



**2008 Sunrise Free Radical School
Presentation by:
Pedro Cabrales, Ph.D.**

What is the oxygen tension *in vivo*?

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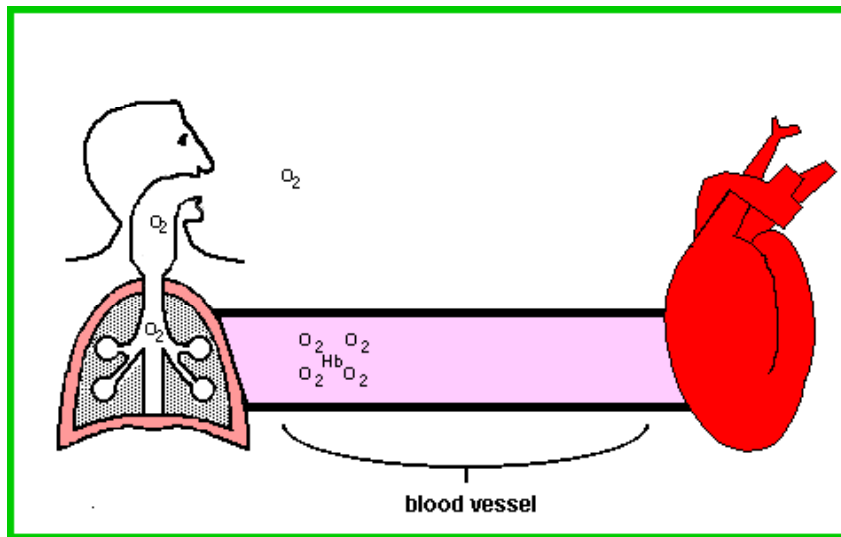


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Institute

Circulatory system: delivery of nutrients and **oxygen (O_2)**, removal of waste, transport between organs, endocrine pathway, heat exchange, immunological and fluid balance

O_2 is required by mammalian cells to support metabolism. It cannot be obtained directly from the environment in sufficient quantity (diffusion)

It has been resolved by two convective driven processes: air pump (the lungs) and a fluid pump (the heart)



As blood passes through the lung, O_2 diffuses down into the bloodstream, where it binds to the hemoglobin in the red blood cells (RBCs) and is carried by convective transport through the heart and large and small arteries to the microcirculatory vessels where the partial pressure gradient favors diffusion from the RBC to the tissue

Outline

- Is there a consensus for tissue pO_2 ?
- Methods to measure tissue O_2 tension *in vivo*
- How is O_2 delivered?
- Importance of intravascular - tissue O_2 gradient
- How do *in vivo* O_2 tensions compare to *in vitro* experiments?

Consensus for tissue pO_2 ?

Until recently, it was assumed that offloading of O_2 from the blood to the tissue occurred mostly in the capillaries

“Capillaries are the sole suppliers of O_2 to the tissue” is a cornerstone of physiology--Krogh and Erlangen in 1918, who developed the “Krogh cylinder model”

all oxygen exchange takes place at the capillary, with the entrance pO_2 being the large artery and the exit pO_2 being the large vein under reduced blood flow or low arterial oxygen level, sites at the greatest radial distance from the venous end of the capillary would lack the most O_2

This model ignores heterogeneity of capillary network and hemodynamics, and assumes O_2 exchange only at the capillary level

Consensus for tissue pO₂? (1)

pO₂s, different tissues and techniques

Tissue (species, reference)	Technique	pO ₂ range, mmHg
Cheek Pouch (hamster, Duling BR Circ Res 31: 481–489, 1972)	Microelectrode	18 - 12
Spinotrapezius Ms (rat, Boland EJ et al J Appl Physiol 62: 791–797, 1987)	Microelectrode	26 - 13
Sartorius Ms (cat, Boegehold MA et al Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 254: H929–H936, 1988)	Microelectrode	40 - 22
Sartorius Ms (cat - low flow, Boegehold MA et al Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 254: H929–H936, 1988)	Spectrophotometric	14 - 9
Skinfold (hamster, Intaglietta M et al Cardiovasc Res 32: 632–643, 1996)	Phosphorescence	34 - 29
Skinfold (hamster - perivascular, Intaglietta M et al Cardiovasc Res 32: 632–643, 1996)	Phosphorescence	30 - 21
Spinotrapezius Ms (rat, Shonat RD Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 272: H2233–H2240, 1997)	Phosphorescence	32 - 22
Brain (rat - cortex, Vovenko EP Pflügers Arch 437: 617–623, 1999)	Microelectrode	57 - 31

Consensus for tissue pO₂? (2)

pO₂s, different tissues and techniques

Tissue (species, reference)	Technique	pO ₂ range, mmHg
Retractor Ms (hamster, Ellsworth ML et al Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 252: H1031–H1040, 1987)	Spectrophotometric	30 - 21
Retractor Ms (hamster, Kuo I Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 254: H331–H338, 1988)	Spectrophotometric	30 - 22
Myocardium (dog, Honig CR et al Adv Exp Med Biol 248: 591–599, 1989)	Cryoscopic	64 - 25
Retractor Ms (hamster, Swain DP et al Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 256: H247–H255, 1989)	Spectrophotometric	24 - 23
Gracillis Ms (dog - 4 Hz stimulation, Honig CR et al Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 261: H2031–H2043, 1991)	Cryoscopic	31 - 20
Intestinal Villus and Submucosa (rat, Bohlen HG et al Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 269: H1342–H1348, 1995)	Spectrophotometric	48 - 30
Intestine Villus and Submucosa (rabbit, Bohlen HG et al Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 269: H1342–H1348, 1995)	Spectrophotometric	64 - 38

Measuring *in vivo* tissue pO₂

Polarographic electrode

Davies PW and Brink F, *Rev. Sci. Instrum.* 1942

Fluorescence quenching

Longmuir IS and Knopp JA, *J Appl Physiol.* 1976

Phosphorescence quenching

Vanderkooi JM et al, *J Biol Chem.* 1987

EPR oximetry

Swartz HM et al, *Biochemistry.* 1989

Polarographic electrode

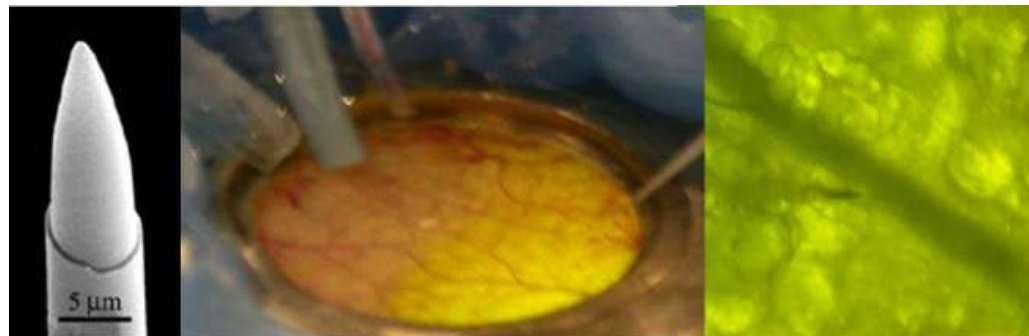
O₂ molecules diffuse to the cathode and are immediately reduced by applying polarization tension

pO₂ on the surface of the electrode (platinum cathode) is zero

Reduction current is determined by O₂ diffusion

Assuming constant diffusion, tissue pO₂ is only determined by reduction current

Polarographic system consists of a tension generator and a current meter



Polarography electrode

Electrodes	Cons	Pros
Clark	Consume O ₂ , requires a stable boundary layer, noisy, slow time response, <i>perturbs tissue environment</i>	Simple, easy to use, economic
Whalen Metal surface from the glass micropipette tip	Fragile, <i>perturbs tissue environment</i>	Low O ₂ consumption Low drift, noise and variability Fast time response
Surface Both anode and cathode sealed with a lipophilic membrane	Slow time response, price, <i>perturbs tissue environment</i>	Low noise and variability No motion artifacts

Hemoglobin Spectrophotometric

Blood microvessels pO_2 can be determined by evaluating O_2 saturation of hemoglobin (Hb), through measurements of Hb light absorption at different wavelengths

It has been implemented initially utilizing two and three wavelengths, and even full spectrum

Technique utilizes optical means that are easily implemented at the microscope

However, it depends on the Hb absorption spectrum at local conditions (pCO_2 , pH, temp, ...), the tissue optical properties and light scattering

Does not provide information about tissue PO_2

PO_2 obtained with spectrophotometric technique agree with periarteriolar microelectrode measurements

Pittman RN And Duling BR. Measurement of percent hemoglobin in the microvasculature. *J Appl Physiol* 38: 321–327, 1975

Steenbergen JM, Lash JM, And Bohlen HG. Role of lymphatic system in glucose absorption and the accompanying microvascular hyperemia. *Am J Physiol Gastrointest Liver Physiol* 267: G529–G535, 1994.

Cryoscopic Hb and Myoglobin

Estimates O_2 in the vascular lumen and parenchymal cells Hb and myoglobin (Mb) saturations

Copper plate cooled with liquid nitrogen is rapidly applied to the surface of the tissue (cooling 500 μm below the surface in 50 ms)

Isosbestic wavelengths for Hb and Mb are used to determine O_2 saturation

Measurements made for a variety of vascular and tissue sites at a fixed time point

Rate of cooling does not prevent water crystallization, limiting optical resolution and measurements accuracy

Gayeski TEJ and Honig CR. Oxygen gradients from sarcolemma to cell interior in a red muscle at maximal oxygen consumption. Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 251: H789–H799, 1986

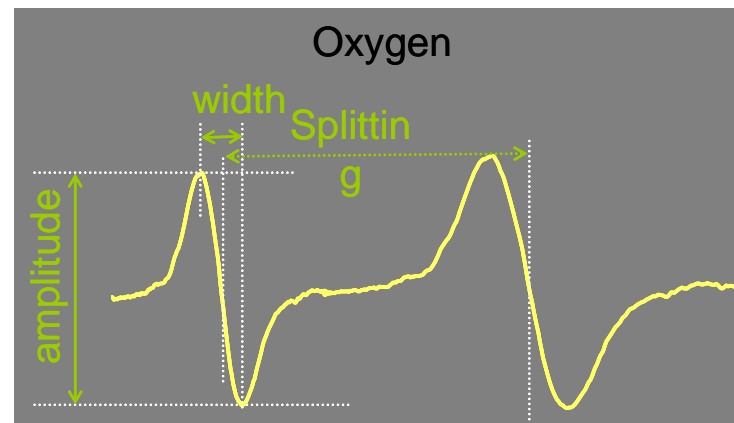
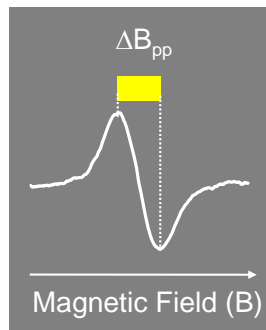
EPR oximetry

Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) is the resonant absorption of microwave radiation by paramagnetic systems in the presence of an applied magnetic field

EPR is based on the fact that the spectra of paramagnetic species can reflect interactions with other unpaired spins

Dissolved O_2 cannot be observed directly by EPR, but its presence can be quantified by measuring the effects it produces in the spectra of the appropriate radical

Soluble and Solid probes



Fluorescence quenching

O₂ will quench fluorescence by colliding with the fluorescent molecule when the latter is in the excited state

Number of collisions will be proportional to the amount of O₂ present per unit volume

Advantages: low O₂ consumption and spatial resolution

Disadvantages: obtains a 2-D projection of 3-D events, affected by fluorophore concentration

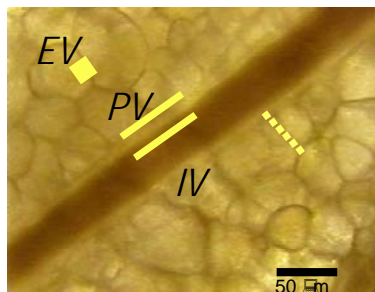
Phosphorescence quenching

Based on the rate of decay of excited phosphorescence from Pd-porphyrin bound to albumin and the local pO_2 (Stern-Volmer equation)

Phosphorescence emission results from transition into a triplet state by absorbing light (short flash) and then passing from this state to a singlet ground state

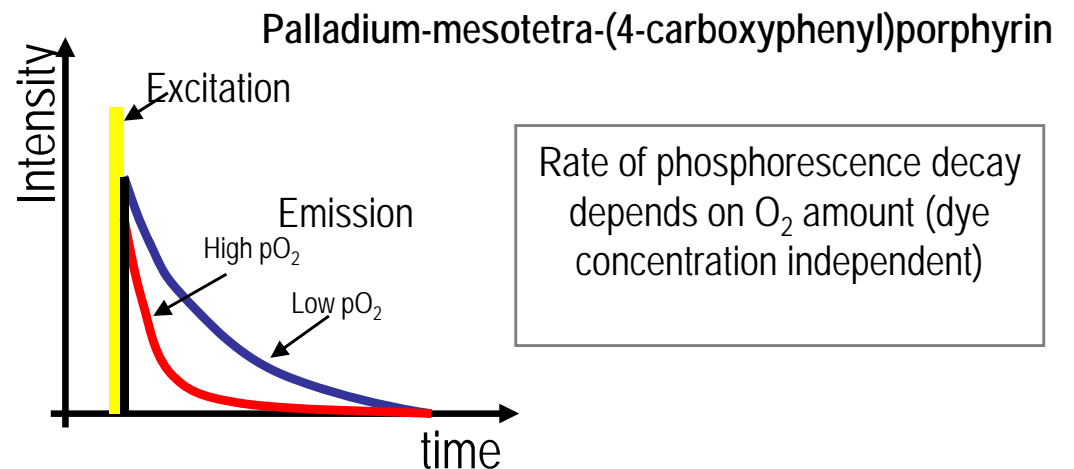
Pd-porphyrin releases the absorbed energy as light or transferred this energy to O_2 , which prevents light emission

Light emission is quenched, fewer photons are emitted, translates into a shorter time constant



EV, extravascular
PV, perivascular
IV, intravascular

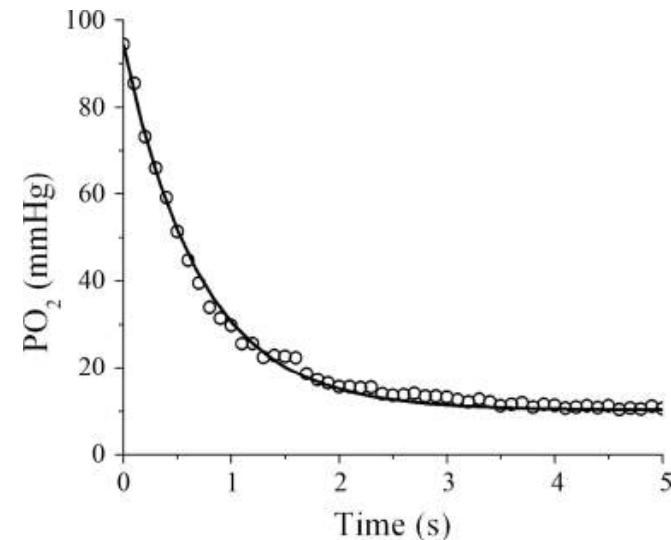
15th Annual Meeting of the SFRBM, Nov. 19-23, 2008



O₂ consumption by phosphorescence quenching

Phosphorescence consumes O₂ depending on the concentration of the dye and the total energy delivered by the light source

Emission and the phosphorescence decay obtained may be the summation of signals from adjoining areas, particularly in the neighborhood of a microvessel (no uniform where the oxygen field)



Golub AS et al. Am J Physiol Heart Circ Physiol 294: H2905-H2916 2008

Problems can be circumvented by using (i) repeated light excitation of low intensity over a period that allows diffusion to replenish the consumed oxygen and (ii) averaging the signals

Microcirculatory preparations

Surgically Exposed Tissue Preparations (most common)

Acute

Anesthesia varies among laboratories (type and regimes)

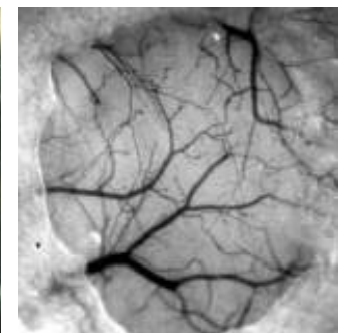
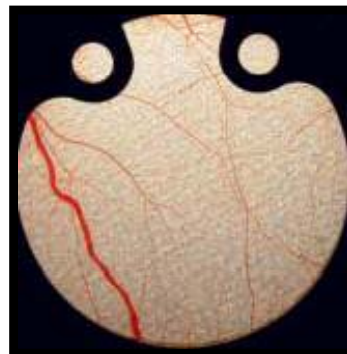
Surgical preparation involves exposing and/or excising the tissue by removal out of the body cavity (cremaster and mesenteric)

Suffusing solution used to mimic *in vivo* conditions influences blood flow and O_2

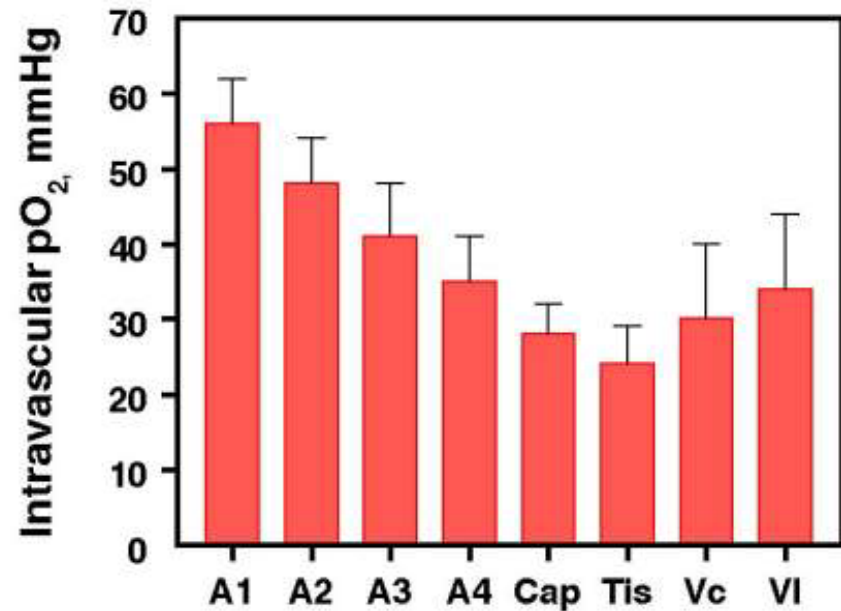
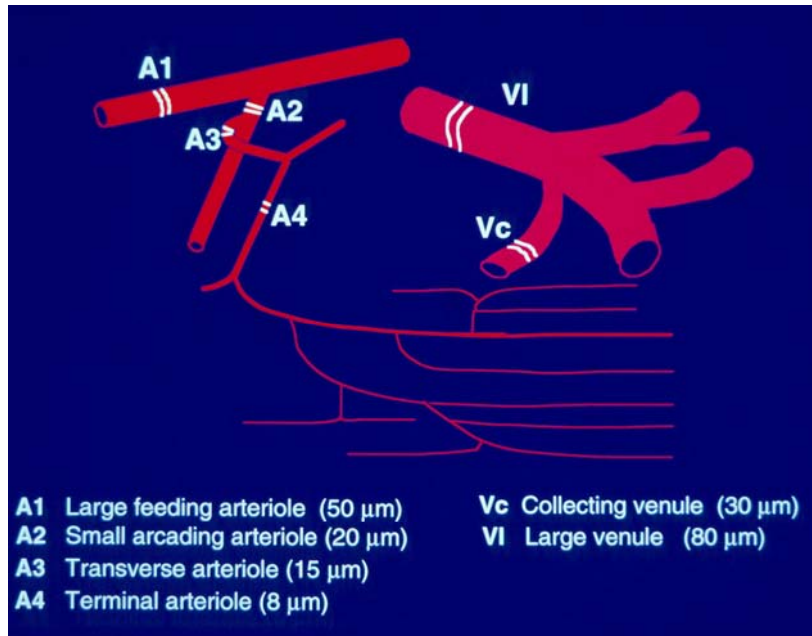
For optical techniques, tissue may be covered with polyvinyl film or enclosed

Environment Isolated Preparations

Allows tissue to recover from the acute effects of surgery and can be studied in the unanesthetized state



How is O₂ delivered?



Kerger *et al.*, Systemic, subcutaneous microvascular oxygen tension in conscious Syrian golden hamsters. *Am J Physiol* 1995;268:H802-810.

Convective transport = Diffusion flux out of the vessel = O₂ consumed

$$QC_{\text{blood}}\Delta S = -2\pi R_0\Delta L D\alpha \frac{dP_{\text{O}_2}}{dr}_{r=R_0} = M_{\text{avg}}\pi(R_t^2 - R_0^2)\Delta L$$

Convective transport, difference between O₂ entering and exiting a segment

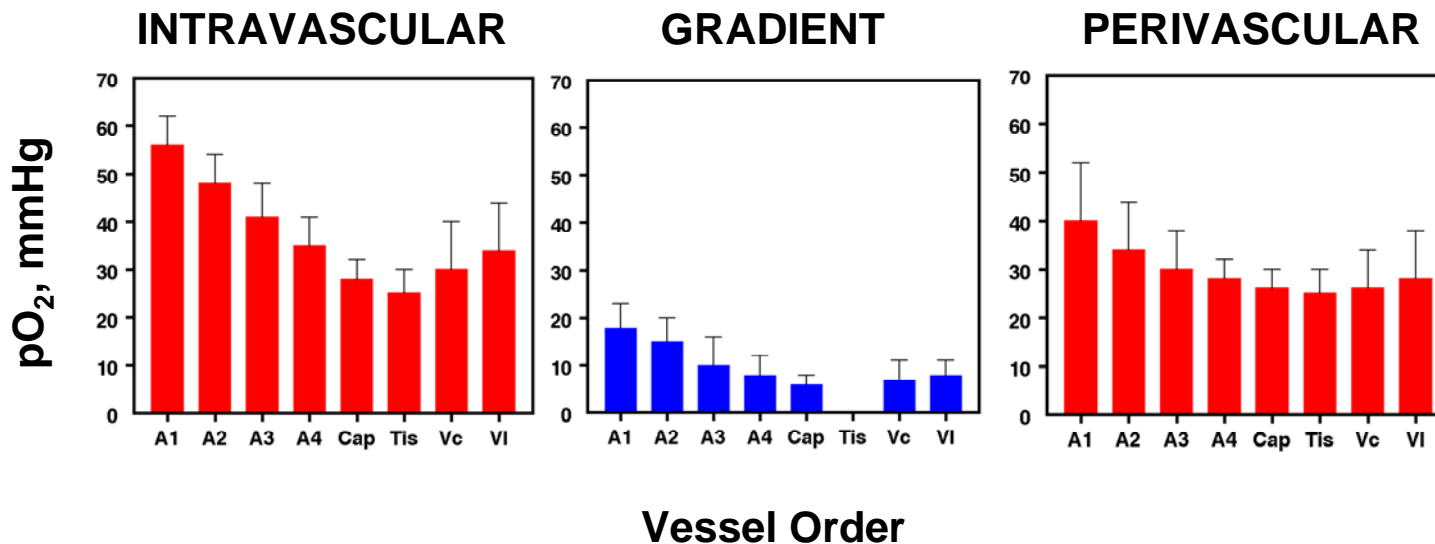
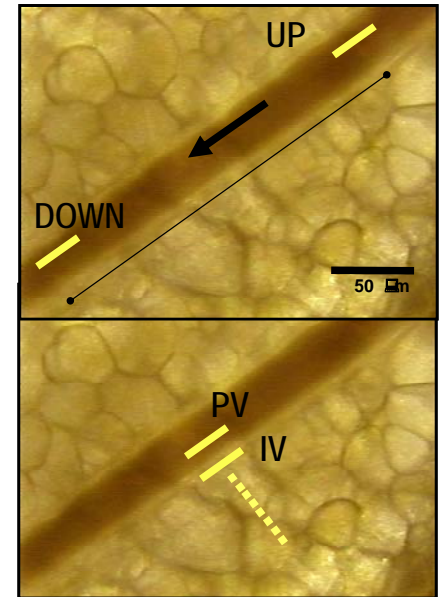
Diffusion flux out of the vessel, diffusion constant (D), O₂ solubility (α), and pO₂ radial gradient

O₂ consumed, is defined by average consumption rate (M_{avg})

Intravascular - O₂ gradient

Radial gradient is steepest in the arteriolar network and diminishes in the capillary and venular regions

Steepest radial gradients are in the immediate vicinity of the vasculature, arteriolar vessels and can not be explained on the basis of diffusion alone



O₂ loss during convection
is equal to
Diffusive O₂ loss + O₂ consumption

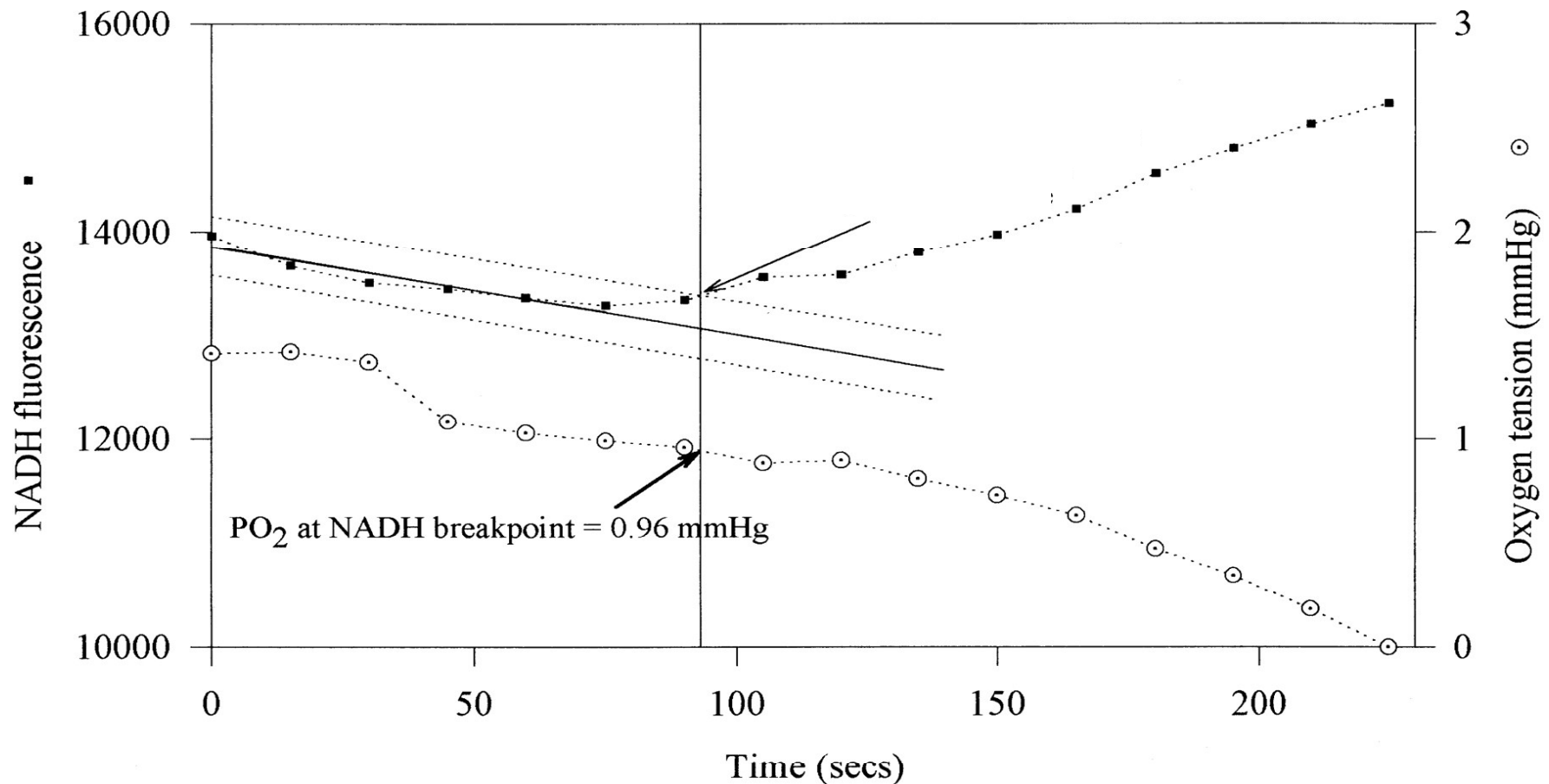
EV, extravascular
PV, perivascular
IV, intravascular

Kerger *et al.*, Systemic, subcutaneous microvascular oxygen tension in conscious Syrian golden hamsters. *Am J Physiol* 1995;268:H802-810.

How does critical pO_2 *in vivo* compare to *in vitro*? (1)

Critical pO_2 : pO_2 required to support oxidative metabolism

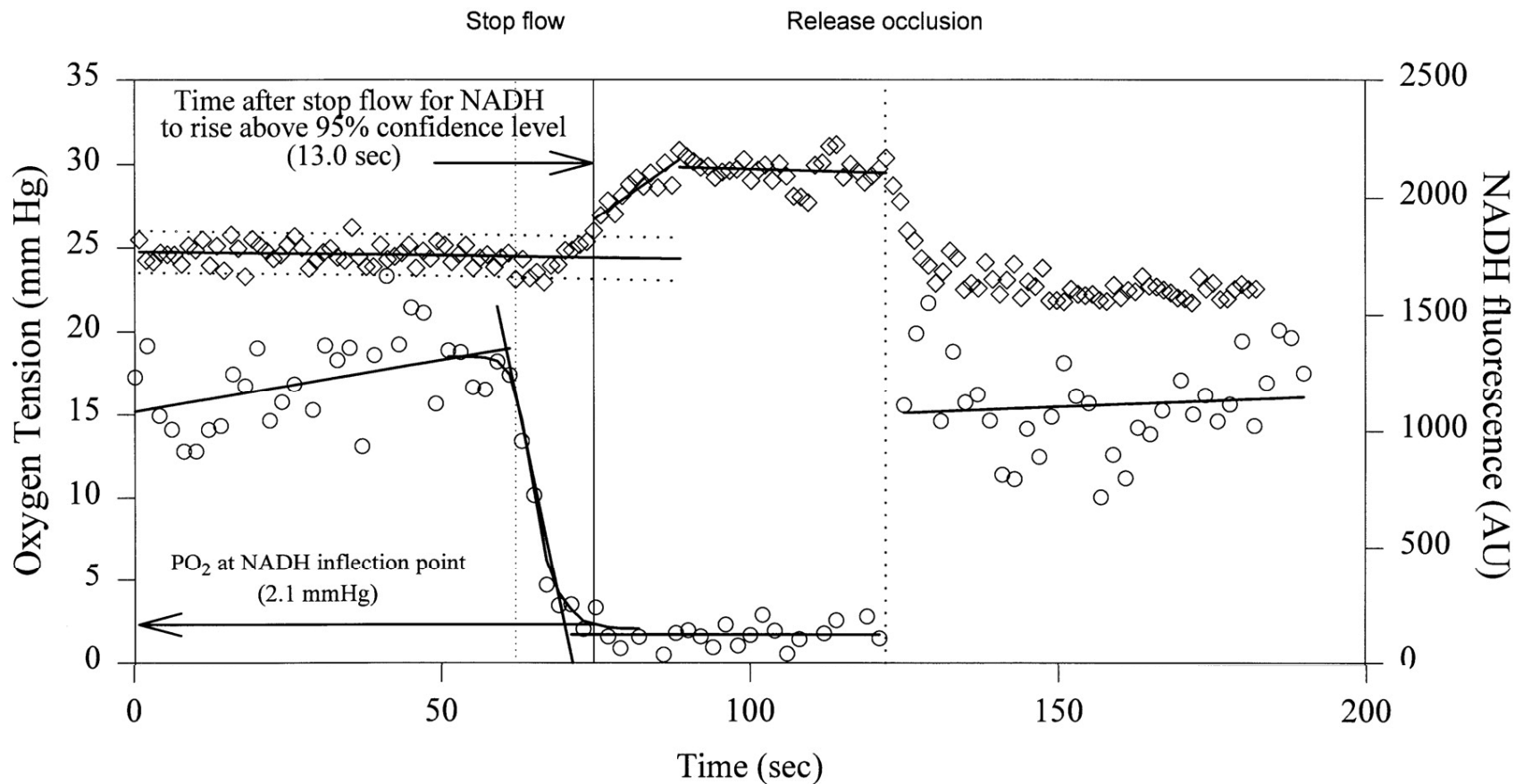
Skeletal muscle, *in vitro*



How does critical pO_2 *in vivo* compare to *in vitro*? (2)

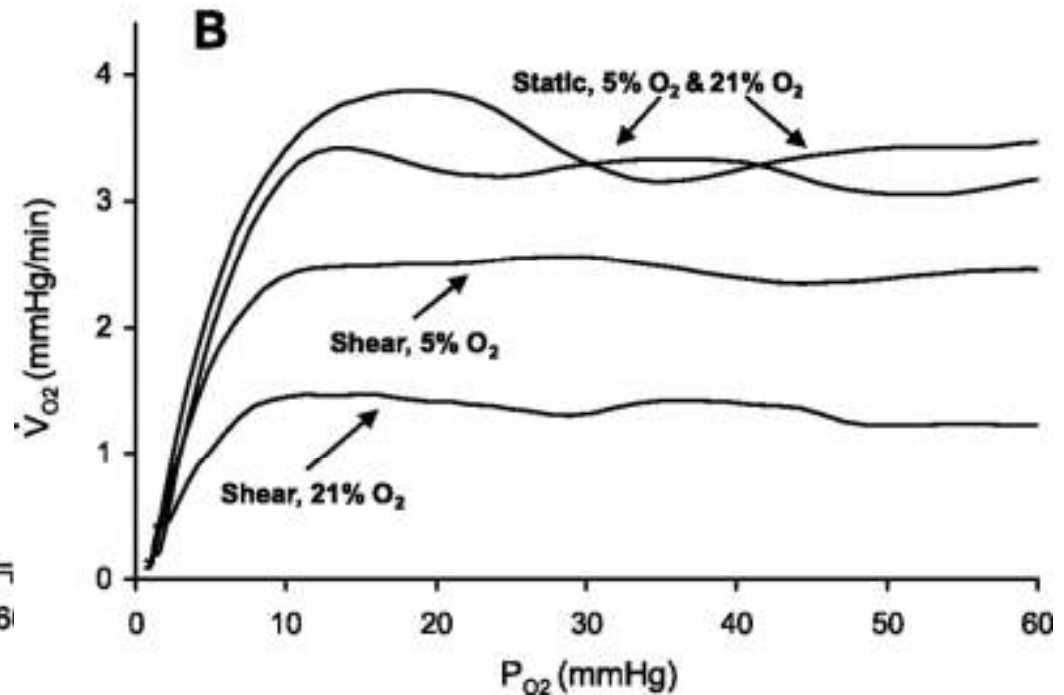
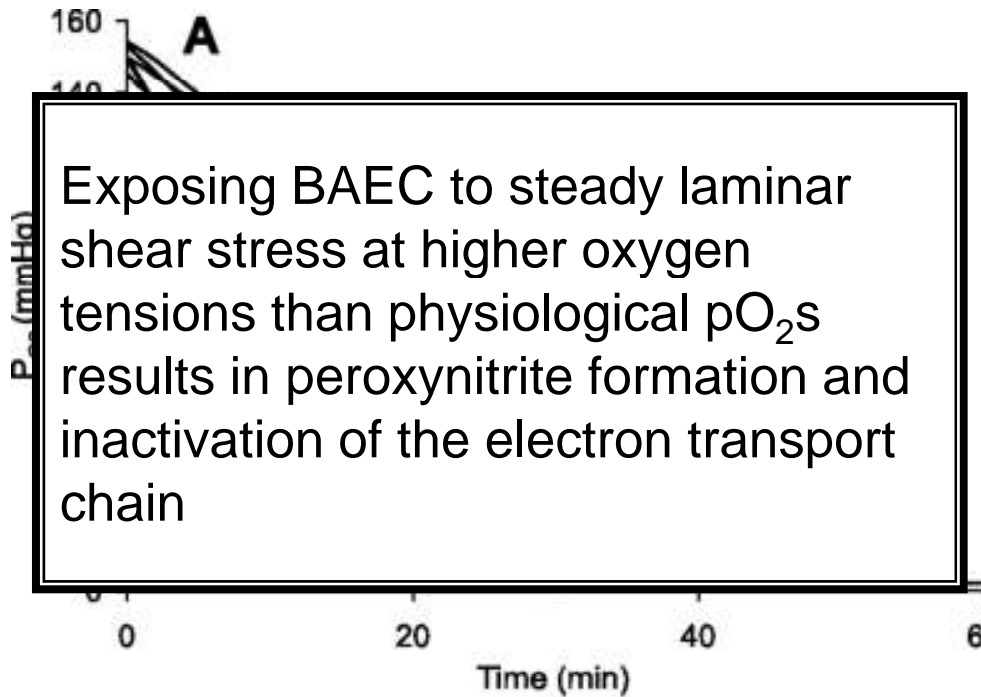
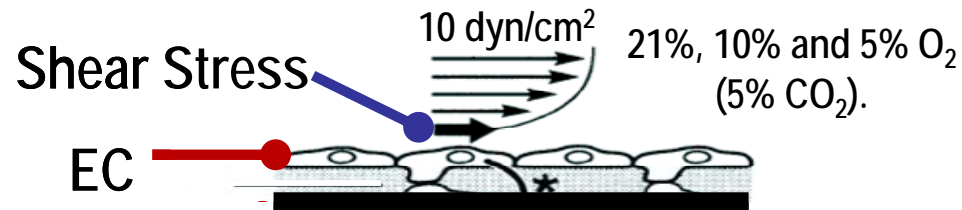
Critical pO_2 : pO_2 required to support oxidative metabolism

Skeletal muscle, *in vivo*



Effects of mismatching *in vivo* and *in vitro* O₂ tensions (1)

Effects of pO₂ during shear exposure on BAEC respiration



Summary

- *In vivo*, the interstitial pO_2 is not uniform
- Heterogeneity occurs on many levels: morphological, hemodynamics and metabolic
- Arterioles are as important as capillaries in oxygenating the tissue
- O_2 exiting the circulation, implies the existence of large blood/tissue oxygen gradients
- Capillary/tissue O_2 gradients are maximal in the lung (50 mmHg) and minimal in the resting tissues (0.5 mmHg)
- The fundamental understating of how O_2 is managed *in vivo* influences the translation of *in vitro* studies into physiological and pathophysiological mechanisms

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UCSD team:

Marcos Intaglietta, Ph.D.

Paul C. Johnson, Ph.D.

Amy G. Tsai, Ph.D.

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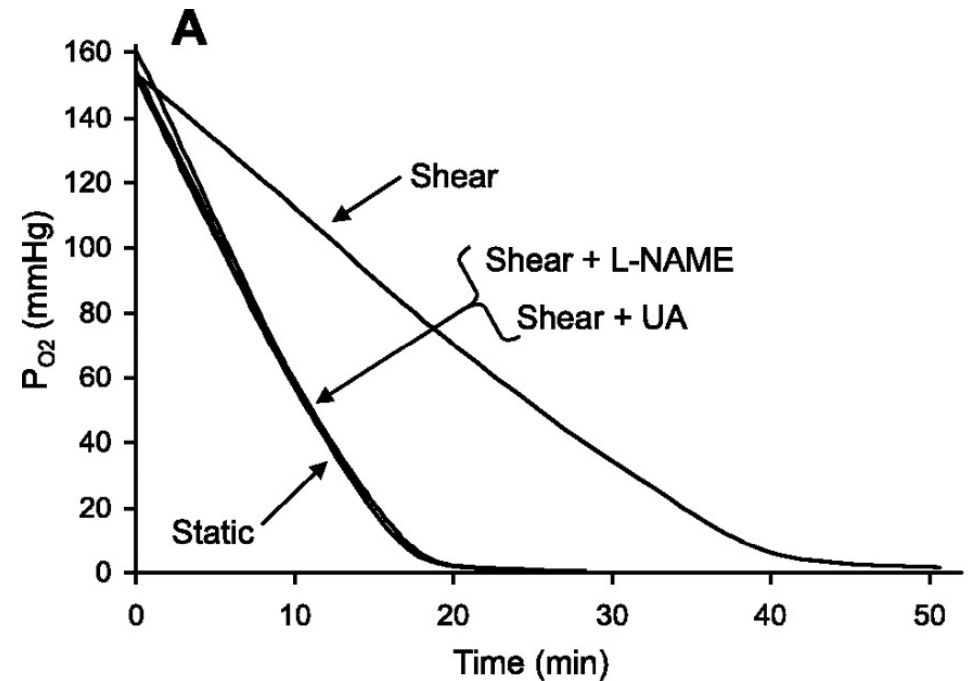
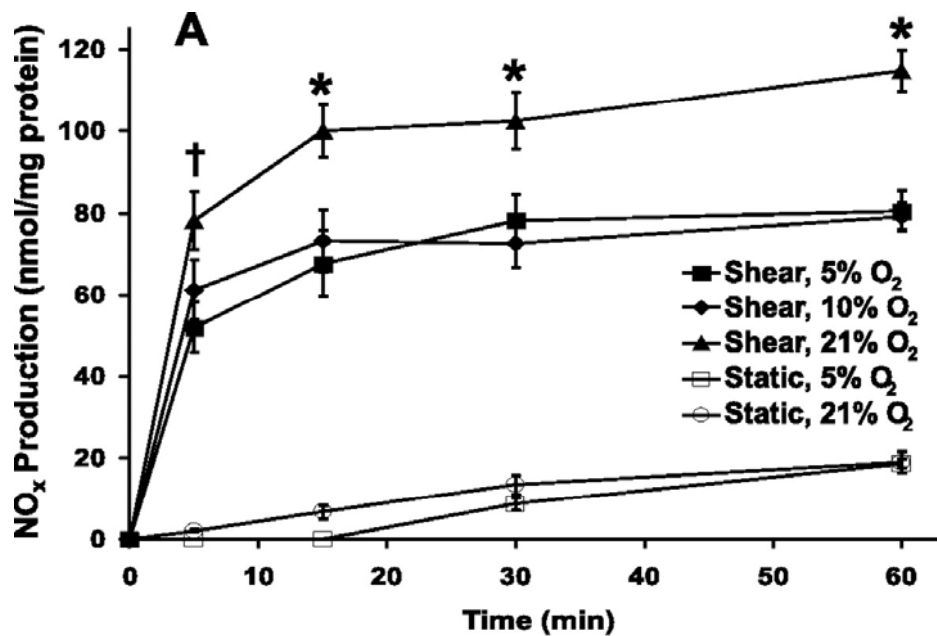
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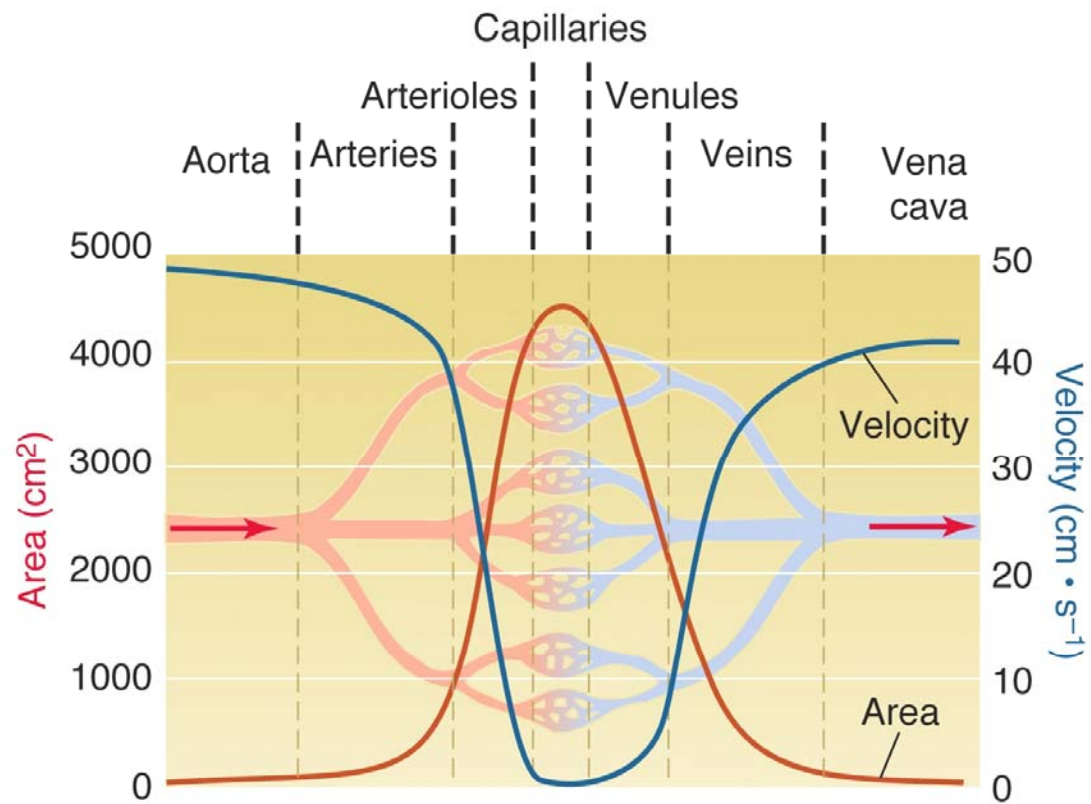
Effects of mismatching *in vivo* and *in vitro* O₂ tensions (2)

Effects of pO₂ during shear exposure on EC respiration



BAEC exposed to steady laminar shear stress results in peroxynitrite formation and inactivation of the electron transport chain

Jones CI et al Am J Physiol Cell Physiol 295: C180-C191 2008



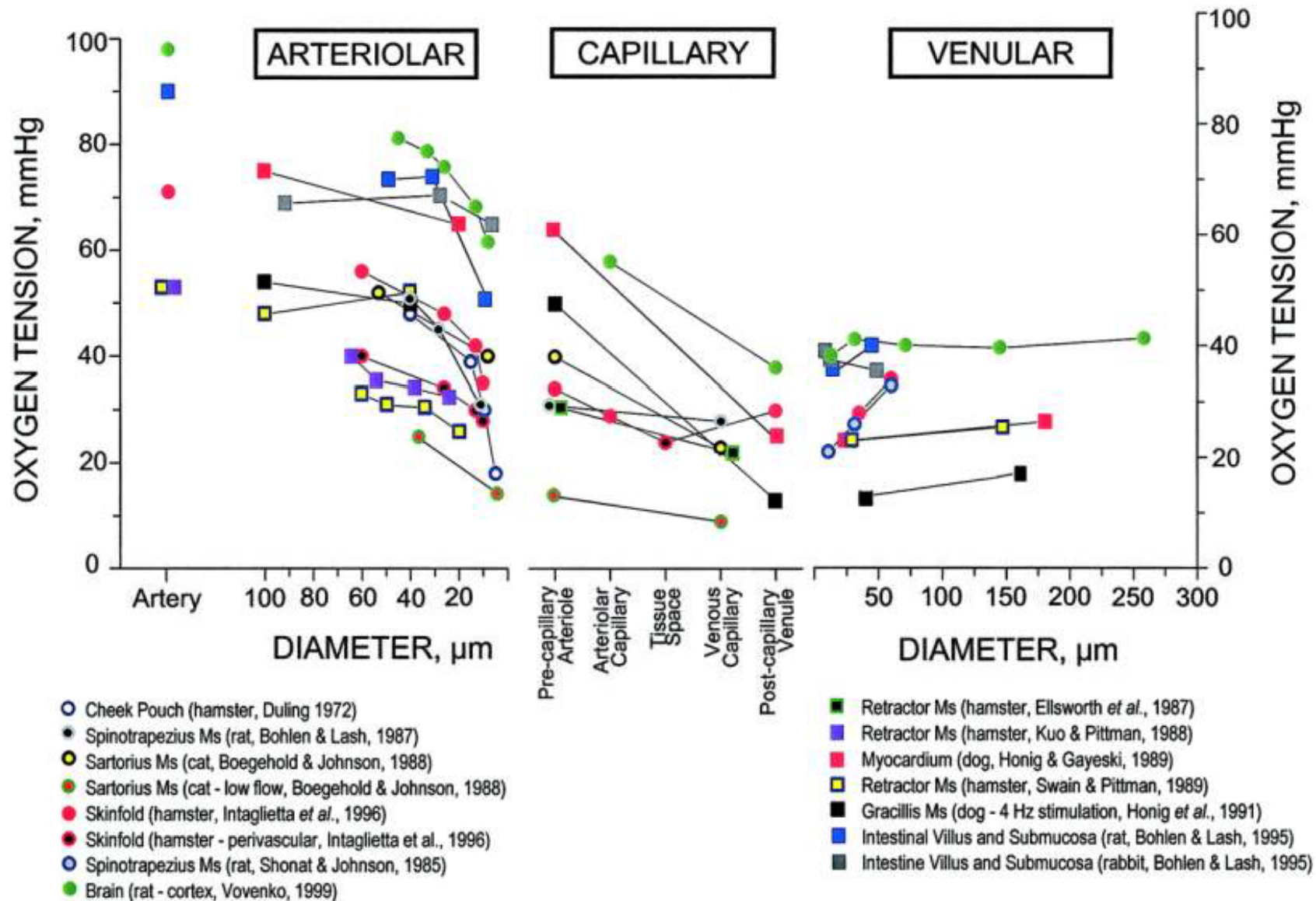
Polarography electrode

Clark electrode consumes oxygen, generating a current proportional to the O₂ concentration. Requires stable boundary/diffusion layer

Whalen electrode has a recess (metal surface from the glass micropipette tip), eliminates motion free layer. They have low drift and O₂ consumption (10⁻⁶ μl/min) and fast time constant (1s). They are fragile and their presence introduces perturbations of the tissue, noisy when used in flowing blood

Surface electrodes have both cathode and anode sealed with a lipophilic membrane to prevent impurities and eliminate motion artifacts. Their dimension (10–20 μm) increases catchment volume and the time to form a stable boundary layer. Often configured into an array and provided a histogram of O₂ tensions

How is O₂ delivered?



How is O₂ delivered?

In vascular beds with low metabolic tissue demand (resting skeletal muscle), there are significant longitudinal gradients of pO₂ in the arteriolar circulation

Tissue with higher metabolic demand (brain and intestine) had lower gradients

Longitudinal arteriolar pO₂ gradient reflects the ratio of blood flow to metabolic O₂ demand

O₂ delivery by capillaries varies, among vascular beds. Low, resting skeletal muscle and high, brain and myocardium

Higher venular pO₂ relative to capillary and tissue pO₂ are explained by arterio-venous shunts, anatomic distribution and the Bohr effect

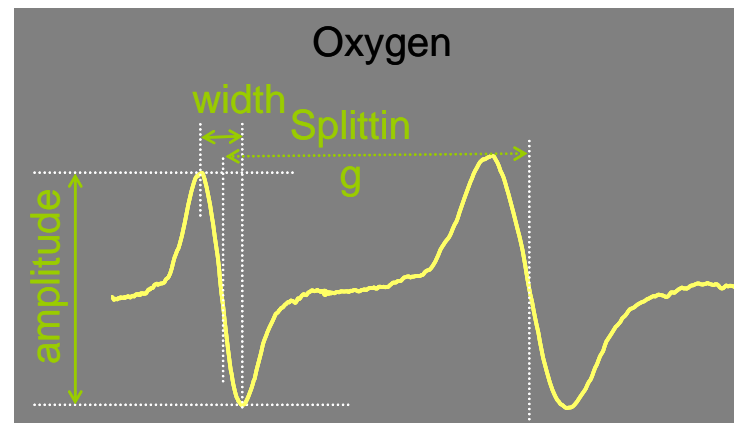
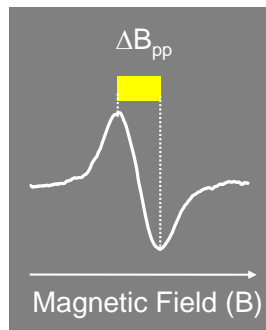
EPR oximetry

Electron paramagnetic resonance (EPR) is the resonant absorption of microwave radiation by paramagnetic systems in the presence of an applied magnetic field

EPR is based on the fact that the spectra of paramagnetic species can reflect interactions with other unpaired spins

Dissolved O_2 cannot be observed directly by EPR, but its presence can be quantified by measuring the effects it produces in the spectra of the appropriate radical

Spatial information can be obtained using EPR imaging (EPRI)



EPR oximetry, probes

Particulate (Solid) probes

Lithium phthalocyanine (LiPc)

Sugar chars

Fusinite

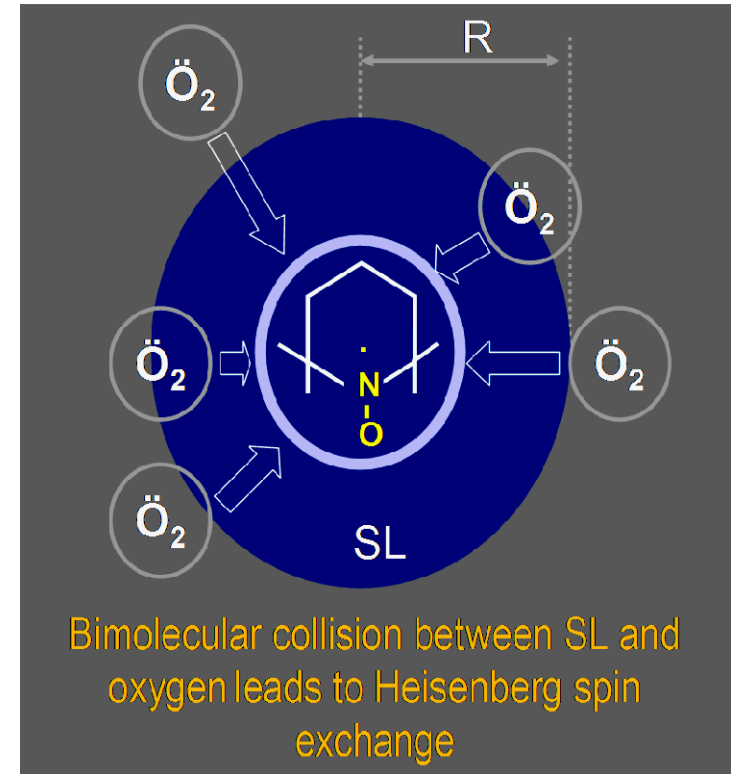
Coal

India ink

Soluble probes

Nitroxides

Triptyl radicals



The collision frequency w , according to the hard sphere theory of Smoluchowski is

$$w = 4pR\rho(D_{SL} + D_{O_2}) [O_2]$$

which translates to EPR line-broadening as

$$Dw = k D_{O_2} [O_2]$$

