

Elementary Physics and Chemistry for clinical Neurophysiology

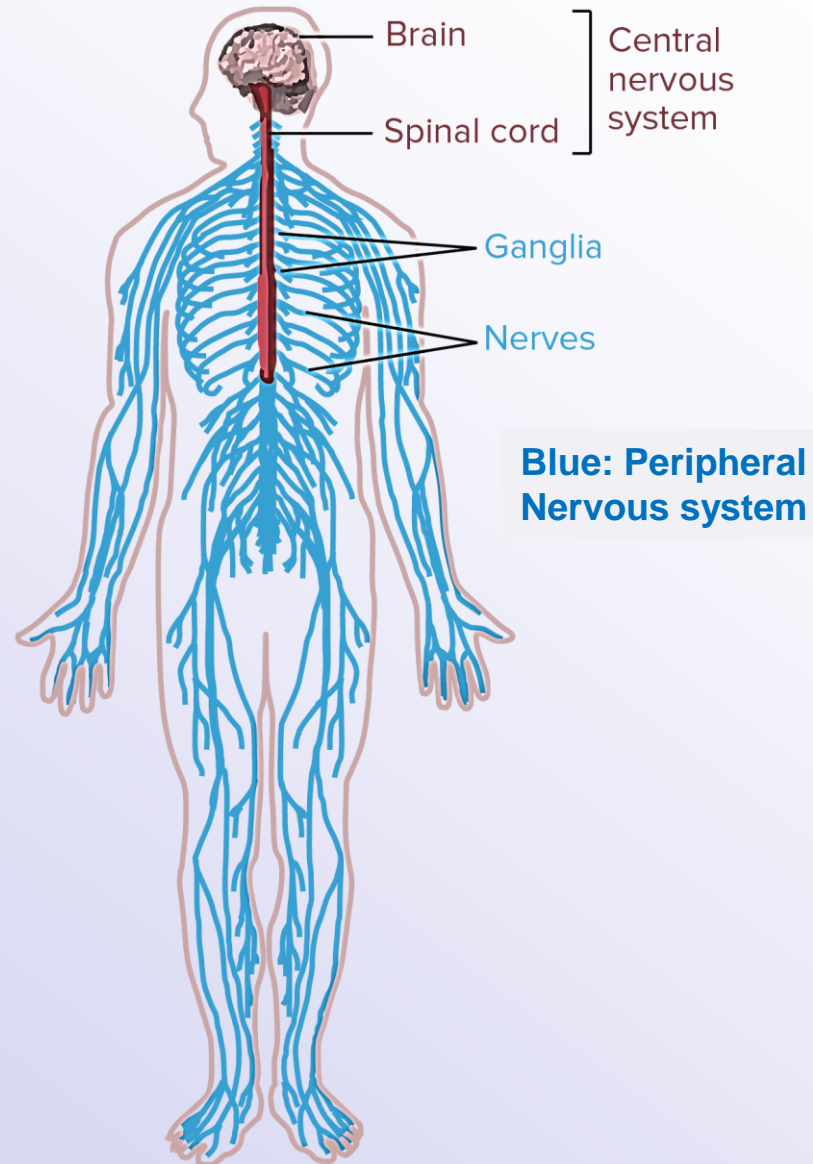
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The nervous system

**Central Nervous System (CNS):
Brain & spinal cord**

Peripheral Nervous System (PNS)

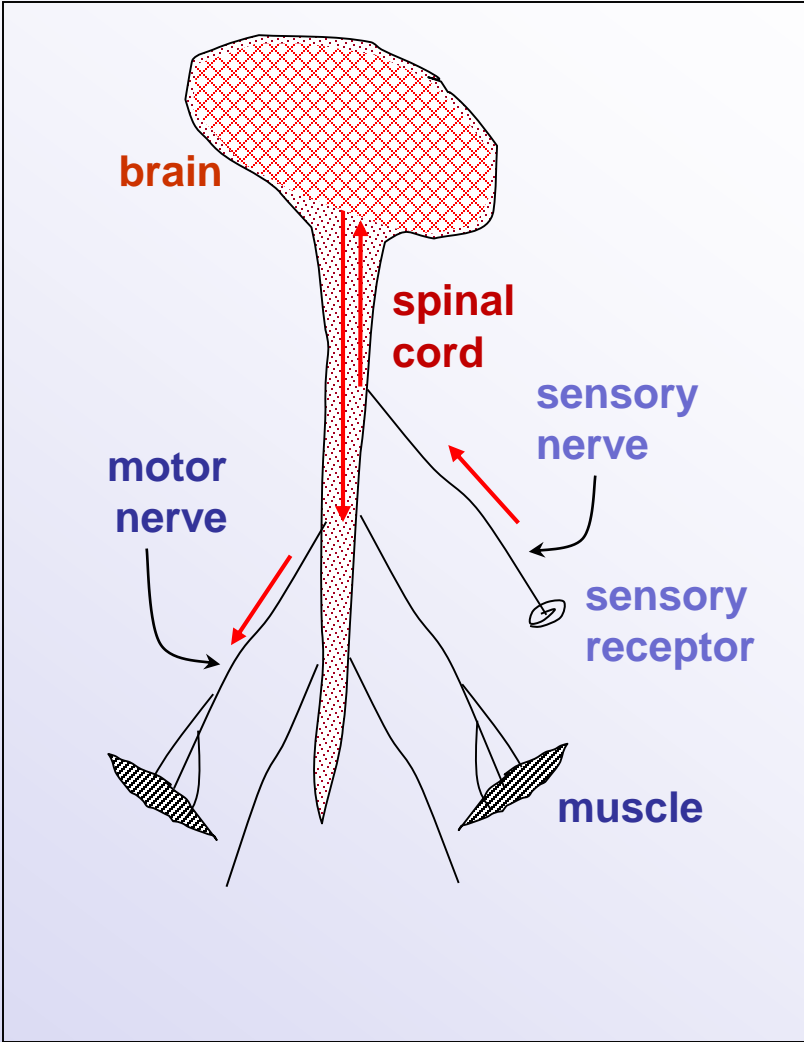


Overall nerve signal directions

in PNS

Sensory nerve

Motor nerve

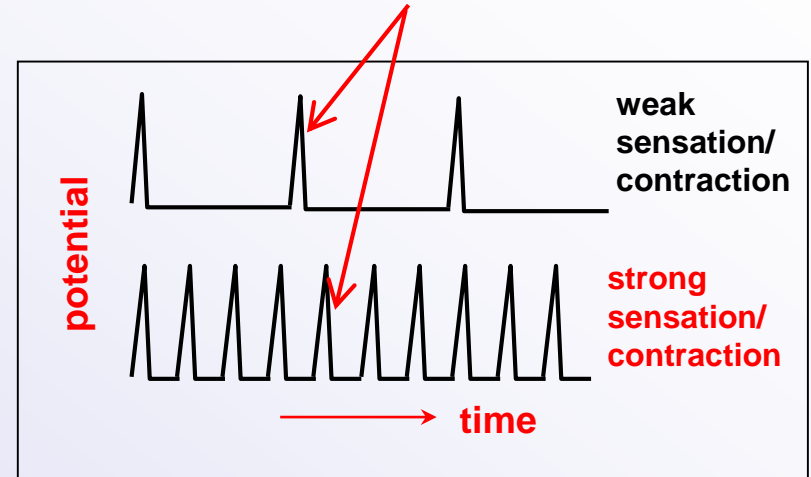


Neural Signal

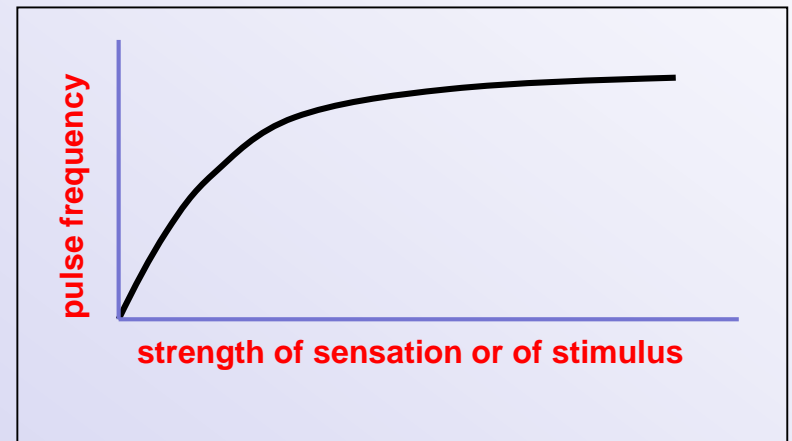
Electrical → Digital, not Analog !

- Nerves carry electrical signals, called Nerve Action Potential (NAP)
- The NAPs are Digital, not Analog
- Digital signal communication is slow but ERROR FREE (we only know now!)

Nerve Action Potentials (NAP)
same height but varying
frequency to indicate strength

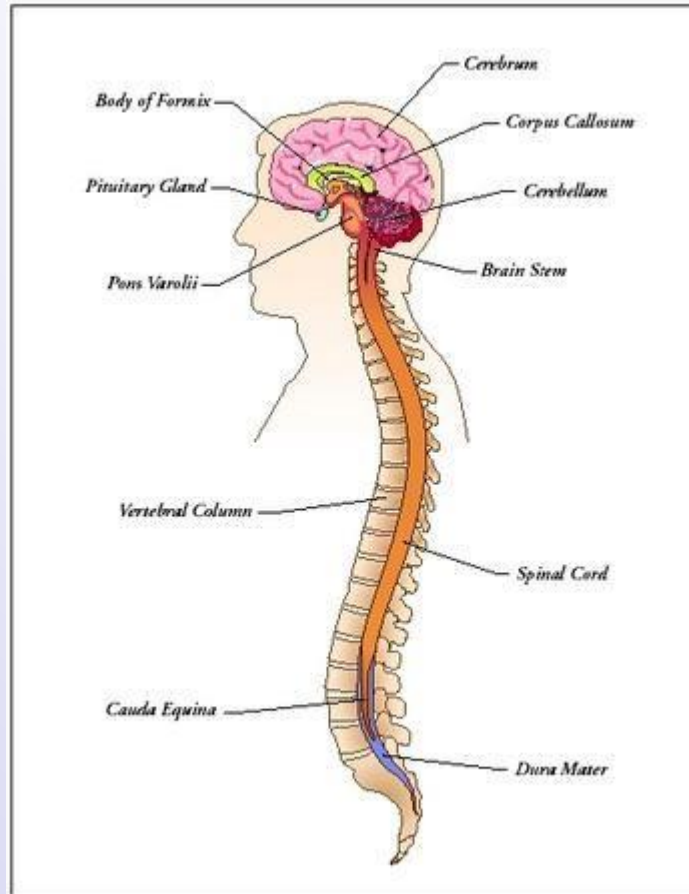


Frequency: repetition of pulse per unit time



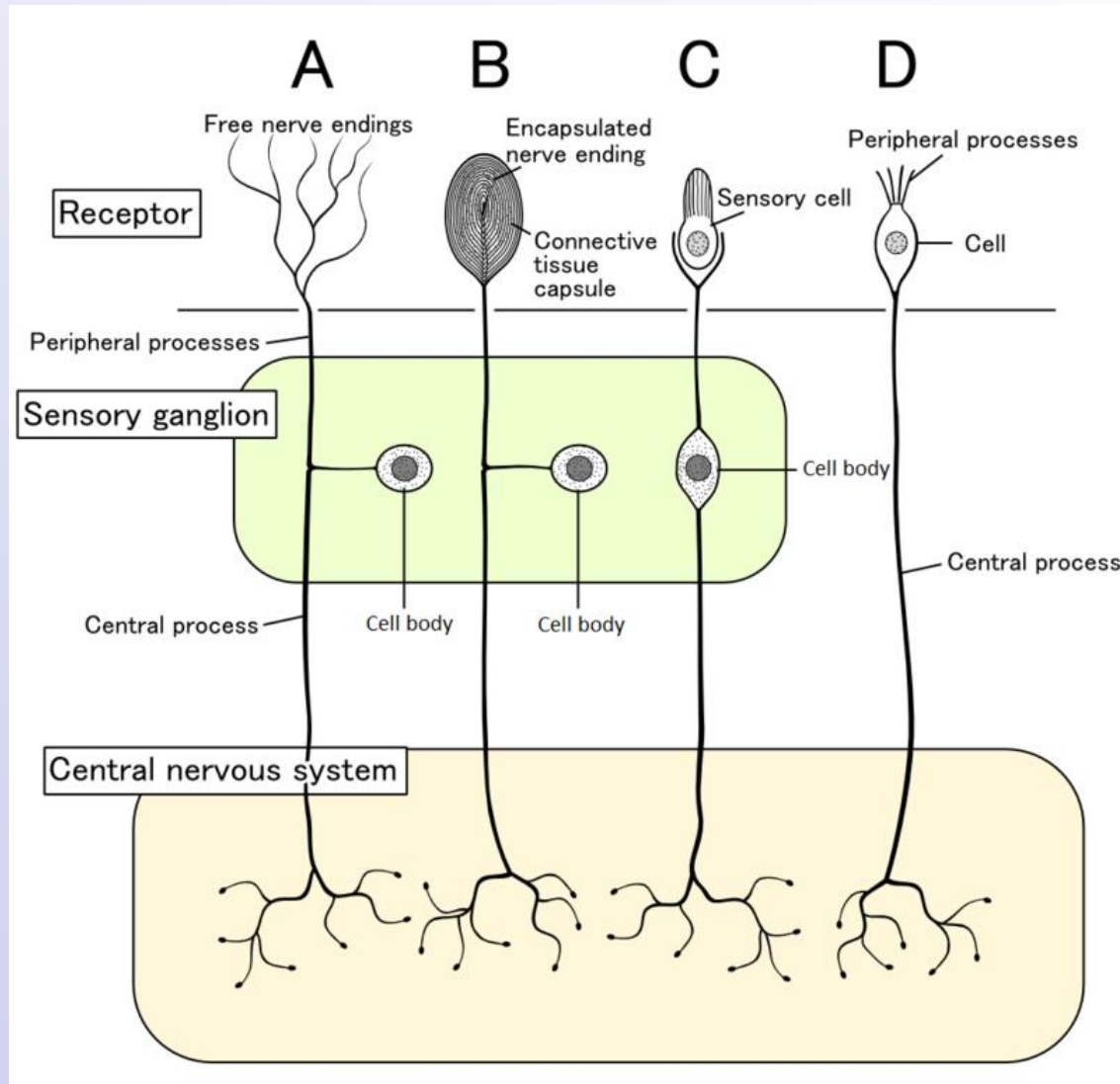
Origin of nerve action potentials

Brain: 100 billion neurons (10^{11} , 10,000 crore)

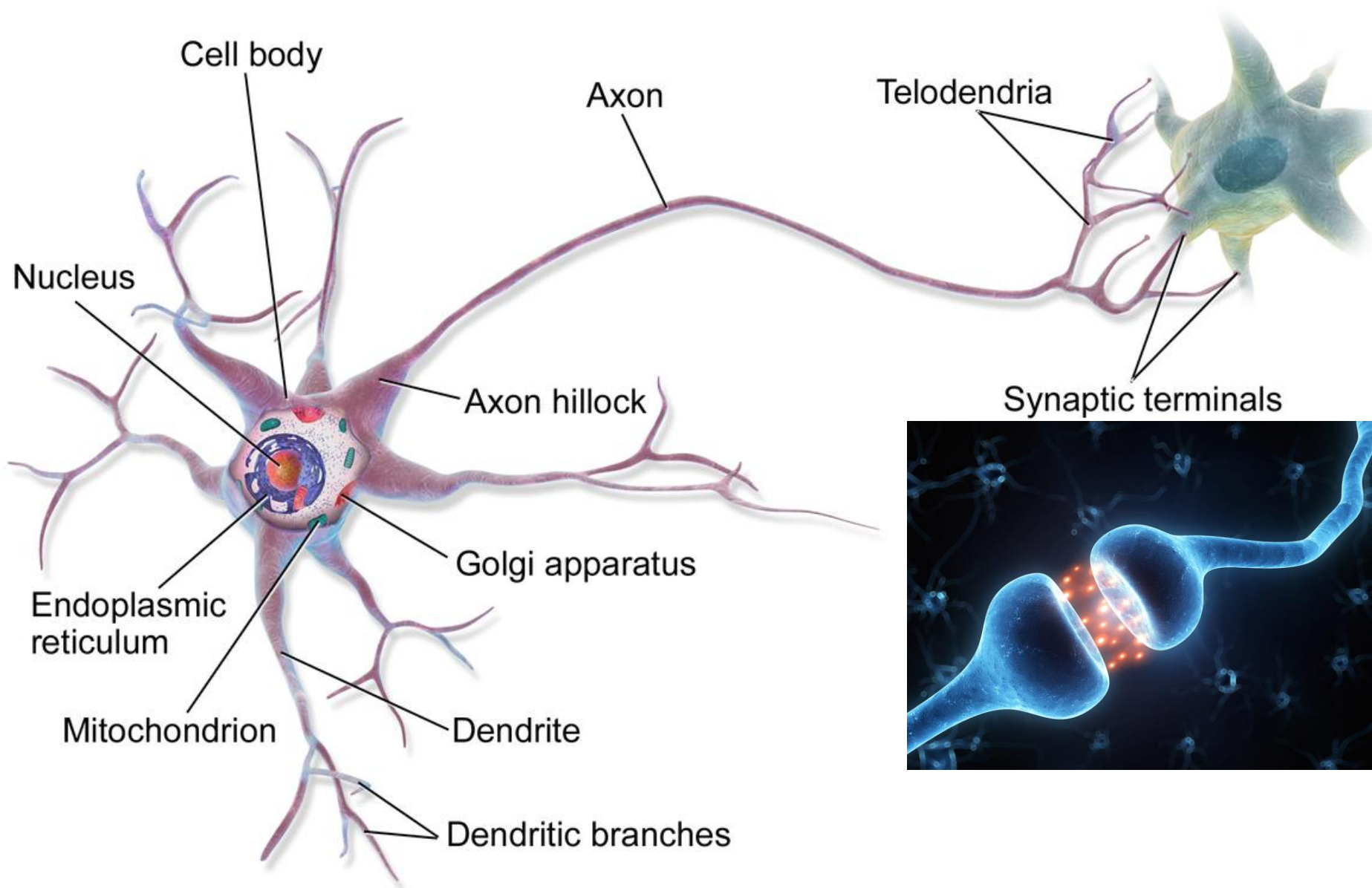


Origin of nerve action potentials: Sensory

Mechanical/ optical/ thermal/ chemical



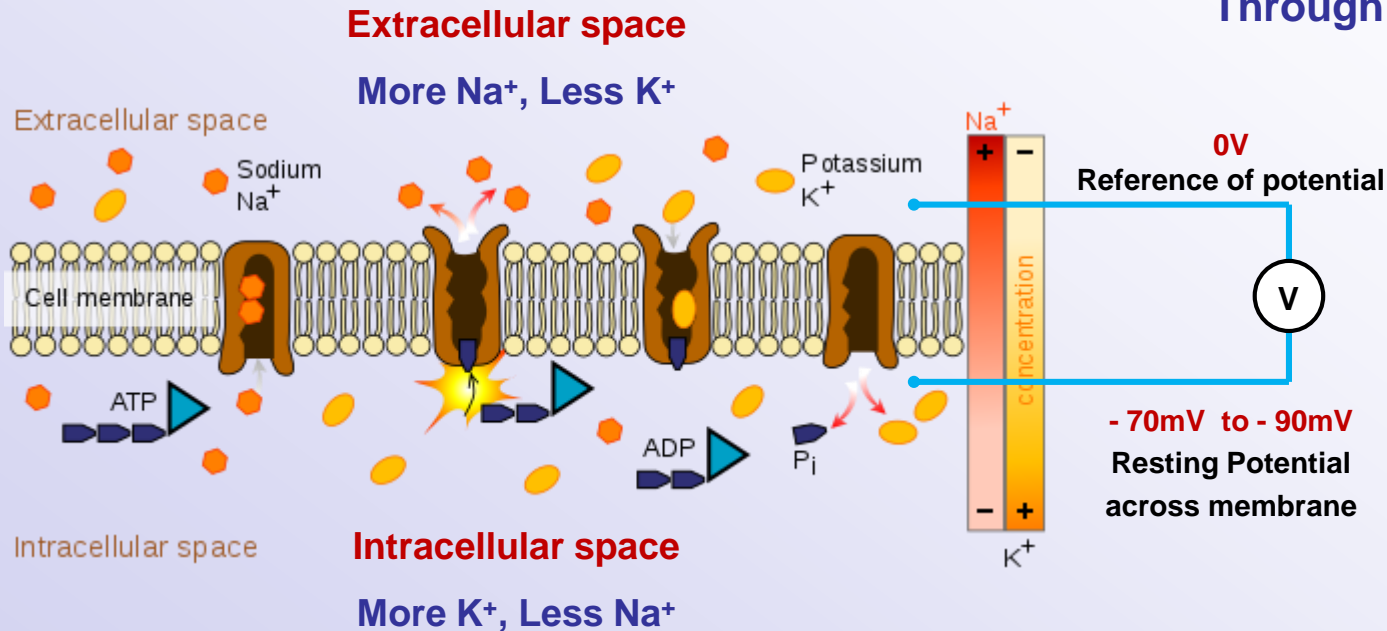
Neuron: Cell Body, Dendrites, Axons



Origin of membrane potentials of neurons (resting Potential)

Chemical Viewpoint

- Diffusion
 - Ion Pump
- Through Ion Channels



Nernst potential (for any species of ion)

$$E = \text{Constant} \cdot T \ln \frac{\text{Ion concentration outside}}{\text{Ion concentration inside}}$$

Net potential is due to combination of all ion species

Origin of membrane potentials of neurons

Physics Viewpoint (mine)

Based on size distribution of ionic charges on two sides of the membrane

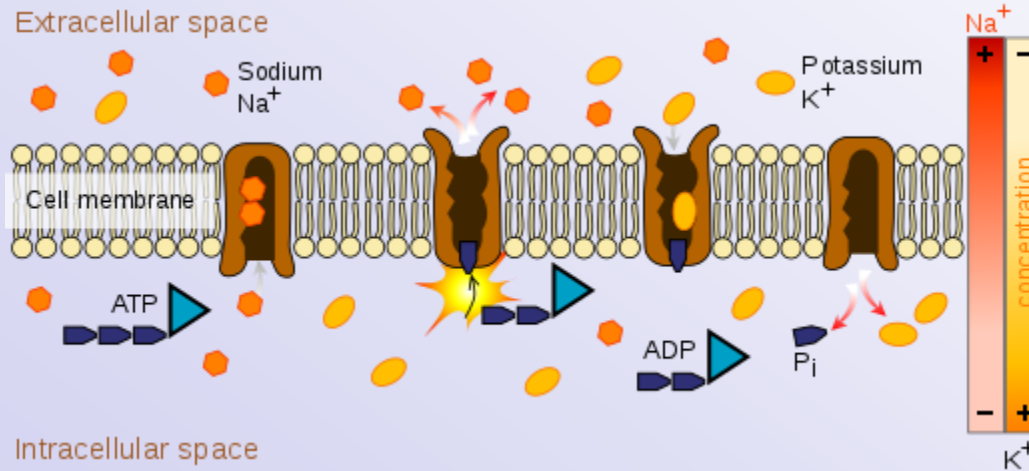
Extracellular space

More Na⁺, Less K⁺

Ion Diameter

Na⁺, 1.02Å 

K⁺, 1.38Å 



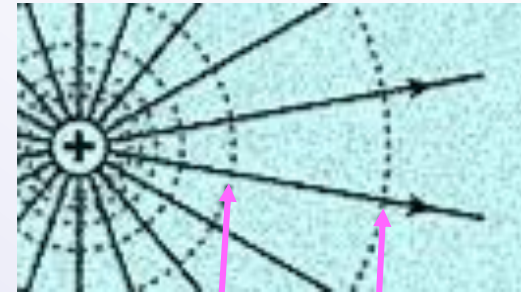
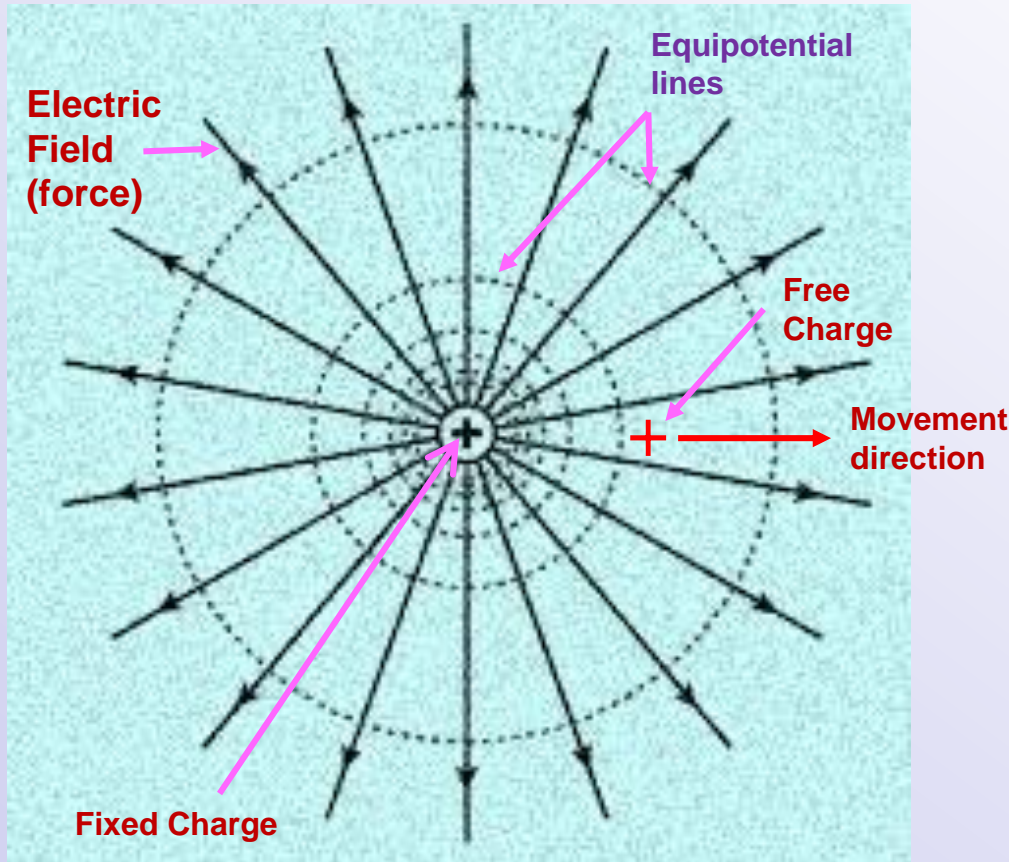
Intracellular space

More K⁺, Less Na⁺

Details >>>

Seeking origin of membrane potentials of neurons

Physics Viewpoint (mine)



High potential

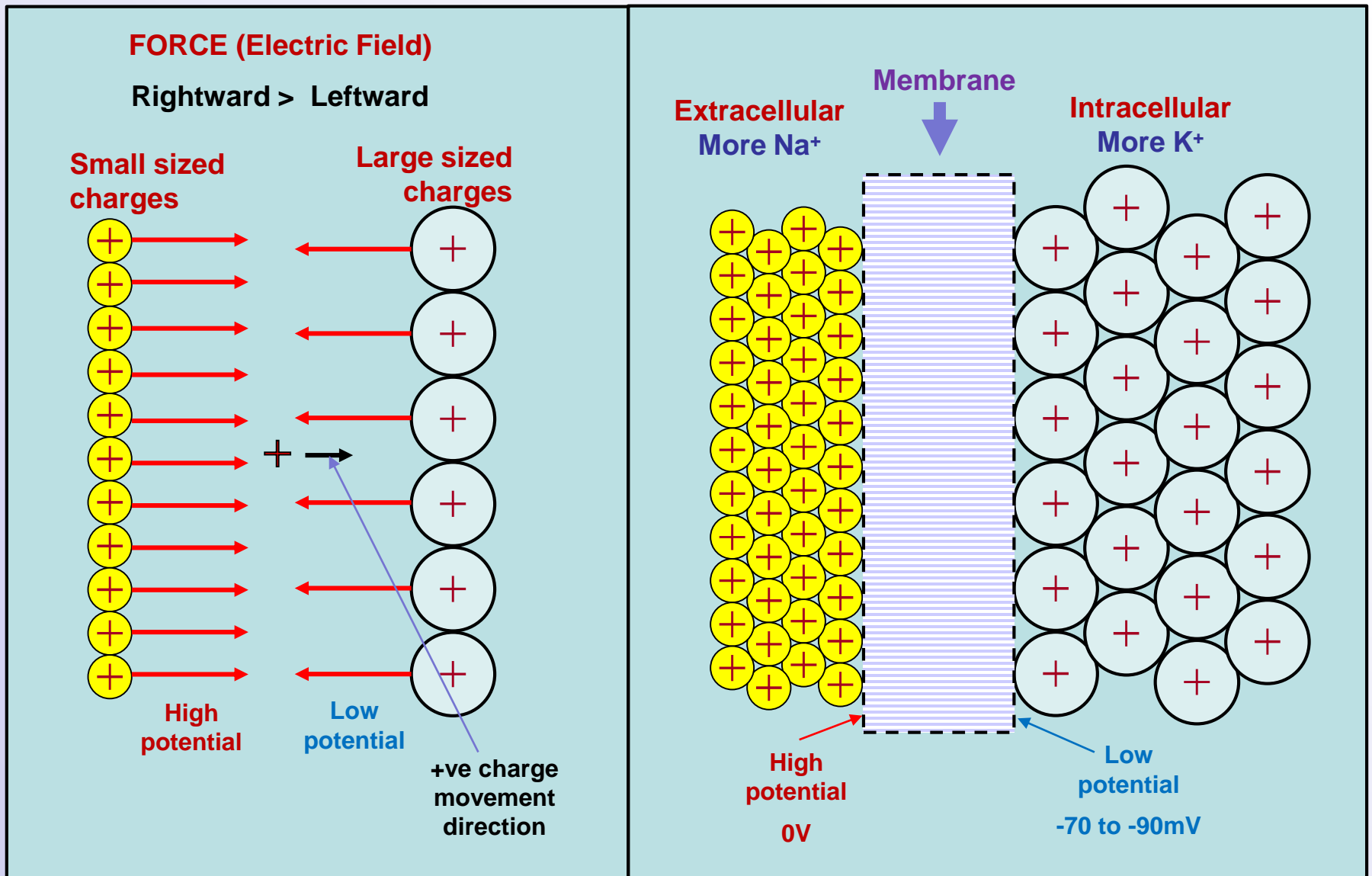
Low potential

For Example	+ 1V	0V
	0V	- 1V

No negative charge needed to create the -ve potential

Origin of membrane potentials of neurons

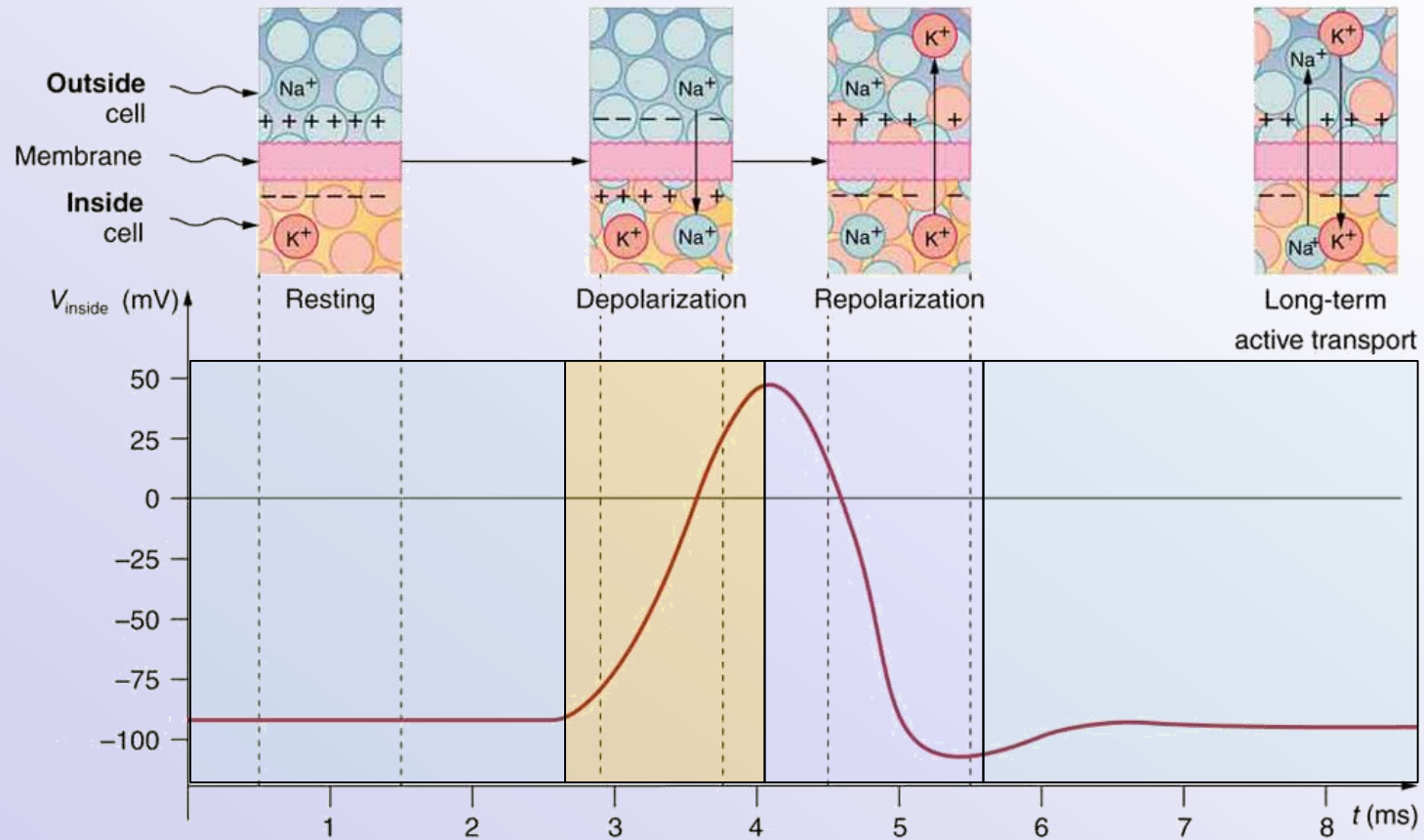
Physics Viewpoint (mine)



Nerve Action Potential (NAP)

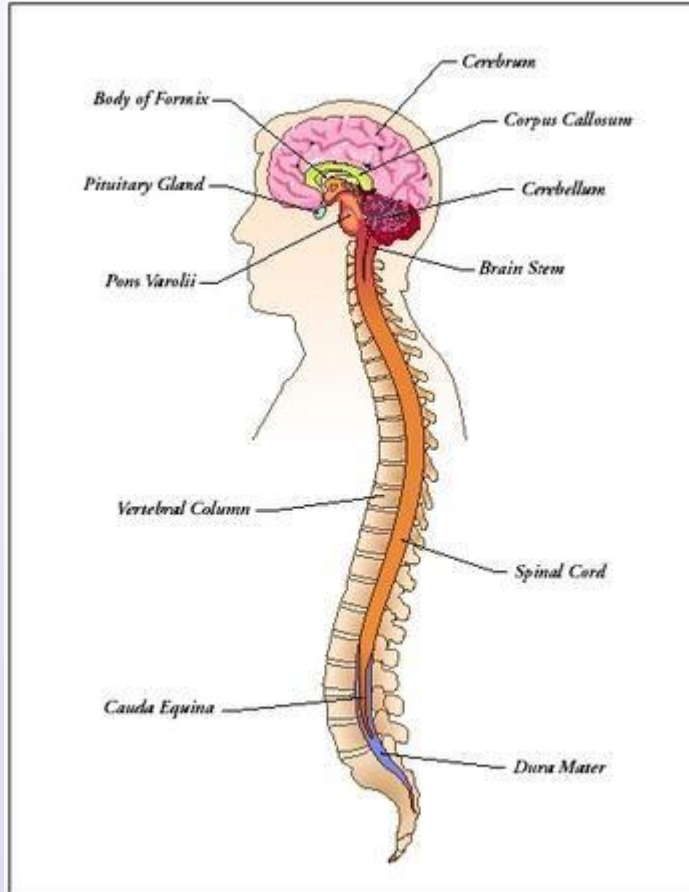
Same amplitude always for a particular cell type

Yes or No → Hence Digital (binary)



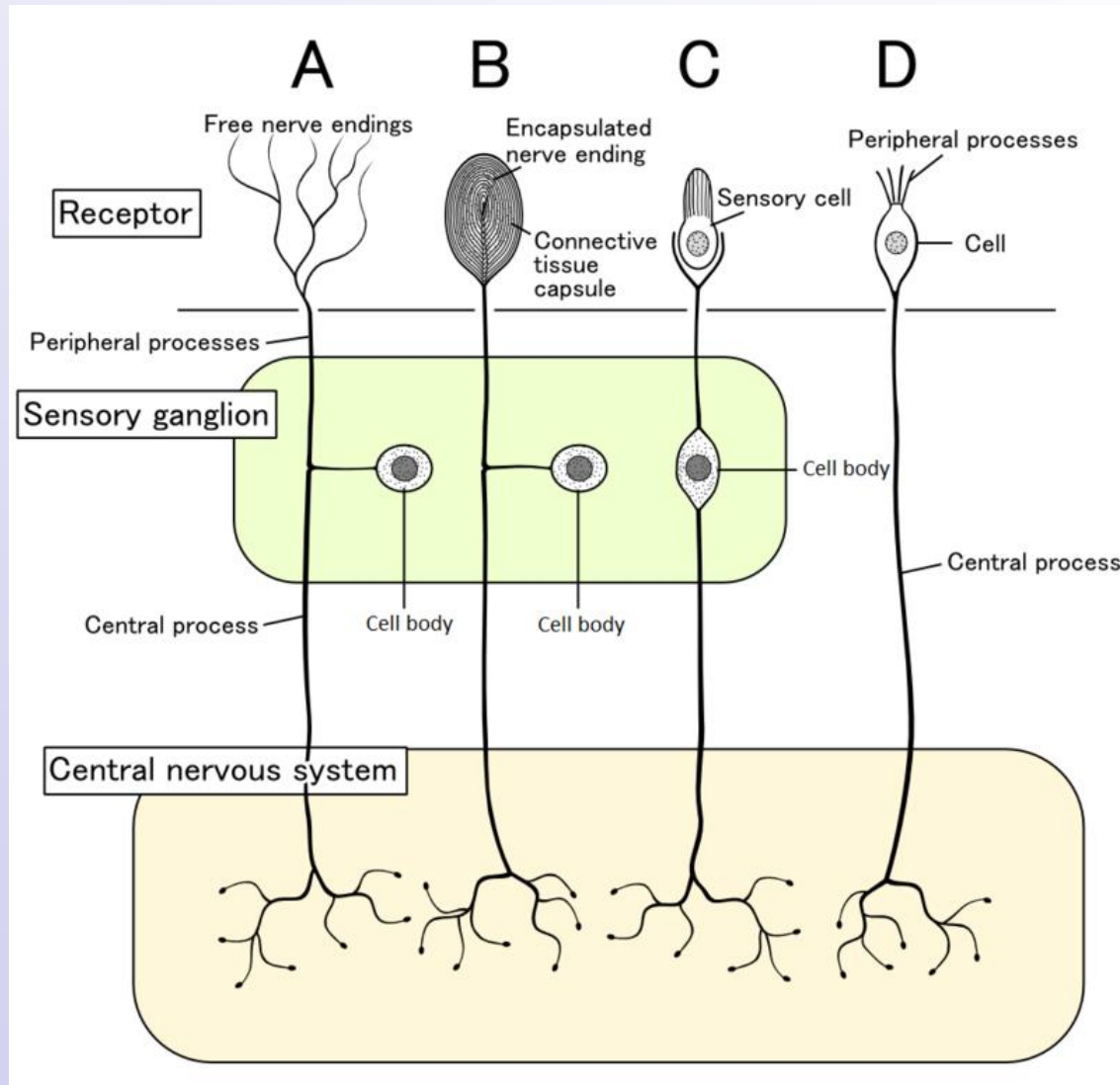
Nerve action potentials

Created in neurons in the brain

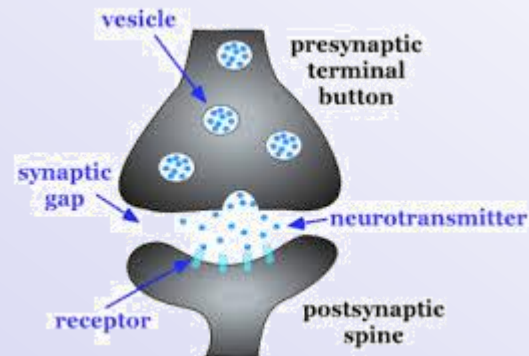
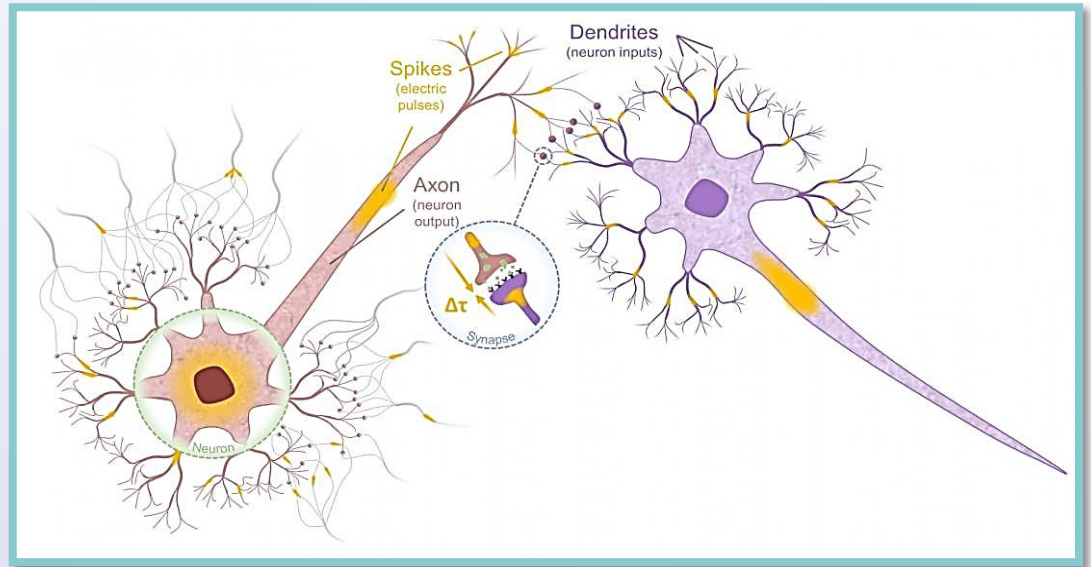


Nerve action potentials

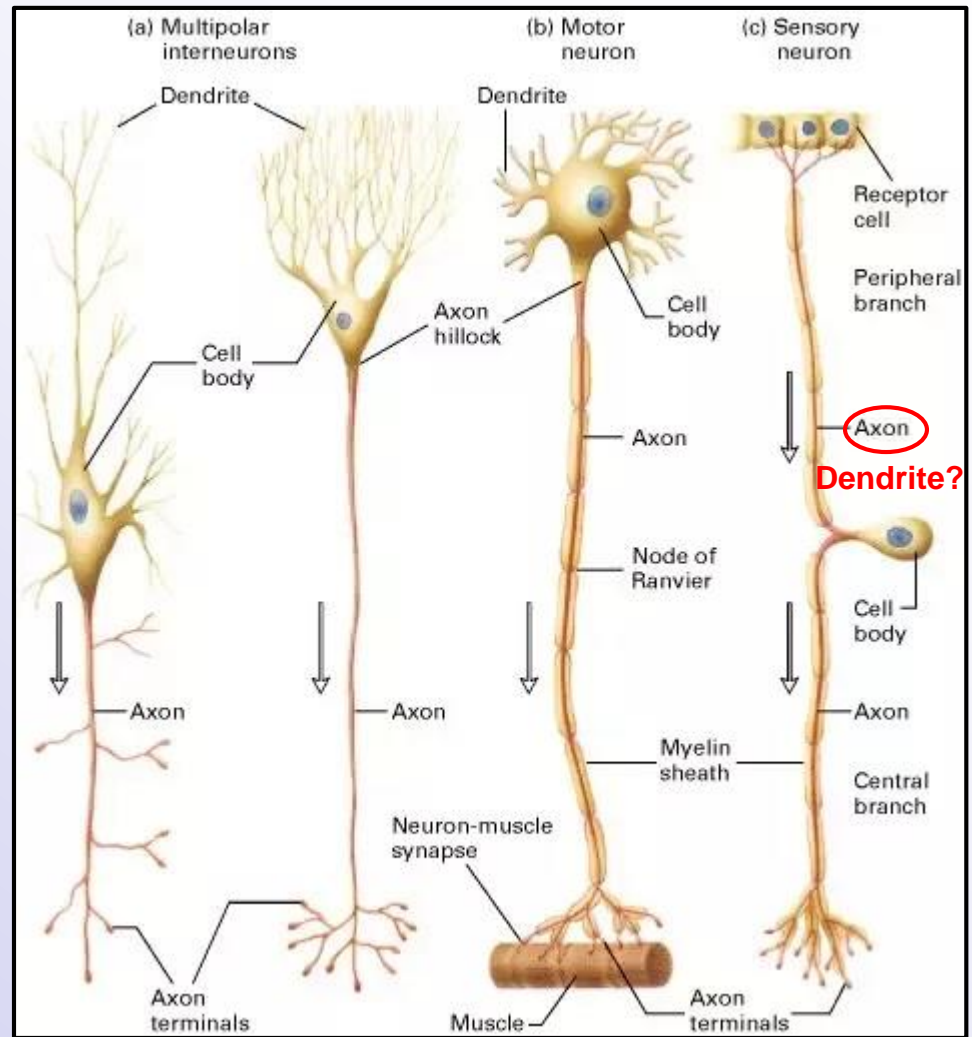
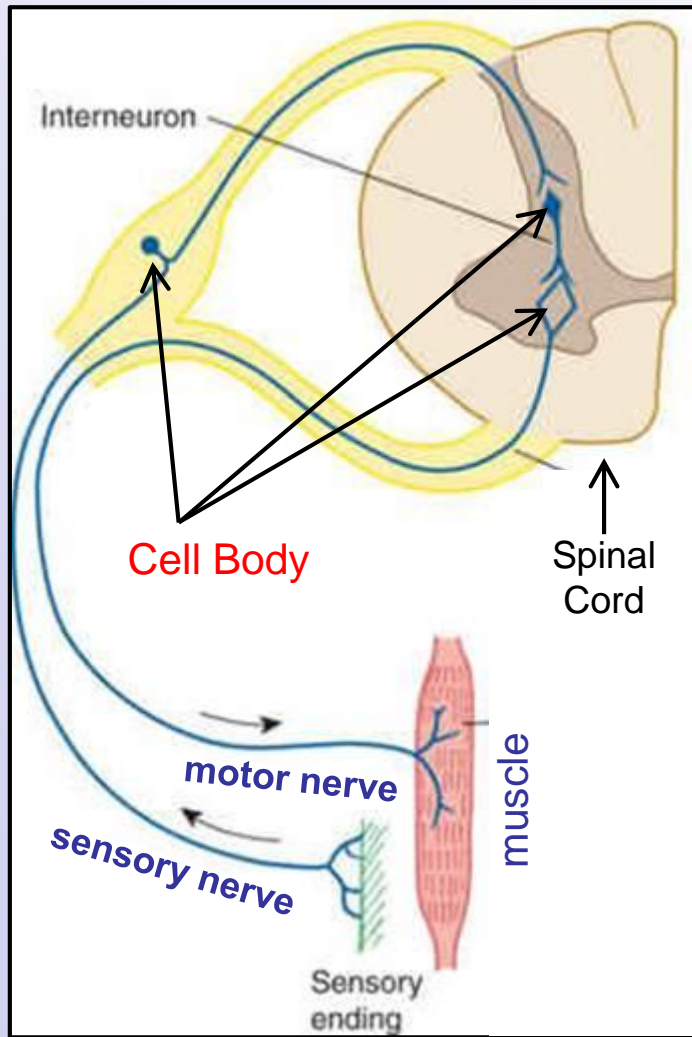
Created at the Sensory organs: Mechanical/ optical/ thermal/ chemical



Relaying of nerve impulses: Neuro transmitters at Synapse, Motor End plates



Peripheral Neurons

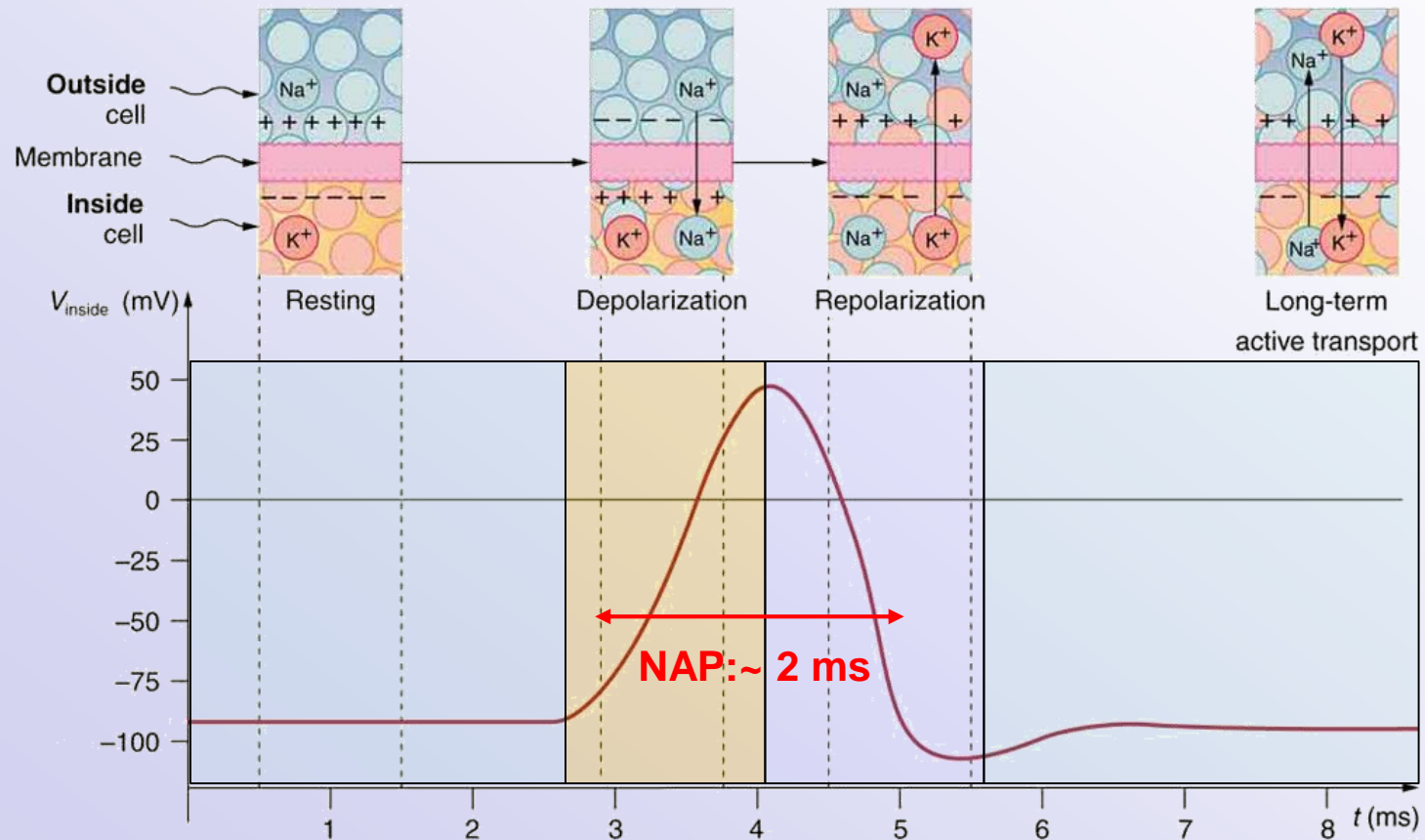


Nerve Action Potential (NAP)

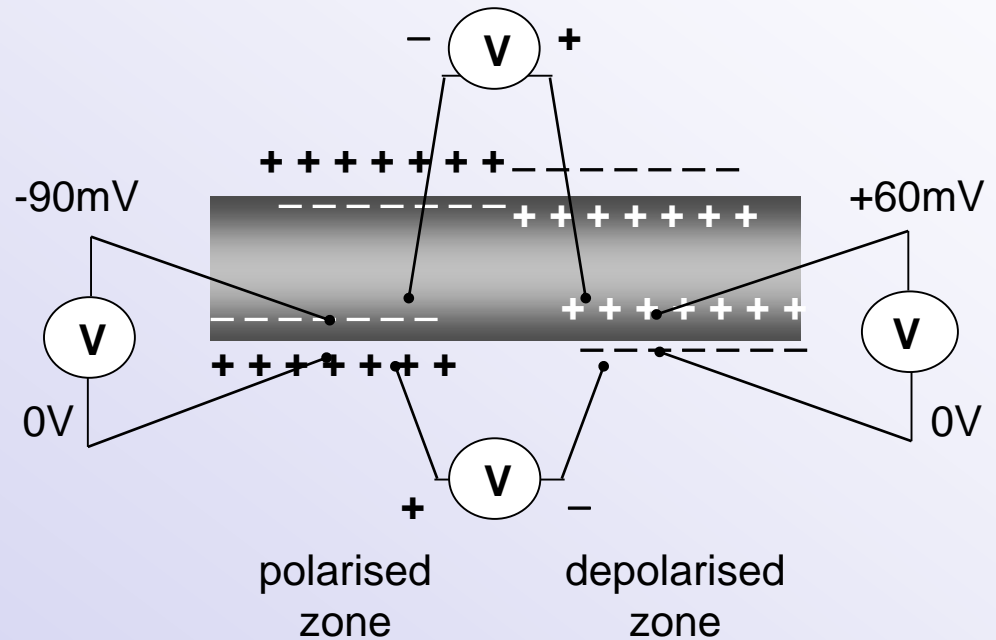
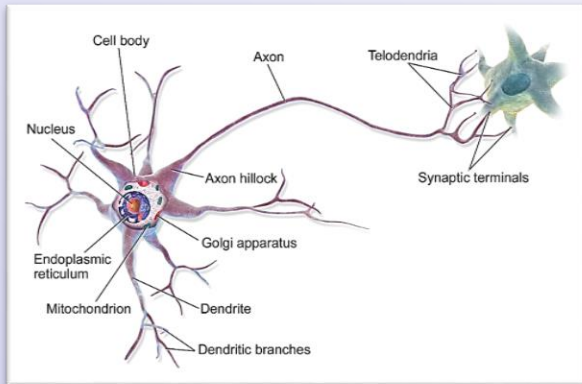
variation with time at a single point

Same amplitude always for a particular cell type

Yes or No → Hence Digital (binary)

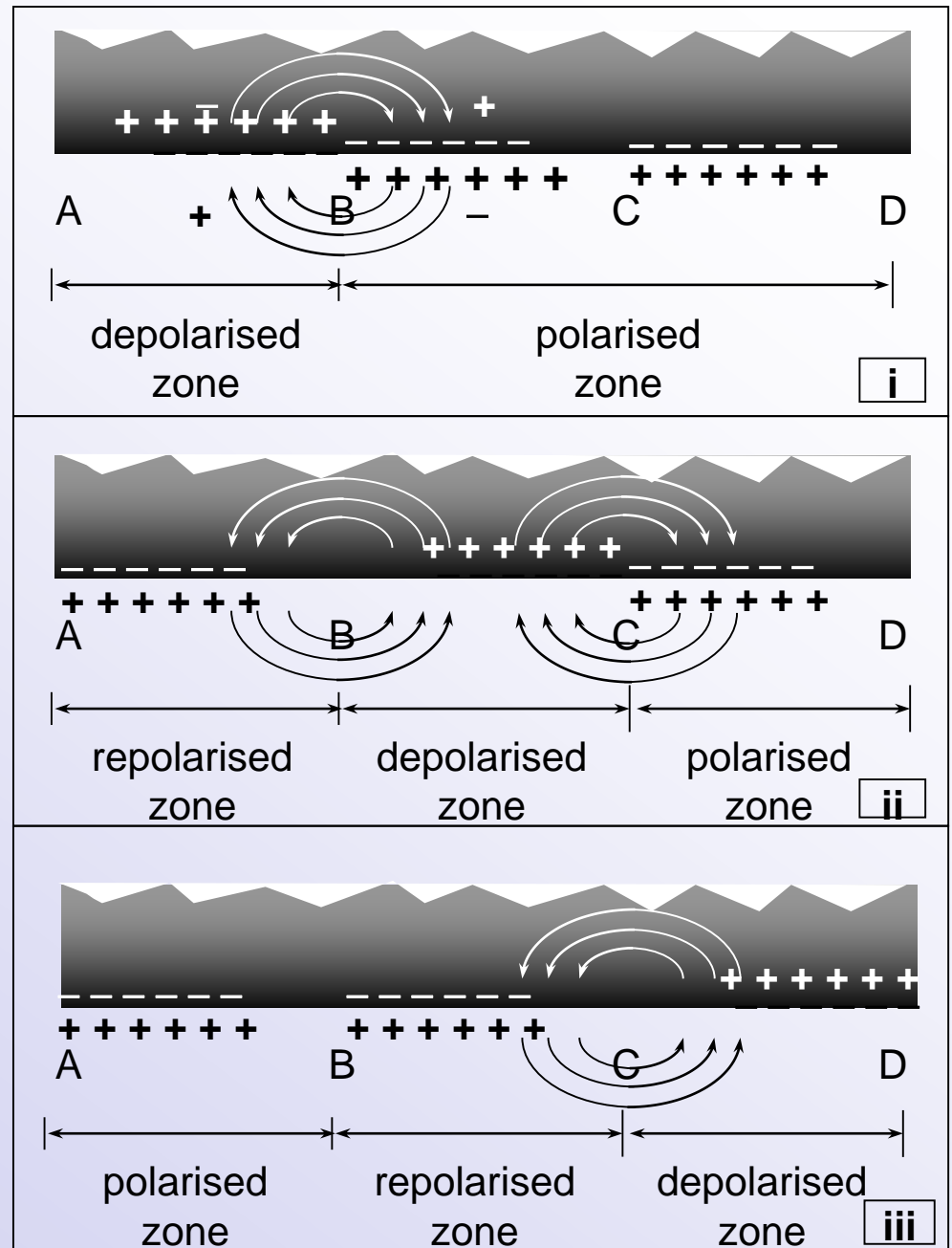


Potentials between adjacent polarized and depolarized zones

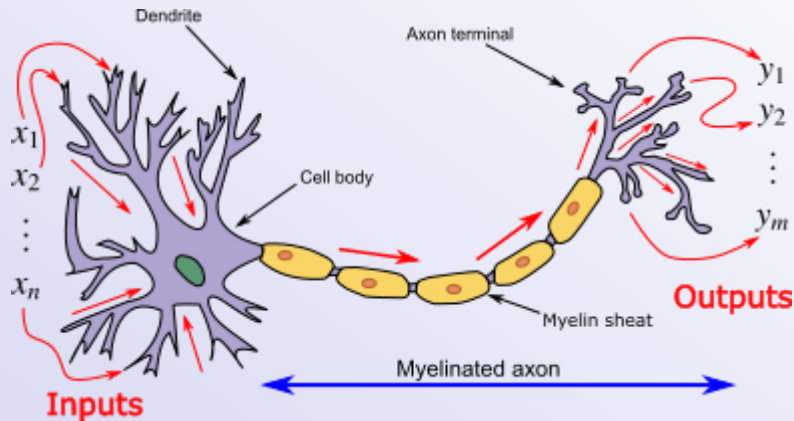


Propagation of action potential (from left end)

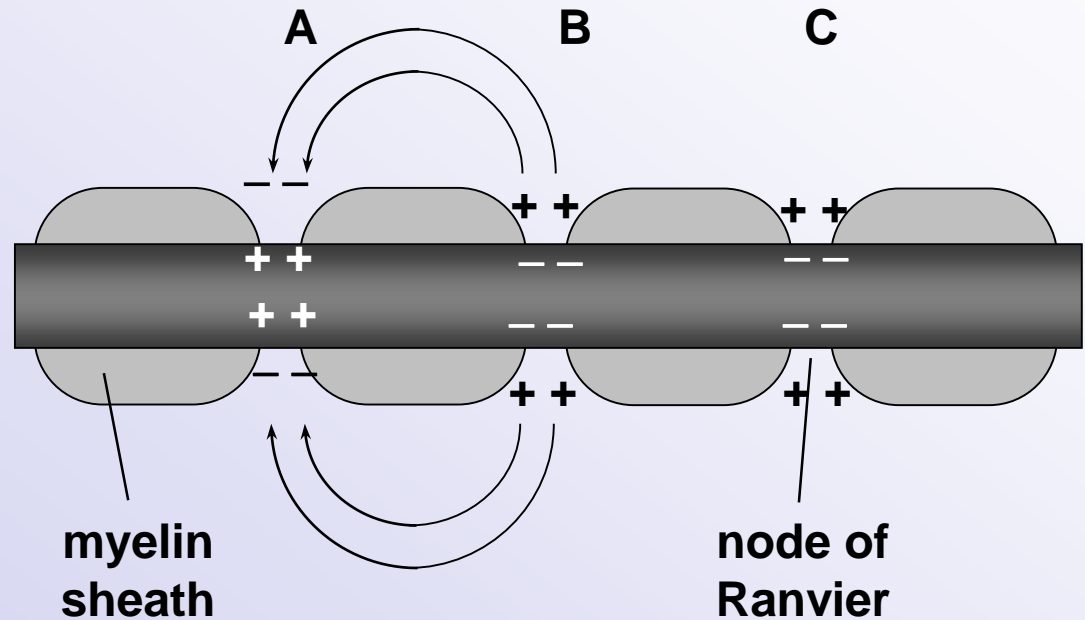
- External and internal current
- Charge transfer and reversal of membrane potential in resting zone
- Formation of adjacent depolarised zone
- Process repeats



Speeding up: Myelinated axons



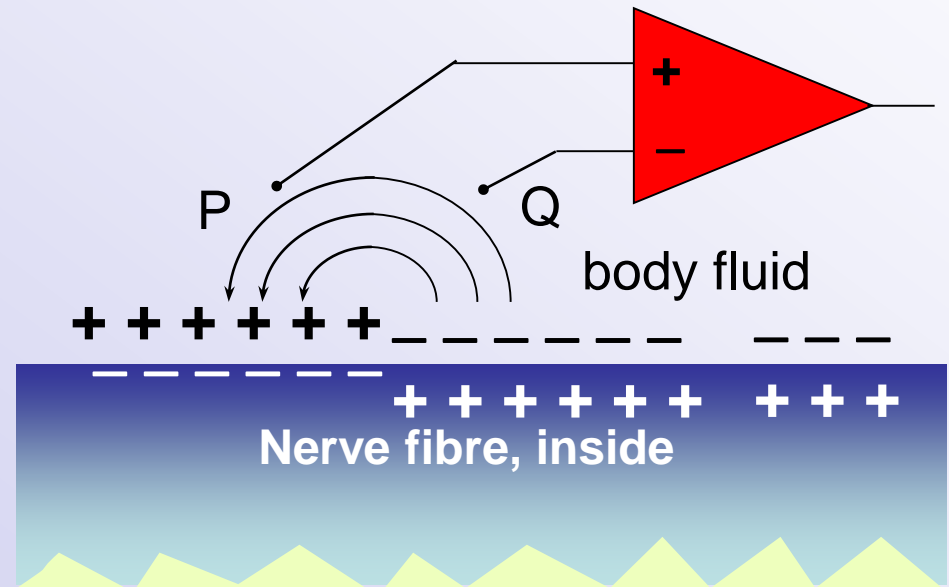
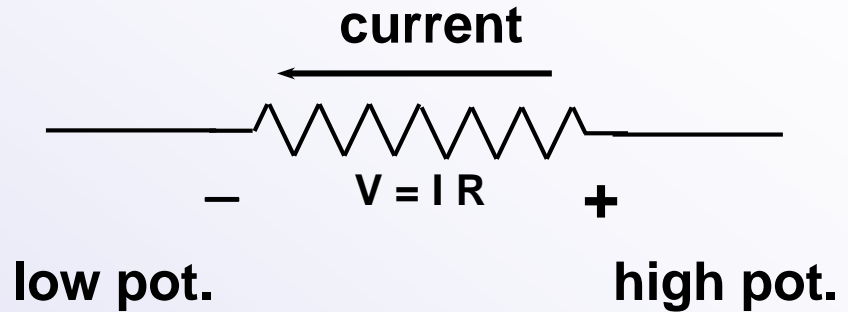
- External and internal current jumps from node to node
- Charge transfer proceeds along length much faster



Biopotential measurement, basic ideas

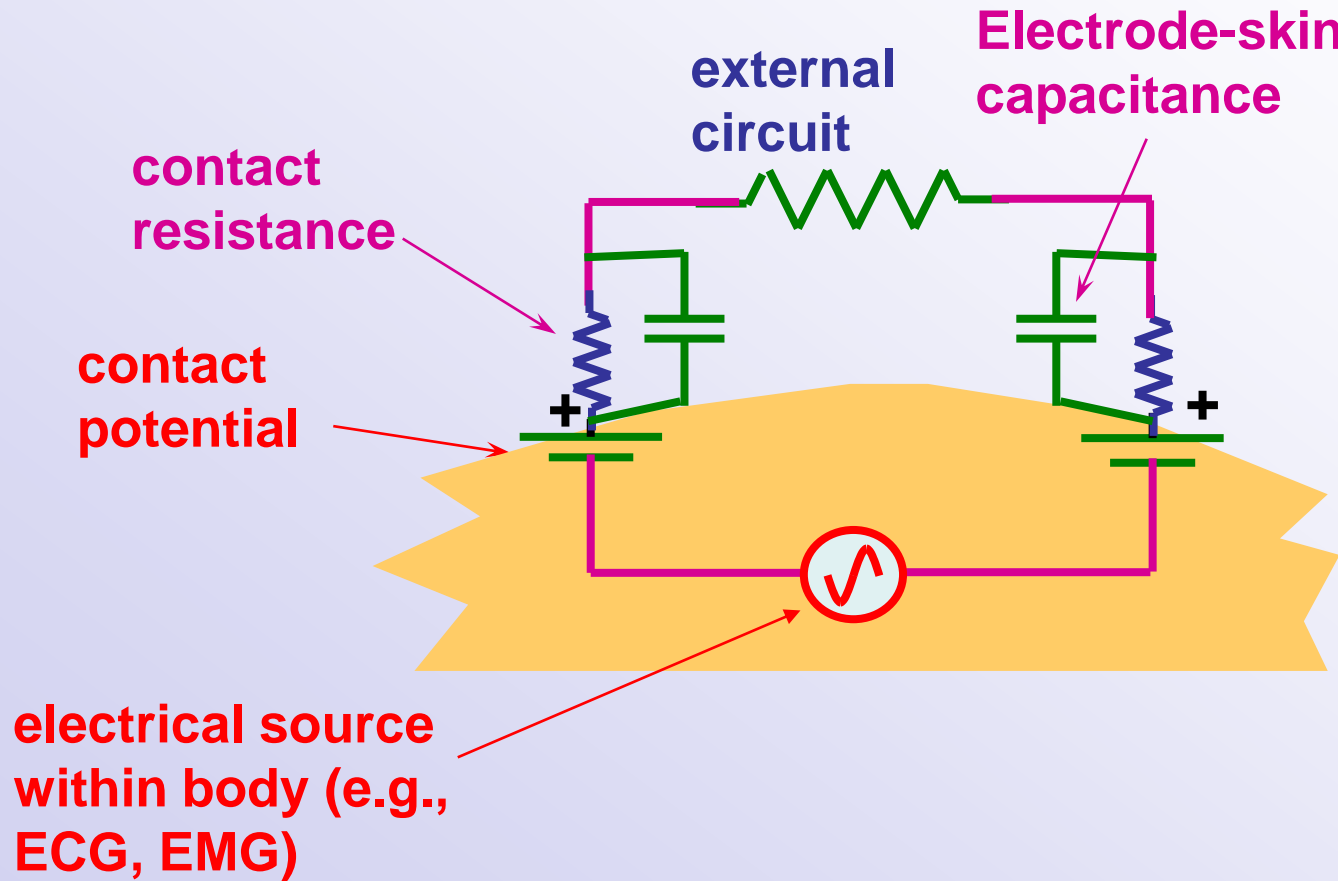
Current through resistance creates potential drop across R

$$V = IR$$

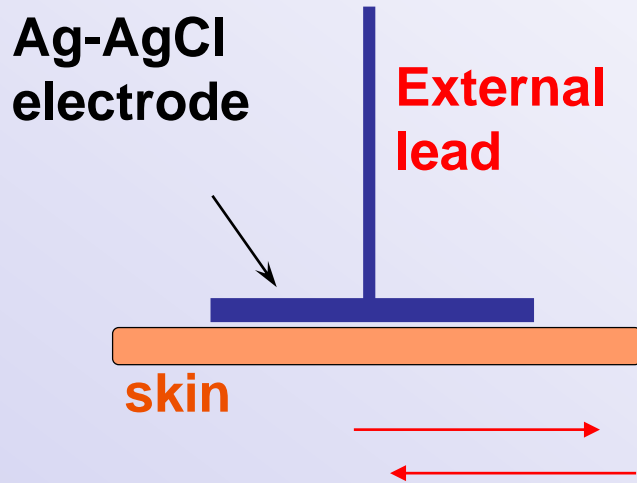


Biopotential measurement, basic ideas

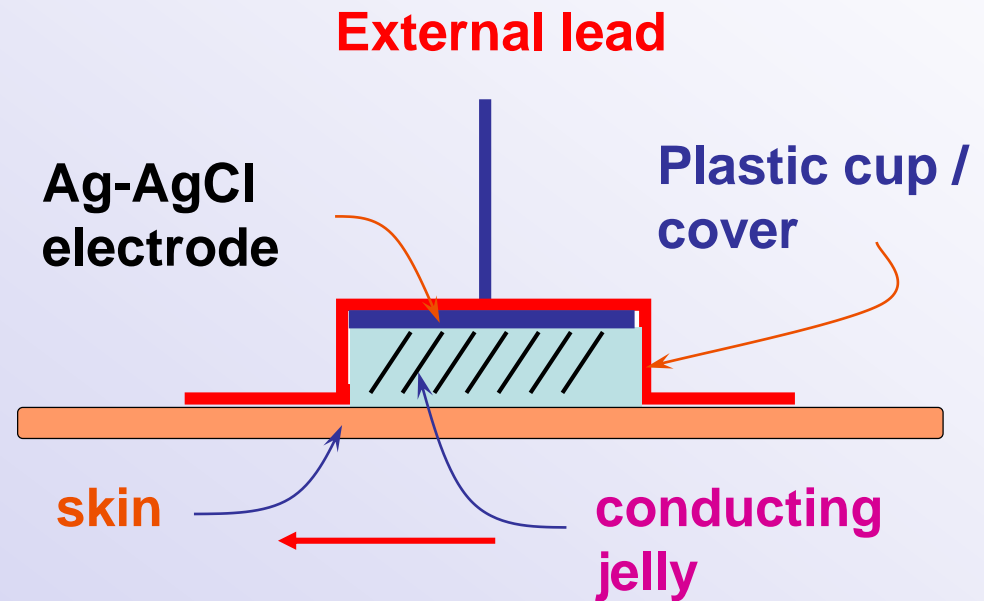
Skin Electrode Interface



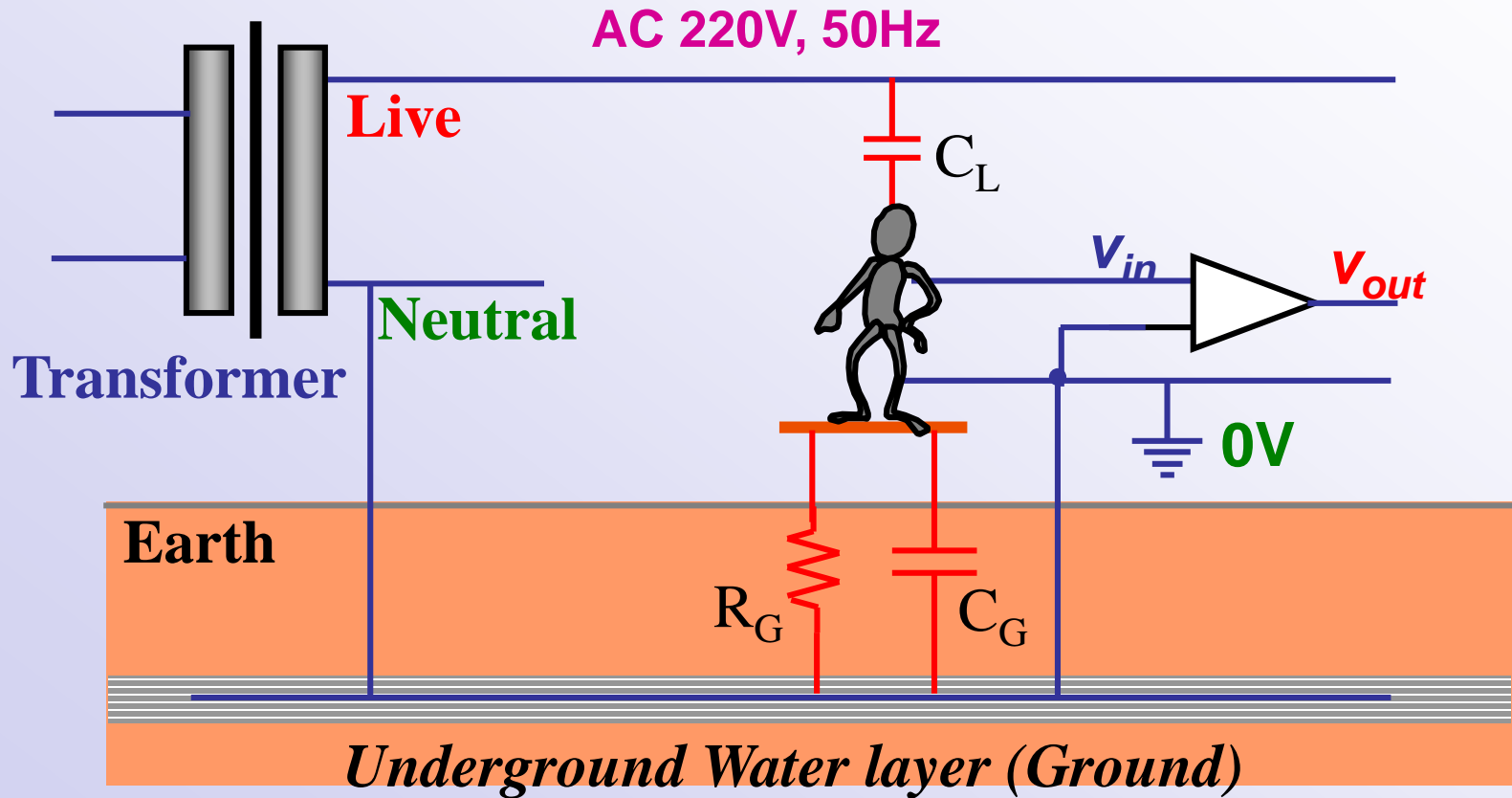
Motion artifact and elimination



Solution:
Floating electrodes

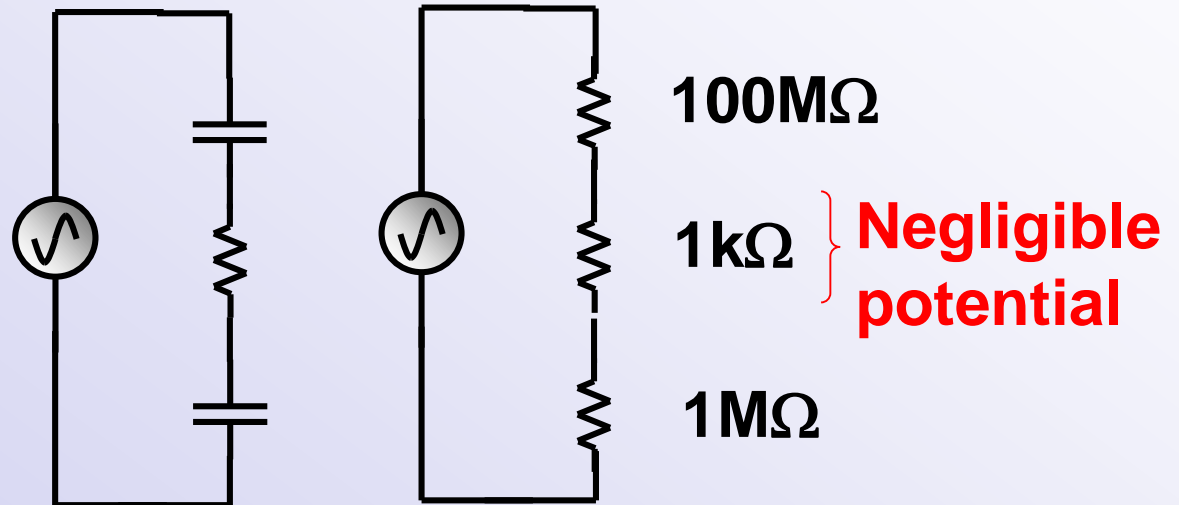
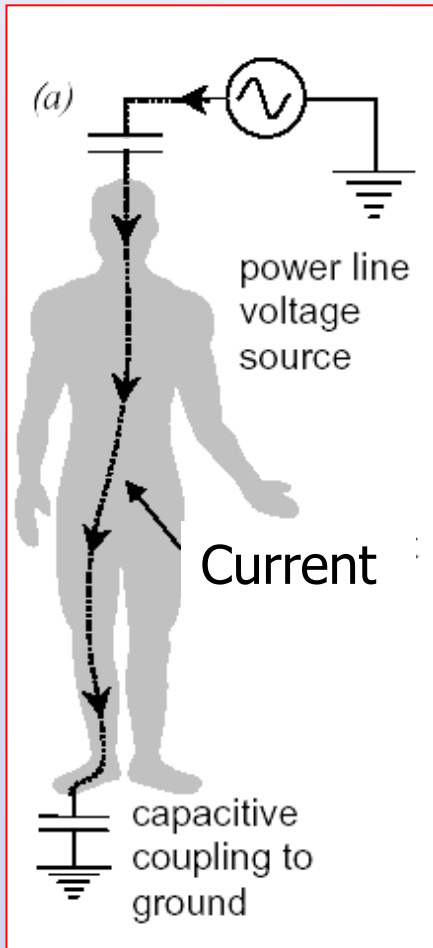


Source of 50Hz noise

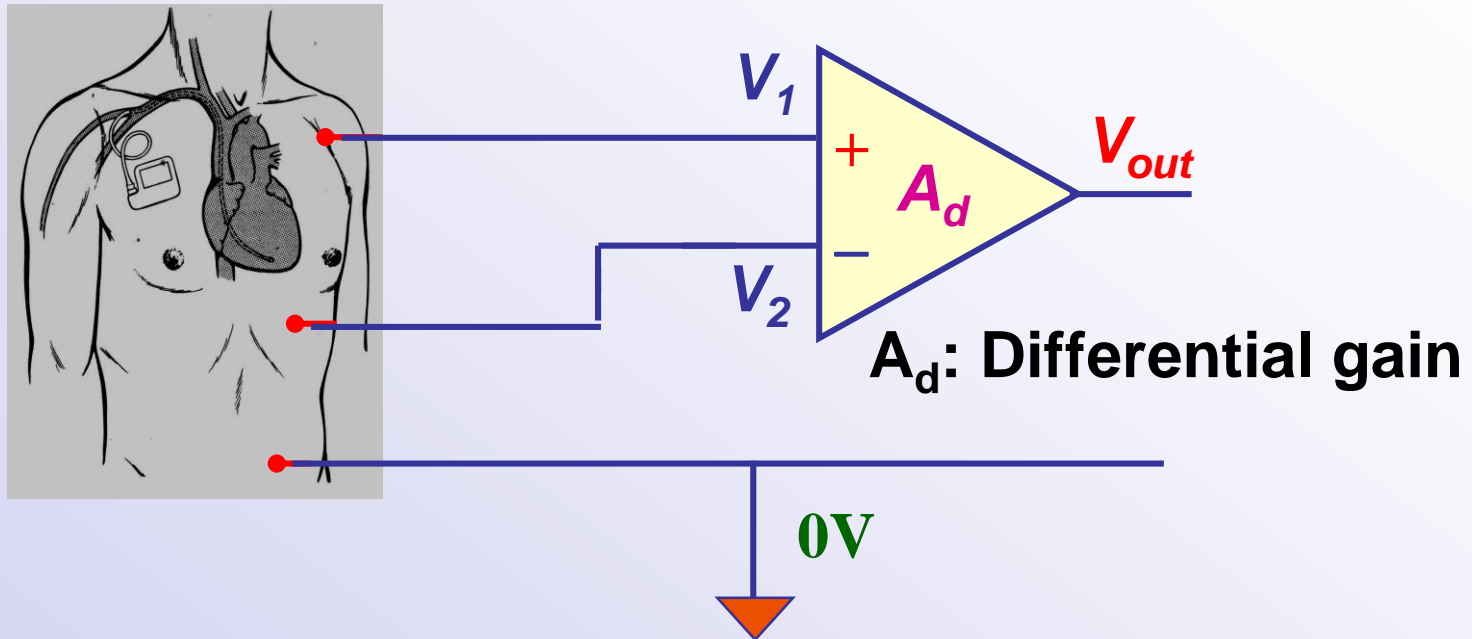


Neurophysiological measurement, basic ideas

**Line frequency noise:
the same all over the body
: **Common Mode Noise****



Differential amplifier can eliminate common mode noise



$$V_1 = \text{CM noise} + \text{ECG}$$

$$V_2 = \text{CM noise}$$

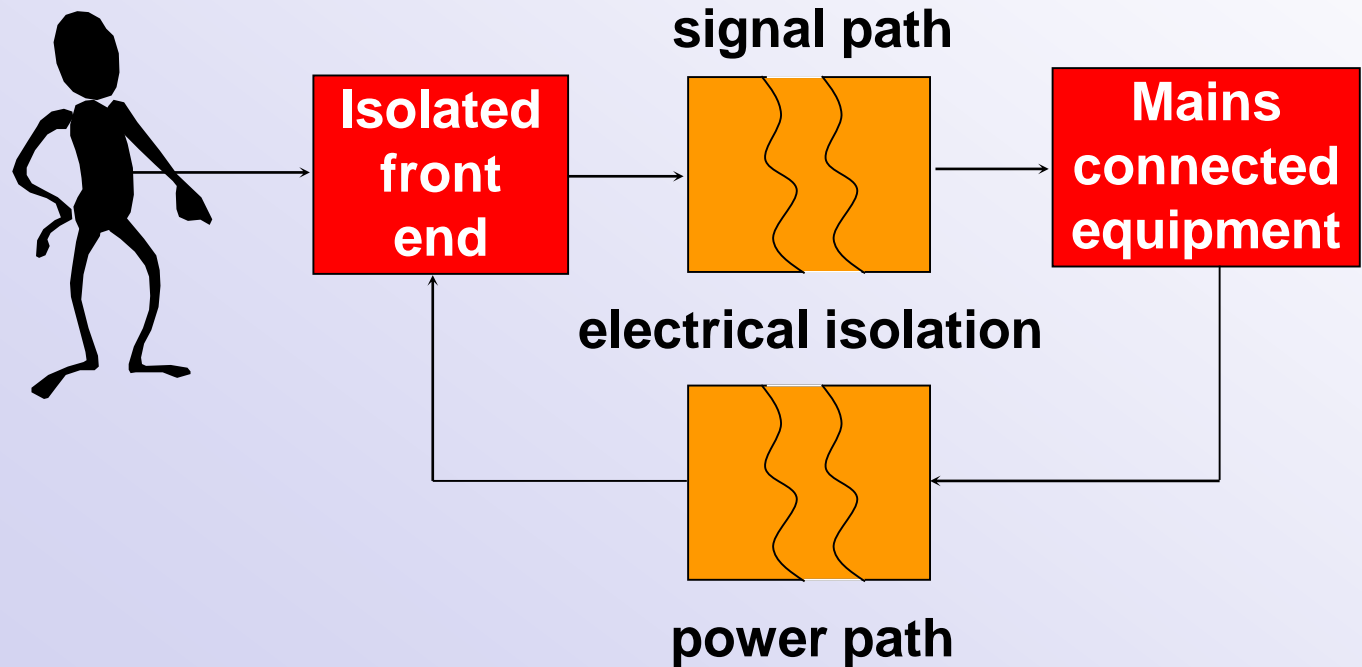
$$V_{out} = A_d (V_1 - V_2) = A_d \cdot \text{ECG}$$

Patient Safety, Electrical isolation

Normal shock hazard : 75mA
(Skin surface contact)

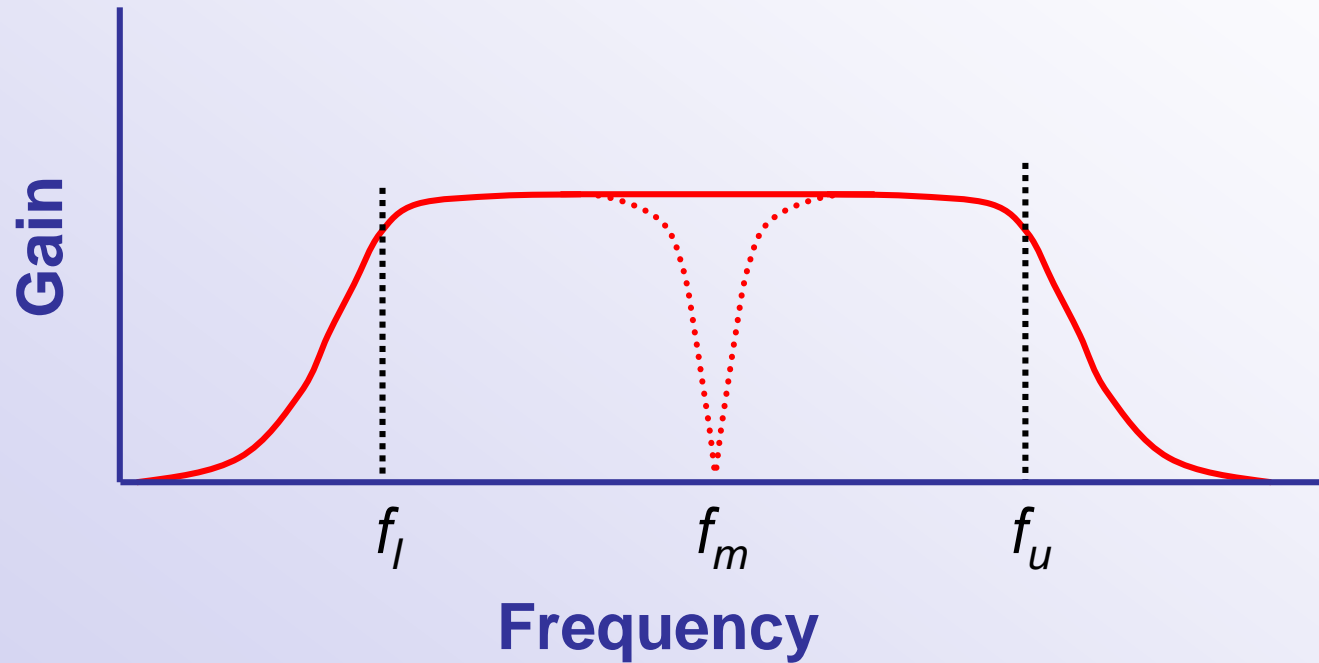
Microshock hazard : 50mA
For electrode direct to heart

Normal transformers not adequate



Frequency filtering

Gain and Phase considerations



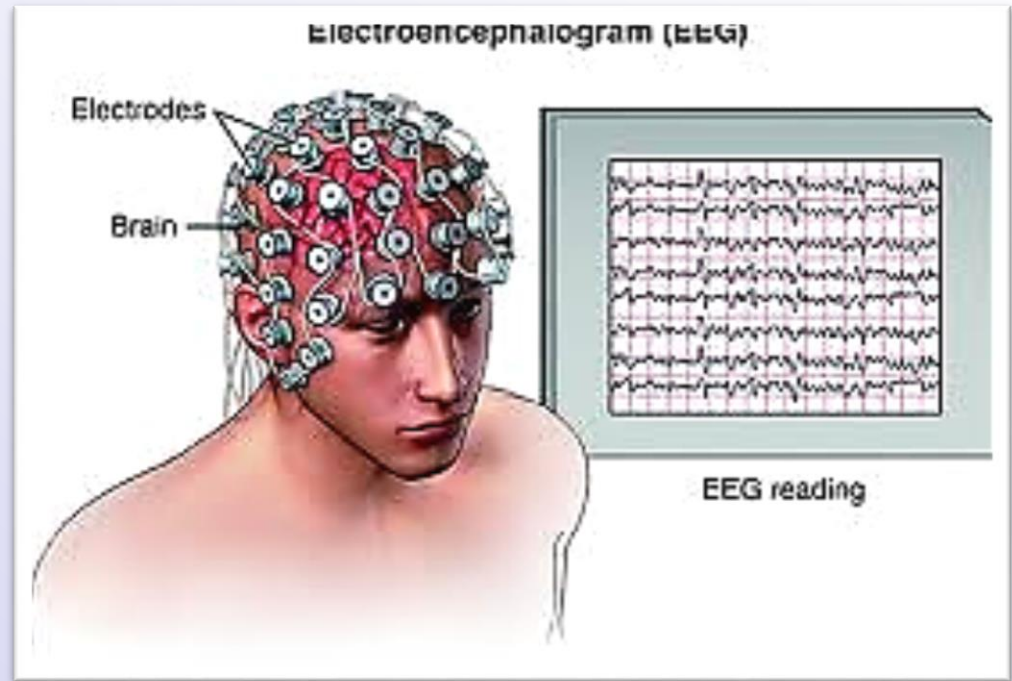
Evoked Response system, developed by author in Bangladesh in 1988

With expertise gained through a link with Sheffield, UK

Still working,
PC, interface circuitry,
software have been changed



Electro Encephalography, basics-1



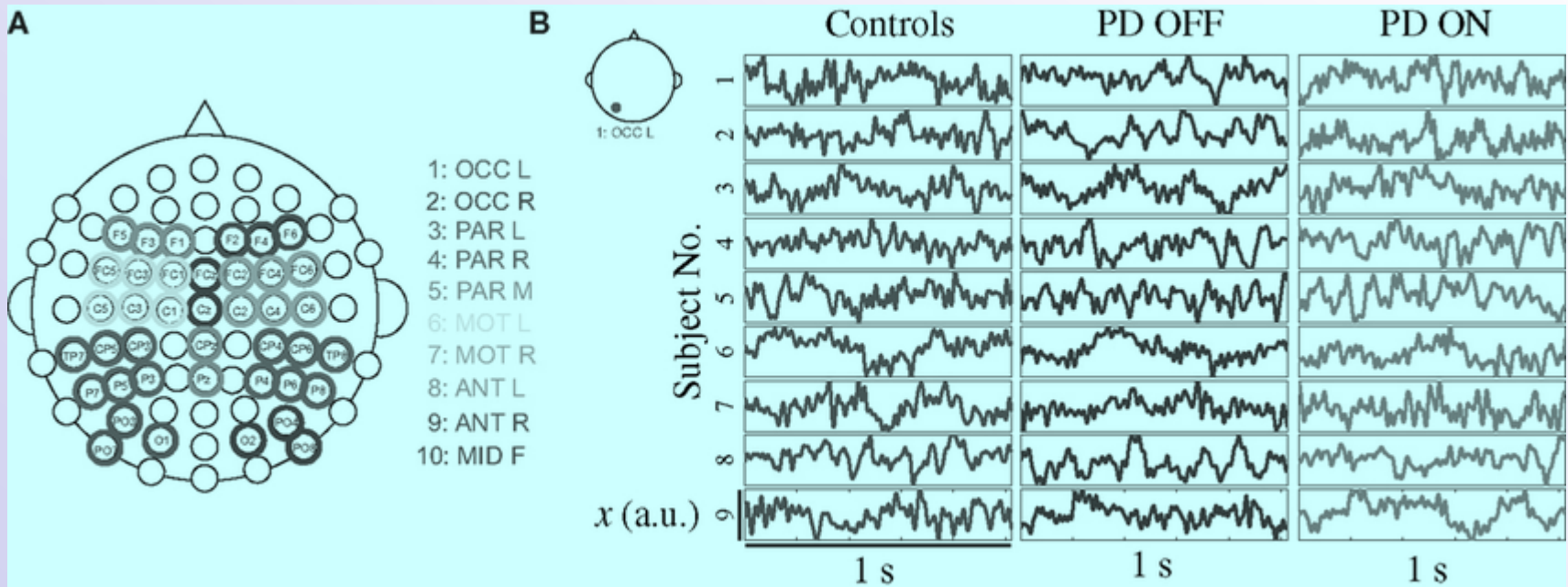
Electro Encephalography, Electrode connections



Electro Encephalogram (EEG)

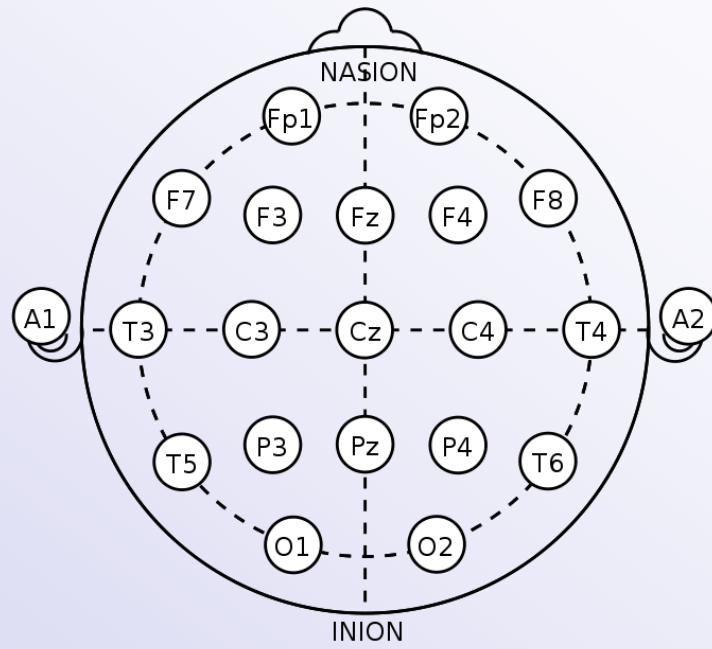
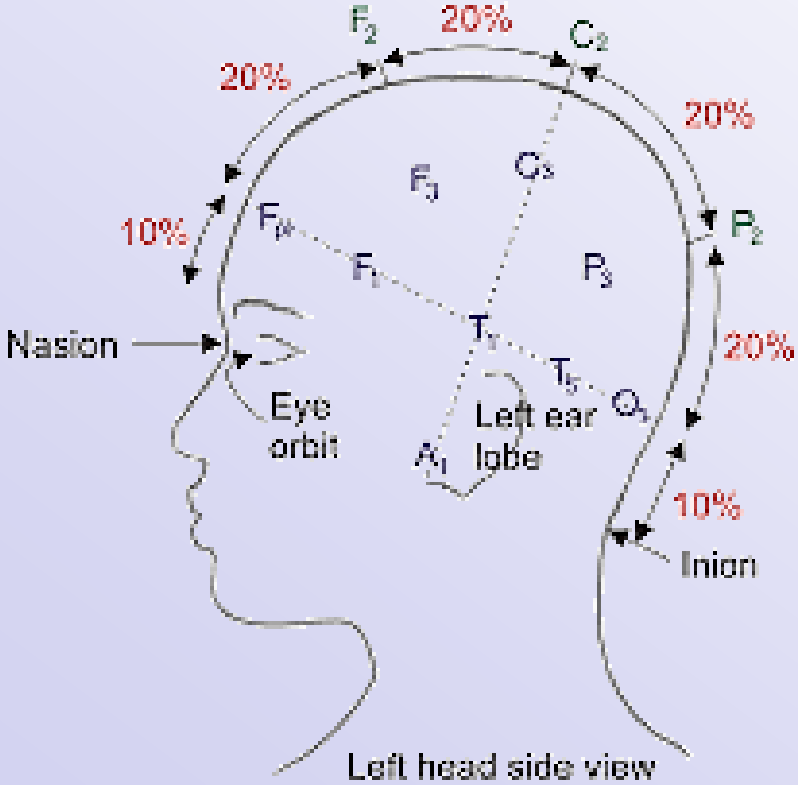
Effect of locations, subject's condition, pathologies

Based on empirical observations over many years



Electro Encephalogram (EEG)

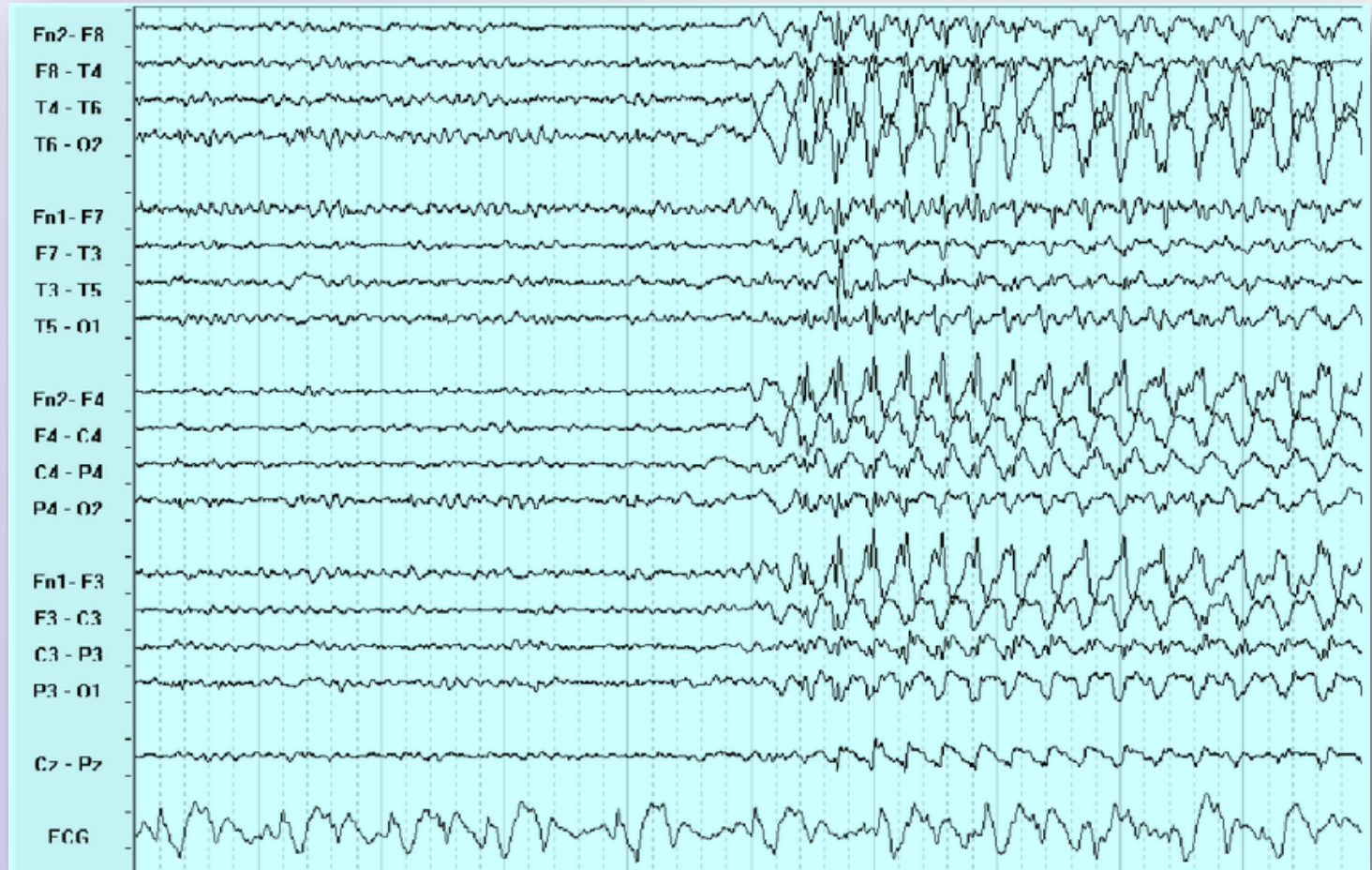
Standardised Electrode placement



Electro Encephalogram (EEG)

Standardised Electrode placement

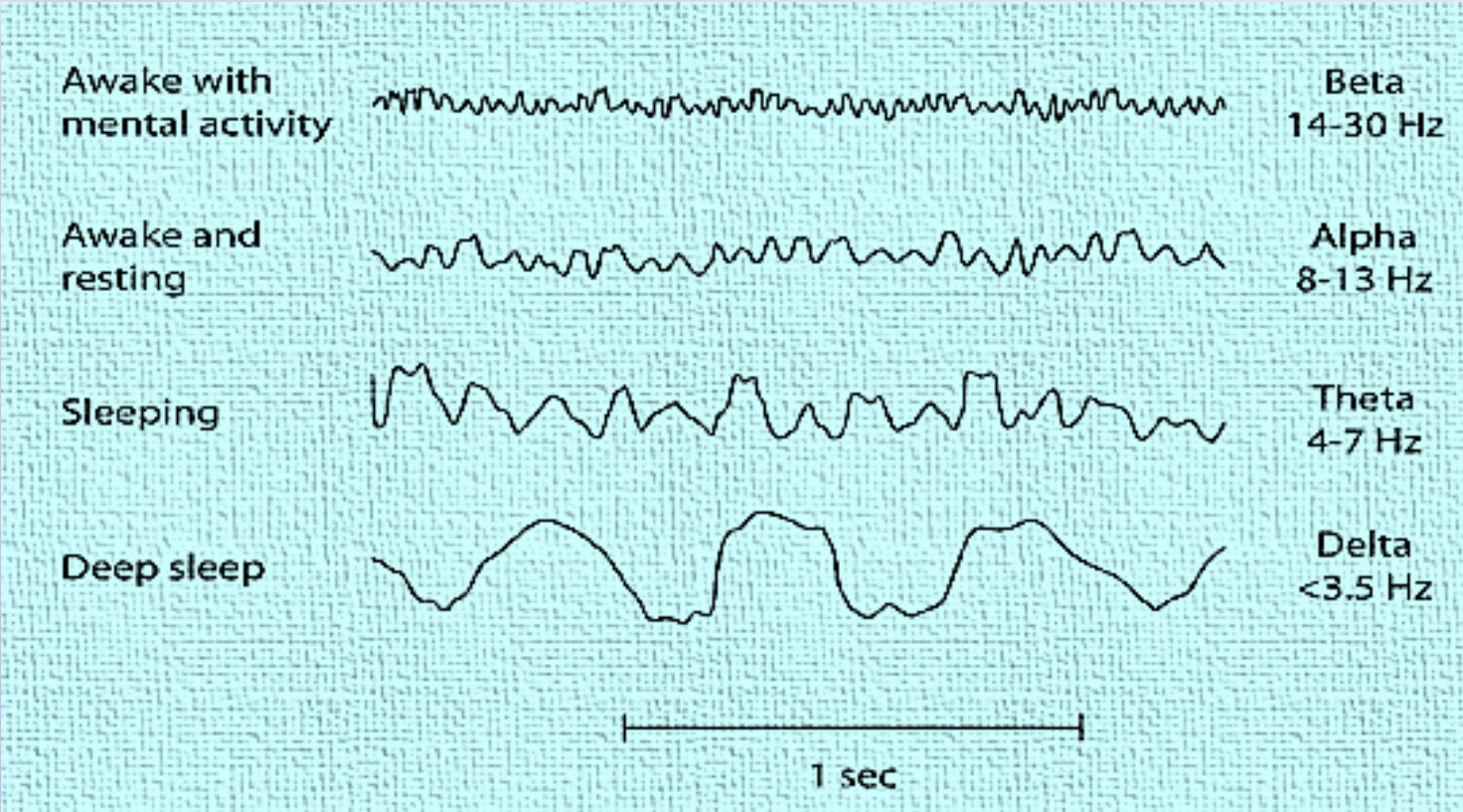
interference of billions of neuronal impulses



Electro Encephalogram (EEG)

Subject conditions

EEG Frequency bands



Thank You