



# FORESTERRA

Enhancing FOrest RESearch in the MediTERRAnean through improved coordination and integration



## INFORMATION ABOUT THE PERSON FILLING THE FORM

<b>Name and family name</b>	Jean-Charles VALETTE
<b>Research organization</b>	INRA, URFM
<b>Position in the organization</b>	Member of Fire Physics and Ecology Research Team
<b>Country</b>	France
<b>E-mail</b>	Jean-charles.valette@avignon.inra.fr

## FACILITY<sup>1</sup>

<b>Name of the facility</b>	Short name and complete name (Original language and English translation) Le banc expérimental des Vignières, Les Vignières Experimental Bench
	URL address
<b>Location of the facility</b>	Country : France
	Postal address 4790 Route des Vignères - 84250 LE THOR
	UTM coordinates: Latitude/Longitude
<b>Start date</b>	Year since the facility has been operative 1995
<b>Type of facility</b>	Short description: Experimental benches for static and moving fires : acquisition systems (National Instruments data), visible video images, FLIR infra-red images, Campbell weather data
<b>Keywords</b>	Experimental fires, Laboratory, Mediterranean wildland fuels
<b>Scientific characteristics</b>	Scientific objectives: Behaviour of no-slope, up-slope and down-slope surface fires, Impacts on surface fire behaviour of fuels particles, bulk density, fuel load, fuel moisture content, width of the fuel bench
	Interest for users:
	Particularities in comparison to similar facilities: Moving fires bench can be tilted from 0° to 30°, fires behaviour can be analysed from -30° to +30°. Wind effect can not be studied on this bench Static fires bench allows to register the characteristics of the flame and of the plume depending of the the fuel characteristics (nature, fuel load, fuel moisture content, bulk density)
	Research projects in the frame of which the facility is used (include web site address) FIRESTAR ( <a href="http://www.eufirestar.org">www.eufirestar.org</a> ), EUFIRELAB ( <a href="http://www.eufirelab.org">www.eufirelab.org</a> ), FIRE PARADOX ( <a href="http://www.fireparadox.org">www.fireparadox.org</a> )
<b>Technical characteristics</b>	Detailed description of instrumentation: see attached file
	Measured parameters: see attached file
	If there is any file, map or images relevant about this infrastructure, please attach it (indicating here the name of the file): FR-FA-02.pdf

## SCIENTISTS AND/OR TECHNICIANS IN CHARGE OF THE FACILITY

<b>Principal investigator</b>	Jean-Luc DUPUY, jean-luc.dupuy@avignon.inra.fr
<b>One line for each additional person</b>	Eric RIGOLOT, <a href="mailto:eric.rigolot@avignon.inra.fr">eric.rigolot@avignon.inra.fr</a> François PIMONT, francois.pimont@avignon.inra.fr

<sup>1</sup> Note: This information could be published in the webpage of FORESTERRA.



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## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

<b>Availability for participating in mutual measurements</b>	Yes <i>jean-luc.dupuy@avignon.inra.fr</i>
	<i>Conditions or Policy of use : contact Jean-Luc DUPUY</i>
<b>Availability for accessing the data collected</b>	Yes <i>jean-luc.dupuy@avignon.inra.fr</i>
	<i>Conditions or Policy of use : contact Jean-Luc DUPUY</i>
<b>Institution that manages the facility</b>	<i>INRA PACA (Avignon, France)</i>
	<i><a href="http://www.paca.inra.fr/">http://www.paca.inra.fr/</a></i>

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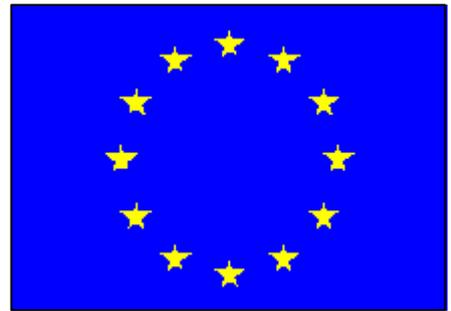
<b>Structure or institution which manages the data</b>	<i>INRA PACA (Avignon, France)</i>
	<i><a href="http://www.paca.inra.fr/">http://www.paca.inra.fr/</a></i>
<b>Is the facility participating in a national or international Network?</b>	<i>Name (Original language and English translation)</i>
	<i>URL address</i>
<b>Is the facility open for transnational collaboration?</b>	<i>Conditions: contact Jean-Luc DUPUY</i>



**EUFIRELAB**  
**EVR1-CT-2002-40028**

**D-07-09**

<http://eufirelab.org>



## **EUFIRELAB:**

**Euro-Mediterranean Wildland Fire Laboratory,  
a “wall-less” Laboratory  
for Wildland Fire Sciences and Technologies  
in the Euro-Mediterranean Region**

**Deliverable D-07-09**

**Les Vignières facilities:**

**Presentation of the different benches and devices**

**Jean-Luc DUPUY, Joël MARECHAL, Denis PORTIER, Philippe VACHET,  
Jean-Charles VALETTE**

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**SUMMARY**

This document details the characteristics of the two main experimental benches and the different acquisition systems of Les Vignères infrastructure, which has been briefly described in Deliverable D-07-09.

Chapters 2 and 3 are devoted to the experimental benches for static and moving fires.

After a precise description of the benches themselves, specifications of the installed sensors are detailed.

The classical procedures developed are presented.

The four latest chapters are devoted to the acquisition systems: National Instruments data (chapter 4), visible video images (chapter 5), FLIR infra-red images (chapter 6) and Campbell weather data (chapter 7).

**GLOSSARY**

None

**LIST OF ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS**

None

## 1 INTRODUCTION

Deliverable D-07-02 presents the infrastructure dedicated to laboratory studies of fire behaviour develop by INRA-PIF in Les Vignères.

This infrastructure has been developed during the tenth last years for:

- verifying physical assumptions on fire behaviour,
- enriching the behaviour model based on a complete and physical approach with adapted sub-models,
- comparing the predictions of the model with the results of well-documented laboratory experiments.

Because wind effects are studied on different research infrastructures, some of them belong to EUFIRELAB members, we decided to focus on the slope effects in order to study convection driven fires.

This choice enables to compare the behaviour of horizontal, up-slope and down-slope surface fires.

It enables to define when the fire has a two dimensional behaviour; the main gradients follow:

- X axis, the direction of fire propagation, and
- Z axis, the local vertical.

It enables to determine when the slope angle induces a three dimensional behaviour, the gradients following Y axis, perpendicular to X Z plan, can no more be neglected.

The equipment of these infrastructure has been enriched progressively thanks national contracts, and overall several European contracts dedicated to this item in the framework 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> frameworks programmes.

Since the beginning, this infrastructure has been opened to all INRA-PIF partners and some devices have been developed with them.

The EUFIRELAB project represents two opportunities for this infrastructure:

- to enrich or complete its different acquisition systems,
- to enlarge the panel of research teams which are invited to participate to dedicated series of tests,
- to include it in the EUFIRELAB Centre for technological development which is the fourth task of the work package WP7 dedicated to Wildland Fire Metrology.

The objective of this document is first of all to present in detail the infrastructure and explain how we are working.

It may induce new interests and efficient, and promising co-operations.

**2 THE EXPERIMENTAL BENCH FOR STATIC FIRES**

**2.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE BENCH**

Some images present this bench in chapter 3 of Deliverable D-07-02

**2.1.1 The chamber**

It is a 4-m cube:

- the top side is open: the smoke provided during the test exhausts through the smoke exhaust of the roof of the building (see Deliverable D-07-02, chapter 2)
- the front side is transparent (8-mm extruded polystyrene plate) so that fire behaviour can be monitored and video-recorded from outside, a double door (2 x 2 m) also in extruded polystyrene permits to enter the chamber before and after the test
- the three other sides are white woody walls.

**2.1.2 Baskets**

Cylindrical baskets contains the wildland fuel before and during the test (reference 6 in Figure 2-1).

They are constituted of two grids:

- external grid: 25 mm x 25 mm meshes of 1.8-mm galvanised-iron thread,
- internal grid: 13 mm x 13 mm meshes of 0.8-mm galvanised-iron thread

For including the diameter of the flame among the studied parameters, three types of baskets have been carried out.

Their characteristics are the following:

Basket	Small	Medium	Large
Height (m)	0,20	0,20	0,20
Diameter (m)	0,20	0,28	0,40
Circumference (m)	0,628	0,879	1,257
Basal area (m <sup>2</sup> )	0,0314	0,0616	0,1257
Lateral area (m <sup>2</sup> )	0,1257	0,1759	0,2513
Total area (m <sup>2</sup> )	0,1885	0,2991	0,5026
Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	0,006283	0,012315	0,025133

The grids mask 21% de la total area of the basket.

Basket sizes have been chosen in function of the mass-to-volume ratios of the fuel:

- 20 kg m<sup>-3</sup> for the dead Pinus pinaster needles,
- 4 kg m<sup>-3</sup> for Excelsior (control).

**2.1.3 Baskets holder**

It is represented by reference 3 in Figure 2-1

Its 0.95-m cubic structure of aluminium angle-bars (20\*20\*2 mm) is on a 1-m square aluminium plate placed on the upper plate of the balance.

A square structure of aluminium angle-bars can be moved inside the main structure in order to adjust the level of the top of the basket to the surrounding equipment.

During the test it is fixed at 0.40 m above the aluminium plate and at 0.60 m above the ground.

This square structure supports two U-shape slide bars, parallel to the edges of the structure, which can be adjusted to the size of the baskets.

This square structure can also support a square iron plate (reference 6 in Figure 2-2):

- a centre hole is adapted to the diameter of the basket,
- its upper side is painted with a black (emissivity = 1) polyurethane paint in order to resist to temperatures up to 600 K.

**2.1.4 Ignition devices**

Like for the baskets, we developed three sizes of ignition devices (see following table).

Ignition device	Small	Medium	Large
<b>Dimensions</b>			
Length (cm)	25,5	35,5	45,5
Width (cm)	24,0	34,0	44,0
<b>Channel</b>			
External diameter (cm)	20,0	30,0	40,0
Internal diameter (cm)	18,5	28,5	38,5

For enabling fresh air to enter or not trough the bottom of the basket, we developed open and closed devices.

The devices are stored in the oven-drier for:

- ensuring that the woody plates will not dry during the test and increase artificially the weight loss rate,
- facilitating the ahlcool vaporisation are dry before the tests and enabling a sudden and regular ignition of the channel, along the basal circumference of the basket.

#### 2.1.4.1 Closed device (reference 4 in Figure 2-2)

They are constituted of a 5-mm plate of ceramic fibres placed on a 15-mm woody (poplar) plate: the following table details their sizes.

In the centre of each device, a 2 cm x 0.5 cm channel is grooved in the woody plate, and is filled with very fine sand.

0.3-mm aluminium ribbon covers and protects the five sides of the woody plate.

The device is sliding in the U-shape slide bars.

#### 2.1.4.2 Open device (reference 5 in Figure 2-2)

They are constituted of one ring and two parallel arms, tangent to the ring, covered by ceramic fibres.

As for the closed device, a channel (same dimensions) is grooved in the ring and filled with sand.

It is also sliding in the U-shape slide bars.

#### 2.1.5 **Vertical marks**

They are represented by reference 11 in Figure 2-1

They are 4 m high, marked by 10-cm red and white strips, 80 cm both sides of the vertical symmetric plan of the bench.

They permit to assess the height and the width of the flame and of the plume either during the test (direct reading) or afterwards during the analysis of the video images.

## 2.2 **SENSORS**

### 2.2.1 **Infra-red images**

As indicated on Figure 2-3, infra-red camera is located on the left side of the bench and the "cold" and "hot" black bodies on its right side.

A temperature controller maintains the temperature of the "hot" blackbody at a fixed value.

With this installation the infrared camera "sees" through the flame or the plume of hot gases both black bodies and also the hot solder of thermocouples sensors located just in the symmetric plan of the bench.

Characteristics of the flame like transparency are deduced from pixels comparison

Information are given in chapter 6

### 2.2.2 **Visible video images**

They are taken from outside through the extruded polystyrene facade by the Handy cam, which is described in chapter 5.

### 2.2.3 **Weighting system**

It is represented by references 1 and 2 in Figure 2-1

As indicated previously, a Sauter E120 balance and his composed of two parts:

- a weighting platform which supports the baskets holder, the ignition device and the basket,
- a remote unit.

The 0.5 m x 0.4 m weighting platform accepts up to 60 kg with an accuracy of 1 g.

The remote unit gathers:

- electro luminescent diodes for displaying the weight,
- a keyboard for tarring and resetting the balance,
- a digital output thanks a 20 mA current loop.

This digital output is connected to a digital / analogue converter Mettler GC47 and the digital transmission is asynchronous per character and at 2400 bits per second.

The digital / analogue converter:

- analyses the digital input signal and isolates three consecutive digits,
- provides an analogic output tension between 0 and 10 VDC covering the range 0 – 999 g (selector on mark 3) .

This output tension is collected, measured and treated by the data logging system:

- previously, the Orion data logger,
- since two years, the National Instruments data acquisition system described in chapter 4.

### 2.2.4 Thermocouples sensors

Based on the range of expected temperature, all the thermocouples sensors are K-type (Chromel - Alumel).

They are carried out with the welding machine) Soudax SD100 (see Deliverable D-07-02):

- naked mono-side 50 microns wires in order to get "hot" points with a characteristic response time of 0.1 sec,
- insulated mono-side 175 microns wires in order to get a satisfying mechanical resistance.

In a first step, 5-cm Chromel wire is welded to a 5-cm Alumel wire to get the "hot" point.

In a second step, 50- $\mu$  Chromel wire is welded to the 175- $\mu$  Chromel wire.

In a third step, 50- $\mu$  Alumel wire is welded to the 175- $\mu$  Alumel wire.

Each pair of Chromel and Alumel junctions are connected with mini connectors to shielded copper wires which are connected to the data logging system.

These Chromel-Alumel / Copper connections are located in an insulated connecting box in which a RTD platinum sensor delivers the internal temperature which will be used by the data logging system as "cold" junction temperature.

### 2.2.5 Flux meters

These sensors which equipped the bench previously are now abandoned.

Energy released by the flame and/or the glowing material will be deduced from infrared images

## 2.3 DATA LOGGING SYSTEM

In the previous period, the thermocouples sensors and the balance were connected to Orion data logger and only specific thermocouples sensors were connected to the National Instruments data acquisition system.

Figure 2-4 shows these connections.

The K00 to K05 thermocouples sensors were scanned at high frequency (200 Hz, all of them every 5 milli-second) in order to be able to identify correlations between the signals collected at.

By analysing the signals of the K00-K01, K02-K03 and K04-K05 pairs it is possible to determine the time needed by a given "bubble" of hot gas to move from K00 to K01, or from K02 to K03 or from K04 to K05.

Knowing the distance (10 cm) between each thermocouple sensor of each pair, it is possible to determine the vertical component of the gas velocity and to study its vertical gradient.

Presently, the capacity of the National Instruments data acquisition system has been improved thanks EUFIRELAB project and all the sensors are connected to it.

This simplifies the data analysis and enables to trigger simultaneously the launching of the data acquisition system and of the infra red images acquisition system.

2.4 ILLUSTRATIONS

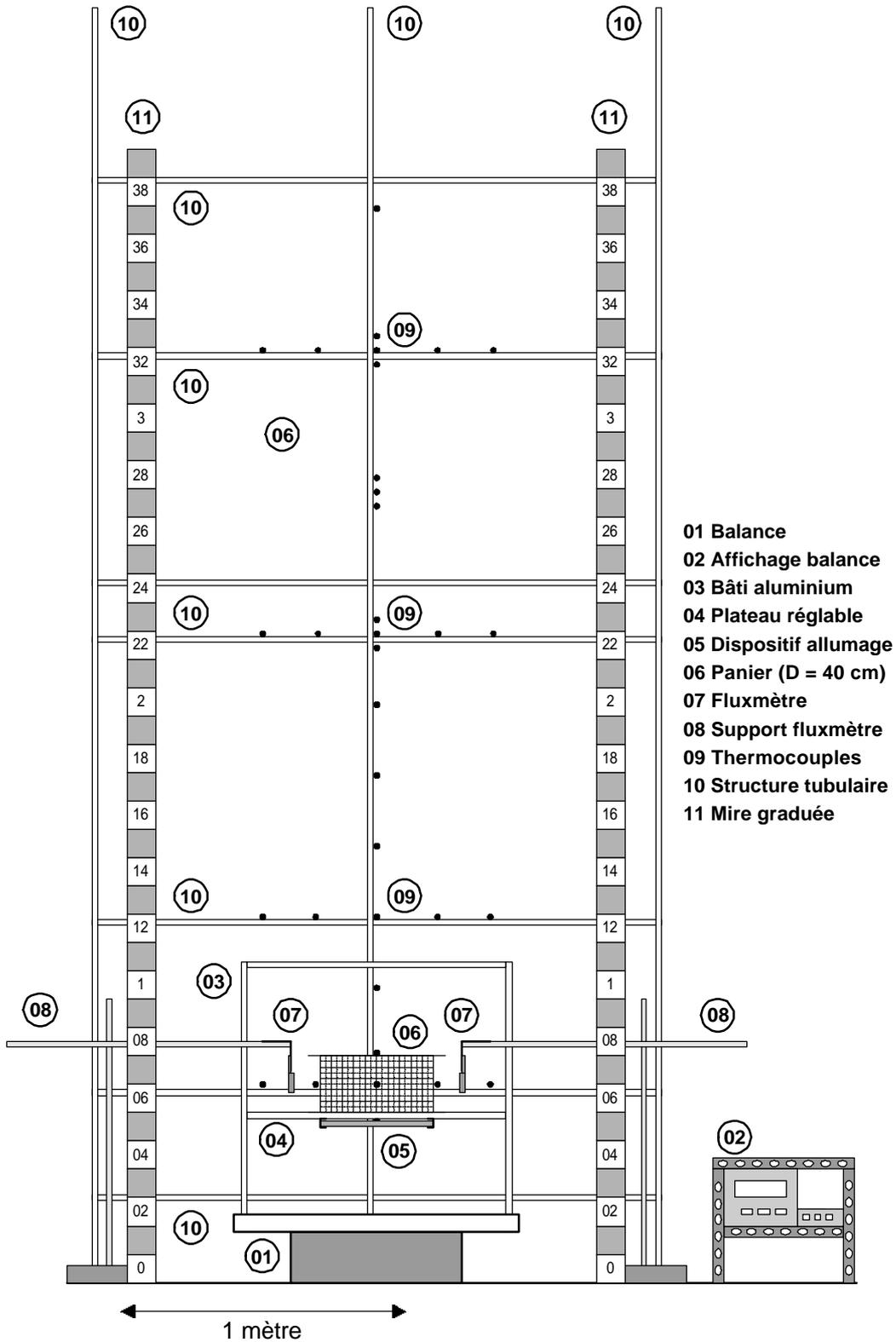
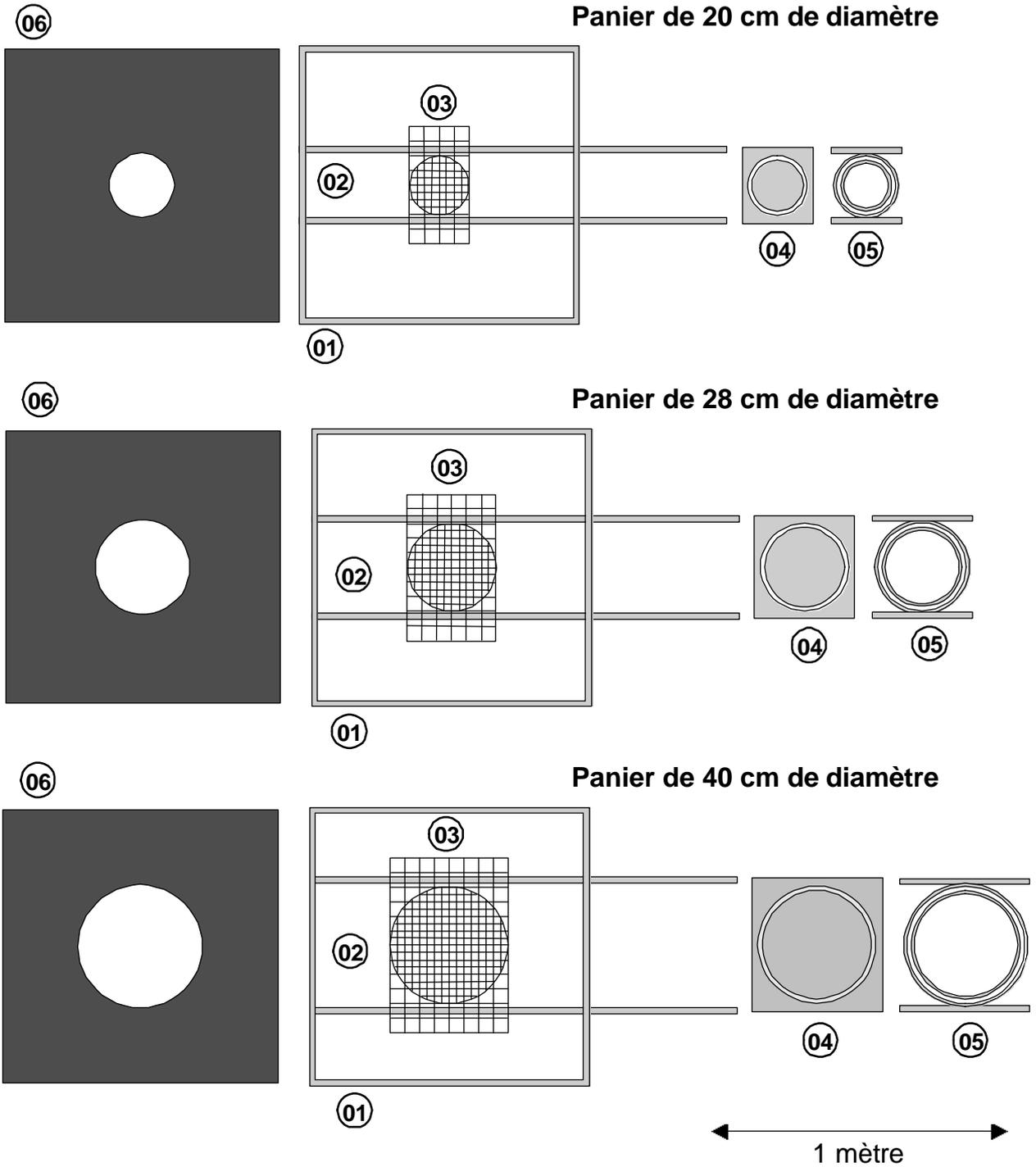


Figure 2-1: Location of the main components

- |                                 |  |                         |
|---------------------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 1 Balance: weighting platform   | 2 Balance: remote unit (display and connections) | 3 Baskets holder        |
| 4 Adaptable plate               | 5 Ignition device                                | 6 Basket                |
| 7 Flux meters                   | 8 Flux meters holders                            | 9 Thermocouples sensors |
| 10 Thermocouples sensors holder | 11 Vertical coloured marks                       |                         |



**01 Support réglable du plateau de combustion**

**02 Rails du dispositif d'allumage**

**03 Panier**

**04 Dispositif d'allumage (air freiné)**

**05 Dispositif d'allumage (air libre)**

**06 Plaque de tôle**

Figure 2-2: Detailed structure of the ignition device with the three baskets

01 Adaptable holder of the ignition device

02 U-shape slide bars

03 Basket

04 "Closed" ignition device

05 "Open" ignition device

06 Iron plate

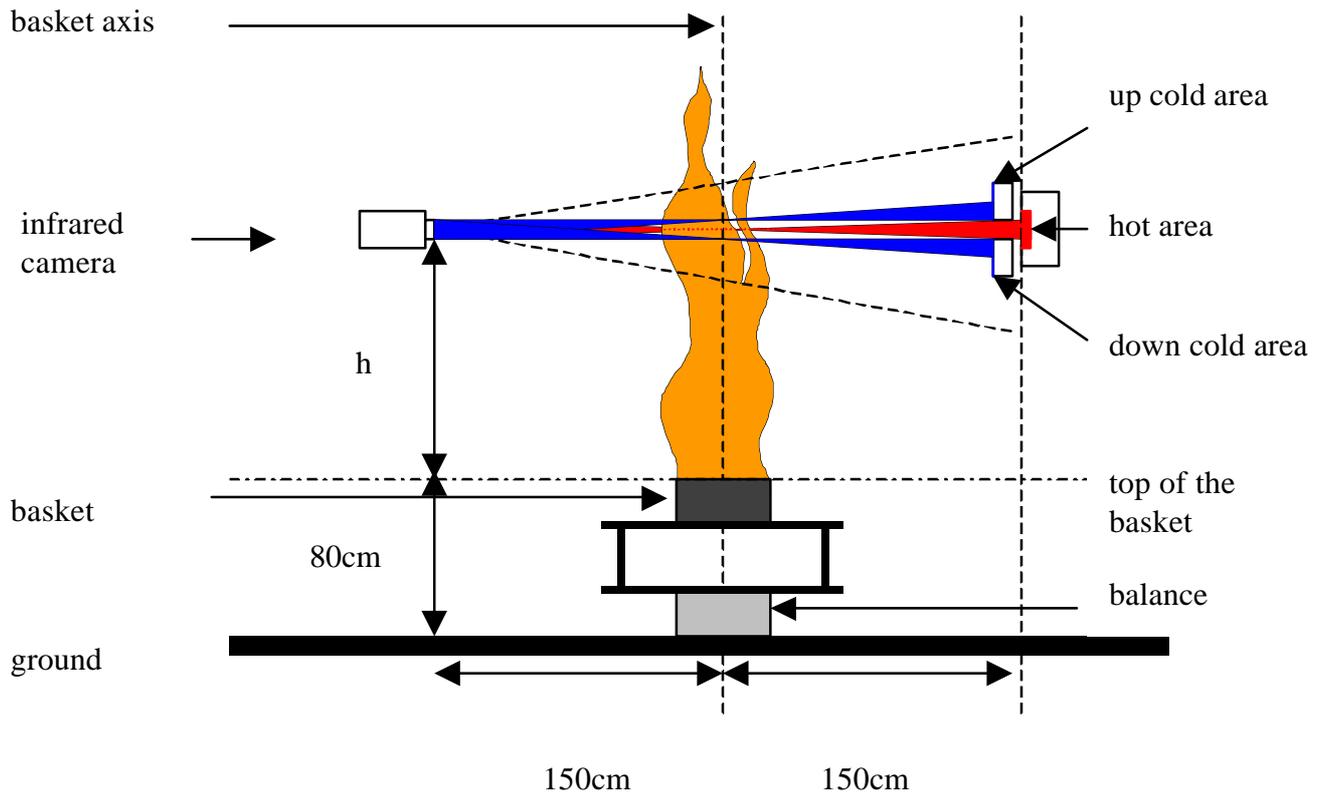


Figure 2-3: Scheme of the experimental device

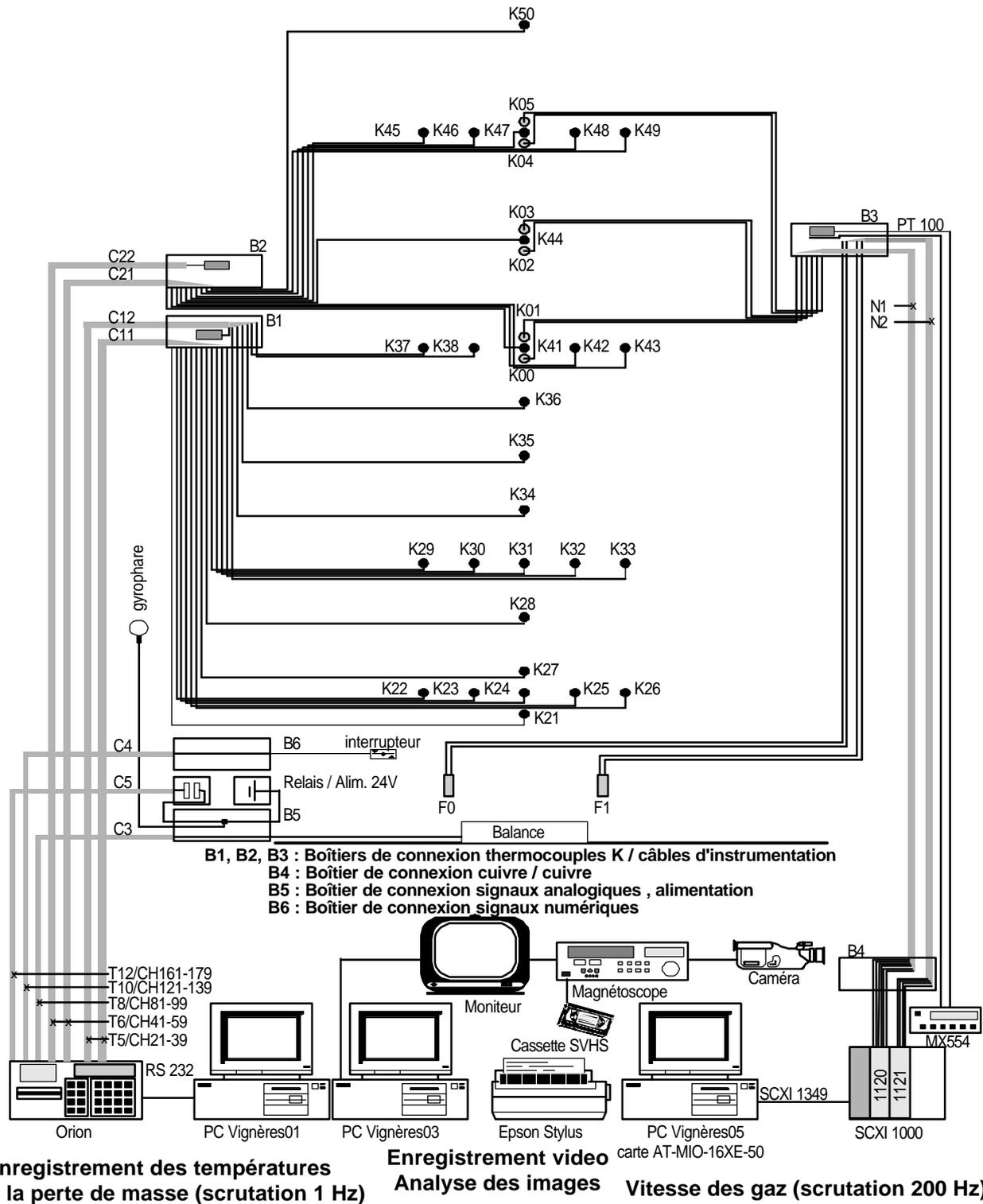


Figure 2-4: Scheme of the connections of the bench to the different data and images acquisition systems

- B1, B2 and B3: Connection boxes: Chromel/Alumel – Copper
- B4: Connection box Copper – Copper
- B5: Connection box for analogue signals
- B6: Connection box for digitised signals

Temperatures and weigh loss are scanned at 1 Hz (all the sensors every second) by Orion data logger  
 Thermocouples sensors K00 to K05 are scanned at 200 Hz (the six sensors are measured every 5 milliseconds) by National Instruments data acquisition system  
 Nowadays all the sensors are connected to the National Instruments data acquisition system and Orion data logger is abandoned

**2.5 PROCEDURE**

We have developed a general procedure for carrying out tests on this bench.

It has to be adapted in order to satisfy the specific objectives of a given series of tests.

**2.5.1 Studied factors**

Three common factors are related to the bench:

- type of fuel family
- size of the basket
- entrance or not of air at the bottom of the basket.

For a given fuel type, we often cross the three levels of factor 2 and the two levels of factor 3.

2.5.1.1 Type of fuel family

Fire behaviour depends on the physical characteristics of the fuel particles, mainly their mass-to-volume ratio and their surface-to-volume ratio.

*We classically use dead Pinus pinaster and dead Pinus halepensis needles ad Excelsior as control.*

It is possible to use other types of fuel, but the baskets should be adapted in case the fuel particles are so small that they fall down through the finest mesh: the side of the basket must remain transparent and allow the entrance of air.

2.5.1.2 Size of the basket

For safety and technical reasons, it is not suitable to reduce the size of the smaller basket or enlarge the size of the larger one.

2.5.1.3 Entrance of air in the “burner”

The “closed” ignition device is suitable for very fine fuel particle like Excelsior or grasses, the dynamic of the fire is lower, the size of the flame ad of the plume is compatible with the bench and the building, the duration of the combustion process is long enough for collecting enough data during the stabilised period.

It is also adapted to study the fire behaviour close to ground level.

The “open” ignition device is necessary for quite all burning conditions with Pinus sp needles.

It is adapted to study the fire behaviour a few centimetres above the ground.

$$EWTS = 6,107 \times (1 + (2^{0,5} \times \sin((2 \times \pi / 360) \times (Ts / 3))))^{8,827},$$

$$EWTM = 6,107 \times (1 + (2^{0,5} \times \sin((2 \times \pi / 360) \times (Tm / 3))))^{8,827},$$

$$ETS = EWTM - (Vt \times (Ts - Tm)).$$

EWTS : tension of saturating vapour at temperature Ts in hPa.

EWTM : tension of saturating vapour at temperature Tm in hPa.

ETS : correction of EWTM by psychrometric constant Vt = 0,79 when ventilation is natural.

Air moisture content is equal to **100 x (ETS / EWTS)** and expressed in %

Saturation deficit is the difference between EWTS and ETS in hPa.

**2.5.2 The test sheet**

2.5.2.1 General information upon the test

- Date of the test: DDMMYY format
- Test number: YYMMDDNN format
- Fuel type
- Oven-dried fuel load in grammes
- Size of the basket
- Open or Closed ignition device

2.5.2.2 Wildland fuel

Wildland fuel is pre-dried in the oven at 60°C during at least 24 hours

The needed quantity of fuel is taken from the oven and weighted before preparing the test.

More fuel is stored outside the oven in the same preparation conditions.

A sample is taken from this mass of fuel in order to determine the moisture content of the fuel just before the test: 24 hours at 60°C.

Moisture content is expressed on oven-dried material (grams of water per hectogram of oven-dried material).

2.5.2.3 Air characteristics in the experimentation hall

Atmospheric pressure is measured just before ignition and express in hPa.

Air temperature and moisture content are measured by the RTD Pt 100 1/3 DIN and ROTRONIC-HYGROMER C94 sensors of the portable weather station.

They can also be deduced from the indication of the fixed psychrometer placed close to the bench:

- air temperature at the “dry” bubble thermometer Ts
  - temperature of the water-saturated air “humid” bubble thermometer Tm
- Both are expressed in °C

Air moisture content is deduced by applying the following equations:

:

2.5.2.4 Other observations

S-VHS tape number and location of the test on the tape, format HH:MM:SS

Value displayed by the balance at the end of the test.

Start and end dates (format HH:MM:SS) of the National Instruments session

Quantity of ahlcool used for ignition

2.5.2.5 Infrared camera parameters

Sampling frequency: 50 images/s.

Range of measurement: depends on the type of test of the level of measurements 0-500°C or 350-1500°C (brightness temperature).

Calibration was done before each test, and was disabled during the tests.

The atmospheric parameters were updated before each test in the data logging software of the camera (Thermacam Researcher): atmospheric temperature, ambient temperature, and air humidity.

**2.5.3 Different steps of a test**

Before each daily series

- Verify the bench
- Activate the data acquisition system
- Verify the thermocouples and repair if necessary

Before each test

- Prepare the test sheet
- Prepare the data acquisition, and create the data files
- Prepare the fuel for filling the basket and for determining its moisture content
- Fill the basket by respecting the homogeneity of its porosity
- Verify the video camera and the infra-red camera
- Install the basket on its holder
- Extract the ignition device from the oven and install it on the holder
- Weigh some fuel for determining its moisture content and enter the sample in the oven
- Launch the video camera
- Reset the weight platform
- Note the climatic parameters
- Spread ahlcool regularly in the channel of the ignition device
- Insert the ignition device under the basket
- Reset the weight platform
- Ignite the ahlcool

During the test

- Announce loudly the starting of the test
- Simultaneously, launch the data acquisition system and the infra red camera
- Observe the combustion

After each test

- Stop the data acquisition system and the infrared camera
- Stop the visible video images acquisition
- Read the value displayed by the balance after extinction of the embers
- Save the data files
- Weigh the unburned material
- Clean all the components of the bench and prepare for the following test
- Repair the broken thermocouples sensors
- Verify and complete the test sheet

The following day

- Weigh the oven dry material and determine the fuel moisture content
- Complete the test sheet
- Archive the data files, the infra red images files and digitise the video tapes

### 3 THE EXPERIMENTAL BENCH FOR MOVING FIRES

#### 3.1 DESCRIPTION OF THE BENCH

Views and scheme are available in deliverable D-07-02.

##### 3.1.1 Platform

The platform is rectangular: 4 m width and 10 m long.

The metallic structure is covered by two layers:

- a woody floor constituted by *Pinus pinaster* jointed laths (200 cm x 7 cm x 2.7 cm)
- a cellular concrete floor constituted by jointed flags (60 cm x 50 cm x 5 cm)

These two layers ensure stability and avoid artificial fuel preheating which could modify fire behaviour.

The burning zone is 3 m x 9 m and surrounded by numbered red and white strips.

The burning area must be included in the burning zone, depending of the objectives of the series of test.

##### 3.1.2 Horizontal marks

Four series of numbered red and white strips surround the burning zone (see Figure 3-1).

They are used:

- during the preparation of the test to located the burning area on the platform and the elementary areas for evaluating the fuel bed depth
- during the test to locate the fire front
- after the test, to locate the elementary areas where unburned fuel and ashes are collected for estimating the consumption ratio
- during the video images analysis, for locating the fire front spatially.

##### 3.1.3 Cotton threads

In order to monitor the front line propagation, fine cotton threads are tighten parallel to Y axis and just on the top of the fuel bed.

The thread is so fine that it is cut by the fire as soon as it is reached by the fire front.

The thread is so tighten that it is possible to select the image corresponding to the event.

The threads are tighten:

- from 0.00 to 2.00, every 0.25 m
- from 2.00 to 9.00, every 0.50 m.

##### 3.1.4 Grid

A grid (10-mm iron rods and a mesh of 0.25 m x 0.25) is located in a XZ plan at 0.25 m from the median plan of the platform.

The limits of the cells are aligned with the horizontal marks.

It is used for locating the base and the tip of the fire front seen from the side when each cotton thread is are cut by the fire front.

The grid supports the thermocouples sensors and the insulated Chromel – Alumel wires.

##### 3.1.5 Metallic structure

3-cm square iron bars support the grid and the device for side view images

##### 3.1.6 Catwalk

In order to ensure the security of the experimentalists a 1-m metallic catwalk surrounds the platform when it is horizontal.

They can prepare the test, verify and replace the thermocouples sensors and clean the platform in complete safety.

During a test, internal rule forbids the experimentalists to stay on the catwalk because:

- a general rule restricts the presence of experimentalists in the experimentation hall only in case of emergency,
- when the platform is tilted, there are no protection along the internal side of the catwalk

##### 3.1.7 Connections boxes

The insulated connection boxes (eighteen connections and a RTD platinum resistance per box) are located below the platform:

- inputs: Chromel – Alumel wires
- outputs: Copper wires.

Specific plugs permit to replace easily broken thermocouples sensors.

##### 3.1.8 Lifting oil jack

The oil jack permits to tilt the platform at the required slope angle.

This double-effects jack controls up and down movements of the platform and safety switches are activated for stopping the platform at 0° and 30°.

Emergency switches are located in the experimentation hall and in the observatory room in case of necessity.

##### 3.1.9 Fire security

As indicated in deliverable D-07-02, specific attention is paid to this danger.

In case of emergency, the platform can be dropped directly from the observation room and the two permanent fire-hose point can be activated by the experimentalists.

No auto-extinguishing system has been installed yet.

### 3.2 SENSORS

They are connected to the National Instruments data acquisition systems described in the specific chapter 4.

#### 3.2.1 Thermocouples sensors

They are identical to those used on the bench for static fire (see paragraph 2.2.4).

Their fragility induces many problems and requires a great attention from the experimentalists specifically when they are preparing the test.

Figure 3-1 indicates the location of the sensors:

The grid is placed at Y = 1.25 m so that the “hot” points of the sensors are exactly in the XZ median plan of the platform (Y = 1.50 m).

The classical configuration is the one represented on the Figure 3-1:

- 6 sensors along 7 verticals (V1 to V7) at 6 levels
- level 0 = just on the top of the fuel bed (0.05 m)
- level 1 = 0.25 m above the platform
- level 2 = 0.50 m above the platform
- level 3 = 0.75 m above the platform
- level 4 = 1.00 m above the platform
- level 5 = 1.50 m above the platform

Depending of the specific objectives of the tests, these levels can be modified in order to collect more accurate information in a given range of Z values.

It is also possible to locate some other sensors along Y lines, perpendicular to the X axis of the platform at level 0 in order to collect more information in XY plan (see Figure 3-1).

#### 3.2.2 RTD platinum resistances

Like on the other bench, connecting boxes equip DESIRE bench.

They are located under the platform, Chromel – Alumel wires cross the platform and access directly to the insulated boxes,

Adapted plugs ensure the quality of the connections between Chromel – Alumel and coppers wires.

In each box, a RTD platinum resistance delivers the temperature of the connection, which is used by the data acquisition system as “cold” temperature.

#### 3.2.3 Weight loss

On this bench, it is not presently possible to monitor and record this parameter with constraint gauges.

When we built the bench, the cost of accurate sensors was not compatible for our budget.

The maximum fuel load ( $81 \text{ kg} = 3 \text{ kg.m}^2 \times 27 \text{ m}^2$ ) was too low, compare to the total weight of the bench (the tara) to be monitored correctly with accessible measurement devices.

Presently, the weight loss rate is evaluated from the surface burnt per unit of time and from the consumption ratio, but the approach is not satisfying.

This must be improved in the future.

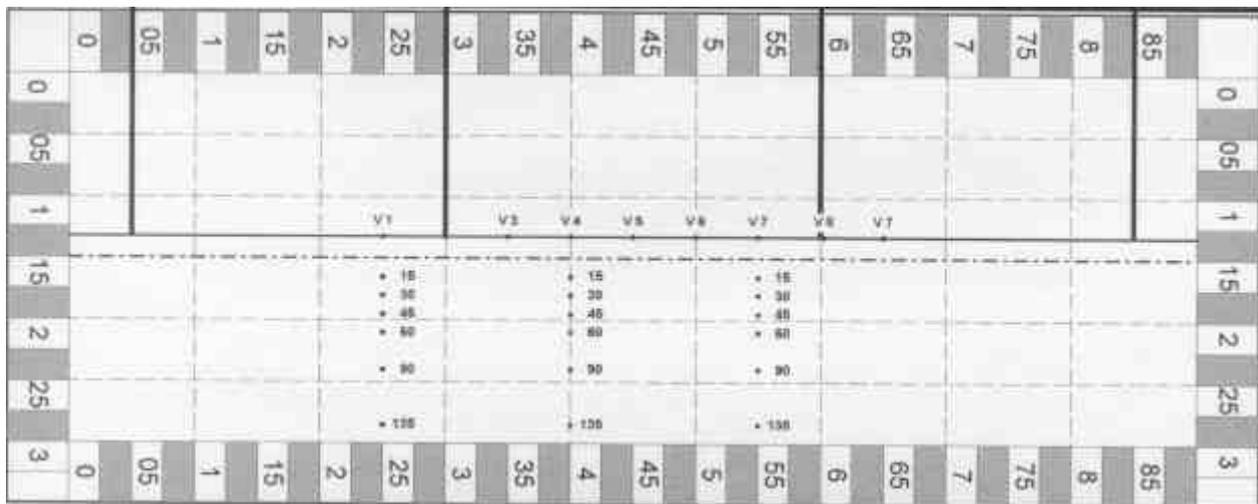


Figure 3-1: Location of the thermocouples sensors (view from above in XY plan)

### 3.3 INFRARED IMAGES ACQUISITION SYSTEM

The system based on FLIR components is described in the specific chapter 6.

For using it on DESIRE bench, we developed specific components, mainly:

- attachment arms to fix the camera on the bench and to avoid that the tilting of the platform modify the scene "seen" by the camera
- thermal marks to be able to localise the part of the platform "seen" by the camera.

This lead also to elaborate a specific procedure.

#### 3.3.1 Attachment arms

Specific attachment arms (Figure 3-2) was used to fix the camera above the platform:

- a square grip fixed to the metal structure of the bench.
- a swivel grip fixed to the camera.

This connection allows a complete rotation of the camera in the three dimensions.

The camera is located so that the median axis of the burning area covers exactly the vertical axis of the image (Figure 3-3).

This accurate location is necessary to determine the relationships between the XY co-ordinates of the image and those of the platform: the trapezoidal shape of the image must be transformed in a rectangular one.

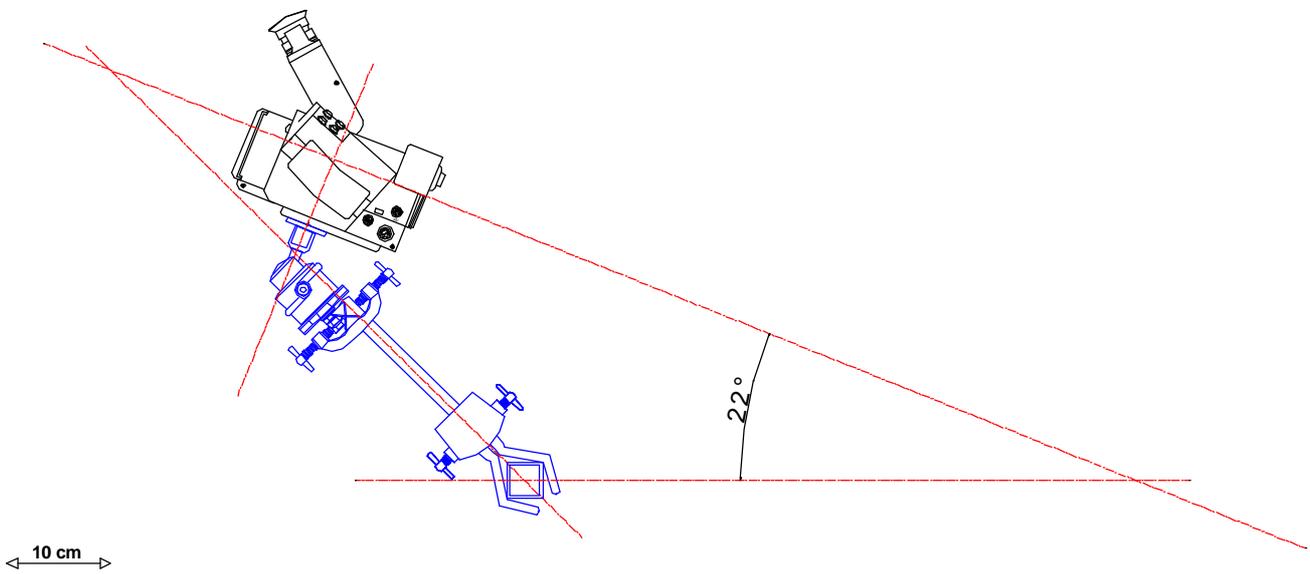


Figure 3-2: Attachment arm (blue) used to adapt the camera (black) to the DESIRE bench. The angle between the optical axis and the X-axis of DESIRE is 22°.

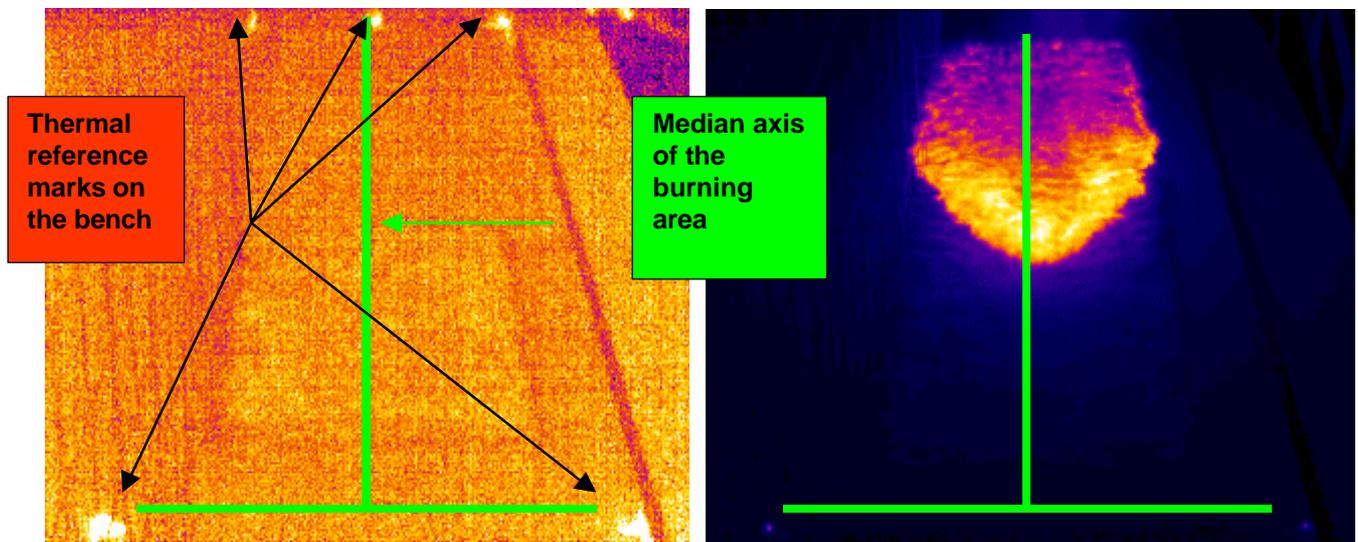


Figure 3-3: IR image, before and after the fire, the camera is in the median axis of the fire, centred in the image

### 3.3.2 Thermal marks

Thermal marks (three crossed strips of ruffled aluminium sheet and a candle at the centre of the cross) delimit on the platform the area “seen” by the IR camera (Figure 3-3, Figure 3-4 and Figure 3-5)

Because of the presence of soot (emissivity quite equal to 1) in the flame of the candle, this flame generates thermal radiation, which is scattered by the ruffled aluminium, and “seen” by the IR camera.

For avoiding any problems during the image analysis, the width of the strips is equal to three pixels of the IR image.

For ensuring stability of the candle, mainly during up-slope fires, each candle is stuck with hot wax on the aluminium crosses.

» 3 pixels in the image

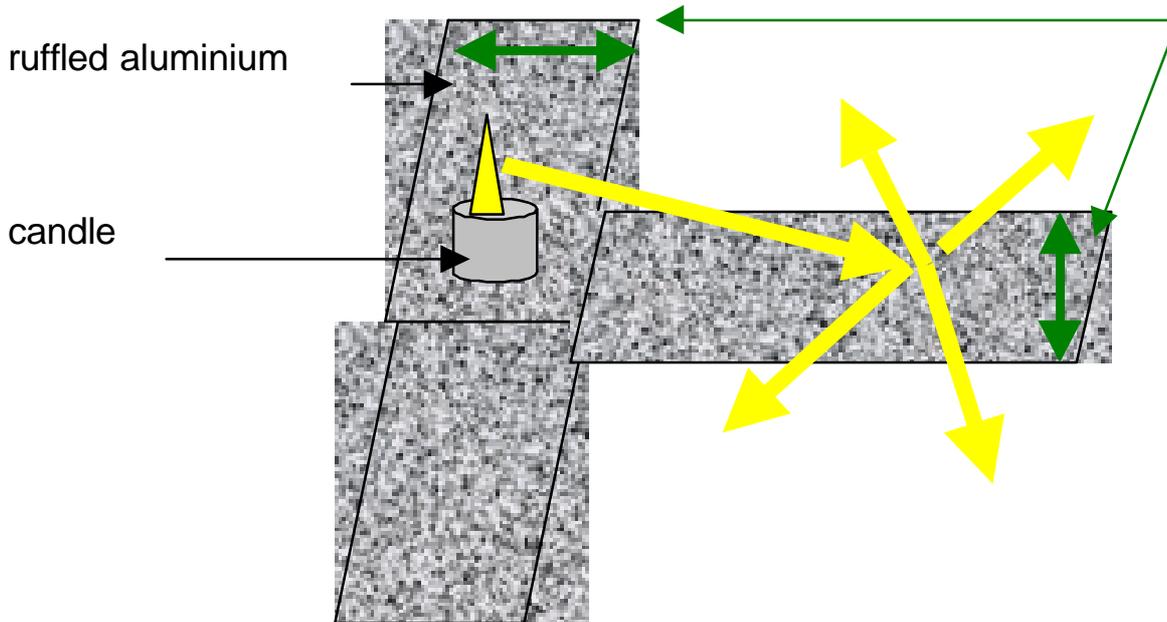


Figure 3-4: Scattering of the candle lights (T shape example)

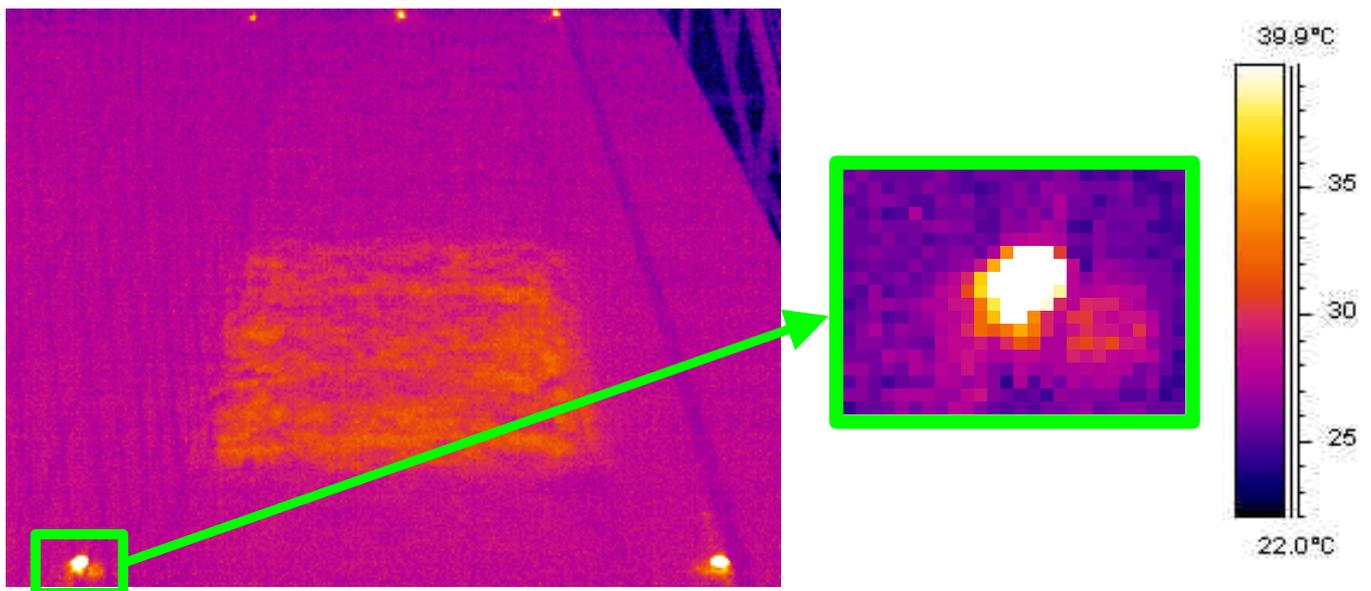


Figure 3-5: IR image of the thermal reference with the 0-500°C filter

### 3.3.3 Location of the IR camera, of the fuel bed and of the thermal marks

This chapter concerns only the specific procedure related to the IR camera; chapter 3.4 details the procedure for carrying out a test on DESIRE bench

Three factors are included in this procedure:

- the slope angle alpha, between 0 and +30°: this specific procedure has been elaborated for up-slope fires; it should have to be adapted for down-slope fires
- the view configuration in fact back view and front view: in case of side view, no specific procedure is needed because the angle between the optical axis and the Y-axis of DESIRE is nul.

The following table summarise the two locations of the IR camera and of the corresponding sizes of the fuel bed for two values of the slope angle: these co-ordinates should be adapted for other slope angles

View configuration	Slope	Co-ordinates of the IR camera lens	DESIRE co-ordinates of the fuel bed		Corresponding area
			Xmin to Xmax	Ymin to Ymax	
Back view	0°	X = 0.5, Y = 0.75, Z = 2.2	4 m to 5.5 m	0.25 to 1.25 m	1 x 1.5 = 1.5 m <sup>2</sup>
Back view	20°	X = 0.5, Y = 0.75, Z = 2.2	4 m to 8.5 m	0.25 to 1.25 m	1 x 4.5 = 4.5 m <sup>2</sup>
Front view	0°	X = 8.5, Y = 0.75, Z = 2.2	3 m to 4.5 m	0.25 to 1.25 m	1 x 1.5 = 1.5 m <sup>2</sup>
Front view	20°	X = 8.5, Y = 0.75, Z = 2.2	0.5 m to 5 m	0.25 to 1.25 m	1 x 4.5 = 4.5 m <sup>2</sup>

Figure 3-6 shows the location of the thermal marks and of the fuel bed in fourth configuration (front view x 20°)

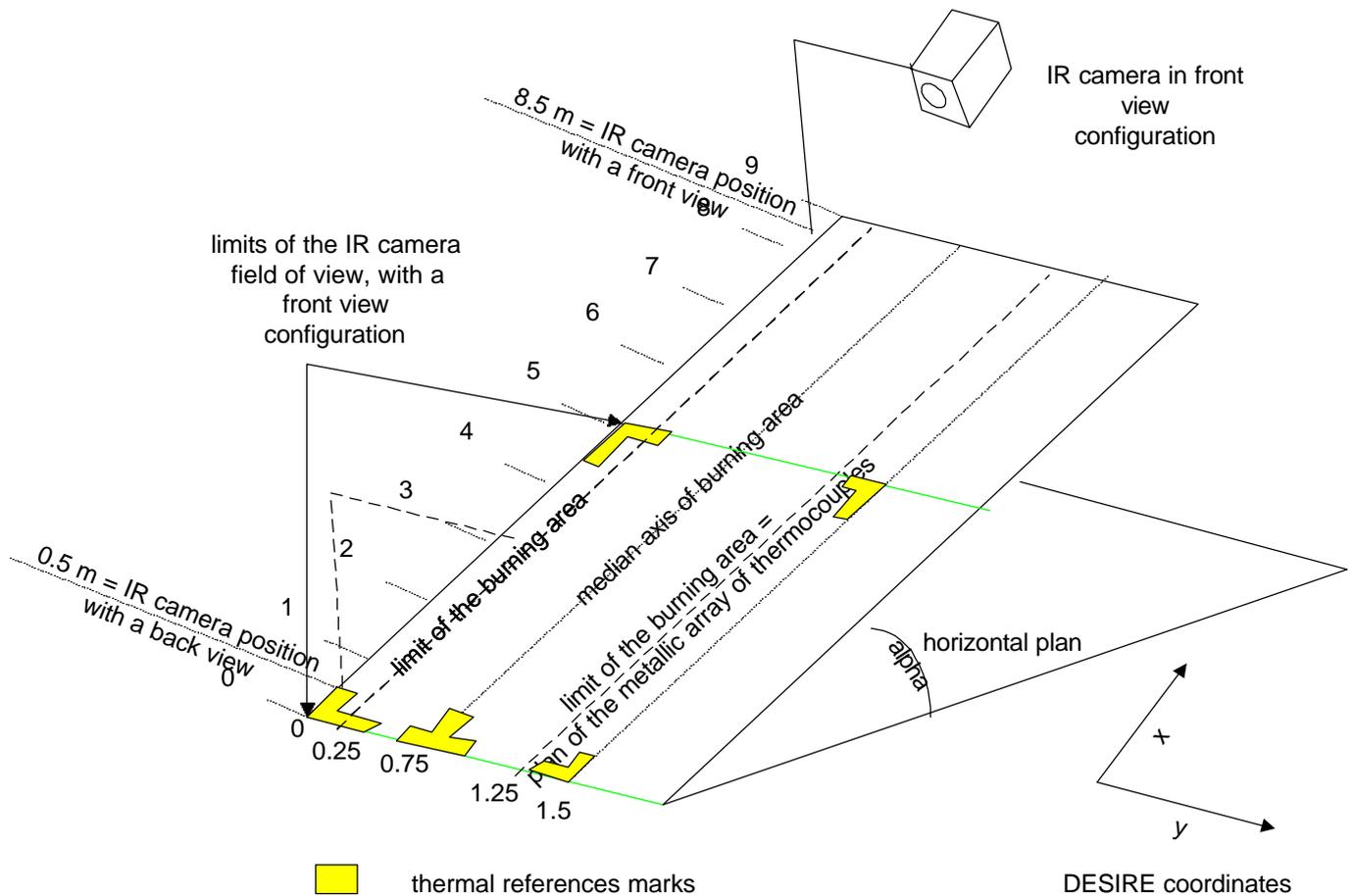


Figure 3-6: Experiment scheme

**3.3.4 Camera and attachment arm**

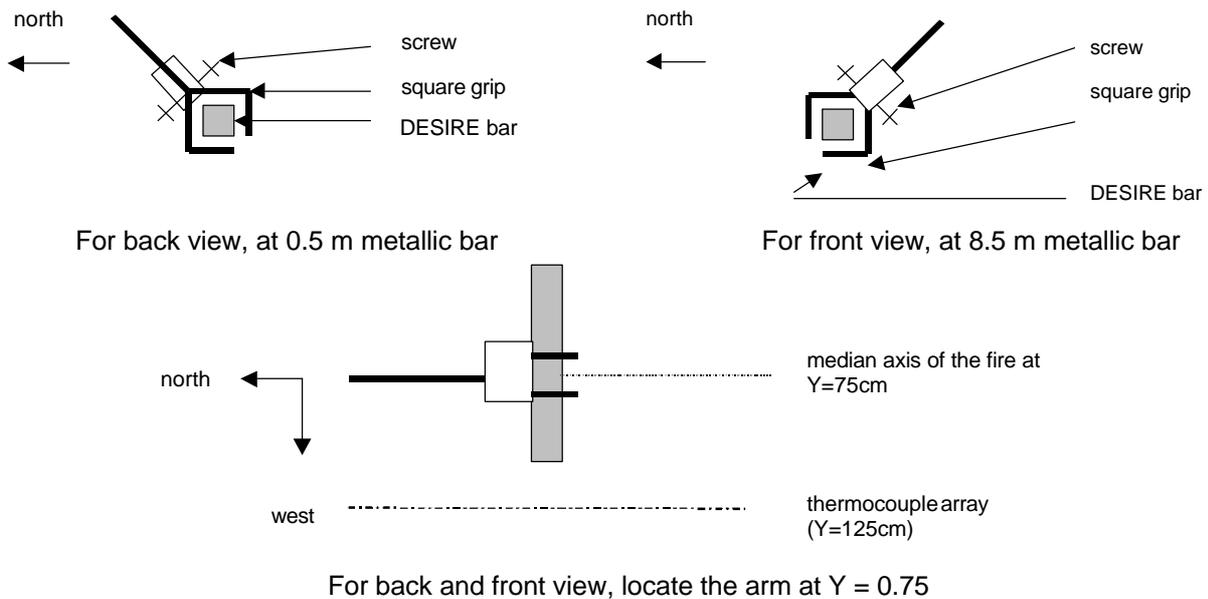


Figure 3-7: Location of the attachment arm on the metallic structure of the bench

**3.3.5 Thermal marks**

The following table summarises the XY co-ordinates of the thermal marks for the two configurations. In case of modification, these co-ordinates must be re-calculated.

Marks	1		2		3		4		5	
	X	Y	X	Y	X	Y	X	Y	X	Y
Back view	4.00	0.00	4.00	1.50	9.00	1.50	9.00	0.00	9.00	0.75
Front view	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.50	5.00	5.50	9.00	0.00	0.00	0.75

**3.3.6 Adjustment of the camera**

Use the camera viewfinder, settling of the attachment arm to have all the marks in the image: auto-focus in such a way that the candles are sharp.

Use the -40/120°C temperature range and settle the image dynamic to obtain a maximum contrast: the coldest point in black, and the hottest (the candles) in white.

Use the profile tool of the camera and set the arm to have two low candles on the same horizontal line and the up middle one horizontally centred in the image.

**3.3.7 Adjustment of ThermoCAM Researcher**

In ThermoCAM Researcher (TR), some parameters are required to perform the temperature calculation.

- object emissivity = 1 (blackbody emissivity).
- distance to the object = 6.5 m (distance from the centre of the lens to the centre of the area delimited by the marks).
- ambient temperature = atmospheric temperature = dry temperature given by the hygrometer.
- relative humidity given by the hygrometer.

TR estimates the atmospheric transmission from the atmospheric temperature, the distance to the object, and the relative humidity.

Select the camera filter:

- 350-1500 °C in back view for embers analysis
- 0-500 °C in front view for pre-burnt fuel analysis

Turn off the shutter during the experiment.

**3.3.8 Typical recording sequence**

Activate the shutter one time to calibrate the camera  
Up date the above parameters

Take and save one image just before ignition

Trigger the IR camera with the data acquisition systems in order to merge their time bases.

### 3.4 TEST PROCEDURE

We develop a general procedure which must be adapted to the type of test carried out.

This general procedure is detailed here below by chronological order.

#### 3.4.1 Before the test

##### 3.4.1.1 Fuel bed preparation

Sort the collected fuel in order to obtain an homogenous material.

Weigh and put in containers the needed amount of fuel per elementary area on the basis of the required fuel load expressed in oven-dried material.

For technical reason, the elementary area is 1.5 m<sup>2</sup>, and two containers are needed to contain the fuel.

Spread regularly the fuel on the platform in order to obtain a regular fuel bed; if necessary suppress the clusters.

Place a sample of fuel close to the platform; it will be used for determining the actual moisture content.

##### 3.4.1.2 Fuel bed depth

Measure the fuel bed depth in three points randomly distributed inside each elementary area of 1.5 m<sup>2</sup>

Depending on the width of the burning area, the mean depth of the fuel bed will be calculated on the basis of:

- 18 measures if the burning area is 1 m width
- 36 measures if the burning area is 2 m width
- 54 measures if the burning area is 3 m width

An adaptable experiment sheet has been elaborated therefore.

##### 3.4.1.3 Cotton threads

Tighten the cotton threads parallel to Y axis:

- 9 threads every 0.25 m from 0.00 to 2.00,
- 14 threads every 0.50 m from 2.00 to 9.00.

Pay attention that each thread is just on the top of the fuel bed.

##### 3.4.1.4 Thermocouples sensors

Remove the protecting cap and verify visually the state of each sensor.

Replace the broken ones

Adjust the location of the hot points in X, Y and Z directions

##### 3.4.1.5 Climatic conditions

Collect air temperature and air moisture content on the weather station (chapter 7.1.3) or air temperatures at the psychrometer (chapter 2.5.2.3)

##### 3.4.1.6 IR acquisition system

Activate it and follow the procedure indicated in chapter 3.3

##### 3.4.1.7 Data acquisition system

Verify the data acquisition programme, mainly characteristics of each channel and scan frequency

Verify that each sensor indicates ambient temperature.

In case of dysfunction, the system emits an alarm.

Replace the dysfunctioning sensors

Create on the hard disk of the specialised PC the folder under which the data files will be stored, format YYYY-MM-DD-NN (year-month-day-number).

Open the main data file

##### 3.4.1.8 Visible video images acquisition system

Verify the connections between the cameras, the video-recorders and the monitors

Note the location of the tape format HH-MM-SS (hour-minute-second) and verify that the empty place on the tape is long enough for recording the next test.

If necessary, replace the tape by a new one, it is not possible to change the tape during a test without losing information

##### 3.4.1.9 Fuel moisture content

Weigh the sample dedicated for this purpose and insert it in the oven-drier.

It will stay in it during at least 24 hours at 60°C.

It will be weighted and its moisture content will be calculated and expressed over oven-dried weight.

##### 3.4.1.10 Platform tilting

Verify that no tools are remaining on the platform.

If necessary activate the oil jack in order to tilt the platform up to the required slope angle.

### 3.4.2 During the test

#### 3.4.2.1 Ignition

The test leader verifies that all the participants and all the systems are ready.

The specialised experimentalist launches the video images acquisition system in order to record some images just before the ignition.

The specialised experimentalist constitutes the ignition line with ahcool, 10 ml per meter.

The test leader orders the ignition and launches the infra red images and data acquisition systems with an external trigger in order to obtain simultaneous files, as soon as the ignition line is ignited.

The experimentalist leaves the experimentation hall

#### 3.4.2.2 Fire behaviour monitoring

Each time a cotton thread is cut, the time is noted and the base and the tip of the most advanced flame of the fire front are pointed on the chart.

The experimentalist in charge of the video images acquisition system adjust the cameras in order to obtain the most useful images.

Any event which occurs during the test is noted

### 3.4.3 After the test

As soon the fire reaches the end of the burning area, the different acquisition systems are stopped and the corresponding files are closed.

The protecting caps of the thermocouples sensors are put again.

Unburned fuel and ashes are collected on four elementary areas of  $0.25 \text{ m}^2$  and weighted.

Consumption ratio is calculated on the basis of the initial fuel load.

Remaining fuel and ashes are removed from the platforms.

Platform is prepared for the next test.

4 DATA ACQUISITION SYSTEM

4.1 TERMINAL BLOCKS

4.1.1 SCXI-1328 high-accuracy isothermal terminal

This terminal is dedicated for connections to a small numbers of connections, a mixed of data inputs and excitation channels.

The SCXI-1328 high-accuracy isothermal terminal block consists of a shielded board with screw terminal to connect to the SCXI module input connector.

It as a high-precision thermistor; and an aluminium isothermal plate minimises the temperature gradients across the screw terminals when thermocouples are measured.

It has 18 screw terminals for easy connection.

One pair of screw terminals connects to the SCXI module chassis ground.

With the SCXI-1120, the remaining eight pairs of screw terminals are for signal connection to the eight module inputs.

With the SCXI-1121, four pairs of screw terminals are for the four module inputs and four pairs are for the module excitation channels.

4.1.2 SCXI-1321 offset-null and shunt-calibration terminal

This terminal is dedicated for the measurement of four-wire platinum RTDs, which are measuring the temperature inside the different connecting boxes of the experimental benches.

In fact, these connecting boxes are "remote cold junctions" were thermocouples wires are connected to copper wires.

The SCXI-1321 terminal block has a shielded board with supports for connection to the SCXI-1121 module.

In addition to the 18 screw terminals, the SCXI-1321 has circuitry for offset-null adjustment of Wheatstone bridges, and a shunt resistor for strain-gauge shunt calibration.

4.1.3 SCXI-1303 32-channel isothermal

The SCXI-1303 32-channel isothermal terminal block is a shielded board with screw terminals that connect to the SCXI-1102C module and other SCXI-1100 modules.

The SCXI-1303 has a high-accuracy thermistor, cold-junction temperature sensor, and an isothermal copper plane to minimise the temperature gradients across the screw terminals when thermocouples are measured.

The terminal block has 78 screw terminals for easy connection.

32 pairs of screw terminals connect to the 32 differential inputs of the SCXI modules.

One pair of terminals connects to the chassis ground pins of the module.

Three terminals connect to the SCXI module OUTPUT and AOREF pins and to the SCXI bus guard.

All the other terminals are reserved for future use.

The terminal block has a pullup resistor connected between CH+ and +5V and a bias resistor connected between CH- and chassis ground.

These resistors help for detecting open thermocouples (saturation of the module amplifier output).

Figure 4-2 shows the SCXI-1303 signal connections

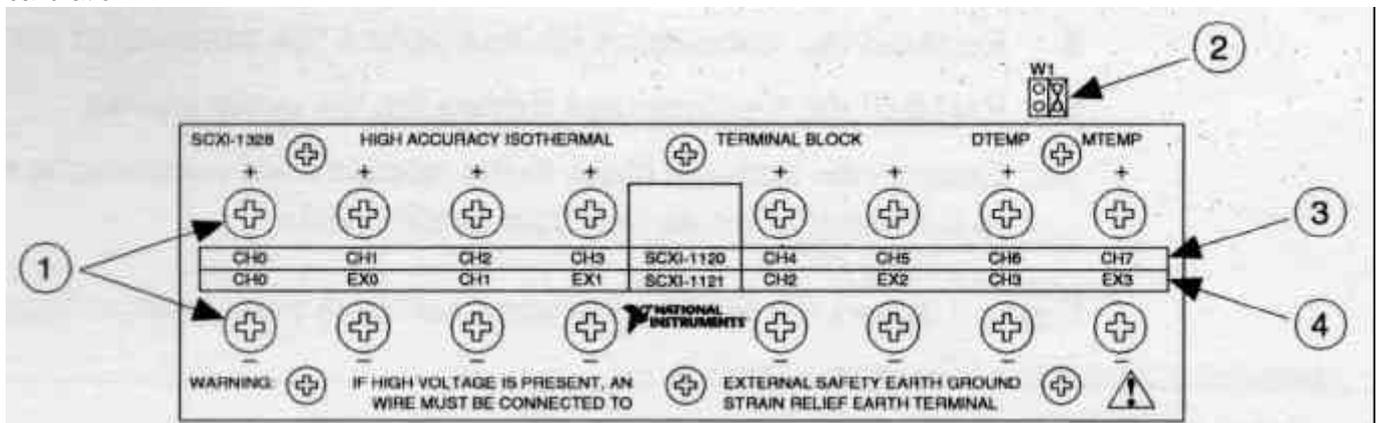


Figure 4-1: SCXI-1328 signal connections

- 1: Screw terminals
- 2: Berg connector W1
- 3: Channel labelling or SCXI-1120
- 4: Channel labelling or SCXI-1121

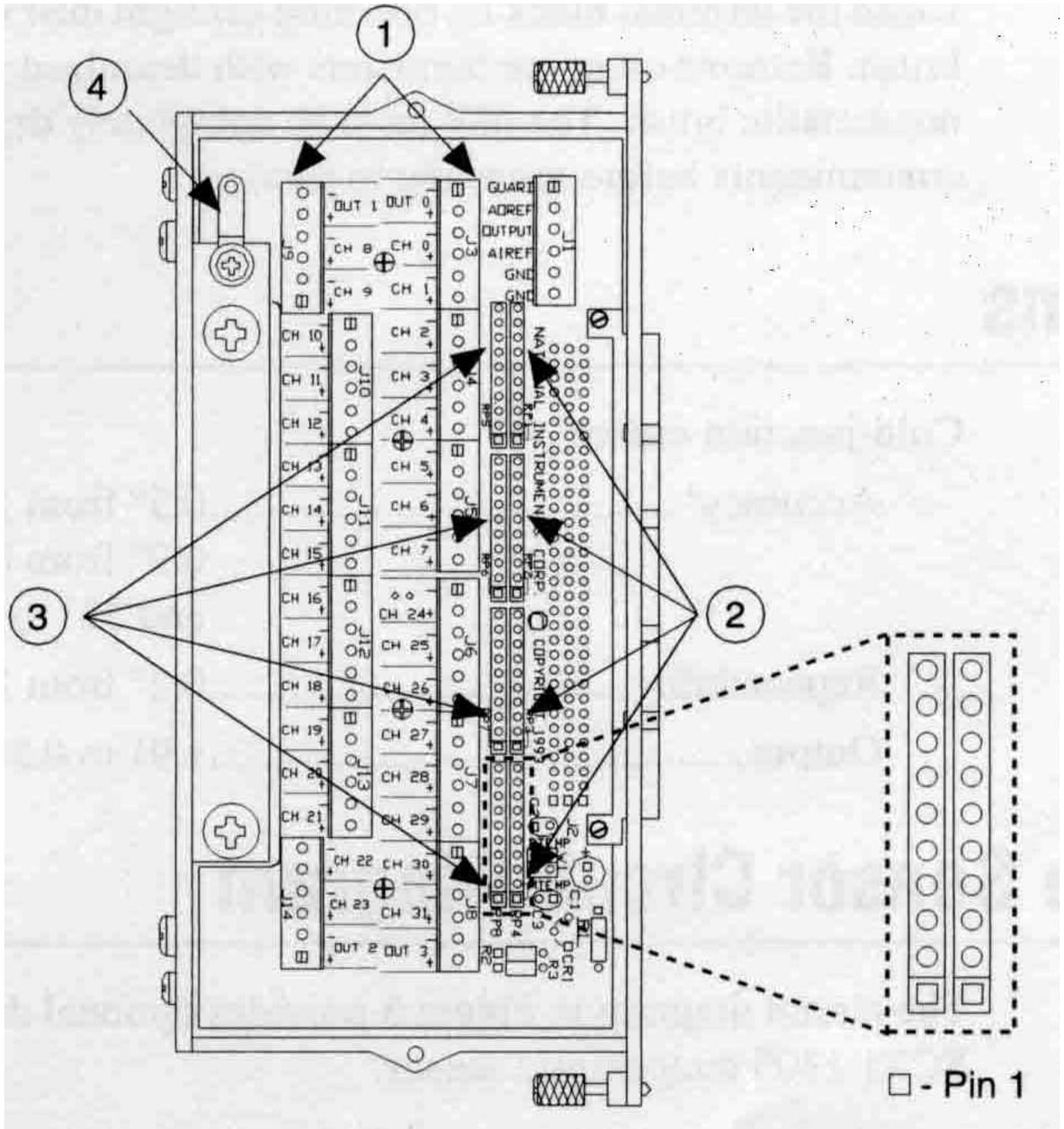


Figure 4-2: SCXI-1303 signal connections

- 1: Screw terminals
- 2: Bias resistor networks
- 3: Pullup resistor networks
- 4: Product name

4.2 INPUT MODULES

4.2.1 SCXI-1102C

This 32-channel thermocouple amplifier module is associated with the SCXI-1303 terminal block.

This module is for the signal conditioning of the thermocouples, high-bandwidth volt and millivolt sources, 4 to 20 mA current sources and 0 to 20 mA process-current sources.

It has 32 analog input channels and one cold-junction sensor channel.

On each channel, the module has a three-pole lowpass filter with a 10 kHz cutoff frequency.

Each channel also has an amplifier with a selectable gain of 1 or 100.

SCXI-1102C inputs can be multiplexed to a single output, which drives a single data acquisition device channel.

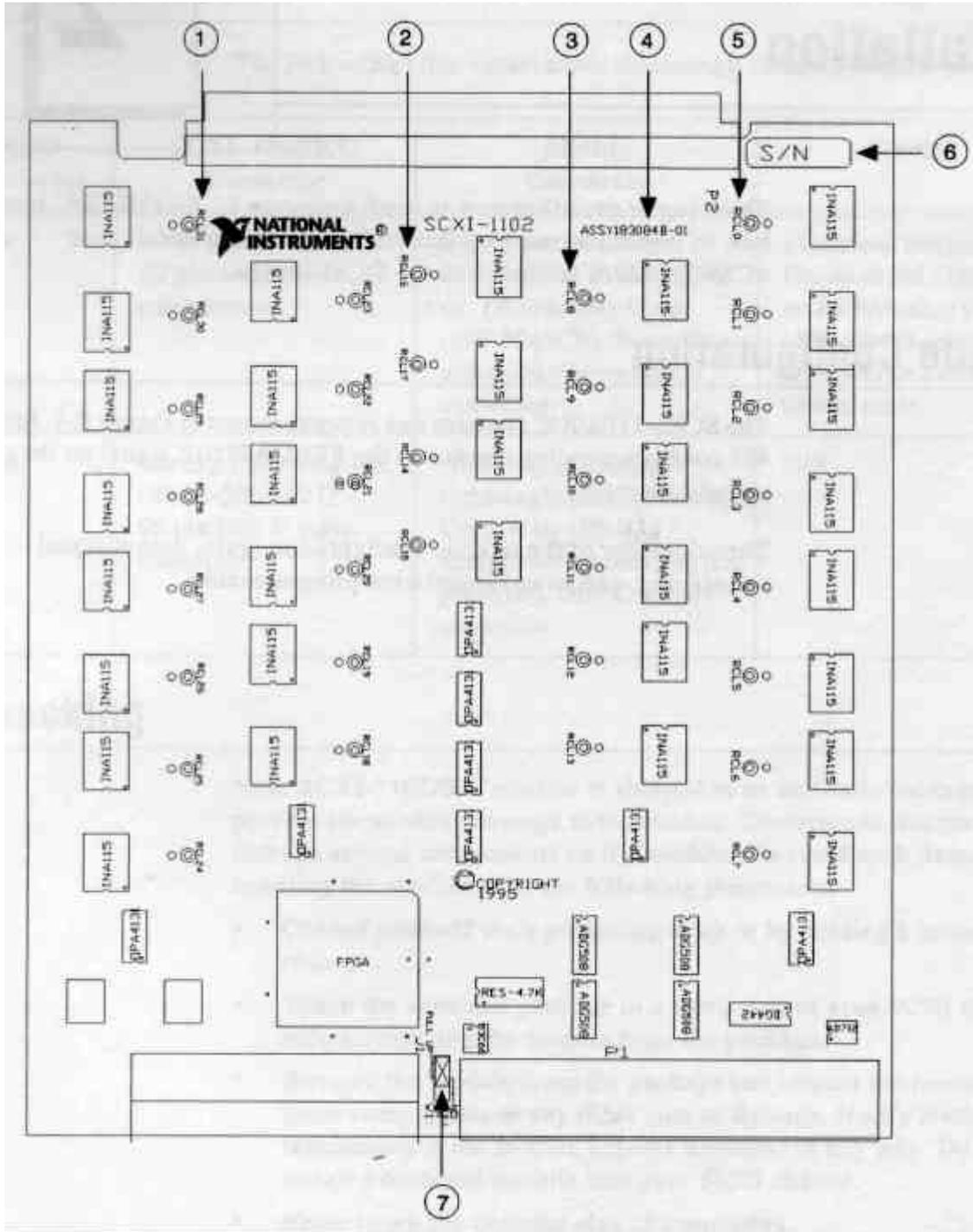


Figure 4-3: SCXI-1102C module parts locator diagram

- 1: Channels 24 to 31      2: Channels 14 to 23      3: Channels 8 to 13
- 4: Assembly number      5: Channels 0 to 7      6: Serial number
- 7: Position Pullup (one single chassis) / No pullup (several chassis) jumper

4.2.2 SCXI 1120

The SCXI-1120 is a class I module consisting of eight isolated input channels.

This module is for the signal conditioning of the thermocouples, volt and millivolt sources, 4 to 20 mA current sources and 0 to 20 mA process-current sources.

If external excitation is provided, thermistors, RTDs and strain gauges can also be measured.

It can operate in two output modes (we used only the second one):

- in parallel output mode with all eight input channels connected in parallel to eight data acquisition board channels, or
- in multiplexed output mode with all eight channels multiplexed into a single data acquisition board channel.

This module is associated with the SCXI-1328 terminal block.

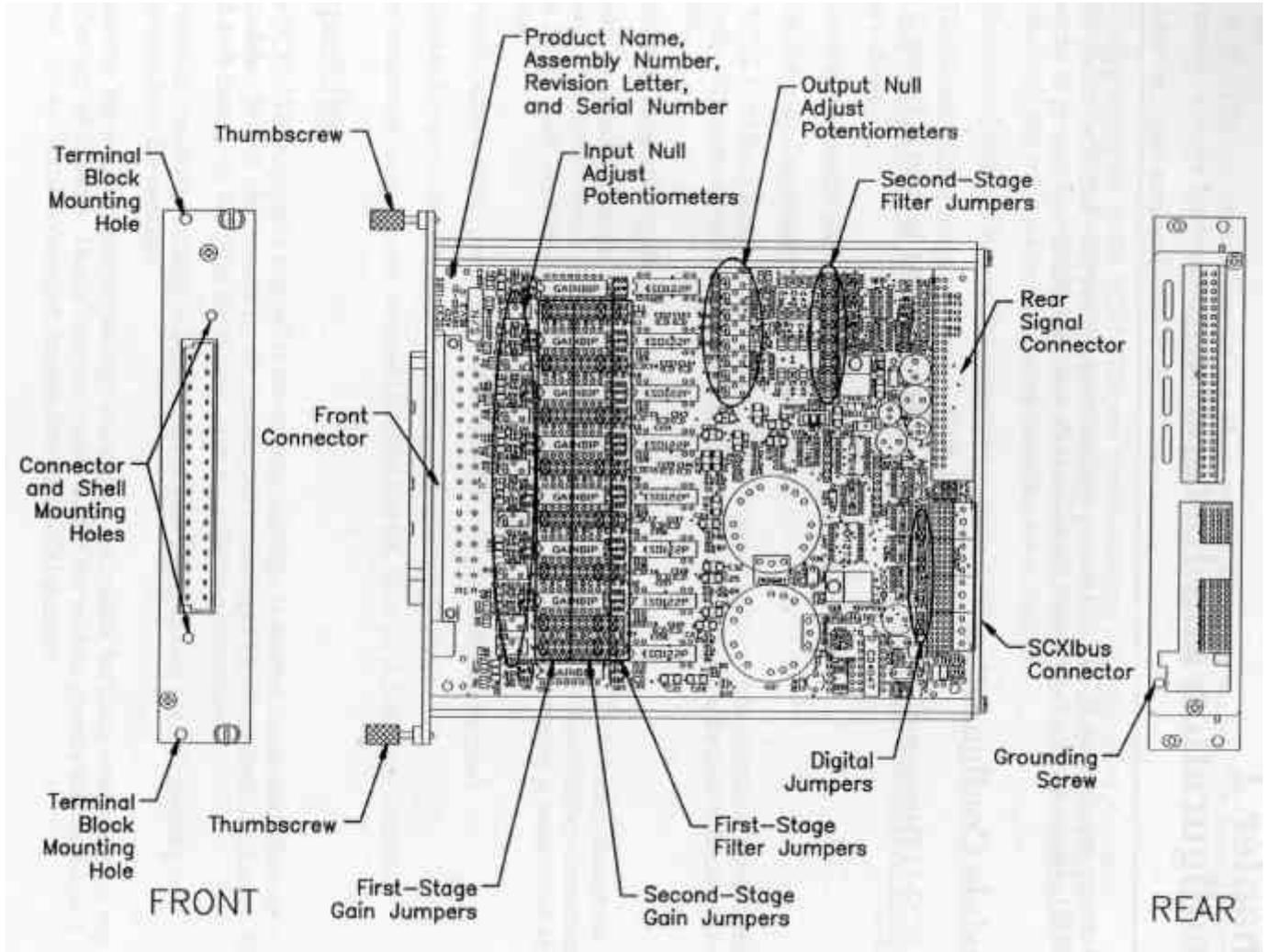


Figure 4-4: SCXI-1120 General parts locator diagram

**4.2.3 SCXI-1121**

This module consists of four isolated input channels and four isolated excitation channels.

This module is for the signal conditioning of the thermocouples, volt and millivolt sources, 4 to 20 mA current sources and 0 to 20 mA process-current sources.

It can operate in two output modes (we used only the second one):

- in parallel output mode with all eight input channels connected in parallel to eight data acquisition board channels, or
- in multiplexed output mode with all eight channels multiplexed into a single data acquisition board channel.

This module is associated with the SCXI-1321 terminal block.

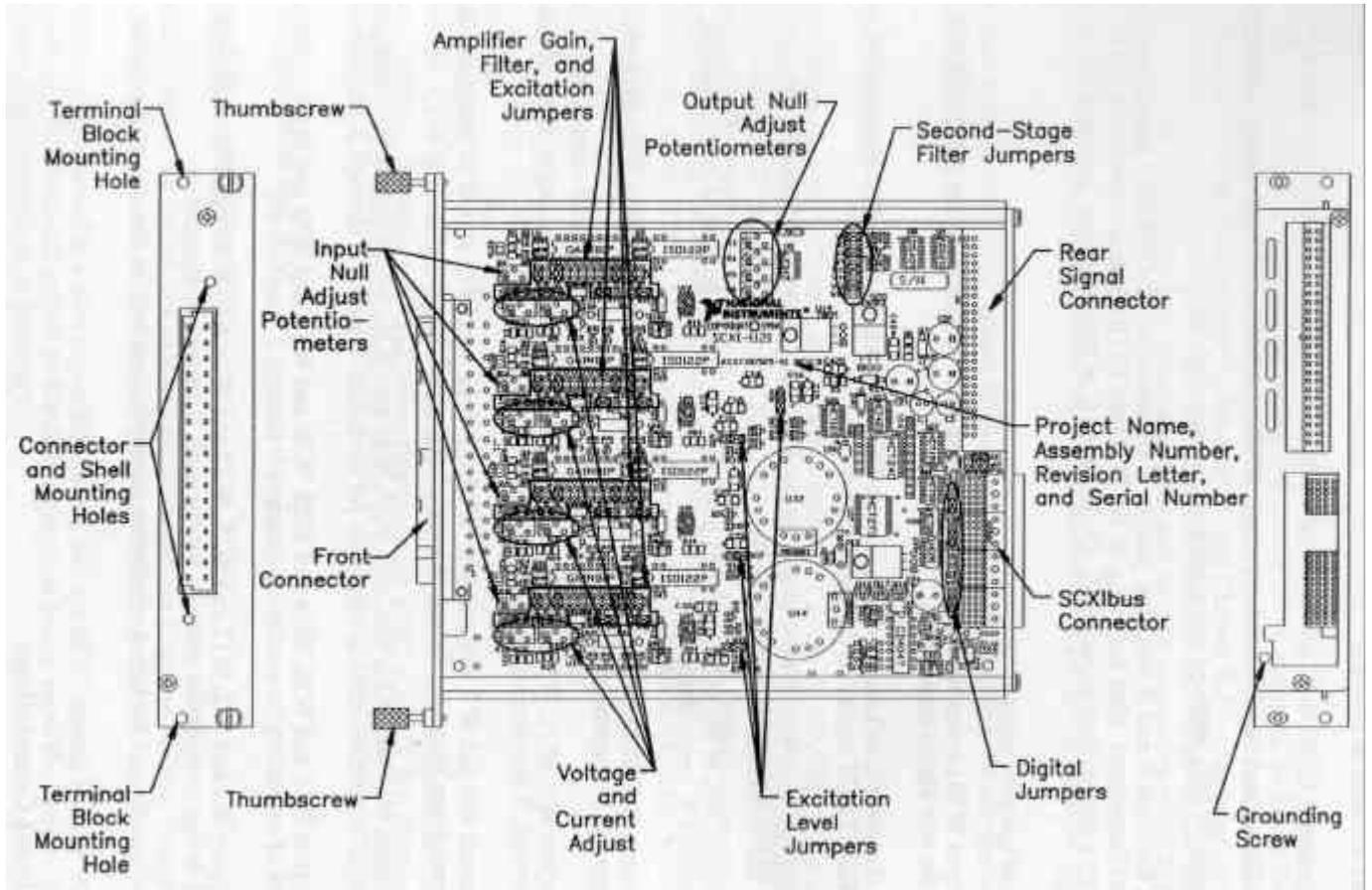


Figure 4-5: SCXI-1121 General parts locator diagram

**4.3 SCXI-1000 CHASSIS**

This chassis has four-slots for connecting up to four SCXI modules and is powered by 230 VAC. It supplies a low-noise environment for signal conditioning, supplying power and control circuitry for the modules. It is a general-purpose chassis and can be used with all the SCXI modules.

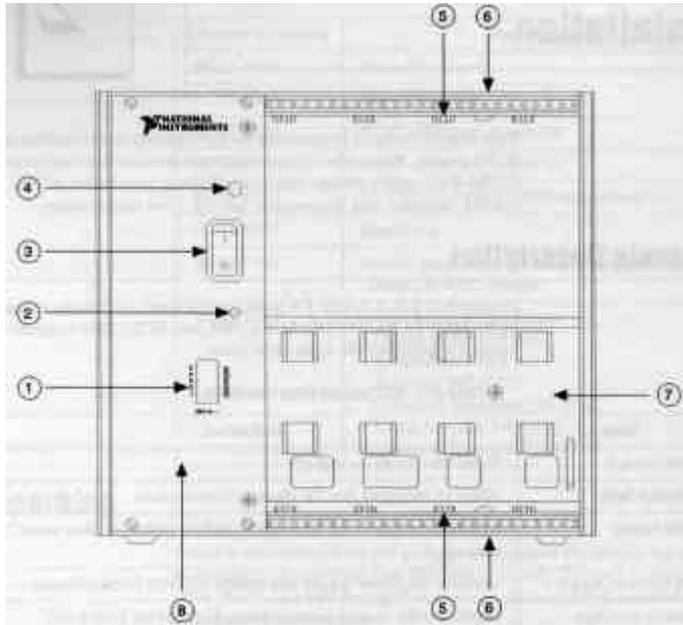


Figure 4-6: SCXI-1000 front view diagram

- 1: DIP switches
- 2: Reset button
- 3: Power switch
- 4: Indicator light
- 5: Modules guides
- 6: Threaded strips
- 7: Back plane
- 8: Slot 0/ Power supply

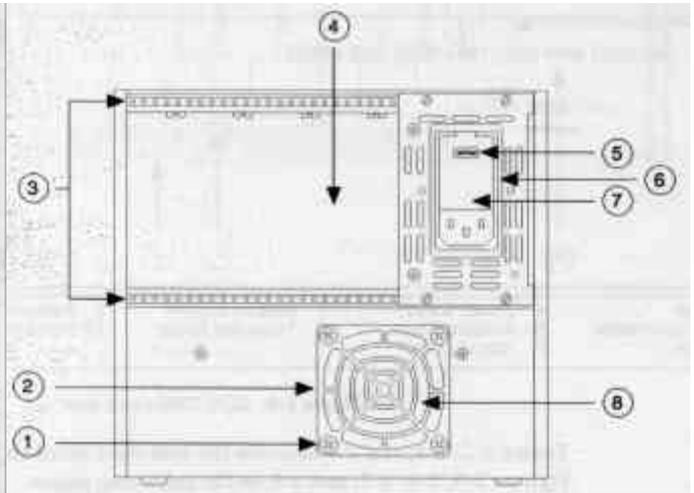


Figure 4-7: SCXI-1000 rear view diagram

- 1: Four fan screws
- 2: Fan and filter
- 3: Threaded strips
- 4: Connector space
- 5: Voltage selection
- 6: Power entry module
- 7: Fuse (concealed)
- 8: Backplane fuses

Our system is triggered manually in order to start the data acquisition system and infra red acquisition images system simultaneously: the high frequency scan (around 200 Hz) needs such an accuracy.

**4.4 SCXI-1349 SHIELDED CABLE**

This cable ensures a low-noise, long distance connection between the SCXI-1000 chassis and the AT-MOI-16XE-50 board.

Our cable is 2 m long with a 68-pin female connector at each end and an adapter board must be plugged to the rear signal connector

4.5 AT-MOI-16XE-50 DATA ACQUISITION BOARD

This data acquisition board belongs to the ATE series which is completely Plug and Play compatible multifunction analog, digital, and timing input / output boards for personal computers.

Because it has no DIP switches, jumpers or potentiometers, it is easily configured and calibrated using software.

It uses the National Instruments system timing controller for time-related functions: three timing groups that control analog input, analog output, and general-purpose counter/timer functions, and that include a total of seven 24-bit and three 16-bit counters and a maximum timing resolution of 50 nanoseconds.

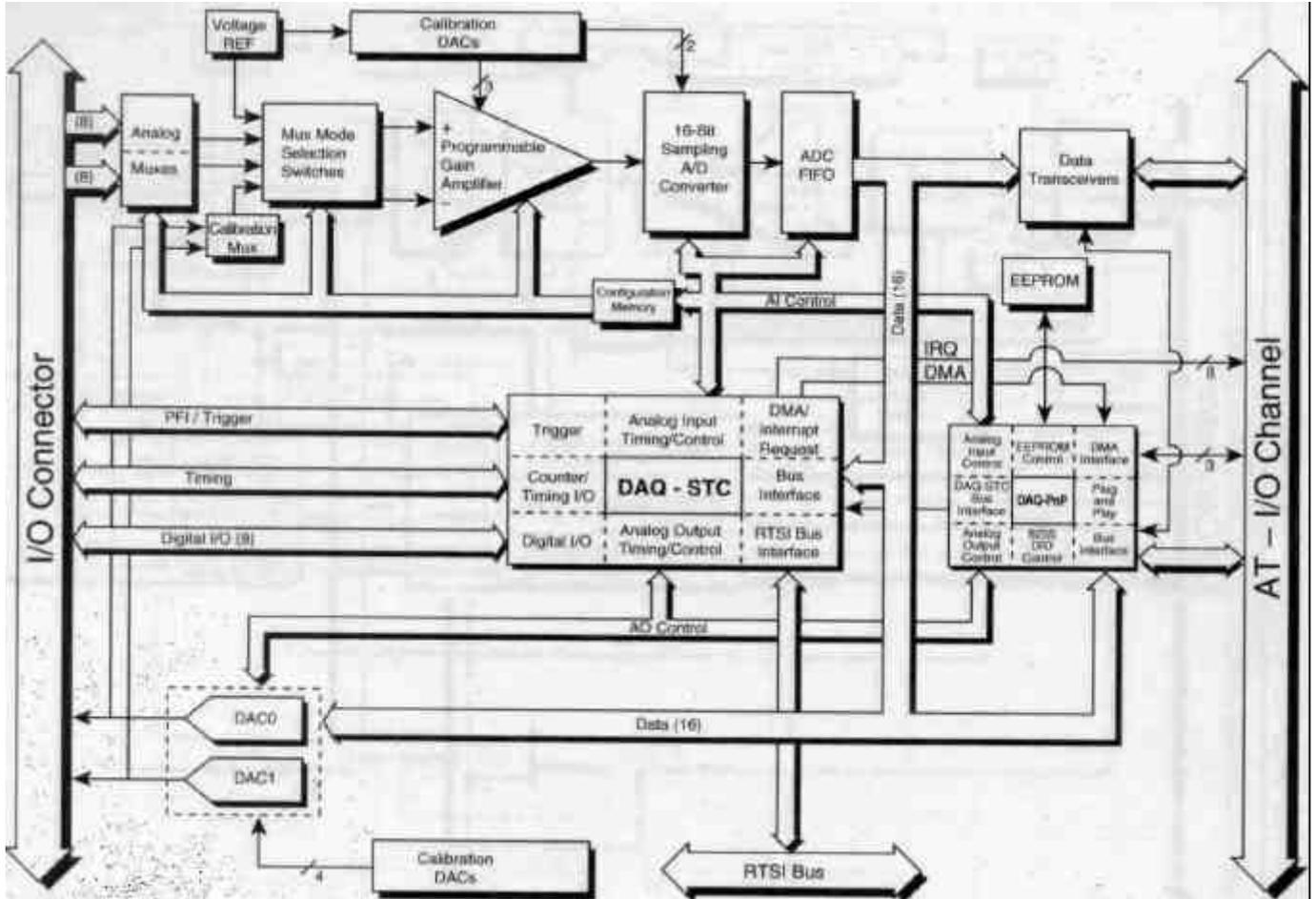


Figure 4-8: Data acquisition block diagram

4.6 SOFTWARES

For carrying out the data acquisition, we are using two softwares developed by National Instruments:

- Measurement Automation Explorer for fixing the characteristics of the data acquisition board based on the characteristics of the different hardwares,
- LabVIEW version 6.1 for managing the data acquisition itself.

The following scheme presents the relationships between these two softwares and the data acquisition hardwares.

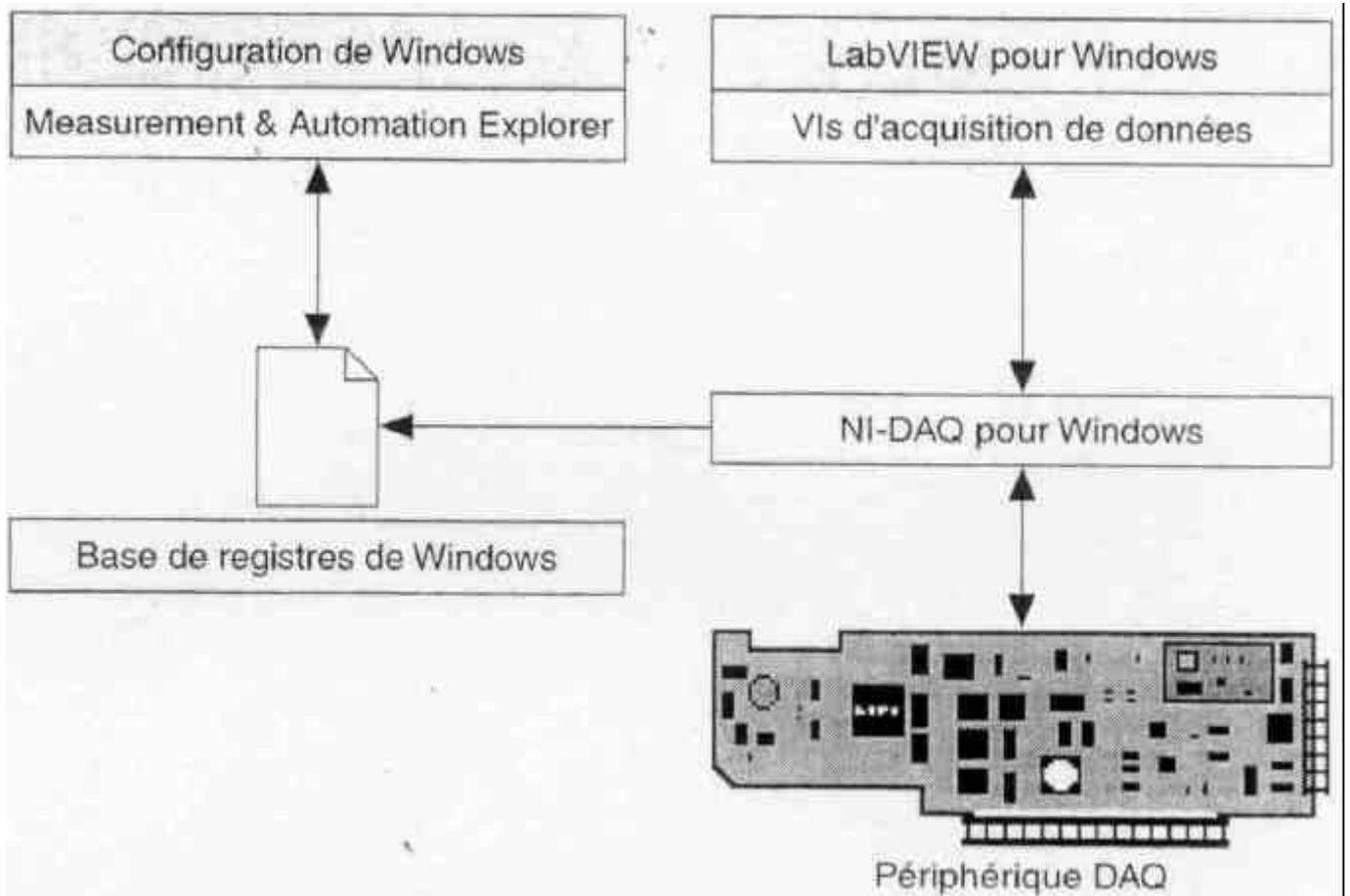


Figure 4-9: Relationships between Measurement and Automation Explorer, LabVIEW and the data acquisition hardwares

Configuration de Windows  
 Base de registres de Windows  
 LabVIEW pour Windows  
 VIs d'acquisition de données  
 NI-DAQ pour Windows

Windows configuration  
 Windows registers base  
 LabVIEW for Windows  
 Virtual Instruments for data acquisition  
 NI-DAQ for Windows

### 4.6.1 Measurement Automation Explorer

The version of the software we have, is running under Windows environment and is dedicated for:

- configuring the components of the data acquisition system described here above,
- adding new channels, new interfaces (terminal blocks, modules and chassis) and new virtual instruments,
- diagnosing the system in order to identify the sources of problems,
- displaying peripherals and devices connected to the system,
- planing the softwares up-dating

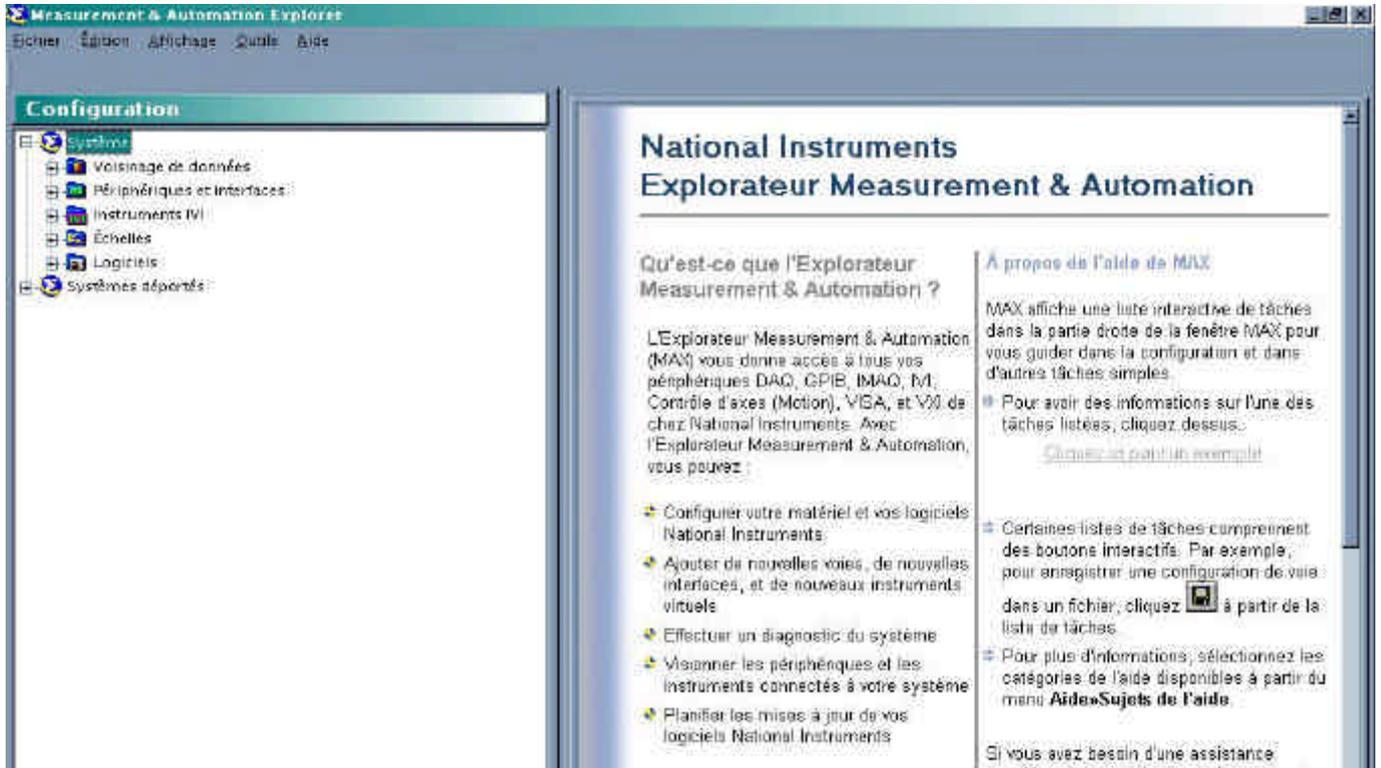


Figure 4-10: Home page of Measurement and Automation Explorer (French version)

### 4.6.2 LabVIEW 6.1

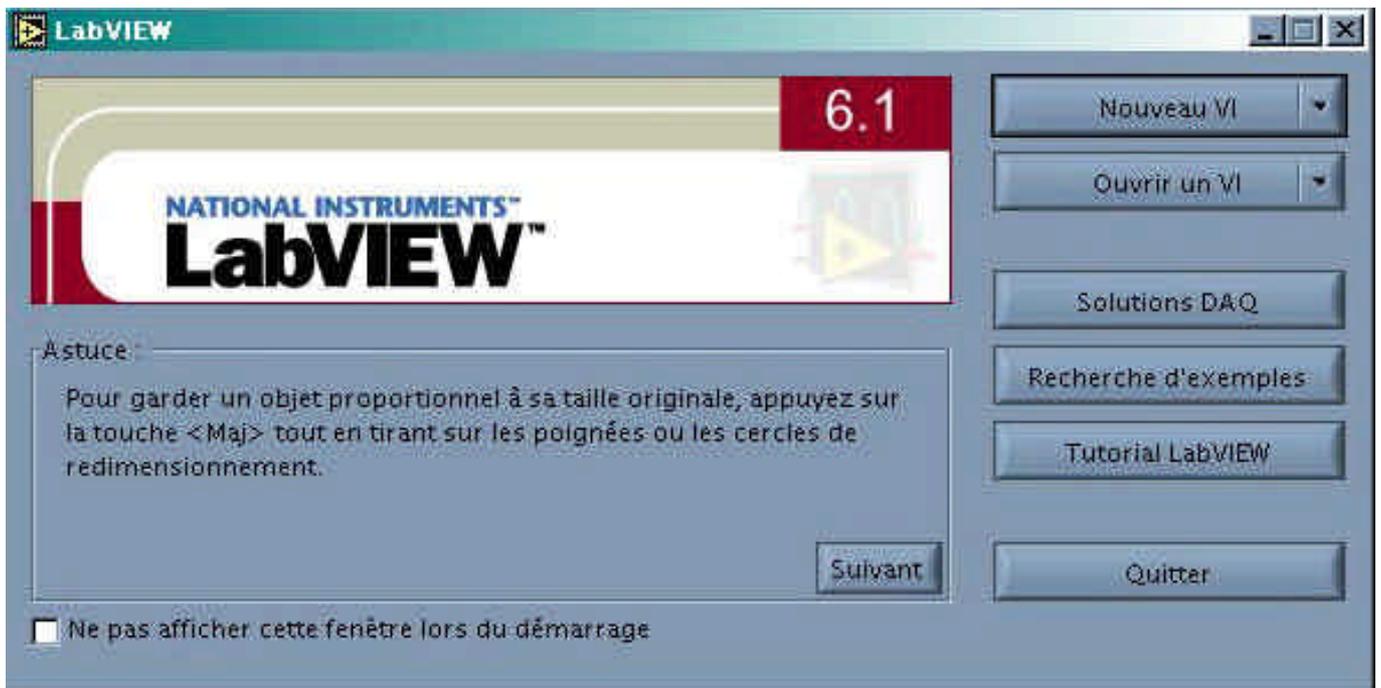


Figure 4-11: LabVIEW home page

LabVIEW is a graphical programming language which uses icons instead of lines for creating applications.

Contrary to textual programming languages, where instructions determine the code execution, LabVIEW uses a data flow programming mode, in which data determine the code execution.

We use LabVIEW for realising a user interface with tools and objects.

The user interface is named "Front view".

Then we add a code, contained in the diagram, with graphical representation of the functions for controlling the objects of the front view.

If everything is correctly organised the diagram looks like an organising map.

LabVIEW's programmes are named virtual instruments or VIs, because they are looking and functioning like physical instruments.

Each VI uses functions which manipulate data from the user interface or from other origins, display this information or copy and paste them to other files or computers.

A VI has three components:

- the front view: user interface
- the diagram: it contains the graphical source code and defines its functionality
- the connecting border and the icon: they identify the VI in order to include it in another VI; the included VI is a sub-VI which corresponds to a sub-routine in textual programming modes.

## 4.7 OTHER INFORMATION

In order to get more information connect to National Instruments web site

<http://www.ni.com>

5 VIDEO IMAGES ACQUISITION SYSTEM

5.1 FIXED AND MOBILE CAMERAS

5.1.1 The two “fixed” cameras

Fixed cameras (references 33 and 34 in the scheme) are single board CDD colour cameras LDH 0380 (linked to the VT-14A video switch by Y/C wires, they need AC current 12 volts.

They have a electric zoom ( 5.5 to 72 mm) with an automatic diaphragm in order to regulate the light level on the CDD sensor: the electric zoom is controlled from the command desk by the VT-14A video switch.

Their technical specifications are the followings:

Power supply	12 – 28 VAC via system connector
Video sensor	1/3 inch
Resolution	480 TV lines
Sensitivity	1 lux
Video output	1Vpp into 75 Ohms

Each camera is fixed on a rotating turret (Pan and Tilt 560) which moves the camera in two perpendicular plans (left-right and up-down): this enables to cover all the bench and to follow the fire propagation during the test: the movement of the turret is controlled from the command desk.

	Pan	Tilt
Movement (°)	10 to 350	+20° to 90°
Speed (° per sec)	6	3
Torque (kg.cm)	35	70

5.1.2 The “side view” camera

Because the two “fixed” cameras provide only front and back view of the fire front, we decided, in the framework of EUFIRELAB project to complete the installation with a third camera for providing side views.

Due to the constraints of the experimental bench for moving fire, we selected a CDD colour video camera XC-555P.

It is a, ultra-small colour camera module that utilises a ½ type Charge Coupled Device with 380 000 effective pixels.

A built-in super hole accumulated diode sensor allows high sensitivity.

Using the CCD Iris function, the shutter speed is adjusted automatically for ensuring the most appropriate level of image signal.

An adapted lens is mounted in order to optimise the focal distance.

The other technical specifications are identical to those of the “fixed” cameras.

The “side view” camera is fixed to a rail parallel to the length of the bench: presently is it located in a given place before the test; in the future the movement of the camera will be controlled from the command desk in order, if necessary to follow the fire propagation.



Figure 5-1: Type of image from the side view camera

5.1.3 The “handy” camera

We have also a handy camera in order to collect other view from this bench, to collect images from the experimental bench for static fires and during outside experimental fires for the same purpose: to constitute images bases of our experiment, analyse afterwards these images, and to store and archive them.

Therefore, and because our handy camera records on HI8 tape, we connect it to the video recorder as indicated in the following chapter.



Figure 5-2: Video camera recorder CDD-VX1E, HI8 handycam PRO

**5.2 VIDEO-RECORDERS**

Theoretically, the video recording permits to look at the test just after it to collect information about the test that we did not note during it or for calculating parameters like “instantaneous” fire velocity, or to compare several tests and to create archives which can be replicate and share with partners.

Therefore, we decided to equip les Vignères with professional video-recorders using S-VHS tapes, which were in 1997 the safest way (and compatible with our budget) to archive the images: we selected Panasonic AG-7355-E.

Unfortunately, after many series of observations and measures on fixed images, we observed a degradation of the quality of the images.

Consequently, we decided to create numerical files from selected sequences in order to be able to store them on CD and more recently, on DVD

The procedure is described in Deliverables D-07-09 So, we are able:

- to work several times on the images afterwards without degrading their qualities
- to replicate the tapes for sharing them with partners, specifically in the framework of EUFIRELAB

The series of figures here below present the front and back facades of the video-recorder.

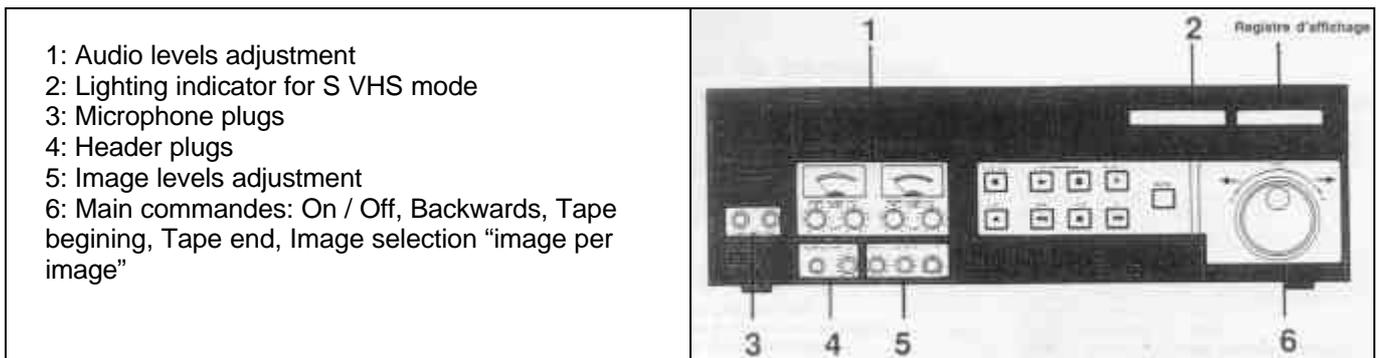


Figure 5-3: Video recorder, front view

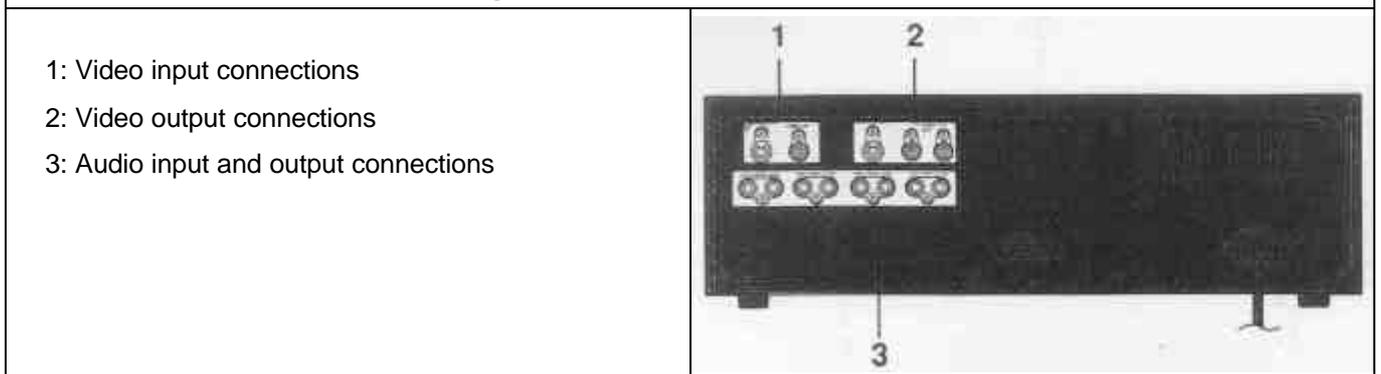


Figure 5-4: Video recorder, back view

In order to replicate a tape, the two video-recorders must be connected as indicated on figure 5-6as

For copying HI8 tape from the “handy” video camera on S-VHS tape, the “handy” camera replaces the “reader” video recorder.

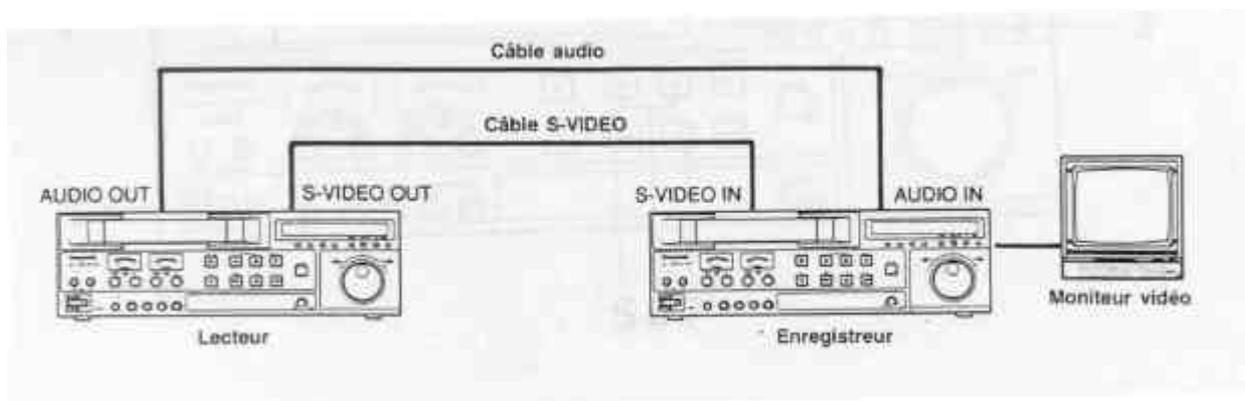


Figure 5-5: Connection between two video recorder to create archive tapes (Lecteur = reader, Enregistreur = writer)

### 5.3 VIDEO MONITORS

The colour video monitors Panasonic TC 1470Y are compatible with the video recorders and are dedicated to display the images during the test: the person in charge of the video network adjust the images according what it is displayed.

They were used afterwards for selecting "image per image" images from previous experiments, for measuring directly on the screen some characteristics.

Since we create the numerical files, this use is abandoned.

#### 5.3.1 Specifications

System	Interlaced, PAL / SECAM / NTSC 3.58 / NTSC 4.43
Power Source	220 – 240 volts, 50 hertz
Power Consumption	85 watts
Picture tube	34 cm diagonal
S-Video input	Y signal 1.0Vp_p, C signal 0.285Vp-p, 75 ohms or High Impedance, MINI DIN 4P type connector
S-Video output	Y signal 1.0Vp_p, C signal 0.285Vp-p, 75 ohms or High Impedance, MINI DIN 4P type connector

#### 5.3.2 Presentation

The two following images present the front and rear views of the monitor.

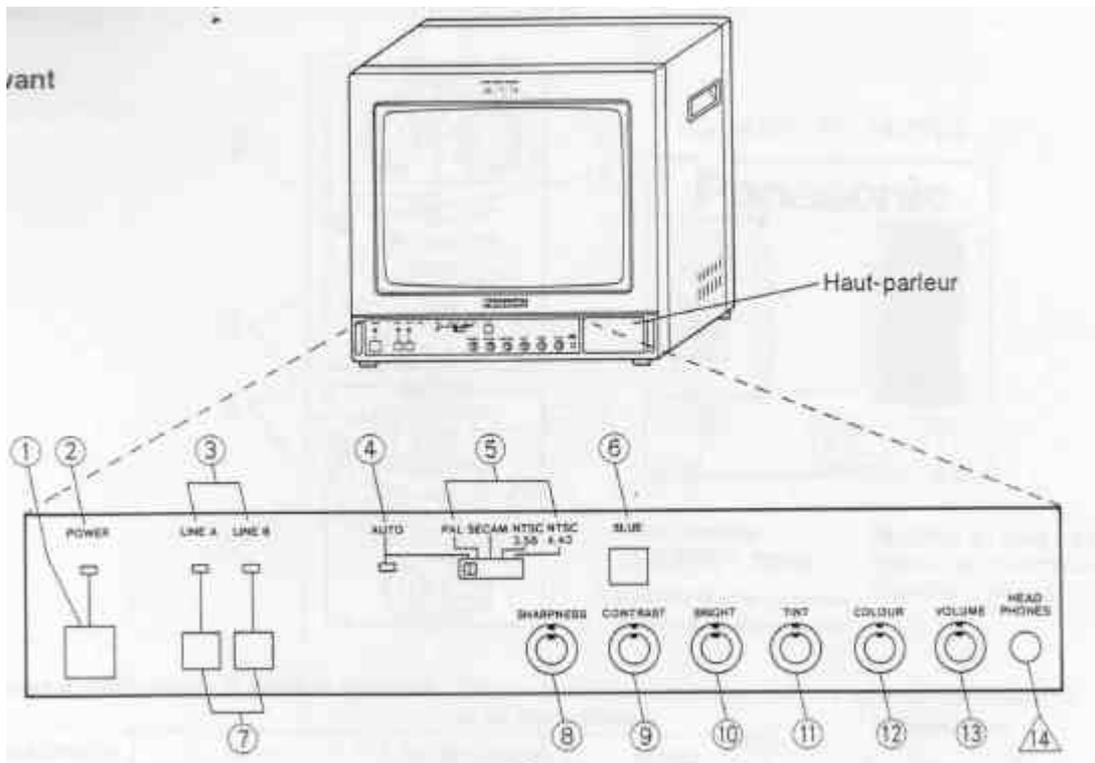


Figure 5-6: Video monitor, front view

- |  |   |   |   |
|--|---|---|---|
| 1: Power Switch ON/OFF   | 2: Power indicator: will light when the power is ON   | 3 Input indicators: will light when the appropriate input is selected | 4: Auto indicator: will light when the TV system selector is in AUTO mode |
| 5: TV System Selector Switch: normally set at AUTO, it can be modified to the appropriate position | 6: Blue Only Switch: depress for observing blue signal using EBU colour bar display for adjusting chrominance and hue | 7: Input Selector Switches: either Line A or Line B (see rear view)   | 8: Sharpness control: soft to sharp                                       |
| 9: Contrast control: decrease or increase  | 10: Brightness control: dark to bright  | 11: Tint control: red to green  | 12: Colour control: low to high   |
- 13 and 14 are dedicated for Audio use only

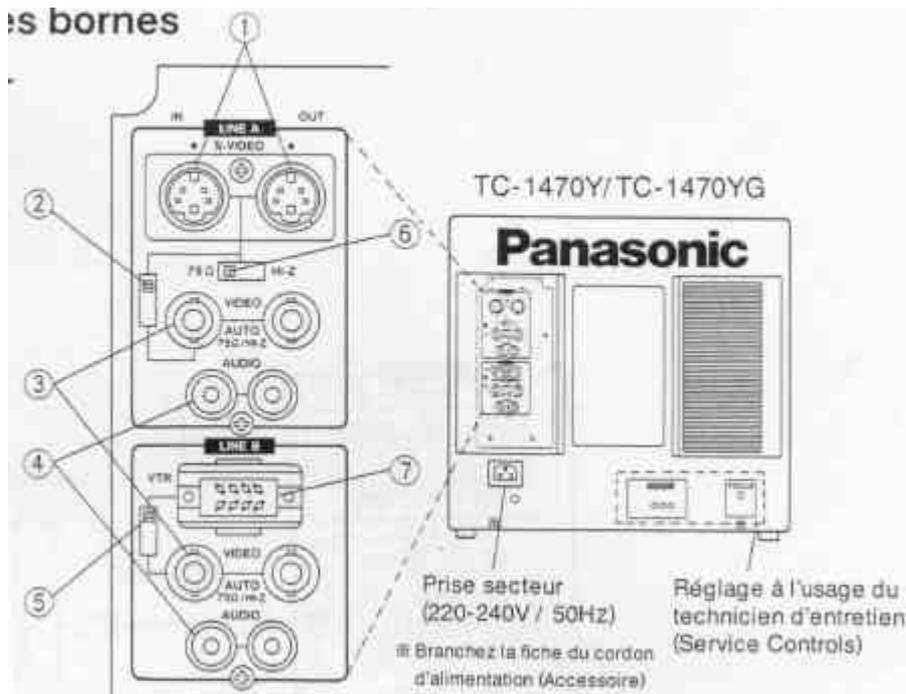


Figure 5-7: Video monitor, rear view

- 1: S-Video Input/Output terminal (4 pin): Luminance signal and chroma signal input / output terminal
- 2: Video / S-Video Switch: always in S-Video position
- 6: S-Video Impedance Switch: set to HI-Z when the S-Video output is used (the monitor is inside the network), set to 75 Ohms when just the S-Video input terminal is used (the monitor is at the end of the branch of the network (see figure 5-1)

The Sony monitor dedicated to the “mobile” video camera has the same characteristics, except that it can not be connected in Video mode (no Line B).

## 5.4 VITEC MPEG PROFILER

### 5.4.1 Main characteristics

It is a PCI encoding card designed for Windows 2000, and uses the latest technology in MPEG compression.

Its video specifications are:

- video standard: PAL but also NTSC and SECAM
- encoding standard: MPEG-1, MPE-2 but also half D1, 2/3 D1 and full D1
- video encoding bit rate: 2 to 15 Mbits/s for MPEG-2 and 100 kbps for MPEG-1
- file format: video elementary
- VDC, XVCD, SVCD and DVD compliant
- constant and variable bit rate
- calibration hue, saturation, brightness and contrast
- digital prefiltering
- all video resolution supported

### 5.4.2 Procedure for creating a numerical file

#### 5.4.2.1 Step 1

Connect the video recorder to the video monitor and the video monitor to the input plug of the card.

Activate MPEG profiler version 2.4 software: the home page is displayed

Click on the upper left icon, the installed encoding card(s) is displayed

Validate the selection by a double click on the green icon just before the name of the encoder



Figure 5-8: MPEG profile software home page

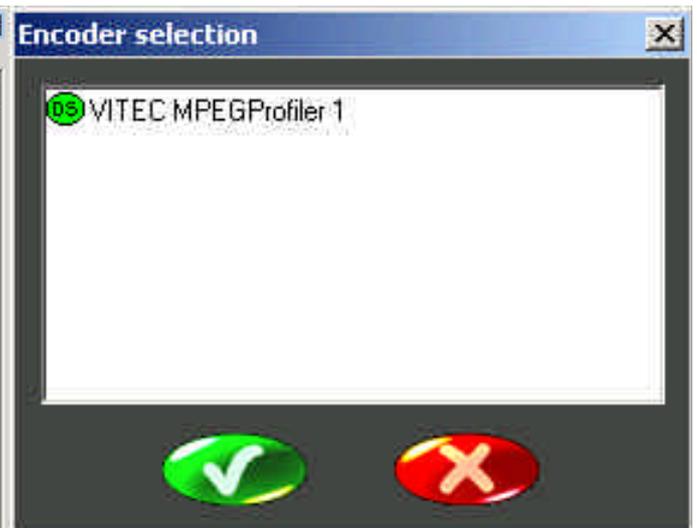


Figure 5-9: Encoder selection menu

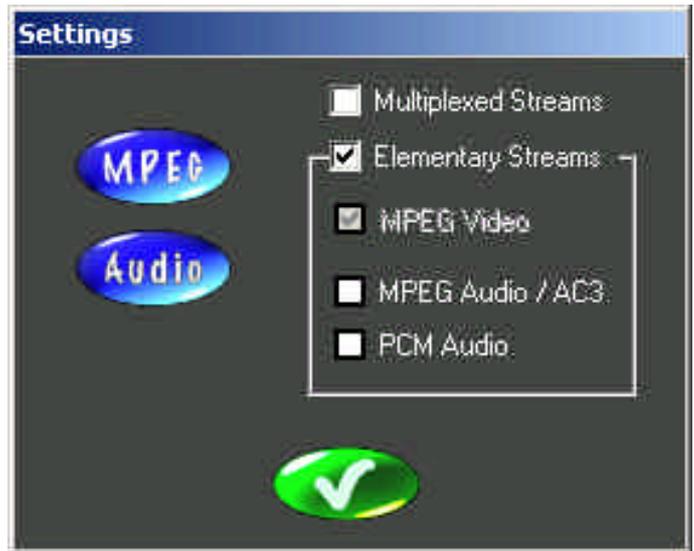
5.4.2.2 Step 2

Click on the “tools” icon, in the upper line of the home page.

In the Settings windows:

- validate Elementary Streams, and
- suppress Audio selections in order to create only an images file.

Click on MPEG blue icon in order to determine the parameters in the different menus



5.4.2.3 Step 3

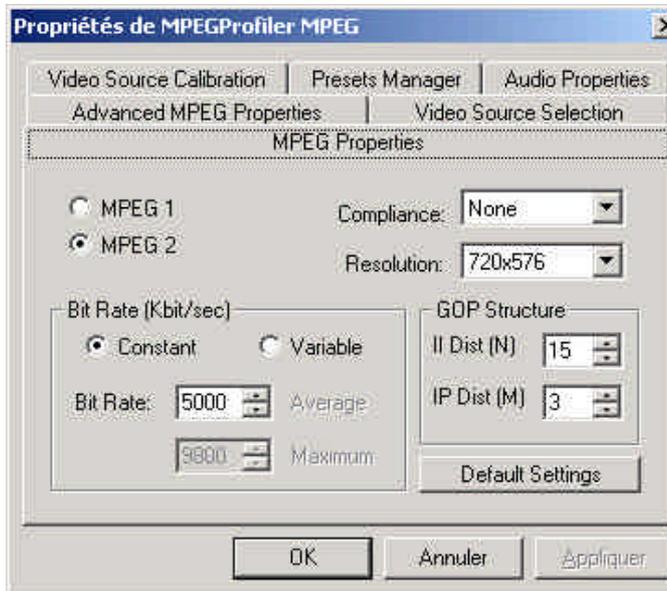


Figure 5-10: MPEG Properties menu

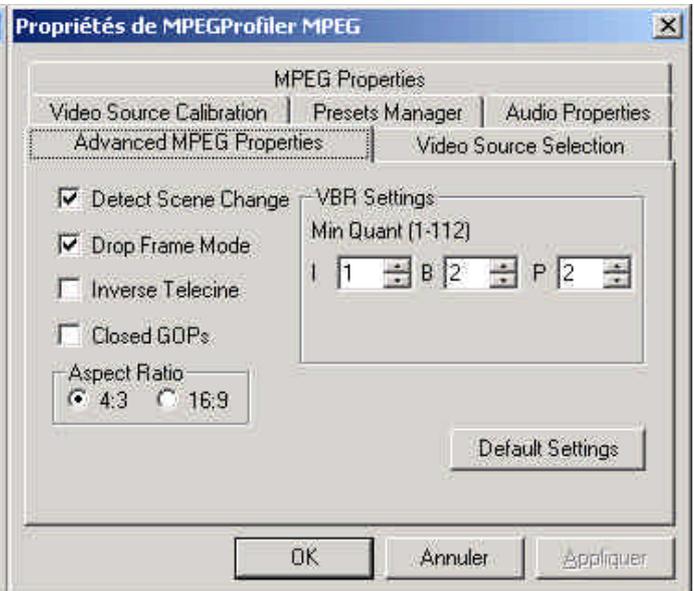


Figure 5-11: Advanced MPEG Properties



Figure 5-12: Video Source Selection menu

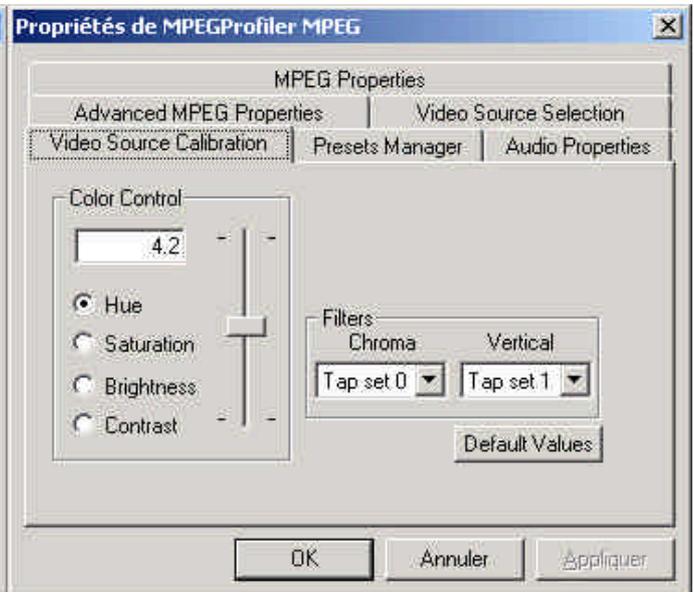


Figure 5-13: Video Source Calibration menu



Figure 5-14: Presets manager menu

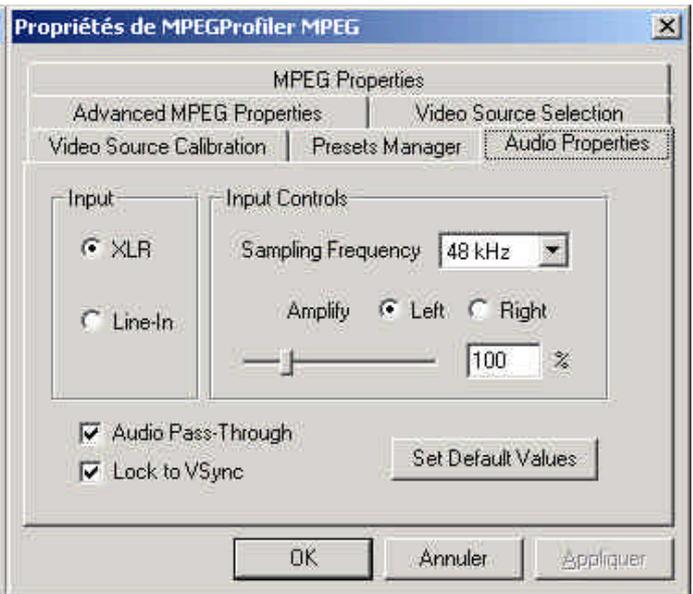
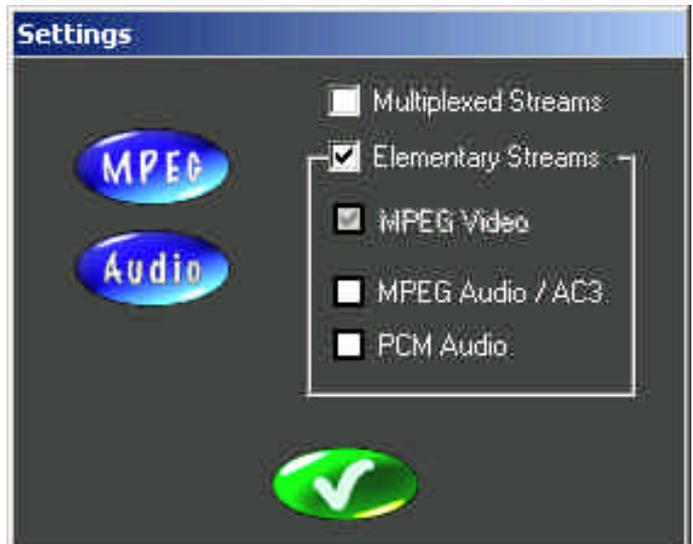


Figure 5-15: Audio Properties menu even if Audio selections are non active

Validate all the selections by clicking on the green icon.

The profile software home page is displayed

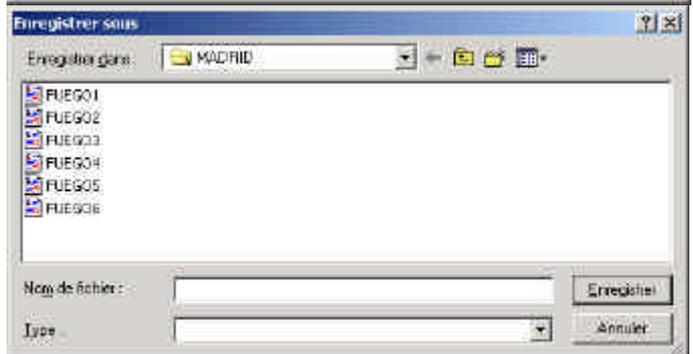


5.4.2.4 Step 4

Click on the upper right icon for entering the name of the numerical file and the storage folder

Validate by pressing on the Enregistrer (Record) button; the third grey button is lighted: the software is ready to create the numerical file

At the bottom of the profile software home page, enter an evaluation of the duration of the record (do not hesitate to indicate longer duration if you hesitate



5.4.2.5 Step 5

Before pressing the “red” button, verify that the connection between the video recorder and the computer is correct (see the corresponding chapter) and that the tape is at the right position.

Launch the operation, start the video recorder.

Wait until the operation is finish for stopping the operation by pressing on the right “yellow” button or until the indicated duration is over.



### 5.5 VITEC VIDEOCLIPMPEG2

The version 2.2 of this software permits to copy sequences of numerical images from an initial numerical file.

In the left screen, open an exiting numerical file, define the first and last images of the sequence that is to be copied, and press the bottom right red icon.

In the right screen, press the bottom right red icon, the corresponding images are pasted in the second screen, and save the new file.



**5.6 VITEC MPEG PLAYER**

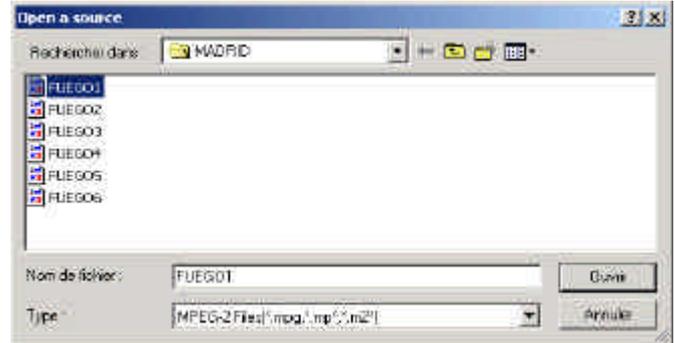
**5.6.1 Procedure for visualising a numerical file**

Activate VITEC MPEG Player software

Click on the Open a media icon (first left in the upper line)



Select the type to which belong the numerical file  
 Select the numerical file and click on Ouvrir (Open)



The first image of the file is displayed in the main screen.

Using the icons of the lower line of VTEC MPEG Player menu, the film can be displayed

- Play or Pause the media: run or stop
- Decrement or increment position: display the next or previous image

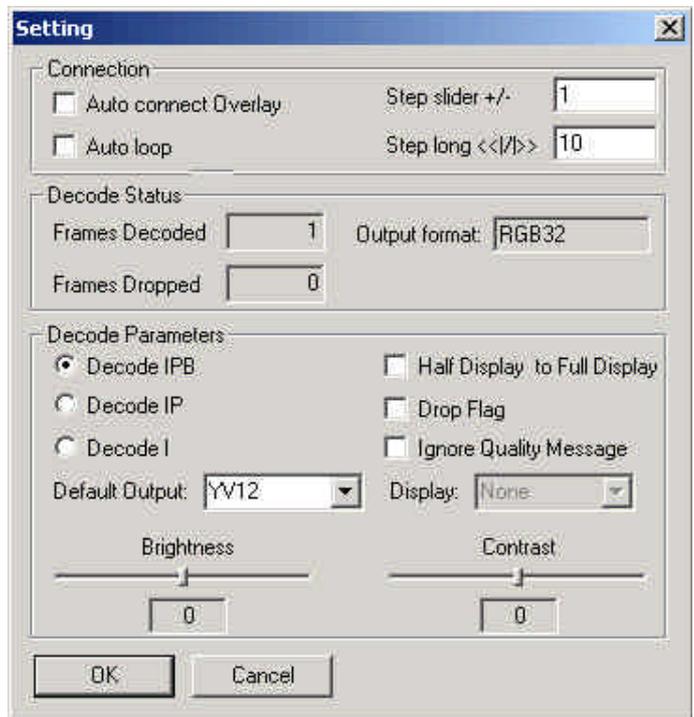
- Go to first position: display the first image of the file
- Go to end: display the last image of the file
- Long decrement or increment position commands are used for displaying images at a regular step of 10 frames

Select play offers four possible rates for reading the numerical file.

**5.6.2 Procedure for extracting images**

Display the selected image using the image by image command

Click on Set and suppress the Auto connect Overlay activation

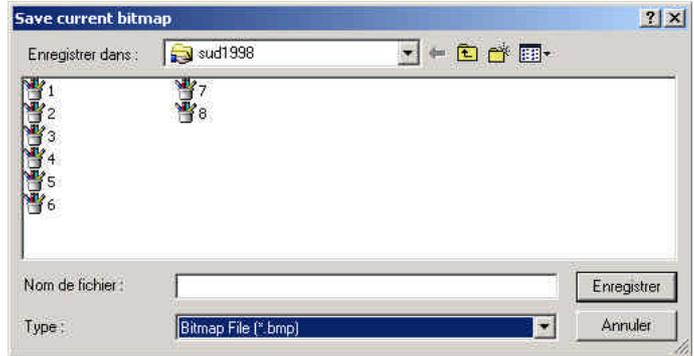


Press on the Save a picture button (red button at the bottom right)



Enter the name of the file (Nom du fichier) and click on Enregistrer (Save)

A bmp file is created which can be uploaded afterwards with Photo Shop 7 software for creating a .jpg corresponding file.



### 5.7 OTHER INFORMATION

For more information, connect to VITEC web site: <http://www.vitecmm.com>

## 6 INFRARED IMAGES ACQUISITION SYSTEM

### 6.1 SC2000 CAMERA TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

The main technical characteristics of the infrared camera FLIR SC2000 are:

(technical specifications in Annex A):

- IR-detector based on non-cooled micro-bolometer focal plane array (FPA),
- this technology works in the long wave spectral band (7.5 – 13 µm spectral range),
- a built-in spectral filter reduces the influence of the atmospheric attenuation,
- the camera has a fully radiometric design with temperature measurement up to 1500 °C,
- three temperature ranges are available: -40° C to +120° C, 0°C to +500°C, 350°C to 1500 °C,
- its 14 bits digital output works in real-time,
- it can be used as a portable handheld camera, tripod mounted, operated locally or by remote control.

The Researcher HS system is used to perform high-speed image data acquisition at a sampling rate of 50 Hz.

More technical information are summarised in chapter 6.6

### 6.2 THERMACAM RESEARCHER SYSTEM

The following image reminds the complete ThermaCAM Researcher System (Figure 6-1).

This system is composed of:

- SC2000 Infra red camera,
- cable 194450 and extension cable 194267, for connecting the camera to 500 input port of the parallel interface
- parallel interface 1944441
- RS432 cable 194452 and RS232 cable 908618 for connecting the parallel interface to the PC07 (see Internal computing network in Deliverable D-07-02)
- power supply 194091 in 230VAC, connected to the pwr input port of the parallel interface
- external trigger in order to start simultaneously the data and the IR images acquisitions.

For technical reasons, the total length of cables 194450 and 194267 must be lower than 15 m (here 12.5 m).

For analogue reasons, the length of cable 908618 is limited to 1.8 m.

These major constraints induce specific adaptations when we used the ThermaCAM Researcher system on DESIRE bench.

We must move all the system in order to be close to the experimental bench for static fire during experiments on this bench.

Rechargeable batteries NiMH permit to use the camera disconnected from the system.

The software features are the same as ThermaCAM<sup>®</sup> Researcher but the hardware uses the System parts ThermaCAM<sup>®</sup> SC Parallel (see Figure 6-2):

- IC2-DIG16 frame grabber (inside the PC) from Imaging Technology Inc., USA
- a PCI-standardised card with a 44-pin DSUB cable fitting into the side of the Parallel Interface (PI) (3)
- a Parallel Interface (PI) 500/900 box (3).
- the PI - Camera Cable fits into the "Camera 500" connector of this box
- the IC2-DIG16 cable fits into the "RS422" connector.
- a serial cable links the desktop computer to the "RS232" connector
- a LEMO connector on the short side fits to a Power Supply 500 unit (5)
- the ThermaCAM<sup>®</sup> Researcher CD-ROM (not shown) including PC driver software
- a desktop computer (1) with an internal SCSI disk (2) (*external on the image*) for image storage

## 6.3 PROCEDURE

### 6.3.1 High frequency infra red images acquisition

Using the parallel interface, the system can acquire infra red images at a frequency up to 50 Hz.

Fix the camera on its support or tripod.

Connect the infra red acquisition board installed on PC07 to the RS432 output port of the parallel interface, using RS432 cable, for transferring the infra red images.

Connect the input/output serial port of PC07 to the RS232 output port of the parallel interface, using RS232 cable, for transferring instructions.

Connect the SC2000 camera to the 500 port of the parallel interface using cables 194450 and 194267.

Connect the external trigger to the trigger port of the parallel interface

Using the AC/DC transformer, connect the power supply to the pwr port of the parallel interface.

Turn the ON/OFF switch of the power supply on ON

Turn the ON/OFF switch of the camera on ON

Turn the ON/OFF switch of PC07 on ON

Activate the ThermaCAM Researcher software (Figure 6-3)

Create a working session (.irs file) for adjusting the camera:

- parameters concerning the "object" such as emissivity, air temperature and humidity (Figure 6-4)
- characteristics of the output signal (Figure 6-5)
- measurement range 0-120°C, 0-500 °C, or 350-1500°C and focus (Figure 6-6)
- noise reduction : Off, Normal, High (Figure 6-7)
- sequence name and storage folder

Complete the working session by determining the analysis tools: points, square or circular areas, polygons, formulas.

Launch the infra red acquisition by using the mouse or the keyboard of PC07, or the external trigger for simultaneous launching of the infra red images and data acquisitions.

At the end of the acquisition, visualise and analyse the images, using or not the defined tools (Figure 6-8 and Figure 6-9)

An application designed, developed and implemented in Visual Basic 6.0 ensures automatic choice of the camera parameters, and recording of the infra red images (Figure 6-10 and Figure 6-11).

### 6.3.2 Low frequency infra red images acquisition

This procedure is dedicated for using the camera disconnected from the ThermaCAM researcher system.

It uses the following equipment:

- Green button for activating the camera
- Enter button for moving inside the graphic interface of the command software of the camera
- C button for cancelling the last selection in the menu of the command software of the camera
- A button for calibrating the camera or to adjust its focus
- S button for selecting an image or storing it on the storing board of the camera
- Joystick has several functions:
  - starting mode for focusing and zooming,
  - menu mode for selecting the appropriate function, or increasing or decreasing the values of the parameters
- Viewfinder whose focus can be adjust with a small wheel
- 12 VCC connector for the parallel interface
- Header
- Video connectors to monitor or video recorder

The procedure is as following.

- Fix the camera on its support or tripod
- Insert the battery in the camera
- Inset the memory card in the camera
- Activate the camera
- Adjust the focus of the camera
- Determine the parameters using the graphic interface of the internal software (object parameters, temperature range, filters, ...)
- Determine the recording parameters on the memory card (frequency, images names, folder name)

Back to the laboratory:

- extract the memory card from the camera
- insert it in the PCMCIA card reader of PC07
- copy the images on its hard disk
- use the ThermaCAM Researcher software for visualising and analysing the images.

### 6.3.3 ThermaCAM Researcher software

It works under Windows 2000 environment.

Under laboratory conditions, it ensures the infra red images recording at real time and at high frequency (up to 50 Hz).

It has large functionality for visualising and analysing the recorded infra red images, using numerous tools (points, lines, areas, isotherms.

Results are displayed in different windows and under different ways (tables, histograms, curves, profiles.

They can be stored under text format files.

Using OLE procedure, information and data can be extracted from the images for being included in .doc or .xls files (Word2000 and Excell2000) or used by Visual Basic software (Figure 6-10 and Figure 6-11).

6.4 ILLUSTRATIONS

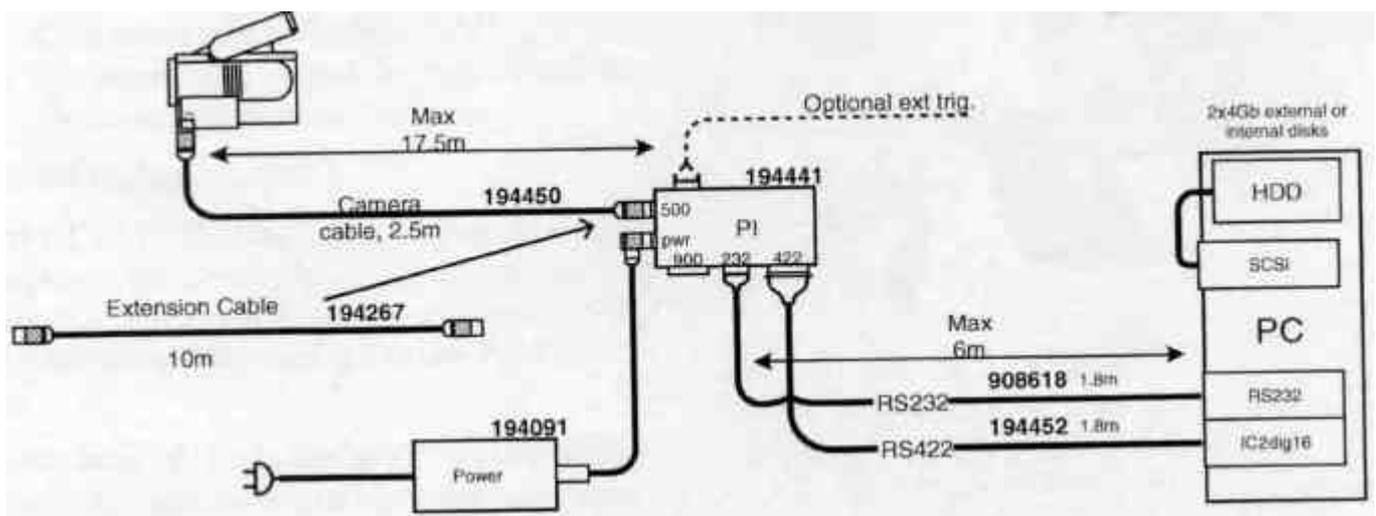


Figure 6-1: SC2000 ThermoCAM Researcher system



Figure 6-2: ThermoCAM® Researcher HS - ThermoCAM® SC parallel interface system

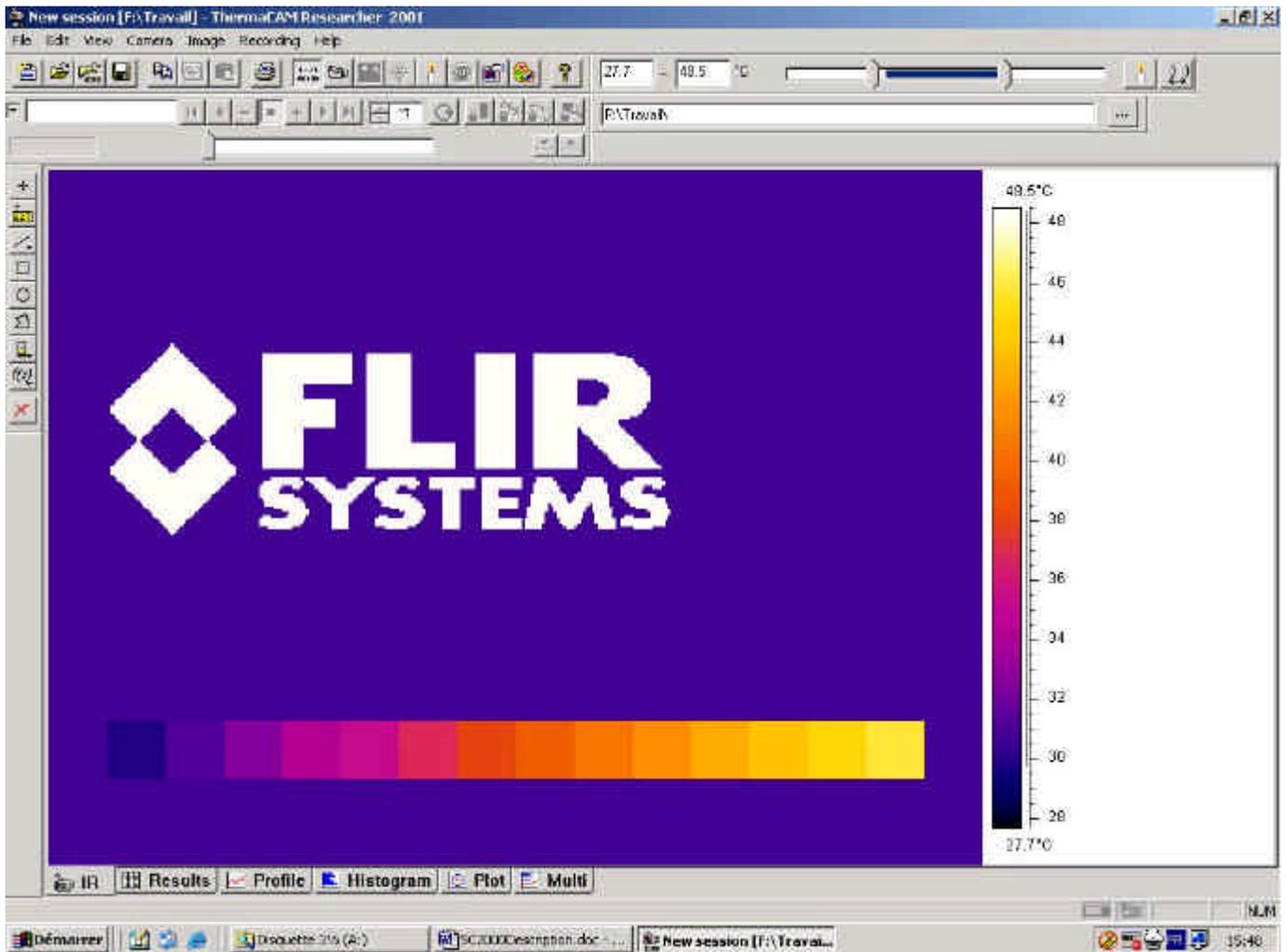


Figure 6-3: ThermoCAM researcher software home page

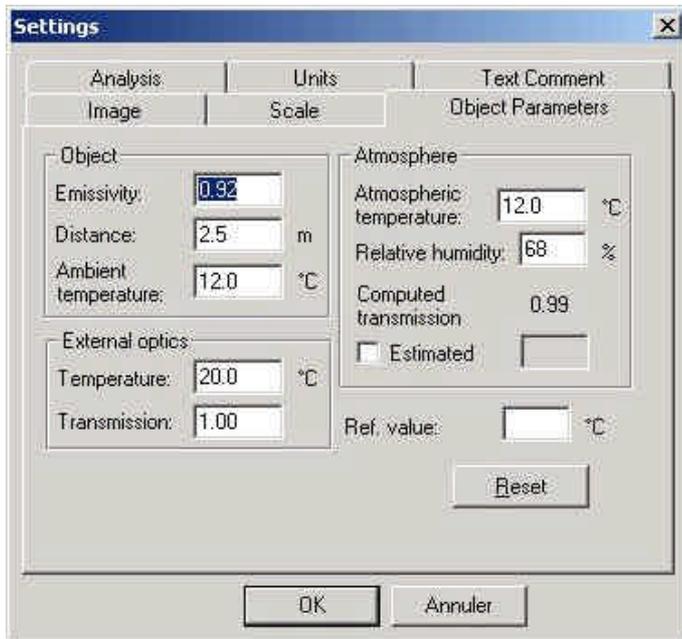


Figure 6-4: To select the object parameters

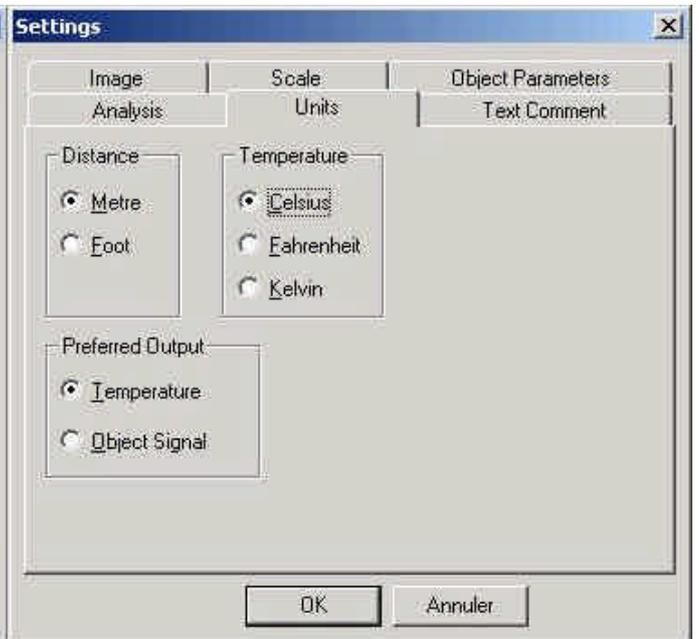


Figure 6-5: To select the units

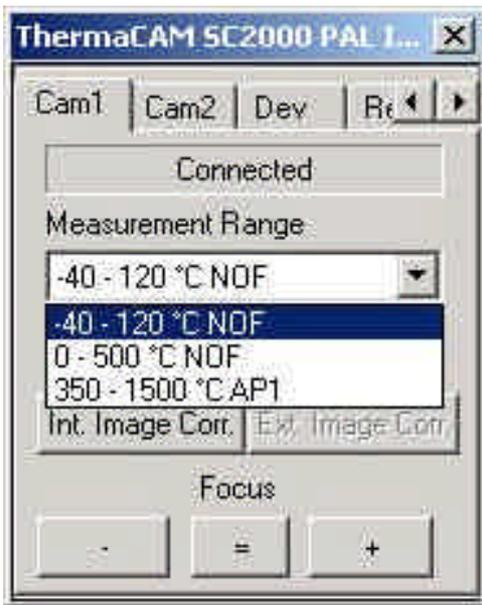


Figure 6-6: To fix the measurement ranges

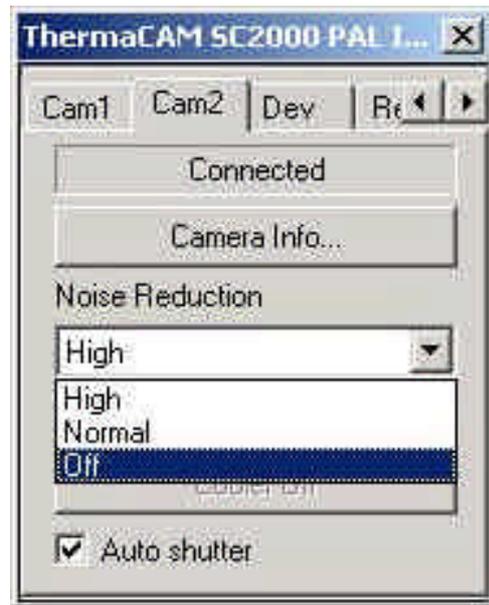


Figure 6-7: Noise reduction

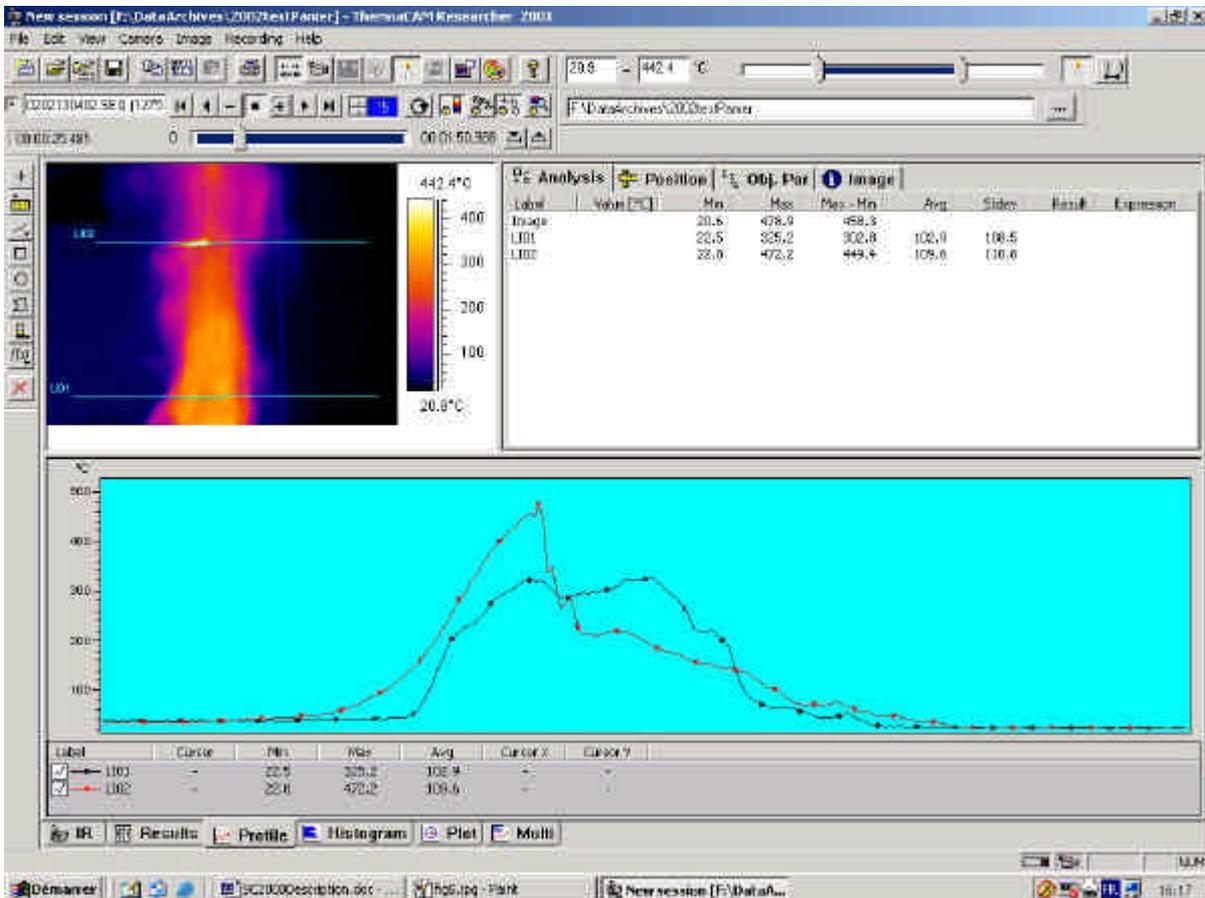


Figure 6-8: Temperature variation along lines 01 (blue) and 02 (red) located in the upper left fixed image

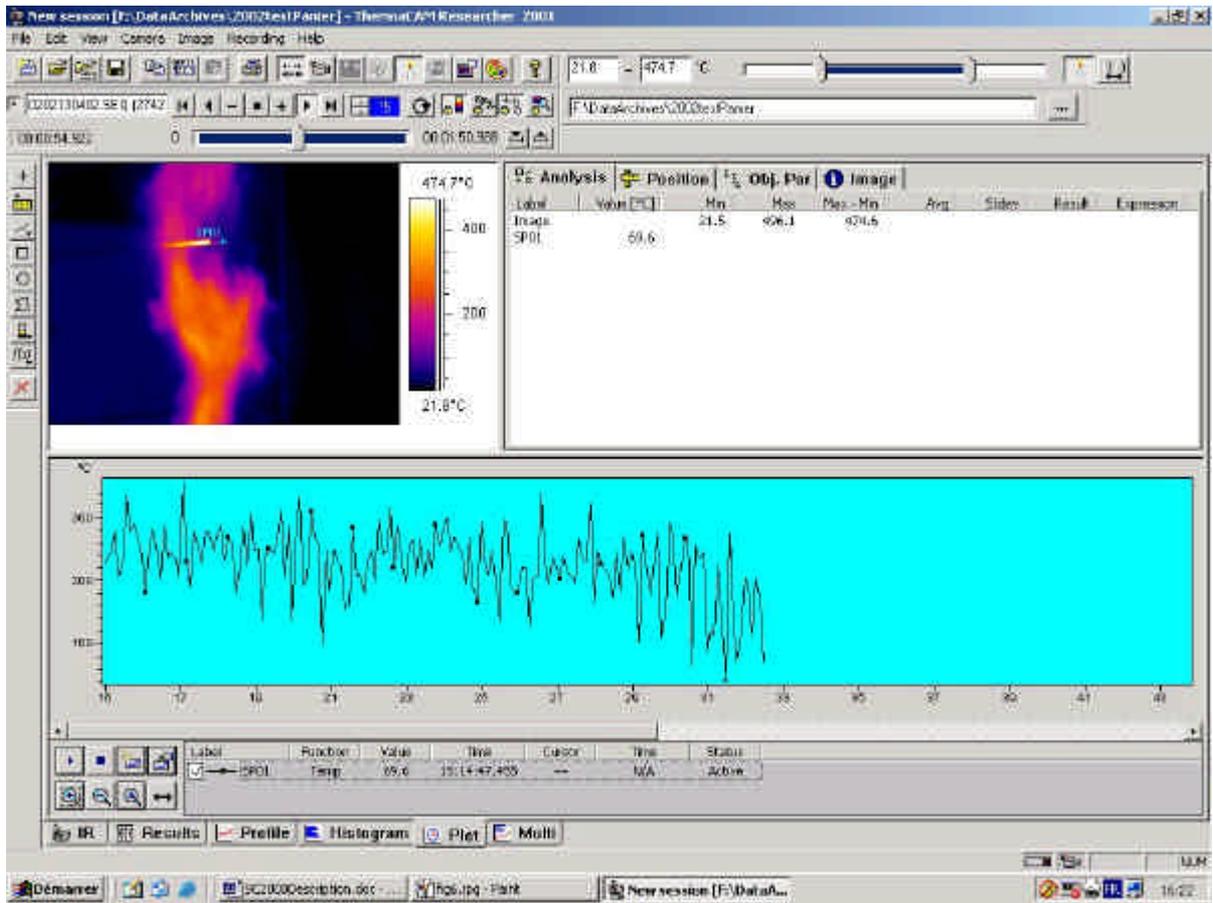


Figure 6-9: Temperature variation in the selected point SP01 versus time  
 SP01 is located in the upper left running image

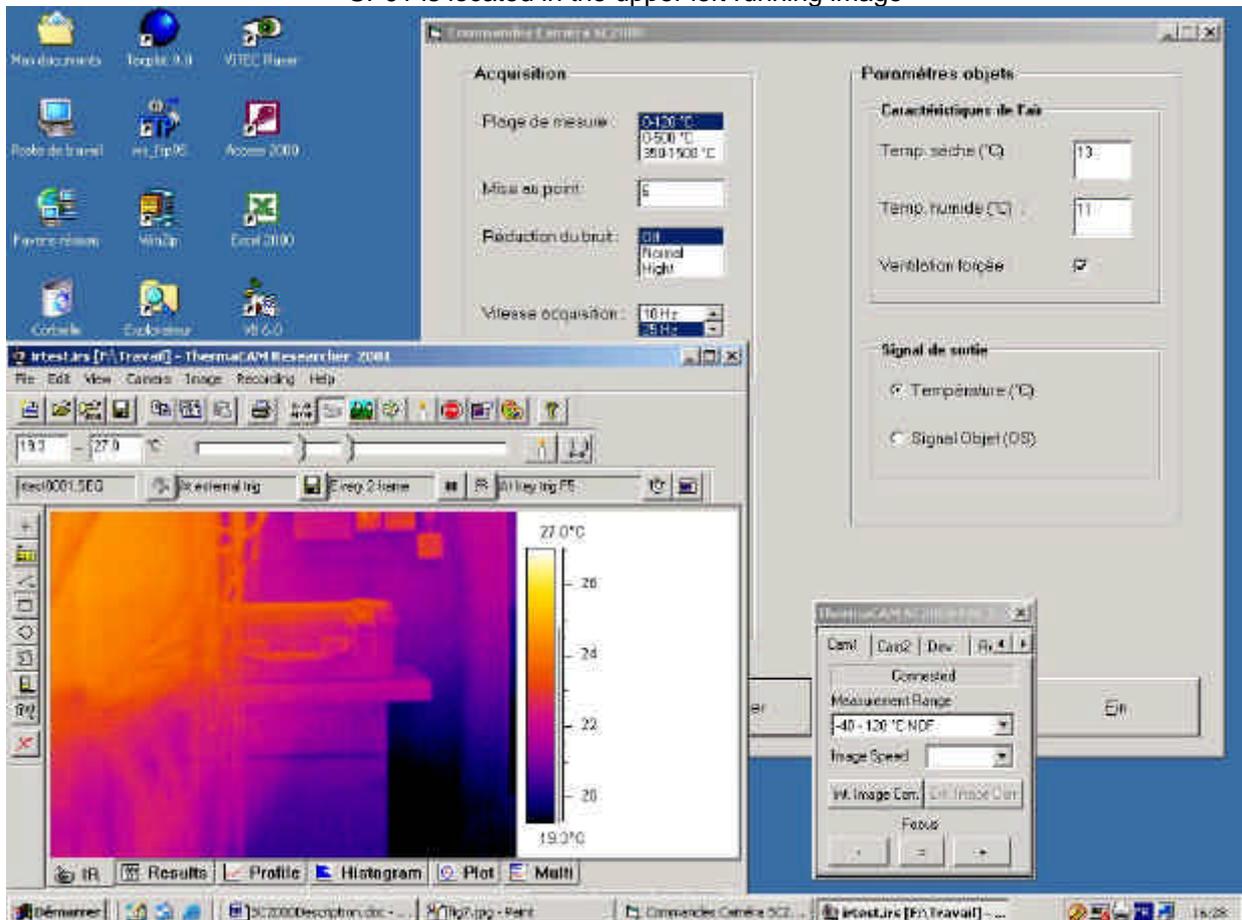


Figure 6-10: Visual Basic application for fixing the parameters

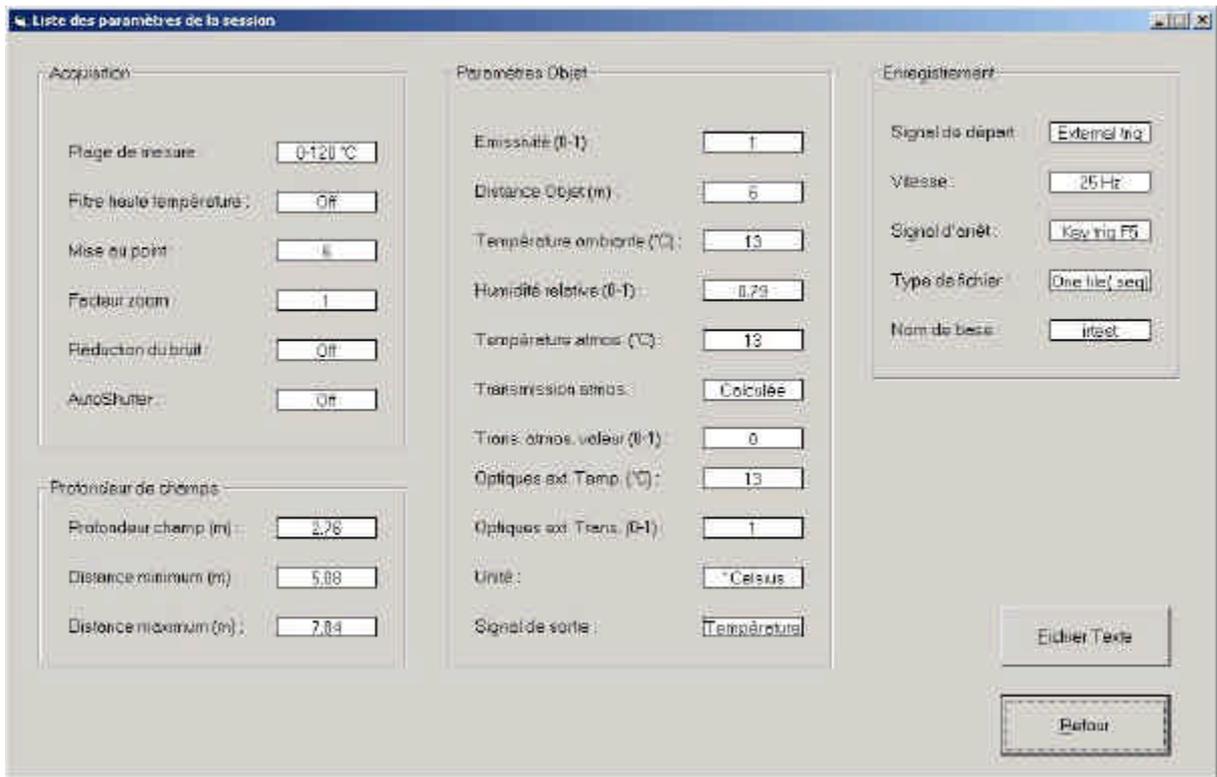


Figure 6-11: Visual Basic application for summarising all the parameters of the session

**6.5 OTHER INFORMATION**

For more information, connect to FLIR web site: <http://www.flir.com>

**6.6 COMPLETE TECHNICAL INFORMATION**

		SC 2000
THERMAL IMAGING PERFORMANCE	FIELD OF VIEW/MIN FOCUS DISTANCE	24° x 18°/0.5 m
	SPATIAL RESOLUTION (IFOV)	1.3 mrad
	THERMAL SENSITIVITY (NETD @ 30 C)	0.1 °C at 30° C
	IMAGE FREQUENCY	50/60 Hz non-interlaced
	DETECTOR TIME CONSTANT	15 msec
	ELECTRONIC ZOOM FUNCTION	4X continuous
	DETECTOR	Uncooled microbolometer FPA
		320 x 240 pixels
	SPECTRAL RANGE	7.5 to 13 µm
	FPA OPERATING TEMPERATURE	Room temperature
IMAGE PRESENTATION	START UP TIME	< 25 seconds
	DIGITIZING RESOLUTION	14 Bits, 16,384 Levels
	IMAGE CORRECTION (NUC)	Internal and external
MEASUREMENT	LENS MOUNT	Bayonet
	LENS IDENTIFICATION	Automatic
	VIDEO OUTPUT FORMAT	60hz - RS170 EIA/NTSC or 50hz - CCIR/PAL composite, and 14 bit digital video
	DISPLAY	Built-in, high-resolution colour LCD (TFT) viewfinder
	COLOR LCD FLAT PANEL EXTERNAL DISPLAY	Optional
	STANDARD TEMPERATURE MEASUREMENT RANGES	-40 to 120 °C / 80 to 500 °C / 350 to 1500 °C
	OPTIONAL TEMP RANGES	350 to 2000 °C
	ACCURACY	+/- 2% or 2 °C
	IMAGE TEMPERATURE SPANS	Infinitely variable within a range, automatic or manual
	EMISSION & BACKGROUND (AMBIENT) CORRECTION	Variable from 0.01 to 1.0 or select from listings in user-defined materials list
THERMAL READOUTS	ATMOSPHERIC TRANSMISSION CORRECTION	Automatic based on inputs for distance, atmospheric temperature, and relative humidity
	THERMAL READOUTS	°C, °F
	AMBIENT TEMPERATURE CORRECTION	Automatic – based on signals from 5 internal sensors
	OPTICS CORRECTION	YES, Automatic detection of lens in use

FEATURES	IMAGE PRESENTATION	B/W and Colour
	# COLOR PALETTES	8
	USER DEFINED COLOR PALETTES	YES
	SPOTS	3 movable
	AUTOSPOT (locates hottest or coldest pixel)	YES
	DELTA TEMPERATURE TO REFERENCE	YES
	DUAL SPOT DELTA TEMPERATURE	YES
	ISOTHERM: INTERVAL, ABOVE, BELOW, DUAL ABOVE, DUAL BELOW, SEMITRANSSPARENT COLOR	YES
	PROFILE – HORIZONTAL OR VERTICAL	YES
	AREA (MAX; MIN; AVG), BOX OR CIRCLE	1
	REVERSE IMAGE POLARITY	YES
	TEMPERATURE LEVEL & SPAN SETTING	Manual or automatic
	CONTINUOUS AUTOMATIC SETTING OF TEMPERATURE LEVEL & SPAN	YES
	MANUAL LEVEL AND SPAN ADJUSTMENT	YES
	PCMCIA (PC-CARD) FLASH DIGITAL STORAGE CARD DRIVE	YES
	PCMCIA FLASH CARD STORAGE CAPACITY	160 Mb (> 700 thermal images)
	THERMAL IMAGE FILE FORMAT	BMP and/or 14 bit digital storage
	THERMAL BMP DETAILS	Image only or image with screen graphics
	IMAGE ANALYSIS FROM PCMCIA	YES
	STORAGE TIME FOR 14 BIT IMAGE	<1.5 seconds
	ADJUSTABLE MEASUREMENT PARAMETERS FROM STORED IMAGES	YES
	ADJUSTABLE TIMED INTERVAL STORAGE	YES - up to 1 Hz
	CONTINUOUS STORAGE AT 5 Hz	Optional – ThermaCAM Researcher RT
	CONTINUOUS STORAGE AT 50/60 Hz	Optional – ThermaCAM® Researcher HS
	AUTO CAMERA PARAMETER ENCODING	YES – Includes header file with all radiometric data
	SAVE / RECALL CAMERA CONFIGURATION	YES
	IMAGE FREEZE	YES
MULTI-LANGUAGE MENUS AND UNITS	Italian, English, French, German, Spanish, and Portuguese	
RS-232 SERIAL I/O INTERFACE	YES – Breakout box included	
REMOTE CONTROL HANDLE	OPTIONAL	
RS-232 IMAGE DOWNLOAD CAPABILITY	YES	
REMOTE CONTROL SOFTWARE	OPTIONAL – Achieved through ThermaCAM® Researcher	
REMOTE FOCUS	YES	
UPGRADABLE SYSTEM SOFTWARE	YES	
IN-FIELD VOICE ANNOTATION	30 sec / image	
IN-FIELD USER DEFINED TEXT ANNOTATION	Pre-defined text selected and stored with the image. Up to 4 text fields/image	
EXTERNAL CONNECTIONS	MULTI-FUNCTION CONNECTOR (External power, RS232, Video)	YES
	COMPOSITE VIDEO OUTPUT	YES
	HEAD-SET CONNECTOR FOR VOICE ANNOTATION	YES
	S-VIDEO OUTPUT CABLE	N/A
OPERATING ENVIRONMENT	OPERATING TEMP. RANGE	-15 TO +50 °C
	STORAGE TEMP. RANGE	-40 TO +70 °C
	HUMIDITY	Operating and storage 10 TO 95%, non-condensing
	SHOCK RESILENCE	Operational: 25G, IEC 68-2-29
	VIBRATION RESILENCE	Operational: 2G, IEC 68-2-6
	ENCLOSURE/PROTECTION	Metal case, IP54 IEC 529
	EMI/RFI SHIELDING	YES
ESD PROTECTION	YES	
POWER	AC POWER ADAPTER	110-240 V 50/60 Hz
	OPERATING VOLTAGE	13 VDC, nominal (11.5 to 16 V)
	POWER CONSUMPTION	13 watts
BATTERY SYSTEM	TYPE	2 NiMh field replaceable
	BATTERY OPERATING TIME	2 hours
	BATTERY CHARGING TIME	1 hour
	BATTERY CHARGER	110-240 VAC 50/60 Hz input, charges 4 NiMh batteries
	BATTERY BELT, 8 HOURS OPERATION	Optional
DIMENSIONS & WEIGHTS	CAMERA DIMENSIONS WITH STANDARD LENS	220 x 130 x 140 mm (8.6 x 5.1 x 5.5 in.)
	TOTAL WEIGHT	2.0 kg (4.4 lbs.), excluding battery 2.4 kg (5.3 lbs.) including battery
	TRIPOD MOUNT	1/4"–20

7 METEOROLOGICAL DATA ACQUISITION SYSTEM

7.1 THE SENSORS

7.1.1 Wind speed

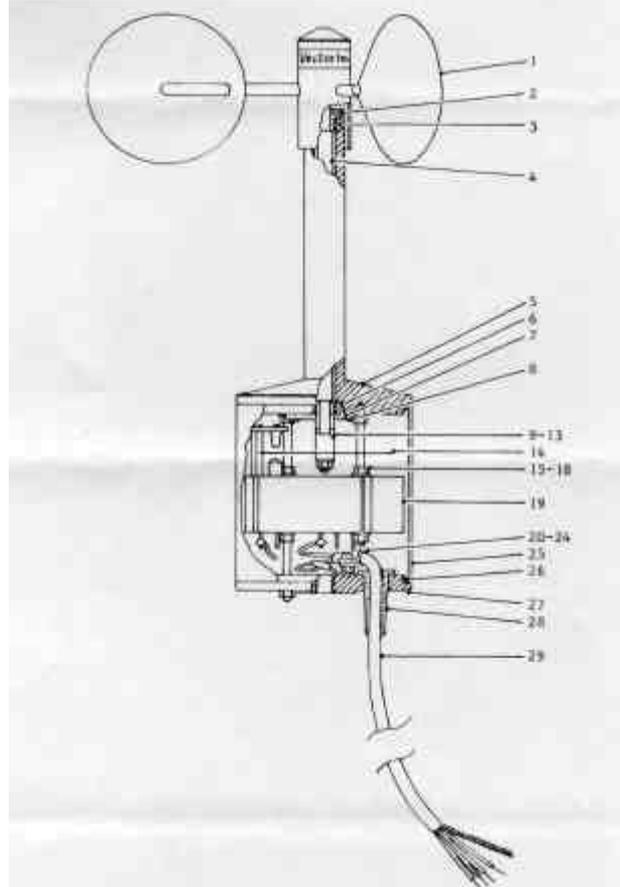


Figure 7-1: Vector anemometer

Range of operation	Threshold	0.3 Kts (starting speed: 0.4 Kts, stopping speed: 0.2 Kts)
	Maximum wind speed	150 Kts (75 m/s)
Rotor	Standard measuring range	0 to 150 Kts
	Type	R30, 3-cup rotor
Pulse Output	Distance constant	2.3 m, 10%
	Rotor speed measurements	By interruption of optical beam
	Accuracy	1% of reading (20 to 110 Kts), up to 2% of reading (110 to 150 Kts), 0.2 Kts (0.2 to 20 Kts)
	Non linearity	0.4% of full range output frequency
	Output range	0 to 1500 Hz for 0 to 150 Kts (10 Hz per Knot)
Analogue Output	Resolution	5.15 cm
	5V pulse output	High 5V 5%, Low <0.2 v, min. load res: 0.2 Kohms Rise/Fall time approx. 25 μs, duty cycle 50%
	Nominal Factory Calibration	0 to 2.5 VDC for 0 to 150 Knots, single ended
	Output over range	5 V 10%
	Overall non linearity	0.9% full range output for 0 to 150 Knots
	Temperature coefficient	2% of output relative to 15°C value (-30 to +40°C)
	Response time	150 ms first order lag typical (as Porton A100)
	Effect of supply variation	0.2% full range over full supply range
	Output ripple	Typically 13 mv peak to peak at pulse frequency
	Output resistance	Less than 500 Ohms
General	Recommended load resistance	1 MOhms for calibrated output, otherwise minimum 5 KOhms
	Operating Temperature range	-30 to +70°C
	Supply voltage	6.5 to 28 VDC
	Power-up time	5 s
	Current consumption	2 mA max, 1.6 mA typical
	Standard cable	3 m log, 6 core screened 7/0.2 mm, PVC insulated

7.1.2 Wind direction

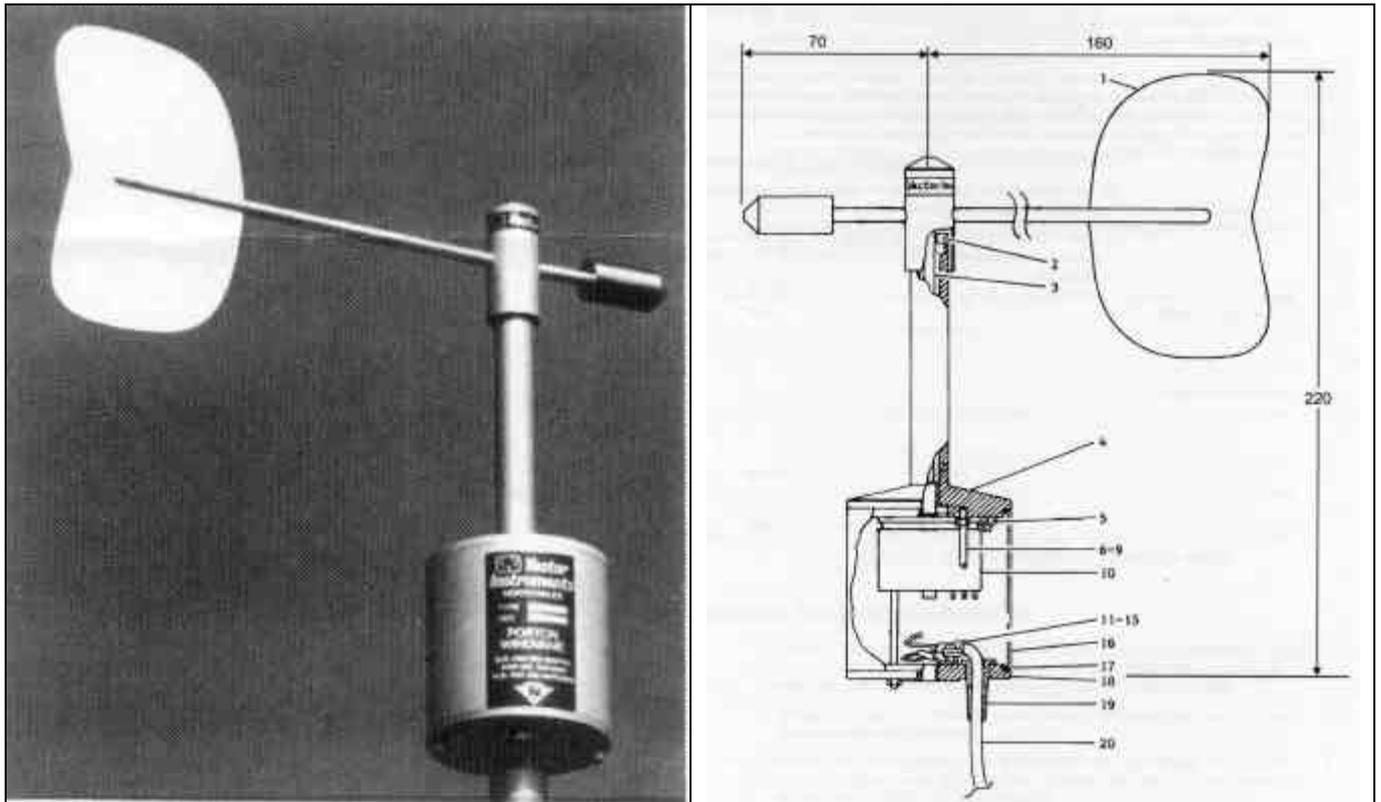
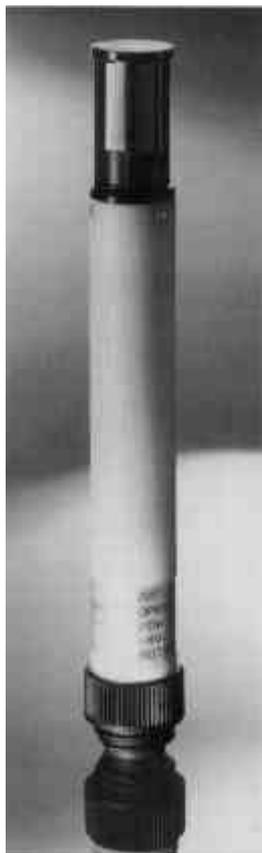


Figure 7-2: Vector wind vane (wind direction)

Range of operation	Maximum wind speed	Over 75 m/s (150 Knots)
	Range	360° mechanical angle, full circle continuous rotation allowed
Performance	Temperature range	-50 to +70°C
	Threshold	0.6 m/s (1.2 Knot), the vane will commence movement when aligned at 45° to the flow
	Response	Damped natural wavelength: 3.4 m, Damping ratio: 0.2 m, Recovery distance: 0.51 m, Distance constant: 2.3 m
	Repeatability	0.5° vane removed and replaced no measurable backlash movement during use
	Life of potentiometer	5 x 10 <sup>7</sup> cycles ( 10 years typical exposure)
Electrical	Service interval	4 to 5 years
	Accuracy	3° in steady winds > 5 m/s, 2° obtainable following calibration
	Potentiometer resistance	1000 Ohms 10%
	Maximum dissipation	0.5 W, -50 to +20°C (de rate linearly to 0.25 W at 70°C)
	Maximum wiper current	50 µA, (20 mA absolute max)
	Supply voltage	1 to 5 V (20 V absolute max)
	Case to potentiometer voltage	72 V max (case or screen to any terminal on potentiometer)
	Insulation resistance	> 50 MOhms
	Temperature coefficient of resistance	50 x 10 <sup>-6</sup> per °C
	Electrical continuity angle	357.7° 1.5° (2.3° gap at North)
	Electrical variation angle	356.5° 1.5° (3.5° dead-band)
Resolution	0.2°	
Independent linearity	0.25% (unloaded)	

7.1.3 Air characteristics



**Humidity sensor** ROTRONIC-HYGROMER C94  
**Temperature sensor** RTD Pt 100 1/3 DIN

	Humidity	Temperature
Operating ranges	0 to 100 % RH	-40 to +60°C
Accuracy at 23°C	1% RH from 5 to 95% RH, 2%RH if U<5% or U>95%	0.3°C
Reproducibility	<0.5% RH	<0.1°C
Long term stability for humidity typical under normal conditions	1% RH per year	
Time constants at 23°C and 1 m/s air movement	<10s	<15s
Adjustments points (potentiometers)	10%, 35%, 80%, 100% limit HMAX	Tmin, Tmax

**7.1.4 Data logger Campbell CR10X**

7.1.4.1 Description

The data logger CR10X is integrated in the portable weather station; a solar panel supplied electric power in order to be able to use the portable weather station everywhere, and specially as close as possible to the experimental plots.

Plugs 1H to 6L are dedicated to analog inputs for differential channels: H and L correspond respectively to high and low tensions.

In case of unipole connections, the measure concerns the difference of tension with the analog mass of the data logger, to 1H and 1L correspond inputs 1 and 2, to 2H and 2L correspond inputs 3 and 4, and so on

Plugs E1, E2 and E3 are excitation outputs and provide programmable tensions for bridge measurements. These tensions can be in AC or DC between -2500 mV and +2500 mV

Plugs P1 and P2 are dedicated for impulses counting, they are programmable too.

Plugs C1 to C8 are dedicated to numerical Inputs/Outputs. As inputs ports, they are use to measure externa signals: high conditions are between 3 and 5.5 V, low conditions are between -0.5 and 0.8 V. As outputs ports, they are used for controlling external devices.

AG plugs are analog mass and used as reference for unipole measurements

Plus 12V and G (ground) are used to provide electric power to the data logger. The other 12V and G plugs can be used for providing electric power to external devices which accept 12 V. G plugs can also be used for ground connection.

5V outputs are used for providing electric power to devices which accept this tension

Serial Inputs/Outputs port is used for connecting the data logger to the laptop for programming the characteristics of the sensors connected to the data logger and adjust the scan frequency at the required level. It is also used for downloading the data file stored internally.

7.1.4.2 Main specifications

<b>Inputs / Outputs</b>	
Differential Analogue Channels	6, each can be configured as 2 single ended channels; expandable with multiplexers
Maximum Input Voltage	2500 mV
Analogue Voltage Resolution	to 0.33 $\mu$ V
A/D Bits	13
Input Impedance	20 GOhms
Input Bias Current	10 nA max
Scan Rate	64 Hz, one measurement with data transfer without interruption
Burst Mode	750 Hz
Pulse Channels	2, switch closure, high frequency square wave or low-level AC sine wave, expansion peripherals available
Excitation Channels	3 switched voltage
Excitation voltage	2500 mV
CAO Channels	0
Digital Ports	8 I/O
Voltage requirements	9.6 to 16 VDC
<b>Memory</b>	
Program Memory	16 Kbytes active, 16 Kbytes auxillary
Data Storage	62280 data points
Optional Data Memory	1 million data points
<b>Current Drain</b>	
Quiescent	1.3 mA typical
Processing	13 mA
Measurement	46 mA
<b>Temperature range</b>	
Standard	-25 to +50°C
Extended	-55 to 85°C

