

Maxwell's Core Equations

Conservation of Total Current

Bob Eisenberg
Illinois Institute of Technology
Rush University

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Workshop on
Mathematics in Action:
Modeling and Analysis in Molecular Biology and Electrophysiology

Abstract

Ionic solutions determine many properties of living systems, nanosystems, and electrochemistry, including batteries. Ionic solutions are customarily analyzed in the tradition of thermodynamics extended by statistical mechanics. The statistical mechanics used is based on the theory of a perfect gas, in which point particles, without internal structure, let alone internal motions or dissipation, interact only with elastic collisions, isotropic at that, in the thermodynamic limit, in which boundary conditions do not appear, let alone confine. None of these assumptions apply to ionic solutions, even approximately, because molecules and water have internal structure, dissipate energy in inelastic anisotropic collisions. Indeed, ionic solutions are usually confined by boundary conditions that form devices of the greatest practical importance, like nerve fibers, cardiac muscle, and batteries. Devices are defined by their input output relations that are specified by boundary conditions in finite domains. The boundary conditions involve flow and do not exist in the thermodynamic limit.

Ions and water in ionic solutions interact by electrodynamics, including time dependent terms important on the scale of atoms. Ions interact strongly on all scales, and their interactions are not confined. Potentials on boundaries very far away create flows that allow living systems and batteries to function, often as devices. Electrodynamic interactions extend to infinity thanks to $\epsilon_0 \partial\mathbf{E}/\partial t$, as a glance at the sun or stars demonstrates. The crucial biological phenomenon of the action potential arises from the coupling of macroscopic fields with atomic scale movements of ions and channel proteins. Classical statistical mechanics can deal with none of this without electrodynamics that extend far beyond the thermodynamic limit

Classical electrodynamics may seem at first glance as weak a foundation for theories and simulation as statistical mechanics. After all, classical electrodynamics includes a dielectric constant that is ill defined by reality, since no ionic solution has dielectric properties that can be reasonably approximated by a single positive constant. Once the dielectric constant is removed—or should I say exorcized?—mechanical models are needed to describe the response of charge to force. These models are of course specific and approximate, the opposite of universal and exact.

Electrodynamics without a dielectric constant is quite different from statistical mechanics. To my considerable surprise, it provides a firm foundation for theory and simulation. Easily measured properties of charge movement are described by a universal and exact law, for **any** motions of matter or charge. Conservation of total current—that includes $\epsilon_0 \partial\mathbf{E}/\partial t$ —is as universal and exact as the Maxwell equations themselves.

Written in one dimension, conservation of total current can become equality of total current, so total current in ion channels or circuit components can be described by ordinary differential equations in time, without a spatial variable at all, even for nearly Brownian currents of thermal motion! Conservation of current becomes Kirchhoff's law for **total** current that allows analysis of the action potential and the design of integrated circuits, digital and analog.

Scientists are trained to be skeptical of universals. Scientists are trained to expect the particular and its parameters. To their discomfort, scientists see that the Maxwell equations without a dielectric constant are both exact and universal, without material parameters. Material parameters are found in abundance in the models of charge movement needed to describe real ionic solutions.

It might be wise to build models of ionic solutions on the firm foundation of exact electrodynamics, **abandoning the quicksand of statistical mechanics, and dielectric constants, using instead explicit models** of motions of charge and mass coupled to the Maxwell equations that describe electrodynamics everywhere, from inside atoms to between stars.



Mathematics in
Action



Special Thanks
to

Shixin Xu
and all the organizers

and to Yiewei Xiong for her hard work!

**Essence of Electrodynamics
is
Maxwell's Core Equations
for the
Flows and Forces of Charge and Current
in matter and space**

- 1) Maxwell Equations for Material Systems. doi: [10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1); [10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1);
- 2) Thermostatics vs. Electrodynamics. DOI: [10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2)
- 3) Maxwell Equations Without a Polarization Field, Using a Paradigm from Biophysics. Entropy 23 172,
also available on arXiv at [2009.07088.pdf](https://arxiv.org/abs/2009.07088.pdf) and [07010.03390/e23020172](https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.03390)

Maxwell's Core Equations

Describe Electricity with no errors, $<10^{-6}$

almost everywhere at any time

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

Relativistic
Property of
Space
NOT matter

\mathbf{E} is electric field, \mathbf{B} is magnetic field

\mathbf{J} is the current of all mass, including brief dielectric transients of the \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{D} fields

ρ is charge density (of all types, including dielectric charge of the \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{D} fields)

ϵ_0 is the permittivity of a vacuum

μ_0 is the permeability of a vacuum

$(\mu_0 \epsilon_0)^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ = velocity of light (!)

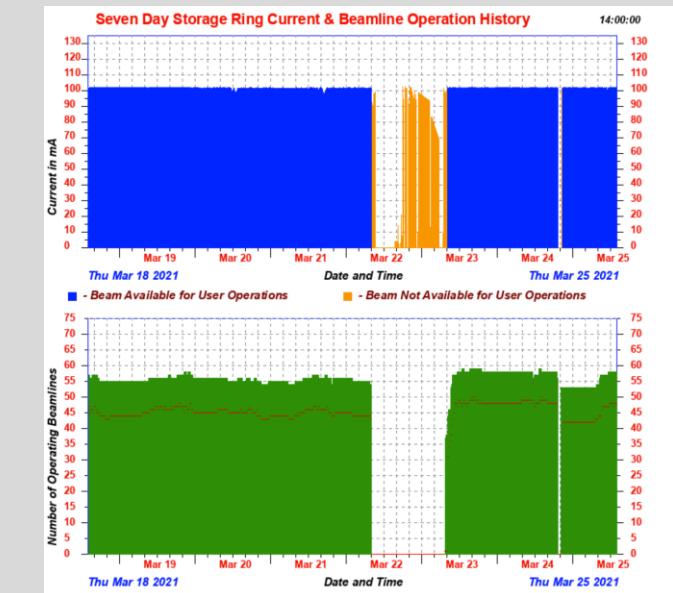
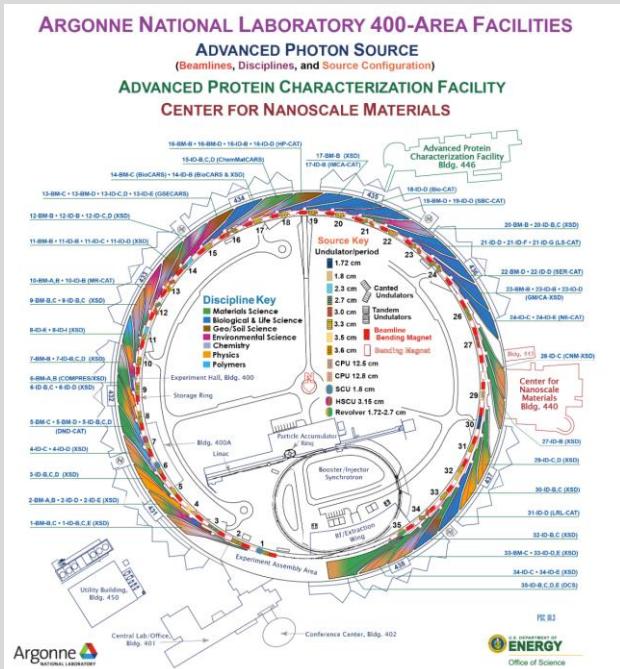


Error in Theory

$< 10^{-10}$

Beam $\sim 10^{10}$ eV
Beam length 10^3 m
Tolerance $< 10^{-7}$ m
Beam Current 100 mA
Beam Power 10^9 watts

Advanced Photon Source Argonne National Laboratory



Maxwell's Core Equations are Universal and Exact

but they are a Set of Coupled Partial Differential Equations that
need sophisticated mathematics and computations to describe systems of complex structure

Electro 'statics'

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

Electrodynamics

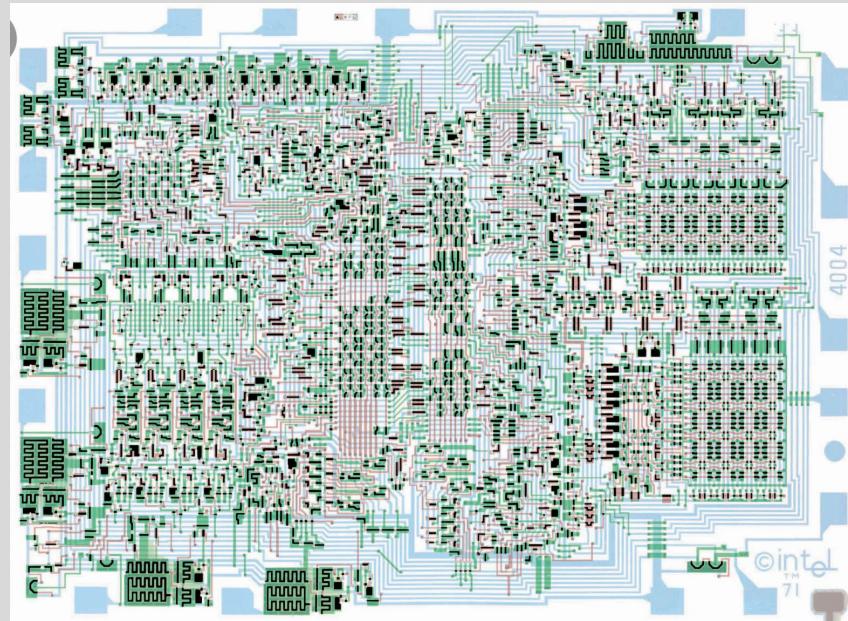
$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

Magneto 'statics'

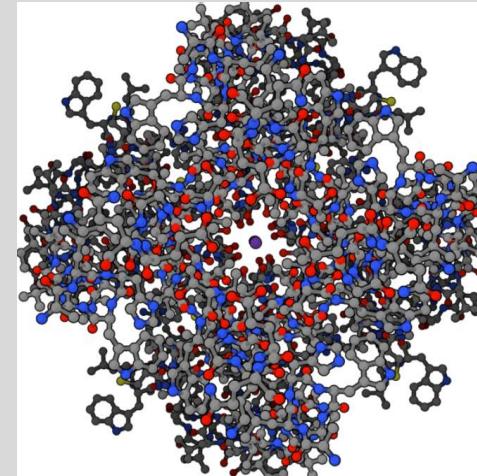
$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} = 0$$

Magnetodynamics

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

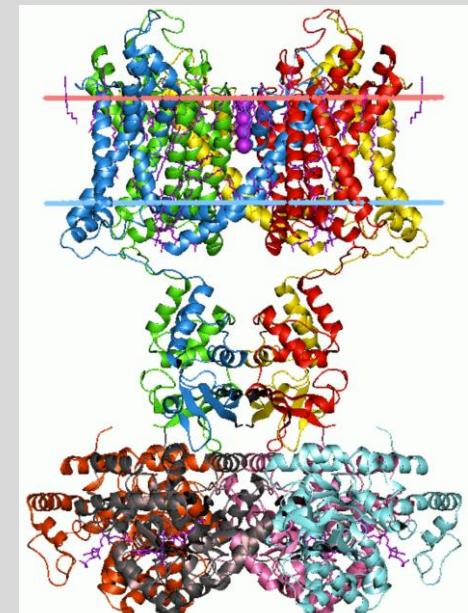


Integrated Circuit



Potassium Ion Channel $K_{V1.2}$
PDB: 1BL8

or





Scientists are Taught to be Skeptical
as they should be
particularly of Universal Exact Theories
like the Maxwell Core Equations



Richard Feynman

“Whenever you see a **sweeping statement** that a tremendous amount can come from a very **small number of assumptions**,

You always find that it is False.

There are usually a large number of
Implied Assumptions

that are far from obvious if you think about them sufficiently carefully.”

Section 26-1.

The Feynman Lectures on Physics Vol 2 (1963) also at http://www.feynmanlectures.caltech.edu/II_toc.html



Challenge to Audience

What are implied assumptions?

in Conservation of Total Current and Core Maxwell Equations

Contact Bob.Eisenberg@gmail.com



Don't Recognize these Maxwell Equations? Where is the dielectric constant ϵ_r ?

$$\text{div } \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\text{div } \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\text{curl } \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\text{curl } \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

Relativistic
Property of
Space
NOT matter

J is current of ALL mass, including tiny, brief dielectric transients of the P and D fields

ρ is density of ALL types of charge with mass including polarization and dielectric charge

Move the Physics of Dielectrics into \mathbf{J} and ρ

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{D} = \operatorname{div} \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_r \epsilon_0 \mathbf{E} = \rho_f$$

$$\frac{1}{\mu_0} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{1}{\mu_0} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{B} = \tilde{\mathbf{J}} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_r \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$$

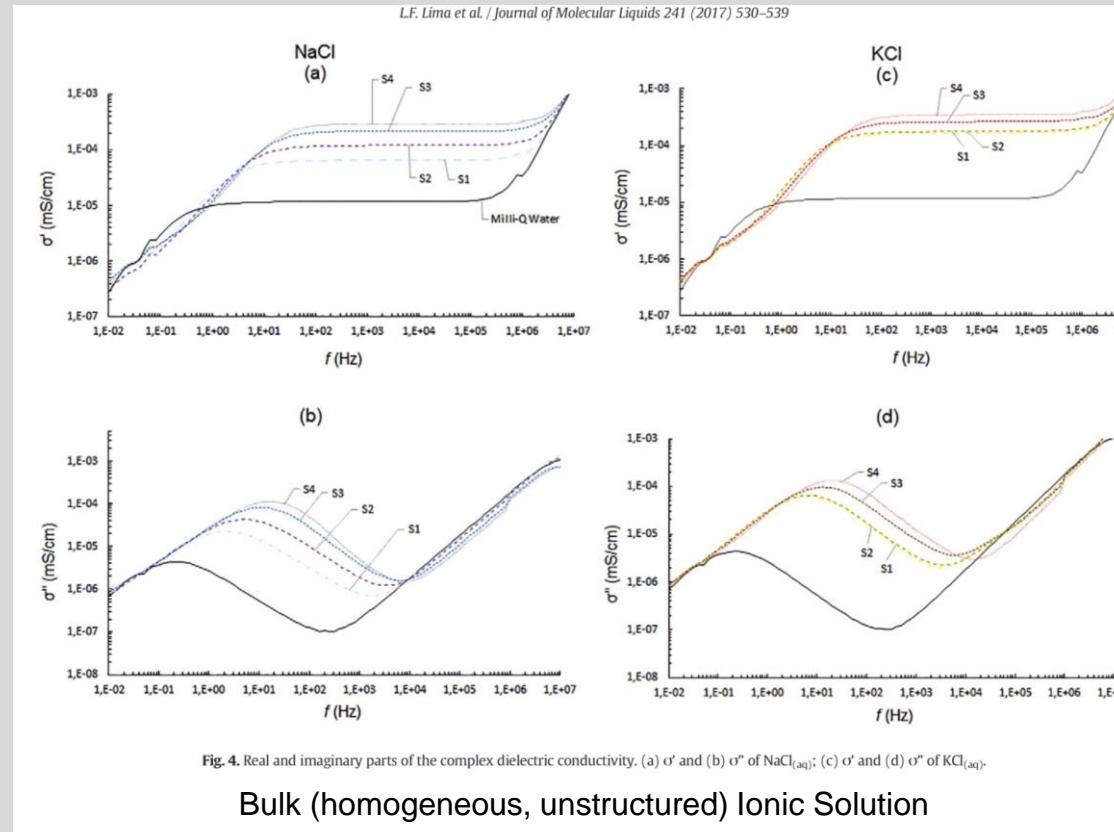
Polarization is part of \mathbf{J} and ρ

Why Change Maxwell Equations?

Why Move the Physics of Dielectrics into \mathbf{J} and ρ ?

Dielectric Dilemma. arXiv: 1901.10805 (2019)

Dielectric Model does not fit data from Ionic Solutions



**Electrical Systems need
Models of
How Electrical
Force Changes Charge Distribution**

Dielectric Model does not fit data from Proteins

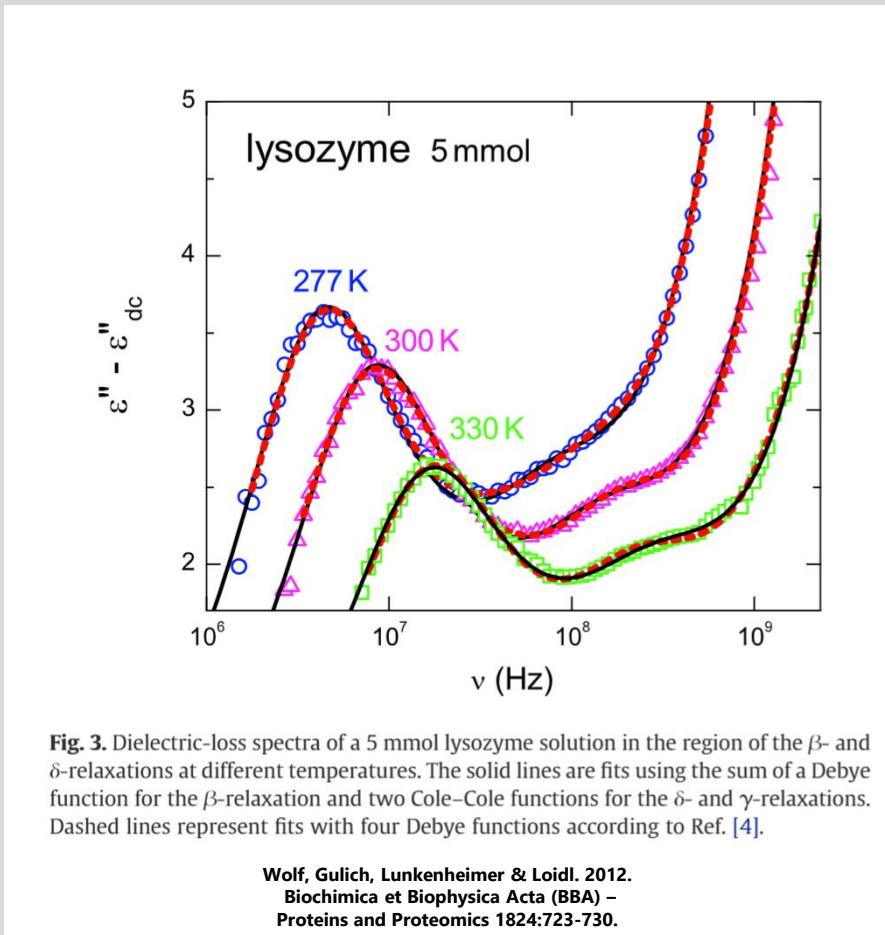
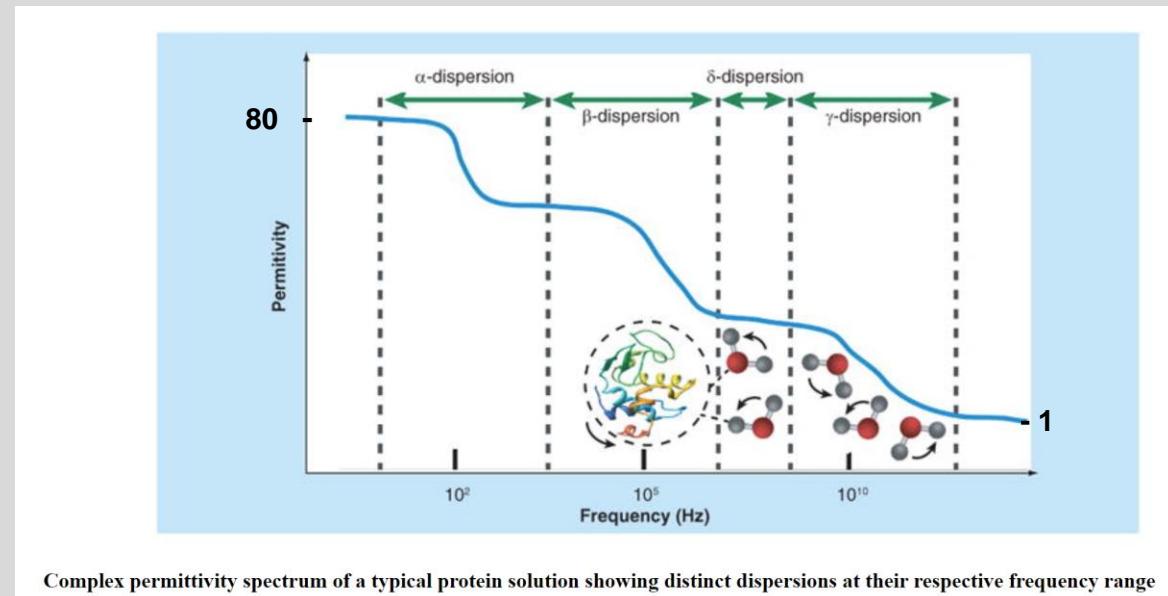


Fig. 3. Dielectric-loss spectra of a 5 mmol lysozyme solution in the region of the β - and δ -relaxations at different temperatures. The solid lines are fits using the sum of a Debye function for the β -relaxation and two Cole-Cole functions for the δ - and γ -relaxations. Dashed lines represent fits with four Debye functions according to Ref. [4].

Wolf, Gulich, Lunkenheimer & Loidl. 2012.
Biochimica et Biophysica Acta (BBA) –
Proteins and Proteomics 1824:723-730.



Complex permittivity spectrum of a typical protein solution showing distinct dispersions at their respective frequency range

**Electrical Systems need
Models of
How Electrical
Force Changes Charge Distribution**

Dielectric Model does not fit Data from Molecules with Steric Excluded Interactions*

which are nearly universal in proteins and ionic solutions

Gudarzi and Aboutalebi (2021)

Self-consistent dielectric functions of materials:

**Toward accurate computation of Casimir–van der Waals forces.
Science Advances 7:eabg2272.**

also

Dzyaloshinskii, Lifshitz, and Pitaevskii. 1961. The general theory of van der Waals* forces. *Advances in Physics* 10:165-209.
Reyes-Coronado, Ortíz-Solano, Zabala, Rivacoba, and Esquivel-Sirvent. 2018. Analysis of electromagnetic forces and causality in electron microscopy.
Ultramicroscopy 192:80-84.

**Electrical Systems need Explicit Models
of how electrical force changes charge distribution
as a function of time, location and conditions**

The electric force pushes atoms with charge, and they move.

Electrodynamic Systems need

Explicit Models

of how electrical force changes charge distribution,

as function of time, position, conditions

not just a dielectric constant.

- 1) Maxwell Equations for Material Systems. doi: [10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1); [10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1);
- 2) Thermostatics vs. Electrodynamics. DOI: [10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2)
- 3) Maxwell Equations Without a Polarization Field, Using a Paradigm from Biophysics. Entropy 23 172,
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General Statement of Polarization of Charge is Impossible

**Just as a
General Statement of Stress Strain Relations of Matter is Impossible**

- 1) Maxwell Equations for Material Systems. doi: [10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1); [10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v2](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v2)
- 2) Thermostatics vs. Electrodynamics. DOI: [10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2](https://doi.org/10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2)
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General Statement of Polarization of Charge **is Dangerous**

Just as a
General Statement of Stress Strain Relations of Matter is Dangerous

because

Specific Properties of Polarization are the **ESSENTIAL Physics**

Just as a
Specific Properties of Stress Strain Relations are the ESSENTIAL Physics

Nothing to Adjust in Maxwell Core Equations

No implicit parameters or assumptions are visible

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\varepsilon_0}$$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{E} = - \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J} + \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

Scary !

Corollaries of Maxwell Core Equations

Are also Scary: nothing to adjust

1) Conservation of Total Current

$$\operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\text{Total Current}}{J + \varepsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t} \right) = 0$$

2) Continuity equation

$$\operatorname{div} J = - \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} \quad \text{All Charges}$$

3) Wave equation

$$\mu_0 \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 E}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 E = 0$$

Speed of Light

Conservation of Total Current

Derivation

Maxwell: $\text{curl } \mathbf{B} = \mu_0(\mathbf{J} + \varepsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t)$

Theorem: $\text{div curl } \mathbf{B} = 0$

Imply the Corollary: $\text{div } \mu_0(\mathbf{J} + \varepsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t) = 0$

Total Current = $\mathbf{J}_{\text{total}}$

Corollary
Total Current is conserved:

$$\boxed{\text{div } \mathbf{J}_{\text{total}} = 0}$$

\mathbf{J} = Flux of all Charges with mass, however small, fast, or transient

\mathbf{J} is not conserved. It accumulates according to the continuity equation $\text{div } \mathbf{J} = -\partial \rho / \partial t$; ρ is all charge

Conservation of Total Current

$$\operatorname{div} (\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t) = 0$$



Scary: nothing to Adjust

Note: there are ZERO adjustable or vaguely defined parameters

J , E , J_{total} are routinely measured in laboratories.

J_{total} , E control electronic circuits and biological cells

Why is Conservation of Total Current Universal and Exact

even in a vacuum?

Because $\epsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$ flows in a vacuum

$\epsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$ is a Property of Space

$\epsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$ in a perfect vacuum produces B field

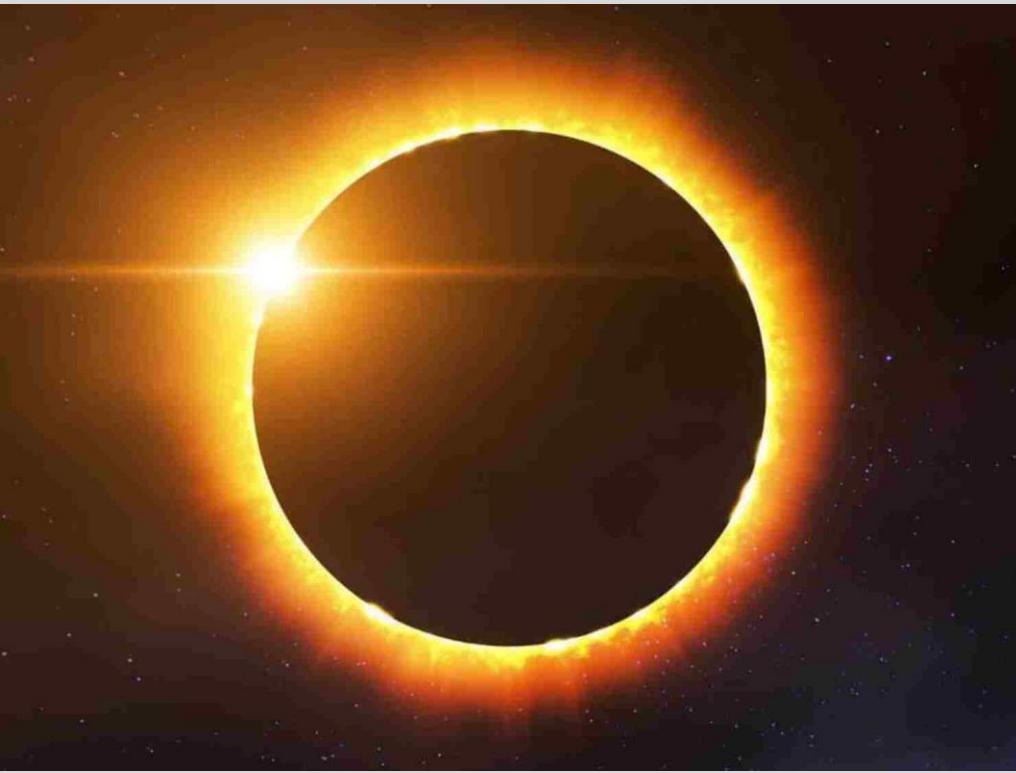
$\epsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$ in a perfect vacuum produces light waves

$\epsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$ is called the 'ethereal current' or the 'displacement current'
because an 'ether' was once thought to fill everything, vacuum and empty space included

Jeans 1908. The mathematical theory of electricity and magnetism.

Whittaker 1951. A History of the Theories of Aether & Electricity.

Simpson 1998. Maxwell on the Electromagnetic Field: A Guided Study.



Wave Equation

Corollary of
Maxwell Equations

$$\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{E}}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{E} = 0$$



Velocity of light

$$\downarrow$$
$$\mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{B}}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \mathbf{B} = 0$$

Ethereal current $\epsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t$ flows in vacuum of space,
once thought to be filled with an ‘ether’

Jeans 1908. The mathematical theory of electricity and magnetism.

Whittaker 1951. A History of the Theories of Aether & Electricity.

Simpson 1998. Maxwell on the Electromagnetic Field: A Guided Study.



Conservation of Total Current

Universal and Exact

Inside atoms, and between stars

because

It arises from the Lorentz invariance of charge
in the relativity theory of locally inertial systems

Proof is in every textbook and
Dunstan (2008) Phil Trans Roy Soc A 366: 1861

Charge does not vary when velocity approaches the speed of light
Length, time, (relativistic) mass do vary

**Conservation of total current is not a property of mass.
It is a property of space.**

Conservation of Total Current is EQUALITY of Total Current in a Channel or Component

Well known in Electronics

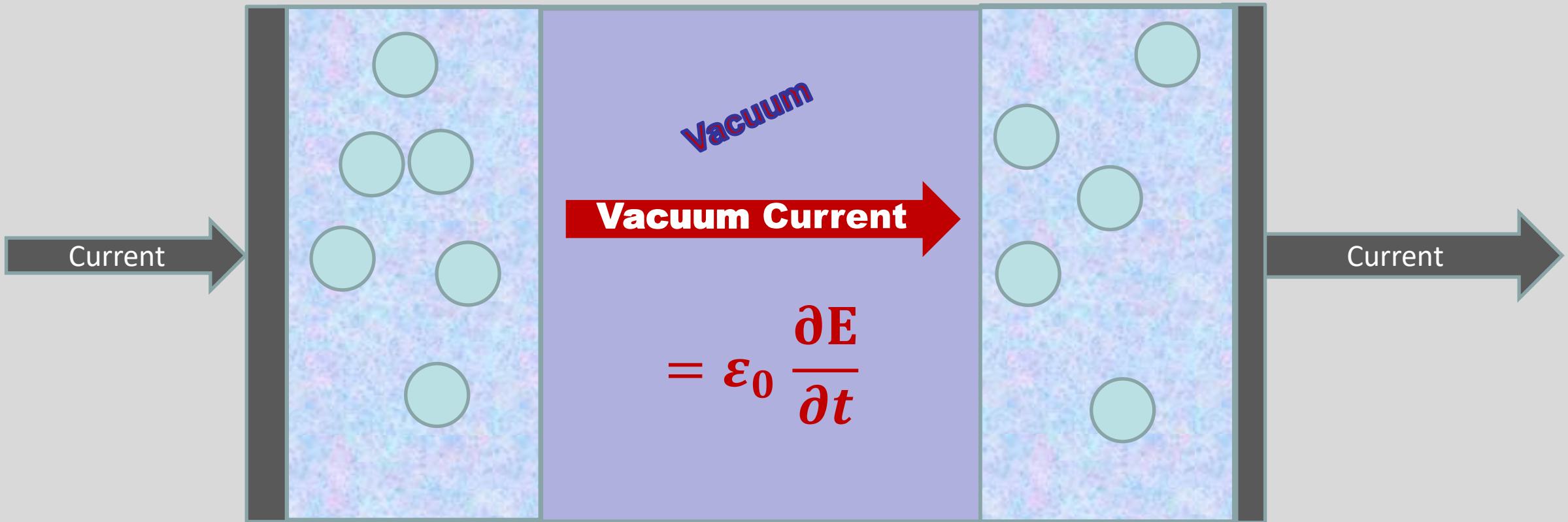
“It is, after all, the **sum** of electron current and **displacement** current
which has **no divergence**.
One of those two components can take over from the other.”

Landauer (1992) Physica Scripta T42 p 110.

“Electrodynamic fields are endowed by **unique** features,
including an **exquisite spatial nonlocality**”

Slight paraphrase of Lundeberg et al (2017)
Tuning quantum nonlocal effects plasmonics
Science 357:187-191

EQUALITY of Total Current is Well known in First Year Physics



Vacuum current = Ethereal current = Displacement Current
All are names for the same thing $\epsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$

If Total Current is the same every place in a component or channel,
it does not depend on location.

Differential equation in x is not needed for $J + \varepsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$

in channels or circuit components.

'Current is the same at all x'
means

'an equation in x is not needed'.

The two statements have the same logical content.

'Total Current flow is perfectly smooth in the spatial coordinate'
is another statement of the same thing.

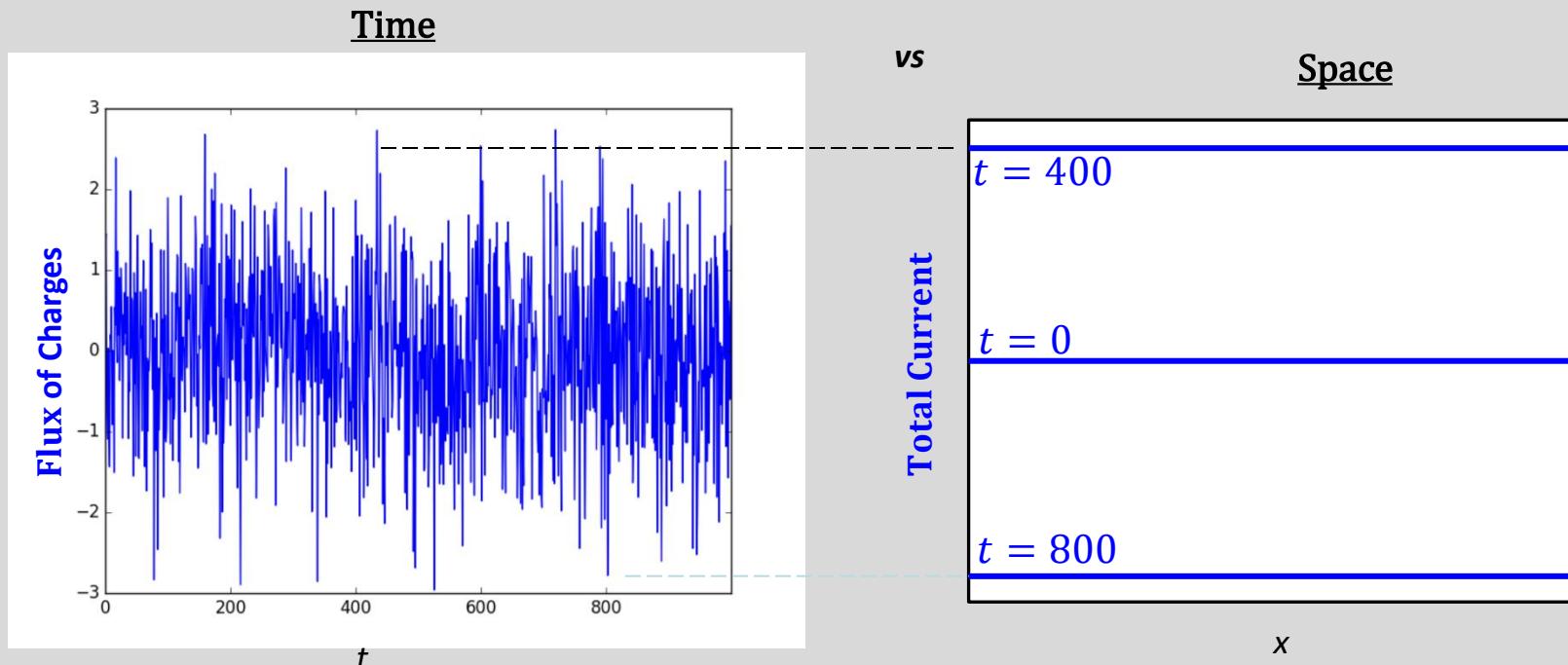
Equality of Total Current is an Enormous Simplification*

***Equality of Total Current
can create a
Perfect Low Pass Spatial Filter.***

**It can convert
Infinite Spatial Variation of Brownian Motion
into a *Constant in Space*.
In that sense it is an
Infinite Simplification*

Total Current Noise is Zero in Space

Infinite Simplification in Space



One Dimensional Systems like Channels or Circuit Components

Not Widely Known
In Biophysics

Equality of Current in a Channel

implies

Total Current is independent of location in a channel or component

Total Current does NOT flow by hopping

Particles can hop, but total current cannot!

Entropy (2021) 23 172; doi (2020): 10.20944/preprints202011.0201.v1; arXiv (2021) 2002.09012

Well known In Electronics

“Hopping Models Ignore Capacitive Currents”

Paraphrase from Landauer (1992)

Conductance from transmission: common sense points.

Physica Scripta 1992 p.110

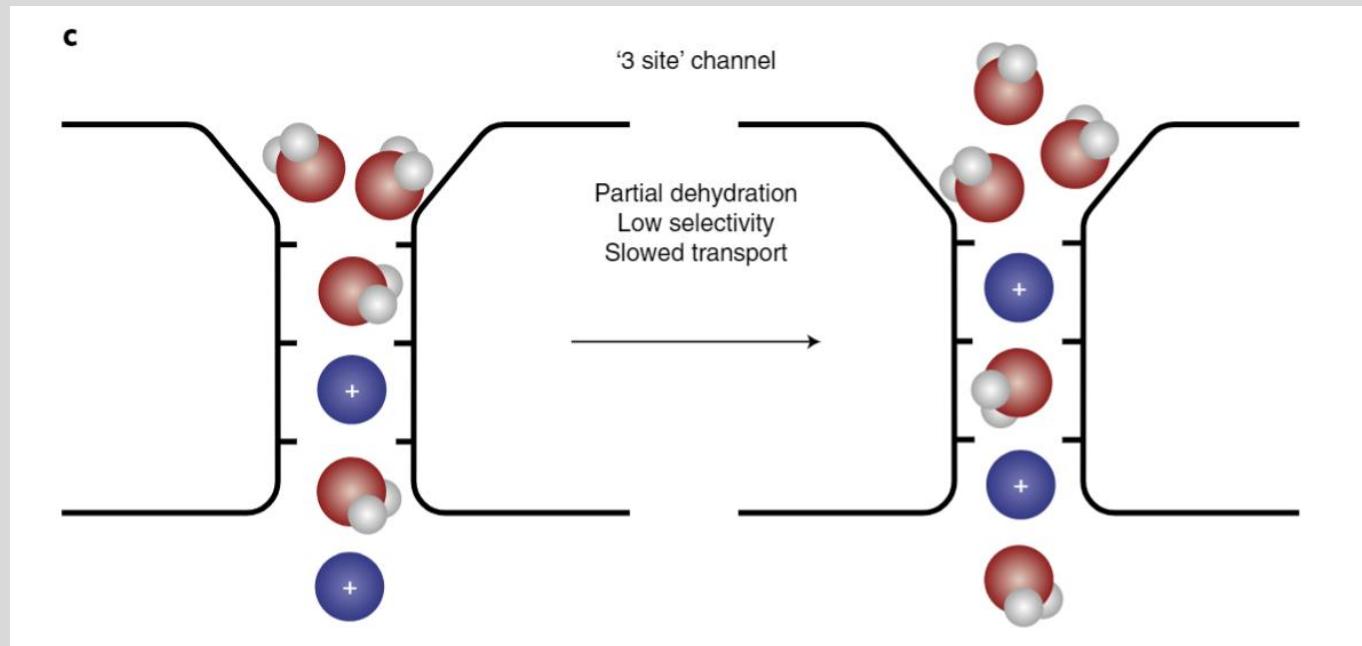
Capacitive Currents are Enormous
on the atomic scale of distance and time

10^{-11}m 10^{-15}s

Paradigm Change

**Knock On and Knock Off of Ions
does not describe behavior of Total Current Through the Channel
because Total Current is the Same Everywhere!**

arXiv 2002.09012 (2020); DOI: 10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2



Corry (2018) The naked truth about K⁺ selectivity. Nature Chemistry 10:799-800.

Particle motion itself does NOT define Current
Contradicts Intuition

Total Current must always be
described by Continuum Equations
because it includes $\varepsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$

Not Widely Known

Total Current \neq Flux of charge
Flux is defined only by particle motion

Another General Implication Of Conservation Of Total Current

Not Widely Known

Particle Theories
like Molecular Dynamics
REQUIRE
Continuum Description
of
Electric Current
because they must include ethereal current

$$\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial E}{\partial t}$$

Or they cannot satisfy Maxwell equations even approximately.
 $\epsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$ is enormous on atomic scale of molecular dynamics simulations
Description of Particle Motion is not enough to define Total Current.

Conservation of Total Current is an Enormous Simplification

Allows an exact Kirchhoff Current Law

Eisenberg, Gold, Song, and Huang. 2018. What Current Flows Through a Resistor? arXiv preprint arXiv:1805.04814.
Eisenberg, R. S. 2019. Kirchhoff's Law can be Exact. arXiv preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.13574>.

What does Conservation of Total Current mean for theory and simulations?

Current flow is very smooth in spatial coordinate
Differential equation in x is not needed for $J + \epsilon_0 \partial E / \partial t$

What does this mean for theory and simulations?

YOU tell me!

Opportunity to Simplify Algorithms and Codes
perhaps dramatically

Spatial Dependence is Already Known
Only have to average the time dependence of particle motion
Ma, Li and Liu (2016). arXiv:1605.04886; Ma, Li and Liu (2016). arXiv:1606.03625.

What does Conservation of Total Current mean for practical engineers and biophysicists?

Note

Total Current is of Practical Importance

‘Total Current’ is the biological variable that drives the action potential of nerve and muscle.

‘Total current’ is the key physical variable manipulated in electronic circuits.

If Applications Depend only on Currents

Do not need to know location of charges!

Electric circuit theory and semiconductor device design depends on current laws, Kirchhoff's law, in particular.

They do not involve location of charges!

**Conservation of Total Current is then
An Enormous Simplification.**

$$\operatorname{div} \left(\underbrace{\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}}_{\text{Total Current}} \right) = 0$$

Flux of all charge with mass

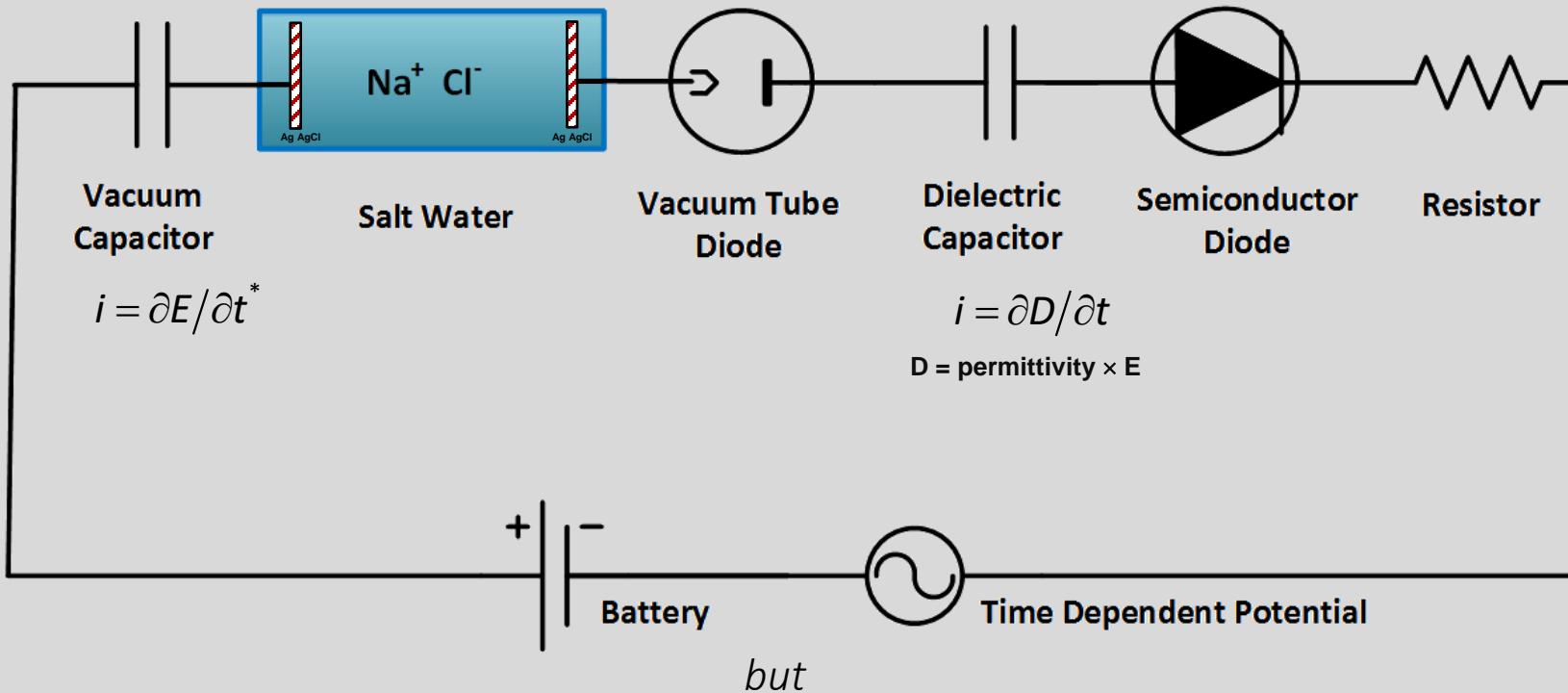
Relativistic Property of Space NOT matter

Another General Implication

Conservation of Total Current is Exact

even though
Physics of Charge Flow
Varies Profoundly

Flux and Total Current have **very** Different Physics in Different Systems



Continuity of Total Current is Exact

$$J_{\text{Device 1}} = J_{\text{Device 2}} = J_{\text{Device 3}} \dots$$

*no matter what carries the current,
at all times and all locations!*

Another General Implication

Conservation of Total Current is Exact

**Even though
Physics of Charge Flow
Varies Profoundly**

How can that possibly be?

Total Current is conserved because

**Electrodynamic Fields E, B take on the
Values that Conserve Current
because they are solutions of Maxwell Equations**

so total current $\mathbf{J}(x, t) + \epsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t$ is always conserved
as required by a Corollary of the Maxwell equations

Details and PROOF

including quantum mechanics at

Eisenberg, Oriols, and Ferry. 2017. Dynamics of Current, Charge, and Mass.

Molecular Based Mathematical Biology 5:78-115

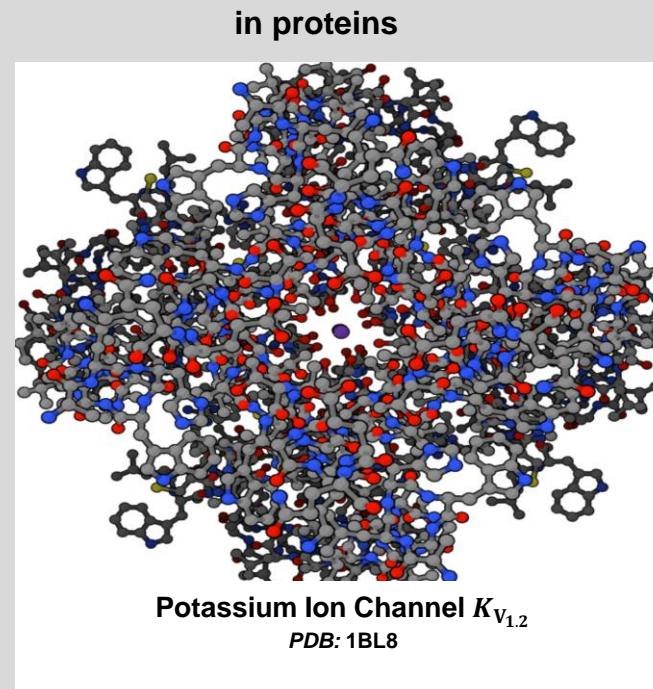
and arXiv <https://arxiv.org/abs/1708.07400>

This is NOT mysterious

**E is a force field that moves atoms
So Maxwell Equations are Satisfied**

Details and PROOF
including quantum mechanics at
Eisenberg, Oriols, and Ferry. 2017. Dynamics of Current, Charge, and Mass.
Molecular Based Mathematical Biology 5:78-115
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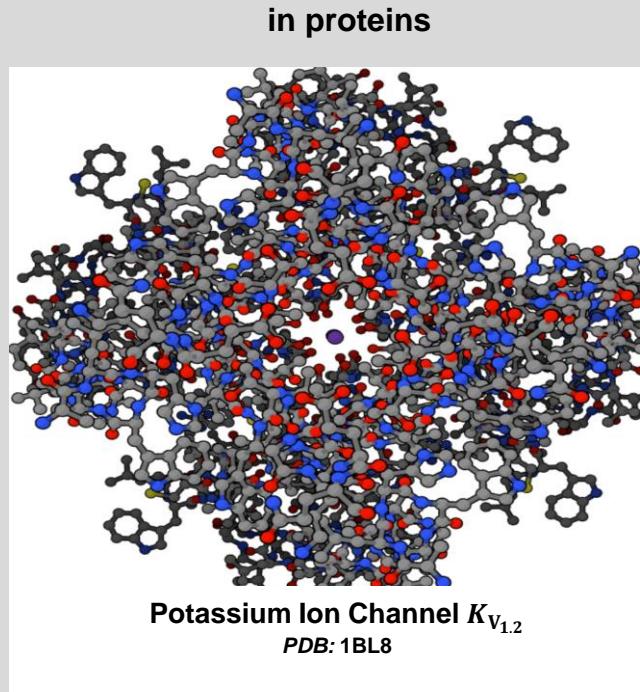
E is a force field that moves atoms



so total current $\mathbf{J}(x, t) + \epsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t$ is always conserved
so the Maxwell equations are always satisfied.

Details and PROOF
including quantum mechanics at
*Eisenberg, Oriols, and Ferry. 2017. Dynamics of Current, Charge, and Mass.
Molecular Based Mathematical Biology 5:78-115
and arXiv <https://arxiv.org/abs/1708.07400>*

Most Movement of Atoms Is Produced By E Field That Conserves Total Current



Details and PROOF
including quantum mechanics at
*Eisenberg, Oriols, and Ferry. 2017. Dynamics of Current, Charge, and Mass.
Molecular Based Mathematical Biology 5:78-115
and arXiv <https://arxiv.org/abs/1708.07400>*

If location of charges is needed,
another corollary of the Maxwell Equations
is involved,

Continuity Equation

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \rho(x, y, z | t)$$

ρ describes all charges
 \mathbf{J} is the flux of ρ

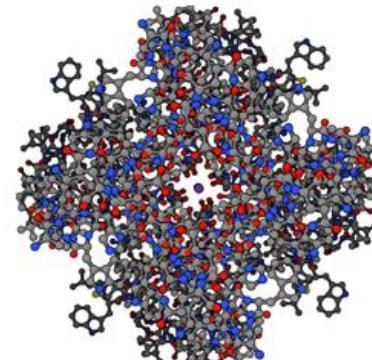
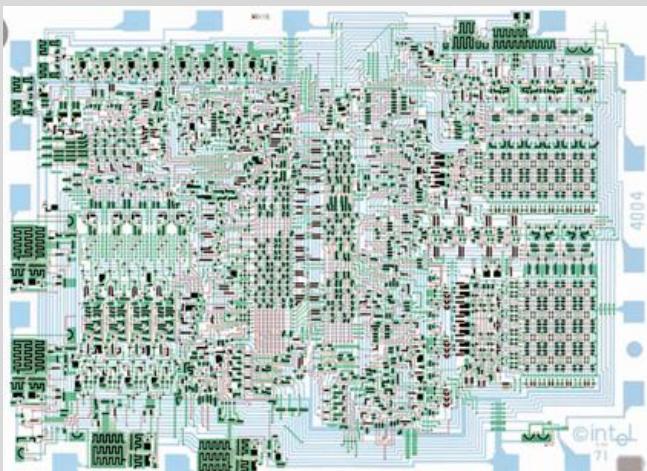
Charges are Described by Another Corollary of Maxwell

Continuity Equation is not very useful

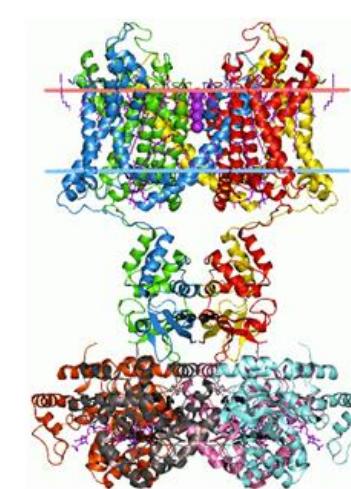
It depends on Feynman's 'Hidden Implications'

Must know all charges and how they move

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J} = - \frac{\partial \rho(x, y, z|t)}{\partial t}$$

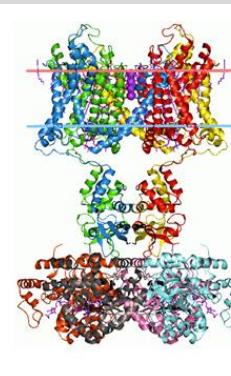
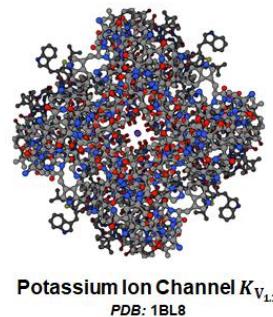
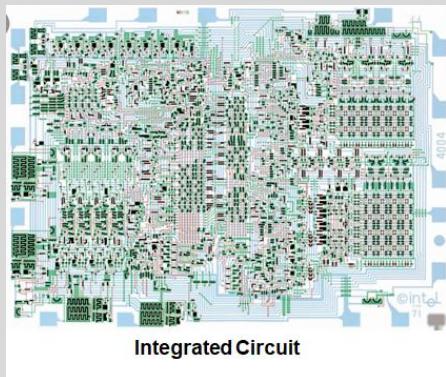


Potassium Ion Channel $Kv_{1.2}$
PDB: 1BL8



Without Conservation of Current
Need to Know ALL charges at all times!!

$$\text{div } \mathbf{J} = -\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}$$

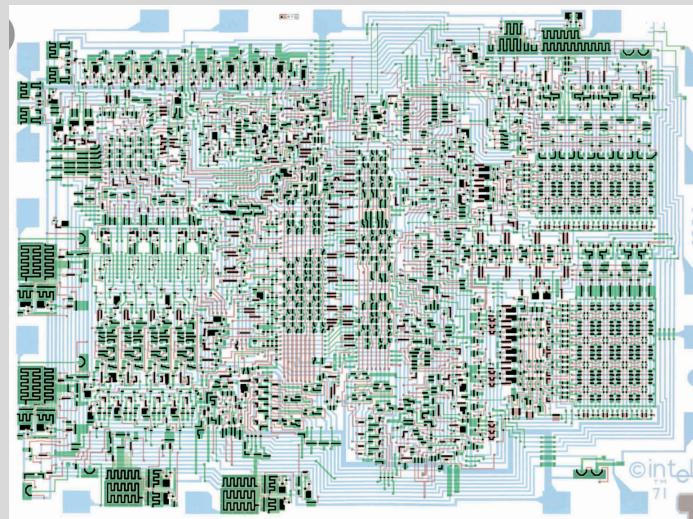


Hopeless in large systems !

Conservation of Total Current is an Enormous Simplification because
Location of charges is not needed.
**Location of charges is rarely used in the design
of semiconductor circuits, even at 10^{-10} sec.**

$$\operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\text{Total Current}}{\mathbf{J} + \varepsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t} \right) = 0$$

Flux of all charge with mass

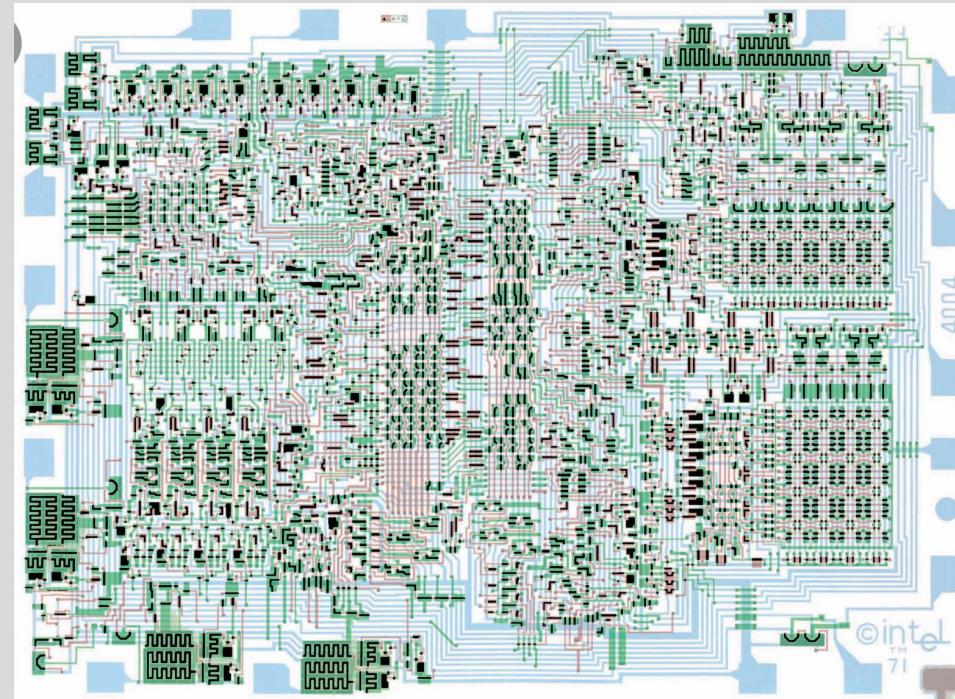


Relativistic
Property of Space
NOT matter

**Do not need to know location of charges
in circuit applications!**

Any Questions?

Applications To Semiconductor Devices



Conservation of Total Current

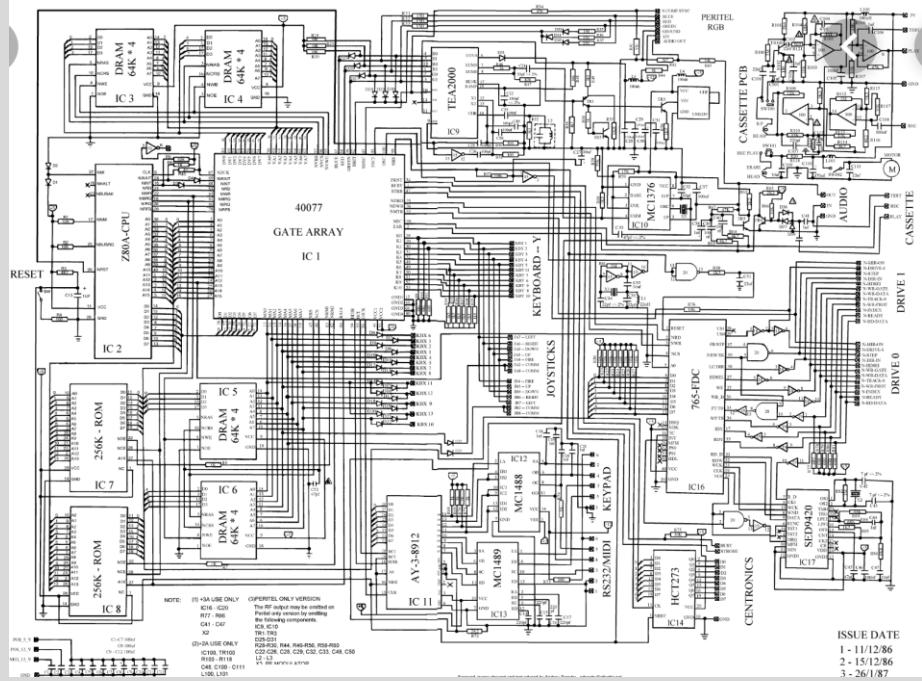
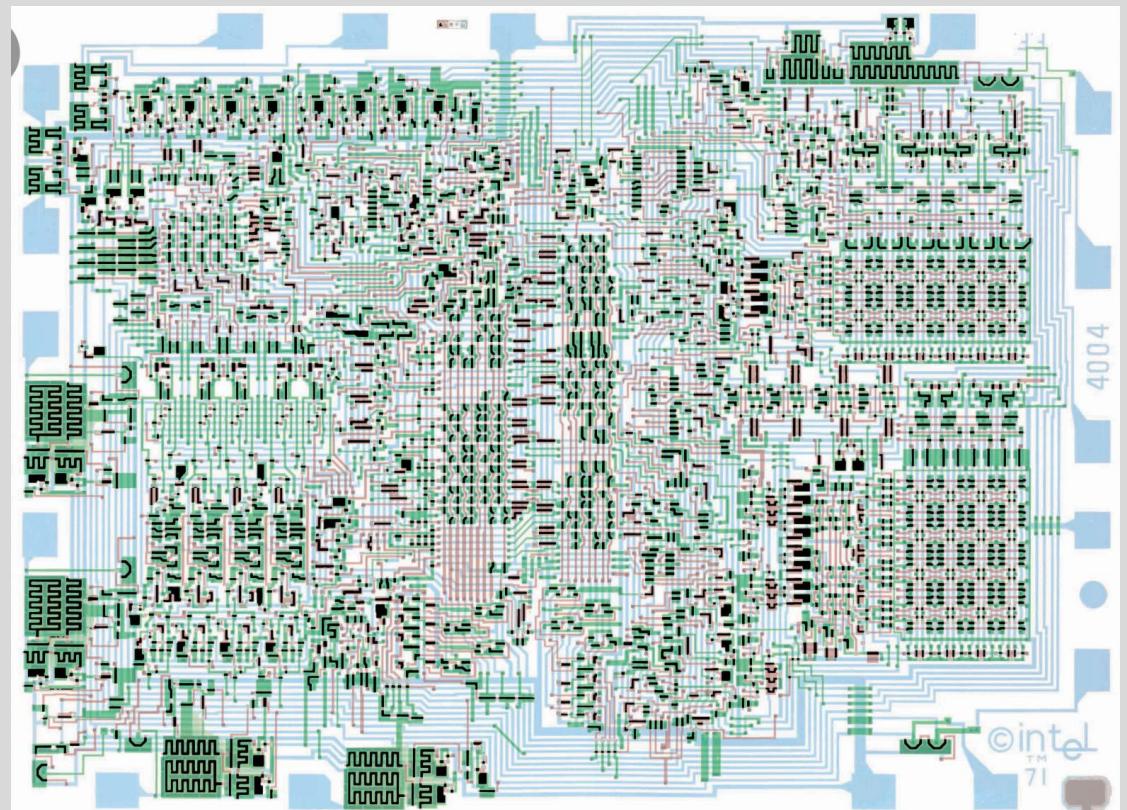
is
an Enormous Simplification

Allows an exact Kirchhoff Current Law

Eisenberg, Gold, Song, and Huang. 2018. What Current Flows Through a Resistor? arXiv preprint arXiv:1805.04814.
Eisenberg, R. S. 2019. Kirchhoff's Law can be Exact. arXiv preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.13574>.

Integrated Circuits are Designed with Kirchhoff's Current Law and little else!!!

Hard as that is to believe



Even at 10^{-10} sec

July 1, 2021

Source: textbooks and internet

How can that possibly be?

**Usual Derivation of Kirchhoff's law
is on**

Long Time Scale $\sim 10^{-6}$ sec

NOT AT ALL at 10^{-10} sec

How can that possibly be?

Usual Derivation of Kirchhoff's law is about fluxes
BUT

FLUXES ARE NOT CONSERVED

according to experiment or Maxwell equations
NOT AT ALL at 10^{-10} sec

How can that possibly be?

Maxwell $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J}_{total} = 0$
and

Kirchhoff $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J} \neq 0$

DISAGREE

Usual derivation of Kirchhoff
uses div of flux \mathbf{J} of charges, but \mathbf{J} is **not** conserved
 $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J} = -\varepsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t \neq 0$

Paradigm Change

Kirchhoff's Current Law Should be for TOTAL CURRENT

On time scale of semiconductor devices

Kirchhoff's Laws Should Describe TOTAL CURRENT Not flux

**Valid whenever branched network is valid
And Maxwell's Core Equations are Valid**

Eisenberg, Gold, Song, and Huang. 2018. What Current Flows Through a Resistor? arXiv preprint arXiv:1805.04814.
Eisenberg, R. S. 2019. Kirchhoff's Law can be Exact. arXiv preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.13574>.

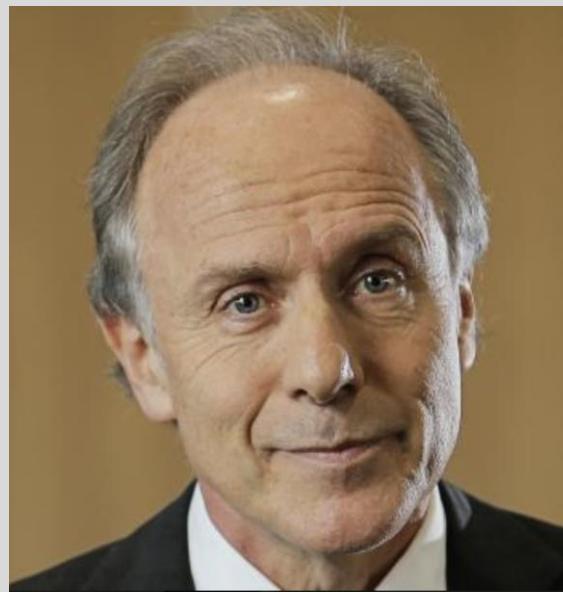
Deriving Kirchhoff's Laws from Maxwell Equations

and conservation of current
is

Trivial if you use Total Current

Eisenberg, Gold, Song, and Huang. 2018. What Current Flows Through a Resistor? arXiv preprint arXiv:1805.04814.
Eisenberg, R. S. 2019. Kirchhoff's Law can be Exact. arXiv preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.13574>.

All is obvious to a fine practicing engineer and old friend



Alan Finkel
Co-designer* of AxoPatch
Amplifier
Founder Axon Instruments,
Recently
Chief Scientist
Australian Government

**“Bob, why do you need all that math?
Everyone knows how to use Kirchhoff.
Everyone knows you have to include the displacement current.
No one would try to keep track of all the charges”**

Paraphrase of email exchange, with permission

Conservation of Current is Important in Classical Biology

although most biologists do not know that

**Conservation of Current
is
Important in Biology
in
Understanding
Transporters,
**Oxidative Phosphorylation,
Photosynthesis****

main processes in life

arXiv 2002.09012 (2020); DOI: 10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2

Applying Maxwell to Transporters

Sum of Total Currents in a Transporter = zero in ‘small cell’, mitochondrion, etc.

so

Currents are Coupled in a Transporter in a ‘small cell’
by Maxwell’s equations

Conservation of Total Current

$$\operatorname{div} \left(\mathbf{J}(x, t) + \varepsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}(x, t)}{\partial t} \right) = 0$$

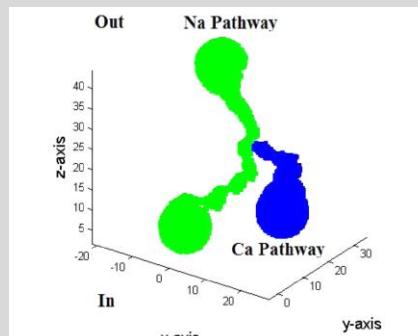
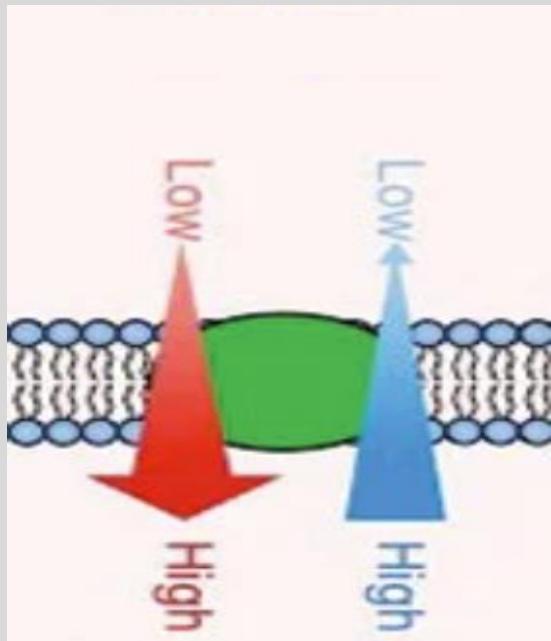
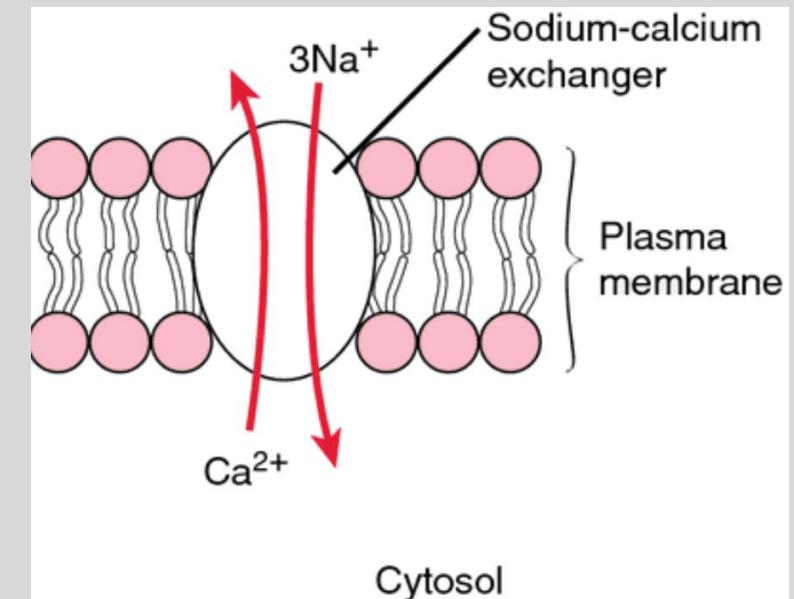


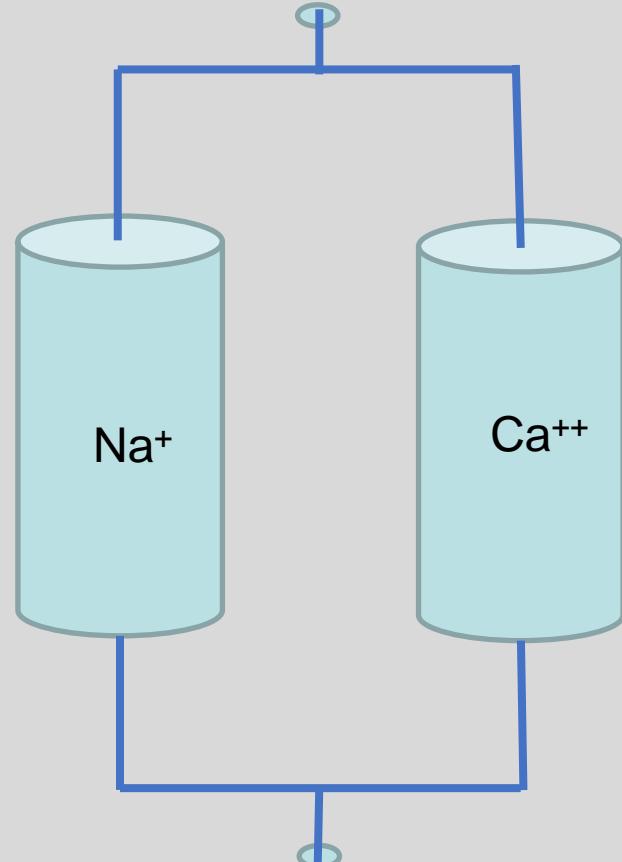
Figure 5. An inward-facing 3D model of Na^+ and Ca^{2+} pathways in NCX.



Liu, Hsieh, Eisenberg. 2016.
J Phys Chem B 120:2658-2669.

Natural Setup: small cell, etc.

Homogeneous Neumann Boundary Condition for total current
Fig. 10 of Hodgkin Huxley Katz 1952



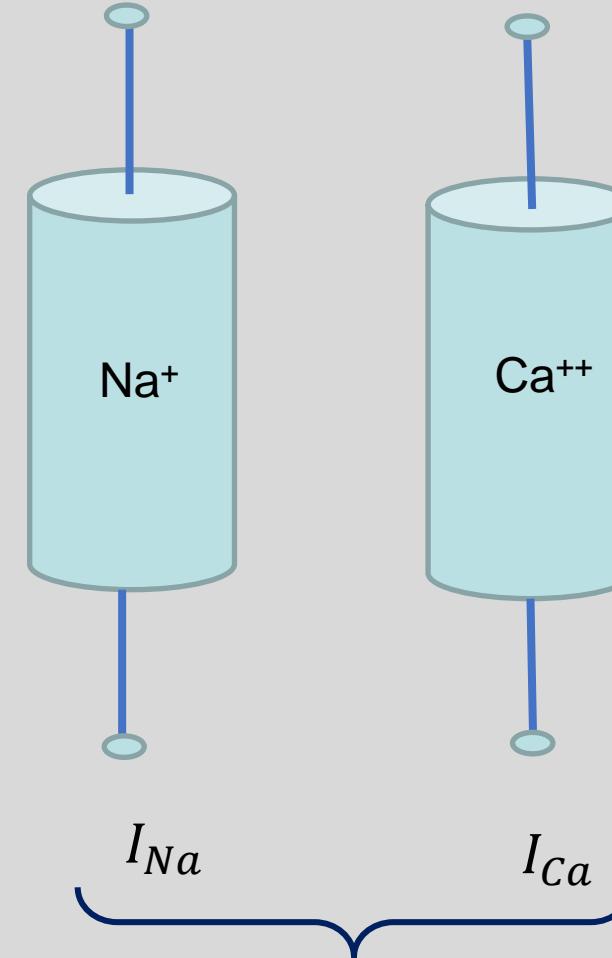
$$I = I_{\text{Na}} + I_{\text{Ca}} = 0$$

$$I_{\text{Na}} = -I_{\text{Ca}}$$

Bilayer Setup ‘voltage clamp’

Inhomogeneous Dirichlet Condition
for Classic Voltage Clamp Hodgkin Huxley 1952

arXiv 2002.09012 (2020); DOI: 10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2



Currents **not** coupled by Maxwell
because of voltage clamp amplifier

Applying Maxwell to Transporters

arXiv 2002.09012 (2020); DOI: 10.20944/preprints202009.0349.v2

Natural Setting

- 1) Sum of Currents in a Transporter is zero in ‘small cell’, mitochondrion, etc.
- 2) Currents are Coupled in a Transporter in a natural setting by Maxwell

Experimental Setting

- 3) Bilayer voltage clamp up does NOT require currents to sum to zero.
Voltage clamp sets voltage across transporter; currents are not controlled.
- 4) So transporter currents are NOT coupled by Conservation of Current
in standard bilayer setup because of voltage clamp amplifier
but may still be coupled on atomic scale, e.g., conformation changes

Biophysical Prediction

Coupling of Transporters Depends on Setup
not just the transporter itself

**Ratio of Fluxes J_{Ca}/J_{Na} is Different
in Vesicle (e.g., mitochondrion) and Bilayer**

Paradigm Change

Biophysical Prediction With Conservation of Current no more difficult than large circuit problems

Biophysical Prediction*

With Charges

is more or less

Impossible

because of the enormous number 10^{18} of charges and their interactions on atomic and macroscopic scales.

***using continuity equation, for example.**

Any Questions?

Extra Slides

Conservation of Total Current is NOT a theory of everything

Only total current is conserved

Conservation of Total Current is NOT a theory of everything

Conservation only describes Total Current

**When flux of charge or charge movement is important,
conservation of current is not enough**

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \neq 0$$

Flux J of charged matter is NOT NOT NOT conserved

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J} \neq 0$$

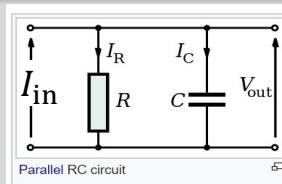
Maxwell core Equations imply that

Charge and Matter accumulate because $\epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \neq 0$

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J} = \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \neq 0$$

Relativistic
Property of
Space
NOT matter

***In physical language of electronics,
Some charge accumulates in the ‘stray capacitance’
of space
independent of matter***



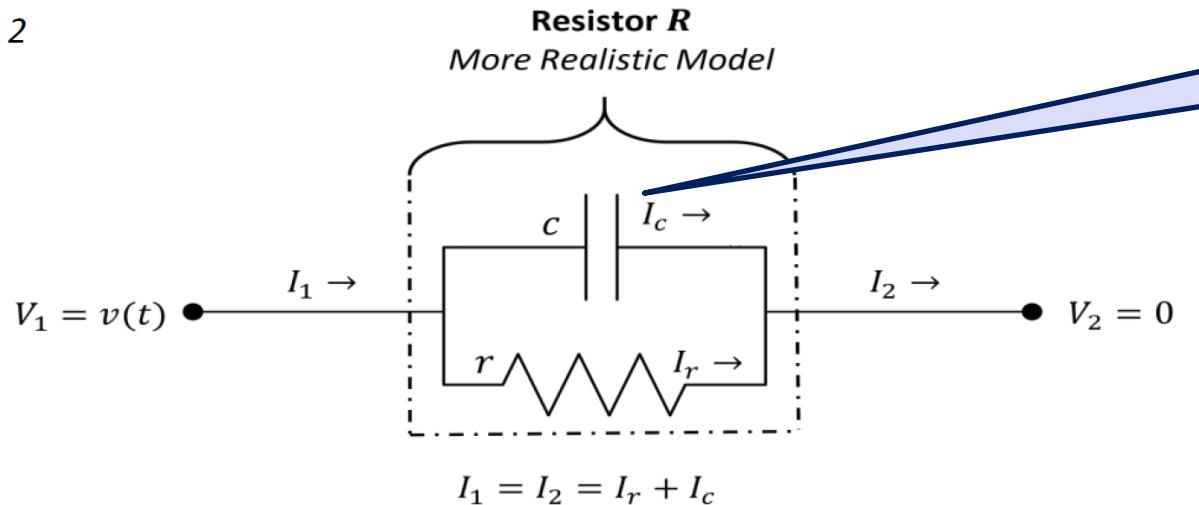
$$V_{out} = I_{in}(1 - e^{-t/RC})$$

Eisenberg, Gold, Song, and Huang. 2018. What Current Flows Through a Resistor? arXiv:1805.04814.
Eisenberg, R. S. 2019. Kirchhoff’s Law can be Exact. arXiv preprint available at arXiv:1905.13574.

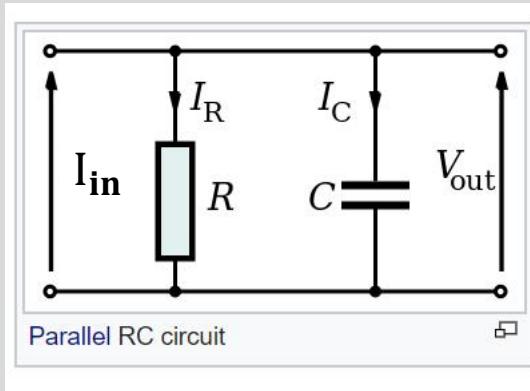
Flux into a Resistor does NOT equal Flux out of Resistor

Total Current I_1 into a Resistor DOES EQUAL the Total Current I_2 out of a Resistor

Fig. 2



Eisenberg, Gold, Song, and Huang. 2018. What Current Flows Through a Resistor? arXiv preprint arXiv:1805.04814.
Eisenberg. 2019. Kirchhoff's Law can be Exact. arXiv preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.13574>.



$$V_{out} = I_{in}(1 - e^{-t/RC})$$

RC = charging time = 10^{-12} farads $\times 10^3$ ohm = 10^{-9} sec

FLUXES ARE NOT CONSERVED

Eisenberg, Gold, Song, and Huang. 2018. What Current Flows Through a Resistor? arXiv preprint arXiv:1805.04814.
 Eisenberg, R. S. 2019. Kirchhoff's Law can be Exact. arXiv preprint available at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1905.13574>.

Corollaries of Maxwell's Core Equations

Continuity Equation

Linking Flux and Content

Corollaries of Maxwell's Core Equations

Derivation of the Continuity Equation

Linking Flux and Content

$$\text{curl } \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\overbrace{\mathbf{J}(x, t)}^{\text{Flux of All Charges}} + \epsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t \right)$$

$$\text{div curl } \mathbf{B} = 0 = \mu_0 \text{div}(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t)$$

$$\text{div } \mathbf{J} = -\epsilon_0 \text{div} (\partial \mathbf{E} / \partial t) = -\epsilon_0 \partial (\text{div } \mathbf{E}) / \partial t$$

But $\text{div } \mathbf{E} = \rho / \epsilon_0$

$$\boxed{\text{div } \mathbf{J} = -\partial \rho / \partial t}$$

Hopeless, if one must

**“... exhibit in every case all the charges,
whatever their origin”
at all times**

Section 10-4 of Feynman, Leighton, and Sands (1963) vol. 2 *Electromagnetism and Matter*

Conservation of Total Current

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J}_{\text{total}} = 0$$

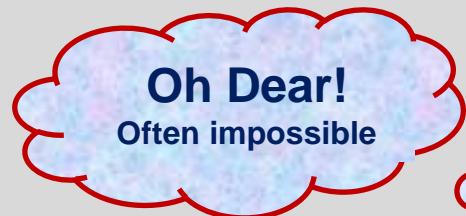
Is enormously helpful in Applications
as well as scary

Continuity Equation

Linking Flux and Content

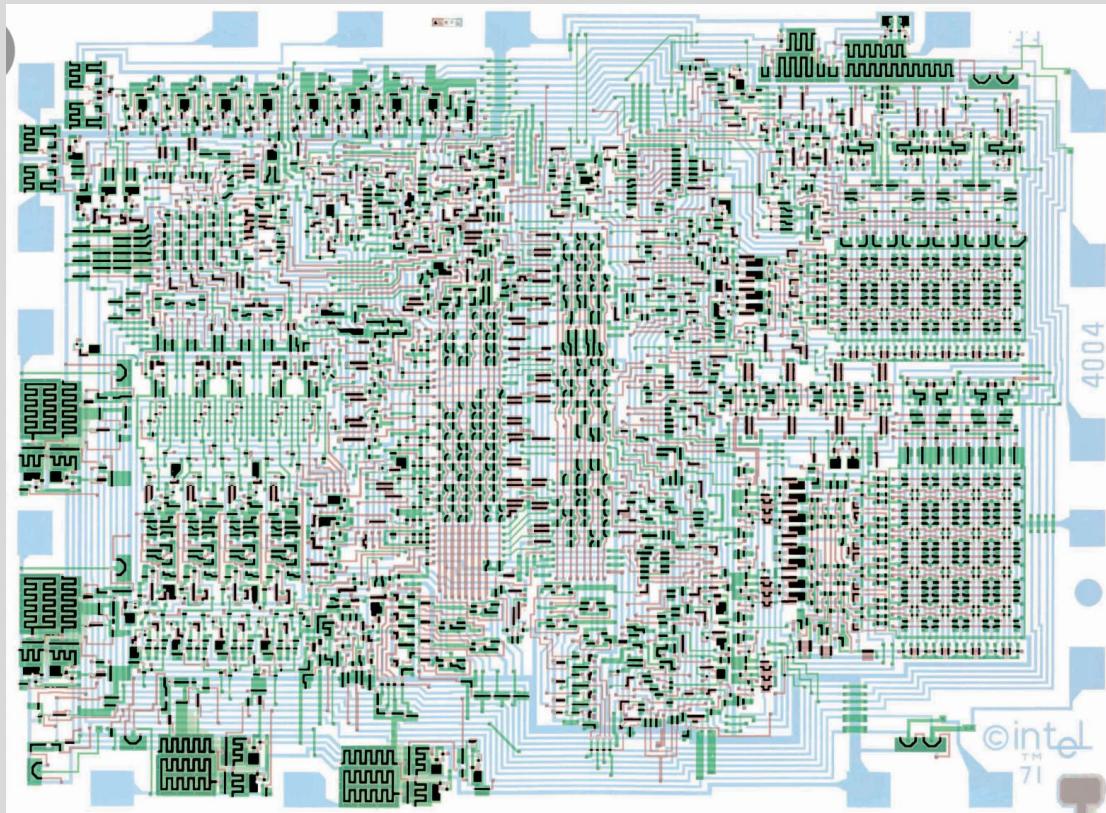
Feynman's Hidden Implications

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{J} = - \frac{\partial \rho(x, y, z|t)}{\partial t}$$



• **Must know all charges $\rho(x, y, z|t)$**
at all times

integrated circuit



Source: textbooks and internet

Seems Hopeless

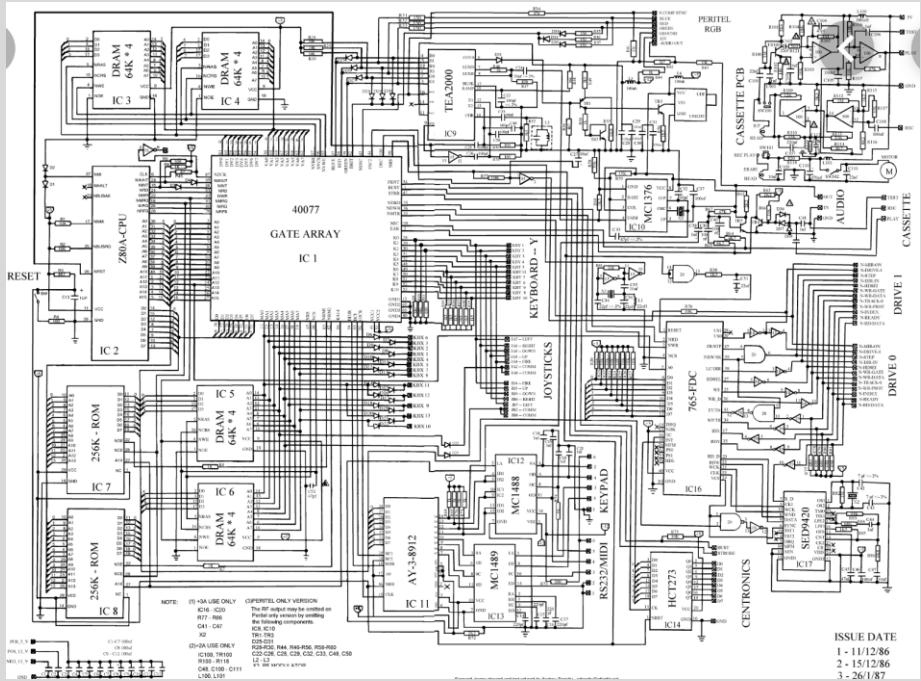
Fortunately, it is not hopeless

Stay Tuned

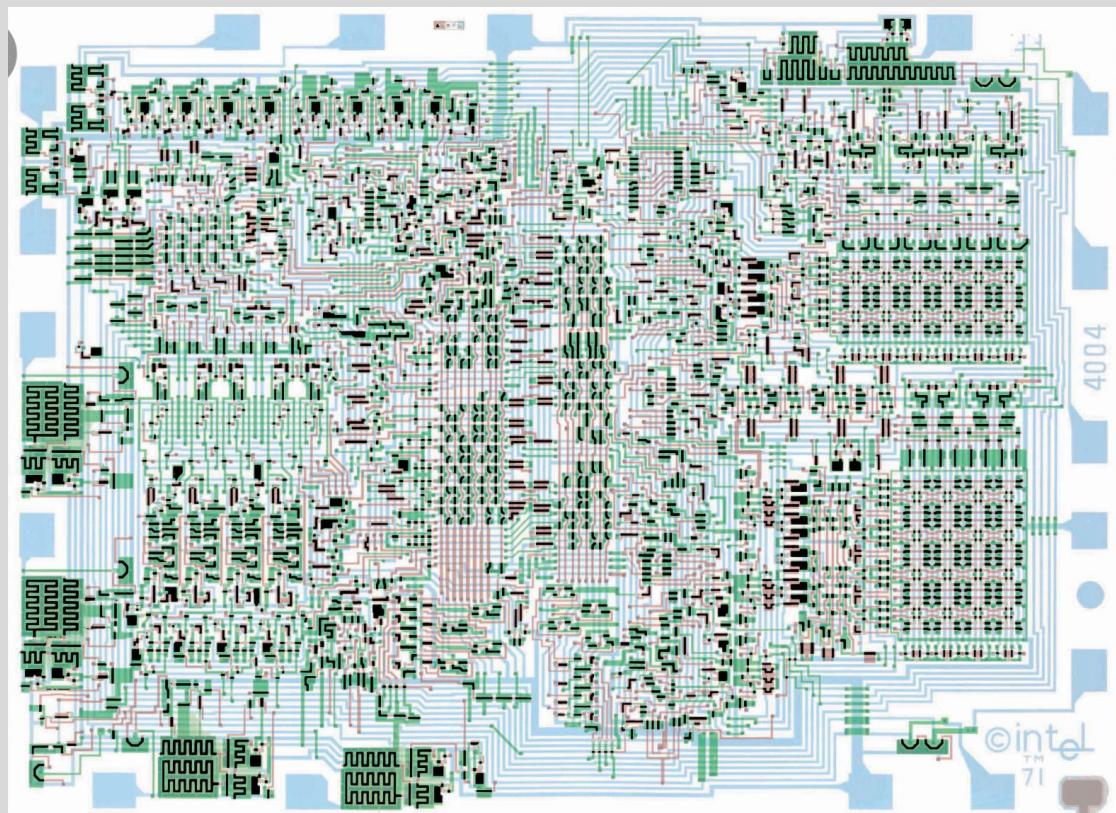
Kirchhoff's Current Law Brings hope

**It is NOT necessary in our computers to
know all the charges!**

Kirchhoff's Current law is (almost) enough



**It is NOT necessary in our computers
to know all the charges!
Kirchhoff's law is (almost) enough**



Source: textbooks and internet

**Without Conservation of Current
Need to Know ALL charges at all times!!**

**Hopeless in large systems
where all ions interact with each other!**

Inside Channels

PROFOUND SIMPLIFICATION

If we can figure out how to exploit it

Profound Implications of One Dimensional Systems for atomic view of ion channels

**Current is equal everywhere in a channel
At all times and under all conditions
that the Maxwell Equations Apply**

Maxwell's Core Equations

Describe Electricity with no errors, $< 10^{-6}$
almost everywhere at any time

$$\text{div } \mathbf{E} = \frac{\rho}{\epsilon_0}$$

$$\text{div } \mathbf{B} = 0$$

$$\text{curl } \mathbf{E} = - \frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t}$$

$$\text{curl } \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \left(\mathbf{J} + \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \right)$$

Relativistic
Property of
Space
NOT matter

Feynman's 'Implicit Assumptions' are ONLY in ρ and \mathbf{J}

Conservation of Total Current is important in Biology

Paradigm Change

View of Channels has been focused on movements of individual ions in channels,

But

**Total Current flow is equal everywhere
in a one dimensional channel**

Paradigm Change

Position does not appear in equations for current flow in a one dimensional channel