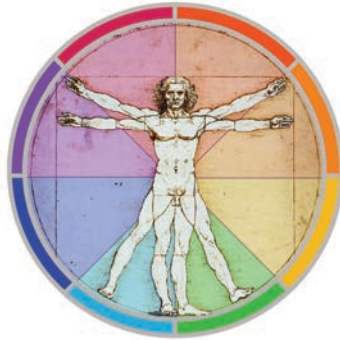


HUBS191 Lecture Material

This pre-lecture material is to help you prepare for the lecture and to assist your note-taking within the lecture,
it is NOT a substitute for the lecture !



Please note that although every effort is made to ensure this pre-lecture material corresponds to the live-lecture there may be differences / additions.

Physiological Principles of Human Movement and Sensation



HUBS191

Lecture 21



Dr Martin Fronius
Department of Physiology
3. April 2017

Anatomy to Physiology



Full Definition of ANATOMY

plural anat·o·mies

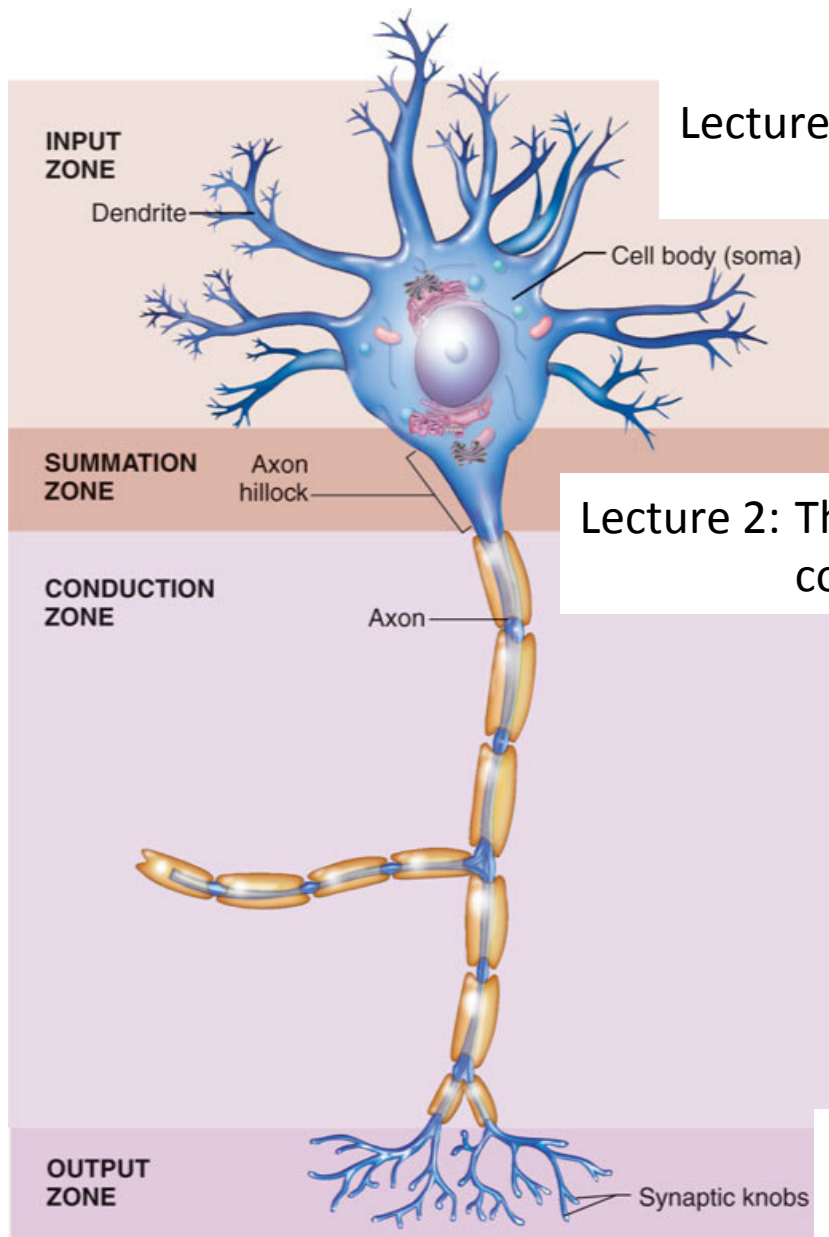
1 : a branch of morphology that deals with the structure of organisms

Full Definition of PHYSIOLOGY

1 : a branch of biology that deals with the functions and activities of life or of living matter (as organs, tissues, or cells) and of the **physical** and chemical phenomena involved — compare **ANATOMY**

From <http://www.merriam-webster.com>

In the next four lectures...



Lecture 4: Synaptic Networks and Integration
(input zone)

Lecture 2: The Action Potential and its
conduction (axon hillock, axon)

Lecture 1: Bioelectricity and membrane potentials

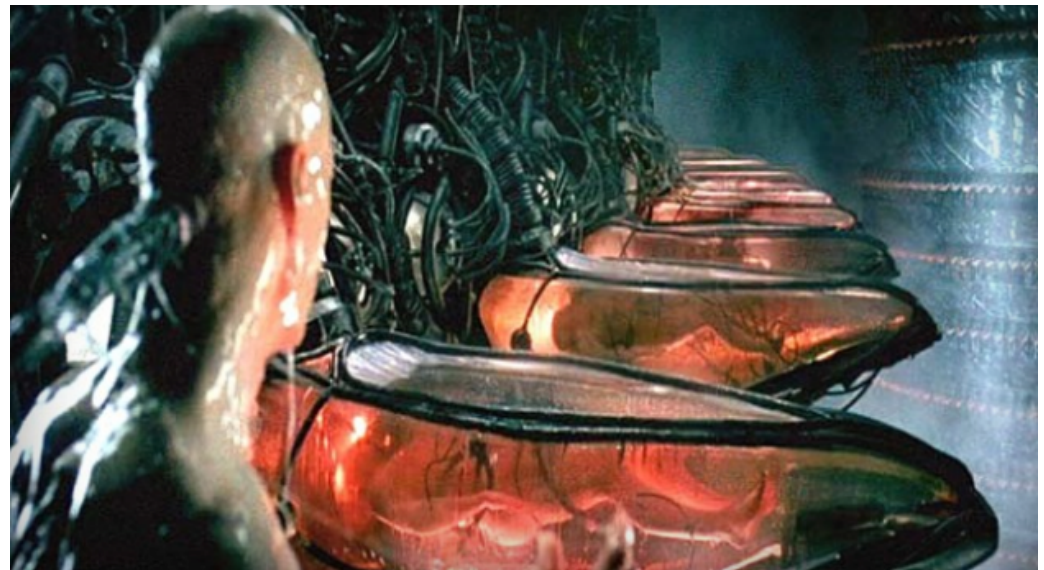
Lecture 3: The Synapse – ‘connecting’ neurons
(output zone)

Aims of Today's Lecture

Lecture 21 – Bioelectricity, Membrane Potentials

Outline

- What is Electricity?
- What is Bio-Electricity
- Membrane Electrical Potential
- Types of Membrane Electrical Potentials



<http://www.extremetech.com/extreme/135481-will-your-body-be-the-battery-of-the-future>

Objectives of Today's Lecture

- Know the **two main cations** that contribute to the electrical properties of a neuron
- Understand how these cations can move across membrane of the neuron → **ion channels/pump**
- List the different types of polarisation of a nerve cell membrane.
- Explain what is meant by the resting membrane potential
- Explain what is meant by a local potential

What is Electricity?



<http://en.wikipedia.org>

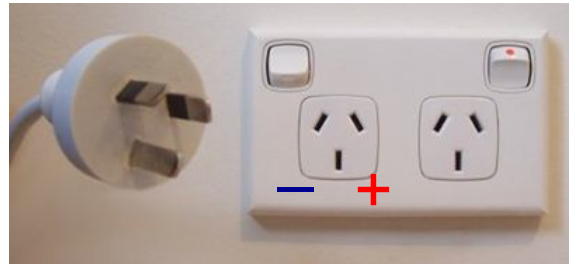
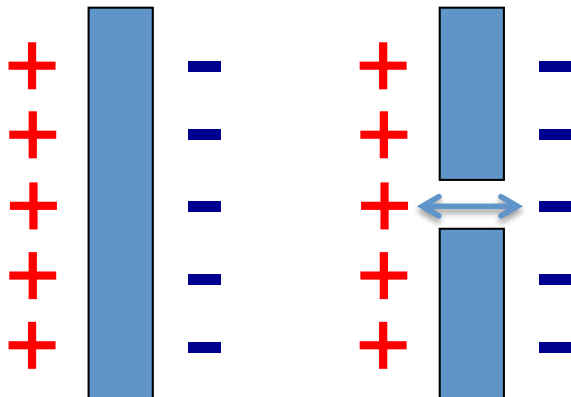


Image from www.thearrivalstore.com
Via Google Images

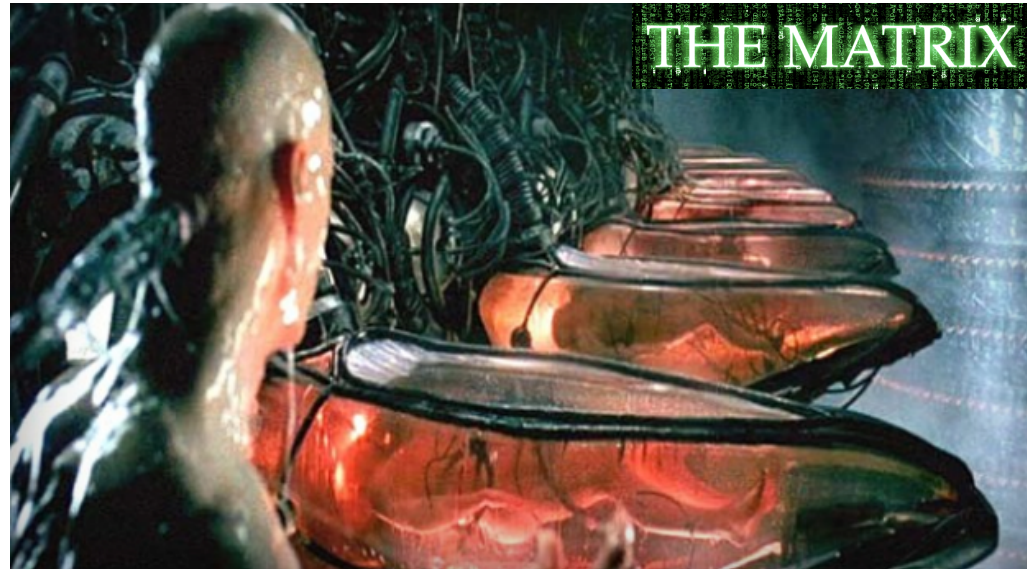


Image from www.octopart.com
Via Google Images



- Particles with different charge exist in nature, (+) or (-); → ions, electrons, protons
- Separation of Charge = Energy stored = Potential energy; → water dam
- Energy released – when charges OR current flows → can be used for work or signal transmission

Bio-Electricity – Science Fiction or Real?



<http://www.extremetech.com/extreme/135481-will-your-body-be-the-battery-of-the-future>

‘... will your body be the battery of the future?’

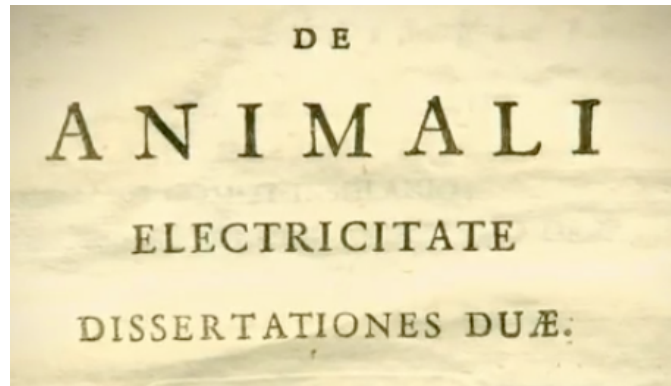
Bio-Electricity – is real!!!

Luigi Galvani 1737 - 1798



http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Luigi_Galvani

- Experiments with frog legs
- Observed frog legs could be made to twitch

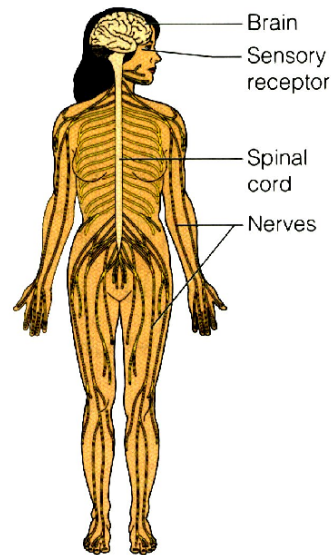


→ He concluded that animal tissue contained an innate **vital force**, termed "animal electricity."

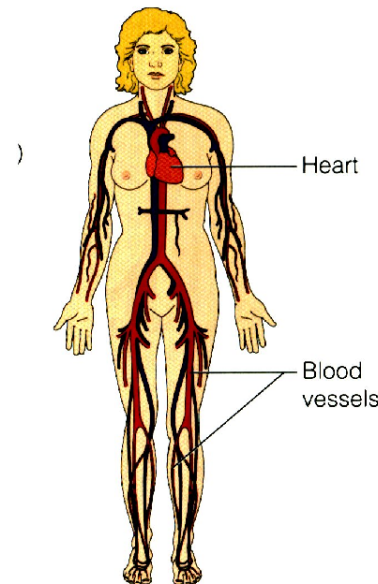
“...all life is electrical...”

All life is electrical – We are electrical

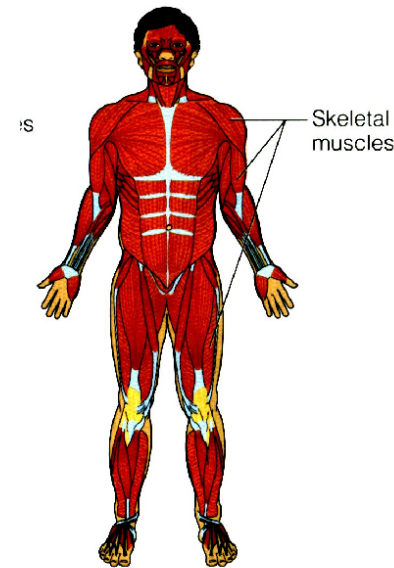
Electrical impulses control everything – RIGHT NOW



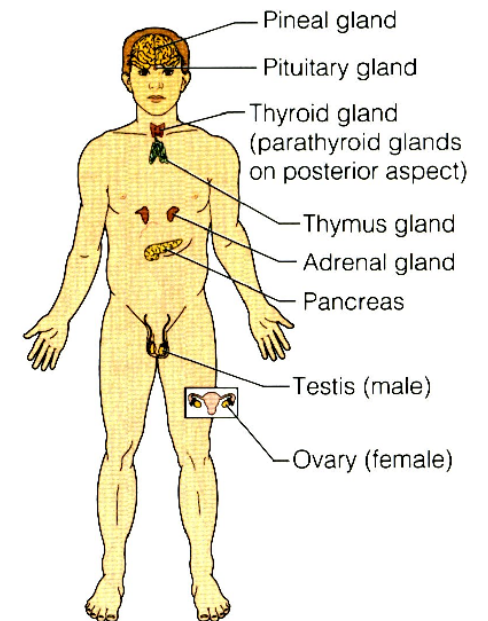
(d) Nervous system
Fast-acting control system of the body; responds to internal and external changes by activating appropriate muscles and glands.



(f) Cardiovascular system
Blood vessels transport blood which carries oxygen, carbon dioxide, nutrients, wastes, etc.; the heart pumps blood.



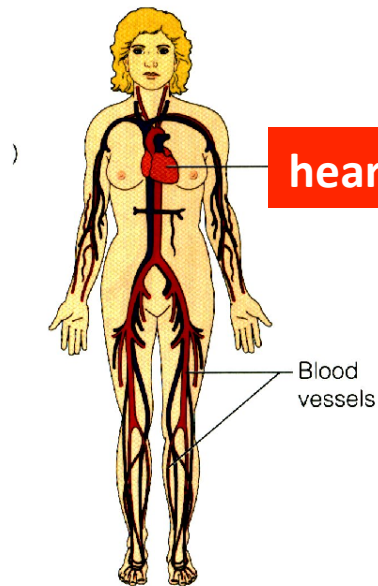
(c) Muscular system
Allows manipulation of the environment, locomotion, and facial expression; maintains posture; produces heat.



(e) Endocrine system
Glands secrete hormones that regulate processes such as growth, reproduction, and nutrient use (metabolism) by body cells.

Fig from Essentials
of Human Anatomy &
Physiology Marieb
7th Edn. p.5

Evidence for Bio-Electricity

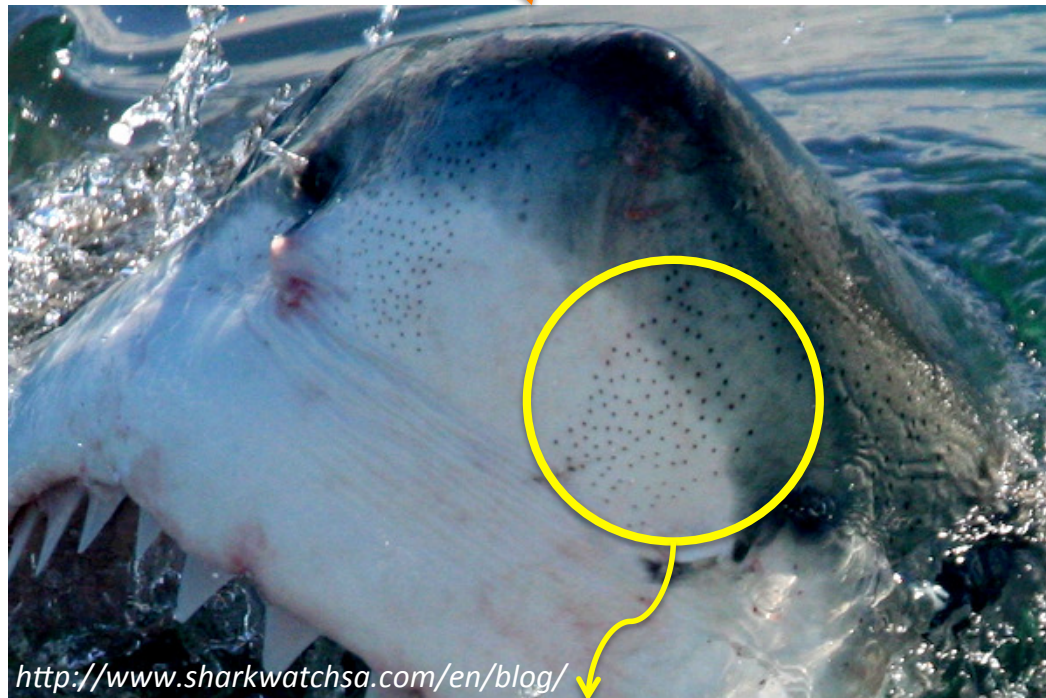


● (f) **Cardiovascular system**
Blood vessels transport blood which carries oxygen, carbon dioxide, nutrients, wastes, etc.; the heart pumps blood.

EKG-electrocardiogram

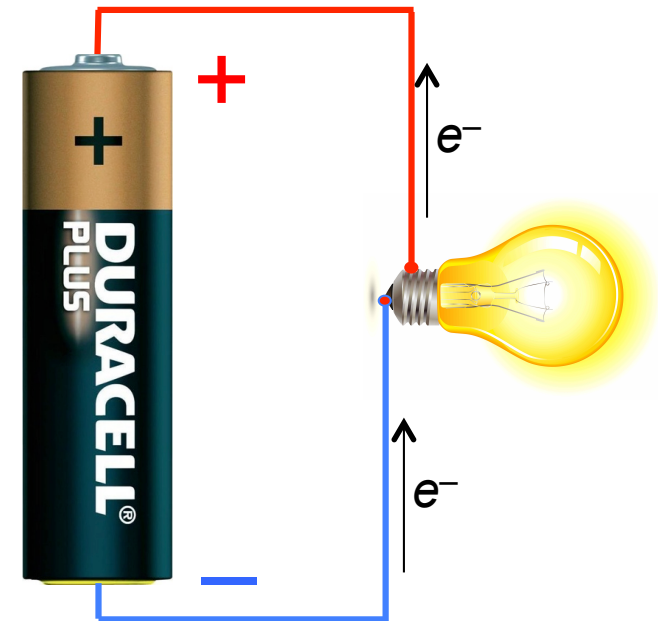
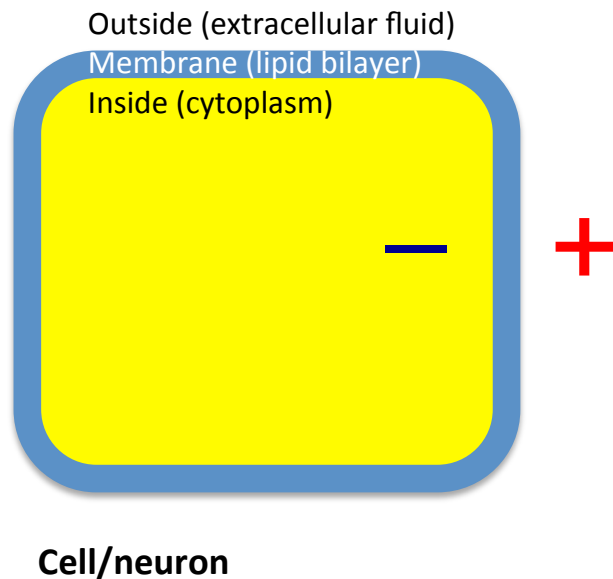


- Lab 3 and 4 measuring electrical activity generated in muscles
→ electromyography



Ampullae of Lorenzini = electrical detectors

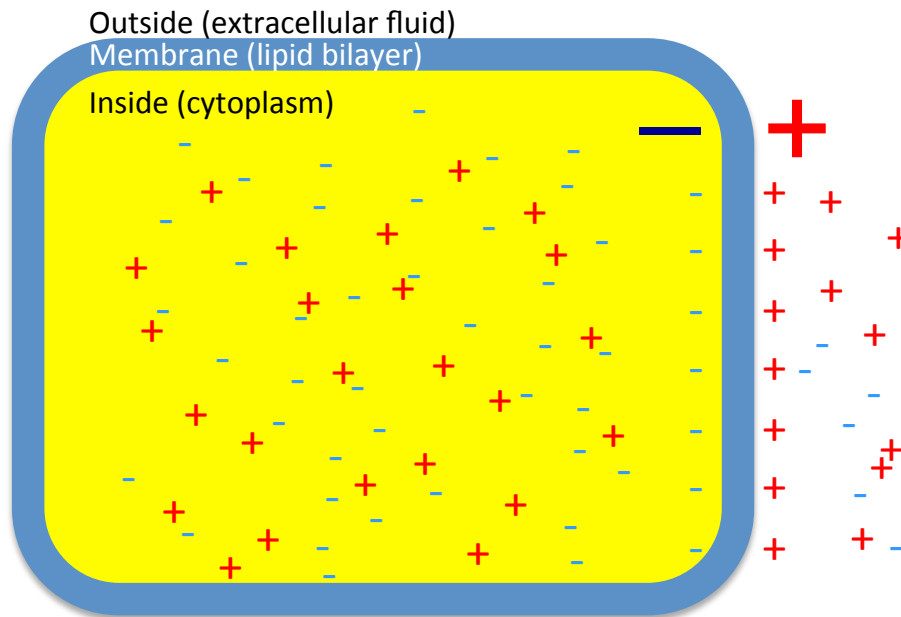
Origin of Bio-Electricity



Images Image from www.octopart.com via Google

- Battery stores charges
→ that can be used to do work (light, start a car, run an iPod)
- Electrical CURRENT FLOWS to do the work ! → electrons
- A **cell is like a battery** – electrical charge stored across the cell membrane

What causes Bio-Electricity



- Origin of charge in a cell are ions (dissolved in water)
- Two types: → **CATIONS (+)** and **ANIONS (-)**
- Ions: aka 'electrolytes'

CATIONS

- Sodium → Na^+
- Potassium → K^+
- Calcium → Ca^{2+}

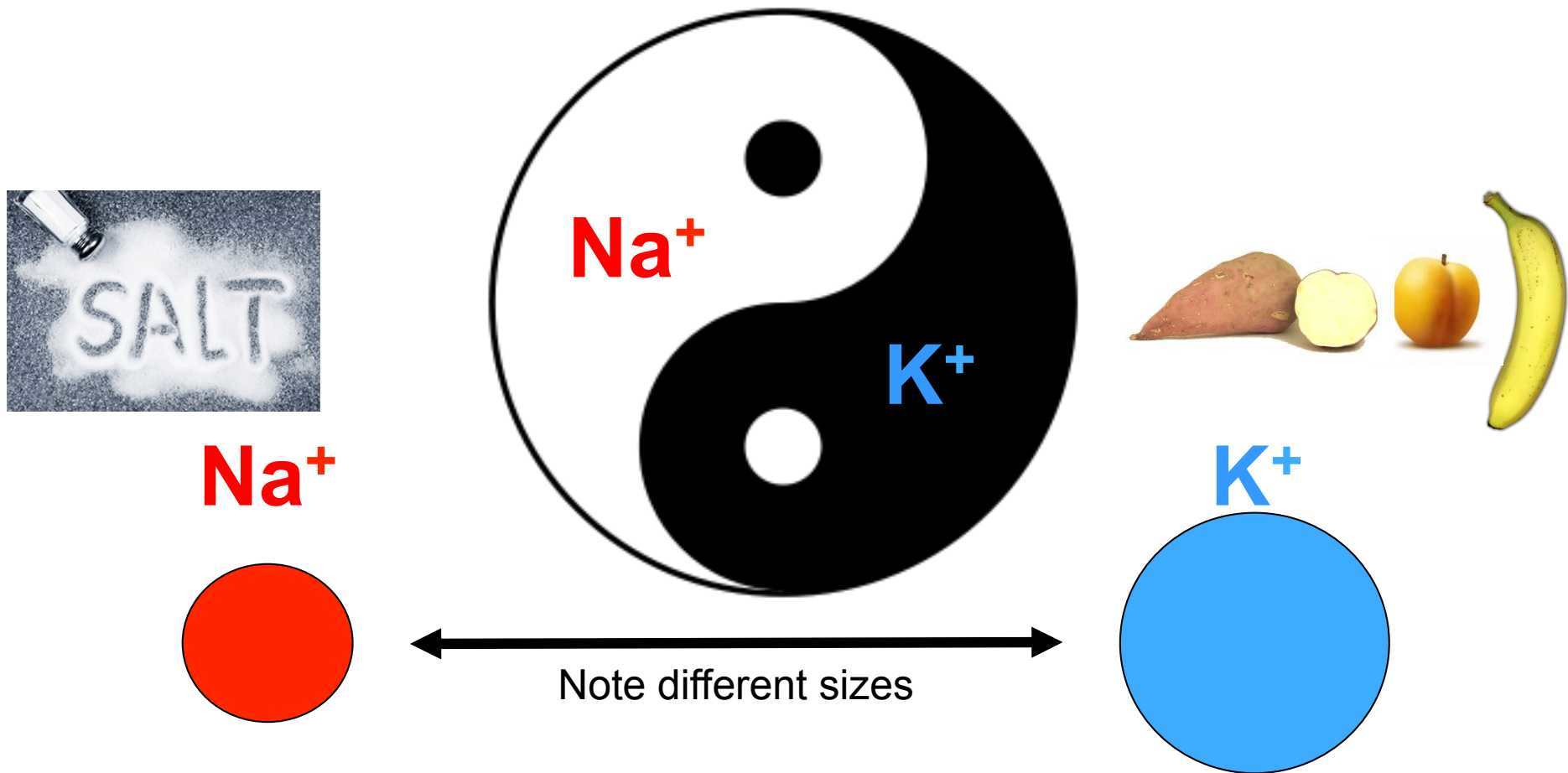
ANIONS

- Chloride → Cl^-
- Bicarbonate → HCO_3^-
- Proteins

CATIONS and **ANIONS** are uneven distributed outside and inside of cells

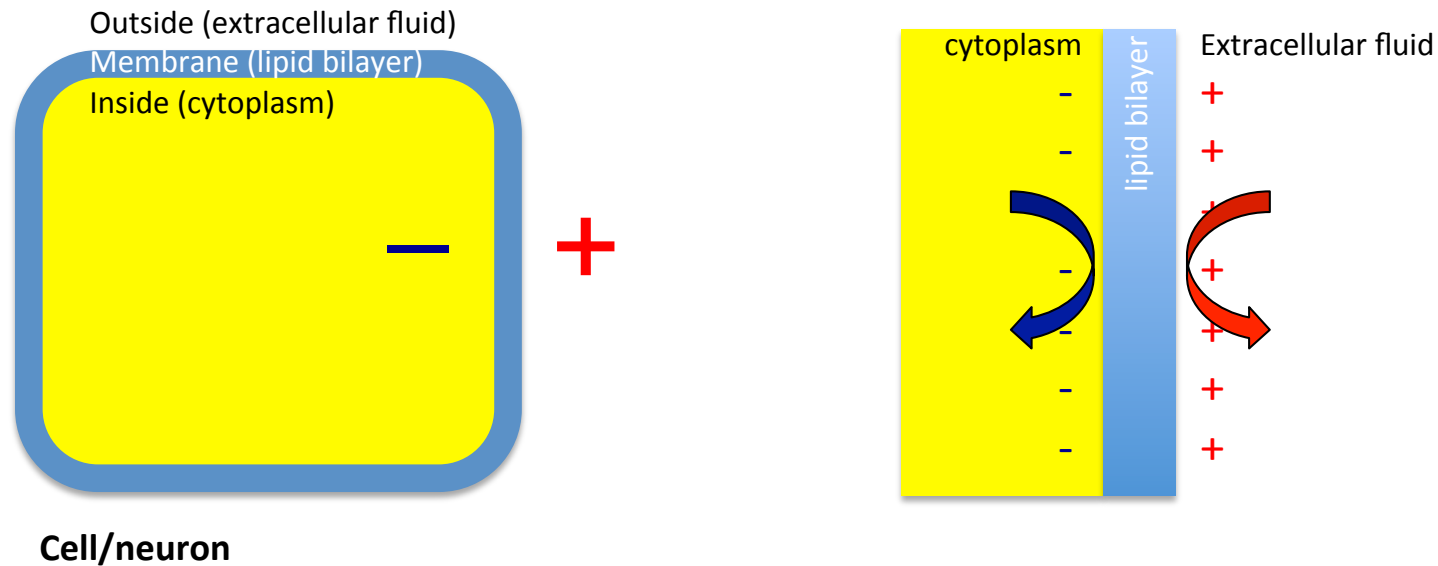


Two very important Cations...



- Bio-Electricity of neurons relies primarily on Na^+ and K^+
- Na^+ and K^+ are vitally important for the health of our nervous systems

Cations and **anions** are present in- and outside of cells, but separated by the lipid bilayer



- Lipid bilayer is an INSULATOR (diffusion barrier)!
- **Cations** and **Anions** can not cross the lipid bilayer

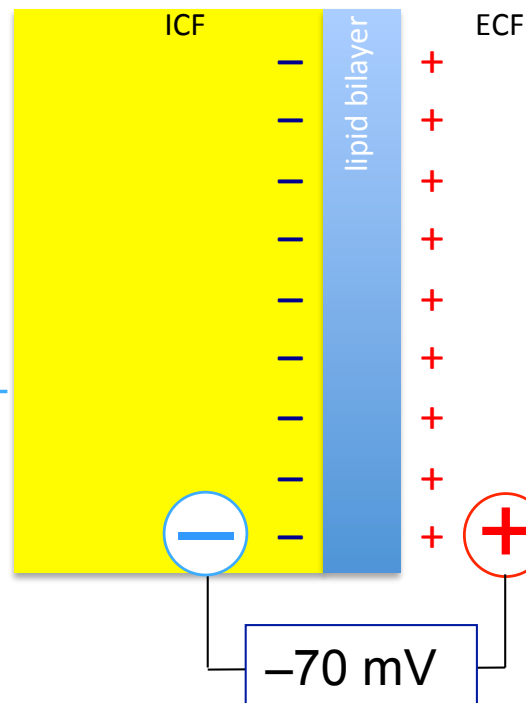
The uneven distribution of ions creates cellular electricity – the membrane potential

[Na⁺] external 135 – 145 mmol /L (Lecture 2, PK)

[K⁺] external 3.5 – 5 mmol /L (Lecture 2 PK)

Low Na⁺
12 mM

High K⁺
150 mM



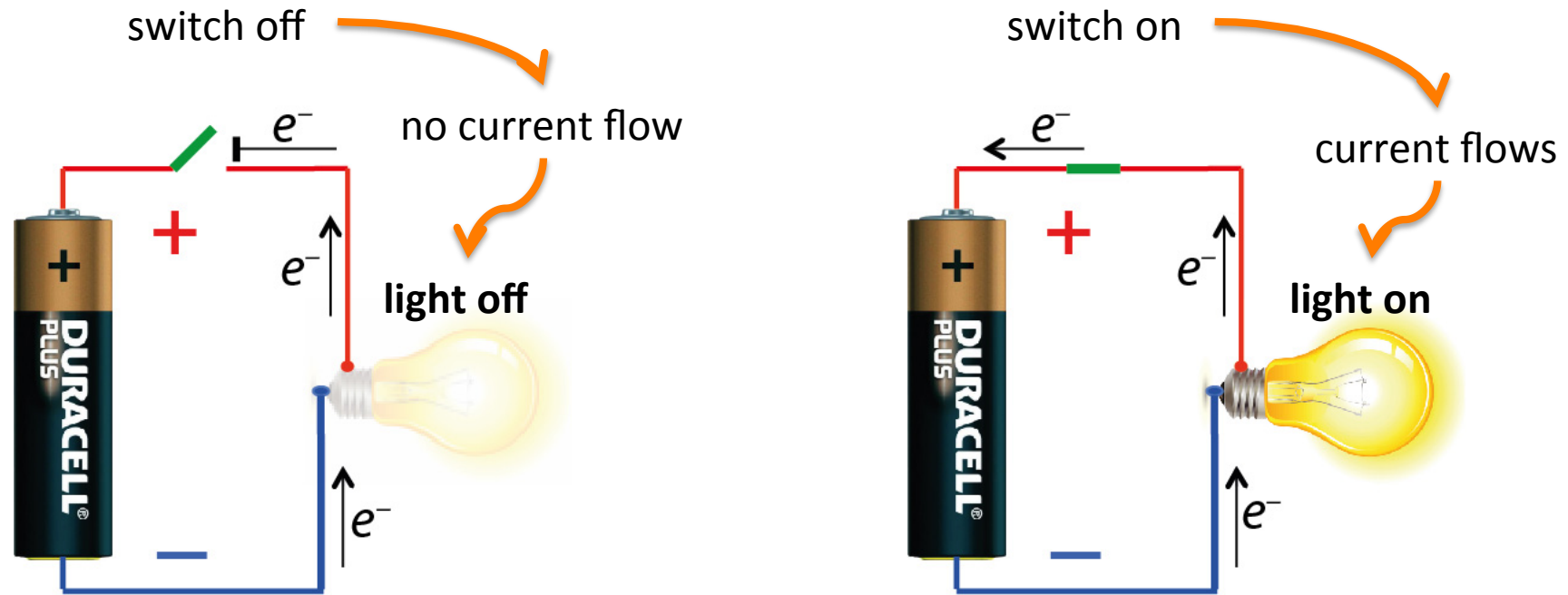
High Na⁺
142 mM

Low K⁺
4 mM

See also p. 1006 Patton & Thibodeau, 8th Ed.

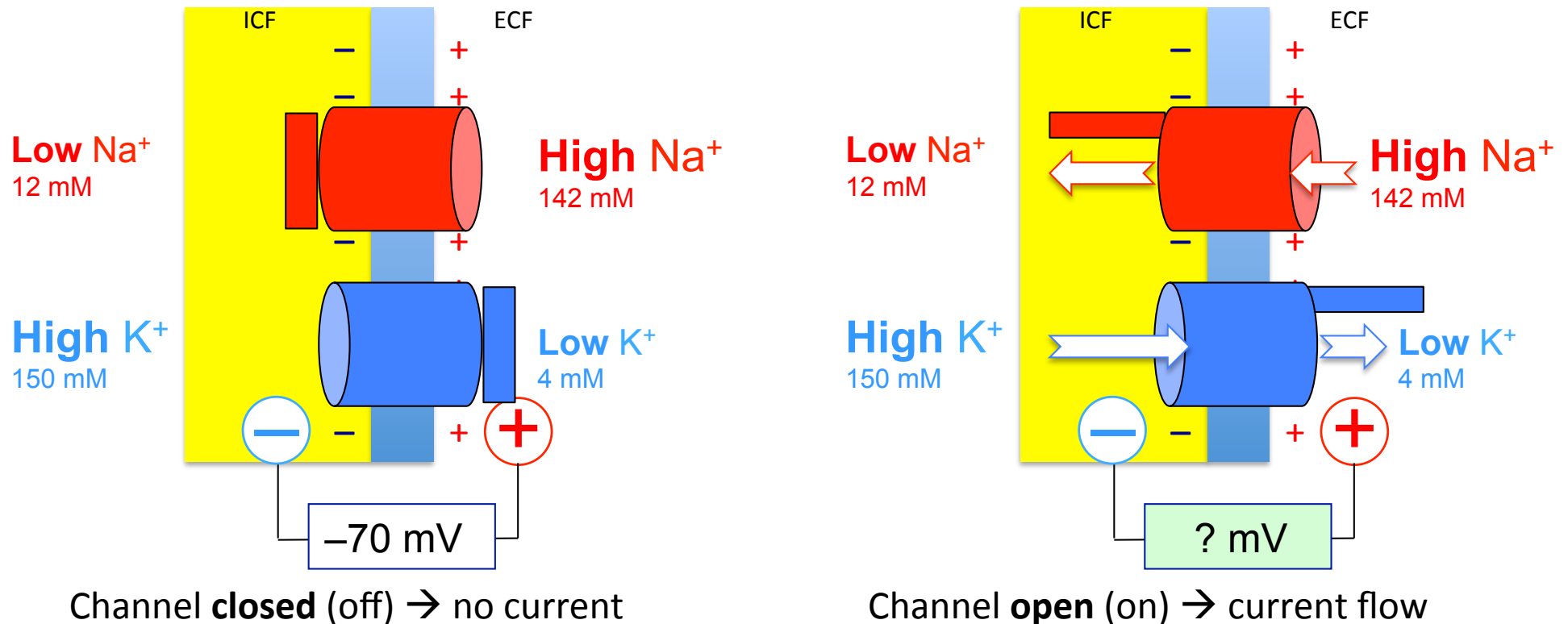
- This creates an electrical charge difference between the two sides of the membrane – like a small battery with a + and a – pole
- THIS IS CALLED THE RESTING MEMBRANE POTENTIAL
in living neurons it is about -70 mV, slightly negative inside

For a battery to do 'work' – current must flow!



- Closed loop \rightarrow electrical connection between $+$ and $-$ pole
- **Electrical switches** enable to control the 'flow' of e^-

Ion channels control the 'current flow' in neurons



- **Ion channels** (tunnel proteins) are cellular switches
- Closed ('off mode'); open ('on mode')
- Open ion channels allow the passage of ions across the cell membrane → **ion current**

Different types of ion channels in the membrane of neurons

Resting Membrane Potential



Fig. 13-15 Thibodeau and Patton 8th Ed p. 394

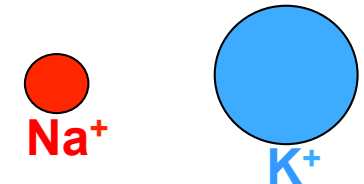
Ion channels are ...

... responsible for the **permeability** of the cell membrane (semi-permeable)

... are **selective**

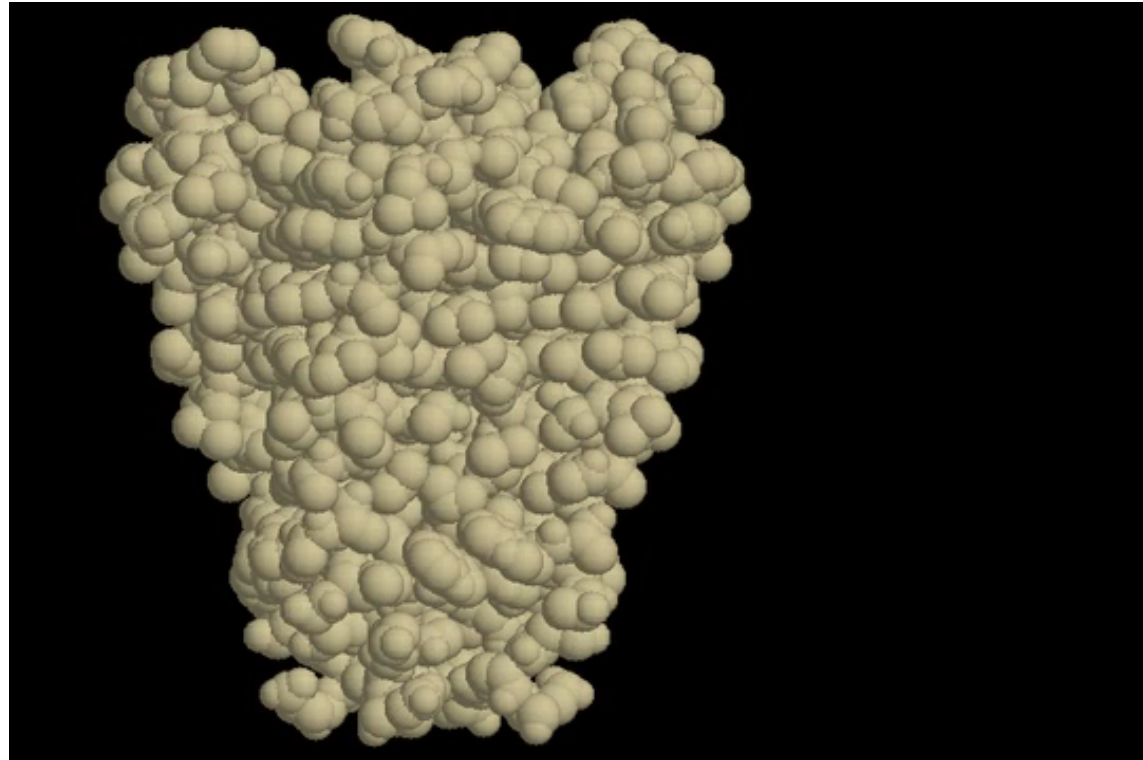
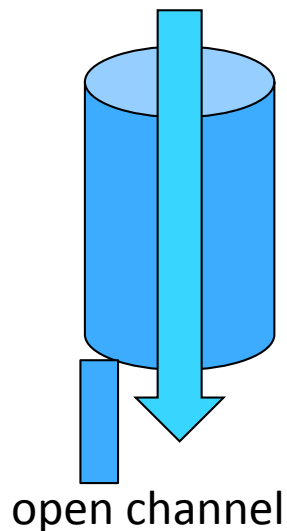
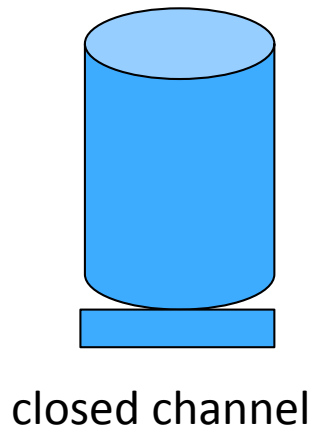
- Na^+ channels $\rightarrow \text{Na}^+$ ions
- K^+ channels $\rightarrow \text{K}^+$ ions

Remember Na^+ and K^+
are different sizes



At Resting Membrane Potential (-70 mV) most Na^+ channels are closed; some K^+ channels are open

Ion channels form pores through the lipid bilayer to enable ion movement

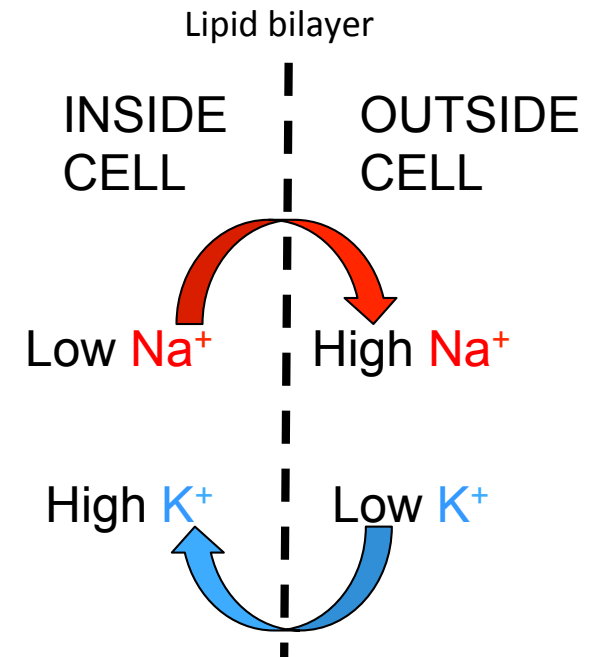
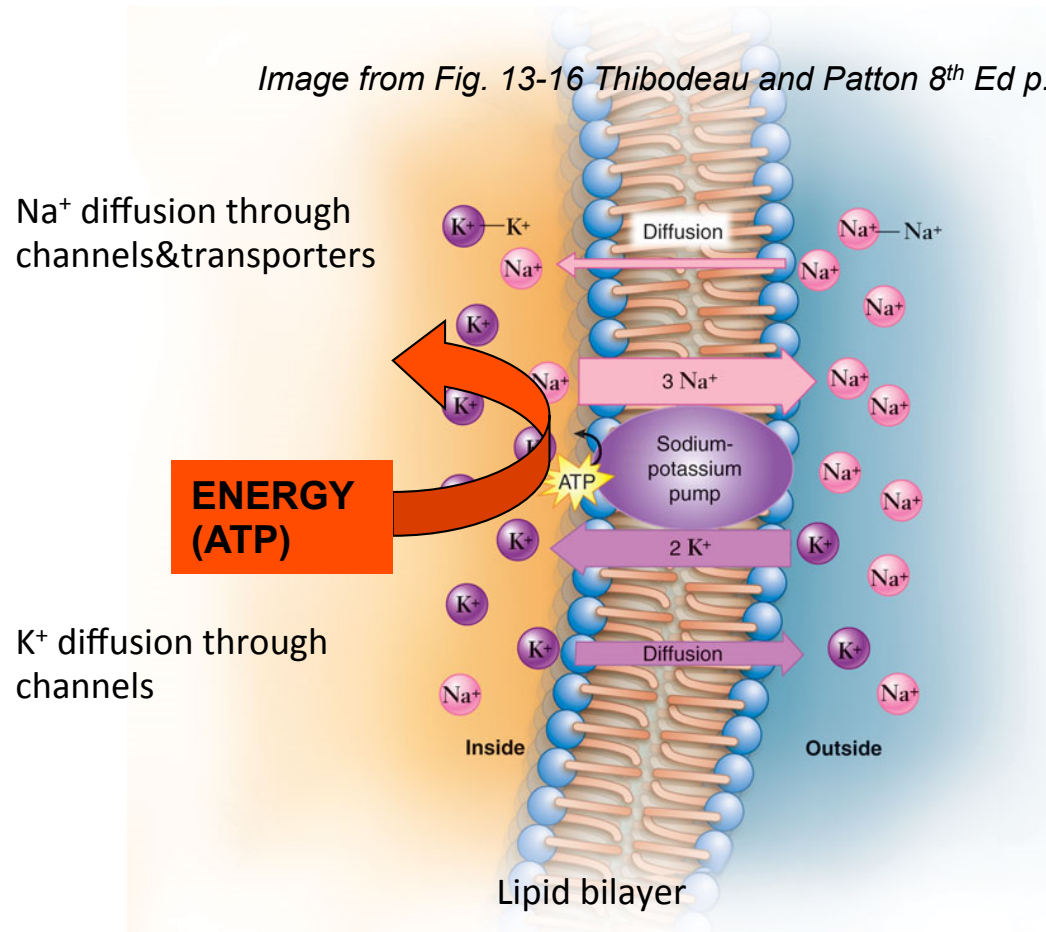


Movie from: Molecular Biology of the Cell, 5th Edition, Alberts et al.

- They are highly selective for their ion
- ONLY Na⁺ ions go through Na⁺ channels
- ONLY K⁺ ions go through K⁺ channels

How is the membrane potential maintained?

Image from Fig. 13-16 Thibodeau and Patton 8th Ed p. 394



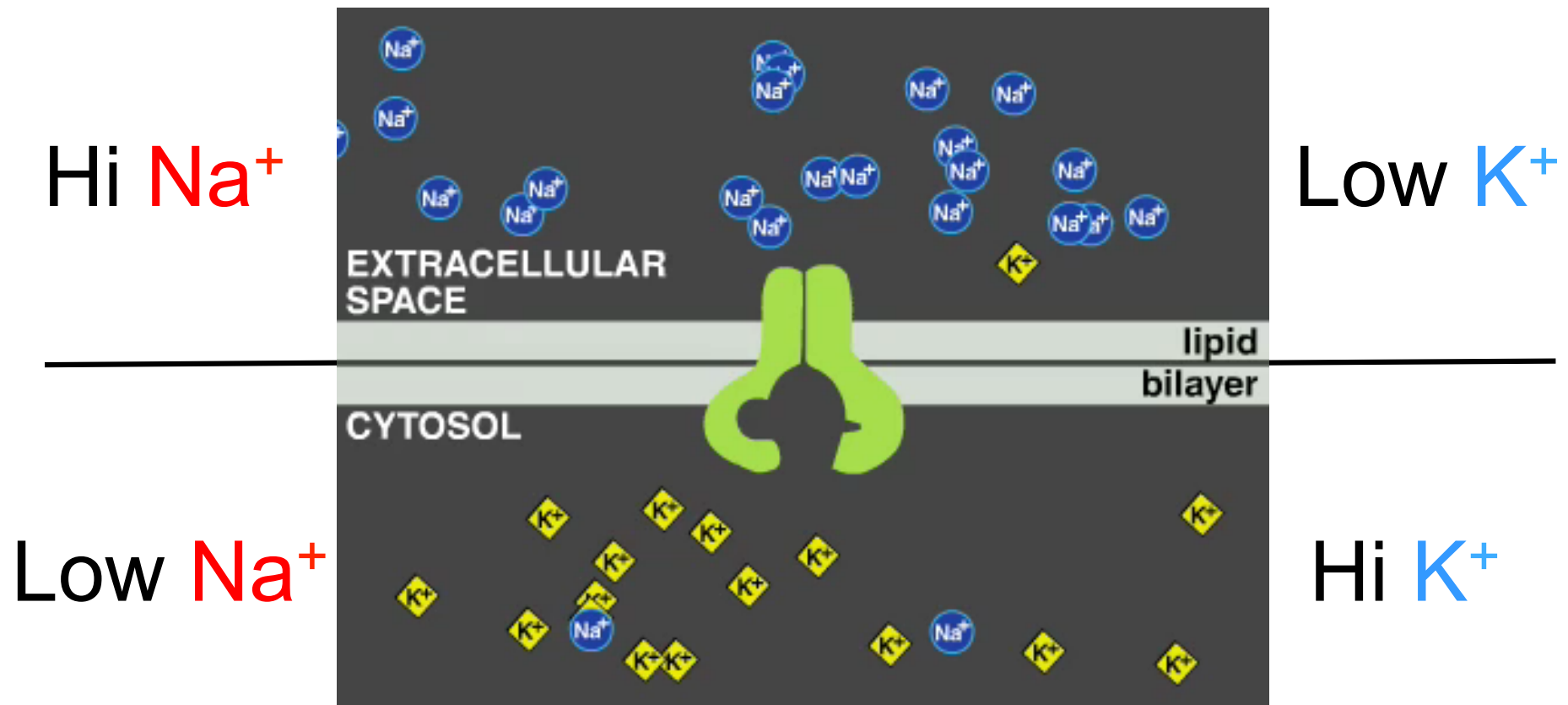
Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase (aka Na⁺/K⁺ PUMP)

Shifts 3 x **Na⁺** cations OUT of the cell

For

2 x **K⁺** cations IN the cell

Function of the Na⁺/K⁺ ATPase



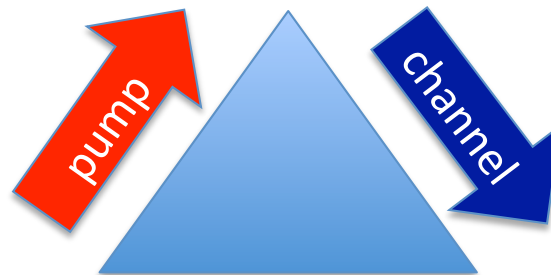
Movie from: *Molecular Biology of the Cell*, 5th Edition, Alberts et al.

Pumps versus ion channels

- They all are involved in the transport of ions across the cell membrane!
- But...

... pumps transport ions
against gradients
'**uphill** transport' (energy)

... ion channels transport
ions **along** gradients
'**downhill** transport'



Neurons are excitable cells

- Mostly a neuron is NOT at its resting membrane potential
- Instead its membrane potential varies
 - In size
 - In time
- Reason: opening and closing of channels
→ constantly...

At rest the inflow and outflow of cations is equal → RMP constant

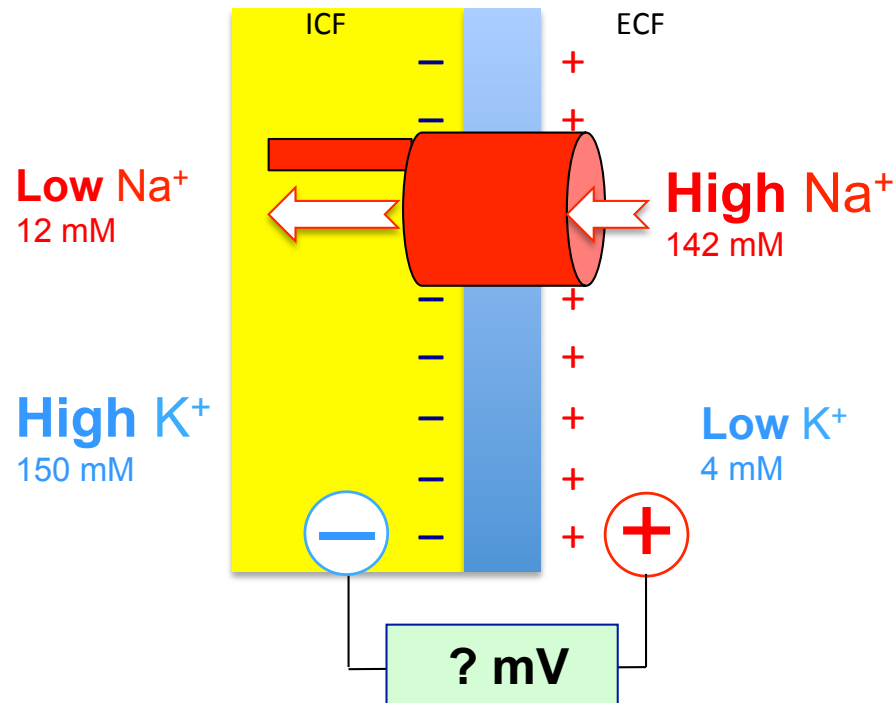
At Resting Membrane Potential:

→ most Na^+ channels are closed

→ some K^+ channels are open

→ Na^+/K^+ ATPase is operating

→ **HOMEOSTASIS**



But what happens to the RMP if:

→ More Na^+ channels open?

At rest the inflow and outflow of cations is equal → RMP constant

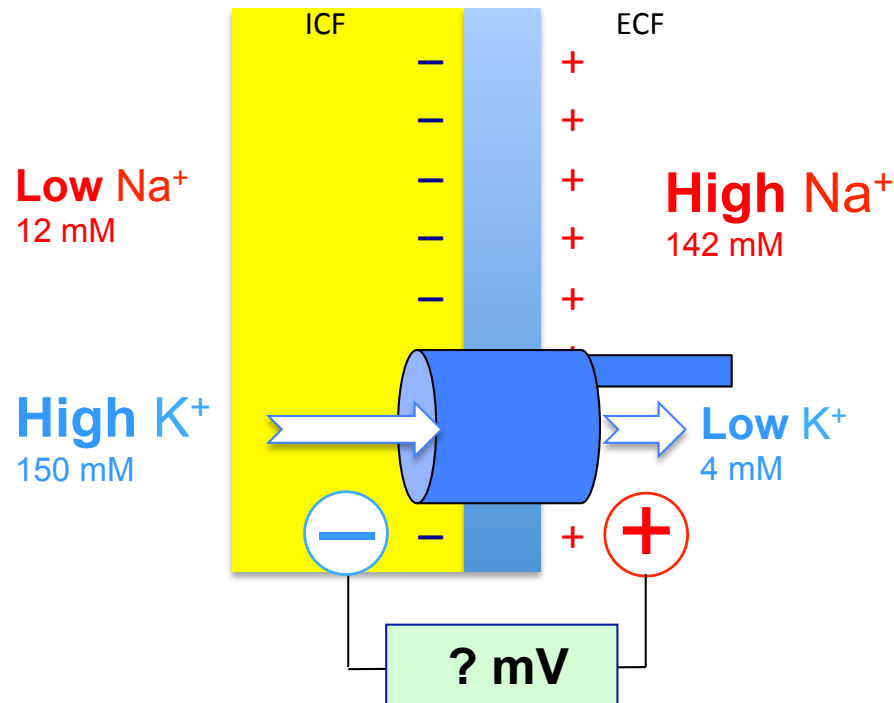
At Resting Membrane Potential:

→ most Na^+ channels are closed

→ some K^+ channels are open

→ Na^+/K^+ ATPase is operating

→ **HOMEOSTASIS**

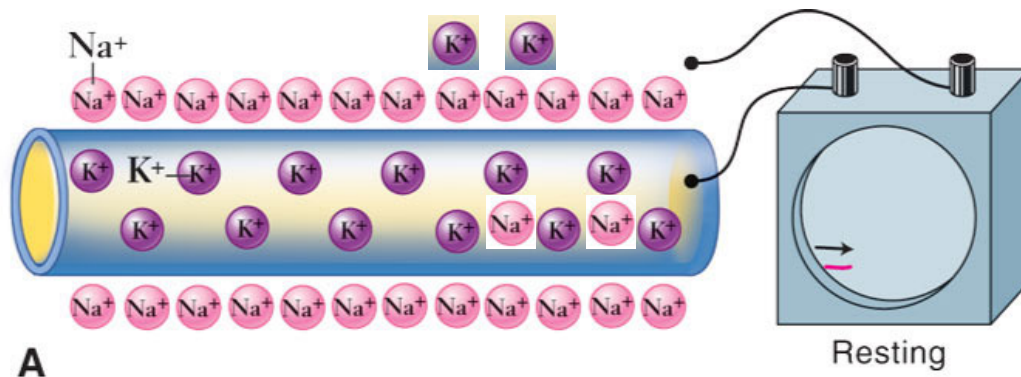


But what happens to the RMP if:

Or

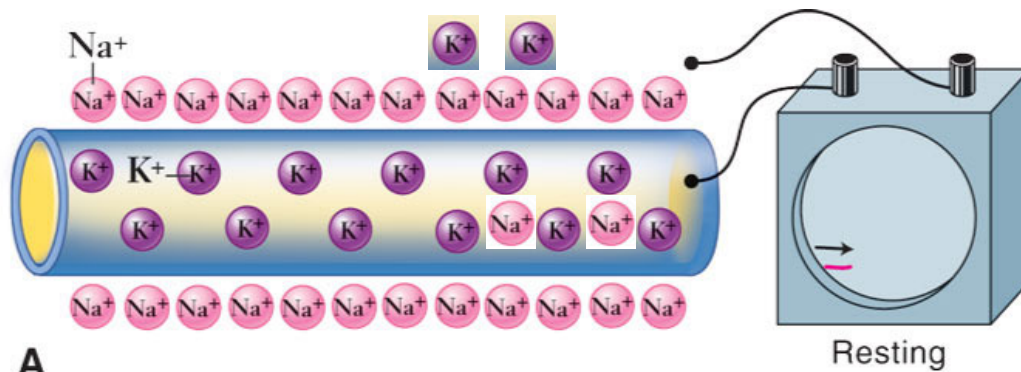
→ More K^+ channels

Changes (types) of membrane potentials

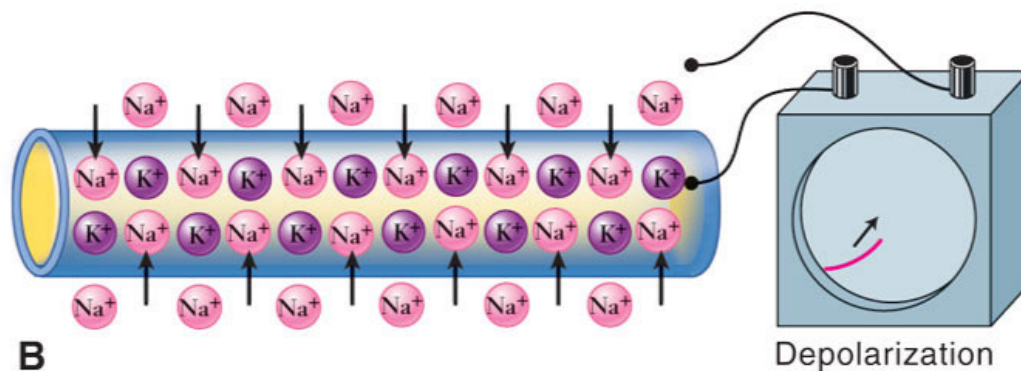


- **RESTING**
- Low Na⁺ inside and high K⁺ inside
- Na⁺ inflow = K⁺ outflow
- **-70 mV**

Changes (types) of membrane potentials

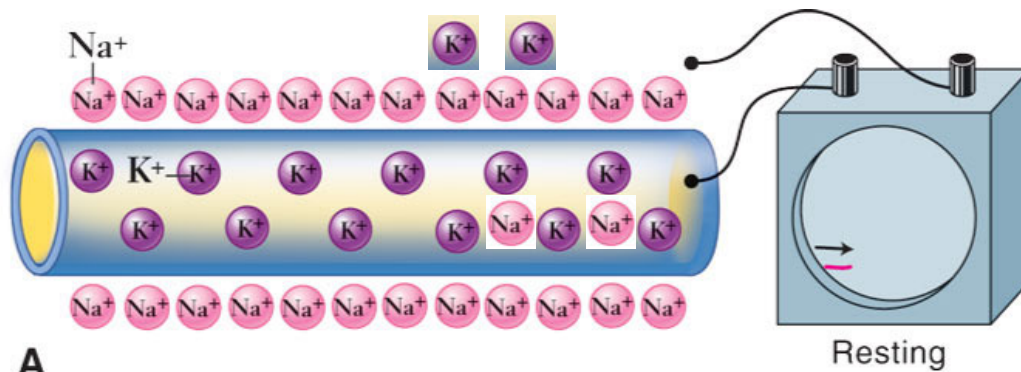


- **RESTING**
- Low Na^+ inside and high K^+ inside
- Na^+ inflow = K^+ outflow
- **-70 mV**

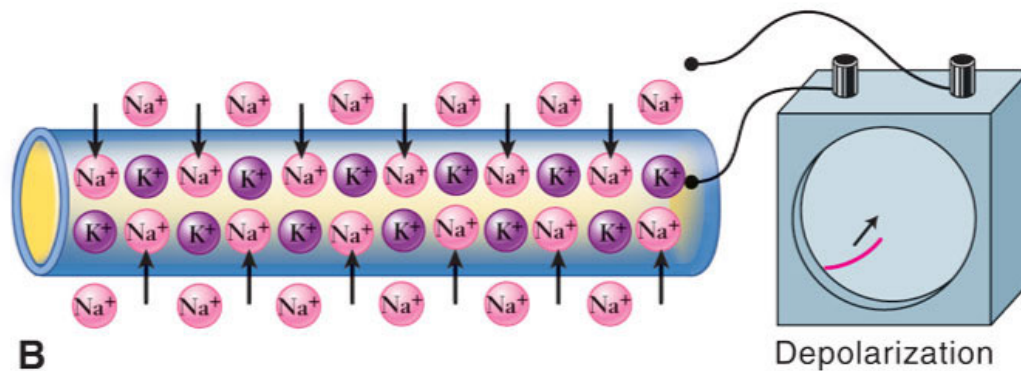


- **Na^+** channels open
- Positive charges move IN
- **DEPOLARISED** → e.g. **-60 mV**

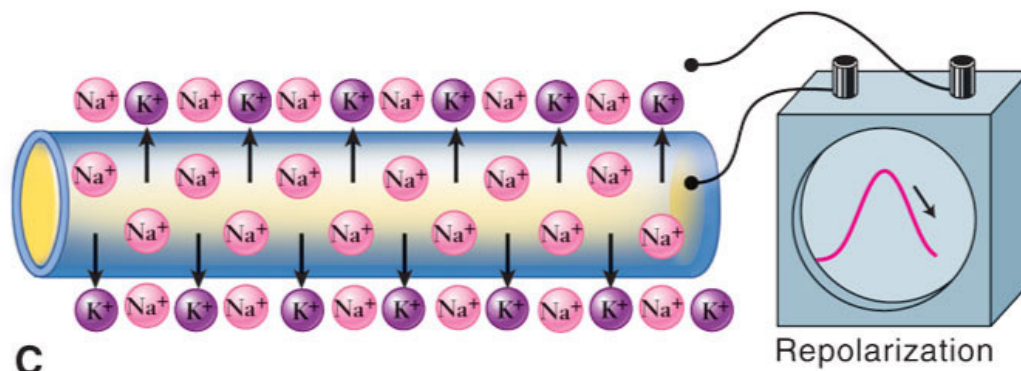
Changes (types) of membrane potentials



- **RESTING**
- Low Na^+ inside and high K^+ inside
- Na^+ inflow = K^+ outflow
- **-70 mV**



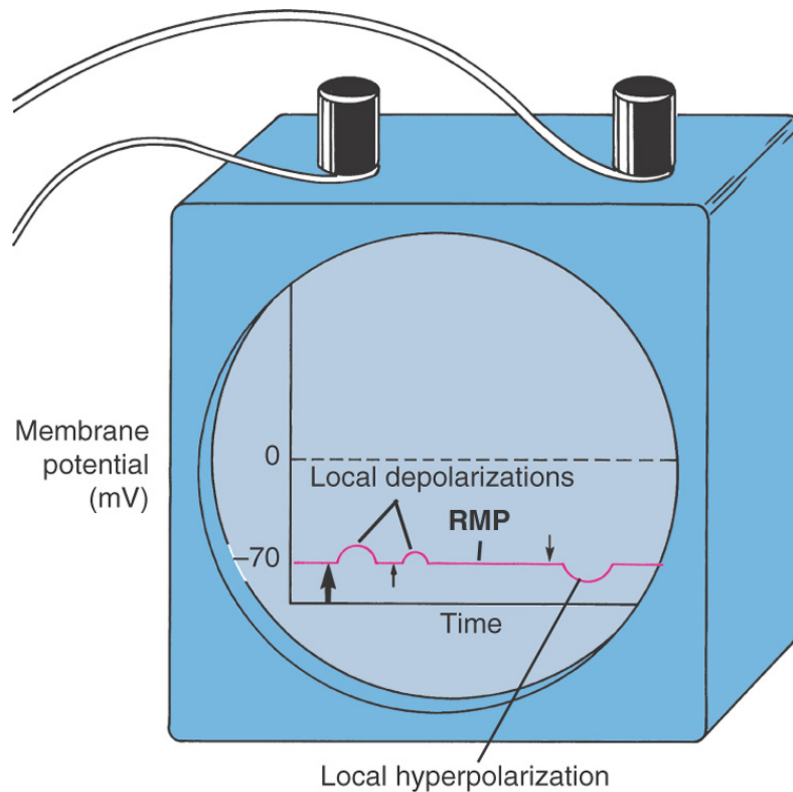
- **Na^+** channels open
- Positive charges move IN
- **DEPOLARISED** → e.g. **-60 mV**



- **K^+** channels open
- Positive charges move OUT
- **REPOLARISED** → negative again
- **HYPERPOLARISED** → e.g. **-80 mV**

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Fig. 13-18 Thibodeau and Patton 8th Ed. p.396.

LOCAL POTENTIALS – constant change



DEPOLARISED – EXCITATORY

HYPERPOLARISED – INHIBITORY

At 'Rest'

→ most Na^+ channels are closed

→ some K^+ channels are open

→ Na^+/K^+ ATPase is operating

Classical HOMEOSTASIS

Types of Potentials

Type of Potential	Polarisation	Typical value	Description
Resting	Balanced	-70 mV	Neuron is at rest, not excited not conducting an impulse, Some K ⁺ channels open.
Local	DE polarised EXCITATORY HYPER polarised INHIBITORY	Varies	Temporary fluctuation in a local region of the membrane Na ⁺ and K ⁺ channels open ACTIVE neurons
Threshold	Depolarised	-59 mV	Minimum local depolarisation that triggers an action potential
Action	DE polarised RE polarised	+30mV	Temporary max depolarisation propagates along the axon without losing amplitude

See Table 13-3 *Thibodeau and Patton 8th Ed p. 397*

Which ion makes the legs twitch? How does it do that?



Except from YouTube **Frog Legs Dancing With A Little Salt**
Uploaded by [thearchipelagos](#) on 2 Jun 2009

HUBS191

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