

<b>Patent title:</b>	<b>Photodetector</b>
<b>FBK center:</b>	CMM
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<b>Application number(s):</b>	IT Patent Application No. CO2011A000022 — priority date 2011-06-30; EP Application No. 12173436.2 — filing date 2012-06-25
<b>Bibliographic data:</b>	ITCO2011A000022 (A1) — 2012-12-31; EP2541219 (A1) — 2013-01-02; EP2541219 (B1) — 2019-09-04
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<b>IP status:</b>	Patent pending. Available for license or assignment
<b>Patent family:</b>	EP2541219 (B1) — 2019-09-04
<b>Application(s):</b>	Positron emission tomography (PET), Medical applications
<b>Keyword(s):</b>	Detecting and counting photons
<b>Abstract:</b>	The present Invention relates to a photodetector (PD) comprising a plurality of pixels (PXL); each one of said pixels (PXL) comprises: - a group of detection devices (SPD-1, SPD-2, SPD-3, SPD-4) provided with respective outputs, each one of said detection devices (SPD-1, SPD-2, SPD-3, SPD-4) being of the SPAD type and therefore being adapted to generate an electrical pulse at the output thereof as a result of an event corresponding to a photon that hits thereon, - a combinational circuit (G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, G-5A, G-5B, G-6, G-7) which has an output and a group of inputs that corresponds to said group of detection devices (SPD-1, SPD-2, SPD-3, SPD-4) and which implements a logic function between inputs and output, - a digital counter (CNT) having an input, the outputs of said detecting devices (SPD-1, SPD-2, SPD-3, SPD-4) of said group are connected respectively to the inputs of said combinational circuit (G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, G-5A, G-5B, G-6, G-7) and the output of said combinational circuit (G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, G-5A, G-5B, G-6, G-7) is connected to the input of said digital counter (CNT); whereby said digital counter (CNT) provides as output the sum of all the events detected by said detecting devices (SPD-1, SPD-2, SPD-3, SPD-4) of said group.