

Primary applications

Quantitative FRET

Multiprobe experiments

Ratiometric ion imaging

Confocal microscopy

Live-cell fluorescence imaging



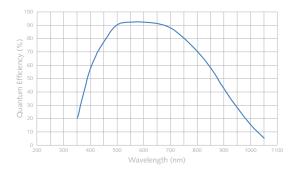
QUANTEM: 512SC

512 x 512 imaging array 16 x 16-µm pixels

The Photometrics® QuantEM™ 512SC is the world's first and only electron-multiplying CCD (EMCCD) camera to offer on-chip signal amplification with true quantitative stability across 16 bits at readout rates of 10, 5, and 1.25 MHz. The high-speed, high-performance QuantEM lets you conduct precision ratiometric analysis in time-course experiments, acquire reproducible data during long-term studies, and capture streaming data for multidimensional time-lapse investigations — all with single-molecule sensitivity. A patent-pending PAR™ feedback system provides exceptional stabilization of EM gain, while an intelligent FPGA design facilitates self-calibrating linearization of EM gain and prevents bias drift over time. Furthermore, patent-pending ACE™ technology enables superior timing resolution of the device's pixel clocks, allowing optimal signal-to-noise sampling and minimizing spurious charge.

| Features | Benefits | |
|--|---|--|
| EM gain | Very high sensitivity Low-noise, impact-ionization process | |
| Back-illuminated EMCCD | Highest available quantum efficiency (>90% peak QE) | |
| 512 x 512 imaging array 16 x 16-µm pixels | Good field of view and sensitivity Good resolution | |
| Intelligent FPGA design | Precise linearization of EM gain Self-calibrating linearization ensures truly quantitative data all the time Prevents bias drift over time to guarantee a stable background | |
| PAR* feedback system (Photometrics Active Regulation) | Delivers unsurpassed EM gain stability for outstanding signal fidelity across 16 bits | |
| ACE* technology (Advanced Clocking Enhancement) | Pixel-clock timing resolution 12x better than competing EMCCD cameras Provides lowest noise floor and minimizes generation of spurious charge and background events | |
| 10-MHz readout | Excellent for high-speed image visualization | |
| 5- and 1.25-MHz readout | Perfect for high-precision photometry | |
| Dual amplifiers | Select readout mode via software for optimized (1) high-speed / high-sensitivity performance or (2) wide-dynamic-range performance | |
| 16-bit digitization | Wide dynamic range allows detection of bright and dim signals in the same image | |
| Frame-transfer EMCCD | 100% duty cycle to collect continuous data No mechanical shutter required | |
| C- mount | Easily attaches to microscopes, standard lenses, or optical equipment | |
| Turbo-1394™ interface (IEEE-1394a) | High-bandwidth, uninterrupted data transfer with no dropped frames Windows® XP/Vista 32 and Mac OS X compatibility | |
| PVCam® Circular buffers Device sequencing | Supported by numerous third-party software packages Real-time focus Precise integration with shutters, filter wheels, etc. | |

^{*} Patent-pending Photometrics technology



| | | Region | | | | |
|---------|-------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|--|
| Binning | | 512 x 512 | 256 x 256 | 128 x 128 | 64 x 64 | |
| | 1 x 1 | 31.5 | 56.5 | 94.4 | 140.3 | |
| | 2 x 2 | 58.6 | 100.9 | 155 | 217 | |
| | 4 x 4 | 104 | 160 | 233 | 270 | |
| | 8 x 8 | 157 | 237 | 257 | 279 | |

(Frames per second)

Note: Frame rates are measured at 10 MHz with 0-second exposure times in expose mode ALT_ FT.

| | Specifications | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| EMCCD image sensor | e2v CCD97; back-illuminated, frame-transfer CCD with EM gain | | | |
| EMCCD format | 512 x 512 imaging pixels; 16 x 16-µm pixels; 8.2 x 8.2-mm imaging area (optically centered) | | | |
| Linear full well single pixel output node | 200 ke- 800 ke- ("EM gain" amplifier) | | | |
| Digitizer type | Dual-selectable 14 bits/16 bits for all speeds and gains 16-bit digitization minimizes quantification error, enabling extreme low-light detection | | | |
| | "EM gain" amplifier (port #1) | "Traditional" amplifier (port #2) | | |
| Read noise | 37 e- rms @ 5 MHz 45 e- rms @ 10 MHz | 7.5 e- rms @ 1.25 MHz 12.5 e- rms @ 5 MHz | | |
| | Read noise effectively reduced to <1 e- rms with EM gain enabled | | | |
| EM gain | 1 to 1,000x (typical) Self-calibrating linearization | Not applicable | | |
| Parallel (vertical) shift rate | 2.0 µsec/row | | | |
| EMCCD temperature | -30°C (regulated) | | | |
| Dark current | 1 e-/p/s @ -30°C (0.5 e-/p/s @ -30°C typical) | | | |
| Binning | Flexible binning capabilities up to 256 in parallel direction; 1, 2, 4, 8 binning capabilities in serial direction | | | |
| Operating environment | 0 to 30°C ambient, 0 to 80% relative humidity noncondensing | | | |
| Typical bias (offset) stability One hundred 70-ms bias frames were taken with 1000x EM gain and the average bias intensity was measured. Each frame's deviation from the sequence's mean value was plotted against the frame number. | Competitive EMCCD Camera 125 127 128 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 | OuantEM 150 125 100 100 100 100 100 100 | | |

Note: Specifications are subject to change.

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