



SM1PD5A

Description

The Thorlabs SM1PD5A photodiode is ideal for measuring both pulsed and CW fiber light sources by converting the optical power to an electrical current. The detector is mounted in a convenient SM1 (Ø1.035"-40) externally threaded tube for easy mounting and integration in to existing setups. The photodiode is a *Type A (Cathode Grounded)* arrangement, and the pin codes for the specific package can be found in the drawing below. The photodiode anode produces a current, which is a function of the incident light power (P) and the wavelength (λ). The responsivity, $\mathcal{R}(\lambda)$, can be read from the Responsivity Curve (provided on the next page) to estimate the amount of photocurrent to expect. This current can be converted to a voltage by placing a load resistor (R_L) from the photodiode anode to the circuit ground. The output voltage is derived as:

$$V_o = P \times \mathcal{R}(\lambda) \times R_L$$

The bandwidth, f_{BW} , and the rise time response, t_R , are determined from the diode capacitance, C_j , and the load resistance, R_L , as shown below. The diode capacitance can be lowered by placing a bias voltage from the photodiode cathode to the circuit ground.

$$f_{BW} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)R_L C_j}, t_R = \frac{0.35}{f_{BW}}$$

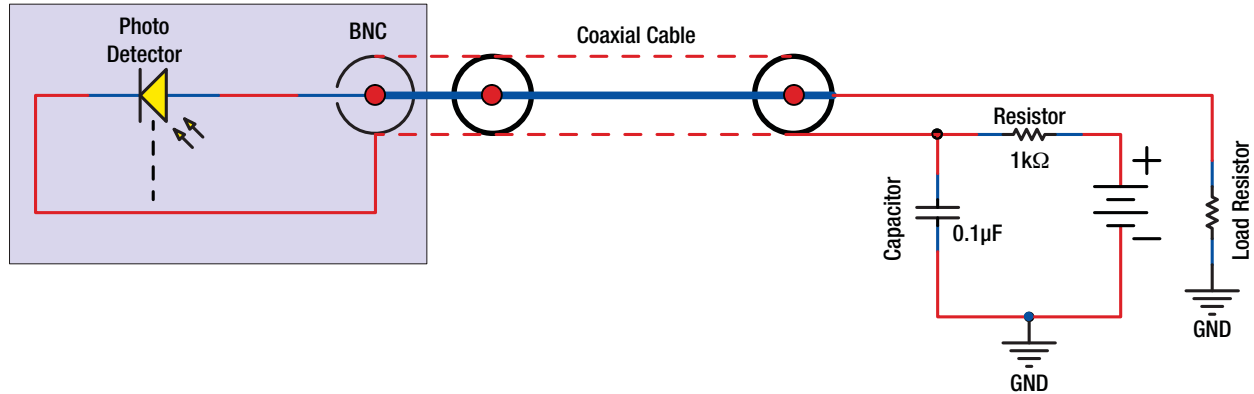
Specifications



Specification		Value
Wavelength Range	λ	800 - 1800 nm
Peak Wavelength	λ_p	1550 nm
Responsivity	$\mathcal{R}(\lambda)$	0.75 A/W
Active Area		10 mm x 10 mm Behind Ø9 mm Clear Aperture
Rise/Fall Time ($R_L=50 \Omega$, 1 V)	t_r/t_f	3 μ s / 3 μ s
NEP, Typical	W/√Hz	4×10^{-12}
Dark Current (0.3 V)	I_d	50 μ A
Capacitance (1 V)	C_j	30 nF
Package		External SM1 (1.035"-40) Thread
Sensor Material		Ge

Maximum Rating	
Max Bias (Reverse) Voltage	1 V
Reverse Current	N/A
Operating Temperature	-55 to 60 °C
Storage Temperature	-55 to 60 °C

Recommended Circuit Diagram

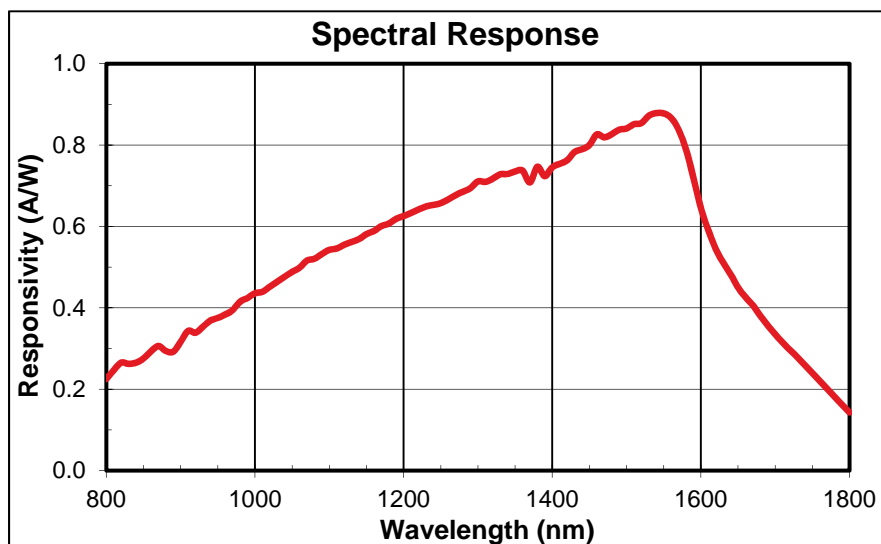


Responsivity Graph

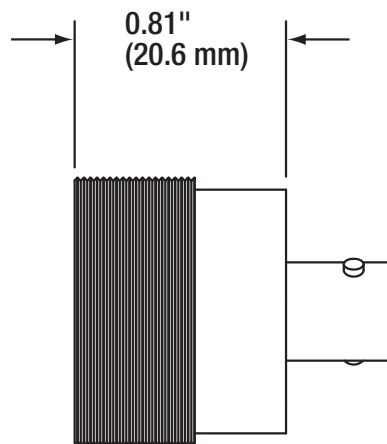
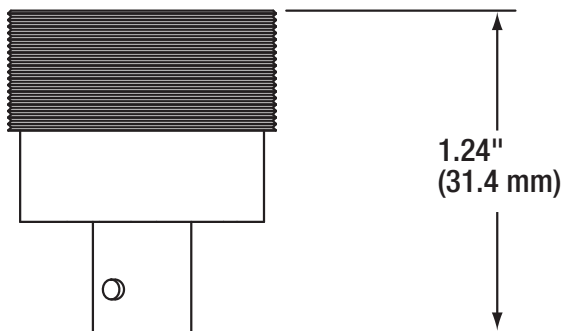
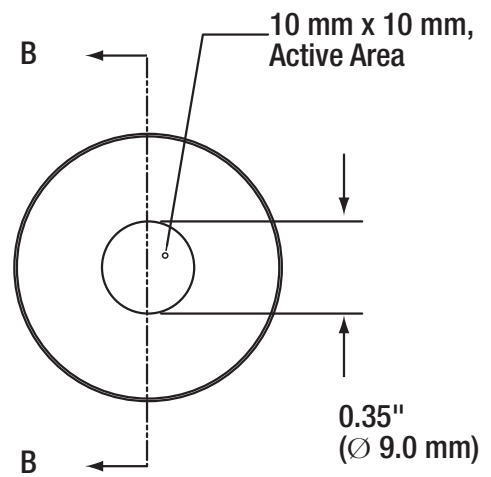
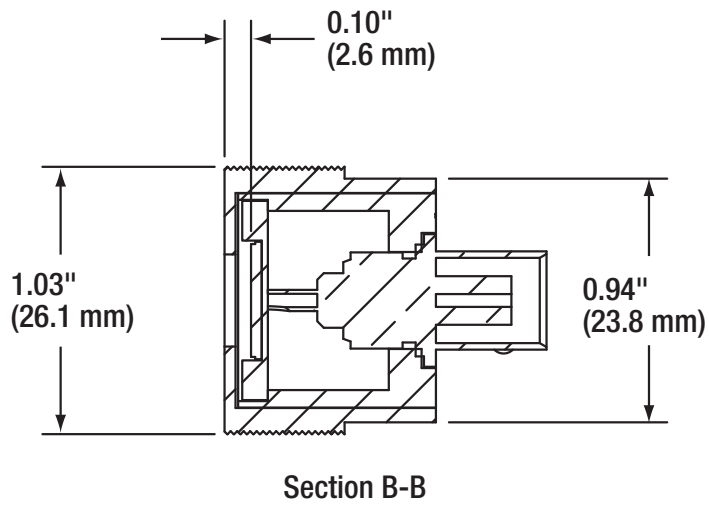
The responsivity of a photodiode is a measure of its sensitivity to light and is defined as the ratio of the photocurrent, I_p , to the incident light power P at a given wavelength:

$$R_\lambda = \frac{I_p}{P}$$

In other words, it is a measure of the effectiveness of the conversion of light power into electrical current. Responsivity varies from lot to lot and with the wavelength of the incident light, applied reverse bias, and temperature. It increases slightly with applied reverse bias due to improved charge collection efficiency in the photodiode. The change in temperature increases or decreases the width of the band gap and varies inversely with the temperature.



Drawing



Precautions and Warranty Information

These products are ESD (electro static discharge) sensitive and as a result are not covered under warranty. In order to ensure the proper functioning of a photodiode care must be given to maintain the highest standards of compliance to the maximum electrical specifications when handling such devices. The photodiodes are particularly sensitive to any value that exceeds the absolute maximum ratings of the product. Any applied voltage in excess of the maximum specification will cause damage and possible complete failure to the product. The user must use handling procedures that prevent any electro static discharges or other voltage surges when handling or using these devices.

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