### Ventilatory, Electromyography, Muscle and Cerebral Thresholds During Incremental Cycling

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# The "Threshold" Phenomenon

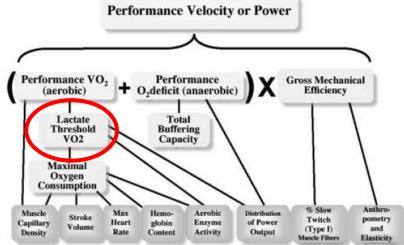
J Physiol 586.1 (2008) pp 35-44

TOPICAL REVIEW

# Endurance exercise performance: the physiology of champions

Michael J. Joyner<sup>1</sup> and Edward F. Coyle<sup>2</sup>





#### MORPHOLOGICAL COMPONENTS



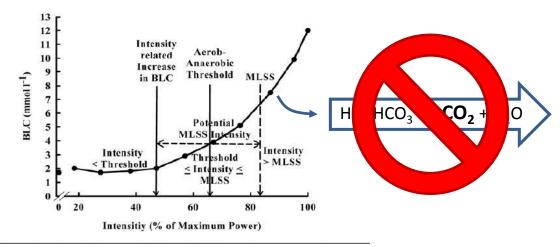


### Lactate and Ventilatory Thresholds (incremental test)

#### Blood Lactate Diagnostics in Exercise Testing and Training

#### Ralph Beneke, Renate M. Leithäuser, and Oliver Ochentel

International Journal of Sports Physiology and Performance, 2011, 6, 8-24



**Figure 1** — Example of BLC during INCP; the BLC does not increase during increasing power up to an intensity of 48%; at 4 mmol· $L^{-1}$  exercise intensity is 66%, which is lower than the MLSS intensity of 83% of maximum power at test termination.

#### Lactate Threshold Concepts How Valid are They?

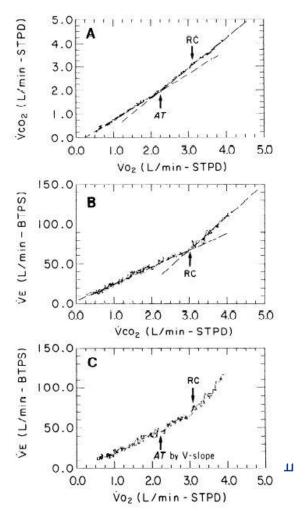
Oliver Faude,<sup>1,2</sup> Wilfried Kindermann<sup>2</sup> and Tim Meyer<sup>1,2</sup>

Sports Med 2009; 39 (6): 469-490 0112-1642/09/0006-0469/\$49.95/0

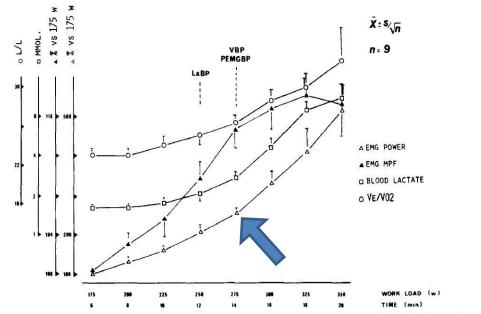
#### "A total of 25 LT concepts were located"

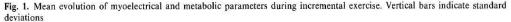
# A new method for detecting anaerobic threshold by gas exchange

WILLIAM L. BEAVER, KARLMAN WASSERMAN, AND BRIAN J. WHIPP



### **Electromyography threshold**





#### The aerobic-anaerobic transition: re-examination of the threshold concept including an electromyographic approach

J. N. Helal<sup>1</sup>, C. Y. Guezennec<sup>2</sup>, and F. Goubel<sup>1</sup>

Eur J Appl Physiol (1987) 56:643-649

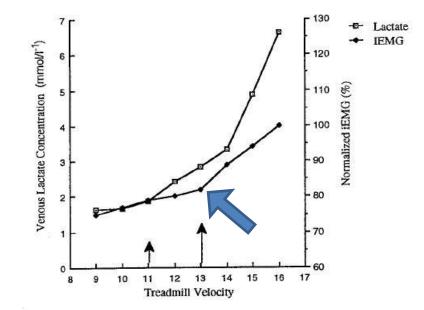


Fig. 6. Overlay graph of *iEMG* and venous lactate concentration vs treadmill velocity  $(km \cdot h^{-1})$  for subject 1

#### Electromyographic correlates of the transition from aerobic to anaerobic metabolism in treadmill running

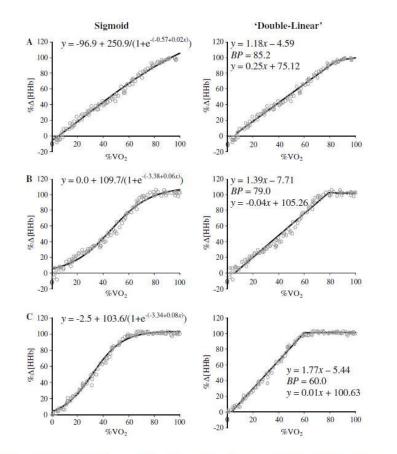
#### A. D. Taylor, R. Bronks

Eur J Appl Physiol (1994) 69:508-515



### **Near Infrared Spectroscopy (NIRS) Threshold**

De-oxyhaemoglobin + myoglobin [HHb] signal represents <u>balance</u> between  $O_2$  extraction/utilisation and convective  $O_2$  delivery



#### Characterizing the profile of muscle deoxygenation during ramp incremental exercise in young men

Matthew D. Spencer · Juan M. Murias · Donald H. Paterson

Dynamics of noninvasively estimated microvascular O<sub>2</sub> extraction during ramp exercise

Leonardo F. Ferreira,<sup>1</sup> Shunsaku Koga,<sup>2</sup> and Thomas J. Barstow<sup>1</sup> J Appl Physiol 103: 1999–2004, 2007.

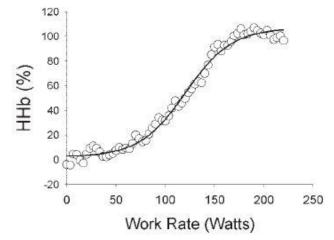


Fig. 2. Increase in deoxygenated hemoglobin + myoglobin (HHb) during incremental ramp exercise.  $\bigcirc$ , Deoxygenated hemoglobin and myoglobin [deoxy-(Hb+Mb)] data averaged every 10 s. Solid line, best regression fit from sigmoidal function (see METHODS). The deoxy-(Hb+Mb) data are normalized to the amplitude of response from baseline to peak exercise.



Eur J Appl Physiol (2012) 112:3349-3360

### **Cerebral Oxygenation Threshold**

Effects of acute hypoxia on cerebral and muscle oxygenation during

incremental exercise

Andrew W. Subudhi, Andrew C. Dimmen, and Robert C. Roach

J Appl Physiol 103: 177-183, 2007.

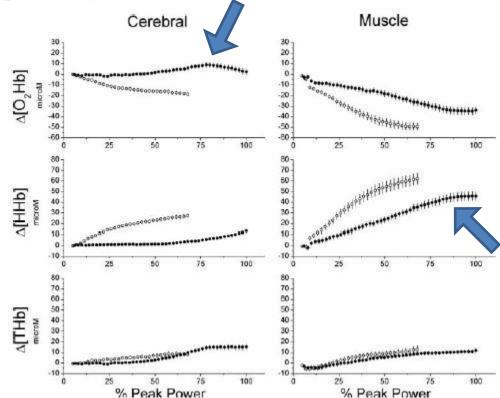


Fig. 1. Near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) concentration changes (means ± SE) during incremental exercise in normoxia (●) and hypoxia (○). All values are expressed relative to the peak power output achieved in normoxia.



### **Statement of Problem**

 No previous literature examines *simultaneously* the ventilatory, EMG, muscle and cerebral oxygenation thresholds during ramp incremental testing

### Aim

 Examine simultaneously the ventilatory, EMG, muscle and cerebral oxygenation thresholds during ramp incremental testing



# Methods

- Subjects
  - 25 recreational cyclists
    - Age: 37 ± 8 yr
    - Weight: 78 ± 13 kg
    - VO<sub>2max</sub>: 53 ± 8 ml/min/kg



- Procedures
  - 25 W/min ramp incremental test to volitional exhaustion (Excalibur, Lode)

#### Measures

- Breath x breath gas analysis (Cosmed Quark b<sup>2</sup>)
- 2000 Hz vastus lateralis, rectus femoris, biceps femoris EMG (BSL Pro, Biopac)
- 10 Hz vastus lateralis and pre-frontal cortex NIRS (Oxymon MkIII, Artinis)
  - [HHb] = deoxy-hemoglobin + myoglobin;  $[O_2Hb]$  = oxygenated hemoglobin + myoglobin
  - Bandpass filter: 30-500 Hz



## **Data Analysis**

#### Ventilatory thresholds

- 1. VT1: non-linear increase in VE/VO<sub>2</sub> without increase in VE/VCO<sub>2</sub>
- 2. VT2: second non-linear increase in VE/VO<sub>2</sub> with corresponding non-linear increase in VE/VCO<sub>2</sub>
- 3. Visual inspection

#### NIRS and EMG

- 1. Normalized to 100 points (1 point = 1% of exercise duration)
- 2. Individual muscle EMG root mean square (RMS) normalized to maximal activity during incremental test
- 3. Iterative double linear regression analysis solved for least sum of squares error: intersection of regression lines denotes threshold

#### • Statistics

- Shapiro-Wilk test for normality
- Mixed linear modeling (to accommodate missing data)
- Effect sizes using Cohen's d



### Results

#### EMG threshold (EMG-t)

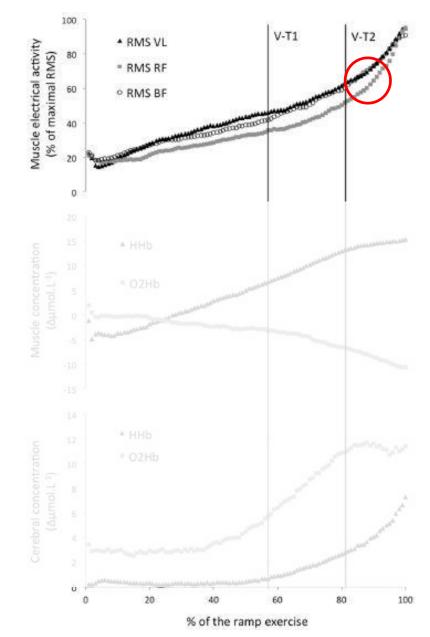
• Only one threshold identified (60-88% of measures)

#### Muscle de-oxygenation threshold (HHb-t)

• Only one threshold identified (64% of measures)

#### Cerebral oxygenation threshold (ннь-t)

80% of cases two cerebral thresholds were determined

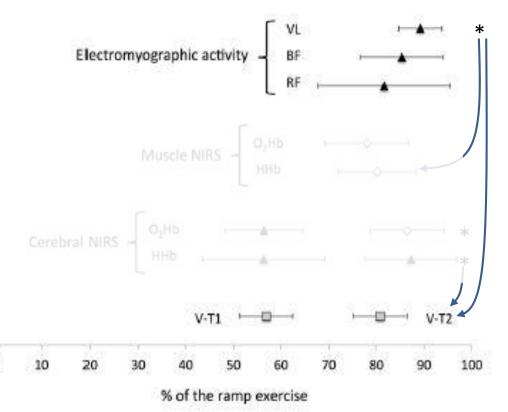


### Results

#### EMG threshold (EMG-t)

- EMG-t for **RF** and **BF** not significantly diff to VT2
- EMG-t for VL occurred after VT2 (*p*=0.004, *d* = 1.7) and also muscle HHb-t (*p*=0.006; *d*=1.7)

Muscle de-oxygenation threshold (HHb-t) HHb-t and O<sub>2</sub>Hb-t not sig diff to VT2 (*p*>0.15; *d*<0.4)

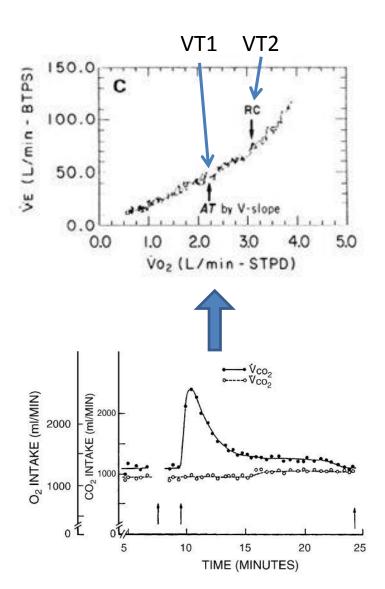


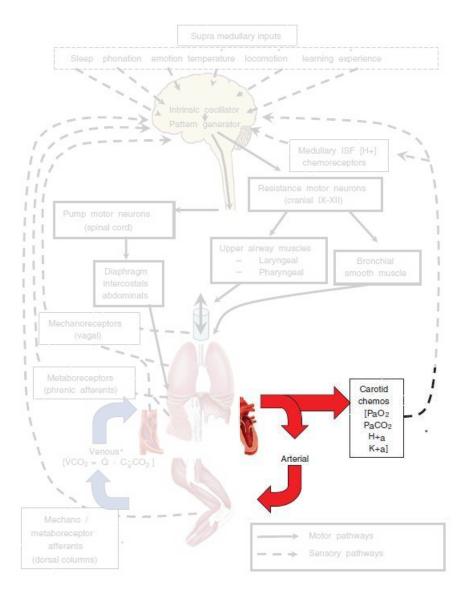
Cerebral oxygenation threshold (HHb-t)

- 1<sup>st</sup> threshold for [HHb] and [O<sub>2</sub>Hb] not different from VT1 (*p* > 0.86, *d* < 0.1)</li>
- 2<sup>nd</sup> threshold for [HHb] and [O<sub>2</sub>Hb] occurred later than VT2 (p < 0.02, d > 0.8)

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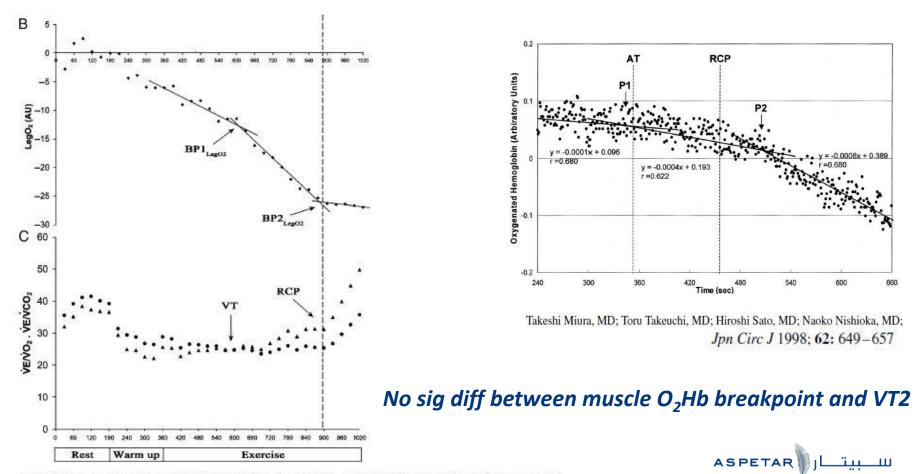
#### **Discussion: Ventilatory Threshold**





#### **Discussion: Muscle Oxygenation Threshold**

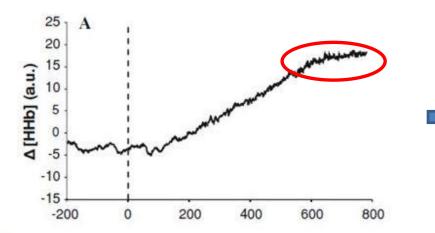
Muscle HHb and O<sub>2</sub>Hb breakpoints coincident with VT2



LEGRAND, R., A. MARLES, F. PRIEUR, S. LAZZARI, N. BLONDEL, and P. MUCCI. Related Trends in Locomotor and Respiratory Muscle Oxygenation during Exercise. *Med. Sci. Sports Exerc.*, Vol. 39, No. 1, pp. 91–100, 2007.

### **Discussion: Muscle De-Oxy Threshold**

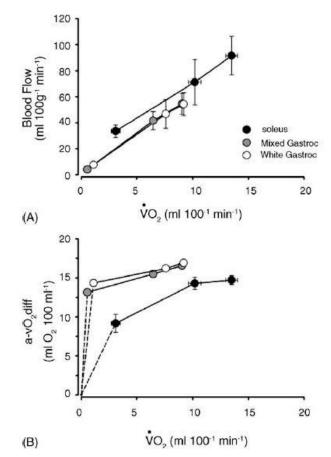
De-oxyhaemoglobin + myoglobin [HHb] signal represents balance between  $O_2$  extraction/utilisation and convective  $O_2$  delivery



Characterizing the profile of muscle deoxygenation during ramp incremental exercise in young men

Matthew D. Spencer · Juan M. Murias · Donald H. Paterson

Eur J Appl Physiol (2012) 112:3349-3360



Blood flow and  $O_2$  extraction as a function of  $O_2$  uptake in muscles composed of different fiber types

Leonardo F. Ferreira<sup>a,b</sup>, Paul McDonough<sup>c</sup>, Brad J. Behnke<sup>d</sup>, Timothy I. Musch<sup>a,b</sup>, David C. Poole<sup>a,b,\*</sup>

Respiratory Physiology & Neurobiology 153 (2006) 237-249

# **Discussion: EMG Threshold**

- BF and RF EMG-t coincident with VT2
- VL EMG-t occurred after VT2

#### Fatigue $\rightarrow$ additional MU recruitment Henneman size principle $\rightarrow$ type II MU recruitment

# Vastus Lateralis Herenandelin for the second secon

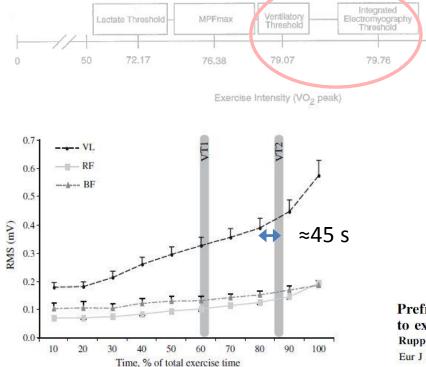
**Fig. 7.** Flow chart of the order of physiological events on an exercise intensity continuum. Mean data for subjects 1–10

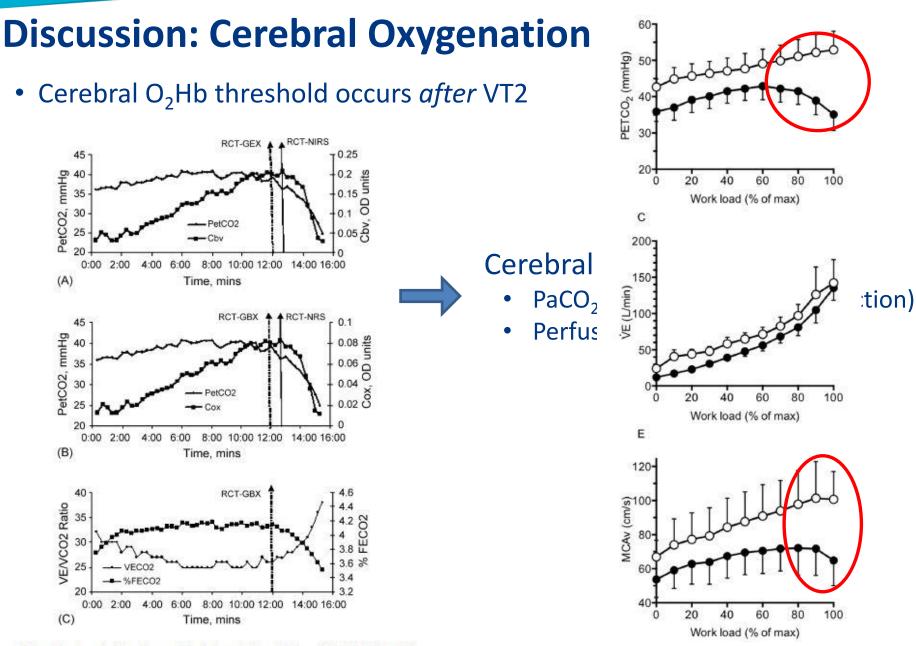
Electromyographic correlates of the transition from aerobic to anaerobic metabolism in treadmill running

A. D. Taylor, R. Bronks

Eur J Appl Physiol (1994) 69:508-515

Prefrontal cortex oxygenation and neuromuscular responses to exhaustive exercise Rupp Thomas · Perrey Stephane Eur J Appl Physiol (2008) 102:153–163





Y. Bhambhani et al. / Respiratory Physiology & Neurobiology 156 (2007) 196-202

# **Summary and Conclusions**

Threshold behaviour during incremental ramp exercise reflects central feed-forward

and rapid neural feedback mechanisms to increase  $V_E$ 



Reduced O<sub>2</sub> extraction and plateauing of HHb signal coincident with type II MU recruitment

Type II MU recruitment and subsequent rapid onset fatigue reflected by t-EMG

Decreasing  $PaCO_2 \rightarrow cerebral vasoconstriction and <math display="inline">\downarrow CBF$ 

 $\downarrow$  cerebral O<sub>2</sub>Hb signal

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### **Practical application = non-invasive monitoring**





