

Automated testbench for checking vulnerability of single-photon detectors to bright-light attack

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Problem

- ❑ Single photon detectors (SPDs) can be controlled by bright light attacks, see [1, 2].
- ❑ Many countermeasures suggested must be tested properly. See advanced attack at [3].
- ❑ Proper test by quantum hackers' team takes a lot of time and attention.

[1] L. Lydersen et al, Nat. Photonics 4, 686 (2010)

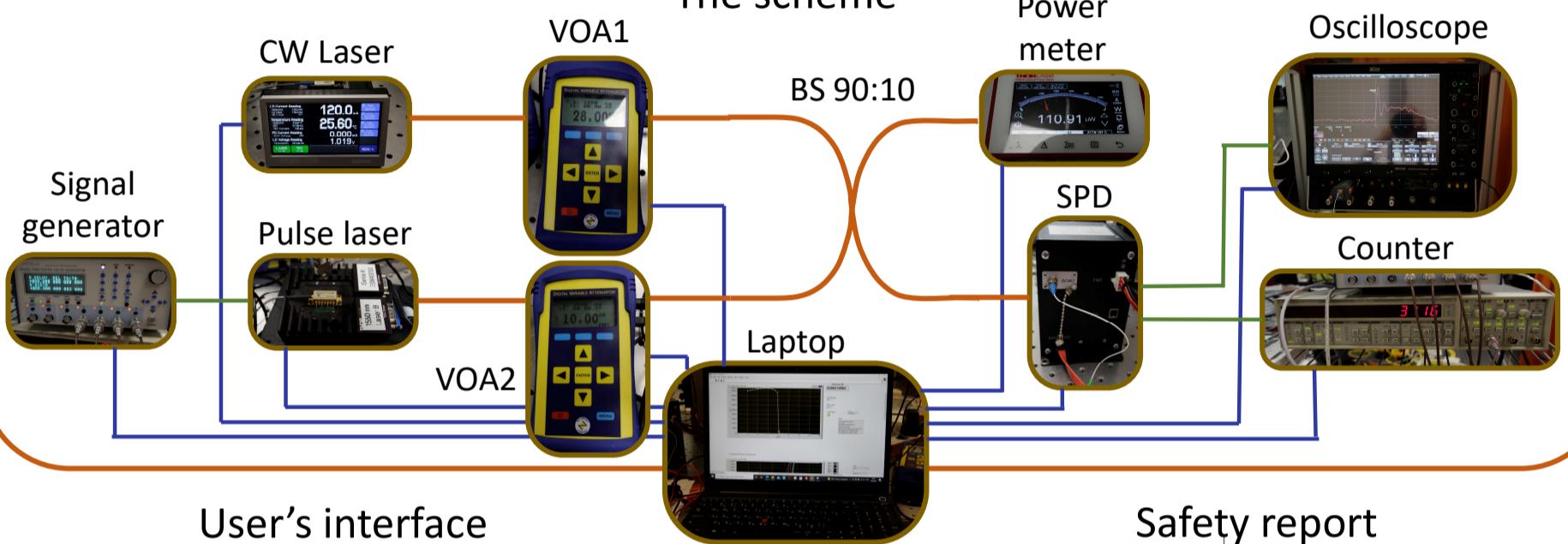
[2] C. Wiechers et al, New J. Phys. 13, 013043 (2011)

[3] A. Huang et al, IEEE J. Quantum Electron. 52, 8000211 (2016)

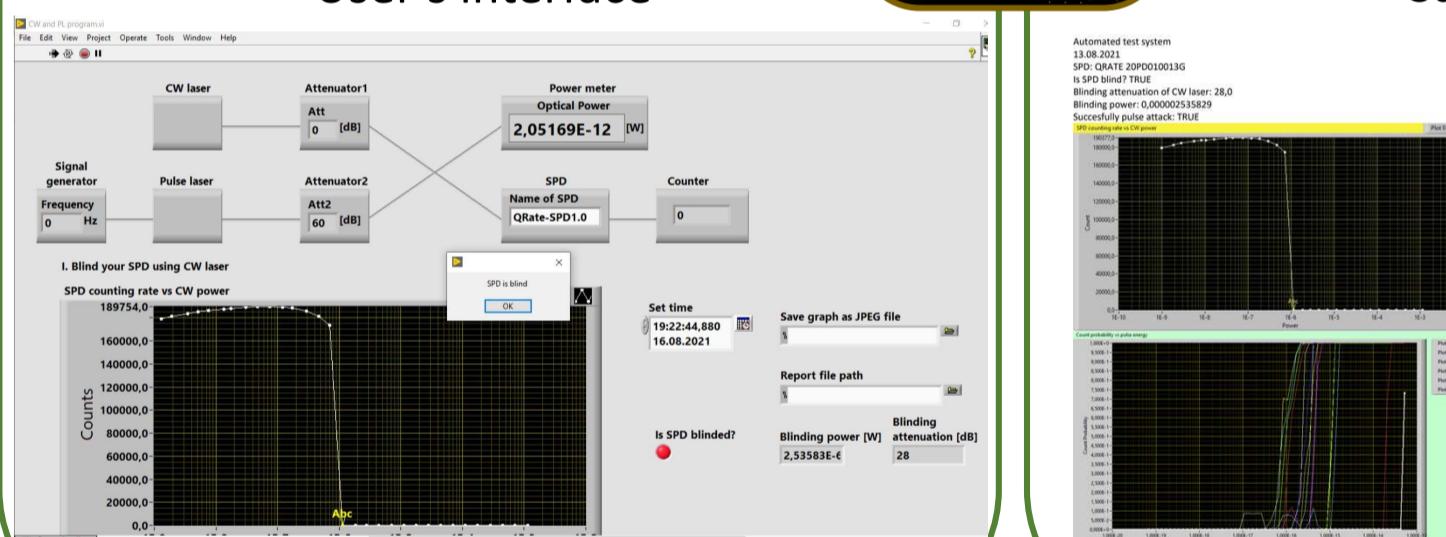
Solution

- ✓ Automated testbench that executes known bright-light attacks and their combinations.
- ✓ To apply to SPD CW light at a wide power range with 1-2 dB step (blinding attack).
- ✓ To apply to SPD pulse light at a wide energy range with 1-2 dB step (blinding\after-gate attacks).
- ✓ To observe SPD countermeasure (if any).

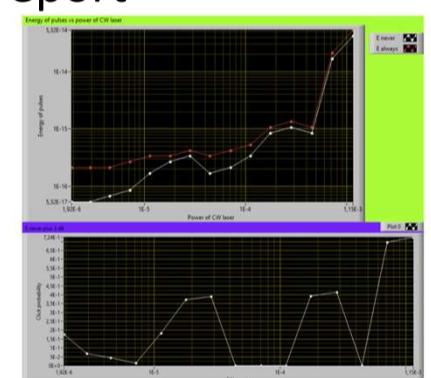
The scheme



User's interface



Safety report



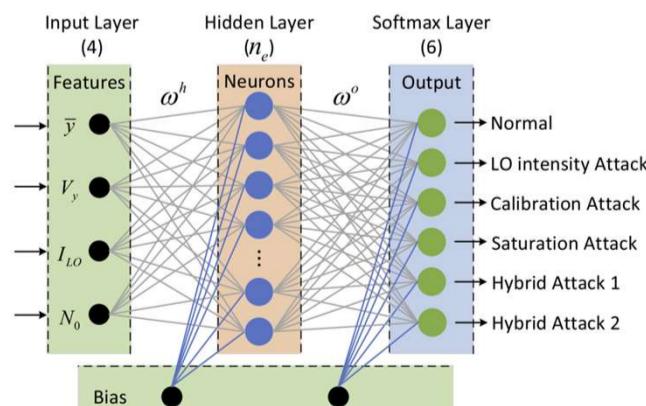
Future plans

Certification

Layer	Description
Q7. Installation and maintenance	Manual management procedures done by the manufacturer.
Q6. Application interface	Handles the communication between the quantum computer application that has asked for the service. For example, key generation, error correction, privacy amplification.
Q5. Post-processing	Handles the post-processing of the raw data. For QKD key data, filtering, error correction, privacy amplification over a classical public channel involved in these steps.
Q4. Operation cycle	State machine that decides when to run subsystems interacting between qubit transmission, calibration and operation.
Q3. Driver and calibration algorithms	Firmware/software routines that control low-level operation of optical devices in different regimes.
Q2. Analog electronics interface	Electronic signal processing and conditioning between devices. This includes for example current-to-voltage conversion, frequency filtering, limiting, sampling, timing-to-digital conversion.
Q1. Optics	Generation, modulation, transmission and detection of optical signals and electro-optical components. This includes both synchronization and calibration. For example, in a distributed system, it includes generation of weak coherent pulses with different wavelengths, mission, polarization splitting and detection, but also

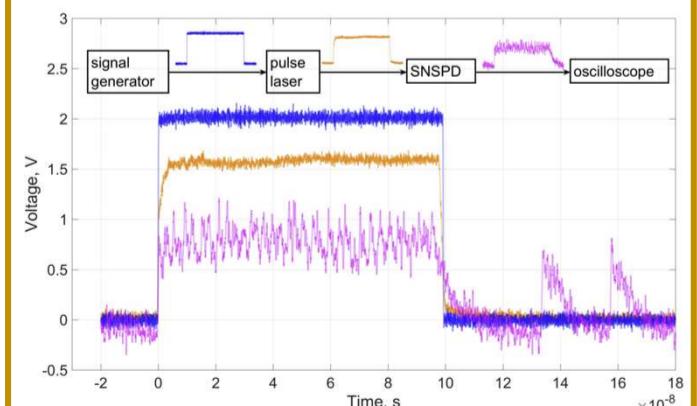
*S. Sajeed et al, Sci. Rep. 11, 5110 (2021)

Machine learning



*Yi. Mao et al, New J. Phys. 22, 083073 (2020)

Deeper understanding



*Intermediate report on SNSPD safety (2021)

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