



Laboratori Nazionali del Gran Sasso



Le frontiere e i confini della scienza

Il Metodo Scientifico nelle Scienze della Natura. Un'applicazione alla Fisiologia

SCOPERTA E RISCOPERTA DELLA ECCITABILITA' ELETTRICA ANIMALE

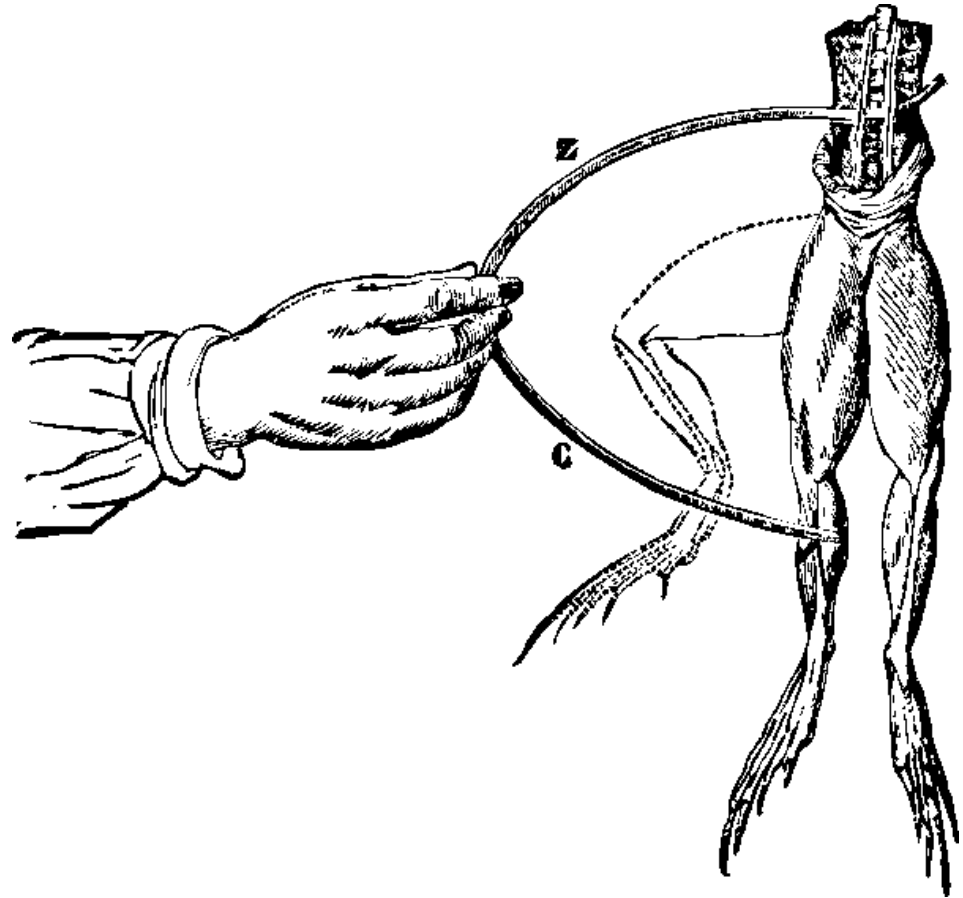
Massimiliano Zaniboni

(Dipartimento di Bioscienze, Università degli Studi di Parma)



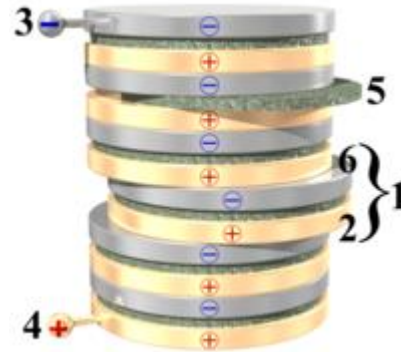
Luigi Galvani (1737-1798)

“vis electrica” interna





Alessandro Volta (1745-1827)



“vis electrica” esterna



Rane, torpedini e scintille. Galvani, Volta e l'elettricità animale

Marco Piccolino, Marco Bresadola

Bollati Boringhieri



I fluidi della vita. Alle origini della controversia sull'elettricità animale.

Walter Bernardi

Olschki Editore



La rana ambigua

Marcello Pera

Einaudi

Creative Education
2012, Vol.3, Special Issue, 1130-1137
Published Online October 2012 in SciRes (<http://www.SciRP.org/journal/ce>)

Scientific
Research
DOI:10.4236/ce.2012.326169

**A Computational View of the Historical Controversy on
Animal Electricity**

Massimiliano Zaniboni
Department of Biosciences, and Center of Excellence for Toxicological Research (CERT),
University of Parma, Parma, Italy
Email: massimiliano.zaniboni@unipr.it

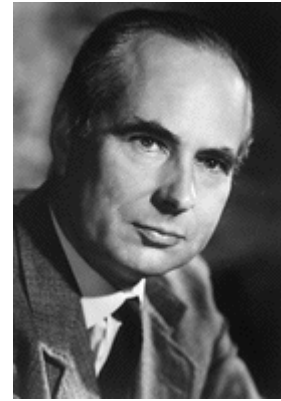


Alan Hodgkin
(1914-1998)

1932-1936. Studia a Cambridge **storia naturale, matematica e fisica** al Trinity College, frequentato allora, fra gli altri, da Thompson, Rutherford, Hardy, Adrian, che esercitano tutti una profonda influenza su di lui.

Studia la teoria del cavo e i primi amplificatori.

1937-1938. Al Rockefeller Institute di New York impara con Cole e Hole a dissezionare l'assone gigante del calamaro.



Andrew Huxley
(1917-2012)

1935. Studia **fisica, chimica e matematica** a Cambridge.

1938-39. Studia fisiologia sempre a Cambridge.

1939. Primi esperimenti con Hodgkin su registrazioni intracellulari da assone gigante di calamaro.

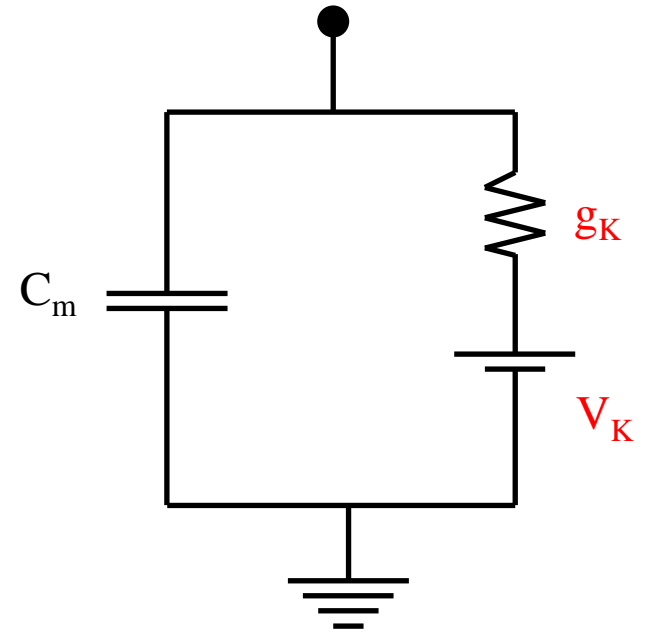
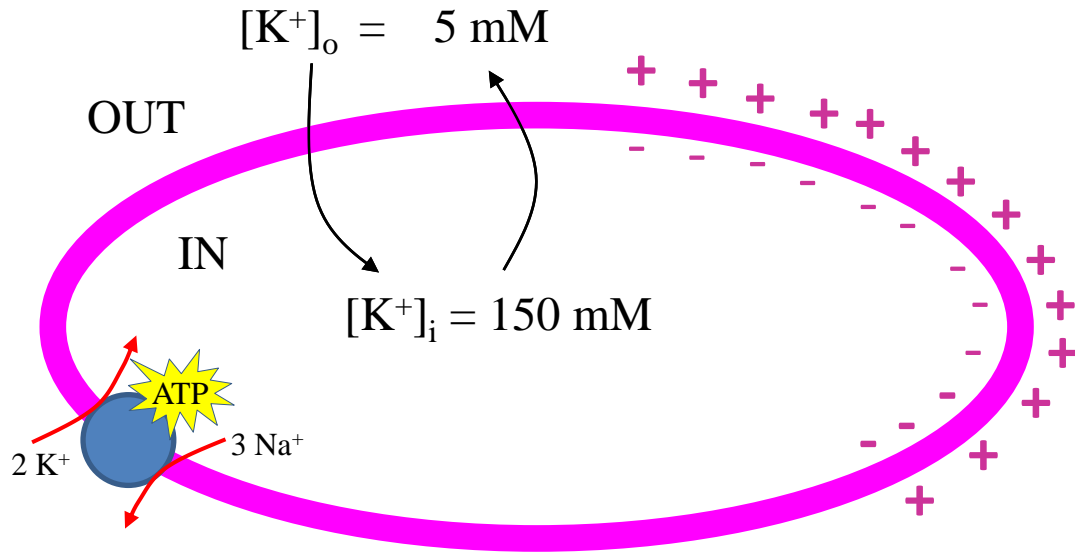
1940. Interrompe gli studi in medicina a causa dei primi bombardamenti

1940-1945. Collaborano a **un progetto sullo sviluppo di radar aerotrasportati**

Dopo la guerra tornano a Cambridge dove insegnano Fisiologia

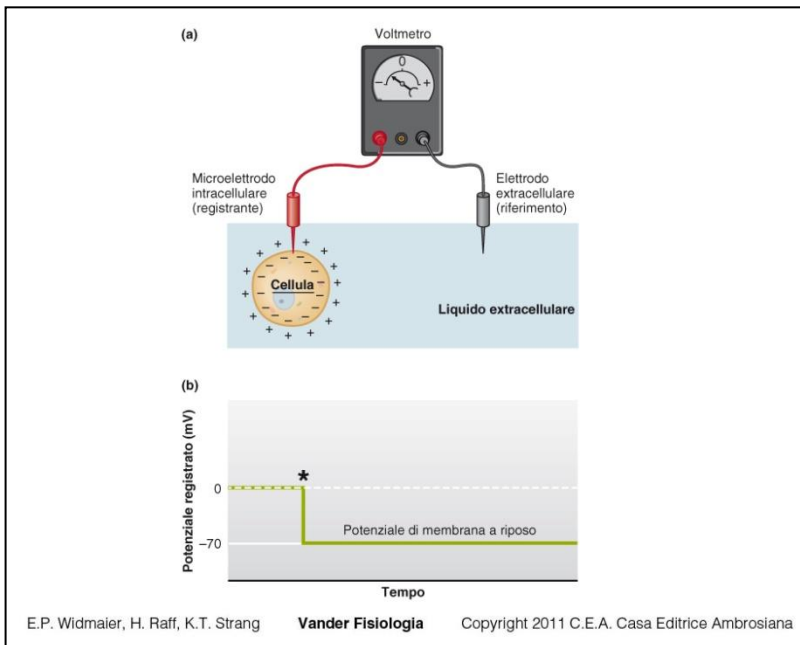
1946-1951. Collaborano in esperimenti su fibre nervose giganti presso la Marine Station di Plymouth

La MEMBRANA CELLULARE è ELETTRICAMENTE POLARIZZATA

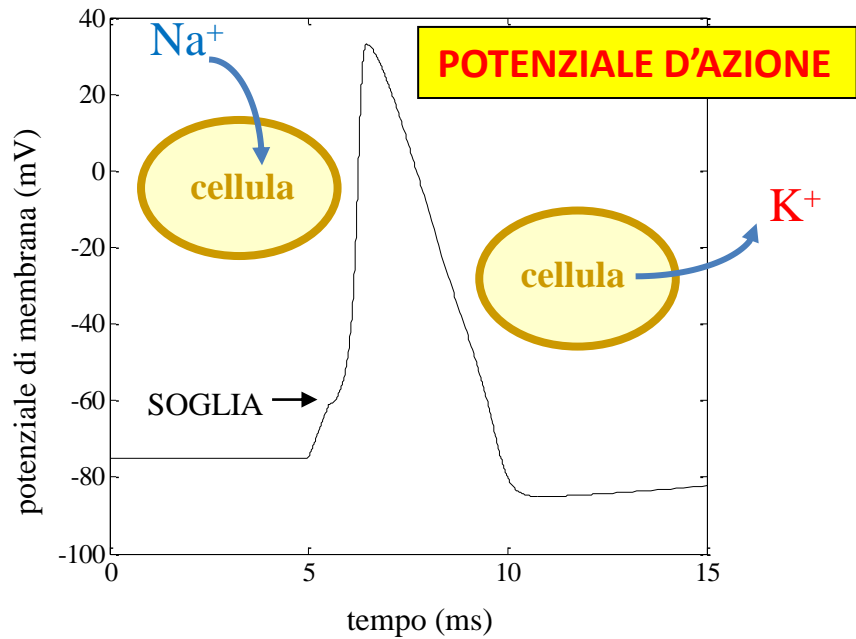


$$V_K = \frac{RT}{(+1)F} \ln \frac{[K^+]_o}{[K^+]_i} \sim -98 \text{ mV}$$

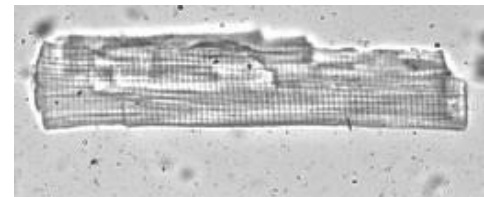
$$C \frac{dV}{dt} = i_m - g_K (V - V_K)$$



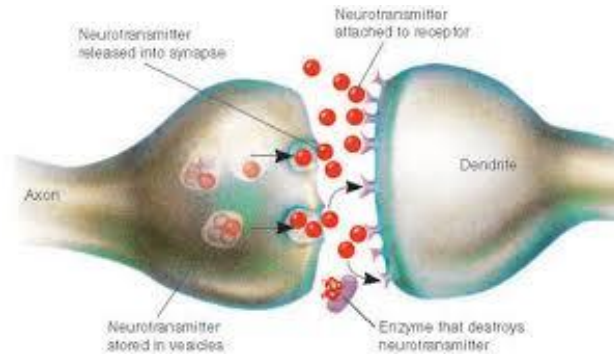
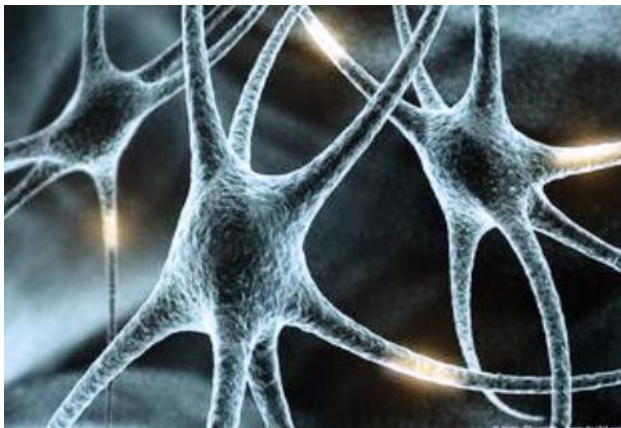
CELLULE ECCITABILI



POTENZIALE D'AZIONE LOCALE

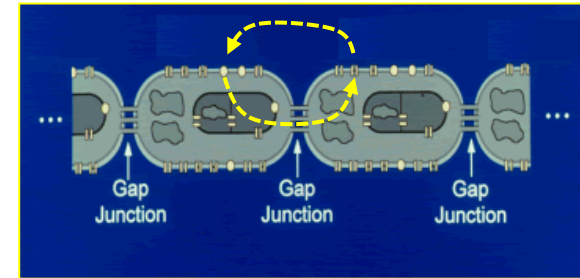


POTENZIALE D'AZIONE PROPAGATO



Sinapsi chimiche

CORRENTI ELETTRONICHE



Sinapsi elettriche

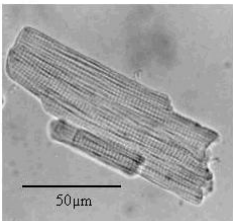
CELLULE ECCITABILI

Sistema cardiocircolatorio

Sistema muscolo-scheletrico

Vasi, organi interni, sfinteri ...

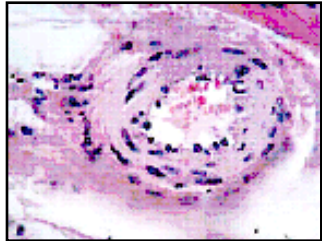
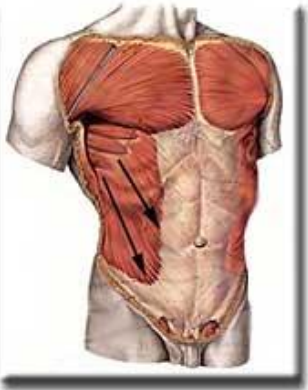
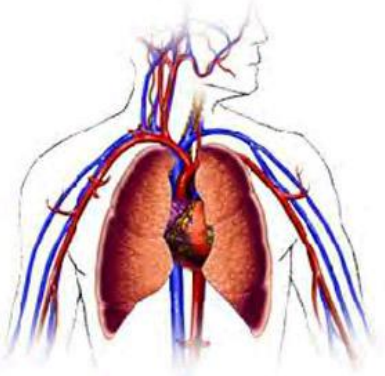
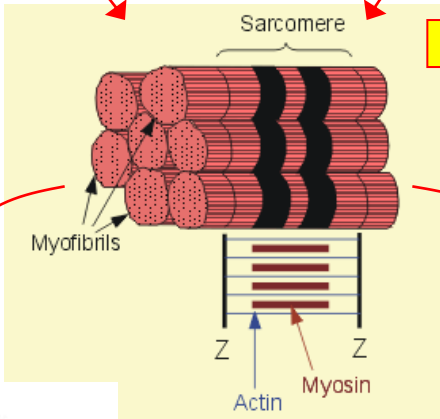
Sistema nervoso



muscolo cardiaco



muscolo scheletrico



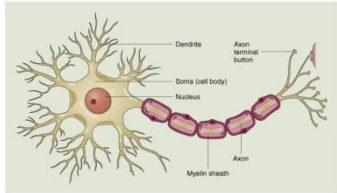
muscolo liscio



Normal blood flow



Restricted blood flow



neuroni

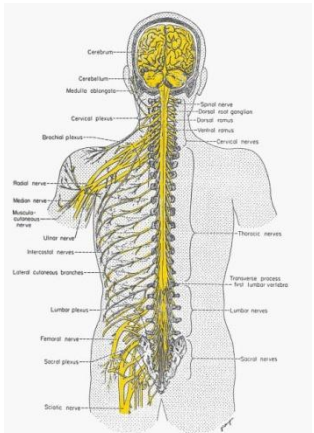
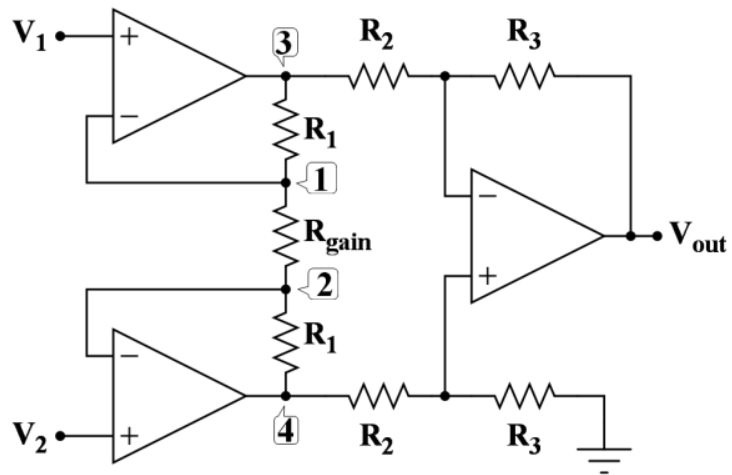
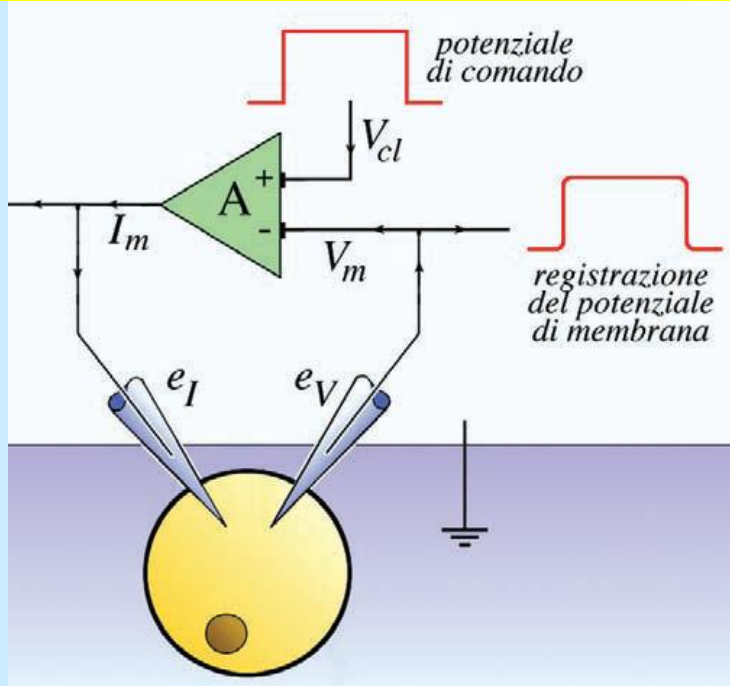


Fig. 2. The human central nervous system, exposed by dissection from the dorsal aspect. Shows the brain, spinal cord and the proximal parts of the spinal nerves. Compare this with the generalized vertebrate plan shown in Figure 1.

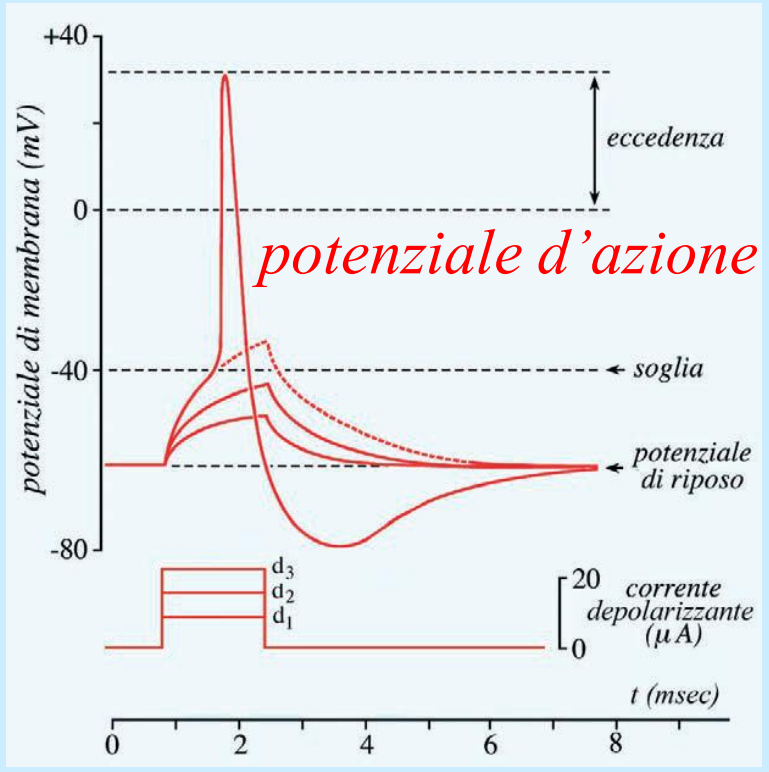
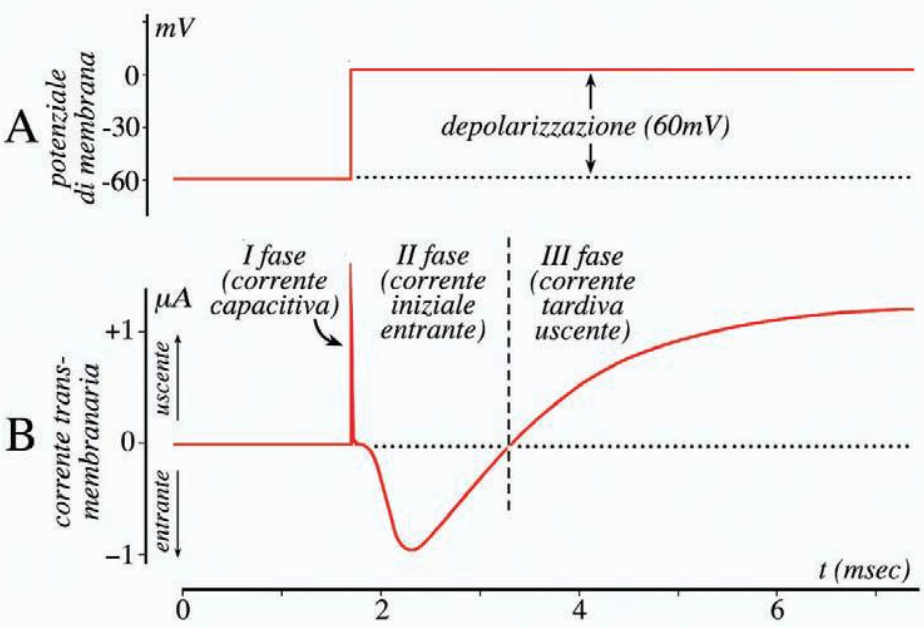
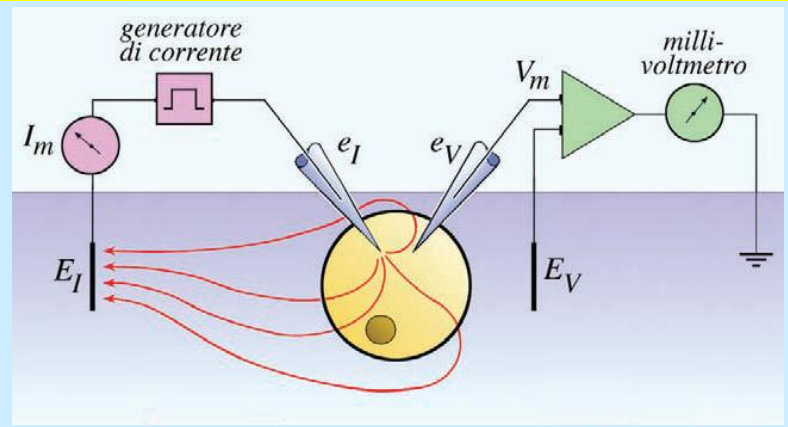
AMPLIFICATORE DIFFERENZIALE



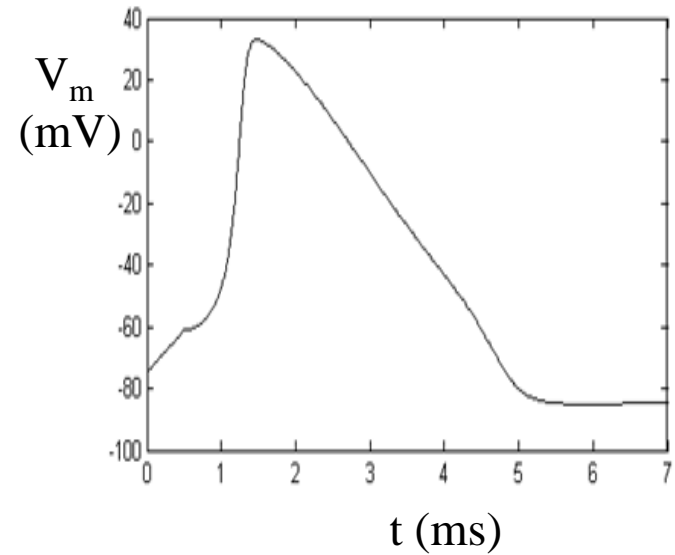
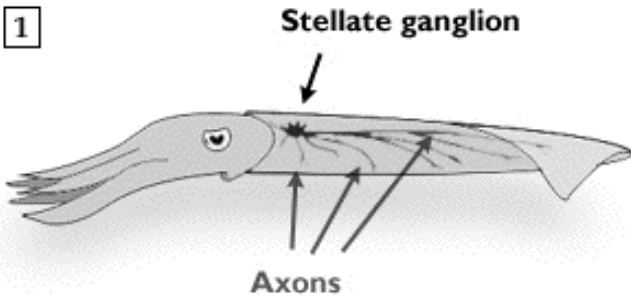
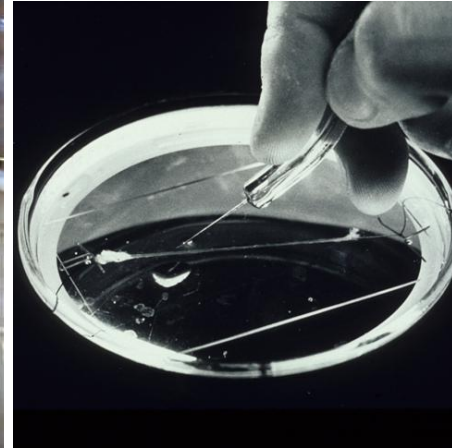
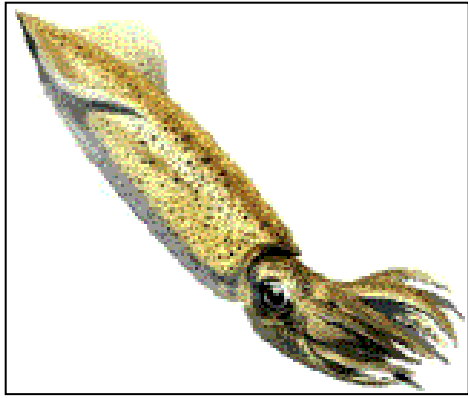
TECNICA DEL "VOLTAGE-CLAMP"

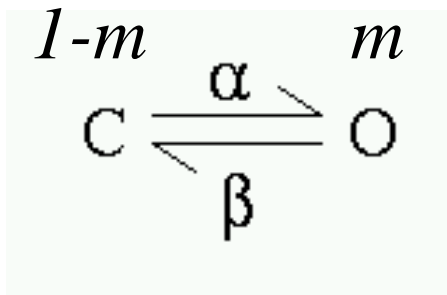
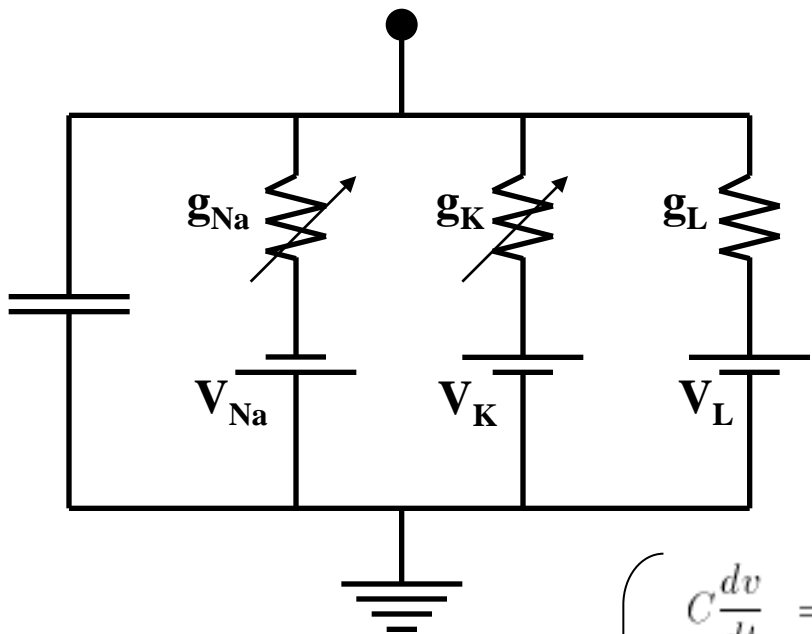


TECNICA DEL "CURRENT-CLAMP"



l'ASSONE GIGANTE DEL CALAMARO (squid giant axon) (NERVO MEDIALE POSTERIORE)



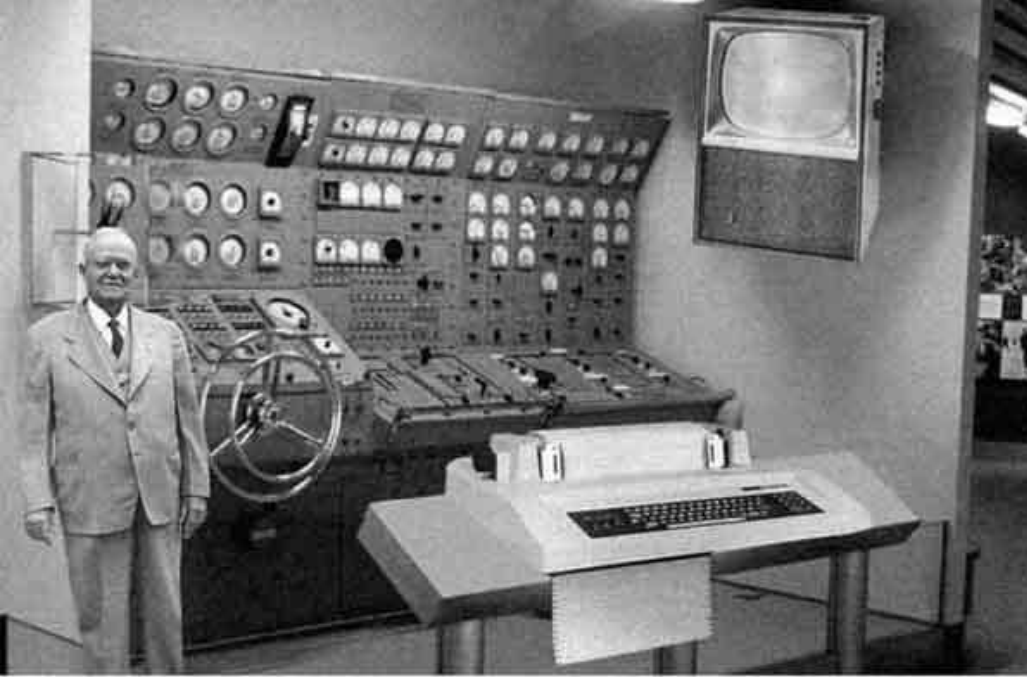


SISTEMA DI HODGKIN-HUXLEY

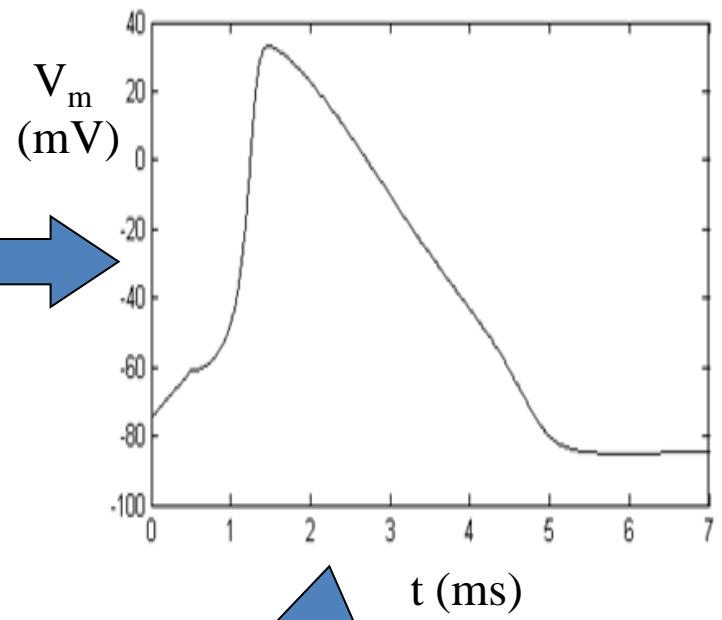
Corrente di stimolo

$$\begin{aligned}
 C \frac{dv}{dt} &= I - g_{Na} m^3 h (V - V_{Na}) - g_K n^4 (V - V_K) - g_L (V - V_L) \\
 \frac{dm}{dt} &= a_m(V)(1 - m) - b_m(V)m \\
 \frac{dh}{dt} &= a_h(V)(1 - h) - b_h(V)h \\
 \frac{dn}{dt} &= a_n(V)(1 - n) - b_n(V)n \\
 a_m(V) &= .1(V + 40)/(1 - \exp(-(V + 40)/10)) \\
 b_m(V) &= 4 \exp(-(V + 65)/18) \\
 a_h(V) &= .07 \exp(-(V + 65)/20) \\
 b_h(V) &= 1/(1 + \exp(-(V + 35)/10)) \\
 a_n(V) &= .01(V + 55)/(1 - \exp(-(V + 55)/10)) \\
 b_n(V) &= .125 \exp(-(V + 65)/80)
 \end{aligned}$$

CONTROVERSIA GALVANI-VOLTA



1950
days



2014



$$C \frac{dv}{dt} = I - g_{Na} m^3 h (V - V_{Na}) - g_K n^4 (V - V_K) - g_L (V - V_L)$$

$$\frac{dm}{dt} = a_m(V)(1 - m) - b_m(V)m$$

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = a_h(V)(1 - h) - b_h(V)h$$

$$\frac{dn}{dt} = a_n(V)(1 - n) - b_n(V)n$$

$$a_m(V) = .1(V + 40)/(1 - \exp(-(V + 40)/10))$$

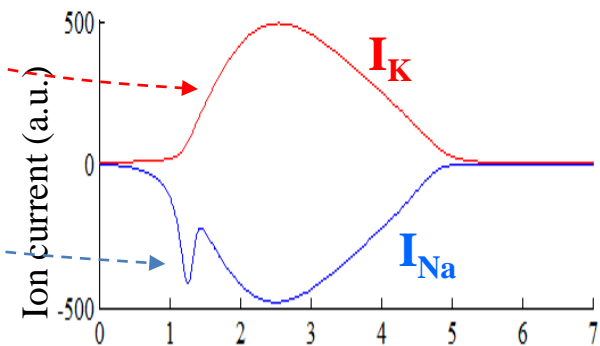
$$b_m(V) = 4 \exp(-(V + 65)/18)$$

$$a_h(V) = .07 \exp(-(V + 65)/20)$$

$$b_h(V) = 1/(1 + \exp(-(V + 35)/10))$$

$$a_n(V) = .01(V + 55)/(1 - \exp(-(V + 55)/10))$$

$$b_n(V) = .125 \exp(-(V + 65)/80)$$



time (ms)

1952 – pubblicano il loro studio su due articoli storici su **Journal of Physiology**

1963 - Premio Nobel per la Fisiologia e Medicina con John Eccles.

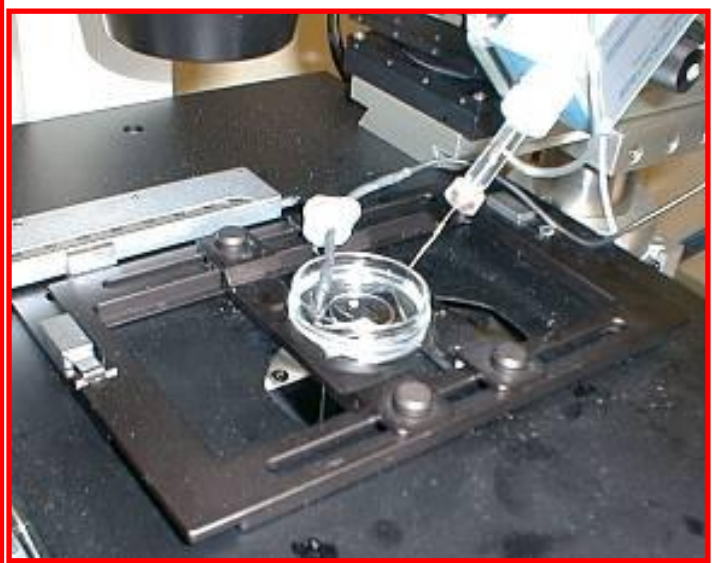
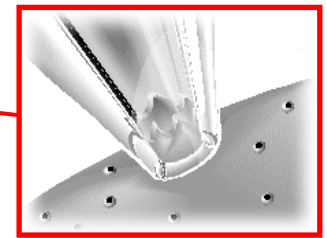
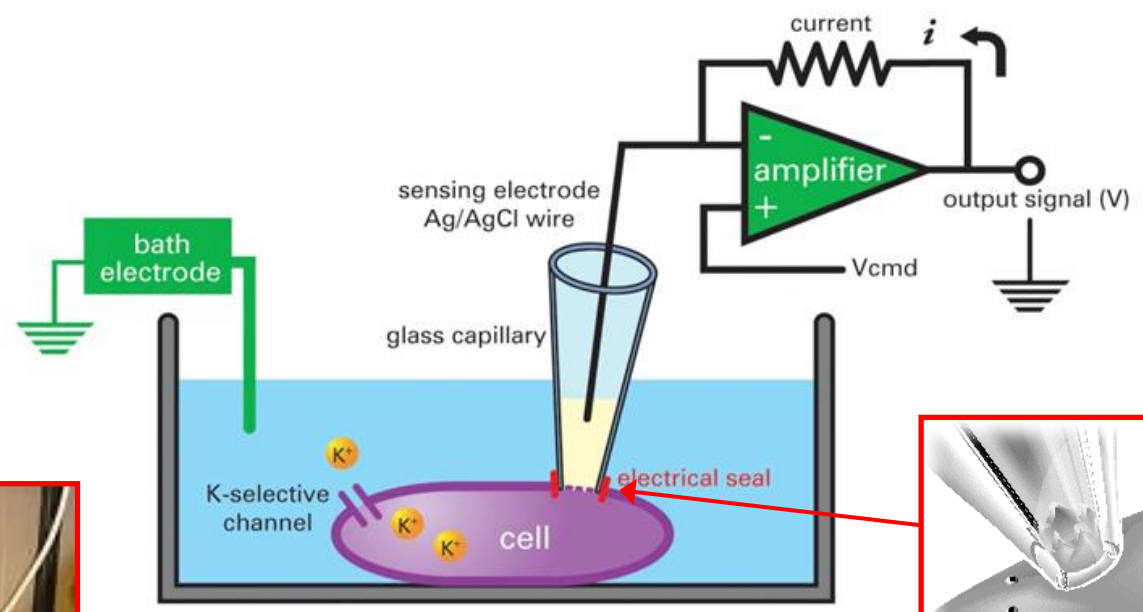


Erwin Neher

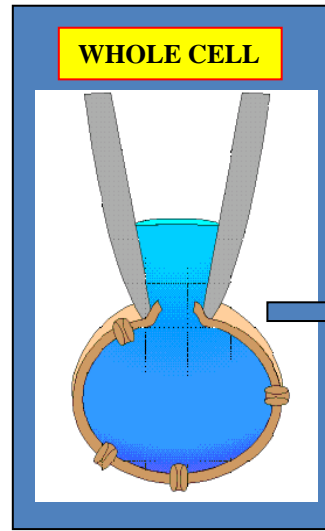
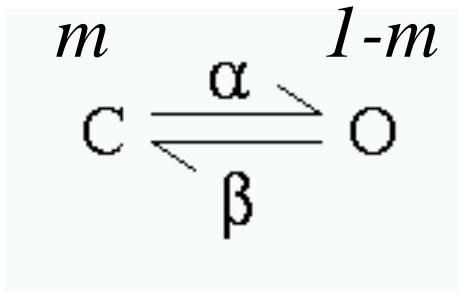
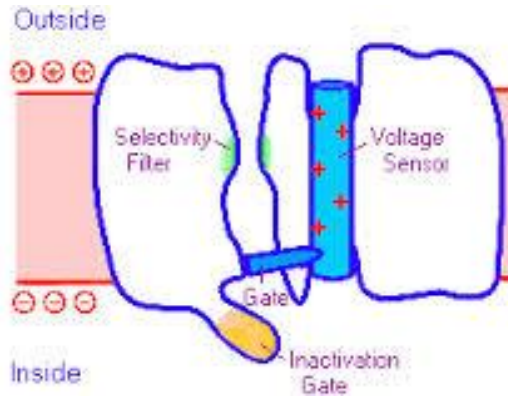
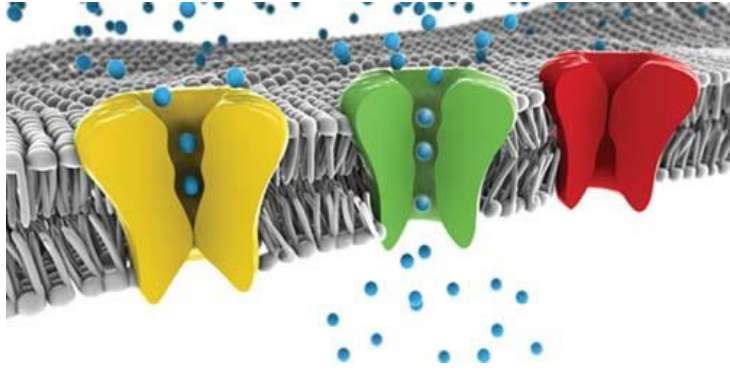
Bert Sakmann

1991 - Premio Nobel per la Fisiologia e Medicina.

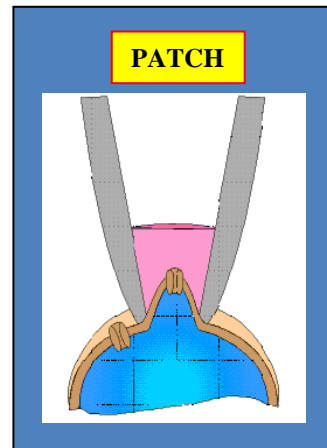
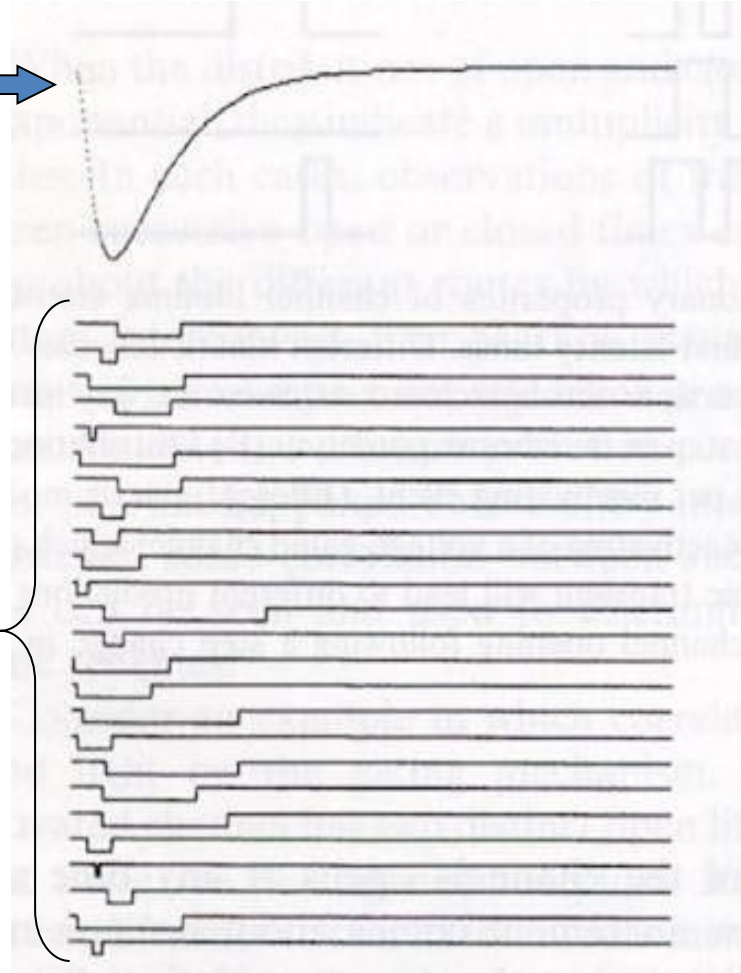
PATCH CLAMP



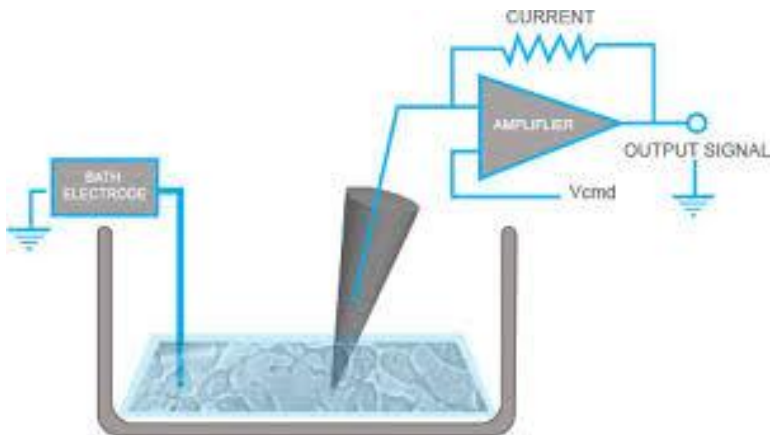
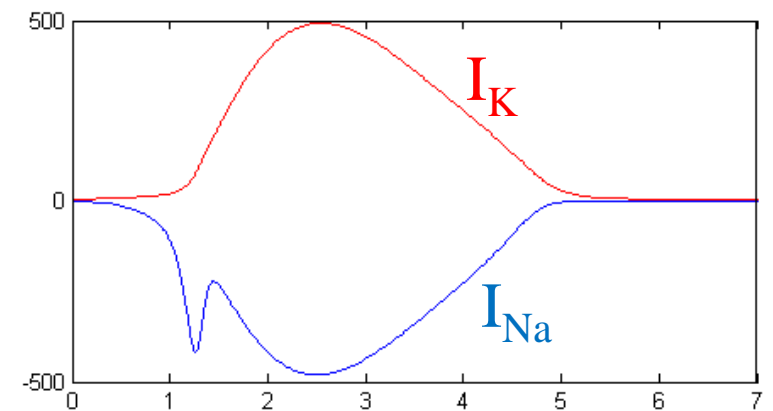
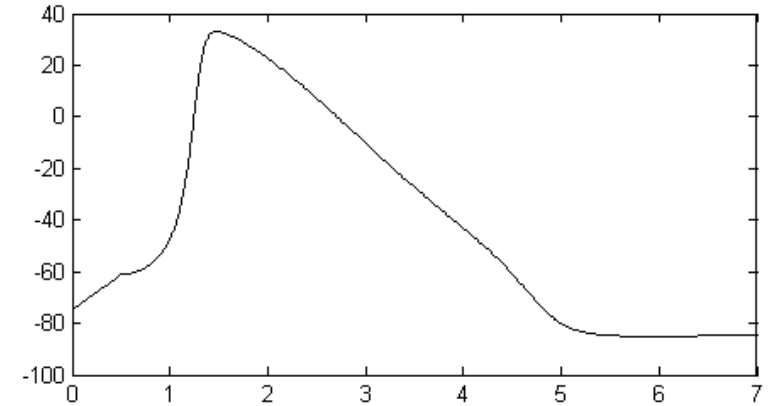
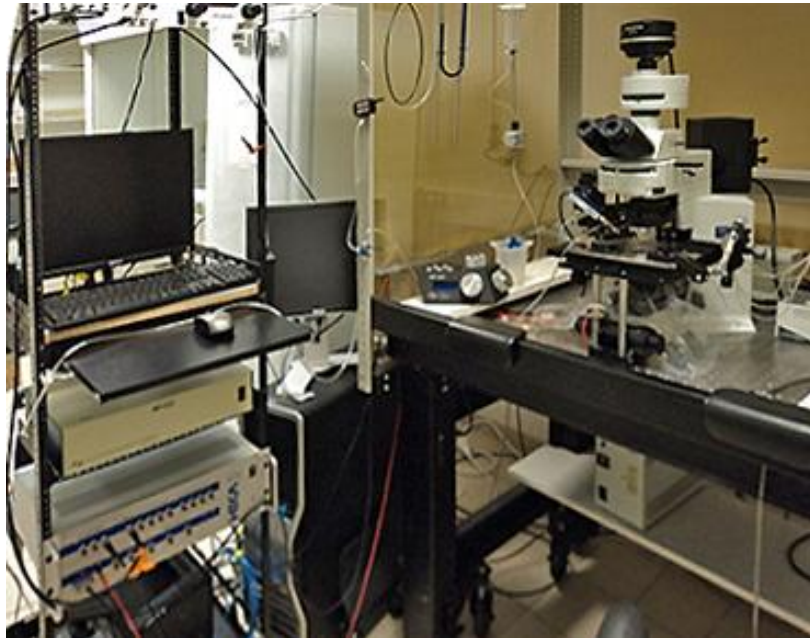
CANALI IONICI VOLTAGGIO-DIPENDENTI



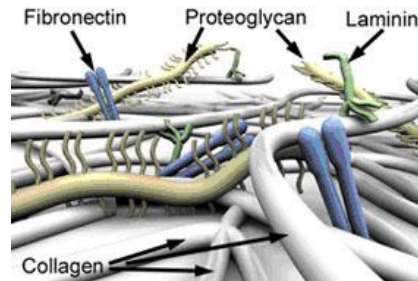
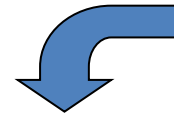
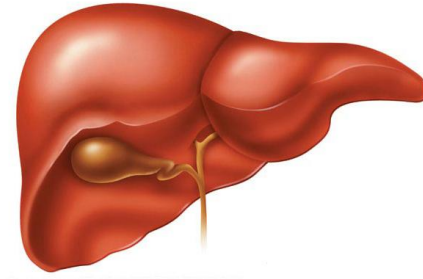
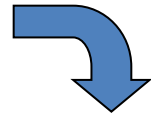
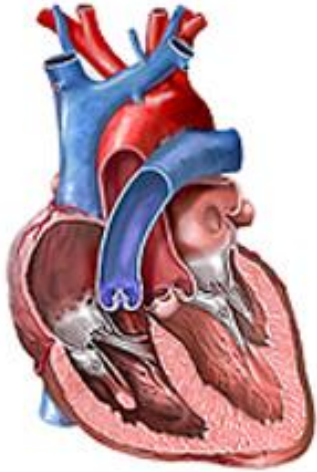
Voltage clamp step



ACTION POTENTIAL CLAMP

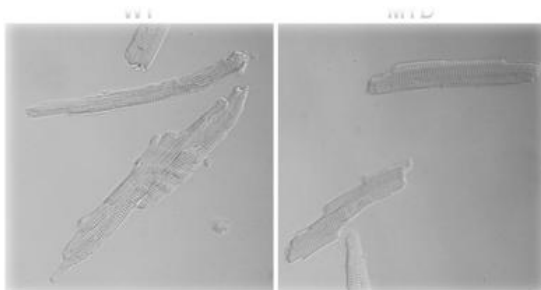


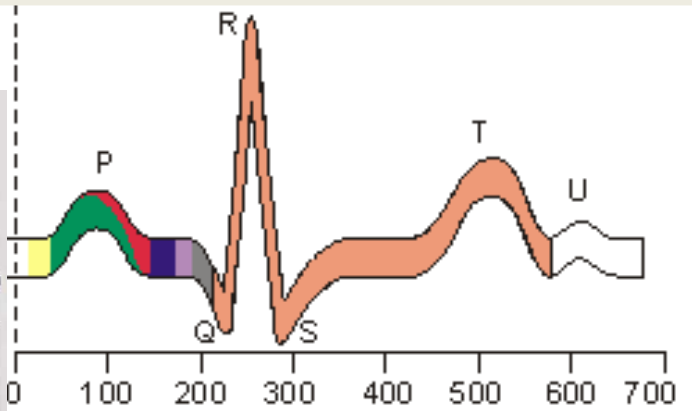
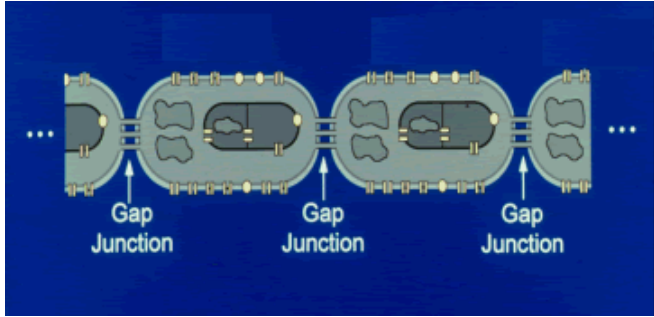
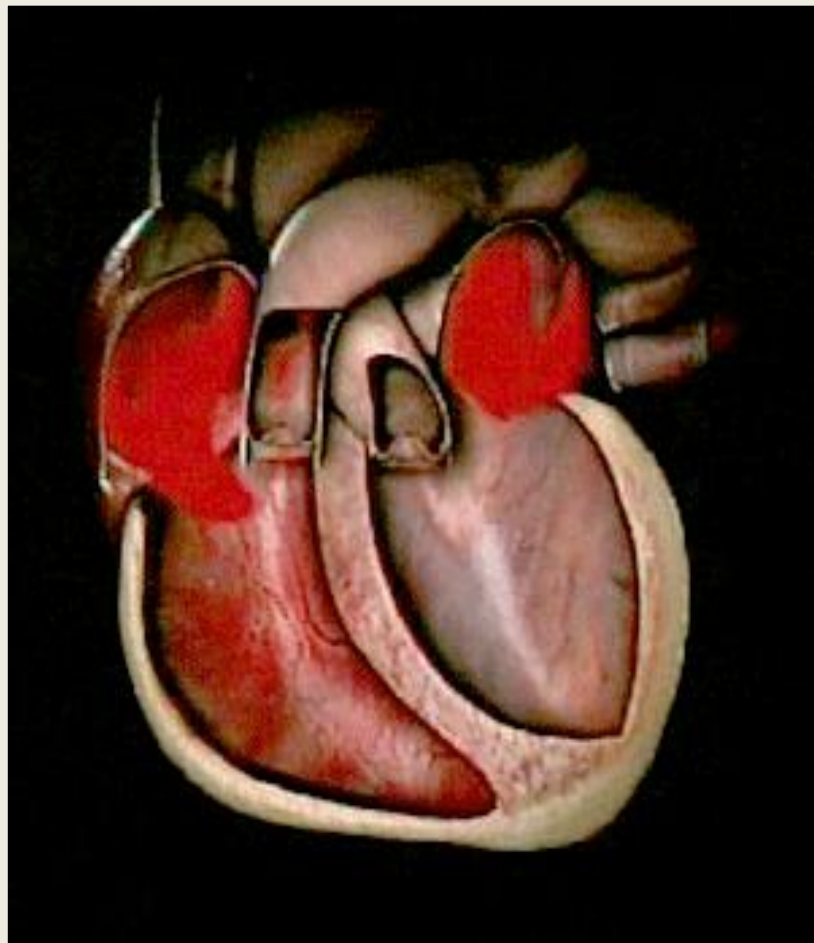
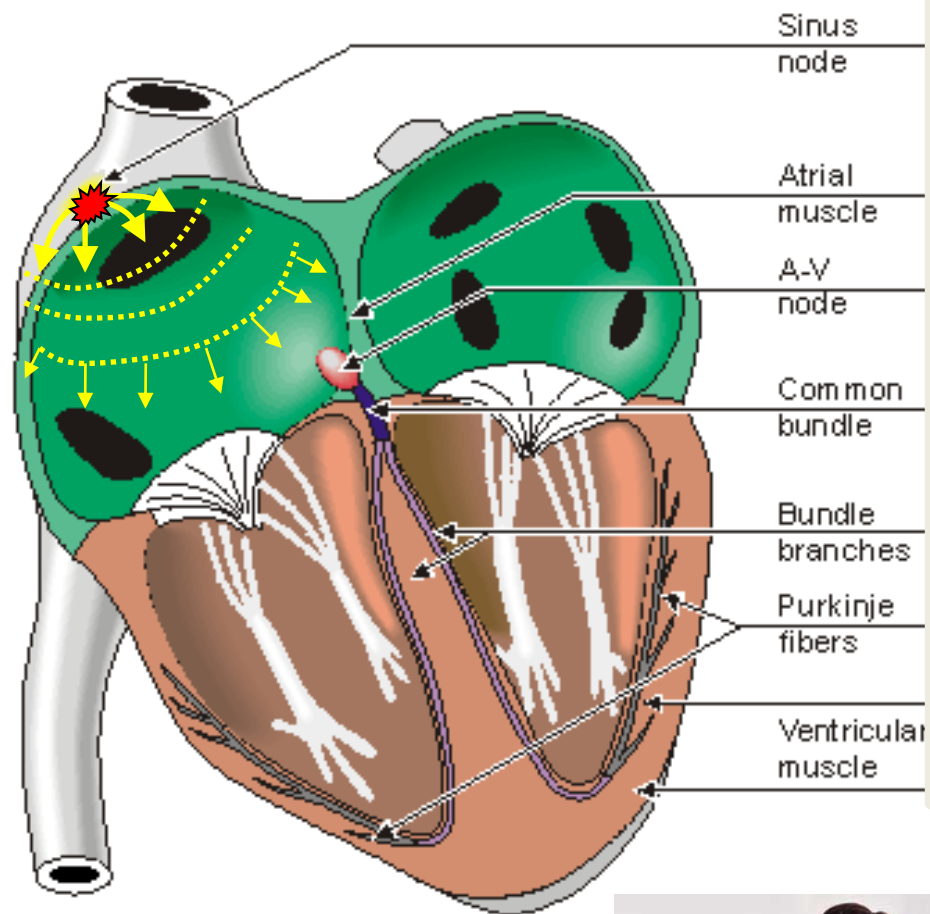
Tecniche di isolamento enzimatico cellulare

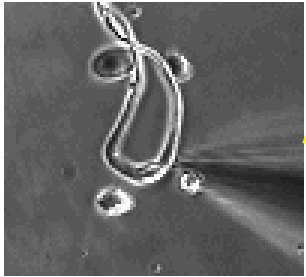


ENZIMI PROTEOLITICI

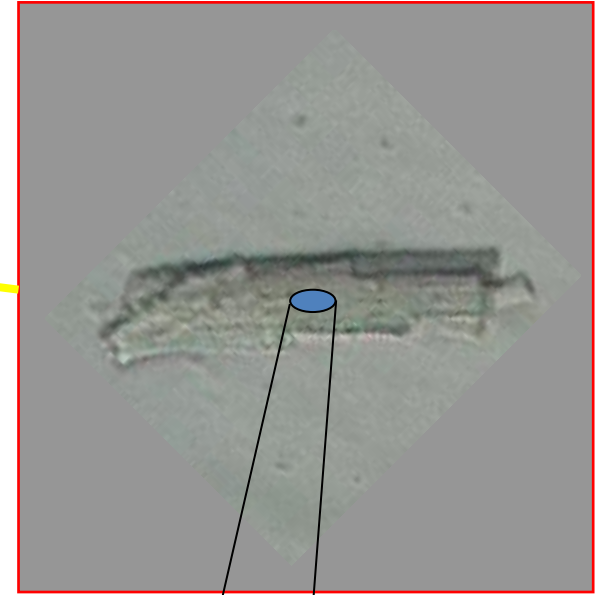
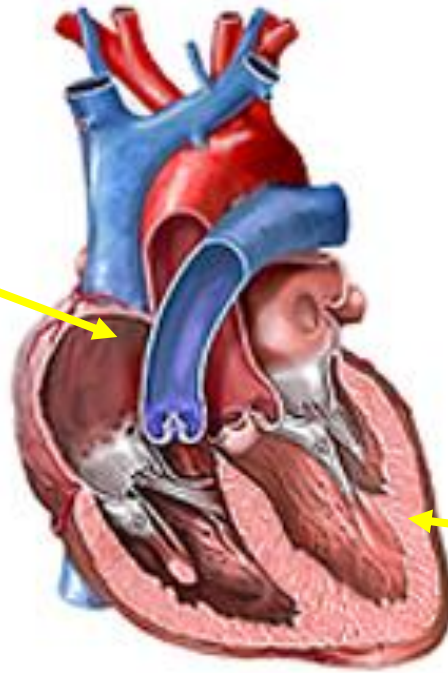
- Collagenase
- Protease
- Elastase
- ...







*cellule pacemaker
nodo seno-atriale*

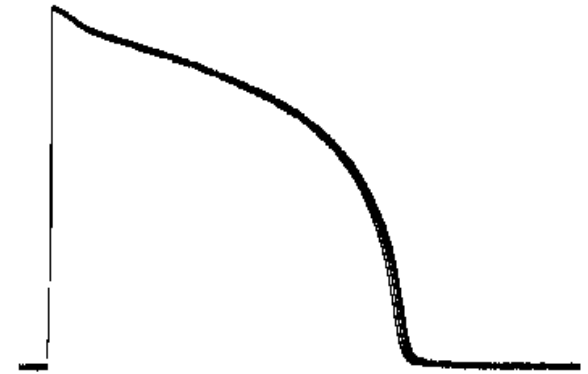


*cellule muscolari
ventricolo*

MODELLIZZAZIONE MATEMATICA DELL'ATTIVITA' ELETTRICA CARDIACA

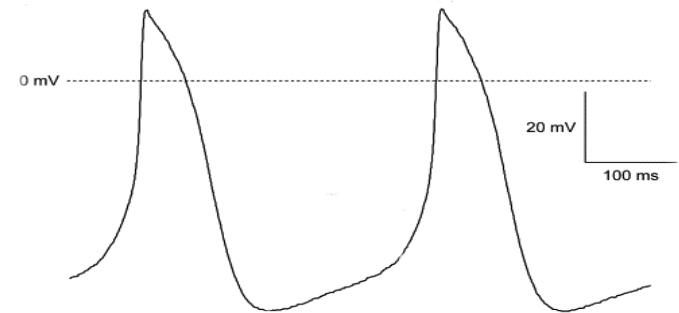
Potenziale d'azione **ventricolare umano**

1. Priebe-Beuckelmann (1998)
2. Bernus et al. (2002)
3. Ten Tusscher et al. (2004)
4. Iyer-Mazhari-Winslow (2004)
5. Bueno et al. (2006)
6. ...



Potenziale d'azione **nodo seno-atriale di coniglio**

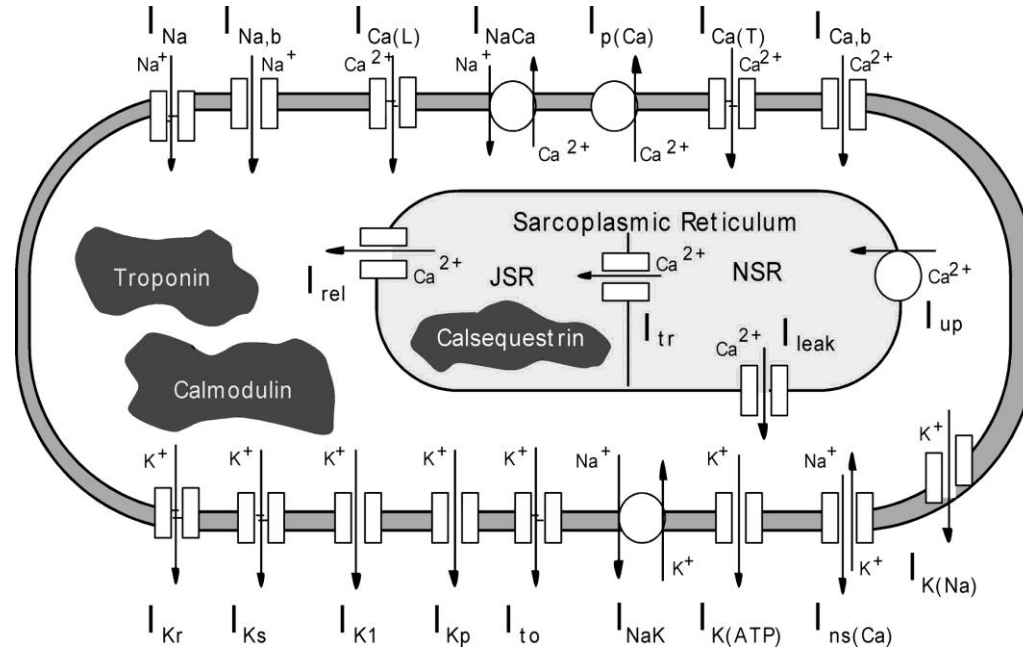
1. Yanagihara-Noma-Irisawa (1980)
2. Bristow-Clark (1982)
3. Irisawa-Noma (1982)
4. Noble-Noble (1984)
5. Noble-DiFrancesco-Denyer (1989)
6. Wilders-Jongsma-Van Ginneken (1991)
7. Demir-Clark-Murphey-Giles (1994)
8. Dokos-Celler-Lovell (1996)
9. Zhang et al (2000)
10. Kurata et al (2002)
11. Sarai et al (2003)
12. ...



HUMAN VENTRICULAR ACTION POTENTIAL

Leo Priebe and Dirk J. Beuckelmann

Circ. Res. 1998;82;1206-1223



Fast Na^+ Current: I_{Na}

$$I_{Na} = 16 \cdot m^3 \cdot h \cdot j \cdot (V - E_{Na})$$

$$E_{Na} = (RT/F) \cdot \ln([Na^+]_o/[Na^+]_i)$$

where m , h , and j are the activation gate, the fast inactivation gate, and the slow inactivation gate of I_{Na} , respectively, V is the membrane potential, E_{Na} is the equilibrium potential for Na^+ , R is the universal gas constant, T is the absolute temperature, and F is the Faraday constant.

For $V \geq -40$ mV

$$\alpha_h = \alpha_j = 0.0$$

$$\beta_h = 1 / (0.13 \cdot \{1 + \exp[(V + 10.66) / -11.1]\})$$

$$\beta_j = 0.3 \cdot \exp(-2.535 \cdot 10^{-7} \cdot V) / \{1 + \exp[-0.1 \cdot (V + 32)]\}$$

For $V < -40$ mV

$$\alpha_h = 0.135 \cdot \exp[(80 + V) / -6.8]$$

$$\beta_h = 3.56 \cdot \exp(0.079 \cdot V) + 3.1 \cdot 10^5 \cdot \exp(0.35 \cdot V)$$

$$\alpha_j = [-1.2714 \cdot 10^5 \cdot \exp(0.244 \cdot V) - 3.474 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

$$\cdot \exp(-0.04391 \cdot V)] \cdot (V + 37.78) / \{1 + \exp[0.311 \cdot (V + 79.23)]\}$$

$$\beta_j = 0.1212 \cdot \exp(-0.01052 \cdot V) / \{1 + \exp[-0.1378 \cdot (V + 40.14)]\}$$

For the total range of V

$$\alpha_m = 0.32 \cdot (V + 47.13) / \{1 - \exp[-0.1 \cdot (V + 47.13)]\}$$

$$\beta_m = 0.08 \cdot \exp(-V/11)$$

Slow Inward Current: I_{Ca}

$$I_{Ca} = g_{Ca,max} \cdot d \cdot f \cdot f_{Ca} \cdot (V - E_{Ca})$$

$$g_{Ca,max} = 0.064 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}$$

$$E_{Ca} = (RT/2F) \cdot \ln([Ca^{2+}]_o/[Ca^{2+}]_i)$$

$$\alpha_d = 14.98 / (16.68 \cdot \sqrt{2 \cdot \pi}) \exp\{-[(V - 22.36) / 16.68]^2 / 2\}$$

$$\beta_d = 0.1471 - 5.3 / (14.93 \cdot \sqrt{2 \cdot \pi}) \exp\{-[(V - 6.27) / 14.93]^2 / 2\}$$

$$\alpha_f = [6.87 \cdot 10^{-3}] / \{1 + \exp[(6.1546 - V) / -6.12]\}$$

$$\beta_f = \{0.069 \cdot \exp[-0.11 \cdot (V + 9.825)] + 0.011\} /$$

$$\{1 + \exp[-0.278 \cdot (V + 9.825)]\} - 5.75 \cdot 10^{-4}$$

$$f_{Ca} = 1 / (1 + ([Ca^{2+}]_i / K_{Ca}))$$

$$K_{Ca} = 600 \text{ nmol/L}$$

where $g_{Ca,max}$ is g_{max} for I_{Ca} , d is the activation gate of I_{Ca} , f is the inactivation gate of I_{Ca} , E_{Ca} is the equilibrium potential for Ca^{2+} , f_{Ca} is a proportional factor for Ca^{2+} -dependent inactivation of I_{Ca} , and K_{Ca} is half-maximum Ca^{2+} binding concentration for I_{Ca} .

Outward Current

Transient Outward Current: I_{to}

$$I_{to} = g_{to,max} \cdot r \cdot t \cdot (V - E_{to})$$

$$E_{to} = (RT/F) \cdot \ln\{(0.043 \cdot [Na^+]_o + [K^+]_o) / (0.043 \cdot [Na^+]_i + [K^+]_i)\}$$

$$g_{to,max}: \text{nonfailing} \Rightarrow 0.3 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}; \text{ heart failure} \Rightarrow 0.191 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}$$

$$\alpha_r = \{0.5266 \cdot \exp[-0.0166 \cdot (V - 42.2912)]\} /$$

$$\{1 + \exp[-0.0943 \cdot (V - 42.2912)]\}$$

$$\beta_r = \{0.5149 \cdot \exp[-0.1344 \cdot (V - 5.0027)] + 5.186 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot V\} /$$

$$\{1 + \exp[-0.1348 \cdot (V - 5.186 \cdot 10^{-5})]\}$$

$$\alpha_t = \{0.0721 \cdot \exp[-0.173 \cdot (V + 34.2531)] + 5.612 \cdot 10^{-5} \cdot V\} /$$

$$\{1 + \exp[-0.1732 \cdot (V + 34.2531)]\}$$

$$\beta_t = \{0.0767 \cdot \exp[-1.66 \cdot 10^{-9} \cdot (V + 34.0235)] + 1.215 \cdot 10^{-4} \cdot V\} /$$

$$\{1 + \exp[-0.1604 \cdot (V + 34.0235)]\}$$

where $g_{to,max}$ is g_{max} for I_{to} , r and t are the activation gate and the inactivation gate of I_{to} , respectively, and E_{to} is the equilibrium potential for I_{to} .

Delayed Rectifier Current

Slowly Activating Current: I_{Ks}

$$I_{Ks} = g_{Ks,max} \cdot X_s^2 \cdot (V - E_K)$$

$$E_{Ks} = (RT/F) \cdot \ln\{(0.01833 \cdot [Na^+]_o + [K^+]_o) / (0.01833 \cdot [Na^+]_i + [K^+]_i)\}$$

$$g_{Ks,max} = 0.02 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}$$

$$\alpha_{X_s} = 3.0 \cdot 10^{-3} / \{1 + \exp[(7.44 - (V + 10) / 14.32)]\}$$

$$\beta_{X_s} = 5.87 \cdot 10^{-3} / \{1 + \exp[(-5.95 - (V + 10) / -15.82)]\}$$

where $g_{Ks,max}$ is g_{max} for I_{Ks} , X_s is the activation gate of I_{Ks} , and E_{Ks} is the equilibrium potential for I_{Ks} .

Rapidly Activating Current: I_{Kr}

$$I_{Kr} = g_{Kr,max} \cdot X_r \cdot rik \cdot (V - E_K)$$

$$E_K = (RT/F) \cdot \ln([K^+]_o / [K^+]_i)$$

$$g_{Kr,max} = 0.015 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}$$

$$\alpha_{X_r} = \{0.005 \cdot \exp[5.266 \cdot 10^{-4} \cdot (V + 4.067)]\} /$$

$$\{1 + \exp[-0.1262 \cdot (V + 4.067)]\}$$

$$\beta_{X_r} = \{0.016 \cdot \exp[1.6 \cdot 10^{-3} \cdot (V + 65.66)]\} /$$

$$\{1 + \exp[0.0783 \cdot (V + 65.66)]\}$$

$$rik = 1 / \{1 + \exp[(V + 26) / 23]\}$$

where $g_{Kr,max}$ is g_{max} for I_{Kr} , X_r is the activation gate of I_{Kr} , rik is the inward-rectification factor of I_{Kr} , and E_K is the equilibrium potential for I_K .

Inward Rectifier Current: I_{K1}

$$I_{K1} = g_{K1,max} \cdot K1_\infty \cdot (V - E_{K1})$$

$$E_{K1} = (RT/F) \cdot \ln([K^+]_o / [K^+]_i)$$

$$g_{K1,max}: \text{nonfailing} \Rightarrow 2.5 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}; \text{ heart failure} \Rightarrow 2.0 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}$$

$$\alpha_{K1} = 0.1 / \{1 + \exp[0.06 \cdot (V - E_{K1} - 200)]\}$$

$$\beta_{K1} = \{3 \cdot \exp[2 \cdot 10^{-4} \cdot (V - E_{K1} + 100)] + \exp[0.1 \cdot (V - E_{K1} - 10)]\} /$$

$$\{1 + \exp[-0.5 \cdot (V - E_{K1})]\}$$

$$K1_\infty = \alpha_{K1} / (\alpha_{K1} + \beta_{K1})$$

where $g_{K1,max}$ is g_{max} for I_{K1} , $K1_\infty$ is the inactivation gate of I_{K1} , and E_{K1} is the equilibrium potential for I_{K1} .

Background Currents

Ca^{2+} Background Current: $I_{Ca,b}$

$$I_{Ca,b} = \bar{G}_{Ca,b} \cdot (V - E_{Ca,b})$$

$$\bar{G}_{Ca,b}: \text{nonfailing} \Rightarrow 0.00085 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}; \text{ heart failure} \Rightarrow 0.0013 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}$$

$$E_{Ca,b} = E_{Ca}$$

where $\bar{G}_{Ca,b}$ is g_{max} for $I_{Ca,b}$, and $E_{Ca,b}$ is the equilibrium potential for $I_{Ca,b}$.

Na^+ Background Current: $I_{Na,b}$

$$I_{Na,b} = \bar{G}_{Na,b} \cdot (V - E_{Na,b})$$

$$\bar{G}_{Na,b}: \text{nonfailing} \Rightarrow 0.001 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}; \text{ heart failure} \Rightarrow 0 \text{ mS}/\mu\text{F}$$

$$E_{Na,b} = E_{Na}$$

where $\bar{G}_{Na,b}$ is g_{max} for $I_{Na,b}$, and $E_{Na,b}$ is the equilibrium potential for $I_{Na,b}$.

Pump and Exchanger

Na^+-K^+ Pump: I_{NaK}

$$I_{NaK} = \bar{I}_{NaK} \cdot f_{NaK} \cdot 1/(1 + (K_{m,Na}/[Na^+]_i)^{1.5}) \cdot [(K^+]_o/([K^+]_o + K_{m,K_o}))]$$

$$\bar{I}_{NaK}: \text{nonfailing} \Rightarrow 1.3 \text{ pA/pF}; \text{ heart failure} \Rightarrow 0.75 \text{ pA/pF}$$

$$f_{NaK} = 1/[1 + 0.1245 \cdot \exp(-0.1 \cdot V \cdot F/RT)]$$

$$+ 0.0365 \cdot \sigma \cdot \exp(-V \cdot F/RT)]$$

$$\sigma = 1/7 \cdot \{\exp([Na^+]_o/67.3) - 1\}$$

$$K_{m,Na} = 10 \text{ mmol/L}$$

$$K_{m,K_o} = 1.5 \text{ mmol/L}$$

where f_{NaK} is the voltage-dependence parameter of I_{NaK} , and σ is the $[Na^+]_o$ -dependence factor of I_{NaK} .

Na^+-Ca^{2+} Exchanger Current: I_{NaCa}

$$I_{NaCa} = k_{NaCa} \cdot (K_{m,Na}^3 + [Na^+]_o^3)^{-1} \cdot (K_{m,Ca} + [Ca^{2+}]_o)^{-1}$$

$$\cdot (1 + k_{sat} \cdot \exp[(\eta - 1) \cdot V \cdot F/(RT)])^{-1} \cdot \{\exp[\eta \cdot V \cdot F/(RT)]$$

$$\cdot [Na^+]_i^3 \cdot [Ca^{2+}]_o - \exp[(\eta - 1) \cdot V \cdot F/(RT)] \cdot [Na^+]_o^3 \cdot [Ca^{2+}]_i\}$$

$$k_{NaCa}: \text{nonfailing} \Rightarrow 1000 \text{ pA/pF}; \text{ heart failure} \Rightarrow 1650 \text{ pA/pF}$$

$$K_{m,Na} = 82.5 \text{ mmol/L}; K_{m,Ca} = 1.38 \text{ mmol/L}; k_{sat} = 0.1; \eta = 0.35$$

where k_{sat} is the saturation factor of I_{NaCa} at very negative potentials, and η is the position of the energy barrier controlling voltage dependence of I_{NaCa} .

Ca^{2+} Homeostasis

CICR of JSR

$$I_{rel} = G_{rel}([Ca^+]_{JSR} - [Ca^{2+}]_i) \text{ in mmol/L per ms}$$

$$G_{rel} = \bar{G}_{rel} \{ \Delta[Ca^{2+}]_{i,2} - \Delta[Ca^{2+}]_{i,th} / (K_{m,rel} + \Delta[Ca^{2+}]_{i,2} - \Delta[Ca^{2+}]_{i,th}) \}$$

$$\cdot (1 - \exp[-t/\tau_{on}]) \cdot \exp[-t/\tau_{off}]$$

$$\Delta[Ca^{2+}]_{i,2} = \Sigma \text{ calcium-influx during first 2 ms after initiation of AP}$$

$$\Delta[Ca^{2+}]_{i,th} = 0.005 \mu\text{mol/L}$$

$$K_{m,rel} = 0.8 \mu\text{mol/L}$$

$$\tau_{on} = \tau_{off} = 4 \text{ ms}; t = 0 \text{ at time of CICR}$$

$$\bar{G}_{rel} = 22 \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

where I_{rel} is the SR Ca^{2+} release current, and G_{rel} is the rate constant of Ca^{2+} release from JSR.

Spontaneous Ca²⁺ Release of JSR

$$I_{\text{rel}} = G_{\text{rel}}([Ca^{2+}]_{\text{JSR}} - [Ca^{2+}]_i)(1 - \exp[-t/\tau_{\text{on}}]) \cdot \exp[-t/\tau_{\text{off}}]$$

in mmol/L per ms

$$G_{\text{rel}} = 3 \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

$$\tau_{\text{on}} = \tau_{\text{off}} = 4 \text{ ms}; t=0 \text{ at time of CICR}$$

Ca²⁺ Uptake and Leakage of NSR: I_{up} and I_{leak}

$$I_{\text{up}} = \bar{I}_{\text{up}}[Ca^{2+}]_i / ([Ca^{2+}]_i + K_{m,\text{up}}) \text{ in mmol/L per ms}$$

$$I_{\text{leak}} = K_{\text{leak}}[Ca^{2+}]_{\text{NSR}} \text{ mmol/L per ms}$$

$$\bar{I}_{\text{up}}: \text{nonfailing} \Rightarrow 0.0045; \text{heart failure} \Rightarrow 0.0015 \text{ in mmol/L per ms}$$

$$K_{m,\text{up}} = 0.92 \mu\text{mol/L}$$

$$K_{\text{leak}}: \text{nonfailing} \Rightarrow 0.00026 \text{ ms}^{-1}; \text{heart failure} \Rightarrow 0.00017 \text{ ms}^{-1}$$

where I_{up} is the SR Ca²⁺ uptake current, and I_{leak} is the leakage current.

Translocation of Ca²⁺ From NSR to JSR: I_{tr}

$$I_{\text{tr}} = ([Ca^{2+}]_{\text{NSR}} - [Ca^{2+}]_{\text{JSR}}) / \tau_{\text{tr}} \text{ in mmol/L per ms}$$

$$\tau_{\text{tr}} = 180 \text{ ms}$$

where I_{tr} is the SR Ca²⁺ translocation current.

Ca²⁺ Buffers in the Myoplasm: Troponin (TRPN) and Calmodulin (CMDN)

$$\text{Buffered [TRPN]} = \overline{[\text{TRPN}]} \{ [Ca^{2+}]_i / ([Ca^{2+}]_i + K_{m,\text{TRPN}}) \}$$

$$\text{Buffered [CMDN]} = \overline{[\text{CMDN}]} \{ [Ca^{2+}]_i / ([Ca^{2+}]_i + K_{m,\text{CMDN}}) \}$$

$$\overline{[\text{TRPN}]} = 70 \mu\text{mol/L}$$

$$\overline{[\text{CMDN}]} = 50 \mu\text{mol/L}$$

$$K_{m,\text{TRPN}} = 0.5 \mu\text{mol/L}$$

$$K_{m,\text{CMDN}} = 2.38 \mu\text{mol/L}$$

where $K_{m,\text{TRPN}}$ is the half-saturation concentration of TRPN, and $K_{m,\text{CMDN}}$ is the half-saturation concentration of CMDN.

Ca²⁺ Buffer in JSR: Calsequestrin (CSQN)

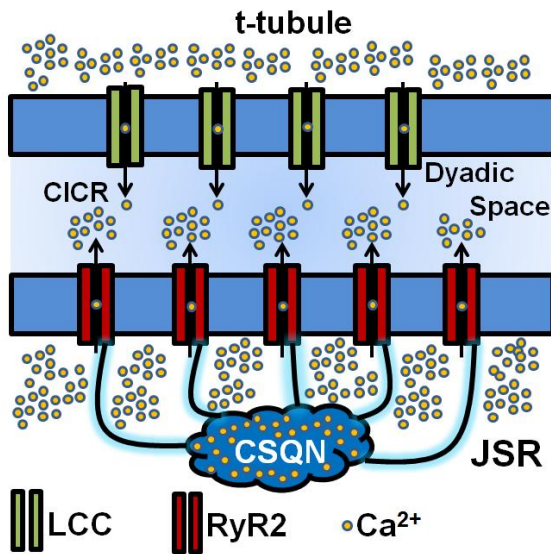
$$\text{Buffered [CSQN]} = \overline{[\text{CSQN}]} \{ [Ca^{2+}]_{\text{JSR}} / ([Ca^{2+}]_{\text{JSR}} + K_{m,\text{CSQN}}) \}$$

$$\overline{[\text{CSQN}]} = 10 \text{ mmol/L}$$

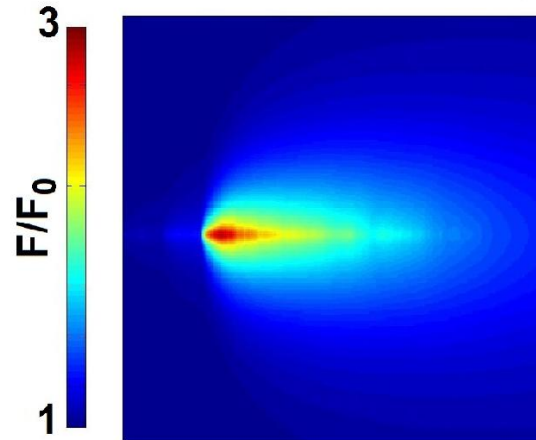
$$K_{m,\text{CSQN}} = 0.8 \text{ mmol/L}$$

where $K_{m,\text{CSQN}}$ is the half-saturation concentration of CSQN.

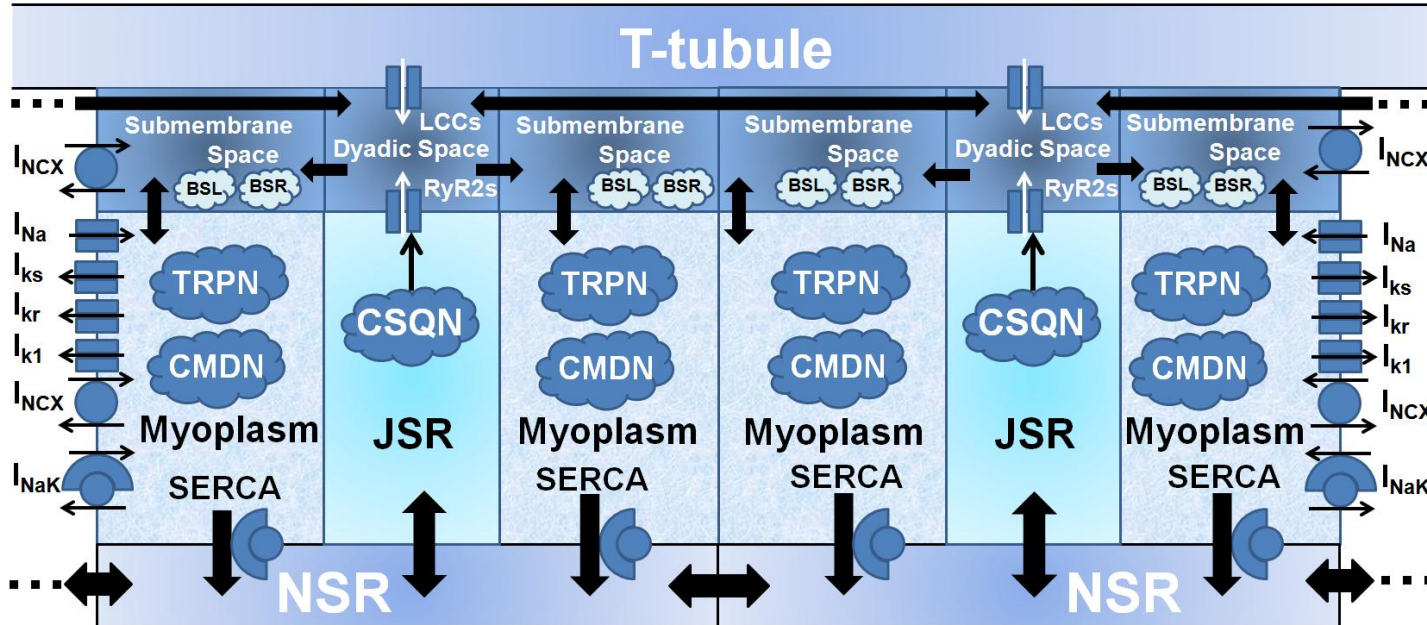
Dyad



Ca Spark



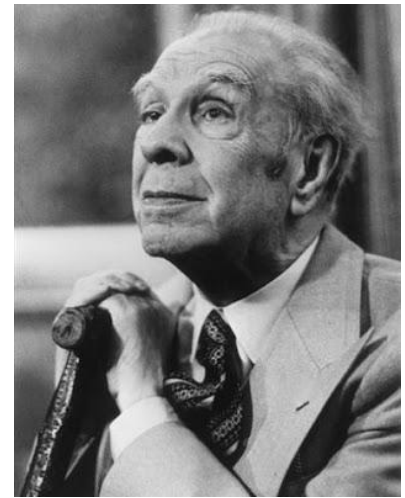
Multiscale Myocyte Model



DEL RIGORE NELLA SCIENZA

... In quell'Impero, l'Arte della Cartografia raggiunse tale Perfezione che la mappa di una sola Provincia occupava un'intera Città, e la mappa dell'Impero un'intera Provincia. Col tempo, queste Mappe Smisurate non soddisfecero più e i Collegi dei **Cartografi crearono una Mappa dell'Impero che aveva la grandezza stessa dell'Impero e con esso coincideva esattamente.** Meno Dedite allo Studio della Cartografia, le Generazioni Successive capirono che **quella immensa Mappa era Inutile** e non senza Empietà l'abbandonarono alle Inclemenze del Sole e degli Inverni. Nei deserti dell'Ovest restano ancora lacere Rovine della Mappa, abitate da Animali e Mendicanti; nell'intero Paese non vi sono altre reliquie delle Discipline Geografiche.

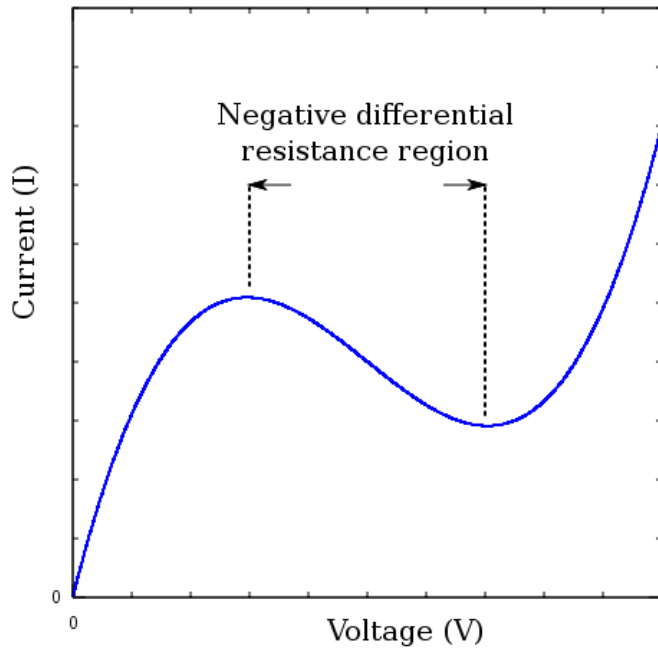
Da **Jorge Luis Borges** , *L'artefice*



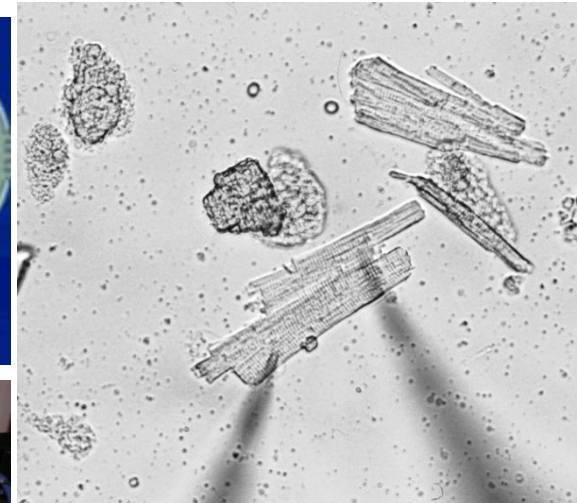
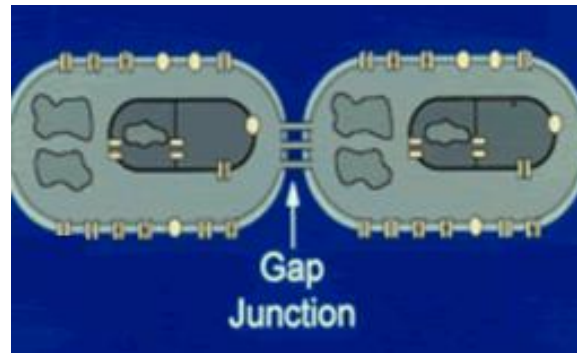
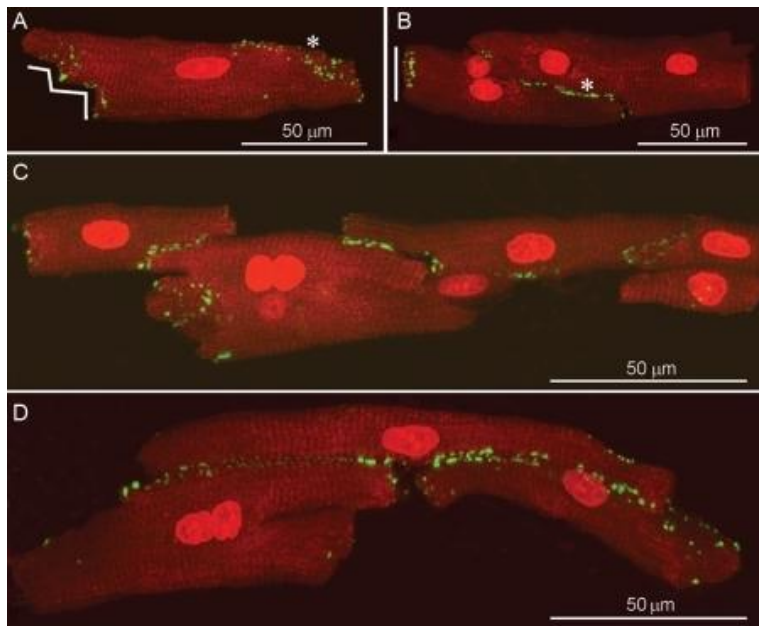
Modello di FitzHugh-Nagumo

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dV}{dt} = g(V) - W + I_a \\ \frac{dW}{dt} = bV - hW \end{cases}$$

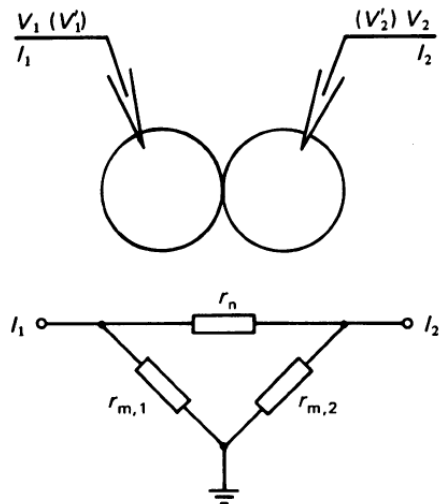
$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{\epsilon}(V - V^3/3 - W) \\ \frac{\partial W}{\partial t} = \epsilon(V - \gamma W + \beta) \end{cases}$$



Propagazione del POTENZIALE D'AZIONE CARDIACO attraverso le **GAP JUNCTIONS**



tecnica del **DOUBLE-PATCH CLAMP**

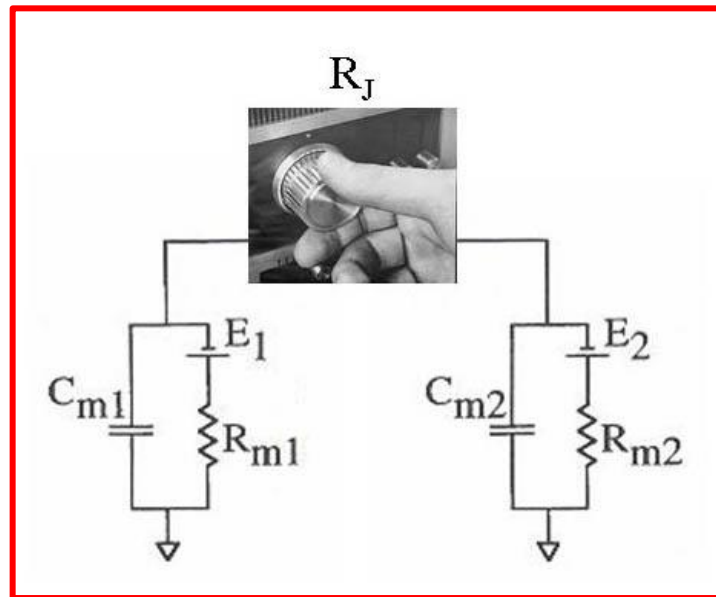
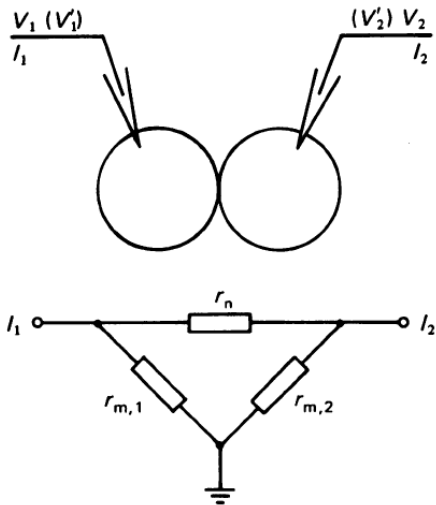
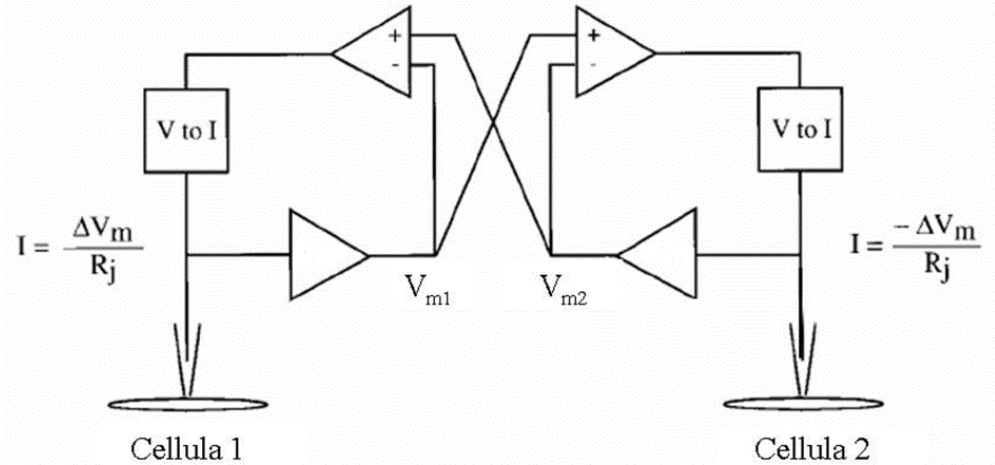
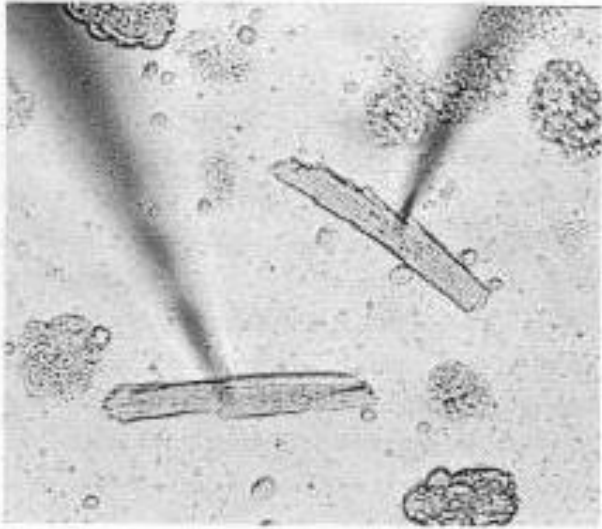


$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{dV_1}{dI_1} &= \frac{r_{m,1}(r_{m,2} + r_n)}{r_{m,1} + r_{m,2} + r_n}, \\ \frac{dV'_2}{dV_1} &= \frac{r_{m,2}}{r_{m,2} + r_n}. \end{aligned} \right.$$

$$r_n = 2 - 10 \text{ M}\Omega$$

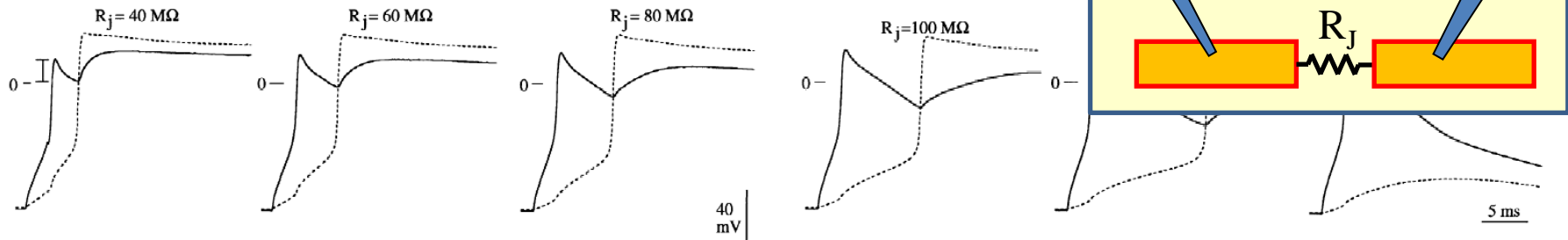
Tecnica del **COUPLING CLAMP**

“in vivo”

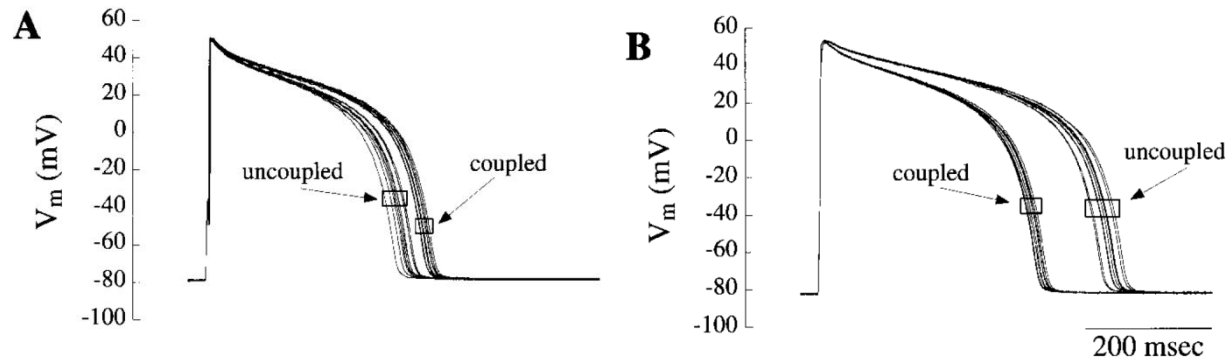


aumento del ritardo nella conduzione

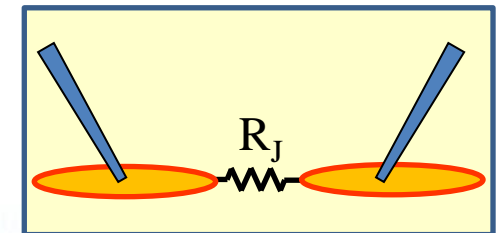
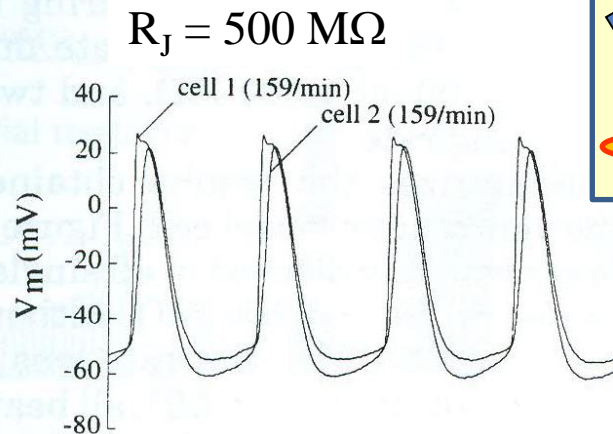
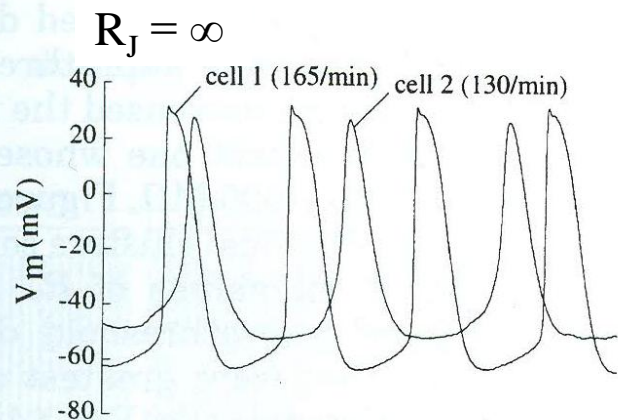
“in vivo”



sincronizzazione della ripolarizzazione



sincronizzazione del battito

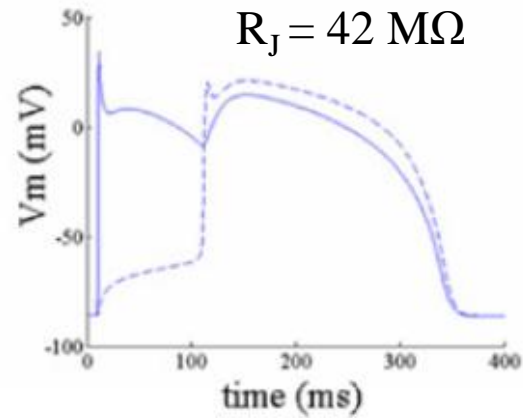
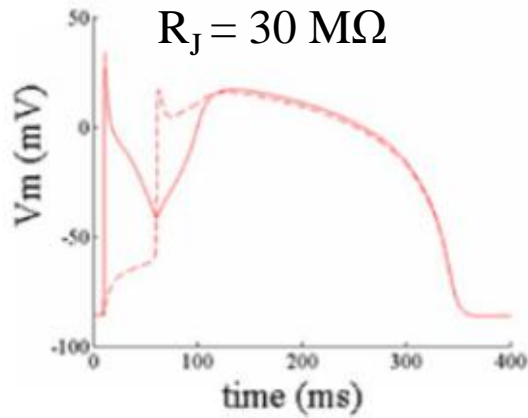
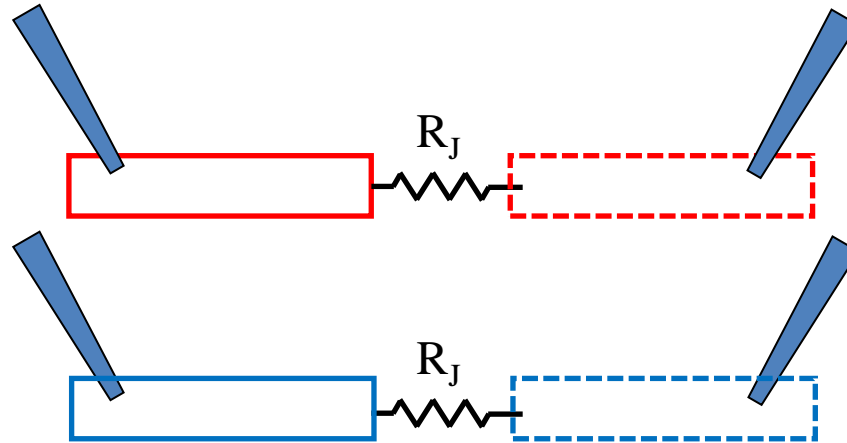


“in silico”

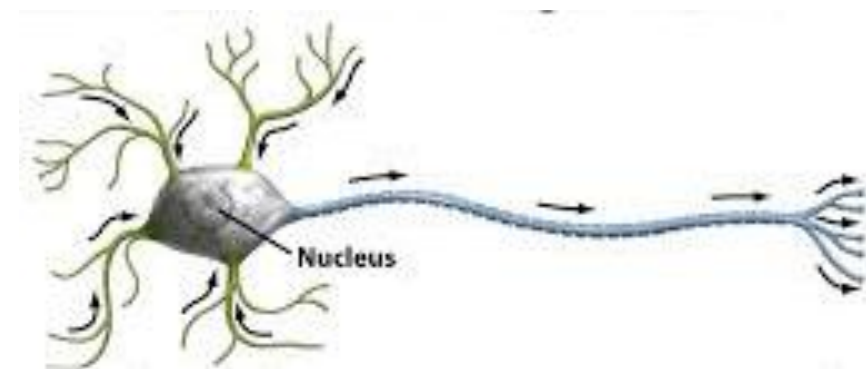
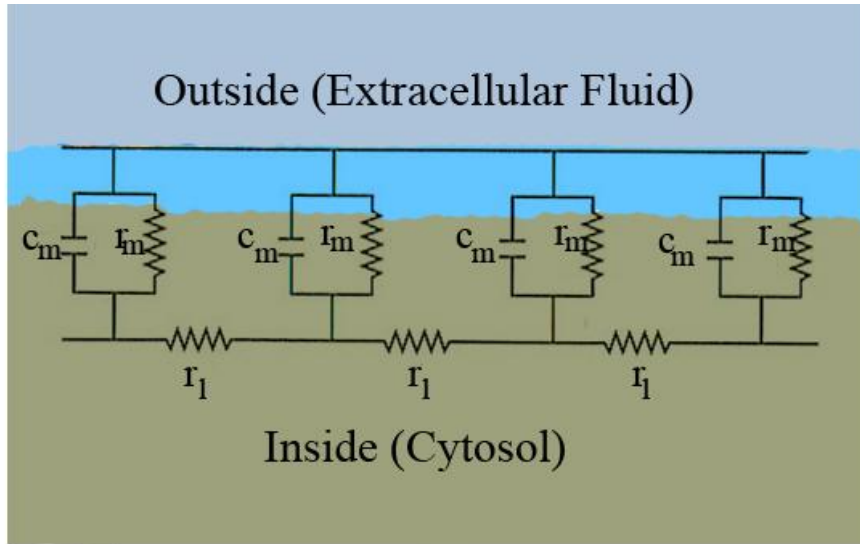
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} C \frac{dV_1}{dt} = I_{ion1} + I_{et} \\ \frac{dm_1}{dt} = \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \end{array} \right.$$

$$I_{et} = \frac{(V_1 - V_2)}{R_J}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} C \frac{dV_2}{dt} = I_{ion2} - I_{et} \\ \frac{dm_2}{dt} = \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \end{array} \right.$$

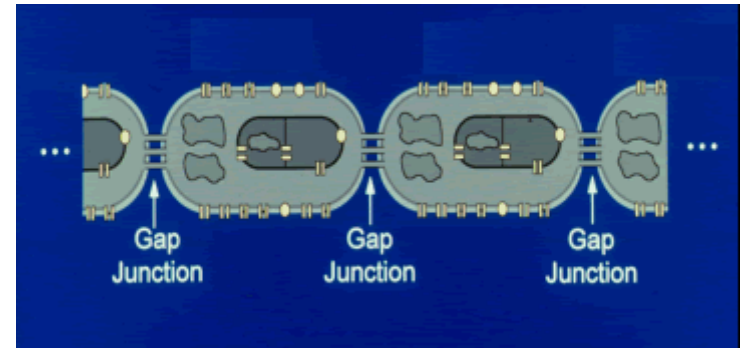


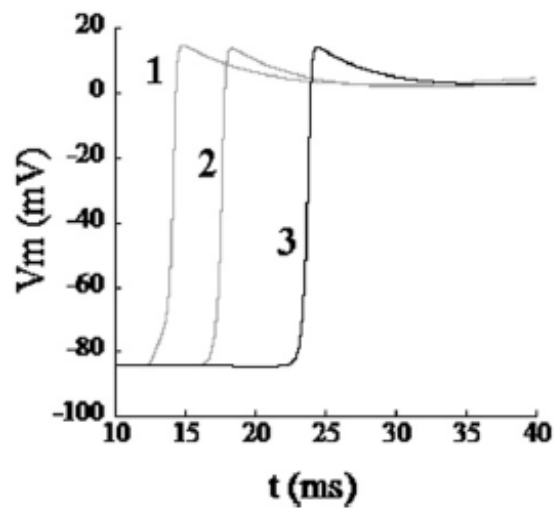
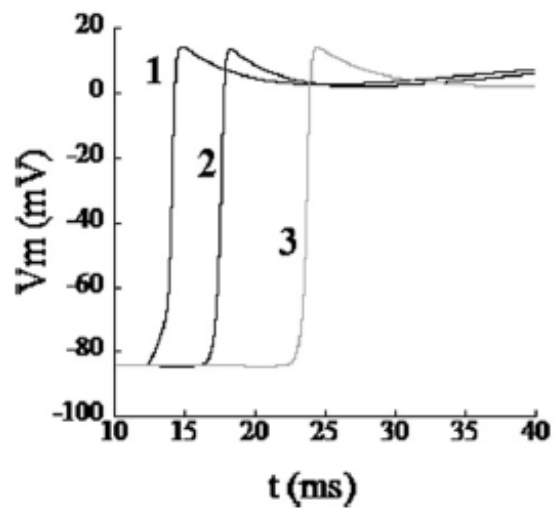
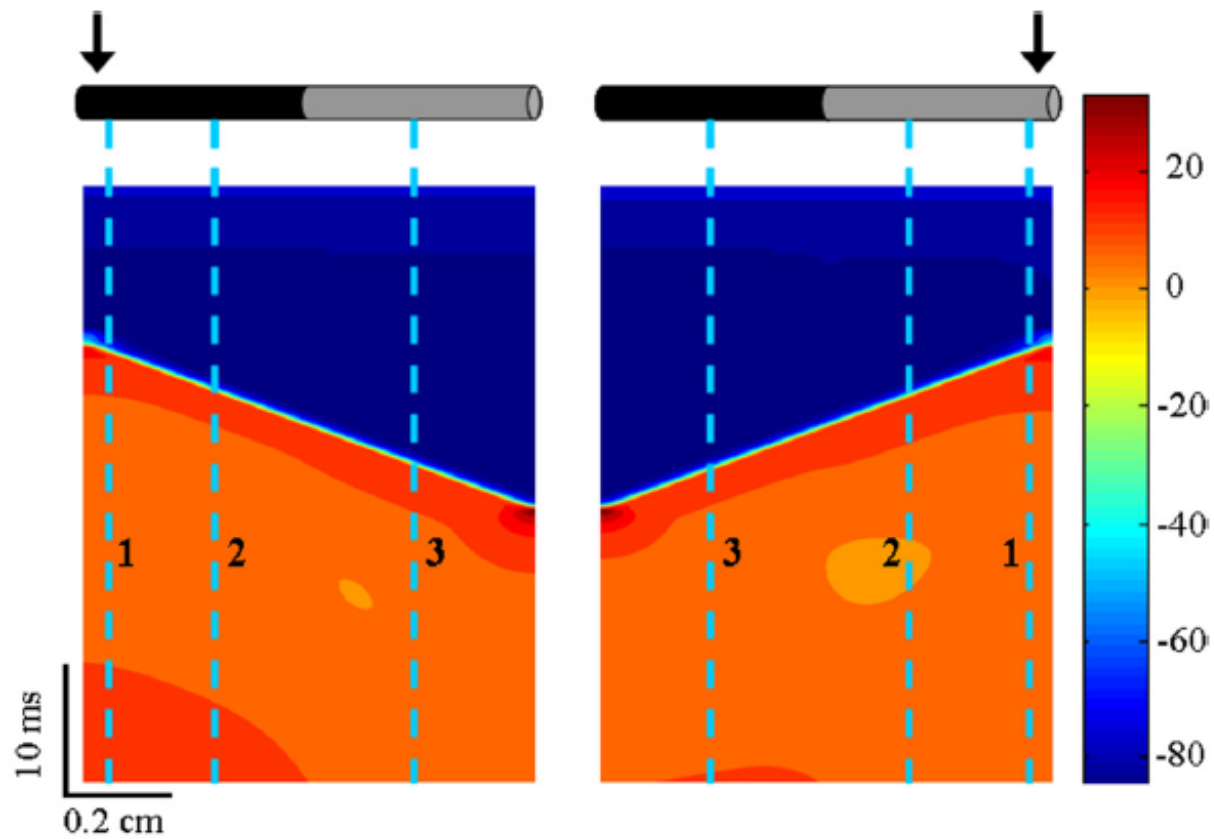
EQUAZIONE DEL CAVO

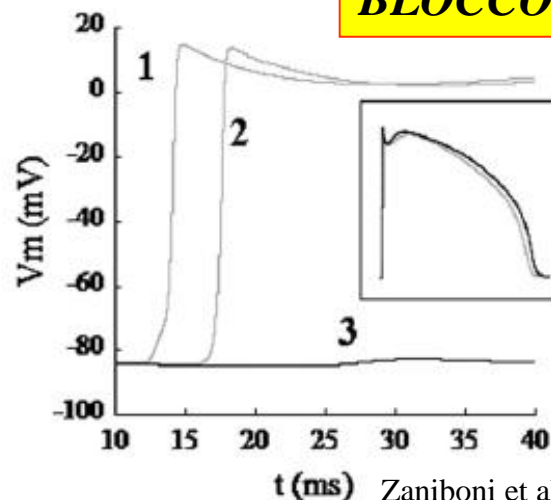
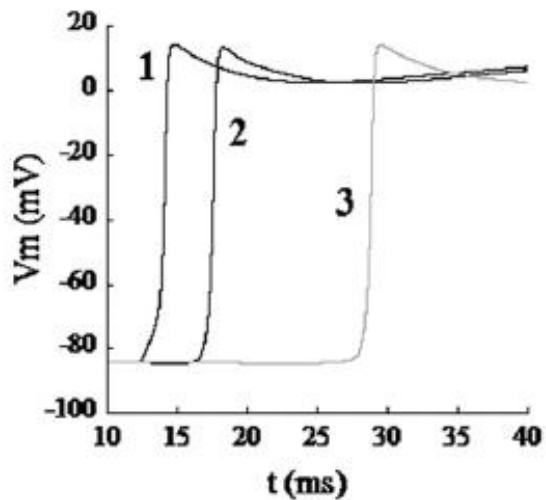
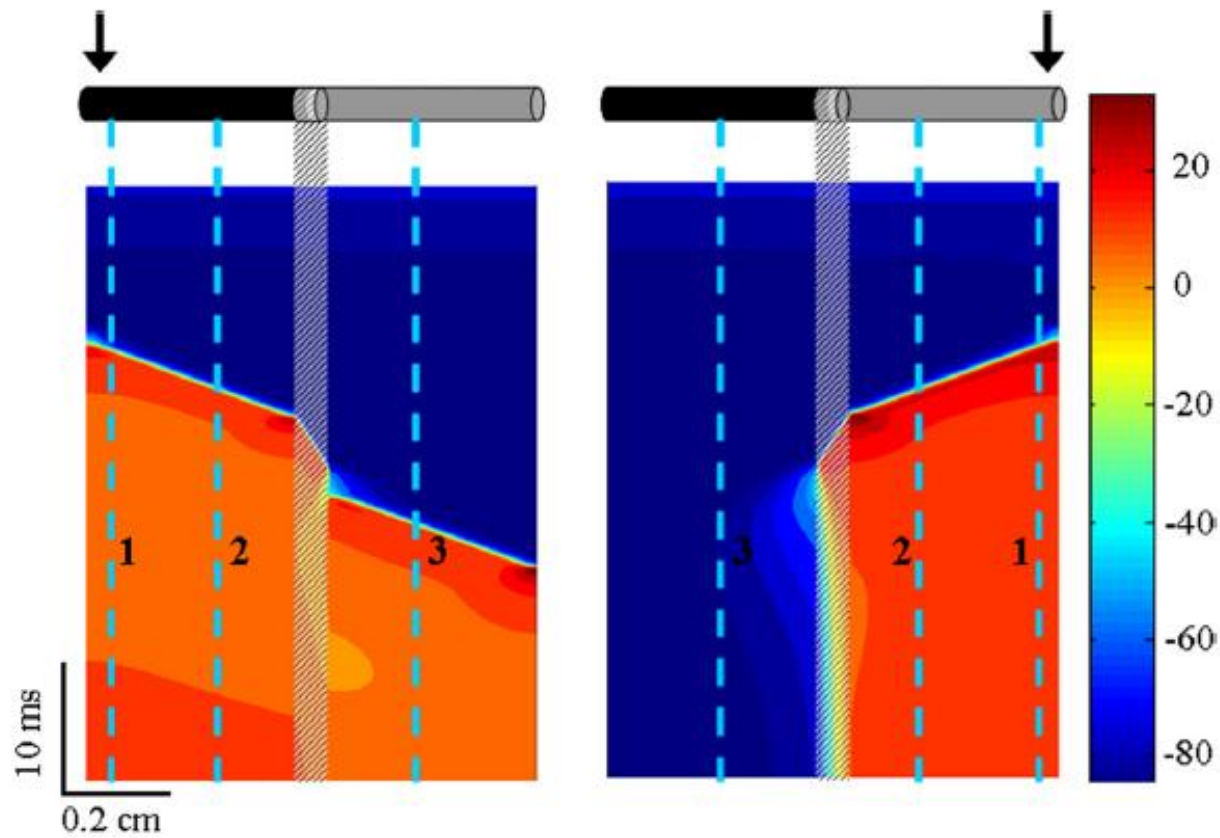


r_m : Membrane resistance
 r_l : Longitudinal resistance
 c_m : Capacitance due to electrostatic forces

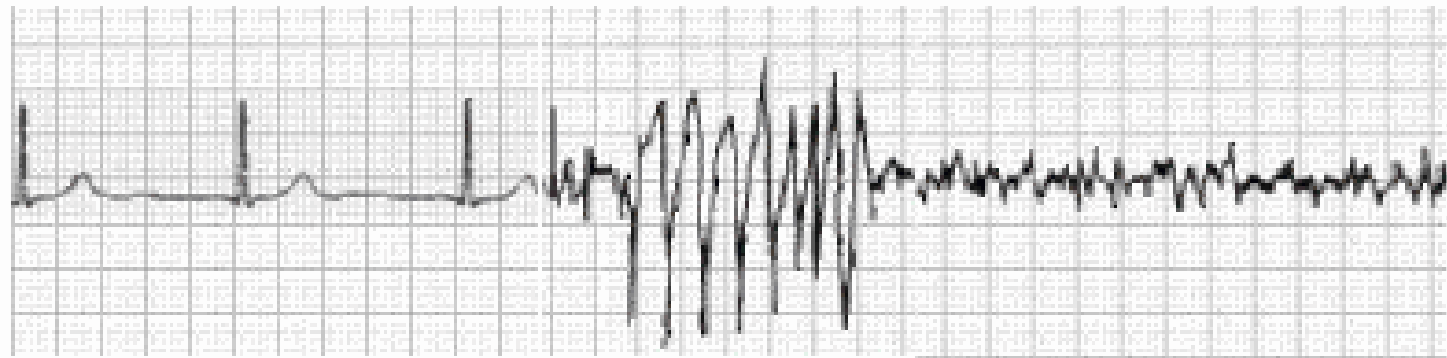
$$\frac{1}{r_l} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} = c_m \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{V}{r_m}$$







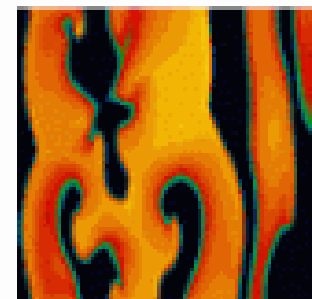
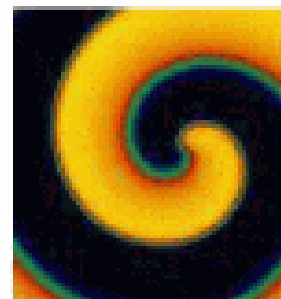
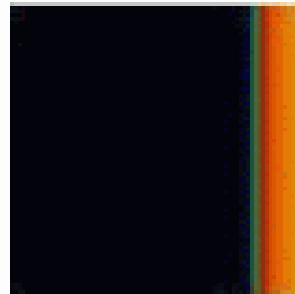
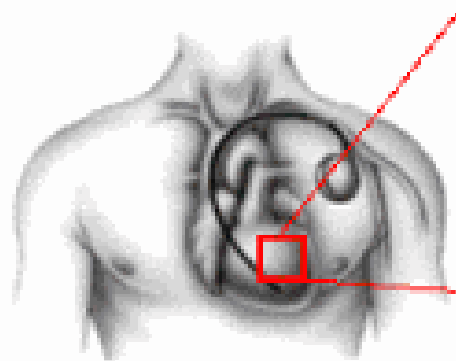
BLOCCO UNIDIREZIONALE



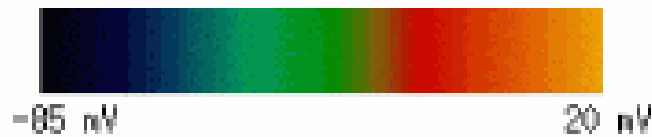
Normal Heart Rhythm

Ventricular Tachycardia

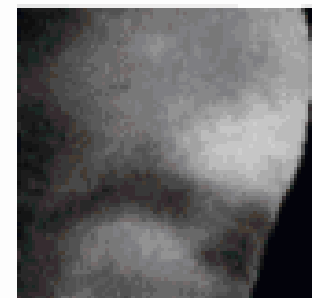
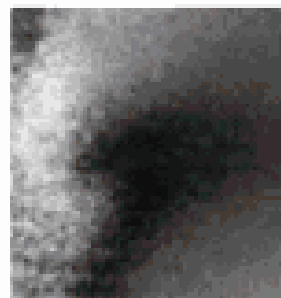
Ventricular Fibrillation

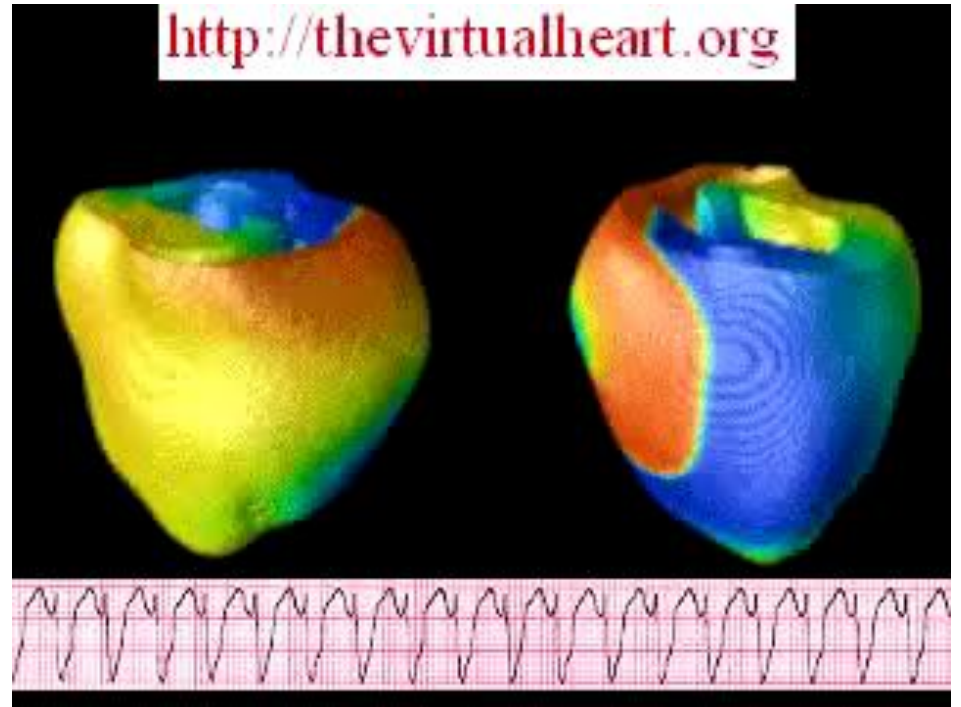
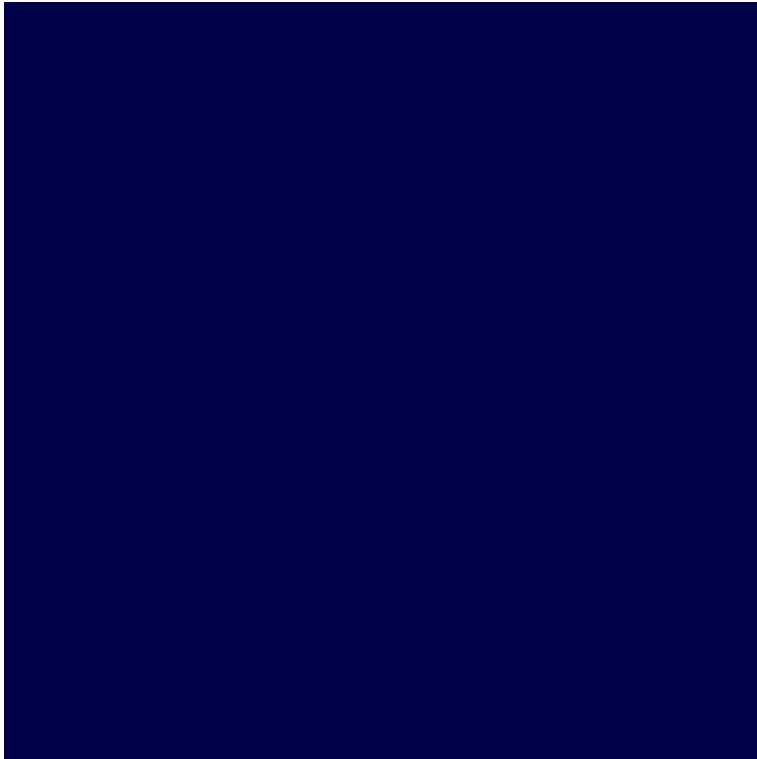


Simulation

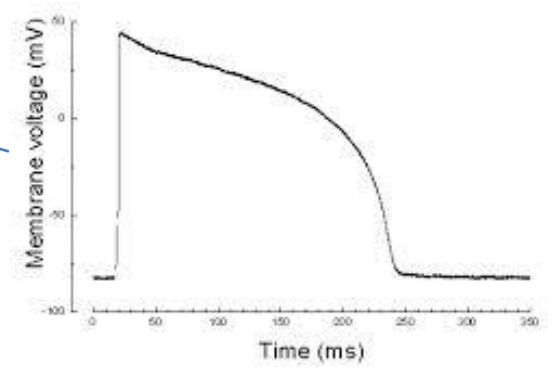
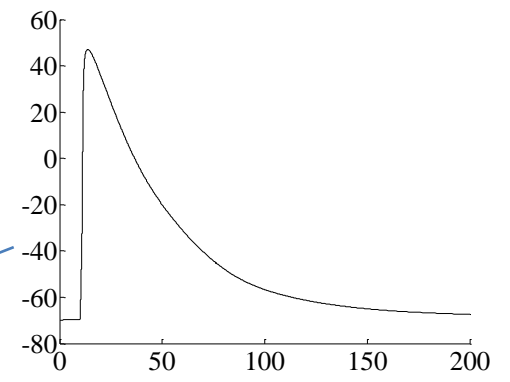
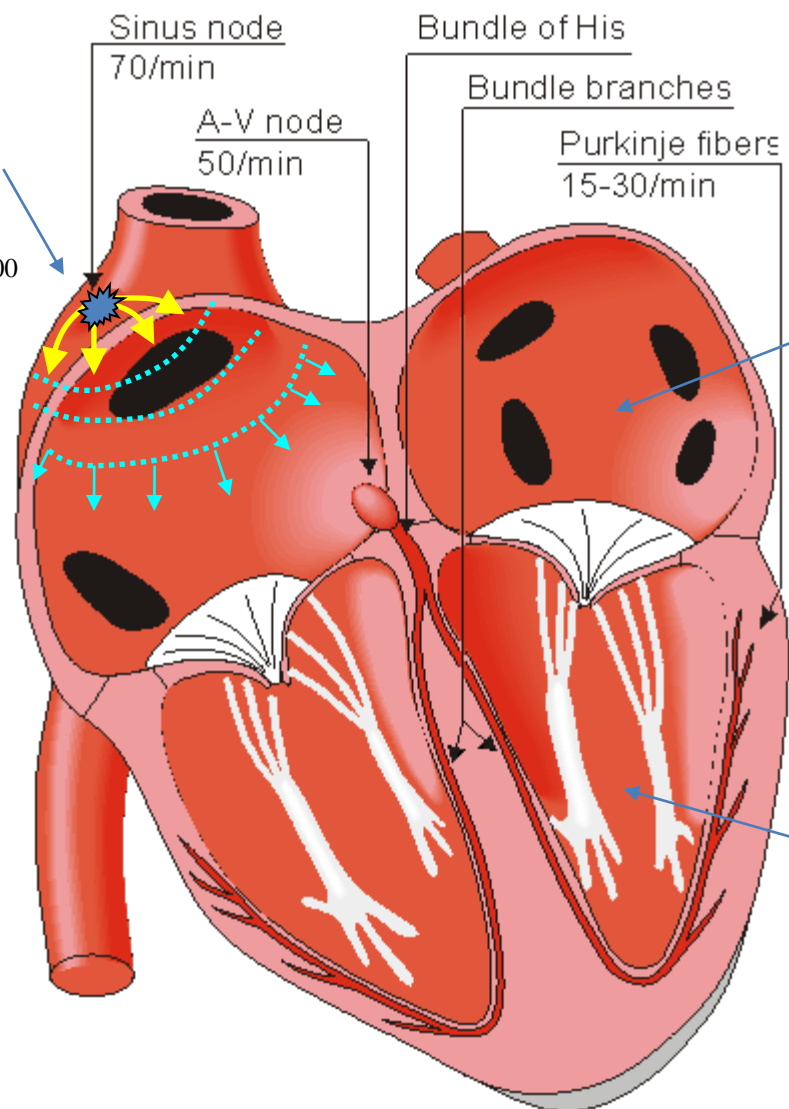
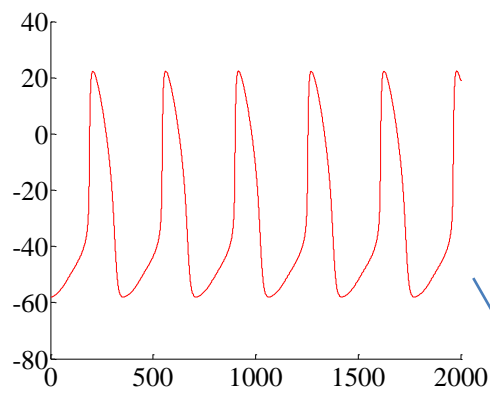
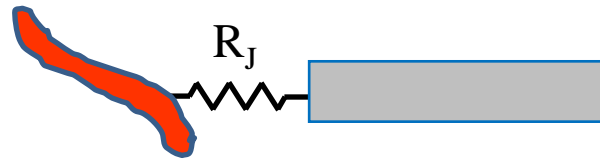


Experiment

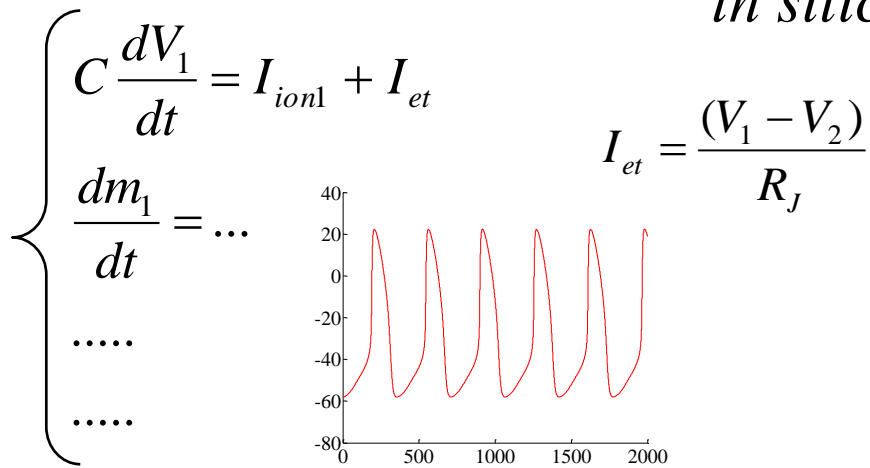




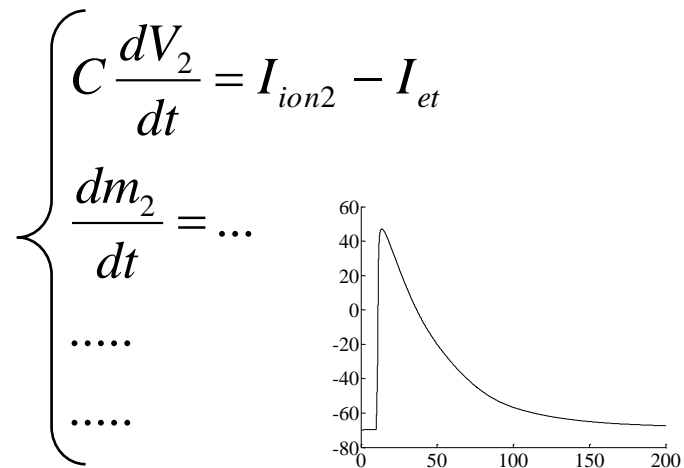
ONDE SPIRALI DI PROPAGAZIONE di
potenziali d'azione tipo **Fitzhugh-Nagumo**



“in silico”



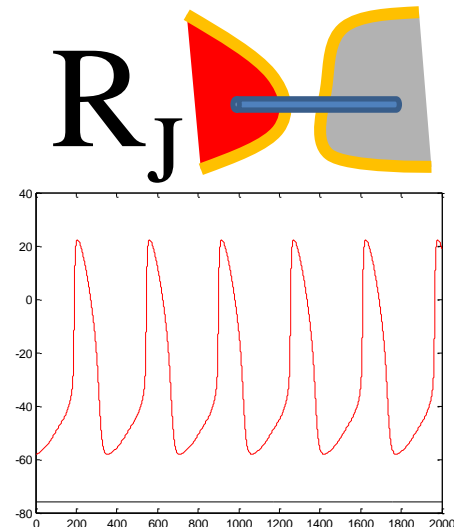
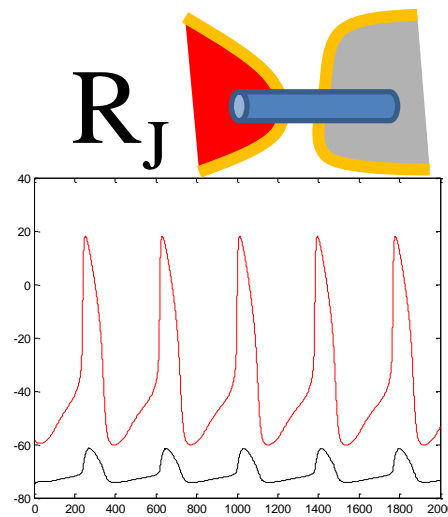
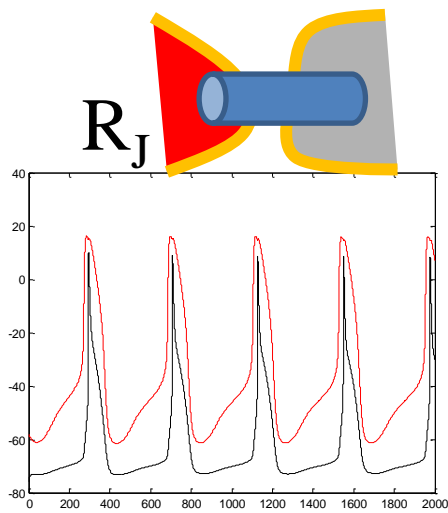
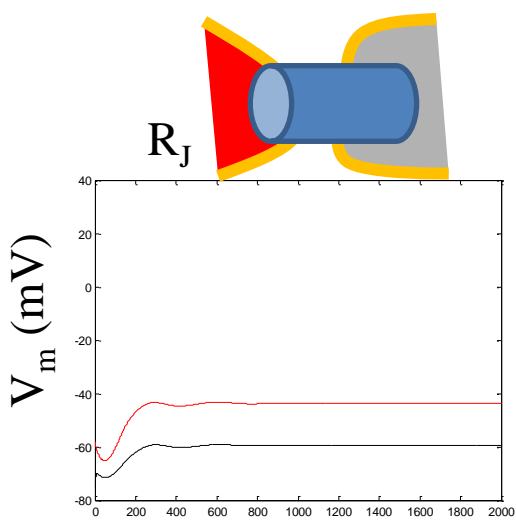
modello AP cellula pacemaker

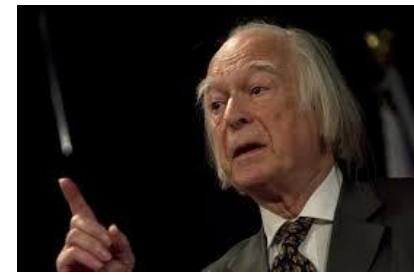


modello AP cellula atriale

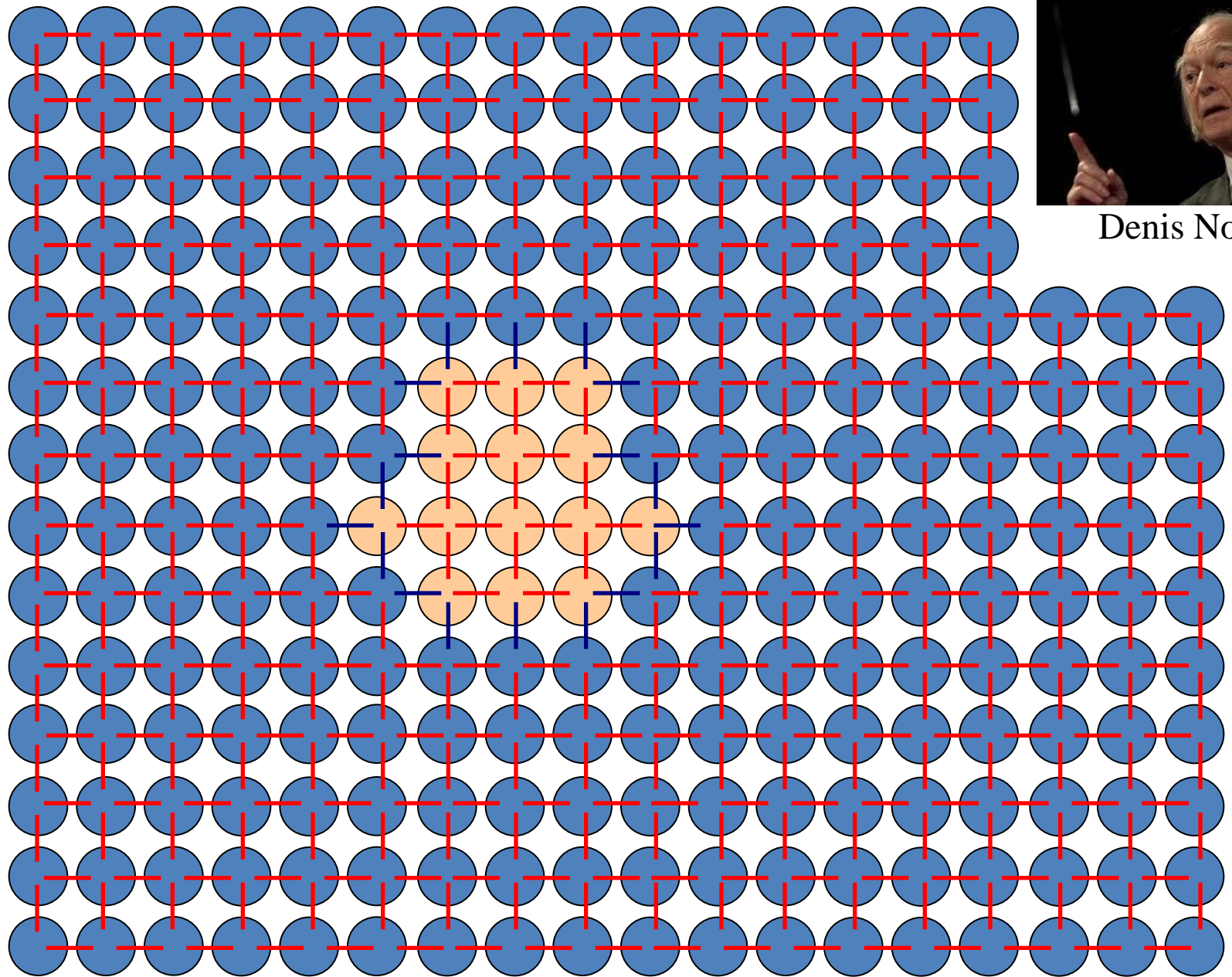


CANALE DI
GAP JUNCTION







Denis Noble

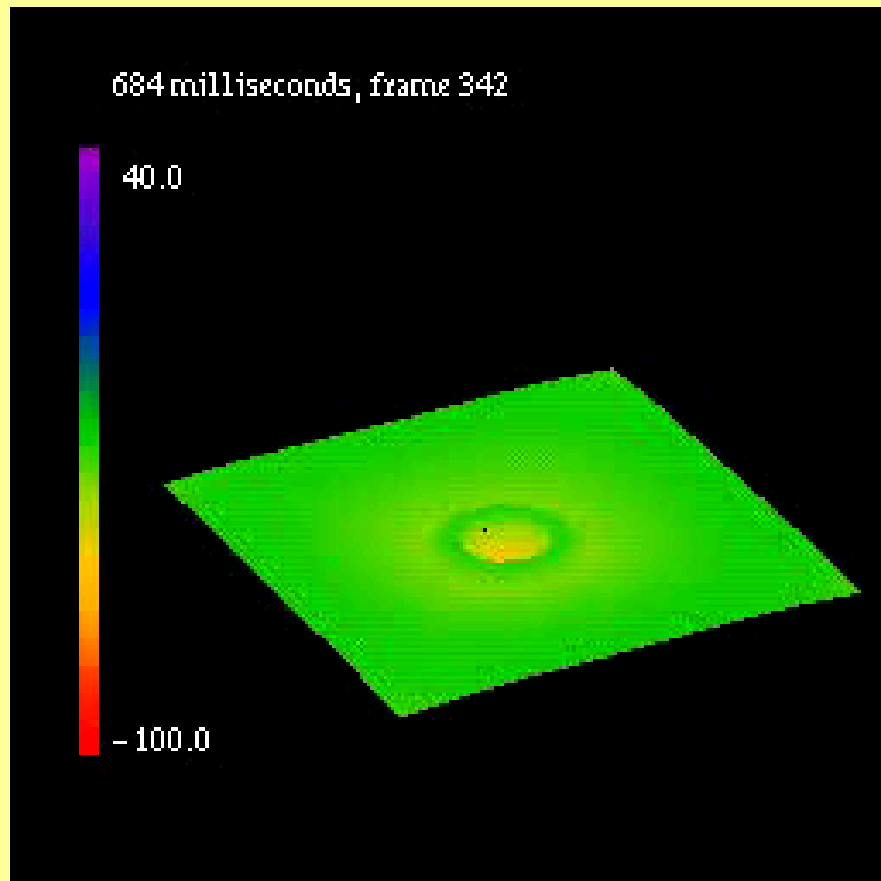


 SA nodal

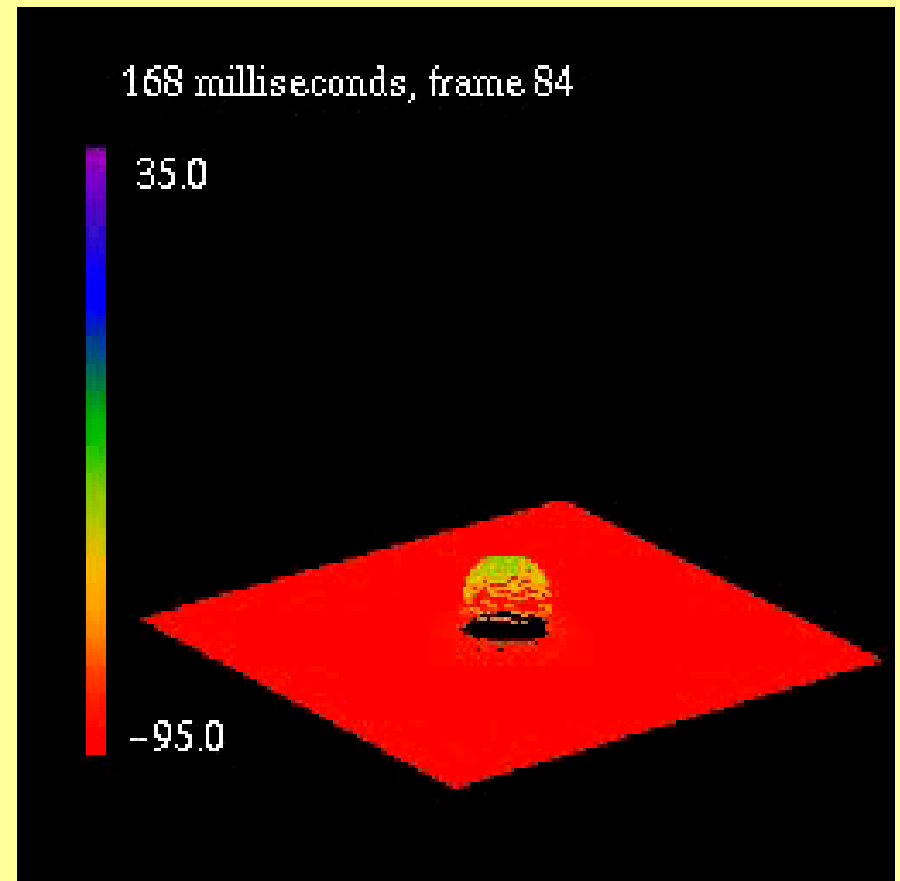
 atrial

 gap junctions low resistance
 gap junctions high resistance

Role of junctional coupling in pacemaker potential conduction

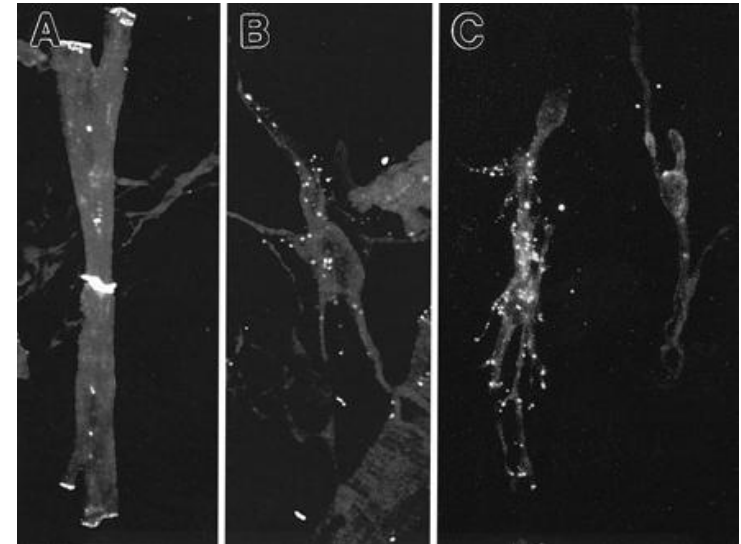
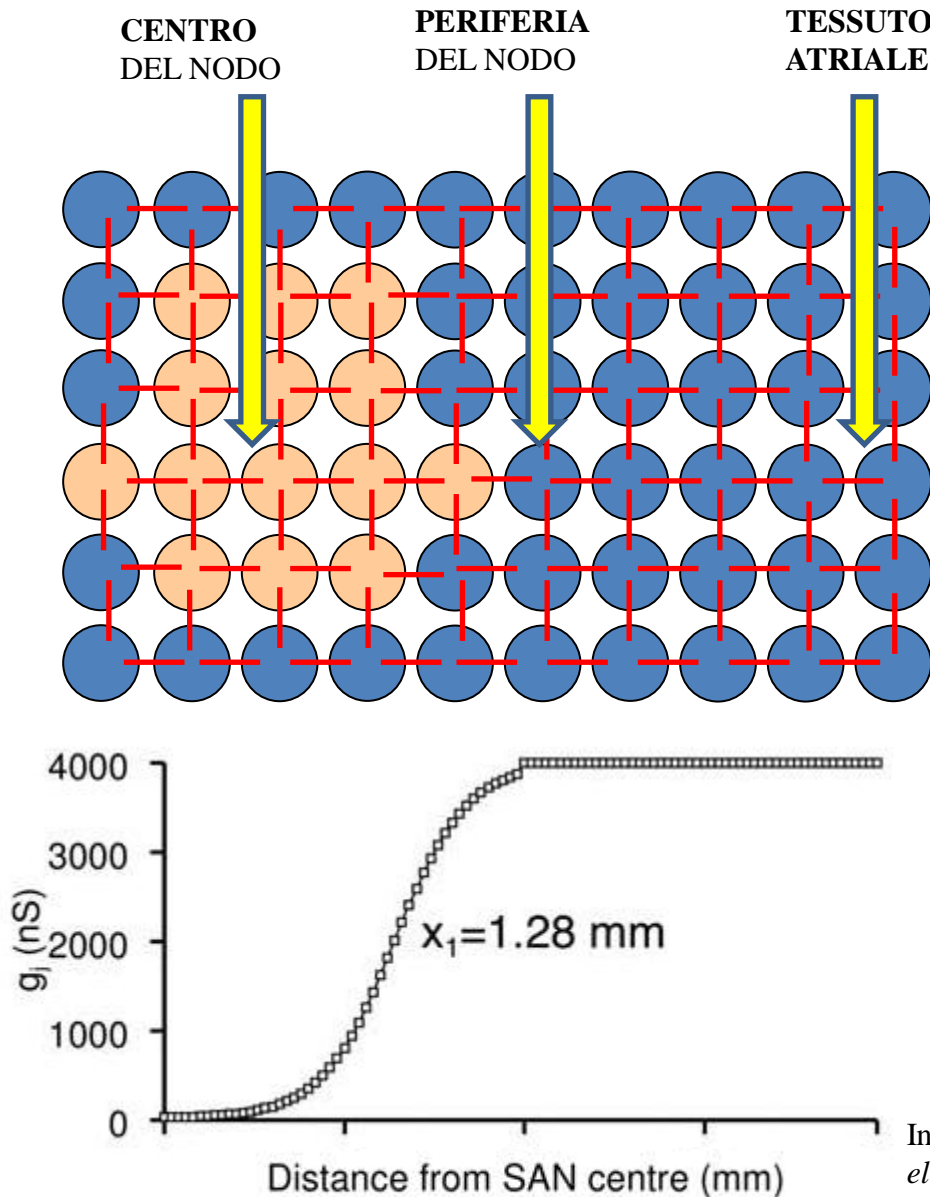


This animation shows a computer model of a pacemaking SA node embedded in surrounding atrial tissue. Individual SA node cells are based on the model of Cai, Winslow, and Noble (IEEE Trans. BME. 41(3):217-231). Atrial cells are modeled as described in Winslow et al. (Proc. Roy. Soc. Lond. B, 254: 55-61). Cell-to-cell coupling in the SA node is **10 nS**, and is **50 nS** in the surrounding atrium. Coupling at the border between SA node and atrium is **50 nS**. At this level of coupling, the pacemaking node is able to generate a propagating wave of excitation in the atrium.



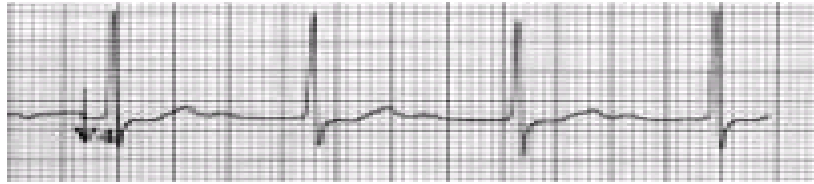
In this animation, cell-to-cell coupling within the atrium and at the SA node - atrial border is increased from **50 to 100 nS**. This coupling level is so high that electrotonic loading of peripheral SA node cells by surrounding atrial cells prevents them from oscillating, and the pacemaker potential fails to conduct onto the atrium. Electrotonic loading occurs since atrial cells have a resting potential (roughly -90 mV) which is considerably more hyperpolarized than the maximum diastolic potential of peripheral SA node cells (-70 mV).

Evidenze sperimentali di un GRADIENTE nella distribuzione delle GJ nel Nodo Senoatriale



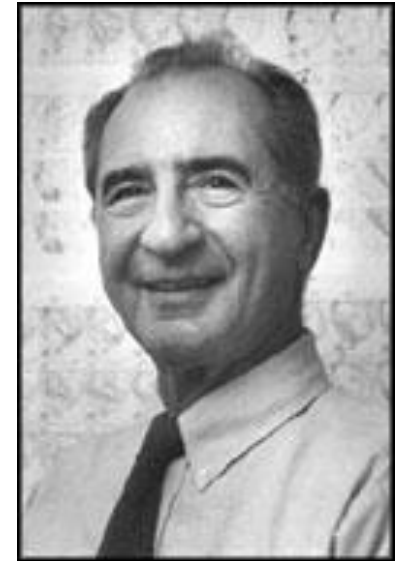
Inada et al., *Importance of gradients in membrane properties and electrical coupling in sinoatrial node pacing.* PLoS One 2014;9(4):e94565

Le frontiere ...



Moderna registrazione di ECG

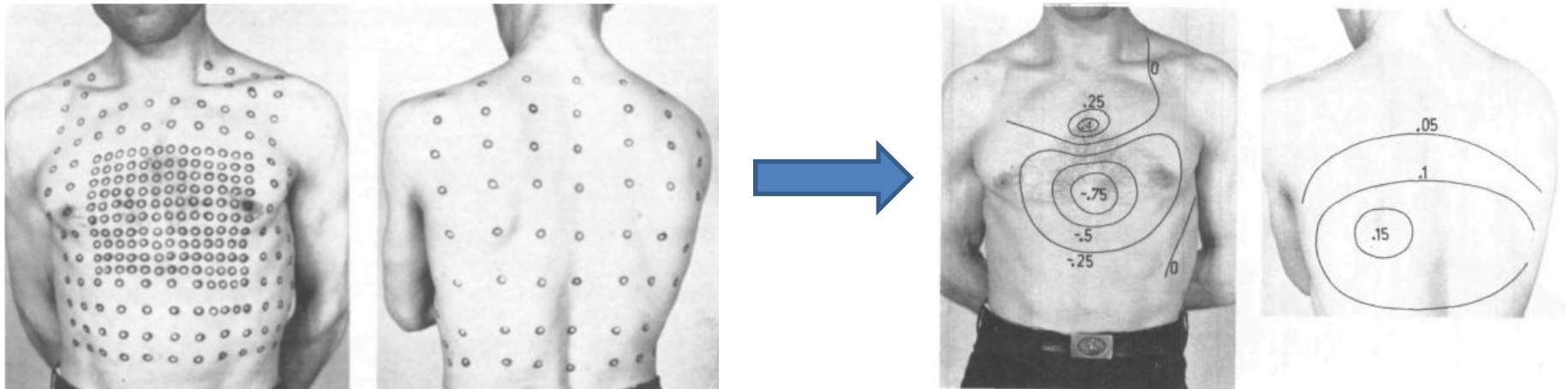
Bruno Taccardi, Università di Parma
Emilio Gatti, Politecnico di Milano
Piero Colli-Franzone, Università di Pavia



Prof. Bruno Taccardi

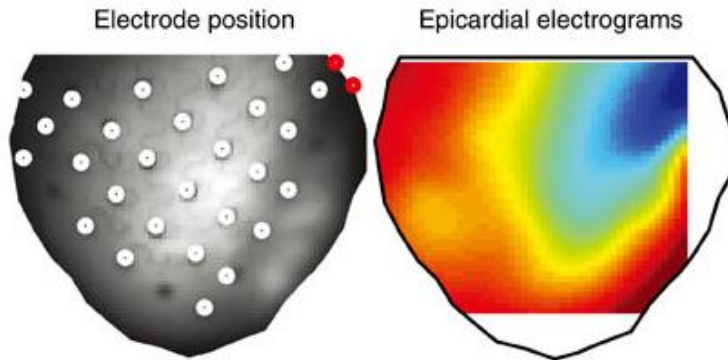
TACCARDI B. Circ Res. 1963; 12: 341-52.

Distribution of heart potentials on the thoracic surface of normal human subjects.



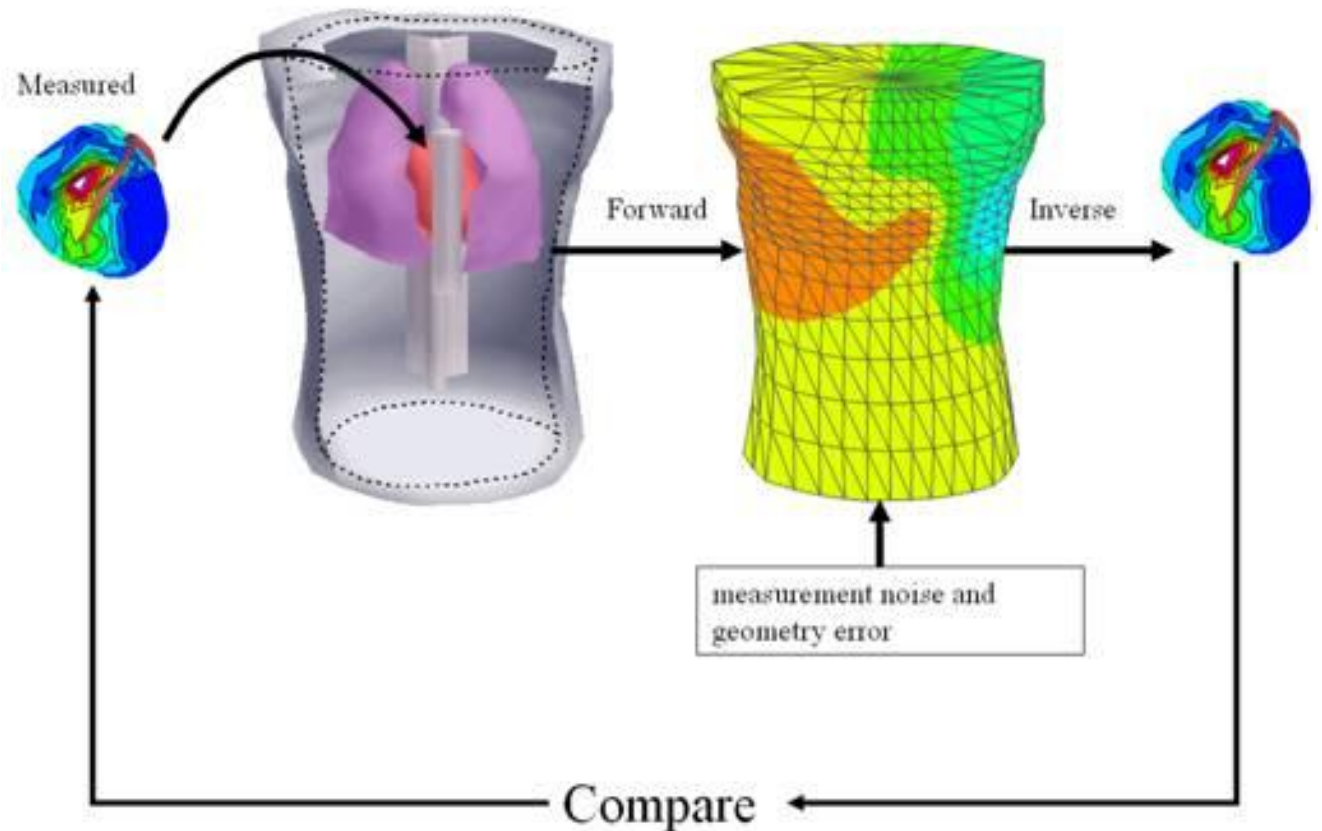
BODY SURFACE MAPPING

SURFACE POTENTIAL MAPPING

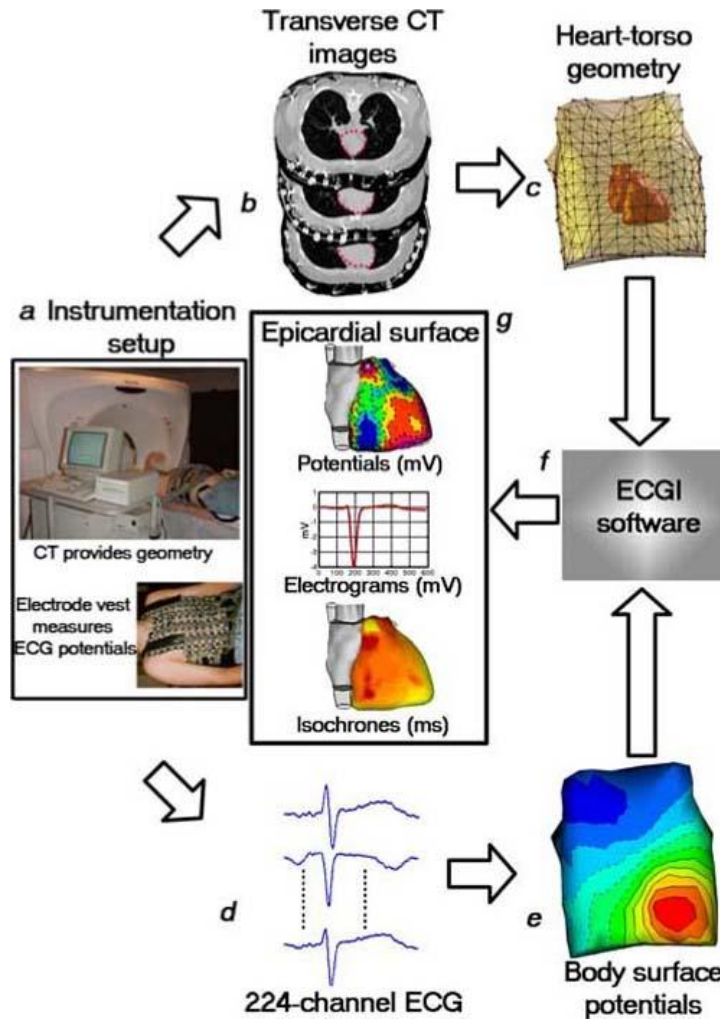


PROBLEMA INVERSO

“È possibile ricostruire la mappa dei potenziali epicardici a partire da quella dei potenziali di torso?”



Yoram Rudy, Washington University in St. Louis



2014

... forte e misterioso regolatore della nostra vita e obbediente a leggi più complicate delle nostre, è quell'astro rosso che palpita nel buio del nostro corpo, sospeso nella sua gabbia d'ossa e di carne.

M. Yourcenar, *L'opera al nero*



GRAZIE PER L'ATTENZIONE