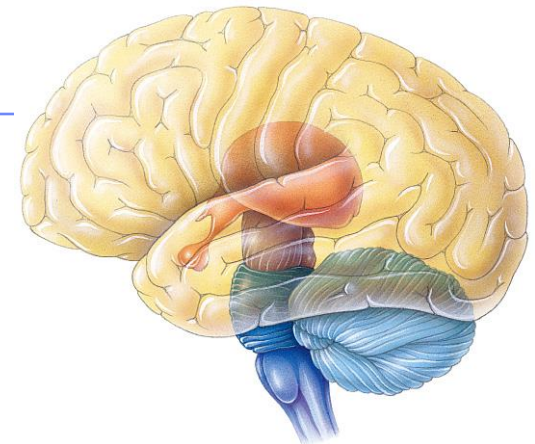
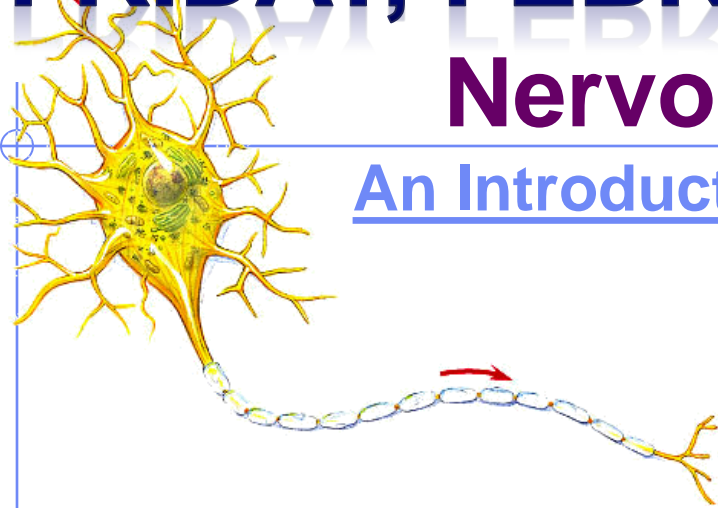
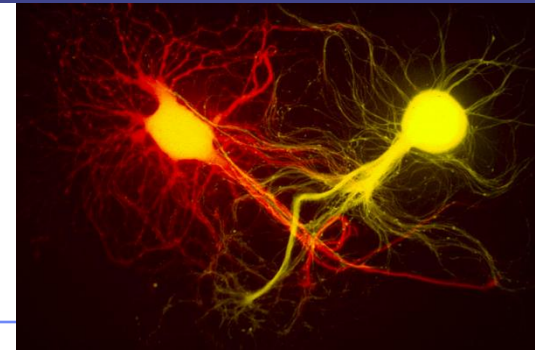


# FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13<sup>TH</sup>

## Nervous System

### An Introduction: Crash Course

Today I will **explain** why animals require a nervous system.  
I will **identify** the anatomical parts of a neuron.  
I will **define** polarization.

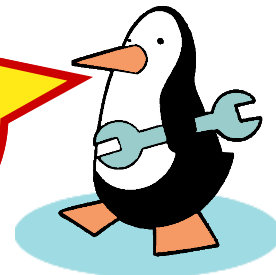


# Why do animals need a nervous system?



- What characteristics do animals need in a nervous system?
  - ◆ fast
  - ◆ accurate
  - ◆ reset quickly

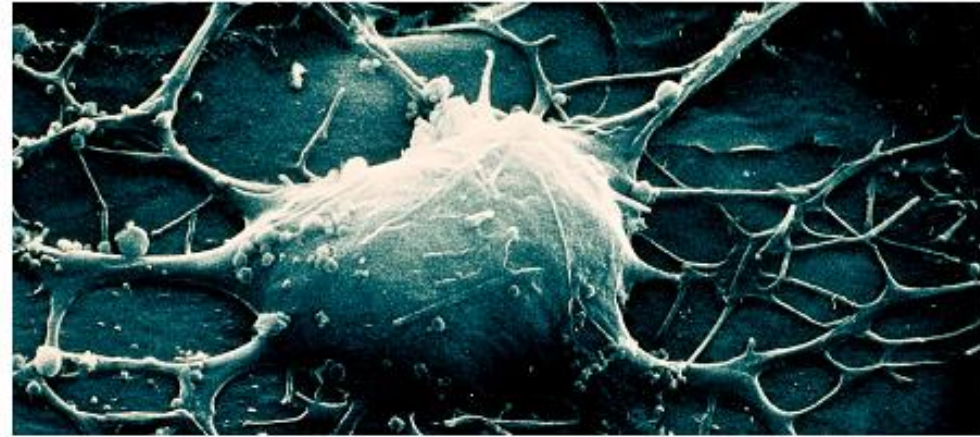
Poor bunny!



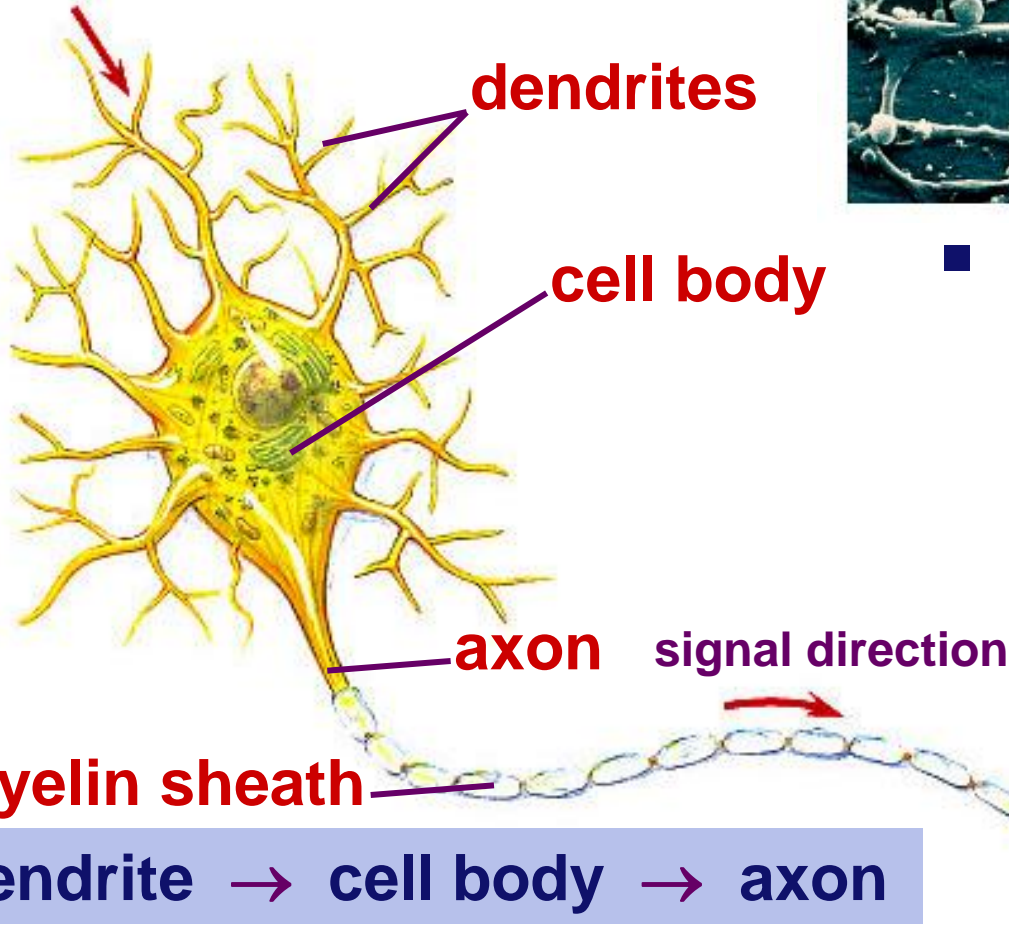
# Nervous system cells

## ■ Neuron

◆ a nerve cell



signal direction



dendrites

cell body

axon

signal direction

myelin sheath

synaptic terminal

dendrite → cell body → axon

synapse

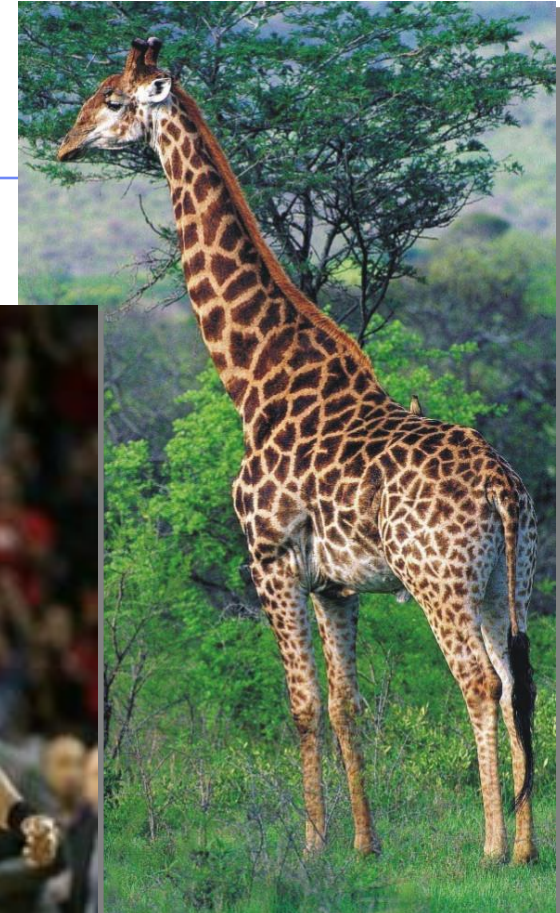
## ■ Structure fits function

- ◆ many entry points for signal
- ◆ one path out
- ◆ transmits signal



# Fun facts about neurons

- Most specialized cell in animals
- Longest cell
  - ◆ blue whale neuron
    - 10-30 meters
  - ◆ giraffe axon
    - 5 meters
  - ◆ human neuron
    - 1-2 meters

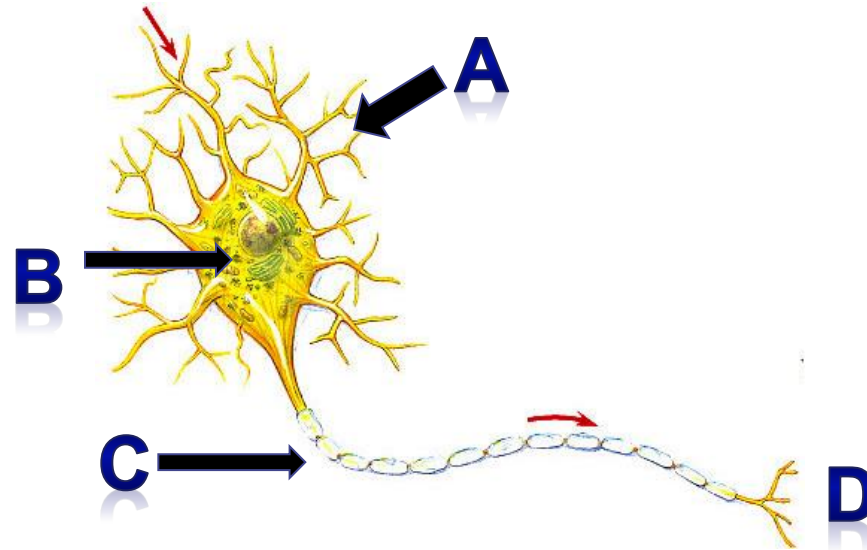


Nervous system allows for  
1 millisecond response time

# Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>

## QUESTION TO PONDER

*Identify the labeled parts of the nerve cell shown below.  
What is another name for this cell?*



*Today I will...*

- 1. **Recall** the parts of a nerve cell.*
- 2. **Explain** action potential and list molecules involved in transmitting nerve signals.*

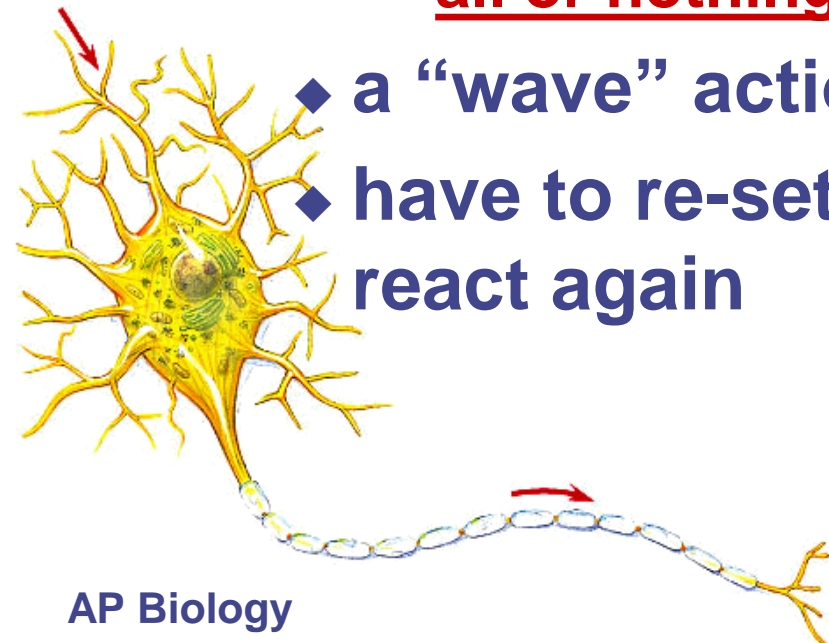
# Transmission of a signal

- **Think dominoes!**
  - ◆ **start the signal**
    - knock down line of dominoes by tipping 1<sup>st</sup> one  
→ trigger the signal
  - ◆ **propagate the signal**
    - do dominoes move down the line?  
→ no, just a wave through them!
  - ◆ **re-set the system**
    - before you can do it again,  
have to set up dominoes again  
→ reset the axon



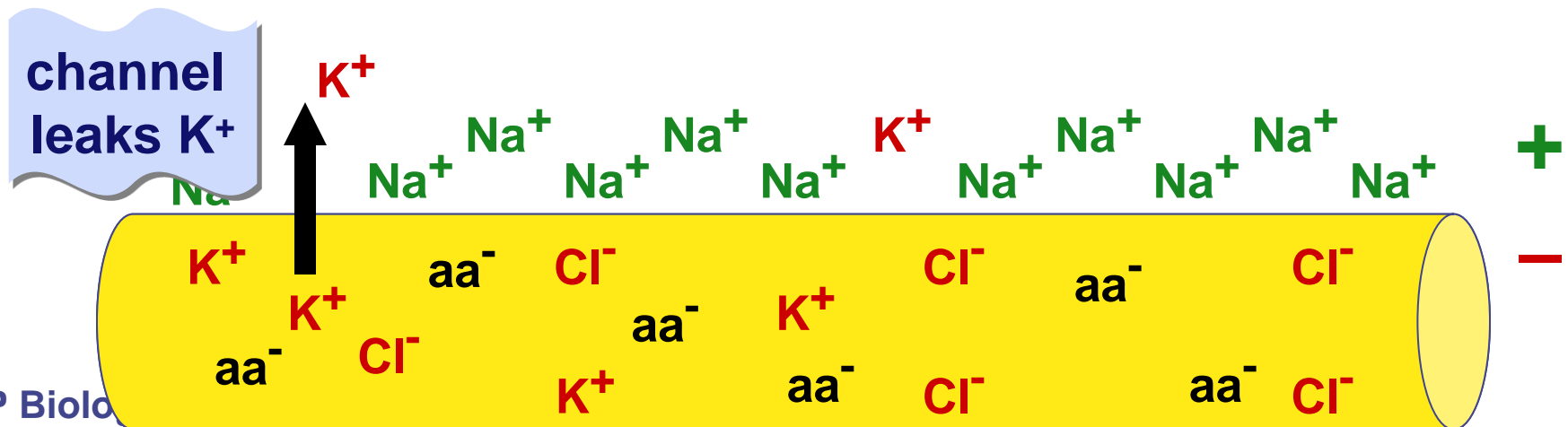
# Transmission of a nerve signal

- Neuron has similar system
  - ◆ protein channels are set up
  - ◆ once first one is opened, the rest open in succession
    - all or nothing response
  - ◆ a “wave” action travels along neuron
  - ◆ have to re-set channels so neuron can react again



# Cells: surrounded by charged ions

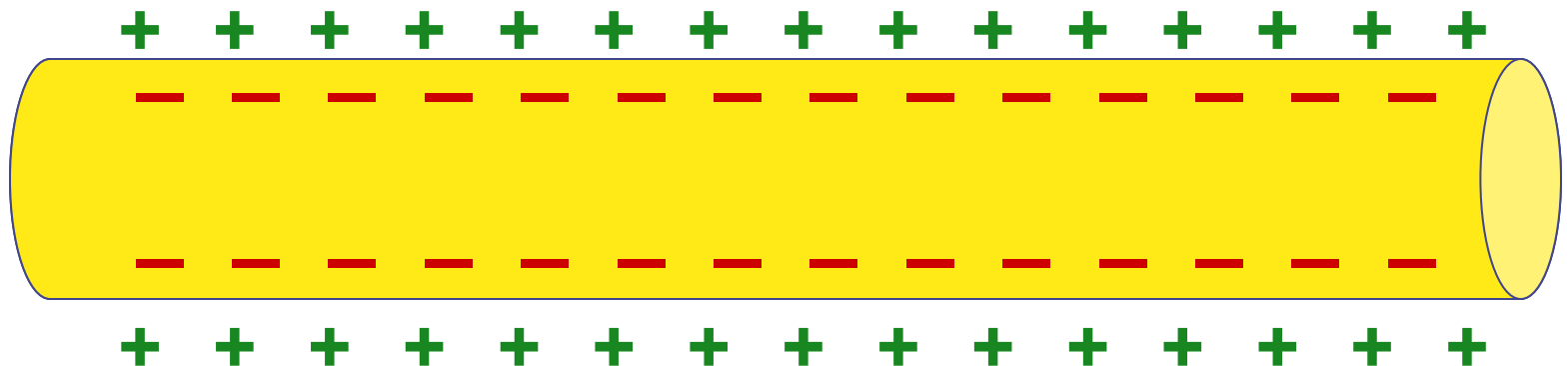
- Cells live in a sea of charged ions
  - ◆ anions (negative)
    - more concentrated within the cell
    - $\text{Cl}^-$ , charged amino acids ( $\text{aa}^-$ )
  - ◆ cations (positive)
    - more concentrated in the extracellular fluid
    - $\text{Na}^+$



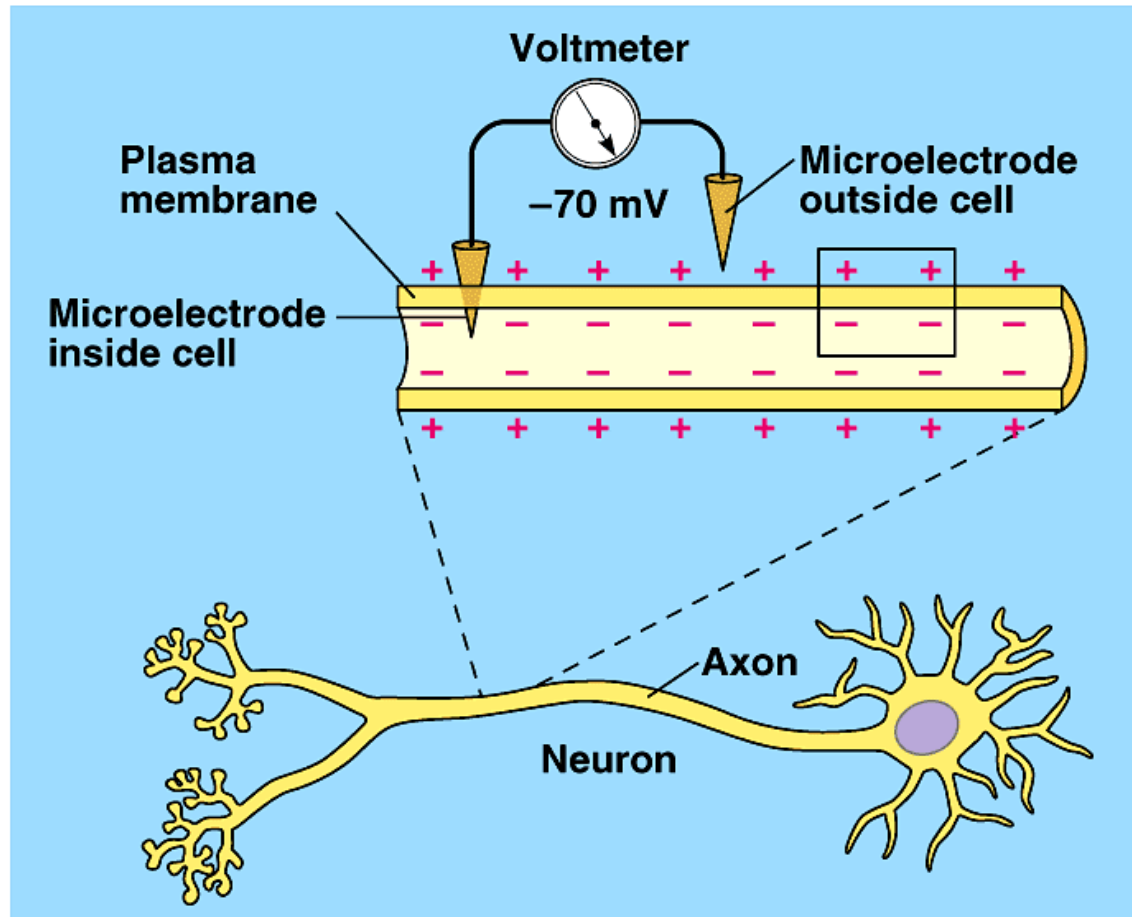


# Cells have voltage!

- Opposite charges on opposite sides of cell membrane
  - ◆ membrane is **polarized**
    - negative inside; positive outside
    - **charge gradient**
    - stored energy (like a battery)

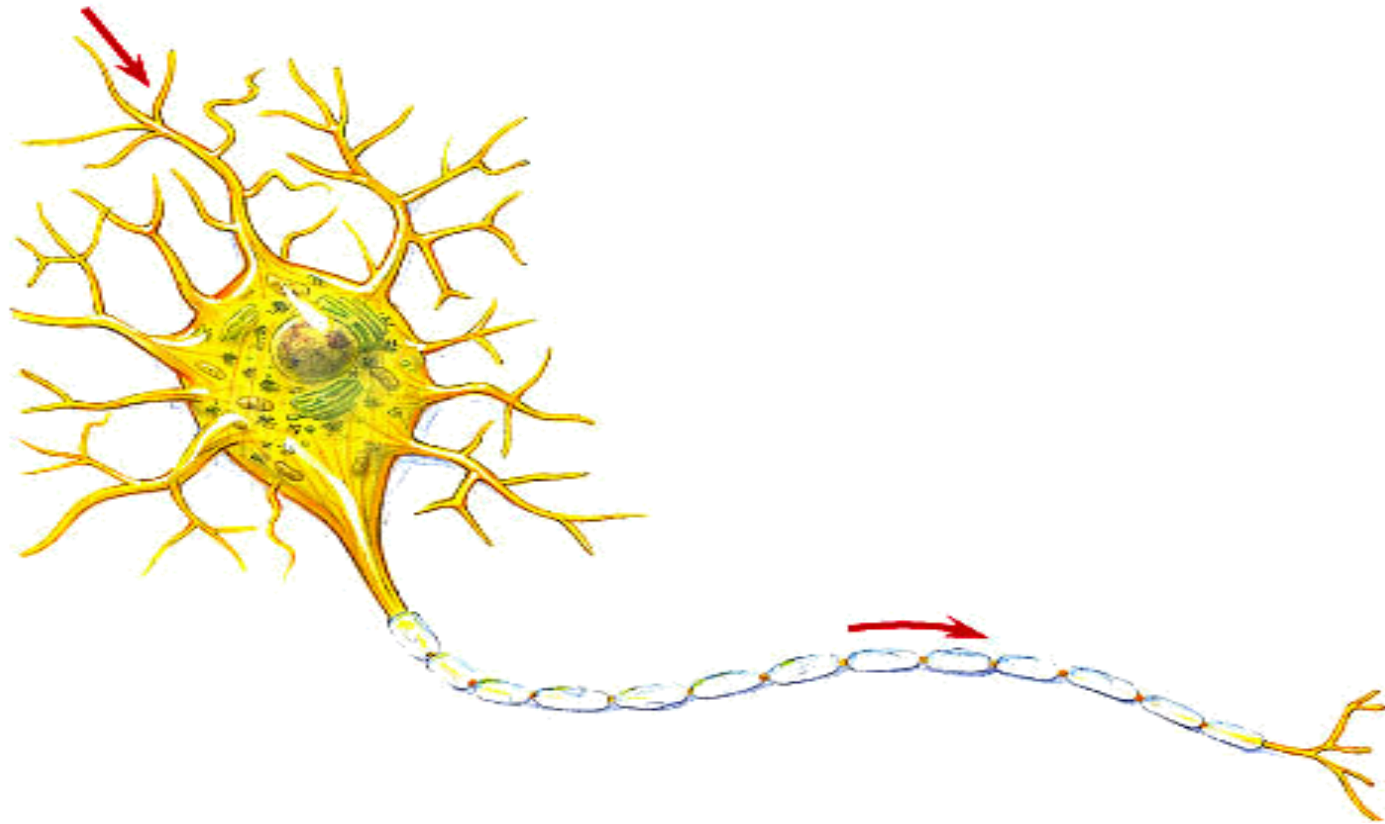


# Measuring cell voltage



unstimulated neuron = resting potential of  $-70\text{mV}$

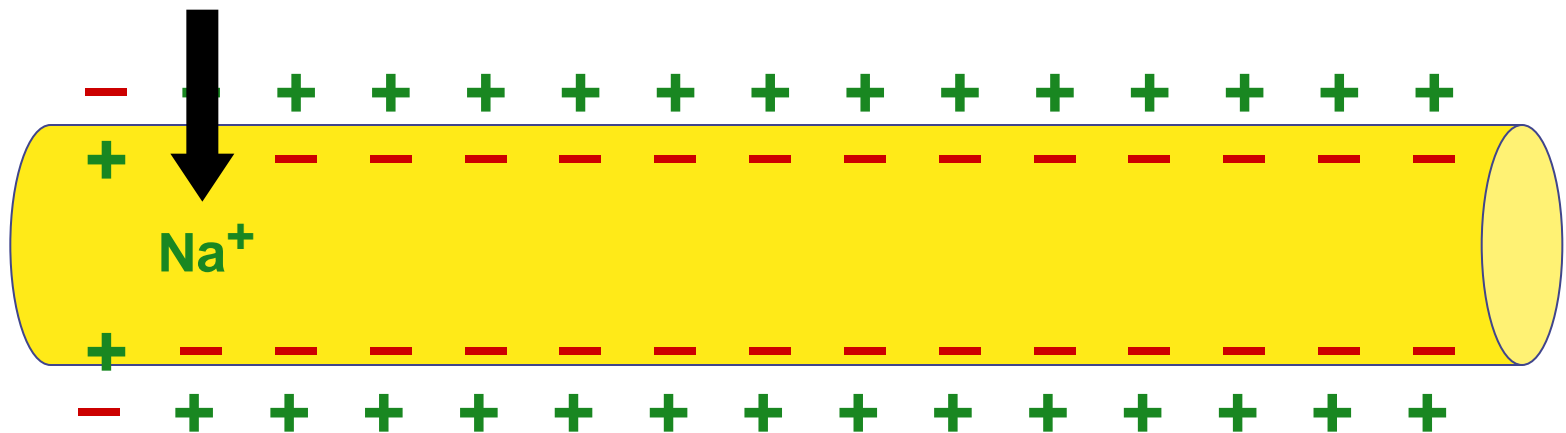
# Action Potential vs. Resting Potential



# How does a nerve impulse travel?

- **Stimulus**: nerve is stimulated
  - ◆ reaches **threshold potential**
    - open **Na<sup>+</sup> channels** in cell membrane
    - Na<sup>+</sup> ions diffuse into cell
  - ◆ charges reverse at that point on neuron
    - positive inside; negative outside
    - cell becomes **depolarized**

The 1st  
domino  
goes  
down!





# Tuesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>

Good morning! Please take out your **Chapter 48 Reading Guide**. Let's continue discussing an ACTION POTENTIAL this morning.

## QUESTION TO PONDER:

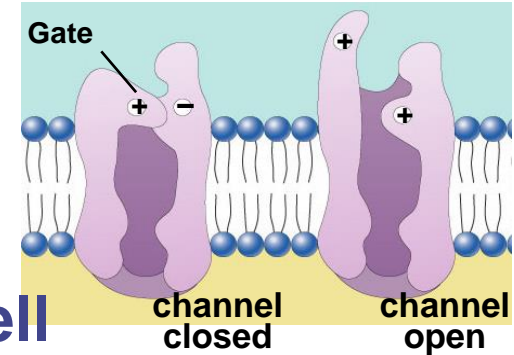
Where is the charge distribution more **positive-INSIDE** or **OUTSIDE** of a *resting* neuron?

*Today I will **explain** the molecular exchange involved in an action potential.*

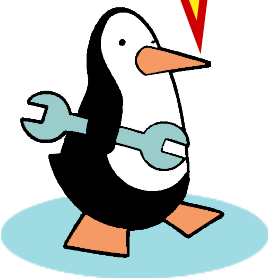
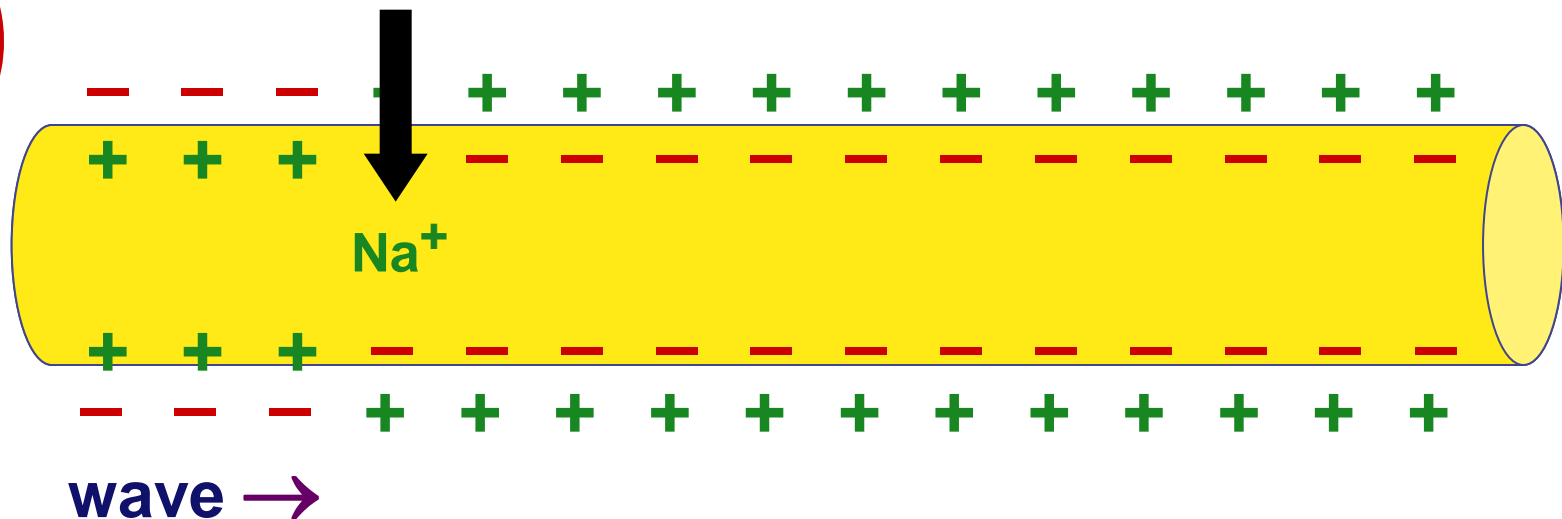
*I will **describe** how an axon resets itself after an action potential.*

# How does a nerve impulse travel?

- **Wave**: nerve impulse travels down neuron
  - ◆ change in charge opens next  $\text{Na}^+$  gates down the line
    - **“voltage-gated” channels**
  - ◆  $\text{Na}^+$  ions continue to diffuse into cell
  - ◆ “wave” moves down neuron = **action potential**



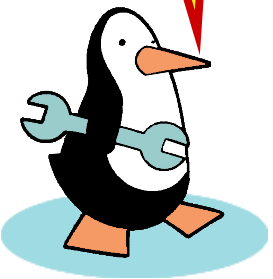
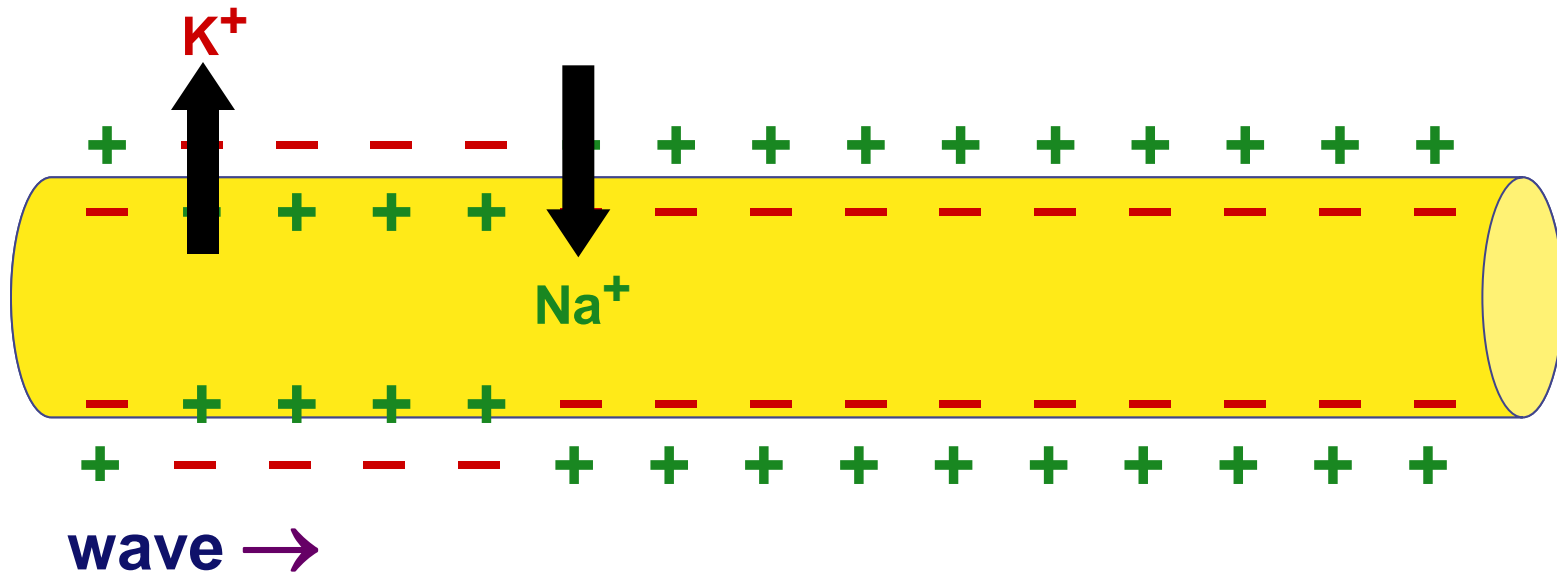
The rest of the dominoes fall!



# How does a nerve impulse travel?

- **Re-set**: 2nd wave travels down neuron
  - ◆ **K<sup>+</sup> channels** open
    - K<sup>+</sup> channels open up more slowly than Na<sup>+</sup> channels
  - ◆ K<sup>+</sup> ions diffuse out of cell
  - ◆ charges reverse back at that point
    - negative inside; positive outside

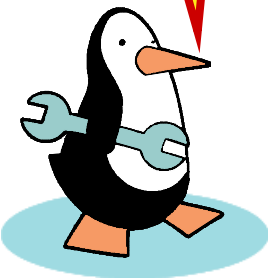
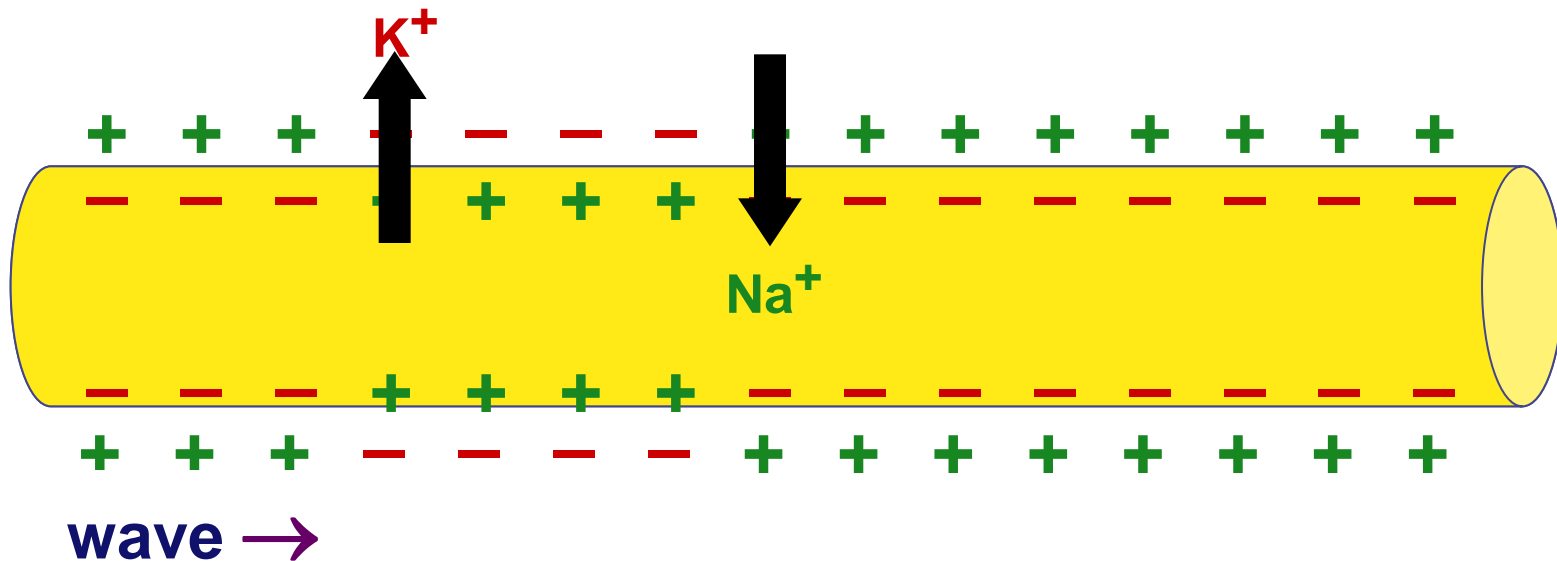
Set  
dominoes  
back up  
quickly!



# How does a nerve impulse travel?

- Combined waves travel down neuron
  - ◆ wave of opening ion channels moves down neuron
  - ◆ signal moves in one direction → → → → →
    - flow of  $K^+$  out of cell stops activation of  $Na^+$  channels in wrong direction

Ready  
for  
next time!

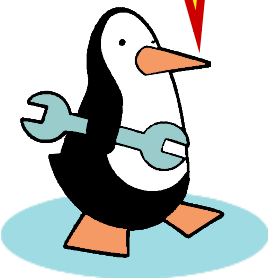
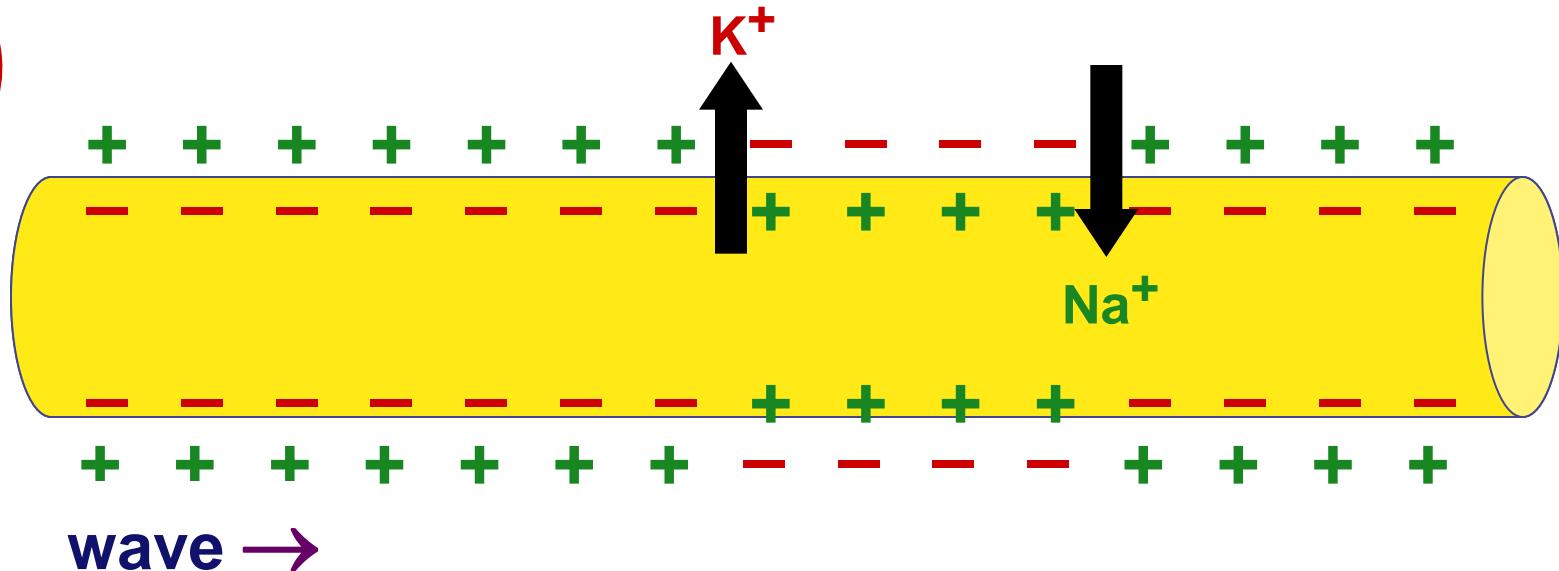




# How does a nerve impulse travel?

- Action potential propagates
  - ◆ wave = nerve impulse, or action potential
  - ◆ brain → finger tips in milliseconds!

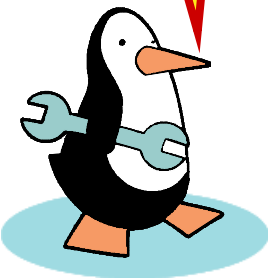
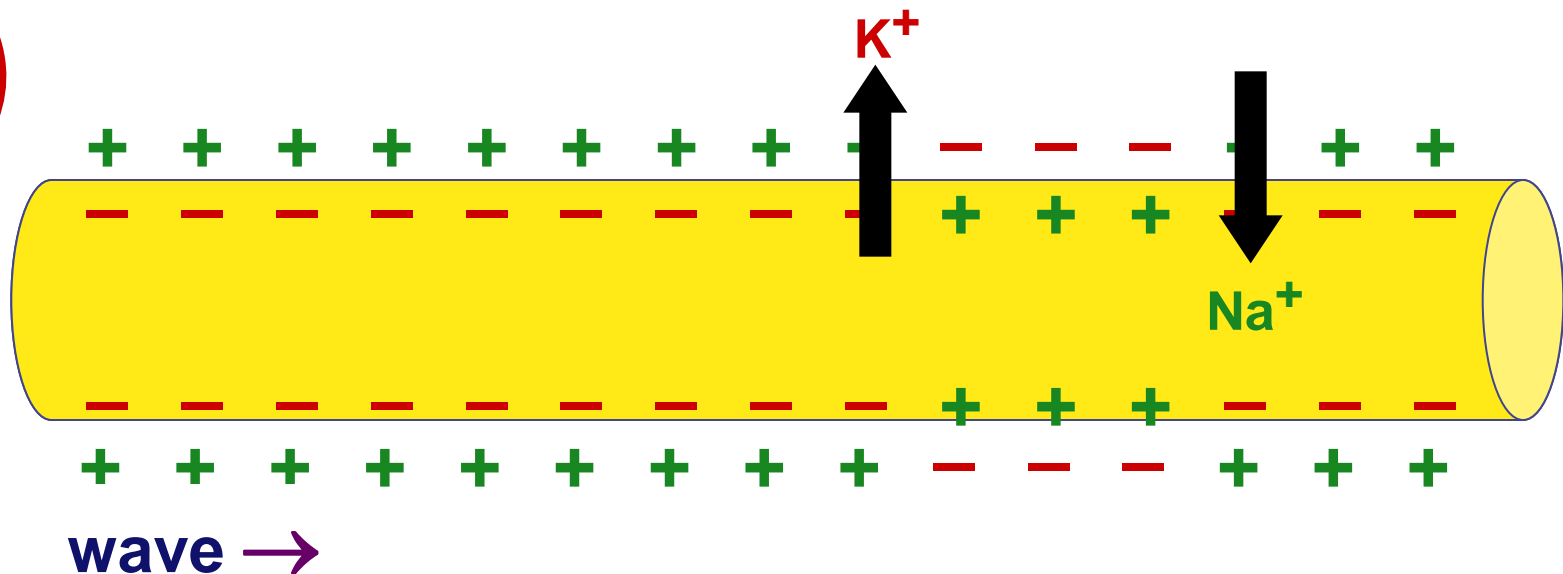
In the  
blink of  
an eye!



# Voltage-gated channels

- Ion channels open & close in response to changes in charge across membrane
  - ◆  $\text{Na}^+$  channels open quickly in response to depolarization & close slowly
  - ◆  $\text{K}^+$  channels open slowly in response to depolarization & close slowly

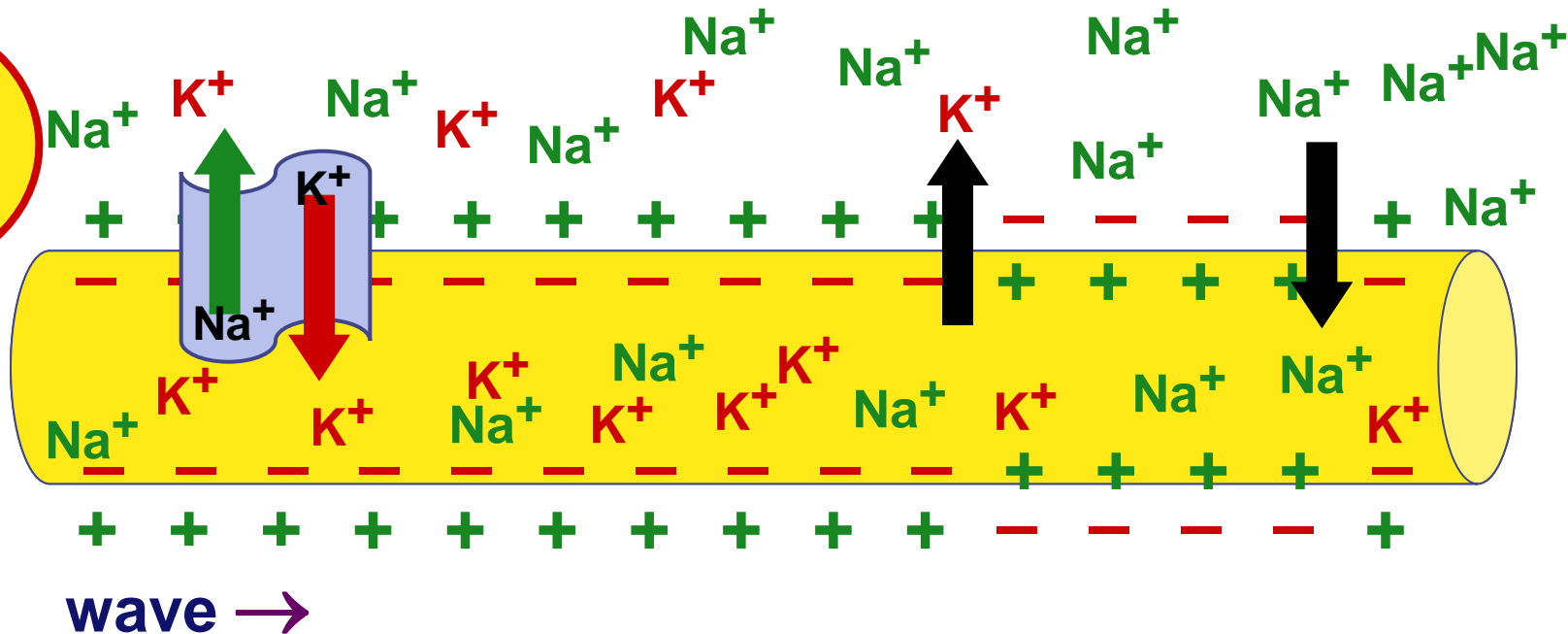
Structure  
& function!



# How does the nerve re-set itself?

- After firing a neuron has to re-set itself
  - ◆  $\text{Na}^+$  needs to move back out
  - ◆  $\text{K}^+$  needs to move back in
  - ◆ both are moving against concentration gradients
    - need a pump!!

A lot of work to do here!



wave →

# **Summary of an action potential**

**Lights, Camera, Action Potential!**

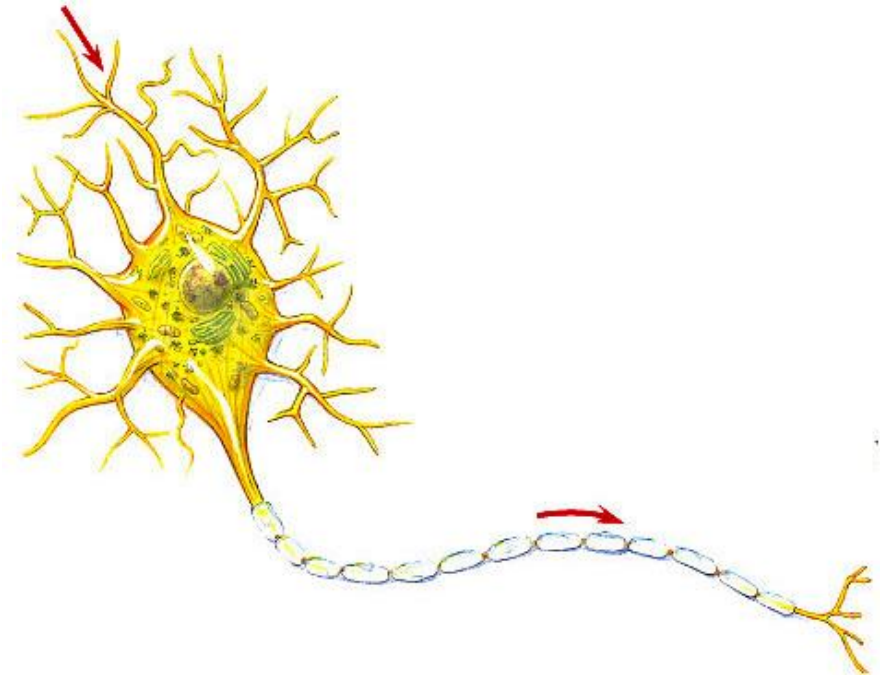


# Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>

- **Saltatory conduction:** What is it?

How can you describe this to someone who doesn't understand it?

[Animation](#)



# How does the nerve re-set itself?

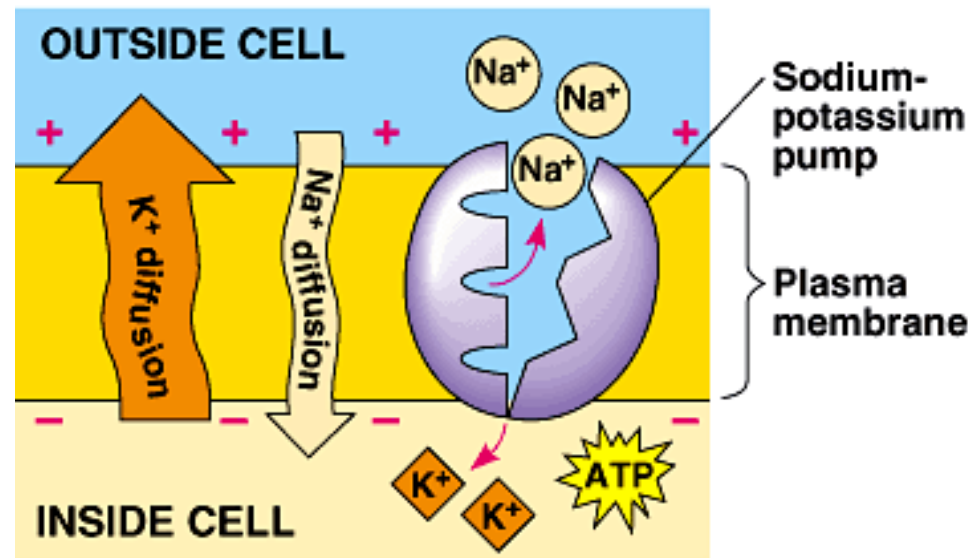
## ■ Sodium-Potassium pump

- ◆ active transport protein in membrane
  - requires ATP
- ◆ 3 Na<sup>+</sup> pumped out
- ◆ 2 K<sup>+</sup> pumped in
- ◆ re-sets charge across membrane

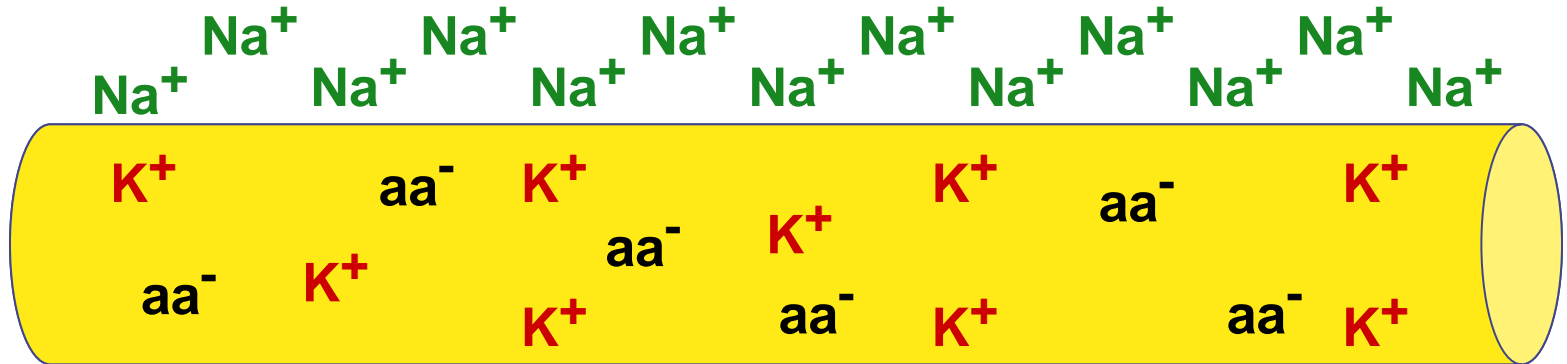


[animation](#)

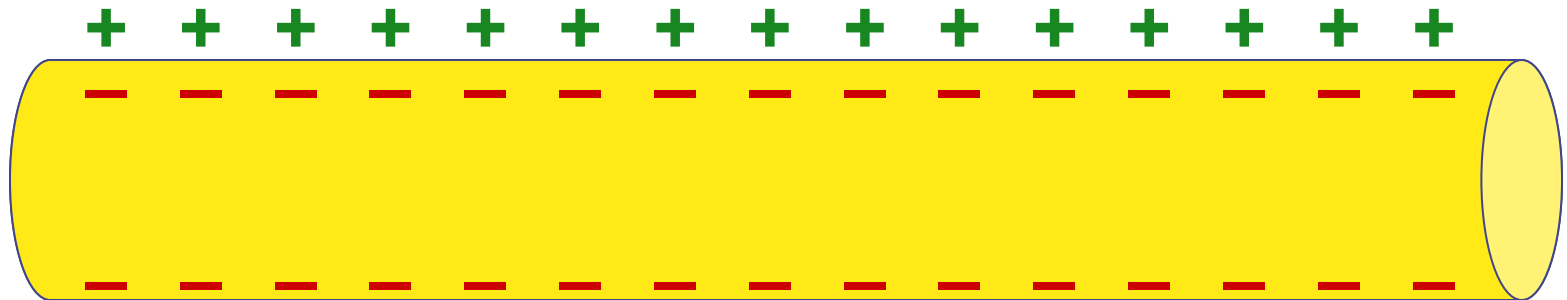
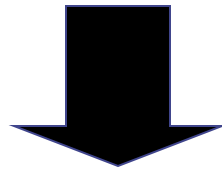
That's a lot of ATP!  
Feed me some sugar quick!



# Neuron is ready to fire again

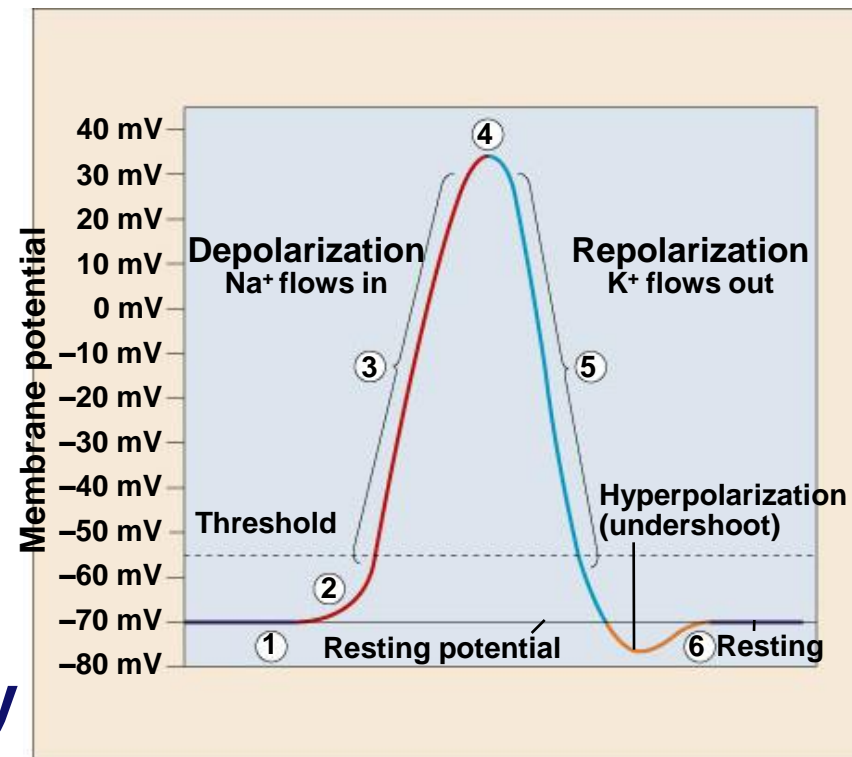


resting potential



# Action potential graph

1. Resting potential
2. Stimulus reaches threshold potential
3. Depolarization  
Na<sup>+</sup> channels open;  
K<sup>+</sup> channels closed
4. Na<sup>+</sup> channels close;  
K<sup>+</sup> channels open
5. Repolarization  
reset charge gradient
6. Undershoot  
K<sup>+</sup> channels close slowly



# Myelin sheath

- Axon coated with Schwann cells

- ◆ insulates axon

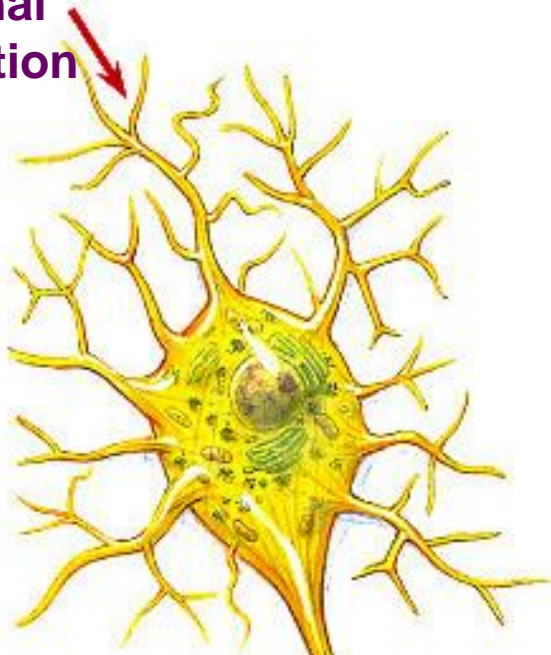
- ◆ speeds signal

- signal hops from node to node

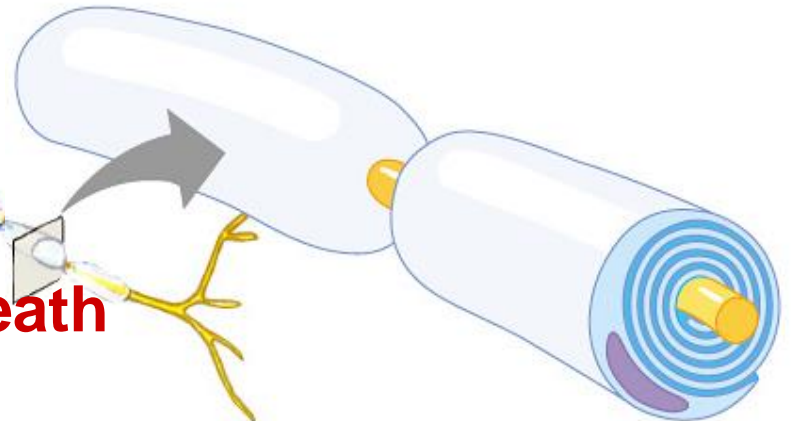
- saltatory conduction

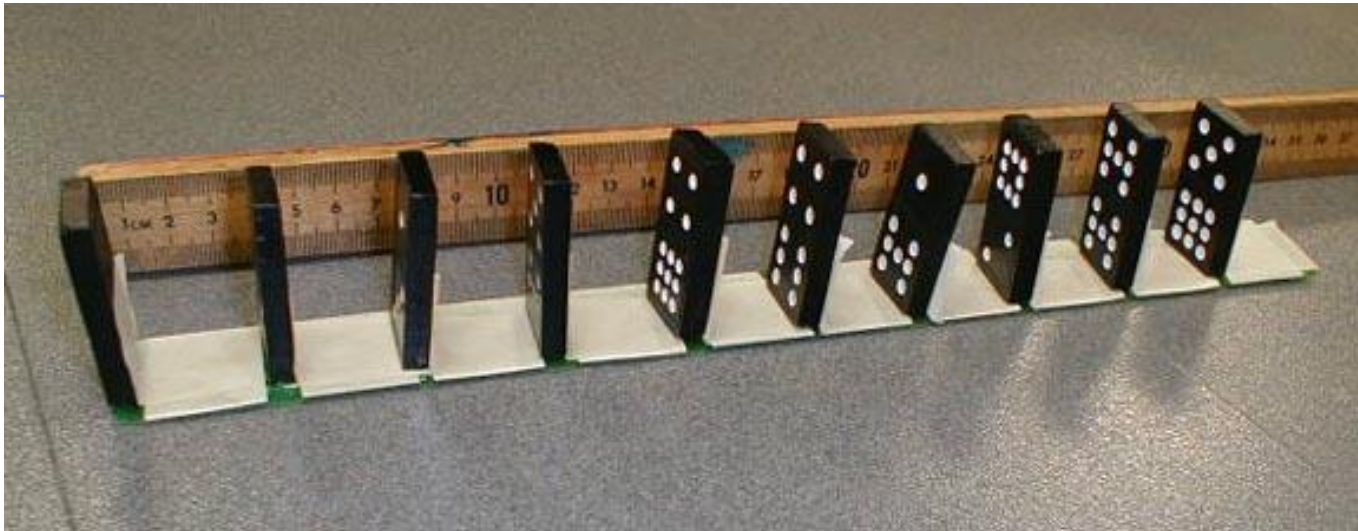
- ◆ 150 m/sec vs. 5 m/sec  
(330 mph vs. 11 mph)

signal  
direction



myelin sheath





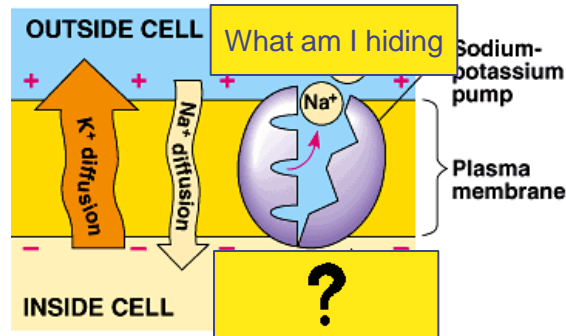
You can measure the *speed*, **s**, of the domino wave by dividing the *distance*, **L**, the wave travels by the *time*, **t**, it takes to travel that distance.

- $s = L/t$

# Friday, January 24<sup>th</sup>

## ? Question to Ponder: ?

**Describe** the action of the sodium-potassium pump. Remember to include the number of each ion that moves through this pump system.



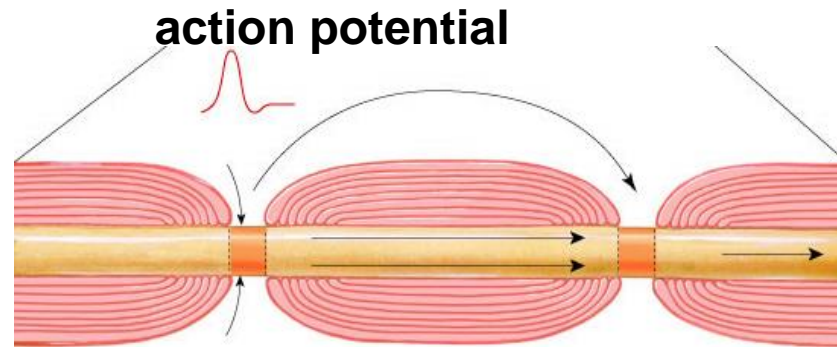
Today I will:

1. **Describe** the process of saltatory conduction.
2. **Explain** how a signal “jumps” a synapse.
3. **Differentiate** among a variety of neurotransmitters.



# Monday, January 27th

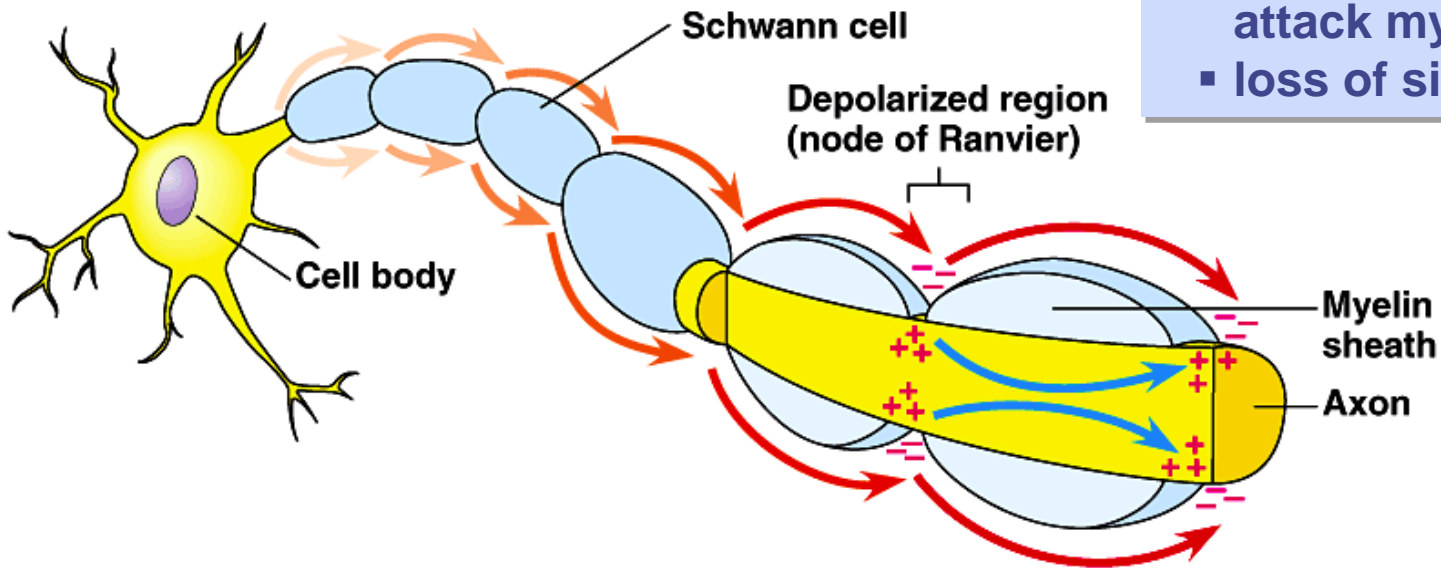
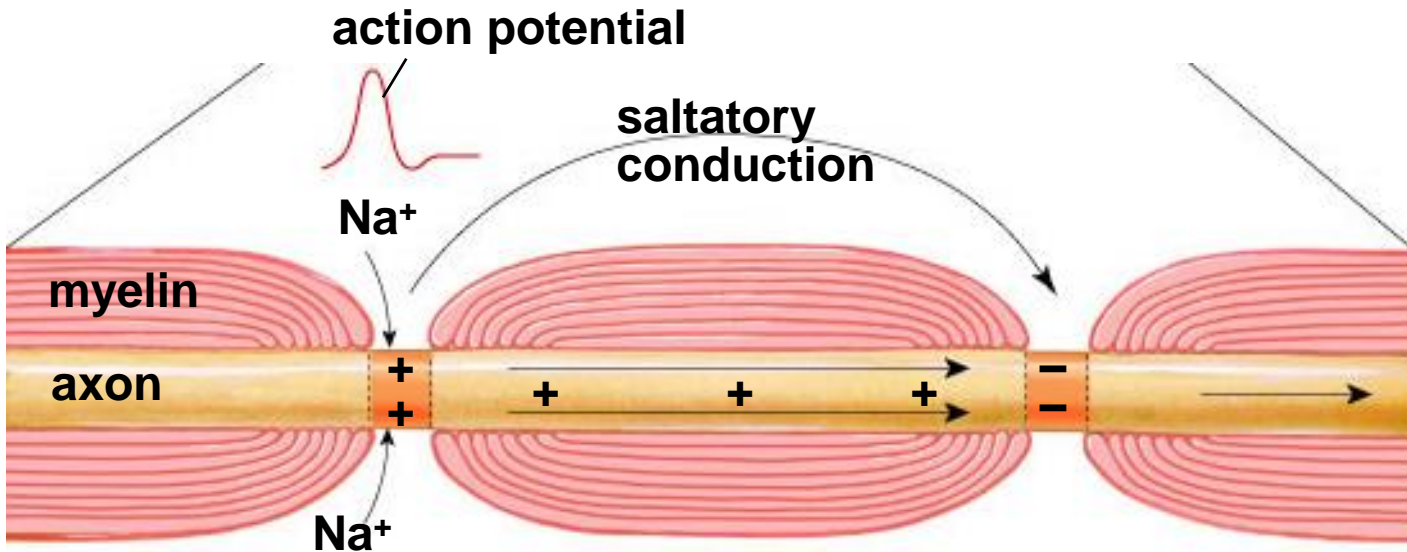
Let's take a moment to review saltatory conduction:



Today I will:

1. Explain the release of neurotransmitters from the axon at the synapse.
2. Differentiate among many neurotransmitters.
3. Define IPSP and EPSP, differentiating between the two.

Homework: Read IPSP/EPSP worksheet  
\* Be ready to answer questions tomorrow.



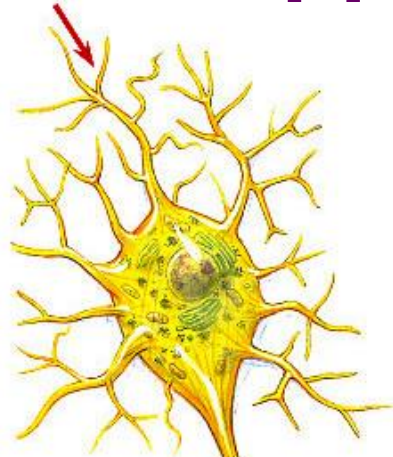
## Multiple Sclerosis

- immune system (T cells) attack myelin sheath
- loss of signal

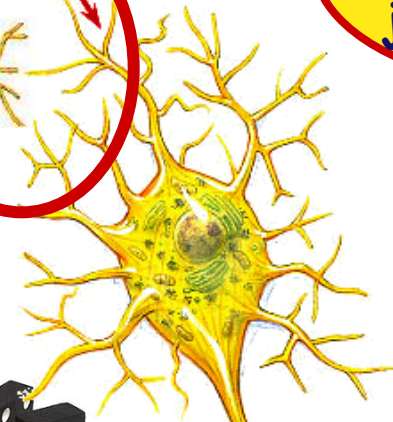
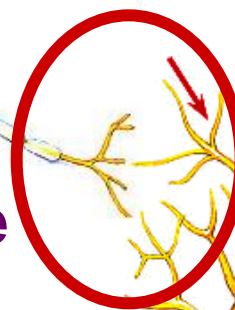
# What happens at the end of the axon?

Impulse has to jump the **synapse!**

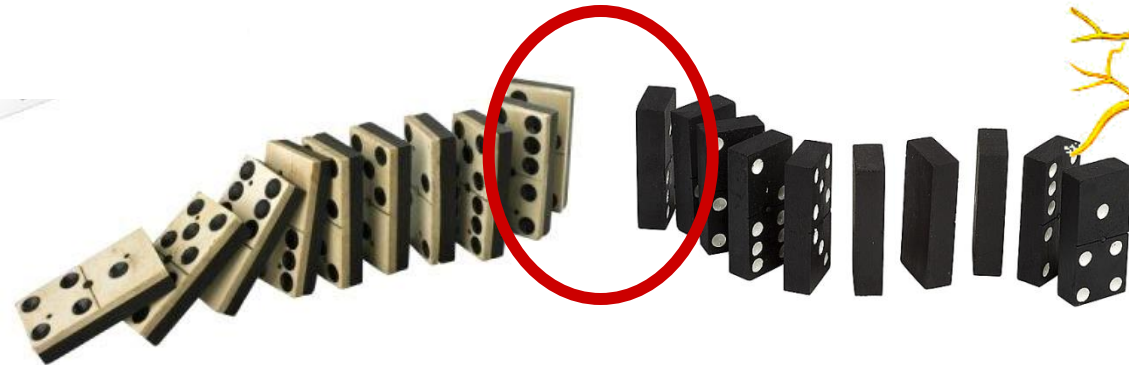
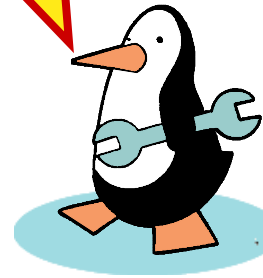
- ◆ junction between neurons
- ◆ has to jump quickly from one cell to next



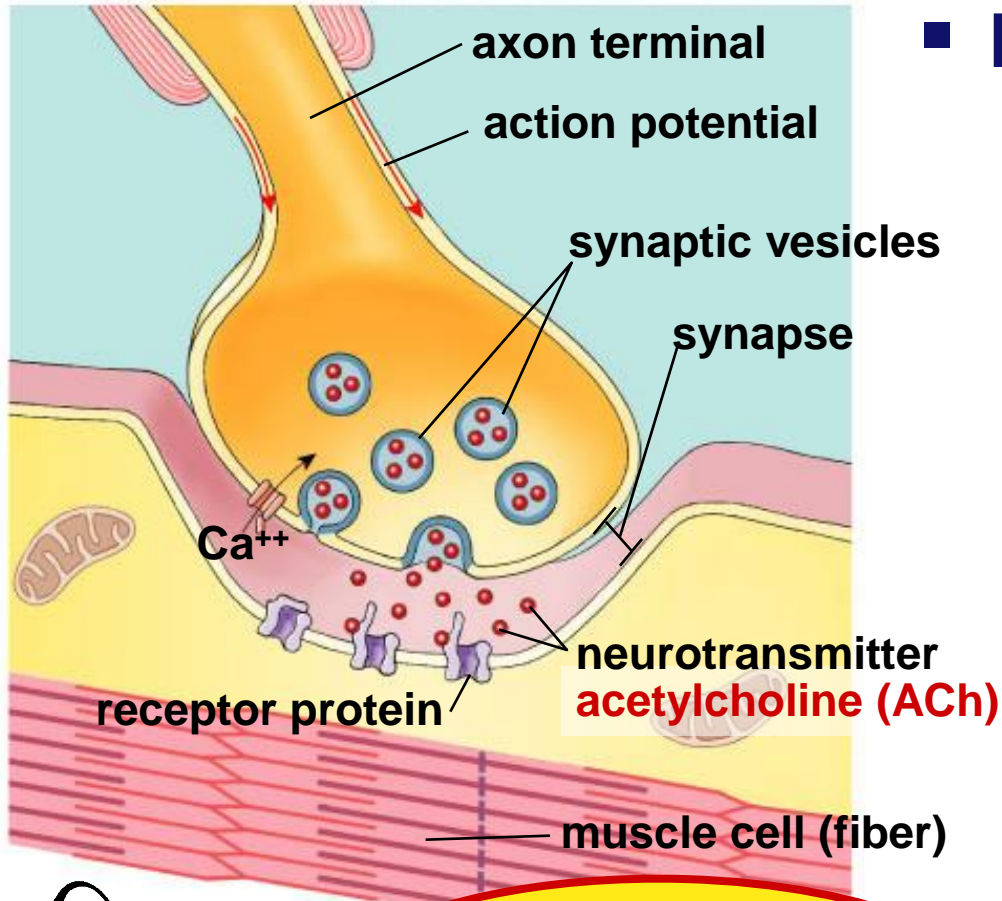
Synapse



How does the wave jump the gap?



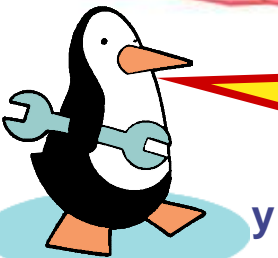
# Chemical synapse



## ■ Events at synapse

- ◆ action potential depolarizes membrane
- ◆ opens  $Ca^{++}$  channels
- ◆ neurotransmitter vesicles fuse with membrane
- ◆ release neurotransmitter to synapse → diffusion
- ◆ neurotransmitter binds with protein receptor
  - ion-gated channels open
- ◆ neurotransmitter degraded or reabsorbed

We switched...  
from an electrical signal  
to a chemical signal



# Nerve impulse in next neuron

## ■ Post-synaptic neuron

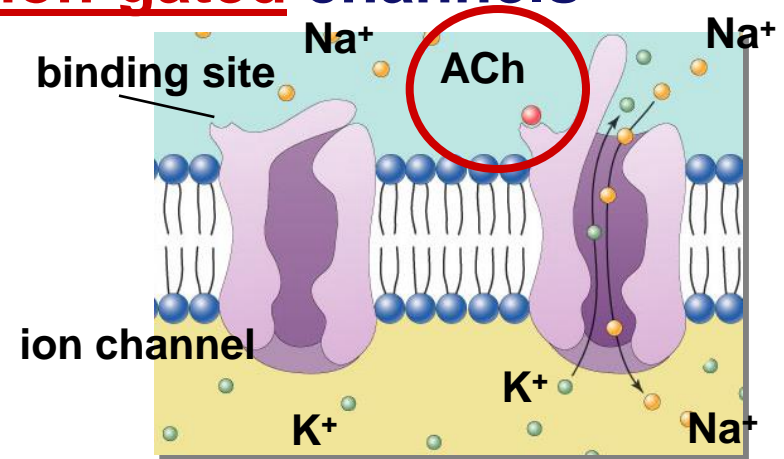
### ◆ triggers nerve impulse in next nerve cell

■ chemical signal opens **ion-gated** channels

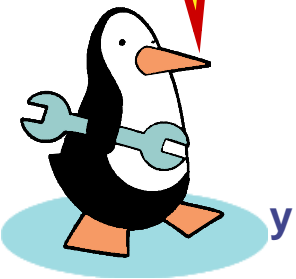
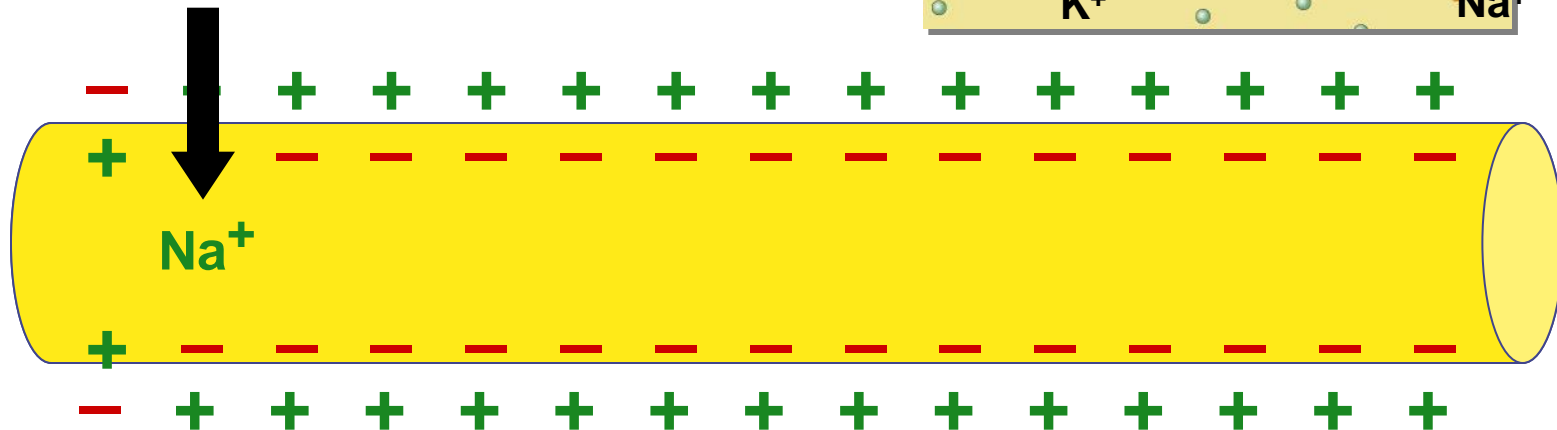
■  $\text{Na}^+$  diffuses into cell

■  $\text{K}^+$  diffuses out of cell

◆ switch back to voltage-gated channel



Here we go again!



# Neurotransmitters

---

- **Acetylcholine**
  - ◆ transmit signal to skeletal muscle
- **Epinephrine (adrenaline) & norepinephrine**
  - ◆ fight-or-flight response
- **Dopamine**
  - ◆ widespread in brain
  - ◆ affects sleep, mood, attention & learning
  - ◆ lack of dopamine in brain associated with Parkinson's disease
  - ◆ excessive dopamine linked to schizophrenia
- **Serotonin**
  - ◆ widespread in brain
  - ◆ affects sleep, mood, attention & learning



# Neurotransmitters

- **Weak point of nervous system**
  - ◆ any substance that affects neurotransmitters or mimics them affects nerve function
    - **gases: nitrous oxide, carbon monoxide**
    - **mood altering drugs:**
      - ◆ **stimulants**
        - **amphetamines, caffeine, nicotine**
      - ◆ **depressants**
        - **quaaludes, barbiturates**
    - **hallucinogenic drugs: LSD, peyote**
    - **SSRIs: Prozac, Zoloft, Paxil**
    - **poisons**

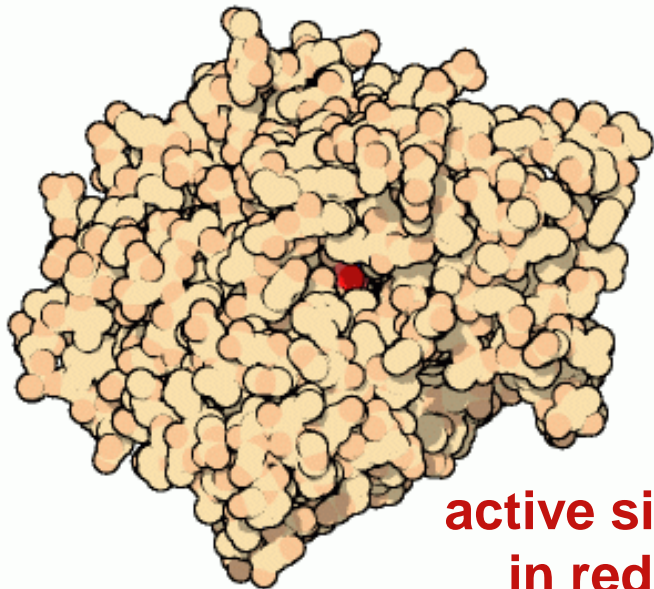


# Acetylcholinesterase



- Enzyme which breaks down acetylcholine neurotransmitter

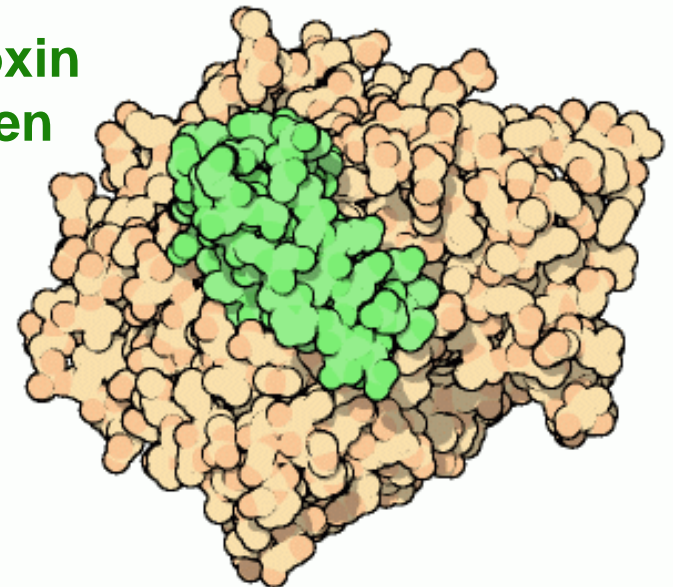
- ◆ acetylcholinesterase inhibitors = neurotoxins
  - snake venom, sarin, insecticides



active site  
in red

acetylcholinesterase

neurotoxin  
in green



snake toxin blocking  
acetylcholinesterase active site

# Tuesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

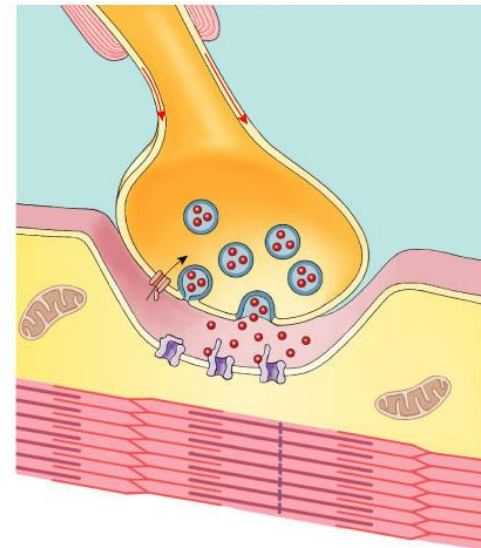
## Question to Ponder:

How would you summarize an IPSP?

How would you summarize an EPSP?

Today I will:

1. Differentiate between an EPSP and an IPSP.
2. Examine nervous system causes of common place physical phenomena.



Let's review IPSP vs EPSP.

Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>

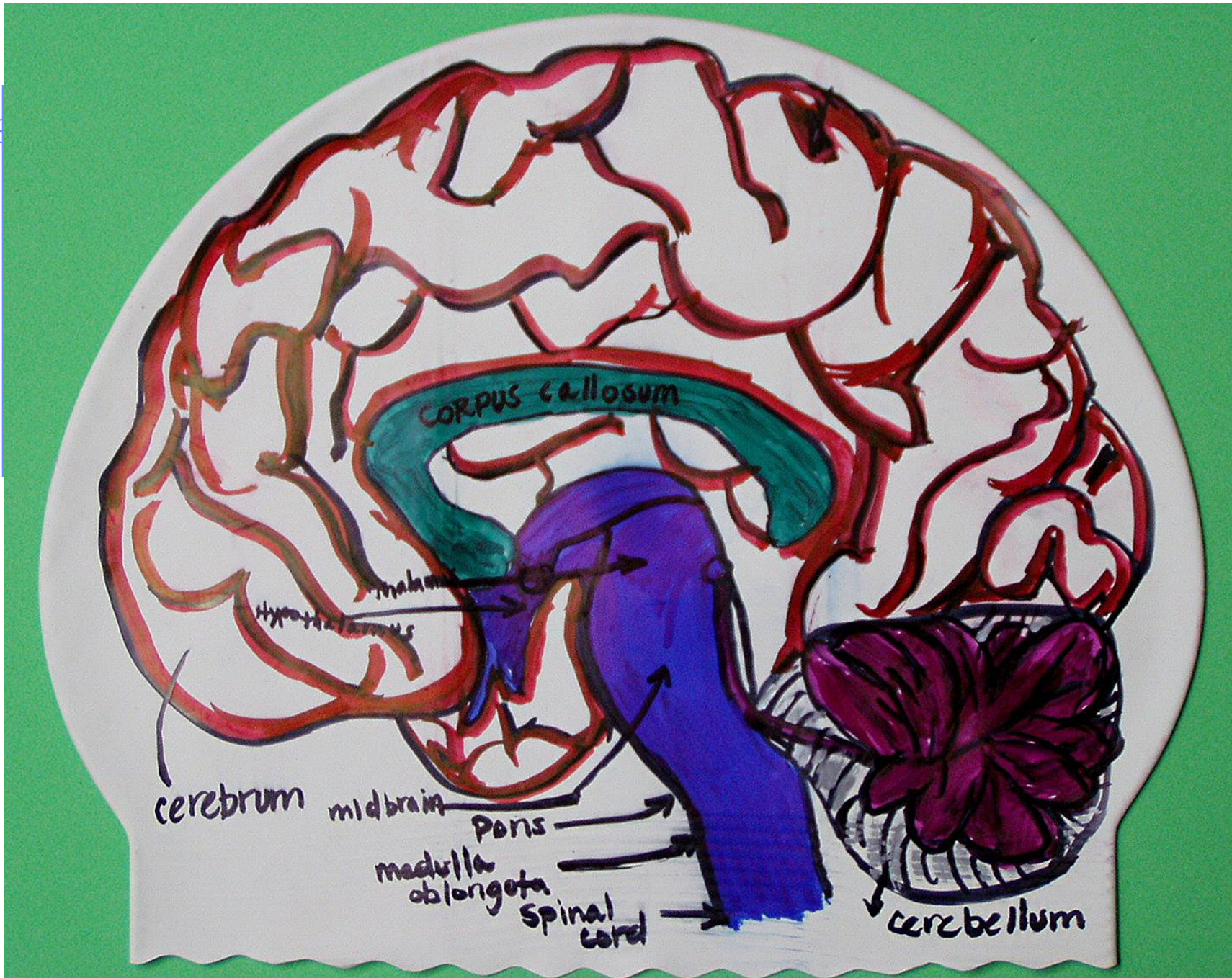


# MODELING THE BRAIN

Today I will...

1. Identify four brain structures and describe the function of various regions within them.
2. Describe Alzheimer's disease and explain how changes within the chemistry of various brain regions contributes to this disease.





# Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>:

Today I will...

1. Identify key structures and molecules found within the endocrine system.
2. Compare the purpose of the endocrine system with the immune system.
3. Identify four different tissue types and provide examples of each.

Please get into your groups with your poster.

You have today to do the following:

- COMPLETE your poster. You will present Wednesday.
- CONTINUE work on **ch. 40 reading guide**
- BEGIN work on **ch. 43 reading guide (Immune system)**



# Questions to ponder...

- Why are axons so long?
- Why have synapses at all?
- How do “mind altering drugs” work?
  - ◆ caffeine, alcohol, nicotine, marijuana...
- Do plants have a nervous system?
  - ◆ Do they need one?



**Ponder this...  
Any Questions??**

