

# Key

## Additional Problems: Oxygen Transport

Please use in  
room 153. You  
may borrow for  
up to 1 hour  
for copying.

Thales  
AR

1)  $Y = \frac{P_{O_2}^n}{P_{O_2}^n + P_{CO_2}^n}$   $n=1$ ,  $P_{CO_2} = 1\text{ torr}$ ,  $P_{O_2} = 2.43\text{ torr}$

$$Y = \frac{2.43}{2.43+1.00} = \underline{0.708}$$

or  $P_{O_2} = 5.5\text{ torr}$   
 $Y = \frac{5.5}{5.5+1.0} = \underline{0.85}$

2)  $n=2.8$ ,  $P_{CO_2} = 26\text{ torr}$   $P_{O_2} = 15.0\text{ torr}$  or  $87.5\text{ torr}$

$$Y = \frac{(15.0)^{2.8}}{(15.0)^{2.8} + (26)^{2.8}} \quad | \quad Y = \frac{(87.5)^{2.8}}{(87.5)^{2.8} + (26)^{2.8}}$$

$$Y = \underline{0.18}$$

$$Y = \underline{0.97}$$

3) a)  $\Delta Y = Y_{\text{lungs}} - Y_{\text{tissues}} = \frac{100^{2.8}}{100^{2.8} + 26^{2.8}} - \frac{20^{2.8}}{20^{2.8} + 26^{2.8}} =$   
 $= 0.98 - 0.32 = \underline{0.66}$

b) 100 molecules of Hb is 400 subunits or 400 O<sub>2</sub>-binding sites. On average, 58% of these sites will fill in the lung, & only 32% will remain filled after passing through tissues.

So the capacity to deliver O<sub>2</sub> is 66% of the number of carrier sites:  $400 \times .66 = 264$  O<sub>2</sub> molecules.  
 264 mmol O<sub>2</sub> delivered per 100 mmol Hb tetramers.

4. a) noncooperativity  $\Rightarrow n=1$   $\Delta Y = \frac{100}{100+26} - \frac{20}{20+26} = \underline{0.35}^*$

b) Mutations at subunit interfaces might affect cooperativity. But because of the complexity of the cooperative mechanism, it's hard to rule out other sites. Probably not surface residues or hemi-binding residues

\* transport reduced by half about

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5. a)  $n = 2.8 \quad P_{50} = 10 \text{ torr}$

$$\Delta Y = \frac{100^{2.8}}{100^{2.8} + 10^{2.8}} - \frac{20^{2.8}}{20^{2.8} + 10^{2.8}} = 0.99 - 0.87 = 0.12$$

(transport reduced by about 80%)

b) Mutation at BPG binding site might lower affinity for BPG, thus lowering  $P_{50}$ .

6. See next page

$$6. a) Y_A = \frac{a}{a+P_{50}} \quad Y_B = \frac{b}{b+P_{50}} \quad \text{Let } P = P_{50} \text{ (to save writing)}$$

$$\Delta Y = \frac{a}{a+P} - \frac{b}{b+P} = \frac{a(b+P) - b(a+P)}{(a+P)(b+P)}$$

now, simplify:

$$\Delta Y = \frac{ab + aP - ab - bP}{ab + aP + bP + P^2} = \frac{P(a-b)}{P^2 + P(a+b) + ab}$$

take derivatives with respect to  $P$ . ( $a$  and  $b$  are constants)

$$\frac{d\Delta Y}{dP} = \frac{(P^2 + P(a+b) + ab)(a-b) - P(a-b)(2P + a+b)}{(P^2 + P(a+b) + ab)^2} *$$

If  $\frac{x}{y} = 0$  then  $x = 0$ , so  $\frac{d\Delta Y}{dP} = 0$  if the numerator = 0.

$$(a-b)[P^2 + P(a+b) + ab - 2P^2 - aP - bP] = 0$$

if  $a \neq b$ , then  $a-b \neq 0$ , so term in brackets = 0.

$$P^2 + P(a+b) + ab - 2P^2 - P(a+b) = 0$$

(If  $a=b$ , no net transport anywhere)

$$\text{or } -P^2 + ab = 0$$

$$\text{or } P^2 = ab \quad P = \sqrt{ab}.$$

b) For 1-ton-to-1-tonnes,  $a = 100$ ,  $b = 20$ ,

$$P = \sqrt{100 \cdot 20} = 45$$

The  $P_{50}$  of Hb may be a compromise between what is optimal for 100-ton-to-20-ton transport + other functions, such as response to pH change.

$$* \text{Because } \frac{d}{dx} \left( \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right) = \frac{g(x) \frac{d}{dx}(f(x)) + f(x) \frac{d}{dx}(g(x))}{(g(x))^2}$$