

pco.dicam C1 LT

intensified 16 bit **sCMOS** camera

1^{channel}
intensified
sCMOS

intensified
sCMOS technology
1504 x 1504 pixel

120 fps
@ full resolution

10G fiber optic
data interface



exposure time 51 ns
with 18 mm intensifier

double image mode
with 300 ns interframing time

pco.

An Excelitas Technologies Brand



As an expansion to our well established pco.dicam C1 family, we are now adding the **pco.dicam C1 LT** model, which is based on 18 mm image intensifiers. For applications which do not challenge the absolute technical limits in intensified imaging, the new pco.dicam C1 LT is a budget friendly alternative to the high end versions pco.dicam C1 and pco.dicam C1 UHS. Building on the proven technology of our established hardware platform the pco.dicam C1 LT gives you full access to the world of true optical gated imaging. Its S20 photo cathode matches most application requirements.

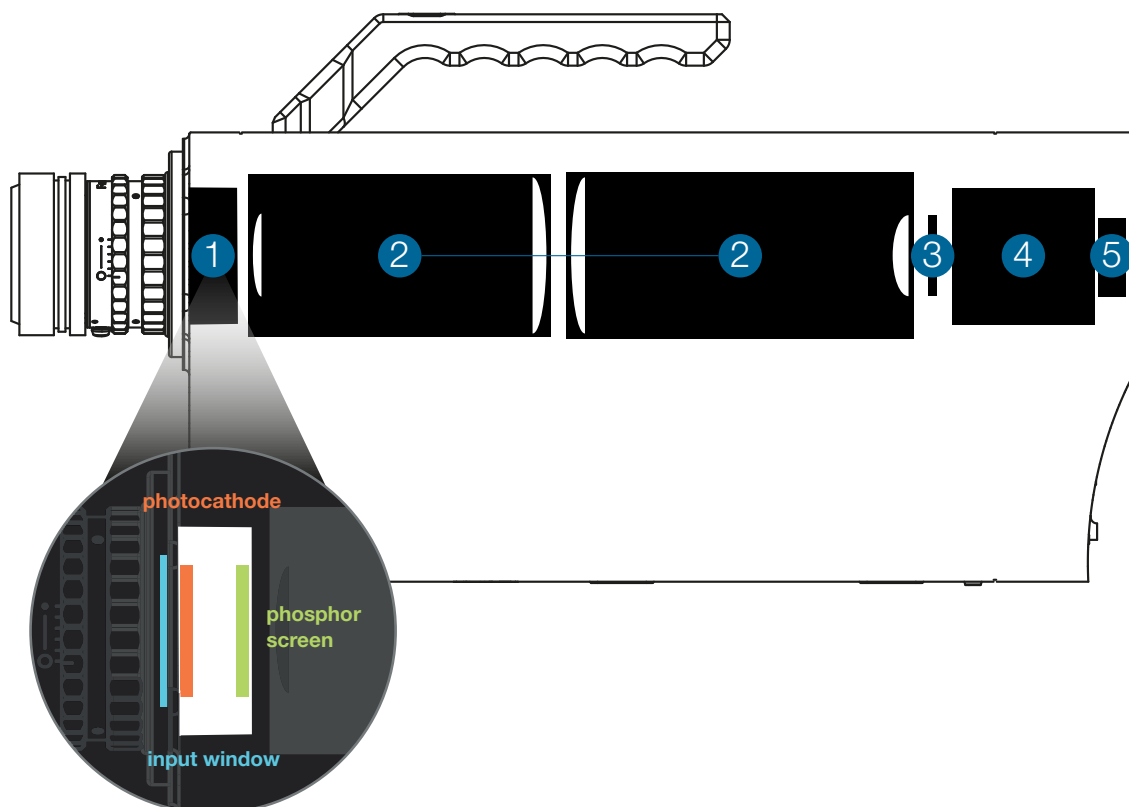
Adapted from the high end versions is the optical coupling of the 18 mm image intensifier to the 16 bit sCMOS sensor via an efficient tandem lens. Single photons are detected using exposure times down to 51ns with up to 120 fps at full 2.3 MPixel resolution. The 10G fiber optic based data interface (CLHS FOL) guarantees you uncompressed and robust 16 bit data transfer in real time via optical fiber over virtually any distance.

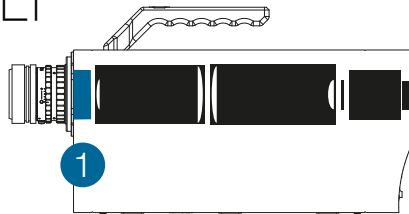
features & benefits

120 fps @ full 2.3 MPixel resolution	high frame rates at high resolution for imaging of dynamic processes
1.1 e⁻ readout noise	lowest readout noise of any gated intensified camera system
16 bit digitization	taking advantage of the higher dynamic range possible from high-end image intensifiers
optical coupling via ultra-speed tandem lens	outstanding image quality with high transmission efficiency and no artifacts
tandem lens with 0.53 : 1 image scaling	full 18 mm diameter of intensifier output is imaged (lossless) onto an sCMOS sensor
10G fiber optic based data interface	fiber optic interface virtually covers any distance without deploying additional interface converters or signal amplifiers with immunity to EMI
550 MByte/s image data rate	highest sustained image data rate of any intensified camera system on the market; no limitations for recording duration
double image mode with 300 ns interframing time	two consecutive full resolution images with a configurable minimum interframing time of 300 ns
2.3 MPixel sCMOS sensor	overcomes CCD limitations in terms of speed and sensitivity
enhanced extinction ratio gating	fast MCP gating for improved extinction ratio for the blue and uv part of the spectrum
additional optical trigger input	robust trigger transmission over long distance in EMC critical environments
selected highly homogeneous image intensifiers	integrated best image intensifier quality available on the market
< 50 ns trigger to exposure start delay	ultra fast camera reaction to trigger event
51 ns gating with 18 mm intensifier	captures fast transient phenomena
external modulation of the photocathode sensitivity	multiple exposure with up to 3.3 MHz
extensive and highly precise IN/OUT signaling	allows for perfect synchronization in any experimental setup as timing master or slave
configurable delay in steps of 1 ns	flexible adaptation to synchronization needs

camera components overview

- 1 image intensifier
- 2 optical coupling lens system
- 3 sCMOS image sensor
- 4 camera system
- 5 10G fiber optic based interface





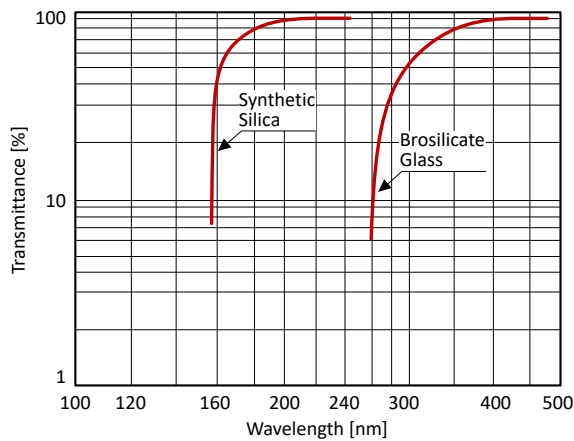
technical specifications

» **image intensifier**

type	HighRes micro channel plate (MCP) 6 μm channel
input window	synthetic silica
photocathode material	S20
image intensifier pitch distance	6 μm
image intensifier MCP type	single stage low resistance MCP for high strip current
MCP operational modes	continuous gated for enhanced extinction ratio
image intensifier diameter	18 mm
phosphor screen material	P43, P46
output window	glass
image intensifier system resolution	> 50 lp/mm @ 5 % MTF typical (depends on phosphor)
shortest gating time	51 ns

» **image intensifier input window**

Typical transmittance of image intensifier input window materials.

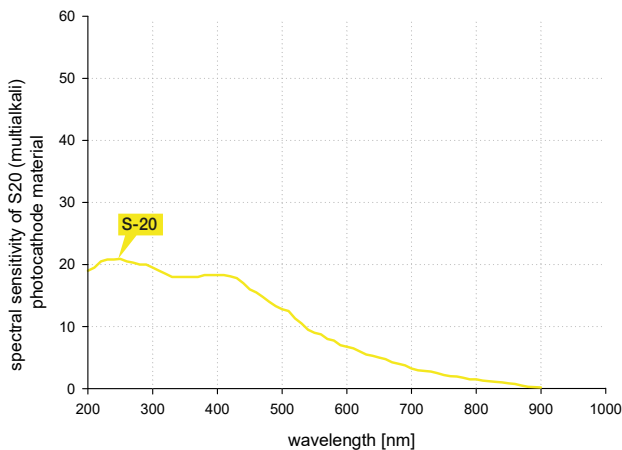


data courtesy of Hamamatsu Photonics

To make use of the good UV sensitivity of S20 photocathode material, the standard input window is made of synthetic silica for transmission down to 180 nm.

» photocathode quantum efficiency

Spectral sensitivities of different photocathode material:
S20 (multialkali)



data courtesy of Hamamatsu Photonics

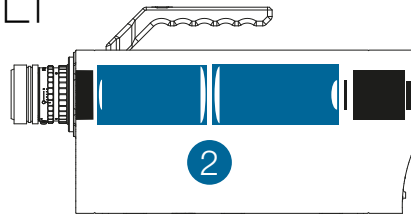
photocathode material	peak wavelength [nm]	typical quantum efficiency at peak wavelength [%]	dark counts [s ⁻¹ /cm ²]
S20 (multialkali)	250	20	1500

data courtesy of Hamamatsu Photonics

» image intensifier phosphor

phosphor	phosphor decay (typ.) to..		peak emission	typical efficiency
	.. 10 %	.. 1 %		
P43	1 ms	4 ms	545 nm	100 %
P46	0.2 - 0.4 μs	2 μs	530 nm	30 %

You can combine all photocathode materials with P43 or P46 phosphor. Whereas the P43 phosphor has a much brighter emission than the P46 phosphor, it has a rather long decay time, i.e. the time required until the phosphor emission fades out after the excitation by electron bombardement has been stopped. This decay time is therefore critical for fast image repetition rates, primarily in double image application or when operating the camera in spectroscopic mode with line rates in the kHz range.

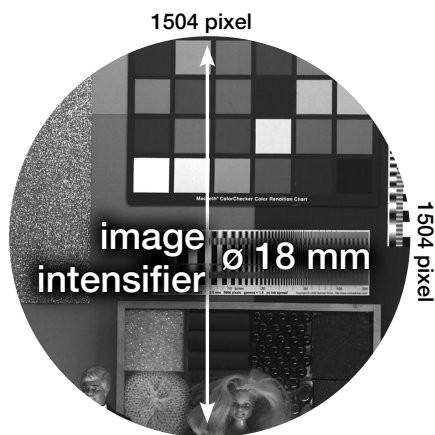


technical specifications

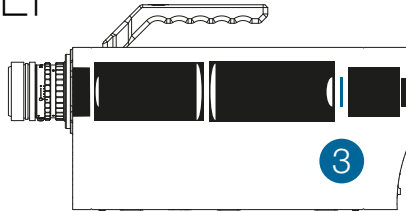
» **optical coupling lens system**

“ultra-speed tandem lens” between image intensifier & sCMOS

transmission efficiency	> 30 %
vignetting	< 3 %
resolution	> 60 lp/mm
scaling rates	$\beta=0.53$ for 18 mm intensifier



The projected image circle is completely covered by 1504 x 1504 6.5 μm pixels of the sCMOS detector. There is no “waste” of valuable intensifier area. As a consequence, the four corners of the sCMOS sensor remain black.



technical specifications

» sCMOS image sensor

type of sensor	scientific CMOS (sCMOS)
resolution (h x v)	1504 x 1504 active pixel
pixel size (h x v)	6.5 μm x 6.5 μm
sensor format / diagonal	9.8 mm x 9.8 mm / 13.8 mm
shutter mode	single image double image
MTF¹	76.9 lp/mm (theoretical)
fullwell capacity	15,000 e ⁻ for P46 phosphor 30,000 e ⁻ for P43 phosphor
readout noise²	1.1 med / 1.5 rms e ⁻ single image 2.2 med / 2.5 rms e ⁻ double image
dynamic range	13,600 : 1 (82.7 dB) for P46 phosphor 27,200 : 1 (88.7 dB) for P43 phosphor
quantum efficiency	58 % for P43 peak emission @ 545 nm 57 % for P46 peak emission @ 530 nm
spectral range	300 nm ... 1000 nm
dark current³	< 0.6 e ⁻ /pixel/s @ 7 °C
DSNU	1.0 rms e ⁻
PRNU	< 0.6 %
anti blooming factor	1 : 10,000

» frame rate table⁴

	C1 LT
1504 x 1504	120 fps
1504 x 1024	164 fps
1504 x 512	266 fps
1504 x 256	389 fps
1504 x 128	505 fps
1504 x 64	591 fps
1504 x 32	649 fps
1504 x 16	681 fps
1280 x 1024	164 fps
640 x 480	293 fps
320 x 240	400 fps

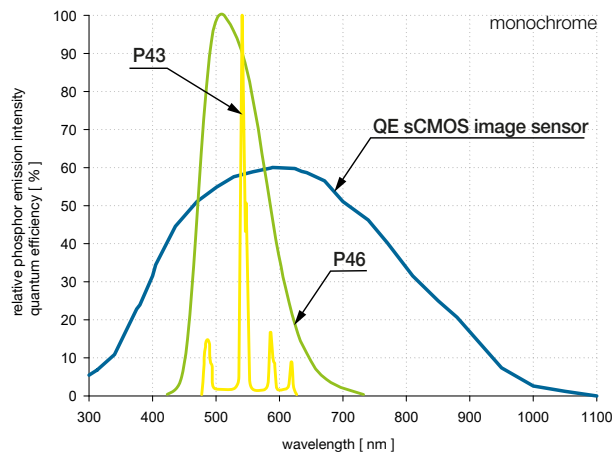
¹ Modulation transfer function.

² The readout noise values are given as median (med) and root mean square (rms) values due to the different noise models, which can be used for evaluation. All values are raw data without any filtering.

³ Measurements with dark current compensation.

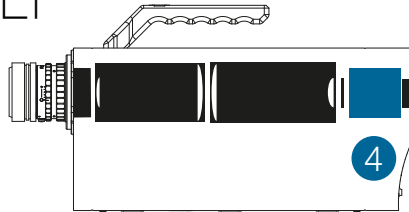
⁴ Exposure time < 1 μs .

» perfect fit: phosphor emission vs. sCMOS quantum efficiency



This chart describes the spectral situation for the internal imaging of the image intensifier's phosphor output screen to the sCMOS sensor of the camera detector module. This imaging is done by the highly efficient tandem lens system.

Please note: The spectral sensitivity relevant for your experiment is solely determined by the QE curve of the photocathode material of the image intensifier (page 5).



technical specifications

» camera system

frame rate	120 fps @ 1504 x 1504 pixel
dynamic range A/D⁵	16 bit
pixel scan rate	286.0 MHz
binning horizontal	x1, x2, x4
binning vertical	x1, x2, x4
region of interest (ROI)	horizontal: steps of 4 pixels vertical: steps of 1 pixel
non-linearity	< 1 %
cooling method	+ 7 °C stabilized, 1 stage peltier with forced air (fan)
input signals	optical trigger (FOL), electrical trigger, arm input (TTL level, BNC connectors), gate disable (high-speed TTL input, BNC connectors)
output signals	gate/expos out monitor, user monitor output (TTL level, BNC connectors)
time stamp	in image (1 µs resolution)

» exposure modes

single image mode

exposure times	variable 51 ns ... 250 ns (1 ns steps), 250 ns ... 1 s (10 ns steps)
delay times	0 ns ... 250 ns (1 ns steps), 250 ns ... 1 s (10 ns steps)
maximum repetition... ...with external gating	200 kHz sustained, 3.3 MHz burst
insertion delay	
trigger input to exposure out	19 ns
trigger input to optical open	49 ns
jitter	
trigger input to exposure out	35 ps rms
trigger input to optical open	150 ps rms

double image mode

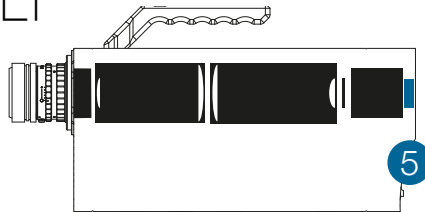
exposure times	60 ns ... 1 ms (in 10 ns steps)
delay settings	0 ns ... 10 ms (in 10 ns steps)
interframing time	300 ns ... 10 ms (in 10 ns steps)

⁵ The high dynamic signal is simultaneously converted at high and low gain by two 11 bit A/D converters and the two 11 bit values are sophistically merged into one 16 bit value.

» general camera system

power supply	18 ... 28 VDC
power consumption	35 ... 40 W
weight	7 kg
operating temperature	+ 10 °C ... + 40 °C
operating humidity range	10 % ... 80 % (non-condensing)
storage temperature range	- 10 °C ... + 60 °C
optical mount	F-mount optional: C-mount
vacuum mount (optional)	sealed camera front attaches to vacuum equipment
maximum cable length	10 km (CLHS FOL)
CE / FCC certified	yes

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1 channel
intensified
sCMOS

technical specifications

» camera interface

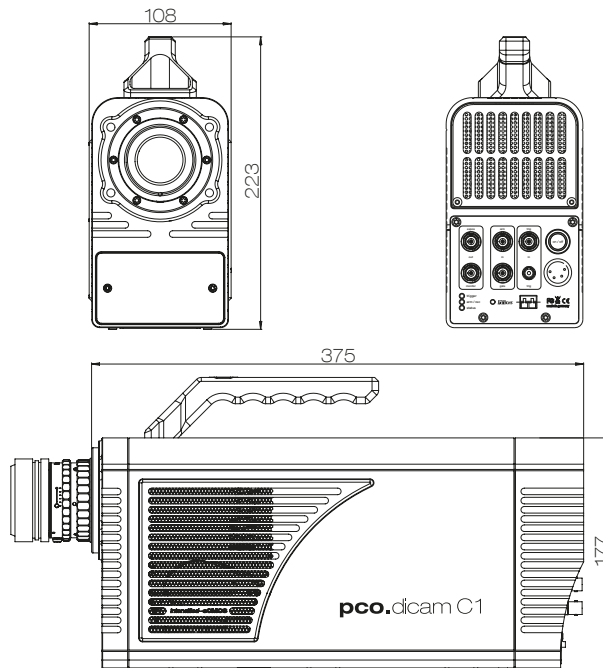
data transfer	Camera Link HS, FOL cable, frame grabber (Single F2, 1X1, S10)
maximum cable length	10 km (CLHS FOL)
input signals	optical trigger (FOL), electrical trigger, arm input (TTL level, BNC connectors), gate disable (high-speed TTL input, BNC connectors)
output signals	gate/expos out monitor, user monitor output (TTL level, BNC connectors)



technical specifications

» dimensions

F-mount and C-mount lens changeable adapter. All dimensions are given in millimeter.



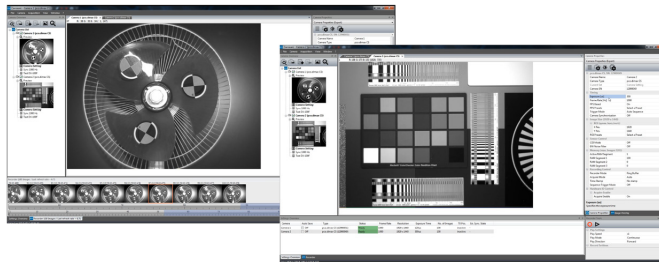
» camera view



» applications

laser induced incandescence (LII) | shock wave physics | laser induced breakdown spectroscopy (LIBS)
particle image velocimetry (PIV) | time resolved spectroscopy | plasmaphysics | laser induced fluorescence (LIF)
ballistics | combustion

» software



With pco.camware you control all camera settings, the image acquisition, and the storage of your image data. The pco.sdk is the complementary software development kit. It includes dynamic link libraries for user customization and integration on Windows PC platforms. Drivers for popular third party software packages are also available for you.

All these items like pco.camware, pco.sdk, and third party drivers are free to download at www.pco.de

» third party integrations



customization

» possible combinations

photocathode	input window	phosphor
S20 selected	synthetic silica	P46 P43

selected quality specified for 18 mm diameter area corresponding to full 1504 x 1504 pixel sCMOS sensor resolution, extinction ratio 10 times higher than standard grade, image intensifiers with S20 photocathode exclusively come in selected grade quality. Contact our technical sales team for further details on the two quality grades

» select optical mount

F-mount
C-mount

» select interface

type of fiber optic interface (CLHS FOL) module in camera and frame grabber

SM SFP+ up to 10 km
MM SFP+ up to 300 m

FOL cable length default: 10 m

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