

New Combined Electrochemical Path Modeling of the Heart Based Membrane Ionic Channels

G. F. Tabatabai^{1*}, A. R. Arshi¹, M. Mahmoudian², M. Janahmadi³

¹Biomechanics Division, Department of Biomedical Engineering, AmirKabir University of Technology

²Faculty of Medicine, Department of Pharmacology, Iran Medical Sciences University

³Faculty of Medicine, Department of Physiology, Shaheid Beheshti Medical Sciences University

Received 4 May 2004; received in revised form 22 September 2004; accepted 25 October 2004

Abstract

Effective pharmacological analysis encompassing both the pharmacodynamics and the pharmacokinetics of the heart, dictates the necessity for responses made by the main channel receptors, to be appropriately modelled. This approach is of critical value when the pharmacological responses of the organ during pathological states are under investigation. To this effect, the electrochemical phenomenon in the heart was simulated using a specifically simplified three dimensional model based on the cellular physiological concepts. Various advanced models for different types of heart cells were combined to produce a three dimensional model capable of describing the electrophysiological, electrochemical and geometric characteristics of a heart in a non-pathological state. Various cell type models such as central and peripheral SA node, AV node, atrial myocyte, ventricular myocyte, and specialized cells for rapid conductance like purkinje fibres were included in the 3D model. The cellular architecture in the model follows the non-heterogeneity of the heart structure accompanied by gap junctions representing cellular interconnections. Here the transport of Na^+ , Ca^{++} , K^+ and Cl^- was primarily governed by such factors as electrical and chemical potential gradients along with other energetic mechanisms. The simplified heart geometry is introduced through 18 layers with 25 cells in each layer. Model equations were solved to simulate a one second using a 2.6 GHz Pentium IV PC. The simulation was performed utilizing MATLAB programming language which provides effective visualization capabilities. The CEP model could be adopted as a preliminary basis towards individualizations in pharmacology and electrophysiology.

Keywords: Heart; Electrophysiology; Pacemaking; Regional Differences; Computer Modeling

*Corresponding author

Address: Biomechanics Division, Department of Biomedical Engineering, AmirKabir University of Technology, Hafez St., Tehran, I.R.Iran

Tel & Fax: +9821 6495655

E-mail: farhad_tg@yahoo.com

*

// :

// :

// :

CEP

/

CEP

MATLAB

CEP

:

*

Farhad_tg@yahoo.com:

-

:

CEP

[]

CEP

/

[]

[]

Human Physiom Project

[]

[]

)

(

²(CEP)

¹ New Challenge

² Combined Electrochemical Path Model of the Heart

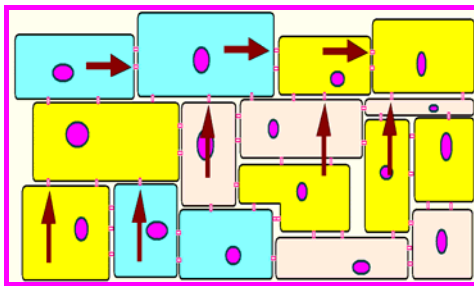
[]

[] ()

[]

[]

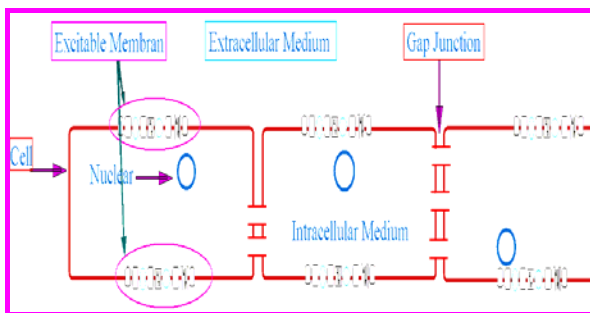
(K^+, Ca^{++}, Na^+)



()

[]

[]



()

[]

CEP

)

)

(

(

CEP .

CEP

[]

[]

³ Excitable membrane

⁴ Threshold

⁵ Action Potential (AP)

⁶ Gap junctions

[] []
 []
⁷SAN
 []
 (SAN) SAN SAN

SAN
 []
)
 [] (⁸(AVN)
 AVN
 .()

[]

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{C_m} f(V, u) + \nabla(D\nabla V) \quad ()$$

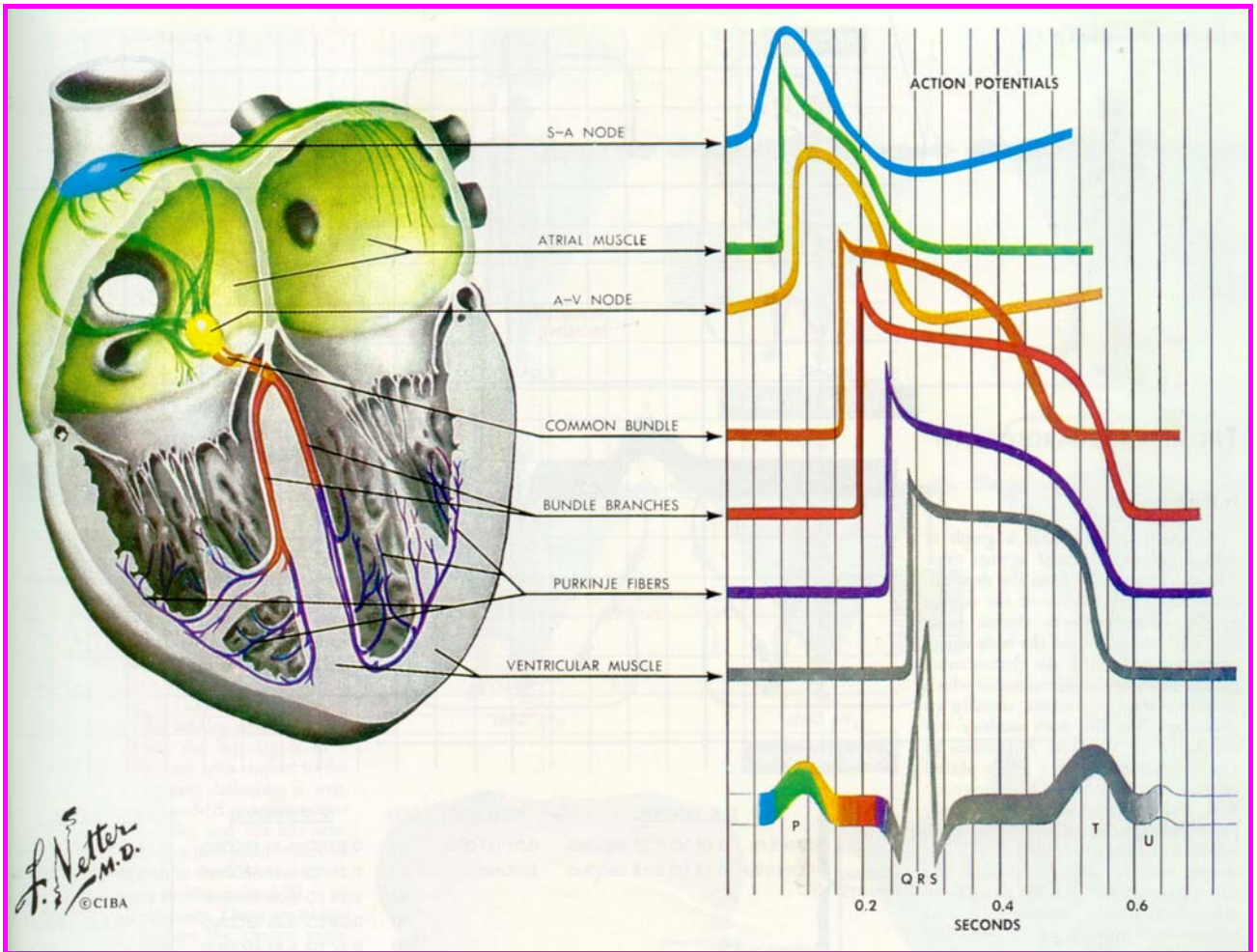
) C_m . ()
 t () V (μF/Cm²) []
 f(v,u) . ()
 : (μA/Cm²) [] []
 $f(u,v) = \sum i_i = i_{Na} + i_{CaL} + i_{CaT} + \dots$ () []
 f(v,u)

u
 .()
 []

⁷ Sino - Atrial Node
¹⁰ Activation

⁸ Atrio - Vevtricular Node
¹¹ Inactivation

⁹ Hetrogen



[]

$$\nabla(D\nabla V) = D\nabla^2 V = D \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z^2} \right] V \quad ()$$

f(u,v)

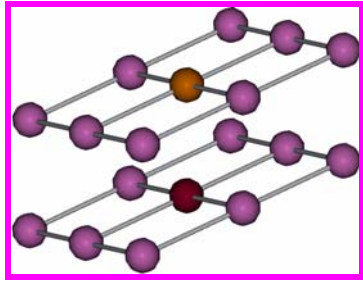
du/dt

[] D

g_{im}(V,u)

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = g(V,u) \quad ()$$

CEP



CEP

()

-
-
-

()

[]

* $(\mu\text{m})^2$

¹³RAM ¹²CPU

μm

/ * $(\mu\text{m})^3$

CEP /

SAN

* $(\mu\text{m})^3$ SAN

SAN ()

[]

SAN

CEP []

SAN

SAN

CEP

CEP

CEP

CEP

¹²Central Processing Unit
¹⁵Initiator

¹³Random Access Memory
¹⁶Verheijck

¹⁴Computation Time
¹⁷Interstitial Cavity

CEP

		Computational Time (min)
SAN central and peripheral		
Atrial Reigon		
Ventricular Region		
CEP		

CEP

CEP

MATLAB

CEP

Δt	/	m Sec
Δx_{atrial}		mm
$\Delta x_{ventricular}$		mm
$C_{m SAN Central}$		pF
$C_{m SAN Peripheral}$		pF
$C_{m atrial myocyte}$		pF
$C_{m ventricular}$		pF
$C_{m purkinje}$		pF
D_{SAN}	/	Cm^2/Sec
$D_{Atrial myocyte}$	/	Cm^2/Sec
$D_{Ventricular myo.}$	/	Cm^2/Sec
$D_{purkinje}$	/	Cm^2/Sec

/ GHz

%

CEP

t + 1

t + 1

CEP

k j i

t

k j i t

CEP ¹⁸(MFCL)

Δt

Δx

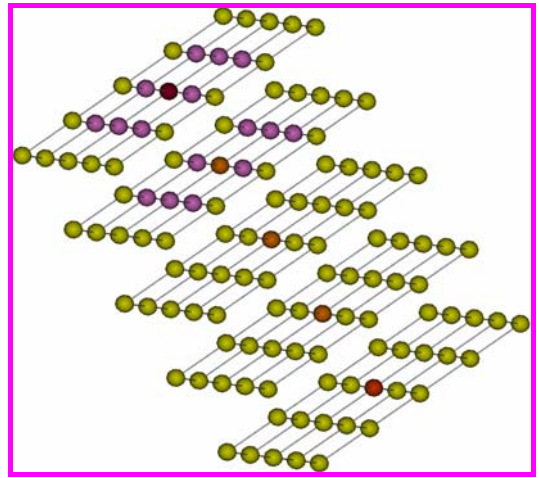
$$\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \ll \frac{1}{2D}$$

()

MFCL

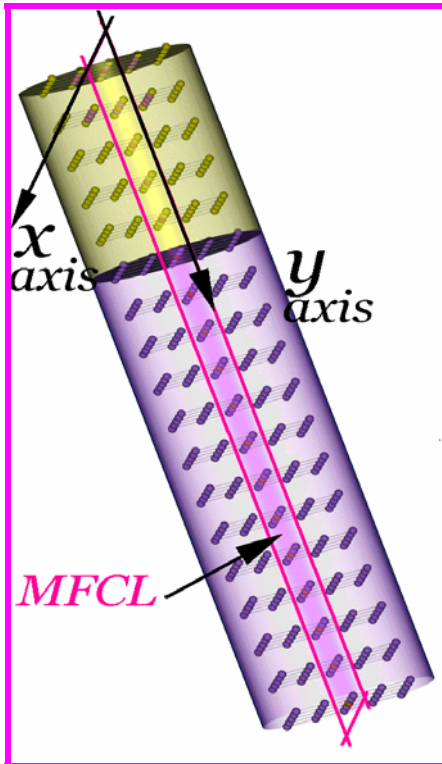
¹⁸ Middel Frontal Cell Layer

SAN
 SAN
 ()



SAN

()



(MFCL)

MFCL

x,y

SAN / CEP

AVN

SAN

SAN

CEP

SAN

CEP

:

		CEP		
SAN Central	Resting Potential	- /	/	[]
	APA mV	/		[]
	Overshoot mV	/		[]
	APD _{50%} Sec	/	/	[]
	dV/dt _{max} V/Sec	/	/	[]
Atrial Myocyte	Resting Potential	- /	/	[]
	APA mV	/		[]
	Overshoot mV	/		[]
	Duration Sec	- /	/	[]
	APD _{50%} Sec	- /	/	[]
Purkinje	Resting Potential	- /	-	[]
	APA mV	/	/	[]
	Overshoot mV	/		[]
Ventricular Myocyte	Resting Potential	- /	-	[]
	APA mV	/		[]
	Overshoot mV	/		[]
	Duration Sec	/	/	[]

AVN

AVN

.()

:

CEP

[] [] []

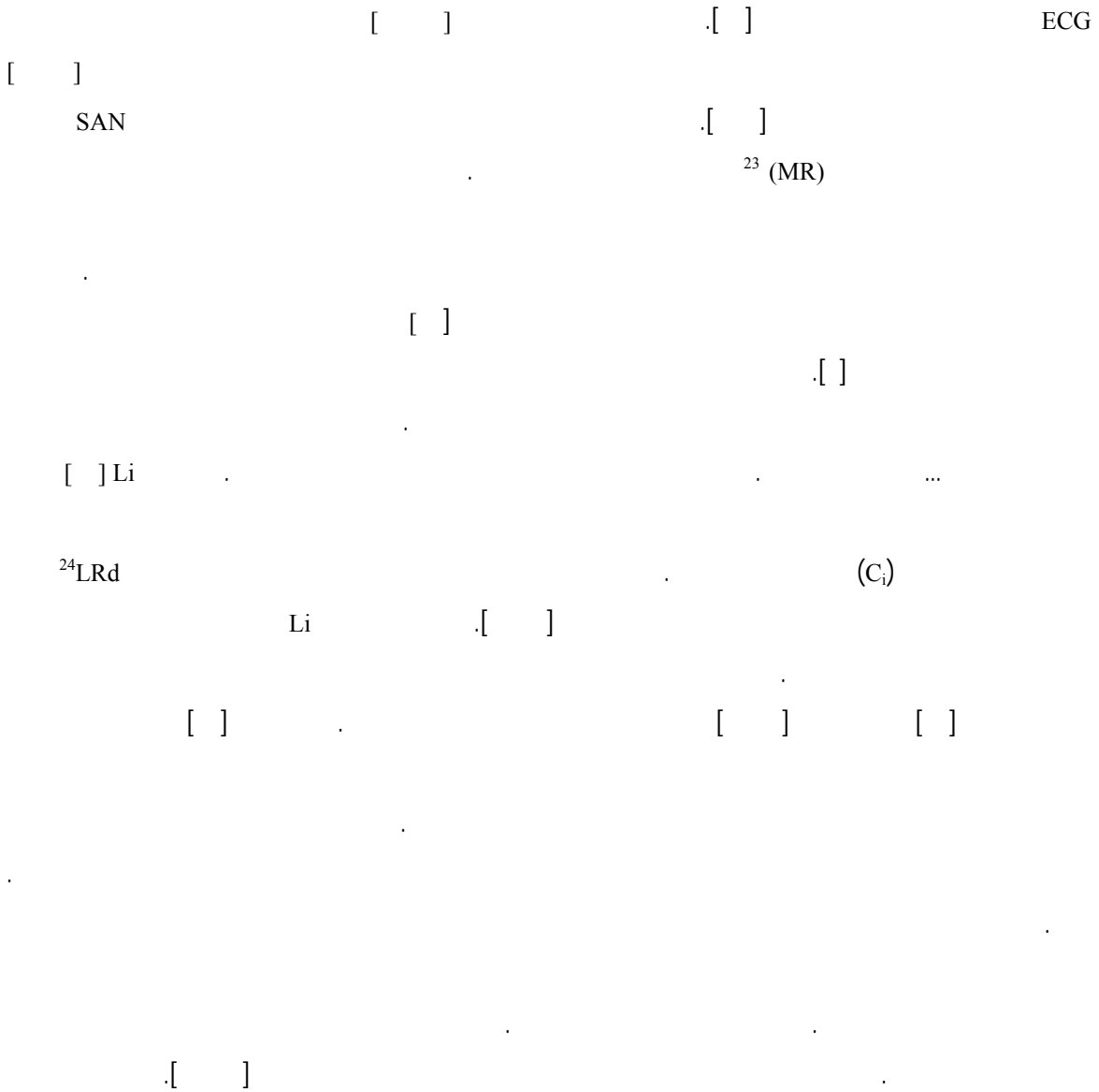
[]

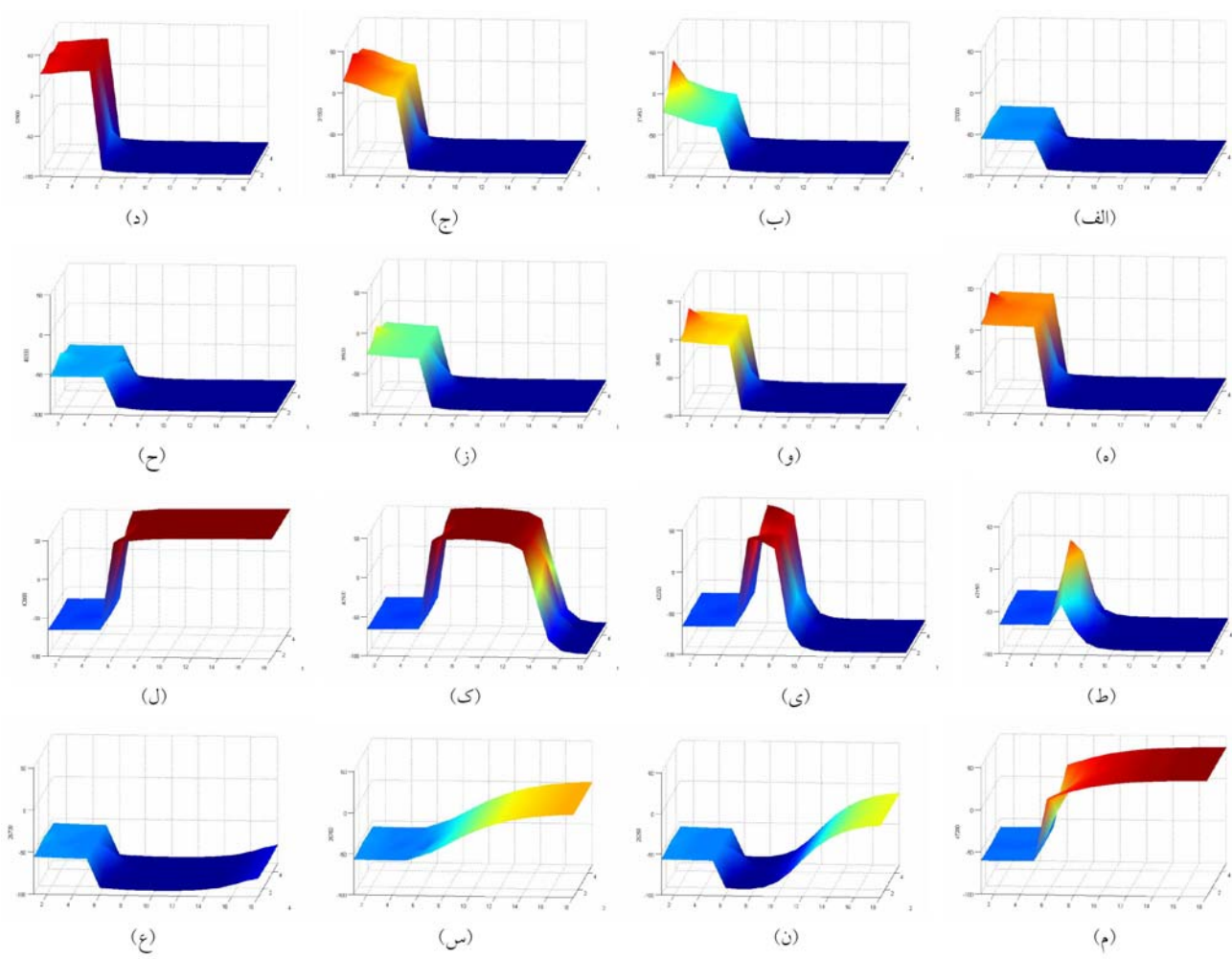
¹⁹ Finite Element

²² Major muscle bundles

²⁰ Finite Volume

²¹ Finite Differences





50 mV
 5
 18
 Cell and Layer Number

MFCL () () () () () ()
 x,y)
 () () () () () ()
 SAN () () () () () ()
 AVN () () () () () ()
 CEP () () () () () ()

CEP

()

CEP .

CEP

AVN

CEP

SAN

()

CEP /

CEP

CEP

Human Physiom Project

CEP

...

CEP

[]

[]

[]

CEP :

[1] Bahill AT; Biomedical, Medical and Clinical Engineering 1981; Prentice-hall.
[2] Courtemanche M, Ramirez RJ, Nattel S; Ionic targets for drug therapy and atrial fibrillation-induced electrical remodeling: insights from a mathematical model; Cardiovasc Res 1999; 42:477-489.

- [24] Zhang H, Holden AV, Boyett MR; Gradient vs. MOSAIC models of sinoatrial node; *Circulation* 2001; 103:584-588.
- [25] Callewaert G, Carmeliet E, Vereecke J; Single cardiac Purkinje cells: general electrophysiology and voltage-clamp analysis of the pace-maker current; *J Physiol* 1984; 349:643-661.
- [26] Colatsky TJ, Tesin RW; Electrical properties associated with wide intercellular clefts in rabbit Purkinje fibres; *J Physiol* 1979; May 290(2):227-52.
- [27] Colatsky TJ; Voltage clamp measurements of sodium channel properties in rabbit cardiac Purkinje fibres; *J Physiol* 1980; Aug 305:215-34.
- [28] McAllister RE, Noble D, Tsien RW; Reconstruction of the electrical activity of cardiac Purkinje fibres; *J Physiol* 1975; Sep 251(1):1-59.
- [29] Kneller J, Ramirez RJ, Chartier D, Nattel S, Courtemanche M, Nattel S; Time-dependent transients in an ionically based mathematical model of the canine atrial action potential; *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol* 2002; 282:H1437-H1451.
- [30] Le Grand B, Hatem S, Deroubaix E, Couétil J-P, Coraboeuf E; Depressed transient outward and calcium currents in dilated human atria; *Cardiovasc Res* 1994; 28:548 -556.
- [31] Li GR, Nattel S, Properties of human atrial ICa at physiological temperatures and relevance to action potential; *Am J Physiol* 1997; 272:H227H235.
- [32] Lindblad DS, Murphey CR, Clark JW, Giles WR, A model of the action potential and underlying membrane currents in a rabbit atrial cell; *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol* 1996; 271:H1666-H1696.
- [33] DiFrancesco D, Noble D, A model of cardiac electrical activity incorporating ionic pumps and concentration changes; *Philos Trans R Soc Lond B Biol Sci* 1985; 307:353-398.
- [34] Luo C, Rudy Y; A dynamic model of the cardiac ventricular action potential – simulation of ionic currents and concentration changes; *Circulation Research* 1994; 74:1071-1097.
- [35] Noble D, Varghese A, Kohl P, Noble P; Improved guinea-pig ventricular cell model incorporating a diadic space, IKr and IKs, and length- and tension- dependent processes; *Canada J of Cardiology* 1998; 14:123-134.
- [36] Boyett MR, Honjo H, Yamamoto M, Nikmaram MR, Niwa R, Kodama I; A downward gradient in action potential duration along the conduction path in and around the sinoatrial node; *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol* 1999; 276:H686-H698.
- [37] Boyett MR, Honjo H, Yamamoto M, Niwa R, Kodama I; Regional differences in the effects of 4-aminopyridine within the sinoatrial node; *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol* 1998; 275:H1158- H1168.
- [38] Boyett MR, Dobrzynski H, Lancaster MK, Jones SA, Honjo H, Kodama I; Sophisticated architecture is required for the sinoatrial node to perform its normal pacemaker function; *J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol* 2003; Jan 14(1):104-6.
- [39] Boyett MR, Holden AV, Zhang H; Engineering virtual cardiac tissue; *Brief Bioinform* 2001; Sep 2(3):233-44.
- [40] Quan W, Evans SJ, Hastings HM; Efficient integration of a realistic two-dimensional cardiac tissue model by domain decomposition; *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering* 1998; 45(3):324-331.
- [41] Amos GJ, Wettwer E, Metzger F, Li Q, Himmel HM, Ravens U; Differences between outward currents of
- [3] Mahmoudian M; A program for simulation of the effects of drugs on the performance of the normal heart and in congestive heart failure; *Alternatives to laboratory animals* 1989; 16:297-298.
- [4] Mahmoudian M; A program for simulation of the effects of drugs on the blood pressure of laboratory animals; *Alternatives to laboratory animals* 1987; 15: 147-148.
- [5] McCulloch A, Bassingthwaite J, Hunter P, Noble D; Computational biology of the heart: from structure to function; *Prog Biophys Mol Biol* 1998; 69(2-3):153-5.
- [6] Kohl P, Hunter P, Noble D; Stretch-induced changes in heart rate and rhythm: clinical observations, experiments and mathematical models; *Prog Biophys Mol Biol* 1999; 71(1):91-138.
- [7] Crampin EJ, Halstead M, Hunter P, Nielsen P, Noble D, Smith N, Tawhai M; Computational physiology and the physiome project; *Exp Physiol* 2004; Jan 89(1):1-26.
- [8] Hille B; *Ionic channels of excitable membranes*; Sinauer associates Inc; 1991.
- [9] Levick JR; *An Introduction to Cardiovascular Physiology*; Butterworth Heinemann; 1995.
- [10] Levy M; *Cardiac Physiology*; Perntice-Hall International Inc; 1995.
- [11] Wang Y, Rudy Y; Action potential propagation in inhomogeneous cardiac tissue: safety factor considerations and ionic mechanism; *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol* 2000; 278:H1019-H1029.
- [12] Smith CM, Reynard AM; *Textbook Of Pharmacology*; WB Saunders Company; 1992.
- [13] Berne MB, Levy MM; *Physiology*; Third ed, Mosby Year Book Inc; 1993.
- [14] Gannong WF; *Review of Medical Physiology*; Prentice-Hall International Inc; Fifteenth Edition, 1991.
- [15] Guyton AC; *Textbook of Medical Physiology*; Saunders Company; Seventeen Edition, 1986.
- [16] Gourdie RG, Severs NJ, Green CR, Rothery S, Germroth P, Thompson RP; The spatial distribution and relative abundance of gap-junctional connexin40 and connexin43 correlate to functional properties of components of the cardiac atrioventricular conduction system; *J Cell Sci* 1993; 105:985-991.
- [17] Saffitz JE, Green KG, Kraft WJ, Schechtman KB, Yamada KA; Effects of diminished expression of connexin43 on gap junction number and size in ventricular myocardium; *Am J Physiol* 2000; 278:H1662-H1670.
- [18] Verheijck EE, Wessels A, van Ginneken ACG, Bourier J, Markman MWM, Vermeulen JLM, de Bakker JMT, Lamers WH, Opthof T, Bouman LN; Distribution of atrial and nodal cells within the rabbit sinoatrial node models of sinoatrial transition; *Circulation* 1998; 97:1623-1631.
- [19] Ramirez RJ, Nattel S, Courtemanche M; Mathematical analysis of canine atrial action potentials: rate, regional factors, and electrical remodeling; *Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol* 2000; 279:H1767-H1785.
- [20] Jongsma HJ, Wilders R; Gap junctions in cardiovascular disease; *Circ Res* 2000; 86:1193-1197.
- [21] Demir SS, Clark JW, Murphey CR, Giles WR; A mathematical model of a rabbit sinoatrial node cell; *Am J Physiol* 1994; 266:C832-C852.
- [22] Dokos S, Celler B, Lovell N; Ion currents underlying sinoatrial pacemaker activity: a new single cell mathematical model; *J Theor Biol* 1996; 181:245-272.
- [23] West JB; *Physiological Basis of Medical Practice*; Williams and Wilkins Pub, Twelfth ed; 1990.

- [62] Sermesant M, Coudiere Y, Delingette H, Ayache N, Sainte-Marie J, Chapelle D, Clement F, Sorine M; Progress towards model based estimation of the cardiac electromechanical activity from ECG signals and 4D images; ESAIM: PROCEEDINGS, November 2002; 12:153-162.
- [63] Sermesant M, Coudiere Y, Delingette H, Ayache N, Desideri JA; An electro-mechanical model of the heart for cardiac image analysis. in Niessen WJ and Viergever MA editors, Medical Image Computing and Computer-Assisted Intervention, (MICCAI'01), volume 2208 of Lecture Notes in Computer Science (LNCS), Springer 2001, 224-231.
- [64] Noble D, Levin J, Scott W; Biological simulations in drug discovery; Drug Discov Today 1999; Jan 4(1):10-16.
- [65] Noble D; The heart cell in silico: successes, failures and prospects; Novartis Found Symp 2002; 247:182-94.
- [66] Noble D; Modelling the heart: insights, failures and progress; Bioessays 2002; Dec 24(12):1155-63.
- [67] Noble D; Modification of the Hodgkin-Huxley equations applicable to Purkinje fibre action and pacemaker potentials; J Physiol 1962; Feb(160):317-52.
- [68] Boyett MR, Fedida D; Changes in the electrical activity of dog cardiac Purkinje fiber at high rates; J Physiol 1984; 350:361-391.
- [69] Boyett MR, Holden AV, Zhang H; Engineering virtual cardiac tissue; Brief Bioinform 2001; Sep 2(3):233-44.
- [70] Zhang H, Holden AV, Kodama I, Honjo H, Lei M, Varghese T, Boyett MR; Mathematical models of action potentials for centre and periphery sinoatrial node of rabbit heart; Am J Physiology (Heart & Circulation) 2000; 279(1):397-421.
- [71] Li Z; Computation of excitation and propagation in inhomogeneous mammalian ventricular tissue; PhD thesis, University of Leeds, School of Biomedical Sciences, 2001.
- [72] Luo C, Rudy Y; A model of the ventricular cardiac action potential - depolarisation, repolarisation and their interaction; Circulation Research 1991; 68:1501-1526.
- [73] Biktasheva IV; Dynamic of spiral waves in perturbed excitable media, PhD thesis, University of Leeds, School of Biomedical Sciences, November 2001.
- [74] Dube B, Gulrajani RM, Lorange M, LeBlanc AR, Nasmith J, Nadeau RA; A computer heart model incorporating anisotropic propagation; Journal of Electrocardiology 1996; 29(2):91-103.
- [75] Kneller J, Zou R, Vigmond EJ, Wang Z, Leon LJ, Nattel S; Cholinergic atrial fibrillation in a computer model of a two-dimensional sheet of canine atrial cells with realistic ionic properties; Circ Res 2002; May 17 90(9):E73-87.
- [76] Porras D, Rogers JM, Smith WM, Pollard AE; Distributed computing for membrane-based modeling of action potential propagation; IEEE Trans Biomed Eng 2000; Aug 47(8):1051-7.
- [77] Street AM, Polensky R; Propagation in cardiac tissue adjacent to connective tissue: two-dimensional modeling studies; IEEE Trans Biomed Eng 1999; Jan 46(1):19-25.
- [78] Wilders R, Jongsma HJ, van Ginneken ACG; Pacemaker activity of the rabbit sinoatrial node: A comparison of mathematical models; Biophys J 1991; 60:1202-1216.
- [79] Bolis L, Katchalsky AK, Keynes RD, Lowenstein WR, Pethica BA; Thermodynamic consideration of active transport, in Permeability and Function of Biological
- [42] human atrial and subepicardial ventricular myocytes; J Physiol (Lond) 1996;491:31-50.
- [43] Cherry EM, Xie F, Feliciano Z, Garfinkel A; Computer Modeling of Atrial Fibrillation; Cardiac Electrophysiology Review 2000; 5:271-276.
- [44] Uzzaman M, Honjo H, Takagishi Y, Emdad L, Magee AI, Severs NJ, Kodama I; Remodeling of Gap Junctional Coupling in Hypertrophied Right Ventricles of Rats With Monocrotaline-Induced Pulmonary Hypertension; Circulation Research 2000; 86:871-878.
- [45] Bryant SM, Shipsey SJ, Hart G; Regional differences in electrical and mechanical properties of myocytes from guinea-pig hearts with mild left ventricular hypertrophy; Cardiovascular Res 1997; 35:315-323.
- [46] Ciba; Atlas of Anatomy and Physiology; Prentice-Hall International Inc; 4th edition, 1991.
- [47] Blanc O; A computer model of human atrial arrhythmia (PhD thesis); Lausanne, Ecole Polytechnique (EPFL) 2002.
- [48] Henriquez CS, Muzikant AL, Smoak CK; Anisotropy, fiber curvature, and bath loading effects on activation in thin and thick cardiac tissue preparations: simulations in three-dimensional bidomain model; J Cardiovasc Electrophysiol 1996; 7:424-444.
- [49] Henriquez CS, Trayanova N, Plonsey R; Potential and current distributions in a cylindrical bundle of cardiac tissue; Biophys J 1988 Jun;53(6):907-18.
- [50] Harrild M, Henriquez CS; A computer model of normal conduction in the human atria; Circ Res 2000; 87:e25-e36.
- [51] Verheijck EE, Wilders R, Bouman LN; Atrio-Sinus Interaction Demonstrated by Blockade of the Rapid Delayed Rectifier Current; Circulation 2002; 105:880-885.
- [52] Shih HT; Anatomy of the Action Potential in the Heart; Molecular and Cellular Cardiology 1994; 21(1):30-41.
- [53] Cabo C, Barr RC; Propagation model using the DiFrancesco-noble equation; Med & Biol Eng & Comput 1992; 30:292-302.
- [54] Beeler GW, Reuter H; Reconstruction of the action potential of ventricular myocardial fibers; J Physiol 1977; 268:177-210.
- [55] Hunter PJ, Borg TK; Integration from proteins to organs: the Physiome Project; Nat Rev Mol Cell Biol 2003; Mar 4(3):237-43.
- [56] Hunter PJ, Pullan AJ, Smaill BH; Modeling total heart function; Annu Rev Biomed Eng 2003; 5:147-77.
- [57] Hunter PJ; The IUPS Physiome Project: a framework for computational physiology; Prog Biophys Mol Biol 2004; Jun-Jul 85(2-3):551-69.
- [58] Hooks DA, Tomlinson KA, Marsden SG, LeGrice IJ, Smaill BH, Pullan AJ, Hunter PJ; Cardiac microstructure: implications for electrical propagation and defibrillation in the heart; Circ Res 2002; Aug 23 91(4):331-8.
- [59] Bradley CP, Pullan AJ, Hunter PJ; Effects of material properties and geometry on electrocardiographic forward simulations; Ann Biomed Eng 2000; Jul 28(7):721-41.
- [60] Harrild M, Henriquez CS; A computer model of normal conduction in the human atria; Circ Res 2000; 87:e25-e36.
- [61] Hinch R; An analytical study of the physiology and pathology of the propagation of cardiac action potentials; Progress in Biophysics & Molecular Biology 2002; 78:45-81.

-
- [82] Arshi AR, Mahmoodian M, Tabatabaie F; Bond graph modeling of pharmacodynamic effect of group IA antiarrhythmia drugs on ventricular Purkinje cell membrane ionic channels; 5th International Conference of Bond Graph Modeling, Phoenix Arizona 2001; 322-327.
- [83] Opthof T, DeJonge B, Mackaay AJC, Bleeker WK, Masson-Pevet M, Jongsma HJ, Bouman LN; Functional and morphological organization of the guinea-pig sinoatrial node compared with the rabbit sinoatrial node; *J Mol Cell Cardiol* 1985; 17:549-564.
- Membrane; North-Holland Pub Co, Amsterdam; 1970; 20-35.
- [80] Katzung BG; *Basic & Clinical Pharmacology*, McGraw-Hill/Appleton & Lange, Pub Date: 21 September 2000.
- [81] Koidl B, Flaschberger P, Schaffer P, Pelzmann B, Bernhart E, Mächler H, Rigler B; Effects of the class III antiarrhythmic drug ambasilide on outward currents in human atrial myocytes; *Naunyn Schmiedebergs Arch Pharmacol* 1996; 353:226 -232.