

Primary applications

Quantitative FRET

Multiprobe experiments

Ratiometric ion imaging

Confocal microscopy

Live-cell fluorescence imaging

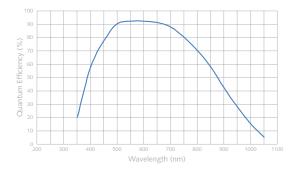
QUANTEM: 512SC

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/7 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				
		512 x 512	256 x 256	128 x 128	64 x 64	
Binning	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 150 125 126 127 128 129 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120	150 QuantEM 125 125 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120 120			

Note: Specifications are subject to change.

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