

MICRO-429: Metrology Practicals

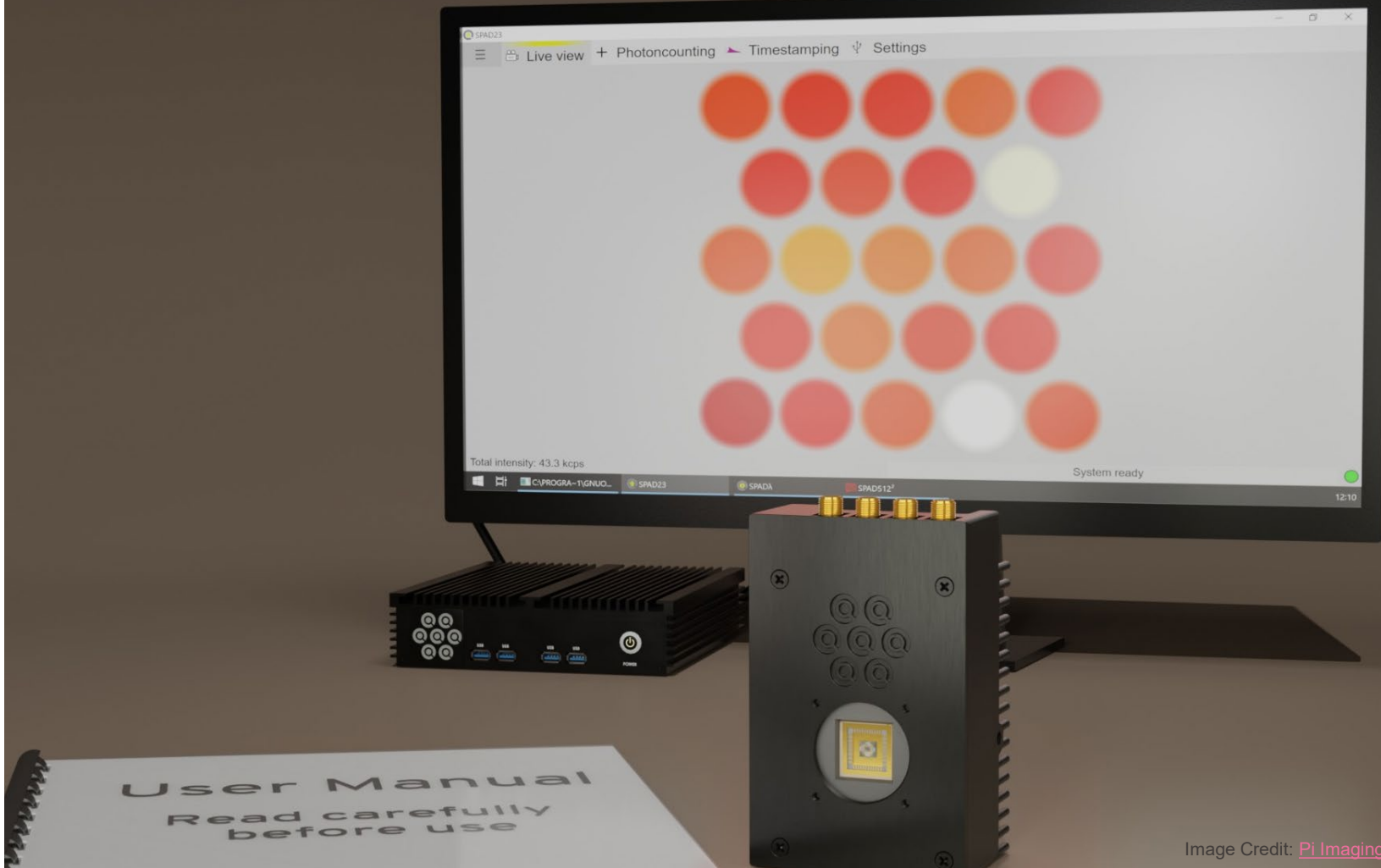
Introduction

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Image Credit: [Pi Imaging](#)

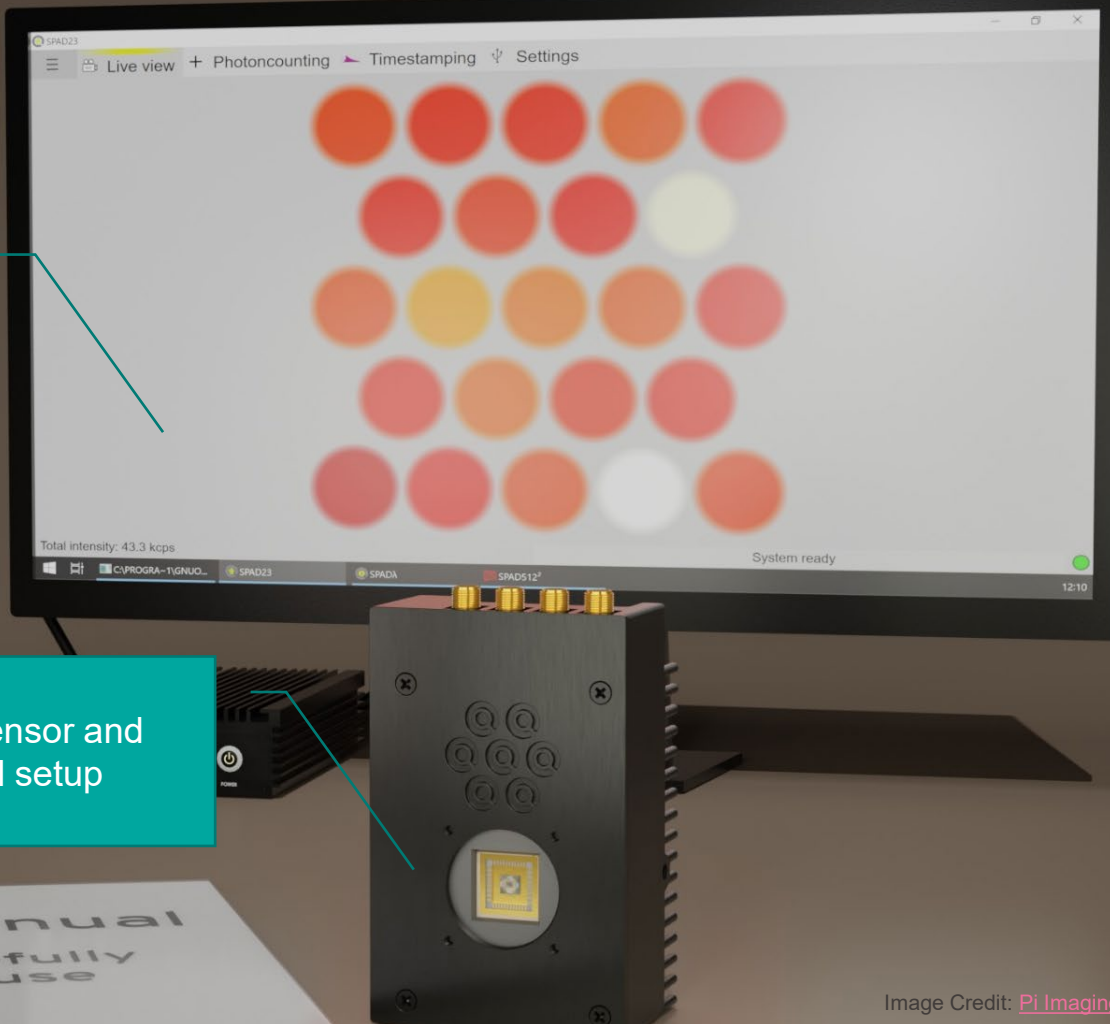
April 2025



Software
(GUI and script)

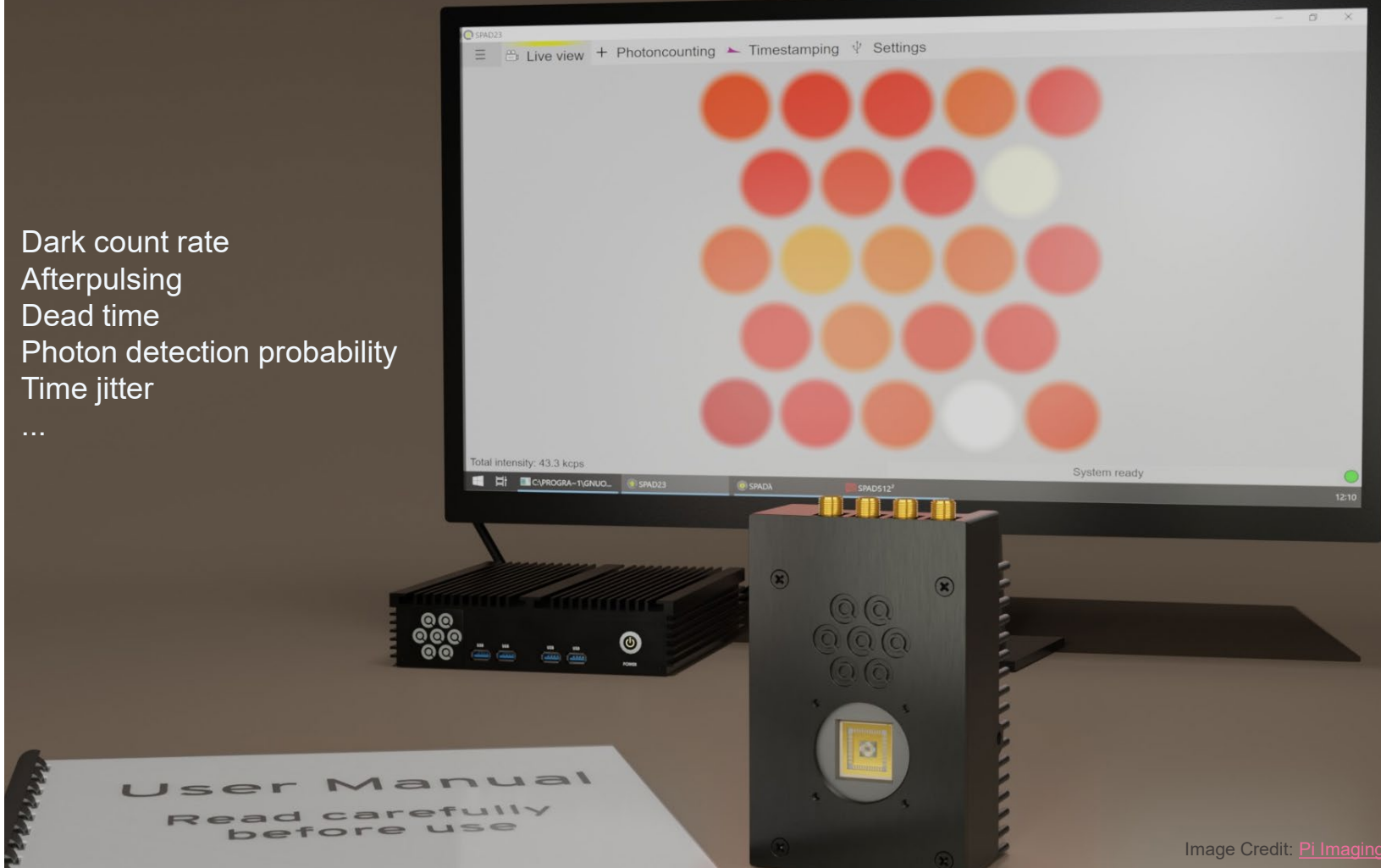
SPAD sensor and
optical setup

User Manual
Read carefully
before use



Dark count rate
Afterpulsing
Dead time
Photon detection probability
Time jitter

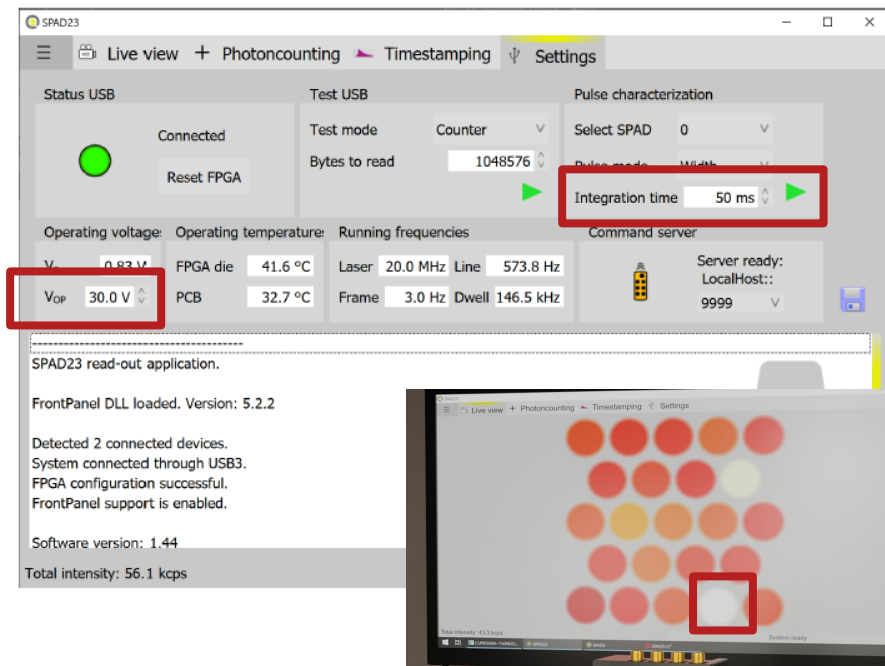
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T3 - Dark count rate (DCR) and afterpulsing statistics in photon-counting devices

Dark count rate (DCR)

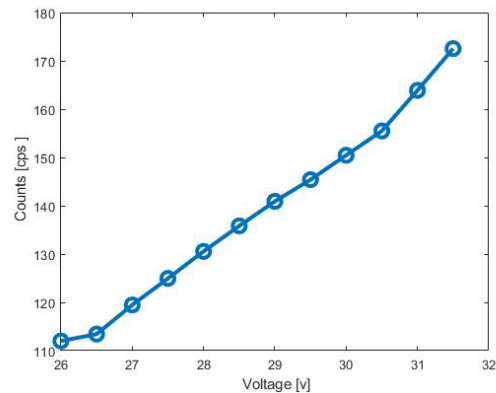
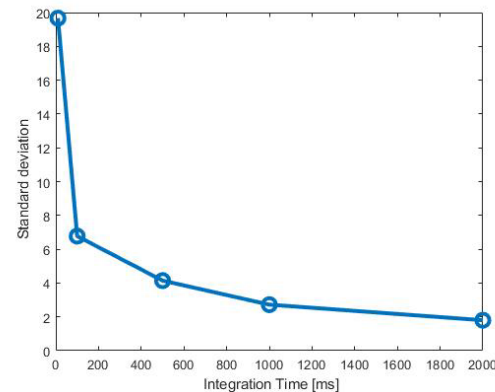
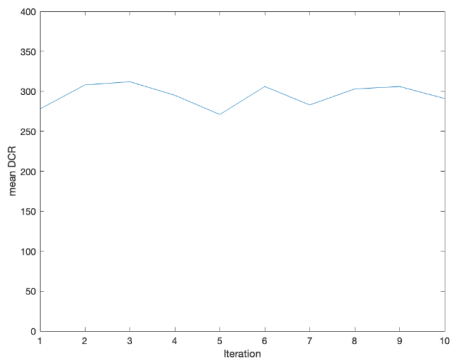
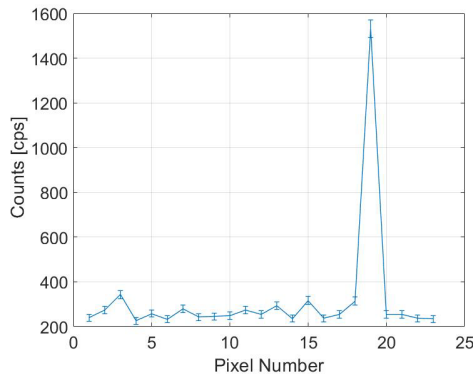
- Controlling SPAD sensor w/ GUI (Part I, 1-14)
 - Integration time
 - Excess bias voltage
 - Hot pixel



T3 - Dark count rate (DCR) and afterpulsing statistics in photon-counting devices

Dark count rate (DCR)

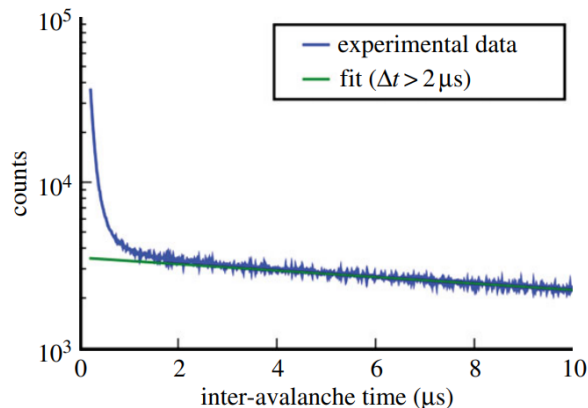
- DCR statistics
 - Mean DCR vs Iterations (Part II, 15-18)
 - Std vs Integration time (Part II, 19-21)
 - DCR vs excess bias voltage (Part II, 22-25)



T3 - Dark count rate (DCR) and afterpulsing statistics in photon-counting devices

Afterpulsing Probability Measurement

- Adjusting illumination w/ GUI
- Inter-arrival time measurement (Part III, 26-28)
- Data analysis (Part III, 29-34)
 - Dead time
 - Afterpulsing probability
- Hot pixel vs regular pixel (Part III, 35)



T3 - Dark count rate (DCR) and afterpulsing statistics in photon-counting devices

Tips and Tricks

- Always disable V_OP from the GUI before exposing SPAD to strong light to avoid saturation
- When adjusting the illumination for SPAD, start with low intensity to high intensity

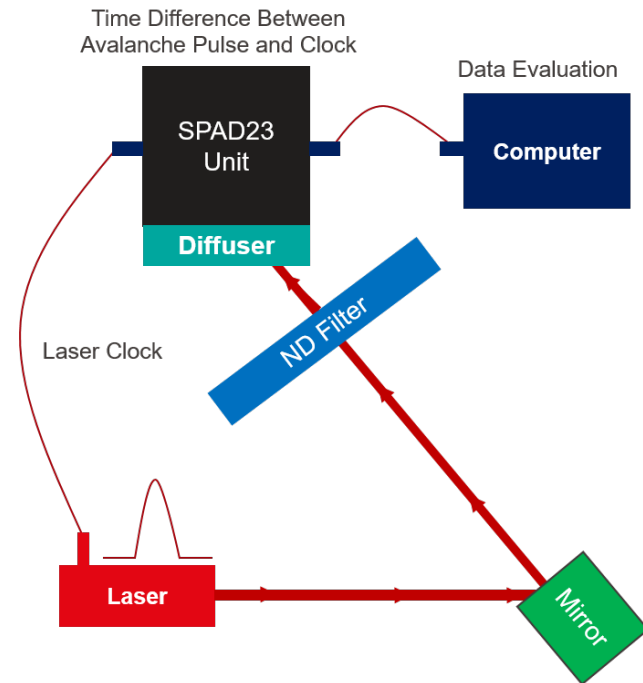
T4 - Sensitivity in photon-counting devices

■ Preparation

- Plotting and analysis of practical data (Part 0)
- **Laser safety training**

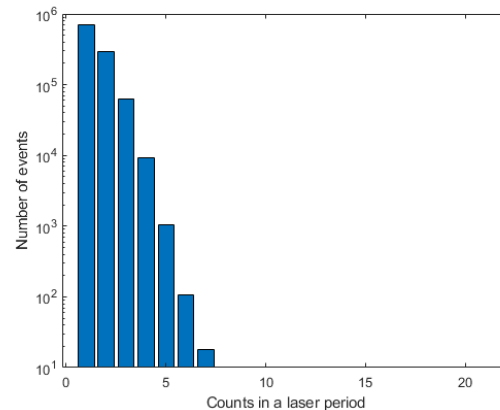
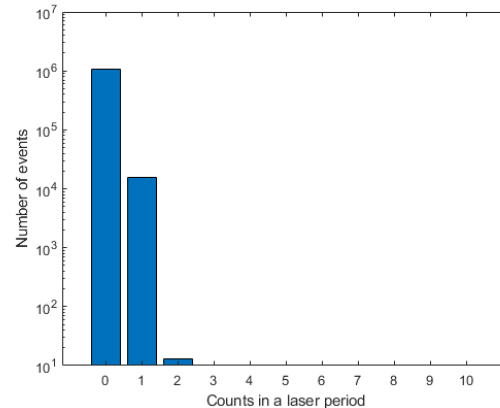
■ Setup

- SPAD23 setup (Part I, 2-8)
- Optical setup (Part I, 9-14)
- **Wearing goggles**



T4 - Sensitivity in photon-counting devices

- Photon counts of single pixels
 - Measurement (Part II, 15-16)
 - Data analysis (Part II, 17-22)
- Photon counts of the SiPM
 - Measurement (Part II, 23)
 - Data analysis (Part II, 24-29)
- Photo-Response Uniformity
 - Measurement (Part III, 30-35)
 - Data analysis (Part III, 36-38)



T4 - Sensitivity in photon-counting devices

Tips and Tricks

- Always disable V_OP from the GUI before exposing SPAD to strong light to avoid saturation
- When adjusting the illumination for SPAD, start with low intensity to high intensity
- Delete the text file named “pix23.txt” as mentioned

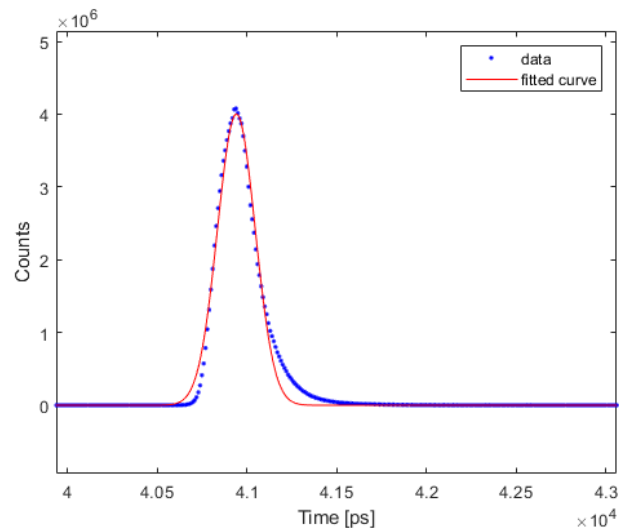
T5 - Timing jitter measurements in single-photon detectors

■ Preparation

- Plotting and analysis of practical data (Part 0)
- **Laser safety training**

■ Setup

- SPAD23 setup (Part I, 5-11)
- Optical setup (Part I, 12-20)
- **Wearing goggles**



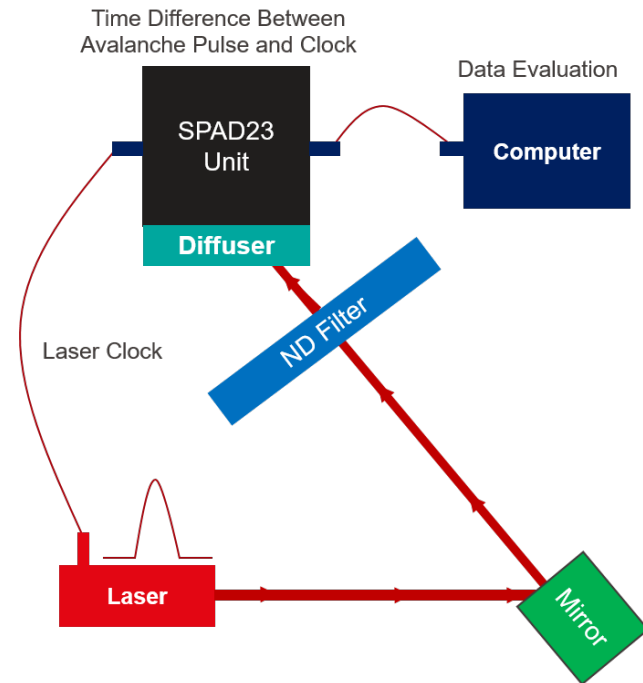
T5 - Timing jitter measurements in single-photon detectors

■ Preparation

- Plotting and analysis of practical data (Part 0)
- **Laser safety training**

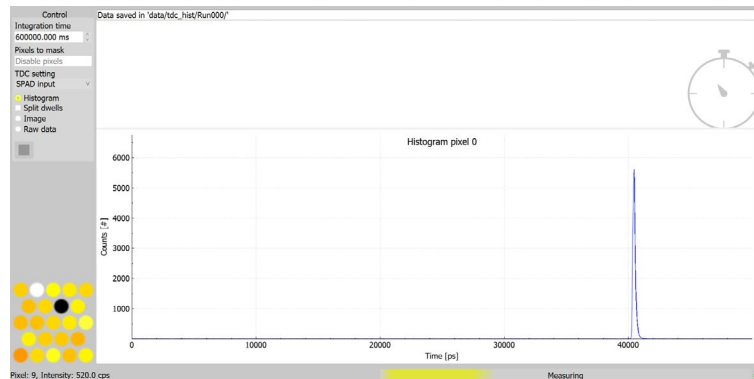
■ Setup

- SPAD23 setup (Part I, 5-11)
- Optical setup (Part I, 12-20)
- **Wearing goggles**



T5 - Timing jitter measurements in single-photon detectors

- TCSPC Measurement I (Part II, 21-24)
- Data Analysis I (Part II, 25-27)
- TCSPC Measurement II (Part II, 28-29)
- Data Analysis II (Part II, 30-34)
- Same illumination level with different ND filter and laser output power combinations



T5 - Timing jitter measurements in single-photon detectors

Tips and Tricks

- Always disable V_OP from the GUI before exposing SPAD to strong light to avoid saturation
- When adjusting the illumination for SPAD, start with low intensity to high intensity
- Double-check the parameter and setup before the measurement
 - Each measurement takes 10 min
- Read the laser datasheet and test report



Thank you