

optiMOS™  
Series

**USER MANUAL**



DIGITAL IMAGING MADE EASY

[www.QIMAGING.com](http://www.QIMAGING.com)



## Applicability

This document applies to the optiMOS camera. For the latest updates, please visit [www.qimaging.com](http://www.qimaging.com).

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## QImaging Technical Support

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800.874.9789

<http://www.qimaging.com/support/contact>



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A Standard Product Warranty Plan is included with every QImaging camera purchase. This Warranty Plan includes parts and labor for two full years (starting from the shipping date of the camera). The Standard Product Warranty Plan is provided on all new and used equipment, including retired demonstration cameras.

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## optiMOS CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY

<b>CERTIFICATE</b> of Conformity EMC Directive 2004/108/EC		
Certificate No.: 31362111 001C		
<b>Holder:</b>	Photometrics 3440 East Britannia Drive Tucson AZ 85706 U.S.A.	
<b>Product:</b>	<u>Scientific Digital Camera</u>	
<b>Identification:</b>	Model Number: OptiMOS Serial Number: CE015	
<b>Tested acc. to:</b>	EN 55011:2009+A1 FCC Part 15 Subpart B:2012 EN 61326-1:2006 EN 61326-1:2013 EN 61000-3-2:2006+A1+A2 EN 61000-3-3:2008	
<p>This certificate of conformity is based on an evaluation of a sample of the product as specified in the certificate. This is to certify that the tested sample is in conformity with all provisions of Council Directive 2004/108/EC, referred to as the EMC Directive. This certificate does not imply assessment of the production of the product and does not permit the use of a TÜV Rheinland mark of conformity.</p>		
<b>Date</b>	<u>30.08.2013</u>	 Conan Boyle Laboratory Manager, EMC-Telecom
TUV Rheinland of North America, Inc., 1279 Quarry Lane Ste. A, Pleasanton, CA 94566, Tel: 925-249-9123		



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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

optiMOS from QImaging is the live cell replacement to CCD cameras. Featuring faster frame rates and lower noise, optiMOS was designed as the budget friendly alternative that avoids complex data management in the PC. Capable of streaming 100fps with  $<2e^-$  of read noise, optiMOS delivers 10x the temporal resolution of CCD cameras without trading off on resolution or sensitivity. Offered as the affordable sCMOS solution, optiMOS brings the advantages of low noise and high speed imaging to a broader range of cell biology applications.

This manual describes the installation and configuration procedures for your new optiMOS Scientific CMOS camera. Descriptions of the recommended optiMOS camera settings are also included.



# optiMOS™

### System Components

Your new camera system includes:

- optiMOS Scientific CMOS camera
- High Speed PCIe4 Data Card
- 9V 8.33A Power Supply
- International Power Cord Set
- 3 Meter High Speed Data Cable
- Black Lens Cap
- USB flash drive: PVCAM driver, manual, datasheet, training materials



## Precautions

The sCMOS sensor and other optiMOS camera system electronics are extremely sensitive to electrostatic discharge (ESD). To avoid permanently damaging the system, please observe the following precautions:

- If you are using high-voltage equipment (such as an arc lamp) with your camera system, be sure to turn the camera power *on last* and power the camera *off first*.
- Never connect or disconnect any cable while the camera system is powered on.
- Although you should turn off the *camera's* power supply before disconnecting any camera system cable, you do not need to power off your computer to detach the cables.
- Use caution when triggering high-current switching devices (such as an arc lamp) near your system. The sCMOS can be permanently damaged by transient voltage spikes. If electrically noisy devices are present, an isolated, conditioned power line or dedicated isolation transformer is highly recommended.
- Always leave at least one inch of space around the camera housing.
- Never open the camera. There are no user-serviceable parts inside the optiMOS camera. Opening the camera voids the warranty.
- Use only the integrated data interface, cables, and power supply designated for this camera system. Using non-optiMOS cables or power supplies may result in permanent damage to your system.
- Do not use a C-mount lens that has optics that extend behind the flange of the lens.

## Environmental Conditions for Operation and Storage

Your optiMOS camera system should be operated in a clean, dry environment. The camera system's ambient operating temperature is 0°C to 20°C with 80% relative humidity, noncondensing.

Store the optiMOS camera system in its original containers. To protect the system from excessive heat, cold, and moisture, store at an ambient temperature between -20°C and 60°C with a relative humidity of 0% to 90%, noncondensing.

## Microscopes, Lenses, Tripods

optiMOS has a standard threaded video mount and can be mounted to any microscope that accepts a standard C-mount adapter. The camera also allows you to install any lens that is compatible with a standard threaded video mount as long as its optics do not extend behind the flange of the lens.

The optiMOS camera can be mounted to a tripod using the tripod mounting attachment located on the top and bottom of the camera. See the Specifications chapter for more information.



## Cleaning

Clean the exterior surfaces of the camera with a dry, lint-free cloth. To remove stains, contact QImaging Support. To clean the camera's imaging window, use only a filtered compressed-air source. Handheld cans are not recommended, as they may spray propellant onto the window. Do not touch the window.

## Repair

The optiMOS camera system contains no user-serviceable parts. Repairs must be completed by QImaging. Should your camera system need repair, contact QImaging Support. Please save the original packing materials so you can safely ship the camera system to another location or return it for repairs if necessary.

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**IMPORTANT: DO NOT OPEN the camera. Opening the optiMOS camera voids the warranty.**

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## CHAPTER 2

# INSTALLATION

This chapter will detail the proper installation of your optiMOS camera. In order to install and use the camera, the following items are required:

- optiMOS camera (supplied)
- High Speed Data Cable (supplied)
- High Speed PCIe4 Data Card
- 9V 8.33A power supply (supplied)
- USB “installer” flash drive (supplied)
- 110V/220V power connection
- A PC that meets the host computer requirements

## Host Computer Requirements

The host computer for your optiMOS camera must include at a minimum:

- Windows 7 or Windows 8 operating system (64 bits)
- $\geq 3.0$ GHz Intel processor: either Xeon or Core i7
- $\geq 8$ GB RAM, 1600MHz DDR3 Non-ECC
- $\geq 250$ GB serial ATA (SATA) HDD and/or  $> 64$ GB solid state drive (SSD) for high-speed imaging and storage
- $\geq 256$ MB slot-based ATI/NVIDIA video graphics card (i.e., not an “onboard/integrated graphics” adapter)
- $\geq 600$ W power supply
- USB drive or internet access to install the driver
- At least 1 available PCIe4 slot

NOTE: Minimum requirements as of June 2014. Supported computer systems will change as new cameras, computer hardware, and operating systems are introduced and older models become obsolete. For current information on recommended computer specifications, please visit: <http://www.qimaging.com/support/recommended-computer-specifications.php>



## Camera Power Requirements

- 9V DC, 8.33A (maximum)

A power supply for use with your optiMOS camera has been provided by QImaging.

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**IMPORTANT: Follow the below steps in order.  
DO NOT install the driver until the PCIe card is installed.**

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### 1. Install the High Speed PCIe Board

Because of the 100 fps frame rate with a 16-bit output, the data rate of the optiMOS is significantly higher than traditional CCD cameras. At 420MB/s the optiMOS requires a more powerful data transfer interface than the frequently used USB or FireWire interfaces. For that reason, the optiMOS is supplied with a proprietary High Speed PCIe card that is capable of sustaining the bandwidth requirements of the camera.

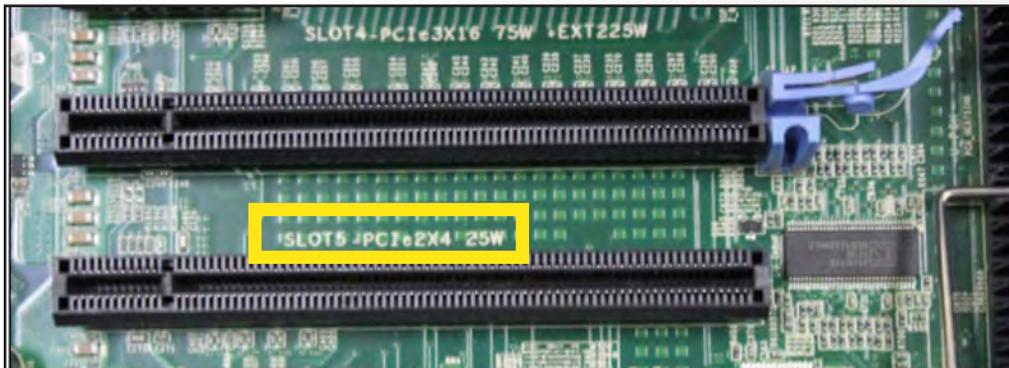


Before doing anything with the camera, first install this interface card with the following steps:

1. Shut down desktop PC
2. Unplug desktop power supply
3. Open the side of the computer to access the PCI and PCIe slots



4. Locate an available 4 channel or higher PCIe slot (marked x4). Refer to the PC's documentation or side covers for motherboard's PCIe slots information.



5. Holding the optiMOS PCIe card (careful not to touch the board components or PCIe bridge pins) insert with the proper orientation into the open slot. The card should slide into place with minimal resistance and snap when fully inserted.
6. Once installed, close computer case, plug in power supply and power on the desktop. The computer is now ready to install the camera's drivers.

## 2. Install the Camera Driver

In order for optiMOS to communicate with the host PC, the camera's device drivers (PVCAM) must first be installed. Before connecting the camera to the computer, use the supplied USB flash drive to run the PVCAM installer executable. Be sure to select the appropriate installer based on your PC's operating system (32-bit or 64-bit).



After completing the PVCAM installation, restart your PC when prompted by the wizard. Next, install the imaging software application of your choice that supports the optiMOS (e.g. Micro-Manager). The camera is now ready to connect to the computer. Make sure the camera's power switch is set to the *Off* position.

*NOTE: Supplemental PVCAM installation information can be found on the QImaging website:*  
<http://www.qimaging.com/support/downloads/>

### 3. Connect the Camera

The back plate of the optiMOS has a power switch, an LED light labeled "WAIT" and three connector ports: one data interface port, one power supply port, and one Trigger port. Connect the camera following these steps:

1. First, connect the data cable to the interface port on the High Speed PCIe card now installed in your computer. Then connect the other end of the cable to the interface port located on the back of the camera.
2. Connect the optiMOS power supply cable to the power supply port located on the back of the camera. (Your optiMOS camera is powered by the 9V 8.33A power supply provided by QImaging.) Lastly, plug the power supply's cord into an appropriate 110V/220V power source.

**Note: Make sure the camera's power switch is set to the Off position and then connect the camera**

3. Power on your camera by setting its power switch to the On position.
4. When powered on, an orange LED light labeled "WAIT" will begin to blink. Wait until this light stops blinking before launching the imaging software application.

**Note: the blinking LED indicates that the camera is running through its boot and configuration process. This is required before running the camera in any software application and will take approximately 20 seconds.**

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**IMPORTANT: The camera is ready to be used ONLY when the orange WAIT LED stops blinking**

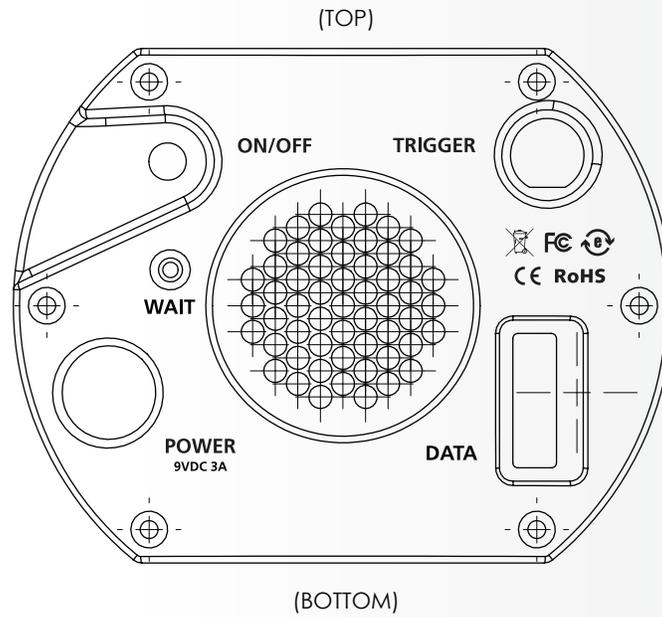
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**IMPORTANT: DO NOT power off the camera before the orange WAIT LED stops blinking**

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5. Once the LED stops blinking, the camera is ready to be used with any compatible software package.



**Note:** The Trigger connector provides multiple I/O signals that allow highly precise synchronization with external hardware components such as light sources and motorized microscope stages via TTL signals. Information on how to set up and configure the optiMOS camera for hardware triggering can be found in the next chapter of this manual.



## CHAPTER 3

# USING YOUR optiMOS CAMERA

## Imaging Software

The QImaging optiMOS camera is supported in a multitude of software applications including Micro-Manager. For an up-to-date list of compatible third-party imaging software applications, please visit:

<http://www.qimaging.com/resources/pdfs/Software-Compatibility-Matrix.pdf>

The optiMOS camera's image capture capabilities are controlled entirely through the imaging software. Basic functionalities include control over exposure time, region of interest (ROI), sequence size, time-lapse delay, and hardware triggering modes. For information describing how to implement changes to the camera's parameters, refer to your imaging software's instruction manual.

## Basic Camera Parameters

### Exposure Time

The optiMOS camera's exposure controls allow you to adjust the integration time for each acquisition (0ms – 30s). By increasing the exposure time, more light is captured by the sensor and a better signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) is achieved. The longer the exposure time however, the longer you also expose your cells to more light, increasing the effects of photo toxicity and photo-bleaching. The exposure time should be adjusted to a level that achieves the shortest integration time possible while still maintaining sufficient SNR.

### Rolling Shutter

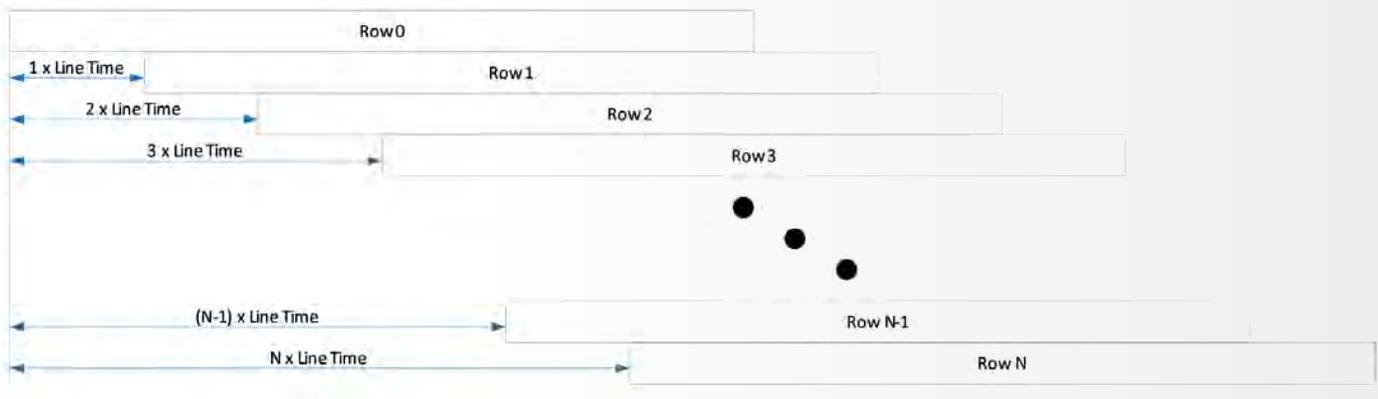
Image sensors typically operate in one of two readout modes: Global Shutter or Rolling Shutter. Traditional CCD cameras use a global shutter mode where every pixel exposes at the same instant in time and is then digitized in sequence by a single ADC. This has the advantage of minimized spatial distortion across the entire frame and is the only readout mode supported by most CCD cameras. The single ADC however, is also an inherent disadvantage as it significantly limits the maximum frame rates of the camera.

CMOS sensors however are able to achieve much higher frame rates by employing a Rolling Shutter readout mode. In this mode, each column of pixels has its own ADC that digitizes the collected signal one row at a time. Because of this, each row of pixels begins exposing one line's readout time after the previous row's start. This line time is based on the sensor's clocking requirements and readout frequency. For the optiMOS at 283MHz, a single line's readout time and consequently, the delay between two adjacent rows is approximately 8.7 $\mu$ s. With 1,080 rows of pixels, the time delay from the top to the bottom of the sensor is approximately 10ms, which also corresponds to the maximum frame rate of 100fps and minimum temporal resolution of 10ms (at full frame).

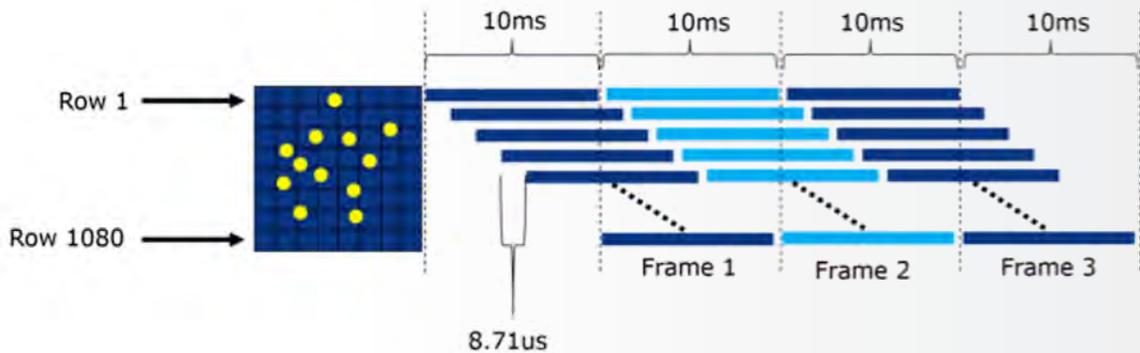


The graphic below depicts the time delay between each row of pixels in a rolling shutter readout mode with a CMOS camera.

### Rolling Shutter Exposure Row by Row Exposure Start/End Offset



With this rolling shutter behavior, it is possible to begin exposing the next frame in a sequence before completing the previous frame, enabling the high frame rates of the optiMOS.



While high frame rates have advantages for some applications, there is the potential for spatial distortions and added complexity when attempting to synchronize with other external devices. To maintain the low noise and speed advantages of rolling shutter but also achieve a distortion free global shutter exposure, custom triggering modes are implemented in the optiMOS. These triggering modes allow rapid shuttering of high speed light sources (lasers, LEDs) while running the camera in rolling shutter mode to achieve a pseudo-global shutter while using a rolling shutter readout mode. These triggering modes are described below under the device synchronization section.



## Gain

Gain (with regards to cameras) is defined as the conversion factor of captured electrons to a digital signal, often referred to as a grey value or ADU (Analogue to Digital Unit) and has units of electrons per ADU (e-/ADU). Knowing the gain of a camera allows users to directly compare an ADU value as measured from their software to the physical number of electrons actually captured by the camera's sensor. Gain plays a critical role in many of the camera's parameters including dynamic range and read noise.

While there are often several different gain settings that may be desirable for different sensors, the gain setting predominately used in scientific imaging is one that maps the bit depth of the camera to the maximum full well capacity of the sensor. This provides the largest single pixel dynamic range and allows an easy comparison of the relative available well based on the measured ADU value. This gain is often referred to as a 1x gain.

The way this gain and bit depth is achieved in CMOS sensors however, is different than CCDs. With CCDs, the ADC and gain are designed and defined by the analogue electronics of the camera. On CMOS sensors however, the ADC design is inherent to the chip and is defined by the sensor manufacturer. In the sCMOS sensors for example, each pixel is digitized by two gains: Low Gain ( $\sim 21\text{e-}/\text{ADU}$ ) and High Gain ( $\sim 0.5\text{e-}/\text{ADU}$ ). Each individual gain has an 11-bit digitizer. In order to achieve a single gain and maximize the dynamic range of the camera, the optiMOS combines these two 11-bit gains to a single 16-bit gain that is mapped to the 30,000e- full well of the camera. The result is a single 1x gain of approximately  $0.5\text{e-}/\text{ADU}$ .

With this combined gain, the original high gain represents the first 2,096 ADUs ( $\sim 1,000\text{e-}$ ) while the original low gain is extrapolated out to represent the remaining 63,439 ADUs ( $\sim 29,000\text{e-}$ ). This extrapolation linearizes the low and the high gains and makes it possible to combine them on a single image and preserve the quantitative nature of the camera. It is important to be aware that this process does yield image histogram gaps of 32 counts at light levels above  $1,000\text{e-}$ . These gaps however are smaller than the shot noise at any given measurement and are considered statistically insignificant for single frame measurements.

## Clearing Mode

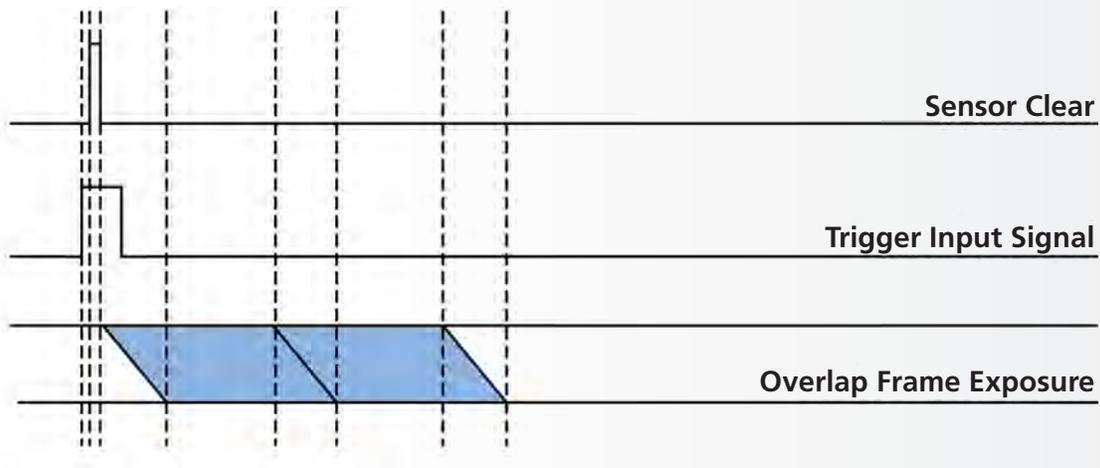
In order to capture the highest signal to noise ratio possible, it is important for any scientific camera to minimize miscellaneous signal that's not derived from the sample. One contribution to this miscellaneous signal is the buildup of charge prior to an exposure, which includes stray light and dark current. To eliminate this pre-acquisition charge, most CCD and CMOS sensors support a sensor clearing mode which allows an electronic discharge of all accumulated signal without digitization. This ensures that the captured signal is strictly the charge accumulated during the experimental exposure and not miscellaneous signal accumulated prior to the exposure.

The sensor clearing mode supported by the optiMOS is called "Clear Pre-Sequence". When the optiMOS is set to "Clear Pre-Sequence", one clear occurs prior to acquiring an image sequence (size 1 to "n" number of frames). No global clear occurs between frames which allows the camera to expose and read out images



simultaneously in an overlap behavior. Normally with CCD cameras, when the sensor is running in an overlap mode, the shortest exposure time achievable is equal to the readout time of the camera which also determines the frame rate. For example, for a 10 fps CCD camera in overlap mode, the shortest exposure time possible for a stream would be 100ms.

Based on the readout architecture of the sCMOS chips however, this is not a limitation. Even when running the sensor in an overlap mode with Clear Pre-Sequence, each row is individually cleared and reset before each exposure. This allows <10ms exposure times even when running in an overlap mode with a 100fps frame rate. For that reason, no other clearing modes are required. The following waveforms show how the overlap behavior of Clear Pre-Sequence functions for the optiMOS camera.



Historical PVCAM CCD cameras had multiple clearing modes that determined the timing and frequency of sensor clears which had different advantages in terms of frame rate and effective exposure length. optiMOS however, only requires a single clearing mode which allows maximum frame rates and maximized signal to noise. In some software applications, multiple clearing modes may be listed as they are required for other cameras, but when using the optiMOS, be sure to only use "Clear Pre-Sequence."

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**IMPORTANT: User must change the default setting to "Clear Pre-Sequence" for the optiMOS**

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## Regions of Interest (ROI)

Regions of Interest (ROIs) are defined areas within a single frame that the user selects to be captured and delivered to the host PC. With an ROI, the camera exposes the entire frame for the specified exposure time but only digitizes and delivers the pixel information from the defined ROI. This reduces the amount of data sent per frame and has the advantages of reduced file storage demands as well as usually faster frame rates. The optiMOS supports completely arbitrary, user defined ROIs, allowing users to capture just of the cells of interest at any location within the field of view.

With a sCMOS camera, there is be a direct correlation in the achievable frame rates of the camera and the number of rows digitized. Based on the sCMOS architecture, when any pixel in a row is defined to be part of an ROI, the entire row must be digitized. In the FPGA of the camera, the pixels not part of the ROI are dropped and only the user defined ROI is delivered to the host PC. Dropping the horizontal pixel data however, does not improve the frame rate of the camera. Therefore, reducing the number of rows will increase the camera's frame rates, while reducing the number of columns will have no effect. To the right is a table of typical measured frame rates with the optiMOS for different ROIs.

Region of Interest	Frame Rates
1920 x 1080	106fps
1920 x 512	221fps
512 x 512	222fps
1920 x 128	856fps
128 x 128	855fps
1920 x 64	1629fps
64 x 64	1644fps

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**IMPORTANT: optiMOS supports arbitrary ROIs. Each ROI must have a minimum of 2,000 pixels.**

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## Digital Binning

True hardware binning on a CCD is the process of summing charge together from multiple adjacent pixels before digitizing the signal. The result is an increase in the signal to noise ratio and frame rate but at the expense of reduced spatial resolution. Hardware binning on a CCD typically range from 2x2 to 16x16 depending on the application requirements. At 2x2 binning, the Signal to Noise Ratio (SNR) increases by a factor of 4x.

With CMOS sensors however, there is no true hardware binning. Each pixel is digitized at the pixel level and there are no extra output nodes to transfer charge into before digitizing. That said, if you pixel add in FPGA or even in a host application (known as digital binning), you will see an increase in signal, and an increase in noise as well. But because noise adds in quadrature, your effective increase in SNR is 2x (vs. 4x for hardware binning on a CCD – for 2x2). This also does not improve your frame rate as it occurs once the data has already been digitized. The optiMOS supports 2x2, 4x4 and 8x8 digital binning.



## Device Synchronization

Your optiMOS camera offers several methods of hardware synchronization via TTL signals with external devices including function generators, light sources, shutters, and filters. Each camera has an I/O connector (pin out functions described in the specifications chapter) on the back of the camera for TTL communication. A special trigger cable is available as an accessory which allows the user to access the primary hardware signals including “Trigger in,” “Expose out,” and “Trigger Ready.”

As discussed above, unlike CCD cameras the optiMOS uses a rolling shutter readout. This readout mode has the advantages of low noise and extremely high frame rates but also provides some challenges when attempting to synchronize with external equipment. For some experiments, it is important to keep the benefits of rolling shutter while avoiding spatial artifacts and fluorescence channel overlap. In order to achieve this, both the camera’s triggering modes and the expose out behavior needs to be synchronized with other hardware devices. optiMOS supports three trigger modes and three expose out behaviors for a total of nine synchronization configurations that can be tailored to various experimental requirements. The triggering modes and expose out behaviors of the camera are described below.

## Hardware Triggering Modes

### Timed Mode

Default mode of the optiMOS and is a software triggering mode. This means, the software/application initiates the start of a sequence of acquisitions. Once initiated, each frame capture in the sequence is controlled by the internal timing generators of the camera. Camera settings, expose out behavior and sequence size is set in the software application prior to acquiring the sequence. Timed mode is used when synchronization with other devices is either not required or is controlled independently through the software.

### Trigger-First Mode

Similar to Timed Mode but requires a hardware trigger from the I/O connector instead of a software/application trigger. Hardware triggers enable higher precision of acquisition timing than software triggers. Rising edge of an external trigger initiates the start of a sequence of acquisitions. Once initiated, each frame capture in the sequence is controlled by the internal timing generators of the camera. Camera settings, expose out behavior and sequence size is set in the software application prior to acquiring the sequence.

### Edge Mode

Like Trigger-First Mode, Edge Mode requires a hardware trigger but this time for every frame. The rising edge of the external trigger initiates capture of a single frame. Each frame requires an external trigger from the I/O connector. Camera settings, expose out behavior and sequence size is set in the software application prior to acquiring the sequence.

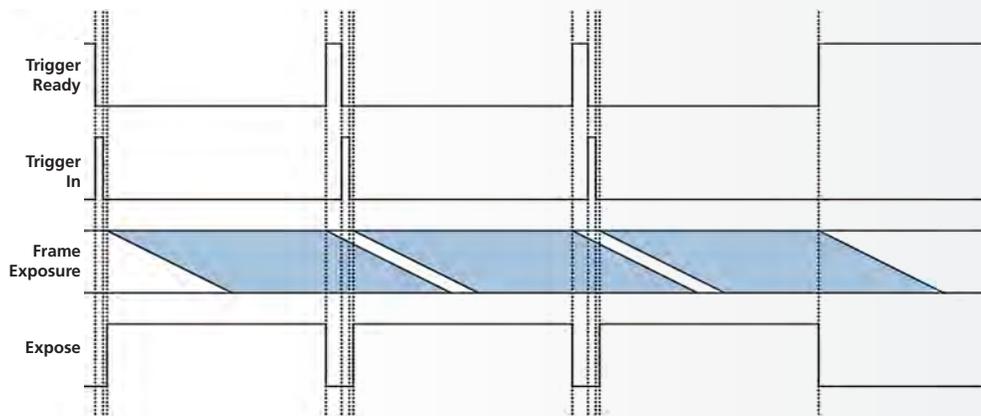


## Expose Out Behaviors

**Note:** All timing diagrams below shown with Edge triggering mode

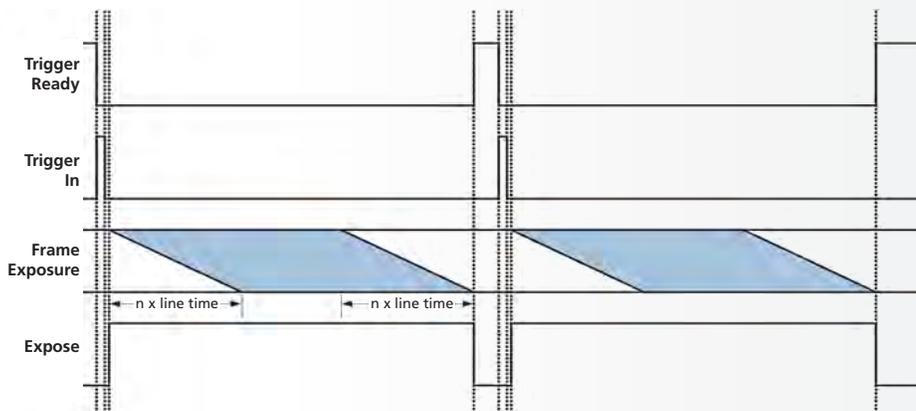
### First Row

“Expose Out” I/O signal leaving the camera is high only when the first row of a single frame is being exposed. The length of the signal is equal to the exposure time for the first row. Exposure time is equal to what is set in the software application. Although this Expose Out mode enables maximum camera frame rates, it does not avoid the overlap due to rolling shutter. This mode is not recommended if trying to alternate between excitation wavelengths.



### Any Row

“Expose Out” I/O signal leaving the camera is high when any row in a single frame is exposing. The length of the Expose Out signal is equal to the time between the start of the first row’s exposure and the end of the last row’s exposure. Each line exposes for the same amount of time which is equal to what is set in the software application. Maximum camera frame rates are not possible in this mode but this does avoid frame overlap.



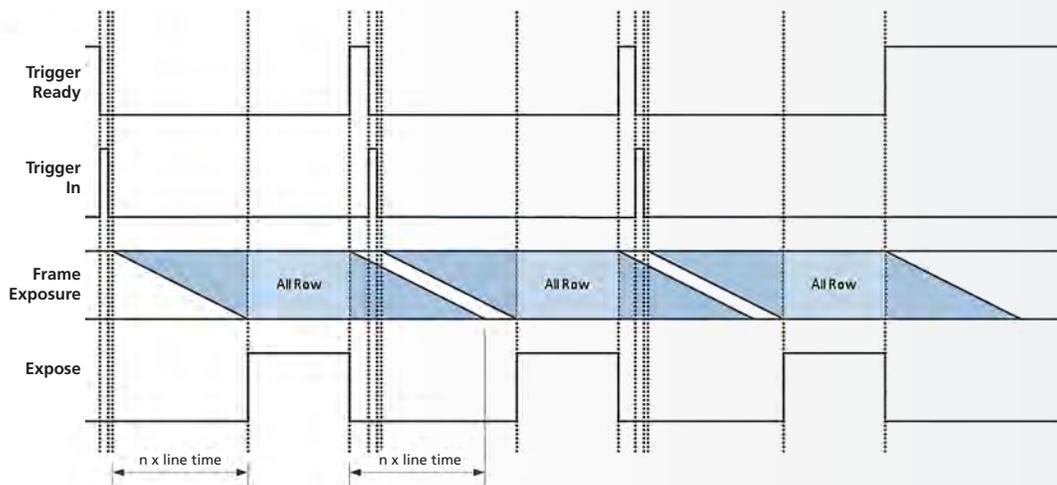


## All Rows

“Expose Out” I/O signal leaving camera is high only when all rows within a single frame are exposing **simultaneously**. The length of the Expose Out signal is equal to the time between the start of the last row’s exposure and the end of the first row’s exposure, which is also equal to the exposure time set in the software application. Each row exposes for the length of time as defined by the software application plus the time required for each row to start exposing (approximately 10ms). This allows high camera frame rates while eliminating rolling shutter artifacts and channel overlap – providing an effective global shutter with the speed and low noise benefits of rolling shutter. This mode is recommended for synchronizing camera with alternating excitation wavelengths for high speed multi-color fluorescence. In this mode, user defined exposure time + 10ms defines camera frame rate.

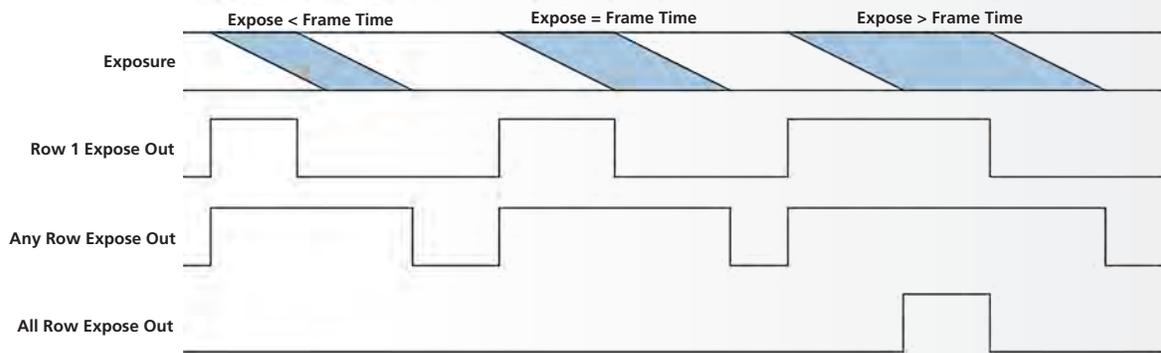
For example:

User Enters	Each Line Exposes For	Expose Out Goes High For	Effective Exposure	Expected Frame Rate
1ms	11ms	1ms	1ms	90 fps
5ms	15ms	5ms	5ms	67 fps
10ms	20ms	10ms	10ms	50 fps
20ms	30ms	20ms	20ms	33 fps





Below is a comparison of the three different **Expose Out Behaviors** under different exposure time lengths:



From this comparison, the following conditions can be defined for each expose out behavior:

	<b>First Row Expose</b>	<b>Any Row Expose</b>	<b>All Row Expose</b>
Expose $\leq$ Frame Time	Yes	Yes	No
Expose $>$ Frame Time	Yes	Yes	Yes
100FPS (Full Frame)	Yes	No	Yes
Exposure Overlap	Yes	No	Yes
Simulated Global Shutter	No	No	Yes



## CHAPTER 4

# TROUBLESHOOTING

## Resolving Problems with the Camera

### Computer Does Not Recognize Newly Installed Camera

Confirm that the latest PVCAM camera driver was installed on the computer AFTER the high speed PCIe data card was installed in the computer. Also make sure the computer meets the minimum system configuration requirements to run the optiMOS. Confirm that the camera's power switch is set to the On position.

Assuming all of these requirements are met, try powering off the camera and the host computer and check all system connections. Restart. If a "New Hardware Found" dialog box still does not appear, contact QImaging Support.

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**IMPORTANT: Ensure the supplied PCIe data card is installed BEFORE installing PVCAM**

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### Application Hang When Streaming

If a software application freezes while the optiMOS is acquiring an image, in some instances, simply closing and re-launching the application may not resolve the problem. In this situation, a complete computer shut down then power up is required. This is needed to restart the communication between the host PC and the optiMOS. Depending on the software application used, please contact either QImaging Support or the respective software company's support line to report the issue.

### Images Not Displayed

If no images appear:

- Confirm that the camera's power switch is set to the On position.
- Confirm that the optiMOS camera is selected in your imaging software application.
- Power off the camera and the host computer and check all system connections. Restart.
- Confirm that the camera is operational by taking an image with a standard C-mount lens attached to your optiMOS. Using normal room lighting, place the camera on a table about three meters away from an object and acquire an image.
- If the camera is powered on and recognized by the computer and still is not able to capture an images, please contact QImaging Support.



## Image Tear When Streaming to Disk

Image tears when streaming to either RAM or disk typically means that either the computer hardware or Solid State Drive specifications are insufficient for the data rates of the optiMOS. Please refer to the QImaging website for the latest list of minimum computer specifications required for the optiMOS. As for streaming to disk specifically, a single PCIe SSD should work with the optiMOS as long as it meets the following requirements:

- >600MB/s bandwidth
- Stable bandwidth regardless of open storage capacity  
**Note:** *Some drives slow down when they get close to being full*
- Stable bandwidth when streaming completely non-compressible data  
**Note:** *Some drives only support the max bandwidth for compressible data*

A list of recommended PCIe SSDs is also located on the QImaging website. If your computer specifications meet the minimum requirements and you are still having issues, please contact QImaging Support.

## PVCAM Error Message Appears

If a PVCAM error message appears, please note the message's number code and contact QImaging Support.

## Camera Running Too Warm

It is normal for the camera to be slightly warm to the touch while in operation. However, if the camera is more than slightly warm to the touch (and at least one inch of space has been left around the camera housing), switch off the camera immediately and contact QImaging Support.

## Camera's Fan Does Not Turn

The optiMOS undergoes a boot and configuration process before it can be used in software. This load process occurs when the camera is first turned on and is indicated with a blink orange "WAIT" LED. During this time, the camera's fan remains off. When the load is complete, the LED will stop blinking and the camera's fan will turn on. This should take less than 20 seconds.

If the camera's fan still does not turn on after the blinking LED has stopped, then either the camera is not receiving the correct power as specified in the requirements or there may be an issue with the fan itself. In this scenario, please contact QImaging Support.



## Unresolved Problems - Contacting QImaging Support

If you are still unable to resolve your problem, contact QImaging Support for assistance in one of four ways:

- Visit <http://www.qimaging.com/support/faq/> for a list of all frequently asked questions. Your issue may be resolved in one of these faqs.
- Visit <http://www.qimaging.com/contact/> and fill out a support form online.
- E-mail [support@qimaging.com](mailto:support@qimaging.com) with complete details of your problem (including Error Message and Code if possible), camera model, computer hardware configuration, and operating system.
- Call one of QImaging's regional support offices at the appropriate number below. To assist you better and to quickly resolve the issue, it is recommended that you are at your computer during the call.

### United States and Canada

QImaging

Tel: +1 800.874.9789

### China

Shanghai Roper Industries Trading Co., Ltd.

Tel: +86.21.3377.3519

### Japan

Nippon Roper K.K.

Tel: 81.3.5639.2731

### Europe

Roper Engineering s.r.o.

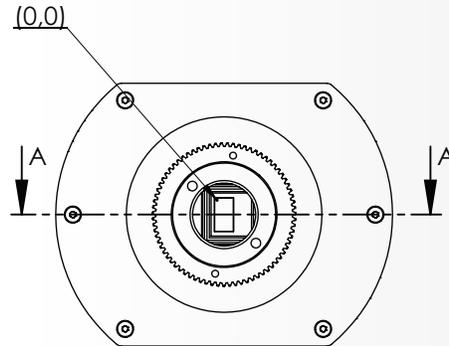
Tel: 420.597.305.857



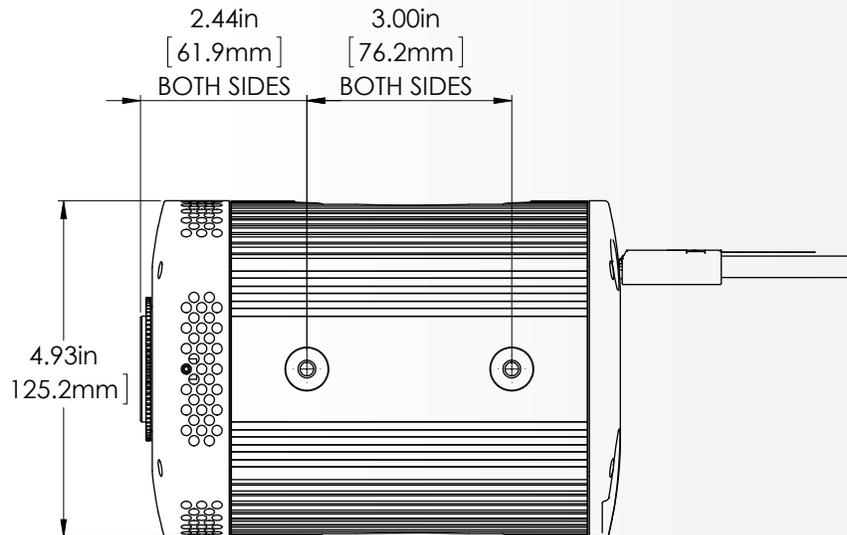
## CHAPTER 5

# SPECIFICATIONS

### Camera Dimensions (Front)



### Camera Dimensions (Bottom)

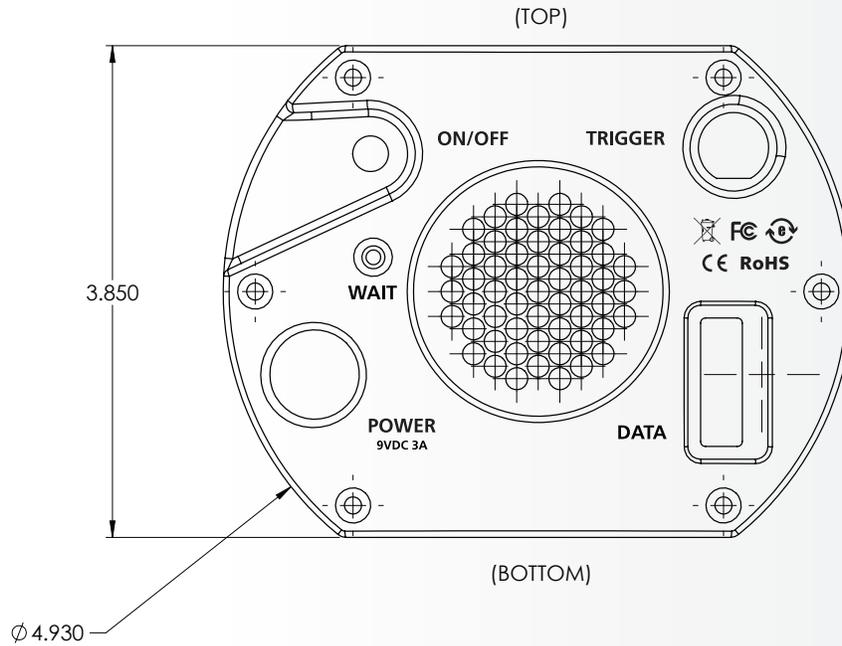


### Additional Camera Measurements

Dimensions:	97.8 mm x 125.2 mm x 178.5 mm
Camera weight:	1.72 kg
Optical interface:	1", C-mount optical format
Mounting hole thread size:	1/4"-20 thread



## Connectors on Back of Camera

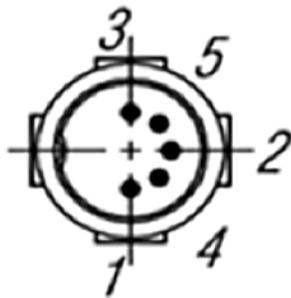


## Power Supply Specifications

**IMPORTANT: Only operate the optiMOS camera with the power supply provided by QImaging.**

**Voltage output:** +9 V DC, 8.33 A

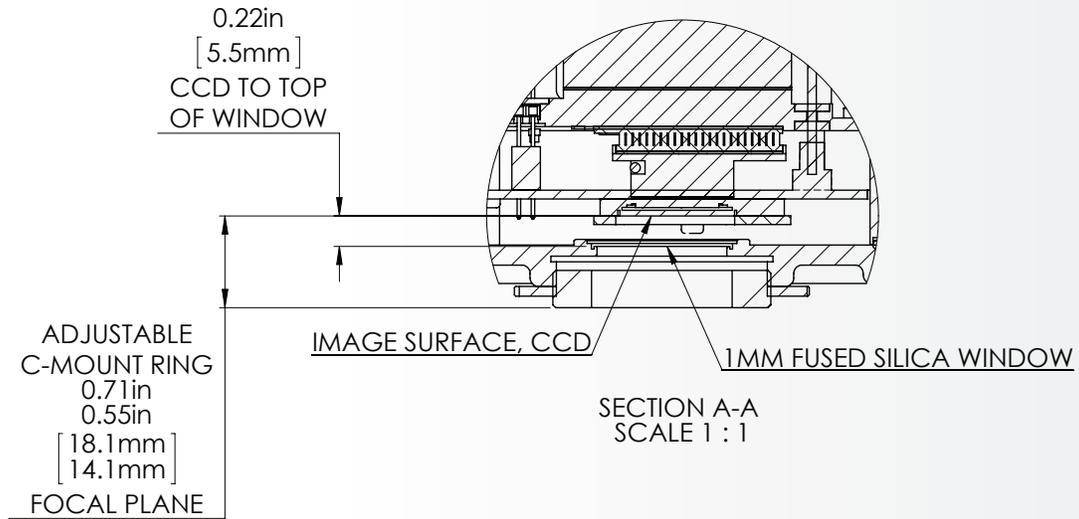
**Voltage input:** 100 – 240 V @ 50 – 60 Hz



1	AC Ground/Return
2	AC Ground/Return
3	AC Ground/Return
4	+9V
5	AC Ground/Return



## Focal Plane Measurement

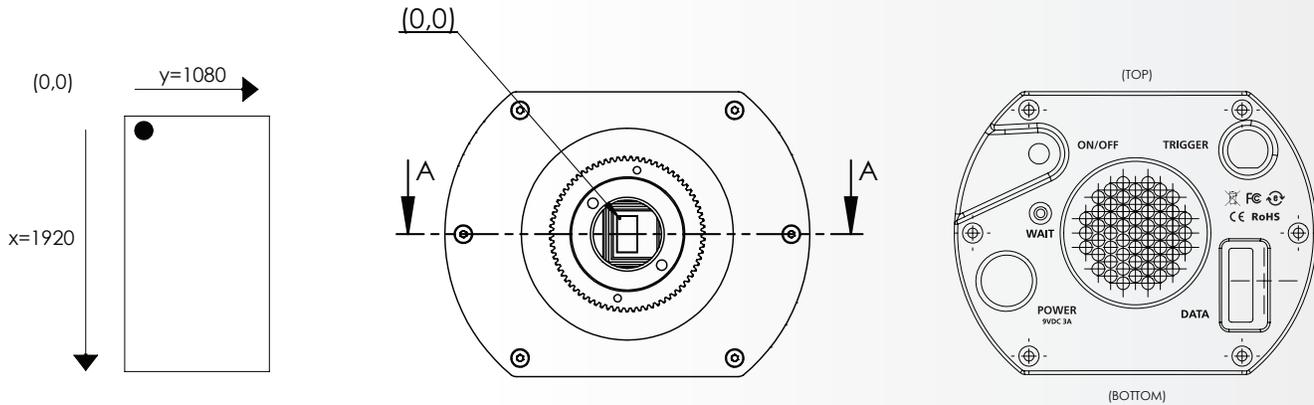


## Sensor Specifications

<b>Image type:</b>	Monochrome Scientific CMOS
<b>Dimensions:</b>	12.48mm x 7.02mm (14.3mm diagonal)
<b>Resolution:</b>	1920 x 1080 (2.1 MP)
<b>Pixel size:</b>	6.5µm x 6.5µm
<b>Single-pixel full well:</b>	30,000e-
<b>Peak QE:</b>	57% @ 600nm
<b>Readout frequency:</b>	283MHz
<b>Cooling:</b>	0°C (stabilized)



## Sensor Orientation



When the optiMOS is coupled to the side port of an **inverted** microscope with the flat surface of the camera parallel to the table, the sensor orientation will match the view seen through the eyepiece. This allows for easy access to the mounting holes to stabilize the camera while maintaining a consistent perspective between the captured images and what's seen down the eyepiece of the microscope.

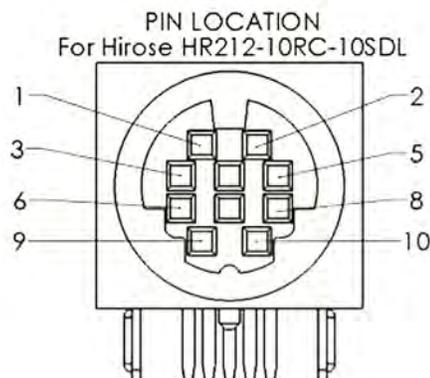
For the top port of **upright** microscopes and bottom ports to some inverted microscopes, the optiMOS must be rotated 90° counter-clockwise to match the view seen through the eyepiece. This is due to the differences in the optical paths between inverted side ports and upright top ports.

## I/O Connector Pinout

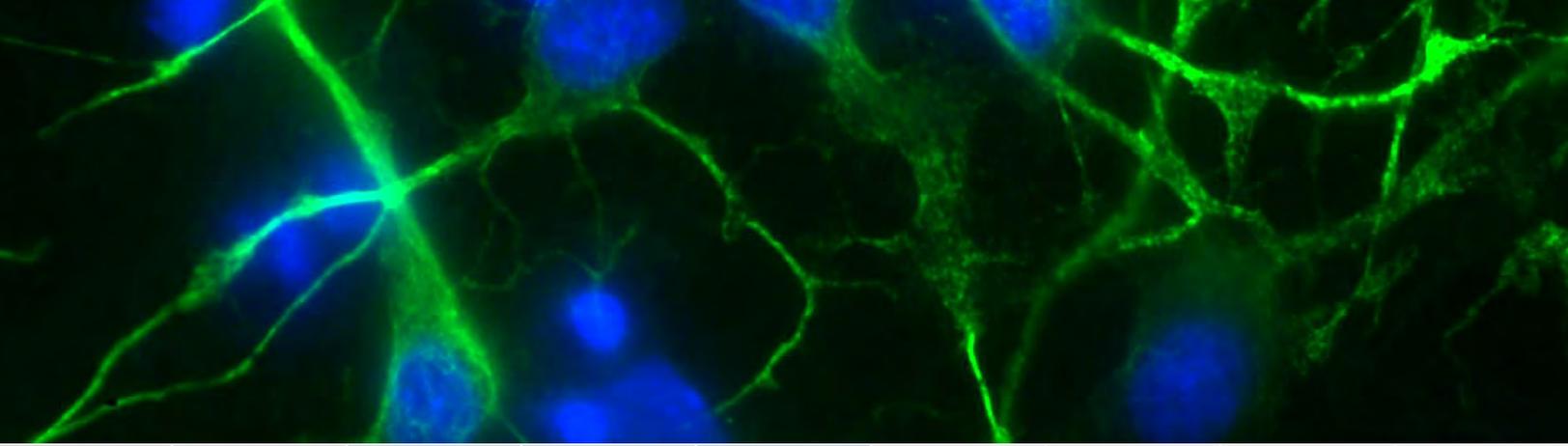
The I/O (Input/Output Status) connector provides information about trigger function, DAC, and TTL signals. Inputs must be at least 3.15 V for a high and less than 0.9 V for a low.

The numbers on the I/O connector diagram correspond to the numbers given to the definition of each of the pins.

The I/O trigger cable connects to Hirose connector HR212-10RC-10SDL(74) on the back of the camera. Below is a description of each of the trigger pins:



Pin #	Signal	Pin #	Signal
1	Trigger In	6	Trigger Ready Out
2	Expose Out	7	Spare Output
3	Spare Output	8	Spare Input
4	Spare Output	9	Power Ready
5	Spare Input	10	Ground



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