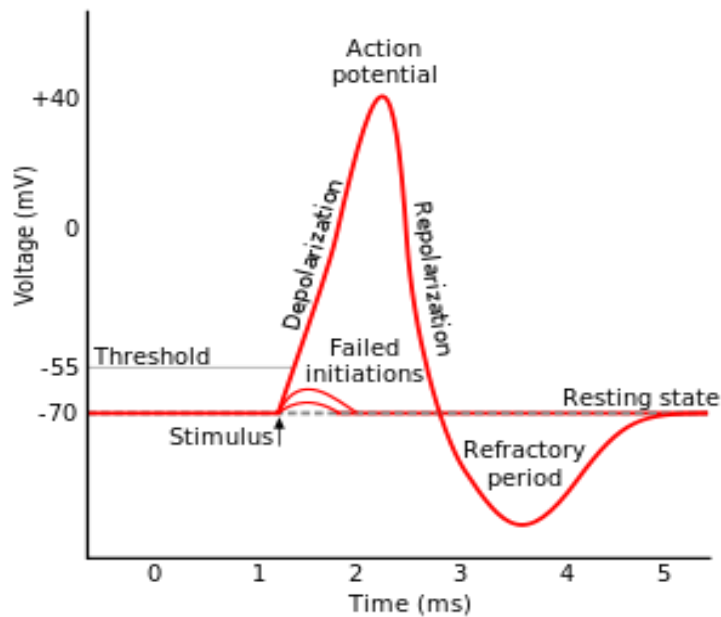


When the sodium channel will start to close, the action potential will go back towards a



(Wikipedia, 2009)

resting potential

The autonomic nervous system

The autonomic nervous system is part of the peripheral nervous system and regulates processes which are unconscious and out of our direct control, such as breathing, sweat, heart rate, salivation, digestion etc.

It is responsible for the maintenance of the internal organs and it does thanks to the interplay between the two subdivisions of the autonomic nervous system: the sympathetic and parasympathetic.

The sympathetic division (or SNS) is responsible for stimulating bodily processes after having received information about the body and external environment, whereas the parasympathetic system is responsible for the inhibition of such bodily processes. Both divisions work together in order to regulate the body's functionality.

The SNS prepares the body for fight and flight situations and the PNS is responsible for bodily functions during ordinary situations.