Sutter Instrument introduces the IPA® family of Integrated Patch Amplifiers, which enables efficient, low-noise whole-cell recordings. The IPA system, available in two versions, with one (IPA®) or two (Double IPA®) headstages, combine state-of-the-art amplifier technology with fully integrated D/A and A/D conversion and a high speed USB interface. Acquisition, data management, and streamlined analysis are performed using the bundled SutterPatch® Data Acquisition and Analysis Software, built on the foundation of Igor Pro 7 (WaveMetrics, Inc.).

**External Inputs & Outputs**
External signals, such as environmental parameters or stimulus information, can be recorded using 4 auxiliary analog input channels. The IPA system also supports the control of peripheral hardware, such as wavelength or solution switches, with 2 analog and 8 digital (TTL) output channels.

Alternatively to the standard breakout cable, the available Patch Panel provides a tidy way of connecting auxiliary signals on the front of your rack.

**SutterPatch Software**
The IPA system, in combination with SutterPatch software, has been engineered to automatically capture and store all amplifier settings, stimulus information and external experiment parameters and associate them in time with the raw data traces. This includes all amplifier and acquisition settings, as well as timing and progress of the experiment. Fully integrated computer control of the amplifier stages means that the acquisition software is aware of the internal state of the amplifier and digitizer at all times and can track any changes that may occur. This is independent of whether a change is triggered automatically or initiated by the user.

Tracking of Other External Data
In addition to status changes in connected hardware that are automatically tracked, the experimenter can manually trigger tags to document events like stimulus application using instruments not connected to the IPA system.

Information about environmental parameters and a more detailed specification of sample properties can be recorded and stored with the raw data. A total of over 500 metadata attributes are supported. Examples include: animal species, strain, date/time when a cell sample was prepared, recording solutions, pipette resistance, hardware properties, and detailed information about stimuli applied.

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Data Visualization and Analysis

SutterPatch® software has been designed to simplify the navigation and analysis of complex datasets. The scope window supports multiple view modes in both two-dimensional and an innovative three-dimensional display. The 3D view is particularly useful during assay development. Built on top of the latest version of the proven Igor Pro platform, the SutterPatch program combines native Igor Pro functionality with a wealth of features that are tailored to electrophysiology applications. Both the newcomer and the experienced user of patch clamp programs will feel comfortable using SutterPatch software.

Application modules provide focused functionality for particular applications. Currently available:

- Event Detection Module: A deconvolution algorithm that excels at detecting miniature synaptic events even on a noisy background.
- Action Potential Analysis Module: Phase plane plot, timing and waveform statistics.
- Camera Module: An easy way to document the identity and condition of the recorded cell.

Common Applications: IPA / DOUBLE IPA

- Tissue slice recordings
- Cultured cell experiments
- Cell line studies from adherent or dispersed cells
- In vivo patch clamp
- Network studies
- Optogenetics

Optional IPA Patch Panel

The IPA® and Double IPA® Amplifiers come standard with an “octopus” breakout cable for auxiliary inputs and outputs, and digital outputs. The optional IPA Patch Panel, machined from ½ inch thick billet aluminum stock like the IPA faceplate, brings the auxiliary I/O connections to the front of the rack in a tidy 2U rack mount panel with BNC connectors. The IPA Patch Panel includes a 2.5 ft (76cm) connector cable and replaces the standard cable that ships with the IPA system.

The IPA® and Double IPA® Integrated Patch Clamp Amplifiers are computer-controlled amplifiers optimized for whole-cell recording applications.

Amplifier

- Voltage clamp and true current clamp modes with smart switching between modes to avoid current artifacts
- Open-Circuit (RMS) noise of 1.4pA in a 0.1-10kHz bandwidth
- 500MΩ headstage feedback resistor provides a maximal range of ±20nA
- Fast pipette capacitance compensation and whole-cell compensation
  - Fast compensation up to 25pF
  - Whole-cell compensation: Cm from 1-100pF; Rs from 1-100MΩ
- Onboard automatic compensation routines
- Series resistance prediction and correction (0-100MΩ)
- Four-pole Bessel low-pass filter (cutoff = 0.5-2kHz)
- Output gain: 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100
- Holding potential ±1000mV
- Current clamp bridge compensation and capacitance neutralization
- Slow holding potential tracking compensates for drift during current clamp recordings

Data Acquisition

- Embedded data acquisition system eliminates the need for an external data acquisition board
- Single high-speed USB connection controls data acquisition and amplifier
- Up to 6 or 8 input channels (0.1-50kHz sampling rate per channel)
- Up to 400kHz aggregate sampling rate (0.1-10kHz sampling rate per channel)
- Complex command waveforms
- Multi-amplifier mode: A combination of any two IPA or Double IPA amplifiers can be connected, providing up to 16 input channels
- Auxiliary input / output for control of other instrumentation
  - 4 analog input channels (±10V)
  - 2 analog output channels (±10V)
  - 8 digital output channels (TTL)
- Data acquisition can be initiated by an onboard microsecond clock or external (TTL) trigger

SutterPatch Software

- Built on the foundation of Igor Pro 7 (WaveMetrics, Inc.)
- Paradigms and Routines provide complete experimental control
- Waveform Editor for easy creation of even the most complex stimulus patterns or user-defined templates
- Associated metadata stores all relevant information regarding your experiment
- Comprehensive data analysis routines and publication-quality graphics
- Rapid-response online line-frequency reduction
- Runs on Windows 7 or later (64-bit), or Macintosh OS X 10.11 (El Capitan)