

July 14<sup>th</sup> 2005



### Main Items:

Rapid Progress

Hardware update

- Mac on Intel
- Digidata on PCI-X

# AxoGraph Newsletter

Molecular Devices Corporation, 3280 Whipple Road, Union City, CA 94587, U.S.A.

## AxoGraph X beta 7 Released

### Acquisition: Approaching Completion

The bug in the driver for the Digidata® 1320 series digitizer has been fixed, and Digidata's can now be used for both continuous and episodic acquisition.

AxoGraph X beta testing is progressing well. A number of labs are using it for data acquisition, and few problems have been reported. AxoGraph X is now sufficiently stable and well tested to consider for laboratory use. As with any complex software product, we recommend carefully validating its performance before using it in an experiment.

### Analysis and Display: Rapid Progress

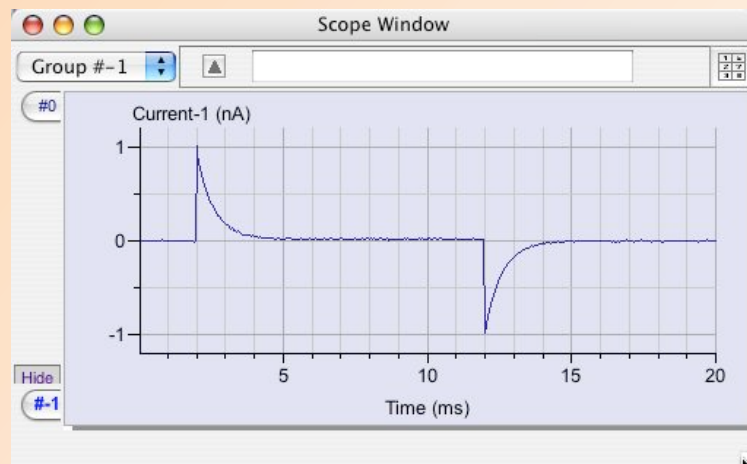
Our development focus has shifted from acquisition to analysis. Progress has been surprisingly rapid and many new features have been added for beta 7...

- Linear and exponential fit
- Scale and offset data (x- and y-axis)
- Subtract baseline
- Normalize peak amplitudes
- Adjust x-axis zero point
- Event detection
  
- Set symbol, line and histogram display options
- Set axis display options including a new 'grid' feature
- Set axis title and display range
- Hide or delete traces and groups
- Data values can be edited in a spreadsheet window via a button at the top-right of the graph window
  
- Support for import and export of pClamp ABF (\*.abf) files
- Support for import and export of MATLAB (\*.mat) files

“an x-axis range can be chosen with a single mouse action”

## Other Improvements in beta 7

*Grid lines can be added to a graph by clicking the graph appearance toolbar button.*



*Display dialogs are dynamic.* When a graph display setting is changed in a dialog, the graph window updates immediately.

*The range dialog has been redesigned,* and an x-axis range can now be chosen with a single mouse action. For example, open a graph and click the cursor measure button to bring up a range dialog, then...

- 1) Click and drag in the x-axis region to define a new range.
- 2) Click and drag the minimum cursor past the maximum cursor. The maximum cursor is pushed along by the minimum cursor. Reverse the drag direction to position the minimum cursor.

## Bug fixes

There have been numerous minor bug fixes including...

- Write-protected folders did not generate appropriate warnings
- Converting an array from integer to floating point caused a crash
- The menus and toolbars accurately reflect the available features.

“they could be tortilla chips for all we care”

## Hardware Update

### **Apple’s move to Intel-based Macs**

We confidently expect that the move to Intel will not present any problems for AxoGraph X customers. Here is a quote from a software developer who attended a hands-on workshop with Intel hardware at Apple’s recent World-Wide Developers Conference...

“Porting our application ‘Delicious Library’ to Mac OS X on Intel processors was literally a single click. A minute later, we had an application that worked perfectly on both PowerPC and Intel machines with no changes to our source code. As long as Apple picks the fastest chips, they could be tortilla chips for all we care.”

### **Digidata**

AxoGraph X communicates with Digidata 1320 series digitizers via a PCI-SCSI adaptor card. High-end G5 PowerMacs have a PCI-X bus. This is not compatible with the Adaptec SCSI card that ships with the Digidata (physically or electronically). In addition, some mid-range G5 machines have a 3.3 Volt PCI bus that is not compatible with the 5 Volt Adaptec card. We are currently testing a new “universal” SCSI adaptor card from Atto (ATTO ExpressPCI UL4S) that supports the PCI and PCI-X form factor, and 3.3 and 5 Volt PCI bus, but to date have had no success. We will be working with Atto technical support to resolve this issue.

Please send the  
beta test  
registration form

## Download Instructions for AxoGraph X

### **AxoGraph X 1.0 beta 7**

Go to the download site by clicking on this link...

<http://files.axon.com/axographxbeta/>

Alternatively, copy and paste the URL to your web browser. A dialog will appear asking for a username and password...

user:            xbetatest  
password:        osxgraph

Please read 'Important\_Information.txt' before downloading AxoGraph X.

Bugs can be reported by selecting "E-mail Technical Support" under the AxoGraph X Help menu. We really appreciate your feedback.

When running beta 7 for the first time, a registration dialog will appear. Automatic registration may not work if your computer is behind a firewall. If you hit the "Register" button and the connection fails, please let us know by e-mailing technical support.

To analyze files acquired using AxoGraph X, move the file named "\*\*Import AxoGraph X" into the "Plug-In Programs" folder in the AxoGraph 4.9 folder. This will permit AxoGraph 4.9 to read and analyze data files acquired by AxoGraph X.