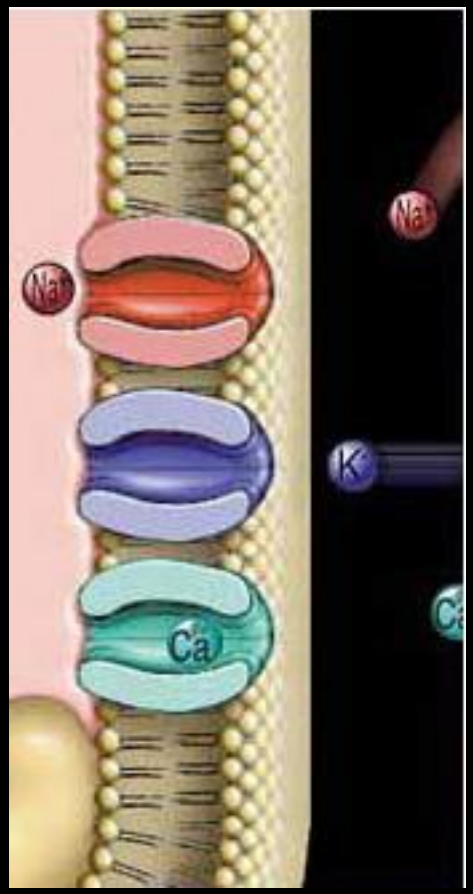
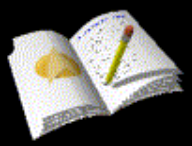


The excitable tissues (Nerve+ Muscle)

• Objectives

- At the end of this lecture the student should be able to :
- Describe the voltage-gated sodium and potassium membrane channels and their states .
- Explain the resting membrane ptential (RMP) , Threshold Potential, Reversal Potential , Local Response and Action Potential .
- Describe components of a neuron dendrites , soma , axon . axon hillock and their physiological significance
- Describe the electrical changes in membrane potential during the action potential , their chemical bases and excitability changes .
- Describe conduction along nerve fibers , role of myelination and how nerve fibers are classified .



The nerve

Neuron:-

DIF: unit of function of the central nervous system

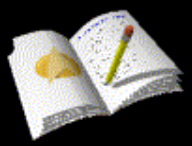
Parts of motor neuron & function of each part:

1- Soma (cell body)

2-Dendrites carry nerve impulses from surroundings to the soma

3 Axon hillock

4-Axon & axon terminal



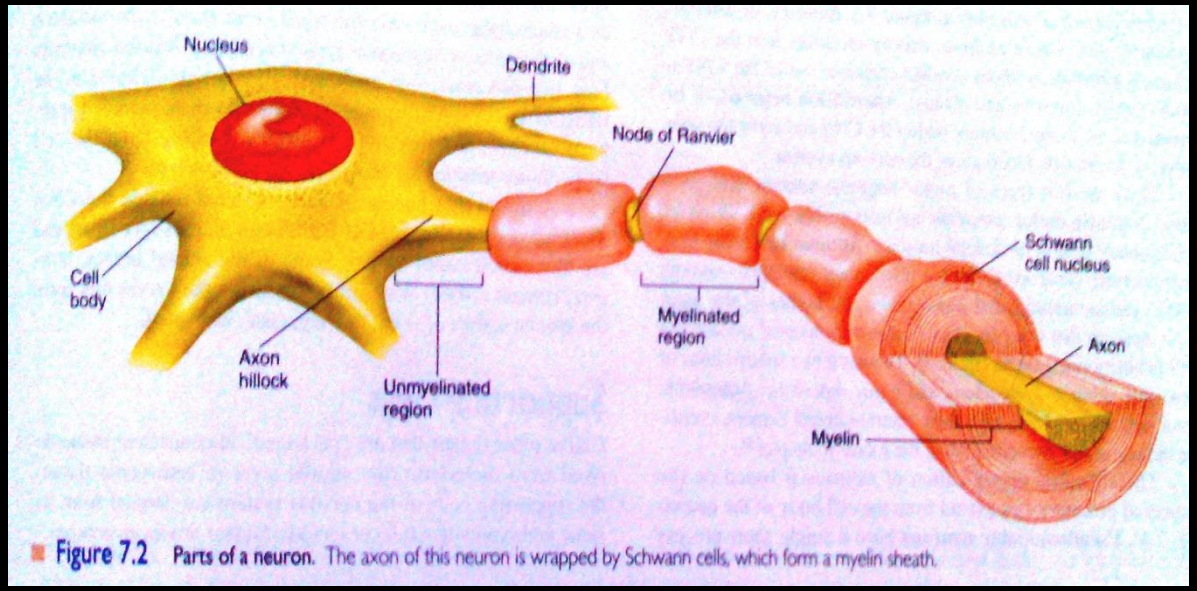


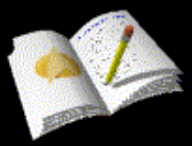
Figure 7.2 **Parts of a neuron.** The axon of this neuron is wrapped by Schwann cells, which form a myelin sheath.

-Histological classification of axons:-

1- myelinated : have myelin sheath (diameter more than 1um)

2- unmyelinated (diameter less than1um)

-type C :postganglionic autonomic &pain fibers

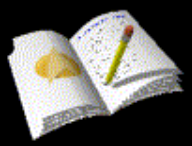


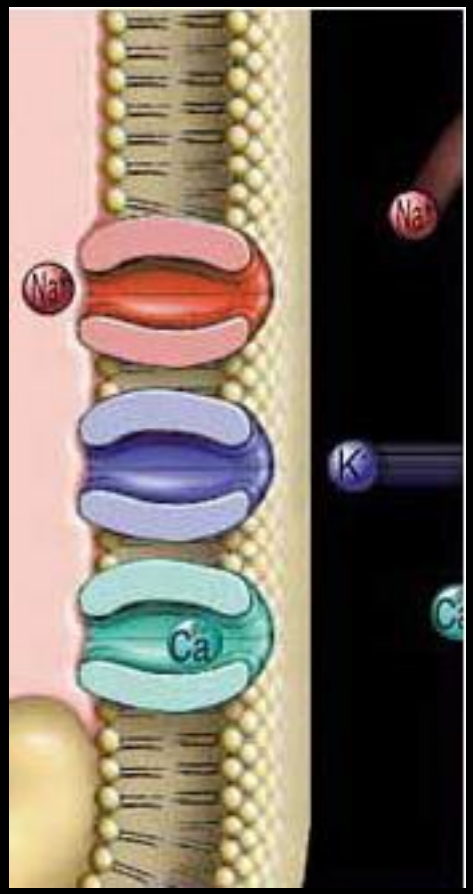
-Myelin sheath is formed by schwann - cell which deposit sphingomyelin

Functions of myelin sheath

1-insulator

3- increase conduction velocity





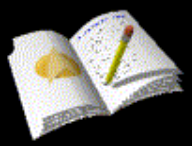
The resting membrane potential of nerves

RESTING MEMBRANE POTENTIAL

DIF: it is potential difference across membrane during rest (without stimulation)

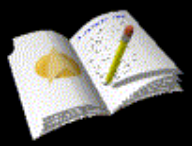
Value:- -70 to-90 mv in large nerve fibers (-ve inside)

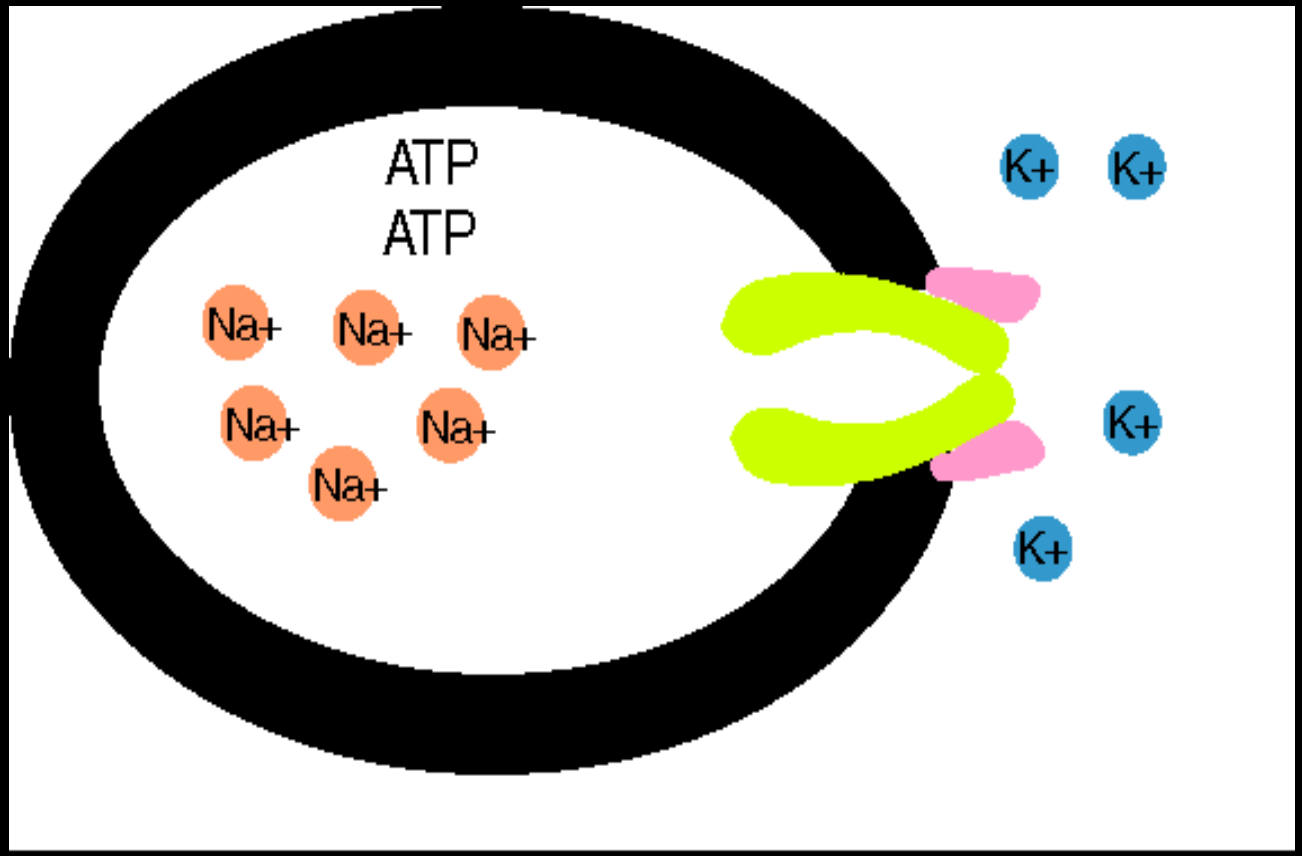
-The membrane is polarized



Causes of RMP:

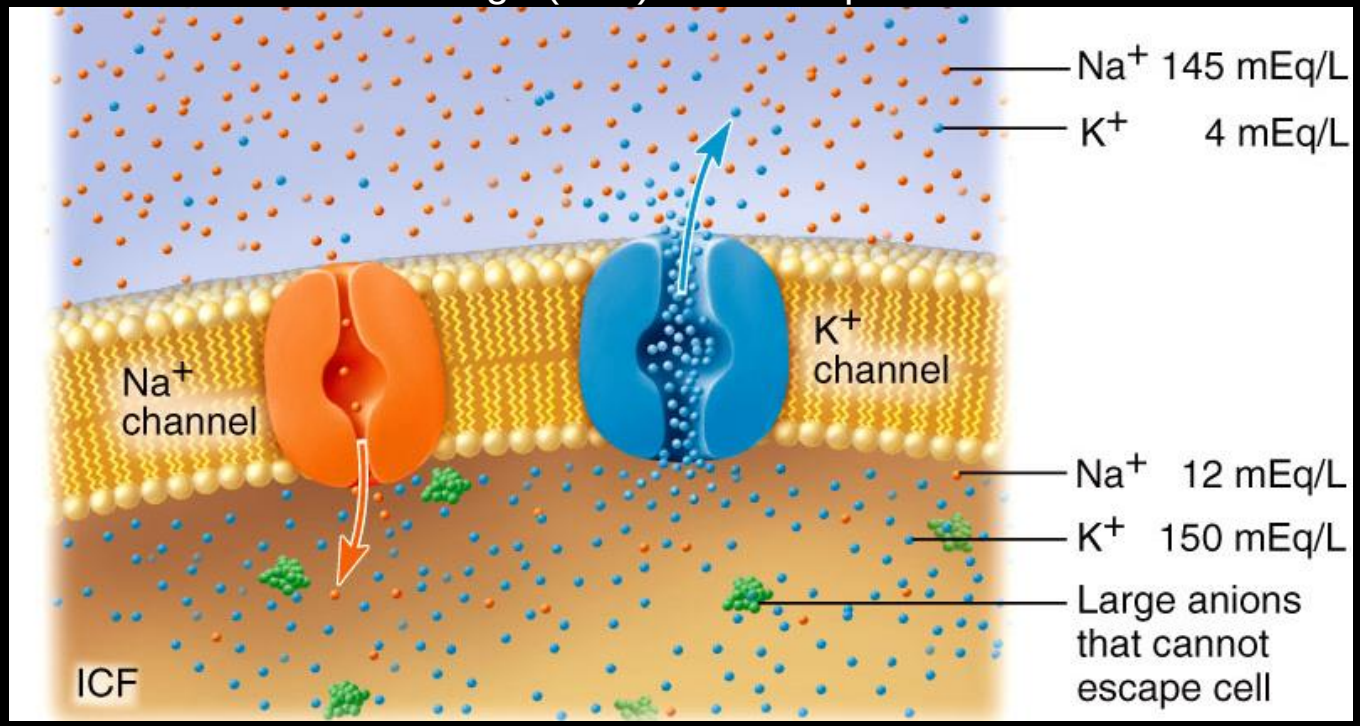
- 1. RMP is 100 times more permeable to K+ than Na+. K+ tends to leak out of the cell down its conc gradient, carrying +ve charge with it. (through K leak channels).
- 2. non-diffusible anions (proteins, sulphate and phosphate ions) cannot leave the cell.
- 3. very small amount of Na+ diffuses into the cell down its conc gradient. The mb only slightly permeable to Na+. (through Na+ leak channels).
- 4. Na+-K+ pump maintain conc gradients of K+, and Na+ between the two sides of the mb.




ATP
ATP
Na+
Na+
Na+
Na+
Na+
Na+
K+
K+
K+
K+

What does it mean when a neuron “fires”?

- Firing = excitability = action potential = nerve impulse
- Recall resting potential of all cells
  - High K+ in; high Na+ out
  - Cell is polarized
  - Cell overall neg. charge inside due to molecules like proteins, RNA, DNA
    - Charge measured in millivolts
    - Potential = difference in charge across PM
    - Current = flow of charge (ions) from one point to another



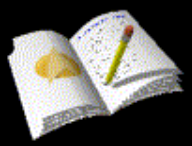
Changes that occure through the nerve after stimulation by threshold (effective) stimulus:-

1- Electrical changes (nerve action potential)

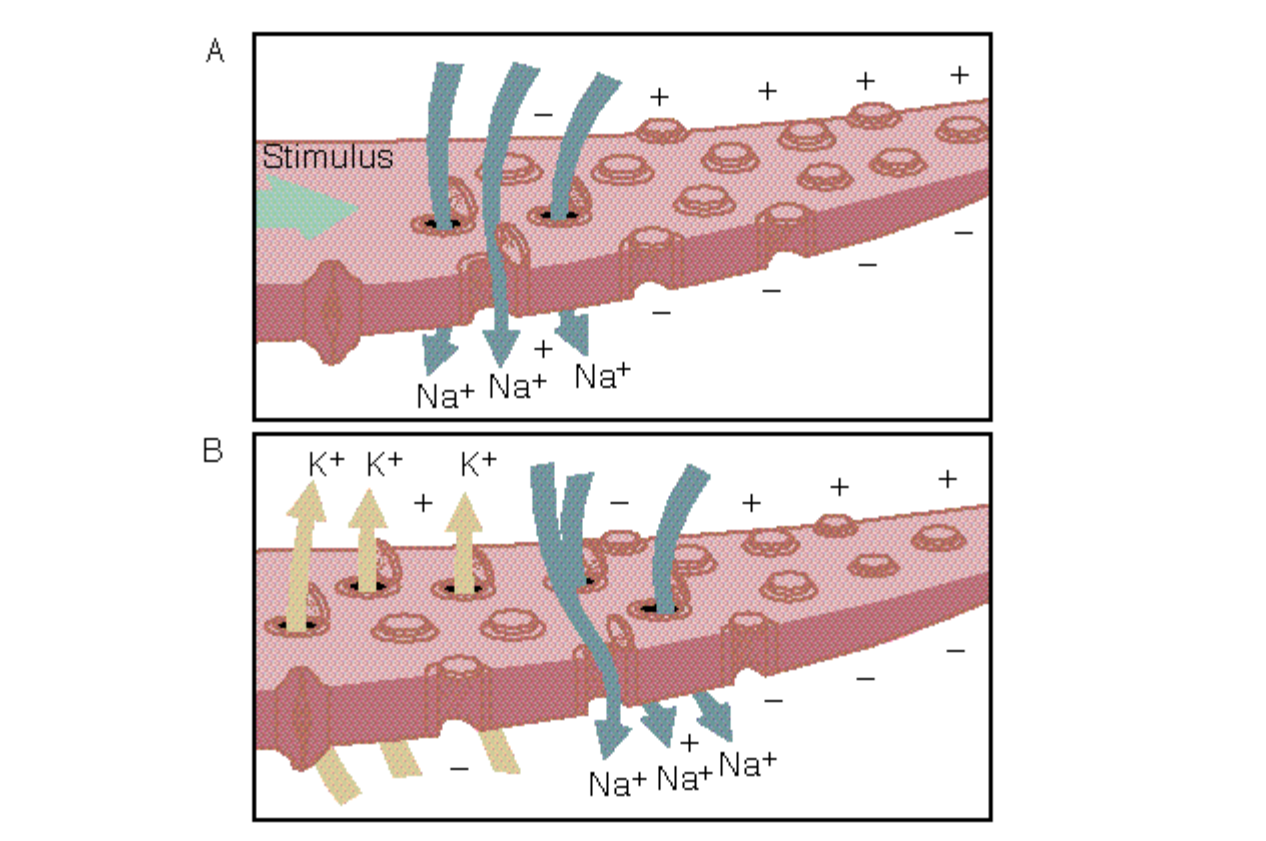
2- Excitability changes

3-Thermal changes

4-Chemical changes

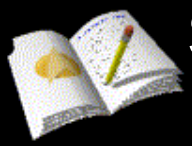


Nerve physiology: Action potentials



The action potential

- It is sudden reversal of membrane polarity produced by a stimulus to produce a physiological effect such as:
- Transmission of impulse along nerve fibres
- Release of neurotransmitters
- Muscle contraction
- Activation or inhibition of glandular secretion



1- Electrical changes

The nerve action potential

-It is potential difference along nerve membrane after stimulation

by threshold (effective)stimulus

- oscilloscope to measure rapid changes in membrane potential

-Nerve signals (impulses) are transmitted as nerve action potentials conducted along the nerve fiber as a wave of depolarization to its end

-The factors necessary for nerve action potential are voltage gated Na &

k channels

Threshold stimulus

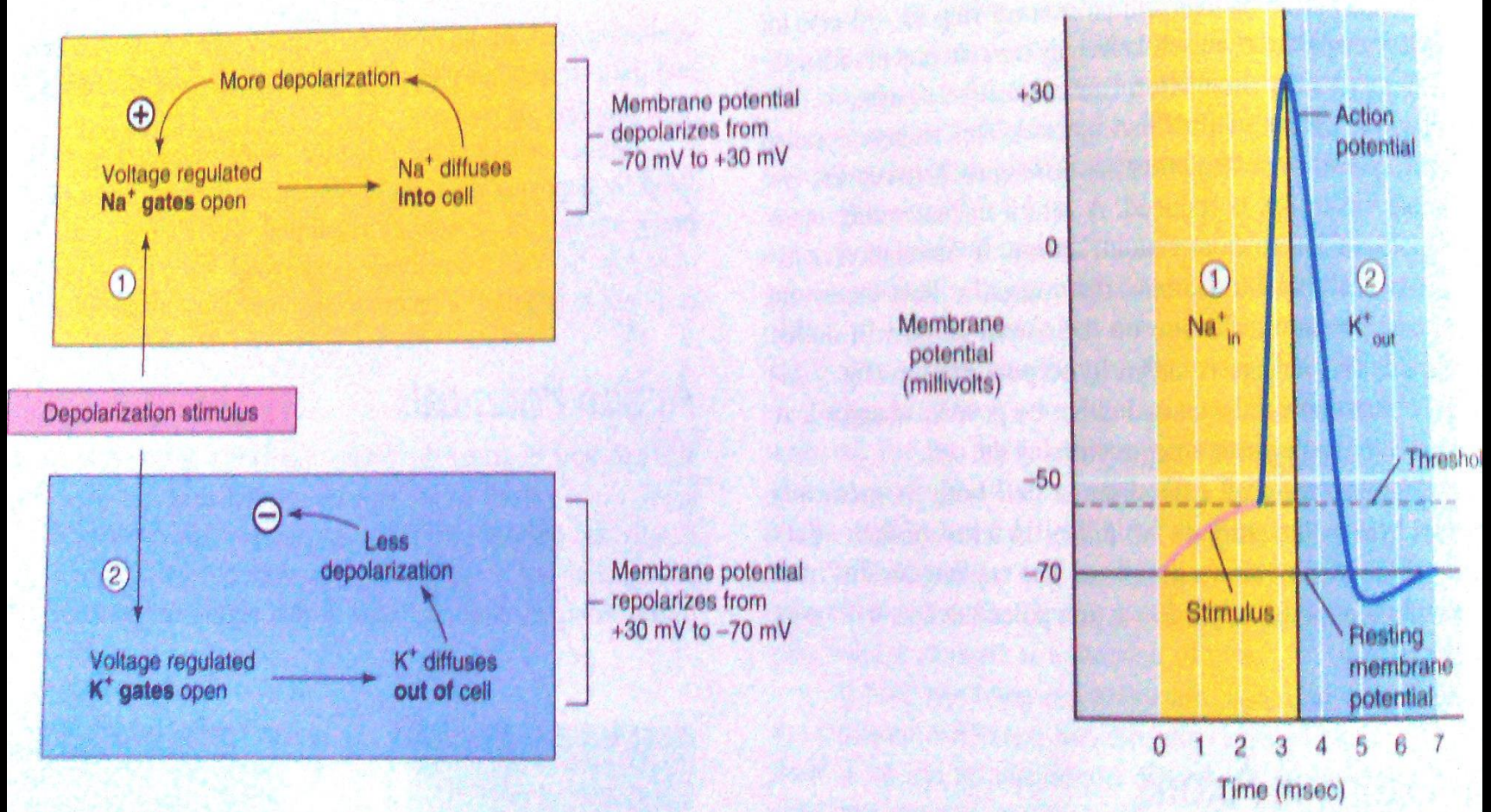


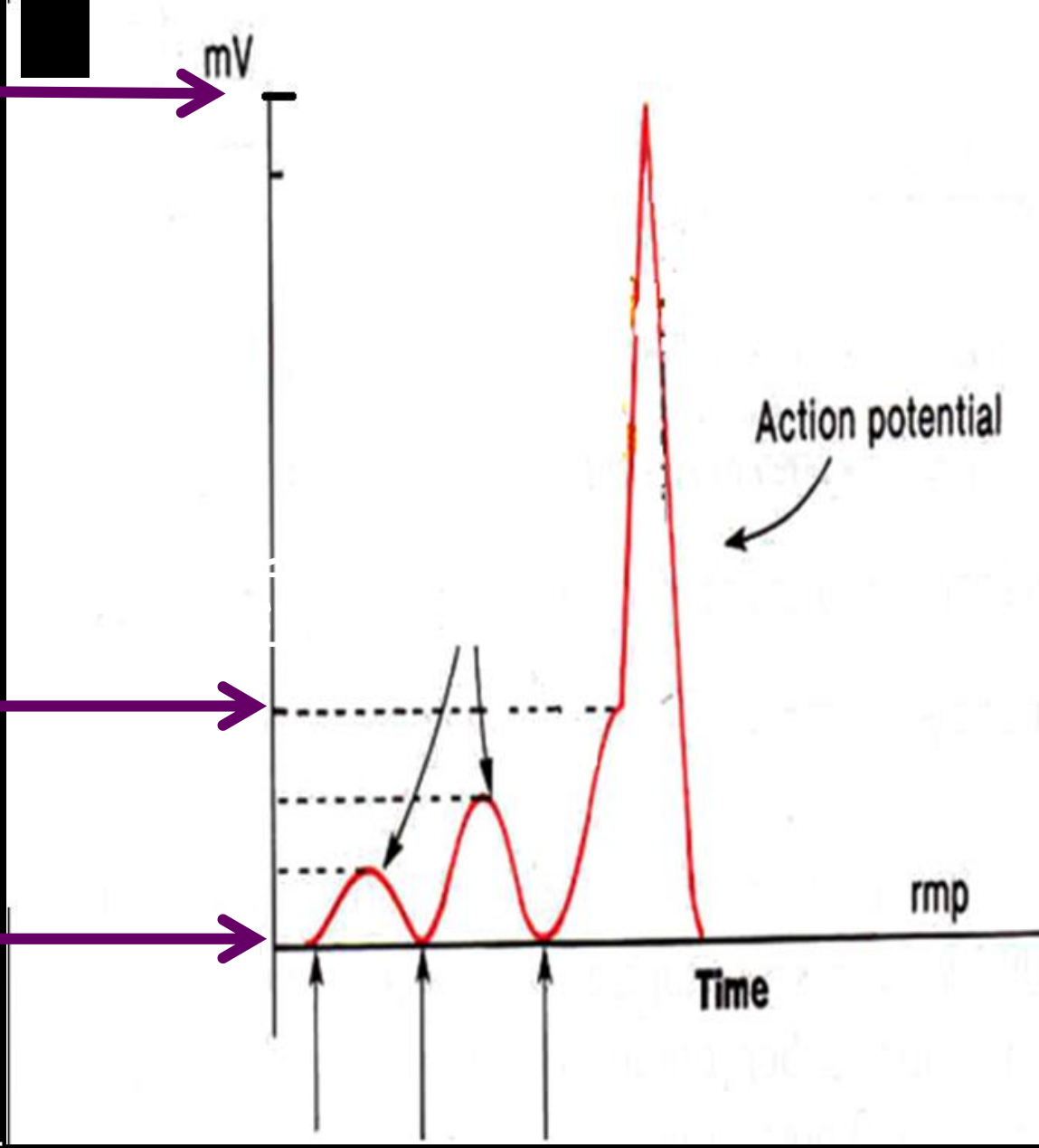
Figure 7.13 Depolarization of an axon affects Na^+ and K^+ diffusion in sequence. *(1)* Na^+ gates open and Na^+ diffuses into the cell. *(2)* After a brief

Reversal Potential = + 35 mV

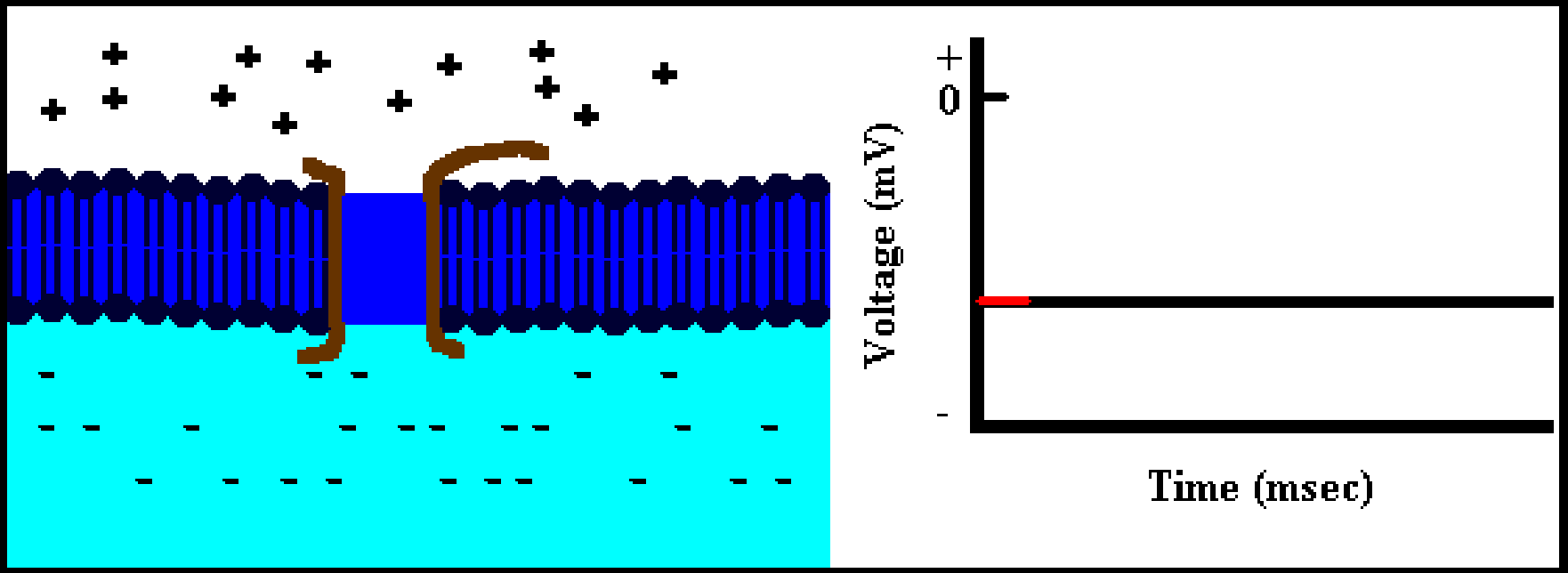
Threhold Potential (Firing Level) = -50 to -65 mV

RMP= -90 mV

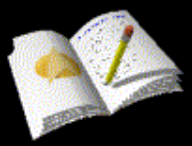
Q : What opens the voltage-gated channels ? Opened by a stimulus strong enough to depolarize them to threshold



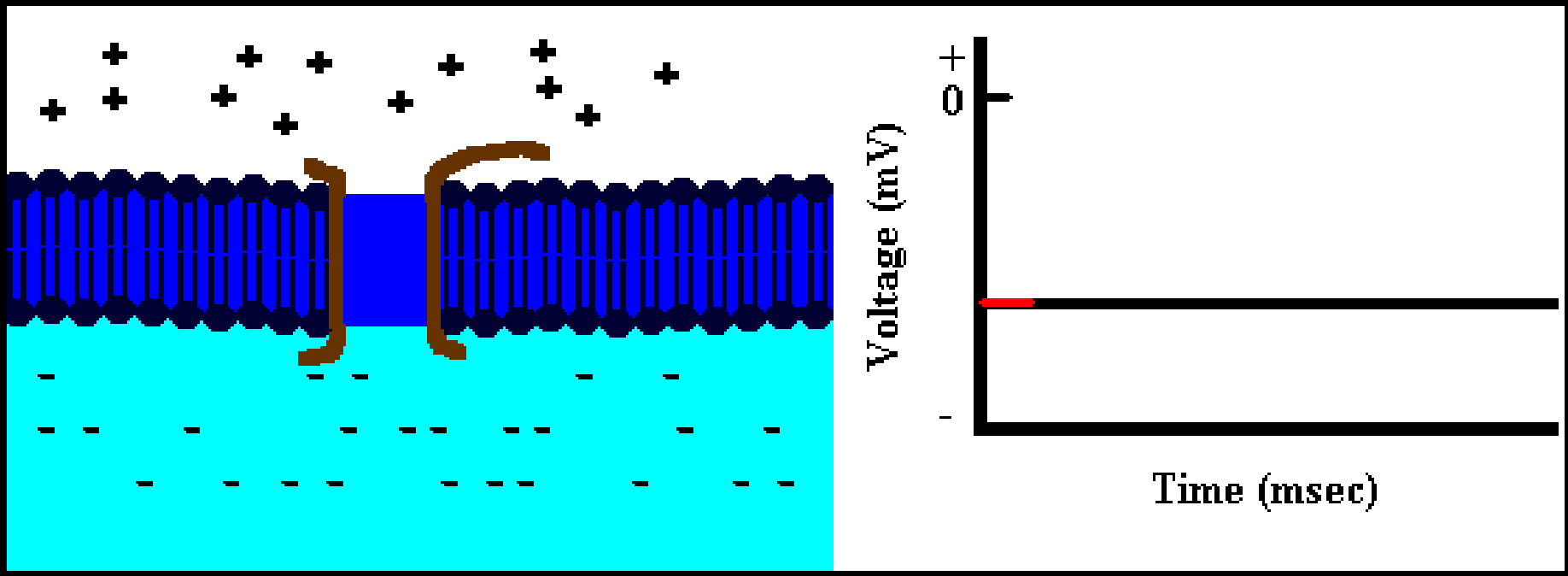
Depolarization



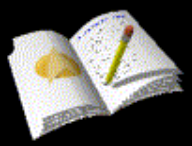
c-Repolarization :- due to high K conductance(flow) to outside (K outflux) by openning of all voltage gated K channels (causes negativity inside)



Repolarization



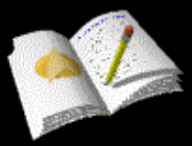
- Hyperpolarization: Why?
- Na-K pump now start to move Na out & K in against their concentration gradient, so the RMP is resumed and the membrane is ready for another stimulus



The action potential (cont.)***

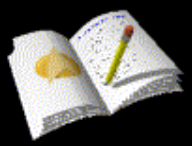
Threshold stimulus:

If a stimulus is strong enough to move **RMP** from its resting value (**-70mV**) to the level of (**-55mV**) which leads to production of an **AP**



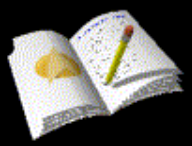
Subthreshold stimulus:

Stimulus that result only in local depolarisation



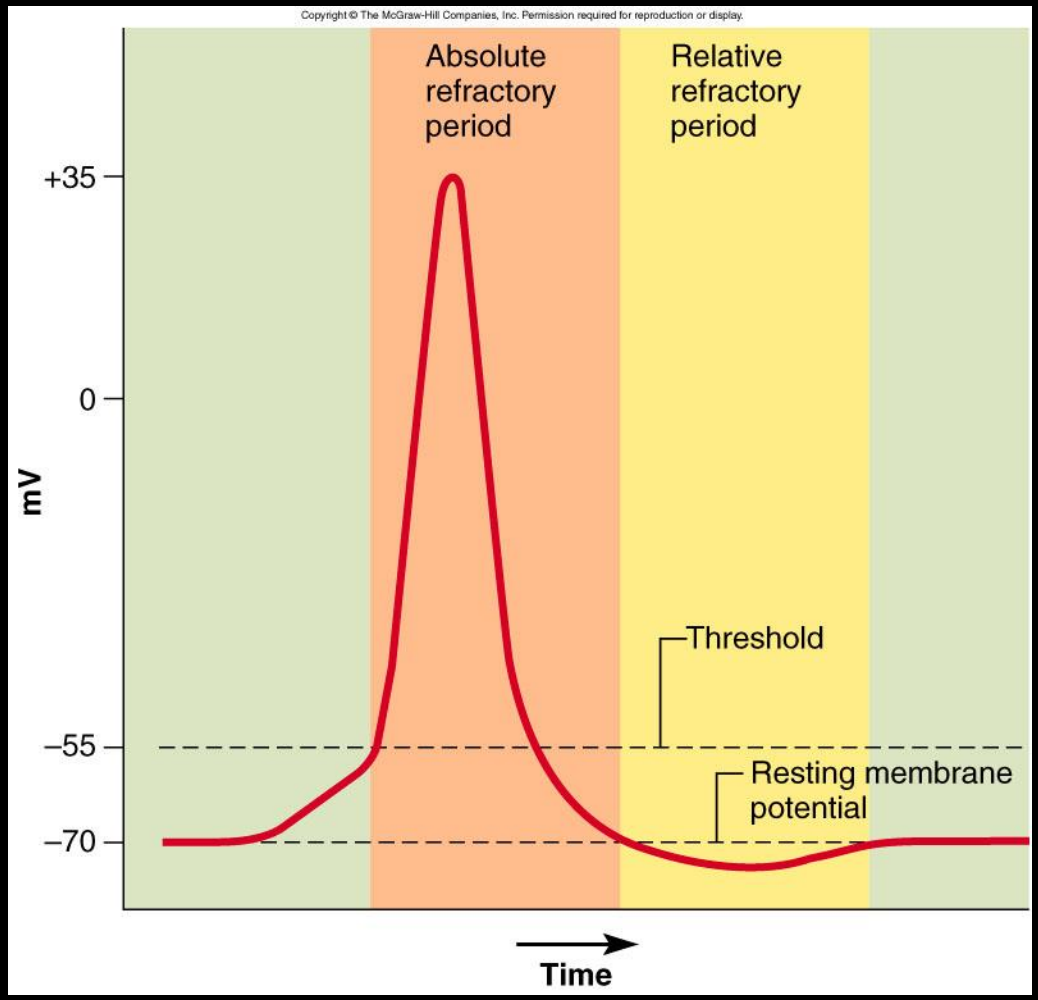
All or nothing principle:-

- Once threshold value for excitation is reached a full AP produced ,its intensity can not increased by increasing stimulus intensity (suprathreshold)

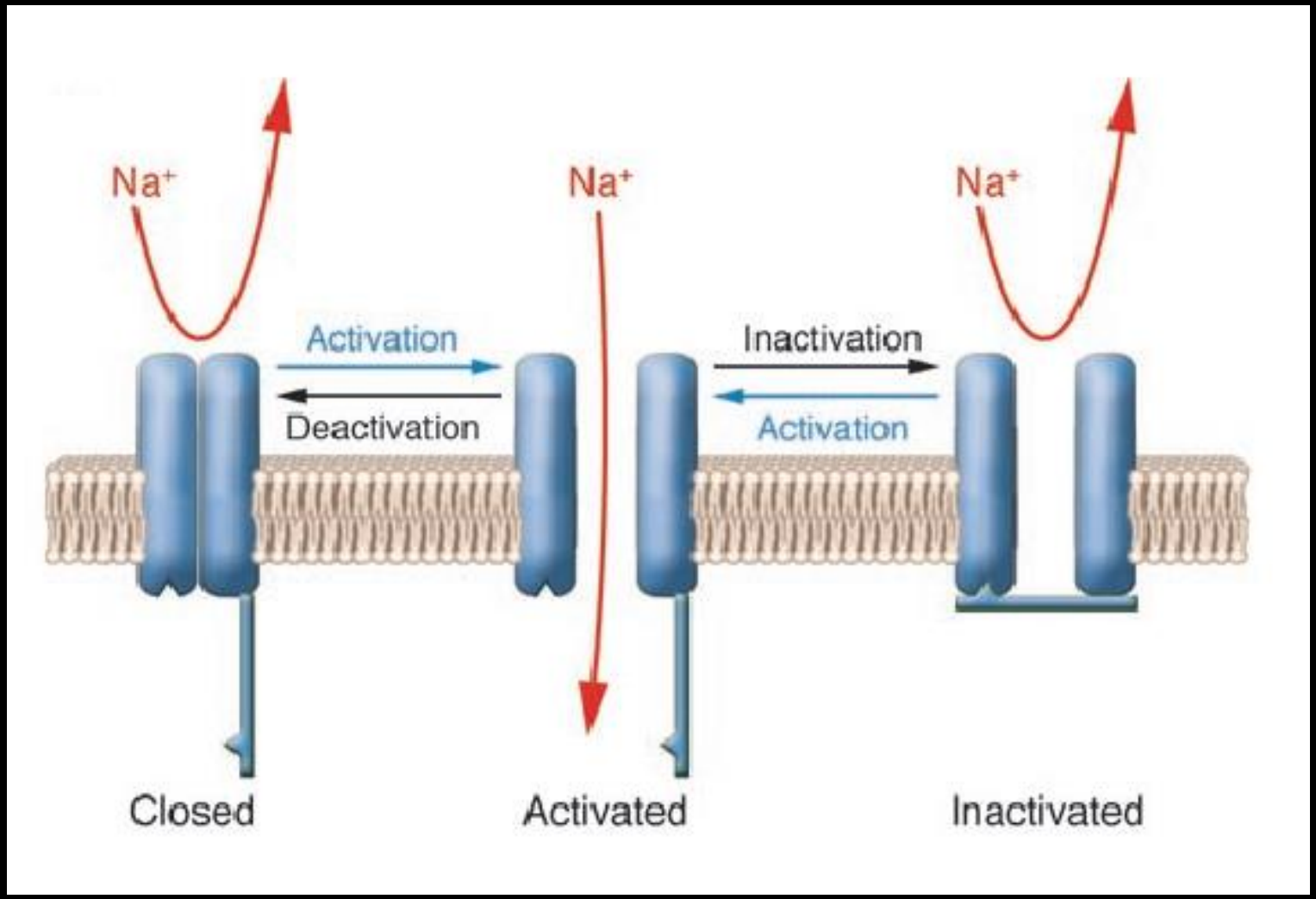


What happens after an action potential?

- Refractory period: few millisecs
  - Time during which can't stimulate neuron a second time
  - Happens until recovery of resting potential
- Two stages
  - Absolute refractory period
    - No new action potential possible
  - Relative refractory period
    - Can trigger new action potential if stimulus is very strong

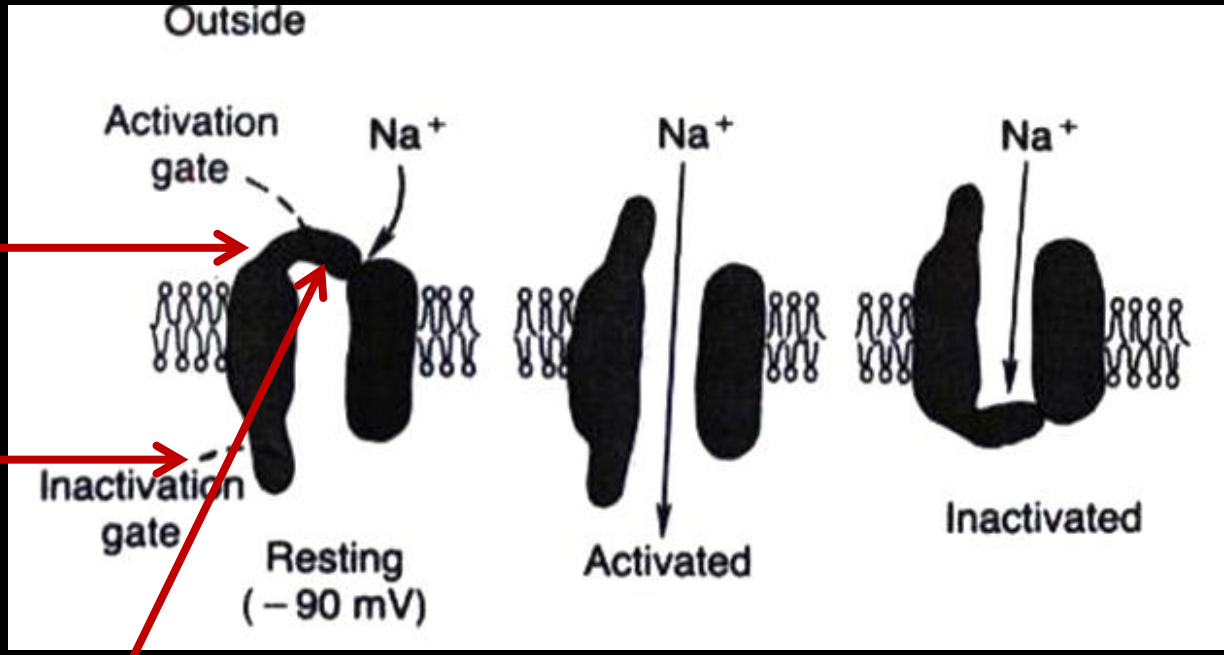


Activation-Inactivation-Deactivation



The Na+ Voltage-Gated Channel (1)

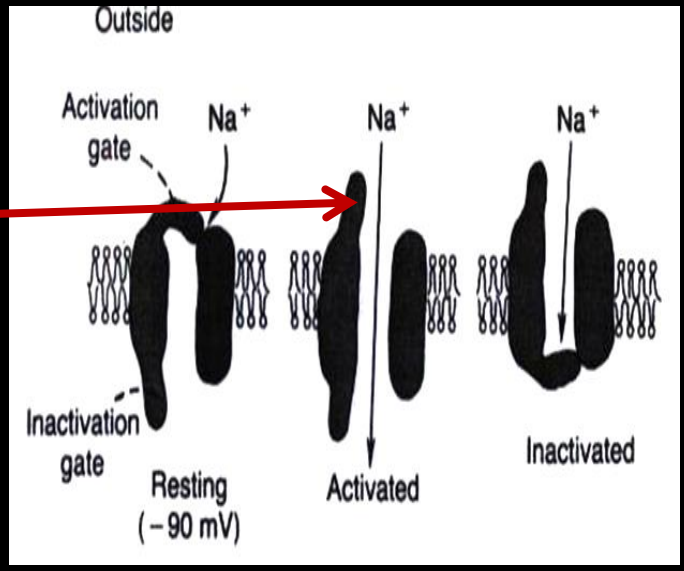
- Has 2 gates : one on the outer side of the membrane and is called the activation gate ,
- and another one on the inner side of membrane called the inactivation gate .
- And this channel has 3 states :



- (1) Resting state : in the resting cell , when the MP = RMP = -70 to -90 mV , →
- the activation gate is closed
- this prevents entry of Na+ to the interior of the cell through this gate.

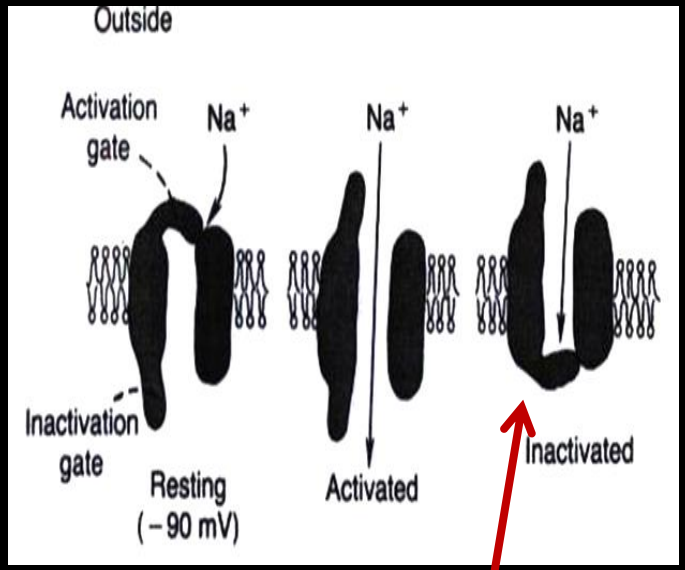
Activated State of Sodium Channel

- **(2) <u>Activated state :</u> when a Threshold Depolarizing Stimulus moves the MP from its resting value (-90 mV) to its Threshold value (-65 to -55mV)**
- **→ this opens the activation gate , and now the Na+ channel is said to be in the Activated State**
- **(NB in this case BOTH the activation gate & inactivation gate are <u>open)</u> →**
- **permeability to Na+ becomes increased 500 to 5000 times → Na+ influx**
- **Na+ flows into the cell in large amounts ,**



Inactivated State of Sodium Channel

- (3) Inactivated state : A few milliseconds after the activation gate opens , the channel becomes inactivated :



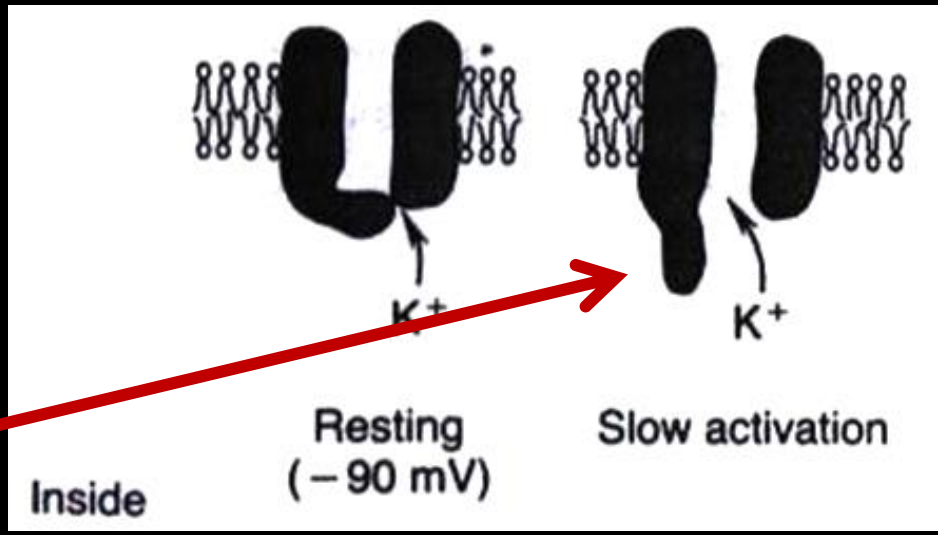
At the peak of AP the inactivation gate will close

- **the inactivation gate will not open by a second stimulus → & the cell becomes Refractory (ممانعة) to another stimulation .**
- **This goes on until the MP has gone back to its resting (RMP) level (-70 to -90mV).**

- → in this case , while the activation gate is still open , the inactivation gate is closed .

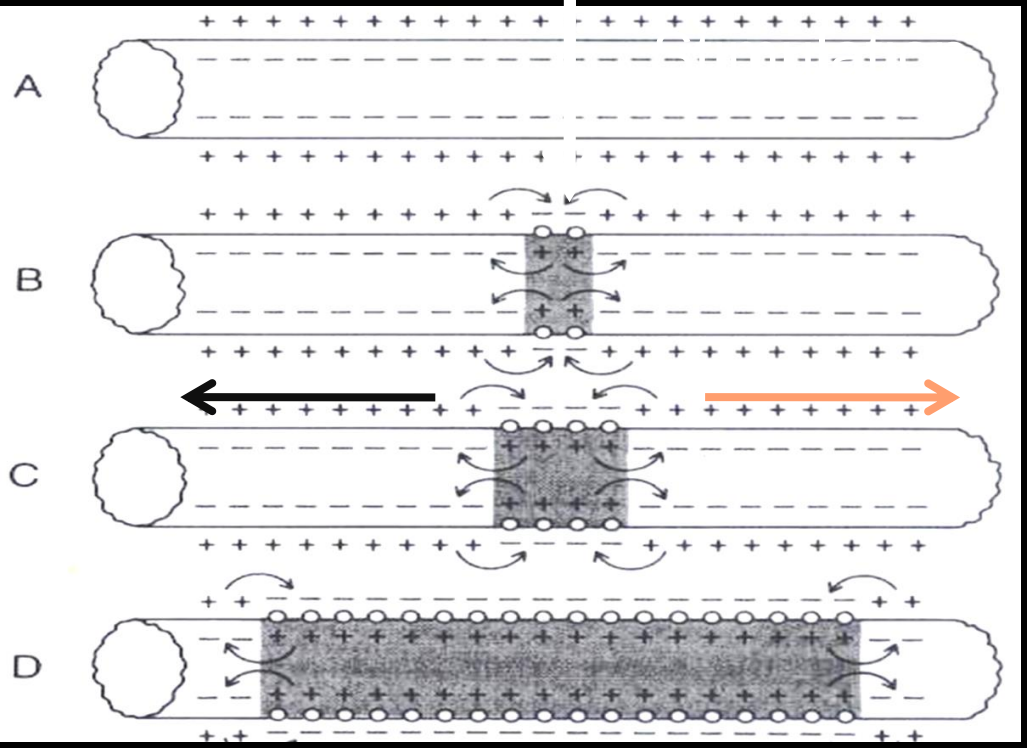
The Potassium Voltage-Gated Channel

- Has one gate only .
- During the resting state , the gate of the potassium channel is closed , and K+ can not enter through it .
- Shortly after depolarization , when the sodium channel begins to be inactivated , the potassium channel opens .
- → K+ exits (called K+ Efflux) خروج البوتاسيوم
- → Repolarization



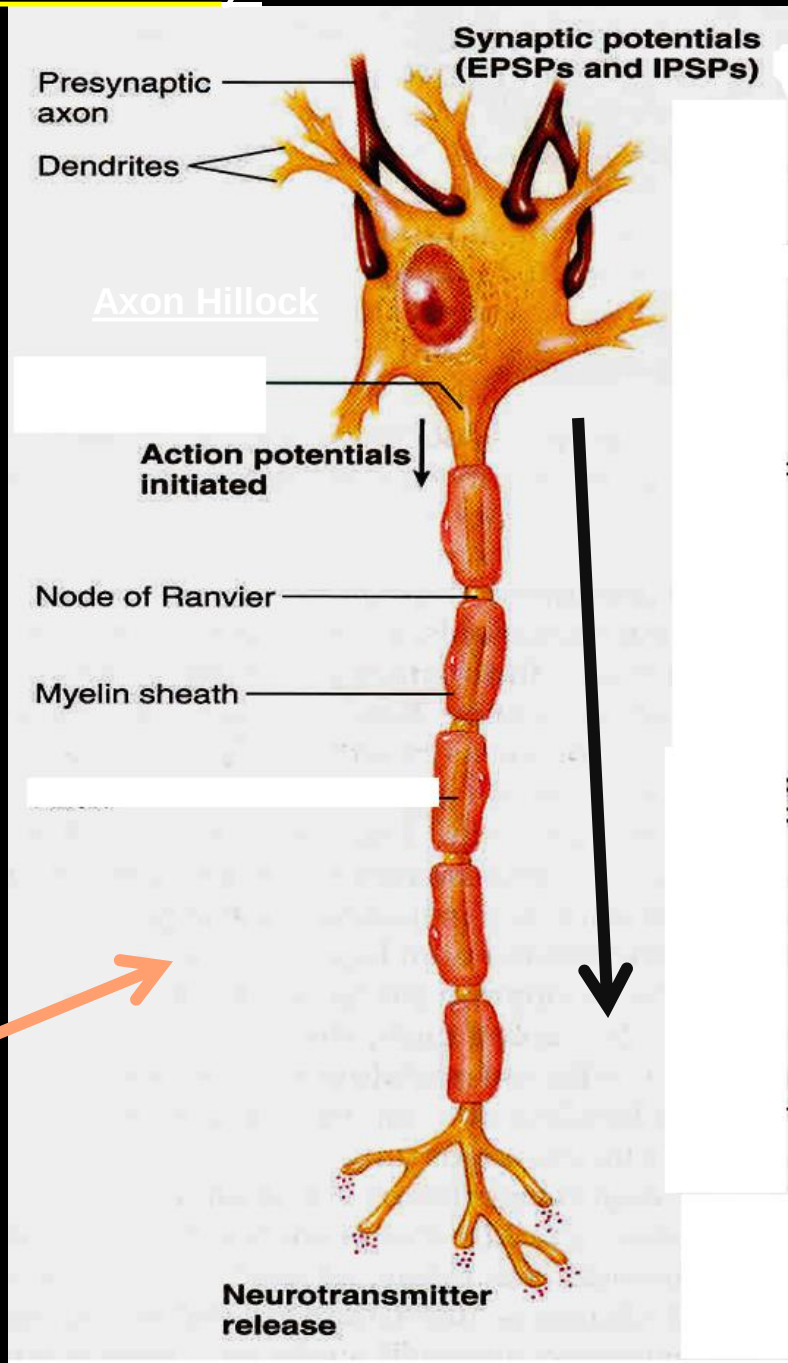
Direction of AP Propagation (Conduction)

Artificial Electrical

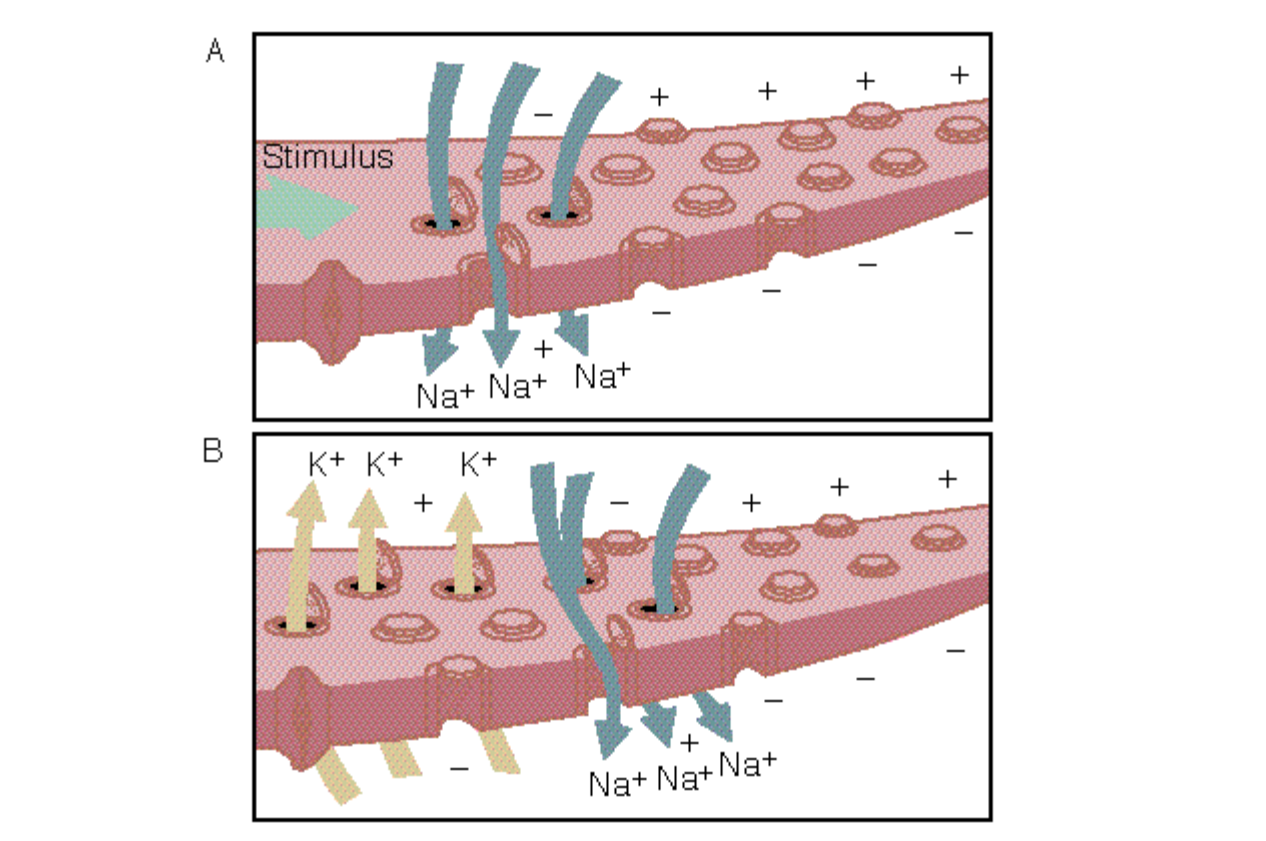


✓Under Artificial condition of electrical stimulation in the laboratory , the AP propagates in both directiions .

✓But normally AP starts in axon hillock & propagates distally in one directions



Nerve physiology: Action potentials



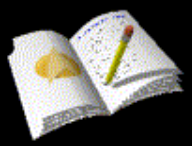
Propagation of action potential

1- in myelinated nerve fibers:- Saltatory conduction (jumping)

Value:-

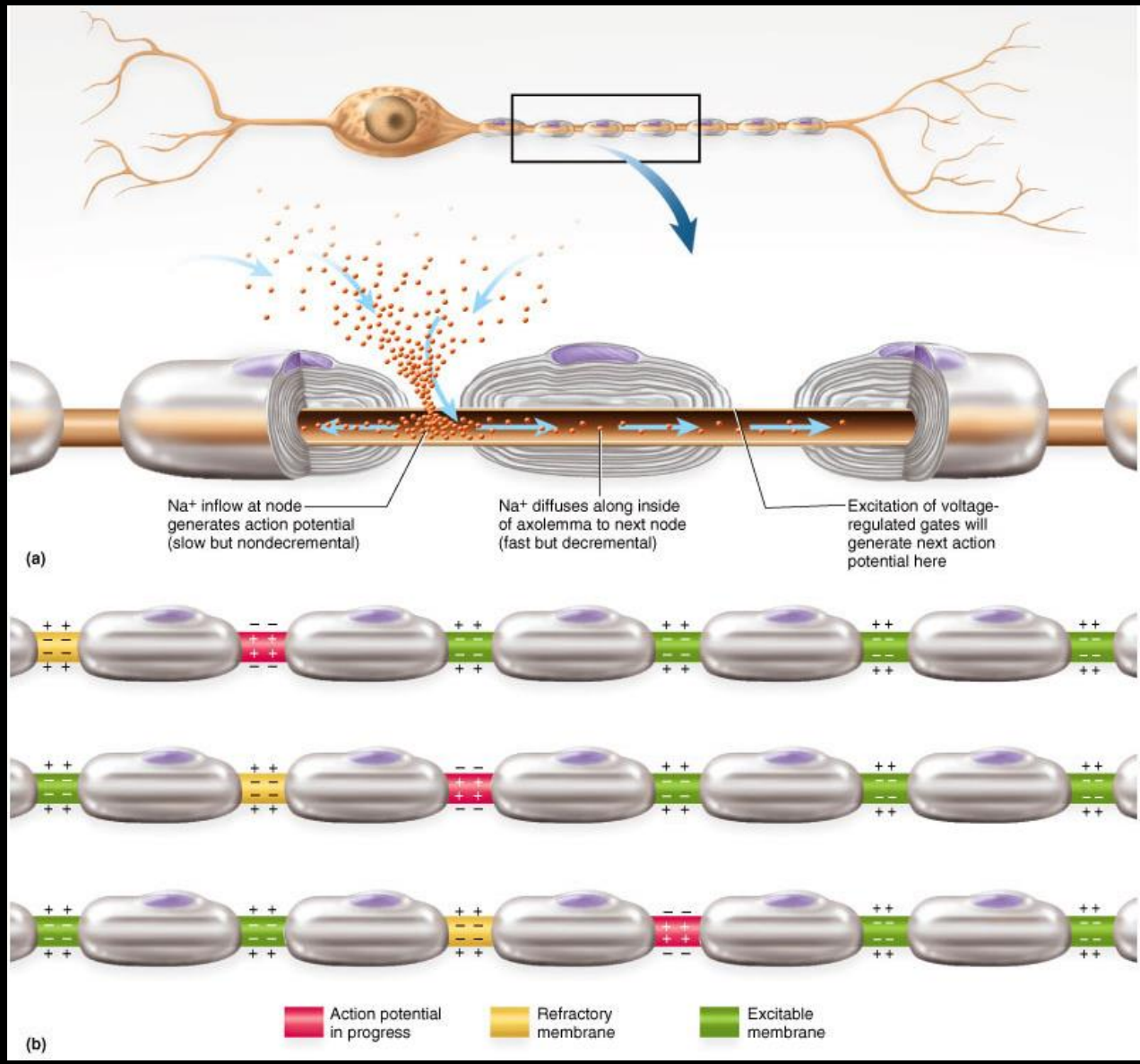
1-↑ velocity of conduction of nerve impulses

2-Conserve energy for axon because only nodes depolarize



How do action potentials travel down the axon?

- Myelinated sheaths
  - Many times faster transmission
  - Action potential skips from one node of Ranvier to the next
    - Called saltatory conduction
    - http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/matthews/actionp.html



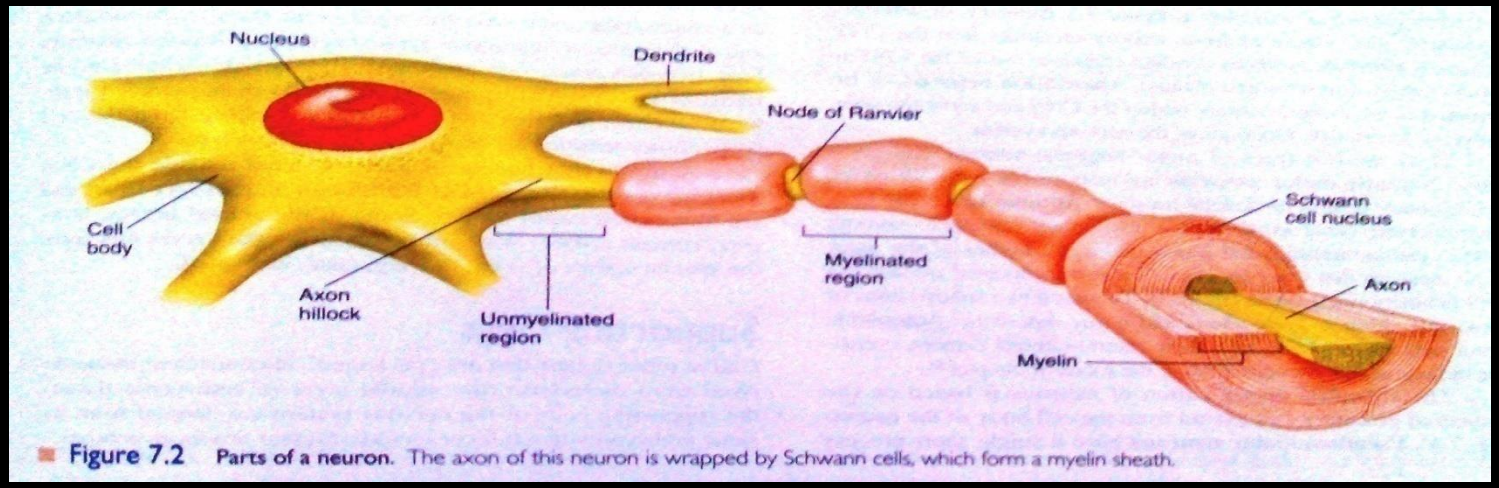
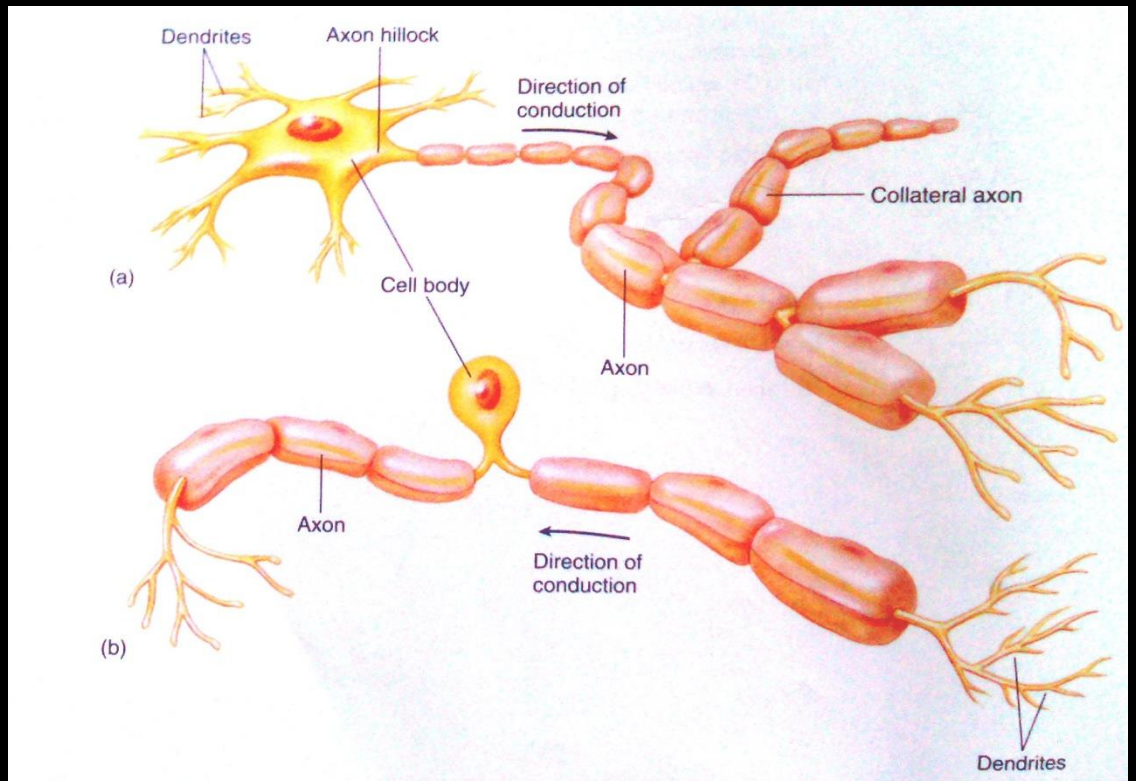


Figure 7.2 **Parts of a neuron.** The axon of this neuron is wrapped by Schwann cells, which form a myelin sheath.

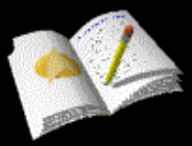


The structure of two kinds of neurons. *(a)* A motor neuron and *(b)* a sensory neuron are depicted here.

2- Non- myelinated nerves:-

(local circuits)=point to point

-depolarization pass by local circuits. -

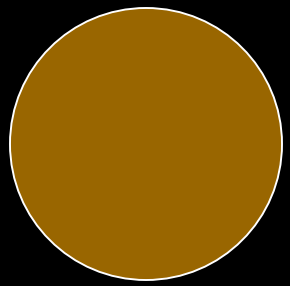


What else influences speed of action potential?

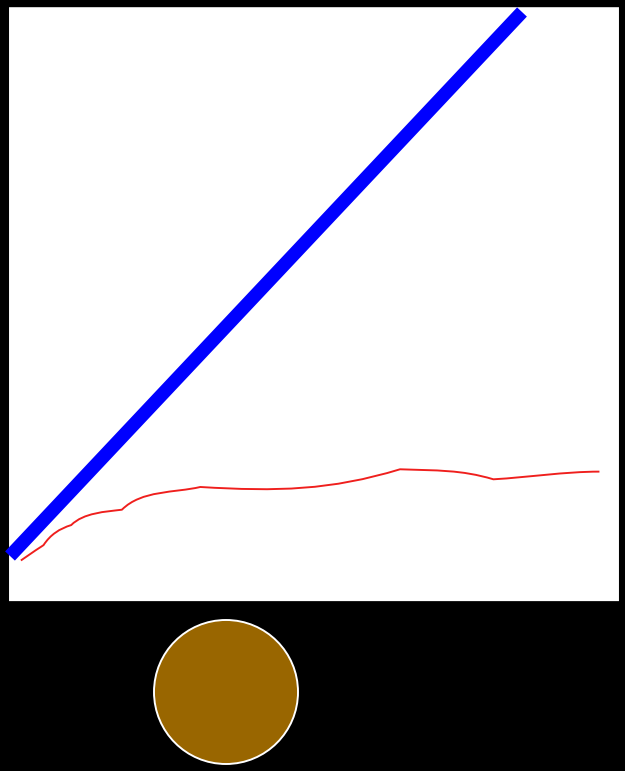
.Axon diameter

-The larger the diameter, the faster the speed of transmission

-Less resistance to current flow with larger diameter



Faster transduction



Slower transduction

- Thank You