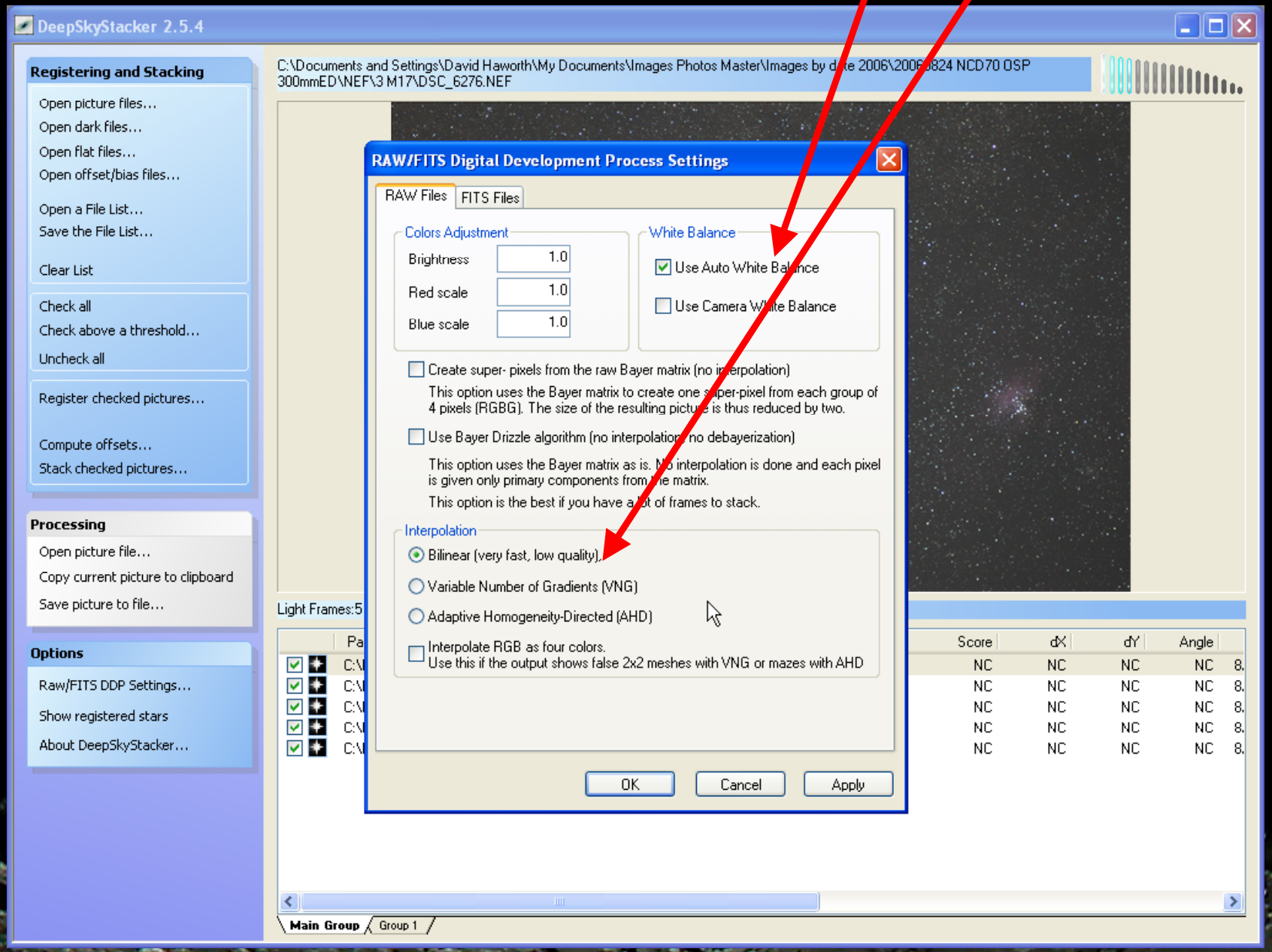
Configure RAW and FIT Settings

Click on Raw DDP Settings



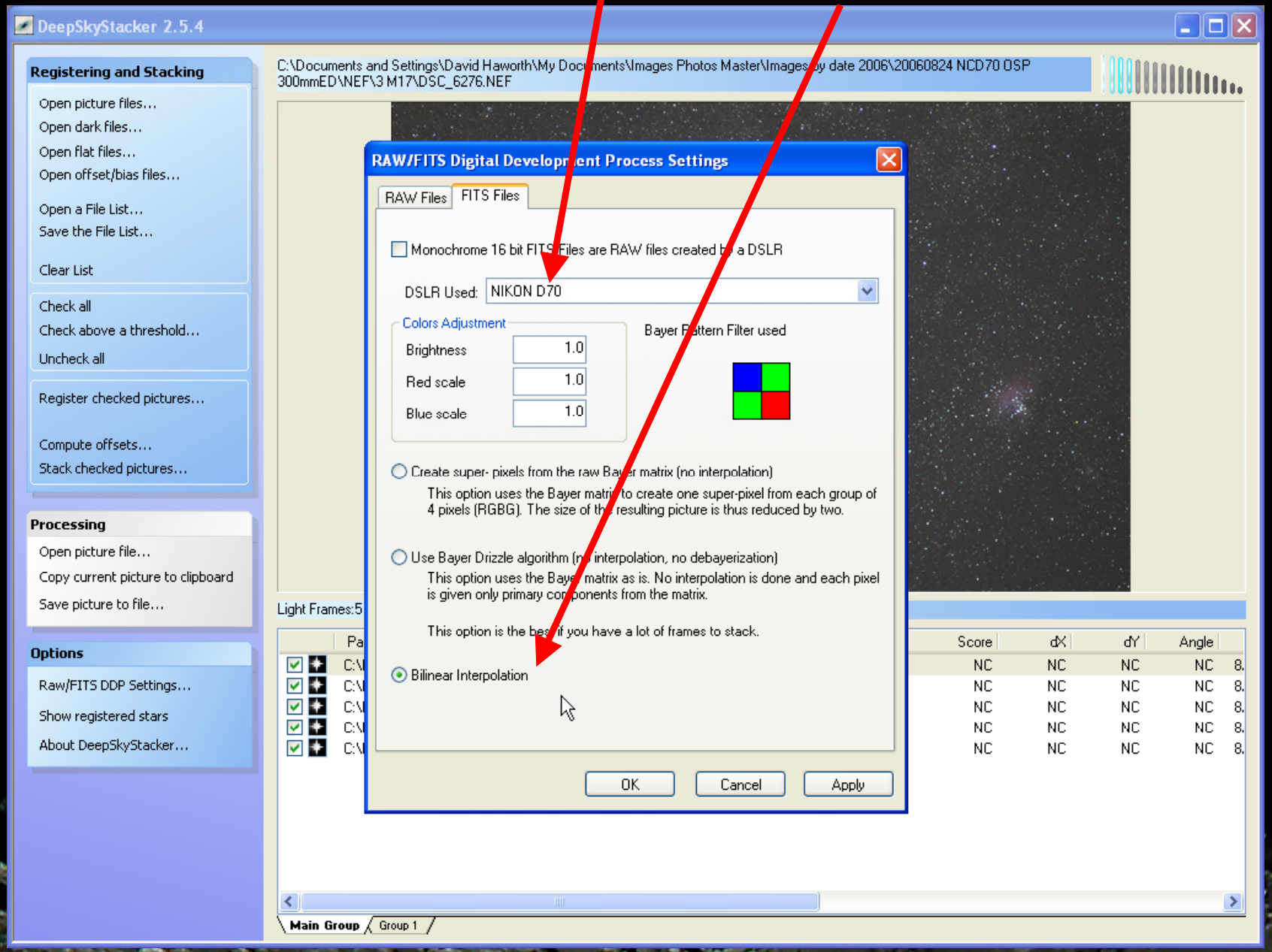
RAW Settings

Use Auto White Balance and Bilinear



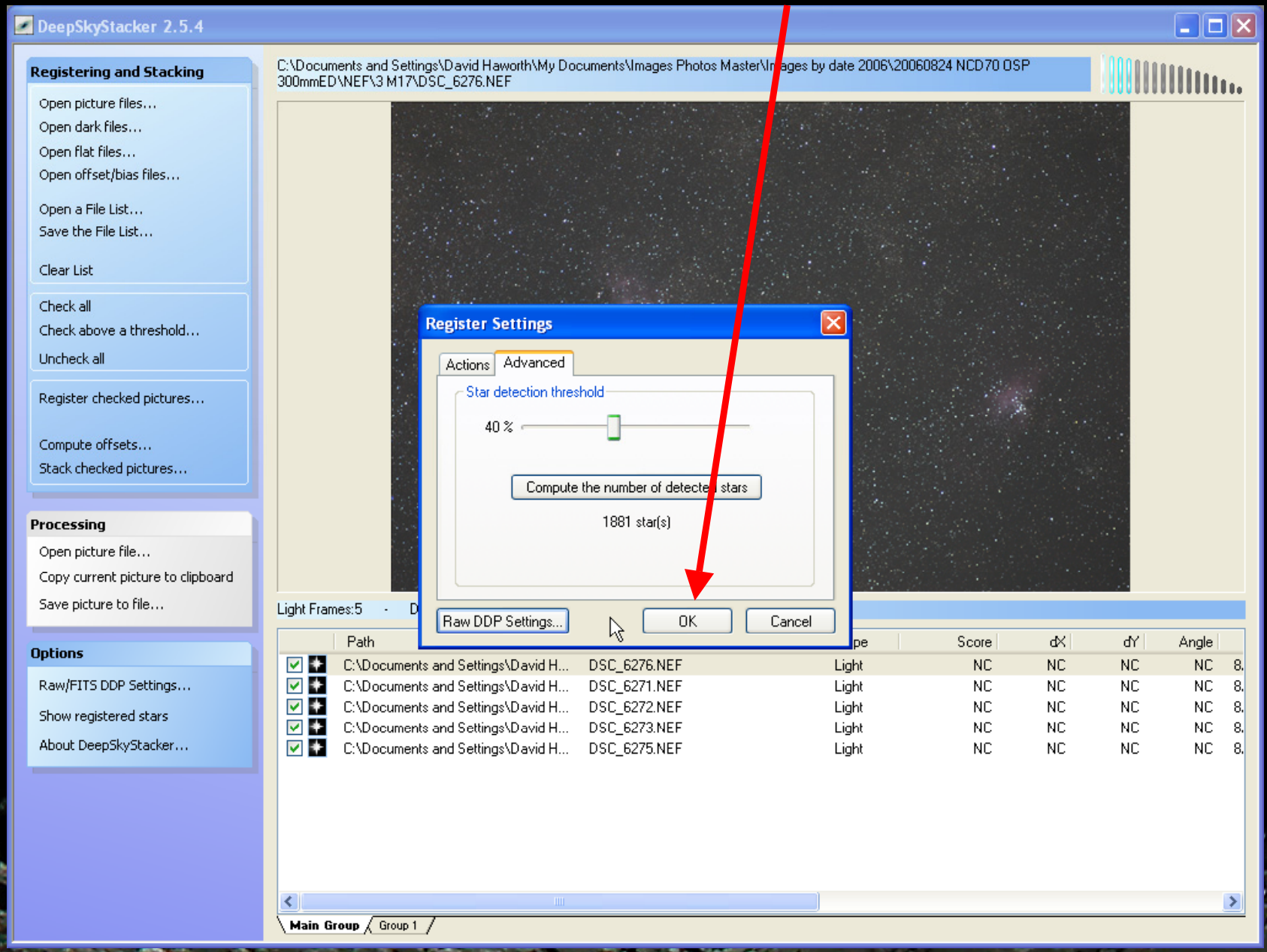
FITS Settings

Nikon D70 and Bilinear



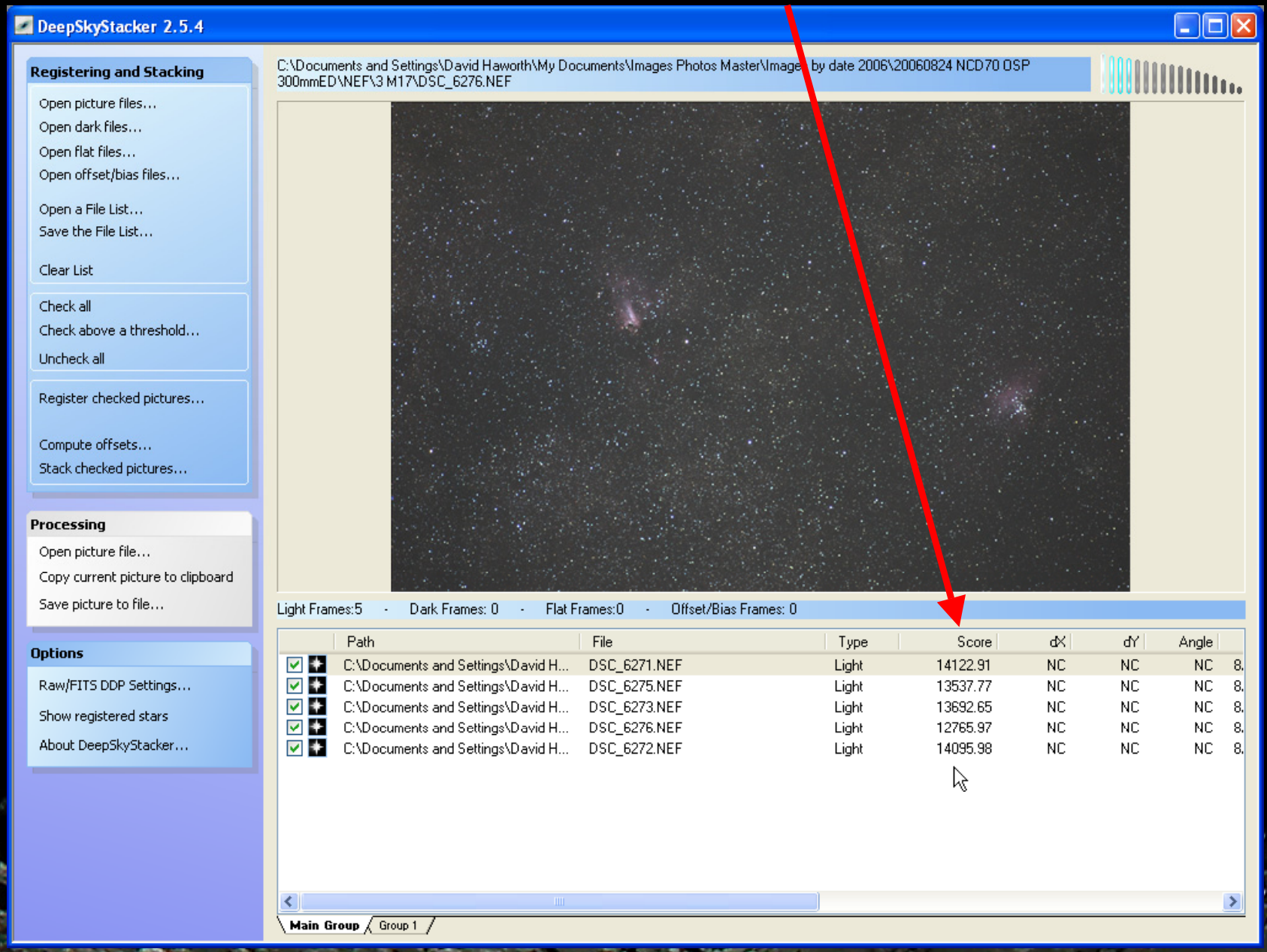
Register Checked Pictures

Click OK to start



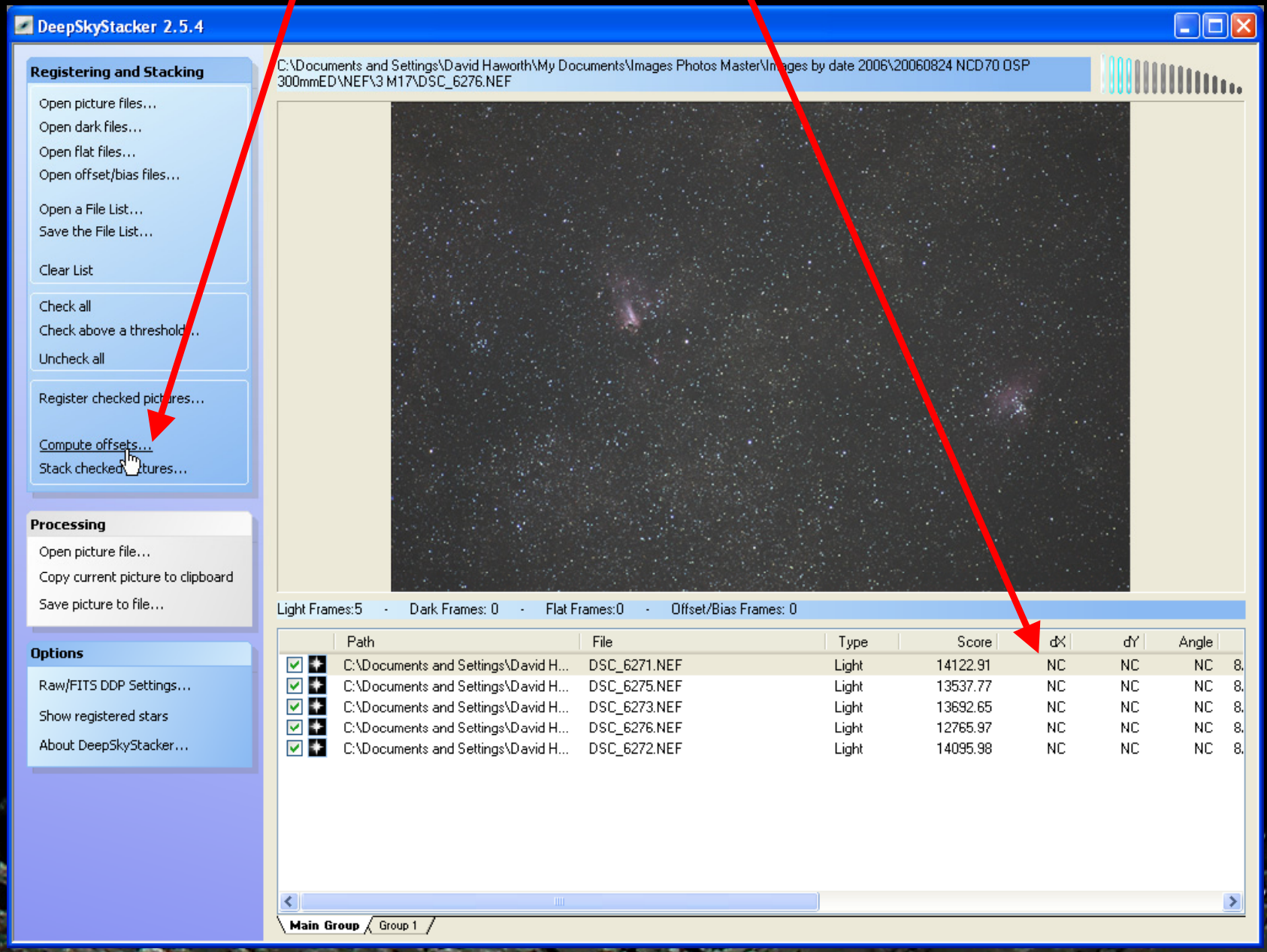
After Register Checked Pictures

Highest score is automatically used for reference image



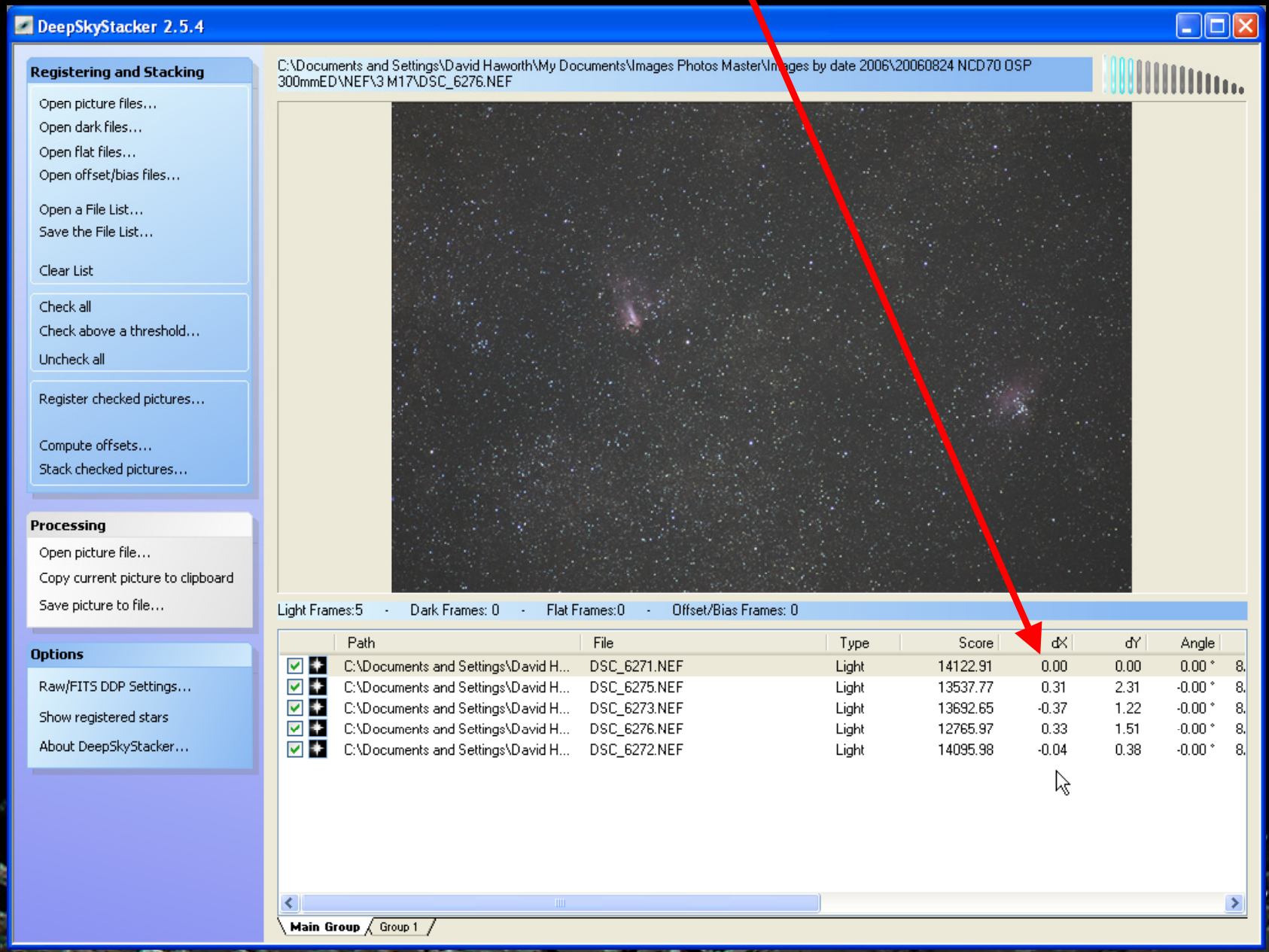
Compute Offsets

NC means Not Computed



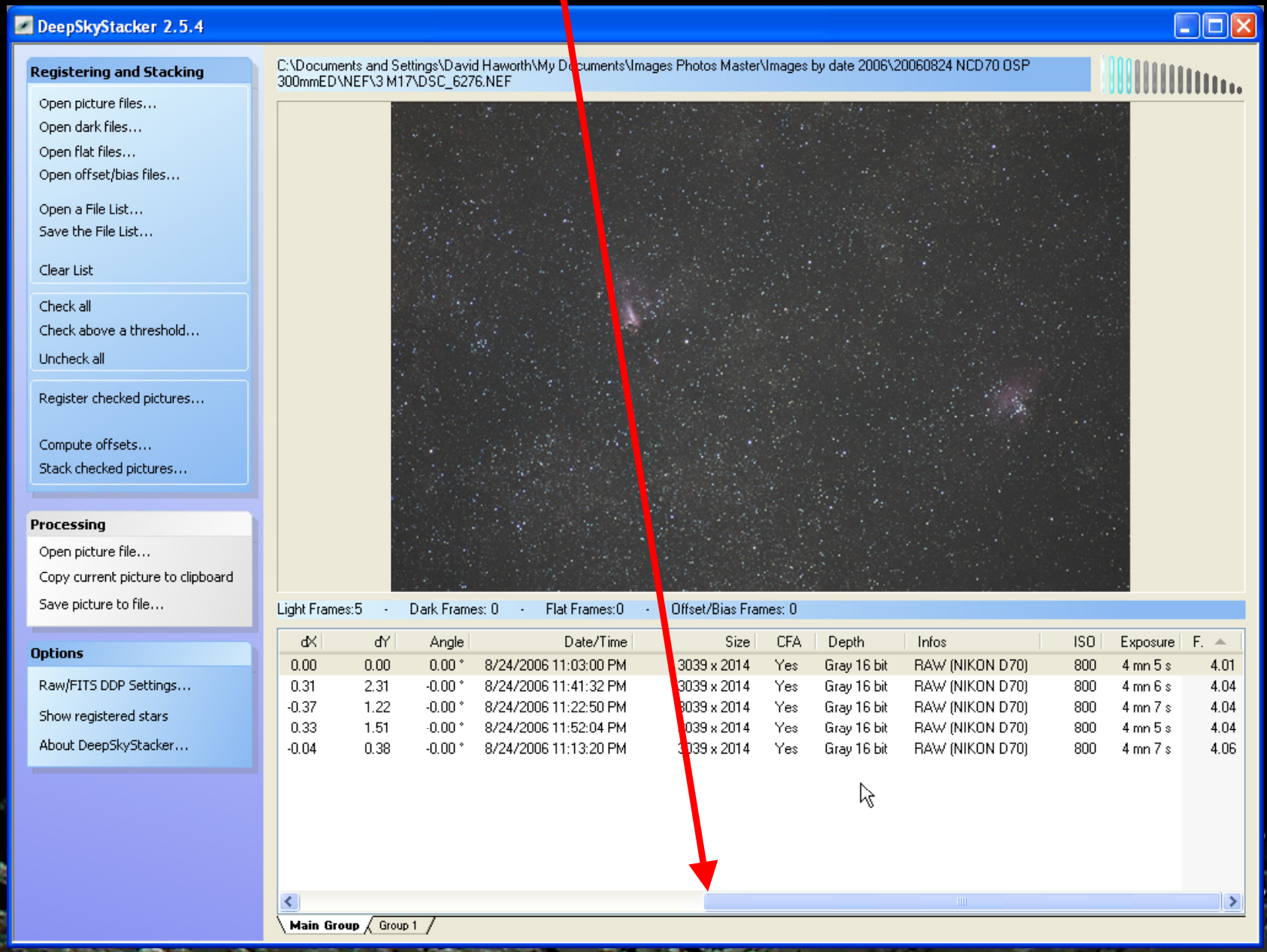
After Compute Offsets

dx, dy and Angle values replace NC (Not Computed)



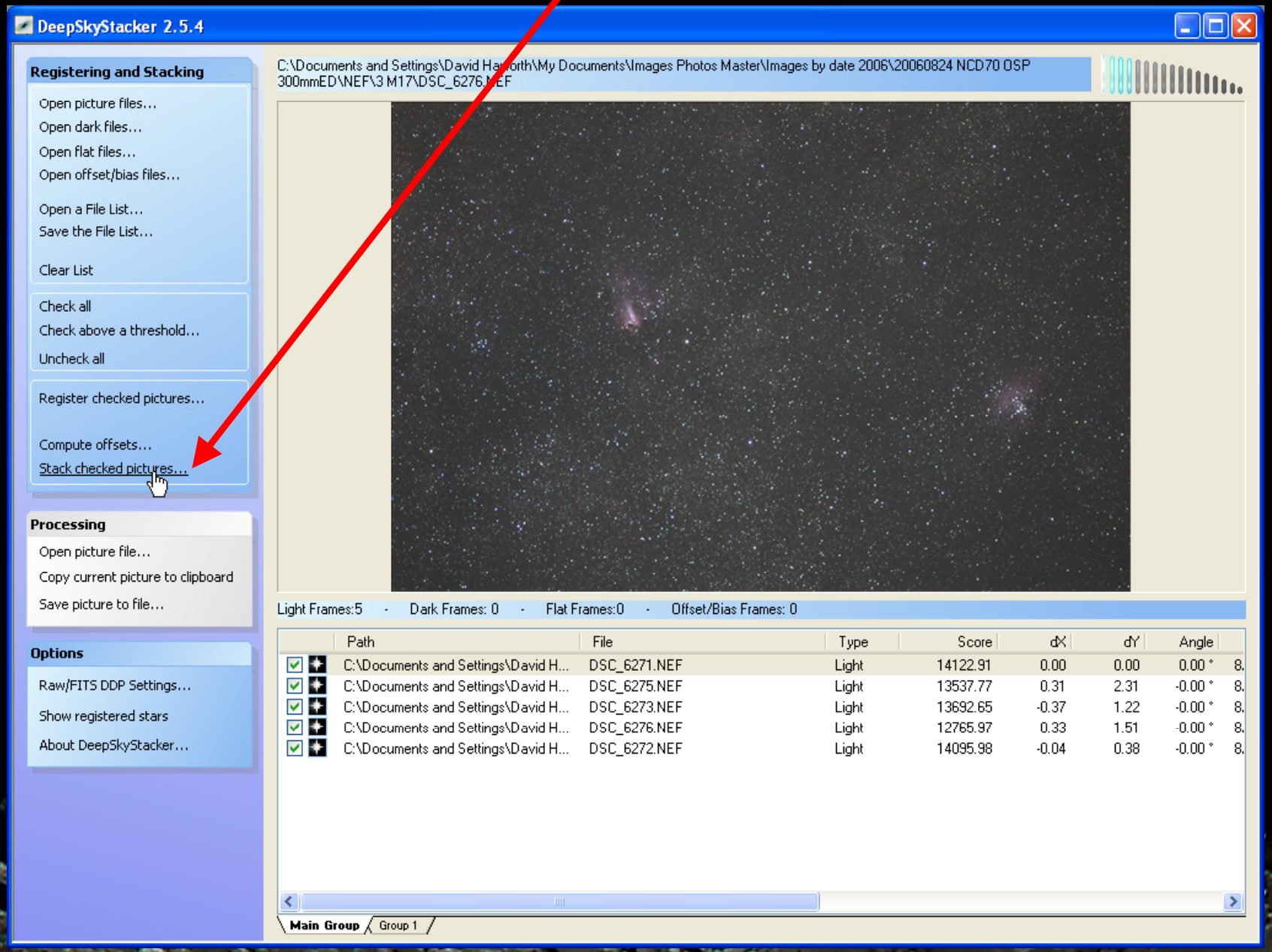
After Compute Offsets

Use scroll bar to see other data



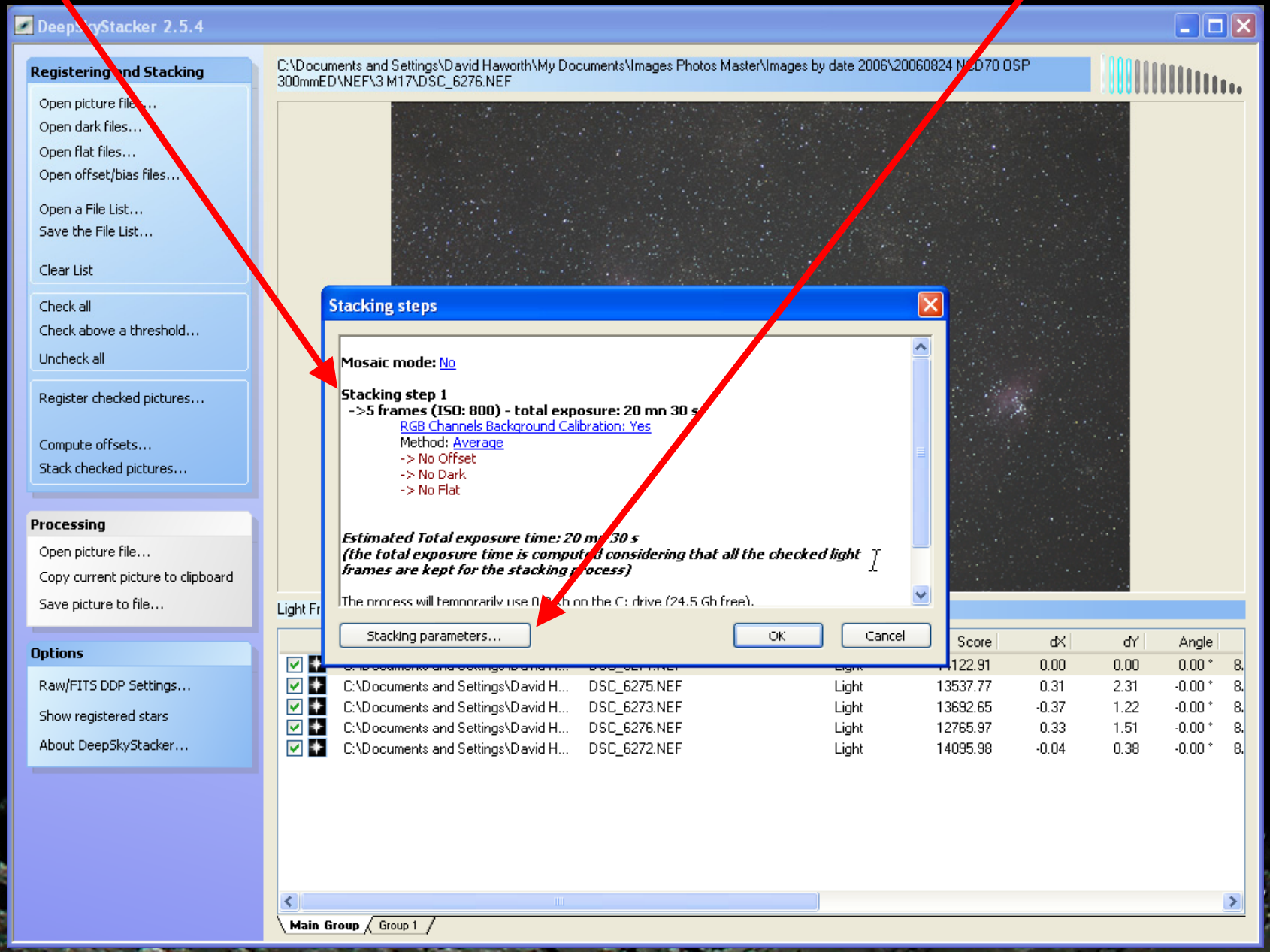
Stack Checked Pictures

All images are used in stacking



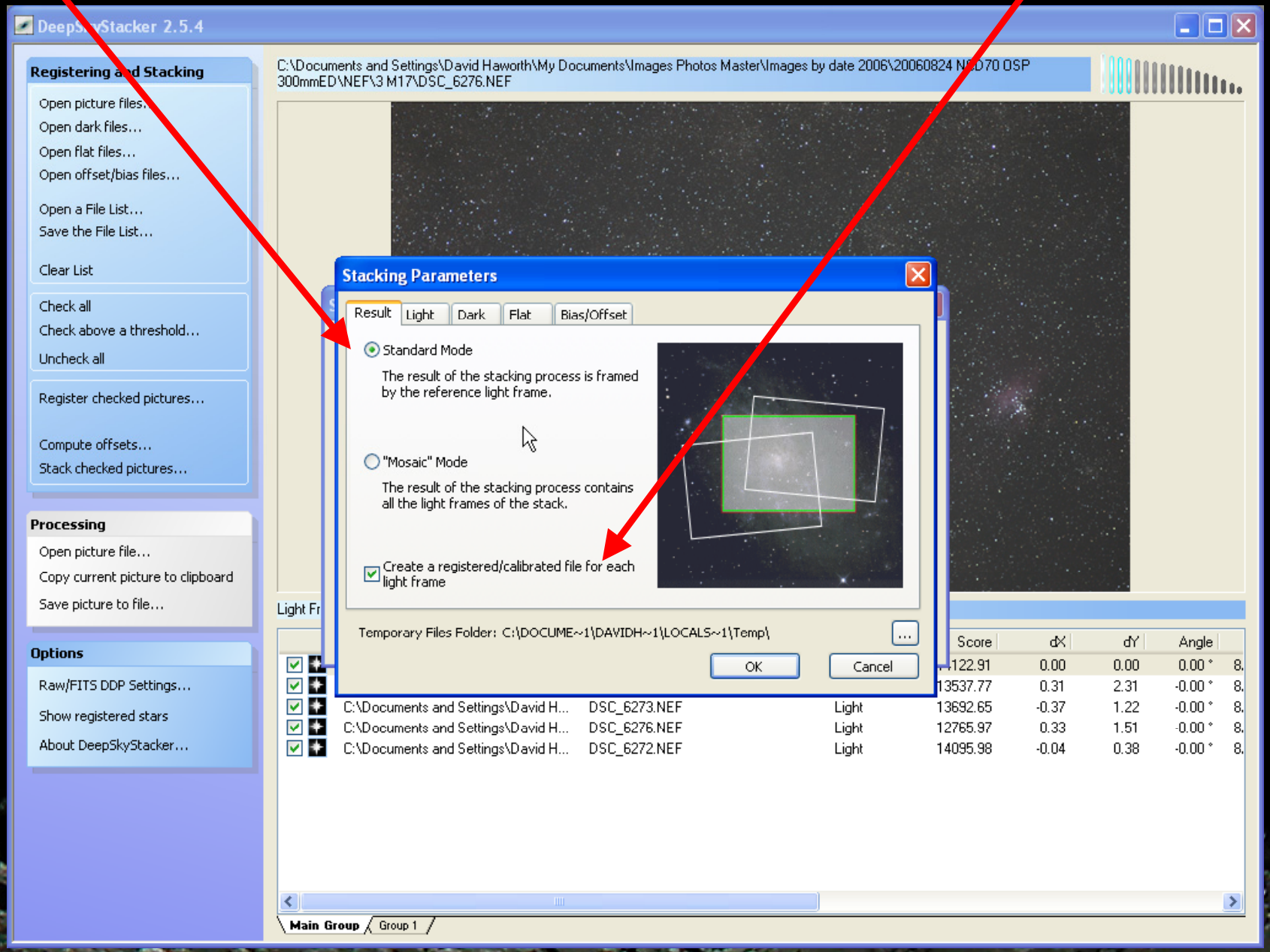
Stack Checked Pictures

All images are used in stacking and click on Stacking Par.



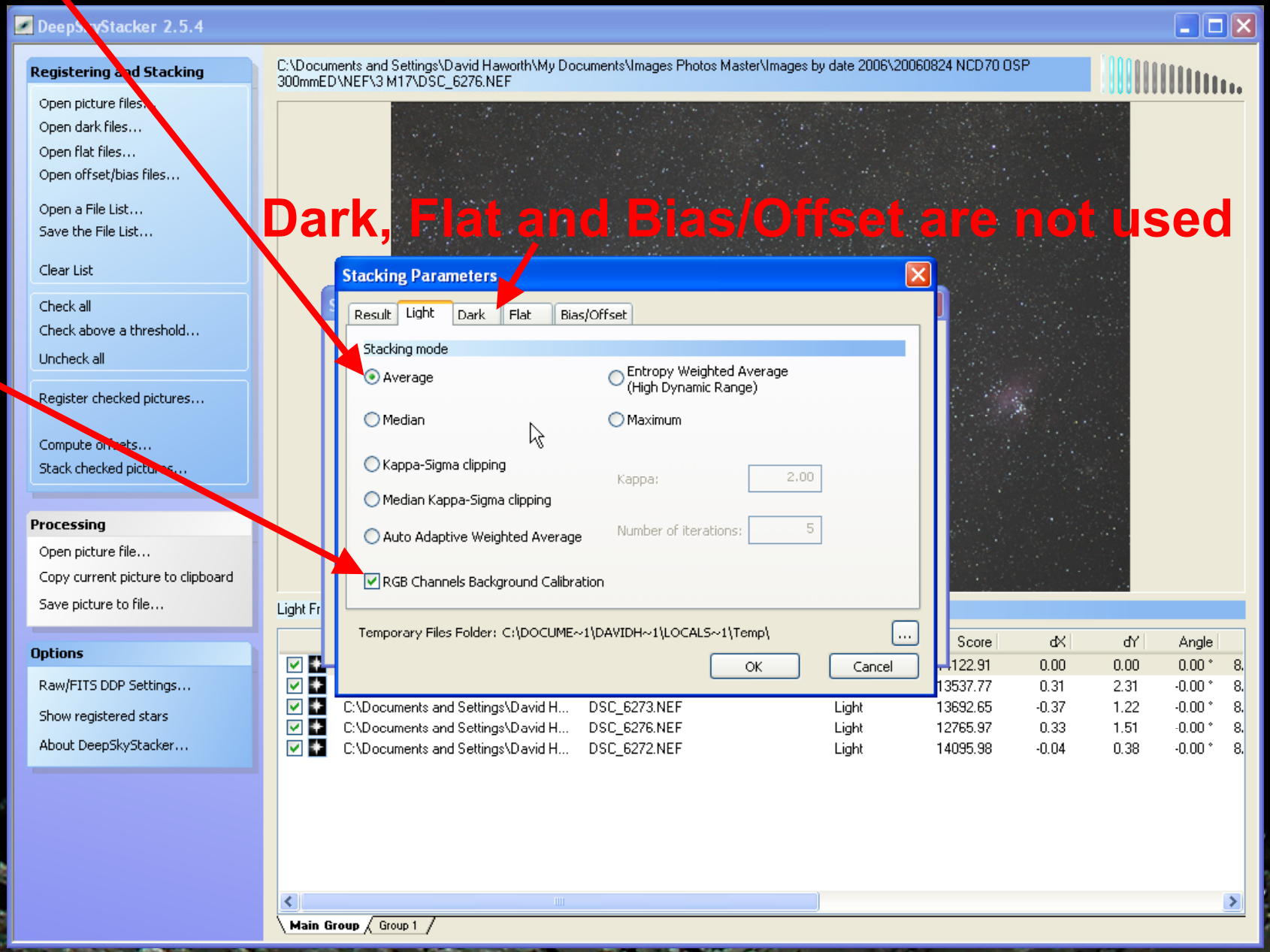
Stacking Parameters: Results

Standard mode & create registered file for each light frame



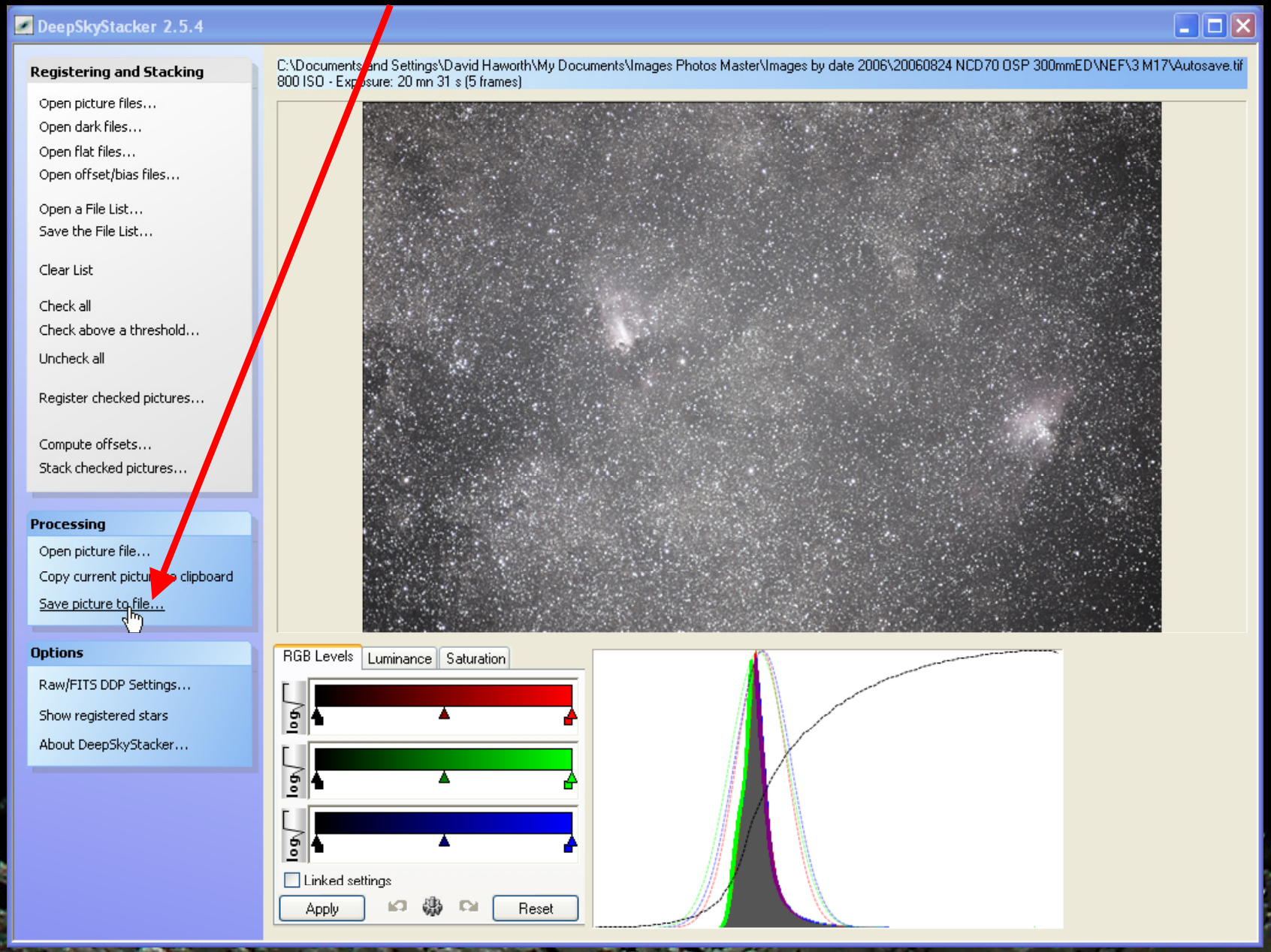
Stacking Parameters: Light

Use Average because only 5 images are being stacked



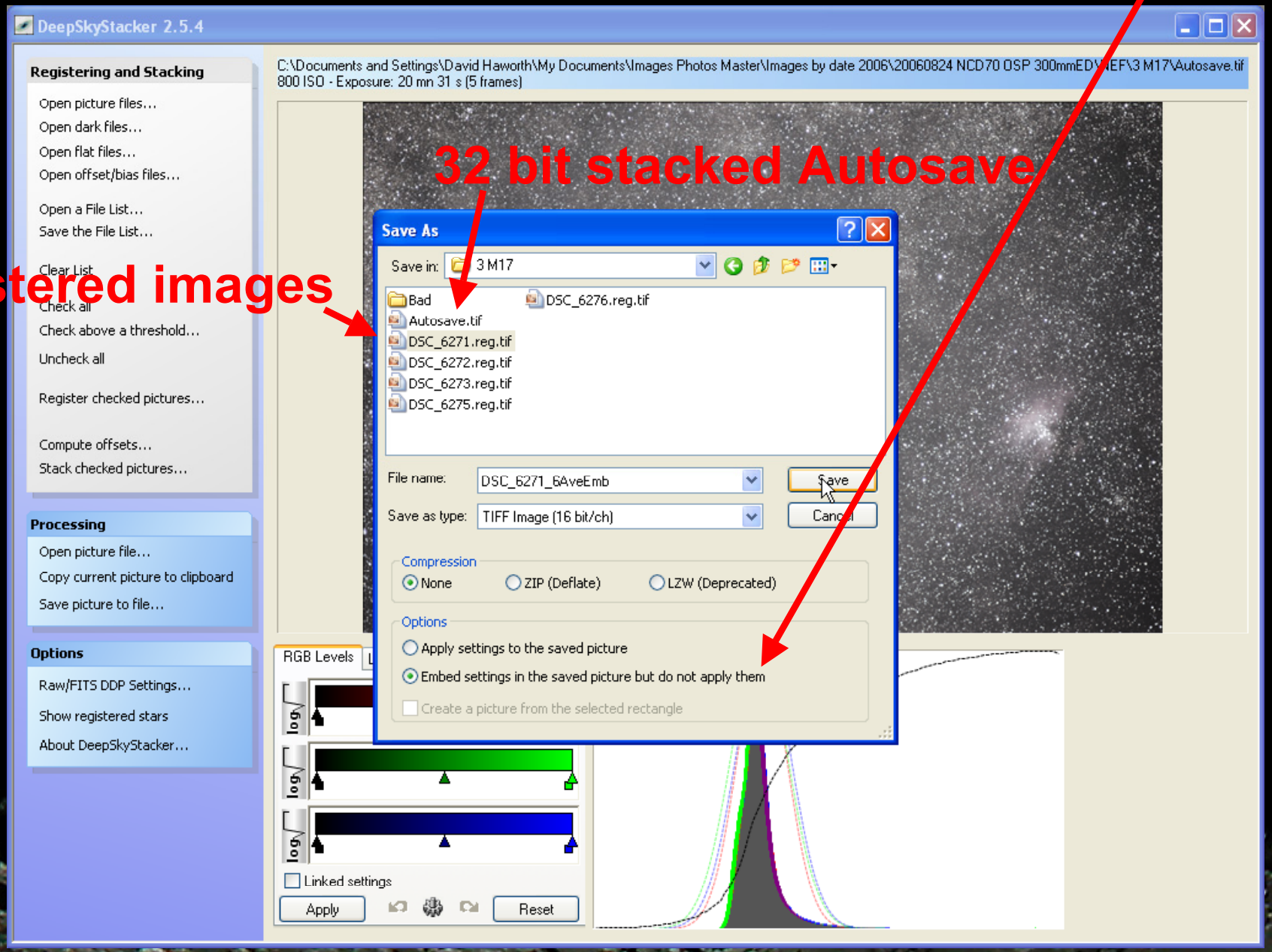
Five Stacked Images

Save stacked image



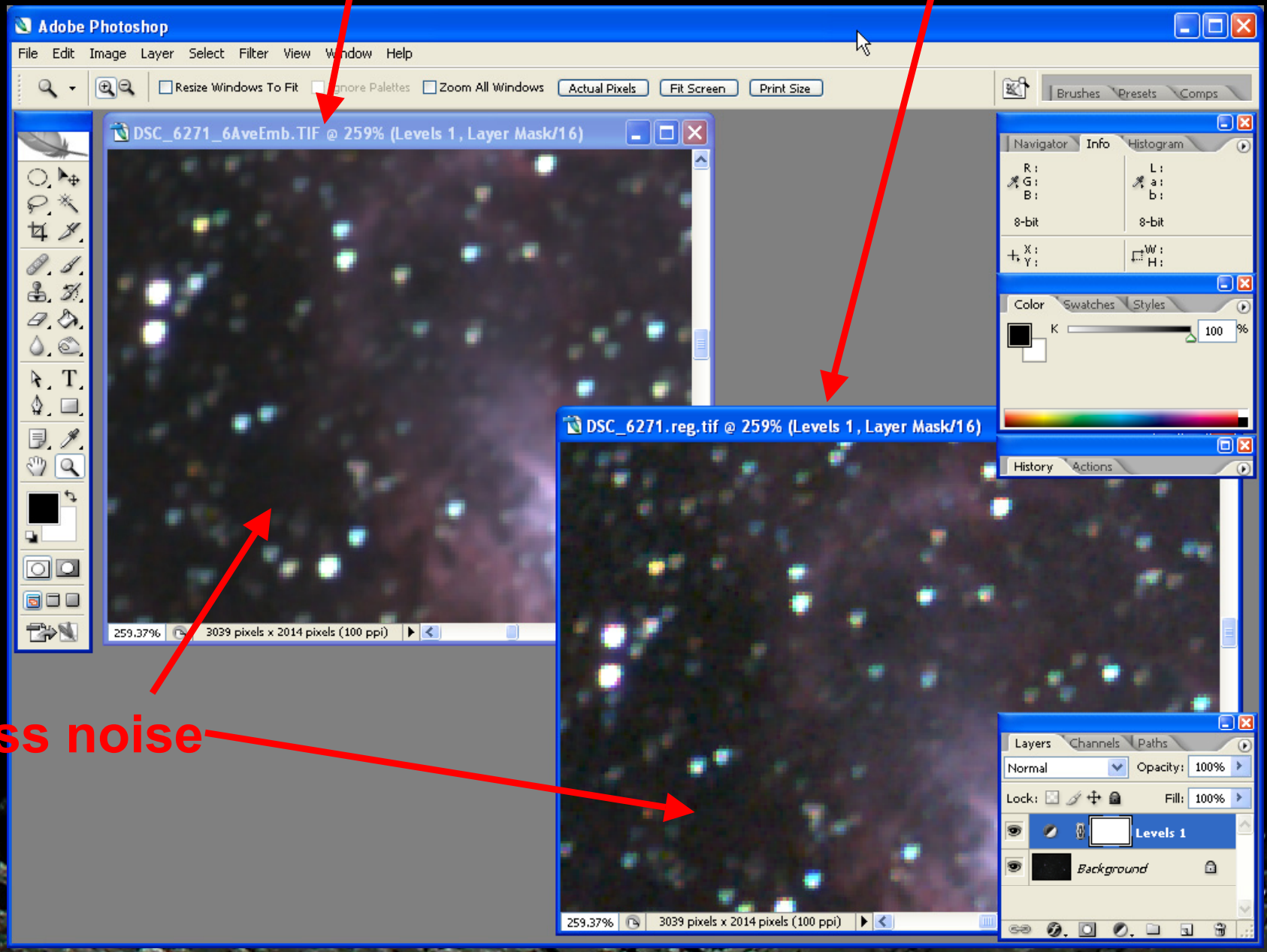
Saving Stacked Image

Save stacked image with embed settings



Comparison

DSS 5 stacked images with 1 image



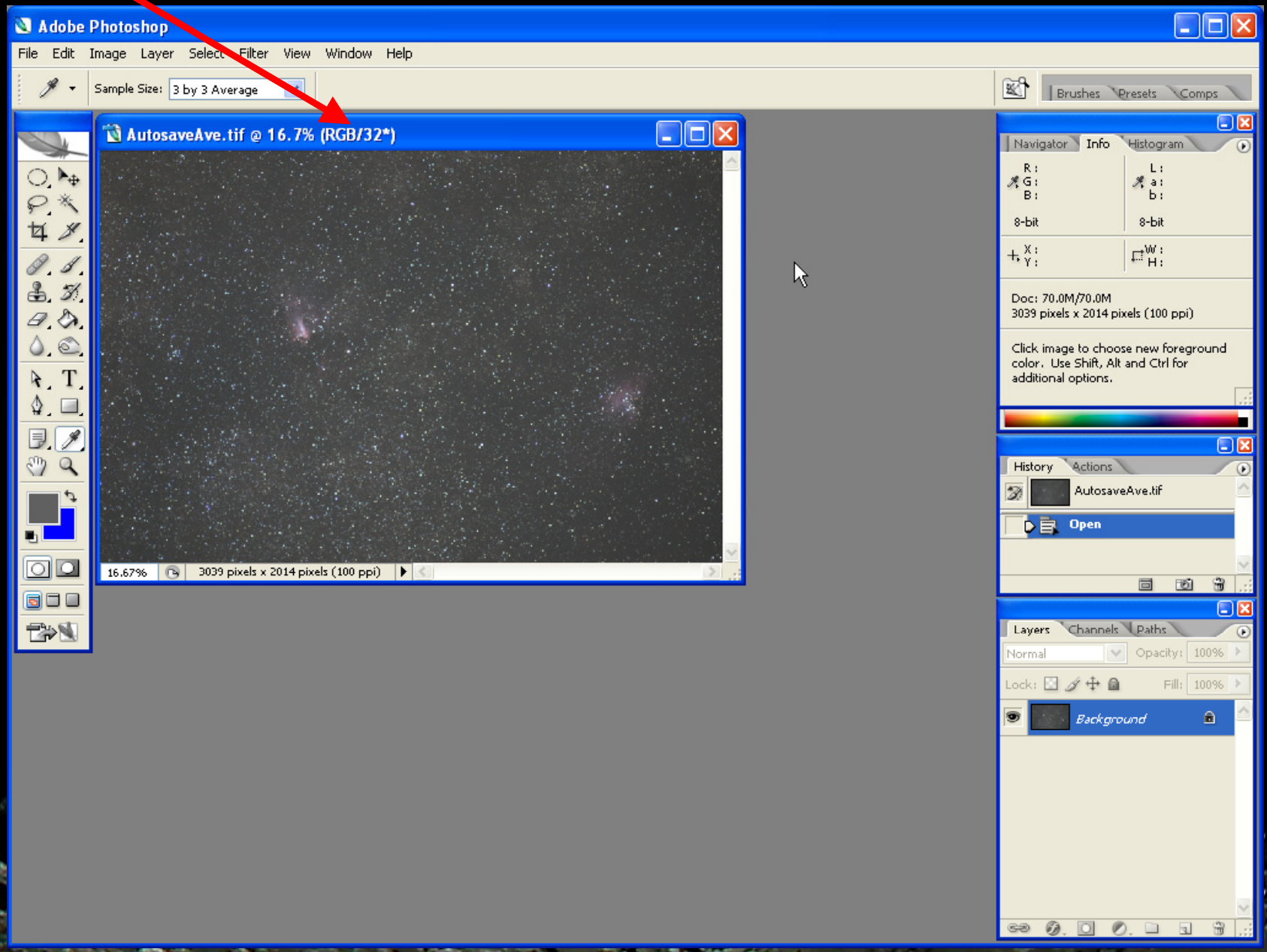
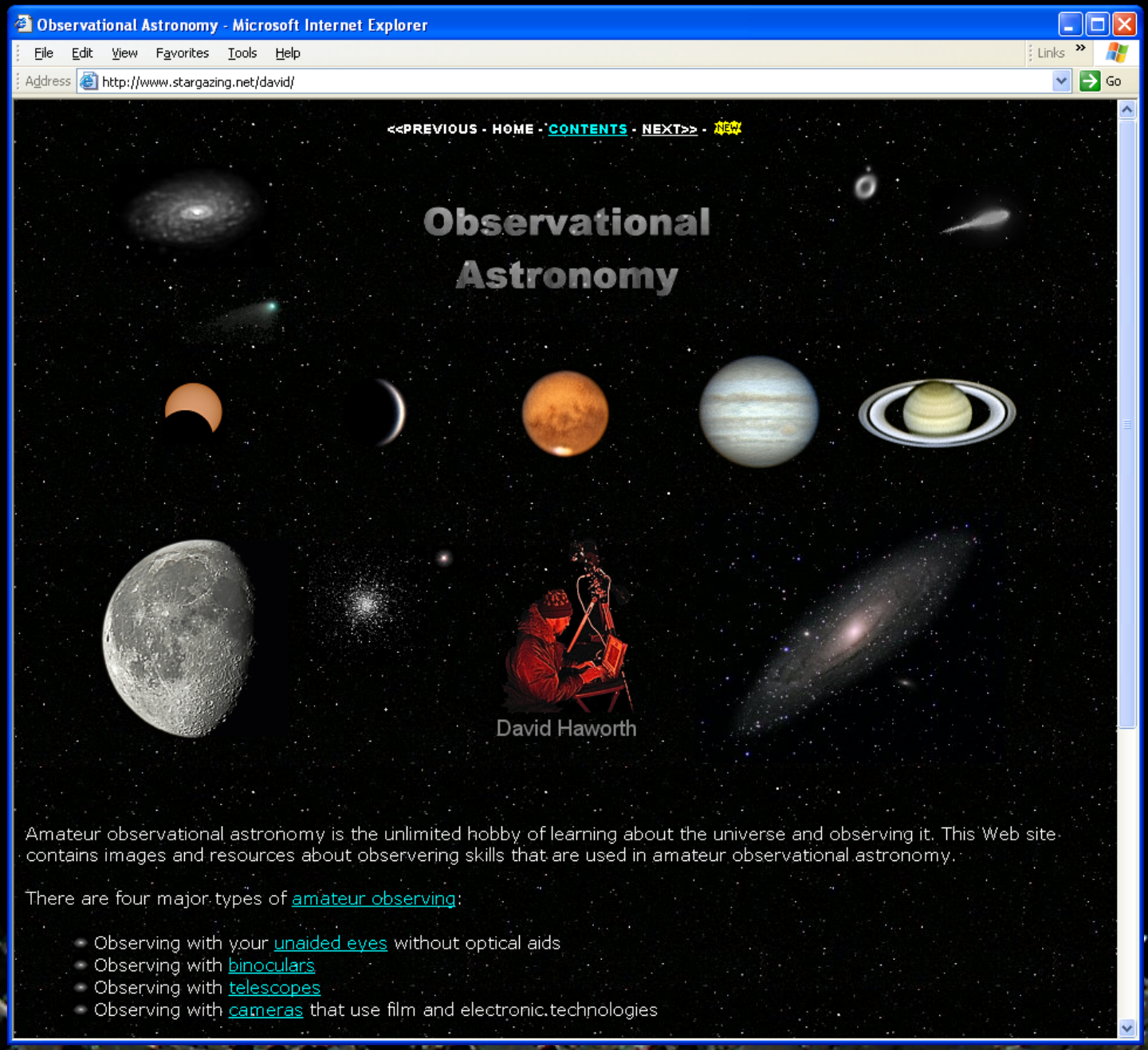
Final Processing of Stacked Image

Using 16-bit TIF

- Open in Photoshop CS
- Open in AIP4WIN V2.1.10
- Open in MaxIm DL V3.20

Final Processing of Stacked Image

32-bit TIF open in Photoshop CS with limited operations



www.stargazing.net/david/