

BE6003/Physiol 6003

# Cellular Electrophysiology and Biophysics

## Modeling of Ion Channels II

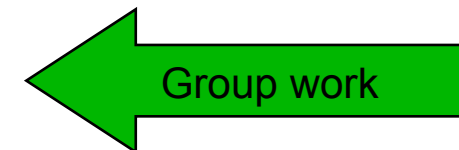
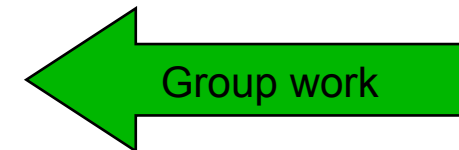
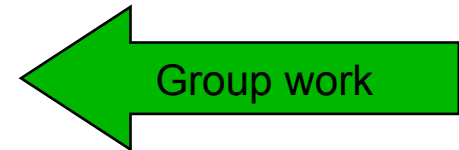
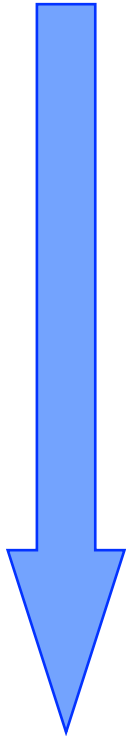


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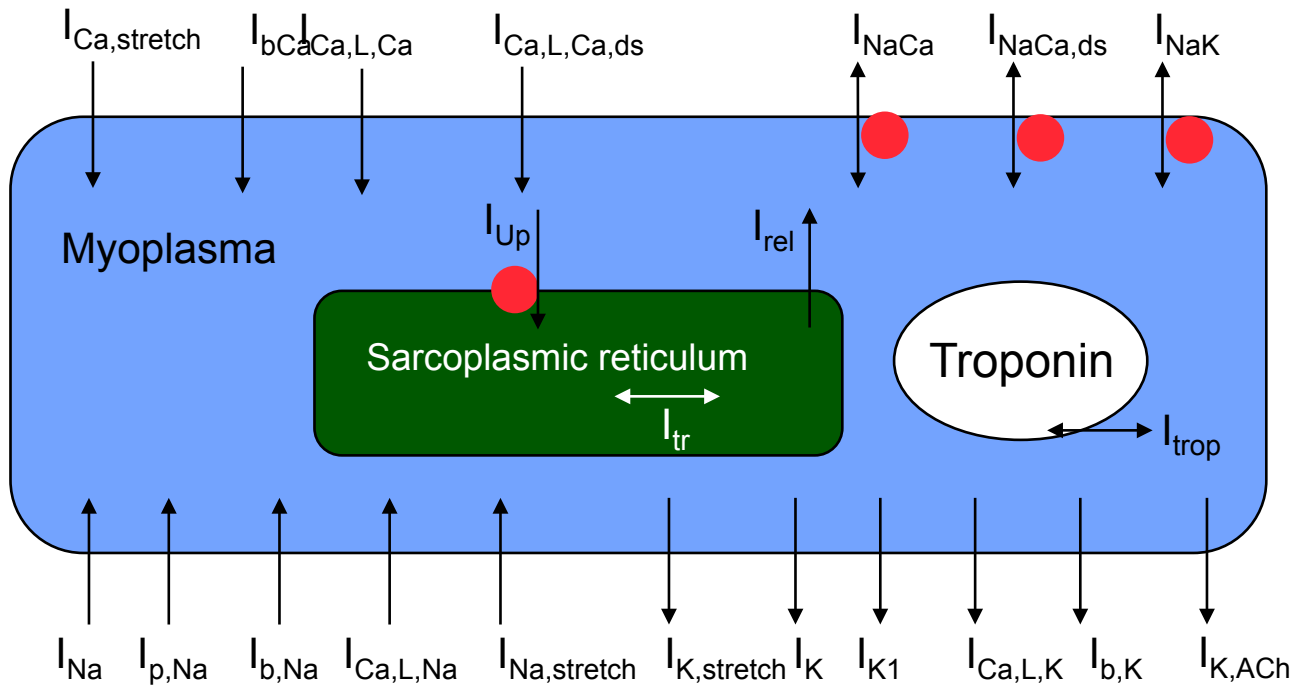
**Frank B. Sachse**, University of Utah

# Overview

- Modeling of Mutations
- Modeling of Drug Effects
- Model Parameterization
- Solution Methods
- Software Tools
- Molecular Modeling
  - Background
  - Homology
  - Drug Binding



# Applications of Ion Channel Models in System Biology



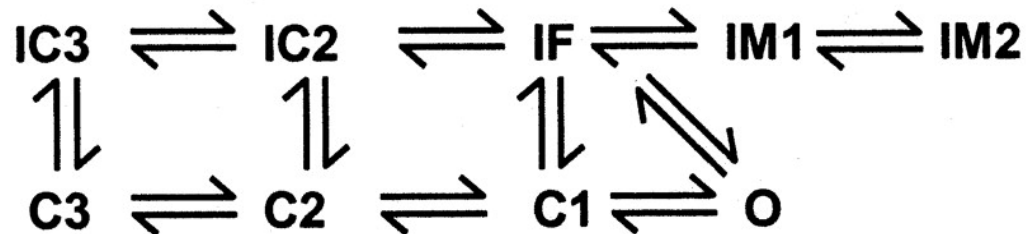
**Noble et al, 1998:**  
Mathematical description of ionic currents and concentrations, transmembrane voltage, and conductivities of guinea-pig ventricular myocytes

- Approach: Ion channel models are integrated into cell models
- Many recent cell models are based on Markov ion channel models
- Application: Studies of complex electrophysiological interactions in cells
  - Mutations: Wild type models are modified with/extended to models of mutations
  - Drug effects: “Normal” models are modified with/extended to “drug” models

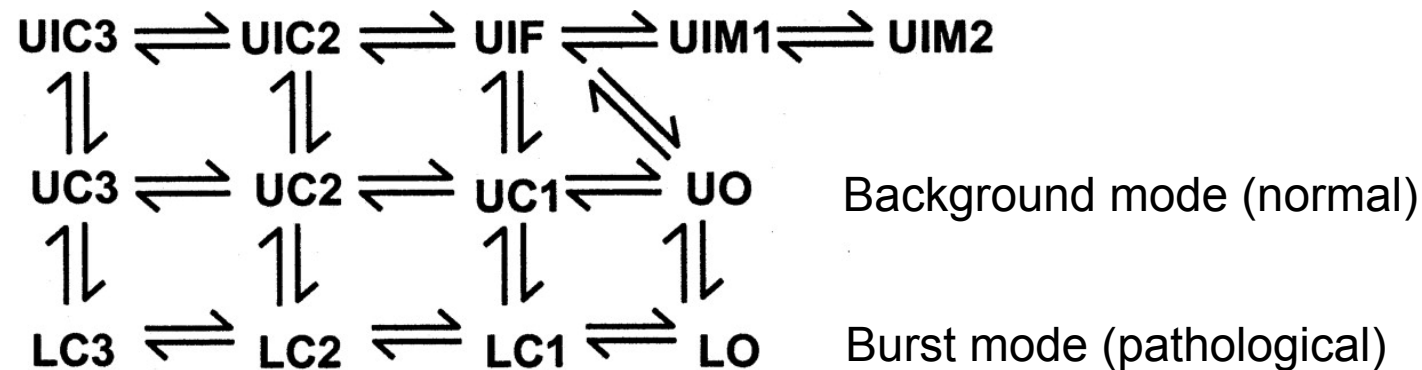


## Markov Models for WT and 1795insD Cardiac Na Channels

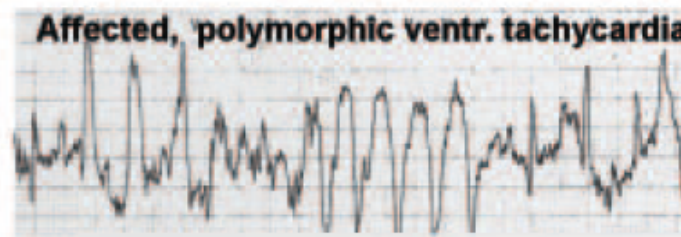
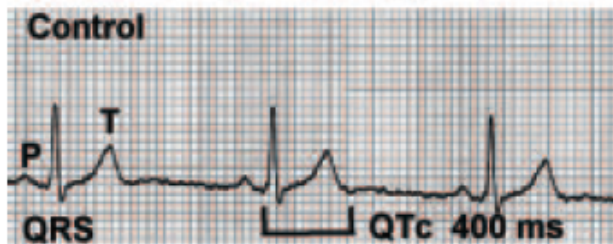
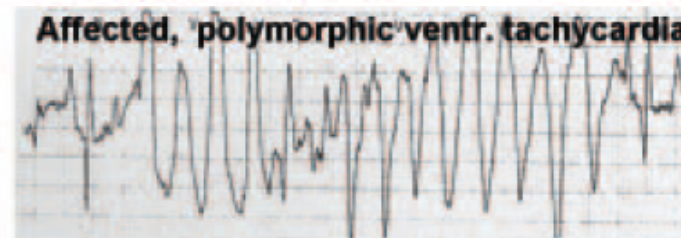
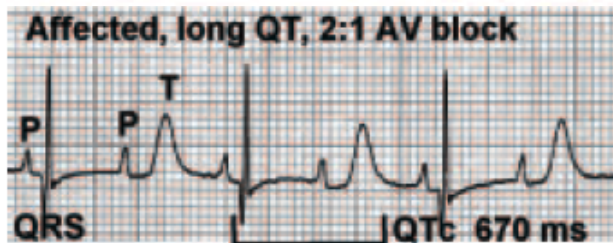
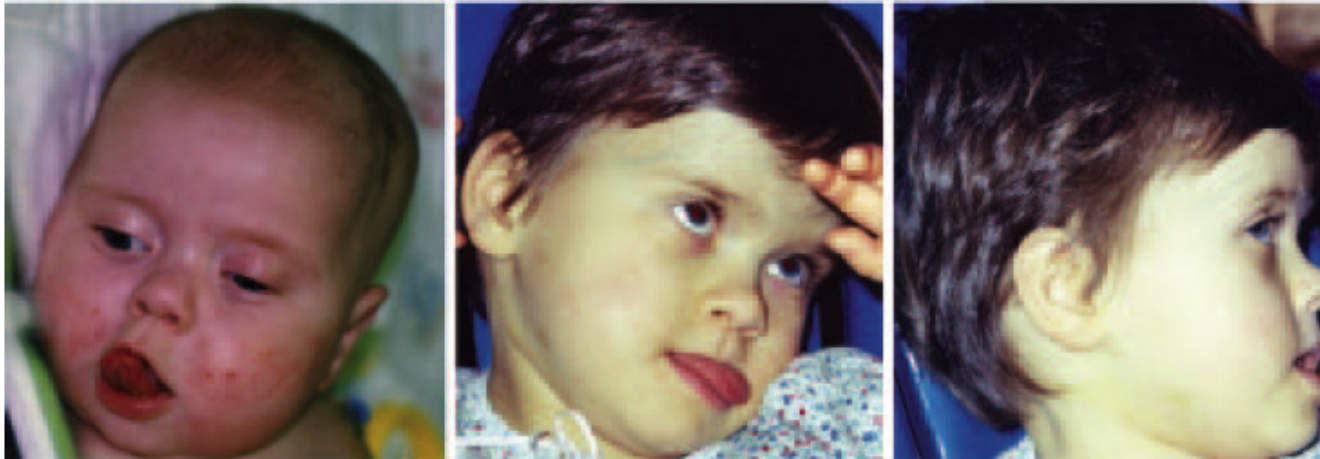
Wild-type Na channel



1795insD Na channel: Insertion of amino acid aspartic acid at location 1795



# Genetic Disease: Timothy Syndrome

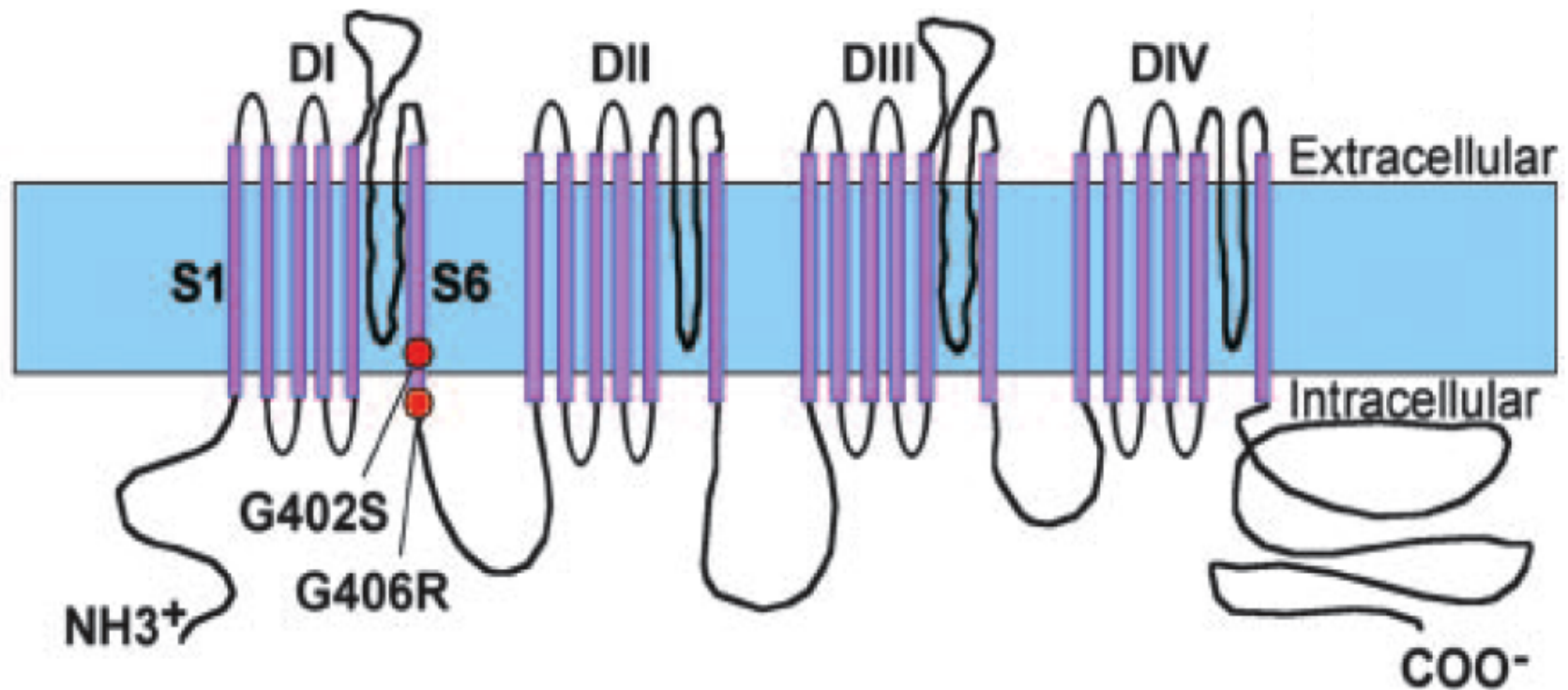


(Splawski et al, Proc Natl Acad Sci USA, 2005)



CVRTI

# Topology of Ion Channel Protein Ca<sub>v</sub>1.2



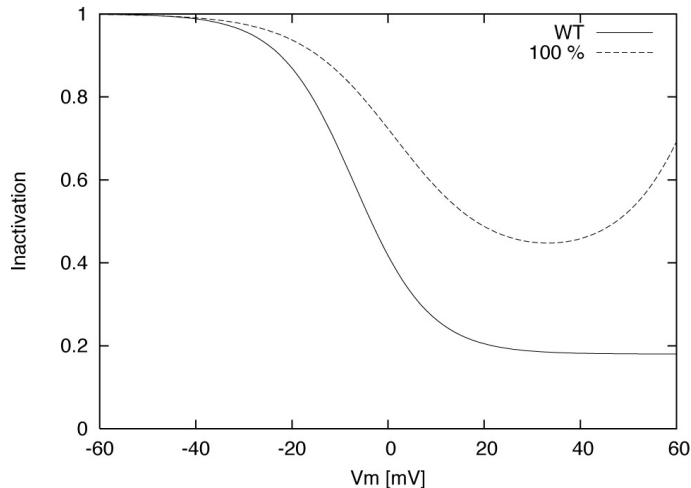
“De novo” mutations { G402S  
G406R

Glycine → Serine  
Glycine → Arginine



CVRTI

# Modeling of Timothy Syndrome



## Channel Modeling

Steady state inactivation is reduced in mutated channels versus wild type (WT)

Model of mutated channels created with numerical optimization



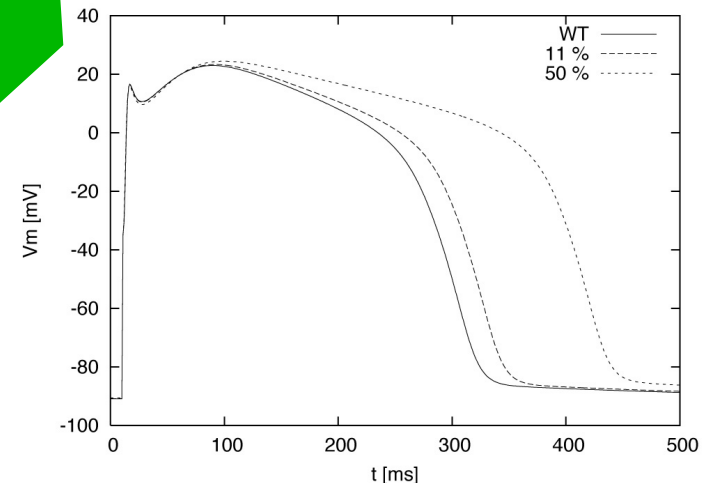
CVRTI

Integration in Myocyte Model

## Prediction of course of transmembrane voltage in myocyte

Changes dependent on % of channels with mutation

Significant increase of action potential duration (and intracellular calcium concentrations)



# Genetic Disease: Mutation of KCNQ1

Slow Inward Rectifying Potassium Current  $I_{Ks}$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{KCNQ1} \\ \text{KCNE1} \end{array} \right.$

KCNQ1



## Mutations

- **S140G**  
Serine  $\rightarrow$  Glycine  
found in family with hereditary atrial fibrillation  
(Chen et al., Science, 2003)

- **V141M**  
Valine  $\rightarrow$  Methionine  
found in new born child with atrial fibrillation and short QT syndrome "de novo"

\* Location of Mutation S4: Voltage sensing subunit (Kong et al., Cardiovasc Res, 2005)

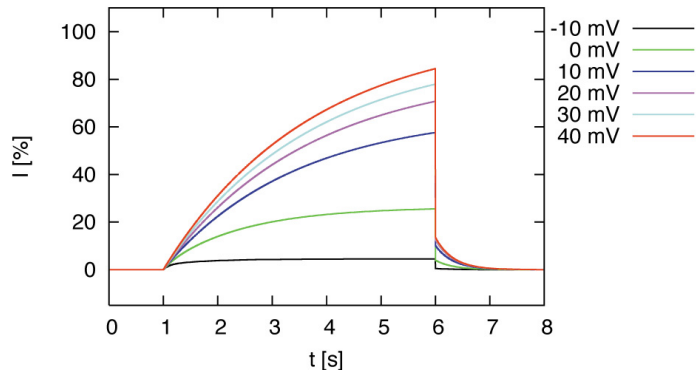


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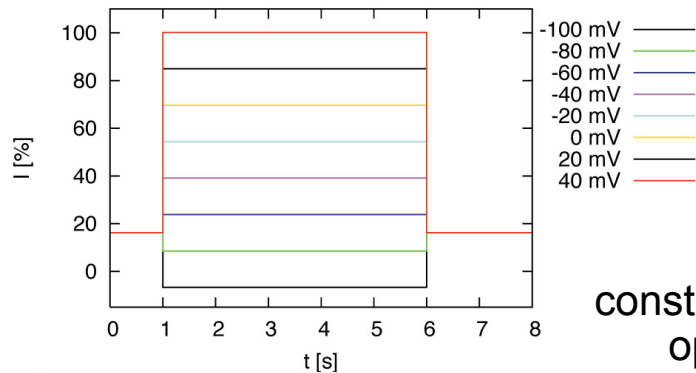


# Model-Based Prediction of Ion Current

WT KCNQ1 + KCNE1

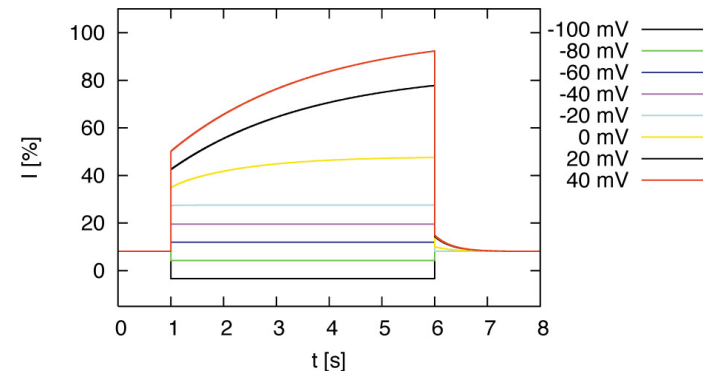


KCNQ1 (S140G or V141M) + KCNE1



constitutively open

50 % WT / 50 % mutation



gain of function!

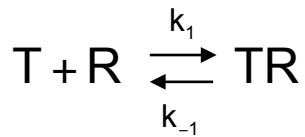
(Kong et al., Cardiovasc Res, 2005)

## Group Work

Predict the effect of mutation S140G or V141M on action potential duration in myocytes!



# Modeling of Drug Effects



T: Toxin

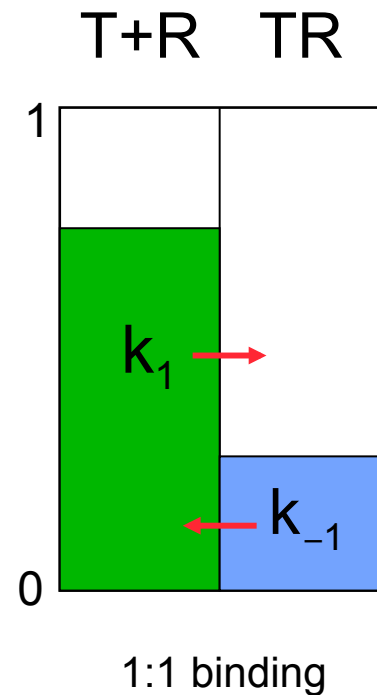
R: Receptor

$k_1$ : forward rate constant [ $s^{-1} M^{-1}$ ]

$k_{-1}$ : backward rate constant [ $s^{-1}$ ]

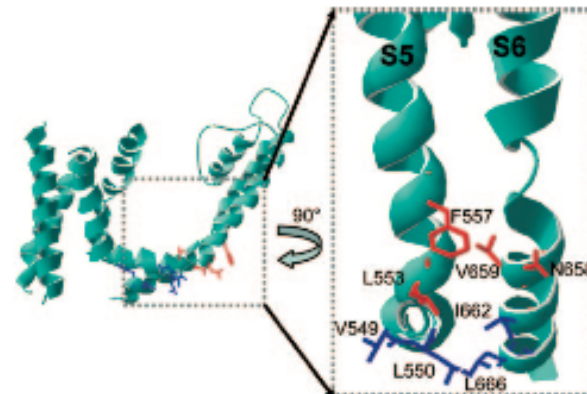
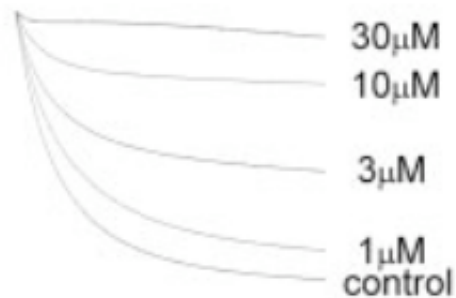
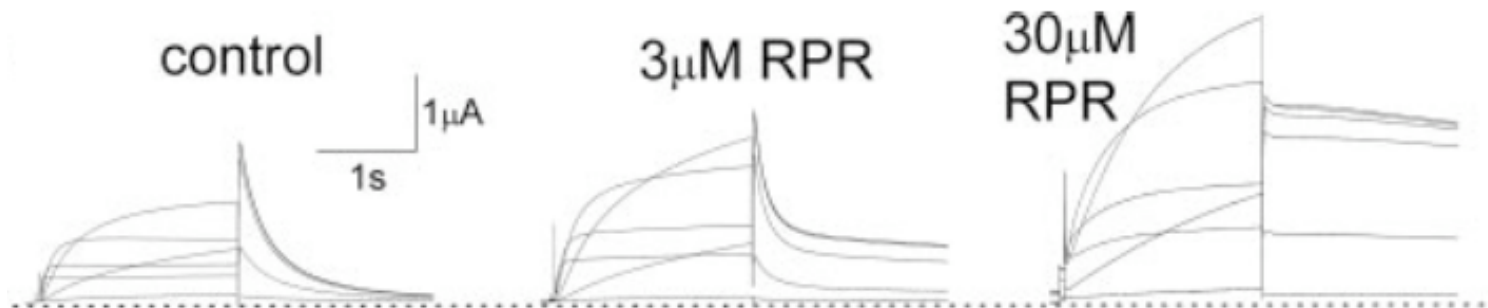
Dissociation constant [M]:  $K_d = \frac{k_{-1}}{k_1} = \frac{[T][R]}{[TR]}$

Fractional occupancy:  $y = \frac{[TR]}{[TR] + [R]} = \frac{1}{1 + K_d/[T]}$



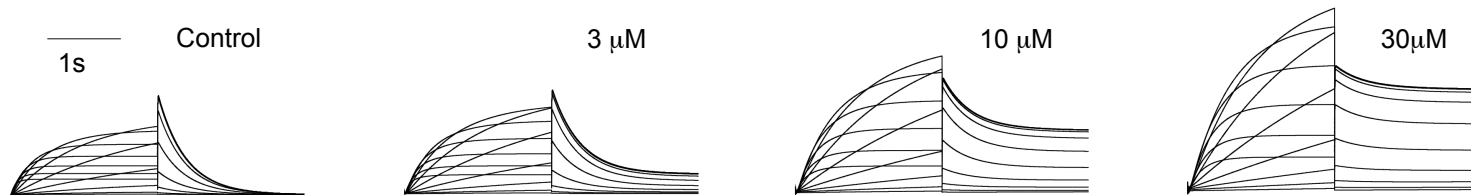
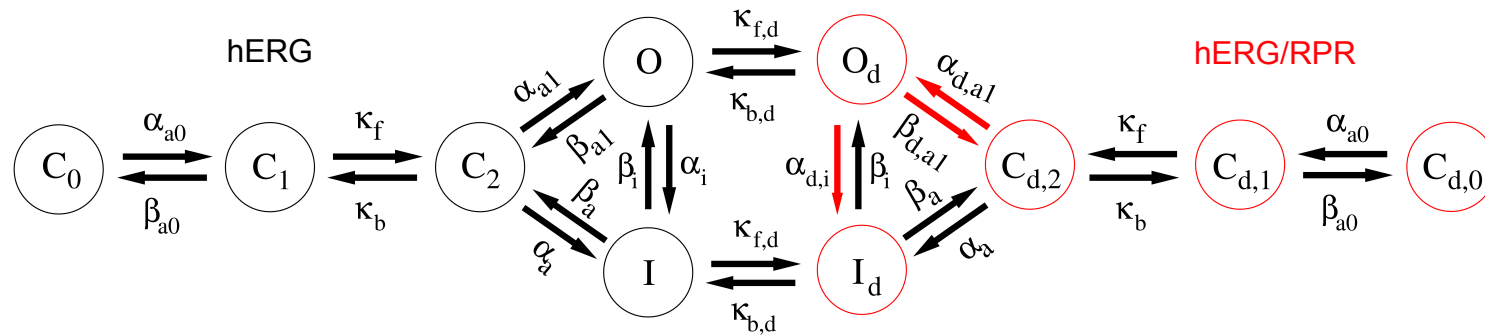
# Markovian Modeling of Drug Effects: Example

- RPR: Activator of hErg1 channel current
- Whole cell voltage clamp data measured in oocytes



# Markovian Modeling of Drug Effects: Example

Model includes two compartments connected by transitions between the open state O and inactivated state I:



# Model Parameterization by Optimization Approaches

Commonly, model parameterization does not directly apply measurement data, but is based on numerical optimization procedures to minimize an error function.

Error function can be defined as the difference between features extracted from experimental and simulated data:

$$E = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1..n} \left( \frac{\|f_{m,i} - f_{e,i}\|_2}{\|f_{e,i}\|_2} \right)^2}$$

$f_e$  : Experimental data

$f_m$  : Model data

$\|\dots\|_2$  : Euclidean norm

Numerical approaches:

- Steep descent
- Conjugate gradient
- Levenberg–Marquardt
- Stochastic approaches, e.g. particle swarm
- ...



## Hodgkin-Huxley Channel Model: 1st Order ODE

$$I_{\text{ion}} = G_{\text{ion,max}} f(V_m - E_{\text{ion}})$$

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \alpha_f(1-f) - \beta_f f$$

$\alpha_f \equiv \alpha_f(V_m)$ : Rate coefficient

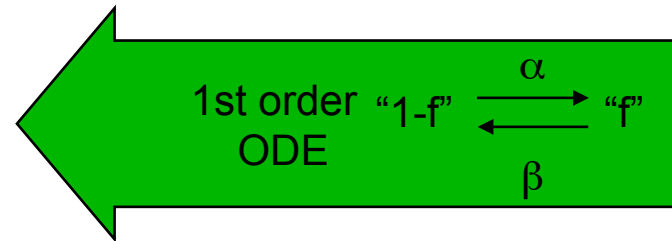
$\beta_f \equiv \beta_f(V_m)$ : Rate coefficient

$f$ : Gating variable

$G_{\text{ion,max}}$ : Maximal conductivity for ion

$E_{\text{ion}}$ : Nernst voltage

$V_m$ : Transmembrane voltage



## Analytical Solution of 1<sup>st</sup> Order ODE

$$\frac{df}{dt} = \alpha_f(1-f) - \beta_f f \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad \frac{df}{dt} = \frac{f_\infty - f}{\tau_f}$$

Time constant :

$$\tau_f = \frac{1}{\alpha_f + \beta_f}$$

Steady – state value :

$$f_\infty = \frac{\alpha_f}{\alpha_f + \beta_f}$$

Response to step :

$$f(t) = f_\infty - (f_\infty - f_0)e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_f}}$$





## Markov Models: System of 1st Order ODEs

$$\frac{d}{dt} P = QP$$

with the N states  $P = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 \\ \vdots \\ p_N \end{pmatrix}$

and the matrix  $Q = \begin{pmatrix} q_{11} & \cdots & q_{1N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ q_{N1} & \cdots & q_{NN} \end{pmatrix}$



N-dimensional system  
of 1st order ODEs



## Analytical Solution of Markov Model

$$P(t) = P(0)e^{Qt}$$

$$e^{Qt} = 1 + Qt + \frac{(Qt)^2}{2!} + \frac{(Qt)^3}{3!} + \dots$$

$$P(t) = P_{\infty} + P(0) \sum_{i=2}^k A_i e^{-\frac{t}{\tau_i}}$$

(Colquhoun and Hawkes, chap. 20, Single-Channel Recording, eds. Sakmann and Neher)

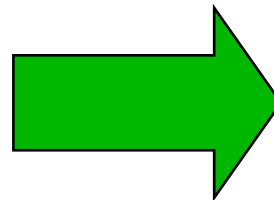


# Numerical Solution of Systems of ODEs

- “Numerical integration”
- Necessary for solving ODEs, which do not have analytical solutions
- ODEs of n-th order can be reduced to set of 1st order ODEs

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + q(t) \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = r(x)$$

2nd order ODE



$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = z(x)$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial t} = r(x) - q(t)z(x)$$

System of 1st order ODEs



# Convergence of Numerical Method

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \max_{n=0,1,\dots,[d/h]} \|u_{n,h} - u(t_n)\| = 0$$

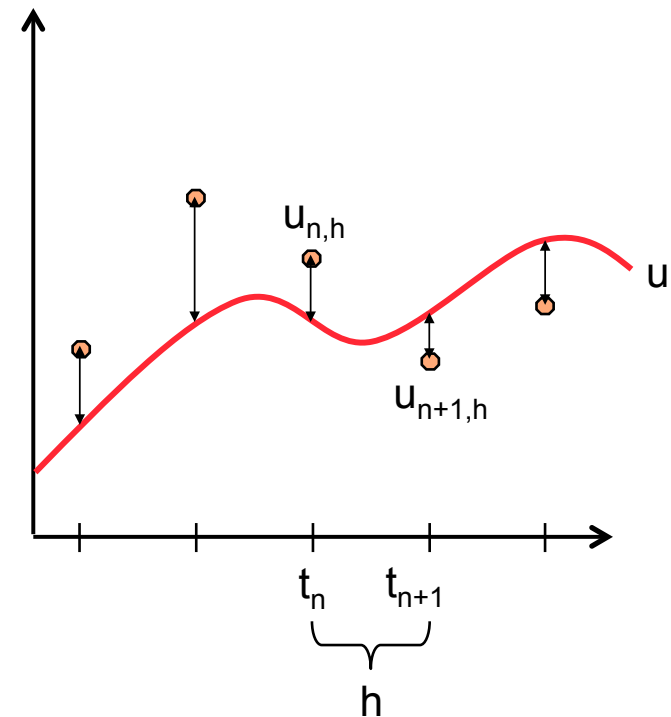
$h$ : step size

$u_{n,h}$ :  $n$ -th solution with step size  $h$

$u$ : exact solution function

$d$ : duration of integration

$t_n$ : time associated with time step  $n$



# Numerical Solution of ODEs

## Procedure

Discretization:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \rightarrow \frac{\Delta u}{\Delta t}$$

Choose appropriate step length  $\Delta t$ : Distance between  $t_n$  and  $t_{n+1}$

Criteria: numerical error and computational demand

## Numerical Methods

- Euler Method
- Runge-Kutta Method 2. Order
- Runge-Kutta Method 4. Order
- Richardson-Extrapolation, Bulirsch-Stoer Method
- Predictor-Corrector Methods
- ...



# Euler Method

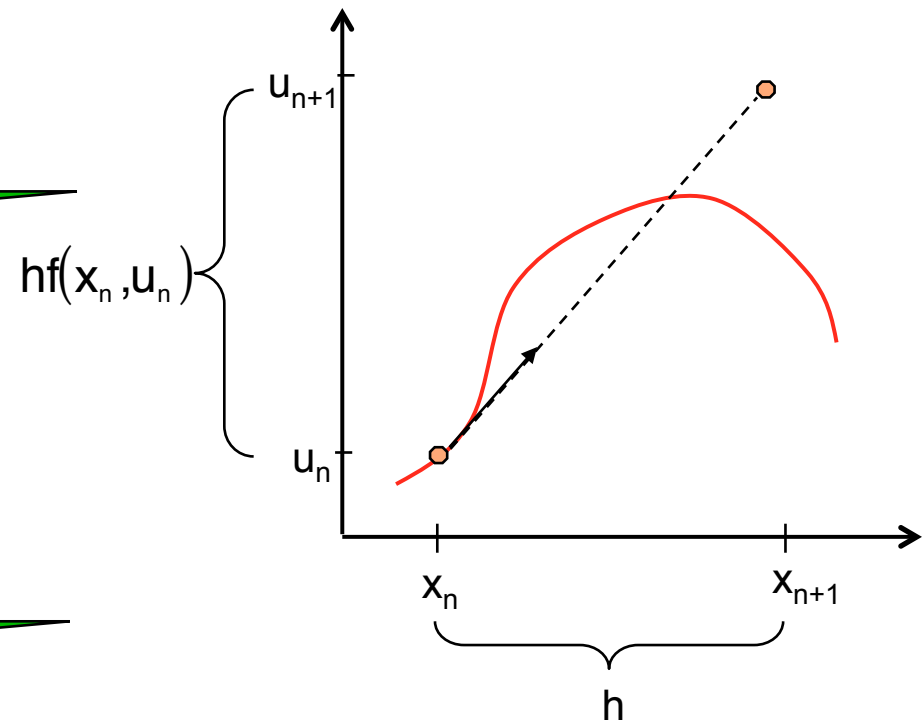
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f(x, u)$$

Finite Difference Approximation

$$\frac{u_{n+1} - u_n}{x_{n+1} - x_n} = f(x_n, u_n)$$

Rewriting

$$u_{n+1} = u_n + h f(x_n, u_n)$$



## Euler Method: Example 2-State Markov Model

$$\frac{dO}{dt} = -\alpha O + \beta C$$

$$\frac{dC}{dt} = -\beta C + \alpha O$$

Finite Difference  
Approximation

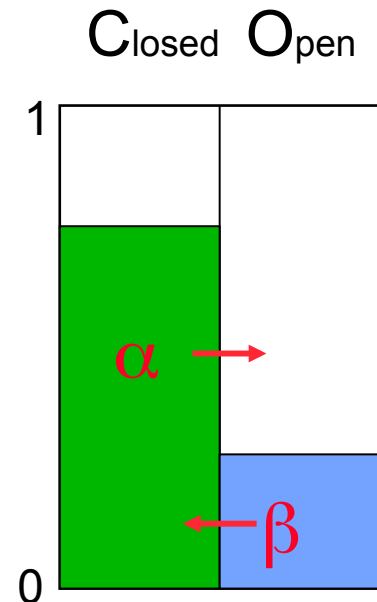
$$\frac{O_{n+1} - O_n}{t_{n+1} - t_n} = -\alpha O_n + \beta C_n$$

$$C_n = 1 - O_n$$

Rewrite

$$O_{n+1} = O_n + h(-\alpha O_n + \beta(1 - O_n))$$

$$C_{n+1} = 1 - O_{n+1}$$



# Runge-Kutta Method 2nd Order

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f(x, u)$$

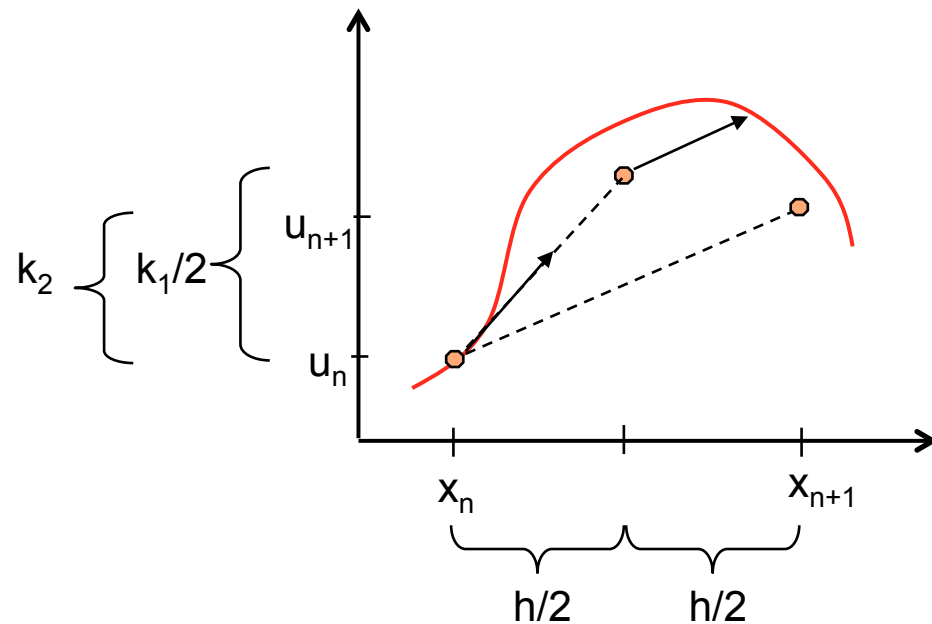
Discretization

$$k_1 = hf(x, u_n)$$

$$k_2 = hf\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h, u_n + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right)$$

Step

$$u_{n+1} = u_n + k_2$$





# Runge-Kutta Method 2nd Order: Example

$$\frac{dV_m}{dt} = I_{stim}(t) - \frac{1}{C_m} I_{ion}(t, V_m)$$

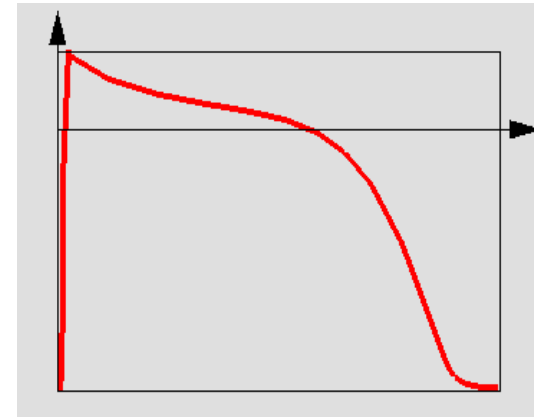
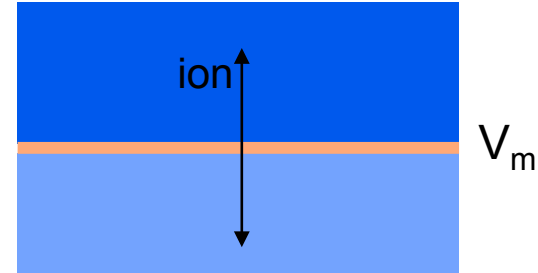
**Discretization**

$$k_1 = \Delta t \left( I_{stim}(t_n) - \frac{1}{C_m} I_{ion}(t_n, V_n) \right)$$

$$k_2 = \Delta t \left( I_{stim}\left(t_n + \frac{h}{2}\right) - \frac{1}{C_m} I_{ion}\left(t_n + \frac{h}{2}, V_n + \frac{k_1}{2}\right) \right)$$

**Step**

$$V_{n+1} = V_n + k_2$$



# Runge-Kutta Method 4th Order

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = f(x, u)$$

**Discretization**

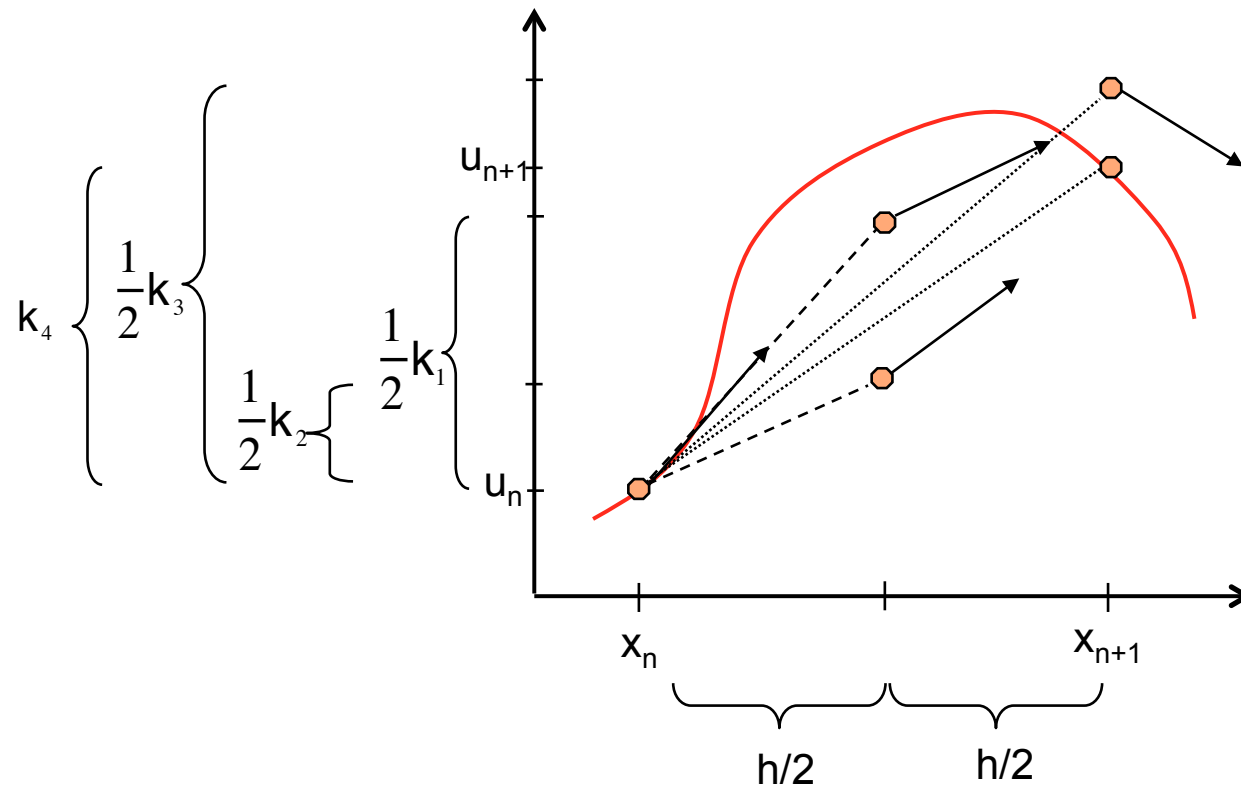
$$\begin{aligned}k_1 &= hf(x_n, u_n) & k_2 &= hf\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h, u_n + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right) \\k_3 &= hf\left(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h, u_n + \frac{1}{2}k_2\right) & k_4 &= hf(x_n + h, u_n + k_3)\end{aligned}$$

**Step**

$$u_{n+1} = u_n + \frac{k_1}{6} + \frac{k_2}{3} + \frac{k_3}{3} + \frac{k_4}{6}$$



# Runge-Kutta Method 4th Order: Example



## Group Work

Solve manually applying some steps of the Euler method:

$$\frac{dO}{dt} = \alpha (1 - O) - \beta O$$

with  $\alpha = 10 / \text{s}$ ,  $\beta = 1 / \text{s}$  and  $O(0) = 0.5$

Choose an appropriate time step  $h$ ! Motivate your choice.



# Software Tools and Languages

## OpenCell

- open source tool based on Mozilla
- model editing, simulation and visualization

## JSim

- Java-based
- model building, simulation and analysis
- imports CellML and SBML

## Genesis

- C/X11
- model building, simulation and analysis

## CellML

- open standard based on XML markup language
- model storage, exchange and integration

## System Biology Markup Language (SBML)

- open standard based on XML markup language
- model storage, exchange and integration

Ion channel models  
are significant subset  
of models handled!



# CellML/MathML: Sodium Channel Definition

Component: sodium\_current

$E_{Na} = RT / F \ln(Na_o / Na_i)$

$i_{Na} = g_{Na} 3hj(V - E_{Na})$

Component: sodium\_current\_m\_gate

$m_{infinity} = 1 / (1 + e^{(V + 45) / -6.5})$

$\tau_m = 0.00136 / (0.32(V + 47.13) / (1 - e^{-0.1(V + 47.13)}) + 0.08e^{-V/11})$

$dmd \text{ time} = (m_{infinity} - m) / \tau_m$

Component: sodium\_current\_h\_gate

$h_{infinity} = 1 / (1 + e^{(V + 76.1) / 6.07})$

$\tau_h = \{0.0004537(1 + e^{-(V + 10.66) / 11.1})$

if  $V \geq -400.00349 / (0.135e^{-(V + 80) / 6.8} + 3.56e^{0.079V} + 310000e^{0.35V})$  if

$dh/d \text{ time} = (h_{infinity} - h) / \tau_h$

Component: sodium\_current\_j\_gate

$j_{infinity} = 1 / (1 + e^{(V + 76.1) / 6.07})$

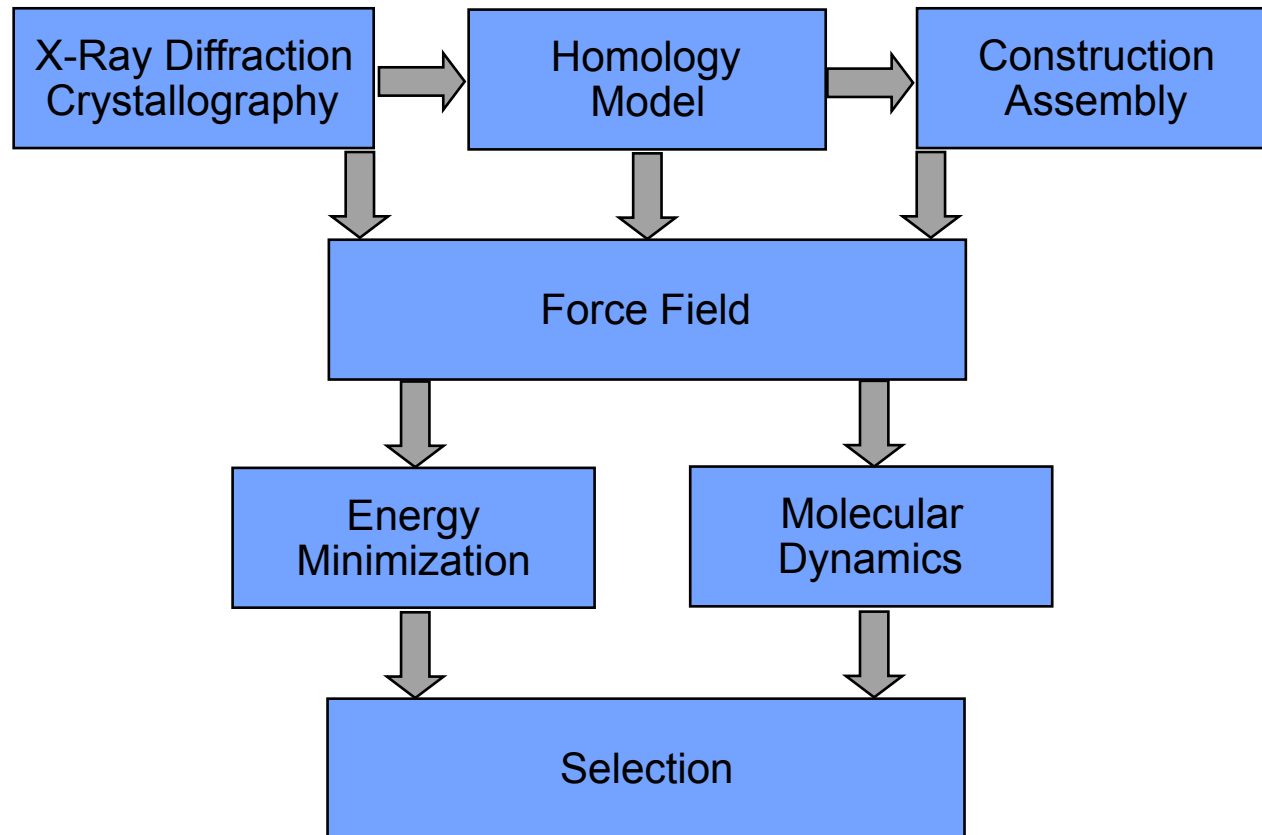
$\tau_j = \{0.01163(1 + e^{-0.1(V + 32)}) / e^{-0.0000002535V}$

if  $V \geq -400.00349 / ((V + 37.78) / (1 + e^{0.311(V + 79.23)}) - 127140e^{0.2444V} - 0.00003474e^{-0.04391V}) + 0.1212e^{-0.01052V} / (1 + e^{-0.1378(V + 40.14)})$  if

$djd \text{ time} = (j_{infinity} - j) / \tau_j$



# Molecular Modeling: Concepts



# Molecular Mechanics Energy

## Approximation

Atoms ~ Spheres

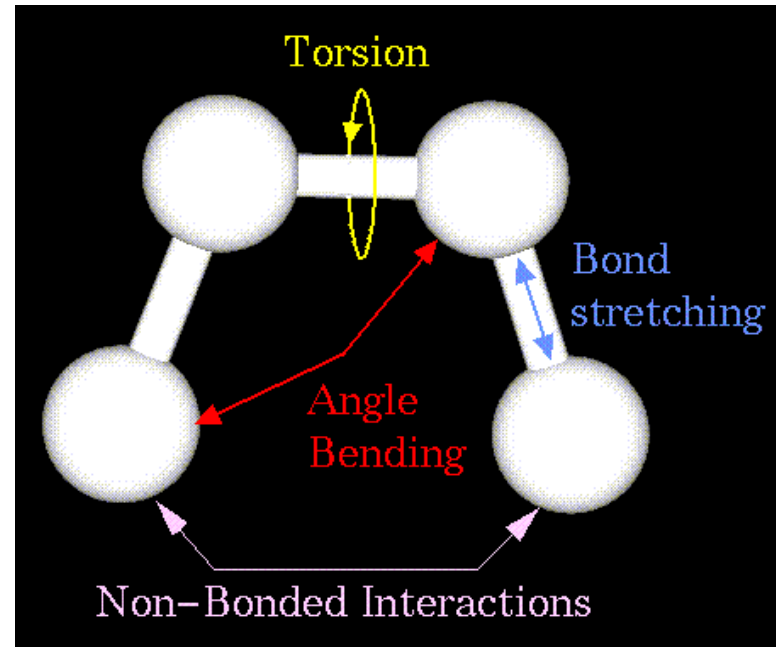
Bonds ~ Springs

Energy defined as sum of bonded and non-bonded energies:

$$E = E_{\text{stretch}} + E_{\text{bend}} + E_{\text{torsion}} + E_{\text{electrostatic}} + E_{\text{vanderWaals}}$$

Force field defined by parameterized energy functions.

Various force fields have been defined for different applications.



([http://cmm.cit.nih.gov/modeling/guide\\_documents/molecular\\_mechanics\\_document.html](http://cmm.cit.nih.gov/modeling/guide_documents/molecular_mechanics_document.html))

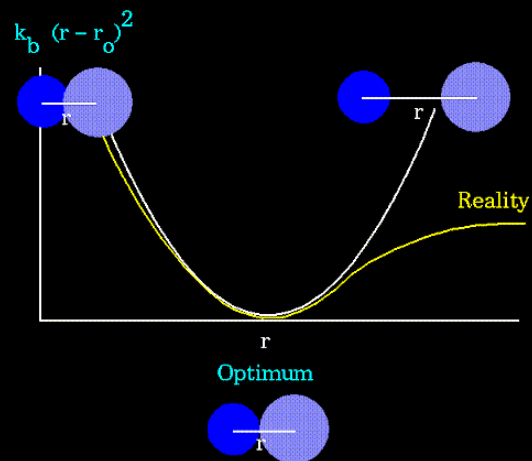
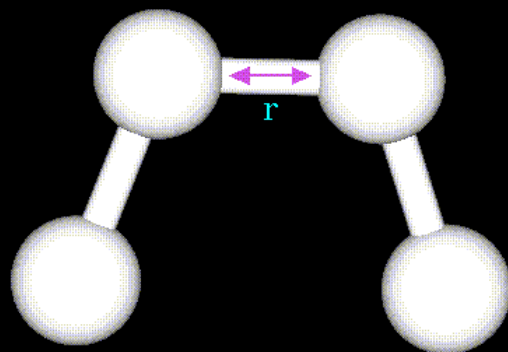


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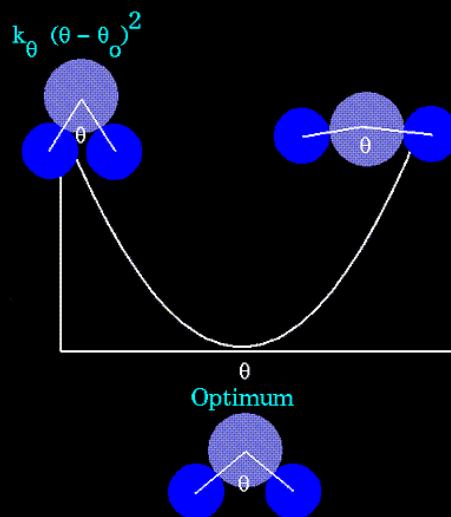
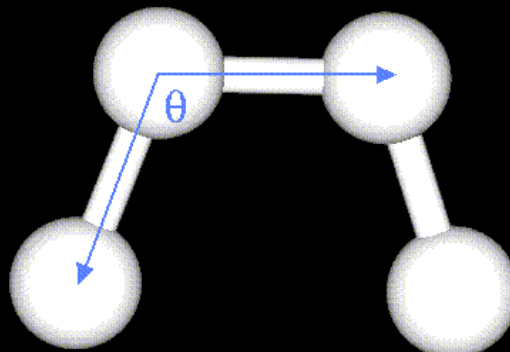


# Stretch, Bend and Torsion Energies

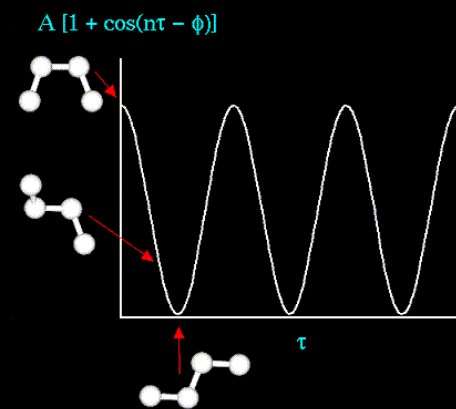
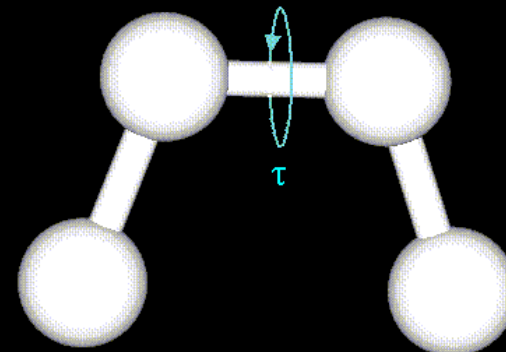
$$E = \sum_{\text{bonds}} k_b (r - r_o)^2$$



$$E = \sum_{\text{angles}} k_\theta (\theta - \theta_o)^2$$



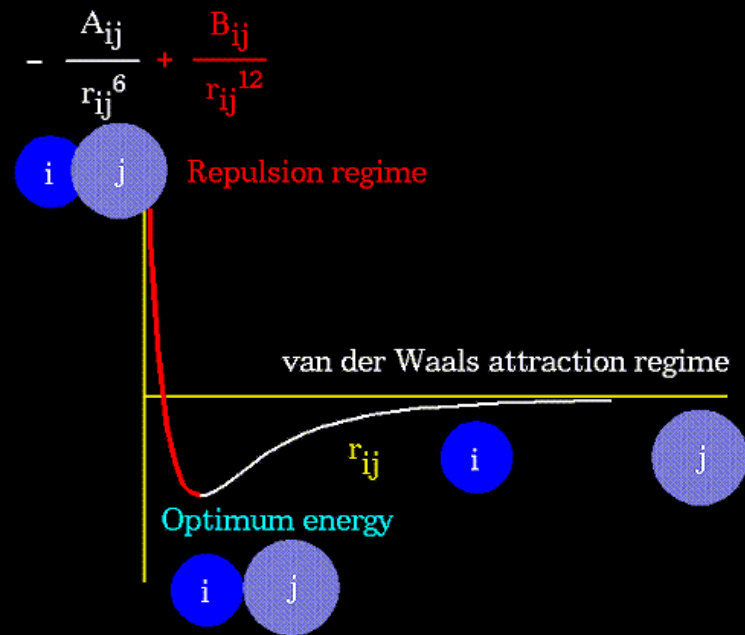
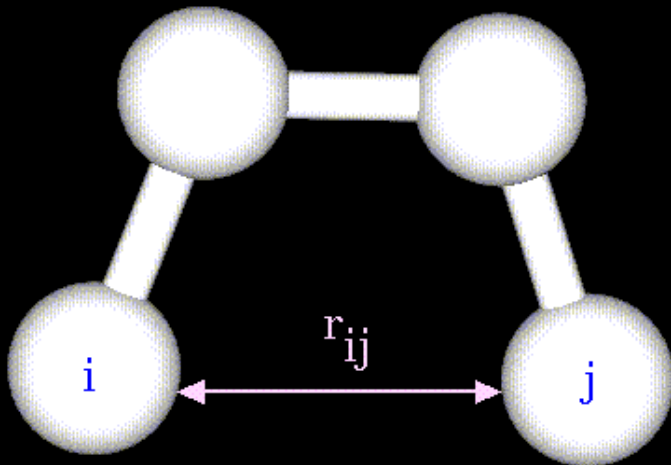
$$E = \sum_{\text{torsions}} A [1 + \cos(n\tau - \phi)]$$



# Non-Bonded Energy

$$E = \sum_i \sum_j \frac{-A_{ij}}{r_{ij}^6} + \frac{B_{ij}}{r_{ij}^{12}} + \sum_i \sum_j \frac{q_i q_j}{r_{ij}}$$

van der Waals term      Electrostatic term



# Homology Modeling

**Motivation:** Structure of many proteins is unknown!

**Approach:** Annotation of template protein structure with target amino acid sequence

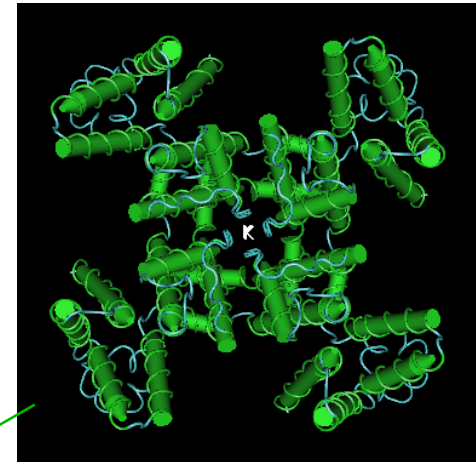
Quality of annotated structural model is dependent on quality of

- template protein structure
- sequence alignment

## Templates for ion channel models

- KcsA, K<sup>+</sup> channel, *Streptomyces lividans* (bacterium)
- MthK, Ca<sup>2+</sup> gated K<sup>+</sup> channel, *Methanobacterium autotrophicum*
- Voltage gated K<sup>+</sup> channel, *Escherichia coli* (bacterium)
- MscS, voltage modulated and mechanosensitive channel, *Escherichia coli* (bacterium)
- MscL, mechanosensitive channel, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*
- KirBac1.1, inward rectifier K<sup>+</sup> channel, *Burkholderia pseudomallei*
- Kir2.1, inward rectifier K<sup>+</sup> channel, *Mus musculus* (mouse)
- Kir3.1, G-protein sensitive inward rectifier K<sup>+</sup> channel, *Mus musculus* (mouse)
- Kv1.2, voltage gated K<sup>+</sup> channel, Shaker family, *rattus norvegicus*

...

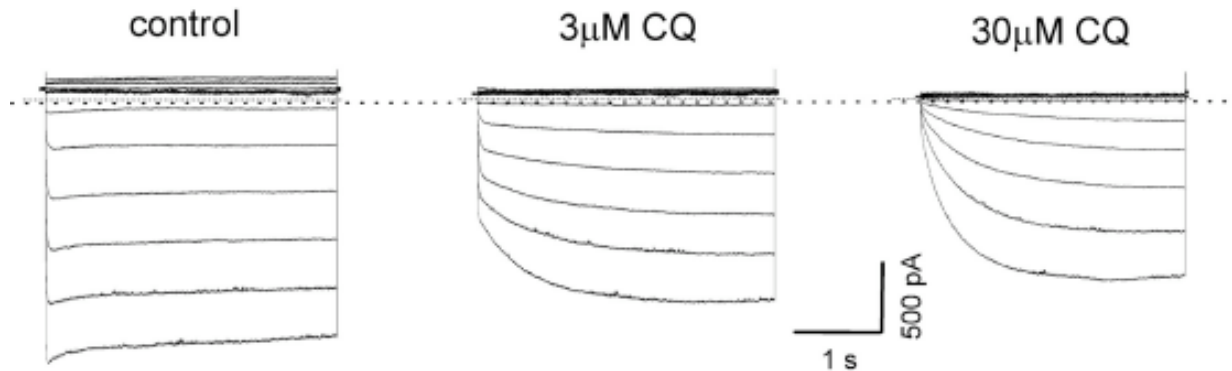


(<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez?db=structure>)

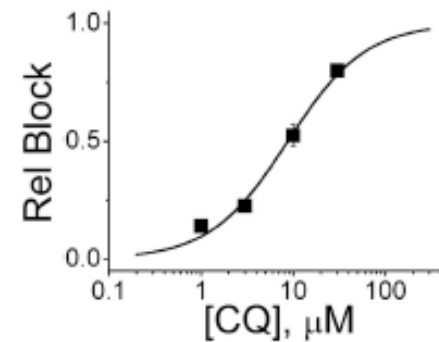


CVRTI

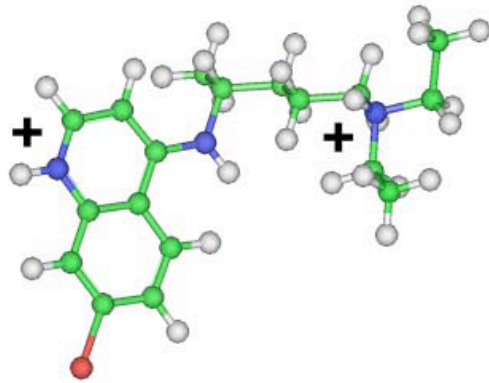
# Modeling of Drug Binding: Measurements



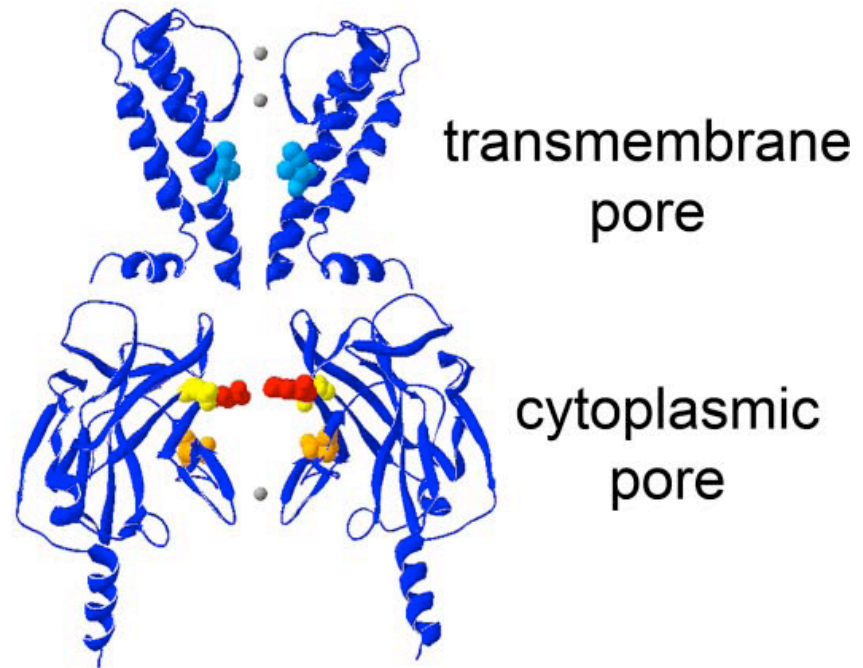
Chloroquine blocks  
Kir2.1 currents!



# Modeling of Drug Binding: Structure



Chloroquine  
(malaria prophylaxis  
and treatment)



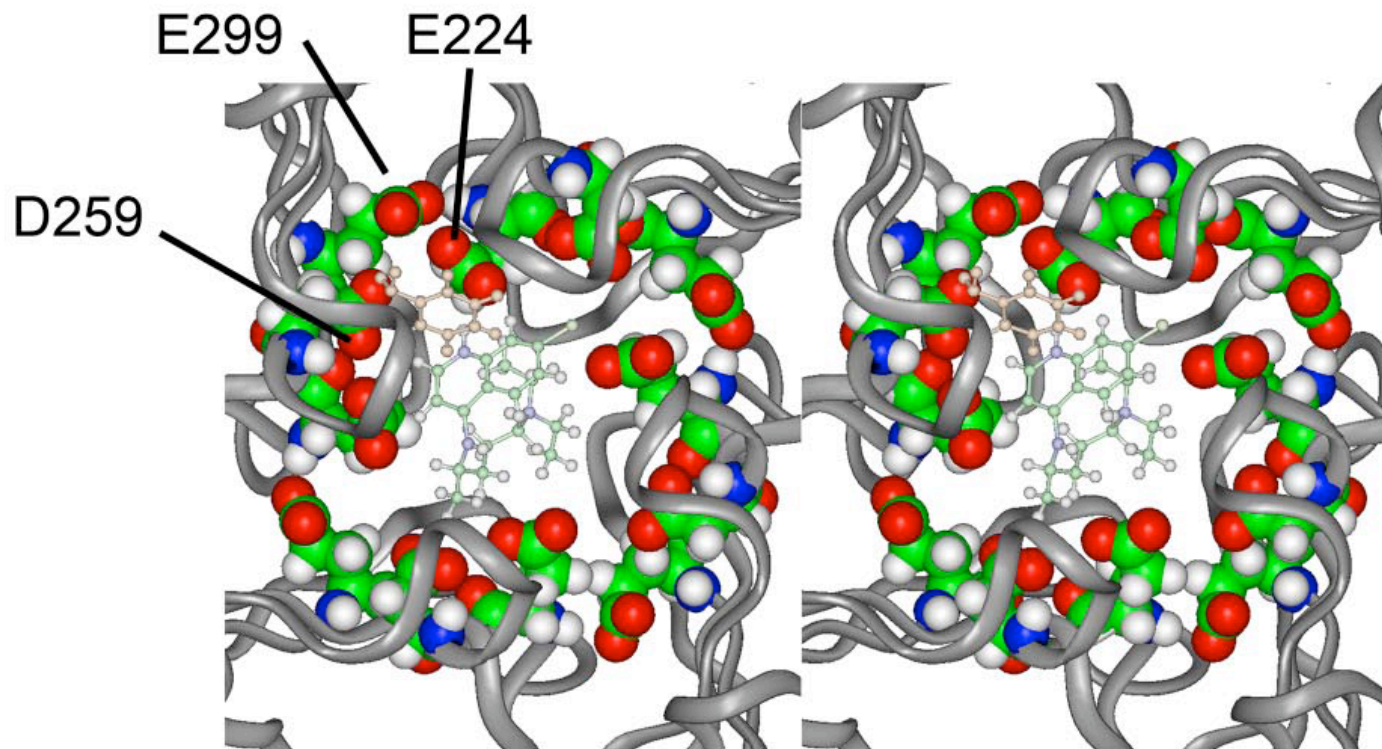
Structural model of Kir2.1

(Rodríguez-Menchaca et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A, 2008)



CVRTI

## Modeling of Drug Binding: Docking



Modeling suggests that chloroquine blocks Kir2.1 channels by plugging the cytoplasmic pore region



CVRTI

## Group Work

Suggest modeling approaches which are intermediate the Markovian and molecular modeling. What types of equations are these based on?



## Summary

- Modeling of Mutations
- Modeling of Drug Effects
- Model Parameterization
- Solution Methods
- Software Tools
- Molecular Modeling
  - Background
  - Homology
  - Drug Binding

