

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

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Problem

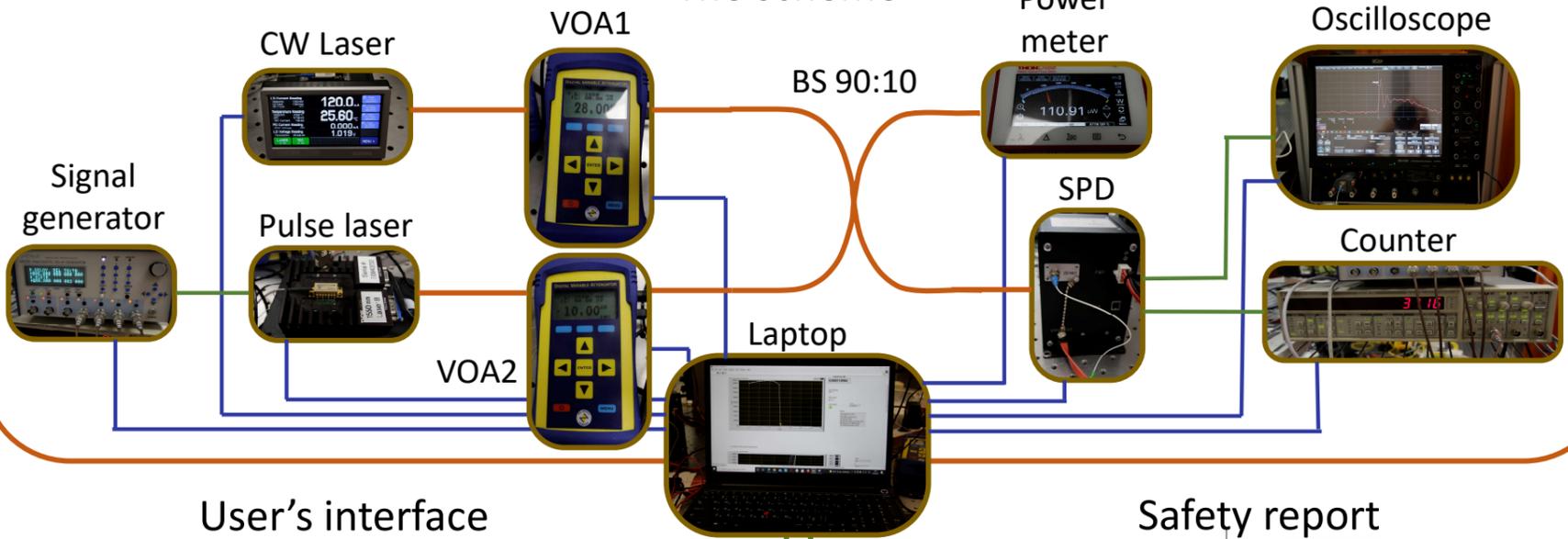
- ❑ Single photon detectors (SPDs) can be controlled by bright light attacks, see [1, 2].
- ❑ Many countermeasures suggested must be tested properly. See advanced attack at [3].
- ❑ Proper test by quantum hackers' team takes a lot of time and attention.

[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)

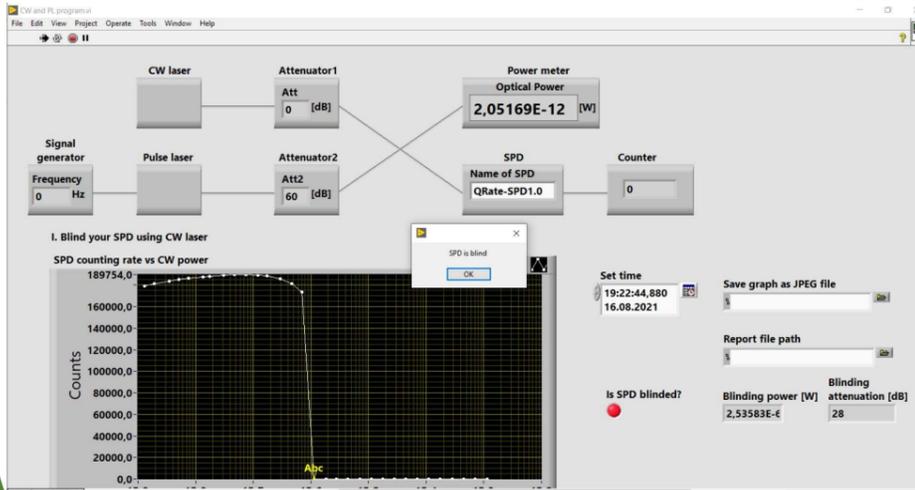
Solution

- ✓ 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).

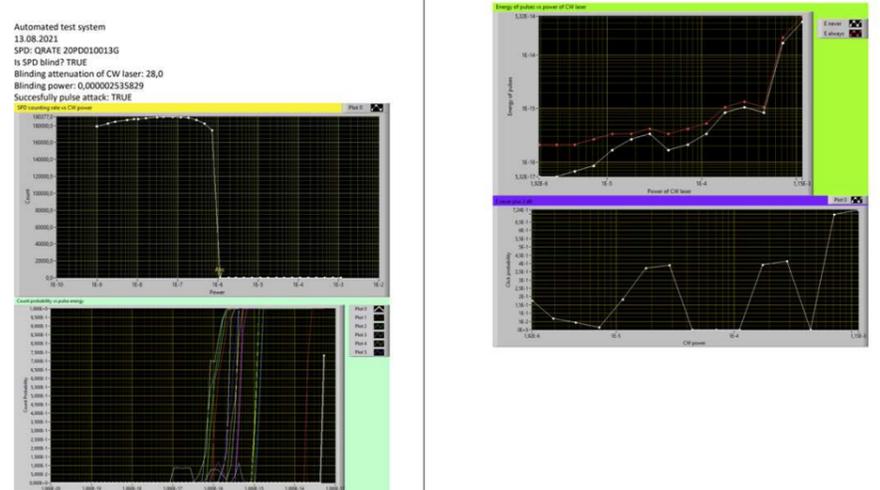
The scheme



User's interface



Safety report



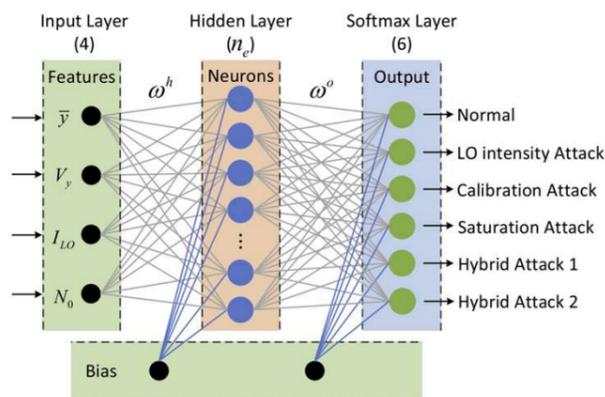
Future plans

Certification

Layer	Description
Q7. Installation and maintenance	Manual management procedures done by the manufacturer.
Q6. Application interface	Handles the communication between the quantum communication application that has asked for the service. For example, it provides a key to an encryption device or key distribution; in this layer, this layer transfers secret messages from/to the user.
Q5. Post-processing	Handles the post-processing of the raw data. For QKD, this includes key sifting, error correction, privacy amplification over a classical public channel involved in these steps.
Q4. Operation cycle	State machine that decides when to run subsystems and when to switch between qubit transmission, calibration and operation.
Q3. Driver and calibration algorithms	Firmware/software routines that control low-level optical devices in different regimes.
Q2. Analog electronics interface	Electronic signal processing and conditioning between the quantum communication application and the optical 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. This includes both optical components and their synchronization and calibration. For example, in a QKD system, it includes generation of weak coherent pulses with different phases, polarization splitting and detection, but also

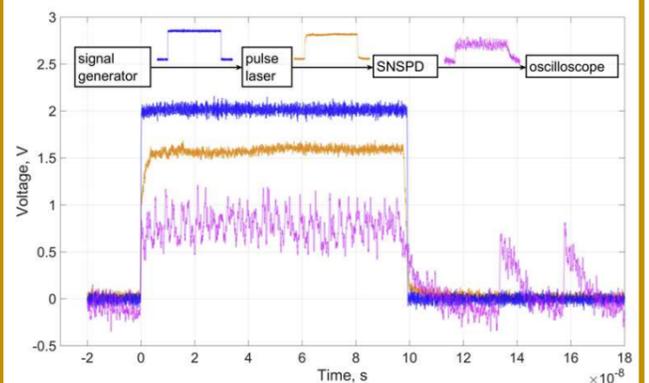
*S. Sajeed et al, Sci. Rep. 11, 5110 (2021)

Machine learning



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

Deeper understanding



*Intermediate report on SNSDP safety (2021)

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