



# GIGAPYX, A very high-resolution CIS platform

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SME  
7,6 M€ revenue  
in 2021



- **Company specialized in designing and producing High Performance Image Sensors**

Custom product development and sales  
High-end off-the-shell sensors

- **Founded in 2010**

Located in Moirans (near Grenoble - France)  
48 people nowadays with regular growth

- **Business field & Applications**

Aerospace & Defense, Surveillance, Biometrics, Machine vision, Medical, Aerial & Transportation, Photography and more



# Outline



- Overview
  - A high-performance sensor
  - A multi-format platform
- Architecture
  - A 2D-stitched implementation
  - An HDR pixel
  - An asynchronous global solution
  - A high-speed local synchronization
- Performance
- Application

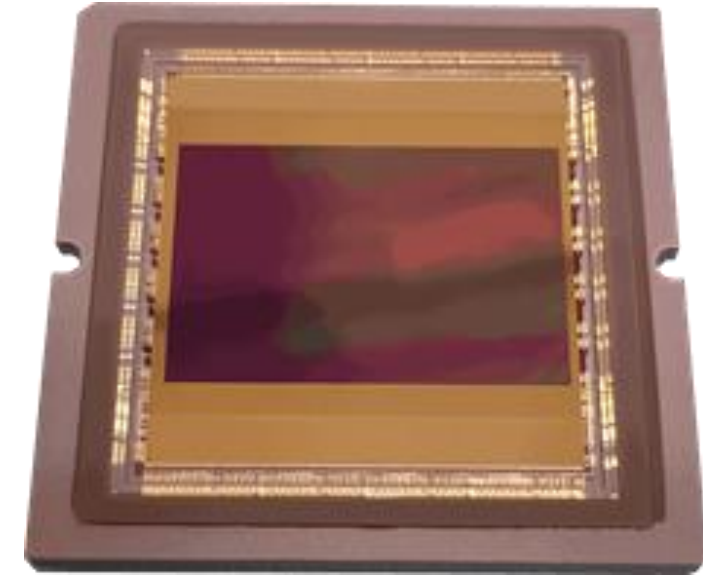


# GIGAPYX – A well equipped sensor



## ➤ Main Features of a high-performance sensor

- Low-noise Rolling-Shutter
- 4,4 $\mu$ m pixel pitch in BSI technology
- Very high-speed single gain mode (200fps)
- High speed intra-scene HDR (dual Gain)
- 12 / 13 bits ADC
- 2x2 and 4x4 Binning, color-compatible
- Multiple ROI, flip and skipping modes
- Anti black-sun
- 8 to 128 LVDS @ 840Mbps
- Monochrome and Bayer RGB
- $\mu$ PGA Ceramic package 520 pins
- ...



**GIGAPYX 46 MPixels**

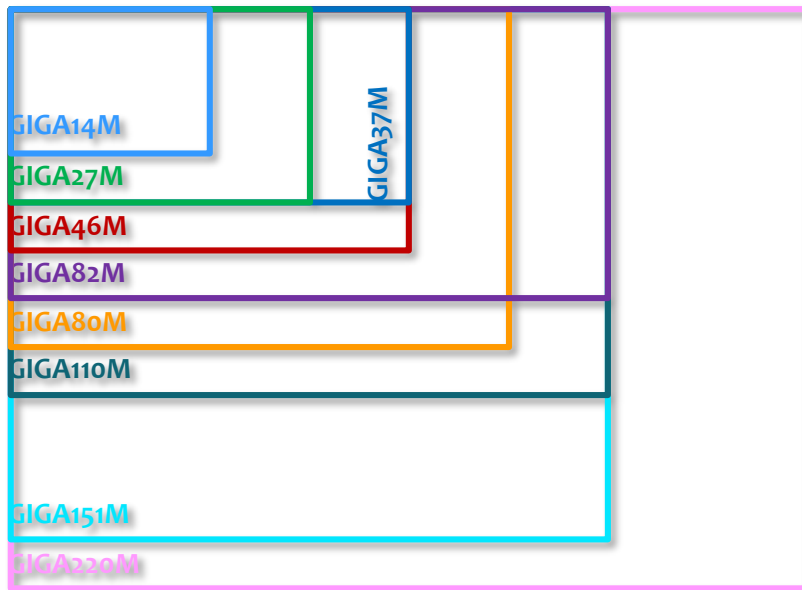


# GIGAPYX – Its different formats



## ➤ GIGAPYX family

- 14 Mpixels to 220 Mpixels
- 18,3 x 14,5 mm to 73,2 x 58,1 mm



GIGAPYX Family	Format	block A Along X,Y axis	Definition (Width x Height)	Matrix sizes in mm (Width x Height)	Diagonal in mm
GIGA14M		2 , 3	<b>4160 x 3256</b>	<b>18.3 x 14.5</b>	23.35
GIGA27M	Super 35 mm	3 , 4	6240 x 4356	27.5 x 19.4	33.65
GIGA37M		4 , 4	8320 x 4356	36.6 x 19.4	41.42
<b>GIGA46M</b>	<b>35 mm Full-frame</b>	<b>4 , 5</b>	8320 x 5456	<b>36.6 x 24.2</b>	<b>43.87</b>
GIGA80M		5 , 7	10400 x 7656	45.8 x 33.9	56.98
GIGA82M	65 mm	6 , 6	12480 x 6556	54.9 x 29	62.08
GIGA110M		6 , 8	12480 x 8756	54.9 x 38.7	67.17
GIGA151M	65 mm square	6 , 11	12480 x 12056	54.9 x 53.2	76.45
GIGA220M	Max size	8 , 12	<b>16640 x 13156</b>	<b>73.2 x 58.1</b>	93.45

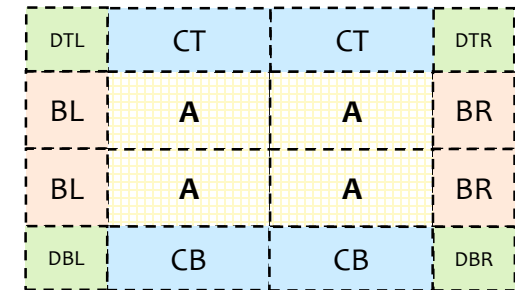
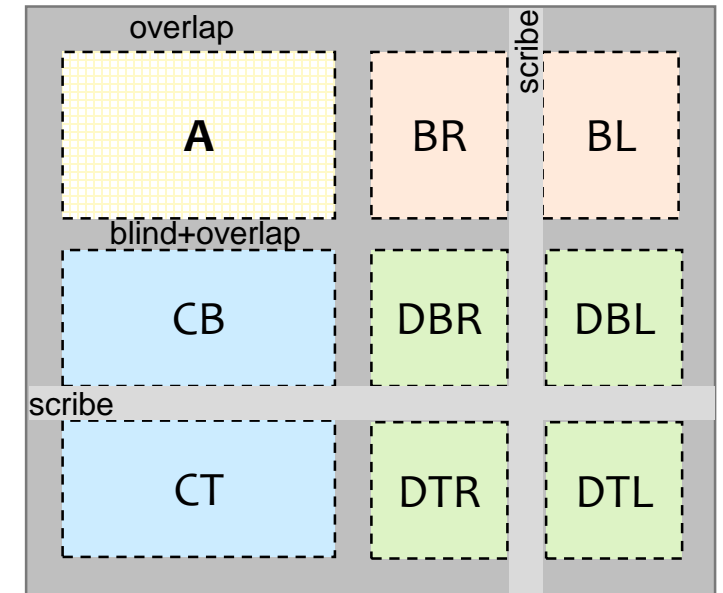


# GIGAPYX – Using 2D-stitching



## ➤ A low-cost multi-format Platform

- Using 2D-stitching technique
  - ➔ Stitching helps in fabricating circuit larger than the reticle size limit
  - ➔ Enlarge block A for photolithography cost optimization
- Using a single set of photolithography masks for different formats
  - ➔ Early development phase of the circuit includes multi-format management

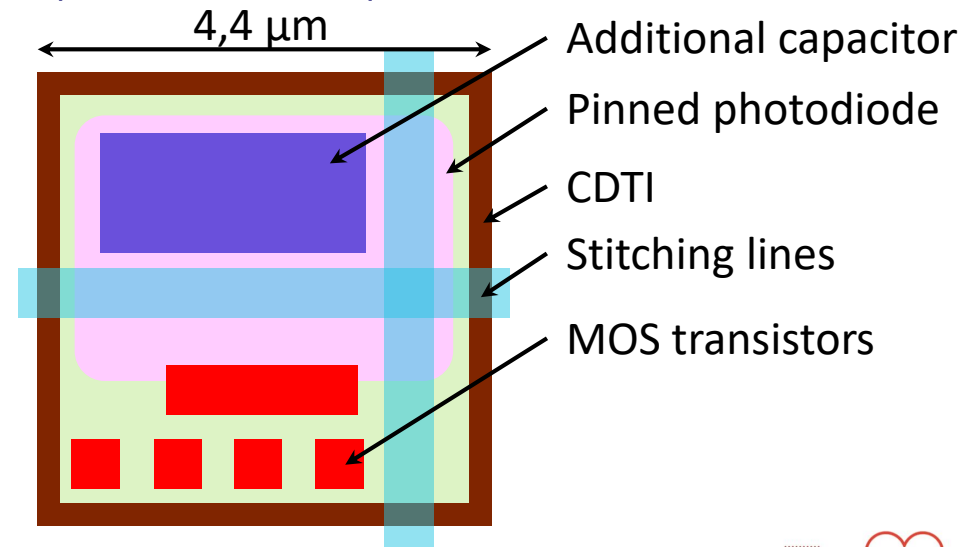
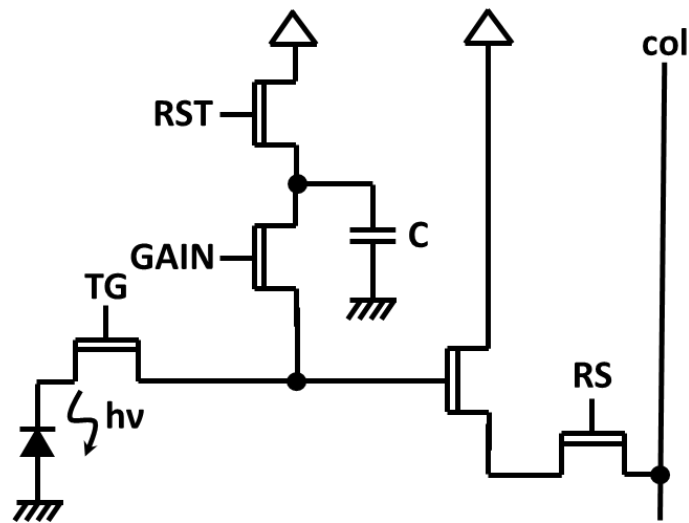


# GIGAPYX – A constraint pixel layout



## ➤ Pixel Architecture

- 4T pinned photodiode architecture with an additional capacitance to achieve intra-scene high-dynamic range (HDR)
  - ➔ 2 readouts performed sequentially during a single line selection
- 4,4  $\mu\text{m}$  pixel pitch with a 2D-stitchable layout
  - ➔ 2 stitching lines cross the pixel layout => pixel with limited performance degradation
- Excellent pixel-to-pixel isolation thanks to capacitive deep trench isolations (CDTI)

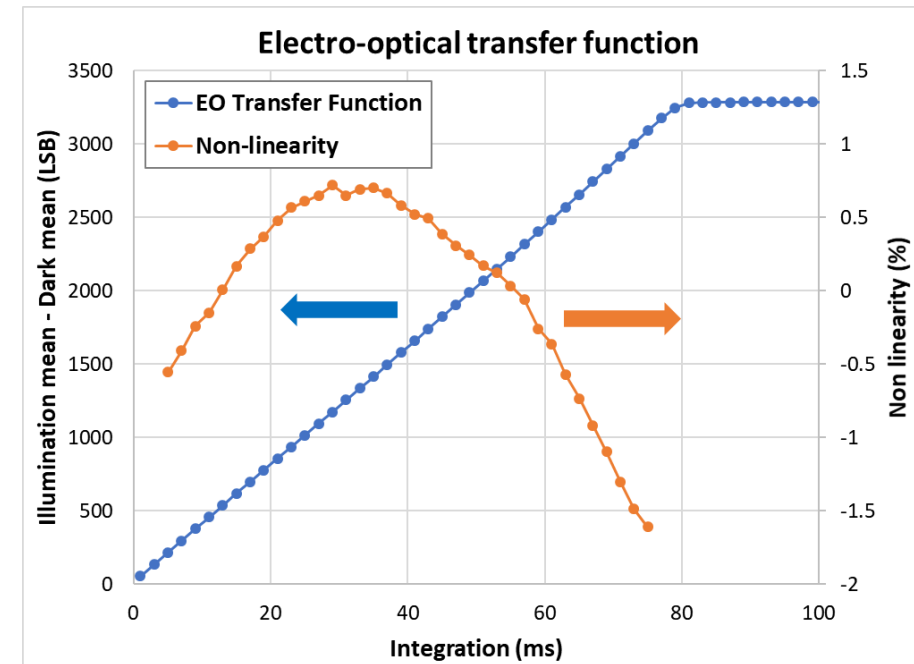
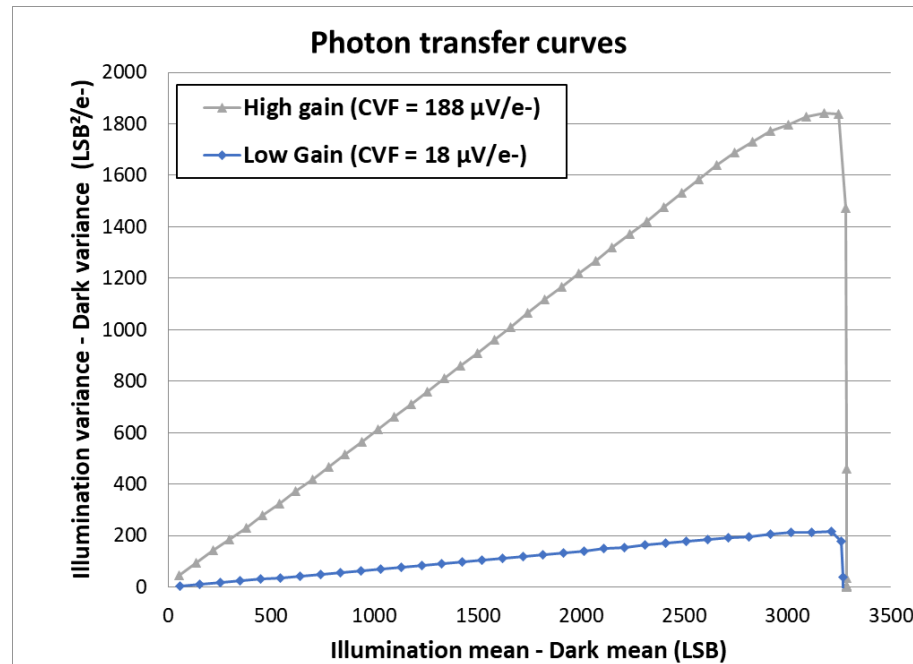


# GIGAPYX – Pixel performances



## ➤ Pixel Performances

- Conversion factors (CVF): 188  $\mu\text{V}/\text{e}^-$  (HG); 18  $\mu\text{V}/\text{e}^-$  (LG)
- Linear full well (Qsat): 5,3 ke $^-$  (HG); 55 ke $^-$  (LG)
- Photo response non uniformity (PRNU): < 2 %
- Dark current (at 35 °C): 20 e $^-$ /s (doubling every 6,2 K)



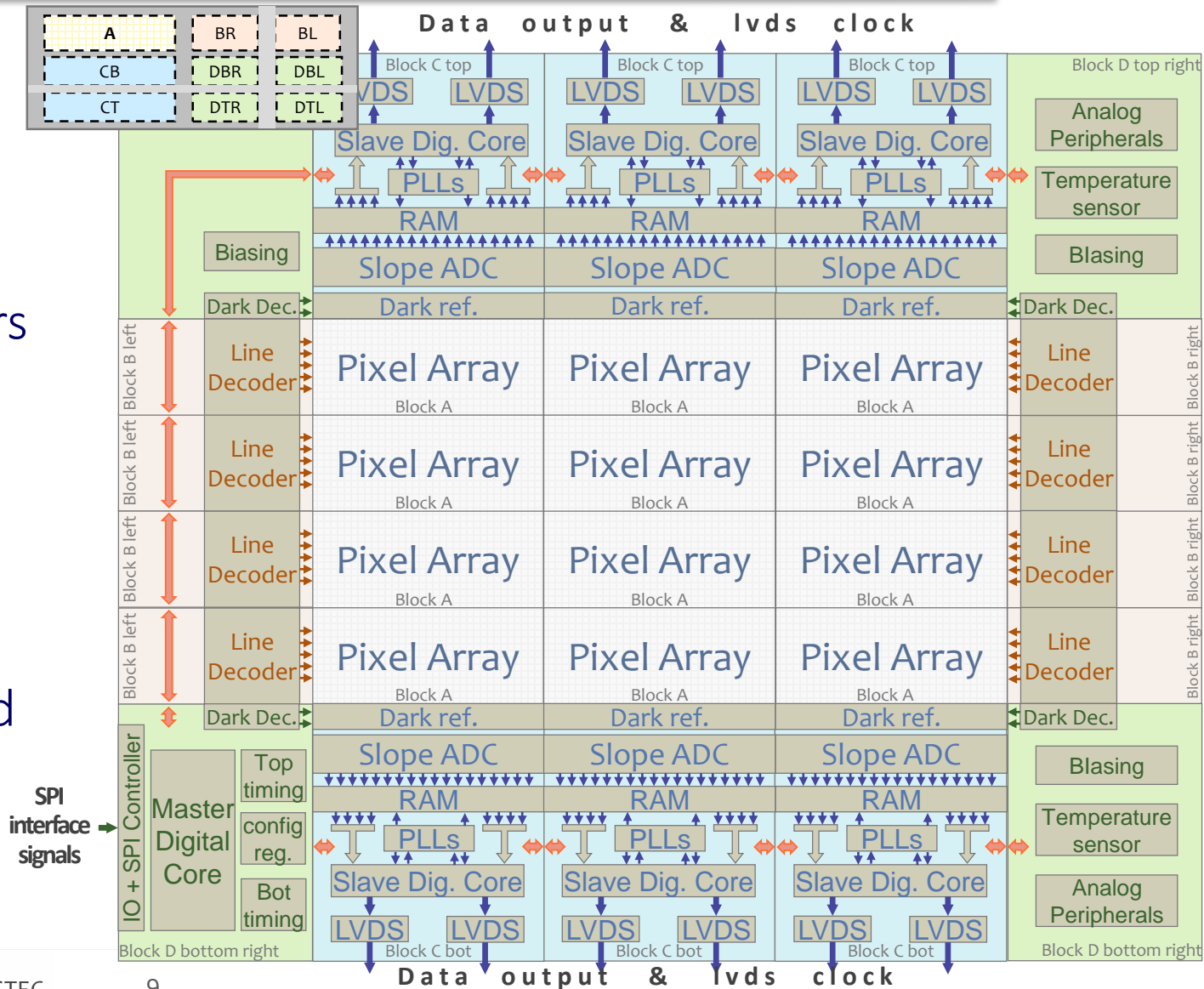


# GIGAPYX – A 2D-stitched Architecture



## ➤ Top-level « stitching view »

- Architecture adapted to 2D stitching technique
  - ➔ Block A : Pixel array
  - ➔ Block B : Left and Right pixel drivers
  - ➔ Block C : Analog-to-digital chain conversion
  - ➔ Block D : Master digital core  
Analog Peripherals
- Architecture designed for high-speed high-resolution sensors

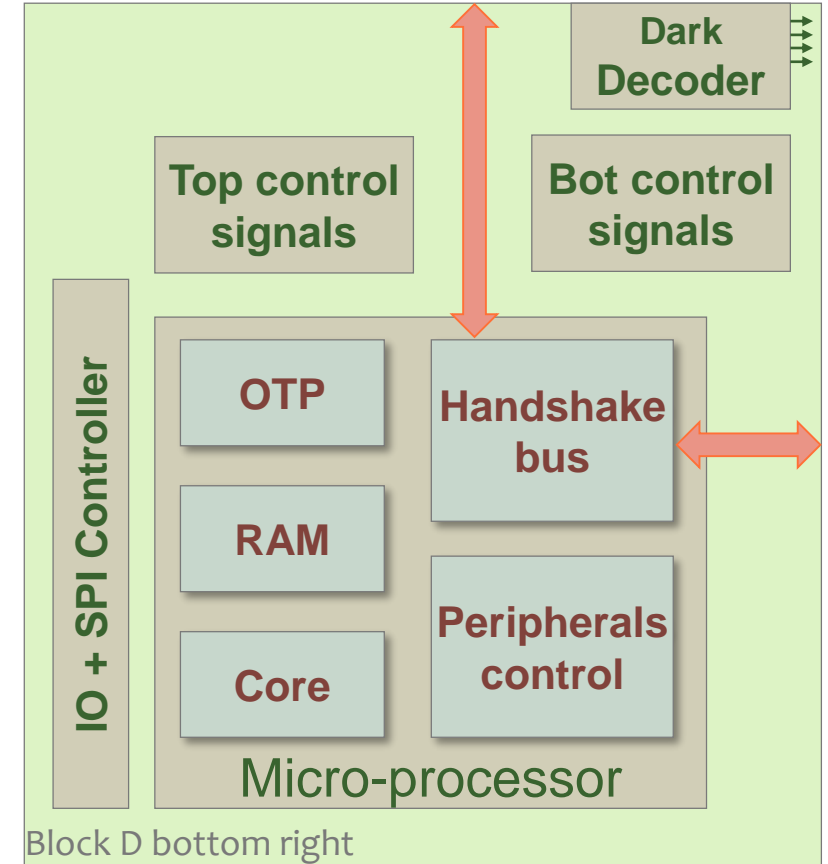


# GIGAPYX – A multi-format digital core



## ➤ Digital core implementation

- Usual digital blocks
  - ➔ Pixel array and conversion chain timing control
  - ➔ Management of operating modes
  - ➔ Micro-processor, OTP,
  - ➔ SPI Controller
- Multi-format dedicated block
  - ➔ Use of « handshake » bus to program dynamically (line period) repeated C-blocks
  - ➔ Balanced clock-tree management
  - ➔ Dedicated resource allocation for multi-format adaptation

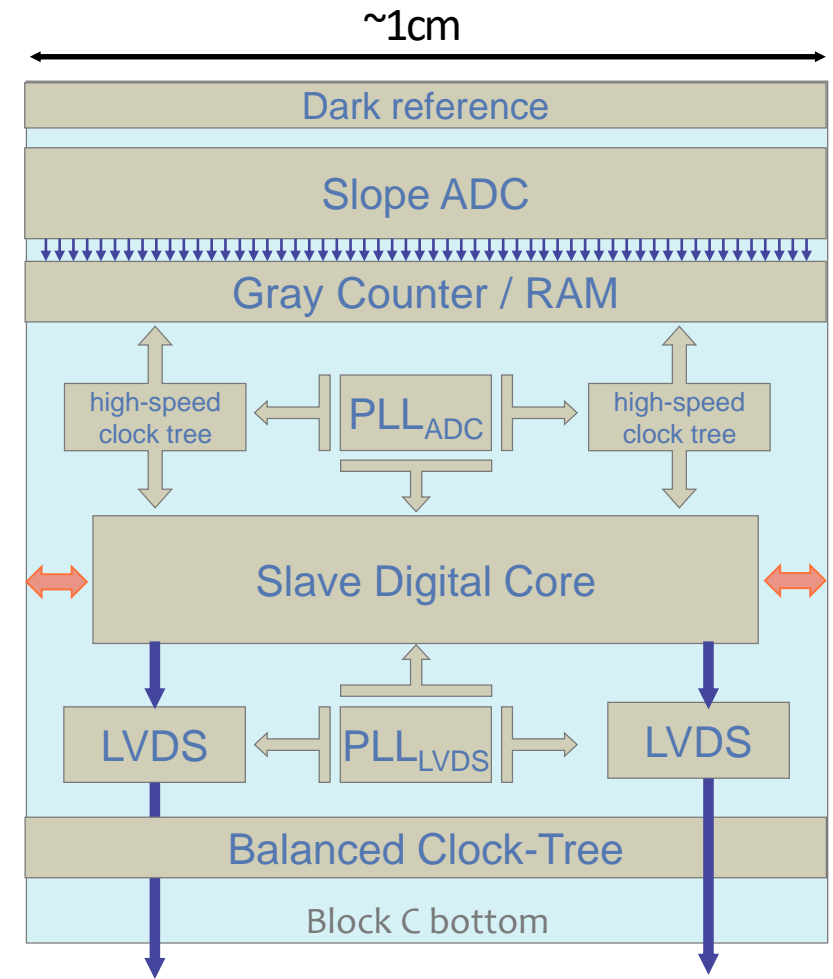


# GIGAPYX – Its repeated blocks



## ➤ Analog processing chain

- conversion via ADC 12/13 bits
  - ➔ 1.7GHz Gray counter clock frequency
  - ➔ Specific high-speed clock tree inside the repeated block
  - ➔ Dedicated PLL in each repeated block
- Signal propagation compensation system
  - ➔ Balanced clock tree for top/bottom & left/right delay
- Frame-rate management via LVDS
  - ➔ Dedicated PLL for decorrelating frame-rate vs ADC frequency

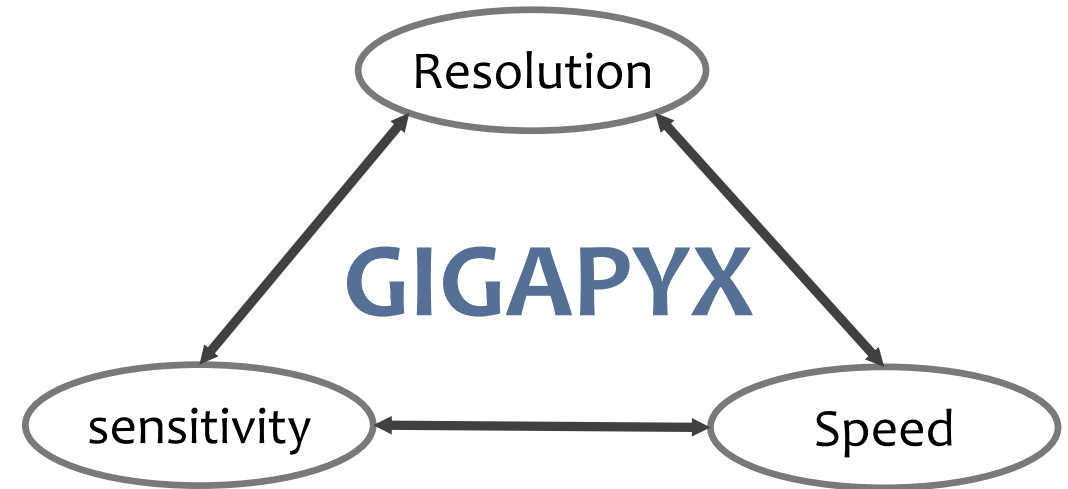


# GIGAPYX – Performance review



## ➤ 46MPixel measured key performances

Parameter	Typical Value	Unit
Saturation Charge (linear), HG / LG	5 / 50	ke-
CvF (HG / LG)	188 / 18	$\mu\text{V}/e^-$
<b>Temporal Noise in darkness (HG)</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>e- RMS</b>
Linearity Error, 5-95% QSATLIN	1	%
Dynamic Range, HG	70	dB
<b>Dynamic Range, HDR</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>dB</b>
Peak QE x FF, at 560 nm (mono)	> 72	%
Dark-Signal Non-Uniformity (DSNU)	160	e-/s RMS
Fixed-Pattern Noise (FPN)	< 0.4	%
Photo-Response Non-Uniformity (PRNU)	< 2	%
Frame-rate, FF, 12 bits, Single gain	150	FPS
<b>Frame-rate, 8K, 12 bits, Single gain</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>FPS</b>
Frame-rate, FF, 2x13 bits, HDR	70	FPS
Frame-rate, 8K, 2x13 bits, HDR	90	FPS
Power-consumption, full operation	< 6	W





## ➤ Generic camera (GENEPYX)

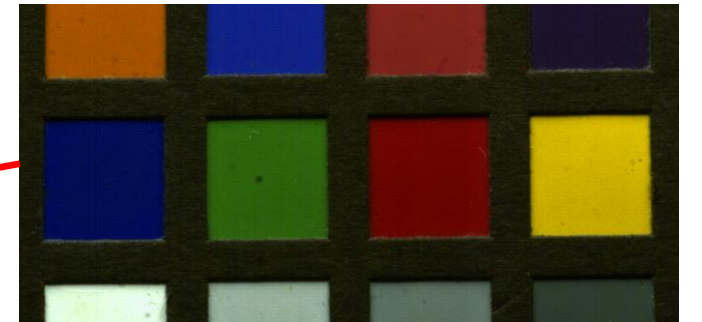
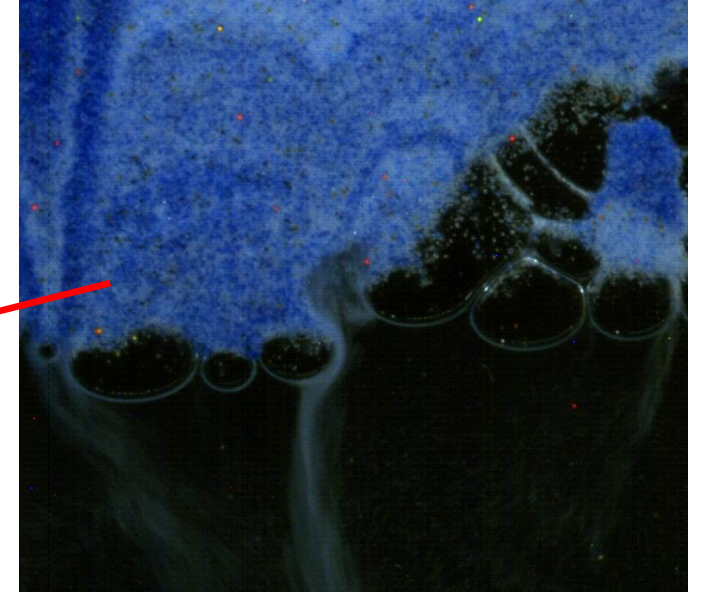
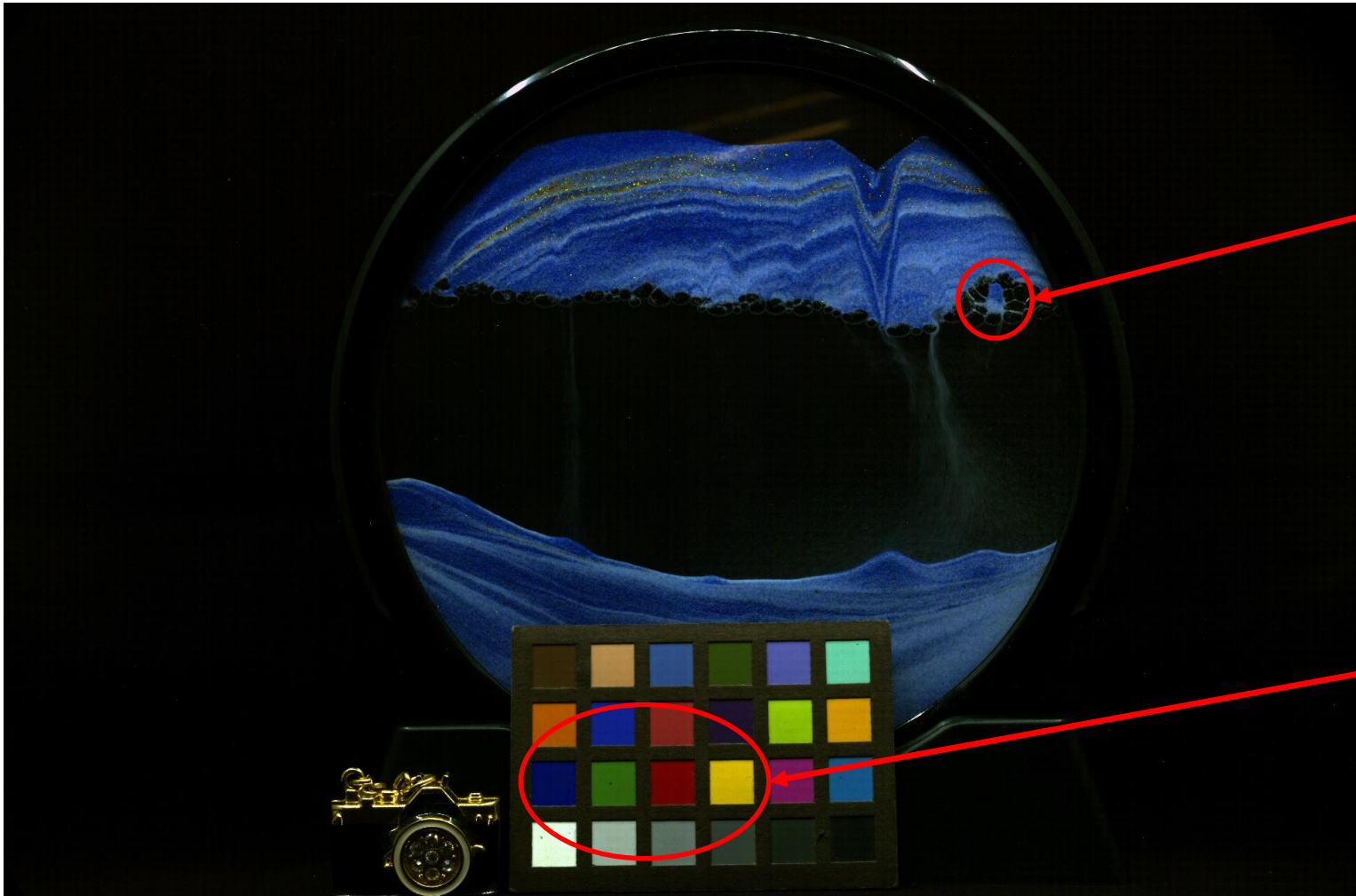
- Camera for sensor evaluation purpose
  - ➔ 32 LVDS used over 128
  - ➔ Up to 29 fps in Color RGB
  - ➔ Thunderbolt 3 Output (20Gbps)



# GIGAPYX – In use



➤ More than words



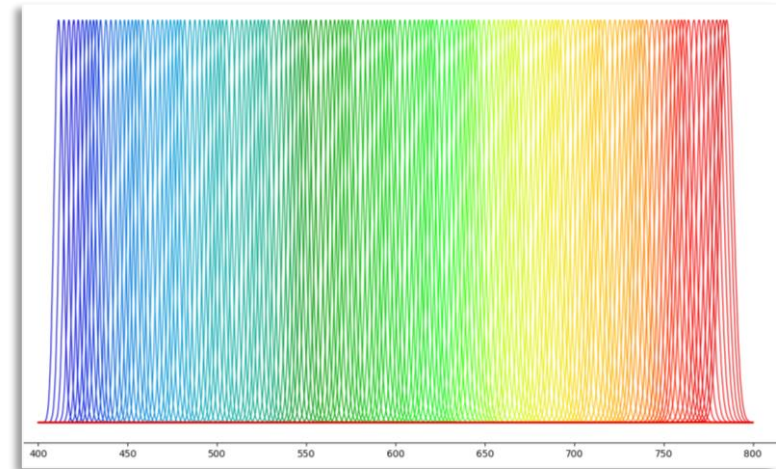
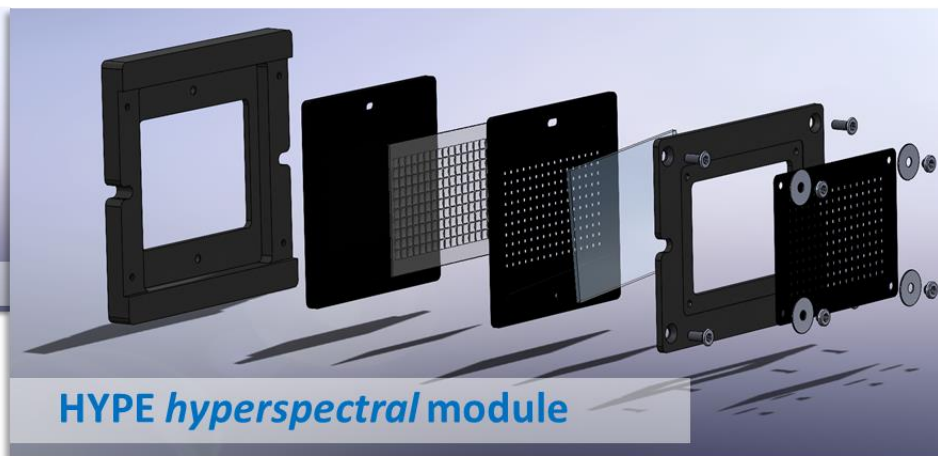
# GIGAPYX - For spectral sensing



## ➤ HYPE Module

- Hyperspectral version of GIGAPYX under development
- Same scene projected on 160 thumbnails thanks to a specific optical module (HYPE) embedding a micro lens array and a linear variable filter
- ➔ Single spectral channel in a thumbnail of 500 x 500 pixels
- Spectral channels evenly spread on the 400 – 800 nm spectrum
- Spectral sampling every 2,5 nm, with a bandwidth of ~8 nm

432.7	456.2	479.7	503.2	526.7	550.2	573.8	597.3	620.8	644.3	667.8	691.3	714.8	738.3	761.8	785.3
451.0	454.5	478.0	501.5	525.0	548.5	572.0	595.5	619.1	642.6	666.1	689.6	713.1	736.6	760.1	783.6
429.1	452.6	476.1	499.6	523.1	546.6	570.1	593.7	617.2	640.7	664.2	687.7	711.2	734.7	758.3	781.8
427.0	450.5	474.0	497.5	521.1	544.6	568.1	591.6	615.1	638.6	662.2	685.7	709.2	732.7	756.2	779.7
404.8	448.3	471.8	495.3	518.8	542.4	565.9	589.4	612.9	636.4	660.0	683.5	707.0	730.5	754.0	777.5
422.4	445.9	469.4	493.0	516.5	540.0	563.5	587.0	610.5	634.1	657.6	681.1	704.6	728.1	751.6	775.2
419.9	443.4	466.9	490.4	513.9	537.5	561.0	584.5	608.0	631.5	655.0	678.6	702.1	725.6	749.1	772.6
422.2	440.7	464.2	487.7	511.3	534.8	558.3	581.8	605.3	628.8	652.3	675.9	699.4	722.9	746.4	769.9
414.3	437.9	461.4	484.9	508.4	531.9	555.4	578.9	602.5	626.0	649.5	673.0	696.5	720.0	743.5	767.0
431.4	454.9	458.4	481.9	505.4	528.9	552.4	575.9	599.4	622.9	646.5	670.0	693.5	717.0	740.5	764.0



# GIGAPYX & Space, how do they fit?



## ➤ Radiation tolerance

- A few precautions taken at design level
- Assess GIGAPYX robustness to radiation via several irradiation campaigns (TID, SEE, DD) in 2023

## ➤ Specific capture modes for space application

- Particular multi Region Of Interest (ROI) management to deal with digital TDI operations (illustrated on next slide)
  - ➔ with multispectral

## ➤ High resolution versions (up to 220M)

- A must to perform demanding missions for EO, space telescope, SSA...
- Larger versions to be demonstrated



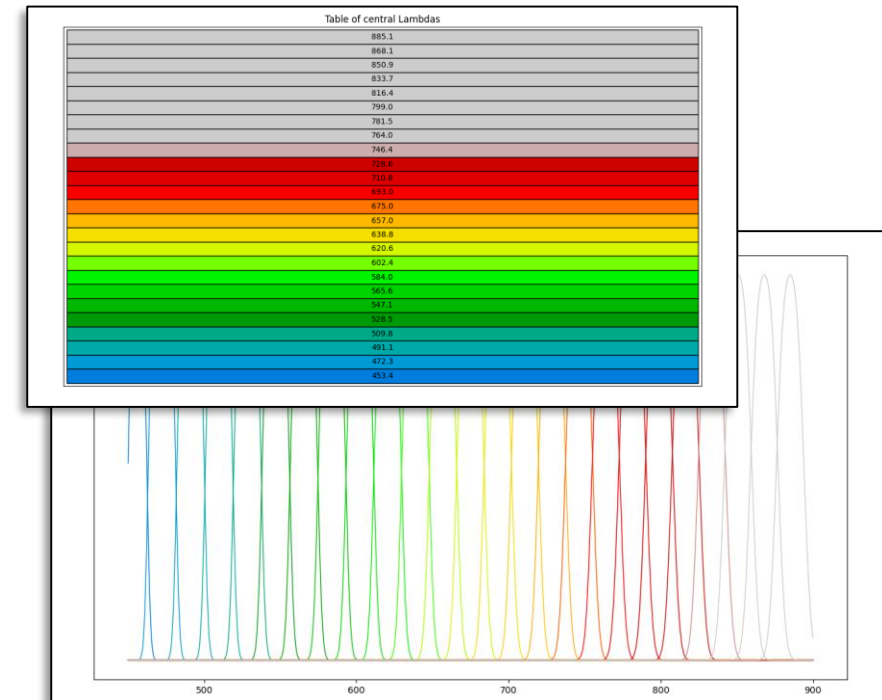
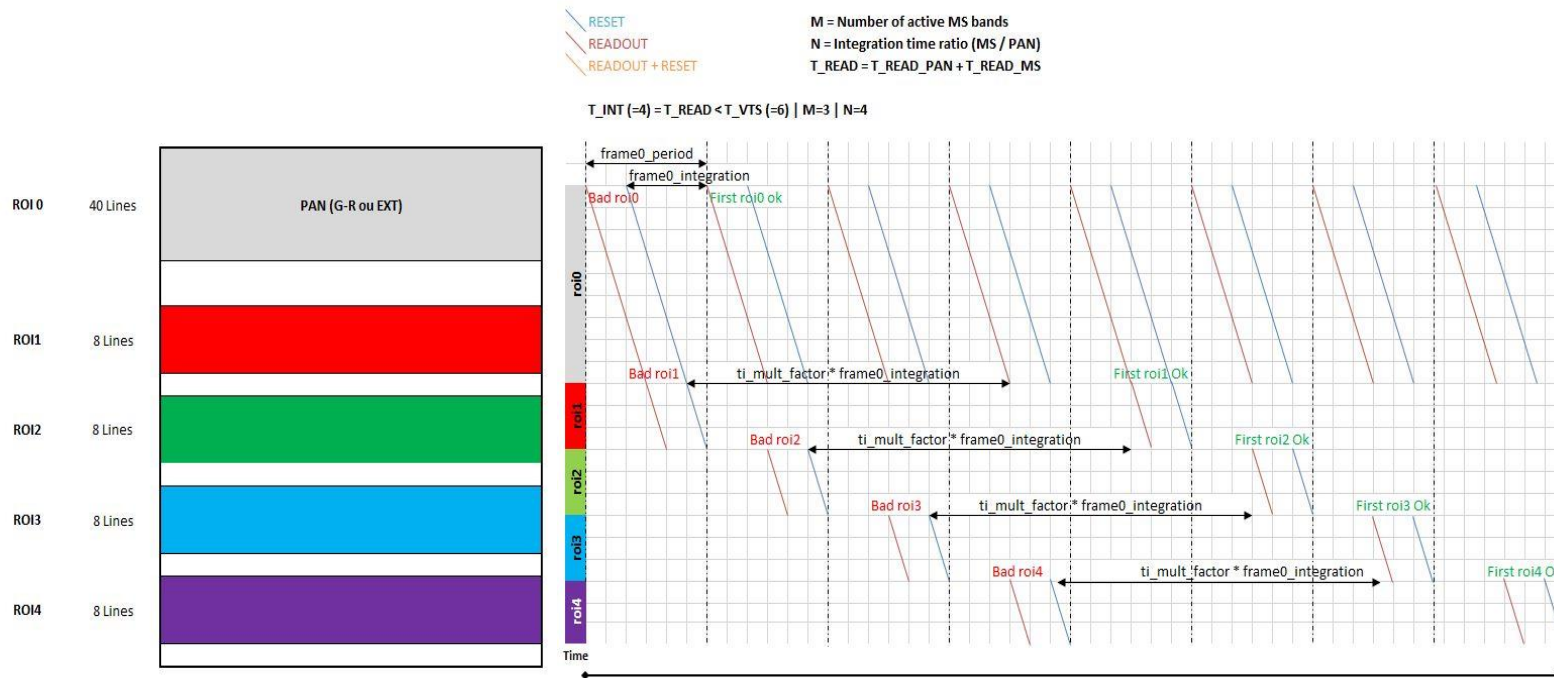


# GIGAPYX – In a pushbroom mode



## ➤ Multi-integration mode for operating with a digital TDI

- Different ROIs (up to 6) with different integration periods, thus allowing for simultaneous panchromatic ROI and for multispectral ROI with  $T_i > T_{frame}$
- Can be coupled to a along track oriented filter for multi-spectral applications



# Summary



- One single design thanks to a flexible approach & photolithographic 2D stitching
  - Larger pixel count version (220M) is the next demonstration stage
  
- Great performances demonstrated on first silicon lot (46MP version)
  - Samples available
  - On-going industrialization
  
- Application
  - GIGAPYX demonstration camera (=GENEPYX) validated
  - Development work on multi/hyperspectral versions
  
- GIGAPYX will be available for space
  - As a standalone sensor
  - Integrated in a space tolerant camera
  - Specific capture modes available
  - Radiation tolerance under test



# Thank you for your attention



Questions ?