

Bioelectric Dipole Sources

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580.435/635 Applied Bioelectrical Engineering
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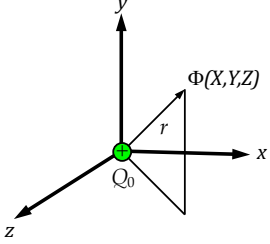
What you can expect to learn today

- Concept of duality
- Concept of current dipole source
- Transitioning from cable theory to volume conductors
- Distributed and lumped dipole model of activation wave
- Example of a triangularized action potential

Concept of Duality

Dielectric medium

Conductive medium



electrical potential $\Phi(X, Y, Z)$

electric field $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\Phi$

displacement field $\mathbf{D} = \epsilon\mathbf{E}$

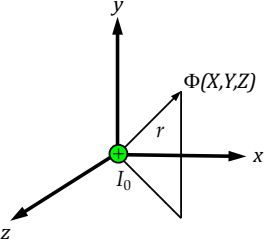
$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} = \rho$

charge density ρ

permittivity ϵ

If $\rho(X, Y, Z) = Q_0 \delta(r)$

$\Rightarrow \Phi(X, Y, Z) = \frac{Q_0}{4\pi\epsilon r}$



electrical potential $\Phi(X, Y, Z)$

electric field $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\Phi$

current density $\mathbf{J} = \sigma\mathbf{E}$

$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J} = I_v$

volumetric current density I_v

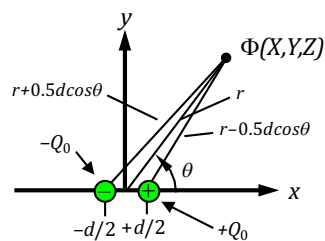
conductivity σ

If $I_v(X, Y, Z) = I_0 \delta(r)$

$\Rightarrow \Phi(X, Y, Z) = \frac{I_0}{4\pi\sigma r}$

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Current Dipole Source



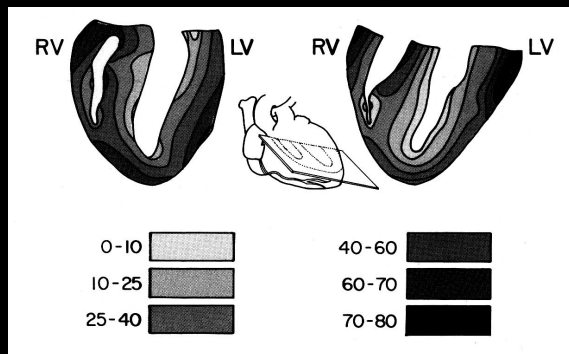
$$\Phi(X, Y, Z) = \frac{I_0 d}{4\pi\sigma r^2} \cos \theta$$

$$= \frac{p}{4\pi\sigma r^2} \cos \theta$$

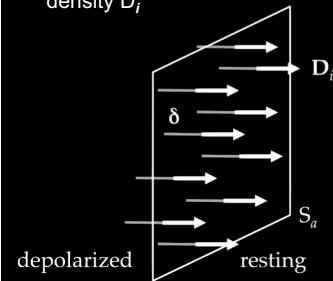
$p = I_0 d$ is the current dipole moment

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Transmural Activation in the Ventricles Occurs from Endocardium to Epicardium



The activation surface is a dipole sheet with dipole density D_i

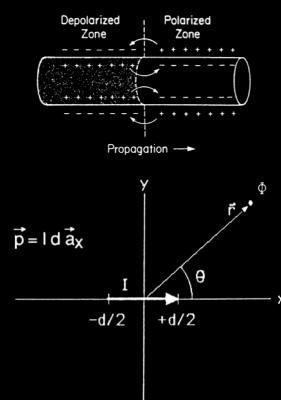


The heart vector H is the vectorial sum of the dipoles in the sheet.

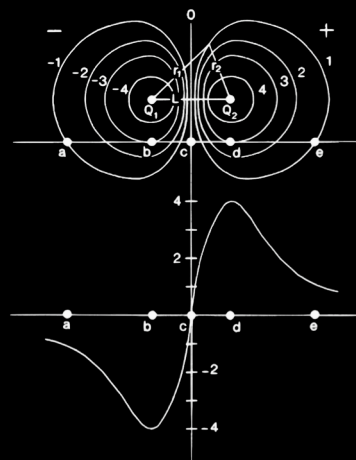


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Concept of an Excitation Dipole in a Volume Conductor

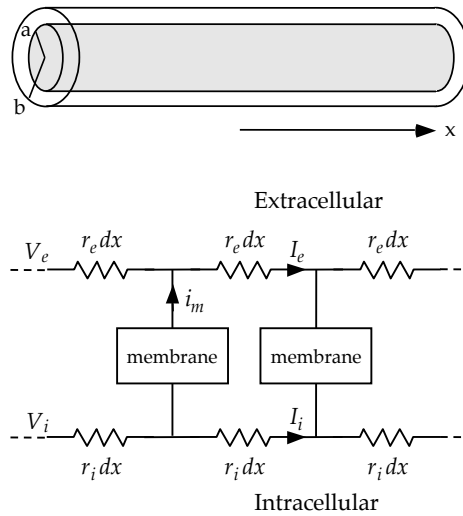


$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \frac{Id \cos\theta}{4\pi\epsilon r^2}$$



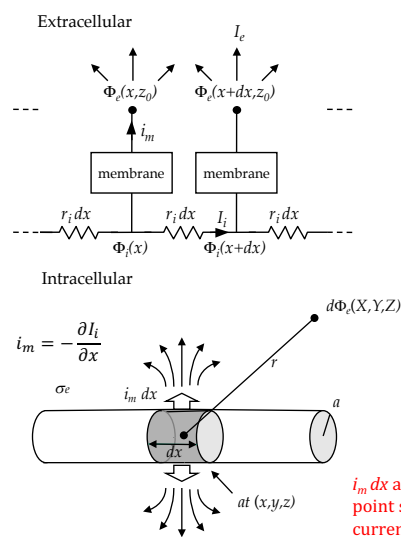
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Core conductor model for excitable fiber



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Transitioning from a linear cable to a volume conductor model



$$d\Phi_e(X, Y, Z) = \frac{i_m dx}{4\pi\sigma_e r}$$

$$\Phi_e(X, Y, Z) = \frac{1}{4\pi\sigma_e} \int_L \frac{i_m}{r} dx$$

$$i_m = \pi a^2 \sigma_i \frac{\partial^2 \Phi_i}{\partial x^2}$$

When $\sigma_i \approx \sigma_e$

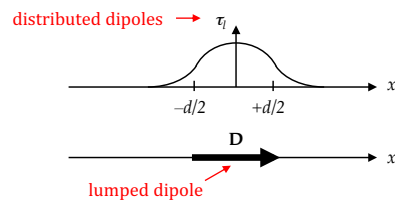
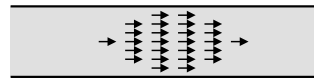
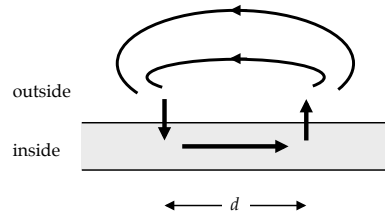
$$i_m \approx \pi a^2 \sigma_i \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\Phi_e(X, Y, Z) = \frac{a^2 \sigma_i}{4\sigma_e} \int_L \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial^2 V_m}{\partial x^2} dx$$

$i_m dx$ acts like a point source of current, $I_0 \delta(r)$

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Current Dipole Source



$$\Phi_e(X, Y, Z) = \frac{1}{4\pi\sigma_e} \int_L \frac{1}{r^2} \tau_l \cos \theta \, dx$$

where, $\tau_l = -\pi a^2 \sigma_i \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x}$

$$D = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \tau_l \, dx = -\pi a^2 \sigma_i \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \frac{\partial V_m}{\partial x} \, dx$$

$$= -\pi a^2 \sigma_i [V_m(x_2) - V_m(x_1)]$$

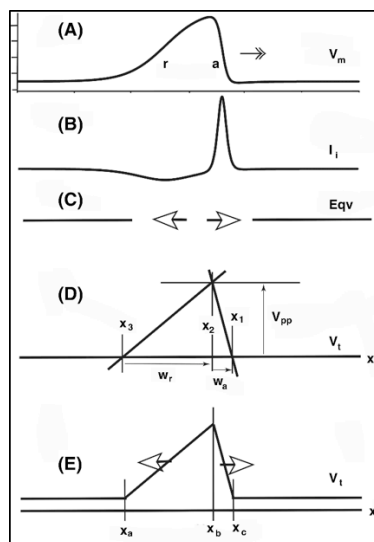
At the activation wavefront,

$$D = \pi a^2 \sigma_i [V_{peak} - V_{rest}]$$

$$\Phi_e(X, Y, Z) = \frac{D \cos \theta}{4\pi\sigma_e r^2}$$

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Example – Triangularized Action Potential



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