

FASTCAM-1024PCI

Hardware Manual

Rev. 1.03E

Photron

- The copyright of this manual is held by PHOTRON LIMITED.
- Product specifications and manual contents can change without advanced notification.
- This manual was created taking every possible measure to ensure the accuracy of its contents. However, if you find a section which is unclear, a mistake, or an omission, please contact PHOTRON LIMITED using the contact information provided at the end of the manual.
- PHOTRON LIMITED bears no responsibility for the results of using the product or from following the instructions in this manual.

Preface

Thank you for your purchase of Photron's high-speed camera system, the "FASTCAM-1024PCI".

This manual contains the operating instructions and warnings necessary for using the system. Before using the system, please read the entire manual.

If any part of this manual is unclear, contact Photron using the contact information printed at the back of the manual.

After you finish reading the manual, store it in a safe place along with the warranty card and refer back to it when necessary.

The FASTCAM-1024PCI High-Speed Video Camera System will prove itself a truly powerful imaging tool, providing solutions for engineers and scientists in such fields as general research and development, designing, manufacturing, quality assurance, scientific researches, medical and biological researches, and space and aeronautical engineering. The FASTCAM-1024PCI seamlessly connects to a PC, becoming an integral part of the computer, and when combined with its easy-to-use control software provides an image recording and processing system for analyzing captured fast moving or high-speed events immediately, a task which has often proven difficult with conventional video systems.

You will find this new recording technology most useful to capture images of high-speed subjects for subsequent slow-motion observation, motion analysis, and image processing applications. This manual presents the technical details of the FASTCAM-1024PCI system and how to operate it.

Remarks:

1. For the best use of the FASTCAM-1024PCI system, please read through this manual.
2. The content of this manual is based on the best knowledge of the manufacturer. However, in case any error or missed information is found in this manual, please inform the manufacturer of such shortcomings immediately. Notwithstanding the above, the manufacturer is not responsible for any results of the use of this equipment.
3. Copying all or any part of this manual without permission is prohibited.
4. The content of this manual may be changed any time without prior notice.
5. The manufacturer assumes no responsibility for any direct or indirect damages or loss of profit resulting from the use of this equipment.
6. The manufacturer assumes no responsibility for any result of the use of this equipment.
7. Copying all or any part of the software included in this system without prior written permission by the author is an infringement of copyright.

Using the System Safely and Correctly

In order to prevent injury to yourself and others, and to prevent damage to property, carefully observe the following safety precautions.

Photron has given its full attention to the safety of this system. However, the extent of damage and injury potentially caused by ignoring the content of the safety precautions and using the system incorrectly is explained next. Please pay careful attention to the content of the safety precautions when using the system.



Warning

This symbol indicates actions that carry the risk that a person could receive a serious injury.



Caution

This symbol indicates actions that carry the risk that a person could receive a moderate injury, or that damage to physical property might occur.

- The safety precautions to be observed are explained with the following symbols.



This symbol indicates actions that require caution.



This symbol indicates actions that are prohibited and must be avoided.



This symbol indicates actions that must always be performed.



Warning



- Do not use the system in a manner which will exceed the rating of the power outlet or wiring equipment used.

Exceeding the power rating might cause a fire from excessive heat.



- Do not insert metallic objects inside, or pour liquids such as water on, the system.

Doing so can cause fire, electric shock, or malfunction from short circuit or heat.



- Do not disassemble or modify the system.

There are high voltages inside the system that can cause electric shock.



Caution



- Do not set the system in a location where the temperature gets unusually hot. trunk and inside of a car can get especially hot in summer. Doing so can cause the outer case and internal components to deteriorate or cause a fire.



- Do not place the system in a location prone to oily smoke or steam, or in a location with a lot of humidity or dust. Oil, moisture, and dust conduct electricity, which can cause a fire or electric shock.



- Ambient temperature 0-40° C, humidity 85% RH or lower, maximum altitude 2,000m or lower. In addition, if exceeding these limits, use in a condensation-free environment. Doing so can cause malfunction.



- Do not store the equipment in a location where the temperature goes below -20°C or higher than 60°C. Also, prevent condensation from forming during shipment



- This device is for indoor use, do not use it outdoors. Do not use in a location that has dust. Doing so can cause malfunction.



- When shipping, remove the connecting cable and use the original packaging or a dedicated carrying case. Do not ship the equipment in an environment where the temperature goes below 0°C or higher than 40°C. Also, prevent condensation from forming during shipment



About Sensor Cleaning

Image sensor products are sensitive to and at risk of being damaged by Electrostatic Discharge (ESD).

When handling or cleaning the image sensor, please confirm the following precautions.



- Imaging sensors must be handled in an ESD safe area. Do NOT use non-ESD apparatus for handling or cleaning the sensor.
- Do NOT use a cleaning apparatus of electrostatic adsorption type (electrified brush etc.).



- Discharge the human body static electrification before handling or cleaning works. (e.g. touch the grounded metal.)
- For loose particle contamination, remove particles from the glass by using an ionized air stream.
- For awful dirt, wipe gently using the synthetic fiber with Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA). (The coating of the glass surface might peel off when rubbing strongly.)

Table of contents

Chapter 1. Set Up	1
1.1. About the System's Components and Accessories	2
1.1.1. Unpacking	2
1.2. About the Camera	3
1.2.1. Grabber Board	3
1.2.2. Camera Head and Camera Cable	4
1.2.3. Accessories	6
1.2.4. Connector Specifications	7
1.2.5. Changeable Lens Mount	10
1.3. Installation of Hardware	11
1.3.1. Installing Grabber Board in PC	11
1.3.2. Memory Modules	14
1.3.3. Installation of Pixel Gain/Shading Data	15
1.4. Setup for Multiple-Camera Recording	17
1.4.1. Master/Slave Mode Setup	18
1.4.2. Connection of Multiple Cameras	19
1.4.3. Setting Up Camera ID Numbers	23
1.4.4. Setting Up Software	24
1.4.5. Tips on Multiple-Camera Sync Recording	28
1.5. Use of Extended Dynamic Range Mode	29
Chapter 2 Appendix	31
2.1. Specifications	32
2.1.1. Basic Specifications.....	32
2.1.2. Specifications – Grabber Board	33
2.1.3. Other Specifications	34
2.1.4. Frame Rate vs. Image Resolution	35
2.1.5. Frame Rate and Image Size	36
2.1.6. Resolution and Shutter Speed	38
2.1.7. Frame Rate vs. Number of Recorded Frames and Record Duration	41
2.2. Dimensions	43
2.2.1. Camera Head (Millimeters)	43
2.2.2. Grabber Board (Millimeters)	44
2.3. Timing of Recording Operations	45
2.3.1. Timing Charts for Recording Operations	45
2.3.2. Sync Timing in Multi-Camera Operations.....	49
2.3.3. Delay of Vertical Sync and Trigger Signals in Multiple-Camera Operation.....	49
2.3.4. Recording Interval in Random Center and Random Manual Trigger Modes.....	50
Chapter 3 Contacting Photron	51
3.1 Contact Information	52

Chapter 1. Set Up

1.1. About the System's Components and Accessories

1.2. About the Camera

1.3. Installation of Hardware

1.4. Setup for Multiple-Camera Recording

1.5. Use of Extended Dynamic Range Mode

1.1. About the System's Components and Accessories

1.1.1. Unpacking

The FASTCAM-1024PCI consists of the following items. When you open up the package, be sure to check all components are present.

1. Camera Head (with Lens Mount and Lens Cap)	1
2. Grabber Board (PCI Board)	1
3. Grabber Board Power Cable	1
4. Camera Cable to Connect between Camera and Grabber Board (5 meters long)	1
5. C-mount Adapter	1
6. Set of Allen Wrenches (1.5 mm, 2 mm and 4 mm)	1
7. Lens Mount Cap	1
8. External Signal Compound Cable for Input	1
9. External Signal Compound Cable for Output	1
10. FASTCAM Series Driver CD	1
11. Imager Setup CD-ROM	1
12. FASTCAM-1024PCI Hardware Manual	1
13. Photron FASTCAM Viewer User's Manual	1

1.2. About the Camera

The FASTCAM-1024PCI consists of a grabber board (PCI Board), a camera head and a control software program set.



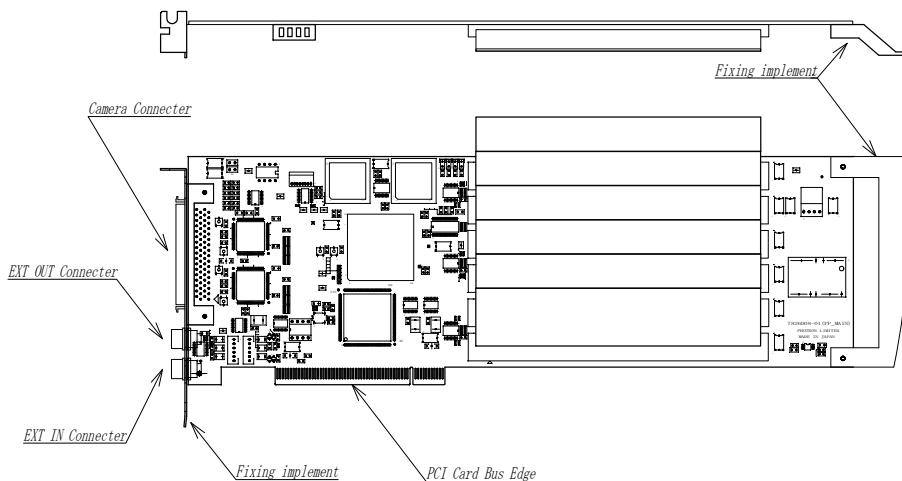
For each of the system components.

- Do not expose to shock outside.
- Do not use in an area with flammable gas or dust present.
- Do not place in an unstable location such as on a unstable platform or an incline.
- Do not disassemble or modify.
- Do not expose to liquids such as water.
- Do not subject to excessive force.

1.2.1. Grabber Board

The grabber board of the FASTCAM-1024PCI has been designed so that up to four FASTCAM-1024PCI boards can be installed in ATX standard PCI slots of a PC.

Note: When you are installing four grabber boards in one PC, the PCI slot right next to the graphics slot in the PC becomes unusable. This means the PC must have five or more PCI slots in it to accommodate four grabber boards.

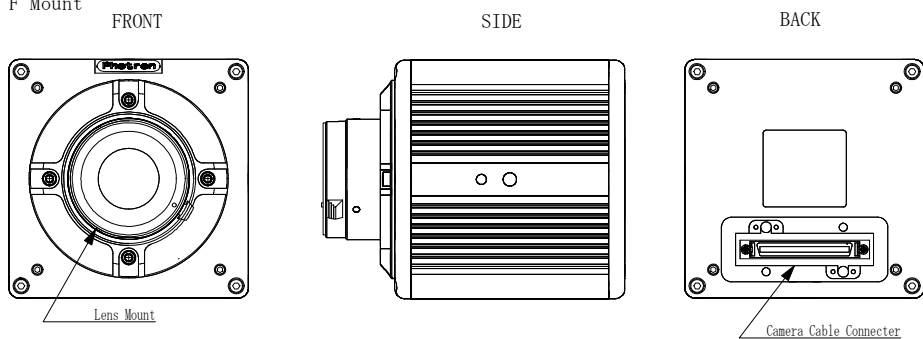


1.2.2. Camera Head and Camera Cable

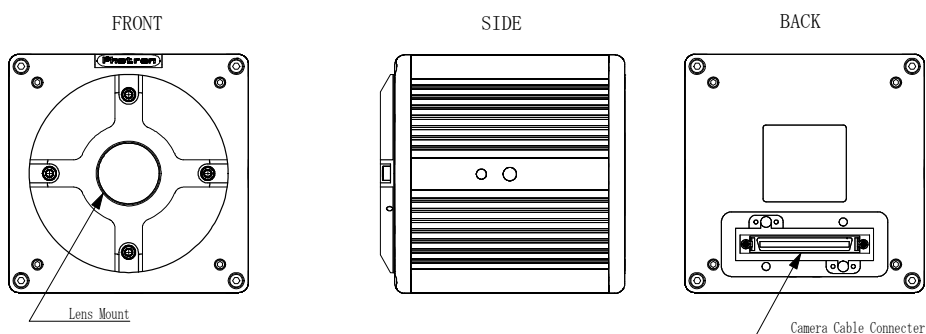
The FASTCAM-1024PCI camera head is of lightweight and compact structure specifically designed for easy handling in varied recording conditions. It takes lenses of C- type mount. A tripod shoe groove is provided on each side of the camera.

Camera head

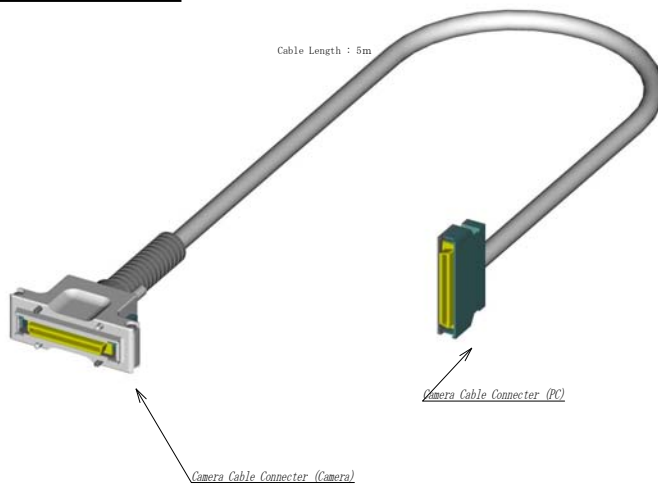
F Mount



C mount



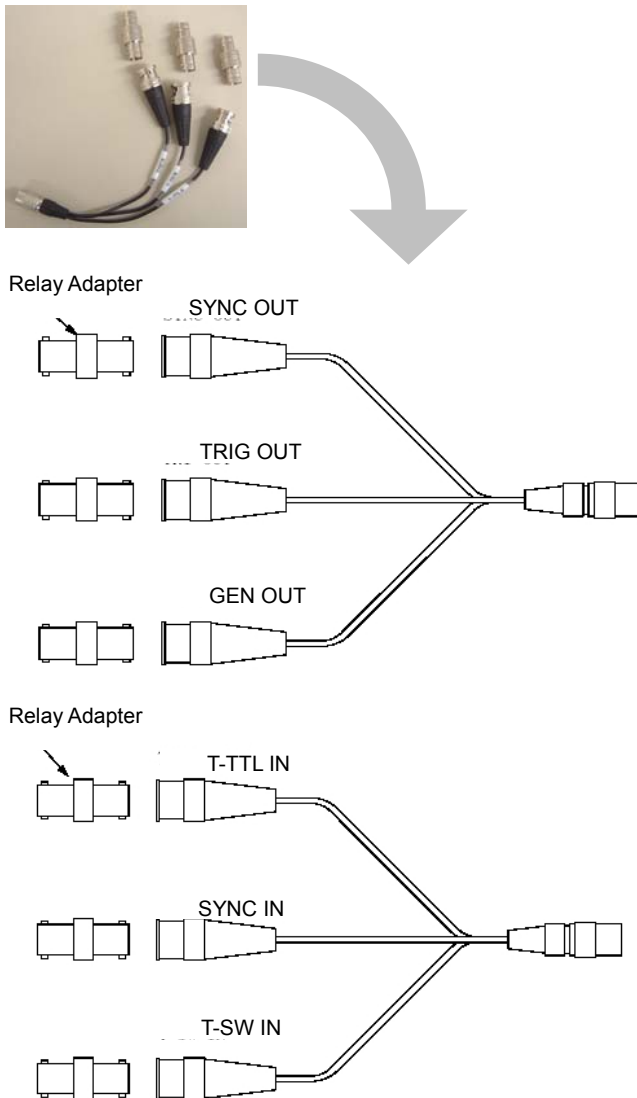
Camera Cable



1.2.3. Accessories

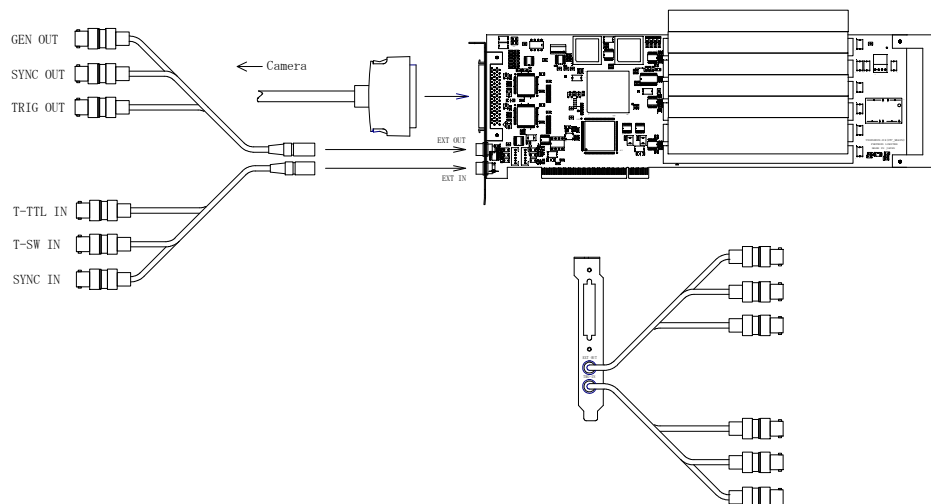
EXT OUT/ EXT IN Cables

The Grabber Board has two compound connectors to connect it to external equipment and devices via cables to receive and send out signals such as external trigger and sync signals. Two compound cables are included in the package as shown below.



1.2.4. Connector Specifications

In this chapter, the content of the external I/O connector of FASTCAM-1024PCI is describes. The connector and the cable send and receive the following I/O signals.
(Details of the two compound cables are as follows.)



1. GENERAL Output (GEN OUT) Connector

A BNC connector that outputs the following signals under software control.

Expose pos/neg : Outputs a signal that specifies the exposure period of the sensor. Signal is present during both LIVE display and recording.

Rec pos/neg : A signal that specifies the recording process period of the Grabber Board.

2. EXTERNAL SYNC Output (SYNC OUT) Connector

A BNC connector that outputs the camera's vertical sync signal to synchronize external equipment such as strobe unit and pulsed laser.

3. TRIGGER TTL Output (TRIG OUT) Connector

A BNC connector that outputs trigger signal for slaved boards to follow.

4. TRIGGER TTL IN Input (T-TTL IN) Connector

A BNC connector that receives TTL signal from external source to control the start and end of a recording in currently selected recording mode. Input signal is a pulse of +5V, 5μsec wide, positive going. Current is 10mA, recommended, and 20mA maximum.

5. TRIGGER SW IN Input (T-SW IN) Connector

A BNC connector whose co-axial cable shield and center conductors are used to send contact closure signals to control the start and end of a recording in currently selected recording mode.

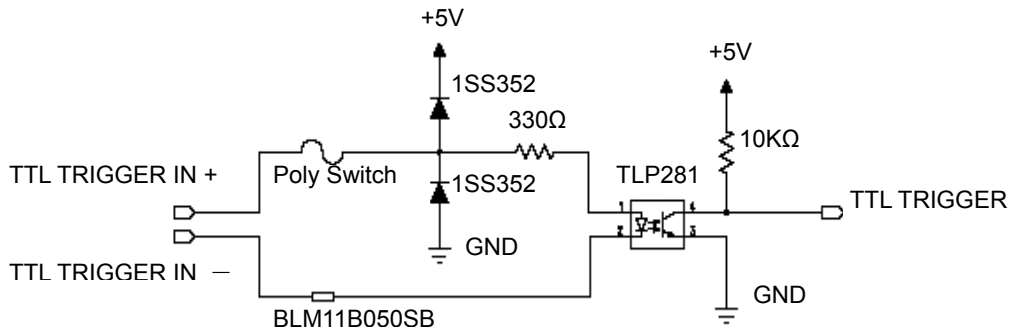


To avoid possible damage to the camera system, do NOT input signals other than contact closure to T-SW IN connector.

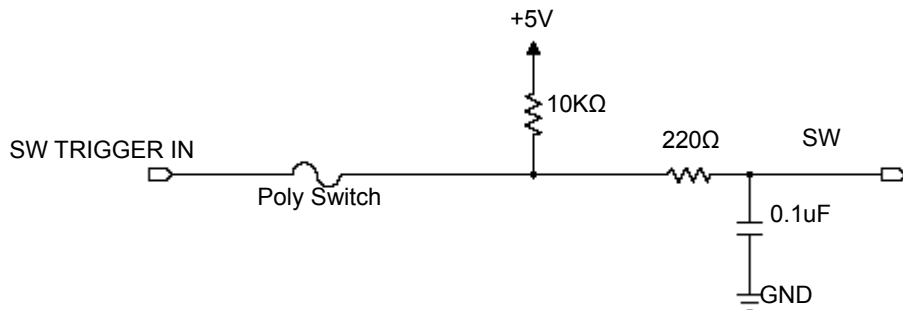
6. EXTERNAL SYNC Input (SYNC IN) Connector

A BNC connector that receives sync signal from master board or external equipment.

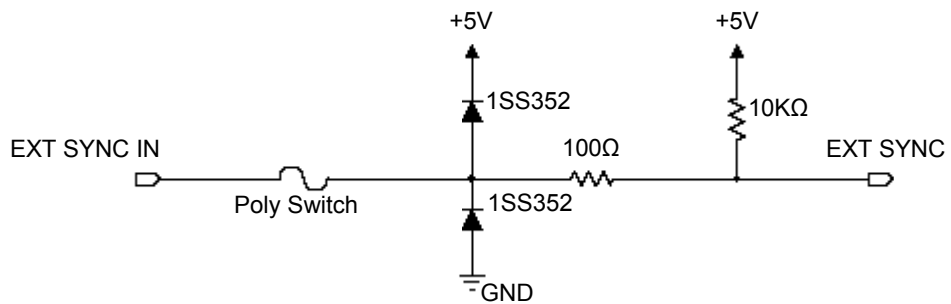
TRIGGER TTL IN (T-TTL IN) Input Circuit



TRIGGER SW IN (T-SW IN) Input



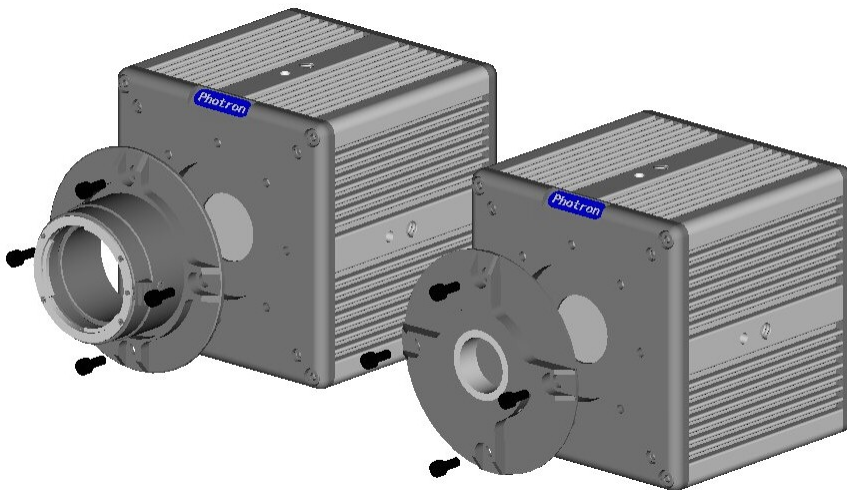
EXTERNAL SYNC IN Input



1.2.5. Changeable Lens Mount

You can change the lens mount of the FASTCAM-1024PCI depending on the specific need of your application. Two types of lens mounts - Nikon F type and C type - are available to choose from.

How to change lens mounts (Example: Changing from the F mount to C mount)



1. Remove and set aside the four retaining screws of the mount using the provided Allen (hex) wrench.
2. Pull the whole F mount unit away from the camera front plate.
3. Place the C mount unit on the camera front plate. Fasten the unit with the four retaining screws using the Allen wrench. Make sure that the C mount has been firmly fastened to the camera front plate.



Use care when fastening the retaining screws. Do not force them too tightly or you may damage the screws or the screw holes on the camera front plate.

1.3. Installation of Hardware



Turn off the computer and unplug the power cord from power outlet before connecting between the camera head and Grabber Board, and installing the Grabber Board in the PC to avoid electrical shock and possible damage to the system and/or components.

Remove the cable twist-ties before connecting.

1.3.1. Installing Grabber Board in PC

Follow the procedure below to install the Grabber Board in the PC:

1. Turn off the PC and unplug the power cable.
2. Remove covers of the PC following the PC's instruction manual.
3. Make sure there are unused PCI slot(s).
4. Remove the metal cover plate in the back of the unused PCI slot where you wish to install the Grabber Board.
5. Insert the Grabber Board into the unused PCI slot. Firmly press the edge of the Grabber Board so the connector engages perfectly. Fasten the board with retaining screws.

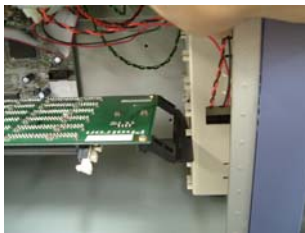


Insert the board squarely into a PCI slot and fasten it with screws.

The position of the guide plate on the end of the Grabber Board can be readjusted by redoing the retaining screws. See the board guide on the PC to check for the best position for the guide plate.



Holder bar



Board fitted with its holder bar along the board guide

FASTCAM-1024PCI Hardware Manual

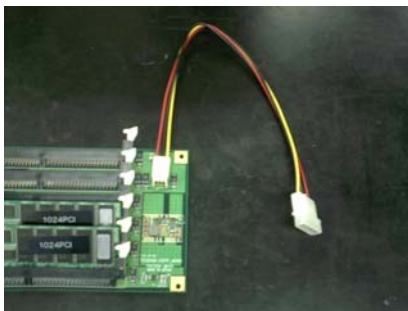
6. Connect the power cable to the Grabber Board.



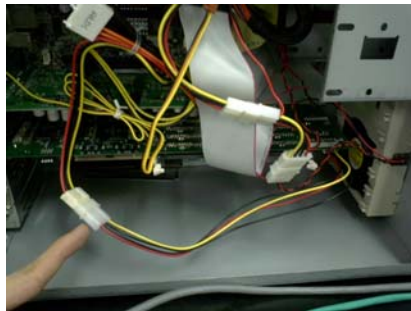
Smaller cable connector



Smaller cable connector
connected to Grabber Board



Larger cable connector



Larger cable connector
connected to Grabber Board

7. Replace the covers on the PC following the instructions in the PC manual.
8. Connect the camera cable to the camera connector on the Grabber Board. Be careful about the connector orientation. Fasten the retaining screws tightly. Pull the cable lightly to check if the connector does not come loose.



Connection to Board



Connection to camera head

Fasten connectors firmly with retaining screws.



Turn off the PC and unplug the power cord before installing the Grabber Board in the PC.

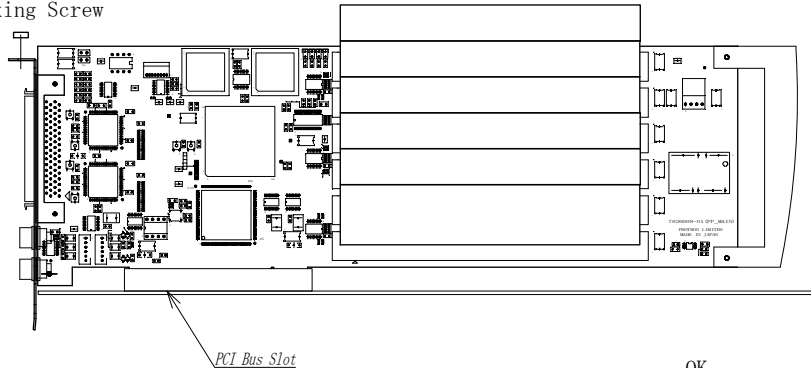


When connecting or disconnecting the camera head to the PC, turn off the PC, or damage to the camera or PC may result.



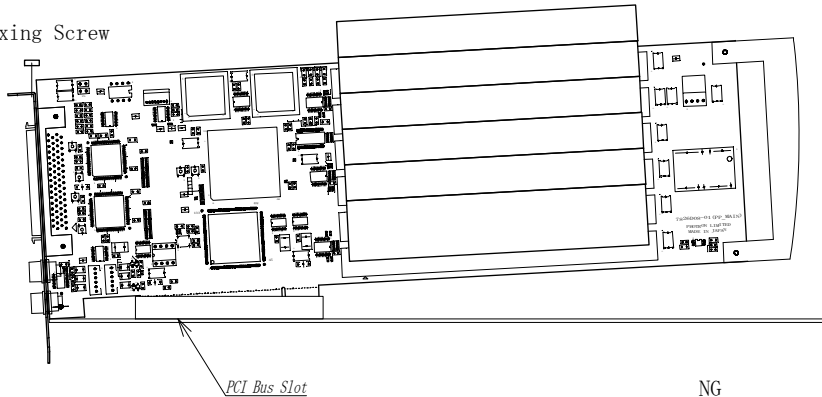
Be sure to fasten the camera cable connectors firmly with retaining screws. If the camera cable is inadvertently disconnected while power is on, the camera and/or PC may be damaged.

Fixing Screw



OK

Fixing Screw



NG



After installing the Grabber Board in the PC, make sure that the board has been set firmly and squarely in the PCI slot. Poorly installed board may result in damage to the PC or Grabber Board.

FASTCAM-1024PCI Hardware Manual

1.3.2. Memory Modules

The Grabber Board of the FASTCAM-1024PCI allows up to six memory modules to be installed as shown below:

Memory capacity	Memory module
2 GB	1GB × 2
4 GB	2GB × 2
8 GB	2GB × 4
12 GB	2GB × 6



The overall size of the Grabber Board stays the same when up to four memory modules are inserted into the memory slot on it. However, when six memory modules are installed, the overall size of the Board expands, which may cause interference with a smaller-sized PC chassis.



Memory modules specifically offered by Photron are only guaranteed for proper functioning. Because fine readjustment, to be done by a specifically-trained Photron engineer, is required when changing the memory module configuration, memory modules **MUST NOT** be installed or tampered with by customer.

1.3.3. Installation of Pixel Gain/Shading Data

The PFV Control Software has the Pixel Gain/Shading feature that corrects uneven sensitivity between pixels of the C-MOS image sensor. The data for pixel gain/shading is unique to each sensor and the provided data should be installed to use the pixel gain/shading functionality.

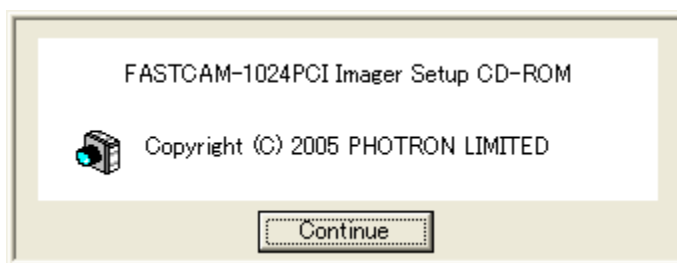


For multiple-camera operation, each of the cameras involved must be installed with its own pixel gain/shading data.

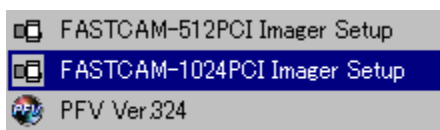
Installation is carried out using the provided FASTCAM-1024PCI Imager Setup CD-ROM in the following manner:

Note: Before installation, the Grabber Board should be set in the PC and the driver and PFV software must be installed.

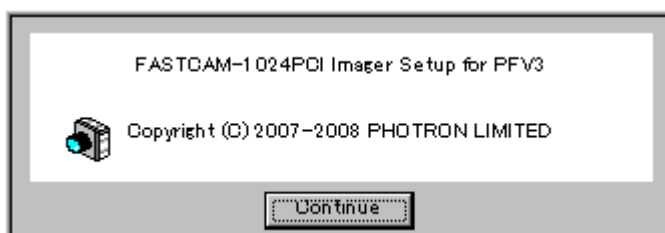
1.Insert the Imager Setup CD-ROM in the CD driver, and setup procedure starts automatically.



2.Select[FASTCAM-1024PCI Imager Setup] from [Start] →[all programs] →[Photron FSATCAM Viewer 3]

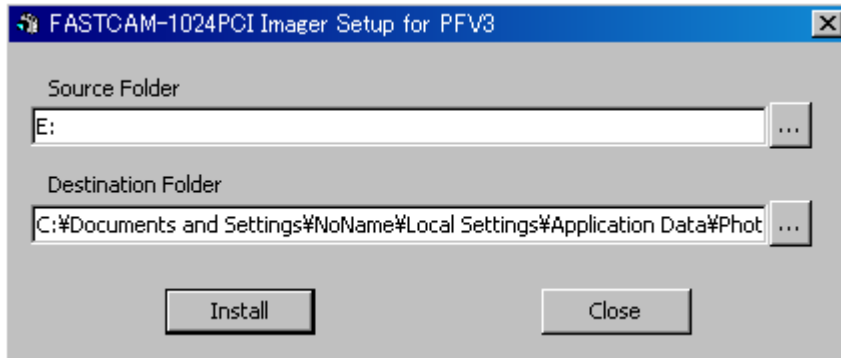


3.Select [Continue] on the displayed setup dialog.

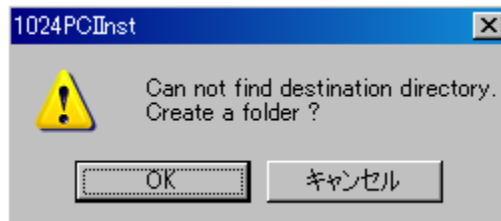


FASTCAM-1024PCI Hardware Manual

- Specify the Imager Setup File from Source Folder, and click [Install] .
Specify the CD-ROM drive when install directly.



- Click [OK] to confirm creating a new folder.



- The completion screen is displayed at the end.
Click [OK] to finish the setting.



1.4. Setup for Multiple-Camera Recording

The FASTCAM-1024PCI is capable of multiple camera operation: up to four cameras can be connected to a single PC. It also supports synchronized recording by sync signal supplied from external equipment (signal generator, etc.). In multiple camera operation, the cameras record a common subject from different perspectives along a shared timeline. This capability can also be used to record images of a fast-moving subject, together with other subjects related to it, from different viewpoints simultaneously.

This section describes how to set up the FASTCAM-1024PCI for multiple camera operation.

Multiple camera operation requires the following setups.

1.4.1. Master/Slave Mode Setup

1.4.2. Connection of Multiple Cameras

1.4.3. Setting Up Camera ID Numbers

1.4.4. Setting up Software

1.4.5. Tips on Multiple-Camera Sync Recording

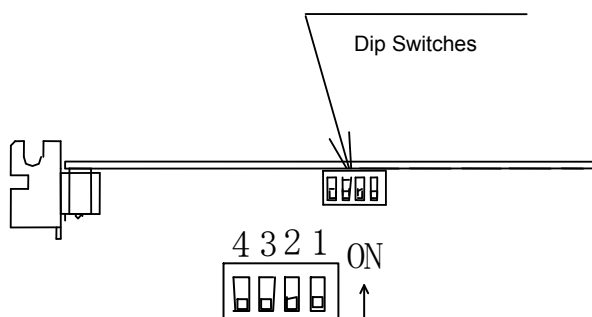
1.4.1. Master/Slave Mode Setup

For multiple-camera synchronized operation, one of the cameras must be set up as the master camera and the other cameras set up as slaves. With cameras set up in this way, the slaves operate following the sync signal provided by the master. As a result, all the cameras record images in a shared timeline.

To set up cameras in these modes, dipswitches on the Grabber Board must be positioned in the following manner:

Location of Dipswitches

The dipswitches for master/slave mode setup are located on the top surface of the Grabber Board. The following figure shows the location of dipswitches as seen from above.



Setting up Master/Slave Mode Dipswitches

Operate the dipswitches to set up one board for master and the others for slaves as shown in the following table.

	Dipswitch Position	Mode of Operation
Master Mode	<p>4 3 2 1 ON</p> <p>All four in OFF position</p>	<p>Multiple-Camera Operation:</p> <p>This camera feeds its internally generated sync and trigger signals to the slaves to follow, and enables trigger signal from software.</p> <p>External Sync Operation:</p> <p>Disables the setup from software menu.</p>
Slave Mode	<p>4 3 2 1 ON</p> <p>SW 4 in ON position</p>	<p>Multiple-Camera Operation:</p> <p>This camera follows the sync and trigger signals provided by the master.</p> <p>External Sync Operation:</p> <p>This camera follows sync and trigger signals from external source.</p>

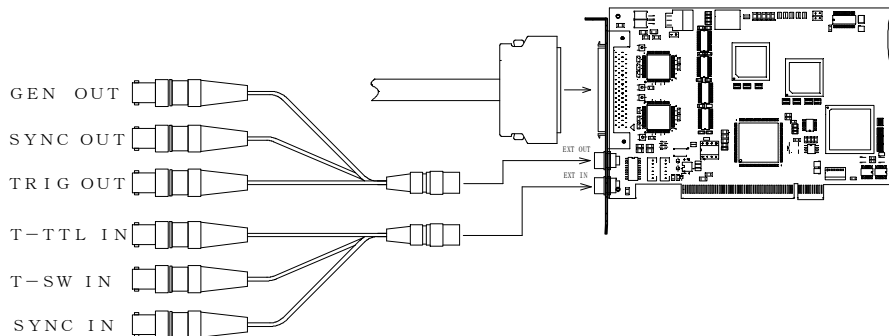


Turn the PC and cameras off and unplug the power cord before opening the computer enclosure.

1.4.2. Connection of Multiple Cameras

After making master/slave camera setup, connect the sync cables between boards as described in the following subsections:

Details of Connectors



1. GENERAL Output (GEN OUT) Connector
2. EXTERNAL SYNC Output (SYNC OUT) Connector
3. TRIGGER TTL Output (TRIG OUT) Connector
4. TRIGGER TTL IN Input (T-TTL IN) Connector
5. TRIGGER SW IN Input (T-SW IN) Connector
6. EXTERNAL SYNC Input (SYNC IN) Connector

Connection for Multiple Camera Sync Operation

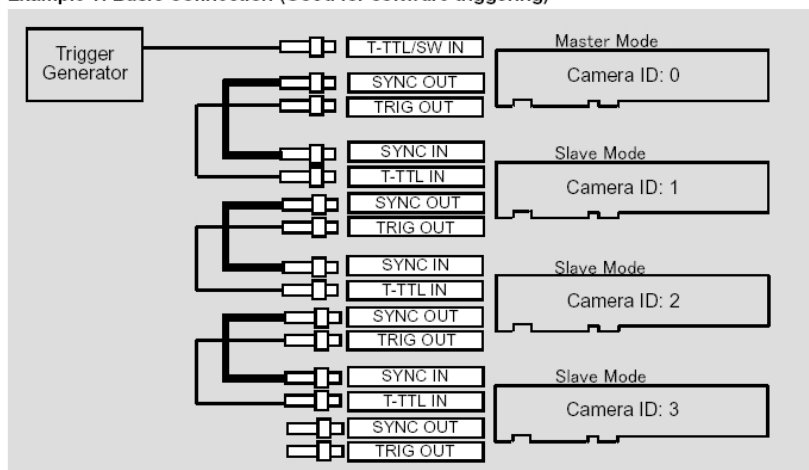
The following figures show how to connect between master and slave boards for sync recording. Connect cables so that the sync and trigger signals are fed to the input of slave boards.

Note: External signal cables have JJ (male-female conversion) connectors. Remove them before connecting to respective boards. Retain the removed conversion connectors for future use.

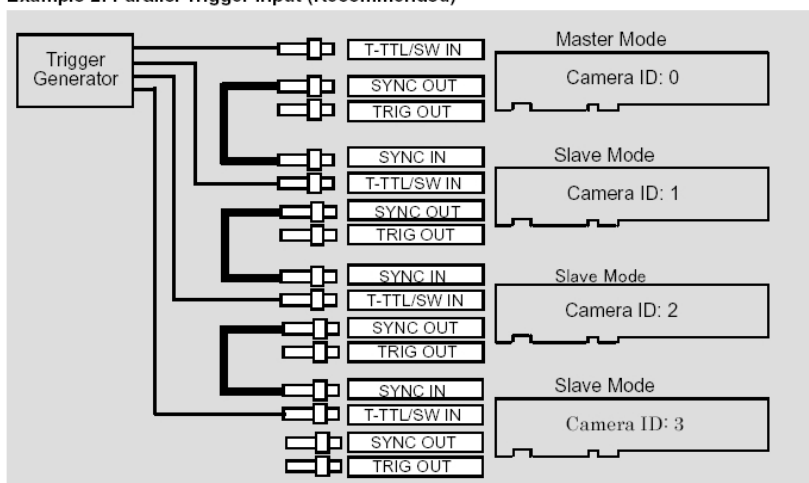
1. Connection between FASTCAM-1024PCI Cameras

The following two figures show sync cable connection for multiple PCI cameras. Due to delay of signals between the boards, Example 2 is recommended, except for using software trigger (see Section 3.3. Timing of Recording Operations).

Example 1: Basic Connection (Good for software triggering)



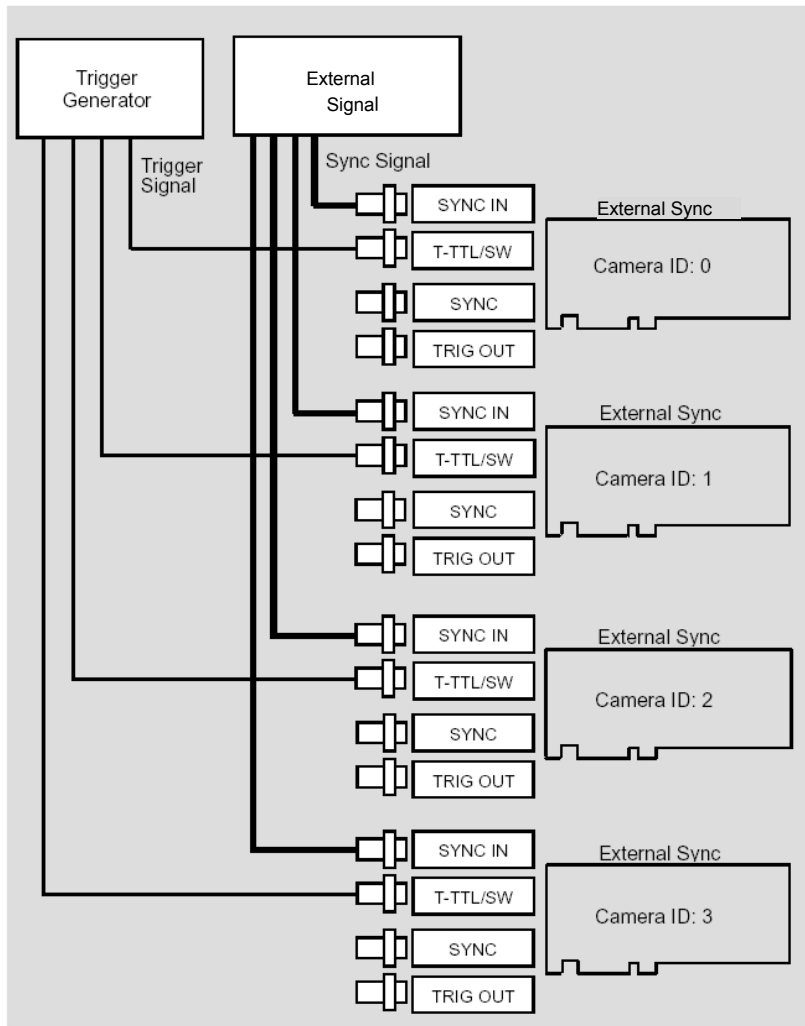
Example 2: Parallel Trigger Input (Recommended)



2. Using External Sync Generator

The figure below shows an example of connection using an external sync generator. To avoid any possible delay of sync and trigger signals between boards, this connection is highly recommended, unless using software triggering (see Subsection 3.3. Timing of Recording Operations).

Recommended Connection



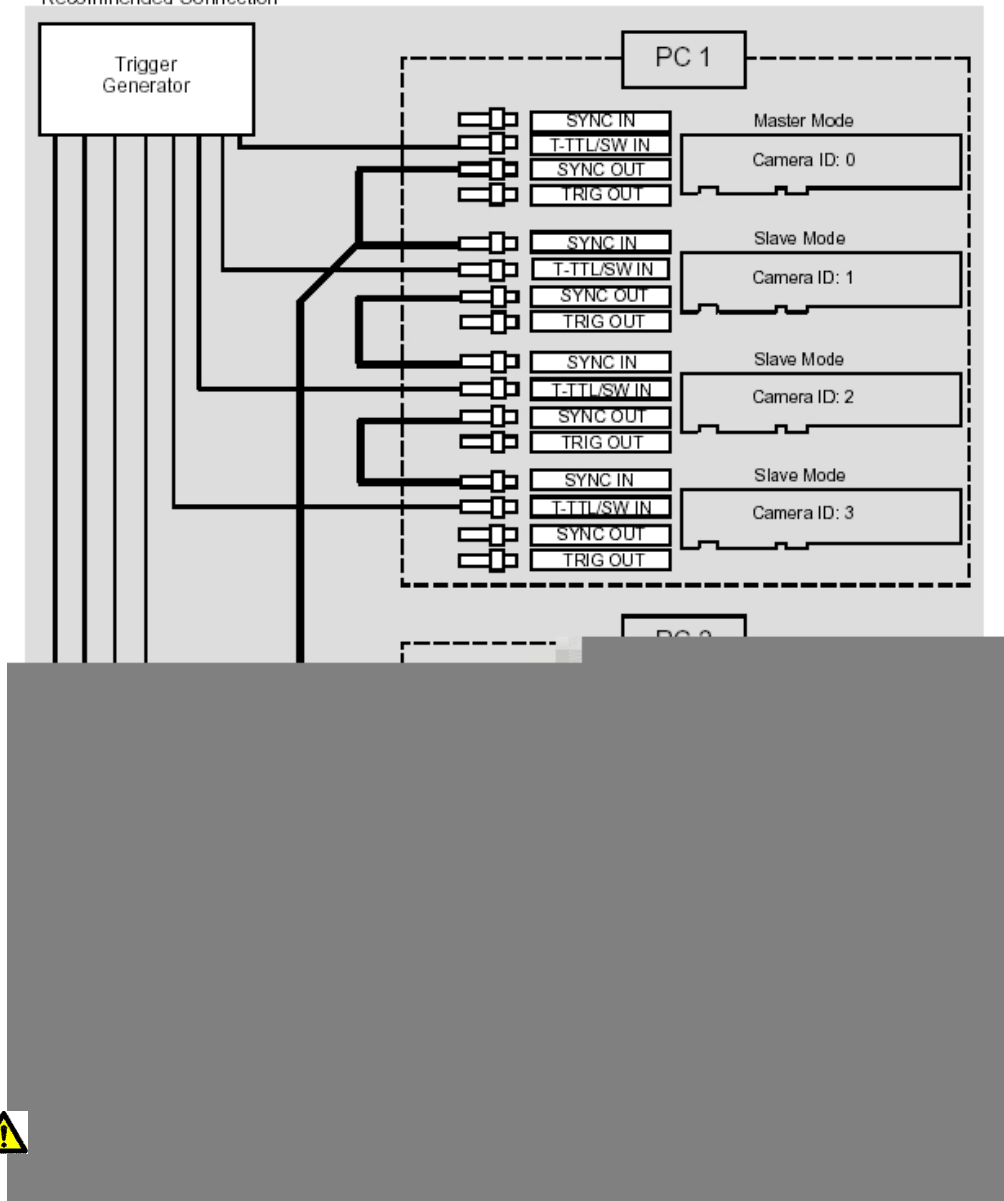
The characteristic of the circuit configuration inside the 1024PCI camera inevitably causes a slight error of $\pm 12.68 \text{ nsec}$ against the input sync signal.

Example: For 10,000 Hz input sync signal, the actual frame rate in each camera is:
 $100 \text{ usec} \pm 12.68 \text{ nsec} = 9,998 \text{ fps to } 10,002 \text{ fps}$

3. Multiple-PC Sync Operation with Multiple-1024PCI Cameras

The following is an example of connection involving two PC's and eight 1024PCI cameras. This connection is highly recommended to avoid possible delay of sync and trigger signals between cameras (see Subsection 3.3. Timing of Recording Operations). The basic connection works but is not recommended because of greater signal delays. Use it for software triggering only.

Recommended Connection



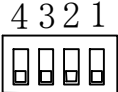
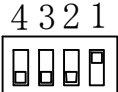
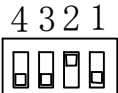
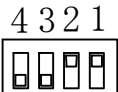
1.4.3. Setting Up Camera ID Numbers

For the software to recognize each camera involved in a multiple-camera operation, an ID number, from 0 to 3, is assigned to each camera. With this ID number, each camera is correctly recognized by the system even if the order of recognition is changed.

The following shows how to assign ID numbers to cameras used in a multiple camera system.

Dipswitch Operation to Set Up Camera ID Numbers

Camera ID numbers 1 to 4 are defined by the ON/OFF position of dipswitches 1, 2 and 3 as shown below.

ID No.	Dipswitches	SW 3	SW 2	SW 1
0		OFF	OFF	OFF
1		OFF	OFF	ON
2		OFF	ON	OFF
3		OFF	ON	ON

The factory-set ID is 0.



Assign ID No. 1 to the master board (or the board that receives sync signal from an external source), and other numbers to the slaves in the order of PCI slots in the computer chassis.



Do not duplicate an ID number within a multiple-camera system.

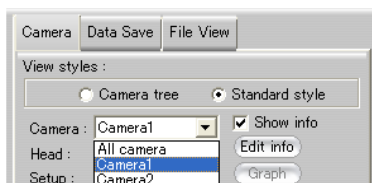
1.4.4. Setting Up Software

Once the setups of the hardware for multiple-camera sync operation procedures in the previous pages are completed, the system can be activated by the software. Follow the below procedure to set up software. For details of software operation, see the Software User's Manual.

Setting up Master Board

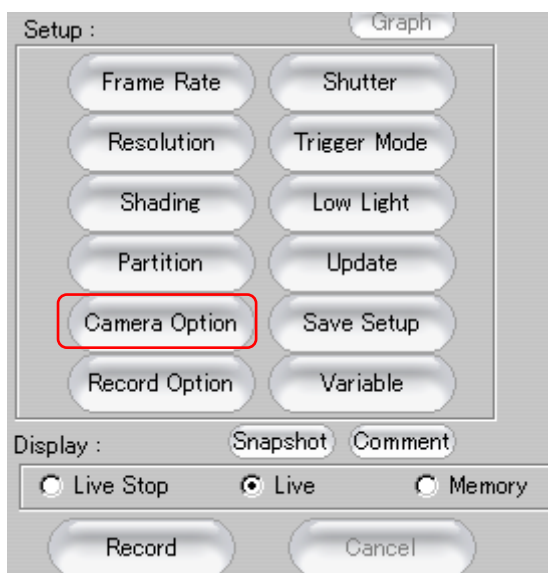
For sync operation of multiple FASTCAM-1024PCI cameras:

- 1) Select the camera ID number of the master camera of this system from the camera selection box.

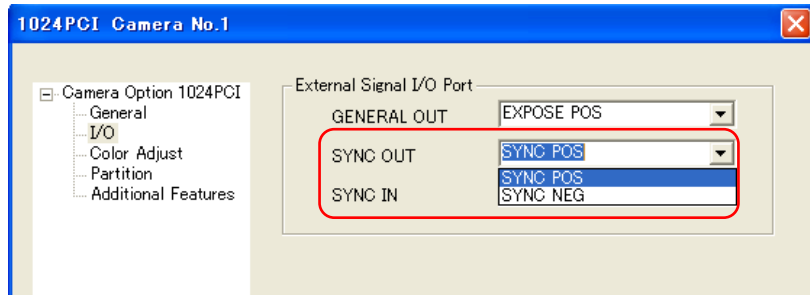


For the relationship between Camera No. and Camera ID, see [Device Information] in [Help].

- 2) Press the 'Camera Option' button to set up more details.



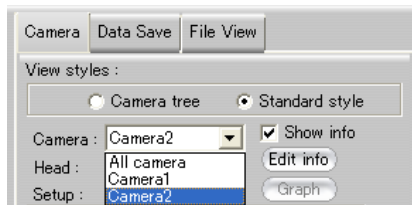
3) Select the desired polarity of sync signal from the 'SYNC OUT' box.



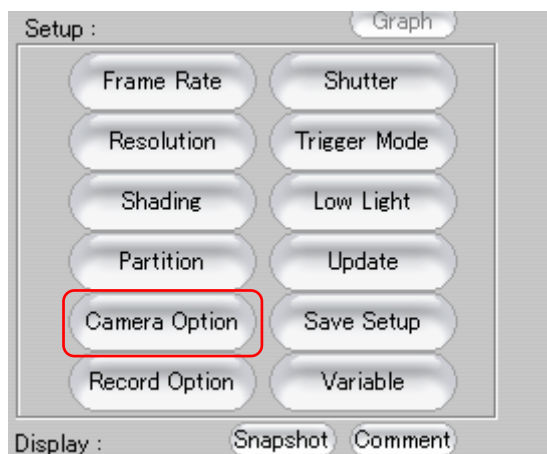
The polarity of sync signal must match that selected for the slave board.

Setting up Slave Boards

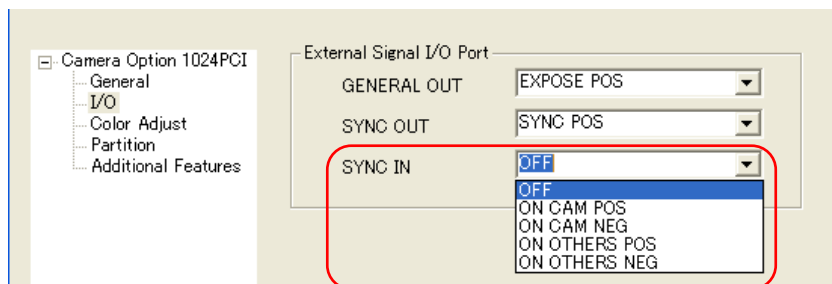
- 1) Select the camera ID number of the slave camera of this system from the camera selection box.



- 2) Press the 'Camera Option' button to set up more details.



- 3) Select a mode of synchronization from the 'SYNC IN' box. Now this slave camera can be synchronized with, and triggered by, the master camera. In other words, this camera has been set up in the external sync mode. As soon as a selection is made in the 'SYNC IN' box, the software makes frame-accurate calculation of the frame rate of vertical sync signal to synchronize this slave camera.



Items to choose from in the 'SYNC IN' box:

OFF	Disable	VOIDS external sync.
ON CAM POS	Normal Modes	Sync operation of multiple 1024PCI cameras
ON CAM NEG		
ON OTHERS POS	External Sync Modes	Sync operation of multiple 1024PCI cameras with external sync signal. Or, sync operation of multiple 1024PCI cameras with multiple PC's.
ON OTHERS NEG		

The SYNC IN window for the master camera is turned gray and no selection can be made.



The polarity must match that selected in the 'SYNC OUT' box of the master camera or that of the sync signal from the external source being used.

4) When more than one slave cameras are involved, each of them must be individually set up.

How External Sync Signal Mode Works?

External Sync Signal Mode works as follows (See also 1.4.1.):

1. As soon as either the 'ON OTHERS POS' or 'ON OTHERS NEG' synchronization mode is selected in the 'SYNC IN' box for a slave camera, this camera can be synchronized with and triggered by the master camera. In other words, this camera has been set up for external sync mode operation.
2. As a selection is made in the 'SYNC IN' box, the software makes frame-accurate calculations of the frame rate from the vertical sync signal being fed by the external source (master camera or external generator) to synchronize this slave camera.
3. When the vertical sync signal (frame rate) from the external source is changed, you are required to re-select mode of synchronization in the 'SYNC IN' box so that the software can re-calculate the frame rate for the slave camera to follow.



The arbitrarily setting of the frame rate, resolution, and the position cannot be used in the external equipment synchronous mode.



The threshold of external vertical synchronizing signal in an external equipment synchronizing mode is up to be 109,000Hz



Due to a measuring error, it is possible not to achieve the same resolution as described in chapter "2.1.5 Frame Rate and Image Size".

1.4.5. Tips on Multiple-Camera Sync Recording

Using Software Triggers

The software trigger is issued only to a board set up as the master board with ID "0" that has been set up for sync operation with sync signal from external source. It is not issued to any other boards. By relaying the software trigger that is issued to the master, connecting the TRIG OUT of the master board to T-TTL IN of the first slave board and so forth (see Section 1.4.2.1. Example 1: Basic Connection), multiple-camera triggering is attained without delays caused within the PCI bus.

Despite the above, however, a slight delay is inevitably caused between trigger and vertical sync signals while they are forwarded from board to board. This delay may, in rare cases, result in an offset of one recorded image frame between the master and a slave camera. To avoid this delay, if necessary, use the parallel sync distribution technique shown in Section 1.4.2.1. Example 2: Parallel Trigger Input.

Using External Triggers

In multiple-camera sync operation with trigger signals from an external source, the use of parallel trigger input is recommended (see Section 1.4.2.1. Example 2: Parallel Trigger Input).

Relayed trigger signal (see Section 1.4.2.1. Example 1: Basic Connection) works in this operation. But, because of likely delay of relayed trigger, as is the case with the relayed software trigger described in the previous subsection, it is not recommended.

1.5. Use of Extended Dynamic Range Mode

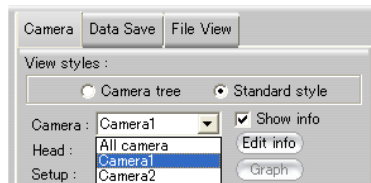
The Extended Dynamic Range Mode offers the functionality of recording high-light-level and low-light-level portions of a subject in one image screen by adjusting the exposure amount of light inside the image sensor. With this feature, the image sensor works in such a way that both high-light and low-light parts of a subject scene with an extremely wide deviation of illumination are shot with appropriate exposure. The amount of exposure adjustment can be selected from three different adjustment levels depending on the gradient of illumination within the scene.



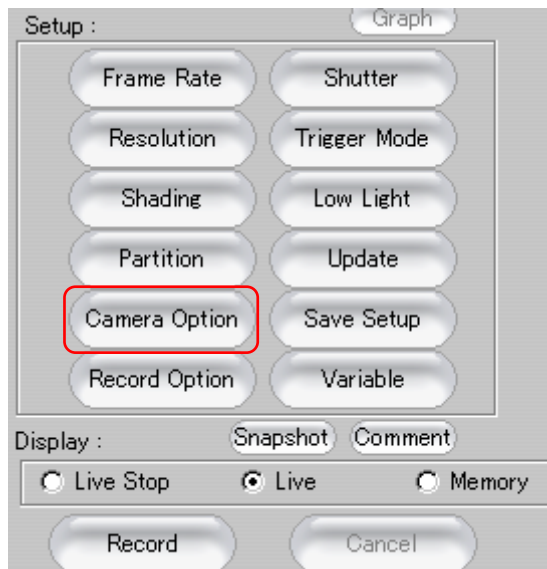
Color balance of color image sensors is optimized for the best possible color reproduction for use in the standard mode of operation, and it tends to be adversely affected by setting the system for Extended Dynamic Range mode resulting in an imbalance of color that may cause lowered color reproducibility.

How to Setup for Extended Dynamic Range Mode

- 1) Select a camera to use from the camera selection pull-down box.



- 2) Press the [Camera Option] button to start setting up.



FASTCAM-1024PCI Hardware Manual

- 3) Select the Dual Slope Shutter mode in the [General] tab.



Select an exposure adjustment level from the three available levels shown below:

Menu	Exposure Adjustment Level
OFF	Sets Extended Dynamic Range mode off.
MODE 1	Sets exposure adjustment to minimum level.
MODE 2	Sets exposure adjustment to medium level.
MODE 3	Sets exposure adjustment to maximum level.

2.1.7. Frame Rate vs. Number of Recorded Frames and Record Duration

Resolution (Pixels)	Frame Rate (FPS)	2 GB Memory (1 GB x 2)		4 GB Memory (2 GB x 2)	
		Record Duration (sec)	Number of Recorded Frames	Record Duration (sec)	Number of Recorded Frames
1024 × 1024	1,000	1.54	1,536	3.20	3,200
1024 × 512	2,000	1.60	3,200	3.20	6,400
512 × 512	3,000	2.13	6,400	4.35	13,056
512 × 256	6,000	2.13	12,800	4.35	26,112
256 × 256	10,000	2.61	26,112	5.22	52,224
256 × 128	18,000	2.90	52,224	5.80	104,448
128 × 128	27,000	3.87	104,448	7.74	208,896
128 × 64	45,000	4.64	208,896	9.28	417,792
128 × 32	73,000	5.72	417,792	11.45	835,584
128 × 16	109,500	7.63	835,584	15.26	1,671,168

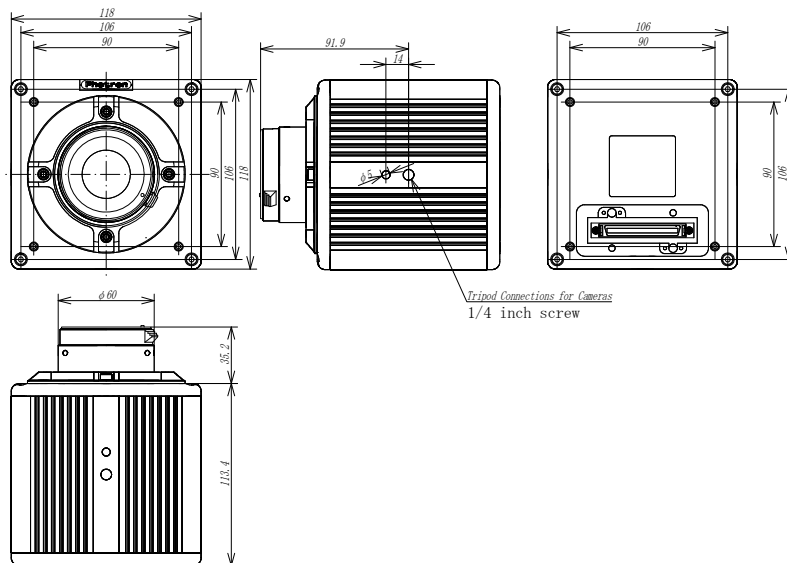
FASTCAM-1024PCI Hardware Manual

Resolution (Pixels)	Frame Rate (FPS)	8 GB Memory (2 GB x 4)		12 GB Memory (2 GB x 6)	
		Record Duration (sec)	Number of Recorded Frames	Record Duration (sec)	Number of Recorded Frames
1024 × 1024	1,000	6.40	6,400	9.60	9,600
1024 × 512	2,000	6.40	12,800	9.60	19,200
512 × 512	3,000	8.70	26,112	13.06	39,168
512 × 256	6,000	8.70	52,224	13.06	78,336
256 × 256	10,000	10.44	104,448	15.67	156,672
256 × 128	18,000	11.61	208,896	17.41	313,344
128 × 128	27,000	15.47	417,792	23.21	626,688
128 × 64	45,000	18.57	835,584	27.85	1,253,376
128 × 32	73,000	22.89	1,671,168	34.34	2,506,752
128 × 16	109,500	30.52	3,342,336	45.79	5,013,504

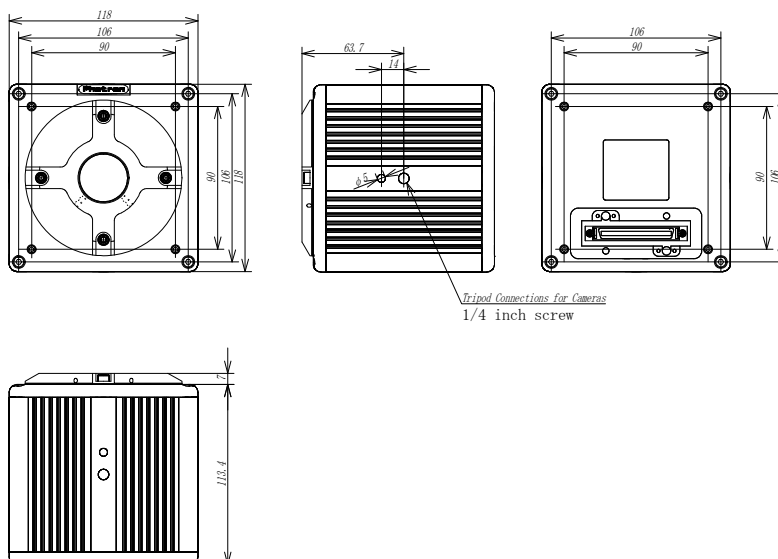
2.2. Dimensions

2.2.1. Camera Head (Millimeters)

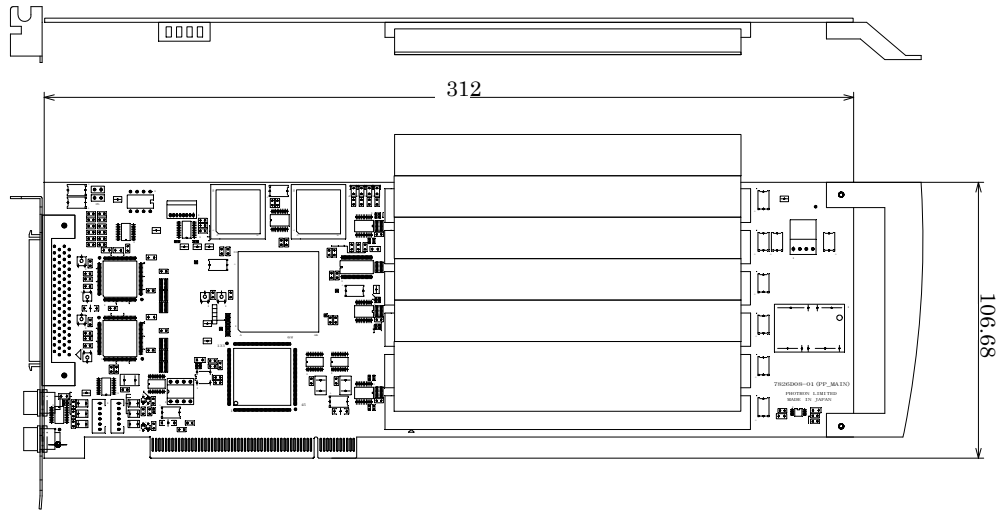
Camera with F mount



Camera with C mount



2.2.2. Grabber Board (Millimeters)



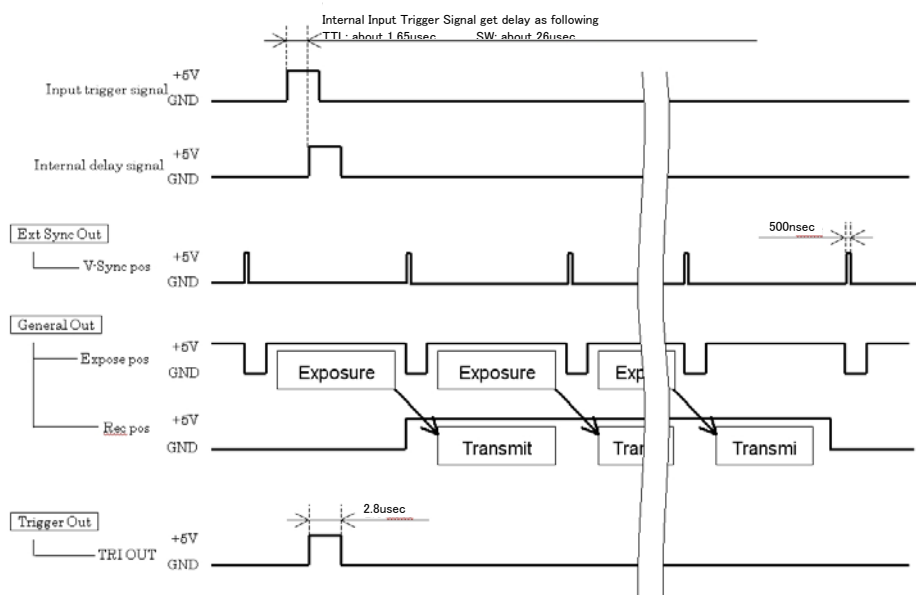
2.3. Timing of Recording Operations

This section describes the temporal relationship between recording, exposure, sync signals and delayed caused in cables. Refer to these charts when it is necessary to know the exact timing of such components mentioned above.

2.3.1. Timing Charts for Recording Operations

Timing Chart for START and RANDOM Recording Modes

The below chart shows the temporal relationship between signals related to recording operation in START and RANDOM trigger modes (random reset not effective).

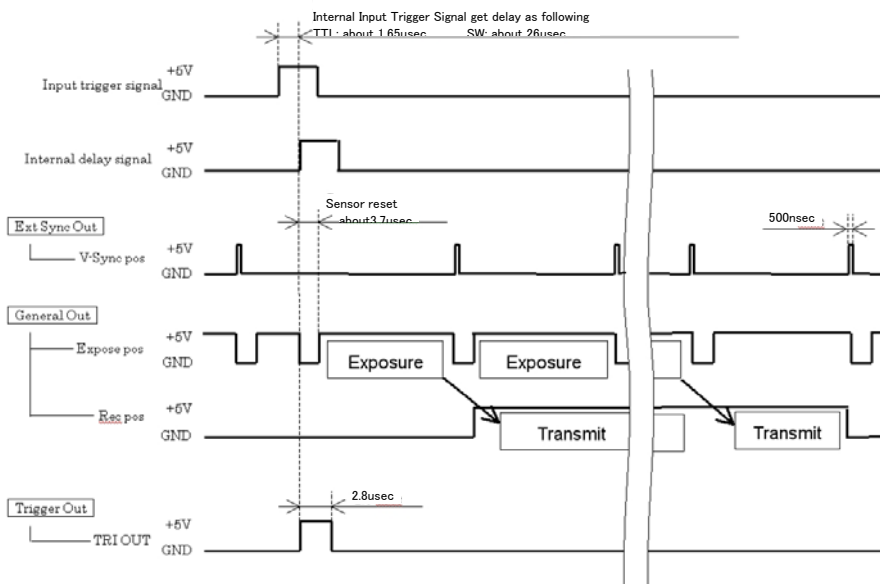


The START trigger mode starts recording when a trigger is received and records images until the memory is full. The RANDOM mode records a preset number of frames at each trigger and records until the memory is full.

When shutter is used, the "shuttered exposure period" becomes shorter than what is shown as "un-shuttered" exposure period in the above chart and it always takes place toward the end of, but within, the then effective exposure period.

Timing Chart for START and RANDOM Trigger Modes with “Reset” in Effect

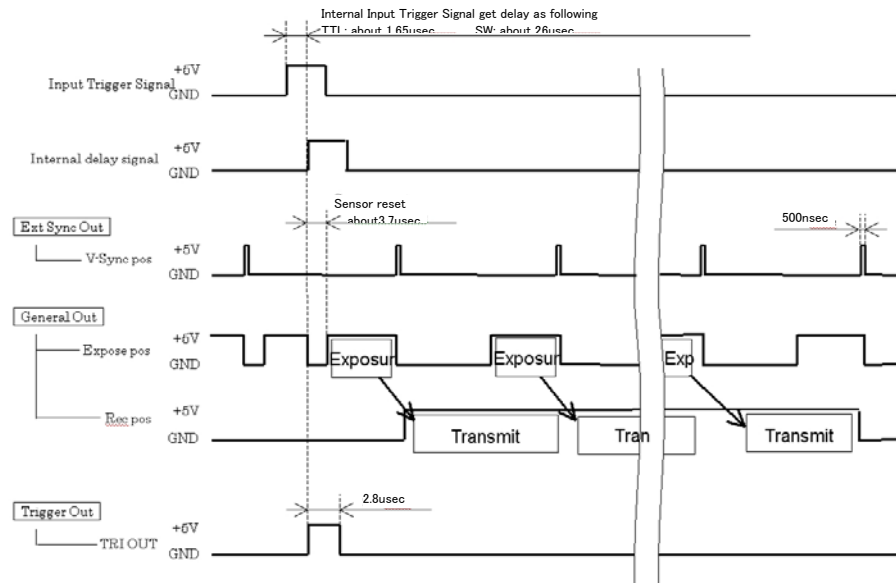
When “Reset” function is activated, Expose pos (vertical sync) signal is reset by the incoming trigger signal so that the timing of the incoming trigger signal and the start of exposure coincide more accurately as shown in the below chart.



The START trigger mode starts recording when a trigger is received and continues recording images until the memory is full. The RANDOM mode records a preset number of frames at each trigger and records until the memory is full.

Timing Chart for Shuttered Operation in START and RANDOM Trigger Modes with “Reset” in Effect

The below chart shows the temporal relationship between timing signals when shuttering function is added to START and RANDOM trigger mode with Reset is in effect.

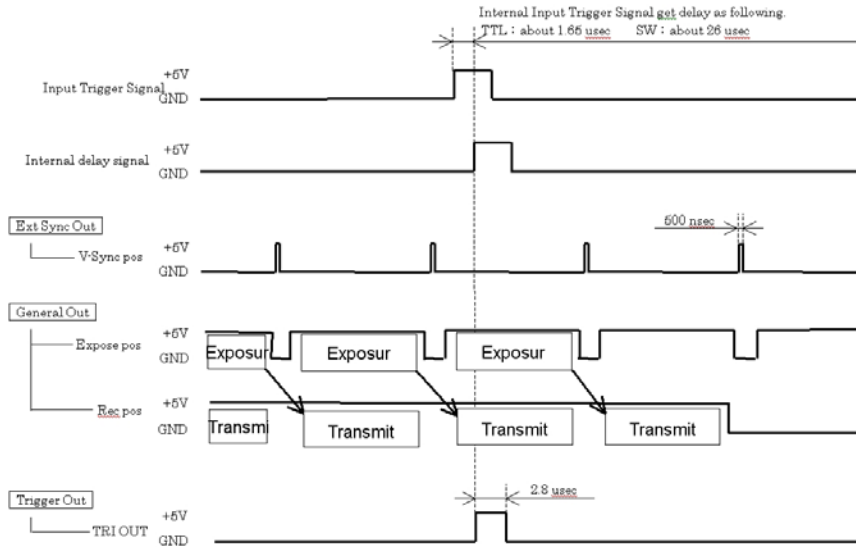


A shorter exposure period is set by the shuttering function, in addition to the Expose pos signal being reset at the incoming trigger.

The START trigger mode starts recording when a trigger is received and continues recording images until the memory is full. The RANDOM mode records a preset number of frames at each trigger and records until the memory is full.

Timing Chart for END, CENTER and MANUAL Trigger Modes

The below chart shows the temporal relationship of timing signals in END trigger mode. Note the exposure, and consequently recording, ends as soon as a trigger comes in.



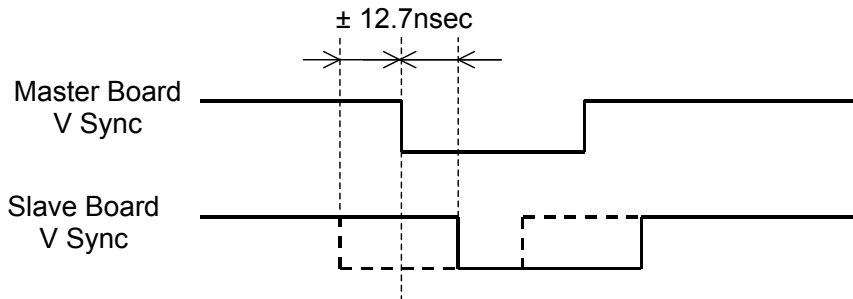
The above timing chart is for an End-Trigger operation.

The CENTER trigger mode ends recording after filling the latter half of the available memory. The MANUAL trigger mode records a preset number of frames after a trigger comes in.

When shutter is used, the "shuttered exposure period" becomes shorter than what is shown as "un-shuttered" exposure period in the above chart and it always takes place toward the end of, but within, the then effective exposure period.

2.3.2. Sync Timing in Multi-Camera Operations

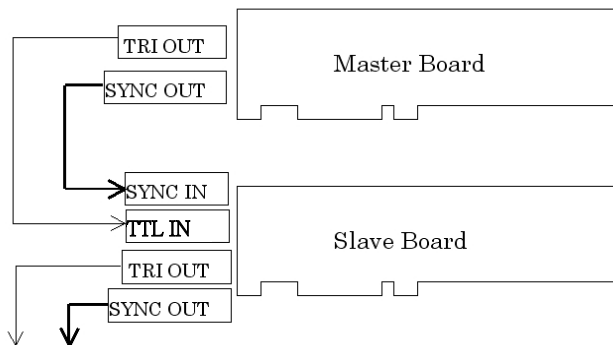
In multiple-camera operation of FASTCAM-1024PCI cameras, if sync and trigger signals are connected in series as shown below, signal delay inevitably becomes obvious. In extreme cases, this delay may cause an offset of one full image frame between cameras involved in multiple-camera operation. To avoid this drawback, other connection methods shown in 1.4.2. are recommended.



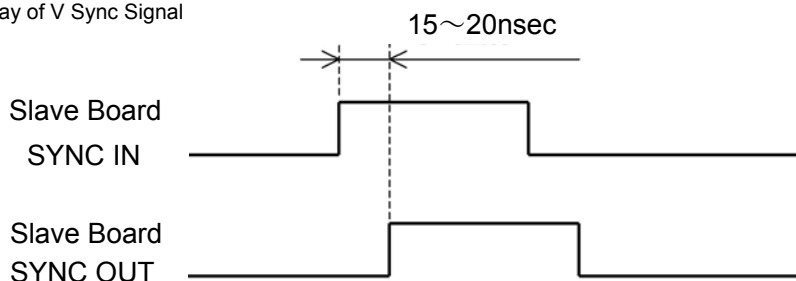
The delay is caused in the camera.

2.3.3. Delay of Vertical Sync and Trigger Signals in Multiple-Camera Operation

In multiple-camera operation, a signal delay is caused in V sync and trigger signals between boards.

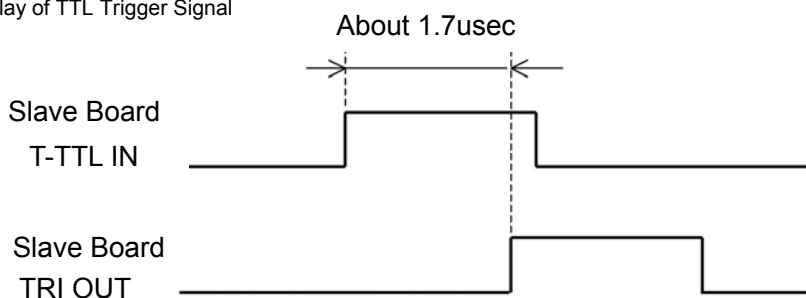


Delay of V Sync Signal



V Sync signals on Slave Board go through from Sync-In to Sync-out.

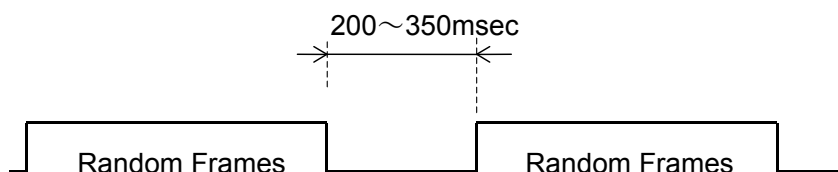
Delay of TTL Trigger Signal



These delays may cause an offset of one frame between cameras in multiple-camera operation depending on a certain timing of trigger entry.

2.3.4. Recording Interval in Random Center and Random Manual Trigger Modes

In Random Center and Random Manual modes, because Center or Manual operation is repeatedly executed, the following interval is necessary between one recording and next. The interval can be checked by observing Rec Pos/Neg signal on GENERAL OUT.



Note: The necessary interval depends on the specifications of the PC being used. More interval may be needed depending on the nature of the PC. The above interval is needed when using a PC with Pentium 4 (2.4GHz).

Chapter 3 Contacting Photron

3.1. Contact Information

3.1 Contact Information

For inquiries related to PFV, contact Photron at the contact information listed below.

Additionally, the following items will be verified when inquiring, so please prepare them in advance.

Items Verified	Concrete Example
Contact Information	Company, school or organization name, customer contact name, contact phone number, contact e-mail.
Product Name	FASTCAM-1024PCI
Serial Number	Check on the nameplate seal.
Condition of the system and what is known about it.	

Contact Information	
In Americas and Antipodes	PHOTRON USA, INC. 9520 Padgett Street, Suite 110 San Diego, CA 92126-4446, USA Phone : 800-585-2129 or 858-684-3555 Fax : 858-684-3558 E-mail : image@photron.com www.photron.com
In Europe, Africa and India	PHOTRON EUROPE LIMITED The Barn, Bottom Road, West Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, HP14 4BS, U.K. Phone : +44(0) 1494 48 1011 Fax : +44(0) 1494 48 7011 E-mail : image@photron.com www.photron.com
In other areas	PHOTRON LIMITED Fujimi 1-1-8, Chiyoda-Ku Tokyo 102-0071, Japan Phone : +81 3 3238 2107 Fax : +81 3 3238 2109 E-mail : image@photron.co.jp www.photron.co.jp

FASTCAM-1024PCI

Hardware Manual Revision 1.03E (US/EU)

Publication Date July, 2011

Publisher PHOTRON LIMITED

Chiyoda Fujimi Bldg., Fujimi 1-1-8, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102-0071