ORCA-Fusion BT
Digital CMOS Camera
C15440-20UP/C15440-20UP01

Instruction manual

Thank you for your purchase

⚠ CAUTION	• Follow the safety precautions in Chapter 1 in order to avoid personal injury and damage to property when using this camera. The manual describes the correct handling method of the camera and provides instructions that should be followed to avoid accidents. **Read this manual carefully** before using this camera. After reading this manual, store it in a location where you can refer to it at any time.

Ver.1.5
October 2025

HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS K.K.

1. SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

1-1 SYMBOLS

The symbols shown below are used for this camera.

⎓	Direct current
∿	Alternating current

1-2 CLASSIFICATION OF WARNINGS

We have classified the warnings symbols that appear in this instruction manual and on the camera as follows for your convenience. Make sure that you fully understand them and follow the instructions they contain.

⚠ WARNING	Improper handling of the camera without observing these warnings could lead to serious injury to the user and even death.
⚠ CAUTION	Improper handling of the camera without observing these cautions could lead to personal injury to the user or damage to property.

⚠	This symbol indicates a cautionary item that should be followed when handling the camera. Read the contents carefully to ensure correct and safe use.
🚫	This symbol indicates an action that is forbidden. Read and follow the instructions carefully.
●	This symbol indicates a compulsory action or instruction. Read and follow the instructions carefully.
Note	This symbol indicates a note to help you get the best performance from the camera. Read the contents of the note carefully to ensure correct and safe use. Failure to observe one of these notes might impair the performance of the camera.

⚠ WARNING

Power supply

Use the camera with the indicated voltage on the rating sticker. Using a different voltage can damage the camera and lead to fire or electric shock.

Cables

Do not to place heavy objects on cables or bend them excessively. Doing so can damage the cables and lead to fire or electric shock.

Power supply cord and AC adapter

Use the accessory power supply cord and AC adapter when using this camera.

Do not touch the plug with wet hands. Doing so can lead to electric shock.

Do not attempt to dismantle or modify the camera

Doing so can also lead to damage and even injury, as some internal components become very hot or high voltage. Do not touch parts that are not indicated in this manual.

Do not allow foreign objects

Such as combustible substances, metal objects or water to get inside the camera. These can damage the camera and lead to fire or electric shock.

In the event of an anomaly

such as the image suddenly disappearing or the occurrence of a strange noise, a strange smell or smoke coming from the camera, immediately turn off the power switch and unplug the power supply cord and contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor. Do not attempt to repair the camera yourself.

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

⚠️CAUTION

AC adapter

When unplugging the power supply cord, do not pull on the cord. Remove the plug from the outlet to avoid causing electric shock or fire.

When unplugging the power supply cord, do not pull on the cord, but remove the plug from the camera to avoid breakdown of the AC adapter or the camera.

Connecting and disconnecting cables

Always turn off the power supply of the peripheral device before connecting and disconnecting cables.

Mounting the camera

When mounting the camera to a tripod or other fixture, use the optional base plate. Be careful that the mounting screw does not enter more than 8 mm from the surface of the base plate. Screwing it in further can impair normal operation.

Lenses(C15440-20UP)

Be careful not to screw the lens more than 7 mm into the C-mount of the camera. Doing so can scratch the protective glass. (Some wide-angle lenses in particular can have a thread of 7 mm or more.)

When using F-mount (C15440-20UP01)

A F-mount adapter can be subject to light leaks due to the mating flange mechanism. When used with a high sensitivity, long exposure camera, it may be possible to detect photons originating from the F-mount light leakage. In this case, it is recommended to create a dark condition for the camera such as a dark room, dark box or wrap the F-mount flange area with a dark cloth.

Shipping precautions

When transporting the camera by truck, ship, airplane, etc., wrap it securely in packaging material or something similar.

Strong impact

Do not subject the camera to strong shocks (such as dropping it). Doing so can damage the camera.

Operating environment

This camera is designed and tested for use in an industrial environment. If this camera is used in residential areas, EMI (electro-magnetic interference) may occur. This camera must not be used in residential areas.

Disposal

When disposing of the camera, take appropriate measures in compliance with applicable regulations regarding waste disposal and correctly dispose of it yourself, or entrust disposal to a licensed industrial waste disposal company. In any case, be sure to comply with the regulations in your country, state, region or province to ensure the camera is disposed of legally and correctly.

⚠️**CAUTION**

FCC Rules

Note
This device complies with part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) This device may not cause harmful interference,
and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Note
This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference in which case the user will be required to correct the interference at his own expense.

Note
Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void user's authority to operate the equipment.

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

⚠️CAUTION

🚫 **Using water cooling**

Be careful water does not splash on the camera. Cut off the power supply of the circulating water cooler and the camera when you remove and install the cooling water hoses.
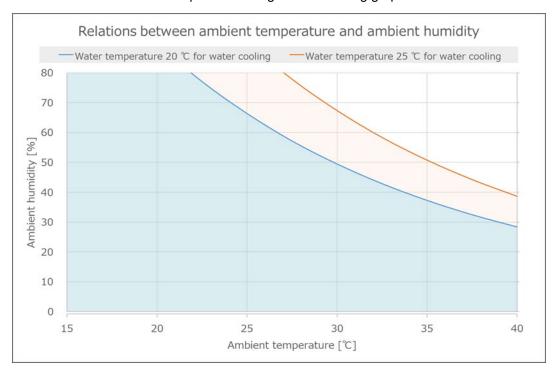
🛈 **Cooling water**

It is recommended to use soft water (except pure water) for cooling water. Follow instruction manual which is attached to your circulating water cooler for an appropriate temperature range of cooling water. If you plan on using water other than soft water as recommended for example antifreeze etc, refer to description of cooling water which is written in 12. "MAINTENANCE" or contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor.

🛈 **Condensation**

When Water-cooling, if ambient temperature and ambient humidity become high, condensation will take place easily. Use the camera under the environment where condensation will not take place referring to the following graph.

Relations between ambient temperature and ambient humidity

— Water temperature 20 ℃ for water cooling — Water temperature 25 ℃ for water cooling

Ambient humidity [%] vs Ambient temperature [℃]

---

2. CHECK THE CONTENTS OF PACKAGE

When opening the package, check that the following items are included before use.
If the contents are incorrect, insufficient or damaged in any way, contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary
or your local distributor before attempting to operate the camera.

Digital CMOS Camera: C15440-20UP or C15440-20UP01	1
AC adapter	1
Power supply cord for AC adapter	1
Lens mount cap (attached to the camera)	1
Water protection cover	1
C15440-20UP/C15440-20UP01 Before Use (Booklet)	1
C15440-20UP/C15440-20UP01 Instruction manual (CD-ROM)	1
QC sheet	1

[Option]

Cooling water hose (2 hoses)	A10788-04
SMA-BNC cable	A12106-05
SMA-SMA cable	A12107-05
CoaXPress interface board	M9982-34
CoaXPress interface cable	A14590-05-20
USB 3.0 interface board	M9982-25
USB 3.0 interface cable	A12467-03
Base plate for C15440-20UP	A15091-01

(!)	• Handle the circulating water cooler and the cooling water according to the instruction manual of the circulating water cooler.
Note	• The cable listed in option is highly recommended for use with the camera. The camera and camera system may not confirm to CE marking and FCC regulations if other type of cable is used with.
Note	• If using the above options, refer to the each installation manual.

HAMAMATSU
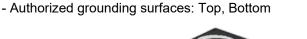PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

3. INSTALLATION

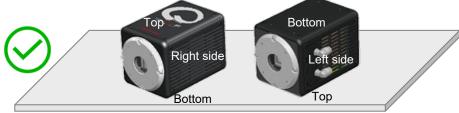## 🚫 Avoid using or storing this camera in the following places

- Places where the temperature is not the operating temperature indicated in the specifications
- Places where the temperature is not the storage temperature indicated in the specifications
- Places where the temperature varies greatly
- In direct sunlight or near a heater
- Places where the humidity levels are not the operating humidity levels indicated in the specifications and where the camera may be exposed to liquid
- Places where the humidity levels are not the storage humidity levels indicated in the specifications and where the camera may be exposed to liquid
- Close to a strong source of magnetism or ratio waves
- Places where there are vibrations
- Places where the camera may come into contact with corrosive gases (such as chlorine or fluorine)
- Places where there is a lot of dust

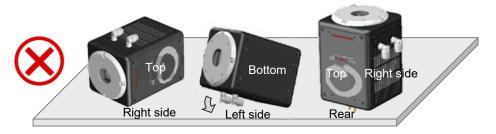## ❗ How to place the camera (when the camera is placed on a table)

Place the left and right sides, front and back sideways. This is to ensure ventilation (Right and Left sides) and to prevent damage to the mounting section (Front) and connector section (Rear and Left side).

- Authorized grounding surfaces: Top, Bottom

- Unauthorized grounding surfaces: Right side, Left side, Front, Rear

🚫 Do not allow the ventilation ports to become blocked.

To prevent the camera from overheating, do not wrap the camera in cloth or any other material, or in any way allow the camera's ventilation ports to become blocked. If the camera is being operated in a closed environment, ensure clearance of at least 10 cm from both the intake and exhaust vents when setting up when setting up the camera.

❗ Weight of the camera

Be careful not to drop the camera when moving it as it is approx. 1.7 kg.

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

Contents

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

4. OVERVIEW

C15440-20UP/C15440-20UP01 is equipped with the new scientific image sensor, an advanced CMOS device that realizes the extremely low readout noise and less pepper noise will bring higher SNR images. The higher SNR by extremely low readout noise of 0.7 electrons (r.m.s) makes it possible to shorten the exposure time increasing the frame rates, or reduce the excitation light power extending the observation time by reducing photo bleaching and photo toxicity.

The camera provides 5.3 megapixels resolution at 89.1 fps (frames/s) while achieving 1.6 electrons (r.m.s) readout noise performance.

Moreover, the adoption of the back side illuminated sensor improves quantum efficiency over a wide wavelength range from blue to near-infrared that realizes high quantum efficiency of 95 % at the peak wavelength. It makes the camera more suitable for high quality image acquisition in low light level imaging than conventional the front side illuminated sensor.

Various external trigger functions and timing output functions ensure proper timing control with peripheral equipment to cover a wide range of applications. The camera is the new scientific digital camera for life science microscopy, semiconductor inspection, X-ray scintillator readout or industrial imaging.

5. FEATURES

(1) Readout noise

In the camera, the pixel amplifier is optimized: it has high gain from optimizing the semiconductor process, and the difference among pixel amplifiers are greatly minimized. Then the camera realize the extremely low readout noise (0.7 electrons (r.m.s) (Ultra quiet scan), 1.0 electrons (r.m.s) (Standard scan)), which is lower than the conventional scientific CMOS image sensor. The extremely less pepper noise not only increases the image quality at low light level but also makes the image correction for pepper noise unnecessary. It results the signals to be much closer to the true data.

In addition, the camera can achieve low readout noise (1.6 electrons (r.m.s) (Fast scan)) and high speed readout (89.1 fps with 2304 pixels x 2304 pixels) by optimized and accelerated column amplifier and A/D.

(2) Pixel number and pixel size

The new scientific CMOS image sensor has 6.5 μm x 6.5 μm pixel sizes that is equivalent to conventional scientific CMOS image sensor. Also, the camera can observe a wider field of view because the pixel number is about 1.25 times that of the conventional scientific CMOS image sensor.

(3) Quantum efficiency

the adoption of the back side illuminated sensor improves quantum efficiency
over a wide wavelength range from blue to near-infrared that realizes high quantum efficiency of 95 % at the peak wavelength.

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

(4) Readout methods

The camera has a variety of readout modes. In addition to full resolution readout mode (1×1), sub-array readout and binning readout (2×2, 4×4) are supported.

(5) Frame rate

CMOS image sensor which this camera adopts realizes both low noise (1.6 electrons (r.m.s)) and high-speed readout (89.1 fps with 2304 pixels x 2304 pixels) simultaneously, by optimized and accelerated column amplifier and A/D. The camera realizes the twice higher frame rate than the conventional scientific CMOS camera at the Lightsheet Readout Mode.

(6) Real-time correction functions

There are a few pixels in CMOS image sensor that have brighter or darker intensity, when compared to surrounding pixels. The camera has a real-time variant (defective) pixel correction feature to further improve image quality. The correction can be performed in real-time without sacrificing any of the readout speed.

(7) Cooling structure

In the camera, the CMOS image sensor is cooled down by a peltier element to suppress the dark current. If the CMOS image sensor is exposed to the atmosphere, condensation of the moisture from the air might occur. However, the camera has a special hermetic chamber structure to isolate the sensor from the atmosphere, and the chamber is filled with nitrogen gas.

(8) Interface

This camera has both CoaXPress interface and USB 3.0 interface.

CoaXPress Interface	With 6.25 Gbps x 2 lane connection, it is possible to transfer image data of 5.3 megapixels image with 89.1 fps at Fast scan which is the fastest scan mode of this camera. In order to use this interface, a CoaXPress interface board which supports "6.25 Gbps x 2 lane" is required.
USB 3.0 Interface	USB 3.0 interface is able to transfer a 5.3 megapixels image with 31.6 fps. It is versatile interface which is suitable to use when fast data transfer is not required. This interface does not require a CoaXPress interface board. It transfers image with moderate transfer speed.

- When a connection interface is changed from CoaXPress to USB 3.0, and vice versa, the application software must be closed and the camera must be turned off.
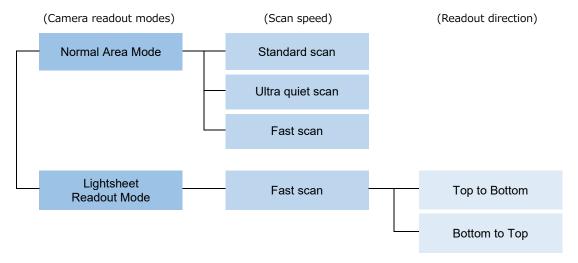
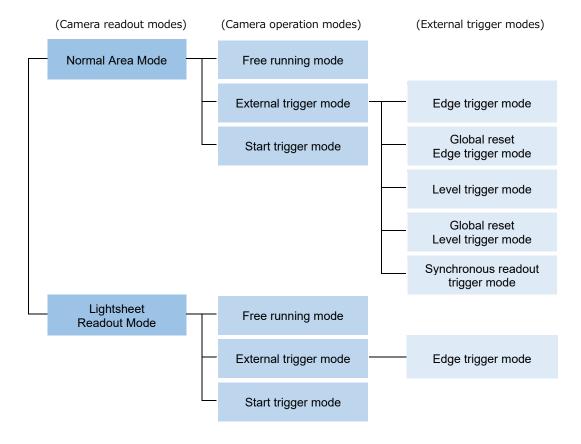- Do not connect CoaXPress and USB 3.0 interface simultaneously.

(9) Camera readout modes

The camera has two kinds of readout mode, Normal Area Mode and Lightsheet Readout Mode. The camera also has three scan speed in Normal Area Mode, and two readout direction in Lightsheet Readout Mode.

(Camera readout modes)	(Scan speed)	(Readout direction)
Normal Area Mode	Standard scan	
	Ultra quiet scan	
	Fast scan	
Lightsheet Readout Mode	Fast scan	Top to Bottom
		Bottom to Top

(10) Camera operation modes

The camera has three operation modes: 1) Free running mode, in which the exposure and readout timing are controlled by the internal microprocessor, and 2) External trigger mode, in which the exposure and readout timing are decided by an external trigger. 3) Start trigger mode is used to start operating the camera by a trigger input for a continuous imaging.

(Camera readout modes)	(Camera operation modes)	(External trigger modes)
Normal Area Mode	Free running mode	
	External trigger mode	Edge trigger mode
	Start trigger mode	Global reset Edge trigger mode
		Level trigger mode
		Global reset Level trigger mode
		Synchronous readout trigger mode
Lightsheet Readout Mode	Free running mode	
	External trigger mode	Edge trigger mode
	Start trigger mode	

6. NAME AND FUNCTION OF PARTS

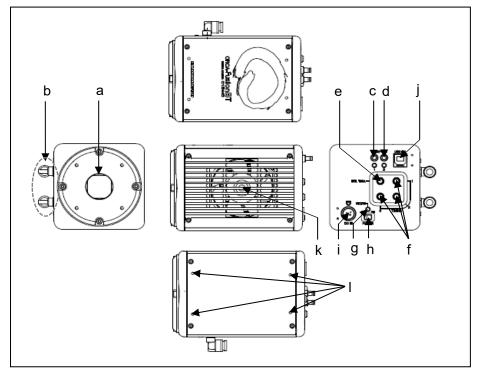## (1) C15440-20UP (C-mount type)

Figure 6-1

(2) C15440-20UP01 (F-mount type)

Figure 6-2

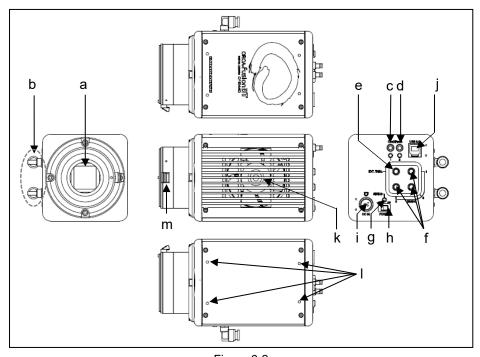| ⚠ CAUTION	• Place the camera the water connectors to be lateral side. Do not place the rear panel of the camera, which connectors are located, to be at the bottom (Do not block ventilation openings.).

a. Lens mount

C15440-20UP can be attached to C-mount lens or an optics system.
C15440-20UP01 can be attached to F-mount lens or an optics system.

Note	• The depth of the C-mount is 7 mm. Screwing in the C-mount too deeply might scratch the glass surface.

b. WATER connector [WATER] (when using Water-cooling)

It connects the camera and the circulating water cooler with the cooling water hoses. The connector position of WATER IN/OUT is not specified.

⚠ CAUTION	• See 8 "WATER COOLING" for instruction of water-cooling.

c. CoaXPress interface connector 1 [CoaXPress 1]
d. CoaXPress interface connector 2 [CoaXPress 2]

The connector 1 is connected to the CoaXPress interface connector 1 on the computer.
The connector 2 is connected to the CoaXPress interface connector 2 on the computer.

❗	• When a connection interface is changed from CoaXPress to USB 3.0, and vice versa, the application software must be closed and the camera must be turned off.
🚫	• Do not connect CoaXPress and USB 3.0 interface simultaneously.

e. Trigger input connector [EXT.TRIG]

This is used when the camera is being operated using external synchronization.
Input is TTL or 3.3 V LVCMOS level, and input impedance is 10 kΩ.
When an external trigger is input, the trigger is activated at the falling or rising edge of the signal. (You can choose external trigger polarity between Negative and Positive.)

f. Timing out connector 1,2,3 [TIMING 1,2,3]

This is used when peripheral device(s) require synchronization with the camera.
Output is 3.3 V LVCMOS level. Output impedance is 33 Ω.

Note	• Determine termination according to cable length and so on.

g. Status LED [STATUS]

The LED indicates status of camera.

Lighting color	Status of power distribution
Turn off (no color)	Power off
Orange (Blinking)	Initialization
Green (lighting)	Power on
Orange (lighting)	Data transfer
Red (lighting)	Heat up

⚠ CAUTION	• When the camera heats up, stop operation and unplug the AC adapter immediately.

h. Power switch [POWER]

The power is turned on/off.

- When the power switch is set to "ON", the camera turns on and starts initialization and the status LED blinks in orange.
- When the initialization is completed, the status LED color stays in green.
- When the camera transfers data, and the status LED color turns orange.
- When the power switch is set to "OFF", the camera returns to the power off state and the status LED turns off.

i. DC power input connector [DC IN]

This is the power supply terminal. Use the accessory AC adapter.

j. USB 3.0 interface connector [USB 3.0]

This is connected to the USB 3.0 interface connector on the computer.

❶	• When a connection interface is changed from CoaXPress to USB 3.0, and vice versa, the application software must be closed and the camera must be turned off.
🚫	• Do not connect CoaXPress and USB 3.0 interface simultaneously.

k. Air inlet

This is the inlet for the heat ventilation.

❶	• If the camera is being operated in an enclosed environment, ensure to keep clearance at least 10 cm from both intake and exhaust vents when setting up.
🚫	• To prevent overheating inside the camera, do not wrap the camera in cloth or other material, or block the camera's ventilation.

l. Screw holes for attaching the option

They are used for attaching a base plate (A15091-01) which is the option of C15440-20UP.
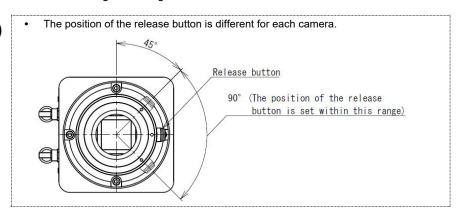
Note	• Refer to the installation manual of option about the attaching method of the option.

m. Release button (C15440-20UP01)

The release button for attaching/detaching the lens.

- The position of the release button is different for each camera.

Release button

45°

90° (The position of the release button is set within this range)

7. CABLE CONNECTION

Refer to the figure when connecting the various cables.

(1) CoaXPress interface

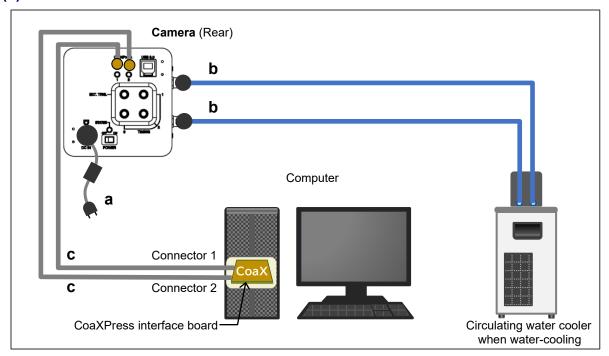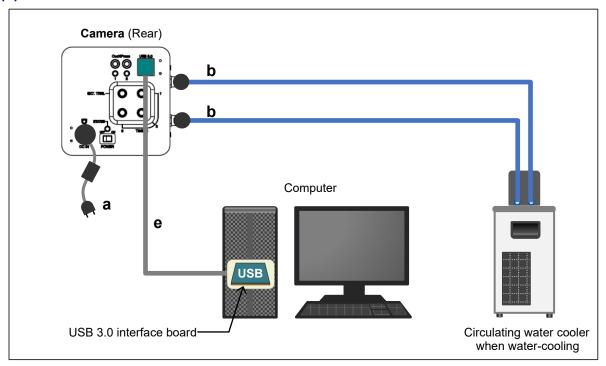Figure 7-1

(2) USB 3.0 interface

Figure 7-2

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

⚠ **CAUTION**	• Place the camera the water connectors to be lateral side. Do not place the rear panel of the camera, which connectors are located, to be at the bottom (Do not block ventilation openings.).
❗ **Note**	• When you connect cables, turn off the power supply of the camera and the peripheral devices.
	• If using the options in Chapter 2 "CHECK THE CONTENTS OF PACKAGE", refer to each installation manuals.

a. AC adapter

This is the cord to supply a power supply. Use the accessory AC adapter and the power supply cord.

b. Cooling water hoses (when Water-cooling: Option)

They connects the camera and circulating water cooler. The insert position of WATER IN/OUT on the camera WATER connector is not specified.

⚠ **CAUTION**	• See 8 "WATER COOLING" for instruction of water-cooling.

c. CoaXPress interface cable 1 (Option)

This is the cable to connect the CoaXPress interface connector 1 of the camera and the CoaXPress interface connector 1 on the computer.

d. CoaXPress interface cable 2 (Option)

This is the cable to connect the CoaXPress interface connector 2 of the camera and the CoaXPress interface connector 2 on the computer.

❗	• When a connection interface is changed from CoaXPress to USB 3.0, and vice versa, the application software must be closed and the camera must be turned off.
🚫	• Do not connect CoaXPress and USB 3.0 interface simultaneously.
Note	• Hamamatsu recommends A14590-05-20 optional CoaXPress interface cable for this camera. The camera complies with EMC and FCC regulations with using A14590-05-20 CoaXPress interface cable. Be careful that the camera with other interface cable may not fulfill the EMC and FCC directive requirements.

e. USB 3.0 interface cable (Option)

This is the cable to connect the USB 3.0 interface connector of the camera and the USB 3.0 interface connector on the computer.

❗	• When a connection interface is changed from CoaXPress to USB 3.0, and vice versa, the application software must be closed and the camera must be turned off.
🚫	• Do not connect CoaXPress and USB 3.0 interface simultaneously.
Note	• Hamamatsu recommends A12467-03 optional USB 3.0 interface cable for this camera. The camera complies with EMC and FCC regulations with using A12467-03 USB 3.0 interface cable. Be careful that the camera with other interface cable may not fulfill the EMC and FCC directive requirements.

8. WATER COOLING

⚠ CAUTION	• When using the camera with water-cooling, improper handling of the camera without observing these cautions could lead to personal injury to the user or damage to property.

8-1   CAUTIONS

(1) Change the cooling method

The default setting of cooling method is Air-cooling. Cooling mode can be changed by software which is called, "DCAM Configurator". (refer to 9-5 "STARTUP DCAM CONFIGURATOR").

(2) Cooling water

It is recommended to use soft water (except pure water) for cooling water.
If you plan on using water other than soft water as recommended for example antifreeze etc, refer to description of cooling water which is written in 12. "MAINTENANCE" or contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor.
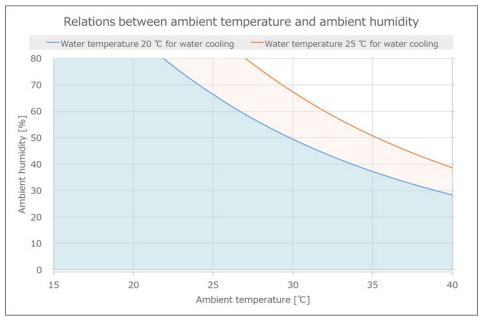
(3) Recommendation temperature

Hamamatsu recommends +25 °C for Circulating water temperature.
For the appropriate temperature range of the cooling water, confirm with the instruction manual of your circulating water cooler.

(4) Condensation

Use the camera under the environment where condensation will not take place referring to the following graph.

Graph 8-1

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

(5) Water Protection Cover

Be sure to attach the WATER PROTECTION COVER (Figure 8-1) on the side of the camera which has the WATER connector. (Figure 8-2)
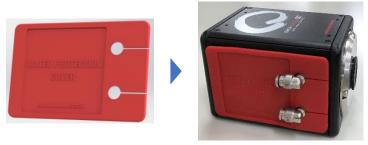

Figure 8-1

Figure 8-2

(6) Handling of the circulating water cooler

Handle the circulating water cooler and the cooling water according to an instruction manual of the circulating water cooler.
Proper performance may not be achievable if a non-recommended circulating water cooler is used.

(7) Start water cooling and water cooling in operation

- Confirm the water is flowing before starting the camera cooling and that the camera does cool.
- Keep 0.45 L/min flow rate for water circulation.
- Do not stop the circulating water cooler while the camera is working.

(8) Cooling water hose

The hose has a blue hose (Internal diameter: 4 mm / External diameter: 6 mm) and a gray hose (Internal diameter: 8 mm / External diameter: 13.5 mm). (Figure 8-3)
If the hose size on circulating water cooler is the same as blue hose, remove gray hose from the joint part. The gray hose can be removed when blue hose is pulled with pushing the button of the joint on gray hose. (Figure 8-4)
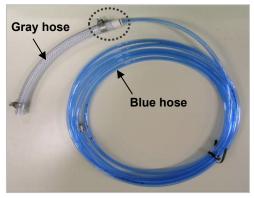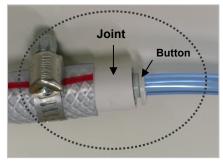

Figure 8-3

Figure 8-4

(9) Connection of the cooling water hose

⚠ CAUTION	• Follow the instruction in Section 8-2 "CONNECTION OF WATER COOLING HOSES" and Section 8-3 "DISCONNECTION OF WATER COOLING HOSES" to connect / disconnect the hose.

- Stop water circulation when connecting / disconnecting the hose, and turn off the power of the camera and the circulating water cooler.
- Confirm that cooling water stops.
- Prepare water absorption sheet (such as Waste, Towel or so) and catch pan in order to avoid water drop or water splash.

(10) Deterioration of the cooling water hose

Replace the water hose with a new one whenever it cannot keep 0.45 L/min flow rate for water circulation due to the hose deterioration.
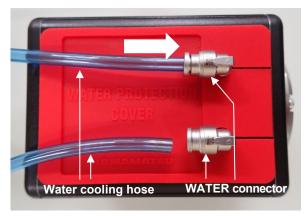
8-2   CONNECTION OF WATER COOLING HOSES

Figure 8-5

1. Place the camera on the stable table.

2. Connect water cooling hose into the WATER connector on the camera.

   - Insert the hose fully into the WATER connector on the camera. (as shown in Figure 8-5)
   - Confirm the hose stops at it.

3. Set the camera onto a microscope (If the camera is used on the microscope).

   If it is easy to connect the hose onto the camera after the camera is set onto the microscope then it is OK to connect the hose after the camera is set on the microscope.

4. Connect the hose onto the circulating water cooler.

   Follow the instruction on the circulating water cooler when you connect the hose onto the circulating water cooler.

5. Turn on the circulating water cooler and confirm the cooling water is flowing normally.

⚠ CAUTION	• Stop the circulating water cooler when the water flow is abnormal or water drop or splash is found.

8-3   DISCONNECTION OF WATER COOLING HOSES

⚠ **CAUTION**	• Remove the water cooling hoses only when it is necessary to remove.
⚠ **CAUTION**	• Cooling water may be left inside the camera even after hoses are removed. In such case, remove water inside by blowing air from connectors. Be careful not to splash water onto the camera.

1. Turn off the camera power and all peripheral devices including circulating water cooler.

2. Remove the hose on circulating water cooler side.

    Follow the instruction on the circulating water cooler when you disconnect the hose from the circulating water cooler.

3. Remove water or water drop inside the hose and the camera by air.

    - Blow air from one side of hose. Prepare water absorption sheet (such as Waste, Towel or so) and catch pan on another side of hose in order to avoid water drop or water splash.
    - Blow Air until no water drop come out.

4. Remove the camera from the microscope (if the camera is used on the microscope).

    It is not necessary to remove the camera from the microscope if it is possible to remove the hoses from the camera as it is.

5. Place the camera on the stable table.

    Put the lens cap on to protect the sensor.

6. Change the WATER connector direction to be downward.

    Prepare water absorption sheet (such as Waste, Towel or so) and catch pan.

7. Remove hoses one by one, and wipe water.

    Disconnect hoses with pushing button while being careful not to splash water.

Figure 8-6

9. OPERATIONS

9-1   OPERATING PRECAUTIONS

Be careful of the following when you operate the camera.

(1) Cooling method

Cooling of this equipment is done using a Peltier element.
With a Peltier element, when current is supplied, one surface is cooled, and the other surface is heated. CMOS image sensor is positioned on the cooled side, and cooling is done by discharging the heat from the heated surface.
The camera has two cooling methods, Air-cooling method and Water-cooling method.
The default of cooling method is Air-cooling. Cooling mode can be changed by software which is called, "DCAM Configurator". (refer to 9-5 "STARTUP DCAM CONFIGURATOR").

Cooling method	Detail
Air-cooling method (Forced air-cooled) (Default)	The heated side of a peltier element is cooled by a fan inside the camera. When the camera is turned on, the fan starts rotating and cooling is started.
Water-cooling method	Circulating water cooler (Optional) is used for cooling the heated side of a peltier element. Cooling does not start just turning on the camera. Cooling water circulation must be started before start operating the camera in water-cooling. A fan inside the camera does not rotate.

⚠ CAUTION	• See 8 "WATER COOLING" for instruction of water-cooling.

🚫	• Do not switch to water-cooling method when water-cooling is unnecessary.

(2) Ambient temperature

The recommended ambient temperature for camera operation is +25 °C.
Both water-cooling or air-cooling are available as cooling method, CMOS image sensor cooling temperature is more stable under water cooling operation.

(3) Protection circuit

This camera's thermoelectric cooling device is protected by a thermal protection circuit.
If the internal temperature of the camera becomes abnormally hot, the protection circuit operates to inform the user by a buzzer alarm (beep tone) and lighting the camera red LED light while simultaneously cutting the current supply to the Peltier element. As soon as this protection is implemented, turn off the power switch, unplug the AC supply. Then remove the cause of the overheating.

(4) CoaXPress interface board

If you use an optional CoaXPress interface board, a message prompting update of the interface board may be displayed. In this case, an update procedure manual will be displayed when you click on the message. Update the interface board according to the procedure manual. (refer to 9-6 "UPDATE OF COAXPRESS INTERFACE BOARD").

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

9-2   PREPARATING FOR IMAGING

Use the following procedure when start operating the camera.

(!)	• When you connect cables, turn off the power supply of the camera and the peripheral devices.
Note	• After cooling mode was changed, the camera memorizes the last setting as the default setting for cooling. The present cooling mode set-up of this camera can be checked using "DCAM Configurator". (refer to 9-5 "STARTUP DCAM CONFIGURATOR")
Note	• When using F-mount(C15440-20UP01), a F-mount adapter can be subject to light leaks due to the mating flange mechanism. When used with a high sensitivity, long exposure camera, it may be possible to detect photons originating from the F-mount light leakage. In this case, it is recommended to create a dark condition for the camera such as a dark room, dark box or wrap the F-mount flange area with a dark cloth.

(1) When using Air-cooling

1. Connect the equipment as shown in Figure 7-1 before operating of the camera.

2. Turn on the camera.

3. Check cooling fan is operating properly and air is circulating.

4. Start the application software.

(!)	• When cooling method of the camera is set by water-cooling method, the fan does not start rotating.
🚫	• Do not use the water protection cover when using air-cooling.

(2) When using Water-cooling

1. Connect the equipment as shown in Figure 7-1 before operating of the camera.

2. Turn on the circulating water cooler.

3. Check cooling water is circulating properly.

4. Turn on the camera.

5. Start the application software.

6. Turn on the cooling switch of the camera by operating the application software.

Note	• Refer to the manual of application software for ON/OFF of the cooling switch of a camera.

9-3   IMAGING

Operate the camera from application software.

9-4   END OF IMAGING

Follow the procedure below when imaging is finished.

1. End the imaging or transmission of image data with the application software.

2. Exit the application software.

3. Turn off the camera and peripheral devices.

4. Turn off the circulating water cooler. (when Water-cooling)

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

9-5   STARTUP DCAM CONFIGURATOR

The following is a procedure to startup "DCAM Configurator". DCAM Configurator is started when settings by DCAM Configurator, such as changes in the cooling method, are required.

1. Open "Setup.exe" in the DCAM-API software's folder.

   If the DCAM-API software is not installed on your computer, insert the media of DCAM-API software in the slot of your computer.
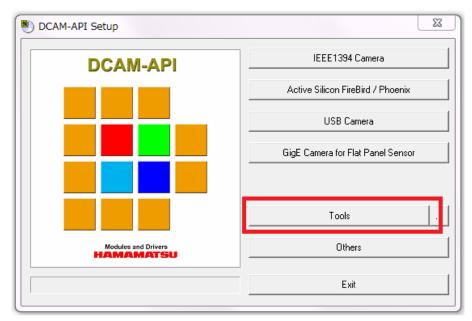   When it is inserted, "DCAM-API Setup" window is displayed automatically.

2. Click on "Tools".
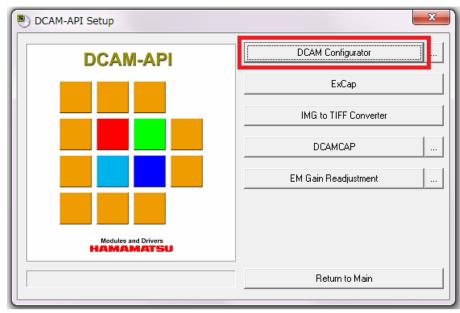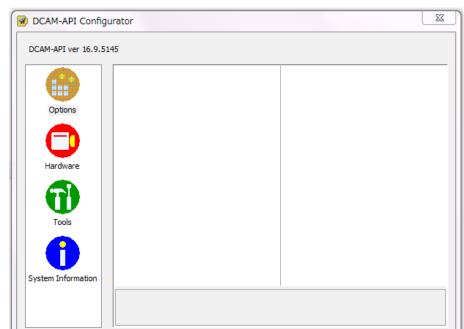

Figure 9-1

3. Click on "DCAM Configurator".

Figure 9-2
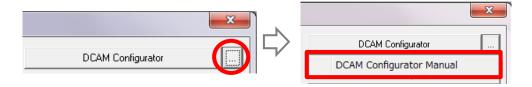
4. "DCAM Configurator" window is displayed. The startup is completed with this.

Figure 9-3

5. Settings

After the startup the configurator, set the necessary settings. For details, refer to the Instruction manual of DCAM configurator. The manual is displayed when the following buttons on DCAM Setup window are clicked.

- Even if the camera's power supply is turned off, the state of setting is kept.
- The state of setting can confirm according to "Hardware" icon on DCAM Configurator window.

9-6 UPDATE OF COAXPRESS INTERFACE BOARD

If you use an optional CoaXPress interface board, when the driver included in DCAM-API does not match the firmware version of the interface board, the following message prompting update of the interface board may be displayed.
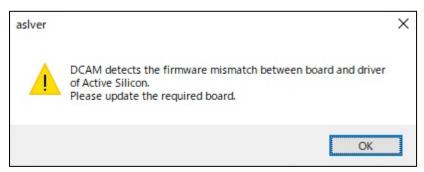

Figure 9-4

When this message is displayed, you need to update the firmware of the interface board to use the connected camera. In this case, an update procedure will be displayed on the screen when you click "OK". Update the interface board according to it.

Note   • The displayed message may vary depending on the version of DCAM-API used.

10. DESCRIPTION OF CMOS IMAGE SENSOR

10-1 THEORY OF CMOS IMAGE SENSOR

The pixel of a CMOS image sensor is composed of the photodiode and the amplifier that converts the charge into voltage. Entered light is converted to charge and converted to voltage in the pixel. The voltage of each pixel is output by switching the switch one by one. (Figure 10-1)
The scientific CMOS image sensor used in this camera has an on-chip CDS (correlated double sampling) circuit, which plays an important role in achieving low noise.
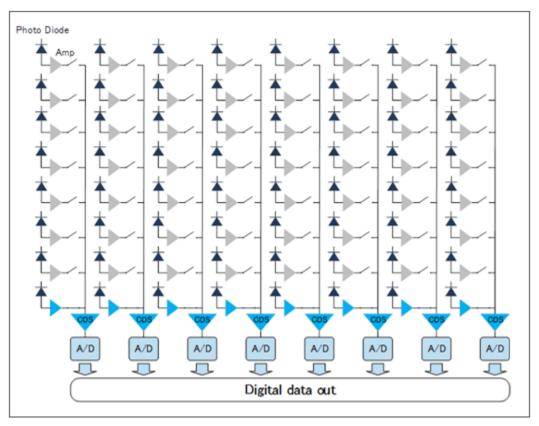
Figure 10-1   Structure of CMOS image sensor

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

10-2 READOUT METHOD OF CMOS IMAGE SENSOR

The exposure and the readout method of CMOS image sensor which this camera adopts is rolling shutter. In the rolling shutter, the exposure and readout are done line by line. Therefore, the exposure timing is different on one screen (Figure 10-2). But even if the object moves during the exposure, the affect of rolling shutter is very small.
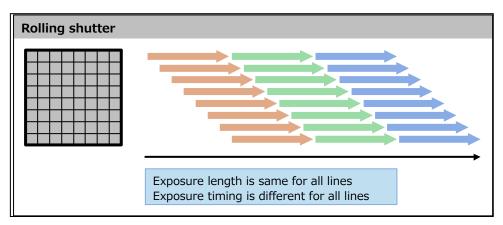
Figure 10-2   Readout timing of Rolling shutter

10-3 PRECAUTION WHEN USING CMOS IMAGE SENSOR

This camera uses scientific CMOS image sensor. Careful attention must be paid to the following points when using CMOS image sensor.

(1) White spot

CMOS image sensor has some high dark current pixels caused by the defect of silicon wafer. Those high dark current pixels appear as higher intensity and brighter pixels than around pixels when the exposure time is set long. Those pixels are called as "White spot" ("hot pixel").
This camera has real time defect pixel correction function which can replace the defect pixels registered in advance with the data of surrounding pixels.
Hitting of cosmic ray or radiation ray (X-ray, gamma ray, UV light, etc.) on the sensor generates many electrons and they may appear as a white spot, but this white spot is temporary and disappear in the next frame.
In addition, although the probability is very low, the impact of cosmic rays and radiation (X-rays, gamma rays, ultraviolet rays, etc.) is large, and it may cause permanent defects in silicon wafers and defective pixels with large dark current. In current technology, there is no way to avoid generating high dark current defect pixels. It means there is a possibility to generate new white spots after the factory shipment.
Even if the white spot occurs, dark offset subtraction* with software can reduce the effect of white spots because intensities of white spots are proportional to the exposure time and have reproducibility with a constant sensor temperature.

Dark subtraction: After acquiring an image using a certain exposure time is loaded, CMOS image sensor is exposed to darkness for the same amount of time, and another image is obtained. After this, the difference between the images is determined, and the data for the dark portion of the original image is nullified.

(2) Folding distortion

A rough-edged flicker may be visible when imaging striped patterns, lines, and similar subject matter.

(3) Over light

⚠ CAUTION	• Be careful not to input too strong light such as high-energy laser into CMOS image sensor because CMOS image sensor may be damaged by over light.

(4) Variation of dark offset

A typical CMOS image sensor has an amplifier for each pixel and a readout circuit for each column, which causes significant variation in the characteristics of individual pixels. This variation can be reduced at the time of output by some corrections (image processing function) of the camera. The process of obtaining correction data for image processing function is called "calibration." At the time of factory shipment, the dark offset variation is small by factory calibration. However, if user conditions (such as camera setting parameters, ambient conditions etc.) are different from the factory calibration conditions and/or temporal feature changes, the dark offset may increase. In such cases, it is desirable to calibrate the camera under user conditions again. Therefore the "Dark offset recalibration function" was equipped on this camera and it makes possible to do the recalibration under user condition. To use this function, refer to Section 11-6 "DARK OFFSET RECALIBRATION".

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

11. DESCRIPTION OF VARIOUS FUNCTIONS

11-1 NORMAL AREA MODE

11-1-1 Camera readout modes (Readout direction)

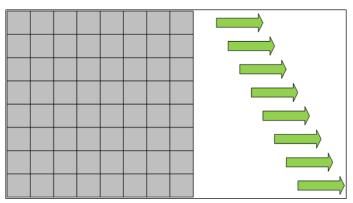The camera reads out the image sensor from the top to the bottom line.

Figure 11-1   Normal Area Mode readout direction

11-1-2 Readout methods

(1) Normal readout (Full resolution readout mode; 1×1 readout)

Perform charge readout from camera individually for all pixels.

(2) Binning readout (2×2 readout / 4×4 readout)

With this camera, 2×2 binning readout and 4×4 binning are available by adding the signal of adjacent pixels in the digital domain. Binning readout is a method for achieving high sensitivity in exchange for losing resolution.

(3) Sub-array readout

Sub-array readout is a procedure only a region of interest is scanned. It is possible to increase the frame rate by reducing the number of vertical lines scanned. In sub-array readout, binning configuration is enabled.
Size and a position of the readout area can be configured according to the table below.

Size		Position	
Horizontal	Vertical	Horizontal	Vertical
4 pixels	4 lines	4 pixels	4 lines

Note • Minimum settable step of the size and position on the table is in only the case that the camera is used with DCAM-API.

Note • Refer to 11-1-4 "Frame rate Calculation" about the frame rate of each readout mode.

11-1-3 Readout speed (Scan speed)

The Standard scan readout speed can achieve a frame rate of 23.2 fps for full resolution with low noise (1.0 electrons (r.m.s.)), the Ultra quiet scan readout speed can achieve extremely low noise (0.7 electrons (r.m.s.)) and the Fast scan readout speed can achieve a frame rate of 89.1 fps for full resolution with low noise (1.6 electrons (r.m.s)).
CoaXPress interface is necessary to transfer the image data with 89.1 fps of fast frame rate for full resolution.
When you use USB 3.0 interface, the frame rate is up to 31.6 fps (16 bit of digital output) for full resolution.
The frame rate with USB 3.0 interface will be faster when you use 12 bit or 8 bit of digital output.

Scan speed	Digital output	Frame rate for full resolution	
		CoaXPress	USB 3.0
Standard scan	16 bit	23.2 fps	23.2 fps
	12 bit		
	8 bit		
Ultra quiet scan	16 bit	5.42 fps	5.42 fps
	12 bit		
	8 bit		
Fast scan	16 bit	89.1 fps	31.6 fps
	12 bit		42.2 fps
	8 bit		63.3 fps

Note
- Refer to 11-1-4 "Frame rate Calculation" about the frame rate of each readout mode.

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

11-1-4 Frame rate Calculation

(1) Standard scan: CoaXPress, USB 3.0 (Common to the two interfaces)

Vn   = Number of vertical line
Exp1 = 65 µs to 10 s (input in units of seconds)
Exp2 = Exp1 – 9.823 529 µs (input in units of seconds)
1H   = 18.647 06 µs
roundup() = Round up to integer

Operation modes	Calculation formula	Horizontal	Vertical	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	$1/((Vn+1)\times1H)$	2304	2304	23.2
			2048	26.1
			1024	52.3
			512	104
			256	208
			8	5950
			4	10 700
External trigger mode (Edge trigger / Level trigger / Global reset edge trigger / Global reset level trigger)	$1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)\times1H)$	2304	2304	23.2
			2048	26.0
			1024	52.0
			512	103
			256	203
			8	3570
			4	4870
External trigger mode (Synchronous readout trigger)	$1/((Vn+5)\times1H)$	2304	2304	23.2
			2048	26.1
			1024	52.1
			512	103
			256	205
			8	4120
			4	5950

Note
- The frame rate value is valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value of Start trigger mode (External trigger mode) are same as Free running mode. About this mode, refer to 11-1-6-3 "Start trigger mode".

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value do not depend on the bit depth of digital output.

(2) Ultra quiet scan: CoaXPress, USB 3.0 (Common to the two interfaces)

Vn   = Number of vertical line
Exp1 = 280 µs to 10 s (input in units of seconds)
Exp2 = Exp1 – 40.632 35 µs (input in units of seconds)
1H   = 80.0 µs
roundup() = Round up to integer

Operation modes	Calculation formula	Horizontal	Vertical	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	1/((Vn+1)×1H)	2304	2304	5.42
			2048	6.10
			1024	12.1
			512	24.3
			256	48.6
			8	1380
			4	2500
External trigger mode (Edge trigger / Level trigger / Global reset edge trigger / Global reset level trigger)	1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H) +4)×1H)	2304	2304	5.40
			2048	6.08
			1024	12.1
			512	24.0
			256	47.5
			8	833
			4	1130
External trigger mode (Synchronous readout trigger)	1/((Vn+5)×1H)	2304	2304	5.41
			2048	6.08
			1024	12.1
			512	24.1
			256	47.8
			8	961
			4	1380

Note
- The frame rate value is valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value of Start trigger mode (External trigger mode) are same as Free running mode. About this mode, refer to 11-1-6-3 "Start trigger mode".

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value do not depend on the bit depth of digital output.

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

(3) Fast scan: CoaXPress

Vn   = Number of vertical line
Exp1   = 17 µs to 10 s (input in units of seconds)
Exp2   = Exp1 – 3.029 411 µs (input in units of seconds)
1H   = 4.867 647 µs
roundup() = Round up to integer

Operation modes	Calculation formula	Horizontal	Vertical	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	$1/((Vn+1)\times 1H)$	2304	2304	89.1
			2048	100
			1024	200
			512	400
			256	799
			8	22 800
			4	41 000
External trigger mode (Edge trigger / Level trigger / Global reset edge trigger / Global reset level trigger)	$1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4) \times 1H)$	2304	2304	88.8
			2048	99.9
			1024	199
			512	395
			256	781
			8	13 600
			4	18 600
External trigger mode (Synchronous readout trigger)	$1/((Vn+5)\times 1H)$	2304	2304	88.9
			2048	100
			1024	199
			512	397
			256	787
			8	15 800
			4	22 800

Note
- The frame rate value is valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value of Start trigger mode (External trigger mode) are same as Free running mode. About this mode, refer to 11-1-6-3 "Start trigger mode".

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value do not depend on the bit depth of digital output.

(4) Fast scan: USB 3.0

Hn   = Number of horizontal pixel
Vn   = Number of vertical line
Exp1   = 17 µs to 10 s (input in units of seconds)
Exp2   = Exp1 – 3.029 411 µs (input in units of seconds)
1H   = 4.867 647 µs
roundup()   = Round up to integer
rounddown() = Round down to integer
round()   = Round down to integer (Vn > 4)
              Round up to integer (Vn <= 4)

a. 16 bit Digital output

Operation modes	Binning	Calculation formula	Hn × Vn	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula ・1/((Vn+1)×1H) ・1/(round(10xVn/2304/1H/ rounddown(729600/Hn))×1H)	2304 x 2304	31.6
			2048 x 2048	40.0
			1024 x 1024	160
			512 x 512	400
			256 x 256	799
			256 x 8	22 800
			256 x 4	41 000
	2×2	1/((Vnx2+1)×1H)	1152 ×1152	89.1
	4×4	1/((Vnx4+1)×1H)	576 ×576	89.1
External trigger mode (Edge trigger / Level trigger / Global reset edge trigger / Global reset level trigger)	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula ・1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H) ・1/((round(10xVn/2304/1H/ rounddown(729600/Hn))+1)×1H)	2304 x 2304	31.5
			2048 x 2048	40.0
			1024 x 1024	160
			512 x 512	395
			256 x 256	781
			256 x 8	13 600
			256 x 4	18 600
	2×2	1/(Vnx2+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)	1152 ×1152	88.8
	4×4	1/(Vnx4+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)	576 ×576	88.8
External trigger mode (Synchronous readout trigger)	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula ・1/((Vn+5)×1H) ・1/((round(10xVn/2304/1H/ rounddown(729600/Hn))+1)×1H)	2304 x 2304	31.5
			2048 x 2048	40.0
			1024 x 1024	160
			512 x 512	397
			256 x 256	787
			256 x 8	15 800
			256 x 4	22 800
	2×2	1/((Vnx2+5)×1H)	1152 ×1152	88.9
	4×4	1/((Vnx4+5)×1H)	576 ×576	88.9

Note
- The frame rate value is valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value of Start trigger mode (External trigger mode) are same as Free running mode. About this mode, refer to 11-1-6-3 "Start trigger mode".

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

b. 12 bit Digital output

Operation modes	Binning	Calculation formula	Hn × Vn	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula ・1/((Vn+1)×1H) ・1/(round(10xVn/2304/1H/ rounddown(972800/Hn))×1H)	2304 x 2304	42.2
			2048 x 2048	53.4
			1024 x 1024	200
			512 x 512	400
			256 x 256	799
			256 x 8	22 800
			256 x 4	41 000
	2×2	1/((Vnx2+1)x1H)	1152 ×1152	89.1
	4×4	1/((Vnx4+1)x1H)	576 ×576	89.1
External trigger mode (Edge trigger / Level trigger / Global reset edge trigger / Global reset level trigger)	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula ・1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H) ・1/((round(10xVn/2304/1H/ rounddown(972800/Hn))+1)×1H)	2304 x 2304	42.1
			2048 x 2048	53.4
			1024 x 1024	199
			512 x 512	395
			256 x 256	781
			256 x 8	13 600
			256 x 4	18 600
	2×2	1/(Vnx2+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)	1152 ×1152	88.8
	4×4	1/(Vnx4+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)	576 ×576	88.8
External trigger mode (Synchronous readout trigger)	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula ・1/((Vn+5)×1H) ・1/((round(10xVn/2304/1H/ rounddown(972800/Hn))+1)×1H)	2304 x 2304	42.1
			2048 x 2048	53.4
			1024 x 1024	199
			512 x 512	397
			256 x 256	787
			256 x 8	15 800
			256 x 4	22 800
	2×2	1/((Vnx2+5)×1H)	1152 ×1152	88.9
	4×4	1/((Vnx4+5)×1H)	576 ×576	88.9

Note • The frame rate value is valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.

Note • The calculation formula and the frame rate value of Start trigger mode (External trigger mode) are same as Free running mode. About this mode, refer to 11-1-6-3 "Start trigger mode".

c. 8 bit Digital output

Operation modes	Binning	Calculation formula	Hn × Vn	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula ・1/((Vn+1)×1H) ・1/(round(10xVn/2304/1H/ rounddown(1459200/Hn))×1H)	2304 x 2304	63.3
			2048 x 2048	80.1
			1024 x 1024	200
			512 x 512	400
			256 x 256	799
			256 x 8	22 800
			256 x 4	41 000
	2×2	1/((Vnx2+1)×1H)	1152 ×1152	89.1
	4×4	1/((Vnx4+1)×1H)	576 ×576	89.1

External trigger mode
(Edge trigger /
  Level trigger /
  Global reset edge
  trigger /
  Global reset level
  trigger)
	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula
		
		・1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)
		
		・1/((round(10xVn/2304/1H/
		rounddown(1459200/Hn))+1)×1H)
			2304 x 2304	63.2

			2048 x 2048	80.0
			1024 x 1024	199
			512 x 512	395
			256 x 256	781
			256 x 8	13 600
			256 x 4	18 600
	2×2	1/(Vnx2+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)	1152 ×1152	88.8
	4×4	1/(Vnx4+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)	576 ×576	88.8
External trigger mode (Synchronous readout trigger)	1×1	Smaller value of the following formula ・1/((Vn+5)×1H) ・1/((round(10xVn/2304/1H/ rounddown(1459200/Hn))+1) ×1H)	2304 x 2304	63.2
			2048 x 2048	80.0
			1024 x 1024	199
			512 x 512	397
			256 x 256	787
			256 x 8	15 800
			256 x 4	22 800
	2×2	1/((Vnx2+5)×1H)	1152 ×1152	88.9
	4×4	1/((Vnx4+5)×1H)	576 ×576	88.9

Note
- The frame rate value is valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value of Start trigger mode (External trigger mode) are same as Free running mode. About this mode, refer to 11-1-6-3 "Start trigger mode".

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

11-1-5 Configuring Exposure time

The exposure time setting can be done by the units of seconds.
The actual exposure time setting is defined by the following formula, and the camera automatically calculates a longer and closest value from the specified exposure time setting.

a. Standard scan

Exp1 = 65 µs to 10 s (input in units of seconds)
Exp2 = (Exp1 – 9.823 529 µs) ÷ 18.647 06 µs (round up to integer)

Calculation formula	(Exp2 × 18.647 06 µs) + 9.823 529 µs

b. Ultra quiet scan

Exp1 = 280 µs to 10 s (input in units of seconds)
Exp2 = (Exp1 – 40.632 35 µs) ÷ 80.0 µs (round up to integer)

Calculation formula	(Exp2 × 80.0 µs) + 40.632 35 µs

c. Fast scan

Exp1 = 17 µs to 10 s (input in units of seconds)
Exp2 = (Exp1 – 3.029 411 µs) ÷ 4.867 647 µs (round up to integer)

Calculation formula	(Exp2 × 4.867 647 µs) + 3.029 411 µs

Available setting range of the exposure time is the following.

Scan speed	Setting range
Standard scan	65 µs to 10 s
Ultra quiet scan	280 µs to 10 s
Fast scan	17 µs to 10 s

11-1-6 Camera Operation modes

11-1-6-1 Free running mode

The camera has Free running mode which the exposure and readout timing can be set and controlled by an internal microprocessor. Free running mode has normal readout mode (in which the exposure time is longer than the 1 frame readout time) and electrical shutter mode (in which the exposure time is shorter than the 1 frame readout time). These readout modes are automatically switched depending on the exposure time setting.

> **Note**
> • Contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor for the detail of the timing information.

(1) Normal readout

The normal readout mode is suitable for observation, monitoring, field of view and focus adjustment, and animation because it can operate with full resolution and first frame rate (23.2 fps with standard scan, 89.1 fps with fast scan with CoaXPress and 31.6 fps with USB 3.0 (16 bit digital output)).
In addition, the exposure time can be extended to collect more signals and increase the signal to noise ratio if the object is dark. In the normal readout mode, the exposure time is the same or longer than the 1 frame readout time. In this mode, the frame rate depends on the exposure time, and it becomes frame rate = 1/exposure time. The maximum exposure time is 10 s.

Figure 11-2

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS
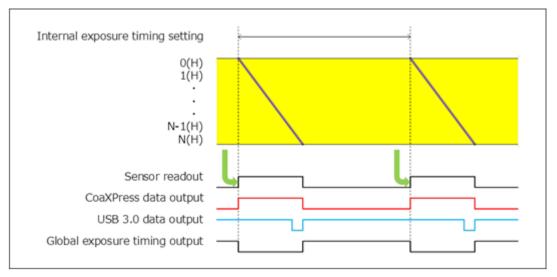
(2) Electrical shutter

The electrical shutter mode is used to get a proper signal level when signal overflow happens due to too much input photons in normal readout mode. In this mode, the fastest frame rate is 89.1 fps (fast scan via CoaXPress), 31.6 fps (fast scan via USB 3.0), 23.2 fps (standard scan) or 5.42 fps (ultra quiet scan) at full resolution even when the exposure time is short.
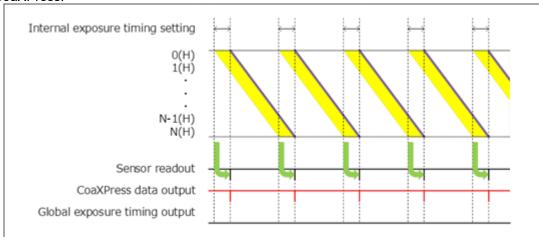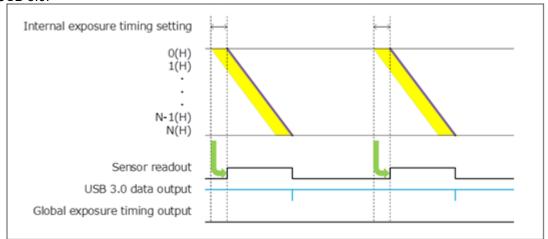
CoaXPress:

Figure 11-3

USB 3.0:

Figure 11-4

11-1-6-2 External trigger mode

The camera has various external trigger functions to synchronize the camera with the external equipment. In External trigger mode, the external equipment becomes a master and the camera becomes a slave.

> **Note**
> • Contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor for the detail of the timing information.

(1) Edge trigger mode

The Edge trigger mode is used so that the exposure starts according to an external signal. Exposure time is set. In this mode, the exposure of the first line begins on the edge (rising / falling) timing of the input trigger signal into the camera. (0(H) in the following figure) The exposure of the second line is begun after the readout time of one line passes (1(H) in the following figure), and the exposure is begun one by one for each line.
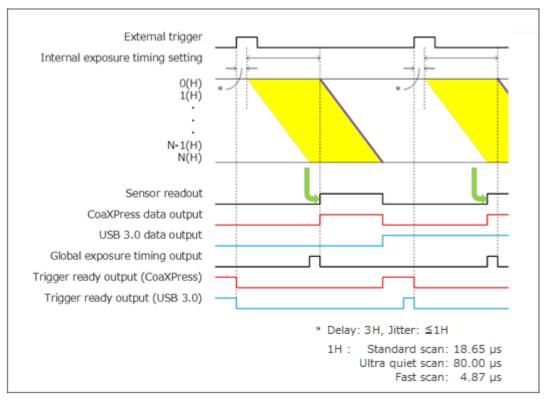
Figure 11-5 (Ex. rising edge)

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

(2) Global reset Edge trigger mode

Global reset function enables to reset the electric charge of all pixels at the same time. Then all pixels can start exposure at the same time.
With this Global reset Edge trigger mode, the exposure of all pixels begins on the edge (rising / falling) timing of the input trigger signal into the camera.
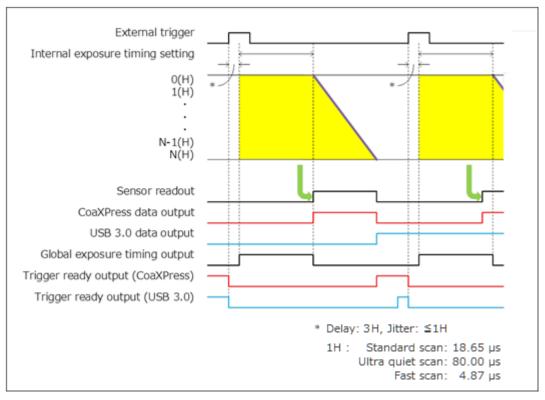

Figure 11-6 (Ex. rising edge)

(3) Level trigger mode

The Level trigger mode is used to control both exposure start timing and exposure time length by inputting external trigger pulses. In this mode, the camera starts exposure at the start of high or low period of the input trigger pulse and stops exposure at the end of high or low period of the input trigger pulse. The example below is for the trigger level High. The exposure of the first line begins when the trigger signal becomes High, and the exposure of the second line begins after the readout time of line one passes. Each exposure begins one by one for each line. The exposure of the first line is finished when the trigger signal becomes low, and signal readout is begun. The exposure time of each line is defined by the time that the input trigger is high.

Figure 11-7 (Ex. level High)

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS
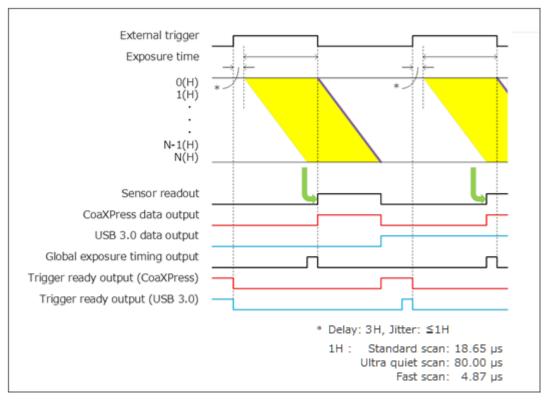
(4) Global reset Level trigger mode

Global reset function enables to reset the electric charge of all pixels at the same time. Then all pixels can start exposure at the same time.

The example below is for the trigger level High. With this Global reset Level trigger mode, the exposure of all pixels begins when the trigger signal becomes High.
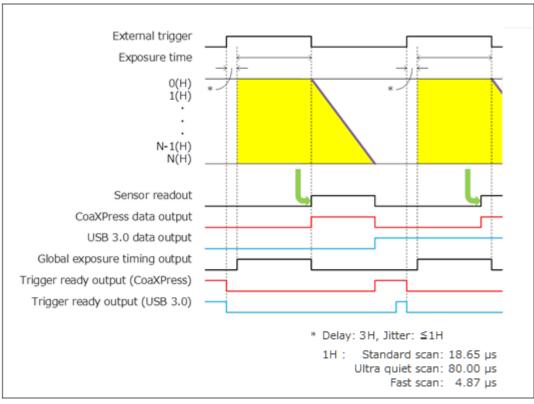

Figure 11-8 (Ex. level High)

(5) Synchronous readout trigger mode

The Synchronous readout trigger mode is used for continuous imaging when it is necessary to control the exposure start timing of each frame from an external source. It is useful for confocal microscopy. For example, when the camera is used with a spinning disk confocal microscope and the camera exposure time is synchronized to the spinning disk's rotation speed, it is possible to eliminate uneven illumination (called banding noise) caused by variation of the spinning disk rotation speed. Also, it is useful for securing as long exposure time as possible while controlling the exposure start timings by external trigger signals.

Normal operation (when the Trigger Time is set as 1.);
The Synchronous readout trigger mode is used for continuous imaging when it is necessary to control the exposure start timing of each frame from an outside source and also when it is necessary to secure as long exposure time as possible. In the Synchronous readout trigger mode, the camera ends each exposure, starts the readout and also, at the same time, starts the next exposure at the edge of the input trigger signal (rising / falling edge). That is, the interval between the same edges of the input trigger becomes the exposure time.
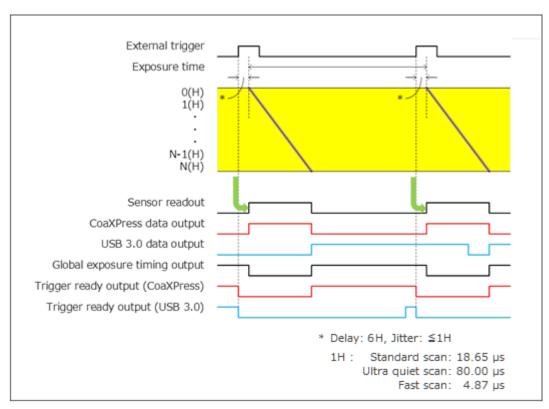

Figure 11-9 (Ex. rising edge)

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

Trigger Times;
Also in the Synchronous readout trigger mode, synchronous readout can be controlled by specifying, the number of timing pulses to determine the exposure time. The input trigger is valid only during the trigger ready is enabled.

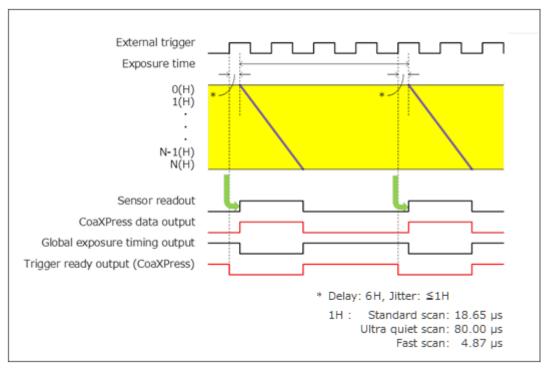The following figure shows the exposure timing when the Trigger Times is set as 4.

Figure 11-10 (Trigger Times)

11-1-6-3 Start trigger mode

Start trigger mode is to start operating the camera by a trigger input for a continuous imaging. It is useful to secure the frame rate as fast as possible when continuous image acquisition and not to sacrifice the exposure time. For example, when it is necessary to measure the phenomenon after stimulation, it is possible to start continuous image acquisition at the stimulation timing.

Start trigger mode is to start operating the camera by a trigger input for continuous imaging, and it works at the highest frame rate because it is operated in internal trigger mode. In Start trigger mode, the camera starts exposure and switches to internal trigger mode by the edge of an external trigger signal (rising / falling edge).
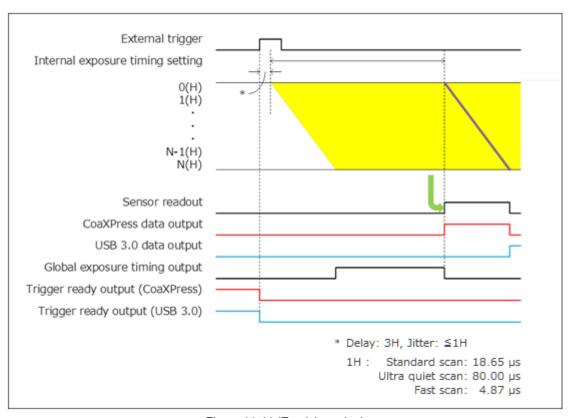

Figure 11-11 (Ex. rising edge)

11-1-6-4 External trigger delay function

In most cases when a delay between the laser pulse emission and the exposure start is needed, a delay unit is set between the laser and camera to control trigger timing. In each external trigger mode of the camera, the delay can be set to the trigger signal input to the camera by command. With this setting, a range of trigger can be arranged without a delay unit. The range for delay time is 0 µs to 10 s (1 µs steps).

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

11-1-7 TRIGGER OUTPUT

The camera provides a range of trigger output signals to synchronize with an external instrument and the camera becomes the master and the external instrument becomes the slave.
There are three different trigger output functions as follows.

- Global exposure timing output
- Programmable timing output
- Trigger ready output

Also, it can output continuous High output (High output fixed) or continuous Low output (Low output fixed). They are output from Timing out connector.

(1) Global exposure timing output

It shows the global exposure timing where all lines expose at the same time. There is a case that one event is divided into two frames because the timing of the exposure in each line is different for the rolling shutter. However, by using the Global exposure timing output the global exposure becomes possible for the phenomenon that happens for this period. Global exposure timing output shows the period where all lines expose at the same time.

> **Note**
> • There is no output signal when the exposure time is less than the frame rate.

(2) Programmable timing output

By using the programmable timing output, synchronizing external devices is simple. A system that needs simple timing signal does not require a delay unit or pulse generator. It is possible to program and output a pulse that has an optional pulse width and an optional delay time to Read End (the end of readout timing), Vsync or Input trigger signal. The setting range for delay time is 0 µs to 10 s, and the setting range for pulse width is 1 µs to 10 s.

The relation between the parameter which can be set with each reference signal, and an output signal becomes below.

| Reference signal	Output signal
Read End	The signal with the preset pulse width is output after the preset delay from the end of the sensor readout.
Vsync	The signal with the preset pulse width is output after the preset delay from the start of the sensor readout.
Input trigger signal	The signal with the preset pulse width is output after the preset delay from the input signal.
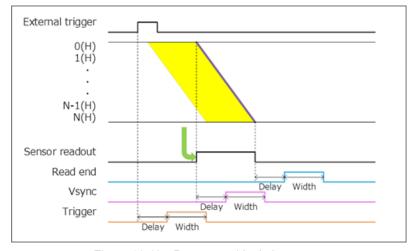
Figure 11-12   Programmable timing output

(3) Trigger ready output

The trigger ready output is useful to make the frame intervals as short as possible in external trigger mode. For example, when the camera is working in the Edge trigger mode, the next frame can start after the previous frame exposure is done. Thus, the camera cannot accept a trigger for the next frame during the exposure period. To reduce useless time to be as short as possible, it is necessary to know the period when the camera can accept a trigger for the next frame. The trigger ready output shows the trigger ready period when the camera can accept an external trigger in External trigger mode.

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

11-2 LIGHTSHEET READOUT MODE

Lightsheet Readout Mode is a unique feature of CMOS image sensor which provides improved control over the rolling shutter mechanism.
By finely synchronizing the camera readout with the illumination scan, scattered light is rejected allowing images of higher signal to noise ratios to be acquired.

The detail information of Lightsheet Readout Mode is published on our website.

Website   https://www.hamamatsu.com/jp/en/product/cameras/cmos-cameras/Lightsheet Readout Mode.html

11-2-1 Readout direction

The camera reads out from the top to the bottom line (Figure 11-13) or from the bottom to the top line (Figure 11-14) in Lightsheet Readout Mode.
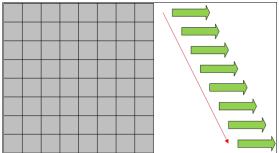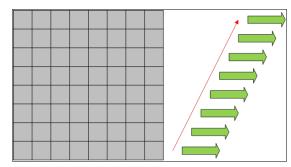

Figure 11-13   Normal Area Mode

Figure 11-14   Lightsheet Readout Mode

11-2-2 About readout when Lightsheet Readout Mode

(1) Readout methods

This mode can set Normal readout and Sub-array readout.
Binning readout mode is not supported at Lightsheet Readout Mode.
The size and the position of the sub-array readout can be configured according to the table below.

Size		Position	
Horizontal	Vertical	Horizontal	Vertical
1 pixels	4 lines	1 pixels	4 lines

Note   • Minimum settable step of the size and position on the table is in only the case that the camera is used with DCAM-API.

(2) Camera operation modes

This mode can use; Free running mode, Edge trigger mode (External trigger mode), and Start trigger mode.

11-2-3 Frame rate Calculation

(1) CoaXPress

Vn   =   Number of vertical line
Exp1 =   17 µs to 2.22 s (input in units of seconds to the calculation formula)
Exp2 =   Exp1 – 3.029 411 µs (input in units of seconds)
1H   =   4.867 647 µs to 963.8 µs
roundup() = Round up to integer

Operation modes	Calculation formula	Horizontal	Vertical	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	$1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+3)×1H)$	2304	2304	88.9
			2048	100
			1024	199
			512	396
			256	784
			8	14 600
			4	20 500
External trigger mode (Edge trigger)	$1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)$	2304	2304	88.8
			2048	99.9
			1024	199
			512	395
			256	781
			8	13 600
			4	18 600

Note
- The frame rate value is valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value of Start trigger mode (External trigger mode) are same as Free running mode.

(2) USB 3.0

Hn = Number of horizontal pixel
Vn = Number of vertical line
Exp1 = 17 µs to 2.22 s
        (input in units of seconds to the calculation formula)
Exp2 = Exp1 – 3.029 411 µs (input in units of seconds)

1H = 4.867 647 µs to 963.8 µs
roundup() = Round up to integer
rounddown() = Round down to integer
round() = Round down to integer (Vn > 4)
        Round up to integer (Vn <= 4)

1. 16 bit Digital output

Operation modes	Calculation formula	Hn × Vn	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	Smaller value of the following formula ・$1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+3)×1H)$ ・$1/(round(10×Vn/2304/1H/$ $rounddown(729600/Hn))×1H)$	2304 × 2304	31.6
		2048 × 2048	40.0
		1024 × 1024	160
		512 × 512	396
		256 × 256	784
		256 × 8	14 600
		256 × 4	20 500
External trigger mode (Edge trigger)	Smaller value of the following formula ・$1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H)$ ・$1/((round(10×Vn/2304/1H/$ $rounddown(729600/Hn))+1)×1H)$	2304 × 2304	31.5
		2048 × 2048	40.0
		1024 × 1024	160
		512 × 512	395
		256 × 256	781
		256 × 8	13 600
		256 × 4	18 600

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

2. 12 bit Digital output

Operation modes	Calculation formula	Hn × Vn	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	Smaller value of the following formula · 1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+3)×1H) · 1/(round(10×Vn/2304/1H/ rounddown(972800/Hn)) ×1H)	2304 × 2304	42.2
		2048 × 2048	53.4
		1024 × 1024	199
		512 × 512	396
		256 × 256	784
		256 × 8	14 600
		256 × 4	20 500
External trigger mode (Edge trigger)	Smaller value of the following formula · 1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H) · 1/((round(10×Vn/2304/1H/ rounddown(972800/Hn)) +1) ×1H)	2304 × 2304	42.1
		2048 × 2048	53.4
		1024 × 1024	199
		512 × 512	395
		256 × 256	781
		256 × 8	13 600
		256 × 4	18 600

3. 8 bit Digital output

Operation modes	Calculation formula	Hn × Vn	Frame rate (fps)
Free running mode	Smaller value of the following formula · 1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+3)×1H) · 1/(round(10×Vn/2304/1H/ rounddown(1459200/Hn)) ×1H)	2304 × 2304	63.3
		2048 × 2048	80.1
		1024 × 1024	199
		512 × 512	396
		256 × 256	784
		256 × 8	14 600
		256 × 4	20 500
External trigger mode (Edge trigger)	Smaller value of the following formula · 1/((Vn+roundup(Exp2/1H)+4)×1H) · 1/((round(10×Vn/2304/1H/ rounddown(1459200/Hn)) +1) ×1H)	2304 × 2304	63.2
		2048 × 2048	80.0
		1024 × 1024	199
		512 × 512	395
		256 × 256	781
		256 × 8	13 600
		256 × 4	18 600

Note
- The frame rate value is valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.

Note
- The calculation formula and the frame rate value of Start trigger mode (External trigger mode) are same as Free running mode.

11-2-4 Readout time of Horizontal line

Readout time and exposure time can be varied with Lightsheet Readout Mode for synchronizing the camera readout with the illumination scan.

Vn = Number of vertical line
1H = 4.867 647 µs to 963.8 µs

Readout time = Vn × 1H

Available setting range of the exposure time is the following.

Vn = Number of vertical line
1H = 4.867 647 µs to 963.8 µs

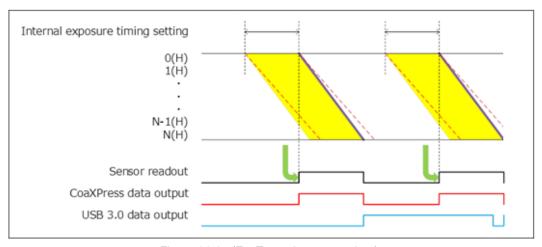| Setting range	**3H + 3.029 411 µs to (Vn × 1H) + 3.029 411 µs**

11-2-5 Timing diagram

(1) Free running mode

Figure 11-15 (Ex. Top to bottom readout)
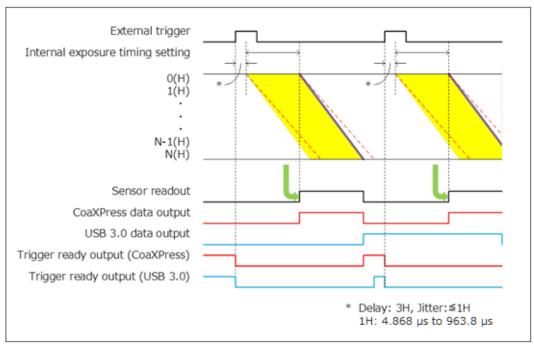
(2) Edge trigger mode (External trigger mode)

Figure 11-16 (Ex. rising edge, Top to bottom readout)

HAMAMATSU

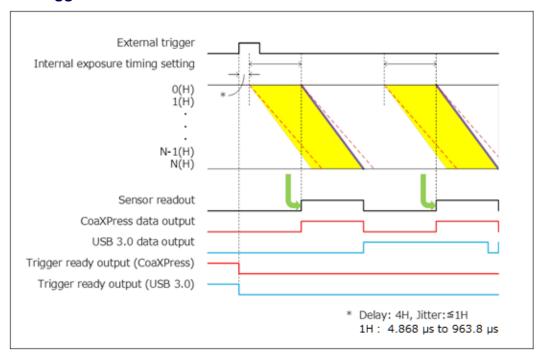PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

(3) Start trigger mode

Figure 11-17 (Ex. rising edge, Top to bottom readout)

11-2-6 Trigger output

The camera provides a range of trigger output signals to synchronize with an external instrument and the camera becomes the master and the external instrument becomes the slave.

There are two different trigger output functions as follows:

- Programmable timing output
- Trigger ready output

Also, it can output continuous High output (High output fixed) or continuous Low output (Low output fixed). They are output from Timing out connector.

| Note | • | The Lightsheet Readout Mode does not have the period where all lines expose at the same time. The Global exposure timing output is not output. |

(1) Programmable timing output

By using the programmable timing output, synchronizing with external devices is simple. A system which needs simple timing signal does not require a delay unit or pulse generator. It is possible to program and output a pulse that has an optional pulse width and an optional delay time to Read End (the end of readout timing), Vsync, Input trigger signal or Hsync. The range of delay is 0 μs to 10 s, and the range of pulse width is 1 μs to 10 s.
The relation between the parameter which can be set with each reference signal, and an output signal becomes as shown below.

| Reference signal	Output signal
Read End	The signal with the preset pulse width is output after the preset delay from the end of the sensor readout.
Vsync	The signal with the preset pulse width is output after the preset delay from the start of the sensor readout
Input trigger signal	The signal with the preset pulse width is output after the preset delay from the input signal.
Hsync	The signal with the preset pulse width is output after the preset delay from the horizontal synchronized signal in the camera.
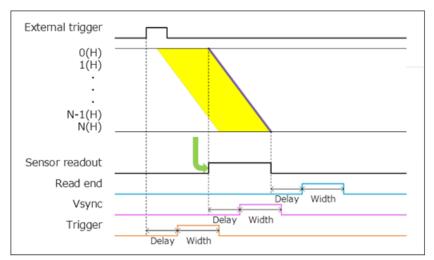
Figure 11-18   Programmable timing output (Top to bottom readout)
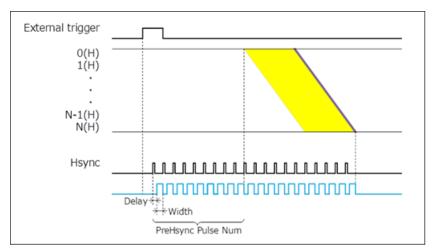
HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

Figure 11-19   Programmable timing output referenced with Hsync (Top to bottom readout)

When you choose Hsync for the reference of programmable timing output, camera can output some pulses before starting the exposure. It is called as Pre-Hsync. You can set the number of Pre-Hsync.

(2) Trigger ready output

This output behaves the same operation as Normal Area Mode and Lightsheet Readout Mode. Refer to 11-1-7(3) "Trigger ready output" for the details.

11-3 REAL-TIME DEFECT PIXEL CORRECTION

There are a few white spots which is caused by failure in part of the silicon wafer in CMOS image sensor. The camera has real-time pixel correction features to improve image quality.
The correction is performed in real-time without sacrificing the readout speed at all. This function can be turned ON and OFF. (Default is ON)
User can choose the correction level for white spots depend on required image quality.

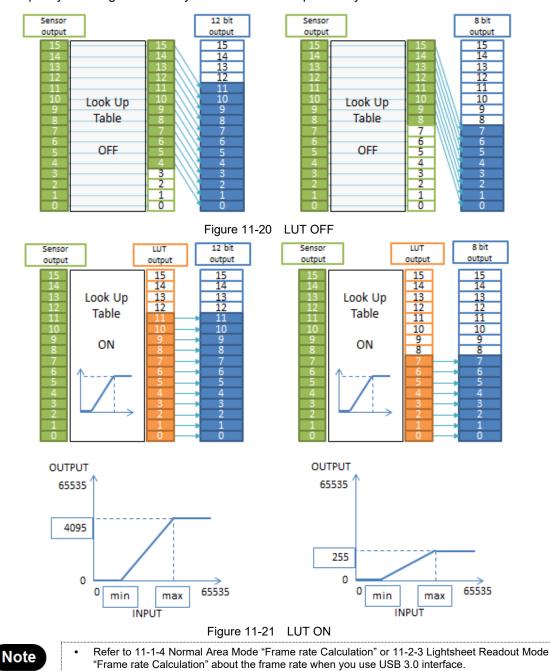| Correction Level for white spots	Number of pixels to be corrected (ratio to the number of all pixels)
High	Approximately 70 000 pixels (approximately 1.0 %)
Medium (Default)	Approximately 3000 pixels (approximately 0.05 %)
Low	Several pixels (less than 0.0001 %)

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

11-4 DATA REDUCTION FUNCTIONS

The camera provides 5.3 megapixels resolution at 89.1 fps and 16 bit of gradation.

Then the camera outputs 945 MB of data per second, and large capacity of storage device would be necessary to store such a large amount of data.

The amount of data can be reduced by 12 bit or 8 bit digital output. The amount of data can be three quarters of original 16 bit data and each pixel have 4096 steps of gradation with 12 bit digital output. And, with 8 bit digital output, the amount of data can be the half of original 16 bit data and each pixel have 256 steps of gradation. When you use USB 3.0 interface, the frame rate can be faster with 12 bit and 8 bit digital output.

The steps of gradation for each pixel would be reduced with 12 bit and 8 bit digital output. However, the look up table function can minimize the lack of gradation by choosing required range of intensity level. User can specify the range of intensity level for the look up table by 16 bit value.

Figure 11-20　LUT OFF

Figure 11-21　LUT ON

Note
- Refer to 11-1-4 Normal Area Mode "Frame rate Calculation" or 11-2-3 Lightsheet Readout Mode "Frame rate Calculation" about the frame rate when you use USB 3.0 interface.

11-5 MASTER PULSE

The camera has master pulse function which can generate pulses that is independent of the exposure or readout timing of image sensor. External trigger mode can work synchronized with the timing pulses that the master pulse generates, except for External trigger mode in Lightsheet Readout Mode and Dual Lightsheet Readout Mode. The master pulse can be set as a reference signal of the programmable timing output, so it is possible to set up a synchronous system with peripheral devices without external pulse generator.
This function can be turned ON and OFF. (Default is OFF)
The master pulse supports free running mode, start trigger mode and burst mode. The range of interval time is 5 µs to 10 s, and the step is 1 µs for the master pulse.

(1) Free running mode

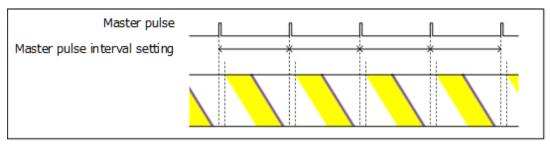The camera generates pulses inside of the camera during the master pulse is ON.

Figure 11-22 (Camera: Normal area, Edge trigger mode)

(2) Start trigger mode

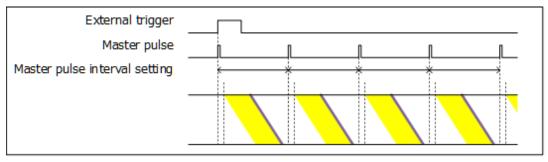The camera starts generating pulses inside of the camera by input trigger signal.

Figure 11-23 (Camera: Normal area, Edge trigger mode)

(3) Burst mode

The camera starts generating pulses inside of the camera by input trigger signal, and the camera stops generating pulses after the specified number of pulses are generated. And then, the camera will be ready for the next input trigger signal.
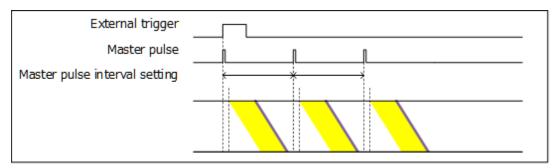

Figure 11-24 (Camera: Normal area, Edge trigger mode) (The number of pulses is specified as 3)

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

11-6 DARK OFFSET RECALIBRATION FUNCTION

The Dark offset recalibration function is a function to obtain the correction data under the user conditions to reduce the variation of the dark offset which is enlarged by the differences of user conditions (such as camera setting parameters, ambient environment, temporal feature changes, etc.) against factory conditions.
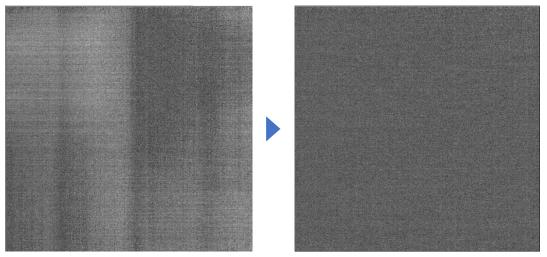

Figure 11-25 Example of the dark image (Left: Drifted image, Right: Recalibration image)

11-6-1 Preparation

Check the following items to use this function correctly.

(1) Applicable version

For the recalibration, the following camera and DCAM versions are necessary.

The camera firmware	Ver.1.24 or later
DCAM	25.7.6992 or later
Software (In the case of ExCap4)	Please use the "ExCap4" contained in the DCAM installer compatible with the above DCAM version.

(2) Camera setting

The camera settings (Scan speed, Exposure time, etc.) for recalibration should be as same as the settings for your current use. If not, obtaining the correction data with accuracy is difficult.

(3) Dark offset correction data

The correction data obtained by this function created based on the current dark offset level and stored in the ROM area of the camera when created.

As a reference, this camera has 3 factory correction ROM regions and 4 recalibration ROM regions.

Sensor mode	Normal Area Mode			Lightsheet Readout Mode
Readout speed	Fast scan	Standard scan	Ultra quiet scan	Fast scan
Factory correction ROM region	Region1 *	Region2	Region3	Region1 *
Recalibration ROM region	Region4	Region5	Region6	Region7

* Region1 is used for Fast scan regardless of sensor mode.

11-6-2　Execution

In this section, the procedure is described using Hamamatsu "ExCap4 software (ExCap4.exe stored in the DCAM installer) as an example.

The following are the steps to perform recalibration. There are procedures that may not be performed depending on the selected mode or the Scan speed.

[Execution list for Selected Mode]　　　　　　　　　　　　　✓ : Do the step 　— : Skip the step
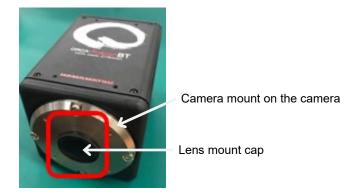
	Steps	Normal Area Mode			Lightsheet Readout Mode	
		Fast scan	Standard scan	Ultra quiet scan	Internal / Start trigger	External
1	Preparation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Select Sensor mode	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	Select Readout speed	✓	✓	✓	—	—
4	Set Internal Line Interval	—	—	—	✓	✓
5	Set Trigger source	—	—	—	✓	✓
6	Set Internal Frame Interval	—	—	—	✓	—
7	Set Trigger delay	—	—	—	—	✓
8	Set Exposure time	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	Set Capture mode	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	Recalibration	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	After Recalibration	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

[Step 1] Preparation

In this step, use the lens mount cap that was installed on the mount at the time of shipment.

1. Securely attach and tighten the lens mount cap to the camera mount.

   It must be tightened sufficiently to prevent stray light to the sensor.

Camera mount on the camera

Lens mount cap

2. Turn on the camera.

3. Wait for the camera status LED to turn green.

4. Start the software (DCAM-API Setup / Tools / ExCap4 > ExCap4.exe).

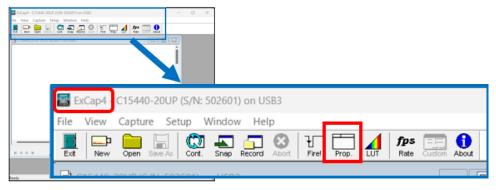5. Click "Prop." button in the ExCap4 window.

Figure 11-26 The screen after launching the ExCap4 software

When clicking "Prop." Button, the "Property" dialog is displayed. After this, various settings are made on this dialog. If "Periodically" is checked, the progress of the recalibration can be checked in real time.
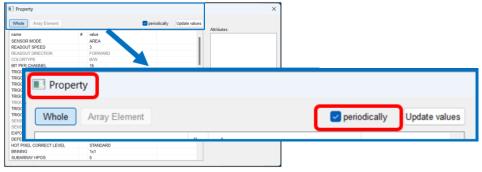

Figure 11-27 The "Periodically" checkbox in the Property dialog

[Step 2]   Select <u>Sensor mode</u>

1. Click "SENSOR MODE" on the property list at the left in the dialog.
2. Select the sensor mode to use from the Value list at the bottom right in the dialog.

Display	Sensor mode
AREA	Normal Area Mode
PROGRESSIVE	Lightsheet Readout Mode

3. Check the display of the property list.

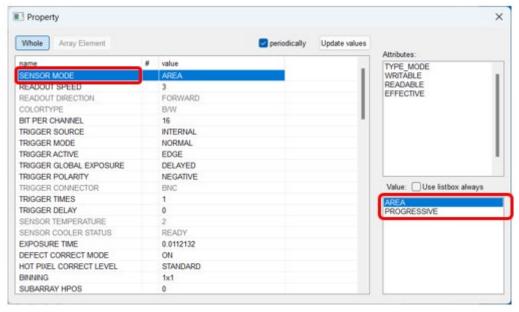   Check that the selected mode is displayed in the value field of the list.

Figure 11-28

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

[Step 3]   Select <u>Readout speed</u> (Only when Normal Area Mode is selected)

Since the correction data of this camera is prepared according to each readout speed, it is necessary to select the readout speed.

This step is necessary when Normal Area Mode is selected in [Step 2].
If Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected, go to [Step 4].

1. Click "READOUT SPEED" on the property list.

2. Enter the number of the readout speed to use in the Value box as a real decimal number.

Display	Readout speed
1	Ultra quiet scan
2	Standard scan
3	Fast scan

> •   Enter the numbers manually. Do not use the slide bar and box selector buttons.

3. Check the display of the property list.

    Check that the selected value is displayed in the value field of the list.
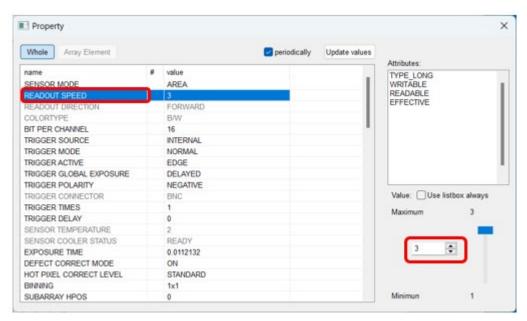

Figure 11-29

[Step 4] Set <u>Internal Line Interval</u> (Only when Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected)

This step is necessary when Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected in [Step 2].
If Normal Area Mode is selected, go to [Step 8].

1. Click "INTERNAL LINE INTERVAL" on the property list.

2. Enter the value of the internal line interval in the Value box as a real decimal number in seconds.

    e.g., if 100 µs is used then type-in "0.0001".

    > • Enter the numbers manually. Do not use the slide bar and box selector buttons.

3. Check the display of the property list.

    Check that the set value is displayed in the value field of the list.

    Note > • Due to the fixed setting step of the line interval, the value field displays a fixed value that most closely approximates the entered number.
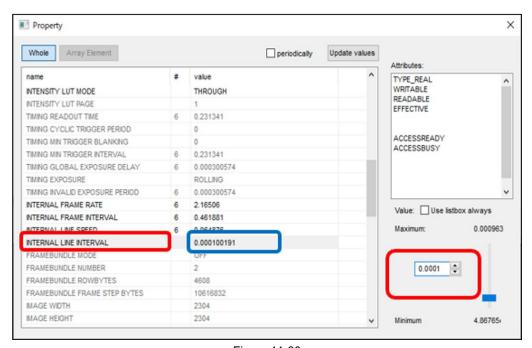

Figure 11-30

[Step 5]   Set Trigger source (Only when Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected)

This step is necessary when Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected in [Step 2].
If Normal Area Mode is selected, go to [Step 8].

1. Click "TRIGGER SOURCE" on the property list.

2. Select the trigger source to use in the Value list at the bottom light in the dialog.

Display	Trigger source
INTERNAL	Internal mode
EXTERNAL	External trigger mode
SOFTWARE	External trigger mode - Software trigger
MASTER PULSE	External trigger mode - Master pulse

3. Check the display of the property list.

   Check that the selected trigger source is displayed in the value field of the list.
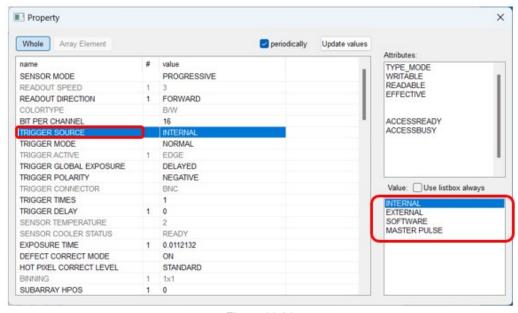

Figure 11-31

[Step 6]   Set <u>Internal Frame Interval</u> (Only when Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected)

This step is necessary when Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected in [Step 2].
If Normal Area Mode is selected, go to [Step 8].

1. Click "INTERNAL FRAME INTERVAL" on the property list.

2. Enter the value of the internal line spacing in the Value box as a real decimal number in seconds.

   e.g., if 500 ms is used then type-in "0.5".

	• Enter the numbers manually. Do not use the slide bar and box selector buttons.

3. Check the display of the property list.

   Check that the set value is displayed in the value field of the list.

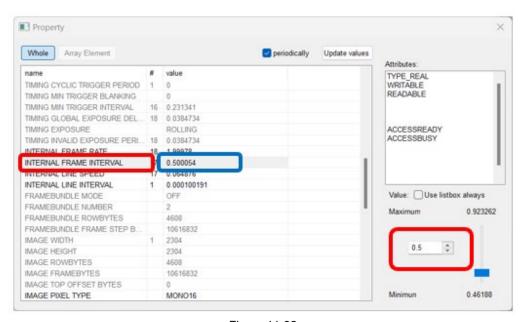 | **Note** | • Due to the fixed setting step of the frame interval, the value field displays a fixed value that most closely approximates the entered number. |
   |---|---|

Figure 11-32

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

[Step 7] Set <u>Trigger delay</u> (Only when Lightsheet Readout Mode and External trigger source is selected)

This step is necessary when one of the external trigger source (External trigger, Software trigger, Master Pulse) for Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected in [Step 5].
If Normal Area Mode or the internal synchronization for Lightsheet Readout Mode is selected, go to [Step 8].

1. Click "TRIGGER DELAY" on the property list.

2. Enter the value of the internal line spacing in the Value box as a real decimal number in seconds.

   e.g., if 500 ms is used then type-in "0.5".

   > • Enter the numbers manually. Do not use the slide bar and box selector buttons.

3. Check the display of the property list.

   Check that the set value is displayed in the value field of the list.

   > **Note**
   > • Due to the fixed setting step of the trigger delay, the value field displays a fixed value that most closely approximates the entered number.
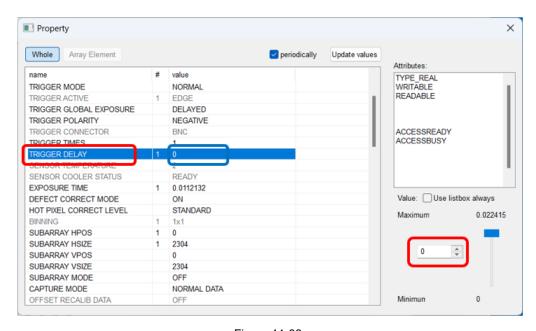

Figure 11-33

[Step 8]   Set Exposure time

1. Click "EXPOSURE TIME" on the property list.

2. Enter the value of the internal line spacing in the Value box as a real decimal number in seconds.

   e.g., if 1 ms is used then type-in "0.001".

	• Enter the numbers manually. Do not use the slide bar and box selector buttons.

3. Check the display of the property list.

   Check that the set value is displayed in the value field of the list.

Note	• Due to the fixed setting step of the exposure time, the value field displays a fixed value that most closely approximates the entered number.

Figure 11-34

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS
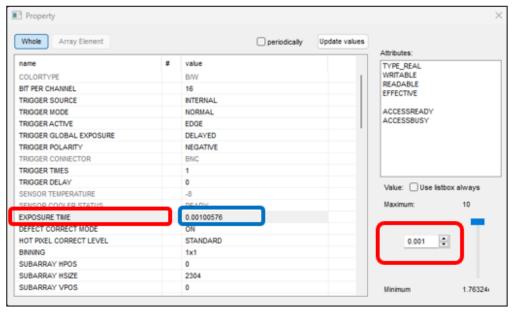
[Step 9]   Set <u>Capture mode</u> (Enable the recalibration function)

1. Click "CAPTUURE MODE" on the property list.

2. Select "OFFSET_RECALIB" in the Value list.

3. Check the display of the property list.

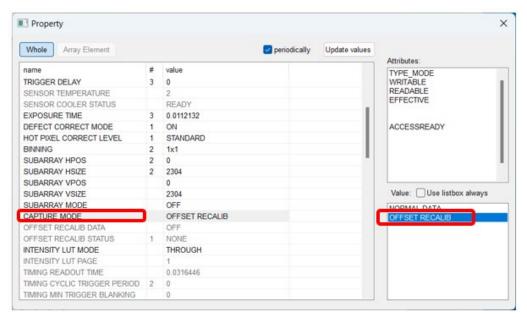   Check that the selected mode is displayed in the value field of the list.

Figure 11-35

[Step 10] Recalibration (from start to complete)

1. Click "Cont." button in the ExCap4 window to start recalibration.

   When the button is clicked, the recalibration starts.

Figure 11-36

2. Check the execution status

   Recalibration takes about 6 to 10 minutes to complete.
   The progress status can be checked by displaying the value field of "OFFSET RECALB STATUS" in the list.
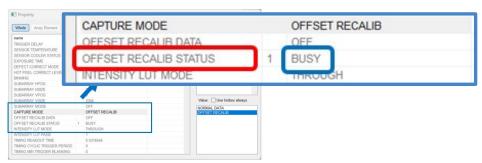

Figure 11-37 Example of a dialog during recalibration: "BUSY" is displayed

Display		Details
NONE	Before recalibration	–
BUSY	In progress	Under recalibration
GOOD	Success (Complete)	Recalibration successfully done
UNSTABLE TEMP	Failed (Retry)	Sensor temperature is not stable. Retry after sensor temperature becomes -8 °C.
NOT DARK	Failed (Retry)	Input light to the sensor excesses the limit level. Do the following, then recalibration again. ・ When C-mount, make sure the lens mount cap is securely tightened and that light is blocked. ・ When F-mount type, cover the connection between the camera mount and the optical system with a light-blocking fabric. ・ Reduce the input light to the sensor.

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

- If the recalibration is canceled midway, click "Abort" button in the window.

Figure 11-38

- If "UNSTABLE TEMP" or "NOT DARK" is displayed, perform the recalibration again after performing the correspondence on the previous page.

3. Completing the recalibration

   When "GOOD" appears in the value field of "OFFSET RECALIB STATUS", the recalibration has been successful and complete.
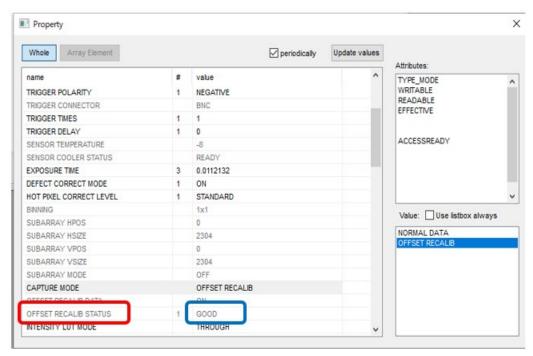

Figure 11-39 Example of a dialog with successful recalibration: "GOOD" is displayed

4. Applicating Correction Data

   The correction data created during recalibration will be applied automatically.

   - Before executing recalibration, the factory default correction data is applied.
   - After executing recalibration, the correction data created in the recalibration is applied.
   - The correction data created by recalibration is saved in a dedicated ROM region (refer to Section 11-6-1(3)). The factory default correction data will not be overwritten.
   - The recalibration correction data is overwritten each time a recalibration is performed and new correction data is created.
   - To revert to the factory default correction data, it is necessary to switch the settings in the DCAM Configurator. Refer to Section 9-5 "STARTUP DCAM CONFIGURATOR" to launch the DCAM configurator, then select "Factory" of "Default Offset Correction Data" in "Hardware" on the window. (Figure 11-40)

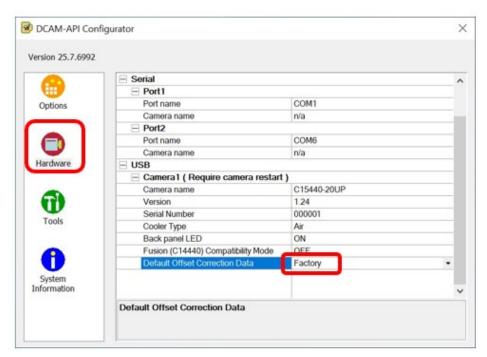Figure 11-40 DCAM Configurator window (If reverting to the factory correction data)

[Step 11] After recalibration

1. Close the ExCap4 window

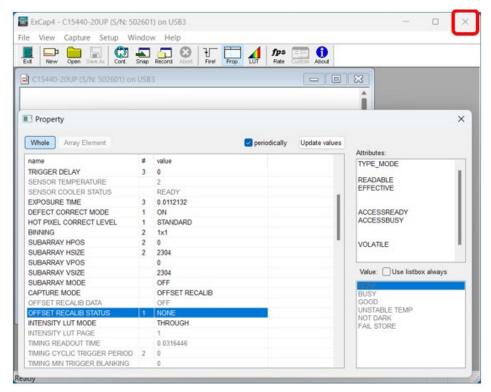   Click the "X" button in the ExCap4 window.

Figure 11-41

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

12. MAINTENANCE

12-1 CARE

Perform cleaning of this equipment with the dry soft cloth.

🚫	• Do not wipe with a damp cloth or unclean cloth.

Then, the glass window on the image sensor should be cleaned according to the following.

1. Blow the dust from the glass window with an air duster.

2. Moisten a lens cleaning paper with a little ethanol, and wipe over center area of the window, gently.

3. Confirm whether dust is not left.

   Attach the camera to an optics, and check if there is dust or not under the uniform light condition. If there is dust on the image, clean the glass window again.

❗	• Use Lens Cleaning Paper for cleaning of glass window in front of the image sensor.
❗	• Use a plastic tweezers and take extra care not to scratch the glass window with the tweezers. Even with plastic tweezers, there is possibility to make scratch on the glass window in case tweezers touch it.
❗	• Avoid touching the surrounding parts of image area when wiping the glass window.

12-2 INFORMATION ON COOLING WATER FOR THE CIRCULATING WATER COOLER

> • Regarding handling cooling water and circulating water cooler, refer to instruction manual attached to the circulating water cooler.

> • It is recommended to use soft water (except pure water) for cooling water.

> • Do not use hard water for cooling water. If hard water is unavoidable, soften it before using it.
> If hard water is used, the cooling water circulation channel will calcify and corrode, causing the water flow to decrease and the circulation path to become clogged.

12-2-1 When using cooling water other than recommended

Note

[Pure water]
• Pure water is not appropriate for cooling water. There is possibility that pure water absorb component of cooling water path and it may cause corrosion. In addition pure water is easy to be polluted and cause impurity, sliminess or forming foreign substances. It cause lower flow rate or water flow stop.

[Distilled water / Deionized water]
• When using the camera inside clean room, it is possible to use distilled water or deionized water by conducting periodical check. However notice it increases possibility of corrosion inside cooling water path, lowering flow rate or water flow stop.
• Monthly check :   Check water impurity, non-existence of sliminess, foreign particle is not mixed with water or not adhered inside water path and no unusual odor. If you find any of the issues, exchange cooling water and clean cooling water path.

[Soft water from tap]
• It is possible to use soft water from tap with conducting periodical change of cooling water and checkup. However notice it increases possibility of corrosion inside cooling water path, lowering flow rate or water flow stop.
• Monthly check :   Check water impurity, non-existence of sliminess, foreign particle is not mixed with water or not adhered inside water path and no unusual odor. If you find any of the issues, exchange cooling water and clean cooling water path.
• Exchange cooling water every 3 months.
• Clean cooling water path every 6 months.

[Bottled water]
• One example of soft water which is commonly available is mineral water (Hardness less than 70). Check hardness of water by referring product information of bottled water manufacturer.

13. TROUBLESHOOTING

If an anomaly occurs, look up the possible causes in the following tables and, if necessary, report the details to a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor.

13-1 IMAGE IS NOT TRANSFERRED

Cause	Measures	Chapter
AC adapter or other cable is loose	Reconnect the cable	7
AC adapter or other cable is broken	Replace the cable	7

13-2 ALTHOUGH IMAGES ARE TRANSFFERED

(1) Scratches or discoloration visible on the screen

Cause	Measures	Chapter
Lens is dirty	Wipe the lens	12

(2) Image is blurred

Cause	Measures	Chapter
Lens is not focused	Contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor	17
Condensation appear	Confirm the operating environmental conditions	8

(3) Only shadowed images are output

Cause	Measures	Chapter
Lens mount cap has been left on	Remove the cap	—
Amount of light is too much or too low	Adjust amount of light	—

(4) All screens overflow

Cause	Measures	Chapter
Too much amount of light	Reduce amount of light	—

(5) Noise appears on the screen

Cause	Measures	Chapter
Exogenous noise	Find and remove cause	—
Poor connection of internal connector	Contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor	17
Defective circuit system		

(6) Increased variation in the dark offset

Cause	Measures	Chapter
The factory calibration conditions and usage conditions are different	Recalibrate the dark offset	11-6

14. SPECIFICATIONS

14-1 CAMERA SPECIFICATIONS

(1) Electric specifications

Imaging device	Scientific CMOS image sensor	
Effective number of pixels	2304 (H) × 2304 (V)	
Pixel size	6.5 μm × 6.5 μm	
Effective area	14.976 mm × 14.976 mm	
Readout noise *1 *5	Fast scan	1.5 electrons (median) 1.6 electrons (r.m.s)
	Standard scan	0.9 electrons (median) 1.0 electrons (r.m.s)
	Ultra quiet scan	0.6 electrons (median) 0.7 electrons (r.m.s)
Quantum efficiency *1	at 400 nm	72 %
	at 550 nm	95 %
	at 700 nm	83 %
	at 800 nm	58 %
Full well capacity *1	15 000 electrons	
Dynamic range *1 *2	25 000:1 (median) 21 400:1 (r.m.s)	
Conversion factor *1	0.24 electrons / count	
Cooling method	Forced-air cooled Water cooled	
Cooling temperature	Forced-air cooled	-8 °C (Ambient temperature: +25 °C)
	Water cooled	-8 °C (Water temperature: +25 °C)
	Water cooled (Max cooling)	Less than -15 °C *1, 3
Dark current *1*5	cooling temperature:-8 °C	1.0 electrons/pixel/s
	cooling temperature:-15 °C	0.7 electrons/pixel/s
Dark offset	100 counts	
Dark signal non-uniformity (DSNU) *1*4*5	0.06 electrons r.m.s.	
Photo response non-uniformity (PRNU) *1 (7500 electrons)	0.06 % r.m.s.	
Linearity error *1 (EMVA 1288 standard)	0.5 %	

∗ 1 Typical value
∗ 2 Calculated from the ratio of the full well capacity and the readout noise at ultra quiet scan
∗ 3 The water temperature is +20 °C and the ambient temperature is +20 °C
∗ 4 When using the Ultra quiet scan.
∗ 5 At the center 2048x2048 area of the image sensor.

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

(2) Functional specifications

Sensor mode	Normal Area Mode / Lightsheet Readout Mode	
Readout mode	Full resolution readout / Binning readout (2x2, 4x4) *6 / Sub-array readout *7	
Readout time (at full resolution) *8	Fast scan	11.22 ms
	Standard scan	42.99 ms
	Ultra quiet scan	184.4 ms
Frame rate	Refer to the following table	
Lightsheet Readout Mode (Fast scan)	Row interval time	4.868 µs to 963.8 µs *8
	Readout time (at Full resolution)	11.22 ms to 2.221 s *8
	Readout mode	Full resolution readout / Sub-array readout *7
	Readout direction	Top to bottom readout / Bottom to top readout
Exposure time	Fast scan	17 µs to 10 s (4.87 µs step)
	Standard scan	65 µs to 10 s (18.65 µs step)
	Ultra quiet scan	280 µs to 10 s (80.00 µs step)
External trigger input mode	Normal Area Mode	Edge trigger / Global reset edge trigger / Level trigger / Global reset level trigger / Synchronous readout trigger / Start trigger
	Lightsheet Readout Mode	Edge trigger / Start trigger
Software trigger mode	Normal Area Mode	Edge trigger / Global reset edge trigger / Start trigger
	Lightsheet Readout Mode	Edge trigger / Start trigger
External trigger input connector	External input (SMA connector)	
External trigger input level	TTL / 3.3 V LVCMOS	
External trigger input polarity	Negative / Positive	
External trigger input delay	0 µs to 10 s (1 µs step)	
Trigger times (Synchronous readout trigger)	1 to 10 000	
Trigger output	Global exposure timing output / Trigger ready output / 3 programmable timing outputs / High output / Low output	
Trigger output level	3.3 V LVCMOS	
Trigger output polarity	Negative / Positive	
Programmable timing output	References signal	Read End / Hsync *9 / Vsync / Trigger
	Delay	0 µs to 10 s (1 µs step)
	Pulse width	1 µs to 10 s (1 µs step)
Master pulse mode	Pulse mode	Free running / start trigger / burst
	Pulse interval time	5 µs to 10 s (1 µs step)
	Pulse burst number	1 to 65 535
Digital output	16 bit / 12 bit / 8 bit	
Image processing function	Dark offset correction (Always on)	
	Dark offset recalibration	
	Pixel gain correction (Always on)	
	Defect pixel correction (ON or OFF, hot pixel correction 3 steps)	
Interface	CoaXPress (Dual CXP-6) / USB 3.0 Super Speed *10	
Lens Mount	C15440-20UP	C-mount
	C15440-20UP01	F-mount

[Frame rate] *11

Readout mode	Readout time	Frame rates (fps)	
		CoaXPress	USB 3.0
at Full resolution	Fast scan	89.1 fps	16 bit: 31.6 fps 12 bit: 42.2 fps 8 bit: 63.3 fps
	Standard scan	23.2 fps	23.2 fps
	Ultra quiet scan	5.42 fps	5.42 fps
at Vertical 2048 lines	Fast scan	100 fps	(when 2048 x 2048) 16 bit: 40.0 fps 12 bit: 53.4 fps 8 bit: 0.1 fps
	Standard scan	26.1 fps	26.1 fps
	Ultra quiet scan	6.10 fps	6.10 fps
at Vertical 256 lines	Fast scan	799 fps	(when 256 x 256) 799 fps
	Standard scan	208 fps	208 fps
	Ultra quiet scan	48.6 fps	48.6 fps
at Vertical 4 lines	Fast scan *12	41 087 fps	(when 128 x 4) 41 087 fps
	Standard scan *12	10 725 fps	10 725 fps
	Ultra quiet scan	2500 fps	2500 fps

* 6   Digital binning, 2x2,4x4
* 7   Minimum settable step of the size and position are as follows: It is in only the case that the camera is used with DCAM-API.

	Horizontal size	Vertical size	Horizontal position	Vertical position
Normal Area Mode	4 pixel steps	4 line steps	4 pixel steps	4 line steps
Lightsheet Readout Mode	1 pixel step	4 line steps	1 pixel step	4 line steps
Camera only	128 pixel steps	-	4 pixel steps	-

* 8   Valid 4 digits and rounded up to 5th digit.
* 9   Valid when Lightsheet Readout Mode.
* 10 Equivalent to USB 3.2 Gen 1 (SuperSpeed USB 5Gbps).
* 11 Valid 3 digits and rounded down to 4th digit.
* 12 When using frame bundle function on DCAM-API.

(3) Power supply specifications

Camera	Input power supply	DC 12 V
	Typical output	---
	Power consumption	65 W
AC adapter	Input power supply	AC 100 V to AC 240 V 50 Hz / 60 Hz 2.5 A
	Typical output	DC 12 V 8.34 A
	Power consumption	155 VA

Note   • Fluctuations of input power supply voltages are not to exceed ±10 % of the nominal voltage.

(4) Operating environment

Ambient operating temperature	0 ºC to + 40 ºC
Ambient storage temperature	-10 ºC to + 50 ºC
Ambient operating humidity	30 % to 80 %, with no condensation
Ambient storage humidity	Less than 90 %, with no condensation
Place of operating	Indoor, altitude up to 2000 m
Ambient conditions	No corrosive gas, dust nor vibration.

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

(5) Dimensional outline and weight

C15440-20UP	Dimensional outline	84 mm (W) × 84 mm (H) × 122.3 mm (D)
	Weight	Approx. 1.7 kg (Camera only)
C15440-20UP01	Dimensional outline	84 mm (W) × 84 mm (H) × 151.3 mm (D)
	Weight	Approx. 1.7 kg (Camera only)

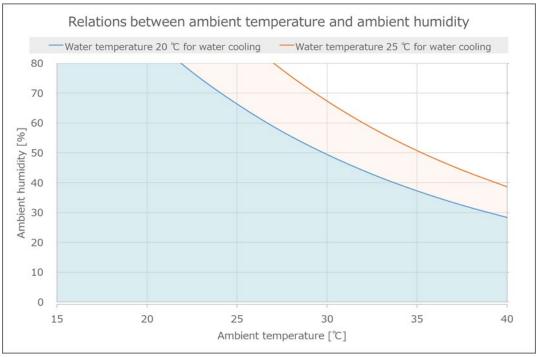|	
(!)	• Be careful not to drop off the camera or not drop underfoot when making it move because it is approx. 1.7 kg.
Note	• Refer to 15 "DIMENSIONAL OUTLINES" for detail of dimensions.

(6) Applicable standards

|		

EMC	EN61326-1: 2013 Class A
	  Emission limits: CISPR 11 Group1 Class A
	  Immunity requirements: Table2	

	Function performance and operation mode in immunity tests	The "average" value of the image acquisition LUT must have a luminance variation within ±5 %.
	Restoration procedure in immunity tests	Exit the image acquisition software and turn off the camera. Turn on the camera and open the image acquisition software.
RoHS	EN IEC 63000:2018	
FCC	47 CFR FCC Part15 Subpart B Class A	
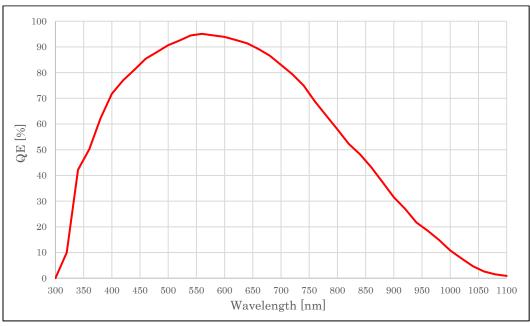
14-2 CONDENSATION

When Water-cooling, if ambient temperature and ambient humidity become high, condensation will take place easily. Use the camera under the environment where condensation will not take place referring to the following graph.

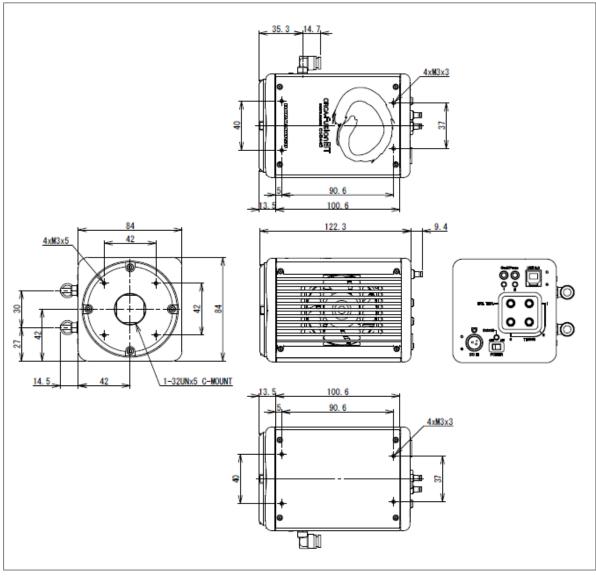Graph 14-1

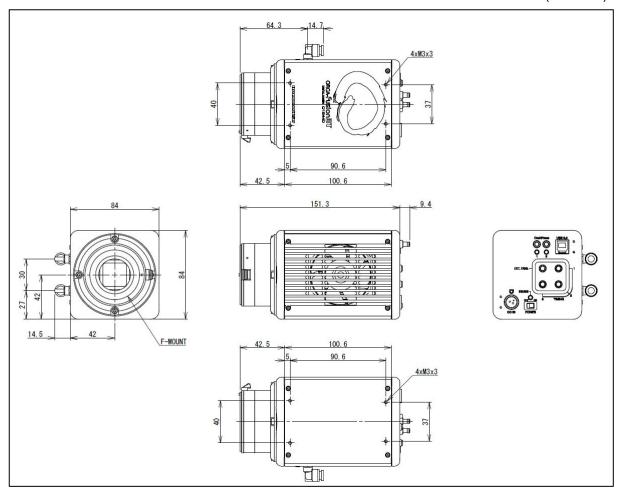## 14-3 SPECTRAL RESPONSE CHARACTERISTICS (TYP.)

Graph 14-2

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

15. DIMENSIONAL OUTLINES

15-1 C15440-20UP

(Unit: mm)

15-2 C15440-20UP01

(Unit: mm)

HAMAMATSU

PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS

16. WARRANTY

Hamamatsu Photonics have fully inspected this camera and checked that its performance conforms to specifications. In the unlikely event of a breakdown or other malfunction, contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor.

16-1 BASIC WARRANTY

1. Unless otherwise stated by Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor, this camera is under warranty for 24 months from the delivery date.

   - Degradation with cosmic rays and the radiation (X-rays, gamma rays, UV light, etc.) of CMOS image sensor is excepted.

2. The warranty only covers defects in the materials and manufacturing of the camera. You may be liable for repairs during the warranty period in the event of a natural disaster or if you handle the camera contrary to the instructions in this manual, use it without due caution, or try to modify it.

3. We will repair the camera or replace it, subject to availability, free of charge within the terms of the warranty.

16-2 REPAIRS

1. If you notice anything wrong with the camera, confirm whether or not it is malfunctioning by referring to the TROUBLESHOOTING in this instruction manual. You must first clarify the symptoms in order to avoid any misunderstanding or error.

2. If you have any trouble or are unclear about anything, contact a Hamamatsu subsidiary or your local distributor giving the product name, serial number and details of the problem. If Hamamatsu Photonics consider the problem to be a malfunction, we will decide whether dispatch an engineer or have the camera returned to us for repairs.

17. CONTACT INFORMATION

Manufacturer

HAMAMATSU PHOTONICS K.K.

Systems Division
Customer Success Department   Customer Service

812 Joko-cho, Chuo-ku, Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka Pref., 431-3196, Japan
Telephone +81-53-431-0124, Fax: +81-53-433-8031
E-mail   support@sys.hpk.co.jp

Local contact information worldwide can be found at: www.hamamatsu.com

- The contents of this manual are subject to change without notice.
- The unauthorized duplication or distribution of all or part of this manual is strictly prohibited.
- If one of the following is found, please contact Hamamatsu. (refer to the local contact information).
    - Contents of the manual are illegible, incorrect or missing.
    - Pages of the manual are missing or in the wrong order.
    - The manual is lost or soiled.

HAMAMATSU
PHOTON IS OUR BUSINESS