

Apparent K_m of mitochondria for oxygen computed from V_{max} measured in permeabilized muscle fibers is lower in water enriched in oxygen by electrolysis than injection

Joffrey Zoll¹
Jamal Bouitbir¹
Pascal Sirvent²
Alexis Klein³
Antoine Charton^{1,4}
Liliana Jimenez³
François R Péronnet⁵
Bernard Geny¹
Ruddy Richard⁶

¹Physiology Department, Faculty of Medicine and EA3072, Université de Strasbourg, Strasbourg, ²Clermont Université, Université Blaise Pascal, EA 3533, Laboratoire des Adaptations Métaboliques à l'Exercice en Conditions Physiologiques et Pathologiques, Clermont-Ferrand, ³Danone Research, Centre Daniel Carasso, Palaiseau, ⁴Department of Anesthesia and Critical Care and EA3072, Hôpital de Hautepierre, Université de Strasbourg, France; ⁵Kinesiology Department, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC, Canada; ⁶Department of Sport Medicine and Functional Explorations and INRA UMR 1019, Faculty of Medicine, Université d'Auvergne, Clermont-Ferrand, France

Background: It has been suggested that oxygen (O_2) diffusion could be favored in water enriched in O_2 by a new electrolytic process because of O_2 trapping in water superstructures (clathrates), which could reduce the local pressure/content relationships for O_2 and facilitate O_2 diffusion along PO_2 gradients.

Materials and methods: Mitochondrial respiration was compared in situ in saponin-skinned fibers isolated from the soleus muscles of Wistar rats, in solution enriched in O_2 by injection or the electrolytic process 1) at an O_2 concentration decreasing from 240 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ to 10 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (132 mmHg to 5 mmHg), with glutamate-malate or N, N, N', N'-tetramethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine dihydrochloride (TMPD)-ascorbate (with antimycin A) as substrates; and 2) at increasing adenosine diphosphate (ADP) concentration with glutamate-malate as substrate.

Results: As expected, maximal respiration decreased with O_2 concentration and, when compared to glutamate-malate, the apparent K_m O_2 of mitochondria for O_2 was significantly lower with TMPD-ascorbate with both waters. However, when compared to the water enriched in O_2 by injection, the K_m O_2 was significantly lower with both electron donors in water enriched in O_2 by electrolysis. This was not associated with any increase in the sensitivity of mitochondria to ADP; no significant difference was observed for the K_m ADP between the two waters.

Conclusion: In this experiment, a higher affinity of the mitochondria for O_2 was observed in water enriched in O_2 by electrolysis than by injection. This observation is consistent with the hypothesis that O_2 diffusion can be facilitated in water enriched in O_2 by the electrolytic process.

Keywords: saponin-skinned fibers, mitochondrial respiration, glutamate-malate, TMPD-ascorbate, K_m O_2

Introduction

In the course of studying the possible biological effects of a water enriched in oxygen (O_2) by a new electrolytic process,¹ we have recently shown that, when compared to water enriched in O_2 by injection, intragastric administration of water enriched in O_2 by electrolysis lessened the slow decline in peripheral tissue oxygenation observed in anesthetized pigs.² This observation is consistent with the hypothesis that O_2 diffusion can be facilitated in waters enriched in O_2 by electrolysis. It has been hypothesized that this phenomenon could be due to the fact that the electrolytic process could generate water superstructures similar to clathrates,³⁻⁵ which could trap O_2 molecules and reduce local pressure/content relationships for O_2 , thus facilitating O_2 diffusion along PO_2 gradients. Interestingly, a series of studies conducted in vitro and in animal

Correspondence: Ruddy Richard
Service de Médecine du Sport et des
Explorations Fonctionnelles, CHU G,
Montpied, 58 rue Montalembert, 63003
Clermont-Ferrand Cedex 1, France
Email richard.ruddy@gmail.com

models suggests that isotonic saline submitted to a process involving Taylor–Couette–Poiseuille flow in the presence of O₂ (electrokinetically modified water [EMW]) can interfere with cell signaling pathways involved in inflammation, cell death, and survival, and could have beneficial effects in various situations where inflammation is present.^{6–11} In human, EMW tends to increase VO₂max and reduces the rate of perceived exertion during aerobic exercise,⁷ significantly reduces muscle fatigue during resistance exercise,¹² and prevents or attenuates muscle damage and inflammation in both types of exercise.^{12–14} The authors hypothesized that these biological effects of EMW can also be due to the fact that this water could contain “charge-stabilized nanostructures”.

The objective of the present study was to further investigate the biological effects of water enriched in O₂ by electrolysis by comparing mitochondrial respiration (Vmax) studied in situ in permeabilized muscle fibers¹⁵ in waters enriched by injection and by the electrolytic process. The observations were made over a wide range of PO₂ and O₂ concentrations in order to compute the apparent K_m of mitochondria for O₂. Since the rate of O₂ consumption by mitochondria depends on the flux of both O₂ and electrons,¹⁶ the experiments were performed with glutamate–malate, as well as with tetramethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine (TMPD)–ascorbate, an artificial substrate that provides electrons to complex IV of the respiratory chain at a much larger rate than glutamate–malate.¹⁷ Under the hypothesis that O₂ diffusion is facilitated in water enriched in O₂ by the electrolytic process, when compared to the water enriched in O₂ by injection, K_m will be lower with both electron donors and the difference will be larger with TMPD–ascorbate than with glutamate–malate because of the higher flux of electrons. We also verified that the possible differences in mitochondrial respiration between the two waters and the two electron donors were not due to differences in the affinity of mitochondria to adenosine diphosphate (ADP) by measuring the apparent K_m of mitochondria for ADP.

Materials and methods

Animal procedures were conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki and were approved by our local ethics committee Comité Régional d’Éthique en Matière d’Expérimentation Animale, (CREMEAS).

Mitochondrial respiration was studied in situ in muscle fibers permeabilized with saponin.^{15,18,19} As reviewed in detail by Kuznetsov et al,¹⁵ saponin is a detergent with a large affinity for cholesterol, which specifically destroys the cholesterol-rich sarcolemma (0.5 mmol cholesterol/mmol phospholipids) without altering the cholesterol-poor

mitochondrial membrane (0.07 and 0.01 cholesterol/mmol phospholipids for the outer and inner mitochondrial membranes, respectively). The end result is a preparation with intracellular structures that are intact (mitochondrion, endoplasmic reticulum, myofilaments, and cytoskeleton) within an intracellular space devoid of all solutes, which have been washed out, and in equilibrium with the incubation milieu.

Male Wistar rats (body mass ~300 g) were anesthetized (sodium pentobarbitate: 0.2 g/100 g body mass, intraperitoneally) and the soleus muscles were removed and placed in solution S (as will be discussed). Muscle fibers were immediately separated under binocular microscope and permeabilized with 50 µg/mL of saponin for 30 minutes at 4°C. After being placed for 10 minutes in solution R (as will be discussed) to wash out adenine nucleotides and creatine, skinned separated fibers were transferred in a 3 mL water-jacketed oxygraphic cell (Strathkelvin Instruments Limited, North Lanarkshire, Scotland) equipped with a Clark electrode, as previously described.²⁰

Solutions R and S (prepared from tap water demineralized by reverse osmosis and then remineralized with Na₂SO₄ + Na₃PO₄·12H₂O) both contained 2.77 mM of CaK₂EGTA, 7.23 mM of K₂EGTA (100 nM of free Ca²⁺), 6.56 mM of MgCl₂ (1 mM of free Mg²⁺), 20 mM of taurine, 0.5 mM of dithiothreitol, 50 mM of potassium methanesulfonate (160 mM ionic strength), and 20 mM of imidazole (pH 7.1). Solution S also contained 5.7 mM of Na₂ATP and 15 mM of creatine phosphate, while solution R contained 5 mM of glutamate, 2 mM of malate, 3 mM of phosphate, and 2 mg/mL of fatty acid-free bovine serum.

Mitochondrial respiration was measured in situ in solution R at 22°C starting with an initial O₂ concentration of 240 µmol/L (PO₂=133 mmHg).²¹ In the solution used as control, this concentration was obtained by injection. In the experimental solution, this concentration was obtained by electrolysis.¹ In this process, remineralized water is pumped between two electrodes separated by a membrane permeable to electrical charges but not to gases, and the water enriched in O₂, which is recovered on the negative electrode (pH=7.1–7.2; conductivity=750–770 µS/cm; 4,375–5,000 µmol O₂/L), is used to prepare the final product. Both solutions, which were supplied by Danone Research, (Palaiseau, France), were prepared from demineralized water, which was remineralized with Na⁺ (200 mg/L), SO₄²⁻ (250 mg/L), and PO₄²⁻ (240 mg/L). It was suspected that the electrolytic process could produce ozone which, in turn, could interfere with mitochondrial function through the generation of reactive oxygen species. However, in line with the observation that

ozone is quickly converted into O_2 ($2 O_3 \rightarrow 3 O_2$, with a half-life of only about 20 minutes), and because the solution enriched by electrolysis was prepared and conserved in sealed bottles several weeks before the experiment, the level of ozone was found to be very low ($6.8 \pm 5.5 \mu\text{g/L}$).

In the first series of experiments, after the determination of basal O_2 consumption (nonstimulated respiration, V_0), V_{max} was measured under continuous stirring in the presence of saturating amounts of ADP (2 mM) as a phosphate acceptor and glutamate–malate as substrates (5 mM and 2 mM). The V_{max} was monitored until the O_2 content decreased from the initial value of $240 \mu\text{mol/L}$ to $10 \mu\text{mol/L}$, corresponding to a PO_2 of 5 mmHg²¹ – ie, a value close to the range of PO_2 estimated in muscle cells (2–4 mmHg).²² In the second series of experiments, the protocol was similar, but complex III of the respiratory chain was blocked with antimycin A (6.5 μM), and *N, N, N', N'*-tetramethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine dihydrochloride (TMPD; 0.5 mM) and ascorbate (0.5 mM) were added as artificial electron donor to cytochrome c. In the third series of experiments, mitochondrial respiration was measured at increasing concentrations of ADP (from $2.5 \mu\text{mol/L}$ to 1.5 mmol/L) and decreasing PO_2 (from the initial value of $240 \mu\text{mol/L}$ to final values $<10 \mu\text{mol/L}$ at the end of titration) using glutamate–malate as substrates (5 mM and 2 mM) and without creatine. Each of the first and second series of experiments was conducted on 12 preparations, while the third series of experiments was conducted on eleven preparations. Each preparation was obtained from a different animal.

In all the preparations, at the end of each experiment, cytochrome c was added to the oxygraphic cell. No increase in O_2 consumption was observed in any of the preparations, confirming the integrity of the outer mitochondrial membrane.²³ In addition, the acceptor control ratio (V_{max}/V_0) was computed for each preparation in the first series of experiments (glutamate–malate as substrates) and was found to be 3.7 ± 0.3 , which is in good agreement with values reported in the literature.^{24–26}

The fibers were then harvested and dried, and respiration rates were expressed as $\mu\text{mol } O_2/\text{min/g}$ dry weight.

All reagents were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co. (St Louis, MO, USA), except ADP, which was obtained from Boehringer Ingelheim (Ingelheim, Germany).

Data are reported as the mean $\pm$ standard deviation. The apparent K_m of mitochondria for O_2 (for the two types of water and with the two electron donors) and for ADP (for the two types of water and glutamate–malate) were calculated using nonlinear regression of the individual relationships between O_2 or ADP concentration and V_{max} , using a

Lineweaver–Burk plot. The apparent K_m for O_2 ($K_m O_2$) was compared using a two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) (water $\times$ electron donor), while the apparent K_m for ADP for the two waters was compared using one-way ANOVA. The level of significance was set at 0.05. All data are available in the Supplementary materials.

Results

Figure 1A shows the increase in V_{max} with O_2 concentration measured for the two types of water and the two electron donors. As shown in Figure 1B, the $K_m O_2$ computed from these curves was significantly lower in the solution enriched in O_2 by electrolysis than by injection, both with glutamate–malate ($36.1 \pm 9.2 \mu\text{mol/L}$ versus $53.3 \pm 10.1 \mu\text{mol/L}$, respectively; $P < 0.001$) and TMPD–ascorbate as substrates ($52.8 \pm 11.4 \mu\text{mol/L}$ and $90.3 \pm 10.7 \mu\text{mol/L}$, respectively; $P < 0.001$). The difference in $K_m O_2$ between the two waters cannot be computed for each preparation and, consequently, no statistical comparisons can be made. However, the average difference was larger with TMPD–ascorbate ($37.5 \mu\text{mol/L}$ or a 41% difference) than with glutamate–malate ($17.2 \mu\text{mol/L}$, or a 32% difference).

No significant difference was observed for the apparent K_m of mitochondria for ADP: $328 \pm 67 \mu\text{mol/L}$ and $303 \pm 70 \mu\text{mol/L}$ ($P = 0.4$) between the water enriched in O_2 by injection and electrolysis, respectively (Figure 2).

Discussion

Results from the present experiment show that, when compared to a solution enriched in O_2 by injection, the apparent affinity for O_2 of the mitochondria was higher in a solution enriched in O_2 by the electrolytic process, the difference being larger with TMPD–ascorbate than glutamate–malate as electron donors. This observation is consistent with the hypothesis that O_2 diffusion can be facilitated in water enriched in O_2 by electrolysis.

As expected, V_{max} increased with O_2 concentration in a curvilinear fashion toward a plateau and was significantly higher with TMPD–ascorbate than with glutamate–malate, the difference decreasing slightly with O_2 concentration ($\sim 14.3 \mu\text{mol } O_2/\text{min/g}$ versus $7.8 \mu\text{mol } O_2/\text{min/g}$ at $240 \mu\text{mol/L}$, or a 75% difference; $\sim 2.6 \mu\text{mol } O_2/\text{min/g}$ versus $1.8 \mu\text{mol } O_2/\text{min/g}$ at $10 \mu\text{mol/L}$, or a 45% difference) (Figure 1A). The reduction in V_{max} with O_2 concentration was larger than that reported by Gnaiger and Kuznetsov²⁷ with succinate and TMPD–ascorbate in isolated mitochondria because the apparent K_m of cytochrome oxidase (COX) for O_2 has been shown to be higher in saponin-skinned muscle fibers. As for the

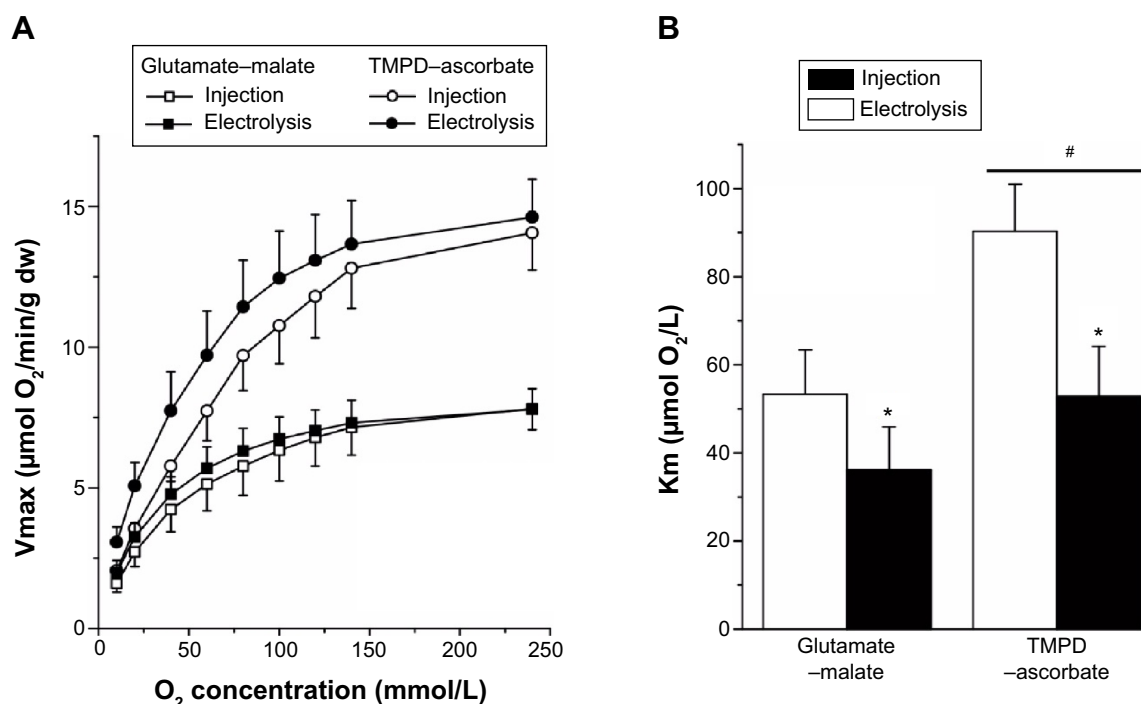


Figure 1 Vmax in solutions enriched in O₂ by injection and electrolysis for O₂ concentrations, as well as apparent Km of the mitochondria for O₂ with the two waters and two electron donors.

Notes: (A) Vmax in solutions enriched in O₂ by injection and electrolysis for O₂ concentrations ranging between 10 μmol/L and 240 μmol/L in rat permeabilized soleus muscle fibers with glutamate-malate and TMPD-ascorbate as substrates. (B) Apparent Km of the mitochondria for O₂ with the two waters and the two electron donors. Mean ± standard deviation; n=12; #statistically different from glutamate-malate and *from injection, P<0.05.

Abbreviations: dw, dry weight; TMPD, tetramethyl-p-phenylenediamine; n, number.

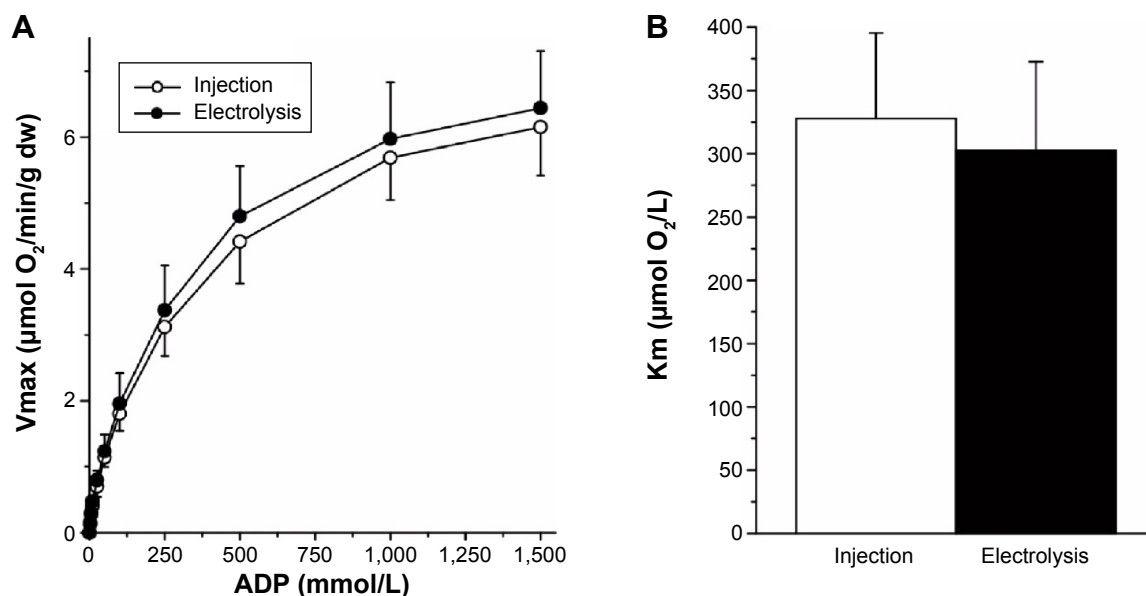


Figure 2 Vmax in solutions enriched in O₂ by injection and electrolysis at increasing ADP concentrations, and apparent Km of the mitochondria for ADP with the two waters.

Notes: (A) Vmax in solutions enriched in O₂ by injection and electrolysis at increasing ADP concentrations in rat permeabilized soleus muscle fibers with glutamate-malate as substrates. (B) Apparent Km of the mitochondria for ADP with the two waters. Mean ± standard deviation; n=11; no significant difference was observed between the two waters.

Abbreviations: dw, dry weight; ADP, adenosine diphosphate; n, number.

difference observed between glutamate–malate and TMPD–ascorbate, this phenomenon is known as the “cytochrome oxidase excess”¹⁶ and indicates that when O₂ availability is very high, electron supply from glutamate–malate through the respiratory chain is much lower than could be processed by COX: when electrons are directly supplied to COX at a larger rate from TMPD–ascorbate, V_{max} reaches higher values. However, the difference between the two electron donors decreased with O₂ concentration. This observation is due to the fact that the control of O₂ consumption in complex IV of the respiratory chain at any O₂ concentration and over the range of electron supply by glutamate–malate and TMDP–ascorbate is shared by the availability of both O₂ and electrons; when compared to glutamate–malate, in spite of the much larger electron flux from TMPD–ascorbate, the difference in V_{max} between the two substrates decreases with O₂ supply.

The main result from the present experiment is that for both electron donors, when compared to the water enriched in O₂ by injection, a left shift in O₂ consumption by the mitochondria was observed with the water enriched in O₂ by electrolysis. V_{max} plateau values were similar at the highest O₂ concentration for a given electron donor (7.8 μmol O₂/min/g for both water with glutamate–malate; 14.2 μmol O₂/min/g and 14.7 μmol O₂/min/g for water enriched in O₂ by electrolysis and injection, respectively). However, for any given V_{max}, consistently lower O₂ concentrations were needed with the water enriched in O₂ by electrolysis in the steepest portion of the curve, the difference between the two waters being slightly larger with TMPD–ascorbate than glutamate–malate as substrates. As a consequence, when compared to the water enriched in O₂ by injection, the shift in the apparent K_m O₂ of the mitochondria with the water enriched in O₂ by electrolysis was also larger.

The higher affinity of the mitochondria for O₂ in water enriched in O₂ by electrolysis was not associated with any increase in the sensitivity of the mitochondrial respiration to ADP since the apparent K_m for ADP measured with glutamate–malate remained unaffected by the type of water used to prepare the solution. In addition, this phenomenon was observed with glutamate–malate, which provides electrons to COX through complex I to III of the respiratory chain complex, but also with TMDP–ascorbate, which directly provides electrons to COX. The reduction in the apparent K_m of mitochondria in water enriched in O₂ by injection thus suggests that for a given O₂ concentration, O₂ flux to COX is facilitated in the solution enriched in O₂ with the electrolytic process. This phenomenon is not observed with any of

the two electron donors at high O₂ content because in these situations, the control of O₂ consumption by COX depends mainly on the availability of electrons. It is only observed at lower O₂ concentrations where the rate of O₂ consumption by COX mainly depends on the availability of O₂, and it was higher with TMPD–ascorbate, which supplies a larger flux of electrons than does glutamate–malate.

Conclusion

These findings are in line with our recent observation in pigs using intragastric administration of water enriched in O₂ that, when compared to the water enriched in O₂ by injection, the decrease in transcutaneous O₂ pressure, which develops during anesthesia, was slower with the water enriched in O₂ by electrolysis.² Although the mechanisms behind these observations have to be elucidated, they are consistent with the hypothesis that O₂ diffusion could be facilitated in water enriched in O₂ by electrolysis.

Disclosure

François Péronnet and Ruddy Richard are occasional consultants for Danone Research. Alexis Klein and Liliana Jimenez are employees of Danone Research. The authors report no further conflicts of interest in this work.

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Supplementary materials

Table S1 Individual values of oxygen consumption, in $\mu\text{mol O}_2/\text{min/g dw}$, and apparent affinity for oxygen ($K_m \text{ O}_2$) of mitochondria in permeabilized muscle fiber preparations at decreasing O_2 content (from 240 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ to 10 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) in solution enriched in O_2 by injection with glutamate–malate as an electron donor

Experiment number	Oxygen content in $\mu\text{mol/L}$									Km
	240	140	120	100	80	60	40	20	10	
1	8.97	8.81	8.43	8.10	7.41	6.78	5.53	3.71	2.20	36.77
2	7.04	6.19	5.84	5.38	4.84	4.27	3.49	2.18	1.31	63.00
3	7.50	6.55	6.18	5.33	4.99	4.66	3.83	2.50	1.50	58.06
4	7.18	6.44	5.89	5.48	4.87	4.28	3.57	2.34	1.43	62.01
5	7.59	6.75	6.39	5.88	5.29	4.69	3.81	2.49	1.49	59.00
6	7.75	7.34	6.98	6.54	5.76	4.88	3.97	2.58	1.36	58.93
7	8.45	8.19	7.96	7.56	7.16	6.05	5.12	3.18	1.75	42.11
8	7.13	6.41	5.95	5.44	4.98	4.54	3.95	2.35	1.34	53.72
9	7.95	7.21	6.78	6.27	5.68	5.13	4.22	2.75	1.66	52.24
10	8.24	7.34	7.02	6.63	6.02	5.46	4.56	2.94	1.85	46.49
11	6.88	5.79	5.54	5.17	4.76	4.07	3.15	2.06	1.21	68.28
12	9.05	8.72	8.47	8.12	7.51	6.79	5.52	3.51	2.04	39.18
Mean	7.81	7.15	6.79	6.33	5.77	5.13	4.23	2.72	1.60	53.32
SD	0.74	0.99	1.02	1.09	1.04	0.95	0.79	0.52	0.31	10.12

Abbreviations: dw, dry weight; SD, standard deviation.

Table S2 Individual values of oxygen consumption, in $\mu\text{mol O}_2/\text{min/g dw}$, and apparent affinity for oxygen ($K_m \text{ O}_2$) of mitochondria in permeabilized muscle fiber preparations at decreasing O_2 content (from 240 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ to 10 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) in solution enriched in O_2 by injection with TMPD–ascorbate as an electron donor

Experiment number	Oxygen content in $\mu\text{mol/L}$									Km
	240	140	120	100	80	60	40	20	10	
1	13.29	12.28	11.18	10.38	9.38	7.95	6.05	3.42	1.72	78.52
2	14.11	12.40	10.48	9.45	8.40	6.25	5.15	3.87	2.51	121.00
3	13.83	11.46	10.60	9.96	9.01	7.03	5.76	3.87	2.03	90.75
4	12.09	11.50	10.15	9.00	8.46	6.45	5.02	3.63	1.98	85.00
5	13.48	12.41	12.05	11.26	10.07	8.27	5.67	3.07	1.88	79.92
6	16.51	15.51	14.38	13.15	12.02	9.41	6.68	3.81	2.01	89.64
7	15.22	14.13	12.98	11.98	10.54	8.97	6.15	3.66	2.25	86.99
8	13.36	11.72	10.99	10.01	8.88	7.44	5.48	3.22	1.99	90.74
9	14.55	13.22	12.88	11.12	10.03	7.93	6.12	3.75	2.36	86.84
10	13.02	11.82	10.75	9.94	8.99	6.87	5.26	3.21	1.79	94.04
11	16.12	15.24	14.18	12.97	11.85	9.07	6.54	3.78	2.24	88.14
12	13.15	11.86	10.95	9.89	8.75	7.12	5.37	3.35	1.97	92.03
Mean	14.06	12.80	11.80	10.76	9.70	7.73	5.77	3.55	2.06	90.30
SD	1.32	1.42	1.47	1.35	1.24	1.05	0.54	0.29	0.23	10.71

Abbreviations: dw, dry weight; TMPD, tetramethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine; SD, standard deviation.

Table S3 Individual values of oxygen consumption, in $\mu\text{mol O}_2/\text{min/g dw}$, and apparent affinity for oxygen ($K_m \text{ O}_2$) of mitochondria in permeabilized muscle fiber preparations at decreasing O_2 content (from 240 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ to 10 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) in solution enriched in O_2 by electrolysis with glutamate–malate as electron donor

Experiment number	Oxygen content in $\mu\text{mol/L}$									K_m
	240	140	120	100	80	60	40	20	10	
1	7.13	6.61	6.41	6.10	5.70	5.21	4.53	3.50	2.45	25.52
2	8.98	8.82	8.01	7.84	7.39	6.67	5.48	3.67	2.11	37.51
3	7.39	6.72	6.54	6.31	5.79	5.28	4.59	3.57	2.42	27.02
4	6.87	6.35	5.99	5.64	5.12	4.42	3.54	2.22	1.21	57.53
5	7.49	6.91	6.59	6.25	5.77	5.21	4.55	3.54	2.39	29.24
6	8.34	8.02	7.78	7.44	7.04	6.37	5.18	3.57	2.13	34.21
7	9.18	8.55	8.38	8.13	7.69	6.99	5.75	3.68	2.34	34.63
8	6.99	6.46	6.22	5.86	5.41	4.76	3.95	2.38	1.25	49.43
9	7.61	7.08	6.88	6.58	6.13	5.52	4.65	3.22	1.85	35.74
10	7.75	7.31	7.11	6.77	6.40	5.83	4.89	3.36	2.01	33.02
11	7.88	7.39	7.19	6.95	6.55	6.05	5.19	3.45	2.06	30.99
12	7.81	7.46	7.28	7.05	6.68	5.95	4.91	3.01	1.60	38.48
Mean	7.79	7.31	7.03	6.74	6.31	5.69	4.77	3.26	1.99	36.11
SD	0.73	0.80	0.74	0.78	0.80	0.77	0.62	0.49	0.43	9.18

Abbreviations: dw, dry weight; SD, standard deviation.

Table S4 Individual values of oxygen consumption, in $\mu\text{mol O}_2/\text{min/g dw}$, and apparent affinity for oxygen ($K_m \text{ O}_2$) of mitochondria in permeabilized muscle fiber preparations at decreasing O_2 content (from 240 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ to 10 $\mu\text{mol/L}$) in solution enriched in O_2 by electrolysis with TMPD–ascorbate as electron donor

Experiment number	Oxygen content in $\mu\text{mol/L}$									K_m
	240	140	120	100	80	60	40	20	10	
1	14.84	14.42	13.12	13.02	12.05	8.90	6.83	4.54	3.11	63.00
2	12.26	10.63	10.10	9.45	8.67	7.45	5.94	3.89	2.27	62.40
3	14.86	13.85	12.96	11.65	10.28	8.47	6.58	4.28	2.46	78.19
4	15.15	14.50	13.88	13.25	12.28	10.76	8.66	5.63	3.58	42.84
5	14.15	13.78	13.23	12.33	11.20	10.01	7.88	4.99	3.18	46.99
6	16.78	15.99	15.87	15.75	14.68	13.00	10.69	6.79	4.07	34.97
7	16.54	15.55	15.01	14.15	13.21	11.55	9.45	6.22	3.54	43.89
8	12.33	11.07	10.26	9.92	8.97	7.59	6.02	4.35	2.29	57.52
9	14.48	13.40	13.02	12.26	11.44	9.61	7.68	4.95	2.98	50.8
10	14.31	13.24	12.91	12.08	11.01	9.25	7.36	4.77	2.94	54.27
11	15.00	13.78	13.44	12.82	11.84	10.05	7.96	5.34	3.25	48.45
12	14.72	13.76	13.19	12.66	11.55	9.84	7.79	5.09	3.13	50.28
Mean	14.62	13.66	13.08	12.45	11.43	9.71	7.74	5.07	3.07	52.80
SD	1.35	1.55	1.63	1.68	1.66	1.58	1.38	0.83	0.54	11.38

Abbreviations: dw, dry weight; TMPD, tetramethyl-*p*-phenylenediamine; SD, standard deviation.

Table S5 Individual values of Vmax, in $\mu\text{mol O}_2/\text{min/g dw}$, and apparent affinity of mitochondria for ADP (Km ADP, in $\mu\text{mol/L}$) in permeabilized muscle fiber preparations in solution enriched in O_2 by injection or electrolysis with glutamate–malate as electron donor

Experiment number	Injection		Experiment number	Electrolysis	
	Vmax	Km		Vmax	Km
1	5.85	321.5	1	6.64	285.8
2	7.92	298.0	2	9.68	230.7
3	6.80	449.0	3	7.94	220.3
4	8.32	407.8	4	6.76	231.6
5	9.08	418.4	5	7.60	299.5
6	7.94	295.6	6	6.90	233.6
7	6.56	275.6	7	9.11	384.5
8	7.28	328.8	8	7.64	322.5
9	6.95	289.7	9	8.11	316.3
10	6.92	237.8	10	6.67	413.0
11	8.38	284.8	11	7.58	391.0
Mean	7.45	327.9	Mean	7.69	302.6
SD	0.95	67.4	SD	0.99	70.2

Abbreviations: dw, dry weight; ADP, adenosine diphosphate; SD, standard deviation.

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