

SIGMA

SIGMA fp FAQ Ver.2

What is the Development Concept?

The environment that surrounds shooting and art creation is undergoing radical changes. In this day and age when one user may have both a high-performance interchangeable lens camera and a smartphone camera, using them flexibly according to specific purposes and settings, SIGMA stopped and questioned the inherent value of a digital camera.

As a result, SIGMA set itself to develop a user-oriented digital camera that reflected the idea of “how a camera can be” in a more flexible and true-to-life manner, without conforming to manufacturers’ ideas of camera-centric categories and hierarchy.

Pocketable Full-frame | Impressive portability and power

The “smallest and lightest body possible” with which one can express their creative ideas whenever they want, combined with a “full-frame sensor” that is suitable for serious occasions without compromising on image quality, and “superb build quality” that makes the camera the perfect linchpin of a high-performance lens system.

Scalable | Versatile scalability

An “open system” that allows one to pair the camera with not only SIGMA lenses but also other lenses and accessories, whether from SIGMA or other brands, using a variety of attachments, complete with “ultimate versatility and scalability” that makes the camera adaptable to any scenes.

Seamless | Full-fledged, liberating shooting functions

A “highly intuitive UI” that allows one to move between full-fledged still and video shooting modes with just one finger, making for a “seamless and truly creative tool” that goes beyond style and genre differences.

Making it a top priority to realize these three concepts all at once and without requiring any trade-offs,

SIGMA selected only the elements and mechanisms that were truly needed with no compromise to create the SIGMA fp as the embodiment of an “entirely new digital camera that SIGMA can offer to the world right now.”

It's a camera body that changes its shapes with great flexibility centered around the user.

It's a tool that gives the user the joy of a new camera life that they themselves are yet to discover.

It's a new system camera that will overturn the paradigm of “digital cameras.”

The SIGMA fp is here to broaden the potential of “image shooting” ad infinitum.

●When did development start?

While studying a short flange back camera after the development of sd Quattro (H), we were studying a completely mechanicalless method and a method that included all the components such as a mechanical shutter. It was about two years ago when we decided on a development policy and started in earnest.

●It is a camera with a new concept that is unpredictable, but was it developed only by SIGMA?

Basically, everything from the establishment of the product concept to specification, appearance size, and design was developed at SIGMA. The Foveon sensor camera has a large amount of data to process due to the sensor characteristics, so it may have given the impression of being slow as a result, but we have been researching to make the to process as efficiently as possible. This Bayer sensor is based on general-purpose processing, but by taking advantage of the Foveon results, we have created a more efficient processing algorithm for both still images and videos.

●What is the reason to feature bayer sensor?

In the case of products that pursue still image quality, the idea that the Foveon sensor is the most suitable has not changed.

We decided that Bayer sensors are suitable for the fp, a camera which is completely new genre.

●Has SIGMA changed its camera development policy? Will SIGMA use sensors other than Foveon as their main? What is the relationship / position with the full-size Foveon?

No changes have been made to the sensor development policy. The basic philosophy, being to “Choose the most suitable sensor (technique / specification) to reali

ze the development concept of each product” . Using a Bayer sensor (does not exclude the possibility of considering other best options to realize this.

●Is the Bayer sensor developed in-house? If not, where is it manufactured?

It is not developed in-house. We cannot answer where it is manufactured.

●Where is the DSP (image processing engine) manufactured?

We cannot answer. There are many commercially available processing circuits for Bayer, so we selected them in consideration of overall processing performance, power saving performance and RAW compatibility including video.

●What kind of users are expected?

Someone who thinks that there is no current camera that suits their needs.
Such as...

- Light and compact, interchangeable lens camera that can take full-scale photos.
- Shooting equipment that combines the freedom of a smartphone and the creation of works.

s.

- A design that makes you want to boast just by having a smart appearance.
- You can shoot even in scenes that require delicacy.

●What is the meaning of fp?

fortissimo : very loudly, pianissimo : very softly (Music term)

It was named to represent the concept of this camera, which can be used for shooting from a very simple small and lightweight set to full-fledged filmmaking.

●Sensor specification

Equipped with a back-illuminated 35mm full-frame Bayer sensor with 24.6 effective megapixels. With no low-pass filter. ISO 100-25600, Expanded sensitivity ISO 6, 12, 25, 50, 51200, 102400. DNG format for RAW file, which can be output at 14 bit. The DNG file is supported by SIGMA Photo Pro 6.7(released on 17th Oct.).

*We are studying for the operation for MacOS10.15 (Catalina)

●Do you think it was a good decision to cut off the mechanical shutter?

We know that the performance is inferior to mechanical shutters in terms of rolling distortion and flash synchronization speed but there are overwhelmingly superior aspects in terms of downsizing, quietness and durability. Judging from the above, it was decided that the perfect electronic shutter was suitable for the fp concept. In addition, we believe that no shutter dust is generated.

●Why did SIGMA choose mechanical shutterless?

It should be taken from the development concept of Pocketable Full Frame (reducing the product size) and the concept of seamless (beyond traditional categories and genres such as still camera and video camera, and seamlessly connect both). Judgment.

* Since it is not a global shutter, a rolling effect will occur for fast-moving subjects, but the adopted sensor has a very fast readout speed, so it can shoot without major problems in most shooting scenes. The overall merit and balance were considered unnecessary as an active choice.

●Is there a flicker effect due to the electronic shutter?

In live view on P and A modes, flicker is automatically detected with the shutter speed and exposure timing are adjusted to minimize the effect on the image. However in S and M modes shooting is performed with any shutter speed set, so shadows due to flicker may appear depending on the shutter speed. Similarly, the flicker reduction function does not work during EIS (Electronic Shake Reduction) or HDR shooting, which takes multiple pictures continuously.

●There seems to be no dust removal mechanism on the sensor surface.

This is because it is an interchangeable lens type, there is no way to prevent the entry of dust from the mount. However, since there is no dust generated from the mechanical shutter in principle, it was determined that the IR glass position could be established even if there was no dust removal as a mechanism by moving it away from the sensor surface as much as possible.

●What is the metal material used on the surface?

The front and rear covers are made of aluminium in consideration of rigidity and thermal conductivity.

●Are the hand grip and hot shoe unit also made of metal?

The hot shoe unit is made of aluminium, the hand grip is made of magnesium, and the hand grip (large) is made of aluminium and engineering plastic (grip part).

●If you remove the left and right strap brackets, there is a tripod screw. Is it possible to mount the tripod screw on a tripod (= vertical position shooting, etc.) as well as accessories?

Yes, however we recommend to use a tripod on the lens side when attaching a large lens.

●The camera is not equipped with a mechanical image stabilization mechanism. How will SIGMA's camera stabilization be implemented in the future?

We cannot comment on future developments, but we think that mechanical image stabilization is not always essential for high-sensitivity imagers like the fp. Incorporating camera shake correction in lenses will be taken into consideration depending on the focal length of the lens. As fp includes electronic image stabilization, please use it under situations where you are concerned about the camera shake.

●Can electronic image stabilization and optical image stabilization in the lens be used together?

No.

●There is no EVF?

Considering the concept of the camera, we decided not to include. Instead, we have prepared the LCD viewfinder LVF-11 as a dedicated accessory, which allows you to view the LCD itself at a magnification of 2.5 times.

●Why is it single slot for the memory card?

Judging from the concept, we decided single is enough.

●Is the back LCD screen a touch screen?

Yes, it can be turned on/off from the menu.

●Does it have wi-fi support?

No

●Does it support XLR Terminal?

No. it has ϕ 3.5 earphone jack.

●ND filter built-in?

No

●Is the time lapse function installed?

No, interval shooting can be used instead.

●The lens may or may not have an aperture ring. What is the future policy?

We think that it will differ depending on the individual lens concept, but basically there will be no aperture ring for zoom lenses and an aperture ring for single focus lenses.

●How can accessories be attached?

The two strap holders have the same screws as the tripod mount, and a variety of accessories can be attached with a total of three screw holes. A system that suits the balance and usability can be freely assembled.

●What are the specific benefits of drone support?

Compact and lightweight attachments can be made compact, contributing to extended flight / recording time.

●Why is SIGMA releasing the design drawings?

In order to enable infinite combinations as well as the accessories that we plan to develop, we plan to release 3D design data for this camera and we would like many accessory manufacturers to develop dedicated accessories. Standards such as camera dimensions and screw positions are open. As usual in the cine industry third-party accessory manufacturers etc. spontaneously develop attachments and enhance the system to enhance user benefits. We would be happy if you could use it that way.

●Where can I get the 3D drawings?

It can be downloaded from the SIGMA GLOBAL VISION website.

●Is it a video recording camera?

It can be used for serious video shooting, but it is not exclusive for that use. It supports all kinds of needs of the photographer.

●Is there a possibility of entering a full-fledged cinema camera?

First of all, we think it will be after seeing the reaction in the fp market. When looking only at the market, the number of cinema cameras will be extremely small, so we must consider profitability, but if we get a big response, we would like to consider it in the future.

●Will SIGMA develop and provide a video develop/editing software?

No, however since standard formats such as CinemaDNG and MOV are captured it is compatible with Adobe software.

●Why did SIGMA choose MOV for movie recording format?

Because ALL-Intra recording which causes no image quality loss when video editing is possible.

●In SIGMA fp video mode "ALL-I" and "GOP" are selected as compression formats. What is the difference between "GOP" and "IPB" ?

An image that can be used as a picture as it is = an I frame and an image with a significant reduction in the amount of data that leaves only motion components from multiple frames = a P frame and a B frame.

All I frames = ALL-I (the amount of data is large even if compressed) . I + P or I + P + B = GOP (IPB) Although the compression rate is high, the PB frame cannot be used as a single picture.

● **Is it 4K compatible?**

Yes.

● **Is 4K video shooting trimmed?**

No. You can shoot movies with the same lens angle of view.

● **Is the video trimmed?**

No, the resolution of output is 4K(UHD).

● **If is full-frame at 4K shooting or does it crop?**

It is full-frame.

● **What are the storage media?**

SD and SSD (USB 3.0 connection)

● **Are there any media that have been confirmed to support CinemaDNG recording?**

SSD: Samsung T5 1TB, 2TB

SD card: SanDisk Extreme Pro SD UHS-II card 64GB, 128GB, Panasonic SDZA series 64GB, 128GB

● **What is Timecode ?**

On a film set it is very rare to shoot with one camera when capturing a scene and multiple cameras are used to shoot from various angles. When editing all coverage of the scene together, the time code is the information necessary to match the time axes of multiple cameras. This is used not only for video but also for matching audio. In other words, it is a function that you do not need to use when shooting with one camera.

● **The Timecode is already running.**

By default, the time code starts working when the power is turned on, so press the MODE button to reset the time code start time to 0: 00: 00: 00. If you want to count only the movie recording time, change the RUN mode setting from FREE RUN to REC RUN.

● **What is shutter angle ?**

One method of setting the exposure time of a movie (instead of the shutter speed)

For the time of one frame determined by the frame rate (for example, 1/30 for 30fps)

The percentage of time to be exposed is expressed as an angle with 360 ° as 100%.

→ 30fps 180 ° = 1/60 seconds, 120fps 180 ° = 1/240 seconds

●What is a waveform monitor?

This function is used to check the exposure of a specific subject (eg a person) on the screen.

The x direction represents the horizontal position of the screen, the y direction represents the height of the brightness, and the color density represents the number of pixels at that position / luminance. Unlike the histogram, you can follow the brightness of a specific subject moving in the screen. This is useful when you want to keep the exposure of a person's skin constant in a scene where the brightness changes, such as in the sun.

●What is Director's Viewfinder?

A function for movie directors to check the angle of view in combination with a lens. With fp, you can simulate the scene shot from each setting by selecting the brand name, camera model and settings from the menu.

●What is Cinemagraph?

"Cinemagraphs" are animated GIFs that are a hybrid between still photography and video. With this function the SIGMA fp is capable of creating unique imagery, where parts of a still image keep moving in-camera.

Note: The Cinemagraph function is to become available via firmware update scheduled at a later date.

●What is the difference between shooting style CINE and STILL-like?

The STILL-like style is the same UI as SIGMA's conventional still camera.

CINE style is a UI that incorporates CINE shooting (cinema camera)

STILL and CINE differ in information content, priority, and operation method.

Rather than standardizing for either one, we have the best mode for each.

●The shutter button (full press) does not work in CINE mode

It is not possible to shoot still images in CINE mode

●I cannot change the exposure

- Since dialling is disabled in LV, set the shutter and aperture values from the QS screen.
- Can also be set from the exposure setting menu on the blue first tab of MENU

●CINE mode is difficult to use (Inquiry from STILL users)

By changing the shooting style of the yellow 2 tab from CINE to STILL-like, it will be the same display and operation as an ordinary still camera

●How do you operate CINE exposure?

- Set shutter value by shutter angle
- Dial operation does not work with LV
- * It is the default operation and can be changed.

●CINE LV display

- Aperture T value display (when using cinema lens)
- White balance is displayed in color temperature value (when color temperature is specified)
- Displays lens focal length and shooting distance.
- Information such as focus frame, metering mode, shooting mode (P / A / S / M) is not displayed.

●Is In-camera development available?

As a feature of image processing, the camera is equipped with a Fill Light function familiar to SIGMA camera users. The Fill Light function which was available only with SIGMA Photo Pro, can now be used for in-camera image processing for the first time. It can be set from the camera menu and developed in the camera.

●What is the Raw developing soft?

SIGMA will release SIGMA Photo Pro which can develop DNG. Please use that software or other software that can develop DNG (such as Photoshop). CinemaDNG cannot be developed on SIGMA Photo Pro, so please use exclusive software (such as Adobe Premiere DaVinci)

●What are the benefits of choosing A size?

Since the aspect ratio of the screen is the same aspect ratio as the standard paper size A size, if you print on A4 or A3 paper, there is an advantage of less vignetting from the shot image.

●What is Zebra pattern?

Displays the areas that are close to overexposure and area with specified brightness.

●What is Fill light?

It is a function that allows you to adjust the brightness to the dark area of the image without changing the exposure of the bright area of the image.

●What is pixel refresh?

When bright spots are recorded in the image, the image sensor and image processing are optimized by performing pixel refresh.

●When will the additional functions be available?

Not decided.

●Is flash photography possible?

Yes, please attach the HOT SHOE UNIT HU-11 when using flash.

●Are there shutter speed limits for flash photography?

The shutter speed is under 1/30sec. (under 1/15sec at 14bit DNG)

●Which flash can be used?

EF-630 for SIGMA, and EF-140S SA-STTL can be used.

●Can studio strobes be used?

Yes, please attach the HOT SHOE UNIT HU-11 which has a synchro contact.

(The shutter speed should be set at under 1/30sec(1/15sec))

●How much is the continuous photographing speed?

There are three modes and it is H : 18shots/sec、 M : 5shots/sec、 L : 3shots/sec at high speed shooting.AF-C can not be used at high speed mode.

●Is AF possible in all continuous shooting speed modes?

In high-speed mode the focus is fixed at the first shot, but C-AF (continuous) shooting is possible in medium-speed and low-speed modes.

●Is bulb photography possible?

Yes. (Max 5min.)

●How much is the ISO Sensitivity?

ISO 100-25600, Expanded sensitivity ISO 6, 12, 25, 50, 51200 & 102400

●Notes on usage of ISO 6 ~ 80

Because it is a composite shot (compositing multiple images), you cannot shoot a moving subject or use flash.

●Aberration correction cannot be selected on some lenses.

Depending on the lens, it is designed to correct the aberration on camera's side. Therefore the camera automatically corrects and causes that phenomenon.

●Electronic aberration correction cannot be selected.

It cannot be selected when the optical OS is on at the lens side. In addition, it cannot be selected on some settings. (such as set at ISO6~80)

●What are the precautions when using electronic image stabilization?

To correct camera shake by compositing multiple images in a single release, if there is something that moves in the composition, choose a subject / background that does not move.

●What's the number of steps for electronic image stabilization

The number of steps for electronic image stabilization is not open. Since the measurement method is different from the OS of the interchangeable lens, it cannot be converted into the number of CIPA steps.

●The screen gets dark in M mode shooting.

Turn off monitor exposure in M mode. The screen is appropriate regardless of the shutter speed and aperture value.

●What is setting reset?

There is a reset menu at the bottom of the last yellow 5 tab (rightmost) of the menu.

Shooting settings : All the settings on the blue tab will be reset.

Playback settings : All settings on the red tab will be reset.

System settings : All settings on the yellow tab will be reset.

Reset all : All of the above will be reset.

●Does the aperture become smaller in real time when the aperture is reduced, like Sony mirrorless cameras? Or do you measure the distance with full aperture like a single-lens reflex camera?

fp performs AF distance measurement with the aperture fully open. However, in movie shooting mode the aperture can be reduced in real time.

●Can I update the lens firmware via the camera?

Yes. All L mount alliance lens can be updated from the camera.

●Is charging possible using a mobile battery pack?

Yes.

●Is it possible to use an EX DG lens with MC-21?

Non-compatible lenses can be attached, but the operation is not guaranteed because the focus accuracy is insufficient or the AF drive does not work properly.

● **What happens when you shoot with the MC-21 and a teleconverter attached to an SGV lens?**

Since the teleconverter is not compatible, we cannot guarantee operation because the focus accuracy is insufficient or the AF drive does not work properly.

● **Crops automatically when MC-21 is equipped with non-SGV compatible lenses**

This phenomenon will be fixed via the firmware released on 21st Nov 2019.

● **When it is shot with a non-SGV lens the DNG image developed normally in SPP will become an abnormal image in Photoshop.**

This phenomenon will be fixed via the firmware released on 21st Nov 2019.

● **When SGV lens was attached to MC-21 updated to the latest FW an abnormal image was recorded.**

This phenomenon will be fixed via the firmware released on 21st Nov 2019.

● **Is the lens optical correction effective for all lenses? Why is it greyed out when 45mmF2.8 is attached?**

Regarding the lens optical correction function, there is a difference in the functions that can be operated on the camera side according to the data on the lens side according to the L mount standard.

1. When correction information is given on the lens side but ON / OFF switching is permitted: Settings can be changed on the camera side.
2. When correction information is given on the lens side, but switching to OFF is not permitted: The menu on the camera side is greyed out, so the setting cannot be changed.

However, for colour shading correction, not only the information in the lens but also the correction data can be acquired manually on the camera side so it can be used even when using an old lens.

Non-SGV lenses do not have correction information on the lens side, so lens optical correction will be greyed out. (Exceptionally, MACRO 105mm F2.8 EX DG OS HSM, APO MACRO 150mm F2.8 EX DG OS HSM, and APO MACRO 180mm F2.8 EX DG OS HSM have aberration correction information, so lens optical correction can be used.)

● **Is it fully compatible with Leica / Panasonic (L mount) products?**

Yes.

● **Is it compatible with SA mounts?**

With SGV lenses, all functions can be used via MC-21.

● **What is MODE (by CINE users)**

This menu determines how to set the shutter and aperture (which should be set to auto).

The same change is possible from QS, so CINE users do not have to use it forcibly.

MC-21 related

●Is it compatible with Canon lenses?

Since the mount converter is for SIGMA and our SIGMA's Canon EF mount, operation of non-compatible lenses is not guaranteed.

●Which lenses are compatible with MC-21?

29 SGV lenses from Art, Sports and Contemporary.

●Why aren't lenses other than SGV supported?

This is because the AF control system is different from the SGV lens.

●Does MC-21 support teleconverters?

No. It cannot be used in combination with the teleconverter.

●MC-21 does not have a USB connection port like MC-11, but how do I update the FW?

Please update from the camera body.

●What is the hole in the MC-21 mount?

The hole on the MC-21 mount surface of SA mount is for fixing the MC-21 to the lens. This is especially effective when a large super telephoto lens is installed.

●What is the difference between using the MC-21 and using L mount lens?

The smoothness of driving with AF-C is different. If you use AF-C or movies frequently, L-mount lenses are recommended.

Camera operation

[STILL and CINE]

●I want to change the focus function

- The focus mode (AF-S / AF-C / MF) can be changed with the up key of the rear dial.
- The focus area (Multi Auto Focus Points / Single / Tracking) can be changed with the down key of the rear dial.

Furthermore, by pressing the AEL button, the screen changes to the focus frame position change screen. Similarly, Face/Eye Detection AF can be set by pressing the display button (| □ |) from the AEL button.

- The focus frame position can also be changed by tapping the screen with your finger.

●How can I check the focus (enlarge LV)?

-Press the OK button (center of the rear dial) or Double-tap the display with your finger to enlarge

-It can be enlarged also by moving the manual ring when set at MF

* Cannot be enlarged during REC

●What is the number on the right of the COLOR button screen

- It is the value of color mode effect. The larger the number, the stronger the effect of color mode.

Reference)

- Regardless of the color mode, when the effect value is set to -5 it becomes the same image (reference image). *Except monochrome mode.

The reference image is adjusted to make it as close as possible to the real color (measured color).

- ± 0 of each color mode is the recommended color of SIGMA.

+ increases the color. As the effect value becomes negative, the effect of each color mode is made smaller and it is aimed to reproduce the real color.

- Most of the color modes increase the saturation. Depending on the color mode, the tone may change or the color shift may increase.

- The effect value for monochrome will be the intensity of toning effects such as sepia and cool black tones. When the toning is set to B / W (black and white), you cannot adjust the effect parameters.

For customers, we recommend to adjust it to + when not satisfied with the colors and adjust it to -, when they feel it is too much.

In the case of Neutral, the color fades as the value increases.

●Lens aperture ring does not work

Press the MODE button to switch to A mode or M mode

In this state, if you set the aperture ring to A, you can operate the aperture with the dial on the camera body.

●REC button does not work in STILL mode

It is not possible to shoot movies in STILL mode

You can shoot movies by selecting REC with the MENU-SHOOT-REC button function.

L Mount Alliance

●Are Panasonic, Leica, and SIGMA making cameras and lenses together?

The L-Mount Alliance develops cameras and lenses in compliance with the L-Mount standard, so it is not a joint development. Since the development is done by each company, we do not know about the products of other companies, such as what products will be released when.

●Will SIGMA work with Leica and Panasonic on the product roadmap?

No. Each of the three brands exists as a competitor in the same market, and product roadmaps are not linked in accordance with legal regulations regarding unfair competition violations.

●When will the new L-mount products be released from Leica (Panasonic)?

Please contact Leica / Panasonic for all questions regarding Leica / Panasonic products. As an alliance, there is no information that can be provided about products that will be released.

●Is it okay to understand that lenses and cameras are compatible with each other if they are L-mount standards?

Yes, that understanding is fine.

●Can I request a repair of a Leica / Panasonic L-mount lens?

Please contact Leica / Panasonic for Leica / Panasonic lens repair.

