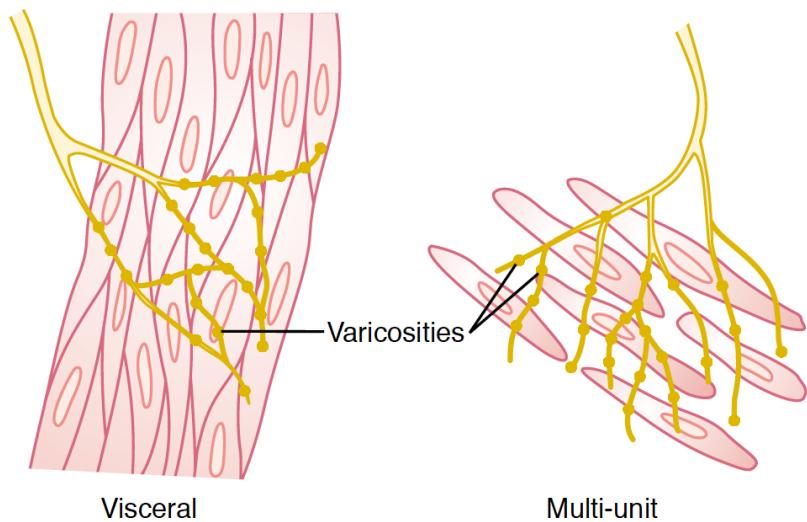


# Impulse Propagation

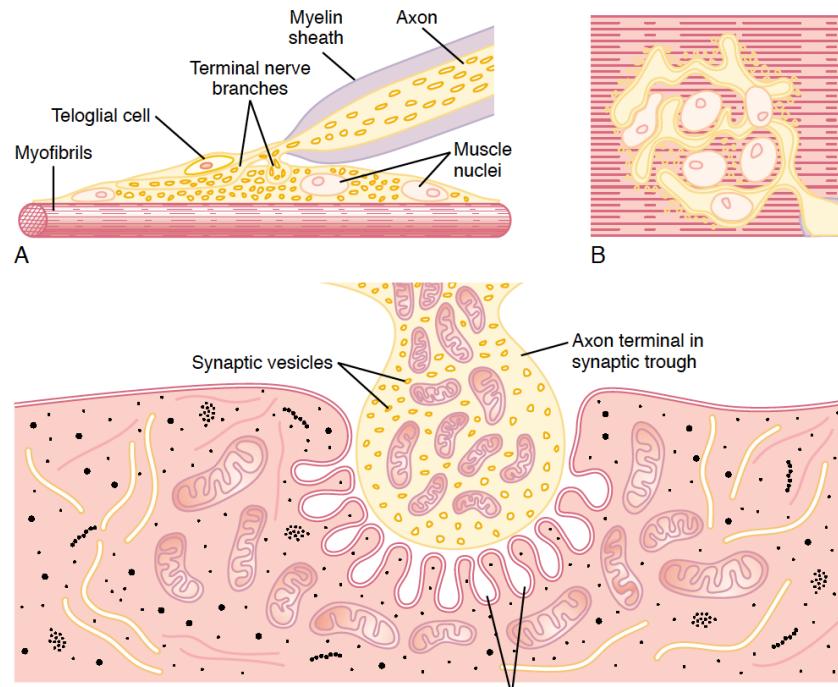
Bioeng 6460  
Electrophysiology and Bioelectricity  
Derek Dosdall  
[Derek.Dosdall@carma.utah.edu](mailto:Derek.Dosdall@carma.utah.edu)

# Activation Spread by Tissue Type

- Smooth muscle

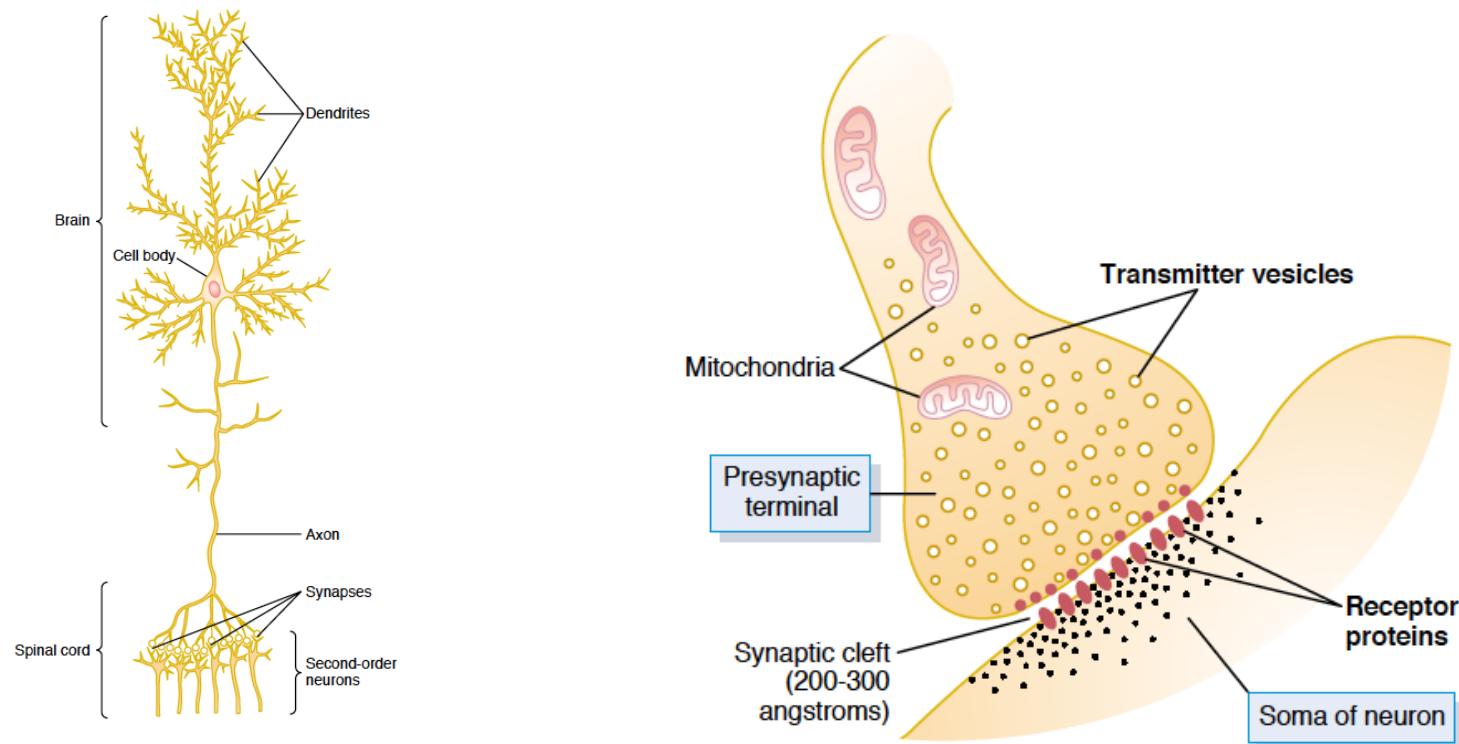


- Skeletal muscle



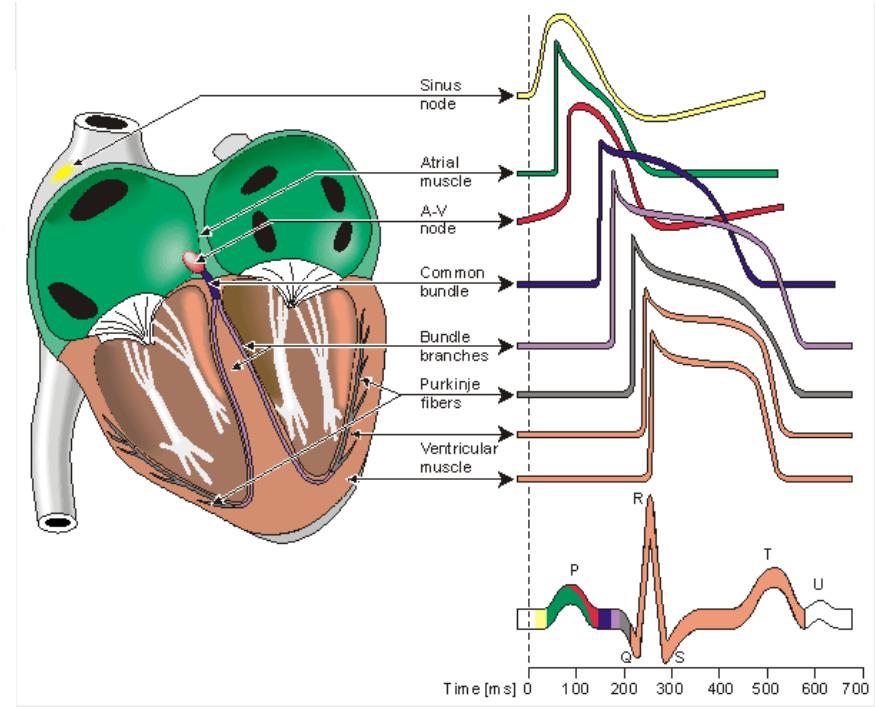
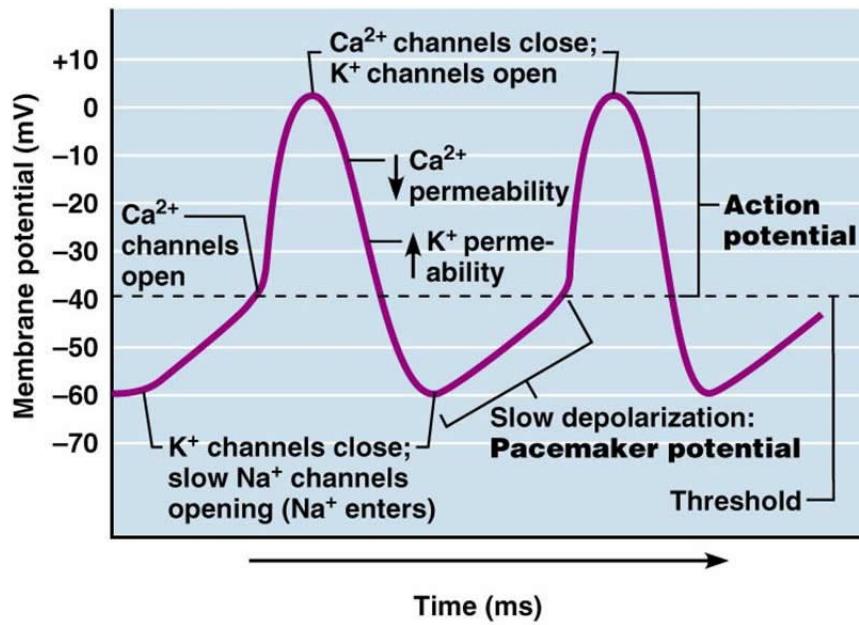
# Tissue Types Continued

- Neuron to neuron conduction

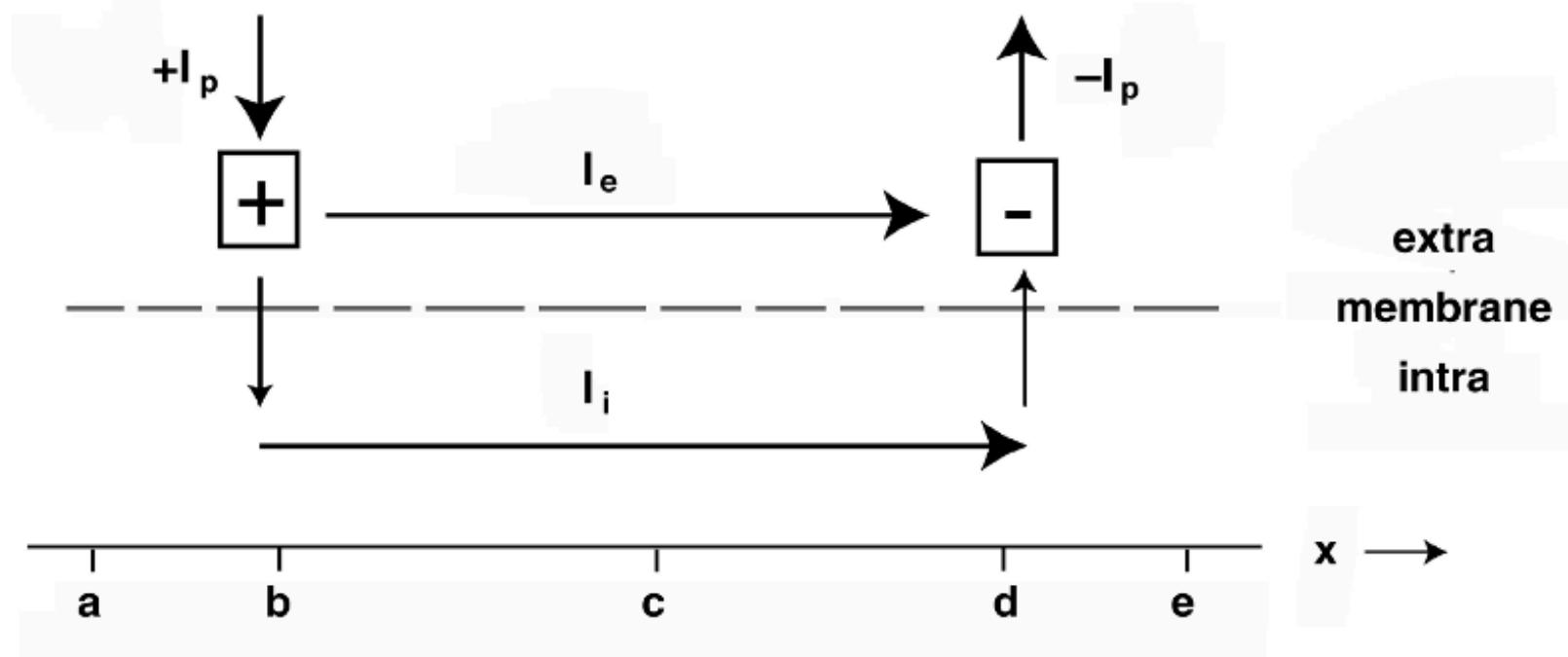


# Tissue Types Continued

- Cardiac



# Electrical Stimulation

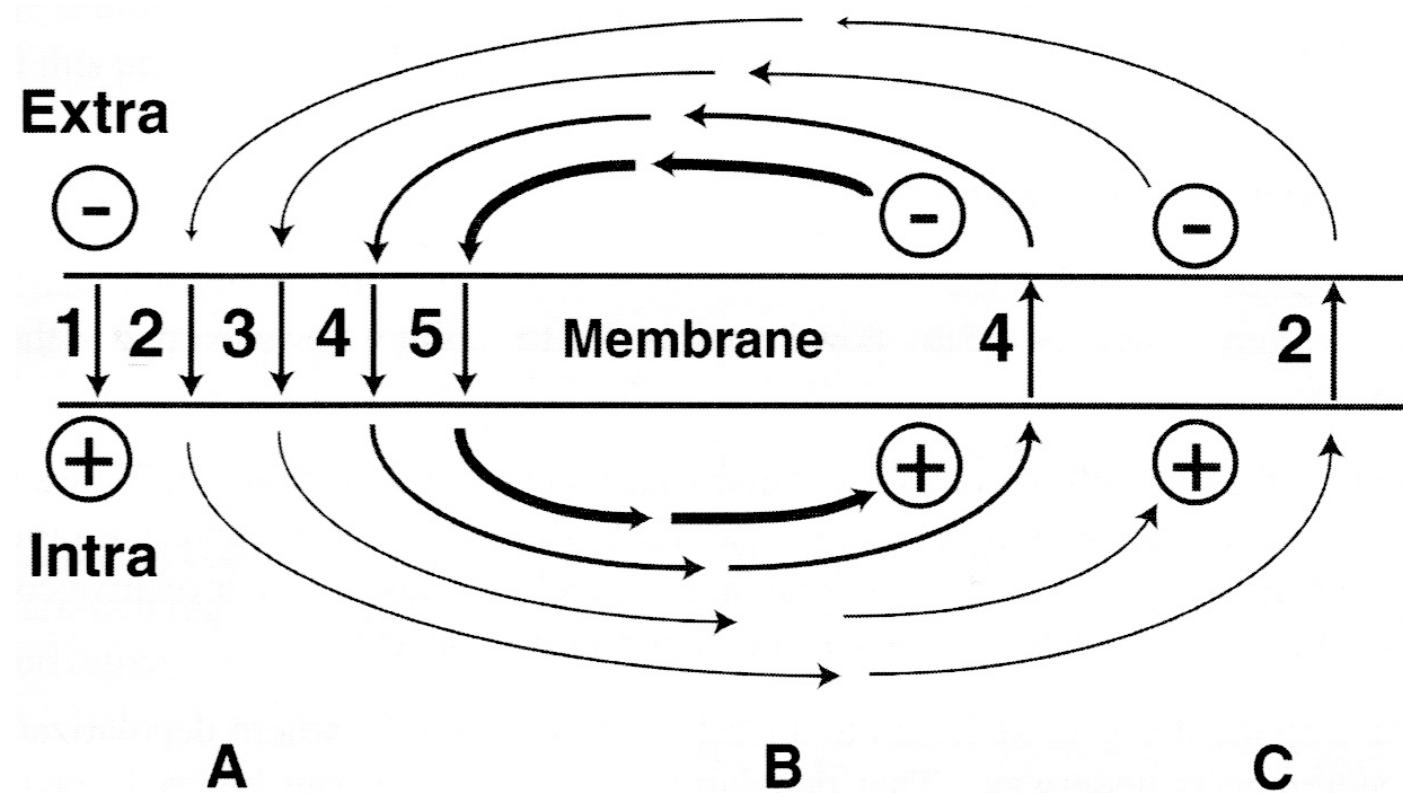


$$I \text{ at } a \text{ and } e = 0$$

$$I_m \text{ at } b = -I_m \text{ at } d$$

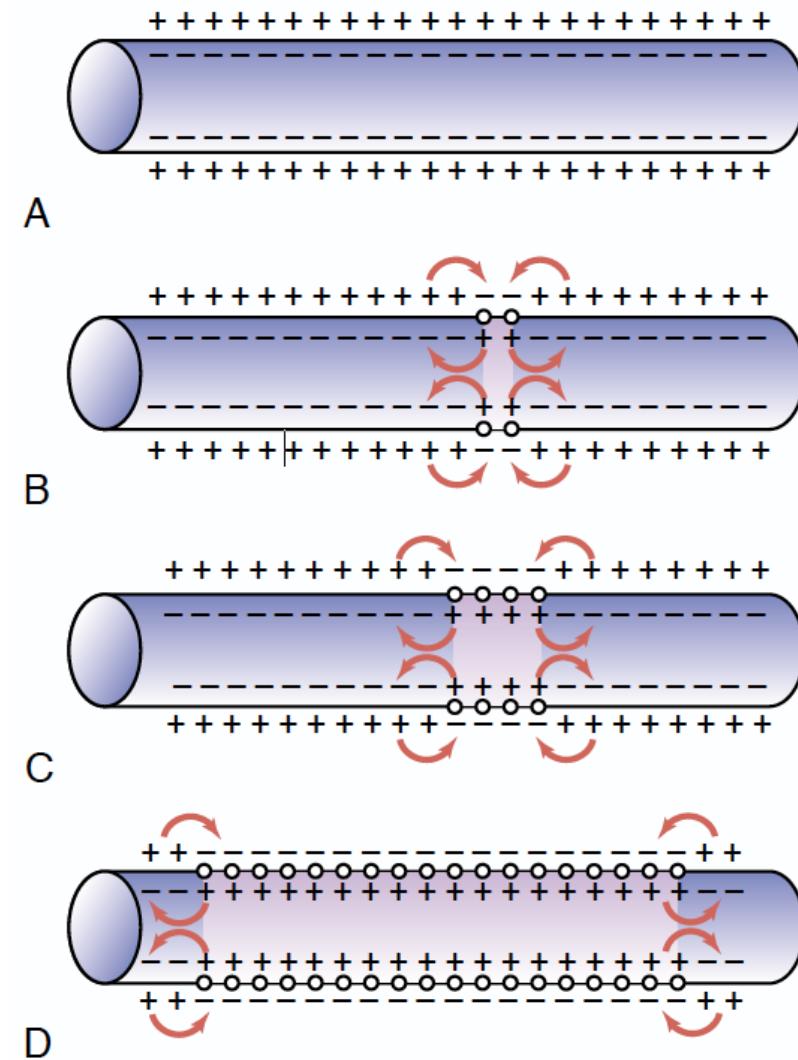
$$I_m \text{ at } c = 0$$

# After activation starts...



# $I_i$ causes propagation

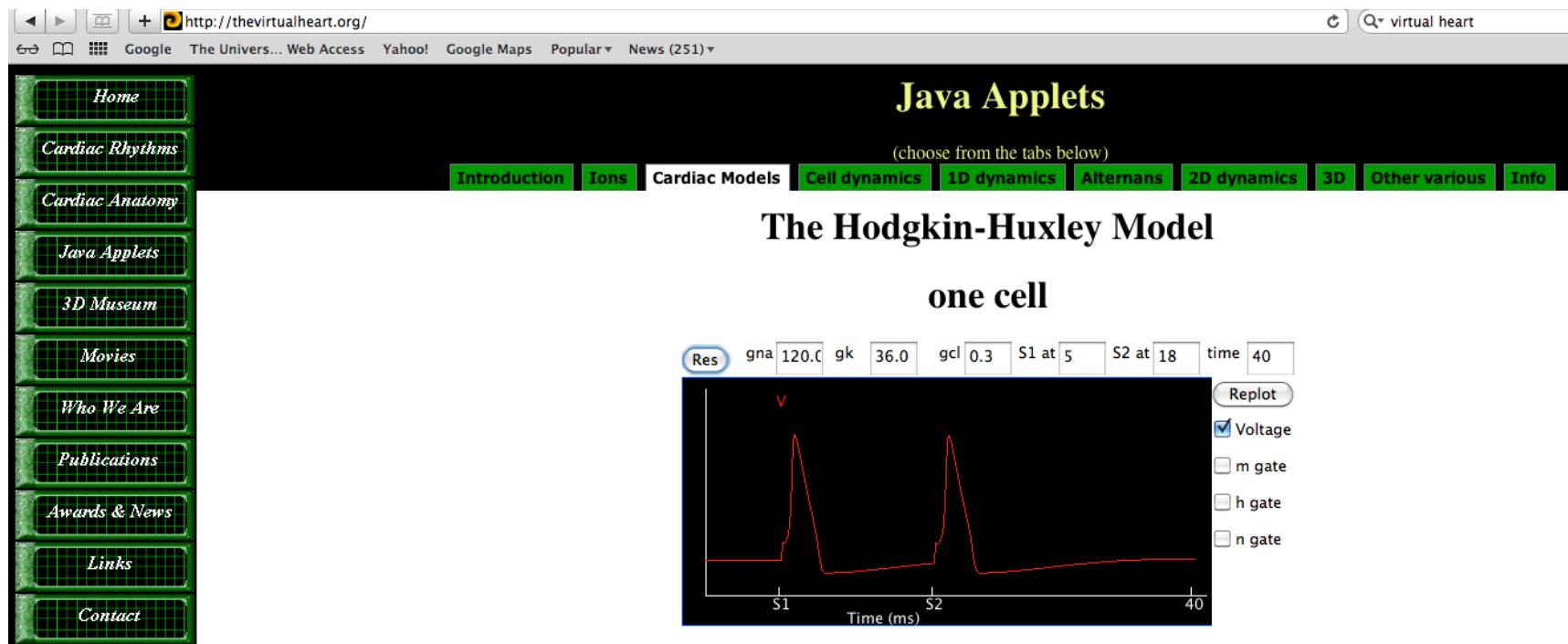
- One area of  $I_m$  causes adjacent Na channels to open
- Activation can spread in both directions



# Propagation Models

Thevirtualheart.org

Java scripts, modify ion conductance



# Relationship between $V_m$ and $I_i$

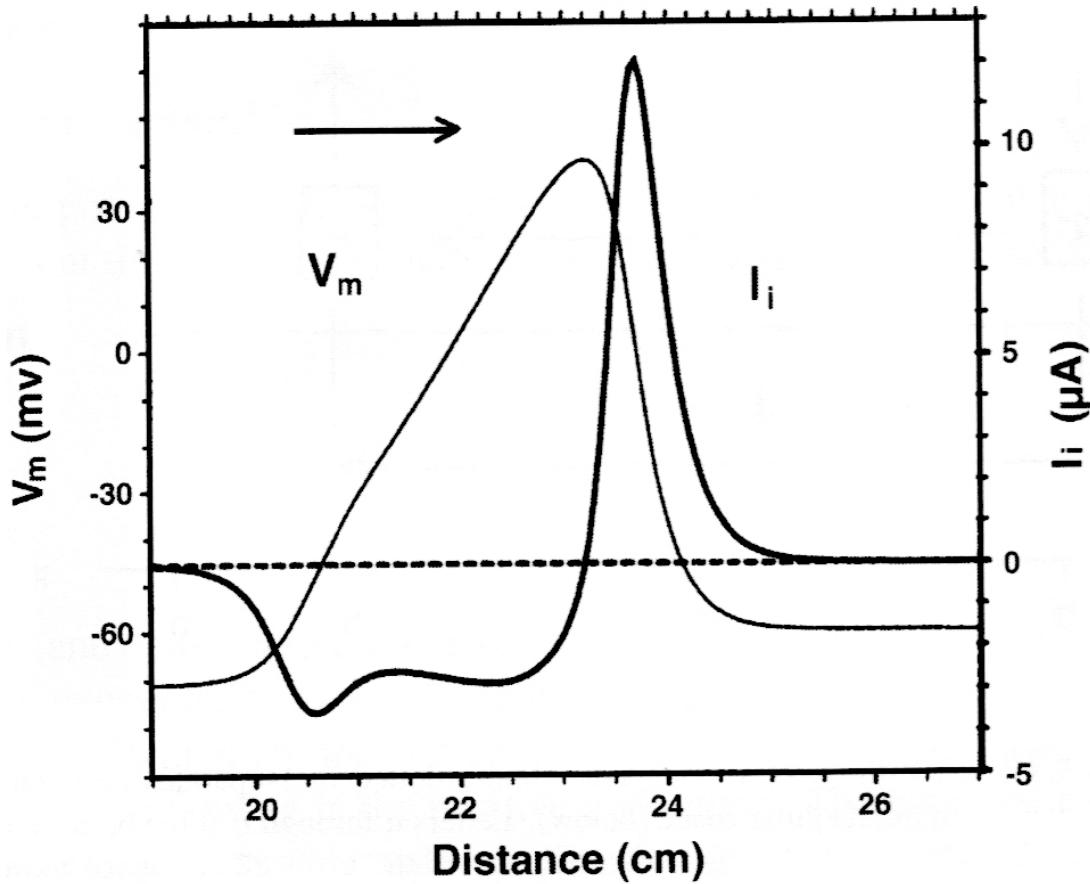
$$V_m \equiv \phi_i + \phi_e \quad \text{Taking the first spatial derivative...}$$

$$\frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \phi_i}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \phi_e}{\partial x} = -r_i I_i + r_e I_e$$

$$\frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x} = -r_i I_i + r_e (I - I_i) = -(r_i + r_e) I_i + I r_e$$

$$I_i = \frac{-1}{(r_i + r_e)} \left[ \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x} - I r_e \right]$$

# $V_m$ and $I_i$ (Fig 6.6)



$$I_i = \frac{-1}{(r_i + r_e)} \left[ \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x} - I r_e \right]$$

When  $I=0$  (no stimulation)  $I_i \propto \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x}$

# Relationship between $V_m$ and $i_m$

$$\frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x} = -(r_i + r_e)I_i + Ir_e \quad \text{Take 2nd derivative}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2} = -(r_i + r_e)\frac{\partial I_i}{\partial x} + r_e \frac{\partial I}{\partial x}$$

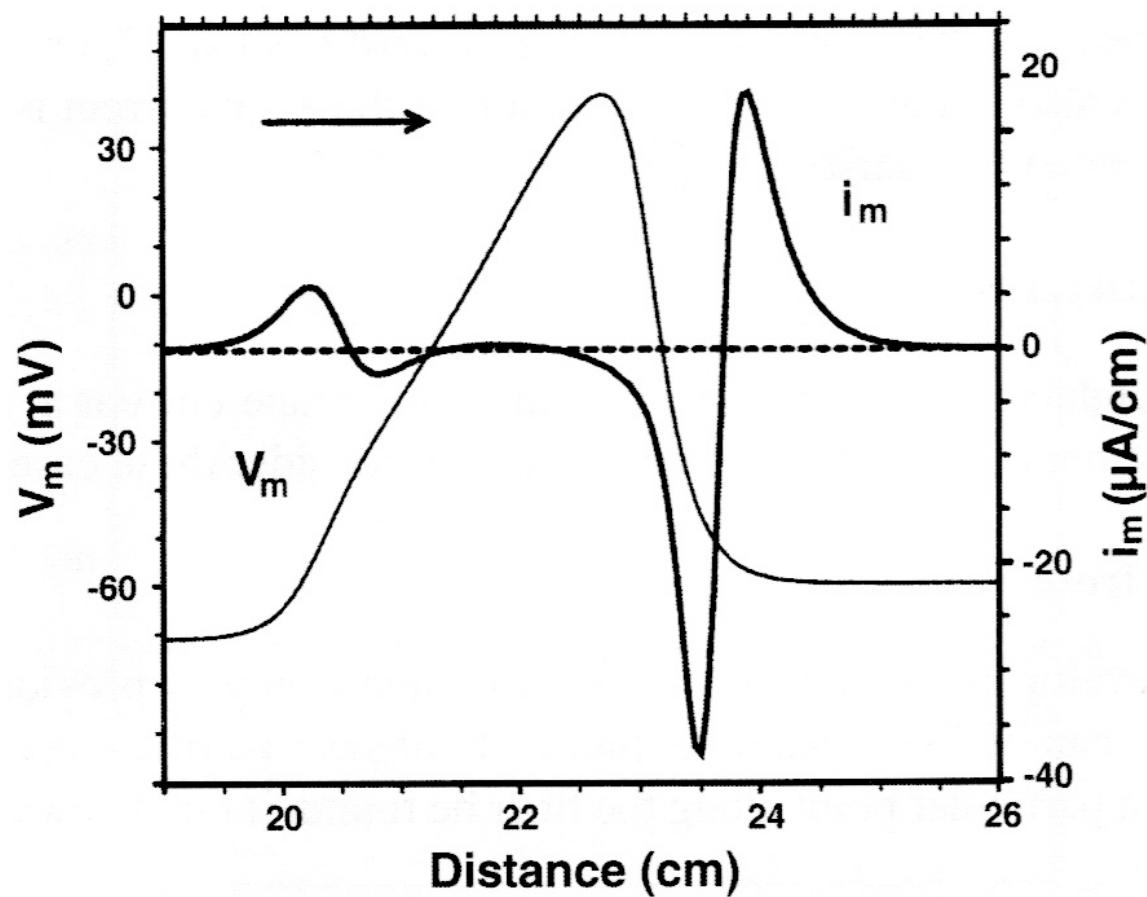
Remember that:

$$\frac{\partial I_i}{\partial x} = -i_m \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} = i_p \quad \text{So...}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2} = (r_i + r_e)i_m + r_e i_p$$

$$i_m = \frac{1}{(r_i + r_e)} \left( \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2} - r_e i_p \right)$$

# $V_m$ and $i_m$



$$i_m = \frac{1}{(r_i + r_e)} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2} - r_e i_p \right] \quad \text{If } i_p = 0 \text{ (no stimulation)} \quad i_m \propto \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2}$$

# Conduction Velocity

Hodgkin and Huxley found that:

$$\theta \propto \sqrt{a}$$

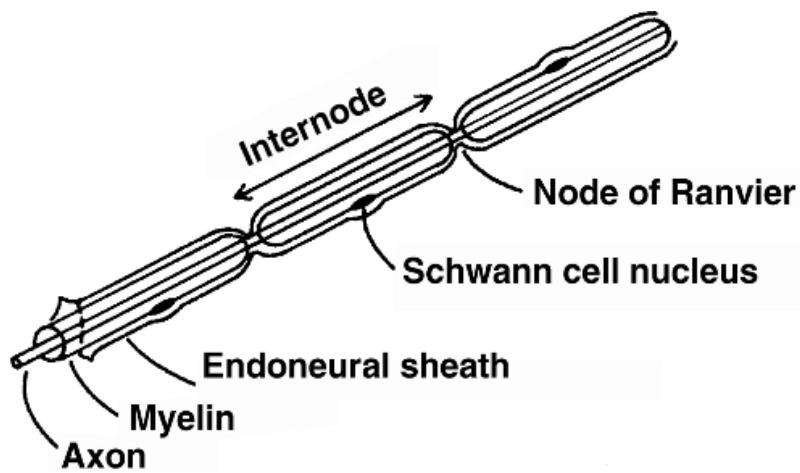
And

$$\theta \approx \sqrt{d}$$

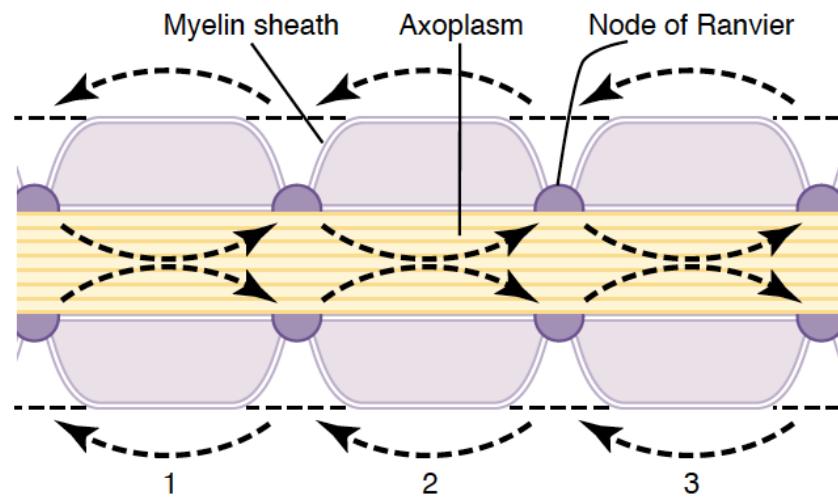
Where  $d$  is fiber diameter in  $\mu\text{m}$  and  $\theta$  is m/s

# Myelination

- Myelinated axon



- Saltatory conduction



$$\theta \approx 6 \times D$$