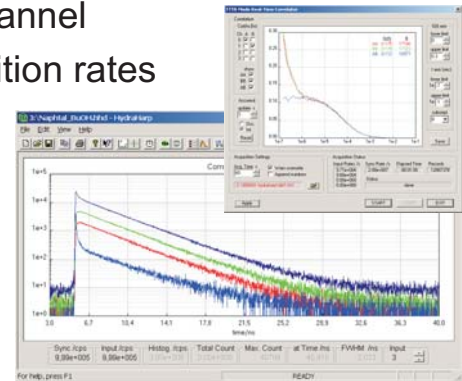


HydraHarp 400



Multichannel Picosecond Event Timer and TCSPC Module with USB Interface

- Compact box with modular, scalable design * * patent pending
- Up to eight identical synchronized but independent input channels
- Common sync for all input channels
- 65536 histogram bins per channel, minimum width 1 ps, 32 bits deep
- Count rate up to 12.5 million counts/sec per channel
- Multi-stop capability for efficiency at slow repetition rates
- Histogrammer measurement range from 65 ns to 65 μ s
- Time-Tagged Time-Resolved (TTTR) mode
- External marker signals for imaging or other experiment control
- External reference clock input



Applications

- Diffuse Optical Tomography (DOT) and molecular imaging
- Coincidence correlation
- Time-resolved fluorescence and luminescence spectroscopy
- Fluorescence Lifetime Imaging (FLIM)
- Single molecule spectroscopy
- Quantum optics
- Time-of-Flight (TOF) measurements, LIDAR and ranging

Multichannel Event Timer and TCSPC Module

The HydraHarp 400 is a high-end, easy to use, plug and play Time Interval Analyzer (TIA) and Time-Correlated Single Photon Counting (TCSPC) system with scalability for multiple channels *. Dependent on the chosen frame size, up to 4 or up to 8 channels can be installed. It is connected to a PC through a USB 2.0 high speed interface. It provides identical synchronized but independent input channels. They can be used as detector inputs for coincidence correlation experiments or as independent stop inputs for TCSPC. A dedicated common sync input is provided for TCSPC with fast excitation sources. This allows forward start-stop operation at the full repetition rate of mode locked lasers with stable repetition rate up to 150 MHz. Experiments with low repetition rate benefit from the HydraHarp's multi-stop capability.

The design allows high measurement rates up to 12.5 million counts/sec per channel and provides a highly stable, crystal calibrated time resolution of 1 ps. Optionally, an external time base can be used. The instrument's timing resolution is well matched to SPAD detectors of the PDM series or micro-channel plate Photomultiplier Tubes (MCP). All input channels are equipped with Constant Fraction Discriminators (CFD), sensitive on the falling edge. A time-tagged mode for recording of individual photon events with their arrival time on all channels allows the most sophisticated offline analysis of the photon dynamics. Time-Tagged Time-Resolved (TTTR) data can also be correlated in real-time for monitoring of FCS experiments at count rates up to 1.000.000 counts/sec. In TTTR mode, the device can be synchronized with other hardware such as scanners. External hardware such as monochromators can be controlled via CAN bus.

The HydraHarp software provides functions such as the setting of measurement parameters, display of results, loading and saving of measurement parameters and measurement curves. Important measurement characteristics such as count rate, count maximum, position and peak width are displayed continuously. A comprehensive online help function shortens the users' learning curve. A library for custom programming e.g. with LabVIEW™ is also provided, both for Windows™ and Linux™.

* patent pending

Options

Small / large frame for up to 4 / 8 channels
Data analysis software

Specifications

Input Channels and Sync	Constant Fraction Discriminator (CFD)
Input voltage range	0 to -800 mV, optimum: -200 mV to -400 mV
Trigger point	falling edge
Trigger pulse width	0.5 to 30 ns
Trigger pulse rise/fall time	2 ns max.
External Reference Clock	
Input	10 MHz, min. 200 mV, max. 1 V pp, 50 Ohms, AC coupled
Output	10 MHz, 300 mV pp, 50 Ohms, AC coupled
Time to Digital Converters	
Minimum time bin width	1 ps
Electrical time resolution	< 12 ps rms
Full scale range - histogram mode	65 ns to 65 μ s (depending on chosen resolution)
Full scale range - time-tagged mode	infinite
Maximum count rate per input channel	12.5 \times 10 ⁶ counts/sec
Maximum sync rate	150 MHz
Sustained throughput time-tagged mode	typ. 9 \times 10 ⁶ events/sec
Dead time	< 80 ns
Differential non-linearity	< 2 % peak, < 0.2 % rms
Histogrammer	
Count depth per time bin	4.294.967.296 (32 bit)
Maximum number of time bins	65536
Collection time	1 ms to 100 hours
Operation	
PC interface	USB 2.0 high speed
PC requirements	1 GHz min. CPU clock, 512 MB memory
Operating system	Windows™ 2000/XP/Vista/7
Power consumption	small frame < 50 W, large frame < 100 W at 100 to 240 VAC

All Information given here is reliable to our best knowledge. However, no responsibility is assumed for possible inaccuracies or omissions. Specifications and external appearances are subject to change without notice. Trademarks or corporate names are used for explanation and identification, to the owner's benefit and without intent to infringe.

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PicoQuant GmbH
Rudower Chaussee 29 (IGZ)
12489 Berlin
Germany

Phone +49-(0)30-6392-6929
Telefax +49-(0)30-6392-6561
Email info@picoquant.com
WWW http://www.picoquant.com