



# SciCam python usb interface

SciCamLib is a python package for controlling and obtaining images from SciCam camera.

## Requierements

The package has the following requirements.

- Linux operating system
- Python 2.7
- Numpy
- Libusb1 for python

## Installation

Install **python** and **numpy** using your distribution package manager (apt-get for ubuntu, pacman for arch, yum for centos, etc...). Example (ubuntu 16.04):

```
>> sudo apt-get install python2.7 python-numpy
```

Install **libusb1 for python**. You can install it from the [github repository](#), we the recommend installing it via pip. Example (ubuntu 16.04):

```
>> sudo apt-get install python-pip
>> pip install libusb1
```

Now to install **SciCamLib** navigate to the root directory of the installation package (where this readme is located) and run [setup.py](#), depending on your python configuration you may or may not require super user privileges:

```
>> sudo python setup.py install
```

## Permissions

Depending on your system configuration you may need to call python (or python scripts) with super user privileges in order to communicate with an usb device.

The solution to this issue is either always call python with super user privileges or configure your operating system to let any user use the camera. See [udev](#) and [writing udev rules](#) for debian-based systems. The camera

vendor id is 0x04B4 and product id is 0x00F1.

## Basic usage

1. Connect the camera to the computer.
2. Open a console and run python.

```
>> python
```

3. Import SciCamLib.cam and instance a camera handle.

```
>>> import SciCamLib.cam as lib
>>> cam = lib.Camera()
```

4. Specify the required camera parameters.

```
>>> cam.ccd.bin_x = 1
>>> cam.ccd.bin_y = 1
>>> cam.shutter.expose_time_ms = 500
>>> cam.shutter.open = True
```

5. Apply the parameters and take the photo.

```
>>> cam.configure()
>>> image = cam.take_picture()
```

## Examples

The file [Example.py](#) configures the camera once and takes pictures in a loop until a keystroke is detected. Check the file for useful comments.

Also a graphical user interface is provided in [SciCamUsb.py](#) which shows the camera operating in a threaded environment and provides a way of performing quick tests on the camera.

This GUI has extra requirements. It needs matplotlib and wxPython in order to run. Both can be installed using your package manager. Example (ubuntu 16.04):

```
>> sudo apt-get install python-matplotlib wxgtk3.0
```

The GUI is generated using wxglade. The project file Interface.wgx is provided if you want to modify it. The wxgalde output has to be saved to SciCamUsb\_Interface.py.

## Documentation

Doxygen-generated documentation can be found in [/doc/SciCamLib](#) if you need to regenerate it or output a different type of documentation the doxyfile can be found on /docgen

## Un-installation

Like any [setup.py](#) package, you have to uninstall it by manually deleting the files. A semi-automatic option is to re-install the package with the --record option to list all the files and then use that list to unistall the library.

1. Create a list of all the package files (may require super-user permissions).

```
>> sudo python setup.py install --record files.txt
```

2. Uninstall the package (may require super-user permissions).

```
>> cat files.txt | sudo xargs rm -rf
```

3. Remove the list.

```
>> rm files.txt
```